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Keene State Today

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

THE BODY



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STATE COLLEGE

Keene State Today

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THE BODY ISSUE

Short, tall, large, small – we've all got one. This edition of *Keene State Today* looks at the body from a number of angles. Inside, you'll meet a Keene State grad who delivers babies, one who is working on a series of nude paintings, one who dances and one who runs, one who writes murder mysteries, one who buries the dead, and more.

The First-Person Project highlights three Keene State graduates who live and work in New England. Look for them in the back of the magazine and on our website at keene.edu/first-person.

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On the cover: Keene State junior Jacob Chiza performs in the Theatre and Dance Department's dance showcases, is a midfielder on the College soccer team, and is majoring in Safety & Occupational Health Applied Sciences. Photo by Will Wrobel '11; cover design by Tim Thrasher

Inside cover: Junior Jordan Pierce is a criminal justice and psychology major, with a minor in dance. She's a member of the Keene State College Dance Team, which performs hip hop. Photo by Will Wrobel '11

Online Only

Visit keene.edu/mag for special online-only content, links to more information on the features in this edition, and a downloadable pdf of the issue.

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Holding Our History

Melinda Treadwell, PhD,
Interim President, Keene State College

This crisp autumn morning as I walked along Appian Way, I was reminded again of the beauty of our campus, the commitment of our students, and the energy of our faculty and staff. Serving our alma mater as interim president these past several weeks, I have been re-introduced to Keene State College in a new way. I am reminded of the quality of our academic programs, I have cheered for

our athletic teams, and I have experienced again the vitality that our art, music, and performances bring to the entire Monadnock Region.

The honors and awards that Keene State continues to receive build our reputation as a distinctive community of learners surrounded by an incredible regional community. In fact, you may have heard that Keene State was voted number one for the employability of our graduates in the state, and number 18 in the country!



Melinda Treadwell, PhD

The City of Keene and Keene State – two communities sharing a common commitment to service, a dedication to the value of public higher education, and the belief in a liberal arts preparation that is grounded with engaged learning experiences – continue to launch our graduates into

meaningful lives and careers. This preparation, along with the work of our faculty, staff, business leaders, and nonprofit organizations, prepares our graduates and our alumni for their transitions to the exciting world beyond their education. I have personally been the beneficiary of that experience throughout my career, and it matters deeply to me that we hold that history as we move forward.



Fall Alumni Week with Ray Jobin '63, left, and Scott Kuhly '88.



Move-in Day for new first year students.

Keene State College is strong. Our students are inspiring, and the faculty and staff continue to make this College an incredible and important contributor to the higher education landscape in the country. It is this commitment, and the amazing heart that is at the core of our common purpose, that keeps us moving forward.

Please find an opportunity to return to campus for a visit, reach out and re-engage with your alma mater, and, most of all, help me in finding ways to retain this Keene State distinction for our students, now and in the future.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melinda".



Where Life Began: Elliot Hospital

Many of Our Alums Saw Their First Light of Day There

Of the thousands and thousands of people who have thrived, learned amazing things, found love and happiness, expanded their horizons, and grown in so many other ways at Keene State, did you know that several of those over the age of 45 were born on campus, too? They took their first breaths in the Elliot Center, which was once the Elliot Hospital. Keene State bought the Main Street building, with its elegant spiral staircase and Barry Faulkner mural, in 1972.

Elliot Hall has quite a history, which is why it's on the National Register of Historic Places. William Wyman built what was described as the "finest house in town" around 1810, and the Elliot family took it over from 1845 to about 1892, when the building was converted for use as a hospital. You can still see evidence of its hospital days in the wide hallway doors, as Keene State Baseball Coach Ken Howe '86 points out to new students and their parents on campus tours. "The width was to accommodate the gurneys," he says. "I also tell them I was born in that very building, and that my office is about 150 yards from the room I was born in."

Alumna Kitty Maher '73 was also born there, but, as you might expect, she doesn't remember anything about it. "But I do remember working at the hospital as a candy striper and going down to the morgue," she says. The paint shop occupies that basement space these days. "I now go down in that area to get things out of the Alumni storage room. It's still freaky!"



"I have quite a history at Elliot Community Hospital," says Ernie Hebert '69, a novelist and professor emeritus of English and creative writing at Dartmouth College. "I was born there May 4, 1941, at 4 a.m. Decades later my mother worked as a baby nurse in the obstetrics department. We'd see somebody on Main Street and she'd say, 'There's one of my mothers,' or 'There's one of my babies all grown up.' After my father's cotton mill closed, he went to work at the hospital on the grounds crew, and he drove a hospital-owned bus."

As a student at Keene State, one of Hebert's many part-time jobs was working in the hospital laundry room, which was in the basement near the morgue. "Laundry would drop down a chute from the upper stories," he remembers. "My job was to put the dirty laundry into washing machines, which were about the size of a Volkswagen bug. One of my rules was always look before reaching, because you never knew what icky stuff lay on those sheets. After washing I'd put the wet (and heavy) laundry in dryers. After that I delivered the clean laundry to three women who would fold the fabric and wheel it in carts to the various departments. One of the women folders was the inspiration for the protagonist of my novel *The Passion of Estelle Jordan*."

So not only were people born there, inspiration was too.

— Mark Reynolds

Above, the Elliot Center, formerly Elliot Hospital, today.

Inset and center, the maternity ward and early nurses.

Labor and Delivery: A Midwife's Tale

Jessica Lewis Satrape '97 remembers the first childbirth she witnessed. The mother labored hard, breathing into her contractions for hours. A nurse listened to the baby's heartbeat every 15 minutes or so. Meanwhile, the midwife simply sat in a rocking chair and rocked. "I remember just being amazed," says Satrape. "I thought, really, you're just sitting there rocking? Shouldn't this be a big deal?"

And, of course, it was a big deal. "She pushed, and the baby came out, and it was just a beautiful, messy, hard, miraculous thing," Satrape remembers. "I was sobbing, the parents were sobbing; it was just overwhelming and amazing."

Fast-forward a dozen-plus years, and Satrape is that seasoned midwife, calmly standing by through labor but ready to jump in when the time comes.

Keene State didn't have a major or a minor in women's studies when she was a student, but

Satrape took all of the women's studies classes that were offered and majored in political science. She

was a winner of the College's prestigious Outstanding Women of New Hampshire Awards. Midway through her senior year, she hadn't decided on a career path – until she was struck by an epiphany on Christmas day. "I thought, I'm supposed to be a midwife," she says. "It was a really overwhelming moment."

She talked with the nurse-midwife at her Vermont family practitioner's office, then headed to Norwich University directly after graduation for an associate's degree in nursing – which led her to a nursing job in labor and delivery and then to a midwifery nursing master's program at the Medical University of South Carolina.

A certified nurse-midwife, Satrape has worked for the last 10 years at Women's Health Care, a group practice in Haverhill, Massachusetts. She delivers babies at Anna Jacques Hospital in neighboring Newburyport, Massachusetts.

"It's not an easy lifestyle," she says of midwifery. "And you really tend to have a very strong drive to want to care for women, to make positive change, but also see that more holistically."

She's drawn to helping teenagers, and many of her patients are teens in the foster care system who live in area group homes. That's rewarding, and also challenging, she notes: "These are girls and very young women who come from really difficult backgrounds that we can't even imagine – and now they're pregnant." With those patients, she provides pregnancy care and well-woman care, and also encourages them to connect with community resources and to continue their education.



Jessica Satrape

too, so she's with her birthing mothers through the entire process, even when it takes an unexpected turn.

She understands complications, having gone through two high-risk pregnancies herself. Women need to feel empowered in their pregnancies, she says; they should learn as much as they can about the process and put together a plan for the birth. But they

also need to remember that the goal is a healthy mother and a healthy baby – and that, in the end, "this birth experience is one to experience and not to control." Satrape and her husband, Joshua Satrape, a senior solutions architect, now have two healthy kids – a four-year-old and a five-year-old.

It's been a rewarding career, bringing babies into the world, and Satrape, after many years of experience, is still in awe of the miracle of it. She can even trace her work helping women back to those political science and women's studies classes she took at Keene State. "I'm putting that interest into a practical use," she says.

"I thought, I'm supposed to be a midwife."

Satrape tells stories that range from the funny (a teenage mother in labor letting out a loud stream of "colorful language" just as a group of pregnant women touring the birthing center walked by in the hallway) to the touching (a woman who brought her two eight-year-olds, one her daughter and the other her stepdaughter, to all her appointments and the birth itself, as a way to bind the family together).

There are also scary moments and sad moments, she says, as well as disappointments – such as when a woman needs a last-minute Caesarian section. Satrape assists with those,

Amber Davisson

In the age of social media, privacy can be a casualty. Amber Davisson, assistant professor of communication at Keene State, has spent considerable time thinking, writing, and teaching about the ways digital technology has changed our culture. She is the author of *Lady Gaga and the Remaking of Celebrity Culture* and the co-editor of *Controversies in Digital Ethics* and *Theorizing Digital Rhetoric*, and her writing has appeared in numerous journals. Here she writes about revenge porn: What is it, how does it affect victims, and what can we do to address it?

Revenge Porn: Online Bullying by Adults

In the summer of 2016, Leslie Jones, a *Saturday Night Live* cast member and a star of *The Ghostbusters* remake, experienced a series of vicious online attacks that culminated with her website being hacked. The hackers stole nude photographs of Jones from her phone and posted the images on her personal site along with photos of her driver's license and passport. Jones is one of many celebrities who in recent years have had their online accounts or phones hacked and their nude photos distributed without permission. Scarlett Johansson, Jennifer Lawrence, Rihanna, and Kirsten Dunst are just a few of the high-profile victims of the growing online problem of revenge porn.

Revenge porn is the nonconsensual distribution of someone's nude photos. There are many cases where these photos are obtained through hacking. However, the majority involve an image that was originally shared voluntarily and then distributed online without permission. The popular narrative is that scorned lovers seek revenge by posting nude photos of their ex and subjecting them to shame and ridicule online. Celebrity cases of revenge porn receive large-scale media attention, but the issue is not a problem reserved for starlets. The Data and Society Research Institute estimates that 2 percent of the American population has had a nude or nearly nude photo posted online without their permission.

For many who have their images shared online, the aftermath is devastating. Revenge porn survivors have reported losing their employment and being ostracized by family and friends. In many cases the images are posted online along with identifying information, which is used to harass victims. One study found that revenge porn victims face a variety of aftereffects, including trust issues, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts. In 2014, 14-year-old Kacie Palm committed suicide after vicious online bullying, which involved the distribution

of photos she had shared with a boy she liked. Tiziana Cantone of Italy committed suicide after someone filmed her having sex and uploaded the videos on the web along with her personal information and advertisements inviting people to solicit her for sex.

Online, the problem is spurred on by the fact that revenge porn is big business. Revenge porn site operator Hunter Moore reported clearing as much as \$13,000 a month in advertising from his site *Is Anyone Up*. However, advertising is not the only source of revenue. Many revenge porn victims attempt to contact website operators and ask them to remove photos. Once contacted, these site operators will blackmail victims. In court in 2015, a revenge porn site operator admitted to obtaining more than \$30,000 by extorting victims. In an interview with the *Village Voice*, Hunter Moore was asked if he cared about the risk that a site like his might encourage someone to commit suicide. He responded: "If somebody killed themselves over that [revenge porn]? Do you know how much money I'd make?"

There are a variety of legal attempts to combat revenge porn, including laws on the books in 26 US states. Still, one of the major ways we can fight back is through the support we give to victims. Revenge porn makes a lot of its profit through advertising and blackmail. Choosing not to look up leaked naked pictures of a celebrity helps take away some of that profit. Furthermore, it is harder to blackmail a victim who knows that friends, family, and employer support them. A crucial component of revenge porn is the revenge aspect. Distributing these pictures works for revenge and bullying only if the pictures have an audience and that audience shames the person in the picture.

— Amber Davisson

👁 Learn more about Dr. Davisson's work at keene.edu/mag

Fine-Tuning Your Body, Uncluttering Your Mind

“THE FIRST TIME I RAN A RACE IT WAS A STRUGGLE TO FINISH,”

says Pat Zemianek '63. “I hadn’t trained.” That was shortly after her husband, Steve Zemianek '63, died unexpectedly in 2000. In honor of Steve, a much beloved high school English teacher and coach for track and field and cross-country, the annual Bennington, Vermont, road race was renamed the Steve Zemianek Bennington Road Race – or the “Zem/Benn” for short.

Zemianek felt compelled to run the Zem/Benn, which her husband had long helped to organize. Her initial showing convinced her she needed some training.

She started casually, but when she joined a local running club, she really hit her stride. Fast-forward to 2017, and Zemianek runs as many races as possible on weekends, including 5Ks, 10Ks, and, occasionally, half marathons. She owes her success, she says, to the support of the dedicated and enthusiastic women in her running group.

