Departments

3 Notebook On Broadway with David Byrne, VR for CBD, summer science and Andalusian olive oil

17 Athletics Update Water Polo

45 Class Notes

64 Full Stop 10k Instagram followers

Features

18 The Uncertainty Specialist Andrea Jones-Rooy ’04, a professor of data science at NYU, is skeptical of data.

24 History of Remembrance Award-winning photo curator Karen Haas ’78 exposes us to Gordon Parks.

32 The Flash of Light Did Stephen Hawking dream of landscape architecture, asks David Rubin ’85.

36 The Gender Spectrum Photo essay about the changing definitions of gender.

42 Not Just for Kids Jenny Marchick ’99 has helped herald a golden age of animation in Hollywood.
In September, I spoke at the Times Higher Education U.S. Student Success Forum in New York City. The forum brought together a variety of educational experts and university leaders to discuss the best ideas for improving student outcomes, and the advantages offered by an education in the liberal arts. In my panel discussion, I talked about Connections, our reinvention of the liberal arts at Connecticut College, and how it prepares today’s students for next-generation success.

Our mission at Connecticut College is to educate students ‘to put the liberal arts into action.’ Connections empowers students to achieve this, adding even more relevance to their studies, by combining the traditional academic major with a personally meaningful pathway of interdisciplinary study, off-campus learning, internships and other avenues for professional development. Through this integrative approach, students unleash their curiosity; learn complex thinking; and develop creative and practical solutions to the challenges they will encounter in the new global workforce.

Is Connections working? Our students think so. The Class of 2023 is strong, diverse, international, and large, with 508 students from 33 different countries: 27 percent are students of color; and one out of six are the first in their families to attend college. In a recent survey, more than 94 percent of these students identified Connections as the primary reason they chose to come to Connecticut College. And this year marks a milestone for Connections as we prepare to graduate the program’s first cohort of students in the Class of 2020.

The culminating event is an All-College Symposium, scheduled for November 7, where more than 200 seniors will present the results of their work over the past three years. They will highlight the connections they have made among their courses and research, their jobs and internships, their work in the local communities and around the globe—along with the questions that animated their choices along the way. The whole campus will be engaged in this inaugural event.

I am excited that our first-year and sophomore students will have the chance to learn from our seniors as they chart their own journeys through Conn.

This issue explores the pathways taken by some of our alumni and the ideas that have illuminated their very different lives. We include an essay by New York University professor and comedian Andrea Jones-Rooy ’04, who examines the efficacy of big data. Landscape architect David Rubin ’85 writes about how Stephen Hawking’s Theory of Everything inspired the landscapes his firm designs. And Karen Haas ’78, curator at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, exposes us to the photography of chocolate gardens. Finally, we consider the changing definitions of gender by profiling five of our alums who showcase their identities and what gender means to them.

Katherine Bergeron
American Utopia

Annie-B Parson ’98 is an award-winning choreographer, director and co-founder of the Big Dance Theater in New York City. Since 1991, Parson has choreographed and co-created more than 20 works with the theater, including pure dance pieces, plays, literary adaptations and original works. She recently collaborated with David Byrne, lead singer of the rock band The Talking Heads, choreographing his American Utopia tour, which runs on Broadway this fall. Parson previously worked with Byrne on his musical Here Lies Love, which appeared at both the National Theater and Public Theater in London, and on his 2008 and 2012 tours. Parson has choreographed operas, ballets, symphonies, television, film and a range of other mediums, and has been recognized with a number of prestigious honors, including the Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, an Olivier Award nomination in choreography, a Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grants to Artists Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship in Choreography and two BESSIE awards, among many more.
Conn Names New AD

Maureen “Mo” White has been named the next director of athletics and chair of physical education at Connecticut College.

As the first woman to serve as director of athletics at Conn, White will take the helm at a pivotal moment in the evolution of the athletics program.

“We are very fortunate to have found in Mo White a talented leader with the skills, values and experience to take our athletics program to the next level of excellence,” President Katherine Bergeron said.

As director, White will be responsible for overseeing the success of 28 intercollegiate sports together with 45 coaches and staff. This includes overseeing plans for the renewal of athletics facilities, leading the department in developing a vision for the future of athletics at Conn, and supporting the College’s student-athletes to compete within The New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) at the highest level of Division III.

“The New England Small College Athletic Conference is one of the most competitive conferences in Division III athletics, with a deep history of academic excellence and athletic achievement. Connecticut College is well positioned to deliver an even stronger student-athlete experience, and with our talented coaches, we are well on our way to getting there,” White said.

White holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from Providence College, where she played Division I tennis, and a master’s in sport management from the University of Connecticut. Prior to Conn, she served as the director of athletics and chair of the Department of Physical Education at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

Motor City Moguls

When Jay Yunas ’22 applied for the Forbes Under 30 scholarship last summer, he didn’t think he’d actually be chosen to attend the program’s four-day summit in Detroit, Michigan, alongside the likes of tennis star Serena Williams, AOL co-founder Steve Case and a long list of the world’s most influential entrepreneurs, inventors, athletes and movie stars.

But in a welcomed surprise, Yunas was selected as part of an exclusive group of 1,000 scholars from across the U.S. to participate in the summit’s events, which include lectures led by international business leaders and celebrities, networking events with potential employers and investors and a variety of industry-specific field trips throughout the Detroit area. The scholarship, which provides free access to the summit, is part of Forbes’ Under 30 program that identifies the most talented students and young professionals under the age of 30 each year in a wide range of fields.

“I honestly did not expect to get selected, but I am thrilled about this incredible opportunity to meet and learn from a diverse group of innovative thinkers and problem-solvers,” said Yunas, an international student from India majoring in computer science and economics with a minor in finance.

“I’m especially looking forward to interacting with other scholars and professionals who are passionately working toward purpose-driven business, and to connect that knowledge with the work I’m doing at Conn, particularly within the framework of the Entrepreneurship Pathway.”

The summit will convene young, diverse and innovative scholars and professionals from more than 70 countries to share ideas, network and collaborate. Detroit was chosen to host the summit because of the city’s rich history of innovation and entrepreneurship that make for an ideal setting.

“This is a very prestigious event and a terrific opportunity for Jay to meet other young scholars who share his passion and to receive advice from top leaders in their respective industries,” said Carmela Patton, associate dean of the College, dean of the sophomores and international student adviser. “We’re very proud of Jay and excited that he will be representing Connecticut College at this summit.”

Yunas says he’s humbled to represent Conn on a global level and can’t wait to share what he learns with his fellow students when he returns.

As for the speakers he’s most enthusiastic about hearing from?

“I can’t wait to hear Serena Williams and (NBA player) Kevin Durant speak,” he says. “As a sports fan, especially when it comes to basketball, having this opportunity to learn from two of the world’s greatest and most influential athletes is a dream come true for me.”
Hale Center for Career Development

The state-of-the-art Hale Center for Career Development is now open in Fanning Hall, a central hub of academic activity. The move coincides with the launch of a new career curriculum—designed to help students develop professionalism and hone their skills in researching, networking and storytelling—and a new Flexible Funding Program that makes multiple funding opportunities for internships and career preparation available during a student’s years at Conn.

“For a College that puts the ‘liberal arts into action,’ there could be no better place for our career office than in the center of campus. It sends a powerful message to our community—and to prospective students and families—that we are serious about supporting students in identifying and pursuing meaningful career opportunities throughout their college experience,” said Dean of the College Jefferson Singer.

Supported by a gift from Robert Hale ’88 P’20 and Karen Hale P’20, the 3,135 square feet of new space on the first floor of Fanning, renovated this summer, includes the Office of the Hale Center for Career Development, “smart” conference rooms, interview spaces, and a welcoming environment for visiting employers. Other features include three new classrooms, a new slate roof and a new elevator, making all four floors of the building accessible for the first time in its 90-year history. Importantly, the east entrance to the building, closed for decades, is now open, effectively making the career office the front door to campus.

“One of the goals of our strategic plan, Building on Strength, is to develop the very best liberal arts career program in the country,” said President Katherine Bergeron. “Thanks to Rob and Karen’s extraordinary generosity, we are well on our way to making that vision a reality.”

Career planning is a cornerstone of Connections, Connecticut College’s reinvention of the liberal arts. With the support of a team of advisers, including a career adviser, students connect their coursework to off-campus learning experiences, internships and other professional development to build the skills and confidence they need to identify, develop and pursue their career goals.

“From their first day on campus, our students are creating personalized action plans and building the academic and professional skills they will need to thrive in life and in work,” said Persephone Hall, the Hale Family Director of the Hale Center for Career Development.

“The career office has a long and distinguished history of preparing students to put their liberal arts education to work as leaders and change-makers in the world. This new, modern space will benefit the entire community and ensure that the tools, programs and services we offer are even more accessible.”
Into the Wild

Anna Laprise ’20 heard a mysterious rustling of leaves, and then, in an explosive burst, an alarmed rabbit came charging from the woods and darted across the hiking path. An instant later, it became obvious what the rabbit was running from.

“A huge fisher cat darted out just behind the rabbit and then they both disappeared again into the woods,” Laprise recalled.

That encounter was one of many memorable experiences Laprise and her fellow students have shared as part of Conn’s Outdoor Adventures program, which offers a variety of opportunities to explore the New England wilderness.

The program, which initially began in the spring of 2018 as a club organization, is now a formal program in the Office of Student Life that provides a number of ever-expanding trips and outings that range from weeklong camping excursions to local kayaking activities. The multiple kayaking trips have been so popular that the program forged a partnership with New England Science and Sailing, a nonprofit that has collaborated on several trips near campus.

Each trip has at least two student leaders who have been interviewed and selected by Geoff Norbert, assistant dean of student engagement and new student programs. Thus far, all student leaders—15 in total—have gone on to earn a Level II kayaking certification from the American Canoe Association.

Sophia McLaughlin ’20, a student leader who has been involved with the program since her first semester at Conn, said the trips have given her opportunities to expand her social group. She’s especially proud of the growth she’s seen among the students who have participated.

“I’ve always been a real nature enthusiast, and watching people fall in love with the outdoors during these trips has been incredibly gratifying,” McLaughlin said. “It’s exciting to be part of a program that has undergone such an impressive transition from a small club into a College program that is constantly expanding and offering more trips and a wider variety of activities.”
Jarrett Krosoczka spoke to Conn students in a print workshop course.

One Book. One Region

The first time *New York Times* bestselling author Jarrett Krosoczka publicly told the story of his upbringing in a family plagued by addiction, he had just four hours to prepare.

“I got a call on a Friday afternoon,” Krosoczka told a packed audience of faculty, staff, students and community members at the annual One Book One Region event at Connecticut College Sept. 17. The headliner for TEDxHampshireCollege had dropped out, Krosoczka said, and the producer wanted to know if he would fill in.

“I said, ‘Okay, is it this Saturday? Is it next Saturday?’ She said, ‘No … it’s tonight.’”

Undeterred, Krosoczka took the stage to tell the story of how he went from a little boy who loved to draw to the author of dozens of books for children, including the wildly popular *Lunch Lady* and *Jedi Academy* graphic novel series, nurtured by his teachers and the grandparents who raised him in the midst of his mother’s heroin addiction.

The impromptu talk went viral, and inspired Krosoczka to write *Hey, Kiddo*, a graphic memoir about his search for his father, his difficult interactions with his mother and his path to becoming an artist, which would go on to become a National Book Award Finalist.

“As an author, I present at elementary, middle and high schools. Every single place I went, I would meet a person who related [to my story], because they had a parent who had an addiction, they were being raised by grandparents, they had a parent who was incarcerated, they had a parent who died in an overdose,” Krosoczka said.

“It wouldn’t matter: suburban, rural, urban. I could be at a private school with an incredibly expensive tuition; I could be at a school that was 99 percent free and reduced lunch. In the same sentence, they are saying, ‘I like to draw Garfield too, and also my mother’s addicted to heroin.’

“I thought, here’s a story I always thought I might want to write; now this is a story I feel the responsibility to write. I’ve lived this experience, I know the emotions, and I have a unique way in which to deliver the story.”

Thousands of people in the greater New London region read *Hey, Kiddo* as part of the One Book One Region of Eastern Connecticut initiative, including all Connecticut College first-year students. Krosoczka’s visit to the region was the culminating event for the program, which included dozens of book discussions, lectures, artists workshops and other events all across eastern Connecticut.

This is the fourth year the College has partnered with One Book One Region to bring community members and the College community together to discuss ideas, broaden appreciation of reading and break down barriers among people. Previously, the College hosted *Exit West* author Mohsin Hamid, *Homegoing* author Yaa Gyasi, and *Just Mercy* author Bryan Stevenson.
HOW DO YOU CONVINCE doctors that the first FDA-approved medicine made with CBD—an active ingredient derived from marijuana—is the real deal? Traditional pamphlets and printouts just wouldn’t do, Colin Forsyth ’15 realized. Instead, Forsyth and his team at The Bloc, a full-service health creative agency, launched a virtual reality experience that takes physicians inside the meticulous manufacturing process for Epidiolex, a highly purified, clinically tested oral medication approved by the FDA for the treatment of two rare and severe forms of epilepsy.

Donning VR glasses, doctors can see every step of the manufacturing process—“from greenhouse to lab to bottle”—and meet the patients who are benefiting from the medication, like 4-year-old Grace, who was having 400 seizures a day, which dropped to single digits on the medication.

The project was recently honored with an international health care communication award, the Creative Floor Award for best use of technology. Forsyth majored in art at Conn and earned a certificate from the Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology. After graduation, he worked for a social media startup that eventually went out of business, then for a smaller design studio.

“I was living in New York City and trying to make my way as a designer. I told myself, ‘Whatever I do, I should help people in some way,’” Forsyth said.

That’s when he found The Bloc. The company’s motto, “Be great to do good,” resonated with Forsyth, despite the fact that he knew very little about the health care industry.

“I knew I could contribute something different; that distilling lofty scientific problems into something I could understand would be beneficial, because if I can’t understand it, the audience can’t either,” he said.

While Forsyth never imagined he would be using his skills to showcase human genome sequencing technology and CBD medications, he has found in health care communications a niche market for innovative creative design.

“It’s about tapping into human emotion and empathy,” he said.

In addition to client-based work, The Bloc challenges its employees to think creatively about ways to solve virtually any health problem. Once a month, the company hosts a pitch competition for ideas like “Memories for Memory Loss,” Forsyth’s pro bono partnership with Tribute, a platform that allows users to easily create video montages.

The service is marketed as a unique gift for birthdays, anniversaries, weddings and graduations. Users can invite friends and relatives all over the world to make a video for the recipient, and Tribute compiles them into personalized montages.

“I thought, ‘This could be a health product,’” Forsyth said. “For people with dementia, watching loved ones share memories can help them live in the moment and not feel so isolated.”

Forsyth partnered with Tribute to create a special version of the platform tailored to the dementia community, then launched the product with video of a family revealing their Memories for Memory Loss tribute to their elderly father with dementia.

“It was extremely moving. He would hear one memory, and it would trigger something else that the family hadn’t heard him recollect in years,” Forsyth said.

The campaign was extremely successful, with social media click-through rates far exceeding initial expectations.

“We are arming caregivers with a way to reconnect with their loved ones,” Forsyth said. “When you are really passionate about the work, the results will follow.”
ANJUM SHAIKH ’22 knows if you’re paying attention.

As part of the Connecticut College Summer Science Research Institute, Shaikh spent eight weeks conducting funded neuroscience research and developing an alert system that is capable of monitoring neurons in the brains of test subjects to detect when their minds begin to wander.

For those of us who are notorious daydreamers, this technology, which uses a process called electroencephalography, may not seem especially appealing at first. But the potential impact on a wide range of specific occupations could actually save lives.

“This type of research is incredibly important when it comes to any task requiring sustained attention that can be a bit boring, such as an everyday activity like driving,” Shaikh explains. “But it can also apply to people who have jobs that are typically quite repetitive, like TSA agents who screen luggage for weapons, or radiologists who examine X-rays for signs of abnormalities. It’s crucial for these types of professionals to remain focused, as slip-ups could be dangerous.”

The system works by tracking the brain’s neural activity in real time and then sounding an audio alert the moment somebody’s attention begins to falter, snapping them back into focus.

This is the second year in a row Shaikh has participated in the Summer Science program, which provides campus housing and a $4,000 stipend, and involves an eight-week intensive research project overseen by faculty. This summer, 42 students were accepted to participate in a variety of projects with 20 different professors from across the math and science departments.

The students present updates on their research throughout the eight-week period in weekly colloquia with their fellow summer science participants, and the program culminates with a poster symposium in the fall during which students share their work with the entire College community.

“This is a way to give students a significant head start compared to their peers from other schools,” said Emily Tarsis, a lecturer in chemistry who is coordinating the 2019 Summer Science Research Institute.

“We see this as an important tool for science students to immerse themselves in the language of science the way world language students study abroad for their immersive experience,” she added.

