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The views expressed in this paper are solely those of the author.
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From the President

Y ou’ve heard this often, but it truly is an exciting time at Conn! Since the Magazine’s winter issue, we have seen tremendous progress on many fronts—from academic excellence to capital projects to fundraising—all of which have contributed to our mission of putting the liberal arts into action.

Here are a few of the spring’s headlines: We are breaking records in Admission. Our innovative approach to the liberal arts is drawing national attention. The list of faculty and student achievements is becoming longer and ever more impressive. Our capital projects are advancing apace. And the support of our alumni has reached historic levels.

On May 1, we saw a record number of deposits from admitted students—661—from the largest number of applications in our history, nearly 9,000. And the Class of 2026 is not only the largest but one of the most academically talented and diverse in the College’s history. While these numbers are a welcome sign of Conn’s growing reputation for excellence, they also mean we’re having to adapt in new ways.

One of those ways is the lease of a historic building in downtown New London. This exciting off-campus initiative will not only house more than 60 seniors and juniors; it will offer a new dimension to student life, provide more opportunities for community engagement and academic programming downtown and boost the economic revitalization of our host city’s historic center.

Another first for Conn occurred this spring when we hosted two Commencements: the 104th for the Class of 2022, of course, but also the 102nd for the Class of 2020, whose in-person ceremony was postponed. Both Commencements were rewarding in different ways, but they shared the commonality of students who persevered through unprecedented circumstances wrought by a global pandemic and who came through with honor and humility, prepared by their faculty and their Conn experiences to make the world a better place.

And that is just what I told alumni who returned for Reunion weekend, which took place between those two Commencements—that they should continue to take pride in their alma mater for this and for so many other reasons:

Such as our growing number of Posse scholars who highlight our strategy to build a more diverse, inclusive and equitable community. Such as our Connections curriculum helping Conn to be ranked among the most innovative colleges in the nation. Such as the opening this spring of our new Athey Center for Performance and Research at Palmer Auditorium, a state-of-the-art facility that is the envy of our peers. Such as the start of work to create a new home for our burgeoning film studies department—the Stark Center for the Moving Image. Such as the revitalization of our Thames River waterfront into a vibrant shoreline with new docks, sidewalks and lighting and plans for further recreation and research upgrades to be completed this fall. Such as our GOLD ranking from the American Association of Universities for Sustainability in Higher Education, an honor held by only 15% of colleges and universities nationwide. Such as the continued awards and honors that our students and faculty received this spring, including exciting grants, fellowships and scholarships in the arts and humanities, social sciences and sciences that are too numerous to mention here. Such as our Conn athletes who are being named All-America and competing admirably at nationals in a growing number of sports. Such as our intrepidness for trying new things. Our fledging Arabic debate team is a case in point: Four students, who had never debated before, advanced to the world championships in Turkey, where they competed against Harvard, Duke and Georgetown. That is what Camels do!

This kinds of achievements—in education, research, equity, sustainability, curriculum, career preparation, athletics, and more—are possible not only because of good financial stewardship and planning, but also because of generous support from you, our 27,000 alumni.

For that, we must express our gratitude to all of you. Thank you for your support of Defy Boundaries, the most ambitious campaign in our history, with a goal of $300 million. Here, we are breaking records. This spring, as we marked the campus launch, we were already approaching $228 million, or 76 percent of our goal. That’s in just five years. As I said, this truly is an exciting time at Conn. We have so much more to accomplish and we know we will get there because of you.

Yours,
Katherine Bergeron
Cult Classic

*Cult Classic*, the new novel by Sloane Crosley ’00, is out in bookstores, both digital and brick-and-mortar. Described as “a twisted mystery about metaphysics, modern love, memory, and mind control,” *Cult Classic* is Crosley’s second novel, one that Glamour magazine is calling the “most anticipated book of 2022.” Set in New York City’s Chinatown, “the novel offers a witty and fantastical story of dating and experimental psychology in New York City,” according to Publishers Weekly. Nick Hornby, author of *High Fidelity* and the acclaimed memoir *Fever Pitch*, raved about *Cult Classic*, calling the novel “witty—of course, because Sloane Crosley wrote it—and razor sharp, and very clever, ditto, but it’s more romantic and redemptive than one had any right to expect. It also contains one-liners destined to appear on T-shirts and coffee mugs. It’s so good. I couldn’t stop reading it.” Crosley is the author of The New York Times best-selling essay collections *I Was Told There’d Be Cake* (a 2009 finalist for The Thurber Prize for American Humor) and *How Did You Get This Number*, as well as *Look Alive Out There* (a 2019 finalist for The Thurber Prize for American Humor) and the best-selling novel *The Clasp*. She served as editor of *The Best American Travel Writing* series and is featured in The Library of America’s *50 Funniest American Writers, The Best American Nonrequired Reading*, Phillip Lopate’s *The Contemporary American Essay* and others. She was the inaugural columnist for The New York Times Op-Ed “Townies” series, a contributing editor at Interview Magazine, and a columnist for The Village Voice, Vanity Fair, The Independent, Black Book, Departures and The New York Observer. She is a contributing editor at Vanity Fair.
Six Fulbrights and one Watson

Five Connecticut College seniors and one recent alumna will receive Fulbright U.S. Student Program grants to teach English and conduct research abroad for an academic year.

Fulbright fellows receive round-trip travel to their host countries, a living stipend, project allowances and medical insurance. Connecticut College has had 28 winners in the last five years and is regularly recognized as a top producer of Fulbright recipients.

“Since arriving at Connecticut College [in August],” said Dean of the College Erika J. Smith, “I have been impressed with how well prepared our students are for engagement with the world. This ... richly deserved recognition of this outstanding group of award recipients underscores the foundation that our curricular experience lays for excellence in global engagement.”

The 2022 Fulbright fellowship winners are: Emma Atlas ’22, English Teaching Assistantship to Taiwan; Madison Comer ’22, English Teaching Assistantship to Greece; Julia Graham ’22, English Teaching Assistantship to Kazakhstan; Jacob Nozaki ’22, English Teaching Assistantship to Germany; Devon Rancourt ’21, English Teaching Assistantship to Bulgaria; Cameron Tubb ’22, English Teaching Assistantship to Germany.

In other fellowship and awards news, Moriah Prescia ’22—anthropology major, and film studies and environmental studies double minor—has been awarded a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship by the Watson Foundation to embark on a year of international discovery and exploration of the funding, production and distribution of documentaries that inspire environmental justice and social activism.

Two awarded Critical Language Scholarships from U.S. State Department

Two Connecticut College students are gearing up for a summer of intensive language study. Julia Graham ’22 and Jordan Westlake ’22 have each received a Critical Language Scholarship from the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, for 10 weeks of study in an intensive language program.

JULIA GRAHAM ’22

Graham, a Slavic studies and psychology double major and environmental studies minor from Ann Arbor, Michigan, will study Russian in Kyrgyzstan. She first became interested in the language after hearing her high school art teachers speak Russian, and she has been studying it ever since.

“I’m glad that my initial interest in the Russian language has led me to learn about and visit other Slavic countries, such as Ukraine and Bulgaria. Going forward, I am pursuing Russian as a personal interest, and while it will likely not be part of my immediate career path, language is something that I will always be passionate about,” Graham said.

On campus, Graham is a manager at one of Conn’s coffee shops, Coffee Closet; a tutor in Russian, writing and psychology; a sexual violence prevention and advocacy peer educator; and a sustainability fellow. After graduation, she will spend a year teaching English in Kazakhstan on a Fulbright fellowship and then will work at Epic Systems in Wisconsin.

JORDAN WESTLAKE ’22

Westlake, a scholar in Conn’s Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts, says she began studying Arabic to challenge herself and explore the connection between the language and the religion of Islam. Now, she is looking forward to fully immersing herself in the language.

“I am most looking forward to putting my Arabic to real-life use and seeing myself improve,” she said. “Also, I am very excited to get to know Morocco, which has such diverse linguistic, religious and cultural traditions.”

On campus, Westlake is the treasurer of the Connecticut College Figure Skating Club and a member of the Ultimate Frisbee team and the ConnChords a cappella group. After graduation, she hopes to work abroad using her Arabic language skills before applying to graduate school. Eventually, Westlake is considering a career in academia.
Carbon neutral

Speaking to students, faculty, staff and invited guests who gathered at Chapel Green to celebrate Earth Day, Conn President Katherine Bergeron announced the College’s commitment to zeroing out its carbon footprint.

“Today is the day we set aside to honor our individual and collective commitment to our planet,” Bergeron said, noting that Earth Day is a tradition that began about 50 years ago.

“The stresses on our planet have only multiplied in the past half-century, making our collective responsibility at this moment even more urgent.”

To respond to this urgency, Bergeron said that the College has set a goal to “achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2030.”

“Net zero by 2030,” she emphasized to great applause.

Conn has also pledged to take an environmental, social and governance approach, known as ESG, to the College’s investment strategy and plans to increase diversity and equity in its portfolio through more-inclusive investment practices.

Doug Thompson, the Rosemary Park Professor of Geoscience and Environmental Studies and the Suzi Oppenheimer ’56 Faculty Director of the Office of Sustainability, and Assistant Director of Sustainability Margaret Bounds outlined in more detail the steps Conn will undertake to fulfill its pledge to net neutrality, such as reducing waste, promoting the use of electric cars, lowering energy use across campus and limiting vehicular traffic to create a greater campus experience.

The largest of these projects is a potential 800-kilowatt solar array located south of the tennis courts, with some of the array installed as a canopy system. Conn wants to wean itself off gas-powered vans and “electrify” the transportation fleet while installing five more electric charging stations, bringing Conn’s total up to seven. Each charging station has the capacity to charge two cars at a time. Thompson also noted improvements to Williams Street that will hopefully increase bike access to campus. Additionally, Conn plans to save on natural gas through heating and cooling repairs, adding air-source heat pumps and more LED lighting on campus.

In July 2021, Connecticut College earned a Gold rating from the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), a program of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). This puts Conn in the top 15% of the 1,000-plus institutions currently rated by AASHE.
Deep data

Data science has become a key component of business and research success across industries. This semester, six Conn students were recognized for their own prowess at delving into large, unwieldy data sets with an award presented by DataFest, an American Statistical Association competition for undergraduate students with an interest in data and applied mathematics.

The Conn team—which won in the “best business application” category—was accompanied by Priya Kohli, associate professor of statistics and assistant chair of the mathematics and statistics department.

The contest began when teams from Conn, Wesleyan University, Yale University, Bentley University and Trinity College were presented with a surprise data set and asked to analyze the data before sharing a two-slide presentation with a panel of judges on Sunday afternoon.

The data this year related to PlayForward: Elm City Stories, a video game that was developed to promote risk behavior reduction, and in turn reduce HIV infection rates, among minority youth. Players aged 11 to 14 use an in-game avatar to navigate certain life decisions, see how those choices affect their future, and then decide whether to “go back in time” to make a different choice. The primary data set included information on how long players remained in the mobile game. There was a secondary, self-reported set of data on the same topic.

According to Linh-Chi Pham ’24, a statistics major, the inconsistencies in the data proved the greatest challenge.

“There were a huge number of observations and missing values,” said Pham, who signed up for DataFest after hearing about the promise of working with untouched data. “It took us around 4.5 hours to come up with a metric to transform the time and evaluate the data.”

Kohli stressed that Conn’s team approach was key to success.

“The data was saying that the game was working how it should,” Kohli explained. “But the survey, which was a self-assessment, was going in the other direction. I think most other groups had completely ignored this supporting data set, but we didn’t—and that’s what won us the prize.”

The other winning tactic was the team’s “clarity of ideas and the simplicity of visualization,” she added.

Lindsay Salvati ’22, a mathematics major with a statistics concentration, helped craft a final presentation that was crisp.

“Some other groups had so much information that it was confusing to listen to their presentations,” said Salvati. “We stuck with a few simple ideas and that helped us keep ours clear and concise.”

Salvati, Pham and team members Wenjie Wang ’23, Long Ta ’22, Isabelle Patino ’22 and Theodora Moldovan ’23 used their presentation to tie data related to time spent in the game to survey data about how likely a player was to refuse a “bad decision,” such as an offer of alcohol, in the real world.

“We won because we provided practical design recommendations to the game creators and backed those up with solid data,” Pham said.

For Salvati, the experience will be invaluable as she begins her doctorate in biostatistics next year.

“In grad school, you have to work with messy data and try to figure out what you are going to do with it, so having some more experience under my belt can never hurt!”
For years, Maya women in Guatemala have fought against the theft of their unique weaving designs, which can produce, for example, a blouse that can fetch up to $400.

Now, Joyce Bennett, an assistant professor of anthropology at Connecticut College, is poised to help the women document their work in ways that could lead to laws and legal action to protect the weavers’ intellectual property rights.

It’s a next-level sort of protection—not simply paying a weaver a fair price for a particular product but safeguarding the designs going forward so that they can’t be misappropriated.

“Fashion designers from the Western world are trying to basically copyright indigenous women’s designs, and the women are making a collective effort that we’re not seeing elsewhere in the world to protect those,” Bennett says.

“Designers have basically been trying to steal those designs and say that you women who came up with this design, you can no longer use it because we copyrighted it first. These are designs that have been passed down for generations.”

The work on the loom can take a full-time weaver two to three months to produce an item, Bennett says. U.S. and European companies will buy a blouse, skirt or other work, then either separate it into pieces to incorporate in a new product or fashion a new print using the product’s design.

Bennett has been awarded a $20,000 Engaged Research Grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, a foundation dedicated to the advancement of anthropology. The grant supports research partnerships “that empower those who have historically been among those researched in anthropology, rather than researchers themselves.”

Bennett will spend much of 2022-23 in Guatemala doing research in collaboration with Ixnal Ambrocia Cuma Chávez, a Kaqchikel Maya teacher and activist.

Approximately half of the grant will pay Bennett’s collaborator, “which, quite frankly, is revolutionary,” she says.

The project is expected to produce a book that will document the weavers’ work and its history in ways to help lawmakers in Guatemala develop laws to protect the weavers and to help the weavers take legal action against people who have appropriated their designs.

Bennett wrote in the grant application: “Instead of allowing for the theft of their traditional knowledge, indigenous women in Guatemala have come together across ethnolinguistic groups to challenge fashion designers’ attempts through the legal system, basing their claims in intellectual property rights.”

Bennett says the aim of the project “is to understand activism and how it works, but also to have those very real results because this is about real people and their lives, and what they do every day and their ability to put food on the table.”

Bennett’s research and teaching focus on sociocultural and sociolinguistic issues in Central and North America, especially as they relate to social justice. Her book, Good Maya Women: Migration and Revitalisation of Clothing and Language in Highland Guatemala, published in February, analyzes how indigenous women’s migration contributes to women’s empowerment in their home communities in Guatemala.

Bennett was recently awarded a prestigious Fulbright Faculty Scholar Award to continue her research at the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala.
Joanna McClintick ’07, a queer mom of a 3-year-old son and a licensed clinical social worker at the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center in Manhattan, has authored ’Twas the Night Before Pride, a children’s book (ages 4 to 8). The 32-page book, illustrated by Juana Medina, tells the story of a queer family going to a pride march.

Q. Across the country, there are more and more reports of schools banning books about the LGBTQ community. What are school administrators and politicians so afraid of?

A. It’s so backward and not consistent. I hear conservatives say, let kids be kids and don’t bring up difficult topics. But some kids have LGBTQ parents and some kids are LGBTQ themselves. You don’t really want to let kids be kids; you only want to let kids be kids if they are straight children, or if they have straight parents.

Q. Florida’s Legislature has approved a bill—critics call the “Don’t say gay” bill—that would prohibit classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity in kindergarten through third grade.

Supporters say parents, and not teachers, should have control over such discussions. Are they wrong?

A. There are many families where the adults in the child’s life are LGBTQ identifying. If you don’t talk about it in school, what does that mean? That they can’t share what they did with their moms over the weekend because it’s banned? And you can’t say “my moms are gay”?

Q. The June 1969 Stonewall riots were a series of confrontations between police and LGBTQ activists outside the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City. The uprising is viewed as the catalyst for the gay rights movement and the reason that pride celebrations are typically held in June. How do you present to young children what happened without unduly scaring them?

A. I think the tone is right around saying what happened, but also keeping the story moving along. Yeah, there was a fight; you weren’t allowed to be gay and the activists felt that was wrong and they stood up and fought back and that started this movement. And then we kind of keep the story moving.

