We hope you take the time to attend an alumni event this year. As the University and our alumni population continue to grow we are always seeking alumni volunteers to get involved with our Alumni programming. If you’re interested in hosting an alumni event in your area, have a suggestion for an alumni event, or would like to plan a reunion please email us at alumni@rowan.edu.

To register for an event, purchase tickets or for more information, visit alumni.rowan.edu or call Alumni Relations at 856-256-5400.

Due to the popularity of our events, refunds cannot be made unless specified.

Brown & Gold Gridiron Classic Picnic
Saturday, September 14
Join football alumni and friends for the annual pre-game picnic as the Profs take on Framingham State. Enjoy a barbecue buffet and updates on the season. 11 a.m., Football Field, near the Team House

Rohrer College of Business Fall Gala
Friday, September 27
Join us for a dinner honoring members of the RCB community with special guest speaker Jeffrey Tambor (Arrested Development). Watch your mailbox for info. 6 p.m., Eynon Ballroom

Baseball Diamond Club Golf Tournament
Saturday, September 28
Baseball alumni and fans from all generations are invited to the 2013 golf outing. Registration is $110 per golfer. Hole sponsorships are available for $100. Register today at alumni.rowan.edu/DCGolf. 1 p.m., Ramblewood Country Club, Mt. Laurel

Join the Alumni Choir
Saturday, September 28
All alumni are invited to join the Alumni Choir at the College of Performing Arts “Fall Choral Celebration” in honor of the late Clancy Miller. If you’re interested in singing or attending the concert, please contact the music department at 856-256-4651. 8 p.m., Pfleeger Concert Hall

Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine 16th Annual Golf Classic
Sunday, October 6
Join RowanSOM alumni, students and friends for a round. Registration and sponsorship information is available at alumni.rowan.edu/SOMGolfClassic. 8:45 a.m., Harbor Pines Golf Club, Egg Harbor Township

Homecoming 2013
Friday and Saturday, October 18 – 19
Mark your calendar and make plans to return to “Prof Country.” Our Homecoming festivities have something for everyone. See ad on p. 51 and watch for info in mail.

Homecoming Country Concert & Pep Rally
Friday, October 18
A limited number of alumni tickets are available for the first-ever Homecoming Country Concert & Pep Rally featuring Liv Devine, Joe Nichols and Uncle Kracker. 5 p.m., Rowan Hall Green

Class of ’88 25th Reunion
Saturday, October 19
Class of ’88 classmates are invited to celebrate their 25th Reunion. Enjoy your day at the Homecoming festivities and party into the night at a reunion reception in the Kopenhaver Center for Alumni Engagement. 5:30 p.m., Shpeen Hall

Rowan Alumni @ NJEA
Thursday and Friday, November 7 – 8
All GSC and Rowan educators are invited to visit our booth at the annual NJEA Teachers Convention at the Atlantic City Convention Center. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Atlantic City

Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Breakfast
Monday, January 20
Rowan welcomes Martin Luther King III as the speaker for the 28th annual breakfast. Tickets are $75 each, with proceeds supporting the Myers Scholarship. Tickets sales start in September at alumni.rowan.edu. 9:30 a.m., Eynon Ballroom

Annual Comedy Show
Friday, January 24
Make reservations now for our 11th annual comedy night. Food and cash bar. $40 per person, first-come, first-served seating, limit 10 tickets per alum. 8 p.m., Eynon Ballroom, Rowan University

More Alumni Programming
The Alumni Association welcomes alumni and friends to the Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Center for Alumni Engagement as we host educational and social events including Holiday Quizso, How to Survive Your Twenties, and our second Annual Alumni Wine Mixer. The Alumni Relations Office will also be hosting assorted alumni networking and happy hour events throughout the region, so join us at Rowan or on the road.
## Summer 2013 | Vol. XVIII, No. 1

### ON THE COVER
Who benefits from Rowan’s new day?
Nearly everyone in the market for higher education, health care and economic growth, now and tomorrow:
Wesley Leckenbusch, Janet Holloway ’87, M’93, Alejandro Ramirez ’15, Tabetha Dobbins, Anastasia Cruz D’16.

**PHOTO:** CRAIG TERRY

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**ROWAN MAGAZINE**

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ADVERTISING
Rowan Magazine accepts ads at the editor’s discretion for goods and services considered of value to alumni. Ad publication does not constitute an endorsement of that product or service.

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CONTENT
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Postmaster, please send address changes to: Rowan Magazine c/o Alumni Relations, Rowan University 201 Mullica/Hill Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028-1701.

Please recycle this magazine.
**Treasures to share**

I really enjoyed your article in the summer 2012 Rowan magazine about Grace Bagg. “RSVP from one sifter to another.”

I have known Grace Bagg since I entered Glassboro State Teachers College in 1942 and until she passed away as the result of an automobile accident in Vineland.

You requested donations of memorabilia for the University Publications archive. I have a photo of Grace, my mother and me, taken in May 1971 when Grace presented a Distinguished Alumnus diploma to me.

If a satisfactory copy can be made of the diploma and photo, I would be honored to give them to the archive. I’ll give you the original.

Beulah Lafferty
Brinker ’46
Woodstown

**Missing link**

I have not received a new copy of Rowan Magazine since last summer. Have there been any recent copies I’ve missed? Thanks.

Joe McAleer ’66
Bonita Springs, Florida

I am a Rowan graduate who receives the alumni magazine at the address below. One issue was delivered to my home earlier this year but I don’t recall receiving a copy of the fall/winter issue.

Has that issue published yet? If it has, I have not received a copy and would appreciate having one sent to my address.

Martin Walsh ’96
Westmont

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Joe’s and Martin’s inquiries are just a couple of the many we received via e-mail and phone from alumni who missed the link that the magazine provides.

The good news is our alma mater has had an incredibly busy, historic year with a mile-long list of good news to share and developments to make us all proud.

The bad news is that with all that’s going on, it has been a challenge to keep all the balls in the air here at Rowan Magazine and University Publications.

I appreciate your calls and e-mails (from right down the road and as far away as Arizona). It’s good to know you missed staying in touch.

I hope you enjoy this issue and find more than ever to take pride in as a graduate or friend of the brown and gold.

Let us know what you think:
editor@rowanmagazine.com

Lori Marshall
Rowan University
Carriage House
201 Mullica Hill Road
Glassboro, NJ 08028

**Holding on for history**

Try as we might, we’ve encountered yet another delay in releasing the University history book. Thanks for your patience. We promise it will be worth the wait.
Get a Rowan University education on your terms with times, locations and modes of delivery to accommodate your busy schedule. Whether you prefer to take courses online, on-campus, or at a location near you, Rowan’s College of Graduate & Continuing Education (CGCE) makes it convenient to acquire the education you need to advance your career.

**Graduate level programs available in:**
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- Communication
- Counseling/Behavioral Analysis
- Criminal Justice
- Nursing
- Education
- Engineering & Technology
- Mathematics
- Music

**Undergraduate Degree Completion programs available in:**
- Nursing
- Liberal Studies

Visit [www.rowan.edu/cgce](http://www.rowan.edu/cgce) for more information.
Rowan responds to Sandy’s attack

They offered relief. Rowan Relief.

With volunteer clean-up work, food drives, fundraising and sharing their professional and creative expertise throughout past nine months, members of the Rowan community joined together to assist victims of Hurricane Sandy, which severely damaged the New Jersey and New York coastlines.

Their efforts were part of Rowan Relief, a University-wide initiative that was launched just days after the hurricane hit on Oct. 30. A partnership between the University administration, the Student Government Association, the Office of Service Learning, Volunteerism & Community Engagement and a host of other clubs and organizations, Rowan Relief helped hurricane victims in both the short term and long term.

Throughout the fall months, students volunteered for cleanup in Beach Haven, Union Beach, Point Pleasant, Brigantine, Atlantic City and Staten Island and collected food, clothing, and toys for hurricane victims.

The work continued in spring with more fundraisers, including a “Shooting for the Shore” faculty-student basketball game that raised more than $1,800 and a Rowan Television Network telethon that netted $4,200.

The Campus Players, a student-run theatre club, organized a benefit performance, while sophomore art major Derek Koch designed a “Restore the Shore” graphic that garnered international attention and helped raise more than $400,000.

In July, 10 members of Rowan’s football team helped celebrate the resurgence of the Jersey Shore during the first Stronger Than the Storm Tug-of-War Competition in Seaside Park. The squad, 2,672 pounds of Brown-and-Gold muscle, won the heavyweight division as they competed near where the infamous roller coaster, destroyed by Sandy, stood.

“We saw what still needs to be done,” said team captain Kyle Jones, who also volunteered on a cleanup in Brigantine last spring. “Certain piers still need rebuilding. Seeing Seaside brought it home to us…without a doubt. Winning the tug of war was fun, but it was great to be out there for a good cause.”

Above left: Rowan’s heavyweights beat tug-of-war competition from throughout the state in the event to promote economic recovery at the shore.

Above right: Cleanup crews from Rowan volunteered for weeks of dirty work to clear flooded shoreline properties.

Below: Art major Derek Koch designed a graphic that helped raise more than $400,000 for Sandy relief.

To learn more about Rowan Relief efforts, visit rowan.edu/RowanRelief or facebook.com/Rowan Relief. To donate to the Long Beach Island Hurricane Relief Fund, visit https://fundrazr.com/campaigns/0Nmn6.
Woodrow Wilson Foundation provides $30K stipends for aspiring STEM teachers

Rowan’s strong commitment to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) received powerful support recently when the University was named one of five New Jersey institutions to participate in the Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship program.

Created by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation in Princeton and funded with approximately $9 million, the program will recruit top STEM graduates and professionals and prepare them to teach in high-need schools. Ten fellows at each of five participating institutions will receive $30,000 stipends for committing to teach in an urban or rural school in New Jersey for three years. The first fellows will start their academic programs in fall 2014 and be ready to teach in fall 2015.

Rowan, which is partnering in the program with Rutgers-Camden, will provide yearlong teaching experiences in Millville, Bridgeton and Vineland schools, while Rutgers-Camden students will work in Camden and Pemberton. The College of New Jersey, Montclair State University and William Paterson University are also participating.

New Jersey was the first East Coast state to participate in the program, which was announced by Gov. Chris Christie in December.

“Thirty to 40 percent of New Jersey teachers leave the profession during their first three years in the classroom—more in high-need districts,” said Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation President Arthur Levine. “So there’s a genuine need for these new teachers and for innovative preparation that will help keep them in the classroom.”

Added Rowan President Ali Houshmand, “For our country to continue to remain competitive in the global marketplace, for the United States to continue to be a leader in mathematics, technology, the sciences and engineering, we need to constantly look for ways to invest in STEM education and bring more talents into the classroom.”

Fulbright awards for two students

Lauren Wederich is continuing Rowan University’s impressive Fulbright Program tradition. Meanwhile, Katelyn Sullivan is hoping she has started a new one.

In May, Wederich, who earned her bachelor’s degree in psychology, became the University’s 16th Fulbright recipient in the past 13 years. This fall, she’ll travel to Malaysia, where she’ll teach for nine months through Fulbright’s English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) program.

Sullivan, a rising junior history and religion studies major, became the first Rowan student to land a spot in the Fulbright Summer Institute, one of the most selective summer scholarship programs in the world. She left in July for a four-week stint studying the environment, sustainability and the Global and Imperial History pathway at the University of Exeter in Great Britain.

Notoriously competitive, Fulbright scholarships attract gifted students from the nation’s top colleges and universities. Both Wederich and Sullivan fit the criteria.

Wederich, who has dyslexia, graduated summa cum laude with a nearly perfect grade point average. She spent part of her undergraduate years studying abroad in Florence, Italy, and plans to go to graduate school to study occupational therapy.

Sullivan, a member of Rowan’s Thomas N. Bantivoglio Honors Program who also carries concentrations in Asian studies and international studies, is involved in many Rowan clubs. She’s focused on becoming a scholar of history.

Malaysia was a perfect fit for Wederich. “It’s a huge melting pot, and that’s very cool,” Wederich says, adding that her own challenges will help make her a stronger, more empathetic teacher.

Sullivan is hopeful that other Rowan students will consider a Fulbright Summer Institute experience and she’s eager to continue the University tradition of full Fulbright scholarships. “I feel fortunate to have this opportunity—and I am going to seize it,” said Sullivan. “I’m hoping my experience will encourage other Rowan students to apply in the future.”

During her Rowan University career, Lauren Wederich studied in Italy. Her Fulbright award sends her to Malaysia this year.
Charitable giving marks third best year in Rowan history

For fiscal year ’13 (ended June 30), Rowan raised nearly $6.5 million in philanthropic giving from individuals, corporations and foundations—its third best fundraising year. In addition to more than $2.5 million in support for scholarships, gifts included a $150,000 capital improvement pledge from Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver ’62, a $300,000 grant from Edison Ventures to support online outreach to K-12 teachers through the College of Engineering VHUB, $300,000 from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation to fund training of future teachers (see p. 5), and a $50,000 grant from the Aetna Foundation to support fitness initiatives for disabled individuals and their caregivers through the College of Education.

Other FY13 gifts have supported special projects, learning initiatives and innovative faculty research. Giving also incuded in-kind donations of equipment and services, arts and athletics funding and unrestricted funds received through the Phonathon and other annual giving programs.

Rowan enjoyed support from alumni and friends at all giving levels. “Every gift matters,” said R.J. Tallarida Jr., associate vice president for University Advancement and executive director of the Rowan University Foundation. “Each gift is a vote of confidence in the University.”

Fundraising in fiscal year ’13 was outpaced only by 1992, when Henry and Betty Rowan committed $100 million to then-Glassboro State College, and 2005, when the William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation pledged $10 million to the College of Business.

Tallarida said leadership from President Houshmand, the Board of Trustees and Foundation Board have proven key in developing a greater appreciation for philanthropy and shaping an approach to it. “It’s like the perfect storm of philanthropy,” Tallarida said. “We have entrepreneurial leadership, we have a powerful story, and donors are responding. They see the success and want to be a part of it.”

Professor and student beat breast cancer odds with bodybuilding

Leslie Spencer was Domenick Salvatore’s professor and mentor. But when Spencer developed breast cancer, Salvatore ’09, became the teacher.

In 2009, at age 44, Spencer was diagnosed. Over the next 18 months, she underwent a double mastectomy, a hysterectomy and radiation treatments. Her physicians didn’t push exercising as a means to a positive recovery. But Spencer had other ideas. She enlisted Salvator­e’s help to devise a training regimen that did more than help her conquer cancer. It also put Spencer on a path to become a competitive bodybuilder.

“I want people to see that the trials they go through don’t have to determine their future,” Spencer said. “It can be possible to have goals. People can defy the odds.”

In devising Spencer’s training regimen, Salvatore became an expert in training women with breast cancer. Today, he’s a clinical research coordinator and exercise specialist at the Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. He works in Penn’s Strength After Breast Cancer Program, providing progressive resistance training in physical therapy settings for women recovering from the disease.