Grace Kovic ’21, who has participated in the Summer Science program the past two years, worked with Assistant Professor of Chemistry Jacob Stewart on his current research analyzing the gas Isoprene using Infrared Laser Spectroscopy. Isoprene is a key gas found in the Earth’s atmosphere and plays an important role in the production of ozone and other gases related to climate warming. Levels of the gas in a person’s breath may be linked to medical conditions as well, such as lung cancer.

“I’ve learned more than I ever imagined I would during these few short weeks, but I also had a lot of fun,” Kovic said. “Spending summer days with a group of students and professors who share my scientific interests has been great.”
Alexis Kerher ’02 is teaching the world to love Spanish olive oil.

BY DOUG DANIELS
IN AN OVERLY AGGRESSIVE effort to persuade the residents of Athens to relinquish possession of their city, the Greek god Poseidon thundered down his mighty trident upon the brittle stone of the Acropolis, creating a fissure that released a torrent of salt water.

Impressed, but not yet convinced, the mortals decided to entertain other offers. So Poseidon’s niece Athena, goddess of wisdom and justice, (also interested in Athens real estate), opted to take a different approach and created the first olive tree as a gift to the people.

The mortals went with the more diplomatic Athena, choosing the bountiful tree, and today the green and silvery leaves that sway gently in the breezes gracing the Mediterranean represent a powerful culinary and symbolic force throughout the entire region, particularly in Spain, which happens to produce more olive oil than anywhere else on Earth and boasts prestigious historic roots, having provided the Roman Empire with its olive oil.

Alexis Kerner ’02 lives in the center of that olive paradise, in Seville, Spain, and she’s teaching people every day how to appreciate the nuances and complexities of olive oil.

Kerner is an expert olive oil taster and founder of the Olive Oil Workshop in Seville, where she hosts tastings, pairings and tours of local mills and farms throughout the Andalusian region of southern Spain.

When I spoke to her by Skype one summer afternoon, she’d just returned from Jerez, the Andalusian city renowned for its fine sherry. She spends much of her time in the Spanish countryside meeting with oil producers and familiarizing herself with their products, something that perfectly combines her professional background and education in environmental studies with her passion for good food. And in Spain, there’s virtually no food that isn’t accompanied in some way by olive oil; even certain gourmet cocktails find a way to incorporate it.

“When I first got to Spain, I thought everybody was crazy, because there was nothing they didn’t want to put olive oil in,” Kerner says. “Every American recipe they wanted to make with olive oil. It was their solution to everything. You’d have a rash or something, and they’d say, ‘Oh, put olive oil on that,’” she adds, laughing.

### Olive Oil Cocktail

- **2 parts Sweet Anis from Rute**
- **5 parts Peach juice**
- **2 parts Apple juice or concentrate**
- **1 scant part Hojiblanca olive oil from the Subbética, preferably Conde de Mirasol**
- **Ice for shaking**
- **Mint for garnish**

*Chill all the ingredients except the olive oil prior to mixing*

*Shake the mixture vigorously with ice*

*Serve in a very cold fluted glass, garnish with mint*
But after reading about the history of Sephardic food in Spain, Kerner decided to take a class about olive oil, and she developed not only an understanding of this Spanish culinary obsession, but decided to leave her job working for a government environmental agency and train to become an olive oil sommelier.

In the U.S, there’s a tendency to limit olive oil to salad dressing and pasta sauce, so the subtle variety of flavor profiles are lost on most of us. In countries like Spain, expert tasters make a living by detecting those subtleties and are even required to obtain government certifications and undergo intensive training in the same way wine sommeliers do.

Spain belongs to a regulating body called the International Olive Oil Council, where it joins fellow members that include France, Italy, Israel, Montenegro and Iraq in adhering to strict production and chemical guidelines with the oils they produce. Each of these countries must have a dedicated laboratory for chemical analysis and trained tasters like Kerner who are qualified to run the labs. America has no such regulation, so oil labeled as extra virgin (the purest and highest quality available) is often of far lower quality and hasn’t gone through a cold extraction process using a centrifuge, the way true extra virgin oils must.

But chemistry is only half the story. Before an olive oil can be declared extra virgin, it must also unanimously appease the palates of an eight-person panel of experts who can detect even the slightest defect, such as the residual flavor of mold that may have been on the olives during the extraction process, or a hint of vinegar that disqualifies an oil from achieving extra virgin status. Learning the distinct flavors of oils from each area of the country also requires tremendous skill.

“Spain has about 260 varieties of olives, and each one has a different characteristic that reflects the climate and growing conditions, just like grapes that are used to make wine,” Kerner explains. “For example, in the south of Spain, an Arbequina olive will create a somewhat spicy oil, whereas in the north of Spain where there’s more rainfall, those olives lead to smoother oils with little spice.”

An understanding of this diversity informs the food pairings Kerner teaches in her workshop. “If you’re having fish, I’d recommend one of those lighter Arbequina oils from northern Spain, as opposed to a spicier, slightly bitter Picual from the south,” she says.

When she’s not conducting tastings or touring mills, Kerner judges olive oils in countries ranging from Israel to Portugal. But her first love is educating people how to broaden their use of olive oil in unconventional ways, whether it’s putting it on their toast in the morning, drizzling it on fruit or mixing it with cocoa powder and powdered sugar to create a healthy chocolate sauce for ice cream.

“I love teaching, and have a great time showing people how to distinguish between quality extra virgin olive oil and the imposters,” she says. “Good extra virgin olive oil can transform practically any food or recipe you can think of, and has significant long-term health benefits as well.”

For unique recipes, information on specific oils and details on Kerner’s tastings or tours, visit www.theoliveoilworkshop.com
STEPHANIA LOPEZ ’21 was named to the Association of Collegiate Water Polo Coaches Division III All-America Team, earning a place on the second team for the second straight season. Lopez has been named to the Collegiate Water Polo Association All-Conference Team twice and was the league’s Rookie of the Year in 2018. She led last year’s squad in goals (81), assists (30) and steals (35) and ranked second on the team in field blocks (8). She has received All-Academic recognition with a GPA above 3.7. For more information: camelathletics.com
Andrea Jones-Rooy ’04, a professor of data science at NYU who specializes in complexity, is skeptical of data.
After millennia of relying on anecdotes, instincts and old wives’ tales as evidence of our opinions, today most of us demand that people use data to support their arguments and ideas. Whether it’s curing cancer, solving workplace inequality or winning elections, data is now perceived as being the Rosetta stone for cracking the code of pretty much all of human existence.

But in the frenzy, we’ve conflated data with truth. And this has dangerous implications for our ability to understand, explain and improve the things we care about.

I have skin in this game. I am a professor of data science at New York University and a social science consultant for companies, for which I conduct quantitative research to help them understand and improve diversity. I make my living from data, yet I consistently find that whether I’m talking to students or clients, I have to remind them that data is not a perfect representation of reality: It’s a fundamentally human construct and therefore subject to biases, limitations and other meaningful and consequential imperfections.

The clearest expression of this misunderstanding is the question heard from boardrooms to classrooms when well-meaning people try to get to the bottom of tricky issues:

“What does the data say?”

Data doesn’t say anything. Humans say things. They say what they notice or look for in data—that only exists in the first place because humans chose to collect it, and they collected it using human-made tools.

Data can’t say anything about an issue any more than a hammer can build a house or almond meal can make a macaron. Data is a necessary ingredient in discovery, but you need a human to select it, shape it and then turn it into an insight.

Data is therefore only as useful as its quality and the skills of the person wielding it. (You know this if you’ve ever tried to make a macaron. Which I have. And let’s just say that data would certainly not be up to a French patisserie’s standard.)

So if data on its own can’t do or say anything, then what is it?

What is data?

Data is an imperfect approximation of some aspect of the world at a certain time and place. (I know, that definition is a lot less sexy than we were all hoping for.) It’s what results when humans want to know something about something, try to measure it, and then combine those measurements in particular ways.

Here are four big ways that we can introduce imperfections into data: random errors, systematic errors, errors of choosing what to measure, and errors of exclusion.

These errors don’t mean that we should throw out all data ever and that nothing is knowable, however. They mean that we should approach data collection with thoughtfulness, asking ourselves what we might be missing and welcoming the collection of further data.

This view is not anti-science or anti-data. To the contrary, the strength of both comes from being transparent about the
limitations of our work. Being aware of possible errors can make our inferences stronger.

**RANDOM ERRORS.** These happen when humans decide to measure something, and then either due to broken equipment or their own mistakes, the data recorded is wrong. This could take the form of hanging a thermometer on a wall to measure the temperature or using a stethoscope to count heartbeats. If the thermometer is broken, it might not tell you the right number of degrees. The stethoscope might not be broken, but the human doing the counting might space out and miss a beat.

A big way this plays out in the rest of our lives (when we’re not assiduously logging temperatures and heartbeats) is in the form of false positives in medical screenings. A false positive for, say, breast cancer, means the results suggest we have cancer but we don’t. There are lots of reasons this might happen, most of which boil down to a misstep in the process of turning a fact about the world (whether or not we have cancer) into data (through mammograms and humans).

The consequences of this error are very real, too. Studies show that a false positive can lead to years of negative mental-health consequences, even though the patient turned out to be physically well. On the bright side, the fear of false positives can also lead to more vigilant screening (which increases the chances of further false positives, but I digress).

Generally speaking, as long as our equipment isn’t broken and we’re doing our best, we hope these errors are statistically random and thus cancel out over time—though that’s not a great consolation if your medical screening is one of the errors.

**SYSTEMATIC ERRORS.** This refers to the possibility that some data is consistently making its way into your data set at the expense of other data, thus potentially leading you to make faulty conclusions about the world. This might happen for lots of different reasons: who you sample, when you sample them, or who joins your study or fills out your survey.

A common kind of systematic error is selection bias. For example, using data from Twitter posts to understand public sentiment about a particular issue is flawed because most of us don’t tweet—and those who do don’t always post their true feelings. Instead, a collection of data from Twitter is just that: a way of understanding what some people who have selected to participate in this particular platform have selected to share with the world, and no more.

The 2016 U.S. presidential election is an example of when a series of systematic biases may have led the polls to wrongly favor Hillary Clinton. It can be tempting to conclude that all polling is wrong—and it is, but not in the general way we might think.

One possibility is that voters were less likely to report that they were going to vote for Trump due to perceptions that this was the unpopular choice. We call this “social desirability bias.” It’s useful to stop to think about this, because if we’d been more
conscious of this bias ahead of time, we might have been able to build it into our models and better predict the election results.

Sadly, medical studies are riddled with systematic biases, too: They are often based on people who are already sick and who have the means to get to a doctor or enroll in a clinical trial. There’s some excitement about wearable technology as a way of overcoming this. If everyone who has an Apple Watch, for example, could just send their heart rates and steps per day to the cloud, then we would have tons more data with less bias. But this may introduce a whole new bias: The data will likely now be skewed to wealthy members of the Western world.

**ERRORS OF CHOOSING** what to measure. This is when we think we’re measuring one thing, but in fact we’re measuring something else.

I work with many companies that are interested—laudably—in finding ways to make more-objective hiring and promotion decisions. Often, the temptation is to turn to technology: How can we get more data in front of our managers so that they make better decisions, and how can we apply the right filters to make sure we are getting the best talent in front of our recruiters?

But very few pause to ask if their data is measuring what they think it’s measuring. For example, if we are looking for top job candidates, we might prefer those who went to top universities. But rather than that being a measure of talent, it might just be a measure of membership in a social network that gave someone the “right” sequence of opportunities to get them into a good college in the first place. A person’s GPA is perhaps a great measure of someone’s ability to select classes they’re guaranteed to ace, and their SAT scores might be a lovely expression of the ability of their parents to pay for a private tutor.

Companies—and my students—are so obsessed with being on the cutting edge of methodologies that they’re skipping the deeper question: Why are we measuring this in this way in the first place? Is there another way we could more thoroughly understand people? And, given the data we have, how can we adjust our filters to reduce some of this bias?

**ERRORS OF EXCLUSION.** These happen when populations are systematically ignored in data sets, which can set a precedent for further exclusion.

For example, women are now more likely to die from heart attacks than men, which is thought to be largely due to the fact that most cardiovascular data is based on men, who experience different symptoms from women, thus leading to incorrect diagnoses.

We also currently have a lot of data on how white women fare when they run for political office in the U.S. but not a lot on the experiences of people of color (of any gender), who face different biases on the campaign trail than do white women. (And that’s not even mentioning the data on the different experiences of, say, black candidates compared with Latinx candidates, and so on). Until we do these studies, we’ll
be trying to make inferences about apples from data about oranges—but with worse consequences than an unbalanced fruit salad.

Choosing to study something can also incentivize further research on that topic, which is a bias in and of itself. As it’s easier to build from existing data sets than to create your own, researchers often gather around certain topics—like white women running for office or male cardiovascular health—at the expense of others. If you repeat this enough times, all of a sudden men are the default in heart disease studies and white women are the default in political participation studies.

Examples abound. Measuring “leadership” might incentivize people to be more aggressive in meetings, thus breaking down communication in the long run. Adding an “adversity” score to the SATs might incentivize parents to move to different zip codes so that their scores are worth more.

I also see this play out in the diversity space: DiversityInc and other organizations that try to evaluate diversity in companies have chosen a few metrics on which they reward companies—for example, “leadership buy-in,” which is measured by having a chief diversity officer. In order to tick this box, it has incentivized a burst of behaviors that may not actually do anything, such as appointing a CDO who has no real power.

**WHY WE STILL NEED** to believe in data. In the age of anti-intellectualism, fake news, alternative facts and pseudoscience, I am very reluctant to say any of this. Sometimes it feels like we scientists are barely hanging on as it is. But I believe that the usefulness of data and science comes not from the fact that it’s perfect and complete but from the fact that we recognize the limitations of our efforts. Just as we want to analyze things carefully with statistics and algorithms, we also need to collect it carefully. We are only as strong as our humility and awareness of our limitations.

This doesn’t mean throw out data. It means that when we include evidence in our analysis, we should think about the biases that have affected its reliability. We should not just ask “What does it say?” but “Who collected it, how did they do it and how did those decisions affect the results?”

We need to question data rather than assuming that just because we’ve assigned a number to something it’s suddenly the cold, hard Truth. When you encounter a study or data set, I urge you to ask: What might be missing from this picture? What’s another way to consider what happened? And what does this particular measure rule in, rule out or incentivize?

We need to be as thoughtful about data as we are starting to be about statistics, algorithms and privacy. As long as data is considered cold, hard, infallible truth, we run the risk of generating and reinforcing a lot of inaccurate understandings of the world around us.
VIRTUAL REALITY, or "VR" as it’s commonly known, is one of several emerging technologies much, much closer than we realize.
For a museum curator, there are few things more gratifying than inadvertently discovering a famous artist’s unseen work. But for Karen Haas ’78, what began with a casual phone inquiry about a single photo by the late photographer Gordon Parks ultimately led to a stunning new book of Parks’ unpublished photos from 65 years earlier, a sad but enlightening road trip through the Midwestern United States, and one of the most powerful exhibitions the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, has ever produced. None of it could have been predicted.

Haas serves as the MFA’s Lane Curator of Photographs; she oversees a massive permanent collection of nearly 7,000 prints from virtually every era of photography, with particular emphasis on the work of American modernist photographers such as Ansel Adams, Edward Weston and Imogen Cunningham. She is also the recipient of the 2016 New England Beacon Focus Award from the Griffin Museum of Photography.

The Parks exhibition, which Haas curated in 2015, sprouted from a museumwide book project that Haas and her fellow curators from other departments were working on to showcase the works the museum held from various African American artists.

“We had this one Gordon Parks photo of a young couple outside of a segregated movie theater in a small town, but the information we had was extremely limited, and I couldn’t figure out where it was from,” Haas says.
A natural stickler for detail and a bit of an amateur detective, Haas set out to learn as much as she could about the mysterious photo. She made a trip to the Gordon Parks Foundation in upstate New York, where she was shocked to learn that her mystery image was part of an assignment for *Life* that Parks had taken on in 1950 but that had never been published, for reasons that remain unclear.

“I became obsessed with this whole story,” Haas says. “I went to Kansas, where the Parks archives are, and I read through all of his handwritten notebooks. I looked at the telegrams and correspondence related to that particular assignment [with *Life*], and I began to piece together the puzzle.”

In 1950, Parks was living in New York City and working as the first and only black staff photographer for *Life*. When his editors asked him to craft a photo essay on school segregation—a major national issue in the years leading up to the landmark 1954 Supreme Court decision *Brown v. Board of Education*—Parks suggested that he return to his hometown of Fort Scott, Kansas, in an effort to track down his 11 fellow classmates from elementary school, none of whom he’d heard from for more than 20 years. To explore segregation through such a personal lens was a novel concept at the time, but Parks was a rising star, and his editors agreed it would make the piece more powerful.

