From the Hill

The Publication for Alumni of Albertus Magnus College

DECEMBER 2005

Get up-to-date on Reunion and other alumni events and activities.

It’s been a busy fall; keep up with what’s happening.

Albert Blessed on His Day
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Get up-to-date on Reunion and other alumni events and activities.

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It’s been a busy fall; keep up with what’s happening.

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Freeth Appointed Alumni Trustee

Richard Freeth ’93, Stamford, CT, has been appointed to the College’s Board of Trustees for a three-year term as Alumni Trustee.

An English major at Albertus, Freeth received a JD from the University of Miami School of Law in 1999. He is a senior associate at the Stamford office of the New York City law firm of Winget, Spadafora & Schwartzberg, L.L.P.

Freeth is admitted to practice in New York and Connecticut, and to the U.S. Federal Courts in those states. In his personal time, he is a songwriter, singer and guitarist.

The Board of Trustees also has appointed Alyce Tuttle Fuller ’68 to a second three-year term as Alumni Trustee.

The Annual Celebration of St. Patrick

Join us for an evening of traditional Irish food, music and spirit as we celebrate

St. Patrick’s Day
Saturday, March 11, 2006
6:30–10:30 p.m.

Traditional Irish Buffet Dinner and live music
by Billy Donaldson’s Celtic Kick
Cost: $27.00 per person.

Reservations for tables of 10 must be made through the Office of Alumni Relations & Special Events by calling 203-773-8502 or via e-mail to alumni@albertus.edu.

AMC in NYC

Alumni Cocktail Reception
Yale Club of New York City
50 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, NY
Thursday, April 20, 2006
5:30–7:30 p.m.

There is no charge for this event for alumni and their guests. To make your reservation, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations & Special Events at 203-773-8502 or via e-mail to alumni@albertus.edu.

Details on all the above events as well as our general event registration form are available on our web site at www.albertus.edu in the Alumni & Friends section.

New Alumni Directory Under Way at Albertus Magnus College

In an effort to bring alumni from around the globe back together, we are happy to announce the publication of an all-new Alumni Directory.

Scheduled for release in the winter of 2006/2007, our Alumni Directory will be the most up-to-date and complete reference of more than 7,000 Albertus Magnus College grads ever compiled. This comprehensive volume will include current name and name when a student (if different) as well as class year(s) and degree(s) earned from Albertus Magnus College. Each biographical listing will also include home address and phone number, names of spouse and children, in addition to detailed professional information.

The new 2006/2007 edition will list alumni alphabetically with the information outlined above, by class year, by geographic location and by occupation in our special career networking section.

The Alumni Office has chosen Harris Connect to produce this special edition. Harris will soon begin researching and compiling the data to be included in the directory by mailing a questionnaire to each alumnum/a. Please be sure to fill it out and return it as soon as you receive it. (If we don’t have your current address, please contact the Alumni Office as soon as possible so we can make sure you receive a directory questionnaire.)

With your participation, the 2006/2007 edition of the Albertus Magnus College Alumni Directory is sure to be a great success. Look for more details on the project in future issues of From the Hill and @albertus—the e-mail newsletter for alumni.

It’s time to make plans for Reunion 2006

Saturday, June 10—
Highlighting classes ending in 1 & 6

Visit www.albertus.edu to view
• lists of lost classmates
• available hotels in the area
• event details

Call you classmates and gather your family—make plans to return to alma mater this June.
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Nominations Sought for the Alumni of the Year Awards

The Alumni Association is currently seeking nominations for the Alumni of the Year Awards for Loyalty and Service to the College, Outstanding Professional Achievement and dedication to Humanitarian/Community Service. Nominations may be submitted via the form below or visit the Albertus web page at www.albertus.edu and go to the Alumni & Friends section. See list of past recipients, page 11 of this issue. Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged.

