THE ELEMENTS
For this issue of *Keene State Today*, we thought we’d get down to essentials: the classical four elements of Western culture – air, earth, fire, and water. We’ve rounded up stories about Keene State alumni, students, and faculty that relate to each element. In these pages, you’ll meet a recent graduate who paints en plein air, a professor who experienced the earthquake in Nepal, an alumnus whose burger recipes will have you firing up the grill, a group of students who spent their spring break volunteering with a nonprofit that makes water filters in the Dominican Republic, and more.

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*A column from President Anne E. Huot*

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*Courtesy photo*

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Associate Professor Lynn Richardson at work in the welding studio. See related story on page 15. 
*Photo by William Wrobel ’11*

**Online Only**
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"I’m all in, an Owl for life." You’ve heard me say this on more than one occasion. And in the last few weeks, we have welcomed a new class of first year students eager to demonstrate their commitment to their educational experience. Now, as the semester progresses, it is gratifying to see the entire campus community settle in to the work before us with enthusiasm and determination. Getting to this point has required the efforts of every member of the Keene State community and has involved careful planning and preparation. To make an analogy to the focus of this magazine, there are many elements that have brought us to this point.

In the midst of the intense work and challenges we faced during the past year, it has been difficult to look up occasionally and take note of the progress we’ve made. Despite the significant challenges, we have arrived, as a community, in an enviable place, one of significant accomplishments focused on a commitment to the stewardship of a Keene State College education.

For our efforts we have achieved three notable accomplishments. The first is a renewal of our commitment to the work of the College and to the context in which that takes place – specifically, the renewal of our commitment to our students through academic excellence and affordable education, in an environment dedicated to their welfare and success, and by an institution that has learned to sustain and renew itself. Second, a greater understanding and appreciation for the concept of community and the value that brings to each of us. Whether we share a residence hall, a classroom, or our Main Street address with the City of Keene, our commitment to community includes a deep involvement with the understanding that the most enduring success is built on mutual respect and success. And third, this renewal and commitment brings with it great optimism that will carry us forward over the coming year.

We will implement the first phase of the 2015–2020 strategic plan, a plan that places a laser focus on the experience of our students and their academic and personal development. We will celebrate together another successful year in the Little East Athletic Conference. And we will continue to build on our history, our strengths, and our assets as we move purposefully in the pursuit of excellence in all we do, resiliency, and importantly, a steadfast commitment to what truly defines Keene State College. We are a deeply engaged, predominantly residential, competitive public liberal arts college that serves the 21st century learner with a rich blend of deep learning in the liberal arts tradition and the opportunity to pursue relevant degree programs in the humanities, sciences, social sciences, the arts, and an array of professional degree programs.

As the Keene Sentinel pointed out in an editorial on the opening of the 2015–2016 academic year and seeing our students involved in community service in their first days on campus, "Already, there is much to cheer." And there is much to anticipate as this year unfolds.
A native of coastal Rye, New Hampshire, Meghan Bergeron ’15 first picked up a paintbrush as a kid to decorate rocks that she and her grandmother found in the ocean. She got into plein air painting – setting up an easel outdoors and conveying the landscape – during a class in high school.

“When you’re painting outside,” she says, “you really have to adapt to what you’re seeing very fast to capture the light, and just constantly try to create the color that you’re seeing. You are trying to capture a movement very quickly. Plein air was the most interactive painting that I have done, and it stuck with me. The experiences of the color and the light resonated.”

A double major in studio art and graphic design, Bergeron didn’t have time to take to the outdoors when it came to putting together her entry in the senior studio art exhibit, but she incorporated the idea of expressing changing color and light through some of the most evocative scenes from the seacoast – sunsets. The result: Time Lapse, a progressive series of 10 oil paintings that illustrate the sky at various stages of sundown.

Viewers of the richly textured oil paintings will note, though, that they aren’t exactly conventional landscapes. The graphic designer in her got her thinking about the sunset in a new way, and so she tipped the paintings on their sides so the horizon is oriented vertically rather than horizontally. “I wanted to do something that wasn’t just a mundane series of sunsets over the ocean,” she says, so she played with the images on her computer. An animation class inspired her to think about playing with time as well, so she made some of the paintings wider than others. “It slows down and speeds up the viewer’s experiences,” she notes, “and adds the element of action that was happening – so some moments that you look at are kind of brief and some moments are extended.”

She turned a group of vertically oriented canvasses into a horizontal landscape by lining them up side by side. The idea is to recreate, in a new way, the experience of witnessing a sunset. “In this piece,” she says, “I think of myself as slowing down the time and the experience of it. If you were watching it in real life, it would go by and you wouldn’t absorb as much. The fact that it is vertical also delays the viewer’s reaction. It questions what you are perceiving.”

But also, she says, the series is a dense study of color. “That was the immediate spark and connection I had with the paintings.”

Since its appearance in the College’s annual show for graduating studio arts students, Time Lapse has been exhibited at the Portsmouth (New Hampshire) Music and Arts Center. And Bergeron, after picking up her diploma in May, is looking for a job in the graphic design field. She’s hoping to pursue work that includes interactive media and motion graphics. As a break from that computer-oriented work, she can always pick up a paintbrush and turn to the natural world, as she did with Time Lapse.

“A sunset,” she says, “is just awe-inspiring beauty. It’s a temporary glimpse in time I try to capture before it fades away.”

Link to Meghan Bergeron’s website at keene.edu/mag.
During Reunion Weekend in June, John Smith ’50, now in his early 90s, mentioned that he is still substitute teaching at a high school near his home in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. He explained that, though some teachers seem to have trouble motivating their students, he usually can come up with some idea to get them involved. For example, he got them interested in geometry by declaring: “The Pythagorean Theorem saved my life!” Wow! That’s quite a claim. But Smith came to Keene State (then Keene Teachers College) in 1946, right after his service as an agent in military intelligence during World War II. His military training had included learning to fly a plane – a skill that the trainees had all of three days to master. He was also taught to hot-wire all types of German aircraft. Then he was placed behind enemy lines to gather intelligence.

On one particularly challenging day, German soldiers were hot on his tail when he happened upon one of their airfields. “There were about six planes there. So I had to figure out which plane would be the fastest, what would be the shortest distance before that plane would get into the air, and how close it was to where I was hiding,” he recalls. “So I used Pythagoras’s A² + B² = C² formula to figure the distances. I picked the plane that I thought I could get into the air the fastest. I hot-wired it and made my escape.”

Whew! That was a close call. Smith was finally safe above the German danger, you might think. But he’d traded one peril for another. “The most dangerous part of the whole escape was flying over the White Cliffs of Dover,” he says. “That’s when I was most likely to get shot down, when the coastal defenses saw that German plane coming in. You have no idea how fast I landed in the first English field I saw. About five farmers came charging up with pitchforks to catch the enemy pilot.”

Smith escaped two dangerous situations that day, and returned safely from the war to enroll at Keene Teachers College. And his students? More than half a century later, they learned the Pythagorean Theorem.

“That was the whole idea,” he says, “to tell them an interesting story to make a point.”

– Mark Reynolds

Photos: John Smith ’50 enjoying reunion events.
“There have been so many wonderful, incredible things that I’ve gotten to do and see over the years. If someone even so much as said 20 years ago, ‘Here’s what you’ll be doing,’ I would never have believed it,” says Susan Bernatas ’82.

What Bernatas does is conduct wildlife surveys for population estimates and also assess relative abundance and distribution of animals across the landscape. This type of work is used to help government agencies, private corporations, and landowners; Bernatas does it in a way that could be called “new and improved.”

Historically, wildlife surveys have been done via helicopter or fixed-wing airplane, often from less than 200 feet in the air, and typically in winter because visibility is better and brown animals show up well against the snow. But winters aren’t always snowy and flying conditions can vary in all seasons.

Bernatas herself, back in the late 1990s, was invited to help assist a company that was conducting a survey of endangered bighorn sheep in southwestern Idaho. The helicopter frightened the sheep, which ran in all directions, meaning that not only were the animals subject to additional stress and energy use, but also the count may have been inaccurate. She realized there had to be a better way.

She proposed developing and testing methods for the use of forward-looking infrared (FLIR) to help with population surveys. The US Air Force supported the project, funding three years of research conducted by a team of biologists and statisticians from the Idaho wildlife management agency, along with a firm specializing in coastal patrols using FLIR to find missing people in the ocean. Bernatas did all of this in the hopes that infrared technology – which detects heat – might provide a better way to count animals in the wild.

It turned out that it does. Bernatas started Vision Air Research, the first company to specialize in using FLIR to conduct wildlife population surveys. She goes up with a pilot in a Cessna 206 that flies above a thousand feet; she operates a FLIR that’s attached to a wing of the plane and records the movement of wildlife below. The resulting video images look something like the old film negatives, with the animals showing up white against a dark background – making them easy to count.

Since starting Vision Air Research, Bernatas has logged over 5,000 hours in the air operating a FLIR to survey wildlife – something that’s pretty much unheard of among biologists.

Her company is thriving, and has provided a safer method for the animals and the surveyors – who don’t have to chance flying helicopters at risky angles that are close to the ground – and best of all, it graphs the information more accurately.

Bernatas has become so good at reading the infrared images that she can look at a tiny white figure and tell not only that it’s a moose, for instance, but also what sex it is. She can identify a dog in a backyard and determine its breed.

A geography major at Keene State, Bernatas, who grew up in Weare, New Hampshire, went on to get a master’s in forestry at the University of Idaho, and then to become a Certified Wildlife Biologist with The Wildlife Society. She’s based in Boise, but her work takes her all over the country and into Canada to do surveys, and she travels around the world talking about the use of infrared technology for conducting wildlife surveys for animals. The animals she’s surveyed have included turkeys, moose, deer, caribou, antelope, elephants, polar bears, and elk.

“The focus is the earth,” she says, “but we’re seeing it from the air, which gives us a different perspective. And infrared is, in fact, looking at things in a different light.”

– Scott Steere ’16
Scott Osberg’s start-up company is developing a game called Green Driving Challenge, aimed at helping people drive in a way that’s friendly to the environment. But it’s not just a happy coincidence that the game also encourages safer driving.

“The idea here is that eco-driving is safer driving, almost by definition, because you have to pay attention to the road, you have to anticipate traffic signals and other traffic, you need to have a car that’s in as good a shape as it can be,” says the 1978 Keene State grad. “The primary thing is to avoid crashes, which are terrible for the environment. This is a way to pull people toward safer driving without even really talking about safety — but talking about the environment.”

Osberg is currently testing a prototype of Green Driving Challenge, which uses an android app that interacts with a car’s computer to gather data on driving behavior. “It records time, distance, fuel use, location, your speed, the engine RPM — and through that we’re able to tell if people are eco-driving,” says Osberg. By “eco driving” he means operating a vehicle in a way that gets the best mileage — thereby conserving gas and cutting down on emissions that pollute the air. “The ultimate goal of most environmental games is to educate. The neat thing about Green Driving Challenge is that it doesn’t stop there; players actually reduce their emissions, thus helping to slow climate change,” he says.