“Leslie turned cancer on its head and I watched it all transpire,” said Salvatore. “She’s one of the best people I’ve ever met in my life. She attacks life. She taught me to do that for myself.”

Follow Spencer’s story at www.strongandbuilt.net.

A Rowan professor since 1995, Leslie Spencer became a new type of role model and teacher since her cancer diagnosis.

Campus news

John Martinson Jr., of Edison Ventures, learns about VHUB firsthand with Rowan engineering student Colleen Nauss and Glassboro Intermediate School science teacher Denise Barr.

You Can Be Beautiful Beyond Breast Cancer: The Strength Training and Diet Program That Changed My Life Post-Cancer, Spencer tells her story and describes the exercise and nutrition program that helped save her life. She’s hopeful the book will help other cancer patients—or others struggling with illness—understand the role exercise and nutrition can play in their recovery.

Professor and student beat breast cancer odds with bodybuilding
Burgers, greens and other cool things come to the ’Boro

That’s what you’ll find on Rowan Boulevard—just for starters.

A $300 million redevelopment project, the Boulevard is fast linking Rowan’s main campus with historic downtown Glassboro. A Marriott Courtyard Hotel and Conference center and a massive mixed-use building, the new home of the College of Graduate & Continuing Education, join the Boulevard’s first major retailer, a Barnes & Noble Superstore, in August.

An anchor for the Boulevard at the edge of campus, the Whitney Center, which opened in 2011, includes 22,000 square-feet of retail space on the ground level and housing for some 300 Rowan students on the floors above, plus facilities for the Bantivoglio Honors Program.

Planned to contain dozens of shopping and dining options, Rowan Boulevard welcomed Prime burger restaurant to the Whitney Center in June 2012 followed by Green Zebra eatery in December.

Forever Young Emporium, a youth-oriented gift, accessories and clothing store, opened in the Whitney Center in June. Yogo Factory Frozen Yogurt Café and Ry’s Bagels—an extension of the former Don’s Bagels off Delsea Drive in Glassboro—are expected to open soon.

In addition, Sun National Bank is moving into The Whitney Center, bringing the first new bank branch to downtown Glassboro in 18 years.

Forever Young Emporium co-owner Gary Reses said he and his wife, Nina, ran their Haddonfield store for 11 years as Jamaican Me Crazy before changing the name and relocating to Rowan Boulevard.

“This is where we want to be,” Reses said. “The store is a little Bohemian, with a classic rock-and-roll or jam-band vibe.”

“Rowan Boulevard is really bringing Rowan and the Glassboro community together,” said Heather Felker, a senior in Rowan’s theatre program. Felker is a Glassboro native who’s worked at Green Zebra since it opened.

“I’m excited,” she said. “I’m actually proud of the whole development.”

President Houshmand and friends from the borough and campus welcome new vendors to Rowan Boulevard.

More than touch-ups for facilities across campus

A series of renovation and construction projects in several areas of campus is transforming Rowan University ahead of the new school year.

Major projects have included a restoration of the iconic Bunce Hall cupola and portico, renovation of Tohill Theater, an expansion of the Team House and a new student health center in Winans Hall.

Joe Monahan, assistant vice president for facilities and operations, said the summer construction work embodies a theme: investing in Rowan’s existing campus even as the University plans to expand it.

“This is a very exciting time at Rowan but as we develop it’s critical we maintain the buildings and assets we already have,” Monahan said.

Improvements to Rowan’s existing campus complement dramatic changes to the University, many in the past year.

In April Rowan learned that it would receive $17 million in state construction funding, primarily from the Building Our Future Bond Act. That money will help fund major construction, including a new home for the Rohrer College of Business, a second building for the College of Engineering, restoration of the historic bank building on Rowan’s Camden campus and smaller but important projects to improve energy efficiency and infrastructure.

Meanwhile, progress along Rowan Boulevard continues at a rapid pace. Amid all the advances, concern for sustainability and environmental impact remains a priority. Adding to a several-year run of recognition for environmental achievements, The Princeton Review named Rowan this year among the 322 most environmentally responsible colleges in the United States and Canada.

The John Green Team House welcomes student-athletes, fans and competitors with an improved facility, inside and out.
Robinette makes it to Broadway and Tony nomination

As host Neil Patrick Harris made his way down the aisle of Radio City Music Hall during the opening number of the 2013 Tony Awards, television cameras caught him dancing past Professor Emeritus Joseph Robinette. Sitting in a prime aisle seat, Robinette was more than just a lucky spectator that June evening. He was a Tony Award nominee.

Nearly 50 years after writing his first play, Robinette reached a new level of success with this recognition for his work as librettist of Broadway’s “A Christmas Story: The Musical.”

“I feel like an aging baseball player who finally made it to the major league,” Robinette said.

An acclaimed children’s theatre playwright who retired from Rowan University in 2005 after 34 years, he adapted the beloved Jean Shepherd story and 1983 film for a stage version that broke box office records during the holiday season last year.

But that limited run isn’t the end of the story. The show returns to New York in December, playing the Theater at Madison Square Garden following engagements in Hartford, Conn., and Boston.

“It’s a very satisfying thing,” Robinette said of his “new” success. “I’m kind of overwhelmed by it.”

He’s already made a name for himself, however. This quietly prolific writer has earned numerous honors and “A Christmas Story” is his 56th published work. His plays have been seen in all 50 states, translated into foreign languages and produced internationally, including runs at Lincoln Center and on the BBC. This one, though, may be different.

“I suspect his adaptation of ‘A Christmas Story’ will become a musical theatre classic,” noted Roy Miller, one of the show’s Broadway producers.

AT&T helps first-generation college students aim for STEM

Dancers in James Hall twirled in a synchronized rhythm that may not have brought them fame but certainly garnered them smiles. The dancers were tiny robots made of LEGO®, and their choreographers were 21 rising 11th graders participating in year one of the Junior Aim High Science and Technology Academy, an initiative of the College of Education and College of Science & Mathematics coordinated by Kara Ieva, assistant professor of counseling in educational settings.

The dance was part of a closing-ceremony video highlighting the academy, a competitive three-week summer program providing future first-generation college students from 11 South Jersey school districts the opportunity to learn about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), with an emphasis on computer programming.

Harley Fagan, a student from Franklinville, said, “Dedicating part of my summer to this program was one of the best things I ever did… I’m ready for a head start toward my future.”

The AT&T Foundation gave $50,000 to the program, modeled after a similar academy for rising high school seniors that Rowan first offered in 2011 and that this summer served 40 students. In addition to STEM, the academy focused on leadership skills and topics critical to getting into and succeeding in college.

Said J. Michael Schweder, president of AT&T Mid Atlantic, who was among the approximate 150 people at the ceremony, “The Aim High program is a great example of what happens when great universities like Rowan and the private sector work together to help underserved students learn about a path to succeed in school and in life … We are thrilled to team up with Rowan to inspire these students to work hard, stay in school and, ultimately, excel in STEM disciplines.”
Honors for Prof student-athletes and coaches

This past year, the Rowan athletic teams excelled on and off the field, with 11 teams advancing to NCAA Division III Championship Tournaments. The athletic department recognized 214 student-athletes who had a 3.0 or higher grade point average and New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) All-Academic honors went to 101 student-athletes.

The Profs won the NJAC Championship in women’s cross country, indoor track and outdoor track and field. The three teams combined came in 14th in the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association NCAA Division III Program of the Year final standings. The women’s outdoor track and field team took first place at the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships. The softball team finished as the conference’s regular season champion. The baseball team captured the NJAC tournament title.

The Profs had 13 student-athletes who received special conference awards in their respective sport and 154 that earned NJAC All-Conference honors.

Joy Hanke ’13
Mike Pinter ’15
Shannon O’Brien ’13
Taylor Purdue ’13
Danielle Czohla ’13
Deana Wood ’14
Kelsey O’Neill ’13
Miranda Donnian ’14
Darren Dungee ’16
Shailah Williams ’16
Shailah Williams ’16
Vanessa Wright ’13
Jewel Brown ’16
Stephanie Labas ’13
Shilah Snead ’16
Stephen Petriello ’16
Demetrius Rooks ’13
Glenn Kohles ’16
Derrick “Ringo” Adamson
Kim Wilson

NJAC All-Academic first team (CROSS COUNTRY)
NJAC All-Academic first team (SOCCER)
NJAC All-Academic second team (LACROSSE)
NJAC All-Academic second team (TRACK)
Runner of the Year (CROSS COUNTRY)
Rookie of the Year (CROSS COUNTRY)
Defensive Player of the Year (FIELD HOCKEY)
Co-Defensive Player of the Year (SOCCER)
NJAC Defensive Rookie of the Year (FOOTBALL)
Women’s Rookie of the Year (INDOOR TRACK)
Thomas M. Gerrity Most Outstanding Athlete Award (OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD)
NJAC Outstanding Track Athlete (OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD)
Rookie of the Year (OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD)
NJAC Softball Player of the Year (SOFTBALL)
Co-Rookie of the Year (SOFTBALL)
NJAC Rookie of the Year (BASEBALL)
Thomas M. Gerrity Most Outstanding Athlete Award (OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD)
Rookie of the Year (OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD)
NJAC Coach of the Year (WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY, INDOOR AND OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD)
NJAC Coach of the Year (SOFTBALL)

2013 welcomes record freshman class

Rowan University continues to see ever-greater numbers of applicants and, for 2013-14, welcomes its largest freshman class ever.

Not only are more students attending, the average student profile, already strong, continues to improve.

For 2013-14, Rowan enrolled more than 1,800 students out of roughly 10,000 freshman applicants.

The average regularly admitted student enrolled in the Class of 2017 enters with an SAT score of 1,215 out of a possible 1,600 and an average grade point average of 3.6. A new program to help broaden access for first-year students, Select Start, has enrolled about 100 freshmen.

Rowan made available an added $1.5 million in scholarship funding. More and larger awards have helped attract competitive students in all of the University’s colleges.

“With so much going on we’re fortunate to have more money to help high-achieving students attend,” said Jeffrey Hand, vice president for strategic enrollment management. Admissions Director Albert Betts said interest in all majors is up and, between incoming freshmen and transfers, Rowan’s undergraduate student body will be about 300 students larger than last year.

In addition, Rowan’s students increasingly represent the state’s diverse population, enriching everyone’s educational experience. “We’ve attracted a bright group of students from throughout the state who will have great opportunities at Rowan,” Betts said. “We’re eager for them to get started.”

Rowan’s commitment to exceptional public higher education expands now with opportunities created by having earned comprehensive research status and $117 million in state bonds for construction. The funds will make possible key improvements including the construction of a new home for Rohrer College of Business and a second building for the College of Engineering, developments that will permit both colleges to double enrollment.
First full year for Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

J enny Akpe is a long way from her hometown of St. Paul, Minn., but the City of Camden had what she was looking for.

A member of the inaugural class of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU), Akpe sought a program that emphasized volunteerism and treating the medically underserved.

At CMSRU, that’s exactly what she found.

In addition to rigorous first-year studies, Akpe and her classmates were required to perform 40 hours of community service, a requirement for each year of the program.

For her, community service has meant volunteering at the Anna Sample Family Shelter in Camden, and, literally, cleaning the city streets.

“Is it fun going out and cleaning in the heat? Not necessarily,” Akpe said. “But having the older lady on the block you’re cleaning come up and say, “Thank you,” is very rewarding. It’s also a good feeling to look back on the street that we cleaned.”

More important, she said, such experiences will help her become a better doctor.

“It’s important to see where our patients come from, where and how they live,” said Akpe. “That will help us serve them better medically.”

Akpe, one of 50 students in the inaugural class that started in August 2012, was chosen from some 3,000 applicants. The second-year class will have 64 students and each successive enrollment will grow until the school reaches a maximum of 100 students per class.

Being part of the city’s neighborhood is critical to the CMSRU mission to address health care needs of individuals and their community—in this case, a diverse urban environment with great socioeconomic challenges for residents at every stage of life.

CMSRU students presented a day of service on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to introduce Camden children and teens to healthy habits and basic health awareness.
Construction of the six-story, 200,000-square-foot Medical Education Building infused life into the area and expanded Camden’s fast-growing medical campus that includes Cooper University Hospital and the Coriell Institute for Medical Research.

Rowan’s growing presence in the city provides an exceptional facility for educating physicians and the CMSRU Medical Education Building was recognized in April with Gold LEED Certification from U.S. Green Building Council, a confirmation of its energy efficiency.

Summer research projects are not required but this summer 31 students in the inaugural class are involved with a wide range of basic science and clinical research projects in such areas as molecular biology and violence prevention.

Founding Dean Paul Katz said as CMSRU enters its second year the excitement surrounding the school is palpable. “There’s much to celebrate,” Katz said. “We’ve opened an all-new facility, recruited top-notch faculty and seen early success with an innovative curriculum.”

In addition, CMSRU’s inaugural philanthropic initiative, the Legacy Society Campaign, was a huge success. In 2012 the initiative, which supports medical education, biomedical research, patient care and community service, had a goal of $5 million. It attracted more than 180 members and raised $5.3 million.

Through interaction with simulated patients, medical students began to learn about caring for people with various conditions.

ABOVE: With the initiation of CMSRU’s first class, the White Coat Ceremony became part of Rowan’s academic tradition.

ABOVE: Small-group study rooms encourage students to engage with each other as they learn.

BELOW: Immersion in the urban community began for CMSRU’s first 50 students with a scavenger hunt for Camden landmarks throughout the neighborhoods.
Rowan expands on R&D for the real world

For Bethany Raiff, Facebook just may be for quitters. It’s a good thing.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded the assistant professor of psychology and her collaborators $613,000 to develop a video game for Facebook called “Up from the Ashes.”

Science with incentives

In research-speak, “Up from the Ashes” is a contingency management (CM) intervention to help smokers quit. In lay terms, it’s a video game with incentives—a Farmville of sorts for people looking to kick the habit.

As part of the CM intervention, participants exhale into a carbon monoxide monitor. If their CO level indicates they’ve tossed the cigarettes, the participants earn incentives—added game resources like food and fuel to help them advance.

“Smoking is the number one preventable cause of morbidity and mortality in the United States,” Raiff said. “Most smokers who try to quit relapse. We need to find an affordable, acceptable and accessible approach people will use.”

Her main focus is to ensure the game stays true to the intervention the team is basing it on, remaining consistent with good science.

Working with Raiff are fellow PI and video game designer Darion Rapoza, president of Entertainment Sciences, and staff at Red Hill Studios, who are helping design the game. Raiff hopes to conduct a clinical trial in the fall.

“Up from the Ashes” is one of several biomedical and health-related research initiatives on campus that recently received funding from prestigious organizations, funding that reflects work Rowan professors have been conducting and the direction the University is heading as it grows its research initiatives as a state comprehensive public research institution.

