Building Fine Boats

Mariek Schmidt Is All Over Mars

Technology Goes to College

Women's Lacrosse Rules NESCAC

THE MEANING OF SUCCESS
The Boatbuilders
In the world of custom-built yachts, Maine boatbuilders Jock Williams ’62 (above) and Steve White ’77 are renowned for their boats’ classic lines and impeccable craftsmanship.

Jeronimo Maradiaga’s Journey
Thomas J. Watson Fellowship winner Jeronimo Maradiaga ’09J was a smart kid from a single-parent home in the South Bronx. Few people knew his responsibilities included more than his studies at Colby.

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ON THE COVER Jeronimo Maradiaga ’09J is shown in the Bronx, outside John F. Kennedy High School, his alma mater. (Photo by Nick Cardillicchio)

Colby Online (www.colby.edu/mag)

« A Different Investment » Bobby Gorman ’08 postponed his finance job to make bunk beds for children living in poverty in Costa Rica. Keyword: Bunkbed

Colby Connects | Job hunting? Students and alumni—and the Career Center—find that a Colby mentor can make all the difference. Keyword: Jobs

Early College | Native American kids in Maine got a taste of college this spring, as Colby came to them. Keyword: Wabanaki

Art at Your Fingertips | The museum has launched a new Web feature with almost 2,500 digital images and information about more than 6,000 objects from the permanent collection. Keyword: See_art
As classes were winding down this spring, the students at insideColby were finishing up another issue of the award-winning magazine. Some excerpts are below, and there’s much more—videos, blogs, podcasts, photo galleries—online at insideColby.com.

**Alternative Paths**

By Fiona Brown ’09

For some students, four years of college is plenty. For others, taking five or more years to graduate means having an even more meaningful experience.

No, these students aren’t slackers. Known at Colby as super seniors, they leave school to gain experience, and they return with wisdom, enthusiasm, and a slew of stories to share before they enter (or re-enter) the “real” world.

Starting to tell his story about his time off, Jamie Goldring ’09 is out of breath. He has just left a lecture and he’s rushing to host a fundraising gig in the pub for the organization he launched to help people in Malawi. After a sigh, he says with a smile, “It’s a joy to be here again.” Goldring, like many who take a leave, returned with a new perspective and enthusiasm.

At Colby, leaves of absence are uncommon. Over the last 10 years about three students per graduating class have taken off a full year (or more) without receiving credit, according to Beth Schiller, the College registrar. For three in this year’s graduating class—Goldring, Jessica Stern, and Alexandra Freyer—leaving school meant pursuing passions, gaining work experience, and seeing the world.

**Engineering Harmony**

By Meghan Moynihan ’09

Pop quiz. Which of these doesn’t belong: physics, music, or engineering? If you guessed music, you’re right—and wrong. Daniel Gomez ’09 used to think his interests in science and music might not mix into one career path. Then he discovered the Colby/Dartmouth dual-degree program.

For Gomez, college has been about finding a balance. “The extremes don’t appeal to me,” he said. Instead of focusing only on his interest in physics or his love of music, Gomez found a way to blend his passions. He spent his first two years at Colby focusing on music and physics, then went to Dartmouth for his junior year to work on an engineering degree. After he graduates from Colby this year he’ll be back at Dartmouth for one more year. When he’s done he’ll have two degrees—a bachelor of arts in music and physics, and a bachelor of science in engineering—that he hopes to apply to a career in acoustical engineering. “That was one of the advantages of coming here,” he said. “I can actually do both.”
By now, many of you will have read this issue’s cover story on Jeronimo Maradiaga ’09, a remarkable guy who overcame tremendous odds to graduate from Colby and win a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship. I’d like to draw a bit more attention to the other notable people in the story.

Maradiaga would be the first person to tell you he didn’t succeed on his own. He had a high school teacher in the Bronx, Jessica Goring, who recognized his abilities and nurtured them, and a mentor, Ian Rice, at a New York nonprofit, who did the same. Maradiaga had professors and staff at Colby who helped him excel, and who stepped in (sometimes in extraordinary ways) when he needed help. Andrea Tilden (biology), Kim Besio (East Asian studies), and Sandra Sohne-Johnston (a former Posse advisor, now in admissions) were among the people who supplied the extra nudge, the encouragement, the steadfast support when it was most sorely needed. Last on this list, and certainly not least, was a Colby parent, Christie Howard, mother of Posse scholar Rebecca Travis ’07, who made Maradiaga a part of her not-so-extended family.

None of them sought recognition. I credit them here, not just for their benefit (or embarrassment), but to remind people at Colby and elsewhere who are teaching, tutoring, and mentoring right now that their efforts are important, crucial, and sometimes life-changing. That’s why they do it, but there’s also nothing wrong with an occasional and public pat on the back.

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CONTRIBUTORS

Matthew P. Murphy ’87  ("The Boat-builders," P. 14) is editor of the Brooklyn, Maine, based WoodenBoat, an internationally circulated magazine for wooden-boat owners, builders, and designers. He is author of Glass Plates and Wooden Boats, a compendium of early-19th-century marine photography. When not writing about boats, he can be found maintaining and sailing them. He lives with his wife, Holly, in Penobscot, Maine.

Lauren Pongan ’09  (A Healing Touch," P. 28) was an English major and editorial assistant for Colby. Originally from Pennsylvania, she has written for Maine Women and Port City Life magazines. As this issue went to press, Pongan was traveling in Colombia with plans to return to Portland, Maine.

G. Calvin Mackenzie  ("The Digital Revolution Hits Home—or Does It?" P. 12) is the Goldfarb Family Distinguished Professor of Government at Colby. With colleague Robert Weisbrot (history), Mackenzie is coauthor of The Liberal Hour: Washington and the Politics of Change in the 1960s, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2008. Mackenzie has taught at Colby since 1978.
A Brief but Joyful Life

On March 1, 2009, Alison Werner Barton '96 was killed in a car accident. The suddenness of this loss has left many of us shaken and rocked to the very core of our beings to have had such a vital, vibrant person taken from us.

Alison’s obituary appeared in the spring issue of Colby. The details there are important, but for those of us who were lucky enough to know her well, we know those words don’t even begin to capture the spirit, energy, and fierce joy that Ali shared so generously with the rest of us and so many others.

At her memorial service, the church in Winchester, Mass., was filled with people from all chapters of her life, some of whom had flown in from all corners of the country, drawn together in their grief and their desire to support her husband, Gavin Barton, (Alison and Gavin were and are a remarkable love story) and the couple’s families. Friends remembered her ready laughter and willingness to laugh at a joke, most especially when the joke was on her. Her sense of joy was unparalleled. The happiness of her friends and family made her happy. Our pain was hers.

She had a phenomenal capacity for celebrating the moment at hand, and greeted the joyful news of these last years—engagements, pregnancies, new jobs and houses, and all new opportunities—with e-mails written in capital letters and exclamation points, practically incoherent with joy on behalf of those she loved.

While this letter could ramble for pages, we invite you to view individual remembrances from Alison’s friends at www.colby.edu/AlisonBarton.

Signed by 34 friends, including members of the classes of ’94, ’95, and ’96. To see the names, go to www.colby.edu/mag.

Transparency Needed

I found President Adams’s discussion in the latest issue of the Colby magazine (spring 2009) of the sharp drop in Colby’s endowment, from $600 million at June 30, 2008, to close to $400 million one year later, very disappointing. With a loss in value of this magnitude I expected to read an assessment of what went wrong and about steps being taken to mitigate the chances of such a disaster being repeated by the College in the future. However, the piece addresses neither and instead discusses the 2009-10 budget in a very general way.

While comments from the president about Colby’s budget are certainly of interest, these would be more credible if we were given factual information about the relevance of the endowment thereto, i.e. how much of the annual budget is funded by the now shrunken endowment? How does this figure compare with other schools in the NESCAC?

Is there an optimal target for a school of Colby’s size and history? Readers deserve more than simple pie charts on revenues and expenses, or a bar chart depicting the endowment’s decline. And what about the other side of the ledger? Does Colby have looming debt obligations that make the financial position of the College even more precarious?

Other than the fact that [the endowment] has performed terribly, the article provides no information on the endowment’s asset allocation, which caused such disastrous results in the first place. How much of the $600 million was invested in illiquid and hard to value assets such as private equity and real estate? Of the remaining liquid assets how much of these are in listed equity vs. traditional fixed-income instruments with emphasis on traditional as opposed to structured products or vehicles? Who are the investment committee members, and how are they chosen? Is there a conflicts-of-interest policy to ensure Colby’s endowment was/is invested without regard to its advisors’ private interests?

Certainly, Colby is not alone in the destruction of wealth that has occurred in America and worldwide over the past 24 months. However, if Colby is to be intellectually honest with itself and its various constituents then there needs to be more transparency and information-sharing about the endowment, mistakes made, and lessons learned. This information is at least as important as the deluge of e-mails from Mayflower Hill about the events of April 12. President Adams’s statement that “Colby’s conservative practices, including our cautious approach to endowment spending and the growth of operating expenses, have stood us in good stead for the near term...” just does not square with reality when it comes to managing the endowment. A prudently managed, diversified portfolio across a range of asset classes without undo concentration is consistent with long-term capital preservation and reasonable growth, and not with a 33-percent drop in value year over year.

Joe Meyer ’79
Tokyo, Japan

Editor’s note: Communications from the College regarding its financial situation, beginning with President Adams’s State of the College address from October 2008, are available at www.colby.edu/financialsituation

Gender Inequity a Colby Problem

We applaud Professor Debra Barbezat’s pedagogical ingenuity in asking her Economics 254 students to study gender inequities in the labor market (“Home Economics,” spring 2009 Colby) by exploring how these inequities have had an impact on their own families. During the 2008-2009 academic year, Colby female faculty earned 83 cents for every dollar that male faculty earned, which is exactly the same percentage they earned 19 years ago in 1990. We are struck by this irony.

In average salary over all faculty ranks combined, Colby’s gender wage gap is the largest of the 11 schools in NESCAC. In response to these figures, available through the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), the College has completed further analyses, explaining the wage disparity in terms of variables such as unequal time at rank,
unequal merit pay, unequal entry level compensation, unequal compensation by discipline, and unequal distribution of endowed chairs—factors that we find symptomatic of the problem, and not a suitable explanation or justification for it. And yet, even controlling for these factors, the wage disparity by gender remains significant.

Kudos to Professor Barbezat for raising awareness among her students about this important issue. What would Mary C. Low, the first woman to earn a bachelor of arts degree at any New England college, think of her alma mater today?

Signed by 43 of 47 female teaching faculty at the rank of associate or full professor

Editor’s note: The names of the signatories to the letter are available at www.colby.edu/mag/letters.

Below is the administration’s response.

College Committed to Equity

The College is committed to gender equity, in faculty salaries and all other aspects of the institution. We review and analyze faculty salaries annually, including any gender variances, and we have completed a careful review again this year. We are discussing that review with faculty colleagues, and we are prepared to make adjustments that might be called for, based upon our analysis and the many factors that affect salary averages and calculations, and within the budgetary constraints that current financial conditions impose.

AAUP reports and institutional comparisons based on AAUP data do not account for the many factors that affect the distribution of salaries at a given institution: time in rank, especially, but also variations in salary by field, salary enhancements associated with endowed chairs, and other factors.

The salary analysis conducted recently by Colby’s director of institutional research indicates that wage disparity by gender is limited to the full professor level and reflects the historical composition of the faculty—in decades past, more men than women were hired to teach at Colby, so men are overrepresented at the senior level of the faculty. Men also are overrepresented among those who hold endowed professorships, and this too is reflected in the salary data.

The differences are real at this level, and we have been working to narrow the gaps—by, for example, allocating named professorships equally between female and male faculty members over the past decade, and agreeing to be even more determined with regard to these appointments in the future. We have been and will continue to be highly attentive to the matter of gender equity in hiring and salaries.

William D. Adams, President
Edward H. Yeterian, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Financial Aid vs. Real Colby Costs

Colby’s April 10, 2009, electronic publication Out of the Blue heralds March 18, 2009, as the date this year that Colby’s $48,520 annual comprehensive fee runs out and subsidies from endowment, the Colby Fund, etc., pick up the additional $17,480 it costs annually to educate each student at Colby.

I find the $65,900 figure quoted as the true per-student annual cost of a Colby education hard to believe. If I were calculating and presenting the numbers, I would deduct all financial aid provided to students out the College’s operating cost budget, leaving only teaching, room and board, other direct and overhead costs, etc., as the “cost of education” total for the college’s students. I would then divide that number by the number of full-time students to derive the true annual cost of attending the College. If that number is not larger than the current comprehensive fee, then some students very arguably are paying their own way through Colby. If that number is larger than the current comprehensive fee amount, then yes, each and every student is being subsidized by the College to some extent.

However, there is still a very large discrepancy between the amount of subsidy from endowment that students not receiving explicit financial aid receive and the average amount of financial aid plus implicit additional subsidy that the average financial aid student receives.

As a middle-class parent whose two children in college receive no need-based financial aid, I wonder whether the 5 to 7 percent compound annual tuition increases we are required to pay aren’t just an ever-escalating subsidy amount my wife and I and my children are providing towards the education of other students on need-based financial aid.

In bringing this issue up, I don’t mean to denigrate what the College and its many supporters do for its students, and I don’t mean to suggest that there should not be financial aid granted to those who need it. I do want to make the point that many middle-class parents are bearing a much bigger share of their own children’s college education costs than the OOTB article would lead one to believe, and that the failure of colleges to end or substantially slow the annual escalation of their costs is forcing many of us to reevaluate whether we can afford to provide our children with an education comparable to the one we ourselves received at Colby.

Bruce C. Drouin ’74
Yarmouth, Maine

Climate Change Danger is Real

In his essay (“Where is Science Behind Climate Change Claims?” spring 2009 Colby), Dave Epstein ’86 has done a great disservice to future generations by seeding doubt about a fundamental and vital truth of Earth science research today: that global warming is a clear and present danger to the future of mankind and that we have caused it ourselves.

We owe it to future generations to fix it. Unless vigorous political action is taken in the coming years by all nations, the voices of the status quo will rule and we will be in deep trouble. We cannot afford to wait on this one; it is a ticking time bomb that may be close to a tipping point from which we will not be able to return. As an earth scientist myself (Colby geology ’63; Columbia Ph.D. ’70; U.S. Geological Survey geologist ’75-’03) I am alarmed along with most scientists...
today about where our atmosphere has ended up after a hundred plus years of ever-increasing carbon emissions.

The consensus reached by the IPCC [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change] in 2007 was extraordinary. Trying to reach agreement among a group of scientists is like herding cats, and such an agreement is a rare thing. It speaks to the clarity of the bottom line that these some 40 scientists, with input from many more, were able to reach agreement on such a relatively strong statement. Observations since 2007 however suggest that their statements were not alarmist enough. For the last 10,000 years of Homo sapiens’ existence on Earth we have enjoyed an unusually mellow and stable climate despite a few small bumps. Our prodding and poking of the climate system by our additions may well trip us into a whole new climate regime not seen since the dawn of modern man.

This is a huge concern, despite Dave Epstein’s statements to the contrary. It is an emergency that will require an emergency response from all nations. Although our nation dropped the ball on the Kyoto agreement, the world still looks to us for leadership, and it may not be too late to effect the changes needed to avoid disaster. Please folks, do not listen to people who say this is not an emergency. In my time of political awareness (I entered Colby when Kennedy was elected) I have seen crises come and go: the Cold War, Vietnam, and the 1960s. I think nothing compares in importance to this one, yet one can imagine positive outcomes if all nations can work together and spend the resources to solve this one.

Steve Eittreim ’63
Palo Alto, California

“Debate” Is Over

An institute of higher learning like Colby, dedicated to intellectual curiosity, human enrichment, research leadership, and global integrity, should be ashamed to have printed David Epstein’s screed (“Where Is the Science Behind Climate Change Debate?”) as “The Last Page” of the spring 2009 magazine. The time for academic debate about the human impacts on climate change were ending around the time that Mr. Epstein was at Colby. I graduated 10 years after him and it was pretty much a foregone conclusion at that point.

Nothing more needs to be said about this “debate” than the recent news that the oil and gas industry’s own science advisors concluded in 1995 that “the scientific basis for the Greenhouse Effect and the potential impact of human emissions of greenhouse gases such as CO₂ on climate is well established and cannot be denied,” the experts wrote in an internal report compiled for the Global Climate Coalition. The Global Climate Coalition was “financed by fees from large corporations and trade groups representing the oil, coal and auto industries, among others,” according to the New York Times. Petro companies such as ExxonMobil and Shell even recognize the human contribution to climate change. It’s time to stop debating whether this thing actually exists and start discussing the various ways we can mitigate the potential risks. Are we willing to bet our future on the slim chance that nothing will change as a result of human activities on this earth since the beginning of the Industrial Era? Really?

That was 14 years ago, and yet this is still being “debated” by people such as Mr. Epstein, saying that climate change is some “unproven hypothesis.” It’s sad how much time has been wasted that could have been used to make advances in energy efficiency, fuel efficiency standards (blocked for years by the auto industry lobby that is unsurprisingly on the brink of death), and technology retrofits to large industry.

Please, Mr. Epstein, tell us what further scientific findings have emerged that “more robustly support an alternative explanation.” Simply put, there are none.

Andrew Meeks ’96
Portland, Oregon

I’d like to respond to Dave Epstein ’86 and his question: “Where is the Science Behind Climate Change Claims?” (spring 2009 Colby).

Even if climate change is missing a hard scientific link to human population growth, conservation and sustainability are not things we need simply because it is the right thing to do. There is reason to fear not having them. In the last 200 years on an Earth that is 4.5 billion years old, we have increased our numbers from one to almost seven billion people. Even with growth rates of just over 1 percent a year, the density of human beings on the surface of the Earth could reach one person per square meter in approximately 700 years.

Whether you want to consider the economic, social, political, or (potential) environmental implications that will come much sooner, not charting a course with rules and regulations could be catastrophic.

Bill Logan ’95
Seattle, Washington

Where is Colby’s Correctness?

Horrors, how dare Colby (spring 2009) deviate from its left wing, liberal, socialistic, and political correctness templates and print David Epstein ’86’s, essay, “Where Is Science Behind Climate Change Claims?” Heavens, it might cause some global warming adherents to think and thereby lose faith in the new man-made myth.

Nicholas Sarris ’53
Dover, Massachusetts
Commencement 2009
Education Advocates Inspire; 509 Graduate

At Colby’s 188th Commencement, May 24, speakers discussed struggle, failure, and global challenges, ultimately urging graduates to seize opportunities presented by difficulties they encounter and to help others. As 509 members of the Class of 2009 received their diplomas, excitement overwhelmed the May showers that dampened an unusually large crowd on Miller Library’s lawns.

In Afghanistan, said commencement speaker Greg Mortenson, coauthor of *Three Cups of Tea*, “There’s a very beautiful Persian proverb that says, ‘When it is dark, you can see the stars.’ And I think that’s a good thing to hold onto.” A failed attempt to climb K2 in Pakistan led Mortenson to his life’s mission of establishing schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The Taliban, Mortenson said, has destroyed more than 800 schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan in the last two years, mostly those for girls. “So, why do a group of men want to bomb a girls’ school and not a boys’ school? Because, I think, their greatest fear—it’s not a bullet, but it’s a pen,” he said. Mortenson quoted the Islamic hadith: “The ink of a scholar is holier than the blood of a martyr.”

The good news, Mortenson said, is that since 2000 the number of children being educated in Afghanistan has grown from 800,000 to 7.6 million—“the greatest increase in school enrollment in any country in modern history,” he said. “That’s the candle, that’s the light of hope for a country like Afghanistan.”

In a speech that went from lighthearted to inspiring, senior class speaker Qiamuddin Amiry ’09, of Kabul, Afghanistan, also emphasized positive change. Amiry gained perspective through the struggles early in his life, he said, including civil war in Afghanistan and later the Taliban regime. “During the civil war, survival became the number-one objective of life,” he said.

“It was here that I had the chance to see that it is merely a different environment ... that made the difference between a young suicide bomber from Kabul and the young man standing before you today.”

Qiamuddin Amiry ’09, senior class speaker

Later, at the Li Po Chun United World College in Hong Kong and then at Colby, Amiry was able to look beyond survival toward helping others. “It was here that I had the chance to see that it is merely a different environment, different people that I had the good fortune to interact with, and different sources from which I took inspiration,” he said, “that made the difference between a young suicide bomber from Kabul and the young man standing before you today.”

“I believe that the environment in which we grow up, and the people that we encounter in life, shape our character and mold our dreams.” He translated a Persian saying: “Melons gain color from the other melons around them and they ripen together. You, Class of 2009, have colored and shaped me—and one another—in ways that will alter the rest of our lives.”

Amiry quoted Aga Khan about inspiring those who are less fortunate: “It is for us, who are more fortunate, to provide that spark. The question is, can we provide the spark?” Through the nonprofit he cofounded with classmate John Campbell ’09, Amiry is providing outstanding students from Afghanistan with the opportunity to study at private high schools in the United States.

Full coverage of commencement, including video, audio, and transcripts, is online at www.colby.edu/commencement.

—Ruth Jacobs
Changing of the Guard

Robert E. Diamond Jr. ’73, longtime Colby trustee, supporter of the College, and now a Colby parent, took over for Joseph F. Boulos ’68 as chair of the Board of Trustees at commencement. Diamond is president of Barclays PLC and chief executive of investment banking and investment management for Barclays’ investment arm. Through the Diamond Family Foundation he funded the Diamond Building and has led efforts to expand Colby’s research and teaching in areas related to the environment.

Boulos, president of The Boulos Companies, northern New England’s largest commercial real estate firm, is also a longtime trustee and supporter of Colby. With his wife, Sheri, he made the financial commitment to establish a no-loan aid policy for Maine students, a policy that was expanded last year to include all students eligible for financial aid.

In a conversation during a break between trustees’ meetings during Commencement Weekend, Boulos and Diamond considered the challenges of the past year and what they see as Colby’s prospects for the future.

While they have different business backgrounds, Boulos and Diamond share the belief that Colby has particular strengths that will not only allow the College to meet looming economic challenges but to emerge stronger in relation to its peers.

They both pointed to what they said is Colby’s efficient and frugal financial management. “I think, relative ... to other colleges in [the New England Small College Athletic Conference], we’re in great shape,” Boulos said.

As a result Colby is moving forward in areas like faculty hiring when other colleges and universities are cutting back, they said, and that will bolster the teaching mission of the College in coming years. “We saw a list of eight or nine tenure-track or tenured professors who have joined the College for the next academic year,” Diamond said. “It was incredible.”

The altercation between students and security officers April 12, Diamond said, “was very, very difficult in every way, and very unfortunate—there’s no way around it.”

Trustees attended a presentation by Boston attorney Ralph C. Martin II on his investigation of the incident. “We’re taking it very seriously.” Boulos said. He predicted that, while unfortunate, the incident will help Colby emerge with “a very much better-educated administration, better-educated board, and it will be an opportunity to move in a positive direction.” —Gerry Boyle ’78

Looking Back and Forward: The Museum Turns 50

An exhibition titled Art at Colby: Celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Colby College Museum of Art opens July 11 in honor of the museum’s semi-centenary. The exhibit traces the history of the collection and showcases its highlights, including more than 75 works from the Lunder Collection (promised to the museum by Paula and Peter Lunder ’56), said the museum’s Carolyn Muzzy Director and Chief Curator Sharon Corwin.

The exhibit is ordered chronologically by date of acquisition, tracing landmark acquisitions, such as Winslow Homer’s The Trapper and more than 350 pieces from the collection. Visitors will be able to listen to guided audio tours via their cell phones.

A book to complement the exhibition, titled Art at Colby, includes 144 brief essays detailing 176 pieces in the collection. The 98 essay contributors represent a variety of professions, including art historians, poets, curators, and others from a broad range of disciplines. The museum staff is also organizing an October 9-10 symposium titled “American School: American Art and Pedagogy,” to bring together scholars of American art.

Moving forward, new acquisitions will continue to address specific goals. “We’re looking to strengthen the contemporary and American holdings,” Corwin said. “We’re also looking to expand the collection of teaching objects—works that can be used by faculty in courses.” Corwin said she and her colleagues hope to expand the breadth of the museum’s outreach and engagement both on campus and in the local community, and the symposium is expected to continue to move the museum toward those goals. “We’d like to further establish ourselves as a national presence in terms of scholarship and our exhibitions.” —Lauren Pongan ’09
WIT AND WISDOM

“I don’t know how it will be helpful to me when I go back to Nepal, but American campaign finance is very interesting.”

Lokesh Todi ’09, explaining to prospective students his plans to study physics and engineering changed when he discovered a passion for government.

“Colby actually isn’t as liberal as I think people think it is. There are a lot more moderates on campus than people realize.”

Ala Solvig ’11, director of on-campus services for the Colby Republicans, in a discussion about political action on campus.

“I’ve had students who have gone on to be doctors, and they can identify every tree on the golf course, and that’s a great source of satisfaction.”

Biology Professor Judy Stone, who teaches the popular course Woody Plants, talking about her students at a day-long program.

“First Lady on Mayflower Hill

Colby President William D. Adams and Lauren Sterling were married May 17 in a small, informal ceremony in Maine. Sterling, a longtime Waterville resident, is program director for the Maine Governor’s Children’s Cabinet. In that capacity she coordinates initiatives among state agencies, manages a statewide federal after-school program, and works to combat bullying and harassment among youth. She was a driving force that helped bring New England’s first Educare Center to Waterville, and each year the center will serve approximately 185 Waterville-area low-income children and their parents. Sterling’s volunteer activities include co-chairing the Greater Waterville Communities for Children and Youth Coalition since its inception in 1996.

Green Power Champs

For the second consecutive year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) named Colby an individual conference champion for purchasing more green power than any other school in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC).

Because Colby purchases all of its electricity from renewable resources (low-impact hydro, biomass, and wind) and also purchases Green-E-certified wind power (Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), the EPA lists Colby as a 103-percent green electric—the highest percentage among the 43 participating colleges and universities nationwide. In addition to purchased power, the College generates about 10 percent of its electricity with a cogeneration turbine at the on-campus steam plant used to heat campus buildings.

EPA estimates that Colby’s purchase of green power is equivalent to the electricity used by more than 1,600 average American homes in a year, and that the resulting reduction in CO2 emissions is the equivalent of taking nearly 2,100 passenger cars off the road for a year.

Silvery Green

A project that expanded Cotter Union by 18,000 square feet with additions of Pulver Pavilion and a new bookstore received LEED certification at the silver level from the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the accepted standard for rating green or sustainable building construction, and is a notch above basic LEED certification.

Pulver Pavilion, which opened in 2007, has fulfilled its planned role as a hub of campus life. The new bookstore, a two-story, 9,000-square-foot addition on the east side of the building, opened in June 2008.

The building received LEED points in 29 categories, including water and energy conservation, use of local and recycled materials, and a commitment to using renewable energy. This is Colby’s third LEED-certified building. The others are the Schair-Swenson-Watson Alumni Center and the Diamond Building.

The new Green Colby logo—a sign of all things green at Colby.

NSF GRANT FOR EVOLUTIONARY GENETICS

As a plant species spreads from its original environment, the finely tuned genetic advantages that it gained through natural selection on its home turf may not serve individual plants that colonize the edges of the species’ range. Biology Professor Judy L. Stone received a $306,632 grant from the National Science Foundation to study “Gene flow, selection, and maintenance of mating-system diversity on an ecological gradient” by studying plants in Costa Rica. The grant includes funding for at least 24 research experiences over four years, and most of them will be Colby students. More at www.colby.edu/mag.
**AWARD-WINNING STUDENTS**

**Humanity in Action**

Tajreen Hedayet ’11, a Posse Scholar from Queens, N.Y., was chosen for a prestigious Humanity in Action Fellowship that will send her to Paris, France, for five weeks to study human rights, minority issues, and diversity.

Participants will come from six countries, and Hedayet will be one of the youngest fellows and one of the few who haven’t completed bachelor’s degrees, she said. “It’s just unreal to me.”

The fellowship will give her a firsthand look at how an increasingly diverse population is shaping France in the 21st century. It requires academic work in the form of lectures, discussions, and a research paper. After the summer program, Hedayet will implement a grass-roots action project (undoubtedly at Colby, she noted) over the next year, and she will become a senior fellow of the Humanity in Action program.

**Watson Winner Profiled**

Jeronimo Maradiaga ’09 won a prestigious Watson Fellowship for research on three continents. See cover story, page 18.

**Two Projects for Peace**

Two Colby students won $10,000 grants to implement humanitarian programs of their own design this summer under the Davis Projects for Peace initiative. Sarah Joseph Kurien ’09 and Ermira Murati ’11 are two of 100 undergraduates awarded a grant in the third year of Davis Projects for Peace initiative.

Murati’s project reaches out to underprivileged youth in Kosovo, which she calls “the poorest country in Europe.” She proposes developing business management skills, networking with local businesses, helping young people find jobs or start their own businesses, and fostering inter-ethnic dialogue. She hopes to create a sustainable program for youth entrepreneurs and to support the startup of three to five businesses.

