A NEW VOICE

Katherine Bergeron, Connecticut College's 11th president

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To the Editor:

THE LONG ARM OF INDIFFERENCE

To my disappointment, this article took a flawed (even if prevalent) assumption upon which to build a disturbing argument. It is not “logic” which dictates that we cannot do harm to future generations because they owe their existence to all of our choices good and bad, but rather (author Lauren) Hartzell-Nichols’ assumption that existence is a good in itself. I insist that not only is it not a good, but that it is in itself, harm, especially given the state of the world into which we and subsequent generations are born.

I am harmed by the ecological violence of those who came before me, just as I harm those who will come after me. The question is not whether I will harm future generations by my actions, the question is how much will I harm them.

Hartzell-Nichols is right about one thing. “We need to come to collectively care about the fate of future generations and . . . own up to our collective responsibility to ensure future people don’t live under especially harmful conditions.”

We do this, however, not from some state of superior beneficence, but from the most humble state of paying a debt we owe to those subsequent generations for whose existence we are absolutely responsible.

Matthew Wightman ’03
New Haven, Conn.

I found it interesting that Dr. Nichols, as a philosopher, took such an unquestioning attitude toward what is essentially a scientific question, that is, the effect of CO₂ on global temperature. She bases her argument entirely by accepting, without skepticism, that we must reduce “greenhouse gases,” meaning CO₂, or we will have a “Climate Catastrophe.”

The late preeminent physicist Richard Feynman ... succinctly defined how science operates: We guess how a phenomenon of nature works, then we compute consequences of our guess, then we compare our computations to nature itself. If our computations do not match nature, then our guess is wrong.

The “guess” we have been dealing with for the past 25 years is that CO₂ is the primary driver of global temperatures. These are the climate models one hears so much about. It is important to understand that these models are not data of actual global temperatures but the predictions based on the hypothesis that CO₂ drives the climate.

At present, the models are failing at the 95% level. Using Feynman’s basic criteria, we can easily conclude that the hypothesis the models are based on is wrong. CO₂ does not drive the global temperature.

Dr. Nichols is concerned about the ethical implications for future generations regarding global warming. I am also. However, the decisions must be based on sound science before we spend billions of our children’s money, and deny developing nations cheap energy to raise their standard of living, based on a wrong guess as to how nature actually operates.

Michael Monce
Professor of Physics and Chair
Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geophysics

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The editor welcomes letters. The magazine publishes only letters that comment on the most recent issue’s editorial content. Letters may be edited. In the event that more letters conforming to this policy are received than space permits, a representative sampling will be printed, and the entire volume will be posted, generally unedited, at the magazine’s website, http://www.conncoll.edu/newsletter-magazine. Please include your return address, an email address (if you have one) and a daytime telephone number for verification purposes.
A survey of last year's seniors asked what three words or phrases they'd use to describe Connecticut College. The three most common responses were “beautiful,” “small” and “challenging.” A recent survey of alumni turned up many of the same sentiments.

Help keep Connecticut College the gem it's always been and ensure that the experiences and opportunities you enjoyed continue to be available to current and future generations. Support the Connecticut College Annual Fund.

It's a great way to say, “Some things should never change.”

To make a gift to the Annual Fund, call 800-888-7549 or go to www.conncoll.edu/giving.
ABOUT 30 MALE STUDENTS IN RED HIGH-HEEL SHOES were seen walking from Cro to Harris Refectory on Oct. 27. The wobbly stroll was the essence of Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, an effort by the male student group One in Four to raise awareness and generate conversations about issues women face and how men can help. The group takes its name from the statistic that 1 in 4 women have survived rape or attempted rape.

IF YOU WEREN'T ASSOCIATING OREOS WITH CONNECTICUT COLLEGE by the end of October, you must have been well off the grid of mass media. It all started when the College issued a news release about research by a member of the psychology faculty and one of his students showing that Oreos are as addictive as cocaine in lab rats (see story on page 14). The news tip became the most-reported media story in the College's history, picked up by more than 300 print and online media outlets and more than a thousand TV and radio stations.

DARCIE FOLSON, director of sexual violence prevention and advocacy in the Offices of Student Life, was selected for the 40 Under 40 Awards for Southeastern Connecticut. The awards recognize individuals under 40 years of age who have consistently demonstrated excellence in their profession as well as leadership, commitment and service to the region. Folsom also serves as vice president of the board of directors at Safe Futures, formerly the Women's Center of Southeastern Connecticut.

THE COLLEGE'S SEVEN A CAPPELLA GROUPS — Williams Street Mix, Conn Artists, Conn Chords, The Schwiffs, Vox Carnell, Miss Connduct and Co Co Beaux — combined to put on a concert last November consisting of nothing but songs by the New Zealand pop singer-songwriter Lorde. You can find an article with links to six videos from the performances at the College's website or view them at http://bit.ly/CC-Lorde.

ABOUT 50 MALE STUDENTS LET THEIR FACIAL HAIR GROW during November and raised more than $3,000 for prostate and testicular cancer research. They were participating in the national Movember or "No Shave November" fundraiser. According to the online tote board of money raised, Connor Wolfe '16 brought in more than $900 by himself.

IF YOU WANT A TASTE OF WHAT CC STUDENTS TODAY THINK and do on a daily basis, visit the College's new student-written blog, www.conncoll.edu/the-experience.

A CEREMONY IN EVANS HALL IN EARLY NOVEMBER solemnly commemorated the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the wave of attacks on Jews in Germany and Australia that marked the beginning of the Holocaust. Two survivors of the attacks spoke. One of them, Hanni Curland, has lived in Norwich, Conn., since 1939. Assistant Professor of German Studies Karolin Machtans, who is German, described the evolving attitude of Germans about their country's Nazi past. She said she herself has always been "extremely critical and at times even hostile" toward her own country. But she noted that some Germans spent the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht helping to polish the Stumbling Stones, cobblestone-size memorials placed at the former homes of Jewish victims of the Nazis.
IN A TALK ON CAMPUS
LAST FALL, bestselling
Dominican-American author
Julia Alvarez mentioned
that she made the front
page of the first issue of
the College newspaper her
freshman year. (She studied
at Connecticut College
for two years.) The paper
snapped a photo of her
on move-in day carrying
a large rack of shoes. She
said she proudly sent the
clipping to her mother. But
her mother's gaze focused
not on her daughter but on
the shoes, one in particular.
"I told you to throw away
that pair of shoes with the
hole in it," Alvarez said her
mother scolded. The author
shrugged. "It was my
favorite pair." In Alvarez's
talk, titled "Sustainability
and Storytelling," she
described the efforts of
her and her husband in
founding an organic coffee
farm in the mountains of
the Dominican Republic
and how small acts
— including the act of
storytelling — have the
power to change the world
time.

JUST A FEW DAYS
AFTER TAKING OFFICE
Jan. 1, President
Bergeron was already
taking a stand publicly.
In December, voting
members of the American
Studies Association — a
professional organization of
5,000 scholars and 2,200
academic institutions,
libraries and museums
focused on American
history and culture —
approved a boycott of Israeli
academic institutions in
protest of Israel's actions
toward Palestinians. Seven
presidents of Connecticut
academic institutions were
asked by the Jewish Ledger,
a weekly Jewish newspaper
in Connecticut, to respond.
Bergeron wrote that she
had just taken office and
had yet to discuss the
boycott with members of
the College community.
"But the foundational values
of free speech, civil debate,
and shared governance
lie at the very heart of our
institution. An academic
boycott is antithetical to
these values," she wrote
in part.

THE DAY NEWSPAPER
in New London reported
on a visit to campus
by transgender author,
performer and activist
Kate Bornstein as keynote
speaker at a health and
wellness fair. Bornstein said
she was born male, but it
felt like a lie, so he had a
sex-change operation. But
being a woman felt the
same way to Bornstein. "I
can say now that I know
I'm not a woman. Being
free of that, I don't have an
obligation to act within the
limitations of either gender," she
said. Her advice to
everyone: "Do whatever you
need or want to do in order
to make life worth living.
Just don't be mean."

AFTER NELSON MANDELA
PASSED AWAY in early
December, the College
organized an event for
faculty, students and staff
to share personal stories
and reflect on his life and
legacy. Tempel Professor of
Chemistry Marc Zimmer, a
native of South Africa who
has taken several groups
of students to the country
for a full semester of study
through the College's Study
Away/Teach Away program,
noted with wonder that
there would be heads of
state from countries that
opposed apartheid and
from countries that didn't
oppose it at Mandela's
memorial service. "They
will all be together," he
said. "That's really why
Mandela is my hero —
because he could do things
like that." Even in death.

"I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT
EATING DESSERT IS 'BAD.'
Food has nothing to do
with morality," wrote As-
sistant Professor of Sociol-
ogy Afshan Jafar on Inside
Higher Ed's University of
Venus blog last Novem-
ber. She was responding
to a widely circulated and
discussed photo of a fit and
trim mother of three young
children under the headline
"What's your excuse?" In
her post, Jafar spoke out
against unhealthy obsess-
sions with body type and of
the demonization of food,
which, she said, has the
ability to remind us of fond
memories and make us feel
comforted and loved. "[Y]ou
take all that away when you
reduce this incredible social
experience to just calories,
shame, and disgust." The
University of Venus blog
features GenX women in
higher education writing from
across the globe. Jafar, origi-
nally from Pakistan, studies
and teaches about globaliza-
tion, transnational women's
movements, fundamentalist
and nationalist movements,
gender, and the body.

DURING A LECTURE ON
CAMPUS ON ADVANCES
IN PERSONAL TECHNO-
LOGY, New York Times tech
columnist and blogger Da-
vid Pogue was as amused
as others in the audi-
ence when a child asked,
"What's a pager?"
Five years out — a look at the whereabouts of the Class of 2008

FIVE YEARS AFTER GRADUATION, the overwhelming majority of members of the Class of 2008 were employed or in graduate school, sometimes both simultaneously.

Last year, the College’s Office of Institutional Research set out to learn the status of former students five years after their graduation. The office was able to find verifiable information (often by looking at people’s profiles on the business networking website LinkedIn) on 379 of the 440 members of the Class of 2008 or roughly 86 percent. Of that total, 97 percent were found either to be employed or in graduate school.

Graduates from 2008 were working as software engineers, scientists, investment advisers, auditors, lawyers, editors, actors, illustrators, policy analysts, pathologists, fundraisers, chefs, account executives, economists, entrepreneurs, teachers, consultants, coaches and program administrators, among other professions.

Some went to work immediately after graduation in a field related to their major. Others immediately started graduate school before launching a career. Still others had experienced different sequences of work, professional certification or graduate study, sometimes simultaneously. Some were engaged in entrepreneurial pursuits.

Almost universally, the alumni contacted for this article said they were satisfied with the education they received and where they stand in life.

Brendan Curran '08, who majored in economics, credits his education with helping him succeed as an investment strategist in the defined-contribution group of State Street Global Advisors in Boston. He said the College taught him how to be flexible in approaching problems and assignments and how to work on teams with people from diverse backgrounds and with different skill sets.

“My education at Conn was excellent preparation for postgraduate life,” he said.

Emily Winslow '08 (sociology and religious studies) is an “innovation fellow” at a company — JVA Consulting in Edgewater, Colo., near Denver — that consults on the marketing and communication needs of nonprofits. She develops new social-media products and services through a “social innovation lab.” She says her liberal arts education taught her how to disentangle complex ideas and problems. In addition to working, she is in the second year of a master’s program in international development at the University of Denver Josef Korbel School of International Studies.

Keith M. Drake '08 (psychology) didn’t complete his higher education until 2012, when he finished his Ph.D. in health services research at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice. He now works as a senior associate for Greylock McKinnon Associates, a small consulting firm in Cambridge, Mass., that specializes in conducting economic analysis for use in litigation. The group he works in often assists lawyers of plaintiffs in antitrust cases, typically involving large class-action lawsuits against pharmaceutical companies.

In addition to his work at the consulting firm, Drake continues to publish academic manuscripts in the fields of obesity epidemiology and health economics, as well as on topics related to his work for his employer, he says.

Drake says the detailed feedback he received on his senior thesis from Class of ’43 Professor of Psychology Joan C. Chrisler helped him become a better writer, and the psychology department’s statistics and research methods courses helped him excel in graduate school. He added that running cross country and track for Coach Jim Butler taught him the value of hard work and persistence.
C-SPAN airs professor's lecture on black history

C-SPAN’S AMERICAN History TV took viewers inside a Connecticut College classroom last November.

An episode of the network’s show “Lectures in History” featured David Canton, associate professor of history, lecturing on African Americans in the 1920s. The show aired on C-SPAN on Nov. 9 and 10 and can still be watched on C-SPAN’s website.

Canton’s talk, from his course “African American History 1865-Present,” examines the complex challenges faced by African Americans during the Roaring ’20s. The professor introduces students to leaders of the time, some well-known, such as W.E.B. Du Bois and Marcus Garvey, and others who have been left out of the history books, such as Hubert Harrison and Grace Campbell, two black radicals of the era.

College again a top Fulbright producer

THE CHRONICLE of Higher Education has again named the College a top producer of grant winners in the prestigious and highly competitive U.S. Fulbright Student Program.

The program provides support for graduating seniors and recent alumni to conduct research or teach abroad for an academic year. The College has had 36 winners in the past seven years.

Commenting last year before he retired, President Higdon credited the success in the Fulbright and other prestigious grant and fellowship programs to the College educating students to have “global perspectives and an understanding of and appreciation for cultural diversity.”

God, garbage, robots and sports — freshmen have their pick

ALL FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS take a seminar course their first semester. These are small, discussion-based, writing-intensive courses designed to immerse new students in the liberal arts experience. The seminar is a requirement, but students have a choice of 36 courses. Here are some of the titles:

- The Meaning of Life
- Crime and Detection in Popular Fiction
- The Art and Ethics of Garbage
- Your Brain and You: A Partnership of One
- Shot in America: U.S. Latino Identity in Film
- The Artist and the Scientist: From Michelangelo to Galileo
- The Idea of God
- Real Sports: Race, Racism and Sexism in American Sports History
- Hollywood’s History: How Film Portrays the American Past
- Walking in their Shoes: Early American Inhabitants of New London, Conn.
- Toxins and the Nervous System: Environmental Justice Issues
- Robotics and Problem Solving
- Sociology of the Body
- Women on the Loose: Exploring Paths to Political Consciousness and Action
- Forgotten Futures: China and Global Modernity
- Gandhi and His Critics

for more news, go to www.conncoll.edu
College's first NCAA champion among four to enter Hall of Fame

THE FOLLOWING STAR ALUMNI ATHLETES will be inducted into the Connecticut College Athletic Hall of Fame in March:

Kate Kovenock '05 (swimming and diving) — An 11-time All-American, she achieved the first NCAA title in the College's history by winning the 50-yard freestyle in 2004. She holds school, conference and conference championship records in the 50-, 100- and 200-yard freestyle events.

Michael Moccia '89 (ice hockey) — The most prolific player in the program's history, he scored 78 goals and finished with 221 total points. He recorded 10 points in a game against Skidmore College in 1985, the second-highest total ever in an NCAA Division III men's hockey game.

Tom Burke '81 (lacrosse, soccer, squash) — The lacrosse team's Most Valuable Player in 1981, he graduated with school career records for goals (78), assists (84) and points (162). He was the first Connecticut College player ever to earn All New England recognition (honorable mention).

Caroline Twomey Gilbert '86 (field hockey, lacrosse) — She graduated as the College's all-time leading scorer in field hockey with 57 points on 26 goals and five assists. A four-year Northeast Field Hockey College All-Star, she was team MVP in both field hockey (1985) and lacrosse (1986).

The Athletic Hall of Fame was created in 1989, and the Hall of Fame gallery is in the Charles B. Luce Field House. Hall membership is open to individual alumni, coaches, faculty, administrators and friends of the Connecticut College community and even to exceptional teams. Alumni become eligible for nomination five years after graduation; coaches five years after leaving the College.

Anyone may submit a nomination, except for self-nominations. Selection is made by a committee consisting of the athletic director, a representative from the Office of Alumni Relations, faculty, alumni, a representative from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and a current member of the Hall of Fame.

Soccer's Hawkey is NESCAC Player of the Year

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY, a Camel is the men's soccer conference Player of the Year.

Senior forward Billy Hawkey led the NESCAC in points and tied for league best with nine goals to earn the honor, which was voted on by the conference's coaches. He led his team to an 8-4-2 record en route to the College's third consecutive appearance in the conference tournament.

Coach Kenny Murphy said Hawkey, a psychology major, is a hardworking player, a strong student and a caring individual. In the classroom, he has excelled as a dean's list student and member of the NESCAC All-Academic team. He also volunteers with the Camels for Whalers tutoring program at New London High School.
Athletes speak out against homophobia

IF YOU CAN PLAY A SPORT WELL, you can play for Connecticut College. It doesn't matter what your sexual orientation is.

That's the message in a video produced by the College's student athletes as part of the national You Can Play social activism campaign, which aims to eradicate homophobia in sports.

Joining the campaign was the idea of Lowell Abbott '14, a member of the women's soccer and lacrosse teams, after she heard one of the group's founders — Patrick Burke, director of player safety for the NHL — speak at a conference over the summer. She rallied her fellow Camels to participate in and produce a video that has been featured on the You Can Play website, youcanplayproject.org.

"I hope student athletes who are considering applying to the College will see the video and understand our cultural values before getting to campus, and those affected more personally by the video will come here with the knowledge that Connecticut College athletics are a safe and welcoming space regardless of sexual orientation," Abbott said.

The video premiered at an LGBTQ Center event late last year that celebrated the College being named by Campus Pride and the Huffington Post as one of the most LGBT-friendly college campuses in the country.

Runner LeDuc is first Camel to win two national titles

MIKE LEDUC '14, who won the NCAA Division III 3,000-meter steeplechase last May, became the first Camel ever to win two national championship races with a victory in the 8K cross-country title race last November at Hanover College.

LeDuc's winning time of 24:29 was four seconds better than the second-place finisher.

Leading up to the cross-country championship race, LeDuc had won the College's home invitational, the NESCAC championship and the Division III regional championship.

"He ran the table," Coach Jim Butler said.

The accolades are piling up for the College's best runner ever. They include:

• United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Division III Men's National Athlete of the Year
• Six-time All-American
• Member of the 2013 Capital One Academic Men's Cross Country/Track & Field First Team in Division III, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America
• U.S. coaches association 2013 Scholar Athlete of the Year in Division III
• Member of the NESCAC All-Academic Team for each of the past six seasons

DO YOU HAVE a son or daughter competing for the Camels? Are you an alum who competed as a varsity athlete and would love to see the old team in action but you live too far away?

Either way you'll want to tune in to live streaming video casts of Camels' home events. They're available through the Connecticut College athletics website, or go directly to firstteambroadcasting.com and click on Connecticut College.

The Department of Athletics introduced the broadcasts last year. A team of students films the contests and offers play-by-play and color commentary.
Humorist Sedaris opens up on cashiers and an embarrassing moment

INSPIRED BY THE PIMSLEUR METHOD language-learning programs, humorist and best-selling author David Sedaris said he has thought about creating a language program of his own. It would be for foreign business travelers visiting the United States and would begin at the airport news stand.

When one lays a magazine upon the counter, the Sedaris program would warn travelers to expect to be asked by the cashier, “Do you want some water to go with that?”

“This will be asked as if the two things should not really be sold separately, as if to really properly read a copy of Us Weekly you will have to rinse your eyes out with a $4 bottle of Evian."

The sales technique of “top selling” or “upselling,” aimed at getting customers to spend more money, was just one of the subjects satirized in essays Sedaris read aloud during his Daniel Klagsbrun Symposium on Creative Arts and Moral Vision appearance on campus last October.

The meek-sounding writer and spoken-word performer, who gained fame on NPR in 1992 with his "SantaLand Diaries," about working as a Christmas elf in a department store, also read an essay about growing up as a shy and athletically challenged youth.

Sedaris, 56, recalled his nervousness of going out to play softball for the first time, which happened during his first day in junior high. As he stood in the outfield, he said, he found himself thinking back to the time in second grade when he wet his pants in class.

“There was a john right there in the classroom, but I guess I was too shy to raise my hand and ask permission to use it,” he said. As his teacher wrote on the blackboard, he recalled, the liquid began to trickle onto the floor.

“There were a hundred things that might go through a person’s mind at such a moment. But what went through mine — and I remember it like it was yesterday — was, ‘If only I had a fan.’ The idea was it would dry my trousers and evaporate what was now pooling at my feet and spreading out toward the desks that surrounded me. But that could have taken days. If you’re going to engage in magical thinking, why not wish that everyone had wet their pants or that you could go back in time?”

The anecdote was part of an essay Sedaris said he was working on and was reading to an audience for the first time. He said his College appearance was the first of 40 planned appearances promoting his latest collection of essays, “Let’s Explore Diabetes with Owls,” and that he would be making adjustments to the essay after each reading based on audience reaction.

As is customary with the College’s Klagsbrun Symposium, established by the Klagsbrun family as a memorial to Daniel Klagsbrun '86, Sedaris met with students earlier in the day and was interviewed about his writing method and career.

Now in its 16th year, the Klagsbrun Symposium has brought many famous authors to campus, including Saul Bellow, Adrienne Rich, Elie Wiesel, Sandra Cisneros, Joseph Brodsky, Jhumpa Lahiri, Michael Cunningham, Dorothy Allison, Tobias Wolff and Art Spiegelman.
Professor wins grant from foundation tied to Jackson Pollock

PROFESSOR OF STUDIO ART Timothy McDowell plans to push boundaries — his own — to create a new body of work exploring the natural landscapes of Iceland.

Well known for creating works in encaustic, a medium in which ground earth pigments are suspended in heated beeswax, McDowell has been awarded a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant to work instead with a broad range of media and techniques. The foundation, established by Lee Krasner, an abstract expressionist painter and widow of Jackson Pollock, provides awards to assist individual artists of merit.

McDowell, whose recent works have explored images and systems in nature, said Iceland is the perfect place to capture a wide range of natural landscapes. He will travel to the small island country in the late spring of this year to take digital and pinhole images of volcanoes, glaciers, geysers, waterfalls and rock formations. He then plans to translate the photographs into painted and printed images using several methods, including etching, painting and cyanotype, an early chemical photographic printing process that results in a blue-toned image.

McDowell said he expects the experience will influence a new course he is designing, “Science of Art,” in which students will explore image-making through cyanotype, etching, camera obscura (an early version of a camera that uses a box with a hole or lens on one side to focus light rays and reproduce an image) and camera lucida (an optical device that allows artists to see both a subject in front of them and a drawing placed flat on a table below). The course will be taught for the first time next year.

Fitness Center named for Ann and Lee Higdon

The student a cappella group ConnArtists performed at the fitness center’s dedication Dec. 11, 2013.

THE COLLEGE’S 3-YEAR-OLD fitness center is now the Ann & Lee Higdon Fitness Center, renamed in honor of President Emeritus Lee Higdon, who retired at the end of 2013, and his wife.

The Board of Trustees voted to rename the facility and to recognize Lee Higdon with emeritus status and an honorary doctorate as a tribute to the Higdons’ impact on the College.

The facility, constructed entirely with donor funding, tripled the College’s exercise and wellness space and doubled the number of machines available for workouts.
40 years on, Unity House exemplifies new face of diversity

IN THE 40 YEARS SINCE IT WAS ESTABLISHED as the College’s cultural center for black students, Unity House has changed and expanded as the concept of diversity has changed and expanded.

The center celebrated its 40th anniversary last fall with a talk by Cheryl Brown Henderson, a civil rights activist and the daughter of the late Rev. Oliver L. Brown, the Brown in the landmark Supreme Court decision Brown v. Board of Education. That was the decision that declared “separate but equal” schools to be unconstitutional. The event also featured a photo exhibit and film exploring Unity House’s complex history.

