Alumnae Council for Women News by Kerry L. Beckford A’84 (HCW), ’88, M’89

Hartford College for Women Alumnae, Mark Your Calendars!
A dynamic group of Hartford College for Women alumnae is planning a memorable gathering for fall 2009. This festive event will include enriching dialogue and discussion as well as a social reuniting former friends, faculty, and classmates. Planning is under way.

Committee members include
Cheryl Chase A’95 (HCW), ’99
Rebecca Danchak A’70 (HCW)
Susanne Davis A’80 (HCW)
Jan Klein A’70 (HCW)
Pat McKinley A’72 (HCW)
Eileen Peltier A’86 (HCW)
Sharon Scorso ’02 (HCW)

Sports Chairs for a Cure
Pink sports chairs complete with a cooler and a comfortable shoulder strap will be available this spring. These lightweight yet sturdy chairs are available for $50, with $5 of the purchase price going to the American Cancer Society and $5 to the Alumnae Council for Women. An individual’s name, college, or university can be embroidered on the front panel (as shown in the photo) at no charge. What a perfect gift!

If you would like to order your chair, contact Kandyce M. Aust, director of alumni relations, at aust@hartford.edu or 860.768.2409. There are a limited number of chairs available.

Alumni Connections
BY KANDYCE AUST
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

[ALUMNI EVENTS]

Congratulations to the Class of 2009 and welcome to the University of Hartford Alumni Association! It has been an exciting spring semester, and planning is well under way for an eventful fall. Please don’t hesitate to contact us to become involved.

‘BYE FOR THE SUMMER!
Alumni website closed for renovations
Get ready for a revitalized alumni online community! We’re working hard to provide valuable tools for alumni, including a user-friendly online directory, online class notes, interactive message boards, online galleries, and much more. We apologize for any inconvenience this transition from the old site to the new may cause you. But we guarantee that it will be worth the wait. Look for our new site to go live later this summer!

KICK OFF THE SOCCER SEASON
September 2009
Join the Alumni Association as we celebrate the start of the soccer season and cheer men’s soccer coach Dan Gaspar and the Hartford Hawks on to victory. This celebration will include a barbecue, game ticket, and lots of prizes. Stay tuned for date and time.

FLY HAWK AIR!
Fall Weekend, October 2–4, 2009
Don’t miss this action-packed weekend. Friday evening begins with our Hawk Air “in-flight” experience, featuring great food and music, our famous casino games played with Hawk dollars, and prizes galore. Be sure to be on board when we depart for some exciting destinations! Saturday there is shopping for handcrafted items at the Alumni Artisans Marketplace, the Alumni Musician Spotlight, and our new–and–improved children’s activities (fun for the whole family). Worn out? Rejuvenation Station with added spa services and amenities. So much more is in store for our alumni, parents, and friends. Invitations are on their way.

WORK IT! MEASURE IT! 120
2009 Hartford Art School Alumni Show
October 6–21, 2009
Opening Reception, Friday, October 9, 2009, 5:30 p.m.
Be part of Work It! Measure It! 120, the Hartford Art School Alumni Show 2009. This year we have elected to increase the dimensional sizes of submissions for our annual show; all works with a perimeter of 120 inches or less are eligible. Not an artist, but an art lover? Attend the opening reception, where many works will be for sale.

If you have any questions or would like to receive an entry form, please contact Aaron Masthay at 860.768.2426 or masthay@hartford.edu.

MANHATTAN FOR A DAY
December 5, 2009
Take in a show on Broadway, stroll down the Museum Mile, or finish off your holiday shopping on this Saturday in the Big City. This is always a popular trip and space is limited, so contact Samantha Cahill today at 860.768.2452 or sacahill@hartford.edu to reserve your seat on the bus. $30 per person.
1953
GIL PERLROTH (HARTrT) of Gulfport, Fla., has written and composed more than 20 musicals in his career. Among his current commissions is *Gulfport: The Musical* for the city’s centennial celebration in 2010.

1963
ROSE FICHERA-EAGEN (A&S, M’85 BARNEY) of Hartford, Conn., was the third recipient of the Reverend Canon Clinton R. Jones Award. The award was established in 2005 by the Friends of Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford to honor an individual whose life and work exemplify values, accomplishments, and passions similar to those of Jones, whose 40 years of outreach to people on the margins of society made him a national legend.

