Informer Ties Endure

by David Isgur

When a dedicated group of former student newspaper reporters reunites, one would expect them to get into a rabble-rousing discussion of campus politics or their run-ins with Public Safety. But when just such a group of some 40 former staff members of the Informer gathered on April 20 to celebrate the paper’s 25th anniversary, the topics of conversation were centered more on the color of the walls and the carpeting in the newspaper’s office.

What was immediately clear was the deep affection everyone had for each other and for the Informer. Paul Brand ’02, who was editor-in-chief of the paper in 2001–2002 and who helped put the reunion together, said the turnout for the reunion “showed that the Informer touched a lot of people while they were at this school.”

He said the idea for the reunion came as the paper’s current editorial leaders were searching through older issues of the Informer for a special 25th anniversary supplement. He added that the number of positive responses to the invitations to the reunion was a bit of a surprise, but it was a strong indication of how much the paper meant to the people who got involved in it.

Stephen Busemeyer ’93, who is now an editor on the state news desk of The Hartford Courant, and Jerry Griffin ’94, who now works at PAN Communications in Boston, reminisced about how they gave up their spring break vacation in 1993 to spend a week going through the University’s financial records for a story on the University’s budget crisis and personnel layoffs. Griffin was the Informer’s editor-in-chief in 1993–1994 and Busemeyer was the paper’s copy editor at that time.

They believe the paper served a critical role in keeping students and the whole campus community informed about the issues facing the University. Busemeyer said he’s an e-mail subscriber to the current edition of the Informer and he thinks today’s students are doing a great job with the newspaper.

The Informer played a vital role on campus from its very beginnings, said Andy Jones ’78, who was the paper’s first editor in 1977 and is now director of advertising for Data Management, Inc. “When we started the paper, we didn’t have any other papers on campus. The Informer was there to represent the students, not the administration or the Student Government Association,” he said.

At the reunion dinner, Brand reviewed the accomplishments of the Informer’s current staff during the past year, including a controversial editorial in which the paper did not recommend any of the three candidates for Student Government Association president and indicated that none of them was strong enough to lead the organization. He also praised those who came before him for setting a standard to which the newspaper would continue to strive.

Many of the former Informer staffers attending the reunion have forged careers in the media or communications. Of the four attendees who represented the Informer’s founders—Jones ‘78, John Dube ’80, Kate Eisenmann ’79 and Amy Jay Barry ’78—Jones is in advertising, Dube is a public relations executive at Aetna, Eisenmann is an independent filmmaker in New York City, and Barry is a freelance writer and a features editor for Shoreline Publications.

Maybe that’s because they never forgot their first love—the Informer. As Jones said, “When John (Dube) and I came back to campus for an event a couple of years ago, we both had the same thought about the Informer. We wished we could do this all the time.”

Among those attending the Informer reunion were (left to right): Kathy Dube, John Dube ’80, Kay Jones, and Andy Jones ’78.

Stephen Busemeyer ’93 and Monica Johnson ’95 look over a recent issue of the Informer.
1948
PETER SPANO (HAS) of New Britain, Conn., was honored by Connecticut Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz for his community service. Spano Printing recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

1949
GEORGE J. FISCHER (BARNEY) of Madison, Conn., received the 2002 Pioneer Award, honoring a former student athlete, at the University of Hartford’s Hall of Fame dinner in April.

1959
ROBERT A. SIMONS (BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., received the Vincent Brown Coffin Award at the University’s Hall of Fame dinner.

1962
WILLIAM J. POUTRE (BARNEY) of North Falmouth, Mass., was recently honored at the University’s Hall of Fame as a 2002 inductee.

1964
LEONARD S. GROSSMAN (ENHP) of Vernon, Conn., retired teacher from the Rocky Hill school system, had his new novel, The Reunion, featured in the Rocky Hill/Wethersfield Post and the Jewish Ledger.

1965
JOHN J. CARSON (A&S) of Bloomfield, Conn., received a 2002 Special Award, the A. Peter LoMaglio Award, at the University’s Hall of Fame dinner in April.

1967
LINDA WEBBER (ENHP) of Bloomfield, Conn., has been appointed art curator of the University of Connecticut Health Center.

