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64 College mourns loss of John Wold ’38
“Visual Union: The Decades Show” features the work of five alumni-artists—Stephen Pentak ’73, Jack Howard-Potter ’97, Nori Lupfer Pepe ’03, Nancy Borowick ’07 and Sheri Park ’13. The exhibit, which runs through March 31 in the Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts, celebrates the building’s recent renovation and expansion. For more, visit union.edu/news/decadesshow.

Sheri Park ’13
REORIENT: home is where?
two-channel video and performance

FRONT COVER
Virginia Goggins ’17 works on a project for a painting class, taught by Laini Nemett, assistant professor of drawing & painting (Photo by Matt Milless)

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From China, new perspectives on the curriculum
Last summer a group of Union faculty took a trip to China’s northeast region to see first-hand the effects of rapid industrialization and economic growth to develop new interdisciplinary courses and redevelop existing ones.

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First, lose the suit and tie: Exploring the culture of West Coast startups
Last summer Union students who participated in the San Francisco Internship Program in Innovation and Creativity led by George Gmelch, professor of anthropology, studied the culture of startups and what it means to be creative, innovative and entrepreneurial.

18
Fighting for Romeo & Juliet
Each year William Finlay, professor/chair of Theater and Dance and director of the Yulman Theater, teaches a class that trains students in the art of stage fighting. This year, they learned 17th century rapier in preparation for a very contemporary version of Shakespeare’s famous play about star-crossed lovers.

20
Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts dedicated
Following a renovation made possible by late brothers Armand V. Feigenbaum ’42 and Donald S. Feigenbaum ’46, the center was dedicated during Homecoming weekend in October. The 37,000-square-foot facility has something to foster the growth of every artist, from a sculpture and design studio for metalworking to printmaking, photography and 3D design studios.
Behind the names

STEPHEN C. AINLAY, PH.D.

Judith and I truly love walking the Union campus—often with “First Dog” Winston—and nothing is more satisfying than meeting students and other members of the community. Even though the coldest February day tends to shorten our conversations about research, upcoming plays and concerts, a close game won, a fundraiser, or the demands of balancing it all, we are heartened to learn of the many endeavors that make Union special.

On those walks, we also love to think about the people whose names appear on the structures and spaces of this historic campus. Their love of Union warms even the coldest February day.

The Nott Memorial honors our fourth president, the longest serving college or university president in U.S. history. Fox Residence Hall is named for our 12th president. Dixon Ryan Fox, who led Union through the depths of the Depression. Steinmetz Hall honors Charles Proteus Steinmetz, founder of our electrical engineering program and one of the most important scientific minds of his day. Bailey Hall, for Frank Bailey (Class of 1885), honors the generous trustee who served as treasurer.

Our newest named building is another example. This issue gives a glimpse of the new Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts. The one-time home to Natural Philosophy, the structure is among our most historic. Thanks to the generosity of the Feigenbaum Foundation and other donors, it got a “rebirth” and more.

The building offers remarkable instrumentation and wonderful new spaces for making art, studying its history and displaying work. Already, it has become a vibrant part of our campus academic culture. Already, it’s made a huge impression on prospective 12th president, Dixon Ryan Fox, who led Union enginee ering problems that others simply could not. They understood the power of a physics student making art or an art student designing in a 3D printer lab. They believed this kind of learning environment was critical to Union’s future and our relevance to the world.

I must mention another name: Mary Ann MacLean. Mary Ann was a trustee when I was hired 11 years ago. She died this past fall and her obituary appears on p. 62. She and her husband, Barry, entrusted their daughter Adrian ’98 to Union’s care and, in the process, became some of the College’s biggest fans. Mary Ann could tell the Union story as well as anyone. And she was one of the brightest, loveliest and most caring people I’ve been privileged to know. It gives me special joy to walk through the MacLean Family Atrium in the Wold Center because of the names behind that space—what we often call our “academic town square.”

The Wold name on campus is another that tells a story about love and commitment to Union.

As this issue was about to go to press, we received the sad news that we had lost a loyal son of Union. John Wold ’38 passed away on February 26 at the age of 100. You can read the obituary on p. 64.

John Wold was special—both as a person and as a supporter of Union College. His father, Peter Irving Wold, was chair of the Union Physics Department and John literally grew up on the Union campus.

He made frequent trips home, most recently last June when he allowed us to honor him with an early 100th birthday party. During this visit, just like all the others, he walked the campus, talking to every student, faculty member, coach, or staff member he met, learning what he could about today’s Union. Such was his interest in and love of Union.

John and his wife, Jane, who died in 2015, were remarkably generous in their support of Union and arguably the most generous benefactors in our history. In addition to providing the lead gift for the Peter Irving Wold Center, they supported Wold House, our planned work on the science and engineering complex, and a number of other facilities as well as Geology and Religious Studies. Their legacy at Union is simply remarkable.

The Wold family, along with the Feigenbaums and so many others, created spaces to bring our students and others together in our academic town square. The buildings are the spaces of this historic campus. Their love of Union and commitment to Union is simply remarkable.
Social media madness

Union’s social media channels reach alumni and friends around the globe. In recent months, the College’s main social media channels have received almost 3 million impressions.

**Top five posts to date this academic year are:**

1. “The Hidden Ivies” (Union is one)
2. #NottShot by Melissa Epstein ’17
3. 2016 Dean’s List students
4. Princeton Review’s greenest colleges (Union is one)
5. Madison Shapiro ’17 talks new dining options

**Our rock star Tweeters (who give Union regular shout-outs) are:**

1. Scott Wykoff ‘85—@ScottWykoffWBAL
2. Edward Abbott ‘97—@ewabbott
3. Benjamin Engle ’12—@BenjaminEngle
4. Jenny Lawton ’85—@JennyLawton

Follow Union on Facebook (www.facebook.com/UnionCollege) and Twitter (@UnionCollegeNY)!

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**REMEmBERING TED**

Throughout his career, Ted Bick was devoted to the College. At a time when the faculty had a strong sense of itself as a collegial body and a determination to defend its prerogatives, Ted stepped to the fore. In the midst of an admissions scandal related to the hockey program, Ted was one of a group of four faculty who organized a vote of no confidence in then-President Thomas Bonner. The motion carried with only 29 in opposition.

Ted had a deep loyalty to the College, concern for its wellbeing, and a strong sense of right and wrong. And, he was fearless. He brought out the best in all of us.

— James Underwood

Chauncey H. Winters
Professor of Political Science Emeritus and Dean of Faculty Emeritus

Note: Prof. Ted Bick is remembered on p. 60
Across Campus

Homecoming great fun, despite wet weather

Union’s Homecoming and Family Weekend traces its origins to 1923, when it hosted a mid-year alumni gathering called College Day to coincide with the football game against Hobart. Renamed Homecoming in 1946, the event has grown over the decades to include a potpourri of athletic contests and other events, from pumpkin carving to class visits to trivia contests.

This year (Oct. 21-23), a steady downpour forced organizers to cancel or shift a few events Saturday, but more than 2,000 visitors turned out to participate in activities geared toward parents, students and alumni.

Among the highlights was the dedication of the Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts. The 37,000-square-foot building recently reopened following a major year-long renovation. The project was supported in part by an $11 million gift from the Feigenbaum Foundation. Read more about the center on p. 20.

A number of alumni were also honored over the weekend, including Gerald Ente ’51, who

Around U

Attorney and former first lady of Massachusetts Diane Patrick gives talk, “Don’t Stand Alone: My Stake in Your Dreams and Yours in Mine,” as part of the Presidential Forum on Diversity series.

For more detailed campus news, visit www.union.edu/news
received the Distinguished Service Award for his steadfast commitment and strong leadership; Jennifer Brandwein ’91, who received the Alumni Special Appreciation Award for her service and unwavering loyalty to the College; and Tess Skoller ’13, who received the Alumni Rising Star Award for exemplary volunteerism and enthusiastic dedication to Union. The club award went to the D.C. Alumni Club for its holiday party.

“Despite the weather, it was a memorable weekend for our guests,” said Marna Redding, director of Alumni and Parent Engagement. “Homecoming is a special time, and we look forward to welcoming our alumni, friends and family back to Union.”

Right, top: The football team heads out to play the University of Rochester. Union prevailed, 31-15.

Right, middle: The Dutch Pipers perform at the Volunteer Appreciation Reception in the Nott Memorial.

Right, bottom: Members of the 1986 football team pose during a reception honoring their undefeated season 30 years ago.

Eight students in the last year named recipients of the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs: Aubrey Griffin ’17, Anna Ko ’17, Bianca Mielke ’18, Taina Orellana ’18, Katherine Sotolongo ’18, Emily Sullivan ’18, Emma Will ’18, Jimmy Yun ’17

“Charles Steckler: Contrary to What Sometimes Happens,” an exhibition of more than 30 works created “out of the throwaway artifacts of our material culture,” opens at Mandeville Gallery. Steckler is the Dwane W. Crichton Professor of Theater and scenic designer in residence.
Friedman: adaptability key to weathering trends

The year 2007—which saw the launch of Facebook, Twitter, Airbnb and “big data”—was perhaps the most pivotal year in technology since 1450 when Johannes Gutenberg invented movable type, according to Thomas Friedman, author and Pulitzer-winning columnist for The New York Times.

And most of us missed it because of the economic collapse of 2008, he added.

Friedman spoke at Schenectady’s Proctors Theater in February on “The Big Trends Shaping the World Today,” a talk that examined the convergence of accelerations in technology, global economic interdependency and the rise of carbon levels.

He told the audience that our best hope to weather the “hurricane” of these accelerating trends may lie in our ability to draw lessons from Mother Nature on adaptability, sustainability and diversity.

His talk, sponsored by the College, was followed by and Q & A session led by President Stephen Ainlay. The president’s wife, Judith Gardner Ainlay, director of special institutional relations and a member of the Proctors board, organized the event.
Two electric vehicle charging stations installed in Facilities parking lot. The chargers can service up to four vehicles at a time, and work for both electric-only vehicles and plug-in hybrids.

Annual Safety Day teaches students how to use fire extinguishers and safely escape simulated fire. The day included mock dorm room burn and Life-Net helicopter appearance.

of 2021 are at an all-time high with 6,652 students applying. The 563 students in the Class of 2020 were selected from a record 6,647 applications, one of the most competitive admissions cycles in the school’s history. The students are from 29 states and 23 countries, with nearly 30 percent international or from underrepresented backgrounds. It’s also one of the strongest academically, with two-thirds of the students ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class.

Under Ainlay’s leadership, the College created an Office of Campus Diversity and an Office of Multicultural Affairs. Union has been honored four times with a national HEED (Higher Education Excellence in Diversity) Award in recognition of its work in this area.

Ainlay also instituted Presidential Green Grants aimed at supporting environmentally sustainable projects on campus. Union was among the first to sign the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), pledging to reduce, and eventually eliminate, campus global warming emissions.

Ainlay has overseen the transformation of academic and wellness spaces. Among the major renovation projects were Taylor Music Center, Lippman Hall, Lamont House, Karp Hall, Butterfield Hall, Breazzano Fitness Center, Peter Irving Wold Center, Henle Dance Pavilion, Wicker Wellness Center and the recently completed Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts.

The College recently announced the reconstruction of the Science and Engineering Complex, an interdisciplinary building that will rank among the finest science and engineering facilities in the nation.

During Ainlay’s tenure, the College completed its “You Are Union” campaign, which surpassed its $250 million goal by $8 million.

Ainlay voiced his appreciation for the continued support of the board.

“It has been my great honor to serve Union College these past 10 years,” said Ainlay. “Union’s rich history and distinctive mission to integrate the arts, humanities, social sciences, sciences and engineering attract some of the most talented and interesting students in the world, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with them and the remarkably gifted faculty and staff who make this institution so special.”

Union is featured in the new edition of the college guide, “The Hidden Ivies,” the latest national recognition for the College.

The guide, by college admissions consultants Howard Greene and Matthew Greene, highlights 63 exceptional schools that offer a broad liberal arts education that the authors believe rival the Ivy League.

Each school’s profile includes information on academics, the admissions process, financial aid and student experiences.

The authors contend that students who attend one of the “Hidden Ivies” are likely to acquire critical skills or instincts, including cooperation, leadership, collaboration, mentoring, appreciating personal, religious and cultural differences, and “learning the truth that intelligence without character, personal integrity and a working set of values can be a dangerous thing.”

Noting Union’s role as the first liberal arts college to offer engineering, the guide points out that half of the school’s 2,228 students are science and engineering majors.

“This combination of liberal arts and science and engineering makes Union a rigorous academic environment for undergraduates seeking a wide range of coursework across the humanities, social sciences, arts and STEM fields,” the guide states.

Union has consistently been ranked among the top liberal arts schools in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, Forbes, Washington Monthly and The Princeton Review, among others.
Convocation a time for reflection, celebration

The 222nd academic year began with a convocation on Sept. 6 that celebrated recent accomplishments and looked ahead to challenges and opportunities.

After his 10th year in office, President Stephen C. Ainlay highlighted some of the achievements made possible by the entire Union community including sustainability, diversity and inclusion.

“What can I say other than ‘congratulations, well done, and again, thank you,’” he told the capacity crowd at Memorial Chapel.

The College enhanced its academic integrity with an Honors Code, continued to recruit outstanding faculty and doubled the size of the Annual Fund, he noted.

The College built or renovated 14 major structures over the past 10 years. Among the projects: Taylor Music Center, Lippman Hall, Karp Hall, Peter Irving Wold Center, Henle Dance Pavilion, Wicker Wellness Center, Kelly Adirondack Center, Breazzano Fitness Center and the Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts.

He noted Union's recent inclusion in "The Hidden Ivies," a college guide that highlights exceptional liberal arts schools, and its recognition as one of the top producers of Fulbright Scholars.

“I hear over and over again from people who have been coming back to Union many times since their graduations, sometimes very long ago, that the College has never looked better or seemed more vibrant and alive,” Ainlay said.

But the College, Ainlay stressed, is not content to “rest on our laurels or become complacent.” Work is progressing on plans to overhaul the Science and Engineering Center to help fulfill Union’s aim to be the premier institution offering arts, humanities, social sciences, sciences and engineering.

The College welcomed the Class of 2020. The 563 students were selected from record 6,647 applications, one of the most competitive admissions cycles in the school’s history. The students represent 29 states and 23 countries, with nearly 30 percent international or from underrepresented backgrounds. It’s also one of the strongest academically, with two-thirds of the students ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class.

Ainlay acknowledged William Keat, professor of mechanical engineering, as...
the winner of the Stillman Prize for Excellence in Teaching. Keat joined Union in 1996. The prize was created by David I. Stillman ’72, Abbott Stillman ’69 and Allan Stillman in honor of Abraham Stillman, father and grandfather. It is given annually to a faculty member to encourage outstanding teaching.

Jermaine Wells, Learning Environment Services coordinator, received the UNITAS Community-Building Prize, given in recognition of a person who has helped foster community and diversity at Union. Wells, who joined Union in 2005, was honored for his willingness to “go the extra mile” in sharing his expertise in AV and IT technologies. A musician, Wells was also honored for sharing his talents and knowledge of hip hop and other genres by performing at campus events and lectures.

Strom Thacker, the Stephen J. and Diane K. Ciesinski Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs, recognized the students who made the Dean’s List last year. Padma Yawen Yang ’18 received the Hollander Prize in Music, established by Lawrence J. Hollander, dean of engineering emeritus. An interdepartmental major in Asian Studies and Modern Languages and Literatures, Yang studies the guzheng, a traditional Chinese string instrument. She performed a stirring rendition of Zhan Tai Feng (“Battling the Typhoon”) by Wang Chang-Yuan.

Union has again been named one of the country’s most environmentally responsible colleges, according to The Princeton Review’s “Guide to Green Colleges.”

UNION AMONG BEST FOR WOMEN IN STEM

Union is one of the top five schools in the nation for women studying science, math, technology and engineering, per a recent ranking by USA Today.

The College was lauded for its popular and growing STEM programs and its success in increasing the number of women graduating with STEM degrees. Between 2008 and 2014, female students completing STEM programs rose by 2.3 percent.

USA Today also highlighted Union’s demographics, with 46 percent of the student population being female (a figure that rises to 51% for faculty), and noted the College’s strong undergraduate research program and top-notch scientific instruments.
Most Lin, whose work includes the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Civil Rights Memorial, was the featured speaker at the second annual Feigenbaum Forum on Innovation and Creativity last fall.

A committed environmentalist, Lin has consistently focused on environmental concerns, promoting sustainable building design in her architectural works, while making the environment the subject of her artworks.

In 1981, Lin was a 21-year-old senior majoring in architecture at Yale University when she submitted the winning design in a national competition for a memorial honoring Vietnam veterans to be built in Washington, D.C. Her concept featured a wall for the names of the more than 58,000 servicemen and women who died in the war.

Named to the American Institute of Architects’ list of America’s Favorite Architecture, the wall is visited by more than 4 million people annually.

Over her distinguished career, Lin’s work has included large-scale site-specific installations, intimate studio artworks, architectural works and memorials, including the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Ala.

She is currently working on her final memorial, “What is Missing?” which focuses on bringing awareness to the crisis surrounding biodiversity and habitat loss. The monument will be a multi-sited work in select scientific institutions, online and as a book. It debuted at the California Academy of Sciences in September 2009 with a sound and media sculpture installation at the Academy’s East Terrace.