Q. Does your book aim to balance the significance of Stonewall with the joy that’s often associated with pride parades?

A. There’s a line in the book: “More and more gathered to fight back in the heat. Some started a kick line in the middle of the street.” Stonewall is not well-documented, but one of the stories I’ve heard is there were queer people who formed a kick line, which is so campy and so hilarious. At this moment—it’s really hot; it’s the middle of the night; it’s getting very escalated with the police. I thought, I need to build a book around this, because kids will think that’s hilarious, that part of our movement, even in the most intense times, is dancing. Part of what’s extra special about being part of the queer resistance is we always bring the camp, the craziness. It’s not just a fight, it’s also a dance party, even at its very root. That strikes a chord with kids, being silly and being over-the-top and getting in a costume and dancing. It’s one of my favorite parts of the book. It’s a fight, but it’s fun.
Rock star David Bowie once said that we write songs in an effort to reclaim the unsayable.

Using music to connect with those around you by looking inward is a familiar notion for students in “Music 201: On Songs and Songwriting,” a class co-taught by Connecticut College President Katherine Bergeron and her husband, Butch Rovan.

“Songs can be a tool, like an emotional pocket knife whittling away at worries, hopes and fears,” said Bergeron and Rovan. “Here lies the power of song: the way it defines different parts of our lives; serves as a repository of memory; builds community; gives voice to things we cannot say.”

Now in its third year, Music 201 plumbs these creative depths. It is also an analytical and critical look at the craft of songwriting. Students spend the year studying composition with Bergeron—a trained singer and music historian—and Rovan, a Brown University music professor, multi-instrumentalist, artist, performer and composer.

The highlight of the class is the opportunity for each student to write and record a new song that will appear on an album released at the end of the year. This year’s record, Music 201: Vol. 3, ranges in style from indie folk to bossa nova, jump blues and pop rock. Recorded by Rovan in Fortune Recital Hall, it was produced and mastered by Bergeron and Rovan.

Music major Lucie Bernheim ’24 learned about Music 201 during a campus visit as a prospective student. Her song “Salvation,” which opens this year’s record, began with a single lyrical idea that came to her in a dream: “Would you believe I haven’t learned to drive?”

Of her songwriting journey, Bernheim explained: “The process of writing my song was longer than usual for me. It started with the opening line and I had one other line that I knew I would use—’the rain on the windshield is a souvenir from the sky,’ which I wrote the night John Prine died.”

Suffering from writer’s block, Bernheim attended a dance show on campus, only to leave early when inspiration struck.

“Something about watching people dance always inspires me,” she said.

Evan Strouse ’24, a music major and Hispanic studies and education double minor, wrote a 13-bar jump blues track centered on his lack of sleep and need for coffee.

“It was one line written as an idea earlier in the course,” Strouse said. “But I decided to write in the genre after having a really inspiring class where we all wrote short blues tunes. It was so eye-opening to work alongside other songwriters and musicians throughout the process,” he added.

Strouse also enjoyed the course’s historical perspective.

“The most fascinating part was how far back we went to medieval and Renaissance times, talking about the beautiful melodies by Hildegard of Bingen or the early notation system created by Guido of Arezzo,” he said.

For both Strouse and Bernheim, the process of working with their instructors was equally invaluable.

“President Bergeron and Butch brought years of expertise and excitement and passion for music that was contagious and encouraging,” said Bernheim.

*Listen to Music 201, Volume 3 at conncollmusic201.bandcamp.com*
“Songwriters are in the service industry,” Rosanne Cash said during Conn’s President’s Distinguished Lecture Series event, held in April at the College’s Athey Center for Performance and Research at Palmer Auditorium.

Cash, a four-time Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter and bestselling author, and Conn President Katherine Bergeron held a moving discussion about art, activism and the power of music to change lives.

“In the best cases, you provoke your listener into reflecting on themselves, or something opens, something is revealed, something is processed, something is extricated, something is touched. That’s why I always think of art or music as the greatest healing force, because if we’re in touch with our feelings, then we have more compassion. We have more understanding."

Cash’s career spans more than 40 years, and includes 15 albums, 11 No. 1 singles and 21 Top 40 hits. She also is a writer and activist whose publications include a collection of stories and poems (Bodies of Water), a memoir (Composed), and numerous essays and opinion pieces that have appeared in The New York Times, Rolling Stone, the Oxford-American and The Nation, among other publications.

During the event, Cash told Conn students, faculty, staff and members of the greater New London community that she has always been drawn to the rhythms in language and knew she wanted to be a writer from the time she was about 7 years old.

“I started writing poetry then, and in my teens started putting poetry to music,” Cash said.

In both her music and her writings, Cash has been one of country music’s most outspoken advocates for ending gun violence in the U.S. She has served on the board of directors of PAX, an organization that has since become part of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence. On her 2018 album, She Remembers Everything, Cash explores the suffering that endures from a lifetime of injustices.

Cash said that she tries to avoid proselytizing in her songs—“There’s no quicker way to turn people off than to lecture to them,” she said. But she believes music is political by nature.

“All art is political, because if it doesn’t change you in some way, then it’s not real.”

During the Q&A portion of the event, Cash addressed the legacy of her famous family and what it was like to carve her own path.

“In some ways, it’s no different than any young person who goes into the same field as a parent who’s been very successful. And on another level, it’s no different than any young person in their 20s who needs to separate from their parents to find out who they are. My [story is] a little complicated, because my dad did cast such a large shadow and I struggled with that,” she said, adding that her father encouraged her songwriting and taught her about musicology.

“I probably did push away longer than I needed to. … But I did accept it, and I do appreciate it. I love my family’s legacy of this music.”

Prior to the public event, Cash gave a master class for student songwriters from “Music 201: On Songs and Songwriting,” which is co-taught by Bergeron and her partner, multi-instrumentalist Butch Rovan. Cash listened to completed songs written by seven students and offered them tips and advice for future songwriting.

Cash’s talk was part of the President’s Distinguished Lecture Series launched in 2016, which brings notable figures from a variety of fields and backgrounds to Connecticut College for informal meetings with the campus community and a public presentation for the greater New London region.
Don’t Look Up

Economics major Robert Radochia ’23 talks about his star turn in the Oscar-nominated film Don’t Look Up.

Q: How does an Economics major wind up in Don’t Look Up, an Oscar-nominated film starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Cate Blanchett, Meryl Streep and Jennifer Lawrence?

Robert Radochia: My mother forwarded me an email from a local casting company seeking actors for a role that matched my description. With the help of my father, I was able to submit a self-taped audition from the comfort of my home in Massachusetts. After a couple of weeks of eagerly waiting, I received news that I had landed the role.

Q: Don’t Look Up tells the story of two astronomers, Dr. Randall Mindy (DiCaprio) and Kate Dibiasky (Lawrence), who discover that a comet is on course to Earth and will cause a mass-extinction event. Many characters deny the truth, and a movement rallies around the slogan “Don’t Look Up.” Sounds like an allegory for those who believe the COVID-19 pandemic is a hoax, that climate change is a hoax.

RR: The film alludes to several societal issues of our current time. I am grateful to be part of a film that carries such an important message. The reality of global issues like COVID-19 and climate change should not be politicized, and yet as a society, we somehow manage to leave factual information up for interpretation.

Q: How did the COVID-19 pandemic change the process of filmmaking for the actors, director and crew?

RR: The entire process, from auditioning to filming, was altered as a result of the pandemic. Instead of auditioning live in front of casting directors, I submitted a self-recorded tape of a scene to the casting company. After landing the role, I studied the remainder of my lines in a two-week quarantine period at a hotel in Boston. Once my filming period began, I rapid-tested each morning and waited in a trailer to receive the results. On set, actors were required to wear masks and face shields until the camera was rolling.

Q: You play Dr. Mindy’s son in the film. How did you make the character your own without having had access to the entire script?

RR: I was given some information about Leo’s character and the surplus of medication that my on-screen father uses to cope with his mental disorders. In one of my scenes it was revealed that, much like Dr. Mindy, Evan turns to medicine as a coping mechanism. On set, Adam McKay gave me plenty of freedom to play Evan however I saw fit. Though I did not have access to the entire script, I was able to get a feel for whom I was playing and the similarities between the protagonist and his son.

Q: This is the first major motion picture you’ve been in. How was the experience like you thought it would be, and how was it different?

RR: I am so grateful to have acted alongside such talented and kind people. As an actor with little experience, I could not have asked for a more inviting and supportive group of individuals to work with. I imagined that the opportunity would be far too overwhelming for me, but the cast and crew made me feel so comfortable.

Q: You went from the set of a $75 million film back to Conn’s campus. What has that adjustment been like?

RR: Being on a set like that was incredible. There are so many luxuries that I did not consider beforehand. Going from being served every meal to cooking ramen for two meals consecutively has brought me back to reality.

Q: How has the film altered the trajectory of your life, and how do you hope it will impact your career?

RR: The film has opened up several doors to new opportunities. I am working as a sales intern this summer but will be eager to audition for new roles at the same time. Since the movie, I have signed with a talent agency and plan to continue to explore the industry.
“There definitely is a sad and kind of scary part to leaving such a great place and such a supportive community,” said Emma Gould ’22, the senior speaker for Conn’s 104th Commencement.

Gould, who hails from Williamsburg, Massachusetts, completed her major in English and was a member of the Creativity Integrative Pathway. As an artist and writer at Conn, she worked with analog photography, playwriting and digital art. At the All-College Symposium in November, Gould presented on the ways in which these artistic mediums interact with temporal planes and the physical world.

“Then on the other hand,” she added, “with the pandemic, we already have left one time [when students studied remotely]. Through that whole time, I did feel connected to my community, so I’m hopeful that the community that we’ve been a part of here and built here will extend out into the world.”

During her four years at Conn, Gould received two poetry awards: the Benjamin T. Marshall Prize for Excellence in Poetry, in 2020, and the Charles B. Palmer Prize of the Academy of American Poets, in 2021. As a junior, she spent a semester studying in Madrid, Spain. Most recently, she participated in the People of Color Alliance fashion show, “The Beauty in Culture,” which after many rehearsals culminated in a show on campus last April. After graduation, she plans to live abroad and continue her work as an artist.

Gould acknowledged that being an English major can be polarizing. “I either get people saying, ‘What are you going to do; you’re not going to make any money’ or ‘If you know how to write and read well and talk to people, you can do anything you want.’”

In her speech she said: “Recently, I spoke to a friend in the graduating class who told me she was not sure if she would attend Commencement. When I asked why, she told me that she expected [the day] to be too sad—that she would be overwhelmed by how this ceremony would force her to acknowledge our departure from this beautiful community that we have had the privilege of being part of for the past four years. As I see her sitting here today, I want to offer you the same words I offered her. I encouraged her to look at this day as a beginning rather than an ending. As an English major and a writer, I often examine the language we use to describe our experiences. So Class of 2022, I want to remind you that the word ‘Commencement’ itself denotes a ‘beginning,’ a beginning, act or fact of coming into existence. Beginnings are forward-looking, and are, of themselves, a direction.”

Gould was selected to address the Class of ’22 by members of the selection committee, including: Senior Class President Joey Willen ’22 and Class Marshals Norah Deming ’22 and Jacob Nozaki ’22; History Professor and College Marshal Marc Forster; National Media Relations Manager Tiffany Thiele; Dean of Students Victor Arcelus; and Dean of the College Erika Smith.
“I’m hopeful that the community that we’ve been a part of here and built here will extend out into the world.”
Conn officially opened the new Athey Center for Performance and Research at Palmer Auditorium on April 29, 2022

President Katherine Bergeron told the audience she was thrilled to mark a major milestone for the arts at Connecticut College with the public rededication of Palmer Auditorium as the Nancy Athey ’72 and Preston Athey Center for Performance and Research.

“Our most heartfelt thanks has to go to the visionary leaders who realized what a renovation of this space could mean for Connecticut College and then stepped forward to answer the call. The first is The Sherman Fairchild Foundation and its director, Bonnie Himmelman from the Class of 1966, who made the initial gift of $10 million almost as a kind of challenge grant. And then the second, the amazing couple who answered that challenge with a matching gift of $10 million. I’m talking about Nancy Athey, from the Class of 1972, and her husband Preston Athey, whose names are now memorialized alongside Mr. Palmer’s on the walls of this building,” Bergeron said.

“Nancy and Preston, I cannot express how deeply grateful I am for your leadership and vision in making those connections possible.”

The revitalized Athey Center will serve as a hub of innovation, encouraging performance and dialogue on the critical issues of our time. It will also promote pioneering artistic production and research, attract world-renowned artists-in-residence, foster cross-disciplinary teaching and scholarship and help to advance the work of Connections. Additional support for the $23 million project was made possible by the generosity of the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, the Frank Loomis Palmer Fund, the George I. Alden Trust, T. Wilson Eglin, Jr. ’86, and the Family of Ruth Stupell Weinflash.

The historically informed renovation preserves and improves upon the building’s stunning art deco design, and features better egress and sightlines, more comfortable seating, enhanced flooring, state-of-the art acoustic technology, more natural light, a more open and welcoming entrance, and mechanical systems for lighting, heating and cooling that reflect the highest standards of energy efficiency.

The renovation was led by Ennead Architects, a New York City-based architectural firm that specializes in performance spaces. Brian Masuda, associate principal at Ennead, said the company’s project team respected the wishes of Virginia Palmer and the rest of the Palmer Family, the original benefactors of the auditorium, to ensure the building “be a continuing benefit alike to the College and community.”
“Stylistically, the design team felt compelled to build upon the original Art Deco character, elevating the overall sense of materiality, color and patterning associated with this style, by drawing inspiration from some of the original fixtures and motifs found throughout the building,” Masuda said.

Elisabeth Wales ’22, a senior dance and government double major and scholar in the College’s Entrepreneurship, Social Innovation, Value and Change Pathway, told those gathered for the ribbon cutting that she had already had the opportunity to perform on the new stage when she participated in the Dance Department’s senior capstone concert one week prior.

“As dancers, one thing we really care about is being able to embody our research. Being able to dance in [the Athey Center] is one of the ways I’ve been able to connect my studies—my dance major capstone is as much a government capstone as it is a dance capstone,” Wales said.

Professor Ken Prestininzi, chair of Conn’s Theater Department, echoed Wales’s sentiments.

“We now have a beautifully renovated theater that is a center for artistic collaboration and research, specifically designed to lift our spirits every day as we investigate and open up to who we are and how we may all connect, learning from each other as we dance, sing, speak out and tell our necessary stories.”

Board of Trustees Chair Debo P. Adegbile ’91 said the investment in the Athey Center ensures that the arts remain central to the liberal arts, a tradition that has earned the College’s arts programs national and international prominence.

“The performing arts convey ... human connection, creativity, expression, and give a window into identity. These shared experiences are replayed in our minds over time, and we often look back at them through the generations,” Adegbile said. “Our strategic plan, buoyed and lifted by the Atheyes, recognizes the power and importance of the arts in the attainment of a well-rounded liberal arts education. We are committed to advancing the College’s performing arts, and with the Atheyes, today, we make a huge step in that direction.”

Nancy Athey, who attended the event with several members of her family, thanked the many people involved in the project, which was successfully completed despite the COVID-19 pandemic “and the total upending of our world.”

“I recently saw a photo of Palmer taken at night, with all of its lights shining. To me, that light proclaims that the liberal arts in action are alive and well in New London.”
WHAT YOU CAN’T SEE

To document Arctic climate change, Susana Hancock '07 joins an expedition across Svalbard, an archipelago that is part of Norway and is located north of the Arctic Circle.

BY TOM KERTSCHER
Climate researcher Susana Hancock ’07 can identify turning points on her career path that occurred long before she became a Winthrop Scholar at Connecticut College.

“I was 4 when I decided I wanted to be an astrophysicist, and that was a falling in love with the world around me and wanting to study what I couldn’t see, what was beyond the Earth,” she said.

The focus turned less cosmic when Hancock, at age 14, began taking astrophysics and astronomy classes at the University of Southern Maine.

“At that point, I became really bothered by the fact that I was working with amazing people who were looking for extraterrestrial life and Earthlike planets when we’re actively destroying the Earth that we have,” she recalled.

“I started becoming more interested in environmental science on Earth.”

Hancock went on to get a bachelor’s degree in linguistics and Slavic studies at Conn, where she once took 10 classes during one semester, and then master’s degrees in anthropology and linguistics and a doctorate in anthropology, all from Oxford, where she was a Rhodes Scholar.

