Monmouth

THE MAGAZINE OF MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY " FALL 2017

MINDING MINDFULNESS

How to cut stress and increase focus.

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"WOMEN AT THE WHEEL"

From Beyoncé to Sister Fixit, a gendered look at 100 years of American car culture.

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Celebrating 25 years of Hawks football.

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One veteran's battle with PTSD

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Visualizing PTSD: Salt Lake City artist and designer Dung Hoang illustrates alumnus Christian Benedetto Jr.'s battle after combat.

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

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LETTERS

RE: SUMMER 2017

As a retired teacher, I am still looking for creative ways to encourage reading that I can pass along to other teachers. I think the Fade to Books program ("A Cut Above the Rest") is a wonderful idea that stimulates a love of reading and the importance of being a part of your community. Congratulations to all involved.

Suzanne Palmer-Smiga (Long Branch, New Jersey)

The summer issue was the best *Monmouth* magazine. Please keep the informative articles coming.

Lois Harm Cahill via Facebook (Parent)

Good read, cover to cover. Enjoyed all the articles, especially the one on the Middle East. Great view from the inside looking out. John Reiss via Facebook (Parent)

The magazine is wonderful and it keeps us all in touch with Monmouth's progress. Great job! Lois La Pointe Kiely '65, '80M, '88HN

Crazy good read (re: "End of an Era"). Glen DeNigris '19 via Twitter The best piece of mail I've gotten in a while was the Monmouth magazine with President Dimenna on the cover
Sarah Lewis '17 via Twitter

REMEMBERING JAMES CAVAZZINI

I was deeply saddened to learn of Professor Cavazzini's passing ("In Memoriam," summer 2017). He was such an inspiring teacher, and despite his numerous groundbreaking achievements in the cable television industry's founding, a very humble and endearing human being.

I was fortunate enough to take his Strategic Management course in spring 2010, and he made it one of the most memorable and motivating experiences in my scholastic career. I learned a great deal from him, far beyond the course materials.

I was disappointed that I never got a chance to take him again when I entered Monmouth's M.B.A. program, but I did run into him one evening in Bey Hall between night classes. Right off the bat he told me he expected to see me on the cover of Fortune one day. He was always ready with sincere encouragement and

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US

-HINK

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monmouth.

edu. or write us

expectation. He believed in his students. The Leon Hess Business School has truly lost one of its greatest

professors. I will never forget

Brian J. Blackmon '10, '11M

#MUX2

We met at one of the tennis courts behind the field house in the mid-'70s. There was a sea of courts behind the old field house, before the football revamping of the area. Tennis, at the time, was extremely popular in the country and with Monmouth students in particular. The campus played a large part in our lives in the late Seventies, and we were married on June 2. 1979, in the chapel in Wilson Hall Paul Stookey wedding song music played softly in the background; the chapel at the time cast a curious, haunting spell and an implied air to whisper and conduct everything in hushed tones-likely the quietest New Jersey wedding ever. A very small ceremony (a dozen or so in attendance) but grand in results. We celebrated our 38th anniversary last June. Erik '77 and Sharon (Tosel) Liljestrand '74

I met my husband, Ron '66 '75M, at a fraternity/sorority Halloween party in October 1964. We were engaged the following March and married in August 1965 after a nine-month courtship. Now, 52 years later, we still have many fond memories of Monmouth College. We are both very proud in what the university has become. Carol (Volk) Kurowsky '65



I'M SORRY,
BUT MY
PRESIDENT
IS BETTER
THAN
YOUR
PRESIDENT.

Bennie Kanzler '17 via Twitter

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LETTERS



MONMOUTH MEMORIES

My dad, Dr. Harold Jacobs (far right in photo above), was the founding chair of Monmouth's Electrical Engineering Department. He is pictured here with an electronic measuring device he co-developed with Dr. Richard Benjamin (center, and later chair of the same department) and Dr. Frank Brand (left, a former Monmouth professor). My dad did some amazing things at Monmouth, and I established a modest scholarship in his honor to remember him: the Dr. Harold Jacobs Memorial Scholarship in Science & Technology. I find it thrilling that to this day, students post their resumes on LinkedIn and mention they received this award in honor of my father.

Steven M Jacobs '74

GOOD SPORTS

I mustered out of the Navy in June of '63 and enrolled at Monmouth College in September of that year. A few friends asked me to try out for an intramurals team, the Chinese Bandits, The Bandits, I found out after making the team, dominated intramural sports for years (and continued to after I graduated). Fifty-two years ago, this picture was snapped on The Great Lawn before one of our games. It seems nondescript, but two of the history makers of Monmouth University sports are pictured here: Vincent "Vinnie G" Giordano '66, '73M (#33) and John "Hoss" Kessler '69 (#40). That year our team went on to win another championship thanks to the fierce competition by these two winners. Dennis Redmond '67

ABOVE: From left, Dr. Frank Brand, Dr. Richard Benjamin, and Dr. Harold Jacobs with an electric measuring device they developed.

BELOW: The Chinese Bandits, a Monmouth intramural sports powerhouse in the 1960s.



WHAT PROFESSOR CHANGED YOUR LIFE?

Deanna Shoemaker has helped make my time at Monmouth the best it could be. I go to her with all of my problems, because she always has the solution. I can't wait to continue my academic journey with her as my mentor.

Emily G. Blaser '20

Lauren K. Woods was my first real acting teacher, director, and mentor. He dropped into my life like Clarence in It's a Wonderful Life and showed me the path forward to what has now been almost a 50-year career in theater, film, and TV. "Woody" and his influence have played an important part in every step I have taken in my career and in life. I feel his presence whenever I make an artistic choice. Bill Cwikowski '67

Thomas Kelly, my freshman English teacher, advised me to join the staff of the school newspaper. That was the moment my life changed. I took his advice and went to see Howie Newman '63. the editor-in-chief of The Outlook. Howie hooked me up with Art Katz '60, the sports editor, who had me cover a couple of baseball games. Then, Art gave me some wonderful advice. He told me my stories were strong but, in writing sports, I should try to write more like I was sitting at a bar and talking to the person next to me. In other words, more conversationally. That was great advice. I went on to have a wonderful career in sports journalism, as a reporter, editor, and award-winning columnist. I was twice voted New Jersey Sportswriter of the Year by the National Sportscasters & Sportswriters Association. And it was all because of Mr. Kelly, who steered me in the right direction. Chuck Hassol '61A M

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

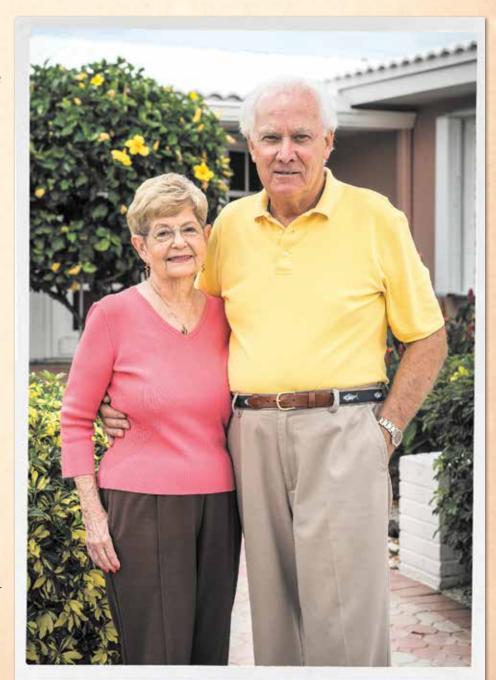
Leaving alegacy

Ron and Darlene Carlson's bequest will provide scholarships for generations of Monmouth students—with no immediate cost to the Carlsons.

raduating from Monmouth was a difference maker in his life, says Ron Carlson '68. To show his gratitude to the university that gave him an excellent start to his information technology career, he created the Ronald H. Carlson Endowed Scholarship. Then, he and Darlene included it in their estate plan. Their bequest will make it possible in perpetuity for graduates of New Jersey's most underserved high schools to attend Monmouth. And it allows the Carlsons to rest easy knowing they are supporting a cause they care about without any immediate cost to themselves.

