

UAlbany

Author, Author!

As historians, biographers, novelists, humorists and creators of children's literature, UAlbany's alumni authors have the "write" stuff.



The Big Picture



Every season has its rituals. Each year since the mid-1990s, UAlbany's summer ritual has included the return of the "Big Men on Campus": the New York Giants, who head north for training camp, bringing a few weeks of NFL-style excitement to University Field and the surrounding Capital Region. When they aren't practicing, the Giants enjoy chatting with spectators and signing autographs. Here, quarterback Eli Manning pauses on his way off the field to toss a pass to a fan, no doubt thrilling the happy "receiver" – and transforming the football into a treasured souvenir.

THE WORLD WITHIN REACH UAlbany

University at Albany Magazine
Fall 2010, Volume 19, Number 2

Features

10 "Like Family"

When Richard C. Wesley, B.A.'71, enrolled at the University at Albany in the 1960s, he received an education – and so much more.



Gary Gold '70

12 Author, Author!

Would you like to transform your life in just one month? Learn more about the 1960 U.S. presidential election? Reconnect with your inner child? Indulge in a whirlwind romance? Examine the secret lives of ghosts? You can – because whether your literary taste inclines toward solving mysteries or exploring history, one of UAlbany's alumni authors has written a book certain to enlighten, entertain or enthrall you.



Mark McCarty

26 Helping Haiti

Phara Pignard, B.A.'02, M.S.W.'08, didn't wait to be asked to assist with relief efforts when an earthquake devastated her family's homeland. Instead, she organized her own aid program.



Departments

- 2 From the Podium and Beyond
- 5 Gifts at Work
- 6 Out and About
- 8 Where Are They Now?
- 28 Ask Geoff
- 30 The Carillon (Alumni News and Notes)
- 48 The Last Word

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Times Union

From the Podium and Beyond

By Carol Olechowski

Gais Heads Rockefeller Institute

Thomas L. Gais, who served as acting director of the University at Albany's Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government since November 2009, has been named director. His appointment was effective July 1. Gais joined the institute in 1994, directing its Federalism Research Group from 1996-2005 and serving as institute co-director from 2005-09.



David Shaffer

Chancellor Introduces "The Power of SUNY"

In a bid to promote enduring economic vitality, encourage graduates to remain in New York, and enhance citizens' quality of life, the State University of New York system is unleashing "The Power of SUNY."

The strategic plan, launched last spring, resulted from several months of collaboration by Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher; the SUNY Board of Trustees; campus presidents, students and staff; and community members. By emphasizing SUNY's role as an economic catalyst for the state and the nation, collaborating with public and private entities, and promoting environmental and health initiatives, the program promises to revitalize New York's economy, create new job opportunities, and advance environmental responsibility while continuing to prepare a well-educated workforce.

School of Business Unveils Architectural Plans

Within the next three years, UAlbany's School of Business will have a new home.

In May, University President George Philip and Dean Donald Siegel unveiled the design for the school's new building. The 96,000-square foot, \$64 million structure will "enhance innovation, entrepreneurship, community engagement, collaboration, faculty research and the student experience," noted Siegel.

Perkins+Will, a recognized leader in higher education design and sustainable architecture, included technologically advanced classrooms and meeting spaces, breakout rooms for team projects, expanded space for career services, student reception areas, collaborative research centers, additional graduate assistant workspace, and a trading room in the architectural plans. The plans draw inspiration from surrounding uptown campus buildings, which were designed in the 1960s by noted architect Edward Durell Stone.

The building, scheduled for completion in 2013, will be located on the uptown campus. To date, donors have contributed more than \$4 million in private support toward construction. The overall goal for private donations is \$10 million, with the remaining funding allocated by the State of New York.



Mark Schmitt

UAlbany magazine is published twice a year for alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends of the University at Albany, State University of New York. Our objective is to produce a lively, informative publication that stimulates pride and interest in UAlbany.

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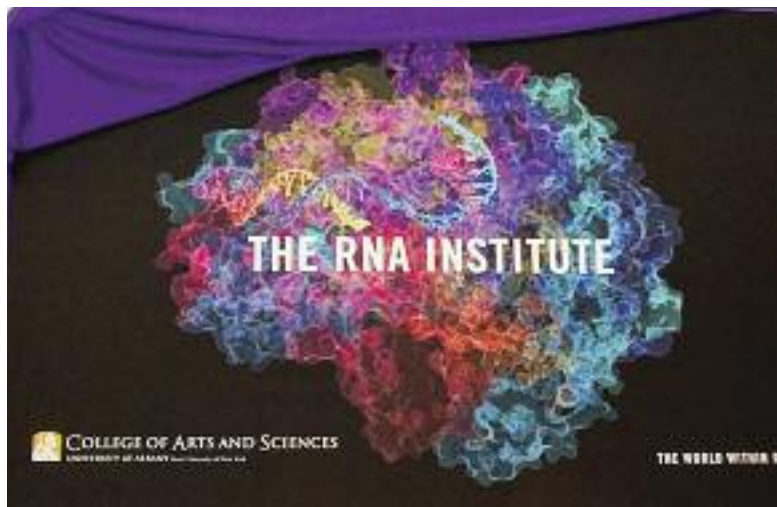
The University at Albany's broad mission of excellence in undergraduate and graduate education, research and public service engages more than 17,000 diverse students in 10 schools and colleges. For more information about this internationally ranked institution, please visit www.albany.edu.

Cover: Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Frankie Y. Bailey, M.A.'79, Ph.D.'86, pictured in the Dewey Library, enjoys writing both fiction and non-fiction. Bailey, creator of the popular Lizzie Stuart mystery series, is one of the alumni authors featured in this issue of *UAlbany*. Photo: Mark McCarty

UAlbany Launches RNA Initiative

A new initiative at the University is bringing together leading scientists in a state-of-the-art setting to harness the power of RNA for development and delivery of ground-breaking medicines, vaccines and diagnostics.

Launched in June at the Life Sciences Research Building, the initiative will spur early phase, novel RNA-based drug discovery leading to innovative medicines, drug therapies and technologies, and cures for such diseases as breast cancer, drug-resistant tuberculosis and HIV, depression, and ALS, neurofibromatosis and other neurodegenerative disorders.



Mark Schmidt

Department of Theatre Celebrates 100 Years



Robert Willower '64, Lillian Turner '64, James Lobdell '67, and Peter Jack Tkatch '64 enjoy the 100 Years of Theatre Exhibit in the Performing Arts Center's Lab Theatre. Approximately 80 alumni returned to campus in April to attend at least one of the three days of the reunion. Many others visited during the semester to see the exhibit.

From the Podium and Beyond

Acker, Berger Are Collins Fellows

Distinguished Teaching Professor of Criminal Justice James Acker and Professor of History Iris Berger were named Collins Fellows for 2010.

Acker joined the UAlbany faculty as a lecturer in 1988. A full professor since 1999 and a Distinguished Teaching

Professor since 2004, he served as dean of the School of Criminal Justice from 2000-02.

An exceptional teacher, respected mentor and outstanding scholar,

Acker was instrumental

in creating both the Albany Criminal Justice Association and the campus chapter of the national criminal justice honor society, Alpha Phi Sigma. He also co-directs the Capital Punishment Research Initiative.

During her 29 years on the faculty, Berger has taught in the University's departments of History, Women's Studies and Africana Studies. Her

service to UAlbany includes six years (2001-07) as chair of the history department and four years (1991-95) as director of the Institute for Research on Women.

Berger, who played a key role in developing both the Women's Studies program and Initiatives for Women, has been recognized for her scholarship and service with such honors as the Bread and Roses Award and the President's Award for Excellence in Academic Service.

Berger and Acker were honored during UAlbany's graduate commencement ceremony in May.



Giants Return to UAlbany

For the 15th straight year, the New York Giants delighted their Capital Region fans by returning to their pre-season training camp on UAlbany's uptown campus.

The team arrived Aug. 1 and left on the 20th; in between, there were plenty of practice sessions for fans to attend. Attendance for the first 14 summers of the camp averaged 33,000.

Since 1996, the Giants have spent part of each summer at the University. They have a two-year option to return through 2012.

NSF CAREER Award Goes to Siwei Lyu

For his achievements and potential, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has presented Professor of Computer Science Siwei Lyu its prestigious Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award.

The five-year, \$500,000 award supports Lyu's work in developing new methods to detect digital images that have been altered. His project, "A New Statistical Framework for Natural Images with Applications in Vision," examines a new mathematics-based language to describe images and build models to more effectively capture the statistical properties of natural images.

For more news about UAlbany,
please visit us on the Web at www.albany.edu.

Mark Schmidt



James Acker

Mark Schmidt



Iris Berger

Mark Schmidt

Standishes Designate Pledge for School of Business

Longtime UAlbany supporters J. Spencer and Patricia Standish have made a \$250,000 pledge to associate their names permanently with the University's new School of Business.

The building's atrium will be named for the Standishes, who are well known in the Capital Region for their support of higher education and medicine. The Standish Room in the Science Library also honors the couple.



Mark Schmidt

J. Spencer Standish, who served as University at Albany Foundation president for many years, is now director emeritus of The Foundation. He is

also chairman emeritus of Albany International in Menands, N.Y. Patricia Standish, a retired English teacher, taught for many years at Siena College.

McDonnell Foundation Funds Goel's Research

If idling at a red light with no other vehicle in sight annoys you, take heart. Associate Professor of Information Technology Management Sanjay Goel's research could make your aggravation – and the attendant wastes of time and fuel – a thing of the past.



Mark Schmidt

The James S. McDonnell Foundation recently awarded Goel a five-year, \$378,375 grant to continue his research, which indicates that coordinating traffic patterns and signals could minimize vehicle wait times at intersections, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and alleviate driver frustration.

E&Y Initiative Supports Business Students

In April, a group of School of Business alumni – all Ernst & Young and Ernst & Young Foundation employees – made an additional \$102,000 donation to the *Ernst & Young Initiative*, which enhances the student experience and assists the school in preparing a competitive workforce. From left, Professor and Chair of Accounting Ingrid Fisher and School of Business Dean Donald Siegel joined Ernst & Young partners Alex Fredericks, B.S.'95, and Elda DiRe, B.S.'83, for the check presentation.



Mark Schmidt

Out and About

By Christine A. Doyle, M.B.A. '04

Burton Lecture

Photo: Mark Schmidt

The Hon. Richard Ravitch, lieutenant governor of New York State, received the Burton Medallion at the annual John E. Burton Lecture and Distinguished Public Service Awards Ceremony on April 20.

Pictured, from left to right, are Mary Beth Joyce; Distinguished Public Service Award recipient Arthur Lee Butler; UAlbany President George M. Philip; Ravitch; Larry Joyce; Linda Bonesteel; and awardees Dionne Mack-Harvin, Jeremy Travis, and Mark P. Pattison. The Joyces, niece and brother of honoree Sister Maureen Joyce, RSM, and Bonesteel, her colleague, accepted the award on Joyce's behalf.



Community Conversation

Photo: Mark Schmidt

In hundreds of ways, at home and abroad, UAlbany is partnering to improve lives and communities. Almost 200 Capital Region community leaders joined UAlbany President George M. Philip in the University Hall Atrium on April 23 for a conversation about making the most of collaborations and connections.

Left to right, Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce President Linda Hillman, First Niagara Bank Regional President Thomas Amell, and The Business Review Publisher Carolyn Jones joined the conversation.



Spring Commencement

Photos: Island Photography, Inc.

Over 14,000 graduates, family members and friends converged on the Entry Plaza Lawn for the Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony on May 16, 2010. The undergraduate class reflects the rich diversity and wide-ranging strengths of UAlbany:

- 2,260 graduates came from 24 states and 50 countries, including Japan, Israel, Ghana, Italy, Peru, Pakistan, Togo and Vietnam.
- 50 percent of the students were women; the class also included 20 military veterans.
- Ages ranged from 19 to 61, with an average of 23.
- Degrees were earned in 50 different majors.
- Among the group were 53 graduates of The Honors College, the first to have completed four years in the program.



The Earth Tones, UAlbany's award-winning all-male a cappella group, performed the national anthem and "The Alma Mater." It was the final performance for Ryan Walz '10, far left. He will be missed!

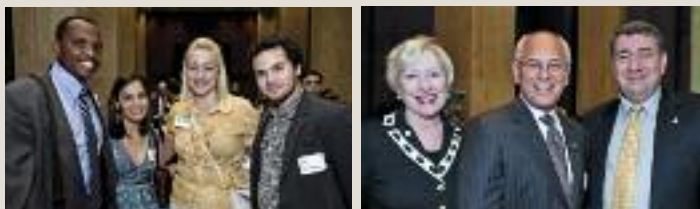
Alumnus Joseph E. Persico '52, author of 10 books of history and biography, gave the commencement address. Persico was also chief speechwriter for former New York State Gov. (and later U.S. Vice President) Nelson A. Rockefeller.



Washington, D.C., Event

Photo: Rob Bartlett

UAlbany alumni and friends gathered June 8 in Washington, D.C., to celebrate the launch of the Institute for Financial Market Regulation. The institute is a cooperative project of professionals involved in financial market regulation and supervision with the University at Albany and Albany Law School to develop interdisciplinary research and education in the field. For more information, visit <http://www.albany.edu/ifmr/>.



Catherine Provost '05, second from right, poses with friends.

SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher, Congressman Paul D. Tonko and UAlbany President George M. Philip, left to right, were on hand for the event.

Student Association Speaker Series

Photo: Mark Schmidt

UAlbany's Student Association implemented the World Within Reach Speaker Series in late 2009 to bring political, social, corporate and pop-culture icons to campus. On April 8, UAlbany hosted a debate between two of the most influential political minds of our time: Karl Rove, former deputy chief of staff and senior adviser to President George W. Bush, and Howard Dean, 50th chairman of the Democratic National Committee and governor of Vermont from 1991-2003.



Moderated by Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy Dean Jeffrey Straussman, center, the debate was lively and contentious.

Rediscover the Downtown Campus

Photo: Mark Schmidt

Alumni of all ages joined UAlbany President George M. Philip and University at Albany Foundation President George R. Hearst III in "rediscovering the downtown campus" last June 17. Following a major three-year renovation, Husted Hall reopened as a state-of-the-art facility that clusters all of the downtown campus classrooms into one space. A campus tour, led by University Archivist Geoff Williams and Associate Vice President for Physical Facilities John Giarrusso, was followed by a reception at the new Downtown Café.



Sorrell Chesin, Ph.D., associate vice president for University Development at UAlbany, right, poses with Edward Demske '58 and Elizabeth Demske '61, '63, who were celebrating their 50th anniversary.



Student Association President Joshua Sussman '10, far left, and Programming Director Reuben Ingbar '10, second from right, take a break from their event-coordination duties to pose with Dean and Rove.

Where Are They Now?

By Carol Olechowski



Election to membership in the National Academy of Sciences last spring was the latest honor for **Frances Allen, B.A.'54** (Spring 2007 *UAlbany*, "Allen Makes History as 2006 Turing Award Recipient"). During her 45 years with IBM, the former mathematics teacher used her skills to optimize

computer programs and high-performance computing systems. For her leadership at the firm and in the computing field, Allen became the first woman named an IBM Fellow. In 2006, she was the first female recipient of the Association for Computing Machinery's Turing Award, computer science's most prestigious honor. The National Academy of Sciences, a private organization of scientists and engineers dedicated to the furtherance of science and its use for the general welfare, was established in 1863.

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences welcomed Yale University Milton Harris '29 Ph.D. Professor of Chemistry **Alanna Schepartz, Ph.D., B.S.'82**, to its ranks in April. Schepartz, who majored in organic chemistry at UAlbany and received a President's Award for Undergraduate Research in 1982, earned a Ph.D. at Columbia University and completed a National Institutes of Health postdoctoral fellowship at the California Institute of

Technology. She has received numerous honors, including a 1991 National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator Award and Harvard University's 2008 Frank H. Westheimer Medal for scientific excellence, for her work. Schepartz joined the Yale faculty in 1988.



Richard Mosse

John Laub, M.A.'76, Ph.D.'80 (Spring 2004 *UAlbany*, "Understanding the Lives of Troubled Boys"), once aspired to a career as a police officer in his native Chicago. Instead, he earned graduate degrees from UAlbany's School of Criminal Justice; taught at Northeastern University and the University of Maryland; and conducted research in such areas as crime and deviance over the life course, juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice, and the history of criminology. Last June, Laub's career took him to Washington, D.C., where he now directs the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the U.S. Department of Justice's research, development and evaluation agency. He is the first criminologist in 40 years to serve in that post.



John Laub, right, is the new director of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) in Washington, D.C. In 2008, Laub was honored by the University of Maryland as a Distinguished Scholar-Teacher; pictured with him is Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Nariman Farvardin.

John T. Consoli

Wouldn't it be great if . . .

Congratulations to self-described “social entrepreneur” **Dan Bocanegra, B.S.’08** (Fall 2009 *UAlbany*, “Creating a Buzz”). In 2009, the M.B.A. student sold T-shirts, raising more than \$10,000 to purchase mosquito nets that were later distributed to villagers in Kenya and Ethiopia through the BUZZKILL Initiative. Now, Bocanegra has expanded on the “clothing-with-a-social-conscience” theme, establishing Selfless Tee, which will earmark a portion of the proceeds from each sale for worthy causes. With a \$50,000 grant from The Pepsi Refresh Project, Bocanegra will complete Selfless Tee’s Web site and maximize the firm’s impact.



As an undergraduate Russian language and literature major, **LinguaLinx** founder **David Smith, B.A.’90, M.A.’94, C.A.S.’95** (Winter 2008 *UAlbany*, “Saying Thanks by Supporting Students”) didn’t have the means to study abroad. Now, with offices in Beijing; London; San Francisco; Houston; and the Fort Myers, Fla., area, he often travels for business. LinguaLinx, a Cohoes, N.Y.,-based translation firm, offers interpretation, Web site localization and other services for corporations, non-profits and government agencies. In addition, Smith says, “we have started another division, GlobalScript, dedicated to technical writing and controlled language, essentially allowing us to play a greater role in an organization’s overall content-development life cycle.” *Inc.* magazine, he notes, named LinguaLinx the 311th fastest-growing private company in America in 2008; “last year, we were No. 893 on the *Inc.* 5000.”



Carlos Ortiz



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“Like Family”

Richard C. Wesley, now a judge of the United States Court of Appeals (Second Circuit), gained an extended family when he enrolled at the University at Albany in the late 1960s. This year, that family expanded when fellow graduates William Trunk and Emil Bove joined his office as law clerks.

For Wesley, who majored in history, the University was “a gateway, an exceptional opportunity. I fell in love with learning, and a career in law became a distinct possibility for me. Many of the good things that have come to me have come from the basis of Albany.”

Wesley recognizes that the same will hold true for Trunk and Bove. “It was a real kick for me to review their applications and see all the fabulous things they’ve accomplished,” said the judge. “I feel very strongly about the University at Albany and the opportunities it presents. These guys are an affirmation of that.”

