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**Seating Information**
The school that you circle designates a section of the arena where your seats will be located. The best seats in each section will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

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**Mailing of Tickets**
Tickets will be mailed to your designated address no later than two weeks prior to the 2010 America East Men’s & Women’s Basketball Championship presented by Newman’s Own.
Dear Readers,

This first issue of the new year highlights some of the ways in which the University of Hartford, originally a commuter school focused on the needs of its surrounding community, truly has become a university for the world.

We’re featuring two international projects in which students and faculty are helping to improve the lives of villagers in India and Kenya. Also included are faculty and student exchange programs between the University and universities in Afghanistan and China. A student describes his study-abroad experience in Denmark, and a student-athlete from Guatemala talks about why he transferred to the University of Hartford. (It wasn’t just about the soccer.) And read how two alumni—Jennifer Reynolds M’07 and Joey Patuleia ’02—are reaching out to the people of Africa.

My thanks to Sarah Reuter, director of international studies at the University, for all her help with the international section. I’d also like to thank those of you who have contacted me in response to our request for “Plan B” career stories. We have some great candidates for an upcoming Observer feature, but there is still time to throw your hat in the ring. For more details, see the box on p. 33.

A happy and healthy 2010—filled with many Hawk victories—to you all!

Trish Charles
Editor-in-Chief
pcharles@hartford.edu

Read the Observer online at www.hartford.edu/observer.

On our cover: Two young boys in a small village in Kenya scoop water from a muddied stream—water that will be used for drinking, cooking, and bathing. See page 12 to learn how a team of University faculty and students is joining faculty and students from two other universities in a multipronged initiative to improve the quality of life in three villages in Kenya. Photo by John Kuchle.
From the President

Committed to Community

Universities play many roles in today’s society, but perhaps the least understood is their role in evoking and sustaining values, both in individuals and communities of learners. Historically, however, it is one of the principal reasons that they came to exist. Before the American Civil War, most colleges and universities were founded and supported by religious groups to provide education to the clergy and lay people.

Since the Morrill Land-Grant Colleges Act of 1862, American universities have become more professionally oriented, providing for an educated and enlightened workforce. I believe that the emphasis on values has been diminished as a result and that it is especially complicated to attempt to return to it in an age of secularism.

Nevertheless, I believe that in these times we are increasingly in need of values to sustain us, values based on a shared sense of communal standards. What better place to emphasize those values than at the University of Hartford, a university characterized by its diversity in religion, ethnicity, and race.

In the fall of 2008 I charged a group of faculty, students, and staff, led by Jane Horvath, a professor of economics and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, to develop a values statement for the University—a statement of values that both reflects our community as it is and provides us with goals for the future.

That committee designed and led an exercise last year to discover what people liked about the University’s values and what they felt we were lacking. More than a thousand students, faculty, and staff participated in this extended conversation. Based on the discussions and surveys conducted, the committee then designed and tested a statement that was ultimately approved last May by the University’s board of regents.

Here it is:

“At the University of Hartford we are committed to community. We are an academic community that values integrity, curiosity, creativity, excellence, responsibility, and accomplishment. Enriched by our diversity and our engagement with one another, we take pride in our shared traditions and experiences. We are dedicated to building a culture that respects all of its members and celebrates their contributions as we work together to strengthen our community.”

This fall, under Jane’s direction, we kicked off a values initiative aimed at educating not only our students but our faculty and staff as well.

The new values statement has provided a basis for action within our campus community. During the fall semester, for instance, several student groups came together to organize an Adopt an Area campaign to pick up trash in student areas over the weekends. Sounds simple, but when you think about it, this activity represents just the sort of change in behavior and values that I think is necessary.

One student described her experience with the Adopt an Area campaign this way: “When we first started cleaning up on Saturday mornings, students began looking at us oddly. Finally, one said, ‘What did you do to deserve this?’ I explained. Maybe someday he will think twice before he throws trash on the ground on a Friday night. This is really about teaching students to respect our campus environment.”

Our dining services also began a practice—one that we hope will become a tradition—of having staff and faculty volunteers serve a pre-Thanksgiving dinner to our students. It was a great event, and I think we all enjoyed the experience of community it provided.

To communicate the importance of this campaign on campus, we have provided T-shirts for students and coffee mugs for faculty and staff with the motto “Committed to Community.” While we cannot send each of you a T-shirt or coffee mug, I hope we can count on you for your support of this initiative.

After all, values don’t begin and end with a campus experience. We are all part of the University of Hartford community, and we welcome your support.
Has It Been a While Since You Visited Campus?

A clear fall day gave us the opportunity to get a bird’s-eye view of the campus, including two relatively new additions—the Mort and Irma Handel Performing Arts Center and University High School of Science and Engineering.
Tajikistan—a small, landlocked, and almost completely mountainous country in Central Asia—shares its borders with Afghanistan, China, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. Like its neighbors Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, Tajikistan was part of the Soviet Union prior to 1991. Now a republic, it is home to approximately 7.5 million people, 95 percent of whom are Sunni Muslims.

Ibragimdzhon (Ibrahim) Rustamov, the University of Hartford’s first Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellow, grew up in the ancient town of Isfara in northern Tajikistan, an important 10th-century stop on the Silk Road to China. Fluent in Tajik, Farsi, Russian, and English, Rustamov graduated with distinction from Khujand State University in 2002 with bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English and Farsi. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Education in Educational Technology program here at the University, studying with Professor Rick King.

“I am learning how to use computer technology [in a classroom]. It was not a part of my education before, and I had to teach myself as much as I could,” says Rustamov. “Now I am studying how to use 21st-century technologies, such as Interactive Whiteboard and various Web 2.0 applications, effectively.”

Rustamov learned about the Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellowship from U.S. embassy staff in Tajikistan’s capital city of Dushanbe. After several attempts in recent years, he became one of the 141 recipients—six of whom were from Tajikistan—who were chosen to receive a 2009–10 Muskie Fellowship.

“After I graduated from university, I went back to my hometown and taught English and Farsi,” says Rustamov, “but I kept looking for scholarships to study in an English-speaking country to continue to develop my professional skills. This was always a dream of mine.”

The Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellowship program, named for the former secretary of state, U.S. senator, and governor of Maine, is a highly competitive program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State. Established by Congress in 1992, the goal of the Muskie program is to foster democratic and economic reform in the independent states of the former Soviet Union by selecting individuals with the potential to become leaders in their countries.

A secondary-school English teacher from 2002 to 2007, Rustamov also began working for Relief International’s Schools Online (RI-SOL) as an Internet Learning Center educator in Isfara in 2004. RI-SOL is a nonprofit, U.S.-based, international education organization. He served as acting country director of RI-SOL, working with the Ministry of Education in Dushanbe to implement the Global Connections and Exchange program, funded by the ECA.

In addition to increasing global educational opportunities by installing Internet access in schools and developing training for teachers and students, RI-SOL provides youth, particularly girls, the opportunity to participate as equals in a global civic education platform.

“I sent my first e-mail in 1998 and I saw at once that technology could change my country,” says Rustamov. “The Internet could connect young people in these remote villages where the schools have only decades-old printed textbooks.”

In addition to taking classes at their respective universities, Muskie Fellows must do 40 hours of community service per year. Rustamov is mentoring 5th-grade students in the Quest Program at Aiken Elementary School in West Hartford, Conn.

“It is my pleasure to give back to my community for the wonderful opportunity to study at the University of Hartford,” he says. He will receive his degree from the University in May 2011.
Former College of Engineering Dean Dies

Thomas Skipwith “Skip” Lewis, a former dean of the College of Engineering who played a key role in the construction of United Technologies Hall on the University of Hartford campus, died on Oct. 10 at his home in Virginia. He was 72.

Lewis served as dean of the college for 15 years, until he was recruited in the early 1980s by the Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance Company to serve as executive vice president of the firm’s engineering department. During his tenure at the University, Lewis organized and implemented the capital campaign that resulted in the construction of United Technologies Hall.

“Skip Lewis was an outstanding academic dean,” said Charles Condon, former general counsel and secretary of the University of Hartford. “A passionate and effective advocate for the College of Engineering, he was admired and respected by his faculty and by his colleagues in the administration. Skip was one of the most extraordinary human beings I have ever known.”

Back to the Moon and Beyond
UNIVERSITY ONE OF 18 SCHOOLS TO RECEIVE NASA GRANT

Thomas Filburn, associate professor of mechanical and biomedical engineering at the University of Hartford, and Ramesh B. Malla, associate professor of geomechanics in civil engineering at the University of Connecticut, learned in October that their proposal for the design of a lunar habitat and life-support system had been selected for research funding by NASA. The proposal was submitted through the Connecticut Space Grant Consortium, of which Filburn is the director. The University of Hartford is the lead institution in the Connecticut Consortium.

Malla is an expert in lunar soil and has worked on lunar structural design. Filburn has worked on various life-support systems for use in space. Students from both universities and a student from Capital Community College in Hartford will assist the two professors on the project.

The proposed project will investigate how integrating the life-support system design into the design of the lunar outpost habitation module can help meet the launch weight limit for the Ares V, the cargo launch component of the Constellation program, and minimize power needs and volume. The three-stage Ares V rocket will provide the necessary propulsion to send supplies to the moon.

Filburn and Malla will receive up to $70,000 in Phase One of three phases of the NASA Ralph Steckler Space Grant Colonization Research and Technology Development Opportunity. The purpose of Phase One, taking place during the current school year, is to establish the scientific and technical merit as well as the feasibility of the project.

NASA will then select four of the most promising projects for Phase Two, which will last two years, and provide up to $250,000 each to fund the research and technology development effort.

During Phase Three, the four projects will receive up to $275,000 each and will be integrated with NASA programs or projects over a two-year period.

The University of Hartford was one of 18 member schools of the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program to be selected. Other recipients included Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Pennsylvania State University, and Texas Tech University.

Upon learning of NASA’s decision, Filburn discussed the importance of this opportunity for students. “I am excited that University of Hartford students will continue to support NASA research missions. Our students have been collaborating with NASA on interesting and challenging projects for nearly 10 years. This latest grant is evidence of the confidence that NASA has in the ability of our students to produce technically accurate, novel solutions to very difficult engineering tasks.”

An artist’s illustration, provided by NASA, shows possible inflatable buildings for use on the moon.
More than 230 people attended The Hartt School’s annual gala, Hartt Celebrates: The Future of Performing Arts, at the Mort and Irma Handel Performing Arts Center in November. World-renowned flutist Eugenia Zukerman served as mistress of ceremonies for the event, which raised more than $55,000 for Hartt. Guests enjoyed an opening reception and seated dinner; music, dance, and theatre performances by Hartt students; silent and live auctions; and a jazz cabaret-style after-party.

Breakfast Raises Funds for Hartford Scholars

Former Hartford Scholar Anthony Carter ’01, now assistant director of mutual funds at The Hartford, was the emcee of a breakfast celebrating the 19th year of the Hartford Scholars program. The Travelers was the premier sponsor and Aetna was a platinum sponsor of the event, which raised more than $65,000 for the program.

During the breakfast, two current Hartford Scholars received Mayor’s Scholar Awards of $500 each. Peter Stevens, president of J.C.J. Architecture, and Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez presented the awards to Omar Crosby ’11, who is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in computer engineering technology, and James Ogwu-Weekes ’11, an economics and finance major.

The Mayor’s Scholar Award was created by J.C.J. Architecture in response to Perez’s initiative to increase the number of city students who attend college. It is funded by J.C.J. Architecture and Stevens.

At the breakfast Stevens received the first-ever Hartford Scholars Program Leadership Award. The new award honors individuals and companies that have supported the Hartford Scholars program, both financially and through internship and employment opportunities for students.

In addition to the award presentations, the breakfast included remarks from three current Hartford Scholars: Ogwu-Weekes and fellow Hartford Scholars Yashswini Devi Naraidoo ’11 and Aja Wilson ’10, who shared their experiences and successes in the program.

The Hartford Scholars program provides half-tuition scholarships to Hartford residents who graduate from a public high school in Hartford or a Project Choice school and go on to attend the University of Hartford.

2009 van Rooy Competition Winners

Hartt School students Peter Scuderi ’12, Patricia Guadagnoli ’11, and Michelle Stockman ’12 were the winners of three cash prizes totaling $18,000 in the 10th annual van Rooy Competition for Musical Excellence in November.

The competition, which is open to all undergraduate instrumental performance majors at Hartt, was established in 2000 by Jean-Pierre and Marie-Claire van Rooy. The van Roys, generous University benefactors, created the competition to help young musicians pursue their ambitions.

The $10,000 Grand Prize winner was Scuderi, a double major in clarinet performance and music education. He currently studies with Hartt faculty member Curt Blood and is a member of the notable Performance 20/20 honors chamber music program at Hartt.

Guadagnoli, a Brazilian pianist who studies with Professor Luiz de Moura Castro, was the Second Prize winner and received $5,000. Third Prize of $3,000 went to Stockman, a flute performance major under Hartt faculty member Janet Arms.

Hartt Celebrates!