"Recognizing the university in a manner that will assist future students with their education has provided us with a high degree of comfort," says Ron. "We hope other graduates will thoughtfully consider their ability to contribute to Monmouth."

Join Ron and Darlene in helping deserving students while creating your own legacy at Monmouth University. Contact Keith Richardson, assistant vice president for leadership programs, at 732-263-5758 or kerichar@monmouth.edu for more information on legacy giving, or visit mylegacy.monmouth.edu.



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IF WE COULD **HAVE AN EPIDEMIC OF HELP-**SEEKING. **THAT WOULD** BE GOOD.

NEED TO KNOW » Topics & trends

TAKING ON **TEEN SUICIDE**

THE SUICIDE RATE FOR ADOLESCENTS HAS BEEN SLOWLY RISING, ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT DATA FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION. WE ASKED MICHELLE SCOTT, PH.D., WHAT CAN BE DONE TO REVERSE THE TREND.

INTERVIEW BY TONY MARCHETTI

The American Psychological Association has labeled teen suicide "a growing health concern." Can you share some statistics to help put the issue in perspective?

According to the CDC, about 44,000 people across the lifespan die by suicide every year in the U.S. That's one person every 11.9 minutes. Overall, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death. But among 15- to 24-year-olds the age group I do most of my research with-it's the second leading cause. From 2011 until 2014, the suicide rate for 15to 24-year-olds was pretty stable. Then, from 2014 to 2015, there was an increase of almost 1 person per 100,000 [raising the rate from 11.6 to 12.5]. We don't know yet if that's a trend upward or just a blip.

What caused that uptick?

I wish we could say, but there's never an easy answer when it comes to suicide. There are constellations of risk factors, so when we teach individuals what they should be on the lookout for, we list a bunch of things. People might want to say it's social media, or substance abuse, or economic hardship. But we can't just say there's one cause. It's those constellations of risk factors.

What are some of the risk factors to look for in young people? The news about suicide often

Michelle Scott, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the School of Social Work and is director of Monmouth University's SRF Suicide Prevention Research and

makes it seem like some eventsuch as being bullied or experiencing a loss-was the cause. Those are situations that may be a triggering event, but usually occur within the context of other risk factors. Those factors include depression, anxiety, substance use, lack of connection to others (or social withdrawal), previous exposure to death by suicide, and prior suicide attempts. What we worry about is if we start to see a bunch of them together, then there's an increased likelihood that suicide could happen.

But it doesn't mean it will happen. You have to balance all of the protective factors. For instance, on college campuses students have access to mental health care. That's a brilliant thing. Students don't have to pay for each visit, because it's part of their student services. If they need help, they can get it. We want to promote to everyone that it's normal and it's important to seek help. If we could have an epidemic of help-seeking, that would be good.

Tell me about some of the prevention work you're doing here at Monmouth.

We had a multiyear suicide prevention grant that let us train students, faculty, and staff



about how to take care of each other at the level they're appropriately supposed to. We created on campus what we call a "competent community." It's a public health social work model in which everyone has a role in suicide prevention. The idea is, your role isn't to do everything, it's one piece of the puzzle in this model, and if everyone does their role, then no one falls through the cracks. That grant ended in 2016. Then, last January, we received a large private donation that was a logical extension of the work we were already doing.

You're referring to the SRF Suicide Prevention Research and Training Project. What's happening through that initiative?

In September, we hosted a free conference, Youth Suicide Prevention: Using the Media to Start the Conversation. It was inspired in part by 13 Reasons Why, as well as other stories in the media earlier this year. The conference was open to anyone who interacts with youth, and we had more than 300 parents, grandparents, clergy, coaches, school counselors and social workers, state workers, administrators, case managers, mental health professionals, and substance abuse professionals attend. We asked the participants ahead of time to share with us their questions about suicide, and we focused the day's proceedings on those questions. Participants learned ways to start the conversation, whether on the national, school-based, or individual level. We hope they will bring this information back to their organizations, schools, and communities.

Because we received so many clinical questions, we're planning another conference, for early 2018: Continuing the Conversation: Clinical Approach to Youth Suicide Risk Assessment and Management. The details out, but we had a lot of interest from professionals to learn more specific clinical information about suicide. We have an incredible mix of academic researchers and clinical professionals here and on our steering committee; working together synergistically will allow us to get the message across that suicide prevention is something we all need to work on together.

You mentioned 13 Reasons Why, the series about a high school girl who dies by suicide. The show received a lot of media coverage, in part because some people felt it glorified suicide. Does a show like that help or hurt your efforts?

It has its pluses and minuses. It brought the issue to light, and everyone reacted to it in a way that is making a conversation happen. What I would have liked to see is the producers putting protections in placethat is, providing information on what people can do if they're experiencing those thoughts or know someone who is. You didn't get that in the show. On some episodes, you were warned there was suicidal content, but they didn't tell you what to do if you were upset-except in a small, stand-alone segment, "Beyond the Reasons," which was not connected to the individual episodes. The series had a mature-audiences-only rating, but there were 11- and 12-year-olds watching it without any protections, because parents didn't know it was happening.

Along the same line, there have been stories in the news about the so-called Blue Whale Challenge. Can you explain what that is? Is this a real thing?

I don't know a lot about that, but it is supposedly an app or online game where you complete challenges that lead to a final challenge in which you hurt yourself or die by suicide.

of the day are still being worked | I don't know if it's real. I don't know if kids are doing it. But if kids think it's real, then it's a real thing. If there's a cluster of contagion of, "Oh, this is what everyone's doing," then it's something we need to be ad-

> Looking ahead, what more needs to be done to confront the issue of adolescent suicide?

> California recently passed a law that mandates six hours of clinical training in suicide prevention for clinicians before they can get licensed. More states need to do that. That way, when someone has the courage to get treatment, their therapist, their clinician, their doctor knows what to do. It sounds scary, but [many] clinicians are somewhat ill-prepared—unless they've sought out additional training on their own, like the people who came to our September conference. We have to make sure therapists know exactly what needs to be done, and that they're comfortable doing that job—these are what we call downstream measures.

