

# Monmouth

THE MAGAZINE OF MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY » SUMMER 2017

Monmouth's  
new president,  
Grey Dimenna, is

## ENJOYING THE RIDE

Q&A » PAGE 04

### MAN IN THE MIDDLE

Prof. Saliba Sarsar  
on living through the  
Six-Day War and its  
aftereffects.

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### CATCHING GHOSTS

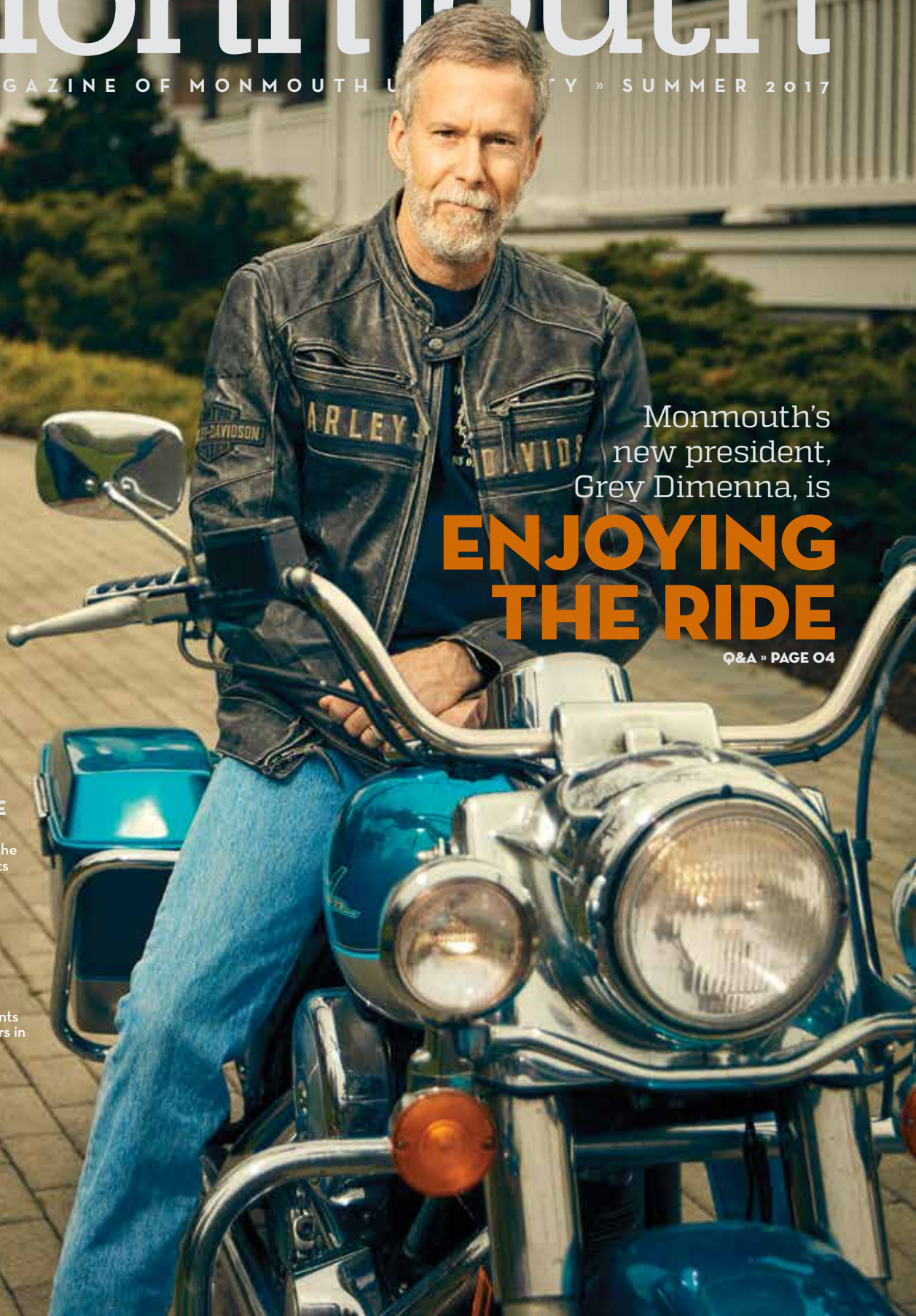
Faculty and students  
hunt stealthy killers in  
Barnegat Bay.

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### SUMMER LOVIN'

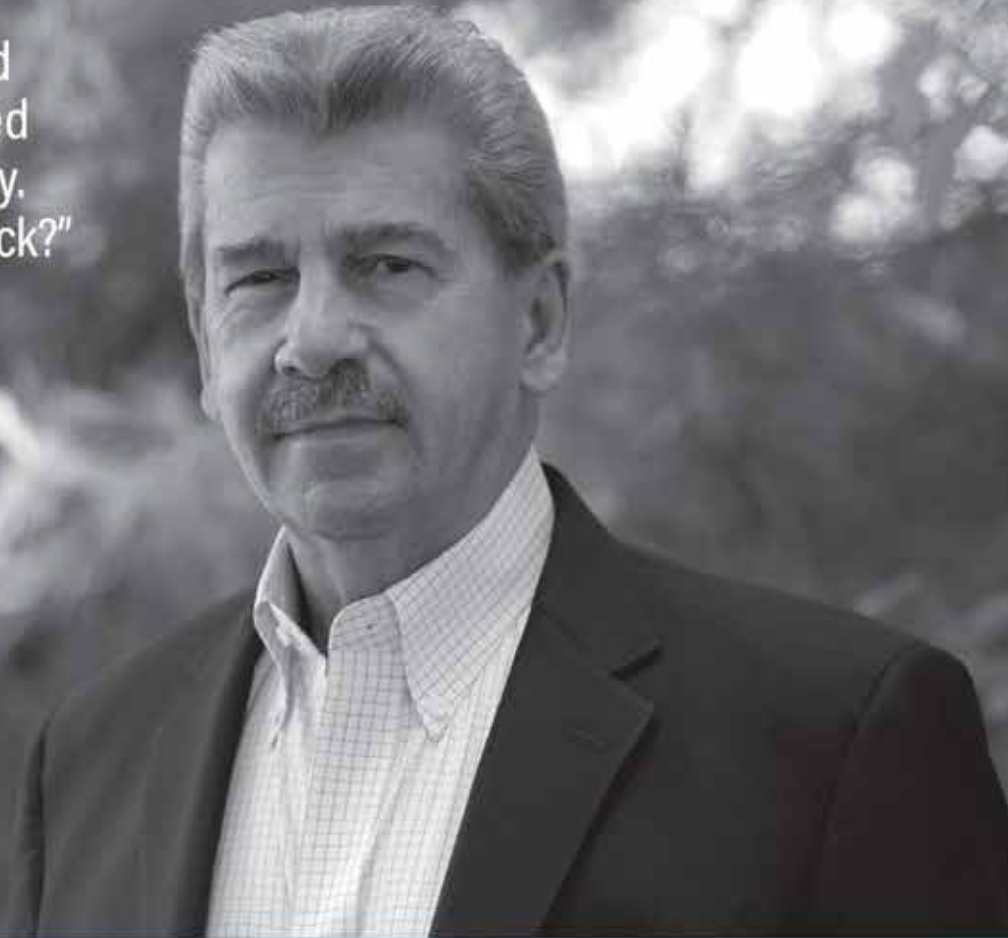
A graphical look  
at how we view  
love in America.

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"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, '73M 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.

“None 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 Kwi Brennan, senior director of leadership programs, at 732-571-3503 or [kwi.brennan@monmouth.edu](mailto:kwi.brennan@monmouth.edu) for more information on legacy giving, or visit [mylegacy.monmouth.edu](http://mylegacy.monmouth.edu).*

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Faculty and students hunt stealthy killers that are decimating the Barnegat Bay ecosystem.

BACKSTORY » Illustrator Brian Hubble created this series of collages as a motif for Saliba Sarsar's life experiences. Story, page 22.