1966
GAIL C. CHAMPLIN (A&S) of North Canton, Conn., retired as senior director of the University’s Center for Professional Development. In honor of her 27 years of service, the center has established the Gail Champlin Annual Speakers Program, which will present local experts on issues of concern to women.

1970
STEPHAN P. BARNICLE (HARTT, M’74 HARTT) of Fayetteville, N.C., was inducted into the Worcester, Mass., Boys’ and Girls’ Club Hall of Fame in recognition of his achievements in music and music education. The Cumberland Oratorio Singers and the Methodist University Chamber Singers performed Barnicle’s polychoral work, “The Gates of St. Mark’s,” in March concerts in Fayetteville and Lumberton, N.C.

1972
THOMAS O. BARNES (BARNEY) of Bristol, Conn., was presented with the 2009 Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Star of Hope Award for his outstanding commitment to the foundation’s mission of finding a cure for diabetes and its complications.

1973
MICHAEL B. DITKOFF (A&S) of Lanham, Md., was honored with the Chief Financial Officer’s Management Award for Exemplary Performance from the Department of Homeland Security. Ditkoff developed and launched a successful national training program to correct processing and reporting problems in personnel payroll and budget data. He is a senior budget analyst with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Christine Danylik Ivers ’73 (HAS), No Smoking Allowed (pastel on paper; 17” x 22”), 2008. The winner of numerous awards for her works in pastel and oil, Ivers was chosen by the International Association of Pastel Societies as one of eight finalists worldwide in two competitions. She is also one of this year’s exhibitors in PaintAmerica Association’s Top 100 exhibition and will be published in the 2009 edition of Best of American Artists II for Pastels. The artist broke from the pack in 1986 to established Ivers & Associates Advertising, LLC, working with fellow artists to promote themselves better by bridging the gap between fine art and digital photography. Ivers and husband David Ivers ’71 make their home in central Connecticut.

Jeffrey C. Brown M’79 (HAS), Lunch (found objects on wood panel with acrylic and varnish, 7” x 10”), 2009. With keen appreciation for the indigenous folk art elements common to many cultures, Brown’s creations with found objects bespeak his fascination with “objects whose faces reflect a process of time and the elements…. This world of the worn and eroded is reborn to express an aesthetic that does not fit with our culture’s traditional value system for art.” Exhibiting in multiple venues in the Colorado Springs, Colo., area last fall, Brown has taught art for 26 years at the Fountain Valley School of Colorado in Colorado Springs. Among his private collectors is Walter Harrison, president of the University of Hartford.
1976
EDWARD R. EVANOUSKAS (M, ENHP; M’82 BARNEY) of Bristol, Conn., has accepted the position of business manager in the Winsted, Conn., public school system.

1978
PAUL P. BISACCIA (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., gave a piano recital of Gershwin compositions, both popular and rarely heard, for the Music on Main series at First Church in Amherst, Mass.

1979
ANNA M. GIZA (A&S) of Somers, Conn., played the title role in the musical Hello, Dolly! at St. Michael’s Community Center in East Longmeadow, Mass. Giza is the promotion director at WWLP-22 News and one of the hosts of 22 Showcase in Springfield, Mass.

1980
CHESTER J. DAVIS (M, HAS) of Paxinos, Pa., had his work featured in an exhibition titled Collective Paintings at the Mansfield University Gallery in Mansfield, Pa.

THOMAS G. WOODMAN (C, HARTT) of Fairfield, Conn., performed an evening of opera and musical theatre at the Mark Twain Library in Redding, Conn. His performance featured the music of Vaughan Williams, Copland, Ravel, and Rogers and Hammerstein.

1981
SUZANNE CLARK (HAS) of Essex Junction, VT, exhibited her detailed portraits of raptors at the Vermont Fine Art Gallery in Stowe, VT.

DAVID T. CULLEN (HARTT) of Reading, Pa., accompanied the group Duo Tertano on the guitar for a selection of works by Piazzolla and Assad at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pa.

FRANK J. D’AMBROSIO (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., performed his show, “Hollywood: Songs from the Silver Screen,” at the Grand Theatre Center for the Arts in Tracy, Calif.

DANIEL A. FOLEY (CETA) of Marlborough, Mass., is a telephone solution strategist and sales representative at Prism Sound.