Left to right: Current Hartford Scholars Aja Wilson ’10, Yashswini Devi Naraidoo ’11, Omar Crosby ’11, James Ogwu-Weekes ’11, and former Hartford Scholar Anthony Carter ’01, who served as master of ceremonies at the breakfast.

Left to right: Grand Prize winner Peter Scuderi ’12; Patricia Guadagnoli ’11, winner of the Second Prize; Jean-Pierre van Rooy and Marie-Claire van Rooy; and Michelle Stockman ’12, winner of the Third Prize.

Left to right: Edward Cumming (music director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and an honorary committee member of the event), Elizabeth Vandeventer, Robert Goldfarb, and Arnold C. Greenberg (Hon. ’89), University regent and former chair of the board.
Approximately 165 students, the largest group ever to take part in the ceremony, celebrated the completion of their degrees at Fall Commencement on Dec. 6.

“Become involved with mankind, . . . become engaged. . . . I know we are sending you into the world, as the Jewish tradition says, to repair it. Repair the world. You can do it,” urged President Walter Harrison in speaking to the graduates.

In another first, the University provided a live webcast of the ceremony, which allowed relatives and friends who were unable to attend the event in Lincoln Theater to view Fall Commencement online.

Linda Greenhouse, an award-winning journalist who covered the U.S. Supreme Court as a reporter for *The New York Times* for nearly three decades, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters during the ceremony.

Greenhouse’s coverage of the high court has earned her numerous awards, including a Pulitzer Prize for beat reporting in 1998 and the John Chancellor Award for Excellence in Journalism from the Annenberg School for Communication of the University of Pennsylvania in 2004. Also in 2004, Harvard’s Kennedy School honored her with the Goldsmith Career Award for Excellence in Journalism. In 2008 the nonpartisan Constitution Project presented her with its annual award for constitutional commentary.

Currently, Greenhouse is the Knight Distinguished Journalist in Residence and the Joseph M. Goldstein Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School.

The Fall Commencement ceremony is for undergraduate and graduate students who complete their degree requirements in September or January but cannot attend the University’s traditional Commencement ceremony in May. The Fall Commencement ceremony was introduced in 1996 to provide these students with a formal ceremony that celebrates their academic accomplishments.

Donors in the University’s newly formed Red and White Society attended an October reception at the Connecticut governor’s residence in Hartford, Conn., hosted by President Walter Harrison. Red and White Society members have made an unrestricted gift of $1,000 or more to the Anchor Fund. Unrestricted funds allow the University to respond to unanticipated needs and challenges throughout the academic year.

More than 50 donors enjoyed a wine tasting, hors d’oeuvres, a humorous three-student panel moderated by Harrison, a ballet performance by Liz Grande ’11, and a vocal performance by Nelson Ebo ’12. The student panelists were Will Kopp ’11, Maria Sanjuanelo ’13, and Yashswini Devi Naraidoo ’11. Student representatives from each of the University’s seven schools and colleges also attended.

Several alumni provided services for the reception. Roger Castonguay ’08 was the photographer; Rebecca Dowd ’96 was the caterer; and Carol O’Shea ’85 coordinated the event for the Office of the Governor.
When a Heart Turns Rock Solid: The Lives of Three Puerto Rican Brothers on and off the Streets, a recent book by TIMOTHY BLACK, associate professor of sociology in the College of Arts and Sciences and director of the University’s Center for Social Research, was selected by the Washington Post as one of 2009’s best books. The book is the culmination of an 18-year study of the lives of three brothers from a poor, gang-dominated neighborhood in Springfield, Mass. The book also received a 2009 Editor’s Choice Book Award from Booklist magazine, published by the American Library Association.

YVETTE BLANCHARD, professor in the Department of Physical Therapy in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions, has coauthored an article reporting the results of a two-year project conducted with Jane Sweeney and Carolyn Heriza of Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions in Provo, Utah. Published in the winter 2009 issue of Pediatric Physical Therapy journal, the article provides much-anticipated practice guidelines for therapists working with neonates in intensive-care units. The paper is the topic of an editorial in the issue and a podcast. Blanchard is also on the staff of the Brazelton Institute at Children’s Hospital in Boston, Mass.

Professor JOHN FEIERABEND, director of the Music Education Division of The Hartt School and a world-renowned expert on early-childhood music and movement, spoke on National Public Radio’s The Parent’s Journal in a segment called “Toddlers Love Moving to Music!”

SALEH KESHAWARZ, associate professor of civil engineering in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture and a native of Afghanistan, did an interview with Connecticut Public Radio from Herat, Afghanistan, in December. The interview was broadcast as a local news segment during NPR’s Morning Edition. Keshawarz, who is currently on sabbatical in Afghanistan, talked about the likely impact of President Obama’s new strategy in Afghanistan, the progress of infrastructure improvements in the country, and the University of Hartford’s partnership with the University of Herat.

CHARLES TURNER, associate professor of music history at The Hartt School, was interviewed on camera this past fall by film music historian Jon Burlingame for a television documentary now in preparation on American composer Jerome Moross. The interview will be included in an episode of American Masters, the ongoing PBS television series devoted to significant American artists and innovators. Turner wrote the definitive, annotated catalogue raisonné of Moross’s music, published in 2005, and currently is at work on a biography of the composer.

**Through the Looking-Glass**

HAS PROFESSOR FINDS MAN RAY SIGNATURE IN 1935 PHOTO

If you hold an image up to a mirror, everything is backwards—or at least that’s usually the case. But Ellen Carey, noted photographic artist and Hartford Art School associate professor, found that looking in a mirror made everything come into focus.

In 1935, Man Ray, an American Surrealist perhaps best known for his avant-garde photography, created a black-and-white self-portrait titled *Space Writings*. In the blurred, time-lapsed photograph, Man Ray is seated in his studio. The entire image is covered with white looping scribbles drawn in a seemingly abstract pattern with a penlight.

Seized by an idea that the loops might be the artist’s signature in reverse, Carey held the photograph up to a mirror and made a breathtaking discovery. There it was, Man Ray’s signature, hidden from view for more than 70 years.

“I knew instantly when I saw it—it’s a very famous self-portrait—that his signature was in it,” says Carey. “I just got this flash of intuition.” Her intuition was to look at the penlight writing from Man Ray’s point of view—the reverse of the conventional perspective. “I knew that if I held it up to a mirror, it would be there,” Carey says.

Merry Foresta, director of the Photography Initiative at the Smithsonian Institution and curator of a 1988 exhibit of Man Ray’s work, has known Carey for many years. In a conversation with Carey at the artist’s studio last fall, Foresta suggested that Carey take a look at *Space Writings*, partly because she found her working with penlights. That suggestion led to Carey’s discovery, which was the subject of an article in *Smithsonian* magazine (www.smithsonianmag.com).

A version of *Space Writings*, accompanied by mention of Carey’s discovery, is on display in the exhibition *Alias Man Ray: The Art of Reinvention* at The Jewish Museum in New York City through March 14, 2010.
In mid-December, University High School of Science and Engineering on the University of Hartford campus experienced quite a week. On the heels of being named to U.S. News and World Report’s list of America’s best high schools, the magnet school learned of the early acceptance of three of its seniors to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s (MIT) class of 2014.

Katie Allsop of Bolton, Conn.; Jennifer Ky of Hartford, Conn.; and Josh Sibblies of Windsor, Conn., learned they were among 590 students accepted under MIT’s early-action program in December.

“MIT released the information on its website at 9 at night on Dec. 16,” Allsop said. “We were logged on at 8:58.”

“When we called Josh to find out if he was accepted, his mother was hysterical,” added Ky. Sibblies’s mother, Francia Prescott, is a 1981 graduate of the University of Hartford with a degree in sociology.

“I rejoice with Josh, Katie, and Jennifer on their success in being admitted early—decision to MIT, perhaps the nation’s foremost university of science, engineering, and technology,” said University of Hartford President Walter Harrison in congratulating the three. “Their success is just one more example—albeit a stunning one—of the success that I see every day at University High School.”

UHSSE is a public school established in 2004 as a partnership between the University of Hartford and Hartford Public Schools.

Emily Davidson ’10 is a cello performance major in The Hartt School who specializes in baroque music. She is also the author of 101 Natural Healthy Eating Tips, which is available from Amazon, and has a blog, where she posts recipes and writes articles on topics such as processed vs. junk food and the partnership of diet and exercise. In her December 2009 post, “Thanksgiving Outside of the Box,” she describes the vegan, partially raw, and almost completely grainless dishes that made up her Thanksgiving dinner.

Like many first-year students, Davidson gained weight after arriving at the University. Shunning pop diets, she changed her eating habits instead and documented her experience on her blog. The result: she lost about 20 pounds, found more energy, and says she has a stronger immune system. Her book and her blog encourage people to avoid sugar, focus on vegetables, and eat locally grown organic foods.

Editor’s note: For those of you who haven’t been eating your vegetables and avoiding sugar, Davidson offers a postholidays detox on her blog, healthyeatingnaturally.wordpress.com.

Ethan Bodnar ’12, a visual communication design major in the Hartford Art School, had his first book published in August 2009 by F+W Media, a graphic design publishing company. The book, Creative Grab Bag: Inspiring Challenges for Designers, Illustrators, and Artists, includes contributions from artists from around the world. The book is available on Amazon and at bookstores nationwide.

Bodnar challenged artists to complete a creative task that could not be from their normal field of work. Contributors include the president of AIGA—the professional association for graphic design—Debbie Millman from New York City, who designed a typeface; filmmaker and graphic designer Lanre Lawal from Nigeria, who illustrated a memory; illustrator Juliana Pedemonte from Argentina, who designed a building; and photographer Paul Paper from Lithuania, who created a painting.

In October, Bodnar copresented with legendary industrial designer Charles Harrison on the future of design education at the AIGA National Design Conference in Memphis, Tenn. An exhibit of select pieces from the book will be on display in the Slipe Gallery at the Hartford Art School from Feb. 19 through March 4, 2010.

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Hitting the Books and Writing Them Too

WHAT STUDENTS DO IN THEIR SPARE TIME

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Newman’s Own Foundation Will Sponsor 2010 AE Championship

Newman’s Own, Inc., will serve as the title sponsor of the 2010 America East Men’s and Women’s Basketball Championship, slated for March 4–7, 2010, at the University of Hartford. It is the first time in conference history that the men’s and women’s tournaments will be combined at the same venue.

“We are proud to welcome Newman’s Own to the America East team as the title sponsor of our basketball championship,” says America East Commissioner Patrick Nero. “Newman’s Own is the perfect partner for America East. We ask our student-athletes to be champions not only in academics and athletics but in leadership as well. Newman’s Own, with its commitment to community and philanthropy, consistently demonstrates the highest standards of true leadership.”

Newman’s Own, founded by the late Paul Newman and his friend A. E. Hotchner in 1982, is a successful premium food business based in Westport, Conn. Newman’s Own Foundation continues Newman’s commitment to donate all profits to charity. More than $280 million has been given to thousands of charities since 1982.

Robert Forrester ’66, University regent and former member of the Hawks soccer team, is the vice chairman of the Newman’s Own Foundation. Forrester played a leadership role in bringing Newman’s Own together with America East and the University of Hartford for the championship. He and his wife, Linda, gave a significant gift to the University’s Home Field Advantage Campaign, of which he was cochair, and requested that the stands at Al-Marzook Field be named Alumni Stadium to honor University graduates.

“I want to congratulate Pat [Meiser, director of athletics] and President Harrison for all they have done to land this event,” said Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell. “It’s no secret that we love our basketball here in Connecticut. What makes the America East Tournament a truly wonderful event for our state is having one of Connecticut’s own, Newman’s Own, as the title sponsor.”

Newman’s Own, will also add a new item to the concession menu at the Chase Arena at the Reich Family Pavilion in 2010: Newman’s Own Thin & Crispy Crust frozen pizza, a successful addition to the company’s portfolio.

“Pizza and basketball are a natural combination, and so is this terrific partnership with the University of Hartford, the America East Conference, and Newman’s Own,” says Mike Havard, vice president, marketing, at Newman’s Own. “Consistent with our mission and the shared values of the partners, we look forward to working together on community-service and leadership initiatives that will support and empower students to make a difference.”

EDITOR’S NOTE: See ad on inside front cover for information on purchasing tickets for the championship.

Baseball Field Named for University Regent and Family

Director of Athletics Patricia H. Meiser joined President Walter Harrison, head baseball coach Jeff Calcaterra, and University regent Robert Fiondella during Fall Weekend in October to officially name the University’s baseball field in honor of the Fiondella family.

“Fiondella Field will stand as a lasting tribute to the Fiondella family, all of whom have dedicated much of their lives to promoting the positive values associated with athletics participation,” said Harrison, speaking at the event.

Fiondella is the former chairman and CEO of Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co. He is currently the founding principal of Jerob Enterprises, L.L.C, and chairman of The Institute for Retirement Security.

“I truly appreciate the honor the University of Hartford is bestowing on me and my family,” said Fiondella. “I have always believed that a full education includes athletics as well as academics. This will stand alongside my honorary degree that the University gave me. I am truly grateful.”

