YOUR DRONE IS READY. ARE YOU?

Timothy Reuter '99 says flying robots aren't going away. And that's a good thing.
// FEATURES

THE PERFECT SETTING
A photographic tour of the places in New London County that help make Connecticut College a robust, creative community.

COVER: DRONES FOR GOOD
Privacy and safety concerns have given drones a bad rap, but entrepreneur Timothy Reuter '99 says blaming this fast-growing technology is misguided.

CONNECTING THE DOTS
Connecticut College is addressing sexual assault by creating a culture of prevention.

WRITING ON THE EDGE
Throughout her decades-long career, New York Times best-selling author Luanne Rice '77 has mined the upheavals of her personal life for fiction.

SERENITY OF THE SEA: It's hard not to be awed by the view of Long Island Sound from Ocean Beach Park, one of more than a dozen public beaches in the region. See our feature on New London County on page 14.

PHOTO BY BENJAMIN PARENT
LETTERS, ETC.
What's new on social media: A 64-year-old photo of a comedic legend goes viral; alumni reminisce about the Cro Pool

NOTEBOOK
Tidbits from daily life on campus; new trustees and faculty; fall pilots test ideas for revamped curriculum; and more

LIVES
Profiles of a non-traditional documentary filmmaker, a yo-yo performance artist, a preschool founder, a world-traveling photographer and a Bible scholar now on her fifth successful career

INK
"Wise Latinas: Writers on Higher Education" and other alumni and faculty titles

CLASS NOTES

// DEPARTMENTS
What's new on social media

REMEMBERING A LEGEND
College photo of Joan Rivers goes viral

Before she was Joan Rivers, she was Joan Molinsky, a member of the Connecticut College Class of 1954. After the College learned of Rivers' passing on Sept. 4, this photo from the 1950 Freshman Face Book was shared via Twitter. The photo was retweeted 182 times and seen by 32,000 Twitter users. Several Connecticut media outlets used the photo and reported from campus on Rivers' local connections. The photo also ran full-page in People magazine's Joan Rivers commemorative tribute edition.

Rivers attended Connecticut College until 1952, when she transferred to Barnard College. During her time on campus, she participated in several plays, including a 1951 performance of J.M. Barrie's "Shall We Join the Ladies." Also that year, the student newspaper declared Rivers "to be the hit of the evening with her impersonation of a woman trying to save a seat at an outdoor concert" during a party.

To follow the College on Twitter, visit www.twitter.com/ConnCollege.

ALUMNI REMINISCE ABOUT CROPOOL

Memories came flooding back for alumni when this photo of the Crozier-Williams swimming pool was posted to the College's Facebook page Sept. 18.

The pool was part of the original building, which opened in 1959. It closed in 1992, and the space is now a multifunctional room used for events and meetings. The Jane Cadwell Lott '36 Natatorium was opened as part of the athletic complex the same year.

The photo garnered more than 150 likes and dozens of comments on Facebook, including: "I remember having to pass a swim (survival') test in that old pool. You had to jump into the deep end fully clothed, swim some amount of time, etc. I passed but it was a real pain." — Polly Walsh '74

"I spent many hours in that pool when I was both a kid growing up and when I went to college at Conn. My mom, Toni Wagner, taught for many years at Conn College and was the swimming coach and aquatics director. Thanks for sharing." — Michael Wagner '81

"I met my wife, Carrie Hennessy Rose '92, in that pool. Very fond memories." — Greg Rose '93

Like the College's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ConnecticutCollege.

‘FEEDING THE FUTURE’ CONFERENCE IS MARCH 27 AND 28

Innovators and leaders in the sustainable food industry will gather on campus for the biennial Elizabeth Babbott Conant Interdisciplinary Conference on the Environment, “Feeding the Future,” March 27 and 28, 2015. All are invited to attend the event, which is hosted by Connecticut College's Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment.

For details, visit www.conncoll.edu/feeding-the-future.
Our progressive spirit
by KATHERINE BERGERON

“Our singular landscape conveys a quality that we still prize: It reminds us of the openness and the forward-looking spirit that have defined this College from the very beginning.”

COMING TO CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
eight months ago was like a homecoming for me. I grew up not far from campus, in Old Lyme, Conn. As a child, I enjoyed riding my bicycle on the country roads, swimming at the local beaches, visiting Mystic Seaport and other historic sites, and sampling produce from the small family farms that dot the region.

My return has led me to appreciate our location in new ways. I now serve on the board of the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra and have discovered the vibrant arts scene that defines the New London community. I love walking in the Arboretum and at Harkness Memorial State Park. Most important, I have seen firsthand how the region enriches our College. This issue of CC: Magazine features a beautiful photo essay that reminds us how fortunate we are to find ourselves in this special place.

When construction began for Connecticut College over 100 years ago, The Day of New London ran the headline: “No Finer College Site in the World,” and that line still rings true for me. And though the campus and the region have undergone significant changes since 1911, there is one thing about our location that has never changed: the iconic view from Tempel Green, with its unparalleled vista out to the sea. In the century that the College has been in existence, I find it striking that no one has dared to build anything that would obstruct this view. I think it’s because our singular landscape conveys a quality that we still prize: It reminds us of the openness and the forward-looking spirit that have defined this College from the very beginning.

When I walk about our campus, I experience this openness in so many aspects of what we do. I see a community that is open to change; I see students, faculty and staff who are open to new people and new ideas. This magazine contains another encouraging story of that progressive spirit at work. It has to do with an area of national concern: how we are dealing with sexual assault and gender-based violence on our campus. These are not easy issues to address, and it is clear that there is much work to be done. But I am sure you will share my pride in the fact that Connecticut College has led the way with creative solutions that have been embraced enthusiastically — and openly — by so many members of our College community.

> for more news, go to www.conncoll.edu
NEW YORK TIMES
OP-ED LAUDS CAREER PROGRAM

Ben Carpenter, author and vice chairman of CRT Capital Group, highlighted Connecticut College for its funded internship program in his Sept. 1 New York Times op-ed about the need for colleges to create four-year programs in career training.

“The need for colleges to employ students or in graduate school,” he wrote.

The four-year career program is an integral part of the Connecticut College experience, complementing the academic rigor inside the classroom. The College is one of a handful across the country offering students funded internships, which occur during the summer before their senior year.

FERGUSON ‘TEACH IN’ DRAWS 400

In early September, nearly a month after the shooting of an unarmed black teen by a white police officer in Ferguson, Mo., more than 400 students, faculty and members of the community gathered in the student center for an honest and open discussion about race.

“Feel free to ask me questions. If we’re going to really talk, let’s really talk about it,” said Christopher Dean ’15. “Ask me how it feels to be racially profiled and put in handcuffs.”

For two hours, students spoke about how Ferguson is inspiring them to take peaceful action and discussed ways to address racial inequities and injustices both on campus and around the world.

Associate Professor of Religious Studies David Kyuman Kim, who organized the event, concluded the evening with an impassioned call to action. “Feel this energy,” he said. “We have a lot of great and grand ideas. Do something. Act on them.”

CULINARY KUDOS

The Daily Meal has developed a taste for Connecticut College cuisine and the overall dining experience. The foodie website touted the College’s Dining Services on a list of the Best 75 Colleges for Food in America. The Daily Meal highlighted specialties such as white cheese broccoli pizza, as well as efforts to offer organic food to students, faculty and staff. The ranking also praised the many special dining events, including the annual Festival holiday dinner.

STUDENTS BRING FRESH FOOD TO PORTLAND, ORE.

With a $10,000 Davis Projects for Peace grant, environmental studies majors Azul Tellez ’15 and Emily MacGibeny ’16 bought a food cart and launched an initiative this summer to bring healthy food to Portland, Ore.
food to the impoverished eastern section of Portland, Ore.

The neighborhood has an abundance of high-calorie fast food restaurants and convenience stores and a dearth of fresh produce suppliers. Through their food cart initiative, Dishing Up Portland, the students offered wholesome meals made with fresh ingredients on a “pay as you can” basis. They also taught customers about healthy cooking and eating.

On July 25, Tellez and MacGibeny gave a live demonstration from their food cart on KATU’s News This Morning in Portland.

‘WHO IS BOB DYLAN?’

Alumni fans of “Jeopardy” likely knew at least one answer — in the form of a question — on July 9.

The $1,000 question in the “Pop Culture College Courses” category, correctly answered by contestant Campbell Warner, was: “But I would not feel so alone at Connecticut College; everybody must know English 213B was on this singer.”

The course, “Bob Dylan,” is taught by Janet Gezari, Allyn Professor of English, and Charles Hartman, Haskell Professor of English.

It was the second time the College has been featured by the game show. In 2007, “What is Connecticut College” was worth $1,000 as the answer to: “Founded in 1911, this Connecticut college is in the town of New London.”

TEAM CAPTAINS BUILD LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Captains and student leaders from all 28 varsity athletic teams learned about everything from effective time management to how to create a team culture inclusive of gay athletes during a three-day leadership seminar on campus Aug. 20-22.

Six former Camel captains returned to share advice with current students: Shavar Bernier ’10; Caroline Shepard Bolick ’84, P’15; Sarah Pitt-Del Cristo ’86; Bernadette Macca ’95; Jason Shea ’01; and Gaar Talianian ’86.

In a keynote speech, Sandy Montag P’18, senior vice president of IMG Sports, encouraged the students to develop their own personal brands. “Employers are interested in how you portray yourself,” he said.

OF MICE AND COLLEGE

Dean of Studies and Tempel Professor of Chemistry Marc Zimmer gave the keynote address, “Amazing Mice Light Up the Liberal Arts,” at the College’s 100th Convocation ceremony Aug. 28. Using science as a metaphor, he described a Connecticut College education as a “four-story, beautiful, verdant maze” that differs greatly from the South African system where he was first educated.

Here, Zimmer said, students don’t take a linear path to graduation. Instead, they are challenged to design a four-year experience that combines many different elements and types of learning.

Zimmer, who works with fluorescent proteins, explained that scientists have found a way to use these glowing proteins to study brain activity in mice. When mice are placed in a simple box and given a straight path to food, he said, their brains show a baseline level of activity. But when they are placed in a maze, and have to make decisions and face challenges, their brains light up with activity.

As he wrapped up his metaphor, he turned to the College’s newest students and said, “Your brains are going to work.”

CAMEL OPPONENTS SEE DOUBLE

Women’s soccer and women’s field hockey are both fielding two sets of twins on their rosters this fall. Sophomore Annie and Cathy Higgins are joined by first-years Michelle and Nicole Medina on the soccer pitch, while rockies Colbi and Berklee Vaillancourt and Myrta and Cheyanne Asplundh have joined the field hockey team. Pictured left to right: Annie Higgins ’17, Myrta Asplundh ’18, Berklee Vaillancourt ’18, Nicole Medina ’18, Michelle Medina ’18, Colbi Vaillancourt ’18, Cheyanne Asplundh ’18 and Cathy Higgins ’17.
HALEY GOWLAND '17 (pictured at left) and her band The Cranks got a taste of modern rock glory this summer. In June, the Boston-area trio set the stage for three of alternative rock's biggest acts, opening for Paramore, Fall Out Boy and New Politics at a packed show in Gilford, N.H.

"The experience was absolutely the high point of the summer," Gowland said. "We played a tight set, had a lot of fun on stage and the rest of the show was fantastic."

Gowland is the lead singer and guitarist for the band. She and her twin brother, Connor, the band’s drummer, formed The Cranks with bassist Alex Markoski in 2008. The group has released three albums and played nearly 200 shows, winning fans from the Boston area and beyond.

In September, The Cranks played New London’s popular I AM Festival, a downtown music showcase that also featured singer Maya Belgrade '15.

On campus, Gowland is involved in the College's vibrant arts scene as a member of the all-female a cappella group Conn Chords and the popular MOBROC band Canopy. MOBROC, which stands for Musicians Organized for Band Rights on Campus, is a student-run organization that provides bands with support and access to practice space, a full sound system, a place to store instruments and a network of fellow student musicians.

Through partnership, students hone business skills

SINCE IT LAUNCHED IN JUNE, eight Connecticut College students and recent graduates have participated in Koru, an immersive, college-to-career program that builds business skills through hands-on, experiential learning in a real-world environment.

Koru challenges participants to solve real problems for leading employers, including REI, zulily and Payscale, and provides intensive coaching each step of the way. The College became a founding partner with the Seattle-based program in February.

"The genius of Koru lies in the way it teaches students marketable skills in real-world situations, while also fostering the kind of collaborative learning environment that allows our students to thrive," said President Katherine Bergeron. "It complements and enhances the comprehensive career programming that we already provide."

By working on real projects, students develop hard skills, including business fundamentals, analytics and design-thinking, as well as soft skills such as how to give impactful presentations, conduct effective meetings and network. They are taught to take risks and “fail fast and cheap.”

"Failure is a key part of discovery and innovation, and the goal is to fail early and often while the consequences are still low," said Denny Meadows, a former vice president at Nordstrom and one of the Koru coaches. "It's about shifting the paradigm from what most students have become familiar with, where failure is something to be avoided at all costs."

Tara Gabelman '14 participated in the first four-week program in June. She worked on a prototype to allow zulily, an online retailer that offers daily deals for trendy moms, to expand into a new market.

She said the experience was intense from day one. "You are given a problem to solve, then they throw you out onto the street and tell you to do market research," she said. "The more you do it, the better you get at it. They try to push you out of your comfort zone because that's the only way you get better."

Current students and recent graduates can apply for the program through the College's career office.
Career program ranked highly by Princeton Review

THE PRINCETON REVIEW has named Connecticut College's career program one of the top 20 in North America, and the College is the only New England liberal arts institution to earn a spot on the list.

The four-year career program helps students create an integrated undergraduate educational experience that bridges naturally to a career or postgraduate study. It combines one-on-one counseling, workshops and career advising, and is one of only a handful of programs in the country that guarantees a summer internship stipend of up to $3,000 to all students who complete a preparatory curriculum.

The program has been helping students get meaningful internships for more than 15 years. One year after graduation, 96 percent of alumni report being employed or enrolled in graduate school.

In addition to lauding the career program, The Princeton Review's 2015 guide named the College one of the 225 best colleges in the Northeast, one of 75 best value private colleges and one of the top 300 green colleges, based on environmental and sustainability efforts on campus.

Meet some of the Summer 2014 interns

THIS SUMMER, three-quarters of the Class of 2015 had internships throughout the world, from Brooklyn to Beijing, working and learning in business, technology, neuroscience, arts, government, nonprofit and many other sectors of the public and private workforce.

Meet three of them:

**MO SMOLSKIS '15**, an international relations major, dance minor and scholar in the College's Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts, was an economic section intern at the U.S. Embassy in Lima, Peru. Smolskis assisted foreign service officers, office management specialists and locally employed staff with conducting research and drafting reports, presentations and briefings on a variety of issues, including money laundering, climate change, pollution, economic reform, bilateral and international trade, and illegal mining. "I have a much better idea of how information is shared within the government to help policymakers do their jobs more effectively," she says.

**TELAYAH STURDIVANT '15**, an art history and sociology double major and scholar in the Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy, interned as a research and teaching assistant at Art Start, a nonprofit that seeks to improve the lives of at-risk youth through art and music, in New York, N.Y. In addition to assisting with a night program in a homeless shelter for children ages 6 through 10, Sturdivant analyzed the methods the organization used to represent the homeless community of New York City in a recent community photography project. That research is serving as the foundation for Sturdivant's senior research project, in which she is examining visual research methods used to represent and study minority groups.

**JAKE FARIS '15**, a computer science major, worked as a software engineer intern for ViaSat, a telecommunications company in Carlsbad, Calif. He developed an iOS mobile app for Exede, a Wi-Fi service used by JetBlue and United Airlines, that allows employees of the airlines to evaluate Exede's services and better understand the performance of the network. "I got to apply the things I learned in my 'Data Structures,' "Web Technology & Mobile Computing" and 'Database' courses in a professional environment," Faris says.

Read more stories at: [www.conncoll.edu/life-after-cc/](http://www.conncoll.edu/life-after-cc/)
Meet the new trustees

A REAL ESTATE BROKER who helps middle school students learn to succeed, a well-rounded volunteer with a love of keyboard performance, and a higher education administrator are the College’s newest trustees. They were elected at the Board of Trustees meeting in May, along with a new Young Alumni Trustee elected by members of the Class of 2014.

The new trustees are:

Nancy M. Athey ’72, long-serving nonprofit volunteer. Athey has been a director and vice chair of the board of the Greater Baltimore Crisis Pregnancy Center (now the Greater Baltimore Center for Pregnancy Concerns); sung with and served as a trustee and secretary of the board of the Handel Choir of Baltimore; recorded textbooks with Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic (now Reading Ally); and filled several church vestry terms, including a 13-year stint as registrar of the vestry of All Saints’ Church in Reisterstown, Md. She is currently a volunteer for the Historical Society of Baltimore County. In 2012, Athey and her husband, Preston Athey, gave the College a generous gift to support the renovation and purchase of 30 Steinway pianos to elevate the College to distinction as an “All Steinway School.”

Carlos Garcia ’88 P’18, attorney, real estate investor, salesperson and brokerage owner. Garcia and his wife, Lucinda Eng, manage Eng Garcia Properties, a residential and commercial real estate firm covering Washington, D.C.; Maryland; and Virginia and operating under the Keller Williams brokerage umbrella. Previously, Garcia practiced law at the U.S. International Trade Administration; at the firm of Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher; as a dotcom general counsel; and as corporate counsel for Pitney Bowes. Garcia also served for 12 years as the board president of Higher Achievement, Inc., which brings rigorous academic programs and a robust mentoring network to underserved middle school students to improve grades, attendance and overall academic achievement. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of DKT International, a global public health NGO addressing reproductive health issues in developing countries.

Eric J. Kaplan ’85, senior fellow and director of the Executive Doctorate in Higher Education Management at the University of Pennsylvania. In his role, Kaplan directs all academic and administrative aspects of this cohort-based Ed.D. program for mid- to senior-level leaders in higher education, nonprofits and industry. At Penn, he has also served as senior director of development and alumni relations for international initiatives, associate secretary of the university, interim dean of admissions, and associate dean and director of admissions. Previously, he led enrollment efforts as dean of admission and financial aid at Lehigh University and worked in the admissions offices at Brandeis University, Boston University and Westbrook College. He is also a consulting editor for Change — The Magazine of Higher Education.

Blake Michael E. Reilly ’14, Young Alumni Trustee and coordinator of residential life and programming in the Dean of Students Office at Bates College. At Bates, Reilly supervises student residential life staff, runs bystander intervention programs, and assists with sexual assault education and advocacy. At Connecticut College, Reilly majored in biochemistry and served as president of the College’s chapter of One in Four, Inc., a nonprofit organization that works to raise awareness about and end sexual assault and rape, especially in collegiate and military settings. He also served as a housefellow, was a member of the cross country team and was captain of the men’s track and field team.

The new trustees succeed Laura J. Allen ’81 and Young Alumni Trustee Gary Ng ’11. Trustees are eligible to be honored as emeriti trustees one year after retirement. At the May meeting, the Board voted to honor five past trustees with this distinction: William P. Barrack ’81, Constance H. Smith Gemmer ’80 P’10, Lynda Batter Munro ’76 P’08, Judith Tindal Opatrny ’72 and Kevin Wade ’76.
Dynamic, thoughtful leader named dean of the faculty

ABIGAIL VAN SLYCK, interim dean of the faculty and Dayton Professor of Art History at Connecticut College, has been named the College’s dean of the faculty. The highest ranking officer after the president, the dean of the faculty is responsible for providing academic leadership for the College and its faculty.

In her new role, Van Slyck will provide leadership for the College's educational mission, support faculty development and ensure the quality of the College curriculum. The dean is responsible for overseeing all academic departments and programs; stewarding the appointment, promotion and tenure of individual faculty members; identifying new chairs and program directors; reviewing the faculty compensation program; and administering the academic budget.

Van Slyck's appointment was the culmination of a comprehensive search process, overseen by the Dean of the Faculty Search Committee, which included input from faculty, staff and students.

Van Slyck, who earned her bachelor’s degree from Smith College and her doctoral degree from the University of California, Berkeley, joined the College in 1999 after serving for a decade on the faculty of the University of Arizona, where she was associate professor of architecture, art history and women's studies.

As the new dean of the faculty, Van Slyck succeeds Roger Brooks, Elie Wiesel Professor of Judaic Studies, who served as dean for seven years before stepping down in June.

New VP for Communications

PAMELA DUMAS SERFES has been named vice president for Communications.

She manages all aspects of the College’s external communications in both print and digital formats, as well as communications for all major institutional events — with particular focus on admission, alumni relations and fundraising.

Dumas Serfes has been serving as acting vice president for College Relations since February 2014. She joined the College in 2012 as director of advancement communications, bringing more than 25 years of experience in communications and marketing to the College.

Dumas Serfes earned both a bachelor of arts and a master’s degree in speech communication from the University of Maine.
New faculty bring expertise in everything from black cinema to agricultural economics

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE'S six newest tenure-track professors include a former elementary school teacher who is using an interdisciplinary approach to improving development in children, a film studies professor who has produced two feature-length documentaries and an economics professor who is studying how government environmental regulations are affecting California's dairy industry.

The new tenure-track faculty are:

Loren Marulis, Martha Bennett '73 Assistant Professor of Human Development
Ph.D., M.S., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; M.A., Northwestern University; M.A., B.A., B.S., Michigan State University

Marulis specializes in human development, early cognitive development, metacognitive and self-regulatory processes, early childhood development and education, and educational psychology. Inspired by her experience working as an elementary school teacher and learning specialist, Marulis' scholarship is focused on understanding what research across disciplines - such as psychology, human development and education - can reveal about the most important factors for optimal development and learning.

Augustine “Tina” O’Keefe, assistant professor of mathematics
Ph.D., Tulane University; M.A., Wake Forest University; B.S., James Madison University

O’Keefe, who specializes in combinatorics, commutative algebra and graph theory, is currently working on three publications: “An algebraic study of Cameron-Walker graphs,” “A sufficient condition for Cohen-Macaulay toric edge rings” and “Cellular resolutions of Riemann-Roch monomial ideals.”

Darryl Phillips, associate professor of classics
Ph.D., Duke University; A.B., Stanford University

Phillips' research and teaching interests encompass history, law, religion, art, architecture and topography. His work is united by a common focus: Roman culture and history of the late Republic and early Principate. He is currently working on a philological and historical commentary on "Life of Augustus" by the second-century A.D. Roman biographer Suetonius.

Elizabeth Reich, assistant professor of film studies
Ph.D., M.A., Rutgers University; B.A., Barnard College, Columbia University


Michael Seifert, assistant professor of physics
Ph.D., University of Chicago; B.A., Swarthmore College

Seifert specializes in general relativity, particle physics, classical field theory and Lorentz symmetry, which is the symmetry between space and time first discovered by Einstein in his theory of special relativity. This symmetry has several interesting consequences, among them the existence of a cosmic “speed limit” and the equivalence between mass and energy described by the famous equation E = mc². Seifert is also interested in the physics of music and sound, as well as the interface between physics and philosophy.

Wei Zhang, assistant professor of economics
Ph.D., University of California, Davis; M.S., University of Massachusetts, Amherst; B.A., B.S., Nankai University, China

Zhang is interested in the decision-making of firms and farms under government environmental policies and how these policies affect their economic performance. Her recent research is on the economics of environmental regulation of agricultural and food production, with a focus on the dairy industry in California. She has also studied environmental regulations in other contexts, including the impacts on air quality of driving restrictions implemented in cities in Latin America and China.
College welcomes a trio of postdoc fellows

THREE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS have joined the faculty as part of the Creating Connections Consortium (C3) initiative. Supported by a generous grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, C3 helps undergraduates and graduate students from underrepresented backgrounds advance along the academic pathway and helps participating institutions attain their transformative goals.

The C3 fellows are:

Siri Colom, environmental studies. Colom is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. Her dissertation is a multiyear ethnographic study that compares the political tactics of three housing and land struggles in post-Katrina New Orleans: the closing of public housing, the razing of a neighborhood for a medical complex and the “greening” of the Lower Ninth Ward. She is teaching “Urban Sociology” this fall.

Seema Golestaneh, anthropology. Golestaneh is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Columbia University. Her dissertation explores contemporary Sufism in post-revolutionary Iran. Golestaneh, who is fluent in English, Persian, French and Arabic, is teaching “Anthropology of Religion” this fall.

Tony Lin, Slavic studies. Lin, a doctoral candidate in the Slavic Studies Department at the University of California, Berkeley, is fluent in Russian, Polish, Mandarin Chinese, Taiwanese, English and German. He has won several grants, including two Fulbright research grants and a Critical Language Scholarship, and has conducted extensive research at institutions in Russia, Poland, Germany and France. He is teaching a first-year seminar, “The Absurd,” this fall.