Lin serves on the boards of the Bloomberg Foundation, Museum of Chinese in America and the What is Missing? Foundation. In 2009, she was presented with the National Medal of Arts by President Obama.

“Maya Lin’s remarkable body of work speaks to the critical issues of our time,” said President Stephen C. Ainlay. “She serves as an inspiration for the next generation of artists and designers.”

The forum is made possible through a gift from the Feigenbaum Foundation. The foundation was created by brothers Armand V. Feigenbaum ’42 and Donald S. Feigenbaum ’46, longtime benefactors to Union. Acknowledged world leaders in systems engineering and total quality control, the brothers founded General Systems Co., a Pittsfield, Mass.-based international systems engineering firm that designs and helps implement operational systems for corporations and governments worldwide. Armand died November 2014; Donald, March 2013.

For more than a dozen years, the brothers hosted the Feigenbaum Forum, a gathering on campus at which academicians discussed characteristics of a new generation of leaders and how better to integrate liberal arts and other studies. The new series builds on this event by bringing in prominent speakers who have revolutionized their fields of endeavor through contributions deemed innovative and creative.

Howard Gardner, an internationally-renowned psychologist who developed the theory of multiple intelligences that revolutionized how educators teach their students, was the inaugural speaker for the forum last fall.
New York State Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul spoke last fall in the Nott Memorial about the state’s new initiative to combat sexual assault on college campuses.

Hochul has been visiting campuses across the state to discuss Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s “Enough is Enough” initiative.

Signed into law in July, the legislation requires all colleges to adopt a set of comprehensive procedures and guidelines, including a uniform definition of affirmative consent, a statewide amnesty policy, and expanded access to law enforcement to ensure the safety of all students attending colleges in New York.

Union has taken a series of steps aimed at preventing sexual assault. In 2014, the school joined with nearly 200 colleges and universities to participate in a national public service campaign, “It’s On Us.” The campaign, launched by President Obama and Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr., hopes to fundamentally shift the way sexual assault is viewed on campuses “by inspiring everyone to see it as their responsibility to do something, big or small, to prevent it.”

The College has also teamed up with state officials to raise awareness and prevent sexual assault and domestic violence.

The College also expanded its Bystander Intervention Program, which enlists and trains members of the campus community to intervene in situations where sexual harassment or sexual violence appears imminent.

Begin in 2014, the program has trained hundreds of members of Union’s athletic teams, Greek organizations, resident advisers and others.

In 2015, the College hired its first full time Title IX coordinator, Melissa Kelley.

Under Title IX, colleges and universities have a legal obligation to provide an environment that is free from discrimination on the basis of sex in all education programs and activities. Sexual harassment, which includes sexual violence, is a form of sex discrimination prohibited under Title IX.
Actor James Franco was on campus in early November, filming scenes for an upcoming movie he’s directing. “The Pretenders” is set in the 1970s and 80s and was also being shot on location in Troy and Albany. Franco, 38, is best known for the TV show “Freaks and Geeks,” and for movies including “Pineapple Express,” “127 Hours” and “This is The End.” Students got a chance to take photos with the director, and also actors like Shameik Moore (right, second from left), who stars in the film.
Torello is new CCO

Thomas P. Torello recently joined Union College as chief communications officer, following a national search.

Torello oversees the Office of Communications, whose responsibilities include media and public relations, marketing, publications, social media, the alumni magazine, the College’s Web site and the Chronicle, a weekly internal newsletter.

Torello works closely with campus leaders and departments to enhance and promote Union’s academic reputation and strengthen the College’s brand. He is responsible for managing internal and external communications and also assists senior leadership in communicating with key leaders in the Capital Region.

Torello has nearly two decades of experience in higher education, including leadership positions in communications and marketing at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Ithaca College, Pace University and Salem State University, where he led the school through its first major branding campaign.

He holds a bachelor’s in communications from Ithaca College, with a major in television and radio and a minor in philosophy and religion.

“Union is one of the premier liberal arts colleges in the country and I am honored to be asked to join such a talented communications team,” Torello said. “I’m excited to be back in the Capital Region and bringing my experience to an institution with such a unique identity and strong leadership.”

Torello reports to Terri Cerveny, vice president for College Relations.

“Tom’s extensive experiences in leading campus communications strategies and working with talented communications teams are a perfect match for Union,” Cerveny said. “Like our own community, Tom is creative, accomplished, forward-thinking, collaborative and thoughtful. We’re thrilled he’s joined our team.”

LATEST EDITION OF AJES ROCKS

The geology of the Adirondacks is the focus of the latest volume of the Adirondack Journal of Environmental Studies.

Published by the Adirondack Research Consortium and Union’s Kelly Adirondack Center, the journal includes articles on the history of geological studies, mining, fracture and fault systems and soils, among other topics.

“Volume 21 is a snapshot in time of the ageless geology of the Adirondacks,” said Caleb Northrop, executive editor of the journal and special assistant to the President’s Office and Kelly Adirondack Center. “The papers summarize historical and current work, calling upon the accumulated studies of many excellent geoscientists who have worked in the Adirondacks over two centuries.”

Geologists Bruce Selleck of Colgate University and Jeff Chiarenzelli of St. Lawrence University served as associate editors for this volume.

The journal was published bi-annually by the consortium from 1994 to 2011, when it dropped to once a year, with a heavier presence on the web. Lacking the staff and the financial resources to publish a scientific journal, the consortium has partnered with the Kelly Adirondack Center to publish future volumes. Volume 20 was the first joint effort earlier this year.

A free copy of Volume 21 is available by becoming an ‘AJES Member’ of the Adirondack Research Consortium and the Kelly Adirondack Center. In addition to supporting the ongoing publication of AJES, members will receive updates on future volumes of the journal.

For more information, visit www.union.edu/adirondack

The Adirondack Research Consortium is a not-for-profit organization based on the Paul Smith’s College campus. Its mission is to find ways to share research and information to better inform those making policy decisions impacting the Adirondacks.

Union’s Kelly Adirondack Center includes the former home of noted conservationist Paul Schaefer and the Adirondack Research Library, which has a unique collection of material on the Adirondack Park and the New York State Forest Preserve.
From China, new perspectives on the curriculum
China’s rapid development can be studied through a range of disciplines: history, biology, arts, humanities and engineering to name a few.

Last summer a group of 14 faculty from across campus took a 10-day trip to China’s northeast region to see first-hand the effects of rapid industrialization and economic growth. The goal: to develop new interdisciplinary courses and redevelop existing ones.

The trip was supported by a Presidential Leadership Grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. A second faculty study tour is planned for Berlin in June.

The Presidential Leadership Grant to Stephen C. Ainlay is the second such grant from the Mellon Foundation. The first launched the annual Symposium on Engineering as a Liberal Art. The proposal for the latest grant was inspired by Ainlay’s experience on a faculty travel grant to China when he was at the College of the Holy Cross.

Faculty studied cultural and environmental sustainability and social justice with site visits and workshops that explored the fusion of tradition and modernity around turbo-capitalism, worker migration, coal mining, organic farming and environmental activism. In a post-trip retreat, the faculty developed more than a dozen proposals for Common Curriculum courses or modules focused on sustainability and social justice.

Prof. Joyce Madancy, a historian of China and trip leader, has incorporated readings and discussions about environmental consequences of development into several of her classes. She is also team-teaching a first-year preceptorial, “Made in China,” with Jennifer Bishop, senior lecturer of biology, another participant, that will explore the environmental and socio-political consequences of the Chinese labor market.

“The China study tour brought together faculty dedicated to transforming the Liberal Arts at Union by focusing on the vital questions of social justice and sustainability from a cross-disciplinary, global perspective,” said John Cramsie, associate professor of history and director of General Education. “By focusing on the Common Curriculum, we engage students across the campus in diverse settings and courses, creating opportunities to reimagine General Education around compelling issues of global significance.”

“Union has students whose curiosity transcends disciplines and who are ready to learn from the surprising connections among courses and perspectives that faculty members help them to see,” said Therese McCarty, former vice president for academic affairs and project director for the grant. “Exposing students to more of these surprising connections will give them a deeper, more holistic un-
standing of questions of great import to humanity."

Madancy recalled a visit to an organic farm that highlighted the increasing class divide in a country where, for the first time in history, more people live in the city than in the countryside.

The farm was a resource for wealthy families who could “play farmer” on the weekend, she said. “On the other hand, it reflects a mistrust of China’s own agricultural production, which has been plagued by scandals over contamination and tainted food. It’s sort of representative of how distant many people in China’s cities are from that rural backbone that we think of as constituting the essence of traditional Chinese society,” Madancy said.

John Spinelli, professor of electrical and computer engineering, recalled his visit to China in the 1990s, when the country was on the cusp of developing its cities. What he saw on this trip was a depopulating countryside.

“There’s no next generation,” he said of one rural village where the elderly are minding their grandchildren. “It doesn’t seem likely those kids will stay in the village. It’s more likely they will go to the city to join their parents as soon as the parents can financially support them.”

Ashok Ramasubramanian, associate professor of mechanical engineering, compared China to his native India, which in the 1980s was ahead economically. Since then, he noted, the two nations have taken dramatically different trajectories. “We have press freedoms and free elections in India but there are more starving and dying people,” he said.

The trip was chronicled in a 44-minute film by James de Sève, filmmaker-in-residence at Union. The film includes footage of site visits interspersed with faculty commentary. It begins with impressions as the faculty arrive, and ends with their impressions as they leave. De Sève’s film, Ten Days in the Middle Kingdom, can be seen at union.edu/magazine.

Other faculty on the trip were Megan Ferry, associate professor of Chinese and Asian Studies; Kristin Fox, professor of chemistry; Katherine Lynes, associate professor of English; Jennifer Matsue, professor of music; Cherrice Traver, David Falk & Elynor Rudnick-Falk Professor of Computer Engineering; Jenelle Troxelle, assistant professor of English; Anouk Verheyden-Gillikin, lecturer of geology; Jue Wang, assistant professor of mathematics; and Patricia Wareh, associate professor of English.

As evidence of China’s profound contrasts, Madancy recalls an early morning atop a fog-enshrouded, worn-down section of the Great Wall in a remote region near Inner Mongolia. “I called my mother to wish her a happy 86th birthday and realized I had four bars on my phone.”
Garrett Fitzgerald ‘18 was supposed to be just an intern.

By the end of the summer, he had a new title: data scientist at Acteris, an ambitious San Francisco startup that is developing cancer immunotherapy products.

The change of title came after Fitzgerald introduced an astrophysics algorithm he had used the previous summer doing research on galaxies with Prof. Rebecca Koopmann ‘89.

When Fitzgerald showed that the algorithm could be used to analyze cell images, the Acteris CEO changed his title and made him the company pitch man for a venture capitalist.

“I went from fly on the wall intern, taking notes on the culture of my workplace … to being right in the heat of the startup fever,” he said. “Not as a participant observer, but as a player in the game.”

Fitzgerald, who left San Francisco with a job offer, was one of six Union students who participated last summer in the San Francisco Internship Program in Innovation and Creativity led by George Gmelch, professor of anthropology.

Gmelch, who usually leads field studies in remote locales, knew that students would get the best experience through the lens of anthropology as participant-observers.

“We decided the students would get more out of this if they could contextualize their experience,” Gmelch said. “So we treated this as an anthropological study of the culture of the startups where they were interning and what it means to be creative, innovative and entrepreneurial in these workplaces.”

Students kept field notes, discussed required readings and took excursions and weekend camp trips to wine country and the California coast. Among the instances of culture shock, most students noted that jeans and sneakers were de rigueur. Lose the suit and tie.

Prior to departure, Prof. Hal Fried of Economics and Jim Cirincione ‘90, a Silicon Valley entrepreneur, conducted an orientation on West Coast management style.

Other alumni were vital to the program’s success, Gmelch said. Among them, Alex Johnson ‘96, COO at Acteris arranged Fitzgerald’s internship. Steve Ciesinski ‘70, president of SRI International, hosted the students at the R&D firm, and his wife, Diane, gave students an insider’s tour of Stanford University. Guest presenters included Andy Miller ‘90, a tech startup entrepreneur and part owner of the Sacramento Kings; and Ron Pitluk ‘91, an executive at Apple. Chris Bourke ‘10, a global account manager for tech firm Masergy Communications, hosted a lunch before a Giants baseball game. Steve Eskenazi ’83, an East Coast angel investor with experience in West Coast startups, suggested the program to President Stephen Ainlay. Wendy Sternberg ‘90, dean of academic departments and programs, directed the program from campus.

Union seeks other West Coast entrepreneurs for the summer 2017 program. For more information, contact Keri Willis, associate director of internships, at Becker Career Center at willisk@union.edu.
Each year William Finlay, professor/chair of the Theatre and Dance and director of the Yulman Theater, teaches a class that trains students in the art of stage fighting. In it, actors learn to use weapons on stage as well as un-armed combat. Most professional actors are trained in stage fighting and many are actually certified by the governing union, The American Society of Stage Fight Directors. In the photos at right, taken in May, students are learning 17th century rapier in preparation for the fall production of a very contemporary version of “Romeo and Juliet.” The play, which hit the Yulman stage in November, is set in a post-apocalyptic world with overtones of the movie “Mad Max.” The cast included Etienne-Marcel Giannelli ’20 (Romeo), Matt Mintz ’18 (Benvolio), Angelica Rivera ’18 (Balthasar/apothecary), Jose Dolores ’20 (Lord Montague), Emily Alston ’19 (Lady Montague), Emma Youmans ’20 (Juliet), Shauntai Quinlon ’17 (Tybalt), David Thai ’17 (Sampson), Michael Doherty ’17 (Gregory), Zach Baum ’18 (Lord Capulet), Abigail Lehner ’18 (Lady Capulet), Ariella Honig ’17 (Nurse), James Basuk ’17 (Mercutio), T.J. Moor ’16 (County Paris), Jamal Aram ’17 (Prince Escalus), Cassie Padilla ’17 (Friar Lawrence), Andrés Marmelo ’20 (Friar John).
Shauntai Quinlon ’17 and Matt Mintz ’18 rehearse a fight scene between the ever-waring Capulet and Montague families.

Ariella Honig ’17 and Etienne-Marcel Giannelli ’20 rehearse a scene.

Professor William Finlay teaches students 17th century rapier.

David Thai ’17, Michael Doherty ’17, Matt Mintz ’18 and Angelica Rivera ’18 rehearse a scene.

Photos by Matt Milless.
Artists’ inspiration
A new home for Visual Arts

Amy Provost ’17 has a new favorite place on campus: the second-floor printmaking studio in the recently renovated Visual Arts building. Overlooking Jackson’s Garden, the studio offers one of the most spectacular views on campus.
“It’s inspiring to work in,” said Provost, a visual arts major with a focus on printmaking from Vancouver, Wash. “The huge windows let in lots of natural light, which is important to me. This new space, with its beautiful view, makes me excited to spend time working on my thesis.”

The printmaking studio is just one highlight of many for the 37,000-square-foot Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts, dedicated at Homecoming after a year-long renovation.

The facility was supported in part by an $11 million gift from the Feigenbaum Foundation, created by the late brothers Armand V. Feigenbaum ’42 and Donald S. Feigenbaum ’46, longtime benefactors to Union.

“This is a building that represents everything that makes Union special—innovation, creativity and a deep understanding of the world that surrounds us,” John E. Kelly III ’76, chair of the board of trustees, said during the dedication ceremony.

President Stephen C. Ainlay reminded the audience at the dedication of how much Armand and Donald appreciated
“This is a building that represents everything that makes Union special—innovation, creativity and a deep understanding of the world that surrounds us.”

JOHN E. KELLY III ’76, chair of the board of trustees
the value of convergence learned at Union, blending traditional science and engineering with the liberal arts.

“This was them,” Ainlay said of what the Visual Arts center’s expanded opportunities now offer. “This is exactly what they meant to be able to understand the world. I hope this building stands as a beacon for the Feigenbaum brothers, but also how important the visual arts are in the curriculum of Union College.”

Built in 1852 to house the departments of physics and chemistry, the building formed part of the original campus plan, a comprehensive design for Union’s campus by French architect Joseph Ramée. It is home to art history and studio arts programs (drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture and digital art).

Highlights include a three-story addition featuring a sculpture and design studio for metalworking alongside an
outdoor sculpture space; an expansion of a public gallery to accommodate larger exhibitions; improvements to the photography area; a drawing/2D design studio; a 3D design studio; a media lab; and a suite of studios for visual arts majors in all media to make and display their work.

David Ogawa, associate professor of art history and chair of Visual Arts, said it was important to preserve as much of the building’s historic character as possible.

He’s excited about the expansive, light-filled space and the possibilities it presents for students to create and learn about art.

“The project is a real transformation in the visual arts at Union,” he said. “We have had a very strong, comprehensive program for many years, and our new building will enable us to do even more.”

Joining the Taylor Music Center, the Yulman Theater and the Henle Dance Pavilion, the Feigenbaum Center for "I hope this building stands as a beacon for the Feigenbaum brothers, but also how important the visual arts are in the curriculum of Union College.”

PRESIDENT STEPHEN C. AINLAY
Visual Arts completes a vibrant arts corridor designed to attract not only students interested in the arts, but future engineers, physicists and chemists.

“Seeing first-hand what goes on in our studios undoubtedly will open possibilities for students that they may have never arrived at,” said Fernando Orellana, associate professor of visual arts.

Prior to the renovation, Orellana and the digital arts lab were based in the F.W. Olin Center. While that helped foster interdisciplinary research because of the proximity to engineering, moving the lab to the new space offers additional opportunities.