Her time in the 2016 Komen Vermont Race for the Cure earned her a ranking of 70 in the world all-time list for 5K road races in her category, females aged 75 to 79 – not bad for someone who started running at about the age of 60.

Zemianek, an elementary education major at Keene State College, taught for over 30 years, first in Claremont, New Hampshire, and then in Bennington, where she lives. In retirement she is busy. She and two of her three children, Kathleen and Michael, marathon runners, now help organize and run the Zem/Benn. She volunteers for an afterschool program for at-risk kids, helps out monthly at her church’s food pantry, and provides healthy food

for guests and staff at the community free clinic. As a member of the Oral Health Coalition, she visits classrooms to instruct students on the importance of oral health. She also ushers at the local theatre.

“Giving back to my community and making a difference makes me happy,” Zemianek says.

She spends time with her nine grandchildren, who are all sports participants. She bikes, hikes, cross-country skis, kayaks, and walks almost daily. She maintains her Victorian home. Because she has osteoporosis and

Pat Zemianek '63 during a run in Chicago with her granddaughter Emmalene. Courtesy photo

arthritis, she attends stretching and tai chi classes as well as the Bone Builders program.

“And I run,” she says. “For my age, I feel I’m very active.”

Has running improved her health?

“Absolutely,” Zemianek says. “I feel that I’m preventing or reducing the risk of chronic diseases. I eat healthier because I know I have to, and I drink eight glasses of water a day. Running is physical, mental, and spiritual. I love the experience of a runner’s high – it’s so exhilarating! When I finish a run I feel I have so much more energy. I feel revitalized.”

She also finds it easier to tackle the day, to deal with stress, and to unclutter her mind. It’s a meditative practice, she says, one that gives her a sense of peace and happiness.

Her input for people of any age who might like to lace up their sneakers and take to the road: “It’s a simple, fast way to fitness. It’s an inexpensive sport. You don’t need equipment, a court or a gym; and you don’t need much time. A 20-minute run three or four times a week is enough to make you fit. You can run with a friend or alone. You can set your own goals. It’s not for everybody, but my advice is, give it a try.”

Body Painting

During her senior year at Keene State, Elizabeth Gallacher '17 set out to undertake a series of paintings of the nude female figure. She turned to the model whose poses she captured in her artwork to set the tone.

"Beauty comes in all shapes, sizes, ages, and cultures," Gallacher wrote in the artist's statement that accompanied the larger-than-life paintings, which were displayed in the Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery's spring exhibition for graduating studio art majors. "The objective is to express a positive body image using a strong, confident woman."

Interestingly, Gallacher originally planned to highlight rape culture in her nude series. But talking with the model and seeing how comfortable she was in her own body, she says, "flipped my perspective on the concept."

The process started with a photo session with the model, which Gallacher directed. She worked from the photographs to create the large-scale oil paintings, using bold colors and a palette knife to achieve a textured, expressive effect. She applied the paint colors directly on the canvas, rather than mixing them first – so that as a viewer approaches the paintings, the images break down into streaks of thick paint and color.

"I like that aspect of it," she says. "It allows for different interpretations." For the same reason, she chose to paint close ups of different sections of the body rather than entire figures.

The result is a selection of large, eye-catching, and dramatic figure studies. "I'm not into fine brushwork or making everything perfect," says Gallacher, who especially enjoys painting the female figure. "A bigger scale allows for more room."

Gallacher hails from New Fairfield, Connecticut, and is now living and working in Keene while she saves up

money to attend a master of fine arts program. Her experience in the College's Art Department was "amazing," she says. "The professors care about you on a personal level, and there's a lot of one-on-one time with professors, which was really, really helpful."

Since mounting her work in the Thorne-Sagendorph exhibit last spring, Gallacher has been adding pieces to the series. She hopes that viewers will find a connection to the paintings and her model.

"I want people to take a second to see how beautiful she is and how confident she is in herself – and how she doesn't feel ashamed when she takes her robe off," she says. "She's not embarrassed, and she doesn't feel uncomfortable at all. I wanted people to connect to it, and realize their own beauty, and see beauty in themselves if they hadn't."

Elizabeth Gallacher and her artwork.





Learning About Humans . . . *from Frogs*

What can frogs tell us about the effects of environmental toxins on the human body? A Keene State faculty member and her student researchers are working to find out.

The African clawed frog, also known as *Xenopus laevis*, shares a couple of important features with humans: both are vertebrates, and both have chambered hearts. Those similarities, and one important difference – the frogs are transparent, so their beating hearts can be observed – make them good candidates for research into how pollutants affect human development, notes Susan Whittemore, a professor in the Biology Department.

Whittemore and her students are exposing *Xenopus* embryos to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, or PAHs, common pollutants that result from the combustion of organic materials – cigarettes, gasoline, heating fuel, furnaces, even food cooked on a barbecue grill – toxins we all ingest regularly. They

hope the developing embryos will help provide insight into the effects that PAHs have on developing human fetuses.

Human fetuses are exposed to certain PAHs through the mother's blood, notes Whittemore, who has been working for seven years with Keene State students on



Susan Whittemore

this study, which is funded through NH-INBRE, a biomedical research program of the National Institutes of Health.

How do these chemicals alter normal developmental processes?

Two of Whittemore's student research associates, both juniors who are applying to graduate physician assistant programs, talked with *Keene State Today* about the studies they are conducting to find out about how PAHs affect the cardiac and nervous systems.

Adam Harris, a nontraditional student from Jensen Beach, Florida, spent a year gathering data on frog embryos that had been exposed to two toxins. Because the embryos are transparent and their hearts are visible with magnification, he and his research partner put them under a microscope, videoed for 25 seconds, and then went back and counted each embryo's heart beats.

The research showed that the embryos had bradycardia – abnormally slow heart rates – that worsened the longer they were

exposed. More exposure also brought increases of atrioventricular block, a loss of signal conduction from the atrium to the ventricle.

Anna McFarlin is working to record the neurological effects of PAHs on *Xenopus* tadpoles. The Concord, New Hampshire, resident is filming the toxin-exposed tadpole larvae to compare how they react to a loud noise with the reactions of a control group that has not been exposed. What she and her research partners are finding is that the exposed tadpoles are hyperactive. They don't swim faster than those in the control group, but they swim for longer periods of time.

The exposed tadpoles are also hugging the perimeters of their petri dishes, which could indicate anxiety, Whittemore noted, and they are also showing signs of potential hypersensitivity. The next step for McFarlin and her partner is to expose the tadpoles to the scent of predators to see whether they recognize potential danger.


"It's nice to carry on a long-term project," says McFarlin, who hopes to work in pediatrics or oncology as a physician assistant. "You dive deep."

Harris, who served nine years in the Marine Corps before enrolling at Keene State, notes that the research experience has been valuable to him in the classroom and in applying to physician assistant programs.

"It's honestly been very rewarding," he says. "Apart from doing your scientific civic duty and bringing awareness to what these PAHs can possibly do to us as humans, it's been a very great academic experience."

As for the effects on humans of the environmental toxins – which are plentiful not just in the air and the ground but in the food we eat – Whittemore hopes the research will contribute to work being done on fetal and child development.

"There is still a lot to learn about how children who are still developing biologically and neurologically up until adolescence are being exposed," she says, "but they're finding higher PAH loads in children than in adults, so fetuses are being exposed, and children are being exposed to a higher degree than adults. What are the short- and long-term consequences of these exposures?"

 [Link to more stories about student researchers at keene.edu/mag.](https://www.keene.edu/mag)



Anna McFarlin

'Life Is a Lot of Adapting'

In many ways, Ben Wimett '08 is a typical 33-year-old. He lives in an apartment complex, has a job he loves, and dotes on his dog, Root Beer. In his free time, he likes to hike, fish, and hunt. Three years ago, he snagged a 12-point buck in Pennsylvania.



Ben Wimett. Photo by Lynn Roman

What's not so typical is that he does all of this on wheels – the wheels of his motorized wheelchair. Born with cerebral palsy, Wimett lives with limited mobility, so he's spent considerable time figuring out how to make his way through the world. He's parlayed that, along with his Keene State sociology and American studies degrees, into a career helping other people with disabilities use adaptive technology to make their lives easier.

Wimett is an assistive technology access specialist with the University of Vermont Center on Disability and Community Inclusion, in partnership with the Vermont Assistive Technology Program, an agency that supplies services to people in Vermont. His job is to stay on top of the latest in adaptive tech – anything from software to helpful gadgets to iPads.

"I'm a natural fit for this job because I adapt every day," says Wimett. "This isn't just a job for me; it's my life." He demonstrates by pointing out some of the features of his personal set-up. His keys are hooked to a retracting chain so they'll yo-yo back to him if he drops them. His wheelchair boasts a USB port so he can use its battery to charge his cell phone. It's also been fitted with a handy cup holder for his coffee. The wallet that holds the pictures of Root Beer he likes to show people? It's secure in a bag that's attached to the chair.

When he's at home in Brandon, Vermont, or at his office in Rutland, Wimett uses voice technology to write and send emails. To grab items that are just out of reach, he uses a reaching tool. If he's off exploring the woods on an accessible trail, he uses a backpack with a built-in water pouch and straw. When he hunts, he uses a gun mount that attaches to his wheelchair.

"For me, life is a lot of adapting," Wimett says.

And a lot of helping others adapt. One of three assistive technology specialists for Vermont, he covers the state's southern region. People come to him looking for help with conditions ranging from learning disabilities to degenerative neurological diseases.

"Someone might come to us and say, 'I need to be able to write a paper, but I can't type. Can you show me an

alternative?'" he says. "It might be voice dictation, a modified keyboard, or a regular keyboard with a guide so the fingers don't slip. You know, the possibilities are endless."

Wimett loans out equipment and provides demonstrations on how to use it. His agency also attends public awareness events and conferences. The idea is to help people adapt to be as independent as possible – a process Wimett understands very well.

He lives alone with Root Beer, and has personal care aides who help him get up and ready for work in the mornings and get him into bed at night. During the day, though, he runs his own show, taking public transportation to work and cooking his own dinner. "Once I'm off and rolling," he says, "I'm pretty much OK for the day."

A transfer from the more remote Castleton State in Vermont, Wimett found the accessible campus and college life he'd been missing at Keene State.

"Appreciate the small stuff."

Professors like Therese Siebert and Margaret Walsh, coupled with his desire to help people, drew him to major in sociology (and an inspiring professor, Richard Lebeaux, drew him into American Studies).

Because of the nature of his life – "I have to sit back and wait a lot for things to get done," he says – Wimette is an observer. He watches people, studies them. That gives him insight into ways to help people at his job. What has he learned from his own, watchful life?

"Appreciate the small stuff," says Wimett. "If you focus on the positive, ask for help when you really need it, and have faith in your own abilities, you'd be amazed at what you can actually do."

The Body in Motion

"I feel that the best way I can contribute

to this world is by making things," says Alexander Davis '14. You might call what Davis makes "body art"; he's a Boston-based dancer and choreographer whose recent accomplishments include being awarded a Live Arts Boston Grant and being presented by World Music/CrasARTS alongside five other emerging New England Choreographers in its fall *Dance Up* program.

At Keene State, Davis majored in theatre and dance with a specialization in choreography and performance, and also completed a second major, in English. "Disassembled," a modern dance work he created and produced while in school, earned him the Hildebrandt Award for Excellence in Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

Three years post-graduation, he is a member of Boston's Urbanity Dance company and an ensemble member of Lorraine Chapman, The Company. He also recently formed his own dance company, Alexander Davis Dance.

He sees dance, he says, as a way of not just understanding the world, but also interacting with it, contributing "ideas, thoughts, feelings, and perspective." For instance, the performance he's putting together with the Live Arts Boston funding, "She Bring It to You Every Ball," uses a drag ball as a lens for an exploration of relationship, gender, and the contemporary gay community.

"I use my mind to create art," says Davis. "I chose the body as the medium in which to communicate it. Some choreographers/dancers don't think about themselves in this way. However, I approach my work first from a critical place, and then process and research those ideas with the body."

Davis credits Keene State's theatre and dance program with providing him the network that led to job opportunities and relationships with collaborators. He credits his liberal arts education with encouraging him to seek interdisciplinary connections – in addition to working in dance, he is also a fiber artist, an actor, and, as he puts it in his official bio, "an okay comedian."