When Unity House opened in 1973, its primary mission was to provide a space for black students to congregate and support one another. Although the College admitted its first black student in 1928, prior to the late 1960s there were few students of color on campus.

As the civil rights movement was taking hold across the nation, things were changing at Connecticut College, too. And over the years the definition of diversity was expanded to include students of many different backgrounds. In recent times it has expanded further to include sexual orientation and socioeconomic diversity.

As Unity House’s student base changed and grew, so too did its mission. The organization, originally housed across Mohegan Avenue in the Vinal Cottage, moved to its current location in central campus in 1989 and became more visible and accessible. The addition of a director led to the creation of cultural programs and increased support for students and student groups.

Today, Unity House serves as a center of cultural programming for all students, hosting lectures, events and discussions and partnering with faculty and campus groups for events and educational programming that supports the College’s commitment to diversity and multiculturalism.

“Unity House focuses and prides itself on providing cultural awareness and educational opportunities throughout the entire campus community,” says Director Antonio Jefferson.

Student support, including retention, remains a focal point for Unity House. For example, many of the students enrolled in Unity House’s programs are the first in their families to go to college.

“These students cannot just call home to mom or dad to ask how to apply for graduate school or how to prepare to write a 20-page paper, and that is where Unity House programs come in,” says Jefferson.

Recent efforts to increase diversity on campus have resulted in increased participation in Unity House programs, such as a mentorship program that pairs African American, Latino/a, Asian American, Native American and first-generation college first-year students with upperclassmen.

Current first-year students at the College represent the most diverse class in school history — 22 percent are students of color and 14 percent are first-generation college students.

Left: Unity House moved to its current facility in 1989. Above: Civil rights activist Cheryl Brown Henderson spoke at the organization’s 40th anniversary celebration last fall.
Students, staff help build playground to honor Sandy Hook victim

ONE YEAR AFTER THE SHOOTING at Sandy Hook Elementary School, students, staff and prospective students helped build a playground near campus to honor Emilie Parker, one of the 20 first-graders killed.

The playground, named Emilie’s Shady Spot in honor of the little girl’s love for playing in the shade, was erected at Riverside Park, a previously neglected area next to the Coast Guard Academy and about one mile from campus.

It is one of 26 playgrounds being built along the coasts of New Jersey, New York and Connecticut as part of the Sandy Ground: Where Angels Play project. The project is led by the Where Angels Play Foundation, a nonprofit interested in creating living memorials to the Sandy Hook victims and restoring areas of the East Coast ravaged by Hurricane Sandy.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CONNECTICUT COLLEGE REQUESTS THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE AT

The

INAUGURATION of

KATHERINE BERGERON

as

ELEVENTH PRESIDENT of CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014

PALMER AUDITORIUM • 11 A.M.

FOR A FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS VISIT CONNCOLL.EDU/INAUGURATION

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OREOS ARE AS ADDICTIVE AS COCAINE — at least for lab rats. And just like most humans, rats go for the middle first.

Those were some of the stunning preliminary findings released last fall from a study conducted at the College on the addictiveness of high-fat, high-sugar foods. The results are subject to further scientific review.

The research, by students and Joseph Schroeder, associate professor of psychology and director of the College’s behavioral neuroscience program, found that rats formed an equally strong association between the pleasurable effects of eating Oreos and a specific environment as they did between cocaine or morphine and a specific environment.

They also found that eating cookies activated more neurons in the brain’s “pleasure center” than exposure to drugs of abuse.

“Our research supports the theory that high-fat, high-sugar foods stimulate the brain in the same way that drugs do,” Schroeder said. “It may explain why some people can’t resist these foods despite the fact that they know they are bad for them.”

The research was the brainchild of neuroscience major Jamie Honohan ’13. A scholar in the College’s Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy, Honohan said she was interested in how the prevalence of high-fat and high-sugar foods in low-income neighborhoods contributed to the obesity epidemic.

“We chose Oreos not only because they are America’s favorite cookie and highly palatable to rats but also because products containing high amounts of fat and sugar are heavily marketed in communities with lower socioeconomic statuses,” she said.

To test the addictiveness of the cookie, Honohan and a co-researcher, Becca Markson ’13, worked with Schroeder and two other students, Science Leader Gabriela Lopez ’15 and Katrina Bantis ’15, to measure the association between “drug” and environment. Science Leaders is a program primarily funded by the National Science Foundation that aims to increase the number of women and underrepresented students graduating from the College with a degree and with research experience in the sciences.

The researchers employed a technique called conditioned-place preference. On one side of a compartmentalized box, they gave hungry rats Oreos and on the other side they gave them a control — in this case, rice cakes. (“Just like humans, rats don’t seem to get much pleasure out of eating them,” Schroeder said. And they prefer to break open the cookie and eat the filling first.) Then, without the food, they gave the rats the option of spending time on either side and measured how long they spent on the side where they were typically fed Oreos.

They then conducted a different test. On one side of the box rats were given an injection of cocaine or morphine, known addictive substances. On the other side the rats received a shot of saline. Schroeder is licensed by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration to purchase and use controlled substances for research.

It turned out that the rats conditioned with Oreos spent as much time on the side where they’d found the Oreos as the rats who’d been conditioned with cocaine or morphine spent on the side where they received those drugs.

Further research last summer by Science Leader Lauren Cameron ’14 supported the team’s hypothesis that high-fat, high-sugar foods can be thought of as addictive.

And that could be a problem for the general public, says Honohan.

“Even though we associate significant health hazards in taking drugs like cocaine and morphine, high-fat, high-sugar foods may present even more of a danger because of their accessibility and affordability,” she said.

Schroeder presented the findings late last year at a conference of the Society for Neuroscience.
THINGS YOU PROBABLY DON’T KNOW ABOUT... THE BRONTË SISTERS

by Janet Gezari

1. Charlotte’s “Jane Eyre” dedication raised eyebrows
Charlotte Brontë dedicated the second edition of “Jane
Eyre” to William Makepeace Thackeray, author of the novel
“Vanity Fair,” which she greatly admired. Unfortunately,
she didn’t know that Thackeray’s wife had been declared
insane, just like the first wife of Edward Fairfax Rochester,
the hero of “Jane Eyre.” Both novels also feature governesses
who dream of marrying their employers. Thackeray wrote
to Charlotte thanking her profusely for the dedication but
felt obliged to tell her that the plot similarities had fueled
rumors (untrue) that Rochester was based on him.

2. One sister may have destroyed the other’s manuscript
Like both of her sisters, Emily Brontë died of
tuberculosis at an early age. She was 30 when she died,
just a year after the publication of her triumphant first
novel, “Wuthering Heights.” A letter from her publisher
expressed enthusiasm about “making arrangements” for
her next book, but if she was writing a second novel, no
pages survive. Some speculate that Charlotte destroyed the
manuscript. The older sister may have found the writing
inferior to “Wuthering Heights” or felt that the novel’s
content would damage her sister’s reputation. Charlotte felt
so strongly that youngest sister Anne had made a mistake
by making marital betrayal the subject of her second novel,
“The Tenant of Wildfell Hall,” that she prevented its re-
publication after Anne’s death at age 29.

3. Twilight Saga gave “Wuthering Heights” a boost
Sales of “Wuthering Heights” tripled in 2009 after a
paperback edition was issued with a teen Gothic cover
and a sticker proclaiming that the novel was “Bella &
Edward’s Favorite Book.” Bella
and Edward are the main couple
in the wildly popular Twilight
series of vampire-themed fantasy
romance novels. In the third book, “Eclipse,” Bella tells
Edward why she keeps re-reading “Wuthering Heights.”
What she doesn’t tell him is that several characters in
“Wuthering Heights” wonder whether Heathcliff is human;
at one point the narrator suggests he may be a vampire.

4. Charlotte wrote Emily’s real-life rabies scare into
one of her novels
In Charlotte’s novel “Shirley,” the protagonist is bitten
by a mad dog and knows that she may have contracted
rabies. The story is based on an incident in Emily’s life. One
day when Emily was about 25 she approached a strange dog
(she loved animals) that was running with its head hanging
and its tongue lolling. She wanted to offer it water. The dog
bit her. She returned to the kitchen, cauterized the wound
with a hot iron and told no one of the incident until the
threat of rabies was over.

5. Though the sisters all died young, they had plenty
of company
In 1850 — a year after Anne’s death and five before
Charlotte’s — the mortality rate in the Brontës’ village of
Haworth in West Yorkshire was 44.3 percent above the
rate in neighboring villages. The average age of those who
died was 25.8 years. The high mortality rate was attributed
to poor sanitation, not enough privies, no sewers and an
insufficient supply of safe water for drinking and cooking.

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Brontës, the poetry of Emily Brontë, Victorian and modern
novels, contemporary fiction in English and Bob Dylan. She
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due out from Harvard University Press in fall 2014.
A New Voice

The College's musically accomplished new president, Katherine Bergeron, has struck a chord with people everywhere she's been. Her new challenge: orchestrating the future of a beloved institution.

A few months after Katherine Bergeron was selected as president of Connecticut College, Pamela D. Zilly '75, the chair of the College's Board of Trustees and chair of the presidential search committee, came across an article in The New York Times. It was titled "Is Music the Key to Success?" When she finished reading it, she thought to herself, this explains a lot.

She was thinking, of course, about Bergeron, an acclaimed musicologist who oversaw undergraduate education as dean of the college at Brown University from 2006 until she took office as Connecticut College's 11th president in January.

The article pointed out that musicians can be found at the top of many fields. It cited examples like Condoleezza Rice, who trained to be a concert pianist; Alan Greenspan, once a professional clarinet and saxophone player; and Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, who plays guitar.

The author of the article, Joanne Lipman, theorized that music teaches qualities such as collaboration, the ability to listen, a way of thinking that weaves together disparate ideas, and the power to focus on the present and future simultaneously (I'm playing this now, but I need to be ready for that coming up later in the score.)

If those sound like essential qualities for a college president, you are on the same page as Zilly. The board chair says that in the many conversations she had with Bergeron after her selection, she could almost hear a symphony of analysis and conjecture playing behind the president-elect's eyes.

"She has this ability to take something somebody has said or an idea, muse about it in a thoughtful way, and say, 'Perhaps if we did this ... how would that work?'"

Wherever they come from, Bergeron's talents for weaving together disparate ideas — and the other attributes Lipman connects to music — have carried her far.

And now ... almost back home.

A DAUGHTER OF SOUTHEAST CONNECTICUT

Bergeron grew up 15 miles southwest of campus in Old Lyme, Conn., in a family of French-Canadian and Irish ancestry. While her immediate family was Americanized, she remembers being fascinated by her French-speaking relatives. At the first opportunity, she began studying French in school.

Her father, Edward, now deceased, studied chemistry at the University of Connecticut and became a manufacturer's representative in the rubber and plastics industry. Her mother, Kathryn Fallon, was an amateur artist who earned an associate's degree from Larson Junior College, a private women's college later absorbed into Quinnipiac University. She worked for several years before marrying Edward and then spent most of her life as a stay-at-home mom.

Now 86, Kathryn Fallon Bergeron still lives in Old Lyme. At a gathering last September in Palmer Auditorium to introduce her daughter as president-elect, she sat front row center.

"I can't tell you how moving it is for me to be standing here right now," said the daughter before acknowledging her mother.

The new president says her family has always been the most influential presence in her life. She grew up in a traditional-size mid-century Catholic family with five children. Katherine was the middle one. Her siblings today work in a range of professions: a chief engineer at Xerox, an Ursuline nun with a law degree, an associate director of a major art museum, and an art teacher who works with at-risk youth.

Mrs. Bergeron taught her daughter oil painting and signed her up for art lessons (some at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum) to go along with her flute and piano instruction. She continued to study both art and music throughout high school and college.

At Lyme-Old Lyme High School, Katherine wore
On her first day of college, at Wesleyan University in 1976, her long dark hair in braids, toted her flute case from class to class, and excelled academically. She was valedictorian of her 100-person graduating class in 1976, winning nearly every student honor possible in disciplines as disparate as music, French, English and physics.

“She was serious, she was spirited and she was smart,” recalls her former English teacher Alice Burbank, now retired.

For all her awards, however, she never came across as overly competitive or aloof, says classmate and Connecticut College alumna Lucia Santini '80, now an investment manager. “She was a very hard-working, serious student but also a lovely person with the greatest sense of humor,” Santini says.

Following graduation, she enrolled at Wesleyan University, only 25 miles from home but a whole new world for her. She has described the experience as “mind bending” because of the way Wesleyan’s liberal arts curriculum introduced her to new ideas and ways of thinking. Taking advantage of the music department’s focus on world music, she delved eagerly into new forms of musical expression. Music professor Dick Winslow, now retired, remembers that she mastered a form of Indian drumming and, in a physics class, wrote a scholarly paper that a physics colleague considered publishable.

Bergeron graduated with highest honors in music and then joined the teaching staff at the elite Phillips Academy boarding school in Andover, Mass. After two years, she left for a doctoral program in musicology at Cornell University.

“I never had a better student,” remembers Don Randel, Bergeron’s academic adviser at Cornell and later president of the University of Chicago.

Bergeron’s doctoral dissertation was on the revival of Gregorian chant in Europe in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Randel says he appreciated her slightly irreverent attitude toward the staid norms of musicology. While she was researching solemn religious music, he recalls, she also performed alto sax in a jump-blues band called The Fabulous Rhythm Method.

THE EAGER YOUNG MUSIC PROFESSOR

In 1989, with her freshly minted Ph.D., Bergeron secured her first tenure-track appointment, at Tufts University in Boston. Jane Bernstein, the university’s Austin Fletcher Professor of Music, was department chair at the time. She says Bergeron’s job application stood out from hundreds of others.

“She had amazing recommendations. She was a very eclectic musicologist, she was very diverse in her scholarship, she was extremely creative, and to top it off, she was an amazing musician,” says Bernstein, who would later serve as president of the American Musicological Society.

The young faculty member proved an imaginative teacher as well. Bernstein recalls that for one assignment in an introductory music appreciation class she had students write reports on a composer of their choice and then come to class and converse with one another in character. She made friends fast within the department, too, by always being eager to help. Every day in the music department, Bernstein says, would begin with the junior faculty member dropping by the department chair’s office and saying, “Hi, what can I do?”

When she left Tufts four years later to join the prestigious music department at the University of California, Berkeley, it was a traumatic event, Bernstein says.

“We cried, the students cried. I’ve never seen anything like this in my life,” she says.

The opportunity at Berkeley was too good to pass up. During her tenure at Tufts she had served a year at Berkeley as a visiting assistant professor. Now she became the first female tenure-track faculty member ever in the department’s preeminent musicology Ph.D. program.

Early in what turned out to be 12 years at Berkeley, in San Francisco’s Bay Area, she met her future husband, Butch Rovan, a composer and performer who specializes in electronic music and multimedia. The couple got to know each other in a free-improvisation group in which she was singing and he was playing saxophone.

“He was working on his Ph.D. in a different
program, and I was a young assistant professor," Bergeron says. The relationship turned into a long-distance one when Rovan left the Bay Area for Paris to continue his doctoral training. He earned his Ph.D., and they married, in 1999. By that time he had returned to the United States, first to teach at Florida State University and then to direct a center for experimental music at the University of North Texas.

They weren't able to live and work together until he was recruited to fill a newly created faculty position in computer music composition at Brown in 2004. The Ivy League school also offered a position to his spouse, the heralded musicologist from the neighboring state of Connecticut. But she would not remain in the background for long. A year after joining Brown's music department, Bergeron was appointed department chair. A year after that she was dean of the college.

ON THE FAST TRACK AT BROWN

In selecting her to head the undergraduate program, Brown Provost David Kertzer, who had just come into office, passed over candidates with more administrative experience and more time at Brown. Among the points in her favor, he says, was that she had come from a liberal arts background, which he thought would make her a strong advocate for Brown's open philosophy of liberal education.

"I also believed she had the intellectual heft and moral qualities, dynamism, charisma and could stand up to pressure, he says. "It was the first decision I made as provost and one I'm very happy about."

Kertzer recommended her appointment to his boss, then-President Ruth Simmons, who formally approved the appointment. That was in 2006.

Simmons had come to Brown five years earlier from Smith College, a private liberal arts college for women in Northampton, Mass. Simmons, who stepped down as president of Brown in 2012, says the key reason Bergeron got the appointment was her dedication to high quality and rigorous standards. She says Bergeron ended up having to weather more difficult cultural issues than virtually any other administrator in her senior leadership team.

Her initial challenge was to improve the operation of the Office of the Dean of the College itself. Bergeron brought in consultants to examine the operation and make recommendations. Not all the changes she embarked on were popular, says Simmons, who was impressed by how the former music professor was not deterred in the face of criticism.

A thornier issue involved a comprehensive review, in 2007, of Brown's cherished open curriculum, which gives undergraduates a free rein in building their general education programs. It was the first such review of the curriculum in about 40 years and was done in preparation for Brown's 10-year accreditation review.

Many people think of the unconventional open curriculum as the defining element of Brown's undergraduate education, Simmons says. And many of the undergraduate program's fans feared the review would be used to scuttle it. At the same time, Brown, like every institution in higher education, was facing increasing skepticism about academic accountability. Were the increasingly expensive diplomas worth the investment? A do-it-yourself degree can raise eyebrows.

Observers say Bergeron dealt with these concerns by conducting an inclusive review that reached out to all segments of the college community: faculty, students, staff, even alumni. The resulting plan, as Bergeron describes it, was designed to strengthen the college experience while keeping the unique curricular philosophy in place. In her words, the review process did not so much change the open curriculum as "renew it to its original ideals." The best indicator of its success, Brown administrators say, is that in 2009, when the University underwent its 10-year reaccreditation process, the visiting team raised no questions about the open curriculum. That hadn't happened in 40 years.
She met husband Butch Rovan at Cal-Berkeley when she was a music professor and he was a doctoral candidate in music composition.

Among other results, the review led to a complete transformation of the four-year advising experience. One of Bergeron's proudest accomplishments, the overhaul included the creation of a Faculty Fellows program, a new drop-in advising center at the heart of the campus, and the introduction of new online tools that improved access to advising information and tracked student progress across four years. The tools also give students a way to create a virtual portfolio of their college work and experience that they can access even after graduation. Another innovation was a center for career readiness called CareerLAB (for "Life After Brown").

**APPLAUSE FROM DIFFERENT AUDIENCES**

Life as dean of the college wasn't all reviews and restructuring, however. In addition to her administrative responsibilities, the dean pressed ahead with her musicology research. Her fourth book, “Voice Lessons: French Melodic in the Belle Epoque,” published in 2010 by Oxford University Press, won the American Musicological Society's Otto Kinkeldey Award, the society's highest book honor. Bergeron considers herself a historian, and the book traces the origins of a hybrid of poetry and music that emerged as an art form in France in the late 19th century. Purchasers of the book can access recordings online of Bergeron herself singing the music.

Like most senior administrators, Brown's dean of the college also often participated in raising money for the university. Almost all of Brown's gifts come from grateful undergraduate alumni and parents of undergraduate students, and Simmons says those donors needed to be reassured that the undergraduate program remained the treasure they remembered. The personable dean of the college proved a compelling ambassador, the former president says.

“She'll be an excellent fundraiser,” Simmons predicts.

Such endorsements carried anvil's weight with the College's presidential search committee. Trustee DeFred G. Folts III ’82, a member of the committee, says one of the factors that set Bergeron apart from other top candidates was that she had served under the famously demanding Simmons for an extended period of time. And that Simmons gave her the tough assignments.

“At the end of the day,” says Folts, “you're also hiring the person's mentors, and Ruth showed faith in her.”

At Brown, the dean of the college is the face of the university to undergraduate students. Brown's undergrads seemed to not only appreciate the structural reforms she was implementing but at least some were captivated by the style of the energetic dean.

A search of the archives of the blog of the Brown Daily Herald, the student newspaper, reveals a substantial number of good-natured images of “KBerge” ("our favorite administrator") with her face Photoshopped onto the bodies of pop-music megastars.

There are also photographs of her singing in public, which is a common occurrence. Bergeron once delighted students by making a surprise appearance as a backup vocalist in a student band during a baccalaureate ceremony. She has also been known to break into song during meetings and conversations.

Another curiosity at the Daily Herald blog is an otherworldly video of her dressed in black, hair pulled back severely, and singing in German. Above her, abstract images flicker on a screen. She's performing one of her husband's avant-garde experimental compositions, "vis-à-vis," which she also performed at a Connecticut College Ammerman Center for Arts & Technology symposium in 2003.

A few years ago Bergeron and her husband fulfilled a long-held promise to each other by jointly teaching a class in songwriting. Ben Nicholson, who graduated from Brown in 2011, took the course as a sophomore and as a senior served as their teaching assistant.

He says Bergeron's generosity and compassion often were in evidence in the class. One student, he recalls, had never written a song before and was so shy about singing that she was unable to make eye contact while doing
She had to read lyrics looking down at them on her cell phone. With Bergeron's encouragement, she not only was able to make a recording of an original song (the final project in the course), but she is now pursuing a career as a singer-songwriter in Nashville.

Nicholson, who now works for TuneIn, a Web-based radio service, says students felt comfortable telling her that they were struggling. She would often stay after class to help them work through their fears.

"She has an amazing capacity to be aware of things and invest in people," he says.

Such qualities came through during the presidential search process too. People who met with her say they noticed how she makes people feel at ease, that they can express themselves openly to her, and they don't have to be guarded in any way.

Zilly, the search committee chair, however, says she is more than just empathetic as a leader.

"There's a real spine there in terms of understanding that decisions need to be made, things need to get done. The nice thing about Katherine is that she understands that but also understands that you can't simply make decisions on your own, there must be shared governance."

Says fellow search committee member Folts, "I think you're going to get someone who is very creative, analytical and rather practical. She's been in administration long enough to know that to get from an idea to implementation of a successful initiative requires two different skills ... and she's very adept at both. She's definitely someone to whom you can say, 'Here it is, the good, the bad and the ugly,' and she'll say, 'Great, I see a lot of opportunity, let's do this.'"

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Exactly what will she do? It's too early to tell. The president-elect was, understandably, more focused on listening and learning than on vision sharing in the months leading up to her taking office. In two weeks in December she met individually with more than 35 academic department heads.

She has given a few clues, however. In a short speech at the end of the welcoming event last September in Palmer, she talked of "reclaiming the pioneer spirit" of the College's first leaders. She said all liberal arts colleges need to reframe the value of what they do so more people understand that value. Liberal arts colleges should reaffirm a commitment to both diversity and to the public good, she said, and they should invest deeply in their academic and teaching mission.

People will be watching to see how she approaches those imperatives at Connecticut College. It's a challenge she appears to relish.

At an informal welcoming reception last summer, immediately after her selection was announced, Bergeron told well-wishers gathered in Shain Library that it felt like a homecoming. What made it more special, she said, was coming home to a school dedicated to the kind of "eye-opening, mind-bending" liberal arts education she had experienced as an undergraduate.

"Everything that I have achieved in my life," she said, "can be traced back to that."
A Gavel Through a Glass Ceiling

Breaking a judicial gender barrier was only one accomplishment in the legal career of Patricia M. Wald '48, recently awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

By Liam Farrell
ON A COOL NOVEMBER DAY

last year in Washington, D.C., political, cultural and academic luminaries gathered in the ornate East Room of the White House, waiting to receive awards from President Barack Obama. The 2013 Presidential Medal of Freedom ceremony bestowed the nation’s highest civilian honor on recipients such as former President Bill Clinton, Oprah Winfrey, Ernie Banks, Ben Bradlee and Loretta Lynn.

