


CENTRAL *focus* Winter/Spring 2011

the magazine for alumni & friends of central connecticut state university

A portrait of Carol A. Ammon '73, a woman with short brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a red button-down shirt and a necklace with a diamond pendant. The background is dark and out of focus.

“Her wonderful generosity will make an important difference in our students’ lives for generations to come.”

— *President Jack Miller*

Carol A. Ammon '73

A Passion for Learning, A Passion for Helping

P R E S I D E N T ' S C O R N E R



As you will read in this issue, Carol Ammon's extraordinary gift to the University will enable generations of students to benefit from a CCSU education. They will become our business leaders, our educators and nurses, our engineers, scientists, and artists, and they will join their communities as informed and engaged citizens. Thus, not only our students but all of Connecticut benefits from Ms. Ammon's wonderful generosity.

In many ways, Ms. Ammon's generous act exemplifies our aspirations as a university. In these troubled economic times, it would be natural for the University to turn inward and concentrate on its basic operations. But our communities are suffering, and one of CCSU's core institutional distinctions is community engagement. So we choose to embrace our communities and to help make lives better there.

Much is already underway. Our students and faculty are working with the City of New Britain on issues of homelessness and sustainability; the Institute of Technology and Business Development is fledging new businesses and developing existing ones; we are creating new academic programs responsive to state workforce needs; we offer exciting cultural and athletic events; and our annual estimated economic impact of \$600 million circulates throughout the state's economy.

Our aspiration is to make life better for all the people of Connecticut. To help us better understand the dimensions of this challenge, we want to hear from our alumni and friends: How is your life better because there is a CCSU? I ask you to send us your thoughts so we can learn what is working for you. Either email us at alumninews@ccsu.edu or send us a note at the magazine's address below.

I hope this starts a conversation. To keep it going, we will post representative responses on the University's website at www.ccsu.edu/CCSU4CT.

In closing, I want again to thank Carol Ammon for her magnificent generosity. It makes so much possible and it reminds us how powerfully this University can make lives better.

Jack Miller

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, matching the printed name above it.

President

in focus

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from our readers on topics in the *focus* or on other matters concerning your University. Letters may be edited for space and clarity. Anonymous letters will not be published. We encourage letters of 300 words or fewer.

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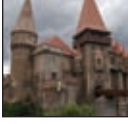







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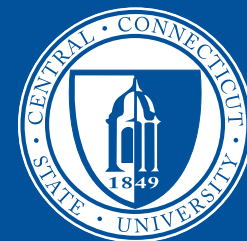
SUCCESS BEGINS WITH CCSU
ANNUAL GIVING

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Annual giving supports a wide range of the University's most important needs, including academic scholarships, the library and academic programs and research. Your generosity ensures that the University remains a place where students succeed and where learning thrives. Donations may be made online at www.ccsu.edu/giving.

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CAROL A. AMMON '73

A PASSION FOR LEARNING, A PASSION FOR HELPING

by Janice Palmer



Passion, combined with a hefty dose of serendipity, is Carol Ammon's prescription for success. It has served her well at every turn in her life, from her days as an undergraduate at CCSU, to the founding of her own pharmaceutical company and taking it public. She now finds herself in the enviable position of determining how best to share the fortune she earned, and high on the list is her alma mater, CCSU.

"Paying it back is the absolute right thing to do," Ammon says with total conviction. She graduated from Central with a BA in 1973.

"I'm a custodian of this money; I don't own it," she emphasizes. For those who dream of earning big bucks or hitting the lottery jackpot, Ammon would tell them that the "greatest gift is how extraordinarily satisfying it is to give it back and see the difference it can make."

"Her wonderful generosity will make an important difference in our students' lives for generations to come."
President Miller

These days, much of her time is spent as chairman of the board and a trustee of the Christiana Care Health System, but she also manages her charitable foundation to, as she puts it, "maximize and leverage" the majority of her wealth.

Ammon now lives in Delaware, where Christiana is based, but grew up in New Hyde Park, NY. As a high school student, Ammon was unsure of what her college or career options might be. Her guidance counselor recommended Central, and a trip to New Britain with her parents convinced her Central was the place for her.

"As soon as I got on campus, I felt comfortable and like I belonged," she says. "I loved the environment, the size of the campus, and the small classes. I didn't feel lost." That was 1969, a time when many women felt limited in their career choices. Ammon recalls how her parents had instilled in her the sense that she could do anything. At Central, she set out to discover what that "anything" would be. With the help of Career Services, she took aptitude tests, talked to counselors, and researched options. One chemistry class changed everything.

“I seemed to have an inclination for the sciences, but a career in the sciences was highly unusual for women,” Ammon reminisces. The mentoring of two chemistry professors helped her gain the confidence she needed to stay the course.

“I was one of eight women in the program, but Professors Richard Groth and Timothy Shine [both of whom have since retired] made me feel very comfortable. They gave me direction and helped me believe a science career was possible.” Much appreciated support also came from her dorm parents, Beth ’65 and Lenny Lavalette ’67.

“Beth and Lenny helped me reach a number of important decisions relative to my future,” Ammon says. “I have so much to thank them for.”

After graduating from Central, Ammon was hired as an associate scientist in pharmaceutical research and development. During her 23 years with the corporation, she served in a variety of positions of increasing responsibility in finance, manufacturing, and sales and marketing.

She says of those years, “I had to dig deep and become passionate about everything I was learning.” Her formal education continued at Adelphi University where she earned an MBA and recently was awarded an honorary doctorate. She also completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University.

In 1996, she was named president of the US Pharmaceuticals Division of DuPont Merck and was responsible for a significant share of the company’s corporate revenue and earnings. A year later, when DuPont Merck decided to sell off nearly 40 of its pain management products, Ammon seized the opportunity; she led a buyout team to purchase the products and founded a new company. “I was in the right place at the right time,” she recalls.

As CEO of Endo Pharmaceuticals, Inc., based in Chadds Ford, PA, she led the company through incredible growth.

The “greatest gift is how extraordinarily satisfying it is to give it back and see the difference it can make.”

When Ammon decided to retire in 2007, Endo was employing 1,000 people and boasting net sales of over \$1 billion. The sale of her holdings earned

her considerable wealth, which she soon began to invest in the needs of others.

Among those investments is a scholarship fund she helped establish at CCSU in 2008 to honor the memory of her former Central roommate Frances E. Librera ’73. This past December, it was an \$8 million endowment from the Carol A. Ammon Foundation, the largest gift the University has ever received. It will be used to fund student scholarships.

“My experience at Central established the foundation for my financial and career success. Now I want to do the same thing for others who want an excellent education,” she says.



At a December news conference announcing her gift, President Jack Miller called Ammon “an inspiration” to students. He added, “Her wonderful generosity will make an important difference in our students’ lives for generations to come. This is particularly important for CCSU, where many of our students must balance work and family responsibilities while pursuing their education.”

Director of Institutional Advancement Cynthia Cayer calls Ammon “a true philanthropist” who is involved in giving for all the right reasons. “She has the right mindset about what her social responsibility is, and she is genuinely concerned about student success and the University.”

As a gesture of gratitude, the Connecticut State University Board of Trustees approved a resolution naming the School of Arts & Sciences the Carol A. Ammon School of Arts & Sciences.

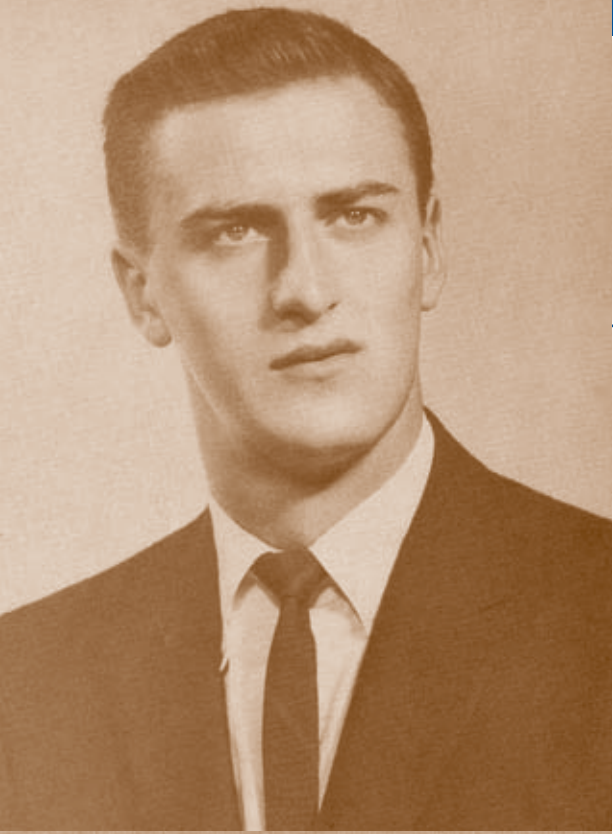
“I can’t tell you how gratifying it is to leverage my success and invest in students, students like me, with a love for learning and a potential yet to be discovered,” she said.

In May 2011, the University will be holding a celebration in honor of Ammon’s extraordinary generosity.

The first Carol A. Ammon Foundation scholarships will be awarded in the fall.

Remembering JIM MANN '56

By Jim H. Smith



Genevieve Bride Mann didn't want her children to play in the Mortimer Cemetery, but there was no playground or park in the Middletown, Connecticut neighborhood where the Manns lived in the 1930s. And their house didn't have much of a back yard.

So, despite their mother's protests, Jim and his younger sister, Genevieve, scaled the wall separating the cemetery and the Mann's property and invaded the ancient burying ground. They had cobbled together a ladder from scrap wood and concealed it behind their garage. Once they had climbed over the wall, they would spend hours racing through the cemetery, ducking behind headstones, re-enacting scenes from the books and movies Jim loved to read and watch. In those games were evident themes that would, in many respects, define his life.

A tall, good-looking boy, gifted with athletic prowess, he was a natural leader. The graveyard games were often based on his growing knowledge of military history. Inevitably he was the hero, fleet of foot, smart, and fearless.

"I want to be a paratrooper."

Jim Mann was born in 1933 and grew up in a solid, middle class family where service to country, community, and church was highly regarded. His dad, Edward, was comptroller at Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell and, later, when the family moved to Cromwell, became a selectman.

Like all Americans then, the Manns were encumbered by the Great Depression. But their home was filled with love, and there was always room for other relatives. Jim and Genevieve and their older brother Bill grew up with their maternal grandparents ever present.

Grandfather Bride listened to the radio incessantly, Genevieve (now Genevieve Mann Dickinson) recalls. She, Jim, and Bill were exposed to news about Europe and the gathering clouds of war every day.

Genevieve vividly remembers the evening of September 1, 1939, when the entire Mann family gathered around the radio to learn that just before dawn Germany had invaded Poland. The Manns listened intently as reporters described how the Polish cities were being heavily bombarded.

Little more than two years later, the family convened around the radio once more to hear the news that Pearl Harbor had been attacked. "No one said anything," Genevieve remembers. "We just sat there, quiet."

Bill Mann was 16 then. Three years later he joined the Marines and then, discharged because of a vision problem, signed up with the Army in time to take part in the D-Day invasion. Young Jim, Bill recalls, "was fascinated with the war, and especially with the paratroopers. He'd say 'I want to be a paratrooper.' He talked about that almost every night."

An Effective Leader

But World War II was over long before Jim had an opportunity to serve. He was a student at Middletown High School by the time Bill completed his military service and came home.

Active in cross-country, rifle, track, and football, Jim proved to be every bit the athlete he had looked during those childhood games. Captain of the track team, he won second place in the 880-yard dash at the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Indoor Championship his junior year, 1949. Later that year, at the Hartford Invitational Meet, he set a new record at the same distance.

That was the year he lied about his age and joined the National Guard. When the falsehood was found out, he was discharged. But he was undeterred. In 1951, the year he enrolled at New Britain Teachers College, he enlisted in the Army Reserves.

"Jim was a terrific athlete," recalls Francis

Top: Mann's senior photo in the 1956 Dial yearbook

Above: Athletically talented, Mann lettered in four sports in college

Bottom: Mann in Vietnam



“Fran” Monnes ’55, of Cromwell, who first met Mann when they were freshmen at Middletown High. Monnes was a standout baseball player, and the two young men shared the same set of values. “From that point on we were best friends,” says Monnes, “and we went to college together.”

At New Britain Teachers College, Mann was captain of the track team, and Monnes captained baseball. “He had a great sense of humor, and he was popular with his teammates, because he really believed in the idea of team,” Monnes says. “It made him an effective leader.”

When they graduated in 1956, Jim was drafted into the Army at the rank of sergeant and stationed in Cold War Germany. Two years later, when he had completed active duty, he returned to Connecticut and was hired as a teacher at the Nathaniel White School in Cromwell, where he was reunited with Monnes, also a teacher.

At Cromwell High School, whose faculty he joined in 1959, he taught math and history and proved himself a successful varsity track coach. His 1964 team was a runner-up in the state championship. Mann also served as JV basketball coach.

By then he had enrolled in a master’s program at his alma mater, which had just been renamed Central Connecticut State College. No one was surprised when he wrote his master’s thesis on military history.

At Central he met Patricia Molloy, an undergraduate who would soon become his wife. They were married in 1963 and by 1965 they had two young sons – Jim, Jr. and John. Mann had been a teacher for seven years. His natural leadership and easygoing style made him popular with students and faculty alike.