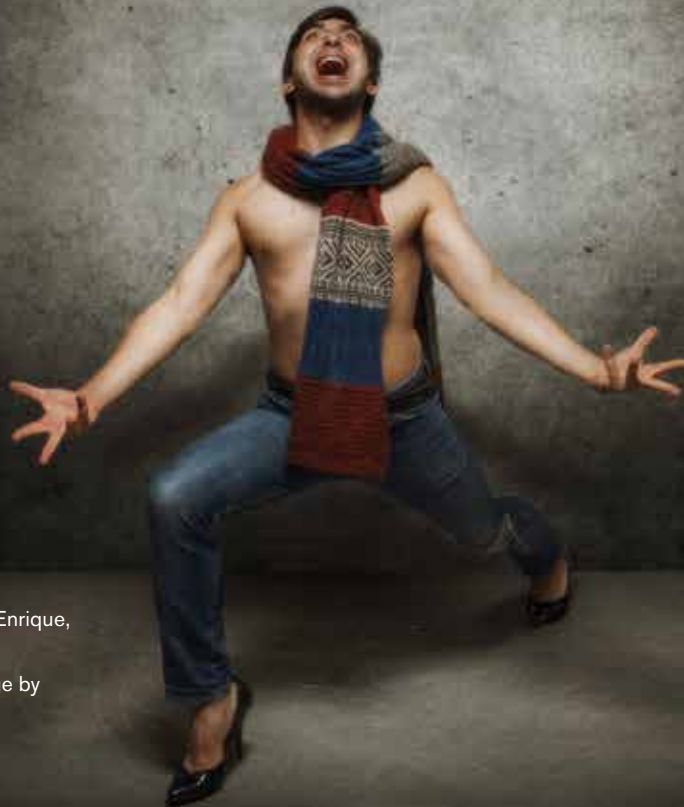
As a dancer, he is particularly attuned to his body. He goes to the gym before his daily dance classes. He sees a physical therapist, an acupuncturist, and a massage therapist. He chooses his meals carefully, limiting added sugar and focusing on protein, vegetables, and fruit. He assesses his body every day. "The older I get, the more I learn about my body and the more I learn about how to access it successfully as a tool for performance," he says.

Not to mention as a vessel for life. "You only get one body," he adds. "We all should be taking steps to respect who we are."

– Daniel Stavens '18



Link to Alex Davis's website from keene.edu/mag



Alexander Davis '14. Photo by Celso Enrique, Courtesy of Urbanity Dance

Davis photo on Table of Contents page by Sarah Bilotta Belclaire

Putting Medical Students in Their Patients' Shoes (and Wheelchairs)

It's one thing to understand the constraints that elders live with, and quite another to experience them first-hand.



Caption: Marilyn Gugliucci '76 and former student Dove Drozda. Courtesy photo

Back in 2005, Marilyn Gugliucci '76, professor and director of Geriatrics Education and Research at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine, encountered a medical student who wanted to learn how to converse with older people living in institutions. Gugliucci thought for a moment, and came back with a quick question: "Would you live in a nursing home for two weeks as an elder resident?"

After a long hesitation, the young woman was game, and her stay at a nursing home launched what has become a regular program, Learning by Living:

Nursing Home Immersion Research and Medical Education Project, for Gugliucci's health professions students. Two or three have volunteered each summer since 2006 for a 14-day stay at a care facility.

"They go in because they want to be a better physician," says Gugliucci. "They want to understand what it's like to be the recipient of care. By the time they leave they say it's been life altering for them. They have changed."

And they've been changed, literally – as in diapered. As part of the program, each student is given a "diagnosis," usually a stroke with aspiration pneumonia, and then is checked in to a shared room and treated the same way the other residents are. That includes being toileted, confined to a wheelchair, fed pureed foods, lifted from wheelchair to bed, and sent to physical/occupational therapy. Some students are assigned to secure dementia units. Some have to re-acclimate after being transferred from one floor to another with a new roommate during their stay.

They learn what their future older patients may go through, and the experience encourages them to consider the ways they might operate as health practitioners. One student told Gugliucci that he would think twice before ordering medication to be given to a patient at 2 in the morning, for instance, or preventing a patient from going outside.

They also forge strong relationships with the elders. "At the end," says Gugliucci, "they don't want to leave; they connect heart to heart with the residents."

Gugliucci, a physical education major at Keene State, has always been interested in aging and elders because she was very close to her grandparents when she was growing up. She went on to earn a

doctorate in gerontology and has been full time faculty at the University of New England since 2006. The Society of Osteopathic Medical Educators (SOME) gave her the 2013 Marguerite Elliot Innovations in Clinical Medical Education Award from the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine.

She also runs another Learning by Living Program, the 48-hour Hospice Home Immersion Project, which immerses second-year medical students for two days in an in-patient hospice home where they care for dying patients and their families. This program was recognized with the SOME 2017 Innovation in the Development of Enduring Medical Education Award.

Because her grandparents embraced life, Gugliucci says, she learned not to fear aging or death: "We can outswim our gene pool. We all age differently." Staying in shape physically and remaining engaged and autonomous are key to what she calls "optimal aging."

Her young students learn that by living with elders in a nursing home for two weeks, which leads them through "a sea of significant emotional experiences that they will never forget," she says. "They look beyond diseases, frailties, and age, experiencing and understanding the essence of who each person is."

The experience is a gift, one that resonates long after their two weeks is over.

– Joanne Chow Rhodes

Visit keene.edu/mag for links to journal articles and media reports on Gugliucci's Nursing Home Immersion Program, as well as an excerpt from a report by a former student and now doctor, David Drozda.

Murder, She Writes

When Janet Smith Heijens '88 retired from an international career in business, there was murder in her future. Or, to be more specific, murder mysteries.

"I've always loved to read and I've always had it in the back of my mind that when I retire, I will read all the books I ever wanted to read and start writing," she says. "So I took a course at the local community college."

A writing group kept her plugging away, and after she turned to penning mysteries, an article about a man who was wrongfully convicted of killing his family captured her attention – and her ire. "I was shocked by the whole thing," she says of the case, in which a man served 40 years in jail before a deathbed confession set him free.

His story inspired her first published mystery novel, *Wrongful Conviction*, which led to a three-book deal from a second publisher for a *Wrongful Conviction* series. The first of the series, *Snook Wallow*, was released in the spring, and Heijens is hard at work on the second.

"I like to approach my writing from the point of view of social issues," she says, "so there's always a wrongful conviction, or something that went wrong with the justice system. The first novel was about racial bias. *Snook Wallow* is about human trafficking in south Florida, which is a really big problem. In the third book, the social issue I'm approaching is homelessness and mental illness."

Heijens avoids scenes with sex and vivid violence: many of her readers are retired people, and not looking for that kind of a read, besides which, the graphic stuff is tricky to write. But, as she notes, her stories always start with a dead body or bodies. "I incorporate the social issues slowly and with a light touch," she says. "But it's important to me to get those things in there."

When she starts a book, she tends to have an idea of the narrative arc, but not an outline. That allows the plot to take an unexpected turn, or the characters to take over. She does a lot of research, she consults with her son, who's a lawyer, and she's in touch with organizations like the Innocence Project, which works to free innocent people in prison.


A nontraditional student at Keene State, Heijens earned her college credits by taking night classes over a number of years while working full time at Markem, a Keene-based manufacturer (now Markem-Imaje). Her career in finance, marketing, and management took her to England, Chicago, St. Louis, and Mexico. These days she's based in Sarasota, Florida, and she and her husband, Pieter, who is Dutch, spend time every year in Holland.

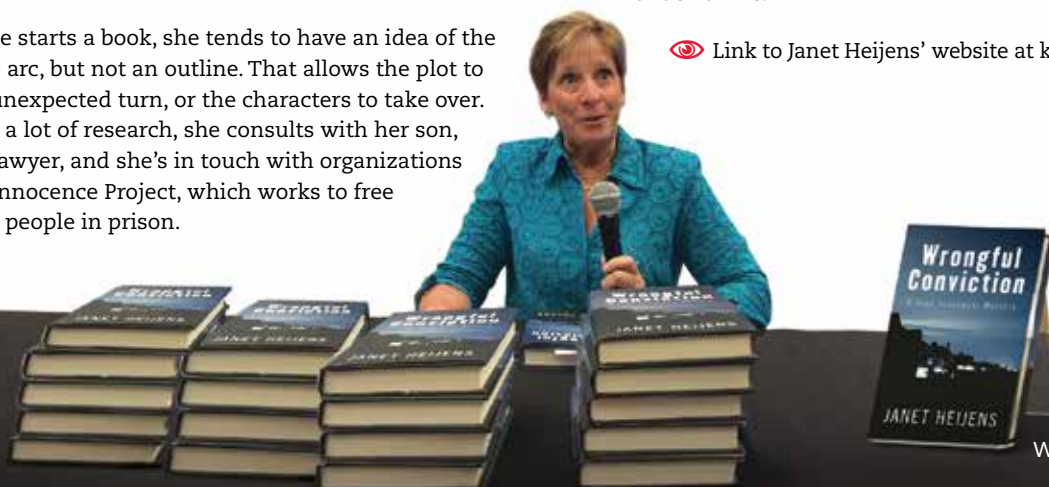


Janet Heijens. Courtesy photos

"I really got a good education at Keene State," she says. "It had an absolutely solid business program. That served me well for my career. You reinvent yourself when you retire, because you can't be what you've always been. I know lots and lots of people who have come from all parts of the world, from all professions, and nobody is where they started out. Of course, we're still the same people we always were deep in our souls. But you leave those paths behind and you reinvent yourself."

In Heijens' case, reinventing herself has meant living her own story and also the one she's inventing at the moment. "It's always in the back of my mind," she says. "What's the next chapter, what's the plot point I need to incorporate? It percolates for a while. Sometimes I will write like a fiend for days, and sometimes I will go for weeks without writing anything. But I've tasked myself with producing at least 5,000 words a month. My writers' group keeps me going. But it comes in fits and starts. It's amazing how busy you will be when you retire. People always told me that, and I never quite believed it, but it's true. You get involved and you keep busy. It's a wonderful life."

 Link to Janet Heijens' website at keene.edu/mag.





Portraits of Endangered Animals: Exhibit Brings Together Two Alumni

Our hope is that people will look these creatures in the eyes, and be inspired to care, while there is still time.

– Photographer Joel Sartore's Photo Ark website

A National Geographic exhibit calling attention to the plight of endangered animal species has a Keene State connection – times two.

Rich McWalters '79 of Washington, DC, designed a series of kiosks for the National Geographic Photo Ark exhibition. As the project manager, he brought in Mecca Design & Production, a Dallas-based fabricator, to create the kiosks. The project manager at Mecca happened to be Sara Gradual '95. They didn't know the connection at first, but were delighted to discover, via LinkedIn, that both had earned degrees at Keene State.

"We definitely hit it off, both professionally and personally," says McWalters. "It was a wonderful project to work on, and it turned out fabulous."

Photo Ark is a collection of photographer Joel Sartore's studio portraits of animals. As Sartore writes on his website, he began his quest to photograph all the approximately 12,000 species of animals that are in human care as a way to "get people to care that we could lose half of all species by the turn of the next century."

Through National Geographic's traveling Photo Ark exhibit, which was featured at zoos in Dallas, Omaha, and Cincinnati this summer and is currently on view at the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, people can get up close – and take selfies with – giant prints of the photos that are on the kiosks designed by McWalters and produced by the company where Gradual works.

"I really enjoyed working with Rich; it was a really good experience," says Gradual, who coordinated the production of three sets of 28 kiosks.

Gradual and McWalters arrived at their respective careers by leap-frogging off their college coursework.



Rich McWalters '79 and Sara Gradual '95.
Courtesy photo



McWalters majored in industrial education. “After graduating I did teach for a little while,” he says, “but I soon learned that my interests were in design and production, design and build. I’ve often said that while I may have the soul of a teacher and my mind is geared toward engineering, my heart beats to the rhythm of an artist.”

A job doing architectural millwork led to work with a company that designed exhibitions – which led, in 1988, to a job at the National Geographic Museum in Washington, DC, where he served first as a design draftsman and then worked his way up through several positions to take early retirement as director of operations. These days, he works as a consultant, including for National Geographic, which contracted with him to manage the Photo Ark traveling exhibit.

Gradual, who designed an individualized major that blended graphic arts and communication – she called it “visual communications” – hopped around after graduation working

“It was a wonderful project to work on, and it turned out fabulous.”


for hotels and resorts. At the same time, she refined her graphic design skills by taking on internships and moonlighting jobs. She lived and worked in Florida, Colorado, Mackinaw Island, Michigan, St. Thomas, and then New Orleans.

Eventually, she talked her way into a job in customer service with GES, a company that, among other things, helps coordinate corporate events and trade shows. When Hurricane

Katrina hit, GES transferred her to Dallas and promoted her. She dropped her plans to move back to New Orleans after she met the man who is now her husband. After a layoff and time off to start her family, she signed on with Mecca, doing primarily sales and project management.

The National Geographic Photo Ark project, with its call to raise awareness of and save disappearing species, has been meaningful for both. Gradual and her family are longtime members of the Dallas Zoo, and frequently visited the large animal photos while they were on display there. “They really made me happy every time I got to see them,” she says.