Fiondella received an honorary Doctor of Humanities from the University in 2000.

Fiondella’s commitment to the community is exemplified by his many leading roles in the Greater Hartford area. He served a four-year term as chair of the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce, chaired the American Heart Association’s 2000 Greater Hartford Heart Walk, and chaired the committee that brought a 1996 presidential debate to Hartford. He was also instrumental in getting Connecticut Public Television to broadcast UConn women’s basketball games.
The University of Hartford was chartered in 1957 as a university for the city of Hartford, focused on the needs of its immediate community. Now, more than 50 years later, the University has maintained the early mission of its founders even as it has grown in size, reputation, and outlook.

Today, the University of Hartford, like many other colleges and universities, is working to prepare its graduates for a world that is growing ever smaller. The importance of thinking globally rather than nationally or locally in business, medicine, engineering, education, technology, and many other areas cannot be questioned.

This special section focuses on a few of the University’s international connections, including projects in India and Kenya, faculty/student exchanges with universities in Afghanistan and China, and the Barney School of Business’s new global perspective.

“As a private university with a public purpose, we value and promote our students, faculty, and staff becoming engaged with learning activities around the world,” says President Walter Harrison. “Educating international students has been a central part of our mission since our founding, and today that mission has expanded to include connecting American students with nations and peoples around the globe. I see that as an increasingly important part of a University of Hartford education in the years ahead.”
On July 22, 2009, a team of students, faculty members, and administrators from the University of Hartford, the University of Rhode Island, and Brown University left for Kenya. It was the second visit for some, like University Provost Lynn Pasquerella, who was part of an initial fact-finding trip in 2008. The University’s participation was spearheaded by Pasquerella in response to a call for assistance from Clarice Odhiambo, founder of the Africa Center for Engineering Social Solutions, or ACESS. Her organization’s mission is to bring college students to African villages to improve the lives of residents by creating and implementing simple, viable technical solutions such as simple irrigation and sanitation systems. Moreover, Odhiambo aims to reduce the poverty level in the continent by creating and sustaining successful enterprises that employ local residents.

Mention Kenya to Westerners and most will think of safari parks filled with exotic animals or perhaps the Maasai, nomadic cattle herders on the wide Serengeti plains who shun modern life. In fact, tourism built on a much-romanticized Kenya brings in close to $1 billion each year.

For many, however, the reality of life in Kenya is a far cry from safaris, luxury beach hotels along Kenya’s coastline, and game fishing in Lake Victoria. Poverty, AIDS/HIV, lack of clean drinking water, widespread malaria, and a poor diet are the trappings of life in rural Kenya. It has been estimated that 150,000 people die of AIDS each year. Three-quarters of Kenya’s population are farmers, many of whom live on less than a dollar a day. Erratic weather patterns, vast regions of desert, and a weak infrastructure mean that nearly all rural populations must rely on their own subsistence farming for their food and any monetary income.

The team has made an initial five-year commitment to address issues such as sustainable access to safe drinking water, improved food production, and the establishment of microbusinesses using local resources.

“From initial plans to address water filtration and rain catchment,” says Pasquerella, “the project has expanded to focus on amaranth production and harvesting, tilapia farming, health-and-safety promotion through visual media, resource development, and the assessments of human rights and human dignity.”

The team has selected three sites/communities in the Nyanza Province in southwest Kenya on which to focus their efforts. While in Kenya, they stayed at Moseno University in Kisumu, the capital city of the province, on the shore of Lake Victoria.
Engineering Solutions

Last year, David Hamilton ’10 chose as his fourth-year engineering project the development of a small granite mill to grind the amaranth seeds and millet grown by the farmers in western Kenya. David Pines, associate professor and chair of the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Biomedical Engineering, oversaw Hamilton’s project.

Amaranth is a highly nutritious crop that tolerates heat and drought well, is virtually disease free, and easy to grow. The seeds, which are high in protein, can be cooked as a cereal or ground into flour for bread. The young and tender amaranth leaves can be used like fresh spinach.

Hamilton demonstrated his small mill in several villages last summer and received some helpful suggestions from local farmers. He hopes to return to Kenya with a revised version of the mill. Right now, farmers have to transport grain to a diesel-powered mill and pay to have it ground. Hamilton and the team hope that their small, hand-cranked mills will help families provide nutritious meals for babies and children, many of whom are now malnourished.

For Hamilton, the villagers’ joyful response to the mill and their celebratory dance of thanksgiving were overwhelming.

“I never thought I’d be able to use these abstract theoretical concepts from the classroom to actually save people’s lives,” he reflects. “It was incredible to see how these people live. All of their energy and time are eaten up carrying out basic tasks. ‘Third World’—those were just words to me before I went to Kenya.”

Another area being addressed is the lack of clean water. The villagers, who live in mud huts, have no electricity and no running water. Of the half-dozen villages the team visited, only one had a well with a hand pump. Instead, children use plastic containers to scoop water out of muddied creeks. Villagers can add chlorine to kill bacteria, but many resist the idea of using chemicals.
Pines asked second-year engineering students to come up with prototypes for purifying and filtering water. Some students made systems using sand as a filter medium. Masood Dalil ’11 and Mark Turner ’11 chose to focus on a ceramic filter.

In their first attempt, Dalil dug soil from his backyard and dried it in his kitchen oven. He then separated the clay out of the soil and mixed it with coffee grounds. The grounds burn away during firing and make the clay more porous. Dalil and Turner then fired the filters in a home fireplace. In the next round of prototypes, the students worked with Matthew Towers, associate professor of ceramics at the Hartford Art School (HAS), to create ceramic filters using art clay and sawdust as the organic material.

Pines took the system prototypes to Kenya last summer and demonstrated them to the villagers. Dalil and Turner are now analyzing clay brought back from Kenya.

“We are working to find the ideal combination of clay, sawdust, and water that will offer enough porosity to provide a water flow rate of two liters per hour through the filter,” says Dalil, “without being too fragile to be practical.” If fundraising for the project is successful, he and Turner hope to take their filter to Kenya in March.

According to Pines, the team has identified a group of brick makers in the village of Maseno, Kenya, and will help them set up a small factory where they will manufacture the filters and develop a business to sell them.

**Wellness Education**

Last spring, Natacha Poggio, assistant professor of visual communication design, assigned the students in her Issues in Design class the task of developing a visual wellness campaign to educate villagers on four critical concerns: promotion of amaranth cultivation, the safety of women, the importance of clean water, and preventing malaria and other diseases.

Each student designed four *kanga* cloths, one for each of the four issues, and 10 designs were printed on cloth to travel to Kenya with Poggio and student Teagan Rosendahl ’12. The *kanga* is a large rectangle of cotton cloth (60 x 40 inches) with a wide border printed in bold designs and bright colors. A traditional part of Swahili culture, *kangas* are worn primarily by women as long skirts and to cover the head; they are also used as slings for carrying babies.

A *kanga* cloth designed by HAS student Kristi Grice ’10 features a farmer sowing amaranth seeds in a plowed field, with plumes of amaranth on either side of the central figure. It bears the words “Live a healthy life with amaranth.” Other *kangas* instruct villagers on the importance of cleanliness, the use of mosquito nets, and safety in numbers for women.

“The women loved the *kangas* the students designed and wanted to wear them right away,” says Poggio. “And the men asked for T-shirts with the same designs.”

This year, three students in Poggio’s Design for Global Change class are revising the *kanga* designs based on feedback Poggio collected in Kenya. They have also added a fifth theme on HIV/AIDS prevention. If funds are available, Poggio will send two visual communication design majors and a photography major to Kenya in March with the team.

“We will expand our awareness campaign as we discover more issues,” says Poggio. “Also, we want to work with the communities to help them market amaranth by developing good package design.”
Supporting HIV-Positive Women and Children

Jemima Odoo, the first person in Kenya to declare her HIV-positive status publicly, lives in the village of Aluor, the team’s primary study community. Odoo lost her husband to AIDS, which prompted her to get tested. She learned that she was HIV-positive, as were nine of her 10 children, four of whom have since died.

To fight the stigma of AIDS and allow her to support herself, her children, and grandchildren, Odoo formed the Aluor Widows/Women’s Group. The group’s mission is to empower HIV-positive women to live positively and to combat discrimination based on HIV status. Now a group of 32 women, they support 150 HIV-positive orphans in Aluor.

Professor Bernard den Ouden of the philosophy department in the College of Arts and Sciences is helping Odoo and the women’s group acquire cows that will provide milk for the orphanage and composted manure for improved crop production.

“The Aluor Widows/Women’s Group is engaged in self-help and collective activities that defy their tragic past,” says den Ouden. “They have created a future for themselves and for the orphans that they house, educate, and rear. My desire to work with them is based on the profound respect that I have for who they are and what they have accomplished.”

Den Ouden is working with the Heifer Project International, an organization that provides cows, goats, and other livestock to impoverished communities all over the world.

“The Heifer Project is planning to spend more than $200 million in Africa over the next few years,” says den Ouden. “A community as poor and vulnerable as the Aluor Widows Group is an ideal candidate for that funding.”

In addition, den Ouden is part of a three-person group—with Pines and Christopher Bull, senior research engineer and senior lecturer at Brown University—that is focused on increased crop production. They will be addressing irrigation methods; the use of small-scale technology to improve the threshing and winnowing of small grains like amaranth; seed planting; and soil fertility. Working with two students from Brown and engineering students from the University of Hartford, den Ouden will oversee the redesign of a small, peddle-powered thresher-winnower.

This simple technology will enable small farmers like the Aluor Widows Group to process their harvest more efficiently and reduce postharvest loss. The machines will be made out of local materials, including used bicycle parts. The team hopes that local artisans will eventually develop businesses to sell these simple machines, thus generating additional income in very poor rural communities.
Marcia Hughes is the assistant director of the University’s Center for Social Research, a unit within the Department of Sociology. In the past, the center has engaged in applied social research projects for state and local organizations, providing internships to University students who learn to design surveys, collect and analyze data, and present the results. A previous example of this type of work is a life-stories study of vulnerable first-time parents in Connecticut. In recent years Hughes and her students have joined University projects in India (see page 19) and, now, Kenya.

“In some ways the research is different because the cultures are very different,” says Hughes. “But marginalized populations, no matter where they are, have surprising similarities.”

In addition to her research, Hughes is the program coordinator for the Kenya project, assigned the task of keeping the project running smoothly and progressing as planned. As the resident sociologist, she and her students will also be evaluating what the team is doing and its impact on the villagers throughout the team’s five-year commitment period.

“Our charge is to figure out how to make sustainable change and keep it growing,” says Hughes. “One of the things we have to ask, for example, is, how well did the farmers accept the changes that we introduced?”

Much as she did on the India project in the village of Abheypur, Hughes has developed an economic baseline survey to be administered to families, this time by the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute. The survey reflects the intercollegiate nature of the project, having been designed with input from students at the University of Rhode Island and Brown University as well as the University of Hartford.

Long-Range Goals

Over time, the team hopes that the innovations they are introducing—improving agricultural techniques, providing access to clean water, promoting the use of mosquito netting to help fight malaria, and improving nutrition from amaranth—will result in long-term improved health and productivity. Ultimately, the idea is to give the people of western Kenya the tools to change their lives as well as the responsibility for sustaining those changes.

Editor’s Note: All photographs for the Kenya article were taken by John Kuchle, husband of Provost Lynn Pasquerella, and are used here with his permission.
Some 6,500 miles away from home, Mahsa Khatibi sits on the patio outside Dana Hall one early-autumn afternoon, talking about an Afghanistan of the future: a peaceful place with a thriving educational system, a reliable infrastructure, and a government capable of keeping its people safe.

Khatibi intends to play a role in building that new Afghanistan when she returns home in the spring. With a master’s degree in civil engineering and a certificate in architecture from the University of Hartford, she will become the first female member of the engineering faculty at Herat University in western Afghanistan.

One of a group of 16 Afghans, including three women, she has come from Herat University to pursue a master’s at the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETa) through a program that is revitalizing civil, architectural, and mechanical engineering education in her war-weary homeland.

“ Afghanistan needs a lot of civil engineers to rebuild our country,” Khatibi says. “We have come here to be trained. We are rebuilding our universities, and new universities are being established.”

Khatibi might seem surprising to some. Her goals and accomplishments don’t fit the image of women that emerged from Afghanistan under the Taliban’s strict social order between 1996 and 2001.

But there is a history of public life for Afghan women before the Taliban, when they made up half of the government workforce, the majority of schoolteachers, and 40 percent of doctors in the capital city of Kabul. The same year the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into law, Afghan women were enfranchised in a constitution that also guaranteed their right to education and freedom to work.

While the status of women in other parts of her country may continue to make headlines and the percentage of women in engineering is low throughout the world, Khatibi is adamant that her accomplishments and goals are not unusual.

“In Herat City there are many women in the university,” explains the 21-year-old, who received her bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from Herat in 2007. “In my class there were 11 women. Every year the number increases.”

Indeed, there has been an influx of women attending Herat’s engineering school. Of the 400 students currently enrolled, 50 are women.

