# Rowan Magazine FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF ROWAN UNIVERSITY WINTER 2016



Henry M. Rowan

# alumni.rowan.edu alumni.rowan.edu alumni.rowan.edu

## **Rowan Gives Dav**

At press time, our second annual #RowanGIVES Day kicked off to celebrate philanthropy and service throughout the Rowan community with a 24-hour giving challenge encouraging alumni, students, faculty and staff to support student scholarships and the areas of campus most important to them. Please visit rowan.edu/rowangives for a full list of #RowanGIVES Day supporters and more about giving to Rowan University.

## **Rowan Alumni Career Webinar Series Every Wednesday**

Whether you're contemplating a career change or interested in developing a new skill set, the weekly Rowan Alumni Career Webinar Series has something for you. Webinars are free to all alumni and are hosted every Wednesday evening. To learn more, please visit alumnicareerservices.org/rowan.

## **Run for Rowan 5k** Saturday, April 23

Kick off the spring running season with the Alumni Association's first 5K, a timed race through campus with all proceeds to

benefit the Rowan University Emergency Scholarship Fund. Alumni, family and friends are welcome to participate. Runners will receive a Run For Rowan swag bag, water bottle and T-shirt. A short awards ceremony will follow the race. Registration until race day is \$25. Alumni may benefit from early bird registration for \$20 through March 31. Get more info and register today at alumni.rowan.edu/runforrowan. 8:30-9:45 a.m. check-in, bib pickup 10 a.m. race start, Student Center Patio, Chamberlain Student Center

## Phillies vs. Braves and **Pregame Party**

Friday, May 20

Take your family and friends out to the ball game with the Rowan University Alumni Association! The Office of Alumni Engagement will host a pregame party at McFadden's at the Ballpark from 5-7 p.m. The Phillies vs. Braves game begins at 7:05 p.m. Your \$40 concierge package includes a two-hour domestic draft open bar, buffet and one ticket to the game. Registration is open now.

## **Golden Years Reunion**

5 p.m., Citizen's Bank Park

Friday, June 3

This reunion, exclusively for graduates from 1926 through 1966, offers a very treasured group of alumni the opportunity to return to campus to reminisce with fellow classmates for a memorable day. The Rowan University Alumni Association will honor

the Lifetime Service Award recipient during the luncheon. Stay tuned for more details. Noon, Eynon Ballroom, Chamberlain Student Center

## **Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony**

Sunday, October 9

Celebrate the 1990 Men's Soccer National Championship team, Crystal Feo Engelhart '99, Maggie Goodman-Reed '06, Maurice Ransome '94 and Josh Swartz '09 at the 2016 Rowan-Glassboro State Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. 11 a.m., Eynon Ballroom,

**Chamberlain Student Center** 

## save the date

28th Annual Rowan University **Foundation Golf Tournament** Monday, June 6

2016 Brown & Gold **Gridiron Club Golf Outing** Friday, July 15

Rowan Reunion at Bar A Saturday, August 13

Homecoming 2016 Friday, October 7-Sunday, October 9

2016 Rowan/GSC **Black Alumni Reunion** Friday, October 7-Sunday, October 9

Class of 1966 50th Reunion Saturday, October 8

# stayconnected

We have many ways to help you stay connected with the Alumni Association:

Each month the Alumni Engagement office sends an e-newsletter to catch you up on all things Rowan. We also send e-mails that specifically address the needs of our alumni—events and programs, networking receptions, reunions, professional development opportunities and more.

If you're not receiving Rowan Alumni e-mails, please contact alumniupdate@rowan.edu or visit alumni.rowan.edu/update to update your information.

## Social media

Contests, breaking news, event announcements, alumni profiles and more.

Join the conversation with











If you'd like to volunteer as a "digital ambassador" for the Alumni Association, please e-mail Dana Benjamin, Alumni Engagement program assistant, at benjamin@rowan.edu.

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Henry M. Rowan made higher education fundraising history at the press conference in Bunce Hall's Tohill Theatre in 1992. With the breathtaking \$100 million pledge announced, the engineer and businessman took on a title he hadn't

considered before:

philanthropist.

ON THE COVER

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

# departments

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#### CONTENT

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## A good mistake to make

A fellow alumnus brought my attention to an announcement of my death in *Rowan Magazine*. I received so many concerned calls! I can assure you I am quite alive. I'd like you to kindly print a retraction.

Denise White Zangoglia '79 Little Falls

Ed. note: Denise, please accept my sincere apology. We receive the sympathies list from a number of different sources and occasionally an error occurs. The sympathies

page is one that I'm always sad to run in the magazine. I'm glad in this case to know we got the wrong information.

## History exposed

As a member of the Class of 1974, I enjoy your feature articles highlighting the 1970s.

Doug Kirby's feature in the Summer 2015 issue: "Remember the Future: 2029–1979" made me go into my GSC collection of memorabilia and pull out the *Venue* issue about streaking, the big craze back then. Note that the edition was called

VENUDE.
Some of the photographs are rather graphic but it brought back the fun of those times for me.
I did not participate but watched and enjoyed the excitement. Not sure if you have done any features about streaking (or even plan to).

Many thanks again for a great magazine and keep up the great historical content for alumni.

> Virginia Fisher Webb '74 West Chester, Penn.



Ed. note: We found our copy, too. Closing in on 100 years of institutional history, we've got plenty of stories to tell and we're glad to have history fans reading. Please do send your ideas, recollections and memorabilia. We'll find a way to reminisce with a G-rating.

40 UNDER 40

Do you know a bright and innovative young graduate who is using his or her Rowan degree to make a big difference?

Tell us who's on your list and why he or she should be on our list of 40 Under 40. With your help, we'll recognize some of our most promising, creative and inspiring alumni.

Visit alumni.rowan.edu/40under40 to nominate someone impressive (or your amazing self).

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# campus news



## \$2.1m gift funds CMSRU Center for Humanism and first endowed professor

THE GIFT WILL **HELP CMSRU BUILD ON ITS** FOUNDATION AS A LEADER IN HUMANISTIC **MEDICAL** EDUCATION. REINFORCING WHAT ALREADY MAKES CMSRU UNIQUE.

he Rona Stern Staut Foundation and the Marc and Eva Stern Foundation have together committed \$2.1 million to Cooper Medical School of Rowan

University to launch a new Center for Humanism and establish the Rona Stern Staut Research Professorship in Humanism and Bioethics, the school's first endowed professorship.

Since its inception in 2012, CMSRU has focused on integrating aspects of humanism—compassion, empathy, communication and professionalism—into its medical education curriculum. Establishing a Center for Humanism

provides the framework to broaden research, education and faculty development programs around these important values, along with bioethics and law as the primary areas of study.

The Rona Stern Staut Research Professorship in Humanism and Bioethics memorializes Rona Stern Staut, a young

Dean Paul Katz and Senior Advisor to the Dean Edward Viner welcomed donor Marc Stern (center) to Camden to announce the endowment created in memory of Rona Stern Staut (below).

woman from Vineland, who died in 1971 at age 29 due to complications from lupus.

Dr. Edward Viner, CMSRU's senior advisor to the dean and honorary first dean, was Staut's physician for nearly a decade. Moved by her courage and compassion, he created the Rona Stern Staut Foundation, which has supported many worthy projects.

In 2014, Viner decided to contribute the \$1.1 million remaining in the foundation to CMSRU. Marc Stern, Rona Stern Staut's brother, agreed to provide an additional \$1 million gift in Rona's memory from the Marc and Eva Stern Foundation.

"My sister Rona was stricken with lupus at the age of 16. Knowing her days were limited, she lived every day to the fullest. She just missed her 30th birthday but had much joy in the 14 years she lived with this horrible disease. This was in large part because of the humanistic care she received from Dr. Viner and his colleagues," Stern said. "When she

> passed away, she left behind a legacy of love and hope in her children, her family and her friends. Our family will always be grateful to Dr. Viner for the love he showed Rona by establishing the Rona Stern Staut Foundation in her memory. We are honored to join him in establishing this new professorship in her name. She would have been pleased with its purpose."

As CMSRU works to nurture physicians who not only will be well trained but

also will treat patients with compassion, respect and dignity, the legacy of Rona Stern Staut will endure.

"Rona's life was brief, but she will leave a lasting legacy at CMSRU," Viner said. "I am so pleased that, through this gift, Rona Stern Staut will forever be associated with excellence in humanistic medical education."



# SOM RESEARCHERS MAKE PARKINSON'S DIAGNOSIS BREAKTHROUGH

In a breakthrough that could have a farreaching impact for millions of people worldwide, Rowan researchers announced this fall that a blood test developed at the University's School of Osteopathic Medicine can accurately detect earlystage Parkinson's disease and distinguish between it and later stages of the disease.

The test, which searches for specific autoantibodies in the blood, was nearly 88 percent accurate in diagnosing early-stage disease and more than 97 percent accurate in distinguishing different stages of the disease. The research was led by Dr. Robert Nagele, the director of the Biomarker Discovery Center at the medical school's New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging.

According to Nagele, physicians currently have to rely on clinical observation of patients' symptoms to diagnose Parkinson's disease, a process that is only accurate about three-quarters of the time.

"An accurate and relatively non-invasive test for early-stage Parkinson's could have a profound impact that leads to earlier treatment of patients and allows for early enrollment of patients into clinical trials," he said.

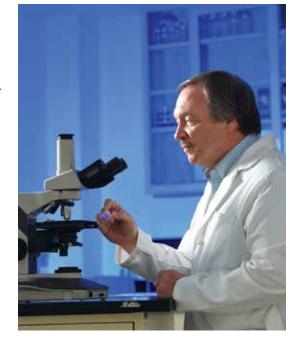
Parkinson's disease affects nearly one million Americans, with 60,000 new cases diagnosed annually. Researchers widely

acknowledge that Parkinson's and many other neurological diseases attack the brain years before symptoms emerge. Detecting autoantibody biomarkers in the blood at the preclinical stage would give patients an opportunity to work with their physicians to receive available treatments and/or make beneficial lifestyle changes. Potentially, this early intervention could help avoid or delay the most devastating aspects of their disease.

Nagele also noted that distinguishing different stages of disease severity could significantly benefit patients, physicians and researchers by making it possible to follow a patient's disease course, rate of progression and response to therapies.

As part of their study, the Rowan researchers also reported that the test was remarkably accurate in distinguishing Parkinson's from Alzheimer's disease (97 percent), multiple sclerosis (96.3 percent) and breast cancer (97.5 percent), raising the possibility that the technology developed at Rowan could one day yield a single test capable of detecting the presence of a wide variety of diseases.

Nagele's research was supported by grants from The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research and by the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation.



Dr. Nagele and his research staff have developed a blood test that can accurately detect early-stage Parkinson's disease, offering hope for early intervention for millions of people worldwide.



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### POPE FRANCIS OFFERS BLESSING

For two decades, Dr. Paola Leone (School of Osteopathic Medicine) and her team have researched Canavan disease, a rare and fatal pediatric neurodegenerative disorder. Their work was the first to apply viral gene therapy to Canavan patients, pointing to new, potential pathways to slow the disease's progression.

With an Italian nonprofit's help, Leone secured approval for a November meeting with Pope Francis and families of children with Canavan disease

"His Holiness walked down the sacred steps of St. Peter's Basilica to give his blessings," Leone said. "His words of love and hope to me and the families touched by this disease still resonate clearly in our ears."

## \$2.55M grant to enhance geriatric health care

As more and more baby boomers enter their retirement years, the gap between the number of older adults and the number of New Jersey health care professionals trained to care for them threatens to become a chasm. Already, the American Geriatrics Society estimates

that New Jersey has fewer than half the number of geriatricians it needs to provide for the more than 400,000 state residents who are 65 years or older.

With the help of a three-year, \$2.55 million grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources Services Administration, the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging at Rowan's School of Osteopathic Medicine

is forging a unique

that gap by

path to fill

establishing the New Jersey Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program.

> NJISA's director, Dr. Anita Chopra, will oversee the project, which will focus on disadvantaged, underserved populations and leverage the resources of a

number of area organizations. Those organizations include Lourdes Health System, BAYADA Home Health Care, the Camden Coalition of Health Providers, the New Jersey Division of Aging Services and the Camden Area Health Education Center.

## The training and education projects launched under Rowan's NJGWEP will focus on:

- Integrating geriatrics into primary care practices in two area accountable care organizations
- Providing training on dementia, delirium and depression throughout New Jersey to health care professionals, home health aides and family caregivers so that they can assess and address the needs of older adults
- Creating community-based programs for patients, families and caregivers
- Delivering training statewide on early detection of dementia among intellectually and developmentally disabled adults

Statewide, the NJGWEP will help transform training programs for current health care workers so they can better respond to the complex health and psychosocial needs of older adults, their families and caregivers.

The NJGWEP is the only New Jersey-based project—and one of 44 nationally—that will share in grants totaling \$35.7 million awarded by DHHS-HRSA this fiscal year under a federal initiative to support

programs that integrate geriatrics with primary care.

"This will be a 'boots-on-the-ground' program," Chopra said. "Working with our partner organizations, we will use the team-based practices we have pioneered at the NJISA to help transform health care delivery systems to improve the quality of care for older individuals."

Older patients will benefit from Rowan's focus on improving geriatric care with support of a federal grant—one of only 44 in the nation and the only one in New Jersey.

## **NEW GALLERY, OFFICES AND CLASS BUILDING OPEN ON HIGH STREET**

In September, Rowan opened the new University Art Gallery and home for the department of public relations & advertising at 301 West High Street in Glassboro. In configuring the facility for College of Communication & Creative Arts use, Rowan made a huge investment in the borough's downtown. The University purchased the building in 2013 for \$440,000 and spent more than \$6 million reconstructing it inside and out. In addition to its spacious art gallery (which is open to the public) the three-story structure features classrooms, faculty offices, computer labs and student lounges.



SOSH ARCHITECTS

## Sign here for business



he steel beams that uphold the \$63.2 million, under-construction home of the Rohrer College of Business were fortified by the signatures of some of the college's most ardent supporters during a January beam-signing ceremony in Glassboro.

Held on the construction site, the event celebrated the completion of the framework of the structure—an important milestone in the timeline of the four-story, 98,000-square-foot academic building.

"It still needs a tiny bit of work," RCB Dean

Sue Lehrman joked during the ceremony. "We are excited to reach this momentous day in the construction of our new building. And we can't wait for spring 2017, when we'll be back for a dedication ceremony."

Lehrman and Rowan Board of Trustees Chairman Linda Rohrer, a trustee of the William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation, were the first to sign two vertical steel beams at the center of the building. They were followed by President Ali Houshmand, Assemblyman John Burzichelli, and more With a standing-room-only crowd and media watching, Board of Trustees Chairman Linda Rohrer signed a beam at the future home of the William G. Rohrer College of Business.

than 100 well-wishers from the University and across the region.

The new building will give RCB the facilities needed to meet demand and nearly double enrollment to 2,000 students. Located next to Westby Hall, it will include 16 classrooms, seven collaboration/conference rooms, 10 specialty spaces, 15 administrative offices and 70 faculty offices.

Designed with RCB's unique approach to business education in mind, the building will provide common areas to encourage collaboration among students and business leaders; a "hatchery," where students can develop their own entrepreneurial ventures; and the Center for Business Professionalism, where students will sharpen their job search skills and employers can interview job seekers.

Nearly \$46 million of the project is funded through \$177 million awarded to Rowan through the state's Building Our Future Bond Act approved by voters in 2012.

## **ROWAN TEAM WINS NATIONAL SAFETY AWARD**

Safety first. That's a credo in Rowan University's Division of Student Life.