Juggling various roles, including director of Climate Action Now, a nonprofit she founded, Hancock is among a half dozen people taking part in a monthlong climate change research project. She is participating in the Swedish Jubilee Expedition Svalbard 2022 to document the changing climate in the Arctic. The expedition is retracing the journey made by polar explorer A.E. Nordenskiöld in 1872-1873. Svalbard, an archipelago, is part of Norway, located in the Arctic Ocean north of the Arctic Circle.

The group departed to Longyearbyen, Svalbard, for final logistics on April 26. The expedition began May 1 with a journey by snowmobile to reach the starting point at Mossel Bay. From there, the expedition was to embark on skis and be unsupported for up to 35 days. The tentative date to end the expedition is June 5. Sometime in the fall, a premiere will be held in Stockholm, Sweden, for a documentary film on the expedition.

Hancock is working on numerous projects, primarily conducting experiments aimed at gauging the climate effects of plastic—she notes that plastics and other trash build up even without people living in the area—and the effects of emissions from shipping.

“The Arctic has been warming four times faster than the rest of the world, on average. It is changing circulation patterns in oceans around the world. You get the ice that’s melting;
obviously that causes sea-level rise around the world. It is also changing the salinity of the oceans and is strengthening and weakening different currents,” she said.

“The changes are seen universally and we’re getting changes in the Arctic that are becoming runaway feedback loops. So, even if we were to stop all emissions now, we’re locked in for the next several decades of a continually warming climate.

“And what are the implications of that around the world—the increased storms, the thunder hurricanes, the wildfires, the heat domes? That’s all directly related to changing temperatures and changing climate in the Arctic.”

Hancock has served as an expert reviewer for the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and is vice president of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists. She said Americans, relative to Europeans and people in other parts of the world, are difficult to motivate when it comes to combating climate change.

“We definitely have fewer Americans interested than citizens elsewhere in the world, and fewer Americans who feel that there’s a problem or that there’s a problem that needs addressing,” she said.

“It’s hard to keep saying that something’s an emergency when we’re not getting the direct action. We’ve been using the same rhetoric and it’s been 40 years and we haven’t yet responded. So, how do you keep saying that there’s a crisis and keep people’s interests and energies when we’re not getting a response? That’s definitely a challenge.”

On the policy side, Hancock would like to see more steps to eliminate the use of fossil fuels, ending not only the burning of fossil fuels but oil drilling and fracking as well.

“We have energy alternatives, but right now the oil companies are spending more money on denying climate change than they are investing in renewable energies,” she said.

Hancock has advocated for steps to reduce environmental damage, such as carbon pricing—charging fees to polluters based on their emissions—to make it more expensive to use fossil fuels, and ending government subsidies for fuels such as gasoline.

“We do have the big fires and we do have some big storms that are becoming increasingly nonseasonal,” she said. “But we’re relatively sheltered compared with other parts of the world.

“Many people here can afford to ignore what’s going on around the world as long as fossil fuels stay cheap.”

Hancock will provide updates from the Jubilee Expedition on her Instagram account: instagram.com/susanahancock_.

SUMMER 2022 | What You Can’t See
The War In Ukraine

BY EDWARD WEINMAN

IMAGES BY PALL STEFÁNSSON
The U.S. and NATO implemented unprecedented sanctions against Russia, yet the war continues. Europe is making plans to wean itself off Russian energy. How isolated and economically depressed does Russia need to become before Putin no longer thinks the war is worth the cost, or does such a threshold not exist for Putin?

A: This zeroes in on what can be called “societal elasticity,” the ability of a society to withstand pressure. I expect the Western societies (higher elasticity) to give in earlier than the Russian society (lower elasticity). The question is how much punishment the different societies and economies—Russian and global (Western)—can accept without pressuring their respective leaders to change the policies that have brought on the pressure.

On the one hand, how much do the Russian people have to suffer from the sanctions and isolation before their displeasure with the war forces the decision-makers in Moscow to change course? Given the coercive grip of the Russian government over the society, I do not expect that we will soon see public protests on the kind of massive scale that would convince the Kremlin to rethink its policy. Likewise, the electoral accountability mechanism is virtually nonexistent in Russia, thus removing the ballot box as a lever for the public to influence Moscow’s Ukraine policy. On the other hand, how much inconvenience—for example, through rising food and gas prices—can the Western societies withstand before voting for policies that would adjust the punitive actions currently imposed against Russia?

Q: Russia has not fared well in the war. Thousands of conscripts have died, along with many top-ranking generals. Yet, Russia has the ability to, as it did in Mariupol, turn Ukrainian cities into rubble. Other than an attack on NATO territory or a nuclear/chemical attack, are there moral redlines that might draw the U.S. into direct military conflict with Russia?

A: For a redline “gold standard,” look at President John F. Kennedy’s speech on Oct. 22, 1962, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, which is the subject of my ongoing research and writing at Harvard Business School. Seeking to prevent the Soviet Union from using the missiles it secretly stationed in Cuba, Kennedy stated: “The United States will regard any nuclear missile launched from Cuba against any nation in the Western Hemisphere as an attack by the Soviet Union on the United States, requiring a full retaliatory response upon the Soviet Union.” Taking this definition as a baseline, a military invasion of, or attack on, NATO territory is a clear redline, as President Joe Biden has reiterated with his pledge to “defend every inch” of the alliance. Currently, there are no equally forceful deterrent threats against the use of weapons of mass destruction.

In his recent New York Times op-ed, the President stated “Any use of nuclear weapons in this conflict on any scale would be completely unacceptable to us as well as the rest of the world and would entail severe consequences.” This statement is not a redline because it lacks the credible threat that is essential for deterrence. This is a mistake for two reasons. First, strategically,
the use of such weapons must be prevented, and the way to do so is to deter their use by drawing unambiguous redlines. Ambiguity—useful though it may be for other purposes—corrodes redlines. Second, morally, the use of such weapons has no place in organized intercourse (including war) among civilized nations.

Q: To avoid a mass-casualty event, what does an offramp look like for Putin, or is the only option Russian victory or Russian defeat?

A: When he chooses to do so, President Putin can already claim significant “wins” from this war: Ukraine will never be part of NATO, significant parts of Ukrainian military capacity have been destroyed and Russia has demonstrated its credibility to stand up for its conception of security by engaging in a brutal, deadly war. The “offramp” is open and available. Will President Putin take it?

Q: Numerous media outlets have reported that Russian soldiers have committed war crimes. President Biden has called Putin a war criminal. Do you foresee any scenario that ends with Putin at The Hague? If not, what does it mean to call Putin a war criminal?

A: Russia’s horrific crimes in Ukraine (for example, in Bucha) are well documented, and they speak for themselves. There is a virtually zero chance of prosecuting President Putin at the International Court of Justice, and the high-profile branding of him as a “war criminal”—along with President Biden’s use of other colorful, but less legally significant terms, such as “butcher”—is unhelpful. Whatever minimal public legitimacy such language adds to the global efforts to counter Russia’s aggression is offset by the complications such designations introduce into the long-term effort to pursue a political settlement to this deadly war. Statesmen should focus on deterring nuclear impunity and ending this war, thus saving lives. They ought to leave proclamations about war crimes to jurists from The Hague.

Q: Authoritarianism has been on the rise across the world. How important is it for Ukraine to win this war, and if Russia wins, what does it mean for democracies and the world order?

A: Complete Russian victory is morally and strategically unacceptable, while a complete Russian defeat is geopolitically unthinkable. Striking this delicate balance is the central international security challenge of the upcoming months and years. On the one hand, the civilized world cannot afford to countenance the unprovoked invasion and destruction of a sovereign country. In particular, if allowed to stand, the fact of a nuclear-armed power invading and destroying a non-nuclear armed state will create a precedent of nuclear impunity. Nuclear wannabes (here, think well beyond the usual culprits, such as North Korea) will see that nuclear weapons offer the ability to engage in international terror on a system-altering scale.

“Russia’s war is fundamentally an effort to renegotiate the structure of the post-Cold War security order.”

— EugenE B. Kogan ’03, Inaugural Research and Executive Director of Harvard’s American Secretaries of State Project
On the other hand, completely defeating Russia by driving it out of the territories it has destroyed and occupied since Feb. 24 as well as before—such as Crimea and parts of Eastern Ukraine—creates real dangers of nuclear escalation that responsible statesmen cannot ignore. This is where the tempting analogy to the appeasement at Munich—the trump card that President Zelenskyy pointedly used against Henry Kissinger’s recent suggestion of a territorial accommodation with Russia—starts to fall apart. History is not a buffet from which one can pick and choose the most appealing morsels. It has to be considered in all of its original—sometimes ugly—complexity. Hitler did not have nuclear weapons. Putin does.

Q: What does the end of the war look like for Ukraine?

A: For Ukraine, as President Zelenskyy has pointed out, given the suffering that his country has endured, words such as “victory” may not be applicable. Going forward—he has suggested—Ukraine has to have security guarantees that would ensure that future wars of aggression would be decisively deterred. Essentially, Ukraine needs NATO-like guarantees without formally being part of the alliance. This, no doubt, will be part of the complex diplomatic settlement to this war.

Q: So how does this war end?

A: Most wars begin militarily, but end politically. For this war to conclude, there will have to be a direct negotiation or a mediation that will bring Russia, Ukraine and Ukraine’s security guarantors (in particular, the United States and major European powers) to the table. As I argued in a Newsweek op-ed, these conversations should be high-profile, secret and continuous. Representatives from the three sides should be meeting bilaterally (Russia-Ukraine; Ukraine-guarantors; Russia-guarantors) and all together, ideally under the auspices of a truly neutral country.

Q: Why is it imperative to have security guarantors involved in the negotiations rather than just Russia and Ukraine?

A: The involvement of security guarantors is important for two reasons. First, Ukraine cannot agree to stop fighting without ironclad security promises. Second, Russia’s war—with it being waged on the territory of Ukraine—is fundamentally an effort to renegotiate the structure of the post-Cold War security order. In this coercive negotiation, Russia made the first move. Difficult decisions lie ahead for the United States and the major European powers as they have to respond to Russia’s demands. [14]

Eugene B. Kogan, Ph.D., who co-authored Mediation: Negotiation by Other Moves, enables international executives and their teams to be effective in high-profile negotiations.

Páll Stefánsson was born just south of the Arctic Circle, in north Iceland. His work has appeared in Time, National Geographic, Newsweek, The Sunday Times Magazine, among others. Stefánsson is working on two books of photography, one about the Icelandic landscape, the other about international refugees. Photos of displaced Ukrainians taken in Poland, Slovakia and from around Uzhhorod in Ukraine.
EXISTENCE IS AN ODDBALL THING

Astrophysicist Samuel Harvey Moseley Jr. ’72 worked on a key component of the James Webb Space Telescope, the most powerful telescope ever launched into space.

BY AMY MARTIN

But the astrophysicist, who conceived of and led the development of Webb’s microshutter array, a key technological component that enables the telescope to take photographs of deep space, did hold his breath a few weeks later as the otherworldly looking contraption unfolded its giant mirror wings far from Earth.

“I knew where the complexities were in the system, and I knew the steps that were most critical for the microshutters. It turns out the biggest mechanical impulse they get is not during the launch but when the side wings on the mirror are released,” said Moseley, now the vice president for hardware engineering at a New Haven-based quantum computing startup, Quantum Circuits.

Moseley watched the progress with his friend and longtime colleague John Mather, the senior project scientist for Webb. The two worked together on Webb beginning in the late 1990s and, before that, on the Cosmic Background Explorer mission (COBE), which confirmed the Big Bang theory and for which Mather won a Nobel Prize.

“We were trying to see how it was going, and he’s absolutely calm. He said, ‘We did everything we needed to do. We found everything we could find, and we tested everything. We have to be OK with that,’” Moseley recalled Mather saying.

Mather had every reason to trust Moseley’s design for the microshutters, a series of 250,000 tiny windows with shutters that open and close to allow the telescope to record and measure up to 100 distant galaxies at once, including some of the very first galaxies formed after the Big Bang.

For decades, Moseley had been the figure-it-out guy at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center—the one who could solve complex mathematical equations and invent the technologies to measure and record ever deeper into the cosmos. And in January, he was awarded the National Academy of Sciences’ 2022 James Craig Watson Medal for his contributions to the development of astronomical detectors that have “profoundly changed our understanding of the universe.”

Once again, one of Moseley’s designs is working: On March 16, NASA released stunning test images of a star (called 2MASS J17554042+6551277) with other galaxies and stars clearly visible behind it. The images, Webb deputy telescope scientist Marshall Perrin told CNN, “are focused together as finely as the laws of physics allow.”

Webb wasn’t launched just to produce pretty pictures of stars. The telescope will possibly bring into focus the very first generation of objects to form after the Big Bang. It might answer all sorts of interesting questions, Moseley said, like “How do galaxies form and grow? ‘How do supermassive black holes in the cores of galaxies grow over time?’”

The working theory is that there are mergers of galaxies over time, an absorption of one galaxy by another. Understanding this process can teach us about how, 13.8 billion years after the Big Bang, our world came to be.

BROKEN THINGS
Long before he figured out ways to detect the earliest and farthest corners of the universe, Moseley tinkered with broken things.
He attributes his storied career to equal parts hard, focused work and a healthy dose of good fortune. The hard work started early. Growing up on his family’s farm in rural southern Virginia, Moseley spent his childhood fixing farm equipment and working at the general store his great-grandfather opened after the end of the Civil War.

“I learned to fix mechanical things very young,” Moseley said. “When you’re fixing something mechanical, you need to think about the problem and take a fairly scientific approach to solving it, or else you’re going to spend a lot of time doing the wrong thing.”

Moseley describes his hometown as “one of those places where nobody comes in, and nobody comes out.” But young Moseley, a voracious reader with an interest in astronomy, did. An assistant principal at the local high school recognized the potential in his teenage pupil and suggested Moseley try to find a more challenging school environment. So Moseley applied and was awarded a scholarship to a private all-boys school in Alexandria, Virginia, setting him on a path to quite literally reach for the stars.

But first, to quote the film *Good Will Hunting*, he “had to go see about a girl.” Moseley had been dating his childhood sweetheart, Sarah, throughout high school, and upon graduation, she had decided to attend Connecticut College for Women. It was 1969, and the school had just announced it would be changing its name and enrolling men for the first time. So Moseley followed Sarah to Conn.

An enthusiastic mathematician, Moseley studied math at Conn, but he also found a home in the Physics Department. Moseley’s math skills translated well to physics, and his professors, particularly David Fenton and Robert Brooks, took an interest in him, providing him with opportunities to explore beyond the curriculum. He also ran the labs, where, of course, he “fixed all the broken stuff.”

Moseley graduated from Conn in just three years. He and Sarah, still very much in love, got married, and together they “took off to the wilds of the Midwest” so Moseley could pursue a doctorate in astrophysics at the University of Chicago.

**THE ULTIMATE BABY PICTURE**

Part of Moseley’s success is timing. The first satellite to orbit Earth, Sputnik, launched in 1957, when Moseley was a boy. In 1961, the first astronauts took flight, and in July of 1969—as Moseley left for Conn—Neil Armstrong took “one small step” onto the moon and famously declared it “one giant leap for mankind.” Space was the new frontier, and there was much to explore.

Moseley arrived at the University of Chicago in the early days of far-infrared astronomy, which allowed scientists to observe and measure longer wavelength light and peer deeper into space than ever before.

“It was all new. We were doing the very first measurements ... on Uranus and Neptune, and found that Neptune has a strong internal heat source and Uranus doesn’t, and that wasn’t known before,” Moseley said.

The team was first working with a small telescope on a Learjet, then moved on to the Kuiper Airborne Observatory, a converted military cargo plane capable of flying above almost all of the infrared-absorbing water vapor in the Earth’s atmosphere.
Through trial and error in a completely new field, Moseley and his colleagues developed new systems and technologies to make rapid improvements in the measurement systems.

“You sort of invented how to do everything without even knowing you were doing it. If something came up that needed to be done, you did it, and then after a while, that became the way it was done,” said Moseley, who added that “being able to invent and make new things with technology is almost like having a superpower.”

Now fully hooked on the thrill of cosmic discovery, Moseley joined NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center to work on the COBE project. The goal was to measure cosmic microwave background radiation, or electromagnetic radiation that comes from every direction—a remnant from an early stage of the universe.

“In other words, we were trying to take the ultimate baby picture of the universe,” Moseley said.

