ISET: The Dawning of a New Era

See pages 4–9
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Fall Weekend 2005

OCTOBER 7, 8, 9

Here’s your chance to see old friends and classmates. Come join the fun!

- Decade Reunion for the Classes of 1995-2005
- Greek Reunions
- SGA Reunion
- College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture Reunion. Meet New Dean Louis Manzione
- Barney School of Business Reunion. Meet New Dean James Fairfield-Sonn
- 44th Annual Alumni Awards Ceremony
- 50th Reunion, Class of 1955
- Tours and alumni classes in the new Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology building
- Physical and Occupational Therapy Reunions
- Tribute to Moshe Paranov, a founder of The Hartt School

Watch for more information to be mailed out this summer, or visit www.hartford.edu/alumni.

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We need your help! Contact the Alumni Office to volunteer for these or any other Fall Weekend events at 888.UHALUMS or alumni@hartford.edu.

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2 FROM THE PRESIDENT
President Harrison reflects on the opening of the new ISET building and the transformation that it connotes for the university.

4 NEW DOORS OPEN
A special section celebrating the new ISET building includes articles illustrating collaborative initiatives occurring across campus.

10 VANITY NOT SO FAIR
English Department Chair Mark Blackwell delves into the cultural significance of live-tooth transplantation in 18th-century England.

12 CAMPUS NEWS

17 COMMENCEMENT 2005
Leaders in business, the arts, and philanthropy share words of wisdom and inspiration with 1,300 graduates and their families and friends.

20 CAMPAIGN NEWS
Breaking ground for new athletics fields, a $700,000 challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation, and a generous donation to the university’s television studio.

24 'ROUND MIDNIGHT
A profile of Wayne Escoffery '97, one of the jazz world’s hottest young tenor saxophonists.

26 ALUMNI NEWS
The opening of a new building on the University of Hartford campus is an occasion to celebrate not only a new beginning or great architecture. It is a moment to celebrate anew the mission of the university: to create a bright tomorrow for our students, our country, and our world.

Nothing symbolizes the promise of a bright tomorrow more than the completion of the first phase of our Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology Complex. We will mark that milestone with the official opening of our new science building and the renovated space in half of Dana Hall in late August. We are already well into the second phase of the project, the renovation of the second half of Dana Hall, which will be completed by January 2006.

The new building is spectacular, and the renovated space in Dana is fresh and new. The faculty moved into their new space this summer and are prepared to greet the students when they arrive back on campus in August. Spirits here are soaring. The biology and chemistry departments, who inhabit the new building, now have space for teaching and research that is second to none anywhere in the country.

The views from the new building are breathtaking. Designed to be light and airy, the labs and offices look out onto campus, and bring nature into the building in a way that is perfectly fitting to biology and chemistry, and to environmental engineering, which also has a laboratory in the new space. I’m sure this will inspire generations of University of Hartford students.

As beautiful as this new structure is, as wonderful as it is to have a major new academic building on campus, the true excitement in the air is not about new space but about the vision it represents: the university’s aspirations to achieve regional prominence and national visibility in science, engineering, and technology. Our newly created College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture is now firmly in place and our new dean, Louis Manzione, is on board and prepared to lead the college from the strong platform Dean Alan Hadad has provided him.

With our traditionally strong faculty and students in these areas, we are poised to take off. The sky, so beautiful and striking through those new windows, is the limit.

The building is the work of William Wilson Associated Architects, Inc. and Shawmut Construction, but I think it is a testament to the longstanding strength of the university that two of our graduates, Victoria Cerami ’81 and Jim Alibrandi ’84, played key roles in the construction. Cerami’s firm, Cerami & Associates, Inc., served as the acoustical engineering firm on the project, and Alibrandi’s firm, Interstate Electric, was the electrical construction contractor. Cerami herself chaired the building committee that designed the project, and Paul Sittard ’85 was vice chair of that committee. It is a real mark of our maturity as a university that our alumni served in such prominent roles in making this project possible.

No sooner will ISET be completed than construction of the third phase of our initiative will begin. The University High School of Science and Engineering, designed by Jeter, Cook and Jepson Architects and constructed by Fusco Construction, is scheduled to break ground this winter, with an expected completion date of August 2007.

As readers of The Observer know, we began the school with a ninth grade of 100 students in the Auerbach Science Center on Asylum Avenue this past fall, and we will add a second class of like size this August. This early-college high school is setting a pace nationally for providing first-class science and engineering education.

A model of the new high school now sits on a table in my office, and I look at it every day. When I do, I see the excellence that this school represents reflected in its remarkable architecture.
Located on Mark Twain Drive on the north side of the Hog River, it will look across the river at its companion school, the spectacular (and spectaculrly successful) University of Hartford Magnet School.

These schools together will transform our campus, but more importantly, they will transform our educational philosophy. As partners in our community, we are now the only private university in the country with two public schools on its campus. We are providing exciting and truly integrated educational settings to enable future generations of students to prepare themselves to take up the leadership of our region, our state, and our nation. That is truly the “tomorrow inside” that John Akers envisioned.

That tomorrow will rely increasingly on science, engineering, and technology. Through these new buildings, and through the creation of our new college, the University of Hartford is at the forefront in educating students to lead the way. It is truly an exciting time in our history.

Walter Harrison

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**Letters**

The Observer received the following letter in response to President Harrison’s previous message in the Winter 2005 issue in which he outlined the work he is doing with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

**Wow!**

College student athletes could not have a more eloquent, progressive, or positive voice guiding future policy decisions. Living … in Williamsburg [Va.], and being associated with the College of William & Mary, I am reminded each day of the values to which you subscribe, and the agenda of excellence you are currently advancing.

I applaud your involvement in NCAA activities. The University of Hartford is most fortunate to have you as its leader.

Douglas J. Keeler ’65, ’66
Williamsburg, Va.

**Fellow Alpha Epsilon Phi’s!**

If the graduating classes of 1992 [and] 1993 (or whomever) would like to get together and share what’s been going on for the past 10 plus years, please contact me. I’d love to have a reunion in the Connecticut area!

Amanda Learned ’93

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**On the Death of Peter Harvey ’72, ’80**

Peter Harvey was only a few years ahead of me at Hartt, but so far ahead in other ways—more talent eating his breakfast, I used to tell people—than most of us display in a lifetime of mornings.

When, years ago, we at the school learned that the composer Norman Dinerstein had died too soon (he was almost the same age as Peter), the hallways of Hartt went quiet, as if his soul were passing through. I don’t suppose that happened in the building on March 6 but it should have, and it happened here, in my house.

Memories of Peter: I see him in the pit in Millard, trying to breathe life into a John Knowls Paine relic called “Oedipus Tyrannus,” or in whiteface as the Emcee in Cabaret, in a photo that graced many a Hartt publication in those days. I hear him as Rodolfo while I conducted the New Britain Opera; and as Werther, singing of the sadness of spring. But I don’t remember him best any of those ways. I prefer the memory of Peter Harvey roaring through “I Love a Piano” or “Abba Dabba Honeymoon,” accompanying himself, or with Bob Ashens in tow, laughing, smiling, and so damn alive.

Hurts. Hurts like the Dinerstein. Peter Harvey in death has taken some

Continued on page 36
Head of Bell Labs Ireland Named New CETA Dean

Louis Manzione, founding executive director of Bell Laboratories research center in Ireland, has been named dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA) by President Walter Harrison and Provost Donna Randall. Manzione will assume his new position on Aug. 15.

“I am delighted we have been able to attract someone of Dr. Manzione’s leadership and experience in education and industry,” said Harrison. “I look forward to working with him to continue to raise the visibility and reputation of the college.”

Manzione said that he is honored to be selected to lead CETA at such a significant time. “The university’s establishment of CETA and the opening of its new $34 million Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology (ISET) complex promises to significantly enrich the educational experience for students, and dramatically increase its effectiveness in reaching out to industrial partners,” he said.

As executive director of Bell Labs Ireland, Manzione developed a multidisciplinary research program and funding proposals for a new Bell Labs Research Center in the Republic of Ireland. The funding proposals resulted in an $89 million commitment by Lucent Technologies and the Irish government, one of the largest research initiatives ever funded in Ireland, and one of the largest external funding grants ever received by Bell Labs. As part of this research program, he created a partnership with nearly 100 academic researchers from nine Irish universities, known as the Center for Telecommunications Value Chain Research.

Manzione is recognized as a pioneer in the packaging of integrated circuits. He wrote the first book on plastic molded packaging of integrated circuits, Packaging of Microelectronic Devices, and such packaging is now used in more than 90 percent of the world’s integrated circuits. In recognition of his achievements, Manzione was named a Fellow of the Society of Plastics Engineers for career achievement in the use of plastics for electronics.

Manzione received his bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from The Cooper Union in New York, and his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Princeton University. Since 1990 he has been a member of the Advisory Council of the New Jersey Institute of Technology. He also participated in strategic plan development for Princeton University’s School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and was appointed a research professor at Trinity College Dublin as part of his role in Bell Labs Ireland.

UTC Makes $250,000 Gift to ISET

United Technologies Corp. Chairman and CEO George David presented University of Hartford President Walter Harrison with a check for $250,000 at the company’s annual corporate volunteer luncheon on April 6. The gift will support the university’s new $34 million Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology (ISET) complex, designed to encourage collaboration and interdisciplinary learning among the various departments housed there.

“United Technologies Corporation has made it a priority to support mathematics and science education, and this gift underscores both that commitment and UTC’s long connection to the University of Hartford,” said Harrison. “With UTC’s generous help, the ISET complex will help ensure the university’s leadership position in providing the best science, engineering, and technology education to all of its students.”

The largest single construction project in the university’s history, the ISET project involves the complete renovation of Dana Hall and the construction of a new building adjoining Dana, along with improvements to United Technologies Hall and East Hall. The first phase of the project, the construction of a 37,000-square-foot building, was completed this spring. The remainder of the project will be completed by January 2006.
Devadas Shetty now adds being dean of research to his many duties in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA), where he already serves as associate dean, director of the Engineering Applications Center, and Vernon D. Roosa Professor of Manufacturing Engineering.

With his new title, Shetty has been given responsibility for building interdisciplinary research programs within CETA and university-wide.

“The appointment reflects the university’s strong commitment to creating interdisciplinary research programs, not only within CETA but also to explore partnerships with other colleges and schools,” said Provost Donna Randall in announcing Shetty’s new responsibilities.

Shetty is known for setting up partnerships between the university and industry. During his 16 years as holder of the Roosa chair, he has established research programs in the areas of design, manufacturing, mechatronics, and laser applications. He is the recipient of several academic and research grants totaling $7 million from foundations and industry.

Under Shetty’s leadership, the integrated engineering curriculum was developed at the University of Hartford with support from the National Science Foundation Curriculum Reform Program. It has been adopted by other engineering schools across the country. He also designed a partnership with Albert Einstein College in New York on the transfer of technology for ambulatory suspension systems.

Women in Engineering

Students Work to Improve Lives of Those with Cerebral Palsy

by Judie Jacobson

Several weeks before they flipped their tassels at graduation, four College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture seniors unveiled an innovative device they developed to improve the quality of life for many people with disabilities.

Presenting at the 2005 Undergraduate Research and Creativity Colloquium held at the magnet school on campus, the team of four students explained their senior-year project: a chin-support system for a young man with cerebral palsy who uses a head-powered wheelchair. The support is designed to prevent kyphosis in people with cerebral palsy who cannot hold their heads upright for extended periods of time. Kyphosis is an outward curvature of the spine that results in a rounded upper back. If not corrected, the condition can require surgery and a long recuperative period.

According to Elizabeth DiBona ’05, the team leader, the full-year project was an exceptional educational experience. “We were able to complete the design phase and the manufacturing phase and make all the phone calls ourselves,” she notes. “It was a good experience dealing with the companies and really doing the work.”

The students—who received their BSE degrees in Biomedical Engineering at the university’s mid-May Commencement—are DiBona, Meghan Hegarty, Lina Rincon, and Darrah Speiser. Working with the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and Hanger Orthopedics, the team met periodically with the 21-year-old man for whom the device was specifically designed. During the first semester, their research led to three designs—a neck brace, a chinstrap, and a chin table. With the help of Hanger Orthopedics, they fabricated the three designs in the second semester and presented them to the young man and his family. Of the three designs, the chinstrap turned out to be the most viable. With slight modification, the students say, their design can be adapted to suit the needs of the broader population of people with cerebral palsy.

Top photo: Meghan Hegarty explains the chin-support system during a presentation at the undergraduate colloquium.

Below: the team, (standing left to right), Lina Rincon, Darrah Speiser, Elizabeth DiBona, and Meghan Hegarty, with their advisor Professor Ron Adrezin (seated) and Sara Morgan and Jim Fezio of Hanger Orthopedics.
Each summer for the past 10 years, Joanna Borucinska has stood on a dock in Montauk Point, Long Island, or Martha’s Vineyard during shark fishing season, her eyes scanning the horizon for returning yachts. She and her students are waiting for the boats and their well-heeled owners to bring in their catches for the day. It’s not that she’s a fan of the sport. Far from it. It’s the prey that interests her.

There are now five or six shark fishing tournaments every summer in New England, some offering $50,000 or more in money and prizes. Borucinska, associate professor of biology in the College of Arts and Sciences, studies blue, mako, and thresher sharks—the most commonly caught fish in these tournaments. Her research includes testing recent claims that sharks are a source of cancer preventative.