Partnering for R&D

“Rowan has long had professors who teamed with students, other universities, outside organizations and corporations on critical research projects,” said Kenneth Blank, vice president for health sciences. “Business and industry are eager partners in research and development. As a state-designated research university, we anticipate marked growth in the next decade in work that will go from the lab to the marketplace.” Blank said Rowan will virtually triple research funding to $100 million by 2023.

Expanding on today’s $24 million research tally, Rowan’s new research initiatives will focus on applied research, solutions for real-world problems.

Cancer and a virtual brain

Some of that progress already is visible. The University teamed with Sweden-based Elekta Instrument AB, a global leader in providing clinical solutions for treating cancer and brain disorders and manufacturer of the “Gamma Knife.” The company provided nearly $300,000 for a collaboration between physicians at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, led by Warren Goldman, chair of neurological surgery at Cooper University Health Care, and the South Jersey Technology Park to establish a Joint Laboratory for Integrative Neuroimaging.

Medtronic Inc, a major medical devices company, has provided equipment worth $446,000 to support this collaboration. The researchers will conduct neuro-imaging work using the CAVE® virtual reality system in the South Jersey Technology Park, developing a virtual brain as a tool to better diagnose and treat brain disorders.

Stem cells for back pain

NIH also recently awarded assistant professor of chemical engineering Jennifer Vernengo close to $400,000 for a project that promises to ease the suffering of individuals with back pain. She is teaming with Cristina Iftode, associate professor of biological sciences, and Jennifer Kadlowec, professor of mechanical engineering, to develop a hydrogel that holds adult stem cells from a patient’s own body. Those stem cells will develop into new back disc cells, which in turn will produce new disc tissue. Vernengo said materials exist that can hold cells and help heal tissue, but they tend to migrate or expel when a person moves. She and her team are working on a stronger material that will adhere to adjacent existing tissue to ensure stability.

The NIH also awarded $200,000 to Kadlowec and Thomas Merrill, associate professor of mechanical engineering, to improve team-based design education to train students in biomedical engineering to recognize clinical problems and design real-patient solutions. They will partner with Cooper University Hospital on a summer training program to immerse engineering students at Cooper, with the goal of training people to discover needs and develop more cost-effective and safer medical solutions.
First grant to RowanSOM: $1 million to expand geriatric medical education

The first grant awarded to the newly aligned RowanSOM—a four-year, $998,895 award from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation—will help fund a program to expand interprofessional medical education for students, residents and faculty at the school’s nationally known New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging (NJISA). RowanSOM was one of just 10 academic health centers nationally that successfully applied for a grant from the Reynolds Foundation, a philanthropic organization headquartered in Las Vegas. Since 2001, the Reynolds Foundation has committed almost $100 million to projects that train medical students, residents and faculty in geriatrics.

The grant to the NJISA will support a project that allows students from across the health disciplines—medical students; residents in primary care and psychiatry; and geriatric fellows in osteopathic manipulative medicine, psychiatry and dentistry—to learn from and with each other. Students of nursing, pharmacy and allied health professions will also participate in the training program, helping them learn to function effectively as members of healthcare teams. “Teamwork is an essential element of patient safety” said Anita Chopra, NJISA director and principal investigator of the grant. “This grant will help us advance interprofessional training in order to prepare medical students and residents to practice patient-centered care as effective members of a collaborative practice team.”

Nearly 2,300 medical students, 520 residents and 135 faculty members are expected to receive geriatric training through this initiative.
Joy, pride, gratitude and relief mixed in abundance as this year’s Commencement ceremonies brought thousands together to celebrate in mid-May. From his seat on the dais, University benefactor and namesake Henry Rowan applauded the 20th class of graduates to earn degrees since his historic gift to the institution.

The Alumni Association gained more than 2,500 members with 2,200 undergraduates and nearly 300 graduate degree recipients in the Class of 2013.

Guests at Thursday evening’s graduate ceremony overflowed the football stands and heard from our own Jean McMenamin Edelman ’81, cofounder of Edelman Financial Services, philanthropist and trailblazing first woman president of our Student Government Association. Each graduate received a copy of her book (excerpted on p. 42 of this issue).

On Friday morning, President Houshmand presided over festivities that included tribute to Honorary Doctor of Humanities recipients Larry ’77 and Rita Salva, Distinguished Alumnus Shaun T ’01, and anniversary classes from 1963 and 1973.

Delivering the keynote address at the University he has championed as a legislator, state Senate President Steve Sweeney spoke of being inspired by his children’s achievements and his appreciation for education. “Working hard, being determined, those are critical assets,” he said, “but nothing beats a quality education.”
State Sen. Donald Norcross, President Ali Houshmand, former Gov. Jim Florio and Senate President Steve Sweeney marked the historic day with a photo after the July 1 ceremony in Stratford.
They are called red-letter days, those memorable, magical times that transform a person or a place.

Rowan University has had many of them, days that made a difference for this institution, for higher education and for New Jersey.

They include Sept. 4, 1923, when then-Glassboro Normal School opened.

July 17, 1992, when Henry and the late Betty Rowan committed $100 million to the institution.

June 25, 2009, when Gov. Jon Corzine’s executive order created New Jersey’s first new four-year medical school in 35 years, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU).

And now, July 1, 2013, the day when the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act went into effect.
Changing Rowan University

July 1 transformed Rowan University for all time. Approved by the state Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Chris Christie, the Restructuring Act:

- Recognized Rowan’s changing role in higher education and research, granting it status as a comprehensive state research university.
- Disbanded the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and created the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine (RowanSOM) in Stratford.
- Partnered Rowan with Rutgers-Camden to create a College of Health Sciences in Camden.

“Rowan University’s reputation has been on an upward trajectory since Henry and Betty Rowan donated $100 million to our school in 1992, and it gained momentum with our nationally recognized College of Engineering and, of course, with last year’s opening of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University,” Houshmand said.

Serving more students

$117 million in state support will help provide 550 construction jobs as Rowan improves facilities and erects new buildings for engineering and business. The new facilities will allow each college to increase enrollment. Students like Alejandro Ramirez ’15 will benefit from the opportunity to learn and collaborate in high-tech facilities dedicated to their disciplines.

And SOM makes two

They came in business suits and white coats, work clothes and uniforms, more than 600-plus, to the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Stratford, Camden County. They overflowed the Academic Center multipurpose room: students, legislators, physicians, faculty, rank-and-file staffers and even a handful of curious retirees who took a break from their fitness routine on the track upstairs.

With Rowan’s brown-and-gold brand dressing up the campus indoors and out, the formal integration ceremony of the medical school and Rowan University—one result of the Restructuring Act—finally began. “Let me just say, ‘We did it,’” said Rowan President Ali Houshmand, his confident voice tinged with the tiniest bit of awe. “I am absolutely amazed.” A year ago, he said, he knew the integration effort would be enormous. “I could have never dreamed to be where we are today. I am absolutely amazed,” he said. “(This) marks the creation of a new day for Rowan University,” said medical school Dean Thomas Cavalieri. “This is truly a new day for New Jersey, and we are very excited. We are truly proud to be the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine. We have worked hard to get where we are today.”

Just weeks away from the integration, Dean Cavalieri, left, hosted President Houshmand at Research Day in May. Similar to the annual STEM Symposium held at the Glassboro campus, the Stratford campus event offers students from SOM and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences the opportunity to present their research. Above, Emily Dudek ’15 and Regina Yu ’15 explain their study.
“These latest opportunities and initiatives elevate Rowan yet again, in ways that benefit our students and strengthen the region. We appreciate the Governor’s and legislators’ faith in our faculty, staff, partners and friends that Rowan is primed to take on such important responsibilities.”

**Expanding research initiatives**

In 10 years, Rowan’s research portfolio will quadruple to $100 million, with teaching faculty leading innovation and collaboration with students as well as business and industry partners. Physics & astronomy professor Tabbetha Dobbins is among those researchers.

**Expanding research opportunities**

The legislation brought research university status to Rowan, making it only the second comprehensive public institution in New Jersey with such status. (The first is Rutgers University; the New Jersey Institute of Technology, though not a comprehensive university, also has state research status.)

The designation allows Rowan to develop new master’s and doctoral programs, which Rowan expects to do in particular in health, science and engineering disciplines. This makes the University even more attractive to out-of-state students and, importantly, to New Jersey students, who often have left the state to study in select fields, contributing to a well-documented “brain drain.”

Research university status also strengthens Rowan’s competition for funding and research dollars that will attract top faculty and private industry to South Jersey, further enhancing the economy of the region.

Dr. Kenneth Blank, vice president of health sciences, noted that the University also will bring technology commercialization “front and center,” with Rowan not only conducting and expanding groundbreaking research but also bringing to market products that address real-world problems. That product commercialization, he said, would lead to the formation of new businesses and strengthen existing businesses, which translate into new jobs and more opportunity in South Jersey.

**Making a difference in education and health care**

With the School of Osteopathic Medicine, Rowan becomes only the second university in the nation, along with Michigan State University, to offer both M.D. and D.O. degree programs, a distinction which will project Rowan as a prominent provider of new doctors for the region.

Rowan SOM is one of the finest osteopathic medical programs in the nation, with nearly 650 medical students and 182 full-time faculty, 46 part-time faculty and more than 440 volunteer faculty. Established in 1976 as what was then the only four-year medical school in South Jersey and the only college of osteopathic medicine in the state, Rowan SOM historically has kept a strong focus on primary health care. Half of the school’s more than 2,200 graduates practice in New Jersey.

In addition to a D.O. program, the Stratford campus brings to Rowan the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, which offers an M.S. and
Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology and dual and joint-degree options for students in the fields of law, management, public health and research.

RowanSOM ranks in the top three among U.S. osteopathic medical schools in research dollars, garnering about $13 million in external funding from such prestigious organizations as the National Institutes of Health, the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation and the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation.

The integration immediately created an institution with more than $24 million in research activity and provided a strong start for the development of the new research university.

“Prior to the integration, the School of Osteopathic Medicine and Rowan both had demonstrated pockets of excellence where they were able to compete nationally for research grants,” Blank said. “This merger allows us to transform ourselves into a leading regional research university. Our goal is to strengthen South Jersey and the Delaware Valley. We will be able to make a significant contribution to the local economy.”

**Partnering Rowan and Rutgers**

The Restructuring Act also partnered Rowan with Rutgers-Camden to create a College of Health Sciences anchored by CMSRU in the heart of Camden. The new college will create critically needed educational and health care programs in the region. Rowan has been at work outlining potential programs in areas such as pharmaceutical sciences, public health and allied health fields and developing a preliminary plan for the building to house the programs. The college will meld with other established and new offerings on the Glassboro campus, including the College of Engineering and the School of Biomedical Sciences, which started last year.

A new board of governors comprising members from Rowan’s and Rutgers’ boards, as well as the governor’s appointees, will oversee the College of Health Sciences.

“The restructuring is important for South Jersey,” said Linda Rohrer, chairman of the Rowan University Board of Trustees. “There’s now...
Among other initiatives, will enable new buildings for the Rohrer College of Business and the College of Engineering. Both will increase enrollment. The funds also will enable Rowan to upgrade technology essential for growth and create an estimated 550 construction jobs.

Creating a bold vision
With such major changes to the University, President Houshmand said that Rowan remains committed to its core mission: “To provide high-quality, undergraduate education at a reasonable price and to create an educated citizenry that will drive the regional economy.”

By 2023, Houshmand expects to reach the following goals:

• 25,000 students.
• A $1 billion operating budget, generating and supporting thousands of jobs.
• $100 million in funding for sponsored research projects.
• A $500 million endowment.
• A position as one of New Jersey’s most critical economic engines.

“As our mission expands, so, too, do our obligations to New Jersey and especially to our home in South Jersey,” said Rohrer. “New programs, increased access to higher education, a better-educated work force, increased support of and working relationships with local businesses—these all are a part of our future.”

“And the future,” Houshmand said, “is limitless.”

Providing an ideal intersection for growth
As Rowan moves forward, Houshmand said, “Our emphasis for growth will be on the intersection of medicine, engineering, the sciences and business. That is where the greatest need is for our students, for our communities and for our state.”

Rowan University—the Glassboro campus, the Camden branch, CMSRU and RowanSOM—is evolving, and many people are charged with many tasks to bring the latest initiatives to fruition in conjunction with partners.

But the future for Rowan only started on July 1.

In addition to the Restructuring Act, Rowan anticipates growth on campus thanks to the $750 million Building Our Future Bond Act, a referendum approved by New Jersey voters last fall, and other state funding sources. In April, Gov. Christie announced that Rowan will receive more than $117 million through that bond act. That funding,

Supporting New Jerseyans
By 2023, Rowan will enroll 10,000 more undergraduate students and will have graduated about 1,400 physicians to address the state’s shortage of 3,000 primary care doctors. New Jerseyans like Wesley Leckenbusch and Janet Holloway ’87, M’93 will benefit from Rowan’s growth.

Retailers and student housing combine at the Whitney Center on Rowan Boulevard.

Patricia Quigley ’78, M’03 is an assistant director of media & public relations at Rowan University.
One day, 20 years or so from now, students will glance at the plaque on the bronze statue at Savitz Hall and make the connection: “Henry Rowan.” “Rowan University.” “Hey, he’s the man…” Henry Rowan. He is indeed “the man.” The industrialist and philanthropist and his late wife, Betty, pledged $100 million to Glassboro State College in 1992. The Rowans had no direct ties to the college—he was an MIT grad, his business, Inductotherm Industries Inc., was headquartered in Burlington County and that’s where they made their home. Still, Henry “Hank” and Betty gave what was then the largest gift to a public institution. They asked this of the school: to create a college of engineering to transform engineering education.
Glassboro State, soon renamed to honor the benefactors, did just that: it created an innovative—and highly respected—College of Engineering. The Rowan Gift made that possible, and it opened the door to other major gifts and to unanticipated progress at the institution.

Last December, 20 years after the donation now known as the Rowan Gift—written in capitals and spoken with awe—the University dedicated the statue by renowned artist Zenos Frudakis. The dedication was a moving ceremony, with a standing-room-only crowd spilling onto the sidewalk outside Savitz Hall. Hundreds of the University community and three generations of the Rowan family cheered as Henry Rowan drew the cord to unveil the statue—a monument which he had reluctantly agreed to have created.

Today, the tall bronze is a reminder of amazing generosity and commitment to excellence. It stands as a welcome to newcomers, a landmark, a tribute. Every so often staff and students clothe or decorate the statue—a brown-and-gold scarf in the winter, a heart-shaped box of chocolates at Valentine’s Day, a mortarboard at Commencement—affectionate tributes to their “Hank.”

The statue will remind generations to come of the Rowans’ vision and commitment to higher education.