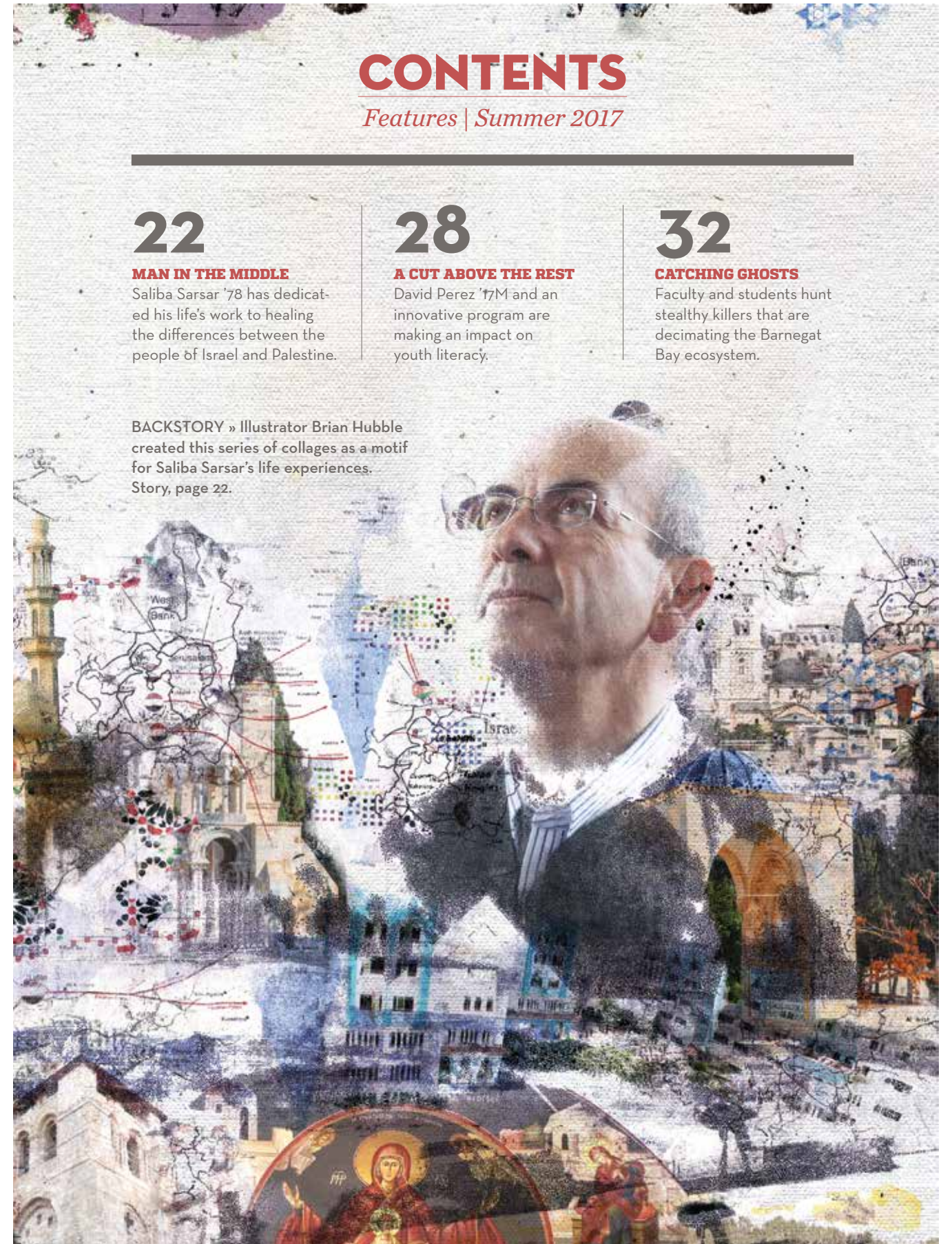


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President Grey Dimenna on his 1995 Road King outside Doherty House. Photo by Matt Furman.

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## LETTERS



### REDESIGN REACTIONS

Wow to the wow! The new Monmouth is so crisp, clean, and smart looking. What a great job! Pat Dodd Ryan '09

The spring issue is a classic and the new gold standard of college mags.

Clancy Boynton '68

What a fantastically supreme, exceptional, amazing makeover. I love it!

Les Gwyn-Williams '73

There are many things to like about the new Monmouth magazine. The editorial content and the heft and feel of the magazine suggest "quality." That said, I think the color palette is a big mistake. There's little to suggest I'm looking at my alma mater's magazine. Red, while attractive in the magazine, isn't part of the Monmouth brand! Beyond that, where are Monmouth's symbols? The blue "M" is nowhere to be found. I don't mind the nameplate, but it's no great shakes either. So, I'd give the magazine a solid "A" for content but a "C" for emotional connection with the 50,000 of us who once walked Monmouth's halls. Others, no doubt, will disagree. Mitchell Shivers '70

In truncating the copy, you left out one of the most important elements: the subjects' connections to Monmouth University. James Mack is identified as "a biology professor," which suggests he could work anywhere. In fact, he is a long-serving Monmouth University professor. Similarly, the articles on Adriana

Zelaya and Morissa Schwartz omit any reference to the degree programs 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-expand the content of the articles and to allow all of us an extra measure of pride of place. Chad Dell, Ph.D.

The writer is an associate professor in Monmouth's Department of Communication.

### CUPID STRIKES

The full stories behind these #MUx2 submissions can be found at monmouth.edu/magazine.

We met on Irene's first day of school and got married on her last. How cool is that? We have three children and six grandchildren and have known each other for 52 years. Not only must we thank Monmouth for providing us with a great education, but also for being the very foundation of our wonderful life together. John '71 and Irene (Ajello) Van de Silver '71

We met in the old study hall, first floor of the Great Hall, in '65. I walked Lynn to her next class and made a date for the weekend. I knew she was the one that day,



LEFT: Bill and Lynn (Townsend) Wesp at Spring Weekend in 1965 and in Hawaii last February.

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Email us at magazine@monmouth.edu, or write us at 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.

and we have been together since. This June we celebrated our 50th Anniversary. William H. '67 and Lynn C. (Townsend) Wesp '67

### AN UNDESERVED AWARD

I was disturbed and disgusted to read that Monmouth University bestowed an environmental honor to Christine Todd Whitman ("Campus Briefs," Spring 2017). As head of the EPA on 9/11, Whitman gave knowingly false information to the people working on the World Trade Center site and repeatedly assured the public that the air was safe to breathe—knowing all the while that it was not. 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 intentionally misleading the public about the air quality at 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 incorrectly credited to Andrew Cohen. The picture was taken by Mark Ludak '81. We regret the error.

NEED TO KNOW » Topics & trends

# GREY MATTERS

A CANDID, ANNOTATED Q&A WITH MONMOUTH'S NINTH PRESIDENT.

INTERVIEW BY TONY MARCHETTI

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 Becky Stafford created the internal general counsel office.<sup>1</sup> 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,<sup>2</sup> rode my bicycles<sup>3</sup> and my Harley<sup>4</sup>, and I started learning to play guitar.<sup>5</sup>

**Why did you decide to return to Monmouth?**

I love this university so much that when the trustees called

## 11 SHADES OF GREY

<sup>1</sup>As the first person to hold the position, Dimenna established the organizational framework of the Office of the General Counsel.

<sup>2</sup>Nancy Kaplen, Dimenna's wife, is a retired attorney who worked in the New Jersey Attorney General's office for 26 years.

<sup>3</sup>Dimenna owns seven bicycles and rode 5,507 miles in 2016.

<sup>4</sup>A 1995 Road King.

<sup>5</sup>He owns two: an electric Stratocaster and an acoustic resonator.

<sup>6</sup>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."

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.<sup>6</sup>

**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

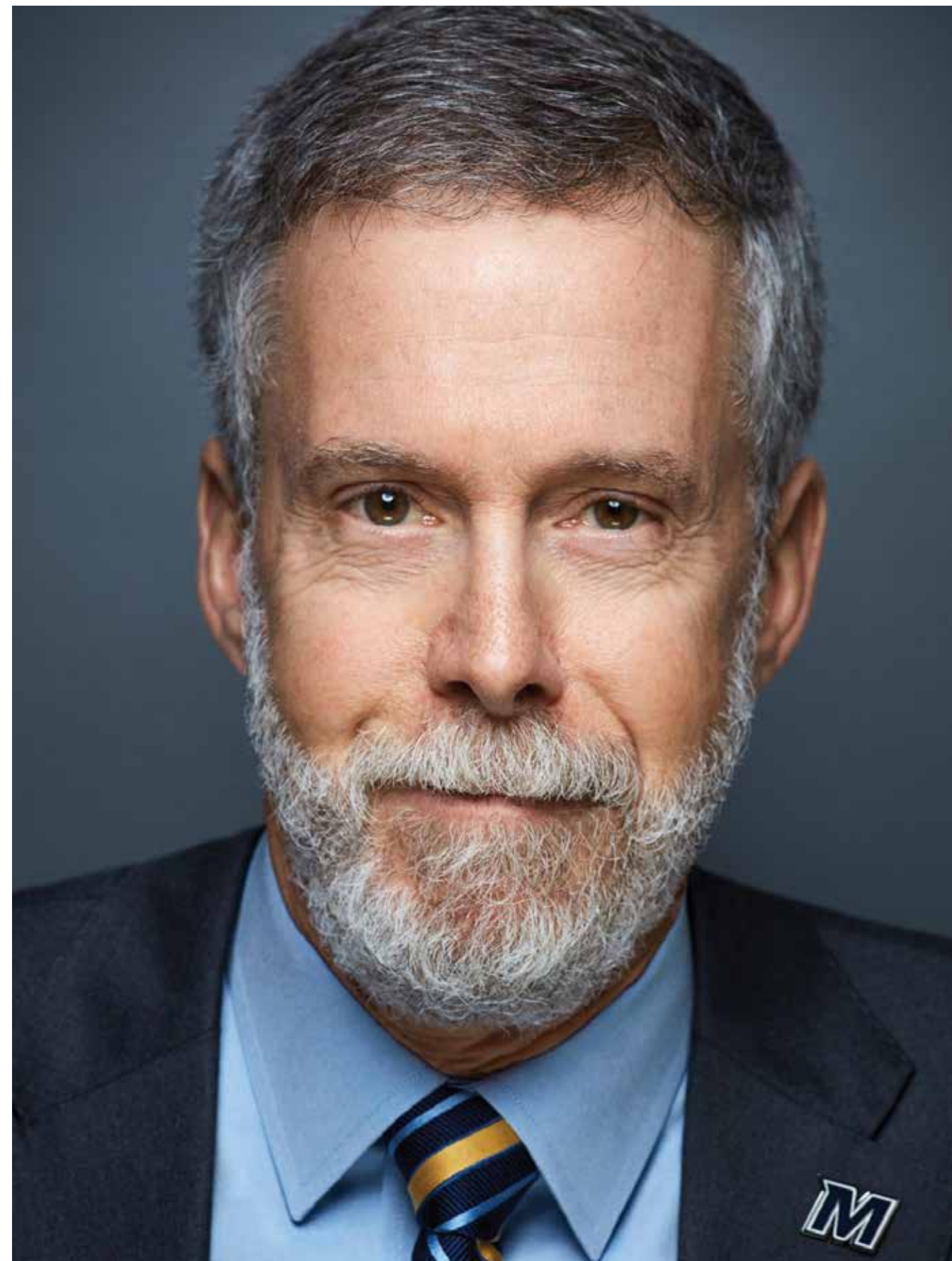


photo MATT FURMAN



attend a lot of student events, to eat in the student dining hall, to chat with students I see on campus. One of the things I love about this job is that I get to deal with students much more than I did as general counsel. I think it's important for a president to be visible and accessible.<sup>7</sup>

**This is a job with a fixed end-point for you, but you've made it clear from the start you don't intend to "tread water" as president. What have you been focused on?**

I've picked up on a few things in the strategic plan to keep that moving ahead. One big area is getting the new Institute for Health and Wellness up and running. Health care is such a major issue in our country, and the institute will serve as an important resource in regard to shaping policy and informing the public. It will also create research and educational opportunities for faculty and students in many of our existing academic programs in the health sciences, as well as help us develop new programs. We're working with two of the region's largest health care providers, Hackensack Meridian Health and RWJBarnabas Health, so it's very exciting for the university and the community.