Seated among them was a diminutive, gray-haired woman who was not as instantly recognizable as others but whose lifetime of accomplishments merited the same honor.

The ceremony was another significant signpost in the journey of Patricia McGowan Wald ’48. The daughter of first-generation American parents grew up during the Great Depression in the industrial Northeast and accrued a slew of rarified achievements: a 1951 graduate of Yale University Law School, admitted with only 10 other women out of 180 students; the first woman appointed to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, established in 1893 and generally seen as the second-most-important court in the country; and service to numerous legal and government organizations, both in the United States and abroad.

From working as a storefront legal-service lawyer to fashioning an appeals court dissent on the primacy of free speech, Wald has had a deceptively simple goal: to make the world a more just and fair place for everyone.

“She always strove to better understand the law and fairly apply it,” a military aide read from an official proclamation at the Medal of Freedom ceremony before Obama, standing a full head and shoulders above Wald, tied the deep blue band of the star-shaped medal around her neck. “Hailed as a model judge, she laid a foundation for countless women within the legal profession and helped unveil the humanity within the law.”

A few weeks before the ceremony, Wald reflected on her life during a conversation at her apartment in a bustling part of northwest Washington, D.C., about a mile from the White House.

Of how she made it to where she is in life, Wald said, “I very often met women of my age who came from better circumstances and they would say, ‘I would have liked to go to law school or something, but my father said ’no.’ I was lucky. I had this working-class family, but they didn’t have the class, cultural, ‘You should get married (attitude).’ They had a go-for-it, we’ve-got-your-back attitude.”

DAUGHTER OF A FACTORY TOWN

Torrington, Conn., about 30 miles from Hartford, organized its first government and church in the 1740s. By the early 19th century, the town’s proximity to the Naugatuck River helped give rise to the brass mills and other factories that would define the region. The industrialization attracted immigrants from every corner of Europe and doubled Torrington’s population.

Patricia McGowan, whose grandparents emigrated from Ireland, was born in Torrington on Sept. 16, 1928, on the doorstep of the Great Depression. By the time she was 2, she was being raised just by her mother, Margaret O’Keefe, because her father, Joseph McGowan, like many men during that time, had disappeared and was never heard from again.

Wald grew up in an extended family household after O’Keefe moved back in with her relatives. The men worked in the factories, the women worked in the factory offices, and Wald’s grandmother kept house.

When it came time to go to high school, Wald assumed she would sign up for what was known then as the “normal” track, which trained girls to become teachers or nurses. It seemed the best that could be hoped for. Her mother had other ideas.

She wanted Wald to enter the “classical” track, which was meant to give college-bound students a foundation in Latin, history and the breadth of a liberal arts education. Even though Wald’s mother hadn’t finished high school, and no one in the family had gone to college, O’Keefe had decided her daughter wasn’t going to stay in Torrington.

It was the first determinate step in her academic career. She graduated from high school as valedictorian in 1944 and secured a scholarship to attend what was then called the Connecticut College for Women.

The world opened further at Connecticut College. World War II New London was buzzing with soldiers and sailors and, as the war ended, the rejuvenated spirit of a world at peace. In New London, Wald saw her first opera, “Madame Butterfly.” Although she majored in math, she was also won over by classes in government, constitutional law and literature, and was introduced to the wider world of national politics. Government
Professor Marjorie Dilley and several others encouraged her to consider law. Graduating Phi Beta Kappa and first in her class in 1948, she then won a Pepsi-Cola fellowship to attend Yale University Law School.

Although her path was starting to diverge significantly from Torrington, her working-class background continued to shape her concept of the legal profession as a way to make the world better.

Labor conditions were something she was learning about. In summers she had worked for a hometown business, the Torrington Company, which made needles and bearings. One year she did a night shift greasing ball bearings; another year, it was hours in the needle shop. When the union went on strike, she did too, putting in time at union headquarters.

"It was the whole town (on strike)," she says.

Yale Law School graduated its first woman in 1920. But when Wald arrived, 28 years later, women still made up barely 6 percent of the class.

Wald is quick to note that Yale was not oppressive. Negative remarks were not as frequent as simply being called on in class more than the men because of being more noticeable. Still, coming home every night was a reminder of an explicitly different, if not overtly subordinate, status. While the men lived in the university dorms, women law and graduate students lived across town in a rickety house owned by the school and replete with chaperones.

Railroad tracks lay underneath her room, and near midnight a daily train would rumble past, taking its passengers to somewhere far away and somewhere new.

AN ‘INSTRUMENT OF THE DEVIL’

In the midst of a four-hour Senate confirmation hearing on a warm day in the summer of 1979, Dr. Bob Jones III, president of Bob Jones University in South Carolina, sat in front of the Senate Judiciary Committee, a Bible by his side, and made his opinion clear on the nomination of Patricia Wald for a newly created seat on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

"I am here as a preacher to speak of sin and of righteousness and of judgment, Mrs. Wald’s sin," Jones said. "Any individual who places herself in opposition to God’s plan and program is not only in mind insidious but is an instrument of the Devil."

Wald, then an assistant attorney general for legislative affairs, was part of a judicial nominating blitz by President Jimmy Carter, who was determined to bring more diverse backgrounds and perspectives to the bench. During his term, he appointed nearly 100 minority and women judges — more than all his predecessors combined.

In addition to her government service, Wald was an experienced legal-service and public-interest litigator with a track record of pushing courts and legal-aid groups to waive divorce fees for poor women; of fighting retaliatory evictions; of winning federal funds for special-education programs; and of improving conditions in state juvenile facilities.

"I was intent to go out and reform," she says.

In the hearing process, Jones and others sought to portray Wald as a threat to the American family. Their ammunition was a speech she had made in October 1974 at the University of Minnesota’s Center for Youth Development and Research and its Law School. In it she questioned the lack of legal rights afforded children under 18, no matter their mental capacity, from control over spending money and making contracts to choosing their own schools and medical care.

At the hearing, Wald explained that the speech was for an academic audience and aimed to raise difficult questions for the purpose of debate. "I took the liberty of being provocative," she said, "and now I am paying the price."
She further defended herself by pointing to her own record. "A large portion of the two years I spent in legal services were devoted to trying to keep poor families together," she said.

Wald was not without allies. A Boston Globe editorial at the time noted, "this fearsome threat to the American family took 10 years out of her law career at one point so that she could concentrate on raising five children."

**TYPING IN THE DINING ROOM**

Wald met her future husband, Robert L. Wald, in law school. He worked as a lawyer for the Federal Trade Commission and started his own law firm in the early 1960s.

Meanwhile, Patricia was clerking for Judge Jerome Frank (who considered an appeal from Julius and Ethel Rosenberg at that time) and working briefly at the law firm Arnold, Fortas & Porter (whose founders all had ties to the Franklin Roosevelt administration). Beginning in 1953 she had five children in seven years and for a while put her career on hold.

As her children started school, the D.C. legal circles in which Wald and her husband traveled provided opportunities to restart her law career. She helped write a book on the bail system during a reform movement spearheaded by Robert F. Kennedy. She was appointed by Lyndon Johnson to the President's Commission on Crime in D.C.

But when Richard Nixon was elected president in 1968, the lifelong Democrat says, "All my friends in government disappeared." She turned to the grassroots of legal service and public-interest law, fighting for those unable to fight for themselves.

The Walds' home was a place of organized chaos in the suburbs outside of D.C., children Johanna and Frederica Wald remember. Johanna recalls her mother would tell the kids, "Happiness is coming home and knowing I have a really good brief to write," with the dining room table the scene of frantic typing.

At the appeals court confirmation hearing years later, after Bob Jones described Patricia in inflammatory terms, a reporter asked one of Wald's sons, "How did you feel when they called your mother an instrument of the devil?"

"She does burn the lamb chops," he responded, "but otherwise she is pretty much OK."

**CHAMPION OF RIGHTS**

The D.C. Court of Appeals is generally seen as the most important court in the country after the U.S. Supreme Court. Besides frequently serving as the training ground for Supreme Court justices, the court considers many of the legal challenges to the regulatory and policy decisions that come out of the federal government and its agencies. Wald estimates she wrote more than 800 opinions during her time on the court. Her 1979 appointment preceded the appointment of the first woman Supreme Court justice, Sandra Day O'Connor, by two years.
The appeals court’s reviews generally involve legal technicalities and aren’t particularly dramatic, but there are exceptions.

Nan Aron, a leading figure in public-interest law who founded the Alliance for Justice in 1979, says Wald consistently showed thoughtfulness, caring and intelligence in her work. More importantly, she says, Wald demonstrated how judges at the upper echelon of the legal world can maintain the fight for everyone’s equality and not just the powerful.

One memorable case illustrated her interest in making sure everyone’s voice could be heard. It involved her 1986 dissent from the court’s decision to uphold laws regulating protests in front of foreign embassies. A clause in the statute essentially forbade signs bearing any critical messages. The majority opinion, written by the conservative jurist Robert Bork, later a famously rejected Supreme Court nominee, found it to be a “very minor geographic limitation on speech” in light of how “the framers understood that the protection of foreign embassies from insult was one of the central obligations of the law of nations.”

Wald, in what she now terms a “big dissent,” disagreed strongly. She wrote that to let speech be restricted on the basis of unproven fears “presents risks to our basic freedoms that are more deadly than any terrorists’ blows.” Ultimately, the Supreme Court agreed with her that the regulation of sign content was unconstitutional.

Geoffrey M. Klineberg, now a partner at the D.C. law firm of Kellogg, Huber, Hansen, Todd, Evans & Figel, PLLC, clerked for Wald in 1991 after graduating from Yale Law School. Wald, who had just completed a five-year term as the court’s chief judge, was already a “larger than life figure,” he says.

Klineberg recalls how thoroughly she prepared for hearings and how she would ask the difficult, essential questions of the lawyers who argued before her without ever embarrassing them. Years later, when Klineberg made his first argument in court, it was before the same D.C. circuit. Wald was the presiding judge on the panel.

“She was very polite but also very tough on me, just like she was in chambers,” says Klineberg, who helped organize a dinner of former clerks to honor her about a week before the Medal of Freedom ceremony.

While clerking for Wald, Klineberg worked on a case involving provisions of federal pension law. Although the same issue had been decided by a court in New York and at the district court level by judges Wald knew and respected immensely, she urged Klineberg to review their reasoning critically and form his own opinion.

“Be really sure of what you think about this,” she said. “You don’t want to rely too much on the fact that these very respected judges read it one way.”

Klineberg concluded that the judges had gotten it wrong, and Wald agreed. She wrote the majority opinion, which was later upheld by the Supreme Court.

Wald’s activity did not wane after she retired from the appeals court in 1999. She served a term at The Hague as part of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, which was adjudicating crimes committed during the Balkan wars. She presided over several trials of persons accused of genocide and crimes against humanity, including the massacre of more than 8,000 Bosnian Muslims at Srebrenica by the Serbian army under the command of General Ratko Mladić. In one case she tried five joint defendants who served in prison camps, including an officer one rank below Mladić. All five were convicted.

Wald later served on a committee assembled by President George W. Bush that issued a report critical of the intelligence community for its role in spurring the invasion of Iraq.
According to journalist Bob Woodward’s book “State of Denial,” about the Bush administration’s management of the Iraq occupation, Wald was added to the committee at the request of Laurence Silberman, a colleague from the appeals court who had been appointed by Ronald Reagan. He co-chaired the committee and had much respect for Wald despite their different ideologies.

Wald currently serves on a national Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board for which she was nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the Senate. The group reviews counterterrorism programs for potential infringements of privacy and civil liberties.

Looking back over her career, Wald says that one reward of a life in the legal system and courts was it allowed her a chance to follow her own judgment.

“I always wanted whatever I was working on to make a difference, to make something different in the right direction,” she says.

Until her husband died three years ago — the sadness that comes over her eyes and face shows a loss that remains difficult — she says she had “everything I could hope for.”

When Wald’s selection for the Presidential Medal of Freedom was announced last year, her children received an email from her noting that they would all be invited to the White House ceremony. In conversations, though, their mother humbly reminded them that, well, plenty of other people were getting the medal, too.

“It’s genuine,” Johanna Wald says of her mother’s humility. “There still is a great part of her that’s very much from Torrington, Connecticut.”

Long after the sun has set on her Washington neighborhood, she points out to her visitor one of the souvenirs from her career decorating the apartment: a signed Herblock cartoon with a note from the legendary political cartoonist. Few totems in D.C. could match the cultural power of that, but Wald is prouder of a long line of photos, stretching beneath filled bookshelves: her children and grandchildren.

“That’s the greatest legacy,” she says.
The breaking dawn gives a rosy tinge to the east face of Mary Harkness House residence hall, built in 1934. Granite for the campus’s original buildings was quarried from outcrops on land that is now part of the Arboretum.
In 2012 the former weekly news magazine Newsweek (now online only) and the college rankings website College Prowler placed Connecticut College at No. 10 on their list of the “Top 25 Most Beautiful Schools” in the country.

In planning this photo essay on the beauty of the campus, we asked alumni for suggestions on what to show to do it justice. More than 100 people responded.

The selection you see before you was informed by those suggestions but is merely one effort at capturing the poetic, timeless character of the campus at one particular time, the second week of October 2013. For a wider selection of photographs from the project, please visit the magazine’s online gallery at http://cconline.conncoll.edu.

*Except where noted*
1. On the east side of noisy Mohegan Avenue beyond this hobbit’s-door-like gate lies the five-acre Caroline Black Garden, home to a mature collection of ornamental trees and shrubs from around the world. Established in the 1920s, the garden is named in memory of the first chair of the botany department. In 2001 the garden was dedicated as a member garden in the international organization Gardens for Peace.

2. Rocky, wooded Mamacoke Island on the Thames River is actually only an island when this salt marsh floods at high tide. Part of the College Arboretum since 1955, Mamacoke, a 40-acre nature preserve, has been designated a critically important habitat for birds by the National Audubon Society. It’s also a popular, if discouraged, destination for runners from campus and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

3. The greenhouse of New London Hall glows at night while cactus, orchids and other plant collections inside soak up artificial light. Each year introductory botany students plant and tend a small garden plot of their own design within the structure.

4. The sailing team practices on its “home field,” the Thames River. The river is also the site of what is called the oldest collegiate athletic competition, the annual Yale-Harvard Regatta rowing race, first contested in 1852.
A decorative canopy at the foot of the Arboretum’s Laurel Walk awaits a wedding planned for the next day. The College rents the Arboretum for weddings and allows setups the night before. The path is named for the mountain laurel that line it.

1. Rustic Buck Lodge, overlooking the pond in the Arboretum’s western acreage, is a popular spot for small, casual campus events. The cabin and nearby Outdoor Theater were constructed in the 1930s. In coming decades the College would become known as a pioneer in the conservation movement.

2. At quieter times of day this bench at the foot of the marble stairwell in the Blaustein Humanities Center (formerly Palmer Library) serves as an ideal place to compare notes.

3. Religious services were mandatory for College students until the 1960s. Services, including weddings, are still held in 74-year-old Harkness Chapel along with musical recitals, lectures and other special events. The inscription over the entrance explains that benefactor Mary Stillman Harkness made the gift of the chapel “to express her belief in the importance of religion to college students.”
Connecticut College boasts of being the only New England liberal arts college with an ocean view, and it's evident looking south over Harkness Chapel and Harkness and Tempel greens toward Long Island Sound. This aerial photograph was taken from a helicopter by the firm of Vickers & Beechler.
"The truth is, I like working and I don't find real life all that interesting," says Parsons with an exhausted wave of her hand. "Plus, I have trouble saying no," Not that she'll get the chance to say it any time soon. Parsons has already signed on to reprise her "Aurumn" role when the emotional tinderbox drama about an elderly woman who would rather blow up her home than move out comes to Broadway for an open-ended run in April.

During a sliver-thin break in her hectic schedule on a November afternoon, Parsons welcomes a visitor to her airy penthouse apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side with the cheery warmth of an innkeeper. The building is one of those classic New York City doorman jobs with a polished brass-and-dark-oak lobby and, higher up, sweeping vistas of the Hudson River. After making small talk about her years at Connecticut College and commenting on how her current view reminds her of the sight of the Long Island Sound from the New London campus, she settles into an overstuffed cream-colored sofa in the living room. She musses her stylishly shaft grey hair, takes a frothy-lipped sip of cappuccino, and only then reluctantly discusses her six-decade career. Unlike most actors, talking about herself isn't something that comes naturally to Parsons. "It's a little strange and ridiculous, isn't it?" she asks, uncorking an infectious laugh.

Here's the thing: You can ask Parsons questions — questions about her unlikely path to the theater, about her four Tony nominations, about her Oscar-winning performance in 1967's "Bonnie and Clyde," and about what's ironically become her most recognized role, playing the zany, scene-stealing grandmother on the hit TV show "Roseanne." And she'll answer you. Sort of. But, to her, such...
Parsons played a newly married wife in a 1972 episode of the TV series “Love American Style.” In her most recent stage performance, “The Velocity of Autumn” (2013), her character threatens to blow up her home rather than move. In the landmark film “Bonnie and Clyde” (1967), Parsons played Blanche Barrow, wife of Buck Barrow (Gene Hackman, left) and sister-in-law of Clyde Barrow (Warren Beatty, center) of the famed gang of Depression-era bank robbers. Right, Faye Dunaway as Bonnie Parker and Michael J. Pollard as C.W. Moss. With Jackie Gleason in the 1969 film version of Woody Allen’s play “Don’t Drink the Water.” As Roseanne Barr’s daffy mother, Beverly Harris, on the hit TV series “Roseanne.”

OPPOSITE PAGE: 1. Parsons played a closeted lesbian who passionately kisses Joanne Woodward in “Rachel, Rachel” (1969). The role earned her a second Academy Award nomination. 2. As the wife of a bigoted white man who overnight metamorphoses into a black man (Godfrey Cambridge in both roles) in “Watermelon Man” (1970).
where she led a double life — and a double octet — singing in local bars and nightspots like the Lighthouse Inn.

“There were a lot of New York people who would come, agents and managers, who would say, ‘Here’s my card. Why don’t you come to New York?’”

It was clear to everyone that she was on her way to becoming a professional singer. Everyone, that is, except her father.

“It just wasn’t what young women from respected New England families did,” she says.

After a brief, one-year, stint at Boston University studying law, Parsons went back to Marblehead to enter local politics.

Then, in 1950, either by destiny or dumb luck, something happened that would alter the mapped-out course of her life.

“Someone’s Cadillac had broken down and they asked if I could drive them back to New York City,” Parsons recalls. “When I got there, I met up with a college friend who had married a VP at NBC. And he said they were starting a morning show. And I should meet the producer.”

Just 22, Parsons was hired as a production assistant on the fledgling Today show. Back then, live television was still in its infancy. It was pioneer days. Stories were reported on the fly as copy was ripped off the newswire. Parsons was quickly promoted to a staff writing position. Then she was tapped to become network television’s first female political reporter.

“Barbara Walters was dying to get on the show,” she says.

When she’s asked if she realized at the time that she was a trailblazer for women, she roars with laughter. “I didn’t care. It was my 9 to 5. I was too busy singing with bands on the side. That’s what really interested me.”

So after five years at NBC, Parsons quit. “I just gave it up,” she says. “Can you imagine? I’m on TV, everyone’s talking about me, and I said, ‘Thank you, that’s enough of that!’” She flashes a frisky grin. “I guess I’m a crazy person.”

In 1956, Parsons landed a part in the ensemble of Ethel Merman’s long-running musical “Happy Hunting.” She was also moonlighting as a cabaret singer with her best friend, an up-and-coming actor and accomplished blues pianist whom she still calls “Jackie Lemmon.”

“People smoked in those days,” she says. “And you’d get home from work at two in the morning and your inquiries are mere points of departure. Launching pads for blunt, unguarded backstage anecdotes that make a theater-world outsider feel as though he’s being welcomed into an exclusive club by the grandest of grande dames.

Honestly, though, it’s more entertaining just to listen to Parsons talk in her salty Yankee accent. About anything. About her early years singing the blues with a young pianist named Jack Lemmon, about the nervous wreck in her acting classes named Marilyn Monroe, and about the $30 off-the-rack dress she wore to the Oscars the evening she won her Best Supporting Actress statue. Soaking in these stories, you can’t help but get the impression that this is a woman who has done it all. She’s sparred onstage and onscreen with the greatest heavyweights of her generation and, more often than not, come out on top.

Although she was too young to recognize it at the time, Parsons was destined for a performing life from the time she could walk and talk. Growing up in Marblehead, Mass., the youngest of two daughters in an old-line Yankee family, she started a harmonica band in kindergarten, wrote her first play in the second grade, and began acting in community theater at 6.

“I was an accomplished actor at a very young age,” she says matter-of-factly. “I knew when people laughed, I could hear them gasping, I could hear them crying. I knew all of that early on.”

In 1945 Parsons enrolled at Connecticut College,
clothes would reek of smoke. I loved it! I kept thinking to myself, How could a little girl from Marblehead sing the blues? It just seemed so outrageous!"

Back then, at the beginning of her acting career, Parsons admits she had trouble with the insecurity of her chosen profession.

"You're rejected all the time," she says. "You never know if you're any good. It's a crazy business. You never know where your next job is coming from." But Parsons wouldn't have to wait very long for her next part. Many of the shows she appeared in in the late '50s were flops, but she never had trouble landing the next gig.

Parsons admits that from the beginning she never saw herself as the leading-lady type in the theater. Which is fine by her.

"Those parts are boring," she says. "And I didn't look like the typical leading lady. I was a little bit chunky. It wasn't for me. I'm more of a tragic comedienne."

It's a niche that served her well in the '60s, when she appeared in Broadway productions like Bertolt Brecht's "Mother Courage," "Ready When You Are, C.B.!," "Malcolm" and "The East Wind." By that time Parsons had enrolled in the famed Actors Studio — a hothouse of intense preparation and discipline where she studied under Lee Strasberg and auditioned for the legendary director Elia Kazan, honing her craft and tapping into the raw emotional life she led at home. Her first husband had essentially left her with two kids to raise on her own.

It was there that she first met director Arthur Penn. She desperately wanted to work with him, suspecting that he could bring the best out of her. Then, in 1965, while doing summer theater in Stockbridge, Mass., with a crew of ambitious and ferociously talented rising stars — including Viveca Lindfors, Dustin Hoffman and Gene Hackman — Penn asked Parsons to be in his next film, "Bonnie and Clyde." The film, which was released in 1967, was a hit. Actually, it was more than that. It sparked a revolution, ushering in a new wave of films and filmmakers that spoke to the counterculture generation.

The film's doomed romance, outlaw spirit, and shockingly nihilistic violence was a blast of fresh air. And Parsons' nuanced, jewel-precise performance was rewarded with a Best Supporting Actress Academy Award nomination.

For Oscar night, Parsons took a one-day leave of absence from her Broadway play, Tennessee Williams' "The Seven Descents of Myrtle" (for which she earned a Tony nomination), and flew out to L.A., carrying little more than a $30 dress she bought on 81st Street.

"I wasn't going to go," she says. "I didn't give a s**t about that stuff, and I don't like big crowds. But Warren sent me a ticket...."

It's a good thing she decided to go. Parsons won the Oscar.

"It was great," she says. "It was like getting a piece of candy when you're a kid. Although I couldn't say that, because out in Hollywood it's actually meaningful to people."

The following year Parsons was nominated again, this time for her indelible supporting turn in Paul Newman's "Rachel, Rachel," an emotionally harrowing drama about a single New England school teacher (played by Joanne Woodward) grappling with loneliness. ▶
Anne Parsons appeared in more than 50 episodes of the blue-collar comedy series as Beverly Harris, the pretentious and slightly daffy mother of Roseanne Barr and Laurie Metcalf’s characters.