Bove and Trunk are self-motivated and dedicated: “They work extraordinary hours – 10, 12, even 14 a day. They spend a lot of time with me, and we’ve gotten very close. They’ve become like family.”

Trunk connected with Wesley through one of the judge’s former classmates at Albany. “Norah Wylie [B.A.’70] is dean of students at Boston College. She talked about Judge Wesley and encouraged me to apply,”



The Hon. Richard C. Wesley, B.A.'71
Hometown: Hemlock, N.Y.
Major: history
Law degree: Cornell Law School
Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals
(Second Circuit), Albany, N.Y.



William Trunk, B.A.'05
Hometown: Pleasant Valley, N.Y.
Major: political science
Minor: history
Law degree: Boston College

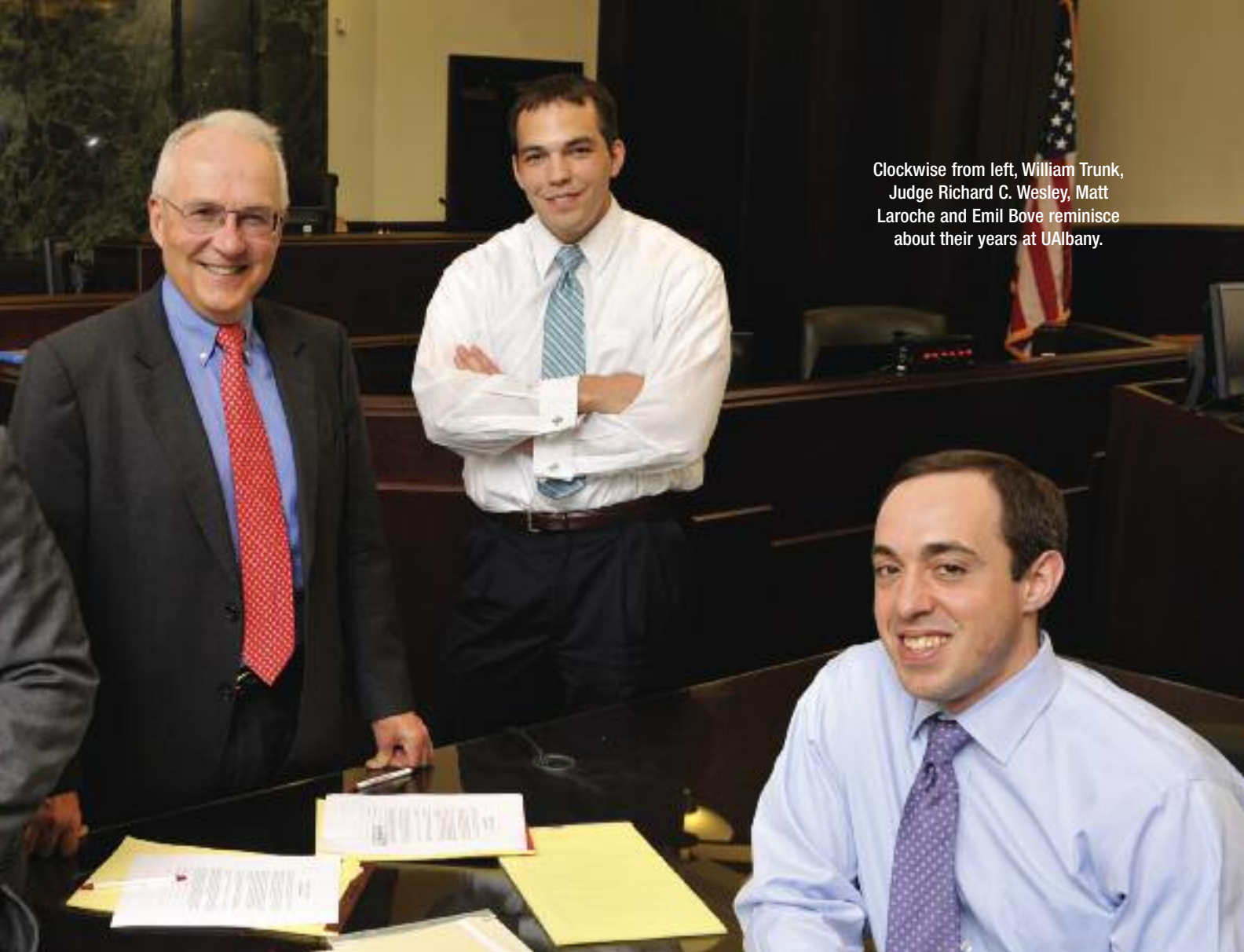


Emil Bove, B.A.'03
Hometown: Seneca Falls, N.Y.
Majors: public policy and economics
Law degree: Georgetown University



Matt Laroche, B.A.'05, M.A.'07
Hometown: Queensbury, N.Y.
Undergraduate majors: criminal justice and law
Minor: sociology
Graduate major: criminal justice
Law degree: Albany Law School





Clockwise from left, William Trunk, Judge Richard C. Wesley, Matt Laroche and Emil Bove reminisce about their years at UAlbany.

remembered Trunk, who decided in high school that he wanted to become a lawyer. At UAlbany, “some of the classes I took, including *Constitutional Law*, taught by Professor Thomas Church, influenced my predisposition to law. I learned a great deal from that course.”

Bove also met Wesley through UAlbany connections. “Judge Wesley was appointed in 2003; I found an article about him on a Web site and wanted to try to meet him. Dr. [Lee] McElroy [UAlbany’s vice president for Athletic Administration] helped me get in touch with him. Judge Wesley told me that [clerking] would be good for my work in the district court.” After graduating from UAlbany, Bove worked as a paralegal in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Manhattan, then applied for a clerk’s position with Wesley while attending law school.

UAlbany graduate Jeffrey Mishkin, Esq., B.A.’69, “guided me through the application process.”

The clerks, Bove noted, “prepare for oral arguments, write memos and make recommendations to the judge. I’m learning his writing style and the process of decision making. He has tremendous insights.”

For Trunk, who will work in litigation after concluding his assignment with Wesley in December, clerking has been “a unique opportunity. It’s exposed me to so many different types of law.”

In 2011, Wesley’s UAlbany circle will grow again when Matt Laroche begins clerking for him. Laroche, who graduated from Albany Law School last May, has taken a year off to work in the litigation department at Milbank Tweed in New

York City. He looks forward to clerking with Wesley, whom he describes as “just phenomenal.”

Wesley hopes that, whatever his clerks do with their lives, they will “continue to pursue excellence.” He also wants Laroche, Trunk and Bove to become “good listeners” and learn that each controls his own destiny.

Over the years, Wesley has mentored nearly 40 law clerks; “I probably hear from four or five of them a week, asking what I think of various issues or requesting letters of reference. Every year, they come back from all over the country. They get to know one another; we meet their spouses and kids. We keep in touch.”

Just like family.



Author, Author!

Whether they write solo, with spouses and colleagues – or with their pets! – University at Albany alumni put their own unique spin on the literary world.

Frankie

BY CAROL OLECHOWSKI

Bailey

M.A.'79, Ph.D.'86

Frankie Y. Bailey is a woman of mystery – and non-fiction, too.

Bailey, creator of the popular Lizzie Stuart mystery series (The Overmountain Press), grew up in Danville, Va., and studied psychology and English at Virginia Tech. When her adviser suggested she pursue advanced study in criminal justice, she asked, “What is criminal justice?” The adviser explained, then added, “The place to go for criminal justice is SUNY Albany.” It was the only place I applied.”

As is the case with her mystery novels, a few twists and turns lay ahead. Bailey applied late for admission to the School of Criminal Justice, missing out on a fellowship. While waiting to enroll, “I worked in a department store, spent all my money on a two-week trip to Europe and joined the U.S. Army.” She began her studies while on leave.

Bailey admits to being “a little intimidated when I heard about the ‘2C’ rule – two C’s and you’re in trouble. But John Morgan, the assistant dean, greeted my parents and me, gave us a terrific tour and welcomed me to the school.”

At UAlbany, Bailey wondered how she would put her degree to good use. “Here, most Ph.D. students teach,” she says, noting that she was very shy as a child. By casting herself as “an actor on a stage, interacting with the audience,” she overcame her shyness and began to enjoy teaching.

Bailey later taught at Kentucky State University; she also served as acting assistant vice president for Academic Affairs for a year but didn’t care for administrative work. When David Duffee, then dean of UAlbany’s School of Criminal Justice, invited her to apply for a three-year visiting professorship, “I jumped at the chance to get back into research and teaching.” Now an associate professor of criminal justice, Bailey teaches at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

“My broad area of research is crime and



Mark McCarty



American culture, including mass media/popular culture, and crime history,” she notes.

Asked if Lizzie Stuart is based on her own life and experiences, Bailey emphatically shakes her head. Like her creator, Lizzie is a UAlbany graduate, but the fictional crime historian and her lover, former homicide detective Quinn, have taken on lives of their own. Raised by her grandparents in Kentucky, Lizzie spent the first four novels in the series seeking the truth about her mother but has yet to learn her

father’s identity. The fifth, *40 Acres and a Soggy Grave*, is set for publication in 2011. Bailey is also researching Albany history and architecture for a new mystery series set in New York’s capital “about 10 years in the future.”

Bailey and her good friend Alice Green, B.A.’62; M.A.’67, ’79; M.S.W.’73; Ph.D.’83, are currently conducting research for a book about blacks in Albany. Green, executive director of the Center for Law and Justice in Albany, has collaborated with Bailey on several books, including *Wicked Albany: Lawlessness and Liquor in the Prohibition Era* (The History Press, 2009).

BY CAROL OLECHOWSKI

Marcia Brown, B.A.’40

Artist and Storyteller

In an earlier age, Marcia Brown – world traveler, longtime student of Chinese art and calligraphy, music lover, artist in several media – might have been called a Renaissance woman. Anyone who has grown up since the 1940s, however, knows her as a wonderfully gifted storyteller and artist whose books have delighted children of all ages for generations.

After graduating from the New York State College for Teachers, where she studied English and drama, Brown taught high school for three years. The Rochester, N.Y., native later accepted a position in the New York Public Library’s Central Children’s Room, where she honed her storytelling skills. Her works always blend visual art, history and an uncanny ability to appeal to children’s real selves.

Brown’s talents were quickly recognized by critics, as well as by children

and their adult counterparts. In 1948, two years after publishing her first book, *The Little Carousel*, she received Caldecott Honors from the American Library Association (ALA) for *Stone Soup*. From 1950 through 1954, five more of her works (*Henry-Fisherman*, *Dick Whittington and His Cat*, *Skipper John’s Cook*, *Puss in Boots* and *The Steadfast Tin Soldier*) earned the Honor Book designation. In 1955, *Cinderella, or the Little Glass Slipper*, brought Brown her first



Caldecott Medal, the ALA’s highest award for excellence in children’s picture-book illustrations. The first author to receive the medal three times, she also won for *Once a Mouse* (1962) and *Shadow* (1983). The

latter, Brown’s favorite among all her works “partially because it is my freest,” involved cut paper, wood and blotted paint techniques. “*Shadow* was done while I was working chiefly in Chinese painting, with no apparent

influence but that of spirit. And I loved the prose poems of Blaise Cendrars, from whose work the text comes,” adds Brown, who likens the creative process to “an early hunter finally ensnaring his prey – an idea haunting one until it is realized to some satisfaction.”

Seventy years after graduating, Brown remains grateful to NYSCT “for the exposure to first-class teachers, and often their friendship.” In appreciation, she presented a valuable collection of art books in French, German, English, Italian, Chinese and Japanese to the University at Albany Libraries, along with funds for its maintenance and interpretation. The Marcia Brown Collection also includes watercolors, pastels, woodcuts, puppets and other creations, as well as her personal papers.

“I cannot imagine not being grateful to one’s university as it has grown through the years, or to the people who gave precious time to young people groping for answers to their existence,” Brown observes. “Agnes Futterer, Harold Thomson, Louis Jones and Edna Wallace were dear, dear friends and guides at a most important part of my life.”

Denny Fried

M.A.'73

Of Dogs and "Doggerel"

Ever wonder what your dog thinks of you – and of humans, in general? Then read *Small Dog, Big Life: Memoirs of a Furry Genius* (Simon & Schuster, 2009) or one of the other works co-authored by Genevieve Highpoint La Reine – known simply by her first name, as befits royalty – and her amanuensis, Dennis Fried.

Since puppyhood, the 7-pound papillon has been "barktating" her observations about human intelligence and eccentricities to Fried, who dutifully translates them from "Doggerel" and readies them for publication. Only "a warped sense of humor" prepared Fried for this labor of love. The Catskill, N.Y., native earned degrees in physics from the University of Michigan and Florida State; graduated from UAlbany with a master's in philosophy; and admits to having been "laughed out of numerous careers,

including teaching, marketing and standup comedy."

Fried loves dogs but initially resisted his wife Katrina's pleas for a pet. Asked why she wanted a dog so badly, "she replied, 'Because I need something to love,'" he recalls. Faced with a choice between marriage counseling or getting a dog, "we got Genevieve."

Genevieve's most recent book, *Small Dog, Big Life: Memoirs of a Furry Genius*, followed *More Memoirs of a Papillon: Diary of a Mad Dog* (Eiffel Press, 2005). Her first, *Memoirs of a Papillon: The Canine Guide to Living with Humans without Going Mad*, also published by Eiffel, was purchased by Simon & Schuster and reprinted as *Small Dog, Big Life*. Genevieve dislikes Fried's solo effort, *A Tongue in the Sink: The Harrowing Adventures of a Baby Boomer Childhood* (Eiffel Press, 2004). Why? "She claims that I plagiarized her sense of humor," Fried explains.



At home in Sarasota, Fla., Genevieve, 12, indulges in her "favorite hobbies, eating and sleeping," and grants the occasional interview. She's "honored" to be included in UAlbany, "even though you're wasting a lot of ink talking about Dennis."

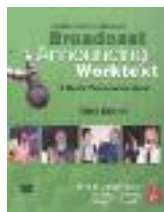
Visit Genevieve online at www.dogtellsall.com and on Facebook. E-mail Dennis Fried and his co-author at eiffelpress@verizon.net. All of their books except *Memoirs of a Papillon* are available at amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com.

Authors & Editors

In honor of her 90th birthday, **Miriam Newell Biskin, M.A.'41**, has republished *My Life Among the Gentiles*, a collection of autobiographical essays. Biskin, a Jewish schoolteacher who grew up in an overwhelmingly Gentile environment in upstate New York, describes episodes in the lives of her colorful relatives and friends, shedding light on the question of human relationships. Biskin, a children's story writer and a retired schoolteacher from Cohoes, N.Y., is great-grandmother to seven – and soon to be eight.

Alan Stephenson, B.A.'55, M.A.'58, is the lead author of *Broadcast*

Announcing Worktext, now in its third edition. Widely used to prepare undergraduate students for performance careers in mass media and such related fields as public relations, the book provides broad guidance for the performance elements, such as inflection, rate, emphasis and vocal variation. Assignments include extensive work on ad libbing, as well as reading teleprompters and performing in stressful



situations. Each chapter includes a variety of quizzes, exercises and projects to be done individually. One chapter is devoted to an exploration of ethical situations a performer can encounter; another focuses on methods of finding employment in the communications field. Stephenson is a professor of communications in the Tim Russert Department of Communications and Theater Arts at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Richard Matturro, B.A.'68, M.A.'69, Ph.D.'73, has published his fourth novel, *Perseus*, with 24 original

drawings by **Mary Trevor Thomas, M.L.S.'97**. In this offbeat take on the classical myth, Perseus bumbles his way into a heroic adventure along with Andromeda, a highly opinionated young damsel in distress. What develops is a romantic comedy of epic proportions. After 16 years at the Albany *Times Union*, Matturro now teaches in the English department at UAlbany. Thomas is the head of circulation and technical services at Bethlehem Public Library.



David Bordwell B.A. '69

BY AMY HALLORAN, B.A. '90

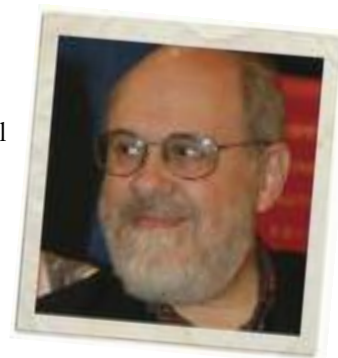
“Our Best Writer on the Cinema”

David Bordwell loved his time at UAlbany. The renowned film historian, hailed by Roger Ebert as “our best writer on the cinema,” majored in English, minored in theater, and revived a dwindling International Film Group. “Weekends, we would book a mix of recent Hollywood movies that we thought were important, and foreign films,” Bordwell recalled. One weeknight, the group showed classics, using records to make soundtracks for silent films.

Bordwell was the projectionist for the late Professor Fred Silva, who showed films in his English classes, and for Professor Arthur Lenig, who showed films in his art history courses. Lenig also gave him a chance to write sections of class texts he was publishing. “There wasn’t much on film written in those days,” said Bordwell, Jacques Ledoux Professor of Film Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1973-2004.

With his wife, Kristin Thompson, Bordwell composed

what has become a seminal undergraduate text, *Film Art* (McGraw-Hill), now in its ninth edition. The couple’s textbook *Film History: An Introduction* (McGraw-Hill) is in its third edition.



Bordwell and Thompson continue to write for students and for academic audiences of scholars and historians. These audiences perhaps overlap in their blog efforts, selections from which will be published next spring as *Minding Movies* (University of Chicago Press, 2011).

Bordwell wrote the introduction to Roger Ebert’s new book, *The Great Movies III* (University of Chicago Press, 2010). An updated e-book version of the out-of-print *Planet Hong Kong* will be available on his Web site, www.davidbordwell.net/, in December.

While employed by the New York State Office of Mental Health, Darby Penney happened upon material that led to *The Lives They Left Behind: Suitcases From a State Hospital Attic* (Bellevue Literary Press, 2008), written with Dr. Peter Stastny, psychiatrist and filmmaker.

A leader in the human-rights movement for people with psychiatric disabilities, Penney discovered the suitcases referred to when Willard State Hospital closed in 1995. Saved by staff members and a curator from the New York State Museum, these 400 suitcases held the possessions of people who had been institutionalized.

Penney and Stastny worked with photographer Lisa Rinzier to examine the artifacts of these people’s lives, and to curate an exhibit that shared this historical bounty with the public. The New York State Museum presented the exhibit in 2004; a portable exhibit is still circulating. The Web site

www.suitcaseexhibit.org offers a virtual tour of the project.

Penney credits her time at UAlbany with helping her to develop the research skills she needed for the project.

“Everything I ever learned about how to use a library, I learned from the late Professor [of Information Science] William Katz.

He was a great teacher. People often think of library research as being kind of dull, but he made it engaging,” said Penney. “I did some independent study work in the

mental health field with Professor [and later Dean of the School of Information Science and Policy] Richard Halsey, and learned how to mine government documents and archives. That was essential for the book, because I spent an awful lot of research time in the New York State Archives.”

