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Connecticut College

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The views expressed in this paper are solely those of the author.
Profiles in Courage
Features

18 The State of Health Care  Both doctors and patients need relief from the $3.3 trillion industry of health care.

22 Land Collective  David Rubin '85 designs landscapes that just might save the world.

28 Street-Level Democracy  As the 2018 midterm elections come and go, Mara Suttmann-Lea will continue researching poll workers.

32 Profiles in Courage  Six disruptors making history from the ground up. Portraits by Miles Ladin '90.

38 Heroes  Tim Stevens '04 explores the history of diversity at Marvel and DC Comics.

Departments

3 Notebook  CC Magazine wins gold, stop sucking on straws, antibiotic-resistant bacteria

16 Athletics Update  The goalkeeper

41 Class Notes  In search of happiness by Dominic Lentini '18

59 Connections Corner  Lera Shynkarova '20 is on a quest

64 Full Stop  Harpsichords
In August, after an unprecedented year in which we received over 6,400 applications, Connecticut College welcomed 542 first-year and transfer students to campus. The Class of 2022 is one of the largest, most talented, and most diverse classes we have ever admitted.

One of the things that is drawing students to Conn is Connections, our reinvention of the liberal arts. In a recent survey of the Class of 2022, 93 percent said Connections was the main reason they decided to enroll. Connections takes what has always been great about an education at Connecticut College and makes it even greater, by putting all the elements together in new ways. It intentionally combines a student’s academic major with interdisciplinary study, a relevant internship, a world language, and meaningful engagement in the local community and around the globe. The result is uniquely integrated pathways that prepare students to have an even greater impact in an increasingly interconnected world. We see it as another fulfillment of the College’s mission of putting the liberal arts into action.

Connections is also fulfilling one of the main priorities of our strategic plan, Building on Strength: to elevate the excellence and distinction of this College. Our goal is to become a recognized leader in integrative education, and it is happening. Over the past year, we have received more and more inquiries from institutions around the world hoping to learn about our pathways approach. In June, Sarah Queen, professor of history, was invited to Copenhagen to discuss our new pathway in Global Capitalism at a conference organized by the Aspen Institute’s Business and Society Program. After it was over, Aspen’s president Judith Samuelson published an essay in which she wrote that Professor Queen had helped her “reconsider the question that animates her own work at the Institute: How do we resolve the values taught in the finance classroom with the values of the humanities, and the need to put the health of society back at the center of business decision-making?” That question, in different ways, resonates through all the stories in this issue. It informs, for example, the empathy-driven design process that award-winning landscape architect David Rubin ‘85 uses to revitalize public spaces around the world.

“Life is what happens between buildings,” Rubin says, so, for him, success means spaces that encourage people to engage with one another.

The health of society is a concern that animates many of the other figures featured in these pages, alumnii and alumni who through their work have changed lives. Among the portraits included here, you will find those who have served on presidential commissions, organized women’s marches, or conducted war crime tribunals at The Hague, as did Patricia McGowan Wald ’48, who appears on our cover.

All the stories speak to the continuing relevance of College’s mission in the world, by showing us what it means to put an education into action.

Katherine Bergeron
Solid Gold

CC Magazine has won three 2018 Circle of Excellence awards from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

CASE’s international awards program honors outstanding work in advancement services, alumni relations, communications, fundraising and marketing at colleges, universities, independent schools and affiliated nonprofits.

Two CC Magazine covers were honored with design awards. “Birth of the Cool,” the Summer 2017 issue, earned the gold award, while “The Dance,” the Winter 2017 issue, was honored with a silver award. CC Magazine was also awarded a silver for magazine redesign.

CC Magazine covers a diverse range of stories that profile the human condition as seen through the eyes of the members of the College community. It reports on the intellectual, cultural and social life on campus, as well as the impact of alumni in business, politics, art, education and social justice around the world.

The “Birth of the Cool” cover features a painting of a man in a pink suit on a pink background by the late artist and emeritus professor Barkley L. Hendricks, who passed away during the production of the issue. Affectionately known as “the pink cover,” it’s a tribute to Hendricks, whose work gave voice to black Americans and black American culture. The cover was also recognized in the fall issue of Pages Magazine as the “Cool Cover.”

“The Dance” features a striking photograph of a visiting artist, dancer Ya’ara Moses, taken by photographer Lois Greenfield, who is well known for her approach to photographing the human form in motion.
Exit West

We are all migrants through time, bestselling author Mohsin Hamid told a packed audience at the annual One Book One Region event at Conn this fall.

"A human life is a life that is lived through a sequence of moments. Each moment, once it has passed, is gone, and it’s a place we can never return to. That creates a sense of sorrow," the Exit West author said.

By recognizing the feelings of sadness and sorrow that come from our own sense of loss—of childhood, of the way things were, of the sights and sounds we can no longer experience—we, as humans, can better empathize with the plight of the 68 million people displaced in the world today, Hamid said.

Exit West, Hamid’s highly acclaimed fourth novel, explores various themes of migration as it follows the fictional Saeed and Nadia who flee a country on the brink of civil war and journey through Europe and North America. The novel was a finalist for the Kirkus Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award, and was named one of the best books of 2017 by The New York Times Book Review.

Throughout the hour-long discussion moderated by Assistant Professor of English Marie Ostby, Hamid highlighted the commonalities between people across the world.

“One thing that characterizes the human experience is that everything changes," he said.

"Yet we are falling victim to an illusion of permanence... How can we re-engage with transience in a way that acknowledges it is a frightening and sad situation, but also potentially beautiful and hopeful at the same time?"

It’s important for the world to envision a future that is both plausible and desirable, he said, arguing that it’s implausible to expect humans—who have been moving around the world since they evolved—to stay in one place, and undesirable to maintain geographical inequality.

“There’s this idea that the place where you are born, that inequality must be maintained at all cost—the child born in Mogadishu at war should live and die in that place because that is their lot, while the child born in Milan should get to live in a peaceful place. We have to challenge that inequality," he said.

Thousands of people in the greater New London region read Exit West as part of the One Book One Region of Eastern Connecticut initiative, including all Connecticut College first-year students.
The Sundance Institute

Associate Professor of Theater Ken Prestininzi directed “Sanctuary City” at the second annual Sundance Institute Theatre Lab, which took place in Morocco this past summer.

At the international new-play development lab, Prestininzi worked with Martyna Majok, the Polish-born playwright who was awarded the 2018 Pulitzer Prize in Drama for her play “Cost of Living.”

“It was great to work at such a high artistic and professional level with Martyna. Her play demanded my best work and called out the best from the other artists,” said Prestininzi, who taught Majok playwriting at the Yale School of Drama.

“Sanctuary City” is called a “Cubist play about love(rs) and Dreamers set in pre-DACA America.”

According to The New York Times, the play “blends the personal and political in its depiction of a newly naturalized teenager who decides to marry her undocumented best friend so he can remain in the country.”

“It was an ideal situation. We focused on the play without any production or outside concerns, and then shared it with other artists who were also there creating work,” Prestininzi said.

The Sundance Institute Theatre Lab alternates locations each season, moving between the Sundance Resort in Utah, and a venue in Say It With Movement

The violence perpetrated by El Salvador’s MS-13 and 18th Street gangs has led to an exodus of Salvadorans, many of whom have fled to the U.S. to seek asylum, only to be turned away.

“At the same time, it’s a robust, super-active country with a lot of great people and great art,” Professor of Dance David Dorfman ’81 told The Day newspaper.

This past May, Dorfman, along with his modern-dance company David Dorfman Dance, traveled to San Salvador with Adam Schmidt, a New London resident who has been working in El Salvador with USAID, which supports the growth of safer and more prosperous Salvadoran communities. Schmidt is deputy mission director of USAID/El Salvador.

USAID has been striving to give kids safer places to gather and take part in healthy activities away from gang intimidation. Toward that end, the organization, with assistance from municipalities and community organizations, has established youth outreach centers to provide extracurricular options including music, dance and sports. And USAID supports efforts led by Glasswing International to offer after-school activities in schools.

Schmidt, a longtime friend of Dorfman, helped organize “Dilo con Movimiento” (“Say It With Movement”), a show that featured 50 dancers from the youth outreach centers and USAID-supported schools. David Dorfman and his company worked with the dancers for a week to produce the show, and Dorfman’s company also performed.

The May 26 performance, which was attended by nearly 500 people, took place in San Salvador’s Plaza Libertad, a known hotbed of gang activity. Some of those in attendance were visiting the park for the first time in years.

“In a place like El Salvador, where the gangs control territory, it’s really a challenge to ensure that you can retake public space, secure it and put on a presentation like this,” Schmidt told The Day.

The show featured a mix of hip-hop and other urban and traditional styles of dance performed to music ranging from Brahms’ “Hungarian Dance No. 5” to “All You Need Is Love.” A youth orchestra and several rappers also performed.

Dorfman said it was inspiring to watch the young artists push back against gang violence and raise the spirits of their community.

“I keep thinking of the term ‘heartwarming,’ but it just really was. Schmidt] was just so encouraging. He said, ‘You have no idea what this means for this population, for this city, for this country.’”

David Dorfman Dance took part in a similar humanitarian trip as part of the DanceMotion USA program in 2015 to Turkey, Armenia and Tajikistan.

“What we’re doing is we’re providing activities that might fill a void and create interest and create understanding through the body,” Dorfman told The Day.

“I call it kinetic diplomacy.”
Stop Sucking

They may be small, but plastic straws are a big problem.

Single-use plastic straws can’t be recycled (they slip through recycling machinery), they don’t biodegrade and many end up in the world’s oceans, where they pose significant health risks to sea life.

Americans use them to suck up more than 500 million drinks a day, according to some estimates. Anna Laprise ’20 and Avatar Simpson ’20 would like us to stop.

“It’s become something consumers do mindlessly,” said Laprise, a government major. “Except in cases where straws are necessary for medical reasons, we don’t really need them. It’s very easy to just not take the straw.”

After raising awareness about the national “Stop Sucking” campaign at Mystic Aquarium as part of a community project for the Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment, Laprise and Simpson began researching straw usage on campus. They found that the College’s three coffee shops used upwards of 100,000 plastic straws a year.

Laprise and Simpson approached the Student Government Association with a proposal to replace single-use plastic straws, which cost approximately a half cent each, with biodegradable paper straws, which cost approximately two cents. SGA voted to fund the initiative through the Sustainable Projects Fund.

“Eliminating plastic straws was a very simple, relatively cheap action that greatly increases Conn’s sustainability,” said Simpson, an environmental studies major.

Laprise and Simpson are also raising awareness on campus and in the community about other ways to cut down on disposable straw use. They suggest purchasing a reusable straw made of silicone, metal or bamboo, for example, or carrying one’s own reusable tumbler or mug.

“Walking around campus, it’s not hard to carry a coffee cup without a lid or a straw. We don’t need sippy cups,” Laprise said.
Chhaupadi

“You try to lock me up in huts, in barns, near animals. No more.”

This is the message teenage girls in rural Nepal are now using to stand up to their families and break a deeply entrenched tradition of menstrual exile, thanks to the work of Amiansu Khanal '20.

With a $10,000 Davis Projects for Peace grant, Khanal spent the summer in Jumla and Palpa, Nepal, working to end chhaupadi, the practice of banishing girls and women to huts and cattle sheds during their periods.

“We are not allowed to enter the house, the kitchen or even gain access to the bathroom,” Khanal said.

“This practice not only disempowers women, but also puts their hygiene, and at times, their lives, in danger.”

Chhaupadi was outlawed by the Supreme Court of Nepal in 2005, and a 2017 law makes the practice punishable with a fine and up to three months in jail. Yet the tradition is still widely practiced in western Nepal.

Khanal, whose family is from Nepal and who speaks fluent Nepali, has seen the impact firsthand. She founded ShEmpowered to teach girls and women about their legal rights and dignified menstruation, to provide menstrual products to schools, and to partner with local law enforcement agencies to help end menstrual exile.

To reach as many girls as possible, Khanal traveled to regional high schools in two rural areas of western Nepal and taught classes on the science of menstruation, the proper use of sanitary products and the laws related to chhaupadi.

One of her last meetings was with representatives from the district police headquarters, who surprised her by promising to counsel parents on the legal ramifications of forcing their daughters to participate in chhaupadi, and to take legal action if the problem persisted. Still, police were skeptical that anyone would take them up on the offer.

“My favorite moment of the summer was the day I brought the affected girls to the police station, and they had a long conversation with the head policewoman. I remember a shy girl called Sushmita bursting into tears toward the end because she was overjoyed with the policewoman’s support,” Khanal remembered.
A Post-Antibiotic World

We are smarter than bacteria

BACTERIA KILL.

Each year in the U.S., antibiotic-resistant bacteria infect more than 2 million people, and at least 23,000 die as a result of these infections. And many more patients die from conditions complicated by antibiotic-resistant infections, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The culprits range from bacteria—including methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and Clostridium difficile (C. difficile), which escape hospitals and invade local gyms, schools and playgrounds—to the pathogens labeled as “priority one critical” by the World Health Organization: Acinetobacter baumannii, Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Enterobacteriaceae.

In fact, some scientists currently argue that we’re quickly approaching a post-antibiotic world where even simple surgeries risk infections that cannot be quashed by the big-gun antibiotics methicillin or vancomycin. Because bacteria are constantly evolving to fight antibiotics as well as our body’s own immune system, the worry becomes that a time will come where everyday infections begin to kill us.

The good news, says Tanya Schneider, associate professor of chemistry, is that “we are smarter than bacteria.”

Schneider is a chemist who, unlike a microbiologist who looks at different bacteria, focuses on the problem at the molecular level.

“I’m really looking at the molecular details, the molecules made by bacteria,” Schneider says.

Schneider researches quorum-sensing molecules—the way in which bacteria communicate by producing small molecules in their local environment—specifically Pseudomonas aeruginosa, a Gram-negative problematic human pathogen. This pathogen (Conn does not have it in its labs) is particularly problematic in immunocompromised people, patients with cancer, severe burns or AIDS. The pathogen is extremely dangerous for patients with cystic fibrosis.

“I was motivated in part to study this organism because it colonizes lungs of cystic fibrosis patients, and I have family friends whose son died of cystic fibrosis,” Schneider says.

“[The pathogen is] difficult to get rid of, but doesn’t necessarily impact the general population. But in a hospital setting this can be termed a superbug.”

Antibiotics are an effective way to kill bacteria. But this usage also promotes the selective pressure on the bacterial community to evolve into what are called superbugs. Antibiotic resistance, of course, arises from overprescription and incorrect usage and from an abundance of antibiotics creeping into our food supply.

Superbugs, Schneider says, develop because bacteria grow and divide so quickly. Eventually, if one colony of bacteria isn’t killed by an antibiotic that colony will grow, divide and survive, forming a resistance to antibiotics.

During this process, bacteria stave off death by adapting. To inhibit antibiotic resistance, scientists are working toward pharmaceuticals that wound—rather than kill—bacteria, leaving the body’s own immune system to fight off the wounded bug. Not faced with obliviation, bacteria will not be threatened to the point where they must fight to survive. Part of Schneider’s research is to track ways to inhibit growth of bacteria rather than kill them.

“As a bacterial colony grows and produces more signaling molecules, other neighboring bacteria detect their presence. The goal is to increase understanding of bacterial enzymes that enable the production of the signaling molecules in order to inhibit their activity,” Schneider says.

