What’s Cookin’?
With the Fall 2011 semester about to begin, this student found a cool spot near the fountain to get a jump start on her studies — and enjoy the late-summer sun. Just a few days later, space in that area was a little harder to come by as thousands of other students converged on campus for the first day of classes Aug. 29. They included the 2,450 members of the Class of 2015, an accomplished, highly diverse group drawn from a pool of 21,052 applicants and boasting an average high school G.P.A. of 90.5. (For more about the Class of 2015, click here.) We welcome our students — new and returning — and wish them well in their scholarly endeavors this academic year.
Features

5  “A Victor, not a Victim”
With strong support from the University at Albany community, Rukayatu “Ruky” Tijani, B.A.’11, triumphed over tragedy and is looking forward to a bright future.

8  25 Years of Achievement
For a quarter-century, foreign countries seeking to strengthen and develop their legislatures have relied upon the expertise of SUNY’s Center for International Development (CID), a unique entity that partners State University campuses, UAlbany, Rockefeller College, other institutions and funding agencies to promote legislative and governmental success.

11  What's Cookin'? 
UAlbany alumni restaurateurs, chefs, television hosts, cookbook authors and other food-industry notables happily answer that age-old question – and share a few of their favorite recipes, too!

36  The Unstoppable Eddie Delaney
Great Danes defensive end Eddie Delaney, B.A.’11, who was born without a left hand and has diabetes, has tackled both challenges head on.

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From the Podium and Beyond
By Carol Olechowski

NYSUNY 2020 Will Support University Centers, Spur Economic Growth
Support from the NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program will strengthen programs at UAlbany and SUNY’s three other University Centers while promoting economic development throughout the Empire State. Full Story

“The Social Workers” Premieres on WCDB
Acclaimed radio host Kathryn Zox, M.S.W.’83, has launched “The Social Workers,” a live broadcast that airs on WCDB 90.9 FM Thursdays at 9 a.m. Full Story

UAlbany Is Honored for Community Service
UAlbany’s support for voluntarism, service learning and civic engagement has won recognition from the federal Corporation for National and Community Service. Full Story

School of Business Breaks Ground for New Home, Receives Dual Accreditation
School of Business students, faculty, staff and alumni had two reasons to celebrate last spring: Ground was broken for the school’s new home on the uptown campus, and its business administration and accounting programs received dual accreditation from an international association. Full Story

Dewar Will Teach Simultaneously at UAlbany and in Asia
Videoconferencing across two continents, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Diane Dewar, an associate professor and chair of the Department of Health Policy, Management and Behavior, will simultaneously teach a course to students at UAlbany’s School of Public Health and Hanoi Medical University this semester: Full Story

Chen, Fellow Researchers Investigate Cause of Heart Arrhythmia
A minuscule cardiac molecule may provide important clues to the causes of arrhythmia, or irregular heartbeat, according to a study conducted by Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences Haijun Chen and his research team. Full Story

CRC Study Indicates that Vitamin D3 May Slow Progression of Prostate Cancer
Vitamin D3 could slow the progression of prostate cancer, according to a Cancer Research Center study conducted by graduate student Wei-Lin Winnie Wang and supervised by professors JoEllen Welsh and Martin Tenniswood. Full Story
Alaei Earns International Recognition
School of Public Health doctoral student Kamiar Alaei, M.D., received the Global Health Council’s Jonathan Mann Award for Global Health and Human Rights last June. He shared the award with his brother and fellow physician, Arash Alaei. Full Story

Jacobson, Vellutino Are Named Distinguished Faculty
UAlbany faculty members Frank R. Vellutino and Trudi E. Jacobson recently attained the highest academic rank accorded by the State University of New York Board of Trustees. Full Story

Grant Will Aid Struggling Readers
A $3.1 million U.S. Department of Education grant will support the Child Research and Study Center’s Lynn Gelzheiser and several of her UAlbany colleagues as they continue to assist struggling young readers. Full Story

For more information about the University at Albany, visit www.albany.edu.
From the Podium and Beyond

Coming Attraction

Its galleries filled with more than 100 works by 72 alumni artists, the University Art Museum is preparing its own special addition to Homecoming Weekend festivities.

After School Special: The 2011 Alumni Show

Planning for the show began last year with broad outreach to alumni. In response, hundreds of alumni artists submitted digital images of their current work for consideration. Those selected include Fulbright Scholars and Guggenheim Fellows. Their artwork has been exhibited all over the globe and is represented in collections that include the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum, as well as the University Art Museum collections.

Many of the participants teach at colleges and universities throughout the United States. In addition to highlighting working alumni artists’ individual accomplishments, noted Janet Riker, museum director, the exhibition “will highlight the strength of the art program at UAlbany and the impact of our alumni on the art world.”

Curator Ken Johnson, M.A.’78, a freelance critic whose reviews appear regularly in The New York Times, wrote an essay for the exhibition’s 84-page catalogue. Johnson, author of Are You Experienced? How Psychedelic Consciousness Transformed Modern Art (2011), will sign the book at the Alumni Weekend Fall Festival. He will also lecture and sign books Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. at the museum.

The exhibition is made possible by a generous grant from the Alumni Association through the Grandma Moses Fund and supported by the Office of the President, the Office of the Provost, The University at Albany Foundation, the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation, University Auxiliary Services (UAS), the College of Arts and Sciences, the Art Department, Shirley W. Brand, and H. Patrick Swygert.

For more information about After School Special: The 2011 Alumni Show, please visit www.albany.edu/museum.
Rukayatu “Ruky” Tijani was 5 when she learned about famed jurist Thurgood Marshall’s work in the landmark Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education case. She has dreamed of becoming a lawyer ever since. That day drew closer last May 15 with the Honors College student’s graduation summa cum laude from the University at Albany and her acceptance to law school at the University of California, Berkeley.

Her divorced mom raised Tijani; her older brother Tommy; and her developmentally disabled brother Abraham, now 17, all alone. Losing Tommy, who had Down Syndrome and died while Tijani was still in high school, “feeds my passion to succeed,” said the Coney Island, N.Y, native. Although Tijani, a Resident Assistant, Project Excel mentor/tutor and library work-study at UAlbany, sometimes couldn’t afford to go home for the holidays, she would send money to her mother, who lost her job. “As a mentor and a tutor, it is important for me to tell students who are just going through difficulties: ‘I’ve been there. And I’m a victor, not a victim,’” said Tijani, who plans a career in entertainment law, civil rights litigation and constitutional law.

She finds a way to make things happen. Tijani once confided to her math professor, “I have no money to afford the book for class, but if you loan me the textbook during your office hours, I’ll get that A.” She did.

As campus coordinator for the Law School Admissions Council, Tijani presented workshops each semester about the law school admissions process and resources for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. She was vice president of Phenomenal Voices, a multicultural performing arts group, and served as public relations director for the Precizun step team.

Tijani, who graduated with a 3.99 G.P.A. and a dual degree in political science and Africana studies, ranked in the top 1 percent of the Class of 2011, won two Spellman awards and was a member of three national honor societies. She credits Makisha Brown and Chris Fernando of Project Excel (officially the TRIO Student Support Services program), as “pivotal to my academic success. I became the person I am because of all the resources available to me at this University and all the people who truly believed I could be somebody, not because of my obstacles, but despite them.”
Congratulations to Robert J. Sampson, M.A.’79, Ph.D.’83, and John Laub, M.A.’76, Ph.D.’80 (Spring 2004 UAlbany, “Understanding the Lives of Troubled Boys”), on receiving the Stockholm Prize in Criminology last June 14. The award, presented by Sweden’s Queen Silvia in a ceremony at Stockholm City Hall, honored the researchers for their study of how and why criminals cease to offend at various turning points in their lives. Sampson is the Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University and a visiting scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation in New York. Laub, currently on leave from the University of Maryland, College Park, has served as director of the National Institute of Justice in Washington, D.C., since July 2010.

Former volleyball standout Ashlee Reed, B.S.’06 (Spring 2007 UAlbany, “Team Player”) may be back in Texas, but she hasn’t forgotten UAlbany. The Austin native, who earned a degree in human biology and psychology, is now completing doctoral studies in physical therapy at Hardin-Simmons University. Reed describes the program as “one of the most intense in the country, since we go year ’round and finish in two-and-a-half years. But I know it will be worth it!” Being back in Texas is “very different,” but Reed feels right at home: The school’s colors are purple and gold. “There is also an Albany about 20 miles down the road,” she adds, “so when I hear on the news, ‘In Albany today …’ it still throws me for a loop!”

U.S. Public Health Service Lt. Katrina Mosley, M.P.H.’06 (Spring 2010 UAlbany, “Understanding Public Health”), who studied community health and behavioral science, is back home now in Georgia. Formerly stationed with the Food and Drug Administration’s New Orleans District Office in Nashville, she moved to her hometown, Atlanta, to work at the FDA’s District Office there, “which covers North and South Carolina.” In July 2010, during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, Mosley was deployed to Mobile, Ala., “where I worked as a medical officer, assisting with the logistics of the beach clean-ups along the coast.”
School of Criminal Justice faculty member **Frankie Y. Bailey, M.A.’79, Ph.D.’86**, (Fall 2010 UAlbany, “Author, Author!”) has published the fifth book in her Lizzie Stuart mystery series. In *Forty Acres and a Soggy Grave*, released July 26, crime historian Stuart and her fiancé, John Quinn, travel to Virginia’s Eastern Shore for a weekend “that turns deadly.” The other books in the series are *Death’s Favorite Child; A Dead Man’s Honor; Old Murders;* and *You Should Have Died on Monday*. Bailey, whose research currently focuses on crime, clothing and American culture, has also completed the first book in “a new near-future police procedural series set in Albany.”

“Jordan is a fascinating place to work and live,” reports U.S. Foreign Service Officer **Jeffrey Loree, B.A.’89** (Fall 2007 UAlbany, “Diplomatically Speaking – and Listening”), a cultural attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Amman since August 2010. “Jordanians have a well-deserved reputation for hospitality in a region famous for it. Most have some facility with English, and it is hurting my already limited ability to communicate in Arabic,” jokes the Lewiston, N.Y., native, who majored in Chinese at UAlbany and also speaks Japanese, French and Indonesian. Loree’s wife, art conservator Hiroko Kariya, is managing “a wide range of archeological projects” in Egypt while the couple lives in Jordan.
In the 25 years since its founding, the State University of New York’s Center for International Development (SUNY/CID) has had several homes within the SUNY System. But one constant has remained: its mission of “Connecting People and Ideas for Integrated Development.”

Based at the University at Albany’s Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy since 2007, SUNY/CID combines knowledge with the practice of government and policy-making to aid foreign countries in strengthening and developing their legislatures. SUNY, UAlbany and Rockefeller College resources; field offices on five continents; and links with donor agencies, local and national governments, institutions of higher learning, and other partners have enabled the center to merge projects with a government-focused research agenda. As a result, SUNY/CID has implemented more than $200 million in international development projects over the past quarter-century while forging strong relationships with legislative bodies around the globe.

“We’ve had a great impact,” noted M. Monica Bartoszek, the center’s outreach coordinator. “We’ve developed a really solid reputation for the work that we do, legislative strengthening and other projects in Bolivia, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Haiti, Kenya, Uganda and many other countries.”

SUNY/CID training, Bartoszek said, is comprehensive, encompassing “everything from HIV/AIDS education and computer training to learning how to organize public hearings for parliamentary committees.” Projects range in duration from six months to 10 years.

Through internships, UAlbany students like Emily Blakeslee, B.A.’11, participate in SUNY/CID’s work. The Binghamton, N.Y., native credits the experience with “inspiring me to pursue a career in the international nonprofit field, specifically focusing on improving the lives and circumstances of women and children.”

Now studying for her M.P.A., Blakeslee, 21, began her internship in September 2010. In the year since, assigned to the home office in Albany, she has “updated our Web site, through CID, Emily Blakeslee, B.A.’11, has encountered "many scholars" who "have taught me a great deal and have shared eye-opening firsthand perspectives on development work."

Through CID, Emily Blakeslee, B.A.’11, has encountered “many scholars” who “have taught me a great deal and have shared eye-opening firsthand perspectives on development work.”
reviewed financial reconciliations, done all types of research, helped coordinate travel plans, worked on document management and assisted with media outreach. With each task, I learn something and gain a new perspective and understanding of the work we do at CID. I have been able to take theories I learned in a classroom and apply them to real people and real situations.

SUNY/CID Senior Associate Mark Baskin, a research professor at Rockefeller College, has managed parliamentary strengthening projects in Iraq, Serbia and Jordan and contributed to projects in Afghanistan and Kenya. Baskin, a Fulbright Fellow in Yugoslavia in the 1980s, had several other fellowships in the Balkans, and worked for the United Nations as a peacekeeper in the 1990s and later at a peacekeeping training center in Canada.

Attracted to SUNY/CID and Rockefeller College because “I thought they brilliantly lend a practical, pedagogical and academic approach to international development and diplomacy,” he is currently directing a comparative research project on constituency development funds (CDFs), “policy tools that enable Members of Parliament to play a role in assisting in service delivery in their constituencies in more than 20 countries, including Kenya, Uganda and Bangladesh.”

The 100-plus SUNY/CID projects implemented in Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East over the years, observed Baskin, “have dealt with strengthening the capacity of the legislature to serve as a constructive partner in government, economic development, environmental projection, the strengthening of civil society, the deepening of rule of law and good government, among other things.”

At any given time, Baskin added, “eight to 12 interns and student fellows help us with our work. They acquire analytical tools and skills that help them establish careers in some aspects of international affairs, government and post-graduate studies, and in the private sector. Former interns have found jobs in Congress and in the executive branch of government. Others have gone on to complete professional and academic programs at graduate schools.”

For information about upcoming events commemorating SUNY/CID’s 25th anniversary, please visit the center’s Web site. Search internship opportunities at www.cid.suny.edu.
Gifts at Work
By Carol Olechowski

UAlbany Unite: Equation for Fundraising Success

Engage the entire University community, add an element of friendly competition among student groups, and what do you get? UAlbany Unite – and the most successful student gift campaign ever.