At the time, Parsons had taken a step back from acting to take care of her adopted son, who was dyslexic. The job allowed her to more or less create her own schedule, flying out to Hollywood for a few days every month and leaving her son in the care of her second husband, Manhattan attorney Peter Zimroth.

“I stopped working in the theater and it broke my heart,” says Parsons. “Someone would call me up and say ‘Please do this,’ and it would be something I wanted to do, but I couldn’t do eight shows a week. Then Roseanne called and it was just wonderful. I just loved her.”

For her part, Barr says she would have bent over backwards to accommodate Parsons.

“We cast Estelle because she is one of the greatest actors who ever lived,” says Barr. “Laurie Metcalf and I were thinking of who could play a three-dimensional character, so, of course, her name came up. All of the cast would watch Estelle like we watched a master painter — the way she would deliver the lines was always perfection. We all liked learning from watching her — a master class every week on layering subtext and integrity.”

Hearing Barr’s words read back to her, Parsons giggles and her face turns a deep shade of scarlet.

“She said all of that? Can you send that to me? My husband will love it! He needs to know what a talent I am!”

Something tells us that like so many of Parsons’ lucky audience members over the years, he already knows.
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YOU CAN HELP a Connecticut College student gain valuable experience. How? Through the College's job shadow program. It matches alumni and parents like you with current students who are interested in possibly following in your career footsteps. The time commitment is minimal, as little as a half-day.

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Show a student what you do. Help a fellow Camel get over the hump.
FRANCIS DUFRENE lived for Sunday nights. Tall and lean with a pile of blond hair, the 21-year-old would take two buses from his home in the New Orleans suburbs to make it to the Upstairs Lounge by 5 p.m., when the French Quarter bar held its weekly beer bust — two hours of all-you-can-drink drafts for $1.

From the outside, the Upstairs didn’t look much different from the other gay bars on a particularly seedy stretch of Iberville Street. But up 13 steps on the second floor was a refuge: three adjoining rooms, decorated with red wallpaper and frilly curtains, where people could laugh, love, even worship without fear. The Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), a national Christian denomination founded to serve gays and lesbians, often held services in the bar’s back-room theater. At other times the space was used for the elaborately costumed drag cabaret performances that regulars called “nelly dramas.” “It was my safe haven,” says Dufrene.

The beer bust on June 24, 1973, was typically festive. A pianist from the nearby Marriott played Broadway and ragtime tunes as patrons sang along. Dufrene was there, as usual, this time on a first date with Eddie Hosea Warren, a “husky country boy” he met at a hamburger joint near the Upstairs. Warren’s brother James and mother Inez came with him. Duane George Mitchell, an associate pastor at the

By Elizabeth Dias with Jim Downs
MCC known for his Queen Victoria impersonation, and his partner Louis Horace Broussard stopped by after dropping Mitchell's sons off at a movie. The bust prices ended at 7, but at least 65 people were still hanging around nearly an hour later when the door buzzer went off. It kept ringing, even though no one had ordered a taxi. The bartender sent a regular to check it out. When he opened the door, a fireball burst through as if shot from a flamethrower.

An updraft sucked the fire in, and within seconds the walls were aflame. Panic erupted inside. The bartender, Douglas "Buddy" Rasmussen, called for people to follow him and led at least 20 of them to safety through a back exit and onto adjoining rooftops — before closing the door behind them when he didn't see anyone else coming to prevent the fire from spreading. Many raced to jump out of the three large windows that were covered by metal bars. Dufrene was one of the few who squeezed through, body on fire.

"The small people seemed to get through the window, but the bigger people just couldn't get out," a survivor told the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

One of those trapped was the MCC's pastor, Bill Larson, who struggled to push an air-conditioning unit through the window to escape. His head, torso and one arm made it halfway out before the glass pane above collapsed, trapping his body. In the street below, his friends heard him scream, "Oh, God, no!" as flames consumed him. His body was left in the window for hours, with his watch, stopped at a few minutes after 8, a haunting relic.

And then it was over. Firefighters extinguished the blaze 16 minutes after receiving the alarm. Twenty-nine people burned alive that night; three more died soon after. Many could be identified only by dental records. A Times-Picayune headline called the scene "Hitler's Incinerators." But it made little more than a ripple in the national consciousness. Neither the mayor nor the governor spoke out, local religious leaders were mostly silent, and only one congregation in the French Quarter ultimately agreed to hold a memorial service. A two-month police investigation turned up a can of lighter fluid at the scene and a thrown-out patron overheard threatening to "burn this place down," but no one was ever prosecuted. Dufrene puts it bluntly: "I guess they figured, They were gay — so what?"

The scale of the tragedy was immense: it remains the deadliest fire ever in New Orleans and is believed to be the largest killing of gay people in U.S. history. And yet it is little discussed, barely acknowledged by the city or seen as a milestone in the gay-rights movement. Today the site is marked only by a square brass plaque on the sidewalk where the bar's entrance used to be. It's easy to miss unless you're looking for it — a fitting commemoration for an event not everyone wants to remember.

**PERSECUTION DAYS**

The jokes began almost immediately. The Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the MCC, flew in the morning after the fire and remembers a radio host asking on air, "What do we bury them in?" The punch line: "Fruit jars." The police department's chief of detectives reinforced the homophobic climate when he told reporters that identifying the bodies would be tough because many patrons carried fake identification and "some thieves hung out there, and you know this was a queer bar."

Despite the city's reputation for tolerance, there were consequences to being gay there in 1973. One victim, a teacher, was fired while in critical care at Charity Hospital after his school learned that he had been at the bar. He died days later from burns. Many of those killed and injured were effectively outed when the papers published lists of the victims. Two survivors appeared on television on the condition that their names and faces would not be revealed. Others had to go to work on Monday morning as if nothing happened.

Duane Mitchell, then 11, and his 8-year-old brother, Steve, knew something was wrong when their father never came to pick them up. They watched a movie, Disney's "The World's Greatest Athlete," seven times before realizing he wouldn't show, Duane says. Mitchell had escaped the blaze by following Rasmussen out the back door, but he ran back in to retrieve Broussard. Police found their bodies fused together, dead in each other's arms. "We didn't even know that he was gay," Duane, now 51, says of his father. In 1973, he adds, such things were barely discussed. "A lot of people didn't even claim their relatives," he said. "I guess they were so ashamed of it."

When Perry tried to find a site to hold the memorial, churches closed their doors. New Orleans was then 47% Catholic, but the archdiocese refused to help. Baptist churches hung up on him. An Episcopal church led by a friend of Larson's held a prayer service but declined to host the memorial after the presiding bishop received dozens of angry phone calls and letters of protest. "It was like that over and over again," Perry, now 72, says.
“My biggest disappointment as a Christian minister to this day was the churches, the way they responded to me.”

Just months earlier, two less deadly fires in New Orleans received far more attention. In November, six died in a blaze at the Rault Center, and eight died in a January arson at a downtown Howard Johnson’s. In both cases, Mayor Moon Landrieu and Governor Edwin Edwards issued statements of condolence. Philip Hannan, the city’s powerful Catholic archbishop who eulogized President John F. Kennedy and Senator Robert Kennedy and later presided over Jacqueline Onassis’ funeral, offered his support. After the Upstairs fire, Hannan was silent, while public officials limited their statements to calls for improving the city’s fire code.

For the gay community, Larson’s mannequin-like body, which remained visible in the window past midnight, became a symbol of the city’s indifference toward them. Given that reception, it’s understandable why so many were skeptical of the police investigation.

A TRAIL RUNS COLD

Homicide detectives interviewed survivors at Charity Hospital shortly after the fire was put out. They spent nearly 12 hours on the scene and soon had more than 50 officers assigned to the case. Witness accounts were conflicting, which was not surprising given that many people were badly injured, traumatized and still drunk, but those who saw the fire erupt all used language consistent with arson to describe it — one compared it to a fireball, another to a Molotov cocktail. Police found an accelerant: a 7-oz. can of Ronson lighter fluid, left empty in the stairwell. A clerk at a nearby Walgreens said someone purchased an identical can of lighter fluid not long before the fire started, but she could not identify the person.

The investigation lasted two months. At the end of a 64-page report issued in August, the department concluded, “Although there is speculation of arson, as of the writing of this report, there is no physical evidence to indicate anything other than this being a fire of undetermined origin.” The coroner classified all 32 deaths as “accidental fire fatalities.” Three bodies were never identified. Sam Gebbia, then 26, was a lead investigator on the case. He says today that the chief of detectives’ inflammatory statement about the Upstairs patrons was taken out of context (the department apologized soon after) and that the police put its full weight behind the case. “In my whole experience in the homicide division, that never played into anything,” he says. “That was one of the biggest multideaths that I had ever been on the scene of. We pulled out every stop.”

A teenager, David Dubose, confessed to the fire but quickly recanted. He was cleared after his alibi was confirmed, and he passed a polygraph test.

The police focused on a second suspect, Roger Nunez, who was kicked out of the bar before the fire after fighting with another patron, according to the statement that patron, Michael Scarborough, gave to the police. On his way out, Nunez said “something to the effect of I’m going to burn this place down,” or “I’m going to burn you out,” Scarborough told police.

But before the police could interview Nunez, he had a seizure and was taken to Charity Hospital. He was admitted to the hospital and released without the police being notified. It took months for police to find him, and once they did, he denied setting the fire and said he wasn’t sure if he had even been at the Upstairs that night. Nunez killed himself nearly a year later. People who knew him claimed he had confessed to a nun and also, while drunk, to a friend that he started the fire.

Gebbia says many arson investigations are easy to solve but hard to prove. “There are a lot of times you’ll know, you as an investigator will know what happened, and you know who did it. But legally, if you don’t have any teeth to sink in to arrest someone, you just have to wait,” he says. “I’m sure in my heart of hearts this is the guy that set our fire.”

A PLACE TO PRAY

A week passed before Perry finally found a church willing to hold the memorial — St. Mark’s United Methodist Church. It was a brave move; the year before the Methodist denomination had decreed that homosexuality was “incompatible with Christian teaching.” The day of the service, Perry promised mourners that their identities would be safe — he would not allow cameras inside the church. Midway through the final hymn, someone alerted him that television crews had set up outside. He offered mourners the chance to leave through a rear door to escape notice, but no one
The upstairs lounge was at the corner of Iberville and Charles Streets in New Orleans accepted. Then, as the Times-Picayune reported, “the mourners sang the last verse of the hymn over again and, with the existence of press cameras outside the church still in doubt, they all filed out. None was seen leaving through the rear.”

That moment helped launch a new gay religious movement. The MCC was only five years old, but the Upstairs fire was the third fire in an MCC meeting place that year — arson had leveled the headquarters in Los Angeles, and a firebomb had torched a church in Nashville. Yet Perry continued to start other churches. Gay Christians needed a place to worship, he argued. “They could hurt us, they could murder us, we could die,” Perry recalls telling his fledgling congregations. “But as Christians, we have to remember this Scripture, ‘To be absent from this body is to be present with the Lord, so we can never fear death.’ No matter what happens, this is serious, and we are not going to stop our struggle in this fight.”

Those were what Perry calls the church’s “persecution days.” Perry helped organize a fund for the Upstairs victims. Small checks came in from tiny gay organizations all over the country, from big cities like San Francisco to small towns in South Dakota. Morty Manford, whose mother had founded PFLAG — Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays — just two months earlier, flew to meet Perry in New Orleans to help. So did Morris Kight, president of the Gay Liberation Front, and two other clergy.

AN APOLOGY

Forty years later, much has changed. Today the Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Unitarian Universalist Church all ordain gay clergy. “I praise God more and more every day,” Perry says. “We still have a battle there, there’s still a fight going on, based on women and GLBT people, but we are going to win, and I know we are, and that’s that.” Yet even today, the fire is too difficult for many survivors to discuss. Many of those touched by the Upstairs fire were not militants for the gay-rights cause but just innocent victims. Rasmussen left New Orleans in 1991 for rural Arkansas, where he lives quietly with his partner Billy Duncan. They will soon celebrate their 40th anniversary, and they spend their time growing vegetables, volunteering at food banks and enjoying a simple life on their back porch. Warm but guarded, Rasmussen declines to talk about the fire. When history is written, he says, “they should leave that chapter out.”

To its credit, the Catholic archdiocese apologized for its silence on the fire in a statement to Time. “In retrospect, if we did not release a statement we should have to be in solidarity with the victims and their families,” New Orleans Archbishop Gregory Aymond said via e-mail on June 17. “The church does not condone violence and hatred. If we did not extend our care and condolences, I deeply apologize.”

As for Dufrene, he still lives in the same small house where he was born and where he recovered from the fire. He now attends Harahan Baptist Church and says that while he identifies as gay, he has left the gay community. The fire, he admits, didn’t start the gay revolution. “That was coming anyway,” he says. But he says it helped to give gays in New Orleans a voice they didn’t have before.

It is easy to forget that the GLBT movement is still young in the long arc of U.S. history. Events like the Stonewall riots have entered the canon while other, equally significant moments are little known. As Harvey Milk said not long before his assassination in San Francisco in 1978, “A reading of the Declaration of Independence on the steps of a building is widely coveted. The events that started the American Revolution were the meetings in homes, pubs, on street corners.” In a month that marks a potentially landmark Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriage, the little-known and long-forgotten fire at the Upstairs is one such event.

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JAMES DOWNS is an associate professor of history at Connecticut College and the author of “Sick from Freedom: African-American Illness and Suffering during the Civil War and Reconstruction” (2012, Oxford University Press). This article is adapted from his forthcoming book “More than Just Sex: Retelling the History of Gay Liberation” (Basic Books).

*This article was originally published shortly before the Supreme Court, in a 5-4 vote, ruled the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional.
The Quest for the Golden Trout

By Douglas M. Thompson
2013, University Press of New England, $29.95
Longtime efforts by private individuals, fishing clubs and federal and state agencies to improve the experience of trout fishing on our nation’s rivers are actually causing great harm, according to a new book, “The Quest for the Golden Trout: Environmental Loss and America’s Iconic Fish,” by College professor Douglas M. Thompson.

In his first book, Thompson, professor of geology and Harrison Director of the Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment, examines the damaging effects of stocking rivers with hatchery-raised trout, eliminating natural predators, and employing engineered devices designed to improve on nature. These practices not only hurt the ecosystem, he says, they also create a false environment that’s antithetical to a pristine, pastoral pastime.

“Artificialness is not in keeping with the philosophy of trout fishing,” said Thompson, himself a former angler. “I want people to be aware of the history of ‘trout fisheries management’ and to remove the fallacy that they’re connecting with nature.”

A Bowlful of Ladoo

By Marya Ursin
2013, Fast Books, $12
Ursin is a visiting instructor of dance at the College as well as a longtime yoga teacher.

In her book she tells the mythic stories behind a few yoga postures — or asanas — including one about the birth of Ganesh, the Hindu deity known as the remover of obstacles and god of beginnings. Her husband, Daniel Potter, provided color illustrations while she added line drawings to help make the movements accessible to readers.

Growing into Equity: Professional Learning and Personalization in High-Achieving Schools

By Sonia Caus Gleason ’85 and Nancy Gerzon
2013, A joint publication by Corwin, Learning Forward and WestEd, $31.95
Gleason, a former trustee of the College, and her co-author present four case studies showcasing their research at schools in underserved communities. The studies highlight the successful use of individualized learning for students and professional development for teachers. They also provide educators and administrators with real-life examples and useful tools to create equity — and therefore achievement — in the classroom.

The One Year My Princess Devotions: Preschool Edition

By Karen Whiting ’73
2013, Tyndale Kids, $14.99
Whiting employs a princess theme and daily devotions to teach preschool-age girls about God, prayer and how to be a “Princess in Action” by completing a character-building activity. A page for each day of the year includes short and simple devotions thematically related to the calendar.

A Changing Marriage

By Susan Kietzman ’82
2014, Kensington Books, $15
Kietzman’s second novel explores what happens as a “perfect” couple navigate marriage and family. Resentment builds as the wife puts her career on hold while her husband’s career continues to grow, leading them both to confront painful decisions and consequences.
In Africa We Share
By Lori Schippers '08
2013, Kensington Books, $11.76
While serving as a Peace Corps
volunteer in Andara, Namibia,
Schippers taught math to rural
children living in poverty. But
she learned as much — if not
more — than she taught. Her
students became her friends and changed the course of
her life, leading her to found Empower Women in Africa,
a nonprofit that provided educational and economic
opportunities to women like those she taught. EWA has
since become part of a similar organization, Days for Girls.

Pygmalion's Chisel: For
Women Who Are 'Never
Good Enough'
By Tracy M. Hallstead '83
2013, Cambridge Scholars, $67.99
Hallstead references a destructive
relationship in her own past as
she explores the reasons why women feel devalued in
our patriarchal society. Rather than taking a reactionary
approach toward a solution, she instead offers a "responsive
feminism" that women can use to combat self-doubt and
self-criticism.

The American Bar
Association’s Legal Guide
to Fashion Design
Edited by David Faux '91
2013, ABA Publishing, $49.95
Faux's wide-ranging career — he
was a music journalist, publicist and Fulbright Scholar in
South Korea before becoming an attorney — has afforded
him a unique insight into the legal needs of artists, including
fashion designers. This volume covers trademarks, copyrights,
patents, licensing and other topics vital to the industry.

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story of your own Connecticut
College experience for posterity at
www.conncoll.edu/giving.
You can thank her for putting Dangerfield, Murray in ‘Caddyshack’

A new documentary gives long-overdue credit to Wallis Nicita ’67 and other great casting directors

OVER MORE THAN 40 YEARS in the film business, Wallis Nicita ’67 has done it all — from casting to producing to screenwriting. Thanks to a new documentary, casting directors like her are finally getting some recognition for the important role they play in the filmmaking process.

The central figure in “Casting By,” a documentary that aired on HBO (and as of December was still available on the HBO Go online streaming service), is Marion Dougherty, who was Nicita’s mentor and first boss in the film industry. As the Hollywood studio system, with its rosters of contracted actors, collapsed in the 1960s and ’70s, Dougherty, who died in 2011 at age 88, paved the way for a new model in which independent casting directors kept tabs on young talent and recommended them for auditions.

“The casting director is the first person a director calls when they get a script,” Nicita explains. “If you have a script with lots of juicy parts in it, you want to talk to the person who really knows the labor pool. It’s not the director’s job to stay au courant with the latest list of actors.”

Over the years, Nicita worked her way up from answering Dougherty’s phones to casting some of the biggest movies of the 1980s, including “Caddyshack,” “The Big Chill” and “Silverado.” Along the way she helped launch the careers of such stars as Kevin Costner, William Hurt and Kathleen Turner. Later she produced several of her own films, including the well-known Cher vehicle “Mermaids.” She recently sold an original screenplay to horror director Eli Roth.

Nicita credits the critical-thinking skills she learned at the College for helping her succeed in different roles in Hollywood.

“Everyone (today) wants a technical education,” she says, “but critical thinking is something you need to learn how to do to live your life. That’s what liberal arts gives you.”

Many of Nicita’s favorite film industry memories are of rough-and-tumble New York in the 1970s, when filmmakers were seen as artists and given a wide berth to pursue their vision. She fondly recalls working on the casting of Sidney Lumet’s “Network” for Dougherty associate Juliet Taylor (now best-known as Woody Allen’s longtime casting director).

“Everyone knew it was a brilliant script,” Nicita says. “Everyone was pounding on the door to get in, and I was the one answering the door. One aspiring actor pushed in the door and knocked me out. I fell to the floor. He was intent on barging into a casting session.”

The police arrived, and a revived Nicita had to help explain that Dougherty’s office — full of young, beautiful women — was not a brothel, as they had first suspected.

“One of the officers turned to me before he left and asked me if he could come back and read later.”

“Casting By” sheds light on the unsung role of casting in a movie’s success. There’s no Academy Award for it, and Nicita believes there should be. If Dougherty hadn’t recommended then-unknown Jon Voight for “Midnight Cowboy,” for instance, would that movie have won as many Oscars (three) as it did? Nicita believes Director John Schlesinger still would have won but that the actors selected to star in the film (Voight and Dustin Hoffman) were critical to its success.

“At least 80 percent of the success of the film is whether you believe that everything the actor says is true,” she says. “And that’s not easy to do.”

— Michael Agresta
Camels in the news

President Barack Obama nominated College Trustee Debo Adegbile '91 to become assistant attorney general for civil rights. He had been senior counsel to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and previously held positions at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, including as acting president and director-counsel. Sean Fine '96 directed the documentary “Life According to Sam” that aired on HBO. The film focuses on a teenager, Sam Berns, with a rare disease. Fine won a 2013 Academy Award for his documentary “Inocente.” China Daily’s Europe Edition wrote about the efforts of Dechen Yeshi '04 and Norlha, a social enterprise she manages in the village of Zorge Ritoma on the eastern edge of China’s Qinghai-Tibet plateau. The enterprise hand-processes yak wool and sells it to fashion houses in Paris. It has reportedly helped revitalize the village, which had depended on yak herding. Yeshi’s father is Tibetan and her mother American. The “New Tech City” program on New York City’s WNYC radio station devoted its first-ever video podcast to a story about a teen summer camp in Pennsylvania — Longacre, directed by Matthew T. Smith '03 — that takes away campers’ electronic devices for a week to help them achieve balance in their lives. The story was picked up by “The Takeaway,” an NPR syndicated show, and by the Fast Company technology magazine. Syndicated columnist Arianna Huffington tweeted about it. Tommy Howard '11, Will Powell '11 and Michael Vascovitz '10 appeared on the NBC Sports Network show “Shark Hunters.” Stephanie Zadravec ’90 received a 2013 Artist Fellowship for playwriting/screenwriting from the New York Foundation for the Arts. Only 3 percent of applicants receive the awards. Each fellow receives an unrestricted cash grant of $7,000. Chad Mead ’93 joined Fairfield, N.J.-based Acutive, a provider of network and IT integration services and technology, as chief operating officer. Rabbi Larry Bazer '85 was invited by President Obama to light the White House Hanukkah menorah for the 2012 celebration. The president had asked Bazer to light the menorah the year before, but he was unable to attend because he was deployed to Afghanistan. He served as chaplain for the Massachusetts Army National Guard’s 26th “Yankee” Brigade and recently got promoted to colonel. Carol Blake Boyd '72 is the new president of Florida’s Naples Trust Company. Director and screenwriter Tim Sutton '92 had his film “Memphis” selected for the Next < = > category of the 2014 Sundance Film Festival. The category spotlights forward-thinking approaches to storytelling. “Memphis” follows a strange singer as he drifts through the city. Alexander R. Brash ’81 was named president of the Connecticut Audubon Society. The UK website MTM (More than The Music) interviewed guitarist/vocalist Andrew Oedel ’10, drummer Matt Addison ’10, bassist Max Currie ’10 and guitarist Jon Markson ’12 of the band Shake the Baron. Andrew, Matt and Max met their first day on campus in 2007. “Homebody” is the debut release by the electro-alternative music group Dot and Logic, founded by musician-producer Kyle Joseph ’12 and featuring Jon Markson ’12. Joseph is a producer and engineer at Cowboy Technical Services, a recording studio in Brooklyn, N.Y. Judy Barry ’51 is the newly elected president of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford, Mass. Walter Schacht ’78 was selected for the National College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects. Fellows are chosen on the basis of significant contributions to architecture and society. He focuses on projects that enhance the quality of civic life such as libraries, places of worship, fire stations and community colleges. Scott Lowell ’87 played the foreman in a production of the jury-room drama “Twelve Angry Men” at the Pasadena Playhouse. The production was unusual in that it had a cast of six black and six white actors. Jazmine Hughes '12 wrote a reflection on inter-racial dating that was posted at the online magazine Literally Darling. It was reposted at Jezebel, another online publication. The Rocky Mountain Collegian, student paper at Colorado State University, profiled graduate student Anne Kearney ’12, who is deaf, works as a teaching assistant, studies viticulture and enology (grape growing and winemaking), and plays the clarinet. Leta Davis ‘81 has started the Green Light Orchestra, a community orchestra in Sonoma, Calif., for musicians of all ages. The Charlotte Observer wrote about Dianne May ’92, a licensed lawyer and mother of two young sons who wrote her first novel, “Wynter’s Horizon,” each night between the hours of 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. The book was published last year by Evernight Publishing. Daniella Garran ’94, author of “A History of Collegiate Rowing in America,” signed books at the Gales Ferry Community Center the weekend of the annual Yale-Harvard Regatta event in Gales Ferry. The book, inspired by her days as a coxswain for Connecticut College, includes mention of the Yale-Harvard Regatta and some historic photos from the New London public library.
Correspondent: Sabina (Sally) Burr Sanders, 33 Mill St., Unit 4E, Westfield, CT 06030

Marion Ferris Ritter is 99 and still living in her house in Lexington, MA, which is next door to daughter Ruth Ritter Ladd '72. She just had cataract surgery on both eyes and was given the best Christmas gift possible, her sight. Glasses are no longer needed! She still loves to get out to go to local concerts, church, AUNN meetings, and visit her great-grandchildren (of course!). She has four grandchildren, three of whom live within a dozen miles of her and four great-grandchildren. 2013 was Lexington’s 300th anniversary so she joined daughter Ruth in the townwide bell-ringing celebration on the day of the Boston Marathon. She now has two great-granddaughters, Charlotte and Alex, who are living in a small vineyard and winery in California. Marion has three great-grandsons. Leann has moved into an independent senior-living facility in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, close to Cleveland, where she had lived most of her life. She is delighted with her new place, which has three bedrooms and two baths. Leann’s sons, Andy and Jim, live nearby, and she sees them frequently. She has three grandchildren. Leann was recovering from a miserable case of the shingles and claimed it was the first time she had ever been sick. I spoke with Sally Riddick McCord, and she asked about Lois Attschenauer Altschul. Lois lives in Cleveland, where she lives in a retirement home. She no longer drives, but she walks outside daily with the aid of her two walking sticks. She has a daughter in Massachusetts, a son in New York City and a daughter living nearby.