Kurien will focus on countering religious hatred by promoting awareness among children living in the slums of Mumbai, India, her native country. Her goal is to emulate “the ideal of religious tolerance enshrined in the Indian constitution” through educating educators and children. She too seeks to create a sustainable program that will carry on in South Mumbai’s public classrooms.

**Four Fulbrights**

The Fulbright Program offered four Colby seniors prestigious teaching assistantship grants in Europe for the 2009-10 school year.

Katherine Dutcher, Justin Mohler, and Nicole Veilleux were offered Fulbright Teaching Assistantships in Germany and Emily Foraker was offered a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship in Russia. Mohler also was awarded a U.S. English Language Assistantship in Austria, known as an Austrian Fulbright, and opted to spend the year in Graz, Austria.

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 to promote mutual understanding between U.S. citizens and people from other countries. The U.S. Student Program currently awards approximately 1,500 grants annually in about 150 countries.

Read the full versions of these stories online. Got to www.colby.edu/mag, keyword: awards09

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**Three Professors Retire**

The end of the academic year marked the retirement of three long-serving members of the Colby faculty, and President William D. Adams thanked them for their service to the College at the annual faculty-trustee dinner during Commencement Weekend. All three retirees remain members of the Colby faculty with emeritus status.

**JANE M. MOSS**, the Robert E. Diamond Professor of Women's Studies and professor of French, came to Colby in 1979 after earning her bachelor’s degree at Wellesley and a master’s and Ph.D. at Yale. She studied and taught the literature of Québec, Franco-America, and Francophone women writers. Her mother and brother were Colby graduates, and she called it “a dream come true” to spend her career at Colby. Her husband, Richard M. (“Pete”) Moss, taught history from 1978 to 2005.

**CLIFFORD E. REID**, the Charles A. Dana Professor of Economics, came to Colby in 1987 after earning his bachelor’s degree at the George Washington University and his Ph.D. at Princeton. He studied discrimination in American life, specifically in housing, employment, and wages, and he was known for rigorous standards in the classroom. He is a past chair of the Economics Department and served on the Bunche Scholars committee.

**SHEILA M. MCCARTHY**, associate professor of Russian, came to Colby in 1987 after earning degrees at Emmanuel, Harvard, and her Ph.D. at Cornell. She taught Russian language, literature, and culture and founded the Colby in St. Petersburg study-abroad program. She accompanied alumni trips to Russia, helped to start a sister-city connection with Kotlas, Russia, and organized the Russian Sampler, which brought area schoolchildren to Colby each spring to experience Russian language and culture.
Mentoring Model

Since its beginnings in 2001, Colby Cares About Kids has expanded to involve some 400 students each year mentoring youths in neighboring towns. But more important than the breadth of the participation is the depth of the commitment and passion from college students and their young charges and their parents.

The success prompted Maine’s governor to direct a $500,000 federal grant to replicate the CCAK model at other campuses throughout the state: Bowdoin, University of New England, the University of Maine, and University of Maine campuses in Augusta, Portland, and Lewiston.

Education Trumps Recession

Given the economic climate of the past year, all bets were off for admissions numbers at private colleges and universities this year. But Colby’s numbers for the Class of 2013 came in strong.

While Colby did see a decrease in applications (6.5 percent), it was slight compared to many peer institutions. A total of 4,520 applications (300 more than in 2006) led to an acceptance rate of 34 percent, which is typical for Colby. The yield rate (percentage of students accepting the offer of admission) stood at 32 percent as of May, the same as last year.

The percentage of minority students in the Class of 2013 will be about the same as the past two years (approximately 15 percent). The percentage of African-American students planning to enroll more than doubled from last year to four percent as of May.

Standardized test scores remain strong. The average SAT scores stood at 670 for writing and critical reading and 680 for math—again, typical for Colby.

Colby did see a slight increase in financial aid applications and has budgeted an additional $1.5 million to meet increased need of current and incoming students.

No More Convent

An unexpectedly large enrollment in the fall of 2005 led the College to lease a former convent on the edge of campus to house students. Four years later Colby has determined it no longer needs the additional housing.

Colby leased the building adjoining the Mt. Merici School when three factors combined to swell the student population: an unexpectedly high yield from applicants admitted to the Class of 2009, an unusual number of students returning from leaves of absence, and fewer students choosing to live off campus.

This year 509 seniors graduated, a large class for Colby, which aims to keep the number of first-year students just below 500. As of May 28, this fall’s entering freshman class was on target at 496, according to the Admissions Office.

MILES FOR MINDS

The highway between Boston and Waterville is well worn by Colby students, parents, and alumni. But few make the trip the way Emily Wagner ’08 has: running all 191 miles.

Wagner ran from her home in Medford, Mass., to Mayflower Hill in 14 days to raise money for the Central Asia Institute (CAI), the nonprofit organization of Greg Mortenson, coauthor of Three Cups of Tea and Colby’s 2009 commencement speaker. From May 16 to 30 Wagner ran a daily average of 15 miles.

Wagner’s respect for Mortenson’s work and her desire to “help kids—especially girls—in the developing world realize their educational dreams” gave birth to the run, which she called Miles for Minds. To read more, go to www.colby.edu/mag.

Pulitzer Finalists

Professors G. Calvin Mackenzie (government) and Robert Weisbrot (history) were among the three finalists for the Pulitzer Prize in history for their book, The Liberal Hour: Washington and the Politics of Change in the 1960s, which was described as “an elegantly written account of a brief period in American history that left a profoundly altered national landscape.” The award went to The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family by Annette Gordon-Reed.
One afternoon during my first year in college, studying in the library was interrupted by a group of men noisily moving a large machine into a corner of the reading room. When they were done, several of us gathered around to see what this was. With great panache, a librarian opened a book, laid it on the glass top, and pushed a button. Almost instantly, a piece of paper came crawling out of the side and into a tray. On it, to our astonishment, was an exact copy of the pages of the book. He called it a photocopy and said this was a Xerox machine. There was much discussion of this new marvel over dinner that night. We rejoiced that there would be no more tedious hand copying of material we might want to quote in a research paper.

That’s ancient history now, but it’s emblematic of what had been the historically slow seepage of technology into the hoary practice of higher education. Had you entered a college classroom in 1990, it wouldn’t have seemed much different from entering one a hundred years earlier. A professor stood at a lectern in front of a group of people seated at desks who scribbled notes from a lecture. Occasionally, to illustrate a point or spell a name, the professor would write in chalk on a slate blackboard.

But over the past two decades, and since the millennium especially, technological aids for teaching and learning have multiplied at a dizzying pace. Let me share a few examples:

Last October, I was invited to speak to a class of advanced graduate students about the meaning of the presidential election then underway. I spoke for about 20 minutes, then had a lively interchange with the students for the next hour. I’ve taught thousands of classes, enough to know that this was a good one. But it was unlike most, because I was sitting in the conference room in the Diamond Building at Colby and they were in the U.S. Embassy in Athens, Greece. They could see me and I could see all of them. It did not seem different in any way I could describe from a typical class where students and teacher are in the same classroom.

For the past year, I’ve been using software called MacSpeech Dictate. I talk and my words flow across the computer screen. With much greater accuracy than my typing, it converts my spoken words into text and my commands into actions. My comments on course papers now run for pages, and students no longer have to decipher my increasingly illegible handwriting. (If only they could take their exams this way…)

I commute 40 miles each way to work at Colby. Often I use that time to listen to recorded college courses from The Teaching Company. Recently I listened to an excellent course on the history of jazz, and now I’m about two thirds through 36 lectures on the history of scientific discovery. This doesn’t fit my usual definition of college instruction, but there’s no denying what I’ve learned.

I own a Kindle, the e-book reader marketed by Amazon. I can download a book, and even for the newest titles it’s rarely more than $9.99. I read newspapers and magazines—and do much of my research—reading this way, too. You can try to take my Kindle away from me, but—apologies to Charlton Heston—you’ll have to pry it from my cold, dead hand.

We find ourselves living in a world dramatically changed in a very short time from anything that’s ever existed before. Our banker is more often a machine than a human; we calculate and pay taxes electronically; we buy clothes and almost everything else at “stores” online. We download the films we used to watch at a movie theater. We plan our travel online. People even meet their spouses there.

We’re in the midst of one of the great revolutions in human history, rooted in the rapidly expanding technological capacity for digitizing and communicating information. And it’s changing everything—except our traditional notions of a college education.

**Doesn’t it seem odd in a world where the information revolution has profoundly altered major industries and human interactions that the concept of a college education has changed so little?**
Doesn’t it seem odd in a world where the information revolution has profoundly altered major industries and human interactions that the concept of a college education has changed so little? Perhaps it’s time to consider ways in which we can harness the opportunities this information revolution creates—and avoid some of the genuine dangers it poses.

In fact, I think, we have little choice. If we don’t prepare for the challenges that are already at our doorstep we may join the legions of sudden anachronisms—printed newspapers, video rental stores, snail mail, film cameras, etc.—that now litter the landscape. When the digital bomb goes off in higher education, will we be prepared to endure the fallout?

The conversation we should be having, but rarely have, could cover many topics. For example, the physical book—text printed on paper and then bound—has been the primary tool of teaching and learning for more than five centuries. But soon all the books in the world will be digitized and all the information they contain will be available electronically from anywhere. How will that change the way colleges operate and the ways professors teach and students learn?

The fastest-growing segment of American higher education is now asynchronous or online learning—where the professor is in one place and the student in another, and not always at the same time. We’ve always disdained this as “not our way.” But contemporary technology has significantly narrowed the gap between distance learning (where teacher and student are apart in space or time) and traditional learning (where they are physically together). We are deluding ourselves if we think that the only truly effective teaching and learning occurs when all God’s children are in the same place. How can we use the emerging possibilities for online instruction to complement and improve our product without diminishing the great benefits of a residential college?

And it’s never been easier to join forces with other colleges in creative partnerships that allow us to share our strengths and cure our weaknesses. No small college can teach everything it would like. But can’t we harness new communications technologies to create curricula that draw on the combined strengths of many institutions in ways that benefit us all?

We need as well to ask if four years should remain the norm for completing a college degree. Many Colby students, aided by technologies and resources that did not exist a generation ago, seem to have reached levels of proficiency as juniors that I didn’t used to see until deep into their senior year. They can do good research and analysis, produce clear and insightful papers, and make effective oral presentations with almost professional skill. They are, in baseball parlance, ready for a higher league long before they get their degrees. With costs now so steep, shouldn’t there be a powerful imperative to take advantage of our expanding array of technological resources to shorten the length and reduce the overall cost of a college education?

Things change. And they are changing now at an unprecedented pace driven by ineluctable technologies. Our task is to make those new technologies our servant, not our master, and certainly not our enemy.

G. Calvin Mackenzie is the Goldfarb Family Distinguished Professor of Government at Colby.
Steve White ’77 and Jock Williams ’62 have built international reputations for their classically inspired yachts

By Matthew P. Murphy ’87
The first thing you notice upon entering the hangar-like construction building at Brooklin Boat Yard in Brooklin, Maine, is the smell: scents of fresh local cedar and cherry mix with the exotic aromas of teak and mahogany. Then there’s the hushed, quiet focus of the place.

These days, most of the company’s 60-plus employees—carpenters, cabinetmakers, and mechanics—are engaged in the construction of a 90-foot sailboat, Bequia, for a New York businessman. This is the yard’s largest (and priciest, though the cost is a closely kept secret) project to date, and the place is swarming with workers. By launch (set for June 27, 2009, after this magazine had gone to press), they will have spent some 80,000 hours over three years: measuring, cutting, bending, and gluing wood, fabricating metal, and installing a suite of systems befitting a spaceship.

The end product will be one of the world’s finest sailboats.

That’s no hyperbole: Brooklin Boat Yard, tucked away on a quiet harbor on Maine’s midcoast, has garnered an international reputation for the design and construction of wooden yachts.

**ABOVE:** Steve White ’77 is owner of the Maine-based Brooklin Boat Yard, a world leader in the design and construction of wooden yachts. White is pictured here aboard his company’s largest project: a 90-foot sailboat that was scheduled for launch in late June.
“I never expected it,” said the yard’s proprietor, Steve White ’77, of the size of his talented workforce and the scale and quality of his projects. “In the late seventies it was really pretty grim for wooden boat building.”

As a young builder back then, however, he would tap a new technology and over the next 30 years would launch a fleet of classically styled boats that perform like modern thoroughbreds. And he isn’t alone.

A short sail up the coast—at Somes Sound, the stunning fjord that slices through Mount Desert Island (home of Acadia National Park)—is John Williams Boat Co., owned by Jock Williams ’62. Working in fiberglass, rather than wood, Williams has done for powerboats what White has done for sail, taking traditional form and converting it for modern function. With one foot planted firmly in the heritage of Maine’s iconic lobster boats, Williams took a big step forward technologically and aesthetically and built an illustrious reputation.

Williams’s career in boats began when he was 14 years old and went to work in a shipyard on Martha’s Vineyard. In those early years, he said, “I was working in the boatyard and I was sailing.” In the process he was getting a classic education in the marine industry, and he was rubbing elbows with New England yachtsmen—his future clientele, though he didn’t know it at the time.

He graduated from Colby with a degree in history. “I never intended to make a career of boats,” he said.

With the Cuban missile crisis in mind, Williams decided that, rather than be drafted, he’d enlist. In three months Williams was a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy. After doing survey work off the coast of Vietnam ("a lousy assignment") he was appointed sailing officer at the Naval Academy. “That’s where I really got into the marine trades.”

As his four-year obligation to the Navy was coming to an end, Williams skippered the U.S. Navy’s entry in the 1966 trans-Atlantic race, a 44-foot yawl, to Copenhagen. In Denmark he met Paul Molich, a boatbuilder whose wooden sailboats were popular with American sailors. “I was there for a little over a year. I was paid thirty-five dollars a week. It was just fascinating. I saw every phase of boatbuilding.”

Upon his return to the United States, Williams took a job with the Henry R. Hinckley Co. in Southwest Harbor, Maine, a world-renowned yacht builder, where he was put in charge of the fiberglass shop. Until that time his experience had been with wooden boats, but he “was fascinated with the possibilities presented by fiberglass. It was adaptable to various shapes. It was durable.” A well-built boat of fiberglass came out of its mold with a mirror-smooth finish and required none of the annual sanding and painting demanded by its wooden forebears. Over the next few years, Williams managed the Hinckley shop’s growth and increasing sophistication and in the process deepened his own understanding of fiberglass. Around the time he decided to leave Hinckley, a man came to him with a wooden dinghy he wanted replicated in fiberglass. “That,” said Williams of this first boatbuilding commission, “was the start.”

Armed with a boatload of optimism, Williams brought one of these dinghies (he ultimately built 20) to the inaugural Newport Sailboat Show in 1971—and “didn’t sell a damn thing.” He returned to Maine dejected, but within days a buyer called wanting to purchase the boat he’d seen in Newport. “That was enough to keep me from giving up,” Williams said.

Soon Williams had moved into production of a fiberglass version of a classic wooden lobster boat designed by Maine boat legend Lyford Stanley. The first boat sold quickly, and “practically on the same day, I sold the second.”

“Then,” Williams said, “it just took off.”
John M. Williams Boat Co. was a going concern, though it would be a decade before Williams realized his ambition to build fiberglass yachts—not workboats—with a classic look.

Williams builds seven models from 26 to 44 feet, with prices ranging from $225,000 to $1 million, and has launched around 300 hulls. All are custom built to owners’ specifications. With the exception of a few custom orders, most have been built to stock plans. “I did achieve my goal,” Williams said. “We took the workboats and we made them properly. Then we shifted to pleasure boats—we really wanted to build something that represented traditional workmanship.”

White’s career choice may have been more predictable. His father, Joel White, a renowned yacht designer and the son of writer E.B. White, took over Brooklin Boat Yard in 1960, a few years after its founding. Still, Steve White’s future as a world leader in custom wooden-yacht construction was anything but certain when he graduated from Colby with a degree in environmental studies. Fiberglass, by then, had all but eclipsed wood as a boatbuilding material, and a craftsman would have been ill-advised to stake his future on wooden sailboats.

Three decades later, White has never looked back—and has rarely built the same boat twice.

Most Brooklin Boat Yard customers want a one-of-a-kind boat. The process begins with an idea and progresses to the company’s in-house design office. Wooden boats were traditionally built of heavy, solid wood, screwed or nailed rather than glued. These new high-tech wooden boats are built using a method called cold molding—hulls are composed of several layers of thin, pliable wood glued together. The cold in cold molding comes from the fact that the epoxy glue used to hold the boats together cures at room temperature (earlier hot-molded construction required baking in a giant oven). The result, when well-built and expertly painted, is a surface that rivals or exceeds the mirror-finish of fiberglass. Brooklin Boat Yard’s hulls are very well built and long lasting.

Whites’ first sizable boat was a racing sloop called Vortex. “I built it knowing that I might not be able to sell it, so I thought it had better be something I like.” Despite several offers, he still owns it. Vortex showcased Brooklin Boat Yard’s potential, and orders followed. Since the yard started keeping records in 1997, 46 boats have been built there—many of them multiyear projects consuming tens of thousands of man hours. And the in-house design office recently incorporated as a separate entity—Stephens Waring White Yacht Design—offering its services to other boatbuilders.

Over the past three decades the yard’s workforce has expanded with new projects. In 1978 there were four full-time people on the payroll. White thought there was a lot of potential at the yard and sought to grow it. By 1986 there were 10 employees, and by 1998, when the yard launched its biggest boat to date—a 76-foot sloop, Wild Horses, designed by Joel White—there were 25. The workforce has more than doubled since.

While the 90-foot sailboat currently under construction is Brooklin Boat Yard’s largest project ever, there have been recent inquiries for similar-sized and larger boats, despite the global economic downturn. (In June White was discussing building of a 120-foot sailboat with a European client.) White is amazed at his company’s growth from a small, traditional boatyard to a world leader in technologically advanced boatbuilding. And, like Williams, he feels fortunate to have found success doing what he loves.

As Williams put it, “I could not have anticipated the pleasure of being so immersed in boats.”

Matthew Murphy ’87 is editor of WoodenBoat magazine.
Jeronimo Maradiaga’s Journey

By Gerry Boyle ’78

For Jeronimo Maradiaga ’09, the walk around the South Bronx one rainy March morning was filled with nostalgia—a tour of the landmarks of his life.

The south entrance to the Bronx Zoo, where Maradiaga worked at a concession in high school to help support his family. The discount store on 179th Street, where he worked a second job, hefting boxes in a dusty stockroom. The apartment house at Addams Place, where he lived as a small child—until thieves tore the front door off the hinges. Another apartment on an unpaved back street, Old Kingsbridge Road, where he and his older brother, Oscar, played baseball before the family was eventually evicted.

“I loved this neighborhood,” Maradiaga said, gazing down the row of tenements and the graffiti-scribed stoops. “We’d be playing out here. We were friends with some of the drug dealers who worked around here. They would come to us and say, ‘You guys should go inside right now.’ And we’d go inside and we’d hear gunshots or whatever.”

He caught himself, aware, as he often is, of how his upbringing can be misunderstood.

“As odd as that might seem,” Maradiaga added, “it was a sense of community.”

He doesn’t tell that story very often, and he almost never did at Colby. Nor did many in the Colby community know that the intense, premed-sworn guy in the Yankees hat was responsible for his single-parent mother, who was seriously ill. That Maradiaga had been technically truant at 6,000-student John F. Kennedy High School in the Bronx because he couldn’t work two jobs, do his homework, and go to school every day. That through much of his college career, Colby was Maradiaga’s permanent address because he had no other home.
“In the beginning I felt ashamed, almost like I’d try to hide it,” he said. “Toward the end I felt it was important for people to realize that someone from the South Bronx, someone who is economically impoverished, someone who was homeless most of the time he was at Colby, could be at Colby and be successful there. So when people asked me, ‘What do your parents do?’ I’d still, like, hesitate initially, but I would say, ‘My mom’s ill. I don’t know my dad. My dad’s been out of my life.’”

It’s been a long time since Maradiaga has been ashamed. A Posse Scholar at Colby, selected from New York City public schools for his academic and leadership abilities, he capped an academically successful, socially arduous, and sometimes fitful Colby career by winning a prestigious Thomas J. Watson Fellowship. Maradiaga is one of 40 fellows chosen from several hundred candidates nationwide. He received $25,000 to spend the year traveling around the world, asking young people in disadvantaged and marginalized communities to tell him about their lives and their notions of success.

He is looking for young people like himself. He plans to tell them that his own path has been one of both achievement and inner conflict, a collision of cultures. And then he will listen to and document their stories, giving a voice to those too often lost in the din.

Maradiaga’s Bronx neighborhood, East Tremont, is, like much of New York City, a filled-to-the-brim melting pot of ethnicities and races, the cacophonous home to thousands of people jockeying to get by, to get ahead. Some parts are homey (Arthur Avenue’s Little Italy), while others are tattered. At times the place can be dangerous. Maradiaga liked his junior high school, J.H.S. 45, he said as he walked past the big brick building flush on Lorillard Place, though students were sometimes kept late because gang wars had broken out at nearby Roosevelt High.

“They would tell us not to wear red or not to wear blue,” he said, “just because it would cause problems.”

Yes, he and his brother were held up at knife-point by older kids, he said, but he cautioned that robberies were the exception, not the rule, and not to “read too much into the tale.” Street crime, he said, “is an urban problem, not a Bronx problem.”

Rosa Alicia Aleman, his mother, wasn’t taking any chances.

Dark-haired and slight, Aleman was raised in the Honduran industrial city of San Pedro Sula. In her late 20s, she set out alone for the United States, leaving Maradiaga’s two half brothers behind with family. She first settled in Los Angeles, then moved to New York City, where Jeronimo and Oscar Maradiaga were born. Their father left the family when they were 5 and 6, and Aleman was left to provide for her two children alone—and to keep them safe. “She wanted us to be in the house,” Maradiaga recalled. “She was always working. She worked in factories, she waitressed. Two jobs, sometimes three.”

Often it wasn’t enough. The single mom and her two latchkey kids began what Maradiaga calls “our migration around the Bronx.” Money was tight at best, and when it ran out, evictions followed. The family would live with friends and even spent a few nights on the subway. They would move to a new apartment with the help of friends, everyone lugging belongings down the street. Maradiaga remembers a basement apartment that flooded every time it rained. “My mom hated that place,” he said. “She was very unhappy.”

And then, when Maradiaga was a sophomore at JFK High (dubbed by the students “Jail For Kids”), his mom became very sick. She had no health insurance and no income. In an abrupt role reversal, her two sons took over. Oscar worked in restaurants. Jeronimo worked at the zoo and the store. Then an uninspired student, his jobs taught him something: that he disliked manual labor. “I hated lifting things,” he said. “I was like, this is going to be my life.”

At first his studies were a diversion, a refuge from waiting on tourists and stocking shelves. Then it dawned on him that school could be more than a respite. It could be his ticket. “My junior year I started thinking, way in the back of my head, maybe this could be my way out.”

Maradiaga describes his high school life as “work and study, work and study.” He didn’t hang out, kept to himself. Maradiaga was smart, inquisitive, self-aware. And junior year, someone finally noticed.

It was in an Advanced Placement history class. Teacher Jessica Goring said her department head came into the class to talk about Fed Challenge, an economics competition. “He pulled out a five-dollar bill and he said, ‘I can give this five dollars to whoever can tell me the current
chairman of the Federal Reserve.' Jeronimo immediately says, 'Alan Greenspan' and takes the money. My boss was shocked.”

Goring said she learned then that Maradiaga was not only smart, but paying attention to the world around him. Over time she learned much more. Once he asked her how to proceed after getting an eviction notice. Later it emerged that he and his brother were “taking care of the household, acting as adults,” Goring said.

Now assistant principal of the Bronx School of Law and Finance, a small school within Kennedy High, Goring remembers Maradiaga coming to school three days out of five. But in a high school where one of three students graduated, he did his work—and well. His academic prowess and quiet leadership won him the respect of other students, Goring said.

Maradiaga was president of National Honor Society and the Red Cross Club. Senior year he was tapped as a Posse Scholar, a highly competitive program, and before withdrawing to accept the Posse offer he was a finalist for a prestigious New York Times scholarship “for people who have overcome hardship,” as Maradiaga puts it.

But while there were accolades at school, at home the hardship was unrelenting, the stress overwhelming.

Ever since the boys were very young, their mother had confided in them, talking about money and about the bills that just kept on coming. “All her stress became our stress,” Maradiaga said.

And then the burden shifted.

His brother had graduated from high school and was working full time in a restaurant; Maradiaga was juggling his two jobs and his studies. His senior year he and his brother took over the family's finances completely, with Jeronimo wresting control from their increasingly debilitated mother. “That was one of the hardest things,” Maradiaga said, walking past a dark brick factory where his mother had once sewed.

“Whatever was left over, we'd manage to pay the electricity. Whatever was left after that was for food,” Maradiaga said.

The phone bill?

He laughed. “A luxury,” he said. “We rarely had a land line.”

But as he helped shoulder the family's financial burden, as the lights were cut off and there were frequent arguments about money, Maradiaga was looking for a way out. “I was very unhappy,” he said. “I needed a break.”

While part of him concentrated on the sphere of his life in the Bronx, another part of Maradiaga had bigger plans, and his academic ability was making them happen. He won a scholarship to take a trip to Australia the summer before his senior year. And he was selected for a mentoring program called Minds Matter, for “troubled youth.” (“I love that description,” Maradiaga said, grinning and shaking his head.)

His mentor was Ian Rice, a 1999 Harvard graduate and vice president at J.P. Morgan, the investment bank. Rice met Maradiaga his junior year and was immediately struck by his positive attitude, despite his burdens. “He really wanted to be there,” Rice said. “He wanted to learn, to expand his horizons. … He's a kid with extraordinary strength of character and strength of will.”

With Rice at the bank and Goring at JFK High encouraging him, Maradiaga spent three Saturdays a month at Minds Matter, taking SAT prep courses, doing group work on subjects like conflict resolution. Senior year it was Tuesday-afternoon training at the Posse offices on Wall Street, at the far end of Manhattan from the Bronx. Some students saw this as a break from their routine. “I hated it,” Maradiaga said. “It just meant that day I had to work later.”

But it paid off.

Maradiaga emerged from the rounds of intensive interviews and evaluations as a Posse Scholar, giving him a full college scholarship. Oscar Maradiaga, out of school and working in a barbecue restaurant, gave him his blessing, said he would take care of the home front. But only when the selection process was over did Maradiaga tell his mother, who valued a high school degree as a prerequisite to a full-time job. Maradiaga spoke to her, as always, in Spanish. “I was already accepted into Colby when I told her,” he remembered. “I said, 'Mom, I'm going away. To college.' She was like, 'What? Why?'”

While other first-years arrived at Colby with their parents in packed SUVs, Maradiaga came to Mayflower Hill with Rice, his mentor. His roommate's parents hugged their son and said goodbye. “I didn't really think my experience was that bizarre,” Maradiaga said, over pizza on Arthur Avenue. “I thought everyone was going to show up by themselves.”

Rice, Goring, and another of Maradiaga's teachers bought him clothes, a television, and a DVD player so he had some of the trappings of a kid going off to college, for which he said he is very grateful.

“It still wasn't my parents,” Maradiaga said. “I had still left my mom a few weeks...
before going to Colby, my mom had just left [for Honduras]. My brother was here [in N.Y.], homeless. I was here in this pristine place and in a sense I was a part of that, too, but I wasn't. And I realized I wasn't. It was very difficult.”

The waves of alienation came early and often. Like most new first-year students, Maradiaga went on a COOT (Colby Outdoor Orientation Trip), trading the comfort of a dorm room and the bountiful cafeterias for a tent and sleeping bag and gorp in a bag. “I was like, what the hell is this?” he said. “Why am I pretending to be poor? Sleeping on the ground, on dirt? This is like poverty. This makes no damn sense.”

The college party scene didn’t make sense, either, not to a guy who had spent his whole life threading through a minefield of drugs and alcohol because that was the only way he would succeed. Where he came from, drunks and druggies ended up in dead-end jobs or worse.

“When I got to Colby and I saw people drinking, I was like, ‘What? What is this?’” Maradiaga said. “I was so disappointed. I thought it was going to be this huge intellectual community where people were all about their classes. I don’t know what I was expecting, but certainly not Doghead [an annual marathon St. Patrick’s Day party].”

The relative wealth of the students overwhelmed him, as did their stereotypes about the Bronx. Other students assumed he must have gone to a specialized academic high school. One asked him if he was in a gang. The backdrop to this feeling that he didn’t belong was “an immense amount of guilt,” about leaving his mother, about the luxury of being a full-time student, Maradiaga said. “My freshman year I didn’t allow myself to party or have fun. I didn’t allow myself to be happy.”

Said Sandra Sohne-Johnston, now associate director of admissions and financial aid and then Maradiaga’s Colby Posse mentor, “He came to college as an adult, not as an 18-year-old young man.”

But Maradiaga knew how to be a successful student, and he threw himself into his studies with characteristic single-mindedness. Even there, he felt less prepared than students from suburban high schools and elite prep schools. “Just think about it,” he said. “[In high school] I was going to class every other day.”

While some students come to Colby with vague but altruistic plans to help “save the world,” Maradiaga’s goals were narrow and clear: get a Colby degree, go to medical school, become a doctor, and support his family. But family obligations nearly derailed his plans entirely.