1969
STEVEN SOBEL (ENHP) of Longmeadow, Mass., is coaching the 12-to-14-year-old boys’ basketball team as part of the international Macabbi Games to be held in Springfield, Mass., during late August. Sobel is a frequent speaker on stress management and motivation and is nationally recognized for his motivational work with high school, collegiate and professional sports teams.

1970
JENNIFER B. FOX (HCW) of Edmond, Okla., is currently a senior systems analyst with Dynamics Research Corporation and is the lead program manager for an aircraft engine model and simulation to support the engine repair and overhaul facility at Tinker Air Force Base. She retired from the USAF as a colonel in 2000 after serving 26 years.

ANTANAS J. VAN REENAN (A&S, ENHP MEd ’79) of Kaunas, Lithuania, is teaching history of the Lithuanian diaspora at Vytautas Magnus University. He also teaches English and world history to high school students in Kaunas. In his spare time, VanReenan is part of a volunteer group of four who are introducing and spreading American baseball to the Lithuanian people.

1972
HAROLD J. DRABKIN (A&S) of Bar Harbor, Maine, is a scientific curator in Mouse Genome Informatics at the Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, where his...
major focus is the gene ontology project. Drabkin is also a distance learning mentor in genomics for non-science majors, sponsored by Charter Oak College in New Britain, Conn. Prior to moving to Maine, he was a research scientist and instructor at MIT in Cambridge, Mass.

1973
JOHN M. ARCHER (A&S) of Fairfield, Pa., recently released his second book on the Civil War, *Culp’s Hill at Gettysburg*. Archer is currently on staff at Gettysburg College and is a licensed battlefield guide in the national park at Gettysburg.

JEANNE DELARM-NERI (A&S) of West Hartford, Conn., will be stepping down as musical director of MMUS ’78) of West Hartford, Conn., will have run her own antiques business since 1988.

BARRY D. FRIEDMAN (ENG) of Dawsonville, Ga., received the North Georgia College and State University’s alumni association distinguished professor award for 2002. Friedman is a professor of political science and coordinator of the MPA program.

DAVID H. MACBRIDE (HARTT) of Stamford, Conn., recently presented the world premiere of *A Muse* at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall in New York. The work was commissioned by The Concert Artists Guild for the Avalon String Quartet.

1974
ARTHUR CHUCK OAKES (BARNEY) of Windsor, Conn., has recently exhibited his photographs *Tracks, Trails and Treasures*, a study capturing the spirit of the Old West, at the South Windsor Public Library.

1975
JACK M. MURRAY JR. (BARNEY, MBA) of Londonderry, N.H., has recently joined Danvers Savings Bank as vice president specializing in risk management.

1976
RICHARD J. CHIARAPPA, JR. (HARTT, MMUS ’78) of West Hartford, Conn., will be stepping down as musical director of the Bristol Symphony Orchestra for the last 10 years to assume his new post as founding music director of the newly formed West Hartford Symphony.

JOANNE E. FRAZIER (HCW) of Valley Village, Conn., is a working member of the Screen Actors Guild and is pursuing a standup comedy and singing career. She also notes that she was designated HCW “Class Mouth” in 1976.

1977
GLORIA DICAMILLO SINAGUGLIA (HARTT) of Stamford, Conn., choral and orchestral director of Stamford High School, recently returned to the University with the Madrigal Singers to participate in the Hartt Choral Festival. The group was also invited to perform at the 2001-2002 in-service conference of the Connecticut Music Educators Association held at the Hastings Hotel in Hartford.

DAVID H. MACBRIDE (HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., recently presented the world premiere of *A Muse* at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall in New York. The work was commissioned by The Concert Artists Guild for the Avalon String Quartet.

1978
DANIEL M. GASPAR (BARNEY) of South Glastonbury, Conn., was recently honored at the University’s Hall of Fame dinner as a 2002 inductee.

JODI B. KATZMAN (A&S) of New York, N.Y., was recently honored by Avon Products, Inc., with the company’s 2001 president’s award for her outstanding contributions to the success of Avon in the United States. Katzman, manager of United States events and motivation, is responsible for managing the strategic and creative planning and implementation of national incentive, motivation and recognition events for 15,000 attendees.