Albertus Magnus College Alumni of the Year—Nomination Form

Nominations for the Alumni of the Year awards are sought from all members of the Alumni Association. The Alumni of the Year awards are presented at Reunion. All graduates of the College are members of the Alumni Association.

Check the category in which you are nominating the alumna/us:

☐ I. Loyalty and Service to Albertus Magnus College. This award, which need not be given each year, is presented to a living member of the Association who has manifested extraordinary loyalty and dedication to the College.

☐ II. Outstanding Professional Achievement. This award, which need not be given each year, is presented to a living member of the Association who has attained preeminence in his/her field through outstanding professional, scholarly or artistic achievement.

☐ III. Humanitarian Award. This award, which need not be given each year, is presented to a living member of the Association who is devoted to serving others through volunteer work or community service.

Nominee’s Name: ____________________________ Class: _______

Reasons for Consideration:

Biographical Information:

Nomination submitted by: ____________________________ Class: _______

E-Mail: ____________________________ Phone Number (Days): ____________________________ Phone Number (Evenings): ____________________________

Date Submitted: ____________________________

Return this form by April 15 to:

Albertus Magnus College, Alumni of the Year Awards Committee, 700 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511-1189

Each year, the Office of Admission hosts an Open House for prospective students and their families. This year, the Alumni Association had a table in the Department Exhibit segment of the event. The display featured vintage AMC items such as a dance card from the 1951 prom; various yearbooks and class banners; a student handbook from the 1933–34 academic year; and a gown and hood from 1929. Also included were maps of Connecticut and the world with pins showing locations of AMC alumni, and a power point presentation of event photos from the past few years. Members of the Alumni Association Board of Governors greeted students and their parents and gave out a list of careers and jobs alumni hold. Prospective students also received an AMC Frisbee.
Behan Retires as Chairman of the Board, Receives Honorary Albertus Degree

After more than 24 years of dedicated service on the College's Board of Trustees, including 13 as chairman, Robert F. Behan stepped down from this position at the September Board meeting. He will continue to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees and the executive committee.

Behan, a retired banker, is a graduate of Yale University. His wife, Patricia Sanders Behan, graduated from the College in 1955; his daughter, Carolyn Behan, in 1986; and his mother-in-law, the late Eleanor Goode Sanders, in 1929.

President Julia M. McNamara presented him with a Doctor of Humane Letters honoris causa. The citation said, in part:

“...Through your wise and thoughtful leadership, you have enabled the members of the Board to exercise their significant fiduciary responsibilities with confidence and enthusiasm. Your often-stated belief in the noble mission and purposes of this institution of higher education have encouraged and fortified all members of the Albertus community even as the College underwent dramatic growth and change over the years. Indeed, your own entrepreneurial spirit challenged the College to grow and to evolve through a serious commitment to institutional advancement in adult and continuing education throughout Connecticut. In consideration of the College’s future, you have been a champion of our continuing commitment to the Strategic Plan 2003–2008. “Robert F. Behan, through your vibrant volunteer service and your personal response to the duty of care, you are an exemplar of the spirit of those valiant persons who founded Albertus Magnus College eighty years ago....”

Crespo Elected Board Chairman

Joseph R. Crespo, a trustee of the College since 2003, was elected chairman at the September meeting, succeeding Robert F. Behan. Crespo was chairman, president and chief executive officer of Connecticut Energy Corporation, The Southern Connecticut Gas Company and its three non-utility subsidiaries from 1989 to 2000. He previously was managing partner for utility regulatory and advisory services at Coopers & Lybrand in New York City and president and chief executive officer for Ebasco Business Company, also in New York City.

New Director of Campus Ministry

Sr. Patricia Thomas, O.P., joined the Albertus Community in September as director of campus ministry. She comes to the College after eight years at the University of Notre Dame where she served as rector of one of the undergraduate student residences. Her work there also included participation on committees considering connections between academic and residential student life.

Prior to her years at Notre Dame, Sr. Pat was the principal of St. Rita School in Hamden, Connecticut, and served in administration and on the faculty of schools in New York and Ohio.