"Parents trust us with their most prized possession—their children. It's incumbent upon us to provide safe spaces to live, learn, play and thrive," said Vice President for Student Life/Dean of Students Richard Jones. "We take this charge very seriously."

Across 21 departments within the division, which works closely with Rowan's nationally accredited Department

of Public Safety, Student Life takes a proactive approach to addressing campus safety issues.

The division's work has

garnered national acclaim. Safe Campus, The National Campus Safety Summit, named the division one of the nation's top 25 administrative departments making a true difference in student safety and honored Rowan at a ceremony in Las Vegas in February.

Rowan ranked third on the Safe Campus 2016 Top 25 List released in the fall. Other institutions cited include Syracuse, Indiana,

Towson, Virginia Commonwealth and Tulane universities.

In recognizing Rowan, Safe Campus noted a number of programs aimed at addressing issues that affect the safety of

They include Title IX training for 5,141 students attending Orientation; a new training program for all students focusing on the laws and university policies regarding sexual assault, harassment and abuse; diversity awareness training provided with special attention to marginalized populations; suicide prevention/intervention, alcohol and drug education and sexual assault prevention programs; and the upcoming Title IX conference for the state's college students, which Rowan will host in the spring.

Rowan's efforts to provide a safe campus include creating a welcoming, respectful, supportive environment.

## As survivors share, Rowan opens Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies

Helene Bouton can't sleep after she tells her story. Yet, the Holocaust survivor said she's duty-bound to share.

"This was the most horrible place you could ever imagine," Bouton recalled of her time in Bergen-Belsen, a German concentration camp where Anne Frank and an estimated 50,000 others perished.

Bouton nearly died of typhus there. "If I remember it, I cannot sleep the next day," she said.

It's critical, Bouton maintained, to keep the memories of her family members—and all of the six million Jews who perished during the Holocaust—alive.

That's what brought Bouton, of Cherry Hill, and Charles Middleberg, a fellow Holocaust survivor from Marlton, to Rowan on Nov. 18 for the inaugural event of the University's new Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies.

A collaboration of two colleges— Humanities & Social Sciences and Education—and the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, the center is Gloucester County's academic home for Holocaust and genocide studies.

Existing virtually at first, with materials housed in Rowan's Campbell Library, the center will present



A survivor of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. Helene Bouton met with students in Boyd Hall after telling of her experiences during World War II.

innovative educational programing and be used to "study and investigate issues such as the consequences of anti-Semitism, racism, ethnic hatred and other forms of bigotry, as well as human rights," according to Stephen Hague, center coordinator.

Additionally, the center will present initiatives that examine genocide elsewhere, such as in Armenia, Bosnia, Darfur, Cambodia and Rwanda.

Fittingly, the voices of survivors— Bouton and Middleberg—set the tone for the center's future. On a quiet stage before a packed audience in Boyd Recital Hall, the pair discussed

the Holocaust in the most personal of terms, telling stories of atrocity, loss, survival—and resilience.

Tim Kaiser, deputy director of the Levine Institute for Holocaust Education at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. emphasized the importance of strong, authentic Holocaust education.

"It was a very powerful evening," Hague said. "People were moved, emotional, ready to help and excited about the center's future."

The center will host additional programs this spring, including a training workshop for teachers.



## CMSRU STUDENT WINS PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) awarded a Herbert W. Nickens Medical Student Scholarship, one of its most prestigious honors, to Max J.V. Cruz, a third-year medical student at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU).

Announced at the AAMC's Annual Meeting, the scholarship is given to only five students nationally for leadership in eliminating inequities in medical education and health care and for addressing educational, societal and health care needs of

With more than 250 hours of community service since 2013, Cruz has mentored Camden high school students, co-founded an afterschool program for children, and taught health and wellness workshops in Spanish.

He's a board member of the student-run Cooper Rowan Clinic and the Camden Area Health Education Center. Cruz was vice president of CMSRU's Latino Medical Student Association and serves as chief information officer for its Northeastern Executive Council.

As an undergraduate at the University of Notre Dame, he was a summer volunteer at St. Anthony of Padua in Camden. He was born and raised in the suburbs of St. Louis, and earned a B.A. in Spanish. He hopes to specialize in pediatrics.



Nicholas Dennis and Melissa Schipke earned the confidence of the Rowan University Innovation Venture Fund and won funding for their start-ups.

## Venture Fund makes first investments

Melissa Schipke MBA '14 hopes to build her future by building alumni relations. The Rowan University Innovation Venture Fund is helping the co-founder/CEO of Tassl do just that, awarding her one of its first two \$100,000 investments this fall.

Cherry Hill resident Schipke helped create a company that uses mobile and software technologies to enhance college alumni networks and communities. "The mobile app is interactive, providing alumni with a portal to all the resources they would want as alums," she explained. "It's gamified, with challenges and awards to make it fun to be an alum and be recognized for the time you've contributed to your alma mater."

The fund also presented \$100,000 to Rowan senior Nicholas Dennis, founder/CEO of fitDEGREE. The firm created by the mathematics major/business administration minor from Oak Ridge uses social media applications to connect users to potential exercise partners and fitness groups in the area as they work to reach their fitness goals.

"Most people are more inclined to get active when they have a friend, either because it's a fun, social experience or it motivates them and keeps them accountable," said Dennis, whose firm's initial market is colleges.

The first allocations by the Venture Fund are dedicated to helping the young entrepreneurs build their fledgling businesses into viable operations that produce a return on investment and help create jobs.

An advisory committee to the \$5-million fund, created by the Rowan University Foundation, assisted the fund's managing director in evaluating the finalists that came from a pool of almost 50 proposals.

Both winners were logical fits for the fund, which was created to support Rowan faculty, staff, students and alumni, as well as South Jersey business owners.

"This unique Venture Fund reflects Rowan University's commitment to South Jersey, our push to increase commercialization and technology development efforts and our support of the people who are today's entrepreneurs and tomorrow's business leaders—the people who will bring jobs to our region and in some cases help solve society's problems," said President Ali Houshmand.

## NYC FIRM OFFERS INNOVATIVE VIRTUAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Two side-by-side labs deep in Robinson Hall are utilitarian, small spaces loaded with big possibilities. The labs are the home of an innovative internship program that teams seven students on work for New York City-based Perka Inc., a First Data company.

Computer Science alumnus Joe Stelmach '02 is CTO of Perka, a software company that developed an app for smartphones called "Perka," a digital version of a loyalty punch card that also has an online component for merchants' use.

Since May, under the supervision of computer science faculty Drs. Andrea Lobo and Ganesh Baliga and funded by Perka, students have gained hands-on experience via virtual internships. As part of those internships, they work on that online element, through which store clerks award customers with digital punches or points that can be redeemable at a particular store.

Students have added new features to the app, fixed problems with existing features and addressed users' expectations about the app's appearance. Liaison to Rowan is Perka engineer James Strate '04, another



Computer Science alumnus, who works with students a few days a week.

"By fully integrating

Samantha Simonds and Jim Strate work on the Perka.com website in Robinson Hall.

the students into our development process, they've proven to be every bit as capable as a team of full-time employees," Stelmach said. "At the same time, Perka has gained valuable mentoring experience that will continue to help our team grow faster and with less friction."

Intern Samantha Simonds, a senior computer science major from Berlin, already started a consultant position with Perka. "This internship has prepared me by directly putting me in a career with that company doing the things I want to do," she said. The most important part of this internship was having a direct contact to help me daily with my work and any questions I had."

## Home at Holly Pointe

It's dynamic. It's thoughtful. It's creative. And for 1,400 Rowan students next fall, it will be home.

The University's first public-private partnership to develop on-campus student housing, Holly Pointe Commons—a new housing village for underclassmen—is rising at Main and Carpenter streets in Glassboro.

Located on the site of the former Mansion Park Apartments, the \$145-million, 303,000-square-foot structure, features a seven-story building connected via a bridge to a four-story building and includes a 20,000-square-foot, 550-seat dining hall. It is just steps away from Rowan Boulevard, the \$300-million residential and retail development that connects campus to Glassboro's downtown.

Designed by Erdy McHenry Architecture and constructed in conjunction with University Student Living and Provident Group-Rowan Properties LLC, the serpentine-shaped village sits on eight acres and incorporates a new

> campus commons that will be green space. Unlike

many residence halls that comprise a traditional grid, Holly Pointe Commons is designed so that perimeter bedrooms are grouped around central facilities and gathering places, a move intended to bring students together.

The building's façade will feature metal panels with large windows throughout. It includes floor-to-ceiling glass in community lounge areas.

As Rowan continues to grow, Holly Pointe Commons will provide much-needed student housing. In just six years, enrollment has jumped by 6,000 to 16,000 students. By 2023, enrollment is expected to hit 25,000, with nearly 7,000 living on campus.

"Holly Pointe Commons will help students develop a strong living and learning community and build a strong connection to the University and the Glassboro community," said Vice President for Student Life/ Dean of Students Richard Jones.

Sophomore Nicole Hilliard, president of Rowan's new Residence Hall Association, agreed. "When students feel at home and comfortable in their community, they strive for a great future," she said. "Holly Pointe Commons will open up our campus and allow for more student success. It will connect underclassmen with students and businesses on Rowan Boulevard, building a true college town."

The development's name honors the University's past and future. The tradition of naming residence halls after trees native to Glassboro dates back to the 1920s. The American Holly grew in the woods near campus. The word "Pointe" refers to the location of the complex at the eastern tip of campus, a historically busy intersection, and "commons" refers to a public gathering place.





# Magazine wins big

Two regional public relations associations have recognized

Rowan Magazine for excellence. With what the judges called an "outstanding publication with solid planning and research," the magazine won first place in the Public Relations Society of America Philadelphia Chapter 2015 competition. Rowan bested Penn Medicine and the American Association for Cancer Research in the competition. In the CUPPIE Awards, presented by College & University Public Relations and Associated Professionals, the magazine won a bronze award in the magazine covers category. See event photo on page 53.

#### CS STUDENT CAPTURES AT&T BEST APP PRIZE

Most students' senior projects last only until the end of the semester. But for senior computer science major Joseph Proleika, Edison, his project turned into the beginning of something far beyond 15 weeks in the fall.

Proleika headed the team that won the South Jersey segment of the AT&T Civic App Challenge, sponsored by AT&T in collaboration with the New Jersey Technology Council, a nonprofit trade association; Rowan University; and other institutions. The challenge offered students and other New Jersey residents a chance to create mobile applications that impact the

community, particularly veterans and military families, and to win up to \$13,000 to bring their apps to life.

Proleika's app, "Veteran Route Assistance," assists veterans with memory loss or post-traumatic stress disorder in finding locations they might have forgotten.

"Our app gives hints on where the users are supposed to go, without giving them step-by-step instructions," Proleika said. "It gives them their independence while helping them do the things they normally do."

## THIS IS BIG:

## FRESHMAN RETENTION TOPS 90 PERCENT

Rowan University is a great choice, a good value and appeals to an ever-greater number of students, but few measures of its success are stronger than this: for fall 2015, the retention rate for regularly admitted freshmen topped 91 percent.

That's important because it means that more students who come to Rowan are staying beyond their crucial first year.

The retention rate speaks to many factors including student satisfaction, the cost of education and readiness for college and it's been climbing since 2008, when fewer than 84 percent of regularly admitted freshmen returned.

By comparison, some colleges have had freshman retention rates of 45 percent or lower while some in the Ivy League retain 99 percent or more.

Vice President for Student Life/Dean of Students Richard Jones said freshman retention is a challenge because incoming students are under stress to make friends, choose a major, fit in and perform well in classes, all while separated from friends and family, often for the first time.

He said a network of Rowan support activities including athletics, mentoring, entertainment and health resources helps keep students engaged and moving forward.

"We're connecting them to activities that cultivate a sense of belonging, reinforcing the message that they made the right choice to attend Rowan," Jones said.

Key to retention is Rowan's growing staff of professional advisors and other student support services, said Associate Vice President for Student Retention Rory McElwee.

"We're putting out the message that all students matter," she said. "The ultimate goal is graduation. But if students are not retained, they can't graduate."

## **ROWAN NUMBERS**



in capital construction over past 5 years

1 year and \$22K saved by students enrolled in Degree in 3 program





raised for charity by SGA Holiday Helper auction

\$18.6M fundraising in FY15 (202% increase over 4-year average)





in planned construction in next 5 years

First in state and 1 of 14 in nation: Rowan EMS named a HeartSafe campus



18 state awards for Public Safety, including life saving, gallantry and meritorious service

Rowan ranked #2 in state for online education and affordability





in nation as ranked by national fastpitch coaches (DIII)



Bowe School welcomed Dean Monika Williams Shealey and President Ali Houshmand (right) and Glassboro Mayor Leo McCabe (far left) to announce the partnership with Rowan.

## Bowe elementary becomes newest Rowan Professional Development School

Glassboro's Thomas E. Bowe School has joined the team of Rowan University's Professional Development Schools (PDS), a move that brings Rowan faculty and students together with classroom teachers to improve educational outcomes for elementary students.

In a ceremony last fall, Bowe officially became the seventh school in Rowan's 16-year-old PDS network.

Through PDS programs, Rowan faculty members serve as professors-in-residence in partner schools. Working with a school-based leadership team, faculty members facilitate professional development and research activities that support the priorities of the school district.

Additionally, Rowan teaching and professional candidates are placed in

greater numbers in partner schools, where they benefit from the PDS partnership.

The members of the PDS network also promote scholarship through research partnerships between faculty members and teachers.

"The goal of the Bowe School PDS is a simple one: Working, as one, to improve educational outcomes for Glassboro children," College of Education Dean Monika Shealey said. "Together, we will work to ensure positive outcomes for all learners, particularly those who have been traditionally underserved."

Rowan's PDS program includes schools in Williamstown, Hainesport, Vineland and Bridgeton. Banners highlighting the PDS partnerships were unveiled at each school during the fall semester.

## KEEPING EDUCATION AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE

Even as Rowan grows, the University is focused on keeping undergraduate education affordable and accessible. And we're being noticed.

Rowan was one of eight colleges and universities noted in an online *Time*Magazine article Jan. 19 for creating "big tuition discount programs." Here are a few examples of how we're doing it:

THREE + ONE Students can earn a degree for around \$25,000 as they complete popular programs with three years at Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC) or Rowan College at Gloucester County (RCGC) and one year on the main campus.

TWO + TWO Commuter students can save thousands of dollars by earning their associate degree at RCGC or RCBC, but completing their bachelor's degree by taking Rowan courses right on those campuses—at a 15-percent discount on University tuition and fees.

program enables students to save \$20,000 or more by completing course requirements in three years. It entails two summers of study but on-campus summer housing and classes are free.

**ROWAN CHOICE** Through this program, freshmen attend RCGC for two years but enjoy the residential experience in Glassboro, saving up to \$10,000.

## GO WEST FOR NEW ATHLETICS FACILITIES

Profs reported to last fall at the new, \$4.6-million practice facility preseason on Rowan's West Campus. Located on Route 322 across from Rowan's South Jersey Technology Park, one field is dedicated to football and men's and women's soccer, the other to field hockey and lacrosse. The venue also includes facilities for athletes who compete in the hammer throw, javelin throw, long jump, triple jump and pole vault. Long term, Rowan plans to locate all athletic facilities on the West Campus to free up space for more academic buildings on the main Glassboro campus.



OFF GELAY



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Count on Rowan Family Medicine for the best and most convenient care for you and your family. With locations across South Jersey, access to expert health care from the teaching physicians at the acclaimed Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine is only a phone call or QR code away.