**What will your priorities be for the coming academic year?**

Some of that is still being worked out with the board, but what I can say is I'd like to work with our Centers of Distinction—the Polling Institute, Kislak Real Estate Institute, Center for the Arts, and the Urban Coast Institute—to get them involved to a greater extent in the fabric of the university. I'll also be focusing on facilities projects: we'll be finishing the Science Building and Monmouth Stadium, and we need to study possible updates and renovations to the Student Center and some of the residence halls. And

<sup>7</sup>Dimenna has become known for giving impromptu tours of the president's office to prospective students he meets in Wilson Hall.

<sup>8</sup>One student also commented, "The new president rocks."

<sup>9</sup>His first motorcycle was a Honda 190—"a little tiny thing," he says.

<sup>10</sup>Some of his favorites: Led Zeppelin, Hendrix, The Allman Brothers Band, Richard Thompson, Muddy Waters, Joe Bonamassa, Bruce Springsteen, Gov't Mule, and the Rolling Stones.

<sup>11</sup>Sample Dimenna-style joke, which he told while having his picture taken for this article: "What's red and hurts your teeth? ... A brick."

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

**As someone who worked at the institution for two decades, what would you point to as Monmouth's greatest strengths?**

That we're student-centered. We have small classes, and faculty form one-on-one relationships with their 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 challenges 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 attacking that is by working to increase the amount of scholarship dollars we can give the students. 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 hands down the most frequent comment was, "We need more parking."<sup>8</sup> We've got to do something to create more parking on campus, because that would go so far in terms of student satisfaction.

**How long have you ridden motorcycles?**

Since the summer after my freshman year of college.<sup>9</sup> I al-

ways loved motorcycles as a kid. I thought they looked so cool. 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 was just 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 band or type of music?**

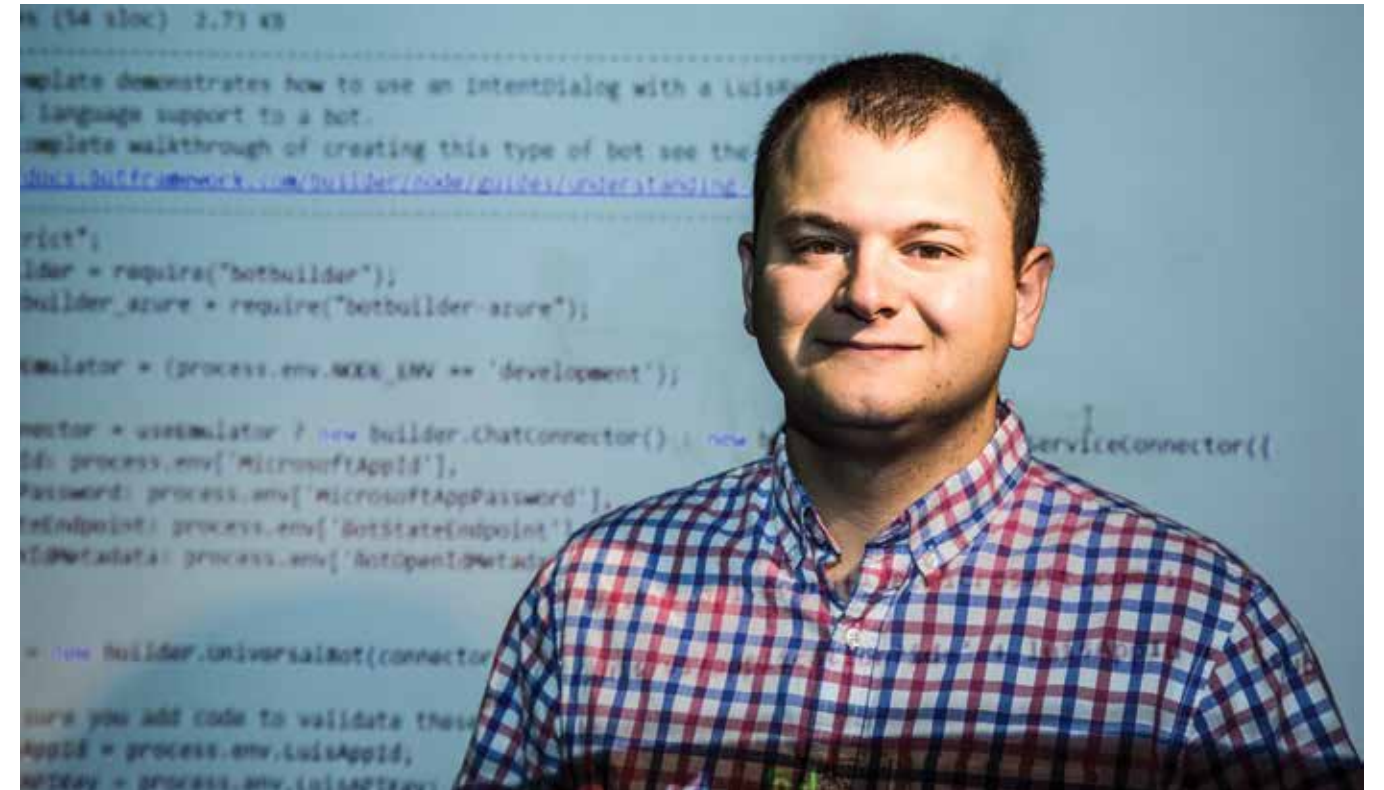
That's tough. I can't pick one.<sup>10</sup> I have well over 1,000 CDs. I just finished selling off my album collection. I still have 400 or 500 cassette tapes that I don't know what to do with. Rock and the blues are probably my favorite types of music, but I also like reggae, some country, folk.

**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.<sup>11</sup> My style is more off-the-cuff—finding funny things in everyday situations. I've been told I have a very dry sense of humor, which can sometimes be a problem. I'll make a joke, but the person thinks I'm serious—then I either have to explain it or let it slide.

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

Maybe that I'm the best-looking president in Monmouth's history. [M](#)



## BOT MAN

GIUSEPPE LICATA IS CODING HIS WAY TO THE TOP, ONE CHATBOT AT A TIME.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

**I** think 2017 is going to be the year of the chatbot," says Giuseppe Licata, citing the so-called chatbot boom that has been billowing from the tech industry since last year. It's not surprising to hear that from Licata, given that this May computer science graduate was a key part of the winning team in a chatbot design challenge held on campus in February. What is surprising is his admission that just six months ago, he wasn't sure what a chatbot was.

Licata can now say with authority that chatbots are computer programs that simulate human conversation by analyzing keywords and phrases to provide automated responses to an end-user's questions. The technology has been around in some form since the 1960s, but there has been a surge in interest recently, particularly for use in marketing and cus-

tommer service operations (see sidebar).

That, in part, is what prompted Jeffrey Weinstein '93M, CEO of RightAnswers, a cloud-based knowledge management software and web self-service solutions provider, to sponsor the design competition for Monmouth students last semester.

"From the university's perspective," says Weinstein, "you

are able to give students exposure to what product development is really like. And for me, it helped me take the pulse of where the talent is today."

Student teams had two weeks to develop a chatbot for the industries of their choice. Licata worked with Monmouth M.B.A. students Anthony Vazzana and Nicole Puccio to develop a bot that could answer admissions-related questions. Vazzana and Puccio developed the questions, responses, and business plan, while Licata handled all of the coding. The team's entry nabbed the \$1,500 top prize, but Licata walked away with something more valuable: a job developing chatbot technology for RightAnswers. It was the perfect coda to his undergraduate studies at Monmouth.

"[This] was the first time I had really worked under a deadline for something I had to present that wasn't school related," says Licata. "So I think it helped with the aspect of, 'I'm doing something outside of school ... for the real world.'"

ABOVE: Licata plans to pursue an M.S. in information systems at Monmouth beginning this fall.

### THE FACEBOOK EFFECT

The recent surge in chatbot interest occurred when Facebook launched its Bots for Messenger platform in April 2016—allowing companies to communicate with and offer services to the app's more than 1 billion users. In Messenger, users can do everything from booking a flight with Expedia to ordering a pizza from Domino's by chatting with the company's bot via the app.