Rather than support one individual project, UAlbany Unite invited students from various campus organizations to submit videos documenting their groups’ work. Donations were then solicited from students’ families and friends and from alumni.

The idea behind UAlbany Unite, explained UAlbany Vice President for University Development Fardin Sanai, was to provide “a creative experience and also teach students about philanthropy first-hand.” In addition to contributing to a cause, Sanai said, students “were able to learn about the importance of supporting and promoting their organizations, as well as the University.”

Through UAlbany Unite, donations from more than 600 students, parents, alumni, faculty and staff exceeded $17,000. Sponsorships from University Auxiliary Services (UAS), the Student Association (SA), the Alumni Association, The University at Albany Foundation and The Class of 2011 Book Drive doubled that amount, raising a total of more than $35,000 for the gift.

Previously, the largest class gift was the $33,000 the Class of 2009 raised to support the Richard Bailey Memorial Scholarship Fund.

During the 2011-12 academic year, participating UAlbany Unite student groups will use their funding to enhance student life on campus and further their organizations’ missions. The groups include L’Chaim, Five Quad, Middle Earth, Hillel, the University Equestrian Team, the Ski and Snowboard Club, Women’s Self Defense and Fitness (WSDF), Albany Student Television (ATV), Mixed Martial Arts, Women’s Rugby, Albany Running Exchange, Albany Business Leaders Emerging (ABLE), The Sketchy Characters, and D.R.E.A.M.org.

To view last year’s entries, donate to one of the groups, or learn more about this year’s UAlbany Unite initiative, please link to the University’s Web site at www.albany.edu/unite or visit UAlbany Unite on Facebook.

School of Business Alumni Support E&Y Initiative

Ernst & Young employees who graduated from UAlbany’s School of Business continue to support the school through the Ernst & Young Initiative. Last spring, Alex Fredericks ’95 and Anna Politano ’10, third and fourth from left, presented a check to School of Business Dean Donald Siegel, Professor and Chair of Accounting Ingrid Fisher, and Vice President for University Development Fardin Sanai. The initiative aids the school in educating a competitive workforce while enriching the student experience.
Quite a lot is cookin’ with UAlbany alumni in the food industry! Read on to learn how the host of a nationally televised cooking program, a vegan chef, a spirits reviewer, the CEO of a major restaurant-management corporation, the founder of a natural-foods company, a vintner, a special-events director and several restaurateurs devised their own recipes for success.

Also included in this online-only issue of UAlbany are a few surprises: video links – and some tasty recipes to try at home!
Several years ago, however, Lillien hit upon a unique way to conquer her “obsession” with food, maintain a healthy weight, follow a common-sense diet – and help other women to do the same. “I have a knack for finding products that taste great but are low in calories and fat, and also ways to make homemade food that tastes super-fattening but isn’t,” she says. “And I love to share my findings and ideas with people. One day, the idea to create sort of an umbrella diet brand from a regular person, as opposed to a doctor or a dietitian, popped into my brain. It needed to be fun and a little sassy, not boring. So Hungry Girl was born.”

Hungry Girl began in 2004 as a free e-mail that went out to fewer than 100 people each day under the heading “Tips and Tricks … for Hungry Chicks.” In the years since, Lillien has continued to “deliver the content in a very personal way,” serving up to subscribers such artfully titled entree, side-dish and snack options as “Hakuna Fritata!” “Los Tacos Locos” and “Lord of the Onion Rings” and suggesting low-calorie, low-fat substitutions for packaged foods. Currently, “the e-mail reaches 1.1 million people daily. And that list has grown 100-percent organically – via word of mouth,” she notes.

As an undergraduate, Lillien planned for a career in entertainment and media, despite having “no connections in the field at all. I always felt I was a little entrepreneurial, though, and would one day start a business.” She completed internships at an Albany television station and at Tutti Frutti, a Long Island “teen fanzine” that hired her as editor-in-chief right after graduation. Lillien later worked for Nickelodeon, then for Warner Bros., before

Lisa Lillien, B.A.’87

“Hungry Girl”

By Carol Olechowski

I always loved food but had a weird relationship with it,” confesses Lisa Lillien. Growing up on Long Island, N.Y., “the child of a yo-yo dieter, I was always a little chubby and watching what I ate. In my teens and 20s, I went up and down about 15 pounds.” At UAlbany, where she majored in communications and minored in business administration, “I didn’t gain the ‘freshman 15,’ but I definitely wasn’t losing weight. I would eat Denny’s Grand Slam breakfasts after going out to The Lamp Post – or pizza at 3 a.m. Not ideal!”

What’s Cookin’?
assuming the Hungry Girl persona full time several years ago.

“The growth of the brand” has opened many doors for its creator. Lillien has written a *New York Daily News* column and five cookbooks (“all New York Times best sellers – and three No. 1s!”), including *Hungry Girl 300 Under 300: 300 Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Dishes Under 300 Calories*. She hosts the “Hungry Girl” television program, airing on both Food Network and the Cooking Channel, and produces “weekly content” for Yahoo!, WeightWatchers.com and *Redbook* magazine. In addition, the California-based Lillien makes personal appearances around the U.S.

Her greatest challenge, Lillien finds, is “juggling all the work. I do have a staff of about 12 people now who work with me on all things HG, but I work so many hours and don’t like to say no, and so I have very little free time these days.”

Still, Lillien, who admits to having “a really big appetite,” always has time to whip up her favorite recipe: “Lord of the Onion Rings.”

---

**Lord of the Onion Rings**

**Prep:** 20 minutes ~ **Cooking:** 25 minutes

**Ingredients**

- 1 large onion
- 1/2 cup Fiber One Original bran cereal
- 1/4 tsp. garlic powder, or more to taste
- 1/8 tsp. onion powder, or more to taste
- 1/8 tsp. salt, or more to taste
- black pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup fat-free liquid egg substitute (like Egg Beaters Original) [HG FYI: You’ll only need about 1/4 cup, but using 1/2 cup makes it soooo much easier.]
- Optional dip: Vivi’s Original Sauce Classic Carnival Mustard

**Directions**

Preheat oven to 375°.

• Slice the ends off the onion and remove its outer layer. Cut onion into half-inch-wide slices and separate into rings. Set aside.

• Using a blender or food processor, grind cereal to a breadcrumb-like consistency. Season crumbs with the spices and transfer to a plate or bowl. Set aside.

• Pour egg substitute into a small bowl. Prepare a baking sheet (or two) with non-stick spray. Set aside.

• Using tongs or a fork, dip the onion rings into the egg substitute, shaking each one lightly to remove the excess.

• Coat each ring with the seasoned crumbs. Evenly place rings on the baking sheet(s).

• Bake until each ring is crispy outside and soft inside, about 20-25 minutes, carefully flipping rings midway through.

• Serve with mustard, if desired. Enjoy!

Makes one serving. Calories: 155

1g fat; 515mg sodium; 41g carbs; 16g fiber; 7g sugars; 9g protein; PointsPlus® value: 4
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What’s Cookin’?

Jeffrey Bank, B.A.’88

Knowing “What’s Important”

By Carol Olechowski

As a UAlbany undergraduate, Jeffrey Bank majored in sociology and minored in political science, intending to become a lawyer. But the Long Island native opted for a much different career path.

“My next-door neighbor was a restaurant broker,” Bank remembers. “I was looking for a summer job and said, ‘I’d love to come work for you in your office.’” The neighbor suggested instead that Bank go to work in a restaurant. “I worked the whole summer in three restaurants, learning the business. With no time to spend any money, by the end of the summer, I thought I was rich.”

The restaurant business, Bank decided, “looked like a fun and interesting career. Why would I go to law school?” Over the next 10 years, he ran three restaurants on Long Island, selling them to open Artie’s Delicatessen in New York City in 1999.

Bank, however, “quickly got bored in a single restaurant.” Alicart Restaurant Group, a New York-based firm “offering an exciting and unique spectrum of dining concepts,” was undergoing some internal changes just as he was looking for a fresh challenge. Bank joined the company and, in 2006, became CEO.

Alicart Restaurant Group manages annual sales exceeding $70 million. Its flagship brand, Carmine’s – “NYC’s Legendary Family Style Italian Restaurant” – was established in 1990. Carmine’s has two locations in New York City and others in Atlantic City and Washington, D.C., and at the Atlantis in the Bahamas. For 16
years, Alicart has also managed Virgil’s Real BBQ, which is located in Times Square. A 650-seat Virgil’s will open this coming November, also in the Atlantis in the Bahamas. Bank travels to the various restaurants in keeping with his commitment to provide “high-quality dining experiences marked by delicious food, welcoming ambience, great value and superior service.”

One of the best parts of his job, Bank says, is interacting with Alicart’s 1,200 employees and watching them grow: “Some people have been here 21 years, since day one. You’ll see someone who started out as a dishwasher and is now a chef, or a director of Operations who was a server years ago. People are promoted from within. I don’t want a dishwasher or a host to think that will be his or her only job, but more a possible career path. We call it Alicart University. A lot of our employee growth is organic.

“We do also hire people from outside, and we ‘Carminize’ them, as well. New hires will succeed if they understand what’s expected of them and we provide the right tools for them to do their jobs. It’s all about communication. You need to know what’s important to people. Everyone likes to make more money, but it’s also about quality of life and having time for family and friends.”

Bank’s “great experience” at Albany “made me a more effective CEO. In Introduction to Theatre, we helped manage productions and run a theatre. My Spanish-culture class was extremely interesting. My internship with the New York State Senate was a phenomenal opportunity; it gave me great insight into government and the budget process. The well-rounded liberal arts degree I received at Albany has been a very valuable tool in making me successful. Managing people is as important as managing ‘the numbers.’”

Bank has continued the learning process. Early in his career, he discovered that “knowing the business inside and out is the best way to manage it thoroughly. On my first day of work, over 25 years ago, I changed out of my suit and tie and into whites. I wound up washing dishes that day because two dishwashers called in sick. Later, if a waiter didn’t come in, I waited tables. There’s nothing better than practical experience.”
Ken Denberg, Ph.D. ’88

A Vintage All His Own

By Amy Halloran, B.A. ’90
Writer and teacher Ken Denberg recently added “vintner” to his list of occupations.

The Cambridge, N.Y., resident has taught rhetoric and composition at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy since 1998. Six years ago, he started teaching creative writing for undergraduates at UAlbany. He also works in the University in the High School program, which allows seniors to earn college credit. “My position is to evaluate the teachers,” said Denberg, noting that the secondary school students take rigorous, college-level courses.

Denberg has lived in Washington County since 1985. The location served his summertime avocation for fly-fishing – Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus of English Eugene Garber has long been a fishing partner – and living rurally inspired him to “use the land,” as well.

The property’s Darwin Road address led Denberg to name it Natural Selection Farm. He planted 1,000 blueberry bushes there, along with 200 raspberry plants; the fruits are sold in fresh markets and to restaurants in the Saratoga area. The three-acre vineyard contains 700 vines. Businesses in Saratoga and Washington counties have been enthusiastic supporters of his winery. Denberg made and sold 500 bottles of wine last year. This year, he has 1,700 bottles and anticipates the same response.

“I didn’t know you could get a wine this good in New York State,” one restaurateur told him before ordering a case of Handsome Farmer Red, a dry, full-bodied blend of Marquette, St. Croix and Geneva Red grapes. Denberg also makes a blueberry wine and two white wines.

“A lot of people turn their noses up at New York State wine, but within the last five years, people are really learning how to make wine,” Denberg explains. “You need to understand how to read the wine as it’s coming along. Once you grasp the concept that it’s telling you something, you can have the wine analyzed to tell you what to add to it, and to the ground.”

Denberg links his agricultural endeavors to his nonfiction writing, and to reading the works of others, such as Wendell Berry, Michael Pollan and John McPhee. In 2005, he received a New York State Council on the Arts Award for his creative nonfiction.
Mark Reinfeld, B.A.’89

Enlightened Chef
By Carol Olechowski

Mark Reinfeld learned to cook from the best: “my mom and my grandfather, Benjamin Bimstein, a famed chef and ice-carver in New York City in the 1950s. I used to love to prepare meatballs and spaghetti,” he remembers.

The Portland, Ore.-based Reinfeld still loves to cook. But these days, he’s a renowned vegan chef, so the meatballs are made with tempeh, and vegetables stand in for the pasta.

Vegans, says Reinfeld, “enjoy fruits, vegetables, grains, seeds, nuts, herbs and spices. Veganism is essentially a vegetarian diet with no dairy or eggs. A strict vegan would not use animal products – including leather and fur – at all.”

Reinfeld’s “love of travel and compassion for animals” led him to veganism, a “surprisingly easy” lifestyle to embrace. “Salads are vegan, so most of us have been eating vegan foods our whole lives. Salsa, guacamole and stir fry are also vegan. There are so many vegan products available that you can create world-class cuisine using only plants, and substituting tofu or tempeh for fish or chicken.”

Years ago, “I ate lots of different things without really thinking about whether they were healthy,” observes Reinfeld, admitting to a youthful fondness for fast food. “I wouldn’t say I was a picky eater.”

He later began to cultivate more conscientious eating habits. As a pre-law student majoring in philosophy and minoring in business, Reinfeld “awakened to the joys of travel” junior year while attending the London School of Economics. After returning to UAlbany, he applied to New York University for law school, then deferred enrollment for a year to continue his travels in Europe, Asia and the Middle East, absorbing what – and how – people of other cultures ate. He attended NYU for a semester but “decided this wasn’t for me. I got rid of most of what wouldn’t fit in my car and headed west, not sure where I would land or what I would do.”