Since this is probably my last column, I want to thank all of you who have helped me by sending news, particularly Cathy Elias Moore, who kept me going. Also thanks to our class agent, Priscilla Duxbury, who shares the same birthday (March 30th) with her family, including baby girl Charlotte Edith, my youngest grandson attends Groton School.

Charlotte married two years ago and now has a baby boy. She often sees them on weekends. Another grandson is a professor at Clarkson U. in upstate New York, teaching computer science and pursuing a Ph.D. Chips’ youngest grandson attends Groton U. in Connecticut and spent a semester in Italy. Daughter Faith has lived in Seattle for many years. Retired from her publishing company, Faith is writing a book for young teens. Her husband is a retired air traffic controller who now works for the Federal Aviation Administration. The rest of the clan is working. Chips writes, “I spent many happy years visiting Seattle, and I do miss going there.” She lives in Brooklyv Village, a large retirement complex near her older daughter, and spends most weekends at their home in Nahant, enjoying their beautiful garden and the nearby ocean scenery. “This was a good move after I left the Cape, where I had a big condo and could accommodate all the family. I do like living near Boston, which is the gateway to all New England. Indeed I count my many blessings.” Chips has a large apartment with beautiful views. She uses a walker but gets about quite well, enjoying many activities, nearly theater and playing bridge.

Marion turned 93 in September, but has lived for 56 years in a house built in 1824 in Holliston, Mass., “leave a message,” it was a pleasure getting “phone disconnected” and “I was waiting to hear how he had made it.”

Charlotte’s great-grandson, Marion’s middle daughter, was waiting to hear how he had made it. Marion has two daughters, one in nursing welfare, Marion has two daughters, both married; one is in South Carolina, the other in Marblehead, Mass. Marion’s middle daughter died some years ago. She has five grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

Charlotte Craney Chamberlain lives at Porter Hills, a retirement community in Grand Rapids, Mich. Husband Charles was a congressman for 18 years, during which time they lived in the Washington, D.C. area. They retired to Grand Rapids, but Charlotte says he continued to work as a tax lawyer until his death 11 years ago. They also ran a Christmas tree farm. Charlotte doesn’t drive, so she leads a quiet life. She does get to church every week. She uses a walker and sometimes a wheelchair. Lawyer runs in her family. A married son is a lawyer, and he has a son in law school and a married daughter in Chicago. Charlotte also has a daughter in Minnesota, who is a retired social worker. She is also a professor at Clarkson U. in New York City. Daughter Faith has lived in Italy. Driver Marsha also has two great-grandchildren. She does not get out a lot; she spends a lot of time reading. The day I talked with Charlotte was the day of the Boston Marathon. She had a grandson who ran in it, and she was waiting to hear how he had made it. We had to hang up as she was expecting a phone call momentarily! I, Woodle Worley Peak, am thrilled to report that I am now on the Alumni Association’s Board of Directors, and I have just returned from my first meeting at the College. I will be taking the train to New London for three meetings a year for the next three years! We had a tour of New London Hall, which has been entirely rebuilt inside and up-to-the-minute with the latest science equipment and laboratories. The campus looks beautiful. President Lee Higdon has done a great job in every way, and we will all miss him dreadfully when he retires in December.

Greetings, classmates! It is a beautiful fall day, even in Florida, as I write. A fun contribution from Florence Murphy German, who recently found some photos she had saved from our 60th reunion in 2005. She looked at them, saw herself as she thought others saw her, then went to her closet and threw out everything, she still had that showed in those photos!!!

Duch. I know I have stuff older than hers — I had better give MY closet a good sorting! Thanks, Murph, for the inspiration!

Natalie (Nat) Bigelow Barlow announced the birth of another great-granddaughter, Olivia, her fifth great grand! Despite her eye problems, Nat has fond memories and misses getting together with Patty Turchon Peters and Ethel Schall Douch during summers in Cape Cod. Mostly, Nat “loves getting together with young family members, as that is what pulls me into the future.” She wishes our classmates all the best.

Louis (Muggsie) Schwarz Alvis and I had a delightful phone conversation just before she headed to Chicago from Wisconsin for an annual luncheon with classmates Shirley Mellor Pets and Corrine Myers Stransky. They will miss having Elizabeth Ruttert Straus with them, as Liz died last April. The three plan to celebrate their friendship with lots of laughter and reminiscing “about all the stupid things we did, like crashing in and out of windows after hours!” Muggsie lives in a townhouse condo with more space than I need, but I am managing OK, a daughter lives nearby, and that is great.” She turns 90 this year and commented that her first major change will be no “waving” this winter for the first time ever! I commend Muggsie and anyone else who didn’t give up skiing long before reaching this milestone age!

Mariechen Wilder Smith had a good conversation with a younger college friend and that friend’s 50th Reunion chair, Bernie Dunn Windham ’64. Mariechen took the opportunity to explain that she hadn’t attended recent Reunions because of the lack...
class notes

of transportation from Hartford and Providence airports to the College. Genie realized how that lack could keep students away from the College. Genie and I have agreed that if transportation is provided and we are healthy, we will both attend our 70th. Hopefully, many more of you will join us.

Recently, Mariechen told us that her "traveling days are over." Well, never say never! Now on the board of directors of her retirement community, she went to a national convention in Dallas in the fall. And remember that she got a new dog named Misty? At her annual physical, Mariechen's doctor said she was getting younger! Misty has her walking everyday, as a result "all my numbers from my blood test are in a better range and my legs are stronger."

Last year, I, Ann Le Lervor Hermann, invited all of our classmates to gather in August for our "Nearly Ninety Party." That was the best time for everyone to join us, and they did! Forty-two family members joined us over seven days, right here at Shell Point (our retirement community), with its own motel and other facilities. Ages ranged from 2 months to 71 years, including six greats, 10 grands and 10 children, plus assorted spouses and partners. Al had six children, I had four, and they were all able to be here! Glorious experiences — the weather cooperated and all plans worked as intended, including pools, beaches, dinners, a sunset cruise with dolphins jumping around the boat and a huge birthday cake. (Without 180 dolphins jumping around the boat and a huge birthday cake, there would have been a wanted configuration!)

So we have both turned 90 since our last update and guess what? We don't feel any different! However, we are being proactive: getting rid of our cars and driver's licenses to quit while we are ahead (although some of you have found Skype useful, we are preparing to sell our shiny red golf cart). We are planning to move to assisted living — ready to have somebody else provide the meals and services that make life mighty pleasant. Right outside our windows, we will have a new aquatic center with saline pools, everything new and beautifully landscaped...like a resort!

PEOPLE HAVE CALLED Dorothy Roberts ’50 "Dot" since she was a young girl; these days, "Dynamo" would serve as an equally apt nickname.

The charismatic matriarch of New York City’s Echo Design Group — the company her parents, Theresa and Edgar C. Hyman, founded 90 years ago — is still actively involved in the family business, which started with scarves and has since diversified into such areas as handbags and gloves along with china and bedding. Echo has estimated retail sales of $250 million annually and is behind licensed products for Ralph Lauren and several museums, including Manhattan’s Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art.

When Roberts formally joined Echo in July 1950, it was three weeks to the day after she graduated from Connecticut College. She had transferred from Carleton College for a simple but substantial reason: love.

"I had met my husband." Paul Roberts, who joined Echo in 1949, was a student at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa., just a car ride away, when Dot Roberts transferred to the College. He would become president of the company in the early ’70s but died in 1978.

Romance aside, there were other reasons she is glad she transferred to the College, including lifelong friendships. She’s among a group of Connecticut College alumnae who periodically reunite at Manhattan’s Yale Club.

She also fondly remembers her studies. Roberts majored in sociology with a minor in psychology, but another department left the most significant impression.

"There was a fabulous art history teacher, Edgar Mayhew. In the two years I was at the school, I took four of his courses, from the Renaissance through the Impressionists and modern art. He taught me so well I could go in any museum and tell you who the painter was."

That knowledge proved key at Echo, where colorful, artistic prints play a central role in the brand’s success. Roberts became president of the business with her husband’s death in 1978 and since 1993 has served as chairman. Her children, Steven and Lynn, carry on the Hyman legacy as Echo’s CEO and vice president, respectively. A fourth generation — Steven’s son Charlie — has joined the company, and his mother, Meg, designs home furnishings and handbags.

The past year marked another milestone besides Echo’s 90th anniversary — Roberts’ 85th birthday in December. She chuckles when people ask her if she founded the company, which happens quite often.

"My God," she says, "I’d be 120."

But this octogenarian has no plans to slow down anytime soon.

"As long as I have something to offer the business," she says, "I will be here."

—Marc Karimzadeh
Barbara (Cappy) Caplan Somers died on Oct. 26. The sympathy of our Class will be conveyed to their families.

In a conversation with Cappy, we wished that there could be an exchange of ideas about recent events in this country and worldwide. At this point, what we think and say is probably more important than what we do. If you do wish to comment, there is room here, and I welcome hearing from you.

1947
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1948
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Lucille Davis Chabin has moved back to New Jersey from Arizona. Her biggest delight is in her children and their eight wonderful grandchildren; all handsome, talented and kind. She has wonderful memories of her time at CC and would love to hear from her classmates.

Barbara Kite Yeager and husband Bill enjoy Naples, Fla., where they appreciate the weather, the arts and social opportunities. Her daughters, sons-in-law and grandchildren all visit. They return to Uadilla, N.Y., when Bill’s health permits.

Patricia McGowan Wald has been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor, by President Obama. The press release read, in part, “Patricia Wald is one of the most respected appellate judges of her generation. After graduating as one of only 11 women in her Yale University Law School class, she became the first woman appointed to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and served as Chief Judge from 1980-1994. She later served on the international Criminal Tribunal in the Hague. Ms. Wald currently serves on the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.”

Betty Marsh Cartensen keeps busy with volunteer tutoring, exercises and lots of good friends. Her husband, Andy, died five years ago, after 60 years of marriage. Although she lives in Beachwood, Ohio, Betty sees her two boys and their families as much as possible. Chip lives in Princeton and Deirdre in Buffalo.

Mary Jane Patterson Law lives in Dover, Mass., next door to her son. She continues to sing tenor in the choir, goes to exercise and tai chi classes, plays bridge, reads, and avoids night driving. She keeps in touch with Joan Ray Inches-Cunningham and Ginny Berman Slaughter.

Joan Ray Inches-Cunningham plays tennis and golf with her husband Sandy. They love to travel and this fall traveled down the inland waterway and up the Hudson River. They summer at their home on Buzzards Bay

Gloria Reade Hirsch is busy in Verde Beach, Fla., with trips to Europe, reading books, attending concerts and lectures sponsored by the Yermo Beach Museum of Art, and taking classes on film history. She occasionally flies to New Jersey and New York to visit the Metropolitan and MOMA. Gloria speaks often with Mary Alice Clark, who lives on the west coast of Florida, and Chella Sadiuk Schmidt in Seattle. She keeps active by walking on the beach and exercising in her pool.

Phyllis Sachs Katz and husband Sherman Shuman have been married for 65 years. Although they can’t climb the Alps, as they used to, or take long plane trips, they still lead the good life with theater, symphony, opera, ballet, a little golf and musical lectures. In the winter, they warm their homes in Longboat Key, Fla. Since retiring in 1995, she has been a professor of technical communications at the U of Hartford, Phyllis has served on the executive board of the Emeriti Association at the university and sits on a panel that reviews the narration of books for the blind in Connecticut. She talks in the glory of letters of appreciation she still receives from students. In retrospect, with all her graduate work and experience, she feels no education since has been comparable to that at Connecticut College.

Marian Stern Kafka has lived in Bethesda, Md., since 1957. Husband John is still in practice in psychoanalysis and psychiatry. Although Marian has retired from the National Institute of Health, where she was a research scientist, she still misses her lab. She is busy with trips to the gym and classes in modern dance and Spanish. Marian has four grandchildren and feels very lucky that the two eldest, 15-year-olds boys, a boy and a girl, live nearby. She has enjoyed traveling and plans to do more.

Laurie Turner Dewey has lived in Lincoln, Mass., since 1969. Her son and daughters and their families are spread across the country. After her divorce, she remained in Lincoln and continued as a trustee of the deCordova Museum and Sculpture Park. In 1996, she became a board member of the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, a national organization in Washington, D.C., dedicated to stopping the spread of nuclear and chemical weapons. Although the exhilarating days of horseback riding and jumping are over, Laurie remains an avid activist, but more on the computer than on her two legs and canes. She recently caught up and happily reminisced with Bobbie Gantz Gray in Wellfleet, Mass.

The Class of ’48 sends sympathy to the friends and families of classmates who have passed away: Jeannine Beggs Cheop, Jacqueline Finh Isaac, Mary Enyart Williams and Beverly Campbell Foster.

1949 REUNION

Correspondents: Madelphia Berman Fishcer, 6605 Suki Lane, N. Bethesda, MD 20823, writer@U.com; Marjorie Sloan Burchenal, 55 Old White Ln., Apt. 104, Westport, WA 98087, metsmo04@comcast.net

I saw the final performance of Estelle Parlsons in “The Velocity of Autumn” at the Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. It was a wonderful experience, the story of an eccentric older woman facing the issue of her children wanting to put her into a nursing home for “better care” and the bizarre way that she resisted this. It was very funny, yet sad, and Estelle’s portrayal was superb, of a situation we all are or may be facing at some time in our lives. The energy she puts into her character is astounding, and I wish all of you all could see her performance.

Jennifer (Jeff) Jude Hoves continues to enjoy her condo overlooking the river in Ossining, N.Y. She visits her children in Arizona, Florida and Connecticut regularly, and they all gathered in Duck, N.C., last summer.

Judy Kohn Johnson, living in Somers, N.Y., still manages her own real estate agency. She enjoys dancing, plays and concerts in New York, and arranges outings for her MG Car Club.

Jeff and Judy are co-chairs for our 65th reunion next May. 50-June 1, and plans are well under way. You may have already received details. We join in wishing all classmates to get to New London for Reunion.

Nancy Hanenberger Matthews, who lives for many years in the D.C. area, now asserts that Montana is a pleasant place for retirement. She has two grandchildren at the university there. Nancy keeps busy with the campus museum, ballet, theater and the Montana World Affairs Council. She also enjoys reading and writing.

Irmak Klein Schachter lives in her house with a yard in Westport, Conn. Granddaughter Lillie Schachter ’15 is a junior at CC. Irma loves bridge and mah-jong and has seen Estelle in her play.

Helen-Mae Kleefuted Askin has downsized to a smaller house in Greenwich, Conn. She continues to play the violin, now with a quartet, and she enjoys plays and concerts at State U of New York, Purchase.

Joan Lambert McPhee is still in her Petomac, Md., home, and an old farmhouse with a yard that requires artificial hips and an accompanying crutch. She continues to sing tenor in the choir, drives to Europe, Africa, Israel and South America. She keeps in touch with Barbara Imbrey and Mimi Berberian. Caroleen loves to travel and enjoys plays and concerts in Newtown, R.I., has written an article for “The World of Art;” their guestspeaker: a professor from Minneapolv St. U. After serving for 10 years as a trustee for the Mayflower Foundation, she still enjoys her art gallery in her church, is in a quilting group and plays bridge.

Barbara Jones Wagner lost her husband six years ago and retired to Amellia Island, Fla. She plays tennis and continues to teach French in her gated community. Barbara is also a docent in the Amelia Island Museum of History.

1950

Correspondents: Alice Hess Crowell, 3000 West Chester Pike, Apt. B211, Newtown Square, PA 19073; aehc@comcast.net; Marilyn Packard Ham, 800 Southwelt Road, Apt. 1517, Rensselaer, IN 47876; MarilynR@comcast.net

Marilyn (Lynn) Raub Deedson continues to live in Indianapolis, where she is active in the community. She was a Daughter of the American Revolution. She has two artificial hips and an accompanying knee yet can still drive to her house in Phoenix, Ariz., with a daughter, a Rhodesian ridgeback and two cats. Her other children are scattered but visit every year. Marilyn keeps in touch with Barbara Pinckard Carter.

Norma Johnson Lockheed is well and still in her home in Monroe, Mich., and also still driving. She returns to a book club. The Friends in Council, founded in 1833. This year, their theme is exploring the World of Art, their guest speaker: a professor from Wayne State U. After serving for 10 years as a trustee for the Norma travels to Europe. Africa, Israel and South America. She keeps in touch with John Underwood Wells.

Janet Johnson Strang lives in her own home in Lookout Mountain, Tenn., and still drives. She has lots of family and friends. Janet enjoyed a lunchcheon reunion at the Hendral Club with Joan Webber Clark, Andy Dane Flanagan, Susan Starr Burchenal, Edie Barnes Bernard and Jane Smith Moody. Janet walked one and half miles a day, is active in her church, is in a quilting group and plays bridge.

Barbara Jones Wagner lost her husband six years ago and retired to Amelia Island, Fla. She plays tennis and continues to teach French in her gated community. Barbara is also a docent in the Amelia Island Museum of History.

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class notes

Various activities. Her husband requires round-the-clock care but, fortunately, remains at home. One of Lynn's daughters is an assistant secretary of defense for global strategic affairs, so she attends the NAIAD meetings in Belgium. Her other daughter is a CPA. Lynn has three grandchildren. We wondered whether anyone has recent news of Carol Baldwin. Lynn kept in touch with her until a few years ago.

Bert Trager Cohen and I met at a benefit performance by Estelle Parsons '49 at the Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. in the play an elderly woman refuses to leave her home as her children wish, and she sets up a formidable barrier. Afterwards, Estelle spoke to us and answered questions about the play and her career.

Ruth Kaplan stills drives around her Boston suburb and engages occasional trips to New York and the Berkshires.

Janet Surgener Hill has sold her home in West Hartford, Conn., and currently lives with daughter Elissa in Portland, N.H.

Mimi Woodbridge Thompson reports that our Class of '50 Scholarship goes this year to Sasha Peterson '16, a dance major from Arlington, Mass. The scholarship money was raised at our 40th reunion.

Mary Gilliam Schmalz lives in a senior home on an island near Savannah, Ga. She taught for 15 years in elementary special education in Michigan. She lost both of her husbands. I mentioned how pleased I was with the Emily Abbey round-robin letter, and Mary replied that she has a group that has corresponded since kindergarten.

Patricia Grable Burke lives near Pittsburgh, "an exciting city to live in." She has two sons in Pittsburgh and six grandchildren. She is still able to drive. Patricia lost her husband several years ago and has since moved into a senior home in Oakmont, Pa. She saw Helen Fricke '57 in November. "Just getting out from under the start of creepy weather down there." Dorothy (Holly) Hollinger continues to ply her tutoring skills, but when not tutoring she enjoys summing in the Adirondacks.

Lon and Jean Gries Howeimer celebrated her 85th in Vermont with 20 family members, including three children with spouses, seven grandchildren and four greats! Jean keeps in touch with Charlotte Enayt Steiger, who is enjoying the arrival of her first great-grandchild.

1951
Correspondence: Barbara Weggan Pfiote, 3200 N. Leisure World Blvd., Apt. 517, Silver Spring, MD 20906, rpfiote@comcast.net; Justine Shepherd Freud, 100 Sunnymere Drive, Apt. 3171, Alpharetta, GA 30004, justinefreud@b comcast.net

1952
Correspondent: Janet B. Kellner, 1, Library St., Mystic, CT 03355, jbkellner@att.net

1953
Correspondent: Lydia Richards Baver, 4631 Bennett Pike #420, Welington, DE 19007, lydiabaver@Carol.com

Happy news from Marion Streitwagenheim. She has married Harry Thayer after 12 years as a widow. Marion continues to be active in environmental concerns. We send best wishes to the newweds.

Betty Johnson Drachman travels often from Bethesda to New York City, where her two sons live. Her husband is a physicist emeritus at the Goddard Space Center, where he still goes to work every day, leaving Betty time for art, dancing, cooking and writing. All this is done between doctors' appointments to keep her body up for so much activity. She has kept in touch with Hildegarde Drexl Hammun.

Jane Graham Pemberton and Jack stay active with children and grandchildren. They have a granddaughter at CC, Erin Barker '14, who is captain of the volleyball team. Erin has earned her college experience. Jane's violinist granddaughter, Alice, gave a concert at Amherst in the spring. Jack works on his research Adoles for the Smithsonian. We must report the unfortunate news of the death of Nancy Campbell on August 29. Nancy was a beloved classmate who, for most of her life, volunteered for the College and led our class as our class agent chair. Many class members, in memory of Nancy, are making increased contributions through the Annual Fund this year to honor her. And we are very sad to report the news that Nina Davis Jackson's husband, Will, died August 7. We extend our sympathy to Nina and her family. Her family has been very supportive to her as she learns to "live solo." Nina's grandson is CC alum Samuel Jackson '07.

1954
Correspondent: Lois Keating Launer, 133 Purgwaring Woods, Southbury, CT 06492, iastner@optonline.net

1955
Correspondent: Joan Barken Antel, 12 Greenwood Lane, Westport, CT 06880, jsantell@optonline.net

1956
Correspondent: Jan Albion Roberts, PO. Box 291, Cot. Urbania, MA 02643, jainj@comcast.net; Betty Ann Smith, Tolland, 128 North Stonington Road, Mystic, CT 03355-0829, betsmith@verizon.net

Mary Lou Moore Reilly is well and busy with her three 8's: (ducks) once a week, bridge and a Bible study class. She enjoys her eight grandchildren, one girl and seven boys, ages 1-26. Three of the boys live in West Hartford, and Mary Lou gets to see them regularly. Her other daughter lives in Medfield, Mass. Her 16-year-old grandson has his confirmation and his honor court and plans to "live solo." Nina's grandson is CC education show up throughout the years.