CONCEPTS » Data, visualized

# SUMMER LOVIN'

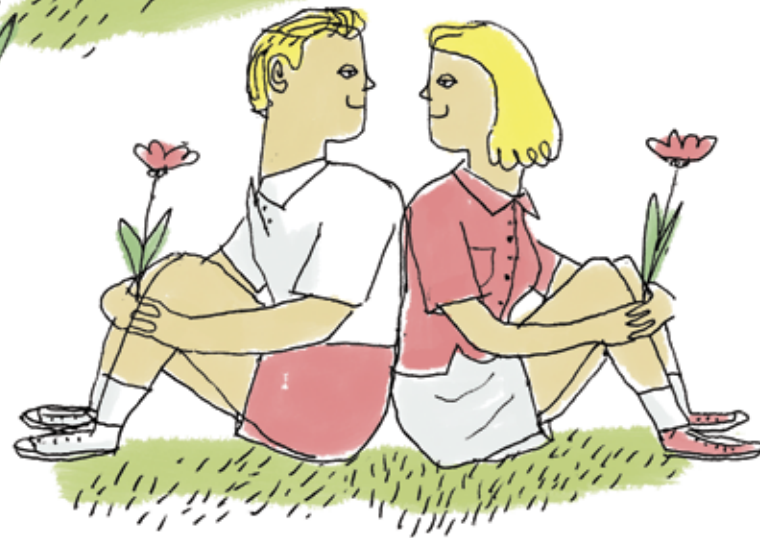
Most Americans believe there is a special someone they are meant to be with—ideally, someone a lot like themselves. Those are two findings from a recent poll conducted by Monmouth University Polling Institute in collaboration with Gary Lewandowski, professor and chair of Monmouth's Department of Psychology,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

## 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.

<b>82%</b> of women currently in a relationship are most likely to believe this.	<b>64%</b> of men in a relationship think it.	<b>14%</b> of Americans don't give much credence to the idea of soul mates.	<b>17%</b> don't believe in the concept at all.
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» **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.

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

» **Lewandowski says:** "Being more similar helps minimize conflict. If both of [you] like going to the beach, neither of [you] need to sacrifice."

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

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."

## BEST FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS

**83%** of American adults in a relationship see their current partners as their best friends.

<b>88%</b> of married respondents feel this way.	<b>72%</b> in a nonmarital relationship think the same.
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» **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."



## BRAINS MATTER

Most Americans want to marry someone ...

equally as smart      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."

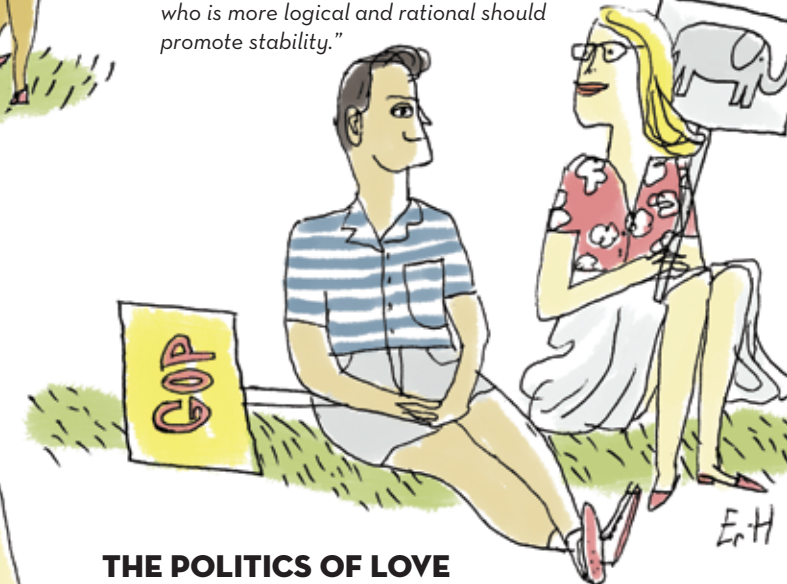
The poll was conducted by telephone from January 12 to 15, 2017, with 801 adults in the United States, including 50 percent who are married, 10 percent who are living with a partner, and another 10 percent who are in a non-cohabitating romantic relationship. The results have a margin of error of +/-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

## THE HEAD OR THE HEART?

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

<b>78%</b> prefer a partner who makes decisions from the head.	<b>15%</b> prefer a partner who makes them from the gut.
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» **Lewandowski says:** "Emotionally unstable partners undermine relationships, so having a partner who is more logical and rational should promote stability."



## THE POLITICS OF LOVE

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

**65%** of Republicans      **57%** of independents      **52%** of Democrats

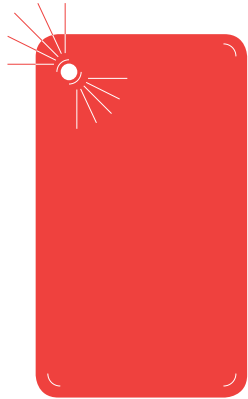
say they are "extremely satisfied" with their relationships.

**91%** of Republicans      **78%** of independents      **83%** of Democrats

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."





**EXPLAIN THIS »**

Answering your burning questions

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

It'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. Keep the phone steady for the sharpest image possible by holding it with two hands and either resting the phone on a table or leaning your body against a wall. Make sure any sunlight is behind you to avoid backlight-

ing 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.



## CAMPUS BRIEFS

THE SCENE AT WEST LONG BRANCH

» Just four years removed from the program's winless 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 marks 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 ceremony 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.

ABOVE: The men's lacrosse team won the program's first MAAC Tournament Championship in May.

To ask a question of our faculty experts, email [magazine@monmouth.edu](mailto:magazine@monmouth.edu) or mail Explain This, Monmouth magazine, Alumni House, West Long Branch, NJ 07764.



# 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."

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.

## 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.

Source: EPA.gov

*OPPOSITE: Pagano graduated with a master's in public policy in May and plans to attend law school in the fall.*

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."

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."



photo CARDONI



HOW MONMOUTH WAS MADE » Landmarks & stories

# 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 passage 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

**\$4M**  
cost (paid by the federal government)

**2002**  
year completed

**1 YEAR**  
construction time

**14' x 10' x 71.5'**  
width, height, and length

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.



## BEHIND THE MUSIC

10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT MONMOUTH'S STUDENT-RUN RECORD LABEL.

COMPILED BY BREANNE MCCARTHY AND TONY MARCHETTI

33 1/3 RPM ► IN FABULOUS HI-FI STEREO SOUND

**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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

**7** » All albums are recorded at Lakehouse Recording Studios, a world class studio in Asbury Park where Monmouth students take classes.

**8** » 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.

**9** » Blue Hawk Records has an international following: Its artists toured Italy in 2014 and the label has sales in seven countries.

**10** » Former members have gone on to careers at Sony Music and Warner Music Group.

ABOVE: Communications major Nicolette Pezza, whose song “You Feel Like Home” appears on *Hang Ten*, performs at an April 19 concert celebrating the album's release.



**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.



# END OF AN ERA

JUSTIN ROBINSON REFLECTS ON AN AMAZING HAWKS CAREER.

BY RYAN JONES

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

## HERE'S TO YOU, MR. ROBINSON

A few of No. 12's many accolades:

### 2x

MAAC Player of the Year (2016-17)

### 3x

First Team All-MAAC (2015-17)

### 2017

Lou Henson Award (top men's mid-major player in the country)

OPPOSITE: Robinson was an AP Honorable Mention All-American each of the last two seasons.

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.



photo CARDONI





# SPLASH BROTHERS

TWO ALUMNI RECALL THEIR WET AND WILD DAYS PERFORMING AS CLOWN DIVERS.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

It's been almost five decades since Peter Bruckmann '70 and Jeffrey Buchner '71 last performed together, yet their faces still light up in unison as they recall their old clown diving routines.

ABOVE: Jeffrey Buchner (top) and Peter Bruckmann's aquatic acts were equal parts diving and slapstick.

"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 or off the diving board," says Buchner, his voice still thick with a raspy Bronx accent despite the fact he has lived at the Jersey Shore most of his life. Steadman would introduce Bruckmann to the audience as "one of the greatest divers of all time," at which point Buchner would stand up in the crowded audience and yell something like: "Booo! Are you kidding me? He's been to

every dive in town!" The audience, unaware of the gag, would usually begin to whisper and then finally bark "Sit down!" and "Shut up!" as Buchner continued his taunt around the pool. That often ended with an officer—who was in on the joke—escorting Buchner away. When the show resumed, and just as Bruckmann approached the board to wow the crowd, Buchner came from behind the locker rooms to stir things up again.

"He'd dump a bucket of water on me," says Bruckmann, his cheeks turning a jolly crimson as he explains the next part of the routine. "Then I'd pick up another bucket filled with confetti, and I'd chase him down into the stands and throw it, and all of this confetti is coming out and everyone is diving out of the way—"

"Probably thinking it's water!" Buchner chimes in. The two would then begin their kooky show.

As time passed, their routine evolved. The duo's signature dive was the reverse horse and rider. Bruckmann would jump first and do a reverse flip, and as he was turning in the air, Buchner would jump off the board and dive under him as he landed atop to "ride" him into the water.

They added other dives along the way, like the fire dive—which, they admit, didn't go as planned the first time.

"Sometimes we practiced, and sometimes we didn't—the night we lit my brother on fire we didn't practice!" laughs Buchner. "Dick sort of told us how to do it except for one particular part."

The duo had brought Buchner's younger brother, Stephen, on for the trick; he drew the short straw to go first. Dressed in a cape doused in kerosene, he readied to dive while the duo lit his cape afire. Just as it caught, the hair on the back of Stephen's legs started to sizzle.

"All you heard was this loud shrill—it was my mother passing out in the middle of the whole thing, remember?" Buchner chuckles, barely making it through the sentence as Bruckmann shakes his head up and down gleefully in recollection of the stunt. "All of the hair on the back of his legs [was gone]. He looked like a singed chicken!"

The kerosene left the pool black and smelly for three days, but the episode taught them the importance of using lamp oil and Vaseline in the stunt.

The duo's on-campus performances normally lasted about 20 minutes, and followed roughly the same format, but there

## 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.



were a few shows that 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!"





# MAN IN THE MIDDLE

SALIBA SARSAR HAS DEDICATED HIS LIFE'S WORK TO HEALING

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS.

**WORDS BY**  
PROFESSOR SALIBA SARSAR '78  
**AS TOLD TO**  
ALEXANDER GELFAND

**ILLUSTRATIONS BY**  
BRIAN HUBBLE

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.

## CROSSING BORDERS

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



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: He 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 within 50 yards of us was shot and killed.