New field hockey, water polo coaches

TWO SPORTS HAVE NEW FACES on the sidelines this fall. Chrissy Needham, former head coach at Kenyon College and American International College, is the new head coach of field hockey. Matt Anderson, former head coach of women’s water polo at the University of Michigan, is now head coach of both men’s and women’s water polo.

Needham, a native of Killingworth, Conn., played in two NCAA Division I final fours as a student-athlete at the University of Connecticut. She brings seven years of collegiate coaching experience in all three NCAA divisions.

Anderson led Michigan to four NCAA championship berths during his 12-year tenure as coach and was named the Collegiate Water Polo Association’s Western Division Coach of the Year six times. A native of San Diego, Calif., he won a silver medal in the 2011 World University Games as the head coach of the United States Women’s Senior National B Team.

Zachs Hillel House gets first director

RABBI SUSAN SCHEIN has been named inaugural director of the College’s new Zachs Hillel House.

Her primary role is working with students. She also serves as a resource for faculty and staff and a liaison to the New London Jewish community, as well as a supportive colleague to Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg, the College’s Jewish chaplain.

Schein was previously the coordinator for spiritual development at Philadelphia University. She was ordained at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in 2003 and earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Rochester and a master’s degree in German literature from Washington University in St. Louis.

The directorship is funded through a $350,000 grant from the David and Barbara B. Hirschhorn Foundation to support the cost of the director’s compensation over five years, and a $250,000 lead gift from Elizabeth B. and Arthur E. Roswell toward establishing an endowment for the position.

The Zachs Hillel House, which opened in January 2014, was made possible through a $1 million gift from Connecticut-based entrepreneur and philanthropist Henry Zachs and his family.
$1 million gift supports Posse program

THE COLLEGE HAS RECEIVED a $1 million gift from Carol Feinberg '49 to support its Posse Scholars program. The gift will provide financial aid to future Posse Scholars through the Carol Jaffa Feinberg '49 Posse Scholarship Fund.

Posse Scholars are chosen for their academic and leadership potential by the national Posse Foundation and admitted to a select group of private colleges and universities that provide full scholarships along with strong mentoring and support. Since 2009, when its first Posse Scholars arrived on campus, Connecticut College has enrolled 65 Posse students from the Chicago area, including 10 who arrived in August as members of the Class of 2018.

“We are deeply grateful for Carol's enthusiastic and enduring commitment to the College and to our Posse Scholars,” said President Katherine Bergeron. “This generous gift ensures that we will enjoy the presence of the Posse program — and the dynamic student leaders it brings to our campus — for many years to come.”

An avid art collector, Carol Feinberg is the wife of the late Maurice Feinberg, former president of Monsieur Henri Wines. She marked the 65th anniversary of her Connecticut College graduation by attending Bergeron’s Inauguration in April, where she was pleased to meet with Posse Scholars Amanda Crawford '14 and Jocelyn Reaves '15.

“In the years since Connecticut College, I’ve realized what a rich education I had there. My children and I are thrilled and supportive of this gift to enhance the Posse Scholars program,” said Feinberg.

Partnership will broaden access for underserved students

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE is the second institution in the nation to establish an official partnership with The Opportunity Network (OppNet) to provide better access to college and career success to high-achieving, underrepresented New York City public school students.

OppNet will connect the College with a pool of applicants who have excelled in the New York City public school system and who have also participated in workshops, internships and other initiatives designed to prepare them for college success.

OppNet founder and CEO Jessica Pliska praised the College for launching the partnership and ensuring opportunities for worthy students.

“This partnership ensures that our students will get the guidance they need from the moment they begin considering Connecticut College until the day they accept their diplomas and join the robust alumni network,” Pliska said. “At the same time, Connecticut College gains access to some of the best and brightest students in New York City.”

The OppNet partnership is the latest achievement in the College’s efforts to enhance its open, inclusive and diverse community. In recent years, the College has entered into partnerships with the Posse Foundation and the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program, and launched its own signature Science Leaders Program.
New policies earn Conn top LGBTQ-friendly campus honors

FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE year, Campus Pride and The Huffington Post have named Connecticut College one of the nation’s friendliest campuses for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQ) students. The College received a maximum five-star score on the Campus Pride Index, which evaluates institutions’ services and efforts to foster a safe and supportive academic environment.

Jen Manion, associate professor of history and director of the College’s LGBTQ Resource Center, says the College has emerged as a top transgender-friendly institution with several new policies. Transgender students are now offered housing consistent with their personal identities, gender-neutral restrooms are available in all campus residences and most academic buildings, and training on transgender issues is readily available to students, faculty and staff. In addition, the student health plan now provides insurance coverage for transitioning students to receive hormone replacement therapy and other treatments recommended by their doctors.

“It’s a remarkable sign of how far the LGBTQ movement has come in the last 30 years and how important young people are in doing the groundwork,” Manion said. “At Connecticut College, we have a real commitment from everyone that we want LGBTQ students to feel as included and supported on this campus as everyone else.”

Fall pilots test ideas for revamped curriculum

FOR MORE THAN A YEAR, the College community has been engaged in a comprehensive review of the curriculum, with faculty leading students and staff through a process to reimagine the general education program that’s been in place since 1973.

The process, known as reVISION, has yielded its first pilot this fall. Faculty are testing new first-year seminars, a new system of team advising and a new housing strategy that puts first-year students taking certain seminars in close proximity so more educational programming can be made available in their residence halls.

First-year seminars, which have been part of the curriculum since 2004, are small, discussion-based and writing-intensive courses that immediately immerse new students in the liberal arts experience. Of 38 first-year seminars being taught this semester, 18 are incorporating new requirements to accomplish a set of specific goals outlined through the reVISION process. The remaining 20 seminars are being taught as they have been in the past and will be used as a control group.

“We’ve already started assessing the pilot seminars,” said Chad Jones, associate professor of botany and environmental studies and coordinator for the first-year seminar pilot. “We did a benchmark survey of first-year students during Orientation and we’ll survey them again — as well as faculty — to measure the success of the pilot in accomplishing its goals.”

The results from all three pilots will help inform a faculty vote on curricular reVISION planned for November.

Shain Library renovation underway

THE CHARLES E. SHAIN LIBRARY looks a lot different these days: The “moat” in front of the building has been filled in to allow for the installation of a beautiful plaza, and the facade of the building has been removed, to be replaced by a large bank of windows that will let in much more natural light. And that’s just the outside. Many areas inside the building are unrecognizable as they undergo extensive renovations.

The building is undergoing a $9.1 million renovation and expansion that will transform the educational and social life of the campus community with more comfortable, usable, technology-rich study spaces, and new tools and services to foster digital scholarship.

Vital information and updates — as well as photos and video — can be found at www.conncoll.edu/shainreno.
THE
PERFECT
SETTING
In New London County, waterways become laboratories, museums become classrooms and a walk downtown becomes a lesson in seafaring history. It’s a region that supports and catalyzes the scholarly work of Connecticut College students and faculty. On the pages that follow, we look at the ways in which a location rich in places to think, to collaborate, to be challenged and to be inspired is one of the College’s greatest assets.
CITY IN MOTION Situated halfway between Boston and New York, New London is a hub of travel. Trains, ships, ferries and cars come in and out all day. Union Station, built in 1887, is the oldest station still in operation along the Northeast Corridor, the busiest passenger rail line in the U.S. The building was designed by architect H.H. Richardson, best known for designing Trinity Church in Boston's Copley Square.

IN PRINT The quaint Book Barn of Niantic invites visitors to slow down and flip through some of its more than 350,000 used volumes, including many rare and original print books.
New London County is home to 180 miles of tidal coastline rich in flora and fauna, 44 art and cultural institutions, and myriad places for quiet reflection. The county's shoreline is a haven of natural beauty; inland, rural pastures and suburban towns harken back to Connecticut's agricultural past. The diverse landscape and varying communities provide unique opportunities for hands-on discovery, experiential learning and research, expanding the College's campus well beyond its 750 acres.
The College’s partnership with the region dates back to its founding in 1911, when the people of New London raised more than $100,000 to win the right to host the new institution. Today, more than 50 businesses and community organizations host student interns, serve as case-study locations for coursework, and provide students, faculty and staff with opportunities to learn through service. The close proximity of other academic and cultural institutions allows for the sharing of resources, and quirky public spaces invite faculty and students to discuss ideas over a cup of coffee, a lobster roll or an organic tofu-walnut burger.

FARMING FOR IDEAS
Small, family-owned farms in the region are experimenting with new business models. Hunts Brook Farm in Oakdale, pictured above, operates on a community-based model, through which members of the public buy shares of the produce harvested over an 18-week period. It’s a great case study for students in Anthropology Professor Jeffrey Cole’s senior seminar on alternative agriculture, “Cultivating Change.”

OVER A MEAL
With great food and great company come great ideas. Home of the famous “Love Salad,” Muddy Waters Café is a favorite gathering place for members of the College community. Here, Anthropology Professor Anthony Graesch discusses a New London research project with students in his “Urban Ethnoarchaeology” class. Other places to find familiar faces include Bean & Leaf, Washington Street Coffee House, Captain Scott’s Lobster Dock and Mr. G’s Restaurant.
MILITARY INFLUENCE

One of three institutions for higher education in New London, the United States Coast Guard Academy is a federal service academy that trains men and women in maritime safety and security. The College partners with the academy, one of its closest neighbors, for music performances, select courses and some extracurricular activities.
THE PROCESS OF CREATION
Scripts take shape at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford as writers, directors and actors use live theater to gauge reactions from members of the audience and revise new works in real time. Named in honor of America’s only Nobel Prize-winning playwright, the O'Neill is also home to the National Theater Institute, a study away program accredited by Connecticut College. Notable alumni include actors Jennifer Garner, John Krasinski, Jeremy Piven and Josh Radnor.

UNDEVELOPED BEAUTY
An 800-acre reserve, Bluff Point State Park in Groton is the largest portion of undeveloped coastline in the state. A prime location for hiking, biking, fishing and kayaking, it also offers spectacular opportunities to view wildlife.

FRESH SOLUTIONS
In an effort to improve access to healthy, sustainable food, FRESH New London partners with the College and 13 other local organizations to operate community gardens, a five-acre farm, youth and farm-to-school programs, and a mobile market for fresh produce. Last fall, a team of first-year students spent a day during Orientation weeding and turning compost piles, repairing wheelbarrows, and planting seedlings at the FRESH Community Garden Center, on the corner of Williams and Mercer Streets.

Give back.
LEARNING LANGUAGE

Through a partnership with the World Languages Program at New London’s Regional Multicultural Magnet School, Connecticut College students teach and tutor elementary students in six languages: Spanish, Russian, French, Arabic, Mandarin Chinese and Japanese. Since the partnership began in 2008, more than 100 College students have participated. Here, Liv Chap ’15, left, and Lizz Ocampo ’16 teach Russian to second graders.

Be challenged.

Nurturing the intellectual, creative and physical development of students requires a variety of experiences, both on and off campus. In the College’s own backyard, thriving local theater and music groups foster creative expression, and serene parks provide opportunities for exploration and recreation. Some local organizations are addressing pressing community issues, such as a need for broader access to fresh, sustainable food sources, and students and faculty are helping to find solutions.
New London’s rich maritime history, vibrant arts scene and close-knit communities compel students, faculty and staff to contemplate the interconnectedness of the world around them. It’s the ideal place to pursue a liberal arts education.
OF SEA AND SKY

Mystic Seaport, the world's largest maritime museum, gives visitors a chance to imagine life aboard the world's last wooden whaling ship, the Charles W. Morgan (opposite page, docked in New London during its recent historic restoration journey). Historians, musicians and storytellers bring a recreated 19th-century village to life (right), and a planetarium teaches the techniques once used by sailors to navigate the seas by the stars.
Entrepreneur Timothy Reuter ’99 promotes the responsible use of Drones
one of the fastest growing — and commonly misunderstood — technologies

for good

by Andrew Faught

THE MOMENT OF CREATION
is immortalized on YouTube. In the grainy 15-second clip, innocuously titled “Willard Street Robot Club,” Timothy Reuter ’99 launches a national movement without ever getting off the ground.

It was July 2012, and the former foreign service officer had joined some buddies to celebrate the maiden flight of his 3D Robotics Hexacopter — or recreational drone, to those whose aerial references might only extend to the balsa wood airplanes of their childhood.

In the video, Reuter stands in a Washington, D.C., alley clutching the controls. He starts the propellers whirring on what, in the dark of night, looks like a pizza straining against gravity. And then, as if a mechanical flapjack, the drone rotates violently and slams into the ground.

“I had spent months working on putting it together,” Reuter recalls, “and then promptly smashed the thing to pieces.”

He’d make repairs and embark on a successful flight three weeks later. But that fateful night had wider-reach- ing implications.

“The experience was part of my motivation for finding other people to teach me how to do this,” Reuter says. “I thought I’d be lucky if I could get three people who were interested in what seemed to me like a very esoteric activity.”

Like his inaugural flight, Reuter again miscalculated. His outreach amounted to something far greater.

Widespread interest prompted him to create the D.C. Area Drone User Group, whose membership has surged to 1,200 in the two years since it started. It’s spawned 18 similar organizations around the country and has helped position Reuter as one of the nation’s leading proponents of civilian drone use. He’s spoken on the positive use of domestic drones to such news outlets as CNN, MSNBC and The Washington Post.

His involvement has even accelerated into the commercial realm. In April, Reuter quit his job with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to co-found AirDroids, whose $550 foldable “pocket drone” is expected to go to market this fall.

“I loved model rocketry as a kid, and I’m also someone who’s always been interested in new technologies. The fact that anybody could own something like this was exciting to me,” says Reuter, who owns five drones. “It tends to be addictive.”

RING BEARER: (Above right and opposite page) A quadcopter drone delivers wedding bands to Otavio and Zina Good during their July 2013 wedding ceremony at the Pulgas Water Temple in Redwood City, Calif.
TIMOTHY REUTER '99 tests out an early prototype of The Pocket Drone at a D.C. Area Drone User Group event in Leesburg, Va., in March.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Propeller-powered drones, which can have fixed wings or an array of rotors that give them the look of a mutant helicopter, have superior maneuverability and are easier to control than traditional remote-controlled devices. They've been around for nearly 10 years, but mass production now has brought the cost down to as little as $300, making them more accessible to everyday Americans. But the rise of the drones—many of them rigged with high-resolution cameras—is also raising privacy and safety concerns among the general public, government leaders and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Supporters, meanwhile, want to push the devices beyond the hobby horizon, including using equipment for aerial newsgathering, search-and-rescue operations and commerce, to name just a few of the touted possibilities.

Given the ongoing political and social thicket surrounding the devices, Reuter jumped headlong into the debate in June 2013, when he launched the online Drone U with New York attorney Nabiha Syed. The site bills itself as a nonsensational, impartial source of information that offers the general public "a deeper, more holistic perspective on these emerging technologies."

Reuter says those with privacy concerns are confusing the issue.

"It's easier to demonize drones rather than the cameras mounted on them," he says. "Anyone who suggests that grandma should require a license to own the camera she uses to take family photos would be considered crazy, even though we acknowledge that the paparazzi sometimes use cameras in ways that many of us consider inappropriate.

"What we need to do as a society is have a broader conversation about what we think is acceptable to take and retain imagery of, regardless of whether it is from a drone, Google Glass or telephoto lens."

What of safety hazards? In April, an Australian triathlete needed stiches on her head after a drone landed on her. The operator told police that the craft plummeted from the sky when an attacker wrested the controls from him. Another user crashed his drone into Yellowstone National Park's Grand Prismatic Spring, risking damage to the spring's azure waters. In June, the National Park Service banned drone use in national parks because of safety and noise concerns.

While learning to fly a drone "is like learning to ride a bicycle," Reuter says, "some people do use bicycles in unsafe and antisocial ways, but we as a society understand that widespread access to bikes generates more social benefits than harm, so we have minimal regulation of who can own a bike and how they can be used. Part of the mission of the Drone User Group Net-
work is to create a culture of safe and respectful flying, just because you can do something with a drone, doesn’t mean you should.”

Group members include federal workers and engineers, artists and students — gearheads and novices alike who share their mechanical expertise and love for weekend fly-ins held in the wide-open spaces of neighboring Virginia and Maryland. Many are photography buffs reveling in their newfound ability to snap breathtaking aerial vistas from their camera-rigged flyers.

They include Bethesda, Md., cinematographer Kevin Good. He uses any of his four functioning drones (10 others are on his workbench) to practice aerial image-making. That’s not his only use for the technology. At his brother Otavio’s wedding, Good used a drone, to the accompaniment of a harp-strummed James Bond theme, to deliver the couple’s rings.

Within the user group, Good has taken on a whimsical title: director of flying robot arts, a designation bestowed on him by Reuter. It’s a descriptor that fits. “I just wanted to find a cool flying machine to strap a camera to and take pretty pictures,” Good says. “Some of the people in the group are real brainiacs. I’m nowhere compared to them in terms of my understanding of the technology. That’s a testament to how accessible drones are becoming.”

**DEFINING APPROPRIATE USE**

Commercial drone use and, consequently, hobby use, got one of its biggest boosts in July when Amazon.com asked the federal government for permission to test a drone-based delivery service; 14 other companies also are seeking the go-ahead to use drones for filming movies and inspecting ocean oil rigs, for example. The FAA in 2007 banned the commercial use of drones. It is now reviewing its restrictions, and the agency has indicated it could release new provisions by the end of 2015.

Hobbyists face few such restrictions. An FAA “advisory circular” tells recreational drone flyers not to pilot their crafts higher than 400 feet to avoid helicopters. (Drone use is, however, banned in Washington, D.C., because of national security concerns. “I didn’t know that at the time of my flight,” Reuter says.)

Syed, who co-founded Drone U (she went to Yale Law School with Reuter’s future wife), calls her collaborator “eminently thoughtful and nuanced” on the subject of drones.

Nonetheless, Syed is playing the foil to Reuter’s boosterism, something she says is critical for fomenting intelligent discussion in an area of rapidly growing interest.

“I come at it with a bit more skepticism, but also fascination and curiosity,” she says. “We figured there are probably a lot of people along that spectrum, who just want to know more. It really was our first conversation that lit the flame for what Drone U became.”

Both founders are sensitive to criticisms that flying devices, which can be controlled by smartphones, may be used for ill purposes. But both say that’s not a reason to legislate away their potential for good. Drones are being envisioned as a means to safely and cheaply assess the health of infrastructure, such as bridges, or to deliver food, water and medical aid to victims of natural disasters. They could also be used by farmers to gauge the health of crops and by law enforcement to monitor crowds and track suspects.

And there is potential for big business. A so-called drone economy could create more than 70,000 jobs and have an $82 billion impact on the U.S. economy by 2025 — from pizza delivery to parcel transport — according to the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, a trade group.

The FAA itself says that 7,500 commercial drones could be navigating your neighborhood as soon as 2018.

It’s such possibilities that get play on Drone U podcasts, which feature policy experts weighing in on...
“What we need to do as a society is have a broader conversation about what we think is acceptable to take and retain imagery of, regardless of whether it is from a drone, Google Glass or telephoto lens.”

— TIMOTHY REUTER ‘99

the vagaries of the technology. Drone U also features viewpoints on weightier matters, such as the use of military drones to protect human rights or the technology’s impact on government surveillance.

“With technology, there’s tension between people who want to plow forward into the future and build and create something better, and people who say, ‘What’s the downside?’” Syed says. “Being a lawyer, this is where I come from a lot of the time. It’s great to work with Timothy and have that push-pull dynamic. The best we can do is have many different types of thinkers thinking about it.”

‘MAKING THE TECHNOLOGY MEANINGFUL’

Many hobbyists chafe at the word drone, worried that the appellation confuses their recreational pursuits with military drones, which have been criticized for indiscriminately killing civilians in war zones. They instead refer to their crafts as “unmanned aerial vehicles,” “multirorors,” or simply “flying robots.” Reuter doesn’t trade in euphemisms. He’s sticking to the original nomenclature.

“We’re trying to take back a word that has negative connotations and open up the opportunity for conversation,” he says.

Reuter’s airborne aspirations began as a kid growing up in the nation’s capital. He and his dad used to launch model rockets from the parking lot of a Navy telecommunications station near their apartment building. Nobody ever questioned the pair. Clearly, those were halcyon days relative to the current climate: “I imagine we’d be hauled in for questioning if we tried something like that today,” Reuter says.

Reuter’s love for all things technical took on a new complexion when he enrolled at Connecticut College. He majored in anthropology and economics, and he also was accepted into the Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts (CISLA) program. All of it got him thinking about the bigger picture, and he still draws from his days in New London.

“Having a liberal arts background has made me approach technology in a different way than engineers typically do,” he says. “I’m always thinking about its social significance and making the technology meaningful.”

But recreational drones were the stuff of science fiction when he graduated, and he had to plow his social sensibilities elsewhere. Reuter participated in Teach for America and eventually moved abroad. He worked for USAID’s Office of Iraq Reconstruction in 2004-05, and from 2012-14 he was a senior adviser to the deputy coordinator for the group’s Feed the Future program, the government’s global hunger and food security initiative.

Now, drones — both for fun and for loftier social purposes — have given Reuter’s life its new focus. He’s concerned that the United States is failing to grasp the technology’s potential. Japan already is using drones for crop dusting, while in Australia and the United Kingdom, journalists are using airborne eyes to augment their reporting.

“Our hope is that we can have legal, regulatory and social situations that allow us to take advantage of this technology rather than hobbling it,” Reuter says. “Even though historically we’ve been a leader in developing this technology, we’re becoming a laggard in developing services around it, and that’s a self-inflicted wound.”

The FAA doesn’t quite see it that way, saying the comparison to other countries is “flawed.” “The United States has the busiest, most complex airspace in the world,” FAA officials wrote in a “busting myths” statement addressing unmanned aircraft. “Developing all the rules and standards we need is a very complex task, and we want to make sure we get it right the first time.”

For now, drones are largely the domain of weekend enthusiasts. The greater the interest, Reuter says, the better the chances are of creating practical drone uses.

Reuter is hopeful that his company’s Pocket Drone will play an important role in rallying additional interest. His creation weighs two pounds, is battery powered (it can fly 20 minutes with a camera, 25 without), and is formed from injection-molded plastic. Its flight path can be programmed along waypoints with a global positioning system (GPS).

GPS, like today’s drones, once had its own public relations hurdles.
“Just as GPS was originally used to guide military munitions, now it’s something that you have on your smartphone to help find restaurants in a new city,” Reuter says. “The way that a technology is originally developed and used isn’t necessarily how it gets applied in the future, and we’re seeing that transition with drones.”

After showcasing the Pocket Drone in January at the Techcrunch Hardware Battlefield in Las Vegas, Reuter has secured more than $1 million in preorders. He’s touting his creation for “documenting your latest outdoor adventure.”

“Or you can even see if your gutters are clear without having to climb onto your roof,” he adds.

Life-affecting applications are, for now, limited among casual drone users. The D.C. Area Drone User Group earlier this year staged a mock search-and-rescue operation in The Plains, Va. Cardboard cutouts were placed around farmland property to simulate lost hikers.

For the most part, enthusiasts aren’t allowed to help out in real-life searches. But that wasn’t the case in July, when a recreational drone took just 20 minutes to find a missing 82-year-old man in the Wisconsin countryside. It was an outcome that dogs, helicopters and volunteer searchers weren’t able to accomplish in three days.

It was validation enough for Reuter. He believes the sky, literally, is the limit for drones.

“There’s a saying: Robots should be used for work that is dirty, dull and dangerous,” he says. “There are situations in which you can afford to lose a drone, but you wouldn’t want to lose a person — a chemical spill, a fire, nuclear radiation. We’re in the very early stages in terms of what the technology is capable of, and society’s understanding of it. Things are going to transform hugely over the next 10 years.”

Andrew Faught is a freelance writer living in central California. He has written widely on issues and ideas of higher education.
Connecticut College is leading efforts to prevent sexual assault by creating a culture of accountability

On most college campuses today, sexual assault isn't discussed over a cup of coffee in the dining hall. It isn't talked about on the playing fields. It isn't something most students feel comfortable conversing about with their friends, their professors, their administrators.

Connecticut College is different.

It's just the second day of classes in the fall semester, and a group of 10 students have joined President Katherine Bergeron, several staff members and representatives from the community for an open discussion with U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal about sexual assault. Blumenthal is on a nine-campus listening tour, and the students are eager to talk.

They explain to Connecticut's senior senator what they have learned about sexual assault and their roles in preventing it. They describe working with new students at Orientation, launching campuswide awareness campaigns, and undergoing training on how to recognize dangerous situations and intervene. It's the senator's second visit to campus since April, and he's clearly impressed.

"This generation is educating us," Blumenthal says.

A few weeks earlier, Blumenthal was part of a bipartisan group of senators that proposed new federal legislation in response to growing national discontent with the way sexual assault cases are handled on college and university campuses. The Campus Accountability and Safety Act would require colleges to provide confidential support for survivors of sexual assault, set minimum standards for training certain staff and faculty, and create a penalty structure for noncompliance.