## **LOCATIONS**

## Hammonton

373 S. White Horse Pike Hammonton, NJ 609-704-0185

## Mt. Laurel

100 Century Parkway Suite 140 Mt. Laurel, NJ 856-380-2400

## Sewell

Harbor Pavilions, Suite C-2 Sewell, NJ 856-218-0300

#### Stratford

42 East Laurel Road, Suite 2100 Stratford, NJ 856-566-7020



# Growing outside your comfort zone

Physician, educator and on-air health expert Dr. Jennifer Caudle says fear shouldn't keep you from pursuing your dreams

by Jennifer Caudle, DO '05

lot of people—OK, most—wouldn't feel comfortable sitting in front of a television camera and talking to millions of people they can't see. But, in some ways, it's just about the easiest

in some ways, it's just about the easiest thing I do.

It wasn't always that way.

When I was younger, I attended the Walnut Hill School for the Arts and New England Conservatory of Music Preparatory School where I studied cello. Yet, with all of that training behind me, I went through a time in high school and early in my college years when I had horrible stage fright. I would be on stage performing and all I could think about was trying to get through the music

But, in a way, that was a good experience. It made me question if music was the right path for me. It taught me that fear was holding me back from where I wanted to be. And, in overcoming my stage fright, I learned an important lesson that has guided me since: I need a better reason than fear to forego an opportunity or a chance to do something I really want to do.

Getting beyond the fears that keep us in our comfort zone should be at the top of everyone's list. And whether you dip a toe in slowly, wait to do all your research first or just jump into the deep end depends only on your personality and what seems to make the most sense for you.

Face it. No matter how much you love what you do, there are other things lurking in your mind that you have always wanted to do that speak to who you are as a person.

Does it really make sense not to try? What do you really have to lose?

### Finding your path

I'm not recommending that you be dangerous or irresponsible. But I do recommend finding the path leads you out of your comfort zone so you can pursue the things that are important to you.

I've been blessed to meld two of my passions and I believe each makes me better at the other. I love being a physician at the place where, in 2005, I received my medical degree. But, I also love being a journalist, writing and speaking about health topics, interviewing researchers and clinicians and sharing that information with millions through radio and television appearances.

My love for public speaking began 16 years ago, following my participation—as Miss



Iowa—in the 1999 Miss America Pageant. Although I didn't win Miss America, I got to spend the next year traveling through Iowa, talking to kids at schools, performing and advocating for issues that I cared about.

That love for public speaking and engagement stayed with me when I enrolled in medical school.

## Finding time

You've probably heard that medical school, is exhausting and requires an extraordinary commitment of time and energy. That's true. But medical school also teaches you a lesson: you can always find time for the things you love.

And I knew that if I was ever going to achieve my dreams, I had to leave behind any thoughts of "not being able to do it."

So, I began traveling to schools in the region, talking about a topic I was passionate about—bullying. By the time I had graduated from medical school, I had spoken to thousands of kids throughout the country.

During my third year of medical school I also decided to do something that was way out of my comfort zone. Summoning my most confident voice, I called WPVI-TV, the ABC affiliate in Philadelphia, and asked if I could do a one-month medical broadcasting internship. I didn't have a contact name, but somehow I ended up getting through to the station's medical producer. After that, every day for a month, instead of going to the hospital, I went to the TV station.

The work wasn't glamorous. I'd go along with reporters on stories during the day and head into the station late at night when the nighttime editors had time to help me with my demo video and teach me things about being an on-air reporter.

After medical school, I started an online health newsletter called The Health Update and did an internship at ABC News, working with Dr. Tim Johnson. Afterward, I continued to write about health and medicine and took advantage of every media opportunity that I could.

## Blending your passions

Today, I see patients in a busy Rowan Family Medicine office, mentor medical students and residents and continue to write about health and medicine in media outlets and on my blog, ThePhysiciansBlog.net. I also host an online radio program and I appear regularly on CBS3-News (Philadelphia), The Dr. Oz Show, CNN, Fox News, HuffPostLive and others.

Blending my medical career with my passion for journalism hasn't happened overnight. The path out of my comfort zone to where I am today took place over a period of about 10 years.

And every time I get set to do a live television segment, I still have that fear of stepping outside my comfort zone. A part of me is still that young teenage cellist calming her fears on stage as she looks out into a darkened auditorium or the medical student hesitantly making a cold call to the top Philadelphia news station.

If fear is holding you back, remember that the world is waiting for you to share your passions. Like Mae West said, "You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough."



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and assistant
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University School

of Osteopathic Medicine. She appears regularly as an on-air health expert for CNN, The Dr. Oz Show, FOX News, CBS3 News (Philadelphia), The Tom Joyner Morning Show, PBS and others. Her health articles have been published in The Daily Beast, CNN. com, DoctorOz.com, abcNEWS.com and she has been widely quoted in stories appearing in The Huffington Post, Univision, Good Housekeeping, Health.com and other local and national outlets. Dr. Caudle is the creator of The Physicians Blog, a spokesperson for the American Osteopathic Association and a radio/ video host for ReachMD.

Follow Dr. Caudle on Facebook at facebook.com/drjennifercaudle; on Twitter or Instagram @drjennifercaudle, or at jennifercaudle.com.







# Chase Davis was certain he was going to impress his science teacher, Mrs. Hink.

After all, you're a pretty big deal when you show up to your eighth-grade science class on Monday morning toting a 65-million-year-old fossil. And you just might achieve rock star status when you announce that you found that very fossil—a cervical scute from the back of an ancient crocodile—with your own two hands.

Until the 13-year-old's discovery on a quarry hillside at the Rowan University Fossil Park, no human being had ever touched that crocodile...or its remains. Davis rolled the fossil, about the size of a silver dollar, between his dirt-caked fingers, studying every crevice, marveling at his good fortune.

"My science teacher," the Egg Harbor Township teen said, "is going to freak out."

Though he had the countenance of a veteran paleontologist, Davis was doing a little freaking out of his own. An aspiring professor of paleontology—"I've loved dinosaurs quite a lot of my life," he explained—Davis had waited two years for the chance to dig for fossils at the quarry.

**ABOVE:** the remnant of the ancient crocodile found by Chase Davis last fall and, left, a rendering of the marine marauder that once thrived in what is now the Rowan University Fossil Park.



RIGHT: a 2015 Community Dig Day drew hundreds to the quarry to become "citizen scientists."



So when he hit pay dirt, the wonders of science—of scientific discovery—became real. By digging in marl with his bare hands at the Fossil Park's September 4th Community Dig Day, by actively pursuing the study of science, history and the environment, Davis got a little bit closer to his dream.

It's a dream Dr. Kenneth Lacovara '84 understands... and shares.

### DIGGING INTO THE HEYDAY OF THE DINOSAURS

The world-renowned paleontologist, famous for his discovery of the massive plant-eating dinosaur *Dreadnoughtus schrani*, has led research at the 65-acre quarry for a decade. The site contains thousands of beautifully preserved fossils that provide researchers with the best window, east of the Mississippi River, into the Cretaceous Period—the heyday of the dinosaurs.

Mined for nearly 100 years for its manganese greensand by the Inversand Company, the 45-foot-deep quarry is a former ancient sea floor.

Like researchers at the site since the 1920s, Lacovara intermingled his work with the Inversand Company's excavations, as they produced manganese greensand for use as a water treatment product.

"We would go when they would do their mining operations," said Lacovara, who grew up in South Jersey and joined Rowan's faculty in the fall. "We'd pick through their scraps."

Millimeter by millimeter, Lacovara and his team are meticulously unearthing a thin, six-inch-deep bone bed at the quarry, carefully examining the fossils, the sediments and the geochemistry of the site to gain a clearer picture of the period when dinosaurs roamed the Earth.

They're looking to determine if the fossils represent a mass die-off of the animals that once lived there. Their finds have included marine snails, brachiopods, bryozoan colonies, shark teeth, boney fish, sea turtles, crocodiles, birds and portions of fearsome marine lizards called mosasaurs, which grew to the size of a bus, had paddles for limbs, a six-foot jaw and an extra set of backward-facing teeth that ensured any creatures they ate wouldn't escape.





Lacovara's team is conducting research to address the following provocative question: Is the bone bed related to the mass extinction—an asteroid the size of Philadelphia—that wiped out the 170-million-year reign of the dinosaurs?

"We don't know yet," said Lacovara.

"But we are testing this hypothesis by examining the fossils, the sediments and the geochemistry. We do know with certainty that we have uncovered a mass death assemblage."

## **NEARLY LOST FOREVER**

Imagine Lacovara's worry, when, in 2011, Inversand announced that, within months, it would cease operations at the quarry.

If water isn't continuously pumped from the site, the quarry would fill up at 57 gallons per minute. The fossils would be lost forever. Lost, too, would be significant clues about a pivotal moment in the Earth's history.

"I would have nightmares about how bad it would be to have water, water—and more water—coming in," said Lacovara, a former Drexel University professor.

Recognizing the scientific importance of the quarry, however, Inversand pledged to maintain the property through an agreement with Mantua Township. Mantua's Economic Development Office, in turn, worked with Lacovara to promote the site by hosting community "dig days"—wildly popular events that give community members the opportunity to search for fossils in the layers above the bone bed alongside Lacovara and his team.

"When you find a
65-million-year-old
fossil with your
own hands, it's a
transformative
experience.
You're never the
same after that."

In the past four years, during annual dig days and scheduled visits by school groups, more than 10,000 visitors have experienced scientific exploration at the quarry, enjoying what Lacovara describes as "the humbling, awe-inspiring experience of connecting with the Earth's deep past."

Thousands of people each year sign up for dig days and thousands more, like Chase Davis and his family, land on a wait list.

Despite the grassroots efforts of Lacovara, Mantua, Gloucester County and a devoted corps of volunteers, and despite the public's overwhelming support and interest, the quarry's future again became uncertain in early 2015.

That's when Inversand announced it could no longer continue to maintain the property at a loss. The company set December as the official end of its quarry operations.

"We worked feverishly for years to get things done, knowing that Inversand was stretching their resources to keep the quarry open," Lacovara said. "They stopped producing their manganese greensand product in November 2012.

"They were losing money each year. They deserve immense credit for their careful stewardship of the property, their concern for the community and their unwavering support of science."

Once again, however, the clock on the quarry's future was ticking. But Rowan President Ali A. Houshmand and the University's Board of Trustees understood the scientific significance—and growth potential—of the quarry. They also shared Lacovara's vision for its future.

Fossils found at the quarry include marine snails like the one at left, brachiopods, bryozoan colonies, shark teeth, boney fish, sea turtles, marine crocodiles and mosasaurs.

#### **BECOMING A POWERHOUSE IN PALEONTOLOGY**

Houshmand announced in September that the University had entered into an agreement with Inversand and Mantua Township to purchase the site for \$1.95 million. Settlement was in January.

The site will be developed into a world-class, one-of-a-kind center for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education.

Lacovara will oversee research and outreach and the University will work with Mantua Township and Gloucester County to continue to present educational programming at the park. Those programs are critical in igniting kids' interests in STEM careers, Lacovara said.

"When you find a 65-million-year-old fossil with your own hands, it's a transformative experience. You're never the same after that.

"Fossils hold a special place in the public imagination and few other topics can compete with their wide appeal and ability to create pathways to STEM participation," he added, noting that studying fossils is "an alluring gateway" to a host of STEM careers focusing on key environmental challenges, such as global warming, water shortages, energy development and environmental remediation.

In addition to his work directing the fossil park, Lacovara is the founding dean of a new School of Earth & Environment at Rowan, which will use the site's surrounding ecosystems as a laboratory for hands-on experiential learning. Like Houshmand's,

Lacovara's vision for the school is ambitious.

"The school will leverage research and training opportunities at the park to become a national powerhouse in paleontology," Lacovara said. "The thousands of fossils collected will form the core of the Rowan University Paleontological Collection. Fossils curated at the University will forever remain in the public domain and will be available for study by all credentialed scientists and students."

The school is expected to educate students interested in a host of fields, including geochemistry, sedimentology, marine geology, climate change, sea level science, groundwater hydrology, toxicology, ecology and paleontology.

Recognized for his talent for collaboration on initiatives that impact student learning and benefit the South Jersey region educationally and economically, Houshmand instantaneously saw the quarry's immense potential.

"This is an extraordinary opportunity for us, one that places us at the forefront of innovation and scientific discovery," Houshmand said. "As a University, we have an obligation to preserve this unique educational treasure, right here in our backyard, for future generations." Houshmand's vision for future development of the







Catapleura repanda Deep-Sea Turtle





Cucullea vulgaris False-Angel Clam



Turritella vertebroides

site includes the establishment of an internationally prominent center for science research and education, as well as a home for "citizen science."

The move to purchase the site upholds the University's four pillars—the tenets by which all decisions at Rowan are made. They include improving access, maintaining affordability, providing a quality education and serving as an economic engine in South Jersey, he said.

A museum, formal and informal learning spaces, laboratories, a nature trail, a dinosaur-themed playground and a visitors' center are all under consideration as the site is developed.

The park sits a stone's throw off Route 55 behind a shopping center. Yet, its significance is monumental, as is South Jersey's place in the field of paleontology.

In fact, "South Jersey is the cradle of dinosaur paleontology," Lacovara said.

In 1858, the world's first discovered dinosaur skeleton, *Hadrosaurus foulkii*, was excavated from a marl pit in Haddonfield. Just eight years later, *Drypotsaurus*— a terrifying predator known as a tyrannosaur—was uncovered in what is present-day Ceres Park in Mantua.

Other historically important sites can be found in Sewell, Barnsboro, Mullica Hill and Swedesboro. But none may be as scientifically significant globally as the Rowan University Fossil Park. Though steeped in the ancient past, the quarry's potential is awe inspiring, Lacovara said.

"I'm thrilled Rowan has provided a pathway to preserve it," he said.

"Once the site is developed it's going to live on for centuries. It's going to become globally known and it will impact generations. It will do unimaginable good."

Lacovara welcomes quarry guests by explaining that each step they take into the depths of the 50-foot vertical excavation is a step back in time, ending at about 65 million years ago in the geologic record.



# It started with cub scouts and sedimentary rocks

Across five continents, Dr. Kenneth Lacovara has built a career as an internationally renowned paleontologist and a gifted communicator dedicated to scientific discovery—and to helping the public better understand life on Earth.

In Argentina, he discovered *Dreadnoughtus schrani*, a 65-ton plant-eating titanosaur. Announced in 2014 to international acclaim, *Dreadnoughtus* is the best example found of any of the largest creatures ever to walk the planet. His find involved leading five expeditions to a remote corner of Patagonia, where he and his team excavated more than 16 tons of fossils.

In doing so, the team uncovered, bone by bone, the most complete skeleton of its type ever found.

Deep in the Sahara Desert, in the isolated Bahariya Oasis, he was part of the team that discovered *Paralitian stromeri*, the first new dinosaur discovery in Egypt in nearly a century.

And in China, he joined a team that uncovered *Suzhousaurus*, a plant eater that resembled a ground sloth, in the Gobi Desert.

Now, he has come home to Rowan, where he will use his expertise to educate a new generation of scientists—both through his work as founding dean of the new School of Earth & Environment and as director of the Rowan University Fossil Park. Lacovara joined Rowan on Sept. 1.

A professor of biodiversity, earth and environmental science at Drexel University for 15 years, Lacovara has been featured in a host

of scholarly journals, including *Science* and *Nature's Scientific Reports*, and on the front pages of thousands of newspapers and major electronic media outlets around the world, including *The New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, National Public Radio and the "CBS Evening News." He also appears frequently in television documentaries.