He seemed to be settling comfortably into mid life. But the military was never at far remove. He had been in the Army for nearly a decade and a half and had attained the rank of captain in the Reserves. “I remember him polishing shoes and buttons on Sundays,” says Patricia Mann.

A Soldier’s Soldier

By 1966 there were some 400,000 Americans in Vietnam. The diplomatic negotiations that would eventually result in the Paris Peace Accords in 1973 had been ongoing for two years.

Jim Mann must have sensed his opportunity to play a role in the conflict was slipping away, because he suddenly announced his decision to resume active duty. “We were shocked,” says Jake Falafia, another teacher and friend from Cromwell High, “but he had a great sense of duty. He was a soldier’s soldier.”

Friends and family alike were taken aback by the decision. Even more surprising was his decision to enter Special Forces and become an airborne ranger. At 33, he was much older than most of the soldiers with whom he trained, yet he graduated first in his Special Forces class of 220.

On November 3, 1967 he began a year of service in Vietnam as operations officer of the 5th Special Forces Group’s 3rd Mobile Strike Force, B-36, a quick reaction team that relieved or reinforced units during battles.

Mann quickly earned a positive reputation. “He was older than most of us. He spoke well and he was very meticulous in his presentation,” recalls John Deacy, who served as a first lieutenant under Mann. “He was respected by all the men who served with him.”

It’s an opinion shared by Mike Beebe, also a first lieutenant under Mann.

“He was a good soldier,” says Beebe. “He was an amiable and funny guy and well liked, but also respected.”

Patricia Mann recalls that her husband was exhausted when she joined him in Hawaii for two weeks of richly deserved leave in the summer of 1968. But when the leave ended and he returned to Vietnam he was just a couple months away from completing his year of service.

“His Team Was in Trouble”

Only it was not to be.

October 3, 1968 dawned, hot, and humid at B-36. With less than a month left “in country,” Jim Mann had begun pulling his gear together. But he still had a team to support. And that morning he got his opportunity.

Soldiers on a reconnaissance mission had encountered North Vietnamese forces in jungle terrain about eight miles southwest of Thien Ngon, near the Cambodian border. They were pinned down in a fierce fire fight and sent an emergency request for more ammunition.

The 117th Assault Helicopter Company dispatched a Huey – the work-horse of military helicopters during the war – in response. No one knows why Mann volunteered to accompany the chopper’s four-man crew. But his sister believes he was motivated by the same instincts that had made him a successful athlete. “His team was in trouble,” she says. “He had to be there for them.”

The crew’s objective seemed simple. They were to locate the ground forces, swoop in low, and kick the boxes of ammo out the door. But as the chopper near the site, it was hit by enemy fire, collided with trees and crashed upside down and ablaze. Four of the men aboard were killed. Only the pilot survived and was rescued. The ammunition they were delivering, however, helped to turn the tide of the battle, and the North Vietnamese forces eventually retreated into the dense jungle.

The next day lieutenant Deacy volunteered to join the team sent to recover the bodies. Mann’s remains, mostly destroyed by the intense fire, were found under the burned helicopter’s fuselage.

On Thursday, October 24, 1968, Fran Monnes eulogized his friend for the student body of Cromwell High School. Jim Mann’s funeral was held at the Coughlin Funeral Home in Middletown the next morning, followed by a requiem at St. John’s Church in Cromwell. Then Mann was laid to rest in St. John’s Cemetery.

Not Forgotten

Jim Mann’s story did not end there, however. On May 29, 1969, a street at Cromwell High School was named in his memory. At the dedication ceremony Monnes, who was instrumental in getting the street named and marked with monuments, once again recalled his old friend.

Twenty-seven years after Mann’s death, a portrait of him was unveiled during a Cromwell High School Veteran’s Day ceremony in 1995. Veterans who had known Mann were astonished when his son, Jim, who bears a striking resemblance to his father, walked into the gymnasium with his mother and brother. The portrait now hangs permanently in the school, where Mann’s niece, Barbara O’Rourke, has taught for many years.

In early June 1999, several hundred bone fragments excavated from the crash site were positively identified as belonging to Mann and another member of the crew. And on the morning of July 13, 1999, following a funeral at Memorial Chapel, Fort Myer, VA, a horse-drawn carriage brought the remains to Arlington, where a 21-gun salute honored the heroes who had been away from home for too long. “It was a very emotional ceremony,” says Bill Mann. “It was a day that brought final closure for all of us.”

Jim Mann lives on in the memories of his family and friends and former colleagues, and in the memories of the veterans who served with him in Vietnam and recall the man and his sacrifice.

“I think of Jim often,” says Falafia, Mann’s friend and colleague at Cromwell High. “He was a great friend, and it was a big shock when he went to Vietnam. He left a big hole.”





Gregg Ferguson '93

by David Menconi

Beyond the Thunder

For Gregg Ferguson, all roads lead to AC/DC – which is, he admits, a strange destination. He's a big fan of the legendary Australian heavy-metal band, but not the biggest. That would be his video-production partner, Kurt Squiers. Nevertheless, AC/DC has become Ferguson's white whale. And it all started with an elevator ride three years ago in Chicago.

Ferguson and Squiers were there to work on a project documenting Microsoft's introduction of a new product line. It was the sort of job that paid the bills without delivering too many thrills, until Squiers met up with two members of AC/DC on a hotel elevator and got invited to the bar for a drink.

Struck by their unpretentiousness, Squiers and Ferguson sketched out a proposal for a documentary about the band and approached AC/DC's management. After the group's handlers declined to cooperate, the pair decided to go ahead anyway anyway and created a film focused on AC/DC's fans, *Beyond the Thunder*.

"It's the band's story through the eyes of fans who love them," Ferguson says. "Their fans include very influential people from all genres of music and art. Also pro athletes, military heroes.

"The connections were so amazing. Everyone seemed to have an AC/DC story to share. It's almost like they were just waiting for the chance to tell it."

Two years and \$75,000 of their own money later, *Beyond the Thunder* still doesn't have the band's blessing. But the in-progress version is amazing, with interview footage from notables including Billy Joel, Keith Richards, Howard Stern, Stephen King and even baseball pitcher Trevor Hoffman (well-known for entering games to the strains of AC/DC's "Hells Bells").

There's an impressive trailer at beyondthethunder.com, and an extended version of the film has played at an AC/DC exhibit in Australia and at an awards ceremony put on by London-based *Classic Rock* magazine. But even though their work has drawn universal raves, Ferguson and Squiers' film is still a long way from becoming a reality.

Ferguson's tendency to buck expectations goes back to his days at CCSU, where he enrolled as an accounting major intending to follow in his father's footsteps. That lasted two-and-a-half years, until "the freak-out semester" when Ferguson realized he wasn't enjoying the work. But he did enjoy the journalism and video-production classes he'd taken on the side. So he decided to pursue that instead, ultimately earning a communications degree in 1993.

After graduation, Ferguson went to work shooting news in Connecticut and Maine. But he grew bored with the repetitiveness of the news cycle after a few years and launched his

AC/DC



Squiers and Ferguson

Photo credits: (L-r) Huck Photography, Eric Kield, and Kurt Squiers.

own independent production company. Squiers was one of his primary collaborators on a series of documentary-style promotional and marketing videos for Microsoft, the New Orleans Saints and Sam Adams beer, interviewing the likes of Kanye West and NFL running back Reggie Bush.

Unfortunately, the recession has been hard on that kind of work. So *Beyond the Thunder* has taken up a lot of Ferguson and Squiers' time in recent years. They began shooting in 2008, following AC/DC from city to city on the group's "Black Ice" tour.

"We shot the bulk of it the first six months, followed by three months in the editing room," Ferguson says. "At this point, we're trying to be as fiscally responsible with it as possible. But sometimes, you've got to take a risk, which is exactly what this has been."

Beyond the Thunder is almost three-quarters done. But the missing part is the hardest to get, because it hinges on permission to use AC/DC's music and likeness. And that's where Ferguson and Squiers have run into the brick wall of "the AC/DC fortress," unable to penetrate the band's legions of gatekeeper minions.

They've tried an elaborate and expensive series of attention-getting gimmicks, including a pitch letter sent inside a

Marshall amplifier, all to no avail. It's not that AC/DC management has said "no" – there's been no response at all. And the irony is that the film's inspiration was personal contact with the band.

"Yeah, what's funny is that they're so approachable as people," Ferguson sighs. "You forget just how huge they are because of that, bigger than most every band out there. It would never occur to me to try to do this with U2. But AC/DC is just a working-class band. So we were thinking, 'They're great guys, no problem, let's do it.' Little did we know..."

He pauses to laugh.

"I think it will pay off in some way," he adds. "I know we'll never get rich off this. It was more, 'Here's a great story, let's put it out there because people will appreciate it.' If the band showed some interest in it, that would be amazing. We've had investors show interest. But until we can come to an understanding with the band, we're stuck."

David Menconi is a reporter for the Raleigh (NC) News & Observer and writes on music for a number of publications, including Spin, No Depression, and The New York Times.

Down Memory Lane with *The Dial*

By Ewa Wolynska

Current CCSU students might never have heard about *The Dial*, the university yearbook which was published continuously between 1925 and 1996. They do not know that they will be missing a lot of fun associated with looking up pictures from the past (did we really dress like that?), campus scenes (who is this girl walking with Joe?), and sport events (did we win that football game with Rochester?).

Many alumni who graduated before 1996 probably have a copy of their yearbook hidden somewhere in storage. But now they do not have to dig deep into that closet or the chest in the attic or visit the University's archives to recall members of the football team or look up the maiden name of a college sweetheart. All editions of *The Dial* have been digitized and posted on the website of CCSU's Burritt Library. It is as easy as clicking on library.ccsu.edu, going to the Digital Collections tab, choosing the Student Publications icon and beginning to search each page of any or all 76 volumes.

The text of each page is searchable, so if you do not remember whether your friend graduated in 1971 or 1972, just enter his or her name and the search engine will locate his or her picture on the right pages in the right yearbook. Individual portraits of seniors always came with the name, but other pictures, such as casual campus scenes, were not always provided with captions, and so searchers may want scroll through other pages to find familiar faces.

The fun does not have to stop there, however. The yearbooks can be an exciting research tool for genealogy, local history and, obviously, the history of the university. If an aunt of yours attended the Teachers College of Connecticut, as our institution was

called between 1933 and 1959, you can look her up in early editions of *The Dial* and find out in which clubs or organizations she was active.

CHRONICLING EVOLUTION

When the first *Dial* was published in 1926 the campus consisted of the newly-built administration building (now Davidson Hall) and Marcus White Hall, which also served as a dorm. Yearbooks from the late 1940s and the '50s portray a rapidly expanding campus. Veterans were back from World War II and the GI bill and post-war prosperity allowed them to invest in their educations. You may be surprised to learn that initially some of them were housed in converted barracks moved to New Britain from Bradley Air Field, which was not yet a civilian airport. The conditions were pretty spartan until the state invested in the construction of new lecture halls and dorms in the late 1950s.

The '50s witnessed a dramatic revamping of the college program, with new courses, departments, and majors. The changes were also reflected in more diverse extracurricular activities. In addition to the Art, Drama and Glee Clubs, students could become involved in many new organizations and several fraternities. With the growing number of male students, sports exploded.

You may marvel at how formal and serious most of the students appear in the pictures taken before the 1960s. Back then, when separate dorms for women and men still had curfews, ball gowns and tuxedos and were often the norm for dances. Fashion and social mores usually change gradually, but they took a dramatic turn in the late 1960s and early '70s – when hippie attire and political protests, including a strike, became more commonplace. There were hardly any pic-

tures of professors in those yearbooks, but plenty of campus scenes showing many couples embracing, with freedom in the air. The yearbooks from from the '70s are hefty – some over 300 pages! – loaded with artistic photography that tried to record facts while also conveying the campus atmosphere. The last two decades of *Dials* reflect the more subdued and less rebellious 1980s and '90s – an orderly collection of pictures of departments and university agencies appears again, followed by seniors' pictures and straightforward photos recording student life.

It's interesting to follow the changes in the student population over the course of seven decades as recorded in these books. CCSU began in 1849 as a co-ed institution under the name New Britain State Normal School that offered a two-year program for training future teachers. Sometime between the end of the 19th century and the early 20th century it became an all-female institution. The first year there were just five graduates. In 1926 the graduating class consisted of 112 students, all of them white women. According to the 1938 *Dial*, the school – after 90 years in operation – counted close to 5,000 alumni. Men returned in the 1930s when the program was extended to three years and the school became the Teachers College of Connecticut. Few minority students show up in the pictures until the 1960s. The first two foreign students from Germany appear in 1951.

There is a wealth of information waiting to be discovered on thousands of yearbook pages and thanks to digitization, many more people can now access this information conveniently. Digitization was an in-house project of the Special Collections Department, conducted with the help of students and interns.



ROBERT WASON
 May Day Com. 2; Dial 2; Student Handbook 2; Forum Discussion Club 2, Treas. 3; Men's Glee Club 2, Pres. 3; Industrial Arts Club 2, 3, 4; College Theatre 3, 4; Recorder 4; Men's Dorm. Pres. 4; Intramural: Football 2, 4; Baseball 3, 4; Bowling 4.



Peace Corps: Making the World a Bit Smaller

By Micah Carbonneau '04

Following graduation from CCSU, I had difficulty finding work as a social studies teacher, no matter how hard I looked. One day I visited a career fair at the Student Center. I was making the rounds, filling my complimentary sack with free pens, frisbees and assorted giveaways, when I passed a Peace Corps recruitment table. I had a chat with the man working the stand, a former volunteer, and took an application form with me.