Sadly, Fort Scott, ravaged by decades of racism, violence and economic devastation, was still home to only one of Parks’ classmates when he arrived. Like millions of other black Americans since 1916, the rest had joined the Great Migration in search of better lives in urban areas such as Chicago, Detroit and New York. Nonetheless, Parks managed to track down nearly all of his classmates in other cities, and they agreed to be shot in raw, occasionally heartbreaking settings. Those photos—more than 30 altogether—made up “Gordon Parks: Back to Fort Scott,” the extraordinary exhibition Haas curated.

“What I loved about those images was that they were photographs of families and of people who were in different life situations when Parks found them, but they were taken with so much respect and strength, and there’s so much power in the trusting gazes you can see in many of them,” Haas says.

She was so inspired by the photos and the stories of each of Parks’ classmates that she hired a genealogist and recruited her husband—a photographer who also works at the MFA—to join her on a road trip in search of any living descendants of the men and women in Parks’ 1950 photos.

They didn’t meet with much success in finding any of the relatives, and all of the original homes of Parks’ classmates had been torn down, but Haas says the entire experience had a profound impact on her, both personally and professionally.

“It was a huge turning point in my career, and it really inspired me to focus as often as I can on making our collection more diverse,” she says. “That moment of realizing what the Gordon Parks exhibit meant to our community and seeing people and hearing from people who said it was the first time they ever saw photographs in a museum that truly look like their families—that was deeply moving.”

That philosophy has been on display in the years since, with exhibitions like “(un)expected families” (2017), which showcased a variety of photos challenging the conventions of traditional family portraits and celebrating the diversity of families today.

And earlier this year, Haas curated a critically acclaimed Ansel Adams exhibition that explored the legendary landscape photographer’s work through a new lens, by including some interpretations of his photographs by contemporary artists, who offered commentary on climate change and other modern environmental issues.
“Fifteen years ago, I did another Ansel Adams show here that was a great success, but for this one I couldn’t just hang the work without comment,” Haas says. “I feel as though the world has changed so much that our role as curators really is to respond not in a knee-jerk way, not in a simplistic way, but to our community, our neighborhood and to the politics of the moment.”

Growing up in a suburb of New Haven, Connecticut, Haas often visited museums with her parents and always felt at home in their serene environs. But pursuing a career in the arts wasn’t part of her plan until she randomly took an art history course at Conn to fill a hole in her class schedule.

That course triggered an epiphany, and she switched from studying early childhood education to art history, spending her summers interning at museums such as Boston’s Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, where she landed a job immediately after graduation and moved to Boston with a roommate from Conn, with whom she’s still close friends today.

The privilege of having such a powerful platform from which to expose people to artists and issues they may not be familiar with is not lost on Haas, and she’s especially excited about the opportunities she has to broaden the audience by sending certain exhibits on tour. The Ansel Adams show, for example, which includes works by several Boston-based photographers, will be traveling to Arkansas and Oregon.

“I’m really excited that his exhibit is going to places where it could be eye-opening to a lot of people and introduce them to some artists who are less well-known in the South and out West,” says Haas.

As the Lane Curator of Photographs, Haas makes sure to mention that the Lane Collection is unique in that it’s an incredibly personal collection—one that started with Adams’ photos—that was built by the donors over many years, but not as a financial investment or because these photographers were trendy.

William and Saundra Lane, longtime supporters of the MFA, began building their photography collection in the 1960s, developing close friendships with Ansel Adams and his wife, who introduced them to a number of other California-based photographers. When William passed away, Saundra donated their entire collection to the museum in what remains one of the largest gifts in the MFA’s history.

What’s particularly notable about that era of photography, Haas says, is that there was barely any commercial market for it, and a prevailing sense existed within the art world’s cognoscenti that photography—the relative new kid on the block—occupied a position far beneath other visual art forms. That perception has mostly changed, especially at the institutions where Haas has worked, which have always given photography equal billing.

For her next big project, Haas is working on an exhibition commemorating the centennial anniversary of women getting the right to vote. Set to open before the 2020 presidential election, it will entirely feature women photographers.

While she’s now a veteran curator, Haas’ enthusiasm for her work shows no signs of fading, and she credits those earliest experiences at Conn with setting her on this path.

“I still have vivid memories of sitting in those art history classes at the very beginning, in the most basic surveys where professors often just go through the motions, but my Conn professors were so animated and excited about the material that it was infectious,” she recalls. “It really comes down to great teachers, and I’m so grateful that I had these inspiring teachers who helped me carve out this niche as a curator. I wake up every day excited to come to work and to be a part of this field.”
THE FLASH OF LIGHT

David Rubin ’85 writes about how Stephen Hawking’s theory of everything influences landscape architecture.
Insomnia keeps three books by my bed. Sleeplessness is a trait inherited from my late father, who never slept well except on Sunday afternoons, with a game on and a soft couch in proximity. My burgeoning design practice, now six years old, keeps my head full of voices in the early morning hours—lively discussions I can’t seem to resolve without distraction—so hereditary insomnia means lots of hours with an opportunity to read.

At the bottom of the pile is Juhani Pallasmaa’s *The Eyes of the Skin*, an essay that describes the author’s concern for form-based architectural design—solutions that forget the human condition when defining enclosure. This is my constant reminder that landscape constructs are informed by the creation of space, not objects, and that successful landscapes create environments in which human beings feel comfortable enough to engage in conversations with one another. Places that are loved in the hearts and minds of citizens are those that will last, and I’m determined that my grandnieces and grandnephews will know me through the legacy of human-focused design works. Describing form is easy; defining space is hard.

During my tenure at the American Academy in Rome, a fellow Rome Prize recipient in the arts suggested I read Marcus Aurelius’ *Meditations*. I had recently separated from my old practice and partnership, and my fellow Fellow encouraged me to read the ’70s Penguin edition of the classic self-reflection so that I might understand what it means to be a good leader of my own newly formed studio, Land Collective. Aurelius was the last “good” emperor, who spent a significant part of his life in the lands now called Austria defending his known civilization against the unknown. Uniquely, he knew himself to be human, not a god, and wrote a personal log of emotionally resonant, reflective thoughts. His writings, never intended to be published, are filled with love and loss, fear and loathing, and a thoughtfulness that reveals how little human beings have changed in 2,500 years. Technology certainly has. But human behavior is, within reason, predictable. I keep the Hicks brothers’ version close now. The accessible, contemporary language brings Aurelius’ thoughtfulness into the 21st century.

At the top of the pile is Stephen Hawking’s *A Brief History of Time*. This accessible narrative about the origins and future of our universe (and beyond) speaks to Hawking’s life goal of finding the unifying maths that connect Einstein’s theory of general relativity with the study of quantum physics. For the physicist, this unification would be the theory of everything and a capacity to understand the poetry of *why*? Though Hawking’s desire wasn’t realized in his lifetime, the poetics and joyful aspiration of finding reason amidst the nearly intangible—that the union of two seemingly disparate ideas could provide a level of enlightenment that would bring great understanding—was an admirable and brilliantly conceived goal.

This notion of describing a universal theory, something that explains EVERYTHING, resonates in the darkness of the night, especially on summer evenings at the Jersey Shore, where my husband and I have a cottage, where limited light intrusion in the night sky allows the Milky Way to be visible. There is humbling vastness in the vacuum of all of that space, and great distances between points of light. It is an extraordinary display, reaching from horizon to horizon in a wonderfully subtle arc.

It might seem odd to believe in a correlation between Hawking’s work and my own. As a landscape architect who focuses on an empathetic approach to design problem-solving, equity in urban environments and inclusiveness, I am determined to design humanist constructs that allow very different sorts of people to socialize where they might not typically, a challenge in contemporary society worthy of exploration.

My work is not about curb appeal, although aesthetics is part of my design tool kit. It is also not the progressive verb “landscaping,” the word utilized in abundance on weekend home-fix-it shows. If you take away anything from these writings, please don’t ever describe the marriage of anthropology, sociology, ecological sciences and design as the sauce that is poured over a building to hide all of the mistakes.
and beautify its surroundings. Landscape architecture is a complex amalgam of disciplines, and landscape a politically charged social construct.

When I explain to people what I do, I start with the image of an apple on the ground, having fallen from a tree. And then I share an image of an apple orchard with a canopy-wide circle of apples immediately below where they once hung from that tree, perfectly arrayed on the ground. And I remind people that this red Newtonian orb is bound to the earth through gravity. I believe in gravity. It’s a universal truth. As such, it binds us all to this earth, this common ground. And this common ground is where we all stand, unified. Landscape is the most equitable discipline. It is the least-expensive means by which to affect the greatest number of constituents, particularly in an urban environment. When more and more have less and less, the connective tissue on which we stand has the potential to positively inform the breadth of constituency.

So, where does Hawking fit into this equation of gravitational pull? I actually think Steven Hawking secretly wanted to be a landscape architect. He didn’t realize this lofty goal in his lifetime, and it might just be my fantasy that there is any semblance of truth to this notion of mine, but here we go.

In his effort to describe his understanding of the theory of general relativity, Hawking references the speed of light as the one true constant in our known universe. He generates diagrams to describe an event, the brilliance of a momentary flash that travels outward at 6.706e+8 miles per hour in all directions to create an ever-expanding sphere. He maps it over time and cuts the sphere at intervals as time moves forward. In this process, a cone is formed, like a perfect confectionary. He describes this as a “future light cone”—all the things the expanding light will inform as it progresses outward into the universe.

Conversely, everything leading up to that moment of flash is a “past light cone”—all the events that informed that great, constant expansion funneling into that singular event. Everything that informs the moment is the relevant past; everything that is informed by that spectacular moment continues on ad infinitum. And everything else, those moments not informing, nor informed by, the flash are called the “elsewhere of P”: the elsewhere of the present. The elsewhere of P is everything not relevant to the momentous “flash.” It is the vacuum of space that separates the event, and potentially all of us.

And so, two cones meet at the pointy ends, everything leading up to and everything leading away from a significant event at the present moment. And the light of the future keeps moving outward in all directions.

The speed of light is constant, the one known thing, moving out in time at a rate of speed that is understood. But even Einstein realized that time is relative: Every person perceives time differently. You know this to be a relative truth. Think of your childhood, and those long, heady, summer days that never seemed to end when you were out catching fireflies. They were infinitely long days. Compare that to your adult workday. It can be compressed into a fleeting moment that passes imperceptibly or else expanded into an endless, elongated series of events that never seems to conclude. And yet the number of hours in a day remains the same.

So, if we all perceive time differently, those moments of spherical expansion move out relative to our individual understanding and position. We all stand on the same ground at the present moment in time. We all have our own future light cones, expanding out from the light within each of us. We all have a past that informs the present day, everything leading up to the moment of time that represents today, this day, this very moment. Each of us has our past and future light cones. And the elsewhere of P is the emptiness that stands between each of us.
And it’s that vacuum that I want you to appreciate. It can be vast. Using the past and future light cone diagrams, we can map the cone on a plane where the flash is the point of tangency. Acknowledging, as Einstein did, that everybody experiences time differently, we can begin to see something that describes each of us. We each understand time differently; each of us has these momentary flashes of light that define the present and inform the future. If we map these to the plane of landscape—the connective tissue that unifies us—that thing on which we all stand—then as we move through time, the ultimate goal is the unification of those mapped spheres describing our future. Eventually, there is a point of tangency and overlap that represents the union of those expanding spheres. These become the opportunity for connection and conversation, and the expanding light in the present moment becomes the potential spark of connection between us.

The study of quantum physics focuses on the anticipated patterns found within a seemingly random expression of atoms and subatomic particles. While one is mapping the randomness over time, predictable patterns begin to emerge. Human movement is not dissimilar. We move through time in seemingly random patterns, but actually we are fairly predictable as we move from home to work, or work to school, with the occasional diversion to the cleaners, convenience store or coffee shop. When you consider that each of these future light cones might represent each of us, and you marry the theory of general relativity to the patterned randomness of quantum physics, you find opportunities for serendipitous encounters fostering unanticipated conversations that just might surface the big idea that saves the world! One moves through time, responds to the quality and character of a well-designed space, meets another human being in that context, and says, “Hello”—and a conversation begins. That’s why Hawking wanted to be a landscape architect. In his aspirations for understanding the universe, he actually described all of us and the prospective power of connection.

And so I believe in gravity, and light, and serendipity, and in an effort to problem-solve on behalf of my clients, create humanist constructs where very different sorts of people—say, a chemistry professor and a young protester—might find themselves sitting proximate to one another, and as a result engage in conversation, and through that conversation kindle an idea, one that might save the world. And in an era of nationalism and xenophobia, it is conversations that elevate culture. We are more alike than dissimilar, a range of humanity separated only by minute particles of DNA and cultural nuance.

What Hawking described is actually what I do, and it’s kind of wonderful. In his depiction of the physics of light and pattern, and in his aspiration to understand what happens at the point of tangency, Hawking delivered a poetic rendering of my practice. So it’s that flash of light, that thing that resonates from within us moving out in all directions that has the potential to cultivate conversation through chance encounters. As a highly empathetic, secular humanist, I believe that there is light within each of us that defines us as individuals, and when you can work as a landscape architect to unify those flashes of light, incredibly powerful, beautiful things happen.

Perhaps Steven Hawking wasn’t exploring physics. Perhaps he wanted to be a landscape architect. With all due respect to physicists and those better versed in the calculations of matter and the (now realized) imaginings of black holes, I offer my late-night interpretation of Hawking’s aspiration to find the theory of everything—and why he speculated on what I do every day.

David Rubin is a landscape architect who owns the design firm Land Collective.
My little nephew likes to wear a princess dress and spin around in circles. He says it makes him feel magical like the Disney princess Elsa. He also likes to draw, paint and play with his trains and fire trucks, and his little body used to visibly shake with excitement when he saw a snowplow. He still sits on the couch on trash day to catch a glimpse of the garbage trucks as they pass. He’s one happy child living at the intersection of make-believe and realism. Will he become a firefighter when he grows up? Most likely, he will outgrow that wish. Will dresses still make him feel magical when he’s a teenager? Will the pronoun “he” be replaced with the gender-inclusive pronoun “they?”

Does it really matter?

When I was in middle school, my classmates teased me mercilessly because I played the violin. Apparently, the violin was a “sissy” instrument just as an Elsa dress is supposedly “ girly,” despite being nothing more than polyester fabric worn over one’s body, while trucks are considered “boyish.” I wanted to be seen as boyish, so I began hiding my big, brown, bulky violin case until the day I quit.

Whatever choices my nephew makes when he reaches college, I know Conn will not only accept him as a student (predicated on his grades, of course) but enable him to thrive on a campus where the words “equity” and “inclusion” are not just empty phrases but values we live by—a college where the expanded definition of gender disrupts the binary notion of “he” or “she.”

“Conn is a school with a proud reputation for being LGBTQIA-inclusive,” said Erin Duran, director of gender and sexuality programs. “We’ve had gender-inclusive bathrooms in our residence halls for decades, and we were one of the first small, private liberal arts schools to have an established preferred name process (where students can choose their name).”

Conn is not alone. Many institutions across the country recognize changing definitions of gender, and that “gender is more complex than the male/female, man/woman binary upon which so much of our world has been built,” Duran says.

This past August, in fact, Pennsylvania and Washington state joined the growing list of states (now 11) to offer a third gender “X” option on state-issued driver’s licenses. In 2018, Washington also joined Oregon and California in offering an “X” option on birth certificates. The venerable Oxford English Dictionary recognizes the singular usage of “they” to replace “he” and “she” when the gender of the antecedent is unknown. Some might balk at this usage and wish we could go back to “simpler times” when the world could be broken down into 0s and 1s. Well, those times were not simpler, and the OED traces “they” as a singular pronoun back to 1375.

Why not refer to someone as “they?” Edward (Ted) Svehlik ’97 (opposite page) points out that it costs one nothing to call someone by their preferred name, yet treating a person with dignity has immeasurable benefits, like encouraging anyone to play the violin, dress as they wish or dream of becoming a snowplow driver, regardless of the prevailing social constructs that create gender stereotypes.