McWalters says he feels an affinity with the animals Santore depicts. “He’s photographed them with either a black or white background, in a way that takes them out of their environment,” he says. “With traditional wildlife photographs, you’re seeing animals in trees, bushes, grass, and with other animals. But when he does these studio portraits, they become a personality. They become an individual. You see into their eyes, and you get a sense of their feelings.”

 For more of Santore’s photographs and a link to more information about Photo Ark, visit keene.edu/mag.

From the National Geographic Photo Ark: TOP LEFT, A federally threatened koala, *Phascolarctos cinereus*, with her babies at the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital; ABOVE, An endangered Malayan tiger, *Panthera tigris jacksoni*, at Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo. © Photos by Joel Sartore/National Geographic Photo Ark. natgeophotoark.org/

Caring for the Dead – and the Living

When Chris Wilder '92 started college, he was aiming for a career in aviation management. That plan never took off, but now, some three decades later, his work involves a different kind of departures.

"Being a funeral director agrees with me," says the business management major who works for Cournoyer Funeral Home in Jaffrey, New Hampshire. "The job, as weird or odd as people think it may be, is pretty fulfilling."

Wilder found his way into the field in a somewhat circuitous manner. A lifelong Keene resident, he landed at Keene State for his sophomore year when the cost of continuing at a Nashua aviation college became prohibitive. After graduation, he held various jobs with local companies, but hadn't found just the right thing. Then he talked with a family friend who was, at the time, managing director of the Fletcher Funeral Home in Keene, and who said, "Why don't you come and work for me?"

"I gave him the 'huh?' reaction," remembers Wilder, but then he did some research into the job requirements and expectations, and realized it might be a good fit for him. He accepted the job offer, starting as an apprentice – there's typically a trial period with this kind of work, to see whether, he says, you can "deal with it."

"It's not just dealing with the body," he says. It's the fact that death doesn't operate on a 9 to 5 schedule. "You're going to get called at 2 o'clock, 4 o'clock,

5 o'clock in the morning. You're going to get called on your birthday, on your anniversary, on Christmas morning when you're just sitting down to open presents with your kids."

The work suited Wilder, so he went back to school, earning an associate's degree in funeral science from the Funeral Institute of the Northeast in 2008. He continued working at Fletcher's until moving to Cournoyer's about two years ago.

What does the job entail? Large funeral homes in urban areas often have specific people for specific tasks. But in a small-city or small-town setting, a day at work for a funeral director can mean juggling

a number of responsibilities. Wilder does everything from collecting the deceased – from

homes, hospitals, nursing homes, and even accident scenes – to shoveling snow from the sidewalk before a service.

That could mean meeting with families; preparing a body for viewing – embalming, dressing, or doing cosmetology; writing an obituary; dusting and vacuuming in preparation for calling hours; setting up the chapel area; arranging for flowers; coordinating with the armed services around military honors; contacting caterers, florists, musicians, and clergy; and serving as an usher.

"You're an event planner as well as a funeral director," Wilder notes.

But a funeral is not just any sort of event, and helping families through the deaths of loved ones requires a fairly specific set of qualities. "You have to be able to

deal with the trauma," he says. "You have to be able to deal with the complexities of death, what happens to a body, what happens to people – the grief that they go through. Sometimes anger and sadness gets directed your way, and you have to be able to look past that. You have to provide the family with a stable footing so they can stand back up after a difficult time."

And, he adds, everything a funeral director does has to be done in a respectful manner. It's not a job for everyone. In fact, there's likely a fairly selective group of people with the right abilities, temperament, fortitude, and desire to help in difficult situations.

"If we didn't do it," Wilder says, "it wouldn't get done."



Chris Wilder. Photo by Jane Eklund

How Every Story Ends

Essayist and memoirist Kirsti Sandy, who teaches creative nonfiction and memoir at Keene State College, penned a piece chronicling a drive through Vermont with a friend who was dying of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The friend, notably, “had made her living teaching writing and writing about bodies,” Sandy reports. The essay, “I Have Come for What Belongs to Me,” won the 2017 Northern New England Review Raven Prize for Creative Nonfiction. It follows the final road trip of two friends with a penchant for “roadside freak shows” – Graceland, Lizzie Borden’s house, and now an abandoned Santa’s Land and the grave of Hetty Green. An excerpt follows.

I Have Come for What Belongs to Me: An Excerpt

I was driving, though Beth could still drive at that point, and although we didn’t say it, we wondered if it might be our last road trip. Up Route 5 from Brattleboro to Bellows Falls, through Putney, everything around us was buzzing and green, as it is in Vermont in July. All of our road trips took place in the summer, and most had happened nearly twenty years before: the 1994 trip to New Orleans, then the bus ride from Boston to the Lizzie Borden house, where I bought a pen with an eraser shaped like an axe handle, the trip that cemented our certainty that Lizzie was guilty. When the layout of your home requires your entire family to walk through your bedroom to get to basically any other room, killing them makes its own kind of sense. Beth had bought me a pillbox from her tour of the Winchester Mystery House one summer; we had planned to go together someday, the two of us climbing up steps that led into walls and opening doors that led into other doors, in a house created to appease the dead.

Our plans had changed when Beth had been diagnosed with ALS two months before.

We loved the Guinness Book of World Records as kids, Beth and me. Our memories of the 1970s editions remained fresh, because even though she lived in Illinois and I lived in Massachusetts and we didn’t yet know each other, we liked the same things even then. Beth remembered the obese twins in cowboy hats, the ones who rode motorcycles and were buried in piano boxes. We both remembered the tiny Victorian lady, about as small as a water canteen, and the longest fingernails, which didn’t grow up and straight, but curled like tentacles.

As I write this, Beth is stretched out on a hospital bed in what was once her dining room, *Law and Order: Special Victims Unit* playing on cable, episode after episode. Her pill organizer is divided into 28 separate compartments. Her bed moves up and down in three different ways, and so does the chair next to it, and the oxygen cart wheels wherever you need it to go – everything is made to move in ways a sick body cannot. Soon, she will be given a device that will allow her to communicate using only her eyes. It’s miraculous that something like this exists.

“Let’s go outside,” I say, gesturing to the wheelchair in the corner. “It feels like spring out there.” It would take at least a half hour to get the chair ready, to get Beth in it, and to move the chair outside to the porch. My chirpy enthusiasm sounds stupid, and I’m almost relieved when Beth indicates that she would rather not. *Law and Order: Special Victims Unit* is almost over, but another episode is soon to follow. Beth knows them all by heart. She always knows how every story is going to end, sometimes even after the first couple of lines. “He’s dead,” she had announced in the theater as we watched the first ten minutes of *The Sixth Sense*. I didn’t even have the chance to watch it one time through, enjoying the twist when it came, or to watch it a second time just to pick up all the clues I had missed. She couldn’t even give me that.

– Kirsti Sandy

 [Link to Kirsti Sandy’s blog and the complete essay at keene.edu/mag.](#)



Kirsti Sandy

Get Ready for REUNION 2018!

The KSC Alumni Association Board is already in planning mode for next year's fall Reunion – with all the traditions of Parade of Classes, induction into Golden Circle, Alumni Award presentations, Sizzlers, and more!

In addition to celebrating milestone years of 3s and 8s, we are supporting interest groups who would like to organize a gathering – for example, alumni from student clubs and organizations, sports teams, academic majors – the possibilities are endless!

To join the organizing team for next fall, please contact us at alumni@keene.edu.



SAVE THE DATE:
Reunion is
**September
14-16, 2018**



Highlights from Fall Alumni Weekend 2017

Our first Fall Alumni Weekend included a hike up Mount Monadnock, lectures and artist talks, birdhouse building, campus tours, and beer-and-wine tasting from local vendors. Men's Lacrosse Team members and Resident Assistants from across the generations also came together for the first of what we hope will be many gatherings of Keene State affinity groups.





FACULTY & STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Sandra Howard



Tanya Sturtz



Skye Stephenson



Kate Tirabassi



Darrell Hucks



Kirsti Sandy

Jeff Friedman, *English*

Published his seventh book, *Floating Tales*, with Plume Editions/MadHat Press. The book is a collection of fables, mini tales, prose poems, and prose pieces.

Zachary Giroux, *Mason Library*

Presented at Northeast Historic Films Symposium in Bucksport, Maine. He premiered and discussed a series of home movies from the College's Louis de Rochemont Film Archive, which were recently preserved and digitized through a grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation.

Marie Duggan, *Economics*

Received the Arrington-Prucha Prize from the Western Historical Association for an article she wrote, "With and Without an Empire: Financing for California Missions Before and After 1810," which was published in the *Pacific Historical Review* in January 2016.

Patricia Pedroza González, *Women's and Gender Studies/American Studies*

Conducted a training workshop on Critical Pedagogies from a Gender Perspective at the Center for Teaching and Research of Mathematics for elementary, middle, and high-school teachers in June. In March, she presented a paper, "La Morena y el Toro/Torito: Mestiza Consciousness and Embodiment" at the international conference *Beyond Borders: Literaturas y Culturas Transfronterizas Mexicanas y Chicanas* in Augsburg, Germany.

Christopher Swist, *Music*

Published his piece "Cities at Twilight" with Bachovich Music Publications; two movements from the piece were performed by the Hartford Symphony Orchestra.

Alison Pantescio, *German*

Led a workshop, *Bringing Mozart and Our Students to Life!*, at the Second International Scenario Forum Conference at the University College Cork in Ireland in June.

Mark Long, *English*

Published a review of two Mary Oliver collections in the summer 2017 issue of *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*.

Daniel Carberg and Matthew Leese, *Music*

Attended an artistic residency at Avaloch Farm Music Institute in Boscawen, NH, with their vocal quartet *Liber: Ensemble for Early Music*.

Skye Stephenson, *Global Education Office*

Presented a paper, "The Eagle and the Condor: The Network of Indigenous Intercultural Universities of Latin America," at The Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration: Connecting Indigenous Peoples in North America: Crafting Community of Shared Knowledge June 13 at the First Nations University of Canada.

Jose Lezcano, *Music*

Performed at a number of venues in the spring and summer, including most recently as guitar soloist and composer in his Double Concerto for flute, guitar, and string orchestra, "Sojourners," at the New York City and US premiere.

Jean-Marie Brown, *Theatre and Dance*

Produced and performed in the Prism Festival, a two-week theatre festival at The Bridge Theatre in New York City.

Barbara Ware, *Modern Languages*

Presented a paper, "Gender and Memory in Argentine Feminist Narrative," at the Congreso Internacional de Literatura y Estudios Hispánicos in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in March.

Jerry Jasinski, *Chemistry*

Inducted into the Vermont Principals' Association Hall of Fame. He was honored for his contributions as founder and director of the Vermont State Decathlon/Heptathlon Championships and for his role as a football, basketball, and track and field official for over 40 years.

Kate Tirabassi and Cynthia Smith, *Center for Writing*

Presented, along with three Center for Writing tutors, at the 2017 Northeast Writing Centers Association Conference at Pace University in April.

Kate Tirabassi, *English, Center for Writing*

Darrell Hucks and Tanya Sturtz, *Education* Presented a panel, "Fostering Civic Engagement among Millennials: Emerging Research and Opportunities," at the University of Connecticut's annual Teaching of Writing Conference in April.

Sandra Howard, *Music*

Was a guest clinician for the New Hampshire Music Educators Association's Large Group Music Festival and coordinator of the association's first annual Elementary Honors Chorus Festival. She also presented a session, "Vocal Techniques for Non-Western Choral Repertoire," at the Connecticut Music Educators Conference. She was recently named the 2017 Choral Director of the Year by the New Hampshire American Choral Directors Association.

James Waller, *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*

Was awarded the inaugural International Association of Genocide Scholars' Engaged Scholarship Prize.

Steve Bigaj, *Education*

Betsy Street, *Professional and Graduate Studies*

Presented two sessions at the 2017 American Council on Rural Special Education conference in Asheville, North Carolina.

Kirsti Sandy, *English*

Awarded the 2017 Northern New England Review Raven Prize in Creative Nonfiction for her essay "I Have Come for what Belongs to Me."

1941

Barbara Jeffery Stimson
678 Pettyboro Rd.
Bath, NH 03740

1942

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

Louise Moses Lawrence loaned two watercolor paintings for the Alumni Art display on exhibit in the lobby of the Alumni Center for several months. Louise is a watercolorist who studied with Nora Unwin, a noted artist and author, for 12 years. She also taught art to seventh and eighth grade students and gave private group classes.

1943

Caroline Nichols Pregent
30 Giffin St.
Keene, NH 03431

Class secretary **Nicki Pregent** writes: "Unfortunately, we heard this summer that our classmate Phyllis Bodwell had died. Our sympathies to her family. We will miss having her join us at the Golden Circle luncheons.

"Our little group of volunteers still helps at the Alumni Center. We enjoy having lunch together after working at the center. **Christine Sweeney** and **Pauline Dionne** often join us for lunch.

"**Louise Perkins** is living at Havenwood in Concord. When I call her she is always interested in our activities.

