MAN IN THE MIDDLE
Prof. Saliba Sarsar on living through the Six-Day War and its aftereffects.
PAGE 22

CATCHING GHOSTS
Faculty and students hunt stealthy killers in Barnegat Bay.
PAGE 32

SUMMER LOVIN'
A graphical look at how we view love in America.
PAGE 08

Monmouth's new president, Grey Dimenna, is ENJOYING THE RIDE.
Q&A » PAGE 04
I don’t know where I’d be if I hadn’t attended Monmouth University. Why wouldn’t I give back?

LEAVING A LEGACY

Alumnus’ bequests will support two Monmouth programs he holds dear.

Vincent Giordano ’66, ’73 M has always believed in giving back to his church, to veterans groups, to cancer research—and now to the university he says gave him so much. The retired elementary school teacher and principal credits Monmouth with launching his 41-year career as an educator, and he says the friendships he made here—as captain and assistant coach of the Hawks baseball team—remain as strong as ever. “We’re like family,” says Giordano of his former teammates and players.

Giordano is giving back and leaving his legacy at Monmouth University through his estate plan. He created two bequests: one will provide scholarships for education majors, and the other will support the baseball program.

“No one of the good things that happened in my life would have happened without Monmouth University—period,” says Giordano. “That’s why I give.”

Join Vincent in helping students while creating your own legacy at Monmouth University. Contact Ken Brennan, senior director of leadership programs, at 732-571-5503 or kbr@monmouth.edu for more information on legacy giving, or visit mylegacy.monmouth.edu.
One group’s quest to reduce food waste on campus, and what
abroad.

THEIR LABORS
THE FRUITS OF
HER LABORS
THE FRUITS OF
THEIR LABORS

Michele Evering-Watley ’89
Hawks career.

END OF AN ERA

Two alumni recall their wet and wild days performing as clown divers.

SPORTS & FITNESS

Flavio Licata

Mary Trice

Benjamin White

THE MUSIC
BEHIND
WEST SIDE STORY

LOVIN’
A graphical look at how we view love in America

EXPLAIN THIS
How to take great smartphone photos. Plus: What’s “HDR”?

BOTOX
Giuseppe Licata is coding his way to the top, one chatbot at a time.

SUMMER

10 things to know about Monmouth’s student-run record label.

16 A DAY AT THE BEACH
Still life along the coast at Long Branch, New Jersey

Zelaya and Morissa Schwartz omit any reference to the degree pro-
grams they are pursuing. ... We take pride in our students, faculty, staff, and
alumni and would like to know more about their connections to this
institution. I encourage you to re-ex-

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK
Email us at magazine@monmouth.edu, or write us at
Monmouth magazine, Monmouth University, Alumni House, 400 Cedar
Ave, West Long Branch, NJ 07764.

Submissions for the Letters page are subject to editing for
clarity and length and must include the writer’s name, address, and
phone number for confirmation.

An Undeserved Award
I was disturbed and disgusted to read that Monmouth University
bestowed an environmental honor to Christine Todd Whitman (“Cam-
pus Briefs,” Spring 2017). As head
of the EPA on 9/11, Whitman gave
knowingly false information to
the public about the World Trade Center site and repeatedly
assured the public that the air
was safe to breathe—knowing all
the while that it wasn’t. In my
opinion, Whitman has the blood of
the first responders who have died
or are dying from cancer and lung
diseases on her hands. She ruined
her environmental reputation
and lost her credibility as a “leading
voice for the environment.”

Daryl Becker ’72

Editor’s note: In a September 2016 interview with The Guardian, Whitman denied inten-
tionally misleading the public about the air
quality of Ground Zero while apologizing to those who were affected by breathing it.

Corrections
In the spring 2017 issue, the photo
at the top of page 32 was incor-
rectly credited to Andrew Cohen.
The picture was taken by Mark
Ludak St. We regret the error.

The Changemaker
Michelle Ewing-Watley ’89
fights Zika at home and abroad.

What It’s Like
On the air with Bloomberg Radio’s Dave
Wilson ’80.

The Rest

Letters, 05.
Campus Briefs, 11.
Alumni Roundup, 40.
Celebrations, 45 & 46.
In Memoriam, 48.

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
West Long Branch, NJ 07764
732-571-3489
www.monmouth.edu
In February, Grey Dimenna, Esq., was appointed president of Monmouth University. Dimenna, who retired as vice president and general counsel from Monmouth in 2015, returned at the request of the Board of Trustees following the retirement of former president Paul Brown. The board will soon begin a national presidential search, but Dimenna has said he is not interested in being considered as the incumbent beyond the conclusion of his contract, which runs through June 30, 2019. That hasn’t stopped him from embracing his new role with gusto.

For those who don’t know you, can you share a little about your background?

I’ve been involved in higher education most of my career, first at the New Jersey Attorney General’s office where, among other assignments, I represented New Jersey’s nine state colleges and was director of governmental affairs in the Department of Higher Education. I came to Monmouth in 1995, when former president Bedey Stafford created the internal general counsel office. My role expanded during my 20 years here, as more departments began reporting to me. Part of that reflects the expansion of the federal and state laws and regulations affecting higher education, and part of it was related to Monmouth becoming a more advanced institution. After I retired, I traveled a lot with my wife, Nancy. I rode my bicycles and my Harley, and I started learning to play guitar.

Why did you decide to return to Monmouth?

I love this university so much that I’ve missed my ‘family’ and it is wonderful to be back. And asked if I could help out I couldn’t say no. And Nancy was very supportive of me doing this. Monmouth is like a family to me. That’s one of the special things about this place.

You’ve seemingly been everywhere on campus since returning. Has that been intentional?

I want to be as visible as possible, particularly for the students. My guiding principle is that the students come first—they’re the reason we’re here—and so I’ve made it a point to

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As the first person to hold the position, Dimenna established the organizational framework of the Office of the General Counsel.

Nancy Kaplen, Dimenna’s wife, is a retired attorney who worked in the New Jersey Attorney General’s office for 26 years.

Dimenna owns seven bicycles and rode 5,207 miles in 2016.

A 1995 Road King.

He owns two electric Stratocaster and an acoustic resonator.

Shortly after his return, Dimenna wrote in an email to students and employees, ‘Although I was truly enjoying my retirement, I did miss my ‘family’ and it is wonderful to be back.’

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Grey Matters

A candid, annotated Q&A with Monmouth’s ninth president.

Interview by Tony Marchetti

Grey Dimenna, Esq., was appointed president of Monmouth University in February, following the retirement of former president Paul Brown. The board will soon begin a national presidential search, but Dimenna has said he is not interested in being considered as the incumbent beyond the conclusion of his contract, which runs through June 30, 2019. That hasn’t stopped him from embracing his new role with gusto.

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of course, I want to continue to be visible on campus.

As someone who worked at the institution out the time decades, what would you point to as Monmouth's greatest strength?

That's our student-centered. We have small classes, and faculty form one-on-one relationshio with students. We have a beautiful campus, great facilities, a great athletics program, and a great system of clubs and organizations for students to get involved with. And I think one of our greatest strengths continues to be the outcomes our students enjoy, both educationally and in terms of personal growth. I've seen how students come here as recent high school graduates and leave as mature adults ready to make a difference in this world. To me that is huge.

What are the biggest challeng es facing Monmouth?

Cost is one—that isn't unique to Monmouth. Higher education is very expensive. At Monmouth, we give students a lot in return. But to have small class-sizes and provide individual attention and support like we do requires people, and that costs money. One way we're excited is by working to increase the amount of scholarship dollars we can provide. That means getting more people to donate and create scholarships. A second thing we hear from students is parking. It sounds so mundane, but we recently did a student satisfaction survey and found that one of the top issues people want is more parking. A third thing we hear from students is parking. It sounds so mundane, but we recently did a student satisfaction survey and found that one of the top issues people want is more parking. A second thing we hear from students is parking. It sounds so mundane, but we recently did a student satisfaction survey and found that one of the top issues people want is more parking. A third thing we hear from students is parking. It sounds so mundane, but we recently did a student satisfaction survey and found that one of the top issues people want is more parking.

When you were general counsel, you had a reputation for being the funniest man on campus—

That wasn't a reputation. It was established fact [laughs]. I think humor is really important because it makes for a more comfortable and positive working environment. I'm not a good joke-teller.11 My style is more off-the-cuff—find funny things in everyday situations. I've been told I have a very dry and boring humor, which can sometimes be a problem. I'll make a joke, but the person thinks I'm serious—then I discover I have to explain it or let it slide.

Were there other topics you were hoping we'd cover in this interview?

To keep it street, that I'm the best-looking president in Monmouth's history.

Therefore, over the years, I've loved motorcycles as a kid. I bought my first motorcycle when I was young. I think I'm one of the few people who is really good on a motorcycle. It's a great feeling when you're riding—particularly out west, where it's so scenic and you're one with the road and nature.

And how long have you been playing guitar?