“We’re interested in what we might call bacteriostatic, something that slows down or minimizes bacteria’s ability to grow, rather than bacteriocidal, which is killing them.”
NEW LONDON CITY PLANNER
Sybil Tetteh had a challenge for the students in Professor Bill Pollack’s Architectural Design II course: Design a building that could revitalize Hodges Square, a mixed residential and commercial area where I-95 cuts the city in half.

After talking to local business owners, studying the area and considering various challenges, Jacob Brill-Weil ’20 wondered how he could bring together the Connecticut College and United States Coast Guard Academy students to the north and the local residents to the south.

His answer: food. But not just any food. Brill-Weil designed a premium food court that would offer a variety of options at affordable prices, as well as space for local vendors and community displays.

“I wanted to avoid creating something that could become a stepping-stone for gentrification, and instead be something that connected existing communities,” Brill-Weil said.

Tetteh was impressed with Brill-Weil’s proposal, as well as the designs of his classmates, which included a boutique hotel, a community garden greenhouse and an arts center.

“Some of the ideas I hadn’t thought of before and I was like, ‘Wow,’” Tetteh said. “The students were really connected and really grounded in terms of practicality. The spectrum of design speaks to what could happen with the right developers in place.”

The innovative, hands-on project is part of a new Career Informed Learning initiative, a project-based learning approach to education that brings real-life work challenges into the classroom.

“The students benefit from a sustained interaction with a career expert, who is someone at the top of her/his field,” said Noel Garrett, dean of academic support and director of the College’s Academic Resource Center. “This behind-the-scenes examination of how a business works, or how professionals solve real-world challenges, is unique to Connecticut College.”

At the heart of this initiative is a unique collaboration that combines the Academic Resource Center’s focus on developing powerful learning skills with the applied learning opportunities offered by alumni identified through the College’s Office of Career and Professional Development. The office, which was recognized by the Princeton Review as one of the top 20 programs in North America, coordinates the logistics of putting students in touch with alumni and parents who are industry leaders.

“Career Informed Learning enables all students at the College to have the opportunity to work within teams to strengthen their career-related skills and see the impact of their work, which makes them more competitive in the marketplace for internships and full-time jobs,” said Persephone L. Hall, the Hale Family Director of Career and Professional Development.

After completing Pollack’s course this past spring, Emily Hesse ’19 spent the summer interning with an architecture firm.

“I got to see how the creative design process I learned about this past year is put into professional practice,” she said. “Whether I choose to pursue architecture post-graduation or not, learning how to work with a client to develop a concept is an invaluable lesson.”
Science in the Trenches

Studying the language of life

ISIS TORRES NUÑEZ ’20 thinks microbes get a bad rap.

“There’s a common misconception that all microbes are harmful, but some are crucial for our survival and don’t cause maladies,” explained Torres Nuñez, a biochemistry, cellular and molecular biology major.

“We have microbes in our bodies that promote health and nutrition, and we also have microbes in our ecosystems that help with nutrient cycling. One of those nutrients is nitrogen, which is what our lab focuses on.”

Torres Nuñez has spent the past two summers in Conn’s Hale Laboratory examining the effects of drought on microbes, and the broader implications of those effects on different ecosystems. Her funded work is part of Connecticut College’s summer science research program, and she’ll also be traveling to Germany with Professor of Biology Anne Bernhard to deliver a presentation at the upcoming International Society for Microbial Ecology symposium.

Jean C. Tempel ’65 Professor of Chemistry Marc Zimmer is one of the faculty members leading a research project this summer. He emphasized the importance of the program for students looking to enhance their research skills and lay an early foundation they can build on for graduate school, or for a career in science or medicine.

“Science is like a language,” Zimmer said. “Our language students go abroad to immerse themselves in foreign languages, and to really learn the practice of science, our students have to immerse themselves in science, doing research five days a week for at least eight weeks.”

The summer program, which provides a stipend and campus housing, offers an early opportunity for students to work closely with faculty and potentially get their research published. Justin Nwafor ’21, pursuing a major in chemistry, is working on two separate projects this summer. The first, under the guidance of Zimmer, involves using computational chemistry to aid in the study of green fluorescent protein structures. The second, in collaboration with Margaret W. Kelly Professor of Chemistry Stanton Ching, focuses on finding innovative water treatment methods.

“We’re working with manganese oxides, because they’ve been shown to be fairly effective at degrading materials that are resistant to regular water treatment methods, but they’re also nontoxic and cost-effective,” Nwafor said.

Ching said he was impressed by the dedication and talent of Nwafor and the other students in the summer program, and that their exposure to practical lab and field experience will serve them well in school and their careers moving forward.

“The summer research experience is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn what it’s like to do science in the trenches,” Ching said. “They have to be able to work independently, think on their own, learn to use new equipment, design experiments, and assess results, all in the context of studying a system that has never been studied before.”
In Exile

Human rights scholar and advocate for peace
BINALAKSHMI NEPRAM was attending a friend’s wedding one afternoon last March in northeast India when she received an alarming text message from her mother. Paramilitary forces had entered her parents’ house, demanding Nepram’s whereabouts, but offering neither a warrant nor any explanation.

“My mother obviously knew something was very wrong, so she told me to stay where I was and not come home that night,” Nepram recalled. “The next morning, I took the first flight to New Delhi before I could be detained at the airport, and I met with my lawyers to file a protection plea with the Supreme Court.”

For the past decade, Nepram has been a leading humanitarian and peace advocate in her home state of Manipur and northeast India more broadly. Her advocacy and research has promoted gender equality, women’s empowerment and disarmament efforts in a country that faces widespread gun violence and sexual assault. That work has made her a target.

Now, thanks to the Scholar Rescue Fund, an initiative sponsored by the Institute of International Education, Nepram is spending the year at Conn conducting research on race, gender and arms proliferation, writing two books and working with students exploring gender studies. Connecticut College is one of the member institutions that has entered into a partnership that hosts scholars who face threats in their home countries.

To help protect the growing number of scholars and academics around the world whose lives and livelihoods are at risk, Connecticut College also joined with nearly a dozen other colleges and universities as a founding member of the New University in Exile Consortium, established by The New School for Social Research.

Nepram’s willingness to confront a system that has fueled perpetual discord for more than half a century has simultaneously generated hostility from the government as well as the various factions within a volatile independence movement. That separatist conflict and state of martial law has placed Nepram, her colleagues and her fellow citizens of northeast India in the crossfire between government forces and insurgent retaliation.

“The government has tried to paint me as a rebel,” Nepram said. “But for me, it’s about finding solutions, not carrying the agenda of any one side.”

A boiling point was reached in March of last year after a 19-year-old man was shot dead in Manipur by the son of a powerful politician during a road rage altercation. The government swept the incident under the rug, and Nepram, with the help of a lawyer, fought for the victim’s family.

When she filed a lawsuit in May 2017 against the government of Manipur for repeated intimidation of the victim’s parents, Nepram’s lawyers advised her to leave India immediately. Within 24 hours, Nepram had packed what she could into a red suitcase and boarded a flight to the U.S. She hasn’t been home since.

“The reason I came here is because I’m not ready to die...,” Nepram explained. “It was really tough. I had to leave everything behind.”

Today, a dozen armed security agents guard her parents’ home, and Nepram has been granted lifetime protection by the Supreme Court of India, providing her a security detail whenever she is in her home country.

Nepram’s family is not unfamiliar with the consequences of the region’s bloodshed. In 1997, while returning home from Badminton practice, her teenaged niece was killed when she stepped on a bomb laid by insurgents that had been intended for politicians. This personal tragedy was a pivotal event in motivating what has become Nepram’s life work as a human rights and peace advocate.

Nepram has been recognized internationally with a variety of prestigious peace awards for her grassroots work and the organizations she has founded, including the Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network and the Control Arms Foundation of India. Despite numerous invitations to run for political office, she feels she can be more effective on the outside of the system, and doesn’t intend to slow down her activism anytime soon.

“For me, every day is precious, and I take every day as a day that will never come back,” Nepram said. “It’s such a wonderful luxury to be on this beautiful campus for a year with the faculty and students and the warmth I’ve been shown here. The peace I get from being here is immense.”

Nepram was recently awarded the prestigious 2018 Anna Politkovskaya Award. To learn more, listen to www.conncoll.edu/at-a-glance/meet-our-president/thinkdolead/
Footballer

Keeper AJ Marcucci '21 has conceded only one goal in eight matches for the undefeated men's soccer team, ranked 18th in the nation, as of Oct 1. The sophomore goalie from West Chester, PA, has recorded 32 saves for a save percentage of 97%. For more information about Conn athletics go to: camelathletics.com
The State of Health Care

Our current health care system, with its $3.3 trillion price tag, has left both patients and providers demanding better.

By Amy Martin
The moment a patient interacts with a doctor can make or break the health care experience.

"Most people, when they come to see us, want a doctor who will hear them, see them, listen to them, and incorporate what they see and hear and take seriously the complaint or issue," says Dr. Michael Wagner '81, the chief physician executive at Wellforce health system in Massachusetts.

When this scenario occurs, patient satisfaction is high. But unfortunately, in the initial meeting, there are many other transactions for the doctor to think about, including electronic records, federal requirements and regulatory compliance.

"The doc’s mind is reeling with all sorts of other things they have to remember to do," Wagner says.

Improving the patient-care experience—while at the same time reducing provider burnout—is Wagner’s primary mission at Wellforce, a system that includes nearly 3,000 physicians and four community hospitals, as well as Tufts Medical Center and Floating Hospital for Children, where Wagner served as president and CEO before joining Wellforce in May.

A few months into the job, Wagner’s enthusiastic about the task at hand. He has experience with nearly every aspect of the health care delivery system, and his nontraditional career path has kept him at the forefront of many of the biggest trends in an evolving industry. He’s confident he knows what needs to be fixed, and he has plenty of ideas about how to do it.

He also knows it won’t be easy.

HEALTH CARE IS unbelievably complex. “It’s the most complicated industry in the U.S.,” Wagner says.

A $3.3 trillion industry, health care accounts for 17.9 percent of the U.S. GDP, according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Additionally, advances in science and technology, an aging population, and increasingly complex patient cases continue to drive up costs. In 2016 alone, health care spending grew 4.3 percent from the previous year.

For hospitals, the cost pressures are immense. Staffing and procurement needs are exacerbated by thin profit margins that—due to complicated pricing structures and insurance formulas—often require a fair amount of guesswork.

“We don’t know when people are discharged how much we are going to be paid,” Wagner says.

“Even after we are paid, we don’t know if it’s right. It’s 2018, and we’re still going over the Medicaid cost report for 2006. A substantial portion of a hospital’s profit margin is predicated on cost reports that go back more than a decade.”

The complexities, rising costs and need for shared intellectual capital have driven once-independent hospitals to merge, creating umbrella health systems like Wellforce. Wagner was at the helm of Tufts Medical Center when the decision was made to come together with Circle Health (which included Lowell General Hospital) to create Wellforce.

The prospect of health systems displacing independent hospitals concerns some industry experts. However, providers believe patients receive a fuller spectrum of care because these systems, especially in cities like Boston, can attract world-class talent and increased resources. The argument is that it’s not about buildings but treating people.

“We wanted to be part of something bigger—to focus on putting patients at the center of care and figure out solutions that support our providers. We thought, ‘Let’s do it locally, where we can, and lower costs and get higher-quality and better care for the patient.’”

WAGNER NEVER PLANNED to become a doctor.

The last of nine children, he doesn’t come from what he calls a “medical family.” His father was a chemical engineer at Pfizer; his mother, Toni Wagner, was an associate professor of physical education at Conn. He grew up in Ledyard, Connecticut, just across the river from campus. By the time he was in high school, his parents were nearing retirement.

“One Friday afternoon, my dad sat me down and said, ‘Son, you are the last of nine,’” Wagner remembers. “Obviously, I’ve figured that out by now, Dad. But what I remember is he said, ‘We don’t have any more money, so your choices are Conn or UConn.’”

Wagner went to medical school at Georgetown, where his background in math and analytics led him to study clinical decision-making and clinical decision analysis. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Dartmouth Medical School, where he was named chief medical resident and discovered his interest in the administrative side of medicine.

He eventually joined Cove Health Care, a venture-capital-backed startup that was building hospitalist programs across the eastern U.S. Wagner was then recruited to become the chief executive officer of the hospitalist division of Dallas-based EmCare Inpatient Services.

Eventually, the extensive travel schedule took its toll, and he returned to Tufts, working his way from chief of internal medicine in 2008 to president and CEO in 2013.
PATIENTS TODAY ARE far more complicated than they were even just 10 years ago. More patients are living with multiple major medical issues—diabetes, heart disease, cancer, severe bodily trauma—and they are on more medications than ever before.

“Gone are the old days of see, take care, discharge,” Wagner says.

It’s an expensive problem. A mere 5 percent of patients—the most complicated cases—account for nearly 50 percent of all medical spending in the U.S., according to a 2012 study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

To better care for these patients and improve health care delivery overall, providers need to focus on holistic treatment and long-term outcomes for complicated cases, Wagner says. Sounds simple, but the current fee-for-service model, which pays physicians based on individual treatments, isn’t designed for that.

“The cost structure demands providers see more and more patients in a finite amount of time. How is one doctor really thinking about 1,500 to 2,000 patients?”

This “treadmill of patients” is also a leading cause of provider burnout. Wagner believes a key part of the solution will be reimagining primary care.

“Primary care has been seen as this necessary evil, when it’s actually driving an important enterprise,” Wagner says. “Primary care is the first impression a patient gets and what keeps a patient connected with the health system. [This provider] can be the one thinking about multiple issues.”

Wagner envisions a more proactive, team-centered environment where physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, care managers and medical assistants collaborate to think long term about the most complicated cases and to handle simple cases quickly and efficiently. But ultimately, Wagner believes the health care industry will have to move from a fee-for-service model to a global payment system to incentivize positive outcomes rather than individual services.

“Under the present system, if I reduce costs, the benefit goes to the insurance company. And that hasn’t resulted in lower premiums,” Wagner says.

“I believe strongly—and Wellforce believes strongly—that the world will move toward value, toward managing things globally to make smarter decisions for better outcomes.”

To illustrate, Wagner tells a story about a Wellforce patient, a child with Type 1 diabetes who wanted to go to summer camp. The child’s family couldn’t afford the camp, but care managers worked to make it possible for the child to attend in order to take advantage of the camp’s health benefits.

“We need to be able to think about this kind of thing from a total well-being perspective,” Wagner says. “A lot of times, it isn’t even a lot of money, but it can have a big impact on someone’s overall health.”

THE UNCERTAINTY SURROUNDING the future of the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”) is making many health systems around the country wary of changing models.

“Things are all back up in the air,” Wagner says. Massachusetts passed its own health care reform law in 2006, which has helped insulate the state from some of the uncertainty at the federal level. Providers here assume patients have insurance, and if they don’t, they are able to help patients acquire it.

In this environment, Wagner believes small, nimble systems like Wellforce can make significant changes. The health system has already increased the number of patients seeking care in community hospitals rather than in big-city hospitals with big-city prices. That can save thousands of dollars on a single procedure, and those savings add up quickly.

But other external factors threaten to hamper Wellforce’s maneuverability in the market. Wagner has been a vocal opponent of a proposed merger between Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Lahey Health and several other hospitals, arguing that it would leave the state with two mega providers that could raise prices and siphon patients with private insurance away from lower-cost providers. That would leave small community hospitals that serve a higher portion of Medicaid patients—like those within the Wellforce system—without the subsidies they rely on from commercial payments.