Strolling across campus, I ran into a former professor who asked me, "What are you doing now?"

"Well, I'm pretty free," I stated. "I could do whatever I want. I could even join the Peace Corps."

"Oh, you should do Peace Corps!" she responded.

And I thought to myself, "I should join the Peace Corps!" Adventure and service have always figured big in my plans for life.

I am now more than three years into my service in Ocna Mures, Romania as an environmental volunteer. I've so enjoyed myself in this work that I've applied and been approved to serve two more years as an English teacher in Mozambique. It's long been my desire to visit Africa. Now, maybe I'll find myself in that 'classic Peace Corps setting' and improve my Portuguese, which has suffered since learning to speak Romanian.

My work as a volunteer in Ocna Mures began rather open ended. I was assigned to a non-government agency that had no office. I didn't have a job description or regular hours, so it took some time and a lot of initiation to define my schedule and responsibilities.

While I've organized a fair share of ECO clubs and a bottle recycling drive (19,000 bottles collected!), my greatest responsibility is teaching English at kindergartens. kindergartens in Romania can be rather strict. I bring to the classroom games and activities designed to help lighten the class atmosphere. When children are laughing and happy, their confidence grows and they are more involved in their own education. Such active forms of education are commonly referred to as 'child centered education.' Now, in an English program for Kindergarten teachers, I share my best practices in the hopes they will take these ideas and make them their own.

With a fellow volunteer I helped organize a Christmas Festival at Castle Corvinilor, Eastern Europe's oldest medieval castle. Not for profit organizations working with orphanages, children with disabilities, and disadvantaged families offered games and activities for visitors. School groups performed traditional dances and sang carols. Santa Claus and knights posed for photos with children.

We built a model of the castle out of gingerbread the first year and out of LEGOs the second, helping draw national press coverage. The event gave non-governmental organizations an opportunity to raise awareness about their mission and services as well as time to network with each other. Next year, the event will be entirely in Romanian hands, directed by my partner from the Red Cross.

As is usually the case in education and service, I often get more than I give. Being an American in a small community overseas often accords a certain celebrity status and special attention. People back home consider Peace Corps volunteers noble for promoting peace in the world. If they only knew about the "kickbacks," maybe they wouldn't think us so selfless! I get hugs on the streets from kids and hellos from strangers. I can always expect a hot meal when dropping in on friends and my host family. For me, such bonuses far outweigh any monetary bonus I might earn in a job back home.

I'm proud of my work here. With time running out, I'm filled with the mixed emotions and unanswerable questions. What was my impact here? I'm excited to go home, but when will I return? What will life hold for me in Mozambique?

I've learned a great deal from missionaries who have returned to Ocna Mures year after year since 1990. If I'm to make a long term impact I must be committed to one day returning. I want to see the children from the orphanage, see if the Castle event has continued on its own footing, visit with friends and family. I'll miss speaking Romanian, the many holidays, the marketplace, and meeting acquaintances on the street. Meanwhile, Africa awaits. My world is about to get bigger. But, in my own small way, I'm helping to make the world just a little bit smaller.



SMART, DIVERSE

CCSU Class of 2014

Larry Hall, Director, Recruitment & Admissions

Donna DeCarlo, Assistant Director, Recruitment & Admissions

CHANGING FACE OF CCSU



CCSU welcomed 1,350 new students at the start of the fall 2010 academic year. The office of Recruitment & Admissions worked with a total applicant pool of 6,806, up some 12 percent since 2008.

So what are some of the characteristics that make up the Class of 2014? It strongly represents all of Connecticut's 169 towns and cities. Twenty-two percent of the class represents minority or multi-racial groups, making for a richly diverse student body.

The class arrived at CCSU boasting the best overall high school academic achievement of any class to date. Its record-breaking academic average--in the 64th percentile--is a two points higher than the previous record. It is a good thing that the class is so academically able, since the University has recently added several challenging academic programs in nursing, journalism, and civil and mechanical engineering.

While the University saw a greater number of applications from young women, the Class of '14 features a greater number of male students, going against the national trend that shows a declining number of young men attending college.

The slight increase in the size of the incoming class met the University's Enrollment Management Committee's target. This reflects CCSU's goals to maintain a relatively low stu-

dent/faculty ratio, ensuring educational quality, and to respond to the University's very successful efforts in improving student retention through graduation.

Working with the Enrollment Management Committee, the admissions office is exploring additional ways to shape future first-year classes. While focused on issues of access and student success, they will continue to explore measures to enhance overall regional representation.

To facilitate their recruitment efforts, the admissions office has recently been refurbished to provide a much more congenial environment for prospective students and their parents, including a new waiting area more efficient workspaces. The redesigned office creates a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all.

The University is a highly desired choice for more Connecticut students, and as this year's incoming students attest, those students are increasingly from the upper ranks of Connecticut high schools. Excellent faculty who challenge and support students have created an atmosphere that invites students to the serious pleasures of learning. And the office of Recruitment & Admissions encourages CCSU alumni and friends as well as faculty and staff to remind family high schoolers about the excellent education offered at CCSU.

Mary Collins

American Idle



by Geri Radasci

Why do many Americans sit parked and idling—in spite of prodding from doctors, fitness experts, and the federal government to get moving on a path to improved health through proper diet and exercise?

It's tempting to blame sloth. Mary Collins, herself a consummate varsity college athlete versatile at running, playing basketball, and biking, admits she once thought a lack of willpower was the root of couch potato behavior. Then a devastating bicycle accident near Alexandria, Virginia, in 1999 put her into a coma for two days and she required back surgery to repair ruptured disks.

"My life changed profoundly," recalls the CCSU assistant professor of English. "I could barely walk a half mile. My mood and my social life were affected. I thought, 'Why do 60 percent of Americans choose to live this way?'"

During her rehabilitation, Collins researched that very question, and her findings appear in a new book, *American Idle: A Journey through Our Sedentary Culture* (Capital Books, 2009). "I discovered in my three years of traveling the country that the lack of movement for most Americans is hardly by choice. Their environment and schedules make it nearly impossible to integrate healthy movement patterns into their day."

She discovered that our lack of spontaneous movement has profound social, cultural, and even moral consequences, not just physical. Simply listing "The Top 10 Ways to Work Out" is never going to solve the problem, she says. There must be systemic changes at all levels of society, from adding bicycle lanes on more roads to making it safer for children to walk to school by providing paid patrols.

WEALTH OF WRITING EXPERIENCE

Collins, whose area of specialty is creative nonfiction, was amply qualified to undertake research for her groundbreaking book. For some 20 years in Washington, DC, she was a freelance writer and editor and also taught part-time in Johns Hopkins University's graduate MA in writing program from 1995 to 2007. She holds a bachelor's in English from Gettysburg College and a master's from the University of Virginia. She joined CCSU in 2007.

She has written *The Essential Daughter: Changing Expectations for Girls at Home* (Praeger), *National Public Radio* (Seven Locks Press), and *Airborne: A Photobiography of Wilbur and Orville Wright* (National Geographic Books). "Don't Have a Seat," the essay on the culture of sitting and the history of the chair that she wrote for *The Washington Post*, won the Best Essay of the Year Award from the American Society of Journalists and Authors (ASJA) in 2003. She also won the Best Young Adult Book Award from ASJA. Her articles have appeared in *Smithsonian Magazine*, *The New York Times*, and other major newspapers and magazines.

As Collins set out to discover how a species designed for movement has immobilized itself in homes, offices, and cars, she interviewed health experts, city planners, factory workers, and staff at the National Zoo. She even visited a hunter-gatherer site in the Midwest to understand the movement patterns of humans 10,000 years ago.

SURPRISED BY FINDING

She was surprised by her conversation with Bill Sands, director of the

ON PHYSICAL GRACE

by Mary Collins

My research for my book, *American Idle: A Journey Through a Sedentary Culture*, took an unexpected turn when I visited the U.S. Olympic Center in Colorado Springs, CO in 2007. I wanted to write a positive section about the accomplishments of contemporary athletes, but Bill Sands, director of sports science at the center at the time, wasn't interested in my questions about gold medalists and how world class athletes train. He wanted to talk about the growing divide between the elite competitor and the average American.

"With the exception of athletes, dancers, and soldiers, everyone else has lost physical grace," he told me. He then went on to highlight the results of some of his own research as he compared the physical activity levels in organized sports practices versus children playing freely outside.

"My daughter plays volleyball," he said as he leaned intensely across his desk. "During a one-hour practice, they moved around...well, guess."

"Fifteen minutes," I said.

"Hell, no!" he said. "Five minutes. It's an astonishing difference. In free play kids move constantly." He went on to point out that the rise in organized sports for children under 12 and the rise in obesity paralleled each other precisely—a pattern he attributes to the huge decline in spontaneous movement, especially among the very young.

I never imagined that I'd be sitting in the ultimate sports center and hear the director tell me that he believed that the national trend towards more organized sports leagues for children under 12 was a travesty. With that one unexpected exchange, I knew I was onto a way of reporting on American's lifestyle problems that would net me some really original material. The key: I had to go in-person, stay in-the-field and avoid official literature and talking heads.

Of course Sands' eloquent comment about the loss of physical grace also had spiritual connotations. I wasn't surprised when I learned that the Christian phrase, "Holy Spirit," derived from the Old English word *Hailo*, which means free from injury, whole, hale. When we lose physical grace, on some level, we also undermine our "hailo."

Visit www.marycollinswriter.net for a free sample chapter.

By Geri Radacsi

U.S. Olympic Center in Colorado Springs. Sands maintains there is a growing divide between the elite or professional athlete engaged in extreme training and the average sedentary American.

"Organized sports, amazingly, do not help kids gain free play skills," says Collins. "They are told what to do but they don't know how to integrate 30 to 60 minutes of spontaneous free play into their lives. Physical activity has become something we choose to do and something we 'go to,' but that's an artificial construct."

With a vivaciousness that is her hallmark, she adds, "Hey, even the director of the Olympic Center thinks the trend toward organized sports and exercise classes to encourage fitness is all wrong. We need to shift the conversation from how we're eating too much and not exercising, to how to integrate spontaneous movement into everyday life again. I was shocked to discover that most people I talked to wanted to integrate movement into their lives, but expressed how difficult American culture makes it."

WHAT TO DO?

Collins suggests that "a systemic solution is needed, involving city planners, employers, and government policy changes," if spontaneous movement is to be integrated into society. She observes, for instance, that most townships resurface their roads every 10 years and suggests that requirements be put in place to add clearly marked bicycle lanes.

She recommends pressing the federal government to expand its Safe Routes to Schools program, which has been successful in getting more kids to walk to school. Another suggestion is that the U.S. should follow the lead of European nations, especially Sweden, where a lot of schools have two 15-minute physical movement breaks for all ages daily and where paid movement breaks for employees are also the workplace norm. The employees do not have to "exercise;" they just have to leave their desk areas.

"Something as simple as access to a shower at work or access to a safe biking trail can increase people's activity by 25 percent," Collins says. "That sort of shift represents millions of dollars in saved medical costs." And she's quick to add, "The changes don't have to be draconian, just smart. I use a stand-up desk, for example, and never sit for more than about four hours a day." Collins' book brings a fresh perspective on how America can change its culture and move forward in the direction of health and fitness.

Reginald Simmons

FOCUSING ON THE ECOLOGY OF DELINQUENCY

How did Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice Reginald Simmons first become passionately drawn to understanding delinquency prevention and culturally responsive intervention? With a thoughtful look, Dr. Simmons, who joined CCSU in 2007, explains: "Growing up in Wichita Falls, Texas, I saw friends and classmates end up joining gangs, or selling drugs, or serving time in a penitentiary. And I used to wonder why my life took a different trajectory." What made the difference? He's concluded that those peers who thrived had a solid family foundation, like his own.

"It comes down to 'ecology' or environmental factors that impact a child's life," he says. Simmons' family had provided a home environment conducive to education—unlike his less-fortunate neighbors who, struggling with poverty, job instability, and family conflicts, were not able to be as supportive of their children.

At the age of six, Simmons accompanied his father to work at a youth center in a poor section of town. Simmons' father was the center's director, and Simmons saw kids immersed in the positive environment his father had created and filled with enjoyable activities. Simmons soon set his sights on helping youth and went on to earn a PhD in clinical/community psychology from the University of South Carolina, after earning a master's in community agency counseling at Michigan State University.

Fresh from a post-doctoral clinical/community psychology fellowship at the Yale University School of Medicine, Simmons became treatment coordinator, then overall program coordinator, of the Hartford Youth Project (HYP), which had been established by the Connecticut Department of Children and Families. "The goal was to create a system of care that increased access to and availability of quality substance-abuse treatment for adolescents," explains Simmons. One of his roles was to oversee the hiring of engagement specialists—individuals from Hartford savvy about the city and its culture. "Their job was to gain the trust of



kids and families who might not trust the social services system so kids would be willing to accept intervention for substance abuse and related problem behaviors," says Simmons.

He recalls talking to a 14-year-old girl on the phone as she expressed suicidal thoughts. Discovering she'd never been involved in a behavioral health intervention, Simmons immediately marshaled resources to get her help through the mobile Emergency Medical Psychiatric Service in Hartford. "She needed intensive outpatient work and started treatment in the Hartford Youth Project. She successfully completed the intervention and the HYP program," says Simmons proudly.