Leading the mission was a young John Mather. “I had found myself in the best possible place in the world, with a wonderful collaborator. He and I worked so well together,” Moseley said.

Mather, a self-described “theoretical experimentalist,” would come up with grand theories of experiments he thought possible. Moseley would bring the theories to life.

“If there was a question, we’d chat about it and I would go come up with a proxy for that experiment to see what we could learn, and we’d bat it back and forth,” Moseley said. “He’d have these big ideas, and I’d figure out what you needed to have in your hands to make it possible.”

Moseley had also arrived at NASA with an independent grant for continued work on infrared astronomy, which would eventually prove very useful for the COBE project after the X-ray guys from down the hall came knocking on the door.

It was a bit of serendipity that led Moseley to one of his most influential inventions, the X-ray microcalorimeter.

In preparation for the next generation of major X-ray telescopes, the X-ray team was looking for a semiconductor that would work better for detecting X-rays than the silicon diode—an electrical component that allows the flow of current in only one direction—they had been using. The COBE team was testing different diodes for their various instruments at the time, and the X-ray team wanted to know if any of them would work better for their telescopes.

The answer, Moseley determined, was no. But he had another idea.

“I realized I had actually solved this problem before. Someone had once asked me about the minimum amount of laser energy you could detect with a thermal detector, which absorbs radiation and records changes in temperature, so I did that calculation.”

Moseley found the calculation in his office drawer, and the next day, he brought it down the hall to the X-ray team and explained that since detecting the energy from a single X-ray is exactly like detecting the little pulse of laser energy, using thermal detectors would work about 100 times better than using silicon detectors.

The team put Moseley in touch with Dan McCammon, a professor of physics at the University of Wisconsin, and together they secured funding to rapidly develop the microcalorimeter technology to transform X-ray spectroscopy. Today, the technology they pioneered is being used for a wide range of applications, from dark matter detection to nuclear nonproliferation to quantum computing.
DEEP-SPACE TELESCOPES
The COBE mission, which operated from 1989 to 1993, was a huge success. Two key measurements confirmed the Big Bang theory with extraordinary accuracy. Mather and another team member, George Smoot, would go on to win the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2006. At the time, the Nobel Committee wrote, “The COBE project can also be regarded as the starting point for cosmology as a precision science.”

For his role in the mission, Moseley was awarded the Connecticut College Medal, the institution’s highest honor, in 1992. After COBE, Moseley began working on the Spitzer Space Telescope, an infrared telescope that was a successor to the airborne astronomy he had done in graduate school. Spitzer could be cooled to almost absolute zero so that its own heat wouldn’t interfere with its measurements, making it more than 100 times more sensitive than the previous iteration. Moseley was the instrument scientist for the mission, and he led the development of the telescope’s Infrared Array Camera.

Then, in the late 1990s, the James Webb project began to take shape. Dubbed the successor to the fabled Hubble, the goal of Webb was to use infrared astronomy to view much older, more distant and fainter objects—ideally the very first objects in the universe after the Big Bang.

But there was a problem—a big problem—that needed to be solved.

“We needed a spectrometer to allow us to observe these large numbers of very, very distant galaxies at one time; there just isn’t enough time to look at each one sequentially,” Moseley said.

Mather was leading the science team for Webb, an international partnership between NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Canadian Space Agency, and Moseley decided to take on the challenge, despite an initial hesitation. (“I’ve got plenty to do,” he told a fellow scientist who initially approached him. “No, you should do this,” his friend told him.)

Moseley realized that what was needed was a way to open up a tiny window focused on each galaxy that would block the light from other nearby objects, and he set to work designing the microshutter array, a series of tiny shutters that measure about the width of a human hair.

The final iteration, built in Munich by the ESA, is a set of four arrays, each containing more than 62,000 shutters that focus the attention of an infrared camera on a very specific object. Because the galaxies are so distant, it will take a long exposure time to get an image, but the microshutters allow the telescope to look at 100 different objects simultaneously, increasing the speed of scientific discovery by a factor of 100.

While initial test images are impressive—“focused together as finely as the laws of physics allow”—the best is yet to come. The telescope recently finished cooling to operating temperature, and the instruments are now being calibrated. The first scientific images are expected this summer.

Webb also features a special aperture for exoplanets, planets that orbit stars other than the sun. Studying exoplanets may someday help answer one of humanity’s greatest questions: Are we alone?

On that question, Moseley is torn. On the one hand, it’s very possible that Earth is an anomaly with a specific set of critical, unique systems that statistically just aren’t probable anywhere else in the universe. On the other hand, the universe is a very big place.

“Existence itself is a pretty oddball thing, isn’t it?” he mused.

“Being able to invent and make new things with technology is almost like having a superpower.”

— SAMUEL HARVEY MOSELEY JR. ‘72
When Brian Field ’90 came to campus this spring to work with Conn’s choral students, he brought his considerable talent and more than 40 years of experience composing a wide variety of music.

But he also offered the students something else: the chance to work with a living composer.

“It was an opportunity for them to ask questions and to work through the process with someone who went to Conn—and to not just sing dead people’s music for a change,” he said.

In April, the Connecticut College Camerata and Chorale students performed two of Field’s pieces, “Lauda anima mea dominum” and “Let the Light Shine on Me,” at their annual spring concert, accompanied by Eun Joo Lee and directed by Visiting Instructor of Music Rachel Feldman. Field, whose compositions include solo acoustic, chamber, ballet, choral, vocal, electroacoustic and orchestral works for television and stage, was in attendance.

Field said working with the students also gave him the opportunity to debunk the notion that, unlike the composers of today who largely work on commissioned pieces, famous historical composers “were geniuses working in some isolated fashion.

“That’s really a more modern-day conceit. You look at like Haydn, Bach, and really all the composers before them, and they were writing music on demand. It was for a purpose, for a patron,” he said, noting that if a prince asked for a flute piece, for example, the composer would write a flute piece.

“Music composition has always been more of a practice and craft and less about sitting around waiting for some inspiration to strike.”

Field’s first clients were his neighborhood friends. From the time he was very young, Field would play a neighbor’s piano, improvising music as the other children danced around or acted out a scene. He began formal musical training at 8 years old and started to write down his original works. He worked with a mentor in high school, and then decided to attend Conn, where he could pursue his interest in music as well as English literature. He double majored in the two subjects, while also hosting a radio show on WCNI and editing both The College student newspaper and its companion publication, the Voice Magazine.

“It was a great experience to be able to write and to perform, but also to really explore other interests outside of music,” he said.

Field continued his musical studies at Juilliard, where he was a student of Milton Babbitt and earned a master’s degree. He then earned a Ph.D. from Columbia. It was at Juilliard that Field says he truly understood the value of his nonmusical training.

“A lot of the inspiration I draw from is nonmusical. It’s literary; it’s through visual imagery; it’s through things that are happening in the world.”

Recently, Field collaborated with the chair of the Chapman University Department of Dance, fellow Conn alum Julianne

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**Practice. And Craft**

Juilliard-trained composer Brian Field ’90 isn’t dead. So his trip to Conn enabled students to do more than perform “dead people’s music.”

BY AMY MARTIN
Juilliard-trained composer Brian Field '90 isn't dead. So his trip to Conn enabled students to do more than perform "dead people's music."

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Softly \( \frac{1}{4} = 54 \)
poco rall. \( \text{a tempo} \) poco rall. \( \text{a tempo} \)
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Let the light shine on me
Words & music by Brian T Field, ASCAP
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Composed for the Kaufman Center Special Music School, New York City

Though the world may have troubles,
And salvation hard to see,
I'll keep my heart wide open,
Let the light shine on me.

Let the light, let the light,
Let the light shine on me;
I'll keep my heart wide open,
Let the light shine on me.
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“A lot of the inspiration I draw from is nonmusical. It’s literary; it’s through visual imagery; it’s through things that are happening in the world.”

— BRIAN FIELD ’90

O’Brien Pedersen ’88, on a dance piece she was choreographing. “She had a vague idea about what she wanted it to be about. She would feed me scraps of imagery she was thinking about, and then I would write a minute of music here and 30 seconds there and we would go back and forth,” Field said. “It was a fun project.”

Field is now collaborating with pianists from around the world to raise awareness about the impact of climate change. “Climate change affects everyone on the planet. And the impact is going to be such that if we don’t start doing things—significant things—in the very near future, we’re all going to be in a pretty bad place in a very short amount of time.

“It has become such a politicized issue that people don’t even want to have a discussion. I really looked upon this as an opportunity to engage people in a way that might not be so polarizing,” Field said.

Working with fellow Julliard alum and pianist Kay Kyung Eun Kim, Field composed “Prayers for a Feverish Planet” for solo piano. The first movement, “Fire,” is a reflection on the forest fires raging in the American West on an increasingly alarming basis. The music begins with a “spark” that flickers and spreads and then begins to rage loudly across the register. The second movement, “Glaciers,” uses slow, ponderous movements sporadically interrupted by rapidly falling, thundering episodes to depict the breakdown of glacial ice.

The third movement, “Winds,” is a virtuosic finale that begins with running winds that become increasingly intense and hurricane-like.

Kim premiered the work this spring at Steinway Hall in Seoul, Korea. More than a dozen other artists have also signed on to the project from around the world, and performances are planned in the U.S., Brazil, Greece, France, Austria, the United Arab Emirates and North Macedonia. Individual pianists can also request the scores, and Field has already fielded more than 300 requests.

“The idea is to create a global movement that is kind of dripped over time. Eventually, in perhaps a year or two, I hope we can take it to a much more formal multi-city event that isn’t limited to one piece or limited to the piano, but music more broadly that could continue that broader message of the impact of climate change,” Field said.

Like all true artists, Field is constantly evolving, and he sees each new commission and collaboration as an opportunity to grow. He has won numerous awards, including a McKnight Foundation Fellowship, the Benenti Foundation recording prize, a Briar Cliff Choral Music Competition first prize and a Victor Herbert ASCAP Young Composers’ Contest first prize.

Yet, as he put it, “‘There is no ‘made it.’

“It’s always ‘making it;’ it’s an ongoing process. But I’m proud that I’ve been able to keep the momentum going,” he said.
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Correspondent: Mona Gustafson Affinito, forgivenessoptions@earthlink.net, 723 Water Street, Apt. 1001, Excelsior, MN, 55331 612-760-5007 Please send news, no matter how long or short! As for me (Mona Gustafson Affinito), I’m happy at The Waters; working on a book about our residents; trying to market My Father’s House and It Sucks; active in social justice—study and action, a book club and just plain socializing. Also enjoyed a December river cruise to Tennessee and Kentucky. Jo Pelkey Shepard wonders “who is still alive in our class beside you and me.” She reported, “I live alone with a neurotic cat in Hamden, Conn.; we survived the COVID lockdown.” Jo’s family lives mostly on the West Coast. Tim and wife Andra are in Portland, Ore.; Charlie and wife Wendy in Reno, Nev. (and Cape Cod); and Carrie and husband Dan Gusfield in Davis, Calif. Her grandchildren are far-flung: Berlin, Germany (Ben Shepard and partner Job); NYC (Sam Shepard and wife Rebecca; Annie Shepard); Sacramento, Calif. (Nick Shepard and wife Maggie); and Glenview, Ill. (Talia Gusfield with husband Scott and daughter Eliana Josephine; Shira Gusfield). Pat Roth Squire and husband David still happily live in their condo in Back Bay, Boston, and still get around—“slowly with walkers and/or canes. In nice weather we enjoy a bench in a lovely mall in the middle of Commonwealth Ave., where we sit and watch the world go by.” They no longer travel as they used to; their last “wonderful trip” was to Morocco several years ago. They also no longer travel by train to NYC, where two of their seven children live, nor fly to California, where three children, three grandchildren and a great-grandson live. They also have two children, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren in the Boston area. “I still drive; last fall we went to a lovely inn in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, for four nights, just hanging out while they took wonderful care of us. COVID curtailed my volunteering, but I still attend (by Zoom) a hundred-year-old book group and am on several boards and committees. David is always reading something, as am I, so our minds get the action that our bodies don’t.” Phyllis Hoffmann Driscoll still lives in the house in Hilton Head, S.C., that she and husband Frank built 35 years ago, when he retired. A landscape service maintains the “big” yardwork, but Phyllis enjoys pulling weeds and planting flowers in the spring and fall. “I walk the last five holes on the golf course early each morning (weather permitting) before the golfers tee off. My companion walker is a neighbor (my daughter’s age) so we walk briskly! I play bridge once a month and volunteer Mondays at a local food bank. I’m still driving, so I’m transportation for some friends. I feel very blessed and lucky that I can still do these things. Frank died five years ago. I miss him, but what I miss, too, are the conversations you have when someone is living with you; it’s no fun talking to yourself, although I do it all the time!” For Barbara Wiegand Pilotte life goes on: “I’m still with it.” Things have been quiet since the main building of their residence closed for activities. There are some independent-living activities, and Barbara and Bob stay in touch with neighbors and family. Their two granddaughters live in Pennsylvania and New Jersey with their 3-year-old great-grandsons. Their grandson and his wife are in Colorado with Barbara and Bob’s two great-granddaughters. Son Bob Jr. is in the area; they see him at least once a week. “Age is definitely a factor, and my macular degeneration doesn’t help. Bob and I will celebrate our 68th wedding anniversary in July with family at Bethany Beach, Del. Knitting is still a favorite pastime—started, incidentally, in botany class. Bob’s first pair of argyle socks were among my projects.” Harriett Bassett MacGregor and Bob have avoided COVID so far, but they missed their Christmas gathering due to positive tests of family members. New “indoor winter sports” include the fun of going through old stuff (photos, unmarked and undated) and discovering the new computer game Wordle (challenging). Janet Young Wittner writes, “I am alive and well, living in a retirement community in Chestertown, Md. Been here nine years.” She still drives locally, plays bridge, exercises in the pool, belongs to two book clubs and knitting groups, takes adult learning classes at local college—and I have slowed down! I lost my husband of almost 70 years in October and am in the process of moving from a cottage to an apartment to simplify my life. Being single again is a challenge, as many of you know.”