Blumenthal told the students that pieces of the bill were inspired by Connecticut College's comprehensive approach to sexual assault prevention.

It's an approach that, in the last five years, has created a major culture shift on campus. It involves everyone in the community, and students play a critical role. That such an inclusive approach is working is, in many ways, a reflection of the College's decades-old Honor Code, which upholds the highest academic and community standards.

"There is something about a culture of accountability..."
that has helped change the conversation,” says Bergeron. “People believe that it is their responsibility to speak out when something isn’t right.”

A VISIONARY MOVE

A 2007 study by the U.S. Justice Department’s National Institute of Justice found that nearly one in five college-aged women reported having experienced sexual assault or attempted sexual assault during their time in college. Other studies and surveys suggest that during the course of a lifetime, one in four women will experience sexual assault.

The statistics are staggering, and laws and guidelines for how colleges should respond have evolved. The 1972 Title IX law, which guarantees Americans equal access to education regardless of sex or gender, gave the U.S. Department of Education oversight over the way colleges handle sexual assault cases. But what the law requires of colleges hasn’t always been clear, and the guidelines handed down by the department have become increasingly complex over time. In 2011, the department issued a memo now commonly referred to as the “Dear Colleague Letter” to provide further guidance to institutions on their responsibilities under the law, spurring new focus on the issue within institutions and in the media.

Several years before the “Dear Colleague Letter,” the discussion about how to improve prevention efforts and provide better services to survivors was already well underway at Connecticut College. Unlike at many schools, no single incident spurred the conversation; rather, it was a lack of reported incidents that had administrators concerned.

In 2007, just two incidents of sexual assault were reported. In 2008, there were three reported cases; in 2009, there were four.

“National statistics indicate that these crimes are notoriously underreported, and the extremely low numbers that were being reported on our campus seemed to reinforce those statistics,” says Associate Dean of Student Life Sarah Cardwell. “If victims come forward, we can make sure they get the support they need.”

Student and faculty activists were leading discussions in classes and across campus, and in 2008, five students in one gender and women’s studies senior seminar, led by Mab Segrest, then the Fuller-Mathai Professor of Gender and Women’s Studies, organized a major campus conference, “The Right to Security of Person: Creating a Campus Free of Sexual Assault.” At the time, the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Violence Against Women was taking applications for grants to create new campus programs and policies to reduce domestic violence and sexual assault. In a move that Bergeron now describes as visionary, College administrators applied.

With $300,000 in funding, Cardwell and others moved ahead with an ambitious plan to hire a full-time coordinator of sexual violence prevention and advocacy, integrate prevention and response training and education into the campus culture, build a community coalition, and enhance survivor services.

GREEN DOTS: Connecticut College has implemented a national bystander intervention program that trains students to recognize situations in which their peers may be in danger and teaches them different techniques — referred to as “Green Dots” — to intervene. These are real examples from Green Dot-trained students.
"When we wrote the grant, I was hopeful," Cardwell says. "But I never imagined we would come this far so quickly."

WE TALK ABOUT IT

A few days before Blumenthal’s August visit to campus, first-year students were in the midst of a six-day Orientation program. They took tours of New London and worked on community service projects, they signed roommate agreements and participated in icebreaker activities, and they met Darcie Folsom.

Bright and articulate, Folsom is instantly likable. She speaks quickly yet softly. She tells jokes and makes easy-to-follow analogies. She’s the type of person just about anyone can talk to, about anything. It’s one of the reasons why, as the College’s director of sexual violence prevention and advocacy, she is so effective.

The position was initially created with the Justice Department grant funding, and Folsom was hired to implement the plan outlined in the proposal, which the College named the Think Sexual Assault-Free Environment Project, or Think S.A.F.E. Since 2010, she has led the College’s efforts to create a campus culture where everyone is thinking about what they can do to prevent sexual assault.

When she meets with first-year students during Orientation, Folsom tells them about the College’s policies. She educates them about what it means to consent to sexual activity, tells them how to report sexual misconduct and talks to them about how to get involved in various programs. She also introduces them to the concept of bystander intervention — the idea that when they recognize situations in which their peers might be in danger or at risk, they have a responsibility to do something about it.

“We don’t pretend that sexual assault isn’t an issue here; we make sure everyone knows it is an issue,” Folsom says. “That’s how we are different — we talk about it all the time.”

Taking their cues from upperclass students, first-year students learn quickly that community accountability is part of the campus culture, says Think S.A.F.E. intern Cecily Cushman ’15. “It isn’t in one ear and out the other. They understand from day one that this is what Connecticut College is all about.”

One particular program has empowered more than 500 students to actively participate in prevention efforts: Green Dot. It’s a national program implemented by the College in 2010 that trains students in bystander intervention.

Folsom and CC Curtiss, the College’s director of student wellness and alcohol and other drug education, lead the six-hour Green Dot training sessions. They teach students to recognize situations in which someone may be at risk for sexual assault or domestic violence, and arm them with different techniques — referred to as “Green Dots” — to intervene.

“Green Dot training gives you the confidence to quickly analyze tough situations and act on them,” says Lucas Corrubia ’15.

Zach Punt ’15, who plays on the men’s soccer team with Corrubia, said the two used the skills they learned in Green Dot training during their first week on campus this fall. As they were headed to their River Ridge apartment, across Route 32 from the main portion of campus, they saw a car they didn’t recognize. Two individuals inside were clearly arguing, and one of them looked very upset.

“They were involved in a domestic dispute, and there were signs of violence,” Punt says. He and Corrubia called campus safety immediately, and New London police officers arrived quickly.

“If we had not had Green Dot training, the situation might have been very different. I might not have realized what was going on, and I might not have done anything about it,” Punt says.

When the College first offered the voluntary training, it was mostly student leaders and activists who signed up. But word spread quickly, and soon students from all across campus were being trained. Approximately 20 percent of current students are Green Dot graduates, and Nearly one in five college-aged women reported
nearly 40 percent of first-year students have signed up to attend the training.

Jessica Lyons, associate director of the national Green Dot organization, says that the goal for schools implementing the program is to train 10-20 percent of the campus community. “That’s the tipping point where a new behavior becomes a social norm,” she says. “Connecticut College is way ahead of the game compared to other colleges that are still building that critical mass.”

A STUDENT-CENTERED APPROACH

Green Dot is just one element of the College’s student-centered approach to prevention. Much of the programming is driven by Think S.A.F.E. interns and two active and rapidly growing student groups: SafetyNet, a group of mostly female student activists, and One in Four, the College’s chapter of an all-male organization that educates men on sexual violence prevention.

“It’s critical for students to be involved in this issue, and our students have a history of developing creative solutions,” says Bergeron. “As an institution, we don’t shy away from taking on difficult issues — we never have.”

Throughout the year, students plan all sorts of events and awareness campaigns to reach their peers. They play “Family Feud” with relevant questions, for example, and host discussions about gender, race and violence in video games. One popular awareness campaign, “These Hands Don’t Hurt,” encourages students to declare what they do with their hands — instead of hurting people — in Magic Marker on their palms (examples include “give high-fives” and “write my thesis”), then post the pictures on social media. Another, “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes,” invites men to walk around campus in red high-heeled shoes to show support for survivors of sexual assault. Last year, Alia Roth ’14 created a viral video that featured 100 male students explaining why vaginas are important to them, as part of a campaign to promote the College’s annual production of Eve Ensler’s “The Vagina Monologues.”

“So many schools have programs for prevention, but their student bodies are not necessarily aware of them,” says Think S.A.F.E. intern Bettina Weiss ’15. “We understand how to reach the students.”

The key is to keep the topic on everyone’s minds and engage all students, not just those who are activists.

“Students probably don’t want to go to an hour-long session about sexual assault, but they might be willing to..."
talk about it in the context of a 'House of Cards' storyline that includes sexual violence," Folsom says, referencing a popular television drama.

Blake Reilly '14, who served as president of the College's chapter of One in Four, says he came to campus when the work was just beginning. Several years later, he has witnessed the culture change firsthand.

"The College provided us with the tools and education to talk about these issues, but then the students harnessed that energy and spread the message for Conn to become a safer place for everyone," he says.

ATHLETES AS ACTIVISTS

In June, U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill brought together law enforcement officers, prosecutors and representatives from several colleges and universities across the country for a roundtable discussion in Washington, D.C., on the challenges of and best practices for addressing sexual assault on college campuses. Folsom was invited to participate at the recommendation of Blumenthal. When the discussion turned to the role of athletics departments and a national sports culture that tends to overlook or downplay sexual assault, Blumenthal praised the work Connecticut College has done in engaging athletes as activists.

It started three years ago, when a few members of the men's hockey team who had completed Green Dot training had an idea for getting the whole team involved. They wanted to dedicate one of their games to raising awareness for the program.

"Athletes have the ability to be leaders on campus," says former hockey player Kevin Reich '14. "It was important for us to step up and say, 'We are not going to stand for sexual assault.'"

They went all out. At a Saturday night game against Tufts University, the players wore bright green laces in their sneakers, fans donned Green Dot T-shirts and the Zamboni was outfitted with a Green Dot banner. A large Green Dot logo placed in the ice remained for the duration of the season.

The game was the start of an annual tradition that has since spread to other athletic teams. The hockey team now has special green jerseys ("Those jerseys are pretty lucky," says Tom Conlin '16), the women's lacrosse team has hosted two Green Dot games, and two teams — men's soccer and women's volleyball — turned their Fall Weekend matches, typically their best-attended of the year, into Green Dot games this fall.

The games have been effective in raising awareness among athletes, who make up nearly a third of the student body. A member of the women's lacrosse team has served as a Think S.A.F.E. intern for each of the last four years, and many athletes have been trained in Green Dot and are getting involved in student advocacy groups.

Fran Shields, the Katherine Wenk Christoffers '45 Director of Athletics and Chair of the Physical Education Department at the College, says getting whole teams involved helps change attitudes, perceptions and actions.

"If we can educate our student-athletes, they can 'pay it forward' on their teams, on campus and in the broader community," Shields says.

ADVOCATING FOR SURVIVORS

In addition to prevention and awareness efforts, a major focus of the College has been on improving access to services for survivors of sexual assault.

A coordinated community response team was created, bringing together representatives from campus and a number of community partners, including the local sexual assault and domestic violence crisis centers, police departments, and state's attorney's office, as well as the victim's advocate from the local court system, to share resources and help smooth the referral process for survivors who want to pursue various options.

"Connecticut College takes the right approach to supporting survivors," says Katherine Verano, director of client services at Safe Futures, an organization that provides services and support for people impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault in southeastern Connecticut.

"The staff offers confidentiality, helps victims understand their options and gets them connected with the right services. The College has done a phenomenal job, and victims are comfortable coming forward."
If survivors are comfortable coming forward, Verano and other experts say, the number of reports will rise. “It doesn’t mean this is happening more—it means you are doing a better job creating an environment where people can get the help they need,” Verano says.

That is exactly the environment Connecticut College has been working to create, administrators say, and survivors are beginning to come forward. In 2011, 2012 and 2013, there were 20 reports of sexual assault on campus, a significant increase from the nine reports in the three-year period before the College received the Department of Justice grant.

It’s counterintuitive, but the higher number of reports is evidence that the College is making progress. It’s a point that has been emphasized in recent months by Blumenthal and other senators, especially McCaskill. “Any parent that is looking at a college or university and sees that they have had no incidents of sexual assault ... run from that university, because they are not taking the problem seriously,” McCaskill told reporters when the newly proposed legislation was announced.

Over time, as the culture continues to shift to one of prevention, the College expects to see a sharp decrease in the number of incidents, which will ultimately lead to a lower number of reports.

There are other indicators that the efforts are having an impact beyond the campus. Students are taking Green Dot’s message home with them (“Even my mom has a Green Dot shirt, and she tells all of her friends about it,” says Cushman), and some alumni are choosing prevention and advocacy work for their careers. Several are working as advocates for sexual assault and domestic violence survivors. Reilly, the former president of One in Four, is a coordinator of residential life and programming at Bates College, where he is working to implement a bystander intervention program and is advising a student group, Men Against Sexual Violence.

“Making Conn a safer place became a passion of mine,” Reilly says. “I want to help make Bates a safer place, just like Darcie and the student activists have done at Conn.”

AN ONGOING EFFORT

While the College has made significant progress in recent years, the work is ongoing. With the success of student Green Dot training, there is a new emphasis on training other members of the community. Additional training is planned for faculty and staff, and Judy Kirmmse, the College’s affirmative action officer and Title IX coordinator, has enhanced efforts to train faculty and staff to understand their roles and responsibilities under the law.

“As faculty, we need to recognize that this is part of our students’ experiences, that we could all be teaching survivors,” says Gender and Women’s Studies Professor Ariella Rotramel. “I feel confident in the services that are available to my students, and that’s comforting.”

The College is also collaborating with other institutions and community partners. Early in the fall semester, the College hosted a two-day training session for more than 120 Title IX investigators from 19 campuses, and Kirmmse is working with the University of Connecticut’s Title IX coordinator to create a regional forum for institutions to share ideas and collaborate on projects. As the Department of Education continues to provide clarity, ensuring full compliance with Title IX remains a priority.

Administrators are constantly reviewing the College’s policies and working to ensure that procedures are fair and equitable, and Bergeron has announced a new task force that will study the College’s policies and Title IX compliance this year.

“We can always do better, because sexual assault is still happening on college campuses across the country,” Bergeron says. “It will take a national effort to change the greater culture, but it can be done, and Connecticut College is playing a vital role by educating this generation of young adults to lead safer and healthier lives.”

“As an institution, we don’t shy away from taking on difficult issues—we never have.”

— PRESIDENT BERGERON

to attend future Green Dot training
Author Luanne Rice '77 channels the emotional turmoil of life into best-selling fiction.

SEASIDE SCENERY New York Times best-selling author Luanne Rice '77 poses on the deck of her cottage above Point O' Woods Beach in Old Lyme, Conn. The beachside community is the inspiration for the fictional Hubbard's Point, which serves as the setting for several of Rice's novels.
OVER HER DECADES-LONG WRITING CAREER, Luanne Rice ’77 has amassed a large, devoted following. Most of her 31 novels feature breezy titles, like “Dream Country” and “The Perfect Summer,” with covers featuring softly hued images of young women staring off toward the sea. Those perusing bookshelves might be quick to classify them as “beach reads,” but with those pastel-colored sunsets come turbulence and unpredictability. It’s the prevailing metaphor of Rice’s fiction — and her life.

Rice herself projects the serenity of a calm sea. Gulls wail in the background as she reminisces about her life from inside the beach cottage in Old Lyme, Conn., that her grandparents built in 1938. It’s a scene pulled straight from her novels — readers will recognize the half moon-shaped Point O’ Woods Beach as the fictional Hubbard’s Point, the setting of several of the novels that define the most prolific part of Rice’s career.

She has a way of drawing you in like an old friend, and even the sound of her smooth, measured voice is soothing. But there’s a roiling intensity to Rice’s inner life, and that placid exterior belies the razor-sharp intelligence she packs into her work. From her debut novel, “Angels All Over Town,” to her most recent, “The Lemon Orchard,” her characters struggle with family and loss, all the while being drawn inevitably to the ocean.

“I’m interested in the way people live on the edge, the borderline. There’s something about stepping off that intrigues me,” she says. “Also, there’s hardship and beauty — the light and the tides and the currents of things that are swept in and swept away.”

Continued next page >
Before dawn, the air smelled of lemons. Roberto slept in the small cabin in the grove in the Santa Monica Mountains, salt wind off the Pacific Ocean sweetening the scent of bitter fruit and filling his dreams with memories of home. He was back in Mexico before he'd come to the United States in search of goodness for his family, in another huerto de limones, the lemon orchard buzzing with bees and the voices of workers talking, Rosa playing with her doll Maria. Maria had sheer angel wings and Roberto's grandmother had whispered to Rosa that she had magic powers and could fly.

Rosa wore her favorite dress, white with pink flowers, sewn by his grandmother. Roberto stood high on the ladder, taller in the dream than any real one would reach. From here he could see over the treetops, his gaze sweeping the valley toward Popocatepetl and iztaccihuatl, the two snow-covered volcanic peaks to the west. His grandmother had told him the legend, that the mountains were lovers, the boy shielding the girl, and tall on his ladder Roberto felt stronger than anyone, and he heard his daughter talking to her doll. In dream magic, his basket spilling over with lemons, he slid down the tree and lifted Rosa into his arms. She was five, with laughing brown eyes and cascades of dark curls, and she slung her skinny arm around his neck and pressed her face into his shoulder. In the dream he was wise and knew there was no better life, no greater goodness, than what they already had. He held her and promised nothing bad would ever happen to her, and if he could have slept forever those words would be true. Sleep prolonged the vision, his eyes shut tight against the dawn light, and the scent of limones enhanced the hallucination that Rosa was with him still and always....

For a longer excerpt, visit cconline.conncoll.edu. This passage is reprinted by arrangement with Viking, a member of Penguin Group (USA) LLC, A Penguin Random House Company. Copyright © Luanne Rice, 2013.

EARLY INFLUENCES

Rice was lucky enough to experience some very early success: She published her first work, a poem about Christmas lights, in The Hartford Courant at age 11 and had her first short story published in American Girl magazine when she was 15. “I got the idea early on that when you wrote something, it appeared in print — I didn’t realize my mother was sending in everything I wrote for me,” she says with a laugh.

Her mother, Lucille, a schoolteacher, wrote every night after putting her three daughters to bed. While Lucille never published her prose, her influence on Rice was indelible. “Her devotion to writing was very poignant,” says Rice. “My lullaby was the sound of her typewriter.”

In 1974, Rice enrolled at Connecticut College. Geographically, it wasn’t far from her hometown of New Britain, Conn., but in most ways, the College was a world away from her working-class Irish Catholic upbringing.

“For a writer who was inspired by the sea, the setting was very important to me,” recalls Rice. The view from Branford House — of the Thames River opening up into Long Island Sound and the Atlantic Ocean — stirred her imagination. “I wrote a lot of short stories at school sitting in my dorm room and hearing the foghorns.”

Her Branford House roommate, Diane McKeever '77, impossibly worldly and sophisticated in Rice’s eyes, introduced her to the works of Matisse and Miles Davis and engaged her in all-night philosophical conversations. “We’re still in very close touch. She calls me her fellow metaphysician, which I love,” says Rice.

One larger-than-life anthropology professor, June Macklin, took Rice under her wing and even took her horseback riding. “She traveled to a lot of very interesting places and did archaeological digs, and I remember thinking, ‘I’d like to be like her and do that’ — discover things and write about them and learn the stories of humanity,” Rice recalls. “Several of my characters have been anthropologists because of her.”

When her adviser discovered Rice’s interest in all things seafaring, she enrolled her in a navigation course at the nearby U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Rice recalls that because she was the first and only woman in the class, her white-uniformed classmates would stand whenever she entered the room. “They didn’t know how to behave with me,” she says fondly, letting loose a laugh. The knowledge
she gained about using sextants as a navigational tool has made its way into several of her novels.

From all outward appearances, it should have been an idyllic time in Rice's life. It wasn't.

At the beginning of her first year on campus, Rice's father, whom she describes as a deeply complicated World War II vet who had survived being shot down from a plane after bombing Dresden, fell ill with lymphoma. His condition deteriorated rapidly, leaving Rice feeling divided between her new, exciting life in college and her family.

The emotional upheaval took its toll, and Rice took a leave of absence from the College. She attempted to return two separate times, but all told, she spent less than two years on campus. "It was such an important place to me, and then I left it so sadly and abruptly," she says. "I never got over feeling unfinished at Connecticut College."

In 2002, three eventful decades after she left the College, Rice was invited to donate her papers to Connecticut College and accept an honorary degree. Even after landing 22 of her novels on New York Times' best-seller lists and receiving the 2014 Connecticut Governor's Art Award for lifetime achievement in literature, for which she shared a stage with Academy Award-winning actor Christopher Plummer and artist Tim Prentice, Rice considers her belated-than-never degree from Connecticut College as one of the biggest thrills of her life. "I wore a cap and gown — I still have my tassel. It's right by my desk."

Rice's papers, correspondence and manuscripts are now housed in the College's Linda Lear Center for Special Collections & Archives, and her experience on campus continues to impact her life in the most unexpected ways.

"I was giving a talk this past June in Bank Square Books in Mystic, Conn., and I saw this beautiful woman sitting there in the crowd wearing a purple hat," Rice recalls. "It was Professor Macklin. I hadn't seen her since 1975 or '76. . . . I was so moved that she even remembered me."

Macklin certainly does remember Rice. "She was one of my first students," Macklin says, "and she was one of those students who made me realize I had picked the right profession."

MINING LIFE FOR FICTION

After her father died, Rice spent three months on a schooner studying whales. The majority of her 20s were spent in New York City, cleaning houses to make money, falling in love, and rubbing shoulders with the literary elite, including her late friend and mentor, New Yorker critic Brendan Gill.

She wrote whenever she found a spare moment, but she quickly found that getting published wasn't quite as easy as it had been when she was 11 years old. She completed her first

THE BEST OF THE BEST SELLERS

Over 29 years, Lu Anne Rice '77 has sold millions of copies of more than 30 novels. Her work explores deep emotional, familial and social themes that play out in evocative and richly imagined locales. Here is a small but representative starter kit of titles for the uninitiated, from Rick Koster, arts and music reporter for The Day of New London.

FOLLOW THE STARS HOME (2000) – A troubled lobsterman named Tim abandons his wife, Dianne, just before their daughter is born with severe disabilities. Though Dianne remains hopeful Tim will return, she's devoted to the child, Julia, and resolutely builds a life in spite of Julia's grim prognosis. She also takes in a troubled 12-year-old, Amy, who gradually becomes a valued part of the household. Julia's pediatrician, Alan, is also an important part of Dianne's support system. In addition to being Tim's brother, Alan has always been secretly in love with Dianne. A classic Rice tale, "Follow the Stars Home" is romantic fiction at its best.

SILVER BELLS (2004) – It's Yule time in Manhattan. Catherine, a lonely widow, meets a Christmas tree farmer from Nova Scotia named Christy who annually comes to the city to sell his trees. Though it's good business, Christy is also motivated to try to find Danny, his runaway son. Unbeknownst to either Christy or Catherine, there are many overlapping circumstances that involve Danny and might provide seasonally appropriate resolution. If this sounds familiar, it's because a warm, made-for-TV version airs regularly in December on the Hallmark Channel.

LITTLE NIGHT (2012) – Clare attempts to protect her sister, Anne, from a violent husband — and ends up serving two years in prison for assault after Anne lies in court to protect her spouse. The siblings remain estranged for decades, but the story takes a clever and riveting turn when Anne's daughter, Grit — herself the victim of parental abuse — shows up unannounced to stay with Clare. It's an absorbing study of the myriad types of domestic cruelty and, ultimately, a powerful study of recovery and trust.

THE LEMON ORCHARD (2013) – This is Rice's masterpiece. Grieving over the loss of her daughter, Julia flees to a relative's estate in Malibu and develops a relationship with Roberto, the undocumented overseer of the property. He, too, has a missing daughter, Rosa, from whom he was separated as they crossed the Mexican border into the U.S. But is Rosa alive and can they find her? It's a beautiful love story enmeshed in the searing and timely reality of undocumented immigration.
AUTHORS ACROSS THE DECADES

Hundreds of Connecticut College alumni are accomplished authors, poets and writers. Here are a few examples:

CECELIA HOLLAND '65
Since the release of her first novel, “The Firedrake,” in 1966, this New York Times best-selling historical novelist has written more than 40 books and become one of the foremost writers in the genre. Holland’s novels weave fictional stories into a wide range of historical places and events, from Mongol conquests to the erection of Stonehenge to the California gold rush.

DONALD GALLINGER '75
A high school English teacher, Gallinger has authored three novels about World War II and rock ‘n’ roll music. His most recent, “The Master Planets,” tells the story of a musician coming to terms with a family member’s checkered past. The novel garnered praise from Jewish Book World and Booklist, which called it “a sleek, absorbing narrative.”

WILLIAM LYCHACK ‘88
Lychack burst onto the literary scene in 2005 with his renowned debut novel, “The Wasp Eater,” a New York Times best-seller that follows a young boy as he tries to reunite his estranged parents. Lychack has also released a collection of short stories, “The Architect of Flowers,” and published numerous essays, reviews and poems. A former writer-in-residence at Phillips Academy, Lychack is currently a faculty member in the creative writing program at Lesley University.

HANNAH TINTI ’94
Tinti is the founder and editor-in-chief of the literary magazine One Story, which publishes a short story in each issue. A collection of her own short stories, “The Strange and Funny ‘Animal Crackers,” was a runner-up for the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award. Tinti’s first novel, “The Good Thief,” tells the story of an orphan adopted by a pair of men and led into a life of crime; the book earned several awards and was praised by The New York Times and Washington Post.