He is committed to the discovery and characterization of extinct forms of life as he works to contribute to a better understanding of the Earth—and to articulate that to others through communication and teaching.

That's quite a resume for someone who nearly pursued a career as a professional drummer.

Lacovara spent a year in college as a house drummer at the Golden Nugget casino in Atlantic City and, in his 20s, considered that as a career path.

"As a drummer, you basically started with a blank slate every night. I started to think that I wanted to do something where I could build on it day after day," said Lacovara, who still plays drums at a jazz club in Philadelphia.

But his interest in geology prevailed. His passion for the subject dates back to second grade and a presentation on rocks to his Linwood Cub Scout pack. "Following that presentation, I wrote an essay about

how sedimentary rocks were the best kind because you could find fossils in them," he said.

The son of a carpenter and a switch-board operator, neither of whom graduated from high school because of the onset of World War II, Lacovara got a great start in academia at Glassboro State. he said.

"I didn't have the option of going to an expensive private school. Rowan was accessible to me. I had professors who were extremely interested in my career and life choices. Coming from where I did, Rowan took me as far as I could go."

Lacovara moved on to graduate school at the University of Maryland,

The quarry a few miles from the Glassboro campus offers nearly year-round field work for Lacovara's team. Researchers dig carefully in the greensand to preserve finds like the mosasaur vertebra Lacovara holds.

where he earned a master's degree in coastal geology in 1986. In 1998, he completed his doctorate in geology at the University of Delaware.

Though he is a gifted speaker and a sought-after media expert, he's most happy digging with his hands. "I know a lot of first-generation geologists and paleontologists," said Lacovara, an elected national fellow of the Explorers Club. "Those gritty fields attract students with blue-collar backgrounds.

"I feel sorry for students who are plugged in all the time. There's something extraordinary about working with your hands with a pickax, a hammer and a chisel. As new fossils are revealed, you get to see things no human being has seen before."

Through the fossil park in Mantua Township and in his teaching, Lacovara is committed to the concept of "citizen science"—the idea that people need to experience the wonder of discovery through hands-on work.

"I want to show that science isn't just in a textbook...that the ancient past isn't just in far-off places," he said. "It's right here, being discovered by regular people."

Being a Rowan faculty member has other perks as well for the Swedesboro resident. "This is the first time in my career that I've been able to excavate fossils and be home for dinner," he said.



At press time, Lacovara was in Vancouver, BC, to present a TED Talk in a lineup including Shonda Rhimes, Adam Savage, Mae Jemison, John Legend, Linus Torvald and Al Gore.





# Henry M. Rowan

by Patricia Quigley '78, M'03, Casey Shea '16, contributor

The man was more than the gift.

Many people—those outside his family, friends and business associates—first learned of Henry Rowan in 1992, when he and his wife, Betty, donated \$100 million to then-Glassboro State College. What commonly came to be referred to at the college as the Rowan Gift was unprecedented—no one ever had given such a large sum to a public institution.

People noticed. People in academia. People in the philanthropic community. People in New Jersey. College and university presidents and advancement teams. Parents and students. Elected officials. More.

The name Henry Rowan became synonymous across the nation with philanthropy and with higher education.

But the man was indeed more than the gift, and perhaps that has never been made more clear than since he passed away at age 92 on Dec. 9, 2015.

No matter how impressive, how generous \$100 million is, no matter how much the Rowan Gift changed the face of GSC and the Rowan University it grew into, Henry Rowan is remembered for so much more, including intelligence, business acumen, determination and commitment. But possibly more than anything, he is remembered for his drive for and insistence upon excellence.

"Dad was a perfectionist. He called himself a 'dissatisfied perfectionist,' because he rarely felt satisfied with the way things had been done before. It was his true belief that satisfaction is the enemy of progress," his daughter, Virginia Rowan Smith, said to more than 600 people at a Celebration of Life held for her father on Jan. 21 in Pfleeger Concert Hall on the Glassboro campus. "Henry Rowan was all about excellence. He believed that no matter what one endeavored to do or to be, that he or she should strive to be the best—the very best."

#### A DETERMINED BOY

The Ridgewood native founded his first business at age nine, raising chickens and selling their eggs—originally only to his mother, at just the top wholesale price she offered. Recognizing his fledgling firm would be in trouble if he kept paying retail for chicken feed and selling the eggs at wholesale, young Hank asked for nothing more than a 100-pound bag of feed for his 10th birthday.



### THE DRIVE TO ACHIEVE

When it came to education, Mr. Rowan aimed high. He attended Williams College in Massachusetts in 1941 and then transferred to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he had been accepted into the prestigious engineering program. Soon after World War II began, Mr. Rowan enlisted in the Army Air Corps as an aviation cadet and trained to become a bomber pilot, flying B-17s and B-29s, though the war ended before he could fly in combat. Afterwards, he returned to MIT to earn his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

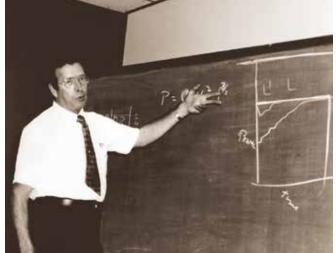
#### BUILDING A BUSINESS LEGACY

The founder and chairman of Rancocas-based Inductotherm Group, the world's leading manufacturer of melting, thermal processing and production systems for the metals and materials industry, Mr. Rowan built his first furnace with his wife at their Ewing Township home in 1953. He would live to see his Inductotherm Group and its sister companies employ more than 3,500 people in more than 20 nations and serve customers around the globe, as well as his daughter taking the helm of the business and his grandchildren, Rowan Smith Watson and Manning Smith IV, each assuming a role in the corporation.

Rowan University President Ali Houshmand acknowledged during the Celebration of Life Mr. Rowan's far-reaching impact.

"He was an inspiration for me personally and for so many of our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends," Houshmand said. "He showed what a great mind and a fierce determination could accomplish. He demonstrated how a generous spirit could change a school, its people and a region for all time."

The young entrepreneur tending his chickens.







Clockwise from top: Always teaching, always solving problems; flying for better business; observing an Inductotherm furnace demonstration; visiting an Inductotherm facility in China.



#### PURSUING EXCELLENCE

Though he dedicated much time to his business, Mr. Rowan devoted himself to other pursuits, innovating and mastering intuitively. He was an avid pilot and sailor who was a member of the Aviation Hall of Fame and who competed in the 1992 Olympic Star Class sailboat racing trials in Miami. He published his autobiography, "The Fire Within," in 1995.

His entrepreneurial spirit, which is so

deeply ingrained in our engineering

curriculum, is an inspiration to my

peers and me to constantly strive for

a better product, a better life and a

—Matthew, alumnus

better future for this world.

Numerous organizations recognized him, including the Engineer's Club of Philadelphia; the Professional Engineering Society of Southern New Jersey, Inc.; the Consulting Engineers Council of New Jersey; the American Society of Metals International; the National Academy of Engineering; and Foundry Management & Technology magazine.

## HIGH EXPECTATIONS

When he and his wife announced the \$100-million endowment for the small college in suburban Glassboro, they requested just one thing—that the school create a game-changing engineering program.

"He often said, 'We don't just need more engineers; we need more great engineers," noted his daughter at the Celebration of Life.

Though an MIT grad, he believed his money could have more of an impact elsewhere, and he wanted that impact in his backyard. He ended up selecting a place to which he had no direct ties, a place with a long history of excellence in educating future teachers and other professionals but none in engineering, a state school that had a nice regional reputation but was little known beyond the Garden State and Delaware

Valley. Mr. Rowan was determined to see "more great engineers" educated in South Jersey, 40 minutes or so from his headquarters.

And he did.

### EDUCATION TRANSFORMED

Mr. and Mrs. Rowan's generosity led to the start of a College of Engineering at what was renamed Rowan College shortly after the gift

(and became Rowan University in 1997 with the advent of the school's first doctoral program). The College of Engineering welcomed its first students in 1996, a group of about 100 willing to take a chance on a new program. They came with full four-year scholarships sponsored by PRIDE 2000 donors, a group of engineering firms, foundations, corporations and individuals who, inspired by Henry Rowan, believed in the college and committed their own funds to educate future engineers.

The first class graduated in 2000. Thomas Xenakis, vice president, Commercial Division, Concord Engineering, was a member of that class. "Most of this first class had an entrepreneurial spirit to choose Rowan in the first place," he said, speaking at the Jan. 21 ceremony. But he noted Mr. Rowan gave him and others "The gift of excellence. The gift of leadership. The gift of being a Rowan engineer."

Recognized from the beginning for its innovative Engineering Clinics, which offer handson, multidisciplinary experiences from freshman year through graduation, Rowan Engineering would quickly grow to earn a national reputation among its peers, national publications and professional organizations. Today, in what is now

known as the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering, nearly 1,300 students pursue five majors (biomedical, chemical, civil and environmental, electrical and computer and mechanical engineering) and bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. The

College is building an addition to Henry M. Rowan Hall that will enable it to double its enrollment. It has established relationships with New Jersey county colleges and institutions around the globe. It conducts research for and is funded by such organizations as the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Department of Defense, Federal Aviation Administration, federal and state Departments of Transportation and industry leaders such as Lockheed Martin.





I can't stress enough the importance

and influence this man has had on

him enough as he is responsible for

—Tyler, current student

my late father's and later my own

Thank you, Mr. Rowan.

my life and future. I can't thank

grad school acceptances in hand well before commencement, and they have gone on to land managerial roles in industry, accept faculty positions in universities and establish their own businesses.

Engineering Dean Anthony Lowman said that all of that happened because Mr. Rowan saw a need in society for more exceptional engineers. "And he saw this need well before anybody ever heard

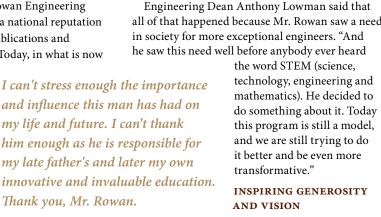
> While people on and off campus associate Mr. Rowan

with the College of Engineering, his impact on the University did not stop there.

His gift inspired many others to make major contributions to the school. One of them was Camden County businesswoman and civic leader Linda Rohrer, now chairman of the Rowan University Board of Trustees. She and fellow members of the William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation, named for her late father—a businessman. banker and elected official—donated more than \$11 million to what is now known as the William G. Rohrer College of Business.

"I didn't know who Henry Rowan was in 1992. Truth be told, I didn't even know how to pronounce his name," she said at the Celebration of Life. "But he made me come to know him. You do not ignore a \$100-million gift. A little more than two decades ago, the William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation board members and I sat back and watched what was transpiring in Glassboro. We wanted to see what was going on and how it would evolve. We wanted insight into how the leaders at the college would handle the Rowan Gift, if they even were capable of handling it. Hank's gift was the direct inspiration for our Foundation to donate through the years."

Below, always eager to try something new, taking a spin in an Engineers on Wheels van equipped for engineering education.







Opposite: the joyful benefactor greeting a student at a scholarship reception; above, the inquisitive engineer visiting a lab in Rowan Hall; right, the "rock star" obliging a student's request for an autograph on his senior project.

Mr. Rowan also inspired elected officials to take more notice of the school. As the College of Engineering grew in size and recognition and as other programs did as well, leaders began turning to Rowan University to spearhead more initiatives. Today, among other achievements, the institution is only the second in the nation to have medical schools offering M.D. and D.O. programs, and it is only the second comprehensive public university in New Jersey to receive state research institution status.

Said Dr. Philip Tumminia, former executive vice president for University Advancement, former executive director of the Rowan University Foundation and the man who worked with Mr. Rowan to develop the gift, "All of higher education owes an extreme debt of gratitude to Hank Rowan and his family. With his gift, the fundraising landscape in this country changed."

Added state Sen. Diane Allen (District 7), "His legacy sets the bar for the rest of us...His commitment to education on many levels in this state was amazing. Young people now will have much better lives because of the opportunities he created."

### **EXPRESSING THANKS**

Among those young people at the Jan. 21 ceremony was Andy Plucinski, a senior civil and environmental engineering major from Denville. "Without Mr. Rowan and his contribution I probably never would have ended up here at Rowan, and I definitely would not have had the amazing opportunities I have had in my four years here," he said. "He was a great man and he will surely be missed by many—myself included."

Added mechanical engineering major Jack Peterson, a junior from Pittsgrove, "The ceremony was a lovely tribute to

## MORE AT ROWAN.EDU/HENRYROWAN

- Watch the Celebration of Life ceremony (live stream link)
- See tribute videos and photos
- Share your condolences and memories



his philanthropy and life. He was a great man with depth. He was more than just someone who made a donation—he was an innovator and a leader. And most importantly, he cared deeply for others."

Those sentiments echoed beyond the Celebration of Life speakers and those students as well. Hung on a display in the lobby during the event, short notes reflected visitors' feelings. They said things like:

- "Thank you for believing in us."
- "Thank you for the best four years."
- "Thank you for giving me a home away from home that shaped me into the person I am today."
- "Thank you for giving me a chance. You can't put a price on that." "You changed everything."

He did, of course. Henry Rowan forever changed everything for a once-tiny school in the heart of Gloucester County.

"He took the risk of investing in a small state college in southern New Jersey," his daughter said. "He believed that if he gave them the means, the individuals at Rowan—faculty, staff, students—they all would, if they put enough effort into it, build that engineering school, make it one of the best programs in the nation and transform the entire college into the amazing university it is today. He knew because believed in them, and just look at what has taken place."



What a father, son, husband and inspiration to everybody that came in contact with his gentle-hearted man. He vas truly the fabric of our ociety and if he inspired one ercent of the people that his fts touched over the years, is country would be a much

for making

my dreams

possible

-Rick, parent











12. First plane ride, 1930

13. Celebrating on campus with family, 2005

14. The boy entrepreneur with his prized chicken

15. With grandchildren Jamey and Rowan reading the 'funny pages'

16. Aquaplaning with Ginny, 1951

17. Conducting business, 1961

18. Henry and Lee Rowan on campus, 2005

19. Honored at Commencement, 2014

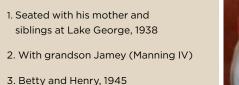
20. Father and son Jimmy in Hank's second-hand Ercoupe, 1955

Mr. Rowan changed the face of Glassboro State College forever, enabled a rebirth that reinvigorated academic excellence, and created the path forward, all while respecting our alma mater's rich history and sense of tradition.

As a member of the final GSC graduating class, I remember well the initial [reaction] that surrounded the name change. I wrote to Mr. Rowan to assure him that criticism was coming from the vocal minority, not the thrilled majority. Mr. Rowan took the time to send me a handwritten note on Inductotherm stationery to show his appreciation [for my letter].

I am honored to count myself as a graduate of ROWAN University.

—Lisa, alumna



5. With Betty in India, 1985

6. The young father, an MIT student, playing with baby Ginny

4. A beachcombing toddler, 1925

7. Stocking the woodpile at Lake George, 1932

8. The family in 1950: Henry, Betty, Ginny, Jimmy and infant David

9. The Army Air Corps 2nd Lieutenant during World War II

10. Grandpa and Jamey on the combine, Grandma and Rowan on the golf cart, with Eric, Henry's dear golden retriever

11. Racing a Star Class sailboat at Lake George



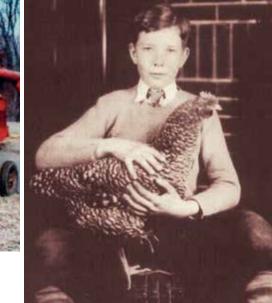




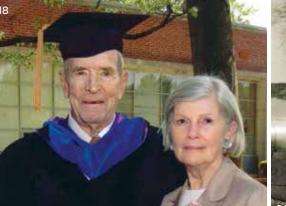


Henry Rowan changed New Jersey for the better and I am proud to be part of RowanSOM, one of the two medical schools that bear his name. We hope that the work we do here can be a tribute to his vision and generosity.