“Mahsa represents a new Afghanistan,” says M. Saleh Keshawarz, an associate professor of civil, environmental, and biomedical engineering at the University of Hartford who is responsible for creating the partnership between the universities. “Her experiences have been different than her parents’. In 10 to 15 years, maybe things will be different in Afghanistan.”

In the seven years since Keshawarz, who was raised in Afghanistan and returns often to teach at Herat University, began groundwork for the program, “a lot has been rebuilt,” he says. “You can see the progress. Security is still a concern, however.”

As the current state of Afghanistan has NATO leaders debating strategies to make the country stable, secure, and capable of looking after itself, Keshawarz is training the country’s next generation of engineers.

“Before 2008, none of the engineering faculty at Herat had master’s degrees,” Keshawarz says. “By the summer of 2010, all will have them.”

With the program’s last student expected to receive a master’s from CETA in 2011 and grant money running out, the hope is to continue the collaboration through distance learning. Keshawarz concedes, however, that the cultural-exchange aspect will be greatly diminished. It is that part of the program that Khatibi appreciates most.

“The master’s is good,” Khatibi says. “We couldn’t get a master’s in Afghanistan. But our purpose is more than getting a master’s. We all hope to become familiar with another culture. It’s always good to understand all kinds of people. We will then pass on what we have learned to the next generation.”
Six weeks before the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, President Walter Harrison and a delegation representing the University of Hartford and the State of Connecticut traveled to Beijing and Jinan, China.

“We learned a great deal about one of the world’s most important nations,” says Harrison. “Notably, we learned that increasing numbers of Chinese parents are interested in sending their children to the United States to attend our universities.”

While in China, Harrison signed a “memorandum of friendly cooperation,” forming a partnership with the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE). The CEAIE will recruit a significant number of high school students from throughout China to come to the University each year. Other agreements were signed with Shandong University of Finance (SDUF) and Shandong Jiaotong University (SDJTU), which has a strong focus on engineering disciplines.

This past fall, the University hosted a visiting scholar from SDUF, Hongwei Jin. Jin is an associate professor of English in the School of Foreign Studies there, where she has been teaching since 1993. In addition to teaching, she helps prepare Chinese students for the cultural and academic differences they will encounter when studying abroad.

Jin spent her time at the University of Hartford observing classes and doing research on teaching English as a second language.

“I am interested in learning about the teaching methodology used in colleges and universities in the United States and in encouraging creative learning and interactive teaching at SDUF,” says Jin. “I’m going to be the bridge between our two universities.”

In addition, Jin met weekly with international students in a program called Conversation Partners at the University’s English Language Institute, where she helped students improve their English skills and offered general support. In existence since 1974, the English Language Institute tests incoming international students for proficiency in English and determines how many semesters of instruction in vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension, and oral and writing skills the students will need before achieving a proficiency suitable to begin work on an academic degree.

Clara Fang, assistant professor of civil, environmental, and biomedical engineering, and part of the delegation to China in 2008, is working on a partnership between the University of Hartford and Shandong Jiaotong University. It is hoped that students at SDJTU who have completed their first and second years of study in China will spend their third and fourth years at the University of Hartford. In addition, plans call for faculty from SDJTU to be invited to the University to explore educational exchange and research collaboration.

“As the program unfolds,” explains Fang, “we'll send University of Hartford students and faculty to China for seminars, classes, and real-world engineering projects. This is an amazing opportunity to learn about China’s language and culture firsthand, and to help our students explore career opportunities they never would have considered otherwise.”
Observer readers have followed engineering students in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA) as they formed a student chapter of Engineers Without Borders and traveled to Abheypur, India, to install a solar-powered well and storage system (2008) as well as a rooftop rainwater-harvesting system (2009) for use during the monsoon season. Also part of the 2009 trip were students from the Hartford Art School (HAS) who unveiled their visual campaign to help educate the villagers on cleanliness, sharing, and respect for the new water technology.

A third and equally important component to the India project is the work of Marcia Hughes, assistant director of the Center for Social Research, part of the Department of Sociology, College of Arts and Sciences. Hughes was asked by CETA Associate Professor David Pines, project leader, to document the effect improved clean water availability has on the village in general and particularly the lives and routines of the women in Abheypur.

"Many people reported that the tanks have made a big difference in terms of time/efficiency in collecting water," says Hughes, "and they expressed their appreciation. Women and teachers also reported that the children are bathing on a regular basis."

Prior to her first trip to Abheypur in August 2008, Hughes worked with students Kyle Simmons ’09 and Daniel Hultgren ’09 to design questions for the interviews with the villagers. They then sent the interview questions to one of the team’s Indian partners in the project for a final review prior to Hughes’s second trip to Abheypur in March 2009.

"Ujala Bedi, director of the Rural Development Center, Navjyoti NGO (non-government organization), reviewed all the proposed interview questions, gave feedback, and helped with the piloting," says Hughes. “Her input was invaluable, as she and her staff have a better understanding of how people in the village will respond."

In addition to gathering information about the impact of the solar-powered well and other projects, Hughes and her students are collecting data to document change over time in village and family life, engage people in Engineers Without Borders activities, and inform project development.

During the 2009 trip, Hughes and her students conducted 26 interviews with families and uncovered concerns on several issues, such as the inconsistent availability of electricity and high rates of alcoholism among men in the village.

"From these interviews we developed a survey format that we have sent back to Navjyoti for review," explains Hughes. “The new format will make the data collection much more standardized and will allow Navjyoti and our team to collect information from a much larger sample size.”

In assessing the impact of the visual education campaign at the girls’ school, Hughes reports that the mural painted by HAS students last January is intact, and children seem to be experiencing a sense of pride in their school.

"The headmaster asked if we could design a similar visual campaign aimed at the youth in the high school," says Hughes. “We identified several possible topics, such as gender roles, discrimination, and equal opportunities for young women, and discouraging smoking, drinking alcohol, and gambling among the young men.”

Hughes’s research is especially focused on women’s roles and how those roles are affected by changes in society.

"Women, who are already marginalized, are even more marginalized by economic growth. Suddenly their roles are diminished and their contributions less valued because they don’t earn money," says Hughes. “The government is trying to address the situation by encouraging women to form collectives where they can pool their money and other resources and give each other support."

"One woman who had joined a collective said she had borrowed money from the group three times and had been able to pay it off. Now her family looks at her differently."

This January, Hughes returned to Abheypur as part of the largest group yet of faculty and students to travel to the village. Nineteen students and faculty spent 10 days working with villagers on multiple projects, including constructing a drainage system to address standing waste water, mapping the village and the location of the wells, and analyzing the chemical makeup of the drinking water.
At its core, the mission of the Barney School of Business is global awareness. Bangkok, Singapore, Crete, Berlin, and Scotland are just some of the locales students and faculty have visited recently through study-abroad courses, internships, and lecturing engagements. In January 2010, MBA students went to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, focusing on understanding and doing business in the Middle East.

“One of the Barney School’s four key strategic initiatives is to provide more opportunities for our students, faculty, and staff to have international academic experiences as a way to foster greater global awareness throughout the school’s programs,” explains Barney Dean James Fairfield-Sonn. “Over time, we hope to provide study opportunities around the world as well as to host traveling international scholars at the Barney School as part of our quest to play an increasing role in the international business education community.”

Other courses that have taken graduate and undergraduate students abroad include Industrial Marketing, Managing Customer Interfaces, and International Services Marketing. Last spring, undergraduate students in Introduction to International Business traveled to Bermuda.

“The insurance industry is a big reason for Bermuda’s success,” says Michael Neaton ’10, who spent spring break exploring the island with six other members of Barney’s leadership council. “The companies we visited included ACE, XL, Max Re, and Ironshore. We also met with the Bermuda Monetary Authority. We learned a great deal about how Bermuda plays an integral role in international business.”

Encouraging students to pack their bags and hop on a plane isn’t the only way Barney brings an international component to its courses. In September the school extended the international opportunities it offers with the opening of the Mali Global Center. Housed in Auerbach Hall, the global center was made possible through a gift from Paul Mali, professor emeritus of management, and his wife, Mary. Outfitted with large video monitors, workstations with laptop connections for up to 16 students, and enormous computing power, the center enables students and faculty to do collaborative research and participate in synchronous classes with students and faculty anywhere in the world in a high-definition, video-conference format.

Fueled by their outrage at the genocide occurring in Darfur, Sudan, Jennifer Reynolds M’07 (A&S) and her husband, Luke Reynolds, pooled their creative ideas, talents, and determination to edit and publish Dedicated to the People of Darfur: Writings on Fear, Risk, and Hope (Rutgers University Press, 2009). All royalties from sales of the anthology of original essays—written by Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners and many bestselling authors—will benefit the Save Darfur Coalition.

Professor Lynne Kelly, director of the School of Communication, College of Arts and Sciences, who also penned an essay for the book, joined the Reynoldses at a book launch during Homecoming Weekend in October. “Their commitment to the project was unwavering,” Kelly says. “I’m humbled to have my essay included in this volume.”

Jennifer says she and Luke wanted to do more than just sign petitions for this cause. Now that the book is out, she says, “We pray that relief will be brought to the millions of people suffering from this genocide.”

Professor Lynne Kelly, left, and Jennifer Reynolds M’07, at the on-campus book signing for Dedicated to the People of Darfur: Writings on Fear, Risk, and Hope.
Kishendra “Kris” Gopaul ’10 hadn’t really planned to go abroad during his third year, but things just fell into place.

“I always knew I wanted to study abroad at some point because I love traveling. I also knew that the spring semester of my third year was the last possible semester I would be able to do something like that because of my schedule,” says Gopaul, a health science major in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions who was born in Trinidad but grew up in Maryland. “Then a study-abroad representative spoke to my German class last fall, and I started noticing a lot of ‘Go abroad!’ posters all over school that helped push me in that direction.

“I chose to go to the Danish Institute of Study Abroad (DIS) in Denmark because it was one of the only countries that had a plethora of health-care class options. Their medical program is also known all through the United States. I met other students at DIS from Cornell, Brown, Harvard, and countless other universities. The study-abroad program [at the University] actually affiliated themselves with DIS just so I could go there, even though I was the only student interested.”

Gopaul lived on Amager, a small island bordering the capital city of Copenhagen, where he stayed in a kollegium, a dormitory for university students.

“It was a great experience for me because I lived on a floor with 10 Danes and two other Americans. I made lifelong friends there that I know I will one day see again.”

Classes were held in Copenhagen, just a 10-minute bicycle ride away. Gopaul says he will always remember the beautiful scenery he passed every time he made the journey back and forth. In addition to regular classes, DIS sets up integrated study tours related to course content.

One such tour took Gopaul and fellow students to Stockholm, Sweden, and Tallinn, Estonia, where they attended educational seminars and lectures and also went to shows, ballets, operas, and restaurants. Gopaul describes this trip as “one of the best times in my life.

“I gained a lot of knowledge on health care in other countries, especially Denmark, which utilizes a universal health-care system. And I also had the opportunity to see firsthand that system flourishing in Sweden and Estonia,” says Gopaul. “I was in the medical practice program, and we also took a class at an assigned local hospital that was taught by two emergency-room physicians. They taught us how to interview patients and then allowed us do so and develop a diagnosis from the symptoms actual patients presented. I thought this was a great teaching method because it reinforced everything they taught us in the classroom.”

In his free time, Gopaul gave his wanderlust free rein, visiting Switzerland, Germany, The Netherlands, Croatia, Slovenia, Spain, and Italy. Gopaul says that, all in all, his semester-abroad experience was something he will never forget.

“There hasn’t been a day go by that I haven’t looked back on it. Studying abroad made me a more independent person and showed me that I could survive on my own in a new and unfamiliar place. At first, I was frightened about being away from everyone I knew, but then I realized I was surrounded by hundreds of kids with the same issue. I recommend studying abroad because it gives you a whole new perspective on the world around you. My biggest regret is that I was not able to stay for a full year.”

Gopaul took this photo, which shows how popular bicycles are in Copenhagen.
Carlos Villa’s ticket from his home in Las Conchas, Guatemala, to the United States was soccer. But the young man who was invited to participate in the 2010 Adidas Major League Soccer (MLS) Combine in January, didn’t begin his collegiate career at the University of Hartford.

Villa had spent two seasons tearing up the field at San Jacinto College in the Houston, Texas, area, when men’s soccer coach Dan Gaspar spotted him. The Hawks’ coach flew to California in 2007 to watch Villa play as a member of Guatemala’s Olympic team, and he saw something the Hawks didn’t have.

“He was highly mobile,” says Gaspar, “a target player and finisher. He was the kind of player who made the most of his opportunities. I knew right away what he could bring to our team.” Villa was also the kind of talented young player who, Gaspar knew, could benefit from playing in the highly competitive America East Conference and as part of the University’s international squad, which includes talented players who cut their teeth learning “football” in Serbia, Mexico, Colombia, Liberia, Jamaica, Canada, and Scotland.

Gaspar’s assessment of Villa’s athletic gifts was spot on. A member of back-to-back conference tournament teams, he scored a conference-best 11 goals in his first season with the Hawks. Selected for the America East All-Conference First Team in 2008, he was chosen for the conference Second Team this season, after once again leading the Hawks in goals and points.