In the Green Driving Challenge, a driver competes against him- or herself, and against the Environmental Protection Agency’s mileage rating for the car. The idea is to pay attention to driving and let the app gather driving behavior data. The data uploads to the Green Driving Challenge website — which can tell, for instance, whether drivers are accelerating rapidly and then slamming on the brakes at traffic lights, Osberg says. Drivers can log on after their trip and see how their driving compares to earlier trips and how their mileage stacks up against the EPA ratings.

The most eco-conscious drivers have a calm, smooth style, he says. “A lot of drivers are competitive, so this helps you relax and realize there’s more to it.”

A sociology major, Osberg went on to earn a master’s from Trinity University and later shifted his focus, picking up a PhD in political science at Boston University. He’s worked as a social science researcher in the medical field and as director of research at the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety in Washington, DC. He left that position and soon after began working on the Green Driving Challenge. After years of living in the city and walking and biking everywhere, he and his wife, Sarah Stiles, bought a house in rural Virginia. They now split their time between the country and their place in Georgetown. Osberg last owned a car in 1982, but last year he bought a manual transmission Subaru to get around and test the game.

He’s found that using the prototype Green Driving Challenge app can be very motivating. “The nice thing about it is that it educates you — and you actually make a difference that you can see,” he says. “The average person in the US drives about 13,500 miles a year, and that involves putting five tons of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere each year. The research is pretty clear that eco-drivers can save 10 to 20 percent on their fuel, and so if they’re a really good eco-driver that’s one ton of carbon dioxide that doesn’t get into the atmosphere.”

The game is due to hit the market in early 2016. Osberg expects most players will improve their fuel economy substantially. “Instead of driving around kind of bored and angry, they’re focused on saving fuel and thinking about the environment, and hopefully some players will become more active on environmental issues,” he says.

**Tips for Eco-Driving**

- Keep up with car maintenance.
- Make sure there’s enough air in the tires.
- Accelerate gradually.
- Keep your speed as steady as possible.
- Coast into traffic lights.
- Use cruise control on highways if you can do so safely.
- Avoid weaving in and out of traffic.
- Remove excess weight from the vehicle.
It's entirely possible. Last year, four Keene State seniors, now brand-new alumni, undertook a study to see how effectively mushrooms can be used to clean up contaminated soil. Scientists have long studied the ways certain fungi can absorb heavy metal contaminants, so when Jacob Allen, Forest DeCoste, Nevada Mullen, and Timothy Dolan teamed up for their capstone environmental studies seminar, they wanted to see how well it worked in action.

“The idea came from all of the brownfields that we’ve found around Keene that are really polluted and unwanted,” says DeCoste, referring to unused lots contaminated by hazardous substances, typically from earlier industrial uses.

The group initially hoped to clean up such a lot by planting it with mushrooms, but had to scale back their project when they learned how much red tape would be involved. But they could still look at the efficacy of decontaminating soil with mushrooms – a more natural and considerably less costly prospect than digging it up and hauling it off.

To do that, they teamed up with two chemistry students and created their own contaminated soil by adding lead nitrate and pyrene, two chemicals commonly found in industrial brownfields. “Keene being a post-industrial area, there are prevalent amounts of those chemicals,” says Dolan. They planted three varieties of mushrooms – Oyster, Garden Giant, and Shaggy Mane – in the contaminated soil and, for control purposes, in clean soil. The chemistry students analyzed the soil before, during, and after the mushroom growth period.

The results? For the most part, the Garden Giant and Shaggy Mane varieties didn’t take to the soil. But the Oyster mushrooms did – and they were effective at taking up lead and breaking down pyrene in the soil. “We are very hopeful for future research on this subject,” the students wrote in a paper on the research project.

And that could bring meaningful change to places like Keene. “The overarching goal for us was community improvement,” notes DeCoste. “The idea sprouted from the desire to help towns like Keene become better places. Alternative bioremediation methods can open up new development possibilities for areas with industrial backgrounds.”

From left, Nevada Mullen, Tim Dolan, Jacob Allen, and Forest DeCoste at the Environmental Studies Capstone Seminar presentation in May. Photo by Jane Eklund
IN THE 2009 DISASTER MOVIE

2012, the crazed apocalyptic prophet Charlie Frost (played by Woody Harrelson) supported his theory that the world would soon self-destruct by saying, “In 1958, Professor Charles Hapgood named it ‘Earth Crust Displacement’ – Albert Einstein did support it.” The screenwriters had done their homework: Charles Hapgood was a real professor who taught at Keene when he published his book The Earth’s Shifting Crust in 1958. And Albert Einstein did indeed support the idea when he wrote the book’s introduction.

Hapgood came to Keene in 1956 and taught English, social studies, history, anthropology, and the history of science. He had a master’s degree in history from Harvard and had served during World War II in what would become the CIA. Earlier, one of his students had asked him about the mythical lost continent of Mu, which sparked his curiosity and prompted his investigation into the possibility that there may have been tremendous changes in the earth that would cause large land masses – and civilizations – to disappear. That led him to conclude that the earth’s entire outer crust rotated at times over the molten inner layer, causing a repositioning of the axis of rotation, resulting in catastrophic changes; hence, “Earth Crust Displacement,” a theory for which he is still relatively well known.

That theory led Hapgood to publish his two most popular books: The Earth’s Shifting Crust in 1958 and Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings in 1966. Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings examines several Renaissance-era navigational maps, which he concluded were based on far older, long-lost maps – evidence of an advanced worldwide civilization existing thousands of years before ancient Egypt.

Charles Hapgood cited the Orontius Fionaeus map of 1531 as evidence of his theory about the earth’s crust.

There’s a photo on page 25 of the 1996 edition of a group of his students helping with the research. Obviously, the idea of Earth Crust Displacement has been displaced by that of plate tectonics, and his other ideas haven’t caught the interest of many reputable scientists, either.

Nevertheless, Hapgood was one of the most popular teachers at Keene State. His students found challenge, acceptance, and inspiration in his classes. “He displayed a great sense of humor and a caring, respectful attitude toward his students,” remembers Raymond Clarke ’61. “Although he was very knowledgeable, he was very tolerant of the opinions of others. Mr. Hapgood was one of the few professors on campus who forced us to ‘think outside the box’ on essay tests, term papers, and in class discussions.”

In 1964 there was a pole shift on campus when the popular and tolerant Lloyd Young stepped down as president and Roman Zorn took his place. Zorn and Hapgood were polar opposites. Hapgood’s freewheeling, unorthodox theories and research methods soon clashed with Zorn, a serious, intellectual administrator determined to make Keene State a respected liberal arts institution. He fired Hapgood in 1966.

Hapgood’s path gradually pulled into psychic research as he fell under the sway of Ellwood Babbitt, the “Medium of Massachusetts.” Through Babbitt’s psychic intercession, Hapgood “contacted” such notables as Jesus, Einstein, Mark Twain, and the Hindu god Vishnu and used the material to publish his final three books: Voices of Spirit, Through the Psychic Experience of Elwood Babbitt; Talks with Christ and His Teachers Through the Psychic Gift of Elwood Babbitt; and The God Within: A Testament of Vishnu, a Handbook for the Spiritual Renaissance. Hapgood was struck and killed by a car while crossing the street in Greenfield, Massachusetts, in 1982.

“Quirky indeed, our Professor Hapgood, but also a gifted teacher who could profoundly motivate his students. “He had a huge influence on me, both in my creative life as a writer and later as a teacher,” says Ernest Hebert ’69, a novelist and professor emeritus of English and creative writing at Dartmouth College. “He was full of ideas, and his demeanor – effervescent, enthusiastic, a romantic’s view of the world, daring, curious, and devoid of the cynicism one finds in academia; well, it rubbed off on me, inspired me, and helped form the writer I would later become.”

– Mark Reynolds

Read more alumni memories of Hapgood at keene.edu/mag.
Badly shaken, but resilient still

Professor of Education Len Fleischer was on sabbatical in Nepal on April 25, 2015, when the 7.8-magnitude earthquake – the country’s largest natural disaster in 80 years – struck, killing more than 9,000 people and injuring more than 23,000. He was in a car with his wife, son-in-law, and twin granddaughters when the quake hit.

“At first, I thought our front tires were blowing out,” he remembers. “Then, as things were falling off buildings and people were streaming onto the streets, I realized we were in an earthquake. The car went from side to side, and then up and down, as the ground felt like liquid and we were at the mercy of immense waves. We all looked at each other in wonder, as people surrounded our car (for stability) and began to smile at the twins.”

Fleischer was there working with Kathmandu University to help establish a school counseling master’s program and conducting workshops and seminars. His ties to the country go back well over 20 years. In 1991 he and his family hosted a Nepali of Tibetan heritage who had come to Keene State to prepare for nursing school. Since then, he has made several trips to Nepal. His daughter, Siena Fleischer, lives there with her husband and their four-year-old daughters and works for the US Agency for International Development, doing early literacy work in impoverished regions. Her husband works for the US State Department.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries on earth, with scant resources and infrastructure. “The initial days after the quake were difficult, as the reality of the killed, maimed, and orphaned began to dawn on us,” Fleischer says. “Entire villages were wiped out. Half the population of Kathmandu was sleeping outside. It looked very grim. What I then began to realize is that if one survives such an event, there is an opportunity to rebuild – as individuals, families, society. One can stay small and frightened, or enlarge their sense of purpose and personal mission. I saw many people do this, especially young people. I saw countless acts of courage, compassion, and generosity.”

Fleischer returned to Keene, but flew back to Nepal in mid-June and did a variety of individual and group counseling, visiting temporary learning centers and schools, working in “trauma relief camps” in the tent encampments, and training teachers and administrators in sustainable resilience.

Environmental Studies Professor Renate Gebauer also stepped up, raising approximately $6,500 and heading to Nepal to deliver 90 solar panels to help with power outages and build temporary shelters for those who lost their homes.

On July 19, a concerned group that included Fleischer and Gebauer as well as Professor of Education Tom Bassarear held a fundraiser at Keene’s Colonial Theatre and raised, at last count, $16,000 for Nepal aid.

According to Fleischer, resilience is a defining feature of the Nepali people. “Living every day is an act of resilience – 25 percent of Nepalis live on a dollar or less a day. And yet, no one seems to go hungry,” he says, “because they take care of one another. And they draw great sustenance from their Hindu and Buddhist spiritual traditions. Even with the hardship post-earthquake, I never saw an impatient, selfish, or angry person. I actually think the people and society will, at some level, be better for this earth-shaking. It was a reminder of the fragility and preciousness of life. This is one of the poorest countries on earth, but certainly one of the spiritually richest.”