“Now the engineering and science students and faculty are coming over to the Visual Arts building, which further exposes them to creativity, not just from digital art, but from all the other disciplines as well,” he said.

Lorraine Cox, associate professor of visual arts and director of faculty development, said the new space creates a more cohesive atmosphere for the 13 faculty and staff that comprise the Department of Visual Arts.

“People can now see the diversity of what we have to offer,” she said.

For more information, visit muse.union.edu/visualarts/
Events celebrate history and future of Visual Arts at Union

Two shows and a symposium are celebrating the first year of the Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts. The building opened with an inaugural Homecoming Show of works by students and alumni that represented the various media taught in the building: drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, digital art, video and installation.

The Decades Show features pieces by five practicing artist-alumni working in painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture and digital art. Featured are painter Stephen Pentak ’73, sculptor Jack Howard Potter ’97, printmaker Nori Lupfer Pepe ’03, photographer Nancy Borowick ’07 and digital artist Sheri Park ’13.

Planned for ReUnion week in May is a weeklong series of presentations by graduates of Union’s Art History program. Speakers include Emily C. Burns ’03, assistant professor of art history at Auburn University, on May 15; “Art and Commerce” hosted by Prof. Lorraine Cox with alumni working in New York City galleries on May 18; and “Arts World Symposium,” a series of presentations by alumni working in art history, historic preservation and curatorial practice on May 19.
Ever wonder what Union professors are up to when they aren’t teaching? Just about everything, as it turns out. Nothing is beyond their collective reach or curious minds. Here’s a glimpse of the diverse and intriguing work they do.

Extragalactic research

Rebecca Koopmann ’89, professor/chair of physics and astronomy

Garrett Fitzgerald ’18 is a computer engineering major. He conducts galaxy evolution research. And uses computer algorithms to do it. Innovative thinking that got him a job at a San Francisco startup this summer. Where he applied the same algorithms, and gave the company a whole new way to look at cancer research.

No wonder Fitzgerald says being part of the Undergraduate ALFALFA Team (UAT) has “been the single most influential and beneficial aspect of my Union College experience.”

The UAT, a collaborative effort across 20 U.S. institutions led by Rebecca Koopmann ’89, studies everything from the origin of optically dark dwarf galaxies to star formation to the distribution of mysterious dark matter in the nearby universe.

And student-researchers like Fitzgerald, who hopes to keep studying the universe after graduation, have been inspired to continue in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

Of the 27 Union students who have participated, 92 percent have continued their educations or careers in STEM disciplines. And across the entire Undergraduate ALFALFA Team, 82 percent of its 195 alumni are employed in STEM fields or enrolled in STEM graduate programs.

The reason? Students get to do science. They’re active participants and partners, they aren’t just shadowing their mentors. “Undergraduates are engaged in all aspects of project planning: observing, data analysis and science,” Koopmann said. “The core parts of our program include an annual workshop at a national observatory, onsite observing runs at national observatories and remote observing on campus; research projects on campus; and support to travel to national professional astronomy meetings to present results.”

The Council on Undergraduate Research Quarterly (summer 2016) recently highlighted the program, focusing on this novel research model, which places undergraduates at the center of major astronomy projects.

The UAT, also unique in that it regards student success as complementary to and dependent upon effective faculty development, grew through Koopmann’s collaboration with Cornell researchers Martha Haynes and Riccardo Giovanelli—leaders of the seven-year ALFALFA survey of the whole sky (as visible from Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico).

The ALFALFA team (Arecibo Legacy Fast ALFA) uses observations in its research that were collected during this survey, and from ongoing observing runs at national observatories. So far, 18 Union students have travelled to a national observatory such as Arecibo or Kitt Peak (Arizona) to collect data, and many more have observed at Arecibo remotely from Koopmann’s Union lab.

Under Koopmann’s leadership, Union has received several prestigious National Science Foundation grants to support the UAT. Learn more at minerva.union.edu/koopmanr/ or www.cur.org (search “ALFALFA”).

— Erin DeMuth Judd
Art for the dead

Fernando Orellana, associate professor of digital art

When the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts asked Fernando Orellana to create an exhibit that might get the attention of famed American painter Thomas Eakins, Orellana had to take something very particular (and peculiar) into account.

“The special consideration is that ghosts exist,” Orellana said. “Without that, the rest of it doesn’t work.”

And that’s because Eakins has been dead for a century.

But this didn’t stop Orellana from creating “His Study of Life.” On display in PAFA’s Morris Gallery this fall, the exhibit was designed to help Eakins’s spirit (or any phantasm) make art once more—with the help of four robots.

Custom-built by Orellana, each machine was equipped with sensors that detected electromagnetic field, infrared and temperature fluctuations. The idea was that an apparition could manipulate one (or all three) to control the sensors and thereby use the robot to: mix paints on Eakins’s old palette; open Eakins’s old paint box; sit in Eakins’s prop chair; or use one of Eakins’s brushes.

“This last is the most elaborate. The sensors allowed the brush to be driven up, down, left, right—sort of like an Etch-a-Sketch,” Orellana said. “A ghost could draw a picture, which is one reason live nude models were part of the installation—to inspire ghost artists.”

As they inspired Eakins.

The former PAFA professor was influential in the history of art education. He insisted on using the nude figure in his classes at a time when that was not necessarily acceptable, Orellana said. It was this passion that eventually got Eakins fired.

Attitudes toward the nude figure are different in the academy these days, though attitudes on ghosts vary according to who you ask.

“I’m actually the biggest skeptic ever. I’m open to ghosts. I just can’t honestly say I’ve ever had a paranormal experience,” Orellana said.

But he is a thinker, and that’s how he got into making machines for the dead.

“A while back I was walking in Manhattan and this seemingly deranged guy came up and whispered in my ear, ‘Can you hear them? Ghosts are jealous.’ It was freaky but it resonated in my mind,” Orellana said. “Why are they jealous? Maybe because they can’t interact with our world anymore.”

“It really got me thinking about user interface. How do you design something for someone who hasn’t just lost an appendage but an entire body?” he continued. “And I don’t know if the dead can learn anything, they don’t exactly have brains anymore.”

He decided what he needed (and what he used in his first paranormal project called “Shadows”) were objects ghosts are familiar with.

“So for Eakins, I didn’t use this crazy new iPhone interface, I used his painting palette,” Orellana said. “I used something he’d normally use—or posthumously use, in this case.”

To watch a PBS segment on the exhibit visit www.pbs.org/video/2365860195/

And learn more about “His Study of Life,” “Shadows” or Orellana himself, at fernandoorellana.com

— Erin DeMuth Judd
Montreal has branded itself as the world center of a multi-billion dollar international enterprise: circus.

The capital of Quebec is home to three major companies—Cirque du Soleil, the 7 Fingers and Cirque Eloize—dozens of smaller ones, the National Circus School and an annual international festival that draws the world’s top circus talent.


The tipping point came in the 1980s, when strong governmental and community support—along with cross-fertilization of a lively theater and dance scene—launched the circus explosion, according to Batson. The 1976 Olympics played a role too, pushing high-caliber athletes into the same training and movement spaces as circus artists, he said.

While scholars have studied what some consider the “traditional” forms of circus—Ringing Bros. and Barnum and Bailey or the family-based circuses of Europe—this book is the first academic treatment of the nouveau cirque scene associated with Quebec. Batson and his colleagues hope the book stands as a model for developing circus scholarship across multiple disciplines including economics, theater and urban studies.

Batson notes that many critics argue that Cirque du Soleil, a billion-dollar juggernaut with large Vegas-style shows, has left behind what he calls the “grass-roots, street arts, rough-and-tumble scene” of its beginnings. Other smaller companies—including 7 Fingers and Eloize—have found success through explicit moves toward the authenticity that Cirque du Soleil may have left behind. But there remains the question of long-term survival.

“In my opinion, these young and small companies can offer much to the circus scene, and happily there are the festivals, theaters, and grants that can offer at least some support,” he said. That support, he noted, is much greater in Quebec than in the American circus scene.

Batson, who had earlier studied cross-fertilization of the arts in Paris, said he was surprised to discover not just that Montreal serves a similar role today, but that there was not a large scholarly corpus around contemporary circus.

Batson finds the research both exciting and daunting. “I get to go to circus shows worldwide, as research,” he said. “I get to talk with talented people who create art on a daily basis. I get to work with other scholars who find the same joy I do in this field.” As for daunting, “there isn’t a large archive to draw on,” he said. “And it is only very recently that circus artists and scholars can find spaces to hang out or a similar vocabulary.”

Batson brings his research to his students through a course he teaches on Quebec. And he hopes to repeat a campus residency he arranged several years ago with circus artists from Montreal.

“It was quite amazing to have my French students doing movement and theater patterns with these international artists, along with theater and dance students performing on stage,” he said. “This was the perfect example of the multi-disciplinary nature of the circus scene.”

— Charlie Casey

Photos of 7 Fingers circus by Alexandre Galliez
RAYMOND ANGELO BELLIOTTI ’70
Dostoevsky’s Legal and Moral Philosophy: The Trial of Dmitri Karamazov
Brill Publishers
In his 19th book, Raymond Angelo Belliotti closely examines the trial of Dmitri Karamazov as the springboard to explaining and critically assessing Dostoevsky’s legal and moral philosophy. The author connects Dostoevsky’s objections to Russia’s acceptance of western juridical notions such as the rule of law and an adversary system of adjudication with his views on fundamental human nature, the principle of universal responsibility, and his invocation of unconditional love. In the process, the author related Dostoevsky’s conclusions to the thought of Plato, Augustine, Anselm, Dante, Kierkegaard, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, and Sartre. Throughout the work, the author compares, contrasts, and evaluates Dostoevsky’s analyses with contemporary discussions of the rule of law, the adversary system, and the relationship between individualism and communitarianism. Belliotti is SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of Philosophy at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

GARY GLAUBER ’80
Memory Marries Desire
Finishing Line Press
Memory Marries Desire is a new poetry chapbook from writer and teacher Gary Glauber. Nature and nostalgia dominate the dreamy narratives at work in this collection. There is subtlety, sadness, beauty, and glimpses of passing enlightenment and truth. These are poems that face fears and transcend into sound realizations as we all join this mortal journey, ever seeking solace and some sort of understanding. It is available from Amazon.

SEENA KAREN RASMUSSEN DRAPAŁA ’84
Poems and Life of Karen Valborg Sofie Rasmussen
Self-published
Seena Drapala was born in Albany, N.Y., and grew up in the town of Guilderland before moving to Saratoga County’s Charlton for most of her adult life. In 2003 she and her husband, Joe, relocated to Minden, Nevada for her work with GE. Seena has a wide variety of interests; a motorcyclist, a self-proclaimed artist, and degreed mechanical engineer. She has since retired and enjoys traveling to visit her three children spread across the globe. Writing this book about her paternal grandmother, Val, and her poems has been on Seena’s bucket list for years.

Bookshelf features new books written or edited by or about alumni and other members of the Union community. To be included in Bookshelf, send the book and the publisher’s press release to:
Office of Communications, Union College, Schenectady, NY 12308
or send publisher’s press release and a high-resolution book cover image to magazine@union.edu.
What to Expect When Adopting a Dog

What to Expect When Adopting a Dog offers expert advice from rescue specialists, veterinarians, dog parents, and pet business owners. With links to the most relevant articles from pet professionals, this book is a one-stop shop for all dog-related questions, before, during, and after adoption. It will help answer questions like: Is a dog right for me? How can I prepare my home for a new dog? How do I integrate a new dog into my lifestyle and family? How do I adopt a dog from a shelter or rescue group? It is a small but mighty tool to help pet owners through many situations with love and compassion. Diane Ros-Solomon, a national animal advocate, is the author of the award-winning children’s series, JJ The American Street Dog.

Around the World in 80 Purees: Easy Recipes for Global Baby Food

Tiny taste buds can be just as discerning as those of grown-ups, so why feed your baby a lackluster pile of bland paste? In Around the World in 80 Purees, food blogger and mother of two Leena Saini gives little tummies a taste of the extraordinary, offering an array of enticing recipes inspired by dishes from around the globe—from China to Colombia, Turkey to Taiwan.

The transition to solid foods is a milestone across all cultures. And by sharing a broad range of flavors and ingredients with their little ones, parents can encourage a lifetime of adventurous eating. Saini shares her research of global first foods and offers developmentally appropriate serving suggestions and tips for safely introducing babies to herbs, spices, and other ingredients. More than 100 quick and easy recipes, accompanied by richly colorful photographs by Christine Han, take readers on a culinary tour of the globe.

Liberation Is Imperative: How to Escape Corporate Slavery and Create a Life of Freedom

In Liberation Is Imperative, Kevin Knight goes beyond the practical guide to achieving success in your life by providing enlightening and innovative principles that challenge and empower you to overcome obstacles, run after your dreams and fulfill your divine destiny. If you are ready to pursue your greatness, Liberation Is Imperative is an essential resource for you to escape the mediocrity within your life and to start living on purpose.

Cirque Global: Quebec’s Expanding Circus Boundaries

With a billion-dollar industry centered in Montreal, the province of Quebec has established itself as a major hub for contemporary circus. Cirque du Soleil has a global presence, and troupes such as Cirque Eloize and 7 doigts de la main are state-of-the-art innovators. Cirque Global is the first book-length study of this new variety of circus and its international impact. Batson and co-editor Louis Patrick Leroux offer critical perspectives on this rapidly developing art form and its aesthetics, ethics, business practices, pedagogical implications, and discursive significations. Essays explore creative, entrepreneurial, and cultural forces that are shaping Quebec’s dynamic nouveau cirque. Lavishly illustrated with photographs from circus performances, the volume showcases Quebec circus’s hybrid forms, which have merged the ethos and aesthetics of European circuses with American commercial and industrial creativity. Cirque Global is the definitive study of the phenomenon of Quebec circus and is an important model for future research on contemporary circus.
An additional gift was received from the estate of George E. Etue Jr., Class of 1949. Along with a previous distribution, proceeds will support Schaffer Library. Dr. Etue received his degree in history and taught for many years in California.

An unrestricted gift was received from the estate of Helen Contois. Proceeds will be used to support areas of greatest need.

An additional gift was received from the estate of Edgar R. Butts, Class of 1950. The proceeds will be added to the College’s endowment. Mr. Butts received his degree in electrical engineering and worked in the gas and electric field.

Remainder proceeds from three charitable gift annuities were received from the estates of Edgar A. Sandman, Class of 1940 and his wife, Margaret D. Sandman. Proceeds will support the Nott Memorial and areas of greatest need. Mr. Sandman was an economics major and a former executive in the banking industry.

A trust distribution was received from the estate of Robert L. Slobod, Class of 1935. Proceeds will be used to support areas of greatest need.

Proceeds from a life insurance policy and an additional bequest distribution were received from the estate of Frank E. Lord, Class of 1951. Along with previous estate distributions, proceeds will be used at the discretion of the trustees.

A bequest was received from the estate of Robert W. Hamre, Class of 1950. Proceeds will be used to support areas of greatest need. Mr. Hamre received his degree in science and had a lengthy career in international management consulting.

A trust distribution was received from the estate of Alfred C. Baechlin Jr., Class of 1932. Proceeds will establish the AlJean Baechlin Memorial Scholarship, which will provide financial support to one or more deserving students. Mr. Baechlin was a civil engineering major with a career in engineering sales.

A trust distribution was received from the estate of Naomi Chambers and added to the Walter R.G. and Naomi Baker Scholarship. Mrs. Chambers was the widow of Walter R.G. Baker, Class of 1916.

An annual trust distribution was received from the estate of Florence L. Judkins to be added to the Ernest L. & Florence L. Judkins Scholarship to support an annual scholarship.
alumni clubs

UPCOMING ALUMNI CLUB EVENTS

MARCH 22, 2017
Marketing/communications/PR alumnae panel
New York City

MARCH 29, 2017
Lessons at the Bedside (Chet Chat w/Prof. Carol Weisse)
Online

APRIL 25, 2017
D.C. term reception w/ Estelle Cooke-Sampson ’74
Washington, D.C.

APRIL 28, 2017
Health professions alumni dinner
New York City

For more events, visit uconnect.union.edu/

Bill Singer ’83 and Cliff Mastrangelo ’63 and wife, Dolly, gathered with many other alumni and Union families at a Nationals baseball outing this summer.

Alumni and families enjoyed an evening of musical entertainment at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. Pictured: Alexandra Weisse ’13, Professor of Psychology Carol Weisse, and Steven Weisse ‘97.

Young alumnae connect at a Welcome to the City event in New York City. More than 100 guests attended this signature fall gathering.

Boston area alumni and Union families enjoyed a fireside chat with Cliff Brown, the Robert Porter Patterson Professor of Government, discussing the 2016 Election as part of Union’s Political Science Roadshow.
Garnet Guard
Alumni who have celebrated their 50th ReUnion.

GARNET GUARD
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
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1937
Richard Connolly ’37 celebrated his 100th birthday with family and friends at his home in Rochester, N.Y. recently. While at Union, he was the secretary of his class and upon graduation, was employed by General Electric in Schenectady before serving in the Navy (Marines) during WWII. After his service, he worked for a time at the Schenectady Gazette and ultimately retired from his job at the Democrat and Chronicle in Rochester. Richard still enjoys spirited conversations about politics and is affectionately referred to as the “Mayor of Seneca Parkway,” the street where he has lived for over 50 years and where he and his wife raised their three children.