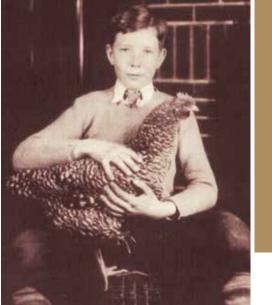


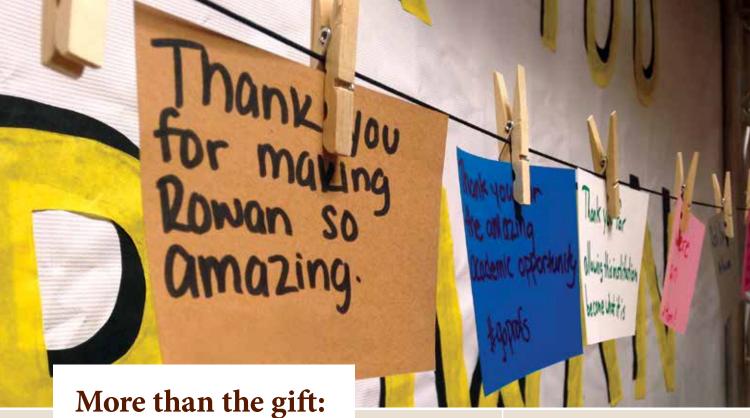
Henry Rowan taught me how to give. His generosity excited me as a person but reminded me I also had an obligation and responsibility to this institution. I have considered him my "mentor in giving." I thank you, Mr. Rowan, for teaching me the impact that one person can have on people and the world.











the answer to, "What if...?"

By September 1991, an already generous Henry Rowan had turned down a few routine fundraising requests from Glassboro State College. Then, on a whim, he asked,

## "What would Glassboro State College do with \$100 million?"

More than two decades later, the answer lies emphatically in the difference that education makes in people's lives. At right, a few measures of the growth, improvement and continued promise that Henry Rowan inspired—so far:

STUDENT POPULATION

9,500

16,100

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

PROFESSIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

**DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMS** 

**RESEARCH & SPONSORED PROJECTS** 

\$118K **\$29**M

**OPERATING BUDGET** 

\$72M **\$464M** 

TOTAL UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION ASSETS

\$300к \$184м



## **Rowan CARES**



by Jerry Carey '77

When a child, victimized by abuse or neglect, cries in the middle of the night, who hears those cries?

Who helps overcome that child's fears?

iewed from a distance, the quilt hanging in the center hallway of the CARES Institute is a pleasant mix of vibrantly colored panels. But, as you draw closer, words and images come into focus and you realize that each section tells a child's story of horror and hope. The quilt (along with dozens of drawings, paintings and poems created

framed drawings, paintings and poems created by children who were patients at CARES) adorns the hallways. Together, they tell stories not easily told, of neglect, sexual and physical abuse and, ultimately, the hope of children who began their healing process at the CARES (Child Abuse Research, Education and Services) Institute of the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine.

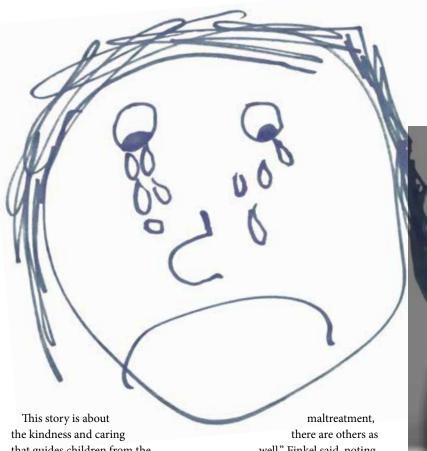
Every year, an estimated 906,000 children in America experience sexual abuse, inappropriate or excessive physical discipline or neglect. Every day, four of those children die from abuse. Sexual abuse alone victimizes one out of every four girls and one out of every six boys before they reach the age of 18.

Those statistics tell this grim story: most of us know someone who, as a child, was one of those victims.

Child abuse happens every day, in every community, without regard to race, religion or socio-economic status.

But this story isn't about the confusion, shame or unimaginable hardships experienced by children, some of whom are too young to comprehend the impact of what they are experiencing.

LEFT A panel from the quilt shows the healing path followed by children at CARES.



that guides children from the edge of despair to a new reality of trust and compassion. It is about the physicians, therapists and staff at CARES, who—to thousands of kids in New Jersey and around the world—are heroes who walk among us.

As the only dedicated child abuse and neglect diagnostic and treatment center in South Jersey, CARES sees more than 2,000 children annually who are referred by child protective services or other professionals. According to Dr. Martin Finkel, a pediatrician and CARES Institute codirector, approximately 40 percent of the children referred to CARES for suspected sexual abuse are under six years old. Most perpetrators—perhaps as high as 98 percent—are not strangers; they are individuals who are well known and trusted by the child.

"None of this happens in a silo. Usually, where there is one form of

well," Finkel said, noting one teenage patient who was a victim of further violence by a family member for refusing to continue participating in sexual activity.

"We see children who have experienced multiple traumas in

> childhood," said Dr. Esther Deblinger, a psychologist who, with Finkel, co-founded and co-directs CARES. "And not surprisingly, the more traumas experienced, the greater the psychological difficulties suffered by the child."

A model for the world to follow A true pioneer in the medical care of abuse victims. Finkel is the author of the first scientific paper published on the healing and

has been translated into Chinese,

Japanese and Spanish. Translations are currently under way so the text can also be available in Pakistan and several mid-Eastern countries.

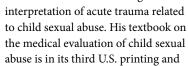
Deblinger collaborated with Drs. Judith Cohen and Anthony Mannarino from Allegheny Hospital in Pittsburgh to create Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), one of the world's most successful approaches to helping children recover from trauma. Using games, art, role-playing and trauma narration, TF-CBT gradually guides children and their parents, helping them to process the trauma(s) they experienced.



Art may be a first step towards healing, especially for children who suffered in silence for years.

-Esther Deblinger







"Although we originally developed TF-CBT to help children recover from sexual abuse, it is highly effective in addressing the emotional and behavioral difficulties caused by a wide range of traumas," Deblinger said.



I didn't choose to specialize in child abuse pediatrics it chose me.

> —Monique Higginbotham



"Through this process, children and their caregivers overcome their fears, sadness and anger as they build on their personal strengths and develop positive expectations for the future. It is a short-term approach with long-lasting impact."

Validated by 16 randomized scientific studies over the past two decades, TF-CBT is practiced in more than 90 countries. It has been

used successfully to help American children after Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, Japanese children affected by the tsunami, Tanzanian AIDS orphans, multiply traumatized girls in Zambia, Burmese and Ugandan refugee children, Iraqi torture survivors and former child soldiers in Africa. Through a partnership with the Medical University of South Carolina, Allegheny General Hospital and the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, introductory training in TF-CBT also is available as a free, web-based program for mental health professionals (https://tfcbt.musc.edu). To date, more than 200,000 people have registered for the online training.

Healing through art
Each piece of artwork hanging on
the CARES walls tells an individual
story. And, like the panels of the quilt,
they weave a story that ends with the
hope and recovery that children find
at CARES.

"Drawing and artwork can be a vehicle that allows children to relax and express the things they don't have the words for initially," Deblinger said. "Art may be a first step towards healing, especially for children who suffered in silence for years."

The hope and recovery evidenced

in those images takes root as soon as a child arrives for an initial examination by a pediatrician.

"We see children and adolescents of all ages," said Dr. Monique Higginbotham, a pediatrician at CARES for the past three years. "The goal is to create a setting where children can tell their story to a doctor in their own words. We are not only gathering information about a traumatizing experience; we are engaging the child in a healing dialogue. This dialogue serves to validate the child's personhood, to address any bodily concerns the child may have and to restore the child's sense of security and hope. The doctor visit is the first step in the healing process."

"Sometimes, kids don't want to say what happened; sometimes they just want to whisper it," Finkel added. "If they don't want to say something, I'll ask if they want to write it down. One little girl wrote 'sex' on the paper and then crossed it out repeatedly, showing the anger she felt over what happened."

Higginbotham's first exposure to working with children who had

## "Angels" support CARES with annual gala

Inspired by the work of the CARES Institute, a small group of area business leaders banded together nearly a decade ago to help make sure that no child who needed the services at CARES would ever be turned away.

Their grassroots effort launched the first Calling All Angels gala in 2008, and their commitment to helping children has continued to grow. This year's event (see photos, p. 40), led by co-chairs Steven Kantor, of KEH Insurance Agency; Shawn O'Neil, of Argosy Management Group, LLC; and Michael Sherman, of Vanguard Building Solutions, LLC, raised \$125,000 for the CARES Institute, pushing the total to nearly \$1 million raised since 2008.

"We have this amazing group of equally concerned people that come together each year to form the Calling All Angels gala advisory board," Kantor said.

"Child abuse and neglect are very difficult to talk about and bring into the public consciousness," Dr. Martin Finkel, CARES co-director, said. "For the advisory board to put on this event and raise awareness and funds is remarkable."



Shawn O'Neil, Steven Kantor and Michael Sherman

suffered abuse occurred when she covered shifts for the child protection team at a children's hospital.

"I didn't choose to specialize in child abuse pediatrics—it chose me," she said. "Seeing children in the outpatient setting, the emergency room and medical and intensive care units, I quickly became aware of the magnitude of the problem. Every week I was seeing children who had been neglected, physically abused or sexually abused. I knew I had to be part of the solution."

Because the CARES Institute is part of the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, faculty have a unique opportunity to raise awareness among the next generation of physicians.

Carla Suarez, a fourth-year medical student, completed a one-month rotation at CARES last year and is considering fellowship training in child maltreatment following her pediatrics residency.

"The CARES physicians and staff members are some of the most empathetic I have worked with," she explained. "My time at CARES taught me the importance of communicating with patients and their families in an open-ended, nonleading and nonjudgmental manner."

Nicole Zamkoff, a third-year Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine student, noted how hard it can be for children to talk about the abuse they experienced.

"The most important, aweinspiring lessons I learned at CARES were how to gain the trust of a child in a time when they trust no one," Zamkoff said. "I knew this

Sometimes, kids

don't want to say

what happened;

sometimes they

just want to

whisper it.

experience would be emotionally taxing, and it was. But, when I would get upset, I would remind myself that these children were extremely brave and, in a sense, they were fortunate. Only a fraction of the children who are abused tell someone who can help them."

Fear, embarrassment, confusion and shame can all conspire to make it difficult for children to explain what

happened to them. The compassionate communication that begins with the child's initial medical assessment at CARES makes the telling easier. Then, TF-CBT therapy completes that story and helps guide children back to a life brightly lit by hope for the future.

Describing the impact of TF-CBT on one six-year-old girl, Swedish therapist Michael Larsson recounted that the girl said she had learned that "Rough things happen and it is hard

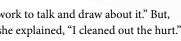
work to talk and draw about it." But, she explained, "I cleaned out the hurt."

One colorful drawing on the walls of the CARES Institute likens telling about abuse to spring cleaning—"A lot of hard work, but it feels great when it's done!"

It's a sentiment that isn't lost on the CARES Institute staff.

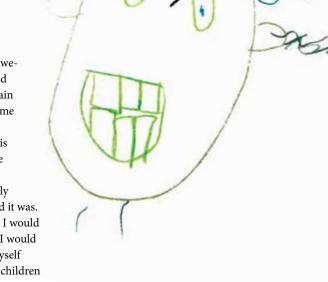
"CARES is a place of healing," Deblinger said. "Children leave here more confident than when they came in, even those who are here for their first visit. That's because they know right away that each and every member of the CARES team is here to help." 🔻

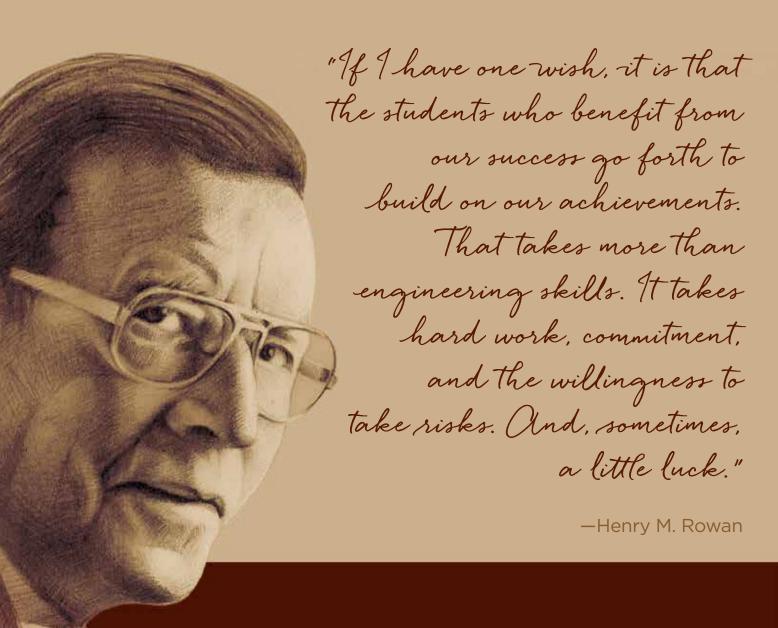
Jerry Carey '77 is the News Service manager at Rowan's Stratford campus.



ABOVE Therapy drawings like this one at CARES tell children's stories of anger, sadness, hope and healing.







**Profoundly grateful** FOR HIS GENEROSITY.

Humbled by the privilege TO TAKE UP HIS CHALLENGE.

Forever honored TO BEAR HIS NAME.

HENRY M. ROWAN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

# class notes

**60s** 

## Antoinette Libro Braca '60,

former College of
Communication dean
and professor emeritus,
has published *The*Carpenter's Lament in
Winter, a book of poems.
The book is available
at Finishing Line Press
(finishinglinepress.com).
Among her other
publications are two
books, *The House at*the Shore and Women
Without Wings. Her
poems have also

appeared in anthologies: The American Voice in Poetry: The Legacy of Whitman, Williams, and Ginsberg, Identity Lessons and Wedge of Light. She also received a third prize in the 2011 Allen Ginsberg Poetry Awards for her poem, "Curtains for Mother." A scholarship in her name, the Antoinette Libro Scholarship for Excellence in the Writing Arts, is awarded to a student in Rowan's Master of Arts in writing program.

Bill Adams '65, M'68 is
East Coast president
for ECRA (Education,
consulting research
and analytics) and
Hazard, Young, Attea
& Associates, ECRA's
executive search
division. Previously,
he was superintendent
of the Salem
County Vocational
Technical Schools.

Ruth Olnowich Tschudin '65 was selected to receive an AARP's Create-the-Good Cabot Community Celebrity Award. The award honors the

achievements of volunteers who make a significant difference in their communities by taking 40 of them on a one-week Caribbean cruise, during which they are recognized for their contributions. The award is sponsored by Cabot Creamery, a cooperative of 1,200 dairy farm families located throughout New York and New England. Ruth was recognized for her work with Open Doors, an Amazing Grace Foundation she founded in 1999. Foundation





## 8th annual Calling All Angels Gala supports CARES Institute

CARES Institute friends inspired hundreds of supporters to raise \$125,000 last fall to help School of Osteopathic Medicine professionals serve abused children (see story, p. 34).