While we can always do better, Conn strives to share its diversity proudly, on and off our campus. To this end, we publish the following photo essay documenting five alums showcasing their identities and what gender means to them. By no means is this an exhaustive list (the gender spectrum is infinite), but these individuals continue the conversation.
Edward (Ted) Svehlik '97 I'm the Chief Procurement Officer at West Virginia University. I'm a gay, cis male whose gender pronouns are he, him, his. Respecting others and treating them with dignity makes a big difference. Addressing someone by their preferred name and gender pronouns costs me nothing and takes little effort; but it may mean the world to the person who hears me use them correctly. To this point, I recall at breakfast during my first year at Conn, seeing a tall, slender figure in a short black skirt, high-heeled boots and a white blouse standing in line at Harris. I thought to myself: “Wow, I've never seen a man dressed like that before.” My awkward stare drew a friendly smile and a wink. Reflecting back, I think: “I wish I'd gotten to know them better.”
Calli Sabine Reynolds ’17 I currently live in Yonkers, NY, where I’m building my brand as an entrepreneur in the Events Industry and recently founded my own company: Sabine Kennedy, Inc. I produce events of all scales for private clients, mainly in fashion and entertainment. As of this fall, I began my MBA with a certificate in entrepreneurship and innovation. I serve as the inaugural Young Alumni Director for the Alumni Association Board of Directors. I chair the Diversity and Inclusion committee on the board. For me, gender is an expression of who we are and how we see ourselves in the world. I’m a woman with short hair and a love of clothes that fit my personality, even if society doesn’t agree.
Alexandra Chandra ’14 (she/her) As a mixed-race womxn of trans experience, I'm a full-time coordinator at GRIOT Circle, a community-based, multigenerational organization for LGBTQ+ older adults of color in Brooklyn, New York, and curator of the online healing, survivor-centric space @higvibrationalwomxn. I believe gender is a deeply rooted colonial project. It begins before birth (gender reveal parties) and is yet again pronounced and revived with perceptions around “partnership,” “marriage,” and the “nuclear family.” While I identify within the expansiveness of womxnhood and mo(there)hood, which loosely comes with its own resonance of being perhaps more femme identified, I do not believe in and in fact seek to actively decolonize the gender binary.
Maisha Yearwood '94 I'm a Harlem native who has written and developed television series and feature films for Warner Bros., Disney, 20th Century Fox, Nickelodeon and others. I identify as a Black Butch Lesbian woman. My current multiplatform Transmedia project, 9 GRAMS, consists of a memoir, play, documentary and digital experience (9grams.com) which details how I endured racial profiling and solitary confinement in a Turkish prison. The project's emphasis on how families can help prisoners survive incarceration follows my artistic focus on creating compelling women characters and three-dimensional representations of African American life. Recently featured in The Huffington Post and The Advocate, 9 GRAMS: THE PLAY was directed by Emmy and Obie-winner S. Epatha Merkerson.
Kade Cahe '13  I’m a Black and Dominican Trans Gender-Non-Conforming Queer Person from the Bronx. My gender or lack of gender shows up as freedom and possibility. My pronouns are they, them, and theirs in English. In Spanish, I use el or elle and -e, or -oa, as a form to create what most aligns with my truth. I’m the Member Engagement and Leadership Coordinator at the Audre Lorde Project, an LGBTSTGNC community organizing center in New York City. I also organize through the Black Youth Project 100 NYC chapter as one of the Healing and Safety co-chairs and a reiki practitioner. I utilize my background as critical educator, organizer, and leadership trainer, on Swipe it Forward! actions, #SayHerName actions and when integrating wellness into organizing spaces. Before working at ALP, I was a senior trainer at the Posse Foundation. Currently, I’m a Judith C. Jones Fellow, for trainers of color, through Training for Change.
Jenny Marchick '99 has always loved movies. But pursuing a career in the exclusive and enigmatic film industry didn’t occur to her until fate intervened in the form of economic calamity.

By the end of 2001, the San Francisco Bay Area had transformed from the beating heart of the world’s most exciting industry into a cautionary tale of fad-based investing. The dot-com bubble had burst violently, emitting shock waves of financial panic and mass layoffs.

Marchick, a Bay Area native, had moved back to San Francisco after graduating from Conn to work for a sports Internet company. When the market collapsed, she was forced to reappraise her options.

“That’s when I started wondering what sorts of jobs there were in the movie business aside from writing, acting and directing,” Marchick recalled by phone one day from her office in Los Angeles, where she serves as Senior VP of Creative for Sony Pictures Animation. Her division’s film Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse recently took home the Academy Award, Golden Globe and Critic’s Choice Award for best animated feature and has garnered universal acclaim.

But Marchick’s journey to the top of the industry didn’t happen overnight.

“’That’s when I started wondering what sorts of jobs there were in the movie business aside from writing, acting and directing,’ Marchick recalled by phone one day from her office in Los Angeles, where she serves as Senior VP of Creative for Sony Pictures Animation. Her division’s film Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse recently took home the Academy Award, Golden Globe and Critic’s Choice Award for best animated feature and has garnered universal acclaim.

But Marchick’s journey to the top of the industry didn’t happen overnight.

“For Marchick, the key takeaway from those meetings was discovering that she wanted to go into the development side of the business, either as a producer or studio executive. She packed up, moved to L.A. and started networking and landing internships while working as a nanny.

In 2002, within about a year of moving, Marchick secured her first job assisting the president of production at Mandeville Films and getting a crash course in the mechanics of the movie industry.

“There’s no formula in this business, so when you’re starting out it’s essential that you work with somebody you can learn from,” Marchick says. “I was incredibly lucky in that my first boss was exceptional at what he did, and so I was able to absorb through osmosis how to do the job. Nobody will sit you down and show you—you have to be attentive and hungry.”

Marchick’s talent and ambition were immediately apparent, and she was promoted to Creative Executive at Mandeville Films, then ultimately named Director of Development at the company before moving on to 20th Century Fox in 2007, where she worked on live-action films.

But she was interested in animation and the direction the medium was headed. Not only were animated movies attracting A-list writers and actors, but the technology was also advancing in exciting ways. When the opportunity to join Sony Pictures Animation arose, Marchick jumped at it. She says one of the most important roles she has is to advocate for the creative visions of the filmmakers she works with.
One of the projects Marchick was intimately involved with from start to finish was 2018’s Hotel Transylvania 3, which holds the distinction of being Sony Pictures Animation’s highest-grossing global release ever, boasting an all-star voice cast and raking in an astonishing $528 million worldwide.

Many of the highest-grossing movies at the global box office these days are animated, and Marchick attributes that success to a confluence of factors.

“I think shows like The Simpsons helped to change the way audiences think about animation, and certainly when CG [computer-generated] technology developed people were simply astounded that animated movies could look that great,” she said. “But the important thing is for people to understand animation isn’t a genre—it’s a medium, and from the start, going back to Bambi, or Dumbo, animated movies were sophisticated from both a story and a technological perspective.”

Movie audiences are notoriously fickle and unpredictable, and Marchick is the first to admit she doesn’t possess a sixth sense about how audiences will respond to any given film. But she says, as a movie fan herself, she tends to rely on her gut reaction to the characters in a story and what message or point of view the writers or filmmakers are trying to express.

“I’m moved by a filmmaker who wants to tell a story that means something,” she said. “When someone pitches me an idea, I want to know about the characters and I want to know what the characters are going to feel, what they’re going to learn and what the filmmaker wants the movie to say. How do they want the audience to feel when they watch the movie? That’s the stuff that, throughout the process—as crazy as it can be—you always try to return to, because that’s what got you excited in the first place.”

That desire to find the humanity in characters—animated or not—can be traced back to Marchick’s days at Conn when she studied human relations with a psychology focus. She also has an established pattern of following her instincts, which has served her well. Conn College wasn’t even on her list of schools initially, but her mother, an alumna herself, suggested she visit the campus just for a practice interview.

“Since my mother had gone to Conn I think I liked the idea of having my own experience when I was looking at colleges,” Marchick said. “But after I saw the campus and met with the dean of admissions—who spoke passionately about the philosophy of the school—I was sold.”

Moving forward, Marchick and Sony Pictures Animation are continuing to build on the studio’s extraordinary momentum, with a full slate of movies set for development.

“What I love so much about this job is that animation involves an incredibly collaborative process, and we have hundreds of creative minds working on these movies,” Marchick said.

“And that means we get to hear so many different points of view. We want to make movies that people of all ages can respond to, not only kids. It’s truly a privilege to be a part of something that can take people’s minds off their problems for a bit, so they leave the theater feeling good.”
denotes a Reunion class year. Reunion 2019 will be held May 29-31, 2020.

Correspondent: Ann LeLievre Hermann, 239-410-0668, annlhermann26@gmail.com

Save the date: Our upcoming 75th reunion is May 29–31, 2020. Mathieu Vigneault ’20, recipient of the Dean Burdick Scholarship Fund, sent photos and a description of his exceptional student life at CC, his internship and his semester at Columbia U. Mattheiu wrote, “I know all of this would not be possible without your generosity and again I am extremely grateful ... [I hope] to follow your example and give the opportunity to someone else.”

Natalie Bigelow Barlow just celebrated her 95th birthday with a family picnic and two days at the Cape. The big event at the picnic was having her eight great-grandchildren take pictures together. Four others were unable to come celebrate. Natalie finds it hard to believe that she grew up an only child. She sends her best wishes to everyone.

Toni Fenton Tuttle enjoys talking with her family members — all the way down to seven of her eight great-grandchildren (the eighth is only a year old). She hits golf balls just to be out in the fresh air with friends. These days, Toni tries to add to her mast points at bridge, reads good books and does needlepoint. She has been making Christmas ornaments for all her great-grandchildren for years, that involves lots of stitching. And she enjoys writing poems for everyone having a birthday, as well as socializing with friends. Toni went on a 10-day bridge cruise to Alaska. Ann LeLievre Hermann loves family phone calls, learning something new, reading a good book, being totally spoiled by the great staff in her assisted living facility, and laughing and hearing others laugh. She said that TV is wonderful because it brings the whole world into her home, and her iPhone and iPad are great blessings. Lastly, she loves her friends, and she relishes both winning and losing while playing bridge — because her eyesight still lets her play. The Class of 1945 is excited to soon be celebrating 75 years since graduation.

Correspondent: Mary Beck Barrett, 23 Gables Dr., Yarmouth, ME 04096, 207-846-9142, bethebar@yahoo.com

Mary Beck Barrett wishes all 1951 classmates a happy 90th birthday! Most of you are either there or will be by December, and it is an age to celebrate! In June, Mary was feted by her son and four daughters (including Mary Barrett ‘78 and Sally Barrett ’83), with a beautiful luncheon at her favorite Portland, Maine, restaurant (lots of lobster). It was not a surprise, so she was able to include a number of friends and most of her grandkids. The only no-shows were two grandsons (one in South Dakota, the other in British Columbia) and a granddaughter in California, whose graduation from San Diego State Mary had attended two weeks previously and whose job started just two days postgraduation. Mary hopes that others reaching this amazing age will be celebrated too. Mona Gustafson Affinito continues to lead the most active and fun life imaginable. Mona and son Doug spent April cruising Japan. In August, she attended the John C. Campbell Folk School, taking a course in movie writing “just for the fun of it.” Daughter Lisa will be studying hat making; her other interests include costume. In October, Mona and son Doug will be “doing” the west side of South America, including celebrating her 90th in Peru. Mona hopes to take a Viking river cruise to Kiev in April 2020. “At our age, every day is a blessing to be cherished.” Your correspondent, Mary, had a busy summer and promises to provide more in-depth reporting this winter.

Correspondent: Joanne Williams Hartley, 69 Chesterton Road, Wellesley MA 02481, 781-235-4038, cell: 617-620-9385, jodihartley69@icloud.com

Our 65th reunion was wonderful, with a collegial atmosphere and beautiful weather. The library is now an international center; the energy on campus is exciting! This reunion marked the end of President Katherine Bergeron’s fifth year at the college. She spoke of a consistently growing number of honors awarded to CC students, such as Fulbright scholarships and other recognitions, as well as increasing its stature among colleges. Klumpie attended Reunion’s selective classes and was pleased with the speakers. We attended the traditional convocation after Saturday morning’s parade and were introduced to a peppy new CC song composed by our president for the occasion. Klumpie enjoyed a lovely small dinner in the Lyman Allen museum for the classes of 1949, 1954 and 1959. Jan King Evans and Ann Hegney Weimer missed Reunion due to bone fractures, but both are recovering well. Jan has moved to a wonderful retirement community in the DC area but still retains her family homestead. The 75th anniversary of Normandy has been particularly poignant for her, as her father died in the invasion when she was 11. She has been to the Normandy American Cemetery many times with her family. Marcia Bernstein Siegel is working on a paperback edition of her 2006 book on Twyla Tharp, Howling Near Heaven. She also writes reviews online at ArtsFuse.org and The Hudson Review. In the last column I erroneously stated that she was an art critic; she is of course a dance critic! I reached out to Beverly White Hanselman; she is doing well and living in a retirement community. Evelyn Steele Barrett has suffered a long time with Alzheimer’s and is resting comfortably in a retirement home, as she can no longer care for herself. Kathryn (Kitty) White Skinner and two friends built a home near Charlottesville, Va., some time ago. The ladies each have their own en suite, visit the Y three times a week and travel together. They have beautiful views of the Blue Ridge Mountains and great companionship; all is well. Kitty stays in touch with Mildred (M’Lee) Catledge Sampson, who recently entered a retirement community. Deborah Phillips Haviland is in good health and remains active in local politics, playing bridge and volunteering. Her husband, Pete, who died a few years ago, was a cousin of Judy Haviland Chase ’54 GP’15, who had lived with Deb in Emily Abbey, and they remained best friends until Judy died 10 years ago. Deborah has four children, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, truly the dessert of life! One daughter lives nearby in Maine in a large old home that Deb and Pete bought, restored and lived in for years. Pete had a second career in home building, but in 2011 their daughter bought it and they moved into a more convenient home.

FALL 2019 | Class Notes
Supportive friends keep her busy, and she is attending our 60th reunion. Judy’s many classmates were disappointed that illness kept him from kayaking. The class sends condolences to Western Greenland and to the fjords for kayaking. The class sends condolences to and best-ever crab cakes, topped off with a wonderful reunion. At the remembrance service in the chapel, Gail read a poem by Sandra Sidman Larson, and Marcia Corbett Perry played a piano piece by Chopin. Gail and the Conn folks set up a Zoom connection so that we could converse with Edith Berkowitz Hargreaves, Marcia Fortin Sherman, Em Hodge Brasfield and Spec Potter Kapusta. Edie has done online teaching in Russia and Budapest. Spec lives in Florida, loves chair yoga, and is taking grandchildren on trips. Em does lunch with friends, plays bridge and hosted two grandsons this summer. Marcia is delighted to be in Clemson for a record 18 years after too many relocations. She volunteers at her church and is active in the local PEO. One grandson works in Chicago, and the other graduated from Kendall College. Marcia’s son is a PA in Michigan, and he has a son starting at Michigan State. Marcia’s granddaughter spent a semester studying in Ecuador. Marcia Corbett Perry loves to walk, and to play and teach piano. She has four sons who were in the Navy (as was her husband), and two sons are admirals. Patty Chambers Moore, whose son is now the commander of the Groton submarine base, shared an Arctic expedition experience with one of Marcia’s sons. Marcia also has three daughters. Patty was proud to introduce son Todd, who talked about military preparedness on subs, life on the sub and the effect on his family of his long absences. Patty also has a son in Cleveland, whose granddaughter will attend Case Western Reserve. Patty’s grandson is in Cincinnati working for GE. Her oldest son’s daughter is planning to look at Conn, as is Gail Glidden Goodell’s grandchild. Connie Sneling McCready’s oldest grandchild is in music and likes to perform. Her younger grandchild graduated from Vassar, where he composed music and directed shows. Connie sings in the 100-people Vineyard Chorus. Carol Brecher Bishop’s grandson attends U. of Montana, where he enjoys snowboarding. Her other grandson is at St. Michael’s College on a basketball scholarship. Lolly Espy Barton is still playing bass in several groups. She performs for charity and sometimes gets paid! Nancy Savin sang at the Class Reunion Dinner. She has a new voice coach and hopes to do some auditions. Nancy Graham Kreger is seriously on a downsizing kick. Lucy Allen Separk arrived with the help of daughter Cindy, bringing all our memory books, which were turned over to the archives. Lucy likes her new continuing care facility and is trying to start some singing groups there. Lynn Graves Mitchell took an enjoyable Mississippi River trip with friends. Unable to attend Reunion because her daughter was visiting, Lynn sent good wishes to the class. Jean McCarthy Marshall and her husband enjoyed running a planning/architecture business, mostly in Africa. Following his death two years ago, she relocated to Freedom, N.H. Her three children live in Dallas, Miami and London. The class offers heartfelt condolences to Anne Marie Dobbs on the loss of her son and to Torrey Gamage Fenton on the loss of her son. Some of us traveled over to see Torrey at her celebration of his life, which happened during Reunion 2019. She was delighted to see fellow Camels there.
er. Barbara Paust Hart lost her husband this past December. Many of you might remember him, as he and Barbara dated through her years at CC. “Our children and I miss him terribly, but we have many wonderful memories and blessings to sustain us and we count them often.” Remember our 60th reunion is in 2020!

Margaretta Conderman Arnold enjoyed the vacation of a lifetime. She took son Chris Carter and his family (wife Catey and daughter Meggie) to Jackson, Wyo. They had their best time!