By the second day, things were intolerable; the house shook, and you could smell cordite and explosives. A neighbor urged us to evacuate, but we

couldn't open the front door. We had to lower a ladder from the garden to the street behind the house. My parents had us hold each other's hands, and I held my brother Michael's. We took refuge in a mosque—people were crying and somebody had a wound of some kind, probably from a bullet—and my mom had to go back to retrieve my eldest and youngest brothers.

At that point, Michael and I became separated from the rest of our family.

He and I continued walking with the crowd, which led us directly toward the Jericho area. We spent the night in another mosque and then came across a Greek Orthodox monastery in al-Eizariya (Bethany), a town on the southeastern slope of the Mount of Olives. We saw the gate and the cross shimmering in the heat of the day. The door was open. A nun ushered us in.

We shared what food we had—we had some bread and cheese, and the nuns made us soup—and we stayed there for two or three days. Then a couple who lived close to the monastery, and who knew my godparents in Jordan, took us in. We spent a few more days with them, and then the war was over. Michael

trekked back to find out what had happened to our family and ran into them on the way.

They had stayed with a family in Beit Sahour, a town east of Bethlehem. They thought I was dead. Eventually we all went back home. But our home had been totally transformed: We were no longer living in Jordanian-controlled East Jerusalem. Our house, our neighborhood, our city was now part of Israel.

No man's land was dismantled, and we were able to meet the enemy for the first time. We soon learned the enemy was really in our hearts and minds because the people we met were just like us. They wanted to live in peace, security, and prosperity. They were 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 the secret of my father's.

As a result of the war, therefore, I had crossed two borders: a physical one as well as a psychological one.

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## LOVE THINE ENEMY

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. When we cooked, they ate our food; when they cooked, we ate theirs. We became close friends and remain so to this day.

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—and 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



trying to overcome the border. Crossing into the unknown, physically and psychologically, is something that I have come to know very well.

## RECREATING MY JERUSALEM

I came to the United States in 1974. A Methodist minister, Rev. John Grauel, 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 here—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 actualize what they hope for?

Project Understanding, which ran

“**WHEN THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE IS RESOLVED, THE RUG WILL BE PULLED OUT FROM UNDER ALL OF THE EXTREMISTS IN THE REGION.**”

from 1992 to 2002, and the Monmouth Dialogue Project, which ran from 2007 to 2015, were direct manifestations of that. Jewish Americans and Arab Americans (Muslims and Christians) met on a monthly basis at the university and in each other's homes. We talked openly about the issues that separate us, but also about what brings us together. We talked about the meaning of our faith traditions, about Israelis and Palestinians—what separates them and what is common to them—and about the dignity of difference. We took trips together, saw films, and hosted speakers.

In 2004, at the request of former university president Paul Gaffney, I created the Jewish Cultural Studies Program at Monmouth. I made certain to create an inclusive model that was hospitable to the various Jewish groups and faith traditions—Reform, Conservative, Orthodox—as well as to anyone who was not Jewish. It was meant for everybody, and it brought the Jewish community together.

Three years later, I brought Dan Bar-On, a Jewish Israeli psychologist who studied the Holocaust and Israeli-Palestinian relations, and Sami Adwan, a Palestinian educator, to campus as Fulbright Scholars-in-Residence. It was like coming to Camp David, where in 1978 President Jimmy Carter brokered the Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel, and where

in 2000 President Bill Clinton hosted peace talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders. We worked together—me the Christian, Bar-On the Israeli Jew, Adwan the Palestinian Muslim—teaching, writing, and giving talks. It was a terrific experience, and our students benefited immensely from it.

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 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.

## CULTIVATING PEACE

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.

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 their 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.

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

*Saliba Sarsar, Ph.D., is a professor of political science at Monmouth University. He teaches courses on the Middle East and international relations.*





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

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.

*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 Goff's shop—as well as in four other barbershops in the area—as part of the Long Branch Library's Fade to Books Program. "I had a 3-year-old the other day," says Goff of a young customer. "He's sitting in the chair just reading away. The book was upside down and everything."

That moment, the one in which a young child in the community shows excitement about reading, is the only thing Goff gets from this program. He doesn't receive any funds (the books are all donated). In fact, in some cases, he's losing money, offering up free cuts to kids who finish a book or return one they borrow. But that moment is really all Goff 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 a 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 watched 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 barbers are to local areas. "We need to really pay homage to the community leaders that are so important to our culture," says Garcia, who is Latina. "I was sitting there, brainstorming a way I could unite our two roles—my role as a library director and his role as a barber. How can I bring the two together?"

She did a little research and found programs in New Orleans and Chicago in which libraries were teaming up with barbers to bring books into shops. It all made perfect sense. She just needed the right person to pull it all together.

## CHANGING COURSE

David Perez joined the Army in 1993. It was a move that took his mother by surprise—this young man, just 21, had graduated from Lehman High School, one of the best public schools in the Bronx, with Regents Honors and with

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**WE TAKE IT  
 FOR GRANTED,  
 BUT THESE  
 ARE SPACES  
 FOR BOYS  
 AND MEN. IN  
 THERE, THEY  
 TALK ABOUT  
 POLITICS. THEY  
 TALK ABOUT  
 SPORTS.  
 THEY TALK  
 ABOUT THEIR  
 WIVES, THEIR  
 FAMILIES.  
 THEY TALK  
 ABOUT THEIR  
 JOBS, THEIR  
 HARDSHIPS.**  
 ”

a Gold Medal in its psychology program. He had spent two years at Nyack college, a Christian liberal arts school, with plans to go into the ministry. But he dropped out to join the Army.

Perez enlisted for four years but accepted an honorable discharge after three-and-a-half years when he injured his knee in a training exercise in the Mojave Desert. He needed a new plan. Nyack hadn't worked out. The here-and-there jobs he worked prior to active duty weren't career-makers. So he spent six years in the National Guard and earned his business degree online, followed by a good job in healthcare as a supervisor. By now, he was married for the second time, and the couple had seven children between them. Things were going well. "We had a mortgage. We had kids getting ready to go to college. We bought a timeshare. I had a brand new Tahoe," says Perez. "We were actually living a very comfortable middle-class life." But when the company reorganized, Perez found himself unemployed for the first time. "I really didn't know what to do," he says. "It was like the floor just dropped out from under me." He tried working for FEMA. He tried selling cars. But nothing felt right, and he kept asking himself, "What am I really supposed to be doing in this life?"

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. online. 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 if he got 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

Tonya 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.



TOP: The Fade to Books program will soon be in barbershops across the state. BOTTOM: Perez says he gained a passion for community development by working on the project.

"Then the families, whether it's because of socioeconomic reasons or whatever the case may be, don't really know how to promote literacy or don't have the ability to purchase books for the home." Perez thought, *We have to try to do something to help these boys.* Suddenly, this whole barbershop idea made sense.

"We take it for granted," says Perez, "but these are spaces for boys and men. In there, they talk about politics. They talk about sports. They talk about their wives, their families. They talk about their jobs, their hardships. And the boys will talk about whatever's relevant to them. What new song came out. What new movie came out."

Perez and Garcia thought if they put 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 selecting 25 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 discussion panel to an audience of 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 needs assessment'; I made many network connections; I developed a passion for community development, and, in particular, for Long Branch." 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, "David, just don't worry about that now. Finish school. Graduate."

So Perez's future, for now, is up in the air. But in some ways, his career path seems more solid than ever. "I'm not sure where I'll land," says Perez, "but one thing I do know is that it will be somewhere that allows me to engage in the community and advocate for development and change." **M**





A white research boat is shown on the water, moving towards the right. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. A large, semi-transparent, ghostly image of a fishing net is overlaid on the top half of the image, appearing to float in the air. The boat has an American flag on its mast and various pieces of equipment on deck.

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, mouth 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 unintentionally 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.”

The derelict pots also get intermittently swept along the bay floor by strong currents and choppy storm waters and can cause serious damage to boat pro-



LEFT: Amanda Kremer, left, and Kylie Johnson gear up to retrieve derelict crab pots in Barnegat Bay.

pellers or the hulls of vessels that run into them.

In some states, as many as 30 percent of the crab pots dropped into the water remain unaccounted for, but it is unknown how many are lost each year in New Jersey, says Heiser. So two years ago, CWF partnered with Monmouth University, Stockton University, and the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science on a project to

assess how widespread the problem is and, at the same time, remove as many derelict pots as possible from the bay.

### IN THE BAY

“The term ‘ghost fishing’ is used a lot,” says Jim Nickels, a marine scientist at Monmouth’s Urban Coast Institute, regarding in-

stances when gear such as crab pots are lost but continue to catch marine life.

Nickels, who also teaches classes in Monmouth’s biology department, supervised the university’s involvement with the project. During the past two years, he and a team of student volunteers made more than a dozen trips aboard the UCI’s 27-foot research vessel, *Seahawk*, traversing the northern portion of Barnegat Bay—from Good Luck Point in Berkeley

Township, New Jersey, up to the base of the canal near Bay Head, New Jersey—searching for and retrieving derelict pots. Their work had to revolve around the closure of the commercial crabbing season so as to not disrupt the industry, which meant Nickels and his students could only go out on the water between December 1 and March 15.

“[It’s] a lovely time of year... long, cold, miserable days,” jokes Nickels

light-heartedly and somewhat sarcastically. “But it gives [students] a chance to really see what day-in and day-out survey operations are like.”

Each expedition followed a one-two pattern: one trip focused primarily on finding the pots using high-tech equipment onboard the vessel, and a follow-up trip, made on a separate day, focused on physically grappling for the pots hidden below the surface.

The task of finding the pots was done with side-scan SONAR—a three-foot-long, torpedo-like piece of equipment, called a fish, which costs about \$35,000. Students would launch the SONAR equipment overboard, where it sat about two feet below the waterline. 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 monitors and essentially take screenshots 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 what really get to me,” says Molé. “The solution to pollution is dilution—it’s what people used to think.”