Massachusetts is also considering a ballot initiative that would limit the number of patients one nurse can care for in any hospital in the state. Proponents argue that overburdened nurses lead to poorer health outcomes. Opponents, including the Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association, argue that the patient caps are too rigid and costly and could put some hospitals out of business. It’s a highly contentious issue that contributed to a July 2017 nursing strike by more than 1,000 Tufts Medical Center nurses.

Despite the challenges to innovation throughout the industry, Wagner believes change is inevitable.

“People go into health care today for the same reason they did 50 years ago—you go into it because you care, you want to make a difference. As a society, we’ve made health care so cumbersome and difficult, it’s zapping the life and energy out of people. We need to keep [providers] excited.”
Land Collective

David Rubin '85 is designing socially conscious spaces that just might help save the world.

BY DOUG DANIELS
It’s fitting that David Rubin chose to open his landscape architecture and urban design studio half a mile from the birthplace of the American experiment.

Residents of, or visitors to, Philadelphia who spend time moving in and out of the spaces he and his team have designed can’t help but sense the powerful currents of history, revolution and rebirth that flow through them.

Rubin is the founder of David Rubin Land Collective. His firm specializes in revitalizing and reimagining public spaces around the world that adhere to the relatively new philosophies of social sustainability and empathy-driven design.

The underappreciated irony of city dwelling is that despite the close physical contact shared by residents of urban areas, people are often so habituated to the particular groove they’ve carved for themselves that they rarely have opportunities to mingle with their anonymous neighbors.

“For the first time in human history, more people live in cities than outside of them, which makes this a fascinating time to work in landscape within those contexts,” Rubin tells me one balmy summer afternoon, as the two of us sit in his modern studio.

“Buildings typically serve a very specific constituency, but everything outside those buildings, and below them and even on top of them, can be accessible to the citizenry more broadly. Landscape is the most equitable design arena, because it’s the most inexpensive way to revitalize cities and has the largest impact on the most people.”

Nestled among eclectic art galleries and a bustling cultural scene, Land Collective’s studio is located in Philadelphia’s Old City District, not far from the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were adopted.

Stepping through the studio’s front door and into a small entryway, I immediately notice a floor-to-ceiling display of antique landscaping tools of every imaginable description—Rubin’s personal collection. At first glance the archaic iron and steel curiosities are simultaneously beautiful, fascinating and somewhat intimidating, superficially reminiscent of some particularly menacing medieval torture devices. But upon closer inspection, and with Rubin’s enthusiastic explanation of each tool, the fine craftsmanship of these impressive artifacts becomes apparent.

The entryway transitions into the main workspace, where his team of a dozen employees sit at one long, communal desk. They are surrounded in all directions by walls designed to endure endless pinning and tacking of new ideas for any given project the team is working on.

A former art gallery, the space has a cool, industrial vibe, with giant beams, exposed brick and, dangling about 20 feet up, a mirrored disco ball that Rubin, with a laugh, says on occasion can be jostled to life during a party. But at the moment, soothing jazz plays in the background, and the team is deep in concentration.
Rubin is serious about his craft, but he has an infectious sense of humor and an understanding that a comfortable, fun workspace facilitates creativity. This space captures his personality and work philosophy.

"Life is what happens between buildings," Rubin says. "Since a successful space is one that's well-attended, the success of our design depends on how people engage each other in it, no matter what the scale."

Rubin has been a recognized star in his field for a while, perhaps most notably as the 2011-2012 recipient of the Rome Prize in Landscape Architecture from the American Academy in Rome—the profession's highest honor.

The Rome Prize was a turning point in Rubin's career, not only because of the notoriety it invited, but also because it involved a yearlong fellowship in Italy, during which Rubin collaborated with a variety of talented artisans from across a broad spectrum of disciplines.

"The best part about the Rome Prize is that it gave me the gift of thoughtfulness," Rubin recalls. "I finally had the time to really think about my craft and to learn from so many different people, and that helped widen my perspective."

That interdisciplinary perspective defines Rubin's work. Each of his projects is infused not only with artistic design principles but with elements of sociology, anthropology and history. The spaces he creates reflect the needs of the people who will actually be using them, as opposed to serving as monuments to his ego or vehicles for his personal preferences.

"No matter how beautiful a space looks, if the seating isn't comfortable, and the features aren't practical, and it doesn't inspire people to actually spend time engaging with it, then there's no point," Rubin argues.

"I want to make spaces that my grandnieces and grandnephews will continue to use long after I'm gone. Beyond making a space functional, we also need to give it social purpose and make sure it addresses the hopes, challenges and character of the community."

Social sustainability is integrated into every layer of Rubin's projects. It can mean trying to use builders and contractors from the immediate community, or analyzing demographic and socioeconomic data to ensure the project—whether it's a park or a revitalized Superfund site—will continue to serve the community for generations to come without creating financial or environmental burdens.

Encouraging public involvement in the early stages of planning is something Land Collective takes seriously and does very well. They aggressively advertise informational sessions, organize civic meetings, spend the time to walk citizens through proposals, and then present the public's feedback to developers of projects, which often leads to substantive, positive changes.

The early planning also involves extensive collaboration with engineers and other technical consultants. This holistic perspective has made developers realize over the past decade or so that landscape architects are better suited than the more myopic building architects to lead projects. Today, Rubin's team serves as lead on 60 to 70 percent of its projects. He believes the versatility and mental agility that have proven to be such assets were honed when he was at Conn, where he double majored in fine art and art history with a minor in botany. (Rubin also went to Harvard Graduate School of Design, where he later taught and still serves as a design critic.)

"At Conn, I learned a little bit about a lot of subjects, and the art history classes I took taught me that human beings are more similar than they are different, which is a lesson that still informs everything I do," Rubin says.

This idea of similarity is a common thread running through his work. He uses the principles of landscape architecture and urban design to create spaces that give birth to ideas.

"Design decisions are made with the desire to create a place in which very different people might come together—a chemistry professor, say, and a young protestor. If ... they choose to sit next to one another, and in the act of sitting they enter into a conversation, and as a result of that conversation they come up with an idea, and that idea, 10 years down the road, saves the world, then [we] will have been successful ... because we created the place in which that idea was formed," Rubin says.

One of Rubin's most striking projects is a unique civic space outside the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia. About 40 feet wide and 200 feet long, the Lenfest Plaza area was basically a useless alleyway, but it has been transformed, attracting city dwellers who connect at an outside cafe or sun themselves on one of the many comfortable platforms or benches. The space harnesses the creative energy of the area, drawing visitors into what is known as "Museum Mile."

Rubin says his favorite image of the entire project is a picture of the finished space showing a couple of young kids relaxing under a bench on a sunny afternoon.

"I'm not smart enough to come up with the idea that will save the world. But I'm smart enough to help connect the people who someday might."
As the 2018 midterm elections come and go, Mara Suttmann-Lea, assistant professor of government, will continue her research into the figures who operate on the front lines of our democracy.

BY DOUG DANIELS
CC Mag: You specialize in examining the nuts and bolts of how our elections are administered. The different laws that regulate how people vote create a patchwork system that varies from state to state, city to city and county to county. Should the federal government play a bigger role in that process to ensure more uniformity?

Suttmann-Lea: That’s really tricky, because in the Constitution there’s no federal prescription for how elections should be run. And states have historically been pretty protective of the way their elections are run.

States have so many different needs, contingent on population size, or the number of big cities that they have, so it’s difficult to develop a federal infrastructure that would account for all of those differences.

[More federal oversight is]challenging, because the U.S. election system is a massive behemoth that’s unwieldy and hard to guide since there are so many moving parts.

CC Mag: You’re in the early stages of a research project involving poll workers. Can you describe that work and explain what inspired this avenue of research?

Suttmann-Lea: It all started when I saw a presentation that actually had nothing to do with poll workers, but that made me think of them. It was a presentation that looked at the behavior of pharmacists. These are people who provide services and exercise some level of discretion in those services, and it occurred to me that poll workers are in a similar situation. That just got the ball rolling as far as researching them.

CC Mag: How and where are you pursuing that research?

Suttmann-Lea: I conduct interviews with poll workers to try and understand how they make decisions. I want to understand how they’re applying the laws that govern voter eligibility in their respective areas. In a state like Virginia, for example, there’s a photo I.D. law, but in a state like Illinois, they’re required to verify voter eligibility through signatures that are on record. Examining those two different processes allows me to get a sense from the poll workers’ perspectives, of how they interpret the laws that they’re applying, and it gives me a better understanding of who these folks are, in a larger sense.

These are the people who are actually giving you your ballot, checking your I.D., making sure you’re on the voter rolls or matching your signature. Because they’re really on the front lines of our democracy, I want to know more about who they are.

CC Mag: What patterns are you seeing so far in terms of what types of people serve as poll workers?

Suttmann-Lea: It depends on the state. They do trend toward being older folks who are retired, who have time to actually work on Election Day, because it’s a 14-hour endeavor, sometimes longer if you’re dealing with vote-counting issues. So these are people who have the time to do this either as a volunteer, or as paid staff that receive modest stipends.

CC Mag: What type of training do poll workers typically receive?

Suttmann-Lea: Training varies from state to state, from county to county and from municipality to municipality. But it typically involves at least a day or two of in-person training. There are poll worker manuals that are thick documents that poll workers have to understand. It goes without saying that there are certainly mistakes that are made, and oversights that need to be rectified.

In my experience, poll workers take their jobs seriously and believe strongly in the democratic process, and are doing this out of a sense of civic duty.

CC Mag: How have certain voting reforms aimed at boosting voter participation, such as early voting and Election Day registration, impacted voting habits and how campaigns behave?

Suttmann-Lea: Early voting is an interesting example of a law that was designed to improve turnout, but the data shows that hasn’t been the consistent
outcome when we actually look at the differences between states that have early voting, and states that don’t. In part, that’s because whenever there’s a change in a voting law, it doesn’t only affect voters, but campaigns and political parties are also going to adapt to that change as well.

From the campaigns’ perspective, what we’ve seen is that early voting has forced campaigns to devote more resources to mobilization efforts over a longer period of time, instead of focusing on Election Day. And from the voters’ perspective, this can, in effect, dilute interest, and dilute the intensity with which citizens are focused on Election Day.

**CC Mag:** Is there evidence that laws allowing things like mail-in voting, early voting, same-day registration and other measures intended to boost participation lead to fraud?

**Suttmann-Lea:** There is very, very, very limited evidence that individual in-person voter fraud happens on a widespread basis. There’s a study [published] in the *Loyola University Law Review* done by a law professor at the Loyola Law School, that found a miniscule percentage—not even 1% out of a million votes—were fraudulent.

**CC Mag:** Over the past several years, we’ve seen an acceleration at the state level when it comes to instituting more-restrictive voting laws. Is there any evidence this has depressed turnout among underrepresented voting blocs?

**Suttmann-Lea:** It’s too early at this point to have enough data to know one way or the other. What the research shows, though, is that swing states that are competitive in presidential elections, especially Republican-controlled states that in 2008 saw an uptick in minority voter participation, are the states that are more likely to at least propose these restrictive laws that disproportionately impact minority voters. That doesn’t necessarily mean that the laws always pass, but there is a statistical relationship between efforts to enact these laws, and states that are competitive, that have in recent years seen increasing minority voter participation, and that have Republican-controlled legislatures.

**CC Mag:** Overall, has your research made you more or less confident in our electoral process?

**Suttmann-Lea:** It’s no secret that the 2016 elections shed a light on inconsistencies in the system and points that are open to vulnerabilities. I would say, I, along with many other Americans, have reduced faith in the structural integrity of our electoral system as a result of that. But I do see reason for hope in the sense that when it comes to the people directly responsible for providing ballots to voters, there’s a potential for that experience to be improved upon and for voters to have positive experiences. That research has left me feeling more optimistic about future reforms.

**CC Mag:** No matter how well-intentioned poll workers might be, what can be done to mitigate the inevitable dimension of human error in administering our elections, and to ensure the laws are being carried out properly and consistently?

**Suttmann-Lea:** I think the big-picture response is that we need to remove the room for subjectivity. Having workers identify voters based on verifiable, concrete information that everyone has, like the last two digits of a social security number, would be one way to eliminate that subjectivity. Humans are obviously fallible, but I always like to assume the best of people, and there are a lot of folks out there working every day to make our elections fairer and more secure.

**CC Mag:** Part of your job is to prepare students to be active and informed participants in the political system. What’s something you want to make sure they take away from your classes?

**Suttmann-Lea:** I ask my students to look at what it takes to win a campaign, to win an election, and whether or not those realities comport with the ideals that we have for how we want our democracy to run. The gap is usually pretty significant in terms of what campaigns have to do, what we have to do to get candidates elected, and the ideals that we have for ourselves as a country.
Profiles in Courage

Making history from the ground up is a key message CC Magazine often explores, including in the Winter 2018 issue, which featured a photo essay documenting alumni who are creative disruptors, “those who dream things that never were and say why not?"

Continuing our series of disruptor portraits, we have documented alumni who through legal or political means have changed, and are changing, the way we see the world. Those selected have presided over war crime tribunals at The Hague, been appointed to serve on presidential commissions and led rallies of over 300,000 protesters at women’s marches, while one alum is just starting her career in Connecticut politics. By no means an exhaustive list, we hope to photograph more of our disruptors in forthcoming issues.

These portraits were printed in black and white with the exception of Patricia McGowan Wald ’48, who appears on our cover. Wald is the first woman appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit (by President Jimmy Carter in 1979) and the first to serve as chief judge on that court. Wald later served on the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague, which rendered, among other rulings, judgment that the crime of genocide was committed in Srebrenica, and that General Radislav Krstić was guilty of genocide. In 2004, President George W. Bush appointed Wald to the President’s Commission on Intelligence Capabilities of the U.S. Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction, which investigated U.S. intelligence surrounding the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq. In 2013, President Barack Obama awarded Wald with the Presidential Medal of Freedom—the nation’s highest civilian honor.