We also need to focus more on upstream prevention. That means working with young people way before suicidal thoughts or behavior become an option. We can start with young children to build resiliency, problem-solving, and coping skills. I just wrote a curriculum, Lifelines Prevention from Hazelden Inc., with my colleague, Judith Springer, Ph.D. Schools can use it to teach 11th and 12th graders emotional preparedness for life after high school. My colleagues also created a 5th and 6th grade version that mimics the same kind of learning. These curricula complement the Lifelines prevention education for 7th to 11th graders. This way, when people hit the bumps in the road in life that we all know they will face, they can weather them better and not think suicide is the solution. M

PAW PALS

CAN PLAYGROUPS IMPROVE A DOG'S ADOPTABILITY?

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

ore than 3 million dogs enter animal shelters each year, and while most end up being adopted, the ASPCA estimates that 670,000 are euthanized annually.

To improve a dog's chances of being adopted, some shelters are taking the animals out of their cages to interact with their four-legged brethren. The idea is that these doggy playgroups reduce the animals' stress and anxiety, help them expend excess energy, improves their quality of life, and provides a natural setting for staff to assess a dog's behavior and personality.

But opinions vary on how the groups should be structured: Some shelters correct undesirable behavior, others use only positive reinforcement; some allow groups of only a few dogs to play together, others allow large groups. And some shelters are altogether opposed to the concept, arguing that playgroups lead to increased dog-ondog aggression, a greater chance of volunteers being injured, and elevated risk for disease transmission.

Now, in a first-of-its-kind study, Assistant Professor of Psychology Lindsay Mehrkam is seeking to determine whether implementing playgroups in shelters is beneficial to a dog's welfare, and how their use might relate to the dog's chances of being adopted.

Mehrkam has partnered with shelters in New York, Philadelphia, and Florida to track the positive and negative outcomes asso-

ciated with how different playgroups are run. She and her research fellows are collecting salivary cortisol from the dogs to measure the animals' stress levels before and after playgroup. They're also monitoring behavior patterns before and after play and instances of dog-on-dog aggression, among other things.

It's important to determine the potential positive impacts

> playgroups can have on a dogs' welfare, savs Mehrkam, as their behavior can diminish rapidly when placed in a shelter, potentially making them less adoptable. She says dogs can go from showing signs of enthusiasm toward people and a willingness to approach the kennel gate to displaying abnormal behavior like pacing and excessive licking, due to boredom and anxiety, in a week or less. "We're trying to give some science and data behind

ters—these play groups," says Mehrkam, "And we're trying to really evaluate objectively: is this good for dog welfare? And if it's good and it shows some promising benefits... what is the best way to run them?"

what is now becoming a very

common practice in shel-

The study, which is being funded by a grant from Maddie's Fund, is expected to run through May 2018.

> Mehrkam was lead author of a study that found a dog's more of an impact on how dogs inter act and play with each other than their breed does

CANINE **CREW**

Assisting Mehrkam in this study are several Canine Behavior Research Coordinators: Alexandra Heaney '16 and current Monmouth students Angelina Powers, Mary Kate O'Rourke, Amanda Vidal, and Tyra Ward.

If you are thinking about harming yourself or attempting suicide, call the toll-free, 24-hour hotline of the National Suicide

A collection of preventive

and informational resourc-

es related to adolescent

suicide are available for

free at monmouth.edu/srf.

Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255) to be connected to a trained counselor at a suicide crisis center

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EXPLAIN THIS »

Answering your burning questions

Q: HOW CAN I CUT STRESS AND **INCREASE FOCUS?**

ave you ever walked into the kitchen only to realize you don't remember why you're there in the first place? Or forgotten to include the attachment on an important email? Then you could benefit from practicing mindfulness meditation, says Cynthia O'Connell, a specialist professor in Monmouth's School of Education.

At its core, mindfulness is noticing what's happening in the present moment. "You can be mindful without practicing meditation," says O'Connell-by single-tasking rather than multitasking, for example. "The practice of mindfulness meditation, however, is setting aside time | **BONUS** each day, or a few times a day, to concentrate on being present."

Anyone can benefit from it. According to the American Psychological Association, mindfulness meditation is linked to reducing negative thoughts, cutting stress, boosting memory, increasing focus, and other health benefits. How does one do it? It's simple, says O'Connell.

First, sit or recline in a comfortable position. Then, concentrate on your breathing. "Breathe in and out slowly through your nose,"

says O'Connell. "As thoughts come in, acknowledge that thought and let it float by like a cloud in the sky. You can revisit that thought

Some beginners might find that meditation comes naturally to them; others can benefit from the help of a guided meditation mobile app. O'Connell also advises beginners to put a sticky note on their computer monitor, steering wheel, or cell phone to remind them to practice.

So how does concentrating on your breathing a few minutes each day translate to being more mindful in day-to-day life? "It helps you remember to 'STOP," says O'Connell, which is an acronym she recommends for beginners. Whenever you find yourself on autopilot, remember to: Stop and take stock of where you are; Take a breath; Observe what's happening around you; Proceed forward. Before long, mindfulness will filter into your life.

If you already practice mindfulness meditation and want to take your practice to the next level, try a few creative exercises: eat silently and notice your food, or take an entire minute to eat a piece of chocolate. "See what it tastes like: notice the sensations," says O'Connell.

The most important thing is to keep practicing. "Make it part of your daily routine just like eating, drinking water, and brushing your teeth," says O'Connell. "In order to reap the benefits, it has to be a daily effort-even if it's just two minutes."

-Melissa Kvidahl

THE 10-SECOND **QUESTION**

The short answer? No. A component of Transcendental Meditation, the mantra is intended to let the mind settle and, ultimately, transcend thought entirely. This kind of meditation is a totally different approach from being mindful, which instead encourages practitioners to not only have thoughts, but to focus them on the present moment.

CROWDSOURCING HISTORY

JOSEPH P. VEIT WAS JUST 25 years old in 1917, when he was drafted to fight in World War I. Hailing from the Vailsburg section of Newark, a largely German-American and Jewish community. he was sent to fight on the Western Front as part of the 78th Infantry ("Lightning") Division, 312th Regiment. His grandson, Richard Veit, chair of Monmouth's History and Anthropology Department, says his grandfather shared many memories of the war

"One of his stories was about shooting down a German biplane with his machine gun team," says Richard. "He saved a piece of the cloth covering from the plane after it crashed. He also claimed that the food in the trenches was supplied by the British and consisted largely of mutton, which was, in his estimation, pretty awful."

Following Joseph's death, Richard inherited a trunk that had belonged to his grandfather. Inside it he discovered a treasure trove of memorabilia from the war. Some of the items, including a needlepoint and welcome home banner (pictured), had belonged to Joseph. Others were keepsakes given to him by his comrades. Joseph collected the items well into his 80s, as he was one of the last survivors of the regiment.

The WWI exhibit spans two floors in the Monm University library and runs through the end of the year. Admission is free.

These artifacts, along with about 150 others, are currently on display in the Monmouth University Library as part of an exhibit marking the centennial of the United States' entry into WWI. The items were crowdsourced from a dozen people, including many in the Monmouth community, by Specialist Professor of Public History Melissa Ziobro, whose experiential Museum and Archives Management Basics class curated and developed the displays, which include various memorabilia from British. American, and German troops.