One day, 20 years or so from now, students, maybe in engineering or premed or accounting, will make the connection between the statue and the man. And they’ll have a lot for which to be thankful.
From the studio to the foundry

1. Calipers and other instruments made possible precisely detailed anatomical measurements.

2. Mr. Rowan selected his favorite aviator’s tie clip and Inductotherm tie for the sculpture.

3. To create the clay figure, sculptor Zenos Frudakis referenced more than 100 photos of Mr. Rowan from childhood to present. At the studio, Mr. and Mrs. Rowan saw the clay figure for the first time.

4. With the clay model cut into pieces, mold makers applied a release agent and then poured and brushed rubber onto each segment. With the rubber set, they followed with plaster and casting fiber to create a case.
5. Laran Bronze foundry used an Inductotherm furnace to melt the silicon-bronze metal to 2100-2300 degrees fahrenheit. The “pour” of 600 pounds of metal from the crucible took about 30 minutes.

6. Once the bronze cooled, Mr. Rowan and family members took turns with a hammer to break the plaster shell and expose the bronze upper body.

7. A welder joined the 12 sections of unfinished bronze to form the 7-foot-tall figure.

8. Mr. and Mrs. Rowan decided on classic brown for the patina.
1. Scores of students were among the crowd welcoming Mr. Rowan and waiting patiently for photos with him in December.

2. In what may become a Commencement day tradition, graduates marked their passage from Rowan University with a farewell photo in May.

3. Pioneering educators—who rose to Mr. Rowan’s 1992 challenge to establish the engineering program—joined the celebration. From left, Founding Chair of civil engineering Ralph Dusseau, Founding Dean Jim Tracey, Associate Dean Steve Chin, Founding Chair of chemical engineering Stewart Slater and Founding Chair of mechanical engineering T.R. Chandrupatla.

4. Just days after the December unveiling, the bronze Mr. Rowan got his second hat. The first one—placed on his head in the predawn hours on the day the foundry installed the statue and then shrouded it—was a brown-and-gold Rowan Facilities cap.

5. The fine detail in the statue began with clay more than 100 years old—rare, precious clay bequeathed to younger artists by great American sculptors including Augustus St. Gaudens and Daniel Chester French. Some of the same clay was used to sculpt the model for the Lincoln Memorial. The bronze cast faces southeast, following tradition that dictates the sun should not set on the subject’s face.
Gary Gagnon ’92 Wants to Change the Planet One Pair of Sneakers at a Time.

Gary Gagnon has gone from educator to innovator, founding Rekixx, a company he believes is making the world’s first line of fully recyclable sneakers.

The footwear, made from a proprietary blend of recyclable materials, is not yet in stores but it’s already earned Gagnon a lot of buzz, including a walk-on to the hit ABC show “Shark Tank,” in which budding entrepreneurs pitch products to business titans, hoping at least one of them will become an investor.

Appearing on the season three finale in May 2012, Gagnon talked up the idea for his company, then called Remyxx. It piqued the curiosity of Daymond John, founder of the clothing company FUBU, who made Gagnon an offer.

“What people saw on the show were live negotiations but they weren’t a contract,” Gagnon said. “It was a handshake and an agreement to talk again pending due diligence.

“Daymond said he’d make me a deal—and that I wouldn’t like it,” Gagnon recalled of the on-air exchange. “He wanted 80 percent ownership in the company for a $50,000 investment.”

Gagnon said John’s proposal, though tempting, was not what he sought for his brainchild, an idea sparked by the countless sneakers that ended up in the trash as his boys, Harris and Leo, continually outgrew them.

After the show he and John met a few times in John’s New York offices. John ultimately passed on Remyxx but has become something of a mentor to Gagnon, weighing in on start-up risks and opportunities.

“He’s a 100 percent stand-up guy,” Gagnon said. “We agreed to keep in touch and he’s become an advisor for my business plan.”

Gagnon lives in Charlotte, N.C., but grew up in Cherry Hill and attended Cherry Hill West. He played football and wrestled as an undergrad for then-Glassboro State College and earned two master’s degrees from Rowan, one in educational administration and the other in student personnel services.

He was an assistant principal at Moorestown High School before changing course a dozen years ago to pursue a business career.

“Business fits my personality,” said Gagnon, a gregarious guy who, getting emotional at the mention of his sons on “Shark Tank” and his dream of leaving them the business, seemed to win over the panel of judges, if not acquire their cash.

Last fall he appeared as part of the Rohrer College of Business “Mini Shark Tank” to share his experience with students and other entrepreneur hopefuls.

Gagnon said he’s invested about $30,000 of his own money into Rekixx and raised more than $40,000 on Kickstarter, an online funding platform through which individuals invest in products and companies they believe in.

“I presold $44,000 in sneaker sales on Kickstarter, enough to get me started, but to bring a recyclable sneaker to market is very difficult,” he said.

Gagnon, who sells sneakers emblazoned with the universal recycling symbol on his website for about...
$65 (rekixx.com), filled orders for some 500 pairs following the Kickstarter campaign and his “Shark Tank” appearance. Meanwhile, he’s kept his day job in corporate sales, is raising his boys with his wife, Pamela, and is pursuing his dream part-time.

“For now it’s very much nights and weekends,” he said.

He acknowledges that he still faces big obstacles to his goal. Production costs require his sneakers be made overseas, and today that means China. He needs much more stock for big retailers like Famous Footwear or Sports Authority to even consider his brand. And he’s largely relying on word-of-mouth marketing to take on the Nikes and Reeboks of the world.

But no one ever made it who didn’t have a dream.

“I need to secure investment money, somebody who gets it, because you need a little bit of money to get into the market,” he said. “But once I build the inventory—at least 4,000 pairs—I can flip the switch.”
Above: The first big enrollment of male students started after World War II, with returning GI’s, their families and the new faculty hired to teach them living in recycled military housing behind Bunce Hall.

Left: The nearby yard had room for ballgames in which the veterans played left-handed against the girls, recalls Jack Plasket.

*** HOME SHACKS HOME ***

by Toni Libro ’60, M’67
Photos courtesy of Robert Frazier ’49, Whit Mullen ’51 and Lucile Pfleeger
“The walls were thin and you could hear every sound in your neighbor’s living room,” said Elaine Albertson Miller Lewis ’50, who lived on the GSC campus with her husband in temporary housing for married student veterans erected just after World War II.

The housing, affectionately dubbed the “Shacks” by its residents, occupied the wooded area behind Bunce Hall from 1947 to 1954. Student veterans and some faculty members lived among the towering oaks and fragrant pines in two long rows of one-story frame houses. One row, for single veterans, faced the Bunce Hall parking lot; a second row, for married veterans and faculty, faced Route 322.

Glassboro’s makeshift shelters were former military barracks transported from naval bases to meet a sudden and pressing need as returning veterans flooded the College. In fact, the same type of recycled, temporary housing solved the same problem at campuses across the country, from Harvard to Berkeley, which strained to meet the demand of post-war enrollments.

The biggest cause of the veteran influx was the GI Bill of Rights, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on June 22, 1944, which virtually ensured all veterans the right to a free college education. As a result, enrollment doubled at Glassboro, from roughly 200 in the 1945-46 school year to almost 400 in the 1946-47 school year. During

Above: Winter softened the hard edges of the Shacks and challenged residents to keep warm with kerosene heaters.
In the war years, the college had struggled to stay open, suffering empty classrooms and residence halls with courage and hope that the conflict would end and campus would return to routine. The College had only two men on its roster in 1943, but within three years a floodtide of veterans, most of them men, needed housing and educational facilities. Some GIs had returned to complete their interrupted studies at Glassboro, but most were new students.

To help meet the demand, the College obtained federal aid under Title II of the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944 to build 17 temporary housing units for student veterans and newly hired faculty. The units were spare, but met basic student needs. Five-room apartments housed six students and contained two bedrooms, a living room, a dining/kitchen area that could double as a third bedroom and a bathroom. They were minimally but comfortably furnished, with double-deck bunk beds, desks and reading lamps in the bedrooms. Living rooms were outfitted with vinyl sofas and chairs with metal arms and legs.

In addition to the living quarters, a six-room classroom building was erected where Memorial Hall stands. Known as the Annex, this U-shaped building was constructed with discarded lumber and equipment taken from Army barracks. When completed, the one-story structure accommodated as many as 180 students.

Life in the Shacks was different from life in the other campus residences some 65 years ago. For example, students in Oak and Laurel halls had noisy but reliably warm radiators in their rooms and comfortable lounges with fireplaces. The drafty Shacks were warmed by space heaters fueled by kerosene that residents had to retrieve in buckets from a tank in the alley between the two rows of houses. If the kerosene reservoir ever ran dry, (which it did numerous times, according to several first-hand reports) carbon soot quickly accumulated and had to be vacuumed out before the smoky heater would work again. And the floors were reported to be cold.

The alley between dwellings was an obstacle course of playpens, tricycles and flapping clotheslines.

—Marie Ireland
“They would have made good chicken houses,” recalls Dr. Whitney Mullen ’51, who called the living conditions “rudimentary, at best.” Mullen, known as “Whit” in his College days, remembers hosting married and single vets and friends for “mass studying” sprees in his house for married veterans. He had a hectic schedule, taking classes in the daytime and running off to Kimble Glass Company in Vineland at night, where he worked from 4 until 11:30. Still, he found time to be a photographer for The Whit, fit in a round or two of tennis between classes and work and spend time with his wife and children.

Although a washing machine was available in a few of the houses, (and kindly shared with others), there were no dryers. Laundry was hung on lines strung up in the graveled back yards. Colorful men’s, women’s and children’s clothes, as well as lots of diapers, could be seen flapping on clotheslines daily.

Communication was also primitive for those living in the Shacks. One telephone mounted on an outdoor pole served all residents. When it rang, someone within earshot had to be willing to answer it, and then had to be willing to find the person called.

Faculty & family
Roughing it along with the student veterans were a few faculty members. Lucille Pfleeger, the only surviving faculty wife from the Shacks days, and her husband, the late music professor W. Clarke Pfleeger, also a veteran, lived in one of three small cottages designated for young faculty.

“I know which tree stood by my front steps,” said Lucille Pfleeger. She said that oak still stands today behind Bunce Hall. She recalls the campus then as an “excellent environment” for families. The Pfleegers had two children, Karen, who arrived at the Shacks at the age of six months, and David, born during their stay. A student veteran’s wife took care of the children while Mrs. Pfleeger took early childhood education courses.

“I also recall,” she said, “that we had a washing machine and we shared it with faculty and students. Piles of dirty laundry frequently adorned our kitchen.”

In addition to the Pfleegers, the late Sam and Jane Porch, and the late Jack and Mae Parker occupied the other two cottages. Sam Porch, also a veteran, was hired to teach physical education and eventually, to coach baseball.

We had a cleaning lady who liked us all and vice versa and somehow managed to bring a semblance of order to the place.
—Jack Plasket
eager to leave behind military formality and regulations. Neighborly faculty wives and student veterans’ wives formed a club and met at each other’s houses. On the close-knit campus, everyone attended sports events, cultural programs and socials together. Byron Garwood ’48 said that he and housemates Jack Plasket ’48 and the late Bill Broomall ’49 are among the many vets who met their wives at the College. The couples formed lifelong friendships, taking vacations together and reminiscing about their start in the Shacks.

Despite what might appear today to be hardships, Shacks residents felt comfortable and had lots of “good times” living there in Spartan conditions. Jim Ireland ’51, M’55 and his wife, Marie, recalled that since the College was small, with no evening classes and only a short summer session, they had “this large, beautiful ‘estate’ perfect for walks, pushing baby strollers, large grass areas for free-running children, well-cared-for gardens, shrubs and trees. Beyond the football field, by the railroad tracks, there was an enormous oak tree which shaded a picnic table and stone fireplace, where we enjoyed many a dinner out.”
“Late in August 1954,” said Marie Ireland, “we literally moved out the front door as the houses were being torn down around us.”

Like all things temporary, it was time for life in the Shacks to end. Just as the nation’s colleges and universities welcomed the makeshift shelters for veterans, they dismantled and removed the barracks once enrollments became stable and permanent dorms and classroom buildings could be planned.

But the stories and memories endure, and as the Irelands say, “Time has not changed or dimmed those special years in the Shacks.”

Since her retirement from Rowan University as professor emerita of communication, Antoinette “Toni” Libro ’60, M’67, enjoys freelance writing and editing, while continuing to write and publish her fiction and award-winning poetry.
The Sargassum Windrows?

Oh yes, he's seen the floating seaweed oases...
CAPTAIN CREAMER
AROUND THE GLOBE AND INTO HISTORY

by Barbara Baals

Opposite from left: The captain shows off his work in the galley; the GlobeStar under way; observing skies and currents to help navigate without instruments.
there isn’t much that the 97-year-old scholar and adventurer hasn’t seen. That tends to happen when you are the only human to circumnavigate the globe without the use of artificial navigational tools, a feat Creamer accomplished three decades ago after his retirement as a GSC geography professor.

“Sargassum tends to aggregate in huge clusters under calm conditions,” Creamer, always teaching, said. “But when the wind blows, it is sorted out into long, sinewy strands that lie parallel to each other and stretch as far as the eye can see. The strands resemble the laurel rope that is used for decorating at Christmas time.”

Until last spring, Creamer hadn’t met another person who had seen the sargassum windrows near Bermuda firsthand.

Enter Rowan biological science major Stephanie Mygas ’14, a student in the Thomas N. Bantivoglio Honors Program. Mygas not only saw the sargassum...
Township. He served in the Army during World War II, then returned to civilian life as a teacher and principal in Newfield. He earned master’s degrees in education (University of Pennsylvania) and geography (University of Wisconsin–Madison), and spent 29 years teaching and innovating at his alma mater in Glassboro—often not in a traditional classroom, and for six years, serving as director of public relations as well as professor. Traveling extensively by land and sea with his family, he brought experience and inspiration back to the classroom and everyone he met.

“I recall that the final exam in European history consisted of a map with a large number of features—bodies of water, mountain ranges, etc.—marked with a number on a map,” said Jack Gillespie ’63, M’69, communication professor emeritus and associate editor of this publication. “The test: Match each number with the correct names. I got them all right except I mixed up Skagerrak and Kattegatt—bodies of water bordering Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Later, after I started teaching at then-GSC, he asked me if I had ever got them straight. What a memory and what a great teacher. He was entertaining and informative and made me love the subject. I also remember that he often talked about how it would be possible to row a boat to England. He ended up doing even more than that.”

Although he would eventually make his biggest headlines for avoiding the use of technical instruments on his sailboat, the GlobeStar, during his voyage, Creamer embraced opportunities to use technology and new approaches in education. In 1955, he took to the sky in an initiative funded by Exxon to teach geography from an airplane and produced two live television broadcasts about manufacturing in the Delaware Valley. Recognized by the GSC Alumni Association as the 1980 Distinguished Alumnus and named professor emeritus, he founded the geography department, earned numerous accolades from students and peers throughout his career—and dreamed for decades of sailing around the world without instruments.
On Dec. 21, 1982, Creamer, then 67, set off from Cape May aboard the 36-foot sailboat, beginning a 510-day, 30,000-mile journey around the globe. In doing so, the Vineland native was looking to fulfill a dream he had first had at 17.