JESSICA SOFFER ’07
Soffer’s debut novel, “Tomorrow There Will Be Apricots,” was published in 2013 to critical acclaim from reviewers such as Time and The Atlantic. The book uses two protagonists, a self-harming teenage girl and an elderly Iraqi-Jewish cooking instructor, to explore love, grief and family. Soffer’s work has also been published in major news outlets such as Vogue and The Wall Street Journal. She is currently an adjunct instructor of English at Connecticut College.

novel, “Favored Daughters,” in the early 1980s, but you won’t find that title on any bookshelf.

“It’s the classic ‘novel in a drawer,’” Rice says. Thirty publishers turned it down.

“It was the only thing of hers that we did not sell!” recalls Andrea Cirillo, Rice’s literary agent of almost three decades. “But it was so wonderful that there was no doubt in my mind that I wanted to work with her.”

Rice got the sense that the rejections were “good rejections,” and she used them as inspiration to write “Angels All Over Town,” a novel about three sisters dealing with the death of their father. It was published by Atheneum in 1985.

After her first taste of success, Rice immediately started work on her second novel, “Crazy in Love,” which, to her surprise, became the splashy novel that really launched her career. It eventually became a best seller and was adapted into a television movie starring Holly Hunter, Frances McDormand, Bill Pullman and Gena Rowlands.

Throughout her career, Rice has mined the upheavals of her personal life for her fiction. She wrote “Crazy in Love,” about a woman in a seemingly perfect but troubled marriage, while living in Paris with her first husband. Their marriage ended shortly after the book was published. The devastating loss of her mother after a long battle with a brain tumor inspired her 1999 novel “Cloud Nine.” Two more marriages and subsequent divorces, along with the relationships within her own close-knit but complicated family, make their way into nearly all of her books.

Rice admits she uses her writing as a way to “figure it all out,” working out her issues in the pages of her books. For her 2004 novel “Beach Girls,” she decided to be more honest than ever. “I decided to write a novel about a woman who’s me,” says Rice.

“She writes about the Connecticut shoreline and wears a straw hat and has an herb garden, but in real life has a darkness inside her.” By then, Rice had built up an allegiance of devoted fans and she worried that her readers might desert her. Instead, they embraced the story. It spent six weeks on the New York Times best-seller list, rising as high as No. 3, behind only Dan Brown's “Angels & Demons” and Nicholas Sparks’ “The Notebook.” It was adapted for a Lifetime miniseries soon after publication.

‘STILL AN ENIGMA’

Despite having worked much of her life into her fiction, Rice worries that she’s still an enigma to even her most loyal readers. At one point early in her career, she posed for an author’s photo in her herb garden wearing her straw hat. It was an image her then-publisher told her would be most appealing to her fans. “I always thought that’s how my readers saw me,” she says. At the time, she wondered, “What would my readers think if they knew I wore black and live in Chelsea and have been divorced three times?”

Today, she splits her time between homes in Malibu and Manhattan, but there is something about the Connecticut
coastline of her childhood that always calls her back to her grandparents’ cottage. She still writes daily, and the success of “Beach Girls” gave Rice the license to drift away from that serene image and plunge into darker emotional territory and the political issues that inspire her.

Recently, she braved 106-degree heat in the Anza-Borrego desert in Ocotillo, Calif., to aid Mexican immigrants crossing the U.S. border. Her interactions with undocumented workers inspired her most recent novel, “The Lemon Orchard.” She’s also an advocate for victims of domestic violence — she has opened up about her own experience with emotional abuse on her blog — and lends her time to environmental causes. Although she doesn’t have children, she is close with her four nieces (including Molly Goettsche Feinstein ‘07 and Molly’s husband, Alex Feinstein ‘07) and considers herself very maternal. Over the last few years, she has developed a close bond with a student originally from Zimbabwe who is now a sophomore at UMass Boston. “I’m her person,” says Rice, who considers the young woman a surrogate daughter.

“Luanne has so many stories inside of her,” marvels Cirillo, her agent. “She’s going to write until she’s a hundred.”

It’s likely, since Rice equates writing to breathing. It’s the way she takes life in and makes sense of it, and she encourages others to do the same.

“When you’re writing, don’t think about what your mother’s going to think, what your teacher’s going to think,” she says. “Let yourself be scared, without boundaries.”

Stephan Lee is a staff writer covering books, movies and TV at Entertainment Weekly.
Filmmaker Michael Sheridan ’89 is letting Haitians tell their stories

SINCE BEING STRUCK by a devastating earthquake in 2010, the Caribbean nation of Haiti has been portrayed by the domestic media as a land of struggle and poverty, where help from the outside is the Haitian people’s only hope.

But documentary filmmaker Michael Sheridan ’89 knows there is another story. Haitians are starting their own initiatives to recover, and Sheridan wants them to tell their stories in their own unique way. To do that, he is turning the typical documentary style on its head.

Sheridan, the founder and director of Community Supported Film (CSFilm), is training Haitian storytellers in the production of 10 short films that will focus on the causes of and solutions to the economic and social development challenges Haiti has faced since the earthquake.

“We want to bring the Haitian perspective into the conversation about these humanitarian issues,” he says.

The project will bring together CSFilm, Haitian media organizations, and Haitian and international NGOs, and the finished product is expected to be broadcast by Haitian and international outlets.

Sheridan founded CSFilm in 2010 and completed a similar film project in Afghanistan that same year. “The Fruit of Our Labor: Afghan Perspectives in Film” was awarded the $10,000 Promotions Prize at the International Short Film Festival in Switzerland and has been discussed in forums across the United States, from town halls to the halls of Congress.

Sheridan says he came up with the idea for CSFilm to fuse his interests in teaching and filmmaking, while also helping local people take control of the stories being told about their economic and social
development challenges. "I realized that if we really wanted to understand the plight of others or help them, we needed to understand the problems and solutions from their perspectives," he says.

His passion for advocacy was developed during his college years — or, perhaps more accurately, between college years. Having grown up working in the theater, Sheridan took a sabbatical from college after his junior year to embark on a two-year independent study of the theater of other cultures. The two-year trip turned into a seven-year journey through Europe, during which he found himself deeply immersed in social and political movements.

After returning to Connecticut College to complete his senior year in 1989, Sheridan took a job at the international development organization Oxfam America in Boston. It was there that he partnered with a colleague on a documentary about poverty in Guatemala and began to focus on filmmaking. His work has appeared on PBS, ABC, TLC and Discovery Channel.

In 2013, Sheridan took part in TEDxConnecticutCollege, where he discussed media consumption and its impact on how we see situations faced by others. "We all have to demand an improvement in our news diet — a balanced diet that is less self-centered, that includes local perspectives, and would help us be better informed," Sheridan told students.

— Josh Anusewicz

Julie Mombello ‘83 works with students at the Adam J. Lewis Preschool in Bridgeport, Conn.

**Changing lives, a few children at a time**

**JULIE MOMBELLO ’83** doesn’t work for free. She is paid daily in hugs and smiles.

Her end-of-the-year bonus? Watching a group of 4- and 5-year-olds leave the Adam J. Lewis Preschool feeling smart, confident and ready for kindergarten.

Mombello, a certified teacher, helped her friend of 20 years, Patty Lewis, open the nonprofit school. With its spacious classrooms, enviable 4 to 1 student-to-teacher ratio, quiet reading nook and even a class pet, Flipper the fish, it looks a lot like the classrooms in the wealthy suburbs of Connecticut’s Fairfield County, where Mombello spent the majority of her career. But this school is in Bridgeport, Conn., where as many as 40 percent of children live in poverty and up to half of all students drop out of high school.

“Our goal was to take a Westport preschool and drop it in the middle of Bridgeport,” Mombello says. “It’s what everybody should have access to.”

Access to education was important to the school’s namesake, Patty Lewis’ late husband, Adam Lewis, who was killed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks while working in the World Trade Center.

“After Adam’s death, it became a dream of Patty’s to create an enriched, stimulating preschool in Bridgeport, so that the disadvantaged children living there would have an opportunity to receive the same high-quality education as their neighbors living just a few miles away in wealthier towns,” Mombello says.

Mombello, who majored in English and later earned a master’s degree in teaching, initially offered to help with public speaking and fundraising. But the more she learned about the project, the more involved she got.

Lewis had purchased a foreclosed building in Bridgeport’s west end, and the two friends got to work renovating it. They officially opened with 12 students in December 2013. Full tuition for the five-day-a-week program, which runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., is $175 a week, but families pay only what they can: one family pays as little as $15 a week, while the highest-paying family pays $100. The vast majority of the funding comes from donations, and Mombello and Lewis volunteer on a full-time basis.

Mombello says she is amazed at how quickly the children have excelled. "The child who spoke no English is now speaking in full sentences. The one we thought might be on the autism spectrum is now a chatterbox," she says. "It’s so emotionally rewarding."

Word of their program is spreading quickly, and Mombello and Lewis plan to expand the enrollment at the school to 16. Long-term plans include the possibility of opening a second school in Bridgeport.

"It’s small scale, but we hope we can make a difference, a few children at a time," Mombello says. — Amy Martin

**Julie Mombello**

Julie Mombello works with students at the Adam J. Lewis Preschool in Bridgeport, Conn.
Capturing humanity

IT STARTED WITH A GIFT — a Polaroid camera — when Daryl Hawk ’79 was 12.

As he held the prints in his hand and watched the colors emerge, Hawk realized he could preserve time.

He was hooked.

Today, his photography business in Wilton, Conn., pays the bills and supports his family. He gets rave reviews for his wedding work, and his business clients include General Electric Co., IBM, the Travel Channel and Apple.

But Hawk's real passion is adventure. He travels to some of the world's most remote places to document landscapes and ways of life that are quickly disappearing.

Hawk doesn't just take photos. When he comes home, he is an ambassador. He thrives on sharing his images and talking with others about what he has seen and the people he has met.

"As a human race, we are all the same. You have to get out in the world to understand that."

— Daryl Hawk ’79

"As a human race, we are all the same. You have to get out in the world to understand that."

This spring, Hawk became one of the first Westerners to traverse Ladakh in the high passes of the Himalayas. During his 4,200-mile trek, Hawk photographed ancient cave paintings, spent a day with nomads on the Tibetan plateau, followed the trail of a snow leopard and visited several monasteries. He is now putting together a presentation on his journey and working with a producer on a film about his travels.

Hawk says his adventurous spirit comes from his parents and grandparents, all world travelers. "I was born with an explorer's gene. It's in my DNA."

His passion for photography also came from his grandfather, an avid shutterbug. Hawk said his style hasn't changed much since his days at Connecticut College, when he took a photography course taught by Art Professor Ted Hendrickson. He was an English major, but wanted to follow his heart.

"I was not thinking about making a career in photography, but Ted made me realize how much I loved it," he says. "I remember going to the Arboretum several times a week to take abstract nature photographs. He really challenged us to think outside of the box, look at life up close, and explore the nuances of light and color."

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Hawk's next adventure: an expedition to Yunnan, China, home to many ethnic tribes. "I like going into the unknown," he says.

— Barb Nagy
The world on a string

REBECCA LOOMIS HIGBY '99 has been "around the world" — pun intended. A yo-yo trickster, Higby has traveled extensively with her husband, John Higby, performing as the Yo-Yo People. The two have delighted audiences in 26 countries, sometimes earning local celebrity status.

“We're really popular in South Korea,” Higby says. “After the show, volunteers had to push back people who wanted photos and autographs.”

With a set of tricks worthy of the Guinness Book of World Records, the Higbys have earned their popularity. John Higby holds the Guinness record for lighting 18 matches in one minute with a yo-yo. The couple shares another record for knocking 14 coins off participants' ears in one minute with a yo-yo.

Currently, the Higbys, who live in Amherst, Mass., are performing in cities across the U.S. A typical show lasts 45 minutes and features tricks far more complicated than the aforementioned "Around the World." Higby has a knack for hula hooping; peppy music, humor and dancing keep audiences engaged and laughing from start to finish.

More impressive than their tricks might be their ability to translate humor across cultures. "In somewhere like Japan," Higby says, "the humor is different. We ask local performers, 'What's funny? What's the current pop culture joke?" The couple works the answers into the routine.

"We use a routine that I learned at Conn in one of our shows."

— Rebecca Loomis Higby '99

One dance number might look familiar to Higby's classmates. While she majored in human development, Higby took several dance electives. "We use a routine that I learned at Conn in one of our shows," she says.

So, how exactly does one become a world-renowned yo-yo phenomenon? After graduating with her teaching certification, Higby moved to Denver. While she considered a position teaching first grade (she eventually declined), she worked at a popular toy store where she picked up yo-yoing and met John Higby, who taught weekly yo-yo classes to kids. She began working as an assistant in John Higby's shows, and a few years later, became a full part of the act. They've performed for schools and libraries, for corporate gigs and festivals, at Disney World, and on TV shows, including the "Late Show with David Letterman" and "America's Got Talent."

“She's a natural comedian," John Higby says. “She just has something special, and the audience really recognizes it."

Despite her unconventional life as an entertainer, Higby says the yo-yo shows allow her to teach in "a really alternative way," and she praises the College's Education Department for letting students develop their own ideas. "They let you figure out how you wanted to teach, instead of just telling you how to be a teacher," she says.

She adds, "Even though I'm not teaching in the traditional sense now, I'm sometimes working with hundreds of kids a day. And I know how to quiet them down."

— Melanie Thibeault '14
ANNE KIMBALL DAVIS ’62 remembers arriving at Connecticut College and being told that a liberal arts education gives you the opportunity to do whatever you want in life.

And she should remember. The former teacher, politician, publisher, real estate broker and current Bible scholar is living proof.

“I took those words to heart and, by golly, it’s worked,” says Davis.

Though technically retired, Davis teaches graduate classes in biblical studies at Trinity Southwest University in Albuquerque and is the executive director of BibleInteract, a fellowship of Bible scholars and biblical archaeologists. Davis and her colleagues film their research and lectures and post them on BibleInteract’s website, where they can be streamed online or through set-top boxes like Roku or Apple TV.

This unique teaching strategy allows graduate students all over the world to study at Trinity Southwest without traveling, Davis says, and gives the faculty more time for research.

Davis’ interest in the Bible started later in life, and it quickly became a passion that she describes as “half-spiritual, half-academic.” She has become a leading expert on biblical studies in recent years, regularly appearing on TV and radio programs and authoring four books in the last three years.

Teaching, however, is not new for Davis. With limited options for women in the workforce in the early 60s — “teacher, secretary or nurse,” she says — Davis chose the job she felt provided her the greatest challenge. She would go on to teach in schools in Colorado and California, where she earned her master’s in education from San Diego State University.

Soon after, she married her husband, Hal, and they moved to upstate New York while he worked on a doctorate in physics from Cornell. Davis took the opportunity to get involved with local politics, serving on the town council.

The couple then moved to Austin, where Davis founded a small publishing operation. It was then she learned she had a knack for sales — “You could sell an igloo in Alaska,” someone once told her.

After moving to Albuquerque — her husband got a job at Los Alamos National Laboratory — Davis transitioned into a career in real estate. She was a natural, becoming one of the first women in the United States to be certified to sell commercial real estate. Davis retired from real estate in 1996, and began to delve more deeply into her newfound passion for the Bible. She set to work on an additional master’s degree and graduated with a doctorate in biblical studies from Trinity Southwest in 1999.

Still married — for 46 years — still working and still taking advantage of the liberal arts education that has served her well for more than 50 years, Davis practices what she preaches as a professor, putting learning first and foremost.

“I owe all that I’ve achieved to my education, and it’s a privilege to be able to share my knowledge with young minds.” — Josh Anusewicz
China Goes West: Everything You Need to Know About Chinese Companies Going Global
By Joel Backaler ’06
2014, Palgrave Macmillan, $32
Backaler, a member of the National Committee on United States-China Relations, explores how and why companies in China have expanded into other countries and other economies. His detailed research and interviews with Chinese executives offer much-needed insights, as well as practical advice that could help dispel the distrust many Westerners have about China’s global growth.

The Kitchen Bible: Designing the Perfect Culinary Space
By Barbara Ballinger ’71, Margaret Crane and Jennifer Gilmer
2014, Images Publishing Group, $45
Any homeowner who has ever undertaken a renovation project knows the frustrations that can ensue. But Ballinger and her co-authors may alleviate the pain of a kitchen remodel with this thorough, two-part guide. The first section offers a step-by-step approach to a project, from questions to ask prospective designers to instructions for reading floor plans, and the second has photos of more than 50 beautiful kitchens to provide inspiration.

The Greater Good
By Scott N. Giarman ’78
2014, Dog Ear Publishing, $12.95
Giarman’s novel about the first manned mission to Mars delves into an essential element of what makes us human: scientific inquiry into the most profound existential questions. Despite the nobility of this quest, Giarman notes that it is pursued by people who are imperfect human beings who possess the petty frailties of envy, guilt, jealousy and pride — as well as personal demons — that challenge us all.

Proust, Pastiche, and the Postmodern or Why Style Matters
By James F. Austin
2013, Bucknell University Press, $75
Austin, an associate professor of French, examines the writing style and literary influence of Marcel Proust, whose “In Search of Lost Time” is considered by writers such as Vladimir Nabakov to be a defining novel of the 20th century. The book contends that Proust expertly used pastiche, or imitation of the works of others, to redefine the works of his literary predecessors and to resist coercive political and economic discourse.
1935 REUNION MAY 29-31, 2015
Correspondent: Sabrina (Subby) Burr Sanders, 33 Mill St., Unit 4E, Wethersfield, CT 06109

1936

1937

1938

1939

Correspondent: Class Notes Editor, CC: Magazine, 270 Mohegan Ave., New London, CT 06320, ccmag@conncoll.edu

1940 REUNION MAY 29-31, 2015
Correspondent: Frances Sears Baratz, 87 Plant St., New London, CT 06320, FBaratz@sbcglobal.net

When we celebrated our 50th reunion, we gave a scholarship from our class to the College for the scholarship fund. There is still money available and every year (Frances Sears Baratz) get letters from students thanking our class. Two recent letters were from very worthy members of the classes of 2015 and 2017. In June, I attended the Sykes luncheon for alumni who have celebrated their 50th reunion. Last year, I was the oldest class represented. This year, I sat next to a 102-year-old woman who was here for her 80th reunion and came from St. Augustine, Fla., for the occasion. On my right was a 99-year-old who came from Massachusetts just to see the College again. The speaker was an alumna who serves as director of The Norman Rockwell museum in Stockbridge, Mass. Please call, email or write me with news of our class.

1941

Correspondent: Ethel Moore Wills, P.O. Box 443, Northport, NY 11768, e-mills@bogglobal.net

In my last column, I (Ethel Moore Wills) promised to trace Betty Brick Collier, with whom Betty Smith Twaddle said she was in touch. Betty, your letter to me did not contain any addresses or phone numbers, so will either one of you please contact me? I had a great talk with our valiant class agent, Priscilla (Dux) Duxbury Wescott-Huber. Since many of husband Joe's family were leaving California, she and Joe decided to remain in Hingham, Mass., last winter, where Dux has a large home. Dux's daughter and son-in-law were looking to buy a home in the area, so they have moved in with their three grown children. None of them are at home during the day, but they have someone to prepare the evening meals, and the number at the dinner table varies daily. Their home is just a few blocks from the water, and they can walk to the beach. Dux occasionally uses a cane. She has not been to the College in a while and has not yet met our new president, Katherine Bergeron.

Happy Moore Wills enjoyed a family reunion over Fourth of July, with three visitors for over a week. The Class of '41 extends sympathy to the family and friends of Wilma Swissier Bartholomay, who died March 17, and Susan Shaw Kaffer, who died on May 21, 2013.

1942

Correspondent: Jane "Woodie" Worley Peak, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22101, jwp41@aol.com

Shirley Armstrong Meniece went to the Garden Club of America Annual Meeting in New Orleans, ate at some great restaurants and enjoyed a Preservation Hall Jazz Band concert. It reminded me of when Bette Shields MacDonald and I (Ann Lelièvre Hermann) spent a weekend in New Orleans 60 years ago, when we worked together at Esquire. Bette lives in Denver now, but we are still in touch and see each other occasionally. She visits San Francisco for ballet performances.

Mary Watkins Wolpert and husband Henry are rather unenthusiastically waiting for an apartment to open up at The Carillon (a retirement community) in Boulder, Colo. "After 90 years, my body is tired... of running our home. We love Colorado Springs, but we should get closer to our son." Mary is looking for "good reads." She recommends "A Thread of Grace" by Mary Doria Russell, which takes place toward the end of WWII in partisan Italy, "I give it 5 stars." And I recommend "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak, and "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd, a fascinating...
Camels in the news

Judy Irving '68 has a new documentary, "Pelican Dreams," premiering Oct. 24. The film tells the tale of a wayward brown pelican found on San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge and brought to a wildlife rehabilitation facility. It explores the pelican's nesting ground, Pacific migration and survival challenges. Irving has received widespread acclaim for her past films, including "The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill" and "Dark Circle," which won an Emmy and the grand prize for documentary films at the Sundance Film Festival.

Annie-B Parson '80 served as the choreographer for the David Byrne musical "Here Lies Love," which ran this summer at New York City's Public Theater. The "theatrical experience" was set within a dance club atmosphere, and audience members were encouraged to dance along with the actors. The New York Times described Parson's choreography as "wildly diverse and witty."

Stephen Blackwell '87 was awarded "Best Scholarly Contribution in the Area of Nabokov Studies" by the Nabokov Online Journal for his book, "The Quill and the Scalpel." The work focuses on the way Russian literary artist Vladimir Nabokov weaved physics, psychology and biology into his art and fiction. The competition for the award included more than 30 books published in various languages from 2006-11. Blackwell is a professor of Russian at the University of Tennessee.

Andrew Dreyfus '80, president and CEO of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, was profiled by The Boston Globe in July. The head of the largest health insurer in the state, Dreyfus is optimistic about the long-term success of the state's 2006 health care reform law. "We have a health care system in Massachusetts where nearly everyone is covered, and we're making significant progress on that Holy Grail of better care and lower cost," he said.

Sean Fine '96, a 2013 Oscar winner for his film "Inocente," has added a prime-time Emmy to his trophy case. Fine and his wife, Andrea Nix Fine, were honored for their 90-minute HBO documentary, "Life According to Sam." The film focuses on 13-year-old Sam Berns' struggle with progeria, a rare disease that rapidly accelerates the aging process. The film also won the 2013 George Foster Peabody award and was nominated for a grand jury prize at the Sundance Film Festival. In the spring of 2014, Fine returned to Connecticut College to mentor students and teach as the Stark Distinguished Guest Resident in Film Studies.

Priyanka Gupta '06 was awarded the Women Leadership Excellence Award by CMO Asia on Aug. 1. The award honors the strategic and influential role of women leaders in the development of the modern economy. Gupta is the executive director of MPI Steel Structures Ltd. in Mumbai, India, and is considered one of the most influential entrepreneurs in the country.

Kristen Van Slyke Wright '08 has been named head coach of the United States Women's National University Ice Hockey Team. Wright, who serves as the head coach of the University of Colorado's women's club hockey team, was an assistant coach when the national squad won the bronze medal at the 2013 Winter World University Games. The team will compete at the 2015 tournament Feb. 4-14 in Granada, Spain. Wright was a two-year captain on the College's women's hockey team and was twice named an Academic All-American. "Her hard work and commitment to the game have put her in a position to succeed with these opportunities," said Kristin Steele, head coach of the women's hockey team.

David Goldblatt '06 will be the inspiration for a character that will be killed in an upcoming book from the "A Song of Ice and Fire" series, which serves as the basis for the popular HBO show "Game of Thrones." Goldblatt, who lives in San Francisco and works as a product specialist for Facebook, earned the "honor" by donating $20,000 to two New Mexico charities — a food bank and a wolf rescue organization — chosen by series author George R.R. Martin. Goldblatt will have the opportunity to choose the race and occupation of his character, but not how he will meet his demise. "It would be awesome to die in an epic swordfight," he says.
introduction to the origins of the women’s movement.

Ruth Veevers Mathieu writes that “life is about the same as it has been for the last several years.” She visits family in various parts of the country. Her youngest grandson graduated from college this year, and Ruth attended the inspiring ceremony. She also has a new great-granddaughter, bringing the total to seven.

Mariechen Wilder Smith enjoys working in her garden, and her golf skills are improving. She converted to golf from tennis about 10 years ago and has fun playing with other residents. Mariechen plans to celebrate her 90th birthday over dinner with friends at her favorite restaurant, and a spa day with her daughter, daughter-in-law and granddaughter. She is grateful for her good health and enjoys walks with her favorite companion, dog Misty.

Joyce Stoddard Aronson has a great sense of humor. She shared this joke from the want ad section of her local newspaper, “MINT CONDITION: Male, 1932 model, high mileage, good condition, some hair. Many new parts, including hip, knee, cornea, valves. Isn’t in running condition, but walks well.”