–Breanne McCarthy

faculty experts, email edu or mail Explain This, Monmouth magazine, Alumni House, 400 Cedar Ave., West Long Branch,

To ask a question of our



LAST TREES STANDING

HOW CLIMATE CHANGE WILL ALTER COASTAL FOREST MAKEUP.

BY KARL VILACOBA

climate change, are ever ready.

Associate Professor Pedram Daneshgar and a team of student researchers conducted a battery of saltwater exposure tests this summer on young trees that are native to New Jersey's coastal forests. The experiments were designed to provide a glimpse at what the increased contact with wind-borne ocean spray and floodwaters—brought on by more frequent and intense coastal storms—will mean for trees along the region's waterfront areas.

Working with a large sample of American hollies, sassafras, black cherries, red maples, and cedars, the researchers found that the deciduous trees were decidedly less salt-resistant. The results point to a future in which climate change | exposure to both the spray bot-

hen it comes to | will tilt natural selection in favor of the hollies and cedars. and begin to eliminate the others near beaches, estuaries, and other brackish water bodies.

"They'll try to survive, but if there's no more seed source from parent trees, they won't," says

The team conducted two types of experiments on the trees. In the first, the roots were submerged in a tank of saltwater for intervals of one. six. and 12 hours to simulate flooding according to tide cycles. In the second set of tests, the trees were sprayed with concentrations of saltwater running from zero parts per 1,000 (a control) to 25 parts per 1,000 (comparable to levels in lower Barnegat Bay). Half of the trees were placed beneath a mesh sheet to emulate the shaded conditions young trees see at the bottom of a forest.

this article origi nally appeared Across the board, the ever-University's greens fared better after their Institute blog.

A version of

tles and the flood tank (although none of the trees survived the 12-hour flood).

"The results showed that deciduous, broad-leaf species are starting to die off," says Jeff Dudek, a student who worked on the project. "We saw leaf loss, curling of leaves, stunted growth. The prediction there is that we'll start to see a more evergreen-dominated forest."

This fall, the researchers removed the trees' leaves and weighed them. They are now analyzing which species had the strongest growth and maintained the strongest root systems in the face of the saltwater exposure.

The research was conducted in the campus greenhouse by Daneshgar, Dudek and students Kelsey Connelly and Matthew Francis.

Daneshgar says the study results offer clear guidance for those planting near the shore: "Use salt-tolerant evergreens that have very waxy leaves."

5 QUESTIONS FOR MICHAEL **WATERS**

THE ENGLISH PROFESSOR AND CELEBRATED POET TALKS CRAFT. INSPIRATION, AND THE ESSENTIAL NATURE OF POETRY.

INTERVIEW BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

» You're at work on your 13th book of poetry, which you've said will focus on "bridging the old world with the new." What do you mean by that?

The last time I was in Romania, I saw a family with a new car. They had brought the car to a monastery and asked the head monk, the abbot of the monastery, to bless it. They had all of the doors of the car open, and the hood was up, and the trunk was up, and the family was standing around in their Sunday best. And the abbot was walking around the car, sprinkling it with holy water, and reciting prayers so that the family would be safe in that car—so that's the old world and the new world right there.

> » In terms of process then, do you wait for inspiration to strike?

There's a quote by a famous artist, Chuck Close: "Inspiration is for amateurs." So, no, it really is the work itself. It's the sitting down at the desk to do the work... Writing is a process. I don't think of it as a product... For me, the line is the most important part of poetry. Each line has its own integrity, so I tend to write line by line.

» How do you pick the theme for your books? I don't. What happens is I start writing poems and, after a while, I notice that there are thematic or stylistic consistencies... I see them starting to form a book rather than a collection of poems. And then, maybe, I might start leaning toward that. And when I feel the book is finished, I really just go on writing poems and see what else starts to rise.

> » What advice do you share with students when it comes to writing creatively?

What's important is not to dress like a writer, or talk like a writer, act like a writer, or drink like a writer! What you have to do is actually write. You have to put pen to paper and learn your craft.

» Being a poet for nearly five decades, how do you think the art form is faring in a modern, digital world that's so full of distractions?

People turn to poetry after any kind of national trauma. After 9/11, for example, there was poetry chalked all over the streets of New York, so it seems poetry is essential to our lives. There always seems to be a hunger for poetry throughout the centuries.

Michael Waters is a 2017 recipient of the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foun dation Fellowship, which honors prior achievement and exceptional promise. His 12th book of poetry, The Dean of Discipline, is due out in early 2018.

Fall 2017 MONMOUTH 13 **12** MONMOUTH Fall 2017 illustration 3RN3STINO/ISTOCK illustration LUKE WALLER



NEW HOME FOR THE HAWKS

Henni Kantor Kessler & John H. Kessler Stadium, the new \$16 million facility that is home to more than half of the university's student athletes, opened in style on Sept. 2 when the football team defeated Lafayette, 31-12. Made possible by a generous gift from Henni '68 and John '69 Kessler, the stadium features more than 4,200 seats, including 800 chair-back seats; a full concourse with concession stands; a state-of-the-art press box; and multimedia and coaches' booths.

The facility also features a 1,855-square-foot Panasonic HD LED video display board thanks to a grassroots fundraising effort spearheaded by football alumni and supporters. More than 100 former players, Touchdown Club members, and friends of the program rallied to raise \$750,000 for the mammoth display, which was named The Football Alumni Scoreboard in honor of the group's efforts.

MISSION AND TRADITION

The annual Founders' Day Convocation was highlighted this year by the investiture of Grey J. Dimenna, Esq. as the ninth president of Monmouth University. During the ceremony, Henry D. Mercer, III '87, immediate past chair of the board, received an honorary Doctor of Public Service in recognition of his dedication to the university; William Elliott '95M received the Distinguished Alumni Award (see p. 42); and John K. Lloyd, co-CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health. received the Maurice Pollak Award for Distinguished Community Service.

MOVIN' ON UP

The university climbed 10 places in the latest U.S. News & World Report annual ranking of "America's Best Colleges," landing at No. 28 out of the 196 institutions

Universities North." Monmouth was also named one of the nation's best institutions for undergraduate education by the Princeton Review (The Best 382 Colleges-2018 Edition) and was featured in Money magazine's "Best Colleges for Your Money 2017" list.

ABOVE: The brand-new

\$16 million Henni Kantor Kessler & John H. Kessler

Stadium opened on Sent

2 with a win for Hawks

football over Lafayette

The number of students Monmouth welcomed in the inaugural class of the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership program this fall. It's the university's second doctoral degree

Ken Womack, dean of the Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences, published Maximum Volume: The Life of

that share the category "Regional

22

granting program.

THIS ONE GOES TO II

Beatles Producer George Martin,

The Early Years, 1926-1966. This first-ever biography of Martin is part of a planned two-book

series by Womack, who is a worldrenowned authority on the Beatles and their enduring cultural influence.