Today Simmons synthesizes his own on-the-street professional experience as a clinical psychologist and community agency administrator with intense research of the latest clinical/community psychology literature to write scholarly articles. Drawing on the HYP experience, he, along with colleagues, wrote an article on bringing adolescents into substance abuse treatment through community outreach and engagement for the *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs* in 2008.

This year he and co-author G. C. Vaughn wrote a chapter on engaging African Americans in outpatient mental health interventions for the *Handbook of African American Health* (Guildford Press, NY). Key recommendations in the chapter address how mental health providers can encourage voluntary referrals for African

Americans. The authors suggest providers collaborate with such trusted local networks as churches, pastors, and those involved with the Natural Helpers peer-assistance program; involve the community in assessing its treatment needs; and have culturally appropriate organizational and clinical engagement practices in place. "The therapist must be willing to 'go there,' to explore any perceptions of the role of racism in presenting problems, especially with African American male clients," says Simmons.

Simmons, who draws from his own background as a therapist and clinical psychologist, says, "At first contact with the client, the therapist needs to engage in collaborative and active problem solving so that barriers to participation are identified and addressed. The therapist also should focus on problems the family wants addressed."

He believes that therapists must be prepared to work with other agencies involved with the family and to link family to supportive services. This year the authors presented their findings at a conference of the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues held in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Last year Simmons served as a consulting psychologist, under a one-year grant from the National Institutes of Health, for an initiative which provided New Haven high school students with paid summer research jobs at the Yale Diagnostic Radiology Laboratory. Acting as liaison between research supervisors and the students he had recruited, Simmons says, "The young people gained valuable exposure to the field of biomedical research."

Looking ahead, Simmons plans to conduct research on the impact that good cognitive therapy can have on brain activity—in particular, on aggressive behavior in youth—and also to examine efforts to increase utilization of outpatient mental health services by underrepresented populations. He hopes that one day his scholarship may make a big difference in the lives of those at risk.

By Geri Radacsi

SHARON KHAN: VETERAN STUDYING WITH A MISSION

BY TAYLOR ZAVATTERO '11

For international studies major Sharon Khan, CCSU is a key element of a plan that she conceived when she was a little girl growing up in Columbia, Conn. The plan: Travel the globe and make her résumé “bulletproof.”

Khan joined the Army directly out of high school—a giant step she took with her twin sister. “We were tired of taking tests,” Khan said, “We wanted to work with our hands and just get out of Connecticut for a little bit, to see the world.”

During the ensuing nine years of service Khan was on active duty as an intelligence analyst for four-and-a-half years and rose to the rank of staff sergeant. She was stationed in Fort Mead, Maryland, South Korea, and Balad, Iraq, just 20 minutes north of Baghdad by air.

The 12 to 16 hour days in the service had a reverse affect on her. “After a while of not going to school, I started to crave going back,” says Khan, who is still in the active reserves. “I wanted to learn more. I wanted to sit down and read a book and just start writing papers.”

The importance of education became brutally obvious to her when she returned home and went job hunting in Washington DC, at the State Department and other intelligence agencies. Encountering fierce competition in a volatile job market, she quickly realized that she still had work to do.



“It was a reality check for me,” she said. “I have the knowledge. I just need a degree to back me up so I can be marketable out there. Competing with everyone is getting hard.”

At CCSU, Khan endeavors to expand her knowledge of the Middle East and South Asia. Political Science Professor Ghassan El-Eid teaches several courses on this region and has gotten to know Khan well over the past two years. He noted that



she is “a highly motivated student who is always eager to learn, always willing to expand her horizons in terms of obtaining more knowledge about a region she cares a lot about.”

With this next step of her plan underway, Khan maintains a keen resoluteness that she attributes to her time in the military. However, her experience, while definitely a source of pride, is not something that she likes to flaunt. “I try not to put the fact out that I’m a veteran,” she says. “Most of the veterans I know at CCSU are just so focused and are just trying to get through school.”

CCSU Veterans Affairs Coordinator Chris Gutierrez understands this focus. “The average student-veteran can be 20 or 21,” he says. “They can be sitting in the classroom with people the same age, but in the year or two they were deployed, they’ve grown up so much and they’re at a whole different level mentally.” In the time that Gutierrez has known Khan he has found that she is “very focused and proud of who she is as a woman, as a female veteran.”

The next phase of Khan’s plan: to go back to Washington DC with a fresh set of skills honed at CCSU. This time getting a job doesn’t seem to be a question for her. “I will get a job down there,” she says, as if stating a fact. And in her case, the facts all seem to add up.

CCSU President Jack Miller presenting Khan with the 2010 Student Veterans Excellence Award and Scholarship.

Kaylah Smith

Relishing the College Experience

By Janice Palmer

Kaylah Smith is one of the best ambassadors CCSU could hope for. From the moment the vivacious Bristol native set foot on campus, she has not let one day of her college experience pass her by.

The junior is a double major in anthropology and Spanish and consistently earns grades that put her on the Dean's List each semester. She also manages to find time for a job and the required practice and performance for two choral groups while supporting her single mother by helping out with her younger siblings; Smith is the second oldest of six children.

Smith's strategy for success is about keeping her priorities straight. "A college education is a luxury," she says, and adds, "To get the most out of college you have to work hard."

She is hopeful that her determination to do well and take advantage of all that college has to offer serves as a positive influence on her siblings, just as her mother has been to her.

For 20 hours each week, Smith is a student worker in the Dean's Office of the Carol A. Ammon School of Arts and Sciences. She is usually the first person a visitor encounters. Sometimes those visitors are students who are frustrated or upset. "Fortunately for them, Kaylah is an engaging and empathetic person who is able to solve problems and offer assistance," says Dean Susan Pease.

"She possesses the skills most employers find valuable, such as good written and oral communication skills," Pease says. The Dean is also impressed with Smith's ability to employ both qualitative and quantitative analysis to describe and solve problems. "She can integrate knowledge and resolve difficult issues creatively," Pease points out.

Throughout the first year or so, Smith struggled with her decision on a major. "The general education courses opened my mind to so many possibilities," she says. She became enthusiastic about psychology and then sociology, and after that an introductory anthropology class. "I fell in love with anthropology," she says, her face beaming with delight.

"I just love cultural anthropology. It gives you a holistic view of the world and other cultures. You learn to understand people and not make immediate assumptions about them. I've learned to take a step back and not take such an ethnocentric view," she says.

Although anthropology is not necessarily a career-specific major, Smith points out that "It lends itself to many options."

She believes that what she has learned in anthropology, through reading, writing, and critical analysis, will help her with any career path she decides to pursue.

In addition to her studies, Smith is a member of the University Singers and the all girls acapella group T.G.F.I. (Too Good For Instruments). Rehearsal for the two groups requires about 10 hours a week—more leading up to a performance or competition. According to Professor of Music Pamela Perry, who is the choral group's director, Smith's ability to stay focused helps keep her balanced in her life.

"She listens attentively to instruction, arrives prepared, and never lets anything affect her performance," Perry says. "She can maintain a packed schedule without getting frustrated or tired because she is able to find the joy in whatever she is doing. I've never seen her down," she adds.

Perry has been impressed with Smith since she walked into auditions as a freshman. Very rarely do freshman make it into the group, let alone someone who is not a music major. Each year, Perry selects one student to receive the Elizabeth Walden Scholarship, and Smith was the first freshman to ever be chosen for the honor. The following year, she became the first student to be chosen a second time for the honor.

Smith is a leader within the University Singers, a role "she earned by example," Perry states. When the group travelled to China last year to perform in several cities, it was Smith, one of the youngest ones on the trip, who looked out for students who were not coping well with the stresses of travel. "It is never about her," says Perry. "It's always about what she can do for the group."

During that trip, Smith discovered a passion for travel. Though she could graduate early next December, she will finish up most of her course work so she can spend the spring semester studying abroad in Spain. Though she has never been to Europe, she says, "I want to take myself out of my comfort zone, use my Spanish and, maybe, then I will find something that sparks my interest for a career."





the 2009 NEC title and was named Coach of the Year, repeated that performance in 2010, only in a more dominating fashion. Blake, who also heads the women's team this season, saw the men's Blue Devils finish first, second, and third in the NEC Championship race in New Britain, on their way to defending their NEC crown and winning for the second time in school history. His women's program improved three spots in the standings and also had a successful season.

Head football coach **Jeff McNerney** helped secure the other NEC title for the fall. With a second-straight 7-1 record in league play, McNerney's crew won a share of its second straight title, and its fourth since 2004. The Blue Devils finished the year 8-3, and continued to build Central into one of the top regional programs at the Football Championship Subdivision level. The 2010 senior class, consisting of 15 student-athletes, graduates as the top all-time winners, posting 30 wins in their four seasons. In addition, the Blue Devils enter the 2011 season with the nation's second-longest home winning streak of 14 games. They were 5-0 at home in 2010 and haven't lost at home in three seasons.



The fall of 2010 resembled the fall of 2009 for the Central Connecticut athletics department. The football and men's cross-country teams won their respective Northeast Conference Championships for the second straight season, and with a new leader in charge the Blue Devils surged to the front of the Commissioner's Cup standings.

CCSU Fall Sports Wrap-Up

Thomas Pincince
Assistant Athletics Director and Sports
Information Director

The **women's soccer team** advanced to the NEC Tournament for the ninth straight season, earning the fourth seed with a 5-3-2 NEC record. They finished the season 9-9-2 overall. The nine straight appearances in the tournament is the longest active streak in the league. The Blue Devils dropped a 1-0 decision to top-seed Long Island in the quarterfinal round.

The **volleyball team** qualified for the NEC Tournament for the eighth straight season, also as the fourth seed. They dropped a five-set heartbreaker to eventual champion Sacred Heart, losing the fifth set 15-10 to the Pioneers. The team finished the season 11-18 overall but won a pair of key NEC matches on the last weekend of the season over Long Island and Quinnipiac to earn the fourth seed in the tournament.



The fall seasons were the first for new Director of Athletics **Paul Schlickmann**. While his tenure with the Blue Devils began in May, Schlickmann was beginning his first full athletics year as the school's new Director of Athletics.

Second-year men's cross-country coach **Eric Blake** made sure that Schlickmann's first full season got off to a great start. Blake, who led the Blue Devils to

The **men's soccer team** finished 4-10-3 overall and earned just one win in league play on the season. The Blue Devil defense produced three shutouts on the year and held opponents to just 1.5 goals per game. Senior Robert Cavener earned All-Conference and several all-region awards following the season.

The **men's and women's golf teams** were also in action in the fall, although it is not their traditional season.. The men's season was highlighted by a first place finish in the CCSU Invitational held at Wethersfield Country Club in September. They also posted a third-place finish in the New England Intercollegiate Golf Association Championship in October. Junior **Kevin Josephson** had one of the most successful seasons in recent history, winning medalist honors in the CCSU Invitational and MacDonald Cup at Yale, and then placing second in the NEIGA Championship, losing in a playoff to the eventual champion. He also finished second at the Adams Cup in Newport, RI.



AROUND



The long-awaited opening of the **University's Hitchcock-Young Pavilion** was celebrated in October at its dedication. From left to right: CCSU President **Jack Miller**; Director of Intercollegiate Athletics **Paul Schlickmann**; President of Hitchcock Printing & Distribution **Edward Young** and his family—children **Cheyenne** and **Neil**, and wife, **Kathy**; and Vice President of Institutional Advancement **Chris Galligan**.



The 2010 **Doris Honig Guenter Women and Film Festival** was held in October, and included events at the University and, once again, the New Britain Museum of American Art. The theme this year was “Unlocked Images: Family, Warriors, and Art.” The event was very successful and widely attended by the CCSU and central Connecticut communities.



Anne Applebaum, an award-winning American author and historian who is married to Poland's Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski, spoke about Poland in Davidson Hall's Torp Theatre in the Nowakowski Conversation series. The event featured an engaging and enlightening three-way conversation between Applebaum, CCSU Professor of History **M.B. Biskupski**, and **John Dankosky** (seen here with Applebaum), an NPR talk-show host and the holder of the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism and Mass Communication.

CAMPUS

Community Central, a new “store-front” pedestrian-friendly, student-oriented space opened its doors in downtown New Britain in early November. The center was developed with the goal of inspiring and supporting collaboration among students and the community, and is, itself, the result of collaboration among CCSU, the New Britain Downtown Council and the public school system. Community Central is part of a larger group of institutional initiatives designed to expand and enhance the University’s historical partnership with New Britain. These efforts aim to strengthen the University’s engagement with the New Britain community. In the photo, left to right, are: **Andrew Froning** ’10, an Americorps VISTA volunteer; business major **Krista Kingsbury**; Associate Professor of Management and Organization **Sarah Stookey**, SGA Vice President **Chris Kyle**, and Community Central Project Manager **Eric Francis** ’10. This is Community Central’s core team.



A new partnership between the Travelers Companies, Inc., and CCSU, announced in December, will provide underrepresented students with the education and training necessary for employment in the insurance and financial services industries. Through the **Travelers EDGE** (Empowering Dreams for Graduation and Employment) program, CCSU is receiving a major grant that covers program expenses and tuition for Greater Hartford-area students who qualify. Program resources will be used to mentor undergraduates, as well as to increase their awareness of future career opportunities. CCSU Professor of Management and Organization **David Fearon**, who is the Travelers EDGE advisor on campus, closely guides students as they navigate the pressures of academia and their demanding internships. Travelers Vice President of Financial Planning and Analysis Anthony Torsiello (at right) serves as the company’s liaison to CCSU.