She received a bachelor’s degree from Ohio Dominican University and master’s degrees from both The Aquinas Institute of Theology (Pastoral Studies) and the University of Notre Dame (English). During this academic year, she plans to complete required courses as preparation for study in The Aquinas Institute’s on-line doctoral program in preaching.

Sr. Gilmary McCabe, O.P., who provided many campus ministry activities during the past several years in addition to other responsibilities in academic advising, will now concentrate on academic advising.

Albertus Community Lends a Helping Hand to the Needy

In the spirit of helping the less fortunate, the Albertus Community is responding to two special collections. The annual holiday food drive for canned goods and non-perishable food items, sponsored by the Office of Career Services, benefits the Connecticut Food Bank. The Office of Campus Ministry is sponsoring a collection of storybooks to be given to children from pre-K to grade eight at St. Peter School in Pascagoula, Mississippi. Hurricane Katrina destroyed most of the school and its classroom libraries. Books collected for St. Peter’s will be delivered to Pascagoula early in January.

Candlelight Ceremony

In a ceremony as old as the College itself, seniors on September 14 passed to freshmen the light of knowledge in the atrium of the new Academic Center for Science, Art and Technology. Dr. Sean O’Connell, acting academic dean, noted that “By the exchange of light, we recognize that truth is a gift which we have a responsibility to share, we recognize that discovering the truth requires our preparation and attention, and we recognize how dependent we are on one another to grow in our knowledge and understanding. By the exchange of light, we also acknowledge the reality of darkness, that the truths we possess are partial, and that our quest for truth requires that we always be open to new insight and be unafraid to question....”
Albertus is one of 12 public and private Connecticut colleges and universities participating in an innovative cost-saving electronic portfolio project under a three-year $389,000 grant the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium received from the Davis Educational Foundation. The funding supports the partner institutions as they expand electronic portfolio platforms in the areas of assessment, orientation to college, advising and career counseling. The Davis Educational Foundation was established by Stanton and Elisabeth Davis after his retirement as chairman of Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc.

Brother Rick Curry, S.J., internationally acclaimed founder of The National Theatre Workshop of the Handicapped, received the New York Post Liberty Medal for Lifetime Achievement in September. Albertus honored Brother Curry with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at Commencement 2003. He also has been a guest speaker for student programs at the College.

Dr. Walter W. Woodward, Connecticut State Historian and assistant professor of history at the University of Connecticut, last month gave a noon lecture open to the Albertus Community on “Alchemy in Seventeenth Century Connecticut.” His book, “Prospero’s America: John Winthrop, Jr., Alchemy and the Creation of New England Culture, 1606–1676,” is being published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the University of North Carolina Press.

Dr. Rose Quiello, lecturer in English and humanities at the College, led a discussion in September at the Scranton Library in Guilford, Connecticut, on “Waiting for Snow in Havana” by Carlos Eire. The talk was part of the One Book/One Town program, which creates a dialogue among townspeople about a work of literature. She is a frequent discussion leader at R.J. Julia Booksellers in Madison.

“Joyce, Vico and National Narrative,” an essay written by Dr. Paul Robichaud, assistant professor of English and director of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program, appeared in the latest issue of the James Joyce Quarterly. This international journal publishes the best of contemporary Joyce scholarship.

Quick Notes:

Members of the Albertus Community gathered November 15, the Feast of St. Albert, for the blessing of the caryatid statue of Albert at the entryway to the new Academic Center for Science, Art and Technology. Anne Crellin Seggerman—donor of the statue in memory of her husband, Harry G. A. Seggerman—and President Julia M. McNamara used pine boughs in honor of Albert’s love of nature and all things natural to sprinkle holy water on the statue. Sr. Patricia Thomas, O.P., led the blessing: “ Almighty God, we celebrate the feast of Albert the Great. You gave Albert special grace to understand and teach the truth. May this statue we bless today be our reminder that the search for truth continues and we are the inheritors of Albert’s legacy.”
FALL SPORTS

Check out schedules for winter sports.