Pat Feldman Whitestone attended the annual Sykes Society Luncheon at CC. “Both the day and the campus were gorgeous.” She heard talks by President Katherine Bergeron and Laurie Norton Moffatt ’78, director of the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass. Sadly, Pat’s husband of 65 years, Dorsey, recently died after a brief illness. “We are in shock; it happened so quickly. Everyone has been wonderfully supportive. I have been the recipient of a lifetime of hugs.”

Florence (Murph) Murphy Gorman recently moved to a continuing care facility “which still seems a bit strange to me, but the living is easy and there is no dearth of things to do and people with whom to do them. Eleanor Koenig Carleton, my most long-time friend here, was at CC with us freshman and sophomore years!” Murph sends regards to all: “Stay well and happy.”

I enjoyed time this summer on our family’s favorite island off the coast of Maine. Three weeks with lots of family, including all six great-grandkids, ages 1 through 10.

Our 70th reunion is May 29-31, 2015 — save the date! It is less than a year away, so let’s make plans. Best wishes to all, and stay healthy; that is what seems to count the most these days.
Carol Paradise Decker moved to Santa Fe 15 years ago, when her late husband retired from teaching at the Stanford campus of the University of Connecticut. For five years, she has volunteered at the Pecos National Monument and has written two books about it, both of which can be found on Amazon. Carol enjoys writing, sorting and cataloging family memoirs and tending to her children and grandchildren, who come to visit. One grandson teaches English in China near the Russian border; another is a guitarist with a heavy metal band, currently on tour. She herself has given up singing and playing the guitar.

After a career as a social worker and school librarian, Alice (A.V.) Smith Butler has moved to a retirement community near Chadds Ford, Pa. She has recently widowed for the second time. She spends her summers at Cape May and stays in touch with Shirley Nicholson Roos.

Janet Wagner Morse attended CC for her junior and part of her senior year before graduating from Stanford University. She acted as a supplementary to the San Francisco Opera and also served as a control at the sleep disorder clinic at Stanford for many years. Janet has been widowed twice and, for the last several years, has lived at Carmel Valley Manor in Carmel Valley, Calif. She has two children and four grandchildren. She and Pat Dole keep in touch.

Barbara Witte Kauth earned her library degree at the University of Minnesota and happily worked in public libraries in West Bend, Wis. She served as reference librarian and as acting director, and she participated in children’s reading programs. Since retiring, Barbara has been a busy volunteer. Now a widow, she has four children, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Diana Upjohn Meier, who lives in Monroe, Mich., was a teacher in the early elementary grades. Her two children live in Texas and New Hampshire. She is happy to be a great-grandmother.

The Class of ’48 sends thoughts and sympathy to the family of Barbara Freedman Berg, who died recently.

As we (Mabel Brennan Fisher and Marjorie Stutz Turner) have completed our five-year term as class co-correspondents, this is our last column. We decided early in our term that to get news we would have to go after it, so for each issue we phoned a group of names from our class list. Those we reached were most gracious and welcoming, even when they thought they had nothing to share, and we thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated our chats. Thank you!

Our 65th reunion, May 30-June 1, was a big success. According to the College, the 16 members present represented the largest number ever to return for a 65th — a record! Class of ’49 attendees were Joan (Johnnie) Jossee Binivin, Jean Crotzer Bradley, Marilyn Viets Davis, Cornelia (Nealy) Wilde Dickinson, Mary (Stech) Stecher Douthit, Jennifer (Jeff) Judge Howes, Carolyn Beatte Garbutt, Frances (Frannie) Brigham Johnson, Julia (Judy) Kuhn Johnson, Ruth Fanjoy King, Mary (Su) Narkavis Lamont, Joan Lambart McPhee, Jean Sherman Muste, Muriel (Moo) Phipps Smith, Mary Elizabeth (Liz) Stone and Mary Lou (Tuffy) Strassburger.

The events began Friday with the Sykes Society Luncheon, where Laurie Norton Moffett ’78, who is museum director of the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass., spoke on "Reflections on Norman Rockwell and American Art." That evening, more than 1,000 people enjoyed the traditional and outstanding lobster bake on Tempel Green. Later, President Katherine Bergeron addressed the gathering and, according to Judy Johnson, was "impressive, vibrant, outgoing, well-spoken ... I think she’ll be a great president."

Saturday morning brought mimosas on the Green, for those who wanted them, followed by a parade of classes. Our class wore purple berets and purple sashes. (Our class colors are purple and gold, remember?) The Alumni Convocation included class gifts and honors presentations. The Service of Remembrance was held Saturday afternoon in the chapel, where a bagpipe player and two alumnae sang.

There were two festive class meals on Saturday, during which our class was joined by three members of the three Reunion classes ahead of ours. Purple and gold balloons decorated the dinner celebration, and a piano player played all our old favorites.

There was plenty of time to visit with classmates in the Hospitality Room of Park residence hall, where our class was housed. We had several perks, for being one of the "older" reunion classes.

Officers elected for the next five years are: President Johnnie Jossen Binivin, Vice President Stech Stecher Douthit, Reunion Chairman Judy Kuhn Johnson and Jeff Judge Howes, and Correspondent Jean Sherman Muste. Our thanks go to Judy for sharing her Reunion information and notes.

We urge you all to support our new correspondent, Jean Sherman Muste. Her job requires input and cooperation from everyone in the class.

The Class of ’49 sends sympathy to the family and friends of Connie Raymond Plunkett, who died May 20, and Anne Glazier, who died May 28.

Three friends from the Class of ’50 gathered for breakfast in Old Lyme, Conn., last fall. Nancy Puklin Stolper was in the area for her grandson’s wedding and arranged the reunion with Anita Manasevit Perlman and Sylvia Smiten Frumer. (See photo on this page.)

Jean Mulvaney Willis lives in Keene, N.H. One of her three grown children lives in Keene, another in Brattleboro, Vt., and the third in Miami, Fla. Jean lived in Windham House all of her four years at CC and taught Spanish for 20 years after graduation. She keeps in touch with Joan Burdick Boothman and Grace Lee Oei. The three of them enjoyed a Caribbean cruise together several years ago.

Janet Pinney Shea had the pleasure of handing her step-grandson, Robert (Jake) Landry ’13, his diploma at last year’s Commencement ceremony.

Sarah (Jane) Wheeler Ritter loves being surrounded by her family in Paducah, Ky. She enjoys playing bridge, doing yoga and attending church.

Virginia Hargrove Okell is happy to announce that she is a first-time great-grandmother. She travels to Richmond, Va., and Raleigh, N.C., to visit her grandchildren. Her grandson David and his wife, Gina, own a Blue Ridge cabin near Stanardsville, Va., about 15 minutes from us (Joe and Mary Bundy Mersereau), and we look forward to seeing Virginia when she’s there.

Liz McDonoughy Barker still manages, with son Travis, a hotel for hunters and fishermen in “beautiful Montana, where the air and water are wonderful.” She spends winters on a horse farm five miles from Augusta, Mont., with space for their 19 horses and mules.

After 20 moves, Kathy Buck Larkin
and her retired Coast Guard husband, Chuck, enjoy living in their waterfront house on Puget Sound in Seattle, Wash. Their daughter also lives in Seattle, and their three sons live in Tucson, Ariz., Minneapolis, Minn., and Fairfax, Va.

Lois Papa Dudley has had to give up golf and tennis because of trouble with both hips and one knee, but she participates in the Silver Sneakers exercise program, plays bridge and spent two weeks in Florida last winter. She also attends theater and ballet performances and symphonies at Lincoln Center in New York City. She finds that her studies with professors Quimby and Mayhew still greatly enhance her appreciation of music and art. She is still in the real estate business, but "on my own terms." Meanwhile, she enjoys watching her grandchildren grow up.

Barbara Harvey Butler attended Katherine Bergeron’s inauguration as CC’s 11th president. Barbara was impressed; she thinks our new president will be a cooperative person who will listen to her constituents.

Jan Doherty McCarthy continues to live in her remodeled barn on her Hingham, Mass., property. Husband Bill died last December after many years in a nursing home. Jan still goes to Naples, Fla., in the winter and plays a little golf and a lot of bridge. She traveled to New York City and Philadelphia for the graduation of her grandchildren.

Elaine Title Lowengard attended the dedication of the Zachs Hilliel House at CC. Given by a Harvard benefactor who wanted to serve Jewish students at the college, the Hilliel House was also supported by Elizabeth (Betty) Blaustein Roswell ‘52, sister of Barbara Blaustein Hirschorn, who endowed the post of Hilliel director.

Barbara Long Savage leads an active life in Long Lake, Minn. She is a dedicated walker, belongs to two garden clubs, and plays bridge and mahjong. She sees Norma Ritz Phelps, who also lives in the area. Barbara has a daughter in Wellington, Mass., as does Ann Gehreve Allor, so they enjoy getting together.

Candy Canova Schlegel keeps active in her suburban town near Allentown, Pa. She keeps busy with her church, playing mahjong and exercising at Curves. She reports that she can still keep up with her younger friends. She now has three great-grandchildren, Most of the family was able to attend a baptismal party for her latest addition, who lives in Scottsdale, Ariz. Candy also had three children graduate this spring, including one who is now beginning work toward a Ph.D. in physics research at the University of California, Davis.

Nancy Bemiss DeRosa has lived for many years in Lynnfield, Mass., with her husband. She struggles with medical problems, as many of us do. Her son lives in China, where he runs a business.

1951

Correspondents: Barbara Wegand Pilalto, 3200 N. Leisure World Blvd., Apt. 517, Silver Spring, MD 20906, npilalto52@adt.com; Justine Shepherd Freud, 100 Somehby Drive, Apt. 3171, Alpharetta, GA 30009, freudianslip1@comcast.net

Class president Mona Gustafson Affinto sends her greetings. Her summer activities included a two-week cruise to Alaska with son Doug and, upon returning home, continuing work on her book, “My Father’s House,” a fictionalized story of her father’s life.

Co-correspondent Jus Shepherd Freud also sends her greetings. She and Don are still adjusting to their senior-living residence. They enjoy having their children nearby.

Helen (Johnnie) Johnson Haberstroh wrote in an email that while no longer “roomies” in the literal sense of the word, she and Marge Erickson Albertson have both moved to retirement communities this past year. Johnnie and Dick have moved to a villa at Maple Knoll, just seven miles from their previous home in Cincinnati, which sold in one week. Johnnie still has a studio room for art, and at the time of her note, nine of her Cincinnati scenes were on exhibit in the vice mayor’s office, along with some of her art colleagues’ work.

As Johnnie mentioned, Murray and Marge Erickson Albertson moved to a retirement community last spring in Vero Beach, Fla. In May, they hosted a dinner for Jeannie Tucker Zenker, Joy Kirk McCormack, and Marjorie Weeks Owens. Jeanne spent the summer in Martha’s Vineyard with her children and grandchildren. Her countdown: five are out of college, with five more to go — one senior, two juniors, one sophomore and one freshman!

We are glad to hear from Elizabeth (Ann) Hatz Kaiser. She has been in a second marriage for the past 27 years, “to a delightful man 25 years younger than I. I met him when I took his marine biology class for scuba divers.” They love living in Bellingham, Wash., and are both involved in the community, including on the boards of different colleges of Western Washington University. Ann’s husband worked on the Slope (northern Alaska, where the oilfields are) for 18 years but now writes databases for a company near their home. After several years on the staff of a local theater, Ann is now on its board and works at cataloging its artifacts. She adds that she no longer scuba or sky dives. Her five children live in Seattle, or south, so she does not see them often. Thirteen grandchildren are also scattered.

Nancy Bath Roof wrote that, at 85, she is at the height of her career as the publisher and editor of Kosmus Journal: Co-Creating the New Civilization. With Kosmos Global Ambassadors around the world, and in a consultative status at the United Nations, Nancy’s organization is telling “the new story of humanity transitioning to a more compassionate, sustaining, and just culture and civilization.” She would love to hear from you.

On a personal note, Bob and I (Barbara [Bobbie] Wegand Pilalto) had the pleasure of celebrating the 70th wedding anniversary of Jane Worley Peak ‘42 and husband Paul Peak, a Coast Guard Academy graduate. We met this wonderful couple at a gathering of the CCClub of Washington, D.C., in the summer of 1952, before we were married, and have maintained our friendship whenever the Coast Guard brought them back to our area. They are now retired and live in McLean, Va. Because we ask about your grandchildren, here’s news of ours: Our youngest, Bob III, enters his sophomore year at Northwestern in September, and his sister Zibby graduated from Lewis and Clark College last May. She has remained in Portland, Ore., and was but one of a few graduates who had a job starting the week after graduation.

The Class of ’51 sends sincere condolences to Bobbie Thompson Stabile on the death of her husband, Ben, in late July. Jus and I await your news. Best wishes to all.

1952

Correspondent: Janet B. Kellock, 15 Library St., Mystic, CT 06355, kellockj@att.net

Lloyd and Pat Wardley Hamilton took a trip to Costa Rica last spring. Pat reports that Costa Rica is terrific, with beautiful birds, many unusual animals, and fantastic fruit and fresh veggies. “Lovely climate, lovely people and quite inexpensive. There are many American retirees, and the country is quite prosperous,” she shared.

Jean Hewitt Thomas went to Bermuda in April. Her uncle had given Jean and Dick a trip to Bermuda as a honeymoon gift, which was thwarted by the Coast Guard. So, 62 years later, she took daughter Heather and two of her grandchildren. Jean writes, “Great not to be the parents and haven’t had as much fun since Janet Kellock and I enjoyed those frozen daiquiris at the Biltmore.”

Cordelia Ette Clement reported that she and Janet Kellock were the only members of our class to attend the Sykes Society Luncheon on Reunion Weekend. It was a nice opportunity to meet our new president, Katherine Bergeron, and listen to an interesting talk by Laurie Norten Meffatt ’78, who is the director of the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass.

Cordie spent the weekend with me. My son, Rob Dowling, had dinner with us one night. Rob has a biography of Eugene O’Neill coming out in late fall, published by Yale University’s trade division. My time spent at Oxford University Press came in handy, as he asked me to read it, make suggestions and then proofread the manuscript. It’s a great book, with many previously unpublished photos and information, and it was chosen by Publishers Weekly as one of this fall’s top 10 books for literary biographies, essays and criticism. If you are interested in the theater, O’Neill or just want to read a great biography, look for “Eugene O’Neill: A Life in Four Acts.”

Cordie continued: “At home in Gladwyne, Pa., I am busy playing bridge for the Marion Cricket Club, some tennis and my new game of pickleball. I recommend this game for persons of our age. It’s very big on the senior circuit. I am going to Portugal in the fall, having just returned from California visiting my youngest son, Alex, and his family.”

Hope some of you who live in the Midwest or West will send news for the next issue! And remember, please email me at the address listed above, as I am quite deaf.

1953

Correspondent: Lydia Richards Boeyer, 4031 Kennett Pike #42, Wilmington, DE 19807, lydiaboyer@aol.com
winter in Hobe Sound, Fla., and come to Naples for visits — it’s as if we never parted! Mar Robertson Jennings hopes to come from Los Angeles to join our rendezvous next winter.

In Massachusetts, I see Ann Heagney Weimer often. She continues to enjoy life on Cape Cod, teaching ESL and visiting her children in Scituate, Duxbury and Wellesley, Mass. Ann is interested in international affairs and recently joined an educational tour group called Tree of Life, founded 10 years ago in Old Lyme, Conn., to promote better understanding of the issues of the Holy Land. She visited Jerusalem, Bethlehem and other historic places. Ann’s grandson graduated from Wake Forest with Evelyn (Irene) Ball Barrack’s grandson. Also, Irene’s son and daughter both graduated from CC, and they each have a daughter — the cousins are freshmen at CC this year.

Jan King Evans’ granddaughter, Alexandra Heurich MacMahon ’18, also begins at CC this fall, she is the first fourth-generation student at the College. Jan’s mother was Karla Heurich Harrison ‘28, who died in January at the age of 106! Jan traveled to Normandy for the 70th anniversary of the invasion, accompanied by her two daughters, Karla Harrison MacMahon ’80 and Louise, and five grandchildren. Jan’s father, a West Point colonel, was killed during the invasion of Normandy and is buried in the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach.

After living in Hawaii for 40 years, Claire Wallach Engle and Ray are happy in their retirement community in Medford, Ore. Many CC graduates live in their community and in the area.

After attending Reunion, they drove to Florida to visit family and friends. They returned to Portsmouth, N.H., a year ago for the 50th anniversary of the loss of the USS Thresher. Ray, a submarine officer, had once been stationed on the ship.

Sixty years ago, when we were seniors at CC, the USS Nautilus, the U.S.’s first nuclear submarine, was launched. Claire and Ray are returning to New London in September to observe the 60th anniversary of her commissioning. Claire and Polly (Pam) Maddux Harlow, in their nineties, observed the launch of the Nautilus from their dorm through binoculars. Little did they know that a year later Claire would be married to one of the officers. Pam is still actively engaged in competitive ballroom dancing — you go, girl!

Elizabeth (Lib) Alcorn Holt still lives in Cohasset, Mass. She regrets missing Reunion but says she is fine. She loves being in Maine in the summer with her family.

Sally Ashkins Churchill’s grandson is a senior at University of California, Berkeley, and has played on the football team since his freshman year. Sally gets to a game every year — “Go Bears!” is her motto.

1955

Reunion
May 29-31, 2015

Correspondent: Joan Barkon Antell, 26 Belden Ave., Unit 2101, Norwalk, CT 06850 panell@optonline.net

1956

Correspondent: Jan Aihlborn Roberts, P.O. Box 221, East Orleans, MA 02643, jpr@comcast.net; Betty Ann Smith Ylafskas, 135 North Stonington Road, Mystic, CT 06355-0203, bettyylafskas@yahoo.com

Taking counsel from Marilyn Dunn Mapes (“Old age is not for sissies!”), we asked some ‘56ers for their thoughts on turning 80. Jean Harris Whitney wrote: “It has made me think of mortality and that I don’t have forever to do some of the things that I have left undone that I ought to have done . . . I had better clean out my closets and cupboards!”

Then, Barbara Jenkinson proposed “grace points;” or awareness of unexpected moments in life that lift us up and carry us along, the memories of which are rich and unforgettable. Read on.

Although she deeply regrets the loss of her husband and missess “those who share my earliest memories, knew my parents, knew the streets where we roamed,” Jean Bahr Waltrip’s present circle of friends share experiences, and “We are content with what we have, which is great! There have been many grace points, more than I deserve, some associated with faith, some which just arrived and flooded me with joy for no obvious reason.” Jean keeps in touch with Molly Chalmers Pratt, Betsy Chesbrough Maitland and Natalie Greenough Zucherman.

Marie Garibaldi can’t believe she will be 80 — she just had her 55th anniversary from Columbia Law School and is still active, with lots of friends.

“Life at CC prepared me to enjoy my life. You couldn’t think of slowing down if you had Ruby Morrison as your teacher.”

Joyce Bagley Rheingold writes, “You just have to ‘keep calm and carry on.’ Keep moving, be kind, keep current and laugh a lot. Those are the things

that keep me moving, in addition to a husband who thinks he is still 60 and children who think we are both 60. It’s great to have people pushing you along ... at my most optimistic, I’m on the 10-year plan.”

Alfred and Nancy Teese Mouglet are focused on how best to use their time while in good physical and mental shape, even though failing friends diminish their own happiness. Says Nan, “This sounds really down, though I’m an ‘up’ person just facing reality.”

Suzi Rosenhirsch Oppenheimer writes, “80 is just fine, providing all your parts are still working (as long as I can ski, tennis and travel).” She adds that her “grace points,” are “waking up after several surgeries, all unrelated, and saying ‘Hello, I’m still here.’”

Peg Thorp Tamick avoided last winter by escaping to St. Croix for two weeks, followed by three weeks in Ireland with daughter Sarah. About the passage of time: “I want to thank Marian Lenci Tapia, who is so good about keeping our little group of 56 day students together.”

Angie Arcudi McKelvey sees each of us as a part of the fabric of humanity — that reaching out to as many as possible renders us more humane. “Whenever I find myself reaching out, I experience a grace point. Hopefully I’ll be able to continue in this endeavor for as long as possible.”

Family members live on either side of Dick and Amelia Noyes Baughman, “offering good support during this time in life.” Mela thanks CC for introducing her to amazing thinkers and writers, and quotes T.S. Eliot: “We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive back where we started and know the place for the first time.” They have helped me identify who I am and why I am here.”

Helene Zimmer-Loew wrote about her April trip to Morocco, the south of France and Barcelona with Sue Krim Greene and another friend. “We rode camels into the Sahara and bivouaccd overnight in sandy tents, ate great food, and saw the inside of nadas and kasbahs, souks and private homes, among other highlights. We all had a great time in Fes, Marrakesh, Volubilis, Rabat and Essaouira.”

In May, Helene traveled to Namibia and climbed Big Daddy, one of the highest sand dunes in the world, “saw lots of animals in the Etosha Pan, tracked cheetahs in a preserve, met with academics from the University of Namibia and visited the International School in Windhoek, the capital.”

In early June, Helene and her sister attended the Spoleto Festival in Charleston for the second time and took a side trip to Savannah. Helene consults on fundraising and is involved in helping not-for-profits mount much-needed campaigns. She has subscriptions to the Lyric Opera and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and is a member of the AIC, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Architecture Foundation and the History Museum.

“Love this city!!!”

Sue Krim Greene and a friend travelled in Morocco for two weeks in June and July. They had a fabulous time. Sue’s interesting blog can be found at sgmongolialune2014.blogspot.com. She has included historical and cultural information, as well as fabulous photos and a day-by-day running commentary.

Judy Hatt Acker. June Ippolito Hoye, Elaine Manasevit Friedman and I (Elaine Diamond Berman) attended the Sages Society Luncheon over Reunion Weekend. We had a great visit with each other, loved listening to CC’s new president, Katherine Bergeron, and enjoyed a special presentation by Laurie Norton Moffat ’78, director and CEO of the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass.

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Sandy Horn Elslein, husband of Sandy, at his home in Stockbridge, Mass. November 5, 2014. Sandy will be missed.

Correspondent: Judith Ankarstran Carson, P.O. Box 5028, Edwards, CO 81632, jadaptwin@comcast.net

Although Carolyn Coburn Auman’s husband, Ted, died in 2008, she feels blessed that they had more than 50 years together. She spends half the year in Naples, Fla., and half in Wyoming. She loves to paint and travels with art workshops all over Europe. Her son and family are in Pennsylvania, and a daughter and her husband live in New York City.

Nancy Dorian didn’t attend our 55th, but she enjoyed wonderful visits because of it and the Coast Guard’s equivalent. Barbara Barchie Tuneski and Patsy Steiger de Salazar visited her in Maine in June, and Millie Schmidtman Kendall and Neil drove up after the Coast Guard reunion in October. They enjoyed sea vistas and salt air together, “and it seemed like yesterday that we were dorm-mates at CC, Barb and Millie and I in Winthrop and Patsy and I in Blackstone. Wonderful days, a joy to remember!”

Nancy’s book of collected essays, part of a series on language, cognition and culture by the Dutch publisher Brill, was published in May.

Arline Hinkson enjoys retirement from work as a school department director of music. Now she has time for performance, and her schedule is “filled to the brim.” She plays violin
with the Northern Neck Orchestra in Virginia, which has led to many chamber music performances. At CC, her violin teacher said she would never play as well again: "I wish she could see me now!" Arline also prepares music for a monthly piano club, is an officer for a music study group, and sings with a chorale, of which she is director. She traveled to Costa Rica — hiking, snorkeling, rafting, and climbing down and up 500 stone steps to see a waterfall. The highlight was zip-lining, "What fun! I even did it upside down!" (On purpose, Arline?)

Her travel buddies both have new beaus, so Lynn Leach Cassidy hasn't been abroad lately. She sold her Sunday River, Maine, house and bought one in North Conway, N.H., which is closer to home, with lots for her 11 grandchildren to do. Lynn teaches Spanish with the Explorers Club and is on the senior center board in Swampscott. Her real estate business is almost closed, but she keeps the insurance company and her own real estate going. Lynn enjoys bridge and book club.

Roswitha Rabl Classen sadly reports the death of her husband in September 2013, "but I gratefully cherish the memory of the 70 years we knew and loved each other. Three dear sons and four grandchildren are very helpful, and I can go on teaching English and American literature in the seniors' residence we moved to three years ago."