Reinfeld landed in San Diego and began his “cooking career” in the kitchen of a natural-foods store. Three years later, “I branched off on my own and started the Blossoming Lotus as a personal chef/consulting service, teaching
Mark Reinfeld defines a few vegan food items:

**Spelt:** an ancient form of wheat many people find more digestible than whole-wheat flour

**Quinoa:** a South American grain– botanically a seed – high in protein and having a nutty flavor

**Tempeh:** a cultured soy product used as a meat replacement

**Tamari:** a wheat-free soy sauce that adds a rich, flavorful depth to dishes

**Chia Seed:** a seed high in omega fatty acids and wonderful in puddings and other desserts

**Nutritional Yeast:** a fortified yeast, high in protein and Vitamin B12, that provides a nutty, cheesy flavor and rounds out a vegan diet

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**Roasted Red Pepper Hummus**

*(Courtesy Vegan Fusion World Cuisine)*

- 2 red bell peppers (1 cup), roasted
- 3 cups garbanzo beans, cooked and drained well
- 3/4 cup tahini, roasted to a creamy consistency
- 1/4 cup fresh-squeezed lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons wheat-free tamari or soy sauce
- 2 teaspoons cumin powder, toasted
- 1 1/2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 3/4 teaspoon sea salt, or to taste
- 3/4 teaspoon black pepper, ground to taste
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon chipotle chile powder (optional)
- 1/2 teaspoon soy sauce, or to taste (optional)

Place roasted pepper in food processor with lemon juice, soy sauce or tamari and olive oil; blend well.

Add garbanzo beans and remaining ingredients; process until smooth.

**Variations**

- Replace red pepper with one of the following:
  - Garlic Lover’s: 1 1/2 cups roasted garlic and 1 1/2 teaspoons minced fresh garlic
  - Sun-dried Tomato Basil: 1/2 cup sun-dried tomatoes, soaked and drained; 2 tablespoons minced basil
  - Kalamata Rosemary: 1 1/2 tablespoons fresh rosemary, minced; 3/4 cup Kalamata olives
  - Caramelized Onion: 1 cup caramelized onions, pureed

Serves 6-8
Anne (Treffenetti) Trimble, B.A.’71

Maintaining an Albany Institution

By Amy Halloran, B.A.’90
Anne (Treffiletti) Trimble opened La Serre with her husband, Geoffrey W. Trimble, B.A.’72, now deceased, in downtown Albany in 1977. The name means “greenhouse” in French, and the restaurant is tucked among the capital’s tall buildings, with a small greenhouse offering sunny seating and a courtyard allowing further access outdoors. La Serre serves continental fare and has private rooms, too, bringing the restaurant’s capacity up to 200.

While the Trimbles were studying at UAlbany, they worked at L’Ecole, a little bistro within walking distance of campus. “The place was very quaint, ahead of its time,” Anne recalled.

The Treffiletti family was in the wholesale grocers business, and Anne’s father – whose hard work and example “gave us a better education than any institution ever could” – made sure his daughters were formally prepared for whatever line of work they chose. Anne earned an associate’s degree in business from the Junior College of Albany and spent a few months in San Francisco before returning to Albany for her bachelor’s. She studied education. Geoffrey was an English major. Both of them loved taking film classes with Professor Arthur Lennig.

After teaching, Trimble discovered she liked the restaurant business better. She and Geoffrey started La Serre with L’Ecole’s owner, Ken Nierenberg. Their partner left after a year, but La Serre has become an institution, serving the Capitol and other Albany fixtures, including SUNY Central.

Long before the wild success of his novel *Ironweed*, William Kennedy was Geoffrey’s advisor. Over the years, the author has made La Serre a part of The New York State Writers Institute, feasting writers at dinners there. Relationships such as this, and other contacts made before and after the Trimbles’ time at UAlbany, have contributed to the restaurant’s success.

La Serre is busiest during the legislative session. Changes made to lobbying laws in the 1980s, Trimble said, permanently affected not only her establishment but the whole restaurant industry, from produce vendors to valet-parking attendants. She sees the loss in terms that are not strictly financial: “Politicians were more able to mingle and talk across the aisle” years ago, Trimble observed.

The restaurant business seems to run in Trimble’s family. After working in finance, son John came to La Serre when his father passed away, five years ago. Daughter Nicole’s restaurant, Porreca’s, is in Lake George. Nephew Michael Carney, a star server at La Serre several years ago, continues to tend bar there.

Over the years, La Serre has served hundreds of graduation parties. Many UAlbany students have been employed there, especially when The Wellington housed students downtown.

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**Lobster Ravioli**

Filling: Beat egg and mix into the ricotta. Add spinach, garlic, parsley, parmesan cheese and lobster meat. Blend thoroughly with a spoon and set aside.

Sauce: Melt butter in a saucepan; add tomatoes, squeezing gently to release juice. Simmer for 3 minutes, then add heavy cream, parmesan cheese, basil, parsley and lobster meat. Simmer until cream thickens.

Ravioli: Flour a large, flat work surface and lay out a half-length of dough. Spoon out 18 teaspoons of filling (3 across and 6 down) at even intervals. Place other half of pasta dough on top. Beat 1 egg and place ravioli cutter in it while cutting ravioli in even squares, making sure all sides are sealed. Place in boiling water for 5 minutes, then simmer in sauce for 3-4 minutes. Place ravioli on plates, ladling sauce over them. Add fresh parsley and/or basil as garnish.
As wife, mother, stepmom, biochemist and multitasker, Stephanie Blackwell wears many hats. Thirteen years ago, the Aurora Products Inc. (www.AuroraNatural.com) president and CEO/owner added another: “entrepreneurial businesswoman.”

Blackwell, who had “a very sheltered” upbringing in Kingston, N.Y., never anticipated embracing that role. She earned her baccalaureate degree in science at Wells College, then enrolled at Albany – “my first exposure to the ‘real world’” – to complete master’s studies in chemistry.

Professor of Chemistry Harry Frisch later helped Blackwell find a job as a polymer chemist at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey. She worked there for two years before realizing “I wasn’t where I wanted to be” and going into sales. Shortly afterward, she met Harvard M.B.A. Richard Blackwell; the couple married and had four children within six years. With “three in diapers at the same time,” the busy stay-at-home mom promised to “do something for myself in the future.”

In 1998, Blackwell, by then divorced from her first husband and remarried (to George Bailey), kept that promise. Inspired by Americans’ focus on health and fitness, she launched Aurora Products Inc., a line of all-natural foods, in a small warehouse in Bridgeport, Conn., with a staff of four and a credit card. Today, in a bustling 75,000-square-foot facility in Stratford, Conn., more than 150 employees process and package container loads of dried fruit, nuts and other high-quality ingredients shipped in from all over the U.S. and the world.

Aurora Products contain no artificial colors, flavorings or preservatives. Only natural sweeteners, such as fruit juice, are used in the preparation of granola, trail mixes and other healthy snacks. The product line can be found at major East Coast supermarket chains (such as Stop & Stop, Big Y, A&P and Hannaford); national warehouse
clubs (including BJ’s and Costco); and “in alternate channels” (such as T.J.Maxx, Marshall’s, Christmas Tree Shops and Mohegan Sun). About half of Aurora’s business consists of privately labeled packaged goods sold under retailers’ own brand names.

In addition to guaranteeing her customers fresh, wholesome products, Blackwell is working to sustain the environment. Much of Aurora’s packaging is both manufactured from recycled materials and recyclable. Organic sunflower oil left over from the nut-roasting process “is sold and re-used as fuel,” she adds.

Blackwell, who prefers that all her employees call her Stephanie, recognizes that people are key to Aurora’s success. She gives back to her neighbors, supporting such Stratford-area initiatives as Habitat for Humanity and Sterling House, a community center. Some of her employees are hired through The Kennedy Center, a non-profit rehabilitation agency that supports more than 1,500 disabled and mentally challenged adults.

Aurora is flourishing: Seasonal employees aid in handling holiday production. A move to an additional 90,000-square-foot plant in nearby Milford is anticipated soon. The company, which ended its inaugural year with gross sales of $900,000, looks forward to finishing 2011 at close to $40 million in sales.

Blackwell is gratified at Aurora’s growth – and delighted that her children Matthew, Laura and Gregory are working with her now. As director of Operations, national marketing manager and customer service associate, respectively, they are bringing a fresh perspective to the business while learning to carry on their mom’s commitment to product quality, her concern for the environment, and her loyalty to those who work for her and live in the surrounding community.

Daughter Lindsay, a 2006 UAlbany graduate and Florida resident, is pursuing her own career interests.
Pictured clockwise from top are Justin’s, two shots of the Recovery Room, and Pearl Street Pub.
John DeJohn runs several eating and drinking establishments in and around Albany. Justin’s and DeJohn’s are restaurants that nearly face each other on Lark Street. Just down the street is Legends on Lark; Pearl Street Pub and the Dirty Martini Lounge are located farther downtown. DeJohn also operates the concessions for The Armory a sports venue. By year’s end, several other projects should be up and running, including a nightclub on the lower level of the Armory, and a pub on the Washington Street side of the building. Legends on Pearl and DeJohn’s Ship Pub, in Latham, opened this fall.

“I think that managing classes and schoolwork taught me a lot about being able to run 10 restaurants,” said DeJohn, pausing to chat in the busy, white-tableclothed dining room at Justin’s.

DeJohn, who majored in English, credits UAlbany, and his two years’ active duty in the Marines, with giving him the tools to run his businesses. Many of these tools are social in nature: Don’t demonize things you don’t understand. If you fight everybody you don’t agree with, you’ll never get anything done. If you can understand what people are thinking, you can get them on your side.

DeJohn’s first job, at 15, was washing dishes at an inn in the Catskills. He worked in every position – except cook – while he got his associate’s degree at Columbia-Greene Community College, and in more restaurants while he attended UAlbany. Following graduation, DeJohn served with the Marines. He was a technician at Verizon for 11 years, continuing to work for the company while running his first two restaurants.

“The biggest thing I learned is how to manage people and how to motivate them to do things they don’t necessarily want to do. I learned that leadership from UAlbany, from the interaction between students and teachers,” he said.
Kara Newman, B.A.’92

A Spirited Writer

By Carol Olechowski

Kara Newman launched her career by writing about one of her passions: food. “After a couple of years, I realized that this was not just a hobby, and it began to consume more of my attention. Food writing evolved into wine and spirits, and I realized that was what I loved best. Now, it’s my full-time job,” says the Wine Enthusiast magazine spirits reviewer.

When Newman entered college, “I hadn’t yet settled on a career path, and I took some eclectic courses – Cartography, Sociology, Introduction to French – freshman year to try to figure that out. By sophomore year, I’d settled on an English major and an art minor. I still didn’t have a career picked out, but I knew I wanted to write.” To that end, she took the sole journalism course UAlbany then offered and wrote for the ASP “now and then.”

Later, “I went straight from college to graduate school at NYU Journalism, where I rode out the early-’90s recession and earned a master’s degree.” Newman’s first media positions ranged from an unpaid internship at New York Magazine to “some odd part-time, paying gigs – writing book-jacket copy for trashy romance novels, editing crossword puzzles, copy-editing for a financial weekly. My first full-time job was as associate editor for Traders Magazine, and I spent several years in financial journalism.”

In her current career, Newman most enjoys “the opportunity to taste such a vast array of spirits and cocktails – and to meet the people behind them, the distillers and bartenders. It still amazes me that I get paid to taste spirits and then write about what I think,” marvels Newman, who blogs at karanewman.wordpress.com and also discusses wine and spirits regularly on radio and television and at seminars.

Newman’s first book, Spice & Ice, written while she was a columnist for Chile Pepper magazine, came about when “I realized I had more great recipes and stories than I could ever shoehorn into the column.” Currently, the Manhattan resident is working on two others: The Secret Financial Life of Food, “about agricultural commodities like pork bellies, but from a culinary perspective,” and a cocktail cookbook for which she and her publisher will develop an app.

Newman employs “a pretty seasonal approach” to recipe development. “I’ll start with whatever feels right for the season – lighter spirits for spring, for example – and then I’ll think about the produce and herbs or spices that are available. After that, it’s a matter of adding citrus, sweeteners, and bitter elements that enhance and balance out the combination. And after that I think about presentation – what kind of ice, glassware, garnishes to use.”

If a recipe doesn’t work, “I tweak it or scrap it. P.S., I usually don’t have a shortage of recipe testers for cocktail ideas!” observes Newman, who shares the following recipe with UAlbany readers.

Daryl Ann Saunders
Sparkling Ginger Daisy

From *Spice & Ice: 60 Tongue-Tingling Cocktails*, by Kara Newman (Chronicle Books)

A daisy is a classic juice-based cocktail sweetened with grenadine or a red liqueur, and often topped with sparkling wine. Here, the bright spice of ginger plays against a backdrop of bubbles for a festive holiday sparkler. And if you feel like gilding the lily, try one or both of the optional special touches below.

1 ounce Plymouth Gin
1 ounce Domaine de Canton ginger liqueur
lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon grenadine
Brut champagne

Combine gin, ginger liqueur, lemon juice and grenadine in an ice-filled mixing glass. Stir until well chilled, and strain into a champagne flute. Top with champagne.

Option 1: If desired, rim the flute with sparkling sugar before pouring in the drink.

Option 2: Garnish with a cherry at the bottom of the flute.
Marcia Tolive, B.A. ’81

Bringing People Together

By Amy Halloran, B.A.’90

Marcia Tolive opened El Loco Restaurant on Madison Avenue in Albany in 1983. The Westchester native went to UAlbany to study business but switched to sociology after two years. Her education, however, has applied to her career more than you might think.

“Sociology is just marketing without trying to get people to buy things. I use sociology every single day because I deal with people,” said Tolive, whose 60-seat restaurant is a Capital Region fixture.

“We’ve offered health insurance for 20 years,” she added. “We were one of the first restaurants to do that. I recognize that this is not just a business.”

The sense that the restaurant is a people-centered enterprise, for both workers and customers, perhaps comes from Tolive’s thinking like a sociologist.

Her minor in business administration turned out to be important, too. She uses basic accounting skills daily and marketing routinely. The market research she did door-to-door – including one survey for Cup-A-Soup – added to her understanding of people and business, too.

El Loco began as a lunch cart at the Capitol building; after a season, Tolive and her business (and romantic) partner looked for an indoor location. Using money she’d saved up to backpack around Europe, they opened the restaurant.