MELISSA D. SMITH (M, HARTT) of Somersworth, N.H., is pleased to announce her engagement to Douglas Hunt. An April 2009 wedding is planned.

1983
NANCY A. STULA (HAS, ’85 A&S) of Old Lyme, Conn., was appointed director of the Lyman Allyn Art Museum in New London, Conn.

Our Big Greek Family
More than 20 members of the Epsilon Nu chapter of Alpha Xi Delta sorority descended on the Hartford area one weekend in early November for a family reunion, Greek style. All of the sisters who attended graduated between 1990 and 1995. Some hadn’t seen each other in nearly 20 years, while others had never met before. Beth Sanders ‘91, squatting left, and her whole Greek extended family had a wonderful time and can’t wait for the next reunion!

Father Knows Best
Alumnus wins $16,000 on Millionaire
What started out as a father-son trip to New York City led Michael Geller ‘76 to wrack his brain for the lyrics to the nursery rhyme “One, Two, Buckle My Shoe” while sitting in the hot seat on Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?

Geller, a Barney alumnus from Marlboro, N.J., never expected to be facing host Meredith Vieira on the popular ABC show in which contestants answer a series of questions of increasing difficulty in an attempt to win $1 million.

Last June, Geller took his 23-year-old son, Ryan, into Manhattan so the younger Geller could take the general-knowledge test used to screen applicants for the show. Ryan didn’t score high enough to participate, but he convinced his father to take the test as well. The elder Geller made the cut, from a group of some 500 millionaire-wannabes.

Geller; his wife, Randy Tunicik Geller ’78; son, Ryan; and 20-year-old daughter, Alyson, all made the trip to ABC Studios on West 66th Street for the Sept. 24 taping of the show. Unlike the hero of the recent Academy Award—winning movie, Slumdog Millionaire, Geller decided to walk away with $16,000 in prize money after answering the first 10 questions correctly.

Fellow alumni Howie Weinberg ’76, Debbie Sonnen Weinberg ’79, and Mike Cohn ’76 helped Geller and his wife celebrate his win. Other than a family vacation to Mexico, Geller says he plans to “pay some bills (and taxes),” adding, “Hope the economy gets better. Go, Hawks!”
Inhabiting Barclay

Marie-Louise LaFond ’89 and her husband, Steve, of Virginia Beach, Va., breathed new life in 2003 into this gracious 1895 bed-and-breakfast (inset). Variously a summer guest house and an elementary school, the inn, still called Barclay Cottage, offers an elegant setting in its latest incarnation for small corporate retreats and team-building sessions in addition to more personal getaways. Under the capable and caring hospitality of the LaFonds, the award-winning Barclay (www.barclaycottage.com) has been featured in several national publications.

1988

DOUGLAS D. CASAVANT (BARNEY) of Chesapeake, Va., was in command of a U.S. Navy ship on an international humanitarian mission: Operation Unified Assistance. Casavant is currently in command of the rescue-and-salvage ship USNS Grasp.

1989

MARK LOMBARDO (A’87, HILLYER; A&S). See AMY LOMBARDO ’90.

1990

KENNETH J. BOUCHER (HARTT) of West River, Md., and his choral students at the Sutland High School Center for the Visual and Performing Arts in Maryland were selected to perform in December in Turner Network Television’s Christmas special, Christmas in Washington. On Jan. 18, Boucher and his group merged with two other schools to form the Washington Youth Choir, which performed at the opening ceremonies of President Barack Obama’s inaugural celebration at the Lincoln Memorial. The choristers shared the stage with Garth Brooks, Bruce Springsteen, and Beyoncé.

AMY LOMBARDO (A&S) of Ridgefield, Conn., who received her master’s in counseling from Pace University, is a contributing author to Chicken Soup for the Soul: Twins and More. She and her husband MARK LOMBARDO A’87, ’98, make their home in Ridgefield, Conn., with their two sons.

DAVID YEAGLEY (AD, HARTT) of Oklahoma City, Okla., a symphonic composer, was commissioned by the Oklahoma Historical Society to score a 1920 silent film titled Daughter of Dawn. As a Comanche, Yeagley is the first American Indian to be professionally commissioned to write a movie score.

1991

CINDY W. BOUCHARD (M, BARNEY) of Troy, N.H., has earned the professional insurance designation of chartered property casualty underwriter (CPCU) from the American Institute of CPCU. She is a middle-market commercial lines underwriter for Acadia Insurance Company.