Borucinska has developed a symbiotic relationship with the organizers of several of these contests that allows her to collect the discarded sharks after the prize money has been handed out. She admits to conflicted emotions about the arrangement.

“I have very mixed feelings. I am uncomfortable with the brutality of the event, but I am grateful that they allow us to take specimens for our research.” While some tournaments donate the shark flesh to soup kitchens, others throw the carcasses into dumpsters at the end of the day.

Borucinska joined Hartford’s Department of Biology in 1995. She teaches courses in anatomy and physiology to occupational and physical therapy majors in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions. Her office and labs are in the lower level of the newly opened Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology building.

A practicing veterinarian in her native Poland, Borucinska came to Connecticut in 1987. She began a doctoral program in veterinary pathobiology, working at the University of Connecticut’s Northeastern Research Center for Wildlife Diseases. While in graduate school, Borucinska began doing lab work for Janine Caira, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at UConn. Caira was studying tapeworms in blue sharks. Soon, Borucinska was also hooked on sharks.

“I feel I have a mission to collect data on sharks,” she says. “We are drastically changing the living environment of this planet and possibly shortening its life. As a scientist, I collect hard data through my research that I hope will convince people to make changes in the way they treat the environment.”

After many years of relative anonymity, sharks are suddenly the focus of scientific research bent on finding a cure for cancer.

Malignant tumors require new blood vessels to grow. Because shark skeletons are made of cartilage, which does not contain blood vessels, some investigators have suggested that sharks do not get cancer and that shark cartilage could be an effective cancer preventative. They reasoned that perhaps sharks have a natural defense mechanism against cancer that could be adapted for use in humans. Borucinska has received a Connecticut Sea Grant to look for tumor markers in sharks, which are proteins produced in response to cancer in the body. Sea Grant is a national program that partners universities and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Her findings so far disagree with the hypothesis that sharks are cancer free.

“It is not true that sharks do not get cancer. We have found four of the 40 cases of tumors reported in sharks. People are making
On the 30th anniversary of the release of *Jaws*, Joanna Borucinska, associate professor of biology, says the idea that a shark could carry a grudge is ridiculous. “Sharks’ brains are primarily concerned with sight and smell,” she says, adding with a laugh, “They don’t have very developed areas for things like emotions!”

Stars pills out of shark cartilage and selling them as a cancer preventative, which they are not. Now sharks are hunted for this market.”

Squalamine, however is another story. First found in the livers of dogsharks, it is a steroid attached to an amino acid that can halt the growth of blood vessels. Although shark liver oil, which contains squalamine, does appear to prevent some kinds of cancer, Borucinska has other concerns about its use—not just for sharks, but for humans, too.

“Oxygen causes DNA to change, and some of these changes result in cancer. Squalamine works like an antioxidant. This is the good news. However, the most dangerous pollutants in the ocean, such as PCBs, are lipid, or fat, soluble. Because sharks do not have fat in their bodies, all the oil is in their livers, which means that the contaminants are concentrated there, too.” In other words, they’re also in the shark liver oil.

Borucinska, who says she no longer eats fish, recommends the oleic acid found in organic, cold-pressed olive oil as an effective anti-cancer alternative. “After all,” she says with a smile, “we’re closer to sharks than we are to olive trees evolutionarily.” ■

Star Island Yacht Club at Montauk Point, Long Island, N.Y. A student bends over a shark carcass on the dock during last year’s shark fishing tournament. Borucinska and her students remove tissue and organs exhibiting abnormalities for further study.
In 1980 Kendra Schank Smith, currently associate professor and the new chair of the Department of Architecture in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, had just received her master’s degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. She was hired by the award-winning architectural firm of Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo and Associates in Hamden, Conn., where one of the first projects she worked on was the new construction and renovation of Central Park Zoo in New York City.

“Sometimes architects need to solve unusual problems,” says Smith. “For example, in the design of Central Park Zoo, the clients included the animals, so we needed to know such things as how far a polar bear can jump. It’s not good if they can jump into the crowds of zoo visitors!”

Four years later, Smith embarked on a new career as an architectural educator, beginning a nearly 20-year trek from Connecticut to Texas A & M University to the Georgia Institute of Technology (where she got her Ph.D. in Architecture in 1992) to SUNY-Buffalo and eventually to the University of Utah.

When Smith finally circled back to Connecticut to take up her duties at the University of Hartford on January 1, 2005, it was after teaching for eight years in Salt Lake City. Asked what drew her back to the East Coast, she was quick to answer.

“To have the opportunity to develop a new school, to help guide it through the accreditation process, that is very exciting. I think it’s time for me to give back, to make use of my knowledge, and take on a role that can really effect change.”

And it is a time of great change for the Department of Architecture. Prior to Smith’s arrival, the department moved into newly created offices and studios in the space previously occupied by the Museum of American Political Life in the Harry Jack Gray Center. This past fall, the first students were enrolled in the university’s new Master of Architecture (M. Arch.) program. While this year’s cohort of 10 came to Hartford from all over the country, as well as Thailand and India, Smith says most of the students accepted for next year will be graduates of our own undergraduate architectural engineering program, now the third most popular major.

The short-term enrollment goal for the two-year program is two classes of 24 students each; eventually the department would like to see that number grow. “But we want to keep the program a nurturing environment,” says Smith. “Students spend long hours working with our full-time faculty in the studio. It’s a very personal education, and we want to keep it that way.”

While there are a number of accredited architectural schools in New York, Hartford’s is one of only eight in New England and two in Connecticut—the other is at Yale University. The master’s program was given candidacy by the National Architecture Accrediting Board (NAAB) in January 2003. If all goes as expected, the M. Arch. program will receive full accreditation in 2007.

Smith describes the collaborative nature of the M. Arch program, which joins with other schools at the university to create a curriculum that reflects the multidisciplinary nature of architecture.

“We’re very interested in integrating a business understanding, engineering fundamentals, and artistic principles into our curriculum because we approach architecture from all three of these angles. We encourage our students to take their electives in the Barney School and the Hartford Art School.”

Smith also firmly believes in the importance of reaching out to the surrounding community. This spring, the master’s students spent the semester on a hypothetical urban design project that involved renovations and the construction of an addition to the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford. In reality, the Atheneum recently purchased the Hartford Times building on Prospect Street and reportedly will move some of its internal departments there and then concentrate on renovating the main building.

“The students displayed their designs in The Hartford Courant Room to Willard Holmes, director of the Wadsworth Atheneum,” says Smith. “They definitely gave him some new ideas about how to approach the expansion of the museum.”
On Sept. 29, 2005, the university’s Joseloff Gallery will open a major exhibition focusing on the work of architect and teacher Samuel Mockbee and the Rural Studio. Mockbee put into practice one of the nation’s boldest programs in contemporary architecture.

This inspired designer and charismatic teacher founded the renowned Rural Studio at Auburn University in Alabama, and was its director until his untimely death at the age of 57 in 2001. There, he and his students designed and built modest, innovative, “warm, dry, and noble” buildings, as he put it, for people who simply needed decent shelter.

The Joseloff Gallery installation will include two built structures—a “temple” constructed from carpet yarn and a pavilion assembled from hay bales. The current director of the Rural Studio, Andrew Freear, and approximately 12 graduate architecture students from Auburn University will build the structures on site, assisted by students from the Hartford Art School and the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture’s Department of Architecture. Viewers will be able to enter both of these structures and experience the materials that the Rural Studio pioneered for architectural application. The exhibition also includes 11 architectural models, a series of photographs, and a selection of Mockbee’s paintings.

Essentially, the Rural Studio represented a vision of architecture that embraced hands-on architectural education, social welfare, the use of unusual building materials, recycling, sustainability, and the aesthetics of place. Mockbee’s locale of choice was Hale County, one of Alabama’s—if not the country’s—poorest. He believed that architecture could play an important role in combating the brutalities of poverty and inspired students to create vanguard designs and utilize an array of innovative, cost-effective building materials to build homes, community centers and other essential structures. Everything—from hay bales, concrete rubble, colored bottles, cast-off automobile tires, and car windshields to outdated license plates and road signs—became the materials of necessity, if not choice.

Mockbee’s methods stressed cooperation and collaboration, with small teams of students addressing the task of architecture through dialogue and interaction with members of the community. What emerged were homes that brought a sense of dignity to their inhabitants—sophisticated designs that transformed ordinary materials into extraordinary building blocks, and structures that expanded the boundaries of art and architecture. For Mockbee, the initial influence for making architecture was “the emotion of art rather than a concept.”

Tours and lectures will continue throughout the month of October. The Joseloff Gallery is the sole Northeast venue for this extraordinary project that encompasses art and architecture, aesthetics and function, societal awareness, and community activism. The American Institute of Architects’ Connecticut chapter was instrumental in bringing the Rural Studio project to the University of Hartford and is actively involved in its planning and programs. This project is funded in part through the Kohn/Joseloff Foundation. For further information, call 860.768.4090.

Zina Davis is the director of the Joseloff Gallery at the University of Hartford.
VANITY NOT SO FAIR

by Barbara Steinberger

Our culture’s focus on physical appearance and the current plastic surgery craze may seem strictly the stuff of 21st-century reality TV shows. But even 200 years ago, people were undergoing painful, experimental, and seemingly gruesome procedures merely for the sake of aesthetics and social status, according to Mark Blackwell, associate professor of English and chair of the Department of English in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In late 18th-century England, says Blackwell, straight, white, teeth were a sign of beauty, affluence, and moral fortitude, perhaps because tooth loss was a common result of venereal disease and its treatment with mercury. Wealthy and fashionable citizens engaged in a fad known as live-tooth transplantation similar to the way today’s socialites and celebrities purchase foreign substances, like Botox injections and saline implants, to augment their bodies.

At a time when dentistry was still new, ladies and gentlemen had their damaged or rotten teeth pulled out and quickly replaced with teeth taken from the mouths of live donors—indigents who were forced to sell their teeth for cash. Fear of disease transmittal and criticism of the exploitive nature of the practice contributed to its disappearance at the turn of the 19th century.

But why would this bizarre and short-lived dental procedure attract the attention of a 21st-century English professor? Blackwell believes that live-tooth transplantation provides insights into many aspects of late 18th-century life, including divisions between the rich and poor, changing standards of beauty, and the rise of a consumer culture.

Live-tooth transplantation also marks the emergence of a culture in which people’s bodies play a key role in their personal and social identities, and where body parts are viewed as commodities that can be bought and sold. “Many contemporary trends, such as cosmetic surgery, tattooing, body piercing, and the sale of organs on the black market, can be traced to this strange and largely unknown fad,” Blackwell says.

Blackwell did extensive research on live-tooth transplantation and explored its significance in an article he wrote in 2004 for the journal Eighteenth-Century Life. The article, entitled “‘Extraneous Bodies: The Contagion of Live-Tooth Transplantation in Late-Eighteenth-Century England,” earned him the prestigious 2004-05 James L. Clifford Prize. The Clifford Prize, conferred by the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, honors an outstanding study of some aspect of 18th-century culture, regardless of the field of study.

Much of Blackwell’s award-winning research was supported by a Greenberg Junior Faculty Research Grant. These grants, made possible by a gift from former chairman of the board of regents Arnold (Hon. ’89) and Beverly Greenberg, promote high-quality research, scholarship, and artistic activity by faculty members just beginning their careers.

Blackwell’s grant helped him conduct research at the British Library and the British Museum in London. He also did extensive research at Yale University’s Lewis Walpole Library in Farmington, Conn. The Walpole Library has one of the world’s best collections of 18th-century prints—including a number of cartoon-like engravings depicting the primitive dental practices of that time.

One of Blackwell’s areas of expertise is the “it-narrative,” a sub-genre of 18th-century fiction in which a story is told by a nonhuman narrator—either an animal or an inanimate object such as a coin. The narrating object or animal recounts its adventures as it passes into the hands of different, unrelated characters. When he came upon an it-narrative in which a character complains that someone else has his teeth, Blackwell was intrigued. He decided to investigate, and that is how he discovered the late 18th-century vogue for live-tooth transplantation.

Although Blackwell’s interest in this procedure may seem unusual, it is a logical extension of his fascination with the it-narrative. Both shed light on a growing consumer culture where people were becoming increasingly focused on objects and their circulation on the open market, he says.

As he continued his research, Blackwell was struck by differences in how objects are defined in the it-narrative (where things can speak) and in descriptions of live-tooth transplantation (in which human parts are sold). “These texts explore the fluid relationship between people and their things, with the sale of teeth serving as an example of people being commodified,” Blackwell says.

In the case of live-tooth transplantation, that increasingly blurry line between people and objects was driven by fashion, consumerism, and the desire to look a certain way, Blackwell says—forces that continue to play a powerful role in today’s society.

“Many contemporary trends and problems have their beginnings in the 18th century,” Blackwell says. “We live in a culture very different from [that of the 18th century], yet there are remarkable echoes and parallels because we have inherited a world they helped create.”

The Observer would like to thank Susan Walker and the staff of the Lewis Walpole Library for their cooperation in preparing this article. The library, bequeathed to Yale University by Wilmarth Sheldon Lewis, contains a collection of the letters and works of Horace Walpole (1717-97), a British writer, collector, and owner of a printing press. Half of Walpole’s personal library, as well as the largest collection of 18th-century British graphic art outside the British Museum, are also housed there. Find out more about the library at www.library.yale.edu/walpole or by calling 860.677.6369.
Associate Professor Mark Blackwell did much of his research on 18th-century live-tooth transplantation at the Lewis Walpole Library in Farmington, Conn.
New Barney Dean Turns Management Theory into Practice

James W. Fairfield-Sonn, interim dean of the Barney School of Business for the past year, and a Barney faculty member since 1982, has been named permanent dean by President Walter Harrison and Provost Donna Randall.