From our faithful, hardworking and effective class agent, Jean Terney Taub: "First, thanks to all our classmates who so loyally support the Annual Fund. Our class's response each year is truly gratifying." For seven years, Jean served on the CC Alumni Association Board of Directors, "altogether a wonderful experience." Jean and family have lived in southern California since 1976. Daughter Susan is a pediatrician in Santa Cruz, and daughter Kate is a criminal defense attorney in Newport Beach. Son Robert and wife Diane teach in Brussels, Belgium. Last October, Jean joined them for a six-day bicycle trip along the Mosel River in Germany. Robert's children, Emma and Olivia, ages 13 and 14, visit Jean every summer and are joined by cousin Elia, 12, Sue's daughter. Jean also has two grandchildren, Kevin and Connor, 21 and 23 (Kate's sons). Kevin recently graduated from the University of San Francisco and plans to attend law school. Connor graduated from Boston College two years ago and works in finance in New York City. Don and Jean attended both graduations. Don stays active with Coast Guard friends and has been researching and writing about the Arctic. (He spent 13 months in northwest Greenland.)

Judy Ankarstran Carson spoke with Sandy Sturman Harris and compared notes on activities and weather in New York City versus Vail Valley, Colo. Sandy was visiting that day with Judy Epstein Grollman, who had summer plans with a big extended family. David and Judy are volunteer ushers, enjoying Vail's music season. Judy also gardens and tutors. David is still active with their planned continuing care center, scheduled to break ground this fall. They are booked for a trip to the Baltic states and Russia in September. "Warmest greetings to you all — I still enjoy hearing and editing your news, so please keep it coming."

The Class of '58 extends sincere sympathy to Carolyn Coburn Auman and Roswitha Rabl Classen on the deaths of their husbands.

**1959**

Correspondents: Carolyn Keefe Oakes, 3323 Warrenville Center Road, Apt. 412, Shaker Heights, OH 44122, carolynoakes@att.net; Marcia Forlin Sherman, 602 Red Maple Way, Clemson, SC 29631, mcsuricherman@belmont.net

Oiga Lehovich was glad when spring finally arrived this year. She regrets missing our 55th, but her family was with her at the time. She had successful cataract surgery and now can see without glasses. She enjoys living in rural New Hampshire with fields, a pond, free-range chickens, geese, ducks, wild turkeys, and a large, shy brown bear who visits and likes broccoli.

Ann-Mary (Speck) Potter hated to miss us, but she took a trip to Russia, which included a cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow, and then attended a graduation in New York. She and her significant other are taking a grandson to Alaska. In January, she, Marti Flynn Peterson and Barb Roxy Nixon got together in St. Augustine, Fla. Ann-Mary heard our new president, Katherine Bergeron, and was impressed, as were those of us at Reunion.

Lynn Graves Mitchell could not get to Reunion from California, but she sees Ginger Reid Levick, Mims Matthews Munro and Mary Elsbree Hoffman often. Despite recent vision problems, Lynn visited grandchildren in Taos, N.M. Ginger had to have shoulder surgery, which prevented her from coming to Reunion.

Marg Wellford Tabor reminisced about attending CC, being so far from home was hard for her. She said friends talked her into staying, and she reached her goal "to stretch and spread my wings." Her English professors pushed her to grad school, she remembers, and three of them became friends. Over the years, she has encouraged many young people she taught and knew in Memphis to attend CC.

Edie Berkowitz Hargreaves traveled to Reunion from London! She also came to celebrate her daughter's 50th birthday and to visit family. She has sold her cottage but is still working part-time with patients.

Anne German Dobbs is delighted with the different culture and new friends in Scottsdale, where she's active in church and tennis, and volunteers with special-needs children and shut-ins.

Torrey Gamage Fenton is a hospital volunteer and, with David, volunteers at the library in Norwich. They also enjoy gardening at their old farmhouse. They had a special reunion with Pat Chambers Moore and husband K.C. when their son, Todd Moore, took command of a submarine based locally, the U.S.S. New Mexico. Connie Snelling McCreery and husband Max also visited the Fentons last winter.

**Reunion**

*In honor of the CC Class of 1959*

The journey began on a hill, our spirits light. Long Island Sound a distant blue, and we had tall hopes in time's length and flowers grew from granite ground.

The Thames River ran quietly by as bold and shy girls we wandered stone-cut buildings, listened to the dense fog's footsteps, the wind's whistle, and the music made on un-tuned pianos.

From chair circles we discussed the news, how we might learn the world's work.

We prepared — asking, questioning, listening. Where were the answers we wanted?

Our professors strode ahead of us and civilization of books crowded around, as we formed the noun sounds, verbs, and adjectives of a different language.

As the quadrangles greened in spring we lay down beside odes and clues, facts and opinions, then danced off into other places while our sentiments paid only partial attention.

As the fervent green spread over the lawns, we stretched to see the horizon, sought shelter in the arboretum, each rock a shoulder of support for the syntax of change, each cloud a comfort.

Our thoughts were tinged with leaving's color: Here, not here. Hydrangeas exploded into petals of the hopes and fears we held clustered in our hands. Gulls circled silently, and the elder trees remained the same, branched with new buds for all that had been and was to come.

We breath in, we breath out. Here, not here. We remember when....

Sandy Sidman Larson '59
NOMINATE YOUR CLASSMATES FOR ALUMNI AWARDS

We want to honor the outstanding achievements of your classmates.

If you're celebrating your Reunion in 2015, nominate a classmate for an alumni association award.

Details are at www.conncoll.edu/alumni; click on “Alumni Association” on the left side of the page.

Nancy Savin continues to enjoy singing. She also takes a weekly ballet lesson for the older adult, practices the piano (“a great joy”) and tries to stay healthy (“no medications”). She is president of the New England Hebrew Farmers of the Emanuel Society (NEHFS). NEHFS was the name of a congregation of Russian Jewish immigrants that arrived in Chesterfield, Conn., about 10 miles from CC, under the leadership of her great-great-grandfather, Harris Kaplan, in 1890. Nancy reactivated the organization in 2006 with other descendants of the original congregation. Learn more at www.newenglandhebrewfarmers.org.

Sandy Sidman Larson lost her dog recently and threw herself into spring cleaning to accentuate the positives. She is also an in-house guide for tours of reproductions of Victorian clothing. She has also an in-house guide at a local high school and has had exhibits at the local museum. Sandy still puts on fashion shows and has “spent her life painting (mostly portraits), teaching second grade, gardening and raising two lovely children, Ivar and Elise.” Contact Sandy at smkaplan62@shaw.ca.

Since the death of her husband, Albert (Bud) Blakey, two years ago, Judy Van Law Blakey has been learning to forge a life on her own in York, Pa. She has resumed traveling in the past year, visiting her 1982 exchange student and his family in Germany, circumnavigating Ireland by car with friends, studying the Mayan culture with Travel Dynamics, and spending a week in Cuba and 12 days in Provence! "At home, my garden, exercise, family, friends and volunteering keep me out of trouble."

1960 REUNION MAY 29-31, 2015
Correspondents: Joan Murray Webster, 6440 Wild Horse Valley Road, Napa, CA 94558, joanwebster@scbglobal.net; Adele Merrill Welch, 53 Skipper's Lane, Tenants Harbor, ME 04860, Willowstar23@gmail.com

Pam Van Nostrand Newton reports that a CD she made from our Junior Class Show, "A Matter of Opinion," was donated to the College archives as the "Newton (Pam Van Nostrand) Collection." Pam's Point Edward, Nova Scotia, home now has a small family vineyard. She has directed theatrical productions at a local high school and has had exhibits at the local museum. Pam still puts on fashion shows of reproductions of Victorian clothing. She is also an in-house guide at a local 1786 Heritage House. Pam’s husband, Myles, lives in Scotia, home now has a small family vineyard. He has had his 55th reunion at Harvard, and son Jeff works in D.C. at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Jeff’s 3-year-old daughter keeps her grandparents “on their toes!”

Francis Gillmore Pratt spent four weeks of early 2014 traveling to Mexico and Burma and now plans to have a quiet remainder of the year at home in Cambridge, Mass. Husband Harry had his 55th reunion at Harvard, and Frances looks forward to our 55th at CC, May 29–31, 2015. "There are about 160 of us … wouldn’t it be joyous if we all appeared?"

Nancy Osterweis Alderman and her husband Myles drove 1,350 miles to a 50th wedding anniversary with his family in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, New York, Montana, and Arizona. "Sandy's parents have been there for me almost 15 years to write my book, "Plainly and Simply: A Memoir of Alzheimer's," but now it is in print." It is available to order from bookstores and Amazon and on Kindle, and it will soon be available on Nook. For autographed copies, contact order plainly@gmail.com. “My next project is decidedly different. Stand by!”

Nancy Waddell checked in with "nothing new since my last recent update, other than turning the amazing 75. Yikes!"

Beverly Hill Windatt had a big year in real estate, downsizing into a home on a cove in Essex, Conn., and purchasing a home in Naples, Fla. Beverly and Dick can’t believe their California grandson is now at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn. “How did we get this old?”

Still busy with her social work practice, workouts, swimming and trips. Harriet Kaufman Breslow enjoyed a trip to the Atlantis resort in the Bahamas. Husband Jerry is still involved with community activities, and this year he became board chairman and president of the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras. They spent the summer in Hilton Head. Daughter Aimee works at the State Department, and son Jeff works in D.C. at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Jeff’s 3-year-old daughter keeps her grandparents “on their toes!”

Frances Gillmore Pratt spent four weeks of early 2014 traveling to Mexico and Burma and now plans to have a quiet remainder of the year at home in Cambridge, Mass. Husband Harry had his 55th reunion at Harvard, and Frances looks forward to our 55th at CC, May 29–31, 2015. “There are about 160 of us … wouldn’t it be joyous if we all appeared?”

Nancy Osterweis Alderman and her husband Myles drove 1,350 miles to attend the graduations of two grandchildren in May, one at Kenyon College, in Gambier, Ohio, on a Saturday, and the second at Bucknell University, in Lewisburg, Pa. "The next day! Nancy continues her career as president of Environment and Human Health, Inc., in North Haven, Conn.

Jean Curtis Britt's favorite trip this year was a week in Paris with daughter Sarah Brit. '87, who lives in Athens, Greece, with her husband and two teenagers. Back home in Wilmette, Ill., Jean is the coordinator of Stephen Ministry, a program where she trains lay church members to support others experiencing difficult times.

Cynnie Enloe has lunch with Aggie Gund in New York twice a year, "which is always fun and interesting." Aggie is busy in the world of art and with her innovative support for art teachers and budding artists in the city’s public elementary schools. Cynnie’s work has taken her to Sweden, Iceland, Canada and around the U.S., doing university lectures and holding discussions with new generations of feminist students and researchers.

In Saskatchewan, Canada, Susanne Strayer Kaplan has "spent her life painting (mostly portraits), teaching second grade, gardening and raising two lovely children, Ivar and Elise." Contact Susanne at smkaplan62@shaw.ca.

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1961
Correspondent: Leslie Farnacey McGowan, 2605 Essex Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, farnacey@umich.edu

1962
Correspondent: Swati Siegel, 17283 Boca Club Blvd., Apt. 2, Boca Raton, FL 33437, swatish@gmail.com

Anne McClain Johnston writes that Norma Gilcrest Adams moved to a neighborhood close to Anne’s town of Mendham, N.J., where Norma’s children and grandchildren live. Anne sees Sally Raymond Locke twice a year. Anne visited Europe and met longterm...
friend Polly Deming Ledyard and her husband. Life is good with five teenage grandchildren and lots of traveling.

Margo Conderman Arnold and husband Doug went to South Africa in January, where they visited Cape Town and a game reserve. Now they are planning a trip to the Pacific Northwest and to visit family in the U.K. Margo is retired, and Doug enjoys his job at the National Endowment for the Humanities. They love living in Washington, D.C.

Cami Boitel Burgess and husband Dave went to France and England as part of a tour arranged by the Colonial Dames of America, of which Cami is a member, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of England’s Sulgrave Manor, the ancestral home of George Washington’s family. They enjoyed the Musée de l’Orangerie, where they saw Claude Monet’s collection of “Water Lilies.” On their 50th anniversary, they attended a Shakespeare play in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Barbara Burris van Voorst lost her husband, Bruce, in December due to complications from two serious falls. She is grieving but says the fog is beginning to lift. Last August she visited classmate Ruth (Debbie) Swift Zike in Maine and then saw Betty Grossman in Boston before returning home to Arlington, Va.

Annie Kimball Davis retired from commercial investment real estate brokerage in 1996. Even busier in retirement, she earned her Ph.D. in biblical studies in 1999 and is now a professor of biblical studies at Trinity Southwest University in Albuquerque, N.M. She is also executive director of BibleInteract, Inc., a consortium of Bible scholars and biblical archaeologists who film their research for TV, Roku and iTV. Annie is working on her fifth book. She has been married 46 years and has two children and two grandchildren.

Barbara Edwin Weinstein and her husband love their 10 grandchildren dearly — “they keep us young while making us feel very old!”

Sally Gunn Flianagan Davis remembers good times in North Cottage freshman year. She enjoyed our 50th Reunion, seeing classmates and singing with the ConnCherds and Schwitter. She misses singing!

Emily Haugen Talbert lost husband Joe in November 2012, missing their 50th anniversary by one month. Emily met Joe, a career naval officer and submariner, on a blind date arranged by Carolyn (Todie) Mandell Master in January 1962. Joe’s naval career took them many fascinating places. Upon Joe’s retirement, they returned to his home base, Coronado, Calif. Community activities, the Historic Resources Commission, travel planning and family keep Emily busy.

Linda Lear’s new granddaughter, Cadence, joins grandson James, 3. Son Ian teaches AP European history in Stamford, Conn. Linda has been busy writing editorials on the 50th anniversary of Rachel Carson’s death and an essay in Nature on Beatrix Potter’s science. As a trustee emeritus, she was invited to Katherine Bergeron’s inauguration festivities. Her current involvement with the College is focused on the Lear Center and its collections and use, and the Shain Library renovation. She enjoyed her first winter in Bethesda in a long time.

Barbara Stone Aschheim and husband Peter visited with Jane Levene Zuckerman and husband Mickey in Sarasota, Fla., where they have bought a new home.

Susan Rosenberg Rose and husband Allan have been traveling, volunteering and hanging out with their five children, loving life in California. Susan is a strong supporter of the women’s studies program and women’s center at CC. In April, she attended the center’s “Academic Symposium on Women in Office.” Susan stays in touch with her College roommate (yours truly, Seyril Siegel).

Ellen (Shags) Watson Payzant wrote from Maine, where she was visiting former CC roommate Heather Turner Frazer on Mount Desert Island. She spent time with Nancy Glassman Walters when they attended the memorial for Helen Ostern Braun’s husband, Andy. They also saw Ginny Wardner Bradford and Colin and their daughter, Elizabeth (Dixie) Richards Mundel; and Cindy Brown Richards. Ellen and Tom moved from Boston to Sandy, Utah. Contact the alumni office for her new address.

I (Seyril Siegel) keep busy with tennis and volunteering with Family Promise and the American Red Cross, and I work for the Board of Elections of Palm Beach County. I was just promoted to clerk for the next election. When I visit my daughter, Isabel Siegel Griffith ’06, in San Francisco, I usually touch base with Peggy Dey. Thank you all for your news.

1963

Correspondent: Bonnie Campbell Billings, bsb22@aol.com

Getting news out of our class is harder than finding the proverbial hen’s teeth. The alumni office mailed to the first third of the class names, alphabetically, a little while back, with a plea from me (Bonnie Campbell Billings) for news — zero, zip, nada responses. But happily a few folks had already submitted ... yeah!

Lonnie Jones Schorer and Carolyn Boyan Raymond, along with Linda Osborne, represented our class at President Bergeron’s inauguration in May. (See photo on this page.) It was a splendid event on a spectacular day, from everything I heard. It’s a pleasure to share their thoughts from the event.

From Lonnie: “With memories of matriculation at CC under the guidance of [CC’s] fifth president, Rosemary Park, sitting in the same auditorium 55 years later for the inauguration of CC’s twelfth president filled us with pride — and drove home our senior citizen status. Katherine Bergeron is a ‘Think, Do, Lead,’ down-to-earth, personal leader who relates to students, faculty and alumni; all with the same grace and ease. The inauguration acknowledged her academic attributes and was a joyous occasion. We were so glad to see each other and to be there, connected to the past and committed to the future of CC.”

From Carolyn: “When I saw the long procession of over 100 delegates from colleges all over the country, I was astounded. They were magnificent in their colorful robes and caps. A brass quintet was playing, and it seemed very regal, I was proud of having been a student there. The outstanding turnout was clear testimony to how the academic community respects our college!”

Becky Holmes Post had to miss our 50th Reunion due to major surgery on her left foot. She spent much of last early summer “stuck in a boot and on crutches.” She reports that...
"All is well now, thank goodness! I’m mainly ensconced in grandchildren’s activities — seven boys, ages 5 to 15. And no, we didn’t get any girls.” Becky continues to ice skate and also judges skating competitions. She hopes everyone is well, and shares a new email address: beckypost@gmail.com.

Not quite in time for our last issue, Nancy Schneider Schachnovsky made her first submission ever to Class Notes. She added, “Maybe it was last year’s fun return for Reunion that inspired it!” May it so inspire others! Nancy and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a month-long trip to New Zealand and Australia. “The centerpiece was a cruise from Auckland to Sydney, preceded by four days at the start in Auckland and four days at the end in Sydney. It was my first trip "down under," and I was overwhelmed by the beauty of New Zealand: the majesty of the fjords, the tales and the history of it all, and the genuine warmth and welcome of the people…. Our children continue their lives in Asia, John and his family are in Bangkok, where he is legal attaché for the FBI at the embassy. Amy is completing her fourth year at the Seoul International School in Korea.” Both return to Florida once a year, and Nancy and husband have visited them and expect to again in 2015. “We are fortunate to enjoy good health and have loved the decade since we moved to Ponte Vedra Beach, on the Atlantic.”

When I contacted Gale Flannery Tunnell for some info about North Hatley, Quebec, where she summers with family, she wrote back that she was cruising the Red Sea and Mediterranean!

Diana Altman writes of joyous grandparenting of Zachary, age 2, son of daughter Claudia, who is making a big name for herself in the art world. Her 5-year-old San Francisco gallery, Altman-Siegel, is “going gangbusters,” with two of her artists on Art Forum covers. When Claudia travels to art fairs, Diana and husband Richard get Zachy. Daughter Nesse is a chef. Diana is close to finishing a new book, “Pushpins All over the Map,” about her brief career as a travel agent — “when I didn’t have enough money to travel so started a travel business so I could travel for free.” Diana and Richard summer on Lake Sebago in Maine.

Bobette Pottle Orr wrote of her annual participation in Scottish Tartan Week last spring in New York City. Since her days as consul general in Edinburgh in the ’90s, Bobette has maintained her relationships. Accompanied by “the swirl of bagpipes and the drums,” Bobette marched in the Tartan Week Parade, in full regalia, with the former Lord Mayor of Edinburgh. In December, CC hosted its annual D.C. holiday reception. Among the large number of attendees were Lonnie Jones Schorer, Susan Hall Veccia, Martha Joynt Kumar and Bobette. With little early-season snow in the West, Bobette and husband Bill skied closer to home, at Snowshoe in West Virginia.

Roberta Stone Smith and I manage to get together for lunch every month or two. We would love to be joined by other Vermonters (or even New Hampshinites). Do get in touch! Before heading off for our summer in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, I will close, as usual, with another plea for news! You’re reading this … so contribute already!!

1964

Correspondent: Jean Klingerstein, 400 W. Ontario St., Apt. 1703, Chicago, IL 60654-7162, jaklingaststein@yahoo.com

Platt Arnold hopes that the gathering for our 50th will generate some activity for Class Notes. “And hopefully we will hear from classmates who were unable to attend. Let’s keep the warmth of our class connected until our next milestone Reunion in 2019. In the meantime, our class has a Facebook page, Connecticut College Class of 1964, which any classmaters on Facebook can join. It’s been going since our 45th reunion and so far has 23 members. Please consider joining and letting us know your news. I think it would be fun to trade book titles and film recommendations there, as well as more personal news.”

1965 REUNION MAY 29-31, 2015

Correspondents: Susan Peck Robinson, srobinson@macc.com; Leslie Settellshorn Curtis, leblescurtis@yahoo.com

Elizabeth Overbeck Balkite lives in Durham, N.C., and has worked as a genetic counselor and educator for almost 30 years.” My profession only started in 1969 — it did not exist when I was in college.” She found out about it, got her master’s in human genetics at Sarah Lawrence College in 1975, and only recently retired (her last job was genetics education

College friends and their husbands in Quebec City. (L-R) Phillip Hahn, Judi Rosman Hahn ’67, Marcia Hunter Matthews ’67 and Bill Matthews.
strategy advisor for GlaxoSmithKline. "This past year I was the interim director of the Joan H. Marks Graduate Program in Human Genetics at Sarah Lawrence College, the first and largest genetic counselor training program in the U.S.A." She noted, "My entire career is due to one genetics course I had at CC, taught by Bernice Wheeler. I loved genetics, followed my passion, worked at Yale, University of Connecticut Health Center, for a biotech and then a drug company. I was a pathfinder in the field, as were my colleagues, because it was such a new field decades ago." While at Sarah Lawrence, she got to know another interim director, who was in the dance department — Emily (Emmy) Erda Devine! "We both anticipate coming for Reunion next year."

Anne Scully Elliott, on her own since 1979, is now retired from the San Diego Fire Department and living in San Diego. Her two children, Anna and Matt, each have a boy and girl, all of whom live in Idaho. Both her son and son-in-law are in the fire service and love it. "When I went into the fire service, it was an opportunity to work in a job where I'd be paid better than more traditional work. I hadn't worked while I was a housewife, so I had nothing to lose. I did not expect to start a tradition, but the boys love it."

Renny Harrigan retired in 2011. She lives in Boston near two of her three children (one in Boston with Renny's new grandchild and the other in Cambridge), sees Pam Gwynn Herrup occasionally, and travels to far-flung places. She earned a TESOL certificate and started learning Spanish through Boston University’s Evergreen Program. Renny traveled to Mexico for four months in 2012 to teach English as a Second Language in Tehuacán and visited Oaxaca, Vera Cruz, Xalapa, Chiapas and the Yucatán. Then she took a weeklong sail on Lake Erie in a tall ship run by Sisters Under Sail, which normally funds weeklong outward-bound programs on shipboard for teenage girls. In February, Renny and a friend went to Thailand, Cambodia and Myanmar for four weeks.

Joan Havens still lives in D.C. but retired a couple of years ago from teaching Latin at St. Albans School. She takes courses at Georgetown University (she aspires to become fluent in Italian) and participates in book and garden club activities. She spends six months of the year in Falmouth, Maine, where she is a docent at a lighthouse and at the Portland Museum of Art and volunteers at a local animal shelter. "Thanks to son Kip and daughter Kyla and their spouses, I have been blessed with four grandchildren, two girls and two boys, and am fortunate to see them frequently during my months in Maine. Joan welcomes anyone passing through Portland or nearly between April and October. "I look forward to our 50th (gasp!) reunion."

Karen Metzger Ganz spent the summer in the summer in the VT., area and definitely plans to attend our 50th reunion.

It's not too early to start making your own plans for Reunion, which will be held on campus May 29-31, 2015. Look for news of this event from the College. This is a great milestone for all of us, and it would be wonderful to have a record turnout. The stories we share in that charmed setting will be a fascinating account of our generation of women, who came of age at such a pivotal time in our society. Probably very few of us have led the lives we anticipated or imagined for ourselves on our graduation day, June 6, 1966! Meanwhile, keep your emails coming!

1966

Correspondents: Patricia Dale and Carol Chaykin, ccnotes66@gmail.com

Ellen Kagan aired two new shows on public access TV in Sandwich, Mass., on the island of Nantucket, aboard their sailboat. Both shows are available on YouTube. Ellen's research into these topics was prompted by her receiving an indecipherable eight-page hospital bill, which she then successfully contested.

Kay Landen and Rona Sbor see one another often. Kay has been making Rona feel at home in Denver, Colo. They share a love of baseball, and Rona has been learning to enjoy Rockies games in the Mile High City.

Jane Neyes Bancroft had a second revision performed on both knees this summer. We all join her in the hopes she will be able to resume tennis and skiing. Donna Vogt Cartwright's daughter, Alison, 33, received a master's in statistics last December from Colorado State University. She is continuing her work for a doctorate in ecology, studying elk in Rocky Mountain National Park with sponsorship from the National Park Service. Alison was married in July to Nick Ketz of Wisconsin.

We look forward to reporting more news from you next time.
Friends meet in Ecuador. (L-R) Jay Ashman, Meg Gensm Ashman '72, Lauren Levinson Pohn '67 and David Kilkaney.

Marjory Dressler loves living in vibrant South Beach. She was delighted to catch up with Anne Sargeant Walker '69 at the new Perez Art Museum Miami. It had been many years since they had seen each other. Anne is retired from teaching art. Margie is having her best business year ever in real estate. (See photo on this page.)