"**Barbara Charbonneau** wrote me an interesting letter. She said her brother, John, sent her a booklet about the one-room schoolhouses in Goffstown. The one-room schoolhouse where I taught at Shirley Hill is listed and is now an attractive private residence. Barbara also included in her letter a wonderful picture of herself.

"We have had four Golden Circle luncheons so far this year. Everyone enjoyed the luncheon at the College Camp. Some were reminded of the times they walked to the camp from the College

many years ago.

"During the reunion this year, **Ruthie Corning's** daughter joined our conversation. She said Ruthie had been planning to attend our 50th reunion but had become ill. Sadly, Ruthie died the night before our reunion.

"My granddaughter and great grandsons visited this summer from Texas. They enjoyed playing in our large back yard.

"I wish a happy time to all our classmates. Please send me a message of any news so we can keep in touch."

1945

The Golden Circle Alumni send their sympathy out to the family of **Priscilla Chick Sargent**. She and Dick were regulars at the luncheons until his passing, but then her health kept her from coming often. Robin, as most of us knew her, was a dedicated alumna, attending the luncheons and reunion and serving as class secretary for a while.

1946

Brigida Saladino Mosley plays bridge several times each week with friends in various parts of Keene. The alumni staff does manage to catch her between games to get her help stuffing envelopes for various events. Breeze (as her friends know her) is also busy with her family. She attends many of the Golden Circle Luncheons with her good friend and co-volunteer **Nicki Pregent '43**.

1947

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

Those '47 ladies took the Keene State campus by storm with their energy and enthusiasm. We look forward to their return to the next reunion. A wonderful thank you letter arrived from **Juanita Parsons Nolan**, plus a delightful letter arrived in the mailbox of **Norma Wright Walker '51** from **Ruth Blodgett Washburn**.



*Four members of the Class of '47 made it to campus for their 70th reunion. They are, from left, **Juanita Parsons Nolan**, **Shirley Rolston Martell**, **Beatrice Young Towne**, and **Ruth Blodgett Fisher Washburn**.*

The reunion committee wishes to give special thanks to Ruth for her tireless work as Class Secretary. She calls, writes, visits, and emails her classmates frequently. She is the Energizer Bunny (or Owl) for us all to take lessons from. Thank you, Ruth.

Ruth Washburn writes: "The fun of calling all members of our Class of 1947, along with emails and snail mail, to convince them to come to our 70th reunion, is behind me. What a thrill to have six of the 12 of us left signed up to come, including **Isabelle Emond Alix**, **Shirley Rolston Martell**, **Juanita Parsons Nolan**, **Elizabeth Purington Straw**, **Beatrice Young Towne**, and me, **Ruth Blodgett Fisher Washburn**. Then the down side, when a few days before the Alumni Reunion opened on June 9, 2017, Isabelle fell; on Saturday morning, June 10, Elizabeth woke up with a debilitating bug. That left just four of us to celebrate.

"Shirley came by bus from Portland, ME, to spend a couple of days with me ahead of the event. Then Friday, June 9, we drove to Keene in my little Honda Fit, arriving at 3 p.m. beside Fiske Hall, Room 101 – which we shared 74 years ago as freshmen, and have stayed in for the last three reunions. Once we were unloaded in the hall outside our door, we walked over to the Young Student Center to register, get our dorm

keypad and room code, and find our display table before returning to our room to put our luggage inside and gather up our display items. Back to the Student Center to set up our display table with a red tablecloth, a table easel with photos of those who have attended five-year reunions over the past 70 years, copy of our KTC song, many photos of potato picking with three Idaho potatoes nestled among them, photos of activities during our College years, a stuffed owl with a banner, Class of 1947, that danced and sang 'The Best Day of My Life,' six gift baskets for each of us from **Norma Walker '51**, six ribbon pins depicting graduation photos of each of us attending, and on Saturday, photos Bea brought, including one of a group of Naval Air Cadets who occupied Huntress Hall while training for active duty in WWII. We received many congratulations on our attractive and informative display.

"With that accomplished, Shirley and I went back to our room to prepare for a terrific evening in the Alumni Center, where the Class of 1967, celebrating their 50th anniversary, hosted an awesome Welcome Back event with food, music, and lots of visiting. We were delighted to be honored by a group of teachers, including one who was teaching at a Portland, ME, elementary school that Shirley's children attended many years

ago. Norma Walker was always nearby wherever we went. We finally excused ourselves and headed back to our room for a good night's sleep.

"Saturday, the big day, began with checking out our display table, catching a bit of breakfast, and being on hand for the arrival of Juanita and her daughter Kim Nolan, and Bea, with her daughter-in-law, Cheryl Towne. Kim and Cheryl were dedicated to seeing that Juanita and Bea were able to enjoy the celebration to the fullest. The next hour was busy with group photos taken near the front entrance to Keene State College, before the Walk of the Classes began to the Zorn Dining Commons. We had our own table and were given a great reception on the walk, as we entered, and when each class was presented during lunch. As classes left, Shirley and I remained with our group as Juanita and Bea were leaving after Bea picked up her photos from our display. More pictures were taken outside with the four of us standing in front of our Class of 1947 sign. It was those last hugs, kisses, and promises of trying to get together during the year that closed reunion for Juanita and Bea, as Shirley and I waved goodbye until they were out of sight.

"Then the two of us headed over to the President's Ice Cream Social with three choices of ice cream and tables laden with more kinds of toppings than I knew about! We lingered there far longer than needed while talking with much younger folks about how different things are now at KSC. When we finally walked out of the building one of the wonderful volunteers was waiting outside with a golf cart. She thought we might like to finish up the afternoon with a tour of the complete campus. What an experience. We were astounded; even though we have returned every five years there were many buildings tucked in here and there we had not seen before, so very grateful for that volunteer's suggestion. She even dropped us off at Fiske before saying goodbye.

"We finished off the evening attending the alumni dinner and dance. What fun to watch the 50-year group enjoying celebrating by dancing every number. A new staff member and his wife joined us for dinner and while they were dancing another staff member from Australia visited with us for a half hour. It was a very warm feeling to know how much other alumni made sure we were honored everywhere we went. It was a fabulous dinner and a wonderful way to close the day. Our beds felt good after a very busy day! Sunday we were up to attend the president's fabulous Sunday Brunch. It is always scrumptious and very impressive with everyone having hugs, saying goodbye, and hearing so many promising to get together during the year. At 10:30 we headed back to the Young Student Center to dismantle our table display by the 11 a.m. deadline and put it in my car. Then back to clean out 'our stuff' from the refrigerator in Fiske Hall kitchen, pack up everything in our room, bring my car around to the front door and get it loaded, and hand in our keypad by the noon deadline. The two student workers at Fiske helped us load and stood waving as we pulled out. What a great 70th anniversary for the Class of 1947! Just wish everyone could have been there to experience the fun and nostalgia."

1948

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

A wonderful letter arrived from **Jean Harding Maxwell**. Her family planned a 90th birthday party for her; it was held in Saco, ME. Even several of her first eighth grade students from Candia, NH, were present. Jean attended the wedding of her grandson at the Indian Head in Lincoln, NH. Jean and her husband, Reginald, used to drive down from Colebrook to attend reunion and drive back in the same day. She has always been a devoted alumna.

1949

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

1950

It is convenient that **Maurice "Moe" Bowler** lives near Hart's Turkey Farm in Meredith so he can help check in Golden Circle alumni when they arrive for lunch. Those of you from the late '40s and early '50s classes may remember Moe as our star basketball player for KTC. He was a good player at Peterborough High too.

1951

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

Norma Walker writes: "Our sympathy goes out to the families of **Joan Greeley Simpson** and **Shirley Milnor Keith**. Joanie was always cheerful and a friend to all. Shirley left after a year or so to become a nurse.

"I met **Ralph** and wife **Helen Corey Dwire '49** at Kimball's in Jaffrey for lunch and ice cream. Ralph and I had a great time sharing some memories of our days at KTC. The Lyndeborough Town Report was dedicated to Ralph and Helen for their service to the town. It seems that Helen made delicious donuts for all the board meetings; everyone enjoyed them. I came home from sharing lunch with a pint of their maple syrup.

"I received a phone call from **Barbara Sullivan Brooks**, who is as busy as ever. That day she was off to a button show with a friend. Barb and her son have an antique shop in Hebron.

"I received a couple of phone calls from **Pat Parent O'Donnell**. I was glad she called because I'd wondered if the forest fires in Florida were near her in Clearwater. She sent some photos of our days on campus.

"Had a chance to chat with **Ruby Lapointe Brannen**. I had asked her if her daughter **Nancy Brannen '88** would speak to the Golden Circle when we met in Gorham but said she wouldn't be able to because it was too close to the opening of school.

"Many thanks to **Elaine Schmidt Chesley** for her help welcoming alumni to the luncheon at Hart's Turkey Farm.

"I received a wonderful note from **Margaret Rhoades Bost**. She keeps busy on Tuesdays and Thursdays with the Friendly Meals that are served in Alstead. Keep up the good work, Margaret.

"Now I have some news about a granddaughter who is married and lives in Vienna, Austria. She has just accepted a position with the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, a scientific research institute located just outside of Vienna. They deal with all sorts of problems of a global nature that are too large or complex for a country or academic discipline to handle. She will be helping to set up conferences that will be dealing with the problems."

1952

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

Winnie Langtry writes: "The reunion this year was our 65th, as we graduated in 1952. All three of us class secretaries worked hard getting as many of our class as we could to come back for our reunion. On Friday afternoon I arrived and began putting together our welcome to the class with pictures. Grace Chandler arrived and brought the display boards for us to review and renew with more recent pictures that had been given to us or collected over the

years. It really looked nice.

"1952 alumni in attendance were me, **Claire Simensen**, **Irene Parent** and her husband, Bruce, **Don Carle**, **Harold Pickwick** and his friend, Louise, **Irene Dunbar**, **Anita Nestor**, and **Mary Booras '55** in memory of her sister **Julia**, who died last winter. It was a great day with a delicious noon meal and then opportunities to get together with classmates all afternoon.

"**Anita Nestor** has given a beautiful carpet to the College, and at present it is in the Alumni Center. She is working with the alumni staff to seek a permanent location for it to be placed in the alumni house.

"We had worked hard to have other members of the class come, but members like **Mary Conroy** and **Charlie Mitchell** and **Joan Nielson Nelson** could not come due to health or transportation issues. We will keep trying to get them to some of our Golden Circle luncheons in the future.

"Our table was well decorated with owls that Winnie had found and adorned with red caps with '52 on the front, packages of candy, and name tags for our class. Thanks to **Norma Walker '51**. We are so appreciative of all her help through the years as well as at reunion time. How great we could all be together. Claire, Anita, and I stayed in Fiske Hall and enjoyed the evening meal at the Greek restaurant with Mary Booras. We went back to the house and saw Chris Booras, Mary and Julia's brother. He had gone to high school with my husband's brother, Philip Langtry, and it is always good to share news with him.

"Don Carle and I had gone to the Friday evening gathering at the Alumni Center and met with a lot of friends who had come for the first night. The food was wonderful and interesting.

"Following the reunion, I took Anita Nestor to my home and we had a couple of days seeing my area and home before she went back to her niece's home in Massachusetts for a few more days. Anita, it was great having you visit me as

well as having you come again to the reunion. Thanks.

"The reunion was great, but I wish more could have come. Maybe next fall we will be able to get more people to come to the College as they are changing from spring to fall for the next gathering. Do think about coming."

Claire Waterhouse Simonsen writes: "Our 65th reunion was great. Just wish more could have joined us. Winnie has filled you in on the events of the weekend.

"I am happy to report on the people I talked with who were unable to make it. Sorry to say I was unable to reach **June Salvail** and **Mary Farley**. Hope they will contact us if they receive this issue of *Keene State Today*. We would all like to have an update on what's going on in your lives.

"**Mary Moore Conroy** is still living in Rochester after all these years (they were previously in Raymond for a few years). She and Mick are very active in their church. She plays the violin as well as being a member of the prayer shawl group. They also volunteer their time at local nursing homes. Although they were unable to come to Keene, they were hoping to make the Golden Circle meeting in Portsmouth this fall. Hope so!

"Had a nice phone visit with **Marian Brown Leavitt**. Last saw her at the memorial gathering for her husband, **Claude '51**, a number of years ago. She was proud to tell me that all four of her grandchildren are Keene graduates (the last one this past May). Wouldn't Claude love that? Varied careers (different from our days at Keene): a banker, social worker, teacher, and the latest grad was a political science major. Had just about convinced her to join us at reunion when she realized it was the same date as her granddaughter's graduation party. She still winters in Florida and summers at Perkins Pond in Sunapee. She has a pontoon boat and would welcome any classmates in the area for a visit.

