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CC

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Magazine



mRNA

USHERS IN A NEW AGE OF
DRUG DISCOVERY



*This page: Journee Hardaway '21, dance and sociology double major, rehearses in Meyers Dance Studio. Photo by Misha Friedman. (See pages 26-31).
Cover image: Flavio Coelho/Getty Images*

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CC Magazine is published by the Office of Communications. We are committed to covering a diverse group of stories in order to profile the human condition as seen through—and sometimes written by—our alumni, faculty, students and staff; we strive to publish features and photography that illuminate the College's story.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We welcome your letters. The magazine publishes only letters that comment on the most recent issue's editorial content. Letters may be edited. Please include your return address, an email address (if you have one) and a daytime telephone number for verification purposes.

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Harold Shapiro

From the President

In January, we hosted Elevate, our first annual conference on social justice at Connecticut College. The virtual two-day event, created by our division of Institutional Equity and Inclusion, featured 40 speakers and a range of lectures, films, performances, and discussions. More than 550 students, faculty, staff, alumni, and New London residents participated. It was an uplifting start to the spring semester, offering an opportunity for our community to elevate its collective consciousness about issues of equity and justice. You can sense the vibrancy of the event by watching the recordings posted on our website.

As I said during the conference's opening assembly, our mission at Connecticut College is to create productive citizens prepared to put their education into action in support of global democracy. To achieve this, we must all work to elevate our discourse, our practices, and our forms of self-governance to create the kind of environment where all people, no matter their identity or background, have the opportunity to thrive, to reach their potential, and to contribute meaningfully to their community and the world.

That ideal, which we call full participation, lies at the heart of who we are and what we do at Conn.

As our country struggles with ongoing inequality, made even more visible in the contexts of police violence and a persistent pandemic, the hard work—indeed the hard truths—exemplified by the Elevate conference will remain central to a Connecticut College education.

I want to recognize the faculty, staff, alumni, and, most importantly, the students who continue to meet the challenges of the pandemic with grace and determination. *CC Magazine* features four of those students in a photo essay that documents the challenges we all overcame to make the fall semester possible. Conn has fared better than so many other schools in keeping our campus healthy and safe during this difficult time. That comes directly from a culture of care and of shared responsibility that has defined this institution from its earliest days.

This shared responsibility is reflected in many of the stories featured in this issue: from Kristen Park Hopson '01, one of *Business Insider*'s "30 leaders under 40 who is transforming healthcare" by using mRNA technology to usher in a new age of drug discovery; to Vickie Curtis '07 who co-wrote the Netflix film *The Social Dilemma*, which outlines the dangers of social networking; to Annabelle Allen '19, who shares her heartfelt New York Times-published essay, "The Day His Journal Went Blank," about her father's battle with Alzheimer's.

All of these stories demonstrate the far-reaching impact of our alumni, who are changing lives every day.



AP Images / Alex Brandon

Lights surround the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool, a memorial to COVID-19 victims, in Washington, D.C.

Called To Serve

President Joe Biden has named Jeffrey Wexler '10 as the White House Director of COVID-19 Operations. He works in the office of management and administration.

For Wexler, this marks a natural progression after he served as the Director of COVID-19 Preparedness for the Biden-Harris Transition, and for the Biden-Harris Campaign. Prior to his role on the campaign, he was the Senior

Director of COVID-19 Preparedness and Senior Director of Hall Management for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.

An international relations major at Conn, Wexler has held a diverse range of positions in politics and public policy. He began his career as a press assistant in the U.S. Senate before accepting increasingly prominent roles, including a stint as

the Chief Operating Officer at the U.N. Foundation's Global Climate Action Summit, where he received the 2019 IMEX-EIC Innovation in Sustainability Award for his work as C.O.O. of the summit. In 2014, President Barack Obama appointed Wexler as Director of Operations and Advance for the U.S. Small Business Administration—a position he held until 2017.



Bob MacDonnell

Pass the Test

At Conn, testing for COVID-19 has become as regular as going to class.

“It is security for me,” Darriana Greer ’21, told MSN.com. “To know that everybody else on campus is being tested twice a week as well, I feel a bit more safe coming to classes.”

The successful outcome of the fall semester is due in part to Conn’s twice-weekly testing and contact-tracing regimen—an aggressive program that was able to arrest the spread of isolated instances of infection before they led to an outbreak. All testing is conducted at Conn’s Athletic Center in Dayton Arena.

“It just became part of everybody’s week to go down to the testing center twice a week,” said Dean of Students Victor Arcelus. “That allowed everyone to be able to do what they did over the course of the semester. Knowing what the positivity rate was on our campus

at any given time, it enabled us to hold in-person classes, it enabled us to have student clubs. Our varsity athletes were able to engage in in-person training, and ultimately we were able to do some intrasquad scrimmages.”

The robust testing regiment caught the attention of national media, from U.S. News & World Report to Inside Higher Ed, which highlighted Conn as one of only seven institutions singled out for pandemic response efforts that led to low infection rates and the ability to hold in-person classes and athletic training safely.

However, while testing played a pivotal role in controlling the spread of COVID-19 on campus, Arcelus said that the College could not have solely relied on testing this semester.

“It is not the only piece. If students were not wearing masks, if we were not actively social distancing, then I don’t

think the testing would be able to keep us from having to go to remote,” said Arcelus.

Last summer, Conn contracted with the Broad Institute lab, in Massachusetts, which developed a specific Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing program for colleges and universities that provides results within 24 hours of receiving samples in their laboratory. Since August 17, 2020, Conn has conducted more than 50,000 tests with a positivity percentage of 0.23, as of this publication.

“In less than 24 hours, we are getting the result. The doctor gets the result, calls that individual who is positive and immediately starts engaging them in the process of separating from the rest of the community,” said Arcelus.

Conn is using the same testing program during the spring semester.

The Marshall Scholarship

Prestigious scholarship finances young Americans of high ability to study in the U.K.

Ann Monk '21 is on her way to London.

Monk, the founder and president of Conn's Student Refugee Alliance, is one of 46 recipients of the Marshall Scholarship. The winners, considered to be among the best and brightest university students and recent graduates in the United States, will begin graduate studies at many of the U.K.'s top academic institutions beginning in September 2021.

Monk will be pursuing research in diaspora studies and international development at SOAS University of London and University College London. She is the first Conn student to be awarded a Marshall Scholarship, which finances graduate studies at a U.K. institution in any field of study for up to three years.

"I'm excited to live in London—a city with an incredibly rich history and such cultural significance," said Monk, who is double majoring in international relations and global Islamic studies, and minoring in Arabic. "I can't wait to meet new people from all walks of life and to volunteer with refugee resettlement organizations in a new place."

Monk, who was awarded a 2020 Newman Civic Fellowship, is a scholar in Conn's Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts, and a Walter Commons fellow.

"Ann has been an inspiring student to work with ever since she joined the Walter Commons as a student fellow in her first year at Conn," said Amy Dooling, associate dean of Global Initiatives, director of the Walter Commons for Global Study and Engagement, and professor of Chinese.

"Her ongoing dedication to Arabic language studies, her commitment to civic engagement, and her determination to expand her knowledge and worldview exemplify the power and potential of a globally-focused integrative Connecticut College education."

Monk hopes to be a leader in global education reform with a particular focus on expanding access to educational opportunities for refugees. She has said that her dream job would be to work for the U.N. or a government agency, a dream within reach considering that the Marshall Scholarship has given rise to an unprecedented breadth of expertise in

almost every academic field, producing numerous university presidents, six Pulitzer Prize winners, one Nobel Laureate, 14 MacArthur Fellows, two Academy Award nominees, two Supreme Court justices and a NASA astronaut.

"What an extraordinary honor it is for Ann to become one of 46 Marshall Scholars from across the United States," said Dean of the College and Faulk Foundation Professor of Psychology Jefferson Singer.

"Along with the Rhodes Scholarship, the Marshall is the most competitive fellowship that a graduating senior can receive. It is a testament to Ann's dedication and leadership in the cause of worldwide refugees—a focus that has shaped her four years at Connecticut College."

Named for Secretary of State George C. Marshall, the Marshall Scholarship Program began in 1953 as a gesture of gratitude to the people of the U.S. for the assistance that the U.K. received after World War II under the Marshall Plan. Since that time, it has remained uniquely positioned among national scholarships for its prestige and scope.

Conn Expands Global Partnerships

College signs agreements with universities in India and South Korea.

Connecticut College has announced new partnerships with institutions in both India and South Korea that will further enhance the College's commitment to global education.

These new reciprocal agreements between Conn and Ashoka University in India and Ewha Womans University in South Korea will offer a range of collaborative research programs and exchange opportunities for both students and faculty.

"The need for global cooperation has never been more important," said Connecticut College President Katherine Bergeron. "Our new partnerships with Ashoka and Ewha will create new avenues for our campus communities to share diverse perspectives and to shape a new generation of ethical leaders who can meet the global challenges of our time."

In addition to undergraduate student and faculty exchange programs, these new collaborations will also provide opportunities for cross-cultural research and teaching initiatives by bringing students together in virtual classrooms.

"Partnership really is the future of global education," said Amy Dooling,

associate director of global initiatives and director of the Walter Commons for Global Study and Engagement.

"Relationships built on shared goals, mutual interests and a commitment to reciprocity will generate meaningful and ongoing collaborative endeavors that make the most of our distinct resources and curricular strengths."

Founded in 2014, Ashoka University, located two hours from New Delhi in northern India, is a private liberal arts college with rich undergraduate and graduate-level curriculums that include more than 20 academic departments and a dozen interdisciplinary centers.

The seeds of Conn's partnership with Ashoka were planted in 2015 through the Global Engagement in the Liberal Arts network that Conn helped establish that same year. In 2017, thanks in part to generous grants from the Endeavor Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Professor of Human Development Sunil Bhatia conducted an exploratory visit to Ashoka's campus and invited two of the school's deans to visit Conn the following year.

The first institution in East Asia to offer women access to higher education, Ewha Womans University in Seoul, is a private research university and holds the honor of being the world's largest women's educational institution. In 2007, Ewha established Scranton Honors College, which offers an interdisciplinary liberal arts curriculum in English. Through this partnership, Conn students will be able to take classes in this curriculum in addition to Korean language courses.

Along with Dooling, Professor of Economics Yongjin Park was involved in developing the relationship with Ewha.

"As a Korean and a longtime member of the Study Away Committee, I recommended Ewha University as an ideal choice because it is widely considered the top women's college in South Korea. With a long tradition in international education, newly built international student dorms and location in the heart of Seoul, it's a perfect choice for our students," Park said.

MLS SuperDraft

Goalkeeper AJ Marcucci '21 off to the New York Red Bulls.

Former Connecticut College men's soccer goalkeeper AJ Marcucci '21 is the first-ever Conn athlete to be drafted into Major League Soccer. Marcucci was selected by the New York Red Bulls in the third round of the 2021 MLS SuperDraft in January.

"It was amazing," Marcucci told the The Delaware County Daily Times. "It was stressful until I saw my name put up there, but I'm excited. Every emotion that you can think of, I'm feeling right now. It's one of my dreams so I've just got to prove myself in New York. New York's a great organization."

Marcucci is now the first Division III player to be drafted since midfielder Marshall Hollingsworth of Wheaton (Ill.) was selected with the 41st pick by the Columbus Crew in 2016.

"Our program is so proud of AJ and his family," said men's head soccer coach Reuben Burk. "I know this is a dream come true for him. He has earned this opportunity, and we couldn't be happier and more excited for him."

"AJ is a true example of how dedication, commitment and self-

belief can open up doors that others might say can't be opened. We all look forward to watching AJ seize this opportunity."

As a Camel, Marcucci started in 54 of the team's 55 matches between 2017 and 2019 and helped the team post a combined 35-10-9 record in that span. He finished his career with a school-record 25 career shutouts to go along with an .887 save percentage and an 0.50 goals against average.

Among his many accolades, Marcucci earned a place on the NCAA All-America First Team as the nation's top Division III goalkeeper twice, named by both the United Soccer Coaches and D3soccer.com in 2018 and 2019. He was also named the 2017 NESCAC Rookie of the Year and the 2018 NESCAC Player of the Year.

"This is a tremendous achievement for AJ and is a reflection of the broader excellence of our student athletes at Conn," said Mo White, director of athletics. "The College is incredibly proud of AJ and looking forward to seeing what he'll do next as a New York Red Bulls soccer player."

The Camel men's soccer team had its most successful three-year run with Marcucci between the posts from 2017-19. The program became Conn's first sport to qualify for three straight NCAA Tournaments, which included being chosen to host the opening two rounds for the first time in school history in 2018. In 2019, the team finished with a 13-4-3 record, and advanced to the "Elite 8" at NCAAs. Only the 1998 women's soccer team and the 1998-99 men's basketball program previously advanced to the national quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively.

Marcucci's senior season in 2020 was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, according to the Daily Times, he returned home to play for West Chester United SC.

"We were able to play," Marcucci said. "We used guidelines for when it got shut down, and we couldn't play for a little. But playing really helped prepare me going into the [MLS] combine. This week has been a whirlwind of emotions."



Isaak Berliner

Some people were born to do their jobs. Tiffani Gavin is one of them.

Gavin recently signed on as only the fifth executive director in the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's legendary 55-year history and is the first woman of color to ever lead the celebrated organization. She has spent decades exploring every facet of the performing arts.

With experience in theater on both the creative and business sides, Gavin has served as managing director of the American Repertory Theater, executive producer at SFX/Clear Channel and manager of Broadway's Marquis Theatre.

She is excited to use her expertise to build on the legacy of the center, located in Waterford, Connecticut, and to continue what has been a cherished partnership with Connecticut College. Conn is a founding academic partner of the center, a collaboration

that has intertwined the institutions in beneficial ways, from sharing guest artists to establishing internships with the O'Neill's National Theater Institute and its National Playwrights and National Music Theater conferences.

The roots of Gavin's passion for performing arts trace back to her childhood, when her mother, who had a background in music, enrolled her in acting classes at age six. As she progressed through school, Gavin performed in school musicals, sang in chorus and participated in her church choir. In college, she held a casting internship with the Public Theater in New York—and realized she was more interested in working behind the scenes than onstage. After graduation, Gavin was offered a job as assistant to the manager at the Public Theater.

"That job really introduced me to a world I had never known before—

company management, general management, managing budgets and contracts—and I enjoyed it because I was able to interact with everybody from the cast members to the box office to the operations people," Gavin said.

She then switched roles to become the assistant to the artistic producer, which exposed her to the other side of the industry and rounded out her experience in an unusual way. Theater administrators typically pursue either the business path or the creative path. Gavin found herself bouncing between the two.

"I feel like going back and forth between the artistic production and general management sides gave me a comprehensive understanding of how the seed of an idea becomes a play, and then how the play runs its course all the way until it's retired," Gavin said. That comprehensive background made Gavin the perfect fit for the O'Neill Center,

Long Day's Journey

The O'Neill Center's new executive director, Tiffani Gavin, represents a pathbreaking era for the legendary theater.

which has a single leadership structure that differs from most other theaters. And the prominent position the center holds in the story of American theater and its reputation for risk-taking and innovation were very attractive to her.

"The O'Neill has a legacy of letting people discover how to perform and how to write in a safe laboratory alongside talented professionals," she explained. "Writers and performers come in through the National Theater Institute and are able to take risks and learn from what works and what doesn't work, so it's a great early development opportunity that truly fosters long-term relationships."

The O'Neill Center also owns the Monte Cristo Cottage, in New London, once the boyhood home of Eugene O'Neill himself, who remains the only American playwright to be awarded a Nobel Prize for literature. The cottage was the setting of his autobiographical

play, *Long Day's Journey into Night*, and is now a museum that has been restored to appear as it did when O'Neill lived there.

Robert A. Richter '82, director of arts programming at Conn and an O'Neill scholar, said the center and cottage museum are major assets not only for Conn students but for scholars and O'Neill fans from around the world.

"The cottage and Connecticut College's own Sheaffer-O'Neill Collection, in the Linda Lear Center for Special Collections and Archives at Shain Library, make New London a destination for national and international scholars interested in Eugene O'Neill and American theater," Richter said. "Conn regularly holds classes at the cottage, and there is no better way to gain insight into America's greatest playwright than to explore where he grew up."

As the country confronts a racial reckoning, and the arts are increasingly

committed to promoting diversity, Gavin says she sees an important continued role for the O'Neill Center to keep building on its reputation for valuing diversity and inclusion.

"The O'Neill has always had very diverse voices onstage. But I do think a place where theater in general struggles is finding racial diversity beyond the stage—beyond actors, beyond writers. There are more stories to be told that are more reflective of society as a whole, but that happens most effectively when you start diversifying the people in the room from the board level to management to designers and directors so that we have multiple voices," Gavin said.

"The O'Neill has been and continues to be very committed to adding more people of color to the board and to administration, and I think that permeates through the entire organization and through our artistic discourse."

The Politics of the President's Wife

President of the United States is a two-person job.

Before he performed “Amazing Grace” at President Joe Biden’s inauguration, country singer Garth Brooks joked he might “be the only Republican at the ceremony.”

A late addition to the lineup, Brooks was personally invited by First Lady Dr. Jill Biden. It was a calculated move by a woman with decades of experience in political life, said Professor MaryAnne Borrelli, who was interviewed by CBS News regarding the role of first ladies.

“It meant a lot to have a multi-platinum icon of country-and-western music—known for outreach to conservative whites—perform ‘Amazing Grace’ at the inauguration. It’s this deep story written by the captain of slave trade ship who realizes the horror he has perpetrated. It’s a white sea captain, and it was a white icon of country music up there in his blue jeans and his cowboy hat. There are layers of symbolism,” Borrelli said.

“And Brooks was there because of Jill Biden.”

Borrelli, the Susan Eckert Lynch ’62 Professor of Government, has spent her career studying presidential power and the inner workings of the White House.

Early on, she discovered that most researchers had largely overlooked the political influence of the East Wing.

“Historically, first ladies were not understood as officers within the White House,” she said.

But they absolutely are, Borrelli argues in her book, *The Politics of the President's Wife*. Her groundbreaking work details the growth in power and organizational complexity of the East Wing from the time of Lou Henry Hoover. *The Politics of the President's Wife* solidified Borrelli as a national expert on the role of America’s first ladies.

Wielding powers both formal—she has an office, staff and a budget—and informal, a first lady can serve as a presidential surrogate, a gender role model, a chief communicator, a policy advocate, and a mediator between the president and the public. Like all White House positions, the role has no formal charge but instead is based on “what the president requires, expects and allows,” Borrelli said.

“The presidency is really a two-person job. These people have usually had lengthy careers in politics, so they

have that balance figured out,” she said. “The Bidens have been married a long time. He’s been the vice president; she’s had eight years as second lady. So, for Dr. Biden, that box is checked.”

Jill Biden holds a Doctor of Education degree and has enjoyed a long career as an educator. During the Obama administration, she became the first second lady to hold a paying job outside of the White House, teaching writing at Northern Virginia Community College. She has signaled she may continue teaching as first lady.

Security concerns aside, that will be a difficult juggling act, Borrelli said.

“As the first lady, she already has a job—a really demanding job. She’s the chief of an important unit within the White House. But if anyone can do it, it is Jill Biden, because she has seen it and recognized it; and she’s experienced it [before].”

If the first lady continues teaching, will it lend authenticity to her policy proposals or distract from them?

“[President Biden] is working on the pandemic and economy, and education is a pivot point between them—and there’s Jill Biden. If she is

“Dr. Biden’s title rankled, and why did it rankle? She wasn’t tough enough? The only people tough enough to be ‘Doctors’ are white men?”

able to continue teaching, not only does that satisfy her heart, and her vocation, it gives her on-the-ground credibility,” Borrelli said.

The idea that her multiple roles could distract the public from Dr. Biden’s position as first lady began before President Biden’s inauguration, when Joseph Epstein wrote an op-ed for The Wall Street Journal, arguing that “Dr. Biden” should drop her title of “Dr.” because, Epstein wrote, it “feels fraudulent, even comic”—since her doctorate is in education.

While the op-ed was widely condemned, it reveals the scrutiny under which first ladies operate.

“Dr. Biden’s title rankled, and why did it rankle? She wasn’t tough enough? The only people tough enough to be ‘Doctors’ are white men? But really, that piece was less about Jill Biden and more a master class in ‘let me air all of my [the author’s] insecurities out in public,’” Borrelli said.

“The fact that a woman has this title ... there are two issues: one, she is inverting the hierarchy that he finds appropriate. The second is that he feels there is some injustice.”

Dr. Biden, the accomplished college professor, and first lady Jill Biden, the mother, grandmother and supportive wife of the president, will appeal to different audiences, Borrelli added. That might help Biden win popular support for her husband, an important part of the job.