1951
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
James Taub
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Johnstown N.Y. 12095
(518) 762-1172

Dr. Irwin Friedman was recently included in Marquis Who’s Who in recognition of his accomplishments as a professor of medicine. Board certified in internal medicine, he has dedicated his career to the education of others. After garnering experience as an intern at Buffalo Hospital and a resident at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital and the University of Utah, he took his talents to the University at Buffalo, where he has served as a clinical professor of medicine since 1961. He was also a fellow of the National Institute of Health and developed the first intensive care unit in Western New York.

1952
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Dr. Arthur Stockman
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Bradenton, Fla. 34205
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joanandart@gmail.com

Alan Fishbone writes, “On Sept. 6, 2016, I celebrated my 60th year as an owner and executive of Robert B. Samuels Inc., a major New York interior electrical contractor, and continue to be fully active.”

Sherwood Lennartson writes, “The 2017 ReUnion will be my 65th! Regrettably, I am unable to attend. But, I still wonder, where did all those years go? I must also say that those years were very good to me, for much of which I give credit to my Union College education, my helpful professors, and my collegiate friends. Soon after graduation I met and married a lovely lady from Sweden and we were blessed with a wonderful loving family. I much enjoyed working for Westinghouse Electric Corp. in a variety of marketing positions, strategic planning and general management both domestically and internationally. Thank you Union College!”

1953
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Garrett Murphy
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A letter in remembrance of Richard Nemeth: “Dear Dick,
This letter is written on behalf of your many friends and classmates in the Union College Class of 1953. Did I say 1953? It seems like yesterday when you were our football quarterback, on the R.O.T.C. Senior Board, class officer and making oh so many other contributions to our class and Union College. After a distinguished military career, you continued to serve our country by visiting hospitals to cheer up our wounded and ill military people. At class ReUnions you would often break out in song—’We travel down the Mohawk vale...’ or many others we sang at Union. You were so important in helping with Union’s Annual Fund. So helpful, that our class achieved over 90 percent participation year after year, compared to about 50% for Union as a whole. We are very pleased and proud that your final resting place will be in Arlington National Cemetery, with many others who loved our country as you have.” Dick is further remembered on pg. 60 of this issue.

1954
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Avrom J. Gold
40 Conger Street, Apt. 709B
Bloomfield, N.J. 07003
avromgold@gmail.com

Avrom Gold writes, “I had the pleasure of attending a luncheon of the Union Alumni Club of Little Silver, N.J., recently. All of its members were present, both of them. We convened at the home of Dr. Howard A. Fox (Brer), classmate and fraternity brother of mine, and usher at my wedding. He has retired as chief of pediatrics at Monmouth Medical Center in New Jersey. The other member was Dr. Charles Sills ’57, who has retired as chief of surgery at Monmouth. Brer’s wife, Barbara, provided us with a delightful meal. In attendance in spirit, if not body, was Dr. Marc Shoobe, presently living in Albany and Myrtle Beach, S.C., with whom we are regularly in touch. I also always like to mention my brother, Chiam (Hy) Gold ’67, who lives in Trenton, N.J., and is a retired energy and government consultant. His wife recently passed away.”

Robert Richter writes, “Gladys and I are in our 63rd year of marriage, and reasonably healthy. I am still teaching (surgery) one day a week, woodworking (for meager profit), and enjoying our great-grandchildren (now

Liz Buckley ’80 and Margaret Perkins ’81 help Richard Connolly ’37 celebrate his 100th birthday.
three). A few days ago, I stopped in traffic to extend greetings to the occupants of a car bearing a Union sticker, and received a look of disbelief when I said I was Class of ’54. Yeah, NINETEEN fifty-four!”

1955
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Ken Haefner
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haefnerkb@juno.com


Ian Spence writes, “2006 marked my retirement from a urology practice of 40 years in Washington, D.C. I was clinical professor of surgery at Georgetown University. Thereafter I worked in the Department of Urology at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Washington, D.C. for five years. I volunteer at a clinic for uninsured patients. My wife, Barbara (Skidmore ’55), and I live at Maplewood Park Place Senior Living in Bethesda, Maryland.”

1956
CLASS CORRESPONDENTS
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Bob Hodges writes, “We lost another good classmate when Al Southwick passed away Aug. 4, 2016, less than three months after his and our 60th ReUnion in Schenectady. He and his wife ‘Art’ were there for us this year. See his obituary on page X of this magazine. Al was a regular member of the Class of 1956 ReUnion Planning Committee over the years, and attended the ReUnions every five years, as far back as his classmates can remember. Al helped the ReUnion committee win one of the College’s loving cups this year. He was a founding member of the John Davidson Memorial—Class of 1956 Scholarship Fund, which he helped to start at our 50th ReUnion. Al is gone but will not be forgotten.”

1957
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1959
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Gus Davis writes, “Sue and I and Mel Schnall (my Union ’59 roommate) and Joan Schnall visited Alaska in June-July 2016. Before the trip I read Michener’s Alaska and found out about the three 19th Century Union College alumni who were so important to Alaska and U.S. history: William H. Seward (Class of 1820, the purchase of Alaska), President Chester A. Arthur (Class of 1848, signed the Organic act of 1884 giving Alaska self-government) and Sheldon Jackson (Class of 1855, first superintendent of education). We visited the Alaska state museum in Juneau where we saw our alums enshrined. We gave the Union banner to the curator of the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka, Jackie F. Hamburg. And brought back the state flag of Alaska (the big dipper pointing to the north star, Polaris) for presentation to the president of Union College, Stephen Ainlay, in preparation for the 2017 150th anniversary of the Alaska Purchase by Seward. What great fun and pride for our College!”


1960
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Charles Roden
ki702@aol.com

The University of Oklahoma Press has just published John Lubetkin’s The Road to War: The 1871 Yellowstone Surveys.

Above: Sue and Gus Davis ’59, Mel Schnall ’59 and Joan Schnall with Jackie F. Hamburg (second from left), curator of the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka, Alaska.

Left: Mel Schnall ’59 and Gus Davis ’59 present the Alaskan flag to President Stephen C. Ainlay.
'RETIRES' TO ORGANIZE MEDICAL SCHOOL IN RWANDA

Dr. John Streit '59 retired from his Ob/Gyn practice in 2000 assuming he would tend the sheep, chickens, turkeys and goats on his little farm outside Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Then came the call. Or rather, the calling. In "retirement" Streit is president of Gitwe Medical University about 15 miles from the nearest paved road in remote Rwanda, Africa. The private institution is only the second medical school in the country of 11 million, which has only 600 to 700 practicing doctors.

After his retirement, Streit made a several visits to Rwanda with Medical Missions for Children. On one visit, he met a nurse practitioner who was building a private university. That man asked Streit to lead a medical school. He couldn’t say no.

"I did not realize that by going on a cleft-lip repair mission to Gitwe, Rwanda, Africa in 2005, that an unintended consequence would be the passion of my life," he said.

After Streit’s 20 trips over 252,000 miles, the school is in the fourth year of a six-year curriculum in English with over 400 Rwandan medical students. Fifty-one percent of the students are women.

Streit established the Kigali University Medical Foundation in the U.S. to raise funds for the school. He also has organized book drives to answer a shortage of science textbooks in Rwanda.

He is working with three American Board Certified orthopedic surgeons who are preparing to go to Rwanda to teach the principles of their specialty.

One is Lawrence Fein ’78, whose interest in health care delivery systems began with a "life-altering" experience visiting England, Sweden and Poland in Union’s first socialized medicine program.

"John didn’t have to do much convincing," said Fein, who brought along his son, Casey, a student in medical school, for a two-week stay in Rwanda.

"The opportunity to visit such a different place and be able to share some of my knowledge and experience was overwhelming," he said.

"The people there were wonderful; friendly, extremely dedicated and driven to learn," he said. "They make do with very little, seem happy with what they have and are proud of what they have accomplished."

Streit is also seeking other doctors.

"If any Union grads would like to have a bucket list experience and feel they have useful teaching skills to offer, please drop me a line," he said.

Dr. Streit can be reached at jstreit@nycap.rr.com

The book is the third in a series about the Northern Pacific Railroad when it attempted to build through Sioux Indian Territory. Included are a number of letters from Edward C. Jordan, Class of 1868, an engineer working for the company.

1961

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Bill Condon
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Apt. I-91
Niskayuna, N.Y. 12309
bcond041@nycap.rr.com
(518) 362-1096

Bill Reaman, John Honey, and his wife, Betsy, drove from Cape Cod to Schenectady to attend Homecoming weekend in October. They write, "We thoroughly enjoyed the events, including the Recognition Reception in the Nott, two hockey games, and Professor Berk’s lecture on Sunday morning. We also discussed upcoming events for the Cape Cod Alumni Club, which Bill and John started five years ago."

John Honey writes, "Approximately 20 members on the Class of 1961 attended our 55th ReUnion in May. Our theme for the ReUnion was the 2014 National Hockey Championship. We feel very close to the hockey team as..."
Rick Bennett gave the keynote address at our 50th ReUnion dinner in Hale House. This was his first official act as the Head Coach. This year we had a reception with Rick at the hockey rink. We made him an honorary member of the Class of 1961.

**1962**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Ollie R. Bunch  
63 Silver Lining Way  
Hendersonville, N.C. 28792  
(860) 480-9116

Norm Lavery writes, "I just had my book, The Power of Circles, published by Wipf & Stock. It is a good read and an important message. Copies can be ordered at 541-344-1528 or at orders@wipfandstock.com. Enjoy." Norm incorporated Common Quest Mediation in 1993 as a way to help people resolve their problems—with out enduring costly battles. He learned about the Circle process in 1999, and formed the non-profit Community Circles program in 2002. Norm’s compelling goal is to guide people to interact more effectively, using the Circle process. Norm has a doctorate in geology, has taught skiing for 40 years, loves hiking and canoeing, and builds one-of-a-kind wooden furniture and art pieces.

Stephen Zuckerman writes, "As of October 2014 I have retired from my internal medicine practice to pursue a potentially lucrative career as a writer. Not your usual vanity press writer, I am focused on making a living as a writer and hopefully become more wealthy than I am. My web site says it all: zuckerisms. com. Do not get confused by Zuckerberg’s zuckerisms, he is a late comer. My first two books can be found on Amazon and my third book, a memoir, my opus magnum, will be available on amazon within the month. To those of you of my class, the Class of 1962, who are still alive, I look forward to seeing you at Union at the 2017 ReUnion."

David Adinolfi writes, "My wife Gail and I celebrated our 53rd wedding anniversary with a trip to Williamsburg, Va. We had previously celebrated our 8th and 49th there."

![Gail and David Adinolfi '62](Image)

Ken Laubacher writes, "I have been retired for 16 years. My wife and I have traveled to Western Europe, Russia and China in the past. Twice a year, we took a Baltic cruise to see Scandinavia. While on the cruise, I met a gentleman wearing a Union shirt. Turned out, he had a family member at Union. I often wear a hat or sweatshirt with the Union logo and am at times amazed to find other Union alumni."

**1964**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Anton Warde  
36 Two Lights Rd.  
Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107  
wardea@union.edu

J. Michael Bruhn writes, "My granddaughter, Abby Valachovic, is a member of the Class of 2020. She is the fourth generation & 13th family member at Union. She is a member of the women’s cross country team & was Liberty League Rookie of the Week."

**1965**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Jon Lechevet, Ph.D.  
206 Cross Road  
Edmeston, N.Y. 13335-2610  
jnlechevet@verizon.net

John Dooley was recently featured on vtdigger.org. The story focused on his legal career and impending retirement from Vermont’s Supreme Court. He is one of the state’s longest sitting Supreme Court justices, having joined the bench nearly 30 years ago.

**1966**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Antonio F. Vianna  
7152 Tanager Drive  
Carlsbad, Calif. 92011-5033  
simpatico1@juno.com

Dick Powell writes, "Following participation in a fabulous 50th ReUnion, my wife and I headed to Nashville, Tenn., to participate in the International Convention of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Currently in the last year of a three-year term as a board member-at-large, I was elected to serve as the society’s next executive vice president effective January 1, 2017. Several weeks later and following a two-plus year apprenticeship, I was back in Nashville for final training and certification as a contest administrator. Now I spend a good bit of my time helping others to find their voices through singing and experience the joy that comes from sharing their music at every opportunity."

**1967**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Joseph Smaldino  
6310 Lantern Ridge Lane  
Knoxville, Tenn. 37821  
smaldino@comcast.net  
(815) 762-5984

David G. Brock, senior counsel to Kavinoky Cook LLP, has been listed among the Top 50 lawyers in Upstate New York by Upstate New York Super Lawyers 2016. He has been a local trial attorney for the past 43 years, focusing his practice on the defense of civil litigation. In addition, he is a certified Federal court mediator for the Western District of New York and a frequent speaker on attorney ethics, professionalism and disciplinary matters. Kavinoky Cook LLP is a Buffalo, New York law firm with a broad business practice.
Stephen Roehm writes, “Been fortunate to travel to, and enjoy, Morocco, Spain, India and France over the last two years—and Spain and Sicily (so far) coming up in ’17… and a lot of Brooklyn and Washington, D.C. to see grandchildren. When not traveling, Wellfleet, Mass. on the outer part of Cape Cod is home and a beautiful place to return to after traveling.”

1968
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
John Dresser
Etna, N.H.
dresserdmd@myfairpoint.net

Michael Holzer writes, “Hello all! It’s nice to be 70 and working 0.5 days a week at my company, Business Growth Advisors LLC. Still happily married, nearly 45 years. Three sons, two great daughters-in-law and three grandchildren—life is great! But, enough about me. How are you all doing? I’d like to know. Let’s fill up our 1968 class notes! bgadvise@gmail.com”

Barry Rudnick writes, “I am now 70 years old and am semi-retired after 45 years of medical practice. Have recently been successfully treated for prostate cancer and walk my three dogs four to five miles a day (Agatha–German Shorthair Pointer, Seth and Otto Von Bismarck–standard red poodles). I continue to consult with the Feds and am happily married to Linda for the past 30 years.”

1969
CLASS CORRESPONDENTS
Ray Pike
Salisbury, Mass.
rmwpike@comcast.net

George Cushing
Delanson, N.Y.
gcushing@nycap.rr.com

George Cushing writes, “Having successfully launched our daughter and settled Susan’s mother in assisted living, we found ourselves with the first real time for ourselves in 30 years. In August we spent a week at the Pinewoods Camp in Plymouth, Mass., doing service work for the Camp and the Wildlands Trust. October found us on Martha’s Vineyard dealing with invasive species for the Nature Conservancy’s restoring native sandplain grasslands project.”

Kenneth Auerbach writes, “I continue to practice law, though at a less frenetic pace while enjoying it more. Looking forward to seeing classmates in ’18 for our (gasp!) 50th ReUnion.”

Stephen Herrick was recently featured in the Times Union newspaper. The article focused on his legal career and new appointment as Albany County public defender. Stephen is a graduate of Albany Law School.

1970
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Frank Donnini
239 Rushlake Ct.
Newport News, Va. 23602-6348
fpdonnini@aol.com

Fernando Siaba writes, “I have recently retired after pastoring United Methodist churches in Northern Illinois for 41 years. My wife Judy and I have moved to Berwyn, Illinois where two of our three daughters and their children live. Our eldest daughter lives in Tucson, Arizona. As I enter the learning curve of retirement life I am cautiously developing a schedule or pattern of activity and involvement. On the homefront I will be sharing homemaking duties with my wife, as well as occasional caring for our four grandchildren. My volunteer church responsibilities will be limited to giving leadership to the John Wesley Theological Institute (an annual theological continuing education event), and to mentoring ten Latino lay pastors who are serving United Methodist churches in the Chicago area.”

Leighton “Chris” Wood ‘70

1971
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Henry Fein, M.D.
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hgftein@aol.com

Burt Yankiver writes, “After 45 years of med school, training and more training and then work and more work, I put my foot down and said, ‘no more winter in the Northeast.’ I set upon a goal of moving to permanent summer and the ability to move around from location to location in the Caribbean. Over the period of three years, I researched and round. It’s not to pretend to write the great American Novel, perhaps it’s time to give back to a country (and a college) that gave me a lot when I needed it. Interesting and very scary future. Anybody else thinking about this?”

Burt Yankiver’s (Class of 1971) S/V Perseverance, docked in Tortola
evaluated a number of sailboats that fit my requirements and budget and have purchased a lightly used Jeanneau 54 DS to live on and work online from. I will stay in Tortola and sail the BVI initially. Regards to all you ‘landlubbers.’ Give me an email if you come to Tortola.”

1972

Ken Wyse received Lincoln Center’s Business Leadership Award. For 10 years as chairman of the Lincoln Center Business Council, Ken has championed the Lincoln Center Corporate Fund, which supports 10 world renowned performing arts organizations at the Center. He is president of licensing and public relations at PVH, a $9 billion-plus fashion conglomerate. He is a board member of the Business Council for International Understanding, chairman emeritus of the Youth Mentor- ing Association/Fashion Scholarship Fund and a board member of Guild Hall.

After 42 years in computer software, Paul Dale retired last year. He is volunteering with several non-profit organizations to advance Massachusetts legislation targeting global warming. He is still a technical climber and mountaineer but spends more time rowing and competes in a variety of masters rowing races. His wife Karen works at the Boston College graduate school of social work. The two children are in Philadelphia. Scott is an ER doctor and Sarah is a veterinarian.