In announcing the appointment, Harrison said, “Jim Fairfield-Sonn has had a terrific year as interim dean, and I look forward to working with him. Jim is a noted scholar of management. It will be fun to watch him turn theory into practice.”

Randall emphasized Fairfield-Sonn’s accomplishments in student recruitment, ongoing preparation for the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International reaccreditation, and fundraising. One highlight of his fundraising efforts was a gift of $200,000 from the Starr Foundation for scholarships to help recruit and retain students interested in pursuing careers in insurance or finance.

During Fairfield-Sonn’s term as interim dean, the Barney School launched a new Institute for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development. Barney also received regional and national recognition for its Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team, which provides support for Connecticut community-based businesses, and was named an Exemplary Chapter by Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honorary society.

Fairfield-Sonn earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Massachusetts, his master’s degree from Cornell University’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations, and his doctorate from Yale University.

He was chair of the Barney School Management Department from 1987 to 1990, director of the Executive MBA program from 1993 to 1995, and chair of Barney’s promotion and tenure committee from 2002 to 2004. In 1999 Fairfield-Sonn won the school’s first Outstanding Teacher of the Year award. He is listed in Who’s Who in American Education and Who’s Who in America.

Community Day Brings 1,800 to Campus

The university’s third annual Community Day on April 16 drew an estimated 1,800 visitors to campus from as far away as Stamford, Conn., and Florence, Mass.

The spectacular spring weather was a perfect backdrop for the dozens of activities that took place all over campus, including games and rides for children, music, dance, story hours, TV studio tours, and the second annual rubber duck race down the Hog River.

“It was wonderful to see so many people here on campus, enjoying the beautiful spring weather, interacting with students, and learning about the university,” said President Walter Harrison. “We are a private university with a public purpose. This is a terrific way for our neighbors to get to know us, and for the university to showcase some of the resources that we offer Greater Hartford.”

The Gengras patio was a popular spot at Community Day, with face-painting, carnival games, cotton candy, and other kid-friendly attractions.
Life of the Mind Displayed

Standing before graduate students and guests gathered in The 1877 Club one evening in May, University of Hartford President Walter Harrison seemed almost wistful.

“I am irrationally in love with the thought of what it was to be a grad student,” he remarked with a laugh. “My life was organized around the life of the mind, and I miss that.”

Even those who don’t remember graduate school with equal affection would have been awed at the range of intellectual interests on display that evening as part of the university’s first Graduate Research/Creativity Symposium.

Nearly 50 students presented 26 research projects, representing every college on campus that has a graduate program. These students are “emerging experts in all fields,” notes Katherine Black, assistant professor of psychology, who spearheaded the symposium. Among the projects were:

- A study of risky behavior in adolescent employees, by a graduate of the Barney School of Business MSOB program;
- A photographic examination of class and social structures, by a Burmese student in the Hartford Art School;
- A study of asymmetric rollers’ dynamic effect with vibration, by a mechanical engineering student in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture;
- An in-depth look at how mental illness is portrayed in children’s television programs, by a team of clinical psychology doctoral students from the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions;
- And a photographic self-portrait by a Hartford Art School student with multiple sclerosis.

“In 1957, the University of Hartford had four graduate programs,” Black told those assembled. “Today we have close to 40, and four—soon to be five—doctoral programs, with more than 1,600 students enrolled in them. We’ve invested in [graduate programs] from the beginning…and we’ve continued to build on that investment.”

Provost Donna Randall hinted at future growth. “We’re taking steps to put grad programs at even higher levels of learning,” said Randall, who smiled slyly as she offered the crowd a teaser. “Stay tuned—you will be very pleased.”

“These are all manifestations of a lot of thinking,” said President Harrison, referring to the work displayed, “and that is what makes a university a center of learning. I’m incredibly impressed.”

Record Proceeds from Hartt Celebrates 2005

More than 130 guests attended Hartt Celebrates 2005 at The Bushnell in Hartford this past April. The annual event, which recognizes the accomplishments of Hartt students and faculty, this year raised more than $33,000, a record thus far. Proceeds will go towards funding the educational programs of The Hartt School.

“This year we have much to celebrate,” said Dean Malcolm Morrison. “From sold-out performances of the musicals Hair and Pirates of Penzance, to the Community Division fundraiser featuring young violin prodigy Sirena Huang at The Bushnell’s Belding Theater, Hartt student performances continue to prove why the performing arts and arts education are so very important.”

Guests bid on silent auction packages, and then moved into the Autorino Great Hall for dinner and performances by Hartt faculty and students. Highlights of the evening included performances by the Hartt Choir and Children’s Chorus; Community Division and college student violinists; Hartt piano faculty member Margreet Francis and her student, Heather Bissell; a performance of the short play Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread by David Ives; Hartt faculty member and soprano Cherie Caluda and her student, Amanda Kohl; and performances by Hartt music theatre students and the Community Division’s “Company,” the music and theatre program for school-aged children.

Sponsors for the event were People’s Bank, Wolf ColorPrint, Shipman & Goodwin, Eastern Rehabilitation Network, Thomas Cadillac Jaguar, Smith Edwards Architects, Downes Construction Company, Tyler Cooper & Alcorn, Alta Environmental Corporation, and Becker’s Diamonds and Fine Jewelry.

Sukman Foyer Unveiled

Nearly 500 people celebrated the dedication of the Harry Sukman Foyer on Sunday, April 17, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and concert honoring the Oscar-winning composer, conductor, and pianist.

The foyer, located outside The Hartt School’s Millard Auditorium, was made possible by a generous gift from Sukman’s daughter, Susan Sukman McCray, who also donated a collection of memorabilia from her late father’s career, including his beloved ebony Steinway grand piano. The collection will be on permanent display in the new foyer.
Readying Entrepreneurs for Opportunity’s Knock

When it comes to learning how to start a business, reading case studies can take you only so far.

That’s why Associate Professor Susan Coleman of the Barney School of Business brings successful business people into her Entrepreneurial Finance course to tell their stories. This spring, students heard from Gualberto Ruaño, a physician and geneticist who has started two successful businesses and is working on a third.

“Real-life entrepreneurs provide a perspective that doesn’t show up in written case studies,” Coleman says. “They can talk about the stress and frustration as well as the excitement and vitality of the entrepreneurial process. Dr. Ruaño showed the class the kind of commitment and vision that are necessary to become a successful entrepreneur.”

Ruaño told the students about the industry he is building in partnership with Hartford Hospital. Ruaño envisions his company, Genomas, as the leader in the new field of personalized health care, through which physicians will deliver customized treatment based on a patient’s genetic makeup.

Ruaño earned M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale and started two successful businesses in New Haven before launching Genomas. In Coleman’s class, Ruaño discussed the importance of identifying a market, finding partners, and getting financial backing. He emphasized the need to help shape public policy, and to encourage the state to be more supportive of entrepreneurs by providing seed money for new ventures.

The presentation hit close to home for Scott Sanicki, an MBA student who is launching an Internet retail business while holding down a full-time job as an acoustical engineer at Pratt & Whitney. Sanicki says, “If I had taken the class first, I would have known more about the process (of starting a business) and avoided some problems.” Of Ruaño, Sanicki says, “He knows what needs to be done in starting a business and he provided a lot of useful information.”

Coleman, the Ansley Chair of Finance, has taught the class for 15 years. Previously, she was an investment banker and venture capitalist in New York, making decisions on investments in entrepreneurial firms. “There are few courses in entrepreneurial finance taught by full-time faculty at American universities,” she says. “This course attests to the university’s commitment to entrepreneurship and to the creation and development of small businesses.”

As Coleman tells her students, “When you start your career, you may think you're going to work for United Technologies for the rest of your life. But you never know when an entrepreneurial opportunity may come along.”

Coleman’s students now know what it takes to become an entrepreneur and are prepared to make the transition if and when opportunity knocks.

University Helps Host Special Olympics Connecticut

About 1,200 Special Olympics athletes enjoyed a terrific day at the University of Hartford, Weaver High School, and the Watkinson School on Saturday, May 21, competing in aquatics, soccer, track and field, tennis, wheelchair, and adaptive sports, as part of the Special Olympics Connecticut 2005 Eastern Regional games. Also taking in the games were approximately 400 volunteers and hundreds of the athletes’ family members, friends, and coaches.

The games are the largest of the Special Olympics regional competitions held across Connecticut, as evidenced by the parade of athletes through the Sports Center for the opening ceremonies. Teams from Hartford, Tolland, Windham, Middlesex, and New London counties were accompanied in the procession by a Hartford Police Honor Guard. East Hartford Mayor Tim Larson accompanied his town’s team.

The Bloomfield High School Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Bloomfield Brass performed at the ceremonies under the direction of university alumnus Joseph Olzacki ’90, ’94, ’01.

John Lobon, Special Olympics board member, thanked President Walter Harrison and the University of Hartford for opening its doors to the Special Olympics athletes.

Harrison thanked volunteers from all the institutions for their efforts. “I would like to thank the volunteers throughout the community who worked so hard to make the Games successful,” he said. “And special thanks to Fred Jenoure [university ombudsman and special assistant to the president] who headed up these efforts.”
When the lights came up after a showing of the thought-provoking short music video Eclipse by Dan Dabek ‘07, there was a moment of silence. Then the comments and queries started flying.

“You let us see something we see all the time in a different way,” one audience member told Dabek. “It’s great, but it’s opinionated,” said another. Through it all, the Hartt sophomore held his own. “If it came across as dark, I’m glad it did,” Dabek said of Eclipse, in which he drew an uneasy parallel between wars past and present.

 Granted, not all of the 26 projects presented as part of the University of Hartford 2005 Undergraduate Research and Creativity Colloquium this April were as provocative as Eclipse. But all of the projects—created by 65 students representing the gamut of the university’s schools and colleges—served to stimulate thinking and tempt the imagination.

Here are a few samples of the entries: a documentary film chronicling the congressional campaign of John Halstead, a candidate for Connecticut’s first congressional district, who proposed building a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border; an automated Frisbee-throwing machine; an exploration of the behavior of machines toward humans, also known as machine ethics; an examination of the link between birth order and academic achievement.

The annual spring colloquium is presented at the University of Hartford Magnet School, and is sponsored by the university’s Honors program in collaboration with the campus chapters of Alpha Chi and Alpha Lambda Delta national honor societies, and with the continued support of university President Walter Harrison and his wife, Dianne. It is intended as a forum for students to present outstanding scholarly and creative work to their peers, faculty, administrators, and guests.

Faculty sponsor Assistant Professor of Rhetoric, Language, and Culture Charlsye Smith Diaz summed up the passionate discussion that followed the presentation of Eclipse, saying, “This colloquium is creating what academics love—a space to have academic debate.”

All of the projects served to stimulate thinking and tempt the imagination.

Ten-year-old Violinist Raises $12,500 for Scholarship Program

On March 12 in The Bushnell’s Belding Theater, a diminutive, 10-year-old violinist stepped onto the stage to perform a concert to a full house. Sirena Huang’s performance helped raise $12,500 for the Hartt Community Division’s Fund for Access, a program that provides scholarships to students who demonstrate financial need. The Fund for Access enables 75 students from 20 different towns to study in the Hartt Community Division. Nearly half of the recipients are from Hartford. The fund allows the Community Division to award $40,000 in financial aid annually. Huang is a former student of the Hartt Community Division and currently studies in Juilliard’s Pre-College Division.

Huang started her violin lessons at Hartt at the age of four with Linda Fiore, a registered teacher-trainer in the Suzuki method. Stephen Clapp, dean of The Juilliard School and a violin professor, states, “As a player, she is perhaps more advanced than some of my college students…[H]aving talent at such a young age is not an oddity…but she possesses a gift that I don’t see in every student.”

Huang has competed successfully in international competitions for young violinists in Germany and Romania and was also selected as one of 10 “Exceptional Young Artists” worldwide at a Juilliard symposium in June 2003. She was the youngest musician ever to participate in this event.

In October 2004 Huang made her professional orchestra solo debut with the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra. Three weeks later, she played with the internationally renowned Staatskapelle Weimar in Germany. Huang also frequently appears in the “Great Music for a Great City” series in New York City.
For Tony Melo, the road to a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering has been long and circuitous.

Eleven years ago, when he was 18, Melo could not afford to go to school full time, so he got a job and started taking classes at Central Connecticut State University. Over the years, he moved forward in his career as a structural designer, got married, and became a father, all the while continuing to work toward his bachelor’s degree. With each new job and each relocation, he transferred to a different institution, often losing credits in the process.

Melo has been a part-time student at the University of Hartford for the past three and a half years—and now, at the age of 29, his goal is within reach. He expects to graduate in December 2005 or May 2006.

“There have been times I wanted to quit, and something inside me just keeps on pushing. It’s just a drive that you have,” Melo said. “This is something that no one can ever take away from you.”

Melo’s story is typical of many adult part-time students, who account for a growing segment of the student population at the University of Hartford and at colleges and universities around the country.

This past spring, the university recognized its most outstanding adult students with induction into Alpha Sigma Lambda, a national honor society that recognizes the achievements of nontraditional students who excel academically while managing competing family, work, and community responsibilities.

The University of Hartford formed a chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda last year in recognition of its growing focus on adult part-time students. Twenty-seven students, including Melo, became members at the second annual induction ceremony in April.