But Villa, now a senior, has brought more to Hartford than his capacity to score points. A commanding, yet understated, personal style has also accompanied him.

“Goal-scorers are often self-centered. Carlos is the antithesis of that,” Gaspar says. “He’s not only a gifted athlete, he’s also a very bright student. He’s very humble, though,” observes Gaspar, whose experience managing international teams is storied. This past summer, for example, he helped Portugal’s team prepare to qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa.

His assessment of Villa is shared by Susan Coleman, professor of finance in the Barney School of Business, where Villa is majoring in marketing. “He’s a wonderful young man,” Coleman says.

“Student-athletes have a big challenge in managing their myriad competing priorities. In that sense, especially, Carlos stands out. Not only does he do an exemplary job of fulfilling all of his responsibilities, he’s an exceptional student. He’s very bright and highly motivated, as engaged in his course work as he is in his athletic pursuits. That makes him a strong role model. He’s a hard worker and genuinely grateful for the advantages he’s been given.”

For Villa, the University of Hartford has provided both a place to grow athletically and the community life that he missed in Texas.

“I had fun playing at San Jacinto,” he remembers, “but student life there was limited. Here, the campus is very vibrant. And playing for the Hawks, being exposed to so many different soccer styles, has been a great learning experience.”

“Carlos is the best all-around player in the America East Conference,” says Gaspar, flatly. “We are very pleased for Carlos [about the invitation to the MLS Combine]. He is a gentleman and an outstanding prospect for the MLS. Carlos has proven that he is goal scorer, and I am confident that he can score goals at the next level. He’s the kind of individual I’m proud to put my reputation behind.”

Goal-scorers are often self-centered. Carlos is the antithesis of that.

—Dan Gaspar
When Joseph “Joey” Patuleia ’02 was a University of Hartford student, it would have been hard to miss him. A high-profile, four-year member of the men’s soccer team, he played on the 1999 team that won the America East Conference Championship and earned a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

But though his identity was strongly linked to the sport, he was hardly a “one-trick pony.” Not many knew that Patuleia also had an artistic bent. Even those who understood his passion for soccer might never have imagined where the intersection of these two talents would take him after Hartford.

Last fall, Patuleia traveled with the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup tour on a breathtaking, 70-day excursion to every nation in Africa. Launched on Sept. 24, 2009, in Cairo, the whirlwind tour was sponsored by Coca-Cola, a long-standing FIFA corporate partner. Patuleia was the official tour photographer.

“I have been exposed to great art from many artists in my life,” says Patuleia, who displayed an aptitude for art early. “My parents always did whatever was needed to make sure I had opportunities to grow and learn.”

His inclination toward art took second place, however, when his father taught him soccer. Once Patuleia saw the World Cup competition in Boston in 1994, he says, “I never looked back. I was dedicated to the pursuit of a professional soccer career.”

In the 15 years since then, Patuleia’s love of soccer has taken him to more than 100 nations. While still a student in the College of Arts and Sciences, he spent summers in Europe practicing with prominent teams like the Paris Saint-Germain Soccer Club and the Football Club de Metz. After graduation, Patuleia moved to France, where he pursued a professional career until 2005.

Still, the need for artistic expression was never far below the surface. President Walter Harrison, who vividly recalls the line of “Hawk Pride” T-shirts that Patuleia designed and successfully marketed while he was a student, says, “Joey is a force of nature. He was entrepreneurial and full of ideas, extremely creative and smart. And his enthusiasm for soccer was palpable.”

“I remember that he had a very international perspective,” says Charles Canedy, associate professor of marketing at the Barney School of Business. “He was an ambitious and visionary young man, always looking for the opportunity to develop himself professionally.”

“I always felt the artistic side of me would emerge,” Patuleia says. In 2005 it did. The powerful photographic portraits of people from all over the globe that he posted on his website helped him land the Coca-Cola assignment.

“i wanted to do something special for the Coca-Cola brand and show the positive side of Africa in a way that, perhaps, the rest of the world has not seen or considered,” Patuleia says. “Hosting the World Cup in Africa is a chance for the whole continent to leap forward economically. [South Africa will host the 2010 FIFA World Cup.] I wanted to capture the warmth of the African people with a book about their love of football.” The photographer’s portfolio of smiling Africans, culled from the more than 150,000 shots he took on the World Cup tour, will be published by Coca-Cola in a book called Africa Smiles.

Patuleia is also a strong supporter of the Coca-Cola Foundation’s efforts to improve access to clean water for the people of Africa. The foundation has committed $30 million to addressing the problem over the next six years. “I am very grateful to Coca-Cola,” Patuleia says. “I see so much potential for improving the lives of these wonderful people.”
1. Winners of the 2009 Anchor Awards: (l–r) seated: Stephen Mulready M’77; Rose Fichera-Eagen ’63, M’85; Gary LaPlant ’75; Kristin Muschett ’85; standing: Mark Dion ’86 (Hon. ’02); Kathy Behrens ’85; Kenneth Vecchione A’74; Walter Hauck III ’81.
2. Happy Hour at the Hawk’s Nest draws members of the Class of ’99: (l–r) Stephanie Bologna Castellucci, Anne O’Toole, Melanie Gitzis Marcus, Illana Grivas-Gagliardi, and Stacy Simon-Schecter.
3. Kristine ’93 and Matt Murello ’93 enjoy a cotton-candy break with their children, Olivia and Nicholas.
4. The gang is all back at the Hawk’s Nest Happy Hour: (l–r) Robin Millet ’89; Cecile Berry ’87; Caroline Bensam Finley ’87; Kim Weinberg A’87, ’89; and Amy Goldsmith Rubel ’98.
5. Anchor Award ceremony attendees: (l–r) Jonathan Gouthier ’89; Dorothy Bosch Keller ‘62, M’63; Sarah Ficca ’06; and Mark Dion ’86 (Hon. ’02).
6. More alums join their chums in the Hawk’s Nest. 7. Jackie Passoni, a Hartt student, entertains alumni.
7. This alum totes more than chips away from her Casino Night table as she leaves with the raffle prize she won.
8. Casino Night is a hit with these alumni. 10. The Homecoming Committee 2009 that made it happen.
11. Maggie Garcia ’89 and husband Jean-Paul Fiedler make a night of it at our casino.
12. Marcea Patterson ’95, M’97, finds a saxophone-themed print that she loves at the Alumni Artisans Marketplace.
Alumni Connections

By Kandyce Aust
Director of Alumni Relations

Alumni Connections =
Hartford College for Women classmates and friends are organizing a special opportunity for alumnae and friends of HCW.

Events Include

Thursday, March 4
Rogow lecture by Kelly Corrigan, bestselling author of The Middle Place

Friday, March 5
Breakfast talk (focus on women's health), afternoon tea, and an evening show at Hartford Stage

Saturday, March 6
Brunch for HCW alumnae, faculty, and staff at the Town and County Club

For more information, please contact Kandyce Aust, director of alumni relations, at 860.768.2409.

A Home Coming for Women
March 4–6, 2010

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DEGREE KEY
Alumni Connections entries are distinguished by types of degrees and certification:

A  associate's degree
AD  artist diploma
C  sixth-year certificate
D  doctorate
GPD  graduate professional diploma
M  master's degree

No letter designation before a degree year indicates a bachelor's degree.

1953
Gilbert Perlroth (HARTT) of St. Petersburg, Fla., produced his 23rd musical, Ain't Retirement Grand? The play features two men and two women of retirement age and focuses on the humor to be found inside a retirement community.

1960
Chester W. Reneson (C, HAS) of Lyme, Conn., had a solo exhibition of his watercolors at Stephen O'Brien Jr. Fine Arts in Boston, Mass.

1965
Margaret B. Morse (ENHP) of Guilford, Conn., has a new book out, Laugh a Lot Cry a Lot: When Tragedy Strikes—A Journey through Stroke/s and Healing. For more information, visit her website at www.margaretbergermorse.com.

1966
Janet M. Laraia (A’63, BARNEY; ENHP) of Ellington, Conn., was featured in Cambridge Who’s Who for her years of tireless work as an educator.

1967
Thomas F. Horan (A&S) of Simsbury, Conn., was featured in Canton Life for Horan’s Flower Shop in Simsbury. The third-generation business celebrates its 100th anniversary this year. Ranked in the top 2 percent of all Florists Transworld Delivery (FTD) members for many years, it has also been named the top florist in the Farmington Valley by the readers of the Hartford Advocate and the New Britain Herald.

1969
Carl L. Trombley (M, ENHP) of Middlebury, Conn., has published his first book, The School, based on his experiences as a teacher and administrator.

1970
Paul G. Salina (HARTT, C’96 ENHP) of Kensington, Conn., was featured in an article by the New Britain Herald regarding his love of photography and how he uses his photographic skills to give back to high school students. He has taken pictures throughout the years at various high school events and sports competitions and printed the photographs free of charge for the coaches, students, and their parents.

1971
Linda T. Babic (M, A&S) of Barre, Vt., was the recipient of the Community Service Recognition Award given jointly by the town’s service clubs—Altrusa, Kiwanis, Lions’ Club, and Rotary.

1972
George B. Katsimbris (M, BARNEY) of Trumbull, Conn., is a professor of economics in the Department of Banking and Financial Management at the University of Piraeus in Piraeus, Greece.

Jackson L. Williams (HARTT) of Berwick, Maine, is a minister at Kensington Congregational Church in Kensington, N.H.
**SUZANNE M. GROSS** (M, BARNEY) of Meriden, Conn., received the Excellence Achievement Award for Public Service from the Connecticut Coalition to Improve End-of-Life Care. The award is given to an individual who has made outstanding contributions in the field of home care and hospice care and to the coalition. Gross is the administrator of Franciscan Home Care and Hospice Care in Cheshire, Conn.

**NICHOLAS R. MARTIN** (M, A&S) of Southlake, Texas, headlined a conference at St. Bonaventure University in St. Bonaventure, N.Y. Martin is the founder and president of The Center for Accord, a nonprofit educational organization serving school personnel and parents.

**JAMES R. METZLER** (M, HARTT) of Grand Rapids, Mich., directed the Canterbury Singers USA in seven choral services at Norwich Cathedral in England. The auditioned ensemble includes many musicians who hold bachelor’s through doctoral degrees in music.

**Michael T. Cicchetti** (HARTT) of Farmington, Conn., has accepted the position of superintendent with the Easton, Redding, and Region 9 Boards of Education in Easton, Conn.

**RICHARD E. NEAL** (M, BARNEY) of Springfield, Mass., was awarded the 2009 Excellence in Public Service Award by the Rental Housing Association in Boston, Mass.

**Howard B. Weinberg** (BARNEY) of Wayne, N.J., was named one of Real Estate Weekly’s top commercial deal makers, an honor that recognizes leaders in commercial real estate finance, law, property management, sales, leasing, construction, and design.

**Arthur Hosford** (HARTT) of Augusta, Maine, performed a concert at First Congregational Church of Wiscasset in Wiscasset, Maine. He is the church’s organist and choir director.

**Mark Jablonowski** (ASS, M’85 BARNEY) of Tariffville, Conn., has published his third book, Managing High-Stakes Risk: Toward a New Economics for Survival. Jablonowski is the director of naturalrisk.org and an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Economics at the University of Hartford.

**Susan Banks Bradley** (HAS, M’84 ENHP) of Collinsville, Conn., showed her work in Common Ground, a Master of Fine Arts thesis exhibit held in the Silpe Gallery at the University. Bradley’s work focuses on the mysterious lives and behaviors of bees.

**Geraldine A. Roberts** (M, BARNEY) of Wethersfield, Conn., was reelected to the Wethersfield Town Council. She was also elected secretary of The Hundred Club of Connecticut.

**David Dyson** (HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., received a Community Hero award from Bank of America for his leadership of the annual giant tag sale/auction to benefit Tabor House, local residences for people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Gbenga A. Kayode-Smith** (HARTT) of Lagos, Nigeria, has opened Oaks Music Studio, a teaching studio in Lagos.

**Behind the Microphone**

Taking a break from their September renovation of the WWUH main studio are, from left, David Gardiner A’82; Ryan Gilligan-Ramsey; Christopher Larsen ’04, M’09; Christopher Heerema ’06; and David Viveiros A’82, ’84. Under the direction of John Ramsey, general manager of the alternative radio station, the volunteers put in 200 hours over a five-day period to get the project done with minimal disruption of the station’s 24/7 schedule. Funded by listener contributions, it was the first major renovation since the studio’s 1989 relocation to the Harry Jack Gray Center on campus.

**James T. Burger** (A&S) of West Hartford, Conn., hosted ArtWorks, an all-day festival featuring exhibits and performances by employees of Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H. Burger, who created the annual event in 2006, also showed two visual pieces and performed on the electric autoharp and piano.