Images by Ron Waite
Sports 2005

View sports at www.albertus.edu
1931 75th Reunion June 10, 2006
1936 70th Reunion June 10, 2006
1941 65th Reunion June 10, 2006
1946 60th Reunion June 10, 2006
1951 55th Reunion June 10, 2006
1956 50th Reunion June 10, 2006
1957
Tish Mullan Burnham, Austin, TX, retired from teaching at The University of Texas in May. She is still active professionally, however, and will be working on a book project over the next few years. Her third grandchild—first boy—arrived recently.

1958
Elizabeth Tringali Rosano, Portland, CT, has been retired from teaching in the Middletown public school system since 1995; her husband, Joe, retired from the same system in 1994. They have three children and four grandchildren.

1961 45th Reunion June 10, 2006
1962
Anne Sullivan Ross Fowler, Port Charlotte, FL, is back-to-school, studying for a master’s in pastoral theology from Barry University at the Blessed Edmund Rice School, and “loving it.”

Catherine Koletsky, Cambridge, MA, sends word that she has a new granddaughter, Zoe Koletsky Graizzaro, born in September.

1964
Beverly Dugas, Trumbull, CT, took a two-week tour of Turkey this past summer with her sister. “To see the ruins and caves made ancient history come alive for us,” she writes.

All Saints Day
On November 1, 75 alumni attended the annual Alumni Laicheon following the All Saints Day Liturgy: Promoter of Dominican Charism Sr. Mary Joel Campbell, O.P., was the guest speaker. She focused on the Dominican mission—to contemplate and to give to others the fruits of contemplation—and its importance in building community.

1965
Ellen McNamara Funck, Riverside, CT, was elected to the board of trustees of The Historical Society of the Town of Greenwich at its annual meeting in September. She also is on the board of the Greenwich Adult Day Care Center.

1966 40th Reunion June 10, 2006
1969
Christine Galvin Pruchnicki, Wellesley, CT, is retired from banking, working two days a week. Her husband, Ed, retired three years ago; Dana, 31, and Andrew, 28, are college graduates with their own careers. She and Ed plan lots of travel for the next few years.

1970
Sherry Eichorn, Washington, D.C., has been appointed principal of Beers Elementary School in Washington.

Janet Nowakowski Gold, Eliot, ME, associate professor in the department of languages, literatures and cultures at the University of New Hampshire, sends word that her latest book, “Baghara Min,” was recently published in El Salvador by the Museo de la Palabra y la Imagen. It is the story of the friendship and love affair between the Salvadoran writer and artist Salvador Salazar Arzú (Salarrué) and Leonora Nichols of New York, told through their poetry and letters.

1971 35th Reunion June 10, 2006

Silvestre Receives Filmmaking Award
The North Carolina School of the Arts honored Sandra Silvestre ’71, Richmond, VA, with its Teaching Award in Filmmaking at its May commencement exercises. She is a secondary school teacher, library media specialist and instructor of video journalism/TV production/international film for the international baccalaureate program at Meadowbrook High School in Richmond.

Silvestre has been a secondary school teacher for 32 years. She taught for nine years at the Branford (CT) Intermediate School and now for 23 years at Meadowbrook. Her honors include the Branford Teacher Excellence Award in 1978, Meadowbrook Teacher of the Year in 1982, 1986 and 2001; and Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year in 2000. She received a master’s degree in liberal studies from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, and a master’s of education in media supervision from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

The School of the Arts has honored teachers from across the state and region since 1991. It is one of the 16 campuses of the University of North Carolina and is recognized internationally as an arts conservatory.

1974
Sussan Peters Crawford, Dallas, TX, an attorney and counselor with a Dallas law firm, reports that her oldest son, Tyson, Yale ’06, is with Credit Suisse in New York City, and that twin Elias and bury are in college, at Yale and Tufts, respectively.