Beverly Stevens Prakelt is still in the same condo in Burlington, VT, that she has lived in for 30 years. She raised and married off four children, and she has five grandchildren, ages 10 to 25. Beverly enjoyed the 17 years she worked at the Shelburne Museum as a guide. "It was an incredible learning experience." In appreciation, she received a lifetime membership, so she can visit whenever she wants. The museum has a new education building open year-round, and Beverly plans to volunteer there.

And as class correspondent I feel I must announce the world to the fact that I have packed up and moved from my home of 50 years. I still cannot believe I did it. My audit reads that I gave away 200,000 books, spent a 16 min. film collection to the Yale Film Archives, and two paintings found good homes, one at the Buenos Aires Museum of Contemporary Art and another at the Hallmark Museum. Some 4,000 pounds of "stuff" (a la George Carlin) went into three dumpsters.

I belong to a challenging book group whose members are the Woolf women, because we read the works of Virginia and other women writers who are her contemporaries, what the Brit call "middlebrow women writers." Our book group was just written up in BookWoman, published in Minnesota.

1957
Correspondent: Elaine Diamond Berman, 72 Stanton Lane, Pawcatuck, CT 06379, elanediamond@comcast.net

Joan Sampson Schmidt and two high school classmates organized their 60th reunion at the Coast Guard Academy. They were off to cheer at their son's soccer games at the University of Minnesota in Duluth.

Gail Andersen Myers writes: "Can it be that we are turning (gap) 80?" In a birthday phone call with Lee Allen Branch, Lee told her, "We have just gotta keep on truckin'!" Gail says, "I also keep on kayaking." Luckily she has two hearty neighbors with kayaks and pickup trucks, so every week they sung kayaks into a truck and are off to explore the bays and lakes of San Diego and southern California. Husband Bob prefers cruise ships to kayaks.

They have crossed the Atlantic from Monte Carlo to Fort Lauderdale and the Pacific from San Diego to Hawaii and back.

In the "what goes around comes around" department, Gail has just finished writing a children's picture book/easy reader in verse. In June, she first in Paris and the second in a small chateau near Beaune in Burgundy. They still spend the summer months in the Berkshires and the winter in Fairview, Texas, northeast of Dallas. Mimi had a good year until she fell while biking and sustained two small fractures of the pelvis, followed by weeks of recuperation and rehab. "Pretty painful!" Speedy recovery to you, Mimi.

Jo Saidel Horse writes, "Sadly, my husband of 53 years died in August after a lengthy bout with various illness. He spent the last 16 months of his life in a nursing home, but he was alert, reading, watching TV and visiting with family." The Class sends condolences.

Classmates, can anyone tell us where to get a Giambattista kit? She lost her 14-year-old dog last summer and decided a kitten would be better than a puppy that can run all day. She still lives in Waterville Valley, N.H. "Garden club takes my free time. As vice president, I step up to president in June. It's a wonderful group of people, and we have interesting programs and trips."

Bettie Morgan Montgomery and Bill had a quiet year with one big event— their first grandchild, their older daughter's daughter— was married in August, in the mountains of North Carolina. Summer in our Cape Cod home was lovely, with many family members coming and going. "We were really happy to see Sandy Rew Dow and Bryan (with their dog, Sasha) visit us in Cape Cod for a few days in late September. We were hoping to have Kate, Sibeleah Bowman and Phil visit also, but he's recovering from heart surgery and needed to work on his therapy sessions."

Eleanor Johnson Johnstan and Claudia, her partner, visited Jayne's son and-iwan-in-law in November. "Just getting out from under the start of creepy weather here in Michigan," she says.

Sarah Greene Burger and her husband had an early fall hiking trip to Wales. We recommend it to everyone! It is a wonderful green country. We are still voters in Vermont, and I'm still working at New York U. College of Nursing as the coordinator of a Geriatric Nursing Organizations, about 28,000 nurses working mostly in long-term care. I love living downtown in an apartment. Ed is getting used to it."

The Wilson twins (Sandy Weldon Johnson and Betty Weldon Schneider) and their husbands travelled together in September.

CONNECT WITH YOUR CLASSMATES: // www.conncoll.edu/alumni
Rowing legend recalls uniform shortage that launched her career

THE ROWING WORLD and other worlds are apparently running out of awards to give to Anita DeFrantz ’74. They’ve started doubling up.

Last fall the 2010 inductee into the National Rowing Hall of Fall was formally recognized by the International Rowing Federation for a lifetime of distinguished service to the sport. That came on the heels of the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators presenting her with the organization’s Honor Award — for the second time.

The women administrators’ award recognizes individuals and entities that have exemplified outstanding support of women in athletics. Previous winners include sports journalists Christine Brennan and Robin Roberts, tennis great Billie Jean King, the Sara Lee Corporation and Nike. But none of them has won it twice. DeFrantz received the award for the first time in 1991.

An emerita trustee of the College and recipient of the College’s highest honor, the College Medal, DeFrantz is well known for having captained the U.S. Rowing team that won a bronze medal at the 1976 summer Olympic Games in Montreal. Less well known is that the games served as her springboard into sports administration.

“The U.S. Olympic team did not have enough uniforms for the women’s rowing team,” she says.

“I spent much of my time in the U.S. Olympic Committee offices demanding our uniforms.”

She must have impressed the USOC because she was soon elected to its Athletes’ Advisory Council. By 1977 she was a member of the group’s executive board.

Her work at the USOC and her opposition to the U.S.-led boycott of the 1980 Olympics brought her to the attention of the International Olympic Committee and in 1986 she became the first woman and first African American to represent the United States on the IOC. She was elected the group’s first female vice president in 1997 and remains an IOC member today. She was re-elected to a four-year term on the executive board last September.

She currently serves as president of the LA84 Foundation, which was established to manage Southern California’s share of the budget surplus from the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. The nonprofit invests in sports programs serving more than 3 million youth in eight Southern California counties.

Of all her honors, she says she’s especially proud that the U.S. Rowing Association has created an award in her name that goes to the rowing program that has done the most to include children of different races and expand rowing beyond its traditional participant base.

— Ed Cohen
as Ginger experienced with daughter Debbie. Debbie is slowing down with Alzheimer's, something most Downpeople get. She is in a more supervised residence now, but she works in the workshop and is involved in many activities. Carolee has traveled to Russia, Cuba, Eastern Europe, China, Mexico, Canada and in the United States. They have a little place on the Oregon coast near their son, where they kayek, fish and just relax. Edie Berkowitz Harrsgeaves still works as a psychoanalyst with patients and students, teaching on Skype to budding analysts in Russia, and running a seminar group for consultant psychiatrists. But she is slowing down! Her older daughter is married to an American, lives in Brooklyn and is thriving as an artist, although not making lots of money (fortunately, her husband has a job). She has two teenage stepchildren, whom she has helped to do well. Edie’s younger daughter lives near her in London and has a partner and hopes to buy a house. She works at Imperial College doing workshops with grad students and through work has traveled to China, Singapore and Australia. Edie’s stepdaughter has a daughter, 4, and a son, 1. Since they live in London, Edie gets to do “Grandma things” with them. Sadly, she had to sell her 500-year-old cottage in Devon, but she returns to visit, ride horses and walk Dartmoor. She is planning to travel from London for Reunion. I hope all you classmates who live closer will try to join in the fun of our 55th reunion.

1960

Correspondents: Joan Murray Webster, 6440 Wild Horse Valley Road, Napa, CA 94558, Joanweb@sbcglobal.net; Adieu Maxwell Weich, 53 Skipper’s Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937, Kimwebster53@gmail.com

Last year Jeanie Chappell visited South Africa, this year South Dakota. “We saw a herd of buffalo and some elk — an American safari. We stayed in Rapid City and took daily trips to other attractions in the area.”

Carolyn Mc丹gile Holleran celebrated her 75th birthday last summer by hiking scenic coastal areas of Maine with husband Jerry and a group of “fun people.” In November 2012 they welcomed their first great-grandchild.

Louise (Wheezy) Lane Talbot surfaces! “We shuffle between Charleston, S.C., in the winter and Katonah, N.Y., in the summer. We see as much as we can of our children and grandchildren in Brooklyn and Rhode Island, but of course it’s never enough. I do love to read our section of CC, Magazine!”

‘Bionic chorister’ Harriet Kaufman Breslow carries on with two new hips, two knee replacements, two bunecomectomies and a joint replacement in one of her hands. “Life gets interesting as we get older.”

Frances Gillmore Pratt celebrated her 75th birthday in Hawaii in July with husband Harry, their children and five grandchildren. “Hawaii is a place none of us had seen before. It was glorious!”

In August, Carol Broggi, Maiden traveled from her Florida home to Wellesley, Mass., where family celebrated her mother’s milestone 100th birthday! Carol’s granddaughter, Rachel (daughter of Tony Callin Jr., ’84), attends Humbolt-Williams Smith College. Rachel’s brother, Teck, is a junior at Natick High School and an avid golfer. Carol’s daughter, Debbie, has three children: Alexander, 14, a freshman in high school, Ethan, 12, in seventh grade; and Ella, a second-grader. Recently, Carol caught up with Mary Ann Fuller Young, author of “Plaity and Simplicity: A Memoir of Alzheimer’s”.

Linda Strasseanmeyer Stein and Don continue to live life in beautiful Barkhamsted, Conn. In fact, Don starts his fourth term as first selectman this year, keeping active during retirement. Linda is busy with water aerobics, civic events, family activities and working as lines coach for an adult friend. They travel in Europe and the U.S. as often as possible; their latest trip was a Rhine River cruise through Provence. Four grandchildren are all in their grades; two in New Hampshire and two in Barkhamsted. “We feel blessed to have such a full life.”

In October, June Salamy Krisch traveled to Denver, where husband Henry (Ph.D., professor, historian and author) presented a paper relative to his doctoral studies in German and Russian politics and human rights. After enjoying quality time with their niece in St. Helena, Calif., on Oct. 9 (their 47th anniversary), June and Henry joined Joanie Murray Webster in Napa. June sees Susie Herbston Ehrenhaft and Betsy Spaulding Gladefelter, who also live in San Francisco’s North Bay area, whenever possible. Henry and June have a son and daughter; a grandson, 17; and a granddaughter, 12. June plays the piano in a hometown trio and uses Rosetta Stone materials to study Arabic. Nancy Waddell (loves reading the notes, “CC seems to be doing great!” But my visiting days are probably over, so I follow the news via the magazine and email.) In 2012, Nancy retired from the environmental job she’d held for 10 years. Her time was quickly taken up with volunteering for the local Red Cross, and now she leads their response team and facilitates training. She is also a volunteer proofreader/copy editor for the local newspaper. “It gets me around interesting 20-somethings who welcome my history here for Whitney Island, Puget Sound and comma placement.”

“I love being able to control my time enough to create spaces where I can reflect and appreciate each day as I live it and not always rush from thing to thing.” writes Genie Tracy Kirchner. Genie enjoyed a Scholar Intergenerational trip to the Grand Canyon and Sedona with grandfather Al. Genie visited CC roommate Anne Stilson Alvord in Chautauqua, N.Y., for a week of exploring the topic “Our Elegant Universe.” She then traveled to a family gathering in Portland, Maine, for her nephew’s wedding, also attended by her three children and their families. Genie just had her first piano lesson in 35 years.

In Chapel Hill, N.C., Marywine Sherwood was elected president of the local Boys & Girls Club board, working to open a Club in Chapel Hill. On another front, she was part of a 900-person protest group, Moral Monday, involved in helping the poor. They were “prourdly arrested,” and were scheduled to appear in court on Dec. 3. On the home front, Marywine welcomed her third grandchild in Pittsburgh and found time to travel to Eastern Europe in April.

In early October, Patricia Werthens Abrams was in South Africa for the 80th birthday of Archbishop Tutu’s wife, Leah. Patricia later attended an international symposium for the Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation, including a lecture by Kofi Annan. Her visit concluded with a trip to Victoria Falls in Zambia, accompanied by son Douglass and granddaughter Kayla. They walked with young lions and went on a safari in Botswana’s Chobe National Park.

Ina Slosberg Caro, author of the book “The Road from the Past: Traveling through History in France” and “Paris to the Past: Traveling through French History by Train,” is married to Robert Caro, winner of two Pulitzer Prizes for his biographies of Robert Moses and Lyndon Johnson. They have one son who is a lawyer, a granddaughter at Oxford, a grandson at Pomona and another grandson who is a Princeton graduate. 1961

Correspondent, Leslie Pomroy McGowan, 2206 Essan Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, leslpom@comcast.net

Thanks to Trish Siegel-Finley, our class president, for the October newsletter. I hope all we join her in saying a big “Thanks!” to President Higdon for all he has done for the College.

Brent Randolph Reynburn’s big news is a repaired knee, a partial replacement. She is slowly recovering, and it’s feeling pretty good. The sun and warm temperatures of the fall made it easy to walk. She has traveled to China, Singapore and Eastern Europe, They have a little place in the United States, They have a little place, but she returns to visit, ride horses and walk Dartmoor. She is planning to travel from London for Reunion. I hope all you classmates who live closer will try to join in the fun of our 55th reunion.

Green River Reunion 2013

1961

Correspondent, Leslie Pomroy McGowan, 2206 Essan Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, leslpom@comcast.net

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noted. “Between sharing stories, good food and, of course, wine, we went antiquing, attended a horne concert at St. Anne's Church, saw an electronic ‘gadget’ presentation at the community college and an art exhibit featuring Karl Schrag at St. John's College, visited the Baneker-Douglass black history museum in Annapolis, and saw a very funny stage play, ‘Communicating Doors,’ at The Colonial Players.

Carole Hunt Ivanicek and husband Ed visited Roberta Stone Smith and Steve in Lower Waterford, Vt., and took advantage of the wonderful weather to explore Vermont's Northeast Kingdom and enjoy the spectacular fall foliage, local farms and art open studios.

Heather Axelrod Alberts feels blessed having both of her children and all five grandchildren living nearby in Tucson. Sunday dinner often finds all 11 close family members around the table. Heather is still very involved in both health and fitness programs, beloved having both of her children and all five grandchildren living nearby in Tucson. Sunday dinner often finds all 11 close family members around the table. Heather is still very involved in both health and fitness programs.

My husband, Joe Wouters, and I enjoyed another wonderful summer of sailing in Newfoundland, and we are now readying for a trip to Budapest, Vienna and Prague. En route home in September, we spent a lovely afternoon with Bonnie Campbell Billings and Bobette Pottle Orr. They were given bouquets of flowers as thanks for their work on the Class of 1963 members at the 50th Reunion dinner last June {from left}: Susan Hall Veccia, Lonnie Jones Schorer and husband Dave had visited them earlier, on their way to biking on Isla au Haut, Maine. The Andersons will soon embark on a lengthy trip to Australia and New Zealand. Roberta Stone Smith and I caught up over lunch in Hanover, N.H., in September.

Faith Gilman Cross keeps us up with her only grandchild by visiting him in Germany as often as possible, including soon after Reunion and over the Thanksgiving holidays.

From what I heard at Reunion, many of us are heavily supporting the airlines keeping up with our far-flung grandchildren.

Nancy Holbrook Ayres is still living life in Jackson, Wyo., and enjoying the ski season. “We’ve discovered that there are a number of young alumni in the area. Apparently, groups of friends come to Jackson for a couple of years after graduation. We’d love to hear from any alumni passing through.” Contact Nancy at nhayers@me.com.

From Hawaii, Laurie Blake Sawyer wrote: “Great Reunion was a success. The timing was just perfect, not good for me...the East Coast is a long haul just for a weekend. The reunion book, KoineGold, is my favorite read of this year. Great job! I am amazed at how many people I remember.” A side benefit of Reunion planning was the reunion of Laurie and Bea Robinett Eriksle, who found that they have both been living in Hawaii (different islands) for years! Everyone seems to be enjoying the Class Notes, so please, take a moment and send an email with your latest news: activities, travels, family, even a query or musing, or find out. Can’t just sit here!”

Kathleen Dudden Reveland has been promoted to full professor in the Department of Secondary Education, and she in her sixth year as founding director of the Cal State Northridge Writing Project (www.csum.edu/writingproject). She makes use of her specialization in composition and writing instruction by teaching the dissertation seminar for doctoral candidates in educational leadership and policy studies.

Louise Fay Despres and husband Bob enjoy the cultural advantages of Chicago and the U of Chicago. They also volunteer at a soup kitchen. Their son, Reed, is now executive chef at Arami Restaurant.

Jane Hubbard Vogt and husband Elmar were in Japan for five weeks. Jane was not having fun in Tokyo while Elmar lectured at a math conference. During the final two days they were able to get away to a romantic and interesting place of hot baths in the mountains. They also reconnected with many Japanese friends during their trip.

Sue Leverton and husband Jake took a three-month, 14,500-mile trailer trip from California to Newfoundland. — Sue’s first serious trip east since leaving CC.

Betty Litchfield Cetron still sells real estate in Stratton, Vt., but has been acting half her age, riding her horse, playing tennis and skiing. Her daughter in Boston has two little girls.
Sharon Myers catered her cousin’s daughter’s wedding on Cape Cod last fall, where she enjoyed reconnecting with family and old friends. Barbara Morse ’65 did the flowers. Sharon loves having guests in her home/B&B, the Purple Chef’s House, in Brattleboro, VT. Check out her website (www.purplechef.com) for her homemade marmalades, chutneys and condiments.

Liane Stearns Gowen is enjoying her retirement from Wing Memorial Hospital and sometimes works per diem to catch up with old friends. In July she went to the Canadian Rockies and Glacier National Park, and in August she vacationed with her family for their annual Cape Cod getaway. She is planning a mad trip to Florida (plus cruise) in February. At home, she spends time quilting, crafting, gardening and working at the local food pantry.

Thank you to all who sent us news! We love hearing from you, so please continue sending your news to [ccnotes66@gmail.com](mailto:ccnotes66@gmail.com).

1967

Correspondents: Debby Greenstein, debgg667@verizon.net; Marcia Matthews, marciamatthews3@gmail.com

1968

Correspondent: Mary Clarkson Phillips, 35 The Crossway, Delmar, NY 12054, mcstow@lignor.com

Dinsmore Fulton and husband: Leo Cohen continue to live in the Mad River Valley in Vermont, high in the mountains. They survived Tropical Storm Irene with no problems. Not so for many friends and neighbors, but their resilient, caring community worked together to right the flood-damaged homes and businesses. She and Leo are active volunteers and play lots of bridge. Dinsmore loves her gardens, and Leo is writing a novel. Youngest son Brooke Radford Denegre (also grandson of the late Louise Radford Denegre ’43) married Darcy Rumberger in a festive ceremony near Tuxedo, N.C., in September.

Robert Ward Halleman enjoys life in Sonoma County — California wine country. She still works as a CPA and Advanced Certified QuickBooks Pro Advisor. She works for a CPA firm and has her own consulting business, Symba Services, with no plans to retire. Roberta is also treasurer for the Earl Baume Center of the Blind in Santa Rosa, Calif. Husband Terry is winding down his cabinet shop and focusing on his artwork; large Conte crayon drawings, these days of musicians and dancers. They go to lots of shows to get photos and enjoy their friendships with others. Roberta sometimes collaborates in his process. Their boys are doing well but live far away. Each summer Roberta and Terry visit their second son in Montana to see their two grandchildren, ages 9 and 12, and to attend the Red Ants Pant’s Music Festival. Their two younger sons live in Long Beach, Calif., where one is a designer for Belkin and the other an engineer for Boeing. Their oldest is planning a move to the Philippines next year.

Molly Walker Jackson retired from the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services after many years. Her new pace is a relief, and she is working on a plan for the “next stage.” She’s been singing with the Lexington County Choral Society for 17 years and still loves it! Janie Randall-Goodman spent a month in Rome and has business plans for Charlestonville, including small gallery space, Yellow Cardinal Gallery; small art for small spaces.

Judy Irving still lives on Telegraph Hill in San Francisco and is still working on her documentary, “Pelican Dreams,” which should be out next year. She and Mark are taking care of two injured red-and-green parrots from the wild flock, Parker and Big Bird, The four of them are fine.

Susan Kennedy Bishop, retired from teaching public school music four years ago but is busier than ever with many piano students and four choruses. She lives in Chelmsford, Mass., with her husband of 40 years, plus an adorable flat-coated retriever and a kitty. She feels she’s had a wonderful life.

Although Ricki Chapman McBlashan missed our 45th reunion, she is now working on her 50th reunion from my high school class in the town where she still lives. Grandchildren are a big part of her life. She still rides bikes and volunteers for the local sustainability organization. Doug volunteers for Planned Parenthood and the local mediation group. Rick’s feels lucky and grateful these days. A highlight of the year was seeing Miri Daniel at her house on Pleasant Lake in Maine. John Pecoral Pagano sent greetings from NYC, where she enjoyed gorgeous fall weather. Last summer, she and husband James spent three weeks in Africa, traveling in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Malawi. They saw amazing wildlife up close with master guides who are armed, to keep visitors safe. This was their second trip, and they hope to return again soon. Joan is working on two new book projects for DK Publishing, “Strength Training Exercises for Women” (January 2014) and “Get Fit for Summer” (also 2014). In October she was inducted into the Shaker Heights High School Hall of Fame. Her new website, featuring online training services, launched in the fall.

Boston (actually, Winchester, Mass.) has been Trudy Glidden’s home for 20 years. It was a great place to move after living 12 years in St. Thomas. She keeps her French skills honed as a business developer for a French firm in the software sector. She spends quite a bit of time in Denver so she can play with her two granddaughters.

Allison Cook Gall writes that going to her first Reunion ever was great. She thanks all classmates who had no clue who she was for being generous and friendly, and she encourages all to come to our 50th! She and her husband have retired to Scituate, Mass., and can see boats, river and ocean from their living room. The train to Boston is less than a quarter-mile from her house. Best of all, one granddaughter is nearby, and now others want to visit! Allison’s time is spent on advocacy for immigration reform, energy policy and Israel, kayaking and biking; and cooking much more than when she was working long hours. Plus, caring for grandchildren. Great life!

Please keep your news coming, we all love to know what is happening in the lives of our CC friends. Let’s look forward to our 50th reunion in 2018.

1969 Reunion

Correspondent: Judy Barmpen Harigian, 1070 Sugar Sands Blvd. #384, Riviera Beach, FL 33404, jyamarigian@bellsouth.net

Don and Ellen Aronoff Kent had a quiet year, as she battled colon cancer. With treatment behind her, Ellen looks forward to enjoying their grandchildren and more travel.

Alice Beatlewright, based in Paris since 2004, works as a consultant in communications for an international public health organization, writes fiction, and occasionally teaches a fiction workshop. She lives with her writer/photographer husband, Jim Mullins, and two black rescue cats, Chocolate and Cocoa. Her book “Collateral Damage,” which was a bestseller when published in 2012, made the Small Press Distribution bestseller list for May and June 2013. “The book is three novellas that explore the long-range impact of the Vietnam War, both on those who fought and those who didn’t. The ‘those who didn’t’ include sisters, friends, lovers — as well as boys who refused to fight. This past year, I’ve enjoyed promoting the book (website: www.collateraldamage.us) and giving readings every bit as much as I dreamed I would.” Alice received the Bronze Medal for Literary Fiction at the Independent Publisher Book Awards in New York. “Like everyone else, we’re puzzling over the ‘next phase’ but at the moment we’re thriving here.”