Creamer eschewed artificial navigational tools such as a compass or sextant, relying, instead, only on the stars, water currents and his vast knowledge of geography to find his way. He didn’t even use a watch. He encountered his share of bad weather and equipment breakdowns on the journey but he persevered. On May 18, 1984, to great fanfare, he sailed triumphantly back to port.

Throughout his voyage, his scholarly knowledge of geography was complemented by his experience as a sailor—and his hands-on knowledge of machinery, which was honed during his growing-up years working on internal combustion engines during the Depression. He had the smarts, the skills—and the chutzpah—to accomplish the unthinkable.

“I had to fly in the face of all of the criticism from people who told me that I was doing the impossible,” said Creamer, a former Glassboro resident who now lives—and still sails—near Pine Knoll Shores, N.C. “I had taken oceanography and every geography course in the book. I said to myself, ‘I think I’m the one to do this.’ I told people accomplishing the voyage was 95 percent possible. There were times I had to be extra careful not to be that five percent.”

The 2012-13 academic year gave Creamer the opportunity to share his story with a new audience. Last fall, he met with geography classes and also held court in Rowan Hall, drawing a standing-room-only crowd as he discussed his voyage.

In doing so, he told students, “Pursue your interests and don’t be afraid to dig deeply, because the pursuit of your own interests will always educate you and lead to your own success.”

During that visit in the fall, he donated to the Frank H. Stewart Room at Rowan’s Campbell Library the extraordinarily detailed navigational logs of his trip—written in standard, black-and-white composition books—and his vast collection of press clippings.

“In the past few months, I’ve had the opportunity to look at the voyage from a different perspective,” Creamer said. “I’ve been able to review what I’ve done. ‘When you sail, you’re out there with very limited company. You’re away from everything. You’re isolated. It’s nice to be recognized by people who understand what you have accomplished.”

In the spring, during “A Voyage With Marvin Creamer,” more than 120 people—colleagues, friends, family, fellow sailors, students—crowded into a banquet room near the Delaware River to honor Creamer and recount his unprecedented success.

Proceeds from the luncheon, hosted by Rowan’s new College of Humanities & Social Sciences (CHSS), raised $5,000 for the Marvin Creamer Scholarship. Beginning this fall, the scholarship will be awarded to a student in Rowan’s geography department “who exemplifies intellectual curiosity and a spirit of adventure”—the same qualities that fueled Creamer’s voyage, according to Cindy Vitto, CHSS dean.

“A Voyage With Marvin Creamer” was a fitting signature event for the CHSS, Vitto said. “The compass is the symbol of our college. We provide our students with skills and experiences to navigate successful futures.

“Even though Marv sailed around the world without a compass, he set the tone for our college in terms of encouraging our students and faculty to take risks, to be adventurous and to use many areas of knowledge in pursuit of our goals and dreams.”
“He exemplifies the ideal that you need to know the theory, but you have to have the hands-on skills to put your ideas into action.”

A risktaker even as a nonagenarian, Creamer closed his March presentation by reciting, for the first time publicly, a passage he penned after his trip, bringing the rapt audience to its feet:

“We were fated to coax on a sluggish boat through a belt of extremely light air. The period was not without compensation. There was a quiet serenity by day and incredible beauty after sunset, when a ring of pink-and-gold-fringed clouds was mirrored in the glassy surface that surrounded us. The double image dissolved the horizon, which for three months we had strived so hard to reach, and wafted us into a soft, fluid fantasy, where time and space seemed not to exist. Both ship and crew had reached sailing nirvana.”

Barbara Baals is an assistant director in the Office of Media & Public Relations at Rowan. Her favorite sailor is her Uncle Howard, but Marvin Creamer is a close second. Reach her at baals@rowan.edu.
Always Do the Right Thing
Good advice for every day, excerpted from an alumna’s new book

by Jean McMenamin Edelman ’81

I was meeting Ric for dinner one evening and driving his sedan. I have driven it before, so it was not like I was unfamiliar with it. As I pulled into the parking spot I heard a noise. No—it could not be—did I touch the car next to me? I quickly got out, and yes indeed, I had scraped the car next to me.

Okay, now what? I did not have a pen or paper, so I ran into a nearby store to get paper, wrote a note explaining how sorry I was, added my name and telephone number, and placed it on the other car’s windshield.

Then I waited to hear from the car’s owner. I was not sure what to expect, because nothing like this has ever happened to me. After three days, I received a phone call from a very appreciative, soft-spoken gentleman. He was gracious and complimented me for leaving the note. When I again apologized, he said, “Not to worry, there are bigger things in life to worry about.” He had polished the scrape and merely asked me to reimburse him $17.85, the cost of touch-up paint.

I was shocked by his reaction and naturally very happy and relieved. He was equally happy, because he initially assumed that no one was going to take responsibility for the damage.

Footnote: After we exchanged e-mails, he realized who I was. It turned out that he is a client of our firm, and he and I live in the same community. It makes me even gladder that I did the right thing.

We all know that we should always do the right thing. And I certainly felt better for doing so. Now scientific evidence explains why!

The breakthrough was reported recently by neuroscientists at the National Institutes of Health. Volunteers were asked about a scenario involving either donating a sum of money to charity or keeping it. While they pondered the question,

WORDS OF WISDOM
“A life directed chiefly toward the fulfillment of personal desires will sooner or later always lead to bitter disappointment.”

Albert Einstein
(FATHER OF MODERN PHYSICS, 1879-1955)
their brains were scanned. Researchers found that a primitive part of the brain that usually lights up the monitors when subjects are offered food—a part of the brain scientists call the “reward center”—was activated when subjects were being charitable. This demonstrates that people feel rewarded when being kind to others.

If we keep this in mind the next time we are confronted with a situation—such as my little incident with the parked car—the correct path will become very clear.

Notes to Notice
First, we need to remember the impact of our decisions. They affect every aspect of our lives. No action goes unnoticed. We may try to trick ourselves by thinking that our actions do not matter, especially if no one is watching. But these are the moments that count the most.

The moment we are faced with a choice we can ask ourselves the following:

1. Will this decision move me forward or keep me stuck in the past?
2. Will this action/decision bring long-term fulfillment or merely short-term gratification?
3. Am I being true to myself or am I just trying to please someone else?
4. Am I looking for what is right or am I looking for what is wrong?
5. Will this situation help me find personal growth or will I regret it?
6. Is this action/decision coming from a place of love or fear?

Ask the questions, listen to the small voice inside and we will find the right path. It is a small world, and we are all connected to each other.

Jean Edelman ’81 and her husband, Ric ’80, are the founders of Edelman Financial Services, one of the nation’s most popular independent financial planning and investment management firms. In her book, The Other Side of Money, Jean shares her insights to help us see ourselves and the world around us in a positive, loving way. Jean has served on several corporate and nonprofit boards, including appointment to the Rowan University Board of Trustees in 2008 by New Jersey Governor John Corzine. As a student, Jean was Rowan’s first female president of the Student Government Association and recipient of the Distinguished Senior Award in her graduating year. In 1994, Jean and Ric were named Distinguished Alumni.
Margaret Sooy Bridwell ’53 received the Royal Order of the Polar Star, which was presented to her by King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden as part of a May 11 ceremony in Wilmington, Del., celebrating the 375th anniversary of the founding of New Sweden, the first permanent European settlement in the Delaware Valley. The award, established in 1748, recognizes Bridwell for her service as governor of the 100-year-old Swedish Colonial Society with membership in the United States, Canada and Sweden. Bridwell, the society’s 33rd governor, is the first female elected to head the organization. She also serves on the Board of the Swedish Council of America, Minneapolis, Minn. Bridwell is a 12th generation descendent of Swedish settlers who came here in 1640. She is a retired educator and lives in Berwyn, Pa.

Robert J. Gerardi ’55, M’63 retired after working 57 years in nine states as a teacher, principal, director of special education, business manager, school superintendent, associate state commissioner and an adjunct professor at eight universities. Dr. Gerardi operates an eBay business which sells vintage sheet music in the United States and 46 other countries.

John F. Gardner ’60 has had his 10th book published. The Chronicle of Rendrag – Containing the Wisdom of the Book of the Fourth Happiness is available on Amazon. He also offers environmental education/nature study lesson plans and activities on teacherspayteachers.com and has pledged 20 percent of any profits from that activity to the Rowan College of Education Fund. He is also the author of five editions of The Naturalist’s Almanac and Environmentalist’s Companion, A Book of Nature Activities and Backyard Birdfeeding. Gardner, who earned a master’s degree at Eastern Connecticut State University, lives in Bristol, N.Y., with his wife, Trudy.

Robert Norton ’60 published Ants in the Sandbox, Reflections on Life, Love, Living … and Other Stuff. The book is available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble websites. Sandra Reick Maltese ’61 provides expert advice for many local church and fire department activities, and has edited a book titled Colorado Fire-Fighting Vehicles.

Donna Dean Doherty ’64 and her husband, Walter Doherty ’64, M’71, enjoy living at the Jersey Shore—boating, fishing, crabbing and clamming—and cruising the Caribbean Islands. They have five grandchildren.

Thomas Gambino ’64 published his memoir, The Vagabonds: A Musician’s Odyssey, with Outskirts Press. The paperback and e-book versions are available online and at book stores.

Daniel P. Cassidy ’65 painted a mural at the Taste of Italy Pizzeria in Vineland.

Barbara Pitt ’65 had her painting, “Woven,” place...
1962 Reunion

During last fall’s Homecoming festivities, the years melted away as classmates got together for a reunion dinner at Chamberlain Student Center. FRONT: Front row sitting: Marjorie Parkhurst, Nancy Smith, Richard Smith, Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver, Carol St. John, Janet Holdcraft, Teresa Casazza. MIDDLE: Rosalie Romano, Brenda Bradley, Mildred Pincus, Grace Sheppard, Dorothy Wilson Harris, Ann Orban, Jayne Kinsell, Sue Mathis, Harriet Gerb Shirks. BACK: Dave Pincus, Ellie Musgrave, Judith Propert, Carolyn Dupper, George Renwick, Cy Dunn, Joan Burt Mulford, Olivia DiRico, Robert Kirkbride.

Class of ’63 gathers

second and another, “Daybreak at Pemiquid Point,” place third at the 38th annual Art Show in Cape May Court House. 

Dr. Ross Beitzel ’63, M’68, purchased a copy of “Daybreak at Pemiquid Point” for the permanent collection at Gloucester County College.

Richard L. Clarke ’66 is music director of the Hartford Sängerbund, New England’s oldest German Singing Society, established in 1858. The Sängerbund has operated every year since its founding and is one of only five such longstanding groups in the nation.

Carole Kelly Ponzini ’65 and her husband, Ed Ponzini, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in December. They have two children and one grandchild and live in Manassas, Va.

Regina Coda Sutton ’65 is a consultant at Verizon Wireless’ User Interface Design group. She designs mobile phone services and applications and conducts usability studies on mobile products. She volunteers at Minute Man National Historical Park in Lincoln, Mass., and has developed an online library available on the Park’s website. She lives in Lexington, Mass., and enjoys gardening.

Joseph McAleer ’66 was inducted into the Riverside High School Athletic Hall of Fame in October. He led the GSC basketball team in scoring in his two seasons and in his senior year he made the All-State first team and received honorable mention as a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics All-American. After he began playing tennis, he became the top-ranked senior player in an area that included New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and West Virginia. He retired after teaching art for 40 years in several New Jersey high schools and is a professional painter who has exhibited his work at prestigious Philadelphia art galleries. He and his wife, Linda Squicciarini, McAleer ’68, have three children and one grandchild. They live in Moorestown and Bonita Springs, Fla.

Edwin Selby ’66 has coauthored Educating for Creativity and Innovation, a textbook published by Prufrock Press, with Dr. Donald Treffinger and Dr. Pat Schoonover. The book offers practical approaches to fostering creativity. Dr. Selby is an associate with the Center for Creative Learning in Sarasota, Fl., and an adjunct professor with Fordham University’s Graduate School of Education.

L. Bruce Smith ’67, who retired as an elementary school principal in Delran Township, is conductor of the Moorestown Community Band. He also teaches students how to play musical instruments for the Home School Bands of Southern New Jersey.

Dan Baker ’68 was inducted into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame, receiving a Legacy of Excellence award. Baker has been the Philadelphia Phillies announcer for 40 years and the Philadelphia Eagles announcer for 27.

Barbara Passeri Warfel ’71, who taught art to seniors in assisted living facilities for 14 years, has published Simple Lines Make a Difference, a book designed to help individuals with no art training work with seniors. It offers meaningful creative art activities which can greatly enhance the lives of individuals, especially those with any form of dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease.

Bob Bachman ’72 retired from Phillipsburg High School after 40 years of teaching mathematics. He and his wife, Diane, have been married for 35 years and have three children and seven grandchildren. Bob has officiated football, soccer, basketball and baseball games for over 30 years and will continue to do so. The Bachmans live in Milford.

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Ralph DiSibio M’72 is chairman of the board of Kurion Inc., an innovator in nuclear and hazardous waste management. He also is a director of Conti Group, a construction company that specializes in road, bridge and general construction for state, county and local governments; and Quanta Services, the largest service provider to the commercial power industry.

Lou Joyce ’72, M’77 is Salem County’s director of planning and an adjunct faculty member in Rowan’s department of geography and environment. Sue Chandler ’73 is a project director for Advantage Healthcare Inc. She volunteers with Care Alternatives and Therapy Dogs International and is a therapy dog evaluator. Her dog, Gracie, has completed over 150 nursing homes visits and has been recognized as an outstanding canine volunteer. They participated in “De-Stress with Pets,” sponsored by the Counseling, Health and Wellness Center at William Paterson University.

Boe Andrews Daley ’73 and her husband, Vince Daley ’73, are retired after 63 combined years of teaching.

Richard Ehala, ’73 retired after teaching for 40 years, 37 of them in Mount Laurel, where he taught seventh- and eighth-grade biology and physical and earth science. He also was the sponsor for many clubs and worked on curriculum revision committees. Richard and his wife, Germaine, live in Medford and have two children. He plans to travel with his family, surf fish and increase his bicycling miles.
Bernice Regenstein ’73 volunteered at a preschool summer camp sponsored by the Brighton, N.Y., Recreation Department.

Jim Simmons ’73 is a counselor at Mendham High School in Mendham. Jim, who has been a counselor for 40 years, and his wife, Mary Ann, live in Hackettstown and have one child.

Gloria Turner ’73 works at New York–Presbyterian Hospital, rated number one in New York and seventh in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

Michael Canaris ’74 retired as a senior special agent in the U.S. Office of Labor Racketeering after 27 years of service and is the lead investigator for a major Philadelphia law firm. He lives in Ocean City.

