

Connecticut College Magazine // Summer 2016

CC:



THE

ZIKA

VIRUS

## // FEATURES

### **THE ZIKA VIRUS** 26

Genetically modified mosquitoes fight the spread of Zika.

### **SUPERMODELS AT THE END OF TIME** 30

Fashion photographer Miles Ladin '90 exhibits his work at Cummings Arts Center.

### **SAFARI TOURISM** 36

Benjamin Gardner '93 asks whether conservation is the best way to protect the Serengeti.

### **BIRD STRIKE** 42

JFK serves nearly 57 million passengers each year—the fifth-busiest airport in the U.S. Laura Francoeur '90 manages wildlife at JFK to minimize the risk of plane-animal collisions.

### **SAVE OUR SOIL** 46

Trustee David Barber '88 directs the farm-to-table movement at Stone Barns.

## // DEPARTMENTS

### **NOTEBOOK** 03

*Jane Wants a Boyfriend*, Martha Graham Dance, Commencement Speaker Rukmini Callimachi, Ink, Tiny Houses, Museum of Sex, Cool Robots and Emmy Award-winner Judy Richardson

### **FOCUS ON FACULTY** 22

Back Roads of the American West: History professor Catherine McNicol Stock talks about rural radicals and the rise of Donald Trump.

### **CLASS NOTES** 51

### **FULL STOP** 72

Caption This! Larry Wood '84 wins *The New Yorker* caption contest. For the sixth time.

**THIS PAGE:** Robot escapes on Tempel Green. Page 18. Photo by Helder Mira.

**COVER IMAGE:** An *Aedes aegypti* mosquito spreads Zika. Professor Marc Zimmer explains how genetically modified versions of these mosquitoes can stop Zika. Page 26. Photo by Sinclair Stammers / Science Source.





## A Whole New Way of Listening

The following is an excerpt from President Katherine Bergeron's remarks at the 98th Commencement of Connecticut College.

**YOU ARE ENTERING A WORLD** of unimaginable complexity and challenge, during a time when the resolution of age-old conflicts seems more remote than ever. Just this past year, you have watched vast migrations of people seeking asylum from violence and oppression. You have seen great and emerging powers confront each other in nearly every corner of the globe. You have witnessed the specter of terror loom up from Paris to Beirut to Brussels to San Bernardino. And you have experienced it all in a fractious political climate where those aspiring to lead instead curry favor by appealing to our baser instincts rather than to our common humanity or the common good.

And yet, even as I say that, I have to acknowledge that this was also a year in which the Pope came to remind us again of our responsibility to each other and to the planet, and—for the first time in history—doing so in the context of addressing climate change. That was big.

This was a year, too, in which a team of physicists from around the world proved the existence of gravitational waves, thereby confirming a major part of Einstein's 100-year-old theory of general relativity and fundamentally changing our understanding of the cosmos. That was bigger. And perhaps more important, like the Pope's message, it was hopeful.

In fact, in all the dense astrophysical discussion that accompanied the news, I was struck by a comment from Dr. Alberto Vecchio—one of the participating researchers—describing the deeper meaning and purpose of the discovery. This is what he said: "*We have opened a whole new way of listening that will allow us to discover phenomena we have never seen before.*" Think about that for a moment. A whole new way of listening. Leading us to things we have never seen before. This strikes me not just as good news for science. It may also be one of the most important lessons for our time: a new way of listening that has the power to change the world as we know it.

BOB MACDONNELL

That idea makes me think about a talk that Bryan Stevenson delivered on this campus at the beginning of April. The talk was about how you can change the world, and its main points are worth recalling here. Stevenson, as you may know, is a highly acclaimed public interest attorney and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama—and he has spent his life defending people on death row. He's written about his life's work in a powerful book called *Just Mercy*, which some of you may have read. There were four things he said you have to do to change the world. The first thing he said was you have to *get proximate*. You can't make a difference without getting close to the people or places you want to affect. Second, he said, you have to work to *change the narrative*. The way you represent the world has a lot to do with how you can change it. Third, he said, you have to *hold on to your hope*. No positive movement ever came out of despair. But at the same time, he said, you have to be willing to *be uncomfortable*. No progress or growth is going to be possible without your personal discomfort.

And it occurs to me, as I think back on this talk, that all of these actions, in some fundamental way, have to do with listening. It's listening that allows you to get proximate. Listening is always the first step to changing the narrative. It's by the effort of listening that you open yourself to new possibilities that bring hope. And, of course, by listening, really listening, you will experience discomfort, the noise and discord of those things you don't recognize or understand. You can't change the world, in other words, without cultivating a whole new way of listening. And we are counting on all of you graduates of this great class to do just that: to open your ears and your hearts, to keep pushing the limits, in order to show us those things that we did not believe were possible.

*To read President Bergeron's full remarks, and for more Commencement coverage, such as the alma mater remix and Commencement video, log on to [www.conncoll.edu/commencement](http://www.conncoll.edu/commencement).*



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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COPPERLINE CREATIVE

In *Jane Wants a Boyfriend*, a young woman with Asperger's tries to find her first boyfriend with little help from her older sister.

## Jane Wants a Boyfriend

**FILMMAKING THAT RUNS IN A FAMILY** is not unprecedented, but family members working together on a film is a bit less common.

Anne Dempsey Sullivan '80 had the distinction of working with her son, William, on *Jane Wants a Boyfriend*, released in March 2016. Sullivan served as senior executive producer and her son directed the film, which stars Liza Dushku and Louisa Krause. The film tells the story of a young woman with Asperger's who tries dating a man with the help of her protective older sister.

*Jane Wants a Boyfriend* received strong reviews from *The New York Times* and *The L.A. Times*, which called it "a sweet, touching story."

Sullivan is the founder and CEO of Copperline Creative, a production company for independent television and film.

## Gay liberation

**THE GAY LIBERATION MOVEMENT** of the 1970s was all about sex and politics.

Except that it wasn't, said Associate Professor of History and American Studies James Downs.

"That's the story we always get, but gay liberation was really an intellectual revolution," Downs said. "It was about gay people building their own culture."

In his newest book, *Stand By Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation*, Downs taps treasure troves of archival records from LGBT community centers in major cities to relay the stories of gay people who managed to create a community in a world where they were deemed outsiders.

"A lot of gay people in the 1970s weren't trying to 'get accepted' by the state and win the favor of those in power. They didn't want to be discriminated against, of course, but for the most part, they were more interested in creating a culture of their own, with their own churches, newspapers and neighborhoods," Downs said.





HEIDER MIRA

## CCSRE celebrates 10 years

**DOES CAPITALISM WORK?** Who does it work for? Who is left behind by the economic system?

These were some of the questions addressed in a series of events commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity, one of five centers for interdisciplinary scholarship.

Continuing CCSRE's yearlong theme of "capital," the three-day celebration included a faculty debate on inequality, capitalism and racial justice; a student-led teach-in; an artist talk by "Capitalism Works For Me!" creator Steve Lambert; and a keynote address by Cornel West.

The debate featured Edward Stringham, the Davis Professor of Economic Organizations and Innovation at Trinity College, who argued that free markets and entrepreneurship reduce poverty and provide more people access to goods and services, but that government regulation corrupts the free market and impedes equal access to opportunity and wealth.

Connecticut College Professor of Economics Edward McKenna argued that the government is merely a reflection of existing power structures and that even well-functioning capitalist systems lead to extraordinary levels of inequality. Associate Professor of English Courtney Baker also spoke, making connections between capitalism, racism and history.

The debate added new dimensions to ongoing campus conversations about capitalism, spurred in large part by Lambert's "Capitalism Works For Me!" art piece, on display in front of the College's student center for much of the spring semester.

The celebration culminated with the return of West, who served as the keynote speaker at the inauguration of the CCSRE 10 years ago. He spoke in Palmer Auditorium to a crowd of more than 900 people about issues of race, class and poverty.

## Holleran Center turns 20

**THE HOLLERAN CENTER** for Community Action and Public Policy celebrated its 20th anniversary April 8 with an event that brought back past directors, former College presidents, and Jerry and Carolyn Holleran '60 GP'07, for whom the center is named.

"We hoped to create a model that would benefit people and places far beyond its boundaries, and would prepare students to meet the challenges in our communities today and tomorrow," said Carolyn Holleran at the gala. "Needless to say, the accomplishments of all involved with the center for the past 20 years have far exceeded our expectations."

President Katherine Bergeron recognized past Holleran Center directors Sunil Bhatia, MaryAnne Borrelli, Stevenson Carlebach, Tracee Reiser, Jefferson Singer, Margaret Sheridan, Audrey Zakriski, and current director Jennifer Fredricks during her remarks at the gala. She also acknowledged former College President Claire Gaudiani, who oversaw the formation of the center during her tenure.

"You recognized, long before it became commonplace, the importance of connecting the College to the local community. We are so grateful for your vision," Bergeron said.

The Holleran Center advances teaching, learning, research and community collaborations through programs that develop intellectual and ethical judgment. The center's Certificate program in Community Action and Public Policy requires students to take a set of related courses and a senior seminar, conduct College-funded internships, and complete a senior integrative project.

Today, the Center enrolls 74 College students representing more than 30 departments and programs across campus.

## American master

**FEW DANCERS HAVE HAD AS MUCH** of an impact on modern dance as the late Martha Graham. In *American Masters*, the PBS documentary series, Graham's influence on dance is compared to that of "Picasso's on painting, Stravinsky's on music, and Frank Lloyd Wright's on architecture."

Few places, however, can claim to have felt Graham's artistic genius more than Connecticut College.

Between 1948 and 1978, Martha Graham and the American Dance Festival held a summer program at Connecticut College, bringing some of the greatest dancers of the era to New London. Many alumni fondly remember Graham speaking and teaching on campus. In fact, a direct line can be traced from Graham to the College's dance department—Graham mentored Martha Myers, Henry B. Plant Professor Emeritus of Dance and the founder of the dance department, who in turn mentored David Dorfman '81, the current chair of the dance department.

It was only fitting that during a recent 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary performance by Martha Graham Dance Company in New York City, 30 members of the College community were in attendance. Many of those were from the College's Ad Astra Society, which honors donors who have made lifetime gifts of commitments of \$1 million or more.

Also in attendance were Martha Myers and Judith Gassner Schlosser '52, who sits on the board of Martha Graham Dance Company.



CRIS ALEXANDER

## Dancing with Warhol

**THE AMERICAN DANCE INSTITUTE** recently awarded New York City-based choreographer and dancer Raja Feather Kelly '09 the Solange MacArthur Award for New Choreography, which will provide Kelly \$10,000 to develop and market a performance during ADI's 2017-18 season.

"I'm excited to continue paving a way for the kind of work that I do," Kelly said in a press release from ADI. "I am going to keep working hard—only now with resources! That is a dream come true."

Kelly is the founder of The Feath3r Theory, a dance theater company that brings together dancers, actors, filmmakers, musicians, photographers and graphic designers for cutting-edge visual performances. He

founded the company as a student at Conn with Laura Snow '09, and has recruited Rebecca Hite Teicheira '09, Kate Enman '09, Amy Gernux '13 and Rachel Pritzlaff '13 as dancers.

Most of Kelly's art focuses on the life and work of artist Andy Warhol, and Warhol has been the inspiration for his most recent series of performances.

Kelly's latest, *Andy Warhol's TROPICO*, is a live dance-theater production with an accompanying graphic novel, created entirely by Kelly. It premiered June 2-4, 2016, in New York City. *The New York Times* praised his previous show, *Color Me, Warhol*, calling it "marvelous and moving ... largely because Kelly maintains a skilled balance between cheekiness and sincerity."



HELDER MIRA

## Chance the gardener

**SPRING IS A BUSY TIME** in any garden, as land is cleared, tilled and prepped for seedlings that hold the promise of a plentiful fall harvest.

For the students behind the College's Sprout Garden, spring was spent designing and building a chicken coop to welcome six laying hens.

The addition of chickens is just the latest in a series of expansions that the student-run garden has seen since it was established nearly 10 years ago by Alaya Morning '06 on a modest 600-square-foot plot near the 360 Apartments.

Kira Kirk '18 (above) started helping in the garden as a first-year student, but got more serious when she took on the new Outreach Fellow position her sophomore year. The role saw her less in the flowerbeds, and more promoting Sprout while helping shape its future.

"Every single day last semester I probably talked about Sprout," Kirk said. "I would [always] bring it up in passing."

Sprout now covers close to 10,000 square feet. Located behind Cro, it includes about 40 in-ground beds, a hoop house for seed starts and year-round crops, and the new chicken coop.

The garden is run in partnership with the College's

Office of Sustainability, which provides guidance, direction and coordination for the various sustainability efforts across campus.

The expansion and enhancement plan for Sprout that Kirk and her team have put forward will secure more stable funding, and cement future projects, ranging from expanding the garden beds, to enhancing projects like a weekly farmers market at the College.

Richard Madonna, vice president for finance administration, is serving as an adviser to students involved with the garden. This includes recent student proposals to secure funding that would expand and increase programming.

"I'd love to see more local agriculture on campus so that students can buy local produce and meet others in the community," he said.

Part of the outreach includes tapping into students' individual passions for contributing.

"Right now we have a fellow who wants to be a chef," Kirk explained. "He wants to grow basil and tomatoes so he can cook pizza with what we grow in the garden. So students can use their individual passions to make the garden a better place."



## College awarded \$800,000 for Connections

**THE ENDEAVOR FOUNDATION** has awarded the College \$800,000 to implement its bold new general education curriculum, Connections.

“The world we inhabit today calls for a different kind of citizen, one with more curiosity, more creativity, more perspective, more tolerance, more empathy and, ultimately, more courage to address the complex issues that divide us on a national and global scale,” said President Katherine Bergeron. “This generous grant from The Endeavor Foundation will support us as we educate students to put the liberal arts into action in their personal and professional lives.”

Connections, fully implemented this fall with the Class of 2020, will begin with a strengthened seminar experience for first-year students, supported by a team of advisers. As sophomores, students will identify a question of interest and choose a “pathway,” a set of interdisciplinary courses and other experiences curated around a central theme, such as public health, entrepreneurship or sustainability, which will allow them to explore their question over the next three years. The junior year expands the reach of the pathway through internships and other work in the community and across the globe, and the senior year draws it all together in an integrative project.

In addition to supporting two yearlong advising seminars, including one focused specifically on learning abroad, The Endeavor Foundation grant will support the development of six initial pathways and the development of long-term partnerships with universities and colleges abroad to promote ethical global engagement.

## Travel awards

**FOR JUST THE SECOND TIME**, a student from the College has received a prestigious Mortimer Hayes-Brandeis Traveling Fellowship Award, providing travel and living expenses outside of the United States for students in art history, studio art and photography.

Juan Flores '16 will travel to Mexico to study the eccentric, experimental electronic music scene, analyzing how local and indigenous sounds fit into a contemporary context. His research will bring together digital sound, video installations, painting and printmaking.

Flores was one of only three recipients of the \$19,000 fellowship, which is open to students at just 10 colleges and universities, including Yale, Harvard and Columbia.

## Six awarded Fulbrights

**FIVE RECENT GRADUATES** and one alumnus have received U.S. Fulbright Student Program grants to teach English abroad. The College has now produced 33 Fulbright winners in the past five years.

Fulbright fellows receive round-trip travel to their host countries, a living stipend and project allowances.

**Kevin Ith '14**, an urban education fellow at Great Oaks Charter School in Bridgeport, Connecticut, will teach English in Baku, Azerbaijan. After his fellowship, he plans to pursue a master's in public administration.

**Kaitlin Cunningham '16** will teach English as a second language at the university level in Georgia. She spent a week in Georgia while studying abroad in Russia and “fell in love with” the people and the culture. Cunningham hopes to compile a cookbook of Georgian recipes in English, Russian and Georgian.

**Jessica Durning '16** will spend 11 months teaching English at a school in Thailand. The Winthrop Scholar has already studied abroad in Australia and the Netherlands, and spent the past semester student-teaching at a local elementary school.

**Taryn Kitchen '16** will teach English in Mexico, where she is interested in social justice issues related to the country's geographic and economic relationship with the U.S. Kitchen recently taught in a sixth-grade classroom at New London's Dual Language and Arts Magnet Middle School, and is pursuing dual certification in elementary education and secondary Spanish education.

**Stephanie Reeves '16** has already interned, worked and studied in Russia—and will travel there again to teach English. Reeves plans to organize a dance club at the school in hopes of teaching students how to learn and communicate nonverbally.

**Leela Riesz '16** will teach English to high school students in Madrid, Spain. Riesz studied abroad and interned in Almeria, Spain, conducting research on the experience of Muslim immigrants. Riesz's work earned her the first ever Claire Gaudiani '66 Prize for Excellence in the Senior Integrative Project for her honors thesis, which focused on the intersection of food and the migrant Muslim experience in southern Spain.

*For more awards coverage, visit [www.conncoll.edu/news](http://www.conncoll.edu/news).*

# Rowing Hall of Fame



After rowing for the College, Anita DeFrantz '74, far right, won a bronze medal for the 1976 U.S. Olympic team.

**FORMER OLYMPIANS** and College rowers Tim Young '92 and Anita DeFrantz '74 were inducted into the National Rowing Hall of Fame on April 23 in Sarasota, Florida.

Young was inducted as part of the men's quad team that won the silver medal at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. At the College, Young helped lead the program to a New England Championship and a gold medal win at the prestigious Dad Vail Regatta. He was inducted into the Connecticut College Athletic Hall of Fame in 1999.

DeFrantz was inducted as part of the women's eight team that won the bronze medal at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal.

This was DeFrantz's second induction into the Hall of Fame. In 2010, she was recognized for being a part of the 1976 and 1980 Olympics teams, as well as her service as a member of the International Olympic Committee.

DeFrantz was inducted into the College Hall of Fame in 1989. Since 1995, the College has presented The Anita L. DeFrantz '74 Award to the male and female student-athletes of the graduating class whose athletic ability, leadership and sportsmanship best exemplify DeFrantz's qualities.

## John McKnight Jr. named dean of institutional equity and inclusion

**JOHN F. MCKNIGHT JR.** has been named dean of institutional equity and inclusion at Connecticut College. The appointment is effective July 1.

At Connecticut College, McKnight will be responsible for the overall vision and leadership of the work of equity and inclusion, and will collaborate with leaders across campus to fulfill the College's commitment to full participation. Specifically, he will oversee the offices of the associate dean of equity and inclusion, religious and spiritual life, the Women's Center, Unity House, the LGBTQ Resource Center and the Title IX coordinator.

"John joins us as we conclude an important year of

dialogue on our campus aimed at fostering a learning environment of tolerance and mutual respect," said President Katherine Bergeron in a letter to the campus community. "With his extensive experience and record of success, John is uniquely qualified to lead our community forward in an important time of change."

McKnight was previously the dean of intercultural development at Lafayette College. He holds a doctorate in education, administration, and leadership studies from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a master of science in higher education administration from Indiana University Bloomington, and a bachelor of science from the University of Florida.

# Up in the air

**I'VE NEVER BEEN CLIFF JUMPING**, but I expect it's much like graduating from college. There's the unsettled stomach, nervous sweating and your grandma cheering you on.

This uncertainty, this discomfort, is what gives each of us so much potential to succeed. Today, our lives are incredibly open to change and possibility in a way they may never be again—there's no telling who we will meet, where we will be or what we will have accomplished one year from now.

For each of us, Conn has meant something different; Conn is discomfort, opportunity and friendship. It is sleepless nights, 1 a.m. mozz sticks and leaving your personal belongings in public places. It is questioning authority, questioning the Camel Van, and engaging in meaningful dorm-room chats. It is Arbo sledding and dancing on tables. It's not perfect, it's not polished, but Conn, with both its strengths and shortcomings, has helped us become comfortable with discomfort. And to me, this is one of the greatest gifts.

Not many universities allow students to take control, to fix the flaws we see and craft the community we want. But here, we are encouraged to question, to go beyond the textbooks

and the facts. Our discomfort helps us identify injustice in the everyday and recognize the possibilities that lie beyond the borders we set for ourselves. Whether the future appears clear and exciting or jumbled and daunting, we know how to bring meaning to our lives and inspire change for those around us.

Today, we each make our own jump, but none of us is alone. We carry our professors, families and friends with us, in ways that can't be seen by the naked eye. And just as their lessons remain a part of us, we also leave a legacy here at Conn. Our sustainability campaigns, human rights activism and open dialogues have made this place better for our friends who watch us leave today. While we may never share a campus with the Class of 2020, they will know us well.

The Class of 2016 is many things. We are athletes, artists and activists. We are trailblazers, innovators and motivators. We are scholars; we are dreamers; we are leaders. And now, we are cliff jumpers.

*An excerpt from senior class speaker Mia Haas-Goldberg's 2016 Commencement speech. For more coverage of Commencement, go to [www.conncoll.edu/commencement](http://www.conncoll.edu/commencement).*



HELDER MIRA



BOB MACDONNELL

## The Al Qaeda Papers

Before *The New York Times* foreign correspondent and three-time Pulitzer Prize finalist Rukmini Callimachi spoke at Conn's 98th Commencement, she talked about uncovering the inner workings of Al Qaeda, revealing the deadly strategies of ISIS and how she talks to terrorists. **By Amy Martin**

**Amy Martin:** Were you always interested in terrorism?

**Rukmini Callimachi:** My interest developed organically from my time in northern Africa working for The Associated Press. I saw the encroachment of terrorism starting in 2007 when an Al Qaeda branch emerged there. In 2012, a branch of Al Qaeda took over an enormous stretch of land in Mali, about the size of Afghanistan. They established an Islamic tribunal, gave out leaflet on how women had to dress, for example, and it got progressively worse. At first, they were mostly ignored by the West. Then, when it started to look like they were going for the capital of Mali, the French went in. Within three weeks, they had taken back Timbuktu. I got to Timbuktu about three days later.

**AM:** Is that when you found the documents that resulted in the groundbreaking series *The Al Qaeda Papers* for which you were a Pulitzer finalist

**RC:** I was in the first wave of reporters, and one of the places we went was a bank that had served as an administrative headquarters for the Al Qaeda operatives. Here were thousands of pages of documents all over the ground. I knew instantly that because they were in Arabic—Mali is a French-speaking country—they belonged to Al Qaeda. They had boot marks on them, so obviously the French forces had seen them, but no one had picked them up.

I spent the next year translating them, and these documents turned out to be one of the most precious troves of Al Qaeda documents ever found. That was the moment that terrorism became interesting to me.

**AM:** These documents revealed that Al Qaeda was a very complex operation run like a modern government or Fortune 500 company.

**RC:** I had always thought of them as men in caves, carrying out this ideology. But I found things like a letter

from a commander berating a commander in Mali for not turning in an expense report on time. It's not primitive at all. It's an ideology that is very well thought out. They have their own scholars, books and literature, and they trace their heritage back a very long way. It's much more layered and rich than I initially thought.

**AM:** How do you cultivate your sources?

**RC:** The first person I spoke to was senior commander for Al Qaeda in Mali, a guy named Omar Ould Hamaha. He's the only one I've spoken to on the phone; every other one has been through an encrypted app on my phone.

He was talking to other reporters at the time, too. But they have this way of greeting in West Africa, where they go back and forth with these niceties: "How are you?" "How's your mother?" "How's the country?" "How are the animals?" It goes on and on, and of course the

answer is always “fine.” I used to drive me crazy, but I realized that in West Africa, you can use it—you can call the president and it would be considered rude for him not to answer, “How is your mom?” I kind of guess that I was the only one who did this with Omar Ould Hamaha. I built up a little rapport with him. It got to the point where I started to call him almost every day.

**AM:** Do your sources ever want to know more about who you are?

**RC:** It’s interesting because other than Omar Ould Hamaha, who was killed, they all go by aliases, and I don’t actually know who any of them are. But I never bullshit them. They always want to know: Who are you? What do you believe? I tell them upfront that I’m a Christian, a practicing Christian who goes to church. They just want to know where you stand.

**AM:** These are terrorists. How do you know you can trust the information they are giving you?

**RC:** The accepted idea is that because they are terrorists, they must be liars. It actually doesn’t follow. There was never a time Omar Ould Hamaha lied to me. He told me things I didn’t really believe, but then when I got to northern Mali myself, I realized they were true.

**AM:** Can you give an example?

**RC:** There is this weapon that can take down an airplane. It is a very scary thing because, as it is, there is so little security in Africa. So I asked him, “The U.S. is very worried about the SA-7. Do you guys have them?” And he said, “Yes, we have the SA-7A and SA-7B.” It was very specific. Of course, there was nothing I could do with this information. It would look alarmist to print that this one terrorist said

they have this very dangerous weapon. But when I finally got to Mali, one of the stacks of papers that I found were manuals—stacks of them—for the SA-7A and SA-7B. The French forces found parts too—they had clearly tried to fix them. I was like, “Oh my god, he was telling me the truth.”

**AM:** In *The New York Times*, you wrote about a 23-year-old Christian American woman who was “courted” by ISIS. The story reveals a comprehensive strategy behind the recruitment of westerners. Should this be a major concern for average U.S. citizens? Should we be looking for warning signs in our own communities?

**RC:** The Islamic State has seeped into our living rooms through nothing more than an internet cable. They prey on young people like “Alex,” a young woman who was still living with her grandmother into her 20s and who had no full-time employment. What I find most worrisome is how they use Islam as the entryway. Just about the only signs that Alex’s family saw were signs of growing Muslim religiosity: wanting to wear the hijab; showing an interest in praying; trips to Barnes & Nobles to buy books on Muslim theology. It’s hard for me as a person who spent nearly eight years living in a Muslim country to say that these are “warning signs.” But sadly ISIS is using religion as the avenue of recruitment.

**AM:** What role does technology and social media play in your reporting?

**RC:** Quite simply, I could not do my job without social media, and more specifically without Twitter. Twitter is the engine through which jihadi groups pump out their propaganda to the world. As someone who is studying the extremists, being able to see their posts in real time—versus the way it used to work years ago, where the posts

were on the deep web on password-protected forums—has meant that I can understand and follow the groups more intimately.

**AM:** Are you ever concerned for your own safety?

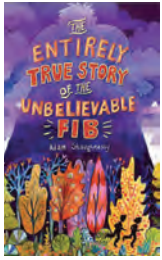
**RC:** I think all journalists covering the Islamic State in, or near, the group’s stronghold in Iraq and Syria need to think about their safety. Following the execution of [American freelance reporter] James Foley, it’s clear that there is no longer any room for error.

**AM:** Some smaller recent attacks have been portrayed as not necessarily the work of ISIS, but ISIS “supporters” or “wannabes” of sorts. Do you think this is an accurate characterization?

**RC:** One of the reasons that governments and media outlets continue to underestimate ISIS is because they do not understand the role of so-called lone wolf attacks. These attacks are part-and-parcel of the terror group’s strategy. They are inciting them through their propaganda, and they are doing so in a very explicit way.

I found it troubling that the Nov. 13 attacks in Paris were seen as having come out of nowhere. I set out to correct the record in the piece I published in March in *The New York Times*, showing how ISIS’ external operations branch had been churning out fighters since two years before the Paris and Brussels attacks. I counted 21 ISIS operatives who trained with the group in Syria and who returned alone or in pairs to carry out medium-size attacks in France, Belgium and beyond. Because most of these attacks failed, officials and journalists once again failed to connect the dots. ■

*For more coverage of Commencement, go to [www.conncoll.edu/commencement](http://www.conncoll.edu/commencement).*



## The Entirely True Story of the Unbelievable FIB

By Adam Shaughnessy '96

*Algonquin Young Readers, 2015*

A former elementary school teacher, Shaughnessy is currently working on his master's degree in children's literature at Hollins University.