“I said I’d do it for a year,” she laughed. When the year was up, her mate was gone, but she and the business stayed put. Eventually, she traveled around Europe with her daughters.

When she celebrated El Loco’s 20th anniversary, former staff came from all over – even Alaska.

Tlive is happiest “when I bring people together. Whether it’s bringing together people who are eating and having a good time, or whether it’s my staff, the restaurant’s a nexus, and I think that’s my importance in life.”
Martin Butera, B.S.'85, and Laurie (Novack) Butera, B.S.'86

Mangia!

By Amy Halloran, B.A.'90

Martin Butera and Laurie (Novack) Butera operate four restaurants on Long Island with Martin’s brother, Gary, and other partners. The brothers worked during college and high school for the family pizza business but did not plan on careers in food service.

“Swearing up and down that we wouldn’t get back in the industry, we ended up doing so. We wanted to have a business of our own, and it was something that we knew, so we find ourselves doing it,” said Martin.

There are four Butera’s restaurants, located in Seaford, Woodbury, Sayville and Smithtown, N.Y. Each seats 90-95 people.

After graduating from UAlbany with a degree in business, Martin took a job with Federated Department Stores as database administrator. He got his master’s in history at SUNY Stony Brook, thinking he wanted to teach, until the restaurant business lured him back.

Laurie, who also majored in business administration, took a job with a precious-metals company following graduation, working “with commodities and rare coins. I had a lot of customers,” she recalled. “It was a great job.”

The market was doing really well, but when the opportunity arose, Laurie decided to open the restaurant with Martin and Gary. As a restaurant owner, Laurie noted, “you really need to be proficient in accounting, finance, personal communications – pretty much everything.”

“We all realized there’s something to be said about making for yourself and doing your own thing,” added Martin, who liked – and still likes – cooking. Martin and Gary are executive chefs. They wear whites and work on the line in the kitchens, preparing regional Italian dishes. Laurie manages the front of the house, where she sees lots of friends from UAlbany. They see a lot of alumni elsewhere, too.

“I never knew Albany was so close to the Island,” quipped Martin.

Many of the restaurant staff worked their way through high school, then college, with the Buteras accommodating schedules so employees could prioritize education. Connections with clientele allowed the couple to introduce staff to employers beyond the world of food.

Such connections have served the Butera family well, too. A customer told a colleague at Good Housekeeping that they must have Butera’s recipe for chicken meatballs. The recipe was made three times in the magazine’s test kitchen, determined good enough to run and featured in the October 2004 issue.
Butera’s Chicken Meatballs  Prep Time: 20 minutes ~ Roasting Time: 20-25 minutes

Ingredients

- 2 pounds ground chicken
- 2 large fresh eggs
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 large garlic clove, minced
- 1 1/2 cup water
- 1 1/4 cup plain dried bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Romano cheese
- 1/2 cup fresh chopped parsley
- 1/4 cup freshly grated Romano cheese
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

Directions

- Pre-heat oven to 450°.
- Combine chicken, eggs, onion, garlic, water, bread crumbs, parsley, cheese, salt and pepper. Blend together.
- Pour oil onto a plate. Dip hands in oil, then shape (roll) into 2-inch meatballs, oiling hands, as needed, to prevent sticking.
- Transfer meatballs to 2 15 ½” x 10 ½” jelly roll pans.
- Place pans on 2 oven racks, and then pour 2 cups of water into each pan.
- Roast approximately 20-25 minutes or until the meatballs lose their pink color throughout and are just golden brown.

Enjoy!

2 pounds ground chicken
2 large fresh eggs
1 small onion, diced
1 large garlic clove, minced
1 1/2 cup water
1 1/4 cup plain dried bread crumbs
1/2 cup freshly grated Romano cheese
1/2 cup fresh chopped parsley
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
Erica Morris is director of Special Events at Marcus Samuelsson Group (marcussamuelsson.com and foodrepublic.com). Samuelsson is a chef known for his restaurants and cookbooks, and for promoting healthy eating.
A communication major at the University at Albany, Morris found that her minor in theatre helped break her out of her shell, allowing her to take on different roles. “When you’re in the restaurant business, or any business where you’re dealing with clients, it helps to know that sometimes there’s a persona you have to put on, and that’s okay,” said Morris.

A class in mediation and arbitration was another good tool for Morris as her professional life evolved from waiting tables to her current high-profile post, thanks to her insatiable curiosity and a passion for food.

While managing the front of the house for a restaurant with an open kitchen, she spent a lot of time surveying the dining room from the kitchen. Morris quizzed the chefs about what they were doing, and one of them suggested she attended the Culinary Institute of America. Once she graduated, she helped launch a restaurant, then talked her way into doing special events for People magazine. Her lack of magazine experience was seen as a potential deficit, but, she told her interviewers: “I’ve been running a restaurant where the kitchen could be on fire, and I’m out on the floor, looking at guests and saying, ‘Hi; how are you?’ Just doing the magic show every night.”

After four years at Time, Inc., Morris took a job in special events with New York Magazine. Two years later, she directed special events at Gourmet, the definitive food magazine. After the magazine’s surprising end, she joined Marcus Samuelsson Group, where she’s arranged events that allowed her to meet President Obama and former President Clinton.

“I’m on the other side of it now,” she said, explaining that the events department was always part of marketing in the media world. “While working at the magazine, I was constantly creating and executing sponsor opportunities, so there’s a lot of crossover in that way. I know what sponsors are looking for. I know the language and the way things are approached.”

Her career is full of highlights. When the Democratic National Convention held a fundraising dinner at Red Rooster in March, Morris served President Obama his dinner. Two months later, she met former President Clinton when the Clinton Foundation held an event there.

One of her favorite events, however, was helping a mother prepare her son’s graduation party. As “amazing” as the big-name events are, Morris noted, “when you do an event for the everyday person who is so appreciative of everything, you feel really good at the end of the day.”
Great Danes defensive end
Eddie Delaney
Might as well let the offensive line know. See if they can stop him. Good luck. They haven’t thus far.

“One hand or two hands, it comes down to whether you can play,” Delaney said.

Since joining the UAlbany football program in 2007, Delaney’s contributions have been steady and significant. As a freshman, he caught the attention of his coaches and teammates with his passion and performance on the scout team. Practices were his games, and his intensity was contagious.

The following year, Delaney became a starter at left defensive end and made the All-Northeast Conference second team. Last season, he made the conference’s first team after recording 41 tackles, including 4.5 for a loss.

“He has great quickness, tremendous strength, and an intense desire to excel,” Ford said. “Those things are more important than playing with two hands.”

Delaney finished his undergraduate work last spring but has one season of eligibility left because he redshirted his freshman season. This year, he will take graduate courses in communications.

He has had to overcome more than just playing with one hand. He’s also a diabetic who wears an insulin pump. At the start of his college career, Delaney would often need to take a break to correct his blood-sugar levels, but he and medical staff have kept the situation under control.

Delaney’s close monitoring of his body has also helped him reshape it. When he arrived at UAlbany, he was just over 210 pounds. He expects to play his senior season at 250, the result of intense weight lifting. Delaney bench-presses 360 pounds by balancing half the weight against his arm.

“Watching him lift is quite a sight,” Ford said. “It is truly unbelievable.”

While he would like to play football as long as he can, mentioning a possible post-college career in Canada or the United Football League as possibilities, Delaney said he also is considering trying to build a career that combines his communications degree and his expert workout-room knowledge into helping design equipment for people with disabilities.

“I’d love to share what I’ve learned, and some of my methods, with people throughout the world,” Delaney said.

They would hear that message from a person who has a history of success and inspiration.

THE UNSTOPPABLE

Eddie Delaney

BY JEFF GOLD

If Great Danes defensive end Eddie Delaney has a long-sleeved shirt in his locker, University at Albany Head Coach Bob Ford hasn’t seen him put it on. All long sleeves would do is disguise the truth: Delaney was born without a left hand.

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Ask Geoff
By Geoff Williams, University Archivist

Have you ever looked closely at the walls of UAlbany’s downtown campus?
Or are they just backdrops for studying or for moving from one room or building to another?

For me, until very recently, much of the art has been backdrop. I have given guided tours for alumni classes and outside groups of the historical art on the downtown campus for many years, and I thought it might be interesting to let a wider audience know about the downtown art – and to take a closer look at it myself.

In researching this article, I came to realize that the art collections there are much more varied than I thought they were. There are two types of art representing two different periods of the University’s history. The first, created from 1910 through the 1940s, is very traditional and celebrates classical, historical or literary themes. All of the early 20th-century art was purchased with funds from alumni or graduating classes, and most of it has been restored by alumni. The second, 81 items in all – far more than I had imagined – is art from the University’s contemporary art collections, most installed during the last 10 years and representing student art works, and/or art given to or loaned to the University. These pieces represent a conscious effort by the University Art Museum to display works that would ordinarily be stored.

Our earliest collections of art date from the construction of the Willett Street building in the 1880s. A prominent feature of that building was a massive stained-glass window depicting classical Greek and Roman themes related to education, and reputed to be the largest such window in the United States at the time. Located in the Assembly Hall of the State Normal School, which became the State Normal College in 1890, the window was paid for by the Alumni Association, designed by Ezra Treadwell of Boston, and possibly completed by Tiffany & Co. Unfortunately, no color image of it exists. When the Willett Street building burned in 1906, the Alumni Window was completely destroyed, along with oil paintings of the school’s early leaders. The only item saved from the fire was the plaster statue of Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom and UAlbany’s symbol. (For more about Minerva, please see “Ask Geoff” in the Fall 2007 UAlbany, which is available online.)

Graduating classes soon decided that a stained-glass window for the new auditorium – the first floor of what is now Hawley Hall, or the Dewey Library – would be an ideal gift to the school. From 1910 through 1926, graduating classes and student groups from the State Normal College, and after 1914, the New York State College for Teachers, donated funds to install in the auditorium stained-glass windows portraying classical Greek or Roman themes, and occasionally historical themes tied to the immediate past. The latter included the Class of 1920 gift, a window depicting the World War I cemetery at Flanders Field in Belgium, and the 1926 Spanish Club’s gift memorializing Francesca Martinez, a beloved French and Spanish teacher who died in 1925. Between 1980 and
1986, the Hawley windows were restored by the Chapman Studio in Albany, which is credited with designing many of the windows originally. The classes of 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934 and 1952 paid for the restorations.

Not to be outdone by State College for Teachers classes, Milne High School students embarked on their own campaign to beautify Milne Hall, which opened in 1929. They raised funds to reproduce the 115-foot-long by 11-inch-high frieze of “Alexander the Great’s Entrance into Babylon” around the top of the library in Milne 200. The frieze was copied from the one created for the Quirinal Palace in Rome by the Danish sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen and commissioned by Napoleon in 1815 to celebrate his conquest of Italy.

Milne students also decorated the walls of their library with the first murals on the downtown campus. During the early 1930s and '40s, at the suggestion of Milne School Principal John Sayles, the students commissioned Albany artist David Lithgow to create murals representing the Leather Stocking Tales and the histories of Albany and the State College for Teachers. Others depict Albany as a trading post, the Anti-Rent riots of 1838, the Anti-Ratification riots of 1788, Governor Dongan signing the Albany Charter, the courtship of Alexander Hamilton and Elizabeth Schuyler, and the state office building near the Capitol, to name a few. The Lithgow series was incomplete, however; the planned mural of the Albany skyline on the north wall was never painted.

All of the Milne 200 murals have just been restored by Milne alumni. These and other images of the murals and friezes can be seen online.

An even larger set of murals graces Hawley Hall. In 1932, then-Gov. Franklin Roosevelt approved funds to transform the Hawley auditorium into a library for the State College for Teachers. Later, as president during the Depression, Roosevelt supported hiring artists with federal funds to create art in public spaces – and, for the first time, art on the downtown campus was not paid for by students or graduates.

In the next “Ask Geoff,” I’ll continue our look at the downtown campus as art gallery and provide an itinerary for a self-guided tour.
Dorothy Griffin celebrated her 97th birthday in July in good health, although she is very lame. Dorothy is president and still very active in her family-owned business, Varflex Corp., along with her younger brother, 86. She gets to the office almost every day!

A note from your class councilor: Sadly, Shirley Callahan Dillon’s husband, John, died in January after a long struggle. Glen Clark recently was honored by the French government’s Legion of Honor for his work in liberating France in 1944. He was a superintendent in the Oswego school district and president of the retired teachers association. Glen retired from educational work after 35 years and then became a banker. He is now fully retired and lives in an assisted-living facility in Oswego next door to his wife, Eleanor, who lives in a nursing home. Glen’s address is: Glen & Eleanor Clark, 4 Burkle St., Apartment 218, Oswego, NY 13126.

Herb Oksala and his wife, Ruth, live at 1361 E. Boot Rd., Apt. 213, West Chester, PA 19380. In December 2010, they moved there from Pittsford, Mass., to be closer to their son. Both are doing well. Herb was a member of Kappa Delta Rho and lived at the Kappa Delta Rho house on South Lake Avenue. He spent his pre-retirement years with GE.

Class councilor: Vince Gillen, vpgillen@yahoo.com

A note from your class councilor: The majority of our classmates report that they have no significant news but are mostly focused on keeping well in spite of numerous physical ailments, and many have curtailed their travels. Eleanor Alland has chatted with Ruth Doran, Jane O’Brien and Mary Emmett Foster. Mary has moved to the Kingsway retirement community in Schenectady, N.Y., and is very happy there. Her husband, Bill, has passed on. Mary keeps in touch with Peggy Eggert Richardson and Julia Genovesi Fassett, who are both well. Gari Paticopoulos keeps well and is happy to be involved with her church, St. Demetrios. Eleanor attended the Albany Volunteer Council luncheon April 30 and enjoyed talking with class councilors from ‘42, ‘44 and ‘46. Eleanor traveled to Italy with members of her church, St. Lucy’s/St. Bernadette’s, in April of this year. The group stayed in Rome, Florence and Venice, and Eleanor says they enjoyed every minute.