THREE-PEAT

Monmouth won its third consecutive Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Overall Commissioner's Cup for the 2016-17 academic year. The award symbolizes overall excellence in athletics in the 25 championship athletic events conducted within the MAAC. During the 2016-17 campaign, Monmouth won the field hockey, women's indoor track and field, men's tennis, and men's and women's outdoor track and field championships.

SOME GREAT PR

The Public Relations program received the Award for Certification in Education from the Public Relations Society of America in October, making Monmouth one of three schools in the state, and one of only 50 in the U.S., to earn such a distinction.

YOU READ IT HERE FIRST*

Assistant Professor Melissa Febos' latest book, Abandon Me, which we excerpted in our spring issue, received a social media shout-out of epic proportions from actress Emma Roberts. The American Horror Story star, who co-created the online book club Belletrist, shared Febos' book with her 11 million Instagram followers.

PERFECT

The first graduating class of Monmouth's Physician Assistant program had a 100 percent pass rate on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam last

GREEN POWER

The Environmental Protection Agency recognized Monmouth as the largest green power user in the MAAC for academic year 2016-17. The university's sustainability practices and achievements have ranged from installing one MW of solar power, purchasing green power, retrofitting lighting in campus buildings and parking lots, upgrading old mechanical equipment, and practicing effective energy management.

CODEY'S ON CAMPUS

Former New Jersey Gov. Richard J. Codey was named as the university's 2017-18 Public Servant-in-Residence. During the coming academic year, he will give lectures on the importance of public service and mental health policy, and participate in public events on campus during the fall and spring semesters. Codey served as governor from 2004 to 2006, and is the longest serving state legislator in New Jersey history.

ABOVE RIGHT: New Fulbright Scholar Award recipient Rekha Datta.

BELOW: Actress Emma Roberts gave an Instagra shout-out to Assistant Professor Melissa Febos' new book. Abandon Me.









179,057 likes

emmaroberts What's everyone else doing? 🌻 🎻 #currentlyreading #belletrist

View all 421 comments

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR AWARD



Professor of Political Science Rekha Datta is spending a portion of this academic year in India as the recipient of a prestigious Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Award in Teaching and Research. She will be researching global governance, local and cultural norms, and gender-based violence in India.

EXPANDING IN THE REGION

Monmouth University and the Borough of Rumson unveiled plans to develop a new Monmouth Marine and Environmental Field Station on the banks of the Navesink River. The facility will provide unique opportunities for scientific research and educational collaboration between the professionals and students of the university and local schools.

FIN

Professor Keith Dunton and students from the School of Science tagged sand tigers, sandbars, and other sharks and stingrays along the New Jersey coast as part of a summer research project funded through the UCI's Marine Science and Policy Initiative. Their work will help shed new light on the behaviors, movements, and diets of these migratory predators, as well as the demographics of the sharks and rays near the Jersey Shore.

HOW MONMOUTH WAS MADE » Landmarks & stories

A PALACE OF BOOKS

MONMOUTH'S LIBRARY WAS ONCE A SUMMER RETREAT FOR ONE OF AMERICA'S WEALTHIEST FAMILIES.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

wo years before construction of the Guggenheim Mansion was complete, the estate's architects (from the same firm that built the New York Public Library) won a gold medal for the building's design.

Murry and Leonie Guggenheim, known for both their extravagant wealth and their philanthropy, the mansion was fashioned in the Beaux Arts style and modeled after the Petit Trianon in Versailles. The original estate sat on eight acres and included the 35-room mansion, a

Built as a summer cottage for | (which today houses the Lauren K. Woods Theatre). With a white stucco exterior, largely white interiors, and numerous floor-toceiling windows and doors, the cottage had a light, airy feel and was less extravagantly decorated than other summer homes built by wealthy families of the time.

After his parents' deaths, Edsmall pond, and a carriage house | mond Guggenheim, who ran the

1905

Year completed

2 Years of construction

Gold Medal Award for architectural design

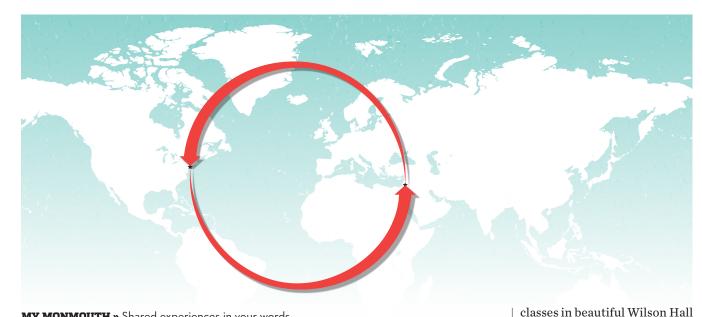
337.087 Books housed today

family foundation, offered the estate to Monmouth Medical Center. But locals petitioned against the move, with many saying they preferred the estate instead be donated to Monmouth College.

The property was officially conveyed to the college on September 9, 1960. Since then there have been two major construction projects: a four-story addition built in 1967 and a \$14 million expansion and renovation project completed in 2003.

Today, the library is home to more than 300,000 books-472 of which were written by Monmouth University authors.





MY MONMOUTH » Shared experiences in your words

COMING TO AMERICA (TWICE)

MY 17,000-MILE ODYSSEY TO BECOME A HAWK.

BY BASEM ZREIQAT '84

arrived on campus at 1 a.m. on a cold morning **L** in January 1980−a 20-year-old freshman from Amman, Jordan. Hours earlier I had landed at JFK, and after two bus rides and a taxi, I was knocking on the door of Cedar Hall. A senior let me in and showed me to my room. He wished me good luck and said goodnight. The semester hadn't started and the dorm was eerily quiet, but I knew I would fall asleep quickly.

The next day I was so homesick that I called my brother in California and told him I was going home. Using the money that was supposed to last me through back to JFK and bought a plane ticket to Jordan. I didn't realize then how crazy my actions were. I didn't come from a rich family; my parents had borrowed money from relatives to fly me to the U.S. But I didn't care. All I could think of was going home.

I stayed in Amman for two days. Then I went to the American embassy and applied for another visa to go back to Monmouth. It was the best decision I've ever made.

I arrived back at Cedar Hall and knocked on the door at almost the same crazy hour as before. The same senior who had greeted me came running out, asking where I had been. I hadn't told anyone I was leaving, so he thought I was lost. When I explained what had happened, he didn't believe me.

Given a second chance, I worked hard to succeed-both for myself and to make my family proud. I made so many friends the first semester, I took a taxi in my time at Monmouth. I took



Share your Monmouth experience! Email us at edu or write us at My Monmouth Monmouth agazine, Alumni House, 400 Cedar Ave., West

and saw Annie filmed there. I learned to program in PL/1 on a keypunch machine, and remember walking across the hall to hand my cards to the operator in the computer room, who ran them through the reader. As a member of the International Club, I helped run our annual parties on campus, which featured authentic food, colorful costumes, music, singing, and dancing. I also worked part time at the famous Rhapsody in Blue restaurant in Long Branch, where the owner, Yvonne, would introduce me to customers as "Base, the young man from 'Jordanie.'"