“**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.**”

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 filthy, 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 crabbers who offered to help in the retrieval process. Nickels says that

was a big help: It allowed the teams to retrieve twice as many pots in the second year and was a great incentive for the local crabbers.

“We actually worked very closely with several commercial crabbers because, obviously, it’s in their best interest too,” says Nickels. “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. Untagged traps and recreational pots were sent to Covanta, a waste management company, for recycling.

Molé, 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 Molé. 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 Molé 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.”

*LEFT: Marc Molé, front, and Kylie Johnson hook and retrieve a crab pot, which is about half the size of a commercial pot. OPPOSITE: Jim Nickels, professor and marine scientist at Monmouth’s Urban Coast Institute, watches as student volunteers scan monitors for rectangular objects that are indicative of abandoned crab traps.*



## IMPACT AND EXPERIENCE

All 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.”



CHANGEMAKER » Alumni making waves

# 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

**W**hen 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 heads 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

## 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 does not like the cold); wearing pants, socks, and long-sleeved shirts if possible; and, perhaps most important, using plenty of EPA-approved insect repellent.

its spread by using window screens and eliminating the standing water in which *Ae. 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 *Ae. 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.

OPPOSITE: Evering-Watley received Monmouth University’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2009.



photo LAUREN BISHOP



# ALUMNI ROUNDUP

LISTED BY GRADUATION YEAR

## 1970s

» **Arnold Simon '72** (Art) is a contributor to the exhibit "Atlanta Collects: Contemporary" at the William Breman 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) had 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, failure spirals, and test and performance anxiety. The book also acts

as an overview of the career itself for graduate students interested in becoming school counselors. 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. Pers. Serv.) (M.S. Ed. '00) was re-elected to the Lacey Township School Board in November. Downing, who has served on the board for 18 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 pas-

sion. 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.

## 1980s

» **Kathleen Heid '80** (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '94) 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** (Hlth. 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 a member of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society.

» **Peter J. Samaras Jr. '82** (Soc.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School



**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 MOLLY PETRILLA

"Our 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 WMCX 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 in his home among his Springsteen memorabilia.



of Humanities and Social Sciences. Following a 30-year career in sales and fixed income securities on Wall Street, Samaras is now an entrepreneur and business consultant. Formerly, he worked at Merrill Lynch before moving to Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette, followed by Bank of America Securities, before completing his career as managing director of credit sales at Cantor Fitzgerald. Samaras is working toward an M.A. in anthropology at the university.

» **Edwin R. Corneiro A.A. '81, '83** (Poli. Sci.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Science. Corneiro, who is currently the CFO for support services at Morgan Stanley, has more than 28 years of experience in computer technology finance. At Morgan Stanley, he has experienced working in various departments across the firm, including technology, operations, corporate real estate, finance, and legal, among others. He also has extensive experience working with several Wall Street firms from his years spent in technology finance. He is currently working to guide Monmouth's Computer Science/Software Engineering program into the Morgan Stanley Training and Intern Programs.

» **Michael P. Laffey '83** (Poli. Sci.) is an adjunct professor at Monmouth, where he teaches business law. He is also counsel to the Messina Law firm in Holmdel, where his practice consists of commercial litigation, general business law, and First Amendment litigation.

» The board of directors of Dominion 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 Pepco Holdings Inc., has been director of Dominion Midstream GP LLC since 2014. He currently serves on the board of South Jersey Industries, Inc. as well as Energy Insurance Mutual. He is also 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 has served on the boards of the Greater Washington Board of Trade, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Edison Electric Institute, the Federal City Council, the Greater Washington Initiative, and the Economic Club of Washington. Rigby, who gave the commencement address at Monmouth's graduate ceremony held on May 11, 2017, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Monmouth University.

» **Kim Cuny '88** (Comm./Thtr./Speech) received a diversity initiative grant from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro's College of the Arts and Sciences, where she is the director of the University Speaking Center. Cuny 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 on the autism spectrum. Cuny will develop and launch a co-curricular storytelling arts program during the spring semester based on engagement with residents at Peacehaven Community Farm, a sustainable farm and affordable housing community for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The storytelling effort will provide the center's student-consultants with an experiential opportunity to become storytellers themselves while also learning how to communicate with, provide feedback to, and receive feedback from adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

» **Michael Farragher '88** (Bus. Adm.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Farragher, who serves as the vice president for corporate accounts at Thermo Fisher Scientific, a Fortune 100 life sciences company, is the author of four books and two plays, the latest of which was produced in November 2016. As an active undergraduate who

participated in residence hall governance, WMCX, and acted in theater productions on campus, Farragher credits his professional and personal success to these experiences. He and his wife, **Barbara (Miskoff) Farragher '89**, live in Spring Lake with their two daughters.

» **Lt. Robert Garofalo '89** (Crim. J.) (M.A.C.J. '00) is scheduled to begin duty as West Windsor Police Department's fourth chief of police this July. He has served as a lieutenant in both the administrative and detective divisions since 1989. Garofalo lives in West Windsor, New Jersey, with his wife and three children.

» **Stephen E. Gerard '89** (M.B.A.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the Leon Hess School of Business. Gerard, who has worked in various executive roles for a number of Fortune 500 companies, midsize service firms, and start-ups over the past 30 years, is experienced in business and start-up strategy, sales, marketing, finance/accounting, business development, and manufacturing. He has launched numerous commercial ventures over the past decade, and currently serves as the Leon Hess Business School executive in residence with a focus on expanding the Center for Entrepreneurship.

» **Bruce Kratz '89** (Comp. Sci.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Science. Kratz is the vice president of research and development at Sparta Systems, a leader in enterprise quality management software (EQMS) systems, serving pharmaceuticals, medical devices, biotechnology, and other highly regulated industries. He has more than 25 years of experience working with EQMS systems, during which time he's held various leadership positions with IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Bluestone Software, and Princeton Softech. Kratz, who serves on Monmouth's Computer Science and Software Engineering Advisory Committee, also serves

on the board of Thomas Edison State University Foundation and is an adviser to several small technology companies and investors.

## 1990s

» **Keith Buscio '90** (Bus. Adm.) was named assistant vice president/director of public relations for Provident Bank. He will be responsible for executing Provident's public relations strategy, expanding and enhancing the bank's image in the marketplace, and managing its reputation to ensure that it is consistent with the organization's brand promise of commitment. Buscio, who was previously vice president of marketing and communications with Santander Bank, lives in Berkeley Township, New Jersey.

» **Puran Nebhnani '96** (M.S. Soft. Eng.) was appointed chief technology officer of the Republican Party National Committee. An electronics engineering graduate from the University of Mumbai, Nebhnani originally joined the RNC in 2014 as a lead engineer and was previously responsible for the architecture, design, and development of the Republican Party's website.

» **Marcell Colmer '97** (Soc. Work) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Social Work. Colmer, who earned her M.S.W. at Fordham University, has worked as a medical social worker at Ocean Medical Center in Brick for the past 14 years. A proud Hawk, she has worked as a field supervisor for social work students placed at Ocean Medical Center, where she plays a critical role in helping individuals and families navigate their health care and long-term care planning.

» **William O. George '97** (M.S. Ed.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Education. Since 2011, George has been the superintendent of schools for the Middletown Township Public Schools, a district comprising 12 elementary schools,

three middle schools, and two high schools, with an enrollment of nearly 10,000 students. George, who earned a doctorate degree in educational leadership from Seton Hall University, an M.A. in physical education from Ohio State University, and a B.S. in health and physical education from Michigan State University, is currently a member of the New Jersey Superintendent's Study Council at Seton Hall University and serves on the executive boards for the Monmouth Ocean Educational Services Commission, Bayshore Jointure, and New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

» **Marc J. Nehmad '98** (M.A. Psych. Coun.) was appointed municipal court judge for Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, on Jan. 2, 2017. Nehmad, who previously served as prosecutor for three New Jersey towns (Egg Harbor Township, Somers Point, and Pleasantville) lives in the township with his wife and three daughters.

» **Sheriff Shaun Golden '99** (Poli. Sci.) was sworn into his third three-year term as the Monmouth County sheriff by New Jersey Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno on Jan. 5, 2017. Golden, who is an adjunct professor at Monmouth, is on the executive board of the Constitutional Officer's Association of New Jersey and is on the executive board of the Sheriffs' Association of New Jersey, where he currently serves as secretary. In addition, he is an active member of the National Sheriffs' Association and serves on the traffic safety and homeland security committees.

» **Christie Pearce Rampone '99** (Sp. Ed.) (HN '05) was honored by U.S. Soccer at the SheBelieves Cup match held at Red Bull Arena on March 4, 2017. The decorated athlete, who is a three-time Olympic gold medalist, was recognized for her lengthy career which spans nearly two decades. Rampone, who currently plays for Sky Blue FC in the National Women's Soccer League, is now also co-owner

of two Jersey Mike's Subs locations in Toms River, New Jersey.

» **Tracey L. Wolfman '99** (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, specializing in Alzheimer's disease. She is currently an adjunct professor at Monmouth; serves on the board of directors for Alzheimer's New Jersey and Brookdale Community College Small Business Advisory Board; and is vice president of the Senior Citizens Activities Network.

## 2000s

» **Kevlyn J. (Zurawski) Uvegas '00** (Hist.Poli. Sci./Ed.) (M.S. Ed. '10) and her husband, Jeff, welcomed a son, Jeffrey Thomas Jr., on Oct. 29, 2016.

» **Jennifer Cory-Morrongiello '02** (Soc. Work) (M.S., M.A.P.P., LCSW) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Social Work. Cory-Morrongiello is a psychotherapist in private practice in Red Bank. She is also chair of the board for Joseph Cory Holdings LLC, an 83-year-old family-owned logistics business, and coordinator of the New York Certificate in Applied Positive Psychology program at the New York Open Center. Cory-Morrongiello received her M.S. in social work from Columbia University and her M.S. in applied positive psychology from the University of Pennsylvania.