**Carole Pearlman Kunstadt** (HAS) of New York, N.Y., is currently showing her work in Slash: Paper under the Knife, the third exhibition in a series titled Materials and Process, running Oct. 7, 2009, through April 4, 2010, at the Museum of Arts and Design, 2 Columbus Circle, New York. The exhibit, which showcases 50 artists, explores the international phenomenon of cut paper in contemporary art. See www.carolekunstadt.com for more.

**Richard S. Matteson** (HARTT) of South Hadley, Mass., is a choral director at the Community Music School of Springfield, Mass.

**1974**


**Dennis F. Gagnon** (A&S) of Putnam, Conn., was named Day Kimball Hospital’s September employee of the month.

**Gonzalo G. Pique** (M, BARNEY) of Pacific Grove, Calif., is the president and CEO of Energy Recovery, Inc., in San Leandro, Calif.

**1975**

**Joel S. Gelpe** (HARTT) of Ithaca, N.Y., is teaching musical theatre history and musical theatre repertoire at Ithaca College. He has also been a vocal coach and musical director for the school’s musical theatre department.

**1976**

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**Pit Stop**

At the wheel of the University of Hartford’s Formula-style race car, which competed at the Michigan International Speedway in 2009, is Mark Lieb M’78. An avid car buff who has been collecting and restoring muscle cars since his college days, Lieb was on campus in October to speak to Barney School students in his capacity as cofounder and executive director of Spectrum Asset Management. This year’s student race team is currently constructing its prototype race car and related business plan for the 2010 FSAE competition at the Michigan track in May.

**Romualdo A. Polce** (BARNEY, M’95 BARNEY) of Avon, Conn., is assistant treasurer and financial analyst at Simsbury Bank in Simsbury, Conn.

**1982**

**Scott D. King** (HARTT) of New Fairfield, Conn., teaches music at New Fairfield High School.

**Dale R. Siegel** (BARNEY, ’83 BARNEY) of White Plains, N.Y., is the author of The New Rules for Mortgages. Siegel was asked to write the book after the implosion of the mortgage industry two years ago. Drawing on the most current data from lenders, credit-reporting agencies, and home valuation/appraisal companies, the book helps homeowners and real estate professionals navigate the new environment.

**Amy M. Steklof** (ENHP) of Penfield, N.Y., is town clerk for the Town of Penfield.

**1983**

**Kathleen J. McNerney** (HARTT) of Kennebunkport, Maine, performed on the oboe in “VentiCordi,” a musical collaboration with violinist Dean Stein at the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church in Kennebunk, Maine.

**1985**

**Richard J. Ferguson** (M, BARNEY) of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., is vice president and manager of corporate banking at Saratoga National Bank and Trust Company.

**Alexander S. Nakhimovsky** (HARTT, M’88 HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., toured with Benny Golson, a legendary saxophonist/composer in Ashdod, Israel, and with Bill Evans, a noted tenor and soprano saxophonist, in Russia.

**Keith M. Walsh** (HAS) of Los Angeles, Calif., had his artwork featured in the Baker’s Dozen exhibition at the Torrance Art Museum in Torrance, Calif. Baker’s Dozen is an annual survey of 13 artists who made an impression during the previous year at various galleries and exhibition spaces throughout Los Angeles.

**1986**

**Joyce R. Steel** (HAS) of Waldoboro, Maine, was October’s artist of the month at the Waldoboro Public Library, along with her father, Albert Eames.
1987

MICHAEL B. CEFOLE (BARNEY) of West Granby, Conn., is chief financial officer for retirement solutions at Guardian Life Insurance Company of America in New York, N.Y.

ADAM T. HUGHES (HAS) of West Simsbury, Conn., exhibited his artwork at The Shalom Company in Bloomfield, Conn. Hughes's abstract paintings allude to more traditional aspects of landscape and still life.

JAMES M. SILVERMAN (A, A&S; '89 A&S) of Newton, Mass., announces his engagement to Alyssa Winer.

1988

JOSEPH E. CHOI (M, HARTT) of Newburgh, Ind., was promoted to associate conductor of the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra in Owensboro, Ky.

SCOTT R. HUMMEL (CETA) of Easton, Pa., is an associate professor of mechanical engineering at Lafayette College in Easton. He also was appointed to his second term as chair of the department.

GARY A. JACOBS (HAS) of Hartford, Conn., exhibited his work at the Barnes-Franklin Art Gallery at Tunxis Community College in Farmington, Conn.

GEORGIANA W. THOMAS (HAS) of Corvallis, Ore., in collaboration with her mother, presented a program titled "From Wimp to She-Bear: A Mother's Triumph" to the Southbury-Middlebury Special Education Parent Teacher Association in Southbury, Conn. The program is the true story of a child's triumph over autism.

1989

STEPHEN H. COLLINS (HARTT) of Trumbull, Conn., is executive director of the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra.

KEVIN G. MCGIVERN (A, WARD; '89 WARD) of Lakeville, Conn., is director of research and development at Bicron Electronics in Canaan, Conn.

CHRISTIAN PETERSEN (A&S) of Danbury, Conn., returned to campus to speak to students on the start-up company Youth Sports Live Broadcasting, Inc., for which he is vice president of sales and league relations. The company delivers live streaming broadcasts of Little League and other organized youth games.

Off the Court with Obama

Flanking President Barack Obama are (left to right) Kathy Behrens '85, NBA executive vice president; WNBA President Donna Orender; Renée Brown, WNBA chief of basketball operations; and Jennifer Azzi, Olympic gold medalist, WNBA All-Star, and WNBA Cares spokesperson and ambassador. The group was invited to the White House in July to celebrate the Detroit Shock, winners of the 2008 WNBA Championship.

Alison Deyette ‘89
Does It with Style

BY MEAGAN FAZIO

Alison Deyette ‘89 did not expect to become a style expert. “I have my bad photos,” she admits, describing one outfit that included a T-shirt, jeans, and red suspenders. But 20 years and many trends later, Deyette is a veteran stylist and television correspondent.

You may recognize Deyette from one of her countless TV appearances. She is currently a stylist on TLC's 10 Years Younger. Deyette and the rest of the show's "Glam Squad" help people figure out why they look older than their age, then give them noninvasive surgical procedures, wardrobe updates, and other style improvements.

“That was really rewarding,” says Deyette. “The people we made over had forgotten who they were.”

When Deyette was growing up in New Jersey, she planned to go into a career in writing or dance. But after arriving at the University of Hartford, she decided to focus on her writing. As a communication major in the College of Arts and Sciences, she joined the staff of The Informer, the weekly student newspaper, and eventually became the editor.

“I was lucky that I knew what I wanted to do and took full advantage of everything I could,” says Deyette. “As the editor of the school paper, I went to every show, every art exhibit . . . I took advantage of the town.”

She scored a paying job for WFSB-TV, the Hartford affiliate of CBS. That experience, along with her time at the University and The Informer, allowed her to graduate with a portfolio of published material. Deyette's portfolio was so impressive that the editor-in-chief of Your Family magazine hired her after only a 10-minute interview.

Deyette became interested in fashion when she moved to New York City. She started wearing vintage clothes, and a fashion editor noticed her distinctive style. The editor didn't have an assistant, so Deyette took on that role.

Soon, she was styling and producing photo shoots around the world. At one shoot, a television booking producer suggested she make the jump to TV. After making several appearances giving style tips on local television, Deyette was contacted by recruiters from The View, an Emmy Award-winning daytime talk show. From there, her career took off. She now works regularly as a contributor on several shows, including the Today Show, the CBS Early Show, Good Morning America, Ellen, and the Tyra Show. She recently shot a pilot for a new show called Stop, Drop, and Shop, which she will host if it gets picked up by the network.

Deyette has met countless celebrities during her career, including Oprah.

She first spoke to Oprah when she called WFSB-TV to speak to her friend Gayle King, a former news anchor for the station. Deyette answered the phone. Two decades later, Deyette has appeared on Oprah three times.

“Oprah is wonderful, very much a businesswoman,” says Deyette. “You are going on [the show] to do a job. But I always had fun.”

“As the editor of the school paper, I went to every show, every art exhibit . . . I took advantage of the town.”
The University of Hartford Alumni Association comprises 30 board members, with representation from all schools and colleges as well as each decade of the University. Beginning in this issue of the Observer, alumni leadership is profiled so that you may come to know the members who serve on your behalf in the areas of finance, governance, institutional advancement, alumni chapters, and the executive committee.

Mike Darby ’79
BARNEY
Mike Darby graduated summa cum laude from the Barney School of Business in 1979. While at the University of Hartford, he was a resident assistant for two years and the head of the Orientation program in 1978. He graduated from Duke University’s School of Law with honors in 1982.

Darby has practiced law with the firm of Phelon, FitzGerald and Wood in his hometown of Manchester, Conn., for 27 years. His primary areas of practice are real estate and estate planning and administration. He served as town attorney for the Town of Manchester for 16 years. Darby resides in Manchester with his wife, Nancy, and their two children.

Da’Rel J. Eastling ’99
BARNEY
Da’Rel Eastling is vice president for distribution for the Secure Retirement Solutions group at Prudential Retirement. Eastling is responsible for executing a regional distribution strategy for the Retirement Income group, focusing primarily on third-party defined contribution plans with under $1 billion in assets in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Southeast regions.

Eastling received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the Barney School of Business in 1999 and is currently a graduate student there pursuing his MBA. He also is involved in a number of organizations and volunteer efforts, both in and outside of Prudential, including the Hartford Youth Scholars Foundation and the Urban League of Greater Hartford. He resides in Hartford, Conn.

Heather L. Fraser ’99
CETA
After graduating from the Ward College of Technology (now part of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture) in 1999, Heather Fraser went on to receive a master’s degree in architecture from Syracuse University.

She currently lives and works in New York City, practicing architecture at J.C.J. Architecture, a firm based in Hartford, Conn. Fraser recently completed a comprehensive interior renovation to the former New York State Theater (now David H. Koch Theater) at Lincoln Center. In November she ran her second ING New York City Marathon.

GET INVOLVED
The Alumni Association of the University of Hartford is an outstanding organization made up of dynamic undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral alumni. Alumni participate in a variety of association activities: Homecoming, reunions, regional events, community outreach, career-development and enhancement workshops, cultural events, and recreational activities. The Alumni Association has been very successful in its efforts, and we want you to be a part of its continued success.

If you would like more information about alumni programs, please contact Kandyce Aust, director of alumni relations, at 860.768.2409, 888.UH.ALUMS (toll free), or aust@hartford.edu.
Mission of the Alumni Association

The mission of the University of Hartford Alumni Association is to promote lifelong relationships between current and future alumni and the University of Hartford, to support and sustain the objectives of the University, and to serve as an advocate for the University and its alumni.

Celia R. Duke Lofink ’79
ENHP
A graduate of the University in 1979 with a dual major in special education and early childhood education, Lofink has worked for more than 20 years as a corporate executive at both IBM and the Hartford Insurance Group. Her career, she says, has been a uniquely rewarding combination of academic research accomplishments and business experience.

Lofink’s ties to the University of Hartford span many years and are very special to her. Her father, Herbert J. Duke, served under President Steven Trachtenberg in the 1970s. Although Herbert Duke died in 1979, his spirit lives on at the University of Hartford via an established scholarship that, 30 years later, continues to give to a deserving undergraduate student each year. Lofink considers it an honor to renew her ties to the University through her appointment to the Alumni Board.

Matthew T. Murello ’93
CETA
Matthew Murello graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1994. He has more than 15 years’ experience as an acoustical engineer, providing both consulting services and expert testimony, when needed, on behalf of clients in the areas of architecture, industrial noise control, transportation, and the environment, as well as heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning acoustics.

Murello became president of Lewis S. Goodfriend & Associates, an acoustical engineering firm in New Jersey, in 2002 at the age of 30, after holding positions in the firm as vice president, senior engineer, project manager, and staff engineer. He currently sits on the board of visitors for the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture and serves as vice president of the Alumni Association board. Murello is a 2006 Anchor Award recipient and is married to Kristine Nelson Murello, a 1993 graduate of The Hartt School.

Paul A. Sittard ’85
CETA
Paul Sittard was a student leader during his undergraduate years at the University, including serving two terms as student government president. He graduated in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology. Sittard now works in sales and marketing management for Microbridge Technologies, a Montreal, Quebec–based developer of high-performance sensors and calibration solutions used in the semiconductor, electronics-component, and high-tech industries.

Sittard is currently a University regent, president of the Alumni Association and of the Alumni Board, and chair of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture Board of Visitors. He has given extensive service to the University, both as a student and an alumnus, and is married to Joan Sittard, a graduate of Hillyer College (1981) and the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions (1983). Paul Sittard has endowed the Allan E. Sittard Scholarship for Music/Acoustical Engineering to honor his father, a 1959 and 1968 graduate of The Hartt School.

SCOTT MacGREGOR of Madison, Conn., was selected as vice president and board member of the Manage Print Services Association. MacGregor is vice president of sales and marketing at Flo-Tech in Middletown, Conn.

DOUGLAS A. RONCARATI (M, A&S) of Westbrook, Maine, is stormwater program coordinator for the City of Portland, Maine.

