

# Books

**Joan Ward Mullaney, D.S.W. 1963 (SOCSV)**, former dean of the National Catholic School of Social Service who taught at CUA for more than 30 years, wrote a spiritual biography of a modern American Carmelite, titled *Frances Nevins, Mid 20th Century Carmelite, Friend, Scholar, Wife, Nun and Mystic* (Monastery Greetings Press, 2011). Mullaney, a friend of Nevins for nearly a quarter century, visited and corresponded with her regularly. After Nevins' death, Mullaney was entrusted with her journals and retreat notes by the prioress of her convent.

**Parvaneh (Khosropur) Bahar, M.S.L.S. 1968 (LIS)**, along with co-author Joan Aghevli, wrote a memoir about herself and her father, Malek o'Shoara Bahar — an Iranian poet, historian, and pro-democracy politician — in *The Poet's Daughter: Malek o'Shoara Bahar of Iran and the Immortal Song of Freedom* (Larson Publications, November 2011).

**Jack Farrell, M.A. 1966, Ph.D. 1969 (A&S)**, who has worked as a prison psychologist for more than 20 years, offers a collection of stories he has heard from patients in the community and inmates in prison about mystical encounters, in *Mystical*

*Experiences: Wisdom in Unexpected Places From Prisons to Main Street* (Park East Press, February 2011).

**John J. Feeley Jr., B.S. 1976, M.A. 1978 (A&S)**, a Brookland native, is co-author with Rosie Dempsey of *Brookland: Images of America*, (Arcadia Publishing, September 2011), which takes a look at the neighborhood and its strong connections to Howard and Catholic universities, the Catholic Church, and Washington's black intelligentsia.

**Hal Howland, M.A. 1977 (MUSIC)**, of Sugarloaf Key, Fla., a freelance writer and musician, published a revised second edition of the novel *Landini Cadence and*

*Other Stories: A Rich Castillo Threesome* (SeaStory Press, 2011) about Key West, Fla., homicide detective and part-time musician Rich Castillo who solves a string of murders. The book was a finalist in the 2011 Next Generation Indie Book Awards.

**Ronald E. Kearns, M.M. 1985 (MUSIC)**, retired band director, performing artist, and record producer, has written a book for the National Association of Music Educators titled *Quick Reference for Band Directors* (co-published by Rowman and Littlefield Education, August 2011). The book is a guide for new and experienced band direc-

## Translating a Classic

While a student at CUA, **László Korössy, B.A. 2008, M.A. 2009 (A&S)**, translated the Hungarian epic on the Turkish wars, titled *The Siege of Sziget* (The Catholic University of America Press, July 2011). In October, he was honored at the Embassy of Hungary in Washington, D.C., for his work.

Béla Gedeon, cultural attaché for the embassy, offered praise for the new English translation: "László Korössy's remarkable translation opens the treasures of one of the cornerstones of Hungarian classic literature."

*The Siege of Sziget* chronicles the 33 days in 1566 when Croatian Count Miklós Zrínyi defended the Fortress of Szigetvár against an overwhelming Ottoman siege. In 1651, his great grandson, also Miklós Zrínyi, composed the poem describing the painful defeat of the Hungarians and the martyrdom of his great grandfather. The literary work mixes war, theology, romance, and adventure.

Korössy, who grew up in a Hungarian-American family speaking both English and Hungarian, read the epic poem of some 1,500 stanzas in high school. But until he stumbled upon the poem again online while a sophomore at Catholic University in 2005, the most he had ever translated was the Hungarian national anthem.

He started working on it for fun at first, but by the time he was a senior, Korössy had a 200-page manuscript. He took it to his history professors Laura Mayhall and Leonora Neville for advice. They encouraged him to keep going and helped get him started on the long editing process.

"I was so thrilled when the CUA Press editorial board accepted it. My wife, Maria, and I are alumni and we had great experiences at the University. I wanted to keep the book here," he said.

Looking back on what would be a six-year process, Korössy says, "I had to go so deep, understanding the context of every word."

And now that it is published, he says he doesn't feel a sense of ownership. "This opportunity was given to me as a gift from God. And I am so glad to give the gift of this literary treasure to so many more people, especially second and third generation Hungarian-Americans who can now share the poem with their children."

Being honored at an embassy reception, says Korössy, "was a childhood dream come true; a tremendous and humbling honor." During the reception, Korössy says his parents were "bursting with pride," as they have been since the book was published on July 27, his mother's birthday.



László Korössy (third from the left), with his parents and Béla Gedeon, cultural attaché for the Embassy of Hungary.