I started learning the day after I retired. It was a goal of mine. I am not the second coming of Jimi Hendrix, but I was practicing a couple hours a day and enjoying it. I just started learning to play slide guitar when this job came along. I haven't played guitar since. But the minute I retire I'll be picking it up again.

Do you have a favorite brand or type of music?

That's tough. I can't pick one.12 I have well over 1,000 CDs. I just finished selling off my album collection. I still have 400 or 500 cassette tapes that I don't know what to do with. Rock and the blues are probably my favorite types of music, but I also like reggae, some country, folk.

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Most Americans believe there is a special someone they are meant to be with—ideally, someone a lot like themselves. Those are two findings from a recent poll conducted by Monmouth University Polling Institute in collaboration with Gary Lewandowski, professor and chair of Monmouth’s Department of Psychology, whose research focuses on romantic relationships. Here’s a look at some of the numbers and what they mean.

The poll was conducted by telephone from January 12 to 15, 2017, with 801 adults in the United States, including 50 percent who are married, 10 percent who are living with a partner, and another 10 percent who are in a non-cohabitating romantic relationship. The results have a margin of error of ±3.5 percent.

Of married respondents, 91% say they are “extremely satisfied” with their relationships. Of independents, 78% say they are “extremely satisfied” with their relationships. Of Democrats, 83% say their partners are their best friends.

Lewandowski says: “These differences may be attributable to Republicans placing greater value on marriage. As a result, Republicans may be more motivated to see relationships more positively.”

There’s someone for everyone, some say

66% of American adults believe in the concept of soul mates—the idea that there is a specific person we are each meant to be with.

82% of women currently in a relationship are most likely to believe this.

64% of men in a relationship think it.

14% of Americans don’t give much credence to the idea of soul mates.

17% don’t believe in the concept at all.

Lewandowski says: “Though romantic, believing in soul mates isn’t necessarily ideal for your relationship. The research indicates that those who believe in soul mates and destiny are actually more likely to break up. On the other hand, those who believe that relationships grow over time have more stable relationships and are better at dealing with conflict.”

You’re the one that you want

Despite the adage that opposites attract, most Americans feel their ideal mates are those who are similar to themselves.

6 in 10 Americans say that partners should generally be similar—though not too similar.

1 in 3 Americans say they should be more different—though not too different.

Lewandowski says: “Being more similar helps minimize conflict. If both of you like going to the beach, neither of you need to sacrifice.”

Brains matter

Most Americans want to marry someone who is equally as smart or smarter than themselves

51% or 39%

Only 3 percent think it’s good to marry someone less smart.

Lewandowski says: “Marrying someone smarter than you is wise, because in quality relationships, you take on many of your partner’s qualities as your own and ultimately share your partner’s successes.”

The head or the heart?

Most Americans say the ideal partner is someone who makes decisions with their head rather than their gut.

78% prefer a partner who makes decisions from the head.

15% prefer a partner who makes them from the gut.

Lewandowski says: “Emotionally unstable partners undermine relationships, so having a partner who is more logical and rational should promote stability.”

83% of married respondents feel this way.

72% in a nonmarital relationship think the same.

The politics of love

The partisan divide impacting American life has also crept into how Americans view their relationships.

65% of Republicans say they are “extremely satisfied” with their relationships.

57% of independents say they are “extremely satisfied” with their relationships.

52% of Democrats say their partners are their best friends.

91% of Republicans say their partners are their best friends.

83% of independents say their partners are their best friends.

78% of Democrats say their partners are their best friends.

Lewandowski says: “Considering your romantic partner to be your best friend is an important component of quality relationships. In fact, when researchers asked couples who have been married over 15 years why their relationships lasted, the top reason was that their partners are their best friends.”

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The head or the heart?

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88% of American adults in a relationship see their current partners as their best friends.

72% of married respondents feel this way.

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Q: HOW CAN I TAKE GREAT PHOTOS WITH MY PHONE?

I t's vacation season. It's wedding season. It's beach season. There's no denying it: Summer is prime time for photo-taking. If you're like many people, you've ditched your clunky film camera in favor of your smartphone—and there's no shame in that, says Mark Ludak '81, a specialist professor who teaches all levels of photography at Monmouth. "The best kind of camera is the one you have on you," he says. "Modern smartphones are equal in quality to the premier digital cameras of about 15 years ago, so they are more than adequate for social media or printing up to 5 x 7." But there are a few golden rules to follow, says Ludak. First, the basics: Get closer than you think to the subject, and fill the frame with it. Make sure any sunlight is behind you to avoid backlighting the subject (pro tip: the best time of day is early morning or late afternoon). And when in doubt, opt for horizontal orientation. "Any social media we use is horizontally oriented, so if you take a vertical photo, you'll see empty space on either side," says Ludak. "Plus, if you're taking pictures of a person, vertical orientation almost guarantees there's too much space above their head." Next, optimize the phone's camera settings. Ludak says he rarely uses the flash—unless it's pitch black, flash is going to make the photo look unnatural. Instead, use the exposure setting to focus the frame and achieve optimal lighting. "Often, you can touch the screen where you want the focus to be, and it will automatically adjust the exposure," says Ludak. If your phone has an additional slider option to brighten or darken the photo, use it, he says. When life doesn't allow for perfect conditions—like a child playing or a dog romping—burst mode can be a photo-saver. Simply hold down the shutter button, and the phone should take a series of photos—usually one of them is workable, says Ludak.

Too bright? Too dark? Filters can come in handy, he adds. In particular, a black-and-white filter can save a too-bright pic. The bottom line? "You can take great photos with the smartphones we have," he says. "Photographs aren't made by devices. They're made by people." –Melissa Kvidahl

THE 10-SECOND BONUS QUESTION

WHAT'S HDR, AND WHY USE IT?

If one part of your photo is too bright and another is too dark, you may need to use HDR. Short for high dynamic range, this setting takes a series of photos at different exposures to account for the different light values and then combines the best parts of each automatically.

» Just four years removed from the program’s wireless inaugural season, men's lacrosse had its best season ever, capturing the MAAC regular season and tournament championships and making the program’s first appearance in the NCAA tournament. The team’s 14-4 overall record included perfect 6-0 mark in conference play and at home in 2017. In addition, Monmouth defeated its first ranked opponent, No. 16 Villanova, to begin the 2017 campaign, and earned its first national ranking in program history when it entered the NCAA Tournament on an 11-game winning streak.

» A juried exhibition of works by 28 artists, ages 16 to 41 and living with autism spectrum disorder, highlighted Monmouth University’s Autism Awareness Month programming. The Art + Autism exhibition provided a window into the minds of young adults on the spectrum and showed they are every bit as capable and talented as anyone else, says Vaune Peck, director of the university’s Center for the Arts, which helped organize the month of events. Select pieces from the exhibition were sold, with proceeds benefiting the Autism MVP Foundation and Autism Speaks.

» The university held four commencement ceremonies this spring. On May 10, undergraduates received degrees during a commencement at PNC Bank Arts Center. The following day in OceanFirst Bank Center, Monmouth hosted its first separate commencement for graduate students. That evening, a special ceremony was held in Pollak Theatre for 17 men’s lacrosse players who missed graduation due to their team’s NCAA tournament game. And on May 17, President Dimenna conferred degrees on two softball players who missed graduation due to their team’s MAAC tournament game.

» The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recognized Monmouth University as an Individual Conference Champion of the 2016-17 College & University Green Power Challenge for using more green power than any other school in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference. Monmouth beat its MAAC rivals by using nearly 12 million kilowatt-hours of green power, representing 56 percent of the university’s annual electricity usage.

» The university’s Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society’s “Paws for a Cause” event raised $1,631 for new K-9 bulletproof vests for the Monmouth County Sheriff’s Office.

» Dozens of male faculty, staff, and students donned women’s shoes and, accompanied by their female counterparts, traversed campus on April 5 to help bring awareness to sexual assault and gender violence. The annual “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” event was coordinated by the Departments of Counseling and Psychological Services and Residential Life.
Every year, 40 percent of all food in the U.S. goes uneaten. This is one of the disturbing facts Susan Pagano, former president of Monmouth University’s Food Recovery Network, shares with people to drive home the issue of food waste—when food gets discarded or goes uneaten for reasons that range from a lack of meal planning to people overestimating their hunger.

“It’s not just food that you’re throwing away,” Pagano says of the edible items that get trashed each day. “It’s the water, energy, and manpower that went into producing that item. There are so many negative environmental effects that result from people throwing out their food.”

After hearing about FRN, a national student-run movement that tackles food waste by feeding those in need, Pagano set out to establish the Monmouth chapter. With help from students in a First Year Seminar class, she pitched the initiative to Gourmet Dining, the university’s food service provider, in December 2015, and a collaboration was born. Twice a week, Monmouth’s FRN members collect untouched, unserved food from campus eateries and deliver it to two partner agencies: Reformation Lutheran Church Community Food Pantry in West Long Branch, New Jersey, and Meal at Noon in Long Branch, New Jersey.