Joanne Damminger ’74, M’97, D’04 is vice president of the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA). Damminger, Salem Community College chief student affairs officer, has been active with the group for 14 years and also serves on NACADA’s board of directors. She is the only board member representing a two-year college.

Jay Dugan ’74 is the professional/curriculum development director for the Educational Information & Resource Center, located in the South Jersey Technology Park. He is also a Rowan adjunct professor. He has four children and three grandchildren and still plays in nightclubs with his band.

Pat Maloney Shelley, Janice Case Corbetis, Mary

Burke McGovern, Cindy Banyaczyk Torok, Mary Anne D’Ambrosio Linder, and Donna Gurdak Suder, all ’74, and Debbie Kahn Ewing ’73 met in Bordentown April 20 for a mini class reunion.

Suzanne Snyder Carroll ’74, M’84 made the second round cut in the Amazon Breakout Novel Competition General Fiction category for her soon-to-be published novel, On the Edge of Dangerous Things.

Edward Hutchinson ’75 is retired from teaching at Collingswood High School and enjoys spending time with his grandson, cutting grass and planting trees. His wife, Barbara Cunningham Hutchinson ’75, is in her 24th year of teaching at Camden’s Pyne Poyn Middle School. She also works summers at the school in a bilingual enrichment program. The Hutchinsons have three children and live in Mickleton.

Ida Margolis ’75 coauthored the illustrated children’s book, Carrots for Charlie; A Tale of Health, Fitness and Happiness, with her friend, Rhonda Brazina. Margolis’ longtime colleague and friend, artist Virginia Mulford ’74, illustrated the book with original watercolors using a Cavalier King Charles spaniel and scenes in Naples, Fla. The book is available online and at bookstores.

Greg Moore ’75, a psychologist, has written a booklet for the New Jersey Bar Association on the impact of divorce on children. The booklet advises divorcing couples on how to help their children cope with breakup stress.

Ralph Morgan ’75 has written Simple Truth, a book which is partly a synthesis of his studies at Glassboro.

Jeff Weber ’75 is CEO of Blue Star Media Group Inc. Previously, he was executive vice president of the company, which owns the Business TalkRadio Network; Lifestyle TalkRadio Network; 1490 WGCH-AM in Stamford and Norwalk, Conn., and 1550 WLPF-AM in Pittsburgh. He served two terms as board chairman of the Greenwich, Conn., Chamber of Commerce and is a past president and active member of the Greenwich Rotary Club.

Dennis Cesare ’76, M’83 retired after 35 years as a teacher and counselor and is self-employed as a licensed professional counselor in Runnemede. He and his wife, Barbara Burton Cesare ’76, will celebrate 35 years of marriage in April.

Gloria Barone Rosanio ’77, a director of corporate

Golden Years Reunion returns

Alumni who’ve graduated at least 50 years came back to campus for reminiscing and updates on their alma mater in June. They marveled at the changes and enjoyed the company of good friends who “remember when.” The Alumni Association recognized four recipients of the Lifetime Service Award (photo 2).
Coming home 2012

Alumni, family and friends returned to campus on a beautiful fall weekend for festivities including a RoGlow party, the picnic and football game, the Harley E. Flack Mentoring Program 20th Anniversary celebration and the Class of ’62 reunion.

1. Keeli-Shaye Mancino, Maria Mancino ’91, Ava Billotto, Roger Billotto, Zach Billotto, Justine Chrystal Billotto ’92, Shane Mancino, Tracy Turanick Forlenza ’91, Bob Mancino
2. Natalie McCullen, Braeden McCullen, Donna Ezzie-Mackleer ’79, Tommy Mackleer
3. Valerie Bowers ’05, Lance Bowers ’12, Brandon Bowers, Erin Schneid, Jason Schneid ’04, Nathan Schneid
4. Sally Harris ’70, Wayne Harris ’72, John Bush ’70, Mary Ellen Bush ’70
5. Anna Epifano, Steven Epifano, Dominic Epifano ’07, Molly Epifano
8. Natalia Cardona, Quilana Castro Cardona, Oskar Castro ’92, Melanie Burney
9. Gus Bader ’68, Lindsey Petrosh ’33
10. President Ali and Farah Houshmand, Dolly Wilson Harris ’62
11. FRONT: Tony DelDuca, Harvey Rouse, Lee Rochelle, Curt Conover, Roger Pullen, Joe Falco, Mike Lowe, Jim Kovalsky, Marvin Sills.
   BACK: Harry Mount, Walt Doherty, Joe DiNoia, Mike DiDomenico, Gary Bellino, Rod Taylor, John Mazzei, Adam Drapczuk, Don Reid, Marc Dean, Lou Ciccone, John Bush, Kevin Lukas, Don Gorecki, Joe Lopes, Wayne Harris, Charlie Sutter.
communications for Cigna Corp., is the professional adviser to Rowan’s chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America.

Keith C. DiSantis ’77 was named Teacher of the Year for Vernon Middle School and Secondary Teacher of the Year for the Harlingen Independent School District in Harlingen, Texas. He also was appointed to the Superintendents Advisory Committee. This is the second time that he has been named Teacher of the Year.

Dominic Antonini ’78 was inducted into the Gloucester County Sports Hall of Fame in March. Antonini, a football standout at GSC, a proficient kicker who holds the Division III record for the longest field goal at 62 yards against Salisbury State, was drafted by the New York Jets. He also starred in baseball and was drafted by the Reds in 1976 and the Mariners in 1977. He is also a Rowan-GSC Sports Hall of Fame inductee.

Patricia A. Martinelli ’78 has published The Fantastic Castle of Vineland: George Daynor and The Palace Depression and her first novel, a fantasy-adventure story titled Rim Road: Book I, The Lost and Found. She is also coauthor of The Big Book of New Jersey Ghost Stories with Dr. Charles A. Stansfield Jr., a retired Rowan geography professor. Martinelli is administrator/curator of the Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society, which will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2014.

Mike Stengel ’78 is senior vice president for Gaylord Hotels. As part of his job, he manages five
hotels and entertainment attractions in Nashville, Tenn. Stengel has 30 years of experience with Marriott, which manages the Gaylord properties.

**Mark Sivetz ’79** retired as administrator of investigations at the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement after 33 years. During his career, Mark investigated individuals and entities in the Atlantic City casino gaming industry. He also investigated marijuana dispensary applicants.

**Dan Vechesky ’79**, who was known as “Dan the Piano Man” on campus for performing Billy Joel’s music at coffee houses and the “Rat,” leads Danny V’s 52nd Street Band, the group he formed in 1984 as a tribute to Billy Joel. During its 18-year run, the band has performed in New York City, Philadelphia, Atlantic City and at numerous venues throughout the Northeast.

**Vergle “Ken” Wagner ’79** and **Linda Buchanan Wagner ’79** announce the birth of Audrey, their third grandchild, born to **Mary Wagner Pilaar ’03** and **Eric Pilaar ’03**. Mary is the assistant director of education at the New Jersey Association of Realtors. Eric teaches sixth grade at the West Ridge Elementary School in Park Ridge. Ken is a portfolio manager in the KPMG Bank of America Center of Excellence in Montvale and Linda is a project management consultant in the finance industry.

**Reginald Thomas Butler ’80** and Elisa Lynn Walker married in July in Hartford, Conn.

**Christopher DiBiase ’80**, along with University of Pittsburgh Medical Center physicians Jacques Chelly and Bruce Ben-David, patented the Stimuplex Switch in May 2012. Anesthesiologists use the medical device when performing peripheral nerve blocks for postoperative pain relief before surgery. DiBiase is a senior critical care specialist at B. Braun Medical Inc. in Orlando, Fla.

**John M. Eller ’80** retired in December after 31 years as Brookhaven, Pa., police chief.

**Lynda Hester D’Orio ’80** was named the only five-star realtor from Kinnelon by New Jersey Monthly. D’Orio, a broker-sales associate and certified relocation agent at Weichert Realtors in Kinnelon, also serves on the board of trustees of the 6,400-member North Central Jersey Association of Realtors. She earned a New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence award in 2011.

**Glenn F. Drake ’80** was among the 100 top leaders in residential real estate listed in the Atlanta Business Chronicle’s 2012 Home Quarterly Who’s Who. He owns Drake Realty Inc. He is a licensed broker in seven states and an EcoBroker, a builder and developer of Green LEED Certified homes. He and his business partner/wife, Bernardine, have grown the company to 700 agents in nine offices. The company is one of the few independent agencies recognized by the Atlanta Business Chronicle among its Top 25. Drake Realty also raises funds for Atlanta nonprofits and is a major supporter of Autism Speaks.


**David Ortel ’80** has published his first novel, *Gossamer Wings*, available on Amazon. He lives near Athens, Ga., with his wife and two children.

**Kevin Cieri ’81** is supervisory information technology program manager at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs office in Eatontown. He has worked for the federal government for 25 years. He and wife, Pauline, and their two children live in Long Branch.
Welcome to PROF COUNTRY

Homecoming 2013

OCTOBER 19-20

Homecoming Highlights

★ HOMECOMING PEP-RALLY & CONCERT FEATURING LIV DEVINE, JOE NICHOLS AND UNCLE KRACKER
★ CLASS OF '88 25TH REUNION
★ FOOTBALL VS. WESLEY COLLEGE - '70s FOOTBALL TEAMS WILL BE HONORED AT HALF-TIME
★ ALUMNI ATHLETE RECEPTION HOSTED BY ROWAN ATHLETICS
★ STUDENT AND ALUMNI TAILGATING SECTION IN LOT D
★ ASSORTED REUNION EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND HOSTED BY INDIVIDUAL COLLEGES, DEPARTMENTS & CLUBS
★ OUR NEW HOMECOMING LAYOUT PROVIDES MORE ENTERTAINMENT AND INDIVIDUALLY PRICED DINING OPTIONS FOR ALUMNI, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS!

ALUMNI.ROWAN.EDU/HOMECOMING
Tom Lowe ’81 has published *Louie the Loon and the Moon*, an educational book for children, ages 6 to 8. It is available through Robertson Publishing and at Amazon.com.

Anthony Ferrin ’82 and his wife, Lisa, announce the Dec. 15 birth of grandchildren Ari and Cayla.

Karin Rex ’82 and her husband, John McReady, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in October. Rex owns Geeky Girl LLC, a computer training and technical writing firm based in southeastern Pennsylvania. She has written several technology-related books, including *Microsoft Office 2010 Demystified*, which is available at Amazon.com.

Mark Roithmayr ’82 is the chief development officer of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society based in White Plains, N.Y.

Ray Goscinski ’83 retired from the Bayonne Police Department after 28 years. Ray, who retired as a sergeant, earned a Police Commendation and over 20 Excellent Police service awards during his career. He served in the detective, narcotic and juvenile bureaus as well as being one of the first community-oriented policemen when the unit was formed in 1991. He also taught in the DARE program at elementary and high schools.

Kelly A. Law ’84 is a trial court administrator for the Camden vicinage of the New Jersey Superior Court.

Karen Werthwein ’84 is a board member of People for Animals, a spay/neuter clinic and animal rescue organization based in Hillside. She is the regional marketing manager for Petco and Unleashed by Petco, from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., to Richmond, Va., and across to Grand Rapids, Mich. She lives in Eatontown.


Lauren Glick Mortell ’85 and her husband, John Mortell ’83, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in November. The Mortells have two children.

Lenora Kruk Mullanaphy ’85 is a long-term substitute teacher for Stafford County Public Schools in Virginia. She also was a staff writer for *Mid-Atlantic Events* magazine for 11 years.

David Vest ’85 is a project control manager for E&C Group, an international construction management company in Spartanburg, S.C. Before being transferred, he spent three years in London as part of a team working on the 2012 Olympics. He is working with one of the firm’s large, multimillion-dollar clients and plans to retire in 2014.
2013 King Scholarship Breakfast

Rowan marked its 27th annual tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. with actor, director and activist Danny Glover as the keynote speaker. Friends of the University took time for the yearly tradition to raise funds for scholarships in memory of William H. Myers and to celebrate Dr. King’s example and inspiration. Mark your calendar for January 20, 2014, when Martin Luther King III will join our celebration. Visit alumni.rowan.edu for tickets in September.

1. Danny Glover.


3. FRONT: Thomasine Goins ’87, ’98, M’92, Alfred Goins, Lynda Hinkle ’93, M’03. BACK: Marc McKennan, Sweeney McKennan ’74 and Nicole McKennan.


5. FRONT: Julie Peterson, Linda Phelps-Huston ’67, Emma Jean Shockley ’73, Lorraine Wallace.

BACK: Lizziel Sullivan Williams ’74, Lisa Williams ’97, Jacqueline Roland-Spratley, Montez Spratley.

6. President Houshmand, Danny Glover and Farah Houshmand.

Jeff Costa ’89 recently published Two Weeks Notice—Escaping the Corporate World and Finding Happiness. It is available on line.

Peter Damiri ’89 and Kathleen Lange Damiri ’89, M’92 helped move their oldest son, John Damiri ’16, into Chestnut Hall at Rowan in September 2012. Dan Fourney ’89 and Melanie Chua Fourney ’98 have two children. Dan teaches social studies and coaches cross country and track in Cinnaminson. Melanie is a guidance counselor at Cherokee High School in Marlton. The family resides in Cherry Hill.

Thomas Jannarone ’89 has dissolved his 14-year law partnership, Kalas & Jannarone, and opened The Law Office of Thomas Jannarone in Lake Como. The new firm deals with alcoholic beverage control law, DWI/DUI and entertainment law. Through the New Jersey Licensed Beverage Association, he received a grant from the New Jersey Department of Labor to teach “ABC Licensee and Management Bootcamp,” a program he created to teach liquor license holders and store owners how to abide by state laws.

Dana Lambert ’89 (Theta Pi Omicron) was selected by New Jersey School Counselors Association as Human Rights Advocate of the year 2013. The award is in recognition of her work in school counseling particularly her work with students with disabilities, students who are LGBTQ, and students who are the first generation to attend college.

Linda L. Moore ’89, who earned a master’s degree at Rutgers University, is the Vineland Development Center’s director of social services.

90s

Joe Clark ’90 is a senior account executive and media relations specialist at Ron Sonntag Public Relations in Milwaukee. Previously, he was a public relations specialist in the marketing department at Prince George’s Community College in Largo, Md. Before that, he worked for agencies in New Jersey and New York. He lives in Wauwatosa, Wis.

Jennifer Dolbow ’90 turned an initial $100 grant from Phoenix Advisors LLC into five new $100 prizes to give to her colleagues at School Number 3 in Winslow Township. Dolbow, who has taught for 21 years, earned the additional grants because of how she used her initial award to buy nonfiction...
The Rowan University Charitable Gift Annuity

A Charitable Gift Annuity through the Rowan University Foundation can help you create a legacy at Rowan while providing you and your spouse or loved one with a fixed income for life. There are many benefits to a Charitable Gift Annuity including:

- Quarterly income payments
- Rates higher than that of most bonds and certificates of deposit
- Increased income potential
- Reduced federal and state taxes
- Capital gains tax benefits with gifts of stock
- Providing a more secure future for this outstanding University

In exchange for a gift of $10,000 or more, Rowan University can offer you and your spouse or loved one fixed income for life. Your age(s), along with the market interest rate for the month you make your gift, determines the annuity rate.

