**Recovered Money Delights Grateful Hurricane Victim**

**Student Turns in $20,000 He Uncovered in a New Orleans Home**

**FEATURES**

**Yes, the days were spent gutting homes** previous trips the students had taken. **Katrina victims with a ray of hope in** the wake of the storm’s path.

**Wheeling Jesuit students and alumni** are like other volunteers – providing **difference their trip would make to a** hurricane victim.

**91-year-old man from New Orleans.**

**Jason Tuite is surrounded by the family of hurricane victim Julius Carriere, from left: Enoch Carriere, Tuite, home owner Carriere, and his daughter Marla Jefferson.**

**What wasn’t a surprise to members of the WJU family, is that Tuite turned the money over to Catholic Charities, the group’s host on their service mission. He says it never crossed his mind to pocket the money. “This example of Jason Tuite’s sense of honor and service brings distinction to him, his family and our University, and is an example of his servant’s heart,” says Rev. Joseph R. Hacala, S.J., president of Wheeling Jesuit. “We are proud to have sent three different crews of students and advisors to New Orleans this year to assist in Hurricane Katrina recovery. Service for, and among, others is a distinctive element of our Jesuit education.” Fr. Hacala adds he is proud that Tuite has entered the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in Oregon, and will continue to serve others and live out the mission he was taught at Wheeling Jesuit. “He is truly an outstanding young man.”**

**It meant a lot to be able to help the family out,” Tuite adds. “After seeing their house gutted and destroyed, and knowing that they have this money to help them rebuild, it’s great to know that they will be OK.”**

**Two days after the discovery, Tuite returned the treasure to its owner and his family, who have relocated to Baton Rouge.**

**Carriere’s daughter, Marla Jefferson, told The Times-Picayune newspaper in New Orleans, “You always hear there are dishonest people in the world. It’s just wonderful that a young man like that would be so honest. We are just thankful it was him and not someone who would not have been as forthcoming.”**

**Tuite has taken all the media attention and ribbing from his friends in stride. “It’s the way I was raised. And my Jesuit education has taught me that we are men and women for others. You have to be there for other people when they need you.”**

**Nearly a year since Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, the group of Wheeling Jesuit students and alumni was back in the city of New Orleans. “You always hear there are dishonest people in the world. It’s just wonderful that a young man like that would be so honest. We are just thankful it was him and not someone who would not have been as forthcoming.”**

**It was full of money, ones, hundreds, fifties and twenties, and half was change,” Tuite recalls. “I was pretty shocked. I called out for my friends and they all looked up at me on the ladder. Everyone was shocked there was money sitting in the house we’d been tearing apart all day,” says the 22-year-old Pittsburgh native.**

**I am very proud of all the students that have generously given of their time and talents to help the survivors of Hurricane Katrina. Their energy and enthusiasm never ceases to amaze me,” says McDonald.**

**Also participating from the class of ’06 were Erin Street, Eric Roe and Doyoung Choi, juniors Asher Zaccagnini, Jill Monohan and M.J. Supan, freshmen Wyatt Smith, Jaime Updegraft, Eric Zeigler, Mike Pudgett, Bryan Jack, Kate Munhall, Kathleen McAteer, and Jill Nizan and Benedict Leung ’05. Tuite, Street, Monahan, Roe and Supan had been on previous service trips to the region and served as student leaders on the May trip.**

**Working with the Archdiocese of New Orleans’ Operation Helping Hands, the students spent the entire week gutting homes of individuals who can’t afford to do it or do not have the ability to do the work themselves. “No matter how many times I see it, I am constantly amazed by the amount of ruined personal belongings we must wade through when cleaning out a house,” says McDonald. “There is so much work left to be done in the region and I’m proud that students and alumni from our University have been there to serve the people of New Orleans.”**

**Some might call Tuite’s discovery in the St. Anthony Street house a little divine intervention. After all, St. Anthony is the patron saint of lost items.**

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**Wheeling Jesuit students were happy to travel to hurricane ravaged New Orleans three times for service trips during the winter semester.”**
Wheeling Jesuit Graduate to Serve Youth in Colorado

For Joe Saverimuttu, service to others is more than a mission statement—it’s a way of life.

The 2006 graduate was involved in a number of programs and organizations as an undergrad, so it’s not a surprise that he would turn down a lucrative job offer in order to spend a year in service with the Colorado Vincentian Volunteers in Denver.

So instead of heading to Columbus for a job in pharmaceutical sales, the marketing major will travel to Denver to work at Arrupe Jesuit High School, which serves economically disadvantaged youth. He will live in a community of 12 people and work with the young people to prepare them for college and work.

“I’m looking forward to this experience,” Saverimuttu says. “I know I’ll gain an appreciation for what I’ve been given and the many educational opportunities I received…I also expect to receive insight into what I eventually want to do,” he adds.