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in computer science, I went back to Jordan for six years. In 1990, I moved to Australia and took a job as a PL/1 programmer for an American bank in Sydney. I'm still there 27 years later; these days my responsibilities include managing the Asia Pacific region projects.

My experience as an international student at Monmouth was rich and inspirational, both academically and culturally. I had great professors and received tremendous support from them throughout my studies. I am where I am now because of Monmouth, and for that I will forever be grateful and proud to be a Monmouth alumnus.

photo MATT FURMAN Fall 2017 MONMOUTH 17 **16** MONMOUTH Fall 2017



DON'T LET THAT SMILE FOOL YOU

Sunny disposition aside, Cuevas is a tenacious defender. With her in the lineup, the Hawks have posted shutouts in 16 of 31 games to date.

JUST FOR KICKS

INJURIES AND SEVEN (YES, SEVEN) COLLEGIATE SEASONS IN SOCCER HAS GIVEN VETERAN DEFENDER GABBY CUEVAS UNWAVERING DRIVE—AND A WHOLE LOT OF PERSPECTIVE.

BY RYAN JONES

y the third one, surely, Gabby Cuevas was ready to give up. This was three years ago, when Cuevas went down with her third ACL tear in four years. She was in her fourth season at UConn, seemingly at the end of a collegiate soccer career that had been repeatedly and cruelly interrupted by injury. At that point, it could hardly have seemed worth the trouble to try to come back again.

You'd think so, anyway. In fact, Cuevas insists, giving up "never crossed my mind."

"I couldn't picture college without soccer, and not being part of a team," she says. "As soon as it happened, I was like, I know what I need to do. When can I get surgery?"

That insistence powered Cuevas through another grueling round of rehab, and ultimately brought her to Monmouth. Granted two additional seasons of eligibility by the NCAA—her first two ACL tears occurred in the very first games of her 2011 and 2012 seasons, and her third happened in the fourth game | finished 14-5-1 en route to the

of the 2014 season-Cuevas left UConn with a psychology degree and a hunger to get back on the field. From there, the Wayne, New Jersey, native (a three-time All-State pick during her time at powerhouse Immaculate Heart Academy) made the comfortable transition to Monmouth, where she immediately earned a starting spot with the Hawks.

Starting every game for Monmouth last fall, Cuevas paced a defense that posted 11 shutouts. She finished the season as a second-team All-MAAC pick, a vital piece in a squad that

Check out Gabby's

inspiration for your

commercial at monmouth.

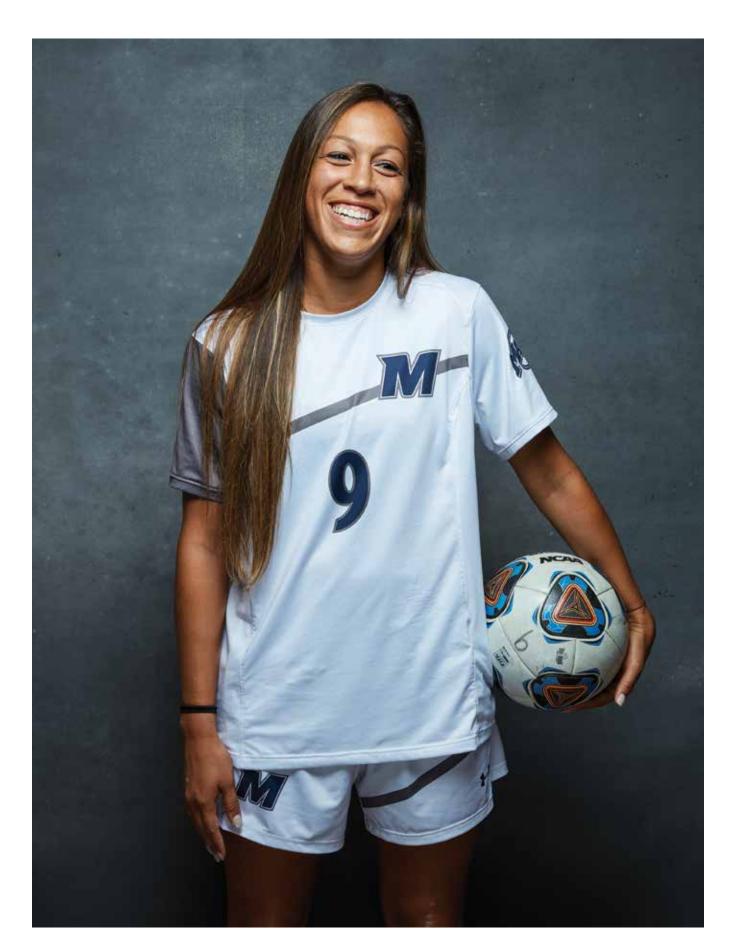
edu/perfectday and find

regular-season and conference tournament titles. Coming into the 2017 season, longtime coach Krissy Turner called her "a seasoned veteran" who "leads by example in all that she does."

Now 24 and suiting up in her seventh collegiate season, Cuevas knows that "seasoned" is putting it politely. "I'm not even the 'team mom'-we have a fifth-year player who's the team mom," she says with a laugh. "I'm known as the team grandma." She's particularly tight with the sophomores, who arrived on campus at the same time she did, but says she's proud to play "middle man" between the coaching staff and players. "I've been around the game longer, so I know why we do things," she says. "Being a mentor comes easy for me, but I also joke around with them: 'You guys keep me young.""

That she is, remarkably, still.

As she works toward her master's in social work-she's eveing a career in family mental health counseling-Cuevas owns a unique perspective that makes her not only a rare teammate, but an inspired choice for the university's new promotional push. That's her in the debut video for Monmouth's #PerfectDay campaign, jogging along the boardwalk, working on a class project in the library, and working out in the weight room and on the practice field. "I really didn't know what to expect," she says of filming the clip. "I'm like, I don't know what I'm doing. I'm a soccer player."





WILL LEWIS '92 » Forward

THE SMELL OF THE PLACE STILL STICKS out in my mind. The Garden hosted a lot of circuses back then, so maybe one had just been in town, but the place smelled like—the zoo. I wasn't the only one who noticed it, either.

I was born and raised in the Bronx, and I'm a huge Knicks fan, so it was exciting to play there. We played in some big places around the country, but the Garden is unique. It's definitely the greatest arena on Earth—there have been so many great sporting events, and concerts and shows there. We didn't take it for granted where we were playing. I'm a middle school counselor in the Bronx public school system these days, and I still tell my kids about when I played there. They get a kick out of that.

It makes me proud as an alumnus to see how far this program has come. I'll be there in December cheering as loud as I can. And the fact that we're going against an opponent like Kentucky? It doesn't get any better than that.

DAVE CALLOWAY '91, '95M

» Calloway was a guard on the 1990-91 team and an assistant coach for the 1996-97 team.

THERE WERE MAYBE A COUPLE thousand people in the stands for our games at the Garden. And for me, the atmosphere and the people always mattered more than the building. We had some great games in Boylan, and those memories come back to me before the games at the Garden. When we played at Duke, and the Cameron Crazies were going nuts—that was a great atmosphere. It's the excitement that the students and the fans bring that make a place stand out. That's what this year's team will experience in December. The Garden will be packed for the Monmouth-Kentucky game. And I think that experience is going to be pretty special for the players.