“You’ve done it the hard way, year after year, semester after semester,” Guy C. Colarulli, associate provost and dean of undergraduate studies, told the newly inducted students.

The campus chapter of the honor society is open to adult part-time students with grade point averages of 3.5 or higher, who have earned a minimum of 100 credits toward their bachelor’s degrees.

Vivienne Friday, who also was inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda, earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing in May. She is married with three children, ages 15 to 20, and she works full time as a registered nurse.

“It’s been grueling,” she said of her efforts to juggle school, work, and family. “I have had nights when I just didn’t sleep.” Despite her rigorous schedule, Friday is not content to stop with a bachelor’s degree—she has already started working toward her master’s.

Dennis O’Connor, another newly inducted member of Alpha Sigma Lambda, began pursuing a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering 10 years ago, at the age of 36. He expects to graduate in May 2006.

O’Connor, who likens his quest for a bachelor’s degree to “the pursuit of the holy grail,” has a definite sense of humor when discussing the long and challenging journey of the adult part-time student. “I always say that my degree is going to make a nice lining for my coffin by the time I get it.”

But O’Connor, an HVAC field controls manager for Carrier Corp., is quick to add that the struggle has been well worth it. “It’s a humbling experience,” he said. “The sense of accomplishment is really overwhelming.”

Alpha Sigma Lambda inductee George Loyola Jr. is part of the first generation in his family to go to college. His parents emigrated from Puerto Rico to Hartford with elementary school educations. Now, Loyola’s one-year-old son keeps him motivated to continue his education. “I’m saving all my grades, so I can show him that anything is possible if you work hard.”

Loyola, a client services representative for Bank of America, began working toward his degree in 1996 at Manchester Community College. He has been taking classes at the University of Hartford since 2001, and he expects to earn a bachelor of science in business administration next May.

“I want to get an education because I want to make a difference—to my community, my colleagues, my race. I want to make a difference wherever I can,” Loyola said. “If I had a message to give, it would be ‘never give up, strive to achieve, and believe me, you will succeed.’”
On a day filled with smiles, balloons, music, tossed caps, and ceremony, some 1,300 Hartford students become alumni.
Honorary Degrees

Only the forecast refused to reflect the celebratory mood on campus for the university’s 48th annual Commencement ceremony on May 15. Dark clouds threatened a downpour but failed to deliver as approximately 1,300 members of the Class of 2005 gathered on campus to receive their degrees. Parking spaces were at a premium with a record number of friends and family on campus for the event.

University President Walter Harrison noted that the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, occurred just a few weeks after this graduating class arrived on campus as freshmen. “I hope all of your experiences here have helped you find friends, learn more about yourselves, and gain knowledge and wisdom that will lead to professional and personal success later in life,” he said in addressing the graduates. “But I hope that you have learned something else, too. That by coming together as a community of people who care about each other, we can overcome obstacles and fears.”

Four leaders in business, the arts, and human services joined the select circle of individuals who have received honorary degrees from the University of Hartford: Willie Anthony Waters, the charismatic leader of Connecticut Opera; Michael Bangser, who has led the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving for the past 15 years; Richard Booth, CEO of Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance Co. and chairman of the MetroHartford Alliance; and award-winning translator and author Gregory Rabassa, who is currently Distinguished Professor of Hispanic Languages and Literature at Queens College in New York.

The students also heard from one of their own, undergraduate communication major Natifia Gaines ’05. “We have a foundation that will enable us to do whatever we choose, to continue schooling or to start a career. No matter what choices we make, we need to keep in mind that there are more challenges to come as we embark on new life experiences. Reflect on what you’ve learned at Hartford and the experiences you’ve had, to give you the inspiration you need to surmount them.”

Waters, who has been general and artistic director of Connecticut Opera since 1999, told the university’s Class of 2005, “As you begin your work, let your soul guide you, let your spirit enrich and inform you as much as any amount of knowledge you will obtain. For it is the soul that fulfills us, and it is the spirit that helps us on our way.”

Rabassa, who has translated some 40 books from Spanish and Portuguese and has received numerous awards for his work, offered the graduates a lighthearted take on making the transition to the next phases of their lives. “What is happening to you today is that you are all being translated. You are students being translated into graduates. If you look at it closely, you will see that every day you awaken, you must translate yourself into that day.

“So I’d like to give you this little advice. Carpe Diem! You have probably seen that lots of times, and you’ve seen it translated a bit too literally. My translation of Carpe Diem is ‘Live it up!’”

Booth, who earned both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in accounting and finance from the University of Hartford, told the
Class of 2005, “You are entering a world of exciting potential and incredible personal challenges. Often I hear that your generation will not have the same opportunities that mine enjoyed. I really don’t agree with that, and, in fact, I think your opportunities will be far broader and more significant.”

Bangser, who is stepping down after more than 15 years as president of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, complimented the university for its role in the community. “What really makes the difference is adding the human touch to community relationships. The university has exemplified [this] and other attributes of a good community partner, often without a lot of recognition and credit.” he said.

The university’s main Commencement ceremony also featured the presentation of faculty awards to Robert Carl, professor of composition and music theory at The Hartt School; Harald Sandström, associate professor of politics and government in the College of Arts and Sciences; Raymond McGivney, professor of mathematics in the College of Arts and Sciences; and the late Peter Harvey, adjunct faculty member in the All-University Curriculum. Student achievement awards were presented to graduating seniors Meghan Hegarty and Ramiz Khoda of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, and Julia Case of the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions.

Go to www.hartford.edu/observer for more photos.
There’s No Place Like Home

The construction phase of the university’s $10 million Home Field Advantage (HFA) project got off to a festive start on April 20, with a celebratory groundbreaking behind the Sports Center.

Regents, donors, and many current and former student-athletes joined with civic leaders, friends, and staff of the Department of Athletics to launch the long-awaited construction of new outdoor sports facilities at the university.

“I know how special having a home field is,” said Katie Gardiner ’05, who spoke at the groundbreaking. Gardiner played on the women’s soccer team for four years at Al-Marzook Field, which is badly in need of repairs. “The memories that will always stay with me have to do with the field itself—the ambience of a Friday night game under the lights…the smell of the grass and hot dogs, hearing all of our fellow athletes cheering and cheering for us.”

Phase I of the construction will include renovation of the existing Al-Marzook Field for soccer and lacrosse, relocation and construction of the softball field, and construction of a baseball field. The renovation of Al-Marzook Field is scheduled for completion in early August, in time for fall 2005 competition. Construction of the baseball and softball fields will be completed in November 2005 for spring 2006 competition.

Phase II of the HFA project will consist of the construction of a running track surrounding an all-purpose playing field.

One of the most significant aspects of the project will be the baseball field construction. The university’s baseball team has been playing without a home field since 1985. So-called home games are played primarily at Memorial Field in Simsbury and Muzzy Field in Bristol; practices take place at St. Thomas Seminary, just north of the main campus on Bloomfield Avenue.

“Our home field embodies the passion, pride, and overwhelming sense of community at this school. Every Division One athlete has a right to be in love with their home field,” Gardiner said. “Now every team at Hartford will be provided with this opportunity because of all of you.”

Guests at the groundbreaking ceremony included West Hartford Mayor Scott Slifka; Home Field Advantage Campaign Co-Chairs Robert Forrester ’66 and Gary LaRocque ’75; and Tom Reich, who, together with his wife Suzy Reich, are the lead donors to the campaign. Besides Forrester and LaRocque, another former student-athlete in attendance was Ed Gombieski ’56, a former Hawks basketball player who traveled from Dallas to be at the groundbreaking ceremony.

No one has been waiting longer for the new fields than A. Peter LoMaglio, athletics director at Hartford from 1949 to 1970, who told the crowd he struggled for years with inadequate athletics fields. LoMaglio said he is thrilled that student-athletes will now have the facilities they deserve.
The university has been selected to receive a highly competitive $700,000 challenge grant from The Kresge Foundation for the Home Field Advantage athletics fields project.

Ground was broken this spring for Phase I of the project (see page 21), which involves the renovation and relocation of the university’s existing athletics fields and construction of a new baseball field.

“The Kresge Foundation award is a validation of our recent successes and our vision for the future of this institution,” said university President Walter Harrison. “It is gratifying to know we prevailed through such a rigorous and selective process. I am confident that our alumni and others will respond to the challenge.”

Because it is a challenge grant, the university will need to raise more than $2.7 million within the next 15 months in order to receive the $700,000 grant commitment. With The Kresge Foundation award, the university will have raised 60 percent of its $6.68 million goal for the Home Field Advantage campaign.

In 2004, The Kresge Foundation made awards to only 28 percent of applicants (175 of 636). The awards were given to charitable organizations in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and France. Grants are made to institutions in higher education, health and long-term care, arts and humanities, human services, science and the environment, and public affairs.

Students presenting the “Channel 2 News” broadcast in the university’s television studio.

Hollywood producer Kent McCray ’51—who teamed up with the late Michael Landon to produce the popular TV series Bonanza, Little House on the Prairie, and Highway to Heaven—has donated and pledged a total of $100,000 to the University of Hartford television studio.

“Our students will leave here better equipped to begin careers in television because of Kent McCray,” said Television Studio Manager Dan McNamara. “It is especially meaningful to be receiving this support from someone with such impressive television credentials. He is, in many ways, a pioneer in the television industry, and someone who understands the importance of keeping up with the latest advances in technology.”

The $25,000 that McCray has already donated will be used to upgrade the studio’s field equipment, such as cameras and tripods, McNamara says. Much of the remaining $75,000 that McCray has pledged, he says, will be used to begin converting the TV studio to high-definition standards.

In the fall, the facility will be officially renamed the Kent McCray Television Studio.

McCray was born in Hartford, where his father was a member of the management team at WTIC radio for many years. A graduate of The Hartt School, McCray was an alumni regent of the university for 10 years and is now an honorary regent.

Soon after leaving Hartt in 1951, he joined NBC, working on such legendary programs as the Colgate Comedy Hour, The Red Skelton Show, The Ralph Edwards Show, and This Is Your Life. In the later 1950s, he was an associate producer with Bob Hope, accompanying the comedian on many of his overseas USO trips.

McCray’s wife and partner, Susan, a noted casting director, recently was named a university regent. The McCrays have been generous and enthusiastic supporters of the University of Hartford Magnet School (Susan), and the University of Hartford Performing Arts Center. In addition, Kent McCray recently established three endowed scholarships at The Hartt School to support students studying opera, theatre, and musical theatre.
First Ramsey Awards Put Adjunct Faculty in the Spotlight

More than $14,800 in gifts and pledges has been raised to fund the new Gordon Clark Ramsey Awards for Creative Excellence for adjunct and part-time faculty of the university. The awards were created when Ramsey retired last fall, following his 18 years of service as secretary to the Faculty Senate. The Ramsey Award committee is seeking additional donations to reach a goal of $20,000 so that the two annual awards will be self-sustaining.

Ramsey, an adjunct faculty member himself, also continues to serve the university part-time as executive secretary of the Emeriti Association. He has always been a strong advocate of efforts to enhance the status of, and provide opportunities for, adjunct faculty.

“Gordon Ramsey has set a superb example in establishing this award to benefit adjunct and part-time faculty at the university,” said President Walter Harrison. “These faculty members contribute mightily to the lives and education of our students, and Gordon’s award recognizes that contribution in a tangible and important way. We’re all grateful to Gordon, and to the donors to the fund that supports the award, for sharing Gordon’s vision and support of this important segment of our faculty.”

The first two recipients of the new awards are Janell Carroll of the Department of Psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences and Richard Kolk of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA).


Kolk, a senior staff engineer in controls and simulation at United Technologies’ Carrier Corporation, has taught at the university for 21 years. His courses are in the areas of control systems and electrical engineering circuits. He is co-author of the textbook, *Mechatronics System Design*, with Devdas Shetty, CETA’s dean of research, professor of mechanical engineering, and the Vernon D. Roosa Professor in Manufacturing Engineering.

Alumni and others wishing to contribute to the Ramsey Award fund should contact Linda Stathers in the Office of Development, 860.768.5112.
As a teenager growing up in New Haven, Conn., Wayne Escoffery '97 spent hours studying the music of jazz greats Thelonius Monk, Dexter Gordon, and John Coltrane.

This year, Escoffery, one of the jazz world's hottest young tenor saxophonists, is touring the United States and Europe with Monk's drummer, Ben Riley, in a group that plays Monk's quirky compositions.

“It's like a dream,” Escoffery says about playing with Riley, chatting between sets at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola in Manhattan. “I can still remember the first Monk album I owned. I listened to it over and over.”

Like many up-and-coming jazz musicians, Escoffery can't yet rely solely on his own band. On weeknights this past winter, he played with the Mingus Big Band or the Mingus Orchestra at clubs in Greenwich Village and midtown Manhattan, interpreting the music of composer Charles Mingus. He also appeared at an intimate Upper West Side club, leading his own quartet featuring his wife, jazz singer Carolyn Leonhart. Escoffery also hit the road with bands put together by Jazz at Lincoln Center (JALC) to play the music of jazz giants Dexter Gordon and Miles Davis.

In March the JALC sextet played a concert at Fairfield University in Connecticut. On stage that night, the six-foot-four-inch Escoffery was an imposing figure in a finely tailored suit, shaved head, and silver earrings. Among the band members was bassist Rufus Reid, who played on many of those Dexter Gordon albums Escoffery studied in high school.

“Wayne has a good toehold on the lineage, and he has a real passion for the music,” says Reid. “The music is in good hands with him, for sure.”