1992

TUSHAR A. PRADHAN (M, BARNEY) of Mumbai, India, has accepted the position of CIO of HSBC Mutual Fund at HSBC Asset Management in Mumbai.

1993

GRETCHEL L. NELSON (M, ENHP) of Granby, Conn., was honored with the Ability Awareness Award by the Town of Simsbury Board of Selectmen for her work as head of the Farmington Valley Transition Academy, which serves students in special services from Simsbury, Granby, and other Farmington Valley high schools.

GLENN M. SHAFER (M, A&S; M’03 BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., passed the series 24 securities exam, sponsored by FINRA, and was designated an industry office of supervisory jurisdiction/compliance officer.

PETER R. ZAY (HARTT) of Natick, Mass., a professional cellist, is a member of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and performs with groups throughout New England.

1994

JULIANNE BRUNEAU (M, ENHP) of South Bend, Ind., is assistant professor of English at Goshen College in Goshen, Ind.

ROBERT E. KUDYBA (HARTT) of Mt. Vernon, N.Y., is director of technology at the Center for Arts Education in New York, N.Y. He also performs in the tristate area with his band, Vine House, as well as with an acoustic “covers” duo named Spare Time. Vine House is currently in the process of completing its second album (see www.vinehousemusic.com).

BRIAN McCARTIN (HARTT) of Flint, Mich., has earned the Chauvenet Prize, the highest award for mathematical expository writing—known informally as the Pulitzer of the math world—for his 12-page tribute, “e: The Master of All.” McCartin is an applied mathematics professor at Kettering University in Flint.
1995

PHILLIP L. BOYKIN (HARTT) of Montclair, N.J., joined the cast of Show Boat as Joe at The Media Theatre for Performing Arts in Media, Pa. Boykin is director of the New York Harlem Singers. In the photo he gives a hug to Linda Twine, music director of The Color Purple on Broadway.

WILLIAM J. FENNELLY (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., is assistant artistic director for Cirque du Soleil’s new vaudeville project, Banana Shpeel.

LORRAINE MORHARDT (BARNEY, M’07 BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., was featured in the Drogheda Independent in a follow-up article since having been named the Irish newspaper’s first recipient of its SportStar of the Year award.

TRAVIS PLOEGER (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., directed and accompanied Washington Improv Theatre’s iMusical at the Robert Shacketton Playhouse in Cape May, N.J.

ERIC S. PROTULIS (A&S, M’99 A&S) of Glastonbury, Conn., is the new director of special education services at RHAM Middle School and High School in Hebron, Conn.

1996

SANDRA R. JEKNAVORIAN (HAS) of Norwich, Conn., is chairman of the humanities department at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich.

NICOLE I. JUVAN (HARTT) of Bridport, Vt., an accomplished singer and actor, performed at the “Tea, Music & Art in the Barn and Garden” program at Fisk Farm in Isle La Motte, Vt.

SEAN P. O’SHEA (M, ENHP) of Northborough, Mass., has been named principal at Mary Rowlandson Elementary School in Lancaster, Mass.

1997

JULIUS TOLENTINO (HARTT) of Roselle Park, N.J., performed alto and tenor saxophone solos during the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz in Bushnell Park in Hartford, Conn.

1998

KRISTOPHER D. ALLEN (HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., performed on the alto saxophone in the tribute concert “Charlie Parker with Strings” at Hartford’s Riverfront Stage in Hartford, Conn.

ROBERT A. ARCIERO (A&S) of Cheshire, Conn., has been named principal at Moses Y. Beach School in Wallingford, Conn.

JASON ASHLEY (HARTT) of Texarkana, Tex., is a violin and viola instructor at Texarkana College and a violinist with the Texarkana and Shreveport Symphony Orchestras. He is engaged to Fay James, and the couple has planned a May 22, 2010, wedding.

KATE M. GOLDSTONE (M, BARNEY; M’03 BARNEY) of Winsted, Conn., has completed her doctorate. Her dissertation, An Empirical Test of a Career Systems Typology: Bracing for the “Perfect Storm,” is available for viewing via ProQuest.

KEITH KUMNICK (M, BARNEY) of South Windsor, Conn., received the Connecticut Light & Power Company Award for Outstanding Contributions to Main Street Revitalization. The award recognizes individuals and organizations who dedicate themselves to promoting awareness of the necessity of a comprehensive management approach to the revitalization of Connecticut’s historic downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts.

1999


KAREN R. STAVOLONE (M, HAS) of Broad Brook, Conn., is an art teacher at Manchester High School in Manchester, Conn. She is also completing documentary work and various sculptures on tobacco leaves and migrant farm workers, which she will exhibit in the year ahead.

AMANDA S. KEIL (HARTT) of Ardsley, N.Y., cofounded the musical group Musica Nuova, which performed at a SoHIP event at Emmanuel Church in Boston, Mass. SoHIP, or Society for Historically Informed Performance, is a nonprofit organization that provides performance opportunities for high-quality musical ensembles in the New England region.

DAN E. ROMAN (M, HARTT; D’06 HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., is an assistant professor of music at Trinity College in Hartford.

YLENA N. SHEYNN (HAS) of New Bedford, Mass., was featured in the Herald News for the whimsical busts and abstract sculptures she creates in her New Bedford studio.

ADAM G. SMITH (A&S) of Cranston, R.I., announces his engagement to Andrea Allgood.

ALEXANDRA ZACHARELLA (HARTT) of Fort Smith, Ariz., is an assistant professor of low brass and director of bands at the Academy of the Arts at the University of Arizona—Fort Smith.

2000

JOSHUA S. DEUTCH (A&S) of Brooklyn, N.Y., has been named client services manager at DocAuto in Norcross, Ga.

MARIN Y. IRELAND (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., starred in the American premiere of the Broadway production of Patrick Marber’s drama, After Miss Julie.

ROBERT A. MCCAFFREY (HARTT) of Astoria, N.Y., performed in Miss Saigon and Dirty Rotten Scoundrels at the Gateway Playhouse in Bellport, N.Y.

2001

DENISE P. BARD (M, BARNEY) of Farmington, Conn., is the new director of human resources for both the town and the board of education in Berlin, Conn.

MEREDITH COLMAN (M, HARTT) of Overland Park, Kan., performed with the City Winds Piano Trio at the Mahwah Public Orchestra in Mahwah, N.J. Colman, an oboist, and the trio performed music from Dring, Ibert, Kromer, Still, and Rossini.

MARY ROSE DYMOND (M, HARTT) of Woodbourne, N.Y., is principal at Huckleberry Hill Elementary School in Brookfield, Conn.

JAMES G. JULIANI (M, A&S) of Southbury, Conn., received his doctorate in psychology from Walden University in Minneapolis, Minn.

JONATHAN LITSKY (A&S, M’03 ENHP) of Simsbury, Conn., was featured in the Hartford Business Journal for his work in securing 65 locations in less than 12 months for Pocket Wireless, a cellular phone service that sells flat-rate, unlimited use.

2002

JEANNETTE LAZO (A&S). See LAUREN B. FIRTEL-GARFINKEL ‘03.

LAKSHMI L. THORNE (HARTT) of Scarsdale, N.Y., is a faculty member at the Riverside School of Music in Cos Cob, Conn.

2003

DANIELLE M. BATECHLER (BARNEY, M’06 BARNEY) of Unionville, Conn., has been named director of business services for the Torrington Board of Education in Torrington, Conn.

ADAM CORCORAN (HARTT) of Weymouth, Mass., starred as Gideon in 7 Brides for 7 Brothers and was the assistant director of Smoke on the Mountain at the Crown Uptown Dinner Theatre. He also starred in Rodgers and Hammerstein’s A Grand Night for Singing and Agatha Christie’s The Unexpected Guest. At the Bristol Valley Theatre in Naples, N.Y., he choreographed and performed in Evita and Private Lives. Corcoran also performed this year in the national tour of A Christmas Carol with the Nebraska Theatre Caravan.

2004

LAUREN B. FIRTEL-GARFINKEL (A&S) (left) of Bay Harbor Islands, Fla., and JEANNETTE LAZO ’02 (A&S) (right) of Miami, Fla., are public-information officers with Quest Corporation of America doing public-relations work for the Florida Department of Transportation. Firtel-Garfinkel and Joshua Garfinkel celebrated their first wedding anniversary on Oct. 12, 2009.

STEVEN A. FRENCH (HARTT) of Silver Spring, Md., was nominated for a New York Innovative Theatre Award for Outstanding Actor in a Lead Role for his work in Still the River Runs.

JESSI L. ROSINSKI (HARTT) of Brighton, Mass., performed a flute recital at the Winchester Chamber Music and Ensembles in the New England region. She and her husband, who make up the Rose-Gibbs Duo, were third-prize winners in the 2008 International Chamber Music and Ensembles Competition, professional division.

HELEN H. WALDRON (M, A&S) of Southbury, Conn., received her doctorate in psychology from Walden University in Minneapolis, Minn.

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HELEN H. WALDRON (M, A&S) of Southbury, Conn., received her doctorate in psychology from Walden University in Minneapolis, Minn.
In Memoriam

Stephen P. Brown, professor of painting at the Hartford Art School, died on Oct. 21, 2009. He was 59. Known for the powerful realism of his portraiture, Brown, who began teaching at the University in 1987, was one of HAS’s most highly respected faculty members, whose classes were always in high demand from students.

Calvin W. Lane, professor emeritus of English in the College of Arts and Sciences, died on Nov. 5, 2009, at the age of 86. A dedicated professor of literature and creative writing in the 1960s and 1970s, Lane often met one-on-one with students to help them with their writing. He also served on many University committees.

Michael J. Piette, former associate professor in the Department of Economics, Finance, and Insurance in the Barney School of Business, died on Nov. 4, 2009. Serving as associate dean of Barney during the early 1980s, Piette was a nationally recognized economist who was called to testify throughout the country on behalf of plaintiffs and defendants alike.

Malcolm Stevens, professor emeritus of chemistry for 30 years in the College of Arts and Sciences, died on Sept. 12, 2009. He was 75. A recipient of the University’s Roy E. Larsen Award for Excellence in Teaching, Stevens had just published his first work of fiction, Evan’s War (Xlibris, 2009). He had four previous books to his credit, two cowritten with his wife, Marcia Reed Stevens.

Peter J. Arborio C’42
Attilio A. Mascone A’42
Martha F. Kuehn A’44
Marilyn B. Freedman A’46
Joan L. Humphrey A’47
Erna Macy A’47
Morton W. Cohen A’48
William E. Levitsky A’49
Barbara D. Kessel A’50
Clifford Pinney A’48, ’50
Vincent J. Calvo C’53
Ann M. Sherman M’53
Stanley F. Zebzda A’53
Edwin P. Dennison A’54
Robert A. Eckel C’55
Martin W. Hoffman A’53, ’55
Lincoln O. Nystrom M’56
Casimir F. Dombkowski ’57
Helen R. Tonkin M’57
John P. Connor ’58
Thomas S. LeBaron M’58
Josephine A. Crowley M’59
Raymond R. Gagliardone C’59
Gloria S. Levine ’61, M’63, M’71
Anta D. Saxe M’61
John J. Dennison ’62
Ohsana Nergararian M’62
Walter G. Petke M’63
Harold A. Peyton ’63
Edward S. Kireczky ’64
Suzanne Perfect Lewin ’64
Georgiana W. Wilson M’64
Janet L. Bezanson A’66
Jean H. Craig M’67

Thomas R. Kennedy ’67
Jennie M. Marcini-Javorski M’67
Janet S. Kessner A’68
Jeanette McDermott M’68
Michael L. Porter ’69, M’75
Carolyn G. Rempt ’69
Herbert E. Weldon C’69
Dolores F. Cianfaglione A’53, ’70
Sebastian J. Infantine ’70
Leon Kouyoujian M’70
John F. O’Meara M’70
Marie K. Ronan A’70
Sylvia V. Worthley ’70
Robert S. Lang ’71
Thomas G. Aiello M’72
Maureen L. Berman M’72
James S. Kovalski A’72
Sylvia F. Corwin M’75
Marie J. Crump ’75
Henry A. Drude M’76
Richard H. Nye M’76
Diane E. Campbell ’78
David Herschclop ’78
Dina A. Kuiper ’80
Gregory H. Watts M’82
Raymond V. Kelley ’83
Elinor P. Jacobson M’85
Deborah H. Czerkawski ’87
Brian J. Hannah M’89
Hishamuddin Mohd Noor M’90
Elizabeth K. Raincz ’89
Justin Lipton A’96
Justine D. Michaud M’02

WINTER 2010 31

ANDREW J. SMITH (D, HARTT) of Trumbull, Conn., performed a classical concert at Pomperaug Woods in Southbury, Conn.

2004
GREGORY J. LEVASSEUR (CETA) of Windsor Locks, Conn., has received his Connecticut State Professional Engineering License. He is employed by the H2M Group as a project engineer in the Wastewater Engineering division.

JAMIE S. NYSTROM (BARNEY) of Townshend, Vt., and his wife, Dani, have purchased and reopened a Townshend landmark, the Harmonyville Store.