JAMES J. VANCE (BARNEY, MSPA) of Coventry, Conn., president and CEO of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, was recently interviewed for an article in the *Hartford Business Journal*. The lottery is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

1979
J. GREGORY HICKEY (BARNEY, MSPA) of West Hartford, Conn., was recently promoted to vice president of Photonics, Inc., in Brookfield, Conn. He continues in his position as treasurer of the company.

HORACE S. JOHNSON (BARNEY, MBA) of Windsor, Conn., recently completed the rigorous process of ordination and has joined the Sacred Order of Priests at Trinity Episcopal Church, where he will serve. After years of working in business, Johnson is now committed to full-time ministry.

ROMA HOWARD PRINDLE (HARTT MMus, DMA ’97) of Morehead, Ky., has been teaching around the world. She taught a five-week music course in Salzburg, Austria, presented a series of vocal master classes in Taiwan, and toured the Republic of Ireland with her opera ensemble.

CRAIG A. STANLEY (A&S) of Irvington, N.J., recently spoke at Tunxis Community College on the importance of African Americans in politics and education. Stanley was elected to the New Jersey General Assembly in 1995 and is an advocate for the education of all children.

MICHAEL R. THORNTON (HARTT) of Falls Church, Va., lampoons the best and worst in politics as one of the actors in the political satire group *Capitol Steps*, which recently appeared at the Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts in Hartford. Thornton has been artistic director of the Mohawk Theatre in the Berkshires and the Millbrook Playhouse in Pennsylvania.

The Observer wishes to share in the excitement of your life changes and celebrations. We look forward to receiving those important announcements in writing from you after they have happened. We list only weddings and births, not engagements or pregnancies.
Meet Mr. Twain

by Michelle Godin ’01

John Pogson, Class of ’79, has been popping up everywhere, not as himself but as Hartford’s own author and wit, Samuel Clemens, better known by the pen name Mark Twain. Sporting an exceptionally long mustache and admittedly shameful smoking habit, Pogson in the role of Twain has been shooting a series of commercials for the State of Connecticut Tourism Council. He can also be seen on the Home and Garden Television (HGTV) network as part of its Famous American Authors’ Homes series and on the PBS documentary “Mark Twain’s Nook Farm,” aired locally on CPTV.

When Connecticut held its first Mark Twain Days celebration, Pogson showed up for the Twain look-alike contest eating a peanut butter-and-jelly sandwich. The directors of the Mark Twain House took one look at him and knew they had their Twain. The Mark Twain House at Nook Farm, where the author lived from 1874 to 1891, is a National Historic Landmark property and venue for many of Pogson’s portrayals of Twain. Pogson is 44, Twain’s age when he lived in Hartford. “I look like him, the way he looked when he lived in Hartford,” Pogson said. “The job may have fallen into my lap, but I have spent the last seven years researching him.”

Along with Lisa Steier, an actress who portrays Twain’s wife, Olivia, Pogson and Twain historians have created original dramatic programs that incorporate Twain’s personal papers and examine lesser-known facts about the author. “The more I learn about Twain, the more I realize how much we’re alike. Like Twain, I like to educate and to entertain, and I like the attention. I’ll portray him with historical accuracy but then will take liberties, particularly with his sense of humor.”

The process of editing these programs and working with historians and Twain enthusiasts from all over the country is an experience that Pogson enjoys immensely. One of the newest and most successful programs, “Mark Twain and Livy, A Victorian Romance,” features the love letters that Twain and Olivia wrote to each other, chronicling their relationship from courtship to her death. This program has sold out repeatedly in Hartford and is booked for a July 29 performance at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Pogson likes to interact with his audiences and encourages them to ask questions. “After all of the research I’ve been doing, I can answer their questions as Twain might have. We have a stack of his bills that is 8 inches high…. I know how much milk he drank a week.” Guests to Pogson’s programs at the Mark Twain House are in for the rare treat of hearing material that has never before been published, ideas and facts that Twain scribbled on napkins or wrote in his notebooks. Pogson feels comfortable in the author’s shoes and enjoys signing Twain’s autograph for 20 minutes following his dinner speeches.