– Mark Reynolds
Born in Elliot Hospital, now Elliot Hall, Maria Dintino M’86 spent many happy childhood hours in the Keene State neighborhood. Her grandparents, Fiore and Annie Dintino, raised their family and lived on Butler Court, where Owls Nest 6 and 7 now stand, until their property became part of the College. (Fiore died in 1972; Annie, in 1994.) Dintino worked with the College’s Aspire program for 24 years, until her recent relocation to Florida. She first wrote about her family connection to the land at Keene State in the Winter 2010 issue of Keene State Today.

It’s really hard to leave Keene State College. I’ve worked with many students who want time to slow down so they don’t have to graduate and leave this place and experience behind. One student last semester wouldn’t let me mention anything about graduation because she just couldn’t bear the thought of packing up and moving on. I feel that way too. After 24 years of working here, I’m relocating. I agree, it’s really hard to leave this place.

I felt my grandparents’ presence while contemplating my departure. How would they feel about my leaving? After all, I had been holding their place here. The piece of land that was theirs was under my watch, was part of my daily existence. I imagined them every time I passed Oya Hill, their land across the way. Every time I walked down Butler Court, passing under the shade of the maple trees my grandfather planted, their presence flooded my heart and mind.

The idea that they might not want me to move away haunted me. It’s hard enough to leave my colleagues and the students. It’s hard enough to leave my parents and other family and friends in Keene. But to leave my beloved grandparents seemed almost unbearable. On this land they had sustained themselves in every way. Here was their world. On Butler Court, neighbors gathered in the sanctuary of each other’s homes and yards; here they celebrated weddings and births and grieved the passing of many they loved. The everyday events as well as the monumental played out on this sacred piece of earth.

Crossing campus recently, I approached my grandfather’s apple tree and noticed the bounty of fruit hanging on its branches. Placing my hand on the trunk, I thought about the days when this land hosted a different way of life. When this tree graced a family’s yard, in the company of other fruit trees and berry bushes. When this was a neighborhood made up of homes, not a campus. This old tree’s roots have nurtured it here through the transformation of this place. Up until now, so did mine.

Standing by the tree, I felt fortunate to know first-hand that what was once the parcel that sustained my family now sustains a strong community of educators, learners, and givers. Even more comforting is knowing that some of these students are Fiore and Annie Dintino’s great-grandchildren.

I realize now that Fiore and Annie would have given me their blessing in leaving. After all, they were well versed in all sorts of departures, including leaving their homeland, Italy, behind. They knew well, as so many do, that we need not be physically in a place to hold close its presence and the memories of loved ones.

Yes, there’s no doubt it’s hard to leave this place. As my grandparents did and Keene State College graduates do each year, I depart with great hope for the future and with gratefulness for what this particular swath of earth offers its guests.

– Maria Dintino M’86
Getting people out and active in the back country is a great way to create more advocates for protecting the wilderness. But the more people who make use of such natural areas, particularly those participating in recreational activities, the bigger the impact on the environment.

“It’s a little bit of a double-edged sword,” says Sandra Howard, an associate professor of music who swaps out her conductor’s baton for a trekking pole twice a year to teach a between-semester course, Outdoor Rec Leadership. That double edge is why she includes Leave No Trace certification in the course, a week-long experience hosted by Northern Outdoors, an adventure resort in a remote part of northwest Maine, that she leads with her husband, Lecturer Brent Arsenault.

The students learn about leadership, interpersonal dynamics, group facilitation, and environmental responsibility via hiking, rock climbing, maneuvering through high and low ropes courses, backpacking, map and compass navigation, and, depending on the season, whitewater rafting or skiing and snowshoeing.

With an approach based in multiple perspectives – physical education, environmental science, sociology, and communication – Outdoor Rec Leadership appeals to students from a variety of majors. Howard notes that students in the Sustainable Product Design and Innovation (SPDI) program particularly connect with an overnight stay in an off-the-grid, sustainable hut with solar and hydroelectric energy and a composting toilet – a seven-mile hike down the Maine Huts and Trails system. “Everyone brings with them whatever their experience is,” she says. “Everyone finds a way to relate through doing these activities and putting themselves out of their comfort zones.”

The course is open to students in all fields and to those with little to lots of outdoor rec experience. Howard and Arsenault, longtime Registered Maine Guides at Northern Outdoors, work with management majors, SPDI majors, education majors, communication majors, music majors, and more. They all learn about leadership and about being mindful of what Howard calls “the trample effect” – the impact that humans can have on the land. Several have even gone on to work as whitewater rafting guides and on ski patrols.

“A lot of students are driven to the course because it satisfies a requirement they need,” says Howard, “or they like the outside activity, but the big piece that they end up realizing at the end of the week is that they have had a chance to disconnect from devices and really think about people in their lives who’ve influenced them with leadership, or what kind of person they want to be when they’re in whatever their role is as a worker, as a leader. They realize that they have strengths that they didn’t recognize before.”

Link to more information about the course at keene.edu/mag.
Charred Green Chile Butter
Yield: 1 cup
Start to finish: 3½ hours
Active time: 30 minutes
A dab of this sharp green chile butter is just what the doctor ordered. Add it to your burger just moments before it comes off the grill and watch as the butter melts right into that bad boy. Talk about sexy time, my friend.

1 pasilla chile pepper
1 anaheim chile pepper
1 poblano chile pepper
2 teaspoons light olive oil
1½ teaspoons kosher salt, divided
½ teaspoon freshly cracked black pepper, plus more to taste
½ pound unsalted butter, room temperature

Remove stems and lightly season chiles with light olive oil, a pinch of salt, and pepper. Char on grill until evenly colored all over.

Pour into stand mixer with ½ teaspoon of salt, ½ teaspoon of pepper, and butter, and whip with paddle until fully incorporated and fluffy, about 2 to 4 minutes. (This step can also be done with a hand-held mixer or by hand with a little bit of elbow grease.)

Using a rubber spatula, transfer butter onto plastic wrap and roll into a log. Refrigerate until solid, about 3 hours.

Once firm, unwrap butter and slice off a big, fat coin. Place onto your burger before it comes off the grill or griddle. (Allowing your slice of butter to soften at room temperature for 15 minutes will help it melt evenly on your burger.)

Storage notes: Butter will keep in the refrigerator for up to two weeks and in the freezer for up to three months.

Visit keene.edu/mag for The American Burger Revival recipes for Umami Ketchup and Mignonette Ketchup.
By the time he got into the solar energy business, Rod Viens ’89 had already founded, managed, and sold a small chain of athletic footwear and apparel shops and served as vice president of business development and operations for a national post-and-beam construction firm.

“When I had my shoe business, we sold a lot of shoes and that was great, and it was very fulfilling being self-employed,” says Viens, a management major at Keene State. “And then, working in the mid- to high-end housing market, I was selling dreams to people – their home or their vacation home. But what was I really doing for society, for the planet?”

And so, in 2008, he took a chance – and a job – with an industry that had been around for several decades but was still struggling to gain a foothold. He joined groSolar, a White River Junction, Vermont, company that designs and installs solar energy systems, as vice president for operations. In the seven years since then, an increasing number of individuals, communities, and corporations have been harnessing the sun’s rays to generate at least some of their electricity.

Solar power has grown into an industry, says Viens. In fact, in 2010, groSolar sold its residential solar business to focus on large commercial and utilities-scale projects east of the Rockies. That includes solar fields that range from five to 50 acres as well as large commercial rooftop installations. To put that in perspective, one five-acre field “planted” with solar panels can generate enough electricity to power 200 homes for a year.

Solar still accounts for less than 1 percent of electricity production in the United States, notes Viens, who adds, “but we’re really seeing a huge tipping point in acceptance of renewable energy, specifically solar, in lots of states” – particularly those where solar is competitive, in terms of cost, with electricity produced from fossil fuels.

An increased interest in environmental conservation has also contributed to the rise in use of solar power. Viens, whose job includes project development in addition to his responsibilities as part of the company’s executive team, says that many businesses initially embrace solar energy as a socially responsible business practice, but once they see the numbers – “we can give them fixed electricity costs for 25 years,” he says – businesses sign on because it makes economic sense and is socially responsible.

Viens is particularly proud of one of the first projects he was involved with after joining the company – installing solar collectors that use three different technologies at the Vermont Air National Guard station in Burlington. The company put in a fixed ground-mount array solar field, roof-mounted solar panels, and six trackers that move to follow the sun. “That was a great showcase project built during the beginning of the move toward solar adoption on a large scale,” he says.

What’s next for solar energy? The industry is hoping for a vibrant future, Viens says, but there’s also a challenge ahead: a 30 percent investment tax credit for installing solar energy systems is due to sunset at the end of 2016. Still, there are hopes that some tax credit will remain in place – and it’s clear that the industry has momentum.

“It’s not going to stop,” he says. “There may be a hiccup with a tax credit reduced to 10 percent, but the cost structure of the industry continues to improve and solar energy is poised for continued expansion and success.”

That seems like a fair assessment, given that the utility companies that only five years ago were pushing back against solar energy are now investing in and embracing it.

“It’s really exciting times,” he says. “Solar energy seems to be here for the long haul.”
The small brick building that sits behind Mason Library usually looks quite innocuous. But pass by its windows at the right time of day and you’ll see sparks flying and smell molten metal as the sculpture class gets down to business, using extreme heat to create works of art.

Associate Professor Lynn Richardson teaches Sculpture I at Keene State. Following a few introductory projects, she gets right down to teaching her classes the art of welding as part of their sculpting repertoire. For students, the idea can be intimidating. “They get very scared when it starts coming up,” says Richardson, who received the 2015 Faculty Distinction in Research and Scholarship Award. “And half of them say, ‘I do not want to weld; I have no interest in welding. It’s scary and I don’t want to do it.’”

The fear of welding is well placed, as the process includes using machinery that heats to an excess of 3,000 degrees Celsius and requires a substantial amount of protective equipment to operate safely.

“The fear isn’t so much getting burned. It has a loud sound to it and sparks and smoke that happen, so I think everybody is timid about that. But as soon as they realize that the heat is centralized in that one little area that you’re welding, it’s not so scary. It’s really hard to burn yourself. Everybody is wearing full safety equipment, big leather gloves, proper footwear,” says Richardson, describing her students’ transition from fear to excitement. “It’s a great part of the day, to see them all of a sudden turn around and be like, ‘This is my favorite thing in the whole world.’”

And with the excitement and new skills comes the powerful realization that fabricating or sculpting anything is possible. “I teach my first-year students to weld, and it tends to be a lot more women than men,” she says. “About two semesters ago, one of the students was welding and she just looked at me and said, ‘I feel so empowered now!’”

Richardson understands the feeling.

“When I say it’s empowering, it’s not just about the gender role and having this skill that a male has, but when I look around wherever I am, everything is constructed in our environment – and that’s probably why I’m a sculptor, because the world I see is in three dimensions. As soon as you learn to weld, how to chop steel, and how to join things, you can essentially build anything that you want,” she says. “For our students, I think all of these things around us are mysterious, but we’ve broken it down and stripped the mystery away, and they can start constructing from the ground up.”