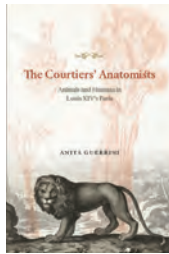
Shaughnessy's passion for sharing stories is recognized in the first book of the *Unbelievable FIB* children's series. The story draws from classic lore to create a new world featuring fantastical realms, warring Viking gods and a young sleuth.

## The Courtiers' Anatomists: Animals and Humans in Louis XIV's Paris

By Anita Guerrini '75

*University of Chicago Press, 2015*

Although she is a historian of science and medicine, Guerrini's real passion is writing. In her most recent book, Guerrini utilizes her knowledge of the history of science and medicine to examine the practice of 17th-century anatomy. The book reveals how anatomy and natural history were connected through animal dissection and vivisection.



## The Garden Bible: Designing Your Perfect Outdoor Space

By Barbara Ballinger '71

*Images Publishing Group, 2015*

For more than 40 years Ballinger has written about gardens through her design and real estate work. Along with co-author,

Michael Glassman, Ballinger's book helps homeowners understand the challenges of their outdoor space and what they need to do to create their garden and make it thrive. From the beginning of the process to the end, *The Garden Bible* assists individuals in growing, evolving, and sustaining a garden for years to come.

## True North

By Heather Ehrman Krill '97

*AuthorHouse, 2015*

Having taught middle and high school English for 18 years, Krill applied for and was awarded a Rotary grant to write a young-adult novel, modeling for her students

what it takes to be a writer at work. Her novel follows four teenagers who navigate their way through the challenges of adolescence and discover they are actually genetic siblings separated as embryos before birth.



## Handling Federal Estate and Gift Taxes, Revised 6th

By James Kosakow '76 and

Myron Kove

*Thomson Reuters, 2016*

A partner with McLaughlin & Stern, Kosakow has co-authored *Handling Federal Estate and Gift Taxes Revised 6th*, a two-volume text.

## Serengeti

By Jennifer Baughan Rockwell '95

*Severed Press, 2016*

In addition to being employed by the Coast Guard as a developer of IT systems, Rockwell also pursues her passion of writing sci-fi and fantasy. Her most recent book, *Serengeti*, is a tale about survival. A booby-trapped vessel decimates the Meridian Alliance fleet, leaving Serengeti—a Valkyrie class warship with a sentient AI brain—on her own; wrecked and abandoned in an empty expanse of space.



## From Filth & Mud

By Jorge Colon '05

2015

An English major at the College, Colon has recently self-published his debut novel. An action thriller, the novel follows a recently retired Marine,

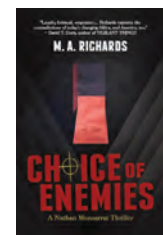
Jacob, who finds himself dealing with PTSD.

## Choice of Enemies

By Michael Richards '78

*Sunbury Press, 2016*

Richards' firsthand experiences from two decades of working for the Department of State as a cultural attaché acted as a petri dish for incubating his most recent story. His second book, a thriller, is the first in



Compiled by Amy Levenson '16

a series of espionage novels featuring Nathan Monsarrat, a retired CIA operative with an extensive knowledge of black gold and expertise in weapons, women and Benjamins.



**Ode to Beautiful**

**By Sandra Sidman Larson '59**  
Finishing Line Press, 2016

In her new chapbook “Ode to Beautiful,” Larson, with startling insights and imagery, uses her poetry to express concern for the natural world.

**Using Technology to Engage Students with Learning Disabilities**

**By Sharon LePage Plante '93 and Billy Krakower**  
Corwin, 2016

Plante, who earned a child development degree at the College, recently co-authored a book that shows educators how to harness the power of today’s technology to improve learning and engagement for students with learning disabilities. The book provides resources such as new ideas for using assistive technology to teach core subjects.

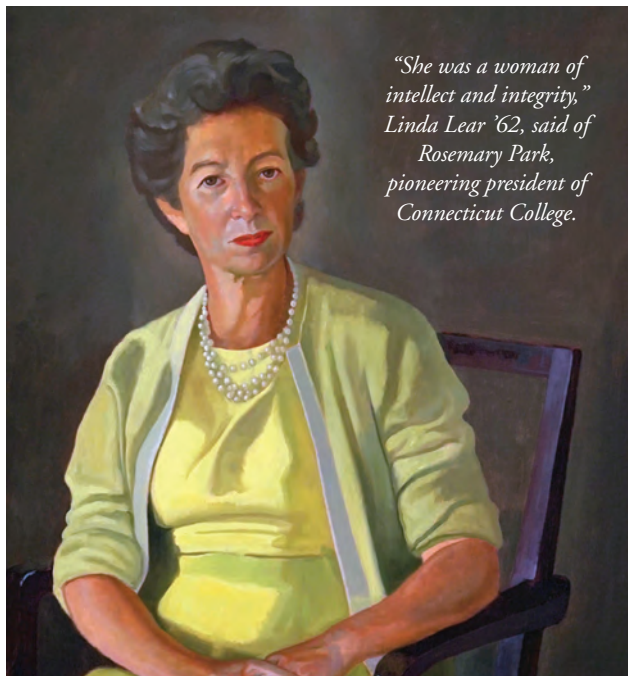


**Feel Me Brave**

**By Jessica Horak Stout '98 and Walter Horak**  
West Woodstock Press, 2015

Stout’s chronicle of illness, love and living beyond began as a blog. Stout used the blog as a way to keep her family

and friends updated about her son’s struggle with an incurable disease.



*“She was a woman of intellect and integrity.”  
Linda Lear '62, said of  
Rosemary Park,  
pioneering president of  
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# King of the (tiny) castle

Tired of high living costs, Adam Glos '09 made a giant change by building a small house. **By Josh Anusewicz**

**ADAM GLOS '09** lives in a house so small it fits on a flatbed trailer .

Strapped by the high cost of rent, the Jackson, Wyoming, resident set out to build his own home last year. Constructed by hand and situated on a friend's property, the 150-square-foot dwelling is complete with electricity, running water, a woodstove and even a climbing wall up to his loft bedroom.

Glos recently took time out to discuss why he built the tiny house and how he might take it on the road soon.

**Josh Anusewicz:** What made you decide to build a tiny house for yourself?

**Adam Glos:** I moved to Wyoming shortly after graduation and had a number of odd jobs. Jackson is a beautiful place; I love it out here, but it's very expensive. So, two years ago, I started thinking about building my own place.

**JA:** How long did the process take?

**AG:** I bought a used trailer first, in the fall of 2014. After fixing that up, I started building the house in the spring of 2015, living out of my truck last summer. It's 20 feet long by eight feet wide and runs on a big, 15-amp extension cord. I plug it into my friend's house and help pay for utilities.

**JA:** How much cheaper is it living in this house?

**AG:** My monthly cost of living is about one-third of what I was paying before. And I haven't had to pay rent in about a year.

**JA:** You were an architectural studies major at Conn. How did that help you during construction?

**AG:** I've always loved construction and design, and I definitely brought skills I learned in college to this project. I thought about building my own house, but I'm not a professional carpenter; so it still has a "do-it-yourself" feel to it. The paneling on the inside of the house is old pallets that I tore up and restored. The loft beams that hold up where I sleep are from trees that I chopped down and stripped myself. I did have to do a lot of research for the electricity, plumbing and metal work, though—but I haven't burned the place down yet.

**JA:** What do you do for work? What plans do you have for the future?

**AG:** I do a number of things: I'm an adaptive ski instructor and guide; work at a wilderness therapy organization, leading backpacking trips

for troubled youth; and work at a physical therapy clinic. I've been thinking about going back to school for physical therapy or health sciences. That's where the house gives me great flexibility. I can save money and put it towards school; depending on where the school is, I can take the house with me, or I can sell the house or rent it out.

**JA:** What do people think when friends find out you live in a tiny house?

**AG:** They want to know more about it and give me a lot of positive feedback. In Jackson, people my age are looking to live a more scaled-back lifestyle; they have college degrees but want to be able to ski most of the year. It's very different from living in Boston or New York. I find it a very comfortable way to live, knowing everything I own fits in this small place. It may not be ideal for when I want to have kids and start a family, but it's working great for me now. ■



PHOTOS COURTESY ADAM GLOS

# Sex in the museum

Sarah Forbes '04 has turned an unlikely tenure at “New York’s most provocative museum” into a revealing memoir, recently featured in *Cosmopolitan* and *The Daily Beast*.

By Josh Anusewicz

## SHE’S BEEN CALLED “THE CURATOR OF SEX.”

As the former curator of the Museum of Sex, Sarah Forbes '04 has seen it all. But one peculiarity stands out: a large group of senior citizens—all women—showed up in the lobby of the Museum of Sex, located a few blocks from the Empire State Building, for a guided tour.

This will be interesting, Forbes thought to herself.

The gray-haired women viewed one-of-a-kind sex toys, antique pornography, explicit videos and life-sized dolls. They passed a room full of trampoline-size inflatable b easts, arranged for patrons to bounce on. Along the way there were signs instructing guests to keep their hands, tongues and, well, “other” body parts off of the exhibits.

And the group of elderly women loved every second of it, Forbes recalled.

“It was the best tour I ever gave, and definitely the most rambunctious. These women were so excited to finally ha e the opportunity to talk and learn about this topic that had been so taboo in their lives.”

At 22, the job seemed surreal—a recent Conn graduate on her way to The New School to earn a master’s in anthropology. But an unexpected visit to

“MoSex” led to more than a decade as the museum’s curator—and a whole lot of stories to tell.

Forbes compiled these stories into a memoir, *Sex in the Museum: My Unlikely Career at New York’s Most Provocative Museum*. The book is a deeply personal look at not just Forbes’ career but her life, friendships, romantic relationships and her own ideas on sex and sexuality. Within these stories, she interweaves memories from the museum, at once informative, entertaining and assured, to push readers out of their comfort zone.

“I had all of these memories and experiences that I wanted to share beyond my circle of friends. I started writing everything down before I forgot them,” Forbes said of her writing process. “It shocks me that I’ve written a memoir. It wasn’t my first intention.

“ I am not a porn star and I’m not Dr. Ruth.”

Just as “The Met wasn’t always The Met,” Forbes said, MoSex was still a fledgling establishment when she began in 2004. Today, however, it’s one of the largest cultural institutions in New York with more than 200,000 visitors every year. That growth can be traced back to Forbes’ vision, which started with scouring abandoned apartments for books and artifacts in the early days, to hosting large galas with celebrity attendees at the end of her tenure.

But it wasn’t the potential shock value of the exhibits or the extravagant parties that fascinated Forbes; like a true anthropologist, it was the human connection and the opportunity to educate people that drove her.

“Sex is a topic that defines our humanit , our species, that moves across generations. But because it’s such a taboo topic, people don’t feel comfortable asking questions,” Forbes said.

“Not many people have the foundational information on sex and sexuality, and it’s dangerous when people don’t understand it.”



BFA PHOTOGRAPHY



RAYMOND BOYD / GETTY IMAGES

Forbes' efforts to dispel misconceptions that exist around sex and sexuality are evident when you walk into the museum. You aren't bombarded with simple facts and history; the exhibits are interactive and relatable. And "Sex in the Museum" follows the same path, attempting to normalize the topic—even though it may be a little jarring to some.

Being "The Curator of Sex" also led to plenty of misconceptions in Forbes' personal life, which she chronicles in her memoir. She admits to always being "open ideologically," but uses her website to tell you what she's not: "I am not a porn star and I'm not Dr. Ruth."

There was never a shortage, however, of awkward dating stories or failed pickup attempts from men titillated by her professional title.

The misconceptions can be a bit frustrating.

"Nobody would ever meet me and guess what my job was," she said. "Who is a 'curator of sex'? What is that even supposed to look like? Am I supposed to walk around in leather outfits?"

"I look like a girl from Connecticut College. I have a husband, a son, a daughter, a dog—a traditional life. I just had an unbelievably unusual job. That's what's different." ■



# ROBOTS

Robots have the potential not to replace humans, but go where humans can't go, says CS major Julia Proft '16.

*By Edward Weinman*

**SHE NAMED HER ROBOT ABRACADABRA.** Why? Because Julia Proft '16 is a fan of the Steve Miller Band, and her robot has a claw.

"My robot has an arm and can grab things," Proft, a computer science major, says.

"The name was inspired by the Steve Miller song *Abacadabra*. You know, 'Abra-abra-cadabra, I want to reach out and grab ya,'" she sings. "It was a spur-of-the-moment thing. I think the name is cute."

This fall, Proft will be starting a Ph.D. program in computer science at Cornell, but at the moment she's working with robots, more specifically, the utility of tethers, because she wants to use these machines to help first responders stay safe.

"There's potential for robots, not to replace humans, but to go where humans can't go and to collaborate with humans," Proft says.

“Say you have a collapsed building or a nuclear disaster, you can’t send people in because it’s either impossible to get them in or because it’s a risk to their life. But you can send in robots.”

Proft explains that first responders also can’t send in autonomous robots to disaster areas because smoke or, let’s say, a radiation leak, wreaks havoc on the machine’s sensors. Therefore, a tether is necessary. However, tethers can limit a robot’s maneuverability (a tether twists or knots), so she prototyped Abracadabra to detach and reattach to its tether. While these types of robots already exist, the goal of Proft’s research is to discover ways to increase the utility of tethers.

“First responders have been looking for a robot that can detach itself from its power or communications cable, or even just a belay cable ... because if a cable snaps in a disaster area, most of the time you can’t just go in and retrieve the machine.

“And you’ve just lost a \$25,000 robot.

“You need a robot that can detach itself, roam around and do whatever it needs to do, and then reattach and get removed from the area.”

Proft’s robot research is part of her honors thesis. She has been working under the supervision of Gary Parker, chair of the computer science department, who stands in an 8-by-8-foot enclosure, squared off by one-foot-high walls made out of wood.

“It’s our colony space,” Parker says.

Looking to the ceiling, he points out a camera. “We can run experiments in this colony space, such as our predator-prey experiment.”

The gnarly sounding experiment involves two robots: the “prey,” which has sensors all around to enhance peripheral vision, like a fly with numerous eyes; and the “predator,” which was built to concentrate vision up front, like a wolf.

The prey is taught to run from the closest object. The predator is programmed to chase. And the two robots battle.

“The idea is for the students to develop problem-solving skills, methods of learning that can be used in different robots and in different environments,” Parker says. “I try to let students be creative.”

Abracadabra is sturdy and rugged. It would make a terrific predator. The bulkiness of Proft’s robot, though, belies its intricacies. These complexities mean that when the machine misbehaves (malfunctions) it’s difficult to debug and figure out the hitch in its giddy-up.

“The hard thing about robotics is that when debugging there are more variables to check when something

“There’s potential for robots, not to replace humans, but to go where humans can’t go and to collaborate with humans.”

goes wrong. When programming software it’s most likely your code and not your computer. With a robot it could be software or hardware—something as simple as forgetting to plug in a wire can prevent the entire robot from working,” she says.

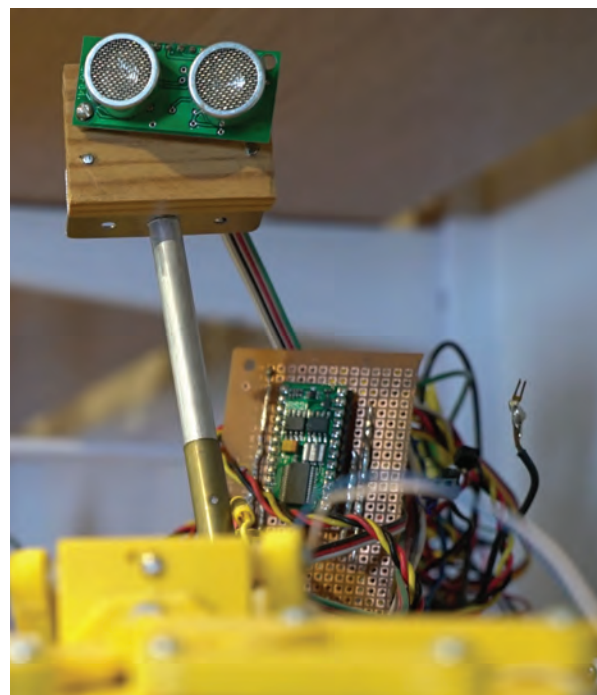
“It can be frustrating when you have to check all these little components just to find that one’ missing thing.”

Despite these frustrations, like when she’s trying to program the machine to manipulate the tether, and it just won’t work, Proft is happy with how her robot turned out, the first she’s ever constructed.

“You kind of have that love-hate relationship with your creation, but the first time I flipped on the switch and it actually worked, that was amazing.

“To be able to make these creations and have them work and especially ones that can help people, it’s the best feeling in the world.

“It’s what drives those of us in the field of computer science to innovate,” she says. ■



PHOTOS BY HELDER MIRA

# Stark resident recalls civil rights activism

Emmy Award-winning documentarian Judy Richardson spent nearly a month at the College, visiting classes and screening her films

By Josh Anusewicz

**YOU CAN'T BUILD** a social justice movement strictly around social media, explains Judy Richardson, an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker.

Take the fact that the Black Lives Matter movement is often seen in the language of Twitter: #BlackLivesMatter.

“You can have thousands of likes and followers—and not know who any of those people are or what their motives are.”

Richardson acknowledges that social media is essential to the Black Lives Matter movement. After the racially charged incidents that exploded across U.S. cities like Baltimore and Ferguson, the hashtag turned from a rallying cry into an important vehicle for organizing protests against racial profiling and police brutality. Social media channels helped fuel the movement that swept across the U.S.

“Social media is a valuable tool, but it is just that: a tool,” she says.

Online, “you’re talking at people not with them.” Fortunately, she adds, many young activists also understand the need for long-term grassroots organizing.

This April, Richardson joined the College community as the Fran and Ray Stark Distinguished Guest Resident in Film Studies. The residency brings leading scholars and artistic professionals involved with the production, distribution and interpretation of cinema to campus for intensive engagement

with students in the Film Studies Program. Richardson screened several of her PBS and History Channel films, in addition to bringing PBS filmmakers and book editors to campus for lectures. She also lectured herself in both film and African-American history and culture classes.

“By teaching, presenting her films, and bringing activists and artists to campus, Judy imparted to Conn students the indissoluble gift of her wisdom,” says Elizabeth Reich, assistant professor of film studies, “reminding us that whether freedom fighter or filmmaker, we follow those who have come before us, standing on their shoulders and drawing from their strength.”

Richardson is undoubtedly a freedom fighter. She left Swarthmore College to join the staff of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in the 1960s, working closely with activists like Julian Bond and Stokely Carmichael, first in SNCC’s national office in Atlanta and then in Mississippi and Alabama. Richardson’s activism led to a career as a writer, publisher and, eventually, a filmmaker, best known for co-producing the Academy Award-nominated, 14-hour PBS documentary series *Eyes on the Prize* and the Emmy Award-winning *Malcolm X: Make It Plain*.

But college campuses are where Richardson finds comfort, and where her own activism began.



DANNY LYON

She has been a visiting professor at Brown University and currently has a residency at Duke University. On the many campuses she visits—Connecticut College included—Richardson has witnessed students willing to fight for social justice, just one of the many parallels and connections she sees between the Civil Rights Movement and the Black Lives Matter movement.

“A lot has changed. I can go to



Filmmaker Judy Richardson (center) has been a civil rights activist since she left college to join the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in the 1960s; here, she and members of SNCC organize a sit-in in Atlanta in 1963.

Ole Miss or Vanderbilt now and walk around campus without fear,” she says. “But many of the issues are the same—police brutality, voter suppression, major economic inequities. The system hasn’t changed; it got some new clothes.”

Richardson remains tied to activism. In addition to film consultations and traveling for college lectures and teacher development workshops, she serves on the board of

directors of the SNCC Legacy Project and recently helped organize a three-day voting rights conference at Duke, bringing young activists from Black Lives Matter and immigrant rights groups together with SNCC veterans.

One of the most important lessons she tries to impart to the young activists she meets: You may not see the change you’re working for, but if you do nothing, nothing changes.

“Those who are afraid of sharing

power with communities of color in this country are doing everything to stop [today’s social activists]—through voter suppression and the massive funding of political campaigns to keep themselves in power,” Richardson says.

But the great equalizers, she adds, are voting and grassroots organizing.

“The folks who are fighting to stop this expansion of democracy don’t get to win—because they’re wrong.” ■

# Back roads of the American West



When anti-government protestors seized a federal building near Burns, Oregon, the press flocked to history professor Catherine McNicol Stock to seek understanding. An expert in domestic terrorism, Stock helps answer why these rural radicals attack. **By Edward Weinman**

**Edward Weinman:** How did you come to specialize in the study of rural radicalism and domestic terrorism?

**Catherine McNicol Stock:** I've always been interested in the relationship of rural people to the federal government. My maternal grandparents are from Grand Forks, North Dakota, so I have clear memories of them talking about Franklin Roosevelt, the "communist who ruined America."

**EW:** Is that why you wrote about the New Deal in *Main Street Crisis: The Great Depression and the Old Middle Class on the Northern Plains*?

**CMS:** My first book was about the ways in which people

in the Great Plains responded to the New Deal. That framed what I'm interested in: people who have bought hook, line and sinker the idea of the pioneer west, that people are independent, self-reliant and the moral backbone of society.

**EW:** How did the rural populations respond to the New Deal?

**CMS:** A good example is Laura Ingalls Wilder's *The Little House on the Prairie* series. People now realize the whole [series] is an anti-New Deal political idea. Very carefully, every time the [characters] talk about the government, they say something terrible, reinforcing this notion that people in small towns, pioneers, didn't need



## FOCUS ON FACULTY

the government, as they were self-reliant. That family was well known as hating Franklin Roosevelt. The books were written about the 19th century, but they were written during the 1930s, so it was the politics of the 1930s that influenced and formed how those books represented the past.

**EW:** What common denominators exist between the New Deal haters and the people in your book *Rural Radicals: Righteous Indignation in the American Grain*?

**CMS:** I wrote the book around the time of the Oklahoma City bombing, because it seemed to me that people didn't understand that the angry-white-man-hating-federal-government thing had a long history. [Today's rural radicals] are white; they are men; and they live in the countryside. Those things are important identifiers. And, for the most part, they aren't wealthy. They are the type of people who feel like the global economy does not recognize their value and that it's now more and more difficult for them to survive.

**EW:** An armed militia took over a federal building on the Harney County federal wildlife refuge in Burns, Oregon, last summer. Do these radicals have legitimate political concerns?

**CMS:** In Oregon [they] were saying that the ways in which the federal government owns so much land is impoverishing rural people. They used as an example that there are a lot of people who can no longer afford to run their ranches, or even work on ranches because the wages aren't high enough. They have county, state or government jobs, which have become the biggest employer in rural places, like high-security and maximum-security prisons. Government work is the last thing that they think of as real work; that's not what they want to do.

**EW:** Is this type of militia violence—or the threat of violence—on the rise in rural America?

**CMS:** First of all, yes. The hate groups have ticked way up since 2008. Most of them, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, have reactions toward nationalism. But 2008 marks two things: the election of President Barack Obama and the collapse of the economy.

**EW:** Do you think this reaction towards nationalism and nativism has resulted in the rise of Donald Trump?

“Both politicians give you people to [blame]. The support for the candidates depends on who you want to blame.”

**CMS:** There are so many primary voters who either want Donald Trump or Bernie Sanders, which doesn't make any sense at all unless you listen to both of them talk about trade, or the economy.

**EW:** Trump supporters and Sanders supporters are completely different groups. For example, you don't hear Sanders supporters asking for Muslims to be banned while polling suggests that those voting for Trump do want Muslims banned.

**CMS:** Both politicians give you people to [blame]. The support for the candidates depends on who you want to blame. If you think that the Clintons and their trade agreements, the Mexicans and the Chinese are the ones who destroyed your job, life, standard of living and your children's prospects, you like Trump. If you think it's the big banks, the bailouts and Wall Street fat cats, you like Sanders. Really, it's globalization. It's two expressions of the same problem.

**EW:** In *The Oregonian*, when talking about the standoff at the wildlife refuge, you said you saw similarities between the militia movement and Black Lives Matter. Can you explain?

**CMS:** In a sense, we're talking about the fact that both groups want criminal justice reform and they want the federal government off their backs. Though they would certainly never see it that way themselves.

**EW:** The following argument is articulated by the Black Lives Matter movement: Armed militia takes over a federal building. They are white. The cops wait them out. However, police stop an African American in Ferguson or Baltimore and the African American ends up killed. Is this accurate?

**CMS:** I don't believe the FBI is showing up and waiting because the militia is white. The FBI is saying, here are

*Continued next page* ▶

## FOCUS ON FACULTY

these groups, and we know what these groups have done in the past, [like the Oklahoma City bombing or the violence in Waco]. And what are the right tactics to use with these groups. Now, these groups are full of white people and so there are two ways of comparing it: how is the FBI handling these groups now as opposed to the 1990s, or how is the FBI or other armed wings of the state handling these groups versus African-American protestors? And that's a really important question.

**EW:** It seems to me you're saying the FBI is handling armed protests by rural radicals, and they have a different level of expertise than the local police who are responding to African-American protestors?

**CMS:** Right, for the most part that's true.

**EW:** Why do militia groups trend towards violence whereas the Black Lives Matter movement is nonviolent?

**CMS:** It's about their own cultural memories of what works and what is meaningful. Nonviolence is so important to the memory of the civil rights movement. If you want to remind white people about what parts of the civil rights agenda have not been completed, what better

way to do it than using the same or some of the same tactics that the iconic members of that movement used?

**EW:** And the rural radicals?

**CMS:** Who makes up these militias? Black Lives Matter is multi-gendered, whereas the militia movements are very much about masculinity, about guns. It's more about the individual man, his land, John Wayne and all of that kind of stuff.

**EW:** *The Christian Science Monitor* quoted you as saying, "If you don't take people and concerns seriously, you're missing a big opportunity to understand the whole culture and society that we live in, which includes places where 99 percent of Americans will never go." Why should we care about the back roads of the American West?

**CMS:** You can hate all white nationalists, all of the people who want to get rid of Muslims and all of the people who want to build a wall [between the U.S. and Mexico], but there are a lot of those people. And you may not have ever met any of them, but that's what democracy is all about. Everybody counts and everybody has one vote. ■



Previous page: Dwayne Ehmer carries an American flag as he rides his horse on the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge near Burns, Oregon, in January. Above: Ammon Bundy, the leader of an anti-government militia, speaks to members of the media in front of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge headquarters.



# Water World

## KELSEY MILLWARD '16

The senior from Baie-d'Urfe, Quebec, led the Camels to another Collegiate Water Polo Association Division III championship with a 13-9 victory over Washington & Jefferson College on April 17. Millward scored four goals in the game, adding to her team-leading total of 67. Her season-long star turn earned her Division III Most Valuable Player honors.



THE  
ZIKA  
VIRUS

Genetically modified mosquitoes can protect us from deadly diseases, writes chemistry professor **Marc Zimmer**.

**T**he world's most dangerous animal is not a hippopotamus. It's not a crocodile, or a lion, or a great white shark. It's a mosquito. These tiny critters are vectors of disease, passing devastating and deadly viruses—including Zika—from host to host. How can we stop them? One answer may surprise you: genetically modified mosquitoes

Zika is not new, but for many decades it remained in the shadow of its older and more common sibling, the Dengue virus. Now, with the recent outbreak of Zika—and its association with a birth defect known as microcephaly—we will have to use everything we have learned about Dengue to control it. That includes releasing genetically modified mosquitoes into impacted areas.

The Zika virus got off to a slow start. The symptoms, which include fever, rash, joint pain and conjunctivitis (pink eye), are typically mild—so mild, in fact, they often go unnoticed. In the 70 years since Zika was first identified in Uganda, less than five cases have been confirmed in the country. However, many people in Uganda have Zika antibodies in their blood, meaning that they were infected but never sick enough to seek treatment. Zika antibodies have also been found in India, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. Yet between 1947 and 2006, there were just 14 confirmed cases worldwide.