“A first lady is a potent communications resource,” Borrelli said. “Jill Biden, whose task will be to ... mediate the president’s message to the public, will want to sustain the base but also reach out to moderates and lower the temperature in this ‘uncivil war’ [taking place in our politics]. The ‘first lady’ title can provide some cover for folks [on the moderate right] who are ready ... but want to be reassured. ‘Dr. Biden’ can reach out to others [on the left] who are willing ... as long as the promises aren’t dropped.”

Borrelli is closely watching the new administration to see exactly how power is shared between President Biden, the first lady, Vice President Kamala Harris and Doug Emhoff, the first-ever “second gentleman.” *That* term “carries a whole bunch of gender, race, class, cultural markers—they are flaming bright,” Borrelli said.

That’s not only because of the obvious disruption to the traditional gender roles, but also because of the Bidens’ long tenure as Washington insiders, and Vice President Harris and Emhoff’s much shorter tenure.

“Usually, the president is a Washington outsider—Trump, Clinton, both Bushes, even Obama was a relative newcomer, for example—and the vice president is the Washington insider who does a lot of the mediating within the Washington community. It’s a division of labor that emerges gradually and consistently,” Borrelli said.

“This administration is different. I have no doubt Harris will be influential, but how will she use and develop political capital and political resources in terms of not overwhelming Biden’s desk? Harris knows [how to] negotiate political divides, and she has a strong and clear sense of her own identity. And next to her, Harris has a white guy. How is he going to present and message and communicate?

“It will be interesting to watch how the gender balance works and how power is distributed across the four in this administration.”



Gary Coronado / Getty Images

The killings of George Floyd and multiple other Black Americans by police officers during the spring and summer of 2020 led to national calls for police accountability.

But how do we move forward?

That was the topic of discussion for local and national leaders during “Conversations on Race: Policing in the U.S. and New London,” a virtual, public event hosted by Connecticut College and *The Day* newspaper, and moderated by Izaskun Larrañeta, managing editor for *The Day*.

The event was part of the Conversations on Race series launched in 2019 in collaboration with Conn, *The Day* and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. (The full recording is available on YouTube.)

Debo Adegbile '91, a civil rights attorney and a member of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, and former Director of Litigation of the

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and Ronald Davis, former director of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services under the Obama administration, opened the proceedings.

Adegbile, vice chair of Connecticut College's Board of Trustees and a partner at WilmerHale law, and Davis worked together with the U.S. Mayors Conference to produce an extensive report on police reform and racial justice.

“As a black man I have concerns, as a father of black children I have concerns, and as a cop who knows that a lot of cops are trying to do the right thing I have concerns,” Davis said. “These tough conversations are very necessary.”

Adegbile said communities and police forces share the common goal of public safety, and they can and should work together to achieve it.

“In order to do police work, in order to solve crimes, we need the

participation of the community,” he said. “There needs to be a context, there needs to be an exchange, there needs to be a willingness to come forward and to support the efforts of law enforcement. One of the ways ... we can move forward is to have greater dialogue, to have lines open.

“I think every effective police chief and police leader will say that that dialogue is invaluable and necessary to enhance public safety. So, the question is, how do we construct something that allows for that exchange to happen in productive ways?”

That was the charge of the New London Public Safety Policy Review Committee, which has released a 17-page report with a list of recommendations aimed at providing more community oversight and police accountability, including the formation of a civilian police review board and the creation of a police commission.

A Conversation On Race

New London is forming a civilian police review board.

Members of the committee were appointed by Mayor Michael Passero '79 M'89 in June 2020.

Passero said an important part of the report is that some of the ideas, such as the creation of a civilian review board, could be started almost immediately.

"There are practical steps we can take quickly to try to reinforce the confidence of the community in our policing efforts," Passero told *The Day*.

The committee is chaired by Connecticut College's Dean of Institutional Equity and Inclusion John McKnight.

"We approached this as a listening opportunity initially," McKnight said during the Conversation on Race. "I think there was general agreement that what we need in this country is a totally new vision for how to keep our communities safe, but until we could really develop that, what could we do in the meantime?"

While calls to "defund the police" have become a political lightning rod, the panelists agreed that there is an overreliance on police to solve social problems. That leads to poorer outcomes, but it is also unfair to the officers who are responding to situations they aren't trained for, Davis said.

"Homelessness is not a crime. Addiction is not a crime. Mental illness is not a crime. So, [police] need to get out of that business," he said.

Jeanne Milstein, director of New London Human Services, said that 40% of all police calls in New London are mental health related.

"So now we have police officers who are asked to intervene because when a family doesn't know what to do or a neighbor doesn't know what to do when someone is in crisis, they call 911," she said.

The panelists discussed several of the recommendations in the New London

Public Safety Policy Review Committee and acknowledged that they may be difficult to implement for various reasons.

But change requires hard work, Adebile said.

"Folks speak about this summer and call it a reckoning. But it's only a reckoning if you actually address and deal with the thing in front of you," he said.

"Staying on it, improving the conversation, making some of the tough choices, maybe looking at some reallocation, but also support in the ways law enforcement needs support to do a better job—it is this work that is going to lead to better public safety," he said.

"Public safety is the goal. Public safety will help both officers feel better and the community feel better. You can achieve both things ... there are commonalities, and there are ways we can do this to make our cities better. And New London can be one of the cities leading the way."

The Case for Jim Thorpe

‘World’s greatest athlete’ Jim Thorpe was wronged by bigotry. The IOC must correct the record, Anita DeFrantz ’74 wrote in *The Washington Post*.

For those who know the story of the Native American athlete Jim Thorpe and the 1912 Olympic Games, it may be familiar mainly as an example of how the elitist cult of amateurism a century ago resulted in one of the most egregious miscarriages of justice in sports history.

But the withdrawal of Thorpe’s gold-medal victories in the demanding pentathlon and decathlon events is better understood as a stinging episode of early 20th-century bigotry.

The posthumous return of Thorpe’s medals to his family in 1982 went partway to making amends. The International Olympic Committee, of which I am a member, should go the rest of the way and restore Thorpe as the sole first-place finisher in his Olympic medal events. Since 1982, he has been listed by the IOC as a co-winner with competitors he resoundingly defeated.

Justice is overdue for Wa-Tho-Huk, who was born in 1888 in Indian Territory, latter-day Oklahoma. The name chosen by his parents — his father belonged to the Sac and Fox tribe, his mother to the Potawatomi — was prophetic. Translated to English, it means Bright Path. For the convenience of those in power, his name to the rest of the world was James Francis Thorpe.

In 1904, the 16-year-old Thorpe entered the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Carlisle, Pa. It was the first in a federal boarding-school system designed to remove all vestiges of Native American children’s culture, including

language, religion and clothing. The philosophy of Carlisle’s founder, Army officer Richard Henry Pratt, was to “kill the Indian, and save the man.”

Thorpe, who went on to play pro football and major league baseball, became a multisport star at Carlisle. One of his biographers, Robert W. Wheeler, reported that Carlisle coach Glenn “Pop” Warner directed Thorpe and two other Carlisle athletes to play semipro summer baseball in North Carolina. Thorpe was paid a pittance—the exact amount isn’t clear—but Carlisle’s strict control over the wages of students who worked meant he probably kept nothing. And remember: Thorpe played at Warner’s instruction.

Warner was also his coach at the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, where Thorpe handily won gold medals in events that required skills including sprinting, hurdling, long-jumping and throwing the discus. King Gustav V of Sweden proclaimed Thorpe the “world’s greatest athlete.” When Thorpe and his teammates were honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York, he was being hailed in a country where he wouldn’t become an official citizen until the Indian Citizenship Act was passed in 1924.

In January 1913, the Worcester (Mass.) Telegram revealed Thorpe’s semipro baseball experience. The news appeared to outrage the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU), American Olympic Committee (AOC) and other amateurism guardians. Their policies prohibited deriving income from athletic

competition, which ensured that only those with existing financial support — college athletes, usually — could participate.

Thorpe’s mistake was to trust Warner and Carlisle’s superintendent, Moses Friedman. “Someone had to take the fall for the humiliating scandal that tainted the American glory in Stockholm,” wrote Thorpe biographer Kate Buford, “and it was not going to be the coach, the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, its superintendent, the AAU or the AOC.” Warner and AAU secretary James Sullivan rushed to pin responsibility solely on Thorpe.

Warner presented Sullivan with a confession letter signed by Thorpe. James Ring Adams, writing in *American Indian* magazine in 2012, noted that a Carlisle friend of Thorpe’s later told a congressional investigator the letter had been drafted by Warner and Carlisle’s superintendent, Friedman.

The machinery to deny Thorpe his Olympic achievements quickly kicked in. He was not given a chance to defend himself. Sullivan demanded Thorpe’s Olympic disqualification; Warner seized his medals and trophies and shipped them to Stockholm. The Swedish organizers acceded to the Americans’ wishes — ignoring a rule of the 1912 Games that complaints regarding an event’s outcome had to be lodged within 30 days of the prize-giving, accompanied by a 20-kronor fee (Rule 13). Six months had already passed.

The U.S. sports establishment's attack on Thorpe, of course, reflected a larger pattern of the nation's long mistreatment of Native Americans. Thorpe's tribal homelands had been seized by European-descended invaders, who then brazenly tried to stamp out his people's culture, language and relatives in the name of "civilization."

Thorpe survived an education also designed to rob him of his culture. Then, after he represented the United States with integrity on the world stage, this nation robbed him of his reputation by persuading the IOC to withdraw his medals.

Not everyone understands the pernicious nature of discrimination that has been practiced in the United States since the 17th century. As one whose ancestry is African and Native American, I do.

That is why I believe that Wa-Tho-Huk — a.k.a. Jim Thorpe — must be fully restored to his status as the sole winner of the 1912 decathlon and pentathlon. In this time of reckoning over social justice, I urge my IOC colleagues to do our part by righting this wrong.

Anita DeFrantz '74, emeritus trustee and first vice president of the International Olympic Committee, won a bronze medal in the women's eight rowing competition at the 1976 Summer Games in Montreal. This piece first appeared in The Washington Post on Jan. 13, 2021.



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ELEVATION

Conn's inaugural social justice conference shines light on the silenced.

BY EDWARD WEINMAN

Poet Kate Rushin has “had enough.” Reading from her work “The Bridge Poem” during the opening assembly at Elevate: The Inaugural Social Justice Conference at Connecticut College, Rushin recited:

*I've had enough
I'm sick of seeing and touching
Both sides of things
Sick of being the damn bridge for everybody*

*Nobody
Can talk to anybody
Without me Right?*

Presented by The Agnes Gund '60 Dialogue Project, the Elevate conference brought together Connecticut College students, staff, faculty and alumni, along with residents of the New London region, to celebrate cultural diversity. More than 550 participants attended the conference, which was designed to shed light on those who have been marginalized, erased or silenced because of their social identities or personal backgrounds.

To lift up the marginalized, communication must take place across the social lines fragmenting our society, otherwise the speaker in Rushin's poem will continue having to explain herself so that white people have insight into Black lives. She writes: “I do more translating / Than the Gawdamn U.N.”

President Katherine Bergeron, who spoke at Elevate's opening assembly, explained that the mission of the College is to

“create productive citizens prepared to put their education into action in support of global democracy.”

Social justice conferences like Elevate can spark the much-needed dialogue to fulfill this mission.

“That means working to elevate our discourse, our practices and our forms of self-governance to create the kind of environment where all people, no matter their identity or background, have the opportunity to thrive, to reach their potential, to contribute meaningfully to their community and the world.

“That ideal, which we call full participation, lies at the heart of who we are and what we do.”

Dean of Institutional Equity and Inclusion John McKnight, who directs the Gund Dialogue Project and organized the conference, said that we all need to learn to better communicate with one another to achieve “deeper levels of compassion, empathy and human connection.”

“Elevate was built on the principle of full participation,” said McKnight, who delivered Conn's land acknowledgment at the opening assembly.

“But in order for everyone to thrive, we acknowledge that we must continually work to create the conditions for all members of our community to feel respected, connected and empowered.”

The conference, scheduled to be an annual event at Conn, featured author, educator and interfaith leader Eboo Patel; author and community organizer Charlene Carruthers; filmmaker Shalini Kantayya; and writer and activist Jonathan Mooney.

For more than 15 years, Patel has worked with governments, social sector organizations, and colleges and universities to help make interfaith cooperation a social norm. He delivered Conn's

“Dr. Martin Luther King Memorial Lecture” on the subject of spirituality and social movements, saying that power can be generous and this generosity can result in social change.

He challenged us to imagine a level of generosity that could surprise even ourselves, a kind of generosity that can “change everything for the better,” and he related stories about King, Ghandi, Nelson Mandela, Ella Baker, Diane Nash and Jane Addams to illustrate his point.

Patel asked: “Can we create spaces ... where it is easier for people to be good; where it is easier for people to cooperate?”

He informed the audience, made up of students, faculty, staff and New London residents, that “One of the wonderful things about being at a place like Connecticut College or in a city like New London is that all around you there are people waiting to help you create those spaces, waiting to help you create campus community programs, waiting to help you create new types of interfaith activities.

“Now is the time to expand the circle of the beloved community,” he said.

To build the open spaces where Patel envisions people can create change, social justice activists must not only voice what they are against but also advocate for what they believe in. While introducing Carruthers as the keynote speaker of the conference, Naomi Miller ’22 pointed out that Carruthers wants to know “what we are for.”

“What world do we truly envision? When will we get there? How will we actually practice our collective liberation?” Miller asked.

Carruthers started her keynote address by reading from

her book, *Unapologetic: A Black, Queer, and Feminist Mandate for Radical Movements*, and posed five central questions that disruptors must answer in order to build coalitions and start movements: “Who am I? Who are my people? What do we want? What are we building? Are we ready to win?”

However, these questions cannot be answered, Carruthers said, until Americans tell the whole story of our collective past.

“When we tell more-complete stories about what has happened to us, to our people, to our ancestors, we are in a better position to craft more-complete solutions,” Carruthers said.

“Incomplete stories lead to incomplete solutions. And we have to do the business of telling more-complete stories about the history and the current conditions within this nation, which continues to be a project of settler colonialism, which continues to be a project of capitalism, of anti-Blackness, of white supremacy and patriarchy.”

She talked about how voting is only one part of a broader effort to achieve equality and liberation, and about how we all have a role to play in achieving dignity for everybody.

Carruthers called for a world where conflict, harm and violence are handled without “policing, without prisons, without punishment, without surveillance.”

The conference, which had more than 40 speakers, included research presentations, performances, and interactive workshops and roundtable discussions, such as “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Professionals,” hosted by Jonathan McBride ’92, a member of Conn’s Board of Trustees.

McBride served as a managing director and the global head of inclusion and diversity at BlackRock. He also held numerous

“In order for everyone to thrive, we acknowledge that we must continually work to create the conditions for all members of our community to feel respected, connected and empowered.”

— DEAN OF INSTITUTIONAL EQUITY AND INCLUSION JOHN MCKNIGHT

positions in the Obama administration, including as a director of the presidential personnel office in the White House and as a special assistant to the president. Speaking at the roundtable, he told the audience that work centered around equity and inclusion is about empowerment, which leads to progress by constructing an avenue for future leaders to follow.

“We had an expression that we used ... that became a rallying cry for everybody who worked in President Obama’s personnel office: ‘People are policy.’ The policy change you want starts with picking the right person, getting that person in the seat and making that person successful.”

Activist Jonathan Mooney embodies the idea that people are more important than policy. Mooney is a writer who grew up with ADHD and dyslexia, learning disabilities that manifested as behavioral issues, leading teachers and family members to tell him he’d most likely end up in prison.

Yet, he graduated from Brown University.

“Opposed to being a high school dropout, I became a college graduate,” Mooney said. “Opposed to being unemployed, I ended up writing books. And, opposed to being an inmate, I became an advocate—somebody who has dedicated his entire professional life to fighting for folks who learn differently.”

In his first book, *The Short Bus: A Journey Beyond Normal*, Mooney traveled around the country and wrote about people like him who are “forced to create new ways of living in order to survive.” In his latest book, *Normal Sucks: How to Live, Learn, and Thrive, Outside the Lines*, Mooney offers the radical message that we should stop trying to fix people and start empowering them to succeed.


“Traditionally, a ‘normal’ person has been seen as a white, affluent, able-bodied man. That definition of normality has marginalized so many and created a cultural narrative that we value normal over different. It sends a message to human beings who are different that they are deficient or that they are a problem.

“It is imperative that we challenge that model. For folks with different brains and bodies, the problem isn’t in them. The problem is in the environment around them.”

Elevate also showcased film screenings, including *Virtually Free*, by André Robert Lee ’93, a documentary about incarcerated youth in Richmond, Virginia, who seek redemption through art, and Shalini Kantayya’s film *Coded Bias*, which screened at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival.

Coded Bias explores the fallout from MIT Media Lab researcher Joy Buolamwini’s startling discovery that facial recognition technology does not see dark-skinned faces accurately. The film argues that the biases of those creating the artificial intelligence that powers technology are encoded into our machines, which mechanizes racism. *Coded Bias* argues that machines are not neutral.

Kantayya, the film’s director, pointed out that this current epoch in our history is providing us with a moonshot moment to alter our future by pushing for ethics in our technology.

“Our greatest enemy is not actually tech companies. The tech companies can partner in this work. I think the greatest enemy is our own apathy. But we have amazing power to make changes right now.” 

For more information on Conn’s social justice conference: elevate.conncoll.edu



THE MESSENGER

Kristen Park Hopson '01 says mRNA is ushering in a new age of drug discovery and development.

BY AMY MARTIN



Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19
After dilution, vial contains 0.5 mL of vaccine solution.
For intramuscular use. Contents are for use under Emergency Use Authorization.
DILUTE BEFORE USE. Do not dilute when stored at 2-8°C.
Dilution date and time:

PA156051

Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine was designed in just two days. Chinese scientists published the genetic sequence of the novel coronavirus on Jan. 11, 2020, and by Jan. 13—more than a week before the first COVID case was documented in the United States—researchers at Moderna and the National Institutes of Health had finalized the sequence for mRNA-1273, the official name of the company's vaccine.

By late February, when Professors Martha Grossel and E. Carla Parker-Athill led two dozen of their first-year biology students past Moderna's sleek headquarters in Cambridge, Mass., the first batches of the vaccine had already been sent to NIH scientists in Bethesda, Md.

It would be another two weeks before the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. On Feb. 28, classes were still meeting in person, restaurants were open, and Grossel and Parker-Athill and their students, having completed a tour of the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT, walked to lunch to meet one of Grossel's very first Conn students, Kristen Park Hopson '01.

Recently named one of Business Insider's "30 leaders under 40 who are transforming healthcare," Hopson, who holds a Ph.D. in molecular medicine from Boston University, had spent nearly four years at Moderna leading key cancer research before moving to another Cambridge-based biotech

startup, Generate Biomedicines Inc., where she serves as head of medicines.

"There's something really special about doing research with the goal of making new medicine," Hopson told the students. "I like the build—taking an idea and seeing if you can make a medicine."

For years, Hopson and her fellow scientists had been quietly working to revolutionize modern medicine. Then, the pandemic hit.

SOFTWARE FOR THE CELL

Moderna's vaccine and a similar vaccine developed by the German company BioNTech SE and its U.S. partner, Pfizer Inc., are the very first of their kind. Both use messenger ribonucleic acid, or mRNA, which carries a genetic material (a written message from DNA) that instructs cells to make proteins.

Traditionally, vaccines are made with weakened or inactive pathogens that, when injected, trigger an immune response that can provide protection against the actual pathogens. But the weakened or inactive pathogens have to be cultivated in labs, which can take a significant amount of time—sometimes years.

By contrast, mRNA vaccines don't include any version of the pathogen itself, but rather instructions for the body on how to make a key protein derived from the pathogen that will trigger an immune response. In the case of COVID-19, the mRNA vaccines

For years, Hopson and her fellow scientists had been quietly working to revolutionize modern medicine. Then, the pandemic hit.

instruct the body to make the virus's distinct "spike" protein. Once the instructions are delivered, the body makes the protein, which triggers the immune system to recognize and react to it.

On its public website, Moderna likens mRNA to "software for the cell." Normally, mRNA transmits the instructions stored in a person's own DNA to make the proteins necessary in every living cell. But for decades, scientists have believed mRNA could be synthesized or edited with different instructions to address diseases or pathogens—to tell our cells to make any protein we want.

"Recognizing the broad potential of mRNA science, we set out to create an mRNA technology platform that functions very much like an operating system on a computer," Moderna explains on its website. "It is designed so that it can plug and play interchangeably with different programs. In our case, the 'program' or 'app' is our mRNA drug—the unique mRNA sequence that codes for a protein."