Since spring 2016, Monmouth’s chapter has donated more than 5,604 pounds of leftover food to the pantries, helping to feed approximately 4,670 people, according to Pagano.

The FRN is extending its efforts beyond recovery and delivery, says Pagano. The group also aims to educate people on campus about food waste and how their individual choices have an impact. The group’s “Scrape Your Plate” event, held in Magill Commons in April, encouraged diners to scrape leftovers from their plates onto trays, which were then weighed. In under two hours, FRN collected 22 pounds of food scraps—about the same weight as the average car tire.

“We can do everything that we can to stop the waste of food that hasn’t left the hot line in the dining hall, but we can’t do anything about plate waste,” says Pagano. “I think the aesthetic impact of the Scrape Your Plate event—of actually seeing that plate waste weighed right in front of you—forces people to confront something they would otherwise just brush aside.”

**Waste Not, Want Not**

Three ways to reduce food waste at home:

- **Shop in your fridge first.** Prep and eat what you already have before buying more.
- **Buy only what you need and will use.** Buying in bulk doesn’t save money if you’re throwing items away due to spoilage.
- **Immediately prep, cook, and freeze perishables.** Then use them throughout the month, cutting your time in the kitchen.

In the process, FRN has helped Gourmet Dining better identify what food items consistently go uneaten. Chris Ryerson, Gourmet’s resident district manager, says this allows the company to make more informed decisions about how much food to order and prepare, resulting in less food waste.

“There was one night in the beginning where we collected close to 300 pounds of food,” says Pagano. “Now, on Friday nights, we’re getting like 70 to 80 pounds, maybe up to 150.”

**The Fruit of Their Labors**

LEd by Susan Pagano, Monmouth’s Food Recovery Network is reducing campus waste while feeding the local community.

By Breanne McCarthy

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Since spring 2016, Monmouth’s chapter has donated more than 5,604 pounds of leftover food to the pantries, helping to feed approximately 4,670 people, according to Pagano.

The FRN is extending its efforts beyond recovery and delivery, says Pagano. The group also aims to educate people on campus about food waste and how their individual choices have an impact. The group’s “Scrape Your Plate” event, held in Magill Commons in April, encouraged diners to scrape leftovers from their plates onto trays, which were then weighed. In under two hours, FRN collected 22 pounds of food scraps—about the same weight as the average car tire.

“We can do everything that we can to stop the waste of food that hasn’t left the hot line in the dining hall, but we can’t do anything about plate waste,” says Pagano. “I think the aesthetic impact of the Scrape Your Plate event—of actually seeing that plate waste weighed right in front of you—forces people to confront something they would otherwise just brush aside.”

**Waste Not, Want Not**

Three ways to reduce food waste at home:

- **Shop in your fridge first.** Prep and eat what you already have before buying more.
- **Buy only what you need and will use.** Buying in bulk doesn’t save money if you’re throwing items away due to spoilage.
- **Immediately prep, cook, and freeze perishables.** Then use them throughout the month, cutting your time in the kitchen.

In the process, FRN has helped Gourmet Dining better identify what food items consistently go uneaten. Chris Ryerson, Gourmet’s resident district manager, says this allows the company to make more informed decisions about how much food to order and prepare, resulting in less food waste.

“There was one night in the beginning where we collected close to 300 pounds of food,” says Pagano. “Now, on Friday nights, we’re getting like 70 to 80 pounds, maybe up to 150.”

**The Fruit of Their Labors**

Led by Susan Pagano, Monmouth’s Food Recovery Network is reducing campus waste while feeding the local community.

By Breanne McCarthy

Every year, 40 percent of all food in the U.S. goes uneaten. This is one of the disturbing facts Susan Pagano, former president of Monmouth University’s Food Recovery Network, shares with people to drive home the issue of food waste—when food gets discarded or goes uneaten for reasons that range from a lack of meal planning to people overestimating their hunger.

“It’s not just food that you’re throwing away,” Pagano says of the edible items that get trashed each day. “It’s the water, energy, and manpower that went into producing that item. There are so many negative environmental effects that result from people throwing out their food.”

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PIPELINE TO SUCCESS
HOW MONMOUTH’S UNDERPASS PROVIDES MORE THAN JUST SAFE PASSAGE.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

Fifteen years ago this September, a ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the official opening of the pedestrian underpass that connects the residential quads with the main campus.

Colloquially known as “the tunnel,” the subterranean passageway was built to eliminate vehicular and pedestrian conflict along Cedar Avenue, near the main gate. A study completed around the time of the tunnel’s construction indicated that more than 13,000 vehicles passed here in a single day.

Several design concepts were initially pitched, including one that called for a pedestrian bridge. But the underpass was chosen because it met standards set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act, allowed campus maintenance vehicles to pass, and did not negatively impact the historic character of the campus.

The New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office provided input and approval during the design phase, which lasted 11 months. Material enhancements, including cast stone elements and marble, were chosen to directly reflect treatments from historic structures on campus.

Today, with its detailed architectural features and its inscription reading “Carpe Diem,” which students see each time they head from their dorms toward their classrooms and labs, the tunnel has become a beloved campus icon.

HOW MONMOUTH WAS MADE » Landmarks & stories

8 » All albums are recorded at Lakehouse Recording Studios, a world class studio in Asbury Park where Monmouth students take classes.
9 » You can purchase and stream Hang Ten on all major digital platforms (e.g., iTunes, Amazon, Spotify) and check out past albums at bluehawkrecords.com.
10 » Blue Hawk Records has an international following: Its artists toured Italy in 2014 and the label has sales in seven countries.

1 » Blue Hawk Records is a student club that was formed in 2013 under the guidance of Joe Rapolla ’90M, chair of Monmouth’s Department of Music and Theatre Arts and director of its Music Industry program.
2 » Its mission is to give students, regardless of major, hands-on experience running a current-day music label.
3 » The students do everything—from finding the talent and recording the songs to branding the label’s artists and marketing and distributing the final product.
4 » The label released its 10th studio album—aptly titled Hang Ten—in April.
5 » Every record release is celebrated with a student-produced concert featuring artists on the new album.
6 » Performers that have recorded with Blue Hawk Records include students, alumni, and even faculty. Hang Ten features a cut from The Professors, whose members include Rapolla, Specialist Professor George Wurzbach, and adjuncts Erik Romero, Mark Muller, Bob Boyd, and Jay Sweet.
A DAY AT THE BEACH  ■ Coastal moments, captured

MAY 12, 2017

Big sky, bright morning, and an empty beach on the coast in Long Branch, New Jersey.
Justin Robinson spent the past four years proving he was good enough to play basketball at any college in the country. Surely, part of him must wish that he’d gotten the chance.

“Never,” says Robinson. “There was never any doubt or regret, never any thought about transferring. Why would I transfer to play for someone who didn’t want me?”

That impassioned response came in late April, barely a month after the end of his remarkable college career. As it is for any soon-to-be graduate, the spring of senior year is a time to reflect on the past and focus on the future. For Robinson, the latter means prepping for a professional basketball career: He was invited this spring to the Portsmouth Invitational Tournament, an annual showcase of college seniors hoping to impress NBA scouts. A pro career overseas might be more likely, but regardless, there is plenty for Robinson to look forward to.

Still, he’s in no hurry to forget his time at Monmouth. He came here from Kingston, New York, his small stature—he proudly tells you he’s 5-foot-8, a number he says he’s “never embellished”—scaring off most recruiters. But not Coach King Rice, who saw a talented kid with a point to prove. Robinson wasted little time making Rice—“the one man who gave me the opportunity to further my career”—look prescient. He averaged 7.1 points and 3.0 assists per game as a freshman. As a sophomore, he started every game and led a team that had won just 11 games a year earlier to an 18-15 mark.

Then came the magical 2015–16 season, so much of it created by Robinson. Sixteen points in a season-opening win at UCLA. Two clutch free throws in the closing seconds to upset Notre Dame, the program’s first win over a ranked team. A season of scoring sprees—28 points apiece against USC, Drexel, and Dayton; 29 at Iona; and a career-best 36 against Siena—that powered the Hawks to the MAAC title game. A heartbreaking loss there cost them a chance at the NCAA tournament, but that could hardly diminish what Robinson accomplished: a new single-season scoring record, the MAAC Player of the Year Award, and more important to him, a program record 28 wins. In his senior year, a year in which the Hawks “settled” for 27 wins, Robinson became just the second Monmouth player to crack the 2,000-point mark for his career. He admits to disappointment at never reaching the NCAA tournament, then remembers how far the program came in such a short time: “My freshman year, warming up before the game, nobody in the stands, whole sections of the bleachers not even pulled out yet—you remember that,” he says. “The past two seasons, the gym [was] full before we were even done with warm-ups. To be part of that transition, it’s a blessing.”

That blessing went both ways. Near season’s end, 11-year-old Erica Schaeffer, a Hawks season-ticket holder along with her parents, wrote letters to the front offices of all 30 NBA teams urging them to draft her favorite player (this after her father told her Robinson might end up playing overseas). Erica’s letter was on Robinson’s mind a few weeks later when he wrote one of his own—longhand, on three pages of college-ruled paper—and tweeted it out to fans. “I would see [the Schaeffers] at games my first two years, always in the same spot,” he says. “Just seeing their loyalty and dedication, I almost felt obligated to reciprocate.”