In 2007, something changed. Perhaps the Zika virus mutated; suddenly, it was on the move. That year, 50 people were infected on the Micronesian island of Yap. Six years later, thousands fell victim to the virus in French Polynesia, about 5,000 miles away. And now more than 1.5 million people in Brazil appear to have Zika. Not only is the virus spreading more efficiently, but, more alarming, it is also causing microcephaly, a birth defect in which babies' heads are unusually small and their brains do not develop properly.

## Zika is not new, but for many decades it remained in the shadow of its older and more common sibling, the Dengue virus.

Zika is most commonly transmitted by the *Aedes aegypti*, also known as the “yellow fever mosquito.” This is the same pest primarily responsible for spreading the Dengue virus, characterized by fever, pain in the eyes, a rash, and oral, vaginal and intestinal bleeding. Although *Aedes* originated in Africa, they are now found in tropical and subtropical areas throughout the world; 40 percent of the world's population is threatened by Dengue, and it's a leading cause of illness and death in the tropics and subtropics. Like Zika, there is no treatment or vaccine for Dengue fever.

That these two viruses are primarily transmitted by the same type of mosquito is both good news and bad. On the plus side, in our efforts to fight dengue, we have learned a lot about controlling *Aedes* populations that we can now apply to Zika-affected areas.

On the other hand, these are stealthy little creatures. They are smaller and quieter than the mosquitoes typically found in the United States; there is no annoying buzz to warn potential victims. They feed for one-to-two hour periods in the morning and late afternoon, so mosquito netting around bedding provides little protection. They thrive in urban environments; their ideal habitat is close to human homes where they can avoid pesticide spraying. And although *Aedes* travel less than a mile in their lifetime, humans do travel, and *Aedes* can pick up viruses from humans and pass them to their offspring.

Controlling and limiting the habitat of these mosquitoes is extremely difficult, as they can lay eggs in a single drop of water. This has led to severe restrictions in several countries: in Singapore, a homeowner can be fined for having *Aedes* breeding sites, such as a glass of water in the garden; in Malaysia, the home of anyone who contracts Dengue fever and the homes of their neighbors have to be sprayed—inside and out—with pesticides. These insecticides can be harmful to humans, particularly those exposed to them for long periods of time (such as the people doing the spraying) and children. Over time, populations of mosquitoes can also become resistant to pesticides.

Enter the genetically modified fluorescent mosquito.

Created by British biotech company Oxitec, these *Aedes* mosquitoes are designed with a self-limiting gene that causes their offspring to die in the larval stage. Oxitec breeds these modified mosquitoes by feeding them an antidote that turns the destructive gene off in captivity. The mosquitoes are then sorted according to gender, and, because only pregnant females bite humans (males eat nectar; females need blood to help their eggs develop), the females are killed before the males are released. The released males spend their lives searching for wild females in the area where they were freed. They mate, but all the offspring they produce will have the lethal gene and die.

If enough modified males are released, the entire *Aedes* population will collapse.

The Oxitec mosquitoes are also modified with a green fluorescent protein gene that produces fluorescent proteins that serve as markers to distinguish them from wild mosquitoes. These fluorescent proteins—which are the subject of my research—glow under a fluorescent microscope or fluorescent light. (This is just one of thousands of practical uses of GFP; it is also being used for everything from tracking the process of bacterial infection to detecting chemical and biological agents planted by terrorists.) Monitoring the ratio of modified vs. wild mosquitoes in traps helps scientists determine if enough modified males have been released to collapse the wild population.

The beauty of the Oxitec technique is that the



A biologist puts blood on iron plates to feed the females of the nursery that produces genetically modified mosquitoes. The Oxitec laboratory located in Campinas, Brazil, is releasing 250,000 of these mosquitoes to combat Zika.

modified males are only interested in mating with female *Aedes* mosquitoes, so no other mosquito or insect species is affected. And because male mosquitoes don't bite and all of their larvae die, humans don't have to worry about being bitten by the modified mosquitoes. A common concern expressed by opponents of the Oxitec mosquitoes is that the disappearance of the *Aedes* mosquitoes will have far-reaching effects and unforeseen consequences, since they are part of a complex food web. However, *Aedes* mosquitoes are an invasive species in all of the areas in which Oxitec is proposing releases. Other opponents simply have a vague fear or dislike of genetically modified organisms in general. In fact, NBC News reported in March that 25 percent of Americans surveyed by the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center thought genetically modified mosquitoes caused Zika. Since these arguments aren't based on science or facts, they can be harder to overcome.

Thus far, these genetically modified mosquitoes have been released in trials in Dengue-ridden areas of Cayman, Malaysia and Panama, as well as in the Brazilian city of Juazeiro, which has seen an 82 percent reduction in wild mosquito larvae. Recently, Oxitec, in conjunction with Brazilian health authorities, opened a new factory that can produce 4 million of these genetically modified fluorescent mosquitoes each week. With the sudden Zika epidemic, Brazil is hoping to expand its modified mosquito program to several more cities.

Another trial is proposed for Key West, Florida, an area of the U.S. where *Aedes* mosquitoes are common. Oxitec applied in 2012 for federal approval to release the genetically modified mosquitoes to prevent a Dengue outbreak in the region. The Food and Drug Administration Center for Veterinary Medicine is working with other agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Environmental Protection Agency, for federal regulation of this project. But these applications take a long time—genetically modified, fast-growing salmon took 16 years to get approval. If the FDA gives the go-ahead for the trial, several million genetically altered mosquitoes would be released up to three times a week in Key Haven, a community with 444 residences.

With the potential for the Zika outbreak to spread, the urgency of the FDA application has certainly increased. And the parameters of the equation have changed. Dengue fever is painful and a Dengue outbreak in Key West will negatively impact tourism in the area, but Zika has permanent, often devastating consequences for babies. To combat Zika, we will have to use all the tools at our disposal. ■

*Marc Zimmer is the Jean C. Tempel '65 Professor of Chemistry at Connecticut College. Zimmer is the author of *Glowing Genes: A Revolution in Biotechnology (Prometheus, 2005)* and *Illuminating Disease: An Introduction to Green Fluorescent Proteins (Oxford University Press, 2015)*.*





# SUPERMODELS AT



# THE END OF TIME

By Amy Martin | Photos by Miles Ladin '90

**Left:** Paris and Nicky Hilton at the Sean John store opening, 2004  
**Above:** Rihanna and Zac Posen at Fashion Rocks, Radio City Music Hall, 2006

He's a fashion photographer who doesn't care about fashion. He's photographed hundreds of celebrities yet is not in awe of celebrity.

Miles Ladin '90, well known for the black-and-white shots of the rich and famous he took for *The New York Times* and *W Magazine* throughout the 1990s, is as much photographic artist as photojournalist.

"My work has a humor to it," Ladin says.

"I'm not interested in collaborating with Kim Kardashian on her brand, but I'm not trying to 'catch' her either."

Instead, Ladin's images reveal a gritty reality to the allure of the superficial and the pursuit of the phone.

"There is something human about these [celebrity] moments. I'm trying to capture something that is real."

Ladin's realism is a rarity with photographers who capture the world of the celebrity cognoscenti. A photo Ladin shot of Evel Knievel for *The New York Times*, for example, focused on the stunt legend's hands, covered in scars from his many accidents and adorned with the rings he was famous for wearing.

"It was an artsy shot; it definitely had a point of view," Ladin says.

Dozens of Ladin's photographs—Anna Wintour (without her trademark glasses) mingling at The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute Gala;

Sean "Diddy" Combs facing a sea of cameras at a Sean John fashion show; Rihanna posing under the watchful gaze of designer Zac Posen—were on display in the College's Cummings Arts Center this fall in an aptly titled exhibition, *The Spectacle of Fashion*. Taken throughout his 20-year career, the sardonic images offered gallerygoers a unique look at America's obsession with celebrity and excess.

With a move towards fine art photography, Ladin has also developed an interest in academia. To this end, Ladin was on campus this year teaching introduction to photography, filling in for one of his favorite teachers, Ted Hendrickson, associate professor of art, who is on a yearlong sabbatical.

Hendrickson attended Ladin's exhibition and says that his work blurs the line between journalism and art, offering a personal commentary on the human condition and a shared social context.

"Composition and moment come together in a way unique to his perspective," Hendrickson says. "There is a quick snapshot-like quality to the results, but there is an underlying order and visual agility to the images."

Much of Ladin's work is in black and white, influenced by classic cinema, film noir and the high drama of party pictures from the 1950s.

For Ladin, color is too literal. It can be a distraction, he says. ■





## UPCOMING PROJECTS BY LADIN:

*Supermodels at the End of Time* combines 20 images with text by novelist Bret Easton Ellis. It will be on display this fall at the Station Independent Projects art gallery in New York City. Ladin's free-form photographic installation on the American Dream opens in December at the Hudson Guild Gallery in New York.

**These photographs were part of Ladin's *The Spectacle of Fashion* exhibition at Connecticut College, and were taken in New York City.**

**Opposite page:** Donatella Versace at the Fashion Group International Gala, 1994

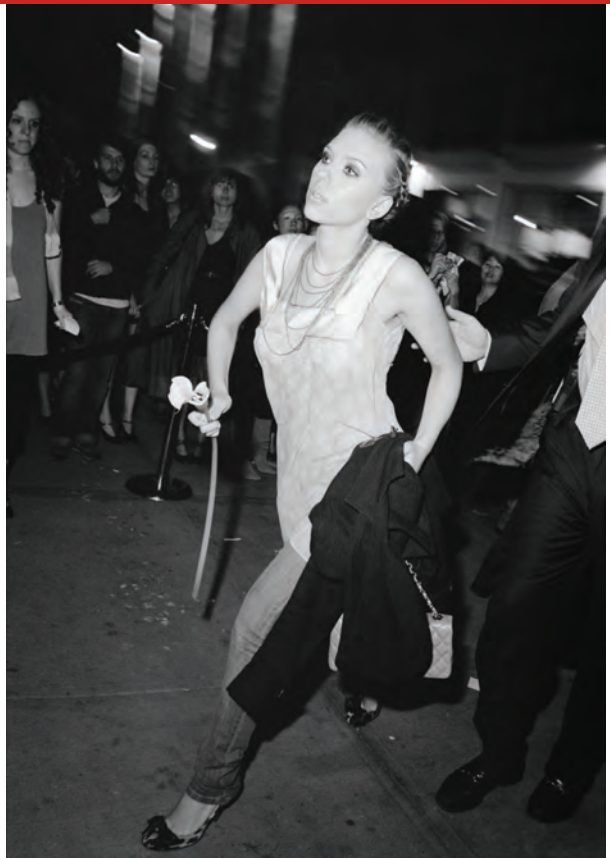
**Top:** Helmut Newton and Richard Avedon with Roxanne Lowit at the Alexander Liberman opening, Gagosian Gallery, 1993

**Right:** Kimora Lee Simmons at the Luca Luca fashion show, 2007





1. Andy Cohen, Sarah Jessica Parker and Barry Diller at a Diane von Furstenberg fashion show, 2012 2. Giorgio Armani and Winona Ryder at an Armani party, 1996  
3. Diddy at the Sean John show, 2008 4. Scarlett Johansson arrives at the Imitation of Christ fashion show, 2006 → David Beckham at the Y-3 fashion show, 2012





# SAFARI

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# TOURISM





**Benjamin Gardner '93** writes about his time as an undergraduate student living with the Maasai, a semi-nomadic people inhabiting southern Kenya and northern Tanzania, an experience that led to his new book, *Selling the Serengeti: The Cultural Politics of Safari Tourism*.

PHOTO BY JAKE NORTON

spent my first day walking around Loliondo town. The place was a curious mix of people who had moved to the district headquarters and established homes and small farms in the high-altitude plains. By May, the maize fields were tall and green, awaiting the end of the rains in June for harvesting in July or August. Maize fields were a common sight across Tanzania. But not, I knew, in Maasai villages.

Unlike most peasant farmers, who lived on beans, maize and a variety of green leafy vegetables, tomatoes and onions, the Maasai lived primarily on milk and occasionally meat.

Loliondo town fascinated me, but I couldn't help but feel that I had yet to arrive in the "real Africa" I had been imagining. I did not have to wait much longer.

In the middle of my second night, loud knocking and shouting awakened me. Maasai people throughout the district and the country knew Lazaro Parkipuny as the go-to leader for pastoralists, especially when it came to handling trouble with state authorities. On this night, Maasai from the villages of Ololosokwan and Soitsambu came seeking his assistance. I heard the group of men speaking to Parkipuny in the room next to me. After several minutes of animated conversations, of which I understood not a word, Parkipuny knocked on my door.

I later piled into the back of Parkipuny's personal vehicle, a short-chassis Land Rover. For most of the ride,

I sat quietly taking in the scene. These six men had walked through the night over 25 kilometers to find Parkipuny. They were clearly upset and spoke rapidly in the Maasai language, *Maa*. After about 15 minutes of driving, Parkipuny explained to me what was going on. Serengeti National Park rangers had detained two young boys. He was going to help the elders and village officers get the boys released. Traditional and elected leaders had been seeking Parkipuny's assistance for years to mediate and resolve disputes. Not only did he speak Swahili and English fluently, having been the district's member of parliament, but he had a particular gravitas when it came to dealing with state officials. During his time in office, he had grown all too familiar with the accepted contempt and lack of respect for pastoralists and pastoralism as an acceptable way of life in Tanzania.

That it was pitch black only seemed to encourage Parkipuny's desire for speed. The Land Rover careened across the red dirt roads, frequently hitting bumps that would send the little vehicle into the air and then forcefully back down again. I was only partially reassured, as the other passengers did not seem particularly afraid. My fear of dying was mitigated by my excitement at getting a lift to a real Maasai village. During the 40-minute drive, Parkipuny broke off his conversations twice to speak to me. "This land," he told me, "is Maasailand. The government tried to take this from us and turn it into a barley farm in the 1980s, but they failed. We took them to court and we won. This land is ours now, and people are afraid of us here in Loliondo. They know they can't take our land."

Parkipuny turned off the dirt road. Without reducing speed, he wove across the plains, avoiding trees, dry riverbeds, and occasionally zebra, gazelle and wildebeest standing motionless in the open grasslands between scattered homesteads. We eventually stopped in front of a thorn fence enclosure. Parkipuny told me to get out here. "The boy next to you is Marcus Nalang'o. He speaks English and will be your host for the next four weeks. I will pick you up here at the end of the month."

With that, I followed Marcus out the back door of the Land Rover. During the ride Marcus had not spoken a word to me. Although younger than the other men in the car, he resembled them, wrapped in a red-hued blanket with a staid expression on his face. For no good reason, I had assumed that he spoke only the Maasai language, *Maa*. A young man of about my own age of 22 clearly hadn't come to Loliondo that evening to pick up a *Mzungu* (white person of European ancestry) visitor. As it turned out, I could not have asked for a more gracious host; Marcus would become a close friend, collaborator and research assistant for many years following our month together.

After about 20 minutes, three young boys from Marcus' *enkang* (Maasai homestead) managed to remove the thick thorn-strewn branches acting as a barrier for the small entrance in the otherwise tightly wrapped enclosure. The design of these elaborate living fences varied across pastoral



BEHNA GARDNER





Left: Benjamin Gardner '93. Above: Maasai gather their goat herds to market in Arusha, Tanzania.

DANITA DELMONT / GETTY IMAGES

communities in Tanzania. The exceedingly strong weave of this fence was a sign that threats from predators like lions, hyenas and wild dogs were very real. Hundreds of cows, sheep and goats slept in the paddock in the middle of the homestead, which Marcus' father shared with his three adult sons and their families. As a member of a polygamous society, Marcus' father had three wives, and each woman had her own *enkaji* (Maasai house) within the family compound.

## Much of my understanding of conservation ... was based on a commonsense Western belief that conservation was inherently good.

After we contorted our bodies to pass through the small opening, I followed Marcus along a muddy pathway that ran outside the central animal enclosure and then into his house. Marcus cleared his throat with a deep guttural sound. He helped me maneuver around the wooden posts that held the roof up, avoiding the kid goats and lambs that slept inside to keep warm in the cold high-plateau climate. I sat next to Marcus on the "men's bed." The bed, which doubled as a sitting and sleeping place, was made of dried and cured cattle skins stretched over an elaborate gathering of sticks. Marcus and his brothers, as well as any male visitors, slept here.

On the other side of the home, across from a fire pit, was his mom's bed. Upon our arrival, she awoke and quickly began to relight the fire, which provided both heat and light. Blowing on the end of a metal pipe, she slowly and deliberately restarted the flame on a dormant log. She added dry wood from her extensive collection, meticulously stored in the walls of her house.

Only after the orange flames illuminated the room did Marcus' mother set her eyes on me. Although she never said so, Marcus assured me that I was the first *Mzungu* to stay in her home. She looked at me closely and then at Marcus. It was the middle of the night, and although I can't be certain, I think she assumed she was hallucinating. She boiled a pot of water to which she added tea leaves, sugar and milk.

As an enthusiastic 22-year-old, I was thrilled to spend time with the Maasai in what appeared to me at the time as their "authentic landscape." The Maasai in Loliondo lived in dispersed homesteads spread out across several registered villages. Despite their relatively stable attachment to a specific location within a village area, the Maasai continued to rely heavily on seasonal movement of their livestock. Young men would take their families' herds far from their homesteads and establish *ronjos* (temporary cattle camps) to take advantage of unpredictable rain patterns and availability of necessary grasses and minerals.

Over the next month, I traveled around Marcus' village of Soitsambu as well as the neighboring villages of Ololokwan to the north and Oloipiri to the south. I helped herd cattle, visited Marcus' friends, went to the monthly

market in Soitsambu, attended church and crossed the invisible boundaries separating Tanzania and Kenya to the north and Maasai villages from Serengeti National Park to the east. I conducted interviews with people about the history of the area and their experiences with tourism.

It took me many years and several return visits working with civil-society groups and as a researcher to appreciate that Maasai villages were not a feature of some timeless Maasai society. Rather, villages were created quite recently, formed in the mid-1970s as part of Tanzania's rural socialist strategy. But since that first visit and initial research, I have closely followed the efforts of tour operators, conservation NGOs, state officials, and Maasai leaders and groups to create tourism opportunities, and how these political and economic relationships have influenced pastoralist land rights and livelihoods. Over that time my research focus shifted from the policy prescriptions of designing tourism projects that

would benefit communities to asking how tourism projects shape Maasai culture and influence Maasai political ideas and tactics.

**M**uch of my understanding of conservation in the early 1990s was based on a commonsense Western belief that conservation was inherently good. As an eager student, I thought that informed and well-meaning experts, the kind I might one day become, could resolve environmental conflicts by educating the different groups with better knowledge about the problems. Achieving conservation seemed an obvious win-win scenario to me at the time. I learned many things that month in Loliondo. One of the biggest lessons was that the Maasai saw conservation up to that point in their history primarily as a national and international agenda designed to dispossess them of their land. They had nothing against wild



animals per se; in fact they are one of the few groups with strict taboos against hunting and eating wild animals. But the common methods of achieving conservation in Tanzania, modeled after the national parks system in the U.S., reproduced a strict separation of people and nature, denying the possibility of people sharing the land with wildlife as a viable practice. According to many Maasai I interviewed, the inevitable result of conservation policies has been the complete enclosure of Maasailand. Understanding and promoting tourism and conservation were clearly more complicated than I had first assumed

In my book, I discuss how a U.S.-based tourism company purchased the former barley farm Parkipunyu pointed out to me that day in the middle of three Maasai villages to establish a nature refuge and promote ecotourism. The company met considerable resistance from Maasai residents, who claimed that it had received the land illegally

and the refuge would dispossess them of essential grazing land that they had used for well over a century.

The tour company gained access to the land through a long-term lease agreement for \$1.2 million. The project justification and rationale relied on a universal claim that ownership of African nature is granted to those who can best take care of the land. Implicit in this narrative is the commonsense idea that the primary value of this land, in the general vicinity of the Serengeti, is for conservation.

**[The] discourse of African conservation relies on the implicit idea that foreigners are in a better position to care for African nature than are the African residents of that place.**

For many, including a number of my undergraduate and graduate students, this statement appears to make a lot of sense. The framing of a philanthropic-oriented company from the U.S. that wants to use its economic power to promote conservation, tourism and community empowerment in Africa was seen to deliver the promise of development that many of my students wanted to help foster themselves. But the more we examined the origin stories and histories on which these claims were being made, the clearer it became that the company was drawing on a discourse of African conservation that relies on the implicit idea that foreigners are in a better position to care for African nature than are the African residents of that place, in this case the Maasai.

Tourism in the Serengeti is more than the enjoyment or appreciation of African nature. It is a critical activity where cultural, political and economic ideas and practices shape the experiences and encounters among tourists, tour companies, state agencies, local communities, as well as the wildlife and scenery. Tourism is commonly framed as a way to add value to a place, where visitors will pay simply to passively enjoy the environment. Such narratives pay scant attention to how that environment is framed and preserved or to how prioritizing a certain kind of experience actually shapes the landscape in question. ■

*Benjamin Gardner '93 is associate professor of global, cultural and environmental studies at the University of Washington Bothell and chair of the African Studies Program at the University of Washington. His interest in African studies was sparked and nurtured as an anthropology major at Connecticut College, working with faculty like the late professor of anthropology John Burton. In *Selling the Serengeti*, he tries to understand how safari tourism has changed the meanings and geographies of places and people living in the greater Serengeti region of northern Tanzania.*

Left: Elephant and tourists at Ngorongoro Crater.



GEORGE LAWSON / CREATIVE COMMONS

# BIRD STRIKE



When airplanes collide with flocks of birds the results can be fatal. One wildlife biologist spends her days at JFK Airport attempting to keep the sky safe for takeoff and landing. **By Maria P. Gonzalez**

**T**he sky is blue and cloudless, and the morning vibe is relatively calm, save for the steady set of jet engines screaming down the runways at John F. Kennedy International Airport. Laura Francoeur '90 is on a routine drive across the tarmac, casually scanning the concrete for signs of dangerous animal debris.

As if on cue, a flock of starlings burst from a patch of grass, and luckily disperse away from the departing aircraft and across Jamaica Bay, which abuts the airfield.

An airfield may seem an unlikely place for wildlife control, but that is exactly what Francoeur does as chief wildlife biologist for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Francoeur oversees wildlife management efforts at five of the agency's airports, and is based at JFK.

"This airport is surrounded on three sides by water," Francoeur explains. "So there is actually a lot of potential habitat for wildlife."

On their daily rounds, Francoeur and her team are keeping aircraft safe by reducing bird strikes that can cause damage, injuries or in rare cases, casualties. At the same time, the team seeks to respect wildlife's balance with its environment.

"Our goal is never to eliminate wildlife, just eliminate hazards on the runway," Francoeur says.

## SHELL FRAGMENTS

Francoeur is an expert on the habits of wildlife around the airfield. Dawn and dusk are usually the busy times of the day for bird activity, she says, adding that gulls and other migratory waterfowl are frequently in conflict with the passenger and cargo aircraft that make JFK among the busiest airports in the nation. As evidence, fragments of clamshells litter much of the tarmac closest to the water's edge.

"The gulls grab the clams at low tide, and they fly and they drop them on the hard surfaces and crack them open," Francoeur says. "They're very, very smart."

Bird strikes are so prevalent, and the proper management of wildlife surrounding airfields so critical, that the Port Authority was authorized to create a biologist staff position in the 1990s. Francoeur took on the job at JFK in 1999.

Thankfully, bird strikes often result in little or no damage to aircraft. Most flights take off without realizing a bird has been struck. Larger birds and those that fly

in flocks pose the greatest threats and disruptions to air travel. It was a flock of Canada geese that struck U.S. Airways flight 1549 on takeoff from LaGuardia on Jan. 15, 2009, shutting down both engines. Captain Chesley B. Sullenberger III successfully landed the aircraft on the Hudson River, saving all passengers.

“That was a mess,” Francoeur recalls about that day. Her tone turns more serious, explaining that the crash landing centralized the wildlife efforts through the port.

## “Our goal is never to eliminate wildlife, just eliminate hazards on the runway.”

Aircraft bird strikes have likely been occurring since the first flight by the Wright brothers on a North Carolina beach in 1903. Carving their own paths in the skies, migratory birds take flight in search of food and shelter, while journeying to nesting sites. In the 1980s, an increase in laughing gull strikes was linked to a colony at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, the only known nesting colony in the state.

“By the time we hit the late ’80s, two-thirds of all the strikes at JFK were caused by laughing gulls,” Francoeur says. “We had over 300 strikes one year, and 270 of them were from laughing gulls. It was a huge percentage.”

A blue ribbon panel of international experts recommended a twofold approach to the gull problem at JFK. The long-term recommendation was to explore the removal of the colony from the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Lethal removal became the short-term solution. It is why wildlife supervisors are trained in firearm handling and carry rifles with them on patrols of the airfield.

“That’s been [a] really effective [short-term solution] and has reduced the laughing gull strike by over 90 percent,” Francoeur says. “It’s also reduced the strike rate for the other three species of gull that are in this area by, generally, somewhere around 60 to 70 percent.”

But “we’re not removing all the gulls, just the ones that are trying to fly over the airport. A lot of them are deterred by the shooting.”

### THE PYRO GUN

Dion Clarke points a 9mm pistol into the sky, away from the Airbus A380 taxiing on the runway. With a tap of the trigger, a “bird banger” is released into the sky with a blank round. Like a firework, the pyrotechnic shell explodes with a pop, loud enough to scare away any birds looking to linger in the airways.

Clarke handles much of the daily patrolling on the tarmac. The pyro gun is one of several tools used to steer birds away. A paintball gun, bedecked in colorful tape to avoid confusion with a more lethal weapon, propels balls aimed at a bird’s body, stunning it out of the sky.

The rifles rest in dark green fabric cases that can be slung over the shoulder. Ammunition is stored in proper metallic cases at the back of the patrol trucks, per the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Despite the arsenal, Clarke’s morning has been relatively quiet. He believes gulls may have followed a school of fish in Jamaica Bay.

Clarke is one of two airport staff trained as wildlife supervisors to handle the daily patrols on the tarmac. Francoeur handles much of the training for the wildlife department, which has expanded through the years.

During training sessions with staff, Francoeur draws comparisons to Central Park and uses aerial shots of the city to illustrate humans’ inevitable intersection with wildlife. Her enthusiasm grows as she explains the world with a bird’s-eye view.

“Think about it from the bird’s perspective,” Francoeur says. “They’re flying over [Central Park]. This looks like an oasis in the middle of the desert, right? There’s green space where they’re hemmed in by pavement and asphalt and buildings and development everywhere.”

“It’s the same thing with an airfield,” she continues. “It looks a little bit like an oasis to wildlife. It seems like a great place to take up shop and do your thing. At airports you usually can find food, cover and water. And those are the three things that every living thing needs to survive. Our goal is to reduce that as much as possible.”





Above: Fencing helps detour wildlife from crossing JFK's runways. Opposite page: Pyro guns shoot blasts of sound to scare birds; tools of the trade; documenting feathered specimens found on the tarmac. Previous page: Laura Francoeur out on inspection.

## BIRD NERDS

At JFK, Francoeur and her colleague Jeffrey Kolodzinski are the “bird nerds” of the General Aviation Terminal. A wooden flying gull hangs from the ceiling in Francoeur’s office. Desk space is taken up by an impressive collection of colorful, plush toy birds, and soft, preserved bird specimens taken directly from the runways.

Among them is a goose that is preserved enough to be used for training purposes. It’s a fun prop for Francoeur to take when she speaks to children about her line of work.

“Kids love the goose,” she says enthusiastically. “They all want to pet the goose.”

Yet for every well-preserved runway casualty there are the less fortunate birds who may come apart on impact, or get sucked violently down in a jet’s wake vortex. There’s a name for this type of debris: snarge.