That's why all Moderna needed to create its COVID-19 vaccine was the virus's genetic sequence—scientists essentially just needed to plug it in. And if this process can work for one disease, it has the potential to work for almost any disease, from Ebola to Zika, or to treat a range of conditions, including cancer, heart failure and rare genetic diseases.

Moderna alone is working on numerous trials for various vaccines, including cancer and influenza vaccines. And yet, no

mRNA vaccine had ever been authorized for use in any capacity by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration—until the Moderna and Pfizer–BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines were authorized for emergency use in December.

"A couple things came together that really allowed for the rapid emergency use authorization, including the advancement of the mRNA technology and the emphasis that BioNTech and Moderna put into building the platforms and harnessing mRNA as a medicine," Hopson said.

"And it's a pandemic. That got a lot of folks working at rapid speed to move the development of these medicines at a pace that has not been seen before."

MEDICINE OF THE FUTURE

In July, The Wall Street Journal asked Moderna CEO Stéphane Bancel what impact a successful mRNA vaccine rollout might have on the future of medicine. "I think the world is going to change tremendously," he said.

That wasn't hyperbole. Rapid advances in technology, research and machine learning (a branch of artificial intelligence) have scientists, including Hopson, on the cusp of completely reimagining drug discovery and development and forever changing the way we treat and prevent diseases.

At Moderna, Hopson led preclinical mRNA cancer vaccine research and played a key role in taking the company's



Joe Raedle / Getty Images

personalized cancer vaccine program from preclinical development into Phase 2 clinical development. At Generate, as the head of medicines, she leads a team of scientists using machine learning and biomedical engineering to create new, more targeted medicines at a much faster pace than was previously possible.

Instead of discovering new medicines through trial and error in the lab, Hopson and her colleagues are using technology to create them.

“In the history of modern medicine, nearly every drug has been discovered or identified from a lengthy, cumbersome and costly process,” Generate co-founder and CEO Avak Kahvejian said.

“Machine learning has evolved to a point where it can unlock the underlying principles of biology. With our proprietary computational platform, we believe we can move from chance drug discovery to intentional drug generation, not only accelerating the development of existing therapeutic modalities but also creating previously impossible ones.”

Generate’s technology allows its scientists to quickly invent new antibodies, peptides, enzymes, receptors and other therapeutic proteins to create new drugs to treat or prevent a wide variety of diseases. These medicines could be delivered with traditional modalities or harness newer and more innovative delivery mechanisms, which might also be developed through generative biology.

The goal, Hopson said, is to get to the point where the structure for a novel drug can be generated instantaneously.

“Traditional drug development is a very expensive and long process. The more quickly you can bring a medicine from concept to approval, the less time and money you are putting into the development process. Lowering the time and cost to make new drugs will inevitably allow the scientific community to bring more new solutions into the world faster,” she said.

“By getting more intelligent about design and research, you can also reduce the number of drugs that fail during development, which also reduces costs.”

Making the process faster, more precise and more cost-effective will allow companies like Generate to create medicines and vaccines for rarer diseases that don’t typically receive the funding to support traditional drug discovery and development. It will even allow them to create personalized medicines unique to a specific individual.

Cancers, for example, are typically treated with a standard protocol of therapies based on the type. Yet, Hopson says, “everyone’s cancer is unique. Sometimes, you need a therapeutic that is individualized for that particular person.”

Cancer cells have DNA mutations that are different from DNA in a person’s healthy cells and are different from patient

“Machine learning has evolved to a point where it can unlock the underlying principles of biology.”

**KRISTEN PARK HOPSON '01, HEAD OF MEDICINES
AT GENERATE BIOMEDICINES INC.**

to patient. Chemotherapy and radiation can kill tumors, but they aren't targeted for a person's unique mutations and they damage a lot of healthy tissue in addition to the diseased tissue. Personalized oncology therapeutics could instead teach a patient's immune system to identify and destroy their particular cancer without harming healthy cells. With numerous trials already underway, these new therapies may soon vastly improve cancer treatments.

“The technology and research advances are allowing us to get much more precise, whether it's individualized, like cancer, or quickly getting on top of coronavirus or Ebola or other outbreaks and rapidly delivering lifesaving medicine,” Hopson said.

THE COVID-19 SPARK

The COVID-19 pandemic provided the first big test of the advances scientists have been working toward for years—or decades, in the case of mRNA technology.

The scientific community delivered in a big way, Hopson says.

“In less than a year, we went from identifying and sequencing the virus to having emergency authorization for multiple vaccines. We went from having zero ways to detect this virus to being able to buy a testing kit at Costco. We developed antibody treatments, and we have people

developing and testing a whole range of therapeutics. I'm so proud of the way the scientific community came together around this virus.”


These developments required a massive influx of private and government funding, increased data sharing among scientists and fast-tracked regulatory processes. Operation Warp Speed, a public-private partnership launched by the U.S. government, also helped facilitate and accelerate the development, manufacturing and distribution of the vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.

Now, the challenge will be to keep the momentum.

“We've seen how quickly we can move, and hopefully we can take the lessons we've learned and carry them over into non-pandemic times,” Hopson said. “I hope the general public's interest continues in terms of increased funding for research and a more streamlined process for development and approval of medicines.”

For Hopson, it's an exciting time to be a scientist. And she has no plans to slow down.

“I've had the opportunity to work on several oncology clinical trials and see people who are very, very sick have hope in the medicine our company is making,” she said.

“They are putting their faith into what we are doing and taking a chance because they want to live. If they are willing to do that, I can give it my best shot.” 



Disrupted. Not Deferred

BY EDWARD WEINMAN

PORTRAITS BY MISHA FRIEDMAN

JOURNEE HARDAWAY '21
*Dance and sociology
double major*



The dancing lasted until four o'clock in the morning. At the senior promenade, held on the Mohican Hotel roof, students sang "in the most organdie dresses, ruffled pantalettes, and maline picture hats," wrote E. Williams '20.

"There was no rain, and no one mentioned a quarantine."

Williams published those words July 8, 1919, in "Connecticut College News," the student newspaper, one of many issues tucked away in the Linda Lear Center for Special Collections and Archives. Williams and classmates went to school during the Spanish Influenza pandemic, a time when swabs (of the throat) were conducted on campus; students studied through quarantines; and—because outside gatherings were considered safe—the 1919 senior dance took place on the rooftop at the Mohican Hotel rather than in Conn's gymnasium, according to Williams.

More than 100 years later, Conn students swab their noses at the Athletic Center. Outside gatherings are still considered safer than indoor gatherings. And students continue to dance—the floors of Conn's studios are, in fact, taped off in squares to ensure social distancing during classes, while spaces between squares create walking pathways through the studios.

It's in Meyers Studio where Journee Hardaway '21, a dance and sociology double major, pauses for a breather (page 26). Despite the pandemic, Hardaway persevered during the fall semester, turning her virtual internship in dance administration into what will be, post commencement, a job with a dance company.

"Everyone felt they were navigating new waters during the fall semester," said Hardaway. "So much was undetermined at the start, but we had to quickly adapt to this COVID reality and figure things out as we went along."

Hardaway experienced unexpected artistic growth, and began creating art in new, virtual ways. She became more introspective, but hopes to "someday soon be sharing physical space" with other dancers.

To protect the health and safety of students, the College required robust quarantine measures for the first few weeks of fall 2020 (and again, this spring), implemented mask mandates, reconfigured classrooms, reimaged the student dining experience, held live theater—outside—altered athletics (page 30), conducted more than 50,000 COVID-19 tests with a positivity rate of 0.23 percent (as of this writing), published a dashboard on Conn's website to track negative and positive cases, and by mid-October had shifted campus operations from alert-level red, to orange, to yellow, to green, the level with the fewest restrictions.

To document our moment, as Williams did in 1919, and to inform future Conn students about what life was like on campus during the COVID-19 pandemic, *CC Magazine* photographed four students, each navigating their own way through this strange semester.

"I never anticipated my college experience beginning in a pandemic," said Chris Dakopoulos '24 (pictured at right), who plans to major in biochemistry.

"The first semester of college is difficult in normal circumstances, with students adjusting to life away from home, but the pandemic amplified this uneasiness. I appreciated Conn's dedication to our safety, and the efforts made to connect first-year students. In our first-year seminar class, a set of student advisers assisted us in adjusting to college life. I'm grateful for them and for the initiative Conn took in providing us with the resources we need for a successful year."




MYA JOHNSON '23
Neuroscience major

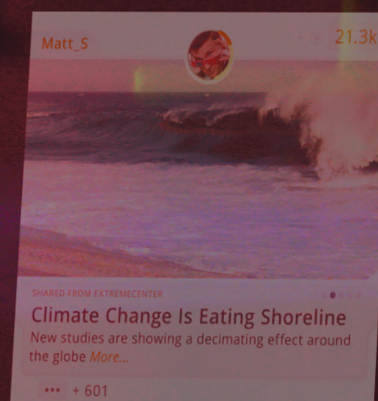
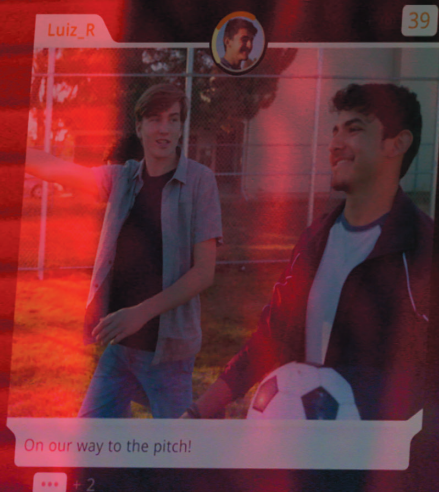
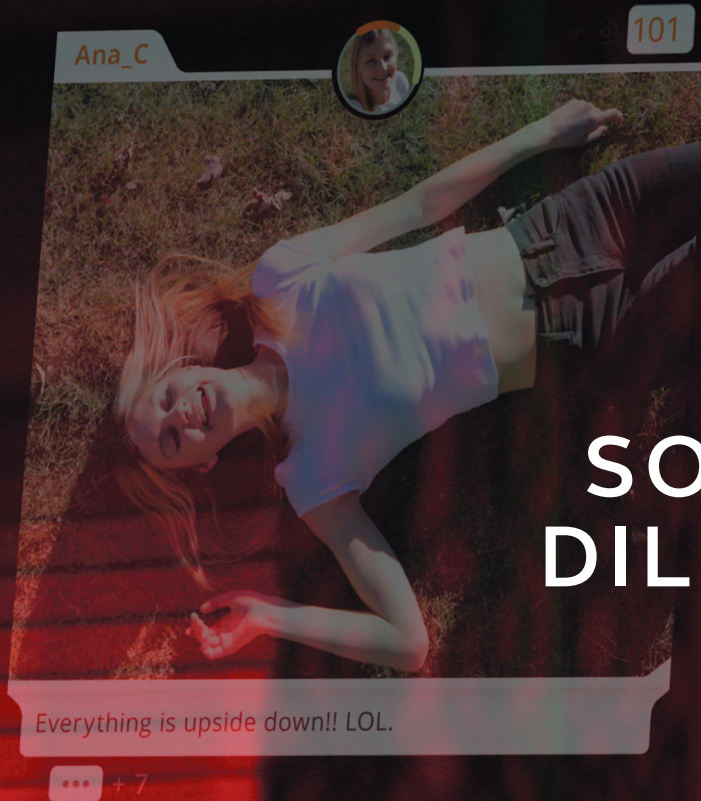


“Attending college during a global pandemic was both a blessing and a hardship. Many schools were shut down, and not as fortunate as Conn was. A surprising aspect, yet a safe one, was how long it took for sports to get the “okay” for contact. (NESCAC canceled fall sports. Eventually, athletes were able to resume contact.) Being on the green with my teammates and friends was well worth it. Our team came closer together, learned how to better play together, and progressed as a team. The thought of competing in the fall of 2021, in a real NESCAC match, kept us practicing as if preparing for a Championship game. Bottom line, Conn kept us safe. Our advantage was being tested, and knowing that I was healthy, and the people around me were safe.”



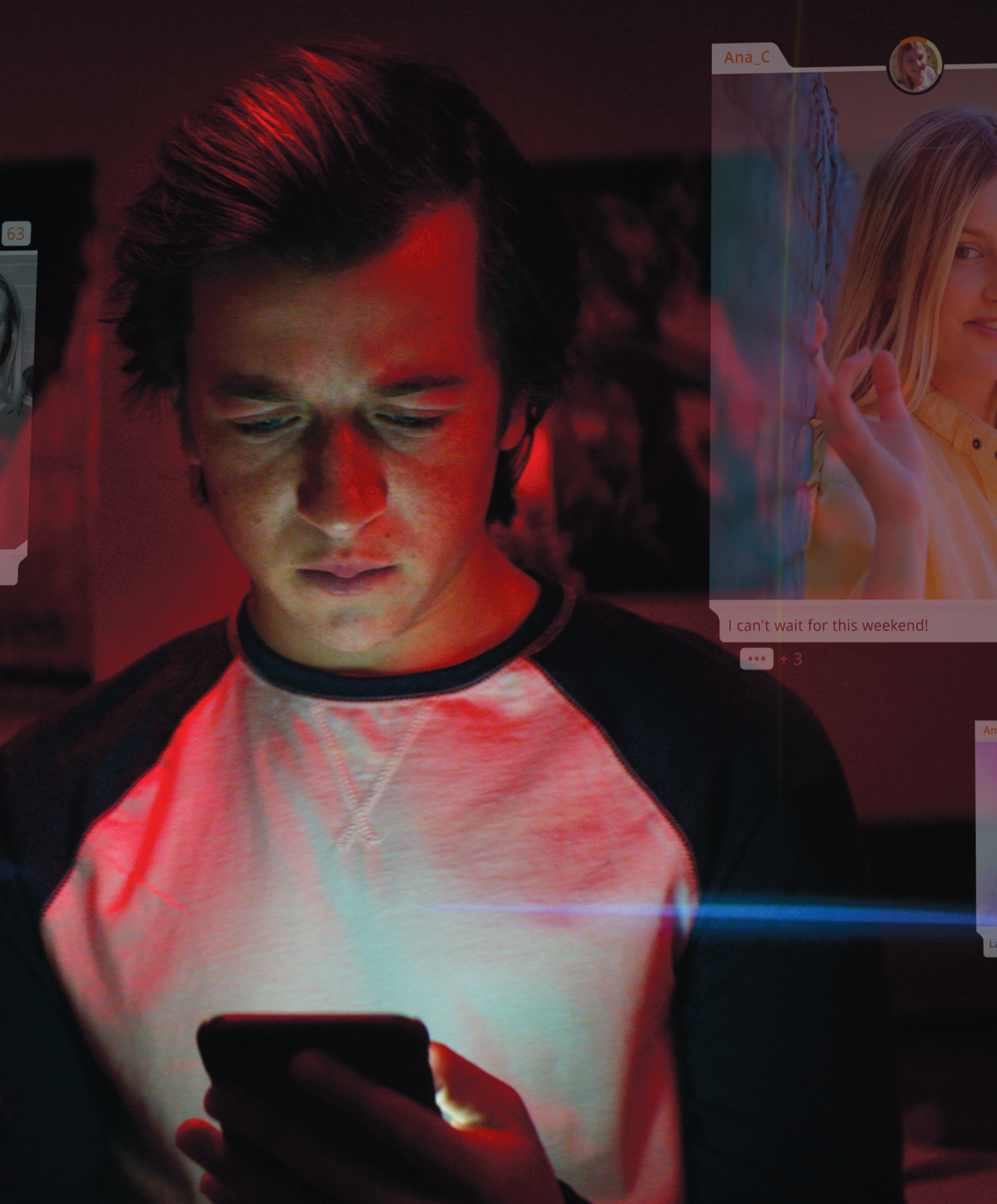
“This past year has reminded me how much the little things matter. Just having the opportunity to see friends and fellow students in person rather than through a screen is something I’m truly grateful for, and is a major reason I returned to campus. These opportunities could easily not exist if not for Conn’s diligent work to provide a safe but “normal” semester, and the students who work to keep each other safe. Fortunately, my music has not been affected greatly by the pandemic. Although I am a music composition major, most of my music-making takes place on the computer. As a silver lining to the pandemic, I have actually had more time to work on my musicianship and my creative process. This has fallen in line with my goal to be able to perform one of my compositions by the spring semester of my senior year. Keeping my fingers crossed.” 

THE SOCIAL DILEMMA



Film writer Vickie Curtis '07 explains how the technology that connects us might destroy us.

COMPILED BY AMY MARTIN



63

Ana_C



I can't wait for this weekend!

... + 3

Am

La

The tech industry insiders who invented infinite scrolling, the Facebook “Like” button and so many of the other elements that help make social media so addicting didn’t set out to radically alter the fabric of society. But they did.

Now, Vickie Curtis ’07 is helping to warn the world. She is one of three writers of *The Social Dilemma*, a wildly popular Netflix docudrama that explores the dangerous human impact of social networking, as told by the very people who created the platforms.

“What they were realizing at the time we were filming wasn’t that there were quirks to the thing they made that needed fixing; it was that they had helped create these three billion-tentacled monsters that are actually shifting the course of human history,” she said.

Curtis joined Austin Jenkins ’95, an Olympia, Washington-based political reporter with the Northwest News Network, for a virtual conversation in November about the process of crafting the film, which premiered at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival and was released on Netflix in September. More than 400 alumni, parents, faculty, staff and students took part in the live event, which was hosted by Conn’s Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement.

CC Magazine has edited the conversation for clarity and length.

Austin Jenkins: Can you tell us a little bit about the origin of this film?

Vickie Curtis: In Jan. 2018, the director, Jeff Orlowski, organized a group of folks to meet with [former Google

employee] Tristan Harris, who features as sort of a protagonist in the film. A lot of Jeff’s friends were working for these companies in Silicon Valley, and more and more people were coming to him having left Twitter, Google and Facebook, saying, “I have regrets,” or “Things have taken a turn for the worse and I want out.” The more stories he heard, the more he was wondering, “Could this be a film?”

At first the thought was, “Is this a big enough issue? Does this just mean everyone’s addicted to their phone, which we all already know?” There’s no big reveal there. But the more experts we talked to, the more we realized it is so much bigger than [someone] being advertised to, or being addicted to the phone or looking at Facebook too much. It is really an existential threat that is tearing apart the fabric of society.

AJ: When I watched the documentary, I immediately thought of the 1999 film *The Insider*, which was about a former tobacco industry scientist who was ultimately convinced by 60 Minutes to tell the story of what was really going on inside Big Tobacco. I’m curious whether you think there is a comparison to be made between Big Tobacco of yesterday and Big Tech of today.

VC: There are ways in which I would say yes. It’s an industry where the product is not aligned with the incentives of the user of that product. For Big Tobacco, they’re making cigarettes that we now know—and they did know—cause cancer. I haven’t met any cigarette smokers who smoke cigarettes to get cancer. It’s not an outcome they’re looking for. With tech, there’s a similar thing, where the product is these platforms that

Social Media networking is “probably more dangerous than tobacco, because it isn’t just having effects on individuals, it’s having effects on larger institutions as well.”

VICKIE CURTIS '07, ONE OF THE WRITERS FOR *THE SOCIAL DILEMMA*

are addictive and that are misinforming us, making us more narcissistic, more anxious, more depressed, and that are tearing apart some of our institutions. For that reason, I would say that it’s probably more dangerous than tobacco, because it isn’t just having effects on individuals, it’s having effects on larger institutions as well.

AJ: There are all these light bulb or “aha” moments when you’re watching the film, and one is that social media, and tech in general, is the only industry outside of the drug industry that talks about its customers as “users.” I was also struck by the line, “If you’re not paying for the product, you are the product.”

VC: A great question for us at the beginning of the filmmaking process was, “If these companies are worth hundreds of billions of dollars, why? We’re not paying them, so who is paying them?” Advertisers. Advertisers are paying them to target their advertisements to people who will be the most susceptible to that advertisement.

To figure out who’s most susceptible, Facebook and Google create an avatar of you, which is a collection of up to 29,000 data points about what kind of person you are. They’re monitoring things like how fast you scroll, or how you move your mouse, or how long it takes you to absorb an article, or which things you’ve clicked on in the past or what time of day you click on certain kinds of information. Google Maps and Google phones are sending back to Google headquarters all of your real-life habits of where you physically go.

They have a ton of data on who you are as a person, and then

they can group you and say, “Okay, there are 29 other people just like Austin in his neighborhood, and they all are doing this, so why don’t we advertise that to Austin, too? We know he’s likely to be susceptible to that thing.”