REGINALD W. MARTIN (BARNEY) of Rockaway, N.J., a senior vice president at Morgan Stanley, has been tapped to relocate to Morgan Stanley Asia in Hong Kong to create and manage the company’s newly formed virtualization practice. Martin earned his master’s from the Pace University Ivan G. Seidenberg School of Computer Science.

1992

GREGORY A. WHITE (M, BARNEY) of South Windsor, Conn., is chief financial officer; treasurer, and executive vice president at Farmington Savings Bank in Farmington, Conn.

1994

SCOTT E. LAMLEIN (HARTT) of Bristol, Conn., re-released his first solo CD, In Quiet Joy: Music of Advent and Christmas, to mark its 10-year anniversary.

1995

CAREN A. KITTREDGE (M, BARNEY) of Glastonbury, Conn., was named chair of the Bradley International Airport Board of Directors by Gov. M. Jodi Rell.

JEANINE TOUSIGNANT (HARTT) of Manchester, N.H., is vice president for advancement at Manchester Community Music School in Manchester.

1996

CHARLES A. AMERSON (HARTT, M’99 A&S) of Bronx, N.Y., is the new student activities director at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C.

ANTHONY B. PRICE (M, BARNEY) of Waterbury, Conn., is senior economic development director at Economic Development Corp. in New Haven, Conn.

REKHA SHERTUKDE (M, BARNEY) of Simsbury, Conn., received a 2009 Women of Innovation Award in entrepreneurial innovation and leadership. The awards pay tribute to Connecticut’s outstanding women in the fields of science and technology. Shertukde is a CETA faculty member at the University.

1997

LATANYA FARRELL (M, ENHP, M’98 ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., a teacher and popular local entertainer, was a concert headliner for the University’s Music for a Change benefit series.

JAMES S. “JIMMY” GREENE (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., critically acclaimed tenor saxophonist and Hartford faculty member, has released his seventh CD, Mission Statement (Sunnyside/Radaz Recordz).

MORGAN B. ROBERTS (HARTT) of Newmarket, N.H., is the owner of At Your Front Door Music, which provides music lessons to families in their own homes. Through the group’s website, www.atyourfrontdoormusic.org, clients can browse information on teachers, read their biographies and credentials, and register and pay for lessons.

1998

CHOTSAI E. DEAN (HAS) of Windsor, Conn., showcased her ceramic artwork in an exhibition titled Chotsaï Elaine Dean: Clay Quilts/Post-Emanicipation at the Hunterdon Art Museum in Clinton, N.J.

1999

CLIFFORD A. RANKIN (M, BARNEY) of Bristol, Conn., is the new manager at Gallagher, Flynn & Company, LLP, in Burlington, Conn.

RACHEL L. TAC (M, ENHP) of Newington, Conn., received her doctorate in education from Walden University. She teaches computer technology in the Newington public school system.

ALEXANDRA ZACHARELLA (HARTT) of Fort Smith, Ariz., performed in “Polished Brass: Trumpet and Trombone” at the University of Arizona-Fort Worth. She is assistant professor of low brass, director of the Lions Athletic Band, and a low-brass instructor for the Academy of the Arts at the university.

2000

LAUREN M. COLLINS (A&S) of Manchester, N.H., is the New Hampshire bureau reporter for New England Cable News.

SETH MCCLELLAN (HARTT) of Crete, Ill., premiered his feature-length documentary, King in Chicago, on a Chicago PBS affiliate. The film chronicled Dr. Martin Luther King’s 1960s collaboration with the Chicago Freedom Movement.

NICHOLAS A. OLIVER (A&S) of Beverly, Mass., earned his MS in public affairs from the University of Massachusetts-Boston. He graduated with the Carol Torto Memorial Award for Academic Excellence for his thesis, “No Dollar Left Behind: Massachusetts Municipal Medicaid Program’s Transition from Blended-per-Diem Rate Billing to Fee-for-Service Rate Billing.” Oliver also received the designation of certified association executive from the American Society of Association Executives.

MAXWELL D. WILLIAMS (HARTT) of New York, NY, directed the play Dying City in his MainStage debut at Hartford Stage in Hartford, Conn. Dying City tells the story of Peter, a self-involved actor, who shows up unannounced and unwelcome at the apartment of his brother Craig’s beautiful young widow, Kelly. The evening shifts back and forth, unfolding an uneasy triangle that surrounds the central mystery of the drama: What happened to Craig?