A note from your class councilor: Bonnie Totten Adkins and husband Lee traveled many miles in June, as they hosted a dear friend from Mozambique, Jeremias Franca, who spoke to Methodist church congregations in five cities, as well as to members of the annual Methodist conference meeting in the Boston area. On the weekend of June 3-5, the Class of 1949 made history: It was the first class in the annals of SUNY Albany to hold a 62nd reunion. Congratulations to us! There were 19 registered classmates and, with guests, the total was 28. Everyone who attended seemed to have a very enjoyable time. There was plenty of time to chat (24 attendees for three hours in the hospitality room Friday evening and 17 for three hours after the luncheon on Saturday). The bus tour of all four campuses including a well-received guided tour, narrated by University at Albany Archivist Geoff Williams. The luncheon program on Saturday included 1) a beautiful remembrance by Bonnie Adkins of our deceased classmates; 2) a reading by Ellen Fay Harmon of Don Dickinson’s poem “All Hail ‘49ers on Their 62nd;” 3) a hilarious monologue (a parody of Hamlet) by Ellen Fay Harmon; 4) a tribute paid to the nine class members who have received Alumni Association Awards; 5) a rousing song fest led by Betsy Franks Schuhle; and 6) recollections of our college experiences. Our planning committee was so grateful for the tremendous assistance from the Alumni Office staff, particularly Loida Vera Cruz. Loida and Geoff Williams were our guests at the luncheon. All in all, a grand time was enjoyed by
On to the 65th! Note: Copies of the reunion program, the tribute to our nine award recipients, and Don Dickinson’s poem are available upon request to Joe Zanchelli (e-mail address below, or phone 518-587-4581). Some sad news to report: Kay Grant Baird passed away Dec. 11, 2010. By June 2011, Jack Brophy and Mary Sue Dunning had also passed away. There is good news, too. Our class has reconnected with Jerry Dunn, Class of 1951. Jerry and his wife, Shirley Wiltse ’50, were guests at our 62nd reunion. He started with our class in September 1945 and was elected freshman class president. In October, he was called into service, returned two years later to join the Class of 1951 and was again elected freshman class president. Most of Jerry’s working career has been with various New York State departments, with the most time spent at the Department of Labor. He also served as president of the Alumni Association for several years. Bob Donnelly ’52 reports that his nephew Martin, eldest son of his sister, Kocky Donnelly Macy, retired from the U.S. Navy with the rank of rear admiral after 39 years of service. Richard Foster, who lives in Sarasota, Fla., sings in a 16-member group called the Glenridge Harmonaires. He has one grandson in the Army in Korea and also is very much enjoying his two great-grandchildren. Dolores Stocker Eklund was planning a cruise in September to Canada and New England. One of the highlights of the year for Ellen Fay Harmon was attending our 62nd reunion and having the opportunity to revive an old ‘40’s monologue, a parody of Hamlet. (She did a terrific job, too!) Ellen and Tom celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary in August. Gloria Maistelman Herkowitz and her husband celebrated the birth of their second great-grandchild — a boy! Bob Kittredge and his wife, Diana, attended the wedding of their granddaughter in May. Also in May, they started their 16-day journey through the eastern United States by visiting Bob’s brother in Illinois, his 97-year-old aunt in Connecticut, then the Zanchellis in Saratoga Springs, and finally Albany for the reunion. No rest for Bob and Diana because, on their return to California, they traveled to the San Diego area to attend their granddaughter’s high school graduation. Elfrieda “Freddy” Laemmerzahl Miller went to Wales in June with the Oklahoma Native Plant Society. Jake and Betsy Schuhle are rejoicing this year in the birth of their first great-grandchild. Wilma Whitney Saunders attended the wedding of her granddaughter June 4. Horty Zeilengold Schmierer’s granddaughter Rachel received her master’s degree with honors from Columbia University. Another granddaughter, Jaime, graduated from SUNY Binghamton and has started her master’s in speech therapy at New York Medical College.
A trip to Italy was planned in October to celebrate Horty’s birthday. Abe Trop had one granddaughter graduate from St. John’s College in Annapolis and another from Emma Willard School in Troy, both with honors. Abe had a reunion in the spring with a few World War II buddies who were with him on D-Day on Utah Beach, Normandy. Barbara Houck VanTilburg and her husband, Gerry, attended an awards assembly in Woodstock, Ga., where their 17-year-old grandson received the Spirit of the Eagle award in recognition of his leadership, academic achievement, athletic skills and community service. In June, they traveled to State College, Pa., to attend the local ballet company’s production, “The Snow Queen,” in which their 17-year-old granddaughter performed. Joe Zanchelli and wife Joyce, Class of ’52, enjoyed a wonderful river cruise in Belgium and The Netherlands, where the tulips were in full bloom. A highlight of the trip was meeting their grandson, Greg, in Amsterdam. Greg was traveling on his spring break from his junior-year-abroad semester and just happened to be in Amsterdam that same time — serendipity!! In June, Joe and Joyce planned to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary by vacationing for a week on the Jersey Shore with their entire family. Thanks, 49’ers, for keeping the news coming.

Class councilor: Joseph Zanchelli, jzanch@yahoo.com

40 A note from your class councilor: Joan Peterson Englebosch took a world cruise on the Queen Mary 2 in April. Joan enjoyed going to the Great Wall of China and visiting Dubai, UAE. She was unable to visit New Zealand and Japan due to the earthquakes. Joan also experienced a “Pirate Drill” and had to black out her windows with the curtains after dusk. Ken George keeps active by playing recreational tennis. He still sings in the choir and with a barbershop quartet; their highlight of the year was singing “The Star Spangled Banner” at the local high school football game. Lila Lee Harrington left her beloved log home in the Adirondacks and relocated to Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Lila was ill when she moved to Prestwick Chase independent living, but after several hospitalizations to correct dehydration, the problem was solved. She is very grateful that she can drive short trips around Saratoga, to Glens Falls and to Ballston Lake, where her son, Todd, and his family live. Since regaining her health, Lila has become active in Book Chat Club. She was also elected to the board of directors for her in-house newspaper, The Chase, and participates in aerobics classes four days a week. Marjorie Lyons will be directing a production of T.S. Eliot’s “Murder in the Cathedral” for performances Feb. 25-26, 2012, at All Saints Episcopal Church in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She attends the playwrights’ and actors’ groups and is still in love with drama, as she was when she attended State and studied under the marvelous Agnes Futterer. Marjorie also is launching a series of business seminars to train...
participants how to set up and operate a book-producing business (www.telling-your-story.com). Malcolm Slater is enjoying life with his wife and soul mate, Dr. Nancy Suzuki-Slater, in Honolulu, Hawaii. After corresponding all of the years since graduation and becoming widowed, Irwin Baumel and Elise de Seve Brown decided to do some traveling together. In Fall 2010, they went to Argentina, Brazil and Chile, followed by a three-week trip to northern Italy in May 2011. On the Italian trip they met with Harold (Sparky) Vaughn in Florence after having renewed their acquaintance in Washington, D.C., where Elise and Harold both reside. Harold had announced that he was planning to be at his condo in Florence during the time of their visit. It was a treasured evening; the former classmates shared unusual historical tidbits about Firenze (Florence), fine food and wine at a special “local” restaurant, and gelato for dessert. Unfortunately, Harold’s wife recently passed away. A memorial Mass for her in the village outside Florence where she spent her childhood drew about a hundred dear friends from Quarrrata, Pistoia and Firenze.

Class notes councilor: Harold Vaughn, vaughnhar@aol.com

A note from your class councilor: Our 60th Reunion will be held Oct. 1, 2011. Earl Sipe from Ocoee, Fla., sent along a clipping about the Orlando “Harvey Milk Day” celebrations. A recently elected gay member of the Orlando City Council, Earl attributes the city’s recent uncontroversial passage of a domestic partner’s ordinance to the influence of Milk’s social networking methods for effecting change. Marilyn Allen Ochs, Joyce Barringer Soule, Marie Thurlow Gunn, Jackie Mann Gavryck, and ex-’51 Dorothy Bens Langr met in Cobleskill in June for lunch. Marie brought many photos from their college days to add to the fun. Jerry Dunn (ex-military) recently brought us up to date about his life and career. Jerry was our freshman class president; later, he was president of the Alumni Association and served on the board of the Benevolent Association. In 1950, he married Shirley Wiltzie ’50. He obtained a master’s in public administration from a joint Syracuse/NYU program and worked in the public sector most of his life. Jerry started his career with the University of the State of New York, and over the years he worked for several New York State departments. At one point, he served a year with the United Nations as a budget management advisor to the Venezuelan government. When he retired in 1987, he was director of Unemployment Insurance with the Department of Labor. Jerry’s hobbies are golf and volunteering with his church.

Class notes councilor: Jacqueline Mann Gavryck, jagavryck@nycap.rr.com

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Alumni News & Notes

51 A note from your class councilor: Our 60th Reunion will be held Oct. 1, 2011. Earl Sipe from Ocoee, Fla., sent along a clipping about the Orlando “Harvey Milk Day” celebrations. A recently elected gay member of the Orlando City Council, Earl attributes the city’s recent uncontroversial passage of a domestic partner’s ordinance to the influence of Milk’s social networking methods for effecting change. Marilyn Allen Ochs, Joyce Barringer Soule, Marie Thurlow Gunn, Jackie Mann Gavryck, and ex-’51 Dorothy Bens Langr met in Cobleskill in June for lunch. Marie brought many photos from their college days to add to the fun. Jerry Dunn (ex-military) recently brought us up to date about his life and career. Jerry was our freshman class president; later, he was president of the Alumni Association and served on the board of the Benevolent Association. In 1950, he married Shirley Wiltzie ’50. He obtained a master’s in public administration from a joint Syracuse/NYU program and worked in the public sector most of his life. Jerry started his career with the University of the State of New York, and over the years he worked for several New York State departments. At one point, he served a year with the United Nations as a budget management advisor to the Venezuelan government. When he retired in 1987, he was director of Unemployment Insurance with the Department of Labor. Jerry’s hobbies are golf and volunteering with his church.

Class notes councilor: Jacqueline Mann Gavryck, jagavryck@nycap.rr.com

52 A note from your class councilor: Dave Manly and his wife, Jean, will be attending their 17th Road Scholar program in July. They also enjoy going to plays at Niagara-on-the-Lake and spending the winter months at “Triple M” (Manly’s Modest Manor) in Hilton Head, S.C. Helen Pilcher Terrill is on the road more than she is at home with her daughter Ann’s. She was in Indiana enjoying grandson Will, who just graduated from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and who will be starting med school at North-East Ohio Med School. From there, Helen went to Akron for the high school graduation of granddaughter Helen and had a nice visit with her brother and his wife. The next stop was Kitty Hawk, where she was going to be vacationing with Ann’s family. Jane Minckler Jennings attended her granddaughter’s graduation from Sweet Brier, where she received an engineering degree. Another granddaughter had a garden wedding a week later. Jane spends her summers (11 weeks’ worth) on Block Island, where she plans to see Mimi Gorskie Blake a few times. Nancy Frey Pettinelli has happy news. In order to celebrate anniversaries, birthdays and other occasions, all 14 of the family will be going to the Cayman Islands for some R and R. Nancy and her husband, Lou, will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

Kitty Kloser Irons is still busy with her bridge club, church choir, parish council, quilt guild meetings and going to a Broadway play in New York City once a month. Kitty and Marty spent three
days in Philadelphia sight-seeing; their trip included a visit to the beautiful Longwood Gardens. Tom Holman has extended an invitation to any of you on a cruise ship which stops at St. Maarten, where he stays from mid-January until the first week in March. He stays at the Pasanggraham Royale Guest House, where he says Janet the bartender would be happy to find him so that he could buy you a drink. Book your cruise now. Kathleen Cody Sengle retired from being a school counselor in 1992. Kathleen and her husband traveled and were involved in the grandchildren’s growing up until he passed away from leukemia last year. She keeps busy volunteering at her local library and historical society. She has lived for 56 years in a very active community in the Poconos. Kathleen has five grandchildren. Glad to hear she’s in touch with Jane Hatt LaDuke, Barbara Anderson Hadden and Viola Myles Folks.

Vickie Eade Eddy divides her time between Yuma, Ariz., in the winter and Olean, N.Y., in the summer. Her five children and 12 grandchildren are an accomplished bunch. Herb and Marilyn Holland have been presented the 2011 Circle of Humanity Award by the congregation of Temple Israel in recognition of all the volunteer charity work they have done and continue to do. They have been involved in this kind of work for 40 years. Congratulations, Marilyn and Herb. Joyce Leavitt Zanchelli has just returned with husband Joe (’49) from a riverboat cruise of Belgium and The Netherlands. The tulips were in full bloom and a gorgeous sight, but the best part of the trip was meeting their grandson, who was on spring break in Amsterdam. Serendipity! They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a weeklong vacation with their entire family on the Jersey Shore. We have begun

Congratulations to Mary B. Mullin, B.S.’80, who was honored in the June 6 issue of Barron’s magazine as one of “America’s Top 100 Women Financial Advisors.”

Throughout her 30 years with Merrill Lynch, the Boston-based Mullin, managing director of Investments and a wealth management advisor and portfolio manager, has provided investment advice to affluent families and business owners and offered them a comprehensive approach to financial planning. In keeping with Merrill Lynch’s belief that training and enrichment opportunities enable its staff to better serve clients, she has also pursued many advanced designations and certifications in her fields of expertise. On the home front, Mullin, a proud mother of four, spends her free time on the lacrosse field, cheering on her kids.
planning our 60th reunion, which will take place April 28-29, 2012, in Albany. We do not have a program in place yet but would like you to mark your calendar so you don’t miss this momentous occasion. You will be receiving particulars of the weekend sometime in October, but don’t wait until then to cross off those dates on your calendar. One other reminder: If you want to earmark any contributions to the Class of ’52 scholarship fund, please write “UAlbany Class of ’52 Scholarship Fund Program Fund” on your check. We continue to award scholarships honoring our professors in a different department every year.