Snarge ends up in a freezer, along with other specimens, and samples of it—a couple of feathers, maybe some blood or tissue samples—get shipped to the Feather Identification Lab at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

Researchers at the feather lab work with the Federal Aviation Administration to build its Wildlife Strike Database. The FAA maintains a Wildlife Strike Database with records dating back to 1990. Studying the types of birds that are struck helps specialists predict patterns and habits that can be used to increase safety and lead to fewer strikes.

Innovation is key when dealing with wildlife mitigation. Cone-shaped caps on top of delineators (plastic safety poles) keep birds from perching. The endophyte fescue grass around the tarmac will make grazing animals ill. A right balance of grass height is maintained. Too tall, and birds and other critters seek shelter. Too low, and the grass helps the critters spot predators earlier on.

**“You try and make the area as unattractive to wildlife as possible. And that reduces the amount of wildlife that you have to manage in other ways.”**

When osprey started perching on FAA navigation equipment, the wildlife team needed to meet specific requirements.

“We needed something that would be able to keep the osprey off, but it also had to be nonmetallic, and it also had to hold up to wear and tear,” Kolodzinski says.

The answer came from a vendor at the bird strike conference, who had used something similar to keep birds off tennis courts. A series of plastic spikes deters the birds

from perching. Nylon cords keep osprey from perching on railings.

“Probably our first strategy in managing wildlife in any airport is habitat management,” Francoeur says. “You try and make the area as unattractive to wildlife as possible. And that reduces the amount of wildlife that you have to manage in other ways.”

Maintaining unappealing landscapes has helped keep muskrats and rabbits and even insects away, keeping birds away in the process.

On the runways, sweeper trucks will make periodic rounds to clear away FOD, or Foreign Object Debris. The shattered shells left behind by hungry gulls will be swept away along with any other runway debris. Even the smallest object can disrupt the coordinated takeoffs and landings. This includes turtles.

## RED NAIL POLISH

Francoeur has more recently focused on a growing Diamondback terrapin population that emerges from Jamaica Bay each nesting season in June and July. Terrapins that make it on the runways are collected, inspected, tagged and released.

Among the data collection tools is a bottle of red nail polish. Francoeur smiles as she shows how a red dot is placed on the terrapins’ shells to distinguish those that have been tagged.

“They’re all female terrapins so I don’t think they mind,” she offers playfully.

The terrapin airfield research field is small, and for the past few summers Francoeur has welcomed summer interns who have helped collect data on the terrapins.

On Francoeur’s desk rests a handcarved wooden terrapin that a summer intern whittled three years ago and is now used for training. Francoeur flips the wooden terrapin to reveal its underside, where a scannable microchip, about the size of a grain of rice, is attached with tape. Short of being an official training tool, the wooden terrapin does serve as a visual, hands-on prop for marking and tagging turtles in the field.

The wildlife team has learned that the terrapins won’t take the trouble to dig beneath a chain-link fence. In areas without extensive fencing, a simple irrigation tool has done the trick. Close to 5,000 feet of corrugated drainage pipe keeps most terrapins from reaching the tarmac.

“I like this because it’s a super low-tech method,” she says. “It’s like irrigation tubing, and it’s with an eight-inch diameter. It keeps the terrapins out.”

Problem-solving goes hand in hand with innovation.

“A lot of it is forging your own way because not everything has been discovered yet,” Francoeur says. “A lot of times you’re learning along the way. That’s what makes this job so interesting. We’re always learning new things, or dealing with new issues.”

And in the process, preserving life. ■



PHOTOS BY LARS ELLING LUNDE





# *Save Our Soil*

With a nonprofit farm and high-end restaurant, trustee David Barber '88 is on a mission to save the soil. **By Amy Martin**





On a chilly spring day in the heart of Rockefeller country, David Barber '88 watches tiny lambs play in an open barn guarded by a fluffy mama sheepdog. He smiles as one lamb begins to nurse, tugging aggressively on his mother.

"He's a big guy, too—that one clearly likes to eat," he says.

In a few weeks, the sheep will begin grazing—in a carefully orchestrated pattern—in the rolling fields that surround the high-end Blue Hill at Stone Barns restaurant.

At some point, they will be dinner.

You won't find lamb on the menu at this idealistic farm-to-table establishment, located in Pocantico Hills, New York, but that's because you won't find any menus. Here, customers don't decide what they want; the farm's bounty determines what they will get.

That's how we all should eat, says Barber.

## STONE BARNs

Just 30 miles north of New York City, Pocantico Hills is Hudson Valley dairy country. In what was once a manure shed, Barber peeks into a slow cooker that is being powered by an experimental compost system a few feet away. He explains that compost has to be kept at a consistent temperature, ideally between 145 and 180 degrees. That just happens to be about the same temperature gourmet chefs use to slow-cook their creations.

"The high-end equipment chefs love is egregious on energy use," he says. "We are looking for ways to use the energy that is already here."

Next to the slow cooker, tiny sprouts shoot up from fl werpots lined on a shelf. The air in the room is cool, but the plants are warmed by compost wastewater that runs through clear plastic tubing underneath the pots. Outside the open shed doors, a group of children on a field trip splash in the puddles left behind y April showers.

**“ If you want to be a dairy-free vegetarian, you probably shouldn't live in the Hudson Valley.”**

In the center of the room, a rustic chandelier hangs above a colossal wooden farm table. Later in the evening, dinner guests will leave their tables in the main dining room to enjoy one of 25-40 small courses in this room, amongst the seedlings, the slow cooker and the roasting manure.

In the 1920s and '30s, this was a dairy farm owned by the iconic Rockefeller family. It was used sporadically as a farm in the '50s, then as a garage for Nelson Rockefeller's car collection in the '60s. Eventually, the property fell to David Rockefeller and his wife Peggy, a founding board member of the American Farmland Trust, and she revived it as a dairy operation. After her death in 1996, David Rockefeller struggled with what to do with the sprawling estate. He considered deeding it to the adjacent Rockefeller State Park Preserve, but worried the cost of preserving the stone barn buildings Peggy loved would prove prohibitive, and they'd be torn down.



At the same time, Barber, who majored in economics, decided to go into business with his brother Dan, a chef. They opened Blue Hill Restaurant in New York City's bohemian Greenwich Village in 2000. Dan Barber's unique upscale dishes, created with ingredients from sustainable and local sources, quickly gained a following of foodies.

One regular customer was David Rockefeller, who gave the brothers a shot at outlining a vision for his wife's beloved farm.

The Barbers dreamed up a working farm that would serve as a nonprofit education center and living laboratory for agricultural science. To make the project sustainable, the crumbling stone structures would be restored to house the for-profit arm of the operation, a world-class restaurant that would buy and serve all the food grown on the farm.

After two years of planning and two more years of renovations, Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture opened in 2004.



## 'WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?'

Even on a dreary spring day, the Stone Barns campus is a flurry of activity. Farm hands transfer seedlings, cull hens and milk Dutch belted dairy cows. Chefs peel 10-inch-long mokum carrots and chop tropea onions and pickled ramps. In what was once a Rockefeller dairy barn, wait staff ready exquisite table settings to prepare for the evening's guests.

People come from all over the world to eat at Blue Hill. The dinner, "Grazing, Pecking, Rooting," runs \$238 a person; a wine pairing can be added for \$148. Each guest is treated to at least two dozen small courses over several hours. "There is literally a story for every ingredient," Barber says.

The meal is an experience tailored to each guest. Those with more adventurous palates will be served the evening's stranger concoctions, and servers are taught to gauge a party's interest in the food philosophy that drives Blue Hill.

"We get people here who are meeting friends they haven't seen in 15 years and they just want to catch up," Barber says. "Then we'll get hipsters from Brooklyn who've saved up for four months, and if we don't feed them sheep's brains, they'll think they've been duped."

The offerings vary greatly from month to month, even week to week. January diners might enjoy parsnips, winter kale and pork sausage; in June there's likely to be tiara cabbage, zucchini flowers and baby lamb.

Here, the season and the soil dictate the selection. That can be a difficult concept for Americans used to eating

what they want, whenever they want it.

"People show up here in August and they are big foodies, but they don't eat dairy, they are vegetarians, they have a gluten allergy and they don't like tomatoes," Barber says. "I'm like, 'Well, what the hell are you doing here?'"

The problem with the locavore movement (only eating food produced locally) is that the market is still driven by consumer demand, Barber says. Sure, it's great to support local farms, but there's nothing especially sustainable about farmers growing what customers want.

Instead, farmers should be growing and raising what is best for the soil, and food should be the byproduct of that exercise. But for that to work, people have to commit to buying, cooking and eating the foods that make sense for their region.

"If you want to be a dairy-free vegetarian, you probably shouldn't live in the Hudson Valley," Barber says.

## NOT YOUR GRANDPA'S FARM

Inside Stone Barn Center's 22,000-square-foot greenhouse, a farmhand, "Texas," runs dirt-crusted fingers over the tiny leaves of seedling sprouts. He greets Barber with a wide smile and tells him proudly that the seedling room is almost out of space.

Soon, these baby plants—mint and eclipse onions and striped German tomatoes—will be transferred to a predetermined bed in the main greenhouse, where rows upon rows of leafy green vegetables are doing their part to enhance the New York soil.



Barber explains that there is a scientifically analyzed master plan for each bed. The system requires high levels of diversity, and rotation is key. One crop will occupy a bed for 45-60 days, then something else is planted there. The same crop won't go back into the same bed for at least 18 months.

That process actually returns nutrients to the soil; study results over time show the soil getting healthier. But there is other evidence that the system works, too. "You can taste it in the food," Barber says.

The animals also rotate. They graze in the fields of the 16-acre farm in a pattern designed to make the grass healthier the next time they come through. The sheep might start in one field, for example, followed by the chickens. Then the pigs bring up the rear.

**“ We are not going back to the way grandpa used to farm. It's a great misconception that there is anything to 'go back' to.”**

"The whole herd does this dance," Barber says.

Good farmers are farming this way, and part of the mission of Stone Barns Center is to educate those new to the field (pun intended). An apprenticeship program gives hands-on experience to as many as a dozen young farmers

each year, while the annual Young Farmers Conference draws a crowd of 250. Technical workshops on everything from beekeeping to engine repair take place all year-round.

One thing Barber makes clear: This is not a throwback movement.

"We are not going back to the way grandpa used to farm. It's a great misconception that there is anything to 'go back' to," he says. "Europeans came here because they didn't have any land; they didn't know how to farm. Anything they stuck in the ground grew, because Native Americans knew what they were doing with the soil. But they over-farmed, destroyed the soil and, when things no longer grew, they moved west."

## SEEDS OF CHANGE

Relaxing in a luxurious armchair next to a stone fireplace in Blue Hill's bar, Barber admits that affordability and access are two major hurdles in the sustainable farming movement.

"We are here with the top 1 percent of the 1 percent. We provide access where we can, but at times, it can be discouraging," he says.

It seems counterintuitive, but Barber finds encouragement in the speed at which America's current food system was developed. In the 1970s, as women entered the workforce in substantial numbers and families had less time to shop and cook, consumers wanted food that was fast, instant and processed. Very quickly, the food system delivered. Fast food chains shot up in every corner

of America, and giant corporations like Kraft Foods and General Mills captured huge shares of the food market.

Today, the consequences—to the environment and to health—have become alarmingly clear, but there are signs of change. Organic food sales now exceed \$35 billion per year, and even the corporate giants are taking notice. In 2014, for example, General Mills purchased organic food company Annie’s for \$820 million.

“There’s a huge opportunity for entrepreneurs, and the landscape favors the young and nimble,” Barber says.

But where Barber really wants to see food activists is in Washington, D.C. Current government policies heavily subsidize the existing agricultural system, and the lobbying landscape is dominated by big business interests.

“The food movement isn’t a movement in Washington. There are no voices there,” he says.

## FAMILY MEAL

Every day at 4 p.m., the entire staff gathers in a hayloft-turned-banquet space for “family meal.” Livestock apprentices in overalls sit next to valet drivers in tuxedos. Administrative staff make small talk with culinary interns. Everyone drinks the Kool-Aid here, except

the Kool-Aid is organic iced tea sipped out of recycled containers.

Dan Barber, looking every bit the eccentric master chef he is, gives his version of a pep talk as his employees chow down on pesto pasta, fresh salad and whole grain bread. On this night, Stone Barns Center is hosting a lecture for members by *Farmacology* author Dr. Daphne Miller.

“We get hundreds of resumes from people all over the world,” Barber says. “They want to work 20 hours a day. They’d set up a tent and live in the fields if we’d let them. They are giving us a year to 18 months of their lives, and they do it because they want to learn and they believe in what we do.”

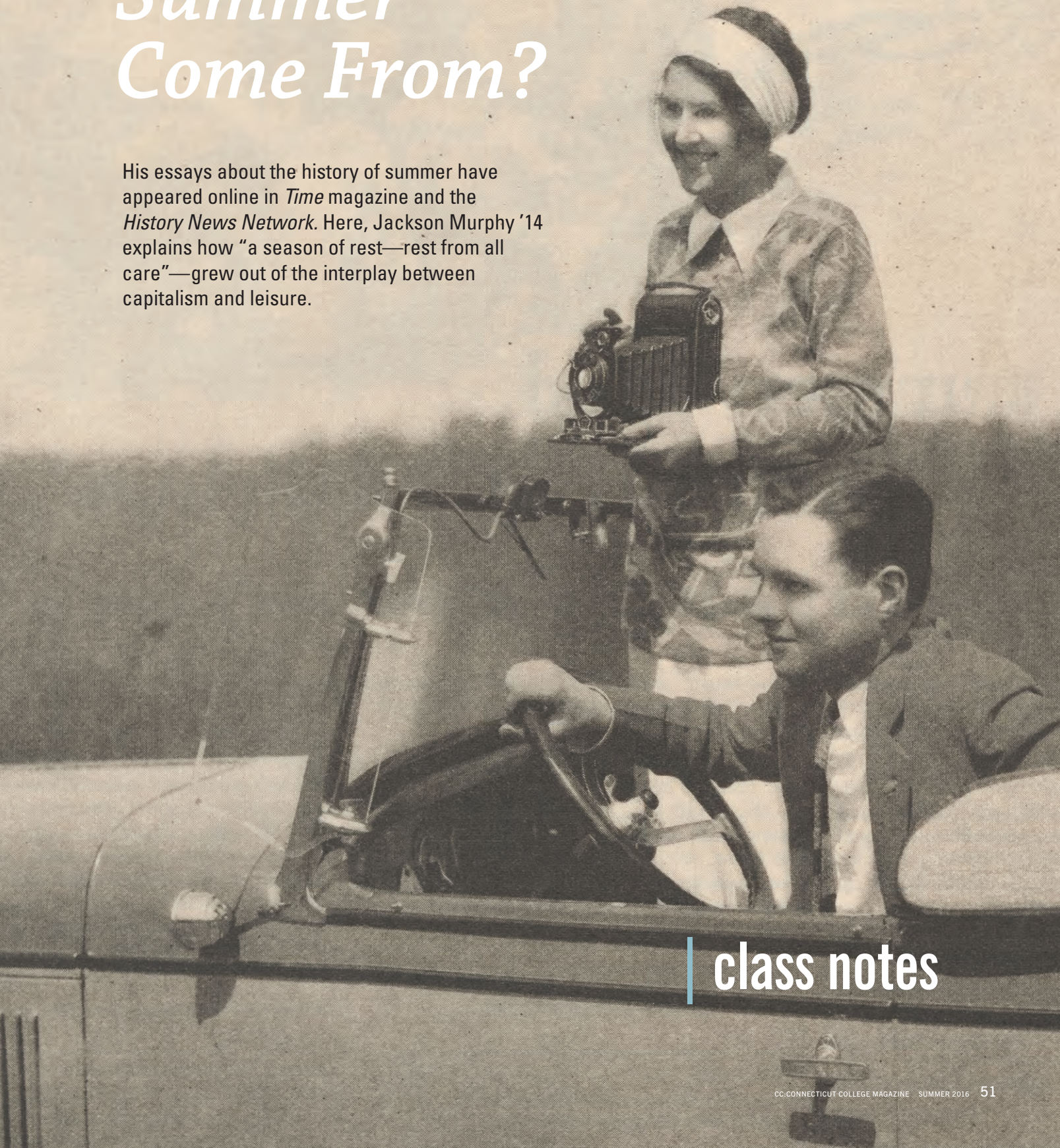
Twelve years after reopening Peggy Rockefeller’s majestic stone barns, Barber sees this enthusiasm as a return on his investment. He wants to see Stone Barns’ influence continue to grow—he’d like it to be an Aspen Institute or a Monterey Bay Aquarium of sorts for agriculture in the northeast. But he is thrilled with what has already been accomplished.

“This place has been a huge blessing in my life,” he says. “It’s 12 years old, but it feels like we are just getting our footing.” ■



# Where Did Summer Come From?

His essays about the history of summer have appeared online in *Time* magazine and the *History News Network*. Here, Jackson Murphy '14 explains how "a season of rest—rest from all care"—grew out of the interplay between capitalism and leisure.



| class notes

The ABC Family series *The Vineyard* splashed onto the scene of summer-soap-reality-television in July 2013, depicting the experiences of 11 young adults living together on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. In one of the show's more sentimental scenes, a cast member expressed that she wanted to take the summer to reassess her life and figure out what she wanted to do next. Perched atop a lifeguard stand on State Beach as the sun set behind her, this young woman perfectly articulated a transformative experience that millions of Americans enjoy every year.

Universally accepted as an opportunity for rest, relaxation and leisure, summer allows us to slow down. It liberates us from our studies, encourages us to leave work early or stay out later and gives us reason to take a well-deserved break from our jobs to reconnect with friends and family. Summertime is a chance to shift focus, reevaluate and get away from it all. But this was not always the case.

Two hundred years ago, summer did not exist. June, July and August merely indicated a hot season of the calendar year. The summer we know and love—the one that features vacations to the beach, Fourth of July weekends that extend into Fourth of July weeks, and the all but recent invention of casual Fridays or even summer Fridays—is a democratization of leisure that grew out of capitalist forces in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The first vestiges of summer began in the decades before the American Civil War and were exclusively enjoyed by the wealthiest class of antebellum elites vacationing in resort towns such as Newport, Rhode Island and Saratoga, New York.

As the U.S. transitioned into a market economy in the postbellum 19<sup>th</sup> century, the rise of capitalism had a dual effect on the country's new working professionals. All of a sudden, a growing American middle class possessed the financial means that allowed for a vacation, along with a demanding workload that made such vacationing necessary for their well-being.

## Two hundred years ago, summer did not exist. June, July and August merely indicated a hot season of the calendar year.

By 1869, *The New York Times* noticed a growing sentiment among working professionals in its description of the “sadly overdriven” businessman: “From one year's end to another he lives, for the most part, in a breathless hurry ... If any folk in the wide world have need of a summer refreshment, it is we.” Nineteenth-century print culture in conjunction with a rising tourist industry prompted many to perceive summer as “a season of rest—rest from all care.”

Periodical articles and tourist guides promoted an enticing escape to summer resorts such as Martha's Vineyard, “a maritime Eden where one may shut out the whole world and be content.”

Summer was no longer just a hot time of year for Americans to endure, but instead an opportunity for rest, relaxation and recreation that they could enjoy. In August 1891, social scientist Edward Hungerford investigated the cultural gravitation toward recreation and leisure, seeking answers as to why Americans felt a need to take time off work for summer rest: “The magnitude of such a movement as this justifies the assumption that the social influence exerted by it are worthy of serious consideration.”

Ironically, the summer tourist industry that allowed working professionals the opportunity to escape from the stresses of their jobs was itself a competitive capitalistic endeavor. The rapid expansion and development of summer tourism symbolized the anxieties of an ever-growing market economy from which vacationers sought refuge. An 1872 tourist booklet advertising Martha's Vineyard assertively differentiates the emerging summer hotspot from well-known locations such as Saratoga, Niagara and Newport, claiming the island to be “the nucleus of a summer resort that was to be unsurpassed by any other.” Boasting an “unprecedented rate” of development on the Vineyard, the booklet touts “nearly one hundred cottages ... some of them very nice and expensive” in an effort to entice vacationers' business to the island's shores.

By the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, summertime became further embedded in American popular culture as advertisers, musicians and authors used the season as a way of telling stories, often with themes of nostalgia and romance. Summer inspired F. Scott Fitzgerald as the perfect setting to embellish the mysterious decadence of the parties in *The Great Gatsby*. In addition to amplifying the grandeur of the Roaring '20s, summer allowed Nick Carraway the chance to reinvent himself while experiencing the “familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer.” Furthermore, the season provided George F. Babbitt an opportunity to momentarily escape the doldrums of his personal and professional life in Sinclair Lewis's 1922 classic, *Babbitt*.

In the advertising industry, Kodak attracted customers with a campaign that solidified their cameras as essential tools for telling “the story of a Summer vacation.” One of these ads depicts an illustration of a woman gazing over a pile of photographs, her head tilted and her mouth curling into the slightest smile of content reminiscence. Underneath, the company articulates how families can narrate their summer memories: “It's always an interesting story, and it's an easy story to record, for the Kodak works at the bidding of the merest novice.” Again, we see summer paradoxically providing an opportunity for business while gently escorting people away from the stresses of professional life.

While *Gatsby* and Kodak certainly reflected the lavish and

extreme versions of summer, the rise of unionization combined with overcrowded cities led urban planners to begin developing leisure activities for the working class. Atlantic City became a day respite for Philadelphia workers and their families, who spent a day basking in the fresh air and sunlight on the Jersey shore and its newly constructed boardwalks before returning home sticky and sandy on the train for the city of brotherly love. Meanwhile, in New York City, Coney Island and Jones Beach became popular spots for workers in the city, who benefited from changes won by labor unions for “8 hours for work, 8 hours for sleep, 8 hours for what we will.”

Yet even when summer trips to the beach began making waves through American culture, many working-class black people traveled to the nation’s growing beach resorts as employees rather than as guests. *The Chicago Defender*, a leading African American newspaper, reported the number of black men and women traveling as wait staff, cooks, and hotel butlers and porters. Clifford Miller’s summers were neither enjoyable nor relaxing. Miller endured long hours and low pay waiting tables at a popular resort on the New Jersey coast during the first decades of the 1900s. In addition, recounting the cramped living quarters, insufficient food, and prohibitions from enjoying hotel beaches during the day, Miller writes, “Every third day I worked, as a rule, from six in

the morning until eleven o’clock at night, often later. During the day I seldom had any time for my own. I wonder if the colored waiters will ever have only eight hours of work every day.”

## Summer paradoxically provided an opportunity for business while gently escorting people away from the stresses of professional life.

Despite the demanding hours and low compensation, many African Americans viewed these service jobs as lucrative alternatives to the agricultural labor of the South and industrial wage jobs in Northern cities. In a weekly column, the *Chicago Defender* congratulates successful hotel workers such as Frank Hanson, one of the “best known head waiters in the state,” on their new position at prominent restaurants. Newspapers also regularly alerted readers of employment opportunities at summer resorts, and served as platforms for black summer workers organizing into unions for better hours and higher pay.

However, the summer experiences of African Americans did not solely take place in positions of service. The turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century saw an increasing development of African American summer resorts and communities, providing both entrepreneurial opportunities along with the creation of an environment in which people could enjoy the restorative effects of vacation. In 1912, Charles and Henrietta Shearer opened a boarding house in Oak Bluffs for African Americans visiting Martha’s Vineyard, naming their inn Shearer Cottage. A few years later, the Shearers converted their laundry service into guesthouses to expand their family inn and attract prominent African American entertainers and leaders such as composer Harry T. Burleigh, singer Paul Robeson, and Congressman Adam Clayton Powell. Soon, more African American inns and boarding houses opened in Oak Bluffs, while black middle- and upper- class families purchased property on the island.

As Americans continued to embrace summer as an opportunity for rest and rejuvenation, the season became universally accepted as a transformative and romanticized staple of life in the United States. Although the middle classes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century enjoyed the previously aristocratic privilege of escaping to a refreshing summer haven, their vacations created work, often low-paid and seasonal, for others. This history reveals summer to be more than just a few hot months of the calendar year, but a cultural phenomenon that sticks with us today through the interplay of capitalism and leisure. ■

*Jackson Murphy '14 is an account executive at Solomon McCown & Co., a public relations agency in Boston.*



A Kodak print ad from the early 20th century. From the collection “Emergence of Advertising in America.” Courtesy Duke University’s David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.



A 96th birthday surprise: Edythe Van Rees Conlon '41 P'73 met famed cellist Yo Yo Ma in Cambridge, Mass.



Irma Klein Schachter '49 P'78 GP'15 saw a performance of "Out of the Mouths of Babes" in Westport, Conn., featuring Estelle Parsons '49.

## 1947

Correspondent: Nancy Noyes Thayer, 1425 Shorelands Dr. West, Vero Beach FL 32963, [bnnthayer@bellsouth.net](mailto:bnnthayer@bellsouth.net)

**Marie Hickey Wallace** lives in Litchfield, Conn. She has four children and six grandchildren (second grade through post-college). She and **Nancy Blades Geiler** attended a Sykes Society Luncheon. Marie is busy with many boards, book clubs and lunch groups, and she had a glorious 90th birthday celebration.

**Ada Maislen Goldstein** spent her working life with Connecticut General Life Insurance Company in Hartford, then worked for 24 years in the babysitting room of the Jewish Community Center—two hours a day, five days a week. She has two children, both retired (an attorney and an investment banker), and a granddaughter, CC grad Sarah Goldstein '13, who is completing her doctorate at University of Connecticut. Ada would love to hear from us.

**Margie Camp Boes Schwartz** rode a dolphin in the Caribbean, where she visited with her daughter and granddaughter. Margie lives 30 miles south of Montreal.

I (**Nancy Noyes Thayer**) was lucky enough to visit with **Janie Muse Mat-teson** in Bend, Ore., where one of her sons lives (near Sun Valley, where her two other sons live). "Two old math majors discovered we have multiplied into parts of large and amazing families."

I live in Vero Beach, Fla. (where we honeymooned in 1950), but spent most of my life in the Chicago area. I have three children, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, all of whom are the joy of my life. Granddaughter Christine Clough '06 went to CC. I'm in touch with **Janice (Choddy) Somach**

**Schwalm**, who is in a retirement home in Scottsdale, Ariz., and **Margie Hulst Jenkins** in Hackettstown, N.J., and I talk to **Jean Abernethy Duke's** daughter, Gail.

Please do send me your news for the next magazine.

## 1948

Correspondent: Ginny Giesen Richardson, 5555 Montgomery Dr. #J62, Santa Rosa, CA 95409, [Rginny2@comcast.net](mailto:Rginny2@comcast.net)

**Polly Amrein** is at last taking a step towards fulfilling the promise she made when she wrote in *Koiné*: "Broadway Needs Me." She will read a part in the radio script "Sorry, Wrong Number" at her retirement community in Oakland, Calif.

**Helen Beardsley Nickelsen** lives in Riverwoods, a continuing-care retirement community, in Lewisburg, Pa., where husband Dick taught geology at Bucknell for 40 years. Dick died in 2014, three years after suffering a stroke. Helen and Dick enjoyed birding, hiking, cross-country skiing, and traveling (including living in Norway for 15 months). Helen recently spent two weeks in New England, joining her son and grandson for snowboarding in Vermont. Son Bruce is in Mass., daughter Abby is in Maryland and daughter Jill is in Durango, Colo. Helen has joined a Unitarian fellowship and is back on the board of the League of Women Voters. "I was so shocked I lost my ability to say no. Life goes on."

**Helen Crumrine Ferguson** lives in Wallingford, Conn., surrounded by the families of two of her four children, one next door and one across the street. She has four great-grandchildren and remains busy tending her house and garden.