- 1. Kevin Cummings, speaking on behalf of sponsor Investors Bank
- 2.Amerihealth representatives FRONT: Lisa DiDio, Judy Roman, Jane Hesler. BACK: Cian Gray, Evan Levine, Ryan Petrizzi, Steve Carr, Mike Munoz, Mike Murphy, Mike Zangrilli.
- 3. Matt Cohen, Cheri Tolin, and Kelly and Larry Gottlieb (Resintech)









### Safely harbored, Endeavor accomplished

Marvin Creamer '43 regaled hundreds last fall with his tale of sailing around the world without instruments 30 years ago as a retired faculty member "taken prisoner by an idea." He visited as the University dedicated "Endeavor," an "outdoor classroom" monument shaped and scaled to the size of the Globe Star, the 35-foot, steel-hulled cutter that he sailed into history.

- 1. Dr. Creamer spoke at the dedication ceremony in October.
- 2. Leigh and Donna Weiss greet the Creamers.
- 3. Creamer family, Rowan faculty and friends gathered at the monument's signpost erected where Globe Star's mast would have been. Marvin chose the locales and calculated the great circle distances to inspire and educate. The boulders are aligned with the post's shadows to function as a celestial sundial, to mark the cardinal directions, summer and winter solstice and fall and spring equinox.

activities have included support for low-cost housing for people in need, small zero-interest loans, scholarships, animal-rescue activities and grants for people and organizations that are making the world a better place. She and her husband, Hugo, live in Florida. See photo, p. 43.



Richard L. Clarke '66 retired in 2001 after teaching

two years at J.P. Stevens High School in Edison and another 33 years in various music positions in East Hartford, Conn., schools. He earned master's degrees in opera and voice performance at Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford in Connecticut. He and his wife have four children and three grandchildren. Since 2001 he has been the music director of the Hartford Sängerbund, one of the nation's oldest continuing German-American singing societies, which was founded in 1858.

**70s** 

Rhonda Locklear Holland '72 is a Rowan University Alumni Association Board of Directors member.

Johanna Ruggeri Johnson '72, M'95 supervises student teachers at Stockton University. She is also co-chair of the Hammonton Endowment Stockton Scholarship Committee and is a board member and vice president of the Cape-Atlantic Literary Volunteers. Johnson, who earned a doctorate at Rutgers University, taught in Hammonton for 12 years, was the curriculum coordinator for Northfield schools and coordinator of curriculum and special projects at the Atlantic County Institute of Technology. She served two terms on the Hammonton School Board and is a founder and member of the Hammonton Education Foundation. Her husband, Superior Court



## Homecoming welcomes field hockey alumnae from five decades

More than 50 field hockey alumnae returned to campus during Homecoming week. The group was recognized at halftime of the 5-2 Profs victory over Kean University.

BACK: Kate Stauffer 'oo, Kathleen Yacovone '94, Sue Zaccagnino '94, Julie Mazzola '91, Sandy Duda '96, Ruth Fuchs '94, Connie Bunce '97, Penny Kempf, Mary Marino '78, M'90, Barb Hutchinson '75, Gloria Byard '76, Joy Chamberlain Grant '70, Ariel Comer '13, Kaitlin Hill '13, Kellie Campbell '15, Aubrey Fisher '15, Stephany Colombo '14, MIDDLE: Kelly Trotter '98, Amada Greene '10, Julie Thornton '99, Jen Goldberg '13,'14, Erin Small '00, Becky Peterson '04, Jenna Lombardo '10, Jammie Hicks '03, Laura DiMenna'12, Brittany Phillips Cuff '12, Julie Cairone'12, Beth Raleigh '04, Teresa D'Aversa'99, Lauren Conner '12, Michelle Thornton '04, Janna Tighe '12, Rachel Cheafsky '09, Angela Ruggierio '07, Karlee Henderson '15, Marisa Schoepflin '14, Jenna O'Sullivan '15, Allison DiMenna '15, Erika Mecchella '15, FRONT: Christine Wetzel '01, Stephanie Segrest '99, Kelly Engelbart '01, Michelle Bilbow '01, Kelly Rose '04, Stephanie Radisch '06, Sarah Lloyd '07, Lindsey Delaney, Rachael Dix '12, Ashley Adams '15.

Judge Nelson Johnson, wrote Boardwalk Empire and The Northside, both about Atlantic City. His latest book, Battleground New Jersey, examines the conflict between Arthur T. Vanderbilt, the state's first chief justice of the modern-day Supreme Court, and Frank Hague, the legendary Jersey City mayor. The Johnsons have three children and three grandchildren. They live in Hammonton and enjoy traveling.

Dennis Morey '74 retired in June 2014 after 36 years of teaching math, science, industrial arts and industrial technology in Pleasantville, Northfield and Brigantine. He lives in Florida, where he plays golf as often as he can.

**Barbara Rothschild '74**, former *Whit* features editor, retired from *The* 

Courier Post in 2012 and works as a freelancer.

Thomas DeFalco '75, M'80 retired from NJM Insurance as vice president and chief actuary. During his 30 years at NJM, he expanded the actuarial function from 1 to 14 people and mentored many young actuarial analysts. He lives in Ewing with his wife, Ruth.

Nancy Carroll Ranieri '75 retired in June after 28 years of teaching in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

**Linda Taper Vacca D'Amico**'**76** enjoys life as a teacher and a grandmother.

Larry Josephs '76 is vice president of sales at Xtreme Cables in Edison. He lives in Marlboro with his wife, Beth, daughter, Jennifer Josephs '13 and son, Samuel Josephs '18.

Ann Carney Mayo '76, M'83 enjoys spending time with her granddaughter. She lives in Marlton.

Marie Natale '76, M'79

teaches classes in watercolor painting to an average of 45-60 students per week at St. Bridget Church in Glassboro, the Ocean City Art Center and at her home studio in Egg Harbor Township. She also conducts watercolor workshops throughout New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania and abroad. She will offer workshops at the Chalfonte Hotel in Cape May in June and September. Registration information is available at MarieNatale.com. As part of Hammonton's Sesquicentennial celebration she designed a throw blanket depicting 12 key historical town landmarks for the

Hammonton Lions Club, which the club is selling to raise funds for its sight projects.

Jim Albertson '78 recently retired from the New Jersey Department of Corrections.

Karen E. Maser '79 is a TV writer and producer. Her latest work has been with "Criminal Minds," writing some episodes and co-producing others. She also worked for three years on "Army Wives" as executive producer, co-executive producer and supervising producer. She also wrote 13 "Army Wives" episodes. Previously, she was a script coordinator, writer, story editor, story executive editor and co-producer for "ER."

# **80s**

Robert Gluck '80, a Pennsylvania-based freelance writer, is the author of On the Spirit Trail: One Man's Journey Into Nature & Art. The book is available on Amazon.com. He has written for many publications including Fly Fisherman, The New York Times, New Jersey Monthly and The Jerusalem Post. JointMedia News Service distributes his feature articles globally. He and his wife, Cynthia, have two children. Robert's educational video, There Is A Better Way, won an outstanding achievement award from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. He was inspired and encouraged by several professors at then-Glassboro State College including Toni Libro, Richard Mitchell and Frank Grazian.

Kathleen Kingett Weiland '81 retired in December 2013 after teaching for 31 years.

Rose Nowakowski Perry '82 is a layout supervisor at *Jersey Shore Magazine* in Surf City and also serves on the Beach Haven First Aid Squad and the New Jersey Press Association's advertising committee.

Mercedes McBride Rizzo
'82 and her husband,
David Rizzo, are authors
of Spiritually Able and the
Adaptive First Eucharist
Kit (Loyola Press). These
publications help children
with special needs prepare
for religious instruction
in the Catholic faith.
The inspiration for The
Rizzo's work was their
daughter, who has autism
and is nonverbal.



Yvonne
D'Amelio '83
is the chief
financial and

operating officer for Soroptimist, a global volunteer organization headquartered in Philadelphia that works to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. D'Amelio was the first recipient of the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association Innovation and President's Award and the Philadelphia Business Journal nominated her as CFO of the Year.



Andrea Mandel
Pass '83 is
vice president,
media relations

for Marketing Maven PR, based in the company's New York office. Pass is responsible for national, regional and local media relations outreach for clients in categories such as consumer products, lifestyle, B2B, nonprofits and more.

**Kevin Gray '84** is vice president of claims at Philadelphia Insurance

Company. Previously, Kevin, who joined the firm in 1996, was assistant vice president of claims.

Robert Kolmins '84 is an account manager at K&K Interiors.

Anthony R. Phillips '84 and Chevalle V. Washington Phillips '89 welcomed their first grandson, Trey, in July 2013.

Martin Schnier DO'84 was appointed medical director and director of medical education for Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade, Fla.



David Vest '85 retired from CH<sub>2</sub>M after many years as

a project controls manager, including 15 years of international work in 10 different countries. The highlight of his international career was working on the London Olympics in 2012. He attributes much of his success to various professors at GSC/Rowan.

Anna Paglione Castaldi '86 and Robert Castaldi '78 celebrated the birth of their first grandson, Carter, in February in Orlando, Fla.

Lawrence DiPilla Jr. '86 is the corporate accounting manager at ACE International in Philadelphia. He and his wife, Stephanie, live in Laurel Springs with their two children.

Magdalena Natal Fennal '88 has worked in Rowan's Division of Information, Resources & Technology for 25 years. Her son is Joshua Fennel '19.

Monica "Cory" Stoetzer Tapper '88 is a human resources administrator at ATS Group LLC, a promi-



### Latino alumni gather during Homecoming

Erica Ortiz '99, M'04 and Jose Rivera '94 hosted the first Latino Alumni Reunion in October at the Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Center for Alumni Engagement, welcoming friends to reminisce and celebrate friendship.

SEATED: Jose Rivera '94, Migdalia Turner, Magdalena Fennal '88.

STANDING: Maliek Van Laar '94, Marisol Serrano Colon '94, Peggy Trinidad '96, Ivan Soto '96, Sandra Montanez '80, Erica Ortiz '99, M'04, Teofilo Montanez '78, Lesley Narvaez-Mateo D'10, Juliana Montanez '15, Edwin Barrita '14.



Opening doors, inspiring others
Ruth Olnowich
Tschudin '65 (with family, above) was one of 30 people from across the country honored by AARP for working to make the world a better place.
See note, p. 40.

## class notes









## Homecoming heads Back to the Future

For the second straight year, Rowan welcomed its largest crowd for Homecoming weekend. Alumni families and friends met at the Alumni Tent, enjoyed fun and games in the Homecoming beer garden, and checked in with faculty and staff at College Corner. Other highlights included the Homecoming Block Party on Rowan Boulevard and the 32nd annual step show.

- 1. Makayla Waysome, Martin Waysone '01, John Waysome, Judy Waysome '00, Sebastian Smith, Thomas Smith '99, Suzanne Smith '03, Tristyn Smith
- Allison DiMenna '15, Laura DiMenna '12, Steven Melchiorre '13, Erin Bernat '13, Nicole Giannelli '13.
- 3. Chris McIlvaine '13, Adrienne Graber '13, Maureen McIlvaine '88, Cris McIlvaine '84.
- 4. FRONT: Chelsea Eckel '15, Deandra Turchi '14, Linda Sierra '12, Victoria Camera '15, Jess Durnian '15. BACK: Allison Barker '15, Erika Suhl '16, Miranda Donnian '15, Sherry Oller '15, Veronica Rhea '14.
- 5. 2016 Alumni Ambassador Award recipient Diane Mazzei '69, M'80 and Alumni Board of Directors President Tobias Bruhn '98, M'99.
- 6. Joe LoSasso '80 Karly LoSasso, Shjon LoSasso, Kara LoSasso.
- 7. FRONT: Angelique Hilton '15, Paul Hilton '83, Antoinette Wilson '87, M'98, Deborah Spruill-Barnes '80 B ACK: Ronald Moore, Cheryl Williams-Henly '98, Robert Barnes, Renee Cuyler, Sherri-Lynn Eldridge '13.
- 8. Patricia Jennings-Weber '78, Dorothy Craig-Vuocolo '79, Barb Ponticello-Schetter '80, Lori Mcauley, Donna Panto-May '79, Kathlene Swift.
- 9. Samantha Micihelli '04, Thomas Kline '03, Lori Kline.

- 10. Rihab Saadeddine M'09, EdD'13, Iyad, Zane, Issam Abi-El-Mona.
- 11. Suzanne Smalley Beers '02, Kimmie Beers, Kale Beers, JD Beers.
- 12. FRONT: Patrick French '15, Mike Fuller '11, Shane Karolyi '15. BACK: Shannon Reed '14, Danielle Del Buono '14, Mike Medina '14, Stephanie Ackerman '12, Gary Baker '04, Diana DiNapoli '14,
- FRONT: Michael Fowlkes '81, Michele White-Fowlkes '02, Keith Butler '83, BACK: Anthony Phillips '84, Chevalle Phillips '89,
- 14. Greg Esposito M'10, EdS'12, Rosie Braude '08, M'09, Cindy (Lewandowski) Finer B'08, M'13, Brennan Finer and Tom Finer '08
- 15. FRONT: Chris Rhodes, Jarvis Perry,
  Joe O'Hanlon '93, Bobby Ray Harris '92,
  Jason Giambuzzi, Brian Adair, Calvin Easley,
  Ben Pierce, Darin Bouggess '95,
  MIDDLE: Scott Sprengel '94, Pete Goetz '93,
  Ken Ryan '95, Andy Fasbach '93, Joe DiPietro
  '96, M'02, Tony Makoski '96, Dean Auer '99,
  Vince Chiaro '77, Mike Boone, Frank Law '72,
  BACK: Andy Herre '98, Steve Warren '99,
  Rob Rick, Brian Turner '91, Tony Hall '01,
  Jay Silvagni '96, Burt Chaney, Bobby Jones '92,
  Loren Paxson '97, Jason Burd '97, Ed Hesson '02.









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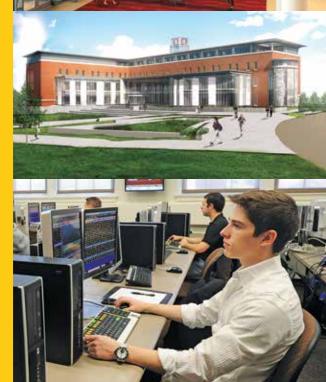
## **Graduate programs**

MBA students specialize in one of five disciplines: accounting, finance, management, MIS, supply chain and logistical systems. A new master of science degree program is designed for professionals for the CFA exam. A new certificate of graduate study in accounting serves as a pathway to the MBA program and helps students acquire credits required for the CPA.

## New professional development programs

Designed for working professionals, new programs include: Society of Human Resource Management Certified Professional; Project Management Professional (PMP/CAPM); LEAN/Six Sigma; and Certified Public Accountant continuing education credit workshops.

RCB is among the top five percent of business schools worldwide accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. For more information: visit rowan.edu/business or call 856-256-4025.



nent contributor to the gentrification of the Camden waterfront district.

Lisa Christie Yasuk '88 is an outcomes analyst at Riverview Medical Center in Red Bank.

Donna Aromando M'89, a teacher and counselor at Rancocas Valley Regional High School for the past 35 years, received the Lloyd Ritter Community Service Award from the Volunteer Center of Burlington County. The award recognizes Burlington County residents for great service. Her community service activities include taking part in holiday food and clothing drives for community programs and the Extended Hands Ministry Shelter, being a Special Olympics volunteer and supporting scholarship programs. She also helps raise funds for the Pat Tillman foundation by coordinating the RV Devil Dash each year.