He began work at Arrupe on Aug. 5. The former Student Government President is one of six graduates from the class of 2006 who went into service work after graduation. The others is more than a mission statement—it’s a way of life.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston was in need of someone to write a grant for a marriage preparation program targeting diocesan youth. He began working with Kathy Probob, a consultant with the diocese, to research and write the grant application.

His proposal is to establish an educational program in the 32 Catholic schools around the Mountain State. The program, geared toward students in 5th, 8th and 11th grades, would teach them how to develop healthy relationships and marriages. The diocese, Saverimuttu says, believes that the implementation of such programming will assist young people to develop positive perspectives and responsibilities for marriage.

“Over the years, it seems that our educational system has neglected teaching the basic fundamental skills which enable our children to be resilient in this world of constant change and peer pressure,” he adds. “I wanted this program to make a difference in the lives of children and teach them ethics, morals and intercommunication skills—skills which are vital in any relationship.”

Since the completion of the project, the Diocese has submitted Saverimuttu’s proposal to the West Virginia Catholic Foundation, which is providing funding to establish the program throughout the diocesan schools. The Diocese is now working with others to develop a curriculum, and once it is completed, teachers will include the lessons in the program of study.

“The BOLD program taught me the importance of being a man for others. Father Pedro Arrupe’s work teaches us that in order for a person to become a man or woman for others, he or she must substitute self-centeredness with love, and must serve others as Christ served others,” Saverimuttu explains.

PAUL TORSIEVA OF WHEELING HAD only one criterion for his bachelor’s of arts in organizational leadership and development (BOLD) capstone project—it had to help others, specifically children. Now, the grant he prepared for his class project has helped the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston obtain funding for a marriage preparation program for diocesan youth.

His desire to help those around him is born out of his life experiences and the values he learned at Wheeling Jesuit.

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Mining Symposium Serves as Catalyst for Change

Wheeling Jesuit University President Rev. Joseph R. Hacala, S. J. and West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin, III at the international mining symposium.

Additionally, 60 exhibitors from around the globe participated in the event, displaying new products and technologies to help make the industry a safer business. “All of us share in the commitment to pursue the technological improvements and innovations that every miner deserves. By combining technologies from other industries and countries, we can help take mining into the 21st century,” says McAteer, a special advisor to Manchin on the Sago Mine investigation. “Every one of us hopes that this forum serves as the catalyst for much-needed change.” Representatives of MSHA, the West Virginia Office of Miners’ Health, Safety and Training, the West Virginia Coal Association, the National Mining Association, the UMWA and other organizations reviewed technologies and discussed deployment strategies.

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Jim Dean of the West Virginia Office of Miners’ Health, Safety and Training, responds to a question from an attendee of the Mining Symposium, as Vice President of Sponsored Programs J. Davitt McAteer looks on.

Vice President of Sponsored Programs J. Davitt McAteer meets with University President Rev. Joseph R. Hacala, S. J. and West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin, III at the international mining symposium.

Exploring new ways to strengthen our national mine safety regime. Change and exploring advances in mine safety technology were the main themes of the panel discussions that took place over the two days. Experts from state, federal and international agencies talked about key topics, including the present and future of mine safety and health, mine emergency technologies, mining best practices and mine disaster response.

Representatives from NASCAR and NASA also addressed the audience. “Safety is a continuing process” and “must be a priority forever,” said veteran NASCAR driver and special projects manager for research and development Brett Bodine. Bodine spoke on institutional response to disasters, telling the crowd that NASCAR took a fresh look at safety following the on-track deaths of four drivers within nine months during 2000-01, culminating with the death of NASCAR legend Dale Earnhardt.

According to Bodine, communication— including listening to the advice of medical and engineering experts—was one of the most important elements of changing NASCAR for the better. In addition to developing improved equipment and implementing restrictions and training requirements for drivers, NASCAR also is developing a “Car of Tomorrow,” which will take to the track and further standardize the industry beginning in 2007.

Bodine said that prior to the loss of Earnhardt, NASCAR had experienced 10 deaths in 10 years. In the five years since, no fatalities have occurred. Bodine told symposium attendees to take this lesson from NASCAR. “Take a bad situation, analyze it and be prepared to make very tough decisions on the way you do business.”

Phillip Bounds, director of NASA’s security management division at the agency’s Washington, D.C., headquarters, then relayed his experiences in coordinating recovery efforts following the 2003 loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia and in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Following Katrina, Bounds was charged with recovery at two NASA sites in Texas and Louisiana.

Stressing that in both cases, recovery was a team effort and communication was key, Bounds described the vast scale of the shuttle recovery operation. He said debris was scattered over east Texas and Louisiana along a line 250 miles long. The search area all along that path was four miles wide, and the more than 80,000 pieces recovered ranged from the size of a postage stamp to more than 800 pounds in weight. Bounds also noted that interagency, intergovernmental and cross-sector efforts were required. This complicated the situation because not all of the involved agencies could communicate with one another.

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