PORTRAITS BY MILES LADIN ’90
Eduardo Castell '87, trustee emeritus, is a managing partner at MirRam Group, a consulting firm that helps clients navigate the labyrinthine landscapes of New York's political, corporate, labor and nonprofit worlds. Castell served as campaign manager for Bill Thompson for NYC Comptroller in 2001 and as lead consultant for Eric Gonzalez for Brooklyn District Attorney in 2017 and for Letitia James for NYC Public Advocate in 2013. From 2001 to 2009, he served as Executive Deputy Comptroller for the City of New York. Previously, he worked for U.S. Representatives Nydia Velázquez, D-NY, and Ted Weiss, D-NY, as legislative director and chief of staff. In 2017, Conn awarded Castell the Agnes Berkeley Leahy Award, honoring those who have contributed outstanding service and sustained active participation in Alumni Association activities.
Chakena Sims ’16 spoke in front of 300,000 activists at January’s Women’s March in Chicago. A young alumni trustee, Sims is the board vice president of Chicago Votes, an organization working to build a more inclusive democracy by empowering young Chicagoans. She has registered voters throughout Chicago, including at the Cook County Jail, in order to “bend the moral arc toward fairness and equity.” Sims is Political Director for Lori Lightfoot’s Chicago mayoral campaign. She previously served as Director of Millennial Outreach for JB Pritzker’s gubernatorial campaign and Deputy Press Secretary for Chicago Public Schools.
Bruce Hoffman '76 has been studying terrorism and insurgency for more than four decades. He's a tenured professor at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service and a visiting professor of terrorism studies at University of St Andrews, Scotland. Hoffman was appointed by the U.S. Congress as a commissioner on the 9/11 Review Commission. He has been scholar-in-residence for counterterrorism at the CIA; adviser on counterterrorism to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq; and adviser on counterinsurgency to Multi-National Forces-Iraq Headquarters. He's the author of numerous books, including *Inside Terrorism* and *Anonymous Soldiers: The Struggle For Israel, 1917-1947*, named Jewish Book of the Year for 2015. He's currently working on *Rollback: Reagan's Cold Warriors and America's First War on Terrorism*, due out in 2020.
Miriam "Mims" Butterworth '40 is a trailblazer. Mims authored *My Felonious Friends*, about her experience visiting prisoners and the need for prison reform. As a member of the People's Delegation, Mims attended the 1971 Paris Peace Talks. She helped organize Connecticut's support for the Nuclear Freeze Movement, aimed at halting the nuclear arms race. Appointed by Gov. Ella Grasso in 1975, Mims served as commissioner of the Public Utilities Control Authority, and she went on to become acting president of Hartford College for Women. In 1984, she traveled to Nicaragua as an official observer of the first elections under the new Sandinista government.
The former communications chair for Conn College Democrats, Britt Foulds '17 is just starting her career in politics. Foulds serves as the regional Get Out the Vote & digital lead for U.S. Senator Chris Murphy, D-CT, and the Connecticut Democrats. She creates new ways to reach out to voters and volunteers online, while assisting with logistics for the largest statewide GOTV operation in Connecticut's history.
**HEROES**

"Tim Stevens '04 explores the history of diversity at Marvel Comics and DC Comics."

Issues of diversity at the Big Two comic book companies—Marvel Comics and DC Comics—are nothing new. In some ways, they are baked into the design, which began in April 1938 with the birth of the superhero: Superman’s first appearance.

Arising from an era when mainstream pop culture was often homogenized and dominated by white faces (male in particular), comics reflected their environment. The heroes were typically men (with few exceptions), white and straight. The icons of the field—Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman—were set in stone more than 25 years before the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Unlike in television and film, where the passage of time meant actors grew old and moved on, comic book heroes could be eternal. While other media often had to diversify to be more reactive to changing times, the immortality of superheroes made it more difficult to showcase a diverse “cast” of characters in the four-color medium.

Over the next 40 years, changes eventually took place. Women heroes, present from nearly the beginning, became more numerous and more varied. People of color were acknowledged as equal candidates for superheroes, not just relegated to roles as supporting cast members, villains or figures of intentional, often cruel, comedy. Even LGBTQ heroes eventually debuted, albeit much later.

Today, many fans have demanded more representation across the board—in gender identity and expression, sexuality, race, ethnicity and religion—and have taken their complaints both directly to the Big Two and to the internet at large. Others still reject the idea of any diversity.

Some critics insist that the white, straight, Christian icons they grew up with are being pushed out by this new diverse group of heroes. They bemoan what they feel is the defeminization of women characters, often explicitly pointing out characters’ breast sizes, hairstyles and less-revealing costumes. And while I will not dive into the talent side of the equation, this group often reserves its most hateful language and actions for comic creators who are women, trans, gay, bisexual, people of color or Muslim.

Of all the underrepresented groups, women superheroes hit the mainstream far ahead of any other set. Wonder Woman debuted in 1940 as the first woman superhero at DC or Marvel, and she remains one of the most recognizable heroes in all of comics. She looms large in popular culture beyond comic books, and she did so even before her solo feature film debut just over a year ago.

However, Wonder Woman’s initial role in the Justice League was as a secretary, a reflection of attitudes about what was “appropriate” women’s work during the post-World War II era. Moreover, women superheroes were significantly fewer in number, often overruled and overshadowed and, especially as comics “grew up,” dressed far more provocatively than their male counterparts.

**HEROES OF COLOR** would have to wait 31 years after the Man of Steel first bounded onto comic pages to make it to the Big Two—five years after the Civil Rights Act. While smaller and short-lived publishers had heroes of color as early as the ’40s, Black Panther’s first appearance in the pages of Captain America marked a first for both Marvel and DC. People of color in the Big Two, until that point, had typically
been villains or "regular" people—sidekicks and friends of the hero. Often they were portrayed as blatant stereotypes.

Take for instance Whitewash Jones (yes, Whitewash), an adolescent character in Young Allies. The World War II-era book from the company we now know as Marvel featured a sort of child gang of characters ready to back up the likes of Captain America, Human Torch and Namor the Sub-Mariner. Whitewash was the only black character at the publisher at the time, and he was drawn as a white child in blackface, complete with wide, garish, painted-on red lips. It is unlikely that a black youth of the 1940s would look at this portrayal and experience the same kind of inspiration and admiration that a white youth did seeing Captain America sling his shield.

Black Panther's arrival could not change circumstances overnight. Black heroes who came after him often had some sort of criminal past. Given that many characters of color were introduced in the 1970s, they were often blaxploitation stereotypes (black characters) or martial artist masters (Asian characters). Additionally, like women heroes before them, the number of heroes of color lagged far behind that of existing and newly created white heroes.

The barrier to LGBTQ heroes was the last to fall. Comics had long featured coded gay characters and same-sex relationships, but it was 40 years after Superman's debut that an openly gay superhero appeared on the pages of either a Marvel or DC comic.

Northstar, the first Marvel hero ever to state outright that he was gay—which he did by literally screaming it while the art depicted him seemingly flying out of the book—appeared in 1978. Creator John Byrne claims he had always intended Northstar to be gay. The character, though, did not reveal this for 14 years. Thus, the first true debut of a gay superhero belongs to the DC character Extraño in 1987. This means it actually took 49 years for a gay superhero to arrive.

Lesbian superheroines would have to wait even longer. The first lesbian superhero at the Big Two was Marvel's Karolina Dean of Runaways, who debuted in 2003 and came out in 2005. At DC, it would take a year more. There, the newest incarnation of Batwoman, introduced in 2006, was stated explicitly to be a lesbian in the run-up to her first appearance.

**DESPITE THE SLOW** process of introducing greater diversity into the comic universe, the fringe audience believes comics have too much diversity. I took it upon myself to test this hypothesis. I focused on two weeks' worth of releases from the Big Two—about 34 comics. Unsurprisingly, I found that you could read more than half of the comics in those two weeks and never read a title with a lead who wasn't straight, white, cisgender and male.

This year, I have since looked at every title from the Big Two over three-month intervals. Over the first two quarters of analysis, releases featuring straight, white, cisgender male heroes went up 5.4 percentage points to more than 58 percent of all solo superhero titles published by Marvel and DC Comics. Not only are those complaining that diversity is "out of control" wrong, but it appears they might be persuading comic companies to buy into their argument.

I've loved comics for years, and this retrograde attitude is disheartening. Even as comic properties dominate television and film, comic books themselves continue to be a niche market. One cannot help but wonder if the publishers' resistance to diversity might be part of that problem.

Conversely, those who oppose diversity insist that comics will do better if they embrace their whiteness, their maleness, their straightness. They may be right in the short term. Collectors and fans who share their opinion might buy more Captain America than, say, last year's AMERICA, the book that featured a bisexual Latina woman. However, white, straight, cis male fans—including myself—are getting older and becoming a smaller part of the population. If comics cannot offer more diverse heroes for a more diverse population, how will they grow their base? I do not think they can.

Within that reality lies a strange sort of hope for me. It might not be the most high-minded or heroic way to get more diversity into superhero comics, but if DC and Marvel act like actual businesses and chase the almighty dollar, they will inevitably have to become more diverse to survive. I would like them to do it because it is right, but I'll take an increase in diversity any way I can.

Tim Stevens writes for Marvel.com and comicsverse.com. His work can also be found at timstevensisungajje.com.
Happiness Is ‘Fat Twos’

Dominic Lentini '18 searches for happiness on a rock face.
I was paid to find happiness. Before I could even begin this project, I was laughed at by a professor, and told by a college administrator that studying happiness is "weird." The same administrator informed me that, due to its unconventional nature, my happiness project, which had been selected for an annual fellowship, had to be a "success."

Apparently, studying alternative definitions of happiness and life success in the rock climbing community is weird. Apparently, being happy is weird. After all, who goes to college to be happy? You have the rest of your life to do that. There are more important things to be done—there are things to achieve. I find this way of thinking to be deeply problematic.

Unfortunately, though, this was the mental trap that I found myself in at Conn. At the time, it seemed simple: work hard now, reap the benefits later. I would be relaxed, I would have much more free time, and I would be happy. In other words, enjoying life was for the future and not for the present. It was as easy as that. I was convinced that this was the only option.

However, I was working towards future happiness without even knowing what I wanted that future to be. The unsustainable nature of this lifestyle led me to a point of personal crisis. If this path did not bring me happiness, what would?

My answer: rock climbing. The summer after my sophomore year, driving in a car full of boxed pasta, used carabiners, and the pressure to "succeed," I set out to find the key to happiness.

Bishop, California, is home to some of the world's best rock climbing. Nestled in the Sierra Nevada mountain range, the resort town seemed like an ideal place to start. From the iconic Buttermilk boulders, to the sport routes in the Owen's River Gorge, the options were endless and the quality was impeccable. In contrast to boulder problems, which are short and climbed with only the protection of foam pads to cushion your fall to the ground, sport climbs are much longer, and a climber uses ropes.

To have both types of climbing of world class quality in one town is exceptionally unique. There was only one problem. I was about six months early, or maybe six months late. It depends on how you look at it. Climbers familiar with the area will know that the summer weather is less than desirable for climbing, or even existing, for that matter. For those who don't, how does pushing your physical limit at over 100 degrees Fahrenheit sound? I agree.

The weather acted as a filter because it deterred all but the most dedicated climbers. The weekend warrior would never waste precious time in weather like this. You wonder then, why was anyone here? Some climbers lived here, some had found seasonal work, and others were simply passing through. All of them, though, had one commonality: they had dedicated huge portions of their lives to rock climbing and would do almost anything to keep climbing. Living in a car was no problem; eating on only a few dollars a day was enough; and besides, who needs hygiene? It was a happy existence.

The unconventional nature of this existence was not lost on anyone, especially Cam. One morning, as I rolled out of the makeshift bed I had made between the duffel bags in the back seat of my car, he immediately walked over to me and with a bearded smile introduced himself. Having recently left his hometown in Colorado, he went broke in the town of Lee Vining (next to Bishop), and was stuck. Due to severe financial constraints, he ate a lot of instant ramen and PB&Js, and wore the same blue shirt, sandals, military hat and sunglasses every day. But none of that stopped him from climbing.

Cam says, "Western culture talks about the pursuit of happiness for happiness' sake. It's almost proposed to you as if happiness can be achieved, as if it can be gained. They make it out to be a trophy."

Happiness is not a trophy. It is not something that is gained, achieved, or stored on a shelf to admire later. Instead, happiness is an experience.

Before traveling to California, Cam was struggling. Since returning from military duty in Afghanistan, he had found himself adrift. He hid, day after day, in his apartment, too filled with anxiety and depression to expose himself to the busyness of urban life. His life changed when he started rock climbing. He found a new identity as a climber. He found motivation. And he found happiness.

His family was furious when he dropped everything, climbed in his Jeep, and followed his passion for climbing to California. But he didn't do it for them. "Being selfish is a good thing," he'd say, even if society pushes us to think otherwise.

Cam felt alive when exposed on a rock face. Sharing a meal with fellow climbers and sleeping under the stars made him happy. His family and friends pressured him to return, but he resisted and chased those ever-fleeting moments that brought him the happiness he couldn't find anywhere else.

Another climber, Brent, echoed those sentiments. In his early 20s he abandoned the career path he was on in Oregon, moved into a 30-year-old
One of the happiest days of my life was spent with Cam and Brent in Bishop. It started like many of the others—oatmeal mixed with peanut butter scarfed down while sitting in the dust, followed by a sweaty half-mile hike up a rocky path to Pine Creek Canyon. Being new to climbing, Cam and I were apprehensive to push our physical limits. Pushing yourself means falling, and falling is scary—even with the protection of a rope. We decided it would be the day to change this. Cam fell at the crux countless times, slamming not only himself, but also me, into the wall with each fall. After

"That's where I met Alex. Having once been passionate about cars, his passions radically shifted when he discovered climbing. To fuel his drive to climb, he slowly sold the car parts that he had been collecting for years. Now he sleeps on a bouldering mat under the stars and doesn't own a car. He does, however, make the best two-burner-stove tacos you'll ever eat in your life.

For him, "happiness is just contentment with where I'm at. Happiness is having absolutely nothing and loving it." At one point in his life, though, he didn't think this way. Climbing consumed him. He needed climbing to be happy, and was content with nothing else. This way of thinking ruined his relationship with the woman he loves.

It also ruined climbing. He was so focused on climbing hard and ticking objectives that he disassociated from the process, stopped enjoying it, and felt his passion fade. But this was before I met him. Now, Alex cautions people to avoid making the same mistakes. Don't disassociate from the process.

Happiness is not a trophy. It is not something that is gained, achieved, or stored on a shelf to admire later.
Berkowitz is still “running around NYC for customers needing a habitat.” She enjoys her large family, this past year attending a wedding in Hudson, N.Y., at the Churchtown Dairy (a biodynamic farm); visiting Ashley Falls, where the family gardens and has an art barn; and spending time with a granddaughter and two great-grandchildren in Warren, Conn., where “a real bear came to visit our garbage in plain sight!” Marjory is interested in reading the book by Sean Spicer ’93, a CC alum who worked in the White House. She is in touch with Lois Parisette Ridgeway’s son, Michael, who lives in Tisbury, Mass. They had lunch together at the Whitney. Natalie Bigelow Barlow has been at North Hill, a retirement community, for over a year. “It has been a very good experience and I am glad I am here. New friends, many activities, and NO cooking!” She wishes everyone well. Florence Murphy Gorman is “still here, hanging on, keeping fairly active.” She does water aerobics and small jobs in the library; plays duplicate bridge; and drives (in daylight) to church, grocery, and the movies. “Our bus takes us to museums, theater, and lectures, keeping us out of trouble and fairly satisfied.” Flo has attended the weddings of three grandchildren (so far) this year! Lois Toni Fenton Tuttle spent the summer in Connecticut to escape the Florida heat, “only to find that it is almost as hot, with excessive rain.” Her daughter lives there, and her son visited from South Carolina. At writing, Toni and her sister were looking forward to a riverboat cruise from Bucharest to Budapest in August, passing through Croatia and Belgrade, among other places. She also welcomed great-grandchild number eight (seven boys and only one girl)! As for me (Ann LeLievre Hermann), I continue to enjoy living at Shell Point Retirement Community. I am busy with water aerobics, duplicate bridge, book clubs, Apple tech support, three meals a day... Life is good and I am grateful. Best news of all, the second of my four kids has moved to Shell Point!
sold the fourth, All Things Cease to Appear, to Netflix, so hopefully we will see it soon. “The execution of such deals is like watching grass grow!” Joan’s granddaughter Hannah, still painting in Beacon, N.Y., was accepted at the very prestigious Goldsmiths, University of London graduate school for art theory. Granddaughter Sophie is also pursuing a graduate degree in fine arts, and Sam is loving NYU and the Tisch School for the Arts. After 25 years, Joan and Lyle have moved to another gated community, one associated with the Breakers in West Palm Beach. They purchased a lovely home together with Elizabeth and her husband, Scott, as they needed more room for adult grandchildren. Joan reminds us that moving is not for the fainthearted, but they are now quite settled. Irene Ball Barrack shared that Julie Donnelly, daughter of Janet Weiss Donnelly and Dick (USCGA), has announced that daughter Hannalei will enter CC in the fall. Irene’s granddaughter Alexandra accelerated and finished CC in December 2017 and is now in the floater program at Sotheby’s. I (Joanne) caught up with Claire Wallach Engle and Ray just prior to their trip to New London to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the first submarine transit of the North Pole in August 1958. The USS Nautilus made that voyage as the first nuclear-powered submarine. Ray served on the Nautilus before that trip under the polar ice cap. Claire’s youngest son, Rob, who works for Disney, visited from L.A. with daughter Naomi, 10, to learn more about her grandfather’s career and to tour CC and the region. Claire and Ray have been in Oregon for 15 years, in a lovely retirement community in Medford, where several other CC alumni have lived. Claire often traveled to the college and would bring them back mementos from the bookstore.