# 90s



Virginia Emrick '90 has published her first novel,

Stalking Horse, a fictional story about a celebrity and his obsessed fans. The novel is available in print and digital formats at Amazon. More information is available at virginiaemrick.com.

Kimberly Kelly '90 was named the 2015-16 Delsea Regional High School Teacher of the Year. Kim, who teaches math, has been at the school for 18 of the 26 years she has been teaching. She also teaches in Delsea's Alternative School Program and is the Class of 2016 adviser and the Marching Band Booster Club treasurer. She was a long-time National Honor Society adviser and has been a cheerleading coach. She

earned a master's degree in educational leadership at Wilmington University. She and her husband, Jim, have three children. They live in Franklinville.

Mary Lathrope '90 welcomed her first granddaughter in July 2015. Her daughter is Wendy Lathrope '94.

Kenneth Carpinelli '91, M'93 was accepted to the Episcopal School for Deacons and expects to be ordained by 2019.

Maureen McFadden Gray '91 and husband Bill Gray '89 are proud of the accomplishments of their twins, Billy Gray '19 and Kelly Gray '19.

Michelle Hickson '92 has worked for various state of New Jersey agencies for over 20 years.

Kimberly Mindnich Ladzinski '92 is a claims manager at Ace Group Insurance. The oldest of her four sons is Nicholas Ladzinski '19.



### GSC pals go way back

Steve McRae '85 and Laura Curran Pappas '84 got together in August at Rowan's Tour the Shore in Belmar. They have known each other since kindergarten and attended the same grammar school and high school.

### Jennifer Decker Kelly '93

was one of only four teachers to receive the Princeton University Secondary Education Teaching Award,

## Wendy Lathrope, '94,

M'oo, and her fiancé, Christopher Sanders, welcomed their first child, Chloe, on July 6. The family resides in Scottsdale, Ariz. See photo, p. 50.



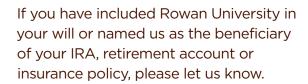
## **Homecoming for Women's Hoops**

Women's basketball alumni returned to Esby gymnasium in October for a recognition during half-time.

FRONT: Lauren Creel '12, Stephanie Krauss '13, Ashley Waring '12, Erin Farrell '13, Gina Catanzariti '11, Lauren Gregg '13,
Chanelle Banta '13, Jade Bonder '15. BACK: Chrissy Demarco McGovern '04, Kristi McCullough '02, Staci Minuskin '05,
Paulette Lwowski Cwik '76, Anita Evans '83, Kristina Wallace '08, Donna Clark '02, Euridee McCormick Gunter,
Ann Murphy '75, Sheemea Carr, Samantha Eskuchen '14, Susanne Daly Reed '96, Nan Hambrose '94, Jean Demarco '91,
Karen Dilmore '94, Kami Bernardo Reitano '05, Jaime McCormack Land '04, Jen Zimmerman Rybacki '95,
Dawn Bunting '79, Debbie Fillipeck Foster '95, Michele Farrell '77, Janice Aliberti '78, Geri O'Keefe Semenza '87, M'95,
Elena Buccino '89 and Alice Borden '90.

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William J. Castner Jr. '95 is senior vice president,

corporate and regulatory, at Horizon Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Jersey. He is responsible for government affairs, public affairs and enterprise communications. Previously, he was chair of the Gibbons law firm's government affairs department. At Gibbons, he represented multiple Fortune 500 businesses, major healthcare systems, and top research universities, and has earned a place among the NJBIZ "Health Care Power 50" and PolitickerNJ "Power 100 List"

of the most influential individuals in the state.

Sonya M. Keefe Heard '95 is a math teacher and chairperson of the math and science department at St. Joseph High School in Hammonton. She lives in Glassboro with her husband and three children.

**Donna Marie Ferriola** Brosh '97 is a counselor at Cedar Creek High School in Egg Harbor City. Donna and her husband, Michael, have two sons.

Gregory Cappello '97, M'01 is principal of the National School of Character at the Pennsauken Campus

of Camden County Technical Schools.

Mark Deebold '97, M'08 has published his first book, Four Seasons in Hungary, detailing his experiences in and around that country while on a Fulbright scholarship. It is available on iBooks.

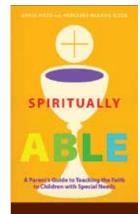
Christopher Hatton '97, and his wife Amy welcomed their third child, Colin, on Memorial Day. See photo, p. 50.

Cheryl Williams Henley '98 has worked with the Philadelphia Eagles for 22 years and with ACE/ ESIS Inc. for 15 years.

Michael Yip '97 and his wife, Krystal, welcomed Jeffrey Kenneth in October. The family lives in Bloomfield. See photo, p. 50.

Lauren Gallins Malko '99 and her husband, John Malko '07, who have lived in Arizona since 2007, visited Rowan with their triplets, to show them the school their parents attended. See photo, p. 50.

Erica Ortiz '99, M'04 is a Rowan University Foundation Board member and organized the first Latino Alumni Reunion during Homecoming 2015 with fellow alum, Jose Rivera '94.



Faithful guide Inspired by their daughter, Mercedes McBride Rizzo '82 and her husband wrote Spiritually Able for children with special needs. See note, p. 43.







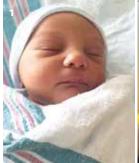


### '96 Champs return to celebrate

Fans packed Esby Gym to commemorate the 20-year anniversary of Rowan's 1996 NCAA Division III National Championship. Dr. John Giannini coached Rowan to victory in '96 and returned to campus with his La Salle team for an exhibition game and tribute to Profs players and staff.

- 1. FRONT: Amy-Brooke Mauger '98, Tiffany Harris '95, Joe Cassidy MIDDLE: Brian Bouchard '00, Osco Williams '97, Joe Lewis '01, Ryan Cochrane, Antwan Dasher, Rob Scott '15, Dave Lafferty, Ben Lynch '53, BACK: John Giannini, Terrence Stewart, Demetrius Poles '14, Touré Sealy, Chris McShane, Chris Lavendar '01, Brian LaVoe, Bob Pedrick, Chris Martin '82.
- 2. Coaches Joe Giannini and Joe Cassidy and former Athletic Director Joy Solomen '69, M'75 observed the ceremonial tip-off between Rowan's Dan Brogan and LaSalle's Tony Washington.

## class notes













## **Rowan babies**

- Keith, son of Crystal Olivero Hackett '09 and Keith Hackett '06; note, p. 54.
- 2. Jeffrey Kenneth, son of Krystal and **Michael Yip '97**; note, p. 48.
- 3. Colin, son of Amy and Christopher Hatton '97; note, p. 48.
- 4. Chloe, daughter of Wendy Lathrope '94, M'oo and Christopher Sanders, granddaughter of Mary Lathrope '90; note, p. 47.
- 5. Cassidy and Melody, daughters of **Aubrey Pool '06** and Kelly Pool, note, p. 53.
- 6. Haley, Ashley and Mackenzie, daughters of Lauren Gallins Malko '99 and John Malko '07; note, p. 48.

# **00s**

Howard Beckwith II 'oo is managing director with Travelers Insurance in Charlotte, N.C. He is married to Rachel Bloomfield Beckwith 'oo.

Joseph E. Herrera DO'oo is chairman of the department of rehabilitation medicine at Mount Sinai Beth Israel in New York, He is also the program director of both the physical medicine and rehabilitation residency training and the sports medicine and interventional spine fellowship programs. Dr. Herrera has served as a chief physician for USA Boxing Metro and as a team physician for various professional and amateur athletic events. Since 2002, he has been a medical panel physician for the New York State Athletic Commission, ringside physician for the New York City Golden Gloves and medical team captain for the New York City Marathon.

Brian Hunter 'oo married Mandelle Danser Hunter in August at The Mansion on Main Street in Voorhees. The wedding party included Pete McCarthy 'o2. Brian is a copy editor at NHL.com. Mandelle is a forensic scientist with the New Jersey State Police.

Kathleen Stropnicky
Siano 'oo and Dennis
K. Wasko 'oo met while
attending Rowan in
1996, reconnected in 2013
and became engaged in
June. Kate teaches art in
Randolph and Dennis
is an associate professor
of biology at the
University of Hartford
in Connecticut. They
are planning a June 2016
wedding in Randolph.
See photo, p. 54.

Amy Wawak 'oo is a curriculum coordinator at 123 Kinderstar, a day school in Fairfield.

Natalie Wethey Jewell '01 lives in Maple Shade with her husband and four children. She is involved with theatre productions across South Jersey.

Joseph Wetterling 'o1 is a training specialist at Temple University Health System and is president of the Catholic Writers Guild.

Michelle Quarles White Fowlkes '02 is an operations specialist at New Jersey American Water. Her son, Ryan, is a Marine lance corporal.

Anthony Mongeluzo '02 received the Southern New Jersey Development Council's 2015 Entrepreneurial Spirit Award. The award goes to an individual, organization or company for leadership in economic development in New Jersey's eight southern counties. The council cited Mongeluzo for adding 42 additional team members, opening an office in Trenton and doubling the size of his Buena office.

Melvin E. Moore '02 is information director of business analytics at Independence Blue Cross, where he has worked for the past 12 years.

Claudine Clark Nelson '02 earned a master's degree and started a video production company called Capturing Precious Moments.

Tonya Clark Paden '02 is a team leader and teacher at Foundation Academy Charter School in Trenton.

Raymond Palko '02 spent his summer vacation riding a bike from San Francisco to Los Angeles over seven days with AIDS/LifeCycle. The 545-mile journey is one of the world's largest HIV/AIDS fundraisers and raised \$16.6 million this year to provide free prevention and care services to clients of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Los Angeles LGBT Center. To learn more, visit www.tofighthiv.org/ goto/RayFightsAIDS

Tom Paolella '02 M'04 and his wife, Jennifer, announce the birth of Addison and Maya.

James Stokes '02 and his wife, Serdentriss, have twins and are expecting a second set.



Mike Gross '03, senior vice president and chief

operating officer of Anne Klein Communications Group, was named one of *NJBiz's* 2015 Forty Under 40 honorees.

## 84 countries and counting

oss Beitzel '63 has an urge to travel that has taken him to locations all over the world, most of them not the usual tourist destinations. But his travel adventures began with a trip that nearly didn't happen.

"At the end of my first year of teaching," said Dr. Beitzel, professor emeritus at Rowan College at Gloucester County and curator of the school's Beitzel Art Gallery, "I was slated to spend the summer touring Europe with a friend. It was to be an ideal arrangement because my friend spoke eight languages."

But at the last minute, Beitzel said, a death in the family made it impossible for the friend to accompany him.

"I decided to go anyway," he said "even though I knew only some French and Latin."

He worked his way by train and plane through Holland, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Greece.

"I spent only the first night of the trip and the last in a hotel." he said, "and the rest in hostels and other accommodations."

That first trip began a travel itinerary that has taken him to 84 countries on all seven (six if you consider Europe and Asia as one as some experts do) continents and dozens of islands.

"One of my most exciting adventures, Beitzel said, "was sailing on the yacht Sintra for months, starting in California, going through the Panama Cannel and crossing the Atlantic to the

Azores and the Mediterranean."

Beitzel, who also has spent 31 weeks at different times sailing in the Caribbean, said he doesn't care for all-inclusive places because they're too scripted for him.

"Sailing to Antarctica on a ship with only 98 passengers is best for me," he said.

It was that January 2015 journey that added that final continent to his list with a trip that started in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

"From Buenos Aires, I flew to Ushuala (the southernmost city in the world)." The ship he boarded there sailed 600-plus miles to Antarctica.

"It was summer there, Beitzel said, "and we were able to land at Cuverville Island, Neko Harbor, Paradise Bay and Port Lockroy (the world's most southerly post office)."

The passengers sighted whales, seals, albatrosses and penguins by the thousands. Huge icebergs sometimes forced the ship to change course.

"I call being part of one of the .0006 percent of the



Immersing himself in culture and lansdscapes around the world, Ross Beitzel recently toured Argentina, above, and Antarctica, below.

world's population to go to Antarctica a privilege," he said.

Along with seeing so much of the world, Beitzel also noted another benefit.

"My traveling helped greatly in building the permanent art collection at Gloucester County College, now Rowan College at Gloucester County," Beitzel explained. "I was able to add to the collection I started and to date there are 650 works."

Beitzel considers travel an opportunity and a challenge, having been born on this planet with so much to see."

"I've been to 84 countries," he said,

"and I want to make it 100 before
I quit. Soon I will make it 89,
adding Croatia Montenegro,
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Slovenia and Albania and
hopefully Mongolia will
make 90."



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## **Barnes & Noble Rowan University**

201 Rowan Blvd. Glassboro, NJ 08028 rowan.edu/bookstore Sean McCarthy '03 married Danielle Young McCarthy on August 8. See photo, p. 54.

John F. Witthohn '03 is an engineer at Consulting Engineer Services in Sicklerville. He is married to Noelle. They have one child and are expecting another.

Kenneth Metts '04 has launched Deal Neighbor, a company that offers a website (dealneighbor.com.) where users can search for products and services within the local community and know that the transaction will be safe and easy. They also will be able to search for local service providers that have had their identities verified and provide services in that area.

Deborah Rebstock Travers '04 and husband, Brian, have two daughters.

Mike Van Hise '04 is assistant general manager of the Boise, Idaho, Hawks, Class A affiliate of the Colorado Rockies.

Theodore W. McKinney
Jr. '05 coaches bowling
for the Collingswood
School District and
baseball at Rowan.

**Timothy Polese '05** won a 2014 Technical Team

Remote Sports Emmy for his work with NBC on the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. He has worked freelance audio and video positions in broadcast television for clients such as MLB Network, HBO, NBC, QVC and CBS. He had previously won three Sports Emmys for his studio work with MLB network.

Matthew Schwarz '05 and Samantha Orlan '12 were engaged in April.

Victoria Flack '06 teaches in the Willingboro school district and was invited to speak at the NJEA convention for the second consecutive year.

Aubrey Pool '06 and her husband are the proud parents of Cassidy and Melody. See photo, p. 50.

**Dennis Emory '07** married Alexandria Wierzbowski Emory on August 1.

Brian Ruiz '08, one of the first tenants in Rowan's Technology Business Incubator in the Samuel H. Jones Innovation Center, with his company, Strategic Billing Enterprises, has merged SBE with another organization to form TBD. The company offers billing services, software,







## Again, alumni collect Emmys at Los Angeles and regional events

Five Rowan alumni and a professor captured seven Emmy Awards in September. Besides the winners pictured here, Justin Krapf 'o6 picked up regional Emmys, as did adjunct professor Mike O'Reilly.

- 1. Adam Chazen '08 (Game of Thrones) and Mel Brooks
- 2. Gena Krug '99 (Comcast SportsNet) and Matthew Hess
- 3. Steve Kwasnik '93 (WHYY-TV)
- 4. Michael Yurchuk '01 (The Voice)

electronic transmittal systems, data backups, e-mail and calendar information systems. Ruiz, will continue as CEO of the new company, which serves approximately 300 health care providers in about 40 states. Ruiz spent the last few years building his business using Rowan students as part-time

workers and interns and hiring Rowan graduates. SBE's chief software architect was a part-time Rowan student intern and the director of billing is a Rowan alumnus Ruiz met at a College of Business networking activity. Ruiz credits Dan McFarland's advanced database class as the catalyst

#### PR pros win recognition

Communication & Creative Arts alumni collected trophies at the Philadelphia Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America 2015 Pepperpot and Achievement Awards. *Rowan Magazine* won first place and Mike Gross '03, Greg Richter '09 and John Kouten '89 earned honors for their work and service.