Although the degree Pogson earned at Ward College of Technology was in electronics, it became clear early on he was an entertainer. While at the University, Pogson produced a few commercials and a couple of jazz shows on WSAM radio. He recalls that the electronic engineering technology program was one of the most challenging and “grueling” experiences of his life. He remains in contact with two friends from those years, Ron Curle ’79 and Paul Thulen ’79. “It was a challenging program and we made it through together, so we’ve managed to stay in touch.”

After graduating, Pogson worked at the Andersen Group, Inc., for a couple of years before starting his own business, Pogson Associates, Inc., which primarily performs inspections and promotes conservation programs for New England utility companies. As a contractor, Pogson Associates also performs commercial and residential restoration, preservation, painting, and graphics throughout Connecticut. Pogson lives in Farmington, Conn., with his wife, Peri, and their two daughters, Sarah and Ellen.

Soon Pogson’s voice will be heard all over the world portraying Twain in radio interviews for Radio America and National Public Radio. “It is the coolest thing anyone could do,” says Pogson. “I absolutely love it!”

John Pogson as Mark Twain
1981
WALTER S. HAUCK III (ENG) of Pawcatuck, Conn., was recently named vice president of the informatics group at Pfizer Inc.

GARY J. OREFICE (BARNEY, MBA) of Niantic, Conn., is currently serving his fifth term as a Connecticut state representative and has been named House chairman of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.

1982
EUGENE CANTERA (HARTT) of Carrollton, Texas, is the director of public relations at the Dallas School of Music, Inc., the only for-profit music education corporation in the country. He is also the writer of The Common Chord, the e-mail newsletter for DSM. He loves to hear from U of H friends.

JOYCE A. REYNOLDS (BARNEY) of Glastonbury, Conn., was recently appointed director of human resources at the American Group in Norwich, Conn.

SUSAN G. TERRY (HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., recently was featured with the Denwyn Holder Ensemble at the Stamford Center for the Arts, honoring National Women’s Month. She also performed with the Billy Taylor Trio in a Metropolitan Museum of Art series, and in the National Symphony Jazz Festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington.

STEVEN M. VENEZIA (BARNEY, MBA) of Medina, Ohio, was recently named senior vice president of management information systems and distribution center services at Sterling Jewelers, Inc. Venezia will be responsible for ongoing operations and improvements in the distribution center and for all information technology and distribution operations for the organization, including developing and implementing the company’s information systems strategy.

1983
MICHAEL J. ARSENAULT (BARNEY) of Bryan, Texas, was recently promoted to captain of an Embraer 140 aircraft for American Eagle Airlines.

LESLIE GOUTIER (BARNEY, MST) has been named minister of commerce and industry for the Republic of Haiti.

1984
ROBERT W. LINDNER JR. (ENG) of Parkland, Fla., has been appointed vice president, corporate quality and continuous improvement, at Sunbeam Corporation in Boca Raton, Fla.

LINDA L. WALSH (BARNEY, MAEC) of Arlington, Va., a partner in Hunton & Williams law firm, is a member of its energy and telecommunications team in Washington, D.C. Her practice focuses on regulatory matters affecting electric utilities, particularly in industry restructuring and administrative litigation.

RICHARD J. WELLNER (BARNEY, MBA) of Charlotte, N.C., has been appointed chair of the certified employee benefits professional development committee for the International Society of Certified Employee Benefits Specialists. Wellner is a senior vice president for Aon Consulting based in Charlotte, N.C.

1985
DONG YANG KIM (BARNEY, MBA) of Seoul, Korea, is currently employed as a country manager for Johnson & Johnson in Korea.

THOMAS MASSELLA JR. (HARTT, MMus) of Pittsburgh, Pa., recently attended the premiere of his composition, September Music for soprano saxophone and piano, in Henderson, N.C. The work was commissioned by Michael Stephenson, soprano saxophonist of the New Century Saxophone Quartet.

1986
BRUCE B. EISENSTEIN (BARNEY) of Towson, Md., a 2001 graduate of the University of Baltimore School of Law, recently passed the Maryland Bar Examination. He currently works for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, as an environmental planner.