Lauren Levinson Pohn and husband David were married on Oct. 26, 2013. They recently saw Debby Greenstein’s stepbrother, Jay Ashman, and his wife, Meg Gensm Ashman ’72. When Debby read Laurie’s last note about her new home in Ecuador, she wrote to Laurie because Jay and Meg were heading there for the winter. Laurie graciously invited Jay and Meg to visit. Aside from the CC connection, Laurie and her husband are friends of the owners of the B&B where Meg and Jay stayed. (See photo on this page.)

Chris Miller St. Jean wrote of gathering with Susie Endel Kerner, Heather Woods Ames and Dana Freedman Lieberman at Sue Lehly Eldert’s home in East Falmouth, Mass., on the Cape, for a mini CC reunion. They enjoyed steamed lobsters on Sue and husband John’s gorgeous sailboat in Waquoit Harbor, biked the Shining Sea Bikeway and lunches at Woods Hole. (See photo on page 58.)

Chris and Susan Mendelson Braitman have traveled to Beaver Creek, Colo., for a week of skiing. They call themselves the BIG (Bachelor Gulch) Snow Sisters! (See photo on page 58.)

Deb Benjamin enjoys retirement on Lake Sunapee in New Hampshire and in Vero Beach, Fla. She traveled with Betty Sidor Hanley ’68 and husband Gerry to Alaska in 2012 and on the Amazon in Peru in March. Last year, Deb had a very exciting sailing trip around the Greek Isles . . . the terrible condition of the 100-foot ship made it more exciting than necessary! Deb is heavily involved in and former president of a scientific and educational organization, the oldest environmental organization in New Hampshire. She looks forward to a reunion in September at Trish Carr’s home on the Cape with Deb Funkhouser Perlman and husband Elliot, Anne Clement Haddad, Anne Foss, Martha Birkett, Judy Macurda Oates and husband Jim, and Chuck Samich (widower of Jane Steinhausen).

Your correspondent, Debby Greenstein, had another wonderful winter in Fort Lauderdale, with a visit from Jay and Meg Gensman Ashman ’72 as well. They spent several days here on their way home from Ecuador, and I showed them the sights, including the Wakodahatchee Wetlands in Delray Beach. While not as exotic as Lauren Levinson Pohn’s new home in Ecuador, the bird life is wonderful. Like Marjory Dressler, I went to the new Perez Art Museum Miami and was blown away by the stunning building on Biscayne Bay and by the exhibit of works by Ai Weiwei.

Correspondent Marcia Hunter Matthews and husband Bill enjoy retirement from education. They spend six months in Venice, Fla., with her mother down the street, and six months in Kennebunkport, Maine, where their nine children visit often. This fall, they are going to Ireland with Judi Rosman Hahn and husband Philip. They went to Quebec with them last September. (See photo on page 58.)

CC put Judi and Marcia together as roommates in 1963, and they remain good friends.

1968

Correspondent Mary Clarkson Phillips, 36
The Crossway, Delmar, NY 12054, mphil02@nyccap.nycap.com

Follow
#whereimycamelat
on Twitter, Facebook and
Instagram to see Camels
around the world.

One recurring message of this column’s notes has been involvement in our 50th high school reunions. It’s a great time to reconnect with our high school friends — let’s also look forward to our CC 50th reunion!

Donna Matthews continues to work full time as a school psychologist, dealing with the many issues of the youth of Ulster County, N.Y. She loves her work and hopes to keep going. She enjoys her summers playing tennis and sailing at Lake George in the Adirondacks.

Molly Walker Jackson writes that her mother and her husband both waited for her to retire before needing her attention, so retirement has been very busy with routine maintenance and catch-up. Now that she’s home more, she’s surprised at how much wildlife there is in a city suburb. “No new goals for this stage of life yet, but I will continue my 17-year membership in the Lexington County Choral Society.”

Brooke Johnson Sutler writes that Suzie Gehrig Kranz stopped in North Carolina for a visit while en route to visit Ellen Aerting Pike in Pennsylvania. They phoned Ann Fertig Tiemann in California for a fun chat. Brooke now has four grandchildren (ages 1 through 4): two in Winston-Salem, N.C., and two in Montpelier, Vt. She is still a volunteer court advocate for children in foster care, reads a lot, putters in her garden, works out regularly with a trainer and travels. In October, she will spend 10 days in Provence and is planning a 2015 trip to Italy. She enjoys researching local history and family genealogy. Her high school class elected her president to plan the 55th reunion.

Midge AuWerter Shepard’s husband retired this summer, so they plan to move from Houston back to Darien, Conn., to be close to their children. Their two sons and five grandchildren live in Darien, and their daughter is in New York City. They will spend winters in Naples, Fla.

Peg Magid Elder has retired, but her husband continues to travel for his work, so Peg travels with him. However, she spends two months every year in South Island, New Zealand (our winter, their summer). She enjoys swimming daily and watching the surfers take on the big waves! She invites anyone interested to come and visit. In September, she goes to Paris for a month. Having done all her art history graduate work in Paris, she has many
friends there. Peg’s home base is in Philadelphia; she is a stone’s throw from the Barnes Foundation and other museums and would love to see classmates anytime. She recently had her 50th grade school reunion from the Germantown Friends School in Philadelphia. It was a wonderful experience and has brought an entire world of old friends back in her life. She looks forward to our 50th!

Bette Salomone McKenney attended her 50th high school reunion in Connecticut in May, where she had fun reconnecting with classmates. Afterward, she spent a week visiting friends and relatives in New England. Bette especially enjoyed lunch and a visit with CC roommate Dorothy Quillan Williams, who loves having both sons and their families nearby. Dorothy’s husband, Ray, is still working. Bette continues to play French horn with the Carolina Wind Symphony and the Columbia Community Concert Band. After caring for her parents for the last 15 years, she enjoys her newfound freedom to travel.

1 Mary Clarkeson Phillips) continue to be busy in upstate New York. Her high school reunion was this fall, and I, too, am on the committee. I have also been busy with Schenectady Habitat for Humanity, and, of course, I continue to quilt. In July, Bruce and I visited the Canadian Rockies.

1969

Correspondent: Judi Bamberg Mariggio, 1307 Sugar Sands Blvd., Riviera Beach, FL 33404, jgmariggio@bellsouth.net

After Reunion, John and Linda Abel Fosson took a three-week “see the USA” trip with friends, driving 3,600 miles from Houston to Colorado (14,000-foot Pike’s Peak was the high point), South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming (with a week in Yellowstone), and finishing in Idaho, where they saw other friends and relatives, and flying back to Houston. Linda, who worked as a ranger-naturalist at the Cape Cod National Seashore during the summer of 1968, enjoyed reminiscing with a female park ranger at Yellowstone about the stewardess-style uniforms and lack of full-time positions for women at the parks in the ’60s.

Nancy Barry Manor was honored by the board of the Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival for her role as their first president at the 35th anniversary gala in Manhattan in April. The benefit featured WQXR radio announcer Jeff Spurgeon as master of ceremonies, with Charles Hamlen, the vice president for artists and programs at the Orchestra of St. Luke’s and one of the festival’s first board members, offering a historical perspective. It featured performances by the artistic co-directors, clarinetist Jon Manasse and pianist Jon Nakamatsu.

Now settled with husband Jim in their new home in Lake Forest Park, Wash., Alice Boatwright finds working internationally from the West Coast is an adjustment regarding time zones. She attended the 50th reunion of the Class of ’64 at her high school in Syracuse, N.Y., to read from her collection, “Collateral Damage.” “This is not my class, but they invited me because they liked the book, and the subject of Vietnam was a big part of everyone’s experience.” She held a book launch for “Under an English Heaven” while there. “The response to the new book has been good.”

In Serra de Sintra, Portugal, Mary Garlick St. George and husband Alan continue to run self-catering holidays at Casa do Celeiro, and she teaches art classes in her studio. One of Mary’s works, a portrait of J.M. Whistler, was accepted into the Society of Women Artists (SWA), Mall Galleries, London, for which she received the Frank Harring & Sons Essel Award. Mary is seeking a market for her work in the U.K., “as Portugal, although a beautiful place to live, offers a limited market.” See the portrait of Whistler at www.society-women-artists.org.uk/awards/2014-swa-exhibition-awards.html.

Elaine Davey Topodas visited Dagny Hultgreen Griswold in Simsbury, Conn., over Fourth of July weekend. “Elaine was teaching at Renbrook School in West Hartford this summer and saw my daughters and sons-in-law, Harry and I were in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Francisco in midsummer to visit our family.”

A highlight of Alice Reid Abbott’s year was the birth of her first grandchild, a boy, in April, to younger daughter Sally, who lives with her husband in D.C. Older daughter Laurel lives in San Francisco with her husband and dog, and Alice saw them twice. “Time in France and Maine makes retirement worthwhile, and classmates are always welcome. Seeing old friends and making new ones at Reunion 2014 was the icing on a good year!”

Brian and Kris Stahlschmidt Lambert deliberately planned their three-week trip to Peru and Ecuador in June around Reunion. “We spent five days exploring the Amazon, five days hiking Machu Picchu and other Incan ruins, and five days getting up close and personal with wildlife in the Galapagos. I had an anaconda draped around my neck, fish for piranhas (which became our lunch), and ate cuy (guinea pig). It was the trip of a lifetime!”

Harvey and Ellen Steinberg Karch’s trip to France in May included a river cruise on the Seine and a few days in Paris, “one of my favorite spots on earth. Two incredible highlights were visiting Monet’s home and gardens in Giverny and visiting Omaha Beach in Normandy just a few weeks before the 70th anniversary of the 1944 invasion.” Ellen continues to enjoy foreign languages and is now learning Spanish.

Ann Tousley Anderson shares happy coincidences. “Nancy Payne Alexander and I (friends since freshman year in Knowlton) are now ‘related’! My niece, Amanda, married Nancy’s nephew, Nick, in May in Atlanta. Also, while marching in the Reunion alumni parade, Prudy Wilson Barton and I discovered that our fathers were classmates and members of the same eating club at Princeton back in the 1930s. We literally stopped in our tracks when we discovered this, but what makes it even more significant is that I met my husband, Andy, because of Prudy!”

The Class of ’69 sends sympathy to the family and friends of Ann Weinberg Duval, who died on June 15.

1970

REUNION
MAY 29-31, 2015

Follow
#whereimcameisat
on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram to see Camels around the world.

Jacqueline McIntyre ’72 returned to campus May 5 to present a neuroscience research seminar in psychology. (L-R) McIntyre, Elyssa Ridder ’14 and Psychology Professor Joseph Schroeder.

1971

Correspondents: Lisa McDonnell, 134 W. Maple St., Granville, OH 43023, lmcod @denison.edu, Lois Penn, 308 East McKinley Street, Kennett Square, PA, 19348-3818, lapierce@comcast.net

1972

Correspondents: Dr. Peg Muschell Jackson, 1629 Pfluminger Drive, Apt. 9C, Walnut Creek, CA 94595-3834 peg@pegjackson.com
Karen DuBrul recently returned to Philadelphia to start a law practice after three years in Washington, D.C., working for the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. She concentrates
GET THE INSIDE TRACK
ON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

The Alumni Sons & Daughters Admission Program on Feb. 15-16, 2015 provides valuable insights about the selective college admission process.

If your son or daughter is a current high school junior and you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Beth Poole at beth.poole@conncoll.edu.

If you have a younger student and would like to be included in future mailings, please send your child’s birth date and year to alumni@conncoll.edu.

Visit sonsanddaughters.conncoll.edu for details. Registration opens in mid-December.

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on public finance and municipal advisory matters, as well as on general corporate and personal representations. Karen lives in Philadelphia with longtime partner Michael and looks forward to catching up with CC classmates passing through.

Sharon Platner Lincoln still lives in Chester, Conn., and has worked as an academic advisor and student support/community resource specialist at Three Rivers Community College for five years, a new career for her. She had been the director of the Child Development Center at the college for over 20 years. After the center closed, Sharon went back to graduate school, and she is thriving in her new position.

Son Caleb lives at home and works for the Connecticut Museum, and Sharon’s daughter lives on Catalina Island, Calif., working for the Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce. Sharon gardens, travels and relishes an old farmhouse in East Haddam.

Ruth Ritter Ladd visited CC to bring her mom, Marion Ferris Ritter ’35, to Reunion. She says it was wonderful to meet CC’s new president and to stay in newly renovated Wright House. After her recent move to Germantown, Md., from Seattle, Wash., to accommodate husband Allen’s position at the National Institute for Standards and Technology, Norma Drab Walrath Goldstein is the new SOCAD Education Project Director for Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC), affiliated with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C.

Norma enjoys being on the East Coast to see sons Ivan and Todd and her six grandchildren, but also still sees youngest son Adam in Seattle and Patricia Lenehan Breyley ’71.

Merrily Gerrish is the general counsel at the Division of Banks for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She still enjoys living on Beacon Hill in Boston.

Jacqueline McGinty returned to CC for the first time since 1972 to give a neuroscience research seminar on May 5. (See photo on page 61.) She was honored by the invitation, initiated by psychology student Elsya Riedner ’14, who conducted research in Jackie’s lab at the Medical University of South Carolina in the summer of 2013. Jackie toured CC, lunched with psychology students and visited the Arboretum before her talk. Seeing the students sitting in the lecture hall in Bill Hall basement where we used to sit was a very emotional experience for her. After an introduction by Professor Joe Schroeder, head of the behavioral neuroscience division, Jackie stood behind the lectern and choked up. Then she told a few stories about the introduction of boys in the basement of Burdick and the events at Kent State in the spring of 1970. After dinner at a local restaurant, Jackie, Joe, and Elysia’s mother accompanied Elysia to the awards ceremony, where she shared the Distinguished Graduate in Psychology Award with two other students. Jackie feels fortunate that she can give back to CC by encouraging young minds to pursue their goals in graduate school in STEM disciplines.

Margaret Williams and husband Alan Fisher celebrated their 40th anniversary in July and the birth of their first grandchild last December. In May, Margaret also celebrated her five-year tenure leading Maryland Family Network, Maryland’s foremost early childhood care and education advocacy organization.

Candace Thorson and son Jeremy spent two weeks in Russia in May, traveling on a river cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow. The wonderful experience included lectures and guided tours providing background on the culture and history of the area. Candace continues to find her work as a Christian Science nurse at a facility in Virginia very rewarding.

Although Barbara Zaccheo Kohn no longer works as a banker, she keeps herself busy serving on corporate and not-for-profit boards. She was recently made chair of the board of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park Conservancy, a presidential memorial to FDR in New York City. The beautiful memorial, designed by Louis Kahn 40 years ago, was finally completed in 2012.

Amy Lewis Tabor’s son Scott was married on June 7 in Little Rock, Calif. Scott’s wife, Thelma, has four children, so Amy and Bob are instant grandparents, and Amy’s mother is a great-grandmother — all of them loving it! Amy and Bob closed the sale of their store on June 19. Now retired, they have all sorts of travel plans. The very next day, youngest son Adam Tabor ’05 announced he’d been accepted into the Stern School of Business at New York University to work toward his M.B.A.

Peg Muschell Jackson and Paul are busy with consulting projects, with clients all over the country. They visited Wisconsin in August for a family reunion and Minnesota later that month for another reunion. Paul continues his work as a commissioner for the Accreditation Bureau for Engineering and Technology and will visit a campus in Texas in October.


Emily Hanna Hayes and Rick are enjoying retirement. She retired after 20 years in banking, the last eight years as a trainer. Their three boys are all honors graduates of Rutgers and are doing well in their careers in computers and technology. Emily finds the most enjoyable thing about retirement is spending time with her two delightful grandchildren, toddler Helen Noelle and her little brother, William Joseph, born on June 4.


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1973

Correspondent: Nina Davit, dav1_nina@yahoo.com


Emily Hanna Hayes and Rick are enjoying retirement. She retired after 20 years in banking, the last eight years as a trainer. Their three boys are all honors graduates of Rutgers and are doing well in their careers in computers and technology. Emily finds the most enjoyable thing about retirement is spending time with her two delightful grandchildren, toddler Helen Noelle and her little brother, William Joseph, born on June 4.

1974

Correspondent: Deborah Hoff, Deborahhoff@embarqmail.com

1975

Correspondents: Miriam Josephson Whitehorse, P.O. Box 7068, Cape Porpoise, ME 04041, casablanca11@qwest.net, Nancy Gray, 5109 York Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55410-2130, nancyg@newmoon.com

1976

Correspondents: Kenneth Abel, 334 W. 19th St., Apt. 26, New York, NY 10011, kennkel@qwest.com, Susan Hendereth Milrath, P.O. Box 3962, Greenwood Village, CO 80115-3962, shmilrath@gmail.com

After several years running residential treatment programs for court-adjudicated adolescents in Massachusetts and New York, Dennis O’Brien, MA, settled into a near 30-year career in telecom management. He spent the first decade of this century (he loves to say that) in Austin, Texas, where his now 21-year-old son was raised. He’s back in Boston now, more or less; he is in Worcester and his son is at UMass Amherst. Dennis only spent one year on campus at Con, but he recalls fondly his fellow students in the master’s program and, of course, the faculty. He sends a shout-out to Ann Devin, his thesis adviser and “all-around good
For the first time, John Moore is responding to a class notes request. He was married in January of this year to Rio Akazawa after an extra-long engagement. She attended our class reunion in 2011, and after sharing drinks with Nancy Bellantone and Carl Dawson, inadvertently posed for our class photo. John and Rio live in Cambridge, Mass., where John develops commercial solar hot water projects. They have a mini-lab mix, Katie, who was rescued from a kill shelter in North Carolina five years ago.

Bernard McMullan is pleased to report that his youngest daughter completed her extended course of treatment for leukemia last year. She had been diagnosed just before our 35th reunion. She’s in great spirits, is in school and is looking forward to getting back in the job market. His home situation has become a little more complicated as his son, his wife and their daughter, as well as his other daughter and her toddlers, have moved in. For two months, he was also hosting a friend of his daughter’s and her two school-aged children after they had been displaced from their apartment. “While we all survived, it was a lot like living in a dorm,” Bernard works as an independent evaluation consultant and continues to sing with Princeton Pro Musica and Mosty Motels. He has also joined the board of the recently formed New Jersey Capital Philharmonic, through which he is helping organize a corporate sponsorship program.

As did most of us, Nancy Hershatter hit “The Big 6-0” this year. She celebrated by seeing “Once” on Broadway, then hitting her favorite Chinese restaurant in Greenwich Village with good friends. Both Nancy and Jeff Oshen had their left hips replaced at exactly the same time, but on opposite coasts. Both are back at work and feeling good. Nancy’s job these days is a blend of leading social skills groups for first- and second-graders in Westchester County, teaching music in preschools and a Hebrew school, and leading music sessions in assisted living settings, libraries and with developmentally disabled adults. “Every day is different,” she writes.

After a 10-year career in arts management, Jonathan Kromer served as an administrator of a large AIDS case management organization in Atlanta and earned his M.S.W. at the University of Georgia. He settled in Charlotte and, in 2012, retired from practice as a clinical social worker specializing in geriatric mental health. He and his partner, John, recently marked their 32nd year together and this year plan to relocate permanently from Charlotte to their home in North Myrtle Beach, S.C. They are looking forward to a healthier, more relaxed lifestyle on the water. After that, they are looking forward to some travel, some volunteering and enjoying time with their 3-year-old grandnephew, Jayden.

The New York Court of Appeals has appointed Stuart M. Cohen as one of seven trustees who administer the New York Lawyers’ Fund for Client Protection, which reimburses law clients whose money is misused in the practice of law. Trustees serve without compensation for three-year terms. Stuart retired in 2010 after serving for 14 years as the clerk of the Court of Appeals, where he was responsible for supervising the operations of the state’s highest court. He previously served with the court as deputy clerk and as a law clerk to Chief Judge Sol Wachtler and Associate Judge Jacob D. Fuchsberg. He is now a sole practitioner in Rensselaer, N.Y., concentrating on appellate matters.

Susan Hazlehurst Milibrath is enjoying a new career as a community manager with MSI, Colorado’s largest homeowner association management company. She manages a diverse portfolio of associations in the Denver area and recently earned her CMCA (Certified Manager of Community Associations) credential. She and other Colorado alumni are preparing for the 41st annual College for a Day event in January, at which a CC professor will be one of the featured speakers.

1977
Correspondent: Kimberly-Toy Reynolds Pellermo, kimtoy@yahoo.com

1978
Correspondent: Susan Calef Tobisson, 70 Park Terrace East, Apt. 41, New York, NY 10034, stbisson@yahoo.com; Laurie Heiss Grealy, 17 Lookout Drive, Greenwich, CT 06830, laurieheiss@gmail.com

1979
Correspondents: Vicky Chesley, vchesley@earthlink.net, Sue Arges Kayeum, sakayeum@comcast.net

1980
Correspondents: Connie Smith Gomer, 180 Glenwood Ave., Portland, ME 04102, connie@barthingold.com; Todd Hudson, piratebodd@me.com

1981
Correspondent: Talie Ward Harris, homerbird@hotmail.com

The New England Society of Newspaper Editors awarded Bill Malinowski their “master reporter” designation for his first-rate work on the Providence Journal. Since 1985, Bill has covered organized crime, police, courts, political and police corruption, and most recently, medical marijuana, street gangs and gun violence. He is the newspaper’s resident expert on organized crime. In 2013, he was assigned to cover the case of Aaron Hernandez, the former New England Patriots tight end who was charged with murder. Bill is married to Mary Murphy, a Providence Journal photographer.

Thanks to Facebook, I (Talie Ward Harris) found a photo of Paul Escoll and Nat Thompson enjoying a cocktail in a sushi restaurant in Portland, Maine, Paul, working in Los Angeles but on his way back from a Toronto wedding, and I connected in my Maine backyard a few days later.

Also nearby are Holly Hofmann, Michael Wilbur and Laura Fernandes Summa, who lives on Chebeague Island and runs a property management service for islanders and summer folk.

And I met Linda Rosenthal Maness and husband David for breakfast at Becky’s Diner, an iconic eatery on the Portland waterfront. Linda was there to walk in the Shipyard Old Port Half Marathon and logged a fantastic 3:02 time for the 13.1-mile race.

Coco Stein-Mollard and husband Jean-Marc have a new niece! Coco is a translator for several businesses in greater Paris and works occasionally for her sister and brother-in-law as a B&B hostess at family establishments in Honfleur and Paris. She sees Alison Fraser often in France.

Allison Reisner Hooper’s company, The Vermont Creamery (www.vermontcreamery.com), makes the most amazing cheese. Chèvre, Bonne Bouche, crème fraîche — it’s all fantastic. They’ve won more than 100 national and international awards for their products. Allison is in touch with Kay Soligson, who left CC after sophomore year and now lives in Arlington, Mass., with a son and her husband, a math teacher.

Dana Friedman Kiesel and husband Paul were recently photographed in Santorini during a 25th-anniversary hiking trip. They both look 40, so they must have exchanged vows in the Arbo during freshman year. Congratulations to you both!

1982
Correspondent: Eliza Helman Kraft, 73 Pine Ridge St., Katonah, NY 10536, luakraft@gmail.com

1983
Correspondent: Claudia Gould Taliking, 6533 Maltby St., McLean, VA 22101-5517, clafting@cathedral.org
1984
Correspondents: Lucy Marshall Sandor, 251 Kathy Lane, Wilton, CT 06897, lucyandlor@ aol.com; Sheryl Edwards Rajpolt, 17 Pleasant Lane, Monroe, CT 06468, saipol@us.ibm.com; Liz Kolber Wolkoff, 119 Estate Drive, Jericho, NY 11753, lskolber@aol.com

1984
Correspondents: Lucy Marshall Sandor, 251 Kathy Lane, Wilton, CT 06897, lucyandlor@ aol.com; Sheryl Edwards Rajpolt, 17 Pleasant Lane, Monroe, CT 06468, saipol@us.ibm.com; Liz Kolber Wolkoff, 119 Estate Drive, Jericho, NY 11753, lskolber@aol.com

Lolly Jelks Crawford is happy and doing well. She is a lawyer, although not currently practicing. “A lot of my time and energy is spent doing things related to being a stepmom, which is an amazing rewarding — and sometimes wacky! — experience.” (See photo on this page.)

1985 REUNION MAY 29-31, 2015
Correspondents: Deborah Lowry MacLean, 42 Catbird Court, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-2045, debb.lowry.maclean@gmail.com; Meg Macn, megmacn@comcast.net

Polly Altrocchi Clark is happy and doing well. She is a lawyer, although not currently practicing. “A lot of my time and energy is spent doing things related to being a stepmom, which is an amazing rewarding — and sometimes wacky! — experience.” (See photo on this page.)

1985
Correspondents: Deborah Lowry MacLean, 42 Catbird Court, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-2045, debb.lowry.maclean@gmail.com; Meg Macn, megmacn@comcast.net

Polly Altrocchi Clark had a long-overdue reunion with Margi Schwartz in Manasota Key, Fla. (See photo below.)