And on one level, people are like, “Oh, well, this just means the advertisements I see are relevant to me, so, great, this is a pair of shoes I want to buy.” But the algorithm isn’t perfect, nor is it trying to figure out what shoes you want to buy. It’s trying to figure out how to keep you on the platform longer, what gets you hooked. It preys on our fears, doubts and insecurities, so it’s going to show us more outrageous, salacious, fearmongering information in order to keep us there so that we will see more ads, click on more ads. That makes data this really powerful tool for shifting and manipulating people’s beliefs and behaviors.

AJ: I read during the Cambridge Analytica scandal that they could get enough data points to eventually know more about you than you know about yourself.

VC: Absolutely, because a lot of it is subconscious. Like, I don’t know how fast I scroll; I don’t know what my mouse-click patterns are; I don’t know what my personality profile is based on those habits of mine. They have a whole understanding of your personality profile based on the information that they’ve collected on you, and that determines which particular conspiracy theory to show you next.

AJ: There’s an interesting creative decision made in the film. [Instead of] a traditional documentary, you actually bring in the

Social media, and tech in general, is the only industry outside of the drug industry that talks about its customers as “users.”

AUSTIN JENKINS '95, A POLITICAL REPORTER WITH
THE NORTHWEST NEWS NETWORK

art of fiction. You have a fictionalized family represented, and you also have individuals who, in essence, act as humanized versions of the algorithms that these companies are using.

VC: For a long time, we wrestled with how to make the film more cinematic, because it has a lot of talking heads. Jeff's original idea was that we could personify the algorithms. So [we wondered], “Can we portray what's happening on the other side of your screen?” There's no person making this decision, and the people running the company don't even know what the algorithm is doing, what decisions it's making or why.

AJ: What are these psychological techniques they're using to keep us on these platforms?

VC: One answer is that we don't know, because [these tech companies are] very secretive about exactly how they go about doing some of this stuff. And like I said, they don't even understand exactly how their algorithms are making choices. But there are other things that are absolutely known. For instance, the notifications popping up, the little red dot on your phone or the email messages that sound urgent, they are bait to make you come back. There are all of these intermittent rewards—if you pull down at the top of your feed to refresh, there's a little skinny wait moment, and that's actually the moment where you get a spike of dopamine, because your brain is excited about the potential of what might be there. Whether or not the thing that shows up at the top of your feed when you refresh is actually interesting to you doesn't really affect

whether or not you had that habit-building, addiction-building dopamine hit.

AJ: There's another line from the film that really put things in perspective for me: “We've gone from the information age to the disinformation age.”

VC: I think we're living inside of a good example of the ways in which the algorithms create confusion in society. The algorithm is radically indifferent; it does not know that it's interacting with people, it does not know that people have lives outside of looking at the content that it's feeding us. It's just trying to put out what you are most likely to stare at, and unfortunately, because of the way our brains are wired, we are hyperaware of things that seem to be outlandish, things that seem outrageous, things that make us feel outrage or make us feel fear or anxiety.

The algorithm has learned that those sorts of outrageous stories get more eyeballs and get your eyeballs to stay longer, and are more likely to be something you'll share. So just purely because it's trying to get our attention—not because it wants anything bad for humans—it is actually having these deleterious results where we have misinformation spreading six times faster than the truth, because the truth is often much more boring and nuanced.

AJ: How have you yourself changed your own behavior, your own interaction with these platforms?

VC: I used to go on Facebook all the time, I used to go on Instagram all the time. And I just started to feel so disgusted by

the platforms. I felt manipulated by them. Even if I could say, “Oh, I know better than to click on an ad or be susceptible,” well first of all, I don’t. I’m just as clueless as to how the magician does his trick as every other person is. And it’s not just that; it’s that these algorithms are causing enormous social unrest; they’re causing genocides in places like Myanmar, where fake news has turned into actual violence. And I don’t want to be feeding that creature.

AJ: At the end, the film talks about starting a conversation. What comes next? Is the solution to remove the advertising revenue stream from these businesses? I know the film contemplates whether they could be taxed for the data that they possess, because that’s an asset and they’re mining data like we mine ore or gold or anything else extractive. Or do they need to be regulated?

VC: The film winds down to the fact that surveillance capitalism is out of alignment with the future of humanity, and that we are now the resource being mined. We see through climate change and the destruction of habitats that there are actual consequences to mining the earth in this exploitative, extractive model, and now we are the thing being exploited; we are the thing being extracted from—our behavior, our eyes, our attention, our beliefs—they’re extracting these from us in order to make that profit.


Now that we see that misalignment, there are three things that *The Social Dilemma* impact team is focusing on in order to make change. One is changing the way we use tech, giving people better resources to understand the deleterious aspects of

their own relationship to technology and some tips for how they can change their own personal behavior.

How we design tech is the second branch. A lot of people who work at Facebook and Google are aware that there are problems with the way the organizations work, and they are aware that the ad business model is out of alignment with what’s best for humanity. So, can they start building safeguards into the way that tech is actually designed?

And the third way is how tech is regulated. These companies are so big and powerful at this point, they are the biggest and most valuable companies that have ever existed in human history. We do have a democracy where we could potentially have a robust regulation of those companies in order to bring them back into alignment with humanity and our goals as a species. We’ve been talking to a few congresspeople who are aware of potential trust-busting that needs to happen, or privacy issues or censorship issues, but are not thinking yet about how the entire business model needs to shift in order to sort of realign us.

AJ: On the one hand, the film introduces the idea that these can lead to things like genocide and destabilizing democracy. That is a very bleak prognosis. On the other hand, maybe we’ll figure it out, maybe we can save the next generation. Where do you land?

VC: Well, I will echo Tristan—he said the first time he felt optimistic about this was when he saw the reception that the film received. That 38 million households streamed it during its first month on Netflix means that people are ready to think about this. 

The Day His Journal Went Blank

Ty father stood in the kitchen eating refried beans from the can with a fork as Paul Simon sang “Graceland” on repeat for 20 minutes.

“Hey Alexa, why don’t we take a break, huh?” he finally said, as if the speaker were a child who had taken too many turns on the slide. “Yeah, let’s give it a rest for a little bit.”

I watched him pet the device and gently shush it.

“Alexa, turn off,” I said, and the kitchen fell silent.

My father gave me a look, the same look he used to give me when I was 10 and didn’t want to call my grandmother or send thank-you cards after my birthday party. A look of a lesson to impart.

“Yes?” I said.

“Next time,” he said, “say please.”

My father has always been the type of person who likes listening to birds and picking up litter. I grew up admiring the way he would walk into a room full of friends watching TV and ask, “Who wants to talk?” He wanted to know what people were thinking about, and when phones lit up at the dinner table, he would sit and watch as the rest of us hunched and stared at our laps like phone-addicted zombies.

I try to be more like my father and make these values my own. But these characteristics of his are fading along with his memory, and the means through which I connect with him feel less like bonding and more like desperation.

Almost five years ago, when my father was 62, he learned he had Alzheimer’s disease. Over this time, my mother and I have watched his decline. He forgets his friends’ names and can no longer read. Every morning, he sits in a baby blue polka-dot towel and waits for one of us to prompt him to start his day.

My mother will say: “Come in here and get dressed, honey.” “Brush your teeth, honey.” “Come drink some orange juice, honey.”

I look at other fathers who make money and pancakes and kiss their wives, and I feel depressed for how small my father’s world has become. I see how my mother is nervous to socialize

with him or take him to dinner parties where the other husbands talk about work and politics, while hers asks, over and over, if Frank Sinatra is alive.

Since graduating from college two years ago, I have split my time between my apartment in Brooklyn and my parents’ house in Hastings-on-Hudson. Every week, I pack a bag and take the train 30 miles north to help with the caregiving. I joke about how it’s confusing to live in two places. “It’s like I have divorced parents,” I say as I hug my roommates goodbye.

I struggle to understand myself as a 23-year-old who is also taking care of a parent. I feel stiff when my roommates get dressed for work and ask which shoes I like best, or when they talk about their goals: what they want to do, where they want to live. I marvel at the ease with which they can sound so sure of their freedom and choices.

It’s not that I don’t have plans for myself, or that I dislike shoes. There’s just something about when my father calls me “Mommy” in front of the neighbors that morning, and then says he’s sorry, that makes my mouth feel tight when it comes to offering style advice or talking about my dreams.

I often wish I could ask my father who he was at 23. I wish I could ask what his bad habits were, or how he treated his mother, or what he did on Saturdays. But his ability to recall his past has disappeared, so I have come to terms with not knowing. I spend a lot of time asking him other questions instead, but my queries have surpassed casual curiosity.

Every week I ask: “Dad, what do you love about Mom?” “Dad, what is your favorite thing about yourself?” “Dad, do you like to cry?”

I shake him up like a Magic 8-Ball and throw him as many questions as I can. But just like the toy, his answers are random lines I have heard before. I’m patient as he searches for words and pronunciations, but we often end up playing charades as I guess at the words he has lost.

Last September, my parents and I were organizing our storage bin in the basement of our apartment building when I

A daughter races to collect her father's memories before Alzheimer's can steal them away.

BY ANNABELLE ALLEN '19, FIRST PUBLISHED IN *THE NEW YORK TIMES*
"MODERN LOVE" COLUMN.

uncovered a chest of my father's old journals. Under yellowed Superman comics and water-damaged concert tickets were 15 or so composition notebooks, dating from 1978 to 2002.

My mother said journals are private and attempted to hide them from me, but she soon realized I would keep coming back. Morals and privacy seemed unimportant if these journals could give me access to the person my father used to be. So I began to read them. And they have been a gift.

In his journals, my father wrote about self-doubt and fear and all the things that brought him joy. I copied his sentences into my own journal and cited his wisdom when I spoke to my friends. He also wrote about riding his bike around Brooklyn, reporting for small newspapers and exiting the subway at Seventh Avenue to walk home through the park.

Until I read those journals, I had no idea he'd done those things, and the similarities between us stunned me. I have spent the last two years working as a reporter for small Brooklyn papers, and every Sunday, heading home from the train that carries me back to the city from Hastings, I too take that walk home from Seventh Avenue.

When I read my father's entries, I feel less lost. I not only recognize the person my father used to be, but I recognize myself.

My mother gave me permission to quote a few of them.

On Sept. 9, 1991, he wrote: "I want to stand up outside between the cars, head blowing in the wind, and scream, scream until I nearly start living ... start living my dream. I need something. Too much time and too little touch in my life lately. Loneliness can kill, I believe."

A few months later, on Feb. 10, 1992: "I feel giddy, like a kid. I want to dance! She called. Suzanne from Brooklyn. Yes, she'd love to go out again. So it's brunch and watching the playoffs at her place Sunday. God I feel happy."

"Later last night after 11:00, spurred by the phone call, I danced in the kitchen in the dark. A Stones song, I danced alongside old ghosts and laughed at them. Whether trying to

shake demons or embrace a new dream, dancing in the dark always felt good."

Suzanne is my mother, and it was through these journals that I learned how much my father loves her. His journals also showed me how much he loves his friends, and how much he loves me. Every entry from 1997 to 2002 mentions "little Annabelle."

What I wasn't prepared for, however, was the moment the entries stopped. On April 28, 2002, my father wrote about my bathtub performance of "Tomorrow" from the musical "Annie," and then the next page is blank. And so is the next, and the one after that. I flipped through wide-eyed, in denial. I didn't want this version of my father to be over.

As I read that last entry, he and I were sitting beside each other on the couch with "Ellen" on TV. She was playing *Burning Questions* with Bradley Cooper, but their exchanges were too quick for him, so he stared at the rug instead.

I thought about the scenes I'd just read: my father calling his friends at midnight to tell them a joke, riding the subway and reading the paper, asking my mother to dance. Watching him now as he gazed at the rug, I felt uneasy about all the time he spends in silence. I felt afraid of how much he had lost and would continue to lose.

"Dad," I said.

"Yes?"

"Do you love Mom?"

He laughed. "Of course."


I took a breath and turned off the TV. I did my best to join him in the moment, as that is all we have.

"How much do you love her?"

"What do you mean, how much?" He laughed again.

"One quart."

"And you love me a gallon?"

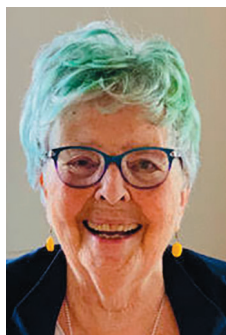
"Yes," he said. This much he understood. "Very many gallons." 

Annabelle Allen is a freelance journalist. Reprinted with permission from The New York Times.

CC Magazine welcomes your Class Notes and submissions. Please contact your class correspondent, email notes to classnotes@conncoll.edu or submit Class Notes online at: conncoll.edu/news/cc-magazine

R denotes a Reunion class year. 2020 and 2021 Reunions will be online June 4-12, 2021.

45^R Ann LeLievre Hermann, Class of 1945 correspondent, sadly passed away at age 97. She was a dedicated volunteer for Connecticut College, submitting her last edition of Class Notes a mere three weeks before her death. In 1944, a year before graduating from Connecticut College, she married Philip Hermann, a cadet at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, who then served in the Coast Guard during WWII. Ann and Phil lived in Chardon, Ohio; Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Stamford and East Norwalk, Conn., before retiring in 1982. First they cruised aboard their sailboat for a year, then spent a year living in their Maine cottage on Malden Island, and then settled in Georgetown, Maine, for 10 years before moving to Shell Point, Fla., in 1994. Ann's greatest accomplishments, in addition to raising her children, were teaching math at Low Heywood School, in Stamford, and serving as director of Camp Francis in Kent, Conn.; as secretary to the board of selectmen in Georgetown; and as bookkeeper for Habitat for Humanity in Fort Myers, Fla. Always looking for fun and new challenges, she greatly enjoyed playing duplicate bridge, quilting, performing as a clown called Happy Annie and even spending one winter season as the bat girl for the Cleveland Indians fantasy baseball team. So many friends and family have been touched by her in one way or another that her memory will live on for many years to come. Her blunt opinions, whether we wanted them or not, were always delivered in the best possible way, and she set an example for us all with her "book of blessings," teaching us the value of keeping a positive outlook on life.



Ann LeLievre Hermann '45, P'67, '70, GP '01 passed away August 26, 2020. She was the Class of 1945 class correspondent.

49 is still looking for someone to fill the role of class correspondent. If you have news or are interested in filling this position, please contact Judy Johnson at: judyjrealestate@gmail.com or (914) 844-7199.

50^R Jacqueline (Jackie) Hamlin Maltby of Nantucket passed away Aug. 24. She is survived by her daughter, three sons, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



Jacqueline Hamlin Maltby '50

51^R Mona Gustafson Affinito published a new book, *My Father's House*, in which Conn is prominent as a setting. In the book, she tells tales about her, as well as her sister's and roommate's, experiences on campus.

54 Correspondent: Joanne Williams Hartley, 69 Chesterton Road, Wellesley MA 02481, jodihartley69@icloud.com, (781) 235-4038 cell: (617) 620-9385 Hasn't this been the weirdest year ever! I hope you have navigated through COVID-19 without mishap. I am sure there are many stories; drop me a line and share them. I got together with Peter and Kathy Hull Easton and Dick and Janice Smith Post in Naples, Fla., briefly during our long summer's "night" there. We went there for 12 weeks in January 2020 but stayed until November due to COVID-19. My daughter, Pam, came from St. Louis, Mo., in March for a week's vacation and never left, as the virus hit Florida at that time and she wanted to help us navigate the issues. We finally flew home to Massachusetts in November, safely arriving before the holiday rush. Pam flew with us. Having her home has been the silver lining for us in the pandemic; we haven't lived together for 27 years—it has been a joy and a blessing! In Medford, Ore., Claire Wal-lach Engle and Ray are well and very happy in their cottage in a vibrant retirement community. It is 40 miles from the California border, has wonderful weather, and is near Ashland, Ore., home of the amazing Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Season ticket holders, they have missed it this year. Their three sons are doing well. The oldest, Andy, followed in his father's footsteps and is a retired Navy captain, living in southern Florida. Their middle and youngest sons live in the Hollywood area: Tim directs films, and Rob works for Disney. One granddaughter and one grandson work for Disney, another granddaughter is in school. Claire and Ray welcome visitors; please get in touch if you are in the area. Like most of us, they have sheltered in place due to COVID-19. Claire shares this positive inspiration: "Life is what happens to you

while you're making other plans." Sally Ash-kins Churchill is still on Cape Cod and sends warm greetings to all. Her husband is in real estate on the Cape and is busier than usual. There is a great exodus from urban areas, and Cape Cod is enjoying the real estate boom. Like many, due to COVID-19 Sally misses visiting some of her family. Ann Heagney Weimer is also on the Cape, still in her lovely home. Life is very quiet there, but she feels fortunate that her wonderful senior center offers amenities, rides, grocery delivery, etc. Most of her family are around Boston, so she sees them on weekends. She watches Mass on Sundays on TV, and she loved that the first one she saw was delivered in Spanish. The Class of '54 sends condolences to the family of Katharine Smith Flower, who died in October 2018, and the family of Martha Flickinger Schroeder, who died in February 2020.

55^R Jane Dornan Smith's P'84 husband of 64 years, William E. (Wee) Smith (Coast Guard Academy '53), passed away May 22, 2020, at home in Ledyard, Conn. Wee and Jane met during her freshman year at Conn and were married one month after her graduation. Their daughter is CC alum Kathryn Dornan Smith '84. In their 64-year marriage, Wee and Jane crisscrossed the country, family in tow, during his Coast Guard career, living in Alaska (before it was a state), Virginia, California (twice), and New Hampshire. After Wee retired from CG active duty in 1980, they returned to southeastern Connecticut, settling in Ledyard. Wee held civilian positions at the CGA until 1993: foundation director, sports information director, and alumni association director. Wee and Jane took pride in having traveled together to all 50 states and several countries.

57 Correspondent: Elaine Diamond Berman, 100 Riverside Blvd., Apt. 20C, New York, NY, 10069, elainedberman@comcast.net Margaret (Meg) Weller Harkins died peacefully of COVID-19 on Oct. 1. Born in 1935, she attended Buckingham Friends School, George School, Connecticut College and Drexel University. She became a librarian and was admissions director at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education. She loved her days at Camp Dark Waters and her communities at the Germantown Friends and Friends Select Schools.

58 Correspondent: Judy Ankarstran Carson, jdcarson@centurytel.net, PO Box 5028, Edwards, CO 81632 Hello, all you '58ers. By the time you read this, you should have had a letter from class president Phyllis Malone, including some of the following information. Hope you all are staying as healthy as possible. Are you finding creative ways to cope with this historically BAD year in

our lives? Even having a good book or Netflix show or phone call can make the day. About 23 members of our class had the ultimate call via Zoom on Nov. 12. Once all the tech issues were resolved (at least most of them) we could catch up and chat. One person logged on from her doctor's office—an unexpected experience! We plan to offer these online events a few times a year, beginning this winter. Please watch for the email invitation and, if needed, enlist a family member or friend to help connect to a 1958 party. Thank you to **Marilyn (Lynn) Leach Cassidy, Judy Epstein Grollman, Phyllis Malone, Barbara (Bobbie) Cohn Mindell** and **Carol Reeves Parke** for coordinating, with help from Lynne Crider of the Connecticut College Fund. Since **Roswitha Rabl Classen** lives in Germany and couldn't make the connection, she emailed: "My hearty congratulations on the outcome of the election, combined with all the best wishes for a better future with your new president, Biden, and Kamala Harris. My time at CC taught me many things, but one in particular: You can only succeed if you are honestly searching for a good compromise! I'm writing this from my home near Frankfurt, where COVID-19 is raging and endangering our beautiful home of more than 500 retired people. So many oldies who live together in five different big houses! Everybody wears a mask here. Sometimes it's hard to recognize who you are meeting." **Ann Carnahan Wallace** tried unsuccessfully to connect that day, so sent a note: "Busy getting ready for the holidays, even if remote ... I enjoy cooking—keeps me busy—plus working on my watercolors."