The spring of his first year, Maradiaga’s mother, who had moved in with relatives in Honduras, fell more seriously ill and had to find another living situation. Maradiaga felt he had to bring her back to the United States and help support her. He was going to withdraw from Colby. Then help arrived.

“I still remember,” he said. “I walked into Dear [Mark] Serdjjenian’s office and I signed the papers I was going to withdraw. I had tears welling up. I like, you had a nice time in college. Now back to the real world.”

Within a week he was in New York City. He had no place to stay, no job. His mom and brother were essentially homeless, staying in motels in Pennsylvania and Florida. He stayed in a hostel, another night in a homeless shelter, made his way to the Brooklyn home of a close friend, Rebecca Travis ‘07, another Posse Scholar. “I was all over the place Maradiaga said.

Recalling the pain of that time, he sighed. “It was very difficult.”

As Sohne-Johnston again came to his aid, he said. Her sister’s fiancé worked for a big Manhattan law firm. He got Maradiaga an interview with the human resources department there. Maradiaga went and talked to them, but they said they had nothing for him. “I explained the situation. At that point, I was crying. I was like, ‘I’m homeless. I need a job. Can you please help me out? I’ve done everything right in life. I need some help.’”

His plea got him a referral to a temp agency. He told his story again and eventually got placed as a file clerk at another Manhattan law firm. The fiancé collected dress clothes from colleagues and Maradiaga went to work. The job paid well but he needed more money to set up an apartment for his mother, so he got a job at the front desk of a gym, working nights. He was working 90 hours a week, saving everything he could, tapping the law firm’s experts to help him navigate the health-care bureaucracy on his mom’s behalf.

All the while he told himself not to forget what he had left behind. “I was making money but I said ‘Don’t settle for this. Don’t lose sight of school. That is not what you want.’”

What Maradiaga wanted was contentment, and realized that for him that came through his studies.
his intellectual exploration. This was at a time when his mother finally was eligible for Social Security disability. He and Oscar set her up in Miami: food, cell phone, money in case something went wrong. She was set, for the moment. But the experience caused Maradiaga to reconsider his own life. “I didn’t have a home. I didn’t have a job, necessarily. For my own sanity I had to redefine success. I had to redefine how to be happy. Otherwise I don’t think I would have made it through.”

He returned to Colby that January and found that he valued things even he had taken for granted. “The luxuries,” he said. “A place to stay and food.”

Maradiaga’s home was a single in Colby Gardens, a temporary dorm in a former convent. But as he was released from the day-to-day demands of his overwhelming family obligations, he found himself exhausted from his grueling pace in New York, crashing emotionally, unable to even go to class. Like a marathon runner he had crossed a finish line and fallen. “He did fine on the test, but he thought he had studied enough to blow it away,” she said.

Maradiaga came in later and they discussed strategies, including studying with other students instead of going it alone. “Something just shifted,” Tilden said. “That second exam, he just blew it away. The highest score in the class. And this is with fifty students. He did the same thing on the final.”

While he continued to focus on medical school, Maradiaga started connecting with professors more and seemed to be changing his sense of himself, Tilden said. He began to emerge as a leader among her students. Maradiaga worked in Tilden’s lab and did a Jan Plan research course at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory. When other Colby students there left the kitchen a mess, it was Maradiaga (who knew what it was like to do that job, day after day) that had to clean up.

For him it was important that people understood that you can’t just imply that issues of wealth aren’t important, that to attend an institution like Colby means you’re privileged, to not let people forget that.” — Rebecca Travis ’07

Andrea Tilden, associate professor of biology, remembers the intense guy in her mammalian physiology course, a prerequisite for medical school. Maradiaga, a sophomore, studied hard for the first exam and thought he had the material mastered, Tilden recalled. “He did fine on the test, but he thought he had studied enough to blow it away,” she said.

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A Watson on the Margins

There were competing notions of success in Jeronimo Maradiaga’s life: a high school diploma, a job, and a paycheck to help support his family versus years of college and professional school to achieve personal and intellectual goals.

Maradiaga, a 2009 Thomas J. Watson Fellow, chose the latter, and the decision still leaves him with conflicting feelings of guilt and accomplishment. For Maradiaga, who aspires to be an emergency-room doctor, “the road to success was confused.” He knows there are others like him around the country and the world, young people with “marginalized backgrounds,” shaped partly by family and tradition and partly by schools, television, the Internet. Do they attempt, Maradiaga asks, to follow the model pushed by the groups in power (education, material wealth, social status)?

“For a portion of America, and the majority of the world for that matter, this narrowly constructed definition of success involving a college education and monetary wealth is utterly unattainable, and in many cases not even desired,” he wrote in his Watson proposal. “Where are these stories?”

For the next year, Maradiaga will travel the world (India, Jordan, South Africa, Ecuador, and the Dominican Republic) in search of such stories. The plan is to go to each place and determine what the society defines as success. Then he will talk to high school students marginalized because of their race, religion, and/or socioeconomic class. He will also interview school administrators and parents. “In form, these success narratives will resemble my Watson fellowship personal statement. In content, I can only imagine how they will differ,” Maradiaga wrote.

He plans to take photos, videotape interviews, and post them on a blog. “This, in a small but significant way, will be done in order to provide a diverse, more inclusive definition of success,” he wrote.

As he has explained countless times since receiving the fellowship, he will not be writing a paper. “The Watson is about the process,” Maradiaga said. “It’s about you changing.” —GB

who helped the cook clean up. He also gave the other students a stern lecture, saying that was not the way you treated people. “It certainly never happened again,” Tilden said.

She refers to Maradiaga’s “sense of righteousness.” It’s something that other faculty noted, including Kim Besio, associate professor of East Asian studies. Besio said Maradiaga was “just a bulldog” when it came to mastering Chinese, which he took for the first time as a second-semester sophomore. She said the then 21-year-old reminded her of other students she’s taught over the years, but of her own father, now a retired veterinarian.

“My father was also one of the first people in his family to go to college,” Besio said. “Jeronimo has that dignity.”

That dignity, say those who know him, may come from seeing college not as a rite of passage but as a gift and responsibility. Maradiaga is mindful that he is an exception among countless other disadvantaged people.

That knowledge often left him in the minority in class discussions and debate surrounding campus issues related to treatment of minority students. He also stood up for the minority community on issues, including protest of a Cinco de Mayo party T-shirt that featured a caricature of an illegal immigrant.

“For him it was important that people understood that you can’t just imply that issues of wealth aren’t important, that to attend an institution like Colby means you’re privileged, to not let people forget that,” said Travis, Maradiaga’s friend and fellow Posse Scholar, who now works with an education nonprofit in New York. “It’s something that can get lost at Colby.”

Despite the obstacles, Maradiaga seized academic opportunities with relish. He did biology research and the Duke premed internship. He studied in Taiwan through a Freeman Foundation grant in the summer of 2006, and he completed an intensive language program at Beijing University during the 2008 Summer Olympics. Accepted to a Johns Hopkins University master’s program in Chinese in Nanjing, he deferred enrollment for a year to do his Watson project. Johns Hopkins and medical school will follow, Maradiaga says.

“He’s an intellectual who wants to know everything he can know,” said Goring, who still is close to Maradiaga and considers him part of her family. “He reads, he talks, he thinks constantly. He couldn’t be contained in a smaller world.”

But expanding his world has come—and continues to come—at a cost.

Maradiaga worked on his Watson fellowship proposal for 18 months and thought about it even longer. Several of the people in this story read it in various drafts. “I’ve never wanted anything so badly,” he said. “When I got the e-mail that I was a Watson Fellow—I can’t even describe it in words. I was happy, but it was subtle and quiet. It was really a dream come true.”

“Everyone I speak to from Colby—my teachers, my mentors—they’re all really happy. That individualist notion of success.”

And his family?

“My mom is never going to agree with my version of success,”
Maradiaga said. “She thinks I’m failing in some ways, that I’m not successful by living up to my obligations to the family.”

Six years after he broke the news that he was leaving to go to college, he had to break the news that he was leaving again, this time to travel around the world. “When I told my mom, she hung up on me,” Maradiaga said.

Aleman flew from Florida to New York in early April. Maradiaga was looking for a stable place for her to live. “We’re essentially homeless again,” he said at the time.

Mother and son stayed with Howard, a middle-school teacher, and Travis in Brooklyn. Maradiaga’s departure—he was planning to travel first to India—was looming, but first he had to take care of his family situation.

A scene fraught with tension and guilt? Not entirely. “The most illuminating thing about having his mother with me is how incredibly happy he is when she’s around,” Howard said. “They have such a strong bond with each other.”

In fact, the drive that has led Maradiaga out of the Bronx—to Colby and China, and now to a year-long mission to mine the dreams of marginalized young people—comes from the one person who, in Maradiaga’s circle of friends and family, may understand his remarkable trajectory the least.

“People get their sources of inspiration,” Oscar Maradiaga said, “and I guess my mom was his.”

It was their mother who “opened the floodgates,” Oscar said, coming to the United States alone. Their mother, who left elementary school to work in the family’s bodega, was determined that her sons would get an education and have a better life. To her, the brothers said, that was a high school diploma, but the emphasis on education was there.

Said Howard, “They always saw her as someone who was working very hard to make their lives better.”

And now Jeronimo Maradiaga is a source of inspiration himself.

After eight years working in a restaurant, Oscar Maradiaga, described by his younger brother as “one of the smartest people I know,” said he has decided to go back to school. He said he’d like to become a teacher, to pass on the gift of education to others. “I’m coming to realize how important it is,” he said, “and Jeronimo knows the importance of it. It opens doors. You’re enlightened by your experiences.”

The next stage of Maradiaga’s journey was to begin this summer (a stipulation of the fellowship is that he leaves before August 1). His mother had moved into an apartment in Queens with Oscar and his wife, Julia. Things were stabilized on the homefront. “A real big part of me feels like, am I being selfish?” he said. “A lot of those same feelings, I’m reliving them now.”

But the plan is unfolding. Maradiaga said he still intends to become a doctor, to work in a New York emergency room. Though his Watson project isn’t related to medicine, it is all about adapting to different cultures and places and listening to people with empathy and respect.

And the project began with this story, Maradiaga’s. He deliberated for days before agreeing to tell it. Ultimately he decided that he couldn’t ask other people to speak of their lives, hardships, and dreams if he wasn’t willing to reveal his own.

“A part of me doesn’t want my business to be out there,” he said. “But another part of me is like, no. I want people to know this. I want people to know that I had all these things against me and I still graduated from college. I want people to realize that you can do that.”

Postscript:

Leaving New York City at midnight, Jeronimo Maradiaga’s mother and his brother, Oscar, rode for 11 hours to Waterville to attend commencement, Sunday, May 24. They toured the campus and met many of Jeronimo Maradiaga’s friends, including students, staff, faculty, and administrators. Sitting on a bench outside Lunder House before the Posse graduation ceremony the Saturday before commencement, Rosa Alicia Aleman said everywhere she went on campus, people greeted her and said what a special person her son is.

The issues of the past were just that. “Muy orgulloso.” [I’m very proud.] she said. “No hay palabras.” [There are no words.]
Mariek Schmidt '99, a geology major at Colby, is a postdoctoral fellow in the department of mineral sciences at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. After writing her dissertation on North Sister in the Three Sisters volcanic field in Oregon, she joined the mission working with the Mars rover Spirit. She spoke with Colby staff writer Laura Meader about rocks, water, and life on Mars.

Q&A

VOLCANOLOGIST MARIEK SCHMIDT '99 ON MARTIAN VOLCANOES AND WHAT THEY CAN TELL US ABOUT THE GEOLOGIC HISTORY OF THE RED PLANET

How did you become a volcanologist?
Volcanology is just a sub-discipline of geology. One of the first upper-level geology classes you take at Colby is called mineralogy. Each mineral tells a story about how it formed. You look at a rock, it has a particular mineral in it, you could say something about how that rock formed. And you can start to put together a story of that rock or the plate that the rock was formed in.

You got into volcanology because you were interested in the chemistry of rocks and the minerals in them.

You're working with the Spirit rover. Aren't there two rovers on Mars?
The Mars rover mission began at two different sites in 2004. They chose these sites thinking they were going to find sedimentary rocks. The Opportunity rover did find sedimentary rock. But the Spirit rover was at Gusev Crater and they thought they were going to find lakeshore deposits and instead they found basaltic lava. Fairly early on in the mission people were kind of disappointed with what Spirit had found, because there wasn't evidence for water. That was the whole goal of the mission, to find evidence of water at that particular crater.

You were brought on to the mission after they found the volcanic rock?
Basically they realized that there are very few people on the mission that could interpret volcanic rock. The other people on the mission who work with chemistry and mineralogy of rock are people who either work on meteorites—so they work on igneous rock but they're rocks that have no geologic context—or they think about things from orbit.
How does a volcano on Mars differ from one on Earth?
The largest volcano in the Solar System is found on Mars. It’s called Olympus Mons. It is absolutely enormous. It’s equivalent in size to the state of Arizona. The reason why that volcano—and others on Mars—is so big is because on Mars there’s no plate tectonics.

A volcano like Hawaii is a hot spot volcano. What happens at Hawaii is there’s a stream of hot magma that’s focused in one place. And we have plates that move over the top of that hot spot on the Earth. Because that plate is moving over the top of it, you have a line of volcanoes that are downstream of it. On Mars there’s no plate tectonics. So everything that forms in that one hot spot is built up in one place.

Why are there no plate tectonics on Mars?
It’s actually because of the size—it’s a smaller planet. Mars is two thirds the size of the Earth. So basically it’s cooled to a point where there’s nothing that’s driving flow within the mantle anymore.

What was it like studying Mars after working with Earth rocks?
It’s been an interesting transition coming from a terrestrial background where I’m used to being able to handle rocks and walk around the field. Now I’m in a field where it’s a mission, so there’s a lot of people involved. There’s engineers, there’s planetary geologists, there’s meteorists, there’s people who develop the instruments. ... So I went from a situation where I was a single researcher and then became part of this bigger thing. But I bring to it a different perspective because I had the terrestrial background.

Do you have to vie for attention?
Yeah, we do actually. Let’s say the rover is driving someplace and I see a rock that I think is really interesting. In order for that rover to actually go over and examine that rock, I have to come up with a workable plan for that to occur. And not only do I have to come up with a workable plan, I have to come up with a hypothesis for why we would study it.

For example, the Spirit rover has been in a place called Home Plate for almost three years. Home Plate is a platform of bedrock. It’s only 80 meters across. And one side of the structure has one kind of mineralogy and the other side of the structure has another kind. So there’s what we call a mineralogical gradient across it. I suggested that we do a series of observations using the chemical equipment to analyze the structure along a traverse to track how that mineralogy changes.

There’s such a mystique about Mars. What’s it like working with Martian rocks?
It’s definitely different from working on Earth. On Earth we have so much data—we have existing theories we can work with and, basically, most things we learn on Earth we fit it into our preexisting understanding of the planet. Whereas on Mars we only know information about a handful of sites. We have the orbital view, which is really great right now, but we’ve only landed successfully in a handful of places.

When you’re studying the raw data, is there much difference between data from Earth and Mars?
It’s different because the instruments we use are very different. For example on Earth, when I look at terrestrial rocks, a lot of times I’ll look at a thin section under a microscope, where you see the mineralogy very, very well and you can see the texture very, very well. But on Mars we can’t do that sort of thing. We’re basically left with what’s visible as the outer surface of the rock.

Do you have a favorite image of Mars or a favorite area?
I’m attached to Home Plate—I’ve done most of my work on it. My favorite image was one that we took—it was actually taken in black and white—but it was taken at a low sun angle, so it was taken pretty late in the day. Usually when the sun goes down we shut off the rover in order to conserve power, so it’s rare to get these kinds of pictures. But what you can see in it are these beautiful shadows across the plate. It’s just a stunning image.

Beyond the search for water, are you looking for something specific?
Now we’ve found water at both sites. At Opportunity rover we found water and it looks like it was a sedimentary system. At the Spirit site we found evidence for water as well and it turns out to be these hydrothermal deposits, which are basically rocks that have been altered by water and volcanic gases. Now we’re interested in what the nature of that water is or the nature of those volcanic acids and whether or not they could sustain an environment that could possibly have life. We’re getting more of an understanding of environment as opposed to just “is there water?”

Do you think there was once life on Mars?
We haven’t found it. I think it’s possible.

In what form?
I don’t think there’s going to be dinosaurs walking around. I’m imagining something more in the lines of scum. Microbes, things that might digest rocks or that might use hydrothermal fluids to get energy. Things like that.

If you had the chance, would you travel to Mars?
[Long pause.] It depends on whether or not I could come back. There’s always the possibility that you wouldn’t return, and I don’t think that my husband would be that happy about that.
A Healing Touch

JANE HUBLEY HELPS REFUGEE CHILDREN HEAL THE WOUNDS OF WAR

LAUREN PONGAN ’09 STORY  FRED FIELD PHOTO

On the phone with an Arabic translator and sitting next to an Iraqi refugee, school social worker Jane Hubley ’76 told the translator, “If you help me, I’ll help her.” The refugee—the mother of one of Hubley’s sixth-grade students—and Hubley took turns on the phone speaking with the translator as Hubley explained the logistics of moving the student into a junior high equipped to help English as a Second Language (ESL) students. The junior high would be the student’s latest stop after fleeing Iraq for Syria.

“It’s difficult for many Iraqis who were middle or upper-middle class in Iraq, but then they arrive here with nothing,” Hubley said. “Here” is the East End Community School in Portland, Maine, which, like many public schools in the United States, is home to a newly diverse population of refugee students from around the world. In 2008 alone, according to the U.S. State Department, more than 60,000 refugees have come to the United States. They bring with them memories of experiences that few of their non-refugee classmates could imagine.

“Some of these kids had seen people murdered or had seen people having their eyes drilled out,” said Hubley. She recalled how puzzled she initially was when some of her refugee students began rummaging through other students’ lunch bags—until she realized that while in refugee camps they survived by scavenging for food. “Refugee children, more so than any normal kid who moves some-

where, have the trauma of their experiences as a challenge of integrating successfully into a new environment,” said Jake Kurtzer, a congressional advocate for Refugees International. Kurtzer prescribes increased funding to adequately address children refugees’ issues through services such as Hubley’s social work.

For the refugee students and counseling staff, like Hubley, it’s a new and sometimes daunting challenge. “The way a school might typically work is you send the social worker the bad kids, the naughty kids, the sad kids,” she said. “But you get a refugee population and they’re sad all the time, and you might not know that.”

It’s Hubley’s job to know, and to do that she moves through the school daily, connecting with the school’s nearly 430 students, almost half of whom do not speak English at home. Hubley takes what she calls their “emotional temperature.” “If I was an old-fashioned social worker,” she said, “I would sit in my room and the teachers would call me when the kids would explode.”

Instead Hubley tries to meet students’ emotional needs before serious problems arise. That takes constant interaction and, as a result, she knows all of the students by name—and has heard firsthand their stories—and the trauma of their experiences.

Hubley has responded to her students’ needs with creative and often nontraditional approaches to social work. “In her social work practice, Jane does not do the easy thing, but she does the right thing,” said Ken Kunin, principal of Deering High School and Hubley’s former colleague. “Countless times she has taken the extra time to connect with a student, to seek out a parent, to take time to inform a teacher, and to problem-solve with colleagues.”

Hubley feels strongly that respecting children’s autonomy is essential to helping them to feel emotionally and physically healthy and to heal traumas from their past. “Another thing that I believe is that the kids are people. We shouldn’t be controlling them,” she said.

In what she calls “guerrilla social work,” Hubley mostly walks the halls to make herself available to students. “I like to be totally present so that kids can grab me and say, ‘I need this. I need that,’” she said.

Another nontraditional outlet Hubley wants to use is play writing. “I think the way to get people to understand the trauma of refugees is through art,” said Hubley. She is writing Bus 61, a play about the personal stories contained within a single school bus, as a way to facilitate the understanding of refugees’ problems.

Given Hubley’s history of activism, it seems natural that she would be drawn to helping refugees. While at Colby she was half of a two-person sit-in to protest a lack of private women’s health care. She recalled protecting a social event organized by the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender group on campus, to prevent harassment of members. “Like the refugee population, initially I didn’t realize [the GLBT students] were in danger,” said Hubley.

Hubley’s first love is art history, but when she took a job at the St. Mary’s Home for Girls, in Manchester, N.H., she discovered the rewards of helping others. She went on to earn a master’s degree from the University of Chicago’s School of Social Service Administration in 1983.

For her sabbatical next year, Hubley is enrolled in the International Trauma Studies Program at New York University, which may include a hands-on component for helping victims of trauma in Africa.

“There’s a human condition and we join it,” she said, “and we are responsible for what we know. We can’t fix things, but we cannot add to the suffering.”
Most of us think of malaria, if we think of it at all, as an unavoidable fact of life, a health hazard that plagues people in equatorial regions, as consistent and predictable as the sweltering tropical climate. Historian James L.A. Webb Jr., in this wide-ranging and compelling book, shows that humans and malaria have a long, evolving, and fascinating relationship, with people—from the time of the earliest hominids to the present day—playing host to the mosquito-borne parasite that has significantly shaped the way our species has developed around the world.

What might seem a daunting task—chronicling the role of malaria in world history—is accomplished through an accessible narrative in which Webb weaves history and science, epidemiology and health policy, archaeology and genetics. What emerges is an interdisciplinary big-picture look at a force that has had profound effects on our species but is usually viewed through a narrow lens.

The story begins in prehistoric tropical Africa. It explores a model that has human populations growing partly, the theory goes, because of a genetic mutation that made some people immune to a prevalent type of malaria. Later, cultivation of forest crops, including yams known to increase resistance to malaria, affected where and how human civilization developed.

Human migrants who left Africa for Eurasia left behind many of the tropical insects and animals that spread myriad diseases among humans, Webb writes. “However, they could not flee easily from the malarial infections. They carried these infections in their bloodstreams, and in a spate of intense misfortune, as the migrants rambled through the wilds of Afro-Eurasia, they encountered the never-ending hum of Anopheles mosquito species that could play host to malaria parasites.”

On to the Americas, where malaria may have been spread by Spanish conquerors, and where the Caribbean basin proved to be “a lethal environment for non-immunes.” When the British invaded the island of Saint Domingue in 1794 to suppress a revolt by African slaves, an estimated 100,000 troops died—of malaria. The same fate befell the French troops in Haiti, a country created by rebels supported by epidemiology.

Webb moves adroitly through history, considering wars of the 19th century (a major reason for malaria’s spread during that period), the use of quinine (and global trade in the tree bark from which it was first derived), anti-mosquito campaigns after World War II, and the recent resurgence of malaria in Africa, where the saga began. Why the resurgence? One factor, Webb reports, may be the growing of hybrid maize, the pollen of which is a boon to mosquito larvae.

It appears that malaria’s role in human development is long-standing and ongoing. In this book, Webb gives the disease its deserved place in history.—Gerry Boyle ’78
A Rough Ride and Unexpected Destination

The subtitle on MacQuarrie’s first book-length project is, “A shocking murder and a bereaved father’s journey from rage to redemption.” And what a ride it is. A more gruesome narrative than the first 50 pages, which describe in excruciating detail the 1997 abduction, murder, and sexual abuse of 10-year-old Jeffrey Curley from East Cambridge, Mass., is hard to imagine.

But beyond the macabre crime, the book unfolds on multiple levels, incorporating court reporting on the trials, statehouse reporting on campaigns for the death penalty, and, ultimately, an intimate portrait of Jeffrey’s father, Bob Curley, who fitfully rebuilds his life after the murder. The crux of the story is Bob’s conversion from a frothing death-penalty advocate to an articulate spokesman against capital punishment.

The levels reflect MacQuarrie’s varied experience as a general assignment reporter for the Boston Globe for 20 years, covering more than his share of mayhem. MacQuarrie’s animated, finely tuned prose carries the day, turning the book into a piece that Sister Helen Prejean calls “a riveting story of the redemptive potential of the human spirit.” —Stephen Collins ’74

Paying the Human Costs of War: American Public Opinion & Casualties in Military Conflicts
Christopher Gelpi, Peter D. Feaver, and Jason Reifler ’95

Reifler, assistant professor of political science at Georgia State University, and his coauthors painstakingly dismantle the conventional wisdom that says the American public judges the merits of U.S. military conflicts based solely on casualty numbers. When casualties mount, does public support diminish? Not necessarily, the authors say. Using evidence gleaned from public reactions to conflicts from Korea to Iraq, they argue that the public doesn’t get enough credit. In fact, polling data and voting patterns show that public support for military action hinges more on whether the United States is likely to win a military conflict than on the numbers of casualties associated with that conflict. In Iraq, for example, “expectations of success trumped other considerations in determining the public’s casualty tolerance,” the authors write. If the cost of military action does not exceed the benefits, they conclude, “policymakers need not fear that public indecisiveness will hamstring effective foreign policy.” —G.B.

Port City Shakedown
Gerry Boyle ’78
Down East Books (2009)

‘Rest In Peace’ is hardly the case. A fight breaks out at a funeral and Brandon Blake finds himself in the wrong place at the wrong time. Along the docks in Portland, Maine, a sociopath fresh out of jail is now stalking Blake, a police intern and aspiring detective, who is the new hero in Boyle’s latest crime novel.

Battered by abandonment issues, Blake must open his lonely world to protect the only two people who matter: the alcoholic grandmother who raised him, and his new girlfriend Mia. Along the way he learns that love does not always have to hurt. Even his mother’s memory is at stake when clues surrounding her mysterious death resurface near the very ocean that took her life.

Boyle gives us insight into the mind of a vicious criminal and his target, a young man in some way also lost at sea. And, just when you think it’s safe to stop and take a breath, another turn of events unfolds as Blake discovers things are not always what they seem—on dry land or beyond. —Dana Hernandez

Minor League Mom: A Mother’s Journey Through the Red Sox Farm Teams
Pam Plumb Carey ’65
Barking Cat Books (2009)

We know that professional baseball players have agents, coaches, managers. We forget that behind every ballplayer there most likely is a mom and/or dad vicariously feeling the thrill of victory and agony of defeat.

Pam Plumb Carey ’65 was one of those moms. With her husband, Charley, she rode the roller-coaster baseball careers of sons Todd (shortstop, Brown) and Tim (catcher, Dartmouth), who both were drafted by the Boston Red Sox. For the Carey family it was a dream come, well, almost true, as the Carey brothers entered the rough-and-tumble world of minor league baseball. They never quite made the bigs but came darn close. Todd Carey played for the AAA Pawtucket Red Sox alongside future stars like Trot Nixon; Tim Carey rose to AA ball before being released.

Their mom provides a fascinatingly detailed account of the family’s baseball career, and any parent will feel every hit and strikeout. “I don’t know whether players or their parents develop worse paranoia,” Pam Carey writes. “We dissected, regurgitated, and diagnosed every word the managers said to our kids.” And, thankfully for us readers, she must have been taking notes.—G.B.
Women's Lacrosse Tops NESCAC—Again
SECOND CONSECUTIVE CHAMPIONSHIP AS TEAM DEFENDS ITS CROWN

STEPHEN COLLINS '74 STORY  ELIZABETH HATHAWAY '11 PHOTO

Women's lacrosse won the NESCAC championship in May—the second year in a row that the Mules prevailed in what is widely regarded as the most competitive Division III conference in the country. But the second championship season had a very different character, according to players and their coach.

Last year Colby was fighting its way up. Until 2008 Middlebury had won every NESCAC tournament ever held—seven in a row after the conference launched the championship series in 2000. But, following last year's dramatic underdog victory, this year Colby played like the defending champion it was.

Following a loss to Tufts in the second game of the 2009 campaign, the team went without a defeat over the next 15 games, right through the NESCAC tourney. Among many highlights: beating the number-one D. III team in the nation, Salisbury, March 24. That victory, plus a triple-overtime 10-9 win over Middlebury three days later and a parade of subsequent victories earned the Mules a number-two national ranking in mid-April, and they entered the postseason ranked third.

The repeat championship was an extraordinary accomplishment for coach Karen MacCrate Henning, whose teams won NESCAC laurels in both her first and second years coaching at Colby. She attributed a good measure of the success to this year's seven seniors. “When you have

“When you have your strongest players being your hardest workers, they set the tone.”

- Coach Karen MacCrate Henning
your strongest players being your hardest workers, they set the tone,” she said.

Henning had won two national championships in Div. II at C.W. Post before she came to Colby. Co-captain and four-time All-American Kate Sheridan ’09, who has played at a very high level since she was in fifth grade, said of Henning, “I’ve never had a coach whose knowledge of the game is so impressive.”

But Sheridan also perceived that mixing a new coach with a team so tightly bonded that players describe it as “like a family” could be tricky, and she credited Henning for deftly navigating the intricacies of introducing a new system while respecting the traditions and bonds already in place.

Co-captain Cary Finnegan ’09, who was also Student Government Association vice president, described the arc of the team’s rising fortunes when she recalled conversations with Sheridan in their first two years: “We would say, ‘If we could just beat Middlebury once before we graduate.’”