KEN S. MASON (HAS) of Simsbury, Conn., principal of Mason Design, LLC, has recently received several awards, including the USA Award of Excellence for the 2000 annual report of the Village for Families & Children, Inc., the highest award for Connecticut town and city reports, from the University of Connecticut Institute of Public Service. He also received the 2001 honor award from the Connecticut chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

1987
NANCY DOHERTY BUCK (HAS) of West Hartford, Conn., recently exhibited her drawings and paintings at the John Bryan Gallery.

CRAIG L. CHAIKEN (A&S) of Austin, Texas, recently accepted a position at Dell Computer Corporation as a lead BIOS architect.

JOSEPH F. DIAMOND (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., was recently interviewed on Weekend Today in New York discussing his upcoming release Island Garden. Also, www.shockwave.com/ has licensed the Joseph Diamond track Que Rico for use in its PhotoJam Application.

ROBERT A. LANDINO (ENG) of Westbrook, Conn., the president and CEO of BL Companies, an architectural, engineering and consulting firm in Meriden, Conn., has been given the charge by the city of Meriden to look at ideas for redevelopment and draft one well-coordinated game plan. It will be the first comprehensive plan that Meriden will have to go to Hartford and sell for state grant funding.

DANIEL V. SULLIVAN (BARNEY) of Wallingford, Conn., has recently acquired sole ownership of TEE IT UP, LLC, “Your Logo Gear Outfitter,” a company that offers embroidery, screen printing, promotional items, and signage.

Save the Date for your Class Reunion
Homecoming Weekend
October 11, 12, 13, 2002

WSAM REUNION
WSAM will be hosting a reunion during the 2002-03 academic year. Don’t miss this opportunity to see other former staff members. For additional information, please contact the Alumni Office at 1-888 UH ALUMS or alumni@hartford.edu
PETER E. GARDOW (WARD) of Wethersfield, Conn., has recently been elected to the Wethersfield Town Council.

JAY B. SCHILLER (ENG) of Denver, Colo., a senior vice president of broadband strategy and product management, recently addressed the 2002 conference on emerging technologies of the Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers. He spoke on the future of PVR technology and outlined the benefits of network-based personal video recording solutions for the broadband community.

1988
LUCA BARBARITO (BARNEY, MBA) of Milan, Italy, is currently employed as a professor of industrial economics at the Universita IULM in Milan.

AMY L. BARBER (HARTT, DMA) of Westfield, Mass., has been appointed dean of the School of Music and professor of percussion at DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind.

FREDERICK M. EWALD (BARNEY, MSPA) of Weston, Mass., cofounded MarketOne International based in Maynard, Mass., four years ago. MarketOne provides outsourced high-end sales lead development for some of the biggest names in high-tech.

FRANK RINAUDO (Barney, MBA, ’92) of Middletown, Conn., has been named vice president, marketing and development, for the LIFE Foundation in Washington, D.C.

PHILIP CARMINE PONELLA (HARTT, MMUS, ‘90) of Rochester, N.Y., was recently named director of academic technology services for Information Technology Services at the University of Rochester.

1989
RAYMOND BELL (WARD) of Windsor, Conn., through his business, Hotep’s Restaurant and Lounge in Hartford, is supporting the Hartford Scholars Program.

JOLIE ROCKE BROWN (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., has been invited to perform the role of Despina in Così fan tutte with the Studio Lirico program in Anghiari, Italy, this summer. She recently performed in a musical soirée at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford.

CHRISTOPHER L. DEMKO (BARNEY, MBA) of Newark, Del., has recently been named vice president and corporate workout manager in Fulton Financial Corp.’s loan review department. He came to Fulton Financial from PNC Bank, where he was a vice president and special asset manager.

JEROME P. KELLY (BARNEY) of Madison, Wis., was recently honored by the University of Hartford as a 2002 Hall of Fame inductee.

MICHAEL E. SILVERMAN (A&S, Hillyer AA ’87) of Cambridge, Mass., has been doing post-doctoral work at Harvard.