But the mystique of the Garden? That's definitely there. I don't know if I noticed it at the time, but playing there was one of the great things that happened to me at Monmouth.

If you really want to talk about how far the program has come, it's who they're playing more than where. Even if they lose to Kentucky, people will be talking about the game for awhile. They already are. And if they beat Kentucky? You're talking a whole new level of visibility.

JEFF FRANKLIN '97 » Guard

AT PRACTICE ONE DAY THE COACHES told us we'd be playing there. I almost fainted. I had grown up in Brooklyn, when public schools played the city championship at the Garden. But I went to Taber Academy in Massachusetts and missed out on that. Getting to play in the Garden was a dream come true.

The game experience didn't meet expectations, unfortunately. We were the better team but came out flat. That was a home game for us, and we normally lived off the excitement of our crowd. The place felt empty that day.

But the experience of seeing the Garden—seeing the posters of former Knicks, of being in the locker room and on the floor—that was mind blowing. I was in awe when I walked on that court. I sat on the Knicks bench and looked around the place, trying to think what it must be like to play in front of 19,000 people, all of them screaming and yelling. Shooting at those baskets gave me chills. It was exciting. I just wish I'd had a cell phone at the time to take some pictures.

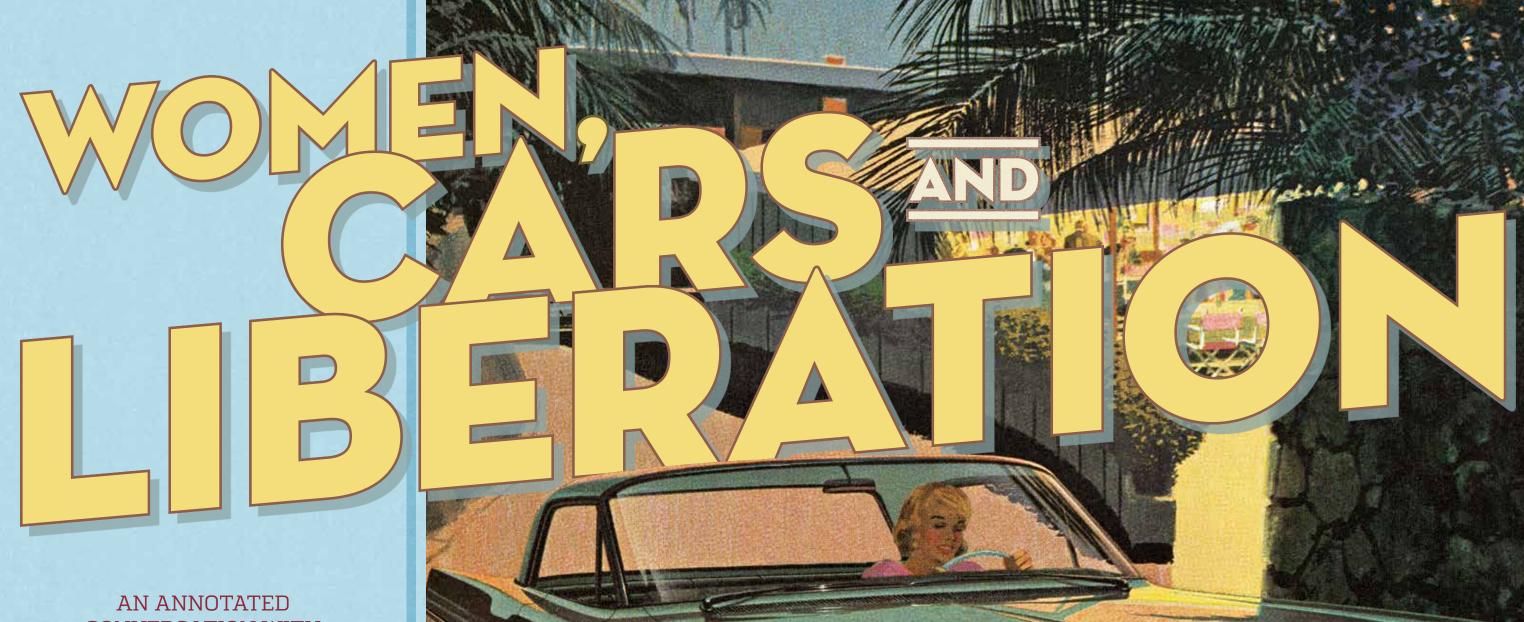
COREY ALBANO '97 » Forward

I REMEMBER BEING ON THE BUS AS IT SAT in city traffic, and looking out at how alive Manhattan was, and thinking, I'm going to play basketball in Madison Square Garden. It was surreal. During the pregame shootaround, I think I was looking around more than shooting, taking it all in. I can't speak for everybody, but for a few people it seemed there was a sense of, Wow, we're playing in the Mecca of basketball.

I played in Europe for 13 years after graduating, and saw some iconic buildings over there. But it wasn't the same as being in Madison Square Garden. Until this day, it is one of the coolest places I ever played.

To hear Monmouth in the same sentence as Kentucky shows how much the program has grown. I couldn't be prouder. A Hawks win that day would be so great. It would definitely take the program to the next level.

In the program's two previous Madison Square Garden appearances, the Hawks beat Marist, 61-53, on Feb. 5, 1991, and lost to Mount Saint Mary's, 53-59, on Jan. 29, 1997.



AN ANNOTATED
CONVERSATION WITH
KATHERINE J. PARKIN,
AUTHOR OF THE NEW BOOK
WOMEN AT THE WHEEL:
A CENTURY OF BUYING,
DRIVING, AND FIXING CARS.

INTERVIEW BY TOBIAS CARROLL



What drew you to the topic of women's relationships with cars over the years?

When I was working on my last book², I came across a statistic that 50 percent of driver's license holders are women. I clipped that out and put it on my wall to think about. At first, I thought that maybe the women's movement was a liberating force that encouraged women to drive. But I found that wasn't the case; the growing number of women drivers was part of a trend. The number of women drivers grew across the 20th century, and women now outnumber men³. I don't think it was really about liberation so much as that society really needed women to drive and women clearly sought it out.

You write about a number of very particular subcultures, including grandmothers who work as mechanics. Where did you first encounter them?

I grew up watching David Letterman, so I'd see him having [auto mechanic and cable host] Lucille Treganowan⁴ on. She was a grandmother in the 1980s, but the grandmother-mechanic figures that I discovered did not start out working as grandmothers. They only became acceptable as mechanics because as they aged, they were considered to be asexual. We don't consider older women to be sexual beings. I think there's a way in which we allow women to be engaged with a car—as long as they're not a threat to men's masculinity.

Does that also apply to the car-repairing nuns you wrote about?

Yes. A nun, whose nickname was Sister Fixit⁵, taught high school women how to fix their cars and talked to men about God while she worked under the hood, but it was all seen as holy work. It's not seen as anything untoward.

You discussed the arrival of women-owned garages in the second half of the 20th century. Do you find that they're still vital today, or was that more of an isolated moment in history?