They got their wish in the championship game in 2008, then beat Middlebury twice this year—in three overtimes during the regular season, then with a more convincing 17-12 victory in the NESCAC semifinal. (Ultimately Middlebury’s Panthers would exact a measure of revenge in the NCAA regional semifinal on May 9, but it would require a complete retooling of their game plan to do so.)

The Mules secured the NESCAC championship with a 12-10 win over Williams in the final, a game Williams led at halftime. Colby finished the season ranked eighth in NCAA Division III, behind Middlebury (6) and Tufts (7), despite the NESCAC championship.

Co-captain and four-time All-American Kate Sheridan ’09, left, who helped Colby win its second NESCAC championship. Above, Lauren Barrett ’09 in pursuit against Middlebury.

Nor were all of the team’s triumphs on the field. Sheridan, a two-time NESCAC Player of the Year who broke more scoring records than there is room to report here, and Finnegan volunteered as co-leaders of a Hardy Girls coalition-building group, working with 11 fourth grade girls in Vassalboro. The experience propelled Finnegan to try her hand at teaching after graduation, and she will be working for Teach For American in Hartford, Conn. Sheridan had a plan that included a job in Australia that would allow her to play for a club lacrosse team Down Under this year.

And how does Coach Henning see her third act shaping up, after graduating seven seniors?

“I’m excited about next year,” she said. “These players have been in the shadows of the senior class.” She noted that Amy Campbell ’10 was a first-team All-NESCAC and Caroline Duke ’10 was a second-team All-American, both as juniors, and Kathleen Kramer ’10 was NESCAC player of the week in March, so there’s plenty of talent returning.

“It’s a little unusual,” Henning said. “I’m not sure who’s going to step up and want to drive.”

SPORTS SHORTS

MEN’S LACROSSE, led by first-year Head Coach JON THOMPSON, made the NESCAC playoffs for the first time since 2002 with an 8-7 record. Midfielder CRAIG BUNKER ’11 is Colby’s first men’s lacrosse All-American since 2002. He earned first-team All-NESCAC honors. Attacker WHIT MCCARTHY ’10 made the NESCAC second team. Attacker CADDY BROOKS ’09 finished his career with 91 goals and 79 assists. … BRIANNA KONDRAT ’09 won the New England Division III title and the NESCAC title in the hammer throw for WOMEN’S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD. Kondrat broke a 14-year-old school record with a toss of 167-01. DANIELLE SHEPPARD ’11 won the New England Division III and NESCAC titles in the high jump. EMMA LINHARD ’11 won the New England Division III 1,500-meter run. … SOFTBALL started with a 10-0 spring trip to Florida and ended the year with a 4-0 victory over St. Joseph’s College in the final game for retiring Head Coach DICK BAILEY, who spent 13 years at Colby and compiled a 197-177-3 record, 18-11 this year. The Mules had solid pitching from BRITTANY TASI ’10 (7-3, 2.24 ERA), RANDI ARSENAULT ’09 (4-2, 2.41 ERA), and ALYSSA CROWELL ’09 (7-6, 2.58 ERA). ALLYSON CHEREVER ’11 (.398), CARLIE MINICHINO ’09 (.396), ALYSSA LEPORIE ’11 (.384), and ALEX ESSMAN ’11 (.338) led the offense. … MEN’S TENNIS players BRYAN BROWN ’09 and ALEX CHIN ’09 earned NESCAC second-team honors after going 7-2 during the spring season in first doubles. Brown earned the Clarence Chaffee Sportsmanship Award, given annually to a NESCAC men’s tennis player. … WOMEN’S TENNIS was one of the more improved spring squads, going 3-5 in NESCAC play after a 1-7 record in 2008. KATIE MUTI ’11 and CAROLINE REAVES ’10 were the top two singles players, while the second doubles team of TARA DAVIDSON ’10 and KATIE BREZINSKI ’11 had a solid season. … CRAIG COOPER ’09 finished with 139 career hits and made the All-NESCAC BASEBALL second team. He led the Mules in batting average (.398), homers (4), RBIs (32), and slugging percentage (.610). Catcher KYLE MCKAY ’09 batted .311 and led the team in walks (24). … BEN OSSOFF ’10 won MEN’S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD’s first race ever at the new Harold Alfond Stadium with a victory in the 800 meters. … MEN’S CREW placed second in the petite final (places 7 to 12) at the New England Championships. WOMEN’S CREW, with mostly first-year and sophomore rowers, placed second in the CBB races. The novice eight boat was first against Bowdoin and Bates in the CBB meet.
1920s-30s
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1940
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1941
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1942
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Margaret Campbell Timberlake keeps active by line dancing every week and going on occasional trips. * Walter Emery * has travel plans of his own. In early fall he hopes to motor to New Brunswick to visit relatives, and, later in the year, he heads for Chapel Hill, N.C., to celebrate Thanksgiving with his niece and nephew.

1944
Josephine Pitts McAlary
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We have made it to our 65th reunion! No small accomplishment. As I write this I have no idea how many of the Class of 1944 will make it to the June reunion. * Nancy Curtis Lawrence * lives with her daughter, grandson, and granddaughter in Sequim, Wash. Nancy did not come east as there was a family reunion at that time. She is gardening and still swims at least twice a week. This summer she’ll take the 11-year-old to the hot springs about 100 miles away. * Naj and Harold Joseph * took a trip to visit their daughter, Tenley Joseph Baxter ‘79, in Laguna Beach, Calif. Tenley married a golf pro, Kris Baxter. Harold attended the Pro Senior Tournament with Kris at the Valencia Country Club, where Kris’s buddy, Dan Forsman, won on the last hole with a birdie. Very exciting. * Edith Sturtevant Cunningham * called me from Oakland, Maine. I was delighted. She attended Colby only her freshman year and lived at home, so felt she never really got to know many of us. She and Gene Struckhoff attended Colburn Classical the same year. She has two grandchildren that graduated for Maine Maritime Academy. She originally retired in 1979 but has gone back to doing the books for the Rome school system. * In May I’m going on a 19-day trip with a group; none of them have I met previously. We’ll fly 18 hours from Washington, D.C., to Johannesberg, South Africa! We have all sorts of activities programmed, including two safaris as well as a visit to Victoria Falls. I’ll report on that next time. (Do plan to return!)

1947
Meg Bernier Boyd
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Dorothy Cleaves Jordan regrets that a recent hospital visit for a bout of pneumonia prevented her from attending reunion this year. She hopes she will make it back to campus next June.

1948
David and Dorothy Marson
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We received a letter Feb. 7 from Elizabeth Coombs Corke Myers. She wrote just before she departed for Sanibel, Fla., for two months. She was sorry to miss our 60th reunion but was happy to have a meeting with Alice March Miller and Nancy Semonian Newlove ’49. Elizabeth’s granddaughter, Lauren Corke ’10, spent the past semester in Botswana. Elizabeth reports that it was the coldest, snowiest winter in Pittsburgh in years, but what a Super Bowl! “How about our Steelers!” * In March we had a reunion at a Palm Beach restaurant with Jordan Kaplan, Aaron Sandler (he drove from Sarasota and stayed with us in Jupiter), and Burt Silberstein ’49 and wives and significant others. We really had a good time and the Colby bonds are strong. We plan to do it again next winter. * Janet Gay Hawkins wrote, “I will be moving April 15 to Peconic Landing in Greenport, N.Y. It is a continuing-care retirement community overlooking Long Island Sound. I will be in a cottage overlooking the water—so all is not lost. All things considered, this is a wise choice for me. I have lots of friends there (some from early childhood) and there is so much one can do if one wants to. And all I have to do is pick up a phone if something goes wrong! No more house hassle.” * Mike and Kay Weisman Jaffe had a wonderful trip to Russia in October. That meant they spent the cold and snowy winter in the Berkshires. In early April they visited with family in New Jersey and North Carolina and their Pennsylvania “contingent” was with them for a mid-April weekend. Their great-grandchildren count is now up to five (three boys and two girls). What’s the highest our class can boast? With a grandson’s wedding coming up Memorial Day weekend, they look forward to more in a year or so. Kay writes that they are both well (with all the usual aches) and hope ’48ers are healthy, too, with minimum soreness. She sent regards to us and all our class! * We hope the brevity of this news will motivate classmates to write so that in the future the column will have more news.

1949
Anne Hagar Eustis
classnews1949@alum.colby.edu

Unfortunately, I received no news for this column. I certainly hope that there will be lots of 60th reunion news in the next issue!

1950
Betsy (Dudie) Jennings Maley
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Charlie ’49 and Ginny Davis Pearce were in Naples, Fla., for a short time this winter visiting friends. They also managed to see a Red Sox game. Their grandson, Ben, who goes to Penn State, was in a gymnastics meet at James Madison University and they drove up from their home in Pittsboro, N.C., to see him perform. In April they went to Belgium and Holland, spending three days in Bruges,
then were on a river boat for the rest of their trip. • Harriet (Sargent '48) and George Wiswell spent two weeks in May traveling, first to Baku, Azerbaijan, to visit their son Sandy and to see the country and the hotel he has rebuilt. Baku is directly on the Caspian Sea, which is BP's largest petroleum reserve. Then to Moscow to spend a few days with son Tim and his fiancee, Natasha. Tim was just promoted by Deutsch Bank to head of equity trading in Russia! Home via Prague, where they visited friends. Once home they'll attend grandson David's graduation from Columbia. Their son Geoff and his wife, Karen, live in E. Haddam, Conn., but will be in Toronto temporarily because Geoff works for S.A.P. as a computer programmer on assignment for IBM.

1952
Jan "Sandy" Pearson Anderson
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Greetings '52 classmates. Spring is definitely in the air here on Cape Cod, and it's time again for the next issue of our column for Colby. • Dave Morse e-mailed right after receiving the request for news. Many thanks, Dave! Dave wrote, "Many of you have seen our Boothbay Harbor home and enjoyed the view and boating activity in front. We have decided that the time has come to downsize, the term currently in vogue. We will move into a condo in Wells, Maine, hopefully this fall. We look forward to fewer responsibilities and all the amenities that area offers." Much luck to Dave and Joan, and welcome to the retirement community kind of life. It's really quite enjoyable. • On April 25, at the Coonamessett Inn in Falmouth, Mass., Sheila and Don Hailer celebrated three milestones: their 45th wedding anniversary, Don's 80th birthday, and Sheila's 75th birthday. Celebrating with them were Judy and Herb Nagle, Carl and Audrey Morgan Leaf, and George "Lum" Lebherz. The Hailer children did a splendid job with the details, in particular keeping the occasion a surprise right up to the opening bell. • As for yours truly, after a hiatus of a year and a half I'm once again rehearsing a play here on the Cape. It's lots of fun doing it, but oh, it's a lot harder learning those lines than it used to be! Best wishes and good health to you all until next time.

1951
Chet Harrington
classnews1951@alum.colby.edu

Ernie Fortin turned 80 on Valentine's Day. His wife, Patti, planned a surprise party that included his children from Massachusetts and friends from Florida. Ernie was so surprised he was speechless. On March 27 Ernie was one of about 50 alumni who attended an alumni event at the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, Fl. Colby Professor of Art Veronique Plesch and Alexandra Libby '03, assistant curator of European art at the Ringling Museum, narrated a tour of some of the museum's art collection. Also in March, after serving for six years with The Meadows Community Association (MCA) board in Sarasota, Ernie stepped down due to term limits. An 18-year resident of the Meadows residential community, Ernie has served multiple roles with the MCA and was a driving force behind a sidewalk widening project. Ernie hopes to volunteer next at the Memorial Hospital in his community.

1953
Barbara Easterbrooks Mailey
classnews1953@alum.colby.edu

Ginnie Falkenberg Aronson has most of her summer planned. Around June 1 she hopes to get together with three other Colby friends. During July she will entertain two or three of her grandchildren, separately, for a week in Richmond. In August she will attend a family reunion in upstate New York, which will be the first time she and her sisters will be together in nine years. Moving on to September, she plans to attend her 60th high school reunion and see at least three friends from the '40s. • This reminds me that I, too, will be attending the Swampscott (Mass.) High School reunion in July. I love receiving e-mail from Colby friends, I keep busy now with my two old cats and the two golden retrievers. One is almost 17, the other just about a year and a half. • Tommi Thompson Staples has been a local hospice volunteer for 13 years. She's been asked to co-facilitate a support group on utilizing writing as a healthy tool. Hospice will submit this curriculum to demonstrate it to national professional groups. This summer Tommi plans to travel again with each granddaughter: with the younger one on a cruise to Bermuda and, for the older one, to shows in New York City. • Flo Fisher Krejci and her husband are still traveling. Their latest trip took them to Budapest by river with a few days in Prague. Last fall they traveled to California and Gold Country. By mid-March they found themselves in an Elderhostel in interior Alaska. Her two eldest grandsons have graduated from Pomona College and Villanova; the Villanova grad went on to London School of Economics. Flo noted that the deceased Mary Ellen Betts Harrison's husband now lives in Concord, N.H. This was incorrectly reported in a past column. • Chase and Nan Murray Lasbury plan to summer in Camden and then take a three-week trip to Croatia with a group from Colby and other colleges. • Ben and Carolyn Doe Woznick will spend a couple of weeks in Italy. They'll have a few days alone in Rome then rejoin the British-based tour group in Mantua and Ravenna, where they hope to view mosaics. • Loretta "Rex" Mears Settler sent me a friendly "hello" note. She said she is glad she spent the winter in San Diego and missed the bad weather in the Northeast.

1954
Art Eddy
classnews1954@alum.colby.edu

By the time you read this column, our 55th reunion will have passed, so I hope to have seen you all there. • Mary and Vic Scalise celebrated their 51st anniversary Dec. 28, 2008, with a trip to Maui, where they've vacationed for the past 26 years. They spend summers in their cottage in Ocean Park, Maine, where there is an open invitation to "drop by." Vic has served for the past year and a half as pastor of the Somerville, Mass., Community Baptist Church. • Merrill Healey Decker is president of her area American Association of University Women, and Karl presented more of his work for Vermont Life magazine's ongoing series on small towns at our 55th reunion. • Ned Shenton informed me that Stan Doughty has been elected to the Maine Baseball Hall of Fame.

1955
Ann Burnham Deering
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Thanks to all who phoned, wrote, or e-mailed! Dorothy Couillard Carlson recently spent a week enjoying and watching the wildlife in Oconeechee State Park in Virginia. She reports there's great bass fishing and new cabins since 2007. The lake is 40 miles long and extends into North Carolina. • Ginny Coggin Ellerton is back from sunny Florida after spending the month of March there. She looks forward to summer and her volunteer job as a docent at the Rufus Porter Museum in Bridgton, Maine, where she will teach a stenciling class during Cultural Heritage Week in early July. I hope to visit, Ginny. I also spent the month of March in sunny Florida, leaving Jack (Deering) at home to shovel and keep the home fires burning. Our children spoiled him, but I had three of our grandchildren visit during their spring breaks. What a joy! • Kathy Flynn Carrigan visited with Dottie Dunn Northcott, Bud and Carol Dauphinee Keene, and Jo Bailey Campbell. Kathy noted that while a student at Colby she and Mary Ellen Mc Goldrick McGowan were asked to help President and Mrs. Bixler entertain Robert Frost when he came to speak. Before the speech, he requested a glass of tomato juice with a raw egg dropped in it. Wide-eyed they watched as he gulped it down and then said, "Now I'm ready!" Wonder if he did the same before the JFK inaugural? • The Lou Zambrillo's traveled to the Outer Banks and stopped en route to visit Polly (Seeley '58) and Bill Rosen. (My apologies to the Rosenes as I left them off the attendee list at Lou's A.T.O. reunion party last summer.) After a delightful visit, Lou and Kathy met the next day with Evie and Bob Bruns '56 for a fun breakfast and then continued to N.C., where they had a great visit with Betty and Gill Alfano. Recently Dick Bartlett visited upon their return. Lou says, "Our cup runneth over!" • John Dutton, Ruth McDonald Roberts, and Barbara "Sissie" Restall Horne have all had recent surgeries. You are very much in our thoughts and prayers as you recover.
1957
Guy and Eleanor Ewing Vigue
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Ah, spring in Maine! A fine oxymoron, but there ever was one. As we say up here in God’s country, our winters make us enjoy summerthath much more! Although, as I write these notes, we have had a long stretch of sunshine to warm our winter-weary bones.

Congratulations are in order! Breathing a big sigh of relief, Pat Martin Malone will be graduating from the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford with another bachelor’s degree, this time in music history, with organ as her instrument. In the course of more than four years, Pat’s studies included a semester in Germany taking German courses and literally checking out 16th- and 17th-century Baroque organs in the central and northern parts of the country. Pat will enjoy a much-deserved and relaxing summer in southern New Hampshire and will play locally for churches in her area. Larry Roy sends word from Brigham’s Cove that he is very busy with his family therapy practice in South Portland, as well as caring for his wife, Kathy (Niles ’59), who was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s 15 years ago. Larry also has a fascinating hobby of polishing gem stones and making jewelry in his cellar studio. He finds bicycling to be a great stress reducer and plans to bike in Tuscany this summer with his younger brother. After a bicycling trip in Austria soon after our 50th reunion, those hills in Tuscany will come as no great surprise! Kyp Piqueres Greenwood sends us sad news: her partner and best friend, Howard, died unexpectedly last December. Still reeling from her loss, Kyp feels fortunate to be living in a place that she thoroughly enjoys (Sun City in Las Vegas), where she has found fulfilling volunteer work as an educational surrogate parent appointed by the court to a family in need of guidance. It must be a challenge and a very worthwhile one. Last fall Mac Blanchard’s travels took him to New Hampshire, and while driving along Mac remembered that Bob Erb ’56 lived nearby. Taking a chance that Bob might be home, Mac drove right up the driveway and the two reconnected with a great visit after not seeing one another since 1956!

Mac’s message to us all: how rewarding it is to catch up to an old Colby friend! Ron Rasmussen sends a bittersweet e-mail from California that his brother, Carl, died recently on Cape Cod, Mass. If we were not for Carl, Ron would not have been able to attend our 50th reunion. On a happier note, Ron’s son, Scott, and wife expected their first child (boy) in May, and his daughter, at age 16, will enter the University of California, Santa Barbara, this fall. You will thoroughly enjoy the role of grandfather—maybe not so much the college tuition! That’s it for now. Hope everyone has a nice summer!

50s Newsmakers

The following is a correction to the 50s Newsmakers item in Colby’s spring 2009 issue featuring David Lavin ’53. A sociologist at the City University of New York Graduate Center, Lavin was named co-recipient of the 2009 Gravemeyer Award for Education. The award is given by the University of Louisville. The Maine Baseball Hall of Fame will induct 12 new members in July 2009, including Stanley Doughty ’54 and Neil Stinneford ’57. Doughty starred at Colby in the 1950s and coached varsity baseball at Lisbon (Maine) High School for more than 20 years. Stinneford was named an All-American in 1956 while playing centerfield for Colby.

Milestones


Each month Jim Bishop gathers folks for a storytelling session at one of the local wineries, a bookstore, or other meeting place in Sedona, Ariz. He establishes a theme like “This is good.” He seeks water awareness, or gifts from the earth, and the teller spin their tales. All agree that storytelling is the oldest profession: “stories have been told since before we had language.” He sells his books, a bookstore, or other meeting place in Sedona, Ariz. He establishes a theme like “This is good.” He seeks water awareness, or gifts from the earth, and the teller spin their tales. All agree that storytelling is the oldest profession: “stories have been.
June 2013) still teaches at the local high school. “What a joy to have some students show a real interest in economics and to depart from prepared lesson plans and talk about the real world, using examples from papers and news magazines.” He was also getting ready to open his hot dog cart on Memorial Day weekend and wondering how his little corner of the business world will be affected by the economic downturn.  Dean and Phyllis Harry Petersen spend summers on Long Pond in Belgrade and love being at Colby to visit the museum and fitness center and watch early football games. They are proud of the efforts and hard work of son Michael, musical director of the Waterville Opera House, who has directed at least 10 big musical shows recently. “He and director Debra Soucic have put the Opera House ‘back on the map.’” He has also worked for Colby as the guest director of Fantastics. Michael is keeping the Peterson’s connection to Waterville and Colby alive and well.

1959
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Ed Toney spent several days in March with his son, Josh, at his place in Miami. The trip included going over to Ft. Myers for an overnight and a Red Sox-Phillies spring training game. He also spent parts of two days with Josh at his workplace on Fisher Island, just off Miami Beach, consulting with him and his colleagues on a business venture. After 40-plus years as a consultant, Ed says, “This felt like the ultimate acceptance of what I do—as well as a highlight of abundant experiences over the years. I’m sure many of you know what I mean.”  • Fran and Boyd Sands left in April for a cruise to and a stay in Barcelona, Spain.  • The ninth edition of Art Goldschmidt’s textbook, A Concise History of the Middle East, is now coauthored by Lawrence Davidson.  • My next column will feature news of the 50th reunion, but also please keep your own news coming.

1961
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Raymond Paris and wife Alberta moved to Cypress Landing, a community in Chocowinity, N.C., in 2000. Ray reports, “Best move we evermade!” The 500 families in CL are about 75 percent retired. They enjoy a “beautiful” golf course, a 250-slip marina, and a “great” fitness center. “I’ve discovered a whole new life in retirement: Alberta and I traveled often, primarily with our timeshare. Now I found my retirement niche as tour director of our community, arranging small group (16-24) travel to New Zealand, Greece, and Ireland with Overseas Adventure Travel, Spain and Italy with Odyssey, and six cruises with Holland America. Not only has it been enjoyable for us, we opened up the world of travel to friends who, on their own, would not have taken these trips. The side benefit has been the group savings, which I split evenly among the group.” Ray’s next trip is a July riverboat cruise on the Rhine and Danube with five other couples.  • Gail Holtz Golden Hartstein’s brother, Jerry Holtz ’52, who served on the Colby Board of Trustees, died in January and is greatly missed. Gale recently authored a book published by Routledge: In the Grip of Desire: A Therapist at Work with Sexual Secrets. “Life is good here in Burlington, Vt., and I have twin grandchildren 15 months old: a boy, Xander, and a girl, Clara.”  • Penny Dietz Sullivan, a former class correspondent, has accepted a temporary job working on the 2010 census. She is very busy with Fairfield Harbour “fun” activities. “In addition to socializing, I play golf, dominoes, bridge, and canasta. This is the life.”  • Jeanette Benn Anderson writes from Fort Myers, Fla. “The fabulous food down here never changes.”  • Keep in touch and let us know what you’re doing for fun!

1962
Patricia Farnham Russell
Nancy MacKenzie Keating
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Irina and Ceylon Barclay visited with Penny (Wheeler ’64) and Ralph Brashadw in San Francisco, where Irina delivered a paper at an academic conference. They spent time at the Bradshaw’s inn-ton condo and at their mountain retreat in the big redwoods embracing Sea Ranch, “both lovely, tres cher homes.” Irina went to Moscow and St. Petersburg in May with some of her students, and the Bradleys planned to see the U.S.A. this summer.  • Bob and Brenda Phillips Gibbons are involved in starting up the Little Washington Sailing Club, which hopes to get young sailors, 10-18, out on the water. For 15 years Bob and Brenda sailed from Marion, Mass., to the Vineyard and the Elizabeth Islands, and they now sail on Pamlico Sound in Little Washington, N.C.  • David Jacobson still works at Brandeis University. During a sabbatical this fall he plans to finish a book about how people behave online—Framing Online Interaction: Context and Meaning in Cyberspace—and visit kids and grandkids in Hawaii, San Francisco, Santa Fe, and Denver. As is their custom, Dave and his wife will visit national parks near his kids’ homes.  • Traveling for Harry and Judy Hoagland Bristol has slowed due to the economy, but they plan to visit Boyd and Mary “Muff” Symonds Leavitt for a week at the Santa Fe Opera this summer. They discovered a mutual interest in opera during a re-preunion visit in Cape Elizabeth several years ago. Judy is still campaigning for a get together in midcoast Maine before our 50th!  • John Chapman is the first recipient of the Alumni Service Award presented by Lincoln Academy in Newcastle, Maine, at the class of 1958’s 50th reunion. He’s been a member of the board of trustees of the school for 28 years, with a term as president. As summertime neighbors, Michael (McCabe) and I (Nancy MacKenzie Keating) see John and his wife, Allison, frequently, along with Debby Price and Allen and Jean Hamilton Workman.  • Diane Allen Bassett wrote in for the first time. We’re so happy to hear from you, Diane. She lives in Brattleboro, Vt., where she was born and raised and to which she returned after a hiatus of more than 20 years. She works in the legal field, calling herself “the oldest paralegal in the state of Vermont,” and plays golf with a passion and the hope that her “handicap will kick back to what it was when I was 13 years old.”  • Jean Gaffney Furuyama sends greetings from France, where she is on vacation visiting her sister, who has lived there almost 40 years. Jean will most likely retire next year and she’s looking forward to move travel and fun.  • Graham Barkham, tongue firmly in cheek, writes: “My life is pretty boring. If you had made a videotape of my life over the past 12 months, and then edited it down to the most thrilling 30 minutes, it would put you right to sleep.” Well, Graham, I remember a lovely wedding in Santa Barbara where I saw you for the first time in many years—and, I confess, I thought you were pretty exciting. But that’s just me.  • Michael (McCabe) and I are back in Harpswell, Maine, for the summer after winter travels and major home repairs. We spent two wonderful weeks in Santa Fe, N.M., and then traveled to see friends in Beaufort, SC., and family in Fort Myers, Fl., The home repairs—not worth mentioning. We look forward to a summer of sailing and fishing and putting the finishing touches on our house. Michael spends a lot of time at Colby in his position as class agent and member of the Alumni Council. Plans are already afoot for our 50th reunion. The College is a beautiful, active place, and the food is good—it’s worth a trip in 2012 to see!  • Karen Forslund Falb wonders how many of us are involved with our high school 50th reunions. She’s busy with hers at Northfield Mount Hermon and says, “What a year to head up a reunion gift committee!” She was looking forward to a tour of gardens in Provence and the Cote d’Azur and then to her reunion in June.  • Ruth Pratley Madell left the wintry Midwest for a week in Florida, where she visited David and Anne (Booty) Bruno Hocking and their cute dog in Naples. Booty is a fantastic quilter. They talked and laughed through six days of news, toured new and old Naples, and lounged on the water. Ruth then visited her Chicago Chi O friends in Old Naples for more talking, laughing, eating and shopping, especially at sales. In May she went to San Francisco for her semiannual nana fix to see her daughter’s twins, who’ll enter kindergarten this fall.  • Tom Thomas is going to Montevideo in Costa Rica for two weeks of immersion in Spanish. Learning Spanish has been a longtime goal and is now his number-one retirement project. He’ll be living with a Spanish-speaking family and taking four and a half hours of classes each day.  • The last time I spoke with Jim Westgate, I could barely hear him over the noise of cashews being shelled in an old washing machine, which someone brought him from Sarajevo to Bangkok! He’s coming to the States this summer and I’m looking forward to seeing him.  • Have a wonderful summer and be sure to write or call with your news. And send photos, too. I’ll save them for a slide show at our 50th!”
1964

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Bless you all! I got lots of feedback from my recent mailing. I have too much for one column, so there will be more coming later. – Last summer Montana Public Radio broadcast Dick Friary reading the Fastest Hound Dog in the State of Maine. He writes, “It took 26 or 27 minutes to read, and I rehearsed aloud for hours before recording the tale, until the cat and the dog covered their ears. The story was compiled decades ago by the late Maine humorist John Gould. I crated in Down East dialect, adding and subtracting ‘s like a word processor gone awry; hoss collah, soder watah, and haad likkah. The reception may have been favorable, to judge from the sample of e-mails sent me by listeners. Neither message was a death threat.” – Marcia Phillips Sheldon is retired from teaching and writes, “My most recent evening of entertainment? I served on a “blue-ribbon panel” of microbrew beer tasters for the New Jersey newspaper The Star Ledger. It was a hoot!” – Martha Farrington Mayo writes, “I’m still riding high after producing a community variety show to benefit our local Chocolate Church Arts Center. This was our fifth Hot Chocolate Jubilee, and the theme was ‘Around the World in 80 Ways.’ There were more than 150 people ages 12 to 82 on stage and behind the scenes. It’s a lot of work but well worth it!” (I can add that the tambourine line that Martha seemed to be leading was fabulous!) – From Beth Ham Kunz: “We are always looking for the next big project, but in the meantime are still 100-percent involved, me with my law practice and nonprofit connections, presently as chairman of the Southcoast Hospital Group trustees. We ski every weekend, golf, spend lots of time on local waters, and cruise to Maine every summer. I’ve always grown vegetables and fruits and have been harvesting 12 months of the year in Massachusetts, all organic. I buy very little. When my daughters were small, they referred to my garden as “Mom’s shrunk.” – Jack Ross’s life has been interesting since Colby. “I lived in Damariscotta, Maine, for 15 years where I owned a small group of ladies apparel shops called House of Ross until 1989. After selling the business, my wife, Jean, and I moved out West. I subsequently became a poker dealer in several Las Vegas casinos. In 1994 Jean and I relocated to San Bernardino, Calif., where Jean went back to college. A new Indian casino called San Manuel was just being built and a former boss from Las Vegas was the new number-one man at the casino. I started out as a dealer of poker and blackjack and now, 15 years later, hold a management position there.” Jack and Jean are in good health and get to Maine at least once a year. Their daughter lives in Arlington, Va., with her husband and three beautiful daughters, and their son is happily married and living in Salt Lake City. – Jack Gow writes: “For me Colby was the perfect college, in size, philosophy, faculty, and atmosphere. Had I then my present wisdom, I would only change that experience by increasing my level of participation in social activities. At that time, and continuing to this day, my then-girlfriend, now wife, preoccupied my non-academic attention. Nonetheless, I acquired a fantastic education at Colby, not only from the biology department but from various inspiring faculty and classes. Moreover, my junior year Jan Plan, followed by first year of employment, placed me under the consummate researcher and Nobel Prize recipient, George Snell. What an unbelievable foundation for my 31 year career in science teaching.”