Class notes councilor: Joyce Zanchell, jzanch@yahoo.com

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Sadley, we report the death of Shirley Callahan Dillon’s husband, John, in January 2011. Before coming to the United States in 1950, Naoshi Kariyama taught at a junior high school on his home island, Kikai Island. He also attended Okinawa Foreign Language School and worked as interpreter at Kadena Air Base, a United States air base in Okinawa. This coming November, Naoshi will be 85. For the past several years, he has been working on translating a huge 12th-century collection of medieval tales of Japan. Now, he has been revising and improving the translations for possible publication in the United States. Naoshi also regularly submits his poetry to Poems of the World, based in Palatine, Ill. His poems “Unfolding Bud” and “A Loaf of Poetry” are quite popular. Art Stone is still heavily involved with his costume company, Art Stone/The Competitor; his dance convention business, Dance Olympus; his dance competition business, Danceamerica; and Statler Music (music for dance studios). Art and his family travel frequently around the country to dance conventions and travel to China twice a year. He enjoys being busy and is looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion.

Gerry Holzman recently wrote a book, The Empire State Carousel. This past Memorial Day, the New York State Historical Association celebrated the fifth anniversary of the carousel’s opening at Cooperstown by releasing his book and holding a book signing. Gerry’s days are also busy with curving and writing. He recently reconnected with his neighbor, Nancy (Sue) Whittle Mitchell, and the two reminisce about their UAlbany days quite often. Jim Finnen will not be making the 57th reunion since he will be serving as the public address announcer for Lafayette College football, a night game against Yale Oct. 15. Jim has enjoyed this part-time job for 47 years. John Centra took a relaxing and enjoyable vacation with his family to Bermuda. After many trips all over the world, this one was very special to John and his family.

Rose Mary Zongrove’s daughter, Amy, had her second set of twins. Rose and John have been the extra pair of hands and are keeping busy. Jim Thompson still enjoys going all around the country visiting grandchildren and attending high school and college graduations. Jim and Carol will spend much of the summer at their travel trailer near Tupper Lake, N.Y. John and Dolores White Granito have been traveling. Thanksgiving week, they went with their family on a cruise on the Rhine from Basel, Switzerland, to Amsterdam, The
Netherlands. In April, they went on a four-masted sailboat along the French and Italian Riviera, Monaco, Corsica and Sardinia, ending in Rome after 16 days. The couple is in good health and continues to live on Pine Island, Fla., for eight months of the year and in Penn Yan, N.Y., the other four months. Stephanie Manning still takes a trip to Italy every year and also spends a couple of days in New York City, visiting museums and enjoying theatre and dance. Stephanie still volunteers two mornings a week at a nursery/daycare school and is doing “Soothing Touch” with Hospice patients in their homes. She is training to be a eucharistic minister for her church, Light of Christ, at a local nursing home. Stephanie is still reading like mad, and still writing reviews of children’s science and history books for School Library Journal. Sadly, we report Barb Decker’s husband, Walt, died in June.

Class co-counselors: Bernice Shoobe, bshoobe@pol.net; Joan Bolz Paul, fpaul1@nycap.rr.com

The Alumni Association was a proud sponsor of the School of Public Health’s 25th Anniversary Gala, held May 7.

A note from your class councilor: Hannah Banks Best recently was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women for her numerous accomplishments in both the legal and women’s communities. Hannah is a founder of the New Mexico Black Lawyers Association, the state chapter of the National Employment Law Association and the state Planned Parenthood and is the former president of the state chapter of the NAACP. Wilma Thornton joined a land and sea tour of the eastern Mediterranean. Starting in Dubai and ending in Italy, the journey included stops in the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Naples and Capri. Among the highlights were a Jeep and camel safari in Egypt and a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Petra in Jordan. Elizabeth Comstock is the 2011 recipient of the Class of 1955 Award. Ms. Comstock, a magna cum laude graduate in Spanish from SUNY Geneseo, is enrolled in UAlbany’s master’s program in general education studies. During April, John Orser took a week’s trip through Saxony on the Elbe River. Included were tours of the former Eastern Bloc cities of Prague, Dresden, Wittenberg, Meissen, Magdeburg, Berlin and Potsdam.

Class councilor: John Orser, jorser@stny.rr.com

A note from your class councilor: Those of us who attended our 55th Class Reunion June 10-12 had a wonderful time, thanks, in part, to support from Loida Vera.
Cruz, assistant director of Alumni Programs. Jane Ide Hutchins spoke convincingly at the reunion dinner of the importance of supporting one or two outstanding students who are financially needy and preparing to be teachers through the Class of 1956 Scholarship Fund. Please send contributions for the fund to The University at Albany Foundation, University at Albany, 1400 Washington Ave., UAB 226, Albany, NY 12222, and make certain that the check is earmarked for the Class of 1956 Scholarship Fund. You can also donate online at www.albany.edu/giving.

Class councilor: Arnold Newman, fish7hill@alum.com

Dr. Emil Polak spent January and February in Rome and Naples on his last research trip, ending with 871 libraries.

A note from your class councilor: On Oct. 11, 2009, the Class of 1959 members attending their 50th reunion farewell breakfast voted to donate $1,700 from our class account to the School of Education Mentoring Program. The class has a Facebook page; after signing in, search for Green Gremlins of Albany State, Class of 1959. Please post news and comments. Bill Spence is retired from two years’ teaching high school science and a 38-year career as a global researcher on major earthquakes for the U.S. Geological Survey. Bill received his Ph.D. in geophysics from Penn State in 1973. He and his wife spent the past seven years in the beautiful Roaring Fork Valley of eastern Colorado. After a couple of medical incidents, he happily reports the wonders of modern medicine. Bill and Sue have traveled much of the world and are very active physically, traveling with their camper and enjoying the available music and lecture scene, along with tons of volunteerism. Valerie Burns McDonald and Joan Anderson Haught travel together. Last summer, they did a Road Scholar program, modeled after the Chautauqua experience in Virginia at the Natural Bridge Area. Valerie spends winters in the West Palm area and Joan is in the Daytona area. They both teach line dance. Valerie, who also teaches clogging and runs the local monthly, Chatterbox, also plays bridge and golf. This summer, Valerie is back in New York with children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Lynn Schmidt still spends summers in the Adirondack Mountains and winters in The Villages in Florida. Bill Hershfield and wife Myra have been married 51 years. They live in Port Orange, Fla. Rosemary (Raymie) Neilson will be recording/producing another CD in July. The previous one, Tenderly, is still available at CDBaby.com if anyone’s interested. Ron Short and his wife are excited about an upcoming trip to see their son and family in Nova Scotia. Ron expects to do another skydive before the year is out. Annie Macintyre finds herself heading for the 30th-year reunion of her advisor class of 1981. Herb Piper has been retired from working as an aerospace engineer on the Eastern Missile Range for over 10 years. Presently a docent at the Harry P. Leu Museum House at Leu Gardens in Orlando, Fla., he conducts tours several days each month. Photography is his main hobby. A member of the Cypress Cove Camera Club, Herb has won many awards in the juried competitions held twice each year. He is now considered one of the top artistic nude photographers in the State of Florida. Some of his work can be seen at www.onemodelplace.com, member ID #159478.

Memories + Classmates = Reunion ’11

Is your class hosting a reunion Homecoming Weekend ’11? Visit our Web site for the latest details on reunion plans for the classes of 1954, 1961, 1971, 1986 and 2001! Don’t miss this opportunity to connect with old friends and relive some great memories.

Robert Paeglow ’76, recipient of the Excellence in Community Service Award, chats with Purple & Gold Student Ambassador Chris Onourah at the Excellence Awards Gala in April.
Robert Bartholomew, M.A.’84
Champ’s Biographer

Ever since he was “old enough to pick up a pair of binoculars and scan the lake,” Whitehall, N.Y., native Robert Bartholomew has been interested in “Champ,” the Lake Champlain monster. Early next year, with the publication of The Untold Story of Champ: An Unauthorized Biography of America’s Loch Ness Monster (SUNY Press), which he describes as “both a history and an exposé,” Bartholomew will “present the Champlain Monster like people have never seen him before.”

Bartholomew himself has never seen Champ, “or ‘Champy,’ depending on where you live.” However, “I learned that there is a great deal of misinformation about Champ. The book separates fact from speculation. Also, virtually none of the 19th-century history of Champ has ever been published before. I believe that local residents deserve to know the full story.”

Bartholomew promises “many surprises. It is a ‘warts-and-all’ biography that takes journalists to task for sloppy reporting over the years and examines the antics of modern-day Champ hunters: their egos, obsessions and behind-the-scenes squabbles. Also examined is whether the famous Mansi photo is a hoax.”

For The Untold Story of Champ, Bartholomew interviewed several people, including a retired SUNY Plattsburgh communications professor, Philip Reines, who began researching the monster in the mid-1960s. The book includes a preface by UAlbany journalism adjunct professor Ronald Kermani, “a brilliant writer and a legend in Albany for his penetrating investigative reporting for the Times Union. He also had a sighting of Champ,” notes Bartholomew, who earned a master's in sociology from UAlbany and recalls the University as “an important part of my life.”

So, what is Champ? “Local icon, environmental symbol, tourist draw, and perhaps a new or long-extinct species,” muses Bartholomew, now a history teacher at Botany Downs Secondary College in South Auckland, New Zealand. “Ultimately, the history of Champ reveals more about us than it does about him.”

Another book by Bartholomew, The Martians Have Landed! A History of Media-Driven Panics and Hoaxes (co-authored with Benjamin Radford), will be released by McFarland Publishing in October.

– By Carol Olechowski
superintendent. She and husband Bob, who live in Watervliet, N.Y., recently spent a month visiting South Africa. They have five children and nine grandchildren.

Elizabeth Drumm Demski and her husband, Edward ’58, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently. They both retired 10 years ago, and Ed is a new member of the UAlbany Foundation.

Tony and Gail Kasperian D’Onofrio visited Egypt this past January. They both look forward to seeing their classmates and friends at the reunion.

Josephine Montarello Egan retired after 33 years as both a teacher and administrator. She enjoys visiting family and grandchildren, and thoroughly enjoyed her Alaskan cruise. Josephine lives in Phoenix, Ariz.

Elaine Frankonis lives in East Longmeadow, Mass., with her daughter, son-in-law, and only grandson. Elaine had several poems published in the Ballard Street Poetry Journal last summer and still blogs at www.kalilily.net, which she began a decade ago.

Mel Horowitz still lives in the Capital District. Unfortunately, he was diagnosed with incurable but treatable blood cancer in 1995. June DeVore Hunter and her husband, Kenneth, interview veterans for the New York State Military Museum Archives, do volunteer work, and have traveled extensively.

Rosemary Kverek moved to Boston, Mass., after she retired from teaching in 1985. From 1990 to 1997, she was co-owner of a real estate office in Charlestown, Mass., where she still resides. She has taken two major bicycle trips: in 2009 to Spain and in 2010 to Slovenia, Austria and Italy.

Gloria Laynor retired after teaching business and math for 30 years. Gloria is the president of the Laynor Foundation Museum, a nonprofit organization awarding scholarships to college students in the visual arts. The museum was established in honor of her late husband, Dr. Harold Laynor, a well-known artist who received his doctorate from UAlbany in 1966.

Gloria lives in Phoenix, Ariz. Bradford Mundy is retired and continues to do professional writing. He taught at Montana State University, starting out as an assistant professor and working his way up to assistant department head. He also was the chemistry chair at Colby College. Bradford’s favorite hobbies are gardening, fishing, boating and writing.

Janice Goodermote married Richard Newport and recently celebrated 47 years of marriage. She taught seventh-grade social studies at Bethlehem Central Schools in Delmar, N.Y., from 1961-1964. Janice also substituted in area schools while her children were younger. She retired from full-time teaching in 1995 and went on to become the coordinator of the JOBBS (Joint Opportunities between Businesses and Berlin Schools) Program at Berlin Central. Janice enjoys traveling with her husband, as well as cooking and entertaining.

Roger Quackenbush is enjoying life in Florida, after retiring in 1995 from Bethlehem Central High School in Delmar, N.Y. Besides teaching high school biology, Roger taught a course in marine mammals at SUNY Albany. Roger has been written up in Who’s Who in American Education and was presented with the Tandy Prize as one of the 10 outstanding technology teachers in the United States. In retirement, Roger enjoys researching his genealogy.

Angela Theodore is enjoying retirement after working as an alcohol and other drug counselor for 20 years. She spends her time reading, drafting and relishing the company of family and friends.

Sharon Wenzel Miller and husband Merle continue to enjoy retirement on the “Crystal Coast” of North Carolina.
They are active in many volunteer activities, such as Master Gardeners and the North Carolina Maritime Museum. They have enjoyed cruises to Alaska and many other exotic places. Robert Sands is married and has three children and two grandchildren. He has been a visiting scholar at Harvard and an editor of the Journal of Management Educators, and also was on the Advisory Council for Business at Hudson Valley Community College. Last year, Robert won three gold medals at the New York State Senior Games in Cortland. He currently is in Tunis finishing up a Fulbright.

Joan Heywood Valesente and husband Robert are spending time in Germany until October while Robert coaches in the German football league. They currently live in South Carolina.

Class notes councilor: Mel Horowitz, melandsis@yahoo.com

Helen Arcuri Stoloff’s son, Stephen, threw out the first pitch at a Padres game: a strike from the pitcher’s mound. He is the CEO of Vavi Sports Club in San Diego.

Rochelle Gruber Karp winters with Doris Edelstein Hirschorn, Linda Levinson Kessler and Susan Byron Wallace at Hunter’s Run in Boynton Beach, Fla. Within walking distance of one another, they meet daily for mah jongg, bridge, golf and sharing the good life. Our 50th reunion is approaching. If you can help plan, coordinate or somehow be a part of making it all happen, please contact Robert Sweeney at lakeerie8@yahoo.com.

Class notes councilor: Sheril Joan McCormack, vanillastar202@yahoo.com

Kathleen Tanner has been appointed executive director of Equinox Inc., a large community service agency serving the Capital District.

Charles Lindemann is a full-time professor of biology at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich.