Also on stage that night was tenor sax player Jimmy Greene '97, a member of the Hartt School's board of trustees and Escoffery's college roommate. The performance harkened back to their college days, when Escoffery played with the similarly physically imposing Greene in a Hartt School ensemble called The Twin Towers, a nickname they were given at Hartt due to their size.

“That group was a baptism of fire for me,” says Escoffery. “I hadn't played that much jazz, but it gave me the chance to struggle, and learn.”

Escoffery picked up the saxophone in high school, and by his senior year was playing in local clubs. While attending a workshop at the Artists Collective, Inc., in Hartford, he met Jackie McLean,
founder of both the Artists Collective (with his wife, Dolly) and the Hartt School’s Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz. McLean, a renowned alto sax player, saw promise in the lanky tenor player.

“Jackie gave me a path to follow, providing me with a real understanding of the history of the music and a way to find my own sound,” says Escoffery.

As Escoffery neared graduation, McLean encouraged him to audition for the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Performance at New England Conservatory in Boston. A prestigious two-year program, it takes a handful of the nation’s top young players on a world tour accompanied by top jazz artists as advisors. Musicians can also earn a master’s degree along the way.

Escoffery, who graduated summa cum laude from the university, was selected. Two years later, he hit the New York scene with an advanced degree and connections to all the musicians he’d met at the Monk Institute. One gig led to another, and, before long, he was playing with pianist Eric Reed at Jazz at Lincoln Center. There, he met JALC artistic director Wynton Marsalis (Hon. ’03), who hired Escoffery to work with the Lincoln Center bands.

Escoffery’s Lincoln Center work has given him the opportunity to perform regularly and develop his sound, which is deeply connected to the roots of jazz. But he’s also chafing to break out on his own and play his own compositions.

“If you want the music to grow, at some point you need to give way to younger artists,” he says. “Until people take risks and trust their ears, the music is going to dwindle away.”

Escoffery has appeared as a sideman on recordings with David Gibson, the Mingus Big Band, and other artists. He has also recorded two CDs with his own group—Times Change (2001) and Intuition (2004). To find out where he will be appearing next, check out his itinerary at www.escofferymusic.com.

*“Round Midnight” is the title of a Thelonious Monk song that quickly became a jazz standard after its release in 1968. It has been recorded by Miles Davis, Ella Fitzgerald, and many other artists.
1950
ALFRED HOOSE (HARTT) of Waltham, Mass., performed a program of organ music that was broadcast on radio station WCRB, Boston, as part of the American Guild of Organists series of recordings. Heinrich Christensen was the recording artist at Boston's Mission Church.

1953
RANDOLPH N. CHRISTENSEN (ENHP) of West Simsbury, Conn., was the subject of a "Simsbury Life" article titled "Keeping in Touch with Fellow Soldiers." Christensen, like many other World War II veterans, is still active with his peers.

1959
ESTELLE LASCHEVER (ENHP, '78 HAS) of West Hartford, Conn., exhibited her oil paintings and monotypes in a show titled "Improvisations: Recent Work by Estelle Laschever" at Artworks Gallery in Hartford, Conn. She also held her 19th one-person show, "Encore," at the Stevens Gallery, Homer Babbidge Library, University of Connecticut, featuring her latest paintings as well as earlier works in a "best of" exhibition.

1961
BARBARA A. KOLB (HARTT) of North Providence, R.I., a classical composer, has been named a MacColl Johnson Fellow in a program administered by the Rhode Island Foundation. The three-year fellowship grant has enabled her to compose works for the Rhode Island Philharmonic, Festival Ballet, Music School, and WaterFire. She teaches at Nathan Bishop Middle School in Providence and at the Pawtucket Housing Authority. Kolb is also artistic director of the Vibe of the Venue contemporary music series.

1962
ESIA B. FRIEDMAN ('54 A&S; '66, '72 ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., retired from the Meriden, Conn., school district in 1992, then served for a year as commander of the New Britain power squadron with the grade of advanced pilot. Currently she is co-president of Agudas Achim Synagogue in West Hartford and chairman of the Holocaust Commemoration Committee of Greater Hartford. Friedman survived the Holocaust in Poland as a "hidden child." She is married to Professor Emeritus Edward L. Friedman and has two sons, both University of Hartford alumni, and six grandchildren.

1963
DIONNE WARWICK (HARTT) of Beverly Hills, Calif., was guest artist for the New Haven Symphony Orchestra's Martin Luther King concert, held at Woolsey Hall.

1964
LEONARD S. GROSSMAN (ENHP) of Vernon, Conn., has completed his third book, Nothing in Return, a fictional story of a Wisconsin woman's life with an unfaithful husband who was esteemed by others as a pillar of the community. Grossman has also written The Reunion, the story of a Hartford man who reunites with his first love at a high school reunion. In the Name of Greed, based on a real case in Connecticut, chronicles the devious ways in which a woman and her younger husband bilk others out of their life savings.

1966
MARY E. BEAGLE (HAS) of Coventry, Conn., paints in oil on canvas, often representing themes from Native American life and wildlife. She demonstrated her creative process at the Artists Open Studios of Northeast Connecticut.

1966
MARTIN (BARNEY, '83 BARNEY) of Swanzey, N.H., has accepted a faculty position in accounting at the Keene campus of New Hampshire Community Technical College.

1967
ROBERT A. GOODWIN (A&S) of West Hartford, Conn., has joined ESPN as project manager, voice systems operations. He is responsible for administrative systems management and the day-to-day workflow operation of the voice group.

1969
PETER F. HUNTER (A&S) of Windsor, Calif., is fund development officer for the Sonoma County Library. Hunter is developing a $60 million capital campaign to replace seven libraries.

1972
GLORIA V. CAPONE (HARTT) of New Fairfield, Conn., sang in two benefit concerts at the Boyajian Sculpture Barn in New Fairfield. Capone named as beneficiary the Friends of Ball Pond, whose purpose is preserving the integrity of the pond.

1973
BRIAN S. CATELL (HARTT) of Bangor, Maine, was a featured performer at the Camden Hills regional high school music department's annual jazz spaghetti dinner. He was pianist in a jazz quintet led by his father, Stan Catell.

1974
EDWARD D. DAHL (A&S) of Peterborough, N.H., was honored by the Union Congregational Church of Peterborough. Dahl retired as senior choir and handbell director after nearly 30 years of service to the church.

JEFFREY E. LADD (HARTT) of Newington, Conn., has been a member of the band Tirebiter for 30 years. In recent years, Tirebiter has taken its musical mastery to schools across the state in an educational presentation called "The Electric, Eclectic, and Opinionated Pop 101." Regarded as one of Connecticut's best cover bands, Tirebiter was formed in 1973 and has transcended many years of musical formats and styles.

1974
DONALD W. MACLEAN (BARNEY) of Middlebury, Conn., who is employed by New England Financial in Norwalk, completed a comprehensive course on priority senior issues and passed a required examination to earn the certified senior advisor (CSA) designation.

BARBARA A. KOLB
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1975
JAMES R. METZLER

CHERYL R. WIENER
(HART) of Middletown, Conn., has been listed in Marquis’s 2004–05 Who’s Who of American Women. From 1979 to 1981, she was a percussionist/tympanist with the Jerusalem Symphony and performed with the Israel Philharmonic. During these years she worked with Leonard Bernstein and Zubin Mehta, and some of her performances with the Israel Philharmonic have been recorded on the Deutsche Grammaphon and Decca labels. She currently teaches instrumental music to elementary-school children in Regional District 13 in Durham and Middletown, Conn. She also freelances as a percussionist and tympanist and has a percussion studio in Middletown.

1976
BARBARA C. FLEETING
(A&S, ’77 ENHP) of Hartford, Conn., has been a foster parent for the Department of Children and Family Services for more than 30 years. She was honored with a hero star pin for her years of service parenting more than 200 foster children. The Greater Hartford Progressive Democratic Women’s Club has also honored Fleeting in recognition of her dedication to, and services for, children.

DAVID H. GOLDENBERG
(’73 HILLYER; BARNEY, ENHP) of Hartford, Conn., dean of the university’s Hillyer College, was recently interviewed in the Connecticut Jewish Ledger. Goldenberg discussed the state of higher education and the challenges faced by colleges in today’s world.

WALTER J. KORNACKI
(ENG) of Norwich, Conn., and his wife, Norma, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a catered garden party given by their five sons.

SUSAN WHITEHEAD ROOD
(HAS) of Harwinton, Conn., exhibited her monoprints and linocuts at the Norfolk (Conn.) Library. Described as intuitive, Rood’s linocuts layer form and color in a process reminiscent of batik. The artist also exhibited her work at the Norfolk Artisan’s Guild; the Santrella Museum in Tyngsboro, Mass.; and the Fine Line Gallery in Woodbury, Conn.

1977
FRANCES POLLACK BARKEN
(ENHP, ’76 HILLYER) of Springfield, N.J., is a special education teacher in Millburn, N.J. Barken has appeared in off-off-Broadway theater, usually short summer productions, and has modeled in New York City for magazine ads.

GARY B. CHAPMAN
(HART) of Norwich, Conn., performed with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra (HSO) in United Technologies’ Rush-Hour Classics series. Chapman was a featured HSO pianist with Margaret Francis in Francis Poulenc’s witty Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra.

SUSAN J. ROMAN
(BARNEY) of Hartford, Conn., has retired as executive director of Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford. She had been the executive director for the past 13 years. Previously she served as executive director of Asylum Hill, Inc., and director of relocation for the Waterbury Urban Renewal agency.

1978
DAVID P. EDRICKS
(HART) of Farmington, Conn., is leading a “double life.” By day, he is the owner of Edrick’s Dry Cleaning, a high-end dry cleaner specializing in designer clothing, antique fabrics, and bridal gowns. By night, he is a percussionist sub for Broadway shows. His latest gig was playing in Man of La Mancha. The show ran for one year, and Edricks never said no when he got the call to play.

SUSAN WHITEHEAD ROOD
(HAS) of West Hartford, Conn., had a solo exhibition featuring her recent works on paper at the Paesaggio Gallery in West Hartford.

1979
DANIEL P. COSTELLO
(BARNEY) of Windsor, Conn., was appointed finance director of Bloomfield, Conn.

LOUIS J. RASCOE
(ENHP) of Kensington, Conn., was the subject of a Bristol Press article, “Plymouth Principal, a Double-Duty Dude, Will Retire in June.” The article highlighted Rascoe’s 27-year career in the Plymouth school district.

MARK D. RUBINFELD
(A&S) of Salt Lake City, Utah, is an associate professor of sociology and chair of the sociology and anthropology program at Westminster College in Salt Lake City. He invites old UH friends, classmates, and teachers to visit him through his Web site, http://people.westminstercollege.edu/faculty/mrubinfeld/index.html.

JOSEPH M. ZUBRETSKY
(BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., has been appointed senior executive vice president of finance, investments, and corporate development for UnumProvident Corp., the nation’s largest disability insurer.

1980
LEONARD C. BOYLE
(A&S) of East Hartford, Conn., commissioner of public safety for Connecticut, spoke on law enforcement challenges in the 21st century at a meeting of the Y’s Men of Westport/Weston, a group of retired and semiretired men in Fairfield County.

BRIAN J. BEGGS
(BARNEY) of Guilford, Conn., has been named vice president of bonds for National Grange Mutual Insurance Co., a subsidiary of the Main Street America Group.

MICHAEL D. HEALAN
(HART) of West Hartford, Conn., took his 12-member Hartford Christian Academy bell choir to Washington, D.C., to perform in the inauguration celebration of President George W. Bush. Healan is the bell choir director.

1981
ANDREA GAULT
(A&S) of Madawaska, Maine, is the newest staff member of the Northern Maine Medical Center. She is a family physician, certified in adult, pediatric, and women’s health care. As an osteopathic physician, her focus is a holistic approach to health care.

JOHN C. LANGENUS
(BARNEY) of West Simsbury, Conn., was hired by Coventry Health Care as president, national accounts, for First Health Group Corporation, and senior vice president for Coventry. He oversees business operations for First Health’s corporate and federal employee health benefits program. Langenus serves on the advisory board of the R. C. Knox Center for the Study of Insurance and Risk Management at the Barney School.

SALLY A. SERIO
(A&S) of Hadley, Mass., provided the backstage crew for a recent Hopkins Academy production of Little Women. Serio, her husband, and two sons built sets, designed costumes, provided the sound, and staged lighting. She has toured with productions of Annie and Barnum and worked at Stage West in Springfield, Mass.

Continued on page 28
Jim Alibrandi’s first date with his wife was a real snoozer. In fact, if they had not been so tired on that fateful day in the spring of 1981, they might never have met.

Alibrandi ‘84, and his wife Karen (Gottschall) Alibrandi ‘84, graduates of the College of Engineering, both dozed off in an engineering class in Greer Auditorium. Jim awoke long after the class had ended to find the auditorium empty—except for Karen, who was sleeping several rows behind him. He woke her up and walked her back to her residence hall. They began dating the following semester, and they’ve been together ever since.

“When people ask us how we met, we say ‘Yeah, we kind of slept together on our first date’,” Jim Alibrandi jokes.

Now, more than two decades later, Alibrandi has been helping to transform the place where he and Karen took their life-changing naps. As president of Interstate Electrical Services, a Massachusetts company founded by his father, Alibrandi has helped design and construct electrical systems for the Integrated Science, Engineering, and Technology (ISET) complex. As part of the first phase of ISET construction, Greer Auditorium was renovated and reopened in fall 2004 as two state-of-the-art lecture halls, Mali 1 and Mali 2. The transformation was made possible by a $500,000 gift from Barney Professor Emeritus Paul Mali and his wife, Mary.