1965

Dick Bankart
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SPRING BREAK – Lew Krinsky and Ellen hosted 14 Colby students over the March spring break. They were in Houston to perform community service helping to restore homes damaged during Hurricane Ike last September. “These young people were exemplary in their service and magnificent representatives of Colby. We took them to Space Center Houston and later to an authentic Mexican restaurant for a big festive dinner. The Colby students we have hosted over the years have, to a person, been outstanding young people and a joy to be with. We look forward to hosting more of them.” (At insideColby.com, search for “Texas” to see a story by Lauren Pongan ’09.) – Marty Dodge is still swinging his axe for Finger Lakes Community College. The April meet was at Dartmouth with a variety of activities: singles canoeing, log rolling, splitting, axe throw, single buck, fly casting, etc. Marty’s FLCC men’s team came in a close second overall. His Jack-and-Jill team placed 11th. AAAAAAND. Colby placed seventh with the Colby Jack and Jills placing 13th. Marty led his 2009 spring break group to Grand Canyon National Park and to Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument to help control invasive weeds and enjoy the desert. – Dave Hatch continues to pretend that he is “going to retire within a year.” This is the same Dave Hatch who retired and then went back to teaching, etc. He has been taking the newly restored ’91 Mazda RX 7 north to Venice, Fla., to see Dale “Peanut” Rotten Haas. “Be well and prosper” he advises. – David Fearon is taking the other road. “Here’s an Alice in Wonderland touch. I am starting my un-retirement from university teaching. At 66, I could not retire even if I want to (which I don’t). ‘Market meltdown,’ said the caterpillar. ‘Oh no!’ said David” – Duane Record packed it in two years ago after 30 years of medical practice. Duane and Sharon enjoy traveling. He enjoys woodworking and is restoring a 20-year-old, 28-foot sailboat. His two daughters are both Colby grads. “Retirement after a long and very busy career is wonderful and I highly recommend it.” – Jim Fortano is a staff writer for Artscope magazine in Boston and reads his poetry at various Boston area venues. – Pam Pierson Parziale continues with Sycamore Pottery & Heirloom Baskets in Kearnsville, Va. She and husband Rueden had an “open studios” event last May. Pam wrote “We do get to Maine each summer and see longtime friends Jim ’66 and Donna Brown Salisbury. Ellen Mitchell Lehto, Callie Holmes Marsh, Pat Campbell, Pam Harris Holden, and Chip and Nancy Newell Burnham. We are lucky enough to have a lovely cottage on the coast [Saco area] that we rent to family and friends.” Pam’s quintessential Maine cottage is available to rent. Check out Bayberry Cottage at www.eiderdowncottage.com/bayberry. – Hall, Colby, Hall.

1966

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Bill Koster, former CEO of a Connecticut biotech company, retired early in 2008 and moved with wife Ginger to Boston. Bill brought his 32-foot Nordic Tug to Boston in a nor’easter for a summer of cruising Boston Harbor and Cape Cod to Long Island Sound with Ginger and daughter Katie, “living in a Jimmy Buffett song wandering one harbor to the next.” Cold weather and reality returned. Bill now has a pharmaceutical consulting business and is managing director of Loree Newmeyer Suklowicz, LLC, a unique executive recruiting firm that focuses on the psychology of the search. – Congratulations to Linda (Brooks ’68) and John Perkins, who completed 40-year teaching careers at Kent School in Connecticut. Son Dan’s wedding in Hawaii, daughter Rena’s gift of a first granddaughter, and an anticipated move to southern Maine complete their good news. – Bad news from Karen Riendeau Pacheco, as her February hip replacement went wrong and had to be redone. She and Joe looked forward to going to Portugal and the Azores in early May, however. – Floridian Gary McKinstry attended a Colby alumni gathering at the Ringling Museum in Sarasota where Alexandra Libby ‘03 is the assistant curator of European art. – Class President Stan Marchut writes: “We are on the down slope, two years out from June 2011, our 45th reunion. It’s not too early to touch base with old friends and start making plans. The reunion committee from our 40th continues to party on, most recently at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, Mass. We’re always looking for new recruits, so if you want to work on our 45th drop me an e-mail: StanM31304@comcast.net.” In April Stan saw Paula Mc Namara at a new photo gallery featuring a collection of New England portraits and places by Paula’s husband, Jack McConnell. Paula and Jack have completed three photo murals for the newly renovated Hartford Public Library, and Stan says they are spectacular. – Doris Chalmers Bedinger and her partner, Pete, travel to Honduras, Nigeria, and Peru to assist NGOs with amateur radios, computers, generators, water pumps, etc. Pete’s the engineer and Doris is the logistics person and a licensed ham. They helped build the first ham radio station in Nigeria for use by the blind, among other projects. That work, plus a new grandson, keep Doris young and thankful. – The Mt. Washington Valley is still home to Bayard Bennett and family. Wife Theresa is project manager for the publicly funded rural county bus system. Bayard still enjoys the commercial real estate business despite too much time between successes these days. Son Chip, of Alexandria, Va., is a legislative assistant to Maine Senator Susan Collins. Son Tanner is a recent college grad and bartender in the Mt. Washington Valley area. – Gayle Jobson Poinsette and Garfield Barnes checked in from Arizona to report on their winter travel to Florida, Panama, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, and Utah. Home to Vermont for summer and fall. – Woodworker Carl Floyd does not play violin but likes the challenge of building one in his retirement. Both daughters are married and live nearby in Connecticut. Carl’s parents, ages 99 and 92, still live in Farmington, Maine. – Anne Ruggles Gere is the new director of the University of Michigan Center for Writing, enjoying being an academic administrator. She’s also a Brownie scout leader for daughter Denali’s troop. – Continuing work on Sue Turner’s rammed-earth house in Maine means they will spend this summer traveling to see relatives in Wisconsin, Montana, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, kayaking in the Apostle Islands, and visiting some Canadian national parks. – Babe Ruth Softball has initiated a program to honor a state volunteer of the year. Russ Monbleau is New Hampshire’s first recipient, and the award will be henceforth known as the NH Russ Monbleau Volunteer of the Year Award. – Mike Brodinsky is sliding into retirement and has a couple of projects to wrap up before he’s done with his law practice. He’s still active in Connecticut politics as chairman of the town council in Wallingford. – For lots more class news online, including Ted Houghton’s book list, please go to www.colby.edu/mag.
**60S NEWSMAKERS**

**Doris Kearns Goodwin ’64** received the 2009 Common Wealth Award for Mass Communications. The Common Wealth Awards for Distinguished Service were established by Delaware philanthropist Ralph Hayes to inspire greatness by rewarding excellence in eight fields. Recipients in other fields this year included astronaut Buzz Aldrin, novelist Don DeLillo, and actor Kevin Spacey. Goodwin also received Vanderbilt University's Nichols-Chancellor's Medal May 7.  

**Robert J. Master ’64**, founder of Commonwealth Care Alliance, a non-profit care delivery system for vulnerable populations, was honored by the National Committee for Quality Assurance for proving "that the quality of medical care can be raised and costs can be better managed through effective and compassionate primary care,” said Senator Edward Kennedy. The NCQA Mastered Honor along with Peter Orszag, director of the Office of Management and Budget.  

**Attorney Peter Jost ’68** was elected president of the New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys, an organization of attorneys who represent local government boards, including municipalities and counties. Jost serves as municipal counsel for several municipalities in New Jersey.

**MILESTONES**

**Deaths:** John W. Parkes ’64, March 29, 2009, in Clifton Park, N.Y., at 86.  


**1967**  
Bob Gracia  
Judy Gerrie Heine  
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Ron Boothby looks forward to the lovely Maine summer so he can break out his golf clubs and play the course near his summer home in Prouts Neck. If any of you want to join Ron on the links, look him up.  

*From a climate as different from Maine as one could find, Lystra Wilson Gaskin writes from Trinidad and Tobago that she enjoyed reconnecting with college friends last year. After arriving in Boston, Lystra traveled to Cape Cod with Georgia Bizios, Judith Freeman, Jane Morrison Bubar ’68, Janet Semonian Czarnetzki, and Dorothee Rothenbach. Lystra remembers that she, Georgia, and Dorothee felt a special bond being foreign students, and that connection has remained vital over the years. After visiting in the Boston area, Lystra and Georgia headed toward campus, taking their time to relish the beauty of southern Maine. The campus looked lovely but different from her memory, Lystra writes. She says that to this day she is grateful for the liberal arts education she received while on Mayflower Hill. After leaving campus Lystra and Georgia made one more stop in North Carolina, where they visited Laila Walji Alidina and renewed more college connections. We wish Lystra the best as she waves the Colby banner in Trinidad and Tobago.*  

**Sandy Miller** has a story from the “what goes around comes around” file. While visiting her son she found that he collects a certain type of jigsaw puzzle. The puzzles were designed by Sandy some 42 years ago! Even though she has attained ‘collectable’ status, Sandy has not retreated from the world of design as she continues to create silks for her store. Sandy shares a humorous moment with her 8-year-old granddaughter, who was reading her mother’s drivers license. She looked at her mother, aghast, and said “You failed sex?” upon reading Sex-F. Sandy’s daughter assured her (once she could stop laughing), there were many people who failed sex back in the old days.  

**Jim Holmer**’s son lives in Santiago, Chile, where he works for a company that places students in South American businesses. Jim’s daughter has relocated to North Carolina, where she works for a company with headquarters in Portland, Maine. While Jim and Nancy spend a lot of time hiking and biking in Colorado, they still bounce back to New England now and then. The attended their daughter’s graduation from BU’s business school this spring.

**1968**  
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Ed Quinto writes, “I retired from my law practice last year. I’m following in Marc Edelstein’s footsteps. I’m now teaching at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Va. The students remind me of myself and my life 40 years ago. There is a drastic difference in technology, but the classes themselves haven’t changed much. They still have to do the work, read, study, and take tests. I teach a prelaw course to mostly seniors in the hope of giving them a head start when they go to law school, a very satisfying change from practicing law.”  

**Betty Carrevalis** writes, “I retired in June 2007 after 39 years of teaching. I miss the kids, but I’m trying to stay busy. I work part time as an educational consultant for a group at the National Academy of Sciences, and I’ve taught college courses that take me and my students to Costa Rica and Andros Island, Bahamas. John ’66 is retired from teaching economics at St. Michael’s College (but he plans to return in the fall as an adjunct.)  

“We’ve spent time in St. Augustine, Fla., the past two years because we’re both tired of Vermont winters. In June 2008 all 10 of us who lived on second floor Sturtevant senior year spent the weekend in NH, and we’re planning to repeat our reunion again this year. We are Judy Dionne Scoville, Margie Reed McLaughlin, Jolan Force Ippolito, Susan Davidson Lombard, Martha Holmes Nickerson, Jane Brown Kriege, Maxine Allison Anderson, Dianne Radune Poland, and Nancy Schweitzer O’Malley. Since 2002, I’ve worked with an Arctic researcher in the Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean. We’ve been out on U.S. and Canadian icebreakers, but this September I’ll head back to the Arctic on a Russian ship.”  

**Steve Ford** writes, “We welcomed our first grandchild in March. I expect that I will have some resistance to pointing Hannah Katherine Rauch towards attending Colby when she is of that age because both her parents are Brown (undergraduate) and Yale (graduate) alumni. However, I am confident Colby and I will be up to the challenge.”  

**Judith de Luce** advises that after 35 years of teaching at Miami (Ohio), she will be retiring next January. “I have thoroughly enjoyed my career here, but it is time to go out and do other things. I’m especially eager to do more community service than I can manage while teaching full time. This summer I’m finally going to Eastern Europe. In fact, I have just had total knee replacement in anticipation of going in fine fettle for the trip. I’ve spent so much time in the Mediterranean that I have recently been traveling to non-Greco Roman places to make up for my narrow vision of destinations.”  

**Anne and Ken Young** plan to visit their daughter Sarah, a Peace Corps volunteer in Zambia. Sarah is teaching boys and girls and “living in a two-room mud hut with a grass roof and appears to be thriving.”  

Anne is retiring from her job as a third grade teacher and Ken is enjoying his eighth year at KVCOG, the regional planning and economic development council serving Colby’s hometown and surrounding areas.  

**Thanks for the news. Be sure to send an e-mail to your class correspondent!**

**1969**  
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It’s now midsummer and our 40th reunion has come and gone. I hope everyone who attended had a wonderful time renewing friendships and catching up. For this issue of Colby I received more responses then I could include in detail, so a class letter has gone out with all the information submitted. If you would like a copy please contact me or the Alumni Office.  

**John Burnham** is an internal medicine physician and teaches medical students and residents at UMass. John had a visit last summer from Debby (Williams ’70) and Steve Anderson and Peter and Mary Holden Brown.  

Robert ’67 and Susan Newbert Goodrich recently built and moved into their retirement home in East Boothby, Maine.  

**Craig Stevens** is finishing his 21st year as professor of photography at the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Ga., and this summer will be photographing on the Maine coast.  

Laurie Killoch Wiggins lives in Fairhope, Ala., where she retired at 50 and keeps busy directing curriculum for the lifelong learning school and singing in a church choir.  

Jay and Emily Kreinick Gallagher married two weeks after graduation. They live in Albany, N.Y., where Jay is newspaper reporter and Emily has a psychotherapy practice. They planned to join Jeff Clunie, John Kusiak, and their spouses at reunion.  

Brad Kelly lives in Dana Point, Calif., and is one of four partners in Spur Capital Partners.  

Cheryl (Moriarty ’70) and Bud Higgins live in the Portland, Maine, area where Bud has had an active career in emergency medicine at Maine Medical Center and has held a variety of medical staff and administrative posts.  

Mickey Jake has been working with special needs people for the past 27 years, and has authored a book on what is true or untrue about different religions (Confronting Believers).  

After retiring from 30 years as a high school English teacher and English department chair at Camden-Rockport High School in Camden, Maine, Penny Post Crockett started a second career with her husband, Charlie, as videographer and producer of television travel documentaries and sports events.  

**Warren Heller** has been an attorney in Milford, Mass., since 1974.  

Karen (Knapp ’70) and Bill Lyons spent the spring months teaching at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands; Bill will teach law at the University of Miami this fall.  

Anne York Samson, a clinical psychologist for Kaiser-Permanente in Denver, Colo., is manager of the geriatric psychiatry service, a program.
she started last July. Tom ’72 and Rosemary Shu Cleaves moved from West Hartford, Conn., to Arroyo Grande, Calif., in 2007. Rosemary is involved with a Hand Up, Inc., a charitable organization she and three other women started in 2005 to help transition the homeless into their first independent living apartments. Tom, after 15 years as a cataloger in the library at Dartmouth College, Susan Diplock Constantineau headed to a similar position at the University of Florida in Gainesville. She lives in Archer, Fla., and welcomes any of classmates visiting north central Florida to contact her through the UF library. Kate Batten Oppedalsano is now retired after working as a math teacher and high school principal. She enjoys living in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., where she cares for her 91-year-old mom, teaches skiing for students with disabilities, plays golf, and fits in some traveling and volunteering with the city of Saratoga Springs and the Academy for Lifelong Learning. Tom McBrierty and wife Jen live in Freeport, Maine, where Tom is a business consultant and also keeps busy as the vice president of Maine Moose Junior Hockey, a college development program. Judy Moeckel is retired and living in Conn., where she volunteers as a lay chaplain at Middlesex Hospital in Middletown. She also keeps busy teaching music and singing in a chamber choir. Her ongoing Colby contacts include Debby van Hoek Abraham and Linda Patton.

**1970**
Deborah Fitton Mansfield classnews1970@alum.colby.edu

Skip Wood sent word that Peter Gilfoy, of Sherborn and Nantucket, died of melanoma/cancer April 3. Peter was very happily married to Peggy Wiehl ’71. Our condolences go out to Peggy and the rest of Peter’s family. He will be missed. All is well with Skip. He’s lived in Duxbury, Mass., for the last eight years and has never been happier. He often sees and talks with his three children, who are at UMass, Williams, and Columbia. A medical mission last May found Roman Dashawetz providing anesthesia for world-famous pediatric plastic surgeon, Dr. Pavly. Pavly is descended from a long line of Parisian surgeons. Roman writes that he has “a super life with another humanitarian whom I have known for 44 years, who loves to see adults and children get advanced specialty surgery in their own country, with their families nearby.” Roman and his wife are new grandparents and recently visited their grandson in L.A. After five years they left Down East Maine to move back to Westwood, in the Boston area. Roman loves being near their children and being nearer to Boston’s sports teams. Kit Wells Poland’s son, Aaron, a Navy officer, was married in Hawaii last summer. In April she and husband Mike visited Aaron and Hiroyo in Japan. Kit looks forward to visiting Leslie Seaman Zema this summer. Kit hosted sustainable energy advocate Soren Hermansen and his wife last winter during their visits to five college campuses in central Maine, including Colby.

Sharon Eschenbeck Friedler spent two weeks in Ghana to continue her research on traditional and contemporary dances in that country and to visit colleagues and friends. Daughter Sorelle (a Ph.D. student in computer science) joined her parents on the trip. This summer Sharon, a professor and director of the dance program at Swarthmore, will add to her responsibilities by becoming faculty adviser for off-campus study. “As ever, my door is open to Colby friends,” she writes. Clare Bonelli’s daughter, who recently graduated from her B.B. student high school, celebrated her 18th birthday by skydiving! Clare is working on guidance counselor certification in Prescott College’s master’s program. “Student-directed learning is very different from what I’m used to,” writes Clare, “and do you know, they don’t use 3×5 cards when writing papers anymore!” Clare’s family has increased the productivity of their southern Arizona garden—they were able to eat out of their garden all last winter despite temps in the teens. “I know, I get all kinds of pity from the north. Lettuce under glass—it’s like pheasant only greener. The sustainability movement is gaining strength out here, and I’m hoping to gradually move our place toward permaculture.” Huey (AKA James Coleman) is developing a feature-length film. Go to www.portlandmonthly.com and click on “Anatomy of a Movie” to read an interview with Huey, Judd Nelson, and screenwriter Brian Daley. Portland Monthly calls Huey “the singular talent with the singular name.” Please respond to my next class news e-mail, especially if your name hasn’t appeared in this space recently. We want to hear from you!

**1971**
Ann E. Miller classnews1971@alum.colby.edu

As the temperatures rise above 80 here today, we are thankful that this long winter of 2008-2009 is over in the Northeast and that spring flowers are bursting forth with eager anticipation. As most of us head into this new decade of our lives, Fred Copithorn writes that he “feels the pain.” Is this because more body parts are making themselves known with aches and pains? Or is it just Fred? After having started work at 16, Jacques Hermant writes from Paris that he and his wife are preparing for his upcoming retirement. He began as a welder mechanic in 1963 for British Petroleum. Seven companies and
enjoys and the ski season. Dennis is an engineer with Naico and serves as technical director for the electric power market. He travels throughout Europe on business and welcomes the chance to take long weekends to soak up the varied European culture. He and Robin are planning a tour in Ireland in early June, taking Robin to her homeland for the first time. He is particularly enjoying the art museums. (Who would have thought—for a chemistry major, even!)" Joe Bensont sent a nice Easter greeting; "Happy Easter. May your coming year be blessed with the beginnings of fresh, new, and wondrous moments." Joe is the broker/manager of Eldina Realty, and we all hope that his Easter greeting comes true. (The greeting came with a great picture of Joe and he's as handsome as ever!)" Dan and Chris Belsky Russack are finally using their frequent flier miles from at least the last 10 years to fly first-class round-trip to Hawaii. From Honolulu they'll take a seven-day cruise and hope the islands are all they've been made out to be. (They are, Chris! Aloha!)" Bill Alford's son, Justin, was elected last fall to the Maine State Senate representing Portland. (Congratulations!) His daughter, Kenden, lives in Geneva, Switzerland, working for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. Her other son, Reis, lives in New York City working in private equity. (Your kids are doing wonderfully, but what are YOU doing, Bill?)" Best to all.

1973

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Greetings to everyone and thanks for news shared. While responses were not plentiful this time, I look forward to catching up with more of you next time. John Kranasavage looked forward to the 10th Chopper Confab at Portsmouth Circle, which took place in April. I asked John to please give us the history of the term ‘Chopper’ as it has been used by Lambda Chi brothers to describe one another since my time at Colby, at least. He’s not sure but promises to check. If anyone knows the history of the word, let me know. John continues to work for the University of Maine, supervising practicum students, consulting for SPD 3, and enjoying himself. "Dave De Long" returned to Colby recently where he gave a talk titled “They’ll Miss Me When I’m Gone: Leaving a Legacy in Your Nonprofit Work” to students of Professor Tom Morrione ’65 in a class on nonprofits. Dave reports that Colby is really committed to increasing civic engagement among the students, and he was addressing the challenges of building sustainable nonprofits. Dave said it was great to see Tom and hear about his experiences teaching at Colby for 38 years. Dave is doing some interesting research on the evolving baby boomer job market. He describes this as being particularly relevant since “many of us now are going to be working well into our 60s.” Check out Dave’s new Web site for more information: www.LostKnowledge.com. Linda Kagels Johnson keeps in touch with Dave and he reports that she “is prospering in Florida and enjoying the newfound time that comes with being an empty-nester.” Robin Barnes, a member of the department of history at Davidson College in North Carolina since 1980, has been awarded a fellowship by the American Council of Learned Societies to complete a book about astrology and religion in early modern Germany. Robin is in frequent contact with Rick Garthrop, now professor of history at Franklin College in Indiana, who works in related scholarly fields. "Wells Pile writes: “After 15 years in the fund raising business, I decided it was time for a change. In September 2007 I enrolled in the marine sciences course at The Landing School of Boatbuilding, in Arundel, Maine. Graduating last June, my wife, Marguerite, our poodle, Oscar, and I moved back to Rhode Island where I am employed by Goetz Custom Boats and also do work on the side. I’m having the time of my life. In one week I installed gear on a brand new Volvo open 70 (PUMA) and repaired the engine on a 105-year-old Friendship sloop. I am now working on a custom 82-foot boat that will be delivered in May 2010.” Marguerite is an artist, and they live in a loft in a former mill building in the heart of the Pawtucket Arts District, enjoying life. My forever Colby friend Lisa Kehler Bubar reminds us to please please please provide Colby with our current e-mail address. Go to www.colby.edu, click on alumni, and then CAN (Colby Alumni Network). There’s so much information to miss out on, not the least of which is the opportunity to contribute to this column! I will gather, once again, with all of my forever Colby buddies at the end of June at Mohonk Mountain House, where Jackie Nienerback-Pappelman has graciously arranged for Lisa, Chris Mattern Way, Debbie Mael Mandino, and me to have our regular Colby fix of nonstop talking and bridge playing. Talk to you all soon. In the meantime, I wish you all good things.

1974

S. Ann Eleanor
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Michael McNama has retired from the practice of law and is working full time as a Spanish teacher at the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Sciences in Manahawkin, N.J. His son John works as a financial analyst for Stifel Nicolaus in Baltimore and his son Andrew is a junior at Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia.

Richard Vann is completing 20 years at Booz Allen, a management consulting firm in the D.C. area. His wife, who is originally from Armenia, manages the Armenian Language Service at the Voice of America. One daughter studies IT at Guilford in North Carolina and the other is in the piano program at Indiana University. Michelle “Shelley” Ziff Hanson has become a seashell reader, wherein she takes a role as a seashell to teach others. She has authored a few books on the subject. She says she does a lot of public speaking and the shells have literally brought her out of her shell and made her less shy. Her latest joy is teaching on the Internet where every student has a front row seat. She believes her name has a lot to do with her success as a shell. Susan “Diana” Stork is director of the Multi-Cultural Music Fellowship, a California nonprofit. She has performed and directed concerts of world-class harps in major concert halls in the San Francisco Bay Area and throughout the U.S. Diana founded and directs a number of youth harp ensembles—some for underprivileged children—teaching them music from different countries on folk harps. Her vision is to bring the world together through the harp. Cindy Victor Kahle and her husband took a trip to Greece and Turkey in the fall and flew fished in Argentina in February. Callie Dusty Leef works as a process improvement specialist for a defense contractor in San Diego. She volunteers for her church and her daughter’s theater group. Callie and her husband, Bud, celebrated 25 years of marriage with a cruise to Alaska in May. Callie’s oldest son, Jim, was married last fall and her daughter, Tina, has been accepted at the University of California Irvine as a junior. Jackie Olivet and her lifelong partner, Jean, were married in Provincetown, Mass., Aug., 21, 2008. Jackie continues to teach government, economics, and law classes at a local high school and also teaches at a community college paralegal program. If that isn’t enough, Jackie coaches the high school mock trial team and came very close to winning the national championship. In her spare time she kayaks, runs, skis, and has added dog agility competitions to her pursuits. Mardi Moore Fish went back to school last fall and completed a CNA/HHA certificate. She works per diem for the Visiting Nurse Association. She recently attended the Enamel Guild/North East Annual Conference and is pursuing the exciting medium in which glass is fused to metal. Cliff Brittain took a job at the St. Paul Public Library 10 years ago to just mark time until he found something permanent. He says the best part of working is it is just like Christmas with new books under the tree each day. He also built a 25-foot boat that is a replica of a 1920s
ALUMNI AT LARGE

Coach’s launch (to attend a rowing team). He is on the competitive team of the Minnesota Boat Club and states he is the oldest and slowest male member of the team. His older child graduated from Colorado College and his younger child entered the University of Denver. His wife directs the Nature Conservancy in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. I have spent the year traveling, with trips to North Carolina, Florida, France, and Canada. I also have started another business, doing voiceovers for commercials and reading books.

1975
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Vinnie Cassone has begun a new job as chair of the biology department at the University of Kentucky. He is busy reforming the curriculum, building the department, and developing two new labs. The first will study the molecular biology of biological clocks and the second is a field station and wet lab for the study of behavioral ecology. * Sue Staples Smith reports that, after 10 years as a software tester for The Echo Group in Conway, N.H., she started a new career path last September at the Memorial Hospital in North Conway. She is implementing a new computer system that uses a patient identification card with a securely encoded chip that contains demographic and insurance information to speed up registration at the small regional hospital. The Smart Card is well received by the public since it saves a lot of time. Sue and husband Richard, who turned 80 last March and was honored with a surprise party, live in the nearby village of Chocorua along with their two alpacas, Geraldo and Frederico, and their walker hound, Flo. * Janet Hansen’s son, Christopher, graduated from Worcester Polytech in May and has already accepted a job in Lexington, Mass. Her daughter, Sarah, a sophomore at Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, Calif., is studying in Buenos Aires for the semester. The family plans to visit during the Argentine winter. * Joan De Salvo Mansour is returning to Plymouth, Mass., to spend the summer and work on her annual golf tournament to raise money for cancer research. She is also developing plans to build a new home in Flagler Beach, Fla. * Edwin Walczak is the chief investment officer for U.S. equities at Vontobel Asset Management in New York. He was recently featured in a Business Week article, Inside Wall Street, talking about investing in the stock market after the current meltdown. He would like to work on developing a network for exchanging investment ideas between alumni who work on Wall Street and the Colby endowment team. Any interest? * Please keep sending me news and let me know what is going on with you.

1976

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Last fall Steven Shafrarman published his fifth book, Peaceful Positive Revolution: Economic Security for Every American. The book updates ideas advocated by Martin Luther King Jr., George McGovern, and others. Sample chapters are at www.tendrilpress.com. As president of the Income Security Institute, Steve has presented at conferences around the U.S. and Europe. * Melissa Waldron Raue went to Yale School of Medicine, became a PA, and has been happily working in dermatology for more than seven years. Husband Dave Raue now runs The Rock Club, a 40-foot-high rock-climbing gym. Dave encourages middle-aged visitors with: “Of course you can do it! That’s my wife rippin’ it up there and she’s 55!” Their son Matt relocated from South Korea to Cal Ba Island in Vietnam to be a rock climbing adventure guide with Sio Pony Adventures. Their other son, Eric, graduated from Ithaca College in television, radio, and print journalism. * David Wilson is an avid cyclist who has been president for several years of the Westchester Cycle Club. He consults on cycling issues to the East Coast Greenway Alliance. * Lisa Wolman Haber travels between Florida and Maryland. She lives in Boca Raton and is active with her homeowner’s association, in the Contemporary Federated Republican Woman in Palm Beach County, and in her country club. While continuing as a travel consultant, she also works with a family-owned real estate business. She and her husband celebrated their 20th anniversary last summer. * Frank Malinowski has formally retired from MedImmune LLC. He and his wife, Judy, now live in Wilmington, N.C., where he plans to do part-time consulting in the biotechnology field while helping Judy with her publishing. He and Judy published their first novel, Crescent Veil, in 2006, and she has two more circulating. Frank attended his seventh medical mission trip to Nicaragua with others from a variety of churches addressing urgent care medical needs in central and west coast areas. * Bill and Caren Starr Schwartz are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year with an Alaskan cruise. Caren has run her own software consulting business, Time & Cents Consultants, for the past 17 years. Their son finished up his junior year at Norwich University, majoring in criminal justice. Their daughter enters University of Vermont this fall. * Joanne Defilipp Alex is Maine’s state geography education coordinator for the National Geographic Society’s program, MyWonderfulWorld.org, and writes monthly articles for the Bangor Daily News. And that’s just scratching the surface of her vast array of geography, museum, environmental, and educational projects. Joanne and her husband, Joe Alex ’75, are active with Children’s International Summer Villages, an international organization founded on the belief that peace is possible through friendship, and that the real difference can be made starting with children. Joe is the director of the Stillwater Montessori School, which has been running for 25 years. Their daughter Jessica ’01 and son Joel ’08 are both Colby graduates; their youngest daughter, Juliana, is a sports management major at UMass, where she also drives the Zamboni. * As I wrap up this column, a reminder to help our class maintain its record of generous giving to the Colby Fund. Please make your donation now. As for time flying, our 2011 class reunion is sneaking up quickly.