Gregor Macmillan has joined Hiscock & Barclay’s Albany office as of counsel. Gregor is the former director of the Bureau of Health Insurance Programs in the Division of Legal Affairs for the New York State Department of Health.

Robert Schwartz is partner of Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto in the New York office. Scott Waldman has received the prestigious Award in Excellence in Clinical Pharmacology for work that includes discoveries that hold promise for diagnosing, treating and even preventing colorectal cancer. Scott is director of the GI malignancies program at the world-renowned Kimmel Cancer Center in Philadelphia and also is director of Thomas Jefferson University’s postdoctoral training program in clinical pharmacology. He also has

Ijuka Kabumka recently gave an inaugural lecture at Nkumba University near Entebbe, Uganda.

Charlotte Biblow recently was appointed to the board of directors of Unisphere, a private non-profit corporation formed to transform flushing Meadows Park into a model for urban parks nationwide. Charlotte, a resident of Bayside, N.Y., is also on the boards of the Long Island Fund for Women and Girls, Sustainable Long Island and the Queensborough Community College Fund. Stephen Goldstein was one of three men and 13 women who became b’urai mitzvah during services Feb. 11-12 at Temple Rodef Shalom, Falls Church, Va. Rod Fortran recently retired as chief of the Bureau of Labor Market Information of the New York State Department of Labor in Albany. He resides in Voorheesville, N.Y., with his wife, Julie-Ann.

Alumni News & Notes

Invest in Futures... theirs and yours!

Bequests are one of the most common ways to make a gift to The University at Albany Foundation. They can be easy to do and they have no immediate impact on either your income or your assets because a bequest is simply a statement of your plan – indeed, your wish – to make a charitable gift that extends beyond your lifetime.

If you already have a will, you can simply make a codicil – an addition to your will – which directs a gift – in dollars or a percentage of your estate – to The Foundation for use by the University. And, you can specify how you would like your bequest to be used.

Please consider a bequest – your legacy to your college – to The University at Albany Foundation.

For more information and sample bequest wording, please go to www.albany.edu/giving/giftplanning.shtml.

Kathleen Tanner has been appointed executive director of Equinox Inc., a large community service agency serving the Capital District.

Charles Lindemann is a full-time professor of biology at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich.

Office of Gift Planning, (518) 437-5090 or (888) 226-5600 toll-free.
received the Award in Excellence from the PhRMA Foundation.

Cynthia Vroom is associate vice president for Recruitment at Quinnipiac University. President Barack Obama nominated Major David McNulty, a state trooper since 1978, to become the next U.S. Marshal for the Northern District of New York. David currently heads the State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation, the department’s plainclothes detective branch. Stuart Gelberg was selected for inclusion in the Long Island Pulse Magazine’s feature article “LI’s 2011 Top Legal Eagles.”

Robert Sampson has been elected as a member of the American Philosophical Society. The society, the oldest learned society in the United States, was founded in 1743 by Benjamin Franklin for the purpose of “promoting useful knowledge.”

On May 19, 2011, two Albany alumni became graduate nurses after receiving their RN degrees from SUNY Westchester Community College. Valerie Carducci ’07 and Elizabeth McGrath Belitz ’86 have spent the past two years as classmates after each decided to return to college to become registered nurses. Elizabeth decided to become a nurse after spending time in the hospital with her college roommate, Mary-Jo Tout Rosenblatt ’87, who she says taught her many lessons, the last of which was the importance of kindness and compassion in the face of illness. “The value of our UAlbany education is incomparable, but the friendships of classmates and alumni are priceless,” said Belitz, whose son, Jeffrey, is already building lasting friendships with his roommates at UAlbany, where he is a sophomore.

Stacey Ramis Nigro was named partner at Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman LLP in East Meadow, N.Y. Darlene Delancey has been named deputy network director for VA Health Care Upstate New York, including VA Medical Centers and 29 community-based.

On October 14 and 15, Homecoming/Fall Festival and GOLD Reunion, Albany.

On October 20, School of Business Alumni Networking Event, Hard Rock Café, Times Square.

On October 26, UAlbany Lecture Series – “How Cancer Research Can Save Your Life,” NYC.

On November 11, Capital Region Chapter Annual Luncheon.

On December 3, UAlbany vs. Siena Basketball Game and Alumni Holiday Reception.

For additional events and details, visit www.albany.edu/alumni.
outpatient clinics. Susan O’Hern is vice president for Information Technology of Excelsior College in Albany, N.Y.

Paul Linzer has been named partner in Labor Relations and Criminal Law Practice Groups at Certilman Balin.

Cecilia Rodríguez Milanés won the 2010 Longleaf Press Poetry Prize leading to the publication of her collection Everyday Chica. A spoken word CD, Everyday Chica, Music and More, including the poems from the book and other selections set to Cuban music, was released by Longleaf Audio Book (2011). When she needs a break from the world of high finance,

Kimberly Welsh hits the road on her bright white motorcycle. Decked out in a matching suit and helmet, the managing director of Municipal Capital Markets at Janney Montgomery Scott is pictured recently, ready to set off on an adventure. Her itinerary? “Boston to West Virginia and back in five days – yeeehaw!”

Evan Kaplan, an employee of the Major League Baseball Players Association and Trading Cards/Collectibles/New Business Development, is taking on the role of director, Licensing and Business Development, overseeing all of the MLBPA’s core licensing categories, including trading cards and apparel.

Keith Murphy recently was elected to the partnership of Baker & Hostetler LLP, located in New York. Anthony Rini was awarded a doctorate in higher education from the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania in May. Anthony began his career in higher education 20 years ago as a graduate assistant in the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs at UAlbany.

Luke Bierman, former general counsel to the New York State comptroller, has been named associate dean for experiential education and Distinguished Professor of the Practice of Law at Northeastern University School of Law.

Meredith Celentano, Hofstra University’s assistant vice president for Development and Alumni Affairs, has been named one of Long Island Business News’ “40 under 40” for 2011. Meredith has served as a member of the board of directors of the National Association for Mother’s Centers and as a member of the corporate development committee for the 2010 Walk-A-Thon for Girl Scouts of Nassau County. She is a member of the board of the Association of Fundraising Professionals of Long Island and was recognized with the first-ever Generation Award for advancing ethical and effective fundraising practices across generations.

Laura Mann is program director of Business Growth Services for The Center for Economic Growth in Albany, N.Y.

Jill Traverso Vogel has been appointed associate administrator of the Adirondack Community College Foundation.

The American School Counselor Association has named Suffolk University Professor Timothy Poynton the 2011 Counselor Educator of the Year. Timothy, an assistant professor of education and human services, directs the School Counseling Program in the university’s College of Arts and Sciences.
Patti Cellery-McCall is the head of Public Services at the Pratt Institute Library in Brooklyn.

Jonathan Sumber, a veteran of key digital sales positions within units of Time Inc. and Gannett, is joining Hearst Television as director of Digital Sales based at the company’s New York City headquarters. Phoenix Business Journal has named Brett Mecum one of their “40-Under-40” for 2011. Additionally, Campaigns & Elections Magazine has named Brett a Rising Star for 2011.

Captain Sean Piccirilli is stationed in Kandahar, Afghanistan, at the Kandahar Intelligence Fusion Center.

John Smith, associate professor of history at Texas A&M University-Commerce, was awarded the Paul W. Barrus Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching by the university in April. The award is given annually to an instructor nominated by colleagues and students for outstanding teaching and mentorship.

Dorothy Santos has joined Smith, Gambrell & Russell’s Estate Planning and Wealth Protection Practice in New York City. She previously was with the law firm of Abrams Fensterman. Mike Neppl, director of the Correspondence Unit at the Office of the Attorney General in

Young Alums – Don’t Miss the Fourth Annual GOLD Reunion.

Good friends, free food and free beer. It doesn’t get better than that!

Join hundreds of other recent graduates, meet up with old friends and see what’s new on campus at the fourth GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Reunion, Oct. 14-15.

Check out some of the exciting events:
- GOLD Friday night get-together at Jillian’s
- GOLD Tailgate Party with free beer, food and live music
- Great Danes Football vs. Robert Morris University
- Great Danes Great Bash at WT’s, with free food and drinks for all alumni
- Nanotech and Weather Center tours, academic presentations and student group demonstrations

Check the Web for all the details.

Students brave a cold March night to cheer on the men’s lacrosse team at the annual Spring Stomp, sponsored by the Alumni Association. Students were rewarded with giveaways, free food and a chance to win a flip camera.
Albany, N.Y., has been named to The Capitol’s “40 Under 40 Rising Stars in Politics” list.

Ann McGrath recently passed the New York State Bar examination. Melissa Martin Crocetta was married July 9, 2010, and moved from Troy, N.Y., to Amsterdam, N.Y. She is a senior education specialist with the Professional Development Program at UAlbany. Charles Moore was featured in a story in the Albany diocesan newspaper, The Evangelist.

Jeffrey Fiut of Hodgson Russ in Buffalo, N.Y., has been admitted to the New York State Bar. Sgt. Richard McVinney is currently stationed in Afghanistan (See photo in Class of 2002 section) at the Kandahar Intelligence Fusion Center, along with Capt. Sean Piccirilli ’02. Janelle Bechol participated in the eighth season of “American Idol,” survived the early rounds of auditions and went on to Hollywood. Although she was cut well before the final rounds, she continues to perform and inspire through her music. Janelle plans to launch a series of concerts for high school and middle school students; she hopes it will go national. Richard Cupolo’s band, the american dollar, has scored music to the viral video manhattan in motion; www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SsSAaJ6BII. The american dollar went to St. Petersburg and Moscow to play an all-expenses-paid musical tour. The band’s music can be found on facebook, as well as online at http://theamericandollar.info/.

Peter Faherty and David Rozen recently passed the New York State Bar examination. David, admitted to the state bar in June, is working as a legislative Fellow for New York State Senate Deputy Minority Leader Neil D. Breslin. Matthew Rozae was admitted to the New York State Bar last January. He is working as an assistant town attorney for the Town of Oyster Bay, N.Y. Michael Landsman is a project manager/business systems analyst at the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation in Manhattan.

Raymie Wayne has been promoted to associate professor of social work/Latino community practice with tenure at Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, Conn. Kenneth Long, a professor of history/political science at Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, Conn., will serve as a Fulbright Visiting Professor at Johannes Kepler University of Linz, Austria, during the Spring 2012 semester. Melissa Ann Little graduated from the University of Akron Law School in Ohio in June. Stephen Murphy, a financial representative for Northwestern Mutual in New York City, will chair a fundraiser, The Hunt, on Long Island Sept. 24 to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Danielle Wohlenberg and a team of 10 other AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps members arrived in Little Rock, Ark., in March to begin an eight-week service project at Fencliff Camp and Conference Center. Danielle’s team worked on outdoor maintenance and construction projects aimed at making the 1,200-acre camp more sustainable. Arielle Krasner is a volunteer coordinator for Community of Hope in Washington, D.C., after spending two years in AmeriCorps, including one on the Gulf Coast building homes and responding to hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

Leslie Wood is chief research officer of Nielsen Catalina Solutions in Cincinnati. After graduating, Mike has decided to become a professional poker player. He also writes a monthly strategy and lifestyle column in Ante Up poker magazine and has signed with Surebetpoker.net to be a team professional.

UAlbany Lecture Series to Hit NYC
Events planned highlight UAlbany’s work on cancer research, alumni in fashion and a program in partnership with Judaic Studies.

For more details, visit our Web site.
Weddings

1995 – Patrick Flandreau and Elizabeth Martin, Sept. 4, 2010
2005 – Melissa Crocetta and James Martin, July 9, 2010
2006 – Jeannine Sikora and Daniel Robertello, May 15, 2010

Births

1985 – Jonathan Green and Hilary Thomas, a son, Devon Adam, Jan. 12, 2011
1991 – Michael Gutter and wife Emily, daughters Maya and Elana, Dec. 6, 2010
1997 – Sommer Jones Riolo and husband Mark, a son, Joshua Lyndon, June 3, 2011

At left, Melissa Crocetta and James Martin
Above, Patrick Flandrea and Elizabeth Martin

Maya and Elana Gutter
Joshua Riolo
Gerry Holzman, B.A.’54, has published *The Empire State Carousel*, a compelling story of a 25-year labor of love by nearly 1,000 gifted artisans from all across New York State. This tantalizing tale is told by its head carver and is illustrated by contemporary and archival photographs. In it, the reader will also find some fascinating behind-the-scenes anecdotes about the carousel and its creators. Holzman is the carver/historian who originated, designed and directed the carousel project.

Richard Londraville, B.A.’58, Ph.D.’70, has co-authored *Corbino: From Rubens to Ringling*, a biography of Jon Corbino. A Sicilian immigrant who trained at the Art Students League in New York, Corbino (1905-1964) was one of the most influential members of the Sarasota School of art, a group of painters and artists, many of them expatriate New Yorkers, who came to the west coast of Florida for its natural beauty, the quality of its light, and the open-aired freedom to explore their art. Londraville also has co-authored *The Most Beautiful Man in the World: Paul Swan*, *John Quinn: Selected Irish Writers from His Library*, and *Dear Yeats, Dear Ford, Dear Pound: Jeanne Robert Foster and Her Circle of Friends*. Richard is a professor emeritus of literature at the State University of New York at Potsdam.

Richard Morgan, B.S.’69, has published his first book, *I Am Sea Glass, A Collection of Poetic Pieces* combining his poetry with watercolors by his artist wife, Pat. They live on Long Beach Island, N.J., where the wind and the waves fight for their attention. Morgan is a member of the LBI Writers’ Group. His poetry has appeared in the 15th anniversary issue of *Poetry Ink* 2011 and the latest editions of *Echoes of LBI*. Morgan has read his poetry at Robin’s Bookstore in Philadelphia, Tuckerton Seaport’s “Poetry” and the LBI Writers’ Open Mic.

Mary Fremont Schonecker, M.S.’70, has released the third book of her Maine Shore Chronicles series, *Promise Keeper*. Her previous novels from the series are *Finding Fiona* and *Moonglade*. She retired as associate professor of education at SUNY Oneonta and began writing in 2003.