In Memoriam

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>James Q. Burgess ’43</td>
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<td>March 19, 2002</td>
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<td>Eleanor Tevin Jorgensen ’43</td>
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<td>Florence G. Rome ’46</td>
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<td>Clayton S. Bisley ’56</td>
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<td>William G. Fitch ’58</td>
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<td>Thomas J. Quilty ’58</td>
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<td>Holmsie L. Bowen ’78</td>
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<td>Barbara Stroehle-Mako ’78</td>
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<td>George E. Cornelius III ’96</td>
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<td>Jean M. Palmer ’98</td>
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<td>Jeanine R. Genovese ’00</td>
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University studying how the perceptual system makes use of attentional processes, both voluntarily and involuntarily. He became interested in cognitive psychology after earning his master's degree in rehabilitation counseling at Boston University.

1990


CYNTHIA McMahan

BARTHOLOMEW (BARNEY, MBA) of Middletown, Conn., is executive director for Covenant to Care in Bloomfield, Conn. The mission of Covenant to Care is to improve the lives of Connecticut’s abused and neglected children through the acquisition and distribution of community resources, mentoring, and foster and adoptive parent recruitment.

LAUREN BERNOF SKY (HARTT) of Baltimore, Md., has recently had her compositions, Medieval Scenes, for elementary string orchestra and Cloud Nine for intermediate concert band, published by the FJH Music Company, Inc.

GARRICK S. CAMPBELL (WARD) of Bridgeport, Conn., through his business, Hotep’s Restaurant and Lounge in Hartford, is supporting the Hartford Scholars Program.

IRMA F. CARTER (BARNEY, MSOB) of Vernon, Conn., has retired after 13 years as human resource generalist at Manchester Memorial Hospital. She has accepted a part-time position in her former capacity at the Visiting Nurse and Health Services of Connecticut in Vernon.

LISA M. HANCOCK (BARNEY, MPA) of Glastonbury, Conn., recently began her role as Colchester’s first chief financial officer December 1, 2001. The merger of the town’s finance department with the Board of Education finance department prompted the new position.

KLAUS H. MULLER (BARNEY, MBA) of Switzerland, has started his own company for database programming and financial consulting, especially in the area of asset risk management. Because of the scarcity of qualified people in his area of business, he changed strategy recently to base growth on IT products and will be releasing two products in the fall or winter on the web site www.wsiwlt.com.

KRISTEN PLUMLEY (HARTT, ARTDP) of Glastonbury, Conn., celebrated her debut at the New York City Opera in the role of Barbarina in Le Nozze di Figaro. She also was the soprano soloist in a world premiere of Improvised Performance by the Jose Limon Dance Company in New York’s Symphony Space.

WILLIAM ROLON (HARTT) of Astoria, N.Y., has been performing in various musical productions throughout the United States. He is heading to London to begin rehearsing as principal performer on the QE2 for Cunard Cruise Lines.

1992

HULUS ALPAY (BARNEY) of Morganville, N.J., has been appointed senior vice president and investor relations practice leader at Makovsky & Company in New York, N.Y.

LEE R. BAILEY JR. (BARNEY) of Cheshire, Conn., was recently honored by the University of Hartford as a 2002 Hall of Fame inductee.

DEXTON CAMPBELL (WARD) and MARTIN B. JOHN (WARD, BARNEY MSPA, ’94) both of Hartford, Conn., are supporting the Hartford Scholars program through their business, Hotep’s Restaurant and Lounge in downtown Hartford.

CATHERINE AUDUON-MURPHY (BARNEY, MBA ’94) of Long Beach, Calif., is a co-owner of CAMALEO Web Intelligence, an agency that develops web sites and web-based applications for small and medium-size businesses.

1993

LORI A. ALLEN (A&S) of Memphis, Tenn., graduated from the University of Memphis with an MPA and is employed as director of administration and advancement services for the University of Tennessee health science center’s office of development.