Darby Penney M.L.S.'80 Human-Rights Advocate

By Amy Halloran, B.A. '90



Jennifer Roy

B.A.'89

Second-Career Success

BY AMY HALLORAN, B.A. '90

Jennifer Rozines Roy didn't plan to be a writer, but her second career has taken the Colonie, N.Y., native to great heights. The former elementary instructor, who studied psychology at UAlbany, began writing for an educational publisher while recovering from an illness. Her 2006 book *Yellow Star* (Marshall Cavendish), a work of historical fiction for young adult readers, won many awards, including the prestigious Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor Award. Written in free verse, the book gives voice to Roy's aunt Sylvia (Syvia), who was one of the 12 children to survive the Lodz, Poland, ghetto during the Nazi occupation. The book, which has led Roy to speaking engagements at schools, synagogues and other venues, is now part of the curriculum for many middle school students studying the Holocaust. *Yellow Star* is also a huge crossover success, spreading into the adult reading market.

This is but one of Roy's 35 titles, which range from math series to single-subject history books. One of her most exciting projects is *Trading Faces* (Simon & Schuster), the series she and her sister, Julia DeVillers, write for tweens. In the first book series written by identical twins about identical twins, the sisters write alternating chapters about fashionista Payton and mathlete Emma. Book 3 in the series, *Times Squared*, comes out in January 2011.

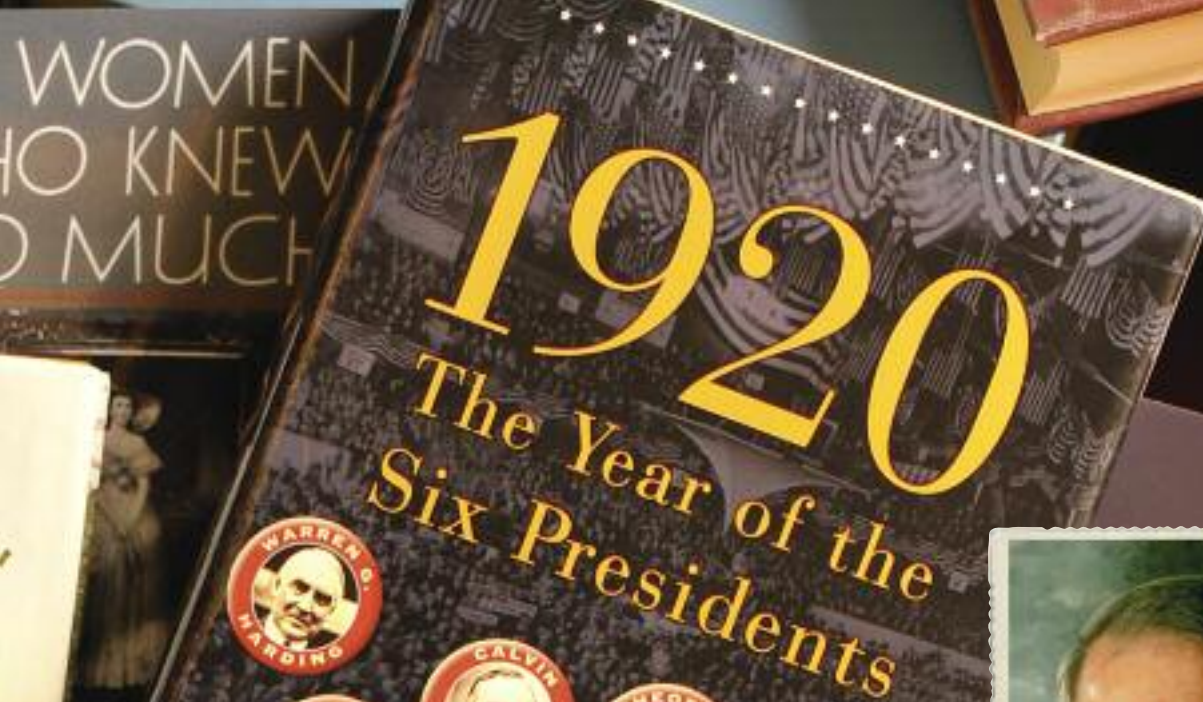
MindBlind, new to bookstores this fall, will introduce readers to 14-year-old Nathaniel, who is profoundly gifted and has Asperger Syndrome. More information on Roy's books can be found on amazon.com.

Jennifer Roy based *Yellow Star*, pictured at far right, on the experiences of her aunt Sylvia (Syvia), a child survivor of the Nazi occupation of Lodz, Poland.

The author's latest work, *MindBlind*, which features a teenaged protagonist with Asperger Syndrome, is due out shortly. Roy's 8-year-old son Adam, shown with her at right, made some contributions to *MindBlind*.

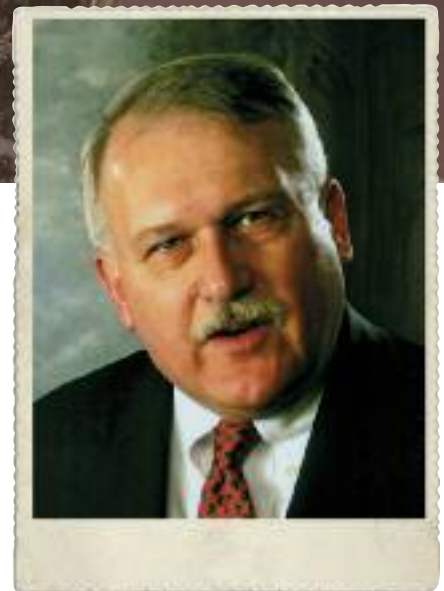


Mark McCarty



David Pietrusza

B.A. '71, M.A. '72



Documenting History

BY AMY HALLORAN, B.A. '90

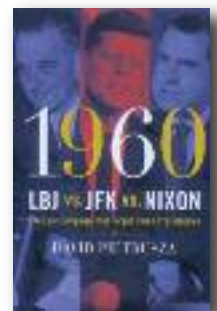
David Pietrusza dedicated his book *1960: LBJ vs. JFK vs. Nixon* (Union Square Press, 2008) to two members of the University at Albany's history department, professors Harry Price and Catharine Newbold.

"They were fine teachers, and I thought they were fine individuals. They were serious without being pompous, and they made sure you learned things," Pietrusza said.

Even as a child in Amsterdam, N.Y., Pietrusza knew he wanted to be an historian. He earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in history in quick succession, then worked for the State of New York in a variety of capacities. His passion for history merged with his career when he began writing baseball history for a range of industry titles.

His first book, *Judge and Jury: The Life and Times of Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis* (Diamond Communications, 1998), won the Casey Award for Best Baseball Book of 1998. This portrait of the first commissioner of baseball led to the biography of a gambler, *Rothstein: The Life, Times & Murder of the Criminal Genius Who Fixed the 1919 World Series* (Basic Books, 2003), a finalist for an Edgar Award.

Pietrusza's latest books focus on political history. They include *1920: The Year of the Six Presidents* (Carroll & Graf, 2007); the aforementioned *1960*, due out in paperback this fall concurrent with the 50th anniversary of the election and the debates; and the upcoming *1948: Harry Truman's Improbable Victory and the Year that Transformed America's Role in the World* (Union Square Press, 2011).



Alan Zaremba, B.A.'71, M.S.'72, has published *Organizational Communication* and *Crisis Communication: Theory and Practice*.

Organizational Communication provides an overview of the principles and practices of organizational communication



using familiar, real-world examples and interviews with actual practitioners that help students connect theory to practice. *Crisis*

Communication adds theoretical coverage and practical application to the more traditional study of crisis communication through case analysis. Zaremba is asso-

ciate professor of communication studies at Northeastern University.

Howard Miller, B.S.'81, executive coach and management skills instructor, has published *You're Full of Shift*. This inspiring book contains short stories of shifting difficult situations to opportunities; these are great anecdotes to reduce conflict and stress. Miller, a board member of the National Speakers Association Northern California Chapter, has been on the boards of the American Society of Trainers and Developers and the Golden Gate Business Association. He was a Big Brother for seven years and volunteered for San Francisco Suicide Prevention.

Patricia Giencke, M.S.'83, has written *Portable C++*, the first in-depth

book on writing C++ code in a portable manner.

This is a technical book of guidelines for C++ programmers to enable applications to run on different types of computers. Giencke was a co-founder of Software.com/Open Wave Technologies, which focused on e-mail and Web-based phone applications. She now concentrates on technical solutions for FDA clinical research. She helped start Phase Forward, which implemented the first Internet-based data collection for drug trials. She recently co-founded PharmaVigilant, which offers integrated solutions to all areas of the



clinical-development process. Giencke was one of the early graduates of the computer science department at UAlbany.

Christopher Robinson, M.A.'85, Ph.D.'91, has published *Wittgenstein and Political Theory: The View from Somewhere*. Robinson says the book is designed for graduate and advanced undergraduate students. Getting back to a philosophical way of life is difficult, he adds: "There's no great financial remuneration for this type of work, but there are certain rewards to a reflective life. If nothing else, it's more humane." Robinson, an assistant professor of political science at Clarkson, is also co-host of North Country Public Radio's "Readers and Writers on the Air."

An Affinity for Writing

BY ANNE WHITE, M.L.S.'66

When the rapidly growing Queensbury School District in upstate New York hired me in 1959 as the 7th-12th grade librarian, I knew I'd found the perfect job. I'd graduated from The College of Saint Rose with an English major ten years before, married and had six children. My life was busy, but books and reading had always played an important part.

I enrolled in the M.L.S. program at SUNY Albany, as it was called at the time, commuted to the downtown campus for six summers and received my master's in 1966. I felt a sense of history each time I rushed past the statue of Minerva. My mother, Helene Shinnars, was a 1917 Albany graduate. My father, Bernard Murphy, had taken courses toward his master's there around 1940.

At Queensbury, I loved everything connected with library work – poring over book reviews; choosing, ordering and cataloging books; promoting them to students and teachers; even tackling the biggest challenge: trying to make the Dewey Decimal System exciting to high school students. When the district considered introducing a career education program in 1980, I saw its importance to youngsters making college and career choices and asked to be on the committee. I worked full time as project coordinator for two years and part time for another eight in conjunction

with my library job. During that time, I wrote more than 100 articles on career topics for three student publications.

After I retired, I turned to mystery writing, aided and abetted – as mystery writers like to say – by the Lake George Arts Project's excellent workshops. Encouraged by Saratoga Springs author Matt Witten, I finished my first Lake George

Mystery, *An Affinity For Murder* (Oak Tree Publishing), which dealt with paintings apparently left behind by longtime summer resident Georgia O'Keeffe. *Affinity* won several awards, including a nomination by the Malice Domestic organization as a Best First Mystery in 2002.

I continued the series with four titles published by Hilliard and Harris: *Beneath The Surface* (2005; French and Indian War artifacts); *Best Laid Plans* (2006; tourism); *Secrets Dark And Deep* (2007; hibernating bats in an abandoned Adirondack mine); and this year's *Cold Winter Nights* (the New Year's Polar Plunge and a winter carnival complete with a masked

murderer). All these subjects have mixed well with mystery, and I'm confident Lake George will offer many more.



All of Anne White's books are available from bookstores and from amazon.com.

Lawrence Epstein, B.A.'67, M.A.'68, Ph.D.'76

Learning While Writing

BY AMY HALLORAN, B.A. '90

"From Dante Thomas on the first day to Mark Berger on the last day and all those people in between, I saw model after model of excellent teacher" at UAlbany, said Lawrence J. Epstein.

Thomas' classes convinced the history major to switch to English. Berger, his thesis advisor and a professor of Educational Administration and Policy Studies, taught him to use language with precision and rigor. Faculty members Arthur Collins, Eugene Mirabelli and M.E. Grenander also left strong impressions. Epstein drew on these examples throughout his career teaching English at Suffolk County Community College.

Epstein began writing professionally while he was a graduate student, working on book reviews for Albany's *Jewish World* newspaper. As he became interested in different topics, such as religion, politics and

Jewish comedians, he began to write journal articles, and eventually, books. Epstein has written a number of titles on Judaism. His book *The Haunted Smile: The Story of Jewish Comedians in America* (PublicAffairs, 2001) led to *Mixed Nuts: America's Love Affair with Comedy Teams* (PublicAffairs, 2004). Currently, he is working on a biography of George Burns.



While Epstein vowed never to force his students to buy a book that he had written, and thus kept his writing and teaching lives fairly separate, there is a common ground to his endeavors.

"I always find myself learning as I write. That's the heart of it. And that goes back to the notion of teacher, and the heart of my identity is that I'm a learner. I like learning, and I like imparting what I've learned, so that students would enjoy (the classes)," said Epstein.

Jim Sciancalepore, M.A.'93

Connecting With Teens



Gary Gold '70

As a senior creative director at one of the nation's top higher education marketing firms, Jim Sciancalepore spent years helping his clients understand and engage

a new generation of teens – analyzing their likes and dislikes, their goals and dreams. Whether he worked with Ivy League universities or state and community colleges, two common themes emerged: teens' desire for authentic communication (versus slick marketing speak) and the immense weight of pressure placed upon them.

Sciancalepore describes "this whip-smart, world-savvy generation of teens" as "innately cautious and even somewhat cynical about sales pitches and authority figures. They've been bombarded with marketing

their entire lives. At the same time, they have grown up in a very micro-managed, uber-scheduled world, and they feel intense pressure and scrutiny."

These insights – along with a lifelong love of teen-oriented fantasy fare, from "Buffy The Vampire Slayer" to *Harry Potter* – led Sciancalepore to write *The War On Destiny*. The work is the first in a young-adult series concerning a 16-year-old girl thrust into a perilous adventure in a parallel universe.

Blending humor with elements of fantasy, the recently released book aims to connect with teens in an authentic way – "affectionately mocking" the sometimes off-target help offered by guidance counselors and teen advisers, and even taking aim at hackneyed college recruitment campaigns.

Sciancalepore's book can be purchased through amazon.com or at TheWarOnDestiny.com.

Look At This Day
THE WAR ON DESTINY
J. SCIANCALEPORE

Nancy Levine

B.A.'82

The Tao of Writing About Pugs

BY CAROL OLECHOWSKI

Wilson is only 8 years old and weighs just 18 pounds. But in the world of pugs, he's a big star: With his owner, Nancy Levine, he has collaborated on four books featuring the wit and wisdom of – well, Wilson himself.

The co-authors met several years ago, when Levine lost her job in the dot-com meltdown. She discovered “some newfound free time and decided to get a dog. I told a \$20 psychic that I was thinking of writing a book about my dog, and she said, ‘Elvis told me to tell you to call your book *The Tao of Pug*.’ I pitched the idea to my agent, and voilà! The rest is history.”

The Tao of Pug “was bigger than anyone expected. Four months after its release, Borders Books asked my publisher, Viking, if we could do another Wilson book for Christmas. I decided then that Wilson needed a sidekick and friend. Enter Homer, the pug puppy, co-star of our second book, *Homer for the Holidays*,” says Levine, a Scarsdale, N.Y., native who majored in English at UAlbany. The other two titles, also published by Viking Studio/Penguin Group (USA), are *The Ugly Pugling* and *Letters to a Young Pug*.

Although Wilson gets top billing as author, “he is quite mellow. He loves getting dressed up and posing for the camera. Beyond this, he actually specializes in doing nothing. For him, doing nothing is a Taoist practice,” Levine notes.

Her pets “are the best of friends, though

very different. Wilson is the quiet intellectual. Homer is more like John Belushi in ‘Animal House.’”

At pug conventions around the country, the trio is famous, and Homer and Wilson do give out the occasional “pawto-graph.” Otherwise, “we’re only recognized by the kids in the neighborhood,” says Levine, whose next project, still in the “embryonic” stage, is “a funny book related to my other career in executive recruiting.”

Levine has actually had several careers since graduating from UAlbany, where Robert Garvin, now associate professor emeritus of philosophy, “encouraged my writing in a way that touched and affected me deeply.” She worked in human resources for a time at American Express in Manhattan, then moved to the San Francisco area to take a position with the Bank of California. She’s also been a comedian and an actor.



Steve Skoll



David

Pitkin

B.A.'59, M.A.'73

BY CAROL OLECHOWSKI

Ghosts are ordinary beings whose stories deserve to be told. David Pitkin's books give them a voice.

In the past dozen years, the retired history teacher has authored eight books, including the just-released *New England Ghosts* (Aurora Publishing). His first, *Saratoga County Ghosts* (Aurora, 1998), was inspired by stories Pitkin collected after having his first "ghost experience" in the hayloft of an old barn in the early 1970s. Learning shortly thereafter that a man had hanged himself in the barn 30 years before, Pitkin realized that he'd heard "this poor fellow taking his last walk over and over again."

Saratoga County Ghosts did well, selling 5,000 copies and bringing Pitkin invitations to tell stories at libraries and schools. It also inspired leads for additional ghost stories.

Mixing Mystery With History

When Pitkin receives a lead, he follows up with the tipster, then visits the building where the ghost lived or worked. Sometimes, the current property owner invites him inside. Pitkin tries to learn as much as he can about the ghost.

He does research on the Internet, using Google and Wikipedia; visits libraries and museums; and chats with local historians. To date, the Chestertown, N.Y., resident has interviewed nearly 1,400 people.

Ghosts don't frighten Pitkin. Rather, he views their existence as "a whole other dimension to history" that has instilled in him "a strong faith in the continuity of life after death. Life goes on. Ghosts are the best proof of that."

Visit David Pitkin online at www.afterworld.info.

Authors & Editors

"I'm not a nutritionist, I'm just hungry," **Lisa Lillien, B.A.'87**, says by way of introducing herself to visitors on her Web site, www.hungry-girl.com. The self-described "foodologist" is, however, a *New York Times* bestselling author: Last spring, *Hungry Girl 1-2-3: The Easiest, Most Delicious, Guilt-Free Recipes on the Planet* shot to No. 1 on the *Times*' bestsellers list in the "Paperback Advice" category, a year after *Hungry Girl 200 Under 200: 200 Recipes Under 200 Calories* made the list. *Hungry Girl Happy Hour: 75 Recipes for Amazingly Fantastic Guilt-Free Cocktails and Party Foods* was also published in 2010.

Joseph Amato, B.A.'86, D.A.'89, released his memoir *Once an Engineer: A Song of the Salt City*, which chronicles his life in Syracuse, N.Y., during the 1970s, when a career in engineering provided a path out of poverty. Amato spent seven years as a practicing engi-

neer in Fortune 500 factories before leaving industry in 1984 to pursue his passion for poetry at UAlbany.

V. Thomas Hoban, Reunion Class '90, has written his memoir, *The Letter*, edited and published by his wife, **Adrienne Debarry Hoban, B.A.'90**, whom he met at UAlbany. A life-changing experience near the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, inspired Hoban to write



a letter of love and appreciation to his family; that communication became the basis for *The Letter*. The memoir highlights Hoban's time at UAlbany, traveling the world, taking big risks, making your own luck, and cherishing what truly matters most: family. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the book will directly benefit the *Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund*, which provides educational assistance to

financially needy dependents of those killed or permanently disabled in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Michael Rinella, Ph.D.'97, has published *Pharmakon: Plato, Drug Culture, and Identity in Ancient Athens*. *Pharmakon* examines the emerging concern for controlling states of psychological ecstasy in the history of Western thought, focusing on ancient Greece. Employing a diverse array of materials ranging from literature, philosophy, medicine, botany, pharmacology, religion, magic and law, Rinella fundamentally reframes the conceptual context of how we read and interpret Plato's dialogues.