Erica and every other fan would likely tell Robinson that there’s no need. Over the last four years, he gave them plenty.
“It was slapstick, almost like old vaudeville,” Buchner says of the performances he and Bruckmann put on at aquatic events on campus and throughout the tristate area between 1967 and 1970. The duo says they were recruited into the aquacade circuit by their Monmouth swim coach, Dick Steadman. According to the pair, Steadman was a former clown diver himself—he had performed alongside Olympians Buster Crabbe and Johnny “Tarzan” Weissmuller as part of Billy Rose’s Aquacade, a music, dance, and swimming show that was part of the 1939–40 New York World’s Fair—and helped Bruckmann and Buchner devise a routine they would perform during Parents Day and other on-campus events. “It all started out in the audience, kind of like the [Harlem] Globetrotters, with one of us chasing the other around the pool. That often ended with an officer—who was in on the joke—escorting Buchner away.”

The performances he and Bruckmann put on at aquatic events were equal parts diving and slapstick. “I’m sure they were somewhat out of the ordinary—like the time Crabbe, the former Olympian, performed as part of the Parents Day Water Show on campus in May 1969. What was more extraordinary were the times the duo, sometimes with a small team of other divers, performed off campus. One show in particular remains a favorite memory for both Buchner and Bruckmann. The two, along with three other divers, performed a comedy diving routine as the “Monmouth College Commandoes” to mark the opening of a new pool at the YMCA in Flushing, Queens. The event was attended by the likes of Gertrude Ederle, the first woman to swim the English Channel, as well as Crabbe and his fellow Olympian, Don Schollander. When the show was over, Buchner and Bruckmann left the building along with the stars, who were signing autographs and having their pictures taken. Thinking the two Monmouth College students were also famous athletes, fans began asking Buchner and Bruckmann for their autographs as well. “It was hysterical! I said to Pete, ‘Just sign!’” laughs Buchner. “There might be quite a few of our autographs out there. I think we signed a lot!”

“The signature clown dive!”

1. Peter Bruckmann jumped first off the board and did a reverse flip.

2. While Bruckmann was turning in the air, Jeffrey Buchner would jump off the board, diving under Bruckmann.

3. Buchner would land atop Bruckmann and ‘ride’ him into the water.

The duo says they were recruited into the aquacade circuit by their Monmouth swim coach, Dick Steadman. According to the pair, Steadman was a former clown diver himself—he had performed alongside Olympians Buster Crabbe and Johnny “Tarzan” Weissmuller as part of Billy Rose’s Aquacade, a music, dance, and swimming show that was part of the 1939–40 New York World’s Fair—and helped Bruckmann and Buchner devise a routine they would perform during Parents Day and other on-campus events. “It all started out in the audience, kind of like the [Harlem] Globetrotters, with one of us chasing the other around the pool. That often ended with an officer—who was in on the joke—escorting Buchner away.”

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I grew up Palestinian Christian in East Jerusalem. My mother, father, grandmother, seven siblings, and I lived in a neighborhood called Al-Thori, just a few minutes south of the old walled city. My mother, who is now 90 years old, still lives in the house where I grew up.

Al-Thori is predominantly Arab Muslim—when I was a child, there were only four Christian families in the neighborhood—while Abu Tor, immediately to the west of Al-Thori, is home mostly to Jewish people.

I played with my Muslim neighbors. But I went to a Catholic school in the Old City called Collège des Frères where we spoke Arabic, English, and French.

At home, we mainly spoke Arabic. (Jerusalem has always been a melting pot: My father was a printer who worked on an old Gutenberg press, and he would set the letters in Arabic, English, Greek, and several other languages.)

On the weekends, my siblings and I prayed at Mar Yacoub (St. James), the Greek Orthodox Church next to the Holy Sepulchre. I used to go to the Old City and act as a guide for Western tourists. I would show them where Jesus was crucified and his tomb; and I would be chased by the professional guides because I was taking their jobs away!

And this whole time—from 1949 until 1967—all of East Jerusalem was under Jordanian rule. It was not until the Six-Day War, which was fought from June 5 to 10, 1967, that East Jerusalem came under Israeli control.

No man’s land, which separated Jordanian-controlled East Jerusalem from Israeli-controlled West Jerusalem, was a few hundred yards from my house. It was full of barbed wire and explosives. The Jordanian army stood face-to-face with the Israeli army across the border.

Then the war took place, and our lives changed forever. In a sense, that’s where the story really begins.

Today, I can discuss the war ad infinitum. But as an 11-year-old, I didn’t know the full details of what brought it about. I knew the differences between Israelis and Palestinians.

Crossing Borders

Saliba Sarsar has dedicated his life’s work to healing.
There were some demonstrations in the streets and a lot of movement of soldiers. And when the war was almost upon us, able-bodied men came knocking at our door and said they needed to dig a trench in the garden that ran behind our house and the houses of our neighbors. They wanted to be able to move safely through the neighborhood without being exposed to enemy fire, so they came and dug up our garden. That’s when we knew that something serious was going to happen.

When the guns began firing, my entire family congregated in my parents’ bedroom, which was a safe space with thick walls. The fighting was heavy because we were close to the border. One of the kids I played with was killed. I went out in the garden to look at the fighter jets, and a bomb hit him. He died right then and there. He was 12 years old. Another neighbor who lived with us. Or perhaps it was afraid of us just as we were afraid of them. I began to question why we have borders and why we make our lives so unnatural. I also discovered my family’s roots. A few weeks after the war, while helping my parents around the house, my eldest brother found a document written in a strange language. My mom eventually explained that my father—George Sarsar, had actually been born a White Russian named Ivan Danilov. According to family lore, he was in fact a prince. The document my brother found was his Russian baptismal certificate. He was adopted by the woman I called my grandmother.

It’s hard to know why my parents didn’t tell us earlier about my father’s origins. Perhaps they felt we were too young to understand and wanted to wait until we were more mature. Perhaps they were acting out of deference to my adoptive grandmother, who lived with us. Or perhaps it was because the culture and society in which we lived did not fully embrace the idea of adoption, and not telling us was their way of protecting us.

Over time, I also learned that my mother’s father—my grandfather, who lived in West Jerusalem—was Greek. I believe my older siblings already knew this, but I was too young to have been aware of it. I only became cognizant of my mother’s ancestry as I got to know her, George Sarsar, and her Russian-speaking family. According to family lore, he was born a White Russian named Ivan Danilov. According to family lore, he was in fact a prince. The document my brother found was his Russian baptismal certificate. He was adopted by the woman I called my grandmother.

Several months after the war, a Western man moved into the house next door. His name was Israel Hadany. Soon enough, his girlfriend, Brigitte, joined him. I found out that he was Jewish and Israeli. “Oh, my God!” I said. “The enemy is living next door!”

But that enemy became a member of my family. Israel and Brigitte married and had two sons, and they began spending much time with us. When the parents were busy, we took care of the children.

From the age of 12 or 13, I grew up in that type of environment: Christian, Muslim, Jewish. So I was able to develop this idea of inclusion, and of loving thy neighbor—thine enemy—as thyself. Because there was no longer the issue of an “enemy.” Whether it’s across a border or the person living next door, we are one community, one family.

I’ve come to terms with that period of my life by writing about it, by teaching, by reaching out to the Other, and by...
When the question of Palestine is resolved, the rug will be pulled out from under all of the extremists in the region. It will be. The sooner they understand that, the better. Because once an agreement is reached, peace will not be lived unless it is cultivated. And leaders at all levels of society—parents, educators, religious leaders, civic leaders—must come to terms with the Other.

As I always say, Israelis and Palestinians will be neighbors forever. The sooner they understand that, the better.

And when the question of Palestine is resolved, the rug will be pulled out from under all of the extremists in the region. There will continue to be pockets of them here and there, but they will not be able to sustain themselves. Their own supporters will abandon them because those supporters will be participants in the movement for peace: The surrounding Arab countries—Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the other Gulf states; Morocco, Tunisia—would love to have peace, and once the United States, Israel, and Palestine start laying the groundwork for it, then those countries will come along.

But while that is happening, the political leadership must train people to work for peace, and to expect it. Because once an agreement is signed, peace will not be lived unless it is cultivated. And leaders at all levels of society—parents, educators, religious leaders, civic leaders—must come to terms with the Other.

I came to the United States in 1974. A Methodist minister, Rev. John Gracik, was my visa sponsor, and in addition to my own family, several American families helped support me, showering me with care and love.

After graduating from Monmouth in 1978, I did my doctoral work at Rutgers. My interest turned to politics and history, and I wrote my dissertation on the psychological makeup of Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat: why he made the decision on November 19, 1977, to visit the land of his enemy—Israel—to seek peace. He, too, crossed both physical and psychological borders.