The Carnegie Endowment for the Advancement of Teaching recognized the University’s many community outreach initiatives, such as the Travelers partnership and Community Central, by selecting CCSU as a “**Community Engagement Institution**,” a new and prestigious classification designed to encourage such innovative efforts to increase the value of the institutions as a resource for their communities.



HAPPENINGS



Kaye Lynn Fote, Barbara Miller, Liz Leonard, Charlie Fote '73



President Jack Miller and TCC Class of 1954: (l-r) John Barnes '54, Kathleen (Wall) Barnes '57, Carol (Kulak) Conklin '55, Walter Conklin '54, Mel Lobaugh (Honorary '54), seated Dorothy (McCord) Gallagher '54, Norm Hausmann '54, Jean (Smith) Lobaugh '54 and Joyce (Szeluga) Wolk '54



Phil Desorbo '93 and daughters Isabella and Sofia



Sisters of Iota Kappa Tau Sue (Kimberly) Cary '74, Cindy Wright, Dee Bednar '73, Eileen Purcell '74 seated Kathy (Wheeler) Neurath '70, Linda (DeRose) Carlson '71 and Lynn (Douglass) Sestito '75

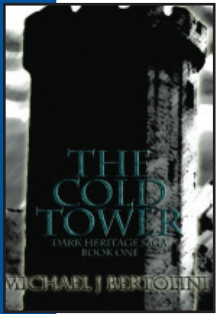


The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Brothers are (l to r) Aaron Lucas, Al Staten, Philip Kane, Jr., Kevin Cranford, Sr. '81, Devin Page, Raymond Bailey and Bobby Gibson.



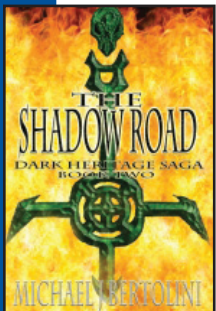
Dick Wiszniak '73, Brian Mattiello '88, and Fred Agee '80. Dick and Brian are Past Presidents and Fred is current President of the CCSU Alumni Association.

Recent Books & News by CCSU Alumni



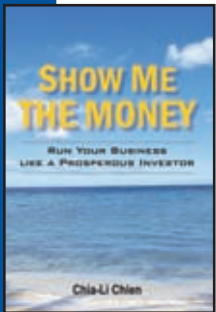
Michael Bertolini '08
The Cold Tower: The Dark Heritage Saga and The Shadow Road: The Dark Heritage Saga (Volume 2)
Createspace, 2010

Chelsey Perry of APEX Review called *The Cold Tower* "...a grand, sweeping fantasy epic...a can't-miss thriller for fans of quality fantasy fiction." It tells the story



of what happens in the world of Scyllia when the evil sorcerer Enlokirim rises from his grave, seeking revenge against those that destroyed him. *The Shadow Road* is a sequel.

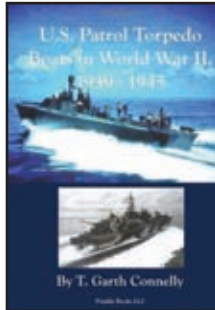
Chia-Li (Jolly) Chien '89 CFP
Show Me The Money: Run Your Business like a Prosperous Investor iUniverse, 2010



Chia-Li Chien is chief strategist of Chien Associates LLC, which helps women entrepreneurs convert their businesses into meaningful personal wealth. Her

book explains how to strategically innovate your business foundation and position your company to get the value you deserve.

T. Garth Connelly '83 and John Lambert
U.S. Patrol Torpedo Boats in World War II, 1939-1945
Nimble Books, LLC, 2010



Connelly is a lifelong student of PT boats and this lavishly illustrated volume is a comprehensive general history that includes

extensive detail about construction, engines, weapons, camouflage and operation.

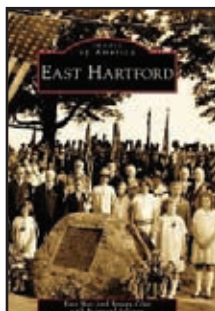
Joseph Gallucci Ed.D., BS '74 MS '82 (pen name Bob Gallucci)
We Survived St. Gabes Lulu Publishing, 2010



Gallucci's humorous yarn recalls 40 students who laughed, played, prayed and grew up together from 1957 until 1965

at St. Gabriel School in Windsor, Connecticut. Thanks to "St. Gabes," they built lasting friendships, developed great values and strong ideologies and were fully prepared for future success in advanced education and in life.

Raymond Johnson '66
Images of America: East Hartford
Arcadia, 2009



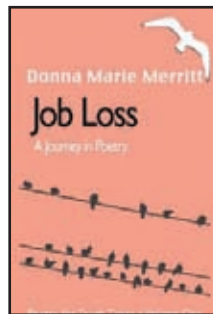
Johnson's photo history of East Hartford covers the evolution of the town from its settlement in 1639 to current times, revealing

how the town has gone through

several incarnations since separating from the city of Hartford in 1783. Beginning as a huge agricultural community centered on tobacco, it has been a railroad center, a major manufacturer of aircraft engines, and a vibrant community in which to work and live.

Donna Marie (Mulcahy/Pitino) Merritt '88
Job Loss: A Journey in Poetry
Avalon Press November 2010

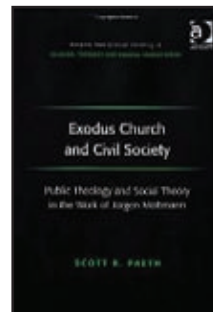
In her 16th book, Donna Marie Merritt uses both serious and



humorous poetry, traditional and more experimental pieces, to explore the timely topic of unemployment. The poems in

this collection are for the poetry lover in general and for everyone whose life has been affected by financial difficulties.

Scott Paeth '93
Exodus Church and Civil Society: Public Theology and Social Theory in the Work of Jürgen Moltmann Ashgate Publishing, 2008



Deirdre Hainsworth and Scott Paeth, *Public Theology for a Global Society: Essays in Honor of Max Stackhouse* Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2010

Paeth's first book explores the intersection of theology and social theory in the work of Jürgen Moltmann, examining the way in which Moltmann's concept of the 'Exodus Church' can illuminate the importance of the idea of civil society for a Christian public theology. His essays, composed with

Christian scholar Deirdre Hainsworth, honor ethicist Max Stackhouse, contemplating the historical roots of public theology and ongoing resources of public theology as a vital element in the church's engagement with global issues.

Mary Lou Sullivan '98

Raisin' Cain, The Wild and Raucous Story of Johnny Winter Backbeat Books, 2010



(featured in the Summer 2010 *Focus*). The Blues Foundation in Memphis has awarded Sullivan the 2011 Keeping the Blues Alive Award for *Raisin' Cain*.

James K. Zavez '84
Father, Son and Holy Spirit Get In Line Publishing, 2010

Zavez' book is an action thriller, which Amazon describes this way:

"A terrorist attack on Inauguration day stuns Washington. US security groups turn to the one person who might be able to piece it together; a librarian with ties to the White House. Her son Joe, ex-military, goes undercover as a DEA operative. He races against the clock to find the terrorists, a missing friend, all without losing Sister Clare."



Central alumni—please let us know about your recently published books: alumnibooks@ccsu.edu

CLASS NOTES

61

William Fritz MS '66, former high school industrial arts teacher and athletic coach, was appointed to serve as chair of the Connecticut Board of Education's Connecticut Technical High School Committee. U. S. Marine Corps veteran **Carl R. Venditto** (MS) is still serving his country. In his fourth term as one of Connecticut's two U. S. Army Reserves ambassadors he holds the protocol rank of major general, and has a varied list of responsibilities, including making public presentations about the reserves. Ambassadors are considered the eyes and ears in the community.

64

Football veteran **Rick Lantz** is currently defensive coordinator and linebackers coach for United Football League's Omaha Nighthawks.

67

Patricia (Ball) Bello retired from the University of New Haven in May 2010. She was a practitioner in residence in the English department. She had previously retired as a vice principal from the East Haven Public School System. **Alan M. DeBisschop** MS '71 was recently named to the Wall of Honor at Southington High School. Mr. DeBisschop is retired from the Southington Board of Education after a 35-year career. He is currently treasurer of the Southington Education Foundation.

69

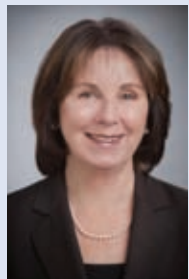
Bob Tarigo MS '76, who has coached girls' volleyball for 29 years at Berlin High School, celebrated his 400th career win in a victory over Middletown on November 5, 2010.

70

Edward Piatek, route owner and operator for Federal Express in Ocala, FL, was the recipient of the FedEx Humanitarian Award for 2009 for the rescue of a distressed motorist during a weather microburst. **Pete Richards** retired as dean of students at Nashoba Regional High School in Bolton, MA in 2006 after 35 years of service as administrator, athletic director, health education instructor, and baseball and football coach. He keeps busy in retirement serving as an umpiring slow-pitch softball, managing a little league complex in Leominster, MA, and substitute teaching.

72

Mary Ann Dayton-Fitzgerald MS '81, '90, a counselor for Connecticut's Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired and a mental health clinician at the East Hartford-based Capitol Region Education Council Polaris Center, was reappointed to the Connecticut Interagency Birth-to-Three Coordinating Council. Dr. **William Hunter**, former assistant city manager of Hartford, was recently named chair of the School of Business at the University of Phoenix, South Florida campus. The Massachusetts Horticultural Society has named **Katherine (Korn) Macdonald** its new



executive director. Katherine was president of KMAC Marketing and, prior to that, vice president of marketing for Thompson Island Outward Bound. **John Skladany** is back at the University of Central Florida, as linebackers coach and special teams assistant, after spending a couple of years as defensive coordinator at Conference USA rival Houston, which enjoyed two

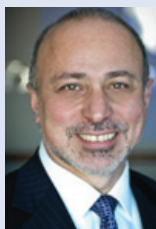
bowl appearances and won the 2009 C-USA West Division Championship during his tenure.

73

Brent Lemire, former Litchfield, NH fire chief, is serving as interim town administrator of Northwood, NH while the town searches for a new administrator. **Ray Oliver** teaches high school English and creative writing for the Anderson County, TN Board of Education. Ray has published four books and is working on a fifth. He and his wife, Cindy, have two adult children and reside in Clinton, TN. **Stephen A. Pirro** is a quality assurance manager at Metalcraft/Sea-fire Marine, Inc. in Rosedale, MD.

74

Jerry Libbin is a city commissioner (first elected in 2005 and reelected in 2009) and vice mayor in Miami Beach, FL, and president and CEO of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. Dr. **Nancy C. Motola** is a principal consultant for Pharma Regulatory Connection in Waterford, CT. **Bernard P. Pierorazio** is superintendent of Yonkers Public Schools, the fourth largest district in New York State. He previously served as deputy superintendent,



assistant superintendent, and principal of Saunders Trades and Technical High School which, under his leadership, became a United States Department of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and a New American High School. **Gregory J. Ziogas** (MS) retired as principal of Plainville High School in June 2010 after spending his entire educational career in Plainville.

75

David A. Fowler, who recently retired from teaching for more than 33 years at schools in Old Lyme, CT, has no plans to coast. He's gearing up to continue his efforts to get a bike in the hands of every kid who wants one through Bikes for Kids. Over the 20 years of its existence the Old Lyme organization has supplied some 12,000 bikes and recently, working with a



church in Wallingford, sent 136 bikes to Haiti.

Jacqueline (Levanto) Sullivan, who retired

in February 2010 after having spent her entire professional career at Norwich Free Academy as a teacher, special education department chair and cheerleading coach, found herself back at the academy at the end of June when she was asked to fill an appointment as interim head of the school.

76

Sandra (Arita) Dunigan is a special education teacher at King Street School in Port Chester, NY. **Dave Szewczul**, current CSGA senior player of the year, was inducted into the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame in December. Szewczul has been playing in the top echelon of state golf for 35 years, winning seven individual state titles, six four-ball crowns and most recently a New England championship. He began the year with a victory in the Senior Match Play Championship, followed that up with a win in the Connecticut Senior Open and finished the year off with a victory at the New England Senior Amateur. **Dennis Schermerhorn** was inducted into the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame in November 2010. A 1971 graduate of Bristol Eastern High School, he set records as the Lancers' quarterback and also played baseball and wrestled,

placing third in the regional competition.

77

Joyce (Luginbuhl) Abele is a health program administrator in the Division of Nutrition for the New York State Department of Health in Albany. **Elizabeth (Sanford) Malone** is a special education teacher for the Danbury Board of Education.

78

Gary Baxter, head of information technology for ING U.S. Retirement Services, ING



Individual Retirement, and the company's closed block of business, has been promoted to chief

information officer of ING Insurance U.S. Previously Baxter has served in executive information technology roles with Hartford Financial Services Group, Travelers Life and Annuity, Lincoln Financial Group and Aetna. **Thomas J. Bebrin** is director, strategic sourcing, at Callaway Golf Company, Inc. in Carlsbad, CA. **Gregg P. Demetros** retired as vice president of sales at Unilever in Stamford.



Walter G. "Wally" Harper was recently appointed vice president of human resources at

Gaylord Specialty Healthcare in Wallingford.

79

U. S. Marine Corps veteran **George A. Messier** currently serves as veterans administrator for Wallingford and Meriden.

80

Harry G. Bellucci is a teacher and head football coach at Hartford High School. Vocalist

and performer **Steve Lippia** recently returned to his alma mater, St. Paul High School in Southington, for a performance to benefit the school. **Sandra (Williams) Pierog** is a certified public accountant with Whittlesey & Hadley PC in Hartford.