Correspondent: Marcia Brazina Litzenberg

Bonnie Campbell Billings and husband Joe Wauters took a Maine road trip to visit friends and family, including stops with Lanny Brown Anderson and Diana Altman. Lanny and Bill Anderson live in Deer Isle, with a few winter months in Mexico and travel to visit son Spencer, who is in the U.S. State Department, and his family at their various postings, most recently in Dubai. Lanny and Bill play duplicate bridge, and Lanny tends to her extensive gardens and small flock of laying hens, as well as entertaining friends and family, including a “too short” visit from Linda Osborne at Christmas. Diana Altman and husband Richard Siegel enjoy summers in Raymond, Maine, on Lake Sebago, away from the heat and activities of NYC. Diana’s latest book, We Never Told, published this spring, has received excellent reviews. Both daughters live in San Francisco; one is a professional chef, the other is proprietor of Altman Siegel Gallery. Joe and I (Bonnie Campbell Billings) have purchased a condo in The Sea Oaks community in Vero Beach, Fla. I’ve connected with Marcia Mueller Foresman and Aggie Cochran Underwood, as well as alums from other classes, and I would love to hear from anyone in Vero or neighboring towns. We will still summer in Stowe, Vt., but look forward to playing tennis, golf and duplicate bridge all year. With family in Telluride and Jackson Hole, we will not be giving up skiing. Tell us about the CC connections you’ve maintained over the years, include photos—and please, send news!

Correspondent: Pat Arnold

Caroline Bartholomew Medina suffered a stroke in 2017 but has since recovered and moved to a beautiful continuing care community in the Berkshires, with access to Tanglewood, theater, and the like—it’s the “Princess Cruise of retirement places,” she says! Several CC alums live there, including another former ConnChord! Barbara Brodsky-Rothbart reports that her husband of 51 years, Hal, had a major stroke last year. She is deep in grief and loss as he lives on, paralyzed and with aphasia, in a nursing home. But she is grateful for the love showered on them by friends and family. Their children and grandchildren astound and delight them; their youngest grandchild has turned 1. Barbara will still travel the U.S. to teach meditation, and her newest book is selling well. Marilyn Sanford and her husband moved from Massachusetts to Palm Bay, Fla., a year ago and are enjoying the Florida lifestyle. They find the activity of the Space Coast exciting as 50th anniversary of the Apollo landing is celebrated. Marilyn’s daughter works for GE in Melbourne, living with her family in nearby Indian Harbor Beach, so Marilyn enjoys her granddaughters’ activities. She maintains her tax practice and volunteers for the Military Officers’ Association of America’s Cape Canaveral Chapter. This summer, Joan Stuart Ross worked on new paintings in her Nahcotta studio on the Long Beach peninsula. She will be hosting a solo exhibition at Ryan James Belltown in October. Suzy Grimes Paikkala is sad to report the loss of dear friend and classmate Eva Foldes Travers, who died this summer while vacationing on Cape Cod. Eva had hosted a mini-reunion at her Cambridge home in June, where Eva, Judy Sheldon Carberg, Sally Barngrove, Jane Bigelow Orner and Suzy spent a wonderful summer afternoon laughing and reminiscing. Eva’s friends loved their time with her and will miss her gracious, loving presence in their lives; they extend heartfelt sympathy to Eva’s family.
Andrews, 937 Henry Clay Ave, New Orleans, LA is still living in Raleigh, N.C., Pinsker Lasher their first grandchild, Zoe, in January. ney son, and Judy proudly reported the birth of to be near their physician daughter and attor- Center/Boston U. She and Tom are delighted when she began practicing at Boston Medical of Medicine for her entire career until recently, dent in Miami at the U. of Miami Miller School College of Medicine, Judy was a neuroradiolo- dren. After graduating from the U. of Kentucky in Winchester, Mass., to be closer to their chil- you soon.” Judy Donovan Post and husband Tom relocated back to Judy’s childhood home in Winchester, Mass., to be closer to their children. After graduating from the U. of Kentucky College of Medicine, Judy was a neuroradiologist in Miami at the U. of Miami Miller School of Medicine for her entire career until recently, when she began practicing at Boston Medical Center/Boston U. She and Tom are delighted to be near their physician daughter and attorney son, and Judy proudly reported the birth of their first grandchild, Zoe, in January. Harriet Pinsker Lasher is still living in Raleigh, N.C., where she retired in 2011 from her job as head of school at The Raleigh School. She enjoys the added time with family—especially the kids and grandkids, who live in California and Virginia. She spent a week at the beach this summer and planned a trip to Paris in the fall. Although retired, Margaret (Maggie) Emmons, who lives in Manhattan, holds down two part-time jobs: managing a 1903 apartment building that has been in her extended family for years and monitoring payroll and personnel for nonacademic employees of the New School. “I love the mental stimulation and the interaction with other people.” From Charlottesville, Va., Martha Williams reports that she’s recovering from her second aortic valve replacement (easier than the first). The younger generations are doing well, and a grandson will start his undergrad career at Duke in the fall. Martha also reminded us to start planning for Reunion! Leslie Setterholm Curtis and husband Tim spent a fun weekend in Vermont with Sue Peck Hinkel and husband Don. After attending a memorable concert by Judy Collins (still in great form at age 80!), Leslie and Sue ran into Karen Metzger Ganz, who spends part of the year in Arlington, Va., near Sue’s home. Leslie has long served on the Colchester (Conn.) Land Trust and the Agriculture Commission. She successfully advocated to deem Colchester a “Right to Farm Communi- ry,” and you can see the posted signs when you drive into town. “It is very satisfying to be part of initiatives for change in our own towns and cities that can collectively make a positive difference in our civil societies.”

Correspondents: Carol Chaykin and Pat Dale, ccnotes66@gmail.com Since Andrea (Andi) Ansell Bien moved to the metropolitan DC area in December 2018, Andi, Wilma Cohen Probst and Betsy Greenberg Feinberg have made it a priority to meet up regularly. Nanci Anton Bobrow visited in December, and when Danielle Dana Strickman visited Andi in early June, they met up again with Wilma. Ellen Kagan has become a Joe Biden Fellow and is buoyed by his support on Cape Cod. Jackie Rustigian retired from the Department of the Army at the end of 2018, after 45 years of federal service. Jackie’s last position was as the director of the Army’s Civilian Information Technology Management (ITM) Career Program 34. Her retirement ceremony, which was officiated by the ranking general of the Army CIO, was attended by many family and friends, including Ann Langdon and her husband, Drew Days. Jackie credits her long career to a solid work ethic instilled by her parents, a good education, and a commitment to public service. Jackie and Lauren Carr Larsen ’91, daughter of the late Judy McIntosh Carr, attended Reunion and had a marvelous time revisiting the campus and meeting alumni. We extend sincere condolences to Asia Rial Elsbree, whose husband, Hugh Elsbree, passed away in July in Naples, Fla., after a yearlong battle with glioblastoma, an aggressive brain cancer. Please continue sending your news and photos. We love hearing from you!

Correspondents: Deborah Greenstein, debbyg837@verizon.net, and Marcia Hunter Mattheus, marcia.mattheus3@gmail.com After 15 years of loving life in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, Jackie King Donnelly and husband have decided to put the casa up for sale and move to Sarasota, Fla., to be closer to their grandchildren. This year they have taken a cruise across the North Atlantic,
visiting the islands and touring Lebanon, Israel and Egypt. Jan Yagjian Peters spent a few fun days in June visiting with Debbie White Corr and Jane Gullong on Cape Cod. Judi Rosman Hahn and Carol Friedman Dressler were delighted to find themselves on a joint Yale-Stanford trip that Carol was leading. They enjoyed a mini-CC reunion in front of Mont Saint-Michel. After spending a lovely winter in Florida, Debby Greenstein went back to DC and had a total knee replacement. She is doing very well, went back to DC and had a mini-CC reunion in front of Mont Saint-Michel. After spending a lovely winter in Florida, Debby Greenstein went back to DC and had a total knee replacement. She is doing very well.

Carol Friedman Dressler were delighted to find themselves on a joint Yale-Stanford trip that Carol was leading. They enjoyed a mini-CC reunion in front of Mont Saint-Michel. After spending a lovely winter in Florida, Debby Greenstein went back to DC and had a total knee replacement. She is doing very well, went back to DC and had a mini-CC reunion in front of Mont Saint-Michel. After spending a lovely winter in Florida, Debby Greenstein went back to DC and had a total knee replacement. She is doing very well.

Ruth Ann Saunders, died in April from complications of a stroke suffered nine years earlier. In addition to Susie, he is survived by their sons, Stuart and Charles, and three grandchildren. The Class of 1967 is happy to share news with you of the 2019 recipient of the Class of 1967 Scholars Fund. Chloe Hutt Vater ‘20 of Shrewsbury, Vt., is a Human Development major concentrating on public health. She is focusing on culturally responsive and trauma-informed family service interventions, a topic of particular interest because she has a sister adopted from the foster care system. Chloe works as a student teacher in the CC Children’s Program, is a member of the Human Development Student Advisory Board and Best Buddies, serves as an adviser to transfer students, and is co-captain of the dance team. We hope you are as pleased with her selection as we are and that as you consider future support to the college, you will make our Scholars Fund one of your priorities, as we already do.

Correspondent: Mary Clarkeson Phillips, 36 The Crossway, Delmar, NY 12054, mphill2@nycap.rr.com Joan Pekoc Pagano traveled in England this summer with her sister, Lucy Pekoc, and says they had the trip of a lifetime! While visiting from California, Gail Weintraub Stern met Patti Reinfeld Kolodny, Andi Hintlian Mendell and Ruth Cheries Edelson for cocktails at Patti’s new Greenwich Village apartment, followed by dinner al fresco at a Lower East Side restaurant. Ruth and husband Rick visit Gail each summer for cocktails at Patti’s, and they appreciate their good health and good fortune to travel as much as they do. They visit New Zealand annually; they plan to remain in their home of 25 years in Philadelphia, two blocks from The Barnes Foundation, for the duration. David continues his work in the field of skin cancer at the U. of Pennsylvania. In April, Ruth Kirschner’s play Whippersnall was picked as one of three under consideration for the Susan Glaspell Award (Centenary Stage). She received two weeks’ development in New York with equity cast, a great director and a stipend, and enjoyed a sold-out staged reading in a 500-seat theater. She spent June in the Hudson Valley at a residency sponsored by the Chekhov Project working on a new play. Susan Van Winkle Pollock had great fun on a riverboat cruise on the Mississippi River from Memphis to New Orleans. Ricki Chapman McGlashan’s grandchildren are entering high school; “there’s no stopping time.” She and Doug are fine and enjoy road biking, working to elect Democrats, volunteering with Sustainable San Mateo County, her 30-year-old book group, traveling, and spending time with their kids and grandkids. Judy Irving has been a year-round San Francisco Bay swimmer for 33 years, and she has started a documentary about the philosophical, psychological and spiritual aspects of full immersion in the natural world, entitled Cold Refuge. Adrienne Bergman Beebe enjoyed a 10-day trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland with her sisters. Please keep your news coming; we all love to know what is happening in the lives of our friends from CC.

Correspondent: Judi Bamberg Mariggiò, 1070 Sugar Sands, Bl. #384, Riveria Beach, FL 33404 jgmarriggiò@bellsouth.net In July Nancy Barry and Nancy Oskow-Schoenbrod attended a concert at Car-amoor together. Nancy wrote: “The music was based on birdsong, and as the Times critic reported, a family of birds flew around at the top of the tent to add to the performance.” She hopes to run into Julia Boone Kessler and Sylvia Icken Hammerman while vacationing at Truro Beach, with her CC beach towel from our 40th reunion in tow! Leslie Fenn’s return to campus for Re-
union after 45 years away left her “very proud of the Class of 1969 and Connecticut College! I had a great time. My partner, Judy Hartling, felt welcomed. We are both recently retired—I from internal medicine and later public-sector psychiatry and Judy from teaching and advising in higher education. We support civil rights wherever we can, including LGBTQI and women’s organizations.” Martha Harris Walton gushes about her grandchildren. Her two sons have three under age 3. Her daughter’s three girls and one boy are all school-age, busy with sports and activities. Harry and Dagny Hultgreen Griswold disembarked in Boston from a destination wedding cruise to Bermuda and headed straight to New London. “It was good to reconnect with people at Reunion. Kudos to the organizers!” Dagny continues her flexible job appraising land around Connecticut; Harry has retired and enjoys working on their gardens in Simsbury. They visited son Craig and three young grandsons in San Francisco in June, and more frequently see two more sons and six more grandchildren in Darien. Both daughters live in Vermont; one has a toddler. Evelyn Marienberg and Sunny (Rita) Miller were in Portugal to visit Lisbon and cruise the Douro River just prior to Reunion. “While there, we visited Mary Garlick St. George at her lovely home outside of Sintra.” Ellen Robinson Epstein is still “basking in the wonderful memories of our 50th reunion and the amazing group of women who were in our class. I was impressed how many women expressed their appreciation for their outstanding education at Conn. On a more current note, we were truly blessed to have yet another grandchild, born July 8, and named after my mother.” An invitation to lunch after 45 years away left her “very proud of the Class of 1969 and Connecticut College! I had a great time. My partner, Judy Hartling, felt welcomed. We are both recently retired—I from internal medicine and later public-sector psychiatry and Judy from teaching and advising in higher education. We support civil rights wherever we can, including LGBTQI and women’s organizations.” Martha Harris Walton gushes about her grandchildren. Her two sons have three under age 3. Her daughter’s three girls and one boy are all school-age, busy with sports and activities. Harry and Dagny Hultgreen Griswold disembarked in Boston from a destination wedding cruise to Bermuda and headed straight to New London. “It was good to reconnect with people at Reunion. Kudos to the organizers!” Dagny continues her flexible job appraising land around Connecticut; Harry has retired and enjoys working on their gardens in Simsbury. They visited son Craig and three young grandsons in San Francisco in June, and more frequently see two more sons and six more grandchildren in Darien. Both daughters live in Vermont; one has a toddler. Evelyn Marienberg and Sunny (Rita) Miller were in Portugal to visit Lisbon and cruise the Douro River just prior to Reunion. “While there, we visited Mary Garlick St. George at her lovely home outside of Sintra.” Ellen Robinson Epstein is still “basking in the wonderful memories of our 50th reunion and the amazing group of women who were in our class. I was impressed how many women expressed their appreciation for their outstanding education at Conn. On a more current note, we were truly blessed to have yet another grandchild, born July 8, and named after my mother.”
and Dean of First-Year Students at the College of Wooster. Fran Howland Gammell-Roach is trying to retire but not succeeding. She enjoys working in her gardens and feeding birds, chickens and alpacas. She has taken up weaving, including loom and basket weaving along with other needlecrafts. Two of her three children are CC alums: Erik Gammell ’00, who is on the alumni board, and Laura-Hope Gammell ’10. Fran and husband Nick Roach, after both losing spouses, blended their families in 2002. This makes for a large, hectic family of five adult children with three spouses and eight grandchildren. Susan Kennedy Katz (Ph.D., UC Berkeley) is entering her 24th year of teaching at the U. of San Francisco, where she co-founded a program in human rights education. Occasionally, she has students who are CC grads, such as poet Jennifer De Leon ’01. She is still in touch with former roommate Jennifer Harvey, as well as with Hillary Turtlesaustin, who lives nearby in Corte Madera, Calif., and Wendy Boyer Seier, from her hometown of Allentown, Pa. Not quite ready for retirement, she spends her summers in indigenous communities in Colombia and Ecuador. Lucy Eastman Tuck is moving back to Chicago after four fabulous years in DC. As much as she hates leaving DC, she looks forward to being close to her three children and their families, including seven grandchildren. Anne Maxwell Livingston enjoys time with her 2-year-old grandson, is a tax pro during tax season, and looks forward to working on our 50th reunion class gift with co-chair Ronna Reynolds. Lucy VanVoorhees works four days a week as a cardiologist and spends weekends working with her horses and gardening. She still rides a lot, but quit fox hunting when the local hunt moved away. She visited Park City, Utah, for a respite from hot weather and to visit with her sister. Anne Sigmond Curtis had a busy travel year, with memorable moments that included the fascinating Haida villages in the Queen Charlotte Islands, BC; the unforgettable, brutal hike to the top of Cruagh Patrick in County Mayo, Ireland; and watching As You Like It at the Globe Theater in London.

Enjoying their 45th Reunion dinner, from left, are Cynthia Caravatt Holden, Helen Rowe-Dra, Robert Hernandez, Richard Holden, and Brandon Wilson-Evitt.

A Connecticut College Charitable Gift Annuity:
✔ Simple ✔ Stable ✔ Secure

Make a gift to your alma mater and receive fixed income for life. CGA Donors Say:

“I give to Conn with gratitude for what it has given me.”

“This type of planned giving is a win-win proposition.”

Rosemary Park Society

New London Mayor Michael Passero ’79, guides Class of ’74 members on a tour of his city during Reunion Weekend.

FALL 2019 | Class Notes
The Power of a Conn Reunion

You can grow, follow your instincts, get healthy and run a successful business.