Peter Pollak, M.A.’70, Ph.D.’78, has published his debut novel, *The Expendable Man*. Hero Nick Grocchi is thankful for the experimental treatment he receives in a fictitious Albany medical center, but recovering from a near-fatal case of melanoma is not the only obstacle he faces. A political thriller, *The Expendable Man* is the story of one man’s efforts to overcome seemingly insurmountable odds. Pollak retired from readMedia (formerly Empire Information Services), the company he founded, and currently splits his time among Hamilton County in the Adirondacks, Maryland and Arizona. Details: www.expendable-man.com.

Charles Howlett, Ph.D.’74, is co-author of *Books, Not Bombs: Teaching Peace Since the Dawn of the Republic*. This is the first comprehensive study of the evolution of peace education from the creation of the new nation to the beginning of the 21st century. Howlett says that while so many scholarly studies tell the story of our nation’s past through the lens of war, *Books, Not Bombs* uncovers the many attempts made on behalf of world peace. Among the intellectuals and activists covered in this book are Elihu Burritt, Jane Addams, John Dewey, Fannie Fern Andrews, Andrew Carnegie, Nicholas Murray Butler, the student workers at Brookwood Labor College, the World Peace Foundation, and Elise Boulding. Howlett teaches at Molloy College in Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Edward Moser, B.A.’77, has written *A Patriot’s A to Z of America: 76 Things Every Good American Should Know*. The book features 76 heroic events and creative individuals who surmounted great difficulties to achieve great things: going to the moon, wiring the planet, defeating the Nazis, setting up the first large democratic republic, and largely banishing starvation overseas. Moser has served as a speechwriter to President George H. W. Bush and a writer for Jay Leno’s The Tonight Show. The author of the *Politically Correct Guide to …* series, Moser has co-written seven other books, and his articles have appeared in *The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, USA Triathlon Life* and the *Boston Globe*.

David Van Slyke, M.S.’93, Ph.D.’99, and Soonhee Kim, M.P.A.’95, Ph.D.’99, have co-edited *The Future of Public Administration around the World: The Minnowbrook Perspective*, along with Rosemary O’Leary. A once-in-a-generation event held every 20 years, the Minnowbrook conference brings together the top scholars in public administration and public management to reflect on the state of the field and its future. This unique volume brings together a group of distinguished authors — both seasoned and new — for a rare critical examination of the field of public administration yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Andrew Brezak, B.A.’95, has written a novel, *The Perfect Answer*, which depicts the story of a teacher and his fight against cancer. At the same time, the book follows his student, Derrick, and his stint in the Marines. The story demonstrates that you don’t have to leave the classroom to become an American hero, after all.

Kim Taylor-DiLeva, M.L.S.’02, has written *Once Upon a Sign: Using American Sign Language to Engage, Entertain, and Teach All Children*. This book shows how integrating American Sign Language into story time and other educational programs can benefit and entertain all children by improving communication, enhancing verbal skills and increasing interest in learning. Taylor-DiLeva is an educational trainer, teacher, and owner of Kim’s Signing Solutions and [www.babysignlanguageonline.com](http://www.babysignlanguageonline.com). She also conducts workshops for parents, teachers and librarians throughout the United States.

Walter Ellison, Ph.D.’01, has published *Second Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia*. Despite their small sizes, Maryland and Washington, D.C., possess a vast range of environments — from the high peaks of the Allegheny Ridges to the low marshes of the Chesapeake Bay. Home to 200 nesting bird species, these habitats are under constant threat from urban sprawl, changing farming practices and the degradation of coastal wetlands. The book documents the impact of these environmental changes on the region’s bird population and discusses the recovery of the endangered Bald Eagle and the new confirmation of breeding by three species — the Common Merganser, the Ruddy Duck and the Double-crested Cormorant.
Vincent O’Leary

Vincent O’Leary, who served as the University at Albany’s 15th president, passed away April 22, 2011, in Maryland. He was 86.

A California native educated at San Francisco State College and the University of Washington, O’Leary was widely respected for his expertise in probation and parole. His career included service as assistant director of the National Crime Commission under President Lyndon Johnson; director of Research and Policy for the National Council on Crime and Delinquency; director of parole supervision for the State of Texas; and chief probation and parole officer for the State of Washington.

O’Leary joined the University at Albany’s School of Criminal Justice in 1968, later serving as dean. He became president of the University in 1977 and, for the next 13 years, oversaw remarkable growth in both programs and facilities. Ph.D. programs restored and created through the Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy attained national recognition. The University’s School of Public Health, which observed its 25th anniversary this year, was founded in partnership with David Axelrod, M.D., then New York State’s health commissioner. Under O’Leary’s leadership, the University launched its first international exchange efforts; expanded student housing; planned for the construction of the athletics facility now known as SEFCU Arena and of the Science Library, both located on the upown campus; and significantly increased the amount of external research funding its programs attracted.

O’Leary advanced the University in other ways, as well, particularly with regard to improving diversity. Programs set in place to promote understanding and ease tensions also attracted more people of color to the ranks of faculty, students and staff.

In The Improbable President, his 2004 memoir, O’Leary recounted his years at the helm of the University at Albany.

After completing his tenure as president in 1990, O’Leary returned to the School of Criminal Justice faculty. He taught there until retiring to California with his wife, Lihua Yu O’Leary.

O’Leary is survived by his wife; daughters Beth O’Leary and Cathy Goldwyn; stepchildren Lena, Eugene and Anna Sun; and 10 grandchildren.

The family requests that gifts in Vincent O’Leary’s name be made to the University he loved so much. Checks payable to The University at Albany Foundation may be directed to the Foundation’s office at: University at Albany, 1400 Washington Ave., UAB 226, Albany, NY 12222.

A memorial service for former President O’Leary will be held at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, in the SEFCU Arena’s Hall of Fame Room.
Mary O'Neil Francello ‘49, Sept. 29, 2007
Robert L. French ‘49, April 3, 2011
Robert L. Tucker ‘49, June 12, 2007

1950s
Martha Murphy Williams ‘50, Oct. 26, 2010
Francis P. Casella ‘51, May 22, 2008
Jennie Siy ‘51, May 11, 2011
Virginia Norton Wikins ‘51, March 2, 2011
Joan Reiley Lane ‘53, Dec. 26, 2010
William D. McCormick ‘53, May 9, 2011
Walter Rehder ‘54, Jan. 20, 2011
Neil N. Whitehurst ‘56, July 3, 2010
Robert E. Burns ‘57, April 9, 2011
Nancy Louprette Knowlton ‘57, Jan. 7, 2011
Anthony L. Olivier ‘57, Feb. 15, 2011
Margaret Rochford Bradlee ‘58, March 21, 2011
Jacob I. Hotchkiss ‘58, April 3, 2011
James A. Linderman ‘58, Dec. 5, 2010
Lloyd Seymour ‘58, Dec. 4, 2009
Barbara Dressler ‘59, June 29, 2010
Paula Hyman Gold ‘59, April 4, 2011

1960s
Dennis T. Johnson ‘60, July 8, 2010
Thomas E. Davis, Jr. ‘61, April 15, 2011
Maurice Fliasterstein ‘61, July 29, 2006
Virgil Provost ‘61, April 26, 2011
Evelyn Hoxie Sarno ‘61, June 9, 2010
Joseph F. Alberti ‘63, May 18, 2011
Norman P. Kiner ‘64, Jan. 14, 2011
Beatrice Moses ‘66, Feb. 3, 2011
Christine W. Crouch ‘67, June 19, 2000
Fred R. Ficorelli ‘67, March 2, 2011
Nicholas F. Morano ‘60, July 7, 2011
Barry Weinberg ‘67, Jan. 30, 2011
Phyllis Romano Mason ‘68, May 19, 2011
Peter P. Seidner ‘68, Dec. 29, 2009
James R. Winter ‘69, Dec. 15, 2010

1970s
Arthur L. Dunning ‘70, April 6, 2008
Robert T. Harrison ‘71, Nov. 5, 2010
Mary J. Hynes ‘71, Feb. 19, 2008
Jane Moynihan Kelley ‘71, Jan. 13, 2011
Maureen M. Edry ‘72, June 10, 2011
Michael T. McAlistier ‘72, Jan. 27, 2011
Stephen L. Morris ‘72, May 27, 2009
Charles R. Paul ‘72, March 1, 2011
Alan L. Roth ‘72, Sept. 13, 2010
Maresha Saperstein Stout ‘72, Feb. 17, 2006
Joan F. Williams ‘72, Oct. 6, 2010
Jill L. Ellenbein ‘73, May 6, 2010
Kenneth Hill ‘73, Jan. 14, 2011

Robert H. Magley ‘73, March 15, 2006
Carole Naumowitz ‘70, Oct. 23, 2009
James N. Sutherland ‘73, April 30, 2011
Robert E. Hathaway ‘74, March 28, 2010
Cynthia L. Randolph ‘74, April 17, 2011
Michael P. Wallis ‘74, Feb. 11, 2011
John Yuhas ‘74, July 1, 2010
James A. Blessing ‘75, Jan. 27, 2011
Susanne S. Filkins ‘76, March 17, 2005
Janet M. Fish ‘76, Dec. 8, 2010
James W. Lenigan ‘76, Feb. 14, 2006
Lawrence P. Mannion ‘76, Oct. 9, 2010
Peter Neary ‘76, May 22, 1011
Lenore Y. Barr ‘77, Feb. 21, 2011
Jack A. Singer ‘77, Jan. 6, 2011
Cheryl G. Demagistri ‘78, March 13, 2010

1980s
Walter P. Guenther ‘80, Feb. 7, 2011
Carol E. Bartlett ‘81, Oct. 28, 2009
Marilyn T. Riecke ‘81, Jan. 31, 2011
Stephanie Glazer Rosenstrauch ‘81, Jan. 2, 2011
Lance J. Jacobson ‘82, Oct. 2, 2009
Karen Conciatori Lewis ‘82, Sept. 13, 2010
John J. Mikulik ‘82, Jan. 4, 2011
Catherine Pirri Cavallero ‘84, March 15, 2010
Margaret McFarlane Guccione ‘85, Oct. 8, 2010
Barbara Gokey Perkins ‘85, May 6, 2008
John P. Cassidy ‘86, Feb. 28, 2007
Robert V. Oswain ‘89, May 15, 2010

1990s
Noreen M. Normile ‘93, April 28, 2011

2000s
Vincent W. Capuano ‘01, Aug. 6, 2010
Brendon G. Kristie ‘07, June 13, 2011
Tiffany M. Gallo ‘09, June 25, 2011
Stephanie Glazer Rosenstrauch ‘91, May 9, 2010

Faculty
Walter Balk, Associate Professor of Public Administration, 1966-1991, July 24, 2008
Ulrich F. Mache, Professor of German 1967-1994, April 30, 2011
Vincent O’Leary, President of the University, 1977-1994; Dean of the School of Criminal Justice; Professor of the School of Criminal Justice 1968 -1996, April 22, 2011

Here are the best ways to reach us!

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Here are the best ways to reach us!

UAlbany
Here are the best ways to reach us!
Out and About
By Kelsey M. O'Brien
Photos by Mark Schmidt

Spring Commencement
Roughly 2,000 undergraduate and 875 graduate candidates participated in UAlbany’s Spring 2011 Commencement ceremonies May 14 and 15. The undergraduate class continues to reflect the rich diversity of the UAlbany student body:

- Degrees were conferred in 50 majors, including business, psychology, communications, accounting, English, sociology, political science, history and biology.
- Students represented 20 states and 54 countries, including China, the Republic of Korea, Afghanistan, Belarus, Ecuador, Ghana, Haiti, Italy, Israel, Japan, Pakistan, Trinidad, Tobago, Togo and Vietnam.

Above left, no amount of rain could stop undergraduates, their families and friends from celebrating!
Above right, student speaker Cameron Waldman spoke about the bonds he and his classmates formed at UAlbany, and the strength that students and alumni alike should find in them.

TD Bank Sponsors Entrepreneurship Opportunities
More than 100 local business leaders from the Capital Region attended a networking breakfast sponsored by TD Bank. The June 7 program included insights from a panel of successful business leaders: Carolyn Jones, publisher of The Business Review; Elizabeth Coco, founder of MicroKnowledge; Michael Hoffman, president of Turf Hotels; Hamdi Ulukaya, president and CEO of Argo Farms/Chobani; and School of Business Dean Donald Siegel.

John E. Burton Lecture
Rep. Paul Tonko delivered the 27th annual John E. Burton Lecture at Page Hall on the downtown campus before an audience of 125. A highlight of the April 27 event was a ceremony honoring six Distinguished Public Service Awards recipients for their service to the citizens of New York.

Left to right: Pictured after the annual Burton Lecture are Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy Dean Jeffrey Straussman; award recipient Pete Grannis; UAlbany President George Philip; Rep. Paul Tonko; School of Criminal Justice Dean Alan Lizotte; Deborah Campbell (accepting on behalf of Thomas A. Constantine); award recipient William B. Hedberg; School of Education Dean Robert Bangert-Drowns; School of Social Welfare Dean Katharine Briar-Lawson; award recipient Michael J. Castellana; award recipient Kathleen Tanner; School of Public Health Dean Philip Nasca; and College of Computing and Information Dean Peter Bloniarz.
Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much.

~ Helen Keller

uALBANY Fund
Investing in students

www.albany.edu/giving

Have you made your UAlbany Fund gift this year?
We’re just a month away from the biggest annual gathering at UAlbany! Bring your Great Danes spirit, and we’ll do the rest. Take in the vibrant autumn colors as you enjoy the weekend’s festivities:

- Alumni Art Exhibition
- Wine Tasting Reception
- Class Reunions
- Farmers’ Market
- 5K Race
- GOLD Reunion
- Alumni Breakfast
- Touchdown Tailgate with Food and Entertainment
- Football vs. Robert Morris Colonials
- Sorority Coffee Hours
- Campus Tours
- Legacy Reception
- Great Danes Great Bash at WT’s
- Student Performances

For a detailed list of activities and registration, visit our Web site.