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Rates change monthly. Calculations shown based on the ACGA standard rate for July 2013.

Christopher R. Street  
Development Director, Planned Giving & Leadership Gifts  
Rowan University  
201 Mullica Hill Road  
Glassboro, NJ 08028  
856-256-5421  
street@rowan.edu

Please call, write or email to receive a personalized proposal tailored to your giving goals.
books she incorporated into a curriculum for Black History Month about what makes everyone different.

Russ DiBella ’90 celebrated one year of business as the founder of RJ Custom Awning Co. LLC (www.rjawning.com).

James P. Wilson, ’90, was sworn in as a Superior Court Judge in Union County. Fellow Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Brothers, Gerald James ’89, Lou Butler ’92, Franklin Brown ’90 and Darrin Stalling attended the ceremony at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth. Wilson, of Roselle, was a senior staff attorney in the Family Law Unit at Central Jersey Legal Services Inc., a nonprofit in Elizabeth that offers free legal help in civil cases for low-income residents. He was nominated to the bench by Gov. Christie and confirmed by the state Senate. He will serve in the Union County Family Division. Wilson earned a juris doctorate from Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, La. in 1994.

Amy Jordan Carpinelli ’91 was one of 10 semifinalists for the National Science Teachers Association’s Shell National Science Teacher of the Year Award. Her husband, Ken Carpinelli ’91, is the Church School superintendent at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Glassboro. He is also a Vestry and Campus Ministry Committee member.

Ten years of laughs
The 10th annual Rowan Comedy Club lightened moods with our own “One Funny Mother,” Dena Blizzard ’94 and other comics. Mark your calendar for the 11th annual: Friday, January 24.

1. Elaine Brigandi ’81, Dena Blizzard ’94, Joe Brigandi
2. Jim Willard, Christine Willard ’89, Steve Marrow, Grace Marrow

Olivetta Cervera Martin ’92 ran her first half marathon, The Philadelphia Rock and Roll, in September 2012.

Kevin Bogle M’93 is vice president of human resources at Resorts World Casino in New York City. He maintains homes in Mystic, Conn., and Rye, N.Y. He has two children.

April Carty Sipp ’93 is vice president of programming at 6ABC in Philadelphia.

George Baines ’94 opened Mom Mom’s Coffee House in Williamstown. The store sells various coffees and other hot beverages along with assorted cakes and cake products. He plans to provide pound cakes to the Philadelphia metro area and beyond.

Bar A fun for all
The Jersey shore beckoned Rowan grads for an afternoon of fun and sun at the annual Bar A reception last summer. Over 125 alumni attended and had the opportunity to meet up with old friends. Larger groups from the ’80s and late ’00s came out to show their Rowan pride. This summer’s event—with over 200 attendees—was scheduled for just before press time, so look for photos in the next issue.

Tracy Turanick Forlenza ’91 resides in Cherry Hill with her husband, Paul. They have two children.

Maria Garofalo Mancino ’91 works for Verizon Wireless in cellular sales. She and her husband live in Midlothian, Va., and have two children.

Monica E. Brinson ’94 (Delta Zeta) earned an MBA from Centenary College in Hackettstown and is writing an autobiography.
President’s Forum celebrates support

More than 240 generous friends of the University enjoyed an evening at the home of Board of Trustees member Lita Abele and her husband, Merrill Abele, in May.

Addressing alumni spanning six decades, as well as corporate and foundation supporters, President Houshmand thanked donors for their investment in the University and shared news of what to expect as Rowan launches into a new era of development and leadership.

For more about the President’s Forum and other opportunities to support Rowan University, please visit: rufoundation.org or call 856-256-4095.

1. President Ali and Farah Houshmand, Board of Trustees Member Lita and Merrill Abele.
2. Melanie Burney ’84, Jeffery Barnes
4. Dr. Anthony Fugaro, Delia Fugaro ’62, Melody Goldberg, Dr. Michael Goldberg
5. Sandy Maxwell ’69, M’84, Kathleen Matteo ’56, George Matteo.
Anthony Del Vecchio ’94 is director of brand marketing and advertising for AutoNation, America’s largest auto retailer. Del Vecchio handles all broadcast and print advertising efforts for the company’s 220 stores in 15 states. He resides in Hollywood, Fla., with his wife, Tatiana, and two children.

Wendy Lathrope ’94, M’oo teaches autistic kindergarten students in Mesa Public Schools, the largest school district in Arizona.


Patrick Taggart ’95, M ’98 and Michele Desmond Taggart ’99 (both Alpha Phi Omega) announce the Feb. 19 birth of their second child, Daniel.

Sue Saunders Wojtylek ’95 and her husband, Todd, announce the June 7, 2012, birth of Hope.

William “Bill” Goldstein ’96 (Kappa Sigma) and his wife, Danette, married in 2003 and have three children. Bill has expanded his company, Impact Restoration and Construction, to include emergency cleanups for insurance companies and mold remediation.

Linda Lee Lehman ’96 has been a counselor at the Center for Family Services Inc. for 11 years. The center cares for the homeless of Gloucester and Cape May counties.

Martin Walsh ’96 is an instructional designer/trainer in the learning and development division of Xerox in Cherry Hill. Previously, he was an award-winning copywriter/project manager in the creative services department of medical publisher Elsevier in Philadelphia. He also was a public relations account executive with Paolin & Sweeney of Mt. Laurel. He lives in Haddon Township.

Sarah Klosek ’97, a registered patent attorney with Fox Rothschild LLP, was named a “New Leader of the Bar” by the New Jersey Law Journal. The list recognizes New Jersey lawyers under the age of 40 who are distinguished among their peers for their achievements in the workplace and for public service involvement.


Maria Bellot Albert ’98 is the program director of Guardian Programs Adult Medical Day Care in Glassboro.

Martin Rogers ’98 is associate director of the Honors Program and the Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities at the University of Georgia. Rogers, who earned master’s and doctoral degrees at the university, had been serving as the program’s assistant director. During his six years at the university, he has been an instructor, academic adviser and administrator.

Robert Sontz ’98, a CPA and an attorney, is a tax partner at Deloitte Tax LLP in New York City. He and his wife have four children and live in Montville.

Barbara L. Bungy ’99 is executive director of Drexel University College of Medicine’s Center of the Urban Child at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children in Philadelphia. The center focuses on food insecurity, violence and childhood illness for patients and families served by the hospital. The project seeks to eliminate health disparities, streamline access to healthcare and expand community partnerships. Bungy earned a master’s of public health at Drexel and is a certified health education specialist.

Joanna King McGowan ’99 has published You Are My Star, a children’s book she wrote in honor of her 5-year-old son who is affected by autism. It is an inspirational story for all children, but written specifically for children with special needs. All the book’s illustrations were drawn by children on the autism spectrum, and the book’s proceeds are being donated to Talk About Curing Autism, a grassroots organization which provides direct aid to families. The book is available at blurb.com. McGowan is the registrar at the Brandywine Campus of Pennsylvania State University.

Good friends gather
Grads returned to campus July 19-21 to enjoy a weekend of reunion activities with a wine and cheese reception in the new Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Center for Alumni Engagement. Families then gathered in the Student Center for a day-long picnic featuring remarks from Provost James Newell, Assistant Vice President for Student Retention Rory McElwee and the Black Alumni Reunion Committee. The weekend concluded when nearly 100 alums attended a Sunday morning prayer breakfast led by the Rev. James Robert McFadden ’88.

1. Eugene Smith ’93, Kathleen Gordy-Mathis ’90, Lisa Jacobs-Smith ’92, Melanie Burney ’84
3. Stephanie Wilkins-Johnson ’92, Monique Clark ’88, Lyla Wilkins ’91
4. Antonio Stanley, Keith Martin, Paul Hilton, Cathy McKnight, Mike Love ’83
5. Anna Branch ’87, Karen Campbell ’86
Courtney McCormick Cifaloglio ’00 has earned Certified Professional status from the International Public Management Association for Human Resources. She also earned a Certificate in Public Sector Labor Relations from Rutgers University.

Tom Fanuka ’00 is president-elect of the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials. Fanuka is the business administrator/board secretary of the Lumberton Township School District.

Jennifer MacAvo Keelan ’00 married Anthony Keelan on Sept 9 on Royal Caribbean’s Explorer of the Seas before sailing to Bermuda for a honeymoon. Jennifer is a warehouse manager at Helena Chemical Company in Swedesboro.

Rebecca Simpkins Plasket ’01 and Brian Plasket ’00 married in September 2001 and have two children.

Kathy Lee Papa Simpkins ’01, M’06 is a librarian in the Medford School District, a post she has held since 2004. She has earned a master’s degree plus 60 credits. She has two grandchildren.

Joseph Wetterling ’01 has contributed to web magazine NewEvangelizer.com and has a contract for his first book.

Thomas Maciejewski ’02 is a vice president of asset management with Newtek Small Business Finance. He lives in Knoxville, Tenn., with his wife and two children.

James Quinlan ’02 is engaged to Lisa DiMeglio and their wedding and reception will be held Aug. 31 at Tomasello Winery in Hammonton. James is an Alternative Dispute Resolution program administrator with the federal government. Lisa is a medical billing representative with Virtua Health Systems.

Cynthia Hawk Woodhull ’02 and her husband, Adam Woodhull ’03, M’07, announce the June 22, 2012, birth of Charlotte. The family lives in Marlton.

Edwin W. Concepcion ’03 has been practicing law since 2009 at his firm, The Law Office of Edwin W. Concepcion Esq.,
in Shrewsbury. He handles municipal, family, criminal and immigration law as well as workers’ compensation and personal injury cases.

Trymaine Lee ’03 is a national reporter for MSNBC’s website, where he covers social justice and progressive issues. Previously, he was a senior reporter for the Huffington Post, where he focused on national issues that impacted the African American community.

Courtney Eitel Nelson, ’03 and her husband, Eric, announce the April 22, 2012, birth of twins Rosie and Samuel.

Gina Lemanowicz Pusloski ’03 married Charles Pusloski ’07 in November 2011. The reception was held at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia. The wedding party included Jessica Brunner M’05 and Michael and Alexis DiStefano, son and daughter of Christopher DiStefano ’96.

Joe Ascolese ’04 and Andrea Stutzbach Ascolese ’04 married in December 2011, and are expecting a child. Andrea teaches health and physical education at Johnson Regional High School in Clark and is an assistant field hockey and softball coach. Joe teaches health and physical education at Watchung Hills Regional High School in Warren and coaches football and baseball.

Joseph Hader ’04 and his wife, Devin, announce the June 27, 2012, birth of Joseph III.

Karen Jennings ’04 continues to run the Military Support Group of NJ Inc. The nonprofit group, begun in September 2004, sends care packages to men and women in all branches of the military serving overseas. For more information, visit www.militarysupportgroupnj.org.

Margaret “Peg” Meehan M’04 received the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO) 2013 Distinguished Service Award for her long-term exemplary service as the business administrator/school board secretary in Washington Township, Gloucester County. As part of her award, Meehan presented a $1,000 NJASBO scholarship in her name to Washington Township High School graduating senior Vanessa Richards. Meehan, who has served in the school district since 1993, is treasurer of the Gloucester County Association of School Business Officials and finance committee chairperson of the Gloucester, Cumberland, Salem School Districts Joint Insurance Fund. She has also served on NJASBO’s accounting and editorial review committees.

Archange Antoine ’05 is a Roselle Board of Education member, the youngest board member in Union County, and executive director of

Save the Date

For the 2013 Fall Gala featuring Emmy-Nominated Actor

Jeffrey Tambor
(of The Larry Sanders Show and Arrested Development)

Eynon Ballroom
Chamberlain Student Center
Rowan University

Friday, September 27, 2013
VIP reception, 5 p.m.
($150 per person, includes dinner to follow)
Dinner, 6 p.m.
($75 per person)

The evening also includes awards for Alumni of the Year and Business Person of the Year as well as student scholarships and faculty awards.

For more information, call 856-256-4126
25th Annual Rowan University Foundation Golf Tournament

Golfers enjoyed a day on the greens at Laurel Creek Country Club for a good cause in June, raising funds to benefit the Robert A. Harris and Robert Collard Memorial Scholarships.

1. Mike Carr, Matt Hardiman, Colin Dansberry, Royce Reed
2. Lee Polisano, Scott Harris ’94, Gary Wriggins, Brian Alling
3. Joe Gehousky, Robert Hoey, Marty Kirsch
4. Jim Lovegrove ’82, Ed Hook ’87, Scott Duman ’86, Ralph Palone
5. Michael Razzano ’95, Sal Razzano, Dave DeMarco ’89, Anthoy Razzano ’84
6. Mike Kell ’80, John Mazzei ’69, Gus Bader ’68, RJ Tallarida
Memoirs of an Outlaw: Life in the Sandbox, a unique and personal look into the life of a Marine Corps infantryman who was a part of the elite Delta Company Outlaws

Natalie Gericke Carrozza ’07, M’11 (Sigma Sigma Sigma) married Ryan Carrozza last summer. Wedding party members included Makenzie D’Angelo ’09 M’10, Stephanie Coutros ’07, Julie Parker ’08, and Rachel Weiner ’08, all in Sigma Sigma Sigma. (see photo this page)

Danielle Cascella ’07 and Matthew Dunne were engaged on Christmas Eve and plan to marry in summer 2014. Danielle is the shelter coordinator for Providence House Domestic Violence Services in Ocean County and will complete a master’s degree in clinical mental health counseling at Georgian Court University this year.

Chris D’Angelo ’07, M’10 and Makenzie Devine D’Angelo ’09, M’10 married on June 30, 2012, at the Ben in Philadelphia. Wedding party members included Mindy Albalah ’09, Natalie Carrozza ’07, M’11, Stephanie D’Angelo ’07, M’09, Megan Datz ’08, Bill Dempsey ’07, Tom Ebel ’07, Shane Hug ’08, Alyssa Merritt ’08, Lou Ragone ’06, and Dave Rubman ’06. (see photo on page 62)

Diana Araujo Hammond ’07 (Phi Sigma Sigma) married Jonathan Hammond in March 2011 and they have one child. Diana teaches second grade and the family lives in Winter Garden, Fla.

Krista Hiller ’07 is engaged to Timothy Wise.

Keri Humen ’07 is engaged to Anthony Intagliata.

Ashley Kalena ’07 is a digital media producer at the National Geographic Channel.

Robert Martin ’07 passed the Level I Chartered Financial Analyst exam and took Level II in June. He is a financial consultant with the Weinberg Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors in Marlton.

Stefani Cohen Popek ’07 and Michael Popek ’07 married in July 2012. Their wedding party included Jeff Courteau ’06.