2002

TIMOTHY K. ADDIE (ENHP, M’04 ENHP) of Manchester, Conn., competed in the Ironman Florida competition in Panama City, Fla. The Ironman consists of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bicycle ride, and a 26.2-mile run. Addie completed the race in 11 hours, 46 minutes, and 36 seconds.

EVELYN T. GARCIA (C, HWC; A’04 A&S; ’04 US) of Lake Worth, Fla., was elected as one of 10 Floridians to the Democratic National Committee.
Top to bottom:

Maria E. Mikhail ‘99 (A&S) and Gregory Volpe celebrated their marriage on Jan. 17, 2009, at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, Conn. The bride is the founder and owner of A Dog’s Day, a pet-sitting company.

Monique S. Farias ‘03 (Ward) and David Rodrigues were married in Cumberland, R.I., on Aug. 9, 2009. Amanda Schmidt ‘03 joined the wedding party as a bridesmaid. Other Hartford guests were Vanessa Reda ‘02, Sarah Bezanson ‘03, Andeview Chisholm ‘03, Bradley Parsons ‘03, Julianna Sakoian ‘03, Alyssa Topp ‘03, Christopher Wilt ‘03, Angelina Lopez ‘04, Tamar Juda ‘05, Elisabeth Neary ‘05, and Timothy Ryan ‘05.


Barbara A. Monroe ‘99 & Eric Truax (11.2.08)
Amanda Crockett ‘00 & Colin Ryan (8.23.08)
Leigh A. Stuart ‘00 & Brian E. Coughlin M’00 (7.26.08)
Pamela Lygate & Jeffrey M. Boccia ‘01 (7.26.08)
Michele A. Redvaly ‘01, Joshua Keller (11.08)
Victoria Gorham & John L. Yarovsky ‘02 (10.11.08)
Erika L. Graul ‘03 & Colby Williams (8.31.08)
Ann Marie Mancini ‘03 & Justin Rehli (7.08)
Jenna R. Mitton ‘04, M’05, & Eric Milman (9.7.08)
Sarah Luckenbach & Allan L. Schulenburg ‘04 (10.11.08)
Rita J. Garvin ‘05 & James Quigley (7.12.08)
Elizabeth E. Provence ‘05 & Everett McMillian (11.7.09)
Nikki Quinn ‘05 & James M. Calabro ‘06 (4.26.08)
Amanda Stevens Griffin & Takeshi J. Sergel ‘06 (9.27.08)
Laurel Killough & Gustavo F. Fernandez M’07 (7.26.08)
Katherine A. Lapitik M’07 & Theodore Arzt (6.21.08)

2004

MELINDA S. FORNICA (M, A&S) of Cheshire, Conn., received her certificate in fundraising management from the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. She is the director of development for the School of Business at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn.

STEPHANIE KNUSTON (M, ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., has joined the Connecticut State Department of Education as a school nurse consultant in the Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services, and Adult Education.

MEREDITH C. MORRIS (ENHP) of Silver Lake, N.Y., announces her engagement to fellow alumnus CHRISTOPHER M. MACDONALD A’06, ‘06. A December 2009 wedding is planned.

2005

JOSEPH S. BARROS (HARTT) of Pacifica, Calif., is the producing artistic director for the New York Theatre Barn.

STACEY E. DYER (HASS) of Middletown, Conn., owns and operates Triple Frog, LLC, a full-service design firm in Middletown, Conn. She is pleased to announce the company’s expansion with the hiring of a new art director.

2006

ELAINE YU (A&S) of Glastonbury, Conn., is pleased to announce her engagement to ADAM THYE ‘05 (CETA). An Aug. 29, 2009, wedding is planned in Haddam, Conn.

2004


BONNIE A. HAUPT (M, ENHP) of Bethany, Conn., is an assistant professor of nursing at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Conn.

CHRISTOPHER M. MACDONALD (A, CETA; ‘06 CETA). See MEREDITH C. MORRIS ‘04.

KENNETH W. OUESNEL (HARTT) of Manchester, Conn., announces his engagement to Catherine Ruskak. The wedding is planned for Aug. 14, 2009.

BRANDEE YOUNGER (HARTT) of Uniondale, N.Y., a member of the Hartt Community Division faculty, traveled to Guatemala in February as part of the Guatemala Teaching Project, teaching and performing for short periods at various venues.