59 *Correspondent: Carolyn Keefe Oakes, 3333 Warrensville Center Road, Apt. 412, Shaker Heights, OH 44122, 216-752-5384, carolynoakes07@gmail.com and Marcia Fortin Sherman, 602 Red Maple Way, Clemson, SC 29631, 864-654-1957, marciasherman@bellsouth.net* We thank **Gail Glidden Goodell** for lifting our spirits with her humorous anecdotes and pictures these last months. Laughing keeps us sane! Gail walks a mile every day and goes to the Y for water aerobics. Wearing a mask and face shield, she visited her sister in Wisconsin while her daughter and children were there. They played cards, swam and kayaked on the St. Croix River. In October Gail flew to Texas for her birthday to see her daughter and family. She was tested afterwards—no COVID. **Carolyn Keefe Oakes** volunteers remotely and helps at an emergency food center. She sees her children and grandchildren in small groups, which is fun. She, too, walks many miles a day and does gym exercises at home. We offer our sympathy to the family of **Lucy Allen Separk**, who passed away in October. Lucy was our remarkable class treasurer and historian. She never missed a reunion and always brought all the class scrapbooks. At

our last reunion, she gave them to the alumni office. She was a math teacher and a mediator for the Springfield (Mass.) schools. She taught children's swim lessons, officiated at high school swim meets, sang in her church choir and with the Sweet Adelines, and was part of the West Side Tappers. She helped elders with taxes and scored standardized tests for schools. She loved camping, sewing and games. We also offer our sympathy and consolation to the family of **Diane Miller Bessell**, who passed away in September. Diane regularly attended our reunions all the way from California. We will miss her. **Jeanette (Jan) Bremer Sturgis** was disappointed to miss our last reunion because of illness. Her grandchild lives with her in St. Louis, Mo., and is helpful with medical issues. One of Jan's sons works at the sub base in Groton, Conn. **Miriam (Mimsy) Matthews Munro** is content in a retirement facility in Los Altos, Calif. She feels fortunate to have children and grandchildren living nearby. We are saddened to learn from **Torrey Gamage Fenton** of David Fenton's death on his birthday in June. Torrey continues to live in their wonderful old eighteenth-century house in the Montville, Conn., area, near daughter Wendy. Torrey is in touch with **Patricia (Pat) Chambers Moore**, sending Pat newspaper articles about Pat's son, Todd, who is commander of the sub base. Pat lives in Hilton Head, S.C., with the familiar scaled-down social schedule—mostly cocktails with friends on the porch. The Moores' championship-figure-skater granddaughter is studying to be a physician assistant at the Cleveland Clinic, and their grandson works in the jet propulsion lab at GE. Grandchildren in Connecticut attend private school and are happy to have real classes. **Alice Randall Campbell** and her husband moved from Wellesley to

Andover, Mass., in December, happily near their son. **Emily (Em) Hodge Brasfield** is in good health. Her "entertainment" during the pandemic was the installation of a new roof. **Cecily (Ceci) Hamlin Wells** never tires of the gorgeous mountain view from her Hendersonville, N.C., home. During normal times she volunteers with fundraising for Brevard Music Center. In California, most of **Marjorie Brash Crisp's** family is nearby. Nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren often visit via Zoom. She retired from teaching at just the right time, sparing her from dealing with computers in the classroom. We all survived competitive exams; we'll survive the COVID-19 pandemic, too! May we all stay well.

60 *Correspondent: Millie Price Nygren, 1048 Bedford St., Fremont, CA 94539, (408) 464-2907, m.nygren@att.net* **Mary Hope (Missy) Mis-simer McQuiston** and **Edith (Edee) Chase Fenimore** mentioned Compet Sing as a memory ... and why we lost our sophomore year. **Anne Sweazey** wrote, "I was class songleader sophomore year. The theme of our original song was the three types of love: Eros, Philia and Agape. Musically, the three parts fit together in three-part harmony. The lyrics referenced literary and philosophical sources, sophomoric in the truest sense! During our performance, someone noticed that Dean Noyes, one of the judges, seemed to take offense when we sang "Marx and Engels tell us, and the faculty agree, that love like all the best in life should certainly be free." We were incensed when we came in fourth place and decided to protest against this infringement on our free speech. So, that evening we gathered on the library steps and sang the entire song again. Ah,

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—Ricardo Lombera '22



A BELIEF IN INSPIRING OTHERS

DAVE CLARK '73 was one of the original Larrabee men who arrived at Connecticut College as coeducation began in 1969. A recognized alumni leader and active volunteer, Dave has returned to campus every year since graduation. He has chaired reunions, served as class president, alumni board member and president of the Maine Alumni Club where he was a member for 25 years.

To motivate the Class of 2018 at their commencement, Dave pledged to give \$18,073 to the class, providing they break the attendance record for a fifth reunion. Dave says, "that's one of the blessings of being affiliated with our College for so long. Plans for the future evolve with the times, but the mission of educating young women for a century and young men for half a century continues to mean we contribute amazing alums to help make our nation and our world a better place."

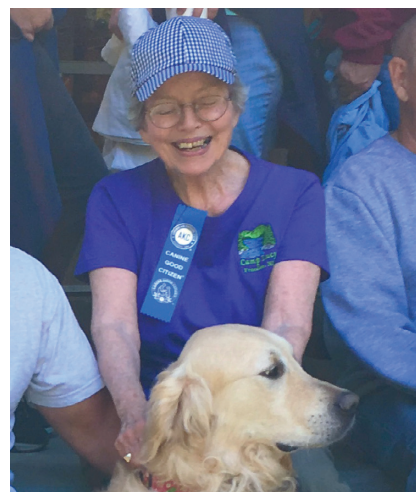
When considering his legacy at Conn, Dave did not hesitate to name the College as a significant beneficiary of his estate. Dave documented his bequest which will support the areas of greatest need, trusting that future administrations will use his gift to further excellence in liberal arts education.

By following in Dave's footsteps, you, too, can inspire others to honor the positive impact Connecticut College has had on so many lives.

Contact Laura Becker at Office of Gift Planning for information on leaving your own legacy at Connecticut College: giftplanning@conncoll.edu (860) 439-2416 conncoll.giftplans.org

simpler times." I have enjoyed Zoom calls with my high school classmates, and one included two other Conn classmates: **Barbara Livingstone Aguirre** and **Jean Curtiss Britt**. (Jean left after sophomore year to get married and got her degree from Boston College.) Jean's middle daughter is CC Class of '87. **Barbara Livingstone Aguirre** wrote about **Christine (Christie) Steinfelder Barlow**, who died Feb. 17, 2020. "She struggled with Alzheimer's for 10 years. I was fortunate to get to Delhi, NY, just at the pandemic's start, to be with Christie's husband, Richard Barlow, and their children and Christie's sister, Patty Jo Martin, at the viewing. Christie was a French major who also studied Russian with Mrs. Kasem-Beg. She spent her junior year in Paris at the Sorbonne, later receiving a master's degree in French from the City College of New York. She returned to college to become a nurse specializing in heart disease. Christie enjoyed restoring Le Cadeau, her 300-year-old farm in Delhi, and delighted in her animals: dogs ranging from Pekingese to Great Danes, cats, pygmy goats, Polish chickens, a pig, and a variety of horses. Known for her kindness, brilliance and super-quick wit, we will always remember Christie." **Sharing memories: Beverly Hill Windatt** wrote, "My favorite memory is standing on the old library steps and seeing the Thames. I fell in love then and there. I was considered a 'foreign' student and asked to wear my native costume to a 'real' American Thanksgiving in our freshman year. Being from Canada, I was incensed and amused. Am still trying to decide which costume to wear." **Patricia Wertheim Abrams**: "On the first day of freshman year, President Rosemary Parks spoke to our class in an assembly. She said women's education was important because, 'When you educate a man, you educate an individual. When you educate a woman, you educate a family.' So much for women's lib in September 1956—we've come a long way, baby!" Please share any of your memories with me. I hope we will have a memory book for our 60th; send yours to m.nygren@att.net by March 15. I will publish more of them in our next issue. I am still looking for help. We will know soon if Reunion is really going to happen, and how.

63 Correspondent: **Bonnie Campbell Billings-Wauters**, 1315 Winding Oaks Circle, East Unit #903, Vero Beach, FL 32963, (802) 734-1876, bsq22@aol.com My plea for news was very successful! Some late responses will appear in the next issue. For those who didn't respond, we are eager for your news



Sally Hobson '63 at dog camp last year with Archie.

in the next issue!! **Beverly Ruffle Brookes** continues to lead an active life in the independent living phase of their life-care community in Pennsylvania. They spend summers in Rehoboth Beach, Del. A duplicate bridge Life Master, she plays competitively, now online. Two of their three children live nearby. **Jeanette Cannon Ruffle** (sister-in-law of Bev), following a summer of outdoor gatherings overlooking Lake Champlain (Vt.), was adjusting to the prospect of COVID-adapted outdoor activities. She voiced a sentiment shared by most of us: "Staying connected to family via FaceTime, Zoom and other technological advances I never dreamed I would be grateful for!" **Elana Brown Anderson** and husband Bill use Skype, etc., to stay connected to kids and grands from Islamabad and Dubai to San Francisco and in between. "We still feel busy, taking walks, playing bridge online (both are Life Masters, too), reading—tho the bedside book pile stays high." **Evelyn Cherpak** saw fruition of three years' work with the publication of her book: *South of the Border: Women Travelers to Latin America*. Available on Amazon and elsewhere, it consists of biographies of 15 women and their experiences in Latin America. Congratulations! **Carolyn (Lonn) Jones Schorer** and David are adjusting to the quiet of their new home on Lake Winnepesaukee (N.H.), listening to loons and watching migrating waterfowl. They just joined the AMC, anticipating hiking nearby mountains. Proceeds from her children's book, *The Moose Family*, are going to New Hampshire Wildlife to aid the moose population. **Susan Albro Barkan** continues to log many miles of hiking weekly and has become more involved in local (Mountain View, Calif.) politics, particularly in a recent contentious race for city council. She lamented the devastating fires and damage to beloved forests and air quality, but all have brought better

appreciation of good health and a supportive community. **Helen Frisk Buzyna** used the extra time to focus on her genealogy and translate her mother's diary, written as a 10-year-old in 1921 as her family fled Russia. As a member of one of the larger groups of our classmates, Helen regularly Zooms with **Barbara Drexler Lockhart**, **Constance (Connie) Cross**, **Susan Young**, **Wallace (Wally) Coates Paprocki** and **Chantal Le Houerou**. **Virginia (Ginny) Olds Goshdigian** is sorely missed. **Elaine Cohen** continues her pediatric practice with her husband in Southern California but finds many changes necessitated by COVID-19, telemedicine and Zoom conferences, less satisfying. With their daughter and three grands nearby, they have lots of backyard (no hugs) visits but had to participate in bar and bat mitzvahs of twin grands via Zoom. **Jeanette Cruise Pease**: As a townie, her memories of CC extend back to childhood programs, though she only stayed through sophomore year before following her Coastie to California. She enjoyed a 30-year career as a high school librarian. From her CC days, she shared something that many may relate to: "I'm still dining out on anecdotes from Miss Tuve's English class!" **Mary (Teed) McConnell Poe** stays in good touch with **Cynthia Pearson Berg**, **Cynthia (Cynny) Nichols Travers** and **Diane (Di) Lyons Dunning**. Atlanta's warmth has extended the outdoor "social season." Golf, bridge and community outreach are interests. She articulated well a sentiment voiced by others: "We have all taken special interest in the birds ... Nature has nourished us more than ever and lifted our spirits when we tired of Zoom meetings." **Cynthiana Hahn** continues to enjoy her life as a snowbird in a continuing care community in Dallas and summering in Chicago. Sharing a "social bubble" with close friends, enjoying outdoor activities and venues, and "trying to focus on what we can still do and not on the many things the pandemic prevents us from doing." **Nancy Budde Nightingale** enjoys their home in a very active life-care community, Laurel Lake, in Hudson, Ohio, where they are able to reach out to and enjoy neighbors. **Sally Sweet Ward** enjoyed summer visits from faraway family at their weekend place in Illinois. While the kids spent weeks swimming, fishing, etc., Sally and her husband restrained themselves to weekend visits, "mostly outdoors, following safety guidelines." **Cynthia Norton Scoggin** relishes being able to see her sons and grands frequently, outdoors and masked. While daycares were closed, Cynthia enjoyed caring for a 7-month-old granddaughter and her 3-year-old brother. She stays in close touch with **Linda Osborne**. **Sally Hobson** regrets that a knee injury kept her from our 55th. She is "long retired" from Adelphi University and enjoys life by the water in eastern Long Island. She would welcome visitors ... someday! **Madeline (Mady) Siegfried Lesnik** bought a house in West Palm

Beach, Fla., just before the pandemic and has been busy remodeling it long-distance. They hoped to be done in time to escape Chicago's "frostier months." **Phyllis Hattis** remains a close friend. I think many share her sentiment: "I have worked, traveled and enjoyed every moment of all these years and hope to enjoy many more!" **Martha Joynt Kumar**, in her role as director of the White House Transition Project, had an "incredibly busy" fall of 2020. Since the pandemic, she rarely goes into the White House. So many meetings—the White House Historical Association, the Connecticut College Board, and meetings with other scholars—have gone to Zoom. Lectures, podcasts, TV and radio interviews all demand her time, in addition to the detailed work of the transition. **Barbara Thomas Cheney** is still part-time priest-in-charge of a small New Haven, Conn., congregation, meeting for worship on Zoom. "We are grateful for good neighbors and the gift of nearby woodlands with walking trails and wildlife."

64 *Correspondent: Platt Townend Arnold, 160 Upper Pattagansett Road, East Lyme, CT 06333, (860) 691-1125, cell (860) 235-2086, platt_arnold@yahoo.com* I talked with class president **Judy Wisbach Curtis**. Thank heavens for technology to keep people in touch in these COVID times. Judy Zooms regularly with **Catherine (Cathy) Layne Frank**, **Patricia (Pat) Kendall Boyd**, **Eleanor (Lee) Jones Wendall** and **Katharine (Kathy) Archer**, spread over several states with no in-person visits planned any time soon. I (**Platt Townend Arnold**) Zoom regularly with **Marcia Silcox Crockett**, **Ann Weatherby Gruner**, **Donna Richmond Carleton**, **Kirk Palmer Senske** and **Catherine (Cathy) Layne Frank**. We compare reading lists and ways to cope with social distancing, and report on what we see of the pandemic's impact on our grandchildren's generation. I do not remember more than a passing reference to the Spanish Flu pandemic in my own family, and nothing of any impact they might have experienced, much less lingering habits, attitudes. I wonder how the COVID-19 pandemic will be seen 100 years from now. I spoke with **Sandra Nowicki Garick** and was sorry to learn that her husband, Bruce, died suddenly in October—a cardiac event. Bruce admired Conn; their house has three floor-to-ceiling fireplaces constructed of the New England granite he so appreciated in Conn's early buildings. Sandy volunteered to be involved with our class plans, including chairing Reunion for our 60th in 2024. If you, yes, YOU are interested in helping, the planning committee does not have ALL the fun, but it is a nice way to renew old friendships and nurture new ones. Please contact me to volunteer for the Reunion committee, and Sandy will get in touch with you. **M. Hope Batchelder-**

Stevens writes: "A richness of the pandemic for me is that my grandson, Harry (9), was instructed to practice reading out loud when English schools closed. So he and I have been reading aloud three times a week by phone! He instructs me on proper English accents, asks how to pronounce multisyllabic words, and corrects my mispronunciations in the Harry Potter series. He even sends messages between readings! And the calls keep me in touch with his moms and brother. I love it. One of my many gratitudes is technology!" Reminder that there is a CC Class of 1964 on Facebook—not very active, BUT IT COULD BE if you made it so ... I am happy to hear from you with any news for this column. Please write!

65 *Correspondents: Susan Peck Hinkel, 1064 N. Main St., Danby, VT 05739, rerob@mac.com; Pat Antell Andrews 2800 S. University Blvd, Unit 4, Denver, CO 80210, pandre0615@gmail.com* **Leslie Setterholm Curtis** and husband Tim "have decided we are delighted our house never sold when we had it on the market because it has been the perfect spot to ride out the pandemic." Leslie has become more active in civic affairs, specifically the local agriculture commission, where she will serve as chairman. She is also on deck as the next vice president of the Colchester Land Trust. "I'm pretty psyched about having a more visible role in our town government and the nonprofit dear to my heart, and I have a goal ... to try to keep our town from becoming overly suburbanized ... and to give the town more tools for funding open space and farmland preservation projects." **Judith (Judie) Abbott Raffety's** time is "consumed by Zooming." She and Don stayed in Tucson, Ariz., for the hottest summer on record, reluctant to risk traveling to Vermont in May. She misses her children and grandchildren but hoped to see her Chicago son for Christmas. "Hoping COVID will be behind us soon with an effective and widely accepted vaccine. Well wishes to everyone." **Patricia (Patti) Olson** reported that the Colorado wildfires led her to evacuate. "Who should send an email to offer space but Pat—our class correspondent. I was so overwhelmed with gratitude." Fortunately Patti didn't need Pat's space; she was out of her house for five days, and the fire did not come close. "Unnerving and disconcerting, nonetheless. Plenty of smoke for weeks." [Pat, class correspondent, remembers that in 2005 **Judie Abbott Raffety** offered her and her husband a home after Hurricane Katrina drove them from New Orleans.] **Jeanne Patenaude-Lane** was "thinking of friends from college and accidentally found some old pictures while looking for something else." She moved from NYC to Plymouth, Mass., on Cape Cod Bay to care for her parents. "I spent the summer and fall in my hometown, living in our summer cottage in the woods with my daughter while my hus-

band came on weekends from the city.” When her husband retired, the move became permanent, and they gave their West Side apartment to daughter Jennifer, who lived there while at college and then law school at Fordham. Jennifer, along with her husband and son James (4), still lives there. **Dr. Judith (Judy) Sheldon Warren**, Jeanne’s lab partner in comparative anatomy class, was a resident in the emergency department when Jeanne broke her nose in an accident. Judy attended her in the recovery room, and they went to a couple of concerts together at Lincoln Center after that chance meeting. **Elizabeth (Beth) Overbeck Balkite** writes, “I am still living (imprisoned?) in Durham, N.C., wearing a mask and seeing others via Zoom. In February 2020 a friend and I took a Viking Cruise, In Search of the Northern Lights. We left in early February, much to the consternation of family and friends, but had a great time. We did a dogsled ride, stayed a night in an ice hotel above the Arctic Circle and remained healthy. We were lucky to get away when we did.” Beth continues teaching genetic genealogy at Duke, but only by Zoom. She had 54 students this fall and is also teaching the winter term. “I reconnected with classmates **Christina (Chris) Metcalfe** and **Donna Maulsby Asnani** via Facebook. One good thing about the pandemic is it is easier to reach people—we are all at home.”

66 ^R *Correspondents: Carol Chaykin & Pat Dale; ccnotes66@gmail.com*
Katherine (Kate) Curtis Donahue, Susan Mabrey Gaud ’68, **Bridget Donahue Healy**, **Jane Brown LaPrino**, **Deborah Nichols Losse**, **Jill McKelvie Neilsen**, **Caroline Davis Murray**, **Jan Davison Peake**, **Terry McNab Rixse** and **Lee Johnson Stockwell** had planned to rendezvous in Florida just as the first wave of COVID-19 surged in March. They soon discovered the benefits of Zooming, with lively weekly meetings full of family news, literary and culinary recommendations, and the complications of life in 2020. **Kathleen Dudden Rowlands** retired after 15 years teaching in the Department of Secondary Education at California State University, Northridge, where she founded and directed the Cal State Northridge Writing Project. Kathy and her husband have retired to Hawaii, where she lived and taught for 20 years before remarrying and moving to the mainland. They built a house next door to her younger son and his wife and have enjoyed catching up with friends and family including a foster daughter and three granddaughters. **Mary Ellen Hosmer Dinwoodey** stays in touch with a few classmates and enjoys reading our Class Notes. **Ellen Kagan** reported on the Nov. 8 earthquake on Cape Cod. New Bedford, Mass., was the epicenter of the 4.0-magnitude quake, which was felt widely around Boston. **Marian Silber** is grateful to winter in Florida, where



Erik Gammell '00 and his family met up with Debby Nichols Losse '66 for a beautiful hike in Sedona, AZ, in November.

she can be outside and use the pool. She has seen (face-to-face but socially distant) **Ruth Zaleske Leibert**, **Susan Kirshnit Woodall** and **Asia Rial Elsbree**; they even broke open a bottle of prosecco to celebrate Asia’s remarkable recovery from Whipple surgery last summer. Marian’s Thanksgiving plans included dinner in the driveway with two good friends (also socially distanced) with sushi instead of turkey! **Ann Langdon**’s husband, **Drew S. Days III**, succumbed to amyloid angiopathy (a kind of dementia). “I had been living alone for the last year and a half, but the finality of death is so much more difficult.” They met through the Yale Russian Chorus and married to join the Peace Corps together. Ann followed Drew through his careers as NAACP Legal Defense Fund attorney; Temple University teacher; assistant attorney general under Carter; Yale University law professor; solicitor general under Clinton; and back to New Haven and Yale, where his diagnosis caught up with him. Ann and one daughter were with him when he died peacefully in his sleep. “He was my life mate; he lived a good, active public life.” Ann and her family have been trying to survive the isolation of COVID, remain sane and be educated, and work from home on Zoom. Pediatrician daughter Alison has been welcoming babies to El Paso, Tex., in the hospital and sometimes sees her patients at her office. All are well. “I look forward to several memorial services and celebrations of Drew’s life over the coming months to carry me forward.” Please send your news and photos. We love hearing from you!