Accessible to the general reader, yet challenging to the specialist, *Pharmakon*, a comprehensive examination of the place of drugs in ancient thought, will

compel the reader to understand Plato in a new way.

Anthony Colucci, B.A.'98, M.A.'99, has written *Copilots, Duties, and Piña Coladas*, a witty and practical book about how to be a great teacher. To motivate, invigorate and rejuvenate teachers, Colucci skillfully weaves "tongue-in-cheek" humor with his experiences as a troubled student and a passionate teacher. Colucci is a National Board Certified teacher whose devotion to his students, and innovative and creative lessons, have earned him numerous awards, including a Governor's Award from the Florida Council on Economic Education, a Gold Star Unit from the Core Knowledge Foundation, and the Cape Canaveral Air Force Association Teacher of the Year. He currently coordinates and teaches the Gifted Student Program at four elementary schools in Florida.



Louise DeAngelis Hall, B.S.'42

A Writer's Legacy

Set in New York's Adirondacks, the murder mystery *Look at this Day* (hardcover published by Haldean Pub. Co.) transforms the area nearly into another character. Author Louise DeAngelis Hall, B.S.'42, captivates readers with vivid descriptions of towns and hamlets, rivers and streams, mountains and valleys, heightening the suspense surrounding the central question: Who did it and why? Hall, who grew up near the Adirondack foothills in Johnstown, N.Y., graduated from the New York State College for Teachers with degrees in



English and business education, and earned her master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University. She taught business subjects for 15 years before retiring to Sarasota, Fla., where she volunteered as a librarian. Hall loved to write short stories but always wanted to write a book; with *Look at this Day*, published in 1997, she accomplished that goal. Her legacy also includes two UAlbany endowments: She established one for library support; the other for student aid. Hall passed away in 2006.

– Sorrell E. Chesin, Ph.D.

Tania Modleski, B.A.'70, M.A.'71

A Feminist Perspective

BY AMY HALLORAN, B.A. '90

Tania Modleski teaches film, literature and popular culture at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Her many scholarly books and articles cover these topics, as well, examining film, television and other vehicles of popular culture from a feminist point of view.

Modleski's first book, *Loving With A Vengeance: Mass-Produced Fantasies for Women* (Archon Books, 1982), was about women's popular culture, Harlequin romances and soap operas. "I myself was a hardcore addict of romances all my life, and I was trying to figure out why there was a huge contradiction between me being a feminist and me being addicted to romances," Modleski said. Her other titles include *Old Wives Tales, and Other Women's Stories* (New York University Press, 1998) and *The Women Who Knew Too Much: Hitchcock and Feminist*

Theory (Methuen, 1988).

The recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Modleski accepted UAlbany's Alumni Award for Achievement in Arts and Letters last May. At the ceremony, she told an anecdote about Professor of English (now emeritus) Harry Staley. "One time he said to me, 'Tania, you're one of the smartest people I know, but you're also one of the laziest.' That remark has been nipping at my heels throughout my career, and now every time I go to the movies, I get to call it work. I guess I found a way to combine my laziness with my intellect," she quipped.

Modleski also took a film course with now retired Associate Professor Frederick Silva, whose lessons always remained with her as she taught film studies.

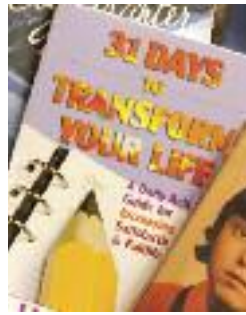


Her latest work, "Clint Eastwood and Male Weepies," appeared in *American Literary History* this year.

Lisa Giruzzi B.A.'83



Joan Heffler



In her 20-plus years as a speaker, coach and consultant working with individuals and organizations, “I was seeing a lot of the same things, including a focus on problems, in many different places. To create positive change, you need to focus on your strengths and enhance what’s already working,” Giruzzi emphasizes.

While the guide’s Day 1 exercise, “Question Your Perspective,” should be completed first, “the lessons do not have to be done in order.” Nor must they be completed within one month, adds the author, who recommends that “the ‘Transformational Actions’ you find most valuable” be incorporated “into daily or weekly practices to support your ongoing journey.”

Other *31 Days* lessons include “Focus on Your Successes,” “Stop the Blame Game” and “Live It Up!”

At UAlbany, Giruzzi majored in psychology and minored in sociology. She discovered “a lot of different ways to learn,” including an internship at the

Capital District Psychiatric Center, where she later worked for two years, and research projects. After graduation, she was employed as a social worker for the Northeast Parent and Child Society and as a child protective caseworker for Schenectady County.

A co-founder of the Creating WE Institute, an organization of “critical thinkers, consultants, coaches and scientists” who address leadership and problem-solving issues in the workplace, Giruzzi also spent three years with an educational consulting company in New York City. Now back in Albany, she heads her own consulting company, Transformational Conversations.

Giruzzi’s newest book, *Bringing Out the Best in Your Employees: The Ultimate Guide for Managers and Supervisors for Engaging and Empowering Their Employees*, is expected to be released this fall.

Several Capital Region bookstores carry *31 Days to Transform Your Life*, which is also available through Giruzzi’s Web site, www.TransformationalConversations.com.

Transforming Lives

BY CAROL OLECHOWSKI

Within the next month, you can “move effortlessly toward the life you want to live.” And Lisa Giruzzi’s *31 Days to Transform Your Life: A Daily Action Guide for Increasing Joy, Satisfaction & Fulfillment* (Transformational Conversations, 2009) can help you.

Authors & Editors

Beth Riley, M.S.W.'99, and Mitchell Rosenwald have published *Advocating for Children in Foster and Kinship Care, a Guide to Getting the Best Out of the System for Caregivers and Practitioners*. This book provides strategies for effective advocacy and placement within the foster care and kinship care systems. Riley is the cofounder of BCFOCUS, a multi-agency collaboration working with foster and adoptive families.

Daniel Guyton, B.A.'00, has written a new play, *Death of a Snowman*, which was published by theatrical giant Heuer Publishing in June 2010. *Death of a Snowman* is the story of a young girl and

her snowman discussing life and the afterlife in an existential comic fantasy. Guyton’s play *Georgie Gets a Facelift* was produced simultaneously in two different cities this summer — one at the Festival of Independent Theatres in Dallas, Texas, and the other at the Third Eye Theatre in Portland, Ore. *Georgie* also appeared in Nebraska, Georgia and New York.

Gary Bugh, Ph.D.'04, has co-authored *Electoral College Reform: Challenges and Possibilities*. This volume brings together new research on many issues related to electoral reform, including reasons for change, issues surrounding a Constitutional amendment, and



possibilities for reform at the state level. The authors consider both the federalists’ vision of balanced representation and a more democratic and equality-based ideal. Bugh and two of the book’s other contributors, **Michael Korzi, Ph.D.'98**, and **Michael Rogers, M.A.'99, Ph.D.'05**, are graduates of the University’s political science department in the Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Public Policy. Bugh is associate professor and chair of the political science department at Texas A&M University in Texarkana. Korzi is associate professor at Towson University in Maryland, and Rogers is assistant



professor at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville.

Lisa Grace Packard Bundrick, M.S.W.'04, has written *Learning About Feelings*, a children’s book aimed at teaching young children what select feelings mean and look like. The book’s objective is to enhance youngsters’ feelings vocabulary and enable them to begin to develop empathy towards other people’s feelings. Bundrick is also the author of several articles relating to school social work; her most recent book contribution, “Responding to a Crisis,” is featured in the book *The Ultimate Teacher: The Best Experts’ Advice for a Noble Profession, with Photos and Stories*. Bundrick is a school social worker at Hoosick Falls Elementary School in New York.

Making Dreams Come True

BY LUDIMA GUS BURTON, B.A.'46

After teaching social studies and English in Averill Park and Northville, N.Y., for 30 years, New York State College for Teachers graduate Ludima Gus Burton retired from the classroom. But the Farrell, Penn., native soon took up a new career: writing. Here's her story.

I made my dreams come true. If I can do it, so can you.

When I was 71 years old, in 1991, I wrote my first novel in six weeks. What triggered this fantastic accomplishment? I was too lazy to go to the Amsterdam, N.Y., library for my usual bag of books. I said to myself, "I'll write my own book" – which I did.

A couple of months before, I had read my first paperback romance novel. Since I only read murder-mysteries, the title – *Partners in Crime* by Anne Stuart – fooled me. I fell in love with the romance genre.

I wrote my first novel in pencil. On my way home from taking my grandson Matthew to his bus stop, I would think of what I would write next. I wrote 10-15 pages a day. Then I had to buy a word processor, learn to use it and type my handwritten pages.

I thought my novel was perfect.

Alas, editors didn't, and *Lessons in Love* became my first rejection. In the following nine years I wrote five more books. The rejections kept coming until my folder was more than four inches thick. Those simple, easy romances were the hardest thing in the world to get published.

Did that deter me? Hell, no! (Please forgive the language from an older woman!)

I realized I had to learn the craft. I joined Romance

Writers of America and Saratoga Romance Writers, went to many conferences, attended workshops and read how-to books.

Finally, in 1999, Avalon bought my first book, *Only for a Year*, followed quickly by *The Tycoon and the School Teacher* (2000), *The Love Potion* (2001) and *The Wedding Cake* (2005).

PublishAmerica published my fifth book, *A Surgeon's Miracle*, when I was 87. At age 88, I sold my sixth, *The Christmas Ball* [Cambridge Books, 2008].

I'm not finished with dreaming. I want to create a memorable character who will live with readers forever. Anne Shirley of *Anne of Green Gables* is real to me; so is Scarlett O'Hara from *Gone With the Wind*.

Then, because I'm so proud of the immigrant heritage we all in Farrell have, I want to be published in Poland. They love romance in Poland.

I will never give up on my dreams.

And don't you, either.

Ludima Gus Burton recently celebrated her 90th birthday by publishing her seventh book, Never a Cougar (WriteWords, Inc.), on the Internet. As a trade paperback (Cambridge Books), it will be available on amazon.com and through bookstores. Burton resides in Fultonville, N.Y.



Alumni Authors at Fall Festival

Meet some of your favorite alumni authors during UAlbany's Homecoming/Fall Festival 2010 (Family & Reunion Weekend, Oct. 8-10). For location, date and time, along with an updated list of authors set to attend, visit the University's Web site: www.albany.edu.

A young child with dark skin and short hair is sitting on a rough, cracked concrete surface. The child is wearing a dark, sleeveless top and purple sandals. They have a somber expression, looking directly at the camera. In the background, there are wooden tables and orange plastic chairs, suggesting an outdoor or semi-outdoor setting. The overall tone is somber and documentary.

Phara Pignard, B.A.'02, M.S.W.'08

Helping Haiti

BY CAROL OLECHOWSKI

When a massive earthquake struck Haiti last January 12, Phara Pignard “immediately knew I had to do something.” She did, organizing her own relief effort to help her family and friends back home.

Pignard’s mother, born in Hinche, and her father, a Dominican Republic native who moved to the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince, as a teenager, married in the 1960s and relocated to New York, where they started a family. Pignard herself spent her formative years in Haiti and attended school there.

Initial estimates placed the death toll from the 7.0 temblor between 50,000 and 200,000, and the number of homeless in the hundreds of thousands. “I could only imagine the devastation. This earthquake affected the whole Haitian community worldwide,” says Pignard, who lost a cousin and an 8-month-old nephew in the disaster.

Over several weeks, Pignard and the Rockland County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; longtime friend Vinny Raffa; her colleagues at WestHELP Mt. Vernon, the Westchester County, N.Y., homeless shelter where she works as a team leader and director of Social Services; and other friends amassed “barrels of relief supplies.” From April 26 to May 7, the Pignards traveled from Port-au-Prince to Hinche, staying at family homes “fortunate enough to remain standing with no fractures” while distributing clothes and other necessities. Pignard’s brother Mario, a motion-picture lighting technician and freelance filmmaker, documented the experience on video.

The destruction in Port-au-Prince “was unbelievable. Seventy percent of the homes there were damaged or crumbled to pieces,” observes Pignard, who majored in sociology and criminal justice at UAlbany, then returned for a master’s in social work. As she and her relatives handed out baby clothes, wipes and bottles; medical supplies; and personal-care items at a makeshift clinic set up in a Port-au-Prince home, “I saw many families wait for hours to be seen by only one nurse, one doctor and several nurse interns.”



With aftershocks continuing weeks later, “the people of Port-au-Prince do not feel safe in their homes. Many choose to sleep outside under tents; others are brave enough to sleep indoors with one eye open.” Yet, Pignard adds proudly, the Haitians carry on, “going to work and attempting to make ends meet. They are the strongest, most resilient folks I have ever met. Throughout history, this country has been ravaged by war, corruption and natural disasters. Still, the people remain strong and hopeful.”



Pignard says “the truly rewarding experience” of aiding the Haitians “cannot be put into words, but my heart and soul were pleased. The people of Haiti were grateful for our generosity.”

In December, Pignard plans to return to Haiti to continue her relief work. “Any kind of assistance,” including medical supplies, clothing, food and money, is welcome. For information about supporting Haitian relief, please contact her at phara_pignard@hotmail.com.



Phara Pignard worked with family, friends and colleagues to collect relief materials for earthquake victims in Haiti. She visited the island nation last spring, distributing clothes, medical supplies and other necessities to people who, in many cases, had lost everything they owned.



Ask Geoff

By Geoff Williams,
University at Albany Archivist

By the mid-1960s, the State University of New York at Albany had embraced a new mission – and the mascot, the “Pedwin” and the “Peds” nickname for SUNYA’s sports teams had to evolve to reflect the school’s new focus on liberal arts and graduate education. In 1965, Kathy Earle (now Kathleen Earle Fox, B.A.’67, M.S.W.’76, Ph.D.’96) submitted the winning entry to Albany’s mascot-naming contest, and the Great Dane – which represented “the grace, distinction and ‘strength’ of the new university campus” – became both the nickname of the sports teams and their symbol.

The new campus, designed by noted architect Edward Durell Stone, finally gave the school a Health and Physical Education Building, which opened in 1968. It included basketball, squash and handball courts; a swimming pool; weight rooms;

and numerous other athletic facilities. Nearby were fields specifically designed for soccer, track, football, baseball and tennis.

The winds of change also brought a major expansion of athletics. In 1966 and ’67, respectively, field hockey and swimming joined women’s tennis, basketball and softball as SUNYA sports. All were established well before the passage of Title IX in 1972.

In 1970, the new major sport at Albany was football, reintroduced as a club sport after an absence of 46 years. Football and basketball became mainstays of the school’s athletics program.

The 1990s saw dramatic changes to University athletics. The Recreation and Convocation Center – now called the SEFCU Arena – opened in 1992, giving UAlbany impressive new basketball facilities; a seating



Frederick Brewington, B.A.’79, left, and Ray Gay were co-captains of the University football team in 1977.

SUNYA/University at Albany

TIMELINE:

1970: Football is revived as a club sport. Over the next four decades, Coach Bob Ford will lead his players to an enviable record that includes several Northeast Conference Championships since UAlbany’s move to NCAA Division I competition in 1999.

1995: The University transitions from NCAA Division III play to Division II.



1966: Warren Crow, B.S.’67, M.S.’77, wins the 1966 national collegiate NCAA championship in wrestling – and repeats the feat the following year.

1987: Crew joins the roster of club sports, which also includes lacrosse, added in 1968, and rugby, in 1974.



1997: Richard “Doc” Sauers, who began coaching the NYCCT basketball team in 1955, retires as the Danes score their 702nd victory.

The Great Danes win the Eastern Football Conference championship in their first year with the conference, posting a 27-20 victory over American International. The team goes on to win the 1998 championship, as well.

Crew joined the roster of club sports in 1987.

capacity of 4,800; an indoor track; and new weight rooms and training rooms. As a result of the move to Division II in 1995, wrestling, men's tennis, and men's and women's swimming were eliminated from the University's sports programs. Still, the move brought gains, too. The Great Danes won the Eastern Football Conference championship in 1997 – their first year in the conference – with a 27-20 victory over American International, then followed up the next year with another championship win. Division II play also saw victories in men's cross country (consecutive New England Collegiate Conference championships and the ECAC in 1999), women's field hockey (division title in 1998), women's tennis (titles in '96, '97 and '98) and women's track and field (three NECC championships and two ECAC championships). Men's track and field won NEC championships in '97 and '98, while the softball team won the conference championship in '98.

As I wrap up this look back at University athletics, I'd like to thank Paul Kirsch '51; Tom Clingan '73, '75; and UAlbany Sports Information Director Brian DePasquale for their research assistance.



Thank you, too, for reading. I hope you have enjoyed this review of athletics at UAlbany and its predecessor institutions over the past 150-plus years. See you at the game!

GO, DANES!

Since 2002, the following UAlbany athletics teams have won championships:

Northeast Conference:
football

America East Conference:
baseball
men's basketball
women's field hockey
women's volleyball
men's lacrosse
men's indoor track and field
women's indoor track and field
men's outdoor track and field
women's outdoor track and field
women's golf
softball

Athletics, 1966-2010

2007: Fans cheer as the Danes edge the University of Vermont Catamounts 60-59 – and earn a second consecutive America East Conference title in basketball.

UAlbany baseball, women's volleyball and softball also post AEC championship wins.



Jamar Wilson, B.A.'06

1999: UAlbany moves to the Division I level of athletics competition.

2009: "Fore!" The women's golf team tees off for another AEC championship title.

2010: The men's and women's outdoor track and field teams are also AEC champs again.



Two-time Division II All-American field hockey player
Tovah Atwell, B.A.'00

Great Danes Victories in Division I-AA Competition

- 41 Conference championships:
 - 37 America East Conference
 - 4 Northeast Conference
- 15 NCAA Division I tournament participants
- 3 IC4A track and field championships
- 37 All-America Player selections

To submit a question for "Ask Geoff,"
e-mail gwilliams@uamail.albany.edu.

37 **Peg and Dick Margison** have moved to a retirement community in Baldwinsville, N.Y., where their daughter, Ellen, is on staff.

39 *A note from your class counselor:*

Three good friends have left us since our last writing. **Frederick Bowman** passed away Nov. 7, 2009; **Eleanore Wickham Bowman**, March 15, 2010; and **Robert Clark**, Jan. 7, 2010. Fred and El were regular reunion attendees and especially helpful in planning our 50th. Bob Clark was your counselor's daily D&H commuter friend from Cohoes for four years. We got to know each other well during our hikes from the Albany station to campus. May all three rest in peace. In 2009, "**Hallie**" (**Harriet**) **Green Cogger** took two trips with friend Barbara – a National Parks bus tour in the western United States and a riverboat cruise up the Danube, from the Black Sea to Budapest.