"I enjoyed talking with **June Simpson Chambers**. She and Dick are still in Florida. Health reasons



June Haymon '54 enjoys kayaking with her family.

have limited their travelling any distance now. They do enjoy playing cards with neighbors and seeing some good shows in the area. Our best wishes go out to both June and Dick. We did miss hearing Dick's great singing voice.

"Finally located **Charlie Mitchell** in his new home. He moved to the Birches in Concord last February. Loves all the activities offered there. Although he could not make the reunion, he did hope to make some of our Golden Circle luncheons. I have to congratulate **Norma Walker '51** for the tremendous job she does running them. They provide a great opportunity for all of us to keep in contact with so many fellow alums. Thank you.

"Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy year ahead. Remember, we have to hear from you if you want to see info in our Class Notes."

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

June Haymon writes: "Haven't heard from anyone except **Dorothy Bushnell Burden**. She requested **Bette Baston Emmett's** address, since she graduated in 1954 in home economics with Bette. I wrote her with the address and also emailed her but had no response. The letter was not re-

turned, making me think she got it.

"**Dorothy** lives in Strafford, VT, a small village about 30 miles northwest of Hanover, NH, and Dartmouth College. She is an amateur radio operator. She and her husband, Bill, are retired and active in community and church activities. They have traveled in Europe and presently prefer driving to Canada.

"It's been an exceptionally hot summer in New York, but my son Kris and his wife, Stacey, and I managed to go kayaking now and then. My family treated me to a dinner cruise around Manhattan for my 85th birthday – fantastic. If you can ever do that, do it. It goes out of Chelsea Piers. We were on a 200-foot boat. It was a four-hour cruise, dinner, music, and outstanding sights of New York Harbor including the Statue of Liberty and the Freedom Tower.

"Hey class, how about some news?"

1956

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

1957

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

1958

Jacqueline A. Abbott
7 Keeney Dr.
Bolton, CT 06043
jabbott814@aol.com



John Faust '58, Lynne Faust Weatherill '83, and Cynthia Faust '57 enjoy ice cream at the Love Boat in Ft. Myers, FL. If you ever go, look for the Keene State pennant on the ceiling!

1960

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

Gail Spevack Sheldon writes: "I know you were saddened as I was to read of **Sandy Perron Panzeri's** passing in the winter issue of *Keene State Today*. Her husband, **Bill '62**, said she received her diagnosis only three weeks before her passing on August 9, 2016. He sent newspaper clippings extolling her lifetime service to the Narragansett, RI, community. She was a pillar in the community and will be missed. We were so fortunate to enjoy her presence at our 50th.

"Fourteen-year-old North Conway, NH, student Robert S. Graustein never met the grandfather for whom he was named, Lt. Cmdr. Robert S. Graustein, who was killed in Vietnam on Dec. 21, 1972, but on July 15 he honored his grandfather by participating in the eighth annual Run to Home Base at Fenway Park before the Sox-Yankees game. He raised over \$2,000 for the Sox-Mass. General Hospital Fund, which has a mission of healing the invisible wounds of post-9/11 veterans and their families. This year the opening ceremonies included a special recognition ceremony for Vietnam veterans in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Viet Nam War. Robert said, "I ran for him because I was never given the chance to meet him." He is the grandson of **Maxine "Duddie"**

(**Weld Graustein**) **Andrews**, who is so proud of him. Newspapers in New Hampshire featured articles about this inspirational teen. Many of us remember how Duddie enjoyed hearing from Bob when he attended the Naval Academy during our Keene State years."

1961

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

Dorothy Bean Simpson writes: "Two new additions to **Ruth Doan MacDougall's** Snowy Owl Series have recently been published, continuing the story that began with *The Cheerleader*, set in the 1950s. *A Gunthwaite Girl* is a novella set in 2005, and the full-length novel *Site Fidelity* picks up the tale three years later. A must read! Recently, I attended a full-house library presentation by Ruth. Everyone loved her *Cheerleader* book. They asked her, 'Did girls really use those big rollers in their hair?'

"Received a lovely note from **Dorothy Gosselin Kinaci**. She taught English as a Second Language to many great students in her career. She has three wonderful daughters and four terrific grandsons. Dorothy lives with her oldest daughter in Florida for nine months and then goes to California to stay with her youngest daughter for three months. Her middle daughter has long work hours yet calls her mom every day. Dorothy writes, 'my life is full.'



Some members of the Class of 1961 got together at York Beach, ME, in June. They are, from left, **Helen Munn Stuefloten, Nancy Kidder Howe, Dorothy Bean Simpson, Barbara Petal Moore, and Nancy Andrews Fessenden.**

"**Helen Munn Stuefloten** came east from Mission Vieja, CA, and Kauai, Hawaii. She lives in both places. While in Hawaii she volunteers at the beautiful gardens of Na Alina Kai (Land by the Sea). She authored the children's book *There Is a Giant in the Garden*, which is sold in the garden's gift shop. Helen's family lives close by in California and she sees them frequently.

"**Nancy Kidder Howe** came back to New Hampshire this past summer. She attended a high school reunion in Walpole, visited friends, went to Cape Cod, Tennessee, and then back to Florida. Nancy makes greeting cards, knits, does all kinds of crafts, and certainly is talented. She keeps active with church and family activities.

"**Nancy Andrews Fessenden, Barbara Petelle Moore, Helen Munn Stuefloten, Nancy Kidder Howe, and Dotti Bean Simpson** met in June in New Castle, NH, at Nancy Fessenden's home. From there they went to York Beach, ME, for lunch and ice cream. The conversation never stopped. Shared memories and fun were delightful.

"**Jeanne Lachance Erickson** enjoyed kayaking at Fall Lake in Ely, MN. She also loves to golf at the lake.

"**Jane Ross Kageleiry** still swings her golf clubs and spent the

Fourth of July at Squam Lake with family.

"**Ivan Curtis** spends fun times with his daughter, Deb, her husband, and Ivan's grandsons. His Facebook page reports he lives in the Boston area.

"**Bob Saulnier** is back from his 21-day trip to South Africa. Spectacular trip!

"Our love to **Patty Gonye Nye**, whose mother died this past April. We know how much you cared for her, Patty.

"The Class of 1961 awarded three scholarships to Keene State students majoring in education this year (only interest on the endowment is used for these awards). The students sent thank you notes. Congratulations, classmates, on your generosity. And thanks to our watchman, **Bob Saulnier**, for his keen overseeing of our funds.

"Our classmate **Joan Soucy's** husband, **Robert Joseph Soucy '62**, passed away on July 9, 2017, at the Westwood Center in Keene after a period of declining health. He devoted 33 years to the students of Monadnock Regional High School, serving as social studies teacher, head of the department, and head football and track coach. Bob and Joan started the MRHS Staff Scholarship Fund. Bob retired in 1995. We send lots of love to Joan. And,



On August 3, **Jane Scott Turner, Joyce Gilman McKay, Pat Plante Zemianek, Carol Racicot Lord, Helen McGettigan Koehler, Claire Lataille Lanphear, Allan Saulnier, Brenda Peterson Flint, Jean Sweeney, and Betty Butterfly Gilman**, all Class of '63, attended the Golden Circle gathering at Hart's Turkey Farm in Meredith.

thank you, **Elaine Ellis**, for letting us know about Bob.

"Keep in touch, please! Notes, texts, phone, or Facebook. We care!"

1962

Stephanie Heselton Baute
515 E. Surry Rd.
Surry, NH 03431
Sbaute515@gmail.com

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

From **Elizabeth Butterfly Gilman**:
"It is time to begin making plans for the 55th reunion coming up in 2018. Hard to believe? Yes, we are another year older and yet we still enjoy the time we gather and renew friendships face to face.

"Reunions are moving to the fall. The specific date for 2018 is not known as of this writing, but it gives us a few additional months to plan. But who is going to do the planning? Here is your opportunity to volunteer to make our next reunion another outstanding event! Contact the Alumni Office (alumni@keene.edu) if you are willing to

serve on the planning committee.

"**Carol Racicot Lord** reports that she spent the first three months of this year in Texas to escape the winter and be with family. Then, to get away, she headed to St. Martin with her sister and a couple of friends. Seems like it is a regular vacation pattern for her.

"Summertime is time to connect. **Floreen Maroncelli** headed out of North Carolina mid-July into New England, making stops in Vermont, Massachusetts, and Maine. Her first overnight was at the home of **Pat Plante Zemianek**. The two went to the Rockwell Museum and the Clark Art Museum before attending a concert at the Clark Museum in the evening. From there they came to Newburyport for a few days with an overnight on Little Diamond Island in Maine. Floreen stated that she was happy to get fresh seafood and be near the ocean.

"Many classmates attend the summer Golden Circle luncheons. **Allan Saulnier** and his wife, **Madeleine '64**, were given recognition for their involvement with helping during the luncheons.

1964

Helen I. Jette
37100 Neukom Ave.
Zephyrhills, FL 33541
helenjette@aol.com

Bill Doolan
9189 William Cody Dr.
Evergreen, CO 80439
billdoolan@q.com

Bill Doolan writes: "The members of the Class of 1964 continue to be active. I went to Maui, Hawaii, with my friend Margie Sterlin in February. It was my first visit to that state, and I really enjoyed the trip. One of the highlights was a whale-watching boat trip. We saw lots of whales, and Margie got some great pictures. My pictures stunk.

"Next we went to Ireland because my granddaughter participated in the world Irish Dance competition in Dublin. After the competition, I was able to take my son and his family to Dingle. We went to mass on Easter Sunday at the church where my great-grandparents were married. Then we went to Menard West, a small town just outside Dingle where my grandfather was born. We were able to see the family homestead. It was great to look at the facial expressions of my son and two grandchildren.

"Just last week we got back from a trip to North Carolina, where I got to see my other grandson 'graduate' from eighth grade. After that we spent a few days at the outer banks. Early June is a great time to do this trip; the weather was comfortable and the summer crowds had not arrived.

"**Elaine Brandon** has enjoyed trips to the Berkshires, North Carolina, and Georgia. After she got bored seeing the sights in the United States she took a Mediterranean cruise that started in Rome and ended in Spain. She enjoyed this cruise so much that she took a second one from Los Angeles to San Francisco and Ensenada.

"**Walt Ryan** tells me that he spent some time last winter working with Keith King building a Scandinavian-inspired 11-foot sailing pram.

"**Al Lake** traveled to Vermont and Canada and is looking to take a trip to the West Coast this summer: British Columbia, Washington, and northern California. The key piece of the trip is to spend

time in Yellowstone National Park. On the return to New Hampshire they may have to come through Colorado and visit me."

1965

Richard E. Doyle
737 Lark Drive
Barefoot Bay, FL 32976
redoye59@aol.com

1966

Nancy Coutts
175 South Main St.
Brattleboro, VT 05301

1968

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

Jan Temple Metoxen writes:
"Hello, everyone! You should have received a letter from me about next year's reunion. Reunion 2017 had a wonderful turnout for the Class of 1967, the largest ever for a 50th reunion class. Our 1968 class had three, **Bob Coll, Frani Worthen Stevens**, and me. Hopefully, our 50th reunion (which will be held in the fall of 2018) will have many more members of our class returning! The two 1967 co-chairs, **Betsy Coll '67** and **Jane Batts '67**, ran a great day and put together a wonderful booklet. Hopefully we can do the same.

"Your two co-chairs for our 50th will be **Alan Hodsdon** and me. **Rich Seldow** has also offered to work on any projects such as posters and the class book. If you are interested and live in New England, we will be meeting in the fall in Keene and in the Springfield, MA, area to get going on the planning.

"My news: I am totally enjoying retirement. Still delivering Meals on Wheels every month and tutoring math during the school year. I have four grandchildren whom I thoroughly enjoy. My son Jason, who lives in New Jersey, has Matthew, 6, and Maya, 4. I drive down once a month and spend four days with them. My daughter Jessa, who lives in Marblehead, MA, has



Class of 1969 TKE/Theta Brothers recently enjoyed lobster rolls in Maine. They are **Perry Comeau, Barry Osborn, Wally Dwinells, and Thom Richards.**

James, 3, and a new baby, Noah. I spend as much time as possible with her, helping out, as her husband is away working a lot of the time. When I am not with the kids, I am gardening, doing hand work (I take classes at Old Sturbridge Village), or reading. I never thought retirement would keep me this busy!

"Please put the fall of 2018 on your calendar now for Reunion! If you have never been back to the College this is a perfect chance to see how amazing Keene State has become!"

1969

Barbara Hamilton
27 Kingswood Dr.
Manchester, CT 06040-6744
barbara.hamilton@att.net

1970

Susan Campbell
15 New Acres Rd.
Keene, NH 03431

1971

Maureen Sheehan Hall
69 Crescent St.
Hooksett, NH 03106
hallsofiy2@msn.com

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Elizabeth Leslie Chabot**, who died March 3, 2017. Betty lived in Keene, was known for her gardening, and worked for many years as office manager for the Apothecary, a Main Street pharmacy.