Spoiler alert: This is a positive story.

Jennifer Schelter and Sarah Webb (Class of 1984) met their first year at Connecticut College.

“Friendly, but not friends, per say,” offered Sarah.

But all that changed in 2018, when both decided to attend their 30th Connecticut College reunion. “We simply happened to sit next to each other and va-voom…we dove into a profound conversation and the synchronicity of our lives unfolded,” said Jennifer.

Sarah and Jennifer discovered since graduation, they both completed MFAs in the theatrical and visual arts. Equally, they shared professional lives emphasized life coaching, yoga, writing and meditation retreats.

In February 2019, while driving home from facilitating the Women’s Radiant Retreat at the Lodge at Woodloch, Schelter’s gut feeling and intuition said, “Ask Sarah if she’d be interested in assisting on the remarkable Radiant Retreat in Tulum, Mexico. Being the 13th year of the retreat, Jennifer acknowledged her desire to collaborate and took a leap. Despite never working together, she called Sarah. Without hesitation, she said, “Yes.”

While at the Radiant Retreat in Tulum we consciously, we created a sheltering space in which our students felt seen and valued whether it was their first, or their 6th retreat. We discovered that our voices complimented each other and served in new and excellent ways. We listened and trusted one another completely, and in the process the retreaters did the same,” said Sarah.

After the success of the retreat, Sarah and Jennifer committed to developing a partnership, offering a series of retreats emphasizing self-acceptance, writing, meditation, re-invention, goal setting and yoga.

If you had asked either one, “Why are you attending the reunion?” it was not because they were searching for a new career, or business opportunity. They went to celebrate the years past and get to know their fellow classmates anew. They went to listen and share stories, the bitter and the sweet, how they had grown, and were still growing. They went with respect to where they had begun their young adult lives. Through each other’s presence and conversation, Sarah and Jennifer came away re-inspired, and re-educated by getting to know themselves through each other.

Over the coming year, they expanded the business of retreats to uniquely reflects their own belief in the power of intuition, vulnerability, honest communication, trust, and a leap of faith. They hope to contribute to others paths by creating spaces of inspiration, safety, trust, reflection, and self-acceptance. All this from sitting side by side at a 30th reunion!

For information, visit www.jenniferschelter.com and www.justsew.com

The usual suspects met for dinner at Orsay on Lexington Ave., after the Conn College NYC Alumni Holiday Cocktail gathering. Mark Iger & Cathy Iger, Pam Stanger, Kevin Wade ’76, Michael Hunold ’74, Billy Sandwick ’76, David Greenwald and Jackie Cameron attended. Noticeably missing were Richard Cutting, Lauren Kingsley ’77 and Roger Farrington.

the wee hours on Tempel Green. A highlight of the weekend was a tour of New London, organized by Tony Sheridan and guided by the mayor of New London, Michael Passero ’79. After Reunion weekend, a few of our classmates filled us in on their lives. Barbara Lopatto Comella and husband Frank are happily retired from State Farm Companies and enjoy life in Bloomington, Ill., where they raised their daughters, Catie, now a teacher and graduate student in Iowa, and Sara, a full-time graduate student in Florida. Their family also includes two adult stepchildren, their spouses, and three grandsons. In retirement, Barbara and Frank have traveled extensively in the U.S. and abroad, volunteer with local political and social organizations, and take enrichment courses at local colleges, all while staying connected with extended family and friends. Sherry Alpert and her boyfriend, Jay Foley, thoroughly enjoyed Reunion, especially our tour of New London. She continues to run a public relations consulting practice, with a focus on life sciences and tech startups. Sherry also writes and edits white papers and other startup materials. Sherry and Jay recently spent time in the Berkshires and Block Island, with plans to return to both. Warren Erickson lives in Rockport, Maine, where he keeps busy hosting summer guests. He works one day a week at the Rockland Marketplace, an antiques and collectibles emporium, where he and his sister have a booth. Warren just completed his term as chair of the Rockport Planning Board. Jill Wil-

son-Evitt (who has used her middle name, Brandon, since grad school) still chooses not to retire from the City of Somerville (Mass.) Planning Department, despite her eligibility for a full pension for the last three years! Her work keeps her mentally and physically engaged and challenged, as the city has evolved from “Slummerville” to one of the hippest, Millennial-friendly, and well-managed cities in the U.S. Jill’s two sons purchased a two-family together, where they will hopefully stay and raise their own families. Your new class correspondent, Barbara Herbst Tatum, continues to live in Marblehead, Mass., with her husband of nearly two years, John Tatum. After 20 years as a contract occupational therapist in public schools, Barbara retired to enjoy more time with John and their growing families, help with her aging mother, and dig in her gardens. Retirement also allows her more time to explore the world of Celtic music and play her five-octave lever harp. Barbara sings with both her church choir and the Festival Chorus. She and John each have two sons, and she was gifted seven instant grandchildren when they married. Barbara’s older son and his wife live and work in the Boston area. Her younger son is in the San Francisco Bay area, where he works for Oculus developing 3-D goggle technology.

Brandon Wilson-Evitt has suggested a Boston-area gathering at one of the many entertaining venues in Somerville. Suggestions from classmates are welcome! Please send Barbara your news.
Correspondents: Nancy Gruver, nancyg@newmoon.com and Miriam Josephson Whitehouse, casablancagwi.net

David Kenney does some occasional welding jobs, is teaching himself oil painting and is getting a strong urge to get out the acoustic guitar. Plus he has developed a system to improve the probabilities of winning a lottery. Madeleine Robins is the operations manager at the American Bookbinders Museum, in San Francisco, and continues to write in her spare time. This year older daughter Julie was married and younger daughter Becca graduated from college. Walter Schacht lives in Seattle with wife Cima Malek-Aslani. They are principals at Schacht Aslani Architects, a design firm focused on cultural, academic and civic projects. Son Nathaniel, 30, lives in Brooklyn Heights. Walter was inducted into the American Institute of Architects (AIA) College of Fellows in 2013 and currently chairs Washington State’s Capital Projects Advisory Committee. Dick Wechsler celebrated his first anniversary of marriage to Carolyn Sura on May 31. Son Zachary is a public defender in Boulder. Dick was elected to the Direct Marketing Hall of Fame. The family went to Copenhagen in August to see stepdaughter Cameron dance in the Royal Danish Ballet.

John Lee works in public relations in New York, serving on the board of the Irish Business Organization of New York. He lives with wife Loretta on the Upper West Side and takes road trips to Ohio, where daughter Ginevra attends Kenyon College. Monica Rothschild-Boros retired from teaching college in 2017 and visited China and Japan in March 2018 to celebrate her 65th birthday. Daughter Emily was married the weekend of Monica’s 40th wedding anniversary. To celebrate their 40th, they went to Papua New Guinea. They also traveled to Singapore, Indonesia and Bali, followed by a visit to Emily and Daniel in Seattle. At home, Monica takes ceramics classes and just had a piece selected for a group exhibition. Bill Thomson has two married children, one in NYC, one in Charlotte, N.C. Wife Kim works part-time as a nurse, and Bill still works full-time (“sort of”). They ski every year in Utah and Colorado, and they have been to northern India, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Nepal and Myanmar, mostly biking. This year they are returning to India and are taking the kids to Morocco in April. Mark Warren rode in his 25th Pan Mass Challenge (PMC) benefit bicycle ride on Aug. 3, a 110-mile route from Sturbridge to Bourne. The PMC raises money for the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, and this is its 40th year. Mark rode with Steve Cohan ’78 and Richie Glanz ’77 and saw Howard Smith ’76 and Robert Huebscher ’76. Elizabeth Newell is happily retired and enjoying visiting friends and family. For the past 16 years Bruce Faulkner has lived in Vermont, teaching as an adjunct professor in both statistics and business (currently at Norwich U.). He spends summers riding his bicycle: twice cross-country (San Francisco to New Hampshire), in 2002 and 2003, and more recently Nashville to Vermont, in 2015. Patty Reilly retired in February and now works full-time as a licensed wildlife rehabilitator for the state of Massachusetts. She volunteers at the New England Wildlife Center, cares for animals at home until she can release them back into the wild and joined the board of directors for the Wildlife Rehabilitation Association of Massachusetts. She also spends time with her three grandchildren: twin girls, 6, and a grandson, 3. Penelope Howell-Heller retired from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Marine Fisheries Division after 38 years of resource stock assessment work. Her last project, which she finished this year as an “emeritus” scientist with the Connecticut staff of The Nature Conservancy, was a planning program for all of Long Island Sound. Miriam Josephson Whitehouse retired last spring and loves having more free time to work in the garden, continue with town volunteering and travel. They adopted their third rescue dog, and Miriam and husband Jon celebrated their 40th anniversary. Douglas Renfield-Miller has formally retired yet remains very busy with his GoodEnding nonprofit (www.goodending.org), which seeks to improve end-of-life outcomes. Doug also volunteers at and is on the board of Regional Hospice and Palliative Care Center and serves on the board of the Green Burial Council. Doug and Jean Renfield-Miller will celebrate their 40th anniversary in March. Jean has her own educational consulting practice, and they divide their time between their home in Redding, Conn., an apartment in NYC, and Arkos, their sailboat. Three adult children and one grandchild keep them busy. Maureen Fahey retired from teaching math at Rocky Hill School in Rhode Island and is pursuing her dream of traveling. Last year she and husband Stanley Williams spent two months in the South Pacific, visited Norway, and did basketball and bridge trip to Tennessee, Florida and Georgia. Maureen also became a bridge director. Anita Guerrini retired in January from Oregon State U. after a decade as Horning Professor in the Humanities and Professor of History. She took a six-month postretirement sabbatical in Europe to work on her next book. Her last book, The Courtiers’ Anatomists: Animals and Humans in Louis XIV’s Paris, won the 2018 Pfizer Prize of the History of Science Society for best book in the history of science. And, her oldest son got married. Darius Mojollali retired from active ministry in the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Albany. He and his wife of 20 years, Stephanie, bought a home in the town of Bethlehem. Darius has an adult son and daughter and Stephanie an adult daughter; between them Darius and Stephanie have four grandchildren, plus son Matthias, 16. Darius is grateful for 27 years of sober participation in AA. Diane Hitchcock retired after a 43-year career as a pediatric echocardiographer with Yale-New Haven Health Systems and celebrated by traveling to Borneo with husband Mac McMahon; son Kelton (a marine geochemist at the U. of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography) and his wife; and daughter Taegan (a disease ecologist at the U. of Tampa) and her partner. They have traveled to Africa twice and climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in 2003. They’ve been rock climbing in Australia, Thailand, several countries in South America, Canada and all over the U.S. Diane has been involved with Conn’s Arboretum for nearly 20 years, doing breeding bird surveys with Dr. Robert Askins and Glenn Dryer. She regularly visits with Dr. Scott Warren, Jacquie Buzaga-Galica, Will Jacob, Marguerite Burdette Waddell and Allen Carroll ’73. Since retiring from full-time public-school teaching (learning disabilities self-contained room), Margie Rosenbaum Bassman has had several part-time jobs that she loves. Mitch and Margie live in the DC suburbs in Northern Virginia. A few years ago, Jo Ann Douda downsized from a house to a condo and remains in Mansfield, Conn. She is involved with a citizen’s group concerned with the future of Mansfield and its relationship with the U. of Connecticut. She spends free time on gardening, and through her interest in genealogy, she met distant cousins in the Czech Republic and visited her family’s ancestral villages. Elaine Carlson is mostly retired from 30-plus years of internal medicine, enjoying the Maine coast in the same town as Miriam Josephson Whitehouse and Jon.
Elaine’s youngest daughter was married last year (Miriam’s son Jesse attended—friends since fourth grade), and Elaine’s oldest daughter works for a literary nonprofit in nearby Portland.

Correspondents: Kenneth Abel, kenn61@aol.com, and Susan Hazelhurst Milbrath, shmilbrath@gmail.com

In March, Ted Romanow, David McLaughlin, Dana Sochacki, Todd Cody, Michael Cassatly and David Alden had a Brew Boys reunion in Longboat Key, Fla., with a cocktail dinner cruise with their wives—the first time in 43 years that they were all in the same place at the same time, and they have since stayed in close contact. They look forward to our 45th reunion in 2021. Pat Dingle is retired, still lives in Bowie, Md., and enjoys gardening. In June, she presented a session at the 2019 Maryland Arts Summit entitled “Advocating for Yourself and Visual Arts in Your Community,” held at U. of Maryland, Baltimore County. Beth Dolliver Eldon and Bill Eldon have been in Long Beach, Calif., since 2000; she is an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the California State U., Long Beach. Bill retired in 2016 after 30 years with the Farmers Insurance Group and now spends his time singing and serving on the board of the Long Beach Chorale, which has twice performed at Carnegie Hall; on the water as a late-in-life master’s rower with the Long Beach Rowing Association; on the road as a USRowing referee; and singing in the choir and running the food bank at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church. Beth and Bill connected with Pat Harcourt Chu and Bill Morrison after their trip to Carnegie Hall, the Charles River and Main this summer. Pat and Bill M. met them near Boston. (“It was a pleasure to catch up and share stories of travel, music, research and the vagaries of being in our 60s,” wrote Pat.) Clearly, Conn friendships last a lifetime! During Beth and Bill E.’s trip, they also visited Beth’s aunt, Gerry Foote Dolliver ’50, mother of the late Wendy Dolliver ’73 and Kay Dolliver ’77. Nancy Wanich Romita co-authored her second book with her daughter in 2019, Functional Awareness and Yoga: An Anatomical Guide to the Body in Reflective Practice (Oxford University Press). She is on the dance faculty at Towson U. and co-founder of Functional Awareness® Anatomy in Action. Justine Knizeski and her husband are happily retired, enjoying boating on their lake and exploring unfamiliar locales. “Shout out to Nancy Hay, Marcia Sullivan and Michelle Nadeau!” In early May, Nancy Hershatter produced a concert celebrating the centennial of the birth of Pete Seeger. Musicians who had rehearsed, recorded and performed with Pete over the years shared songs and stories. Lynn Cooley enjoys being a trustee, hearing about exciting times at Conn. Debra Clark Martin completed her summer session at Seton Hall U. toward an Ed.D. in School Leadership and will defend her dissertation in 2021. Her last role before taking this sabbatical was as a middle-school principal in New York.

Correspondent: Stuart Sadick, stuart.sadick@gmail.com

Lois Bacon celebrated two milestones in August: her 40th work anniversary on Aug. 1 and her retirement on Aug. 30. She looks forward to traveling the world without counting vacation days! Lisa Podoloff Boles enjoyed a wonderful mini-reunion last fall with Caroline Boyce ’78 and Viki Fitzgerald Cook ’79. They had a blast reliving their misspent youth and revisiting Mystic and coastal Rhode Island. Lisa also enjoys getting together with your beloved class correspondent every few months and would love to reconnect with fellow Camels in the Boston area. Karen Fisher left the nonprofit world six years ago and turned her avocation into her full-time work by launching Karen Fisher Pottery, in the Piedmont region of North Carolina. She creates and sells her own work and enjoys teaching ceramics and serving as a docent at the Ackland Art Museum. If you’re in the Triangle (Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill), look her up. Annie Rumage Fritschner earned her MBA from Lenoir Rhyne U. two weeks before her 64th birthday! She continues her education in social entrepreneurship and enjoys the best of what NGOs, for-profit and faith communities can do together. Her graduation gift to herself was a three-week European vacation. She asks if anyone has a job for an aging woman who wants to blend the best of not-for-profits with the best of for-profits using underutilized infrastructures. Otherwise, she is happy, blessed and grateful for her 40-plus Conn relationships. Dan Cohen, now post-divorce and —child-rearing, is settled on the East Side of Providence, R.I., where he and Emily Blefeld operate Seeling with Your Heart. Their practice merges psychotherapy and psi-perception to clear the impact of inherited trauma and free people to manifest more passion, purpose and pleasure in their lives. Dan and Emily have trips planned to Brazil, Norway, Australia and New Zealand to train therapists and healers in ways to open the heart as an organ of perception. Randol Tracy Masters was named one of the Top 100 Criminal Defense Lawyers in Florida by National Trial Lawyers. His law practice represents clients on the Space and Treasure Coasts, where the infamous “Don Rando” persona serves him well in the courtroom. Tracy stays in touch with “the usual suspects” from those great years at CoCoForWo. He happily remarried in 2017 and is the proud father of a 13-year-old stepson. Tracy enjoys coaching youth baseball, attending MLB spring training games and relaxing during family vacations on Sanibel Island. Tom Howland has had several wonderful years living in England as a pensioner, busy with volunteer work and his favorite interests: skiing, tennis, theater and travel. This year he went to both the French Open and Wimbledon. A member of three local theater groups, Tom has performed in everything from Shakespeare to musical comedy, and he attends plays in central London and Stratford-upon-Avon. Last October, he took a wonderful trip to Australia that included sunset at Ayers Rock, snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef and a fantastic train journey from Perth to Sydney. In the past year, he also visited the Caribbean, Uzbekistan, Munich and Paris, where he saw Sharon Gore’s hometown. Michael Tulin’s wife, Cheryl, a national swim champion who competes with U.S. Masters, taught him how to breathe in the pool. On his 60th birthday, Michael joined the U.S. Masters; he now swims four or five times a week with Rose Bowl Masters and attends competitions. He is getting faster: At Short Course Nationals in Mesa last April he took five seconds off his 100-yard free. Best of all, he gets to share all this with his wife. Class correspondent Stuart Sadick enjoys staying in touch with classmates. He still lives in Newton, Mass., working and having a great life. Some highlights: He and his husband are celebrating 30 years together, their son is in 10th grade this fall and Stuart has become a Pure Barre fanatic (a favorite instructor is a CC alum ’14). When Stuart gets together with Lisa Podoloff Boles over dinner, they solve the world’s problems with the help of a rye Manhattan and good food. He marvels at the strength of the friendships he made at Conn years ago, as well as the immediate bond he finds when he discovers another CC alumn. Very proud and very thankful he is.