The campus was beautifully maintained and the fourth, All Things Cease to Appear, to Netflix, so hopefully we will see it soon. “The execution of such deals is like watching grass grow!” Joan’s granddaughter Hannah, still painting in Beacon, N.Y., was accepted at the very prestigious Goldsmiths, University of London graduate school for art theory. Granddaughter Sophie is also pursuing a graduate degree in fine arts, and Sam is loving NYU and the Tisch School for the Arts. After 25 years, Joan and Lyle have moved to another gated community, one associated with the Breakers in West Palm Beach. They purchased a lovely home together with Elizabeth and her husband, Scott, as they needed more room for adult grandchildren. Joan reminds us that moving is not for the fainthearted, but they are now quite settled. Irene Ball Barrack shared that Julie Donnelly, daughter of Janet Weiss Donnelly and Dick (USCGA), has announced that daughter Hannalei will enter CC in the fall. Irene’s granddaughter Alexandra accelerated and finished CC in December 2017 and is now in the floater program at Sotheby’s. I (Joanne) caught up with Claire Wallach Engle and Ray just prior to their trip to New London to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the first submarine transit of the North Pole in August 1958. The USS Nautilus made that voyage as the first nuclear-powered submarine. Ray served on the Nautilus before that trip under the polar ice cap. Claire’s youngest son, Rob, who works for Disney, visited from L.A. with daughter Naomi, 10, to learn more about her grandfather’s career and to tour CC and the region. Claire and Ray have been in Oregon for 15 years, in a lovely retirement community in Medford, where several other CC alumni have lived. Claire often traveled to the college and would bring them back mementos from the bookstore.

The campus was beautifully maintained and
enjoyed the company of nine spouses. Here are all the lucky attendees, who sincerely missed those who could not join us: Betsy Wolfe Biddle, Dede Swain Bullock, Judy Ankarstran Carson, Lynn Leach Cassidy, Marie Iselin Doebl, Bannie Steger Ellis, Adele Stern Gray, Judy Epstein Grollman, Sandy Sturman Harris, Arline Hinkson, Georgia Howe, Millie Schmidtman Kendall, Rae Lunnin, Phyllis Malone, Peggy Goldstein Marx, Bobbie Cohn Mindell, Atheline Wilbur Nixon, Carol Reeves Parke, Patsy Steiger de Salazar, Evelyn Evatt Salinger, Sydney Wrightson Tibbetts, Barbara Bearch Tuneski, Susan Borkow Ulin, Ann Carnahan Wallace, Lollie Beadel Whisenand. The class extends deep sympathy to the family of Sally Hale Taggart, who died on Feb. 28. She was a longtime resident of Blue Hill, Maine.

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Rosemary Park Society

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Debbie Tolman Haliday has lived from Maine to Hawaii, finally ending up in Fredericksburg, Va. During the past 20 years there, her interest in Civil War and Virginia history has led to her positions as a docent at St. George’s Church and a guide at the National Military Park. An avid reader, she studies the social, religious and economic development of the North and South. Her Yankee roots are happily acknowledged when she visits her CC-alumna daughter in New Hampshire. Kathie Usher Henderson is the director of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, San Rafael, Calif., where she enjoys helping seniors take noncredit courses on a university campus. Both of her children and her grandson live nearby. Since 1989, Emu Lou Zahniser Baldridge has been working with abused and neglected children, helping caseworkers and children after school, warning them of the dangers of the internet. She’s spent time in Dallas and New York, with summers in Santa Fe. Em Hodge Brasfield reports that all is well with her. Marty Flynn Peterson is busy with family and friends. She plays duplicate bridge, travels, volunteers, and likes to bike, ski and golf. She saw Debbie Haliday and spent time with Speck Potter Kapust in New London at a rental house at Ocean Beach! Heidi Angeline Smith lives in Kansas with her daughter and goes with family to Crystal Lake, Mich., where she has been going for 50 years. She has a granddaughter in Minnesota, and she gardens and tutors inner-city sixth-graders. Jill Davidson Krueger has an apartment in Hewlett, N.Y., and her son lives nearby. She lives in Florida most of the year, has six grandchildren and has had two successful cooking businesses. A 60th wedding anniversary will include a trip to Australia. They support schools in Israel; one is adding a floor for soldiers with no families in Israel to live when they have time off. Liz Pughe King has retired and lives at Kendal at Hanover (N.H.). She likes living in a college town where there are classes and sports to attend. Liz has a dog and walks often, and she swims and goes on hikes with others. She has gathered with her three children and five grandchildren at the Cape and in the Adirondacks. Judy Bassin Peknik is painting and exhibiting. She’s involved in theater on and off Broadway. She co-produced a play, Janet and Joyce, in Manhattan. Nan Krulewich Socolo lives in West Palm Beach, Fla. Her daughter is in South Korea at the American embassy. One son is a professor of history, journalism and new media and has a Fulbright in Australia next year. Nan’s oldest son lived in Moscow and just returned from Royal Ascot, where his horse raced in the King’s Stand Stakes. Find Nan’s book on Amazon: Invasive Procedures: Earthquakes, Calamities and Poems from the Midst of Life. Lista (Joan) Kennan lives in Georgetown and has a Labrador, who has introduced her to dog neighbors. She volunteers for seniors by driving them places. Her oldest son works for CNN in Atlanta, and her other son lives in L.A. (where her grandsons live), and he is a property manager. She is class correspondent for her high school. Kathleen Walsh Rooney wrote that her son in Sonoma, Calif., escaped fires by just a quarter of a mile. Lynn Graves Mitchell sailed thru the Panama Canal and up the coast of Costa Rica, and she sailed thru the coast of Italy, spending time in Sicily and Malta. She visited the Watts Towers in California as part of an art trip with Cantor Arts Center. These towers are the tallest structures created by one person using only hand tools and recycled materials. She also spent time in Santa Fe with her daughters and their families. We extend our sympathy to the family of Martha Ann Palmer Bullard, a 40-year resident of Winchester, Mass., who died Feb. 8. We also extend our condolences to the family of Linda Brown Beard. She taught literature at U. of Pittsburgh and to a special class of writing students, as well as to children at her home. She was a president of the Junior League and longtime treasurer of Fox Chapel District Association, raising much money for the community. She had been married almost 58 years, with four children and numerous grandchildren.
correspondent, keeping us informed of all our classmates’ doings. If you are willing to help out with this, please contact her. She relays sad news first: the passing of five classmates in the past year. Susan Oliver MarceU, who died Nov. 22, 2017, loved choral singing, bridge, and wooden jigsaw puzzles. She also was a dedicated volunteer with many organizations in her home of Charlottesville, Va. Maureen Mehls Kiernan died on Feb. 18. With a passion for nature, Maureen was busy as the Caudatowa Garden Club’s Civics Chair, decorating venues around town. She and her Arts & Flowers business partner, Helen Stevens, provided many an anxious bride the wedding flowers of their dreams. Always creative and artistic, Maureen had taken up painting in watercolors recently at Founders Hall, where she could continue to arrange flowers on paper. Emily Sue Montgomery Lynch died on April 3. She moved to her farm on East Street in Sharon in 1966, when she married husband John, and had lived there since, raising her children in Sharon and participating as a longtime member of the Sharon Woman’s Club and the Sharon Country Club. Patricia Allen Fletcher, who died on May 9, lived for many years of her adult life in NYC, an active patron of the arts in that city. She returned to her native Worcester in 1997, following the onset of a serious health condition. She maintained an avid interest in the region’s cultural institutions and served on the boards of the Worcester Historical Museum, the Audio Journal, and the Dublin School, of Dublin, N.H. She was also a member of the Hall Club. Gail Turner Acari died on July 3. She published many papers on chronobiology and owned her own business, Body Time Technology, which specialized in preventing jet lag. She belonged to the Society of Mayflower Descendants and Daughters of the American Revolution. Gail was very active helping with the National Day of Prayer and was on the board of directors of Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC). The class offers condolences to the families and friends of our departed classmates. Turning 80 this year, Anne Sweazey writes that she is grateful for many things, first on the list being her family. This year her daughters, with their husbands and children, joined her for a week in Chautauqua, N.Y., to celebrate her 80th birthday. She is also grateful to be physically fit; after discovering rowing nine years ago, Anne joined a local rowing association and they practice on Long Island Sound four mornings a week. “It’s a lovely way to start the day — mentally, physically and spiritually. Being out on the water in the early morning stillness, with the sun coming up over our lagoon, is really magical.”

**63**

**Correspondent:** Bonnie Campbell Billings, P. O. Box 58, Stowe VT 05672, bsi22@aol.com In June, our 55th reunion brought out a small but spirited group of classmates, along with disappointed RSVPs from many who couldn’t join us due to geography, family gatherings or other commitments. Linda Osborne wrote from her home in Santa Fe, N.M., that if only she lived just “down the road a piece,” she’d certainly be there. Barb Drexler Lockhart was disappointed that Reunion conflicted with her commitment to sing in the Netherlands with her choral group. We were all proud of classmate Martha Joyst Kumar, who received the Agnes Berkeley Leahy Award, established in 1961, “the College’s longest-standing alumni prize,” honoring alumni who have contributed outstanding service and sustained active participation in Alumni Association activities. Martha joined the CC Board of Trustees in 2013. A scholar with a research focus on the White House, Martha is interested in presidential press relations, White House communications operations and presidential transitions and has published numerous books. She was one of three authors featured in an afternoon presentation, where her Q&A was particularly lively! The Alumni Parade went off under sunny skies, but thank goodness for the huge tent where lunch was served. A deluge ensued and dampened travel to the afternoon’s various presentations. However, by late afternoon, all cleared and evening cocktail parties and Class Dinners proceeded. Our dinner was in the admissions office building. It was lovely, and the office a far cry from that of Mr. Cobbledick somewhere upstairs in Fanning! At the class dinner, tablemates Patti Keenan Mitchell, Nancy Smith Davis, Nancy Holbrook Ayers, and Jo O’Donnell Lohman agreed that Reunion was wonderful, “but we wish more of ’63 had come! Maybe for our 60th?” They enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones and found catching up with so many special classmates to be most memorable. “We definitely have a class that can boast of many accomplishments and interesting lives.” Susana Berdele de Cravino (all the way from Buenos Aires) also enjoyed Reunion. She wrote, “It was great to meet you ’63s after 55 years. Thank you all for welcoming me into your midst. Do come see me if you ever travel in Argentina!” She looks forward to our 60th. Connie Cross noted that she is “still working with the local land trust to protect land in the northern Sebago Lake region of Maine ... and trying to trap a hungry woodchuck who every summer gobbles up the garden.” Barbara Thomas Cheney is a missional priest at St. James Episcopal Church in New Haven. She continues to be a jazz drummer in the quintet Breaking Rubrics, ballroom dance competitively and teach Argentine tango. She and husband Dexter are members of Seabury-at-Home, an organization committed to life care that helps people live and remain in their homes until their lives end or they choose to move into assisted living. In March, Lonnie Jones Schorer, in her capacity as chair of The Explorers Club of Washington, along with Command Sergeant Major (Ret.) Eric Fies, presented the U.S. flag that had flown over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at John Glenn’s interment in Arlington National Cemetery, to astronaut Kathy Sullivan, honorary chair of The Explorers Club. The flag will hang in The Explorers Club headquarters in NYC.

**66**

Correspondents: Carol Chaykin & Pat Dale, cnotes66@gmail.com Marnie Cal Kalestein and her husband of 51 years, Paul, have written a book, Tent for Two: Roughing It in Retirement. After retiring to Arrowsic, Maine, in 2006, they took up tent camping, “an activity often thought to be the province of younger folk.” They soon discovered that “our sense of passing time is malleable, and that new activities can provide benefits to retirees beyond what they had expected.” Carol Chaykin received her first assignment as a new member of the board of Women of Reform Judaism, the umbrella organization for the sisterhoods of Reform congregations in North America. She will serve as chair of the Communications Task Force. Marcia Geyer has been busy organizing a coalition of local organizations with a climate mission in the Charlotteville, Va., area. Marcia has also been rearranging the use of rooms in her home and plans to seek a compatible housemate. Ellen Kagan participated in
**What Child is This?**
by Alice K. Boatwright ’69 (Cozy Cat Press.)

It's Christmas in the Cotswold village of Little Beecham—a season to celebrate with caroling, mistletoe, and mince pies. In this sequel to *Under an English Heaven*, newlywed American Ellie Kent is looking forward to her first English village Christmas, but a missing Oxford student and an abandoned baby soon draw her away from the fireside into danger.

When a body is discovered on Boxing Day, Ellie comes to believe that all these events may be linked through a group of teenage girls who identify with Shakespeare's tragic Ophelia. The police scoff at her theory, so Ellie pursues her own investigation to identify their secret Hamlet, who may be a killer.

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**Be Still, Behold and Dance to the Divine: Making Daily Acts a Heartfelt Spiritual Practice** by Mark DeGange '75

LeClair Publications

Through his weaving of poignant stories, exercises in self-reflection and beautiful meditations, Mark DeGange guides you into the goldmine of your heart. A wealth of wisdom is waiting, and always has been. When you are still enough inside to milk the moment, it is all yours.

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**Appendices Pulled from a Study on Light** by Geoffrey Babbitt '03 (Spuyten Duyvil.)

With his first book of poems, Babbitt pays homage to medieval poetry. "Babbitt is an original and fresh voice, one that tugs at you with the sense of the familiar and yet with nothing you can pin down. While you can see grace notes in his work, there is nothing of any other poet in him, a one-off, a beautiful but unexpected shift of light."

- Author Chris Abani.

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**How to Work with Jerks** by Eric Williamson '02 (Silver Tree Publishing.)

*How to Work with Jerks* is a training guide for dealing with jerks in the workplace, complete with proven methods and frameworks for handling conflicts. Williamson provides solutions sought by professionals and leaders about how to motivate and retain their staff and continue getting the maximum productivity out of them. His practical, no-nonsense book also answers the questions asked by all employees about how to stay motivated in a job they can't stand while learning the necessary skills to make them marketable in today's uncertain job market.