Correspondent: Joanne Williams Hartley, 69 Chesterton Road, Wellesley MA 02481, johartley69@icloud.com, 781-235-4038 cell: 617-620-9385 Joan Silverherz Brundage and Lyle no longer travel but enjoy their life in West Palm Beach, Fla. Daughter Elizabeth’s latest book, The Vanishing Point, was published last May to very good reviews, especially in the Wall Street Journal. I read it and found it a well-written story, with beautifully crafted characters, many twists and unexpected turns—hard to put down. She has had many virtual book club meetings. I highly recommend it, and if you are in a book club, your members would love it. Her last book, All Things Cause to Appear, was picked up by Netflix as the film Things Heard and Seen. Sadly, we lost Joan Negley Kelleher last summer. Joan lived in San Antonio, Tex., all her life, and served as president and was active in the San Antonio Conservation Society for over 40 years. She was happiest outdoors riding horses at the family ranch, enjoying the animals and fishing. She loved fly-fishing and spent time over many years in Jackson Hole, Wyo., and in Colorado pursuing that favorite hobby. Jan Rowe Dugan still lives in her condo in Sarasota, Fla. She loves duplicate bridge; she achieved her Life Masters five years ago and hoped to hit another level at writing. She plays nine holes of golf every week. She is still involved in law through a family firm in her hometown of Amherst, Mass., and is in an association of lawyers who meet for lunch and interesting conversation. With respiratory issues, Jan prefers year-round warm weather; she enjoys active and energetic. Like many of us, she is clearing out possessions and family treasures, always a more poignant task than anticipated. Ann Marcuse Raymond enjoys life in Redding, Conn. She fared well in the pandemic; the units in her retirement community are large, light and airy, so she did not feel too confined. However, like many, her wings were clipped during COVID; she loved singing in the Canterbury Choral Society in NYC and had to give that up, a big disappointment. Her two children are in Delaware and Florida, and she used to think nothing of driving to Delaware; now it is hard to consider a long drive alone. She adds, “It is an amazing milestone to have a child who is a grandmother!” Many of you can relate, I am sure. Jane Daly Crowley still lives in her own home in Wallingford, Conn. Two daughters live nearby. She has some respiratory issues but is still active, driving during daylight, rushing like Cinderella to meet the twilight witching hours. We had a great discussion of the old days at CC … she took riding lessons in fall and spring, and several classmates brought their own horses to ride. She went to Europe after graduation with a group organized by Nancy Powell Beaver; it was a long tour, costing about $900 total. She remembers Jan Gross Jones, Annette Studzinski Mead, Barbara Garlick Boyle and Evelyn Connolly Meyers attending, among others. Ann Heagney Weimer, Cinnie Linton Fleming and Joan Negley Kelleher were on the plane but then separated from the group. Have we left out any others who were on that trip? Jane stays in touch with Norma Hamady Richards, in Washington, DC, and Ann Heagney Weimer, in her home on Cape Cod. Irene Ball Barrack is still in her home in Connecticut. She is lively as ever, lately working with neighbors opposing a rezoning effort on adjacent property. She called the fire department in the middle of the night for help with a basement flooding issue, and they found her in boots and robe shoveling water. They were struck that normally when they get to homes in such an emergency the residents stand around and let them do the work, but here was an 88-year-old woman leading the effort! Part of the teachings for CC girls; Dr. Park would approve! I look forward to at-
Correspondent: Elaine Diamond Bernstein, 100 Riverside Blvd., Apt. 20C, New York, NY 10069, elainedberstein@comcast.net. We will tell you all about our 65th reunion in the next column. Most classmates I spoke to while preparing this one said they had little news to report since they'd been laying low due to COVID. Trips were canceled, outside activities curtailed and most were looking for online opportunities while staying at home. In Colorado, Sue Krim Greene has enjoyed a course called “Great Decisions,” organized by the Foreign Policy Association, a group with chapters all over the country. Look online to see if there is a chapter in your area. Sue reports that her grandson, Andrew Krim, a recent Middlebury graduate who lives in the same house in Torrington, Conn., and her husband have been teaching fourth graders English via Zoom but transitioned to the classroom. She finds it so rewarding. Jean Alexander Gilcrest’s daughter’s stepson got married this year—Jean’s first grandchild to do so. Gail Gilding Goodell connected with family and played games with them via Zoom, as well as playing bridge with her sisters and others. Now they play in person. She has resumed aqua exercise at the Y, and she is walking. She battled breast cancer and had radiation but now has her energy back. She went on her usual trip to Pine Island, Maine—the area had a drought, and people could walk from the mainland to the island! She visited her sister in Wisconsin and then went on a sisters’ retreat in Massachusetts, where she and one sister stayed in a yurt with an outhouse nearby. Her other sister was in a cabin. Gail’s daughter, Cary, and family have moved to Maryland; Gail visited to celebrate her birthday. She plays in the handbell choir at church. A correction from my last column: I mentioned her beekeeping skills; that was at Conn, not recently. Anne Earnshaw Roche has been in a lockdown in New Zealand since August. The country has tight border control as well. Her daughter and family live nearby, and they do lots of walking. They Zoom with church, book club, family and even her friends in US. In early 2021 they still had a free life. They visited John’s sister and friends in Tauranga and did another part of the Te Araroa Trail that is south of Auckland and has an arboretum. The walkway goes from the top to bottom of New Zealand; they are doing the flatter parts in the middle. They visited grandchildren: One is headed to law school, another is a chef, another a lawyer, another is a sculptor and the last one is an engineer. Marcia Fortin Sherman is busy packing up things and getting rid of items that won’t fit in their new senior-living place close by, where many of their friends now live. Their son and daughter managed to visit before more COVID interruptions. Their oldest grandson has wedding plans; his brother lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., and works in his father's business. Marcia’s granddaughter moved to Grand Rapids, completed a course in piano pedagogy and works in operations at the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, in Kalamazoo. Her brother is a junior at Michigan State majoring in packaging science. We would love to hear from you. Just email us so that we have news to print.

Missy Missimer McQuiston had lunch with Carolyn McGonigle Holleran and husband Jerry and Judy Van Law Blakey at the Hollerans’ all-green house (the first in Pennsylvania), in Sinking Spring. The house and its concept are fascinating. “It was our first get-together since COVID. None of us had much news since we have all been quarantined on and off for two years. It was wonderful being together in person.” They are all venturing out again. Judy went to the West Coast, the Hollerans planned to ski in Utah, and the McQuistons planned trips to Florida and hopefully Italy, a trip that had been canceled three times. Interesting news: Carolyn and Jerry have five great-grandchildren! Missy and Bob feel lucky to have two grandchildren! Louise Lane Talbot wrote, “Hi Millie— or Hey Millie, as they say here in Charleston, S.C., where we spend six months a year. I was sorry to miss our big 60th reunion, but when I heard it would be virtual I kind of lost interest. I really wanted to be on the campus and see everyone in person and catch up. I expect to be around for the 65th, so let’s all make that a priority.” Louise had a CC connection last year when her granddaughter applied for the Class of 2025 and was accepted and even offered a scholarship! “I was so excited to think of her being there but, sadly, she chose Fordham because she wanted to be near a big city. She is very happy there. Had, my husband of 50-plus years, and I have miraculously escaped COVID. We are very lucky.” Their oldest grandchild, 23, is job hunting like so many of her generation. “I look back at my own first job experience and think how grateful I have...
always been to Mr. Waddell, who got six of us CC grads into a secretarial training program at McGraw-Hill, where we all ended up working. It’s not so easy now." Had and Louise still have their house in Katonah, N.Y., purchased 47 years ago, and a place near where Louise grew up in South Carolina. “Life is pretty good. I feel woefully out of touch with everyone I knew at CC, so I hope you, Millie, will get everyone from our class contributing to the magazine. Cheers to all, Weezie. (But no one calls me that anymore!)” Joan Murray Webster enjoys her “octogenarian lifestyle,” still learning and living in an active retirement community, Varenna, in Santa Rosa, Calif. An animal lover, she’s grateful that furry friends are welcome there. “My dearly loved companion is Ellie, a joyful toy poodle, age 4, who came to me at 9 weeks old, less than 48 hours before our Napa home burned in the wildfires of 2017. We were nomads together for a year and a half before we settled into our new home at Varenna.” There is something for everybody on the 27-acre, beautifully landscaped campus managed by cheery and helpful staff. “You may remember, from long ago news, that our family of five moved to a small, Napa Valley hillside farm, where we lived for almost 40 years following John’s retirement from the U.S. Navy, submarine service. While John continued his civilan nuclear career, our family business was a 33-year breeding program raising, showing and selling the only native Irish equine, the Connemara pony (on average, the size of the original American Quarter Horse).” Joan is still involved with the breed, serving on the national board of governors and several committees for the American Connemara Pony Society. On Feb. 16 we had a follow-up Zoom call with Edece Chase Fenimore, Jean Curtiss Britt, Elaine Heydenreich Harned, Linda Stallman Gibson, Nancy Osterweiss Alderman, Patricia Wertzheim Abrams, Anne Sweaze and Harriet Kaufman Breslow. As several classmates have said about renewing old friends, Zoom is a wonderful way. We would like more of you to join us for our next call, in July.

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Correspondent: Platt Townsend Arnold, 160 Upper Pattagansett Road, East Lyme, CT 06333, 860-691-1125, cell 860-235-2086, platt_arnold@yahoo.com Most of us in the Class of 1964 are turning 80 this year. Please help me fill this column by sending your celebration notes (I can’t do this alone!). Marcia Silcox Crockett, Platt Townsend Arnold, Donna Richmond Carleton, Cathy Layne Frank and Kirk Palmer Senske celebrated Ann Weatherby Gruner’s 80th via Zoom on THE day. The seventh of our CC?, Sue Hackenbred Trethewey, died in May 2020, and it still feels strange to not have her with us. We seven had kept in touch fairly regularly since graduation, and the remaining six have Zoomed monthly during the pandemic, something we had never done before March 2020. We six are spread north and south, East Coast and West, so getting together via the internet has been wonderful. (Wish I had bought Zoom stock in January of 2020!) Our class has received news of the deaths of classmates Judy Campbell, on
Feb. 10 in Massachusetts, and Ellen Green-span Cardwell, on Dec. 19 in Racine, Wisc. Please visit the Connecticut College Class of 1964 Facebook page for their full obituaries, with photos; thanks to Marie Birnbaum for posting them. So many memories of both Judy and Ellen; condolences to friends and family, and gratitude for their time with us! I’m supposed to respect my elders…, but it’s getting harder and harder to find one.

65 Correspondents: Susan Peck Hinkel, 1064 N. Main St., Danby, VT 05739, rerobo@mac.com; Pat Antell Andrews, 2800 South University Blvd., Unit 4, Denver, CO 80210, pandre0615@gmail.com Carol Carter Shilepsky, who lives in Charleston, S.C., and is a professor emerita of Mathematics and Computer Science at Wells College, in Ithaca, N.Y., enjoys her nearby grandchildren. She adds, “I try to stay in shape for three sprint triathlons for women a year.” Susan Ekberg Stiritz writes, “For the past nine years, I have been chair of the specialization in Sexual Health and Education at the Brown School at Washington University and have been teaching social work courses in the MSW program there. For 13 years before that I developed and taught five sexuality courses. From 2018 to 2020, I served as president of the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists. Bill and I celebrate our 50th anniversary this December and have four children, nine grandchildren and two dachshunds. We split our time between Gulf Stream, Fla., and St. Louis, Mo. We are grateful to be in good health and active.” Rosemary Oetiker volunteers with SeniorNet on Long Island, informing and helping other seniors. For the past five years, Betsy Leitner Kovaes chaired the board of health for their tiny town of Heath in northwestern Massachusetts, weathering the “extraordinary challenge” of COVID. Recently she led a team of pro bono attorneys working with the Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts to help Afghan evacuees gain asylum in the US. “The stories are harrowing, and the courage and stamina of these people is extraordinary.” The American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology honored Mary Lake Polan as a “giant in obstetrics and gynecology” for her pioneering work on “the role of cytokines and inflammation in reproduction, specifically in implantation and ovulation.” In addition to serving as professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Stanford University, she has commuted for two decades to Eritrea, surgically treating women with obstetrical fistulas and training Eritrean surgeons. Cathy Fullerton Stentzel looks forward to her roles with the care team and member relations team at their new community, Shepherd Village, near Shepherdstown, W.Va. She adds that a family foundation to serve peace, justice and young people is looking for “small or local 501(c)(3) organizations that could use a small grant” (for details: kwstentzel@gmail.com). Leona Chu taught high school English for many years in Portland, Ore., falling in love with the Pacific Northwest. After those memorable years, she settled in the Bay Area, teaching high school English, editing high school English and American history textbooks for Addison-Wesley, working at Stanford University in human resources, and retiring 20 years ago. “I value wonderful experiences at Conn during my short time there. And the excellent teaching in Renaissance English I received from Joan Hartman has stood me in good stead for many years!” For over 20 years Chris Metcalfe produced television shows for children at the NBC-affiliated station in San Francisco. After a short stint at the nonprofit Children Now, she then worked for a custom jeweler in Oakland, Calif., which left more time to pursue hobbies, gardening, and trail riding on horses. “My great joy was riding the redwood trails up in the Oakland hills, in weather fair or foul, daylight or moonlight. Splendid!” Now retired, she volunteers on the board of Lakeshore Homes Association, an HOA established in 1917 in Oakland. The community was planned following the Omlstead philosophy, with lots of green space, of which she manages the nine parks. “I spend my time serving the needs of the environment on Sweet Mother Earth, cherishing every little treasure that She has given us, promoting tree health and animal habitat.” In April 1992, Mimi Rehor, who has lived on a boat for over 45 years, sailed to the island of Great Abaco in the northern Bahamas. Until September 2019 she worked to save the last members of a wild horse herd of direct descendants of the horses raised in Cuba for the Spanish conquistadores. (See www.arkwild.org/blog/ and a Facebook page at Abaco Horses.) On bicycles, motorbikes, and various vehicles including a tractor and a wonderful old Land Rover, she traversed the 10,000 acres of the ancient limestone island and saved living tissue from the last horse. The tissue remains in cryogenic storage pending its development into two clones. She also rescued many dogs and cats, the last of which were airlifted out of Abaco after Hurricane Dorian, and she is working on a book while “trying to polish a crystal ball that will show the path for the horses’ future.”

66 Correspondents: Carol Chaykin and Pat Dale, ccnotes66@gmail.com In January, the Ladue News (Mo.) published a beautiful profile of Nanci Anton Bobrow: “Meet Nanci Bobrow: St. Louis Area Advocate for Children” (www.bit.ly/ meet-nanci). In addition to her professional role as an assistant clinical adjunct professor of pediatrics at the Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Nanci has held leadership roles with many organizations. These have included Women of Achievement, the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), Silent Witness, the St. Louis Crisis Nursery, Nurses for Newborns, Victims for Children at Risk, Prevent Child Abuse Missouri, the ‘Task Force on Children’s Justice for Missouri and the Missouri Children’s Trust Fund. Nanci has received several notable awards, including the Hannah G. Solomon Award from NCJW, the Champion for Families Award from Nurses for Newborns, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Commissioner’s Award. On Jan. 14, Patricia Dale (professionally known as Patt Dale) was honored for her 50 years of membership in the theatrical union Association of Theatrical Press Agents & Managers (ATPAM). Promoted from Gold Card member, Patt is now a member of the Diamond Club, the highest tier of ATPAM’s membership. This honor was announced at a Zoom meeting open to all ATPAM members. Though she wishes she’d been recognized with the gift of a real diamond, she received a nice-looking facsimile of a large diamond, engraved with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) logo and reading “Diamond Club 50-Year Member.” ATPAM is part of IATSE, one of the entertainment industry’s strongest unions. Lenore Farmer writes, “I have been busy shoveling snow this winter and have completed four Publishers Clearing House forms without ordering one item.” After her home lost power during the late January snow/windstorm, Ellen Kagan weathered out the storm (with winds up to 80 mph) at the DoubleTree Hotel in Hyannis, Mass. Zoom has brought together eight classmates from Plant House; Bernice Abramowitz Shor, Lisa Altman Pintzuk, Ann Kiley, Kathy Legg, Carol Lewis Mehlenbeck, Iva Obst Turner, Susan Rothschild and Mardon Walker have been meeting regularly online. Kathy writes, “Our restored bond has become an essential support for each of us as we work our way through the challenges of our 70s. We are located all over the country and have led very different lives, but our common background at Conn has provided a surprisingly strong foundation, and our friendship has grown. We are tightly CONNected.” On Jan. 28, Rona Shor moderated College for a Day as a virtual event that featured CC Professor of Art Andrea Wollensak. College for a Day was launched in the early 1970s as an in-person event in Denver,
Colo., by alums from nine women’s colleges, including Conn. Marian Silber wintered in Naples, Fla., as usual, but had to adjust to the “culture shock” of many going maskless after the strictness in New York. She and Susan Kirshnit Woodall, Asia Rial Elsbree and Ruth Zaleske Leibert meet weekly in a local park and celebrated Ruth’s 77th birthday together. Please continue sending your news and photos. We love hearing from you!

Correspondents: Deborah Greenstein, debbyg837@verizon.net; Marcia Hunter Matthews, marcia-matthews3@gmail.com As we write this, the committee for our 55th reunion is hard at work planning a wonderful weekend full of fun, friendship and food for thought. Under the leadership of Reunion Chair Rita York Fogal, we meet regularly, thanks to Zoom. We hope that by the time you read this, we will have seen many of you in New London, or perhaps on Zoom. We plan to include highlights and photos in the next Class Notes. Rita York Fogal continues volunteering in retirement. She has volunteered for the Boston Ballet since 1998, currently serving as executive vice president of the volunteer association, and will become president in June. Rita also volunteers for the Project Management Institute and their Educational Foundation. She was on the board of the foundation and is now part of an advisory development committee. She also volunteers for PMI on the local level for the Massachusetts chapter, giving training to nonprofits. Debby Greenstein finds it hard to believe that five years have passed since our last reunion and even harder to believe what a wild ride these five years have been. “Five years ago, I had my original knees. Today I have two artificial ones. What a joy to be pain-free and mobile. Five years ago, we hadn’t heard of COVID-19. Today, two years into the pandemic, I continue to be amazed at how quickly we locked down, got vaxxed and boosted, and changed our lifestyles to meet changing conditions. Five years ago, I had never heard of Zoom. Today, I change the background for every call, finding wonderful things on the web and in my photo gallery to use so that I don’t have to clean up my desk or guest room before going online.”