» **Marcus Latner '02** (M.A.C.P.C.) 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 Hotel Valencia Riverwalk in San Antonio, Texas, rose through the ranks over the years and will now oversee all aspects of property »



management and guest satisfaction for both locations.

» **Lia Kusch '03** (Art) married Timothy Best on June 18, 2016, along the Delaware River Canal in Stockton, New Jersey. Alumni in attendance included Christine Cartwright '02, Emily (Przybylinski) Nugent '02, Jenna Stevens '03, Erica (Montecalvo) White '02, Mark White '01, and Madeline (Hoos) Longo. Kusch is an advertising manager for the *Thoroughbred Daily News* in Red Bank, and her husband is managing technical director and associate certified entomologist at Arrow Environmental Services in Morganville. The couple reside in Wall Township, New Jersey, with their shiba inu.

» **Stephen A. Bray '04** (M.B.A.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Education. Bray, president and chief operating officer of KMB Design Group, a prominent national engineering firm headquartered in Wall, is a licensed professional engineer in 49 states. He holds a B.S. and M.S. in industrial engineering from Rutgers University; serves as the chairman of the planning board for West Long Branch, New Jersey; and sits on the Industrial Advisory Board for the Rutgers School of Engineering.

» **Richard Shaughnessy '04** (Bus. Adm.) was appointed to the Gift Planning Advisory Council. Shaughnessy, who joined Ameriprise Financial Services as financial adviser and vice president in 2014, has a wealth of experience and a diverse background that enables him to help clients pursue their long-term financial goals through comprehensive, individualized financial planning. He specializes in retirement income strategies and is pursuing his Retirement Income Certified Professional designation from the American College of Financial Services; he is licensed in the state of New Jersey to offer both life and health insurance. In addition to his professional career and his role as a student mentor, Shaughnessy is involved with vari-

ous organizations including Make-A-Wish Foundation; St. Catharine's School in Spring Lake, New Jersey; and Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of the Jersey Shore.

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

» **Philip Dunn Jr. '05** (Poli. 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 Aon 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 Melanoma 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. '14) 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 Kavanaugh Foster '08** (Music) received her Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Palmer College of Chiropractic last September. Foster lives in southern California and is completing a three-year residency in diagnostic imaging.

» **Patrick McGraner '08** (Bus. Adm.) and his wife, Jade, welcomed a daughter, Bianca Grace, on Nov. 16, 2016.

» **Kathryn (McClain) Ventricelli '08** (Engl./ Sp. Ed.) wed Carlo

Ventricelli at the Park Savoy Estate in Florham Park, New Jersey, on Feb. 12, 2016. They were joined by a handful of Monmouth alumni, including Maria (Mereos), Mitses '08 (Psych.) (M.A. Psych. Coun. '09), Megan (Canavan) Varano '08 (Engl./ Elem. Ed.), Katelyn (Orr) Marion '08 (Engl./Elem. Ed.) and Ashley Zozzaro '08 (Comm.).

» Circle BMW in Eatontown, New Jersey, recognized **Thomas J. DeFelice III '09** (M.B.A.), the company's vice president and general counsel, for graduating from the Dealer Candidate Academy at the National Automobile Dealers Association in Tysons, Virginia. DeFelice, who earned his J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law in 2012, previously worked as an associate at the law firm of Landman, Corsi, Ballaine & Ford, P.C. in Newark, New Jersey. He is responsible for managing daily operations of Circle BMW.

» The New Jersey Business & Industry Association (NJBIA) has named **Andrew Musick '09** (Poli. Sci.) (M.A. Pub. Pol. '10) as vice president of the organization. Musick, who previously worked for the firm Sokol, Behot & Fiorenzo and the Princeton Public Affairs Group, was a member of the NJBIA's government affairs team prior to his promotion.

» **Caitlynn 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 13 years, was previously the equine manager and therapeutic instructor at Celtic Charms, a riding program for the disabled, also located in Howell.

» **Jessica (Revoir) Tortorice '09** (M.A.C.P.C.) married Anthony Tortorice on Dec. 10, 2016. A wedding mass was held at St. Veronica's Roman Catholic Church in Howell, New Jersey, followed



## CELEBRATIONS


**WEDDINGS:** 1. Kathryn (McClain) Ventricelli '08 and Carlo Ventricelli. 2. Lia (Kusch) Best '03 and Timothy Best. 3. Jessica (Revoir) Tortorice '09 and Anthony Tortorice. 4. Andrea Harz '10 and Jim Maturo. 5. Hayley Kellinger '11 and Brian Brooks '11.

by a beautiful Christmas-themed reception at The English Manor in Ocean Township, New Jersey. Revoir-Tortorice is currently assistant vice president of marketing at First Financial Federal 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 Humanities 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-dependent men and women in a methadone treatment program, which was published in the journal *Substance Abuse*. Fulmer, who recently completed her first internship as a crisis counselor at Brookdale Community College, is the president of the Counseling Students Association and Chi Sigma Iota, the counseling academic and professional honor society international.

» **Andrea Harz '10** (Bus. Adm.) wed Jim Maturo on Nov. 12, 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 executive chef for Aramark. The couple live in Toms River. Sent in photo.

» **Lindsey M. Melody '10** (Poli. Sci.), Esq., is engaged to marry Brittan Specht on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., in December 2017. Melody, who graduated magna cum laude from The Honors School and later earned her Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America Colum- 



bus School of Law, specializes in campaign finance and political law and currently serves as counsel to the Republican Commissioners at the Federal Election Commission. Specht, who earned his undergraduate degree at Tulane University and is a CFA charter holder, serves as policy director for the Republican Study Committee, a caucus of the United States House of Representatives.

» **Melissa Warar '10** (Psych.) and Gregg Mora are engaged to be married on April 8, 2018. The future bride, who aspires to become a neonatal intensive care nurse, graduated from New York University in December 2016 with a B.S. in nursing. The future groom, who graduated from Florida State University with a B.S. in accounting and finance and later graduated from Fordham University's Gabelli School of Business with an M.B.A. in finance and international business, is the director of finance for Dynamic Capital in Miami, Florida.

» **Brian Brooks '11** (Soft. Eng.). See note for Hayley Kellinger '11.

» **Danielle Gesso '11** (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun.) and Raymond Furslew are engaged to be married in fall 2017. The future bride, who attended St. John Vianney High School and Rowan University, is a supervisor with the New Jersey State Affiliate of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence. Furslew, who attended Old Bridge High School and Ramapo College, is a finance manager with Honda.

» **Kevin Hahn '11** (Bus. Adm.) joined the Whitmore Group as an assistant vice president in the commercial lines division. Hahn, whose expertise includes the creation of programs for contractors with sales up to \$500 million, previously held various marketing positions at both Vanguard Coverage Corp. in Plainview, New York, and Alliant Insurance Services in Garden City, New York.

» **James Hett '11** (Bus. Adm.) was one of eight former players of Monsignor Farrell High School's



## CELEBRATIONS

**BIRTHS:** 1. Bianca Grace, daughter of Patrick McGraner '08 and his wife, Jade. **ENGAGEMENTS:** 2. Lindsey Melody '10 and Brittan Specht. 3. Stephanie Porter '13 and William Ryan '12.

basketball team who were recently honored at a game hosted by their alma mater. Each player had received the Jaques Award. The award, which Hett received in 2007, is given annually to one of Staten Island's most outstanding schoolboy 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 13 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./Elem. Ed.) of Zeta Tau Alpha wed **Brian Brooks '11** (Soft. 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, a nonprofit 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. Crim. J. '13) (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun. '16) was sworn in as a United States probation officer for the Southern District of New York on Nov. 14, 2016. She continues to work on her LPC licensure hours 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.

» **William Ryan '12** (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '13). See note for Stephanie Porter '13.

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

» **Taylor Bogan '13** (Thtr.) 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 24-year-old indoor best mark record

## NOT TO MISS: HOME-COMING WEEKEND OCT. 20-22



Save the dates! We look forward to seeing you back on campus for a full weekend of festivities highlighted by the football game on Saturday, Oct. 21. Visit [monmouth.edu/homecoming](http://monmouth.edu/homecoming) for details.

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

» Online: [monmouth.edu/ClassNotes](http://monmouth.edu/ClassNotes)

» By email: [classnotes@monmouth.edu](mailto:classnotes@monmouth.edu)

» By mail: **Class Notes, Monmouth University Magazine, 400 Cedar Ave., West Long Branch, NJ 07764-1898.**

*Monmouth University encourages alumni to share news regarding career changes, awards and honors, marriages, anniversaries, births, and other life events for inclusion in Class Notes. All submissions are subject to editing for clarity and length. We welcome submissions of high-resolution digital images for possible inclusion with your class note; however, we reserve the right not to print submitted photos due to space limitations or issues with image resolution. In addition to the news items sent by alumni, the university receives press releases from businesses and organizations announcing alumni achievements, and subscribes to an online news clipping service that provides news items about alumni. These items are edited and placed in the appropriate class section. Monmouth magazine staff members try to verify the accuracy of this information; however, the university cannot be responsible for incorrect information contained herein. If you would like us to correct any inaccuracies that have been printed, please contact the magazine at [magazine@monmouth.edu](mailto:monmouth.edu).*



in the 4X1-mile relay with a time of 16:21.81 — surpassing the old record by nearly four seconds.

» **Stephanie Porter '13** (Ed./Math) and **William Ryan '12** (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '13) were engaged on Aug. 4, 2016, and are planning a summer 2018 wedding.