ERIN K. BAILEY (ENHP, M’07 ENHP) of Morristown, N.J., announces her engagement to JONATHAN H. ROINA ’05. The couple plans a Sept. 25, 2010, wedding.

MARK R. DONALDSON (HARTT) of East Rochester, N.Y., received his equity card for performing in Funny Girl at Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford, N.Y.

CHRISTOPHER J. DUBEY (A&S) of Middletown, Conn., was the sole winner of the Middlesex Community College Annual Award for Academic Excellence in Biotechnology.

EMILY M. KALISH (HARTT) of North Adams, Mass., is chair of the Helen Harrison Foundation for the National Repertory Orchestra in Breckenridge, Colo.

CHRISTOPHER J. O’NEILL (CEA, M’08 CETA). See CAITLIN Q. BAILEY ’06.

KEVIN A. VAN AELST (M, HAS) of New Haven, Conn., was featured in the Hartford Advocate about his use of unusual elements—gum, Gummy Bears, and Krispy Kreme doughnuts—to create his artwork.

ROSEMARY J. AIELLO (D, A&S) of New Britain, Conn., is director of fund development at Hands On Hartford in Hartford, Conn. She was chosen as one of the Hartford Business Journal’s Top 40 under 40.

CAITLIN Q. BAILEY (A&S) of Newington, Conn., announces her engagement to CHRISTOPHER J. O’NEILL ’05, M’08. The couple plans an April 24, 2010, wedding.

RYAN P. BAUER-WALSH (HARTT) of New York, N.Y., performed in the pre-Broadway reading of Empire as the character Ethan.

ELIZABETH M. CZAJKA (HAS) of New Milford, Conn., started a jewelry company called EMCzajka Designs and has shown her pieces at various vendor shows and through the website, www.Etsy.com.

COLLIN L. HOWARD (HARTT) of Astoria, N.Y., played the character John in Miss Saigon at the Gateway Playhouse in Bellport, N.Y.

SHARON M. KENNY (HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., has released a new album titled Pianocentric.

ANNIE K. KERINS (HARTT) of Sutton, Mass., joined the cast of Animal Farm at the New Repertory Theatre in Watertown, Mass.

LIZA C. MEKHLIN (ENHP) of Boston, Mass., announces her engagement to ADAM H. GOLDMAN A’06, ’09.
ANTONIO PERONACE (A&S) of Kensington, Conn., is director of multimedia communications and technology for the Democratic Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives.

CECILIA PHILLIPS-RITCHEY (HAS) of East Hampton, Conn., received the 2009 American Graphic Design Award by Graphic Design USA for her work on the Work It! Measure It! Mark It! invitation for the Hartford Art School alumni exhibition.

JOANN PREECE (ENHP, M’09 ENHP) of Meriden, Conn., is the clinical educator of surgical services at Middlesex Hospital in Middletown, Conn. She is also a clinical faculty member of the nursing program for Gateway Community College in New Haven, Conn.

MATTHEW J. WARNER (HARTT) of South Glastonbury, Conn., led his Matt Warner Trio in an event at the Glastonbury Hills Country Club featuring celebrity author Candace Bushnell.

BRANDEE YOUNGER (HARTT) of Uniondale, N.Y., performed at the second concert of the Encore Music Forum at the Nabi Art Gallery in New York, N.Y.

2007

SEAN M. BIXBY (HAS) of Merrimac, Mass., appeared in “Meet the Illustrators,” a special program at the Merrimac Public Library, for his work as an illustrator.

CYNTHEA A. COOK (HARTT) of Philadelphia, Pa., sang alongside the Hartford Symphony Orchestra for selections from Bizet’s Carmen, as well as Gershwin’s Summertime and I’ve Got Rhythm, at the Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows in Simsbury, Conn.

CHRISTOPHER R. HENDERSON (HARTT) of Northport, Maine, and his band have released their first full-length CD, Old Time Speaker.

RUTH L. JARVIS (A&S) of Lincoln, Mass., was promoted as head of the new Creative Services Practice for Davalen, LLC, in Sudbury, Mass.

MICHAEL A. LAPIERRE (ENHP) of Meriden, Conn., was the recipient of the Saint Mary’s Hospital Foundation’s Charlotte H. Desmaris Graduate Nursing Scholarship.

2008

DANIEL P. BRYE (M, HARTT) of Lancaster, Pa., performed with the IMANI Northwood Board Chamber Music Ensemble at St. Kieran Arts Center in Berlin, N.H.

PATRICK H. DUNN (HARTT) of Port Jervis, N.Y., portrays Prince Charming in the Disney production of Sleeping Beauty.

MATTHEW R. FAUCHER (HARTT) of New Hartford, Conn., received his equity card for performing in Camelot at the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Conn.

JONATHAN P. MORTICELLI (BARNEY) of Rochester, N.Y., is a police officer with the Manlius Police Department in Manlius, N.Y.

STEPHEN D. PERRY (D, ENHP) of Middletown, Conn., was the subject of a feature story on CNN’s Black in America 2 series. Perry is the founder and principal of Capital Preparatory Magnet School in Hartford, Conn.

KYLE A. PHILLIPS (HAS) of Tolland, Conn., had his first solo painting exhibit, titled Frames of Mine, at Brick Wall Fine Art in West Hartford, Conn. He was an artist in residence at Billings Forge Community Center in Hartford, where he worked to improve life in the Frog Hollow neighborhood. Phillips’s work may be viewed at www.kyleandrewphillips.com.

ADAM PODD (HARTT) of Brooklyn, N.Y., performed at the Haskell Opera House in Derby Line, Vt., for a special one-time performance.

JANINE A. ROMANO (HARTT) of Metro Manila, Philippines, was the lead singer in Cirque Dreams Illumination at the MGM Grand Theatre at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Ledyard, Conn.

CHRISTOPHER M. TRECE (HARTT, ’06 A&S) of Edina, Minn., performed in a Chorus Line as the character Mark at the Gateway Playhouse in Bellport, N.Y.

Births

Top row (l–r):
Corinne Sheehan Federici ’99 & David Federici (Dylan Anthony, 8.23.09)
Jenellen Mooz Fischer ’92 & Christopher G. Fischer ’91 (11.4.08)
Suzanne Lombardo Frain ’98 & Jason S. Frain ’97 (Evie Jade, 2.24.09)

Middle row (l–r):
Stacey A. Hache ’99 & Philip D. Hache ’97 (Brooke Michelle, 7.30.09)
Erin Neilan Harris ’02, M’04, & Nathan Harris (Ella Grace, 9.22.09, with Mom)
Craig Kimmelblatt M’07 & Rachel Kimmelblatt (Spencer Benjamin, 3.20.09)

Bottom row (l–r):
Kelly A. Massucci M’02 & Fran Massucci (Lucy Bella, 4.3.09)
Rosanne Florenti Ruppel ’91 & Paul Ruppel (Jack Michael, 4.9.09)
Tracy Benemerito Stead ’00 & Jeffrey T. Stead ’00 (Christopher Patrick, 6.22.09)

Not pictured:
Heidi Larkin Petruccelli ’00 & Nino Petruccelli (Nathan Vincent, 8.22.08)

Weddings

Top row: (l–r):
Rosalind Minsky Bobrow ’70 and Howard B. Hahn celebrate their nuptials on Jan. 18, 2009. The happy couple calls West Hartford, Conn., home.

Michelle R. Fox ’03, M’05, and Jason M. Erickson ’02, M’04, chose the island paradise of Bermuda for their wedding on June 2, 2008. The bride is a physical therapist, and the groom is in residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Middle row (l–r):
Jonathan Easterbrook ’87, M’90, and Lidia Kapalczynski (lower right inset) have eyes only for each other on their wedding day, May 23, 2009, in Hartford, Conn. In upper left photo, Easterbrook, director of marketing communication in the University’s Office of Communication—who is also known as “The Voice” for his many years as the WWUH play-by-play announcer for Hawks’ women’s basketball—stands surrounded by “the other women” in his life, past and present, who have been his colleagues at the University.

Jennifer Scharf ’02 and Michael D. Orlinski ’04 make a sparkling bride and groom on June 27, 2009. Joining them are (left to right) Anita Dunn A’03, ’06; Antonio Peronace ’05; Karen Botcheller ’03; and Kristin Scharf ’99.

Bottom row:
Amy S. Purnell A’02 and Patrick Hood take their solemn vows on July 25, 2009, before the bride’s father, O. James Purnell III A’69.

Not pictured:
Melissa D. Smith M’87 & Douglas Hunt (4.18.09)
Katherine Deliso & Eorryl S. Richter ’94 (8.29.09)
Jennifer M. East ’96 & John Amosa (7.11.09)
Julie L. Papp M’96 & David Haywood (4.4.09)
Stacy B. Mitinisky ’97 & Michael Rooney (7.26.09)
Vanessa May–Corsini & Michael J. Mavroudis ’98 (8.30.09)
Sarah Medeiros & Jamison S. Cormier A’00, ’00 (4.4.09)
Racquel J. Fens M’02 & Daniel Lefebvre (8.8.09)
Erin C Neilan ’02, M’04, & Nathan Harris (5.2.09)
Melinda B. Butynski ’03 & Scott Sipe (5.29.09)
Alison M. Kamenetsky A’02, ’04, & Scott Korf (8.9.09)
Cheryl A. Barkow ’05 & Derek McDonald (9.26.09)
Karen A. Baldino M’06 & Neil Hickey (7.18.09)
Andrea M. D’Agnevinca ’06 & Robert Feest (8.8.09)
Cecilia L. Doyle M’08 & Steven Gerber (9.26.09)
### 2009

**ANITA BALKUN** (M, HAS) of West Hartford, Conn., exhibited a series of relief paintings at Hunt Hill Farm’s Hay Barn Gallery in New Milford, Conn. Balkun’s pieces are visual translations of tactile sensations.

**ARDIS E. BARROW** (HARTT) of Lenox, Mass., made her theatrical debut in the Off-Broadway production of *Genesis* at the TADA! Theater in New York City.

**CORBIN J. BEISNER** (HARTT) of Las Vegas, Nev., performed a concert of classical and improvisational music at Christ the King Church in Wilbraham, Mass.

**JOHN C. BRINK** (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., sang on the winter tour of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra.

**ADAM H. GOLDMAN** (A, HILLYER, ’09 BARNEY). See **LIZA C. MEKHLIN** ’06.

**WILLIAM K. KHACHADOURIAN** (CETA) of Duanesburg, N.Y., is assistant engineer I in the facilities and engineering group at Clough Harbour & Associates in Albany, N.Y.

**DOUGLAS I. LYONS** (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., performed on the *Dreamgirls* national tour, beginning at the Apollo Theater in New York City.

**DAVID B. McWILLIAMS** (HARTT) of Seymour, Conn., is a music teacher at Highcrest Elementary School in Wethersfield, Conn.

**RYAN MIKITA** (HARTT) of Pittsburgh, Pa., made his theatrical debut in the Off-Broadway production of *Genesis* at the TADA! Theater in New York City.

**MICHAEL TURNER** (A&S) of Novato, Calif., has signed a contract to play basketball with the Nordlingen Giants in Germany’s Pro A league.

**ERIN M. WHITE** (HARTT) of Dalton, Mass., is a faculty member at the Berkshire Music School in Pittsfield, Mass., where she teaches advanced clarinet.

**HARALAMBOS ZAHARI** (CETA) of Enfield, Conn., is a development engineer at Texcel Medical in East Longmeadow, Mass.

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### Calling All Alumni!

**We’re looking for alumni who have made mid- or even late-career changes.**

Did you start out as an attorney and end up designing custom lampshades? Were you an artist who now bakes pies and cakes for a living? Did you leave social work to write novels or sell real estate? For an upcoming issue of the Observer, we’re looking for alumni who have traded in their first careers to follow their hearts in what the media calls “Plan B” careers.

If you have a story to tell, contact us at observer@hartford.edu. Thanks!

### Alumni Events

1. Samantha Cahill M’10, special events coordinator in the Office of Alumni Relations, competes in the 34th Marine Corps Marathon last October in Washington, D.C. 2. Alumni fans take a moment from their cheering at the July Yankees game.

3. It’s satisfied smiles all around the table for this family at September’s alumni soccer game and barbecue. 4. This alum leaves the soccer game with an unexpected prize for the next: a handsome University of Hartford spectator chair.

5. Gladys Ushchak M’07 and her nephew, Tyler, enjoy a Red Sox game. 6. An alum and her family make great Yankees fans at the game in July.

Every gift counts. Yes, I had heard that before, but my excuse for not giving to the Anchor Fund (formerly the Annual Fund) continued to be because I couldn’t afford a $5,000 gift. Then I learned what a difference $50 can make to help a student. In fact, the student telefund caller helped me understand that many gifts to the Anchor Fund are between $25 and $100.

Never underestimate the impact your gift will have on the education of a University of Hartford student. Any gift, large or small, makes a difference. No excuses.

Give to the Anchor Fund

To make a gift
Visit: www.hartford.edu/giving  Call: 860.768.2412
Mail: Use the convenient postage-paid envelope to mail your check, payable to the University of Hartford, Office of Development, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117.