1986
Correspondent: Bradley Wade, 14 Davis Chapel Road, Candler, NC 28715, colewade@msn.com

Polly Altrocchi Clark had a long-overdue reunion with Margi Schwartz in Manasota Key, Fla. (See photo below.)

1987
Correspondents: Jennifer kalen Bakkala, 51 Wesson Terrace, Northborough, MA 01532, jebblue@gmail.com; Jill Perlman Pienkos, 103 Barr Hill Lane, Newington, CT 06111, jpperlen@comcast.net

In June, Megan Santosus ran in her 50th half marathon, which completed a self-imposed quest to run 50 half marathons before she turned 50 in September. “This all began in October 2009, when I ran in my first half marathon, the Boston Athletic Association Half Marathon. Now that I am done, I’m trying to figure out my next adventure.” Megan lives near Boston with her three children, who will all be in middle school next year. She is an editor for an information technology analyst firm.

Amy Walther LaMarche’s daughter Renee graduated from Phillips Academy in Andover, along with Julie Turner Oliva’s daughter Melanie. Renee plans to attend Tulane University this fall.

Brian Rosenberg and husband Ferd have launched Gays With Kids, a new website dedicated to helping gay dads navigate fatherhood. According to

Geoff Merrill ‘82, Lolly Jelks Crawford ‘85 and Ben Ford ‘84 gathered for Crawford’s 50th birthday in Charlottesville, Va.

Polly Altrocchi Clark ‘86, left, and Margi Schwartz ‘86 enjoy a “long overdue” reunion in Manasota Key, Fla.
Brian, the project started as a labor of love based on their experiences after becoming first-time dads five years ago. “We plan to grow Gays With Kids into the Web’s most trusted and comprehensive source of content for anything and everything relevant for gay dads, from creating families to raising them.” Brian would love to hear from fellow Camels with start-up survival tips. He can be reached on Facebook, LinkedIn or at Brian@GaysWithKids.com.

1988
Correspondent: Nancy Beaney, 4059 McLaughlin Ave., Apt. 4, Los Angeles, CA 90066, nbeaney@jdi.com

1989
Correspondent: Mark Howes, 41 Montezuma St., San Francisco, CA 94110, mark@howestax.com

As I (Deb Dorman Hay) write this column, I am on the train home from Reunion — and what a reunion it was! For all those well-intended post-graduation comments (“You’ll never get to do that again”) ... never say never! Thank you to the entire planning committee, especially Reunion Chair Mark Howes, President Helen Dewey and Noelie Ifskin, who coordinated Saturday dinner. To say we had fun is the understatement of the century (or at least the quarter-century)! There was no shortage of laughs, hugs, late nights and side trips to Norm’s, Fred’s Shanty and the beach. We had more than 110 registered classmates, the most at a 25th reunion in the College’s history! Classmates traveled from as far away as Japan, Australia and Turkey. Our hair may be a little gray (or MIA), but it felt like we’d never left. Although there was a chill in the air and we had a huge squall at the informal Friday night Abbott’s Lobster dinner, the weather was picture-perfect for most of the weekend, and the campus was stunning!

Official business: At Convocation, Helen Dewey and Mark Howes received awards from the College for their many years and various forms of service. Plenty of ’89 Camels were on hand to cheer for them. The Mach Arum Award was presented to Yoko Shimada ’99, a wonderful and well-deserving woman. And at the conclusion of the ceremony, we sang the Alma Mater, written in 1925. Two things were remarkable about this. First, no one seemed to know we had a college song. Second, the new president, Katherine Bergeron, has a fabulous voice and she already knew the words! At our Saturday night dinner, we recognized three people for 25 years of continuous service: Frank Suher, Jennifer Perry and Deb Dorman Hay. We also elected new class officers. The vote was unanimous and LOUD! Jay Ackerman (who was not there to defend himself, but Helen assured us he has agreed to this) is president; Deb Dorman Hay is vice president, Mark Howes is class correspondent and Noelie Ifskin is chair for our 30th reunion. Helen Dewey will join Frank Suher and Anne Mickie as our class agents (also known as the “class nags,” a term of endearment coined by Warren Cohen). We shattered our class gift goal of $95K with $108K donated.

We showcased our class’s musical talents with a BFD reunion and performance by The Rhythm Method, as well as with Bob Calhoun and Sarah Dillon Gedicks’s contributions to the Service of Remembrance. To those who were not able to make it to Reunion, we missed you and hope that you can make the next one!

After my 25-year run as class correspondent, I’m turning over the reins to Mark Howes and will be dismissing my “Submit Class Notes” calendar reminder for the last time! Thank you to all who’ve contributed and read over the years.

1990 REUNION MAY 29-31, 2015
Correspondent: Toria Brett, 30 Washington Ave., Northampton, MA 01060, victoriabrett@comcast.net

In December, Kahla Thompson Nelson moved with her husband and four children (ages 9 to 16) to Wilmington, N.C., from Suzhou, China, where they have lived for the past 10 years (including 18 months in Thailand). During her time there, Kahla “raised four great kids but also taught English as an Additional Language part-time at Dulwich College Suzhou.” Husband Eric managed several U.S. and European manufacturing operations during their time in China. They are all happy to be back in the fresh ocean air and not checking the China Air Quality app anymore! (See photo on this page.)

Yvonne Smith Dier had a great vacation this summer in Switzerland (Zermatt, Interlaken, Zurich), where “I got to practice all the German I learned at CC so many years ago … and ate fondue nearly every day. I also managed to replace the fruits-and-vegetables part of my usual diet with chocolate. Trying to undo the damage now.” (See photo on this page.)

Thad Ring returned to CC for the appropriately named Insights Weekend and had a blast kicking off our 25th reunion planning with Kirsten Ward and also catching up with Helen Dewey ’89, Mark Howes ’89, John Scullin ’89, Chesa Sheldon Mayes ’89 and others during the festivities. He walked next to President Bergeron during the class parade of colors wearing his Camels 90 jersey (see pictures on the College’s website). “Being back on campus is always inspirational — really looking forward to Fall Weekend and, of course, our 25th reunion, May 29–31, 2015!”

Joe Bentivegna Syracuse, a screenwriter in L.A., writes, “We are so old! How did that happen? I mean, now it’s serious; this is no joke. What is wrong with us — we are Gen X — we aren’t supposed to hit 50! Now, 40 is cool … so our class has to somehow take a stand and not let that happen.” So, Class of ‘90, attend Reunion before you turn 50. Be there.

1991
Correspondent: Class Notes Editor, CC: Magazine, 270 Mohegan Ave., New London, CT 06320, ccmag@conncoll.edu

1992
Correspondent: Maggie Ruvoldt, mruvoldt@gmail.com; Doug (Donald) Stowe, dstowe@utco.com
Kevin Stafford '95 married Brandi Carlisle on May 3, 2014. The couple, who live in Houston, Texas, honeymooned for 10 days in St. Martin.

Three generations at Commencement: (L-R) Marie Waterman Harris '56, Caroline Knoblock '14 and Ellen Harris '80.

1993
Correspondent: Michael Carson, PO. Box 914, East Orleans, MA 02643, carson.michael@gmail.com

Michael Lynch lives in Sharon, Conn., and New York City with wife Carol Degener, to whom he was married in 2012. He has been practicing law in Litchfield County, Conn., for the last 11 years, and he opened his own law office, which focuses on real estate and estate planning, in his hometown of Sharon in the spring of 2013. Michael and his wife just adopted a rescue lab. He is sorry to have missed the 20th reunion.

1994
Correspondent: Daniella DeFilippo Garran, dkgarran@gmail.com

1995
Correspondent: Stephanie Wilson Melendez, 5328 Oliver Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55419, swilson@bazoomer.com

1996
Correspondent: Kerri Sarajian, kensarajian@gmail.com

After designing exhibitions and installations at the Philadelphia Museum of Art since 2008, Jeffrey (Jay) Sitten took a position in 2014 at Art Guild Inc., where he is a project manager in the firm’s museums and environments division. He is currently working on a number of projects in the U.S. and Canada. Jay lives with his wife, Jayma, and his children, Piper (5) and Henri (3), in Media, Pa., just outside Philadelphia.

Jason Covert continues to work as an artist in New York and recently closed his third solo show in Manhattan. He has another show set to open in October or November. Check out www.jasoncovert.com for more information.

Congratulations to Alexa Sherr Hartley, who was recently featured in the University of Florida’s law magazine (the article included a picture of her with her three adorable children). When not busy as president and executive coach at Premier Leadership Coaching, Alexa is an adjunct professor at Florida Atlantic University College of Business.

Andrew Margie and his family live in Brooklyn, N.Y. He sees his neighbor, Jason Covert, from time to time. Andrew has recently gotten together with Vin Farrell, Jesse Perkins, Jon Comings and Andrew Bogle '94. He reports that he’s even had a Mark Rooney '95 sighting, “despite Mark abandoning NYC for the challenges of Rye, N.Y.” Andrew launched a new tech startup called Alumnifire that’s focused on better engaging alumni networks. He writes, “I launched it at Conn, and over 1,500 Camels have already joined and volunteered to help fellow Camels find jobs, internships, get advice and more. I’ve since launched Alumnifire at Princeton, Vassar College, Notre Dame and Penn. Join at cc.alumnifire.com.” If you’re interested in supporting the venture, Andrew would love to hear from you.

On May 3, 2014, Kevin Stafford married Brandi Carlisle. They spent 10 days on their honeymoon in St. Martin. Kevin and Brandi live in Houston, Texas, where he works in energy marketing for Gofen & Sher & she is a nurse at Texas Children’s Hospital.

Andrea Fisher Erda celebrated Germany’s World Cup victory with a month-long visit to Germany to see her mother’s family. She was thrilled to arrive the day after the victory, when the celebrations were still going strong.

Rick Stratton and I (Keri Sarajian) celebrated his 40th birthday last fall with a family trip to Disney World.
Tyler Eames '03 and Liz Sainz Eames '03 were married on June 15, 2013, in Mystic, Conn. There's nothing like a group at 18 people, ages 1-75, walking around with T-shirts and hats announcing, “Rick is 40.” I’m interested in writing about ways in which other classmates celebrated their 40th... send me a note and I'll publish the most interesting stories in the next issue!

2006
Correspondent: Julia Printz Jacobson, julia.jacobson@gmail.com

Anne Confer Martens and Eric Confer Martens are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Andrew Paul. He was born on May 9 in Pottstown, Pa., and weighed 8 lbs., 13 oz.


Correspondents: Melissa Higgins, 15 Clark St. #3, Boston, MA 02109, melissa.higgins13@hotmail.com; Leslie Kella, 418 W 45th St., Apt. 4A, New York, NY 10019; jk319@hotmail.com

Congratulations to Connie Wang, who received a doctor of physical therapy degree from Thomas Jefferson University on May 28.

Juana (Kika) Elias, RTC, has been working at New Roads Middle School in Santa Monica, Calif., for the past eight years. Juana teaches a Spanish and Leadership Workshop, as well as other classes.

Dan Cayer lives in Brooklyn with wife Nomi and their 2-year-old daughter, Ruby. He teaches a mindfulness-based approach to working with pain and fear, called Fluid Movement NYC. Weird but true: Nomi and Dan won on TV's “The Newlywed Game” in 2011!

2009
Correspondent: Caroline Gransee, caroline.gransee@gmail.com

2010
Correspondent: Erin Osborn, eosborn@conncoll.edu

Charles Cochran is currently working for the New York Restoration Project in Highbridge Park, Manhattan, where he helps to control invasive plant sources and preserve a newly reforested area.

2000
Correspondent: Katie Stepherson, 54 Rope Ferry Road, Unit 138H, Waterford, CT 06385, klste18@hotmail.com

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Michael Meade spent nine months in Mexico at an ecovillage, working the farm and teaching at a Montessori school. The community was vibrant, with regular sweat lodge, devotional dance, singing circle and medicine ceremonies. He will be moving to a Krishna Consciousness community in West Virginia called New Vrindaban and is excited to continue his path of spiritual growth and evolution in the vision of awakening greater communal appreciation for divinity in our society.

Cookie Smith will attend Northeastern University for physician assistant school this fall and will move to Boston in September. Most recently, she worked in the Framingham emergency room as a technician, while also selling wedding dresses in Waltham.

Rachel Zelinsky, Susannah Matthews and Samantha Herndon enjoyed a recent visit in Somerville, Mass., that included a tour of the Taza Chocolate Factory. (See photo on this page.) Rachel is earning her master’s degree in early childhood education at Lesley University. Susannah is studying toward her master’s in social work at Simmons, and Samantha is working in independent film distribution in Seattle.

Jeffrey Wexler started a position as a political appointee in the Obama administration working for the administrator at the U.S. Small Business Administration. It has been exceptionally busy but a lot of fun.
OBITUARIES

Ruth E. Holmes Ford '37 of Brockton, Mass., died April 19. Ruth studied English. She was an active member of Christ Congregational Church in Brockton, and enjoyed travelling, reading, crossword puzzles and sewing. Ruth is survived by a son, two grandsons and a great-grandson.

Miriam "Mimi" Cooper '39 of West Hartford, Conn., died May 1. A chemistry major, Mimi served in the U.S. Army for five years, reaching the rank of first lieutenant. She was involved in several Jewish organizations and was a longtime member of Beth Hillel Synagogue in Bloomfield, Conn. Mimi was predeceased by four siblings and several nieces and nephews. She is survived by many close friends and several nieces and nephews.

Margaret Munsell Palmer '41 P'68 of Randolph, Vt., died Sept. 11, 2013. An English major, Margaret lived in several cities along the East Coast before settling in Vermont in 1991. She was involved in her local churches, enjoyed reading and traveling, and was an avid Boston Red Sox fan. Margaret was predeceased by her husband, Donald, and a sister. She is survived by a sister, two children, three grandchildren and twin great-grandchildren.

Mary Crockett Nagler '44 of Dallas, Texas, died Feb. 26. A chemistry major, Mary went on to earn a master's in biochemistry from the University of Southern California. She was predeceased by her husband, Joe, and her son Paul. Mary is survived by her son John.

Barbara Nevile Kornreich '46 of Laguna Woods, Calif., died Jan. 22. Barbara studied psychology. She moved to California from Washington, D.C., after her late husband, Donald, retired as an engineer with the city’s Department of Transportation. Barbara is survived by six sons and their wives, 10 grandchildren, two brothers and a sister.

Helen H. Martin '46 of Charlotte, N.C., died June 1. Helen studied history and went on to earn a degree in library studies from Columbia University. She moved to Charlotte in 1954 and worked as a librarian at various branches throughout her career. Helen was a member of Myers Park Presbyterian Church and volunteered at Charlotte's Presbyterian Hospital.

Eleanor Ruth Barber Maimfeld '48 of Charlottesville, Va., died March 16. Eleanor transferred to Simmons College and earned a master’s in library science from the University of Washington. She worked as a middle school librarian in Mansfield, Conn., for 23 years. She is survived by five children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Barbara Gantz Gray '48 of Wellfleet, Mass., March 28. Barbara studied anthropology and went on to earn degrees from Oxford and Western New England University. During her time at the College, she was also a member of the Shwifts a cappella group. A local politician in Framingham, Mass., for several years, Barbara was elected to be a state representative in 1972. She spent 24 years as a legislator. She was predeceased by her husband, Norman Gardner. Barbara is survived by four children and three grandchildren.

Joyce Johnson St. Peter '43 of Sunland, Calif., died Dec. 16, 2013. An English major, Joyce worked as a writer for many years. She was predeceased by her husband, Lionel. She is survived by a daughter.

Jane Folts Bredon '43 of San Diego, Calif., died Feb. 20. Jane studied economics and sociology at the College, and worked in health administration. She is survived by her sister, Patricia Dooley '49, and two children.

Mary Sessions Morier '52 of East Orange, N.J., died June 5. Mary studied economics and spent her entire career with First National Stores, primarily in the treasurer’s offices in Somerville, Mass., and Windsor Locks, Conn. She was actively involved in her local church, an avid reader and knitter, and enjoyed crossword puzzles and traveling. Anne is survived by cousins and many friends.

Barbara Gantz Gray '48 of Bridgeport, Conn., died May 28. She studied economics and spent her entire career with First National Stores, primarily in the treasurer’s offices in Somerville, Mass., and Windsor Locks, Conn. She was actively involved in her local church, an avid reader and knitter, and enjoyed crossword puzzles and traveling. Anne is survived by cousins and many friends.

Anne Louise Glazier '49 of Enfield, Conn., died May 28. She studied economics and spent her entire career with First National Stores, primarily in the treasurer’s offices in Somerville, Mass., and Windsor Locks, Conn. She was actively involved in her local church, an avid reader and knitter, and enjoyed crossword puzzles and traveling. Anne is survived by cousins and many friends.

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Mary Sessions Morier '52 of East Orange, N.J., died June 5. Mary studied economics and spent her entire career with First National Stores, primarily in the treasurer’s offices in Somerville, Mass., and Windsor Locks, Conn. She was actively involved in her local church, an avid reader and knitter, and enjoyed crossword puzzles and traveling. Anne is survived by cousins and many friends.

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her son, Lee. Nikki is survived by her husband, Larry; a daughter, a brother; three grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Mary Locke Davis Swaygnim '52 of Denver, Colo., died in May. After attending the College, Mary graduated from the University of New Mexico with a bachelor’s in fine arts. She taught in Denver public schools for many years and loved to perform in theater and singing groups. She is survived by her husband, Donald; her brother; three children and six grandchildren.

Lois Bassett Fons '55 of Atkinson, N.H., died May 8. Lois studied psychology. She enjoyed playing bridge, doing crossword puzzles and reading. Lois was predeceased by her husband, Stanley. She is survived by a son, a daughter, four grandchildren and two brothers.

Elizabeth “Bitsie” Root '55 of Menlo Park, Calif., died June 1. Bitsie majored in child development and went on to serve as head of Phillips Brooks School in Menlo Park, Calif. After retiring, she served on the boards of several local schools and California school organizations. Bitsie is survived by her husband, William Epperly; a sister; a brother; three nieces and two nephews.

Ruth Shea Paganò '56 of Greenfield, Mass., died in May. Ruth studied English. She was active in the Civil Rights Movement and an advocate for animal welfare. She enjoyed crossword puzzles.

Sandra Horn Estein '57 P'80 of Southport, Conn., died July 16. Sandra studied art and went on to volunteer at New York City's Morgan Library for 25 years. She was passionate about history, serving as a member of the local historical society and on a New York landmark preservation board. She was also interested in genealogy and conducted extensive research on her ancestral history. Her historical knowledge served her well in an appearance on Jeopardy! in 1964. Sandra also supported the College as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, president of the Class of 1957 and Reunion committee chairperson. She is survived by her husband, Henry; a son; two daughters and two grandchildren.

Louise D. Strong '57 of Morristown, N.Y., died July 11. Louise studied English and went on to earn a master’s in science from SUNY Potsdam. She worked for many years as an elementary school teacher in Watertown, N.Y., public schools. Louise was active at her local church and was an avid writer, publishing several fiction books set in upstate New York. She is predeceased by a brother. Louise is survived by a brother and several nieces and nephews.

Jill Danilek '59 of Keswick, Va., died May 10. Jane studied art at the College, but left early to marry her husband, Don, who became a military lawyer. She lived for 34 years in Port Washington, N.Y., where she actively volunteered in her children’s schools, her church and with local sailing programs. Jane was also an avid knitter. She is survived by her husband, three sons, a daughter, a brother and many grandchildren.

Susan Green “Toodie” Foote '60 of Old Lyme, Conn., died April 19. Toodie studied art and worked in the Missouri Pavilion at the 1964-65 World’s Fair in New York City. She was an avid cook, a talented artist and a calligrapher. Toodie also volunteered for local historical and art organizations in the Old Lyme area. She was predeceased by her husband, Richard. Toodie is survived by a son, a daughter, two grandchildren and two sisters.

Eilen Malby-Akari ’64 of Falmouth, Maine, died March 12. Eilen studied zoology and played field hockey at the College, and went on to earn her master’s and doctorate from Northeastern University. She also earned a National Science Foundation grant to conduct genetic research at Jackson Labs during her time at the College. Eilen was an accomplished immunologist and a science professor at the University of Southern Maine. She was dedicated to community service, working regularly with at-risk youths and AIDS-related programs. She was predeceased by her parents and a sister-in-law. Eilen is survived by a son, a daughter; a brother; a sister and many nieces and nephews.

Mary Stevenson Jordan Cox '66 of Clarksville, Tenn., died Dec. 19, 2013. Mary held several jobs throughout her career, serving as a marriage and family therapist and as a library director. She was an avid sailor and traveler. She is survived by two sisters, two nephews and two goddaughters.

Margaret Reed O’Brien Scott '70 of Honolulu, Hawaii, died Feb. 17. A philosophy major, Margaret graduated cum laude and went on to graduate magna cum laude from the University of San Diego Law School in 1986. She practiced law in Denver, Colo., eventually running her own firm for several years. Margaret enjoyed hiking and horseback riding. She was predeceased by her mother and father. Margaret is survived by her husband, Richard Scott, a retired commander in the U.S. Navy; two sons; two aunts and many cousins.

Donna Micklus Ciccalone '71 of Wethersfield, Conn., died April 4. A Hispanic studies major, Donna worked at the Connecticut State Republican Party headquarters for many years, serving as director of operations. She also served as director of communications for the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services until her retirement in 2011. Donna enjoyed cooking, tennis, reading and playing with her dogs. She is survived by her husband, Thomas, a brother; several in-laws and two nephews.

John Thomson '75 of San Lorenzo, Calif., died June 5. John transferred to Colorado College, and went on to earn a master’s in psychology from Syracuse University and a doctorate from the California School of Professional Psychology. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and went on to work as a clinical psychologist in San Francisco. John enjoyed classic cars and kayaking. He is survived by his wife, Guy; two sisters; his brother; three nephews and two nieces.

Gloria Baker Bueno MAT '76 of Westerly, R.I., died March 23. Gloria received her undergraduate degree from SUNY Plattsburgh and was a teacher at Gulf Hill Elementary School in Ledyard, Conn. for more than 35 years. She is survived by her husband Elio, four sons, a daughter, two brothers, two sisters, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

George Bluhm '82 of Quaker Hill, Conn., died June 6. George earned his degree in sociology at age 61. He joined the U.S. Coast Guard in 1940 and eventually transferred to Coast Guard Academy Band, playing at several presidential inaugurations. George retired as the public affairs director of the band in 1978. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; a son and a daughter.

Allison Katherine Smith '84 of Englewood, Colo., died Jan. 15. Allison studied sociology and earned a master’s in education from the University of Colorado. She worked as a project coordinator at Sonoma State University in California, teaching educators how to work with students with disabilities. Allison’s passions included art and music. She is survived by her parents, H. Preston and Carolyn; two brothers; two sisters; and many nieces and nephews.

George Pratt '86 of Hyde Park, Calif., died May 12. An English major, George spent much of his life traveling and living around the world. His passion was teaching, but he was also a novelist, playwright and musician. George is survived by his wife, Sydney; his parents; a daughter; a brother; a sister; four nieces and seven nephews.

Amy M. Kornbrust M'84 of Amston, Conn., died March 25. Amy earned her master’s in psychology after earning a bachelor’s degree from the University of Connecticut. She worked as a physician assistant at Hartford Anesthesiology Associates. Amy is survived by her life-partner, Mark Ruble; a brother and his wife; several close friends and her dog, PJ.

George Baskette '03 of Barre, Vt., died April 6. George graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor’s in environmental studies at age 43. He worked in engineering and remediation services, and was an avid kite skier. George is survived by his wife, Alison.

Jacqueline Marie Soule Chaudorne of Waterford, Conn., died March 31. A native of France, Jacqueline came to the United States and joined the Connecticut College faculty as a French professor in 1952, specializing in 20th century literature. She retired in 1999. Jacqueline was predeceased by her husband, Marc.

Mary Ruth McConnell Kent of Bradenton, Fla., died May 4. A former resident of New London, Mary was a long-time employee of the libraries of Connecticut College as a cataloger, serials librarian and the first special collections librarian of Charles E. Shain Library. She is survived by three daughters and three grandchildren.

Ruth Baxter, a graphic designer and photo editor in the College’s Office of Communications, died Sept. 16 after a short illness.

Ruth joined the College community in 2012 and employed her classic design sensibility in the creation of countless print and digital projects, including the College’s diploma, faculty recruitment brochures and the entire suite of admission materials.

As an artist, Ruth exhibited her own work at the Florence Griswold Museum and other venues, and as an altruist, she donated her time and expertise to causes about which she cared deeply. In particular, she mentored young artists and was a longtime co-chair of “Future Choices,” a juried art show for high school students from southeastern Connecticut.

Ruth is survived by her husband, Frank; extended family and several animal companions.
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I AM rocks New London

Hundreds of students attended the annual I AM Festival in downtown New London Sept. 6. The event is Connecticut's largest free independent music festival.

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