**Ginny Giesen Richardson's** eldest son, who has just retired, took her to "walk on the streets of New York one more time. We walked from 46th Street to 85th... saw the Picasso sculpture at MOMA, the American art at the Metropolitan, the Frank Stella exhibit at the Whitney and, at the Frick, the exhibit of paintings and drawings of Andrea del Sarto, of whom I first learned in Brow- ing's poem in freshman English. We saw 'Hamilton' and 'Charles III.' Ginny is back among the parks and wineries of Santa Rosa, Calif., "where I am likely to remain."

**Shirley Reese Olson** took a wonderful holiday trip to London and Brussels. For Christmas, three of her four grandchildren and son Chris's former wife met her at Chris's apartment in London, on the south bank of the Thames Bridge, two miles from the Tower Bridge. The day after Christmas, they all took the Eurostar train to Waterloo, Belgium, where they celebrated New Year's. "Everything worked! Think my major travel days are winding down."

In January, **Phyllis Thelen** from San Rafael, Calif.; **Nancy Morrow Nee** from San Francisco, Calif.; and **Phyllis Hoge** from Albuquerque, N.M., met for lunch at a Vietnamese restaurant in San Francisco.

The class offers condolences to Corene Crozier on the death of her mother, **Marjorie Collins Crozier**, on Dec. 26 in Orange, Conn., where she had lived most of her life. After graduating from CC, she attended the University of New Haven and worked as an office manager for New England Telephone and Field View Farm. She was active in the community and enjoyed playing badminton.

Our classmates would love to hear

from you. Please send me (**Ginny Giesen Richardson**) your news.

## 1951 REUNION

JUNE 3-5, 2016

Correspondents: Barbara Wiegand Pillote, 3200 N. Leisure World Blvd., Apt. 517, Silver Spring, MD 20906, [rpillote@aol.com](mailto:rpillote@aol.com); Justine Shepherd Freud, 100 Somerby Drive, Apt. 3171, Alpharetta, GA 30009, [freudianslip1@comcast.net](mailto:freudianslip1@comcast.net)

As you read these, summer will be upon us. Our 65th reunion will be history! Thanks to our classmates who served on the Reunion committee: **Mona Gustafson Affinito, Betty Beck Barrett, Claire Goldschmidt Katz, Nancy Clapp Miller, MM Suckling Sherts, Ginny Eason Weinmann, Joan Andrew White, Sue Askin Wolman, and Jeanne Tucker Zenker.**

I heard from **Peggy Park Mautner**, who sent fabulous pictures of herself and her dancing partner in her various competitions. She plans to continue dancing throughout 2016.

**Nancy Bath Roof** wrote, "My elder years have turned out to be the most productive time for me," as she continues her work with Kosmos Associates, Inc. Her family life centers on her three children, six grandchildren and one great-grandson. Although afflicted with polio shortly after college, Nancy says her life is "fantastic—full of interaction with humanitarians and the youth that carry the new paradigm in their bones."

**Pat Roth Squire** and David traveled to the islands off England, Scotland and Ireland last fall. This year, in celebration of David's 90th birthday in January, they have been visiting and partying with their seven children.

**Jeanne Tucker Zenker** bought a condo in Vero Beach, Fla., but has been



spending most of her time near her children in New Jersey, dealing with some health problems. Immediately following Reunion, Jeanne has plans to head to a big family gathering on Martha's Vineyard.

**Helen (Johnnie) Johnson Haberstro**h wasn't able to make Reunion. Husband Richard has some health problems and their traveling days are over. Johnnie, however, stays busy in Maple Knoll Village, the retirement community in Ohio where they live, interviewing new residents for the community paper, singing in two choirs and using her artistic talents to draw houses on commission.

Following her horrific accident last year, **Mona Gustafson Affinito** has become a faithful treadmill user. She has given up her car and opts for a limo driver—"not a fancy one." She enjoys having retired son Doug nearby, who is putting his Brandeis theater degree to use, designing and constructing sets for their church, as well as sometimes directing. His sister, Lisa, joins him several weeks a year, making costumes.

And sadly, we offer class sympathies and condolences to the families of **Peggy Frank Murphy**, who died Oct. 28 in Fort Wayne, Ind.; **Helen Pavlovich Twomey**, who died Jan. 22 in Summit, N.J. (mother of Barry Twomey '81); and **Martha Potter Dewing**, who died March 6 in Chesapeake, Va.

The College also received notice of the death of **Gloria Kwok**, who died in April 2013, from her daughter-in-law, LJ Chiang. Gloria was a classmate for two years before transferring and graduating from Barnard College.

And as I, **Barbara Wiegand Pillote**, bid you farewell as your class correspondent, let me remind you that I was a botany major, not an English one. As I continue to nourish my 60-year-old gardenia and newly obtained orchid, I look forward to hearing about you all. Good health and love!

## 1954

Correspondent: *Joanne (Jodi) Williams Hartley*, 69 Chesterton Road, Wellesley, MA 02481, [jodihartley@verizon.net](mailto:jodihartley@verizon.net)

**Caroline Robertson Gray** and husband Cliff escape the harsh weather in Grosse Pointe, Mich., by spending six months in Lyon, France, where they've had an apartment for 20 years. Cliff is 91 and in good health.

**Ann Marcuse Raymond** loved her trip to Iran in 2015: "Iran was fantastic, very beautiful, friendly and safe." She reports that Jean Hewitt Thomas '52 has moved into the same retirement

community in Connecticut and they enjoy seeing each other.

**M'Lee Catledge Sampson** still lives in the house they moved into 49 years ago, saying she "hopes it doesn't let me down." She is grateful that CC brought her to Connecticut. She, **Ann Weimer Heagney** and **Gretchen Taylor Kingman** often got together before Gretchen's death.

In Cape Cod, **Sally Ashkins Churchill** got a poodle puppy last year and is so in love with her! Sally's grandson graduated from University of California last spring after a great football career there. He was a long snapper and played in every game for three years; she saw a game each year—it was thrilling! Sally talked with **Jan Rowe Dugan**, who summers in Wolfeboro, N.H., near her daughter. Jan travels extensively to play duplicate bridge.

Many spouses are well-known to our class and two of them have written for their wives. **Helene Kestenman Handelman's** husband, Bill, writes that Helene sends warm regards. From their retirement home in Annapolis, Gene Avallone sends warm wishes from himself and **Nancy Maddi Avallone**.

**Norma Hamady Richards** sends good wishes. In the past year she visited Italy, Spain and Canada. Her grandchildren are in college (one in law school) and their parents, Norma's children, are still following their chosen paths. Norma is grateful for many things, among them her fine CC education, good friends and good health. She sees **Jan King Evans Houser** frequently and had the pleasure of attending Jan's eldest granddaughter's engagement party. Jan hosted the event at her grandparents' home, the celebrated Heurich House Museum in Washington, D.C.

Norma writes that **Mary Lee Matheson Shanahan** has moved from one retirement apartment to another within Southern Pines, where Mary Lee's daughter, Brooke, lives. The move allows son Christopher to visit both his mother and his sister with greater ease—a happy outcome for Mary Lee.

**Mar Robertson Jennings** and Howard are enjoying their new home, a retirement community in Santa Barbara. "The grounds are beautiful and the people lovely and interesting." They were looking forward to a visit from **Kathy Hull Easton** and Peter in April. Kathy and Pete were in San Diego for an A6 Intruder (Navy Air) reunion and planned to drive up the coast to San Francisco.

**Nancy Powell Beaver** and Bill still live in their home in Waterford, Va., on



Margaret Park Mautner '51 has taken up a new hobby: dancing.



Sally Ashkins Churchill '54 poses for a picture with her new best friend.

a small farm. She volunteers for the Interfaith Relief Organization, distributing food and supplies donated by local grocery stores and farms. Nancy's new and most challenging activity is watercolor painting; she feels like she is back in kindergarten—it's hard! Nancy still enjoys gardening, both vegetables and flowers. She writes to **Dayle Peterson Goddard**, her roommate who left after freshman year.

The class extends sympathy to the family and friends of **Gretchen Taylor Kingman**, who died in May 2015.

## 1955

Correspondent: *Joan Barkon Antell*, 26 Belden Ave., Unit 2101, Norwalk, CT 06850, [jantell@optonline.net](mailto:jantell@optonline.net)

Last year, **Louise Dieckmann Lawson** and husband Blair upgraded the backyard of their home in San Diego, Calif. Louise does not miss New England winters—but this year San Diego experienced a Christmas colder than that in the Northeast! "You just can't trust weather anymore." Louise is now church administrator at All Saint's Episcopal Church in downtown San

Diego. Blair is establishing a web-based platform for the municipal utility system. They also race their boat and came in second for the fall series, competing with 21 skippers. Louise's children and grandchildren are doing well.

**Ajax Waterman Eastman** writes from Baltimore: "After 48 years in our big home on one and a half acres, we are moving to a retirement community" in April. "As you can imagine, downsizing is daunting!" However, after this past winter, "it will be a relief, especially after the record-setting snowfall and all the shoveling that followed!"

**Judy Pennypacker Goodwin** and husband Wes enjoy walking, riding bicycles and cross-country skiing. Judy is involved with the Granby Women's Breakfast, a monthly meeting of about 100 women with a featured speaker. "It's a great way to stay connected and up-to-date on a variety of topics." She reread "The Boys in the Boat," a "great read, especially for one who loves to row." Judy and Wes will celebrate their 60th anniversary in June in Ogunquit, Maine—congratulations!

**Marty Manley Cole** sent New Year's greetings from Florida after a wonderful summer in Maine. In winter 2014, she spent family Christmas in Lake Tahoe. "Yes, I skied! When I turned 80, I made a bucket list. At the top was skiing again. The kids are trying to throw the rest of my bucket list away!" Marty, the Class of '55 is cheering you on!

One of **Marilyn Marsh Noll's** poems was published in The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Dec. 19. Titled "Scarves, Ties and Boxes of Candy 1942." The poem describes "a lean Christmas" but one Marilyn remembers "as the best of all." She has published many poems, and her chapbook, "Thirteen Ways of Looking at Bones," won the Pennsylvania Poetry Society Chapbook Award in 2007.

**Jane Dornan Smith's** daughter, Beth, came home for the December holidays. Beth is principal of Windhoek International School in Windhoek, Namibia. Beth enjoys taking photographs of the wildlife there.

And your class correspondent, **Joan Barkon Antell**, has been kicking up her heels, traveling overseas and heading out on visits to grandchildren in Colorado and California. She feels lucky to live close to NYC; I was thrilled to see the Donizetti opera "Maria Stuarda" at the Met. Recently, she relived one of her freshman year experiences at CC: Her reading group selected "A Passage to India" for a February book discussion. Joan is thrilled that E.M. Forster is as

compelling now as he was then.

## 1956 REUNION

JUNE 3-5, 2016

Correspondent: Jan Ahlborn Roberts, P.O. Box 221, East Orleans, MA 02643, [jar.jrr@comcast.net](mailto:jar.jrr@comcast.net)

**Jean Harris Whitney** is chairing a gun violence prevention committee at her church. They are working with CC alums Nancy Lefkowitz '92 and Meg Felton Staunton '86, who founded March for Change, which has been instrumental in changing Connecticut gun laws. Jean and **Celie Gray Rosenau** attend operas together; she is also in touch with **Judy Gregory Bowes** and **Maryanne Hinsch Meanwell**, and sees **Margee Zellers** around town.

Last year, **Bonye Fisher Norton** attended the annual memorial lecture in memory of her son. In July, she went to France to cruise the Rhône, studying enneagrams with Franciscan monk Richard Rohr. She keeps up with her usual activities: exercise, yoga, opera and astrology.

Larry and **Beth Ruderman Levine** are "holding" and remain true to their nine grandchildren and six grand-dogs. They spent two weeks in Labrador and Newfoundland and a week in Cuba. She still works as a travel agent. A 60th reunion? "Just yesterday we were running across the street from Vinal and cramming at the library!"

**Debby Gutman Cornelius** dedicated years to writing her book, "Hungary in WWII: Caught in the Cauldron," gathering much of her information in Hungary via oral history. The book has been translated into Hungarian and has been honored at a special gathering in the Great Hall of the Hungarian National Museum. She appeared there to speak about the book and sign copies.

**Carol Awad Hunt** has three children: investment banker son James, with four children, the eldest in college; son Jeffrey, an Ironman athlete of note and entrepreneur; and daughter Stephanie, who maintains both a 200-acre farm and raises her five-year-old daughter in New York. Carol and her husband are active in sports, play bridge and volunteer for local causes.

**Angie Arcudi McKelvey** is co-president of Friends of the Square One Theater, as well as district treasurer and receptionist volunteer. She is a book club member, volunteers at church, and shares a joint subscription with **Libby Crawford Meyer** to the Long Wharf Theater in New Haven.

Attending the bat mitzvah of her oldest granddaughter kept Sen. **Suzi**

**Rosenhirsch Oppenheimer** away from Reunion: "I miss all of you!" She loves retirement, though she and her husband have abandoned trekking in the Himalayas for travel in Southeast Asia and Africa. She plays tennis, skis with her eight grandchildren, serves on "do-goodie" boards and tries to stay healthy.

**Janet Frost Bank** celebrated her 80th birthday in Paris with daughter Brigida Bank '84 and Alaska with son Todd Bank '83. Her best news is granddaughter Madeline's admittance to the Class of 2020! Last year, Janet saw **Helen Sormani Tichenor** in Boston: "We had a grand time remembering CC!"

**Nancy Teese Mouget** wrote: "Reunion plans generate wonderful memories. When you see this, our 60th will be another one. Thanks to all who called, organized, emailed, donated and attended. Let's keep these rekindled friendships going!"

The class sends sympathy to the friends and family of **Marie Garibaldi**. "Few things are impossible to diligence and skill" and "a practical mind and a light heart," she wrote prophetically in Koiné. Marie attended Reunions regularly, in spite of her Supreme Court role.

We send sympathy to **Marie Waterman Harris** for the loss of her husband, Ken. Though ill, "he was himself . . . at home and the family was with him." They had a long and happy life together.

Sympathy, too, goes to the family of **Sheila Schechtman Weinberg**. From Koiné: "Good things come in small packages" bears out that she was "a friend in need and a smile for all."

## 1957

Correspondent: Elaine Diamond Berman, 72 Stanton Lane, Pawcatuck, CT 06379, [elainedberman@comcast.net](mailto:elainedberman@comcast.net)

**Anne Hildreth Russell** has lived in Portland, Maine, since she lost her husband, Willy. She was an ESL teacher in Boston and now volunteers with refugees in Portland. She sings in a community chorus, relishes outdoor activities and enjoys life. "Portland is a great small city with lots to offer."

**Joan Sampson Schmidt** said the winter in the Washington, D.C., area was splendid, with a warm Christmas Day, spring-like weather in January, trees in bloom and bulbs coming up. Joan and Richard took their usual trip to Florida to watch spring training.

**Sarah Greene Burger** finally retired. Her titles are senior adviser, Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, and chair emeritus, Coalition of Geriatric Nursing Organizations, New York University

College of Nursing. She and Ed drove from Washington to Kansas City, spending one night with **Katie Lindsay**. "Katie is her usual self, funny and so quick—we laughed until our sides split." Sarah also sees **Anne Henry Crowe** often when in Vermont.

**Sue Krim Greene** loves her Colorado life. Grandson Andrew, 18, and three of his New York friends came for a week of skiing in February. **Helene Zimmer-Loew** visited in March for her 22nd consecutive year of skiing with Sue. In August, Sue is planning a trip to Iceland and Greenland for 10 days of "learning about this remote island, the Greenland ice sheet and the effects of climate change."

**Lucy Hoblitzelle Iannotti** and Larry took a road trip to Schoodic Point, Maine, with daughter Grace and her family last August. They rented a house close to Mount Desert Island and spent a lot of time in Bar Harbor. "The two grand-kids—Maria, 10, and Angel Gabriel, 8—loved it." Lucy and Larry see **Betsy Hahn Barnston** regularly at the Long Wharf Theater and for dinner, except when she is in Florida for the winter.

**Toni Titus Frary** and Walt had some wonderful trips last year to St. Augustine, Fla.; Bar Harbor, Maine; and the Mohonk Mountain House in New York. They also visited Mass., where they see **Mimi Prosswimmer Longyear** and Russ every summer. "I feel blessed to see my children and grandchildren as much as I do." Toni still rides her horse, Special, every week and gives art lessons every May at church. She recently published a book of watercolor paintings of her hometown and will have copies at Reunion next year.

**Judy Hartt Acker** says: "If you have any suggestions for programs or activities for 60th Reunion, please contact me." Call the alumni office at 860-439-2500 for Judy's info.

Sadly, **Sally Read Dow** passed away in January after years of fighting cancer. She had a long career as a librarian, with many community activities and outside interests. She loved bridge, tai chi, travel and being a trustee of the local Audubon Society.

Sally was close with many classmates. **Bettine Horigan Montgomery** writes: "Sally and husband Bryden visited us on Cape Cod every summer since 2004. Sometimes we combined their visit with **Dolores Pagani Tutt** and Bob, and **Kate Crehan Bowman** and Phil, for a real mini-reunion."

Bettine said that her former roommate **M.J. Huber McMath** has

lived in southern California for many years. Three of M.J.'s children live in the west, the fourth in Chicago. M.J.'s husband Bob died about a year ago, and M.J. remained in their house until last September, when she moved to Silicon Valley to live with her daughter.

## 1958

Correspondent: *Judith Ankarstran Carson, P.O. Box 5028, Edwards, CO 81632, jdcarson@centurytel.net*

**Barbara Bearce Tuneski** was looking forward to a family reunion that would include 14 people on Easter weekend in Baltimore and Washington, D.C. The occasion was a baseball game at The McDonogh School, where her grandson is a coach and teacher.

**Judy Ankarstran Carson** and husband David went on an exciting trip to Patagonia, which included sailing around Cape Horn.

We send our deep sympathy to the family of **Martha Mann Morrow**. Martha attended CC for two years before completing her bachelor's degree at Vanderbilt and the University of Michigan.

We also extend our sympathies to **Millie Schmidtman Kendall** and husband Neil on the untimely death of their son, Stephen Forrest Kendall. He was 56 years old and lived in Seattle.

## 1959

Correspondents: *Carolyn Keefe Oakes, 3333 Warrensville Center Rd., Apt. 412, Shaker Heights, OH 44122, carolynoakes@att.net; Marcia Fortin Sherman, 602 Red Maple Way, Clemson, SC 29631, marciasherman@bellsouth.net*

**Julie Solmssen Steedman** visited her son in Brazil, where he is head of the American School in Campinas.

**Sandy Sidman Larson** has published a book of poems, "Ode to Beautiful," which can be ordered at [www.finishinglinepress.com](http://www.finishinglinepress.com). She also has a new puppy.

**Pat Chambers Moore** was in Cleveland. Her granddaughter is at University of Michigan and her grandson is at Rochester Institute of Technology.

**Nan Krulewicz Socolow** moved to West Palm Beach, Fla. She spends her time writing and counting her blessings. She published a book of poems; you can purchase it by contacting her at [annesocolow@gmail.com](mailto:annesocolow@gmail.com).

**Marg Wellford Tabor** has retired and loves being a grandparent. She is dedicated to the growth of Tennessee Shakespeare Company and serves on the board.

**Kay Wieland Perkins** reports that

college roommate **Joy Johnson Nevin** has published a book, "Joy of Retirement: Live, Love, and Learn." It is available on Amazon and Kindle. Kay travels less internationally and enjoys retirement.

**Connie Snelling McCreary's** daughter Meg and family have moved from Tokyo to Greenwich, Conn., after 16 years in Japan. Their sons are at Wesleyan and Vassar. Connie's daughter Gigi and family have rebuilt their house in Los Angeles and are active in a parent group educating their daughters. Connie is living her 16th year on Martha's Vineyard, singing in the Island Community Chorus and play reading.

**Mims Matthews Munro** took a trip to Japan with **Mary Elsbree Hoffman**, had both knees replaced and is now resuming all of her activities. She plans to sell her house and move to a retirement community.

**Jean Alexander Gilcrest** visited family in Las Vegas, Chicago and Kentucky, plus took a trip to Charleston with her daughter and family. She sings with a choir and has five grandchildren in college; two graduated this spring.

**Gail Glidden Goodell** had another fabulous trip: Heart of India, with a five-day post-trip to Nepal. Gail took her granddaughter to Georgia for Circus Camp, a Road Scholar Intergenerational Adventure. It included golf, tennis, swimming, zip-lining, gardening and a nature center, as well as circus activities. Gail also attended her 60th high school reunion.

Gail's grandson, Ben Goodell, made local television news for his high school science fair project in Lynn, Mass. He effectively debunked NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's (no relation) "Deflategate" argument by determining that the pounds per square inch of a football would drop by two points in various conditions after two hours. Although Ben's evidence won't affect the outcome of the NFL appeal, he did get an Outstanding Project Award.

**Ann Seidel Fletcher** and Charlie have enjoyed their sixth year of fleeing Pennsylvania's winter weather by spending time in California. They stay near Ann's brother so they can catch up after so many years of living on opposite coasts.

**Olga Lehovich**, in New London, N.H., fortunately escaped injury when a huge sneeze she had while driving sent her off the road, knocking over a sign! The car suffered only minor damage, and the kind young policeman said she wouldn't be in trouble since the plows routinely knock down road signs!

**Judy Petrequin Rice** and Don divide their time between Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and Scottsdale, Ariz., where they are near family. Their grandson qualified to compete in a long-distance swimming championship, and their granddaughter was accepted by all six colleges to which she applied.

**Lynn Graves Mitchell** recently downsized from a house to an apartment with sweeping views of San Francisco Bay. She and husband Dave have a schedule filled with reunions, wedding and graduations across the country—Virginia, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., and New Mexico!

## 1960

Correspondents: *Joan Murray Webster, 6440 Wild Horse Valley Rd., Napa, CA 94558, joanmwebs@sbcglobal.net; Adele Merrill Welch, 53 Skipper's Lane, Tenants Harbor, ME 04860, Willowstar53@gmail.com*

**Joann Murphy Bezzant** wrote from her home in Shepherds Hill, London, where she is editing a book on the artist Francis Bacon. She also buys artwork for family, friends and collectors. She has enjoyed seeing Sarah Sze, daughter of classmate **Judith Mossman Sze**, and her husband, Chin-Ming. Sarah has installations at the Institute for

Contemporary Arts and the Serpentine Galleries.

**Cynnie Enloe** was in Bogotá, Colombia, last fall for a meeting with Colombian women's rights activists, advocating for the guarantee of women's rights in the peace negotiations meant to end Colombia's long civil war. In December, she went to Sarajevo to be part of a small discussion with Bosnian feminists about what 20 years of "peace" has failed to achieve—lessons they've been sharing with Syrian women activists.

**Carolyn McGonigle Holleran** is happy in their contemporary green home near Reading, Pa. The family continues to expand, currently with three great-grandchildren. "It's lots of fun to be involved with four generations." Jerry enjoys painting weekly with a group of artists, while Carolyn keeps busy with gardening and tutoring students in a local inner-city school.

**Frances Gilmore Pratt's** son, Hal Pratt '89, turned 50 in February, and "does that ever make me feel my age!"

**Liz Hood McAfoose** had been looking forward to celebrating our 55th Reunion together. "It was an optimistic plan, but I thought it could work." Sadly, husband Ray passed away. "What could have been a window of

# THANK YOU!



GOAL: 1,000 DONORS

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Thank you to all who accepted the Founders Day Challenge. Your support helped the College to more than double our goal and secure the \$100,000 Challenge bonus from Tim Armstrong '93. If you missed the Challenge, you can still help support the Connecticut College Fund by visiting [giving.conncoll.edu](http://giving.conncoll.edu) to make a gift today!



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

four months or so closed in 23 days. We sure do miss him, but we are doing well. Thank you to my classmates who have been in touch. I so appreciate your love and support." The class sends sympathy to Liz and her family for their loss.

Since **Anne Sweazey** retired about a year and a half ago, she has returned to teaching. She tutors athletes in two underserved high schools in Westchester County, and also teaches reading comprehension and writing at a women's prison in Bedford Hills. "I leave every class feeling grateful and awed by their efforts."

**Joan Murray Webster** has lived in the same house in Napa, Calif., for 38 years—quite a change of pace for a former Navy wife who rarely lived in one place for long during the early days of her marriage to husband John. She has been a widow for 12 years but enjoys keeping up with her three children, six grandchildren and "probably too many commitments. Life is good!"

**Mary Ann Fuller Young** has "played" in online dating for quite a few years and, this year, she will publish a book describing some of her experiences. "Dutch Treat, Senior Dating and Other Stories" will soon be available to order on Amazon. Her memoir, "Plainly and Simply: A Memoir of Alzheimer's," is also available. In January, she was at the Key West Literary Seminar and had lunch with **Susan Hillman Crandall** to reminisce about CC days. "Anyone who comes to Burlington, Vt., is welcome at my house with my dogs, Lulu and Parker."

It has been more than four years since **Adele Merrill Welch** moved from Mass. to Maine after retiring as a psychiatric nurse practitioner. For the last 15 years, Del worked in home care for a small community hospital, "which

served me well in preparing for my own aging." She recently taught a community health class.

If you are reading this and we haven't heard from you lately, please send us your news.

## 1961 REUNION JUNE 3-5, 2016

*Correspondent: Leslie Pomeroy McGowan, 2606 Essex Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48104, [lesliemcgowan@aol.com](mailto:lesliemcgowan@aol.com)*

In November, **Emily Adee Andren** and John had a wonderful reunion in Tallahassee with Helen Frisk Buzyna '63 and George, and Barbara Livingstone Aguirre '60 and Hector, who is from Buenos Aires (where they lived for many years). It was Helen and George's 50th wedding anniversary, which brought children, grandchildren, and other family members and friends from as far away as Hawaii. Later, Helen, Barbara and Emily had fun going through their CC yearbooks and pictures of their world travels.

**Marian Shaw Lipschutz** keeps busy in Los Angeles. She has a blog, which you can find at [www.marianlipschutz.com](http://www.marianlipschutz.com)—a good read!

**Gay Nathan** wrote from Santa Fe, where she has a busy life. She has worked at the Santa Fe ski basin for the past 15 winters. She had plans to go on her 34th cruise in February and wrote about a recent cruise in northern Europe, which included a couple of spectacular days in St. Petersburg. She's also still acting; she performed in a play at the White Barn in Napa Valley in October. All that, and she spends summers in her beach house on Fire Island.

**Colleen Dougherty Lund** sent a copy of her 2015 newsletter, which was full of travel news. Colleen and Bill were in England for three weeks, then Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Germany

and France later in the year. She has a great tale about getting lost in France due to an uncooperative GPS. Colleen is also putting her woodcarving skills to good use and snagged a third prize in an event at the Oakhurst Wood Carvers Rendezvous in April 2015.

**Leigh Davidson Sherrill** traveled to Northern Scotland in late spring of 2015. She plays tennis several times a week, as well as bridge: "Life is good."

Your correspondent, **Leslie Pomeroy McGowan**, still lives in Ann Arbor, playing tennis, volunteering at a local thrift shop and sorting thousands of donated books each summer for an AAUW used book sale.

## 1962

*Correspondent: Seyril Siegel, 17263 Boca Club Blvd., Apt. 2, Boca Raton, FL 33487, [seyril@gmail.com](mailto:seyril@gmail.com)*

**Margo Conderman Arnold** hosted the College's Washington, D.C. holiday gala at the Cosmos Club in December.

**Barbara Stone Aschheim** is living a busy life in Florida. She regularly keeps in touch with **Joyce Finger Beckwith**, **Jane Levene Zuckerman**, Marjory Wasserstrom Gross '59 and Barbara Wasserstrom Alpert '57.