When I came to work at Monmouth, in 1985, I tried to recreate my Jerusalem experience to work with all sides to benefit the common good, whatever that may be. Because an important part of crossing the border, whether in Monmouth or elsewhere, is education: How do you educate people and empower them to visualize what they hope for? The sooner they understand that, the better.

I do not teach from a distance. In the early days, when I began teaching, I thought more in terms of abstractions. But now, I try to connect students to events and settings: How would you feel if you lived in Jerusalem? How would you feel if you were now living in Iraq or Syria? It’s tragic, but what happens in the Middle East is a laboratory for what we learn in the classroom. The students are fascinated, but they are also pained by what’s going on.

And when and I speak about the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, I share with my students 10 posters that I’ve made, each representing a decade in Arab-Jewish and Palestinian-Israeli relations and each tied to my own family history. The students relate so well to this, it brings the history home and makes it come alive for them.

Today, the most reasonable outcome to the ongoing conflict is a two-state solution. A one-state solution will not happen because Israel will not accept to dismantle itself or to do away with its Jewish character or political dominance. If the Palestinians were to be given equal voting rights, then demographically, Israel would no longer exist.

And if Israel keeps taking more territory, Palestine will no longer exist. Then what would you do with the millions who live there? Do you keep them subjugated, under occupation? And if the Palestinians were to take over Israel, would they subjugate the Jewish state? It just doesn’t make sense.

This is why a two-state solution, whereby Israel lives alongside Palestine in peace, security, and prosperity, is the way to go.

The United States holds the key to resolving the issue, yet much of the work the U.S. president has to do is not on the Palestinians and the Israelis, but on Congress: He has to convince congressional leaders that there is no contradiction between supporting Israel and helping the Palestinians to actualize themselves.

That’s essential. The Palestinians have to choose democracy, pluralism, non-militarization, and neutrality because their emphasis has to be on developing infrastructure, jobs, education, health, and all the things that make a good life.
It’s late afternoon in Long Branch, New Jersey, and the local kids are streaming out of school. Some catch a bus home. Some stop for a bite to eat with friends. And some saunter into Heads Up, a barbershop on Morris Avenue. The owner, Micah Goff, has turned off the TVs and dropped the music volume low. He considers this quiet time for the children of the community. It’s a chance for them to stop by, set up shop at an island in the middle of the store, and get some homework done or grab a book from the shelves.

DAVID PEREZ ’17M AND AN INNOVATIVE PROGRAM ARE MAKING AN IMPACT ON YOUTH LITERACY.

A CUT ABOVE THE REST

BY MAUREEN HARMON
PHOTOS BY CARDONI

OPPOSITE: Perez in the chair at Heads Up, one of the local barbershops participating in the Fade to Books program.
These aren’t simple magazine racks at the local “cheap cuts” shop. The children have hundreds of books to choose from, including the full set of Diary of a Wimpy Kid and other series. And the books are there in God’s shop—as well as in four other barbershops in the area—as part of the Long Branch Library’s Fade to Books Program.

“Tina Garcia didn’t have plans at the start to hand the Fade to Books Program over to David Perez. He had been working with her on another community project as a library intern, but when Fade to Books started to take root, Perez seemed like the perfect guy for the job. He was familiar with the importance of barbershops in Latino and African-American communities. But he wasn’t sold on the idea. Sure, it sounded good—put books in a community gathering spot. But he didn’t see a big impact.

Then he floated the idea by a friend. “She sent me this video,” says Perez. “It was a CNN interview with a gentleman who is doing a similar project in Harlem.” That program worked with 10 barbershops, and it was thriving. Perez started doing the research and learned that the literacy rates of black and Hispanic boys are extremely low—some graduating high school at a seventh-grade reading level. “These kids are not really understanding what they can achieve,” says Perez.

As a disabled veteran, Perez was eligible for an additional VA educational benefit, vocational rehabilitation, so he launched himself right back into business moving toward his M.B.A. course. But in the midst of his first class for his degree, he stopped. “I thought, You know what? I don’t want to do this,” recalls Perez. “I don’t want to manage people. I don’t want to worry about spreadsheets. I don’t want it.” He called his counselor at the Veterans Administration Regional Business Office and told her he wanted to get into social work—and he wanted to go to Monmouth University, which ranks as one of the top social work programs in the country by U.S. News & World Report. Her advice: apply for the social work program, and he accepted, let her take care of the rest. “And that’s exactly what I did,” says Perez.

In 2015, Perez became a Monmouth graduate student in social work, focusing on international community development. He was part of the university’s Military Bridge Program, which allows active or retired military personnel to attend the university with tuition assistance.

As part of his work toward a degree, he took on an internship with the Long Branch Public Library.

ENGAGING COMMUNITY

T onya Garcia, who is Latina, “I really pay homage to the community barbers are to local areas. “We need to really think about the importance of barbershops in Latino and African-American communities. But he that moment is really all God needs. “It’s beautiful,” he says.

The barbershop has long been a gathering place for the African-American and Latino communities. A spot to discuss community issues. To gossip bit. To solve problems. So it made sense to Tonya Garcia, director of the Long Branch Public Library, to partner with the local barbers in an effort to improve literacy and reading rates among young children of color. The idea came to her after she saw a video posted to social media by a barber friend. The video, which focused on the importance of literacy in the African-American community, got her thinking how fundamental the local “cheap cuts” shop. The children buy books in these spaces and offer an incentive (every 10 books read earns the child a free haircut), they’ll be making a difference. And so far, they have. Just months ago, there was talk about rolling out the Fade to Books Program statewide. That talk has turned into a grant. Now the state will be starting libraries throughout New Jersey to reach out to team up with five local barbershops in their areas. “We’re talking about 125 barbershops,” says Perez. And that’s a whole lot of kids.

Just weeks before he was set to graduate with his M.S.W., Perez was still working hard for the library and the program. In April, he attended the New Jersey Library Association’s annual conference and spoke on a panel with New Jersey library directors. The Long Branch Public Library also received the 2017 “Innovative Partnership” award for the Fade to Books program at the conference. “With this internship,” says Perez, “I learned about ‘community need’; I made many network connections; I developed a passion for community development.” Perez is hopeful that he’ll be able to continue his work with a library after he earns his degree. But as Garcia told him, “They just don’t know about that now. Finish school. Graduate.”

So Perez’s future, for now, is up in the air. But he knows he’s become more solid than ever. “I’m not sure where I’ll land,” says Perez, “but one thing I do know is that the work allows me to engage in the community and advocate for development and change.”
ON THE HUNT WITH MONMOUTH FACULTY AND STUDENTS WORKING TO STOP A STEALTHY KILLER THAT’S DECIMATING THE BARNEGAT BAY ECOSYSTEM.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

PHOTOS BY RYAN STRUCK ’07
seven feet below the surface of Barnegat Bay, burrowed in the thick mud that coats the waterway’s floor, sits a predator the size of a sea turtle. Hidden by sediment and organisms encrusted along its surface, it blends into the murky surroundings and waits, month agape, to trap unsuspecting marine life in its unyielding grip.

But this predator is no creature. It’s one of hundreds of derelict crab pots that coat the bottom of the bay. Considered marine debris, the traps are abandoned—a sometimes intentional, sometimes accidental byproduct of commercial and recreational fishing that is having a devastating impact on this aquatic ecosystem.

“Derelict fishing gear can cause the death of a variety of marine organisms, cause economic loss to the fishing industry, and pose threats to human health,” says Emily Heiser, a wildlife biologist with the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey. Of particular concern to ecologists is the danger these abandoned pots pose to northern diamondback terrapins—a small, native turtle that is considered a species of special concern in New Jersey.

The diamondback terrapins sometimes enter crab pots because there’s a food source inside, such as leftover bait or blue crabs themselves, says Heiser. Many commercial crab pots have by-catch reduction devices (which minimizes the amount of marine life that become trapped), and degradable latch connectors designed to wear away over time. But those mechanisms do not always function properly, and as a result, terrapins and fish species often become trapped. Once the terrapins become trapped in the pots, they can easily drown,” Heiser says. “We pulled up one pot that had over 11 dead terrapins sitting below. Nickels would then typically maintain a steady speed of 5 mph as the instrument was towed below the surface, taking images in real-time.

“It’s like two flashlights shining out sideways, so anything that is on or above the bottom, it sees and illuminates,” says Nickels of the side-scan SONAR. Those images were transported via a long blue cable to three onboard computers. It was the students’ job, for hours on end, to watch the computer screens of anything that resembled a crab trap sitting below. Nickels would then sit with Marc Molé, a marine and environmental biology and policy major, who worked as a research assistant on the project both years, and together they would scan the images looking for rectangular blotches on the sheet—indicative of a pot. Using GPS coordinates that were captured with each screenshot, the Monmouth team could then make a second trip to retrieve the pots.

Along with the more than 600 derelict pots they identified during the past two winters, Molé says the Monmouth team found a plethora of other debris: tires, cables, propellers, an old anchor—even a capsized boat that hadn’t been recorded on any naval charts. It angered the students, many of whom plan to pursue careers studying marine life.