Mary Harp first put her CC economics degree to work as an economist for Exxon for four years in Europe, New York and Houston. The MBA from Stanford led her to Wells Fargo Bank, “where I have worked for almost 40 years in corporate and mortgage lending in the Bay Area.” Divorced for over 25 years, Mary has three incredible children; daughters Reed (a strategist at Cisco Systems in Silicon Valley) and Blake (a global

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manager at Hoffman-La Roche in Basel, Switzerland) and son Elliot (a real estate operations specialist at Nike in Amsterdam). "It’s been quite a ride. And, looking back, all good, every step of the way."

Susan Naigel Rosenzweig retired as department head of education at Newton North High School, in Newton, Mass., in August 2006 but was called back into service for the last three years, part time. "I’ve retired last August to take on new responsibilities as part-time babysitter extraordinaire for my new grandson. My daughter-in-law is a nurse in the cardiac intensive care unit at Children’s Hospital, Boston, and my son is a vice president of Combined Jewish Philanthropies. We’re thrilled that they are back in the Boston area. My husband retired in 2006 and enjoys his daily workouts and our traveling."

Seeking better work/life balance, Sue Sigal Denison still leads the digital media and entertainment practice of an executive search firm, placing C-level executives, and also serves on the board of directors of Omnicom Group Inc. "But I now spend winters working from our condo in Sarasota, Fla., and Rick comes down as often as his work allows. Travel continues to be a big priority. In 2013, we visited Italy, Switzerland, the Canadian Rockies, and lots of U.S. destinations. We plan ultimately to divide our time between New York and Florida, and I’m determined to stay as physically and intellectually active as possible."

Alice Wellington’s photography has been on exhibit at the Concord Museum, Vaudon Pond gallery and the Lohay Clinic outside of Boston in the past year, and featured in New England regional magazines and websites. "Like many of us, I’d done photography since my teens and at this stage of life find it far more fulfilling creatively than my other life in the computer industry," She and husband Rob Bashkoff are part of the Rock/bles music scene around Concord, Mass., where their annual Beat the Season music party is in its 23rd year. Zoi Aponte Diamond and husband John have joined the fun several times. Alice is enjoying the chance to reconnect with classmates in her role as Reunion co-chair and looks forward to seeing even more on campus for our 45th.

Reunion Weekend is May 30-June 1 and rapidly approaching. Make plans now to join this celebration of Connecticut College and the extra-special celebration of our 45th reunion. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me or co-chairs Alice Wellington and Ann Barber Smith to share information or ideas.

1970

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

1971

Correspondence: Lisa McDonnell, 134 W. Maple Street, Granville, OH 43023, lmdconnell@denison.edu; Lori Price, 338 adds Millbury Street, Kennett Square, PA, 19348-3818, loprice@yahoo.com

Carol Feinstein Plotsky has "never sent in information before, but there is always a first time." She attended law school after CC and practiced as assistant attorney general for the State of Connecticut for eight years. She then decided to go to medical school, where she met her husband, Jonathan Plotsky ’76. Carol is a pediatrician; Jonathan is an internist. Son Ben is in nursing school, and daughter Deborah is a buyer for Macy’s in New York City. They live in Maryland in the D.C. suburbs.

After many years in state government, Deborah Wigg Neff now works at Nemours Health and Prevention Services, a division of Nemours, a child healthcare system with children’s hospitals in Delaware and Florida and clinics in the Delaware Valley. Her division addresses the needs of overweight children by promoting healthy, active and engaged lifestyles. She likes the work and her colleagues but hopes to undertake more extensive trips. Daughter Adrienne Wigg Neff ’03 graduated from Cornell Law School in 2008 and worked with Bechtel in New York City and then for two smaller firms in Delaware. On the equestrienne team at CC, Adrienne continues to ride regularly. Son Garret is a successful model. Google Garrett Neff. Deborah extends her sympathy to good friend Nancy Hughes Robi, who lost her dad in June.

Jane Terry Giardino spent three weeks in France and Holland visiting friends and family. She still teaches high school French and Spanish and lives and lives in the Pacific Northwest, where she bikes and hikes as much as possible. Her three sons are in Seattle and Portland.

Joan C. Dagle is in the midst of a three-year position as associate dean of arts and sciences at Rhode Island College, a temporary leave from her faculty position as professor of English and film studies. In the dean’s office, she oversees graduate programs in arts and sciences as well as various aspects of the undergraduate general education program. "Administrative work has its rewards (and I previously served many years as chair of the English department), but I do miss the pleasures of teaching and research."

Lois Dicott Price continues as director of conservation at the Winterthur Museum, where she particularly enjoys teaching in the graduate program jointly sponsored with the U. of Delaware and working on international projects. She spent a week teaching in Mexico City and has an ongoing project training cultural heritage professionals in Iraq. Husband Grover is enjoying retirement in the computer industry.

Margaret Reynolds Steiner will serve as president of the Rotary Club of Marblehead (Mass.) Harbor this year. In April she traveled to Munich, Nuremberg and Berlin as part of a Salem State U. course, “Nazi Germany and the Holocaust.” Margo and Sharon Page Bode gather each fall at her summer house in Williamstown. Husband Bob cooks lobsters, and they enjoy the fall color and a visit to the Clark Art Institute.

Carol Blake Boyd has flunked retirement! After more than three years hanging around, she returned to work on Nov. 1 as president of the Naples Trust Company, the largest independent trust company in Florida. She was both excited and surprised, as she never expected to get back into the financial world, but it was just too interesting to pass up. Husband Peter manages five labs for Physician’s Toxicology and Elite Labs and Clinical Consulting.

Kathleen Cooper Vadala is in her 14th year as choral director at Elizabeth Seton High School, a small girls’ prep school near Washington, D.C. She directs three choirs at Seton (only a few degrees of separation of her years as accompanist for the CC Chorus!) and serves as pianist for the American Youth Chorus. She received a masters’ in piano performance from the Hartt...
School in Hartford, Conn., and a Doctor of Musical Arts, also in piano performance, from the U. of Maryland School of Music, College Park.

Ruth Ritter Ladd has a new (fourth) grandchild, Charlotte Faye Mulhallen, and her mother, Marion Ferre Ritter ’93, is still going strong, turning 99 in August!

Norma Drab Walrath Goldstein is the new dean of humanities, social sciences and education at Montgomery College, Germantown (Md.). She is the lead dean for the college in several areas, including economics, reading, political science and sociology. Norma and husband Allen, who works on smart grid technologies for the National Institute for Standards and Technology, moved to Germantown in June and maintain their Seattle ties with son Adam.

This year Nancy Burnett completed an epic audio documentary on the New York City water supply in the Catskills. The documentary has been very well received. Nancy still teaches at SUNY—Oswego — “Audio Documentary and Interviewing” — this spring. Nancy visits her father, 95, active and alert in a retirement community nearby, and her stepmother, 85, “who is taking good care of him.”

Barb White Morse still loves working as a financial adviser with Lincoln Financial Advisors. Husband Ted sold his business in May and has retired. He does volunteer work with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and tackles many house projects. Oldest son Ted was married on Sept. 14 at a horse ranch in Colorado. Chris lives in Seattle with his wife and finished his first year of residency at the U. of Washington hospital. Ben is at MIT getting a doctorate in political science and is focused on Liberia and its numerous challenges.

Amy Lewis Tabor and her husband are becoming an independent store, Gold Coast Business Services, after 20 years with the franchise Mail Bows Etc. They hope to sell the business and retire in 2014. They enjoyed a visit from Martha Cogswell LaMontagne and her husband in August. Daughter Kory Tabor Macy ’99 had an article published in the quarterly National Ataxia Foundation Magazine about her honeymoon to the Amazon and the Galapago Islands. Kory has a rare type of Ataxia and is in a wheelchair. Husband John Macy, who has cerebral palsy, walks with crutches, but this doesn’t stop them from traveling and living very full lives.

After 22 years as a teacher and administrator in Southern Montgomery College, Germantown

Cold Water: It invigorates us!
I plunge: Therefore I am

Margo Steiner ’72, new president of the Rotary Club of Marblehead, Mass., dressed as a mermaid when she represented the club (along with another member) in a polar plunge in Gloucester to raise money for Rotary’s main focus, the elimination of polio worldwide.

IN 25 YEARS, Jeff Berman ’93 has gone from college newspaper publisher to public defender to chief legal counsel for a U.S. senator to Myspace and the NFL. At the start of last year he became president of an independent cross-platform media company.

Berman is president of BermanBraun, an L.A.-based company that provides entertainment and advertising services across three platforms: television, digital and feature films. The company is co-owned by and named for Gail Berman (no relation) — the only female executive ever to have run both a major film studio (Paramount Pictures) and TV network (Fox) — and Lloyd Braun, former head of Yahoo! Media Group and ABC Entertainment Television Group.

Jeff Berman got his law degree from Yale in 1996 and then spent the better part of five years as a public defender in Washington D.C., helping underprivileged minors charged as adults. Next came Capitol Hill, where he served as New York Senator Charles E. Schumer’s chief counsel.

He began his media career in Los Angeles in 2006 when the social media site Myspace hired him, eventually rising to serve as president of sales and marketing. Then in 2010 he joined the NFL as GM of the league’s digital media business.

In his latest job, he says, he wears many hats. One minute he’s working on digital content strategy, the next he’s developing a marketing partnership. At other times he may be drumming up business for the company and overseeing startup projects.

He says the greatest lesson he learned at the College was that “opportunity is everywhere, but you have to reach out and grab it to take advantage of it.” For instance, during his freshmen year he served as managing editor of The College Voice. The next year he was the paper’s publisher.

He was a government major but in classic liberal arts style took several classes with Weller Professor of English and Writer-in-Residence Blanche Boyd. The creative skills he learned in those writing classes translate to the business world, he says.

“There is creativity in parts of business that aren’t often described as creative: structuring deals, working with partners, addressing team member issues,” he says. “An awful lot of creative energy goes into working out issues with no clear solution.”

— Peter Banos ’14
Camel Weddings

Attending the wedding of Maggie McDermott '03 and Sean Hami '03 at Harkness Memorial State Park on October 13, 2012 were Katie Dubendorf Genova '03, Rebecca Reardon Gamester '03, Betsy Blazar '03, Lauren Mitchell Wilkinson '03, Sarah Brand '04, Dan Hawshurst '03, PJ Dee '03 and Alex Gray '04.

From left: Catherine Lindberg '09, Kelsey Robertson '09, Gili Ben-Yosef '09, Alex Day '09, Harris Rosenheim '09, Debra Wernstien Peyerster '09 (bride), Tamara Rosenkranz '09, Rebecca Savin '09, Maddie Thompson '09, and Allison Bell '09. Byron Peyster, the groom, is not pictured.

Meryl Yocches '06 married Matthew Barofsky on September 2, 2012, in Washington, D.C. Camels in attendance included bridesmaid Elise LaPonte '06, Erin Gordon '06, Amanda Meyer '06, Sacha Schwimmer (transfer), Sara Sawyer '06, Maria Frans '06, Alessandra Conia '06, Jessica Dernitz '07, Meredith Miller Thompson '06, Sarah Whittington '06 and Laurinda Wong '06.

At the wedding of Jessica Kumins Berkin '07 and Matthew Berkin '06 (standing): Nate Dooley-Hayes '06, Joseph Griffin '07, Annie Tsi '09, Will Griswold '06, Zach Mandich-Frattas '06, Peter Strangfield '06, Morgan Laird '06, Steve Strauss '07, Heather Carver '06, Emily Hammock '07, Elizabeth Abelow Dederick '08, Jed Doderick '07, Craig Kohler '06, (crouching): Marisa Olsen '06, Deane Zybar '07, Chase Hoffberger '07, Jessica Swain '08, Samantha Lokich '06, bride Jessica Kumins Berkin '07, Gabrielle Alfaro '07, (on the floor) groom Matthew Berkin '06.

At the wedding of Michael Stephens and Hadley McLoughlin Stephens '05 on June 22, 2013, at the Chatham Bars Inn in Chatham, Mass., were (from left): Jonathan Cahoon '06, Johanna McLoughlin Cahoon '02, Jennifer (Barrie) Dore '05, Nancy Ward '73, Dana Fenton '05, Michael Stephens and Hadley McLoughlin Stephens '05 (groom and bride), Patricia Garland '73, Rebecca Garland '05, Amy Phelan '05, Sarah (Allan) Chapin '05.
Mandy Barrett '08 married Christopher Long in Bermuda on July 6, 2013.

Megan Glendon '07 and Arif Dhilla were married in Palo Alto, CA on August 17, 2013. Pictured (from left), Megan McCarthy '07, Julia Jacobson '06, Megan Glendon '07, Arif Dhilla (groom), Sarah Pelch '07, Katey Nelson '06, and Elaine Weisman '07. The couple honeymooned in Slovenia and Croatia and will eventually settle in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Sarah Haspiel '10 wed high school sweetheart Jonathan Novack on Apr. 28, 2013, in St. Louis. Attendees included Marissa Itkowsky '10, Sarah Hornbach '10, Sarah Oeckro '10, Sarah Brigandi '10, Arianna Merrill '10 and Danielle Murphy '10.

Sarah Haspiel '10 wed high school sweetheart Jonathan Novack on Apr. 28, 2013, in St. Louis. Attendees included Marissa Itkowsky '10, Sarah Hornbach '10, Sarah Oeckro '10, Sarah Brigandi '10, Arianna Merrill '10 and Danielle Murphy '10.

Attending the wedding of Walter Wright '08 and Kristen Van Styk '08 on Sept. 2, 2012, in Denver were (from left): Ryan McManus '10, Caroline Jeffery '09, Emily Mason '09, Aly Glick '08, Elizabeth Bennett '08, Sara Christopher '10, Farrell Thayer '09, Meaghan McLaughlin '07, Walt Wright '08, Kristen Wright '08, Caitlyn Tergeson '08, Jeff Postera '08, Bryan Patterson '08, Ryan Felchhoff '08, Emily Mont '09, Chas Gurry '09. Not pictured: Jill Mauer '08

Abby (Geller) Wein '06 married Spencer Wein on December 8, 2012, at Battery Gardens in New York City. The couple now live in Brooklyn. Abby is an investigator at Charles Griffin Intelligence. Spencer is an attorney at Reed Smith LLP; both in New York City. Pictured (from left): Sarah Davis '06, Lindsey Levine '07, Katey Nelson '06, Spencer Wein (groom), Abby (Geller) Wein '06 (bride), Julia Jacobson '06 and Alissa Brammer '06

John G. Thompson '07, and Alysse Arizzi '07, were married on May 26, 2012, in Hannover, Germany. Attended by the couple, who reside in Berlin, were (from left): Sarah Davis '06, Mary Young '06, Sarah Johnson '06, Liz Hess '06, Abner Hurwitz '06, and Libby Capozzi '06.

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CONNECT WITH YOUR CLASSMATES: \www.conncoll.edu/alumni\ 61
What are you doing the first Friday of every month?

Join classmates and friends for a happy hour in L.A., New York, Washington, D.C., Boston and Chicago — or a city near you — the first Friday evening of every month. It’s a great way to network and hang out with fellow Camels.

To find out where your local group meets, check out the alumni calendar of events at www.conncoll.edu/alumni. To propose a new city, contact Brittany Badik ’12 at Bbadik@conncoll.edu. New events are being planned for Miami and San Francisco.

What happens at First Fridays?

“We share our favorite Conn stories, reconnect with classmates and meet alums from the area.”
— Evan Piekara ’07, Washington, D.C., area

“It’s the perfect excuse to meet up with classmates and friends.”
— Janan Evans-Wilent ’11, Boston area

“We get together to relax, have fun and share stories from our college days.”
— Jason Cordova ’10, Los Angeles area
California. Orqui Acosta-Hathaway retired and is now an educational administrative coach working with the California teacher credentialing system. Orqui enjoys catching up with friends and family, playing with five grandchildren, and spending time with husband Mike Hathaway (OSCA ’72).

Lucy Baswell Siegel is still in NYC heading her PR company, Bridge Global Strategies. She travels to Japan yearly for business and last spring extended the trip to explore Hanoi for a few days. Her sons are both in the San Francisco area but come home often. David earned his Ph.D. in physics from Berkeley last year and is doing a postdoc at a national physics laboratory. Josh works for a startup software company, Lucy saw Kath McGrath, who lives in northeastern Connecticut, and has been in touch with Reggie Anderson O’Brien, who lives in Washington State.

As for me — life in Northern California is wonderful but busy. My husband, Paul, works for Marine Design Dynamics in Washington, D.C., and teaches online in the Master of Transportation and Engineering Management program at California Maritime Academy. My consulting practice continues to grow in Los Angeles and San Francisco. We travel a lot for business but took a few vacations over the holidays.

1973
Correspondent: Nina Davit, davit_nina@yahoo.com

Mike Ware ’72 and Dave Clark joined with other good friends for an annual cookout in Seagrove, Maine, in October.

1974 REUNION 5/30-6/1, 2014
Correspondent: Deborah Hoff, Deborahhoff@earthlink.net

1975
Correspondents: Miriam Josephson Whitehouse, 303 Bin 306, Cape Porpoise, ME 04541, casablanca1@gtw.net, Nancy Gruber, 5109 York Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55410-2130, nancygr@newmoon.com

1976
Correspondents: Kenneth Abel, 334 W. 19th St., Apt. 2B, New York, NY 10011, kennet@juno.com, Susan Hazelhurst McGrath, P.O. Box 3062, Greenwood Village, CO 80111-3062, stmcdonald@gmail.com

1977
Correspondent: Kimberly-Toy Reynolds Peterino, kimtoyruh@yahoo.com

Mary Pomeroy Hennessy got back in touch with old friends Martin Gould and Drew McAlindon. She enjoys life in the Hudson Valley and is working full time providing counseling and therapy to teens, children and families in Dutchess County. Both her college-age children are in art and drama fields.

Lisa Podojil Bole’s is thrilled to have another Camel in the family: younger daughter Natalie Bole’s ‘17 started at CC last fall. “I’m looking forward to sharing Reunion years with Natalie!” Daughter Bethany Bole’s completed her master’s in television production in May and works as a production assistant on the ABC hit show “Shark Tank” (but is always looking for more work; if you have connections in the production world in L.A., please let Lisa know!). Howie and Lisa are adjusting to life with an empty (and much quieter) nest.

Beth Kreiger Jacober and husband Steven have enjoyed the Washington, D.C., area since their move seven years ago from Dayton, Ohio, for his job as executive director at Washington Hebrew Congregation, one of the largest reform synagogues in the country. Daughter Rachel and her husband, Chris, live in Columbus, Ohio, and have a son, 4, and a daughter, 1. Oldest son David, 28, stationed in Hawaii, is a captain in the Marines and flies helicopters. Middle son Ben, 25, is in the Coast Guard and is stationed in Alaska. Youngest son Matt, 23, graduated from Ohio State U. and works as an accountant for a company in Orange, Conn.

Henry Gutenstein’s older son, Eric, has been married for a year and is a professional chef at award-winning Otro in Phoenix. He appeared in the Food Network’s new show “Restaurant Express” with Robert Irvine. The first show aired Nov. 3. Younger son Max is finishing his master’s in landscape architecture at the Delo School of Architecture and Design. He was the only American accepted into the program. His classes have included a two-month project in Vietnam, and for his diploma year he was chosen by a city in Norway to help design its green space. He also works for the City of Oslo. Henry’s wife, Harriet, is still at Taliesin West, Frank Lloyd Wright’s winter home in Scottsdale. She gives special and private tours, as well as runs the office. Henry is still with Oracle after 13 years.

Scott Davis participated in Rabbi Simeon Glaser’s Bike a Goy to Temple Shabbat Service last spring in Minneapolis. Though the event had an attendance of one and only really existed in Scott’s mind, Sime and wife Barbara were pleased to humor the somewhat confused older gent. Scott, with wife Mariya, also visited Evelyne Pinkus ’78 by flying his plane to a little airport near her home in Scituate, Mass.

Life is wonderful lor Margaret Yost Ormond. Since retiring as a high school assistant principal, she continues to serve on the boards of the Connecticut Humane Society and the Waterford Education Foundation. Margaret and her friend, Larry Terrell, enjoy theater hopping between Connecticut and New York and traveling abroad, especially Viking River Cruises for stress-free travel comfort. Margaret lives in southeastern Connecticut and revels in the benefits of being near the beautiful CC campus. She recommends the concerts, speakers and theater productions. “Our alma mater is a gem!”

Brian Chertok and his wife are empty-nesters in Beverly, Mass. He is the director of marketing for Kronos, and his wife has published a book and app called “Measuring Up: Buying Clothes that Fit.” Oldest son Ben is a teacher in Salem, and youngest son Zach is a business analyst in Boston. Brian keeps in touch with lifelong friend Martin Gould and also Liz Kifloffe. Facebook also keeps him up to date with fellow alums.

In September, Karen Ray Mathews left a 36-year career in independent education and was named the house manager for the Ronald McDonald House in St. Petersburg. She had volunteered there for 12 years and worked as a weekend manager for the last five years, “so it’s an organization that I know and love!” They serve the families of children who are patients at All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg. “After a lifetime in schools, it’s a welcome next step in my career! Check us out at www.rmhc tampabay.com.”

Life has been interesting for Benita Garfinkel Colestein as she transitioned from nearly 35 years in Manhattan to Delray Beach, Fla. They closed the B&B last December after a year and a half of working 24/7 and now do vacation rentals where people make their own breakfast. Benita serves on some boards in town and does community activist work “trying to keep our village by the sea a town, versus a city.” Daughter Serena graduated from naurotrophic medical school in March.

Kimberly-Toy Reynolds passed the basic Italian class and is now going for her “residency” in Italy. Giorgio and Kim are updating their house in Italy. “We welcome CC grads to come and visit.” They travel between the United States and Italy often. “Our oldest, Ming-Tai, 33, opened Portlanllo & Company restaurant last fall in Cambridge, Mass., and was featured in “Traveling the United Airlines” Hemispheres magazine in May. Our youngest, Marcus, 28, has relocated from Florida to Atlanta and is studying for his master’s degree while working at Grady Hospital.” Giorgio and Kim are having fun visiting all the presidential libraries across the United States.

1978
Correspondent: Susan Cafel Tobinson, 20 Park Terrace East, Apt. 4, New York, NY 10034, stobaison@yahoo.com, Laurie Heiss Green, 17 Overlook Drive, Greenwich, CT 06830, laurelheiss@gmail.com

Adole Gravitz advises, “Please follow your gut, if you feel something is wrong, get it checked out!” She is grateful that “it” was a benign brain tumor. Now, after surgery, she is healed, dancing and working. Her son was recently married in New Orleans, and Adele has moved back to Maryland from Massachusetts.

Congratulations to our own Laurie Norton Moffett, director and CEO of the Norman Rockwell Museum. Rockwell scholar and author Laurie now adds a very impressive credential to her resume: election in May 2012 to the Connecticut College Board of Trustees (for those of you who read the class notes but not all of the magazine articles). You rock, Laurie!!

1979 REUNION 5/30-6/1, 2014
Correspondents: Vicki Chesler, vchesler@earthlink.net, Sue Auges
THE FIRST JOB John D. Cohen '83 P'17 held after graduation was as an agent for the federal Naval Investigative Service in Los Angeles. His work brought him into regular contact with local police, and he soon discovered he was good at chasing violent criminals and drug traffickers and working undercover, he told students on campus in November.

"I wouldn't draw any conclusions from that, by the way, about my time spent at Conn," he added dryly, "I just was good at it for some reason."