Paul Boghossian is looking for volunteers to start the planning process. Contact him at pwb@athawaycreativconsulting.com or on Facebook, where you can find more than 60 members of the Class of ’76. Send me news! And enjoy the rest of summer!

1977

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Once again, I have news from quite a few classmates. First of all, I hope Leslie Warren van Berkum doesn’t experience the same kind of “excitement” this summer that occurred last summer: “On July 24, 2008, our nursery had the extremely dubious honor of being the ‘official beginning’ of a 50-mile tornado track through the middle of New Hampshire. In the weeks following, Peter, I, and the staff were thrilled by over 2,000 volunteer hours to get van Berkum Nursery back on its feet. We lost all our trees, nearly 800 of them. It all goes to show that, ‘yes, it can happen to you.’” * Iris Kennedy lives in the Boston area and enjoys the travel that comes with her sales and marketing job. Her son graduated in May from Providence College and her daughter will be married in July in Charleston, S.C. * Jane Hoffman has never stopped believing in the educational value of small liberal arts colleges. She’s now a private college admissions advisor and runs the CollegeAdvice-101.com Web site. Jane’s daughter, Rachel, graduated in May from Smith College with a B.A. in art history, and her son, Daniel, will attend Oberlin this fall. * Ken Beland remembers playing intramural hockey with me freshman year. What I remember about that is being like a member of the audience out on the ice, watching Ken and everyone else skate past me. Ken’s love of the outdoors never diminished: he spent 25 years as a fisheries biologist working with Atlantic salmon in Maine. Now he has about 18 part-time occupations, including high school ski racing coach, community college instructor, environmental consultant, family cook, and sports dad. Ken’s wife, Judy, is a psychiatrist in Bangor, Maine. Their son Luke is a college sophomore studying the modern Middle East, and younger son Chris is about to graduate from high school, heading into electrical/computer engineering. * Deb
Cohen is now chair of the department of modern languages and cultures at Slippery Rock University. She notes: “I’m still not sure if this is good news or bad news.” She’s recently published an article in the online journal JSMO (from Denison College), and her translation of the Melvin Mendez play *The Old Man’s Wings* will be performed by the Slippery Rock University theater department next spring. “So things are going well for me.” Sandy Pardee lives in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, and works at the FedEx office there. He still plays music with his band the Delta Knights. At this summer’s reunion (for Class of 1979, et al.) Sandy performed with other members of the circa 1976 Colby band Pearl. They played multiple sets of danceable tunes. Jeff Olmstead sent a note saying he sees Jeff Stafford every few years. They live in neighboring towns and have stayed in touch ever since graduation. Being class correspondent is apparently a great way to reconnect with former roommates, because my freshman roommate Bill Yovic contacted me with an update. Bill lives in the Chicago area and runs Barrington Medical Imaging, which sells and services CT and MRI equipment. His son graduated last year from St. Lawrence University with a degree in economics and is currently in advanced flight training in Phoenix. Bill’s daughter graduated from Michigan State University this spring with a degree in kinesiology and will continue her education in physicians assistant school. Thanks, all, for letting us know what you’re doing!

1978
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Lea Jackson Morrissey
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Valerie Brown has lived in Naples, Fla., for the last 10 years. She enthusiastically writes that she loves every minute of Florida living and does not miss the seasons or the snow. Her son, Kirk, graduated in May from Vanderbilt University School of Engineering, and her daughter, Meg, is a sophomore at Davidson College, in Davidson, N.C. Al Sheehy lives in South Portland, Maine. After 15 years at the University of Southern Maine’s Muskie School of Public Service, Al took a position as a data analyst at the MaineHealth Center for Quality & Safety focusing on safety and improvement within the MaineHealth system. Al has run into Mike Slinav several times in Portland, where they both play in an adult hockey league. He also plays in an old-timers group at North Yarmouth Academy and sees Peter Masterton ’77. Al is happily married to a wonderful woman who is a clinical social worker in a private practice in Yarmouth. His summer plans include skating three times a week, participating in the Trek Across Maine (his sixth time), and finishing the cedar shingle residing of their home and garage. Karen Keithline Diop returned from Iraq in time to attend her son’s graduation from UVM in May. This last trip took her to Kurdistan in the north. Karen has been managing a program that brings Iraq high school and university students to the U.S. for programs that teach them leadership skills. Our class sends condolences to the family of Don Furcillo, who died Jan. 3, 2009, in Concord, Mass. Martin Connolly works at the Billings (Mont.) Petroleum Club, but has been attending seminars in grant writing for the needs of the Native American Community, which he comments are tremendous. He hopes to gain employment with a homeless shelter on the Crow Indian Reservation. Martin adds that the Crow endorsed Obama and “adopted” him as a Crow. Thanks to those who wrote in. Please keep in touch—we want to hear from you!

1980
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Elliott Pratt’s daughter, Katie, finished her sophomore year at Gettysburg College and will spend the fall semester studying in Florence. Elliott’s twins, Michael and Christopher, will be high school seniors and continue to pursue their respective passions of tennis and soccer. Elliott is busy once again in the mortgage business and is president of FC Greater Boston Bolts soccer club. His wife, Tricia, is selling Worth clothing. Bob Glaser and his wife, Cindy, have lived outside Los Angeles for the past 12 years. Bob recently left private equity and now pursues angel investments. His daughter, Nicole, loved her freshman year at Middlebury and his son, Reid, is a high school junior and spends most of his time playing soccer. Rachel Lavengood, Lydia Mason, and Lisa Turner spent a few days in May camping on Janes Island on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. They canoed through the marshes, took a day trip to see the wild ponies of Assateague Island, and were eaten alive by mosquitoes! That’s all the news I’ve received. As we get ready for next June’s 30th reunion, I hope more of you will write about your lives, your families, your adventures, and your Colby connections.

1981
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We have a brief but exciting column! I hope to hear from more of you, especially those who haven’t sent updates in a long time. A summer wedding is planned for Peter Clerkin and Carrie Wysocki of Bloomfield, N.J. Peter is a managing partner at a Chicago investment firm. Virtuoso flutist Alex Andrews (Christy Gauss) is “having lots of fun finally putting her human development degree to work” as director of Apple Country Music Together, which brings music to families with children from birth through kindergarten in Mass. (www.applecountrymusictogether.com). Music Together is an internationally recognized early childhood music program with classes all over the world. “Things must be coming full circle,” adds Alex, whose recent clients include Meg Lawson Hyde ’99, Cathy Ryan Kolakowski ’92, and Jen Lock Beauvais ’94. After serving for 14 years on the professional staff of the U.S. House of Representatives’ Committee on Appropriations, the last two as staff director of the Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, Dale Oak left public service to become a principal of the Podesta Group, a government relations and public affairs firm in Washington, D.C. Dale is part of the firm’s appropriations practice and helps clients navigate the federal appropriations process. I recently returned from Tucson, Ariz., where I visited Jenny Boice, my sophomore-year spring semester roommate who is at Colby on an exchange program from Pomona College in Claremont, Calif. Jenny made quite an impact in her brief stint on Mayflower Hill, enjoying KDR pyramid parties, being a fellow groupie of Mick and the Malignants, playing on our winning intramural softball team, and celebrating a memorable birthday at You Know Whose Pub. Needless to say, that semester was a big highlight of my four years at Colby. It was great to see her again.

1982
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I went to Colby over April school vacation for a campus tour with my son, Craig, a junior. The campus looks great and there have been lots of improvements since we were there. I hope he decides to go to Colby but I’m trying not to pressure him too much. I was happy to see Keith ’80 and Cami Yale Davis in the base lodge at Saddleback this winter. They were enjoying skiing and I was there watching my son in a race. Both of their kids are in college and they are enjoying empty-nest syndrome. Kim Smith McCartney’s son, Will, may be joining the Class of 2013 at Colby. He hasn’t made his decision yet but Kim promises to let us know. Kim wrote about her friend Ann Skinner Rider ’82, who is a children’s book editor working for Houghton Mifflin from her home in Minnesota. Two of her books have won the Caldecott Medal, most recently this year. Ann Renner Stillwater received her second bachelor’s, in nursing, in May from Penn State University, Harrisburg. She’ll continue with college classes to obtain her Pa. school nurse certificate. It’s much harder
Yes, you’re still young and hip,
but let’s face it; you have more than just yourself to worry about now…

Take some time this month to create or revise your will—you’ll feel better about your future, and theirs.

After you have taken care of your own family, please consider including a provision for Colby.

You can be a part of protecting our future as well.

Let’s talk.

Cynthia Mulliken Lazzara
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Dan and Sharon Kehoe Miller and son Curtis took a three-week trip to Central America last winter and enjoyed some amazing snorkeling off the barrier reef in Mexico and Belize as well as the spectacular ruins at Tikal in Guatemala. When not traveling they live in Cody, Wyo., where she chases 3-year-old Curtis around with lots of time left over for hiking, biking, and skiing. • Sam Staley recommends Facebook; he’s been in touch with Al Jones ’81, Don Gallo ’83, Jeff Clements and Nancy Heselton, and David ’85 and Nancy Bennett Beers ’85. Al’s work on transportation policy keeps him busy traveling outside the U.S., most notably China. He’s been involved in fact-finding trips to Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Xi’an, Chongqing, and Hong Kong over the past two years. His group is working on projects with Chang’an University in Xi’an (home of the terra cotta warriors) and Chongqing, the “biggest megacity you’ve never heard of.” Sam is also thick into his second children’s novel about a teenager forced to use martial arts skills as a ninja to fight gangs. (The first novel, Pirate of Panther Bay, was published in 2006: www.pantherbay.com.) • A first-time note came from Brian Hesse. After graduation he went to work for his dear friend David Rosenberg at his dad’s car dealership in Danvers, Mass. Brian got married in 1990 and shortly thereafter followed his boss to a dealership that he purchased in Lawrence, Mass, where he’s been for almost 18 years. Leaving “Rosie” was a painful and difficult choice but they’ve remained friends. Brian and his wife, Tammy, have two fantastic children, Taylor, 16, and Cody, 12, who Brian hopes will play hockey for Colby in 2016! Tammy is director of marketing for Upromise and they live in West Boxford, Mass. He’s coached and even found himself on the bench at a hockey tournament in Lake Placid, where their team won a gold medal on the same ice where the U.S. team won the gold in 1980—the Miracle on Ice! Brian also mentors inner-city youth in Lawrence. • John Gagne has officially passed his PSIA Level I Alpine exam, so now he’s Level II Alpine and Level I Telemark. Tele Level II will probably be next. So when dental disease is cured and his career dries up, he’ll resort to being a full-time ski bum. • Jay ’81 and Maureen “Moe” Hagerty Polimeno are happy and busy, working harder than ever in this challenging time for real estate. They have three businesses in North Woodstock, N.H.: Alpine Village Properties (vacation rentals), Polimeno Realty (sales and long term rentals), and Polimeno Business Sales. They recently joined a bunch of Jay’s high school friends (including Peter Gent ’81) for a cruise to celebrate all of their 50th birthdays! Their daughter, Katy, is a sophomore at Dartmouth College. Aimee, their youngest, is a junior in high school and thrilled to be starting her third varsity softball season, playing for coach “Dad.” • David Ballou practices law, raises two daughters, coaches pee wee hockey, and drives a nice new Toyota Sienna thanks to Dave Rosenberg. • Valerie Miller was married Oct. 6, 2007, to Laine Brancato. He’s a NYC police officer and they met on the job. For the last 23 years Val has worked for the NYC fire department and is currently a lieutenant and paramedic. Their son, Theodore “Theo,” 15, is on the honor roll and active in band and chess. They live in East Northport, N.Y. Val will retire from the fire department in

44 COLBY / SUMMER 2009
**Swiss Banker | Rebecca Brunner-Peters ’80**

Imagine yourself a young American lawyer working in Zürich, delving into Swiss banking laws amid the insider-trading trials of the late 1980s and early ’90s.

The opening of a crime thriller? Not for Rebecca Brunner-Peters ’80.

Brunner-Peters, director of U.S. legal matters in Credit Suisse’s legal department, is in many ways a special case. One of the few women in senior management at Credit Suisse, Brunner-Peters is not only an American lawyer, but she earned both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English literature. “English at Colby helped me to think analytically,” Peters said, chatting at a Zurich café.

Now thoroughly acclimated to an international lifestyle, she recalls that going to Colby was an eye-opener for a Midwestern teenager. She continued east for a junior year at Oxford University. The experience, she said, “showed me there was more out there.”

There also was an obstacle. After her junior year, Brunner-Peters was hit by a car while biking and suffered serious facial wounds. “I guess I threw myself into the books,” she said.

Brunner-Peters won a Fulbright scholarship to study the legal aspects of the Swiss financial marketplace, and over two years her articles—on Swiss banking secrecy and hostile mergers and takeovers in that country—were published in U.S. law reviews, and her research contributed to scrutiny of both the secrecy and compliance with foreign governments on the part of Swiss banks.

With her knowledge of both U.S. and Swiss law, gleaned through her studies and practical experience, Brunner-Peters was eventually hired by Credit Suisse.

Currently Brunner-Peters says she is “trying to balance family and work.” She lives just outside of Zürich with her husband, Bernhard Brunner, and their 14-year-old daughter, Nicole. Brunner-Peters points to the cultural and historical treasures, as well as the quality of life, as reasons for deciding to make the permanent move to Switzerland. Another major advantage, she said, is the proximity to other countries: a half-hour to Germany, forty-five minutes to Austria, an hour to France, and just over two hours to the Italian border.

“I wonder sometimes if I am losing my English,” she said, slipping easily in and out of Swiss German dialect at the waitress’s approach. As the warm sun beat down on Zürich’s streets, Brunner-Peters was off to meet with a group of banking regulators. Just another day at the office. —James Violette ’11

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**1986**

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How worlds collide—sitting in my office at Mass Audubon’s Drumlin Farm today, I had a call from Peter Coley. Turns out he’s a big fan of Drumlin Farm and a wildly enthusiastic birder, too. Who knew there were other birders in the Class of ’86? Hubby Chris Engstrom and I prove our bird-nerdiness by doing bird-a-thon every year—a 24-hour birding extravaganza where we try to see the most bird species possible while raising money for Mass Audubon. I think our personal record is 90 species. Are there other birders out there? I also had news from a couple of “rare birds”—classmates we haven’t heard from in a long time. Was it coincidence that they both mentioned Rich Deering? I think not. Rich manages to stay as connected to Colby and as vibrant a personality as ever. Need I remind you that he is co-president of our class along with Suzanne Battit? You’ll be hearing even more from them as reunion gets closer. Yes, hold onto your hats—our 25th reunion is coming up in June 2011! Mark your calendars now. One person I really hope to see at reunion is rare bird Ethan Wiesler. He wrote to say his experiences at Colby definitely shaped where he is today, just not via the typical pathway. Neatly summed up, his path led from an Asian studies major and dance minor to becoming the chief of hand surgery and residency program director at Wake Forest University School of Medicine in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. His family includes his beautiful and wonderful wife of 19 years, an 18-year-old daughter off to college next year, and a 15-year-old son, a freshman at a boarding school in Va. Ethan will soon be an empty-nester at home in Winston-Salem, N.C. Well, not quite empty, with three rescue dogs, a cat, and lots of birds, including a loquacious parrot who rules the animal farm. And they plan to add a horse to the mix before long! Ethan sees John Kramer ’85 a couple times a year and hears from Brent and Jill Stasz Harris and (wait for it) his freshman roomie, Rich Deering. Among other pursuits, Rich Deering keeps busy as director of Birch Rock Camp in Waterford, Maine. Among the happy campers he has recruited are the sons of Lindsay and Geoff Alexander. Geoff sends word from home in Cape Elizabeth that this summer sons Will, 15, and Curtis, 12, will be back at Birch Rock. Youngest son Garrett will probably go next year. Geoff heartily recommends Birch Rock to any classmate who has camp-age kids. It’s an awondrous Maine summer experience. More great hockey news with Northeastern University coach Greg Cronin’s name attached. Greg was named Hockey East Coach of the Year by
the league. In his fourth season at NU Greg guided the Huskies to a 25-10-4 campaign and a second-place finish in the league’s regular-season standings, their highest finish since 1987-88.

1987
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I’m sad to report that we lost a valued member of our class recently, Art Nagle. I don’t know how many of you encountered Art or were lucky enough to know him well while at Colby, but if you spent even five minutes with this tall, magnetic gentleman, you instantly recall his genuine smile and radiant warmth. You knew he was one of those people who made the world more connected just for being in it. Sometimes I think those are the people who put us all in a better mood, a bank holding company to access the bank for a $3 billion hedge fund. Catch this: he and special situations’ investment strategy for its application.

I have had a chance to report on news from several classmates.

1989
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I have bad news to report about our 20th reunion—our class has two fewer members than when last I wrote. Jon Robinson died Feb. 24, and Rob Garland died April 25. If you want memoriam information for Rob or Jon, let me know. Thanks to Heidi Dill LeBlanc, who let me know about Jon. Please keep their families and friends in your thoughts. Kaari Busick relocated from Seattle to Chicago, where she is freelancing as a writer and editor. She had a visit from Jennifer Joseph, and she hopes to return the favor by visiting Jen in Pittsburgh. Kaari got to see Mary LaPointe Farley before she left Seattle. Kaari is reconnecting with lots of classmates on LinkedIn. Add a prestigious journalism award to the honors Tim Burton has received. Writing as Rosette Royale for Seattle’s Real Change newspaper, Tim won the small-circulation feature-writing award from the Society of Professional Journalists. You can read about Tim’s award and get a link to his award-winning article at http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/html/localnews/2009079250_realchange18m.html. Congratulations, Buh! Jon Nash is now director of business development for NewStreamH2O, which focuses on industrial wastewater management, materials recovery, and waste-to-energy. His company is transforming its 260-acre campus in Attleboro, Mass., into a regional clean tech hub, and Jon is eager to talk to other companies that might be interested in relocating. Lilly Dimling just returned from a year in Sydney where she got a master’s in sustainable development. She also spent time volunteering in Africa and traveling in South Africa, Kenya, Egypt, and Jordan. She looked forward to a mini-reunion in St. Louis with Louise Tranchin, Lisa Troeger Kalar, M’evle Mead, and Melissa Early Rulwitt. Suzi Schumman Van Alstyne is busier than all of us—she had triplets October 11, 2007. Suzi and her family live in Lafayette, Colo., and frequently see Kim King Poplawski and Julie Petersen with their respective kids. Andrew Ian Dodge spoke at reunion on Saturday and signed his book and CD with his wife, Kim Benson Dodge. The ice storm knocked out power to Debbie Mann Johnson’s home in Harvard, Mass., for a week last winter, but she is happy for the extra firewood and the sunshine that now makes its way through the treetops! Debbie started a new job as administrative secretary for a professor in the research department at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Mass. As part of her job she is editorial assistant for the journal Archives of General Psychiatry. Debbie’s husband, Andy ’87, works at Protein Forest in Lexington and tends his two beehives at home. Unfortunately, I wasn’t at reunion this time around. I had my own reunion with Tracy Gionfriddo and her daughter but hope to make it to our 25th. I hope those of you went had fun. Send lots of pictures and stories!

1990
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It’s been an active first quarter for the Frymier clan. First, in February, Matt and his wife, Catherine, welcomed twins Cole, a boy, and Morgan, a girl, who joins sisters Parker and Hadley, bringing them to four under 4! Second, in January, Matt was named head of global strategic capital for Bank of America Merrill Lynch, managing the combined companies’ strategic alternative investment portfolio of approximately $10 billion. Dan Spurin’s son, Nathan Grover Rushmore Spurin, was born Dec. 17. They already requested and received a Colby admissions application for Nathan! Dan, Angie, and Nathan expect all you 90ers out there to block out early June 2010 for a reunion trip to Waterville! Paul Neidich wrote that his second son, Ethan, was born in 2002.

1991
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As the Class of 1991 closes in on 40th birthdays, several classmates celebrated with a ski trip to British Columbia: Sandy Colhoun, Doug Fenn, Jeff Fort, Kurt Whited, and Noah Smith ’98. Sandy is the director of development at New Hampton School. He and his wife, Selina, have a 9-month-old daughter and live on a beautiful dirt road in central N.H. Doug bought White Otter Rafting Company based in Sunbeam, Idaho. Jeff sells shrimp and is building a business empire. Kurt married Dawn Ellen Kirkland in July. Sandy also reports that Dana Stinson is in Africa doing amazing work (find her on Facebook). Don Stauffer is working for Kadok in New York, and Bill Sproing is building high-end homes in Sun Valley, Idaho. Brad Willard and his wife, Anju, welcomed twins Chase Parkash and Zara Eastwood in early December. Brad also met up with Fred Stewart on a sales trip in Austin; Fred lives in Portland and is a sales manager for Widmer Brothers brewing. Patricia (Trish) Biros has been “backwards but busy” since graduating Colby: she bought a house at 23, finished grad school at 26, continued a successful career as director of the Pediatric Cardio-Pulmonary Exercise Laboratory at Hasbro Children’s Hospital for over 15 years, has a son via artificial insemination at age 37, and is now engaged to Daniel K. Mitchell at age 40. My old roommate Rob Deacon and his wife welcomed Logan Wyatt Deacon in January 2008. Rob reports that Logan is absolutely the most amazing thing he has ever done in his life. Also welcoming their first children are Chris and Becca Pratt Bromark and Glenn and Beth Perry Brown. Juliette Isabelle Bromark was born in June 2008 and they look forward to lots of outdoor adventures this summer. Erica Brown was born in November 2008, and prior to her arrival Beth was “showered” with nursery hand-me-downs from Ellen Donaldson, Charlotte Reece Moore, and Kinda Remick Priestley ’90. The farthest update came from Cory Snow in Wanaka, New Zealand. Cory is wrapping up his sabbatical studies with a trip to Otago University to see how teachers are trained in literacy. He’s had a lot of visitors lately, including Jay Stable ’89, and looks forward to seeing many Colby friends on his return to the Northern Hemisphere in July. Chris Brown wrote from Vermont on a few final days of skiing at Stowe. He has been teaching skiing on the weekends and holidays. During the week he owns a real estate advisory firm that continues to grow as individuals seek alternatives to the stock market. His wife, Rebecca Winokur, recently “retired” as a practicing sports medicine
doctor to take a job as a content editor with Allscripts, a leading provider of electronic medical records. Their son, Chase, turned 3 in April. • Kit and Jeremy Grant have three children: Brendan, 13, Kayli, 12, and Emmy, 8. They’ve lived almost 10 years in Omaha, Neb., where Jeremy is the senior pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church. He will celebrate being a pastor for 14 years in June. Last October Jeremy was awarded the Nebraska Pastor of the Year award by the Nebraska Family Council, in recognition of his role in leading a regional outreach event in July 2007 that brought together more than 300 congregations. He returned in April from Kajo Keji, South Sudan, where he led a team that treated at least 6,000 people with roughly $1M in medications, provided water purification for 14 villages, and offered the first-ever Christian outreach of this sort in five villages. This summer Jeremy’s congregation is sending him to work in the Scottish Highlands for nearly four weeks.

The Class of 1992 is going through and currently attend local German schools. If anyone from this July.

1992

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It is springtime and I bet the campus we all know and love is looking absolutely beautiful. • Amy Vreeland recently got engaged to James Dow. Amy currently manages corporate communications at New Balance in Boston. A fall wedding is planned in Falmouth. • Jim Conrad sent in news from Munich, Germany, where he’s worked for the direct private equity arm of Allianz SE for the past eight years. He and his wife, Lori, have two young children and a third on the way this July. Both kids are growing up bilingually and currently attend local German schools. He figures in another year or two they’ll start correcting his German. If anyone from the Class of 1992 is going through Munich and wants to catch up (or babysit), send him an e-mail at conrad_jim@yahoo.com. • Amy Moody McGrath got together with Lisa Miller O’Connor, Kelly Harris Kenny, and Sherri Beals Poit to celebrate Sherri’s beautiful wedding in Sedona, Ariz., over the July 4th week. All of them have been in touch with Jessica Medoff, who lives in CT with her three boys. • Gus and Heather Ferguson Coldefella welcomed daughter Tenley Tanner Coldefella into the world Feb. 2. She sent along a cute picture but I can’t post it here. Trust me, she’s adorable. They are exhausted but are enjoying every minute! • Rachel Klein-Ash passed along the good news that Steve Swartz is engaged to Heather Witte and the wedding is scheduled for September in New Jersey. • Thank you to those who sent in news. For those who are disappointed that this column is so short, drop me a line or two next time around.

1993

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Thanks to all who sent greetings and updates! I live in Scituate, Mass., where I’m at home with my boys, Jed, 8, Ty, 6, and Luke, almost 4. I recently joined Facebook and have enjoyed catching up with some of you in cyberspace. Via Facebook I learned that while my family and I lived in London last year we were right in Chris Wilder’s neighborhood! • Paul and Angela Tennett Butler are happily settled in Bangor, Maine, where Angela is VP for commercial lending at Peoples of Connecticut. Paul and Angela have three children, Mary, 12, Katie, 10, and Tommy, 8. Paul works as the director of gifted and talented and Title One programs for the Bangor School Department, where he had been a principal for five years. Paul trades insulting texts with Jeff Zlot, who lives in San Francisco, and often sees Tobin Slaven, whose house, Paul reports, “is just an errant die toss from my office.” • Matt and Kat Smyth Lane are the proud parents of twins Miles and Evelyn, born in February. The twins weighed a whopping 8 lbs., 1 oz., and 6 lbs., 11 oz., respectively. • Lesley Frymier Cook welcomed her second baby boy in February. Matthew joins big brother Mason, 18 months old. • Beth Curran Balter enjoys time at home with her daughters, Stella, 4, and Annabel, 1, although she hopes to join the workforce sometime down the line, if all the jobs don’t evaporate in this economy. Beth keeps in touch with Kat Creeden Skulte and Sharon Rosen DiPietro, and she recently visited Betsy Arden Rickards and Betsy’s new baby girl. She credits Facebook with helping her reconnect with Sarah Nagle Spataro, who is a yoga instructor in Orange County. Beth plans to run the Falmouth Road Race in August and would like to organize a Class of ’93 run. Any interested runners out there, send an e-mail and I’ll forward it to Beth. • Chris Chin met up with Rick Wallace and Dave Bartlett in March for a weekend at Killington. Rick and Dave spent time rippling up the slopes, while Chip inno took some March Madness off the mountain. Chip still lives in Duxbury, Mass., and loves it. He reports that Dave Bartlett and his fiancée also enjoy the South Shore, and have recently moved to Scituate, my hometown. • Amy O’Mara Moore lives in Hingham, Mass., with her husband, Roger, and kids Susanna, 6, and James, 3. Unlike me, who had trouble getting this column together on time, Amy successfully juggles motherhood and work as a lawyer. • Jon Yormak is a principal in the commercial real estate firm Broadway Partners in New York City, where his duties include serving on the firm’s investment committee and overseeing its capital markets activities. Jon was recently honored by the UJA-Federation, and its Allied Trades Division’s Real Estate Executives (REX), for his decade of service to the organization, which Jon identifies as “one of the most expansive charitable organizations in the world.” Jon also sits on the board of directors for The Children’s Hearing Institute. • Holly Coxe Brittingham is married with two stepchildren, 18 and 16. They live in North Attleboro, Mass., where husband Joshua is an artist. Check out his work at www.darkhorsedesigns.net. Holly works for Fidelity Investments running leadership development programs for executives and is excited to be a first-time dog owner of an energetic whippet mix. • Michelle Addario and her husband, Charles Hackett, live in Merrimac, Mass., with kids Audrey, 4, and Nathaniel, 20 months. While she is a full-time stay-at-home mom, Michelle finds time to teach an online Spanish course. • And last but not least, Dan O’Grady, who lives in Hawaii, is the proud new owner of a rather large tattoo, inked by a tattoo artist who also worked on Tommy Lee. No. I didn’t make that up. Check out the Facebook pics if you want proof. Congrats, Dan! • Please send me news on where you are and what you’re up to! It’s been fun to reconnect and I look forward to more news.

