Fun, Fun, Fun in the Sun

On Community Day 2008, some came for the face painting and the goldfish giveaway. Others were drawn by the Extreme Trampoline athletes with their daredevil tricks. There were families pushing strollers and carrying children on their shoulders, who were mostly glad to meet Howie the Hawk.

As the University turns its focus to sustainability, Community Day joined in. Activities that centered on the environment included a children's play about living green, an exhibit of nature photography, an Earth Day Bookfest at the University Bookstore, and educational presentations by the Environmental Protection Agency, and others.

It was standing room only onboard an old-fashioned trolley that ferried visitors from campus to guided tours of the new Mort and Irma Handel Performing Arts Center at the corner of Albany Avenue and Westbourne Parkway in Hartford. The center, which will provide new facilities for Hartt School dance and theatre students of all ages, will open in the fall.

In a corner of Gengras lawn, members of the President’s College and others kicked off a six-month public reading of all the words in Noah Webster’s 1828 dictionary as a celebration of his 250th birthday. Dictionary marathon participants read all 4,686 headwords beginning with the letter A. Webster was a West Hartford native.

The annual Community Day event brings people to campus for an introduction to the University’s rich array of programs, activities, and resources.

For more photos from Community Day, visit www.hartford.edu/cday.
Progress, Encouragement, and Challenges
ALUMNUS SPEAKS AT UNIVERSITY CELEBRATION OF DR. KING’S LIFE

The University’s Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance began with an excerpt from Eyes on the Prize, a PBS documentary on the civil rights movement. Keynote speaker Robert N. Davis ’75, a University regent and a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, said the common threads of human dignity and humanity that run through all of King’s speeches had inspired him.

“I believe in this country because I believe in all of us. I believe in our capacity for growth. I believe in the human spirit and in the basic decency of people,” Davis said.

A commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve who served in Bosnia, Davis was appointed by President Bush to a 15-year term on the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims in 2004. In May 2007 he received the University’s Distinguished Alumni Award.

Following Davis on the stage was Ryan Greene ‘08, who sang a powerful a cappella arrangement of “Wade in the Water,” an African American spiritual. Next came a chorus of fourth- and fifth-graders from the University of Hartford Magnet School. The young singers brought the audience to its feet with their performance of the song “I Have a Dream.”

The program closed with an instrumental piece, titled “A Different Time,” composed by Hartt alumna and faculty member Mary DiPaola-Davis ’90 and performed by Hartt faculty, students, and alumni.

Follow Your Green
INVEST IN ECO-FRIENDLY COMPANIES FOR PROFIT AND A CLEAR CONSCIENCE

A tall man in a buttoned-down shirt and bowtie, Jackson W. Robinson does not look much like a tree hugger. You would take the president and chief investment officer of Winslow Management in Boston, Mass., for any other successful business executive. Only when he mentions that his parents wrote a book on organic gardening, renewable energy, and recycling, do you begin to get the picture.

Robinson founded Winslow in 1983 to test the idea of investing in environmentally responsible firms. With clients like Whole Foods, Green Mountain Coffee, and Greenpeace, the company boasted assets of around $500 million at the end of August 2007.

Speaking to students in Professor Susan Coleman’s finance class during an October campus visit, Robinson assured his audience that “sound environmental management and economic gain are compatible goals.” He lectured at the Barney School of Business as the first Ellsworth Leader-in-Residence.

Robinson encouraged students to let their personal convictions play a role not only in their stock portfolios but also in their careers.

“If your mission is to protect and preserve the environment, why would you own stock in a company that pollutes it?” Robinson asked. He cautioned students about taking jobs in the fossil fuel and plastics industries, where, he said, growth was stagnant. He suggested instead that they consider green building, clean energy, green transportation, water management, and other eco-friendly areas.

Robinson spent the day speaking to Barney students and faculty as well as Barney Dean James Fairfield-Sonn, University President Walter Harrison, and local business leaders.

The Ellsworth Leader-in-Residence Day honors the Ellsworth family, benefactors of the University since its founding in 1957. Grace Ellsworth (Hon. ’77) is a founding regent who received the University’s Distinguished Service Medal in 2006. The John Ellsworth Lectures in Public Policy and the American Entrepreneurial System were established in 1979 by Ensign-Bickford Industries to honor her husband, the late John E. Ellsworth, a former chairman of the company.
Viscount Christopher Monckton, the author of *Apocalypse? No!*, gave a March lecture in Wilde Auditorium on climate change. He was introduced by Larry Gould, professor of physics in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Monckton has gained international attention for his criticism of former Vice President Al Gore and the global warming movement. A former advisor to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, he said he does not deny that we have added CO$_2$ to the atmosphere or that we have generally “gone about polluting and messing up the planet.”

What Monckton is challenging are methods he says have been used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to manipulate data and greatly exaggerate the evidence for global warming and its consequences. Monckton also pointed out that there are growing doubts among today’s scientists about the ability of greenhouse gases to raise the temperature of the Earth.

“CO$_2$ is very limited in its ability to affect temperature change,” said Monckton. “The more you put into the atmosphere, the less effect it has. And CO$_2$ stays in the atmosphere only about seven years.”

Viscount Christopher Monckton is the author of *Apocalypse? No!*
Beyond Green: Toward a Sustainable Art

GROUNDBREAKING EXHIBITION ADDRESSES ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

What is green living? How do we live in a truly sustainable way? Why does it matter?