1975
Barbara Wardlaw Timney, New Haven, CT, executive director of New Haven Family Alliance, received a Community Service Award from the Greater New Haven Business and Professional Association, which advocates for equal access to economic opportunity for women and minorities, at its annual awards dinner in October.

1976 30th Reunion June 10, 2006
1978
Patricia Epperly, Framingham, MA, reports several recent wedding anniversaries among classmates: Yvonne Doyon Petrin’s 25th celebration in August; Laura Spinney Epperly’s 25th, also in August; Jean Denison’s 5th in September; and her own 20th in May.

1979
Eileen Eder, Guilford, CT, participated in an exhibition by the New Haven Paint and Clay Club, one of the country’s oldest art clubs, in September.

Elizabeth Greene Aiello Gregg, Mars Hill, NC, lived in New York City for a dozen years after graduation. She appeared in national tours of “Les Miz,” “Pump Boys and Dinettes,” and other shows. She and her husband, Bill Gregg, have three children, and she continues to act and sing regionally and with his Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre (SART) on the campus of Mars Hill College, and to do on-camera commercials and voiceovers.

Alumni Attend Opening of New Academic Center
Victoria Jaras ’99, Jim Schachnick ’97, AMC director of purchasing, and Shawn Anderson, associate dean for student services

Fadth Augur McCarthy ’49 and Robert McCarthy

Venica Milejićević ’04, center, and friends check out the Athenum’s water wall

Kay Colledan ’44, Rita Savageou Moule ’39 and Barbara Fitch Prokop ’39
Janet Wozenski ’68

PROFILE
The road to Abidjan, a port city in the West African nation of Cote d’Ivoire, has been a circuitous route for Janet Wozenski.

At Albertus, this biology major, who once considered a career in medicine, found that she was inspired most by the professional women of the faculty. “I still remember Sr. Mary Urban’s vivid description of her Ph.D. defense at Yale,” she says.

After graduation she worked as a lab assistant in the physiology department at Yale Medical School. Her peripatetic life began when she headed to the west coast for graduate school at Oregon State University, earning an master’s degree in food science and a Ph.D. in nutrition and biochemistry. She also has a master’s in education from the College of New Jersey through a distance education program.

A registered dietitian, Wozenski moved back east to the University of New Hampshire, where she taught nutrition and dietetics for a year.

Wozenski has been in Africa since 1978—mostly in Cote d’Ivoire, but two years in Cameroon and when her husband, a director at the African Development Bank, was the regional representative in Zimbabwe for three years, she traveled back and forth from Abidjan. Her focus always has been on primary health care and education.

In Abidjan, she’s worked as a pediatric dietitian, instructor in food safety and dietetics at a professional hotel training school and teacher of math and information technology at the International Community School.

Today, Wozenski is director of student services at the International University of Grand-Bassam. “This is a startup university,” she explains. “It’s an outgrowth of a decade-long partnership between the government of Cote d’Ivoire and Georgia State University.”

Alumni Coaches
In September the New Haven Register did a story on the College’s two alumni coaches: Jim Bernardo ’97 and Dan O’Connor ’99. Bernardo took over the men’s soccer program this year from long-time coach George Bedos, now athletic director at Sacred Heart Academy. O’Connor is in his third year as coach of the women’s soccer team. Both Bernard and O’Connor played for Bedos and were members of the Albertus Great Northeast Athletic Conference championship team in 1996.

Prospect Hill Society
Many loyal alumni and friends have indicated that they have included Albertus Magnus College in their estate planning. To recognize, honor and say thank you to these benefactors, the College has established the Prospect Hill Society.

If you have mentioned Albertus in your will or other estate plans, please let us know.

We will list you as a Member of the Prospect Hill Society in the College’s 2005–2006 Annual Report. Please contact Carolyn Behan, director of alumni relations and special events, at cbehan@albertus.edu or 203-773-8502.