When Alibrandi first entered Greer Auditorium with workers from Interstate Electrical Services, he told them, “You guys don’t know this, but this is where I met my wife.”

There is something very gratifying, Alibrandi says, about using the education he received in the classrooms of Dana Hall to help refurbish that same building decades later, providing outstanding new facilities for future generations of engineering students. “It’s a great way to give back. I feel like I’ve come full circle,” he says.

Karen Alibrandi has put her University of Hartford education to good use as an engineer for Pratt & Whitney and for Raytheon, where she worked on jet engines and defense missile systems. Both Jim and Karen Alibrandi have felt more connected to the university since Jim’s company started working on the ISET project. In fact, Karen has gotten back in touch with one of her favorite teachers, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering Leo Smith. It was Smith, together with Professor Emeritus Don Leone, who taught the class that sent Jim and Karen off into dreamland 24 years ago.

But Jim Alibrandi is quick to point out that their sleepiness was not a reflection of Smith’s and Leone’s teaching. He says, “They would shut the lights off and show equations on an overhead projector. It was dark and it was right after lunch. And let me tell you, there’s nothing more entertaining than looking at math slides.”

A recipe for inducing heavy eyelids? Perhaps. But for Jim and Karen Alibrandi, it turned out to be the most important nap of their lives.

Sweet Dreams
by Barbara Steinberger

1983

RICHARD W. FOUNTAIN (A&S) of West Hartford, Conn., has been employed as an eLearning consultant in corporate education at The Hartford for the past three years. In this position he started an eLearning user group to share best practices among the training community. Fountain also performs locally in community theater and was seen in Remember When, an original dance production at Saint Joseph College, and in a leading role in Lucky Stiff at the Park Road Playhouse in West Hartford.


KATHLEEN J. MCNERNEY (HARTT) of Kennebunk, Maine, has been chosen as oboe teacher at the River Tree Center for the Arts, located in Kennebunk’s lower village. McNerney has been a freelance performer in the Los Angeles area and still holds contract positions in California with the Riverside County Philharmonic and the Chamber Orchestra of Saint Matthew’s, with whom she premiered a new work for oboe d’amore.
1984

JUDITH T. BLOOM (BARNEY) of Avon, Conn., is the creator of the new Simsbury (Conn.) Web site geared toward small business owners. The site offers links to news about the town, local schools, and town government; a calendar of events; movie listings; and weather forecasts. It also contains photos of the town and extensive listings of local businesses, houses of worship, and community organizations.

CLAUDETTE Z. GAMACHE (HAS) of Bath, Maine, showed her work, featuring lush images of green pastures and gardens, in the Hallway Gallery of Miles Memorial Hospital in Damariscotta, Maine. Her art appears in the book How Did You Paint That? 100 Ways to Paint Landscapes.

PAUL KSZEPKA (BARNEY) of Wilbraham, Mass., will soon celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Kszepka Insurance Agency, a family-owned and -operated business located in Palmer, Mass. The agency's current owner, Kszepka joined the family business in 1984, the day following his graduation from the university.

CORNELIUS WHITE (HARTT) of Tampa, Fla., recently completed performances for the Encore! production of Purlie at New York City Center. He will create the role of Sportin’ Life in George Gershwin's Porgy and Bess for an opera Delaware in Wilmington, Del. When not performing, White is a vocal instructor at the Marcia P. Hoffman School for the Performing Arts/Ruth Eckred Hall in Clearwater, Fla.

1985

MARY GORMAN CAPWELL (ENHP) of Redding, Conn., has been appointed deputy superintendent of the Greenwich Public Schools leadership team.

JOHN R. DEMELLA (BARNEY) of Glastonbury, Conn., with Marius Condu and R. Spiegelberg-Planer, published an article in the IAEA titled "International Atomic Energy Agency Economic Performance Indicators for Nuclear Power Plants."

ELIZABETH L. FARNUM (HARTT) of Bronx, N.Y., and her husband, Ken Farnum, have released a liturgical CD that highlights their respective musical talents. The disc contains a variety of popular songs and festive tunes and is available for purchase at www.elizabethfarnum.com.

SUSAN E. MAZER (HARTT) of Southington, Conn., held a guitar recital featuring her students at the First Congregational Church in Southington. Mazur performs throughout the area and teaches at Naugatuck Community College, the Hartford Conservatory, and privately. She is the author of two books/CD/video series, Guitar for the Absolute Beginner and How to Sing and Play the Guitar.

1986

JOHN A. CALLICCHIA (A&S) of Wrentham, Mass., assistant professor of counselor education at Bridgewater (Mass.) State College, was published in the March issue of Counseling Today. His article is titled "How Parents and Counselors Can Communicate Effectively with Young Children: Developmental Theory as a Guide."

SARAH MURPHY CRESSY (BARNEY) of Hudson, Mass., was profiled in a Hudson Sun article, "AV Chamber's Cressy Still Loves Her Job after 19 Years." Cressy is the president and CEO of the Assabet Valley Chamber of Commerce.

JOYCE R. STEEL (HAS) of Waldoboro, Maine, will teach this summer at the second annual art camp of Round Top Center for the Arts in Damariscotta, Maine.

1987

LINDA HALSEY BONADIES (HARTT) of Hamden, Conn., has released her new record, No Regret, a first disc from this mother of three. Her group of 10 songs includes the catchy number “A Friend Like You.”

HENRY CHURCH (HARTT) of Watertown, Conn., teaches guitar at a number of locations, including the Forman, Woodhall, Westover, and Marvelwood schools, and the Renaissance Center in Southbury, Conn.

MAURIE A. HARRINGTON (HAS) of Killington, Vt., held a book signing at the Grand Hotel in Killington for If I Were. This is an educational children’s book for which Harrington did the watercolor illustrations of animals around the world.

KAREN F. NIEDERDORFER (A&S) of West Hartford, Conn., has a new position as senior sales manager for the Hilton Hartford, which reopened in March after a $33 million renovation. In her new position, Niederdorfer’s primary responsibility is working with associations, government groups, and corporate clients.

1988

SUSAN G. CHAKMAKIAN (HARTT) of Glendale, Calif., is vice president of Opus Arts, Inc., a music publishing/record label company. She is also a marriage and family therapist in private practice.

LOUIS G. DONNE (BARNEY) of Litchfield, Conn., has been appointed director of Care Management Associates, a division of Connecticut Community Care, Inc., of Bristol, Conn.

THOMAS J. MANGO (BARNEY) of Farmington, Conn., has been appointed vice president, commercial lending officer, in the Canton, Conn., branch of the First National Bank of Litchfield. Mango is responsible for developing commercial loan business relationships in Canton and other Farmington Valley markets, as well as participating in community- and industry-related activities for the bank.

1989

JAMES T. CARDEN ('87) of Branford, Mass., has been appointed collections officer at HarborOne Credit Union, where he manages the department and the collection of all delinquent loan products.
DAVID L. GUNAS (BARNEY) of Amston, Conn., got his big break on The Golf Channel. Gunas was one of 10 contestants who vied for prizes and professional golf opportunities on the show, taped in Las Vegas, Nev. Gunas played at the university with PGA Tour star Jerry Kelly.

JAMES A. THIBAULT (ENG) of Torrington, Conn., a financial consultant with Smith Barney in Hartford, has been named to the Dick's Restaurant scholarship committee. In a twist of fate, Thibault was a recipient of the award in 1984, when he entered the university to study mechanical engineering.

KEVIN R. THOMAS (HAS) of West Shokan, N.Y., had an exhibition at the Rockwell Art Gallery in Norwalk, Conn. The show, “Two Expressions/One Commitment,” was the first in his married life with Elizabeth Hiltz.

MARK S. WEINSTEIN (A&S) of Weston, Fla., is a trial lawyer and partner in his law firm, Paige, Trip & Weinstein, P.A., with offices in Miami, Miami Beach, Hollywood, and Naples, Fla.; and New York City. In November 2004, he received an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell, its highest rating for legal ability, based on the confidential opinions of members of the bar and the judiciary obtained through private interviews and surveys. Weinstein specializes in plaintiff medical malpractice, personal injury, and nursing home cases. He is married to Rhonda Weinstein, also a trial attorney, and they are most proud of their children ages 5 through 17.

1991

MELISSA BORNNANN (‘89 HILLYER, A&S) of Portland, Maine, is the executive director of Drama Kids International (Maine). Drama Kids is an after-school enrichment program that focuses on building language skills and self-confidence in children ages 5 through 17. Bornmann also works weekly with a local improvisation group. She would love to hear from classmates and can be reached at Melissa@drakikidsmaine.com.

MICHAEL W. DEBIAK (ENG) of Jackson, N.J., was elected to the Construction Specification Institute board, representing the Northeast region. Debiak is senior project controls manager at DMJM Harris/AECOM. He has extensive experience overseeing and managing complex, schedule-intensive, technically challenging projects. He is highly regarded for his project scheduling and cost-control management and has spoken to numerous corporations, professional associations, and national conventions.

JASON C. JASCH (HAS) of Portland, Maine, is an art director for the Swardick Marketing group in Portland. Accounts include L.L. Bean, Mott’s, Maine Department of Transportation, the University of Maine system, and McDonald’s (restaurants) Maine owners’ association.

SCOTT T. MACGREGOR (A&S) of Madison, Conn., vice president of sales and marketing for Flo-Tech, has been recognized by the National Register’s Who’s Who in Executives and Professionals for his outstanding performance, individual achievements, and success in the field of sales and marketing. He has also been nominated for the third annual American Business Awards, the “Stevies,” in the best sales executive category.

1992

BRIAN D. CHARLONIS (HAS) of Sandy Hook, Conn., was recently hired as an account manager by the Worx Group, an advertising agency in Prospect, Conn.

THOMAS E. COSTA, JR. (‘90 HILLYER, A&S) of Seekonk, Mass., is in his final year of theological studies at Blessed Pope John XXIII Seminary in Westwood, Mass., and has been ordained as a transitional deacon by Bishop George W. Coleman in St. Mary’s Cathedral, Fall River, Mass.

RUTH KROKE HELEY (HARTT) of Dickinson, N.D., has released her first CD, A Sprig of Thyme: A Collection of Irish and English Folk Songs. The disc features compositions by Britten, Grainger, Quilter, and Dougherty. Heley is a private instructor of voice and adjunct lecturer of music at Dickinson State University. She also maintains an active regional performing career.

DANA S. LIEBOWITZ (ENHP) of Greenacres, Fla., received a master’s degree in education from Florida Atlantic University and will be studying at Oxford University with a scholarship from the English Speaking Union of Palm Beach County, Fla.

ERNEST LOPEZ (HAS) of Waterbury, Conn., exhibited at the University of Connecticut’s Stamford Gallery in a show called “Weir Farm Visiting Artists 2004.” Lopez is an interdisciplinary artist blurring the boundaries between installation, mixed media, and performance art.

YUUKO SUZUKI (HARTT, ’93 HARTT) of Tokyo, Japan, was influenced by Hartz Professor Luiz de Moura Castro to specialize in Brazilian classical music. Her Japanese translation of a book on Villa-Lobos, the eminent Brazilian composer, was published recently through Transview. A piano recital was given at Hakuju Hall in Tokyo to commemorate her publication.
1993

JASON W. ADAMS (HARTT) of Amherst, Mass., is performing with the Deerfield Brass, currently in residence at Deerfield Academy. Adams has appeared with major symphony orchestras throughout New England and the United States. He has recorded on the Newport Classics and Albany labels, and is also a busy composer, arranger, and conductor.

RUSSELL E. BLATT (ENG, ’96 BARNEY) of Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., has been signed through the 2005 season with the Bakersfield Blaze, the high Single-A affiliate of the Texas Rangers, located in California. He is the operations manager and the corporate sales manager, in addition to running the operations of historic Sam Lynn Stadium.

PETER BOYER (HARTT, ’95 HARTT) of Altadena, Calif., continues to make his work *Ellis Island: The Dream of America* the center of his artistic activities. It was recently performed by the Santa Barbara Symphony in two concerts, conducted by Gisele Ben-Dor. A recording of Boyer's opus will be released by Naxos in its *American Classics* series.

MELISSA GRANDE LOPARCO (A&S, ’94 A&S) of Stamford, Conn., was married to Anthony LoParco of Greenwich, Conn. BRIGET BURR STRONGE ’90 (A&S) was a bridesmaid. LoParco is the owner of Upper Crust Bagel & Deli in Darien, Conn.

BRIAN T. PARKES (BARNEY) of Norristown, Pa., has joined his wife, Kristine Ebert, in her agency, Krisp Communications, located near Philadelphia. Parkes comes to Krisp from Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, where he was a marketing manager, and says he now looks forward to working with nonprofits. The husband- and-wife team serves the fund development and communication needs of nonprofits and school districts in Chester, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties.

JENNIFER SEAGER-DONES (A&S, HARTT) of Bronx, N.Y., is the clinical coordinator/director at the Westchester site of All About Kids, an early-intervention/CPSE program that serves children from birth through age 5 who have developmental delays. She is responsible for community outreach, hiring, and general oversight of the office.

1994

JOHANNES A. BIJVANK (BARNEY) of Sweden was appointed president of a newly acquired $25 million firm. He was previously with Coats, stationed in South and Central America. Bijvank was a member of the Paris MBA class.