Learning something new is always difficult, and using fire to create artwork takes nerves of steel, but Richardson removes that barrier to entry with her sculpture class.

A working artist herself, she’s not hard to spot. Just keep an eye out for the professor with the slightly singed helmet-head hanging out at the sculpture studio behind the library. “The top of my hair is usually incredibly fuzzy from wearing the welding helmets and from the flying embers,” she says.

– William Wrobel ’11

Visit keene.edu/mag for more of William Wrobel’s photos.
Can you tell the difference between bottled water and filtered tap water? In taste tests conducted by Keene State Eco-Reps, a student worker group that promotes environmental stewardship, incoming first-year students couldn’t differentiate between the two—which was exactly the point. The Eco-Reps hoped to encourage the incoming students to forgo bottled water, which is costly not just for people but also for the environment.

“It was a way to show them that even though they think bottled water tastes better because it costs money, in reality bottled water and tap water all come from the same place,” says Chelsea Shirshac ’15, an Eco-Rep and May graduate who is now at Salem State University working toward a Master of Social Work degree.

The College makes it easy to opt for Keene water by maintaining nearly two dozen stations in dorms, classroom buildings, and the L. P. Young Student Center where students and staff can fill up their reusable bottles with filtered tap water at no cost. And fill up they do! Since 2012, when the first was installed, the water filling stations have provided over 123,000 gallons of drinking water—potentially keeping 788,600 20-ounce plastic bottles out of the manufacturing, recycling, and waste streams.

Students who use the refilling stations get instant feedback. A readout reports in real-time how much bottled water is being offset by the filtered water, notes another Eco-Rep, junior Vic Drake. “We really try to promote the filling stations on campus,” she says, “so everyone knows what they are and what they’re for.”
“I CONSIDER IT AN ART FORM. When you’re swimming very well it’s very much like a dance, feeling your body move through the water. There’s nothing quite like it.”

If anyone at Keene State College can describe the fluid motion of swimming, it’s Joel Feldmann.

A swimmer almost her entire life, the long-time member of Keene State’s Physical Education Department and current clinical faculty instructor knows first-hand the positive benefits that can be derived from daily dips in the water – whether that means taking a leisurely swim around Silver Lake in Harrisville or churning out laps during a Masters Swimming practice at Spaulding Gym pool.

In addition to being kind to knees, shoulders, ankles, and hips by putting less stress on the body than other forms of exercise, swimming can improve one’s mental health. “Water is therapeutic. I get out of the water and I feel good,” says Feldmann. “When I don’t swim I’m not as effective in all the other things I do.”

Swimming also helped Feldmann face the biggest battle of her life. Diagnosed with ovarian cancer in the fall of 2009, she continued swimming while enduring several surgeries and multiple chemo treatments. “Both of my physicians felt that exercise would increase my chance of surviving and encouraged me to keep exercising,” says Feldmann. “I feel lucky to be alive. Cancer has changed my approach to swimming. When I race now, there is no pressure. My internal voice says, ‘Let’s see what I can do today.’”

Feldmann grew up in Wilmington, Delaware, and later moved to Annapolis, where the Severn River served as her water playground. Depending on the season, she could be found swimming, crabbing, boating, water skiing, and oystering. “That really clinched my love of the water,” she says.

An All-American swimmer at both West Chester University and the University of Colorado, where she earned her BS in physical education, Feldmann made many water stops during her career. Moving from the blocks to the deck, she held several coaching and teaching positions before coming to Keene State in 1991. Although she enjoyed her many coaching stints, Feldmann, who also earned an MEd from Wayne State in Detroit, got a lot of personal satisfaction from teaching children how to swim.

After an extended respite from the water, Feldmann, at almost 40 years old, was coaxed back into competitive swimming by a friend. Soon both were training for the nationals of US Masters Swimming – an organization for competitive swimmers over 18. “She said, ‘I think we can do it,’ and we went after it,” Feldmann says.

Winning the 50 free in her age group at the national meet in 1995, Feldmann began to enjoy, again, the competitive and fitness training aspects of swimming. Competing for the New England Masters Swimming club, she would not only go on to set world and national records, but post an incredible 170 top-10 swims over 21 years.

However, as far as Feldmann is concerned, swimming with a Masters group isn’t just about records and honors – it’s also a way to connect with others. “My swimming friends have been sustaining and wonderful,” she says.

A self-described “pool rat,” she has no intentions of stopping. “I see myself involved with Masters Swimming as long as I can do it,” says Feldmann. “When you go to nationals and you see someone who’s in their 90s swimming, it’s really inspiring. You say, ‘OK, I can do this. I can keep going.’”

— Stuart Kaufmann

Joel Feldmann enjoys a summer swim in nearby Harrisville, New Hampshire.
LUCKY TO BE ALIVE
“I’M PRETTY FORTUNATE to get support from the city for many of the things that I happen to be passionate about that aren’t necessarily a part of the job description,” says Eric Swope ’99. “They become a part of the job description. Stuff like the public education aspect, the river clean-up, and Green Up Keene have become a part of the job.”

Swope’s official title is Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator for Keene’s Public Works Department – he deals specifically with water before it reaches the city’s wastewater treatment plant. His job includes a variety of duties, ranging from inspecting and sampling wastewater at businesses to see what chemicals are being used and how they are disposed of, to making sure that restaurants are cleaning their grease traps so they don’t plug city sewers, to testing water in brooks, streams, and groundwater, to teaching young students about the importance of clean water.

“Water is a vital resource,” says Swope, “but we often take for granted that we have clean water and we don’t pay attention to what we’re doing. Things that people are doing at their home in Keene may affect the water quality at Beaver Brook.” He notes, for instance, that yard fertilizers and motor oil can leach into groundwater or get carried by stormwater to the storm drainage system, which flows to Keene’s surface waters. “The more you dive into the topic of water,” he says – no pun intended – “the more interesting it becomes.”

The city’s wastewater treatment plant is an activated sludge plant, which means it relies on microorganisms to break down harmful substances in the water. The wastewater from most of Keene goes through the plant; once it’s cleaned, it flows into the Ashuelot River.

Swope has expanded the scope of his work to include public service and education – some of which he does through his job and some of which he takes on as a volunteer. He helps to organize the annual Green Up Keene, a community clean-up day, which had approximately 650 volunteers this year, and assists with the Keene area’s annual Connecticut River Source-to-Sea river cleanup. He also encourages fourth graders to become interested in the sciences and more aware of the importance of clean water and other water issues, by helping to coordinate a local Trout-in-the Classroom program and by coordinating water science fairs in elementary schools in Keene and some nearby towns, and by being part of the NH Drinking Water Coalition that plans the State Water Science Fair and Drinking Water Festival.

“We have a good team of people working for the city and I like that part of it. We have many different cogs working to keep things running. We have people designing, installing, maintaining, repairing, and protecting our streets, parks, sewers, the drinking water system, the stormwater system, and other infrastructure and public spaces. Add to that all of the important functions, services, and enrichments provided by our fire, police, recycling station, planning, parks and recreation, public library, and all of the other people who support these and other services. There is an awful lot of stuff that doesn’t meet the eye of the average person. I like being a part of this team.”

– Scott Steere ’16
The 15 students and one staff member who traveled to the Dominican Republic over winter break last year learned quickly how critical drinking water is in a country where many people collect rainwater runoff in buckets or haul water from streams. “If it didn’t rain, we didn’t have water,” remembers Ryan Mahan, one of the group’s student leaders.

It was a good lesson for the students, who volunteered for 10 days, through the College’s Alternative Break Program, with a nonprofit, Wine to Water, that works to bring clean water to people in need around the world. In the Dominican Republic, the organization’s workers make ceramic water filters that are sold to households for a nominal fee – and that remove bacteria that cause diseases including typhoid and cholera.

In addition to working in the factory, where they also bunked, the students went into the community to provide hygiene education to kids, distribute filters, and make follow-up visits to households already using the filters. “We could see how the filters had actually impacted families,” said Will Holden, the other student leader. “In every house, they were telling me how their stomach pains are gone and how their lives have been changed because they’ve started drinking clean water. They showed us how important access to clean water is.”

Back home, the students are determined to continue the good work by forming a campus chapter of Wine to Water. “It’s not a Dominican Republic issue; it’s a world-wide issue,” says Mahan. “Over 750 million people lack clean water, and 840,000 die from water-related illness each year. Two billion people lack basic sanitation.”

It’s a great thing to go to the Dominican Republic and volunteer, notes student participant Emily Kenney, but, she says, “you can’t just leave everything you learned down there. You have to bring it back and share your stories.”

Learn more about Wine to Water and Keene State’s Alternative Break Program at keene.edu/mag.
When Michael Staron ’14 was accepted into the Juneau Icefield Research Program toward the end of his senior year at Keene State, he was enthusiastic about the adventures to come. He could have never predicted, though, what a positive and life-changing experience he was going to have.

“So few people ever take a step out of their comfort zone,” Staron writes, “and without doing that you can never truly be sure of what you’re capable of.”

Staron spent the summer after his graduation on the Taku Glacier in southeast Alaska. He was involved in observing the rate at which snow was transforming into glacial ice in areas of high stress – confined valleys – as compared to open plains. With the methods Staron and his colleagues were using, they were able to calculate the densities of snow throughout a vertical column of the glacier and gain a better understanding of the glacier as a whole.

Many of the glaciers in southeast Alaska are melting at an alarming rate, which means that this type of work is vital.

At the beginning of the summer, Staron and his teammates collected the equipment they needed and hiked from a Home Depot parking lot in Juneau, Alaska, to the glacier where they would be spending the next two months. After an all-day trek through dense, temperate rainforests, rocky passes, and a lot of snow, they made it safely to their site. The rest of the resources they would need to survive would be delivered by helicopter over the rest of their stay.

“It certainly was not warm living on the icefield, mainly due to the fact that the temperature never really got above 55 degrees the entire summer; plus, it rained about 75 percent of the days that we were there,” Staron remembers. “Rain gear was worn basically every day on the icefield, as it was generally always raining – with the exception of a few glorious bluebird days.”

Staron was joined by 32 other students and visiting scientists and safety staff. The majority of his summer was spent processing data at established base camps, complete with outhouses, bunkhouses, and cook-shacks. Staron and his colleagues were lucky enough to present their findings to the Geological Society of America at a national conference in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Staron – a geology major – is now guiding clients up Mount St. Helens in Washington. He teaches them about the eruptive history, geology, and the natural environment surrounding the mountain before and after its historic eruption in 1980. One year later, he sees his summer on the glacier as a key life experience.

“There were more life-changing moments on the icefield than there have been in my 23 years of existence,” Staron writes. “I realized what I was truly capable of.”