Class notes counselor: Ken Doran, kkencon@aol.com

48 *A note from your class counselor: Mary*

Jane Giovannone Caruso and her husband are living near Orlando, Fla., in a retirement village where they enjoy all of the activities. Mary Jane also volunteers by helping students in local schools. Their granddaughter has become an elementary school teacher and loves her job. The Carusos have six grandchildren and one great grandchild. All are welcome to visit at Winter Park Towers. **Julie Genovesi Fassett**, who is living in Cherry Valley, N.Y., enjoys grandchildren ranging in age from 5 to 22 and remains a devoted Red Sox fan. **Gari Patcopoulos** remains a faithful Yankee fan, and **Annalee Levine Ginsberg** continues to root for the Phillies. Annalee and her husband, Elihu, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary July 3, 2009. Elihu is doing well three years after heart valve surgery, but Annalee is experiencing serious eye problems. Both are still active with their synagogue, taking classes and enjoying many social events. Their daughter and her husband celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary. Two grandsons, Brett and Michael, live close by in New Jersey. Gari will travel to New Jersey for her grandson Patrick's graduation from high school and then will spend time with her daughter and family in Delmar. **Charlotte Goldstein Koblenz** recently enjoyed trips to San Juan and the State of Washington. **Donald Sayles** feels fine and continues to sail the Great Sacandaga. With the help of his son, Doug, the mast is up and the boat has been launched. Don's younger son, John, and his wife spent time in the Philippines where they made a movie about the Philippine Insurrection in the early 1900s. At the University's Performing Arts Center last spring, I (your class counselor, Eleanor) was

pleased to attend "The Crucible." **Arthur Collins** starred as Francis Nurse. The president of the Berkshire County Historical Society planned to cast Arthur as Herman Melville in a one-act play this summer and, as usual, Arthur will read William Cullen Bryant's poem on Monument Mountain and send the hikers on their way up the mountain to mark the occasion of Hawthorne's and Melville's first acquaintance with one another. Arthur remains in touch by phone with **Arthur Russell** in the south of France. Arthur Collins has eight granddaughters, one of whom will be married in October.

Helen Kiesel Schick has been recuperating from knee replacement surgery and subsequent physical therapy. Helen spent time away from the Atria to attend a granddaughter's graduation from St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md. Her four children, their spouses and seven of her 10 grandchildren attended one granddaughter's First Communion celebration and then the Mother's Day brunch with Helen. On a sad note, **Edna Wylie** sends notice of **Shirley Graham Elwood's** death March 28, 2010. **Mary Emmett Foster** lost her husband, Bill, in January 2010. Mary lives at Kingsway Village in Schenectady, still plays bridge and remains active using her cane and walker. **Jane O'Brien O'Brien** and **Ruth Doran** are both well and enjoying life, like the majority of us. **Lucille St. Priest Horton** and husband remain in Forestburgh, N.Y., and Lucille continues her music ministry with numerous community concerts in and around her area. **George Poulos** has traveled to Turkey and Greece. George, who has a son in Albany, will try to stay in touch with former friends when he visits his son. **Wilma Diehl** keeps busy with her dog-obedience club and as secretary of the local historical society; she is also an active member of the German Genealogical Group. Wilma has one beautiful miniature poodle. **Eileen Abrams Petterson** has recovered from recent hip-replacement surgery, is doing very well and lives at Coburg Village in Rexford. Eileen enjoys her granddaughters; the oldest will be a senior at SUNY Geneseo; the younger girl graduated in June from Shenendehowa High School. **Wanda Tomasik Methe** suffered a very serious automobile accident and is recovering slowly. **Clara Sylvestri Beninati** and husband Al ('49) live in Ballston Lake and are doing well. Just a reminder to all to keep in touch. We hope to be planning a reunion of the classes of the 1940s.

Class notes counselor: Eleanor Holbig Alland, ealland214b@nycap.rr.com

49 *A note from your class counselor:* There is mostly good news to report. First, however, one bit of sad news: **Rose Rosen Ziffer** died on Jan. 23, 2010. Rose is survived by her husband, three children, nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. On the

good news side, **Jake Schuhle** has received a complimentary write-up as a campus champion in the SUNY Cortland *Campus News* bulletin. The article states that Jake has been helping the SUNY Cortland campus community for more than half a century. Beginning in 1954, he devoted 31 years as a librarian. For the past 20 years, he has selflessly volunteered his expert services as the college's archivist. Jake also volunteers one morning weekly in the local historical society. He gets a laugh when school groups visit and see him pecking away on his manual Smith-Corona typewriter. They ask, "What's he doing?" In January, **Don Dickinson** participated in a table-tennis tournament sponsored by the Senior Olympics in Tucson and found that age paid off. Don was awarded a fancy trophy before the games started for being the oldest person participating. However, he did not report how he did in

the tournament! In April, Don received a new two-volume, one-million-word reference work, *The Oxford Companion to the Book* (2010), with a request to review it for *CHOICE*, the American Library Association's monthly journal. Don said the best part was that he got to keep the book. When invited to their Rotary breakfast meeting, **Bonnie Totten Adkins** and husband Lee discovered they were the recipients of the annual Community Service Award. Bonnie and Lee have been very active in local service organizations; they also have many responsibilities at church locally, nationally and globally. At the end of May, **Dolores Stocker Eklund** went on her first cruise, to beautiful Bermuda. **Richard Foster** reports that his wife, **née Bertha Washburn**, also a 49er, died of cancer in 2001. After teaching languages for 31 years, Richard continued working as a nurse and volun-

teered for 18 years in a clinic for low-income seniors. He lives in a retirement community in Sarasota, Fla., where his life is filled with theater, bridge, travel and music. His daughter teaches in Sarasota, and his son is an engineer in Rochester. Richard has three grandsons and two great-grandchildren. **Jean Pulver Hague** and her sister took a barge trip on the Danube with Uniworld and said it was a wonderful cruise line. **Gloria Meiselman Herkowitz** has finally retired as a real-estate agent. She's now enjoying line dancing; Zumba exercise to Latin music; and trips to Maryland to visit her grandsons, one of whom graduated from high school in June. **Bob Kittredge** is recovering nicely from major back surgery. Bob and Diana took a three-week trip in May to the Pacific Northwest. Their itinerary included a visit with their granddaughter at Gonzaga University in Spokane and a

three-day Exploritas program on the San Juan Islands. Bob's son has accepted an overseas position as a surveying engineer with an American contractor in Kyrgyzstan and is stationed at an American base near Bishkek. **Bob Kloeppel** continues to lunch frequently with his college buddies, **Nolan Powell** and **Russ Bailey**. Bob says they are all doing well, considering their ages! **Jeane Selkirk McLellan** and husband Don were very proud when they found out their daughter, **Patricia McLellan Schaefer** (Patti), received high praise from a Connecticut historical society for a book she authored, *A Useful Friend*. Jeane and Don also had a great weekend in June when they went to Brown University to celebrate Don's 60th class reunion. Don got to "walk down the hill," which is an honor bestowed on alums in good standing. **Elfriede (Freddy) Laemmerz Miller** had

Calling all NYSCT classmates from the 1920s!

Four generations of family members turned out last March to celebrate the 100th birthday of **Henrietta Gastwirth Saks, B.A.'29**. And judging by the photo, the guest of honor – a retired social worker who resides in Boynton Beach, Fla. – was the life of the party! We believe that Saks, a member of the New York State College for Teachers' Class of 1929, may be our most "senior" graduate. If you graduated in 1929, too, or in a prior class year, we'd like to hear from you. Simply send a note that includes your name, class year, degree, major, and a few sentences about your life since you left NYSCT to: **Mary T. Johnson, Division of University Development, University at Albany, 1400 Washington Ave., UAB 202, Albany, NY 12222**. If you wish, feel free to enclose contact information and a recent photo. Mary and your former classmates look forward to hearing from you!



AND THE LAST ALUM STANDING IS ...

In the Spring 2010 issue of *UAlbany* magazine, I challenged you to submit a brief story about how UAlbany helped to propel you forward. A panel of alumni reviewed the submissions and selected the following essay as the most inspiring. I must add that there were so many inspiring submissions that, in addition to the winning essay, we felt compelled to dedicate some additional space here to share excerpts from a number of the other moving entries. Congratulations to Greta Petry, M.A. '01, on her winning essay!

Lee Serravillo, Executive Director
UAlbany Alumni Association

If it weren't for UAlbany, I would never have had the chance to go back to school for the sheer joy of learning. Earning a master's degree in English in 2001 after five years as a part-time student was like winning the lottery.

In many ways, it was. My graduate education was essentially free, thanks to the United University Professions (UUP) tuition waiver. As the mother of two children, I needed to focus on how to pay for their college educations, not mine.



One of my professors said a master's in English would not increase my earning power. I didn't care. I was already working in the University's Office of Communications and Marketing. After paying my way through Oswego State and Syracuse University in the mid-1970s to obtain a job in print journalism, the idea of going to school just because I love English was appealing. I did homework on my lunch hour, missed a family birthday party or two (sorry about that!), and overcame my fear of going to school with 25-year-olds. My children read *Hamlet* out loud to me in the evenings when the type seemed to be shrinking. My professors gave constructive criticism and pushed me way out of my comfort zone. At times I awoke at 4 a.m. in fear of not being prepared for class. It was all worth it, every minute of it. It was a thrill to cross the stage at Commencement under the hot lights. My family was sitting in the stands, including family members from Scotland.

I am forever grateful to the State University of New York, the University at Albany, and UUP for giving me the chance to learn. And those children who read *Hamlet* to me? They have their own master's degrees now.

~ Greta Petry '01

Alumni News and Notes

It was a professor in UAlbany's Department of Geography and Planning that helped me discover that what I thought about and cared about in my home had real-world applications ... It was that inspiration and support that helped propel me in a new direction ... turning around an academic career threatened by failing out to one highlighted by achieving Dean's List. ... I am still harnessing the passion for my community that I discovered at UAlbany to help others make positive and sustainable impacts to their communities.



~ Sean Maguire '00, '04

What I learned at UAlbany ... was not how to be a systems analyst. Not how to be a programmer. Not how to be a computer engineer or any other job title. ... What I learned at UAlbany was how to solve problems. ... UAlbany classes and the overall experience and activities helped me acquire the skills and confidence to see problems from many different angles and work with people to solve those problems. Knowing how to analyze, communicate and solve problems has been the key factor in the successes I've had in business and in life and UAlbany played a large part in that.



~ Dave Reich '85, '86



Albany gave me so many different opportunities for growth and enrichment. Double majoring in biology and theatre helped me get into med school and I use the craft of acting as a model for teaching countless medical students the art of interviewing patients. ... Working as a Student Assistant helped me learn to be more organized and responsible. And working in the Kosher Kitchen taught me the importance of hard work – and how to make coleslaw for 200. Thank you, UAlbany – a great deal of who I am today is because of you!

~ Kevin Ferentz '79

If it were not for UAlbany, I wouldn't have been able to point from my office in the Center for Environmental Sciences and Technology Management (CESTM) building to my former dormitory — Stuyvesant Tower at Dutch Quad — and tell my UAlbany student interns, "If it happened to me, it can happen to you."



~ Gene Auciello '72

I can't credit UAlbany for my talent, but I can credit them for encouraging it. The professors there were always available when I needed them, and pushed just hard enough for me to want to achieve a higher standard. ... SUNYA provided a friendly and helpful environment filled with team spirit and unity. SUNYA gave me the opportunity to make lasting friendships and connections I have to this day.



~ Tamara Manor '91

UAlbany trained me to teach the use of words to create images, maintain friendships, describe travels, mourn loved ones – in short, to express life's joys and sorrows.

~ Helen Honeycombe Ring Gallant '47



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Thirteen alumni shared memories and stories about their college days during WWII when they returned for the Class of 1945's 65th reunion in June.

to do some fast recalculation. She and three friends had a cruise down the Rhine planned for April. However, they found themselves stranded at Dulles Airport due to the volcanic eruption in Iceland. Fortunately, one in the group had access to a cabin in South Carolina, so, for the next couple of weeks, they toured the South, including Charleston, Fort Sumpter and Savannah – all the time pretending these were scenes on the Rhine! Freddy also reports that her daughter, Dr. Erica Miller, has been in almost every newspaper in the United States, and national radio and TV, including the "Today" show, since she was one of the veterinarians sent to the Gulf of Mexico to work on oiled birds.

Gerald Reisner had two small strokes in March but has fully recovered and is back to what he loves doing, substitute teaching. Continuing his work with Habitat for Humanity, **Abe Trop** has completed house No. 42 in Bakersfield, Calif. In the spring, Abe started on a rehabilitation project for needy families. **Barbara Houck Van Tilburg** and husband Gerry are planning to take a 23-day cruise on the Holland America line in October. Their itinerary includes the Panama Canal; the western coast of South America; and Santiago, Chile.

Bobbi also reports that their 23-year-old grandson had successful open heart surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in January. **Horty Zeilengold Schmierer** attended the graduation of her granddaughter from SUNY Binghamton (*cum laude*). An African safari is planned for September under the sponsorship of Overseas Adventure Travel. At our 60th class reunion, we voted to donate the remaining funds in our treasury to various endeavors at UAlbany. One of the donations went to the School of Education's scholarship program. In May, I received a letter from Dean Robert Bangert-Drowns, indicating that at the Donor Appreciation Luncheon Awards and Scholarship Ceremony, our Class of 1949 scholarship was awarded to Christopher Valle, who is pursuing a degree in educational psychology. A program enclosed with the letter contained a biographical sketch of Christopher; it was quite impressive. Dean Bangert-Drowns concluded his letter by stating, "We extend our sincerest gratitude for what you and members of the Class of 1949 are doing for the School of Education and wish you health and every success." In September, a planning committee will be meeting to start preparations for our 62nd reunion in 2011.

Our committee will include the "old faithfuls": **Bonnie Totten Adkins; Jean McCabe Angell; Dick Zeller; Joe Zanchelli**; and a newcomer, **Ellen Fay Harmon**. If you have any thoughts about what should be done for our 62nd, please let me know.

Class notes counselor: Joe Zanchelli, jjzanch@yahoo.com

50

A note from your class

councilor: Prior to our 60th reunion in October, class co-councilor **Harold Vaughn** was busy attending his granddaughter Alicia's wedding, his grandson Michael's wedding, and his sister's 50th wedding anniversary; he also traveled to Italy with his wife, Maria Pia. Their two months in Italy will require some attention to supervising repair work to their apartment due to flood damage in the fall of 2009. **Anna Cembalski Myers**, a longtime friend and neighbor of **Frank Dembrosky**, reported that Frank passed away in 2005. Ill health will prevent her from attending our 60th, but she wishes the committee "good luck on attendance and happy times at the reunion."

Rosemary Watson Lessard of Schenectady, N.Y., informed us of the passing of **Flo Gloeckner**. An active

member of the Rotary Club, **Harold Vaughn** is working on a project "addressing the problems of unregistered (or shadow) children; the number worldwide is in the millions. In many countries, these children fall outside the system and lack access to health care, education and other vital support services. They may become victims of the worst elements that prey on vulnerable children. There are also shadow children in the U.S. but with far less serious consequences." If any of you have had relevant experiences and have suggestions how to get these children registered in the countries of their birth or residence, please be in touch with Sparky at VaughnHA@aol.com. Another worthy project Harold is hoping to launch involves funding the installation of solar panels on cottages at an orphanage in Kigoma, one of the poorest regions in Tanzania and among the poorest in the world. A severe shortage of electrical power exists there. Due to health issues, **Lila Lee Harrington** found it necessary to make big changes in her lifestyle. They included giving up her "beloved log home in the Adirondacks to relocate to Prestwick Chase, an independent-living facility in Saratoga Springs."

Marjorie Havey writes of the death of her husband, our classmate, Peter, on March 13, 2009. "Peter enjoyed 30 years of teaching and as a high school principal. He had a 20-year struggle with diabetes." **Anne Natoli Thomas** has "traveled extensively in Europe (including the former Yugoslavia) and in South America. The highlight of one of my trips was a cruise through the Panama Canal on the Queen Elizabeth II. My most recent cruise ended in an unintended and extended stay in Genova, Italy. We were in the Mediterranean when the ship was caught in an enormous storm. While [I was] walking back to my cabin, the ship lurched and I fell and broke my left leg. We docked at the Port of Genova and I was taken to a private Italian hospital and spent two weeks there. Fortunately, the surgeon was excellent and so was the care. I received extra attention since I was their only American patient. With my very limited Italian and Spanish and the use of hand signals, we were able to communicate." **Beverly Huber Woodin** taught art in Vermont schools for 24 years, 21 of them at Mary Hogen School in Middlebury, before retiring in 1991. In 1985, she received

the Vermont Outstanding Teacher Award; she was also the 12th recipient of the Vermont Chapter of AAUW Hazel Wills Award. Beverly, a charter member and past president of Middlebury Artists, served on the board of trustees of Vermont State Craft Center for eight years. She has been an active member of the Middlebury Garden Club since 1963 and received a Community Service Award from the Chamber of Commerce. In retirement, **Evelyn Weisenberger Dunn** honed her computer skills and has used those skills in her interest in genealogy. Evelyn has been able to trace one side of her family back to 1750. Her work included pages about her parents and grandparents as she remembered them. She recommends the Family Tree Maker program from Ancestry.com and the Ellis Island Web site and Mormon records. Four of Evelyn's students attended UAlbany; one young man who studied with her went on to become a priest and is now at the Vatican. She keeps in touch with many former students. **Ken George** tries to be active by volunteering (Meals on Wheels, etc.); by singing (barbershop quartet, church choir, local yearly cabaret); and by trying to maintain some semblance of physical shape by playing "old man's tennis" and going to the YMCA and going through the motions of "working out." Ken and Pat still maintain their too-large house and have most of their family and six grandchildren nearby. Ken and Pat were

recently presented a great-grandchild who resides in Finland. Ken belongs to the SUNYA Varsity Club and attends as many games as possible; "Life is good," he says. **Joan Romulus Jozifek** moved from Long Island to Sharon Springs, N.Y., when her husband, Walter, retired from the police force. Joan served as clerk/treasurer of the town for 28 years on the library board – 23 of those years as treasurer – and is a member of the local Women's Club. **Maggie Hosking Winne** is also a member of the club and serves as deputy town clerk, covering when the clerk needs time off. **Shirley Warner Martin** enjoys warm water exercises at the YMCA to relieve her arthritis. Shirley is busy as treasurer of three organizations: the local theater group, Western New York Retired Teachers' Association and Friends of the Public Library. Shirley also volunteers one day a week at the local museum and another day at her church library. Shirley has been active as treasurer of her local alumni organization, which has disbanded due to health and age problems. **Regina Bolenbach Taylor** lives at Coburg Village near her daughter, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Regina was widowed in 1987. **Mildred Nakasone Uchima**, who lives in Hilo, Hawaii, survived the tsunami of 1946 and witnessed the May 23, 1960, tsunami. Mildred is active in church and community activities and enjoys her role as a

docent at the Pacific Tsunami Museum. "At the museum, I have met people from all over the world and have even met graduates of UAlbany. I know our 60th reunion will be a BIG BLAST. Sorry I will miss it, but I will be thinking of you all! Keep me informed of the event. If anyone is planning a visit to Hilo, Hawaii, give me a call (808) 959-3426 or write to me and maybe we can get together here in paradise!!! Aloha from Hilo!" Mildred's address is 605 Haihai Street, Hilo, HI 96720-5513.