JOHN A. CARLSON (ENHP) of Troy, Ala., received his master's degree in psychology/counseling from Troy State University and has completed four postgraduate classes in rehabilitation counseling.

MATTHEW J. COYLE (A&S) of Needham, Mass., has joined Ceaco, a Watertown-based jigsaw puzzle company, as national accounts manager. This position includes working with Ceaco's major national retail accounts as well as developing new distribution channels for Ceaco's products, including its award-winning Gambewright line.

STEPHEN M. JARMIE (’92 HILLYER, A&S) of Warwick, R.I., has accepted a position as network analyst for Brooks Pharmacy. He oversees the networking systems for Brooks and Eckerd pharmacies.

SCOTT L. LAMELIN (HARTT) of Bristol, Conn., has been named music director of Wesley United Methodist Church in Worcester, Mass. One of his first acts as director of music ministries was to begin a monthly series of organ concerts called *The Pipes Alive*. Lamlein also directs three choirs: the adult choir, the Wesley Ringers, and the Young Spirit Choir for junior high and high school students.

JULIE W. MILLER (ENHP) of Avon, Conn., has opened a yoga studio, the Kula Yoga Center, at the Riverdale Farms shopping center in Avon. *Kula* is a Sanskrit word that means “loving community.”

AJIBOLA OKIN (BARNEY, Paris MBA) of Powder Springs, Ga., is a business analyst with Shop’n Chek, the pioneering firm in the area of mystery shopping, a new form of market research.

JEFFREY R. PATNAUDE (HARTT) of Farmington, Maine, the pastor of the Harpswell Baptist Church, was recently ordained during a special service. Patnaude and his wife, Mary Beth, celebrated their 10th anniversary and have three sons.

ANDREA RIDLOW-JARMIE (’92 HILLYER, HCC, A&S) of Warwick, R.I., nursing director at St. Mary's Home for Children, was honored as director of the year. She oversees the nursing department, servicing children ages 6 through 18 who are in residential/foster care as a result of abuse and neglect.

SETH I. RUBINSON (BARNEY) of Andover, Mass., has been named senior associate with Gallagher and Cavanaugh, LLP, a Lowell, Mass., law firm specializing in litigation and business counseling. When not practicing law, Rubinson enjoys spending time with his wife, KIM MCMILLAN RUBINSON, ’93, and their two children, Noah and Ella.

BETSY SELFO (ENHP) of Harwinton, Conn., will teach a special summer writing workshop for teenagers this year at the Litchfield (Conn.) Community Center.

1995

PETER FURLONG (HARTT) of Brescia, Italy, returned to New York to perform as Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* and later as Cavaradossi in *Tosca*. This year saw the CD release of the opera *Die drei Pintos* on the Naxos label with Furlong in the lead role of Don Gomez. The disc was a live recording of the Wexford Festival Opera.

MARY F. LAWRENCE (A&S) of Windsor, Conn., presented a class at the Stony Hill School on raw foods, a healthful way of eating. Lawrence is the owner of Well on Wheels, LLC, a personal chef service that provides health food consultation and private cooking lessons. She also prepares vegan meals in clients' homes. Lawrence is a regular cooking instructor at Wild Oats Market in West Hartford and teaches adult education classes in West Hartford, Windsor, and Manchester.

LISA G. O'CONNOR (ENHP, ’98 ENHP) of East Haddam, Conn., has been appointed assistant professor of nursing in the school of health sciences at Quinnipiac University. O’Connor specializes in skin care and pain and wound assessment and management.

KENNETH M. PORTER (ENG) of Watertown, Mass., joined the production staff of the Huntington Theatre Company as production sound engineer and sound board operator. The Huntington Theatre Company is in residence at Boston University and often hosts productions prior to their run on Broadway.

1996

ALISON B. CERUTTI (HARTT) of Northfield, Vt., performed at an evening of chamber music by Mendelssohn, Shostakovich, and Mozart, sponsored by the Paine Mountain Arts Council and held at the United Methodist Church in Northfield. Cerutti has performed with the Unadilla Theater, Norwich University, the Barre Players, the Onion River Chorus, and the Mad River Chorale. She is an adjunct faculty member at Norwich University and teaches privately.

ROBERT T. JACHYM (BARNEY) of Rocky Hill, Conn., a former member of the University of Hartford men's soccer team, made an appearance at the second round of the Class L soccer tournament. Jachym coached his Wethersfield Eagles to a 16-2 record this year.

Continued on page 32
H. DENIZ KAPTANOGLU (BARNEY) of Istanbul, Turkey, is a sales agent with American International Group–American Life Health Insurance Company.

SCOTT E. POTTECKER (BARNEY) of Bantam, Conn., has been selected by the board of trustees as head of the Marvelwood School in Kent, Conn. Pottecker has been assistant head and chief financial officer at the Forman School in Litchfield, Conn.

NICOLE-PATRICIA SCHWARCK (BARNEY, ’98 BARNEY) of Kieselbronn, Germany, is employed as a senior consultant for banking systems for Projekt Consult in +B in Frankfurt, Germany.

1997

PAUL M. GILMORE (A&S) of North Scituate, R.I., has completed a field training program with the Smithfield police department. Gilmore spent five years working as a corrections officer before joining the police department.

SARAH BRANDENBURG GRAUMANN (HARTT) of Providence, R.I., was promoted to manager of sales and marketing for Brannen Brothers Flutemakers, Inc., a maker of custom, professional, handmade flutes. She has also started a business called Brandenburg Groups: Professional Chamber Ensembles. Graumann can be reached at rain_song1@yahoo.com.

MARLO MARRERO (HAS) of Farmington, Conn., traveled to the Dominican Republic in 2002 and, while staying in a small mountain farming community called Los Dajos, took a series of self-portraits. Her exhibition of those photographs, titled “the sacred Choral Music of Harold Darke.”

1998

KRIS T. ALLEN (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., performed with Grammy-winning bassist Charles Flores at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in West Hartford. Allen plays with his own quartet, as well as with Kendrick Oliver’s New Life Orchestra, and is on the faculty of both The Hart School and Trinity College.

SANDRA A. BIOLO (ENHP) of Watertown, Conn., has joined the regional heart and vascular center at Danbury (Conn.) Hospital as a nurse practitioner.

JOESEPH EUNKWAN CHO (HARTT) of Scottsdale, Ariz., was named assistant conductor of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra and music director of the Evansville Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and Evansville Philharmonic Chorus. Choi was invited to compete in the Besancon Conducting Competition and was a winner of the International Conducting Workshop in Macon, Ga. As a result, he was invited to study with Yuri Temirkanov and to work with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra in Russia in July 2005.
ALISHA L. JOHNSON (’96 HILLYER, A&S) of Bronx, N.Y., graduated from Mercy College with a master’s degree in psychology. She has entered the doctoral program in clinical psychology at Argosy University in Dallas, Texas.

SARAH LATREILLE LAFLEUR (HARTT) of Evanston, Ill., completed her master of music, with distinction in piano performance, from DePaul University. LaFleur co-founded the Lunae Duo and held performances in Chicago and Japan, including a performance at the Talent Education School in Matsumoto, Japan. In addition to 30 private students, she teaches accompanying classes to young pianists in DePaul University’s community division.

1999

NEIL BECKER (BARNEY) of Plainview, N.Y., has joined Commerce Bank in New York City as an assistant vice president in cash management sales.

ERIC L. GRUNDY (HARTT) of Groton, Conn., is performing as Feuilly in the national Broadway touring company of Les Miserables.

JEFFREY W. JOYCE (ENHP, ’04 ENHP) of Quaker Hill, Conn., has been named head baseball coach at Wheeler High School, which competes in the small division of the Eastern Connecticut conference.

JAMIE L. MYERSON (HARTT) of Vineland, N.J., has just released his fourth album. Performed and recorded entirely in his New Jersey studio, Jamie Myerson breaks new ground as the debut release of Myerson’s new record label, 42 North Recordings.

DOMENIC J. POMPILE (ENHP) of Boca Raton, Fla., is a licensed physical therapist and a certified strength and conditioning specialist. He is involved in developing rehabilitative equipment specific to postural dysfunction syndromes, including a shoulder machine specifically for upper-extremity postural dysfunctions. An article about his work, “Open Up and Relieve Back Pain,” was published in Dentistry Today.

MERCY M. VAILLANCOURT (HARTT) of Woosocket, R.I., performed for the Beethoven Club in celebration of its 75th anniversary year. Vaillancourt is a strings teacher in the Greenwich, Conn., public school system. She has performed widely, including appearances with the Norwalk and Bridgeport symphonies, the Orchestra of the Bronx, and the Bronx Opera Company.

2000

MYA T. BOWEN (BARNEY, ’02 BARNEY) of Bloomfield, Conn., was nominated by a former student in her accounting courses for recognition in the 2005 Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. Bowen is currently an adjunct accounting professor with the mathematics/science department of Hillyer College and the college’s evaluator.

SEAN M. BURTON (HARTT) of Roslindale, Mass., was named program administrator in the Boston area for the Metropolitan Opera Guild’s Urban Voices initiative. In this capacity, he administers all aspects of the program designed to develop choral singing in 15 inner-city schools. Burton is the founder and artistic director of the Boston Orpheus Ensemble and assistant conductor of the Masterworks Chorale in Lexington, Mass.

SPENCER H. KIMBALL (A&S, ’02 A&S) of Longmeadow, Mass., received a master of science in political science from Suffolk University in Boston and is currently attending Massachusetts School of Law. He is director of Kimball Political Consulting, a firm serving Republican candidates.

ANDREW K. LEAHY (BARNEY, ’03 BARNEY) of New York, N.Y., and Vernon, N.J., has been named senior associate at McGladrey & Pullen in the New York office.

JOHN M. MAVROS (’98 HILLYER, A&S) of Coconut Creek, Fla., owns and operates Nutrition Corner of Delray Beach, Fla., and Motion Nutrition of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. Both stores offer vitamins, supplements, natural foods, herbs, sport and fitness nutrients, and apparel.

ELAINE L. PETERSON (HARTT) of Starkville, Miss., completed her doctoral degree in musical arts from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. Peterson’s thesis was titled “The Quintette en Forme de Choros by Heitor Villa-Lobos: An Analysis of Stylistic Influences.”

JASON M. SNAIR (HAS) of Boston, Mass., is the art director for Homesteader Publishing based in Concord, Mass. His Web address is www.jasonsnair.com.

SUSAN E. WILSON (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., is appearing in the off-Broadway production of the musical comedy Lucky Stiff, at the Astoria Arts Center in Astoria, N.Y. Wilson is employed in the legal claims division of Hilton Hotels in New York City and also teaches at a children’s music theater in Connecticut.

2001

JASON R. BUCHEA (HARTT) of Litchfield, Conn., has begun teaching guitar at the newly opened Woodbury Guitar Studio. The mission of the school is to teach the fundamentals—reading, chords, scales, and theory—while nurturing an appreciation for the joy of music.

MICHELLE L. DURANLEAU (WARD) of Cranston, R.I., has been named associate at AI Designs Ltd. in Pawtucket, R.I. She is responsible for managing the firm and overseeing details of production as well as initiating new business development.

ANTHEA J. KRESTON (HARTT) of Middletown, Conn., performed with the Hartt Symphony Orchestra at The Bushnell’s Belding Theater. Kreston has received numerous awards for her solo work and chamber collaborations, including the grand prize at the Concert Artists Guild competition and top prize in the Munich ARD International Chamber Music competition. She has performed with Yo-Yo Ma in concerts throughout the United States and extensively in Central Asia and made her solo debut at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. Kreston tours actively with the Amelia Piano Trio.

KEVIN L. MACK (HARTT) of Hamden, Conn., has been hired by the Manchester (Conn.) Symphony Orchestra as conductor for the chorale. Mack has served as a music director of the Torrington (Conn.) Civic Symphony, and the Hartford Philharmonic Society as well as directing in churches and synagogues throughout the state.

JEFFREY M. RABINOVICI (ENHP) of Brooklyn, N.Y., was profiled in The Village Voice in New York City for his work with the Partnership for the Homeless. He assists people with such basic needs as filling out an apartment application or getting a shower or a free pair of pants.

ELISA R. SHEEHAN (HAS) of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., recently opened her new graphic design business, Lis Designs, providing services from concept to completion on projects as small as an order of business cards or as extensive as a 32-page brochure.

2002

MARY T. ALLEGRA (ENHP) of Killingworth, Conn., has been named clinical nurse recruiter for Connecticut VNA/Connecticut VNA SC, the state’s largest home health care provider and an affiliate of Wallingford-based Masonicare. Allegra previously worked as a medical surgical nurse manager at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital in New London, Conn.

Continued on page 34

LYNETTE R. WILSON (HARTT) of Albion, N.Y., is employed as an entertainment technician by Disney Cruise Lines.

2003

PAUL ANTONECCHIA (BARNEY) of White Plains, N.Y., has been named director of medical support systems at St. Vincent’s Medical Center in Bridgeport, Conn.

TAMILA AZADALIYEVA (HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn.; GIANCARLO BAZZANO (HARTT) of Rocky Hill, Conn.; and NEAL R. HUMPHREYS (HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., perform as the Artemis Trio. Azadaliyeva is the pianist; Bazzano, the clarinetist; and Humphreys, the cellist. The trio presented a chamber music concert at Post University in January, sponsored by Greater Waterbury Classic Concerts.

HEATHER E. BALL (A&S) of White Plains, N.Y., was named account executive at Grossman Strategies of Bohemia, N.Y., a government and public relations firm serving the corporate sector, government, organized labor, associations, and not-for-profit organizations.