– Scott Steere ’16

Man meets glacier: Michael Staron ’14. Courtesy photos
15 YEARS in search of BOWHEADS

September 19, 1870: A thick snowstorm most of the time. Trying out oil. Afternoon lowered for whales fourth mate struck line got foul of an oar upset boat saved crew and boat lost whale evening laying aback.

By the time Nathaniel Ransom wrote those ungrammatical but compelling lines in his journal, he’d been whaling for 10 years – since the age of 14. He’d set out for what Helen Frink, his great-granddaughter, calls “a wretched life. These men were freezing all of the time, their lives were in jeopardy, they were uncertain about whether they would get home safely; if they succeeded in capturing a bowhead, then they had the hope of making some money, and if they didn’t they came back empty handed. It was a complete gamble of life, limb, fortune, and everything.”

Frink, a retired Keene State professor who is now an archivist and historian in nearby Acworth, had grown up with stories of another great-grandfather, Matthew Hiller, who shipped out on a whaling bark as a teenager. But she hadn’t known that Ransom, her paternal grandmother’s father, was also a whaler. When she came across his name in an 1871 New York Times story detailing the loss of 33 whaling ships trapped in ice off the coast of Alaska, she determined to research his story and tell it.

The result is Oil, Ice, and Bone: Arctic Whaler Nathaniel Ransom, a book that weaves excerpts from the journals Ransom kept during his four years-long whaling voyages – fortuitously now in the archives of the New Bedford Whaling Museum – with Frink’s research into other primary sources, including the diaries of some more prolific contemporaries, newspaper reports, and more.

Ransom grew up in Mattapoisett, Massachusetts, sailed from nearby New Bedford, and saw a good bit of the world – New Zealand, Siberia, Hawaii, California, Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope – before returning to live out his days in his hometown after 15 years at sea.

If he told his family about his voyages – including the one on the John Wells, one of the ships lost off Alaska – the tales did not filter down to the next generations. But Frink learned about her great-grandfather’s experiences in the whaling disaster from his diary.

Dispatched in a whaleboat packed with provisions, Ransom headed up a crew that rowed and sailed 70 miles south to seven ships that waited to rescue the trapped sailors. They deposited the supplies and headed back to the John Wells, only to turn immediately around, this time the boat packed with people. He wrote:

“I’ve just come aboard of ship Europa Captain Mellen after being out in a hale and rainstorm pulling and sailing for last 24 hours. I had to throw my bomb gun a box of bomb lances with a musket and lots of ammunition with several other things overboard, my boat and all, lots of Esquimeaux garments with some others.”

“How do you cope with a disaster like that and with a near-death experience? And what happens to you?” asks Frink 144 autumns later. “He went home.”

But not for good – the economy failing and work scarce, he left his wife and young family behind and set out on his last whaling voyage four years later, and found himself back in the very place where the fleet had been trapped in ice.

What insights did Frink gain about her great-grandfather? She turns the question around: “We study our ancestry not to find out who they were, but to find out who we are. What of this man is alive in us today? What do we inherit from him? Even though we didn’t know him, what do we get? So that’s always a search, that’s always a fascination.”

Note: Helen Frink would be delighted to hear from her former students and colleagues. She can be reached at hfrink@keene.edu.
Chitra Akkooor, Communication
Received a $6,150 grant from the Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation to support travel to Brazil to examine, through cultural immersion, the similarities between two emerging economies, Brazil and India.

Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, for the Turn A New Leaf program. This funding allows the KSC Dietetic Internship program to participate with Cheshire Medical Center in a CDC Partnership in Community Health Services grant.

Jeff Friedman, English
Awarded, with a co-translator, an NEA Literature Translation Fellowship of $12,500 to translate into English a collection of poems by the Polish poet Mieczyslaw Jastrun.

Amanda Guthorn, Campus Safety
Received her Doctor of Arts degree in leadership from Franklin Pierce University.

Meg Henning, Health Science
Received a $5,337 grant from the Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation to support travel to Botswana, Africa, to research the role of community health workers and the training they receive in an international setting.

Sandra Howard, Music
Presented at the 2015 Eastern Division Conference for the National Association for Music Education in Providence, Rhode Island.

Christopher Cusack, Geography
Awarded the 2015 Alumni Association Distinguished Teacher Award for his commitment to student success and the field of geography. A faculty member since 1999, Cusack is noted for involving his students in research – six of his more than 30 publications were coauthored by students, and six of his more than 30 professional presentations were copresented with students. “Dr. Cusack has a unique ability to connect with students,” one colleague wrote.

Shari Bemis, Interim Associate Provost
Received a $25,000 grant from The Teagle Foundation, which will provide funds for Keene State College, along with partner institutions, to explore ways of integrating the humanities and social sciences into STEM professional areas.

Lara Bryant, Geography
Received a $5,000 grant from Esri ConnectED for the Watershed Ecology Institute 2015. The award supports training events for geography educators.

Chris Burke, Center for Health and Wellness
Commended by the New England College Health Association for her work on the association’s board and for her dedication to raising the level of awareness and the quality of college health in the region.

Stephanie Chmielecki, Dietetic Internship
Received an $8,452 grant from Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, for the Turn A New Leaf program. This funding allows the KSC Dietetic Internship program to participate with Cheshire Medical Center in a CDC Partnership in Community Health Services grant.

Patrick Dolenc, Economics
Awarded the Barbara Burch Award for Faculty Leadership in Civic Engagement by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ American Democracy Project (ADP). This award honors exemplary faculty leadership in advancing the civic learning and engagement of undergraduate students and promoting the work of ADP.

Sharon Fantl, Redfern Arts Center
Received a $4,000 New England Foundation for the Arts grant, which will provide funds to support Unstruck, a dance presentation by the Kate Weare Company, at the Redfern Arts Center.

Bevery J. Ferrucci, Mathematics
Conducted workshops at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics’ Conference in Boston and the Institute Pendidikan Guru Kampus Pulau Pinang in Malaysia and presented at the International Mathematics Education in the 21st Century Conference held in Hercegovina, Montenegro.

Karrie Kalich, Health Science
Received a $99,300 grant from the NH Department of Health and Human Services for a healthy eating and sodium reduction project. The award helps fund nutrition consultations and implementation of a sodium reduction pilot program for licensed child care programs and New Hampshire public schools.
The White Mountain Scholars Program

Now, there’s another reason for top-notch out-of-state high school students to enroll at Keene State: a new endowment will provide full-tuition scholarships to students from outside New Hampshire who have very high high-school GPAs and SAT scores and keep their grades up in college. Here’s the story of the alumnus who established the scholarship – and who wishes to remain anonymous.

Sometimes, a hardship endured leaves a deep mark, and when the chance comes to help others who may find themselves in the same situation, you take it.

That’s exactly why an alumnus from the late 1950s established the White Mountain Scholars Endowment. He was born in New Hampshire, but was living in Bellows Falls, Vermont, when he attended Keene Teachers College. He married in his sophomore year, and both he and his wife held jobs to make ends meet. But during his senior year, he had to cut back his work hours in order to devote the time required for his student teaching, and his wife got pregnant and had to quit her job. Suddenly, the financial picture became very grim. “To say things were tight, very tight, would be understating it,” recalled the alumnus.

But he graduated and even went on to get a PhD. Shortly after he had his advanced degree in hand, a school district in New Jersey tapped him to come down and establish a new high school, which he did. The new principal found himself in charge of an affluent school district with very smart students.

Now, after a long professionally and financially rewarding career, the alum decided it was time to help other students like himself who may find themselves struggling to pay for their education. The White Mountain Scholars Endowment is aimed at high-achieving out-of-state students: recipients must have a 3.9 GPA coming out of high school and SAT scores of at least 1350. They must also have letters of recommendation affirming their capacity for leadership and higher-level thinking. They must maintain a 3.7 GPA while at Keene State. In return, the scholarship covers their full tuition.

“Although I was a solid student when I was at Keene, like most of my classmates I was more of a competitive student than a pure scholar,” the alum explained. “The objective of attracting a critical mass of brainiacs to campus is to challenge and inspire students like me with the scope, insights, and creativity that such greater minds would bring. That dynamic would create an exciting and more expansive college experience for future KSC students. . . . We are also hoping that alums with the means to donate will see this endowment-type scholarship program as one that would allow their contributions to continue to work for the College indefinitely.”

– Mark Reynolds
1927
Our thoughts go out to the family of Margaret Grover Colburn, who died in Weare, NH, on July 13 at age 107. Norma Walker ’51 had visited her in June, bringing a plant and a corsage as birthday gifts.

1934
For the spring issue of Keene State Today, Mark Reynolds and Will Wrobel ’11 (both from Keene State’s Marketing and Communications Office) met Norma Walker ’51 at Doris McCuade Rebide’s home in Milford, NH. Mark had a delightful interview with Doris, who had a positive outlook on life and her teaching career.

1935
Alumni Office staff honored Bernice Adams Michaels with a certificate and a bouquet of flowers to celebrate her 100th birthday (a year late). Many thanks to Don and Ruth Dolan MacDougall ’61 for making the delivery.

1940
Bonnie Howard, daughter of Betty Baird Brown, who was one of the famous Round Robin letter-writers of the Class of 1940, notes that with Dot Carruthers’s passing in February, her mother is the last member of that group. Sue Olson ’70 (Rose Dempsey Barrett’s daughter), Bonnie, and about three others kept the letters going until just a couple of years ago. Bonnie writes, “My mother has lived near me in northern California since 2006. She has severe dementia and doesn’t get around very well, but she still has her sense of humor and sweet spirit. Somehow the schoolteacher in her can still figure out the answers to many crossword puzzles, and she loves to have us read to her. I am grateful to Keene State for encouraging me to compile Mother’s Round Robin letters. They were a great record of my mother’s life from the 1940s until about 2005, but for me, they were a biography of my growing up years, told through my mother.”

1941
Barbara Jeffery Stimson
678 Pettyboro Rd.
Bath, NH 03740

1942
Peggy Smith Campbell
143 Walton Rd.
East Palatka, FL 32131
flyingnonnie@bellsouth.net

1943
Caroline Nichols Pregent
30 Griffin St.
Keene, NH 03431
cpregent@ne.rr.com

1944
Caroline Nichols Pregent writes: “Everyone who came to reunion in June had a good time. We lined up for the parade of classes and marched to the Zorn Dining Commons. The class of 1965 received their Golden Circle medallions. We enjoyed a luncheon, and later we gathered for the ice cream social on Fiske Quad.

1946
Thelma Partridge Mitchell’s papers were delivered to Norma Walker ’51 to go to the College archives. One photograph book showed several of you with your small children at a ’46 gathering. She had a notebook with a section for each classmate that included address changes, children, teaching jobs, and lots more – what a treasure!