AMANDA J. LEARNED (A&S) of Manchester, Conn., has recently co-authored two papers to be presented at the Academy for Health Services, Research and Health Policy, in Washington, D.C. The papers, Using Data on Childhood Injuries to Improve Care in a Medicaid Managed Care Program and Using Medicaid Managed Care Data to Improve Well-Child Visit Rates for Children in State Custody, were funded by the Connecticut Dept. of Social Services with support from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

WENDY J. LEMKE (A&S) of Westfield, N.J., has joined Celanese, a global chemical company, as leader of employee communications. She was formerly with Dun & Bradstreet.

SCOTT A. LUNN (A&S, Hillyer AA’91) of Bradford, Mass., is now employed by the Topsfield, Mass., Police Department as emergency center operator and as a part-time reserve patrolman.

VOLKAN C. ORHON (HARTT Artist’s Diploma, MMus ’96) of West Hartford, Conn., received an appointment as visiting artist in the School of Fine Arts at the University of Iowa during the winter of 2001.

KAREN ROMERO (A&S) of North Hollywood, Calif., was recently honored by the University of Hartford as a 2002 Hall of Fame inductee.

1994

CARMEN IRIS SIERRA (BARNEY, MSPA) of Hartford, Conn., executive director for the Connecticut Association for United Spanish Action, was recently interviewed by the Hartford Business Journal. She discussed Project NEXO, designed to bridge the digital divide for low-income Latino families.

1995

PETER GAGE FURLONG (HARTT, MMus) of New York, N.Y., was recently reviewed by the New York Times for his...
part as Sam Kaplan in Kurt Weill’s Street Scene at the Dicapo Opera.

DOMENIC F. LOMBARDO (BARNEY, MBA) of Plantsville, Conn., recently retired after 26 years as a member of the Southington Police Department. Capt. Lombardo has taken a position with the State of Connecticut as a case flow coordinator in the new judicial district.

MICHAEL J. MCNAMARA (A&S) of Oakland, Calif. is currently the market development manager for Diageo—Guinness Bass Import Company in northern California.

TRAVIS C. PLOEGER (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., has been the music director of the national touring company for Chicago City Limits, New York’s longest-running comedy revue, for the past five years.

ELLENMARY L. VALVO (HCW Cert.) of Wethersfield, Conn., has joined the Prospectus Group at ING.

JULIE LEAVITT WOLFE (ENHP, MEd, ’98) of Park Ridge, N.J., who was recently married, has purchased a house in Park Ridge. She is employed as a kindergarten teacher.

1996

ABDULAZIZ A. AL-GOSAIBI (BARNEY) of Manama, Bahrain, is currently a deputy manager at Arab Banking Corporation, where he is responsible for corporate finance, targeting corporate clients in Saudi Arabia.

ROMAIN BOUTONNET (BARNEY, MBA) of Courbevoie La Defense, France, has been hired by Sogafric, the first private company in Gabon. He recently worked in Paris as consultant for an information system company.

Yearbooks, Yearbooks, Yearbooks!

The Alumni Office has a supply of yearbooks available for purchase. If you are interested, please contact the Alumni Office at <alumni@hartford.edu>.

SUZANNE HANNA BUCK (A&S) of Lawrence, Kan., recently participated in a graduate student exchange program at the University of Regensburg, Germany, conducting research in organic chemistry. In May 2002, she earned her Ph.D. in medicinal chemistry at the University of Kansas and will continue postdoctoral study at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif.

1997

JOYCE FONTANA (ENHP, MSN) is currently the director of the Nursing Learning Center at Saint Joseph College. Her manuscript titled Rational Suicide in the Terminally Ill, was recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Nursing Scholarship.

BETH ANN GRAINGER (HAS) of Cheshire, Conn., earned her master of arts degree in communication design from Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane, Australia. Combined with her BFA from the U of H, she hopes to expand her print design experience into the field of interactive multimedia back in the United States.

JAMES S. GREENE, JR. (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., one of Jackie McLean’s gifted protégés, is making a name for himself in the jazz world. He has significant credits with Horace Silver, Tom Harrell, Xavier Davis, Ugonna Okegwo and Quincy Davis. Greene’s debut album in 1999 for RCA Victor was called Brand New World. He recently performed at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church.