The Group Insurance Exchange, which he formed as a start-up company that operates an online reverse-auction platform for large companies, governments, and colleges to save money on their group employee benefit plans.

SHEILA SOLERNOU (M, ENHP) of Waterbury, Conn., was inducted as president of the Connecticut League for Nursing. She is director of nursing at Gateway Community College.

2003

SURAJ S. AFSHAR (A&S) of Methuen, Mass., earned his Doctor of Optometry from the New England College of Optometry. He is a licensed optometrist practicing in several locations in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

DANIELLE C. FRENI (A&S) of New York, N.Y., is the director of communications for Central Synagogue in New York, N.Y.

Celebrate with the Observer!

Weddings, births, new jobs, promotions, performances, exhibitions, publications—these and so many other notable milestones and accomplishments are what punctuate our lives once we leave the University of Hartford campus. Send the Observer your news, and we’ll let old friends and faculty, as well as the global University community, know what you’ve been up to since graduation. Announcements may be sent to alumni@hartford.edu or to the Office of Alumni Relations, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117.

Weddings, Births, New Jobs, Promotions, Performances, Exhibitions, Publications—These and so Many Other Notable Milestones and Accomplishments Are What Punctuate Our Lives Once We Leave the University of Hartford Campus. Send the Observer Your News, and We’ll Let Old Friends and Faculty, as Well as the Global University Community, Know What You’ve Been Up to Since Graduation. Announcements May Be Sent to Alumni@hartford.edu or to the Office of Alumni Relations, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117.
2007

**ANGELA CARRANO** (M, ENHP) of East Haven, Conn., has accepted a full-time clinical faculty position in nursing at Quinnipiac University.

**TODD D. ROSE** (M, BARNEY) of Stafford Springs, Conn., is president and chief executive officer at Visiting Nurse and Health Services Center of Connecticut.

2008

**JONATHAN SILVER** (CETA) of Newtown, Conn., and **ROBERT TANEN** (CETA) of Harleysville, Pa., won first prize in the Acoustical Society of America’s Best Student Paper Award competition, held in Miami, Fla. The collaborators presented the results of their undergraduate research on the acoustic signatures of footfall noise.

**ALEXANDER VINAUD** (HAS) of Windsor, Conn., is the owner of Nautilus Tattoo in Newington, Conn. He has been tattooing since 2006 and specializes in realistic animal and nature tattoos.

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**Girl Scouts Go Green**

Girl Scouts can now earn green merit badges, thanks to ENHP alumna Kathy Murphy M’07, who has developed an environmental badge available to older Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador scouts. In the photo, Murphy leads a session in the annual “It’s a Girl Thing” training event, presented last December by the Girl Scouts of Connecticut and hosted by the University of Hartford. Murphy’s badge, or “Going Green, One Step at a Time,” teaches older girls about the effects of environmental toxins on their bodies and aids them in making safer, more informed choices in the health and beauty products they use.

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**Attention, Alumni Artists!**

The Observer welcomes your art. Your work in any medium is a great addition to our Alumni Connections section. We’re proud to publish the art you’ve worked so hard to create.

Let us give your art a wider audience. Send in digital photos of your artwork from a recent or upcoming exhibition. Photos should be high resolution, less than 2MB each, saved in jpg format, and e-mailed as attachments to bkennedy@hartford.edu. Larger files may be mailed on CD to Observer, Office of Communication, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117.

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**Births**

First row (l–r): Sara Matteson and Christopher J. Matteson ’95 (Tessa Calais, 7.25.08, nestled against brother Xander, nestled against sister Leia)

Anne K. Miller ’03 and Mark A. Miller ’02 (Benjamin Allan, 5.9.08)

Angela Capinera and Daniel B. Ruskin ’91 (Adam Micah, 8.12.08, with big brother Darren)


Natalie DiMatteo Strahowski M’02 and Matthew Strahowski (Ryan Matthew, 2.11.09)

Not pictured:

Emily Oliver & Nicholas A. Oliver ’00 (Caelan Zachary, 1.27.09)

Michael Gonzalez ’02 (Kaelyn Beth, 2.29.08)

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**Spring 2009**
Clark Smidt ’70, who as a student was one of the founders and the first station manager of WWUH, spoke at a campus reunion on Nov. 8, 2008, marking the beginning of the station’s fifth decade. Approximately 100 WWUH alumni, current staff, and friends attended the celebration. Smidt is now a consultant and owner of WCAP–FM, a full-time local talk and information station in Lowell, Mass.