1947
Ruth Washburn
75 Pleasant St. A207
East Longmeadow, MA 01028
r.w. r@charter.net

1948
Ellie Smith Butler
9 Mustcr Ct.
Lexington, MA 02420-2001
ellierb@aol.com

1949
Ellie Hughgill Muldoon
3D Melville Ct.
Lily Pond Overlook
Pocasset, MA 02559
emuldoon28@comcast.net

Five classmates of the Class of ’49 celebrated their 65th reunion in June 2014. Lillian Hubbard Brigham, Wanda Hale Brooks, Sherman and Marjorie Hunter Lovering, and Eleanor Hughgill Muldoon all became teachers who sang the praises of our Keene education. We have attended many Alumni Weekends, continuing the friendships made at KTC and marveling as we watched the growth of the College.

1950
John Smith visited Keene State from New Mexico for the first time since graduating to celebrate the 65th reunion – we’re sure he noticed a few changes on cam-
pus. John has led a very interesting life. He is very active and still a substitute teacher.

Vincent Russell joined John to share this special day. Vincent is in the process of relocating to Maryland. He hopes the winters won’t be too cold and snowy after spending many in Florida.

Our sympathy goes out to Priscilla Holmes Roberts after the death of her son, who battled cancer for 14 years. He leaves a wife and two sons.

1951

Norma Wright Walker
19 Eaton Rd.
Swanzey, NH 03446
walker.norma@gmail.com

Norma Walker writes: “Hi, classmates. Guess what? Since the holidays I haven’t had an email, phone call or note from anyone. Now that I have your attention: In 2016 we will be celebrating our 65th since crossing that stage in front of Fiske Hall to receive our diplomas from Dr. Young. You will be hearing from me this fall with some details for our celebration. Please make a commitment to come back to Keene State for the 2018 reunion. I don’t want to be the only one in the Parade of Classes carrying the 1951 class sign.”

1952

Winifred Woodbury Langtry
50 Evergreen Lane
Contoocook, NH 03229
langtry@mctelecom.com

Irene DiMeco Parent
27 Lashua Rd.
Ashburnham, MA 01430
bep27iap@comcast.net

Claire Waterhouse Simensen
17 Sullivan Ct.
Salem, NH 03079
cws603@comcast.net

1953

Donald J. Johnson
695 Clement Hill Rd.
Deering, NH 03244
djj1@nyu.edu

1954

June Haymon
3247 Lucerne St.
Bronx, NY 10465
juneio@aol.com

From Pat McMahon Clark: “It seemed sort of surreal to hear ‘60th’ in reference to our reunion in June 2014. We commuter gals had a happy time reconnecting with our school and classmates. The golf carts always at the ready gave us tours of the modern campus. Music was my special passion in college, and has been to this day. Mr. Davis became a mentor to me. I remember him with fondness. I helped out music teachers during my 35-year career. A while back I had an email from a student of long ago who remembered my giving him a ride to before-school chorus practice. Such have been the many rewards of teaching.”

Pee Wee Mongeon Toomey writes: “We, the Class of ’54, are pleased to have June willing to be our class secretary. It was a special 60th class reunion and fun seeing a few classmates again. Now it’s our turn to give her some news to write about. My memories are of all the fun I had playing sports: softball, field hockey, and basketball. Pat Clark, Marie Drogue and the late Millie Shedd and I were close-knit commuters. We are still close friends.”

Class Secretary June Haymon writes: “My advisor was Mr. Drennen. I never would have made it through college without his unselfish guidance. Mrs. Keddy was tough but I learned a lot about sports from her and went on to be a physical education teacher – for 37 years. I’m still wondering where all the men from our class are. Let’s hear from you, gang!”

1955

Alfreda Crosby Gallo
3406 S. Palm Ave.
Palatka, FL 32177-6342
alfredagallo100@msn.com

Betty Kilgore writes: “I wasn’t able to attend reunion because I’m laid up with a broken leg. While in rehab, I had an interesting experience. I heard someone call out ‘Good morning, Mrs. Gallo.’ Freda Gallo, our class secretary, was wheeled into the room. Everyone there knew her and said she was doing well. I’m coming along but have to get back on my feet yet. My sister and God take good care of me. I’ll be up soon and enjoying Florida. Have a great reunion.”

It was so nice to see Richard Feeney again. He joined us for a Golden Circle luncheon in Rindge last year. And it wouldn’t be reunion without David Staples; he helped to welcome alumni of all ages back to campus.

1956

Minot Parker
PO Box 370540
Montara, CA 94037-0540
Tgpubinc@att.net

Roland Stoodley writes: “Right now Barb ’91 and I are in the process of selling our Charlestown, NH, home and moving permanently into our Naples, FL, home. I retired as president at River Valley Community College (originally Claremont Vocational Technical College) in 1991; I was in that position as founding president, starting the college in 1967. I have been in education since graduation from KSC. My five children are located throughout the country, with three in California, one in Maine and one in Massachusetts. I have 13 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Since KSC, I have taught junior high, high school, college, University of Illinois, in industry, and as an adjunct professor at other colleges and universities. All of this is thanks to my Keene State College experiences and groundwork. There are lots of KSC graduates in the Naples, FL, area and I would love to hear from them.”

1957

Cynthia Randall Faust
77 Sand Hill Road
Peterborough, NH 03458
cynjon@comcast.net

Connie Tremblay writes: “Our class is saddened to have lost a dear friend and a loyal alumni supporter. Connie (Hawes) Ross died January 22, 2015, in Okeechobee, FL. Connie’s involvement in alumni activities was extensive. She worked on reunions, fundraising, area alumni meetings, and on the committee that gave the Centennial Clock at our 50th reunion. In 2013 she and husband, Gene, hosted a Golden Circle luncheon at their home on Squam Lake in Holderness, NH. Connie worked 30 years in
education, retiring after 15 years as assistant principal of South School in Londonderry. She and Gene raised a fine family of one daughter and three sons. She was a beloved grandmother to nine grandchildren. Connie and Gene enjoyed traveling in their motor home to favorite places in the US and spending six months each year in Florida. Connie’s dedication in everything she did and the wonderful friendships she fostered in life will leave happy memories for many people.”

1958
Jacqueline A. Abbott
7 Keeney Dr.
Bolton, CT 06043
jabott814@aol.com

1959
Carol Gatcomb Riel
350 Pako Ave
Keene, NH 03431
rielgatcomb59@yahoo.com

The Alumni Office recently received a note addressed to the staff and Norma Walker ’51 from Diane Dearborn Daley, saying she was happy to have received a birthday card from us. She explained why she hasn’t returned to campus: raising five children plus living in Denver and Madison, CT, where she worked for several years in the school system. She is now in New Hartford, NY. A son, John, attended Keene State College.

1960
Gail Spevack Sheldon
241 Blucher Street
Manchester, NH 03102
sheldon-sheldon@comcast.net

News from our 55th:
Ron Bailey is active as a park ranger, cross-country skier, and hiker, and has built several homes in El Salvador.

Tony D’Ambrosio does vital information genealogy at the cemetery on the UConn campus. He and Gen are fortunate to have great seats at UConn women’s basketball games. Tony’s son coaches women’s soccer at Eastern Connecticut State and his team will play against Lefty Joy’s grandson’s Plymouth State team this fall. They’ll be cheering on opposite sides!

Lee McMahon and Loren Liven-good both had Florida tans. Lee wants everyone to know he now has five grandchildren.

Ruth Knox Fletcher traveled from Newington, NH, and Wells, ME. She says that, unlike the snow-birds, she travels only a few miles north/south each year!

Herb Petelle is busy tending his lawn and working to get his woodpile ready for winter. He came with good friend Mark Waltz. Mark celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary with Jane this summer. He is also cutting wood – industrious fellows – tending his garden and his dog. Mark completely retired from college teaching in 2013.

Irene Plourde flew in from Florida. She visits New Hampshire yearly in June, will later travel to Seattle to visit her brother, and, of course, schedule more trips with friends throughout the year. She enjoys her Florida neighbors, her cat, and has a great time wherever she goes!

Bob “Lefty” Joy was sporting a shirt from American Regions Mathematics League presented to him at a recent ceremony at Penn State recognizing him as one of three original coaches able to make the 40th anniversary. Lefty coached for 33 years. May was a busy time as he also attended college graduations of a granddaughter at Fordham and a grandson at Plymouth State.

Also busy attending twin grandchildren’s college graduations was Maxine “Duddie” Weld Andrews, who traveled to Texas and Arizona. Unable to make it to reunion, Duddie is busy helping to care for four grandchildren, is involved with her church, and is on the board of an afterschool program in Fryeburg, ME. She and Roy traveled to Germany and Prague, and did the Columbia/Snake Riverboat cruise. They planned to visit Ireland in September.

John Anderson had planned to attend reunion but had a medical emergency from which he has since recovered. We missed you, John.

Rich and Joanna Cotter had also planned to attend but a medical procedure delayed their yearly trip to New Hampshire. I had the pleasure of meeting their daughters, both KSC grads, at the barbecue luncheon. Joanna and Rich are busy gardening, biking, swimming, exercising, and dancing. They visit Sanbornville, NH, each summer.

Gail Spevack Sheldon sends thanks to everyone who contributed to the booklet. Hope you enjoyed it.

Sadly, Joan Washburn Tripp passed away in April. See Joan’s words in the booklet. Always a caring person, she kept busy writing notes and cards to those who needed love and encouragement. She and Betty Hair Sawyer, her roommate, kept in close touch throughout the years.

1961
Dorothy Bean Simpson
PO Box 1373
Center Harbor, NH 03226
drsimpson2@yahoo.com

Class Secretary Dorothy Bean Simpson writes: “Our Reunion Committee was busy sending out holiday notes to members of the Class of 1961 reminding everyone to hopefully return for our 55th reunion in 2016. A big thank you to committee members Priscilla Dutlie, Nancy Andrews Fes-senden, Barbara Petelle Moore, Robert Saulnier, Betty Bennett Schofield, Marilyn Woodward Twombly, and Ron Wyman, who took time and an interest to mail you greetings. Lots more information will be coming. Hope to see you all in at reunion.”

Butch Joseph writes, “In 1957, I moved into the barracks at 528 Marlboro Street in Keene with my wife, Jane, and son. My family grew with the births of another son and daughter. If anyone reading this has access to pictures of the barracks, please get in touch with me because I would like to purchase a couple of them.”

Roger and Dorothy did locate a couple of these pictures from KSC and mailed them to Butch. Great reminiscing topic for our 55th reunion. Thanks, Butch!

Don Sutherland celebrated his birthday surrounded by his children and grandchildren. Congratulations, Don, on such a
fabulous celebration.

Ruth MacDougall has updated her father’s 50 Hikes in New Hampshire for its sixth edition.

IN THE NEWS: Wes McNair ’63, the poet laureate of Maine, won the 2015 PEN New England Award for his new book of poems, The Lost Child. Find a link to the story at keene.edu/mag.