MATTHEW J. BROOKS (HARTT) of Henderson, Nev., received a master of music with highest honors in orchestral conducting from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). Brooks has conducted dozens of works with the UNLV Symphony Orchestra during its regular concert series. He also conducted special performances at the Nevada Artist/Entertainer Hall of Fame ceremony honoring Tony Curtis and at the Western U.S. Horn Symposium. He has collaborated with renowned artists Marvin Hamlisch and Samuel Ramey and been a clinician for high school orchestras from the Salt Lake City area. He is music director at the Heritage United Methodist Church in Las Vegas.

REBECCA E. CORREIA (HARTT) of Rochester, Mass., performed with renowned folk music performer Livingston Taylor in a benefit to renovate the Rockland High School music department’s band room.

STEVEN FRENCH (A&S) of Hartford, Conn., has been under study and, when called upon, actor in the role of Cassio in the recent Hartford Stage production of Othello. French has previously appeared in Hartford Stage and other regional productions.

ANNE R. GIDDINGS (ENHP) of Cheshire, Conn., has been hired by the Ansonia School District as assistant superintendent.

MARCY J. GOTTERBARN (A&S,” ’04 A&S) of Farmingdale, N.Y., has joined UJA Federation of New York, Long Island region, as marketing and communications coordinator.

LATOYA N. HAMPTON (A&S) of Pennsauken, N.J., has been accepted into the graduate program in clinical social work at the University of Pennsylvania. She is currently employed at The Children’s Home, Mt. Holly, N.J., a nonprofit residential facility for emotionally disturbed at-risk youth.

JENNIFER L. MONTANARO (HAS) of West Hartford, Conn., exhibited her watercolor and monotype still lifes at the Investors Center, Inc., in Avon, Conn.

STEPHEN M. SCARLATO (HARTT) of Ellington, Conn., is acting organist at Immanuel Congregational Church in Hartford. He was organist and accompanist for the Vernon choral concert’s performance of Frank Martin’s Messe.

2004

LISANN D. CAMPBELL (BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., a marketing intern during summer 2002 at Lojeri Productions, still lends her time to the company, which specializes in video and film services for museums and other nonprofits.

JOSEPH V. ERARDI (ENHP) of Manchester, Conn., has been selected to fill the post of superintendent of schools in Watertown, Conn. Erardi was previously the superintendent of schools in Bolton, Conn.

ROBERT M. GOREY, JR. (HAS), of Wethersfield, Conn., completed animation backgrounds and ink and paint work for It’s Christmas, Dr. Joe for the Hartford Animation Studio. The film was shown regionally on the Fox and WB networks.

LAURIE K. GRUNIN (HAS) of South Easton, Mass., was the subject of an article in the “Friends and Neighbors” section of the Taunton Daily Gazette. The story was titled “Illustrator Offers More Than Talent.”

SHANNON M. PARISE (ENHP) of Lee, Mass., is employed by the Ingenix division of United Health Group as a health insurance fraud investigator.

TAYLOR K. SOMERVILLE (UNIVERSITY STUDIES) of Simsbury, Conn., had an essay, “Egged On to Commit Acts of Violence,” published in The Hartford Courant. Somerville was also named to the Courant’s readers’ advisory panel.

2005

JOSE M. JIMENEZ (BARNEY) of Manchester, Conn., has joined Schweizer Aircraft Corporation, a subsidiary of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, as chief financial officer. Jimenez will be responsible for the finance, accounting, and payroll activities of the company.
In Memoriam

Norma Collins Cobblelick

Norma Collins Cobblelick, retired adjunct faculty member in the A&S drama department and former costume designer for the University Players, died on May 12.

“Norma was the heart and soul of the drama department. Her passion for both her students and her art were an inspiration to all of us,” said Sally Porterfield, director of the A&S drama program and director of the University Players. “She will never be replaced.”

Cobblelick taught in the drama department for 15 years, from 1986 to 2001. Her special area of expertise was costume design and costume history, and she was known for her exceptional sense of style and fashion.

“She was a person of great warmth and talent, and terrific style,” said Catherine Stevenson, director of the university’s International Center and associate professor of English and drama. “The students adored her.”

Peter Harvey

Peter Harvey ’72, ’80, known for his tremendous talent, quick wit, and engaging personality, died on March 6, at the age of 59. He was honored posthumously with the Donald W. Davis All-University Curriculum Award at the university’s Commencement ceremony in May.

A conductor, composer, and singer, Harvey earned master’s and doctoral degrees from The Hartt School, and was an associate professor of music at Hartford College for Women (HCW). He was founder and director of the Connecticut Women’s Chorale, based at the university’s Asylum Avenue campus. He received both master’s and doctoral degrees from The Hartt School.

University Provost Donna Randall said she saw Harvey perform on the Asylum Avenue campus, and she was impressed by “his genuine enjoyment and enthusiasm for music and for his students. It was absolutely delightful to see the pleasure that he derived from music, and from sharing it with people.”

Harvey was a lifelong entertainer who began performing as a child in his native Maine. In addition to his teaching and his work with the Hartford Conservatory and Connecticut Women’s Chorale, Harvey was director of music for the archdiocesan Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, and he served a term with...
the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. Along with his wife, Cindi, Harvey performed 31 consecutive Christmas shows at the historic Center Church in Hartford. In 1999, his “Home for Christmas, 1945” program for Connecticut Public Television and Radio received a regional Emmy.

Associate Professor Emerita Jeanne Bonaca, a close friend of Harvey’s, said, “When I think of Peter, I think first of all those times in the Butterworth living room with Peter leading the staff and faculty in a song he had written for someone at the college who was celebrating. And so the first image that came into my mind when I heard that he had died was of all his friends standing in a circle and singing to him:

“We’ll meet again, don’t know where, don’t know when,  
But I know we’ll meet again, some sunny day,  
Keep smiling through, just like you always do,  
’Til the blue skies drive the dark clouds far away…”

William H. ‘Bill’ Mallon

William H. Mallon ’65, former associate vice president for finance, died April 25 after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 74.

During his 35 years at the university, Mallon served as bursar, business manager, assistant vice president, and associate vice president for finance. After retiring in 1992, he was awarded membership in the Emeriti Association.

“You could always count on Bill to go the extra mile for the university. He was a dedicated professional and a man of the highest personal integrity,” said University Secretary Charles Condon, who was Mallon’s colleague for more than 20 years.

Mallon’s deep connection to the University of Hartford extends beyond his long and distinguished career. He earned a business degree in 1965, and all five of his children graduated from the university. When he retired, the Board of Regents adopted a “Resolution of Gratitude,” stating that he had “given selflessly of his time in furthering the interests of the university and its students.”

“Bill was one of the most wonderful people I’ve ever known. He had a great depth of knowledge, compassion, and understanding, and he was always ready to provide help and guidance,” said Patricia “Paddy” Cairns, a longtime friend and colleague. It was Mallon who hired Cairns in 1977 as his secretary. She retired in 2002 as executive assistant to the president and assistant secretary of the university.

Mallon is survived by his wife of 50 years, Virginia (Lekouses) Mallon; a son and daughter-in-law, William “Bill” J. and Kelly Mallon; four daughters and three sons-in-law: Cheryl A. Mallon, Kathleen and David Matchett, Debbie and Danny Derohanian, and Lori and Rob Houston; a sister, Jean Woods; nine grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Millard H. Pryor, Jr.

Millard H. Pryor, former vice chair of the Board of Regents and a longtime supporter of the university, died March 1 at the age of 71. He was known throughout the region as an influential philanthropist and lover of the arts.

“He was a close friend, a trusted confidante, a generous donor, and—most of all—an enthusiastic supporter of the university and its mission,” President Walter Harrison wrote in a letter to the Board of Regents. “There is no other way to put it—he was a great human being.

“He left the university and the world a far, far better place than he found it, and he has left his quiet but distinctive mark in so many ways,” Harrison wrote.

Pryor had been a member of the Board of Regents since 1980, and he also was a member of the Campaign of Commitment Steering Committee.

Pryor’s wife of 42 years, Claire, was his enthusiastic partner in philanthropic activities. Claire Pryor is a University of Hartford alumna, having received a BS in nursing from the university in 1984. Together, the Pryors established the Pryor Family Educational Opportunity Scholarship at the university.

In addition to Claire, Pryor is survived by his twin daughters, Esther Pryor and Elizabeth Bradley; Elizabeth’s husband Gerrit Bradley, and their two daughters.

Pryor was an entrepreneur who, together with his business partner, David Clark, ran Lydall Corp., a diversified conglomerate in Manchester, Conn. In 1988, Lydall was divided into two companies, Lydall and Corcap Inc. Pryor and Clark later branched out into other businesses and ran their own investment firm, Pryor & Clark Co. in Windsor.

Letters continued from page 3

of my youth with him. But he still makes me smile, even now, because I imagine at this very moment Peter Harvey and Bobby Short are playing and singing duets together, and both so very delighted with the company.

David Katz ’77, ’84, ’88
Artistic Director
Hat City Music Theater
Candlewood Chamber Symphony
Danbury, Conn.
Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies

NOW THROUGH OCT. 21
Now and Then Albany Avenue
A photographic celebration of the transformation of Hartford's Albany Avenue.
George J. Sherman and Lottie K. Sherman Museum of Jewish Civilization
Admission is free. For more information, including museum hours, or to schedule a docent-led tour, contact the Greenberg Center at 860.768.4963.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 18
Bruce and Roberta Singer Entertainment Lecture featuring The Rothschilds, an afternoon of Jewish theater with Bernie Dean
Through music, drama, and narration, Bernie Dean re-creates the rise of the Rothschilds from ghetto poverty in the 1700s to a position of wealth and influence.
3 p.m., Lincoln Theater
Admission is free, but tickets are required. For tickets, call Susan Gottlieb at 860.768.4964. Made possible by The Bruce and Roberta Singer Fund of the Jewish Endowment Foundation of Greater Hartford.

SUNDAY, OCT. 9 THROUGH THURSDAY, OCT. 20
Israel and Spain—Archaeology and History
An exhibition prepared by Hartford Art School students and photography instructor Christine Dalenta ’91, ’94 from photographs taken during summer excavations in Israel and Spain.
Donald and Linda Silpe Gallery
Hartford Art School
Opening reception, Oct. 9, 2 to 4 p.m.
Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission is free. For more information, call 860.768.4964.

SUNDAY, OCT. 9
Israel and Spain: Hollander Archaeology and History Conference
Greenberg Center Director Richard Freund speaks on the University of Hartford’s excavation projects in Israel and Spain.
7–8:30 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Admission is free.

SUNDAY, OCT. 16
Aaron Krivitsky Young Scholar Lecture
World-renowned nutritionist Anne Louise Gittleman speaks on the topic “What Did They Eat in Biblical Times?”
7:30 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Admission is free.

THURSDAY, OCT. 27 THROUGH THURSDAY, MAR. 30
Latin America and the Holocaust—Exhibition on loan from the Museo de la Shoá, Buenos Aires, Argentina
George J. Sherman and Lottie K. Sherman Museum of Jewish Civilization
Opening reception, Oct. 27, 8 p.m.
Admission is free. For more information, including museum hours, or to schedule a docent-led tour, contact the Greenberg Center at 860.768.4963.

SUNDAY, OCT. 30
Judaic Studies Summit in Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies
Rose and Arthur Fallmann Jewish Studies Summit, “The Significance of Jewish Studies on the College Campus Today”
Moderated by Ricky Greenfield, Connecticut Jewish Ledger. Panelists include Richard A. Freund, Greenberg Center; Arnold Dashofsky, Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life, University of Connecticut; David Weinberg, Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies, Wayne State University, Michigan; Alan Berger, Holocaust and Judaic Studies, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Fla.; and Laurie Baron, Lipinsky Institute for Judaic Studies, San Diego State University.
1:30 to 3 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Admission is free.

THE PRESIDENTS’ SUMMIT
“What Place Does Jewish Studies Have at the University?” roundtable discussion
Discussion and question-and-answer session moderated by Jonathan Rosenbaum, president, Gratz College, and former director of the Greenberg Center. Panelists include Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, president, George Washington University; Humphrey Tonkin, president emeritus, University of Hartford; and Walter Harrison, president, University of Hartford.
3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Admission is free.

MONDAY, OCT. 31
Middle East Teachers Workshop; “Latin America and the Holocaust” Workshop; and Holocaust Educators Workshop
In cooperation with Central Connecticut State University, the University of Hartford, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford
Times to be announced.
Gray Conference Center
Registration fee: $35–CEUs awarded.

JUDITH P. WOLFSON MEMORIAL LECTURE
“European Jewish Studies: Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism in European Intellectual and Political Life in the Media” presented by David Weinberg, Wayne State University.
7:30 p.m., Wilde Auditorium
Admission is free. For more information, call Susan Gottlieb at 860.768.4964.

SUNDAY, DEC. 11
Yiddish Film Presentation
Film to be announced.
1:30 p.m. Wilde Auditorium
Admission is free.
Made possible by an endowment established by Irving and Fran Waltman in honor of the 100th birthday of the late David Waltman.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, TO MONDAY, MARCH 27
Sign Up Now for Spring Break in Spain
Highlights:
* Shabbat in Madrid
* Madrid’s Prado Museum and Bilbao’s Guggenheim Museum
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* Sightseeing in northern Spain
For more information on any of the programs or events listed above, contact Susan Gottlieb, 860.768.4964
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