The Class of 1972 45th ReUnion Committee has been brainstorming events and themes for our upcoming ReUnion on May 19-21 on campus. Harris Ginsberg, Bob Michaelson, Gary Starr, and Bill Silver met in Ardsley on October 16 to get the ball rolling. We invite ideas and comments from our classmates about themes and opportunities to stay connected and celebrate 45 years!

Sal Andolina was recently featured in the Times Union newspaper. The story focused on the special gift his wife, Liz, organized for his 75th birthday in November. Knowing a large celebration wouldn’t work since Sal is battling Alzheimer’s and now residing in a nursing home, Liz asked friends, family and coworkers to send cards and letters. Nearly 200 such gifts—filled with happy memories of Sal—poured in from people who went to Union with Sal, worked with him at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, or played football with him in high school. Read more at www.timesunion.com. Search “Sal Andolina.”

1973

Robert Bernhardt was recently featured in the Cleveland Daily Banner. The story focused on his job as maestro of the Lee University Symphony Orchestra and the new season of Lee’s Presidential Concert Series.

Larry Feldman is retired after a 40-year career in our family heat exchanger manufacturing company, Yula Corporation, now celebrating its 90th anniversary. Jill and I live in Gardiner, N.Y., in the foothills of the Shawangunk Mountains. I am deeply involved with several not-for-profit organizations: The Untermyer Gardens Conservancy in Yonkers, N.Y., which is restoring an historic 100-year-old garden; the Mohonk Preserve, guardians of 8,000 acres of hiking and biking trails and rock climbing cliffs. I work at a 120-year-old weather station that monitors climate change. I am also in my fourth year of mentoring two inner city kids in the Yonkers Public Schools. We are grandparents to three little boys and enjoy them very much. Hiking and fitness walking are also fun pursuits. I regularly stay in touch with many Union classmates, among them David Cahill, Paul Johnson, Bob Harders, Bob Brody, Frank Allocca, Tom Morante, Marc Allison, Don Foley and Tim McCabe.

1974

Artist Bill Westheimer had a show, “MANUAL: The Person- alities of Hands,” on display at Sussex County Community College this fall. MANUAL was a fine art exhibition and a
The entrepreneurial paths of Les Trachtman’77 and Josh DeBartolo’08 have crossed again.

The two first met when Josh was an undergraduate and Les, a veteran of a number of startups in the financial software sphere, came to campus to speak on entrepreneurship.

Over the years, they’ve developed a mentor/mentee relationship, meeting up a few times including a spell in Salt Lake City that Les likes to describe as “the time I taught Josh how to snowboard.”

When the two talked recently about a career move for Josh, they began to realize that perhaps they should work together on a startup that Les recently took over.

Together, they are leading an Annapolis, Md.-based company called Purview, which targets a problem most of us have encountered on doctor visits. Their enterprise aims to give physicians and patients easy and affordable access to medical images as an integrated part of a patient’s health record, wherever and whenever they are needed for diagnosis or treatment.

Most electronic health care systems are built to manage textual records like doctor’s notes, patient demographics and vitals, they explain. But they don’t lend themselves to complex data sets such as MRIs, CT scans, ultrasounds and other medical images. These are handled separately and are often not available with the patient’s health record at the point of treatment.

The grand plan is for a changing of the guard.

“The goal of our relationship is to provide Josh with a runway and audition to take on leadership of this company as my successor,” Les said. “I believe we are confidently heading in that direction.”

Trachtman majored in electrical engineering and went on to earn MBA and law degrees from Emory University. Among his many job titles, he was entrepreneur-in-residence at Union and chairman of the Eliphalet Nott Society, which fostered the study and practice of entrepreneurship and managed venture funds supported by alumni. He also worked closely with Hal Fried, the David L. and Beverly B. Yunich Professor of Business Ethics, and was a frequent guest in classes like Fried’s “The Mind of the Entrepreneur,” where he first met DeBartolo.

DeBartolo attributes numerous successes in his career to his Union roots and his relationship with Trachtman, Fried and other alumni and professors.

He graduated Union as co-valedictorian and took his first post-graduation job as a financial analyst for Goldman Sachs. However, he soon realized that life-changing experiences he had as an undergraduate, including a mini-term in India and a post-Hurricane Katrina relief trip to New Orleans, had reoriented his career objectives. After just a few years, he decided to leave his position to work for a non-profit economic development organization in Bangladesh and Cambodia.

Then in 2011, while visiting his native Middleburgh, N.Y. for his brother’s wedding, his hometown community was devastated by Hurricane Irene.

He decided to stay and form Schoharie Recovery Inc., where he coordinated over 35,000 volunteers across over 600 flooded properties in the years after the disaster.

After that, DeBartolo reached out to Trachtman to ask for guidance on next steps.

Today, the two alumni from different generations say their story reflects the strength of the Union community. Said Trachtman, “Clearly, we are a living example of the value for both students and alumni in keeping close relations with the College.”

Josh DeBartolo’08 and Les Trachtman’77

William Waters writes, "I continue as professor of public health and sociology at the Universidad San Francisco de Quito, having now resided in the Quito, Ecuador area for 24 of the past 35 years. I direct the Institute for Research in Health and Nutrition and also chair the university’s Institutional Review Board. When out of uniform, I spend a lot of time bird watching; Ecuador is one of the top places in the world for those who are interested."

1975

Bruce S. Sostek, an attorney in the Dallas, Texas office of Thompson & Knight, was recently recognized in The Best Lawyers in America 2017. He specializes in litigation (intellectual property), litigation (patent) and technology law.

1976

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jill Schneier Wegenstein
228 Lexington Dr.
Menlo Park, Calif. 94025
jwegenstein@gmail.com
(650) 464-0083

James Baldwin recently became president of Excelsior College. He joined the school in 2014 as executive vice president, becoming interim president in June 2016. Prior to this, he was superintendent of the Questar III BOCES district from 2002 to 2010.

1977

Arthur L. Holden and his wife, Betsy, recently celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. He writes, "I continue my wonderfully fulfilling work founding and developing pre-competitive, large scale biomedical research consortia. The most recent of which focused on understanding the genetic contribution to drug related serious adverse reactions. In addition, I invest in/direct a number of early stage medical/life science companies. I stay in close touch with Union and its affairs, as a founding member of the President’s Council. We have two grown children, pursuing leadership careers in the business world. We live in Winnetka, Ill. and plan to spend more time in Sarasota, Fla. going forward."

1978

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jeff Laniewski
Jlaniew1@maine.rr.com

1980

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Richard Budd
Stefan Zawodnka 25
971 01 Prievidza, Slovak Republic
buddwick@hotmail.com

The Board of Directors of Stanley Black & Decker recently announced that James M. Loree is the company’s new president and CEO. Jim joined Stanley Black & Decker (then Stanley Works) in 1999 as VP and chief financial officer. He was named EVP and CFO in 2002, EVP and chief operating officer in 2009 and president and COO in 2013.

The 2017 edition of The Best Lawyers in America recognized Brooks Pierce (Greensboro, N.C.) attorney Mack Sperling as a leader in commercial litigation.

1981

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Alan Saler
17040 Magnolia Boulevard
Encino, Calif. 91316
alan@alansaler.com

James M. Gardow ‘76 participated, too, but missed the photo.

1982

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Thomas Reynolds
3440 Powells Crossing Ct.
Woodbridge, Va. 22193

Georgene Pitcher writes, “Just an update to let everyone know I have taken early retirement and moved to Tennessee. I am enjoying learning line dancing, and watching Vols football. I also am enjoying visits with my family, as my brother and Mom live nearby. I am thinking about going to Schenectady next year for our 35th.”

Richard Zucker writes, “After over 22 years at Intel I left last year. I am now getting back to my software roots at JBC Software here in Portland.”

1983

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Cory Lewkowicz
74 Taylor St.
Needham, Mass. 02494
corylewkowicz@gmail.com

Ben Levitan has been named joined chief executive officer of Metalogix, the market-leading provider of solutions to move, manage and protect content within enterprise collaboration platforms. Ben has a technology leadership career extending over 25 years with leading companies including IMN (now Reynolds..."
DEDICATED TO HELPING AND HEALING

Even as a teenager, Nancy Gagliano ’81 knew she wanted to be a doctor. Always good in math and science, she had the mental acuity and stamina to make it happen. She also had parents who believed in her.

“My parents were incredibly supportive of me doing anything I wanted to do, even in a day and age when becoming a female doctor was a pretty lofty goal,” Gagliano said. “My experience at Union was also absolutely extraordinary.”

She majored in biology and computer science, studied Renaissance art on a term abroad in Italy, was a member of Delphic Society and Phi Beta Kappa, and was a residence advisor. Among other things.

“I know it was Union that opened the door for me to get into Harvard,” she said. “Union positioned me to make a difference and impact lives.”

After earning her M.D. in internal medicine, she joined Massachusetts General Hospital’s Women’s Health Associates as a primary care physician.

“I practiced medicine for 21 years,” Gagliano said. “And I realized pretty early on that I have a passion not only for caring for patients, but for impacting more than one life at a time.”

So during her two decades with MGH (which started in 1989), she looked for leadership roles that would allow her to help patients in a broader way.

“Ultimately, I became senior vice president for practice improvement,” Gagliano said. “I was able to positively impact the ability of our providers to see patients in 400 medical practices at Mass General.”

And then in 2010, she seized a chance to improve medical care on an entirely new level. As senior vice president and chief medical officer of CVS MinuteClinic at CVS Health Corp., she “was able to impact health care across a nation.”

“When I got there, CVS had 400 MinuteClinics and over 1,100 when I left,” Gagliano said. “There’s estimated to be about a 30,000 physician shortage in primary care, so by providing access to care for basic medical problems like sore throats and vaccinations, MinuteClinic is filling a real need—and seeing close to 6 million patients a year.”

Gagliano also helped lead CVS’s national smoking cessation program and the piloting of its telehealth program, which allows patients to video conference with providers.

It was great experience for her newest role. In September, she joined a health care consulting company, Culbert Health Solutions, as chief medical officer.

Here, she’s guiding the development of strategic approaches for deploying telehealth programs in hospitals and private practices. She’s also overseeing efforts to aid these entities in using electronic health records more effectively and efficiently, while simultaneously heading up training efforts for physicians, who are critical to the governance of health care organizations.

“Culbert is helping me continue my mission to improve health care and make it easier for physicians to provide great care,” Gagliano said. “Each new role has allowed me to have greater and greater impact on health care.”

Paul Sutton writes, “I am a professor in the Department of Geography and the Environment at the University of Denver. I recently co-authored a paper titled: ‘Is Decoupling GDP Growth from Environmental Impact Possible?’ in PLOS One. The short answer to this question is ‘NO.’ Which means that policy aimed at growth of GDP is not sustainable and should be abandoned. I am still tilting my sword at the windmill for population stabilization and environmental sustainability. I encourage you to do the same.”

1984
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Kathleen Kozera Rowe
33 Fairway Ave.
Delmar, N.Y. 12054-3332

Carolyn (Bigda) Dulchinos writes, “Elizabeth Wallach Marcotte ’89 and I ran together in an April fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in Washington, D.C. This was the second year in a row that we did this together—and with the weather cooperating this time, it was so much fun. Our team, known as Team LOL, was gangbusters at the fundraising (thank you, Union buddies who are on our contributors list). Our mutual friend who organized the team, Lynne O’Brien of McLean, Va., was recognized by the National LLS organization, as well as by the VP Biden Cancer Moonshot Task Force, for her
Justin Green ’84 grew up in Mt. Kisco, N.Y. His mother was a school teacher, until Green’s older sister was born and then she worked at home. His father, who was a doctor, died on Green’s 16th birthday. The unexpected loss took a toll, emotionally and financially. “We sold our house, moved into a small apartment and my mother went back to work,” Green said.

Now a successful attorney with leading aviation law firm Kreindler & Kreindler (N.Y.), Green represents families in major airplane disasters. His own experience with tragedy has given him an intimate understanding of what his clients are going through.

“Losing my father suddenly at 16 made me appreciate that life goes on after a loss,” he said. “The financial compensation that I obtain for my clients means that maybe they won’t need to move out of their home, that tuitions will be paid and that the life the decedent wanted for her or his family will happen.”

Green’s major cases include the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001; the Turkish Airlines Flight 1951 disaster near Amsterdam, Netherlands; and the Hudson River midair collision near Hoboken, N.J.

But his most challenging was the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 in March 2014.

“The key evidence in aviation cases is the airplane wreckage. This includes cockpit voice and digital flight data recorders, commonly called ‘black boxes,’ even though they’re bright orange,” Green said. “Until the main wreckage is found and the black boxes are recovered, the disappearance of the flight and the 239 souls on board will remain the greatest aviation mystery in history.”

Also a CNN aviation analyst and military pilot, Green’s unique career path began at a Union College job fair, where the economics major struck up a conversation with a Marine Corps recruiter. Green later was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in Jackson Gardens during graduation weekend in June 1984.

From 1990-91, Green was as an attack helicopter pilot in Operations Desert Shield and Storm. While serving in the Marines, he was in two accidents: a crash landing of a commercial passenger jet and a fiery helicopter crash. This sparked his interest in aviation safety and Green later graduated from the Aviation Safety Officer’s program at the Naval Postgraduate School, and served as his squadron’s aviation safety officer.

He then graduated from Fordham Law School and for the past 20 years has devoted his professional life to advocating for aviation disaster victims.

“I have been fortunate in my career as an aviation lawyer,” Green said. “My time as a Marine Corps pilot and aviation safety officer provided technical training and experience that I use every day as a lawyer.”

“The plaintiff, in most cases, bears the burden of proving why an airplane or helicopter crashed and who is responsible in order to win the case,” he continued. “I do a pre-litigation investigation, which includes examining the airplane’s wreckage and its black boxes.

“Until the wreckage is found and the black boxes are recovered, the disappearance of the flight and the 239 souls on board will remain the greatest aviation mystery in history.”

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“The plaintiff, in most cases, bears the burden of proving why an airplane or helicopter crashed and who is responsible in order to win the case,” he continued. “I do a pre-litigation investigation, which includes examining the airplane’s wreckage and its black boxes.

“I take defense witness testimony under oath. I use many different experts—accident recreation experts, pilot experts, metallurgists or material scientists, and engine and airframe experts. A case may take two or more years to go through discovery and go to trial depending on its complexity.”

It is work he’s proud of.

“In almost all my cases, families have lost loved ones,” Green said. “They want answers about what caused the crashes and want to make sure that no other families suffer the same fate. They deserve justice and I’m honored when these families trust me to represent their causes.”
woman who encouraged many.” http://lulu.com/spotlight/SeenaDrapala

1985
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jon Mathewson
PO Box 1262
Middletown Springs, Vt.
05757-1262

John K. Johnson writes, “Congrats to my son, John Johnson ’10. He recently received an email that he won an Emmy Award for Outstanding Daily Show, MLB Tonight 2015! Also, he just signed a two-year contract with Time Warner Cable. He’s leaving Michigan and moving to the Syracuse market. Keep up the great work. Love ya!”

Michael L. Mosher was recently appointed to the board of directors of Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. President and chief executive officer of Central Hudson, Michael joined the utility as a junior engineer in 1985 and was appointed to positions of increasing responsibility until he was named its president and chief executive officer April 1, 2016. He serves on the boards of the Business Council of the State of New York, SUNY New Paltz Foundation, and the Hudson Valley Economic Development Corp.

1986
Joann Sternheimer, managing partner of Albany (N.Y.) law firm Deily & Glastetter, was named to the list of Upstate New York Super Lawyers for 2016. Joann was also recognized in the Top 25 Hudson Valley Super Lawyers list, and received recognition in the Top 25 Women Upstate New York Super Lawyers list.

1987
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Paul Malatesta
148 Washington Avenue
Chatham, N.J. 07928
paul.malatesta@gmail.com

Julie Rebecca Breslow writes, “I have been a magistrate judge on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia since 2002, and on Sept. 27, 2016, President Obama nominated me for a position as associate judge on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. I am honored to be nominated.” Prior to joining the Superior Court, from 1999 to 2002, Julie served as the chief of the Victim Witness Assistance Unit at the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia. She received her J.D. from Albany Law School in 1989.

Dawn Tamarkin writes, “I recently moved to CT to be with my husband. Now I am closer to many of my Union ’87 friends, including: Wendy Cecucci, Shari Wolf-Ruckh, Olivia Giuntini, Ingrid Hauptman, and Carol Urfer-Estien. I’m farther from work, though, since I am still a biology professor at Springfield Technical Community College. I recently started a second business, The Lab Zone, LLC, for science safety. This complements my first business, Cell Zone, Inc., which makes biology classroom hands-on learning items for students of all abilities.”

1988
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Dana Rosen Isbitts
480 Alexandra Circle
Weston, Fla. 33326
danaisbitts@gmail.com

Dr. Joseph P. Damore Jr. ’87 writes, “In November, the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at West Point, and the Department of the ARMY, honored me with the Commander’s Award for Public Service. It was an incredible, humbling experience, which I will not soon forget!”

1989
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Stephanie Spencer Wiggs
795 Watson Canyon Ct., Apt 356
San Ramon, Calif. 94582
bodyforpilates@aol.com

Steve Sanders joined Gibbons P.C. as a director in the criminal defense department. He is based in the firm’s Newark office, where he concentrates his practice on white collar, appellate, and complex commercial litigation. Steve was formerly the Deputy Chief of the
Appeals Division in the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey, where he served as an Assistant United States Attorney for nearly 10 years.