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**The Green Wardrobe Guide** by Beth Fitien '93 (Infinity Publishing.)

*The Green Wardrobe Guide*—*Finding EcoChic Fashions That Look Great and Help Save the Planet* illuminates the connection between our clothes, the planet, and those who produce the fabrics. Learn about organic cotton, hemp, bamboo, tencel, and other natural fabrics, how to extend ecofashion to
our housewares and body products, and
where to find sustainable eco-fashions.
Discover shocking facts, and hear directly
from experts in the field. Find out who
is producing sustainably—or not, and be
inspired by the current innovations.

Snowsisters by Tom
Wilinksy ’86 and Jen
Sternick (Duet.)

High school students—
Soph, who attends
private school in
Manhattan, and Tess, a
public school student who lives on a dai
ry farm in New Hampshire—are thrown
together as roommates at a week-long
writing conference. As they get to know
each other and the other young women,
both Soph and Tess discover unexpected
truths about friendship, their craft, and
how to hold fast to their convictions while
opening their hearts to love.

Then They Came for
Me: Martin Niemöller,
the Pastor Who Defied
the Nazis by Matthew
Hockenos ’88 (Basic
Books.)

"First they came for the
Communists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Communist..."

Few today recognize the name Martin
Niemoller, though many know his
famous confession. In Then They Came
For Me, historian Matthew Hockenos
traces Niemoller’s evolution from a Nazi
supporter to a determined opponent
of Hitler, revealing him to be a more
complicated figure than previously
understood.

Let Go or Hold Fast,
Beaufort Poems
by Susan Schmidt
’71 (Library Partners
Press.)

In her new book of
poems, Susan Schmidt
celebrates shorebirds and mourns
their 70-percent decline. She observes
coastal critters while sailing, rowing,
swimming, and walking beaches with her
Boykin Spaniel. She regrets loss of habitat
to development, rising sea level, tourist
trash, and motorboat wakes.

When Action Follows
Heart: 365 Ways to
Share Kindness by
Susan Spencer ’86
(Hay House Inc.)

When Action Follows
Heart was inspired by
the Kindness Project, a monthly column
in Woman’s Day Magazine that highlights
good deeds and everyday kindnesses from
readers from all over. The idea behind it
is simple: to showcase readers’ kind acts
toward others.

Full of practical advice; uplifting
stories; and inspirational quotations, this
book is a must-have for anyone looking to
bring positivity and joy into their lives—
and the lives of others.

The Food and Drink
of Seattle: From Wild
Salmon to Craft Beer
by Judith Dern ’71
(Rowman & Littlefield
Publishers.)

Judith Dern’s latest
book offers a comprehensive exploration
of Seattle’s cuisine from geographical,
historical, cultural, and culinary
perspectives. Seattle’s culinary history is
vibrant and delicious, defining the Puget
Sound region as well as a major U.S. city.
Exploring the Pacific Northwest’s history
from a culinary perspective provides an
ideal opportunity to investigate the area’s
Native American cooking culture, along
with Seattle’s early boom years when its
first settlers arrived.

Patriotic Ayatollahs:
Nationalism in Post­
Saddam Iraq by Caroleen
Marji Sayej (Cornell
University Press.)

In Patriotic Ayatollahs,
Caroleen Marji Sayej
explores the contributions of senior clerics
in state and nation-building after the 2003
Iraq war. Sayej suggests that the four
so-called Grand Ayatollahs, the highest­
ranking clerics of Iraqi Shiism, took on an
unexpected political role after the fall of
Saddam Hussein. Drawing on unexamined
Arabic-language fatwas, speeches, and
communiqués, the book analyzes how
their new pronouncements and narratives
shaped public debates after 2003.
a rally at the rotary in Mashpee, Mass., on June 30 against the separation of immigrant families. Turnout was great, and the driver of each passing car honked or gave the “V” sign. Ellen reports that there were 16 such rallies on Cape Cod. Rona Shor continues to serve on the committee for College for a Day in Denver. Fellow committee member Mary Bartholomay Raynolds (Wellesley ’74) gave Rona a treasure from her late mother, Wilma Swissler Bartholomay ’41; Rona scanned it to a CD and the original book to President Bergeron for CC’s archives. Rona writes: “Some of the songs are politically incorrect by today’s standards. Many are hilarious. Some words are no longer in our vocabulary. This is so much fun to share.” Let us know if you would like in on the fun. Last winter, Marian Silber had several lunches, dinners and shared birthday celebrations with Ruth Zakeske Leibert, Asia Rial Elsbree and Susan Kirshnit Woodall in Naples, Fla. Marian, Ruth and Susan also had season ballet tickets at the Philharmonic in Naples. After returning to NYC, Marian had a weekend visit from Rona Shor that included dinner with Carol Katz and Claire Gaudiani. Marian also had lunch at Claire’s home to celebrate Claire’s 50th wedding anniversary. Marian was a bridesmaid at Claire’s wedding, and Claire and Marian enjoyed looking at all of the old pictures. Marian remains in touch with classmates from our 50th Reunion Committee and is looking forward to the 55th in 2021. Please continue sending your news to ccnotes66@gmail.com. We love hearing from you!
and James spent three weeks touring Umbria and Tuscany. Andrea Hintlian Mendell and Patti thank everyone on the Reunion Committee and all of the participants for making our 50th such a success. Andrea wrote, "Almost 80 classmates returned to enjoy a weekend including a large turnout (30 strong) for Thursday night’s dinner at Mr. G’s; a campus tour; 1968 video/discussion with Professor Blanche Boyd; and a Sykes Society Luncheon featuring a panel of classmates Kathryn Bard, Katherine Sussman Howe, Judith Irving, Amy Greenberg Poster and Carol Caruso Mancusi-Ungaro discussing the impact of CC’s art and art history departments on their career choices and successes. In addition, Joan Pekoe Pagano helped to keep us in good health and Judith Irving shared her award-winning documentary, Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill. Our class dinner continued with 1968-themed table decorations done by Phyllis Benson Beighley. The highlight of the evening was President Bergeron and husband Butch serenading us with their rendition of ‘I Got You Babe!’ On Sunday, we closed with a discussion at Buck Lodge moderated by Helen Epps. Everyone found this event validating. We are much more alike at this stage in our lives than we are different. The Koiné Gold and the 1968 video can still be purchased, and we are still accepting donations to our Class of 1968 Scholarship Fund." Nancy Finn Kukura said it was an honor to edit Koiné Gold for our Reunion celebration. "And what a celebration it was! Thanks to all of you who participated in creating a wonderful record of our lives since graduation. If you missed it — our 55th is not so far away!" And I, Mary Clarkson Phillips, second the Reunion comments. It was wonderful; thanks to all who helped plan it and who participated. There are many photos shared by classmates available on a Reunion Google Drive; if you need information about the link to see the photos, let me know. Please keep your news coming; we all love to know what is happening in the lives of our friends from CC.

Correspondent: Judi Bamberg Mariggio, 1070 Sugar Sands Blvd. #384, Riviera Beach, FL 33404 jgmariggio@bellsouth.net Greetings classmates, I hope you are getting ready for our 50th reunion next spring! Harry and Anne Bonniol Pringle enjoyed a May vacation to Slovenia and Croatia with Peg Kaempfer Harjes and her husband. “Fabulous scenery, great food (especially truffled pastas in Istria), and lovely old seaside towns.” Joan Hosmer Smith hiked the Dolomites in northeast Italy with a group of friends. She’s been backpacking with the Wilderness Women every year since 1996. “We’ve progressed now to European refugios, chairlifts, beer, wine, showers and having drivers to transport our gear.” Joan looks forward to Reunion. Kathleen MacInnis Kichline and her husband recently relocated to Bella Vista, Ark., and wonder if any classmates are in the northwest Arkansas area. Peggy Magid Elder still escapes Philadelphia winters to New Zealand (Dunedin on South Island), a natural evolution of 40 years of marriage to a Kiwi. She wonders if any CC grads live in NZ, especially since she visits relatives on both North and South Island. Peggy continues to stay in Paris every September, keeping in contact with a few French majors who live there. Her husband is a melanoma specialist at the Hospital of U. of Pennsylvania and travels frequently; Peggy enjoys accompanying him. Stephanie Phillips stopped in Old Lyme to visit Rene Shedlosky on her drive home from Maine in early August. “It’s always fun to catch up. My daughter Bonnie, a professor at U. of California, Irvine, had baby boy Jonah in March, our first grandchild!” Jane Rafal Wilson is “wonderfully busy” in retirement. She still does occasional freelance editing of presidential oral history transcripts for U. of Virginia’s Miller Center. Last year she began learning clarinet and hopes to join a local group. She and husband Ralph (who had surgical injury in May) are going to Spain this fall, so she’s learning Spanish. And Jane loves her pool: “In Virginia, that’s six months of swimming a year. Life is good!” During a two-week stay in Scotland, Alice Reid Abbott “attended a real Scottish wedding, kilts, bagpipes and all. We had some excellent haggis, and my favorite beef-and-ale pie, among other Scottish treats!” Ellen Robinson Epstein’s family continues to expand. “Three grandchildren born in 2018 brought us to 15, 12 of whom live within walking distance to us.” Ellen still (happily) runs Concierge America, Inc., with five employees. Husband David is not practicing much law anymore but has started writing plays with legal themes, one of which was written up on the front page of the Wall Street Journal. Ellen looks forward to Reunion and can’t imagine that “we are now the old people we saw at their 50th when we graduated in ’69!” Retired after 33 years of teaching, Tina Scott Brogadair loves volunteering at her school, helping first-graders and reading to classes in the library. “My husband and I have learned to play bridge from my mother’s dearest friend, who is 100 years old!” Tina loves having more time to visit her six grandchildren, who live outside of Boston and DC, and she looks forward to seeing friends at Reunion. In April Brian and Kris Stahlischmidt Lambert spent two weeks in Thailand with daughter Beth, son Jason, and his wife, Chantisa. They stayed in Bangkok for a week and then drove seven hours to Chaiyaphum in the northeast, an area near the Cambodian border that is rarely visited by tourists, where Chantisa’s family lives and where she grew up. During a 14-hour layover in Dubai on the way home, they hired a personal guide to escort them around “this amazing, very modern city.” Based in Montevideo, Maria Varela Berchesi visited her son and family in California last spring, which she does yearly to keep up with her grandson, now 10. Maria also traveled to Sydney and both islands in New Zealand. In August, she took “the greatest trip,” accompanying daughter Agustina to Harvard U., where Agustina has a Fulbright Scholarship to earn a master’s in leadership in education. Maria met up with Zoé Aponte Diamond and Ann Barber Smith for lunch in Portsmouth, N.H. “We had a wonderful afternoon catching up and visiting the lovely town.” Bob and Prudy Wilson Barton “moved in late June from a Lanesborough, Mass., hill farm to the hamlet of New Hamburg, N.Y., near the banks of the mighty Hudson River. I’ll miss the blue nature of Massachusetts, but seeing our children more often and grandchildren new and old is the priority. Ready to celebrate with classmates next spring!”

1969 classmates Ann Barber Smith, who lives in Exeter, Zoi Aponte Diamond, who with husband John was escaping the August FL heat in Portsmouth, and Maria Varela Berchesi, visiting Cambridge from Montevideo, met for lunch on the Portsmouth, NH docks and toured the historic downtown. "Great conversation and reminiscing!"
Save the Date for Our Holiday Parties

San Francisco
Tuesday, December 5, 2018
6 - 8 p.m.
Hosted at the home of Sarah Schoellkopf ’97
San Francisco, CA 94127

Northern Virginia
Thursday, December 5, 2018
6 - 8 p.m.
Old Town Hall
3999 University Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

Washington DC
Thursday, December 6, 2018
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
National Press Club
529 14th St NW
Washington D.C. 20045

New York City
Tuesday, December 11, 2018
6 - 8 p.m.
Haven Rooftop at the Sanctuary Hotel
132 W 47th St,
New York, NY 10036

Boston
Thursday, December 13, 2018
6 - 8 p.m.
The Harvard Club of Boston
374 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

Please register online at rsvp.conncoll.edu by December 1. Questions? Please call the Office of Alumni Engagement at 860-439-2300.

70 Correspondent: Myrna Chandler Goldstein, mgoldst@massmed.org

Martha Sloan Felch brought her long career in banking to a close in July 2017. She has launched a nonprofit consulting practice that focuses on board development and governance, "based on decades of nonprofit board experience." She also makes lots of time for friends and family, volunteer projects (historic docent, hospital volunteer, women's enterprise certification volunteer and the Class of '70 reunion team) and exercise (yoga, walking, cycling and golf). Every other month she travels to the DC/Alexandria, Va., area to visit daughter Sarah Felch Ettinger '07 and her family, including granddaughter Elizabeth, born in December 2016. Martha has been working with Mary-Jane Atwater, Lucy Thomson, and Meg Sweeting to organize mini-reunions in DC and Boston for our classmates to reconnect before Reunion. "I suspect that there are many interesting stories of 'new chapters' at this stage."

Mary-Jane Atwater is thrilled that LOWLINC, the nonprofit she co-founded, continues to grow. It helps seniors in the community of Lake of the Woods remain in their homes as they age. She also plays golf, works out at the gym, reads and gardens. Mary and her husband traveled to Central and South America, where a high point was their visit to Machu Picchu. She most enjoys visits to Boston to see granddaughter Poppy. Mary's older daughter, Emily, works as a financial manager in Boston; younger daughter Gillian is a pediatric otolaryngologist at Mass Eye and Ear. Last spring, Emily ran the Boston Marathon to raise money for medical missions in memory of Dr. Lina Bolanos, who was murdered with her fiancé last year. The money enables specialists to travel toLina's native country of Colombia and perform essential surgeries on underprivileged children and families. As for the Goldsteins, our most recent book, Vitamins and Minerals: Fact versus Fiction, delves into the actual research on various supplements. Please email your updates!
Flyways not Highways

Benjamin O. Sperry '79 talks to Kay Carlson '88 about the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes.

East of Cleveland, the border separating the cities of Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights runs along a modest-size ribbon of greenery and lakes. This welcome patchwork, known as Shaker Parklands, is in part a recreation site. On a typical sunny day it draws the full spectrum of users you'd expect—joggers, bicyclists, dog walkers, birders, and hand-holding couples out for a stroll. In addition, it includes a bit of history, featuring some scattered vine-covered ruins of a stone grist mill from the 1840s when the Shakers inhabited the area.

The area is also the home of the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. And for the past decade, the head of the Nature Center has been Kay Carlson '88, a native Clevelander and career environmentalist.

Carlson leads an organization started in the 1960s by a group of anti-development activists remembered fondly (if a bit patronizingly) as "the little ladies in tennis shoes." Under Carlson, the environmental center and habitat preserve has stayed connected to this "freeway fighter" legacy, with the "ladies" regularly cited as green icons. But it also has become a mainstream community institution with an expanded range of programs, notably in outdoors education, much of it targeted to children from the inner-city. The Nature Center now has 35 staff members (10 full-time) and about 900 volunteers. In terms of space, it totals about 20 acres of woods and wetlands at its main site, and its staff advises on land and water issues regarding some 300 total acres.