Marcia Hunter Matthews was introduced to “gratitude attitude” several years ago by her dear friend Ginny Turner Friberg ’62. It has become her mantra because she has so much to be thankful for. Someone wonderful at Conn assigned Judi Rosman Hahn and Marcia as roommates in Jane Addams in 1963. They have been dear friends for almost 60 years! Their husbands like each other, and they have traveled together to Ireland and Canada. Two of their children went to Bowdoin together. That friendship has been such a gift. Nancy Blumberg Austin, Pat McClure and Judy Macurda Oates were also in JA that year, and those women are still good friends 59 years later. Several of them played a lot of bridge in college, and it is fun for Marcia to be playing bridge with Pat McClure today. Leslie Freidin Cooper keeps busy working with Virginia Bush Consultants assisting kids through the application process to high school. She’s had some fantastic students from the U.S., Russia, Kazakhstan, China and even one from Malta. She helped take care of husband Paul, who had COVID, pneumonia and a recent hip replacement. They have two daughters, Doris and Catherine, and four grandchildren. Younger daughter Cat and husband teach at Rumsey Hall School, where their two children attend. Wallis Lindburg Nicita writes, “Looking back, some cliches proved to be true: Love is all, family comes first, you reap what you sow and manners matter (my mother would be so proud). I spent most of my life working in the film business. I have witnessed the truism that money doesn’t guarantee happiness. Some extremely successful people are miserably unhappy. They may miss their fleeing youth or churn in a competitive fervor over their competitor’s success. I am happy when I am thrilled by a beautiful sunrise. Nature and the wonders of our planet have a more profound impact on me now. When I was young and speeding through life, I took everything natural for granted. No more. It is wondrous and must be protected. I am very aware of my responsibility to the next generation’s ability to enjoy this planet.”

Exandra Gray Creed writes that after 40 very lively years with husband Sandy, she is living a quiet life. She loves spending time with her kids. Her daughter is in Santa Barbara, Calif.; one son is in Utah and the other in Napa, about an hour from where she lives. Gardening is her major passion, as well as hiking with her dog, although that is slowing down as they are both aging! The class sends condolences to the families and friends of Stephanie Pierson and Diane Gilbert Murphy. Stevie, who died in November, is survived by daughter Phoebe Danziger and her family, and by her partner, Eric Silver. Stevie’s friends Wally Lindburg Nicita and Nancy Stephens have shared with us what a vibrant, creative, fabulously witty human being she was and how much they will miss her. Alex Gray Creed tells us that she and Diane stayed in touch and had many visits. Sadly, their last planned reunion did not take place because of COVID.

Friends from 1967: Janice Robinson Alferi and Stevie Pierson at their 50th reunion dinner

Correspondent: Mary Clarkeson Phillips, 36 The Crossway, Delmar, NY 12054, mphil2@nycap.rr.com

Susan Kennedy Bishov and her family are fine. She misses traveling but loves being a piano teacher and a dog owner, “so life is good!”

Susan Bristol sold her house in Vail, Colo., bought an eight-acre historic farm north of Milwaukee, Wisc., and is living with her son and his children (ages 5 and 8): “Life is full of surprises.”

Ruth Kirschner and her family are thriving. She is still teaching and writing. Her 2018 play, Whippoorwill, was produced in March-April at Centenary Stage Company. Her newest play, The Field, is based on stories told to her over a year of Thursday afternoons with incarcerated veterans at San Quentin State Prison; it has been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Her SQ work was sponsored by the Marin Shakespeare Company; they do wonderful work in correctional facilities statewide. “Happy to connect with classmates anytime.”

Georgia Urbano Rysman and husband Richard (MIT ’68) were booted out of NYC just pre-COVID when their co-op sold itself to a Swedish real estate developer. Since it was time for Richard to think about retiring (he’s an intellectual property lawyer), they left NYC (after 32 years!) for their vacation home on Nantucket. Now they spend half the year there and half on a little barrier island just outside Charleston, S.C. Though still missing New York, Georgia has seen Andrea Hintlian Mendell on Nantucket and is in touch with Susan Lasovick and Roberta Ward Holleman in person and through Facebook. While it seems like everyone around her is retiring, Roberta Ward Holleman continues working with her daughter-in-law in her QuickBooks consulting and bookkeeping business, remotely from her home office. Last year she saw her son and his family in Bozeman, Mont., and attended the Red Ants Pants Music Festival. Also, last summer she went to San Francisco and saw Judy Irving in North Beach, where she lives right under the Coit Tower: “A great visit and reconnection!”

Roberta feels lucky to have her 2-year-old grandson and his parents with them while they fix up her old house in Sonoma, Calif. “Life is quiet but good.”

Elizabeth (Betsy) Davison is still teaching—still loves it and has many interesting students—but she hasn’t been traveling as
2022 Alumni Award Winners

**Harriet Buescher Lawrence ’34 Prize Recipient**

**Susan P. Hancock ’07**
Freeport, ME
Climate Researcher
Whether arguing for climate policies before the United Nations, publishing papers or working locally for change in her community, Susana lives life with distinct purpose. Susana is a linguist who speaks five languages and an anthropologist focusing on the geopolitics of climate change in the Arctic and Middle East. She holds three degrees from the University of Oxford. She is the recipient of many national and international fellowships and honors.

**Goss Award Recipient**

**Jonathan McBride ’92**
Long Beach, CA
Partner, Heidrick & Struggles
Jonathan is recognized as a global leader in diversity, equity and inclusion. He is also a strong supporter of the College and is currently a member of the Board of Trustees. Jonathan has served as a Reunion committee member and career adviser and has been active with Unity House and alumni of color. Previously he was a managing director and global head of inclusion and diversity at BlackRock, a publicly traded investment management firm. Prior to that, he served as director of the Presidential Personnel Office in the White House, a role he was appointed to in July 2013.

**Alumni Tribute Award Recipient**

**Judith Tindal Opatrny ’72**
Jackson, WY
Law Librarian, Retired
Judy’s ready smile, gentle wit, sensible ideas and many contributions to the College have had an enormously positive impact on the Conn community. She has served as a trustee and on the Connecticut College Alumni Strategic Planning Liaison Committee and as a Forum Council member. She was a major supporter of the renovation of New London Hall and the Olin Science Center, as well as the renovation of Johnson and Hamilton Residence Halls and the Charles E. Shain Library. She has also generously supported faculty and students with the Judith Tindal Opatrny ’72 Junior Faculty Fellowship Fund, the Judith Tindal Opatrny ’72 College Priority Fund and the Connecticut College Fund.

**Agnes Berkeley Leahy ’21 Recipient**

**Sarah A. Schoellkopf ’97**
San Francisco, CA
Sarah has been a standout volunteer for many years. She served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors for six years, focusing on providing support for underrepresented alumni and fostering connections with alumni from the 1990s and on the West Coast. Sarah has opened her home for gatherings in the Bay Area, including for holiday parties. Sarah recently established an endowed scholarship fund as part of the Hale Scholarship Initiative.

**Harriet Buescher Lawrence ’34 Prize Recipient**

**Agnes Berkeley Leahy ’21 Recipient**

**Liza Talusan ’97**
Brockton, MA
Liza is a dedicated volunteer at the College and a standout in her field as a DEI educator, facilitator and coach. She advances conversations about diversity, anti-racism, bias, privilege and power in communities, organizations and schools. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including South Shore’s “40 Under 40” Award, Asian Women for Health’s Peer Leader Award, and NASPA’s Regional Network for Educational Equity and Ethnic Diversity Award, and is the author of The Identity-Conscious Educator: Building Habits and Skills for a More Inclusive School.

**Mach Arom ’89 Award Recipient**

**Rocio Tinoco ’17**
C.B. Jennings International Elementary Magnet School
New London, CT
Rocio is a dedicated bilingual educator who remained in New London to teach after graduating from Connecticut College. Rocio has taught in New London Public School’s New Arrivals Program, which supports students who are new to the United States and are learning English. Rocio stays closely connected to the College, hosting a range of Conn student tutors and classroom assistants each semester, facilitating training and workshops, and working with students to implement global/local engagement projects and after-school mentor programs.

**Harriet Buescher Lawrence ’34 Prize Recipient**

**Agnes Berkeley Leahy ’21 Recipient**
Creating a Legacy

Maarten '83 and Annette '83 Terry pay it forward.
M aarten ’83 and Annette ’83 Terry met during their first couple of days as new students at Connecticut College, in 1979. They quickly became friends—until their senior year, that is, when they also fell in love.

Across 39 years and a long, happy marriage since, they have shared a deep gratitude for the College’s many contributions to their lives. But it wasn’t until the October 2021 event launching the $300 million Defy Boundaries campaign, the College’s most ambitious campaign ever, that they realized how they wanted to acknowledge Conn’s influence and pay their gratitude forward. That decision has led them to make two major gifts to the campaign and, as Maarten said, “make sure that other students have the opportunity to do what we’ve done.”

The inspiration for the gifts began as Maarten, who is also a trustee, sat with other guests at the campaign launch. He watched as the most generous donors in Conn’s history, including Rob Hale ’88 and Pam Zilly ‘75, stepped to the microphone to share their reasons for supporting Conn. Maarten remembers, “I’m there surrounded by, as I call them, the Mount Rushmore of giving to Connecticut College, and you could just see their commitment and their love for the College and their desire to push it forward. And I’m thinking, if not for the kindness of strangers, I would not have had this experience. I said, ‘We’ve got to dig in.’”

Annette, meanwhile, had never forgotten wanting to make possible for others what her parents had done for her. Her father, who was legally blind, was an assistant principal, and her mother was a stenographer. When she told them that she had been admitted to Conn, she says, “I remember Dad going over to his desk and trying to figure out how we’re going to do this. For him, there was never any question that I could not go to the school of my choice. He knew I loved Conn so much, and he really made it happen. I didn’t really understand until I got older how much the sacrifices he made for me.”

So when Maarten called Annette that night of the campaign launch to discuss the impact of the evening on him, she immediately agreed that they had to act. “I just always thought,” she says, “that if we had the opportunity, I would love to give back.”

By the next day, Maarten and Annette were discussing how they could do more for Conn, since they have long been contributors to the College. They soon decided to make two gifts at once. One was inspired by the recently announced Hale Scholarship Challenge, which alumni Rob and Karen Hale P’20 established with $10 million in funds to match all scholarship gifts of $250,000 or more. Maarten and Annette decided to make a qualifying gift to endow a scholarship for financial aid. The second donation is a legacy gift, through which the Terrys have committed major resources to the College as part of their estate plans.

“This college is worth it; ensuring that its future is secure is worth it,” says Maarten, a founding partner of ConvergeDirect, a direct response media firm. “We need not only to pay back the experience but also to pay it forward. A family’s financial circumstances should not be the determining factor on whether a student attends Conn.”

The desire to give back has long been with both of them, because of how meaningful their Conn undergraduate days proved to be. Maarten was a housefellow, active in student government and intramural sports, and served as president of the Black Student organization. At graduation, he received the Anna Lord Strauss Medal in honor of his extensive volunteer work, including coordinating the campus relief effort for victims of a major fire in New London.

Annette, likewise, fondly recalls her time as a student adviser, student government officer and gymnastics team member. “Those memories are near and dear to my heart,” she adds. “But I also have to say, I wanted to give back to Connecticut College because I met my husband there. We have a home and two kids and a 17-year-old dog. We’re just so grateful for everything.”

They also realize, as Maarten says, that “not everyone has a 10-out-of-10 experience” at Conn, including other Black alumni. Looking back on his start at Conn, in 1979, he reflects, “It’s tough being one of the few on a campus that is not terribly representative, where you might stand out a little bit. Sometimes, as a result of that, the experience of a Black or minority or economically disadvantaged student may not be the same as for a majority student, but nonetheless, in my opinion—and I can only speak for me—the experience, the struggle, the effort and the result, the opportunities—it’s all worth it.”

If Maarten and Annette have one big hope from their gifts, it’s that they will inspire others as contributors, as Hale and Zilly inspired them. “We know there are a lot of students who have come from difficult backgrounds,” Maarten says, “and, for the grace of God, they’ve been given a lot as a result of the Conn experience. I would say to any alumni, particularly to minority alumni, we need to pay it back.”

And, they say, they’re not done. “It’s humbling,” he says. “We did not think we would be in a position to do this, and yet we hope and expect to do much more in the future as well.”
much as she’d like. The light of their lives is grandson Jack, age 2. They have him a lot, as the younger generation is working hard. He is fun and very active, keeping them running. Luckily, they have lots of land (particularly in the Dutch sense of the word) and masses of chickens and other outdoor things that keep Jack fascinated—and Betty in good physical shape. “John swears he is going to retire soon, but I will believe it when I see it. Plumbers never run out of work.” The only time he doesn’t work is when they go away. With COVID still causing misery, Sue Sharkey Hoffman’s life continues to be constrained. Thankfully, their kids and grandkids have been vaccinated, “so Christmas was lovely! Two of our kids, the ‘little ones’, and our grown grandson and his girlfriend visited.” Their grandchildren range in age from 1 to 25 years old! They spent time in Florida to get out of the cold. “International travel plans? No!” This year Jane Goodman was juried into CoART Gallery, a cooperative gallery in Staunton, Va., and she shows at other area art venues. She has two grandsons, both with January birthdays: James, 5, and Jack, 2. She enjoys Zoom calls with CC friends: “It has meant so much to be in touch during these uncertain times.” She was hoping to be in Florence, Italy, for a month in April. Helen Epps reports that the pandemic caused some tour companies to offer alluring deals to entice travelers. Having been sent a too-good-to-be-true deal to the bucket list destination of Antarctica, she signed up with a heady combination of excitement and anxiety for a mid-January departure. Pandemic protocols were significant and COVID tests frequent, but Helen had an amazing trip to get there and see every corner of the continent. “It is difficult to believe that these kids are now walking across a stage, not crawling across our kitchen. We are so happy to be engaging in activities we enjoy again.” In November Mary Garlick St. George hosted an open house/art exhibition with five artist friends at her home in Portugal. “A lovely event with music, wine and food was a good way to confront COVID. My present work focuses on the subject of abandoned buildings in Portugal. There is plenty of mystery and history in the decaying architecture. The textures, colors and sense of materials merging into the undergrowth are inspiring.” Nancy Horvitz Bachman wrote new verses for Saint-Saën’s “Carnival of the Animals,” which was performed in April at Zankel Hall (part of Carnegie Hall). “Rhythming is de rigueur, and I’ve been dreaming in coupets. Ogden Nash was the original stylist. Anyone else with metromania?” Doug and Joan Hosmer Smith “will finally stick our necks out to travel to Spain, Portugal and the Douro River. Has anyone else’s doctor told them that our age is a risk factor? To the contrary, I think it is a privilege to be cognent and upright at our age. Keep on going, everyone!” After two years of few clients traveling anywhere, Stephie Phillips is “more than very busy again at Globe Travel. I did get my second COVID booster a few weeks ago, but I am still hesitant to go anywhere.” For Ellen Lougee Simmons, 2022 began with a lovely retreat to Rancho La Puerta in Tecate, Mexico, with her daughters. She has eight grandchildren. Frudy Wilson Barton Horowitz Bachman is “with all three kids and their families less than two hours away. Mary Kroul McAlpin, Julie Boone Kessler and I are getting together in the spring; Julie will give us a tour of her newly built town library. Bob and I will travel to CC on June 5 to attend the memorial service for his cousin Charlie Luce, who, as Athletic Director, ushered the College into a vibrant new era of expanding sports along with coeducation.” Starting in April, there’s a new Florida address for me (above), as my sister’s home in Largo becomes my U.S. base. I will actually reside in Canale, in Italy’s Piedmont region, an hour from Turin, the sea and the western Alps, and two hours from Milan. I’m always reachable by email and eager to see anyone venturing into northwestern Italy. The class sends sincere condolences to the family and friends of Anne Perno, who died on Nov. 21.