Cohen turned out to be so good at sniffing out criminals and threats to public safety that he's made a far-ranging career out of it. A much-sought-after expert on terror and other security issues since the 9/11 attacks, he's advised presidents, governors, cabinet secretaries and other officials from both political parties. He currently serves as principal deputy undersecretary for intelligence and analysis and counterterrorism coordinator at the Department of Homeland Security. He leads the office because the undersecretary position is vacant.

Cohen was on campus last November as part of the Sundays with Alumni series of panel discussions. Sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations, they're designed to provide students career advice and opportunities to network with professionals in particular fields.

As Cohen explained, his current responsibilities include leading a team of approximately a thousand security analysts and other professionals. Their job: blend together mountains of information from law enforcement, the private sector, several federal agencies and other sources to create useful intelligence for Homeland Security operations at home and abroad.

The alumnus, who majored in history and minored in classical literature, said his liberal arts education proved to be a great preparation for his career, and he gave a recent example.

Prior to a meeting with a senior government official from Turkey, he said, he was given the standard blue binder of briefing materials provided by other government agencies. He felt he needed more to understand the psychology of the person he would be meeting with, however. So he went back and reread the history of Turkey's predecessor, the Ottoman Empire.

The extra backgrounding often proves more useful than anything in the binder, he said.

"That comes from my experience at Conn," he said. "It helps me understand the historical perspective that representatives from there may place on current events. It helps me understand the world from their perspective. That enables more effective dialogue."

— Ed Cohen
work, Army and law enforcement chaplaincy, and being with the family. My oldest, Owen, is about to go for his driver’s permit."

Meg Macri celebrated her 50th birthday with a tea for 50 women at the Boston Public Library. Camels in attendance included Amy Deols Boyle and Jane Bees, Candace Olsen, and Sally Jones. The class notes also mentioned the graduation. Another big event: a wedding website, www.jjandjonny.com. We could not be happier right now. The best year of our lives—our wedding, the honeymoon, having a baby (under the nom de beat “Mack”) for parties in the city and in the Hamptons, and Kauai and now live “happily ever after” in Jersey City. Jose and Kauai and now live “happily ever after” in Jersey City. Jose and Kauai and now live “happily ever after” in Jersey City. Jose and Kauai and now live “happily ever after” in Jersey City.

Celebrating the 50th birthday of Duncan Robertson ’85 were: Julia Wilson Fouk ’80, Abby Ehrlich ’80, Janice Berrill ’80, Nick Chandler ’80, Mark Longworth ’79, Chuck Mathews ’80, Richard Sachs ’80, Frank Diaz-Balart ’80, Jon Goldman’80 and Fred Reinhart.
expressing your desire to hear from your classmates while also saying that you would rather not submit news of yourselves, a predicament, yes? I suppose I could simply share some of my own midlife musings or create unsolicited entries, but why do that when I am certain that you are the holders of untapped news waiting to be shared?

1988

Correspondent: Nancy Bixner, 4099 McLaughlin Ave., Apt. B, Los Angeles, CA 90026, nbixner@yahoo.com

Janet Schoenfeld Johnson and husband, Ed, have been living in Neptune Beach, Fla., for the past 19 years. She is a criminal defense lawyer in Jacksonville and a commentator on CNN and HLN. Janet was especially busy during the Zimmerman trial, which she covered from Sanford, a city about two hours away. She and Ed recently returned from a visit to Portland and Eugene, Ore., where she attended law school (U. of Oregon) and received her J.D. in 1994.

If you are reading these notes, I imagine that you are pleasantly surprised to find an entry and relieved to be spared the heart-wrenching disappointment of no news. Over the years, I have received feedback from many of you. Many interests, not enough time!
You can create a legacy for the College at any age

- At 25, you can list the College as a partial beneficiary of your retirement plan. It's as easy as printing “Connecticut College” under “beneficiaries” on your plan's form and signing your name. Even a small percentage could make a difference.

- At 45, after providing for your family, you can name the College as a beneficiary of your estate. You don't have to be wealthy to include your alma mater in your will or trust.

- At 65, you can make a gift to the College that will provide guaranteed income for life. Amazing but true. Ask us how.

- Contact Ken Dolbashian, senior planned giving officer, at 860-439-2416 or kdolbash@conncoll.edu, or visit http://www.legacy.vg/conncoll.

Samantha McCracking '10, here with President Higdon, has named the College as a future beneficiary of her retirement plan, decades ahead of her retirement age.
GOVERNMENT MAJOR

Molly Hayward '10 never imagined that feminine products would become an integral part of her life’s work, but a class trip to Southeast Asia her first year in college set her on a unique path.

Hayward traveled to Vietnam and Cambodia on a funded two-week trip as part of an economics class focused on economic development in the Mekong River Delta. At the time, she planned to major in economics and hoped to enter a career in management or consulting. But witnessing what she describes as “the beauty and spirit of human beings amid intense poverty and psychosocial pain,” led her in a different direction.

The experience resulted in her founding Cora, a service that provides safe and healthy organic feminine products to women monthly by mail. Profits from each sale fund a month’s supply of sanitary pads or tampons, and 23 percent of girls drop out of school when they reach puberty because of the embarrassment associated with menstruation, she said. In the United States, women are sometimes exposed to chemical toxins and dangerous synthetics in conventional feminine products, which can cause major reproductive issues, she said. They also lack convenient access to organic options, she said.

Through the Cora website, women can order up to 30 products per month for $28. The products come in a box that also includes natural health and beauty products. When the box is shipped, a month’s supply of sustainable sanitary pads is sent to a girl in India. The company works with Village Volunteers, a Seattle-based nonprofit that supports the country’s rural villages.

Hayward said Cora is also looking to expand into Kenya. As of last fall, the company, based in Philadelphia, consisted of herself and two employees.

—Josh Anusewicz
Correspondent: Katie Stephensohn, 54 Rope Ferry Road, Unit 138d, Waterford, CT 06385, kste78@hotmail.com

2000
Correspondents: John Battista, 5255 Skillman Ave., Apt. 2C, Woolsite, NY 11377, jgbah@hotmail.com; Jordan Gustafson, jordan6@gmail.com

Last May, Christopher Portante was sworn in to a four-year term as a judge in Delaware’s Justice of the Peace Court following his nomination by Gov. Jack Markell and confirmation by the state Senate. The JP Court is the state’s entry-level court, through which the great majority of all criminal cases pass. The court also has limited civil jurisdiction. Prior to joining the bench, Chris most recently worked for Delaware’s secretary of state. He lives with his wife, Rebecca Byrd, in Wilmington.

2001
Correspondents: John Battista, 5255 Skillman Ave., Apt. 2C, Woolsite, NY 11377, jgbah@hotmail.com; Jordan Gustafson, jordan6@gmail.com


2004
Correspondent: Kelly McCall Lane, mcall.kelly@gmail.com

2001
Correspondents: Katie Mclaine, kmclaine@gmail.com; Melissa Minehan, 7533 Buckingham Drive, Apt. 2E, Clayton, MO 63100, melissa.minehan@gmail.com, Lila Ynre, 418 Saint Asaph, Alexandria, VA 22314, Lyllyre@wilax.wustl.edu

2003
Correspondents: Melissa Higgins, 15 Clark St, #2, Boston, MA 02109, melissa_higgins13@hotmail.com; Leslie Kaika, 418 W 49th St, Apt. 4A, New York, NY 10019, lks19@hotmail.com

Maggie McDermott and Sean Hamill were married at Harkness Memorial State Park on Oct. 13, 2012. Camels in attendance were Katie Dusbordew Genova, Rebecca Reardon Gamester. Betsy Blazer, Lauren Mitchell Wilkinson, Sarah Brand ’04, Dan Haxhurst, P.J. Dee and Alex Gray.

2005
Correspondents: Cecily Mandl Macy, cecily.mandl@gmail.com; Stephanie Savage Flynn, stephaniesavageflynn@gmail.com

Hadley McCouglihin and Michael Stephens were married June 22 at the Chatham Bars Inn in Chatham, Mass. Camels in attendance included Jonathan Cahoon ’06, Jennifer Harris Dore, Nancy Ward ’73, Daria Fenton, Patricia Garland ’73, Amy Phean and Sarah Allen Chapin.

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

Cate MacGregor lives on Cape Cod and owns Cape Cod Coffee Roasters, which offers more than 40 high-quality specialty coffees, including an assortment of organic coffees and coffees from Rainforest Alliance-certified farms. Meryl Youches married Matthew Barofsky on Sept. 2, 2012, in Washington, D.C. Camels in attendance included bridesmaid Elise LaPointe, Erin Gordon, Amanda Mayer, Sacha Schwimmer (transfer), Sara Seeley, Maria Fraire, Alessia Colia, Jessica Dominitz ’07, Meredith Miller Thompson, Sarah Whittington and Laurinda Wong.

2007
Correspondent: Chris Reilly, christopher.thomas.reilly@gmail.com

Megan Glendon and Art Dillho were married in Palo Alto, Calif., on Aug. 17. Camels in attendance included Megan McCarthy, Julia Jacobson ’06, Sarah Felch, Kately Nelson ’06 and Elaine Weisman. The couple then honeymooned in Slovenia and Croatia and will eventually settle in the San Francisco Bay Area.

2008
Correspondent: Sally Poesdregant McCance, sally.mccance@gmail.com

Nikita Carr and Nicole Porter are second-year law students at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville. Last summer, the two participated in the study abroad program in Clermont-Ferrand, France, taking classes in counterterrorism, franchise law, French law and European Union law. They had both studied abroad while students at CC. Nikita studied in China, and Nicole studied in Vietnam through SABA Vietnam 2007 with Professors Peppard and Frasure. “We both thought that this would be a nice update, as we have Camel Pride all over the world!” Mandy Barrett married

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

Nikita Carr ’08 (left) and Nicole Porter ’08 in Marseille, France, last summer. They participated in a study abroad program in Clermont-Ferrand.

Camels who work at the New England Aquarium (from left): Kim McCabe ’07, summer intern Zoë Davis ’16, Janan Evans-Wilten ’11, volunteer Becca Cope ’11, Hannah Pickard (Shinson) ’04 and Johanna Blass ’99

2009
Reunion
5/30-6/1, 2014

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

Dena Weinstein Peyster and Byron Kassel were married on Aug. 17. Other 2009 Camels in attendance included Catherine Linberg, Kelsey Robertson, Gili Ben-Yosef, Alex Day, Harris Rosenheim, Tamara Rosenkranz, Rebecca Saxon, Maddie Thomson and Allison Bell.

2010
Correspondents: Eric Osborn, eostorn@conncoll.edu; Grace Champian Astrow, 12216 Spur Lane, Rockville, VA 22314; gna1229@juno.com, ccnotes10@gmail.com

Upon receiving her M.A. in Social Studies Education from Columbia U. in October 2011, Devon Butler moved to Prague, Czech Republic, where she taught English for a year and a half. Devon was fortunate enough to travel all over Europe and was even able to meet up with fellow Camel alumni in different cities! Devon recently moved to Boston, where she is working as a GED teacher at a nonprofit organization for at-risk and homeless youth.

Brian Sager opened his own Nantucket, Mass.-based photography business. He shoots weddings and works for A Magazine. He lives on the island most of the year and travels or takes photo classes during the winter months. He still finds time to...
surf, sail and meet up with alums who frequent the island.

Samantha McCracken left her job at CC to work in Boston as director of Boston Ballet’s Summer Residential Dance Program. She has been WWF/USG (World Wildlife Fund) and backpacking around Argentina for four months and is completely loving life!

In addition to her day job as senior communications associate at Catholics for Choice, Claire Gould serves as communications director for the Women’s Information Network, a pro-choice, Democratic women’s network based in Washington, D.C.

Charles Cochran recently moved to New York and works at Milltronics NYC.

After another eventful year in New Orleans, Erin Brady has graduated from Teachers College, Columbia University, with a master’s in education leadership.

2011 Correspondent: Rachel Jacobsen, rjacobse@alumni.conncoll.edu

2012 Correspondent: Anaoua Padil, Flat 8 & 37 Cheltenham Road, London W10 5LX England, apadil@alumni.conncoll.edu

2013 Correspondent: Class Notes Editor, CC, Magazine, 270 Mohagen Ave., New London, CT 06320, ccanug@conncoll.edu

OBITUARIES

Elizabeth “Bette” Andrews
York ’36 of End, Okla., died July 26. A sociology major, Bette worked as a Rockwell tester and later as a receptionist at the T.A.D. Jones Co. in New Haven, Conn. She also volunteered at New Haven Hospital, Yale-New Haven Hospital. Bette was predeceased by her husband, Leslie York, and her sister, Emise Brook ’36. She is survived by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Gabrielle Nosworthy Morris ’5B of Berkeley, Calif., died April 28. Her husband, William, and two sons; and seven grandchildren.

Sarah Nugent ’10 and Andy Irwin ’10 at the Eastfjords of Iceland during a trip to the country last June.

Carroll Russell Fay ’48 of Westminster, Mass., died July 26. A classics major, Fay was a teacher and a devoted supporter of education, serving on the board of trustees at Cape Cod Academy and as a trustee of the Osterveil Village Library. She was predeceased by her former husband, Gilbert E. Chase. Fay is survived by her son, Lawrence, her daughter, two stepchildren, and 12 grandchildren.

Carroll Russell Fay ’48 of Memphis, Tenn., died July 30. Carroll studied home economics during her time at the College. She was a member of various clubs, including the National Society of Colonial Dames of America and the Memphis Garden Club. Carroll’s dedication to gardening won her the Memphis Garden Club’s highest honor, the Norfleet Trophy, in 1983. She was predeceased by her husband, William Fay. Carroll is survived by her daughter; her son; and three grandchildren.

Shirley Littlefield ’48 of Scarborough, Maine, died on Sept. 4. A chemistry major, Shirley was an advocate for the environment whose hobbies included sewing, tennis, cooking, mountain climbing, skiing, and swimming. She was predeceased by her son and brother. Shirley is survived by her daughter; her son; her sister; her granddaughter; her grandson; and two great-grandchildren.

Mary A. Williams ’48 of Akron, Ohio, died March 14, 2007. A mathematics major, Mary actively participated in the Junior League of Akron, Diggers and Women’s Garden Club and St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. She was predeceased by her husband, R. Evan Williams. Mary is survived by her three children.

Dorothy “Sunny” Spryfield ’49 of Hilton Head Island, S.C., died Aug. 2. A sociology major, Sunny went on to receive her master’s in social work from Simmons College. After a career in medical and adoption social work, she worked as a docent in several museums and established a museum seminar program with Boston College’s Institute for Learning in Retirement. Sunny is survived by her husband, Dr. James Bernard Field; her brother; her son; three daughters; and four grandchildren.

Barbara “Bobbie” Cook Germer ’50 of Channel Islands, N.Y., died Aug. 29. Bobbie majored in Hispanic studies at the College and went on to graduate from the Berkeley Secretarial School. She worked in New York City for NBC and CBS. Bobbie was predeceased by her son. She is survived by her husband, Philip Germer, her son, two daughters; and six grandchildren.

Margaret “Peg” MacDermid Davis ’50 of Storrs, Conn., died Oct. 10. A government major, Peg went on to earn her master’s in political science from Penn. She also volunteered for the College as a class treasurer and class agent. Peg is survived by her husband, J. Ridgway Davis. Two sons; and seven grandchildren.

Gabrielle Nosworthy Morris ’50 of Berkeley, Calif., died April 1983. She was predeceased by her husband, William Fay. Carroll is survived by her daughter; her son; and three grandchildren.
24. An economics major, Gabrielle worked for more than 30 years chronicling California’s government and philanthropy at the Regional Oral History Office of the U. of California. Berkeley, collaborating with national and local leaders. She also volunteered as a class agent for the College. She is survived by her husband, Frank; her daughter, two sons; and two grandchildren.

Virginia “Ginny” Callaghan Miller ‘51 of Cohasset, Mass., died Aug. 13. A economics major; Ginny worked for a number of years with Time-Life magazines. She also worked for several years as the secretary to Cohutt Bay Shores and was active in the Friends of Cohutt Library. Ginny volunteered as a class agent and reunion committee member for the College. She enjoyed knitting, needlework, and voluntarism. She is survived by her husband, Robert C. Miller; two daughters, her son; nieces; grandchildren; three nieces, and two nephews.

Elizabeth “Betsy” A. Gosselin ‘52 of Boston died Sept. 26. During her time at the College, Betsy studied information systems. After graduating, she became a systems analyst for IBM in Boston. Betsy is survived by her brother, sisters, in-law, nieces, nephew, and two grandchildren.

Francine LaPonte Buchanan ‘52 of Darien, Conn., died Oct. 16. An English major, Francine worked for the National Security Agency in Washington, D.C. She was the owner and director of Sheepford Personnel Placement Services, as well as placement coordinator for the Darien Convenience Center and the Catherine Gibbs School in Norwalk, Conn. Francine was also the founder of the St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Darien and active in her community founding the “Cando” organization focused on cleaning and protecting the rivers and streams of Darien. She was predeceased by her husband, Warren Buchanan. She is survived by four children and six grandchildren.

Nancy Reave Blank ‘52 of Madison, N.J., died July 4. An economics major, Nancy went on to earn her teaching certificate from Keene University. She worked for more than 20 years at the Borough of Madison Library. In addition to volunteering, Nancy enjoyed reading and gardening. She is survived by husband Rick Milburn, and her daughter, Catherine.

Billie Fanjeay Staub ‘53 GP’05 of Niantic, Conn., died July 18. During her time at the College, Billie did not have a specific area of study. After college, she worked for 20 years as a correctional officer at York Correctional Institution in Niantic, where she helped improve safety and health requirements. Billie’s constant testimonials at nuclear hearings led to the facilitation of the access of potassium iodide pills to residents in the local area. She was predeceased by her husband, George Staub, and sister, Janet Kelly Gray ‘53. Billie is survived by her sisters, including Ruth E. King ’45; and grandchildren, including Nathaniel W. Staub ’05 and Grace Renee Lada ’16.

Catherine Ferguson Reasoner ‘53 of Bradenton, Fla., died July 22. During her time at the College, Catherine studied biology. She served on the boards of trustees of the Junior Science Museum, the South Florida Museum and the Manatee County Agriculture Museum. Catherine was predeceased by her husband, Egbert Samuel Reasoner, and her cousin, Virginia Ferguson Leach ’49. She is survived by her two sons, her daughter, her brother, and her sister, Allis Ferguson Edelman ’50.

Nancy H. Camp ‘53 of Southbury, Conn., Aug. 8. A mathematics major, Nancy received her master’s in business administration from the Wharton School. She taught middle-school mathematics for 25 years at The Potomac School in McLean, Va. Nancy volunteered as class agent chair and a reunion committee member for the College. For her dedication to the College, she received the Alumni Tribute Award in 1986. She is survived by her sister; two nieces; and two nephews, including Timothy Niedermann ’16.

Barbara Perdue Russell ‘53 of Niantic, Mass., died Sept. 15. Barbara, an art major, worked as a librarian for 15 years at St. Marks School in Southborough, Mass. She was predeceased by her son; Barbara is survived by her husband, Donald Russell; two sons, two stepchildren; six grandchildren; and her sister, Janet D. Peterson ’53.

Barbara McGregor ‘53 of Haverhill, Mass., died Sept. 3. After graduating from the College, Barbara worked in the legal department of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York until she was married. She was committed to her husband, sister, wife, mother, grandmother and aunt. She is survived by her brother; four daughters; four grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Gretchen “Gus” Steffke St. John ’57 of Chapel Hill, N.C., died Aug. 23. A history major, Gus was president of the Chapel Hill Garden Club. She was a board member for the Orange County Historical Society and a member of the Chapel Hill Historical Society. Gus is survived by her husband, Arthur St. John; two sons; her daughter; three grandchildren; and her sister.

Deborah Higgins Schlereth ’61 of Quucketown, Pa., died Aug. 19. An English major, Deborah is remembered for her ability to memorize and recite many literary works. In addition to her passion for English literature, she enjoyed gourmet cooking and animals. Deborah was predeceased by her mother, Evelyn Carlough Higgins ’33, and her aunt, Emory Carlough Roehrs ’37. She is survived by her two sons; her granddaughter; and her brother.

Pamela Cushing Hulsizer ‘66 of Short Hills, N.J., died Aug. 18. An art major; Pamela worked for Citibank and American Express. She was also a member of the Short Hills Garden Club, where she served as the chairman of the Millburn-Short Hills Community Garden. For the College, Pamela volunteered as an alumni admissions representative. She is survived by her husband, Henry Hulsizer; her son; her stepdaughter; two sisters, including Cheryl Cushing Campbell ‘51; and two step-grandchildren.

Judith A. Kemp ’67 of Darien, Conn., died Aug. 31. A history major, Judith went on to earn her master’s in psychology from UCLA. Throughout her career, she worked in publishing and enjoyed volunteering, cooking, gardening and sailing. Judith is survived by her husband, Frank; her brother; her sister-in-law; and many nieces and nephews.

Linda Ruth Foster ’71 of Edina, Minn., died Aug. 17. An English major, Linda worked as a school administrator and a legal secretary. She enjoyed reading, walking, the arts and travel. For the College, Linda volunteered as an alumni admissions representative. She is survived by her husband, David M. Foster; her mother, two daughters, her granddaughter; three brothers; her sister; and many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Amy Zimmerman Reyny ’71 of Lynn, Mass., died Aug. 23. Amy was an American studies major at the College. She worked for over 20 years as a first-grade teacher at Center School and Mile Creek School in Old Lyme, and then as a substitute teacher and teacher’s aide for several years before retiring at 51. Amy also served on the board of the McCurdy-Salisbury Education Foundation. She was predeceased by her husband, Elbert Henry; her son; and her daughter. Amy is survived by her daughter; four sons, 16 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; two sisters; cousins, including Catherine Crow Pfeffer ’83; her aunt, Ann Henry Crow ’57 P’83; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Louise Davis Pittaway ‘76 of Stonington, Conn., died May 26. An English major, Louise worked for over 25 years as a curator at the Old Lighthouse Museum in Stonington. Her devotion for the arts was evident in her commitment to the Westernly Chorus, in which she sang second soprano for more than 40 years. Louise was also a member of the Arts’ Cooperative Gallery of Weston, R.I., and the Mystic Art Association. She is survived by her husband, Robert Pittaway.

Adela T. Sienkiewicz ’78 of Norwich, Conn., died May 2. An American studies major, Adela worked at the U.S. Submarine Base in Groton. She was an active participant at the St. Joseph Church as a communicant and a member of the rosary society. Adela is survived by her sister.

Charles “Chuck” H. Doersam ’79 of Fire Island, N.Y., died Sept. 16. An economics major, Chuck went on to run his own construction business. He was an avid lover of photography and was rarely seen without his camera. For over 30 years, Chuck also volunteered as a firefighter. He is survived by his wife, Jeannie Ellis; his son, his mother and father; his brother; and his sister, Donna Doersam ’80.

Jeanette Marie Garneau ’80 of Nantucket, Mass., died Sept. 13. Jeanette was a government major at the College. She founded and operated her own public relations firm, Access Marketing Group, and served on the Nantucket School Committee for six years. Jeanette is survived by her daughter; her mother; her husband’s mother; her father; her father’s wife; her sister; her brother-in-law; and the long-term significant other.

Alison Gray ’98 of Hartford, Conn., died Sept. 8. A psychology major, Alison was a member of Umiyo and Koiné at the College. She was a graduate student at the School of Social Work at the U. of Connecticut. Alison is survived by her mother; her father; her stepfather; her grandmother; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

“The College only recently learned of this death.”
Events in mirror are closer than they appear

R E U N I O N  I S  C O M I N G  !
M A Y  3 0 -  J U N E  1
r e v i s i t & r e d i s c o v e r

See who's planning on attending, let others know if you are: reunion.conncoll.edu