“It’s not so much the crab pots really, but the tires and electric cables—they’re a lot of debris,” says Molé. “The solution to pollution is dilution—it’s what people used to think.”
Two winters ago, when Nickels and his students were physically pulling up pots themselves, they retrieved about 25 traps—no easy feat. Covered in mud and encrusted with various organisms, the pots are dirty, foul-smelling, and unwieldy.

“I remember the first time I was jumping around like, ‘We’ve got one!’” says Kylie Johnson, who was involved on the project during both seasons and was on the boat one day in February 2016 when the team recovered a string of 10 pots, which took them about 40 minutes to retrieve in the freezing conditions. “We saw one, and we’re like, ‘Let’s go for it!’ Then it was attached to nine others, and that’s what made it really hard. We thought it was maybe tied down, but it was just being held down by the weight of the other nine.”

According to Nickels, commercial crabbers often attach pots together, making them easier to retrieve with the day’s catch. But if the pot connected to the buoy becomes detached, it can be hard to find any of the traps—especially for crabbers who are often without their own side-scan SONAR equipment on board. As a way of retrieving more pots, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, one of the project funders, gave basic side-scan equipment to commercial pot owners. Nickels says that “those pots are worth a lot of money to them, and they don’t want to lose as much as they can help—and it just [helps by] being good citizens and neighbors to everyone else.”

Throughout the process, the commercial pots that were retrieved with their tags still attached were processed by students from MATES and Stockton and then returned to the crabbers. Un-tagged traps and recreational pots were sent to Covanta, a waste management company, for recycling.

Moïe, who landed a job working with the NY/NJ Baykeeper prior to graduating this past May, says it was a great experience to connect with people from various schools and organizations who all shared the same end goal.

“So many people have come together, and you don’t often see the commercial fishermen actually working with the people doing the research—they don’t tend to like us too much because we just like to put regulations on things basically,” says Moïe. Working with the MATES students, who processed the pots, was also rewarding, he says. “It’s cool to help teach the next generation to do this type of stuff.”

Both Johnson and Moïe say that it’s experiences like this—and the connections that faculty like Nickels have—that make all of the difference when it comes to being prepared for life after Monmouth.

“A lot of what we’ve learned is that you have to get your foot in the door using some project where you get involved with an organization, and it’s a networking process,” says Johnson. “And as an undergraduate, it’s good to participate in different research projects to get experience. Because [Professor Nickels] can tell you how a boat works, but it’s not until you’re out on a boat that you understand.”

A ll told, Nickels says 1,274 pots were targeted and collected during the past two years. That amount of debris could fill twelve 30-cubic-yard dumpsters with a potential weight of 60 tons, he estimated.

Heiser says the data collected during the project will be cross-checked with data collected from two similar projects happening in New Jersey—one headed up by New Jersey Audubon that focuses on pots in the Delaware Bay and one headed up by Stockton University that focuses on pots in the southern reaches of Barnegat Bay and Great Bay.

Nickels, who enjoyed working on the project, says all of the students involved expressed their appreciation for the real-world experience that it provided. They’ve all enjoyed it because it is a little bit of a different experience, and it’s a really neat project because it does have a true outcome to it,” he says. “And that’s important, so they can take some pride and knowledge that they worked on something that mattered.”
Combating Zika

The mosquito-borne virus represents an unprecedented health crisis for pregnant women, but Michele Evering-Watley ’89 is working round the clock to minimize its impact at home and abroad.

By Alexander Gelfand

When news of a Zika virus outbreak first began circulating early in 2016, Michele Evering-Watley ’89 leapt into action.

As a health education specialist for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Evering-Watley has spent years teaching others how to combat diseases such as AIDS and Ebola. But Zika, which has since swept across Latin America and the Caribbean, was especially troubling. The virus, which is spread primarily by the Aedes aegypti mosquito but can also be transmitted through sexual contact, causes such mild symptoms that most people never even know they have it. Yet when it infects pregnant women it can cause a broad range of birth defects—including microcephaly, a neurological disorder characterized by an undersized head and severe brain damage.

“Babies can be born with deformities that touch not only the children’s lives, but their parents, their families, and the health system that now has to take care of them,” says Evering-Watley, who has a toddler of her own. Immediately volunteering to help contain the virus’s spread, Evering-Watley was dispatched to the US Virgin Islands, where she spent two month-long tours doing Zika-related communications and outreach work.

Traveling from island to island by plane and ferry, Evering-Watley spoke at schools, churches, and town hall meetings, detailing the signs and symptoms of the virus and explaining how to prevent its spread by using window screens and eliminating the standing water in which Aedes aegypti lays its eggs. She also helped create a database of all the pregnant women in the territory to ensure that each would receive the support needed to protect themselves and their families, from free testing to prevention kits containing bed nets and mosquito repellent. And she reached out to community-based organizations that work with disenfranchised women to make sure that no one fell through the cracks.

During her first tour in March 2016, there were few confirmed cases, and many residents didn’t share her sense of urgency. By the end of her second tour last September, however, there were hundreds of cases, and one baby had been born with microcephaly. “That was hard to see,” says Evering-Watley.

But it did make people more receptive to her message. Indeed, many locals were by then outraged that waste management services had not already done more to clear the garbage in which Aedes aegypti breeds.

Moving forward, says Evering-Watley, the biggest challenge to thwarting Zika lies in the simple fact that it is primarily a mosquito-borne illness. “I don’t know if we’ll ever be able to get rid of all the mosquitoes,” she says. Which makes education and prevention even more vital.

Staying Safe

The key to avoiding infection, says Evering-Watley, “is to protect yourself from getting bitten by a mosquito in the first place.” That means using window screens and air conditioning if available (the Aedes aegypti mosquito doesn’t like the cold), wearing pants, socks, and long-sleeved shirts if possible, and, perhaps most important, using plenty of EPA-approved insect repellent.

Class Notes

Staying safe

The key to avoiding infection, says Evering-Watley, “is to protect yourself from getting bitten by a mosquito in the first place.” That means using window screens and air conditioning if available (the Aedes aegypti mosquito doesn’t like the cold), wearing pants, socks, and long-sleeved shirts if possible, and, perhaps most important, using plenty of EPA-approved insect repellent.
1980s

» Kathleen Heid ’80 (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. ’04) has joined the South Jersey Federal Credit Union as the vice president of human resources and training. Heid, who has more than 30 years’ experience in banking and financial services, earned her Senior Professional in Human Resources certification with the HR Certification Institute and is a certified professional with the Society for Human Resource Management. She will be responsible for developing and implementing consistent human resource processes, programs, and policies.

» Kathryn Burns Collins ’82 (Hist. St.) was appointed to the Dean’s Advisory Council for the School of Nursing and Health Studies. Collins is the vice president of strategic planning at AcuteCare Health Systems, where she plays an integral role in planning future growth and expansion, as well as in forging relationships in the communities that ACHS serves. Having previously been a part of the leadership teams at Meridian Health and Barnabas Health, before joining ACHS, she has more than 30 years of health care experience. Collins, who has been a member of the adjunct faculty in the Health Care Management Graduate Program at the College of St. Elizabeth, is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives as well as a member of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society.

» Peter J. Samaras Jr. ’72 (Soc.) was appointed to the Dean’s Advisory Council for the School of Nursing and Health Studies.

1970s

» Arnold Simon ’72 (Art) is a contributor to the exhibit “Atlantic Collects: Contemporary” at the William Bremen Jewish Heritage Museum. The two-part exhibit, which runs through June 2017, comprises important, privately owned works from collections of Jewish Atlantans. His painting Edward Hopper, by Gregory Manchess, was selected by guest curator William Eiland, director of the Georgia Museum of Art.

» Bobbi Rise ’75 (Elem. Ed.) (M.S.Ed. ’90) has her book, Behind the Counselor’s Door: Solutions to the Most Common Middle Schooler’s Problems, published by Outskirts Press in September 2016. Rise, who had a 20-year career in education before becoming a districtwide school counselor and later a life coach, wrote the book “in order to continue to help middle school students.” The book offers tools and strategies that school counselors, parents, and teachers can use in order to successfully address problems facing middle schoolers from peer pressure, bullying, and eating disorders to anger management, pressure, bullying, and eating disorders. Rise participated in the annual BookExpo America at the Javits Center in New York City earlier this spring.

» Historian Glenn LeBoeuf ’76 (Hist.) gave a lecture and answered questions about Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Basking Ridge Farmstead on Feb. 12, 2017. LeBoeuf, an active living historian with the 3rd New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, is currently a chartered retirement planning counselor and senior vice president of wealth management with Garden State Securities, Inc. in Red Bank, New Jersey.

» Linda A. Downing ’76 (M.S. Stud. Servs. Ed.) (M.S. Ed. ’06) was re-elected to the Lacey Township School Board in November. Downing, who has served on the board for 16 years, is currently an elementary school principal in Toms River, New Jersey.