JOSEPH A. JACOBSON (A&S) of Shelburne, Vt., recently received his commission as a naval officer after completing Officer Candidate School at Naval Aviation Schools Command, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

JAMES M. KOENIG (A&S, Hillyer AA ‘95) of Alexandria, Va., is a police officer in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department.

BRANT E. INNERS (A&S) of Camp Hill, Pa., received his master’s in cinema studies at CUNY Staten Island in June 2001. He teaches conversational English in a private school near Seoul, South Korea.

CHIPPO MUZOREWA (BARNEY, MBA) of Harare, Zimbabwe, is a partner and managing director of Africans Factors Ltd., a factoring family business. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in public affairs at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.

1998

RANDI ASHTON-PRITTING (ENHP, MMus) of Colchester, Conn., has recently been appointed to the position of director of libraries of the University of Hartford. She is currently a doctoral candidate in ENHP’s educational leadership program.

AREE KUNA PONGKUL (HARTT, MMus) of Khon Kaen, Thailand, is currently teaching piano in Bangkok and helping her family sell jewelry via the Internet. The Web sites are www.1njewelry.com and www.silvercrazy.com.

MICHAEL P. MACZKO (A&S) of New London, Conn., is currently working as a DJ at WQGN, Q105, in New London, during the 6 to 11 p.m slot, under the name of Mike McKenzie.

ROBERT J. MCCARRY JR. (WARD) of Alexandria, Va., is currently a patent examiner at the United States Patent and Trade Office in Arlington, Va. He is also a CPR and first aid instructor.

ANDREAS NINIOS (A&S) of Athens, Greece, fulfilled his military obligation to Greece and is now attending graduate school in the United Kingdom, where he is studying for a degree in diplomacy.
NAVEEN SIKKA (BARNEY, MBA) of New Delhi, India, is employed by the marketing division of the Gas Authority of India, Ltd. His focus is gas sales and other business development opportunities arising from procurement of natural gas from different sources.

1999
LYNN ANDERSON (ENHP) of Kensington, Conn., is co-author of an article published in the January 2002 issue of *The Anesthesiology News*. Written with Girish P. Joshi, the article is titled *Deep Breathing Alone May Relieve Nausea* and describes the use of aromatherapy. She is assistant nurse manager in the post anesthetic care unit at the University of Connecticut Health Center.

DAVID A. MILLER (BARNEY) of Clifton, N.J., was recently promoted to assistant vice president of money management operations at iClearing, LLC, in Jersey City.

ERIC M. SOSA (HARTT) of Astoria, N.Y., recently appeared in the starring role in *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* at the Oakdale Theatre in Wallingford, Conn. In a *Hartford Courant* interview he spoke of how the training he had during his years at Hartt prepared him for musical and non-musical theater roles.

BETTINA VIERECK (HAS, MFA) of Windsor, Conn., recently exhibited her photographs in a show entitled *Emerging Photographers* at Springfield College Gallery.

2000
SEAN M. BURTON (HARTT) of Trumbull, Conn., recently conducted the Oswego County Junior High All-County Chorus in Central Square, N.Y. He will be attending Boston University to pursue a master’s degree in choral conducting.

KIRK PETERS (ENHP, EdD) of Hartford, Conn., has recently joined Tunxis Community College as dean of student affairs.

2001
DALE DE MILLE (ENHP, MSN) of New Britain, Conn., recently published an article about nurses entitled *It’s Time to Blow Our Horn*. The article was chosen to be included in a special Nurses Week section of *Nursing Spectrum* Magazine’s Web site: <www.nursingspectrum.com> DeMille practices nursing at New Britain General Hospital and is an adjunct professor at both the University of Connecticut and Quinnipiac University schools of nursing.

JENNIFER T. LIPACK (HILLYER) of Melville, N.Y., is continuing her education at C.W. Post and Long Island University, working on her BA degree.

LOUIS R. SPETRINO (A&S) of Stratford, Conn., had his film, *The Battle*, screened at the New York International Independent Film and Video Festival and at the Directors View Film Festival in Norwalk, Conn.

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**Alumni Survey Online**

The Alumni Office wants to hear from you. Please go to <www.hartford.edu/alumni> to complete the online alumni chapter survey form.

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**Keep in touch!**

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