81

Steve Addazio MS '85, who helped the University of Florida win two BCS National Championships in the last five years, has been named Temple University's 25th head football coach. He most recently served as the associate head coach and offensive coordinator for the Gators during the 2010 season. **Linda (Phelps) Fish** is senior sales manager at Courtyard by Marriott in Cromwell. JEM Design is the name of **Jane (Feinstein) Mahoney's** freelance design company in Monroe, CT.

Kathie McCarthy is director of human resources at Whittlesey & Hadley, PC in Hartford. **James D. Noga** MS '89, 6th Yr '93, principal at Second Hill Lane Elementary School in Stratford, took over as principal at Lordship Elementary School, also in Stratford, for the start of the 2010-11 academic year. Jim has held several administrative positions in the district since 1997, including supervisor of fine arts, and became principal at Second Hill Lane in 2006. **Thomas A. Rickis** of Canton is an artist whose work consists of watercolors, oils and mixed media paintings, photographs and giclee prints. His paintings and photographs are in private collections throughout the U. S.

82

Michael J. Cerruto (MA) has retired after four years as principal of Terryville High School and 35 years as an educator. **Richard D. Kriscenski** is a revenue examiner for the State of Connecticut Department of Revenue Services in Hartford.

Jeffrey M. Whiteley is a manager at Modells Sporting Goods in Stamford.

83

James M. Broderick is operations manager at Sedgwick Claims Management Services in Lake Mary, FL. **T. Garth Connelly** had a book signing for his fifth book, *U. S. Patrol Torpedo Boats in World War II, 1939 – 1945*, at the final reunion of PT Boats, Inc., the official national veterans association for men who served on USN PT boats, their bases and tenders in World War II. **Betzy (Christensen) Farnsworth** is a middle school teacher of English and language arts at Robert E. Fitch Middle School in Groton. Dr. **Dana (Montini) Wilkie** has been named academic dean for undergraduate programs at Charter Oak State College in New Britain. Dr. Wilkie previously served as assistant dean of domestic programs in the School of Global and Professional Programs at Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY.

84

Matthew S. Friedman is a regional project manager for the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking, a multi-national organization that focuses on the identification and prevention of human trafficking. He and his family live in Bangkok, Thailand where he is stationed. **Alan Miner** is a project manager with Fiserv and a consultant at CheckFreePay. **Anna (Labarbera) O'Rourke** was appointed principal of Saint Mary School in Ridgefield. O'Rourke has served St. Mary's in various capacities for 15 years. Most recently she was assistant principal.

85

David R. Brown works for Delta Airlines as an airport customer service agent. **Julie (Wallach) Cloutier** is the

alumni office coordinator at Trinity College in Hartford.

Dawn Draper-Classen, formerly of Willmott & Associates, has joined Farmington Bank as assistant vice president, human resources business partner. **Amy Hewitt Cunningham** was appointed senior program manager, enrollment management and marketing, at the Hartford campus of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. **Robert C. Lickwar** is a certified public accountant and partner at Del Conte, Hyde, Anello & Schuch PC in Farmington, specializing in taxation of small businesses and their owners, real estate, multi-state, business and individual taxation. **Nancy (Warner) Murray** is a certified public accountant and has run her own business, Nancy D. Murray CPA, in Orlando, FL since 1995, focusing primarily on financial matters related to small business, entrepreneurs and individuals. **Frank E.**



Rudewicz, Jr., licensed private investigator, former undercover officer with the Hartford Police

Department and licensed attorney, joined Marcum LLP as a principal and counsel in the Hartford and Boston offices, and heads the forensic, investigative and valuation advisory practice for the New England area. He has more than 26 years experience conducting domestic and international investigations for anti-trust/anti-competitive issues, harassment, fraud, ethics and other employment-related conduct. **Al Sylvestre** is a research analyst for the Connecticut Department of Labor in Wethersfield. **Damian M. Zyjewski** is an engineering manager for J. F. Fredericks Tool in Farmington.

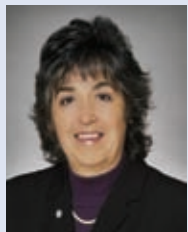
86

Kevin O'Brien is a portfolio manager at Prospector Partners Asset Management LLC in Guilford, CT, specializing in property-casualty insurance, specialty finance, asset management and diversified financial services. **Alfred DiVincintis**, partner at Halloran & Sage LLP was honored by the Associated General Contractors of Connecticut as supplier/service provider of the year. Stonington social studies teacher **Michael L. Freeman** was reappointed to the Connecticut Investment Advisory Council which advises the state treasurer on investments related to state retirement plans and trust funds. **William D. Glueck** is vice president of Information Products Inc. in East Granby. Dr. **Lillian Ortiz** was appointed interim associate dean of academic and student affairs at Middlesex Community College for a one-year term. Dr. Ortiz is on loan from her position as dean of institutional development at Manchester Community College for the one-year term.

88

Robert J. Borkowski is an estimator and project manager for Tilcon Connecticut Inc. in New Britain. **John R. Budkins**, who has worked for the past seven years as CBS Television Distribution's vice president of sales for the northeast region, has been named vice president, programming and scheduling, for the CBS television stations group. He will work with the group's 28 stations in acquiring and renewing syndicated programming. **Michael T. Cotnoir** has completed requirements for his MBA at Bay Path College. **Alessandra (Tutino) Lundberg** is finance officer for the board of trustees of Connecticut Community Colleges. [photo] **Rosemary (Troy) Mauriello** has joined Webster Bank as

vice president, small business administration (SBA) sales specialist. Mauriello comes to Webster with more than 16



years of specialized experience in SBA lending, most recently with National Cooperative

bank as the SBA portfolio relationship manager. **Patrick**



Mulligan, head boys' varsity soccer coach at Avon High School, has been chosen as

Connecticut's 2010 boys' soccer coach of the year.

89

Bonnie (DeNote) Del Conte, a certified public accountant, has been president and CEO of CONNSTEP, a business consulting organization that helps small and midsize Connecticut manufacturing companies take advantage of expert business solutions to compete and grow profitably, since 2006. **Joseph S. Fiducia** is vice president at Fidelity Investments in West Hartford. **Mark J. Fortin** is associate auditor for the State of Connecticut Auditors of Public Accounts. **Joseph "Jay" Johnston, Jr.** has been hired as an assistant city auditor in Cape Coral, FL. Previously Johnston had a 26-year career with The Hartford Financial Services Group, most recently in the position of vice president and director of corporate risk management, and was chief operations officer of the Tucson Unified School District in Tucson, AZ since 2007. **Amy (Brayman) Martin** is employed at Universal Orlando in Orlando, FL as a reservations manager. **Maureen (Luddy) Schiffer** (MS, 6th Yr), director of

special education for Plainville community Schools, has been named assistant superintendent for the Plainville school district. Her career as an educator spans more than two decades in New York, Washington, California and Connecticut.

Pamela (Jennings) Shick is a technology integration teacher for Hartford Public Schools.

90

Orazio DelVecchio has joined Citizens Bank as a mortgage loan officer at the Church Street branch in New Haven. DelVecchio has been in the mortgage business for 17 years and came to Citizens from Envoy Mortgage where he was a loan officer. **Stephen J. Jeffries** is vice president, healthcare at Matthews & Stephens Associates, an executive search recruiting firm in Rocky Hill. **James R. Miron**, former mayor of Stratford, has joined Trantolo & Trantolo, LLC. He will be practicing personal injury law out of the firm's Waterbury office. **Henry L. Shawah** serves as a project manager at the Whiting-Turner Contracting Company in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

91

Omar S. Ali has joined the AspenCross Financial Group, a community-based financial advisory, investment management and employee benefits firm in Farmington, as an investment advisor representative. **Stephanie A. Coxon MS '01**, reading consultant at Gainfield Elementary School in Southbury, is the recipient of the Outstanding Literacy Leader Award from the University of Bridgeport. The award goes to a graduate student who has completed with distinction the sixth year reading and language arts consultant program in the university's School of Education, and demonstrated exemplary work as a literacy leader. **Timothy J. Maule**, a

fourth-grade teacher at East Berlin's Hubbard Elementary School, was chosen as the District Teacher of the Year. **Patrice (Spanier) Buzzella** is a fifth-grade teacher for the Novato, CA Unified School District.

92

A leader in the area of adolescent substance abuse treatment at Wheeler Clinic in Plainville, **William D. Kania** has been named vice president of outpatient services. **Xhemil**



"John" Koliani is a certified public accountant and partner in the Farmington accounting

firm Kostin, Ruffkess & Co. LLC.

93

Mark L. Grover is executive director of the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch, a group home for young men in Frederick, MD. Grover joined the group home in 2001 as a social worker and has been executive director since 2006. **William S. Phibbs** is senior mechanical engineer for Bloomfield-based BVH Integrated Services, and is currently designing the mechanical systems for the proposed four-story academic building at CCSU. Phibbs has recently been accepted into the CCSU graduate program and is pursuing his MS in construction management. **Stephen D. Sopolak** is a licensed professional engineer and project engineer for the Town of Rocky Hill.

94

Selective Insurance Group announced the appointment of **Vere Bryan** as assistant vice president, general liability, umbrella and professional liability line of business manager at its Selective Insurance Company of America subsidiary in

Branchville, NJ. Prior to joining Selective in July 2010 Vere was assistant vice president of casualty for Harleysville Insurance Company Title-holding coach of New York City's PSAL Soccer League,



Marcus DiBernardo is now head coach of men's soccer at Monroe College in New

Rochelle, NY where, over the past two seasons, he has recruited a winning team from all over the world. **Peter A. McKoy** is a police officer for the City of New Haven. **Mark A. Zydanowicz** is a captain in the Connecticut Army National Guard, and third-generation owner, with other family members, of Guida's Milk & Ice Cream headquartered in New Britain.

95

Anthony J. Gasper MS '02, Ed.D. '06, has been hired as assistant superintendent for Ansonia Public Schools. Gasper began his educational career in 1996 as a Spanish teacher in the Manchester school district and has held several other positions since, most recently as assistant principal at East Hampton High School. **Joyce (Pelletier) Gorcyca** is a member of the nursing faculty at Lincoln Technical Institute in New Britain. **Richard L. Green** is a partner at Robinson & Cole in Hartford, and provides legal and business counsel in transactional, regulatory, and litigation-related matters involving technology, intellectual property, e-business, export, and sourcing. Green formerly served as North American general counsel and corporate secretary for a publicly traded UK-based technology and business process outsourcing company. **Anthony J. Paventi** is captain/commander,

Professional Standards Division of the New Britain Police Department. **Kelly**

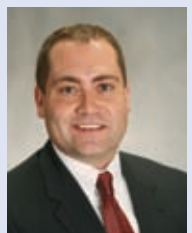


(Bourgeois) Smith, fifth grade physical education and health teacher at Har-Bur Middle

School in Regional School District 10, was named 2010 Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year by the Connecticut Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

96

Hope (Mansigian) Bellantuono, second-grade teacher at Plymouth Center School was chosen as Plymouth's Teacher of the Year. **Mike Church** is the owner of, and professional instructor at, Diamond Kings Baseball and Softball Academy and Parisi Speed School in Bristol. He recently expanded his operation with the installation of a Parisi Speed School at the Healthtrax Fitness and Wellness facility in Enfield. **Angel Cruz** has been working for Stop & Shop since he was 16 and, following a stint in the U. S. Army and National Guard, has managed Stop & Shop stores across Connecticut, including the new store that recently opened in West Hartford, the chain's 94th store in the state. **Russell V. DiNoto** is a rating veterans service representative for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Providence, RI. **Brendan**



M. Healy is a certified public accountant specializing in tax management for J. H. Cohn LLP in

Glastonbury. **Heather (Davis) Hiebner** recently started her own company, del Sol Design Studio, which provides a full

spectrum of graphic design services in Apollo Beach, FL where she and her husband and son live. **Edward "EJ" Howard** joined Willis North America, an insurance information and consulting services firm, as assistant vice president of the Hartford office. **Kent Hurlburt** was named principal of Yalesville Elementary School in Wallingford. He was previously principal of Glastonbury's Naubuc Elementary School. **Lester A. King**, transportation engineer in the office of research at Connecticut's Department of Transportation, has been promoted to major in the U. S. Army National Guard.

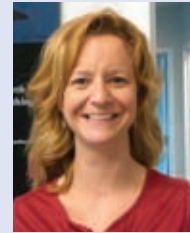
97

Philip Barnett was recognized by *Hartford Business Journal*



as one of Hartford's 40 Under Forty. Phil is an entrepreneur and restaurateur, a partner in Hartford

Restaurant Group (HRG), the management arm behind a trio of restaurant brands, with roots in Greater Hartford, launched in 2002. **Santia (Santiago) Garcia** is a sixth-grade art teacher at Denison Middle School in Winter Haven, FL. **Noelle (Griffin) Smetana** teaches elementary vocal music at Echo Mountain Primary and Intermediate Schools for the Paradise Valley Unified School District in Phoenix, AZ. **Deborah (Barker) Perry** is a market research consultant for The Hartford Financial Services Group at their Simsbury location. **Marc Rybczyk** has joined the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University as assistant coach for men's basketball. Rybczyk spent the past five seasons at Southern Connecticut State University, four as the head coach of the Owls. **Janice (Budzinauskas) Strileckis** has joined Sachs



Walsh Insurance in Westport. During her 13-year career she has specialized in professional

liability, risk management and ancillary business insurance needs. **Jeffrey Varesio** is an engineering manager with Covidien in North Haven. **John B. Varlese, Jr.**, who has won numerous design awards for such companies as Del Monte, Sunglass Hut, Checker's, and Elizabeth Arden, is art director for RR Donnelley Financial Services in Tampa, FL.