Beth Landsiedel Etemad writes, “I visited Union with my daughter, Leila, son, Cam, and spouse this summer. After five colleges, I could proudly say, ‘Wow: The science and engineering building is amazing. The old Tequila Sunrise at dawn tradition for graduation is no longer possible now that the admissions building is there. Oh Well.”

1991
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Daniel Crosby
15 Howlett St.
 Topsfield, Mass. 01983
dcrosby@kslaw.com

Alex Elkan, an attorney with Brooks Pierce (Greensboro, N.C.), was recognized as a leader in environmental law in the 2017 edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

Kimberly Keller Vlasseman writes, “I am starting my 18th year at the American School of The Hague in The Netherlands, teaching high school mathematics. I continue to be the coordinator of the Tanzania Service Learning Program, and bring 26 high school students down to Moshi, Tanzania for a week of service in February. We work together with locals to build classrooms and facilities for local schools in need, and work with Jane Goodall’s Roots and Shoots program at the base of Mount Kilimanjaro. This year I am taking a student whose two sisters currently attend Union—small world! I brought my husband Patrick and my sons Kevin (grade 10) and Thomas (grade 9) to Tanzania in December ’15 for three weeks to experience the wonderful people and culture and beauty of Tanzania and the island of Zanzibar. Incredible experiences as a family! I hope to catch up with Union friends next summer in upstate NY as I will be home for my 30th high school reunion in June. If any alumni are passing through The Netherlands, please stop by to say hi!”

1992
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Stephanie Fray
Apartment 7 D
10 West End Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10023-7828
sfray1@gmail.com

Eddie Martin was named chief commercial officer for Industrial Solutions for GE Energy Connections, holding global responsibility for sales and marketing across the Industrial Solutions portfolio. In this role, Martin will lead Industrial Solutions’ commercial team. With 24 years of experience, Eddie joins the GE Energy Connections team from GE Oil & Gas, where he most recently served as global channels leader.

1993
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jill Bernstein
201 East 77th Street #3B
New York, N.Y. 10028
jillibernstein@yahoo.com
(212) 535-4267

Shea Wallon has been named a senior vice president and managing director of the Financial Venture Fund, part of Hearst Business Media and Fitch Group. The fund focuses on investing in early-stage financial information, service and technology companies. Shea was most recently consulting for R3 in its efforts to deliver blockchain technology to the financial services industry through research and development alongside its more than 50 global financial institution members. He is a former managing director for Bank of America Merrill Lynch. He earned his master’s from the Amos Tuck School at Dartmouth College.

Stacie Jordan Brenkovich writes, “Life continues to be full for us. My son, Matthew, started first grade so we are adjusting to more homework. My daughter, Avery, turned 3 in March and loves keeping up with her big brother. Our family summer vacation to the beaches of Long Island was a welcome break from routine. I continue to work for Accenture in the social collaboration and knowledge sharing space, I celebrated 23 years in July.”

1994
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Caroline Paine Pannhorst
32 Nottingham Way North
Clifton Park, N.Y. 12065
cpannhorst@msn.com

Elissa (Hecker) Strauss writes, “I was so honored to again be recognized by my clients and peers as a Super Lawyer for the New York-Metro area, and to be a Top 25 Lawyer in Westchester County.”

Stacie Jordan Brenkovich ’93 with her husband, John, and children Matthew and Avery.

1995
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
David E. Fusco
145 members.

In this role, Martin will lead a lieutenant with 14 years on the job, he will oversee a police force of approximately 145 members.

1996
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Betsy Phelps Seplowitz
104 Tompion Way
Ballston Spa, N.Y. 12020
bseplowitz@yahoo.com

David E. Fusco writes, “I’m happy to say that after 20 years in the human capital field, I’m still finding it intellectually interesting and...”
LEADING THE SPD

Tragedy inspired Eric Clifford ’94 to wear a uniform, and ultimately become Schenectady’s newest chief of police.

“When 9/11 happened, it really got me thinking about doing something that would make a difference,” said Clifford, who at the time was an insurance industry claims adjuster.

He considered becoming a teacher, but decided instead to follow the example set by his older brother, Sean, a Schenectady city police officer.

Clifford followed his brother onto the force in 2002, serving as department spokesman for a time before making lieutenant in 2010.

It’s a career that Union, in hindsight, helped prepare him for.

“The biggest impact Union had, for me, came during my training to be a resident assistant,” said Clifford, an economics major. “That leadership and diversity training really changed how I interacted with people.”

“Before this experience, I was shy and reserved and really only spent time with those close to me,” he continued. “I had to step out of my comfort zone and interact with strangers and people who did not necessarily look and act like me. It was a challenge I embraced, and it changed the way I see the world in which we live.”

Clifford also took a domestic violence course that, retrospectively, would be beneficial to his law enforcement career. An African poetry class and an ecology elective were also memorably enjoyable, he said.

Appointed chief of the Schenectady Police Department in September, Clifford oversees 154 sworn officers, 29 civilian employees and a $19.5 million budget.

It’s a big job.

“The challenges are many. You’re responsible to the public and the members of the department,” he said. “Many times, national news affects how the public perceives the police, so that’s challenging. But the rewards are great, too, especially helping people during some of their trying times.”

And as chief, he intends to keep helping in a big way.

“I want to make the Schenectady Police Department a model of professionalism, a department the city can be proud of. I plan to embrace technology and leverage it in every way we can to make Schenectady safer,” Clifford said. “I plan to improve community engagement efforts, and I want to take recruitment to the next level and encourage college students to consider careers in law enforcement.”

“I cannot explain what an honor it is to be chief of police in the city I grew up in and went to college in,” he added. “The connection I have to Union College will always be special and I am so happy that in this role, I can really have an impact on the Schenectady community, including Union College.”

Clifford’s son, Daniel, is applying for membership in the Class of 2021 and his wife, Jennifer, works at Union as a program assistant in health professions. Their elder son, Andrew, studied at Union before joining the Class of 2017 at Sage College of Albany, with a goal of entering the school’s doctor of physical therapy program.

Tanweer Ansari writes, ‘I have recently been appointed to an advisory board at Adelphi University (NY). The Robert B. Willumstad School of Business Advisory Board includes alumni and friends who serve as advisors to the faculty and administration, providing advice and perspective on issues of importance to the both the
undergraduate and graduate business school experience. It is an honor to serve and give something back to where I earned my M.B.A."

When the Phelps family vacations together it’s an instant ReUnion. Here’s the whole gang on a trip to Thousand Island Park: Eric Seplowitz ’96, Betsy Phelps Seplowitz ’96, Heidi Phelps Byrne ’92, Brian Byrne ’93, Matt Shih ’00 and Brenda Phelps Shih ’00.

1997
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Sara Amann Garrand
367 Schauber Road
Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019
sgarrand1@nycap.rr.com

Gretchen Burchett writes, "My husband, John Burchett, and I welcomed our third daughter, Mercy Jane, on November 28, 2015. John is a senior software engineer for Hewlett Packard Enterprise in Sunnyvale, Calif. He is fantastic at his job in network automation, but we would like to return to the East Coast for the long term."

1999
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Ryan T. Smith, MBA ’00
284 Sussex Circle
Jupiter, Fla. 33458
rsmith@thebenjaminschool.org

Kellie Forrestall BeeBee
360 First St.
Lowell, Mass. 01850
forrestkk@hotmail.com

Victoria J. Smith recently became assistant vice president for principal gifts at the University of Rhode Island Foundation. For 10 years, she held leadership roles with the American Heart Association, most recently serving as senior vice president of development at the Boston office.

2000
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Erika Newell
4842 Bayard Blvd.
Bethesda, Md. 20816

Kevin Knight writes, "I am the author of the book, Liberation is Imperative, available now at Amazon. I recently had my official book launch in Toronto, Canada, which Stedman Graham attended."

Emily (Glidden) Cohen ‘00 and Ryan Cohen ’99 with their children

Emily (Glidden) Cohen writes, "My husband (Ryan Cohen ’99) and I are enjoying life in New Jersey. We have a son, 6, and a daughter, 1. Ryan is a director at a creative agency in NYC and I am at home fulltime with the kids. We celebrated our 10th wedding anniversary in June and look forward to the arrival of my sister’s (Elizabeth ‘Lizzy’ Glidden ’01) second daughter due in January 2017. We would like to wish everyone health and happiness in the New Year."

2001
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Erin (Aloan) Grogan
143 Streeter Hill Road
West Chesterfield, N.H. 03466
erinlgrogan@gmail.com

Kevin Knight writes, "I am the author of the book, Liberation is Imperative, available now at Amazon. I recently had my official book launch in Toronto, Canada, which Stedman Graham attended."

Christine Vines writes, "Much has happened in the past 18 months. I was married in June 2015, moved to Michigan a few days later, and gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Jameson Elana Molitor, this past February. I continue to work remotely for a Florida-based employer in a human resources role. Specifically, I work in learning and development/talent management. I enjoy the work and am slowly getting acclimated to life as a working mom. Any alums in the Detroit Metro Area? Let’s connect!"
Kristen Lueckel, a physics teacher at Galway (N.Y.) Junior/Senior High School, recently headed up the sixth annual Community Rocket Day. His students draw on the research and experiences of pupils from previous years, and use two-liter soda bottles to craft their own rockets—with the goal of setting a new school record for distance traveled. Over the years, Kris’s students have had the help of Mike Vineyard, the Frank & Marie Louise Bailey Professor of Physics at Union. He’s donated machine shop time to Kris’s students, and Vineyard’s own students helped make part of the water rocket launcher the high schoolers used. Kris started Community Rocket Day because he wants to get young people interested in science. “I want them to be scientists, I want them to think like scientists, act like scientists, test hypotheses. The project is the perfect way for them to do that, because that’s exactly what they’re doing,” he told the Daily Gazette newspaper (Schenectady). “I became a teacher because we need more scientists and engineers.”

2003
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Katrina (Tentor) Lallier
50A Locust Street
Danvers, Mass. 01923
katrina@alumni.union.edu

Oscar L. Suarez, an attorney at Halloran & Sage LLP, has been selected to the Connecticut Law Tribune’s “New Leaders in the Law” Class of 2016. He has also been named to Super Lawyers’ 2016 Rising Stars list. Oscar practices primarily in the areas of banking and commercial litigation. He was selected by a panel of four judges from the Connecticut legal community and recognized for his efforts in four areas: development of the law, advocacy/community contributions, service to the bar and peer/public recognition. Oscar received his JD from the University of Minnesota.

2004

Dorothy Friedrich writes, “I am working for a French asset management firm in Greenwich, Conn. We have just moved to Weston, Conn., with our 11/2 year old daughter…and are expecting twin boys any day now. We definitely have our hands full but wouldn’t have it any other way. I hope everyone is doing well and I look forward to connecting the next time we are up in Schenectady.”

In September Kristen (Lueckel) Buckler completed YSC Tour de Pink, a 200-mile bike ride over three days from Bucks County, Pa., to Cape May, N.J. She raised over $3,000 for the Young Survival Coalition. While riding, Kristen was inspired by many young survivors, especially her best friend from high school, Jackie, who was diagnosed at 28 years old—the reason she registered for the ride.

2005
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Andrea Doenges
andrea.doenges@gmail.com

Kit Goldstein Grant was recently featured on Crazy Town Blog (crazytownblog.com). The Q&A focused on her thriving career as a New Yorker who writes musicals.

2006
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Sarah Heitner
sarah.t.heitner@gmail.com

Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin recently appointed Michael Pieciak the commissioner of the Department of Financial Regulation (DFR). Michael previously served as deputy commissioner of DFR’s securities division, and before that practiced law in New York City at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in the mergers and acquisitions group.
Sam Fein writes, "On Sept. 13, 2015, I won a three-way Democratic primary election for Albany County Legislator, 6th District. I went on to win the general election on Nov. 3, 2015. On Jan. 1, 2016, I was sworn into office. Most recently, I have been working primarily on issues related to helping unemployed constituents find jobs, with a focus on helping those with criminal histories. I have been working with local employers and have introduced legislation to remove inquiries about criminal history from county job applications. For more information, you can visit www.albanycounty.com/legislature/district06.aspx or www.feinforalbany.com."

2007 CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Nick Salvatoriello
nick.salvatoriello@gmail.com

Dr. Julia Mathew, an ophthalmologist and cornea specialist and surgeon, has joined Highland Ophthalmology Associates of New Windsor, N.Y. She earned her M.D. from Albany Medical College.

Class of 2007 alumnae Julia Mathew, Chandra Datt and Anjali Singla tour the wineries of Long Island. The rain was a perfect excuse to break out the oversized Union umbrella!

2008 CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Dana Cohen Bernstein
250 E. 63rd Street, Apt. 1001
New York, N.Y. 10065
dana.lynn.cohen@gmail.com

Integrated marketing firm The Cyphers Agency recently hired Steve Adams as a junior account executive to support the agency’s UrBurger, McCartin Insurance, BF Joy, Annapolis Paddle and JumpBunch accounts. A resident of Annapolis, Md., he attended Iowa State University, where he graduated with a master’s in journalism and mass communication.

2009 CLASS CORRESPONDENTS
Gabe Kramer
123 North Arden Blvd.
Los Angeles, Cal. 90004
kramerg3@gmail.com

Carl Winkler
201 West 70th Street, Apt 28 L
New York, NY 10023
carl.s.winkler@gmail.com

Nadia Alexis writes, “Beginning Fall 2016, I became a poetry MFA candidate in the English Department of University of Mississippi. The department fully funds its MFA students by providing full tuition scholarship, healthcare and a Teaching Assistantship stipend. Grateful and excited.”

2011 CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Cassandra Skoufalos
cassandra.skoufalos@gmail.com

Lauren Graniero writes, “After graduating from Union as a geology major in 2012, I finished my M.S. in geology from Texas A&M University in 2014. Afterwards, I was fortunate enough to be accepted into the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Department of Geological Sciences and am a Ph.D. candidate there. Thanks to a great experience at Union with my thesis advisor, Prof. Dave Gillikin, he is on my Ph.D. committee and continues to advise me years later on my research that began at Union.”

2012 CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Anna Meiring
annameiring@gmail.com

2007 alumnae Julia Mathew, Chandra Datt and Anjali Singla tour the wineries of Long Island. The rain was a perfect excuse to break out the oversized Union umbrella!

2007 alumnae Julia Mathew, Chandra Datt and Anjali Singla tour the wineries of Long Island. The rain was a perfect excuse to break out the oversized Union umbrella!

2007 alumnae Julia Mathew, Chandra Datt and Anjali Singla tour the wineries of Long Island. The rain was a perfect excuse to break out the oversized Union umbrella!

2012 alumna Julia Mathew and Chandra Datt tour the wineries of Long Island. The rain was a perfect excuse to break out the oversized Union umbrella!
current project, titled the Cairn Project, combines art making and oral history to share the voices of hundreds of under-represented Chicagoans who have suffered from trauma or loss.

Shenae Lundberg ’15, one of the first goalies in the new National Women’s Hockey League, started playing the game pretty late in her childhood. Comparatively speaking.

“I was 10 years old playing soccer—as a goalie—on a U12 team,” said Lundberg, who was born in Canada but moved to Peterborough, N.H., when she was four. “A few of the girls on the team played ice hockey and were looking to start a girls program in New Hampshire, and asked if I would be willing to try goalie. I said yes.”

But it didn’t seem meant to be at the beginning.

“The first few times I went, I hated it. The equipment was really uncomfortable,” Lundberg said, “and I remember feeling so behind. I looked out on the ice and saw that all the other girls were able to skate.”

Her competitive nature kept her from giving up, though.

“This was the first demonstration of my extreme competitiveness and drive to want to be someone that people can depend on,” she said.

And now, because of that dedication, she’s a netminder in the National Women’s Hockey League (NWHL), formed in 2015. “I am extremely happy to play for the Connecticut Whale,” Lundberg said. “Last season (2015-16) was the first opportunity for women to continue to compete at a high level, after college, in the U.S. It is also the first time that female hockey players are getting paid to play ice hockey in North America. I’m getting to live the dream.”

While the women aren’t “making huge money like in the NHL and most have to work separate jobs to get by,” Lundberg said, the members of the NWHL recognize the importance of the league’s formation. “I had always wished I could play in the NHL because there was no female version of it. Now I not only get to play at the highest level, but I’m also part of the start of something that will go down in history,” Lundberg said. “I am unbelievably fortunate that I can be a part of something that will allow young girls to have something to dream of and work for.”

Lundberg’s other job is goalie coach to youth teams in the Connecticut area. Between her own training for the NWHL and that of the young goalies, she stays very busy.

Much like she did at Union, studying psychology and tending goal for the Dutchwomen—both fulltime commitments.

“My time at Union was unforgettable,” Lundberg said. “I learned a lot about my personality and what drives me to work hard. Both in the classroom and on the ice I realized how dedicated you have to be to achieve what you want; whether that’s winning a game or getting the best grade.”
Brileigh Pinkney began working as the associate director of enrollment at Foxcroft School in Virginia in August 2016.

2014
Nick D’Angelo accepted a position as a litigation associate at Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP in their New York City office. He will begin in fall 2017 after his graduation from St. John’s University School of Law.

2015
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Kelsey Carroll
kelsey.carroll12@gmail.com

2016
Bob Crowley ’74 and Quisqueya Witbeck ’16 attended the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Northeastern New York’s annual July picnic. The picnic was hosted at Bob’s home in Poestenkill, N.Y.