**Ellen Watson Payzant** and husband Tom are living in Utah near family, on "grandparent duty" when needed. Their new crusade is educating people about Alzheimer's, as Tom has been diagnosed as being in the early stages of the disease. They celebrated their big 75th last year with surprise visits from all their children.

Your correspondent (**Seyril Siegel**) attended an interesting brunch hosted by the College in Lake Worth, Fla., and enjoyed lunch with Barbara Stone Aschheim in Delray Beach. I have been sidelined from my tennis life by a pulled

hamstring, but hope to be back on the courts soon. I'm headed to California to see my daughter, Isabel Siegel Griffith '06, who will be moving to Tacoma, Wash., with her husband Benjamin Griffith '06

## 1963

*Correspondent: Bonnie Campbell Billings, [bsq22@aol.com](mailto:bsq22@aol.com)*

Doing alumni board CONNECTION outreach, **Lonnie Jones Schorer** invited 30 Camels from Virginia to her home for coffee in February. From our class, **Bobette Pottle Orr**, **Susan Hall Veccia** and **Carol Ann Zinkus McKim** joined the party.

Great idea—I (**Bonnie Campbell Billings**) would like to do something similar for any Vermont or New Hampshire Camels. Please contact me!

**Theo Dracopoulos Argue** and Cliff enjoy retirement, traveling to visit kids, family and friends throughout the U.S., and to church meetings in Florida and New York. Theo is co-manager of the St. Demetrios Church Bookstore, and is busy with the Mercer Island (Wash.) Women's Club.

**Jane Engel Francoeur** and her husband last year hiked coastal paths and the cliffs of Cornwall. They also covered the 500-mile route from the North Pole to the Svalbard archipelago to Norway. In February, they were preparing for a month in Indonesia—hiking and beaching in Bali, cruising the coast of Borneo, Malaysia, for a few days and Korea on the way home. Jane sees **Eleni Tsandoulas Gillis** and **Joanie Snyder Abelson** when home in Naples, Fla.

In February 2015, **Susan Albro Barkan** spent a week exploring Death Valley with her hiking group. Within a week, she was snowshoeing the 8,000-foot-high Carson Pass. Susan also



Judy Biegel Sher '62 and Margery Flocks Masinter '62 P'88 traveled with their husbands to Cuba.



Class of 1963 get-together in Virginia. (L-R) Lonnie Jones Schorer, Bobette Pottle Orr, Susan Hall Veccia and Carol Zinkus McKim.

enjoys San Francisco and San Jose's theater, opera, symphony and ballet.

**Patricia Said Adams** was widowed 15 years ago. She moved from San Francisco to Charlotte to be close to her daughter and family. She writes that she arrived late in life to a profession that "really is animating my retirement years": spiritual director. She is also a blogger and an author; she self-published "Thy Kingdom Come!" and has completed research for a second book.

**Jeanette Pease's** most wonderful academic memories are of sophomore English with Rosamund Tuve and French with Madame Chadourne. "They both taught more than subject matter."

**Helen Frisk Buzyna** and George spent much of the last year celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. A highlight was a family cruise of the Caribbean. A gathering during Thanksgiving included Barbara Livingstone Aguirre '60 and Emily Adee Andren '61. They are contemplating a move to Atlanta, where her daughter and family live. Helen, **Barbara Drexler Lockhart** and **Ginny Olds Goshdigan** had their annual summer get-together.

**Barbara Thomas Cheney** writes from Connecticut, where she continues serving part-time as a priest and as the drummer in the church band. She is also the spiritual director for several Yale Divinity School students and the drummer in a jazz ensemble. "One of our more recent gigs was a fundraising concert for refugees with the legendary Blood, Sweat and Tears bassist Ron McClure."

**Connie Cross**, of Casco, Maine, has finished a stint as co-chair of her church's capital campaign and reports being in "an endless loop of raising funds for land protection." Raising money is "not as onerous when you believe in the mission."

Apologies to **Aggie Cochran Underwood** for domiciling her in Naples, rather than Vero Beach, Fla., in our last issue. This spring, Aggie will return to Middlebury, Vt., before spending a month in France.

**Laurie Blake Sawyer** continues to enjoy life in Hawaii, where she and John have lived since 1971. With two daughters in California and a son in Hawaii, family get-togethers are frequent. She has eight grandchildren and five live nearby. Laurie keeps in touch with college "besties" **Christie Renchard Huffman** and **Anne Shaw Benditt**.

I enjoyed seeing **Nancy Holbrooke Ayers** and Doug during our annual family

visit to Jackson Hole. She was soon expecting a visit from **Nina Heneage Helms**. I ran into **Faith Gilman Cross** at a mutual friend's birthday; she is enjoying the temporary relocation of her daughter and family from Germany to San Francisco. Joe and I spent a delightful week in February in Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico, visiting **Elana Brown Anderson** and Bill. Back home in Vermont, I frequently see **Roberta Slone Smith**.

## 1965

Correspondent: **Pat Antell Andrews**, [pandre0615@gmail.com](mailto:pandre0615@gmail.com)

**Marge Landsberg Goldsmith** and **Judy Trauner Stone** write: "As the new co-presidents of the Class of '65, we greet you and thank **Leslie Setterholm Fox** and **Sonya Paranko Fry** for their service to our class these past five years. They organized a superb 50th reunion. Sincere thanks to **Pat Antell Andrews** and **Sue Peck Hinkel**, our intrepid class correspondents.

Judy and I will host a social event in the fall in NYC and hope that those in the area or beyond will join us. An invitation will follow."

**Nancy Burtch Hauk** retired 10 years ago after a 20-year career with McGraw-Hill studying bias in school tests. She and Steve own an art gallery in Pacific Grove, Calif., and have two daughters. Nancy exhibited some of her paintings—described as "stunning"—at the Pacific Grove Public Library, opening with a standing-room-only reception. Once renovated, the gallery will be named in honor of Steve and Nancy.

**Margery Tupling Knyper**, who was unable to attend Reunion, was happy to receive pictures from the Dance Club reunion and the class from **Pam Gwynn Herrup**. Margery has retired from teaching dance and exercise classes, as well as managing the design department of a floral design company. She's now learning classical guitar. Husband Len is still active as a cabinetmaker and, since he sets his own hours, they frequently indulge in riding boogie boards in the Pacific.

**Pam Bycroft Wetherill** and Dave will celebrate their 50th anniversary this summer with a big family celebration on Nantucket over Fourth of July weekend. They are in good health and enjoy taking advantage of everything the Princeton, N.J., area offers.

**Linda Norton Johnson** was sorry to miss Reunion but loves reading the Class Notes. She and her husband have lived



(L-R) Sarah Kirtland '65, Kathy Legg '66, Nancy Williams Ward '73 and Barbara Gueinzus Gridley '52 GP'12 are all members of New York City's Cosmopolitan Club.

in New Hampshire since 1986. He works almost full time, and she volunteers with the Animal Rescue League and takes college classes online.

Our last column, which covered our 50th Reunion, omitted one important bit of news. **Martha Alter Chen**, the main speaker for the Sykes Society Luncheon, was awarded the College Medal, the highest distinction the College bestows.

While many of us were at Reunion, **Calista** (formerly **Sally Morrill**) and **Patti Olson** met in Jamestown, Colo., for their own reunion, spending four hours together. They still find it difficult to thi they've been friends for 54 years!

**Elaine Desantis Benvenuto** traveled to South Africa, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Botswana in January—the trip of a lifetime. "We saw lions, leopards, Cape buffalo, rhinos, elephants, giraffes, zebras and more. Highlights of the trip were a helicopter ride over Victoria Falls, petting a cheetah and walking with lions." Elaine keeps in touch with **Sarah Ryan Ignon**, Kathleen McKenna '64, Dhuanne Tansill '64 and Melissa Meighan '66.

I (**Sue Peck Hinkel**) love Vermont living. We've entertained some interesting guests from all over the world with our Airbnb business. I'm once again the president of the Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont, in charge of 17 clubs in our state. A trip to Ireland last August and one to France over Christmas have kept us close to my son and his family, who live in Northern Ireland. We also attended my daughter's 50th birthday party in California last June.

## 1966 REUNION JUNE 3-5, 2016

Correspondents: **Patricia Dale** and **Carol Chaykin**, [cnotes66@gmail.com](mailto:cnotes66@gmail.com)

This is an abbreviated column, because your class correspondents (**Patricia Dale** and **Carol Chaykin**)

have been very busy collecting and editing your bios for Koiné Gold for distribution at our 50th reunion. We marvel at your fascinating lives and your many accomplishments!

**Anne Backus** lives in Santa Fe, N.M., near daughters Beka and Barbara. Beka is a nurse at the University of New Mexico and Barbara works at the Academy for the Love of Learning. Granddaughter Gabby is 10. Anne has a casita located on several acres of hiking trails and yet only 20 minutes from Santa Fe Plaza. She invites classmates to visit her in the Land of Enchantment: "Friends, including CC alumnae, are welcome to stay for free!"

**Charlotte Kling Goldberg**, author of two books on community property law, retired in July 2014 from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, where she was a professor of law for more than 30 years. Husband Howard retired four years ago from medical practice as an internist. They now spend half the year in Fallsburg, N.Y., near daughter Suri and her family, and the remaining half-year in Jerusalem, where sons Yehoshua and Ethan live with their families. Daughter Dvora and her family live in Detroit. Charlotte's life now revolves around her children, grandchildren and first great grandchild, Ahron.

We'd like to acknowledge the other members of our 50th Reunion Planning Committee: **Martha Blanchard Twigg**, **Kate Curtis Donahue**, **Alice Daghlian Kanayan**, **Diana (Pokey) Davis Kornet**, **Bridget Donahue Healy**, **Ellen Hofheimer Bettmann**, **Kay Landen**, **Elizabeth Leach Welch**, **Lois MacLellan Klee** and **Marian Silber**.

Sadly, we learned of the deaths of several classmates: **Cynthia Fuller Davis**, who died on Nov. 2, 2015; **Antoinette Carter Emery** (Dec. 13, 2015); **Leslie Hixson White**, (Jan. 11,

2016); **Lorraine Schechter** (Feb. 6, 2016); and **Mary Ellen Daley** (Feb. 29, 2016). We offer our condolences to their families and friends.

## 1967

*Correspondents: Debby Greenstein, debbyg837@verizon.net; Marcia Matthews, marciamatthews3@gmail.com*

**Patricia Roos Furtig** had lunch with **Debby Greenstein** while visiting family in Florida—they hadn't seen each other since graduation. Pat is an attorney in Cleveland practicing estate planning and elder law. Husband Tom is a retired attorney. She has three children: Heather, 39, has graduated from business school, and sons Brian, 34, and Matthew, 32, are both attorneys. In addition to running her practice, Pat is on the boards of the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging and the Cleveland Christian Home, which provides services to children. The day after Pat's visit, Debby hosted her stepbrother, Jay, and his wife, Meg Gemson Ashman '72, who were on their way to Key West for a month.

**Lynn Weichsel Hand's** life has centered around her daughter and granddaughter. She continues to paint and is active in Women's Caucus for Art/New Hampshire: "The beautiful and changing coast of Maine is an inspiration for whatever I create."

**Robin Phillips** lives in Highlands, N.C. She is a retired technical editor for a contractor to the Department of Energy and a grandmother of four. "Loved D.C. living but confess the mountains are a balm after the bustle of the nation's capital."

**Ethel Bottcher Cullinan** and Neil decided to retire in Macon, Ga., where they have lived for 44 years: "I'm a CC girl living in a Macon world." Ethel paints and teaches ESL, and she is relearning French in anticipation of son Michael's next Foreign Service appointment in Paris. Michael's twin sister, Megan, lives in Greenville, S.C., with Ethel and Neil's only grandchild, Patrick. They have a house there as well, so visiting is frequent and easy.

**Margie Lipshutz Simon, Beth Sapery, Ann Weinberg Mandelbaum, Susan Brackin Smith, Susan Melinette Haerle, Lil Balboni Nolan, Nancy Stone, Debby Murray Sloan and Carol Friedman Dressler** convened for a spa weekend in Miami to celebrate their 70th birthdays. Unfortunately, friends **Faith Jackson Parker** and **Susanna Terrell Saunders** were unable to join them and were greatly missed. Margie wrote: "Despite divergent lifestyles and

geographical distance, our gratitude for our 50-year bond continues to sustain us all. Still sharing losses and triumphs, family dramas and generational challenges, and, of course, laughter, we again honored our foundational connection, with all of the wisdom that our age and stage now bring."

**Linda Reichert Mann** hosted **Marcia Hunter Matthews** for lunch in February at her home in Boca Grande, Fla. They had not seen each other since graduation. Linda is a retired teacher and husband Don is a neurologist who continues to teach in Cleveland. They have three sons in their 30s. Marcia also had a wonderful visit with **Judy Macurda Oates** in November in Florida, and saw **Judi Rosman Hahn** and **Nancy Blumberg Austin** in New York in January. All four were together in Jane Addams in 1963. Marcia and Bill are planning a hiking trip in Provence in May and will celebrate their 50th anniversary in June. They hope to get their three sons, daughters-in-law and nine grandchildren together in Kennebunkport to celebrate in July.

**Suzy Endel Kerner** enjoys teaching theater at Montclair State University too much to consider retirement just yet. She spends summers in China, working with professors to teach English and use interactive classroom methods. She enjoys spending time with her three sons and their families.

On behalf of our class, we send condolences to **Lynn Gordon Silfen**, whose husband, David Silfen, passed away in November. Classmates wishing to make a donation in David's honor may do so to Weill Cornell Medicine's program in pancreatic cancer research.

## 1968

*Correspondent: Mary Clarkson Phillips, 36 The Crossway, Delmar, NY 12054, mphil2@nycap.rr.com*

**Amy Greenberg Poster** is assisting the Japan Society as the interim consulting gallery director and helping to organize an upcoming exhibition in Houston, "For a New World to Come: Experiments in Japanese Art and Photography, 1968–1979."

**Midge Auwerter Shepard's** husband, Bill, retired from his job in Houston in 2014. They now live in Naples, Fla., half the year and at their home in Darien, Conn., the other half. Their three children and five grandchildren all live in the New York area.

**Naomi Corman Luban** sends greetings from Barnstable, Mass., where she has a summer home and enjoys

entertaining new granddaughter Emma. Naomi is still working, writing grants and mentoring junior faculty physician scientists at Children's National, where she has been for more than 30 years.

**Allyson Cook Gall** and Marty love their waterfront home base in Scituate, Mass. They can help with new granddaughter Eleanor Xiao-Ling and their other three grandkids; go into Boston for music and ethnic food; and go clamming, fishin', kayaking, biking and more.

**Jane Ranallo Goodman** recovered from a difficult illness and is healthy and doing well. She works for a program at the Department of Health and Human Services and goes into Washington, D.C., almost every week. She also opened a small gallery in Charlottesville, Va., called the Yellow Cardinal Gallery. She took time off to get ready for son Alex's wedding, then went to France for 10 days to paint in Provence. If anyone is in D.C. or Charlottesville, Jane would love to catch up.

**Trudy Glidden** is moving to Denver—selling her house and leaving lots of friends. Her grandchildren and one son are in Denver, hence the move. Her other son is in New Hampshire and plans to buy an RV, so she will have an East Coast home. Trudy has been asked to work in a Denver prison with teenage girls, mentoring them to make wise decisions in life.

**Shirley Hee Chew** and her adult children toured Burma in March: "It is very interesting to see an emerging country just starting to see the value of tourism to their economy—best to go before it becomes too commercialized." Shirley's son was promoted to director of finance at Estfield in Los Angeles and her daughter was promoted to vice president, senior trust officer at Ban of Hawaii.

**Joan Pekoc Pagano** and James enjoyed getaways to their condo in Cape Coral, Fla., throughout the winter: In May, Joan hosted a live event in Manhattan called "Beat Belly Fat, Bloating, Bone Loss and the Blues." She is editing a video of the program so that others can benefit.

**Miriam Daniel** continues to work with Beit Daniel, a reform synagogue built by her family in Tel Aviv, and with Mishkenot Ruth Daniel, a community center and youth hostel in Jaffa. The mission of the Daniel Centers is to promote religious pluralism and tolerance. Mishkenot Ruth Daniel will soon have a Friday morning market in the outdoor square with a fountain,

featuring food prepared by local Arab residents, crafts and music. Tours that explore the real Jaffa are available. Miriam and some partners have created an award-winning post-college service-learning program, Tikkun Olam, in Tel Aviv–Jaffa.

**Donna Jeffers** has joined the board of directors at Crittenton Women's Union, a Boston nonprofit that works to financially empower women and disrupt the poverty cycle.

## 1969

*Correspondent: Judi Bamberg Mariggio, 1070 Sugar Sands Blvd., #384, Riviera Beach, FL 33404, jgmario@bellsouth.net*

**Nancy Barry** works at American Ballet Theatre. She is excited about attending her late husband's 50th college reunion at Washington and Lee in Lexington, Va., with his roommate and wife. "I continue to explore the cultural riches of New York—yesterday the opera and then an evening performance at the Public Theater."

**Alice Boatwright** made her debut as a Northwest writer in March, joining two other Seattle-area mystery writers, Candace Robb and Marty Wingate, for a program called "Mysterious England." They did readings, talked about writing and their work, and shared appropriate snacks with homemade English tea. Alice continues to work on the second Ellie Kent mystery, following "Under an English Heaven."

**Dagny Hultgreen Griswold** and Harry work full-time but fill most of their remaining time with "family, trips and family trips." Dagny continues to sing in a local choral group, do fundraising and participate in the Great Decisions foreign policy discussion group. "We have enjoyed a less snowy winter this year and look forward to spring and gardening this summer."

**Ellen Lougee Simmons'** family is well and growing: "I have three grandchildren, two in San Francisco and one in Houston. I am busy with several volunteer board positions here in Houston and in Boston."

**Jill Monchik Ferrar** lives in South Orange, N.J., 25 minutes from New York. "I am working on a short-story collection and have an excellent critique group in Montclair." Jill enjoys theater and a local book club, as well as a world film club, ethical culture society in Maplewood, N.J., and an inspiring yoga course. Son David is doing well.

**Diana Robinson Nelson** realized she and Mike had hit all four coasts in 2015: "We were in California for New

Year's and again in April; the Florida Keys with the boat in March; Lake Huron with the boat in July; and Boston for my high school reunion in October. All but the April trip were by road. Along the way we met up with six of Michael's cousins, five of whom we had not met before.

**Ellen Robinson Epstein** is still happily running her business, Concierge America, Inc., traveling often with husband David and very involved with her grandchildren. In December, they welcomed grandchildren Nos. 11 and 12. Nine of the 12 live in the Washington, D.C., area, with two of her children's families in walking distance. "It's hard to believe we are now completing our 60s and have been out of college for so long. Fortunately, I still think I am about 25!"

**Maria Varela de Berchesi** continues frequent travels, often to gather ideas and materials for her St. George's School in Montevideo. In March, she was in California to spend a week with her son's family and gather more educational materials. She will be in Europe later this year to visit more schools: "I always learn new things that I can use in school here."

**Sally Yerkovich's** book, "A Practical Guide to Museum Ethics," was published this spring. She is still director of the Institute of Museum Ethics at Seton Hall University and teaches at both Seton Hall and Columbia. She recently gave a keynote address at the U.K. Museums Association annual meeting in Birmingham, England.

The Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania has announced the election of Judge **Mary Hannah Leavitt** as its president judge. Mary began her 15th year on the Commonwealth Court bench in January. In the leadership role, Mary will oversee all administrative matters of the court.



Rachel Sherbourne Cooney '70 (left) and Cynthia Howard Harvell '70 attended the Telluride by the Sea Film Festival in Portsmouth, N.H.

## 1970

Correspondent: Myrna Chandler Goldstein, 5 Woods End Rd., Lincoln, MA 01773, mgoldst@massmed.org

**Cynthia Conrad** retired as the hospital and regional medical director of Connecticut's Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. She still maintains a private practice "specializing in behavioral health disorder in the developmentally disabled and consulting to several nonprofit agencies providing services to these individuals." Cynthia enjoys reading, sports and travel.

**Rachel Sherbourne Cooney** retired from her school social work position last June and now works three days a week at Delta Consultants of South County, a private practice. She spent Thanksgiving in California with her son, his wife and their daughter, and spent Christmas in Charleston, S.C., with her daughter and son-in-law. Last September, Rachel had a great visit with **Cynthia Howard Harvell** when they attended the Telluride by the Sea film festival in Portsmouth, N.H. Rachel runs a B&B out of her Newport, R.I., home ([www.cooneycottage.com](http://www.cooneycottage.com))—members of our class receive a discount!

**Melanie Dreisbach** and husband Richard Schain have lived in their home in Álamos, Sonora, Mexico, for 10 years. Three years ago, they "re-entered" life in the U.S. and started living part of the year in Sonoita, Ariz. Last summer, **Mimi Griswald Geer** visited from Santa Fe. In the spring, they rent an apartment in Paris for a few months. "Retirement living has been delightful, affording me the chance to return seriously to foreign language study. I'm committed to becoming trilingual—Spanish, French and English."

Meanwhile, Mimi has lived, worked and raised her family in Santa Fe for

more than 40 years. Since graduating from the University of New Mexico Law School in 1983, Mimi has practiced law in a small real estate and estate planning firm

Melanie and Mimi remain close friends with **Lesley Farber Osias**, who spent two years at CC before transferring to NYU. She lived in New Haven and Albuquerque but settled in Ambler, Pa., in 1980. Lesley has been a counselor and adviser at Montgomery County Community College for 30 years. Both sons are married and she has two grandchildren. This year, Lesley and husband Marc celebrated their 44th anniversary.

Writing from the Boston area, **Lee Griffiths Paul** reported that her stepson, Ben Paul, son of Enid Ellison Paul '71, married Akemi Miyamoto in Seattle, where they both work: "They had a Japanese/Jewish ceremony on the Kitsap Peninsula. We are thrilled to welcome Akemi into our family." Lee's daughter, Lizzy, is graduating from Berklee College of Music with a degree in songwriting and music education. She already has an album on iTunes: Lizzy Paul's "Somewhere in the Middle." While Lee's husband still works, Lee is moving toward retirement and more travel, recreation and artistic activities.

**Karen Nielson Bevan** and Stuart spent last winter in Florida, where they celebrated their 36th anniversary. After living in Westchester for 31 years, they sold their house in Bronxville in 2013 and bought a historic house in Newport, R.I., "which features a theater and minstrel's gallery." The house allows Karen to "continue her love of performing and producing programs for various causes." Son Andrew lives in NYC, and they visit him often.

**Nancy Pierce Morgan** reported that semi-retirement "is great." She continues to practice therapeutic writing with cancer patients at Georgetown University one day a week, but spends the rest of her time writing and reconnecting with friends like nearby **Mary-Jane Atwater**.

**Janet Cavedon** can hardly believe she left New York 32 years ago! She and husband Bob will celebrate their 30th anniversary in September. After 15 years in Savannah, Ga., they moved to Aiken, S.C., in 2012. "Aiken is charming—lovely shops and restaurants, fine arts and music programs, year-round golf, and horses galore."

## 1971 REUNION JUNE 3-5, 2016

Correspondents: Lisa McDonnell, 134 W. Maple St., Granville, OH 43023, mcdonnell@denison.edu; Lois Price,

308 East Mulberry St., Kennett Square, PA, 19348-3818, loprince@yahoo.com

**Linda Herskowitz Kriger's** book, "Gut Feelings: Social and Emotional Struggles with Crohn's and Colitis," was published in August. (See winter 2016 CC: Magazine.) Son Daniel graduated from Kenyon College in 2014, while son Ezra is a student at the University of Maryland. Linda and husband Jake live in Philadelphia and enjoy their beach house in Ocean Grove, N.J.

**Joan Weisberg Beyerlein** remains married to her amazing husband Doug and lives near Seattle. She has her own business as a nurse consultant after working for many years as a nurse in Oakland, Calif. She stays in touch with **Marsha Kartzman**. As part of a relay team, Joan swam the English Channel last summer, achieving the second-fastest relay record of the season.

**Candace Norton Hitchcock** lives in North Carolina with her husband of 22 years and two dogs. She still rides regularly but has no horse of her own. Her graphic design company, Hitchcock Design Inc. ([www.hitchdesign.com](http://www.hitchdesign.com)), serves small business clients locally and nationally.

**Anne Maxwell Livingston** has been retired from "real" work for 25 years but is still active as a tax professional. Other responsibilities include serving as chair of a state agency, involvement with two large not-for-profit capital campaigns and several board memberships.

**Lucy VanVoorhees** still works full-time as a cardiologist in Berlin, Md. She lives 12 miles north of Berlin on a small farm, where she raises show ponies while husband Mark runs their B&B. No children or grandchildren, but plenty of animals that keep them busy.

**Patricia Morin Foster** and her husband live in Gloucester, Mass., and love being surrounded by ocean year-round. Son Ben moved back to Boston after a few years in San Francisco. Patricia still works full-time doing accounting for a nonprofit in Gloucester.

**Jennifer Harvey** divides her time between her rural British Columbia home, where she engages in gardening and volunteering abroad—in Sikkim at a remote school and Namibia at a preschool project. She also went on two great Himalayan treks while in Sikkim and then traveled around the Northeast Tribal States.

**Beverly Grady**, partner-in-charge of the Fort Myers office of oetzel & Address LPA, has been named the first ever recipient of the Lee County

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CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Bar Association's "President's Award for Excellence in Journalism."

To mark its 25th anniversary, the Central Indiana Land Trust (CILTI) renamed the Wapahani Nature Preserve in memory of the late **Eleanor (Nonie) Werbe Krauss**, who was instrumental in the development of CILTI. The preserve will now be known as the Eleanor "Nonie" Krauss Nature Preserve. She is credited with driving CILTI's growth and evolution from an all-volunteer, informal organization to one with a professional staff and more than 4,000 acres under its stewardship.

**An-Ming Truxes** and husband Tom celebrated their 45th anniversary in May. Both still love their jobs—Tom at NYU teaching and writing, and An-Ming in strategic planning with the Connecticut Department of Social Services. In their "free" time, they travel to see their three children and their families, including two granddaughters. An-Ming is also busy volunteering on the board of governors at the Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington, Conn., and on the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission.

An-Ming is honored to serve as our class president and Reunion chair, and hopes we all had a wonderful time at Reunion!

We extend our sympathy to the family of our classmate, **Rebecca Anne Bethel**, who passed away on Nov. 17.

## 1972

*Correspondent: Dr. Peg Muschell Jackson, 1621 Ptarmigan Drive, Apt. 9C, Walnut Creek, CA 94595-3684, [peg@pegjackson.com](mailto:peg@pegjackson.com)*

The loss of **Ruth Ritter Ladd's** mother, Merion Ferris Ritter '35, in December leaves a big hole in Ruth's family. Ruth brought her mom to Merion's 80th CC Reunion last June, which both enjoyed enormously. CC meant so much to Merion; her passion for the College is why Ruth never looked beyond CC. Ruth continues to work for the Corps of Engineers and sees retirement in her future. Her four children and four grandchildren are all busy and doing well; three live nearby. Ruth and Larry are now raising their 12th puppy for Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

**Kathleen Cooper Vadala** participated in Pope Francis' visit to Washington, D.C., in September. She was an audition judge who helped select singers for the Archdiocese of Washington's 90-member Papal Mass Choir. She also sang as a member of the choir at the Papal Mass at the National Shrine.

**Norma Drab Walrath Goldstein,**

Ph.D., now works full-time as the coordinator of the Governance Institute for Student Success (GISS) for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) in Washington, D.C. She also writes for ACCT's national magazine, *Trustee Quarterly*, and trustee newsletter, *Trustee Talk*. Now that she lives in Maryland, Norma has rekindled a friendship with **Elizabeth Schwartz Gische** and David, who live in nearby Potomac, Md.