67 *Class Correspondents: Deborah Greenstein, debbyg837@verizon.net; Marcia Hunter Matthews, marciamatthews3@gmail.com* To everyone who has written to thank us for being your class correspondents, we appreciate the sentiments but want you to know that it is a labor of love. **Tama Mokotoff Bernstein** sends greetings to everyone. She and Michael have been married 54 years. Their three daughters and five granddaughters live nearby in Westchester

County, N.Y. They are kept busy with fun family times, including soccer, lacrosse, tennis, basketball and golf games. After a long and happy entrepreneurial career, Tama transitioned to retirement, finding it an adjustment. Her Conn education sticks with her every day as she learns new things, participates in book clubs, writes poetry and maintains her love of literature. Despite three total joint replacements, she walks and hikes miles every day. Lots of humor and laughing and connecting with a close community of friends and family are key to looking for truth, beauty and nourishment ... and finding it most days, cherishing music, golf, good food, sunrises, the beach and being merry. Carpe diem for sure! **Lynne Judson Webb** thinks back fondly on the three years spent living in the dorms at CC—not to mention the extremely hectic last year after she and Steve got married, and low and behold, along came Becky a month before graduation! Emilie Delas, daughter of **Priscilla Smalzel-Delas**, wrote to say that her mother is doing well and her dementia is stable, enabling her to stay home in the western suburbs of Paris. Cilla’s granddaughter Lisa is the light of her life. Granddaughter number two was expected in December. **Ethel Botcher Cullinan** had forgotten about those mailboxes and how we lived for them. To find a letter made for an especially good day. Now we can’t delete emails fast enough. Times have certainly changed. Ethel has a new job and a somewhat new life. Every Sunday, she drives 3.5 hours to Greenville, S.C., to be the coach for grandson Patrick in fourth-grade virtual school. She is also raising her kids’ 14-month-old Aussiedoodle puppy, making sure dinner happens and generally overseeing the household. On Thursdays, Ethel commutes back to Macon, Ga., to see her dear husband. While the weekday tasks seemed relatively easy when she was in her 40s and 50s, by 8:30 she has not only had a cocktail or two but is exhausted. COVID makes strange times. Other than these midweek interludes, life is pretty dull. Time is a strange factor ... the weeks and days speed by, but she doesn’t really think she accomplishes much. She hopes everyone is staying healthy and weathering both the political and pandemic scenes well. “How did we, with all our hopes and dreams, allow this mess to happen?” **Wallis Lindburg Nicita** moved to the desert around the Palm Springs, Calif., area. It’s elemental and beau-



Priscilla Smalzel-Delas '67 and granddaughter Lisa.

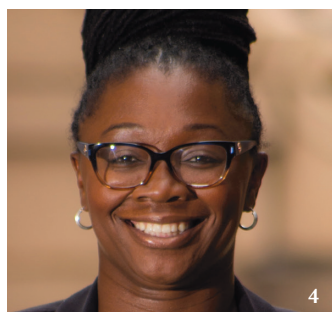
tiful. The dawn and dusk light is amazing, and each day brings a new discovery. The birdlife is extraordinary. Wally recently crossed paths with a roadrunner. They checked each other out as it raced by. Wally can see becoming a birder very easily. The skies at night are filled with stars. City life dulled them with urban glow. She is still writing and draws a lot of inspiration from nature. **Marjory Dressler** wrote after seeing the photo of the mailboxes she took for Koiné used in our recent email. In case you didn't realize it, that is Marjorie in the photo. Marjorie is still selling real estate in Miami and loving it. **Lynn Weichsel Hand** and her daughter and granddaughter are safe in Concord, N.H. She is thankful for their health and wellness in this very trying time. Granddaughter Mia is a junior at Concord High School and doing very well, even days when school was virtual. She played soccer for CHS on the varsity girls team. Lynn has been painting using water media as well as taking fun classes with other artists in New Hampshire. She has been very active with the Women's Caucus for Art, New Hampshire. She sends hugs to all of her classmates, hoping we will all be safe and healthy during this pandemic. **Luise (Weesie) Mayer Palace** has moved to downtown Portsmouth, N.H., after living in New York City for 16 years. **Ashley Hibbard** lives just outside of Phoenix in a retirement community that has taken great pains to limit COVID spread. After several months of lockdown, some clubs and activities are open again and she is managing to get to the gym for about half an hour each day. Ashley has remained COVID-free, only leaving the house for a weekly stint at a food bank and for food shopping. Meetings are conducted online for several clubs—who knew that learning Zoom was going to be a major accomplishment in 2020? A major upside to this is that “snowbirds” have been able to join them during the summer, telling how things are going in other parts of the country. **Kathryn Eberlein Klaber** got COVID-19 from her daughter, who caught it from a graduate student who returned from visiting family in China. Kathy had mild symptoms for several days and completely recovered, but her daughter was sick for over six months and still has lung and heart issues. Kathy and her husband live more simply during this stay-at-home time in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. She reports having fun using her pole lopper, hatchet, chain saw and sledge hammer to manage a rocky, wooded backyard. The Class of 1967 sends its condolences to **Christine Miller St. Jean** on the death of her husband, Paul, after a long illness.

68 *Correspondent: Mary Clarkeson Phillips, 36 The Crossway, Delmar, NY 12054, mphill2@nycap.rr.com*
A tough year—I hope all are well and keeping busy. **Jane Ranallo Goodman** is healthy in Charlottesville, Va., and welcomed a grand-

son last January. She spent two weeks in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in March but returned early due to the pandemic. She enjoys painting outdoors and in her sunny second-floor studio. **Andrea Hintlian Mendell** and family paid her a surprise visit. **Jane Hartwig Mandel** and some Harkness freshman-year pals had a Zoom reunion, arranged by **Fredricka (Ricki) Chapman McGlashan**. **Susan (Sue) Sharkey Hoffman** and Tom are healthy and safe. They enjoyed summer with two of their four kids nearby. Their youngest and family live three miles away; they've worked from home since March and had Sue and Tom's ninth grandchild, a girl, on Sept. 10. **Sally Schweitzer Sanders** and Jack don't feel too hampered by the virus, except for not seeing grandchildren in person. Video chats help but are no substitute for real hugs. They enjoy a daily walk and seeing neighbors out. One bright side: closer neighborhoods. They lost power for a week after Hurricane Isaias, and everyone watched out for each other. They look forward to being able to travel again. They're busy with local historical research, and Sally is involved with the Ridgefield Historical Society. **Donna Matthews** works full-time as a school psychologist but plans to retire soon. She hopes to then work part-time at a local college in the Mid-Hudson Valley. She spends summers at Lake George in the Adirondacks. Life is good; she feels blessed. **Judith (Judy) Irving** is shooting and editing *Cold Refuge*, a movie about San Francisco Bay swimming, another film like *Wild Parrots* that she hopes will resonate beyond the Bay Area. She and Mark Bittner are still on Telegraph Hill, taking care of two parrots from the wild flock who can't fly right, and looking forward to seeing friends in person. **Margaret (Peggy) Magid Elder** and her husband live in Philadelphia, and enjoyed being in the U.S. during the fall. Normally, Peggy is in Paris through October, often meeting her husband somewhere for a conference involving his work. Interestingly, they were in Wuhan, China, over Christmas 2019 for the launch of the Chinese translation of David's (editor) *Lever's Histopathology of the Skin*. Peggy had a “mysterious cough” while in Wuhan, which luckily disappeared as mysteriously as it appeared. Little did anyone know then what lay ahead. They traveled quite a bit before the current state of “shut in.” Peggy enjoys being home with her gardens and loves the autumn! She and David bike weekly, and she swims at nearby facilities. Peggy Zooms with friends and family from New Zealand to Boston. Contact her if you want to get in touch and even Zoom! **Lila Gault** sends sad news from **Susan Feigl O'Donnell** that Larry, her beloved husband of 42 years, died of cancer on Aug. 30 at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. A lawyer and entrepreneur, Larry always con-

sidered himself an honorary member of the Class of '68. **Georgia Urbano Raysman** and husband retired to Nantucket, Mass., where her latest project is *Monday Scoop*, a YouTube channel and local TV program for the over-55s (seriously ignored by YouTube, right?). *Monday Scoop* consists of interviews with various experts on health, style, finances and general well-being of people in an older demographic. Interviewees include Dr. Jeff Drazen, a pulmonologist and 19-year editor in chief of the New England Journal of Medicine; Pam Belluck, science reporter for the New York Times; theater producer Robert LuPone, founder and director of the Manhattan Class Company; and Jane Condon, a female comedian. **Wendy Spear Mayrose** passed away in South Carolina on Dec. 22, 2019, after a long battle with cancer. **Linda Dannenburg Sarle** writes that classmate **Priscilla Young** died on June 17 in Katonah, N.Y. Please keep your news coming; we love to know what's happening in the lives of our friends from CC.

69 *Correspondent: Judi Bamberg Mariggiò, 1070 Sugar Sands Bl. #384, Riviera Beach, FL 33404, jg-mariggiò@bellsouth.net* After sewing hundreds of masks last spring and summer, **Linda Abel Fosseen** then sewed pillowcases, bags and doll clothes for grandkids and friends, and worked on house and garden projects. She and John stream theater performances and watched all of the Sun Valley Music Festival orchestra performances online. “Most precious has been developing a relationship with my granddaughter (5), who lives 3,000 miles away, on Skype.” Started last spring to help Linda's daughter entertain her youngest, the thrice-weekly sessions have created a deep relationship. Linda is grateful to be an “in-person” grandma, even by iPad. She also feels healthier, with less time stress, more exercise, and a healthier diet. **Leslie Fenn** and partner Judy Hartling have avoided infection by being VERY careful, with a tiny friend/family pod and being meticulous about using science. Leslie is busy gardening, making masks for friends and family, and reading (audiobooks for gardening or woodworking). Judy manages their Little Free Library, which gets a lot of traffic because of a huge park next door. She's grateful to Carol Hermann Smoot '67, who launched an email stream of Lazrus alums from Leslie's freshman year. “These times have made virtual connections across thousands of miles simply casual.” In November, Leslie joined a virtual discussion about LGBTQIA+ concerns sponsored by the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement at Conn. “I am impressed with their work on campus. I encouraged them to make the LGBTQIA Center more visible to alumni (especially in the older classes) during Reunions.” **Mary Garlick St. George** was invited to ex-



A Message from the Alumni Association Board of Directors

The mission of the Connecticut College Alumni Association is to lead alumni in fostering strong connections with each other and Connecticut College as the College assumes its place at the forefront of liberal arts education. To carry out this mission, the Association's Board of Directors guides the efforts of alumni volunteers nationally, working with all members of the College community to support and enhance activities for alumni on and off campus. Please join us in welcoming the newest alumni volunteers to the Board of Directors, whose terms began in July 2020 and will continue through June 2023:

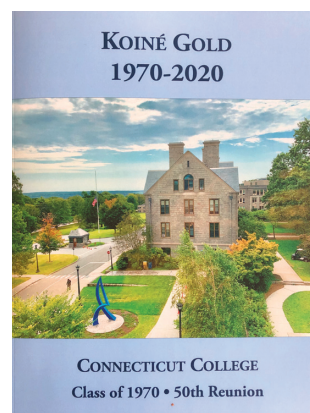
1. **Katrina Sanders '92**, Beverly, MA
2. **Margaret Davey '20**, Groton, Massachusetts
3. **Austin Jenkins '95**, Olympia, Washington
4. **Angela Bannerman Ankoma '97**, Providence, Rhode Island
5. **Yalidy Matos '09**, Philadelphia, PA
6. **Susan Mabrey Gaud '68 P'07**, Evanston, IL

To learn more about the College's Alumni Association Board of Directors, please visit <https://www.conncoll.edu/alumni/alumni-association/board-of-directors/>

hibit her mixed-media triptych, *Estuary 1*, an interpretation of a view from the Castelo de São Jorge in Lisbon, at the exhibition of the New English Art Club at the Mall Galleries, London, presented online pending the museum's reopening. At Blurb.com, she launched the sale of her book, *Watercolours from a Lockdown* (Portuguese title: *Aquarelas de um Confinamento*), with Portuguese texts that she has interpreted. Andrew and Rhona (Ronni) Marks Smulian closed apartments in Miami and NYC and live in Guilford, Conn. They are halfway between their boys and families in Boston and NYC. "Andrew and I met on a blind date in New Haven in 1968, so this is a homecoming." Nancy Oskow-Schoenbrod felt strongly connected to classmates after Reunion—"sharing memories, knowledge and new ideas, as well as support for the issues of the present, was very special"—and vowed to keep in touch, but the summer and winter were very busy and so time passed. She and Nancy Barry-Manor attended a concert at Caramoor (N.Y.), and she picnicked with Penelope (Penny) Goslin Baker and family at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. Nancy has also discovered an interest in photography. From your editor: This is the first time in ages that I have been under the allowed word count for Notes (though just barely). I look forward to a post-pandemic return to normal, with lots of news to share!

70^R Correspondent: Myrna Chandler Goldstein, mgoldst@massmed.org Our 50th reunion is scheduled for the first weekend of June 2021. From the CC Reunion website (www.conncoll.edu/reunion): *The health and safety of our alumni community is of the utmost importance to our institution. Due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office of Advancement will prepare for a number of potential scenarios. We will continue to work with class volunteers to plan this celebratory weekend, with the intention of returning to campus in June for an on-campus program where we can comfortably and safely gather.* Class president Gwendolyn (Gwen) Goffe says, "One way or another, we will celebrate together—physically, virtually or in combination. Whatever way, I look forward to being with everyone again. Meanwhile, please stay safe and well." Our reunion book, *Koiné Gold*, has been published. I received my copy, and it is spectacular. The *Koiné Gold* committee, led by Nancy Pierce Morgan, included Ann-Ping Sze Chee, Suzanne (Susie) Ferguson Fuller, Gwendolyn (Gwen) Goffe, Cynthia Howard Harvell, Barbara (Barb) Hermann and Madeline (Maddie) Hunter. According to Nancy, the committee "overcame all obstacles to create a book we know you will enjoy." She says this "all-class effort" will generate flashbacks and sound bites—"we've got those too! You'll find an illustrated timeline to ground you in the context of the times, a truly remarkable Class of '70 family tree, and articles by classmates, faculty and staff that link issues of the '60s with today, like marching for racial, environmental and political change." There are photos galore from past and present and divider pages showcasing the beauty of campus.

Gwen Goffe advises that you order a copy before Reunion. "So many inspiring stories. So many conversations yet to be had! My pride in our class is unbounded. Thanks for all the ways you make our class so remarkable. See you in June." I have one update: Randall (Randy) Robinson is a full-time clinical psychologist in Fresno, Calif. She would like to spend more time with her family, but increasing numbers of adults, children and families are seeking her services. Her family expanded



Class of 1970 Koiné Gold cover.

when Whitney married Jessica; Casey and Carlos (and their kids, Claire and Colton) are pushing for everyone to move to Tennessee. Randy's antidote to stress is training her Newfoundland dogs in water, draft and scent work. "With fond memories of Woodys' Sam (the first Newfie I'd ever met), who sat with me in my freshman dorm photo." Finally, it is important to contribute to our class gift, which will name the Academic Resource Center (ARC) in honor of our class. When fundraising is complete, the center will be called the Class of 1970 Academic Resource Center. Send your checks and pledges directly to Susan Fletcher Daniells '01, the Director of Leadership Gifts, Becker House, or visit www.conncoll.edu/giving and click on "Give Online Now," then "Search All Areas of Support." Scroll down the list to "Special Projects" and you will see "Class of 1970 Academic Resource Center."

71 ^R *Class Correspondents: Lisa McDonnell, 134 W Maple Street, Granville, OH 43023, mcdonnell@denison.edu, Lois Olcott Price, 933A Alto Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501, loprice@yahoo.com* The pandemic is changing the way we live our lives. **Jane Terry Giardino** writes, "Back in the old days, I enjoyed trips to Washington's Methow Valley to cross-country ski and the Baja Peninsula of Mexico to whale-watch, snorkel, kayak, camp and hike. Then Washington was shut down. My May trip to Peru and Ecuador was canceled. I practice physical distancing and wear a mask. I continue to hike, kayak and camp with small groups of friends. I've read 100+ books. I miss visits with my family. But we talk, Zoom, FaceTime regularly. I'm grateful for so much: our election results, technology ... a Zoom cocktail party with classmates. We will persevere!" **Patricia (Pat) Morin Foster** writes, "Like what I'm sure is true for everyone, this has been more a year of what we didn't do rather than what we did. We didn't do a planned spring trip to revisit London and Paris; we didn't do our annual pilgrimage to Bar Harbor, Maine, to hike the trails in Acadia National Park; we didn't do our visits to NYC to see our son; we didn't see our West Coast stepson. What we did do was walk the beaches of Gloucester and the forest trails of Cape Ann; reread lots of favorite books because the public library was closed; cook too many dinners at home. But mainly we gratefully stayed healthy. Hope that is also true for CC classmates." **Jennifer Maduro** writes that she has "not much out-of-he-COVID-19-ordinary to report from the Montreal red zone. Have not gone anywhere except for a birthday spa treatment in September, and other than my volunteer anti-garbage campaign in nearby parks and squares and my weekly improv/theatre class on Zoom, and entertaining me, myself and I, not much to report. Am looking forward to my neighboring country without Trump in the



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WH. Newsworthy, maybe not, but thanks to social distancing and outfit-matching masks, grateful to have quite a bit of edge and kick-ass attitude @71 and still dancing like there is nobody watching, as is the case." **Susan Katz** writes, "Like everyone, I have found 2020 to be extra-challenging on all fronts. What has been my lifesaver is my granddaughter Roma Pearl Weinberg Marcellis, born Sept. 28, 2019. Her love of life and joyful spirit have kept me hopeful and optimistic about our future. I'm still working full-time as a professor of international and multicultural education at the U. of San Francisco, where in March we had to take our classes online. I won't describe all the faux pas I made, all the times I froze on Zoom, etc. Let's just say I won't retire until I can have at least one semester of in-person teaching again—whenever that might be." **Louisa (Weezie) Hammond Garrison** reports, "We quarantined at our Cape Cod home beginning in March and decided it was time to sell our Boston condo. We bought a place in Spring Island, S.C., a community we have come to love for its commitment to preservation of land and multiple volunteer opportunities and activities we can both enjoy. We are thankful that our family has stayed safe and healthy during these challeng-



Jennifer Maduro '71 in an "outfit-matching mask, grateful to have quite a bit of edge and kick-ass attitude @71."

ing times." **Andrew (Drew) Ketterer** writes, "I live in central Maine near Colby College. I opened a law firm in a small rural town in 1979. I took a leave of absence from the firm and served two terms in the Maine House of Representatives and then three more terms as Maine's elected attorney general. I served as a ten-year trustee of the College from 1997–2007 and now am a trustee emeritus. In 2014 my son, Andrew, joined the law firm as a partner, and the firm is known as Ketterer and Ketterer. My son manages the Florida office. I have one grandson, age 4. I look forward to more-frequent visits with my son and grandson once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. My recreational activities include snow skiing, waterskiing and motorcycling. I stay in touch with Elaine Frey Hester '70 and Ted Chapin '72. I look forward to attending our 50th class reunion in the spring." **Susan (Sue) Nelson Brewster** writes, "I just had my knee replaced and am home and online. Glenn and I have moved from Weston to Concord, Mass., after 41 years. No more death-defying ladders to climb up and clean the gutters, balky snowblowers, etc., for us. I am still able to garden in my community garden plot, thank goodness—I need my bit of dirt to plant each year! We traveled a lot pre-COVID, and will again, but for now we are exploring bike trails around Concord, staying close to home. (No biking for me for a while, of course)." **Linda Simsarian** writes, "I am still in Boca Raton, Fla., after 35 years. My children both live in New York City. I divorced back in 2004. I have been teaching French and more recently ESOL as both a full-time and part-time teacher at both the middle and secondary levels. I LOVE to teach! For the past seven years I have been working at a language school giving private lessons in French and ESL. Obviously, this pandemic has put a halt to these private lessons. I miss my students but keep in phone contact.