New Year, New Gift to Union

It’s never been easier to donate to Union.

When you join the Sustainer Circle: Union’s Recurring Gift Society, you can set up automatic gifts that are flexible, secure and convenient for you. Monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual payments help sustain the Union experience by increasing the quality of education, diversifying our research opportunities, developing our student programs, and expanding our beautiful campus. A recurring gift is an easy, meaningful and green way to make the future even brighter for Union students.
arrivals

Peyton Wood Kriegel (Wood ’70)
Madeline Elmendorf with big brother George (Elmendorf ’96)
Bennett Hudson (Hudson ’01)
Rosalina Joy Carrasquillo (Carrasquillo ’02)

Lillian Anne Waugh (Waugh ’03)
Oliver Timothy Pattison (Pattison ’04)
Fraya Raphael with baby sister Sydney Michelle (Raphael ’04)
Dylan Patrick Linder and Claire Riley Linder with older siblings Bridget and Emmet (Linder ’05)

Charles David with big sister Audrey (Annese ’05)
Alexandra Margaret Lewis (Lewis ’05)
Jennings Taylor Tobin Wilde (Wilde ’06)
Cole Beckman Leavitt (Leavitt ’06)

Addison Nicole Pucciarelli (Pucciarelli ’06)
Oliver Marcus James Shand (Shand ’07)
Kai Alexander Fame (Fame ’07)
Clara Amelia Zalaznik (Massoud-Tastor ’07)
1970

Leighton “Chris” Wood writes, “After a long wait, our two lovely daughters finally got to work and the oldest, Meghan Wood ’02, gave birth to Peyton Wood Kriegel 7 months ago and we have our first grandchild! Our second child, Liza Leighton Hall Nebel, is pregnant and expecting in 4 months. After a long wait, very exciting times.”

1996

Mike Elmendorf writes, “My wife Emily and I welcomed our second child, Madeline, on June 27. Our son, George, is adapting nicely to the role of big brother.”

2001

Victoria L. King Hudson and her husband, Matthew Hudson, welcomed a baby boy in 2015, Bennett Hudson.

2002

Leah (Nero) Carrasquillo and Matthew Carrasquillo ’03 of Southamton, Mass., welcomed a baby girl, Rosalina Joy, on March 5, 2016. She has two proud big brothers, Gabriel (age 6) and Julian (age 3).

2003

Elisabeth (Grace) Waugh and Nicholas Waugh would like to announce the arrival of their third daughter, Lillian Anne Waugh (aka Annie). Annie was born on Oct. 5, 2016 in Denver, Colo.

2004

David Pattison and his wife, Morgan, welcomed their son, Oliver Timothy, on April 13, 2016.

Samantha (Mann) Raphael and Aaron Raphael ’00 welcomed their second daughter, Sydney Michelle Raphael, to their family Aug. 13, 2016. She was 5 pounds, 7 ounces. “Our daughter Fraya is totally in love with her baby sister, who she fondly refers to as ‘chickie baby!’”

2005

Laura (Butterfield) Linder and Mitchell Linder ’04 welcomed Dylan Patrick Linder and Claire Riley Linder on July 27, 2016 at Strong Memorial Hospital (Rochester, N.Y.). They join big sister Bridget (6) and big brother Emmett (3).

Mary Annese and Robin Stevenson ’06 are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Charles David. He was born March 23, 2016 in New York City, and weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces. Big sister Audrey (3) loves helping out with Charlie. All are happy and healthy.

Meg Vercillo Lewis and Dan Lewis ’03 are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Alexandra Margaret Lewis. She was born June 9, 2016 in Minneapolis, Minn., and weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces.

2006

Sarah (Meyer) Wilde and Alex Wilde welcomed to the world their son, Jennings Taylor Tobin Wilde, on July 10 in Richmond, Va. Jennings was 7 pounds, 14 ounces at his birth and is keeping his parents very, very busy!

Jessica Weintraub and Steven Weintraub ’03 welcomed Evan Miles Weintraub on April 8, 2016. Big brother Eli, 3, is enjoying his new playmate. The family resides in Westchester County, N.Y., where Steven works as a senior director of strategic planning at White Plains Hospital and Jessica is a licensed real estate broker at Platinum Drive Realty in Chappaqua.

2007

James Shand and his wife, Amanda, welcomed their son, Oliver Marcus James Shand, to the world on July 14, 2016 in New York City.

Nora Maginn Fame and Chad Fame welcomed their son, Kai Alexander Fame, on May 29, 2016 in Cambridge, Mass.

Abbey Massoud-Tastor and her husband, Kevin Zalaznik, are thrilled to announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, Clara Amelia Zalaznik. Clara was born April 23, 2016.

Colleen (Donlan) Standish and Nathaniel Standish welcomed their daughter, Caroline Ann, on June 2, 2016.

Rachel and Dan Leavitt are pleased to announce the arrival of their son, Cole Beckman Leavitt. Cole was born Sept. 17, 2016, on his big brother Connor’s third birthday.

Addison Nicole Pucciarelli, daughter of Adam and Nicole (Cerniglia) Pucciarelli, was born June 2, 2016. She was 8 pounds, 5 ounces and 21 inches long.

2010

Nicole (Silverman) and Douglas Richardson ’08 are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Henry Scott Richardson. Henry was born June 23, 2015 in New York City.
Alumni at the wedding of Rebecca Bardach ’10 and Gregory Mitchell ’10

Hadley (Planting) Powell and Alexander “Allie” Powell were married Aug. 27, 2016 in Northeast Harbor, Maine. The bridal party included bridesmaids Hillary (Benoit) Williams, Lauren (Foye) Murphy, Jenna (Ondash) Switchenko, Stephanie Cronan, Margaret Southwell and Kate (Boe) Cannella ’06. Other alumni in attendance included Craig Williams, John Switchenko, Brian Cannella ’05, Elisabeth Sartori, Emily (de Vismes) Haldane ’06 and Sarah Britton ’08. Hadley and Allie live in Brookline, Mass., where Allie is associate general counsel of Center-plate (a hospitality services company), and Hadley is a senior product manager at Invaluable and art advisor to private clients.

2008

Jennifer Turecamo and Ryan Deck ’09 were married on July 9, 2016 at the Sullivan House in Block Island, R.I.
The bridal party included Chelsea Cobb, Danielle Pomarole, Meredith (Katz) Madej, Brandon Alboum '09, Brendan Kennedy '09 and Jeff Hyde '09. Other alumni in attendance were Joshua and Lauren (Hutchinson) Coyle, Jennifer (Saad) Ritter, Corinne (Simisky) Ritter, Manuel Cute-Ramos '09, Keri Messa, Amanda (Riitano) Curran, Michael McAndrew '09, William Riley '93, Kyle Patterson '14, Samuel Elias '09, Caroline (Rebhun) Mandel '05, Aron Mandel '09, Andrew Scaplen '09 and Meredith (Crawford) Scaplen '10.

### 2009

Emma Labrot and Ben McIntosh '10 were married Aug. 13, 2016 in Mystic, Conn. Regina Chiuninatto performed the ceremony and Matt Kearney, James Maher '10, Tyler Cross '10 and Kate MacEwan '11 were members of the bridal party. Alumni and Union students in attendance included: Andrew Labrot '18, Mayte Martinez '18, Andy and Meg Barhite, Maggie Levine, Kara McCabe, Sean and Laura (Tosney) Mulkerne, Moish '08 and Tamar Peltz, Owen Heneghan, Gabe Webster '10, Laura Schwartz '10, Chelsea Tusking '11, Charles Fontana, Erik and AnnMarie Lageroos '05, Dave Kislik '10, John Fitzpatrick '08, Drew Pearson '08, Tom DiLaura, Reed Olsen, Erin Bligh '10, Raphe Breit '10 and Graham Miller.

### 2010

Rebecca Bardach and Gregory Mitchell were married on June 4, 2016 in Garrison, N.Y. The bridal party included bridesmaids Kait McGrath and Emily Moorstein, as well as groomsman Michael Fitzpatrick, Josh Petri, and Josh Weiss. Other alumni in attendance included the groom’s parents Andrew Mitchell ’80 and Cheryl (Swanson) Mitchell ’79, as well as Eric Wigand, Brandon Bartell, Melissa (Carey) Fitzpatrick, Alec Rosen, Lizzy (LaBonte) Rosen, Jessica (Lord) Schulte, Peter Schulte, Charlie Cerlen ’09, Molly (Maguire) Singh, Abby Cable, Ali Johnson and Jaclyn Aruch ’11.

Christina Eftychiou and Nick Ingalls ’09 were married on Sept. 18, 2016 at the Rockleigh in Rockleigh, New Jersey. Doug Weller ’09 and Alex Pender were members of the wedding party. Other Alumni in attendance were: Catie McGuinness, Allie Ryan, Lizzy Moran, Peter Kennedy, Molly Osborn, Chris Jacobson, Jen Hagopian, Becca (Krisky) Feeley, Norah Friar, Rachel Tarica, Sean Wade ’09, Lacey Morgan ’09, Robert Linder ’83 and Joanne Stein ’82.

Meredith (Crawford) Scaplen and Andrew Scaplen '09 were married Aug. 27, 2016 at St. Luke’s Cathedral in Portland, Maine, with a reception following at The Portland Company. Alumni in attendance included Doug Merkert ’09, Mike Bartles ’09, Mike McAndrew ’09, Johanna Hanley, Henry Hanley ’09, Austin Scaplen ’12, Matt Kearney ’09, John Goot ’09, Luke Bryden ’09, Samantha Steenburn ’13, Charlie Cerlen ’09, Andrew Finley ’09, Doug Weller ’09, Kait McGrath, Lacey Morgan ‘09, Ted Weller ’09, Brendan Kennedy ’09, and Joanne Stein ’82.

### 2016

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Jessica Wenger and Peter Katlic ’08 celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary on Oct. 31, 2016. They were married in central Massachusetts, near Jess’s hometown of Harvard. Union friends in attendance included Zack Patnode, Shawn Shopmyer ’01, Michael Stabinski ’08, Patrick Petty ’11, David Harwood ’08, Eric Garofano ’08, Kerry Bannon Garofano ’08, Tom Fagin, Matt Rohrs, Lisa Vallee, Beth Culp, Diane McNamara, Bridget Jameson Johnson, Ariel Weiner ’09 and Nola Rudolph ’09.

Lisa (Crawford) Matthews and Brian Matthews were married July 23, 2016 in Brookline, Mass. Alumni in attendance included Emily Burgess, Lisa Vallee, Andrew Mak, Alex Handin, Beth Culp, Jamie Luguri, Kari Friedman, Emily Moorstein, Jared Elkin, and Emma Freter ’13. Lisa is a seventh grade special education teacher in Medfield, Mass., and Brian works for an ecommerce company in Boston. They met during the first week of freshman year on West second floor, and have been happily together ever since. The couple recently bought a house in Holliston.

Kimberly (Perry) Barnes ’12 married Patrick Barnes of Rotterdam, N.Y., on Sept. 4, 2016 in Boston, Mass. Many Union and UGC alumni were in attendance to celebrate with the happy couple.
1930s

Michael R. Cappiello ’39, of Boston, Mass., who served in Army Military Intelligence during World War II before graduating from Suffolk University Law School and working in tax law for the IRS, Aug. 28, 2016. An active leader in many organizations, including the Lion’s Club and the Don Orione Society, he provided scholarships for students at Union College and Suffolk University. A well-traveled man who met dignitaries from John F. Kennedy to Pope John Paul II, he was 99.

Stanford S. Penner ’42, of La Jolla, Calif., who earned a doctorate (specializing in rocket engine development) from the University of Wisconsin, and worked at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (Pasadena) and Caltech before becoming founding chair of the engineering department at UC San Diego, July 15, 2016. A leader in America’s early space program who was a staff surgeon at Kingston Hospital and founded the first nuclear medicine in Wilm-Valley. He was 95.

Albert M. Kronick ’44, of New York, N.Y., a World War II veteran and B-17 bomber pilot who graduated from Harvard Business School before becoming CEO of Sanger-Harris and then Abraham & Straus, Sept. 18, 2016. A retail consultant in the U.S. Army Air Forces who was the model for the sculpture of Franklin D. Roosevelt (by Neil Estern) at the Roosevelt Memorial. A longtime board member of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, he was 93.

1940s

Edgar A. Sandman ’40, of Needham, Mass., who served in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II before graduating from Albany Law School and beginning a 35-year banking career, July 13, 2016. Edgar, who spent 25 years with First Trust Company of Albany before retiring as executive vice president of Bankers Trust Company, was an active leader of many community organizations. A trustee emeritus of Albany Law School, he was 96.

Dr. Robert W. Frelick ’41, of New Castle, Del., who served with the U.S. Army and earned a medical degree from Yale University, and operated a private practice for 32 years in Deerhurst, Sept. 1, 2016. Robert, who helped establish the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center and was director of nuclear medicine in Wilmington, was also program director of the Association of Community Cancer Centers at the National Cancer Center. A member of many professional organizations who also taught at the University of Delaware and several other schools, he was 96.

Howard R. Sammons ’42, of Gloversville, N.Y., an Army Air Force veteran who was the project engineer in charge for New York State Department of Transportation, Division of Construction, for 35 years, Aug. 5, 2016. Active in many community organizations, he served on the board of directors of Ida McGinnis Senior Citizen Center and as a life member of American Legion Post No. 137. He was 96.

Dr. Herbert E. Gade ’43, of Kingston, N.Y., who served in the U.S. Army and graduated from Albany Medical School before practicing ophthalmology in Kingston until 1989, Aug. 13, 2016. Part of the team that performed the first cataract surgery in New York State, he was a staff surgeon at Kingston Hospital and founded the first eye bank for the Mid-Hudson Valley. He was 95.

Dr. Daniel J. Shapiro ’44, of Cleveland, Ohio, who served with the U.S. Navy during World War II before practicing pediatrics in the Cleveland area and joining the clinical faculty of University Hospitals, March 17, 2015. Daniel, who joined Cleveland Clinical later in his career and was an avid tennis player and founding member of the Cleveland Racquet Club, was 90.

Dr. Clifford H. Casey ’49, of Voorheesville, N.Y., who for nearly five decades attended to the medical needs of friends and neighbors from a home office run by his wife, Shirley, Oct. 8, 2016. A clarinet and saxophone player who came of age in the Big Band era and played with a number of ensembles, he was 89.

1950s

Peter M. Kelly ’50, of Washing-ton, D.C., a World War II veteran who earned doctorates in physics and electrical engi-neering from the California Institute of Technology, and was founder and president of Kelly Scientific Corporation, June 25, 2016. An adjunct professor in the School of Electrical Engineering at George Washington University who was a consultant to several federal agencies and was active in his community, he was 94.

Dr. Roger LaRue ’50, of Orlando, Fla., who graduated from Albany Medical College and was an active duty physician in the U.S. Air Force before practicing ophthalmology for over 40 years in Winter Park, June 13, 2016. A longtime member of Winter Park Rotary Club who donated over eight gallons of blood to the Central Florida Blood Bank, he was 88.

Philip D. McQuade ’50, of Indianapolis, Ind., who served in the U.S. Navy before spend-ing 35 years with RCA, becoming manager of employee relations, Aug. 28, 2016. An active member of the Shaftsbury Historical Society and St. James Episcopal Church (Shaftsbury, Vt.) who enjoyed the outdoors and the New York Yankees, he was 89.
THEODORE AVERY "TED" BICK ’58

Theodore Avery “Ted” Bick ’58, a professor emeritus of mathematics known for his enthusiastic and loyal support of the College both academically and athletically, died Aug. 1, 2016. He was 86.

Ted joined the faculty as an associate professor in 1966 before retiring in 1998 as a full professor. A mathematician who specialized in analysis, he taught calculus, differential equations, algebra, topology, mathematical biology, statistics and even a course called “Mathematics for People Who Hate Mathematics.”

Widely respected as a teacher, he was equally respected as a colleague.

“Ted was one of those thoroughly delightful personalities that you don’t encounter very often,” said Arnold Seiken, professor emeritus of mathematics. “He had an engaging smile, a ready wit, was smart and loyal. He was also capable of, and delighted in telling, the most atrocious jokes.”

Ted led Union’s cross country team from 1972 until 1982, and mentored the 1993 team, too.

An avid and talented runner himself, he competed in 21 marathons, 13 Boston Marathons, with a best time of 2 hours, 46 minutes.

“Ted was one of the first great masters runners (age 40 and over) in the capital region,” recalled Alan Taylor, the Marie Louise Bailey Professor of Mathematics. “At age 53, he ran a 2:49 marathon (‘Not my day Al,’ he told me at the 20-mile mark!), and at the same age he ran the Stockade-athon 15 kilometer race at faster than a six-minute mile pace.”

Ted also well remembered for his devotion to Union as an energetic—and musical—fan. At home football games for many years, he sat with a number of alumni near the 50-yard line. Whenever the Dutchmen scored a touchdown, he would play the fight song, “It’s Union’s Game,” on his trumpet.

An athlete himself as a student (basketball and track), Ted was inducted into the Union College Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008.

A veteran of the U.S. Marines who served in Korea, Ted was also involved with Alumni Council and received its Faculty Meritorious Service Award in 1988. He was a mentor in Union’s Academic Opportunity Program and a valued leader in the Union College Academy for Lifelong Learning, serving on its steering and curriculum committees.