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69 Correspondent: Judi Bamberg Marigó, 133 Palmetto Ln., Largo, FL 33770, jgmarrigo@gmail.com Alice Boatwright enjoyed her second Skype session with Dr. Jamshed’s Fiction Book Club, based in Karachi, Pakistan. “A pharmacy professor, Jamshed started the club to foster his medical students’ awareness of how reading literature helps you understand life and the world, past and present. The 150 members commit to reading a book a week. Rather than reading books together, they report on what they have read. Jamshed first invited me to meet with them in December, after he discovered my 100-word story, ‘No Prince,’ in an online journal. At that meeting, we discussed writing and how 100 words can tell a whole story, as well as our different cultures’ myths about the prince who comes to save you. It is a great pleasure and honor to talk with these young people—including many young women.” Both sessions were livestreamed and are available on YouTube. Harry and Anne Bonniol Pringle celebrated their 50th anniversary in April 2021, during the pandemic. “First grandchild Will (born in November) and his parents bought a condo near us in Portland, Maine, so we are able to babysit every few days, a real delight. We now understand what other grandparents have been touting for years! We have been lucky to come through COVID unscathed, so far, and even spent three relaxing weeks on Kauai and the Big Island last fall. Looking forward to a less stressful and more social time on Little Diamond Island this summer.” Paula Cisco Verdu chaired the February Lois Pickard Scholarship luncheon, featuring performances by the recipients. “We met our fundraising goals, and it is a treat watching these young musicians.” In March they visited the National WWII Museum in New Orleans and had a visit from Austin friends they hadn’t seen in over five years. In May, she and Pete will attend the graduation of a friend’s two children from Hillsdale College. “It is difficult to believe that these kids are now walking across a stage, not crawling across our kitchen. We are so happy to be engaging in activities we enjoy again.” In November Mary Garlick St. George hosted an open house/art exhibition with five artist friends at her home in Portugal. “A lovely event with music, wine and food was a good way to confront COVID. My present work focuses on the subject of abandoned buildings in Portugal. There is plenty of mystery and history in the decaying architecture. The textures, colors and sense of materials merging into the undergrowth are inspiring.” Nancy Horvitz Bachman wrote new verses for Saint-Saën’s “Carnival of the Animals,” which was performed in April at Zankel Hall (part of Carnegie Hall). “Rhythming is de rigueur, and I’ve been dreaming in coupets. Ogden Nash was the original stylist. Anyone else with metromania?” Doug and Joan Hosmer Smith “will finally stick our necks out to travel to Spain, Portugal and the Douro River. Has anyone else’s doctor told them that our age is a risk factor? To the contrary, I think it is a privilege to be cognent and upright at our age. Keep on going, everyone!” After two years of few clients traveling anywhere, Stephie Phillips is “more than very busy again at Globe Travel. I did get my second COVID booster a few weeks ago, but I am still hesitant to go anywhere.” For Ellen Lougee Simmons, 2022 began with a lovely retreat to Rancho La Puerta in Tecate, Mexico, with her daughters. She has eight grandchildren. Frudy Wilson Barton Horowitz Bachman is “with all three kids and their families less than two hours away. Mary Kroul McAlpin, Julie Boone Kessler and I are getting together in the spring; Julie will give us a tour of her newly built town library. Bob and I will travel to CC on June 5 to attend the memorial service for his cousin Charlie Luce, who, as Athletic Director, ushered the College into a vibrant new era of expanding sports along with coeducation.” Starting in April, there’s a new Florida address for me (above), as my sister’s home in Largo becomes my U.S. base. I will actually reside in Canale, in Italy’s Piedmont region, an hour from Turin, the sea and the western Alps, and two hours from Milan. I’m always reachable by email and eager to see anyone venturing into northwestern Italy. The class sends sincere condolences to the family and friends of Anne Perno, who died on Nov. 21.

70 Correspondent: Myrna Chandler Goldstein, myrnagoldstein@gmail.com Writing from Leesburg, Va., Nancy Pierce Morgan notes that now that she is retired, she is free to pursue the activities she had set aside for work and family life. “My New Year’s motto: Use your words. I lobby for political and environmental issues, and even our award-winning library system is under attack by county officials who want to weaken the role of library trustees. In this era of banned books, that vigil is essential. I lead Writing in Nature workshops sponsored by the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy that demonstrate the health benefits of writing and spending time in nature. Travel? Yes, primarily to assist family members recovering from surgery, happily in lovely places like Long Island and L.A. Zoom groups link me to the masked world outside my own. Friendships that go way back become all the more precious.” In 2021, Melanie Dreisbach and husband Richard Schain sold their homes in Alamos, Sonora, Mexico, and Sonotarita, Ariz., and moved to Memphis, Tenn. “We fell in love with the Mississippi River and purchased a home facing it, on Mud Island. Living in the mid-South is a new experience for us, and we’re enjoying the complete change. Never too late to shake things up (although a major move at this stage of life was not easy). So far so good.” While they have no family or friends in the area, “Memphis is a place our far-flung family members definitely want to visit.” Melanie is retired from her career in special education with special expertise in the areas of learning disabilities, emotional disturbance and assessment. “In my later career years, I served as Educational Leadership and Special Education Department Chair, Chair of the Sonoma State University, and Resident Director of the California State University International Program in Mexico.” Richard, whom she married more than 41 years ago, was a pediatric neurologist who has been writing as an independent philosopher since 1980. Karen Heerlein Diez Canseco and husband Jesús live in Oakdale, Conn., about 20 minutes from New London. She met Jesús during the summer of 1969, when she was working in Peru. After graduation, Karen returned to Peru and married him there in 1970. “We are both retired. Jesús retired from the State of Connecticut. I retired after 43 years of teaching.” Last year, Maria Varela Berchey ‘69 paid a pre-Christmas visit; they have been friends for more than 50 years. “We enjoyed long conversations, visited the holiday-decorated mansions in Newport, saw the new version of West Side Story and dined at a local Mexican restaurant.” Karen and Jesús
Births


Schalie Miller Johnson ’03 and husband Jeremiah welcomed son Logan in 2021.

Weddings

Left to right: Sam McKeown ’16, Katie Lynch ’12, Molly Pistrang ’13, Matt Boudreau ’13, Douglas Wright ’12, Tristan Cole ’13, Hettie McAllister ’12, Daniel Gosels ’16, Dan Post ’12, Matt Gitkind ’13, William Barnes ’12, Andrew Majkut ’14, Niall Williams ’16, Colin Galant ’12, Amy Barrett ’12

Back row, left to right: Sara Tisherman ’13, Amanda Lee ’13, Andrew Miano ’13, Becky Tisherman ’13, Jeremy Puissegur, Kirby Compton ’13, Pam Lovejoy ’13, Jamie Lawler ’13. Front row: Maia Taft ’13 and her son, Jack
planned to spend March on Water Island, [U.S. Virgin Islands]. After 47 years in California, Randy Robinson, a transplanted New Yorker, is moving to Columbia, Tenn., close to her kids and their kids. “It will be glorious to have spontaneity with my kids and grandkids. I’ll continue meeting with long-standing clients virtually, and will continue to be available when clients from the past 45 years call for tune-ups.” Randy feels fortunate that son Whitney could facilitate the move. “Most special has been the intimacy of Whitney being my realtor and managing both the sale of my Fresno home (of 37 years, in which he grew up) and the purchase and renovation of my Tennessee house.” Randy was ready for the move: “I have longed for green since 1974. The past two years have prepared me and my clients for virtual psychotherapy sessions, and this has allowed the natural evolution to retirement.” She added, “there are no words adequate to describe the fulfillment of Whitney being my realtor and managing both the sale of my Fresno home (of 37 years, in which he grew up) and the purchase and renovation of my Tennessee house.”

Cynthia Conrad is now a semiretired psychiatrist who maintains a small practice treating patients with intellectual/developmental disabilities and co-occurring psychiatric illnesses. Having retired from her position with the Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction, Cynthia looks forward to more alternative to dog ownership for them. Candy has no plans to retire and hopes to continue doing what she loves for many years to come. Susan Nelson Brewster and husband Glenn are exploring their new town, Concord, Mass., while maintaining ties to their longtime hometown, Weston, just eight miles down the road. They are settling into senior living at Newberry Court (and are pictured on their home page!). Several rail tracks are close by for their favorite activity, bicycling, when snow and ice don’t impede them. Inside, she practices tai chi and takes a class that combines ballet, African and Latin dance, tai chi, and NEO moves, all set to wonderful playlists. She continues choral singing, despite COVID (with singers’ masks and distancing); she is in a madrigal ensemble as well as her church choir and Masterworks Chorale, in Boston. But most exciting for Sue has been rediscovering ceramics, which she loved at Conn 50 years ago. There is a well-appointed studio in her building, where she’s “playing in her Clay Pen” every chance she gets. Her only travel has been to Milwaukee monthly to be with her mom, who turned 100 last June. But Sue and Glenn plan to sail the Mid-Coast of Maine this summer, a favorite cruising ground of theirs. Lucy Van Voorhees still works “four easy days a week,” very content in her solo office with the two employees, a nurse and an office manager, she has worked with for 22 years. Lucy spent Christmas with her sister and family in Park City, Utah, which was delightful. Her puppies are no longer such criminals since she and her husband extended the invisible fence to the kitchen island! Lucy looks forward to Reunion; since her husband doesn’t want to come, she will probably be solo. She looks forward to seeing everyone there!

Correspondent: Barbara Voshurg Omohundro, barbaraowo@osu.com

Kathleen Kefler Keane is retired after 40 years in educational and academic publishing. She enjoys her work as a trustee of OCLC, a library technology provider. Having relocated from Baltimore to Haddonfield, N.J., she is happily involved with family and household projects. Glenn Morazzini works part-time as a clinical social worker in Cambridge, Maine, with his wife, Pam Vandegrift, an elementary school teacher. They enjoy skiing, hiking and kayaking and celebrated the arrival of their third grandchild, Daniella, daughter of Tara Morazzini Talvacchia ’09. Norma Drab Walrath Goldstein still consults for the national Association of Community College Trustees, in Washington, DC; having retired from full-time work, she plans to return to her home in Seattle as soon as her husband retires, in December, from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, in Gaithersburg, Md. She has completed a children’s photo book, Ospreys in the Chesapeake Bay, based on sightings on the Goldstein sailboat, Afterwards. In 2023, she and Allen plan to sail along the East Coast from Annapolis to Maine and then to the Bahamas. Margo Reynolds Steiner went to Germany for a month in August/September to visit a friend recovering from a stroke and struggling with dementia. Margo teaches a weekly memoir-writing class for Marblehead’s Council on Aging and offers online workshops on writing one’s own (or a loved one’s) obituary. Surprisingly, they have been incredibly popular. All proceeds go to a nonprofit she is establishing to write free obituaries for the homeless and veterans without families. JoAnn Giordano Everson is celebrating the birth of three grandchildren in the last four years. This involves lots of travel, since one son and family live in L.A. (where he is a neurosurgeon at UCLA) and the other lives in Maryland (where he works for Health and Human Services). JoAnn and her husband are retired but do consulting and small-business operations. Suzy Soldo Bock writes, “Finally the time has come to smell the roses. After 42 years of directing a school program for challenged preschoolers, raising a family, three dogs and my husband of 47 years, there is the freedom to do one thing at a time and actually enjoy what I’m doing without other thoughts buzzing in my head. When I first retired, I panicked. My life had been tightly structured, with all the incumbent stressors. I felt defined by my work and a dizzying schedule. How was I going to get through the day without my obligations? I had to dig deep to recognize what had driven me all these years. I have endless energy, am a good problem-solver, enjoy people in all their various iterations and can find humor in most situations. I have a protective nature while encouraging others, as well as myself, to reach high. However, beyond all this, I am a nurturer. Having realized this, along with a desire to continue to grow and challenge myself, I made some choices that would support and speak to what is important to me. The nurture/nature concept was no longer the usual controversy but an inspiration. I planted my first vegetable
Ignite Possibilities

THE HALE SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

When you establish an endowed scholarship of $250,000 or more, the Hales will double the value of your commitment. We are already more than halfway to our goal of $10 million. We invite you to join Karen and Rob ’88 Hale P’20 and invest in the future of Connecticut College and its exceptional students.

For more information, please contact Susan Daniells ’01, Director of Leadership and Annual Giving, at 860-439-5395 or sdaniells@conncoll.edu.

"I worked in investment management, where I focused on high-quality companies with strong leaders, good balance sheets, and resources to preserve and enhance their competitive position. Companies with these characteristics were among my most successful investments. Connecticut College has all of those things. This is the time to do this. Conn needs to attract the best and brightest."

— LAURA ALLEN ’81, EMERITUS TRUSTEE

Correspondent: Hester Kinnicutt Jacobs, djacobs@midrivers.com

Hester Kinnicutt Jacobs asked these questions (followed here by her own answers):

1) Which professor(s)/administrator(s) had the greatest impact on you? Dean King
2) Did you finish Spring term during the strike or Fall 1970? Finished
3) What was your favorite extracurricular activity? Theater
4) What in your life has returned to normal? Do you think the world will learn to live with COVID? Yes, Yes.

Claudia Tuller-Brooke wrote, “First cohort class, and the College changed its name. Twenty-six brave men enrolled in 1969! Perhaps the banner/T-shirt/yearbook could have ‘Connecticut College for Women’ with ‘for Women’ crossed out? A strike anecdote: Classmate and Plant dormmate Molly Cheek pierced my ears.”

David Clark: “1) Wayne Swanson, a newly minted Ph.D. (age 26), first-year professor our freshman year. Before CNN and the internet, he was encyclopedic about current political affairs. 2) Finished econ, English and calculus and took P for grades. Wayne Swanson told me I would have a B in his baby American government class, but if I took the final exam and did well, then he would give me an A for the course. I did, and technically had a 4.0 GPA for the semester. 3) Helping to reboot WCNI in our first year. 4) Due to hospital restrictions, I haven’t been able to keep up my ministry of consulting heart patients, but other volunteer activities are still a go.”

Ellen Ficklen came up with pandemic projects during COVID. “Started reading ‘great books’ I’d missed: War and Peace and Middlemarch. Created a website called Watermelon Times (watermelonetimes.com), a fun, fact-filled site. Please check it out and subscribe to get a monthly newsletter and recipe!” Although now retired, Ellen teaches a workshop course she designed for graduate writing students at Johns Hopkins. Michael Farrar and Claudia Pikula Farrar “forsake all that is good and holy as well as highly convenient.” They pulled up stakes in Texas to forge a more simplistic, albeit somewhat primitive, existence in the Kenai Mountains of Alaska. “We had simply become too complacent and were in desperate need of another adventure to rekindle our zest for life. The abundant moose graciously consented to our presence, whilst the occasional bears provide us a wide berth. We found that the long, dark nights with just six hours of daylight are not as problematic as we anticipated.”

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Joe Srednicki: “1) Mr. Kranz; I liked his courses because he asked you to read historical texts in the original languages. He frequently showed an illusory image, which if you looked at the image one way, it appeared as a duck; another view looked like a rabbit. I find myself showing that image to people at work when a discussion gets heated. 2) I think I finished all my courses. 3) Playing the organ. 4) I avoid large groups of people, concerts and movies.”

Eleanor Kucinski Thompson: “1) Mr. Swanson—he gave me good advice about jobs available to Government majors; he said it was up to individual students to find a job. Best advice, and he was right. Mr. Myers, an
inspirational teacher who encouraged me to persevere with research. Librarians who taught me how to find and use library resources. 2) I expect I finished up the Spring term during the strike. 3) Choir and attending the concert series. 4) Mostly returned to normal activities following COVID. I reassessed the activities I did before the pandemic and made changes. COVID made me realize the importance of my wider family and to keep in contact with them. ”

Betty Brown Bibbins serves on the CC Board of Trustees and is “proud of the direction CC is going; how CC organized, strengthened, and was supported throughout the pandemic.” She was recently interviewed regarding the desegregation in Virginia education. She was an ob-gyn until around 2002, then founded and was CEO and Executive Physician Educator of DocuComp, a national physician documentation company. She sold the company and retired in 2017. Betty and her husband of 50 years, Paul (PhD), live on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. She reconnected with Cynthia Howard Payne ’74 and keeps in contact with Estella Johnson ’75, Pamela Shorter McKinney, and Lisa Goldsen Yarboro ’75 and Tim Yarborough ’75. Meg Gifford wrote, “Let’s have a record-breaking turnout for 2023, although our 50th is a bittersweet event because of friends and spouses who will not be with us.”