For those new to this country, I feel that I am more than an English teacher; I also help pave the way for their transition to American life, which is so fulfilling. My big excitement at the moment is working on our reunion. I am thrilled to be working with **Susan (Susie) Chadwick Pokress** as co-chairs of the Hospitality Suite. Watch out, ladies, this will be full of surprises and certainly lots of fun!! I am so looking forward to getting reacquainted with my classmates.” **Lucy Van Voorhees** has “had a wild and crazy year. My partners sold out to a regional hospital on Jan. 1, 2019, and I went out on my own (I love working and would be bored without my folks). Hired my two best employees of the last 20 years and we share an office with a good friend who has a concierge family practice. I’m LOVING it! Never been my own boss. Most of my patients have migrated from the old practice, which is in chaos. We can take care of patients the way we want to without the dictates of corporate medicine. COVID-19 has been bad but not too bad out here on the shore. Hope to be in New London for Reunion in June.” **Gloria McLean-Hiratsuka** relates that “One year ago, partner sculptor Ken Hiratsuka and I were in Tokyo producing and performing in a global art event against nuclear proliferation at the Daigo Fukuryu Maru (Lucky Dragon Five) Museum. The Tokyo piece can be seen at www.artists4peace.org. This year, ‘dancing in the time of COVID’ continues online as I am teaching classes through Zoom and all are welcome! The schedule is posted at www.gloriamcleandance.com. Ken and I are building a new studio on our land in Andes, N.Y. I stay in contact with Susan (Ara) Fitzgerald ’69, working together for the American Dance Guild, of which I am still the president. I’m hoping to reunite with classmates at the reunion.” **Barbara Chasnoff** writes, “To the Class of ’71, I haven’t written in a long, long time, but when Lisa contacted me for a Class Note, the time seemed to be right. I have thought so much about our college years since this summer. I don’t know about you, but starting in the spring of ’68 through the next several years I felt at times as if our country was coming apart. I haven’t felt that way again until this summer. This really brought me back to my time at Conn College. I realized in a deep way what a unique period of our country’s history we went through together. So I’m thinking of all you I knew and wishing you well. I am doing well, retired, happily married for 38 years in Chicago, employed 30+, son and daughter in D.C. I realize how fortunate I am and so want our country to live up to its potential to provide opportunities for all its people.” **Nancy Filbin** wants to help us get through the pandemic: “We could all use a little diversion right now, right? Your 50th Reunion Parade Committee wants you to be thinking about your heroes. In keeping with our reunion theme of “Turbulent Times: Then and Now,” who would you

choose to represent you? Janis Joplin, Gloria Steinem, Angela Davis ... RBG, Michelle Obama, AOC? Hopefully we can bring our costumes to campus, but should we be forced to parade from our living rooms, we can still have a lot of fun and show everyone our creativity and spirit. Also be thinking of the music that goes along with your hero so we can be working on a playlist. Have fun with this and be safe!” And finally, our class president, **An-Ming Sze Truxes**, offers a reminiscence to inspire us: **50th Reunion June 3--6, 2021. We count on seeing you!** Fifty years ago (from *Satyagraha*, Feb. 23, 1971): “U.S. Representative Shirley Chisholm delivered a fiery electrifying speech to a near capacity house in Palmer Auditorium on Thursday night, February 18. The title of her address was ‘Women in Politics: Why Not?’ but she also took the time to talk about questions of racism, poverty, and war.” Wouldn’t it be wonderful if she had known that 50 years later Kamala Harris would be the vice president of the United States?

73 *Correspondent: Hester Kinnicutt Jacobs, PO Box 277, Melstone, MT 59054, (406)358-2279, djacobs@mid-rivers.com* **Marjorie (Margie) Bussmann Gillis** was sorry to miss our Zoom gathering. She hopes we can celebrate 50 years in 2023. She sees **Emily Madoff** and talks with **Jay Levin**. Margie works full-time as president of Literacy How and as a research affiliate at Yale’s Haskins Labs, where her team translates the research on reading acquisition for Connecticut teachers. COVID-19 has made her work even more important, albeit more challenging, but she is committed to addressing the ever-widening achievement gap by providing substantive professional development for teachers. **Mary Maloney** stepped down as the chair of dermatology at UMass at the end of the year.



Barbara Ozarkiw Egnor '73 and husband Ron in Keukenhof Gardens, Amsterdam, during the 2019 Tulip Festival.

COVID-19 made it difficult to keep their staff safe while providing care. She and husband John have three children (pediatrician, lawyer and CPA) and three grandchildren (second grade, first grade and a 4-year-old). She thinks it may be time to spend more time swinging and less time in surgery. **Susan Weiss Moritz** writes: “One of the strangest things about 2020 is how little life changed.” She and husband Rudy live in rural northeastern Oklahoma, on Grand Lake. They enjoy the lakefront, woods, rolling hills and pastures, and their acres of gardens and diverse menagerie. They are busy with gardening, DIY home improvement projects and visiting family across the country. They bought a house in Cornelius, N.C., on Lake Norman, to be more involved with their son and two beautiful granddaughters. She and Rudy visited with **Linda Chobot Chikowski** and her husband, Brian, last year. **Lynne Griffiths Allen** and husband Richard split their time between NYC and Bluffton, S.C. (near Hilton Head), but have been in South Carolina full-time since October 2019 due to COVID-19. The year in politics consumed her. With a large group of liberals and progressives that they organized in 2017, Lynne was active registering voters, sending postcards, phone banking, canvassing door-to-door, and putting campaign signs along the highway. They hosted Jill Biden in their home in late December before working hard in the South Carolina primary. Now she just wants to watch British TV shows and relax! **David (Dave) Clark** encourages classmates to review the latest Conversations newsletter from Becker House. He hopes to see a large turnout for our 50th reunion in 2023. He did two weeks of solo work projects at Camp O-AT-KA in Sebago, Maine, in October. **Miriam (Mimsi) Holmgren McCrea** is retired, living in Miami with husband Jim in the same condo complex as daughter Heather and Heather’s husband, Jeff, most of the year. In September 2019, she became a grandma and nanny of adorable twin girls. Heather is a pediatric neurosurgeon, going to the hospital daily. Mimsi and Jim have been in lockdown in their apartment overlooking Biscayne Bay, reading and making hot lunches for the twins. Miami is a COVID hot spot since many of its residents are not wearing masks or social distancing. Mimsi says, “Everyone please wear a mask!” As for me, life on our ranch has not changed much; I am blessed to live in remote rural Montana. I see my daughter’s family and two wonderful grandchildren. My husband and I visited them in Lolo, Mont., for a wonderful Thanksgiving. My son and family (including three grandchildren) enjoy a freer life in New Zealand. I am grateful we spent the winter with them two years ago. Some good things from 2020: I have connected or reconnected with family and friends, and cooking is a passion, as I attempt new cuisines and baking challenges. Thanks for your news.

Weddings



David A. Rubin '85 and Jamie O'Neill at their wedding ceremony in front of Philadelphia's City Hall.



Sarah Davis '06 married Jonas Lieponis at the New Haven Lawn Club on Oct. 24, 2020.



Emily Roos Southard '06 married William Charles Goodin in Santa Teresa, Costa Rica, on Feb. 1, 2020. Camels present were: David Lloyd '04, Tahereh Coq '07, Asa Shiverick '06 and Amy Horowitz '06.

Births



Arthur Speight Drummond was born June 7, 2020, to Andy Drummond '10 and Michelle Lin Drummond '11.



Leland McKenna '02 and Tori McKenna (Director of Alumni and Parent Engagement) welcomed a baby girl on March 18, 2020, weighing in at 8 pounds, 8 ounces.



Mimi Holmgren McCrea '73 with her grandbabies.



Louise Moorrees Berglund '72 received this shirt for her daughter in 1984 from Susan Emery Quinby '72. All three of her grandchildren have worn it. Nathaniel is the youngest to do so!



Kathryn Winder '08 and Andrew White '08 welcomed their son, Benjamin Winder-White, on May 29, 2020. They currently live in Wellfleet, MA.

76 ^R *Correspondents: Kenneth Abel, 334 West 19th St., Apt. 2-B, New York, NY 10011, kenn616@aol.com; Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath, PO Box 3962, Greenwood Village, CO 80155-3962, shmilbrath@gmail.com* **Nancy Bellantoni's** book, *The Battalion Artist*, published by the Hoover Institution in 2019, relates her father's WWII experiences in the Pacific with the U.S. Navy Seabees. It is illustrated in full color with his work as a young artist. Their book tour was cut short by COVID-19 and so was turned into a remarkable virtual exhibition. Find the book at www.hoover.org/research/battalion-artist and the exhibition at <https://histories.hoover.org/battalion-artist>. Nancy still lives on a wharf in downtown Boston with husband Peter. They have a design business, Movidea, and Nancy teaches yoga virtually for MIT Community Wellness. **Martin Berman** has lived in Hong Kong for more than 30 years and has been married to wife Else since 1982. They have three children and three grandchildren. Martin established Micro-Pak in 1998. **Linda Bordona-ro Dwyer** reports Jim retired as director of capital planning for the Port of Baltimore on April 1. He kayaked and hiked with Alaskan friends to celebrate. Fortunately, Linda visited oldest daughter Christina and her family last February, before the threat of COVID-19 was understood. Christina teaches geology at a northern California community college; she has a PhD in planetary science from U. of California Santa Cruz. Middle daughter Maureen teleworks in IT support for an import-export shipping company. Youngest daughter Diane earned her master's degree in narrative environments from Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London, in July 2019. Linda and Jim were glad to attend her degree ceremony and spend time with her. **Stuart Cohen** retired for the second time; this time from the part-time practice of law he took up after he retired as chief clerk of the New York Court of Appeals in 2020. He reconnected with **Jason Frank**; they Zoom regularly. Stuart has resumed playing piano after a 25-year hiatus, studies Spanish in anticipation of post-pandemic travel, and feeds his addiction to reading. He hopes everyone is staying healthy and safe. During the pandemic both **David DiPrete** and **John Emerman** were busy with woodworking projects. As friends might guess, John's work is more sophisticated, e.g., hand tools and fine furniture, while David's efforts are more of the 2x4s-and-plywood shed-building variety. John's restaurant thrives, and David's schoolteaching is fun and satisfying. Sadly, playing foosball together is on hold. **Kevin Durkin** and Kelly live on a farm in an intentional community outside Waco, Tex., that they have been with for 42 years. They spend part of the year with their oldest daughter and her family in Idaho, and have 15 grandchildren among their four daughters and three sons. Kevin continues to dismantle

historic buildings (450+ to date), mainly from the Northeast, and repurpose them around the U.S. and in other countries. This past year he has been filming a new TV show, *Restoration Road*, featuring work for the new Magnolia/Discovery network to air in March. One TV project, a 1760 Cape house, took him to Connecticut, where he visited with Ric and Fawn Ricci. He is rebuilding that house outside Moscow, Idaho. Kevin says retirement is not on the horizon! **Wendy Golart Wachter** Zooms yoga, Reiki, tai chi qigong, meditation, and craft and other circles. She walks weekly with Katherine Wright '78 and Katherine's Labrador, sometimes at the CC Arboretum. She stays connected with **Barbara (Barb) Anderson Mongold** and **Eleanor (Lea) Seeley Trimble** and other classmates. **Nancy Hershatter** agrees it has been one difficult year. She leads weekly Zoom music sessions for children on the autism spectrum, through LeapSmart, and other music classes for grandparents and grandchildren together—very gratifying as families separated by miles and the pandemic connect and make music together. Nancy hopes for an in-person reunion in June. In 2018, **Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath** set a goal to visit all 41 Colorado state parks; mission accomplished in October. It was a wonderful way to see the state and appreciate the excellent wildlife, land and water management done by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. She will celebrate with a state parks license plate. Colorado will add a 42nd park in 2021, so the mission continues. The pandemic experience has been a mixed bag for **Bernard McMullen**. Many of his traditional pursuits—choral singing, restaurant promotion events, civic events—were (and remain) suspended. He continues consulting work. Other diversions include home improvement projects, like a greenhouse he plans to construct from repurposed windows and doors. "Here's hoping a resolution of this national (and global) nightmare is wildly successful, so we can get together for our 45th reunion in June!" Rumor has it we will be joined by the Class of '75, whose reunion was canceled last June. We welcome them!

77 *Correspondent: Stuart Sadick, stuart.sadick@gmail.com* I am sorry to share that **Mimi Lasker Ginott** died on Dec. 8. I know many will share my sentiment about Mimi. She was a dear and beloved friend to so many of us, a lively and engaging woman, a proud mother, a devoted daughter. She was a highlight of so many of our reunions, and she will be deeply missed. **Stephen (Steve) Pitts** "sort of retired" after being laid off at the start of COVID-19. No gold watch or anything, but he's around the house a lot. He walks and bikes, has read some wonderful books, does some landscaping for a friend, talks with his daughter in Brooklyn, and hangs out with partner Barbara Reeder, whose mother at-



Steve Pitts '77 with partner Barbara Reeder.

tended CC in the 1940s! **Emily Odza** writes, "The fall was an exercise in patience and practicing gratitude. As a public librarian, many colleagues were redeployed as disaster service workers throughout spring and summer. But I was on medical leave May to August, healing from open-heart surgery, which went well! I started delivering curbside service in September at a branch in a quiet neighborhood. The dry weather in Oakland, Calif., has helped (but spells future disaster for this fire-plagued state), as we set up tables outside (except the smoke-filled days). Like many, I feel my career has been severed, like I've been separated from my favorite people, places and routines. But I get feedback from library lovers grateful we are operating at all and glimpses into their lives as parents, retirees, book and movie addicts, intellectual explorers, gardeners, etc. COVID-19 has eliminated travel to visit friends and relatives, and although I am grateful to have escaped the disease thus far, makes life seem like living in a box."

78 *Correspondents: Susan Greenberg Gold, sgold51@yahoo.com and Laurie Heiss, laurieheiss@gmail.com* Presenting the Class of '78's first-ever Zoom-based report! Who said we're old? It was a DELIGHTFUL gathering. In Flushing, Mich., **Anne McConnell Naber** retired from the family business as CPA and takes online courses (Spanish) while her husband consults in the PLC world (computers controlling machines). **Ellen Ramsbottom Jarrett** joined from Marblehead, Mass.; she still co-owns her Cambridge bookstore. She's in touch with Sandra Erbafina McPherson '79 and Christine (Tina) Gould Reardon '79. **Georgette Dionne** moved back to her home state of Maine from Buffalo, N.Y. She lives in Brunswick and is the coordinator of Children and Adult Ministries for the Diocese of Portland. She's in touch with **Elizabeth Ashforth Bacon** (Sutton, Mass.), **Alison MacMillan** (Newcastle, Maine) and Ellen Sherck Walsh '80. **Marjorie (Marge) Nelson Macintyre** is happy they traded Connecticut for Vermont after she retired early from IBM and her husband closed his architecture business. Marge works for Tauck tours—slow now but preparing for a return to travel. They traveled to Antarctica: "Awesome trip, best ever."

Son Greg is in Memphis, Tenn. Marge hears from **Jean Von Klemperer Makris** and her husband, Phil Makris '79. **Peter Rustin**, a civil defense litigator in L.A. since '96, practices from home in Sherman Oaks, Calif. He joked, "Judges are less scary ruling from their kitchen tables on Zoom." Peter enjoyed three weeks in Italy in 2019 with his girlfriend. Peter's niece went to CC. He's in touch with **William (Bill) Lattanzi** (Cambridge, Mass.), who was doing cool theater stuff related to Infinite Jest, and he saw **Rex Wilder** in Venice, Calif., who was creating poetry. **Peter Hallarman** and **Prudence (Rindy) Regan Hallarman** joined us from Emerald Hills, Calif. (quarantined in their daughter's home with grandkids), but they still live in Chicago. Another daughter is in L.A. They keep up with **Jean Makris** and husband Phil Makris '79, **Judith (Judy) Rottenberg** (near Boston), **Leslee Weiss** (near Hartford, Conn.), and Peter Wallens '77 and Laurie Pope Gwein '77. Peter is happy he retired from medicine six months before COVID-19 arrived. Rindy spent time with her family in Rhode Island, where four generations of "Prudences" gathered; their lineage traces back to the Mayflower! **Robin Schwartz Leitner** joined from Morristown, N.J.; they are building a log cabin in Rangeley, Maine, on a lake near the White Mountains. They have four kids; one grandchild (age 2) lives nearby. Robin is assistant director of Women's Philanthropy for the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest New Jersey and recently joined a CC alumni Zoom gathering of professional fundraisers. She joined a book group in Rangeley to meet new neighbors (virtually) and is the "baby" of the group. She is in touch with **Laurie Norton Moffatt**, **Caroline Boyce** and **Betsy Hamburger-Cohen**. **Robin Lipson Fishman** also has a second home in Maine (Kennebunk). She lives in Lexington, Mass., and works for Governor Baker as the deputy secretary of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, even as a lifelong Dem: "He's that good." Married to Matt for 37 years, daughter Sarah is a CC grad and their son is in D.C. in the DOD. They keep track of **Peter Bellotti** (still practicing law), **Donald (Don) Capelin** (daughter is also a CC alum) and **Betsy Hamburger-Cohen** (who has the same Pilates instructor!). **Adele Gravitz**, in Silver Spring, Md., is a landscape architect; she volunteered for the Biden campaign in Pennsylvania (so did **Laurie Heiss**, after fleeing from NYC in March). Adele keeps in touch with botany professor extraordinaire Sally Taylor! **Susan (Sue) Greenberg Gold**, executive director of the Brooklyn Heights Synagogue, looks forward to retiring in June 2021 and to having more flexibility for travel, study and personal interests, once the vaccine is available for all. Her two professional musician sons remain creative and well during this dry "public arts" time. **Elizabeth Ashforth Bacon** wrote that the Worcester, Mass., com-

munity raised money to provide solutions for the neediest during the pandemic. Their United Way/Community Fund funded a grant for new civic structures providing all people equal access to supportive resources. The Clemente Course in the Humanities, where Elizabeth is the coordinator, went online, providing computers and internet access, and graduated a full class. Her organization would like to explore how higher education could be free and open to all. **Carolyn Frzop** is dealing with lymphatic cancer, along with the great team at Yale Smilow, and is optimistic she's on the road to a full recovery. Ever-crazy-competitive, she is planning her next Ironman.

81 **R** Correspondent: Brooke Perry Pardue, bpardue@gmail.com **Peter (Spice) Simpson** retired last June after teaching high school Spanish for 18.5 years. He had been mulling the idea of the final clap of erasers for a while; the coronavirus made the difficult decision a little easier. However, the global pandemic hasn't curbed retirement adventure plans. He regularly travels from the dreamy calm of tranquil Bedroom through the dizzying labyrinth of Stairway to experience the perilous but life-sustaining Kitchen. From the Isle of Kitchen, his travels often take him through the perennially entertaining Family Room, home of charged gases known as plasma, and down the narrow passage of Hallway to emerge in the comfort and quietude of Living Room. He has also journeyed to remote corners of rugged Garage, wandered the exciting wilds of Deck and even ventured into the dark heart of seldom-visited Basement. He has heard of mysterious and distant regions known as Guest Rooms and is eager to explore. "Best wishes to everyone; hope we can gather for our 40th!" **Susan (Suz) Cole Ross** authored *Sliding Home: Two Teachers Head for the Mountains to Educate Our Kids for a Year*, available at BN.com. It chronicles Suz's thoughts as she and Jeff observed, coached and taught their preteen sons—one with dyslexia, who leapt four grade levels in reading that year. Parents struggling to find comfort and encouragement while teaching their kids at home during the pandemic will find solace in a learning specialist's insights into child development and education. She is delighted that both her children bought new homes, bringing grandson Cole back to the East Coast. **Nancy Smith Klos** is extremely active as an artist, photographer and arts educator. She wrote a piece for Outdoor Painter: www.outdoorpainter.com/plein-air-painting-healing-power-mother-nature.

82 Correspondent: Liza Kraft, liza.kraft@gmail.com **Mark E. Dannenberg** passed away on Aug. 2 at age 60 due to complications from pancreatic cancer. He grew up in Huntington, N.Y., but lived most of his life in Williston Park, where

he raised his three precious children, Kaitlin, Molly and Jacob (Jake). He was an environmental engineer for the EPA, specializing in the remediation of Superfund sites on Long Island and in Westchester County. As a teenager Mark developed a passion for the Grateful Dead. He was a lifelong golfer and loved all outdoor activities. He'll be remembered as a prolific collector of personal friendships, a gregarious and entertaining communicator with an infectious sense of humor and an uncanny ability to recite dialogue from obscure movies, and a great and devoted father.



Mark Dannenberg '82

83 Correspondent: Claudia Gould Tielking, 6533 Mulroy Street, McLean VA 22101, charlesbudworth@gmail.com **Elizabeth (Betsy) Gorvine Houde** has been director of community partnerships for Southern New Hampshire Health for two years, responsible for creating the hospital's first philanthropic arm, the Legacy Trust. She lives in Nashua, N.H., with husband Peter. She's been an active member of Nashua West Rotary for 23 years and serves on multiple community boards. Betsy enjoys time with daughter Jane Starke Freund and grandson Luca. **Christine Marshall Roberts** majored in dance and is grateful for her 35-year dance career. For the past 20 years she has grown her company, Nurturing Pathways, Inc., which fosters early-childhood development with creative dance. "It's been a fulfilling journey. Thank you, Conn!" **Judith Krigman** is a research associate and lab manager at Ohio State U. in a mitochondrial and aging lab and has done some writing, with a few publications under her belt. She is painting again, using a digital tablet she got for her birthday. "God Bless the undo icon!" Both her boys are doing well. Older son Martin was married last year, returned from Kuwait with commendations and is applying for a commission as an officer. Younger son Samuel, who works QC at Rubex, bought a home. Judith tries to stay active and safe during these crazy times. She is happy to have Facebook to see what her former CC colleagues are up to.