Ted held a B.S. in mathematics from Union, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Rochester. He was a communicant and choir member at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Joan A. Bick; children, Nancy Bick of Kansas City, Mo., Sandra (Michael) Tritt of Oneida, Tenn., Jonathan Bick of Colonie, N.Y., Andrew (Kristin) Bick of Asheville, N.C., and Lisa Spano (Jan) Zadoorian of Halfmoon, N.Y.; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

William J. Hartnett ’50, of Miami, Fla., June 28, 2015. He was 87.

Clifford J. Hayes ’50, of Houston, Texas, a retired USAR colonel, Jan. 19, 2016. He was 89.

Michael P. Forte Sr. ’51, of Wellesley, Mass., a colonel in the U.S. Air Force (retired) who graduated from Syracuse University and the Air Force War College, Sept. 5, 2016. A participant in the Bikini Atomic Bomb tests, he built a Marx impulse generator housed at Union College and counseled the reconstruction of a very large generator now on display at the Museum of Science (Boston). He was 89.

Leland S. Fasoli ’51, of Victor, N.Y., a U.S. Army veteran who served in the MCOM unit during World War II before becoming CEO of successful startup companies L-Tron Corporation and Skan-A-Matic, Sept. 15, 2016. Interested in anything related to technology, Leland was an avid boater and fisherman, and rifle and bow hunter. He was 88.

Howard L. Brody ’52, of Essex, Conn., July 1, 2016. He was 85.

Richard S. Nemeth ’53, of Fairfax, Va., who earned an MBA from George Washington University and spent 30 years in the U.S. Air Force as a pilot and administrator before finishing his career as a faculty member of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Sept. 19, 2016. The recipient of numerous honors, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal and Air Medal, he was 84.

Donald H. Zenger ’54, of Claremont, Calif., who served in the U.S. Army before earning a master’s in geology.
from Dartmouth College and a Ph.D. from Cornell University, Jan. 9, 2016. The Minnie B. Cairns Professor of Geology at Pomona College (emeritus), he was a member of the Geological Society of America for more than 50 years and a member of the Pomona-Pitzer Athletic Hall of Fame. He was 83.

Charles E. Rhoades ’55, of Penn Yan, N.Y., who earned an MBA in chemistry from the University of Buffalo before spending 30 years with Loctite Corporation and eventually retiring as vice president of environmental health and safety, Sept. 26, 2016. Dedicated to philanthropic work, including the Salvation Army, UNICEF and YMCA, he was 84.

Martin Hauser ’55, formerly of West Hartford, Conn., who earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Buffalo and spent many years in the advertising business as an account executive, Oct. 24, 2016. A lifelong New York Rangers fan who enjoyed skiing, tennis and spending time with his family, Chuck was 81.

Alvin R. Southwick ’56, of Rochester, Minn., who served in the U.S. Air Force and Reserves, and in 1964 began working for IBM, Aug. 4, 2016. Active in his community, Al was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church, co-founder of the Byron Youth Soccer Program, a member of Day Makers Kiwanis Club and a volunteer with many organizations, including Meals on Wheels. Al, who also sang with the Rochester Symphony Chorale, was 81.

Robert J. Hall ’56, of Dalton, Mass., a U.S. Army veteran who held an M.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and taught a variety of subjects, including German, Latin and history, at Pittsfield Public Schools, Oct. 15, 2016. Bob, who also held an M.A. in German from Middlebury College (Deutsche Sommer-schule) also taught as part of the Literacy Volunteers of Berkshire County in retirement. He was 82.

Robert S. Wessells ’58, of Harwich, Mass., who served in the U.S. Army and earned an M.A. in history from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.A. in library science from Columbia University, July 9, 2016. Robert, who worked for several libraries and was a lover of jazz, retired from the United States Navy Library. A member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, he was 80.

George C. Scott Jr. ’59, of Oxon Hill, Md., June 6, 2016. He was 79.

John M. Ferguson ’59, of Fairport, N.Y., who earned an MBA from the University of Rochester and was an engineer with Kodak Corporation, Oct. 4, 2016. A fervent fan of baseball, particularly the Dodgers, he was also a season ticket holder for the Rochester Red Wings. He was 79.

1960s

Gerald Greenfield ’61, of Avon Lake, Ohio, who graduated from Albany Law School before becoming a real estate attorney and partner at Jenner & Block, Oct. 18, 2016. Jerry, subsequently assistant general counsel to Schottenstein Stores Corporation and vice president and general counsel to Schottenstein Property Group, was an avid baseball fan. He was 77.

Gary Hammond ’63, of Cortland, N.Y., who held a master’s degree from SUNY Albany and taught social studies in DeRuyter before joining the SUNY Cortland faculty, Oct. 21, 2016. An adjunct instructor in the sociology/anthropology department, he subsequently spent 25 years with the Cortland County Department of Social Services. He was 75.

Joseph A. Palkovic Jr. ’64, of Chula Vista, Calif., who enjoyed a 27-year career with the U.S. Navy and liked music, food, sports, comedy, puzzles, games and quick wit, July 31, 2016. He was 74.

Leonard J. James Jr. ’64, of Copperhill, Tenn., who was an electrical engineer with General Electric before becoming executive vice president of the Adirondack Regional (N.Y.) Chamber of Commerce, Sept. 6, 2016. Len, who was also president of the Broome County (N.Y.) Chamber of Commerce before owning/operating Stateline Village Store in Copperhill with his wife, was 75.

Charles R. Gambacurta ’66, of Montgomery, Ala., a former news anchor with WSFA who wrote a weekly column in The Montgomery Independent and was editor and writer of Inside Alabama Politics, July 26, 2016. Known for his quick wit and insightful political commentary, he was 71.

1970s

Richard M. Daniel Jr. ’70, of Boxford, Mass., who earned an M.S. in computer science from Union College and enjoyed a career spanning engineering, system design and business development at Dynamics Research Corp. and Odyssey Systems, July 25, 2016. An avid hiker who climbed all of the Presidential Mountain Range and was an amateur radio operator and meteorologist, he was 68.

Timothy C. Kager ’70, of Jacksonville, Fla., who earned advanced certification as an actuary, was a member of the Society of Actuaries and retired as vice president of National Distributing Co., Oct. 3, 2016. A consultant who represented Cigna, Coopers & Lybrand, Towers Perin and Mercer, he was passionate about golf and tennis. He was 68.

Gordon L. Schiff ’67, of Calgary, Alberta, who held an M.Sc. in computer science from SUNY Buffalo and enjoyed a long career as a computer analyst, primarily in the pharmaceutical industry, Nov. 18, 2015. Gordon, who worked on the Human Genome Mapping Project at Yale University, was 70.

Janet Reid Ralph Fentiman Crandal ’68, of Schenectady, N.Y., who held a master’s in social work from SUNY Albany and spent 25 years as a psychiatric social worker for New York State at the Saratoga County Mental Health Clinic and Capital District Psychiatric Center, Sept. 24, 2016. Janet, who also worked with Skidmore College Counseling Service, Schenectady Alcoholism Clinic and Visiting Nurse Association, was 88.
in memoriam

Ira D. Singer ’75, of Fairfax, Va., April 8, 2015. He was 61.

Dr. Jody R. Birns ’77, of White Plains, N.Y., who graduated from Saint Louis University Medical School and provided care at several practices in White Plains, New Rochelle and Scarsdale before founding (in 2004) Westchester Park Pediatrics, Sept. 7, 2016. A runner-up Rhodes Scholar, she loved family and friends. She was 60.

Joanne Green Mackenzie ’78, of Ridgefield, Conn., who held a master’s of fine arts in creative writing from Washington University and was a technical writer at IBM and an independent proof reader and copy editor, Oct. 27, 2016. Jody, a member of First Congregational Church of Ridgefield and Chapter G of POE International, was 60.

1980s

Paul S. Girsdansky ’82, of Seward, N.Y., who held a bachelor’s degree from Excelsior College, and master’s degrees from the University of Maryland (journalism), SUNY Albany (library science), and Western New Mexico University (English), Sept. 28, 2016. A reporter and editor for The Daily Gazette, The Troy Record, and The Daily Gazette, The Troy Record, and The Troy Record, he was a member of the First Congregational Church of Ridgefield and Chapter G of POE International, was 60.

Elizabeth A. Brennan ’05, of North Grafton, Mass., and formerly of Worcester, who earned a Juris Doctor degree from Suffolk University Law School before working as an attorney in the Worcester District Attorney’s Office, Oct. 9, 2016. Libby, who enjoyed the beach and the company of friends and family, and who also worked with her father in private practice, was 34.

2000s

Mary Ann S. MacLean, the mother of trustee Adrian Jay ’98. Mary Ann died Aug. 18, 2016 at the age of 74. The College mourns the passing of former trustee Mary Ann S. MacLean, the mother of trustee Adrian Jay ’98. Mary Ann died Aug. 18, 2016 at the age of 74. A trustee from 1995 to 2007, Mary Ann launched a one-woman campaign to sing Union’s praises. She was instrumental in arranging to fly groups of high school guidance counselors from Chicago to the College to aid in education, outreach and recruitment efforts. In all respects, she noted, “Union is such a welcoming place.”

Education is the focus of any philanthropic work that [husband] Barry and I have been able to do,” Mary Ann said.

The MacLeans are co-owners of the MacLean-Fogg Company in Mundelein, Ill., a global company specializing in high-performance fastener and component manufacturing. The family has generously supported Union, including endowments, scholarships, building projects and admissions. They have supported the renovation of Schaffer Library, the Taylor Music Center and the Peter I. Wold Center.

“Mary Ann MacLean was a steadfast, loyal and supportive member of our community,” said President Stephen C. Ainlay. “She knew the value of a Union education, and she was strongly devoted to ensuring that it was accessible to all. We will miss her warmth, humor and devotion to our mission.”

Mary Ann had a lifelong passion for supporting the arts, history and education. She served on the University of Chicago Visiting Committee to the Division of the Biological Sciences and the Pritzker School of Medicine, and on the boards of the Chicago Zoological Society, the Illinois State Museum and the Chicago Botanic Garden. The Mary Ann MacLean Play Museum opened in Springfield, Ill., in 2011.

Survivors include her husband, Barry; children, Duncan, Gillian, Adrian, Elizabeth and Margaret; and 12 grandchildren.
Colin M. Cameron ’09, of Needham, Mass., Sept. 2, 2016. He was 29.

Kevin C. Fallon ’09, of Scotia, N.Y., who was a claims adjuster at Travelers Insurance and a first lieutenant with the Army National Guard, Sept. 15, 2016. Kevin, who enjoyed music and art and was rarely without his guitar, was 30.

Friends of Union College

Jane Perlstein, wife of the late Justin “Jim” ’42, and mother of Bill ’71, John ’74, and Tom, died Dec. 29, 2016 at 90. Among her many ties to Union, she established the Jim Perlstein ’42 Scholarship for students studying mathematics. A lifelong New Yorker, she received her nursing degree from Mt. Sinai Hospital, and earned her college degree as an adult after raising her three sons. She and Jim, who died in 2011, were married 62 years.

Martin Schaden, of Rockville Centre, N.Y., a theoretical physics professor at Rutgers University-Newark who held a doctorate in nuclear physics from the University of Vienna and also taught at Union College and New York University, July 14, 2016. The former director of the graduate program in applied physics at Rutgers-Newark, he was 60.

Joseph Reno, of Altamont, N.Y., a part-time cleaner in Facilities Services who joined Union in 2015, Oct. 13, 2016. Joe, who loved camping and fishing, and will be remembered for his sarcastic sense of humor and contagious laugh, was 54.

PHILLIP D. SNOW

Colleagues and other friends are mourning the passing of Phillip D. Snow, the gregarious professor of civil engineering emeritus who devoted much of his teaching and research to protecting and restoring water resources. He died Aug. 18, 2016 at his home in Ocala, Fla. He was 73.

He joined the College in 1974 and rose to full professor by the time he retired in 2003. He served as department chair and director of Environmental Studies.

Snow, easy to spot in his trademark yellow tape measure suspenders, was often found leading students in research at area lakes and streams. Collins Lake in Scotia, where Snow directed a dredging effort with Profs. Carl George and Peter Tobiessen, was a frequent destination for field trips. Snow led restoration projects at a number of other local lakes including Saratoga Lake, Ann Lee Pond and Central Park Pond in Schenectady.

For seven years, he co-taught a mini-term course, “Water Resources in Sao Paulo, Brazil,” with Martha Huggins of Sociology, and, later, William Garcia of Modern Languages. Students visited favelas, wastewater treatment plants, steel mills and beaches to investigate the challenges of protecting water sources in highly populated areas.

He worked closely with the late Prof. Gil Harlow to assemble an environmental studies lab composed largely of items they acquired from the Army surplus warehouse in Rotterdam. He also worked with Prof. Frank Griggs to reconstruct the Squire Whipple Bridge near the northeast corner of campus. They also rebuilt a half dozen other bridges in the area.

Besides his teaching, he served as a consultant for a number of area engineering firms.

He received grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and National Science Foundation toward the study of lake restoration projects. He presented and published in a variety of venues including those sponsored by the EPA and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the North American Lake Management Society and the American Water Resources Association.

He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in geology at Marietta College and Syracuse University, respectively. He earned his master’s and Ph.D. in environmental engineering from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Survivors include his wife, Diane; and two children, Hillary and Michael.
John Wold ’38, a devoted son of Union whose generosity has transformed the College, and a pioneering geologist whose vision changed the mining industry, died Feb. 19, 2017, in Casper, Wyo. He was 100.

Wold, also an accomplished politician, was born Aug. 31, 1916, in East Orange, N.J. But he grew up at Union College, a place that sparked his love of geology long before he was ever a student.

“John Wold was a remarkable person and Mrs. Ainlay and I feel so very fortunate to have known him and to have called him friend,” said President Stephen C. Ainlay. “He was the embodiment of what it means to be loyal son or daughter of Union. In John’s case, he literally grew up on the Union campus and his commitment to the College knew no bounds.

“John and his wife, Jane, were warm, vibrant, engaging, intellectually curious, and took great interest in all things Union. They both believed in the power of education and the special capacity of Union College to change lives for the better. To say they both will be missed is an understatement.”

A self-described “campus kid,” his father, Peter I. Wold, led Union’s Physics Department from 1920-1945. During that time, the family lived in North College, in the building that is now Wold House (one of the College’s seven Minerva Houses). On his daily walks home from school, young Wold habitually visited the spot where old geology specimens were discarded.

“I would paw through those samples and eventually built up a pretty nice collection of materials from around the world,” Wold told the Union College alumni magazine in 2003. “That dump was one of the first things that got me interested in geology.”

Wold played hockey at Union, was a St. Andrew’s University Exchange Scholar, and a member of Terrace Council, the Sigma Xi science honor society and Alpha Delta Phi fraternity.

Wold’s time on campus helped foster a bond between the man and his alma mater that would last a lifetime, and inspire a generosity that has transformed Union College.

In summer 2016, Wold gave a $5 million gift in memory of his wife, Jane, who died Nov. 18, 2015, at the age of 92. The couple had been married 70 years. Together, they gave an earlier gift of $20 million, the largest in Union’s history. It made possible the Peter Irving Wold Center, a 35,000-square-foot state-of-the-art research and education center named for John’s father. The gift also established the John and Jane Wold Professorship in Religious Studies, supported Wold House, and established the John and Jane Wold Professorship in Geology.

Wold held a master’s of science in geology from Cornell University and was founder and president of Wold Oil Properties, Inc. A trustee emeritus at Union, he was a former Republican U.S. Congressman (1969–71). He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, first as a consulting physicist and later as a gunnery officer.

A dedicated philanthropist, he supported science and science education at the likes of Casper College, Casey Eye Institute (macular degeneration research), the University of Wyoming and Cornell University.

The Wolds were recognized by the city of Casper, Wyo., in 2014 for their support of the Wold Family Arena, an ice rink at the Casper Events Center. At the dedication ceremony, Athletic Director James McLaughlin and Men’s Ice Hockey Coach Rick Bennett presented Wold with a ring to commemorate Union’s national championship earlier that year.

Wold was also instrumental in the exploration and development of the second largest talc mine in North America, and the production of trona, a source of soda ash widely used in manufacturing, in southeastern Wyoming. His interest in coal gasification in the Powder River Basin unlocked millions of tons of coal that were otherwise too deep to mine economically. He explored business ventures in nearly all extractive industries including coal, oil and gas, soda ash and uranium.

In 2015, Wold received the Energy Pioneer Award from the Wyoming Natural Gas Fair Association, just one of numerous recognitions of his career in the energy industry.

Union recognized Wold’s visionary achievements much earlier. In 1999, he received the Eliphalet Nott Medal, which honors the perseverance of distinguished alumni who have attained great distinction in their fields. In 2008, Union bestowed an honorary doctor of science degree on Wold.

Wold visited campus last June for an early 100th birthday party hosted by students in Wold House.

Survivors include his sons Peter and Jack; daughter, Priscilla Longfield; and a number of grandchildren, including Joseph Wold ’10.
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• Alumni Athletic Events
• Garnet Guard Luncheon
• Academic Open Houses
• Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts
• Phi Beta Kappa’s 200th Anniversary
• Welcome Reception
• The Alumni Parade
• Convocation
• Family Picnic & Kids Carnival
• All Class Lobster Fest
• Kids ReUnion
• Generation U BBQ
• Fireworks
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