Class Secretary **Maureen Hall** writes: "I received a letter from **Florence Boulerrisse-Morton**. She has lived in the Keene area since graduation and worked for 42 years for Miniature Precision Ball Bearings (now Timken). While working, Florence spent nine years volunteering at Wheelock School, coaching three volleyball teams and cheerleading for special needs girls. Her true desire was to become a physical education teacher. After retiring from Timken's, she spent 10 years as a store clerk at JC Penney. Now Florence is fully retired and enjoying her days puttering around her home in Swanzev and being active at her church in Keene.

"Thank you, Florence, for taking the time to write. I hope to hear from more of you telling of your retirement years and if you have made a move or elongated your winter to the warmth of the southern states. Your classmates would love to hear your news.

"I still gather together with classmates from the New Hampshire area for dinner dates, theatre productions, and just plain fun outings. These classmates are **Susan Kelliher Marshall, Nancy Piotrowski Hanagan, Joyce DeGelan Tuden, Gail Walter Tremblay, Claire Reynolds Jutras**, and 1972 classmates **Maggie Radziejewicz '72** and **Lois Colon Kfoury '72**.

1972

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

Roger Hartwell
198 Palermo Pl.
The Villages, FL 32159
rgrhrtwl@yahoo.com

1973

Kathleen Pickford Stacy
190 Old Hancock Rd.
Antrim, NH 03440
gstacy@conknet.com

1974

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

1975

Eileen (Oechsli) Bohigian
emoquilt@aol.com

Dianne (Reidy) Janson
diannej@maine.rr.com

1976

Philip Bellingham
20 Transit Ln.
East Hartford, CT 06118

Class Secretary **Phil Bellingham** writes: "Hello '76-ers. Just got over a 'Heat Wave' (July 24, 2017, 94 degrees in East Hartford, high humidity). Remember that song?

"Keene State still seems to be 'humming along.' How things have changed since we graduated. Leo Redfern kept things in order and entertaining. What an era. The '70s proved to be a good time for this guy.

"KSC is 'changing with the seasons.' We've had another Alumni Weekend, October 13-15 – a good time to gather on campus in the fall season while classes are in session. So, '76-ers, that's it for now. Have fun."

1977

Sabrina Brown Maltby
13 Main St.
Raymond, NH 03077



Photographs by **Chuck Maranhos '74** were recently featured at an exhibit in the York, ME, Public Library. Chuck is a longtime photography enthusiast, shooting landscapes and wildlife. The exhibit featured numerous shots of eagles taken in the York area, where he lives. He's shown above with one of the photographs.

1978

Dianne Glaser-Gilrein
P.O. Box 1391
East Dennis, MA 02461
tgilrein@aol.com

A very interesting email arrived from **Jan Ilyko**. She had read in the 1951 class notes about the death of **Carol Jackson's** husband. Carol was Jan's home ec teacher at Holliston (MA) High School. Carol convinced Jan to attend Keene State. After graduation, Jan taught for a while in her home state and then spent 11 years teaching overseas in US military bases at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Seoul, Korea, and Okinawa, Japan. She also taught special education. After 31 years of teaching she has retired to California.

1979

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

1980

Allison Ashley-Bergstrom
8 Dockham Shore Road
Gilford, NH 03249
abergstrom@sbcglobal.net

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

1981

Nancy Colciaghi Pallas
6153 W. Fallen Leaf Ln.
Glendale, AZ 85310
nanpallas@gmail.com

1982

Janet Carsten Shaffer
janetshaffer@verizon.net

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.
Barrington, 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 Manville Hill Road, Apt. 16
Cumberland, RI 02864
lee4t@yahoo.com

1985

Alison Ahmed
alisonjahmed12@gmail.com

Lisa A. Gagnon
1510 Old Cape Saint Claire Rd.
Annapolis, MD 21409
sankyu21037@yahoo.com

Victoria Blodgett writes: "On the road again: I am leaving my position as assistant dean of the Graduate School at the University of Connecticut and heading back to New Hampshire (finally!) to join the staff at the School of Graduate and Advanced Study at Dartmouth College as the assistant dean for Postdoctoral Affairs. I thought that my stay in Connecticut would be short, but between

our time at Yale and UConn, almost 11 years has passed since our arrival. Susan and I are excited to be moving back to a life in New Hampshire, and look forward to visiting Keene more often."

1986

Tori Berube
toriberube@aol.com

Michael Trabucco
mptrabucco@hotmail.com

From **Michael Trabucco**: "Hi, everyone! Once again ... Michael Trabucco here. And once again, still hoping that some of you who've never sent in a Class Note will think about it – and do it – sometime soon! It's the first place you look when you get your *Keene State Today*, right? So this is a plea to those of you who have thought about it, but haven't gotten around to it yet. And to those of you who have sent stuff – thank you! I've been trying to be in touch with friends from long ago, and after about 20 years, I caught up with **Julianne Shea Poole '85**. We've been in touch over the years through Christmas cards, a mutual birthday, Facebook, etc., but we finally got together and had dinner in July, and it was so fantastic to see her!

"You Randall Hall folk may remember Julianne as your mail girl. Back in June, I got to spend time with **Michael Arietta '87**, who came to see a play I directed in Arlington, MA. Thanks for your support and surprise visit, Guido!

"**Holly Hansen** (my best friend from KSC!) and her husband, Tom, have found some wonderful ways to celebrate their one-year anniversary! They went to a Kenny Chesney concert, stayed at a beautiful bed & breakfast in upstate Connecticut, and then traveled to St. John, where they spent their honeymoon, for a week.

"**Curt Herr** has been extra busy these days. He writes: 'My third romance novel, *The Girl with Flowers in her Hair*, was released last week from Black Lyon Publishing! (I write under the names Frances DeleCourt Winters and Daniel Stephens). It's a magical

uplifting story about a quirky cupcake baker who transforms the hearts of a small New England town. Tony Award winning playwright Christopher Durang says about my book, "Lorelei Bradley is a unique and magical heroine as entrancing as the cupcakes she bakes. With a delicious plot, it is surprisingly funny as well." I'm honored! If you'd like to check it out, I've pasted the link below. The book is available in paperback and on Kindle as well.'

"Also, watch for some big news from me and my partner, Rob, next summer.

"Now, after reading these notes, don't you want to see YOUR name here? And find out what YOUR friends have been up to? Send me a quick email or Facebook message!"

1987

Lisa Corrette Livingstone
l.livingstone@verizon.net
54 Regan Circle
Raynham, MA 02767

Samantha Barrett McKinlay
2400 County Line Rd.
Ardmore, PA 19003
mckinlay3@gmail.com

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

Lisa Corrette Livingstone writes: "Hi, fellow 1987 Keene Staters! Hope that you had a blast back in June if you made it back to KSC for our (gulp) 30th reunion! Send in some photos and stories to share with the rest of the class!"

"I was happy to hear from **Joe Bannon** via email. We reminisced a bit about our days back at WKNH together."

From **Joe**: "I thought I'd finally get around to sending something in under the Class Notes after all these years.

"Anyway, I live almost as far from Keene as possible within the continental US, but over the past year I've been to Keene three times – four if we go back to April 2016, when I took our daughter Haley on



Holly Hansen '86 and her husband, Tom, have found some wonderful ways to celebrate their one-year anniversary! They went to a Kenny Chesney concert, stayed at a beautiful bed & breakfast in upstate Connecticut, and then vacationed for a week in St. John, where they spent their honeymoon.

a college scouting trip to Boston. We toured a bunch of schools and I forced her to run up to Keene with me for a day. After seeing the campus, she actually applied and was accepted, but ultimately decided on Boston College, where she just completed her first year.

"With each Keene visit I've seen old friends and marveled at the campus. Pretty amazing how much it's changed. On a couple of the trips I've met with students to share my experience post-KSC, which leads to...

"These days I live in Phoenix and work for a company called BHE Renewables. The BHE part is for Berkshire Hathaway Energy and we're part of Warren Buffet's organization. I'm with the solar group and oversee contract management at a couple of the solar plants we own. I graduated from Keene with a degree in geology, so reading contracts and ensuring we're following them is a big change from my previous career in the environmental arena.

"I've been married for 27 years to Marcia, whom I met in grad school (1988, MS in journalism, University of Illinois), and we have a son, Matthew, who just completed his freshman year of high school."

People may catch up with Joe at jbanon2763@gmail.com.

1988

Jeffrey LaValley
187 County St., #1
Attleboro, MA 02703
jeff_lavalley1966@yahoo.com

Susan Lundgren Regan
79 Winthrop Rd.
Guilford, CT 06437

1989

Maribeth Marsico Gesler
mbmars@cox.net

James M. Hogg writes: "Finishing up my 26th year of military service in the US Army as a Chief Warrant Officer Five. I have recently returned to Afghanistan as an AH-64 Apache Helicopter Pilot. I've previously served in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq, and three earlier tours in Afghanistan. In past assignments I served as an AH-64 Apache pilot and aviation safety officer/accident investigator at the company, battalion, and brigade level. In my current capacity as the 16th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO), I serve as the principal warrant officer leader for the CAB, advise and assist the CAB commander, subordinate commanders, staff, and warrant officers on all aspects of CAB operations. I oversee warrant officer issues including assignments, professional military education, promotion readiness, career advancement, accessions, professional development, and legal matters. Bonus: I get to fly the new Apache E Model. Cruising around in a \$35 million helicopter is awesome, aside from the occasional case of flying lead disease (bullets).

"I could not be more proud to serve with the thousands of US service members stationed at home and overseas. Unless you've walked in their shoes (boots) you cannot truly appreciate the hardships and personal sacrifices these young men and women (and their families) have endured in the name of patriotism, honor and selfless service."

1990

Lauren Aborjaily Griffin
17 Monhege Path
Marlborough, CT 06447

Shelly Brodeur Masson
shelly_m627@comcast.net

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

1991

Karen Dicey
kldicey@yahoo.com

Amy Eshelman
102 Newberry Rd.
East Haddam, CT 06423
alesheman@hotmail.com

Kathleen Kerr St. Germaine
19 Great Woods Rd.
Plymouth, MA 02360-1826

Christopher E. Mead is now chief marketing officer for Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., an international insurance brokerage and risk management services firm in Meadows, IL.

1992

Kate Shepard Dugan
42 Middlefield Dr.
West Hartford, CT 06107
patedugan@snet.net

Daniel V. Miele was named a 2017 Five Star Wealth Manager, an award that recognizes a select group of wealth managers in the Boston area for service and client retention. Miele's selection was announced in the February 2017 Issue of *Boston* magazine. Daniel lives in Duxbury, MA, and works for Centinel Financial Group.

1993

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

Seth M. Klaiman
2 Sweet Fern Trail
Saunderstown, RI 02874
smkri@aol.com

Kim Hopkins Phelps was recently promoted; she is now director of studies at the Salisbury

School, a private boarding school in Salisbury, CT. She began working at the school in 2010 as a mathematics instructor, and then moved up through positions as director of testing and director of educational technology. Kim and her husband live on campus and have two children.

1994

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

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

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

1995

Cara H. Staus
arac95@yahoo.com

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

1996

Karen Holmes Reinhold
dccxi@comcast.net

Aaron Kay Sales Parker
5832 Wooded Acres Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37921
rparker924@comcast.net

1997

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

Erin Oatley Bowers writes: "It's been a busy 20 years for me. My four boys are grown and have wonderful families of their own, and my daughter has started college in northern Virginia. After 12 years providing healthcare and four years as a high school biology teacher, I found my niche in biotechnology – specifically, supporting the development and manufacture of materials used in clinical trials. I just celebrated my sixth anniversary at MedImmune, which

is part of AstraZeneca, where I currently work as a compliance manager. Last year I ran my first marathon, went solo to Vegas and Jamaica (both firsts), learned to bartend, and anonymously donated my left kidney. 2017 should be equally exciting – I've joined the local rescue squad to become a volunteer EMT and I will be a proud great-grandmother in May!"

1998

Deb Clogher Burleigh
44 Clinton Ave.
Budd Lake, NJ 07828
deborahclogher@yahoo.com

Lisa Demers Harvey
lharvey2010@comcast.net

Kristen Cranson Nelson
P.O. Box 208
Greenville, NY 11548
kanelson02@hotmail.com

1999

Jason Hindle
8 Spruce St.
Somersworth, NH 03878
jsnhindle@yahoo.com

2000

Danielle LePage Zimmerman
danni@thezims.net

Corey Boilard is the new head women's basketball coach at Saint Anselm College, Manchester, NH. He moved to St. Anselm from Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island. He and his wife, Cassandra, have a one-year-old daughter.

2001

Christine Leland Williams
mrsquattro@gmail.com

2002

Jessie Gannett Heath
59 King Road
Chichester, NH 03258
jheath@wrsdsau59.org

Charles R. Lloyd has been named interim president of White Mountains Community College in Berlin, NH. He was recognized last year as one of the New Hampshire Union Leader's 40 Under 40. He and his wife, Amy, live in Bow.