Send Us Your News
New job, promotion or advanced degree? Relocating? New baby or grandchild? Let us know, and we’ll get the word out to your classmates and Albertus friends through Class Notes. It’s easy; just send your news to alumni@albertus.edu; fax to 203-785-8652; or mail to Alumni Office, Albertus Magnus College, 700 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT, 06511.

Kim Mancuso, Ashfield, MA, directed the September premiere of “N Bonaparte” at the Boston Center for the Arts Plaza Theatre. The production will be on tour to La Mama ETC in New York City in October 2006.

2006

25th Reunion June 10, 2006
Allison Berti Kodz, Torrington, CT, started a new Italian language program at the 1,000-student Northwestern Regional School this past fall. She was an Italian and Spanish major at AMC and spent her junior year at the University of Florence.

of Notre Dame. She has been teaching Italian at Southern Connecticut State University for the past eight years.

2006

20th Reunion June 10, 2006
Carolyn Behan, Cheshire, CT, and Marty Kraus were married on September 23. Many Albertus classmates and friends attended the festivities held at the Owenego Inn in Bradford. After an honeymoon in California wine country, they visited with Behan’s great aunt, Mary Goode Rogan ’36, in Laguna Beach before returning home.

1988

Karen Yarussi-Mello, Fishkill, NY, works for Limited Brands as the regulatory compliance manager for the Victoria’s Secret brand. She celebrated her 10th wedding anniversary in September, is in her second term as president of the Junior League of Poughkeepsie and has two sons—Jared and Julian.

1988

Curt Brassil has been promoted to vice president and general manager for Xerox North America, responsible for half of the major account orders, billings, inquiries and collections and overseeing a staff of 362 people. He and his wife, Judy Toussaint ’88, and their three children will be relocating to Chicago from Pittsford, NY.

2006

The road to Abidjan

From the Hill 9

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From the Hill 9
Festival Features

Screenplay by Alumnus

“A Very Good Year,” a screenplay written by Matthew Quinn Martin ’95, New York, NY, had a reading at the 10th Anniversary Festival of Film Fest New Haven in September. The story is about the unlikely friendship of an old Mafia hitman and a young African-American blues guitarist. Carlos Arnesto—a winner of the 2005 Princess Grace Awards, which assist artists with their training, and a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University with a master’s degree in directing—directed the reading. It featured Dan Laurie, film and television actor and director, and ten other New York and local actors.

In April, Martin’s feature film, “Slingshots,” which starred David Arquette, Thora Birch, Julianna Margulies, Balthazar Getty and Joely Fisher, had its premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York City.

Lora-Ann Chiginsky, London, England, has joined Nikki Asset Management as director of business development for Europe. She formerly was associate director of international business development at Wellington Management International in London.

1991

15th Reunion June 10, 2006

1994

Tabitha Wazorko Manafort, Plainville, CT, sends word that Justin Alexander Manafort, Jr., was born on September 8: 7 lbs., 6 oz. and 19 inches long. All are happy and healthy.

1996

10th Reunion June 10, 2006

Election Results

If you were elected to a local or state office in November, please let us know. Send your name, location and position to alumni@albertus.edu, to the Alumni Office at Albertus Magnus College, 700 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511 or call us at 203-773-8502.

The April issue of this publication will carry a list of those elected.