» Alaina Love ’79 (Med. Tech.) was appointed to the Dean’s Advisory Council for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Love, who is the president and co-founder of Purpose Linked Consulting, is a nationally recognized expert in leadership purpose and passion. She is the co-author of the bestselling McGraw-Hill book, The Purpose Linked Organization: How Passionate Leaders Inspire Winning Teams and Great Results. She currently serves as a leadership columnist for Bloomberg Business Week and The Washington Post, and is a guest lecturer for the Executive M.B.A. Program at the University of Maryland.

WHAT IT’S LIKE » Firsthand accounts

ON THE AIR

A PRINT JOURNALIST FINDS NEW LIFE BY RETURNING TO HIS RADIO ROOTS.

BY DAVID WILSON ’80, AS TOLD TO HOLLY PETRILLA

“O ur stocks editor, Dave Wilson, is with us.” That’s typically my cue when I go on Bloomberg Radio eight times a day, every weekday, to deliver a report, share the day’s market drivers, or talk about what the markets are up to.

When I was playing records, broadcasting sports events, and covering the 1978 midterm elections for WMCM in college, I never imagined that someday I’d be back on the air as my full-time job. But after focusing on print journalism for more than 30 years, I found my way back to radio in 2011 and have been broadcasting my reports ever since.

I go on the air for the first time before the NASDAQ and New York Stock Exchange open each day, so that’s when I cover the moves people need to know about first. I also pick a stock of the day—some company you’ve probably never heard of but that’s having a big move. I’ll tell you what the company does, how its shares have traded, and what the motivation is behind the latest move. It’s something I’m sure people aren’t hearing anywhere else.

There’s also my chart of the day, in which I highlight key developments in U.S. financial markets, business, and the economy. I’ve been doing it for print since 2008, and talking about charts is what drove my reintroduction to radio.

You might think I feel pressure needing to be radio-ready every hour. I don’t see it that way. It actually builds a nice amount of structure into my workday. I never have to wonder what I’ll be doing. I have to drink a lot of water to keep my voice in shape, but I still can be a little hoarse by the end of the day. And no, I can’t go out for a two-hour lunch with you—but I’ve been brown-bagging it for years anyway.

The biggest thing I’ve learned from my work is that you have to adapt. I went from being a print reporter for a small-town newspaper to editing and reporting at Dow Jones, and I’ve been in a variety of roles at Bloomberg. Those shifts are what have kept me going and kept work interesting—and now being on the radio feels like I’m having a whole second career.

ABOVE: Wilson, who contributes to Bloomberg’s Markets Live blog, is pictured at his home among his Springsteen memorabilia.
of Humanities and Social Sciences. Following a 30-year career in sales and operations on Wall Street, Samaras is now an entrepreneur and business consultant. He was a partner at Merrill Lynch before moving to Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette, followed by Bank of America Securities, in his current role. He currently is managing director of credit sales at Cantor Fitzgerald. Samarin studied for his M.A. in anthropology at the university.

Edwin R. Cornejo A.A., ’81, ’83 (Poli. Sci.) was appointed to the Dean’s Advisory Council for the School of Science. Cornejo, who is currently the North Fortunaboro College of the Arts and Sciences, where he is the director of the University-Speaking Center. Cornejo will lead a team of student consultants in developing training that will allow the center to provide interpersonal communication consultations for the college’s Beyond Academics students as well as for students who are working with several Wall Street firms from his years spent in technology finance. He is a leader in the nationally recognized Monmouth College’s Computer Science/Software Engineering program into the Morgan Stanley Training and Intern Programs.

Michael R. Laffey ’37 (Poli. Sci.) is an adjunct professor at Monmouth, where he teaches business law. He is also counsel to the Mississippi Law Firm and CEO of Pennsylvania, where his practice consists of commercial litigation, general business law, and First Amendment litigation.

The board of directors of Domini Resources Inc. elected Joseph M. Rigby ’83 (M.B.A.) to the board on Jan. 24, 2017. Rigby, who is the retired chairman, president, and CEO of Paramus, has been a long-time advocate of South Jersey Industries, Inc. as well as Energy Insurance Mutual. He also is a member of the board of governors of his alma mater, Rutgers University, and is the immediate past chair of the United Way of the National Capital Area. In addition, he recently served on the boards of the Greater Washington Board of Trade, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Insuring Our Future, and the Electric City Institute, the Federal City Council, the Greater Washington Initiative, and the Economic Club of Washington, D.C. Rigby’s role will commence the commencement address at Monmouth’s graduate ceremony held on May 13 in Asbury Park and will be an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Monmouth University.

Karen Cory-Morrongiello ’02 (Soc. Work) (M.S., M.A.P.P., LCSW) was named assistant vice president/director of marketing and communications at Santander Bank, lives in Berkeley Township, New Jersey.

Marc J. Nehmad ’98 (M.A. Psych.) was named executive vice president/chief medical officer of the Republican Party National Committee. An electron- ics engineer from the University of Mumbai, Nehmad originally joined the RNC in 2014 in a 15-month role and was previ- ously responsible for the architecture, design, and development of the Republican Party’s website.

Jane Rampone ’99 (Sp. Ed.) (HN ’05) was honored by the New York Certificate in Applied Positive Psychology program at the New York Open Community. Cory- Morrongiello received her M.S. in social work from Monmouth University and her M.S. in applied positive psychology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Marcus Latner ’02 (M.A.C.P.) was appointed general manager at Cavalry Court and The George hotels in College Station, Texas. Latner, who started as a valet parking attendant more than 13 years ago at Valencia Group’s The Polaris, has worked for more than 13 years with the Strobel family, serving as an aide for Alzheimer’s New Jersey and the board of directors in Toms River, New Jersey.

Tracey L. Wolfman ’79 (Nurs.) was appointed to the Dean’s Advisory Council for the School of Nursing and Health Studies. Wolfman, who earned a master’s in nursing administration from Teachers College, Columbia University, has spent the last 30 years working with the elderly population, including working in Alzheimer’s care. She is currently an adjunct professor at Monmouth, serves on the board for Alzheimer’s New Jersey and Brookdale Community College Small Business Advisory Board, and is vice president of the Senior Citizens Activities Network.
management and guest satisfac- tion for both locations.

» Lisa Kusch ‘03 (Art) married Timothy Best on June 18, 2016, along the Delaware River Canal in Stockton, New Jersey. Alumni along the Delaware River Canal attended the ceremony for both locations.

» Jenna Stevens ‘03, Er-

cartwright ‘02, Emily (Przybylinski) in Stockton, New Jersey. Alumni attended the ceremony for both locations.

» Philip Dunn Jr. ‘03 (Pol. Sci.) was appointed to the Dean’s Advisory Council for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Dunn is the vice president and strategic relationship manager for Asm Risk Solutions in the Philadelphia market. He is passionate about being involved in his community, and serves as the vice chairman of the USO of Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey and volunteers on the event committee for the Malana Research Alliance. He is also a member of the Union League of Philadelphia and the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia.

» Casey Shamy ‘07 (Psych.) (M.S.W. ’12) joined New Jersey Realty LLC in Monroe Township. A longtime resident of Middlesex County, Shamy plans to utilize her degrees as well as her background as a marketing professional in her new role as a realtor associate.

» Nicole Kavanagh Foster ‘08 (Music) received her Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Palmer College of Chiropractic last Septem- ber. Foster lives in southern California and is completing a three-year residency in diagnostic imaging.

» Lauren Ann (Strina) Williams ‘04 (Bio) accepted a clinical study manager position at Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories, Inc. (Promus Pharma) beginning in July 2016. Located in Princeton, New Jersey, Williams is working in the proprietary prod- ucts-clinical operations group and is responsible for overseeing and conducting all phases of clinical trials for dermatology and neurology products.

» Andrew Musick ‘09 (Poli. Sci.) has named Andrew Musick ‘09 (Poli. Sci.) as a member of the organization. Musick, who previously worked for the firm Sokol, Behalt & Fiorenzo and the Princeton Public Affairs Group, was a member of the NJBIA’s government affairs team prior to his promotion.

» Caitlyn Tobin ‘09 (Psych.) is the owner of The Equestrian Experience at White Pine Farm in Howell, New Jersey. The business offers both group and private riding lessons for riders at all skill levels. Tobin, who has been riding horses since she was 8 years old and has been an instructor for close to 15 years, was previously the equine manager and therapeu- tic instructor at Celtic Charms, a riding program for the disabled, also located in Howell.

» Jessica (Revoir) Tortorice ‘09 (M.A.C.P. ‘09) married Anthony Tortorice on Dec. 10, 2016. A wedding mass was held at St. Veronica’s Roman Catholic Church in Howell, New Jersey, followed by a beautiful Christmas-themed reception at The English Manor in Ocean Township, New Jersey. Revoir-Tortorice is currently assist- ant vice president of marketing at First Federal Financial Credit Union, and Tortorice works in law enforcement.