» **Dr. Melissa Rivers Richardson '13** (DNP) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the School of Nursing and Health Studies. Richardson, who is a family nurse practitioner, nurse administrator, and adjunct professor, is an inaugural member of the university's Doctorate of Nursing Practice degree. She joined the nursing department in 2010 as a clinical site supervisor for nurse practitioner students and has worked as a preceptor for those same students. Dr. Richardson practices at Somerset Family Practice Residency Program at RWJBarnabas Somerset, where she provides care for families and supervises the clinical activities and development of the nursing staff. She is an active member of both local and national nursing organizations and is the founder of the Carlton G. Richardson Memorial Scholarship in honor of her late husband, a former Monmouth employee and alumnus.

» The Canadian Lacrosse Association named **Katie Donohoe '15** (Hlth. St. Phys. Ed.) to play goalie for Canada's national women's lacrosse team for the 2017 world championship. Donohoe, who was Canada's starting goalie at the 2013 world championships in Oshawa, is currently attending Fleming College in Peterborough, Ontario, Canada.

» **Amy Maginnis '15** (Comm.) is the liaison and volunteer manager at Domestic Church Catholic Radio in Trenton, New Jersey. She is currently working with **Gabriella Furrato '10** (Math/Sec. Ed.) at the station, which covers most of central and southern New Jersey as well as parts of southeastern Pennsylvania.

» **Mark Montagna Jr. '16** (Bus. Adm.) has joined the Princeton office of ERA Properties Unlimited as a realtor. The company, which has been in business since 1977, is active in the sale of single-family homes, townhomes and condos, as well as in the sale of investment properties in the local area.

» **Frank Scialabba '16** (B.F.A.) was hired as a full-time digital designer for Forever Collectibles, a lead distributor of sports memorabilia, located in Somerset, New Jersey, where he is responsible for controlling designs for the company website. [M](#)

## IN MEMORIAM

### » ALUMNI

Donald S. Bowie '41 (A.A.) Dec. 2, 2016  
 Melville Charles Stout '59 (Physics) Jan. 16, 2016  
 Lewis G. Augustine '61 (Chem.) Jan. 10, 2017  
 Vlasta G. Loxton '61 (Bio.) Feb. 9, 2017  
 Jack Ernest Schlaflin '61 (A.A.) Feb. 7, 2017  
 Harold P. Tobias '62 (Bus. Adm.) Jan. 3, 2017  
 Raymond George Dickinson '63 (Math) Jan. 19, 2013  
 Rudolph David Waldman '64 (A.A.) March 12, 2017  
 Calvin Elmer Applegate '65 (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '76) Feb. 18, 2016  
 Maxine E. (Goldflies) Bussell '65 (Elem. Ed.) March 1, 2017  
 Charles "Charlie" John Dlabik '65 (Elem. Ed.) Dec. 23, 2016  
 James E. Hutcheson Jr. '67 (Elem. Ed.) Aug. 25, 2016  
 Richard G. Timmerman Sr. '67 (A.A.) Feb. 27, 2017  
 Mary Mink '68 (Elem. Ed.) Oct. 27, 2016  
 George E. Sawicki '68 (Art) Dec. 30, 2016  
 Guy Jensen '71 (Bus. Adm.) Dec. 16, 2016  
 Joseph J. Cieri '72 (M.S. Ed.) Jan. 25, 2017  
 Robert Devens '72 (M.A.T.) Jan. 13, 2017  
 Kathryn V. Potts '73 (Ed./ Soc. Stud.) March 2, 2017  
 Stephen E. Brunner '74 (Speech/Comm./Thtr.) Feb. 17, 2017  
 Nancy Rosenzweig '74 (Art) Feb. 25, 2017  
 Beverly Ann Burozski '75 (Soc. Work) June 30, 2014  
 Stuart Russell Hancock Jr. '75 (Soc.) Feb. 9, 2017  
 Hugh Hooshang Mobasseri '75 (M.B.A.) Jan. 13, 2017  
 Aggie Lee Dixon '77 (Soc.) Jan. 3, 2017  
 Beth Stonaker '77 (Bio.) Dec. 18, 2016  
 Steven L. Scheer '79 (Bus. Adm.) Jan. 29, 2017  
 William J. Curich '80 (Bus. Adm.) Dec. 14, 2012  
 Karen Ann Julo Fazenbaker '80 (Bus. Adm.) Oct. 11, 2016  
 Richard G. Gervase '83 (M.B.A.) Jan. 11, 2017  
 Ralph L. Price '88 (M.B.A.) Feb. 24, 2017  
 Christine Keen '93 (Bus. Adm.) Jan. 1, 2017  
 Wendy J. Shephard '94 (Med. Tech.) Jan. 30, 2017  
 Erik Robert Laisi '07 (Music) March 3, 2017

### » FRIENDS

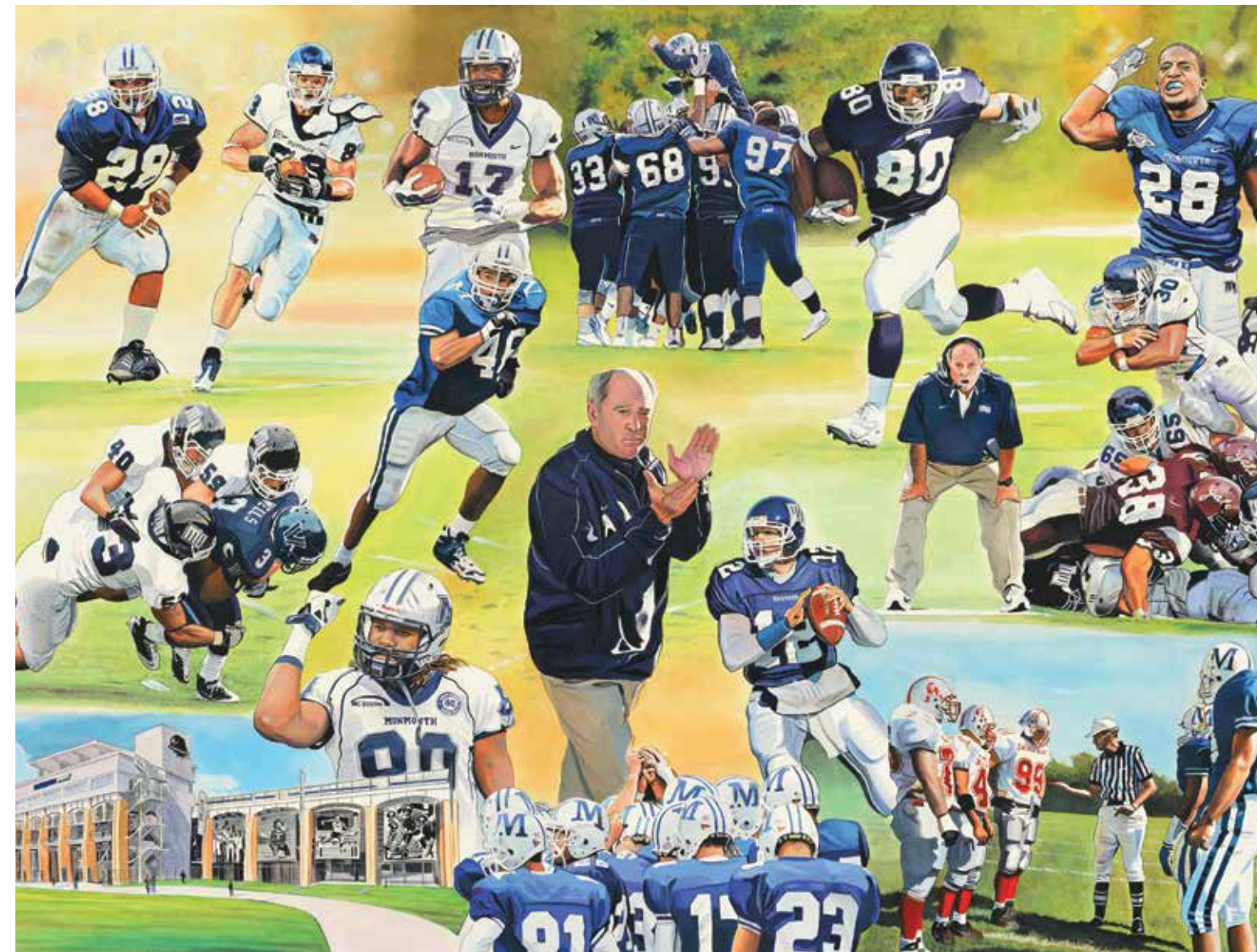
Marvin K. Broder (friend), May 24, 2017  
 Chris Cavallaro (former professor, communications department) Jan. 13, 2017  
 Lloyd Walter Bennett Jr. (former professor) Feb. 1, 2017  
 James J. Cavazzini (former professor) Feb. 8, 2017  
 William A. Dempsey III (former dean of Leon Hess Business School) March 8, 2017  
 Arthur M. Greenbaum HN '96 (former member, Kislak Real Estate Institute Advisory Council) April 11, 2017  
 Liza Jane Kahn (former student) Dec. 21, 2016  
 Janet Kerchman (former student) Dec. 10, 2016  
 Howard James Meginley Sr. (former student) Jan. 28, 2017  
 Luis Antonio Nieves (former employee) March 17, 2017  
 Susan A. Raynor (former student) March 1, 2017  
 Irving Reingold (special course director) Jan. 3, 2017  
 Robert Reiss III (former student) March 18, 2017  
 Jack Rudin (funded the Jack and Lewis Rudin Distinguished Lecture Series) Dec. 4, 2016  
 Sean Patrick "Seany" Sullivan (former student) Dec. 6, 2016  
 Tadeusz Swietochowski (former professor) Feb. 15, 2017  
 David R. Waldron (former student) March 2, 2017

## 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](http://monmouth.edu/arts).

## Own a piece of Hawks history.



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 732-263-5189.** Supplies are limited; don't delay!



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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](mailto:magazine@monmouth.edu) or the address above, or share it on social media with the hashtag #MonmouthUMag.