98

Andrea Bazinet-Cook is employed with the Alternative to Incarceration Center (AIC) in Meriden, supervising court, probation and parole-mandated clients to ensure that they are completing their ordered conditions while engaged in the criminal justice system. Plainville Community Schools has named **John E. Girard, Jr.** its 2010-11 Teacher of the Year. Girard has been an educator for ten years, serving as science teacher at Plainville High School for the past five. In addition to teaching he has served as the freshman basketball coach and is the advisor to the high school's Bio-Medical Club. **Jeffrey O'Meara** is director, ACE/Lean and Supplier Gold at Sikorsky Aircraft in Stratford. **Michael A. Zielinski** is chief compliance officer at Foxhall Capital Management in Orange, CT.

99

Stacey (Barriault) Shanahan is a social worker for the Connecticut Department of Children and Families in Waterbury. **Glen Carman** is an assistant engineer at GM2 Associates Inc., a civil engineering and inspection firm specializing in bridge design and safety inspection, in Glastonbury. **Brenden**

Floyd is a hotline screener at the Connecticut Department of Children & Families in Hartford.

00

Michael A. Cain [MS], principal of Kelly Middle School in Norwich, was the recipient of the Norwich branch of the NAACP's Excellence in Education Award at its annual Freedom Fund Dinner in October. **Jill (Brochu) Conselino** is an athletic trainer for Holyoke Public Schools in Holyoke, MA. **Russell A. Dellidonna** is a partner at Dellidonna Consulting Group LLC in Windsor. **Dianne (Warner) Grimaldi** is an English and language arts teacher for the Vernon Board of Education. Dr. **G. Duncan**



Harris (MS), dean of student affairs at Manchester Community College, was selected by the

State of Connecticut African American Affairs Commission as its 2010 Man of the Year. **Sharlene (Reis) Parker MS '06**, grade six mathematics and science teacher at Carmen Arace Intermediate School, was honored as the school's Teacher of the Year.

01

Kristy (Admans) Langello is a crime scene investigator for the Vero Beach, FL Police Department. **Daniel P. O'Brien** was appointed assistant director of admissions for QU Online at Quinnipiac University in Hamden. **Thomas C. Perrine** (MS) is a school counselor for Fulton County Schools in Johns Creek, GA. A member of the South Windsor Police Department since



1987 and commander of operations since 2005, **Matthew D. Reed** was promoted to

chief of the department in May 2010.

02

Robin L. Gatter is the owner of A Matter of Taste Catering in West Palm Beach, FL. **Christa Jobs** is a grade six teacher at Sage Park Middle School in Windsor, CT. **Nancy P. Kirk** (MS) is building principal at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District in Bridgewater, MA. **Victor Leger**, accomplished artist and art teacher at Torrington High School was chosen as Torrington's Teacher of the Year. Victor is a member of the International Guild of Realism and the Artwell Gallery in Torrington, and he is represented by galleries in New York City and New Jersey. **Kathleen (Moran) Ellis** (MS) is a mathematics teacher, and chair of the mathematics department, at Enfield Public Schools. **Carrie (Praytor) O'Neil** is a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management in New Haven. **Harald Ziegler** (Int'l MBA)

03

Carlye (Anderson) Goulart is employed as a health and physical education teacher at Fitch Middle School in Groton. **Steven J. Carrier**, English teacher at Bloomfield High School, was honored as the school's Teacher of the Year. **Traci L. Mayette** (MS), teacher and team leader in the West Hartford school system, has been named assistant principal of the Middle School of Plainville. **Allen A. Watts** is a sales representative for Dichello Distributors in Orange, CT.

04

Jordan Barnes is photo director at *Seventeen* Magazine/Hearst Corporation in New York City. **Jeffrey Brunetti** was hired as head boys soccer coach at Newington High School. Media professional **Kristin Capezzone** has joined the New England office of ViaMark Advertising as a

senior account executive. Before joining ViaMark, she was an account executive for Comcast in the Connecticut and Massachusetts areas.

Stephen Luttge (MS) is a development associate at Stonehill College in Easton, MA. **Denise Marchese** (MS) is head softball coach at State University of New York (SUNY) New Paltz. **Richard M. Menzia** (MS) is director of education for accreditation and certification operations at The Joint Commission, an independent, not-for-profit organization in Chicago, IL that accredits and certifies more than 18,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. **Anthony Molinuevo** was promoted to the position of assistant vice president/assistant branch manager for Patriot National Bank headquartered in Stamford. He has been with Patriot since 2005. **Mary T. Munson**, teacher at Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School in Bloomfield, was honored as the school's Teacher of the Year. **Seth Noiseux** is employed at The Hartford Financial Services Group in Hartford as a complex claim consultant. **Keith Stegbauer** is a licensed hearing instrument specialist in Seminole, FL.

05

Fran Amara is a health and physical education teacher at Lewis Mills High School in Burlington where he also coaches girls' cross-country, basketball, and golf. **Kristie S. Blanchard** (MS), Bacon Academy social studies department chair and AP human geography teacher, was named the Outstanding Geography Teacher of 2010 for the New England Region of the New England-St. Lawrence Valley Geographer's Association. **Dan Boothby** has been promoted to director of strength and conditioning at Northeastern University in Boston. **Joe Clifford** is the producer of Lip Service

West, a forum that provides the opportunity for writers to share their true stories with audiences, in the San Francisco, CA bay area. **Seth Erasmus** is an IT technician for the East Haddam School District. **Lidania (Gonzalez) Cibere** is a volleyball coach and sales consultant for Sports and Wellness in Danbury, and also coaches the Ridgefield High School boys varsity volleyball team. Trask-Decrow Machinery of South Portland, ME has hired **Michael Hoover** of South Windsor as sales engineer for their southern territory, which includes Connecticut, Rhode Island and parts of Massachusetts. **Mary Lou Shefrin**, controller for the law firm of Finn, Dixon & Herling, was named to the board of directors of Liberation Programs Inc., a provider of substance abuse treatment and prevention services in Fairfield County. **Britney Stanley** is a mutual fund account representative for Franklin Templeton. **Ryan E. Taylor**, senior accountant at Kostin Ruffkess & Co. LLC in Farmington, has been promoted to supervisor.

06

Kate Backman has joined the University of Bridgeport as the head coach of the Purple Knights' women's lacrosse team which will begin its first season as a varsity program in the spring of 2011. **Danielle (D'Ambrosio) Chiera** is a third-grade teacher for South Plainfield, NJ Public Schools, and head coach for girls soccer at South Plainfield High School. **Justin Chiera** is an instructional aide at Roosevelt Elementary School in South Plainfield, NJ. **Glenn Eason** is a manager at Sherwin-Williams in Cromwell. **Alexandra Joseph** is working as a compliance analyst-supply chain for Philips Consumer Lifestyle. **Kory Kevorkian** is a physical education teacher and baseball and football coach at Wilbur Cross Comprehensive High School in New Haven.

Ceara (Maher) Ladue is the site director at Middlesex YMCA in Middletown. **Lauren Mailhot** teaches fifth grade at Royle School in Darien, and is head cheerleading coach at Darien High School. **Victoria G. Pavasaris** has been appointed assistant director of admissions for QU Online at Quinnipiac University in Hamden. **Craig Rogers** is a technology education teacher at McGee Middle School in Berlin. **Rudi Somuah** is an architecture designer at L & A Associates LLC in Hartford. Drummer **Trenton Wright** plays in the rap band Political Animal and in his own band, Walk Away, and is the owner of, and books shows for, EightSixZero Booking and Promotion, as well as designing for EightSixZero Clothing & Design and King Ding Tees.

07

Christine Girouard (MS) is assistant director of student activities at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, MA. **Nicole Griffin** is an art teacher at Bethany Community School in Bethany. **Jenna Gustafson** (MA) is a clinical research coordinator at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. **Susan Lozano** is a financial analyst at TurboCare Inc., a network of independent service providers, offering engineered solutions, maintenance support and service to owners and operators of rotating equipment. **Tanya Robbins** is a senior accountant at Kostin, Ruffkess & Company LLC in their New London office. **Pamela Shifrin** opened a massage therapy business, Power of Touch Bodywork, based in her home in Townsend, MA, after completing a four-month intensive program at the Costa Rica School of Massage Therapy. **Christopher Spence** is a manufacturing engineer at Durham Manufacturing, a producer of metal and plastic products for packaging, storage, and organization of

maintenance products, as well as heavy duty material handling equipment, storage and workstations. **Marlanea Sullivan** is an English teacher for Lee Middle and High School in Lee, MA. **Kimberly (Reissig) Beebe** (MS) is an academic advisor and counselor at Goodwin College in East Hartford.

08

Sandra-Lee (Phipps) Bogucki is a sixth-grade social studies teacher at Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School in Madison. **Cristina Cossette** joined the accounting firm Pue, Chick, Leibowitz & Blezard LLC in Vernon in 2010. She has nine years of experience in public accounting with small business and individual taxation. **John F. Diakun** is a candidate for a Juris Doctor degree, class of 2012, at New England Law in Boston, MA. **Emily Johnson** teaches grade four at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School in Terryville. **Dave Lorber** was



hired as an assistant baseball coach at Felician College in Rutherford, NJ. Lorber joins

Felician's Golden Falcons after two seasons as an assistant at Eastern University in St. David's, PA. **Collin Marino** has been hired as a police recruit at the New Milford Police Department, and began his 26-week training at the State Police Academy in October. **Michelle Pansius Pellegrini** (MS) is a teacher at John F. Kennedy Middle School in Enfield. **Valerie Schlesinger** (MS) was promoted to director of admission for QU Online at Quinnipiac University in Hamden.

09

Christie Alesevich has joined Service Master of Greater Bridgeport in Stratford as a marketing representative. **Addy Burr**

(MS) teaches English and family and consumer sciences at Simsbury High School and Henry James Memorial School in Simsbury. **Allen Canales** has joined the Norwalk and Port Chester, NY offices of Two Men and a Truck as marketing and sales coordinator. The firm has more than 200 franchised locations and 1,300 trucks in the U. S., Canada and Ireland. **Ahmad Chowhan** is a loss mitigation-QA analyst at ISGN, a provider of mortgage technology and services, in Rocky Hill. **Stacey (Snyder) Conrad** is an associate in the Richmond, VA office of accounting firm Goodman & Company. **Christopher DeMorro** is a writer and editor, specializing in car reviews and technical articles, for Cleantechnica, Gas 2.0, Greenbuilding Elements, and PowerTV. **Dawn Silver** is a social studies teacher at Nathan Hale-Ray High School in Moodus. **Kimberly (Boyke) Vigil** is a Spanish teacher for Oxford Public Schools.

10

Ciara Crinion is working with Parisi Speed School at Healthtrax Fitness and Wellness in Enfield as a certified trainer and motivator. **Nicole Salvatore** is a marketing specialist at The Perfect Promotion LLC in West Hartford. **Stephanie Guillot** is a teacher at Sterling Community School in Sterling. **Marissa Haynes** was hired as a public relations and marketing manager at Wealth Management Group of North America LLC in Farmington. **Ramakrushna Karnam Prabhakaran** is a senior associate at Cognizant Technology Solutions in London, UK. **Kevin Zaksewicz** was hired by the Cheshire Police Department, and began his 20-week basic training at the POST Academy in Meriden in October.