1995

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Specialist Abe Rogers, of the U.S. Army, is at Fort Bragg, N.C., and is expecting to complete his duties there in June 2009. “I’m looking at another deployment to Afghanistan if I get stop-sponsored, so we’ll see,” writes Abe. • Mike Keller and his wife, Lisa, had twin girls, Serena Hope and Giuliana Brielle, Dec 26, 2008. • Al is going well on Nantucket island for Noah Learner and his family. His wife, Lori, gave birth to their second son, Dylan, Jan. 7, 2008. He joins their first, Calvin, 2 1/2. “I feel blessed all around,” writes Noah. He is the general manager of Young’s Bicycle Shop and is very busy building Web sites on the side (www.learnerdesign.com). He speaks regularly with Brian Gressler, Jason Reifler, Marc Moody, and Scott Koles. • Brooke Lorenzen
married Damon Frutos in June 2006, and she had a son in June 2008. • Chad and Emma Spenner Norman welcomed their second son, Luke Thomas Norman, March 5, 2009. Luke’s brother, Parker, is smitten with the new addition. Emma recently obtained her Ph.D. in environmental geography at the University of British Columbia (UBC), where she conducted research on trans-boundary water governance issues. She teaches environmental studies courses at Northwest Indian College in Bellingham, Wash., and works on water security issues with the program on water governance at UBC. • Michele Elliot and Brian Carovillano moved to Atlanta last June, where Brian accepted a new position with the Associated Press as a regional editor for the South. They’re expecting their second child this summer and were in California recently visiting Liz Keith. • On Sept. 4, 2008, Julie and Dennis Nations became parents to twins! Zack Joseph Nations and Emma Suzanne Nations. They join their older brother, Jake, 2. “Life is a bit nuts right now—the sleep deprivation has been pretty brutal,” writes Dennis, but the growing family is doing well. Dennis works at Babson College as the director of graduate admissions. • T.J. Maines is the head coach of the men’s basketball team at Thomas College in Waterville. This past season he led the team to an 11-3 record and clinched first place in the North Atlantic Conference. This was the first time Thomas College achieved 10 wins in a season since 1986; T.J. was named the NAC Coach of the Year for his efforts. • Caleb Mason will begin teaching this fall at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles. A former assistant United States attorney in the Southern District of California, Caleb will initially teach Constitutional Procedure and Evidence and may later present courses in areas such as constitutional law, criminal law theory, jurisprudence, and law and religious institutions.

1996

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This column is hereby dedicated to Alison Werner Barton, who died in a car accident March 1, 2009. Her memorial service was held March 6 at the Winchester Unitarian Church in Winchester, Mass. Two busloads of her colleagues at State Street Bank, countless Colby alumni, and friends, family, and mourners gathered to remember Alison, celebrate her life, and grieve together. Rachel Moritz ’96, the elder sister of Ali, is compiling a letter that will reside on the Colby Class of 1996 Web site as a virtual class tribute to Alison’s life. A special thanks to all of you who wrote in, many with notes of remembrance about Alison, and I’m thankful for those who reconnected as a result of this incomprehensible tragedy. It was great, albeit bittersweet, to hear from all of you. • After eight years of marriage, Tatum Calder Sinclair has two boys, Cole, 4, and Reese, 2. Her brother, Adrian, continues to fly F-18s for the Navy in Afghanistan, whooping up on the Taliban. Tatum frequently sees Caroline Bird McGowan, who has two children, Patrick, 2, and Madeline, 4 months, and Rachel Simson D’Antonio, who lives in CT with children Luke, 5, and Ben, 3. • Sandler Passman is getting married in June to Shana Levy of Richmond, Va. This is arguably Sandler’s finest moment since cannons a sweet spot-up joy to seal a Load Team victory in iPlay hoops in 1996. • Aaron Schlechter married Alexa Goodson in Fairfield, Conn., on Valentine’s Day 2009. In attendance were Nolan Yamashiro, Brian Stenger, Chris Dawkins, and James Howley. Aaron works for Amy Greene Environmental Consultants, Inc., on storm water and ecological restoration projects in NYC. Aaron is a credentialed CPESC (certified professional in erosion and sediment control), which totally KA. • Ed Bourque expects to receive his Ph.D. in geography from King’s College London this summer. His Ph.D. is a case study in access to water in Tanzania, and he wants hear from other alumni working in water and sanitation/international development: edbourque@hotmail.com. • Erica Casano Spater has fun in Portsmouth, N.H., with husband Kitter and daughter Georgia, 2. • Peter Bennett writes from northern California that he’s working for the U.S. Geological Survey. In his free time he’s out whitewater kayaking and chasing rainbows. • Chris and Kylie (Jessica) Taphorn Thoma welcomed Griffin Christopher Thoma in February 2009. In August Kylie returns to her job as in-house counsel for the California Department of Corrections in Sacramento. She hears from Nozomi Kishimoto Reichow, her first-year roommate, who lives in Tokyo with her husband and daughter, Noa. Nozomi works for Royal Bank of Scotland. Kylie also keeps in touch with Linnea Basu, who is in Boston and works for Northeastern University, and Whitney Glackin, who lives in the Bay Area and is getting married in August 2009. (Congrats, Whitney!) • And, finally, on April 26, Gregg LeBlanc, Ryan Sullivan, Jeff Sklarz, I, and seemingly countless others ate donuts. This is not usually newsworthy, but trust me: it is. • Well, that’s the notes for now. They’re hard to write, so please keep them coming. And on behalf all those who knew you, we will miss you dearly, Tex Mex. Our sympathies remain with the Werner and Barton families to this very day.

1997

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Katherine Lawn married Prashant Chouta in August 2007 in Pennsylvania and in December 2007 in Mumbai. In attendance at the U.S. wedding were Tricia and Steve DiLella, Hyun Jung, Vaj Muas, Kate and Christian Winkle, Lisa Woe, and Maylene Cummings ’96.

World Vision | Graham Macmillan ’97

Some 400 million people worldwide, most in rural areas of developing countries, do not have access to simple reading glasses. Graham Macmillan ’97 and his partners at the nonprofit VisionSpring have developed an innovative way to address this problem—but they’re not giving it away. VisionSpring’s business model is rooted in theories of microfinance: They train low-income people in India, Bangladesh, Ghana, Guatemala, and El Salvador, among other countries, to start micro-franchises to sell reading glasses. And the benefits go beyond the individual seller. “Using reading glasses for the first time, aging farmers can again work fields efficiently and career textile workers can sew faster and more accurately,” Macmillan said. Indeed, the incentive of greater efficiency and career longevity has led to sales of 240,000 pairs of reading glasses worldwide in the past six years by VisionSpring’s 900 entrepreneurs.

To start off, VisionSpring sets up each entrepreneur with, quite literally, a business in a bag. It is filled with about 25 pairs of reading glasses, 15 pairs of sunglasses, a uniform, and cleaning cloths. The entrepreneurs are then trained how to screen for presbyopia, or up-close blurry vision, and other related eye problems, and they learn how to successfully run a sustainable business.

The vision entrepreneur then travels door to door, some village to village, screening for presbyopia. Those who show symptoms of presbyopia then have the option to buy glasses for between four and nine dollars, which in some communities is a substantial percentage of the buyer’s income. “The price hurts enough where it makes a difference,” Macmillan said, “but it also enables the customer to say, ‘I don’t have to buy this, you aren’t giving this to me.’ It’s the dignity of choice.”

The innovation yet overall simplicity of the model has led to accolades. The Economist, NBC Nightly News, National Public Radio, and the International Herald Tribune have profiled the foundation, while former President Bill Clinton called the foundation his “favorite commitment” from his Clinton Global Initiative meeting in 2007.

Despite the media attention, VisionSpring, like Macmillan, keeps its focus on the service provided. “There is so much power in this simple product, because the benefit is instantaneous,” Macmillan said. “You put on a pair of glasses and you can immediately see the difference.”

—Brendan Sullivan ’06
and Erik Mitchell, Linnea Basu ’96, Nozomi Kishimoto Reichow ’96, and Kylie Taphorn Thoma ’96. The Indian wedding celebrations were larger and longer and were followed by a fabulous trip to Kerala. Prashant and Kate now live in the San Francisco Bay Area, where Kate works as managing editor of publications at the Institute of East Asian Studies at UC Berkeley. Curt and Simone Kaplan Cote welcomed a daughter, Margot, Feb. 8, 2009. Simone saw Rob Gimbel recently while he was visiting Boston and she sees Tay Evans and Dave Hanauer pretty regularly. Everyone is doing well. — Richard and Cindy Blissom Wolff welcomed their first child, Isabella, in August 2008. Cindy was recently promoted to intake director for Community Psychiatry and Substance Abuse Services for North Shore–LIJ Glen Cove Hospital in Long Island, N.Y. Pat McBride shares the following: “Andrew Pease recently purchased a small propane plant and has obtained his pilot’s license—he is in the process of putting a landing strip in the backyard of his (somewhat) newly purchased home in Andover, Mass. Andrew Black and John Hebert returned to campus Feb. 14 for a dinner honoring Colby head basketball coach Dick Whithorne and, much like riding a bicycle, found their way to AMS, where they played beer die with underclassmen until 2:30 a.m. Dave McLoughlin reached the 100-win mark as the head men’s basketball coach at Stonehill College, advancing his team to the NCAA tournament and a top-25 national ranking.” — Carter Davis and his wife enjoyed spring in D.C. with their 1-year-old, Maisie. They were host to Mark and Chrissy Killheffer Sinclair for spring break with their twin 4-year-old daughters. They all visited with Cy Stahlberg, who also lives in D.C. Carter wrote, “We’re waiting for the next Colby wedding (?) to try and catch up with others.” — Kara and Mark House had a little girl, Laura, June 6, 2008. Big sister Sophia was and continues to be very excited. — Sam and Wendy Ridder Bergh welcomed their daughter, Violet, March 8. They cannot wait for Violet to meet all of her Colby friends. — Anna Thomson Patterson lives in Bozeman, Mont., with her husband and her daughter, Quinnell. She shared, “I recently ventured a few blocks down the road to Molly Stratton’s house for some dinner and bananagrams. I also see Hilary Peterson Klug regularly with her daughter, Carson, and her son, Finn. The Colby contingency is strong here in Bozeman. Funny little side note: our pediatrician went to Bates ... should I trust him?” — Jennifer O’Neill and Tom Killieva are engaged to be married in August in York, Maine. — Mike Outslay and his wife welcomed their first child, Anastasia, Feb. 13, 2009. They live in Colorado. — Greg and Amanda Sprang Manelick left the ExxonMobil project on Sakhalin Island, Russia, after 11 years and eight years respectively. After a brief stint at home in northwestern Pennsylvania on their whitetail deer farm, they now work in Brisbane, Australia, before another move to the new ExxonMobil LNG project in Papua, New Guinea. They look forward to the new adventure. — After nine great years in Cleveland, Andy Kruppa moved to Miami Beach this winter and passed the Florida bar exam. He expected a visit from LuWaan Curry in May. 1998 Brian M. Gill classnews1998@alum.colby.edu Tina Goudreau Collison was recently granted tenure and is an associate professor of chemistry at the Rochester Institute of Technology. — Congratulations also to Andrew Porter and his wife, Becky, who, along with their 3-year-old son Wyatt, welcomed a new baby Jan. 26: Owen Matthew Porter. Owen gets his middle name from Becky’s brother, Matt Huse ’99. — Shannon Baker had a second child, Benjamin Baker Klemesrud, Feb. 14, 2009. She still practices family medicine in Texas. Her husband is an F-16 pilot for the Air Force reserves and has been deployed to Iraq for a short tour. — Amy Forrester and Erik Waters ’00 had twins Feb. 4, 2009: Elsa and Olin. — Becky Troeger planned to marry Mike Ostrowski June 7 in Canterbury, Conn. She met Mike about 20 years ago while in junior high together. — During recent travels to New Zealand, Katherine and Andrew Littell completed seven consecutive tandem bungee jumps in order to commemorate their childhood friend, Lundgren. — Claire Overgaag Barnaba has lived in the San Francisco Bay Area since her move from Boston in 2002. She has since gotten married and has one boy and expected a baby girl in May. She works as a nurse practitioner in a private OB/GYN practice. — Keith Philfer and his wife, Molly, had their first baby, Harris Streeter Philfer, Feb. 2, 2009. He was born 19 inches long, weighed 7 lbs., 9 ozs., and is growing like a weed. Molly, Harris, and Keith are happily living in Milton, Mass. — Bianca Guzman and Alexander Wick are very happy with their Zasha Tinsley Wick, now 16 months. Bianca’s business as a fashion stylist for toddlers/children—Mini Fashionistas in Training—is going strong despite the recession. They currently live in sunny Paradise Valley, Ariz., and will spend most of the summer in Laguna Beach, Calif., and at their ranch in Colorado. — Hope the summer is going great! 1999 Lindsay Hayes Hurty classnews1999@alum.colby.edu I’m so excited to report that I (Lindsay Hayes Hurty) got married Feb. 28 to Blaine Hurty (Bucknell ’99) in our hometown of Darien, Conn. Bridesmaids included Karen Bullock Bailey and Heather Fine. Also in attendance were Allison Birdsong, Scott Whittow, Alex and Becky Thornton Leach, Matt and Katie Lawrence Sawlaztky, and Abby Healy (who is engaged to Sundar Argand and plans to wed in June 2010). — Nicole Fallat married John Zabriskie in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in Seattle. Dr. Colleen Schwartz was a bridesmaid and Emily Dowd attended. — Laurie Roberts got married May 2 in Washington, D.C., to Doug Elsison (Trinity ’96). Kelly Field Green and Martha Stewart Gonzalez were bridesmaids. — Katie Haas Penfield enjoys life in Crested Butte, Colo., where she celebrated her one-year anniversary to Chris Penfield—they married last June on the summer solstice. — Steve and Maegen Carey Storey live in Chatham, Mass., and had a baby girl, Georgia Mae Storey, Sept. 10, 2008! — Jessica Banos Burton had a baby girl, Avery Elena, Georgia Mae Storey, Oct. 9. Her son, Christopher, 2 1/2 loves being a big brother. — Eric and Amy Emmann Shok had their second baby boy, Benjamin Patrick, Nov. 3. They are all doing well and enjoying their new home in Sudbury, Mass. — Emmett Beiliveau and his wife welcomed their first child Nov. 3. — Bob ’97 and Alison Rainey Doak had a little boy, Benjamin Thomas Doak, on Election Day, Nov. 4. — Brian and Alexis Azar Posanski welcomed their first child, Owen Azar Posanski, Dec. 26, 2008. Alexis and Brian are exhausted but loving every minute with their belated Christmas gift. — It’s a girl! Donn Downey is a proud shepherd to four sheep and one new baby lamb named Letter. Louise, 3, named her on July 13. And, by the way, Kristen (North) and Donn’s newest baby girl, Mavis, turned 1 on May 13. — Kelly Williams Ramot and her family moved from the San Francisco Bay Area to Manhattan in April 2008 and live on the upper West Side. She continues to work with the American Jewish Committee and is finishing up her master’s in nonprofit management at The New School. The newest member of the Ramot family, Raphael, was born on big brother Noam’s second birthday in March 2008. — Walter Wang has embarked on a new project consulting on the tax aspects and state incentives related to alternative energy projects—a venture called Sunflower Tax (www.sunflowertax.com). — Laura Eichelberger is finishing her fieldwork on water scarcity in Arctic Alaska native villages for her Ph.D. in cultural anthropology at the University of Arizona. For the better part of a year she’s lived in Inupiaq Eskimo communities learning about their culture and their struggles to obtain sufficient water to protect community health. People have been incredibly generous in welcoming her into their lives, feeding her, and teaching her how to hang fish and cut caribou. Hopefully, by next June, she’ll be Dr. Eichelberger. She was surprised to find in Ambler, one of her field sites, that she is predated by Nick Jans ’77. — Since college Dan Zipin went to University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and did his residency at Boston University; he is now finishing an interventional spine fellowship in California and will return with his fiancée, Meghan Delaney, to the New England area in August. Dan and Meghan are set to wed in Vermont in November. Brian DiBello, Andy King, Sean Foley, Peter Shapiro, Reed Bundy ’00 and Kelly Fanning ’00, Ben ’00 and Liz Magyar Stockwell ’98, and Jeremy Donovan ’00 will attend. — Steve Murphy completed an M.A in law and diplomacy at The Fletcher School at Tufts last August and just graduated from the Harvard School of Public Health, where he earned an M.P.H. in global health policy and management. Steve served as a social entrepreneurship fellow at the Center for Public Leadership at the Kennedy School while at Harvard. Steve entered the U.S. Foreign Service as a political affairs officer in May and will participate in State Department initiatives related to economic development, public health, and peace building. — Jean-Paul Lipton has been busy starting up his fly fishing business. Between filling commercial fly orders, guiding clients, and blogging on his Web site, JP managed to get his business featured in the Wall Street Journal. Check it out at www.roughfisher.com. JP reports that Jonathan Brooks is in his first year at Albany Med, working on his master’s as a physician’s assistant. He has been fishing a ton these past few years in northern Vermont and chased lots of steelhead last winter on Lake Ontario tributaries. — After eight years with SnoCountry, David Black is pursuing a new opportunity heading up operations at Recovery Control Systems (RCS), a small-package auditing firm that guarantees packages and secures all credits/ refunds to the carrier accounts for delinquent packages. — Keep sending the good news! 2000 Meg Bernier Boyd classnews2000@alum.colby.edu David Barr Kirtley excitedly announced that his short story, The Skull Faced Boy, was published in the zombie anthology The Living Dead, which also featured work by authors Stephen King, Clive Barker, and Neil Gaiman. — C. Bradley Russell continues to live happily in Boston with her husband, James, and her hound dog, Dudley. She works for Oke USA, a fair trade banana importer. Although he still calls Melbourne home, Jeff Daniels’ work on a documentary about the controversial Jewish advocacy group,
Matthew Carter and Meredith Strasnick ’02 had their first child, Max Benjamin Carter, in January. • Tim Grayson and Melanie Stein are planning a 2010 wedding in Jackson Hole. Tim represented Colby at the alumni night at Jackson Hole High School recently and thinks he may have some applications on the way! He has been teaching special education at Jackson Hole High School this year. Tim sees Jon Natkin frequently, when Jon isn’t skiing the high peaks of the Tetons. • Lauren Schaad is finishing her first year of Thunderbird’s M.B.A. program. She’ll travel to Nepal this summer to visit microfinance and intern with Gramene Trust in Bangladesh. • Annie Eisinger Powers graduated from the University of Utah with her M.D. and Ph.D. last May and will be starting her residency in pediatrics in Salt Lake City this summer. She and her husband, Matt, had their first baby, Nora Eisinger Powers, Aug. 9, 2008. • Pam Foxley Ariffian continues her work as a community-sustainability planner in southern California. She and her husband, Greg, just brought a house in Pasadena. • Corey Strangehoener celebrated her sixth anniversary with Enterprise Rent-A-Car in human resources and is setting up shop with her boyfriend in St. Louis. She looks forward to celebrating her 30th birthday in New York City with a gaggle of Colby friends. • Venola Mason plans to ring in her 30th year in St. Martin with Miekko McKay. • Rob Egeston promoted to regional sales and product training manager for Bank of America, but he has recently left Boston for the sunny beaches of Jacksonville, Fla. • Meghan Foye lives in NYC and keeps busy working as the deputy editor at Seventeen magazine. In March she ran the Rome Marathon to raise money for leukemia and lymphoma with Team in Training. • In early April Josh and Kim McCarron Camuso (married since 2004) escaped the clouds of New Hampshire for the blue skies of Playa del Carmen, Mexico. They’re considering moving to a bigger house in preparation for starting a family. • On January 28 Brian ’99 and Tacy Conard Quinn welcomed Charles Tacy Conard Quinn. Jon and Benjamin St. Auguste Dec. 18, 2008. • Jen Bubrick welcomed their adorable daughter Lauren at large. • Alida Malcom plans a roomie mini-reunion when they are all back in the NY/Boston area this summer. • Andrew Umans is also stationed abroad—he’ll spend the summer working in Bangalore. Anyone passing through Bangaluru? • Alyia Al-Aufy and her husband have plans to relocate to Oman in the near future. She graduated this spring with her M.B.A. from Brandeis. • Jill Young started her first position as an associate attorney at Price, McCluer, & Piachetti in Winona, Minn., this May. • John Knoedler graduated from medical school at Penn State and has started his residency in urology at the Mayo Clinic. • Garrett Kephart is in Washington, D.C., drowning in stimulus dollars. • Karli Jaffe spent a quick weekend in Las Vegas and had the chance to see Melv Ladera. Their B-list celebrity sighting was former Hollywood Madam Heidi Fleiss! Karli still lives in Portland and was promoted to director of Jewish Family Services, a social services agency providing support to members of the community. She’s working towards a clinical social worker’s license. • Rob Wykoff reports that life in Park City is going well. He’s in his third year working at Backcountry.com and thoroughly enjoys his new role as an assistant buyer. After an epic winter—with snowfall totaling over 600 inches in Park City—and several powder days spent skiing with Colby folk, including Brett Lurman ’02, Lily Meyers, and Kenny Allgyer, the summers is shaping up to be a blast, with plans to catch up with Rob Morse, Alex Yarbrough, Nate Lindsay, Nick Falk ’05, and others on the West Coast in August. • To weddings and, hopefully, new, future White Mules! Michael Pincus ’02 and Danielle O’Stein got married last fall in West Park, N.Y. Colby folks in attendance included Pete Chapin, Lucy Baker, Jesse Newman, Caitlin Stuart ’04, Tracy Schloss, Aaron McLinsky, Evan Woolley, Patrick Swilling ’02, Mairead Carney ’02, Alexis Detwiler ’02, Michael/Bergan ’02, and Helena
Christopher A. Kelly is doing interviews with transgender folks for the dissertation project entitled “Borders That Matter: Trans Identity Management.” Reese was awarded the 2009 Allen E. Liska Dissertation Research Award as well as the 2009 Woodrow Wilson Women’s Studies Dissertation Fellowship. In the fall Reese will teach Sociology of Gender and Transgender Studies: Histories, Identities, and Politics at Middlebury College as a visiting instructor. 

Holly Brown lives in LA and works at Will Smith’s company, Overbrook Entertainment, as the film department coordinator. She had her first onscreen credit on Lakeview Terrace. She frequently sees Breilin Brantley, who works as an associate manger for Kritzer Levine Wilkins, which represents acting talent. "Shannon Hopkins is engaged and getting married in August in Denver. 

Emma McCandless and Karen Prager still live in south Texas and teach for IDEA Public Schools. In May Emma completed her master’s in library science from Rutgers, and in August Karen will begin a program in educational administration through Lamar University. "Eric Roy finished his Ph.D. in oceanography from University of Maine. He works for a startup sensor company and lives in Bangor, Maine. "Amina McIntyre wrote and produced a play, The Most Eligible Bachelor, which ran at Wabash College April 16-18. "Micah Siegel started his clinical rotations at Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch, N.J.

2005

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Julie Morrison and Sean Baron were recently engaged, as were Steve Markesich and Sarah Belden ’06. My neighbor in Brookline, Emily Goodyear, will hear wedding bells soon with fiancé Kevin Forgett. Scarlett Slinder was recently engaged to Andy Macilwaine, whom she met studying at Vermont Law. They plan a July 2010 wedding in Vermont. 

Shawn Sato recently completed medical school and began an intern year in Des Moines, Iowa, before he begins his radiology residency at the University of Iowa. His fiancé, Kate Durda, works at the university as a genetic counselor after finishing graduate school at Northwestern in 2008. They planning a June wedding in the Champlain Islands in Vermont. "Gabriel Reyes will marry Chhunry Chhinean, a Cal State Long Beach and UC Berkeley School of Law graduate, in Fort Worth, Texas, July 26. Tsing Wangdi, Joseph Okeyo, Pawel Brodlaka, and Archana Prasad ’07 plan to attend the couple’s traditional tea ceremony. Nicholas von Mertens, who returned to the U.S. after teaching for four years in Japan, England, and Tunisia, will...
ALUMNI AT LARGE

also be in attendance. Nicholas will be joining the U.S. Foreign Service. • Amy Campfield graduated from medical school in May and is moving west to start her surgery residency at the University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver. • Peyton McElyea is working for Houlihan Lokey in L.A. this summer doing restructurings and bankruptcies. • Carreau Mueller recently went to a wedding in Vail with Caitlin McCusker, where they met Alex Ridder and Adam Grassi ’03 for some skiing. Carreau ran the 113th Boston Marathon.

Virginia to teach.

also play live shows regularly in Brooklyn and Manhattan! • Catherine Pappas will attend NYU Stern in the fall in the full-time M.B.A. program. • Nora Gouge is still working toward her doctorate in clinical psychology in NYC and was recently engaged to Todd Moore, who proposed on her birthday at a restaurant in the East Village. They plan a January 2010 wedding. Todd is a third-year at Fordham law school and recently had an article published in the Fordham Law Review Journal.

Ilana Saxe is headed to Europe for two years to work at The American School in Lugano, Switzerland. • Megan Loosigian traveled to Panama in March to visit her sister. Megan teaches Spanish at the Governor’s Academy and is working on her master’s in Spanish. • Kevin Yardi is sad to announce that his place in Baltimore, known to many as “4515” or the annual headquarters for “D.C. Doghead,” is closing its doors. For the past few years, a number of Colby 2005ers have lived there including Rich Downing, Marc Kassin, Chris Van Wagenen, Jeremy Little, Steve Bogden, Pat Semmens, and Will van Der Veen. He assures us that there will be an upgrade!

• Katie Slemp and Greg Sawyer ’03 will be married this August in Connecticut. • Abigail Robson graduated from the Curry School of Education at U.Va. and plans to stay in Virginia to teach. • Josh Taylor is currently a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Fellow at the University of New Brunswick in a M.Ed. program, filming Wolaasq First Nations elders to build up an archive of language, knowledge, and narratives. He plans to motorcycle between Maine and New Brunswick this summer to share time with Kate Braemer ’07, who teaches at Cheywonk, in Wiscasset, Maine.

• Nick Miller will officially stay in Boston for the next three years with Mary Olsson and attend Boston College Law School.

• Christian Allen ventured to Australia for five weeks in January and then moved to L.A. for a new job with Macquarie Cook Energy. In early April he moved to Houston and now lives just a few short miles from Jay McMurray.

‘06 and Jeremy Little. • Anne Holt moved to Colorado last fall and since then has spent her time working at the Artists’ Gallery of Steamboat Springs and working at the Lowell Whiteman School teaching art classes and oil painting to students at the Steamboat Arts & Crafts Gym. • I enjoyed spending time with Kevin Yardi, Rich Downing, Melissa Hinkle, Jon Gilby, Jess Hardy, and Rory Kelly ’06 in D.C. recently. I continue to live and work in Boston. Enjoy the summer and take care.

2006

Jennifer Cellifores

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The Hamilton Tiger-Cats announced the signing of offensive lineman Dan Oliphant. The Hamilton Tiger-Cats are a Canadian Football League team based in Hamilton, Ontario.

• Alex Brougham graduated from the Northeastern University School of Law. He’ll spend the summer studying for and taking the bar exam and then will begin a one-year term as law clerk to Hon. Joel B. Rosenthal in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts.

• Anu Bhatnagar lives in London with Jeorose Tharakan ’08. Anu has worked at Morgan Stanley for a year now. She attended the Colby in London dinner in February and had an amazing night. She has recently met a lot of Colby people and has met up with Nina Korolyova, Kip Kiprop ’07, Pranay Sonalkar ’07, and Andra Ofouso ’07.

• Kendra King is moving to Cairns, Australia, to earn her SCUBA diver instructor certificate and to party it up Aussie style. Her brother, Logan ’09, is joining Kendra as well. Kendra asks that everyone come visit down under!

• Wedding bells are in the air for the Class of 2006! Sarah Belden is engaged to Steve Markesich ’05, whom she met her freshman year when they both lived in Grossman. John McKee and Lindsey Boyle are also engaged! He proposed while they were skiing in New Hampshire, and they are planning a wedding for the end of next summer. Colby Chapel anyone? • Jenn Corey lives in Portland, Maine, and manages a fine art’s supply store. She’s been accepted into a five-year Ph.D. program for English literature at Iowa University, Iowa City in the fall. Hurray! Jenn writes that her heart will always be in retail and maine distribution.

• Francis Chapuredima is now working at the Holderness School in Plymouth, N.H., where our very own Bro Adams attended. Francis teaches mathematics and can’t wait for winter to hit the slopes big time! • David Cheng has been accepted to law school in San Francisco and will be starting this fall. • Mike Fleming moved to South Boston and started a new position as a research associate for Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research. His dog, Guinness, just turned 21! • Garry Bertholf is a fourth-year Ph.D. student and William Fontaine Fellow of Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, where he received his A.M. in historical musicology. This past winter Bertholf held an appointment as an adjunct assistant professor in the department of history and politics at Drexel University, where he taught a course on the intellectual history of the African diaspora. In March Bertholf presented a paper on Gilles Deleuze’s philosophy of music at Penn’s Gilles Deleuze Symposium and has been selected as a Graduate Fellow for Penn’s Summer Institute for Africana Studies.