85 **R** On Aug. 20, 2020, twenty-seven years after meeting James (Jamie) O'Neill as an unexpected guest at his New Year's Eve dinner, **David A. Rubin** got hitched in a ceremony at Philadelphia's City Hall. The couple were honored to be married surrounded by family. Following their vows, everyone walked over to LOVE Park for cupcakes and champagne. A less modest celebration will follow post-COVID! **Sue Brandes Hilger** and her family went to Chicago in Oc-

tober to visit universities for her daughter, a high school senior. They met **Sharon Ephraim** for lunch in Evanston and enjoyed catching up. Sharon shared her experience at U. of Chicago as a grad student and living in the area. Reconnecting was terrific, especially since Reunion plans have been delayed. Sharon also connected the Hilgers with a Northwestern student, a friend's daughter, who gave them a personal tour of the campus and her perspective attending that university, which they greatly appreciated. After retiring from a 34-year career as a CIA operations officer, **Robert Montgomery** authored the book *Seconds to Live or Die, Life-Saving Lessons from a Former CIA Officer*. Its a useful compendium on self-protection and covers topics including: handling fear; predatory behavior and violence against women; home defense; situational awareness; date rape prevention; firearms; blades and improvised weapons; and in the worst case, defending yourself with only your hands. "The recruiter came to campus when I was a senior, in 1985, and I thank Conn for the fascinating, and sometimes dangerous, career that ensued. Now as a retired man of leisure, I teach the subjects outlined in the book."

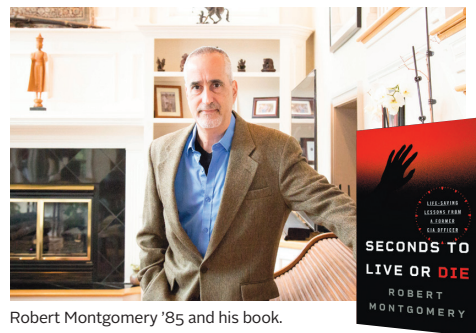
87 *Correspondent: Jenifer Kahn Bakka-la, 51 Wesson Terrace, Northborough, MA 01532, (508) 523-8930, JKB-Blue@gmail.com* **Joyce Gerber** is the creator and host of *The Canna Mom Show*, a podcast about women in the emerging cannabis industry. Joyce would love support from other CC alumni (www.thecannamomshow.com). **Michelle Grosser Kaufman** helps support Joyce's podcast through her business, Blue Monkey Promotions (www.bluemonkeypomos.com), a certified Women Business Enterprise, selling branded apparel and promotional products. **Helen Murdoch** works in the Santa Barbara Unified School District. She is a social studies coach, tech integration specialist and the negotiations chair for the teachers' union. Her most satisfying work has been with the ethnic studies cadres and a #DisruptHistory group she formed, working to overcome systemic racism and rewrite the social studies curriculum to include all stories, and to better serve marginalized students. Helen is disappointed that her trip to visit East Coast Camels last spring was canceled and hopes to revive it soon. If anyone is ever in the Santa Barbara area, let her know! **John (Sam) Nevin** has been happily married to Joan Dalsheim Nevin (Franklin & Marshall '85) since 1993. He has lived in Westport, Conn., since 1996; he moved his business, Ayrshire Capital Management, to Westport in 2011, providing a comfortable commute! Sam and Joan's eldest daughter, Lucy, lives in D.C. and is a professional ballet dancer with the Washington Ballet. She is working part-time toward an undergraduate degree at Georgetown. Middle daughter Caroline is a junior at



Sue Brandes Hilger '85 and Sharon Ephraim '85 had a chance to catch up over lunch in Evanston, IL.

Elon and a sorority sister of **Clement (Clean) Butt's** daughter, Lily (Sam's goddaughter). **Mark Sutton's** daughter, Anna, is also a junior at Elon. **Scott Kaplan's** daughter graduated from Elon last year and was in the same sorority. **Pamela (Pammy) Weiner Lacey** also had a child at Elon. "I think it is Conn College South," Sam writes. His youngest daughter, Abigail, is a sophomore at Staples High School in Westport and enjoys competitive gymnastics. Sam catches up with **Mark Sutton, Scott Kaplan, Edward (Ted) Lovejoy** and **Brad Mills** occasionally. "I miss **Thomas (Tommy) Reiling** and remember him often as one of the kindest people I've known. Those I haven't mentioned: I think of you often—we'll have a great time next time we're together." **Catherine Irwin** lives in Melbourne, Australia, and works for the state of Victoria as a senior health risk adviser. She planned to spend Christmas 2020 on the beach, playing volleyball on Christmas Day.

89 *Correspondent: Tamsen Bales Sharpless, camel89news@gmail.com* How are you holding up and coping in these challenging times? To connect on Facebook, email me or request via Facebook to join the private group "Connecticut College Class of 1989." The CEO of Magic Wheelchair recognized students of Christopher (Mookie) Cook '90 (married to **Sarah Walsh Cook**) for making an incredible Star Wars-themed Halloween costume to fit the wheelchair of an 11-year-old boy who had suffered a stroke a few years before. **Stephanie Muller Vander-slice** and husband John have been teaching creative writing classes online from home in central Arkansas since March. Son Jackson works at home as a software analyst for Fidelity National Information Services, and Wilson is a junior cello performance major at Eastman School of Music, also mostly online. Stephanie is grateful they can all work from home. She enjoys a nearly weekly Friday-night Zoom call with **Michelle Heidenrich Barnes, Sarah Monsma-Billings, Hannah Treitel Cosdon, Caren Fishman** and **Elisabeth Lavin-Peter** (in Singapore!), organized by Sarah—an absolute lifeline in these times. Stephanie is working on her second novel; her first, *The Last Son*, is due from Regal House Publishing in 2022.



Robert Montgomery '85 and his book.

Amy Darwin and husband Everett are settling into their "new" very old farmhouse in Eureka, Calif. There is a lot to do, including updating some really scary wiring! They moved to the coast after losing nearly everything in 2018's Camp Fire. Amy is an associate medical director for primary care and enjoys her work as a family physician, although telemedicine is not how she wants to practice. Her most direct patient contact happens when she is geared up doing COVID-19 testing in their parking lot. **Elizabeth (Liz) May Bankson** has lived in North Carolina for 13 years; she teaches middle-school Spanish, putting that CC Hispanic studies major to work! Her 19-year-old son is a sophomore at UNC Chapel Hill—great to have him near home during these strange times. Her 14-year-old is a freshman in high school, attending from the playroom, much to his displeasure. Liz and her husband are grateful they've stayed healthy so far. "Classmates, I miss you, I wish you well, don't come see me soon and I won't go see you, either! Until the vaccine. Peace out!" **James (Jamie) Worrell** has three kids in college this year (Colgate, PC, Tufts)—first year empty-nesting and he's enjoying it! **Alexandra (Alix) Davis Cummin** Zooms with **Chesca Sheldon Mayser, Deborah (Deb) Dorman Hay, Helen Dewey, Tappan Heher, Paige Margules Tobin, Mariana Poutasse** and **Elizabeth Kraft Jones**. She visited Paige but forgot to take a picture! Alix works with SquashSmarts as senior academic director and director of college and career support, virtually supporting students through the college process, and alumni on their campuses or in job searches. The pandemic has made clear the enormous inequalities within suburban schools and urban schools, making their mission even more necessary now. Her youngest, Nate, is at home with online college at Full Sail University. Her oldest, Hunter, works at JP Morgan (making more than his mom!). Her parents are well, but she has only seen them three times since March. "Stay well and safe!"

92 Yankwitt LLP, an elite trial and litigation law firm based in White Plains, N.Y., celebrated its 11th anniversary on July 8, 2020. The firm, which started with one attorney, now features one of the largest litigation teams in Westchester



Christina Noe Martin '98 with her children visiting the camel at the Roger Williams Zoo in Rhode Island.

County. "I started Yankwitt LLP at my kitchen table," shared **Russell Yankwitt**, founder and managing partner of the firm, "and today I am thrilled to say that we have a team of 17 attorneys and staff in two office locations—White Plains, N.Y., just steps away from the federal and state courthouses, and Atlantic City, N.J. I have built something of which I am extremely proud, which I could not have done without my dedicated team, our clients, former colleagues, adversaries and the judiciary, and of course, my supportive family."

00 *Correspondent: Kate Stephenson McDonald, kste78@hotmail.com* **Darlene Gallant Wynne** felt lucky to have an amazing family visit with **Jessica Perrill** in Denver Colo., in August 2019, including checking off a bucket-list item: a show at Red Rocks. She's also grateful for her promotion to director of planning and development in Beverly, Mass. "It's felt at times like being sprayed in the face with a fire hose, but I'm honored to serve my community and grow in the field I discovered at Conn." **Larysa Gumowskyj Kautz** is president and CEO of Melwood, a \$112M AbilityOne nonprofit with more than 1,600 employees working across five campuses and 60+ federal contract sites in the greater D.C. area. Larysa has a JD from Yale and an LLM from Georgetown and has practiced law with a focus on domestic and international nonprofit organizations. As the mother of a child on the autism spectrum, she is passionate about Melwood's mission of inclusion. She was previously Melwood's general counsel, chief of staff, and interim president and CEO. Larysa serves on numerous commissions and boards, including the Virginia State Rehabilitation Council and the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, and consulted for President Obama's Office of White House Counsel and Virginia Governor Northam's transition team. She was named one of the 2017 Leading Women in Maryland by The Daily Record, received the 2019 In-House Innovator Award from the Association of Corporate Counsel and is an alumna of the Arlington Leadership Center for Excellence.

02 **Leland McKenna** and **Tori McKenna** (Director of Alumni and Parent Engagement) welcomed a baby girl on March 18, 2020, weighing in at 8 pounds, 8 ounces. Welcome to the world, Callan Pearl McKenna, and congratulations to the McKenna family!

06 *Correspondent: Julia Jacobson, julia.jacobson@gmail.com* **Kathryn (Katie) Roy** is general counsel for TSNE MissionWorks, in Boston. **John (Michael) Conti** and his partner, **Felicia Chen Conti**, eloped on Oct. 10. In November, **Zach Manditch-Protas**, **Craig Rowin**, **Alex James '03**, **Daniel (Dan) Cayer '04**, **Rory Panagotopoulos**, **Alexander (Alex) Waxman '04**, **Richard (Rich) Kappler '04**, **Benjamin (Ben) Johnson '04** and **Joseph Sayre '04** got together via Zoom. While they were "social distancing," the emphasis was definitely on "social." Much of the conversation recalled "the good ol' days" in beautiful New London, but the inspiration for the call was to discuss an investment possibility: helping an exciting startup, Sentimental Coins, get off the ground. Sentimental Coins will be the Franklin Mint for a younger generation. Using 3D printing and face-scanning technology, people will be able to capture the likeness of anyone in their life, past or present, and honor them with a unique collectible coin. **Emily Southard** married William Charles Goodin in Santa Teresa, Costa Rica, on Feb. 1, 2020. Camels present were: **David Lloyd '04**, **Tahereh Coq '07**, **Asa Shiverick** and **Amy Horowitz**. Ironically, the wedding hashtag was #sogood2020. **Sarah Davis** married Jonas Lieponis at the New Haven Lawn Club on Oct. 24. They live in Guilford, Conn., and both work in medical device sales. Sadly, the wedding was small and no Camels could attend because of COVID-19, but the couple



Michael Conti '06 and his partner, Felicia Chen Conti.

plans to throw a future rager only rivaled by a KB Common Room kegger.

08 *Correspondent: Areti Sakellaris, asakellaris@gmail.com* **Kathryn Winder** and **Andrew White** welcomed son **Benjamin Winder-White** on May 29. They live in Wellfleet, Mass., and would welcome distanced interaction of any kind with fellow Camels visiting the Outer Cape. Kathryn is pursuing a master's in communications sciences and disorders at Columbia U. Andrew is a senior vice president at MediaLink, a New York-based management consultancy.



Zach Manditch-Protas '06, Craig Rowin '06, Alex James '03, Dan Cayer '04, Rory Panagotopoulos '06, Alex Waxman '04, Rich Kappler '04, Ben Johnson '04 and Joseph Sayre '04 get together via Zoom to reminisce and talk about business opportunities.

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clinical veterinary medicine and leadership at Walt Disney World, working at Disney's Animal Kingdom and EPCOT the Seas. She initially only worked for a few weeks because she gave birth a month early, so she is excited to resume work this year. **Michael Meade** moved to Santa Barbara, Calif., in September to teach with the Wild Roots Forest School. He is building his family business, All Aboard Earth, a multimedia ecology education enterprise delivering school curriculum focused on sustainability and environmental justice. Michael builds gardens and heals soil in several city locations, is writing a children's book about organic agriculture, bicycles to work, buys and eats locally much of the time, and lives the dream! **Andrew (Andy) Drummond** and **Michelle Lin Drummond** '11 welcomed Arthur Speight Drummond on June 7.

11 [®] Arthur Speight Drummond was born June 7 to Andrew (Andy) Drummond '10 and **Michelle Lin Drummond**.

18 **Jack Beltz** is pursuing a PhD as an Educational Fellow in the Graduate School of Biology at the U. of Pennsylvania. Jack lives in West Philadelphia and is researching evolutionary biology and the genomics of bacteria.

10 [®] Correspondent: Grace Astrove, gca1223@gmail.com **Zuleika Munoz Johnson** is vice president of opportunity and outreach at El Pomar Foundation, in Colorado Springs, Colo. She received the Association of Fundraising

Professionals Southern Colorado Chapter's Young Fundraising Professional award and was named a 2020 Rising Star by the Colorado Springs Business Journal. Zuleika welcomed a baby girl on Sept. 10. **Whitney Greene** began a position in

Hans Horst-Martz 1998 - 2020

Hans Horst-Martz '21 died December 30, 2020, while at home in Philadelphia on winter break. He was 22 years old. The cause of death was suicide, and Hans' family urges anyone experiencing feelings of isolation or depression to seek help right away.

Hans brought energy and conviction to every aspect of his life and work. At Conn, he showed himself to be a deeply committed, creative and engaged scholar. A double major in botany and environmental studies, he lived out his passion for environmental justice not just through courses but also through his work as a fellow in the Office of Sustainability; through two summers of independent botany research; and through extended studies of regenerative farming and community agriculture in Australia, in western Vermont, and on campus in Conn's Sprout Garden. He also served as a member of the Student Government Association and as a leader on Conn's Ultimate Frisbee team.

Hans was equally passionate about working towards social justice, a commitment that was evident in his service to the Black Student Union at his high school, Friends Select

School; in his absolute commitment to gender equality, the LGBTQIA community, and people of all socioeconomic backgrounds. He wrestled with his own privilege and lived out his convictions by using his buying power as a consumer to support small businesses and fight the power of mega-corporations.

In its February meeting, the faculty voted unanimously to grant Hans a posthumous degree. He will be honored with his classmates at commencement in May.

Hans is survived by his parents, Jenny Anne and Galen Horst-Martz; his sister Emma Horst-Martz '18; his grandparents, Anne and Larry Martz; and his many aunts, uncles, cousins, and dear friends, including his long-time girlfriend, Katie Carlson '21.

Hans' family asks everyone to honor his life by taking the time to ask about the wellbeing of family and friends, so people know they are not alone and that they have your love and support. Those who wish to honor his memory more tangibly are encouraged to plant a native plant or tree, get out in nature, and support local businesses and farms.

In Memoriam

1930's

Barbara Myers Haldt '39 died November 3, 2020

1940's

Mary Ann Swanger Burns '44 died October 17, 2020

Elise Abrahams Josephson '44 died September 3, 2020

Jane Shaw Kolkhorst '44 died September 2, 2020

Joyce Stoddard Aronson '45 died August 12, 2020

Shirley Krasne Haspel '45 died August 17, 2020

Ann LeLievre Hermann '45 died August 26, 2020

Joan Paul Loomis '46 died July 19, 2020

Barbara Smith Peck '46 died December 27, 2019

Susan Murray Thoits '46 died November 16, 2020

Joan Rosen Kemler '47 died August 13, 2020

Rosemary Kunhardt Lang '47 died September 19, 2020

Mildred Solomon LeBoff '47 died February 28, 2019

Susanne Hannoch Spielman '47 died March 31, 2020

Georgia Risk Burlen '49 died August 18, 2020

Catharine Louise ("Kitty Lou") Wilder Pope '49 died Jan. 9, 2021

Mary Meagher Sedeuilh '49 died November 3, 2020

1950's

Mary Shellabarger Cleave '50 died September 12, 2020

Eleanor Wood Flavell '50 died August 20, 2020

Jacqueline Hamlin Maltby '50 died August 24, 2020

Beryl Smith '50 died April 28, 2020

Elizabeth Babbott Conant '51 died August 23, 2020

Nancy Clapp Miller '51 died October 8, 2020

Margaret Anderson Gentry '52 died August 22, 2020

Patricia Sherman Regester '52 died August 1, 2020

Maureen Godere Kelly '53 died September 30, 2020

Katharine Smith Flower '54 died October 31, 2018

Martha Flickinger Schroeder '54 died February 2, 2020

Catherine Myers Buscher '55 died November 3, 2020

Constance Weymouth Wagnon '55 died October 12, 2020

Patricia Grossman Black '56 died March 11, 2020

Iris Melnik Orlovitz '56 died September 25, 2020

Joan Stevens Bingham '57 died October 31, 2020

Margaret Weller Harkins '57 died October 1, 2020

Anne Detarando Hartman '57 died August 18, 2020

Jacqueline Markun Weisenberg '57 died October 25, 2020

Patricia Harrington McAvoy '58 died July 28, 2020

Karen Levenson Winick '58 died September 26, 2020

Diane Miller Bessell '59 died September 11, 2020

Mary Mills '59 died August 12, 2020

Lucy Allen Separk '59 died October 5, 2020

1960's

Christine Steinfelder Barlow '60 died February 17, 2020

Marion Hauck Robbins '61 died October 23, 2020

Frederick Allen '64 died September 6, 2020

Sally Miller Rhoads '66 died August 14, 2020

Wendy Spear Mayrose '68 died December 22, 2019

Priscilla Young '68 died June 17, 2020

Carol Robinson '69 died September 29, 2020

1970's

Nancy Lorish '72

Deirdre Russell '72 died August 12, 2020

Rosemarie Lewis Driscoll '73 died October 30, 2020

Kenneth Bain '75 died October 15, 2020

Paula Zuraw '75 died August 12, 2020

Mimi Lasker Ginott '77 died on December 8, 2020

Gary Donovan '78 died March 4, 2020

Kathleen Ryon Savageau '78 died November 14, 2020

1980's

Mark Dannenberg '82 died August 2, 2020

Jacob Handelman '85 died October 16, 2020

Mildred Waligurski '85 died October 10, 2020

1990's

Kathryn McElroy '90 died November 1, 2020

Catherine Piasta '93 died August 17, 2020

Laure Carpentier Cousineau '97 died September 28, 2020

Jo-Ann Hansen '97 died October 7, 2020

Peter Schriber '97 died October 28, 2020



Courtesy Sotheby's

Sammy From Miami

The 1972 portrait “Mr. Johnson (Sammy From Miami),” by the late Professor Emeritus of Studio Art Barkley Hendricks, sold for \$4,013,000 at Sotheby’s Dec. 8, 2020, setting a new record for the artist known for his life-sized oil portraits of Black Americans. Hendricks’ previous sale record of \$3,740,000, for his 1975 double portrait “Yocks,” was set in May of 2019. Originally purchased in 1973 from Kenmore Galleries in Philadelphia, “Mr. Johnson (Sammy From Miami)” was featured in the 1975 exhibition *Barkley Hendricks – Recent Paintings* at the Greenville County Museum of Art in Greenville, South Carolina, Hendricks’ first solo show in the American South. Hendricks joined the Conn faculty in 1972 and worked with generations of students to develop and refine their artistic voices in courses on representational painting, drawing, illustration and photography, until he retired in 2010. He died in 2017 at the age of 72.



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Misha Friedman

Back cover: Mya Johnson '23, striker for the women's soccer team, adapts to a semester like no other. (See pages 26-31)