Carlson has either walked or visited just about every square foot of this domain. She grew up a few blocks away in Cleveland Heights; she visited as an elementary school student on class trips; she interned at the Nature Center, as an education assistant, during high school. In 2008, after serving four years on the board of trustees, Carlson became head of the Center's staff, first as interim director and then, more recently, as executive director, president and CEO. Her leadership perch gives Carlson a unique perspective on her organization's storied origins and how they align with the current mission. If not for the Center's intrepid founders, she says, "We would have lost the opportunity to shape the next generation of scientists, educators, environmental planners and conservationists."

The Nature Center was the brainchild of a forward-thinking and well-connected group of women who, more than 50 years ago, were looking to thwart a proposed highway project. The idea that they could stop this project, which enjoyed the overwhelming support of the region's political and business establishment, seemed preposterous at the outset.

"The founders had the courage to fight for what they believed in and we have a responsibility to continue that fight into the future," Carlson says.

"We're proud we're 15 minutes from the nearest highway. "The theme of the Center's benefit this year underscores its identity and its feisty roots: 'Flyways Not Highways.'"

The Nature Center's beginnings were a dramatic move to stop bulldozers; its current work is more prosaic, but just as important. A main function of the Center is education. On any given weekday at least one yellow school bus can be seen berthed in the Center's parking lot and the spirited sounds of groups of small children can be heard from various spots in the woods. A number of Carlson's staff members are environmental educators. The Center has a program with the Cleveland public schools (and also with two suburban school districts) to bring in students for visits and to train their teachers in a science curriculum. With outdoor education an easy target for school-district budget cutters, Carlson is forced to make up the shortfall by seeking grants. Sources like the Cleveland Foundation help keep the Center's Applied Science for Kids program and related initiatives going.

"Most of my time is fundraising," Carlson admits.

Carlson seemingly has been preparing for her role since her days studying human ecology, anthropology and marine biology at Connecticut College. Or perhaps even before, when, as a young girl, she would sit in an apple tree at her parents' summer cottage in Mentor, Ohio, look out over the waters of Lake Erie and envision a work life defined by the outdoors.

It's been an upwardly mobile journey that, since her time in New London, has taken her to Duke University for a graduate program in environmental management, to coastal resource planning work for the State of Florida, and then to leadership positions back in her native Cleveland with both a regional river planning organization and with the state chapter of the Nature Conservancy. She joined the Nature Center's board in 2004.

In many ways, Carlson says, her job is akin to running a business. Sometimes she muses that an MBA and a business background might have better prepared her for running the Center.

"I spend a lot of time on finance and budgeting issues, human resource problems, marketing—all things that business people have to think of. The biggest challenge is that we're never done here. Time, people and money—there's never enough. It just comes with the job."

Benjamin Sperry is an historian, educator and freelance writer based in Cleveland, Ohio.
Correspondents: Lisa McDonnell, 134 W Maple Street, Granville, OH 43023, mcdonnell@denison.edu; Lois Olcott Price, 933A Alto Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501, loprice@yahoo.com Reunion co-chairs An-Ming Sze Truxes and Lois Olcott Price wrote that the terrific Tori McKenna from CC has accepted the position of Director of Alumni Engagement and will help with the planning of our golden reunion in 2021. An-Ming attended the golden reunion of the Class of ’68 to observe and consult their class leaders. A major takeaway: Koiné Gold, our reunion memory book, is a big production that we need to start on now by identifying co-editors. Please contact An-Ming (atruxes@gmail.com) or Lois (loprice@yahoo.com) if you are interested. The College provides a template, significant technical support and a consultant. In advance of 2021, we encourage you to host local/regional get-togethers to connect with classmates. We will provide the email list and assist with details. Thanks to Fran Gammell-Roach and Anne Maxwell Livingston, who will host our first mini-reunion in Rhode Island this fall. Lucy Van Voorhes reports that summer is good on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. She works four days a week, and off-hours she still raises and trains show ponies. They have a wonderful innkeeper for their B&B in Berlin, Md., so Mark is back living on the farm and writing, and the garden is flourishing. Terry Swayne Brooks and Byron have four grandchildren ages 10 to 18 months. She loves retirement, but Byron still enjoys working. They spend three days a week at their Maine lake home, where sister-in-law Lynda Brooks Crowley lives next door. Terry has a huge rubber plant that she bought on day two at CC (September ’67); it was a spindly dorm-room decoration but 51 years later is quite impressive! Linda Herskowitz Kriger and husband Jake recently sold their home and moved into temporary quarters while they build a smaller, single-level house. Linda teaches Mussar, a Jewish tradition of character development, and is board chair of the Center for Contemporary Mussar, based in Philadelphia. Her sons both work in the entertainment industry in Philadelphia and New York. The family, including seven grandchildren from Jake’s children, enjoy spending time at their house in Ocean Grove, N.J. Jake continues his psychotherapy practice and completed a triathlon to celebrate his 70th birthday. Linda is considering relearning the pieces she played for her senior piano recital to mark its 50th anniversary in 2021. Deborah E. Johnson continues as publisher and editor of The Groton Herald, the weekly newspaper she started in 1979 (with a five-month-old baby). Her husband joined her there after his retirement four years ago. Three grown daughters are following their own career paths, which do not include community journalism. Joanne Settel is a professor emeritus at Baltimore City Community College and continues to write science books for older children. Her newest, Your Amazing Skin from Outside In, is written in rhyme and available in September. The next one, on digestion, is due out September 2019. Joanne and husband Barry enjoy traveling and visiting their daughter and grandkids in New Jersey and their other daughter in Hawaii. They also love bridge and walking the paths in their Columbia, Md., neighborhood. Louisa Hammond Garrison enjoyed a beautiful summer at Cape Cod, where sons, daughters-in-law and three grandsons visit often. She hopes everyone saw the article “The Ancient World” in the last CC Magazine, which featured son Tom Garrison ’00, who has been doing some pretty amazing work in Guatemala. He credits his years at CC with setting him on that career path. Betty Breg Masson is traveling again after a second hip replacement. Last fall, she visited friends in Luxembourg, drove through northern France to visit WWI battle sites, then crossed via the Chunnel for a week in London. Winter saw a Caribbean clipper ship cruise, and spring brought a long drive on the Natchez Trace. In August, she planned a trip to Seattle, including a chartered sailboat and a visit to son Rob (a data scientist at Facebook), daughter-in-law Laura (a family-life photographer) and grandson Oliver, 3. At home in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., Betty is involved with the Shaw Festival Theatre and the Niagara Historical Museum, reviewing its document archives, giving lectures on historical figures and writing articles for the local paper on historic homes. In New Haven, Cynthia Parker is happily retired from academia and from opera ushering, and she enjoys auditing classes in entirely new subjects, including plant and marine sciences. She says having a liberal education, particularly cultivating so many interests, makes life tolerable in later age. During the last eight years, she has lost her father, mother, brother and godmother at two-year intervals, and yet she still finds life happy, thanks to her CC experience. The Class of ’71 sends sympathy to the families and friends of Nancy James Pavlik, who passed away June 21, and Roberta Finley, who passed away June 30.
CC Magazine could do an article about our class, who matriculated in 1968, right after Bobby Kennedy died. We were the classic at the time excluded women? How did the CC experience help us to become influential professionals, whether as teachers, journalists or female masters of the universe in finance? (Anyone interested in writing this article? Pat makes some interesting observations!)

Merrily Gerrish’s nephew, Peter Meyjes ’21, is a sophomore at CC. She hopes to visit him at Conn this fall, with her 92-year-old mother! Peg Mischell Jackson and Paul are enjoying their second home in Waikiki, which is particularly strategic in paring travel time from Paul’s business trips to Guam, Japan or Singapore. Peg continues to enjoy her work as a compliance officer at the Academy of Art University, based out of San Francisco. Thank heavens for the internet, as she has colleagues located all over the U.S. and in Europe.

Pat makes some interesting observations! Merrily Gerrish’s nephew, Peter Meyjes ‘21, is a sophomore at CC. She hopes to visit him at Conn this fall, with her 92-year-old mother! Peg Mischell Jackson and Paul are enjoying their second home in Waikiki, which is particularly strategic in paring travel time from Paul’s business trips to Guam, Japan or Singapore. Peg continues to enjoy her work as a compliance officer at the Academy of Art University, based out of San Francisco. Thank heavens for the internet, as she has colleagues located all over the U.S. and in Europe.

Correspondent: Stuart Sadick, stuart.sadick@gmail.com
Luanne Rice was sorry to miss Reunion but hopes to attend the next one. She is still close to her freshman roommate, Diane McKeever, and hopes they can return to Branford and reminisce. “We had the big room with the bay window just above the front door, an amazing room in a dorm that was, at the time, all women. We used to love the tradition of tea every Wednesday.” For the last few years, Luanne has been writing young adult novels, published by Scholastic. “I feel very lucky to be working with everyone there and for the chance to write from the perspective of young characters, to remember what it’s like to be 16 again — not that I’ve ever forgotten. I’m working on a grown-up novel too, set partly in New London.” Steven Levy wrote that last March, Scott Vokey, Andy Williams, Dave Gosnell, John Kaufman and he traveled to Whitefish, Mont., where Dave Kelley ’76 has settled, “for some carousing and a touch of skiing.” Steve and Leora have been busy. Twin sons David and Michael live in NYC. Michael is in private equity, and David is a CFA who just received his MBA from Columbia. Youngest son Benjy works in DC in politics. Steve and Leora were honored at a reception at the New York Yacht Club for Soldier Strong (www.soldierstrong.org), which funds advanced equipment for the aid and rehabilitation of wounded warriors. “They gave us the Leora & Steven Levy Spirit Award, which will now be awarded annually, for our work in building the organization.” Leora continues to serve as the Republican National Committeeewoman for the State of Connecticut, and Steve continues as chairman of the board of the Middle East Forum (www.MEForum.org). “I still work every day in New York in the real estate business, but none of these involvements has prevented me from sailing!”

Kathi Funk Sholder moved from the DC area to Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1993 and is now preparing a bigger move — to Lisbon, Portugal. Not that she’s been stalking her friend Cathy Fleischer ’78, but they both lived in Takoma Park, Md., before moving to Ann Arbor. After working for nonprofit and performing arts organizations for many years, Kathi became a teacher, graduating in 2002 with a master’s in education. She taught elementary school and then became a private tutor, loving having her own business. She hopes to continue teaching English as a Second Language and enjoying the semiretired life overseas.

Correspondents: Laurie Heiss, PO Box 540, Redding Ridge CT 06876, laurieheiss@gmail.com, and Sue Greenberg Gold, 40 Clinton Street, Apt. PHA, Brooklyn, NY 11201, sgold51@yahoo.com A small, delightful group was in attendance for our 40th reunion. Despite nasty weather on Saturday, we enjoyed events including the lobster lunch, a curated walk in the Arboretum, Laurie Heiss’s book talk in Cro, Mike Armstrong’s talk in Cummings, the class parade, the college update anchored by President Bergeron, a lovely dinner, an a cappella concert in Harkness and hanging out in the dorm. Robin Leitner recently welcomed grandson Jude. She’s been the assistant director of Women’s Philanthropy of Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest New Jersey for 13 years and lives in Morristown with husband David and dog Axel. Still in the Windsor, Conn, area, Susan Slotnick Lentini continues to teach, now in a family room parenting center instead of kindergarten or special education, and loves celebrating milestones with these parents and children. Her daughter is also a teacher. Susan and her husband just celebrated their 37th anniversary. Lyn Tranfield Bennett enjoyed Reunion and spending time with CC classmates. She works for Kronos, Inc., developing and managing the education subscription program. Both children have graduated from college (Vera from Fordham; Chris from Drew). Sue Calef Tobiason is enjoying life again after being diagnosed last summer with colon cancer and enduring four months of chemotherapy. In February, after her treatments ended, Sue and husband Arthur celebrated with a two-week “victory vacation” to Florida. Peter Jarrett earned a PhD in polymer science in 1983 (U. of Connecticut), then worked in biodegradable polymers for 40 years, specializing in sustained drug delivery and developing numerous patents. He is the

ADMISSION 101
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Connecticut College | Nov. 4 & 5

Hosted by the offices of Admission and Alumni Engagement for alumni whose high school juniors are preparing for the college admission process.

- Identifying a college that’s the right fit
- Applications: what works and what doesn’t
- Making your pitch and standing out from the crowd

Space is limited to 40 families. Registration fee is $75 per family. All registrations are processed online or over the phone, and enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, visit www.conn.jg.edu/alumni/programs/events or call 860.439.2100.

FALL 2018 | Class Notes 55
Emily Callahan Hazelwood '11 married Luke Hazelwood in Maine last June. L-R (back row): Michele Riotta '11; Will Powell '11; Trevor McGraw '11; Kevin Ford '11; Luke Hazelwood (groom) Peter Musser '08; Henry Friedman '12; Connor Matzinger '10; Natalie Musser '11; L-R (middle row): Elise Dunn '12; Myself, Emily Callahan Hazelwood '11; Rebecca Heupel '11; Caitlin Munns '11; Delaney Vartanian '10; Ada Spahija '11; Kiefer Robers '11; L-R (bottom row): Seamus Joyce '11; Jamie Sharpless '11; George David '10

Anna (Magliaro) Bozzuto '05 and Michael Bozzuto were married in Branford, CT on October 6th, 2017.

Susana Salazar '10 and Justin O'Shea '10 celebrate their wedding in January with fellow Conn alums Emmet Markin '10, Maywadee Chhanvanichkit '09 and Oscar Guerra '11.


Andy Drummond '10 and Michelle Lin Drummond '11 were married on August 19, 2017 in Wilton, CT. Camel Jamie Shrinler '09, Matthew Zientek '10, Keith Winking '11 and James Jackson '11 were in attendance.