In Memoriam

Eileen Clarke Creighton ’35
February 17, 2005
Clearwater, FL

Mary Connolly Redgate ’40
June 30, 2005
Bridgeport, CT

Frances Maisano ’44S
October 2, 2005
Hamden, CT

Grace Zeidenberg Postman ’45
West Haven, CT

Ruth Clouet Hodges ’47
October 2, 2005
Spotsylvania, VA

Nancy Heery ’48
October 23, 2005
North Haven, CT

Joan Tull Cappucci ’77
October 22, 2005
Skillman, NJ

Barbara Klineck Williams ’59
January 27, 2005
Springfield, VA

Edith Davis ’78
August 6, 2005
Hamden, CT

Jean Wright MacRae ’80
August 23, 2005
Orange, CT

Helen Kolakowski Ciresi ’82
September 6, 2005
Hamden, CT

Lora Allshouse ’00 AS (ND)
April 28, 2005
North Hollywood, CA

Melissa Adai-Carmen ’03 AS (ND)
October 23, 2005
Wallingford, CT

Magazine Carries Profile on AMC grad Amie Keddy

The magazine of The Bement School, Deerfield, MA, recently carried a faculty profile on Amie Keddy ’95, upper school English and fine arts teacher. She joined the school in 2002 as a dorm parent: “It felt to her like the right environment for her writing and for mentoring...young female boarders.” She soon took on other duties, serving as a librarian in the lower school and tutoring in math, all while writing poetry for her own graduate program. The profile noted: “Nothing interests her more than a student who appears reluctant or disinterested but suddenly comes alive and contributes to classroom dialogue...Amie is an inspired teacher who seems to increase her capacity for cultivating creativity almost daily.”

Keddy received the M.Ed degree from Cambridge College and M.F.A. from Bennington College.

2000

Wendy Coleman Bernardo, North Haven, CT, and her husband, Jim Bernardo ’97, men’s soccer coach at AMC, announced the arrival of a son, Ryan David.

In Memoriam: Alumni Relatives and Members of the Albertus Community

Paul Braun, brother of Ann Braun Bevak ’56
September 5, 2005

William J. Coughlin, brother of Anne Coughlin Riondo ’48
January 29, 2005

Richard Francis, husband of Jane Flynn Francis ’53
July 5, 2005

Robert Grecco, mother of Nancy Grecco Sudhoff ’94CE
September 7, 2005

Joan Yutenkas Hott, sister of Dorothy Yutenkas Mutoksi ’67
September 4, 2005

Sr. Mary Andrew Matesich, O.P., former president of Ohio Dominican University, sister of Margaret (Gigi) Matesich Gruenke ’52, and recipient of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at AMC in 2000. June 15, 2005

Stephen Michael Menosky, son of Eleanor Follett Menosky ’65
October 18, 2004

Gloria T. Moore, mother of Flo Moore-Mack ’77
August 17, 2005

The Honorable Constance Baker Motley, federal judge and civil rights leader, recipient of an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from AMC in 1976
September 27, 2005

Carmel Ricciardi, mother-in-law of Patricia Savinelli, administrative assistant in the Office of Academic Affairs
October 30, 2005

Albert Scheppy, husband of Anna Scheppy ’82 (AA)
November 2005

In Memoriam

2001

5th Reunion June 10, 2006

2003

Robyn Wolman, ND, Waterford, CT, is a partner in R & L Productions LLC, a new event management company in East Lyme.

2004

Peter Helmus, ND, New Milford, CT, is director of ASML-Optics, a strategic business of ASML, located in the Netherlands.

Justin Ignatowski, MSM, Milford, CT, is the owner of Alucus Accounting Services, a tax and accounting firm specializing in individual, commercial and non-profit clients, and an adjunct professor at the University of New Haven and Quinnipiac Community College. He and his wife, Tammy, have four children.

Alumni Aids Rescue

When disasters strike, ham radio operators like Betsy Lombardi Doane ’68 can become part of a long-distance team of rescuers.

In the chaotic aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Doane, blind since birth, was using her computer speech program to navigate the Web when she came upon a plea for help from a mother in Virginia who was trying to contact her daughter in New Orleans. The daughter was trapped in a house flooded with 10 feet of water; her cell phone lines were down and her cell phone no longer worked. Doane—who has been a ham radio operator, along with her twin sister, Barbara Lombardi ’68, since 1958—relayed the message to the American Relay Radio League, which forwarded it to New Orleans. The woman was later rescued.

Helping people in emergencies is nothing new to Doane, a retired professor of math and computer science. She has used her radio to connect earthquake survivors to their families.