Wine with friends

Move over Catalina, Rowan alums braved the cold for the first Rowan Alumni Wine Mixer. The event, co-sponsored by Rastelli Direct, gave 75 alumni a look at the Kopenhaver Alumni Engagement Center. Grads from all generations came together to mix it up and expand their Rowan network. The next Alumni Wine Mixer is scheduled for Friday, February 28, 2014. More details will be available at alumni.rowan.edu in the coming months.

Senior Celebration

The Alumni Association welcomed its new members to a reception in May.

1. Dian DiNapoli, Noah Weinstein ’12, Mike Medina, Jessica Prach ’10
2. Javier Mena, Jacqelyn Rybak, Stephanie Greco, Aleksandr Romanchuk, Stephanie Martin
3. Chelsea Waneliastia, Stephanie Martin, Julie Mizerek, Vanessa Cruz, Donna Bower, Krista Forni, Kathleen Zelinka, Heather Smaniotto, Stephanie Bechtold

Carrozza Wedding

Natalie Gericke Carrozza ’07, M’11 married Ryan Carrozza last summer. See note this page.
Doctoral reunion

The Educational Leadership Class of 2007 held a five-year reunion in August 2012 at Adelphia Restaurant in Deptford. FRONT: Frederick Johnson, John H. Robinson, Jackie Brady. MIDDLE: Sherri Parmenter, Karen Garrison (also ’71, M ’96), Crystal Buchanan-Smith, John W. Robinson,Back: Kia Johnson-Phillips, Amrita Desai, Meredith Fiori-DeFeo.

Ed Purcell ’07 is the staff counsel to the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Carolyn Busa ’08 performed at the 2012 Bridgetown Comedy Festival in Portland, Ore. She is a stand-up comedian in the Philadelphia region and cohosts Laughs on Fairmount, voted Philadelphia’s Best Open Mic.

Lia Kantor Carde ’08 and Juan Carde ’10 were married in Freehold on June 28. The bridal party included Kristin Scicutella, Caitlin Lore, Krystina Jahoda and Julia Delodzia, all ’08, Raheel Saleem ’06, Steven Gwozdiak ’10, David Gold ’10 and Ken Then. Lia is a school counselor and Juan is a computer programmer.

Maria Castillo ’08 is the inventory and merchandise manager at WaWa in Margate.

Alexander Habib ’08 is an account supervisor at Beckerman Public Relations, one of the largest independent firms in the industry.

Jessica Ortuso Kanady ’08 and Brian Kanady ’08, who met in 2006 at WGLS-FM, married in October. Jessica is a project director at Southwest Council, a substance abuse prevention agency. She is working on a Rowan master’s degree. Brian is the traffic manager at CBS radio station 98.1 WOGL-FM.

Kerry O’Donnell ’08 is head coach of the women’s lacrosse team at Georgian Court University in Lakewood Township. O’Donnell, who was a team captain and All-American at Rowan, was head coach of the Jackson Liberty High School girls’ cross country team before accepting the Georgian Court post. Previously, she was an assistant coach with the Jackson Memorial High School girls’ lacrosse program and a Rowan lacrosse team assistant coach.

Calista Condo Wynkoop ’08 and David Wynkoop ’08 married in October.

Stacy Jones ’09, who was a Whit editor in chief, won the New Jersey Press Association’s Robert P. Kelly Rookie of the Year award for her work as a business reporter at the Star-Ledger in Newark.

Thomas Woltjen ’09 graduated from Rutgers University School of Law in May.
Marissa Lombardi ’10 and David Hinrichs ’05 received 2011 Sports Emmys for Outstanding Daily Studio Show for the MLB Network’s signature show “MLB Tonight.” Both work in the network’s graphics department.

Lisa Maria Nail ’10 has earned a master’s degree in counseling and clinical health at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and is working on a clinical psychology doctorate at Immaculata University. While completing a yearlong master’s degree internship at Southeastern Veteran Center in Spring City, Pa., she wrote a psychology/psychopathology education initiative for staff members which was adopted in all of Pennsylvania’s veteran facilities.

Varuni Singh M’10 was named a “New Leader in Banking” by the New Jersey Bankers Association in its New Jersey Banker magazine. Singh is assistant vice president/information technology manager/senior operations specialist at GCF Bank.

Aimee Schprechman ’10 graduated from Rutgers University School of Law in May.

Roger Castillo ’11, who earned a master’s degree in social work at New York University, is a Peace Corps youth development coordinator in Costa Rica.

Lauren Schwer ’11 is in her fifth year as a member of the Sixers Dream Team, a group of dancers who entertain at the Philadelphia basketball team’s home games. They also represent the team at promotional and community events.

Amanda Brezee ’12 is engaged to Justin Thompson and they plan a fall 2014 wedding. Amanda is pursuing a master’s degree in marriage and family counseling at Liberty University.

Dana Sclafani ’12 is a public relations and social media coordinator at Aversa PR & Events in Philadelphia. She provides public relations, social media and event planning services to more than 20 arts, culinary, entertainment, small business and nonprofit clients in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. She lives in Washington Township, Gloucester County.

Katherine Stys ’12 is the health and wellness team lead for AtlantiCare Health Engagement, a nonprofit group that works to prevent injury and illness through programs in the schools, businesses and communities.

As head coach it is my mission to insure that our players strive for academic success ultimately leading to graduation. We aid the players in this process with programs including mandatory study halls, academic assessment meetings and classroom monitoring. Former player Jesse Eisenhart ’06 serves as our coordinator of football student-athlete development. He assists the players in more clearly defining their long-term goals and aspirations. Having earned multiple degrees while playing two intercollegiate sports, he serves as a great example for our players.

It is also important for the players to be involved in and understand the importance of community service. Our players held our fifth annual National Bone Marrow Registry Drive at Rowan and enrolled 493 people. We were one of 34 U.S. college football programs that participated, adding a total of 9,154 people. Rowan enrolled 255 and 310 in 2012 and 2011 respectively.

The Brown & Gold Gridiron Club held its annual Senior Dinner for the 2012 players. The departing seniors are Anthony Barone, Rob Barrett, Louie Bianchini, Keith Corcoran, Casey Dillon, Steve Fortune, Chris Garcia, Evan Picariello, Chris Popper, Dan Reed, Frank Rubino, Patrick Ruley, Zak Taylor and Steve Williams. We wish them well and thank the Gridiron Club for helping to enhance our program.

We were encouraged by the participation of over 95 players during our winter conditioning and spring practices. The team selected senior captains Kyle Jones and Frank Ruopoli for the 2013 season. Others of note were most improved offensive player Evan Hopkins and most improved defensive player Tyler Jenkins. With a solid returning group of players mixed in with about 29 freshmen and a few transfer students, the expectations are high for 2013.

Construction was completed this April on the John Green Team House addition. Players and coaches moved into the new locker rooms for spring practice. This building provides space for all our student-athletes, visiting teams, athletic training and equipment staff. A patio provides space to host players’ families and alumni after home games. More importantly, the artificial turf is being replaced and fans this fall will see gold end zones and our Profs mascot at midfield.

Rowan Football will provide many great events this season. At press time, the squad is planning to interrupt training camp and play our intersquad scrimmage on August 24 at noon at Ocean City High School. Also, we start and end NJAC play with in-state rivals Montclair and TCNJ at home in Friday night contests under the lights at Coach Richard Wacker Stadium.

See you this Fall!

Lauren Schwer ’11

Summer 2013 | 65
Remembrances
Fond eulogies of campus friends offered by AFT colleagues

Alex Borowec ‘44
Educational Leadership
Alexander Borowec, 90, of Newfield, passed away in August 2012 in the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home in Vineland after an extended illness.

Dr. Borowec joined the physical science department in 1956. He retired as professor in 1988 after 32 years of service.

He held a B.S. from Trenton State College; an M.S. from the University of Pennsylvania and an Ed.D. from Temple University.

He served in the Air Corps as a mechanic from 1942 to 1945. After the war he returned to New Jersey to complete his bachelor’s degree. He taught at Flemington High School and went on to earn his doctorate of education.

He was a congregant of the Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church of Vineland.

According to Karen Magee-Sauer, chair, department of physics & astronomy, “Alex created a strong base of physics curriculum at then-Glassboro State College that helped us build our department to what it is today at Rowan University. Professor Borowec will always be remembered.”

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Dorothy Borowec; five children, Lawrence, Constance, Christine, Nancy and Katherine, and four grandchildren.

A private service was held in the Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church, with burial in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Newfield.

Maria Elisa Ciavarelli
Foreign Languages and Literatures
Maria Elisa Ciavarelli, 75, of Philadelphia, died in March. She was born in Italy and came to the United States during the 1950s, eventually enrolling as an undergraduate at the University of Pennsylvania, where she received her B.A., M.A. and Ph.D.

A member of the foreign languages and literatures department since 1973, she retired in June 2008 as associate professor. She taught courses in romance languages including Spanish and Italian, and was particularly fond of foreign literatures and poetry. She also worked as an interpreter for the Philadelphia courts. In free time, she enjoyed world travel.

Dr. Ciavarelli was a longtime member of the Executive Council of the Italian American Cultural Association. She regularly attended its conferences, where she presented poetry that she had translated from English to Italian. The works were by various well-known poets, including Philadelphia poets Maria Fama, Rachel Guido de Vries, the late Mary Ann Mannino and her former colleague and friend, Antoinette Libro. These poems, in English and Italian, were subsequently published in conference proceedings and in literary journals such as Philadelphia Poets.

She is survived by her dear friend and loving companion of 40 years, Linde Hegestweiler. Services were private. Those who wish may send donations in memory of Dr. Ciavarelli to the Student Scholarship Fund, Rowan University Foundation, 201 Mullica Hill Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028.

Cindy Corison
Communication
Cynthia “Cindy” Corison, 58, of Boca Raton, Fla., and formerly of Philadelphia, died in July. She joined the communications department in 1984 and retired in 2009 from the department of communication studies as associate professor after 25 years of service.

Originally from Oregon, Dr. Corison held a B.A. from Lewis and Clark College and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Oregon. She was an AFT Local 2373 member.

Dr. Corison became chairperson of communication studies following the 1998 transition of the department of communications into the College of Communication with five separate departments.

She specialized in teaching undergraduate survey research methods courses and graduate survey research courses for the M.A. in public relations. She also served as the director of the graduate program in public relations. In addition, she performed the complex task of scheduling for the large and diverse College for many years.

No public memorial service was held. Those who wish may send donations in memory of Cindy Corison to the Student Scholarship Fund, Rowan University Foundation, 201 Mullica Hill Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028.

Betty Duff
Psychology
Elizabeth “Betty” R. Duff, 92, of Merion Gardens, Carneys Point, died in August 2012. She joined the GSC psychology department in 1959 and retired as a professor in 1984.

Dr. Duff held a B.S. from Kent State University, an M.A. from New York University and an Ed.D. from the University of Maryland.

She was born in Derby, Conn., and lived in Ohio early in life. While at Glassboro, Dr. Duff resided in Williamstown, but later moved to Salem, where she enjoyed the pleasures of living on the Delaware River.

Dr. Duff served on the board of directors of the South Jersey chapter of the Girl Scouts of America, and was an active and enthusiastic environmentalist.

Surviving family members include two nieces, Debra Anderson and Cynthia Duff, and a nephew, James B. Duff.

A celebration of Betty’s life, given by her family, was held Oct. 14 with family, former colleagues and friends sharing memories.

Rose Glassberg, AFT Retirees Chapter president recalled, “Betty on the picket line was the most courteous picket I’d ever seen.”

Harry Gershenowitz
Biological Sciences
Herchel “Harry” Gershenowitz, 87, of Pitman, died in June in Kennedy Health Systems in Stratford. A member of the biological sciences department since 1965, Dr. Gershenowitz retired as a professor in 1998 after 33 years of service.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1926, he held a B.S. from St. John’s University, a B.A. and M.S. from Long Island University and an M.A. and Ed.D. from Columbia University.

A prolific writer, avid researcher and frequent lecturer, Dr. Gershenowitz was widely published in a variety of journals. He devoted much of his time to championing the life of Mary Treat, the Vineland botanist, and her historic correspondence with naturalist Charles Darwin. Dr. Gershenowitz was appointed official historian of Gloucester County by the county freeholders, and published articles pertaining to local history in county newsletters.
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Dr. Gershenowitz also spoke on local radio and television about South Jersey wildlife. During his retirement, he enjoyed being an amateur archaeologist and writer. The New York Times featured his archaeological finds and research on New Jersey Jewish history.

Dr. Gershenowitz is survived by his sister, Frieda Langman, and a niece, Tina Kletter, both of Staten Island, N.Y. Graveside services were held June 9 in Norma.

Donations may be made in his memory to a charity of one’s choice.

Richard R. Smith
Educational Leadership

Richard “Dick” R. Smith, 74, of Glassboro, died in November 2012, in Kennedy Memorial Hospital, Washington Township, Gloucester County. Dr. Smith retired from the educational leadership department as a professor in 1999 after 36 years of service.

As a Glassboro State College student, Dick was elected class president and held this office until his graduation in 1962 with a B.A. in art. The first GSC graduate assistant to be appointed, Dick earned his M.A. at Glassboro and his Ed.D. at Temple University.

Early in his service at GSC, Dick served as director of resident students/assistant director of graduate studies. He taught in the departments of psychology and elementary education. He founded and served as coordinator of a joint doctoral program with Virginia Technical University, and became coordinator of Rowan’s first doctoral program.

Widely recognized as an expert on community college education, he served as consultant to community colleges and public school districts and published many articles on this topic.

Dr. Smith is survived by his wife of 48 years, Nancy ’62; a son, Sean Francis; a daughter, Danene Derrickson, and her husband, Earl; and three grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in the Church of St. Bridget, Glassboro.
Donations in Dr. Smith’s memory may be made to Rowan University Foundation, 201 Mullica Hill Rd., Glassboro, N.J. 08028, or Fox Chase Cancer Center, 333 Cottman Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19111.

Entries excerpted and reprinted courtesy of the Rowan AFT Retirees Chapter newsletter, AFTerwords, with thanks to Toni Libro, editor and Rose Glassberg, president.
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In 1947, Shirley Schwartz was one of many post-war high school students applying to Glassboro State Teachers College. Her surf-side photo (with her sunglassed friend) arrived in Glassboro as part of her admission application.

Shirley would join 245 women admitted that year, along with 227 men, many of them veterans taking advantage of the GI Bill. Although the college required applicants to submit a photo, it didn’t specify its style or composition, so our archive contains formal photos as well as family snapshots and more lighthearted images like this one.

Four years after she enrolled, the 1951 yearbook called Shirley “a cute gal with an effervescent personality” and said she “kept the post office in business.” She would begin her teaching career in Fair Lawn elementary schools within months.

But back in ’47, summer beckoned, as it does now. Thanks to Shirley’s photo, it’s still a sunny day.