Jeanne LaChance Erickson is still traveling with her husband, Dennis. In between knee replacements for both of them, they went to Holland on a 12-day cruise, to Destin, FL, and to Branson, MO. Jeanne is still a “doer,” having lots of fun!

Ray Clarke spent last February in Siesta Key, FL. Last June he and his wife, Pat, went to her 55th high school reunion in Vermont. In July, they traveled to North Dakota and Montana, including Glacier National Park. A river cruise was planned for April to the Netherlands and Belgium. Ray goes to the gym five days a week and walks about three miles a day. He continues to be active with his volunteer work.

It’s fun reading about our classmates. We need to hear from YOU. Anyone have grandkids going to KSC? Please call or email news. Thanks!

Martha Crowley Morse
131 Case St.
North Canton, CT 06019
morsesports@comcast.net

1963

Elizabeth Butterfly Gilman
277 Coolidge Dr.
Portsmouth, NH 03801-5740
betty277@comcast.net

Betty Gilman writes: “Many class members write to say that ‘not much is exciting’ in their lives, but here are a couple of women who do exciting things that the rest of us admire. We look forward to hearing from all of you!”

Marlene (Childs) Witham is a member of the NH Weavers Guild, which was established to promote hand weaving in New Hampshire. In June, she was part of a show, “No Limits To Our Weaving,” at the Karl Drerup Gallery at Plymouth State University. Marlene writes that she is attending the New England Weavers Seminar in July.

Helen (McGettigan) Koehler is in Atlanta in June for the National International Farm Youth Exchange (IFYE) Conference. As usual, she is busy with grandkids and gardening and enjoying the “Wednesday walkers.” A group of 15-18 women meet each Wednesday to walk or hike five to six miles. Good exercise and great friendships!

Joyce (Gilman) McKay is living in Connecticut for half the year and in South Carolina for the other half. This summer, she and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with her immediate family in South Carolina. Congratulations, Joyce and Larry.

The Class of ’63 is to be congratulated. Through your donations to the Class Scholarship established in honor of our 50th anniversary, we were able to provide another awardee a much-needed scholarship. Thank you and please continue to give by designating your donation to The Class of 1963.

1964

The Class of 1964 is very special to me as you welcomed me into the elementary and secondary courses. It was great meeting many of you who recalled me as the former Mrs. Dennis Kiely. Meeting Sherman Lovering ’49 and his wife Marjorie ’49 was a wonderful surprise after all these years. Ken Morris ’64, you haven’t changed at all — such enthusiasm with lots of class spirit. I also had the pleasure of speaking over the phone with former faculty wife Brvida “Breezy” Mosley ’46. We reminisced about our early years in the ’50s.

“Some of my art creations may be viewed by Googling ‘Seacoast Artist Association,’ Exeter, NH. Hope the class of ’64 Scholarship Fund is doing well.”

1965

Richard E. Doyle
561 Ocean Blvd. #4
Hampton, NH 03842
rdoyle561@aol.com

Richard Doyle writes: “Our 50th reunion was a fabulous experience with many old friends in attendance. We had a delicious barbecue on Saturday when we were presented our Golden Circle medallions signifying 50 years out!”
“We presented a new Hootie Owl mascot costume to the College, which showed our unique class spirit. This will be used at all athletic events and affairs and was badly needed. In addition, the extra money we raised was put in a scholarship fund in memory of our dear classmate and good friend Dr. Glenna Mize, who died this year after a distinguished career as a professor at KSC.

“We led the parade of classes, enjoyed an ice cream social, had a class photo taken, and held our own class banquet with Dr. Anne Huot, KSC president, as our special guest. A great time was had by all as we reminisced for hours and were very impressed with all the outstanding improvements on campus in the past 50 years.

“Those in attendance were Eugenie (Eaves) Andrews, Jack Barry, Joan (Daphin) Buck, Cathy (Ayer) Currier, Richard and Barbara (Loughlin) Doyle, Mike Emond, Bob Folsum, Dave and Barbara (Loughlin) Doyle, Mike Emond, Bob Folsum, Dave and Barbara (Loughlin) Doyle, Mike Emond, Bob Folsum, Dave and

IN THE NEWS: Richard Holmes '68 was named to the New Hampshire Humanities Council’s 40 over 40 list of the state’s notables in the humanities fields. Find a link to the story at keene.edu/mag.

1966
Nancy Coutts
175 South Main St.
Brattleboro, VT 05301

1968
Jan Temple Metoxen
330 Maple Rd.
Longmeadow, MA 01106
jantemplemetoxen68@yahoo.com

1969
Barbara A. Hamilton
112 Avondale Rd.
Manchester, CT 06040
barbara.hamilton@att.net

1970
Susan Campbell
15 New Acres Rd.
Keene, NH 03431

1971
Maureen Sheehan Hall
69 Crescent St.
Hooksett, NH 03106
hallsofivy2@msn.com

1972
Debra Davis Butterworth
21 McAuley Rd.
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107
dbutterw@maine.rr.com

1973
Kathleen Pickford Stacy
190 Old Hancock Rd.

Martin and Marion Borofsky ’78 celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with three of their five children, extended family, and friends. The couple first met on a blind date while Martin, who had recently graduated from Dartmouth College, was working in Niagara Falls, NY, at Union Carbide (a division of The Manhattan Project), and Marion was working at the US Army Finance Office in Buffalo, NY. After their marriage on December 31, 1944, Martin and Marion lived for 45 years in Claremont, NH, where they owned and operated Marsons, a retail army and navy store. Marion worked for the Counseling Center of Sullivan County for many years. They each served the Claremont community in a number of roles, including on the School Board, hospital board, City Council, and as mayor. In 1989 the couple retired to Venice, FL, where they became active in the Jewish Community Center of Venice and Assisted Medicare Patients. Martin and Marion currently reside at A Banyan Residence in Venice, FL, and continue to celebrate their love daily.

1974
Jane Cappuccio Stauffer
28 Beckford St.
Salem, MA 01970-3239
jcsrks@verizon.net

1975

1976
Philip Bellingham
20 Transit Ln.
East Hartford, CT 06118

Philip Bellingham writes: “Hello ’76’ers. Remember those days? Getting ready to head up to Keene for reunion weekend. Hope to see a couple of you this year. How time changes things, and reunion weekend certainly brings that to light. All’s well on this end.”

1977
Sabrina Brown Maltby
13 Main St.
Raymond, NH 03077

1978
Dianne Glaser-Gilrein
P.O. Box 1391
East Dennis, MA 02641
tgilrein@aol.com

1979
Bill Reed
3 Mayfair Ln., Apt. 206
Nashua, NH 03063-7645
williamreed3@comcast.net

Martha Petrowski Laffamme
474 Second Ave.
Berlin, NH 03570-2334
mlaffamme@ccsnh.edu

1980
Allison Ashley-Bergstrom
abergstrom@sbcglobal.net

Cathy Stuart Zurek
78 Morse Ln.
Boxborough, MA 01719
zurek@comcast.net

Bob ’68 and Betsy ’67 Coll joined 30 KSC alumni, parents, and friends at a Red Sox spring training game in Fort Myers, FL, against the Baltimore Orioles on March 20, 2015. They said, “We’re proud to be a part of the KSC legacy and hope to continue to attend future events.”

1982
Catherine Gewanter
600 Willis Ave., Apt. 2L
Williston Park, NY 11596-1217
cfg021@aol.com

Janet Carsten Shaffer
janetshaffer@verizon.net

Jay Punt writes: “Since my last note, so much happened in the summer of 2013 and it hasn’t stopped. My wife Joan and I celebrated 25 years of marriage on July 30. We had an exciting and emotional trip to Europe. We visited the Normandy Beaches and the American cemeteries in Normandy and Luxembourg, and we traced some of the route my father’s division took during World War II. I think Dad was smiling through the Cheshire County Sheriff’s Office.”

1983
Patricia K. Hodgeman Bush
Berkshire School
245 N. Undermountain Rd.
Sheffield, MA 01257
pbush@berkshireschool.org

Jacqueline Haight DeFreze
502 Portsmouth Ave.
Greenland, NH 03840
jdefreze@yahoo.com

Valerie Belanger McKenney
46 France Rd.
Barreington, NH 03825
mckenney.val@gmail.com

1984
Mary Beth Lucas Connors
295 Megan Dr.
Manchester, NH 03109-5924
blarney7@comcast.net

Louise Perron Tetreault
61 Mansfield Hill Road, Apt. 16
Cumberland, RI 02864
lee4l@yahoo.com

1985
Alison Ahmed
alisonjahmed@aol.com

Lisa A. Gagnon
12 Tack Ct.
Edgewater, MD 21037
lisa_gagnon@roberts.senate.gov

1986
Tori Berube
toriberube@aol.com

Michael Trabucco
mptrabucco@hotmail.com

From Class Secretary Michael Trabucco: “Hi, everyone! Next year 30th reunion! Start planning ahead. Hire a babysitter and find someone to take care of the pets. It’s three days that you will LOVE. If you don’t come back to KSC for your 30th, when will you come back? Really. That’s all I’m going to say.”

From Steve Fortier: “Hello, fellow KSC ’86ers! Dan Thibodeau, Kristina Kerry, Keith Couch, Leslie Burger Ringuette, Susan Fortier, me, and a few others just had an AMAZING KSC reunion weekend. Next year is our 30th. Those of us who were together that weekend (mostly those who should have been ’85 but took a little longer!) huddled at the end to start formulating some plans for our 30th. It will be epic.

Mary Lou Bolduc ‘83 married Ron Boucher in Hudson, NH, on May 16, 2015. The new Mr. and Mrs. Boucher make their home in Lowell, MA. Mary Lou works at Lowell High School. Her husband, Ron, works for CPF (a division of PepsiCo) in Ayer, MA.

Check the winter issue of Keene State Today for reunion details.”

After 27 years teaching Grade 8 English at the Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School, Lisa Poirier Wilkinson has been named assistant principal. (Congratulations, Lisa!)

Arthur Coogan writes: “Hello, fellow classmates and Brothers! I look forward to seeing you at our 30th reunion next year. My family and I are in northern Virginia and welcome anyone to contact me to get together. Since my terrific time at KSC, I joined the US Navy, flew helicopters, led incredible women and men in peace time and during conflicts, created an international family, retired from military service, and now find myself settling into a routine in Virginia. I am working at the Pentagon for the commandant of the Marine Corps. Special shout out to my Brothers for keeping in touch! I wish you all the best!”

Melissa Orestis Robertson ‘86 and Andrew Robertson ‘87 are doing well, and would love to see Cathy Kenefick Applebaum and Jill Weiner Marocchini and the rest of the gang at the 30th reunion in 2016!!