Class notes councilor: Audrey Koch Feathers, audreyfeathers@gmail.com

52 **A note from your class councilor:** The Class of 1952 celebrated a very successful and fun-filled 58th reunion June 4-6, 2010. We had an informal get-together Friday evening, an interesting Aqua Ducks tour of Albany on Saturday morning and a luncheon Saturday afternoon. Several of us stayed around to continue visiting with friends we don't see often enough and reluctantly departed Sunday morning. There were 33 of us at lunch, where **Joan Barron** brought us up to date on our scholarship and **Don Putterman** reminded us to specify any donation made to UAlbany to the Class of '52 Scholarship Fund Program Fund. We discussed our upcoming 60th reunion in 2012, with most people preferring a spring date and a program similar to this year's. We will



Members of the Class of '52 gathered in June to celebrate their 58th reunion.

Alumni News and Notes

be polling you for your ideas well before final plans are made. There were some humorous prizes awarded: a toy airplane to **John Bowker**, who came from Coral Gables, Fla., the farthest; ear plugs to **Helen Pilcher Terrill** to help when her 11 grandchildren are around; a rubber ducky to **Jane Minckler Jennings**, who has 10 great-grandchildren; and a

bottle of aspirin to **Joyce Leavitt Zanchelli**, who has been married the longest, 58 years and 343 days. **Marilyn Johnson VanDyke**, our president, encouraged us to reminisce, which resulted in many stories. Those days were the greatest, and it's always a treat to gather with old friends. **Jeanne Hayes Coyne** has six children, 16

grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Jeanne is active in the American Association of University Women, is a Connecticut advanced master gardener and is on the parish council of her church. Jeanne gets to see **Sally McCain Horn** and **Essie Juengling Portz**, as they have adjoining apartments in Florida. **Kitty Kloser Irons** leads a busy life. In addition to attending the reunion, she had just helped with the arrangements for a big quilting show; had been to see a Broadway show; and was planning to attend the high school graduation of her oldest granddaughter, who has been accepted into the honors program at St. Michael's College in Burlington, Vt. **Joan Bennett Kelly** and **Charlie** keep busy attending performances and athletic events of their very talented grandchildren. Three of their grandchildren are off to college next year, one to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington; one to SUNY Binghamton; and one to West Point, where she will be diving for their team. The granddaughter attending Binghamton is a decathlon athlete ranked fifth in the nation. Joan teaches three Bible study classes, some in their winter home of Bonita Springs, Fla. and some in Vermont. **Helen Pilcher Terrill** is another grandmother "on the go." She had three grandchildren married in the span of only eight months. One of her married granddaughters put together a most unusual, artistic wedding album admired by many at the reunion. Helen and Bill attended Bill's high school reunion in Marblehead, Mass. **Phyllis** and **Bob Hausner** have moved from North Carolina to the Roanoke, Va., area to be near their daughter, a guidance counselor. They are planning a big reunion of the Hausner clan and celebration of Bob's 80th. Congratulations!! **Jane Minckler Jennings'** third knee operation seems finally to be a success. Good to see you at the reunion, Jane. Jane also made it to the graduation of her granddaughter, who received a master's. **Maureen Davis Mullin** sent a long, interesting e-mail condensing her 43 years spent in Santa Barbara, Calif. She has three sons and seven grandchildren and is finally retiring from teaching after 45 years, mostly in high school but some at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Sadly, her husband, Ray, died in 2005

after 45 years of marriage. They did 17 house exchanges over the years, so Maureen has friends in many countries. She attended a 50th reunion of the first class she taught here in New York and learned they used to call her "Legs Davis." Fun memories. She writes, "Some of my best years were at SUNY. I finally grew up and learned to face the world!!! And such wonderful friends I made. I still remember you all. I hope that I will make the next reunion. Lots of love to all my pals." We'll see you in '12, Maureen. **Bert Jablon** is still very involved in the New York State Public Health Association and is organizing "Recession: Its Impact on Long Island's Public Health," a conference to be held in October. **Vicki Eade Eddy** sent a long e-mail bringing us up to date on her large and accomplished family. I must edit it for this edition but will add the rest for the next issue. Vicki spends the cold months in Yuma, Ariz., and the warm ones in Olean, N.Y., where two of her five children and three grandchildren also live. Among the five children there are five master's degrees and one Ph.D. The oldest, Pamela Eddy, has the Ph.D. and teaches at William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Va. Her book *Community College Leadership* was just published. There is news of the other children, which I will include next time. Vicki concludes with, "We are blessed with a loving and close family. I have enjoyed 'the journey' and feel very good. I enjoy my family, my friends in Yuma, where we go into the desert in our dune buggies and other vehicles. I also enjoy running and biking and cooking and writing, especially poems. I have two brothers who live in Olean and enjoy interacting with them and their families." We received from **Joan Titus** a copy of a page from the Congressional Record praising **Ruth Leipman Tighe**. It cites her work as a librarian who prepared the Mariana Islands for the first-ever White House Conference on Libraries. She went on to work for the Marianas Department of Education training school librarians. She became a newspaper reporter and editor and also established her signature column, "On My Mind." Among many causes, Ruth has campaigned for the advancement of women's groups, a transparent and accountable government, and a more humanitarian approach to immigration and labor

WELCOME New Alumni Association Board Members!



Allison Bashkoff '92
GFO, Kenwood Convent



Gail Berley '73
Director of Internal Audit, NYS
Department of Civil Service



Alex Fredericks '95
Partner, Ernst & Young's
Private Equity Accounting
Advisory Center



Charlotte Gardner '93, '94
Child Support Specialist, NYS
Office of Temporary and
Disability Assistance



June Mastan '08
Project Administrative
Officer/Director, Professional
Development Program,
SUNY Research Foundation

reform. Congratulations, Ruth. We're proud of you. If I do not have your e-mail address, please send it to me if you're interested in class news. Don't forget to address your contributions to the Class of 1952 Scholarship Fund Program Fund in order to have them credited to our scholarship.

Class notes counselor: Joyce Zanchelli, jzanch@yahoo.com

54 **Sven and Eileen Sloth** traveled to China recently. They visited Beijing, Xian and Shanghai, where Sven's son Nels teaches. They also visited with two of Sven's former students, whom he met when he taught in Xian in '97-'98. In January, **John and Dolores Granito** traveled to Cambodia and Taiwan, where John lectured at Wu Feng Technical Institute. **Phyl Weaver** took a trip to Cairo; the Nile; Valley of the Kings; Aswan; and Amman, Jordan, in May 2010. **John and Marge Allasio** travel to California in the winter to visit their daughter and her family. John continues his "sing-a-longs" at assisted living homes. John sang solos at the senior show held at the Macomb Theater of the Performing Arts in July 2009. **Arnold Smith** made his annual fishing trip to Goose Bay, Labrador, in June 2009. **Dillies Pilvesky's** grandson, Sam Osheroff, won the Howard County, Md., spelling bee and participated in the national spelling bee in Washington, D.C., in June 2009. Since retiring from IBM eight years ago, **Fran Allen** spends time traveling for fun and lecturing in the computer field. In March, Fran had a wonderful trip to Tokyo and Seoul, Korea; one of the highlights was a visit to Tsuda College, a woman's college founded over 100 years ago with a focus on the sciences! **Pat Byrne Manning** volunteers two mornings a week at a nursery school/day care, visits hospice patients in their homes for "soothing touch" sessions, and writes book reviews for *School Library Journal*. Pat heads north twice a year to visit her "grands" and other family and friends and stops in New York City at the end of those visits for a mega-dose of museums and ballet. Pat traveled to North Carolina in May and plans to spend five weeks in Rome and a week in Venice come late October! In May, **Leo Bennett** took a trip through Utah, Las

Vegas, the California coast, a large number of wineries, Yosemite and Lake Tahoe. **Carol and Ed Osterhout** continue to be the primary caregivers for their 40-year-old son David, who contracted primary progressive MS about five years ago, but do find time for some travel – Iceland, the Canadian Rockies, Maine. They've also done some traveling associated with their work with Volunteers in Mission, including Iowa and Maine. Their daughter is a teacher and gives them some time off during her vacation so that Carol and Ed can get away. Unfortunately, they have come to realize the lack of handicapped accessibility in their travels with David. **Peter McManus** has traveled on brief excursions to Puerto Rico, Florida and the Virgin Islands with family and friends. Peter continues to teach one or two courses each semester at Sage Graduate School, does some consulting, serves as a hospice volunteer and spends lots of time with his youngest 8-year-old grandson. **Shirley Dillon's** ninth grandchild was born May 1 to son John and his wife, Dania. Sad news is, Shirley's husband, John, has been in the hospital since February 11 after surgery to implant another pacemaker/defibrillator.



UAlbany President George Philip '69, '73 chats with Purple & Gold Student Ambassador Leah Rotella at the UAlbany Professional Network event, held April 21 at Jack's Oyster House in Albany.

Class notes counselor: Joan Bolz Paul, fpaul1@nycap.rr.com

55 **A note from your class counselor:** Last fall, **Ed and Anne Franco** toured Egypt and Jordan. In Egypt, most memorable were nights sail-

ing on the Nile and days on shore and visiting wonders of the ancient world. In both countries, they were impressed by the excellent cuisine, as well as by the gracious people. Yujin Ham, a student in UAlbany's graduate program in education, is the 2010 recipient of the Class of 1955 Award. A *cum laude* UAlbany

Middle Earth 40th Anniversary Reunion Brunch

**Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010
10:30 a.m.- 12 noon
Alumni House**

Tours of Middle Earth also will be offered.

For further information, please contact M. Dolores Cimini, Ph.D., Middle Earth Program Director, at dcimini@uamail.albany.edu or (518) 442-5800.

Please join our Middle Earth Alumni Facebook group. If you are interested in joining our Middle Earth Alumni Google group, please contact Chad Waxman at waxman822@gmail.com.



BJ Rosenfeld, B.S.'68, M.S.'73

Life as a Chameleon

Parents learn through their children. BJ Rosenfeld's recently completed memoir, *The Chameleon in the Closet*, clearly documents that learning process.

The work was inspired by Rosenfeld's experience of "raising children who have turned out to be more 'religious' than their parents." She and her husband, Peter Rosenfeld, B.A.'69, M.B.A.'80, are Conservative Jews who "always kept a somewhat secular home. But our house has always been kosher. And we always observed a lot of the traditions."

At college, however, the Rosenfelds' sons delved deeply into their religious roots. While at Princeton, older son Zalman took a Judaic studies course and "wound up spending a lot of time with the Orthodox rabbi who taught it." Fearing that her son had "joined a cult," Rosenfeld discussed the situation with the rabbi, who "assured me that Zalman was just becoming more Jewish." Zalman went on to study at several yeshivas in Israel, including Mir (known as "the Princeton of yeshivas"). He also began dating the woman he would marry.

As her son learned more about his faith, Rosenfeld herself "started finding out about matchmakers, wigmakers, the rules of Shabbos ... I learned so much. That's what the book is about: learning through my kids. At some point, our kids make their own decisions, and we have to decide whether or not to follow them."

After the birth of their first child, Zalman and his wife moved to Israel. Now married almost nine years, they have seven children; the family resides in a suburb of Jerusalem.

Younger son Chaim followed a similar path to Orthodox Judaism. He and his wife live in New York City with their two children.

The Chameleon in the Closet derives its title from Rosenfeld's two wardrobes. One includes slacks, shorts and the other attire "I wear in my everyday life." The second consists of the hats, long-sleeved shirts and long skirts Rosenfeld wears when visiting her sons' families. When she switches from one wardrobe to the other, "my persona changes along with it."

Rosenfeld, who earned degrees in Spanish and reading at UAlbany, is a retired teacher. Her freelance work has appeared in the *Albany Times Union*, *Saratoga Business Journal*, *Glens Falls Business Journal*, *Boom Magazine*, *Kasbrus Magazine* and *The Jewish World*, and on Northeast Public Radio.

The Chameleon in the Closet is available at www.amazon.com. Rosenfeld's Web site is www.readbj.com.

— Carol Olechowski



graduate in educational studies, Miss Ham is focusing on special education and literacy, maintaining an outstanding academic record. This year's award reminds us that our 55th anniversary gift to the University is a rededication to the Class of 1955 Award Fund, and we hope our class will again support our mission. The award program and the methods by which you can give were outlined in our last newsletter. You may also consult www.albany.edu/giving for ways to donate.

Class notes counselor: John Orser, jorser@stny.rr.com

56

A note from your class

councilor: Erin Potter and Sarah Casano, two outstanding students pursuing careers in teaching, received the Class of 1956 scholarships given at the School of Education's 2010 Awards and Scholarships Ceremony May 11. Keep the contributions coming in for the Class of 1956 Scholarship Fund. **Virginia Hilfiker Ahart** chairs the Community Preservation Committee for the Town of Southampton, Mass., a committee that oversees open space/recreation, community housing, and historic-preservation projects. In addition, Virginia supervises social-studies student teachers for Mt. Holyoke College. Virginia and her husband enjoy their widely spaced six grandchildren, ranging in age from newly born to early 20s. In 2008, **Claudette Rudolph Bolakas** and her husband went to Paris for 10 days, staying in an apartment on the Avenue de Malakoff, 16th Arrondissement, not far from the Arc de Triumphant. In September 2009, they took a short trip on the Norwegian Cruise Line up the coast of New England to Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Class notes counselor: Arnold Newman, fish7hill@aol.com

57

Ben Lindeman was the 2009 recipient of the New York State Mathematics Educators Hall of Fame Award. Do you believe it?!? Fifty-five is right around the corner! Several class members have suggested a get-together to mark the occasion. Class reunions at the University are now held in the fall during Homecoming Weekend. However, some of the "older" classes from the State College for Teachers still plan their reunions for June. We can celebrate in

October or June or any time of the year you might like. We can have our event(s) in Albany or somewhere else. So, let us know your thoughts – should we have a dinner or a get-together in Albany or elsewhere? Other activities? What time of year and what year? We're happy to hear your suggestions; please give us some feedback. E-mail **Ben Lindeman**, bhlind@aol.com, or **Sheila Bamberger**, hsbamb@verizon.net, with your thoughts or suggestions, and also let us know if you are willing to work on the planning committee.

59 A note from your class

councilor: Many of our classmates from around the country and around the world were unable to attend our 50th reunion last October, but they submitted information on what they were doing. The following is drawn from their submissions at that time. **Tom Baughan** lives in Bloomington, Ill., and is a retired vice president from the Executive Department of State Farm Insurance Co. **Patricia Colosimo Bindrim** lives in Riceville, Tenn. Patricia, who taught business for 27 years on Long Island, is retired and does accounting for children's businesses. **Dorothy Davis Buerk** earned a master's and a Ph.D. in math from SUNY Buffalo and has spent her career teaching math at Genesee Community College (including courses inside the Attica Correctional Facility) and Ithaca College. She lives in Freeville, N.Y., and enjoys cross-country skiing outside her door all winter. She also enjoys her eight grandchildren, as well as gardening and birds. **Barbara Thornhill Callaghan** lives in Holmes Beach, Fla., on a barrier island off Tampa Bay. Barbara taught in high school for nine years and in a community college for 24 and a half years, winning the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Barbara enjoys gardening and church work. **Gail Van Slyke Cunningham** considers her most memorable experience at Albany State as meeting and marrying **Deane Cunningham** '58. Deane went to work for the federal government and was

sent to Germany. (So after being a French/English major at Albany, she had to learn German.) While they were there, she took up oil painting and became quite successful. In retirement, she and Deane have worked at promoting, exhibiting and selling her artwork. They live in Hampton, Va. **Carol Bemus Devlin**, who is not yet retired, still spends four days a week working at her town's library. Carol was a Mary Kay consultant for 20 years. She lives in Norwood, Mass., and enjoys quilting. Following graduation, **Robert Dallow** got a master's in counseling and a doctorate in educational administration, both from NYU. Robert taught English for seven years, followed by 27 years as a high school assistant principal. He capped his career as high school principal and superintendent of schools and now lives in San Clemente, Calif. **Louis Del Signore** is based in Clifton Park, N.Y., but spends summers at Lake George, January in Aruba, and several months in Florida. Louis, an entrepreneur since 1980, has worked in several businesses, including construction and vinyl, tape and CD distribution. He still works enough to keep life interesting and avoid boredom. **Joseph Ketchum** lives in Fountain Hills, Ariz. His career, from practice teaching to retirement, was



Alex Frederick '95 talks with Russell Hochman, a prospective student, at a reception in Long Island. Alumni shared their experiences and insights with prospective students at a series of accepted student receptions held across the state in the spring.

spent at Scotia-Glenville High School. Joseph, a recipient of the SUNYA Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Award, is also a member of the Scotia-Glenville High School Athletic Hall of Fame (for his coaching/teaching in sev-

eral sports) and has an athletic scholarship named for him. Since his retirement in 1996 (when he started teaching grandchildren of his original students), he enjoys golfing year 'round. **Bruce Norton** graduated wanting to teach like

Robert Rienow and Matthew Elbow. After earning a master's from George Washington University and a Ph.D. from Syracuse University's Maxwell School, and serving a stint with the federal government, he was ready – obtaining a teaching position at American University (AU) in D.C. After 30 years, he decided to teach in AU's London Semester program. Soon after his arrival in England, he met and married Elizabeth. In 1998, he retired and they moved to Keswick in England's Lake District, where they take frequent walks. Bruce still does some writing – having published *Politics in Britain* in 2007. He was unable to attend our 50th reunion, as he was recovering from hip replacement surgery. It should be noted that Bruce received the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1985 (the same year Joe Ketchum received his award).

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 1 2010 Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region Alumni Reception, The Hyde Collection, Queensbury, N.Y.
- 8-9 GOLD Reunion
- 8-10 Homecoming/Family Weekend & Reunion
- 9 Middle Earth Reunion
- 14 A Conversation with President George Philip '69, '73 and School of Business Dean Don Siegel, NYC

NOVEMBER

- 1 Capital Region Annual CIA Luncheon

DECEMBER

- 5 UAlbany vs. Siena Basketball Game and Alumni Reception

For additional events and details, visit www.albany.edu/alumni.

Alumni News and Notes



Alumni Association President William J. McCann Jr., Esq., '86, '87 (left) and University President George Philip '69, '73 (right) congratulate Michael Castellana '84, '93, one of 14 UAlbany alumni and friends honored at the 2010 Excellence Awards Gala in May.

Classmates really do want to know about you and what you are doing now. Please keep in touch.