These are questions explored in Beyond Green: Toward a Sustainable Art, a traveling exhibition that appears at the Joseloff Gallery from April 4 to June 10. As stories about environmental concerns become commonplace in the media, artists around the world are reacting. The 13 artists and artists’ groups whose work is featured in Beyond Green hail from cities across the United States and Europe. All came of age during the late 1980s and 1990s, and their work draws to varying degrees on two key strands of recent art: the productive overlap between art and design, and the development of new models of critical art practices.

Unlike their predecessors, who might have imagined massively scaled interventions, the artists in Beyond Green create portable, human-scaled works that emphasize the ways environmental concerns are linked to other social relationships. Participants include Allora & Calzadilla, Free Soil, JAM, Nils Norman, People Powered, Dan Peterman, Frances Whitehead, and Andrea Zittel.

Beyond Green: Toward a Sustainable Art was co-organized by the Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago and by iCI (Independent Curators International) in New York. The curator is Stephanie Smith. The exhibition and accompanying catalog are made possible in part by the Smart Family Foundation; the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation; the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation; and iCI exhibition partners Kenneth S. Kuchin and Gerrit and Sydie Lansing. Additional support is provided by the Arts Planning Council, the Environmental Studies Program, and the Green Campus Initiative of the University of Chicago.

The Old and the New

Goldfarb Awards recognize traditional and digital media

Two Hartford Art School juniors won $1,000 Alexander A. Goldfarb Purchase Awards in February and saw their work become part of the University’s permanent art collection.

Miguel Carter-Fisher (top), a painting and philosophy major, won for his oil painting, The Boot, Bottle, and Can. Jessica Rosario (bottom), a photography major, won for a digital photograph titled “Miss Mouse.” The juror was Jack Tom, an artist, illustrator, designer, college professor, and owner of Jack Tom Design.

The Goldfarb Purchase Awards are made possible through the Alexander A. Goldfarb Endowment Trust, established by Alexander A. Goldfarb to further the careers of young artists.

Tip

Wait until eight! Run your dishwasher and do laundry after 8 p.m. for off-peak savings.

Tip

A family of four can save up to 20,000 gallons of water a year—the amount needed to fill an average-sized swimming pool—by using a low-flow showerhead.

Tip

Turn your computer off when it won’t be used for an hour or more.
There’s a New Provost in Town

UNIVERSITY NAMES MEDICAL ETHICS SPECIALIST

In mid-March, University President Walter Harrison announced the selection of Lynn Pasquerella (right), vice provost and dean of the graduate school at the University of Rhode Island, as the next provost of the University of Hartford, effective May 30, 2008.

Pasquerella, also a professor of philosophy specializing in medical ethics, was one of four final candidates interviewed by faculty, staff, and students on campus. She received her bachelor’s from Mount Holyoke in Massachusetts and her PhD from Brown University.

“In Lynn Pasquerella . . . I believe we have found absolutely the right person to lead the academic enterprise of the University at this point in our history,” said Harrison. “She brings superb credentials as a scholar and teacher, a first-rate intellect and a finely honed sense of values, great administrative experience, leadership on the national level in graduate studies, and a demonstrated record of success in attracting and maintaining research support and funding.”

Pasquerella replaces Donna M. Randall, who left the University last June to become the first woman president of Albion College in Michigan.

Only a Bad Rap?

Author defends safety of nuclear power

Half of the electricity we use comes from coal, says author Gwyneth Cravens, and airborne waste from coal-fired plants causes 24,000 deaths per year.

Cravens gave two talks on campus in March based on her new book, Power to Save the World: The Truth about Nuclear Power. Her talks were sponsored by the Student Government Association and the University’s student chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Describing herself as a suburban mother/antinuclear protestor before she began the research for her book, Cravens toured uranium mines, talked to the U.S. Navy about its nuclear submarines, and visited working nuclear power plants before coming to the conclusion that nuclear power is the cleanest, safest way to generate the large amounts of power required now and in the future.

Currently, only one-fifth of our electricity comes from U.S. nuclear plants. Cravens says that obstacles to the use of nuclear power are mainly political. “Those most worried about greenhouse gases do not embrace nuclear power,” she says. She adds that a biased media and films like The China Syndrome have created unfounded fears.

“Eighty-two percent of the radiation in the world comes from nature,” Cravens points out. “One banana emits more radiation than a nuclear power plant.”

First Harry Jack Gray Medal Awarded

A VERY IMPORTANT MOMENT IN UNIVERSITY HISTORY

Trusted advisor to three University of Hartford presidents, Harry Jack Gray has provided leadership and inspiration for more than half the University’s history.

In March, President Walter Harrison announced the creation of the Harry Jack Gray Medal for Distinguished Lifetime Achievement. Its first recipient is a person Harrison called “a major force in guiding the University through a number of challenges”—none other than Harry Jack Gray himself.

The board of regents of the University voted to name the medal for Gray and make him the initial recipient in recognition of his lifetime of dedication, support, and service to the University. The medal was conferred at a dinner in The 1877 Club in mid-April.

“No one could better represent leadership to the University and its community, to our country, and to the world than Harry Gray,” said Harrison. “Because Harry Gray has set such a high bar with his personal achievements and commitment, we expect to confer the Harry Jack Gray Medal only occasionally.”

Harry Gray (far left) accepts the medal named for him as (left to right) regent Jean-Pierre van Rooy, President Emeritus Humphrey Tonkin, and President Walter Harrison look on.