54
Annie Rumage ’77 Frischner graduated from Lenoir Rhyne University with her MBA in Asheville, NC.

Thanks to everyone who responded to our outreach! Joanne Guth recently retired from her career in government service; she’s since taken some trips and has begun to fix up her house: foundation work and drainage issues. “Exciting!” she says with a wink. Ellen Ramsbottom Jarrett returned to campus for the Class of ’79’s 40th reunion in June and caught up with Paul Greeley ’79, Tina Gould Reardon ’79, John Atkins ’79 and Judy Newman ’79, among others. Ellen was excited to hear of Judy’s career at Scholastic promoting children’s literature and literacy. Her own work in the book business for a couple of decades gave them some things to talk about! Ellen enjoys cycling and ocean sculling from her vantage point of Marblehead, Mass. Karen Haas is still curating photographs at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and is married to Greg Heins, head of the Museum’s photography studio. Her stepchildren are all grown up, and they now have two granddaughters living on the outskirts of Paris. Karen’s recent exhibition, Ansel Adams in Our Time, is scheduled to travel to two additional venues in 2020: Crystal Bridges and the Portland (Ore.) Museum of Art. She is also working on some smaller shows and has published a book, Edward Weston: The Early Years. Karen sees Conn friends Libby Orzack Friedman ’80, Ann Drouilhet and Lue Douthit and keeps up with others in the arts—Elizabeth Easton, Laurie Norton Moffatt and Joan Pachner.

Steve Cohan has lived in Barrington, R.I., for 10 years and retired from CVS three years ago. He is the franchise owner/operator of One River School of Art & Design in Chicago, which is a growing organization. His first grandchild was born in July and he cycled in his 25th Pan Mass Challenge with fellow Camels Mark Warren ’75 and Richie Glanz ’77. Impressive! Steve Certilman became a grandfather this spring. He and wife Terri are overjoyed with their grandson and thrilled that both daughters live less than a mile away. Steve continues to practice law, arbitration and mediation, and to collect Cuban art. Julie Grey Pollock and husband Mark moved from Alaska to rural eastern Oregon in 2015. Julie is a lay leader at Haines Methodist Church, and she and Mark volunteer in and around Baker County. They make occasional forays in “the Escape Pod” (a fifth wheel trailer); this year wandering through Wyoming, Montana and South Dakota. Jeff Lonstein and Nancy Heaton Lonstein have been married 35 years—together since they met at Conn in 1974. Wow, congrats you two, that’s 45 years! They have a year-old granddaughter, their son and his wife are C-level executives with MBAs, and their daughter, a former opera singer, is now pre-med. Jeff is still working like crazy in his business, and Nancy is in integrative health, practicing Reiki, and is a hospice end-of-life doula. Jennifer (Jenny) Sewall still lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., after many years. She works in a hospital in Bedford Stuyvesant as an end-of-life doula. Jennifer’s ensemble, after returning from a multicity tour of the summer jazz festivals in Europe.

Laurie Heiss is enrolled in the graduate gemologist program at the Gemological Institute of America in the diamond district of NYC this fall (classes every weekday for seven months to turn a hobby into a second career). Selden Prentice shared a warm memory of Dr. Niering’s Ecology class and her alarm when he talked of “the greenhouse gas effect”—much on everyone’s minds today. This has been Selden’s work for the past five years with both the Sierra Club and 350 Seattle. She finds inspiration in Millennium activists and others working toward a clean energy future.

Correspondents: Susan Greenberg Gold, sgold51@yahoo.com and Laurie Heiss, LaurieHeiss@gmail.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, VISIT WWW.CONNCOLL.EDU/ALUMNI/PROGRAMS-EVENTS OR CALL 860-439-2300.

ADMISSION 101

Demystifying the College Admission Process Connecticut College | Feb. 16 & 17, 2020

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. For more information or to register, visit www.connoll.edu/alumni/programs-events or call 860-439-2300.
Weddings

Camels who attended Chris Martin’s ’97 on May 18 wedding to Jessica Reznick: Chris Kimball ’97, Jess Haynes McDaniel ’97, Chris Martin ’97, Emily Cobb Henry ’97, Nick Henry ’97, Jessica Temlock-Fields ’95, and Meg Ryan Finegan ’97.

Susan Endel Kerner ’67 and Paul Smirnoff with their family including Susan’s son Andrew Kerner ’02 and daughter-in-law Alison Roth-Kerner ’01. Susan’s 98-year-old mom, Louise Reichgott Endel ’43 was not well enough to attend, but she was there in spirit.

Kathryn Torrey ’10 recently celebrated her wedding to Sean Almeida in Virginia with fellow camels: Meg Christman ’10, Colleen Megley ’10, Charles Stone ’08, Rebekah Kohan ’10, Jahkeen Washington ’07, Sarah Walkowicz ’10, and Malik Brown ’07.

Annie Tselikis married her husband Andrew in July 2019 in Portland, Maine. Camels who attended L-R: Jason Allababid, Seth Tinkham, Annie Tselikis, Andrew Lively, Hannah Daherty, Matt Preston, Jeff Mandell.

Alix Kelleher married Dan Kelleher on May 19, 2018. Camels who joined in the celebration on Cape Cod were Laura Deming Galaida, Anne Bider, Abby Hochstein Hughey, Katie Stanne Chin, Bryanne Robson, Lindsey Watt Alami and Merrill Swig Genoa.

L-R: Ross Coolidge, Peter Yanelli, Amy Crespi, bride Diane DiFiore (maiden name Coyne), Leigh Ahrensford, Caroline Coolidge and Andrew Legace.

Camels who attended Chris’s wedding: Chris Kimball ’97, Jess Haynes McDaniel ’97, Chris Martin ’97, Emily Cobb Henry ’97, Nick Henry ’97, Jessica Temlock-Fields ’95, and Meg Ryan Finegan ’97.

L-R: Ross Coolidge, Peter Yanelli, Amy Crespi, bride Diane DiFiore (maiden name Coyne), Leigh Ahrensford, Caroline Coolidge and Andrew Legace.

Alix Kelleher married Dan Kelleher on May 19, 2018. Camels who joined in the celebration on Cape Cod were Laura Deming Galaida, Anne Bider, Abby Hochstein Hughey, Katie Stanne Chin, Bryanne Robson, Lindsey Watt Alami and Merrill Swig Genoa.
Births

Dr. Patricia E. Frey was married to Dr. Evan M. Gleimer on January 6, 2018 in New York, NY. Other camel in attendance: Owen Kloter '05.

Matthew Greene '08 and Steven Marshall exiting Harkness Chapel after their wedding ceremony on June 8th, 2019.

Matthew Greene '08 on the patio of the 1962 Room of Crozier Williams with Lorraine Lincoln Lieberman '46. Celebrating Matthew’s wedding reception to Steven Marshall.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Dr. Patricia E. Frey was married to Dr. Evan M. Gleimer on January 6, 2018 in New York, NY. Other camel in attendance: Owen Kloter '05.

Priyanka Gupta Zielinski and her husband Richard welcomed their third child, Savi Evelyn, on June 18th, 2019. She joins older siblings Henry and Radhika in their home in Dubai.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.

Cristina Moreno Madrigal '10 and her husband, Oscar Madrigal, welcomed their baby boy, Alessandro Damian Madrigal, on April 12, 2019.
Edward B. Burger ’85

Edward B. Burger ’85 will become President and Chief Executive Officer of St. David’s Foundation. Dr. Burger is currently president of Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, as well as a professor of mathematics. He will join the Foundation in January, 2020.

“During his career, President Burger has been an exceptional leader and teacher who has inspired those around him to be more creative, more innovative, and more mindful,” said Peter Pincoffs, Board Chair for St. David’s Foundation. “Beyond overseeing the creation of one of the nation’s most cutting-edge interconnected and holistic programs within and beyond the classroom inviting students to grow intellectually and personally, Ed raised over $100 million largely to support students with financial need. Dr. Burger has been a mission-driven leader who will be a strong cultural fit for the Foundation. He’ll be an effective successor to follow the tremendous record of achievement of our current CEO, Earl Maxwell.”

Linnette Attai is getting ready for the publication of her second book, Protecting Student Data Privacy: Classroom Fundamentals, and celebrating her recent TEDxCUNY talk, “Taking Control of Your Data Privacy.” She said it was “definitely one of the more challenging and exciting things I’ve done!” She is always happy to connect with alumni in NYC.

Correspondent: Tamsen Bales Sharpless, camel89news@gmail.com It was wonderful to see so many classmates at our 30th reunion! The near-perfect weather allowed us to be outside and enjoy our beautiful campus. With Knowlton as our home base, and her work as the president of a nonprofit animal charity. She and Diana Zimmerman Mahaney see each other frequently, most recently at the high school graduation of Lisey’s nephew in Bronxville, N.Y. Joyce Gerber has had a career change this year and is now working in cannabis media. She is the executive producer of a podcast called In the Weeds with Jimmy Young, and she’s started a blog and podcast called The Canna Mom. “Crazy, I know, but true!” Check her out online at www.procannabismedia.com. Christina Fraser reports that life is good in Rochester, N.Y. She is an employment counselor for the New York State Department of Labor, and loves (almost) every minute of it. She helps folks through rocky bits of their careers and gets them back on track. “I’d be happy to help any Camels in need of assistance; contact me through Linke-dln.” Christina’s son (Duncan, 21) is heading toward a career in counseling/social work (“just like mama”), which warms her heart. She enjoys playing with fabric and thread in her spare time, which mostly keeps her out of trouble. Todd Humphrey is a pilot with United Airlines, based in Newark, N.J. He flies the Boeing 777 internationally, including Asia, Europe and India, but occasionally flies all the way to the West Coast. He and husband Robert celebrated 25 years together in November. They reside in Melbourne, Fla.

Correspondent: Jenifer Kahn, jkblue@gmail.com Lisey Good and Kasia Wandycz caught up in Paris in February, where Kasia lived and works as a photographer for Paris Match magazine. Lisey just moved back to Boston with husband Lenny, and she divides her time between her interior design business and her work as the president of a nonprofit animal charity. She and Diana Zimmerman Mahaney see each other frequently, most recently at the high school graduation of Lisey’s nephew in Bronxville, N.Y. Joyce Gerber has had a career change this year and is now working in cannabis media. She is the executive producer of a podcast called In the Weeds with Jimmy Young, and she’s started a blog and podcast called The Canna Mom. “Crazy, I know, but true!” Check her out online at www.procannabismedia.com. Christina Fraser reports that life is good in Rochester, N.Y. She is an employment counselor for the New York State Department of Labor, and loves (almost) every minute of it. She helps folks through rocky bits of their careers and gets them back on track. “I’d be happy to help any Camels in need of assistance; contact me through Linke-dln.” Christina’s son (Duncan, 21) is heading toward a career in counseling/social work (“just like mama”), which warms her heart. She enjoys playing with fabric and thread in her spare time, which mostly keeps her out of trouble. Todd Humphrey is a pilot with United Airlines, based in Newark, N.J. He flies the Boeing 777 internationally, including Asia, Europe and India, but occasionally flies all the way to the West Coast. He and husband Robert celebrated 25 years together in November. They reside in Melbourne, Fla.

Correspondent: Brooke Perry Pardue, bppardue@gmail.com So far, the highlight of Nancy Lundeborg’s 60th year was traveling to Egypt and walking in the footsteps of the pharaohs. Her work as CEO of the American Geriatrics Society is going well, and she was excited that programs have been launched in both geriatrics surgery verification and geriatrics emergency department accreditation since last she wrote in to Class Notes. Mindy Kerman and husband Ken Gellerman have celebrated the year of turning 60 with lots of travel, including Colorado, California, Florida, Rhode Island and even Spain. They still plan to visit Maine and hopefully Brooke Perry Pardue in Louisville in October. After 33 years with the Association to Benefit Children in NYC, Mindy is finally taking her vacation time! Kevin Sullivan’s life in Rhode Island is still wonderful. “It’s a beautiful place with an equally attractive lifestyle.” Now that his boys are older, her and wife Ann take more vacations, date nights, etc.—sans kids! Kevin still enjoys coaching high school hockey: “It makes the New England winters much easier to take.” He sees Rick Gersten, Scott Hefter and

Cris Revaz when he’s in DC. Kevin and Ann spent a weekend in Maine with Scott and his wife, where they hiked Mt. Pleasant. As we know, Rhode Island has always attracted very wealthy people looking for summer estates (e.g., Taylor Swift, Norm Livingston and Rick Gersten). Occasionally, Kevin gets an invitation to visit with Rick or Norm at their summer residences when they’re in town (he’s still waiting for Taylor). Scott Hefter and wife Anne are enjoying a year living as “students” in Cambridge, dancing and playing with friends Laura Allen, Kenny Goldstein, David Zief, Kevin Sullivan and David Geller. Scott also spent a great summer weekend in Rhode Island with Tom Seclow, Norm Livingston and Rick Gersten.
Members of the Class of 1989 kicking off their 30th reunion at Abbott’s in Noank, Conn.

we were right in the center of all the activities. We kicked off with dinner at Abbott’s in Noank, paraded our class banner, celebrated our classmates’ accomplishments, listened to music in Castle Court, enjoyed a wonderful dinner and camel cookies in Cummings, and wrapped up the weekend with goodbyes in Harris. We also set a record in giving as the fourth-highest ever for a 30th reunion! This was the best participation our class has seen since 2003 and the most dollars the Class of 1989 has ever raised—thank you! In other Camel news: Alexandra Abbott was sorry to miss Reunion. She lives in Boston with husband Shaun Pedersen ’88 and daughter Eleanor, 11. Aside from immersion in motherhood, Alexandra spent the last year helping her mother, 91, publish a beautifully written and illustrated hardcover book, Cobblestones & Ice Cream Cones: A Trip to Nantucket in Rhymes. She oversaw all aspects of production, and it launched at the Nantucket Book Festival in June. Stephanie Muller Vanderslice was also disappointed to miss Reunion—but thrilled to catch up with Caren Fishman, Sarah Monsma-Billings and Elisabeth Lavin-Peter for dinner in Boston at the end of June. Her younger son, Wilson, studies cello at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, which means she gets to see Hannah Treitel Cosdon in western Pennsylvania a few times a year on the drive up from Arkansas. With her older son, Jackson, living in Little Rock and working as a software analyst, she and husband John are semi-empty nesters now, still writing and teaching creative writing at the U. of Central Arkansas. They celebrated 25 years in 2018 with a trip to Normandy and Provence. Elizabeth May Bankson has been living in Winston Salem, N.C., for 13 years, raising two boys (18 and 13), and teaching Spanish (putting that CC Hispanic Studies major to use!). She wishes she was closer to friends and family and reunions in New England! Noelle Ishin and boyfriend Stewart Ross met up with Mikkel Andreas Lippmann while on holiday in Copenhagen, Denmark, in August.

Correspondent: Toria Brett, 30 Washington Ave., Northampton, MA 01060, victoriabrett@comcast.