Class notes counselor: Elizabeth Pflieg Nickles, bnjhn324@earthlink.net

60 **A note from your class counselor:** By the time you receive this

publication, our 50th Reunion will be upon us. Hope to see you all there, Oct. 8-10, 2010. Ray and **Fran Jadick Castillo** and Charles and **Doris Hische Brossy** attended the wedding of **Bunny Silverstein Calabrese's** son in Trumbull, Conn., in April 2010. Wendell and **Emily Flachbart Castine** will be celebrating their 50th wedding

anniversary Oct. 8 and are planning to attend our 50th class reunion on that day! Emily is a retired school library media specialist from the Chazy Central Rural School. She had *Selected Bibliography of Canadian Children's Literature* published in 1995 and is an authority on Canadian children's literature in English. **Frances Wallace**

Cole taught business education in Central Square, N.Y., for eight years. Prior to retirement, she did accounting for local businesses and served as tax collector for her school district. In 1993, Fran and her husband, Bill, moved to an active retirement community in Florida. Now widowed, she will be moving to Oklahoma to be with her son and family, with summers to be spent at their cottage on the St. Lawrence River. She and her college roommate, **Susan Hansson Crawford**, have kept in touch over the years. Fran plans to be at our reunion in October. **Nancy Lou Ryan Gnan** has been elected and installed as vice-regent of her local DAR chapter in Melbourne, Fla. She will be involved with hosting the Florida State DAR Forum this year. **John Johnston** writes that he is looking forward to our 50th Class Reunion.

After college graduation, **Susan Pollack Hackman** was married; in June 2010, she and husband Steve celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Congratulations! She taught business, briefly, and then was a stay-at-home mom raising three children. When her children entered high school, Susan went to work as a manager of a travel agency for 20 years. Now retired, Susan and Steve are the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren and spend time traveling to visit them. Susan now awaits her husband's retirement so that they may relocate from central New Jersey to a warmer climate. Sue would like to hear from her classmates via Facebook or e-mail. Her e-mail address is: shackman33@comcast.net.

Class notes counselor: Joan Cali Pecore, Cueville@comcast.net

62 **A note from your class counselor:** It is not too early to start planning for our 50th in 2012. Please alert all of our classmates with whom you have kept in contact through exchanges of Christmas cards, etc., about the reunion. Those interested in helping to plan our Albany activities, please contact **Bob Sweeney** [lakeerie8@yahoo.com, (828) 890-9025.] Bob also is trying to arrange a gathering, such as a trip to an Asheville Tourists baseball game, for all SUNYA alums residing in western North Carolina. Kindly pass the word. **Hannah Schnitt Rogers'** twin son wed in California in July. **Sheril McCormack**

A CONVERSATION WITH
 President George M. Philip '69,'73
 and Donald S. Siegel, Ph.D. Dean, School of Business

A CHANCE TO NETWORK
 with UAlbany Alumni in New York City

Please join us for an informal conversation and an opportunity to network and connect with UAlbany alumni on Thursday, Oct. 14, in New York City.

\$30 per person includes beer, wine, soda, juice and passed hors d'oeuvres. RSVP required by Oct. 4, 2010 ~ For more information and to register, visit www.albany.edu/alumni/register.htm or call (518) 442-5310.

More events like this are being scheduled for 2011! Future conversations will highlight UAlbany schools and colleges and prominent UAlbany alumni.

and **Susan Blank** were in attendance. **Linda Bosworth** cruised with Sheril in March.

Class notes counselor: Sheril Joan McCormack, vanillastar202@yahoo.com

68 **Ray Starman's** book *TV Noir: Twentieth Century* will be digitized for access on Google Books.

Class notes counselor: Linda Stehr Bopp, dollup@yahoo.com

69 **Ross Martin Kaufman**, a co-founder of Genesis Consultants of New York Inc., a New York metropolitan-area healthcare consulting firm, recently sold the business to The Outsource Group, a national healthcare consulting firm. Ross and family split their time living on Long Island and in Puerto Rico. **Antonio Pérez**, president of Manhattan Community College, has created a user-generated, self-help Web site, www.wuask.com (What Would You Ask?), which launched in Fall 2009.

Class notes counselor: Randy Kundmueller, randyusa@sover.net

70 **Richard Martin** has joined the board of directors of the Capital Region Gilda's Club in Latham, N.Y. **Azam Niroomand-Rad** received



the Marie Curie Award from the International Organization for Medical Physics at the World Congress in Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering in Munich, Germany, in September 2009. Azam was director of clinical physics in the Department of Radiation Medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center, a full professor of radiation medicine at Georgetown University Medical School and associate editor of the *Medical Physics Journal*. Azam is also past president of the International Organization of Medical Physics.

Class notes counselor: John Michalke, Jmichalke@aol.com

72 **David Rosenberg**, a senior partner at the Garden City law



firm of Rosenberg Fortuna & Laitman and a resident of Dix Hills, N.Y., was re-elected for a third term as vice chair of the Suffolk County Industrial Development Agency. On May 14, 2009, the Baldwinsville Public Library posthumously awarded **Constance (Connie) Elbrecht Ebner** its 2009 Ruth Connell Award. Connie was notified she had won the day before her untimely passing on May 12. The award was presented to her sister, Cathleen Johnson, also an employee of the library. The award, named for the library's first librarian, recognizes an employee for exemplary service.

73 In April 2010, **Barry Nelson** became a grandfather for the second time when his first grandson, Simon Woodroe Nelson, was born. Barry's granddaughter Emma was born in June 2008.

Class notes counselor: Sharon Kantor, firenzaltd@earthlink.net

74 **Chief Master Sgt. Nicholas Skorupski** has retired from the U.S. Air Force after 30 years. During his career, he achieved the highest attainable rank of the Air Force enlisted force. Some of his military decorations include seven Meritorious Service medals and two Air Force Commendation medals.

Audrey Lewis Ruge, a law librarian of Knowledge Services at the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, D.C., has received the GAO 2009 Meritorious Service Award recognizing her for sustained outstanding performance and service in support of legal research activities for the Office of General Counsel.

Class notes counselor: Barry Davis, evanzane@yahoo.com

77 **Stuart Gelberg**, a board-certified bankruptcy specialist practicing law in Garden City, N.Y., was a speaker at a seminar held at the New York City Bar Association in December 2009. The program was

See anyone you know?

Find out who's been doing what, where and when through the Alumni Photo Gallery.

Visit www.flickr.com/photos/ualbanyalumni/



Alumni News and Notes



Brian Fessler '06, '07 (right), a member of GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade), welcomes a new grad to the alumni family during the Commencement Picnic May 15.

sponsored by the New York Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts and Hofstra University School of Law.

Class notes councilor: Maria Claps-Michelsson, mcsbcm@aol.com

78 American Friends of The Hebrew University (AFHU) announced

that AFHU president **Martin Karlinsky** and his wife, **Christine Ruppert**, were honored as Guardians on The Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Wall of Life. The June 2010 ceremony took place in Jerusalem on Mount Scopus during the university's 73rd International Board of Governors meeting. The couple was honored for their leadership, philanthropy and dedicated commitment to The

Hebrew University, the State of Israel and Jewish communities worldwide. **Jody Moran** was chosen for partnership in the Jackson Lewis LLP Chicago office.



Jody Moran

80 **Susan Drexel-Paisley** is choral director of the Harugari and Edelweiss German American Singing Societies in West Haven, Conn. She is also the organist and choir director for the First Lutheran Church of Waterbury, Conn., and the import manager in a family import business, R.L. Pritchard & Co. Inc. Susan and her husband celebrated their silver wedding anniversary last year. **Scott Lusher**, founder of Lawrence & Pearson Associates, received his certificate of enrollment as an enrolled retirement-plan agent.



Mark Morris

Mark Morris is a managing partner of Fox Rothschild's Philadelphia office. Mark serves on the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern Pennsylvania and is a member of the United Way Leadership/Special Gifts Section. Mark, who co-chairs the Hospitality Practice, was formerly the chair of the firm's real estate department. *The New York Law Journal* published "The End of Social Abandonment as a Ground for Divorce?" co-written by **Russell Marnell**. Russell is a member of the New York Family Law American Inns of Court, a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. He is also included in the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers.

Class notes councilor: Diane DiGiorgio, dianed58@gmail.com

82 **Bernard Krooks**, partner in the law firm of Littman Krooks LLP, has been accredited by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to assist veterans and their spouses with the preparation, presentation and prosecution of their claims for government benefits. **Chuck Gillman**, formerly with Lane Powell P.C. in Seattle, has joined Banta Immigration Law Ltd. in Atlanta as counsel to the firm.

Class notes councilor: Debi Chowdhury, debichowdhury@yahoo.com

85 **David Reich** was recently awarded his 19th United States patent in technology. David has been named development manager and engineering lead for Dragon Naturally Speaking speech-recognition products for Nuance Communications in Burlington, Mass. **Paul Neuheidel** is an ordained deacon of the Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Rockville Center, N.Y.

86 **Andrea Weinstein** is a partner in the law firm of Schonfeld & Weinstein LLP, located on Wall Street in New York City. Andrea is also the co-founder of www.CommitmentNow.com, an online community for women. In May 2010, **Eric Schwartzman** celebrated 13 years of employment at Geller & Company LLC, a financial outsourcing company located in New York City, where he resides with his two children. **Richard Wilson** has spent time recently in Omaha, Neb., where he has entertained many of us with his adventures. In February 2010, **Angela Hinton** received the Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service from the State Bar of Georgia and the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. Angela is a senior assistant attorney for the City of Atlanta Law Department.

Class notes councilor: Paul Schaffer, pschaffer@snet.net

87 **Kimberly Sanger Jones** has joined the board of directors of Gilda's Club Capital Region New York. Kimberly is firm administrator at E. Stewart Jones Law Firm PLLC in Troy, N.Y.

Class notes councilor: Ian Spelling, ianspelling@aol.com

88 **Robert Henderson** has retired from North High School in Sioux City, Iowa. He was with the district for 18 years, teaching at East High School and then North High School. Robert was an assistant football coach at East High School for five years.

Martha Jo Asselin is dean of Student Affairs for Schenectady County Community College. Martha Jo is a member of the board of trustees of



Martha Asselin

Build new connections with the UAlbany Alumni Group on **LinkedIn**

Through this free network of UAlbany alumni, you'll find inside connections to jobs, industry experts and business partners. Use it to:

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- Present yourself and your professional capabilities.
- Search LinkedIn's job database and connect with UAlbany alumni at companies around the world.
- Accelerate your career through referrals from UAlbany alumni.

To register, visit www.linkedin.com and search for "UAlbany Alumni."

Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons School and March for Babies – Schenectady County. She also serves as president of the SUNY Community College Chief Student Affairs Officers Association and co-chair of the SUNY Campus Safety Committee. In addition, Martha Jo is a member of the National Council on Student Development and the SUNY College Union and Campus Activities Professionals. **Marci Zaworski** has joined Krisam Group and Global Events Partners as vice president of Sales for the Southwest office. Marci resides in Coppell, Texas, with her husband and two children.

Class notes counselor: Doreen Kleinman, DKleinman88@alumni.albany.edu

90

Joseph Bavaro has been named partner of Salenger, Sack, Schwartz, Kimmel & Bavaro LLP's Manhattan office after serving for four years as an assistant district attorney in Richmond County, N.Y. He also worked as a student law



Joseph Bavaro

clerk to the Honorable Justice Louis San Giorgio, Supreme Court justice in Richmond County. Joseph was named to the Board of Directors of the Nassau-Suffolk County Trial Lawyers Association and is a member of the Nassau County and New York State Bar Associations. **Lee Trink** is the CEO of Prospect Park, a Los Angeles-based television production company.

Class notes counselor: Jacqueline Arroll, Jackie_arroll@yahoo.com

91

David DePietto is an assistant to the regional manager at a regional paper company. David also owns and runs Schrote Beet Farm.

Class notes counselor: Jeff Luks, jluks@nycap.rr.com

92

Roger Ajamian is project manager with Verizon in Boston, Mass. **Jason Minard** is vice president at Tweedy Browne, a money-management firm based in New York City. **Bob Gellert** is senior portfolio manager for Avenue Capital, a hedge fund in Manhattan. **Kenneth Rosenberg**, a partner in the Roseland, N.J., office of Fox Rothschild LLP, was elected secretary of the Essex County Bar Association (ECBA). Kenneth has been a member of the ECBA since 2002, when he became



Kenneth Rosenberg

MARRIAGES



1992 – **Shannon Ritter** and Olena Bondarenko, Aug. 7, 2009

1996 – **Kristen Zacek** and Roger Ajamian, June 23, 2006

2003 – **Renee O'Connor '03** and **Anthony Parisi '04**, Aug. 9, 2008

2004 – **Nikki Luke** and Joe McClure, September 2009

2005 – **Erin Sullivan** and James Jenkins, Sept. 26, 2009



Shannon Ritter and Olena Bondarenko



Renee O'Connor and Anthony Parisi



Nikki Luke and Joe McClure



James Jenkins and Erin Sullivan



BIRTHS



Bryan Picardi Quattrocchi



Delilah Miriam Frieman



Lillian Grace Alberty



Devin Myers Powell

1985 – **Paul Neuheidal** and wife Rebecca adopted a daughter, Maria Elizabeth Tolson, July 14, 2008, in Khabarovsk, Russia. Maria was born Aug. 17, 1999.

1990 – **Christina Picardi** and husband Vincent Quattrocchi, a son, Bryan Alexander, May 28, 2009

Troy Smith '90 and **Susan Henner '91**, a son, Max Ethan Smith, Jan. 21, 2010

1991 – **Joan Singer Frieman** and husband Michael, a daughter, Delilah Miriam, Feb. 27, 2009

1992 – **Laura Myers Powell** and husband John, a daughter, Devin Rose, Jan. 2, 2010

1994 – **Veh Bezdikian** and wife Arpi, a daughter, Ani, Feb. 12, 2010

2001 – **Betsy Neubeck Alberty '01** and husband **Robert Alberty '02**, a daughter, Lillian Grace, Jan. 21, 2010

2007 – **Danyel Goldberg Klein** and husband Tani, a daughter, Hadassah Maya Klein, April 29, 2010



Hadassah Maya Klein



Ani Bezdikian

Alumni News and Notes

involved in the Young Lawyers Section. A recipient of the Essex County Bar Association Young Lawyers' Achievement Award, he received the *New Jersey Law Journals* "40 Under Forty" award in 2008 and was named a Rising Star by *New Jersey Super Lawyers*. Kenneth is married and has two children.

Class notes counselor: Rita Chowdhury Jordan, ritachowdhury@yahoo.com

93 James Quent has joined Patricia Lynch Associates as an associate. James has been featured in the *City Hall News* list of "40 Under Forty Rising Stars: The Next Generation of Political Leaders in New York." Recently, James was deputy chief of staff for New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver.

Class notes counselor: Diane Hodurski-Foley, dhodursk@pdp.albany.edu

95 Andrea Serban is president/superintendent of Santa Barbara Community College in California.

Richelle Konian is the co-founder and CEO of Careers On The Move. For several years, Richelle has been named a top recruiter for information technology by *Waters* magazine. She serves on the advisory council to UAlbany's School of Business in career services and is a member of the executive committee.

Clifford Lawrence, a construction manager with Verizon, is a recipient of the *Capital District Business Review's* 2010 "40 Under Forty" award.

Class notes counselor: Tom Devaney, devaneytm@yahoo.com

96 Previously an experimental marketing director for Yahoo, **Jason Anello** is co-founder of Manifold, www.weare-manifold.com. **Joe Castaldo** was named general manager at Crossgates Mall in Guilderland. Joe previously served as general manager of the Poughkeepsie Galleria. **Courtney Burke** is a recipient of the *Capital District Business Review's* 2010 "40 Under Forty" award. Courtney is a director

of the Health Care Policy Research Center with the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government. **Kristen Zacek Ajamian** is a home-study coordinator with international adoption agencies. Kristen, also an educator for child sexual-abuse prevention, is a private counselor and handles addiction-recovery groups.

Class notes counselor: Jill Rigney-Delaney, jsdelaney@nycap.rr.com

97 Alfredo Medina is a recipient of the *Capital District Business Review's* 2010 "40 Under Forty" award. Alfredo is assistant vice president for academic affairs, government and foundation relations at Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y.

Class notes counselor: Jennifer Clavarella Schmidberger, jenniferclavarella@hotmail.com

98 Mohawk Valley Community College has named **Julie Dewan** assistant dean of the Center for Language and Learning. Julie has taught in the mathe-

matics department for 10 years, served as the liaison between the math and education departments, and worked with students enrolled in the college's elementary-education programs. **Thomas Morris** is an epidemiologist for the Centers for Disease Control's Division of State Local Readiness in Atlanta, Ga.

Class notes counselor: Michael Castrilli, mcastrilli@aol.com

99 Michael Ratner is partner at Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Greenberg, Formato & Einiger LLP.

Class notes counselor: Josef Markowski, Orzel12210@nycap.rr.com

00 John Fiorito is financial advisor of his company, Wealth Management Solutions, located in New York City. **Andrea Conover Maranville** has joined Patricia Lynch Associates as a client services coordinator in Albany, N.Y. Previously, Andrea directed the office of Governmental and Community Affairs for the Lake George Park Commission. Andrea has served as president of the Bolton Landing Chamber of Commerce since November 2008 and as a member of the advisory board of the Lake George Association.

Class notes counselor: Robert Bischoff, rbischoff@gmail.com

01 Darryl Williams and **Matthew Ammerman** are recipients of the *Capital District Business Review's* 2010 "40 Under Forty" award. Williams is principal for the Brighter Choice Charter School for Boys in Albany, N.Y. Ammerman is vice president of Client Services and co-founder of Apprenda Inc. in Clifton Park, N.Y.

02 Sid O'Bryant, an assistant professor in the Department of Neurology at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock, will study depression among rural Texas adults with the help of a research grant from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health. Sid is director of rural health research at the university's F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health and principal investigator of Project FRONTIER, an ongoing epidemiological study of rural health.

Class notes counselor: Brian Levine, BrianLevine@alumni.albany.edu

YOUNG ALUMS

Don't Miss the Third Annual GOLD Reunion

Good friends, free food and free beer. It doesn't get better than that.

Plan to come back to UAlbany Oct. 8-10 and be part of the third GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Reunion. Join hundreds of other recent graduates, meet up with old friends and see what's new on campus.

Check out some of the exciting events planned for GOLD alums:

- GOLD Friday night get-together at Jillian's
- GOLD Tailgate Party with free beer, food and live music
- Great Danes Football vs. St. Francis
- Great Danes Great Bash at WT's with free food and drinks for all alumni
- Nanotech and Weather Center tours, academic presentations and student group demonstrations



Check the Web at

www.albany.edu/alumni/goldreunion.php
for all the details.

UAlbany

Here are the best ways to reach us!

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ALUMNI NEWS AND NOTES

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*Tom Begley '94, '00, assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at UAlbany, talks about his cancer research at the annual Alumni Volunteer Council gathering. The event was held at the Gen*NY*Sis Center for Excellence in Cancer Genomics May 1.*

03

Sheila Yanling Cui is manager of Knowledge and Information Services of Harter Secrest & Emery LLP in Rochester, N.Y. **Nels Sloth** teaches mathematics at Concordia International School in Shanghai, China. **Peter Brusoe** was appointed commissioner of the National and Community Service Commission in Washington, D.C.



