

# GANNON UNIVERSITY

Under the Arch  
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## Our Events

April 2-6

● **National Library Week.**

Nash Library sponsors a food drive to benefit Second Harvest Food Bank. Donate two or more items and receive a free video rental from the library.

**Wednesday, April 4**

● **Soup and Social Issues.**

"El Salvador Earthquake Relief," speaker James Monroe, Edinboro University. 12:15 p.m., Pietraszek Room, Waldron Campus Center. Sponsored by Center for Social Concerns.

● **Distinguished Speaker Series.**

"Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium," featuring Brent Scarpo, Los Angeles filmmaker. Talk will include excerpts from his film, with interviews with a survivor of Columbine High shooting and the mother of the late Mathew Shepard, a victim of a hate crime. 7:30 p.m., Zurn 104. Free and open to the public.

**Friday, April 6**

● **Fine Art Photography: Darkroom, Digital and More."**

Last day to view the works of Sandy Tanner. Schuster Art Gallery, third floor, Nash Library. Free.

● **Gannon's Erie Chamber Orchestra.**

Featuring soloists Linda Kobler and Allan Slovenkay, harpsicord. Directed and conducted by Bruce Morton Wright. 7:30 p.m., Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel. Free.



## Our Big News

# Alums to be honored April 7

Gannon will honor several alumni April 7 at the university's annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner.

Sponsored by the Alumni Association of Gannon University, the event will honor 10 people for their accomplishments and their support of the university. The event honors graduates of both Gannon and the former Villa Maria College, now part of Gannon.

Honorees representing Gannon's College of Humanities, Business and Education will be: Dennis A. McConnell, a 1970 graduate with a bachelor of science degree in finance and now an investor for Bell Hill International, a private venture capital company he started in 1995 in California; Cheryl Penna Strobel, 1972, bachelor of arts in elementary education from Villa Maria College, now an early childhood education specialist for the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Education in Richmond; and Judge Ernest J. DiSantis Jr., 1970, bachelor of arts in political science, now a judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Erie County.

Representing Gannon's College of Sciences, Engineering and Health Sciences will be: Jean R. McKean, 1966, bachelor of science degree in nursing, Villa Maria College, now an instructor of nursing at Hamot Medical Center, Erie; Dr. Vincent Jenco, 1952, bachelor of arts in biology, founder and board president for St. Paul's Neighborhood Free Medical and Dental Clinic, Erie; and Edward F. Murphy, 1962, bachelor of arts in physics, now project manager and engineering fellow in optics at Corning Inc., Corning, N.Y.

Receiving the Young Alumni Award will be Joseph J. Molinero, a 1993 graduate with a bachelor of science degree in finance and now vice president of investments for Prudential Securities Inc., Pittsburgh.

Honored with the Master's Degree Award will be David W. Grzelak, who earned a master of business administration degree in 1976. He is chairman and chief executive officer of Komatsu Mining Systems Inc. and global officer of Komatsu Ltd., Chicago.

The Honorary Alumnus Award will be presented to William J. Kelly Sr., a

**Continued on page 2**



## Our Sympathies

### Sympathy extended

Please remember all in your prayers as we regretfully announce the death of:

† **Ralph Geib**, grandfather of Gannon student **Mario Medina**.



## Our Folks

### Prayers requested

† Prayers were requested March 26 for **Pam Vogt**, administrative assistant, Information Technology Services, who is facing a long recovery after major surgery. Cards can be sent to **Pam** via the Office of Campus Ministry.

† Prayers were requested March 28 for **Benjamin West**, nine-year-old nephew of **Ali Schneider**, nurse at the Gannon Health Center and son of Gannon graduates **John** and **Cynthia (Gula) West**. **Benjamin** was undergoing tests at Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh.

† Prayers were requested March 28 for **Mary Bensus**, weekend switchboard operator, who may be facing surgery.

† Please remember all in your prayers.

### Birthday wishes to...

☺ April 2... **Sr. James Mulligan, Renee Huefner**. ☺ April 3... **Anita Miller**. ☺ April 5... **David Eichelsdorfer, Deborah Anderson**. ☺ April 7... **Bryan Torain, Donald Tronetti**. ☺ April 8... **John Rouch**. ☺ April 9... **Walter Minot, Joseph Steele, Sharon Crisman**. ☺ April 10... **Brenda Wilson**. ☺ April 11... **Elizabeth Skladanowski**. ☺ April 12... **Dorothy Lyons, Kathleen Wehan, Gunter Moritz**. ☺ April 13... **Joy Armbruster, Linda Kobler**. ☺ April 14... **Michael Wellington, Joel Burlingham, Sr. Lynette Petruska, Veronica McConaughy**. ☺ April 15... **Rick Diz**.



## Our Big News

### Alums to be honored

#### Continued from page 1

senior partner in the Erie law firm of Elderkin, Martin, Kelly and Messina.

The university's Monsignor Wilfrid J. Nash Principles of Christian Conduct Award will be presented to the Rev. Msgr. James W. Peterson, who attended Gannon and is a former Gannon professor. He is now director of special ministries for the Diocese of Erie and founder of the Maria House Projects.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Monsignor Addison Yehl Alumni Room of Gannon's Waldron Campus Center. For ticket information, contact the Office of Alumni Services at ext. 7473.

### Learn not to hate

Tolerance rather than hate. That will be the message at Gannon April 4 as Los Angeles filmmaker Brent Scarpo presents *Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium*, a free talk and film to close the university's 2000-01 Distinguished Speaker Series.

A documentary, *Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium* centers on many of the recent hate crimes that have captured national attention and features interviews with family and friends of many of the victims.

Scarpo will show excerpts from the film, which includes the family of University of Wyoming student Mathew Shepard, who was beaten to death in October 1998 in Laramie, Wyo. Authorities believe the sexual orientation of Shepard, who was a homosexual, was a factor in the crime.

The film features footage of Judy Shepard, Mathew's mother, reading a statement she wrote and read at the trial of Russell Henderson, one of the two men charged with her son's murder.

Others featured in the film include the family of Jasper, Texas, dragging victim James Byrd; parents and friends of Columbine High School shooting victims; and well-known political, religious and entertainment figures, including singer Elton John.

The documentary is the work of Scarpo and Martin Bedogne, also a Los Angeles filmmaker. The goal of the project is to begin productive discussions about hate in this country and to help people understand how hate affects their lives and society, Scarpo said.

The presentation will include 35 minutes of footage from the documentary interspersed with dialogue among audience members about hate and what can be done to stop it. Through discussion, the program aims to offer solutions rather than simply dwell on the problem, Scarpo said.

Scarpo has worked in Hollywood for the past 15 years as an actor and casting director. He has appeared on stage, television and film, and cast such well-known films as *Air Force One*, *That Thing You Do*, and *The Shawshank Redemption*.

Scarpo's talk will begin at 7:30 p.m. April 4 in Zurn 104. The program is free and open to the public.