**Orquida Acosta Hathaway** retired from one job only to take on coaching principals for the Orange County Department of Education in a part-time position: "It's time-consuming but fun working with young administrators." Last September, Orqui became a certified realtor and now works for Coldwell Banker Beachside Realtors. She has lived south of Los Angeles for 30 years. Husband Mike will soon retire and they will take their vintage travel trailer north to Canada for six weeks. Two of their three daughters and all five grandchildren live close by. Oldest grandson Blake graduates from high school this June.

Last fall, emeritus trustee **Ted Chapin** suggested to President Bergeron putting some musicological focus on "Carousel" when the College did the musical in the spring. The end result was a fascinating event at the College in March, which included a seminar during which papers were delivered by two scholars; a presentation by Ted and his Rodgers & Hammerstein colleague Bruce Pomahac; and the first performance of the show. "It was quite a magical day all around, with an honesty displayed in the production that is, in my experience, rare." Ted, as an alum and former trustee, loved that he could offer something that was relevant to the College.

**Barbara Kohn** is now bicoastal,

spending time at their home in Montecito, Calif., and in New York. She is still involved with board work, both not-for-profit and corporate, and enjoys traveling with her husband, who has architectural projects worldwide. Barbara feels most fortunate to have five stepchildren and 11 step-grandchildren. She sees **Gale Slepchuk Fitzgerald**, **Carol Adams** and **Nancy Hewes Tommaso**.

## 1973

*This class is looking for a correspondent. Please contact CC: Magazine at [ccmag@conncoll.edu](mailto:ccmag@conncoll.edu) or 860-439-2500 if you are interested in volunteering. Send notes to: Class Notes Editor, CC: Magazine, 270 Mohegan Ave., New London, CT 06320, [ccmag@conncoll.edu](mailto:ccmag@conncoll.edu).*

**Martha (Meg) Gifford** has been appointed chair of the Board of Governors of the New York State Attorney-Client Fee Dispute Resolution Program. Meg has been a member of the board since its inception in 2002 and previously served on the Task Force on Client Satisfaction that developed the program. Meg is a solo practitioner in antitrust law and a past president of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York and its Manhattan chapter, the New York Women's Bar Association.

## 1975

*Correspondents: Miriam Josephson Whitehouse, P.O. Box 7068, Cape Porpoise, ME 04014, [casablanca1@gwi.net](mailto:casablanca1@gwi.net); Nancy Gruver, 5109 York Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55410-2130, [nancyg@newmoon.com](mailto:nancyg@newmoon.com)*

Reunion 2015 was lots of fun! We stole the show during the parade, thanks to the beautiful butterfly wings supplied by **Peter Effaldana**. At the big campus dance under the tent, members of all classes were drawn to the butterflies. Check out the video by searching YouTube for "Connecticut College Reunion 2015."



Class of 1975 gathering. (L-R) Mark Iger, Mark Warren, Pamela Stanger, Richard Cutting, Jacquelyn Cameron, Cathy Kaufman Iger and Roger Farrington.



**Walter Thoma** retired after more than 37 years as VP of Nuclear Operations for Securitas Critical Infrastructure Services. A USAF Vietnam veteran, he and wife Sandy are the proud parents of six children and have 11 grandchildren.

**Camilla Cory Streeter** is proud to celebrate 15 years of working with seniors in assisted living at Atria Lincoln Place.

**Margie Rosenbaum Bassman** and her husband were blessed with three grandchildren in 2014.

**Allie Thurston** is still riding, training and teaching. She has two grandchildren, one three years old and one just a few months old.

**Jeanne Messick** spent 10 days in Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula. She enjoyed visiting with emeritus professor June Macklin at Reunion.

**Steve Norris** splits his time between Maine and the Caribbean—still playing bass after so many years.

**Susan Case** lives in Secaucus, N.J., with husband Bob. Since leaving her job at Sony Music in 2005, she has been doing freelance copyediting and proofreading and has kept up with her singing. Now that Bob has retired, they are free to travel more.

**Deb Wright** continues as director of admissions at CC, going on nine years now.

**Maureen Fahey** recently married Stanley Williams. She still teaches at Rocky Hill School in East Greenwich, R.I.

**Kathy Lowell** was happy to reconnect with her old classmates after some difficult life changes. She continues to work hard to promote, protect and preserve the world we live in.

**Lisa Goldsen Yarboro** and **Tim Yarboro** celebrated the marriage of youngest son Jordan to CC alum Sarah Hargrove '09.

**Susan Rotenberg** is a professor of chemistry and biochemistry at Queens College. She's been there for 25 years and was recently elected chair of the department. She conducts research on breast cancer.

At Reunion, **David Gollinger** was excited to be going to see the Grateful Dead in San Francisco.

**Lindsey Miller** says he's not even thinking about retirement! His first daughter was married in September.

**Jo Ann Douda** spent time at Reunion with **Dena Wolf Yeskoo** and **Paula Zuraw**, trying to remember all the freshmen in Harkness in 1971. Please contact them if you were there!

**Dick Wechsler** has moved to New York and welcomes all to stop by. His

agency is celebrating its 25th anniversary, and his four boys are grown and legally emancipated.

**Ammy Bussmann Heiser** and **Stetson Heiser** belong to an elite group of CC romances that have survived—married for 40 years and going strong. They have lived in New Hampshire almost all of that time, with three children and two grandsons spread across the country. They are forced to do a lot of traveling. Ammy credits CC with introducing her to the concept of being a citizen of the world and she has lived her life accordingly.

**Dan Tucker** and Terry Wells '77 are collaborating on a T-shirt project. They've put a call out to all "Brew Boys" and the whole CC family to support their venture.

**Ted Schlette** and wife Debbie visited Dan in Bermuda, and Dan put out the welcome mat for all Camels who were attending The America's Cup.

## 1976 REUNION JUNE 3-5, 2016

Correspondents: **Kenneth Abel**, 334 W. 19th St., Apt. 2B, New York, NY 10011, kenn616@aol.com; **Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath**, P.O. Box 3962, Greenwood Village, CO 80155-3962, shmilbrath@gmail.com

**Jonathan Bricklin** lives in Staten Island, N.Y., and serves as a program director for the New York Open Center in Manhattan. Last year, he inaugurated the Eugene Taylor Lecture Series for the Society for Consciousness Studies Conference at Yale last year, where he also launched his new book, "The Illusion of Will, Self, and Time: William James's Reluctant Guide to Enlightenment." Jonathan's wife, Laura, also published a book, "Bullying: The Social Destruction of Self." Jonathan's elder daughter, Noa, graduates this year from St. Andrews University in Scotland. His younger daughter, Quin, played Gretchen Mol's daughter in the movie "The Ten."

## 1977

Correspondent: **Kimberly Toy Reynolds-Pellerino**, kimtoyhuh@yahoo.com

**Scott Davis** and **Mariya** did the "April in Paris" dream vacation, staying in neighborhood apartments for the local flavo. Mariya longs to see her mom in Ukraine, but instability in the country has kept her away for now. Scott keeps in touch with **Drew McDonough** by Facebook and **Sim Glaser** by trading Firesign Theatre jokes.

**Karen Fisher** is two years into pursuing her second career as a ceramic artist and teacher. Living in Chapel Hill,



Tim Yarboro '75 (second from left) and Pat Dingle '76 future Camel hopefuls at the Washington, D.C., holiday party.



Jane Harris Alexander '60 (left) and Rona Shor '66 took part in the College for a Day panel in Denver this winter.



Mini-reunion in Maine. (L-R) Wendy Crandall '77, Lorri Cohen Rich '78, Ken Crerar '77, Margaret Erdman Becker '77, Connie Kiachif Helms '77 and Margaret Bradley Felton '77.

N.C., for more than three decades now, "the red clay earth has become home." She now shares her knowledge with children and adults at the Community Clay Studio in Chapel Hill. They travel when they can and look forward to more travels when they transition to semi-retirement in the coming years.

**Tom Howland** says he has inexplicably developed an interest in watching rugby. During the winter, he enjoys going to the sports bars in Stockholm to watch the Six Nations matches. In October, he

was visited by **Sheila Saunders**, who was working in Germany for six months. Tom spent Christmas in Karnataka, India. This year, for the third consecutive year, Tom has skied in the Dolomites: "There is nothing better than a week on the slopes with friends."

**Jefferis Peterson** and wife Leigh Gartland Peterson '78 moved to Wimberley, Tex., and endured the flood without damage, but spent months helping people dig out, clean up and get fed.

**Kimberly Toy Reynolds-Pellerino** ▶ p. 66

# Camel Weddings



Katrina Kennett '08 married Derek Lewis in Illinois, with Camel Alyssa Faro '09 in attendance.



Elizabeth Holland '10 married Aras Holden in September 2015 in Callawassie Island, S.C.



Winston Miller '96 married Kara Thayer July 25, 2015, in Greenport, N.Y. Camels in attendance included Liz Lynch Cheney '92, Tim Cheney '93, Linn Vaughters '95, Darren Coyle '96, Nicholas Lavela '99, David Hannah '96, Brendan Largay '97, Sare Jacques Largay '97, Hubert Attale '96, Alex Goldsmith '96 and Jason Covert '96.



Jennifer Ludgin '05 married Adam Romanow '07 Sept. 12, 2015. Camels in attendance included Drew Legace '08, Rosie Rutan Feely '06, Steve Feely '05, Andrew Glenn '07, Marissa Velarde '07, Kristen Holzer Borland '05, Ali Colia '06, Sarah Fleet Gogas '05, Lauren Kellersman '03, Bobby Romanow '10, Katrina Brewer '05, Alexa Xanthopoulos Cooper '05, Elizabeth Kennedy Patterson '05, Joel Malebranche '05, Jeremy Nash '06, Kim Carron Hayes '03, Ilana Goldfarb Lanciotti '06, Javi Silva '06, Jacob Stebel '05, Andy McCulloch '08, Francis Murray '11, Linas Krisciunas '05, Cadence Moore '05, Liz Ackley Lund '05, Mike Greenhouse '06, Cait McIntosh Greenhouse '05, David Romanow '12, Ted Romanow '74, Felipe Estrela '07 and Julia Estrela '06.



Megan Morgan '01 married Christopher Burgoyne May 16, 2015, in Columbia, S.C. Camels in attendance included Mary Beth Belford Bolz '01, Kippy Bolz '02, Sarah Reisman '01, Jeff Perkins '01, Brooke Kennedy '01, Liz Hall Gaston '01 and Chris Kuhn '01.



Andrew Hanson '06 married Meredith Walker '06 Aug. 15, 2015, in Bretton Woods, N.H. Camels in attendance included Mike Conti '06, Tim Doherty '06, Sean Duddy '08, Margaret Bacon Duddy '07, Elizabeth Ashforth Bacon '78, Sam Bacon '09, Jane Ballerini '06, Jonathan Franks '05, Christine Culver Jaidar '04, Kristi Post '07, Kathryn Hyde Hoyt '07 and Alex Hoyt '06.



Ashleigh Catsos '06 married Kyle Yager '09 on Sept. 26, 2015, in Greenfield, Mass. Camels in attendance included Alexa Ball '06, Sam Gould '06, Elizabeth Alsop '96, Katie McLinn '06, Ilana Goldfarb Lanciotti '06, Graham Koten '09, Billy Karis '09, Nick Grenoble '09, Alana Waksman '08, Erica MacDonald '09, Sarah Lydon Tirado '06 and Adam Glos '09.



Jessica Schwarz '06 married Jeffrey Cowitt Sept. 27, 2015, in New York City. Camels in attendance included Julia Jacobson '06, Katey Nelson '06, Gabrielle Zandan '06, Jennie Bargman '06, Christina Koerte '06 and Kim Stellavato '06.



Arielle Curtis '08 married Andrew Locke Sept. 6, 2015, in Lincoln, Mass. Camels in attendance included Indiana Buttenwieser '07, Leigh Ahrens Dorf '08, Emily Winslow '08, Heather Stanish '08, Emma Stratton '08 and Danielle Miley '04.



Kaitlin Morse '08 married Alec Keon '08 Sept. 4, 2015, at Harkness Chapel. Camels in attendance included Zachary Cohn '08, Matt Leers '08, Neal Gilbeault '08, Andrew McCulloch '08, Kate DeConinck '08, Benjamin Eagle '09, Carolyn Roose '09, Lisa Rothstein '08, Rebecca Elias '08, Jonathan Sullivan '08, Jamie Harris '08, Micah Blazar '08 and Sarah Ayres '09.



Anna Simmonds '10 married Michael Glennon June 27, 2015, in East Hampton, N.Y. Camels in attendance included Parker Taylor '10, Mary Fergus '10, Erin Thomas '10, Kaylen Hagadorn '10, Cassie Goss Simonds '55 P'86 GP'10, Sprague Simonds '86, Nate Levy '10 and Hannah Read '10.



Christina Moreno '10 married Oscar Madrigal in July 2015. Camels in attendance included Ivan Tatis '10, Jovanni Jauregui '13, Claribel Marmol '10, Rocio Garcia '12, Jennifer Tejada '10, Carmen Zazueta '13, Erica Tang '13 and Maureen Rosario Brea '12.



Laura Frawley '10 married Brian Knowles Oct. 10, 2015, in South Berwick, Maine. Camels in attendance included Kelly Arabia '10, Kylee Yam '10, Alexandria Kuhns Howard '10, Alicia Morgan '10 and Rachel Johnstone '10.



(L-R) Gibb Taylor '81, Mark Warren '75, Scott Carney '77 and Peter Taylor '78 attended a scholarship event in honor of the late Tom Slaughter '77.



A Camel alumni event in Charlottesville, Va., included Claire Wellbeloved-Stone '14, Christopher Somogyi '11, Louise Decamp Reeve '75, Tom Jackson '78, Erica VanBrimer Goldfarb '83, Liz Sargent Corcoran '84, Ted Corcoran '84, Ben Ford '84, Ashley Clinton '09 and Rebecca Young Schoenthal '94.



Shelly De Bisschop Sacyznski '77 won the Greater New Haven Community Loan Foundation "Good Egg" Award for her commitment to community service.

and husband Giorgio have volunteered to be FEMA inspectors and may be called to travel to the U.S. and its territories to assist in disaster relief. Sons Marcus and Ming-Tai spent a snowless Christmas with them near Alba, Italy. Last fall, Kim spent a month in Chicago and was an extra on NBC's "Chicago P.D."

Plans for the 2017 Reunion are underway. Classmates are asked to send suggestions to Kim at kimtoyhuh@yahoo.com or **Lisa Podoloff Boles** at lisapb@aol.com.

## 1978

*Correspondents: Susan Café Tobiason, 70 Park Terrace East, Apt. 4I, New York, NY 10034, stobiason@yahoo.com; Laurie Heiss Grealy, 17 Overlook Drive, Greenwich, CT 06380, laurieheiss@gmail.com*

Happy 60th birthday to all of our classmates out there! (Co-correspondent **Laurie Heiss Grealy** is postponing her 60th until next year.)

Always fun to hear from **Lue Douthitt**: "It's taken me a long time and a lot of wrong turns to stir up this much trouble. But as I round third and head for home on my career, I've launched a major program to translate all of Shakespeare's plays into what I call 'contemporary modern English.' I've already been accused of contributing to the demise of Western civilization. All in a day's work."

**Karin Winnard** checks in from the West Coast: "I have lived in San Jose, Calif., for more than eight years, working with students at the college level. I went to Abadiânia, Brazil, in October and had an amazing experience. Anything is possible. Enjoying being 59 and then 60!" Karin shares that alternative healing and medicine is no hocus-pocus in her life.

**Michael Richards** recently retired after 24 years as a cultural attaché with the Department of State, having served in Baghdad, Jerusalem, Lagos, Moscow,

Seoul and Tel Aviv. He's now focusing on writing; his first novel, "Choice o Enemies," launched in January, with "A Thousand Enemies" set for publication in December and a third to follow. When not playing the role of reclusive writer, he can be found in the company of his wife, Young, a ceramic artist and painter.

**Julie Grey Pollock** and husband Mark relocated 2,731 miles south from Wasilla, Alaska, last fall. They live in rural Baker County, Ore., on a lovely piece of mountain-forested land: "It is a very quiet retreat. We're enjoying being in closer proximity to friends and family in the Lower 48." Julie celebrated her 60th birthday in May and planned a joint birthday get-together with her sisters.

**Andy Rawson** left Thomson Reuters at the end of last year to start a new, similar line of business with a partner. The business will be located in Los Angeles and New Jersey, and their software will help corporations train employees on risk and compliance.

**Robert (Bob) Powell** celebrated his 60th birthday by officially retiring. "Life is good here in Wisconsin and getting better all the time." Bob and wife Kathleen are planning trips this year to New Mexico, Virginia and Hawaii.

Our class sends condolences to the family and friends of **Michael Robert Gauthier** of Lexington, Mass., who passed away on Dec. 17 after battling cancer for several years. He was the founder of PeerEngage, a digital marketing business. He enjoyed spending time with his four children.

## 1980

*Correspondents: Connie Smith Gemmer, 180 Glenwood Ave., Portland, ME 04103, connie@bartongingold.com; Todd Hudson, piratetodd@me.com*

**Marcia Fowler** has been at Herman Miller for 19 years and was just

recognized—for the third time—as one of the company's top three salespeople nationwide. Son Sam teaches math at the Forman School in Litchfield, Conn. and husband Dan still works in the barn across the street from their 1802 farmhouse in the northwest corner of Connecticut. Marcia gets together with **Sue Knizeski Devine** once a year but hasn't seen any other friends from CC in a while.

After Reunion last year, **Jill Eisner** was asked to run for office by a Democratic Club in New York, thanks to her community activism. There had never been a competitive race for the seat that was being vacated. After weeks of petitioning to get on the ballot, Jill won more than 50 percent of the vote in a three-way race for district leader. The position selects local judges to be on the ballot for higher courts.

## 1983

*Correspondent: Claudia Gould Tielking, 6533 Mulroy St., McLean, VA 22101-5517, charlesbudworth@gmail.com*

**Erica Van Brimer Goldfarb** keeps busy with husband Adam; they're getting used to being empty-nesters. She enjoys her full-time role as the events coordinator and marketing director for the International Studies Office at the University of Virginia. Her diverse duties entail planning events and activities for both the study abroad side of the office as well as the "incoming" international side of the office. The Goldfarbs enjoy living in Charlottesville and spend time attending concerts and athletic events; they try to get out to the Blue Ridge Mountains as much as possible. Daughter Natalie was married in September 2014 and owns a farm and general store in upstate New York with her husband. Daughter Sarah lives and works in New York.



Walter Sive '78 (left) met Sue Abbe Yates '66 at the University of Alabama as part of a trip visiting key locations in the U.S. Civil Rights Movement.



Michael Richards '78 and his wife, Young, attended an event honoring the U.S. Marine Corps at the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem, Israel.

**Julie Grossman** has published a book, "Literature, Film and Their Hideous Progeny: Adaptation and ElastiTEXTy." She is also the co-editor of a new book series at Palgrave Macmillan called "Adaptation and Visual Culture." Her co-authored book on Ida Lupino's directing will be published soon, as well. Julie's daughter is a high school junior, and she took her to CC to check out the school.

## 1986 REUNION

JUNE 3-5, 2016

Correspondent: *Bradley Wade, 14 Davis Chapel Rd., Candler, NC 28715, colewade@msn.com*

Rodney Woodley is one of the principal owners of the Portland Craft Beer Festival, which takes place in Portland, Ore., during the first weekend of July: "We have more than 60 breweries here in Portland and our event features about 100 beers, wines and ciders—all produced in Portland. Come out to visit and I will buy you a beer!"

Kirsten DeConti Ziotas and Angelo Ziotas are the proud parents of CC sophomore Sophia DeConti Ziotas '18.

Chris Fray was looking forward to seeing classmates at our 30th reunion. All continues to go well for Chris at Staples High School in Westport, Conn., where he's in his 20th year of teaching. In July, he and husband Chip will take 23 students from Chris's Mandarin Chinese program on a 17-day trip all over China: "Brave, crazy or both?"

## 1987

Correspondents: *Jenifer Kahn Bakkala, 51 Wesson Terrace, Northborough, MA 01532, jkblblue@gmail.com; Jill Perlman Pienkos, 103 Barn Hill Lane, Newington, CT 06111, jperلمان@snet.net*

**Rena Whitehouse** moved to Omaha, Neb., last year for a job promotion. She is now the vice president of media sales for Cox Media, the advertising sales arm

of Cox Communications, in Omaha and Sun Valley, Idaho. Rena and husband Ted traveled to the Pacific Coast of Mexico with **Maggie Hug** and her husband in January.

**Peter Bakkala** completed the New York City Marathon last November—his second marathon in 2015. He ran to support Keep a Child Alive, whose CEO is his freshman year roommate, **Peter Twyman**. Keep a Child Alive is working for children and families around the world who are fighting the physical and social impacts of HIV. Peter's No. 1 fan, **Jenifer Kahn Bakkala**, joined him for the event by cheering from the sidelines.

**Margaret Van Patten (RTC)** still works for Sea Grant, University of Connecticut at Avery Point, as communications director. Peg took up figure skating four years ago and sometimes skates at Dayton Arena with friends. She plans to be in two competitions this year. She was looking forward to a Northeast Algal Society meeting in April, which was organized by Carl Grobe '88. Peg occasionally sees her botany professor, Sally Taylor, and enjoys spending time with her husband, daughter Anne Van Patten Kelly '91, son Fred and three granddaughters.

## 1989

Correspondent: *Mark Howes, 41 Montezuma St., San Francisco, CA 94110, mark@howestax.com*

**Julie Coltoff Adler, Dodie Sutro Crawford, Jessica Levinson Kethledge, Karen Lloyd, Tracy Smith Joseph and Mary Haffenberg** gathered in San Francisco for a weekend of drinking, shopping and catching up.

**Mark Howes** saw Dodie and Jessica at the end of their weekend; crossed paths with **Jamie Forbes** on the same flight to San Francisco from Boston; and reconnected with **Massimo Messina** in

their home city of San Francisco.

Speaking of Jamie, he got together with **Frank Suher, Mike Hartman and Jonathan Schwartz** in December in Chatham.

**Kristin Masturzo Cuddihy, Stacey Xanthos O'Brien and Cheryl D'Souza** reunited for a weekend on the East Coast.

**Allen Rozansky and Tony Rey** met for their usual gathering in Florida.

**Gusty-Lee Boulware and Ann McGuire Wortman** reunited in Seattle.

**Jamie Lenfesty, James Donahower, Jesse Casman and Roland Carfagno** got together in Harwichport last year.

**Karen DiLisio Ondrovic and Paul Clauss** reconnected in Palm Springs, and Karen also met up with **Michelle Matthes, Jamie Glanton Costello and Anne Mickle** at the end of last year.

**Helen Dewey and Paige Margules Tobin** took New York City by storm and attended the College alumni event.

We have two new doctors in our class—congratulations to **Nichola Minott** (international relations) and **Bob Calhoun** (art history)!

**Mary Haines Severn's** son joined the College as a freshman this year. Go Camels!

Some classmates have joined the 1989 Facebook family to keep up-to-date on each other year-round. Search "Connecticut College Class of '89."

## 1990

Correspondent: *Toria Brett, 30 Washington Ave., Northampton, MA 01060, victoriabrett@comcast.net*

**Lisa Addario and Joey Syracuse** still live in Los Angeles with their two teenagers, "fighting for our piece of the movie industry." Their film "Amateur Night," which they wrote and directed, comes out in June: "It's about Joey

driving prostitutes in Hollywood when we first moved here and were pregnant with our daughter. It stars Jason Biggs as Joey and Ashley Tisdale as one of the prostitutes. We hope everyone goes to it or downloads it! Most of the story is (sadly) true!" Joey and Lisa also wrote the 2012 family favorite "Parental Guidance," starring Billy Crystal and Bette Midler.

Speaking of movies, congratulations to **Kate Churchill**, co-producer of the movie "Spotlight," which won Oscars for Best Picture and Best Original Screenplay!

**Randy Suffolk** was chosen, after an international search, as the new director of Atlanta's High Museum of Art.

New York glitterati photographer **Miles Ladin** is teaching at CC and had an exhibition last winter at Cummings.

In Minneapolis, **Deb Landon** lives with her husband and son. She sees Ariel Apte Carter '91 regularly in Minneapolis and, last Christmas, they enjoyed a mini-CC reunion with a visit from **Moira Crouch** and her family. Deb also visits **Alicia Hesse Cleary** regularly in Boston and loved seeing so many other friends at Reunion.

**Thad Ring** wrote: "Another winter weekend and the mailman has dropped the latest CC: Magazine through the front door mail slot here in Alexandria. Nothing says Sunday morning at home like 'Brandenburg #3,' the smell of Jiffy muffins and the papers. I's a joy to read people's reflections on their reunions. But meanwhile, I'm still thinking: Who is this Josie that Steely Dan sings about, and does she go back for her reunions?"

## 1993

Correspondent: *Michael Carson, P.O. Box 914, East Orleans, MA 02643, carson.michael@comcast.net*

**Megan Hanson** recently earned her master's degree in clinical psychology at



Michael Leibert '92 and Laura Manzano Leibert '93 welcomed son Joshua Mitchell Leibert.



Kim Laboy '94, Laura Manzano Leibert '93 and Maki Ushiba Katoh '94 gathered with their families for lunch in New York City.



Derek Fisher '95 and Andrew Bogle '94 traveled to Melbourne, Australia, to see Men at Work in concert in March.

Antioch University, focusing on community psychology and trauma. Her studies will inform future program development at RootDown LA, the youth-driven food justice and nutrition education nonprofit she cofounded in South Los Angeles. Megan welcomes any interest in collaboration; contact her at [megan@rootdownla.org](mailto:megan@rootdownla.org).

**Pete Festersen** is president of the Omaha City Council and president of his own business-consulting company, Strategic Business Development. "I considered running for U.S. Congress in 2014 but decided playing drums in a rock band would be more fun—we recently opened for The English Beat and Big Head Todd." He and Paige are enjoying the adventure of raising two daughters, Anna, 13, and Caroline, 10, along with a two-year-old beagle.

**Laura Manzano** wrote: "I had a great day today with my fellow Camels, and it inspired me to write in. Kim Laboy '94, Maki Ushiba Katoh '94 and I all met up in gorgeous Brooklyn Bridge Park for pizza with a view at Fornino. We were joined by Maki's two daughters and her father, who was visiting from Tokyo. The last time I saw him was in 2005 at Maki's wedding." Laura and husband Michael Leibert '92 welcomed Joshua Mitchell Leibert on July 16, 2015, who also joined the gathering.

**Suzanne Walker Buck** and her family live in southern Virginia, where Suzanne is the rector and head of school at Chatham Hall, a small all-girls boarding school: "I survived year one and still find myself energized by the challenge and opportunities." In between alumnae events across the country last summer, Suzanne was able to relax on the coast of Maine and in the mountains of Montana. "Sending energy and well wishes to all."

**Sharon LePage Plante** is pleased to announce the release of her co-authored

book, "Using Technology to Engage Students with Learning Disabilities," a part of the Connected Educator Series.

## 1994

Correspondent: *Daniella DeFilippo Garran, [dkgarran@gmail.com](mailto:dkgarran@gmail.com)*

**Ruben Acoca** has lived in Panama since graduation and feels fortunate to keep in touch with his college friends. He has published a couple of short stories: One is a sci-fi story about a doom-day-type scenario for humans, and the other is a true account of how he lost more than 90 pounds and has kept it off. Look for them on Amazon.

In addition to his day job as a shareholder at Berger & Montague, P.C., **Michael Dell'Angelo** has been assisting with the launch of a new venture, Feline Environmental Enrichment Design Company. The company has launched a successful Kickstarter campaign to fund further development of the NoBowl Feeding System, a patent-pending invention that replaces a cat's feeding bowl with the hunt, allowing cats to stalk, trap and play with their food the way nature intended. Find the campaign by searching Kickstarter for "NoBowl."