Sheila Yanling Cui

*Class notes councilor: Peter Brusoe,
Pbrusoe@alumni.albany.edu*

04

Lucas Kurtz has joined Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP as an associate in the Charlotte, N.C., office. **John Predovan** is marketing associate of Tully Rinckey PLLC in Albany, N.Y.



Lucas Kurtz

*Class notes councilor: Elizabeth Leath,
Lizzyred8@aol.com*

05

Last November, **Anton Konev** was elected to the Albany Common Council, representing the 11th Ward.

*Class notes councilor: Edwina Kaliku,
ek9033@albany.edu*



Anton Konev

06

Andrew McNamara is associate to Tully Rinckey PLLC in Albany, N.Y. Steven Quick is dean of Academic Affairs for Mildred Elley in Albany, N.Y.

*Class notes councilor: Brian Fessler,
bf9107@albany.edu*

07

Daniel Kaplan has been promoted to senior accountant at Goldstein Lieberman & Co. in Mahwah, N.J. **Raymond O'Keefe**, a warning-coordination meteorologist at the National Weather Service Forecast Office, has been named meteorologist in charge at the Albany office. As a cancer survivor and through his work with the American Cancer Society, **Alex Baron** headed to Tanzania to climb Mount Kilimanjaro this past March. His climb raised \$2,500 for the society.

08

Jacqueline DeVito is project manager/webologist for MarkNet Group Inc., a Web design and internet marketing company in Brewster, N.Y. On June 3, 2010, **Army Lt. Joseph Theinert** was killed in Afghanistan while serving his country. (See story on page 47.)



Brothers James Theinert '09 and Lt. Joseph Theinert '08

For a complete listing of class councilors:
www.albany.edu/alumni/avc.php
or call the Alumni Association
at (518) 442-3080.



Deaths

1920s

Caroline Schleich Ranney '29, Dec. 7, 2009

1930s

Evelyn Collins '35, March 17, 2008

Zaven M. Mahdesian '35, Feb. 5, 2010

Catherine Fox Madsen '36, Sept. 27, 2009

Miriam Coutant Rider '36, Nov. 6, 2009

Harold Shapiro '36, Aug. 16, 2009

Marian Brandin Ellis '37, Sept. 19, 2009

Virginia Loucks Oliver '37, Sept. 23, 2007

Elizabeth Morrow Ungerer '37, June 15, 2008

Greta Jackson Rice '38, March 13, 2010

Elizabeth Coogan Schick '38, March 10, 2010

Robert H. Clark '39, Jan. 7, 2010

Mary O'Donnell Fitzpatrick '39, April 6, 2010

Jane Schultz Symonds '39, July 8, 2009

1940s

Doris Sheary Grebert '41, Feb. 23, 2010

Esther Sollecito Gyory '41, March 6, 2010

Elmer C. Mathews '41, March 6, 2010

Belle Lasher Weiss '41, March 12, 2010

Ira J. Hirsh '42, Jan. 12, 2010

Dorothy Miller Roblee '42, May 2, 2003

Franklyn N. Wright '42, Sept. 22, 2009

Norma Enea Klayman '43, Jan. 2, 2010

Howard E. Lynch '43, April 8, 2010

Vera Willard Button '44, Oct. 22, 2009

Gordon Baskin '45, Jan. 26, 2008

Mary Sanderson Beach '45, March 1, 2010

Grace Fielder Diederich '45, Nov. 3, 2008

Dulcie G. Sulzbach '45, Nov. 12, 2008

Florence Bender Walsh '45, Sept. 7, 2009

Herbert Ford '46, Jan. 17, 2010

Mildred Anselment Steck '46, June 1, 2009

Edna V. Vollmer '46, April 27, 2009

Annette Koehn Brown '47, Jan. 24, 2010

Betty Jones Macfarlane '47, Aug. 28, 2009

Sheila Maginess Barbehenn '48, Nov. 13, 2009

John F. Dooley '48, Oct. 17, 2009

Shirley Graham Elwood '48, March 28, 2010

Seymour H. Sundick '48, March 25, 2009

Helen Sins Hurlbut '49, Feb. 2, 2010

Persis Hockridge Tucker '49, June 19, 2009

Rose Rosen Ziffer '49, Jan. 23, 2010

1950s

Frank J. Dembrosky '50, March 13, 2005

Robert L. Eaton '50, Jan. 28, 2009

Florence A. Gloeckner '50, Oct. 7, 2009

Peter W. Havey Jr. '50, March 13, 2009

Lynn A. White '50, Sept. 25, 2009

Goldie Brenner Swartz '51, June 1, 2010

Arlene Brewster Flanagan '52, Oct. 11, 2009

Donald M. Krug '54, Nov. 3, 2008

Eleanor Balskis Laroche '54, Dec. 13, 2008

Ronald M. Reuss '54, Nov. 4, 2009

John Wilson '54, Feb. 3, 2009

Richard W. Schwab '56, April 18, 2010

Gino D. Silvestri '56, April 24, 2010

Roberta Stein Sobel '56, Jan. 10, 2010

Sheila Strongin Berger '57, Dec. 9, 2008

Donald B. Rice '58, March 19, 2010

Helen Mansar Cocco '59, Jan. 23, 1998

Frances W. York '59, May 24, 2010

Richard S. Halsey

Richard S. Halsey, who served as dean of the University at Albany's School of Information Science and Policy (SISP) from 1980-93, passed away in Dallas, Texas, March 28, 2010. He was 80.

A graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, Simmons College and Case Western Reserve University, Halsey joined UAlbany's School of Library and Information Science faculty in 1973. His work in the information science field earned him a number of honors, including the New York Library Association Outstanding Service to Libraries Award and the New York State Senate Award for Outstanding Public Service. Halsey, who founded the Citizens' Library Council of New York State, also wrote numerous books, including *Classical Music Recordings for Home and Library* and *The Citizen Action Encyclopedia: Groups and Movements That Have Changed America*. He retired from UAlbany in 1996.

Survivors include his wife, Gillian M. McCombs; two daughters; three stepdaughters; and several grandchildren.

Tina Badi

Longtime University at Albany employee Tina Badi, 93, passed away April 25, 2010.

Badi, who joined the New York State College for Teachers staff in the late 1950s, was initially assigned to Draper Hall. Most recently employed at the Dutch Quad cafeteria, she previously worked at Indian Quad for 37 years. She held numerous posts, including managerial positions, during her 53 years at the University.

A beloved presence on campus, Badi was featured in the Fall 2007 *UAlbany* ("All in a Half-Century's Work"). She interacted daily with hundreds of students who enjoyed chatting with her and reading the messages displayed on her extensive collection of funny pins.

Badi is survived by three children and eight grandchildren, as well as by great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.



First Lt. Joseph J. Theinert, U.S. Army, B.A.'08

First Lt. Joseph J. Theinert, who was serving his first tour of duty with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan, was killed June 4, 2010, in Kandahar when an improvised explosive device was detonated during a dismounted patrol.

A New York Army National Guardsman, Theinert, 24, was proud to be involved with Operation Enduring Freedom. He volunteered for active duty with the Army's 1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), based at Fort Drum, N.Y. While leading the patrol June 4, Theinert disabled one improvised explosive device but died when a second IED was detonated. The only casualty, he saved the lives of the 20 soldiers in his platoon by ordering them away from the site. He is expected to receive the Purple Heart for his selfless sacrifice.

Theinert had looked forward to a military career since childhood. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from UAlbany two years ago and completed ROTC training at Siena College.

His parents, James Theinert and Cathy Hanly-Forde of Sag Harbor, N.Y., and Chrystyna and Frank Kestler of

Shelter Island, N.Y., survive. Other survivors include several siblings, including his brother, James Theinert, B.A.'09; his grandmothers; and the men of his platoon.

The University at Albany Foundation acknowledged Theinert's sacrifice by awarding a scholarship in his name to John Daniel Waterfield, a history major beginning his senior year at UAlbany this fall.

Contributions in Theinert's name may be made through **The University at Albany Foundation, University at Albany, 1400 Washington Avenue, UAB 226, Albany, NY 12222.**

Please note *"In Memory of 1st Lt. Joseph J. Theinert"* on the check's memo line.



1960s

John D. Morris '60, March 25, 2009
Francis C. Barbary '62, March 18, 2006
John R. Pavelka '62, Aug. 3, 2007
Richard G. Lynch '63, Oct. 12, 2009
Paul K. McCormick '64, Feb. 11, 2006
John H. Smalley '64, March 27, 2009
Mary L. Berdinka '65, Feb. 5, 2007
Mary M. Lewis '65, April 27, 2010
William D. Swift '65, Feb. 4, 2010
Carol Williams Zindle '65, Nov. 20, 2007
Patricia S. Harney '66, Dec. 26, 2007
Paul C. Chakonas '67, Sept. 30, 2007
Margaret D. Leonhardt '68, Aug. 16, 2009
James R. Ramsey '68, June 24, 2009
James R. Wilbur '68, May 1, 2007
Walter J. Bydairk '69, Dec. 28, 2009

1970s

Donald W. Bunis '70, March 10, 2010
Syed Farid-Haq '70, Feb. 16, 2010
Dorothy S. Miller '70, Jan. 27, 2002
David B. Newman '70, Jan. 25, 2010

Estelle Inkeles Schecter '70, June 2, 2010
Ronald J. Bouleris '71, Oct. 6, 2006
Rosemary Bak Lanahan '71, March 24, 2007
Barbara Beal Pantridge '71, Sept. 5, 2006
Anthony E. Armlin '72, May 7, 2010
Joseph W. Costello III '72, Oct. 22, 2009
Douglas W. Flowers '72, Nov. 15, 2009
Constance Augustyniak Johnson '72, Feb. 12, 2009
Robin J. Wheeler '72, June 2, 2010
Paul H. Lenok '73, Nov. 17, 2006
Robert Weinberger '73, Sept. 23, 2009
Richard D. Lamarche '75, Feb. 1, 2010
Patricia Wickers Livermore '75, Jan. 4, 2009
Robert C. Drake '76, May 12, 2009
Howard M. Henze '76, April 16, 2010
Harry Kolker '76, June 21, 2009
David G. Guerrette '77, Nov. 17, 2009
Glenn W. Nichols '77, March 28, 2008

Michael H. Sakoff '77, Aug. 11, 2009
Randy S. England '78, Dec. 13, 2009
Ursula S. Hilborn '78, Nov. 3, 2006
Edward F. Lacroix '78, Feb. 17, 2009
Martin J. Cole '79, Feb. 22, 2010
Paul M. Simon '79, Feb. 19, 2009

1980s

Charles E. McKean '80, May 4, 2008
Linda M. Smith '81, Feb. 25, 2010
Melissa Marchese Dougherty '82, July 2, 2007
Victor M. Kidd Jr. '83, Sept. 12, 2009
Suzanne B. Geller Wolf '84, July 30, 2009
Young-Hee Chang '85, May 9, 2009
Leonard J. Shore '86, March 25, 2008
Charlotte A. Miller '87, July 4, 2003
Kathleen A. Piccolo '87, March 1, 2010
Deirdre Phelan Kippen '88, Jan. 25, 2010

1990s

Martin G. Ryan '91, May 17, 2009
Geoffrey H. Davis '93, April 1, 2010

Joel W. Bucher '94, Nov. 14, 2009
Laura Q. Lyle '94, Oct. 25, 1998
Deborah J. Summers '94, Jan. 27, 2010
Stephanie M. Payeur '97, April 18, 2010
Damien Harrington '99, March 21, 2010

2000s

Megan A. Stange '01, Feb. 3, 2010
Brian Beachy '02, March 26, 2010
Christine Gorayeb '03, Jan. 14, 2010
Joseph J. Theinert '08, June 4, 2010

Faculty/Staff

Edwin A. Thomas Jr., Senior Academic Advisor, Educational Opportunity Program, 1969-1987, March 10, 2010
Richard Halsey, Dean, School of Information Science and Policy, 1980-1993; Associate Professor, 1973-1980, March 28, 2010

The Last Word

“If it weren’t for UAlbany, I wouldn’t have been able to ...”

Editor’s Note: In this space, we usually publish first-person reflections on a graduate’s University at Albany experience and its impact on his/her life. This time around, however, we’d like to share with you excerpts from a few more Last Alum Standing submissions. Other entries, including the winning essay by Greta Petry, M.A.’01, appear on pages 32 and 33.

“... prepare for the journey of a lifetime. I came from humble beginnings; I was the only child of immigrant parents, and the first generation of my family to attend college. Accepted to UAlbany through the Equal Opportunity Program, I took full advantage of the privileges of EOP, understanding that I had a goal to accomplish (graduate) and a dream to fulfill (pursue higher education). UAlbany gave me a phenomenal education, prepared me for the most competitive institutions of higher learning, and gave me the chance to meet the most amazing and talented people ever to cross my path. I continue to rely on the support of my mentors from UAlbany and the unbelievable social network established during my four years there.”



– Maysa Akbar '96, New Haven, Conn.
Faculty, Yale Child Study Center

“... transfer in from a Division III school and have an opportunity to win championships while getting a great education ... [Head Coach] Bob Ford and [Defensive Coordinator] Mike Simpson made it possible. Since graduating with a bachelor’s in rhetoric and communication, I have worked in six different industries. All along the way, I was constantly involved with other UAlbany alums and am still in touch with my football coaches to this day.”



– Davon B. Jones '00, Tampa, Fla.
Director of Admissions,
Everest University Online



The photo above, taken at the lunch counter at the old Kresge’s in downtown Albany, was one of the pictures that earned Martin Benjamin top honors in *Life* magazine’s Bicentennial Photography Contest in the mid-1970s. Benjamin captured the image at right in Nanjing, China, in 1993.



“... have a successful career in photography. At SUNY Albany, I became very active with the *Albany Student Press*; *The Torch*; and Photo Service, a group of student photographers who took photos for both. I ended up with 24/7 access to a great darkroom and studio on the third floor of the Campus Center. ... [Thanks to] the student Photo Service, my first job as photographer in the Office of Community Relations, and my studio art major, I became a real working photographer. My first teaching job [was] adjunct instructor at The College of Saint Rose. I have exhibited work in the U.S., Europe, China, Cuba and Vietnam; last spring, I had an exhibition in conjunction with my new book, *Atomic Age*, at the prestigious Ikona Gallery in Venice, Italy. I also own and operate Rock Shots®, a stock photography agency featuring music-performance photographs I have made – which started with photographing performances by Pete Seeger, John Sebastian, Eric Clapton and others while I was at SUNYA.”

– Martin Benjamin '72, Schenectady, N.Y.
Professor of Photography, Union College

Giving Back

Alan R. Stephenson, Ph.D., B.A.'55, M.A.'58

UAlbany's predecessor institution, the New York State College for Teachers, set Alan R. Stephenson on the path to two great careers.

If not for Albany, the Rock City Falls, N.Y., native and "Depression kid" wouldn't have gone to college. At State, Stephenson, a history major, did photography; operated the lighting for Page Hall theatrical presentations; and worked with the basketball team, eventually becoming a manager.

After interrupting his studies to serve in the Korean War, Stephenson returned to State, boosted his undergraduate average to straight A's and became one of the school's first teaching assistants. Using the electronics expertise he'd acquired in the service, he installed a closed-circuit project at Richardson Hall, running the equipment for televised classes.

Stephenson, who graduated in 1955 but maintains his original affiliation with the Class of 1952, completed master's studies in biology at NYSCT, then earned a Ph.D. in communications from Ohio State. As the first employee of PBS station WVIZ-TV in Cleveland, Ohio, he "developed a broadcast service that, at one point,

was the largest supplier of school television programming in the country." Now a full professor at John Carroll University, where he has taught for 25 years, he oversees the graduate program in communications and theater arts. He also manages a substantial archive of news footage from Cleveland-area TV affiliates.

As a memorial to a former NYSCT classmate, Stephenson established the *Joan L. Cunniff '53 and Alan R. Stephenson '52 Scholarship Endowment*. Preference for the award is given to female graduates of Cohoes High School, Cunniff's *alma mater*. Creating a scholarship "is a way of getting a little immortality as you reach the end of the road," observed Stephenson, who is also providing for UAlbany through a bequest intention. "I recognize that not everybody has the opportunity to attend college. I'm just helping where I can help."



Last June, the Lower Great Lakes Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences honored Alan R. Stephenson with its President's Award for "Outstanding Contributions Made to the Development and Advancement of Educational Television and for Dedication to Preserving Cleveland's Television History and Archives."



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It's not too early (or too late, for that matter) to include a bequest for UAlbany in your will. A bequest offers you two advantages: It is easy to make, and it has no immediate impact on either your income or your assets. Your bequest could also establish an endowment, a permanent fund, in your name or in that of a loved one. Endowments can be designated for scholarships or lectures, research or library support, or a number of educational initiatives at UAlbany. You specify the endowment's purpose.

To request a copy of one of our new brochures – *Bequests*, which includes suggested wording, or *Endowments* – please contact:

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HOMECOMING / FALL FESTIVAL 2010

Family & Reunion Weekend **OCT. 8-10**

We're just a month away from the biggest annual gathering at UAlbany! Bring your Great Danes spirit, and we'll do the rest. Take in the vibrant autumn colors as you enjoy the weekend's festivities:

- Wine Tasting Reception • Farmers' Market • 5K Race
- Alumni Breakfast • Touchdown Tailgate with food and entertainment
- Football vs. St. Francis Red Flash • Sorority Coffee Hours
- Campus Tours • Legacy Reception
- Great Danes Great Bash at WT's
- Student Performances

Barbara Walters will be the featured speaker at the **World Within Reach Speaker Series**

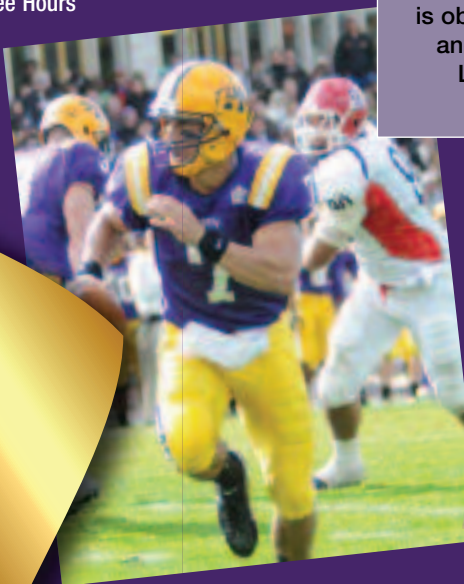
event sponsored by the Student Association
Saturday, Oct. 9, 8 p.m.,
during Homecoming Weekend.
Check the Homecoming Web site for more details as they become available.

**Barbara Walters
is Coming
to UAlbany!**



REUNIONS

We're celebrating milestone reunions for the classes of 2000, 1985, 1970, 1960, 1955 and 1950. Middle Earth is observing its 40th anniversary, and GOLD (Graduates Of the Last Decade) will hold its third annual reunion.



So spread the word; bring your friends and family; and share a weekend of memories, fun and excitement!
For details, visit www.albany.edu/alumni/homecoming10.php.



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