“When all else fails, radios work.” says Doane. “Amateur radio really is a national resource.”
Act 2 Theatre Prepares to Light Up the Spring Sky

The next production at the College’s Act 2 Theatre will be Broadway legend Moss Hart’s “Light Up the Sky.”

May We E-Mail You?

If you would like to receive @liberts, the monthly e-mail newsletter and its special edition updates on news at Albertus, just e-mail your name, class year, home address and preferred e-mail address to: alumni@albertus.edu. The Office of Alumni Relations respects your privacy and does not share e-mail addresses.

Remembering My Hero and Friend—Rosa Parks

Dr. Tomoko Takahashi ’77, a member of the College’s Board of Trustees and dean of the Graduate School of Soka University of America, for several years has been the official translator of works by civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks into Japanese. In the following piece for From the Hill, she reflects on her relationship with Mrs. Parks.

On the evening of October 24, 2005, with the deepest sadness, I learned of Rosa Parks’ passing. She was 92.

Many people started calling me, sending me e-mails, knowing that I was her close friend and the translator of her books. I cannot describe the sorrow I felt. And still feel.

Two and one-half years before, in February 2003, I saw her for the last time. It was at her 90th birthday celebration. She was beautiful.

I started looking at my photo albums. There, I found a number of photos of Mrs. Parks and myself taken at numerous occasions—starting with the ones of her meeting with our students at Soka University in December 1992; those of her meeting the founder of Soka University in January 1993 at our Calabassas campus; and the photos from the trip we took to Japan in May 1994. And many more.

I remembered the day I stopped by the house in Los Angeles where Mrs. Parks was staying for the winter—it was on February 4, 1997. Her personal assistant and closest friend, Elaine Steele, had called me earlier to invite me to join her in the celebration of Mrs. Parks’ birthday.

On my way home from work on that day, I went to see her. I had visited that house so many times that I felt comfortable enough to walk in and start looking for Mrs. Parks. And I found her… in the kitchen. She was slicing tomatoes. She looked up and said, “Hi, Tomoko!” with a big smile. I will never forget that moment for the rest of my life.

In June 1999, at her request, I attended the Congressional Gold Medal Award Ceremony in Washington, D.C., where Mrs. Parks was honored for her civil rights contributions. After her passing, she became the first woman to lie in honor in the Capitol Rotunda.

On June 15, 1999, I sat in my seat in the Capitol Rotunda. People started to fill the place and eventually the Rotunda became packed with members of the Congress, Mrs. Parks’ friends and relatives, and a number of prominent figures, including Colin Powell, Jesse Jackson, Andrew Young, Martin Luther King III, among others.

In the crowded Rotunda, we all waited patiently for the ceremony to begin. Finally, President Clinton and other main guests walked in. Seon Mrs. Parks entered the center stage. Everyone applauded her enthusiastically and the applause continued for several minutes, and it looked like it was going to last forever.

As I watched Mrs. Parks being praised by President Clinton and members of the Congress as “the Founding Mother,” “a person of quiet strength,” and “a true hero,” I was struck by Mrs. Parks’ humility and calmness. It was clear that she did not regard herself as a national figure or as a celebrity, but rather, as the symbolic representation for all the brave women and men who had participated in the Montgomery Bus Boycott… many of whom Mrs. Parks had personally invited to attend the ceremony.

At that time, I saw Mrs. Parks in person. She welcomed me with a big smile. She said to me, “Tomoko! You came. I’m so glad.” She looked like a grandma welcoming her granddaughter. In that moment, I felt I was the most fortunate person on earth to have known, loved and been loved by such a wonderful human being like Mrs. Parks.

I have so many wonderful memories of Rosa Parks. I learned so much from her. She was my friend, and will be in my heart forever.
See pages 6 and 7 for a review of fall sports at Albertus.

Make a New Year’s resolution to attend an at-home or away game in 2006 to cheer for the Falcons.