• Joey Berg is currently stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C. working as the weapons company executive officer for the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment. He got back from a seven-month deployment to Fallujah, Iraq, in October. Joey is in the middle of a pre-deployment work-up and will be deploying to Afghanistan in the fall.

• Brandon Smithwood will attend Tufts Fletcher School of International Affairs this fall. He is finishing his summer job, which many Colby alumni have applied for. • More marathon news! This April Kelsey Neville, Nikki Stadelman, Katie Roberts, Amy Cronin, and Liz Turner all ran the Boston Marathon! Nice work, ladies! • Thank you for your news and keep it coming!

2007

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Mindy Favreau got engaged to William Woerter (WPI ’03) April 9! They haven’t set a date but her sister, Lacey Favreau ’08, will be her maid of honor. Mindy made sure to call former roommates Allison Cogbill and Brianna Tufts with the news, as well as fellow Colby-in-Dijonner Leslie Peterson. • Riley Doyle lives in San Francisco and works as a bioengineer for Genentech. • Tara Bergin wrapped up her first year of veterinary school at the University of Edinburgh and will work with large animals on various farms around the U.K. this summer. In August she’ll visit Japanese vet schools before beginning clinical veterinary medicine. Keep up with her (mis)adventures on her blog: http://vetscapes.blogspot.com. • Ali Fulrude is headed to Baltimore this August to commence four years at the University of Maryland Dental School. Ali looks forward to having tons of Colby reunion weekends this summer. • Alissa Perry will be attending Yale University’s School of Nursing pursuing her pediatric nurse practitioner degree.

Erik Schloossman will attend Tufts School of Medicine Maine Track in the fall. • Katie Maland, Julia Hutchinson, Karli Gasteazoro, and Tammy Lewin visited Natalie Ginsburg in Clarksdale, Miss., for the 18th annual Juke Joint Blues Festival. After visiting Ms. Ginsburg’s third-grade classroom, they enjoyed Kool-aid pickles, blue broads, fried green tomatoes, yoga in the park, and ran a 5K, in which Tammy placed first for women!

• Allison Cogbill is leaving New York City to attend the University of Wisconsin Law School in Madison. • After spending a year in Beijing, Canaan Morse now lives in Boston and is applying for a Cultural Research Fellowship from the Chinese government to obtain paid

OOS NEWSMAKERS

An attorney at the firm of Wiggin & Nourie P.A., Luke Webster ’03 joined the board of directors for Amoskeag Business Incubator in Manchester, N.H. He graduated from the Franklin Pierce Law Center in 2008 and is a member of the business law and real estate, land use and development practice groups. Webster was formerly a national field consultant for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee in Washington, D.C. • Rhode Island Sea Grant named Nicholas Battista ’04 one of two winners of a one-year, $43,500, National Sea Grant College Program Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship. The fellowship matches distinguished graduate students interested in ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources with hosts in the legislative or executive branches of the federal government. Battista is working in the Washington, D.C., office of Rep. Chellie Pingree of Maine on marine and coastal issues.


Births: Benjamin J. Chandler ’02 to Melissa Rocco in Woodbury, Mass. • Corey W. Gittleman ’05 to Alicia L. Munson in East Northport, N.Y.

Nicholas Battista ’04
return and study opportunities in Beijing. Look for Canaan’s translation of He Qifang’s essay Elegy in the summer 2010 edition of *The Kenyon Review*. **Martin Ma** finished his first year of medical school at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in NYC. He enjoyed his spring break trip to the Dominican Republic with 18 of his med school classmates. **Jackie Page** lives in Barcelona and volunteers for an NGO that works with refugees (Comissió Catalana d’Ajuda al Refugiat). **Patrick Benton** lives in Washington, D.C., with Tom Levings ‘01 while working for Ralph Nader and reports, “It’s awesome and I feel awesome for doing it.” Patrick, Ned Brockmeyer, Emily Barrett, Aaron O’Cerst, Eric Brockmeyer ‘06J, Drew Bush ‘02J, and Doug Calhoun ‘04 work for **Cornellius J. Katt** on Chairman Meow’s Anarchist Outpost: www. anarchistoutpost.com. **Ian London** will be joined by Mark Phillips ‘09 at Denver Law this fall. Ian continues skateboarding, hiking, and generally enjoying life with James Cryan, Josh Montague ‘06, Liz Coogan, and Alexis Heimann. Alexis lives in Boulder, Colo., and will attend the University of Denver’s Psy.D. program for clinical psychology this fall. **Caroline Deuschle** lives in Brooklyn and works as an assistant editor at Princeton Architectural Press. **Allison Dunn** moved to LA and recently finished writing a screenplay about a computer who falls in love with its owner. She’s currently looking for an agent. **Ashley Hunt** finished her second year teaching pre-K with TFA in Navajo, N.M., and headed to NYC to attend Columbia’s Mailman School of Public Health, where she will be focusing on forced migration in the population and family health department. **Tammy Lewin**, **Ellen Newcomb**, and Taylor Snook ’06 have been enjoying D.C., the festivities surrounding President Obama’s inauguration, and the cherry blossoms. Taylor currently is in Nepal volunteering at an orphanage. They regularly see **John McCormack**, **CJ Donnelly**, **Jordan Henry**, and many other Colby alums. **Josh Handelman** worked on Al Franken’s Senate recount in Minnesota, where he ran into **Kari Gastaezaro** at a Roller Derby bout. Josh now works with Congressman Paul Hodes’ campaign for U.S. Senate in New Hampshire. In addition to tuning their Guitar Hero skills, John DeBrucker and Josh Gerber are training for the 11th annual Central Park Race, where they’ll “bomb down Broadway—on skateboards that is!” **Ian Cross** ran a marathon through Death Valley Feb. 7, 2009, as a fundraiser for Little Field Home Orphanage. This summer Ian will return to the orphanage and continue to hike the Appalachian Trail. Last but certainly not least, **Jon Bandi** is spreading joy, love, and the celebration of life in Belmont, Mass. Keep the updates coming!

**2008**

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I hope you’re all having a wonderful summer. It’s hard to believe that more than a year has passed since our graduation. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our reunion in June—I hope you all had as much fun as I did! **Meaghan Fitzgerald** will extend her stay in the U.K. after fighting with the home office for more than three months to receive a proper visa. Now she won’t be forcibly kicked out of England until 2014! Meaghan works for www.spoonfed.co.uk doing marketing, PR, and community management. She hopes that her Colby friends will visit her in London this fall. **Julie Bero** was in D.C. for the election season working on ballot initiative strategy, where she frequently met up with Julia Stuebing, Eric Hansen, Luke LaViolet, and Katherine Koleski. Julie also caught up with Sarah Schleich ’06 and Josh Handelman ’07. Julie now lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., and works as a political organization called Progressive States Network, which works with state legislators to pass progressive policies nationwide. She’s also involved in NYC Planned Parenthood as a clinic volunteer.

Julie has enjoyed showing Kiira Heymann and Liz Bower, who moved to the city this winter, around Brooklyn, as well as spending lots of time with her boyfriend, Rishi Chattrath. Julie was thrilled when she ran into Jeronimo Maradiaga ’09J on the street near her job—they were able to catch up over pizza. Julie loves being back in the city and would welcome the opportunity to show any visitors around!

**Laura Perille** lives in Philadelphia with Sarah E. Clark and works with Mady Ragan at the consulting firm Clear Admit. Laura is excited to be attending Brown in the fall for her Ph.D. in history. **Christina Feng** enjoys teaching ninth and 11th grade social studies in New York City. In July **Danielle Nielsen** is moving to La Serena, Chile, to work at the Cero Tololo Inter-American Observatory on a Spitzer Space Telescope warm mission. She will be attending a conference in Rio de Janeiro to present some of her research. She is looking forward to visiting Abby Hall, who lives and teaches English in Santiago.

In March **Rebekah Fasel** graciously hosted Emily Butler, Tim Miller, and David Sternesky in Atlanta, Ga. The weekend was spent celebrating St. Patrick’s Day in true Colby style, and a wonderful time was had by all. Thanks for the updates and enjoy the rest of summer!

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**OBITUARIES**

**Marjorie Hooper Lawler** ‘32, May 11, 2009, in Amesbury, Mass., at 98. She was an elementary school teacher in Attleboro, Mass. for 25 years, an organist for the Waterville’s Women’s Club, and as clerk of courts. She belonged, at a nursery school, to the Waterville’s Women’s Club, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Mayflower Society. Predeceased by her brother Webster C. Blanchard ’38, she is survived by her daughters, Margaret and Faith. **Christo T. Nasse** ’32, April 5, 2009, in Ormond Beach, Fla., at 102. He worked as a foreman with American Optical Company for 20 years, after which he earned his master’s in education from Worcester State College in 1961. He taught high school in Massachusetts until 1976. He played shuffleboard and bowled. Predeceased by his brother, John T. Nasse ’29, M.D., he is survived by his children, Francis and Sharon, one granddaughter, and one great-granddaughter.

**Lucille Blanchard French McMullen** ’32, March 6, 2009, in Waterville, Maine, at 97. She lived in Waterville her entire life, working for the *Morning Sentinel*, at a nursery school, and as clerk of courts. She belonged to the Waterville's Women’s Club, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Mayflower Society. Predeceased by her brother Webster C. Blanchard ’38, she is survived by her daughters, Margaret and Faith. **George T. Pugsley** ’34, March 28, 2009, in Peabody, Mass., at 97. He served with the Navy during World War II, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1972. He held management positions at A.C. Lawrence Leather, was a member of the Danvers Historical Society, and belonged to the Congregational church. Predeceased by his father, John B. Pugsley 1905, he is survived by daughters Gerri Hill and Marcia Pugsley, two grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

**Frederick A. Schreiber** ’34, Jan. 10, 2009, in Beverly Hills, Calif., at 95. He worked for the Federation of Jewish Welfare Organizations and then enlisted with the Army during World War II. He was a government employee and was named the 1970 Outstanding Defense Supply Agency Employee. He was a Colby overseer from 1980 to 1989, played golf, and was interested in East Asian studies. He and his wife, Eve, raised two children.

**Arthur W. Stetson Jr.** ’34, Nov. 8, 2008, in Mechanicsburg, Pa., at 97. He earned an L.L.B. in 1937 and a J.D. in 1987, both from Boston University. He served with the Army in World War II, practiced law, and then worked as a consultant with the Veteran’s Administration. Predeceased by his father, Arthur W. Stetson II 1907, he is survived by two children, Arthur W. Stetson II and Nancy Starling, seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

**Howard C. Pratham** ’36, April 30, 2009, in Orono, Maine, at 94. He earned his M.D. from Tufts in 1940 and then served as a physician in World War II, where he earned a Purple Heart. He practiced medicine in Maine and then in the Panama Canal Zone for 26 years. In retirement he fished, hunted, and made canoe paddles, pack baskets, and seven cedar canoes. Survivors include his first wife, Dorothy Van Arsdale, seven children, 10 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.
Margaret Libbey Darlow ’37, April 17, 2009, in Westbrook, Mass., at 91. A homemaker and mother, she loved to read, feed the birds, and travel. Predeceased by her grandfather, William Libbey 1871, she is survived by four children, Ruth Hrenko, Richard Darlow, Peter Darlow, and Paul Darlow, eight grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and cousins, including Martha S. Fleming ’73.

Robert H. Neumer ’38, April 25, 2009, in St. Louis Park, Minn., at 91. He served with the 10th Mountain Division ski troops during World War II. He was a founding partner of Dundee Landscaping Company, where he worked into his 80s. Survivors include his daughter, Joann Armstrong, and a grandson.

Brewster A. Branz ’40, April 5, 2009, in Portland, Maine, at 90. He served with the Army during World War II. He was president of Guardian Finance Corporation and was a director and president of the Credit Bureau of Greater Portland. He served the Jewish community, taught ESL, and volunteered with the visually disabled. He traveled, learned languages, and played golf, tennis, and bridge. Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Muriel, three sons, and seven grandchildren, including Naomi Branz ’07.

Ruth Levenslor Crowley ’40, March 22, 2009, in Farmingdale, Maine, at 91. In 1990 she received an honorary A.B. from Colby as she had left after two years to attend Boston University School of Law. She practiced law from 1941 to 1966, when she was appointed Maine’s first woman assistant attorney general, a post she held until 1978. She was a past worthy grand matron of the Maine Order of Eastern Star. She traveled extensively and volunteered in hospices in Maine and Florida. Survivors include her son, William, a granddaughter, and two great-granddaughters.

Roger M. Stebbins ’40, May 22, 2009, in Sequim, Wash., at 91. He served as captain in the Army during World War II and then worked as a buyer for Sears, Roebuck and Co. for 33 years. He was active with civic boards, Kiwanis, and the Episcopal church. He golfed, painted with oils, grew roses, and traveled extensively. He was predeceased by his sister, Ruth Stebbins Cadwell ’41, and brother, Seabury T. Stebbins ’48. Survivors include his wife of 68 years, Ruth Gould Stebbins ’40, a son, three grandchildren, and sisters-in-law Marjorie Murphy Shuman ’37 and Dorothy Gould Rhoades ’36.

Barbara Partridge Dyer ’41, March 15, 2009, in Yarmouth, Maine, at 89. She was a secretary and bookkeeper until 1954, when she devoted herself to her family and home. She played bridge, read, and enjoyed needlepoint. Survivors include her husband of 56 years, Vernelle W. “Cappy” Dyer Jr. ’40, three children, Dee Lynne, Bruce ’77, and Donna, and five grandchildren.

Claire Tilley Henderson ’41, March 24, 2009, in Beverly Hills, Fla., at 89. While raising her children and keeping her home, she was a substitute teacher in New Jersey and Connecticut. She was proficient in quilting, making braided rugs, knitting, and crocheting. Survivors include her daughters, Anne and Mary Claire, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Helen Henry Merritt ’42, May 12, 2009, in DeKalb, Ill., at 88. She earned a master’s in art, a master’s in fine arts, and was a scholar of Japanese prints. She taught school at all levels and received the 1990 Distinguished Teaching Award at Northern Illinois University. She preserved historic houses, donated 40 acres of original prairie to DeKalb County, and endowed an art scholarship and lecture series at NIU. Survivors include her husband, Jim, a daughter, two grandchildren, and a brother.

Jean C. Lesaar ’43, March 15, 2009, in Winter Springs, Fla., at 87. He was a counterintelligence officer for the Army during World War II. He worked for an advertising agency, but his passion was stamp collecting. He owned three retail stamp stores in Chicago and he volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and Audubon Birds of Prey sorting and selling donated stamps. Survivors include his wife, Susan, three sons, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Elias R. Nawfel ’44, March 31, 2009, in Waterville, Maine, at 86. He earned a D.M.D. from Tufts Dental School in 1946 and then served in the Army Dental Corps. He practiced dentistry in the Waterville area for 60 years, retiring in 2008. He enjoyed the violin, sports, and reading. Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Jamila, his children, Rose-Marie Nawfel Stamboulides ’80, Richard D. Nawfel ’82, and Elias J. Nawfel ’84, five sisters, and three grandchildren.

Lottie Wanagel Roy ’44, March 29, 2009, in Manchester, Conn., at 86. She received her master’s from the University of Connecticut and then taught school in Connecticut for more than 30 years. Survivors include her husband, George, two daughters, two granddaughters, and a brother.

Elizabeth Lohnes Grudin ’45, April 9, 2009, in State College, Pa., at 87. She earned a master’s in early childhood education at Columbia University and then taught kindergarten in Granville, Ohio, where she also coached the high school chess club. She was active in the Democratic party, worked to preserve the environment, and served 20 years on a local board to end poverty. Survivors include her sons, Jonathan and Thaddeus, four grandchildren, and a brother.

Elizabeth Richmond Anthony ’47, Jan. 12, 2009, in Houston, Texas, at 83. She taught English in Maine, Massachusetts, and Texas and at the American Academy for Girls in Uskudar, Turkey. She was active in her hospital auxiliary, her church, and the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Survivors include her daughters, Judith Anthony and Susan Munson, a brother, and two grandsons.

Beverly Bailey Beaulieu ’48, April 23, 2008, in Lewiston, Maine, at 82. She was a bookkeeper and a secretary in Livermore Falls, Maine. She quilted, painted with watercolors, and belonged to the Livermore Falls Historical Society. Predeceased by her father, Carleton M. Bailey ’18, she is survived by her children, Brian, Jay, Roberta Simoneau, and Nancy Dalessandro, 12 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and cousins including Philip Bailey ’51.

Gordon T. Miller ’48, March 9, 2009, in Briarwood, Mass., at 86. He served with the Army’s Medical Services Corps during World War II, earned an M.B.A. from Harvard, and worked in business for more than 30 years. He served on numerous professional and community boards and was president of Colby’s Worcester (Mass.) Alumni Association. He attended Elderhostels, was active in his church for more than 70 years, and attained life membership at the Worcester Country Club. Survivors include three children, Donna Baratti, Elfreda Skidmore, and William Miller, a brother, and four grandchildren.

Gilbert Y. Taverner ’48, April 22, 2009, in Concord, Mass., at 88. He received a master of divinity degree from Boston University and an honorary doctor of divinity from Simpson College. He was an ordained Methodist minister, and from 1948 to 1982 he served churches in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. He delivered sermons without notes and rewrote familiar hymns using contemporary words. From 1982 to 2002 he served St. George’s School as assistant chaplain, professor, and historian. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Elizabeth, a stepdaughter, two grandsons, and twin great-granddaughters.

William G. Hurley ’49, Oct. 19, 2008, in Spring, Texas, at 84. He served with the Air Force and then worked as a regional supervisor for Shell Oil Company.

Dorothy Goodridge Donovan ’50, Jan. 14, 2009, in Vienna, Va., at 79. She worked for GTE (now Verizon) and was a homemaker. Survivors include a cousin, a sister-in-law, and two nephews.

Margaret Brown Christie ’52, March 18, 2009, in Hartford, Conn., at 78. She worked as a technician in the Ecuadorian National Museum. She was active in organizations including the Ecuadorian National Museum, the Ecuadorian National Foundation, and the Ecuadorian National Society. Survivors include her mother, Margaret M. Christie, 91, of 56 years, Elizabeth, a stepdaughter, two grandsons, and twin great-granddaughters.
hospital labs before opting to be a stay-at-home mom. Later in life she worked for Shaklee Corporation out of her home. She was involved with the League of Women Voters and the Sierra Club and enjoyed travel. Survivors include her husband, Douglas, her children, Anne Christie, Jean Christie Mejia ’83, and James Christie, a grandson, and a sister.

Jeanne Strickland Larcher ’53, May 1, 2009, in Perdido, Fla., at 77. She earned two bachelor’s degrees, in nursing and in psychology, and two master’s degrees, in nursing and in counseling. Her 50-year nursing career included teaching, mental health counseling, and surgical nursing. She was a voracious reader and enjoyed sailing, fishing, and cooking. Survivors include her partner, Richard Hanks, five children, and two grandchildren.

Richard H. Berns ’54, March 17, 2009, in Hilton Head, S.C., at 76. He served in the Air Force during the Korean War and then returned to Colby to finish his degree in 1956. He held various positions in sales and marketing, most recently with the Marriott Corporation. Survivors include his wife, Joan, three sons, six grandchildren, and two brothers.

Joel Farbish ’54, Dec. 18, 2008, in Worthington, Ohio, at 75. He served in the U.S. Army and then earned an M.B.A. from New York University in 1958. He was a controller in the Food Division of Borden Food Corp. for 30 years. Survivors include his wife, Phyllis, two daughters, and six grandchildren.

Constance Rhodenizer Knight ’54, Dec. 30, 2008, in Laconia, N.H., at 76. A mother and homemaker, she was a reader, gardener, and Red Sox fan. Predeceased by her sister Jean Rhodenizer Fontaine ’46 and her brother Harold Rhodenizer ’42, she is survived by her husband, Alexis, six children, a sister, a brother, and six grandchildren.

Donald E. Miller ’55, April 11, 2009, in Pompano Beach, Fla., at 76. He was an executive for Merriam-Webster, Inc., and he loved animals. Survivors include his sister-in-law, Edna Miller, two nephews, and his beagle, Lulu.

Robert R. Russo ’57, April 9, 2009, in Pensacola, Fla., at 74. He worked as a manager for Warner Cable (now Cox Communications) and was active with the Methodist church. Survivors include his wife, Edie, six children, 15 grandchildren, and two sisters.

John W. Parkes ’64, March 29, 2009, in Clifton Park, N.Y., at 86. He served in the military from 1941 to 1966 and earned a World War II Victory Medal and a Bronze Star for service in Vietnam. He earned his Colby degree while stationed as part of the ROTC staff from 1960 to 1965. His second career was as a budget analyst for the New York Department of Labor. Survivors include his wife, Pauline, a daughter, two grandchildren, and a sister.

Ann Drinker Retherford ’66, May 21, 2009, in Mystic, Conn., at 65. She earned a master’s in education from Lesley College and was an elementary schoolteacher. Survivors include her husband, Earl, two children, six grandchildren, her mother, and a brother.

Jonathan B. Welch ’68, March 16, 2009, in Boston, Mass., at 66. He earned a master’s from the University of New Hampshire and a doctorate from the University of Connecticut. He taught for 32 years at Northeastern University, where he chaired the finance department and was associate dean of the graduate school of business. He was a consultant for utility, financial services, and technology companies and taught in France, Ecuador, Ireland, and Spain. He sailed the New England coast and was active in his church. Survivors include his wife, SueEllen, three daughters, and three grandchildren.

Peter G. Gilfoyl ’70, April 3, 2009, in Sherborn, Mass., at 61. He was the third generation to run the family business, Gilfoyl Distributing Company. He played tennis, golfed, and summered on Nantucket. He was predeceased by his father and mother, Donald A. ’40 and Helen Brown Gilfoyl ’40. Survivors include his wife, Margaret Wiehl Gilfoyl ’71, two sons, and two sisters.

Christine Schopp Kennedy ’73, March 21, 2009, in Naples, Fla., at 57. She worked in publishing doing translations and later worked as a design assistant. Survivors include her husband, David.

Meredith Jewly Libby ’73, March 30, 2009, in Buxton, Maine, at 59. She taught elementary school in Maine, enjoyed nature, and logged wood in the forests of southern Maine. Survivors include her husband, Eugene, a son, her parents, and a brother.

Susan Reilly Szum ’78, May 30, 2009, in East Walpole, Mass., at 52. She worked as an audit manager for PricewaterhouseCoopers and was active in her church. Survivors include her husband, John, three children, her parents, a sister, Kathryn Reilly Bolduc ’81, two brothers, and cousins Karen Reilly Quirk ’88 and Matthew Quinlan ’10.

Michael F. Romano ’81, March 18, 2009, in West Hartford, Conn., at 49. He was an insurance executive for 10 years and founded the Center School for Martial Arts. An accomplished athlete, he was also an avid supporter of his children’s sports teams. He died of cancer. Survivors include his mother, Ann, his wife, Leslie, four children, and a sister.

Arthur C. Nagle ’87, April 16, 2009, in Los Angeles, Calif., at 44. He earned a master’s in education administration and then taught English, coached basketball, and was an administrator in private schools in five states. He ran the Long Beach Marathon in 2005 and completed the Los Angeles Triathlon in 2008. He died of cancer. He was predeceased by his great-grandmother, Molly Pearce Putnam 1908, his grandmother, Cordelia Putnam Inman ’33, and cousin Hannah Putnam Burbank ’41. Survivors include his parents, Robert and Molly, his wife, three children, a brother, and two sisters.

Robert J. Garland ’89, April 25, 2009, in Los Angeles, Calif., at 42. He earned an M.B.A. from Monterey Institute of International Studies and then worked at ING Advisors Network and at Capital Group, Inc. He had a passion for experiencing other cultures, coached youth sports, and savored time with his family. He died of cancer. Survivors include his wife, Hillary, three children, his parents, his grandparents, a brother, and a sister.

Jon A. Robinson ’89, Feb. 24, 2009, in Urbana, Ill., at 41. He was a building services foreman at the University of Illinois who golfed, read, and traveled. He was an avid Red Sox and New England Patriots fan. He died of cancer. Survivors include his wife, Julie, his parents, a son, and a brother.

W. Corbett Bishop ’93, May 1, 2009, in Arusha, Tanzania, at 38. A climbing guide, first in the Pacific Northwest, he guided in Tanzania and climbed Mount Kilimanjaro more than 100 times. In 1996 he started Corbett Bishop Safaris, which he ran until his death of an apparent heart attack. Fluent in Swahili, he founded Ol Tukai Conservancy in Tanzania, wrote articles and lectured about conservation, and produced programs for the Discovery Channel. He was a musician, birder, and a truth seeker who respected the land. More at www.corbettbishop.net. Survivors include his children, Luca and Ella, his parents, his stepfather, the mother of his children, and his grandparents.

Shareen Abbasy ’05, March 17, 2009, in New York, N.Y., at 26. She worked as a paralegal and most recently at the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Described as a strong and courageous spirit, she died of cancer. Survivors include her mother, Diana Abbasy, her brother, and her maternal grandparents.
Learning to Live With Bipolar Disorder, Minus the Stigma

Colby alumni are interesting in any number of ways, but unless you know the spies and informants among us, I may be one of the more interesting. I went traying on chapel hill as a freshman, and I went streaking through the quad as a senior—not once, but twice. Serving as the treasurer of the very first (1974-75) and still existing Student Government Association, I also was the business manager of both the *Echo* and *Oracle* and keeper of the exchequer for my fraternity (Pi Lamda Phi). Somewhere amidst all the fun, I also found time to study. In fact, I graduated from Colby armed with a Baker Fellowship that allowed me to go to the M.B.A. program of my choice. And that isn’t even the most interesting part.

You see, I chose Columbia University, enrolled, but never got to finish. Unlike many Colby students who prepared hard and went on to pursue their dreams, I became bipolar.

Bipolar disease is a mental illness characterized by severe mood swings, from mania to debilitating depression. Even though my course in life forever changed, I’ve never stopped searching for a way to make a difference in the world and to use the gifts Colby gave to me. It hasn’t been easy—in fact, at times it’s been very difficult—but I believe my mission in life is to try to eliminate the stigma of mental illness.

Some may say I have done nothing exceptional, but I know that coping with and surmounting mental illness is an accomplishment in itself. It took me quite a long time to realize this. I had to learn that my accomplishments at Colby weren’t wasted just because they didn’t lead me to fame and riches. Social Security retired my number when I was 34, and I have held part-time jobs for the past 22 years. Does that mean I’m a failure? Does that mean my parents wasted the $11,500 tuition ($15,985 comprehensive fee, 1971-75) they spent on a liberal arts education? Not at all. But I must say that there have been times when I’ve thought just that.

My plan was to work for a couple of years before pursuing my M.B.A. My first job at an insurance company was a train wreck, and the company placed me in the hospital. I worked for two years as a maintenance man at my old high school, then left that job on a Friday and started my M.B.A. at Columbia the following Monday. I didn’t do too well at Columbia, either, and another hospitalization followed. Then I convinced a couple of sales forces to hire me. Like any bipolar person, I always rose like a star—and fell like a meteor. By the time I was 36, my batting average wasn’t too high.

Years later, the fellowship was still good, so I interviewed at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in 1988. They accepted me on the strength of my Colby grades and the prestige of the Baker Fellowship. Alas, Penn didn’t go so well either. I withdrew before they too could put me in the hospital. But those first 15 years or so of my life after college were fun compared to the next 15.

By the early nineties, all the professional jobs were over. I was so ashamed of being mentally ill, ashamed of being such a star and failing so miserably. I was sick of listening to the dot-com beamers asking me, “What do you do?” But I never gave up. During the late eighties and early nineties, I worked jobs that were better suited to my abilities and disabilities: apple picker, tractor driver, hardware store clerk, Christmas tree yard worker, carpenter, companion, newspaper delivery man, AIDS fundraiser, flower-truck driver, late-night office cleaner, and gym attendant.

And over time, I’ve learned that that’s okay.

Today I have been married for 29 years and my wife still loves me. How many people can say that? My son is a dentist and happy at his profession. I couldn’t be more proud of him. I have become a stock day trader—and a very successful one at that (thanks to Colby administrative science professors Yvonne Knight and Walter Zukowski). Colby’s liberal arts curriculum helped me learn to absorb and deflect life’s blows. And today there are a lot of punches going around.

A Colby education is relevant to its graduates in different ways. Some Colby alumni are destined to become chief executives while some are genetically prone, unfortunately, to struggle in life. I believe it’s in life’s struggles that we each become stronger. I think it was in one of Professor Gustave Todrank’s religion classes that I read something by Booker T. Washington. He said, “Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.”

If Booker T. was right—and I think he was—then I’ve done all right. And I hope my experiences, even this essay, can help others who are dealing with mental illness. I still want to make the world a better place for all who live on the other side of a great chasm. After all, it was Colby that taught me to lead by example.
initiative
(i-nish-ee-uh-tiv) n.
an introductory act or step; leading action; one’s personal, responsible decision; enterprise and determination.

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The Boatbuilders  Jock Williams ’62 and Steve White ’77 are Maine-coast boatbuilders with national and international reputations for producing high-end yachts with timeless lines. Page 14.