Conn Inducts Two Hall-of-Fame Classes

On April 30, 2022, a large group of friends and supporters gathered on Conn’s campus as eight alumni athletes from the Classes of 2019 and 2020, were inducted into the Connecticut College Athletics Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame recognizes the athletes, teams, coaches, faculty, administrators and friends who have brought honor, distinction and excellence to themselves and the College through their accomplishments in athletics. For profiles on the inductees, go to camelathletics.com/honors/connecticut-college-athletic-hall-of-fame

### 2020 Inductees:
- Mizan Ayers ’02, Men’s Basketball
- Sam Bradford ’82, Men’s Rowing
- Kelsie Fralick ’15, Women’s Ice Hockey
- Ery Largay ’99, Co-ed & Women’s Sailing, Women’s Ice Hockey

### 2019 Inductees:
- Michael LeDuc ’14, Men’s Cross Country and Track & Field
- Sarah Murphy Knortz ’11, Women’s Swimming
- Trevor Prophet ’11, Men’s Soccer and Tennis
- Caitlin Tomaska ’09, Women’s Volleyball
Conn Inducts Two Hall-of-Fame Classes

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husband Stets were in Alaska last summer for Ammy Bussman Heiser and Gould, Bill Thomson, in touch with Mary Erina Driscoll '78, Carnegie Mellon University; University of Maine, area and will spend summers there; she invites fellow Camels to visit. She thoroughly nor in flag football. After spending the summer of 1977 in Staufen, Germany, to learn “philosophical German,” he moved to New York and entered the Ph.D. program in philosophy at the City University of New York. He married Clarke Cameron Miller '77 in 1980, and they moved to Stamford, Conn., where he learned the communications trade at the Singer Company. After moving to Baltimore, Md., in 1986, he quickly became well-known in public relations circles as the guy to talk to about power tools, with clients such as Black & Decker and Ryobi. He worked in agencies in Baltimore and later went out on his own to serve a diverse client base. He was a lover of philosophy, language, good food, and every dog and cat that Clarke brought home. Pablo is survived by his wife, Clarke Miller Fitzmaurice, daughter Madeleine Lee Fitzmaurice, brother Reginald Fitzmaurice, numerous nieces and nephews, and so many friends. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Maryland SPCA.

78 Correspondents: Sue Gold & Laurie Heiss The Class of '78 held another Zoom gathering in February, which was a lot of fun. Here’s some news from our compatriots: Julie Grey Pollock and husband Mark started their seventh year in eastern Oregon after many years in Alaska. Julie married Mark and moved to Alaska in 2005 from her 25-year home base of New Mexico. Last year she bought a beautiful Andalusian cross mare and has been studying horsemanship intensively with a nearby teacher and friend. They pursue dressage indoors in the winter, ride trails in the nearby mountains in the summer and even push some cows in the fall. She is having a blast with a wonderful horse, equestrian friends, and a good truck and trailer. “It was not easy getting back in the saddle after 15 years, but I plan to be riding better than ever. It is a joy to still be able to do this.” Rob in Schwartz Leitner and her husband have finished building their home in the Rangeley, Maine, area and will spend summers there; she invites fellow Camels to visit. She thoroughly
Barbara Cooper Stiles ‘84 and Barbara Lynch ’79 met while participating in the Terri Brodeur Foundation Walk Across Southeastern Connecticut in October 2021.

enjoys having her three grandchildren nearby in New Jersey and has a new French Spaniel puppy. Robin retired from her Jewish Federation work at the end of 2021, and her husband will retire in June. Barry Gross and wife Cindy remain in Pompano Beach, Fla., and Barry still travels for his mattress industry business. Barry contracted COVID at a Las Vegas industry gathering, but thankfully recovered. During the pandemic, he had a chance to see his beloved Philadelphia Phillies play. They intend to be in Michigan for summer vacation this year. During our Zoom gathering, Debbie Craig Merrick was enjoying the sunsets on Sanibel Island, Fla., and hoping to be there with her husband for a three-week escape from Nova Scotia. Debbie’s daughter is in law school in Boston at northeastern, where Debbie lived for a time earlier in her health care career. Chemist and chief scientist Peter Jarrett is still working remotely in California for a Boston startup pharmaceutical firm involved with ocular medications, though he looks forward to retirement at the end of 2022. He has two sons, Ben and Tim ’13. Wife Wendy, already retired, has two grandkids. Peter Rustin and his June ’21 bride, Leslie, moved east from Southern California to New England in March, making the trip with three cats and a few guitars—interesting! Peter still practices law and imagines he’ll continue in Stamford, Conn., for at least a few more years. Steve Cohan and his brother James own the franchises of the One River School of Arts and Design in Evanston, Ill., and another in New Jersey. Steve shared the COVID-driven, on-campus isolated and off-campus virtual experiences of his CC sophomore son, Josh, during the pandemic and commended Conn’s approach. Steve also has a 16-year-old at Cushing Academy; his two older girls were reported on last issue. Steve still consults to BC/BS Rhode Island part-time after his long health care career at CVS. His family is building a home in Bartlett, N.H., in the White Mountains, where they enjoy summers. Steve attended the Prouts Neck, Maine, wedding of Steve James’ daughter to Jesse Abbot’s son, along with Doug Haynes and George Hulme ’77. They were all so happy that Jesse, who died in November, lived long enough to enjoy this happy union. Following retirement in June, Sue Greenberg Gold trained as an end-of-life doula; she serves with MJHS Hospice. She and her husband visited Yosemite and planned to visit their sons and mates in Chicago and New Orleans in the spring. Summer plans include a bike trip through Bordeaux and a week in Paris. “Life is good!” Ellen Ramsbottom Jarrett had memorable trip to Greece in August with her two sons and their wives between variant COVID surges. She is in sporadic touch with Paul Greeley ’79 and Tina Gould Reardon ’79, and she connected with Jansi Chandler Grant ’76 when she moved to Marblehead, Mass., and both she and Jansi joined an open-water rowing club. Ellen also talks to Don Capelin, though infrequently; he is once again a denizen of NYC. There was much chatter on the Zoom about where we lived on campus (in the context of where Steve Cohan’s son was living). Everyone seemed to agree that Lambdin was not top of the list for dorm choices back then.

Barbara Cooper Stiles participated in the Terri Brodeur Foundation Walk Across Southeastern Connecticut to raise funds for breast cancer research; she met Barbara Lynch ’79 there; they discovered they were both CC alums and shared similar interests.

Correspondent: Jennifer Kahn Bakkala, 51 Wesson Terrace, Northborough, MA 01532, 508-523-8930, JKBBlue@gmail.com Helen Murdoch left education after 28 years as a teacher, librarian, and technology and social studies coach. She is now Director of Adoption and Customer Experience for the U.S. and Canada for CYBER LEARNING, a company that provides learning platforms for education and business. She has joined the ranks of those working remotely! In March she enjoyed visiting the East Coast to see Marjorie McEvoy Egan and Susan Brager Murphy in the Boston area; Chase and Jean Whalen Bradley ’88 and Leissa Perkinson Jackmauh in Connecticut; and Blake Ward ’88, Peg Harlow and Paul Stueck ’85 in Virginia. Stephanie Schacher and her husband are both psychologists in Westport, Conn., and since the pandemic they have transitioned most of their private practices to virtual. “While nothing beats seeing people in person, both professionally and socially, there have been silver linings. We no longer work in
in January 2021. With the forced COVID closures of both of their businesses, they made the quick decision to head west, where most of Joe’s family now lives. They return at least once a month for work in NYC. In February, Joe reunited in Tulum, Mexico, with Mibs Southerland Mara, Kate Winton Poley, Liz Garvey and also Daisy Edelson—who now lives in their former Manhattan apartment.

89 Correspondent: Tamsen Bales Sharpless, camel89@news@gmail.com

Elizabeth Bollt and Erik (Berkeley ’90) have been in Potsdam, N.Y., for 20 years as of May. That’s 10 miles from where Coach Fran Shields grew up, and even closer to Helen Dewey’s old homestead on Route 11, where Elizabeth believes Helen’s grandfather grew up. She is a longtime member of the local food co-op and assists with membership as part of Friends of Higley Flow State Park. Three years ago, she helped restart a youth cross-country ski group, the Higley Flow Ermines, which she and Erik began when their kids were little. In February, they hosted their own Olympics, with over 30 skiers and their families. The aptly named Ermines got to see a real ermine zipping across the trails before the races began! The area where they live is beautiful and quiet and one that Dr. William Niering and Dr. Sally Taylor would have enjoyed immensely. It is full of wildlife living their best lives, including bald eagles, beaver, fox, bear, fish, and their rescue dog, Strava.

Roger Placer became part of the so-called Great Resignation in 2021, retiring from a 32-year career in information technology. He and wife Rebecca, a self-employed communication consultant, are hunkered down in northern New Jersey, preparing to send middle daughter Sage (18) to college in the fall to study theater and psychology. They do not know where yet, although she has not applied to Conn. Sienna (23) is already paying her dues in the beauty industry, and Eden (16) is a high school sophomore hoping to pursue science journalism. Kieran Murphy has decided to take a break from making ice cream (www.murphysicecream.ie) and pursue an MA in creative writing at the University College Cork, in Ireland. Best of luck! Congratulations to Marie Caines Hague and husband Steven on their son’s graduation from high school in May! Ethan will head to college in the fall. Much of life these days revolves around shuttling Ethan and sister Eden to school, ballet and orchestra. “It’s all worth it, because it goes by too fast!” Eden will be a 10th grader this fall. They still live in Woodstock, Ga., and would love to meet up with any Camels in the

Stephanie Schacher ’87 and her family
area. **Stephanie Hamed Borowy** continues her work as a school psychologist at Woodland High School in Connecticut, coping with pandemic fallout. The work provides many opportunities to talk about being a CC alum and to encourage her students. **Tamsen Bales Sharpless** can’t believe she has a son graduating from college. Andrew receives a BS in music business technology from Millersville University in May. He will work and intern for the next year before pursuing a master’s in music production. Youngest son Daniel is also at Millersville but plans to attend Berklee School of Music, in Boston, in the fall to study songwriting. To connect on Facebook, please send me a note at camel99new@gmail.com or request via Facebook to join the private group Connecticut College Class of 1989.

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

Congratulations to best-selling author **Greer Kessels Hendricks**, who has a new novel out this spring! Her latest thriller, *The Golden Couple*, came out in March, following *The Wife Between Us, An Anonymous Girl,* and *You Are Not Alone*. Greer’s books have been optioned for film and television. Prior to being a novelist, Hendricks served as vice president and senior editor at Simon & Schuster.

**Schalie Miller Johnson** and husband Jeremiah welcomed son Logan in 2021.

**Correspondent:** Nora Guerrero, noragguerrera@gmail.com

**Hermina Johnny** founded the Aspire Artemis Foundation (AAF), aspireartemis.org, in 2015. AAF trains, builds capacity, and empowers young women and girls from marginalized communities to be the next generation of leaders. They focus on education, mentorships and internship/apprenticeships to enhance the traditional educational experience, inspiring young women to shape their own pathways toward successful lives. In April, AAF partnered with the British Virgin Islands to host their first in-person event since the start of the pandemic, in Tortola, BVI. The event was chaired by the premier of the British Virgin Islands and was the second stop in their Global Innovation Symposium, first launched in 2020 at Microsoft’s office in Times Square. Hermina and AAF also do a lot of work in support of the UN International Decade for People of African Descent. **Douglas Kawka** and wife Annu welcomed baby girl Leela in October. She is healthy and they are all doing well. In November, **Jamie Rogers** began working as the governance and reporting manager for Bank of America’s Global Climate Risk group, focusing on risks of climate change to the bank, its customers and the communities it serves. **Micah Weisberg** married Katie Kirkman on June 24 in Brooklyn, N.Y.

**Correspondent:** Stephanie Savage Flynn, 21 Whiting Rd., Wellesley, MA 02481, stephaniesavageflynn@gmail.com; Cecily Mandl Macy, 8114 Fourth Ave., Glenside, PA 19038, cecily.mandl@gmail.com

**Krystle Guillory Tadesse** and husband Adam welcomed son Theodore Charles Silvis on Dec. 26 and have loved hibernating with him in Pennsylvania for the past few months.

**Correspondent:** Areti Sakellaris, asakellaris@gmail.com

**Rene LaPlante**’s son, Rowan David LaPlante, was born May 31, 2020, and is growing fast.

**Correspondent:** Grace Astrovec, gca1223@gmail.com

**Sarah Howe Silvis** and husband Adam welcomed Theodore Charles Silvis on Dec. 26 and have loved hibernating with him in Pennsylvania for the past few months.

**Donald Hoitt McAllister** married Sharon Sobel on July 8, 2021, and celebrated with CC friends, many of whom were former cross-country and track & field teammates.

**Becky Tisherman** married Jeremy Puissegur in October at her family’s property in Butler, Pa. Becky met Jeremy while thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail in 2016.

**Correspondent:** Alyson Bortone, alysonbortone@gmail.com

**Juliette Lee** is completing her master of environmental management (MEM) degree at Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment at the Duke Marine Lab. During her time at Duke, Juliette co-founded the Oceans@Duke Student Club, fostering an interdisciplinary community of oceans scholars bridging science, governance and business. She is planning and hosting Duke’s inaugural Blue Economy Summit, a conference focused on shifting the oceans narrative from extractive to equitable. **Lauren Baretta** is a first-year law student at Quinnipiac Law School in North Haven, Conn. **Weston Stephens** is attending University of Connecticut School of Law.
1940s
Frances Sears Baratz ’40 died November 1, 2021
Jane Grimley Norsworthy ’43 died December 28, 2021
Jane Storms Wenneis ’43 died December 7, 2021
Charlotte Wool Zultowsky ’46 died May 29, 2021
Nancy Henneberger Matthews ’49 died January 7, 2022

1950s
Susan Little Adamson ’50 died December 16, 2021
Manette Moody Dayton ’50 died January 16, 2022
Diane Roberts Gibson ’50 died December 17, 2021
Janet Pinney Shea ’50 died November 30, 2021
Julia Jackson Young ’50 died October 26, 2021
Elizabeth Griffin ’51 died November 30, 2021
Suzanne Longley Rogers ’52 died February 13, 2022
Barbara Group Wright ’52 died November 27, 2021
Barbara Painton Doyle ’53 died February 26, 2022
Martha Macquarrie Stiles ’53 died December 29, 2021
Sally Stecher Hollington ’54 died August 15, 2021
Joan Negley Kelleher ’54 died December 1, 2021
Nancy Ferrell Frazier ’55 died January 23, 2016
Hildegard Stubbs Spalding ’55 died January 26, 2022
Frances Freedman Jacobson ’56 died January 28, 2022
Susan McGovern Herndon ’57 died December 21, 2021

1960s
Carolyn Sharp Brodsky ’60 died December 13, 2021
Brent Randolph Reyburn ’61 died December 27, 2021
Belinda Breese ’63
Ann Travers Butler ’63 died February 6, 2022
Judith Campbell ’64 died February 10, 2022
Sue Hackenburg Tretewey ’64 died May 11, 2020
Marcia Robbins Lugger ’67 died November 9, 2021

1970s
Paula Wolf Carlson ’72 died July 9, 2020
Laura Isenberg ’72 died December 13, 2019
Carol Moorehead Raimondi ’72 died December 20, 2021
Bernette Goldsen Ford ’74 died June 20, 2021
Peter Brown ’75 died January 28, 2022
Jesse Abbott ’78 died November 21, 2021

1980s
Jennifer Malloy Combs ’81 died January 27, 2022
Mary Knoll Edgar ’81 died January 22, 2022
Elizabeth Berkman Cohen ’82 died January 13, 2022
Christine Lord ’84 died December 6, 2021
Alexander Werner ’87 died April 9, 2020
Diane Carollo-Page ’88 died December 23, 2021

1990s
Deborah Landon ’90 died December 8, 2021

2000s
Sarah Herren ’02 died December 30, 2021
In Memoriam, Helen Reeve

Helen Schmidinger Reeve, Ph.D. died on December 11, 2021, in Bennington, VT.

“She had great joy in connecting with dear friends and family, especially in conversation, over cocktails, or when listening to live musical performances. Words and ideas mattered a great deal—from great literature to the classroom, to the nuances of translation, to the integrity of personal communication,” according to Reeve’s obituary published in The Middletown Press.

Born in 1927 in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia (now Slovenia), Helen grew up in Belgrade. She survived and escaped from internment during World War II, worked as a translator for the former United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA), and then arrived in the United States as a young bride of a U.S. soldier and German scholar, Matthew Cohen.

After her arrival in Chicago, Helen earned her bachelor’s degree from Northwestern University and her master’s and doctorate in Russian Studies at Columbia University. Her teaching career spanned three decades at Connecticut College, where she became the Hanna Hafkesbrink Professor of Russian and European Studies and was appointed Associate Director for Languages in CISLA in 1989.

She was a much-admired teacher, did important literary work as a translator and was a beloved colleague and friend to many.
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FALL WEEKEND 2022

THE CAMEL FAMILY... REUNITED.

Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2022 | conncoll.edu/fallweekend
Floria returned to Conn on May 7, 2022. Guests included IDK, Iyaz and Sammy Adams.