New Arrivals

Births / Adoptions

Melissa (Damiata) '03 & Adam Chilberg: a son, Nathaniel on 5/22/10

Marriages

Sandra Diane Land & Edward F. Piatek '70 4/15/08

Kimberly Timpany '97 & Matthew Dowdy 11/6/10

Melissa L. Mercier & John B. Varlese, Jr. '97 10/10/10

Stacey Rae Barriault '99 & Bryan Shanahan 5/15/10

Cristina Negron '03 & Joseph R. Mitusina 2/9/02

Britney Stanley '05 & Keith Stegbauer '04 9/18/10

Crystal Holmes & Francis J. Amara, Jr. '05 7/31/10

Elizabeth Joy Forman '06 & Paul W. Sanborn '07 12/31/10

Nicole Suzanne Griffin '07 & Kory Kevorkian '06 7/30/10

Jaclyn Claudia Almeida '08 & Michael Gatto 5/22/10

Michelle L. Nelson '08 & Mark A. Huston '07 9/15/10

In Memoriam

1917 Jane Stoll King 05/25/88

1924 Eleanor Lezotte Egan 02/24/04

1928 Helen M. Higgiston 09/05/05

1929 Kathryn P. De Pasquale 08/04/02

1930 Mary Stone Taillon 12/15/02

1932 Elizabeth Brewer Curtin 09/18/01

1935 Harriet Kirkpatrick Osborn 05/02/01
Edith Minkwith Seymour 02/27/99

1937 Satanik Boyajian Gray 01/12/10
Cecilia Radzevich Harmon 03/01/07

1939 John Klopp 03/04/96
Bernard Shapiro 03/29/10

1940 Wanda Refkowski Babjak 08/05/08
Robert O. Celotto 02/03/05
Edwin H. Czechowicz 10/08/10
Mollie Levine Gross 06/06/10
Beatrice Perkins Moser 01/15/09
Ruth Thompson Stanley 12/21/08

1941
Ella Baudner Brechlin 08/19/10
Regina Wrzos Lee 03/22/09

1942
Dorothy Benson Bergstrom 11/13/10
Walter F. Dudding 06/24/09
Anastazia Kurdyna Rudy 11/03/05
Helen Boxx Trotta 07/27/10

1943
Carmen Leonard Caggianello 11/28/08
Rita Moore Finn 11/16/07
Mary Short Kinsey 12/13/01
Beatrice Colson Phelps 07/13/10
Edward Tomaszewski 02/15/04
Vernon T. Wood 05/25/09

1945
Sophie B. Gianninoto 07/28/10

1946
Ann D. DellaFera 10/24/05
Ann Cashman Marino 11/05/10
Ellsworth Rhodes 07/22/97

1947
Annette Clarke Ebel 10/01/10

1948
Ellen Walsh Gionfriddo 09/21/08
Anthony J. Mennone 12/17/06

1949
Elmer S. Kish 03/15/09
Joan M. McCarthy 04/21/07
Richard A. Scofield 07/13/10

1950
Joseph A. Bartolotta 08/21/10
Arthur L. Beatson 11/12/09
Michael R. Halpin 09/02/10
George W. Heasman 06/21/10
John E. Hilliard 10/07/10
Maurice Lauridsen 12/09/03
Alan D. Miller 06/12/08
Edythe Wiener Rosh 09/25/10
Sonia Miller Strouse 06/27/10
Richard A. Terry 11/08/10

1951
Edward W. Buchholz 07/28/10
Wilfred G. Perry 08/01/09
Joseph P. Troiano 01/01/07
Margaret Sasiela Winzler 12/06/10

1952
Marilyn Mackay 12/19/06
David A. Phelps 07/01/10
Eleanor Pfersick Wojick 05/01/09

1954
Janet Gifford Ficken 05/14/10
Russell Hafner 07/09/10
Robert D. Navickas 11/07/10
Irwin Rothstein 06/03/10

1956
Thomasina L. Arena 04/29/10

1957
John Menna 07/25/08
Mary-Ann Wroblewski Sroka 06/01/01

1958
Sally McDonald Sullivan 07/16/10

1959
Palmer Mcweeney 05/20/10

1960
Ruth Brockner Ellwood 10/08/10

Bonita Franks 05/09/08
Russell A. Mazzeo 12/04/10
John Millerick 09/17/09
Vincent R. Parente 11/22/09

1961
Carolyn White Doran 02/11/08
Leon J. Gorski 12/28/10
Frances Hamilton Kozloski 06/30/10
John D. Nute 10/15/10

1962
Grace Sechtman Barnett 05/13/10
John J. Denehy 04/30/10
Michael A. Iarrapino 09/27/07
George Papallo 02/13/04

1963
Gertrude Downey Boyle 05/16/07
Lawrence G. Brown 10/18/94
Gladys Morrison Grover 04/09/08
Barbara Lawton Henderson 08/30/10
Sean M. McCarthy 09/17/09

1964
Ronald P. Drozd 11/08/10
Robert Krystock 01/27/09

1965
Mary Eder Ege 06/12/08
Ralph Elfgrén 04/24/94
Kathleen Daley May 07/17/10
Rita Garrett Wasta 01/21/02

1966
Anita Bianchi Ducas 04/26/08
Robert W. Grace 08/30/05
David Lewis 12/16/07

1967
Robert A. Henderson 08/23/97
Henry M. Kelsey 11/13/10
John J. McCormick 07/24/10
Carole M. Giannone 06/19/10

1968
Barbara Sparver DeMilia 07/12/10
Carol Hurlbut Gabelmann 07/11/10
Gertrude Breier Guida 12/19/10
William J. Murphy 10/12/10
Joan Wainwright Oliphant 11/15/10

1969
Barton Chase 07/12/05
Ruth A. Gear 11/24/10
Ina Warner Golub 04/07/10
Roberta A. Hayward 07/19/10
Edna I. Ledgard 08/03/07
John F. Mantagno 06/17/09
Paul E. Panek 12/28/07
Thomas M. Ryan 10/04/10

1970
Irene B. Bates 06/06/09
Robert F. Carroll 05/16/06
Benjamin L. Citron 06/21/10
Janet Minck McCormack 10/07/10
Ruth Gross Rosmarin 12/02/10
Kenneth F. Roth 03/27/98

1971
Nancy Hanks Allen 10/24/10
Robert D. Gauthier 05/02/01
Jean Kazmierski 07/24/10
Carol Ann Lasky 06/27/10
Walter M. Murphy 07/26/10
Dorothy Love Provost 11/01/99
Michael F. Regan 10/10/10
William T. Sandalls 09/08/06
Faith Parrs Serapiglia 05/29/01

Nancy Engle Spaulding 12/13/99
John A. Waterhouse 09/06/10

1972
Henry W. Bydlak 08/23/10
Robert J. Ehrlich 02/24/03
Frank J. Levanti 10/09/09

1973
Florence L. Egan 09/22/10
Elizabeth Meiselman Jensen 09/01/07
Richard A. Peers 07/28/10
Philip J. Pikor 01/29/10
Elizabeth Verreault Rustic 05/21/08
Paula Wesoski Wolfe 07/28/10

1974
Jean Markey Campbell 09/24/08
Guido U. Costa 08/03/04
Stephen R. Dunne 04/02/10
John J. Marhefka 10/17/06
W. Russell Slater 11/23/10
Earl R. White 05/11/01

1975
Nancy McGuire Freeman 01/20/07
Timothy J. Gaffney 06/20/10
Russell H. Kerwin 04/02/10
Bertha Blonder Krantz 04/12/10
William A. Morse 10/22/10
Michael W. Mulvey 03/19/94
Stephen J. St. John 06/04/10

1976
Peter P. Bobalki 04/12/08
Robert F. D'Aquila 07/03/10
Joseph A. Milliken 10/01/02
Richard L. Salice 07/31/07

1977
William A. Crepeau 12/30/06
Walter T. Labore 08/15/93

1978
June I. Lange 11/28/10

1979
Sidney W. Fitzgerald 09/13/09
Lois E. Norling 10/17/10

1980
Michael J. Dwonszyk 11/10/09
Joan W. Godburn 01/11/09
Stanley Tetlow 09/12/05
Robert O. Wood 08/07/10

1981
Lawrence L. Albrecht 09/17/10
Helen Smoragiewicz Butler 11/04/10
Donald F. Dwyer 10/29/09
Carole Springer King 09/03/10
Italo M. Letizia 03/16/05
Shirley L. Sagendorf 08/07/06
David R. Viens 01/22/09
Paul L. Watson 03/29/10

1982
Steven E. Donahue 04/22/07
John J. Mysliwiec 12/31/10
Anna Skwara Werner 12/01/09

1983
Nora K. Pelletier 04/15/09
Ronald E. Poupart 08/06/10

1984
Theodore J. Kubek 08/16/00
Sandra I. Marsh 05/29/10
Samuel J. Minella 12/19/10
Susan Burger Popper 05/31/03

1987
Martin W. Clebowicz 11/30/10

1989
Joseph E. DeMichele 12/25/06
Norma M. Duggan 07/11/10
Patricia A. Legienza 12/24/10
Richard D. Waring 07/08/10
Jonathan J. Weil 12/22/08

1993
John W. Smith 06/18/10

1998
Frances Joseph Giraitis 11/20/10
Amelia N. Williams 12/02/10

2000
Michael S. Daly 10/10/10
Michael B. DeMaio 12/15/10

2002
Cherie L. Graham 12/20/10

2003
Vincent L. Pandolfi 09/02/10

MATCHING YOUR PASSION WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S NEEDS

The University offers a wide range of opportunities for alumni and friends to support educational programs they are passionate about. Below are a few to consider. Gifts to these funds may be made online at www.ccsu.edu/giving. If a fund you are interested in supporting is not listed, you may simply type it in, in the "Other" category and be confident that your contribution will support the fund you have indicated. For more information: alumnidept@ccsu.edu or 860-832-1740.

Institutional Support

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library Fund provides support for the Elihu Burritt Library in order to enhance teaching and research and meet the diverse educational needs of the CCSU community. The Fund provides program and acquisition support to augment institutional monies appropriated for a quality public university library.

Welte Society

The Welte Society provides funds for special cultural programs to enrich and broaden the lives of Central's student, faculty and neighbors.

International Education

James-Hauser International Exchange Fund

Originally established to support faculty, administrative, and student exchange opportunities with institutions in East Asia, South America, and the Caribbean, the James-Hauser Fund has recently been expanded to support the strategic goals of the George R. Muirhead Center for International Education and supports exchange opportunities throughout all of Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Scholarships

CCSU Alumni Association Scholarship

The CCSU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund provides scholarships for undergraduate (junior or senior level) students who are children or grandchildren of alumni and 1) completed at least two semesters at CCSU; 2) enrolled for 9 credits or more during the term when the scholarship is applied; 3) minimum GPA of 3.0; 4) evidence of service, leadership, and academic achievement; and 5) documented efforts to finance educational costs.

Educational Support Services Scholarship

This fund support for students enrolled in any University program aimed at providing access and opportunity to economically disadvantaged or educationally underprivileged students (e.g. Educational Opportunity Program, Connecticut Collegiate Awareness and Preparation Program).

Foundation Scholars

The Foundation Scholars Fund provides scholarship support for high-achieving, incoming first-year students who rank in the top 25% of their graduating class and have achieved a minimum of 1100 on the SAT.

Graduate Student Association Scholarship

Provides support for matriculated graduate students who have completed a minimum of 15 academic credits in residence at Central Connecticut State University, have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or higher and have demonstrated exemplary involvement and leadership in student or community service activities.

Student Government Association Scholarship

Provides scholarship support for a full-time matriculated undergraduate student who has demonstrated exemplary involvement and leadership in the University community and who has earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.

Veterans Scholarship

Awarded to the undergraduate student(s) named as the Student Veteran of the Year at the annual Veterans Recognition Program, or similar program, regardless of the expected graduation date of the recipient(s). To be eligible for the Student Veteran of the Year award, a student must 1) be in good academic standing; i.e., minimum of 2.5 GPA; 2) have junior or senior class status; i.e., minimum of 53 credits, 3) show evidence of exemplary service to the University, the community and/or the country, and 4) have served active U.S. Military duty for a minimum of 90 days other than training.

Athletics

Frank Marietta Athletic Scholarship Fund

The Frank Marietta Athletic Scholarship Fund provides much needed support for grants-in-aid to CCSU student athletes.

Athletic Development Fund

The Athletic Development Fund provides support for the intercollegiate athletic program at CCSU.

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CELEBRATING ELIHU BURRITT BICENTENNIAL, 1810-2010

by Renata Vickrey and Lynn Johnson-Corcoran

The Burritt Library hosted a series of events during the fall 2010 semester to celebrate the bicentennial of Elihu Burritt's birth, including lectures, research competitions, poetry readings and an extensive exhibit of Burritt material.

Known as "The Learned Blacksmith," Burritt was born in New Britain and is regarded as the city's most famous citizen. A blacksmith by trade, he was also a self-taught linguist and a vocal peace activist, reformer, abolitionist, penny postage advocate and a prolific writer and a noted lecturer both here and abroad. While President Abraham Lincoln appointed him a consular agent to Birmingham, England in 1864, he stayed connected to his hometown and during the last years of his life became an active citizen.

The Burritt bicentennial birthday celebration started with the wreath laying ceremony at Burritt's grave at New Britain's Fairview Cemetery. The event was attended by Burritt family members, including Sherrod E. Skinner, III, Burritt's great-great-grand nephew, who gave the keynote address at a library program following the wreath ceremony. To create a Victorian atmosphere, members of the Bicentennial Committee dressed in period attire, and "Elihu Burritt" himself (portrayed by CCSU graduate student Luke Boyd) was even there to thank the guests. New Britain Mayor Timothy Stewart read a Proclamation which declared December 8, 2010 Elihu Burritt Day.

Several events honored Burritt during the semester. In September Swarthmore College professor Wendy Chmielewski delivered a lecture on Burritt and the peace movement. In November Dr. Robert Wolff, from the CCSU History Department, spoke on Burritt and his anti-slavery activism. CCSU English Professor Gilbert Gigliotti read passages from

Walking with Elihu by Taylor Graham, a California poet and member of the Burritt family.

The Burritt Library held two research competitions: one for New Britain High School students and one for CCSU students. The New Britain High School awards were given at the lecture on November 16 and on December 8 the CCSU research competition award was given to Victoria Sawtelle for her paper "The Disunion: The Disconnect between Idealism and Reality in the Writings of Elihu Burritt."

The Elihu Burritt Bicentennial celebration was an excellent occasion to publicize Elihu Burritt and his numerous achievements. The exhibit, *Elihu Burritt 1810-1879 Apostle of Peace*, included materials from the Elihu Burritt collection. Some documents were digitized and are accessible from the library home page. The staff of Special Collections

plans to continue digitizing these unique materials.

The Elihu Burritt Bicentennial events were organized with generous support of Friends of the Library, the Office of the CCSU Provost and the Tomasso Group.

For information on the bicentennial events visit the web site: <http://library.ccsu.edu/wp/burritt-bicentennial-celebration/>

To find out more about the Special Collections material and the Burritt Bicentennial contact Special Collections at 860-832-2085 and 860-832 2096.