2010s

» Barbara Fulmer ‘10 (Psych.) (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun. ’17) was appointed to the Dean’s Advisory Council for the School of Education, Health and Social Sciences. Fulmer, who worked as a research assistant for Professor Gary Lewandowski as an undergraduate, is currently working toward a master’s degree in mental health counseling with a specialization in drug and alcohol counseling. She earned her first publication credit for an April 2015 article about the effects of social support and attachment styles on the outcomes of opioid-de- pendent men and women in a methadone treatment program, which was published in the journal Substance Abuse. Fulmer, who recently completed her counseling internship as a crisis counselor at Brookdale Community College, is the president of the Counseling Students Association and Chi Sig- ma Iota, the counseling academic and professional honor society international.

» Andrea Harz ‘10 (Bus. Adm.) wed Jim Maturo on Dec. 10, 2016, at St. Justin’s Church in Toms River, New Jersey, followed by a reception at the Crystal Ballroom in Freehold, New Jersey. Harz is a catering sales director for Hotels Unlimited, and Maturo is an account executive for Aramark. The couple live in Toms River. Sent in photo.

» Lindsey M. Melody ‘10 (Poli. Sci.), Esq., is engaged to marry Britan Specht on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. in December 2017. Melody, who graduated magna cum laude from The Hon- ors School and holds her Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America Colum-
basketball team who were recently honored at a game hosted by their alma mater. Each player had received the Jacques Award. The award, which Hett received in 2007, is given annually to one of Staten Island’s most outstanding scholboy basketball players. Hett, who was a 1,000-point scorer and led Monsignor Farrell to consecutive 22-5 seasons, was a four-year starter at guard for the Hawks, ranking second in career assists with 492.

» Women of Distinction Magazine recently recognized Michele Inzelbuch ’11 (M.S.W.) as a distinguished professional in her field. With more than 15 years of experience in mental health and addiction counseling, Inzelbuch—a clinical social worker and licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselor—opened a private practice, Michele D. Inzelbuch LLC, in Red Bank, New Jersey, last July. There, she offers a number of services, including individualized talk therapy support for those in recovery from addiction, depression, anxiety, and postpartum depression. During 2017, Inzelbuch is serving as an ambassador mom for Postpartum Progress, a national nonprofit that aims to raise awareness, fight stigma, and provide peer support and programming to women with maternal mental illness. She started in this role by publishing the article “Postpartum Mental Health: The Silent Darkness” in Monmouth County’s The Journal magazine.

» Hayley Kellinger ’11 (Hist./Elen. Ed.) of Zeta Tau Alpha wed Brian Brooks ’11 (Softf. Eng.) of Sigma Tau Gamma on Nov. 12, 2016, at the Berkeley Oceanfront Hotel in Asbury Park, New Jersey, where many fellow Hawks were in attendance.

» Mark J. Skesavage ’11 (M.A. Hist.) was appointed to the Dean’s Advisory Council for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. He is the vice president of finance for JMA Plastics Supply, Inc., a national distributor of materials for the orthopedic and prosthetic markets, located in Neptune, New Jersey. An avid volunteer throughout his life, Skesavage previously served on the board of directors at the Center in Asbury Park, New Jersey, that provides housing and services for people living with HIV/AIDS.

» Nick Bonturi ’12 (Crim. J.) See note for Lynn White ’12 (Comm.).

» Ashley Geiser ’12 (Psych./Crim. J.) (M.A. J. ’13) (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun.) ’03 was sworn in as a United States probation officer for the Southern District of New York on Nov. 14, 2016. She continues to work in LIC as a liaison in New Jersey as a per diem crisis counselor for mobile response. She is also currently pursuing dual licensure in the state of New York.

» Officer Scott Leyden ’12 (Crim. J.) was sworn into duty with the Scotch Plains Police Department at a council meeting held on Dec. 13, 2016. Leyden, a lifelong resident of Scotch Plains, New Jersey, had been working as a communications dispatcher for the township and Union County since he graduated from Monmouth University.


» Lynn White ’12 (Comm.) is engaged to wed Nick Bonturi ’12 (Crim. J.) on April 21, 2018.

» Taylor Bogan ’13 (Hist.) is the vocal director of Manasquan Music and Dance Academy, where she teaches voice, acting, and improvisation classes. She recently launched a competitive children’s vocal team called the Vocal Stars, which competed during the filming of the Dance Moms season finale, taped at the Paramount Theatre in Asbury Park, New Jersey, on Dec. 11, 2016.

» Ford Palmer ’13 (Crim. J.) and his HOKA One One professional team members broke a 26-year-old indoor best mark record
Not to Miss:
Graham Nash, Sept. 23

The legendary performer takes the Pollak Theatre stage for an intimate evening of songs and stories. Tickets at monmouth.edu/arts.

In Memoriam

Alumni
Melville Charles Stout ’59 (Physics) Jan. 16, 2016
Lewis G. Augustine ’81 (Chem.) Jan. 10, 2017
Vlana G. Loston ’71 (Bus. Adm.) Feb. 6, 2017
Raymond George Dickinson ’53 (Math.) Jan. 10, 2015
Rudolph David Waldman ’64 (A.A.) March 12, 2017
Cavin Elmer Applegate ’65 (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. ’76) Feb. 18, 2016
Maxine E. Goldflies Bussell ’65 (Elem. Ed.) March 1, 2017
Richard G. Timmerman Sr. ’67 (A.A.) Feb. 27, 2017
Mary Mink ’68 (Elem. Ed.) Oct. 27, 2016
Kathryn V. Potts ’73 (Ed./Soc. Stud.) March 6, 2017
Stephen E. Brunner ’74 (Speech/Comm./Th.) Feb. 12, 2017
Nancy Rosenzweig ’74 (Art) Feb. 25, 2017
Beverly Ann Burozski ’75 (Soc./Work) June 30, 2014
Stuart Russell Hancock Jr. ’75 (A.A.) Feb. 9, 2017
Hugh Hooshang Mobasser ’75 (M.B.A.) Jan. 13, 2017
Aggie Lee Dixon ’77 (Soc.) Jan. 3, 2017
Bath Stonaker ’77 (Bus.) Dec. 18, 2016
Steven L. Scherr ’79 (Bus. Adm.) Jan. 29, 2017
Richard G. Gervaiss ’83 (M.B.A.) Jan. 11, 2017
Ralph L. Price ’88 (M.B.A.) Feb. 24, 2017
Christine Keen ’93 (Bus. Adm.) Jan 17, 2017
Wendi J. Shepard ’94 (Mad. Tech.) Jan. 30, 2017
Robert Louis ’97 (Music) March 3, 2017

Friends
Marvin K. Broder (friend) May 24, 2017
Chris Cavallo (former professor, communications department) Jan. 13, 2017
Lloyd Walter Bennett Jr. (former professor) Feb. 1, 2017
James J. Cazzavini (former professor) Feb. 8, 2017
William A. Dempsey III (former dean of Leon Hess Business School) March 8, 2017
Arthur M. Greenbaum HN ’96 (former member, Kulak-Real Estate Advisory Council) April 11, 2017
Liza Jane Kahn (former student) Dec. 21, 2016
Janet Kerchman (former student) Dec. 10, 2016
Howard James McGinley Sr. (former student) Jan. 28, 2017
Richard Antonio Nieves (former employee) March 18, 2017
Susan A. Raynor (former student) March 17, 2017
David S. Raimgold (special course director) Jan. 3, 2017
Robert Reiss III (former student) March 18, 2017
Susan A. Raynor (former student) March 17, 2017
Jack Rudin (funded the Jack and Lewis Rudin Distinguished Lecture Series) Dec. 4, 2016
Sean Patrick “Sean” Sullivan (former student) Dec. 6, 2016
Tadeusz Swisechowski (former professor) Feb. 15, 2017
David R. Waldron (former student) March 2, 2017

To commemorate 25 YEARS of Monmouth football, the university commissioned renowned sports artist James Fiorentino to recreate scenes from the program’s storied past.

Fiorentino, who is known for his realistic depictions of sports celebrities, has had his work displayed in the National Basketball Hall of Fame and National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. While Fiorentino’s original will hang in the new Monmouth Stadium, a limited number of gallery-quality prints of his “25 Years of Monmouth Football” painting are available for purchase. Each measures 17” x 22” and is hand-numbered and signed by the artist. Framed prints are $275; unframed prints are $150. A portion of the cost ($60 and $110, respectively) is tax deductible. All proceeds benefit Monmouth University’s football program. Don’t miss this opportunity to own one of Fiorentino’s limited edition “25 Years of Monmouth Football” prints. To order, contact Jon Roos, senior associate athletics director, at 732-263-5183. Supplies are limited; don’t delay!
WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY?
Was there a class, or professor, or experience you had here that changed your life? A secret spot on campus where you found respite, or a favorite tradition you still hold dear? We’re asking readers to share all the things they love about Monmouth for an upcoming article. Send your story, along with any photos or artifacts you have, to magazine@monmouth.edu or the address above, or share it on social media with the hashtag #MonmouthUMag.