3 generations of camels in Nashville, TN last April for the wedding of Caroline Knoblock Myers '14. From left: Ellen Harris '80, Caroline Knoblock Myers '14, Marie Waterman Harris '56.
chief scientific officer at Ocular Therapeutix and has two grown sons (the younger is CC grad Tim Jarrett '13). Peter is remarried and living in Lexington, Mass. Ellen Ramsbotttom enjoyed being back at CC for Reunion, especially since younger son Tim Jarrett ’13 was back for his 5th reunion. Older son Ben is married and working in DC for a congressman and traveling the world. Ellen is still passionate about connecting people with books as a buyer and co-owner of Porter Square Books in Cambridge. She lives by the water in Marblehead and rows as often as weather allows. Debbie Craig Merrick lives in Bedford, Nova Scotia, with husband John, a retired lawyer/professor. Following grad school (Yale, MPH ’80 with Sue Greenberg Gold), she worked in health care administration and health professions education for many years in Boston and Canada. Her mother lives in Rhode Island, so Debbie often treks to see her and to be on New England soil. Daughter Annaka is studying at Queen’s U. in Kingston, Ont., heading toward a career in law. Marge Nelson Macintyre is enjoying reinventing herself after a great career in IT marketing at IBM and other companies while living in beautiful New Canaan, Conn., for many years. She and husband Gary enjoy “retirement” to their lake house, five minutes from Okemo, for year-round fun. Marge works at home in sales for Tauck tours. Son Gregory occasionally takes a break from his IT career in Memphis to visit. Jean Von Klemperer Makris and husband Phil Makris ’79 have been living in Manhattan Beach, Calif., for 15 years, after 12 years of expat life in eastern and western Europe. Daughter Elizabeth, living in Nyc, and CC friends bring them east several times a year. After CC, Diane Grady Evans began a career in insurance claims and has been managing casualty claims for 36 years. She’s been happily married for 26 years to Robert Evans and has four kids (Justin, Brandon, Tara and Corinne), with three in college. Diane is now a litigator, actively practicing immigration law with a focus on asylum removal and defense. She loves to serve members of the community and is thankful for her CC education, which gave her the academic foundation to achieve her full potential. Cheryl Tate Harrigan lives in West Haven, Conn., and has been married to E.J. Harrigan of Anguilla, BWI, for 30 years. She worked for USI Insurance Services for 30 years and now works as a senior account executive in commercial property and casualty insurance. Cheryl enjoys trips to Anguilla and other Caribbean islands. She has a passion for creating fabric art pieces and has sold much of her work, donating proceeds to fundraisers. She and Diane Grady have been friends for 44 years, and Cheryl is godmother to Diane’s four children. Rindy Regan Hallarman and Peter Hallarman were tempted to write “status unchanged” since Peter is still doctoring skin issues and Rindy is still obsessed with child development and educational issues. But ... changes are in the offing as they look forward to retirement and new adventures. Daughter Nicole lives in the Bay area of California with husband Ethan, and Sean and fiancée Tara are in L.A. Sean works in digital music at Amazon, and Tara is in commercial production. Ben Sprague shared his Reunion experience with daughter Caity Sprague ’13, celebrating her fifth reunion. Son Ben Sprague ’20 loved his sophomore year at CC. Ben has sold Nordhavn trawlers for 12 years and splits time between boat shows and travel to building yards in Taiwan and Xiamen, China. He attends the Annapolis Boat Show regularly, where he reconnects with Skip Pearre. Susan Greenberg Gold shared everyone’s excitement to attend Reunion. She still serves as the executive director of the Brooklyn Heights Synagogue, now just two blocks from where she and husband Steve (still a federal U.S. magistrate judge in the Eastern District of New York courthouse) have lived since 2012. They both feel 20 years younger without commutes and have lots of energy to visit their musical sons in New Orleans and Chicago. Sue enjoyed reconnecting with the small but wonderful group of Reunion friends, seeing the beauty of the campus and hearing about the growth yet to come. Sue volunteered to serve as co-correspondent with Laurie Heiss and will be tracking down our classmates to gather news and stimulate greater engagement over the next decade!
Yamba Malawi, an organization dedicated to helping orphans and vulnerable children in Malawi. His freshman roommate, Peter Bakkala, plans to run in the BrookJyn, N.Y., half-marathon to raise funds on behalf of the organization.

90 Correspondent: Toria Brett, 30 Washington Avenue, Northampton, MA 01060, victoriabrett@comcast.net As part of her 50th birthday celebration Abbe Bartlett Lynch met up with Julie Perry in Portland, Ore., and did a four-day bike trip in the Willamette Valley. “Great fun, lots of miles, lots of good wine and a first for me!” She also visited Whistler, B.C., with husband Andy and kids Kieran (16), Drew (10) and Sarah (7) for a long weekend that included downhill biking. “So proud of my kids for trying something brand new (and a little scary the first run)!” Abbe’s other “gift” to herself was finally dealing with her right hip, which has been going downhill since 2012. So she is recovering from a July surgery with a goal of getting back to rowing by the winter and back on a bike prior to that. Christopher O’Hara lives in Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., with wife Jennifer and three kids (18, 16 and 10) and frequently sees alumni including New York–based Tod Mercy ’91, Craig Low ’91, Zach Samton and Mike Reiter ’91 and San Francisco–based Anton Malko ’91, Joe Cioni ’91, Lorenzo Levinger ’91 and Nick Dimitriu ’91. His previous company, Krux, was acquired by Salesforce, and now Chris runs marketing for the Data & Audiences group there. Chris’s book, Data Driven (McGraw-Hill), about how data and artificial intelligence are transforming marketing, comes out in October. “Come visit in NYC or Long Island!”

95 Correspondent: Stephanie Mendes, 5329 Oliver Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55419, sailson@basoomer.com Rebecca Rosen Shapiro has been promoted to senior vice president at Shore Fire Media, a boutique entertainment PR and online-marketing firm with offices in Brooklyn, Los Angeles and Nashville. Shore Fire’s award-winning campaigns in the fields of entertainment, music, book publishing, fashion, and consumer products and services have won praise for their high quality, integrity and sense of artistry. Rebecca also sits on the board of directors of the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, which presents the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, and works closely with the MPN Research Foundation, a nonprofit founded by her father that drives research for rare blood cancers. Shapiro lives in Chelsea with her husband and two children, ages 8 and 12.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or to become part of the Society, please contact Brittany Richard at brichar2@conncoll.edu or visit giving.connoll.edu.
In her first semester at Connecticut College, Lera Shynkarova '20 took a Connections class called Build Community, Create Change. She came away inspired by the course's critical examination of civic engagement. “I had this innate feeling that I wanted to create something; I wanted to work with people,” the economics major recalled. “I realized that I needed to do something to introduce students to the community, but not make it a one-way relationship—make it beneficial for both sides.”

Just a few weeks into her college career, inspiration struck: She would build a mobile application that led users on a “quest” through New London. The app would provide an interactive way to learn more about the history and development of the city by guiding students on a journey across their new hometown.

While the idea percolated during that first year, Shynkarova realized that it may be too ambitious a project to take on so soon. However, there was one way that she might be able to pursue the concept—by incorporating it into an Integrative Pathway, a type of academic track built into the Connections curriculum.

**SHYNKAROVA FIRST HEARD** about Integrative Pathways during orientation.

Coordinated by interdisciplinary groups of faculty members, each pathway is organized around a central theme, from Public Health to Migration, Global Capitalism or Creativity. Students explore that theme inside the classroom and out through study abroad, internships or civic engagement.

When Shynkarova found out about the Entrepreneurship, Social Innovation, Value and Change Pathway, “it was just like magic,” she said. “I knew that I wanted to do it and see what it could offer.”

Pathway students also create an “animating question” that guides their journey. Shynkarova’s was: How do we introduce small and medium-sized businesses in New London to the campus community? Her answer: via an interactive mobile app.

But the budding entrepreneur also wanted to understand how to make her venture profitable.

“Not because I want to get rich, but because I think that there should be a mutual benefit both for me as a producer of a good and for other people who would benefit from the good,” she explained. “How do people actually create something valuable and profitable out of their own ideas?”

**SHYNKAROVA, WHO GREW UP** in Belarus, knew that she wanted to study economics when she arrived at Conn. However, she also wanted to experience the broad academic range that a liberal arts institution has to offer.

“Back home, it’s very different,” she said. “You have a
really strict pathway you follow. I always knew that I wanted more flexibility.”

In order to incorporate other subjects and questions into her major studies, she has taken classes in fields such as art and sociology, as well as more standard economics fare like game theory.

“Part of me wanted to do something different with economics, rather than investment or just analyzing theories,” Shynkarova said. So when the pathway came along, it seemed like the perfect fit.

“Every class led me to this moment when I realized that this pathway was just a good way to combine everything that I’d learned.”

Integrative Pathways are a key part of Conn’s mission to create global citizens and successful professionals, according to Professor of Computer Science Gary Parker, the Entrepreneurship Pathway coordinator.

“Understanding what goes into entrepreneurial pursuits gives our students better awareness about how social innovation and businesses develop,” Parker said.

“We have a high percentage of creative and innovative students at Connecticut College,” he added. For students like Shynkarova, “the Entrepreneurship Pathway enables them to learn both theory and application, so that they can bring their ideas to fruition.”

**AFTER ENROLLING IN** the pathway during her sophomore year, Shynkarova and her classmates began to dissect the very notion of entrepreneurship.

“As an entrepreneur—a person who is leading the project—you should not be creating a product, getting it fully developed and then presenting it to people,” she said. Instead, you should be “testing all of your different assumptions and ideas, and then adjusting them in the process.”

This complicated her thinking about the app—in a good way.

Where she had initially considered a simple question-and-answer format—users would travel to a location in New London and then read a clue or a piece of historical information on their mobile device—this now seemed too simple.

So she set about building a range of interactive features that would vary the users’ quest experience—“not just staring at your phone and trying to find a clue or solve a riddle,” she explained. “People can teach you way more than textbooks or mobile apps, so I really wanted to have more interaction.”

The next step will be testing those features in order to understand which are most appealing.

“For now, I’m trying different mediums to see how I can display messages and clues and how I can communicate with people,” Shynkarova said. “Afterwards, when I see the statistics and speak with people, then I will be able to say, ‘this is the better version or the better feature.’”

Last summer, with the help of funding from the Academic Resource Center[.2], Shynkarova also traveled to Ukraine and Russia to learn more about the kinds of features users prefer in a quest-style app.

“I realized that a lot of people love touching real paper [and] speaking with people,” she said. “The more features I can involve and the more interaction I can involve, the better the relationship between New London and the students will be.”

**THOUGH THE PRODUCT** is not yet finalized, Shynkarova remains focused on the fact that it must “promote this idea that there is much more in the community around you, and this can be beneficial to you and you can be beneficial to it as well.”

Does she see future career possibilities growing out of the project?

“I wanted to explore as many things as I could during my first two years of college. Now, I feel like this is something that I would love to work on and do more of—creating those interactions between students and the communities they live in,” she said.

As for next steps—these may include bringing the app idea to other colleges in the region or even encouraging students at those institutions to create similar tools of their own.

Whatever her future holds, Shynkarova knows that “the journey of how I will come up with this app is way more important than the app itself.” After all, that’s what quests are all about.

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Connections Corner updates you on the happenings around Connections, from news features and podcasts about how Conn is redefining the liberal arts to our meaningful pathways to the animating questions students ask themselves as they orchestrate their own education. Learn more at: [www.conncoll.edu/connections](http://www.conncoll.edu/connections)
Kate (Bowsza) Ristagno '05 and husband Rob welcomed their first child, daughter Helena Jo, on 9/1/17.

Correspondents: Stephanie Savage Flynn, 21 Whiting Road, Wellesley, MA 02481, stephaniesavageflynn@gmail.com, and Cecily Mandl Macy, 8114 Flourtown Avenue, Glenside, PA 19038, cecily.mandl@gmail.com

Kate Bowsza Ristagno and husband Rob welcomed their first child, daughter Helena Jo, on Sept. 1, 2017.

Correspondent: Michael Hogan, 318 Rhode Island Avenue NE, Unit 103, Washington, DC 20002, gnat85@aol.com

In summer 2018, Kimberly McCabe '07 studied avian and tropical ecology in the Amazon. Kimberly, a science faculty member at Beaver Country Day School, lives in Chestnut Hill, Mass., and is a graduate student in Miami U.'s Earth Expeditions. Alan Weene received the degree of Master of Design Studies in Sustainable Design from the Boston Architectural College in May.

Correspondent: Anakena Paddon, anakena.paddon@gmail.com

Lalita Russ Moskowitz graduated from the U. of New Mexico School of Law in May. In September, she began her new position at the American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico, where she is an Equal Justice Works Fellow funded by Anonymous. At the ACLU-NM, Lalita is working to expand access to reproductive health care and family services for women incarcerated in New Mexico prisons and jails.


Born in 1935 in Monte Carlo, Susan and her family lived in Florida, California, and New York City before settling in Arizona. Susan received her bachelor's degree in philosophy from New York University and earned her Ph.D. from Yale University. After 20 years of instruction in the philosophy of law at Conn, she opted for a new career, earning a master of divinity degree in pastoral counseling at Yale Divinity School. Susan spent many years thereafter in active practice in New Haven and Old Lyme.

As a long-time resident of Old Lyme, Susan was a supporter and volunteer for many charities and local institutions. She was an active parishioner at the Church of St. Agnes in Niantic, where she served the parish as lector and co-chair of the bereavement ministry.
1930's
Gladys Bolton Berlow '36, died January 31, 2009
Penelope Paulson Kuehn '39, died June 19, 2017
Virginia Taber McCamey '39, died April 8, 2015
Ursula Baare-Schmidt '39, died June 18, 2018

1940's
Marguerite Wishart '40, died February 12, 2015
Carolyn F. Blossom '42, died in 2015
Constance Hughes McBrien '42, died November 8, 2015
Amy Fleming Chatfield '43, died February 15, 2018
Constance Hall '43, died April 3, 2018
Betsy Clarendon Hartnett '43, died October 21, 2008
Barbara Snow Delaney '44, died March 10, 2018
Jane B. Hewes '44, P'72, died July 6, 2018
Catherine Wallerstein White '44, died April 24, 2016
Lois Hanlon Ward '44, died May 22, 2018
Phyllis Gotschall-Wilhelm '44, died March 27, 2018
Jeanne M. Davies '45, died May 28, 2017
Barbara T. Hoehn '45, died July 19, 2018
Janet McDonough Mullen '46, died April 14, 2005
Patricia Brown '46, died May 26, 2018
Prudence Slocum Day '47, died January 23, 2018
Jean Dockendorff Finch '47, died January 29, 2017
Mary Carl Hamilton '47, died March 10, 2017
Florence P. Johnstone '47, died June 11, 2012
Patricia J. Metropolis '47, died July 11, 2018
Doris Russell '47, died December 22, 2017
Virginia B. Slaughter '48, died July 16, 2018
Edith D. Wilhelm '48, died May 25, 2018
Annis Gilmore Williams '48, died October 5, 2009
Joan Jossen Bivin '49, died June 22, 2018
Janet Simmons Eblen '49, died April 8, 2018
Margaret McEchron Bowden Krarup '49, died December 24, 2012
Jane Downing Chandler '49, died April 1, 2018
Elizabeth (Betty) Grace Tursman (Doolittle) '49, died June 9, 2018
Helen-Mae Knafel Askin '49, died June 6, 2018

1950's
Suzanne Cook Barunas '50, died May 4, 2018
Janet Doherty McCarthy '50, died July 21, 2018
Gloria S. Paolella '50, died October 13, 2016
Norma Ritz Phelps '50, died March 9, 2018
Vera Santaniello McQuown '51, died February 13, 2011
Julie Clark Bonta '52, died March 31, 2018

1960's
Suzanne Cook Barunas '50, died May 4, 2018
Janet Doherty McCarthy '50, died July 21, 2018
Gloria S. Paolella '50, died October 13, 2016
Norma Ritz Phelps '50, died March 9, 2018
Vera Santaniello McQuown '51, died February 13, 2011
Julie Clark Bonta '52, died March 31, 2018

1970's
Roberta A. Finley '71, died June 30, 2018
Corinne Shia '72, died May 16, 2018
Elizabeth "Libby" Ann Fitzpatrick '73, died June 2, 2018
Marjorie Gattuso Parry '77, died May 6, 2018
Lois Christine Johnson Hughes '78, died April 3, 2018

1980's
Richard Charles Brayshaw Jr. '86, died June 16, 2018
Laura Maguire Hoke '86, died July 22, 2018
Thomas Reiling '87, died June 19, 2018

1990's
Roberta Meyer Lombardino ALMA '91, died April, 2018
Ellen Emma Kleis Turley '96, died April 13, 2018
Restoring Baroque Music: Zuckermann Harpsichords International has been restoring vintage harpsichords and building new ones for more than 40 years. Located in Stonington, Connecticut, and owned by Richard Auber '83, the shop's musicians and craftsmen bring the musical and artistic furnishings to the instruments, which helped to develop Baroque music between the 16th and 18th centuries. www.zhi.net
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Bird's eye view

Connecticut College's Arboretum received national accreditation in June. Read more at ccmagazine.conncoll.edu