**Hannah Roberts McKinnon's** next novel, "Mystic Summer," comes out in June. It's her fourth book, after "The Lake Season" and her two YA titles, "Franny Parker" and "The Properties of Water."

**Esther Potter** keeps up with her classmates and the College on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. She likes to see classmates' wedding pics before the couples' second anniversary.

**Daniella Garran** continues to teach seventh-grade ancient history at the Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School, while also doing freelance writing for the Kennedy Center, Young Minds Inspired and Shmoop.com. She looks forward to her 30th summer at Cape Cod Sea Camps this year.

**Patrice Coady** joined Fisher & Phillips LLP, a national labor and employment law firm representing employers as an associate in its San Diego office. Patrice focuses her practice on all aspects of labor and employment law involving public entities, education law, general business law and employment personnel matters. Prior to her legal work, she was a teacher and academic administrator.

## 2000

Correspondent: *Katie Stephenson, 54 Rope Ferry Road, Unit 138H, Waterford, CT 06385, [kste78@hotmail.com](mailto:kste78@hotmail.com)*

**Benjamin Robinson** was promoted to senior architect at Hoffmann Architects in Hamden, Conn. Benjamin has been with the firm for 10 years, an organizer of professional development opportunities and educational seminars for the company. He lives in Wethersfield, Conn.

## 2006 REUNION JUNE 3-5, 2016

Correspondent: *Julia Printz Jacobson, [julia.jacobson@gmail.com](mailto:julia.jacobson@gmail.com)*

**Makena Cahill** and husband Gregory welcomed daughter Lucy Virginia McSweeney on Sept. 5 at Brigham and Women's Hospital, in Boston, Mass.

**Kelsey Sullivan** and husband Michael welcomed son Harvey Muir Peller on Oct. 19. Kelsey and Michael live and teach in San Francisco, Calif.

**Priyanka Gupta Zielinski** and husband Richard welcomed son Henry Ashwani Zielinski on Dec. 20. He weighed 6 lbs., 6 oz., and measured 19.5 inches long at birth.

**Asa Shiverick** and wife Danielle welcomed son Asa Finn Shiverick on Jan. 27. The Shivericks live in Atlanta, Ga., where Asa is a media manager at The Home Depot and Danielle is an occupational therapist.

**Jessica Schwartz** and Jeffrey Cowitt

were married on Sept. 27 in New York City. Jessica is the director of policy and programs in the Office of Field Support at the New York City Department of Education, and Jeffrey is a program director for Sports and Arts in Schools Foundation at an elementary school in the Bronx. They live in Manhattan.

**Jeremy Nash**, a singer-songwriter based out of New York and Nashville, released his second full-length album, "Getaway Driver," in the fall. While at CC, Jeremy served as music director of Co Co Beaux. You can listen and find out about local shows at [jeremynashmusic.com](http://jeremynashmusic.com).

## 2008

Reti Sakellaris, 52 Whittier Rd., Milton, MA 02186, [asakellaris@gmail.com](mailto:asakellaris@gmail.com)

**Avery Ellsworth** married Allison Mayer in Cambridge, Mass., on May 2, 2015. Camels in attendance were Alex Feinstein '07, **Rene LaPlante**, **Matthew Engel**, **Jake Daniels**, **Ben Kenison**, **Derek McKechnie**, Sara Lesko '09, **Becky Hodges**, **George Sholley**, Drew van Ranst '09, Angie Valencia van Ranst '09, John Stoughton Ellsworth III '92, **Henry Terepka**, **Ashley Faber** and **Jackie Bryant**.

**Katy Serafin** completed her master's degree at Oregon State University in earth, ocean and atmospheric science in 2013 and has a few more years until she completes her Ph.D. Her research focuses on extreme-high-water-level events on the Pacific Coast.

**Heather Munro** earned her master of philosophy degree (with distinction) in social anthropology from the University of Oxford last July. She is working on her doctoral degree in anthropology at Durham University in the U.K.

**Chrissie Brennan Knudsen** welcomed daughter Johanna on Sept. 3, shortly after she received her master of public administration degree in nonprofit management from New York University.



Asa Shiverick '06 and wife Danielle welcomed son Asa Finn Shiverick Jan. 27, 2016.



Kelsey Sullivan '06 and husband Michael Peller welcomed son Harvey Muir Peller Oct. 19, 2015.



Makena Cahill '06 and husband Gregory McSweeney welcomed daughter Lucy Virginia McSweeney Sept. 5, 2015.



Priyanka Gupta Zielinski '06 and husband Richard Zielinski welcomed son Henry Ashwani Zielinski Dec. 20, 2015.



Maddy Baldwin '10 attended the World's Toughest Mudder event in Las Vegas as a member of the organization's marketing team.

She and her husband recently moved from Connecticut to Pittsburgh.

**Gregory Heller** married Molly Grand-Jean on Sept. 19 on Martha's Vineyard.

**Benjamin Kenison** lives in Boston and works for a commercial solar and energy management company called Brightergy.

**Alex Krogh-Grabbe** moved to Providence, R.I., and started a new job as executive director of the Rhode Island Bicycle Coalition. He's been hanging out with Peter Friedrichs '10 and Allen Penniman '05.

**Elizabeth (Lizzie) Abel** is a master of social work candidate at the New York University Silver School of Social Work, and husband Jed Dederick '07 is the regional vice president of business development at the Trade Desk, Inc.

## 2009

Correspondent: *Caroline Gransee, caroline.gransee@gmail.com*

**Brais Louro-Larino** is the head of strategic projects at Public Health England. Brais was featured during LGBT History Month in the U.K. by the U.K. Civil Service Rainbow Alliance (a network of LGBT professionals).

## 2010

Correspondents: *Erin Osborn, eosborn@conncoll.edu; Grace Champlain Astrove, 12316 Spur Lane, Rockville, VA 23146, gca1223@gmail.com; cconotes10@gmail.com*

**Julia Harnett Lenzi** and **Mickey Lenzi** moved to Baltimore, Md., last fall. Julia graduated from Tufts University with her master's degree in classics last May and is continuing her graduate work as a doctoral candidate at Johns Hopkins University. Mickey received his master's degree in English from the Bread Loaf



Alex Marcus '10 (far right) summited Washington's Mt. Rainier.

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on Twitter, Facebook and  
Instagram to see Camels  
around the world.



Rachel Jacobsen '11 rode a camel on the beach in Essaouira, Morocco.

School of English at Middlebury College last summer, after completing his final summer semester abroad at University of Oxford, England. He is currently an English teacher and plans to attend law school in the fall. Julia and Mickey are excited about this move and the opportunities it presents!

**Kathryn Torrey** moved to Washington, D.C., and now works at Capital One headquarters on their brand media team.

**Nick Xuefeng Peng** started working as a postdoctoral scholar in the earth science and chemical engineering departments at University of California, Santa Barbara, last October, after defending his doctorate in the geosciences department at Princeton. He is currently working on isolation and characterization of anaerobic consortia of fungi and methanogens.

**Alexis Levengood** began the second year of her doctoral degree at the University of the Sunshine Coast in Sippy Downs, Australia. Her research is conducted at Monkey Mia, Shark Bay, Western Australia, where her focus is dolphin behavior and genetics.

**Katrina Quick** graduated from American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine in St. Maarten last May. She has couples-matched for her residency with her significant other, Brody Reid, at the University of Wyoming Family Medicine Residency Program in Casper, Wyo.

**Claire Gould** was nominated in the nonprofit/advocacy category for the Young Women of Achievement Awards. The award is presented by the Women's Information Network, an organization of pro-choice, Democratic women. She also started work as an account manager at Fifth Estate, a small, progressive D.C.-based communications firm

**Michael Meade** is living at Onipa's Sustainability Center in Maui, Hawaii, where he is growing food, embracing self-sufficiency, and hosting educational opportunities around veganism and permaculture for individuals and groups.

## 2011 REUNION JUNE 3-5, 2016

Correspondent: *Rachel Jacobsen, rjacobs@alumni.conncoll.edu*

**Julie Folsom** and **Owen Raccuglia** '08 were married May 31, 2015, in Westport, Mass. They currently reside in Norwood, Mass. Other alumni in attendance were **Laura Koroski**, **Sarah Folcrum** '05, **Ann Mooney** '74, **Freya Levett** '10, **Julia Griffin** '08, **Elyse Goveia** '08, **Rich Abate** and **Glenn Marmon** '09.

## 2012

Correspondent: *Anakena Paddon, Flat 8, 37 Chesterton Rd., London W10 5LY, England, apaddon@alumni.conncoll.edu*

**Ali McLeod** graduated from Boston University with a master's degree in clinical social work. Ali works at Brookline High School, where she is a social work intern on the prevention and intervention team. Living in Boston, she is roommates with **Laura Marengi** and often sees **Amy Barrett** and **Dana Silverberg** '11.

## OBITUARIES

**May Nelson** '38 of Groton, Conn., died July 5, 2015. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a major in zoology. After graduating, May worked at Connecticut College for 40 years before retiring as the associate director of admissions in 1980. She was active in the College community and was an award-winning

artist. May is survived by three nieces; two nephews; and many great-nieces and great-nephews, including Jonathan DiCarlo '97.

**Carol Prince Allen** '39 of Colfax, N.C., died Jan. 3, 2015. She majored in chemistry. Carol was predeceased by her husband, Lewis. She is survived by two sons.

**Eleanor Brown Conary** '39 P'68 '74 of Norwich, Conn., died Sept. 24, 2015. She majored in psychology. Eleanor was a self-taught genealogist interested in historic preservation of 18<sup>th</sup>-century New England. She was predeceased by a daughter. Eleanor is survived by five children, including **Caro Harding Kelleher** '68 and **Linda Harding Warriner** '74; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Estelle Taylor Watson** '39 of Shelburne, Vt., died Aug. 3, 2015. She majored in psychology. Estelle became a riveter in an airplane factory during World War II and then joined the U.S. Navy, working in the cryptography department of the Pentagon. She also ran a successful estate sale business for more than three decades. Estelle was predeceased by her husband, George, and a son. She is survived by three children and nine grandchildren.

**Jean Morgan Gaffey** '40 of Wallingford, Conn., died Aug. 31, 2015. She majored in psychology and earned a teaching certificate from the University of Connecticut, leading to a long tenure as a teacher. She was predeceased by her husband, Joseph. Jean is survived by three children, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**Betty Vilas Hedblom** '40 of Chicago died Sept. 2, 2015. She majored in sociology and worked in several social service agencies. Betty was also the

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*\*These recent rates are subject to change.*

# Rosemary Park Society



### For more info, contact:

Dan Weintraub, Director of Gift Planning, at [dan.weintraub@conncoll.edu](mailto:dan.weintraub@conncoll.edu) or 860-439-2416 and visit <http://conncoll.giftplans.org>.

supervisor of epilepsy clinics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. She was predeceased by her husband, Carl. Betty is survived by two children, two grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**Mary Perrins Wright '40** of Medford, Ore., died May 11, 2015. After a year at the College, she went on to a school of fashion and design in Boston. Mary was an ardent hiker, cross-country skier, seamstress, knitter and cook. She was predeceased by two children and her husband, Richard. Mary is survived by her son and her grandson.

**Elizabeth Bentley Viering '42** of Groton, Conn., died July 17, 2015. She majored in economics. Elizabeth worked at Houghton Mifflin publishing in Boston, and was an accomplished pianist and organist. She was predeceased by her husband, Russell. Elizabeth is survived by two sons; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Deborah Smith Allen '42** of Atlanta, Ga., died June 1, 2015. She majored in government and history. Deborah was a member of several horticultural associations and gave her time and resources to numerous organizations, including the Atlanta Junior League. She was predeceased by her first husband, Richard. Deborah

is survived by her five children; three stepchildren; 11 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

**Dorothy Barlow Coykendall '42** of Marion, Mass., died July 27, 2015. She majored in psychology. Dorothy was an advocate for the environment and enjoyed bicycling, photography and tennis. She was predeceased by a daughter. Dorothy is survived by three children, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Helen Lundwall Benoit '43** of Waterford, Conn., died Aug. 23, 2015. She majored in economics. During World War II, Helen helped run the U.S. Army's finance office in New Londo. She was a committed volunteer, serving numerous groups in the New London area. Helen was predeceased by her husband, Wilfred. She is survived by three children, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Alma Jones Collins '43** of West Hartford, Conn., died Aug. 12, 2015. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa in English and French, and earned graduate degrees from Trinity College, Boston University and University of Connecticut. Alma was a longtime high school teacher and contributed articles to several national magazines. She also served

the College as a class gift officer and Reunion committee member. Alma was predeceased by her husband, Daniel. She is survived by many close relatives and friends.

**Cornelia Johnson Fisher '43** of Manchester Center, Vt., died June 11, 2015. She majored in psychology. Cornelia went on to volunteer at Phelps Memorial Hospital in Tarrytown, N.Y., and was a trustee of the Shaker Museum in Chatham, N.Y. She was predeceased by her husband, Andrew, and a son. Cornelia is survived by two children and three grandchildren.

**Helen Madden Nicholas '44** of Des Moines, Iowa, died Aug. 3, 2015. She majored in English. Helen worked at The Indianapolis News, and as a book-keeper for most of her career. She was predeceased by her husband, Lowell. Helen is survived by two daughters, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Nancy Hotchkiss Marshall '44** of West Hartford, Conn., died May 22, 2015. She majored in art. Nancy worked with naval intelligence in New York City during World War II. For more than 20 years, she was a receptionist at Renbrook School in West Hartford. She was predeceased by her husband, J. Murray. Nancy is survived by five children, nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

**Anne Mercur McComb '45** of East Norriton, Pa., died Sept. 19, 2015. She served as a volunteer nurse during World War II. Anne worked for many years as an interior designer and served as president of the Protestant Home for Children in Pittsburgh. She was predeceased by her husband, John, and one son. Anne is survived by three children and five grandchildren.

**Lucile Batchker Wagner '45** of Miami Beach, Fla., died June 5, 2015. She studied zoology and graduated at 16 years old, going on to become the office manager at her husband Rudy's medical practice. Lucile was also an active volunteer with the ACLU of Greater Miami and the Democratic National Committee. She was predeceased by her husband. Lucile is survived by two children and several grandchildren.

**Janet Potter Robbins '46** of Morehead City, N.C., died May 29, 2015. She studied philosophy. Janet was a member of a local women's auxiliary ambulance group and worked at ABC Radio in New York City for two years. She is survived by her husband, William; two children; and five grandchildren.

**Jane Rutter Tirrell '46** of Naples,

Fla., died July 5, 2015. She majored in chemistry and went on to work at the Central Lab of General Aniline & Film Corp. in Easton, Pa. Jane volunteered at the Children's Home of Easton and the Easton YWCA, as well as a local hospital. She is survived by her husband, James, and a son.

**Patricia Goldman Corwin '47 P'77** of Tampa, Fla., died June 29, 2015. She studied psychology and went on to earn a master's from the University of South Florida. Patricia served as a volunteer for the Gasparilla Art Festival for almost three decades, as a docent of the Tampa Museum of Art for 25 years, and as a board member of various local theaters. She was predeceased by her husband, Edward. Patricia is survived by her three children, including Lawrence Corwin '77, and her granddaughter.

**Helene Hurley Veazie '47** of San Marcos, Calif., died June 4, 2015. Helene majored in history. She worked for J. Walter Thompson Company in New York City, and was also active in the PTA, the League of Women Voters and the local women's club. Helene was predeceased by her husband, Bill. She is survived by three children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Sally Lewis Ganz '48** of West Hartford, Conn., died May 29, 2015. She majored in economics. Sally worked for many years as a paralegal in the Hartford area. She was predeceased by her husband, Raymond. Sally is survived by a son and a granddaughter.

**Margaret Lucas Gunther '48** of Minneapolis died Sept. 13, 2015. She studied English at the College and completed her degree at Columbia University. Margaret lived in Rome, Italy, for 18 years and worked as publisher of The Rome Daily American. She also served as a personal assistant to actors Audrey Hepburn and Mel Ferrer, and ran eccomi, an importer of Italian goods. Margaret is survived by three children and three grandchildren.

**Alexandra Austin James '48 P'93** of Scarborough, Maine, died July 17, 2015. She studied English and worked as a teacher in Boston. Alexandra spent many years traveling with her six children while her husband served in the Navy. She is survived by her husband, Capt. Nathaniel James III; six children, including Robert James '93; and 17 grandchildren.

**Virginia Keifer Johnson '48** of Rangeley, Maine, died Aug. 4, 2015. She majored in philosophy. Virginia worked as an administrative assistant in a law office and was a dedicate



volunteer, which included many years with the Democratic Town Committee in Yarmouth, Mass. She was predeceased by her husband, Richard. Virginia is survived by three sons; three granddaughters; one great-granddaughter; and 10 step-grandchildren.

**Barbara Geyman Kern '50** of Berkeley, Calif., died July 15, 2015. She majored in English. Barbara earned a certificate in occupational therapy from the University of Southern California and worked at a children's hospital in Los Angeles. Barbara is survived by a son and two granddaughters.

**Janet Baker Tenney '50** of Audubon, Pa., died March 19, 2015. She majored in psychology and earned a degree in child development from Bryn Mawr College. Janet taught in numerous capacities, working mostly with nursery schools and church programs. She was predeceased by a son. Janet is survived by two daughters, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Marguerite Pierrepont Hoadley O'Connell '52** of Rockville, Md., died Dec. 8, 2014. She studied chemistry. Marguerite was actively involved with the College, serving as class gift office and class vice president. She was predeceased by her husband, John. Marguerite is survived by two daughters and two grandchildren.

**Elaine Fanoni Woolworth '52** of New Canaan, Conn., died Oct. 6, 2015. She was a dedicated volunteer at New Canaan Country School, serving on the school's Board of Trustees. Elaine also volunteered at a crisis hotline, a local emergency shelter and a food pantry. She is survived by four sons and nine grandchildren.

**Barbara Sullivan Birney '55** of West Chester, Pa., died June 15, 2015. She worked in health administration for many years and also co-owned a floral design business. Barbara was predeceased by her husband, James. She is survived by her two children; five stepchildren; four grandchildren; and many step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren.

**Cynthia Myers Young '55** of McLean, Va., died Aug. 23, 2015. She majored in art, and went on to earn a master's from George Washington University. Cynthia was a talented artist, exhibiting her work around the Washington, D.C., area and teaching at Northern Virginia Community College. She was predeceased by her husband, Capt. A. Avery Young. Cynthia is survived by a daughter and three grandchildren.

**Susan Wright Morrison '61** of

North Kingstown, R.I., died Aug. 24, 2015. She studied economics at the College and earned a psychology degree from the University of Rhode Island. Susan helped establish a local youth soccer association, and enjoyed gardening, crossword puzzles and bridge. She was predeceased by her husband, John. Susan is survived by four children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Karin Johnson Dehlin '63** of New Port Richey, Fla., died Aug. 7, 2015. She majored in economics. Karin was predeceased by her husband, Bruce, and a son. She is survived by a daughter and three grandsons.

**Grace Vanner Steward '63 P'90 '93** of Topsfield, Mass., died June 7, 2015. She majored in French. Grace is survived by her husband, Campbell; her daughter; stepchildren, including Nicholas Steward '90 and Dina Steward '93; and three grandchildren.

**Elizabeth Homans '65** of Oakland, Calif., died Sept. 24, 2015. She majored in history, and earned graduate degrees from Central Connecticut State University and Providence College. Elizabeth was a dedicated churchgoer. She is survived by her brother, and several nieces and nephews.

**Karen Sheehan-Lord '65** of Manchester, N.H., died July 28, 2015. She majored in art and went on to earn a master's from Keene State College. Karen was a teacher for more than 30 years and stayed active in retirement, serving five terms as a selectwoma in Manchester. She is survived by her husband, Robert; two daughters; and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

**Margaret Schmidt Brady '69** of Guilford, Conn., died Aug. 4, 2015. She studied economics and also earned a J.D. from the University of Connecticut. Margaret worked as a land use attorney and city planner for the Connecticut municipalities of New Haven, Stamford and Westbrook. She is survived by her husband, Robert; a daughter; and a grandson.

**Wendellyn Hinton Cosgrove '70** of Boston, Mass., died May 26, 2015. She majored in English, and was an average reader and writer. Wendellyn prepared taxes alongside her friends at H&R Block, where she worked for 23 years. She is survived by her husband, Thomas; two children; and three grandchildren.

**Nancy Burnett '72** of Unadilla, N.Y., died May 14, 2015. She majored in philosophy and was a member of the

College sailing team. Nancy served as news director at WZOZ radio in Oneonta, N.Y., and as a producer at WSKG public TV in Binghamton, N.Y. As a self-employed audio and video documentary producer, she created documentaries on varied topics, including Bosnia, Slovakia, and musician Al. Nancy is survived by a sister; nieces; a brother-in-law; and stepmother.

**George Cherkes '73** of Storrs, Conn., died Aug. 14, 2015. He was a member of the U.S. Army and served in the Vietnam War. After his service, George worked in a variety of positions, including as a special educator for Tolland, Conn., public schools. He is survived by two daughters and four grandchildren.

**Zelda Bogdonoff '74** of Bethlehem, Pa., died Aug. 9, 2015. She majored in child development and went on to earn a master's in special education from Lesley University. Zelda worked as an administrator for Head Start of Lehigh Valley. She is survived by her mother.

**Nora Richter Greer '75** of Washington, D.C., died Aug. 20, 2015. She majored in history, and pursued graduate degrees at Northwestern University and Johns Hopkins University. Nora was an architecture and design critic who authored a dozen books and numerous articles. She is survived by her husband, William.

**Douglas Sprenger '79** of Billerica, Mass., died Oct. 1, 2015. He majored in anthropology and history. Dennis earned a master's from Bentley College and worked for Raytheon for 37 years. Douglas is survived by his wife, Tracey; his parents; four children; and five granddaughters.

**Margot Moser Richters '81** of Rockville, Md., died Oct. 13, 2014. A Winthrop Scholar, she studied economics and government, and went on to earn her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology. For 21 years, Margot operated a private practice that specialized in the treatment of children and adolescents. She is survived by her husband, John, and two children.

**Linda Bergendahl Lockwood MAT '82** of Groton, Conn., died Sept. 16, 2015. She was a dedicated volunteer, serving on the board of The Williams School, the Ladies Auxiliary of Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, and as police commissioner for four years. Linda enjoyed sailing and skiing. She was predeceased by three husbands. Linda is survived by her mother; two sons; five grandchildren; and man stepchildren and step-grandchildren.

**Rosalie Chadwick '89** of Waterford, Conn., died Oct. 3, 2015. She majored in government, and also earned a degree from Mitchell College. Rosalie was predeceased by her husband, Hartley. She is survived by a daughter.

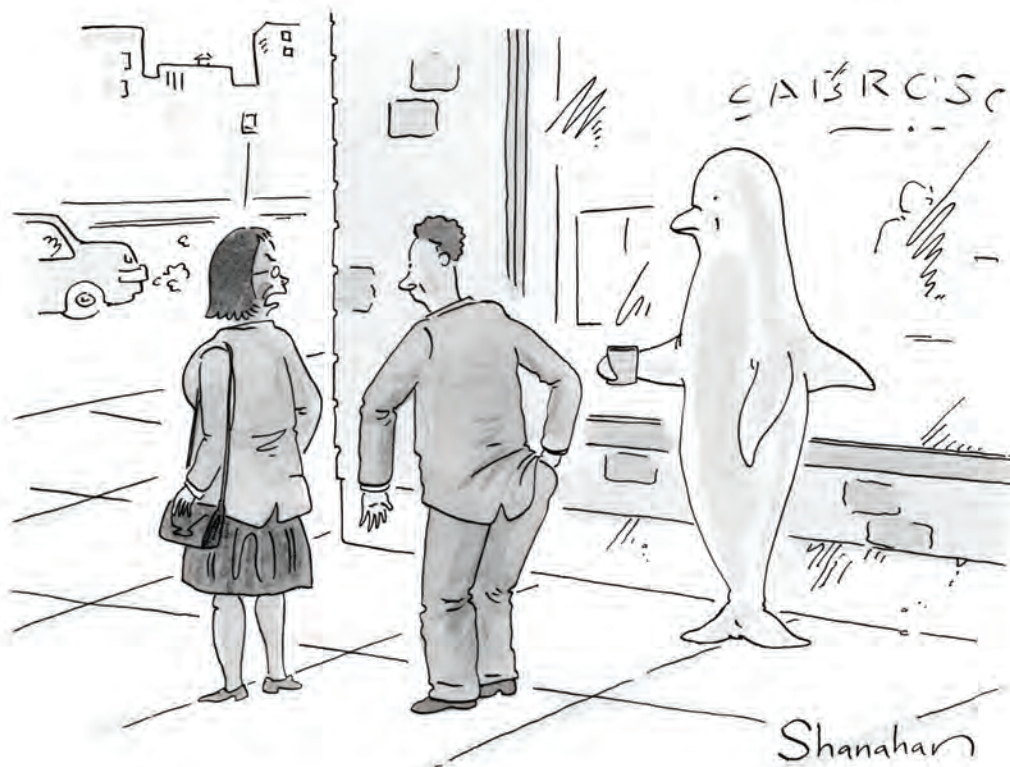
**Bryce Ilvonen '01** of Denver died Oct. 17, 2015. He majored in economics and English. Bryce is survived by his parents, Roger and Carol.

**Caitlin Birk Mullinix '01** of San Francisco died June 23, 2015. She majored in Hispanic studies and went on to earn a master's from Cornell University. In addition to professional positions in the hospitality industry, Caitlin worked tirelessly to support the activities of the Golden Gate Mothers' Group and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She is survived by her husband, Jonathan, and a son.



## Marie Garibaldi '56

**Marie Garibaldi**, the first woman appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court, passed away Jan. 15 at 81. A pioneer in the field of law, she transcended gender norms of her era, earning law degrees from Columbia and New York University. Marie was a member of the New Jersey, New York and District of Columbia bar associations, and was the first woman to serve as president of the New Jersey State Bar Association. In 1982, she was appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court, authoring more than 225 opinions until her retirement in 2000. Her work earned her accolades and honorary degrees from numerous colleges and universities. An economics major, Marie maintained a close relationship with the College over the years, serving as class gift office, class vice president and as a Reunion Committee member; in 1983, she was awarded The College Medal.



DANNY SHANAHAN THE NEW YORKER COLLECTION / THE CARTOON BANK

*“If he’s so damn intelligent, let him get a job.”*

## Caption this!

**REGULAR READERS** of *The New Yorker* are well aware of “The New Yorker Cartoon Caption Contest,” a weekly competition that invites submissions for an uncaptioned cartoon in the magazine. Each week since April 2005, three finalists have been chosen and readers have voted on the winner. And one name keeps popping up.

Larry Wood ’84, a lawyer from Chicago, is a record six-time winner of the contest. He recently spoke to *Chicago* magazine to share his tips for writing a winning caption.

**Embrace the weirdness:** “The more bizarre the cartoon is—a dolphin panhandler (above), cows having tea in a

living room—the better the framework you’ll have to make sense of its story. A good caption doesn’t just describe the scene; it adds to it.”

**Keep it brief:** “One of the best captions I ever saw was a single word: ‘Gesundheit’ [for a needle-covered man standing over a woman lying on an acupuncture table]. Be as short and punchy as possible.”

**Don’t bury the punchline:** “The point of a joke is to build up tension and release it. End with the word that provides the twist that brings the whole meaning of the cartoon together.”

From Santa Ana, California, Fara Rodriguez '16 is a first-generation college graduate and self-described "proud daughter of immigrants." Fara is searching for a job in the field of immigration law or at an NGO.

For more photos of Commencement, go to [www.conncoll.edu/commencement](http://www.conncoll.edu/commencement).





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