FRONT: Rosie Braude '08, M'09; Darrah Foster '12, Thuy Vo '10, Karen Holloway M'14, Mike Gross '03, Kimberly Ciesla '11, Casey Shea '16. BACK: Daniel Murphy M'97, Steve Pimpinella '05, Lori Marshall M'92, Greg Richter '09, M'10, Paula Bethea, Debbi Denton '93 and Chris Lukach '04.



## class notes



## Leading by example

After active duty service with the U.S. Marine Corps and Reserve around the world and a 25-year law enforcement career, Sgt. Major James T. Adams Jr '08 returned to his Gloucester County roots to visit with President Houshmand, Dean John Pastin and Veteran Student Organization representatives last fall. Adams earned his degree—through full-time work and military deployments—over the course of 11 years. Now stationed at Headquarters Marine Corps, Quantico, Virginia, he provides senior enlisted guidance for the Marine Reserve, serving a population of over 100,000 personnel.

that led to SBE. The company moved out of the incubator about a year ago due to space and HIPPA compliancy constraints but Ruiz maintains a strong relationship with Rowan.

Crystal Olivero Hackett '09 and Keith Hackett '06 announce the August 15 birth of Keith, their first child.

Amelia Thatcher '09, M'14 married her high school sweetheart in June. She is an adjunct in Rowan's department of writing arts, a New Jersey Army National Guard captain and curator of the New Jersey Militia Museum in Sea Girt. She will run the Army Ten Miler and the New York Marathon later this year.

# **10s**

Megan Hallgren
Michalsky '10 and
Adam Michalsky '10
married on August
1, 2014. Both work in
information technology
at American Water in
Cherry Hill. They live
in a home they bought
in Clayton with their
six cats and one dog.

Melissa Pileiro Arnold '11 married Brian Arnold '11 on May 2. Their wedding party included Megan Esola Warner '10, Cathy Pagden '11, Mikey Colosa '13 and Kevin Arnold '09. The couple met at Rowan's Catholic Campus Ministry. They live in Stony Brook, N.Y., where Melissa is a freelance journalist and Brian is a doctoral candidate in physics. See photo, this page.

Erica Bauwens '11 is engaged to Alex Young '11. They met on their first day of journalism classes in 2009. See photo, this page.

**Steven Huster '11** is a West Caldwell Police Department officer.

Stephanie Torres DO'11
has joined CompleteCare
Medical and Dental
Professionals in
Wildwood as a pediatric
attending physician.
She completed her
residency in pediatrics
at Robert Wood Johnson
University Hospital
in New Brunswick.

Brianna Vander Horn '12 and Patrick Harris '13 were engaged this summer and plan an October 2016 wedding. Waldy Diez '13 is a morning producer at WBNG-TV Action News in Johnson City, N.Y. He earned a master's degree in broadcast and digital journalism at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University in New York and completed a summer internship at USA Today.

Angela Brineè Byers '14 is an academic advisor in the psychology department of Rowan's College of Science & Mathematics.

Nicholas Rodrigues '14 is working as a restaurant manager as he pursues a job in law enforcement.

Ashley Garcia Rothkopf '14 married David Rothkopf '12 on August 16 in Pittsgrove. See photo, this page.

**Stephanie Russo '14** is an advertising sales planner at Twitch, a live-stream video gaming site, which Amazon bought for \$1 billion in 2013.

Melissa Schipke M'14 is the founder and CEO of Tassl (see story, p. 11).

Maria Brasco '15 works in digital media for "The Ellen Degeneres Show."

Candace Coulbourn '15 is a registered nurse at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia.

Christine Gambardello '15 teaches kinesiology at the Harris School in Cherry Hill.



Richard "Rick" Heggan '15, who teaches at the Neeta

School in Medford Lakes, received the 2015 Kappa Delta Pi/Association











## **Weddings and engagements**

- Ashley Garcia Rothkopf '14 and David Rothkopf '12; note, this page.
- 2. Melissa Pileiro Arnold '11 and Brian Arnold '11; note, this page.
- 3. **Sean McCarthy '03** and Danielle Young McCarthy; note, p. 50.
- 4. Erica Bauwens '11 and Alex Young '11; note, this page.
- 5. Kathleen Stropnicky Siano 'oo and Dennis K. Wasko 'oo; note, p. 50.



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of Teacher Educators National Student Teacher of the Year Award.

Westley Lagunda '15 works in the cosmetics industry.



Tina McCormick'15, nurse manager of the medical/ surgical

intensive care unit, was honored as Inspira Medical Center Woodbury's Leader of the Quarter for July through September. The honor recognizes individuals for how they exemplify leadership qualities, including inspiring staff enthusiasm, setting and maintaining high standards of customer service and responding constructively to issues and concerns. McCormick, who lives in Deptford, has been at the facility for 25 years.

**Clarence Medina '15** is a field service engineer for SCIEX.

Tyler Schickner '15 is an associate consultant at Oracle Corp. just outside Washington, D.C., where he helps companies apply Cloud

software to modernize their sales capabilities.

**Genna Vezinho '15** is a substitute teacher and coaches gymnastics at Bright Star Gymnastics Academy.

Giovanni Vinci '15 is a physical therapy aide and plans to pursue a doctorate in physical therapy.

Peter Yanefski '15 and Megan Walsh Yanefski '14 married in May 2015. He is a photographer for Lifetouch National School Studios. The couple live in Pitman.









### **Alumni Association Reunion at Bar A**

More than 300 alumni from five decades gathered at Bar Anticipation last summer. This year's reunion is already scheduled for Saturday, August 13. Tell your friends and be the first to register at alumni.rowan.edu.

- 1. Tim Mladenetz '15, Erin Weiner '14
- 2. Dean Marzocca '78, Bob Cordero '78, Pat Carr '78, Karen Petillo Larned '78, Sue Thomas Scott '78, Janice Goman Carfi '78, George Carfi, Kathy Kenny Woodward '78
- 3. FRONT: Leigh Ann Ruroede '15, Erin Weiner '14,
- Jaime Battaglia '14, Rosie Kelly '15, Mallory O'Brien '13, BACK: Becky Tronco '13, Erin Gallagher '14, Allison Belli '14.
- 4. Dave Teplitsky '11, Steven Solomine '12, Katie Imbriano '13, Alex Kristopovich '13, Jessica Winetsky '13, Andrea Herdman '13.

## Remembrances

## Fond eulogies of campus friends offered by AFT colleagues

JoAnn Bouson, ESL Director, Camden Campus

JoAnn E. Bouson, 79, of Oaklyn, died April 15 at home of complications from Alzheimer's disease.

Originally from California, JoAnn worked in Washington state and Puerto Rico before taking a position at then-Glassboro State College.

From 1977 to 2002, JoAnn directed the English as a Second Language program at Rowan's Camden campus, playing a key role in the program's development and success.

JoAnn earned a B.A in Spanish from the University of Washington, an M.A. in education at the Inter American University of Puerto Rico and a Ph.D. from Rutgers University, New Brunswick. She was predeceased by her husband, Jose, and her daughter, Lisa Marie.

She is survived by her son, Joseph, and daughters Marisa and Jeanne Franklin. Interment was at the Camden County Veterans Cemetery in Camden. Donations may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association South Jersey Regional Office, Suite 310, 3 Eves Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053.

#### Desmond McLean, Art

Desmond Patrick "Des" McLean, 88, of Pitman, died November 30.

Des joined the Glassboro State College art department in 1966 and began teaching printmaking. In 1985 he specialized in computer graphics and received a state grant to establish a computer graphics lab, serving as the lab's director until 1996. Des retired from the art department as an associate professor in 2002.

Born in Sligo, Ireland, Des came to the U.S. when he was three and grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. He held a B.A. from Keane College and an M.A. from Hunter College. After serving in the Navy, Des attended the Heatherly School of Art in London and the American School of Art in New York. He received a teaching fellowship at the University of Chicago, where he earned a Ph.D. in art history.

Des was an active AFT Retirees Chapter member. He designed the cover for the 2010 Members Directory, which won awards in the AFT Communicators Network nationwide competition. He won first prize in the New Jersey Senior Art Contest for Professional Photography at the county and state level. In 2010, Villanova University's Art Gallery hosted a solo exhibit of his mixed-media paintings.

Des was a gourmand, coffee connoisseur and a gardener. His home in Pitman was influenced by a Japanese aesthetic and featured koi ponds.

Des is survived by his daughter, Carla, sons Jason and Conway, several grandchildren and great grandchildren and a brother, John. He was predeceased by his wife of 38 years, Pauline Whitehouse McLean. A memorial service was held at the McCowan Memorial Library in Pitman on December 12.

**Sister Mary Claude Damico M'72,** *Director of Student Services*Sister Mary Claude Damico, 84, of Ventnor, died December 2.

Sister Mary Claude served as Rowan's director of student personnel for several years. Before coming to Rowan, her long career in education included teaching high school Latin and serving as a high school vice principal and secondary school supervisor. She entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1949.

She held a B.A. from Georgian Court College, an M.A. from Rowan University, an M.S. in linguistics from Georgetown University, a doctorate in administration from Rutgers University and a law degree from Temple University.

She is survived by her sisters, Thelma Loughney, Sister Mary Paulette Christine Damico and Stephany Morris and her devoted friend, Kathleen Vail.

A mass of Christian Burial for Sister Mary Claude was celebrated at St. Nicholas of Tolentine R.C. Church in Atlantic City. Donations in her name may be made to St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, 1410 Pacific Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ 08401.

## Our sympathies

Margaret Anthony Kirkpatrick '36 Ruth Mitchell Vansant '39 Samuel Curcio '41 Phyllis Gaiter Nicholas '41 Edwin Spencer '42 Gloria Silano Lisa '43, M'65 Martha Ashby Heal '45 Philip Jackson '51 Phontella Butcher Ruff '51, M'72 Nancy Dukes Brown '54 Mable Virginia. Randall '54 Carol Atkinson '57 Jean McCall '58 Farrell Lynch '59 Donald Chrans '60 Carl de Vecchis '60 Karel Wojtech '60 Richard Cesta '61, M'72 Guy Freeman '61 Bernadine lafrate '61 Audrey Lykens-Chew '61 Edward Steelman '61 John Cashner '62 Martin Sharp '63, M'66 Mezzie Lascarides Thielking '63 Stanley Booth '65 Robert Burrough '65 Michael Zank '65, M'69 David Doughty M'66 Allyn Markert '66 Betty Walton '66, M'72 W. Brindle '67 Ruth Levick '67, M'73 Emil Buckow '67, M'69 Albert Ferraro M'68 Florence Kovacs Holtz '68 Anita Salley O'Neal '68 William Little '68, M'72 Edward Wismer M'68 Marc Dean '70 Terrance Ewing '70, M'75 Patricia Fridolph '70 Jeanette Blume McSorley '70 Suzanne Gongol M'70 Eugene Madeira M'70 Robert Riley M'70 Francis Selva M'70 Jacquelyn Stanley M'70 Nancy Miller Bresky '71 Joane E. Jengehino '71 Richard Kintish M'71 Peter Nestor '71, M'82 Elizabeth E. Stroud '71 Kathryn Jones Coventry '72 Lois Trumbore Kershner '72, M'74 Louise Pepe McGrane '72

E. Morgan Maxwell M'72

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Faculty and friends

JoAnn Bouson Sister Claude Damico M'72 Desmond McLean Bela Mukhoti

## Honor Roll of Donors now available online

We are pleased to announce that our Honor Roll of Donors is now online. This approach continues our commitment to sustainability and the careful stewardship of resources and allows us to acknowledge every alumnus, friend, corporation and foundation that has made a gift.

The 2014-2015 Honor Roll of Donors recognizes gifts and commitments made between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. Please visit the Rowan University Foundation's website at www.rufoundation.org/honor\_roll to view the complete list of donors.

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Thank you for your investment in Rowan University.

Sincerely,

John J. Zabinski

Senior Vice President for University Advancement, Rowan University

Executive Director, Rowan University Foundation

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# No wonder Glassboro was a good fit

By Barbarasue Pratt Schmidt '66

Sue serves as president and writes grants for the Ayres/Knuth Farm Foundation. She sits on the board of Preservation New Jersey, Denville Twp. Open Space Committee, among other groups; and is a member of the V-8 Ford Clubs, Antique Automobile Club of America, Classic Car Club and Metro Region... some of which her late father was a founding member. When not busy volunteering, "Meme" baby-sits for 2 1/2-year- old Lucas.

n August 6, 2015, our family buried my parents at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. My father had served under Gen. George S. Patton in WWII. While he was serving during the occupation in Germany, doctors discovered he had a collapsed lung caused by an earlier wound and sent him back to the U.S. for treatment. He left an Army hospital in 1947 after being told he had six months to live. He died January 20, 2015. On March 17, 2015, he would have been 97 years old. That same determination steered his entire life. He was the how and why that I ended up at Glassboro State College. I would bet my story is typical of the times.

For several summers during my high school years, we left Morris County for lengthy road trips to tour colleges. My father charted and graphed the schools. They were assigned a number and ranking long before Peterson published its guide. Being in the printing business, he critiqued their brochures. He did the same with tour guides and faculty interviewers. My mother gave colleges the white glove test and eyed the landscaping as an important part of the process. GSC was not the only school we visited in farm country, although I was attracted to those we saw in more urban settings.

As an only child with three children and a grandchild, I sat at the Arlington National Cemetery service watching the precise folding of the flag and listening to the Army Band wondering how I ended

up in a career in education and then social work, coming from GSC.

In the sixties, the Glassboro campus landscaping fought with sandy, dirt-worn paths that turned into rivers in heavy rains. Housing was limited, forcing us to live in rooms off campus. The unsophisticated advertising and publications were not what Rowan produces now.

My father felt that the GSC reputation in 1962 for producing top quality teachers, particularly at the elementary school level, was close to Peabody and Columbia University. And the value for the money was outstanding. My father had an undergraduate degree from Rutgers University and respected state schools. He did his graduate work at Columbia and NYU. But he felt if you were going to be a teacher in New Jersey, Glassboro was the school to go to. I never questioned his thinking versus what my high school counselor mapped out.

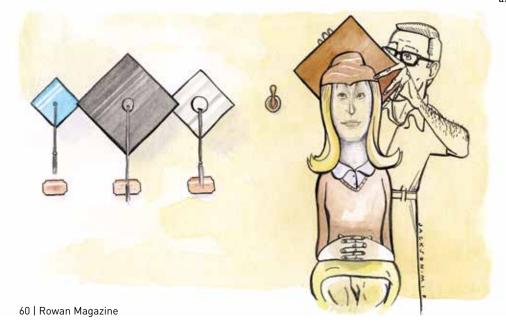
Four years at GSC was not equal in cost to a single semester at any of the universities my three children attended for undergraduate or graduate studies. That does not determine value for me and probably not for my father. In every job interview I ever had, it was noted positively what school of education I attended.

I graduated in a time when school districts were reaching out to Glassboro graduates looking for teachers. It is hard to say if I had gone anywhere else that I would have learned about rural communities and farm labor, English as a second language, gifted

and talented programs, and the history

of the world and how it relates to art and the children I taught. Many of my fellow classmates were members of their schools' National Honor Society chapters and much more. None of us were forced to go to GSC. But that guidance set our lives in motion from a generation that saw the Depression and war as a defining element in their lives. It was that generation that built New Jersey's colleges to what they are today.

In my opinion, my father certainly got his money's worth. What I passed on to the children who marched behind the caisson last August reinforced that.



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