1987
Lisa Corrette Livingstone
llivingstone@verizon.net

Samantha Barrett McKinlay
2400 County Line Rd.
Ardmore, PA 19003
mckinlay3@comcast.net

Michelle Morris Ayer
41 Hemlock Rd.
Hingham, MA 02043
michelleayer@me.com

1988
Jeffrey LaValley
260 Connecticut Ave.
Springfield, MA 01104
jeff_lavalley1966@yahoo.com

Susan Lundgren Regan
79 Winthrop Rd.
Guilford, CT 06437
1989
Maribeth Marsico Gesler
mbmars@cox.net

1990
Lauren Aborjaily Griffin
17 Montege Path
Marlborough, CT 06447
Shelly Brodeur Masson
shelly_m627@comcast.net

Maureen Cicchese Musseau
75 Pinehaven Dr.
Whitman, MA 02382
mmusseau@comcast.net

Maryann Holloran McNeil came back to Keene State to celebrate our 25th class reunion with her twin sister, Ann Holloran. Mary-ann writes: “My current position is as a university supervisor for intern teachers at Plymouth State University. I have been in education for 20-plus years, as a kindergarden teacher, adjunct faculty member for the Lakes Region Community College in Laconia, and dean of students. One highlight of my career was lobbying at the Capitol in Washington, DC, for early childhood laws. I live with my husband, Scott McNeil, and children Ian, 16, and Maggie, 14, in Gilford, NH.”

1991
Karen Dicey
kidicey@yahoo.com
Amy Eshelman
102 Newbury Rd.
East Haddam, CT 06423
aleshelman@hotmail.com
Kathleen Kerr St. Germaine
19 Great Woods Dr.
Plymouth, MA 02360-1826
kathst@adelphia.net

1992
Joan Crosby Anderson
General Delivery
Wilmot Flat, NH 03287-9999
Kate Shepard Dugan
42 Middlefield Dr.
West Hartford, CT 06107
patedugan@snet.net

1993
Shelli Bienvenue Cook
18 Heathrow Ave.
Manchester, NH 03204
shellcook@yahoo.com

Seth M. Kleinman
2 Sweet Fern Trail
Saundersport, RI 02874
smkri@aol.com

1994
Melissa Sawyer Bowler
158 Shaker Rd.
Canterbury, NH 03224
melissa@slgt.com

Dawn Deurell
17 Chestnut Cir.
Merrimack, NH 03054-6611
deurell@aol.com

Penny Rioux Joyal
106 N. Adams St.
Manchester, NH 03104
js1215@hotmail.com

Aaron Bronson is the new principal at Freedom (NH) Elementary School.

1995
Cara H. Staus
arac95@yahoo.com

Erin Delude George
9 Bigelow Hill Rd.
Troy, NH 03465-2106
egeorge@aol.com

1996
Karen Holmes Reinhold
dcssl@comcast.net

Karen Kay Sales Parker
5832 Wooned Acres Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37921
rparker924@comcast.net

Josh Houle opened his new Edward Jones office at 108 Main Street in downtown Keene recently. Josh played professional soccer and has shared his love of the game with Keene youth for more than 15 years. He was director of coaching for the Cheshire United Soccer Club and an assistant coach for the Keene State men’s soccer program. He has coached young athletes in the Keene Rec Soccer League and recently agreed to be the youth soccer coordinator for the Keene Rec Department. Josh was recently married to Heather Prieto; they each have two children.

1997
Danielle Dearborn Gagne
1587 Waterwells Rd.
Alfred Station, NY 14803
gagne@alfred.edu

Josh Hills writes: “Since graduation I have been teaching and coaching in New Hampshire. I am currently at Cee-Brown Northwood Academy. I have been coaching varsity girls’ soccer for the past nine years, guiding the Bears to the Final Four in 2013 and again in 2014. I am also a contributing writer for the national Coach and Athletic Director magazine, having had multiple articles published with an emphasis on coaching development and coaches’ education. I enjoy my time away from school on our small farm in Canterbury with my wife and two children.”

2000
Danielle LePage Zimmerman
danni@thezims.net

Kate (McComas) Paquin writes: “My best friend, Ashleigh (Woods) Lowe, was recently named to radio station WZID’s list of 20 outstanding New Hampshire women. She is a mom of an autistic son and has done unbelievable work to fundraise for Autism Speaks for many years. She has raised tens of thousands of dollars (#1 individual donor in NH) and also has worked very hard at her position of co-chairing Northern New England’s branch of Autism Speaks, which includes organizing the Autism Speaks walk.”
Elementary School Counselor of the Year in Pinellas County, FL. Vanessa is the school counselor at Garrison-Jones Elementary School in Dunedin, FL.

Courtney (Linke) Dziagwa was named Teacher of the Year for Chesterfield Academy located in Norfolk, VA. Courtney teaches physical education.

2004
Alison (Thompson) Cizowski 101 McLellan Drive, Apt 1007 South San Francisco, CA 94080 alit8@aol.com

Richard Chudy is a chef, food writer, cooking instructor, and co-owner of the personal chef and catering company The Skinny Beet with his wife, Katie. He is the creator of Boston Burger Blog, which chronicles his ongoing quest to find the best burger in Boston and beyond. He co-hosts the podcast The Skinny Beet Dinner Party and his work has been featured in Boston Magazine, Food Republic, The Boston Globe, and NPR. A graduate of the Cambridge School of Culinary Arts, Richard lives in Belmont, MA. He also has a new cookbook, American Burger Revival, which was published in May 2015.

2005
Valerie Nettleton
497 Foster St.
South Windsor, CT 06074
vnettilet@yahoo.com

2006
Adam Wefers
154 Sagamore St., Apt. 2
Manchester, NH 03104
awefers84@hotmail.com

Amber (Bergeron) Soutra '07 and Marcus Soutra '06 were married in Brooklyn, NY, October 4, 2014. Members of the wedding party included Nicholas Parian '06 and Meghan McGovern '07. Also in attendance were Keene State alumni Ryan Caruso '06, Matt Shaker '06, Colin Amidon '06, Jamison Dulude '06, Xanthe (Moss) Parian '06, Kathryn (Chieffo) Caruso '07, Chris Banker '07, and Jennifer Kisch '07.

2007
Bahreiddine “Bobby” Hannat, a 2011 graduate of the University of Miami School of Law, is an associate in the Miami office of Roig Lawyers.

2008
Kelly A. Mullan
532 King Street
Chappaqua, NY 10514
devil.a.mullan@gmail.com

On September 21, Christopher and Jennifer (Raisanen) Daignault welcomed their second child, Juliana.

2009
Gregory E. Dippell teaches music in Limerick, PA (preK-K). He is also assistant principal cellist in Main Line Symphony orchestra in Valley Forge, PA, and principal of Main Line Pops Orchestra. He graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with an MA in

2010
Matt Gill
69 Conleys Grove Road
Derry NH 03038
mgilinh@gmail.com

2011
Kelly Payeur
766 Ocean Ave
Portland, ME 04101
kellypayeur@gmail.com

2012
Kelsey Mogell, Holocaust and genocide studies alum, was a volunteer educator and staff member for March of the Living International – Southern Region this year.

Jason Dehm ’09 and Kaley Griffin ’10 were married in Simsbury, CT, Sept. 27, 2014. Other Keene State College alumni helped them celebrate; pictured are Steve Maguire ’11, Jack Humphrey ’09, Dylan Law ’09, Greg Goupil, Ryan Bealieu ’11, Max Gausch ’10, Danny Verrilli, Mark Christman ’09, Josh Messina ’11, Meghan McGlone ’10, Jamie McDermott ’09, Shaylin Deignan ’08, and Ryan Olah ’09.

At the after-graduation party, the four-for-four Fortiers got a photo with all in KSC Alumni T-shirts. Pictured are Sean ’14, Sue ’86 (KSC Alumni Association board ’05-11, president ’09-10, Keene Endowment Association Trustee ’13-present); Laryssa ’15; and Steve ’86 (KSC Parents Association Board ’13-15, president ’14-15).

Daniel Maynes ’09 married Casey (Darasz) Maynes ’09 on Jan. 3, 2015, surrounded by KSC alumni. Pictured are Natale DiBitetto ’09, Sarah Harrell Elwell ’10, Ryan Hazeltine ’08, Amy Pokrywka Hazeltine ’07, Ricky Hession ’08, Lyndsay Geer Hession ’09, Ashley Hazeltine ’09, Stephanie Clark ’11, Erin Hobden ’09, Michelle Faherty ’10, Erin Kourafas ’10, Nick Elwell ’10, Brett Haug ’09, Annie Scala ’09, Jason Hawkes ’10, Shauna Cacace ’11, Eric Brown ’09, Dustin Kee (attended 2007), Justin Gagnon ’09, Dillon Dickey ’09, Michael Carr ’11, Tyler Kathan ’09, Brandon Lorenzoni ’10, Silas Saxer ’09, Joel Ouellet ’09, Ian Lord ’09, Mike Fuller ’09, Ryan Davis ’09, and Tony Santa Fe ’09. Even the photographers – Brandon ’10 and Melanie Schillemat ’10 of A Moment In Time Photographs – were Owls.

NEXT CLASS NOTES DEADLINE:
WINTER 2015-16
ISSUE: OCTOBER 31
Mail or email to your class secretary or to classnotes@keene.edu or Alumni Center, Keene State College, 229 Main St., Keene NH 03435-2701.

Want to know more about your classmates and what’s happening on campus? Check out Newsline (keene.edu/alumni/newsline), our news blog aimed at alumni and parents. We post news as it comes in, but make sure you’re on the list for the monthly email wrap up. It’s a handy way to keep abreast of the best from Keene State. Done something outstanding? Know another Keene State grad who’s done something newsworthy? Let us know! Email mreynolds@keene.edu.
In Memoriam

Marjorie Howe Herlin '43
October 21, 2014
Marilyn Miller Heath '44
April 6, 2015
Mildred Colby Kern '44
April 20, 2015
Sally Kott Kmon '45
April 26, 2013
Elaine Sharkey Louiselle '50
April 17, 2015

Ernest H. Clark '52
September 22, 2014
Philip Hyde '52
February 23, 2010
Rachael Osborne Kidder '52
March 18, 2015
John Konstantine Kontinos '53
June 11, 2015
Margaret Martin Dunbar '56
May 19, 2015
George Fraser '59
June 22, 2015
Joan Washburn Tripp '60
April 11, 2015

Lawrence Clough '64
April 20, 2015
Fred C. Gardner '65
January 30, 2015
Joanne Marandos Weltman '65
April 7, 2015
Deveda McClintock Boseker '67
March 25, 2007
Joseph Desfosses '68
June 16, 2015
Ralph L. Kangas '70
February 7, 2015

Philip Egan '72
April 28, 2015
Laurence Yeaton '73
June 13, 2015
Alan McVeigh '75
April 24, 2015
Joseph Iovieno '94
August 19, 2011
Jessica L. O’Brien ’01
April 13, 2015
Cameron Blair ’12
May 23, 2015

* Deaths reported as of July 3, 2015

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• Student Academic Support, which provides funding for student research and experiential learning;
• Student Activities, which supports clubs, organizations, and campus life.

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