Steve Autieri '03, a science teacher in Suffield, CT, was named one of six recipients of the Robert E. Yager Excellence in Teaching Award bestowed by the National Science Teachers Association. The award recognizes excellence and innovation in science education by K-12 teachers who have a passion for education and continued professional development. Steve, right, received his award in July at the association's National Congress on Science Education in Buffalo, NY.

2003

Angela Watson
55 Davidson Hill Rd.
Westminster, VT 05158
angela_watson7579@yahoo.com

Danielle Popyk
danielle.popyk@gmail.com

2004

Alison (Thompson) Cizowski
7 Chisholm Way
Wilmington, MA 01887
alit8@aol.com

2005

Valerie Nettleton
1250-210 West Adams
Hill Circle
Bloomington, IN 47403
Valerie.nettleton@gmail.com

2006

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

2008

Kelly A. Mullane
532 King Street
Chappaqua, NY 10514
kelly.a.mullane@gmail.com

2010

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

2011

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

2012

Deven Perkins writes: "Back in the summer of '15 I embarked on a bicycle tour from Bar Harbor, ME, to San Diego, CA. The tour was approximately 4,103 miles and it took me to a few key places like Niagara Falls, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Springfieldx2, Tulsa, OK, Oklahoma City, Albuquerque, Flagstaff, the Mojave Desert, LA, and down the West Coast to San Diego. During the ride, I raised about \$300 for St. Jude as well.

"I have since settled down in San Diego and have come to find a decent amount of KSC alumni here and in LA as well. I plan on staying out here for the remainder of my life with my new family: my pup Chadwick, my cat Bruce Wilis, and my partner, Erin Darnley."

2013

Stefanie Diskin
stefdiskin@comcast.net

2014

Emily Reed
emilyreed2014@gmail.com

2015

Chelsea Harris
chelseaharris10@gmail.com

Sarah Thomas completed her master's in justice studies from Southern New Hampshire University in May and is currently searching for employment.

Sean Ballard received his master's in student affairs from New



Angie Hartley '10 married **Adam Hogue '11** on September 4, 2016, in Rehoboth, MA. Guests in attendance included, from left, **Liz Malone '11**, **Corey Allen Smith '11**, **Rachael Gobeil '11**, **Becky Midler '10**, **Lyn Plomaritis '77**, **Jessica Howard '09**, **Emma Rivers '11**, **Nathan Wood '06**, **Nicole Turgeon '11**, **Julia May '08** and **Kevin Malicki '10** (not pictured). The couple met in Pondsides III in 2009 while they were studying elementary education. Photo by Joline Cameron



Christine O'Brien DiPirro '08 and **Michael DiPirro '08** were married May 6, 2017, in Windham, NH. On hand were, back row from left: **Buck Merrill '08**, **Brian Abramson '05**, **John Ouellette '08**; front row: **Barbara Hazard Merrill '08**, **Nicole Taylor Kennedy '08**, **Jennifer Sullivan Abramson '05**, **Bridget O'Brien Lanceleve '03**, **Michael, Christine, Kathleen O'Brien Scalisi '03**, **John Ramsey '08**, **Lyndsay Geer Hession '08**, **Ricky Hession '09**, **Mark Evans '08**, **Andrew Bonnette '08**, **Lauren Schleker Evans '08**, **Sarah Cookson DeAngelo '08**.

England College and just completed his first year as assistant director of Student Involvement at Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, NH. This summer Sean has been traveling all over, camping with his partner. His favorite trip was to Acadia National Park in Maine, where he hiked, sailed, and kayaked.

Andy Penfield is currently serving in Liberia with the Peace Corps. During this service he is teaching high school math to students. You can follow his journey on his blog: <https://andyspeacecorpsadventure.wordpress.com/>.

Dan Jean spent some time down in New Orleans with **Jessica French** after graduating, then started a job in Plymouth, MA. After a year and a half there, he made the move to Ann Arbor, MI, where he is a manager with Amica Mutual Insurance.

While at Keene, **Rory Bogel** majored in political science. After studying data/trends, he found an interest in the realm of analytics, leading him to Seattle after graduation with a job offer in hand! Rory works at Merkle, a data analytics consultancy, as a project man-

ager. He manages a team of analysts that implement site analytics tagging, building marketing audiences, and delivering performance reporting for advertising campaigns.

Sarah Bean is going into her second year of teaching at Charleston Elementary School in West Charleston, VT. The past two years have been busy, but she is loving it. During the month of July, Sarah returned to Keene for the New Teacher Retreat.

Jessica French has been traveling around Australia for the last year. She is learning about the world and herself. Jessica gives credit to Keene State as she says she wouldn't have been able to find the drive to go outside her comfort zone and travel if it weren't for the experiences she had at Keene.

Alexandra Manigault will be graduating from Plymouth State in December with a master's degree in marriage and family therapy.

Kenny Hadley lives in Newburyport, MA, and works at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center as the PACU/OR coordinator. He has been traveling with his partner and recently had the chance to travel to Montreal, Canada, to visit with Cirque du Soleil, a company he interned with while at Keene.

2017

Safety graduate **Amanda Makar** has an internship at International Paper Mill in Bogalusa, LA. "I cannot believe how much I am learn-

ing being out in the field," she writes. She had the opportunity to make a presentation to corporate officers in Memphis, TN.

**NEXT CLASS NOTES
DEADLINE:
MARCH 20**

**Contact your
class secretary or
classnotes@keene.edu**



Mary Keazer '35
March 23, 2017

Thelma Dickinson Dubriske '36
April 7, 2017

Thelma Harriman Brown '38
June 13, 2017

Anna Brown Frink '39
January 15, 2016

Emelyn Ayer Krause '41
June 15, 2016

Hope Jackson Lund '42
April 13, 2017

Phyllis Buxton Bodwell '43
April 16, 2017

Lois M. Reynolds Querim '43
February 10, 2017

**Barbara Boudreau
Bissonnette '44**
February 16, 2017

Shirley Mills Lang '44
March 4, 2017

**Priscilla "Robin" Chick
Sargent '44**
July 8, 2017

Mary F. Kiley '50
March 4, 2016

Robert W. Lockhart '50
January 2, 2017

Joan Greely Simpson '51
April 7, 2017

Mansur Stevens '51
May 1, 2017

Edward W. Curtiss '53
July 15, 2017

Joan Worthley Ingram '54
November 10, 2014

Ruth Bradish Kinson '55
March 18, 2017

Margaret Perkins Bailey '56
April 13, 2017

Bartlett C. Swett '56
February 6, 2017

Albert Marshall '58
November 15, 2016

Ronald Jeffords '62
March 9, 2017

Robert Soucy '62
July 8, 2017

Norman M. "Jitney" Lewis '63
May 14, 2017

Malcolm "Sam" Streeter '63
March 29, 2017

Charles F. Wilder '63
June 21, 2017

Dana V. Wyman '63
March 16, 2017

Iris Osborne Clark '65
June 2, 2017

David R. Sletner '65
March 31, 2017

Edward H. Sutherland '65
April 26, 2017

Aphrodite Vergas Tagalakis '65
April 20, 2017

Dianne O'Leary Hicks '66
May 21, 2017

Judith Dunnell Ward '66
March 7, 2017

Donald Black '67
September 1985

Elizabeth Britton Hall '67
March 10, 2017

Harry M. Hemphill '67
August 20, 2014

William M. Egan '68
July 14, 2017

Stephen R. Scully '69
April 2, 2017

Ronald Springfield '69
April 26, 2017

Bryan K. Abbott '70
May 1, 2017

Sally Dewolf Dempsey '70
July 13, 2017

Elizabeth Leslie Chabott '71
March 3, 2017

Helen Dean Gordon '71
June 6, 2017

Virginia Merrill Marrotte '72
July 17, 2017

Brian M. Moul '72
April 18, 2017

Pricille C. Jean '74
February 22, 2015

Colleen Steward Wilusz '74
April 4, 2017

Susan Spitzer Callahan '75
July 3, 2017

Robert W. Lund '75
March 4, 2017

Henriette Mayer Olmstead '75
June 13, 2017

Sandra Banks Proulx '75
June 4, 2017

Nicholas Hines '76
May 8, 2017

Karen J. Emery '79
May 16, 2017

David A. Funkhouser '81
June 10, 2017

Nancy Purbek '81
March 20, 2017

Edward A. Grzeleck '82
February 22, 2017

Kevin Haverty '82
August 30, 2009

Susan Visone Calderone '85
June 4, 2017

Lois Dionne Daneau '85
June 20, 2017

Wynne A. Rollins '88
January 16, 2015

Neal A. Parker '89
March 2, 2017

David Bowman '93
May 14, 2016


Katherine Rancore Coll '98
April 30, 2017

Kenneth J. Relihan '98
April 29, 2017

Ryan F. Kerley '08
June 2, 2016

** Deaths reported as of July 21, 2017*

FIRST-PERSON PROJECT

A photograph of Alicia (Geilenberg) Drakiotes '87, a woman with short, curly grey hair and glasses, wearing a blue button-down shirt over a purple sweater and green pants. She is sitting in an art studio, holding a paintbrush in her right hand. Behind her are several large framed paintings, including a prominent one of a sunset over a lake and another of a mountain landscape. The studio has a brick wall and various art supplies visible in the background.

Alicia (Geilenberg) Drakiotes '87 Marlborough, NH

*Visual Artist; Community Volunteer; Instructor,
New Hampshire Institute of Art*

Major: Individualized: Visual
Communications

"I didn't envision that my studies would lead me to a career as an artist, but it's very fulfilling now that I'm here. I stepped away from art for a while and when I came back to it I had new eyes and new ways to appreciate it. I really like fueling the creative abilities of people in the area, and then giving them the avenues to display their work. It's all been very healing for me."

 Read Alicia's oral history at keene.edu/first-person



Dr. Jason Bouchard '97
Enfield, CT

*Music Teacher, JFK Middle School, Enfield, CT;
Professional Musician*

Major: Music Education

"I hope to not only develop kids into musicians – I really want to develop kids into music lovers. The question inevitably comes up with middle-school students: Why do I have to take music? I say, 'The reason you study music is because we developed music before we developed language.'"

 Read Jason's oral history at keene.edu/first-person

John Gibbons '05
Northampton, MA

Assistant Professor, Biology, Clark University, Worcester, MA

Major: Biology
Minor: Sociology

"One thing that drew me to biology was just having all these little pieces of data and putting them together to tell this bigger story. That's something I still try to do now. How can we interpret natural phenomena, and how can we interpret fossil records and the geological record and genetics, and how can we put all this stuff together to now tell a story? Good biologists are good storytellers, too."

 Read John's oral history at keene.edu/first-person



Longtime Connections Benefit Tomorrow's Students

We'd like to take a moment to honor the memories of two longtime members of the Keene State College community: **Bartlett C. Swett '56** and **Mary C. Leonard**, a 21-year staff member who worked in the Office of Disability Services.

The two – who coincidentally died one day apart, Bart on February 6, 2017, and Mary on February 7 – both left substantial estate gifts that will benefit Keene State students far into the future.

Bart Swett, an educator and arts lover, left a bequest totaling \$477,637 to establish the **Dr. Bartlett C. Swett '56 Visual and Performing Arts Endowed Scholarship**. As a young man, he acted in musical comedies, ultimately deciding to go on for a doctorate at Penn State instead of taking up an offer to perform on Broadway. In retirement, he owned and ran an antique shop in St. Petersburg, Florida.

"I know the population of New Hampshire," Bart told *Keene State Today* back in 2014. "I know there aren't very many wealthy people, and I know it's difficult for a lot of students to get through college. I thought, I won't be able to do a lot, but I can help some students."



Mary Leonard had an arts background as well. With a degree from the Boston College of Music, she taught piano and voice in Walpole, New Hampshire, where she lived. At Keene State, she worked with students with disabilities; those students, and the College community, became like family to her. Jane Warner, director of Disability Services, said "Mary cared very deeply and passionately about the College. For her, the creation of these scholarships continues her legacy of good work and caring."

Mary dedicated \$200,000 from her estate to establish two endowed scholarship funds for Keene State students: the **Mary C. Leonard Endowed Scholarship for Students with Disabilities** and the **Jim and Mary Leonard Endowed Scholarship in Music**.

"On behalf of the institution, I honor the lasting legacy of Mary and Bart," Interim President Melinda Treadwell said in tribute. "Each was an inspiration and an essential, beloved member of the Keene State College community. I am ever grateful for the lifetime of service and their generosity to Keene State that will ensure their legacy lives on," Dr. Treadwell said.

Both Mary and Bart, through their estate commitments, were members of the Marion T. Wood Society. Over many years the College's advancement staff helped to keep them in touch with the College. To learn more about the Society and about planned giving at Keene State, visit Keene.edu/development or call 603-358-2372.