Our 30th reunion is next year ... until then, some news: Seven years ago, Mary Louise Neary-Rubin and John Rubin launched John’s dream business. Coupled with Mare’s marketing expertise, they have grown their music rehearsal studio and after-school rock band program, Replay Music Studios, into a beloved neighborhood destination for musicians young and old. They run rock band campus all summer and an after-school program in the fall. Their daughter is a junior at Carnegie Mellon. Joe Syracuse and Lisa Addario report that they are both incredibly fit and youthful with great skin, perfect hair and no stomach flab. They are still living in L.A. and working in Hollywood. Their daughter is attending Emerson College in Boston, and their son, Augie, is a senior in high school. Brian Field’s “String Quartet #1” was performed this year in both NYC and San Francisco, with a commercial release of the piece by the Sirius Quartet in September on Navona Records; it was also awarded first prize in the Malta International Composition Competition in July. Brian’s trio for clarinet, English horn and bassoon, “Tableaux Tartroniques,” was released in March on RMN Classical and is available on Amazon, iTunes and Spotify. Victoria Shaw-Williamson is an art appraiser and adviser in New York, where she works with art collectors, estates and auction houses. She has also spent the last several years teaching courses in appraisal and connoisseurship at NYU School of Professional Studies. Mark Kahn says he is happy to receive his AARP card for discounts on car rentals and movie tickets! He recently relocated from Providence, R.I., back to New York, where he grew up, to be closer to his mother. He says he is open to new employment opportunities. Miles Ladin, while photographing in Belgium last March, reconnected with Astrid Froidure. Astrid hosted Miles in her Brussels home, showed him around and drove him to shoots. He met her two sons and heard about her post-Conn life and business ventures. Cynthia Smith Bruns celebrated her 20-year anniversary of working at Delta Airlines in Atlanta, where she is the assistant to the president. She has traveled the world with her husband and 14-year-old son. She recently visited her roommate from Harkness, Kathy Grosz Miller, in Charlottesville, Va.

Correspondent: Lisa Talusan, lisa.talusan@gmail.com Though busy with consulting, Liza Talusan has had the great fortune of running into a number of Camels over the years. She is grateful for the support folks have shown and for those who have referred her to people who could benefit from diversity, equity and inclusion partnerships. Liza saw Deirdre Hennessey Eschauzier ’95 and Chase Eschauzier when their son, Leo, interned with her for a few weeks doing diversity and inclusion work. Jorge Vega is the director of technology at Prospect Hill Academy and recently completed his writer-in-residence year with the Associates of the Boston Public Library. This past summer, he traveled to the Republic of Somalia, where he serves on a nonprofit board focused on expanding access to schools and education. Within weeks of graduating from CC with a B.A. in Chemistry, Brian Dring was hired by Pfizer Groton, where he worked for 20 years as a lab analyst. As a recent retiree, he enjoys producing songs and jingles in his home studio and traveling with his wife to Newport and abroad. “I’m grateful for the opportunities and contacts I had from my time at CC.” Congratulations to Chris Martin and Jessica Reznick, who married on May 18. Camels in attendance were Chris Kimball, Jess Haynes McDaniel, Emily Cobb Henry, Nick Henry, Jessica Temlock-Fields ’95 and Meg Ryan Finegan. Doreen Cutionilli left Africa in 2015 and has since been “bopping around the world, catching up with others.” Do- reen is now doing the online business thing while continuing to collect stamps in her passport. Alison Burns Herbert still lives in Sydney, Australia, and works in education at Taronga Zoo. “My family loves having a mom who comes home with interesting animal stories.” She adds: “I’m always happy to show Sydney off to visitors, so do look me up if you’re ever down here!” Natalie Hildt Treat is executive director of C-10 Research & Education Foundation, a nonprofit based in
Newburyport, Mass., that is focused on the safety of Seabrook Station nuclear power plant. She, husband Tom, and daughter Julia live in a net-zero energy home and welcome visitors, especially Camels! Lauren Ruff Finn lives in Lancaster, Pa., with her husband, two boys and an enormous dog. She loves running and cycling and challenging herself to do both in duathlon events. She works as a senior facilitator for coLAB, Inc., focusing on nonprofit, mission-driven organizations—developing strategic plans, strengthening sustainability, exploring feasibility and promoting continuity through succession planning. Jess Aguiar Mack is still teaching fifth grade and coaching her kids’ basketball and lacrosse teams in Lancaster, Pa. She was excited for her annual summer trip to Martha’s Vineyard to see Dardy Muldau Slavin, Tara Davignon Levine, Ann Bevan Hollos, Gina Pastore and their families. Then she planned to visit New York to see Camels Heather Ehrman Krill and Scott Williams. Margaret Siegel Spruce continues to enjoy London and (most days) chasing after her two young kids. She would love to hear from you if you’re over that way! In 2019, she enjoyed visits from Robin Spruce, Megan Tucker Gimbel, Heather Ehrman Krill and Sarah Schoellkopf, and she was planning a visit to Valerie Martin in Slovenia.

Brain Laung Aoae and Lisa Morales-Hellebo (CMU ’95), co-founders of ‘The Worldwide Supply Chain Federation and REFASHIOND Ventures, hosted ‘The Worldwide Supply Chain Federation’s inaugural global summit in NYC in June. The event brought together buyers and builders of supply chain innovations to discuss how software-enabled technologies can be applied to create new products to move global supply chain networks into the future given current and forecasted needs and demands. The Singapore Economic Development Board showcased how Singapore is fostering supply chain innovation as a means of spurring economic growth in Southeast Asia. The event attracted more than 1,000 sign-ups, with more than 700 attendees over both days.

Brian Laung Aoae ’01 and co-founder Lisa Morales-Hellebo at the Worldwide Supply Chain Federation’s inaugural global summit in New York City.

Genoa. Patricia E. Frey married Evan M. Gleimer on Jan. 6, 2018, in NYC. Owen Kloter ’05 was in attendance. Adrienne Capaldi, her sister Julianna Capaldi, Lindsay Schakenbach Regle, Carly Holbrook Wilks, Mary McCudden, Meaghan Seelaus Fitzgerald ’07 and Merritt Haswell met at Sea Isle City for their annual ccxc reunion. Some mini Camels came too! Meg Wheeler and husband Steve Wheeler ’03 live on the beach in Cohasset with son Jack, 2, who attends a Spanish-immersion school. Meg runs a startup, One for Women, an online platform that provides resources for women to support each other, and hosts a podcast, One for Womenkind. Her husband is a corporate lawyer at Gunderson Dettmer. Priyanka Gupta Zielinski and husband Richard welcomed their third child, Savi Evelyn, on June 18. Savi joins older siblings Henry and Radhika in their home in Dubai. Maria Lopez-Diaz and her husband, retired U.S. Coast Guard Commander Edwin Diaz-Rosario, watched both of their daughters graduate this year. Older daughter Melissa graduated from the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration at George Washington U., and younger daughter Melody graduated from Ohio U. with a B.A. in Linguistics, a minor in History, and a certificate in East Asian Studies.
on June 8. Photos followed in the Arboretum, and the reception was held in the 1962 Room of Crozier-Williams. The 175 guests in attendance enjoyed a horse-and-wagon ride to usher them between locations. 

**Avery Ellsworth** and wife Allison Anne Ellsworth welcomed their second child, Matilda Anne, in May. She joins big brother John Theodore (Theo), 2.

Nick Sullivan lives in Seattle and works at Stripe. Diana Coyne DiFlore was joined by Ross Behmeyer, Peter Yannielli, Amy Crespi, Leigh Ahrens-dorf, Caroline Coolidge and Andrew Lagace at her wedding. Laura Robertson travelled to Tokyo to visit Christine Jackson Remy, who lives there with her husband.

---

**Sarah Walkowicz**

**12** Madeleine Murray is the illustrator of a new young adult books series called Show Strides. The series is for young adult readers who love horseback-riding and the equestrian sport. Book #1 was released in May, and books #2 and #3 are in the works. Her fast digital sketches are featured regularly on a new television network, The Plaid Horse Network. When she’s not illustrating, Madeleine supports herself with painting.

**18** Correspondent: Alyson Bortone, alysonbortone@gmail.com The Class of 2018 has kept busy a year out from graduation. In the fall, there was no shortage of ’18 Camels attending Reunion Weekend. Eager to reconnect, alumni in attendance included Rebecca Kremens, Julia Horowitz, Maureen Steinhorn, Bobby Mullins, Gillian Neubert, Emilia Clementi, Peter DesRochers, Charlie Pite, Maddy Dickey, Walter Florio, Charlotte Nixon, Anna Jardine, Riley Burfeind, Weston Stephens, Elizabeth Powell, Lauren Hilton, Nina Nalle, Steven Grinsztein, Tori Weinstock, Isaiah Robinson, Julia Tackett, Emily Hebble, Carson Bloomquist, Michael Iranpour, Saskia Stark-Ewing, Lydia Morena, John Rissmiller and many others. Several classmates, including Anna Jardine, Riley Burfeind, Julia Tackett, Rebecca Kremens, Gaia Uman and Saskia Stark-Ewing also made an appearance at the holiday events in Boston and NYC. Anna Jardine returned to Conn for several dance shows, and Julia Tackett has visited campus for a few a capella concerts. Making their way across the Atlantic, many Camels can also be found working and traveling throughout Europe. Phoebe Ivalin moved to London last year and is completing an M.Sc. in Translation-Anal Neuroscience from Imperial College. She has been conducting research with the Centre for Perinatal Neuroscience, looking at the relationship between magnetic resonance spectroscopy biomarkers and brain injury in neonates after hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy. Marta Martinez Fernandez met up with Vanessa Giraldo Salazar ’20 and Christian Carr-Locke ’20 in Paris, and is enjoying her time traveling in Europe. Chiara Gero moved to L.A. and is looking forward to visiting home in Croatia this winter, but is grateful to have kept in close contact with Shaniqua Shaw, Jamie Wetmore, Deniz Yetil, Elizabeth Lewis and Aly Bortone, who attended Fall Weekend and Women’s Empowerment (WE) Initiative together and had a fantastic time reuniting in NYC. The group danced the night away with Chazz Higginbotham ’16, who DJs in the city and attracts Jeff Iylekhu, Ousmane Dieng, Alex Tonhazy and other Conn friends to his shows as well. Traveling frequently for work, Aly Bortone also met up with Graham Koval in Colorado and Mark McPhillips ’20 in L.A., and is looking forward to making her way to her company headquarters in Copenhagen at the end of this year. Fred McNulty ’15, who is now covering Connecticut local politics as an independent journalist, visited Albert Webson in Providence, R.I., where he pretends to be a computer science Ph.D. by day but is secretly still faithful to political science. Fred ruthlessly critiqued Albert’s choice of home décor, while Albert dropped him into another discussion on the fungibility of happiness and human relations. Katia Elistman is now at Duke getting her master’s in biomed-ical science. Elizabeth Powell moved to DC last fall to work at Politico, a news company focused on politics and policy. Charlie Losiewicz ’19 is excited to be working with Jonathan Goodnow at Ecast Productions in Boston and had a blast filming a music video with Jonathan and Paolo Sanchez for a local band in Little Compton, R.I. The three also met up with Alison Joyce ’19, Haig Yetarian ’19, Eamon O’Leary, Rebecca Kremens, Aly Bortone, Marta Martinez Fernandez, Andrew Prunk, Colin Munson ’16, John Rissmiller and Helen Fulmer ’20 to celebrate Paolo’s birthday in Boston. Lili Van Vignil made an appearance at the WE Initiative show, while Ricky Birnbaum headed back to Conn to celebrate Floralia in the spring. Class of 2018 Camels are thriving all over, and we cannot wait to see where they go next!
In Memoriam

1940’s

Miriam Brooks Butterworth ’40, died July 9, 2019
Louise Ressler Faust ’42, died March 6, 2019
Ruth Fielding Henard ’42, died March 4, 2019
Victoria Sabagh Russell ’42, died April 21, 2019
Ann Shattuck Smith ’42, died May 6, 2019
Mary Elliott Dearnley ’43, died June 18, 2019
Barbara Batchelor Hamlin ’43, died May 10, 2019
Harriet Squires LeMoine ’43, died February 28, 2019
Frieda Kenigsberg Lopatin ’43, died June 21, 2019
Beth Mildon Meree ’43, died May 20, 2019
Carolyn Thomson Spicer ’43, died August 9, 2016
Jane Dougall Ambrose ’44, died December 7, 2011
Nan Grindle Amstutz ’44, died May 24, 2019
Mary Richards Beemer ’44, died August 29, 2012
Suzanne Harbert Boice ’44, died July 12, 2019
Helen Gadebusch Brough ’44, died July 17, 2012
Nancy Smith Lesure ’44, died May 26, 2019
Barbara Wadhams Youngbluth ’44, died November 28, 2018
Lygia De Freitas Charlton ’46, died August 16, 2018
Anita Galindo Gordon ’46, died August 27, 2009
Barbara Miller Gustafson ’46, died December 6, 2018
Shirley Wilson Keller ’46, died May 20, 2019
Ann Beecher Underwood ’46, died July 8, 2019
Claudia Beardslee ’47, died March 17, 2019
Norma Wittleshofer Fink ’47, died May 27, 2019
Priscilla Baird Hinckley ’47, died January 26, 2019

Frances Farnsworth Armstrong ’48, died March 3, 2019
Lucille Davis Chanin ’48, died February 24, 2019
Annabel Romig Lenning ’48, died February 11, 2001
Dorothy Quinlan McDonald ’48, died October 31, 2018
Joanne Morrison Slodden ’48, died April 27, 2019
Charlotte McCorkindale Smith ’48, died May 11, 2019
Janice Braley Maynard ’49, died June 6, 2019
Clare Willard Minor ’49, died October 3, 2011
Sarah Whitehead Murphy ’49, died January 10, 2019
Marilyn Klug Provost ’49, died September 28, 2012
Olga Van Wagoner Valentine ’49, died June 27, 2018

1950’s

Joyce Davidson Beckett ’50, died December 3, 2016
Barbara Earnest Paulson ’50, died June 14, 2019
Frances Blank Shean ’50, died March 7, 2019
Norma Kochenour Kniseley ’51, died May 24, 2019
Helene Paris Dyke ’52, died September 19, 2009
Laura Wheelwright Farnsworth ’52, died March 22, 2019
Jane Gerhardt ’52, died March 12, 2019
Barbara Frye Laco ’52, died March 30, 2019
Joyce Wuesthoff Povolny ’52, died March 27, 2019
Ann Olstein Berson ’54, died March 10, 2019
Ellen Moore ’54, died April 16, 2019
Suzanne Gaffney Munroe ’54, died October 9, 2013
Ann Appley ’55, died January 17, 2018
Anne Talcott Groth ’55, died April 6, 2019
Joan Barkley ’56, died November 5, 2013
Peggy Mark Heller ’56, died April 16, 2019
Marilyn Dunn Mapes ’56, died April 23, 2019
Cyvia Russian Peters ’56, died April 22, 2019
Nancy Stewart Roberts ’56, died March 23, 2019
Dorothea Badenhausen ’57, died September 23, 2019
Lynne Twinem Gorman ’57, died October 25, 2018
Patricia Daley Grumman ’57, died March 3, 2015
Ada Heimbach Logan ’57, died April 1, 2019
Geraldine Maher Regan ’57, died March 15, 2019
Janet Flanagan Reiner ’57, died January 29, 2019
Rhoda Lichtig Kleid ’58, died March 23, 2018
Patricia Daniels Kook ’58, died April 17, 2019
Grace Harnett Leffel ’59, died December 11, 2018

1960’s
Marina Neris ’62, died March 13, 2019
Helene Flicher Craner ’63, died July 2, 2019
Frances Winfield Bremer ’64, died April 21, 2019
Carol Wallack Hanan ’64, died July 10, 2019
Jane Tisher Powell ’64, died July 9, 2019
Elizabeth Joers Roberts ’64, died April 23, 2019
Virginia Budarz Ruck ’64, died March 29, 2019
Margaret Sullivan ’67, died December 2018
Richard Michaels ’68, died May 28, 2019
Joan Price ’68, died June 13, 2019
Betsey Stone ’69, died November 29, 2018

1970’s
Josephine Stafford Merrill ’70, died May 4, 2019
Deborah Steigerwalt Safford ’71, died January 2, 2019
Ellen Forsberg Boynton ’72, died April 17, 2019
Elizabeth Davis Kokos ’73, died June 3, 2019
Josephine Hart ’74, died November 22, 2018
Dewitt Miner ’74, died February 20, 2019
Ann Lilja Vanneck ’74, died January 15, 2019
John Maeder ’75, died April 27, 2019
Anne Sykes ’76, died April 1, 2019
Margaret Blair O’Brien ’77, died June 7, 2019
Ross Delaney ’78, died November 10, 2017
Sally Davies Halsey ’78, died May 20, 2019

1980’s
David Fenton ’85, died November 19, 2018
Faith Damon Davison ’86, died May 17, 2019

1990’s
Kevin Dodge ’92, died April 1, 2019
Janet Forcier ’92, died May 22, 2019
Julia Gerl Adcock ’96, died May 31, 2019
We're celebrating 10K Instagram followers by sharing all 1,449 posts since our IG launch on May 7, 2012. @ConnCollege
WHAT MAKES A CAMEL A CAMEL?

Creative, adaptive thinking
Interdisciplinary exploration
A global perspective
The skills and knowledge to change the world...

VIANGELY (VIVI) ASENSIO ’20
Miami, FL
Government, Italian Studies and Sociology Triple Major
Global Capitalism Pathway

...AND YOUR SUPPORT.
To make your gift to the CC Fund today, visit giving.conncoll.edu or call 860-439-2400.

CC Fund
Connecticut College
From above the Charles E. Shain Library.