While Smidt reminisced about the early days and expressed his pride in how the station has developed, current station manager John Ramsey focused on WWUH today.

“WWUH, now more than ever before, is serving a vital role by providing alternative music and news programming. . . . Thanks to the support of our listeners and the hard work of our volunteer staff, WWUH became the first station in the state to broadcast over the Internet in 1997, and today we offer 1,000 free streams and have listeners all over the world.”

Ramsey also reported that the station continues to enjoy strong financial support from its listeners. On March 1, President Walter Harrison kicked off the spring 2009 fundraising effort on the air. The marathon, which ran from March 1 to March 8, surpassed its $65,000 goal with more than 1,000 donors participating.

Ramsey closed his remarks by relaying a conversation with Smidt.

“I complimented him on the ‘Public Alternative Radio’ motto, which has been so important to the station’s success. Clark remarked that it was a good thing that they chose that phrase because our runner up was ‘UH Radio: Stick It in Your Ear.’ Hey, it was the sixties, you know.”
Alumni and staff enjoy each other’s sunny company at March’s Red & White Brunch at the Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, Fla. (l–r, all photos): (1) Lauren Firtel ’03, President Walter Harrison, Gabriel Deutsch A’02, ’02; (2) Mort and Irma Handel; (3) Evelyn C’02, A’04, ’04, and Guy M’86 Garcia; (4) Bob ’69, M’72, and Linda ’72 Feld; (5) Doris Hencken, Pete Congleton, Marilyn Siadman A’63, Allyn Golub ’62; (6) Jeffrey and Susan Shoham.

(7) Alumni Relations’ own Samantha Cahill ’09 (center) is flanked by Ken Slade (left) and Pilar Cordero-Montalvo at the World’s Best 10K race, held in March in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Adrienne Milics (8), founder of Parnassum, an executive coaching firm, introduces “Effective Interviewing and Presentation Skills” to participants (10, 13) in our March workshop.

Jan Melnik (9) demonstrates how to “Revitalize Your Résumé!” to February workshop attendees (11).

(12) A capacity class attends “Conducting a Job Search in a Tough Economy,” presented in early February by Barney School faculty Susan Coleman and Ralph Braithwaite.
In Memoriam

Grace Carney, a life regent of the University, died on March 25, 2009. She was 97. A USO entertainer during World War II, Carney was a successful actress in the early days of television and on Broadway, then headed her family’s West Hartford–based company, United Tool & Die, for 13 years. Founder of the Carney Scholarship Foundation, which has awarded hundreds of scholarships to University of Hartford students since 1984, Carney received the University Medal for Distinguished Service in 1987.

Richard F. Donovan, former associate professor of electrical engineering, died on Nov. 15, 2008, at the age of 83. He joined the University’s College of Engineering after his retirement from the space program at Hamilton Sundstrand. At the University, Donovan initiated the chartering of the Iota Epsilon chapter of Eta Kappa Nu, the Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society.

Alexander Lepak ’50, professor emeritus at The Hartt School, died on March 25, 2009. He was 88. Founder of Hartt’s percussion program and longtime percussionist for the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Lepak was honored as the 1981 Hartt Alumnus of the Year and the 1991 Teacher of the Year. In 1997 he was inducted into the Percussion Arts Society Hall of Fame. His film soundtracks included Star Trek, The Jerk, Roar, and Shogun. Lepak also joined Frank Sinatra on his Trilogy album and had recently toured with Andrea Bocelli.

Richard S. Martin, professor emeritus, who played a key role in building the economics program in the Barney School of Business, died last November 2008. S erving two terms as chair of the Department of Economics (1968–80 and 1983–87), Martin was the author of many publications, including several projects completed during a 12-year period with General Electric Co.

James Sedalia Peters II, the first African American faculty member at Hillyer College in the late 1950s, died on Dec. 12, 2008, at the age of 91. Peters was inducted into the first class of the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame in 2005 for his role in integrating the U.S. Navy during World War II. He served as director of the state’s Vocational Rehabilitation Program, deputy commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Education, commissioner of the Hartford Housing Authority, and a member of The Hartt School Board of Trustees.