Auto repair garages persist in being male-dominated, but there have always been exceptions. There's a wonderful garage in Philadelphia that just won an award for the best garage in the city⁶, and it's owned and operated by a woman who works in her trademark red heels. They opened it with a beauty bar attached to it, so you bring in your car for repairs and you get your nails or hair done at the same time. They even advertised mixing your own nail polish paint, which is a parallel for mixing your paint for your car. It's trying to make dealing with your car more accessible to women—an effort that has been fairly consistent throughout history.

FOOTNOTES

- 1. According to TiVo, Patrick's "Enhancement" commercial for GoDaddy.com was the most watched commercial during the 2009 Super Bowl.
- 2. Food Is Love: Advertising and Gender Roles in Modern America. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press,
- 3. According to the most recent statistics from the Federal Highway Administration, there are 1,365,947 more female than male licensed drivers in the U.S.
- 4. Treganowan also appeared as herself in a 1996 episode of "Tool Time," the show-within-a-show on the Tim Allen vehicle Home Improvement.
- 5. Sister Joan Marese. She also did carpentry, plumbing, and electrical work, according to a 1973 UPI news article.
- 6. Girls Auto Clinic, in Upper Darby, Pa., was named *Phila-delphia* magazine's "Best Multipurpose Garage" in 2017.

Continued, p. 28

One of the most interesting parts of the book was your research into the time before gas-powered cars were ubiquitous.

I think it's important to recognize how much everything was in play. We tend to think only of gas or electric cars, but there was a third, steam, and although it didn't survive it was certainly a contender.

The woman who was the first to drive in Washington, D.C., drove a steam car⁷. Her dad was a doctor, and she was his driver; she would help him go around to his patients. Steam was even more complicated than gas and electric, and tended to be more popular in urban areas with short distances and a guarantee of finding water. Women have long been identified with electric cars in the popular imagination, but they drove steam and gasoline-powered cars, too.

You discuss how early electric cars were often marketed toward women. Is it significant, then, that today's high-profile manufacturer of electric cars, Tesla, is named after a man?

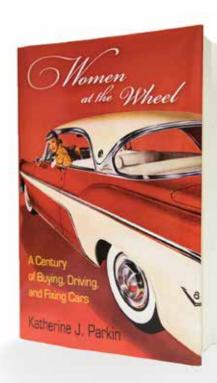
When I was finishing up my book, Tesla had just emerged as a strong contender in the car industry. Car companies have long placed an emphasis on science and on inventors—we admire Ford, we admire these men who created these cars. However, we also know that American car companies have long sought to crush electric cars. It is no surprise that it took a Japanese automaker, Toyota, to break into the American market with the first successful hybrid, the Prius.

I think that they appeal a lot to women, but most automakers don't believe being successful with women is good. Take for example the popularity of the revitalized Volkswagen Bug. After recognizing their success, the company rejected women and said to themselves, "Okay, we've sold it to all these women; now let's change it into a boy!" They brought in Porsche designers to masculinize the rounded beetle shape and removed the flower vases. It's a very contradictory impulse.

Were there any sections of the book that were particularly challenging to write?

One of the most difficult parts was writing about police and sexual violence. I found that police used their power to coerce sexual acts from women they pulled over. Similar experiences were found with driving instructors and their assaults—I think it's an unspoken experience that women are having, that there's a risk when you're getting into a car with a male stranger.

We have a notion that cars represent freedom, but women are constantly told to be afraid with their car: *Don't pump your own gas; it's dangerous. Parking garages are dangerous.* I find that the fears are not substantiated in the crime statistics,



but also that we don't hear much about women's experiences. That's partly what motivated me to write the book. Women are having different experiences with cars and we don't know it. In the case of the crimes that are occurring, the silence means no laws or policies are being developed to help police the perpetrators.

Women worked with cars in both world wars. Did one war have more of an impact as far as changing perceptions of gender and automobiles?

In some ways, I think the First World War had more revolutionary potential. The American suffragist Rosalie Jones said, effectively, "We have suffrage, now we need to learn how to fix a car." It was part of this understanding of women's independence, the idea that women would find independence in their relationship with a car, in learning how to drive and assisting, as Gertrude Stein did overseas, transporting goods and being a part of the war effort.

I have less of a sense of that from the Second World War. Certainly, more women were involved, more women drove, more women were mechanics. But I didn't find anyone from World War II saying, "This is really going to open doors for women; this is really going to transform their lives."

One of the most memorable images you bring up in the book is this moment where male car designers attempted to understand a woman's driving experience by wearing fake nails and approximating wearing a dress. Is automotive design still an overwhelmingly male field? Continued from p. 27

7. Anne Rainsford French. She was nicknamed "Miss Locomobile" by some D.C. residents, according to a 1952 Life magazine article.

8. VW's 1959 "Think Big" campaign for the Beetle was named the top advertising campaign of the 20th century by Ad Age.

 Among them was Princess Elizabeth, later Queen Elizabeth II.

10. In 2011, General Motors named Mary Barra senior vice president of global product development. Three years later she was appointed CEO, becoming the first woman to lead a major automaker.

11. According to Wikipedia, "Mechanophilia (or mechaphilia) is a paraphilia involving a sexual attraction to machines such as bicycles, motor vehicles, helicopters, ships, and aeroplanes."

12. Five years before Beyoncé went Angela Bassett on a row of cars for her music video, Jay-Z and Kanye West destroyed a \$350,000 Maybach in the video for their song "Otis." The rappers later auctioned the car off for charity.

Not only is automotive design still overwhelmingly male, it is also consistently tone deaf to the American consumer. The example you mentioned, of men wearing trash bags for dresses and taping paper clips to their fingers, was proudly detailed in press releases. Companies proudly proclaim that they're working hard to understand women. I found it shocking that they would believe that would be a positive thing today. It really only reveals how few women are involved.

If you look at Volvo, which is a very successful car in appealing to women and safety, they put together a team to create a pink, prototype Dodge La Femme kind of car. Why wouldn't they put them to work to make a car that was good and appealed to everyone? I found that disheartening. Volvo proudly touted that they created floor mats that you could change out with the seasons. Listening to consumers, particularly women, seems like a pretty low bar that the car industry still can't cross.

Was there anything you found that surprised you, or defied expectations of what you were looking for?

I structured the book along the lines of a woman's experience with a car: you learn to drive, you get your license, you buy your car, you care for your car. What I didn't expect to find in my research were all the ways people *identified* with the car. People's relationships with their cars didn't really fit into expected patterns that I had anticipated, to the extent that people named their cars, had sex in their cars—or with their cars¹¹.

Once when I was teaching, I was talking about the notion of women assaulting the car as a way of getting back at a betrayal by a man. One of my students said, "Oh yeah, I did that. I got in trouble." As I was finishing writing the book, Beyoncé's *Lemonade* came out, and she's mad at Jay-Z's infidelity and beating cars with a baseball bat¹².

Do you consider yourself a car person, or did writing this book turn you into one?

I've always enjoyed driving, and like the independence it gave me. I've driven in Europe; I've driven stick in England on the other side of the road. But I'm not a car person. I don't know much of anything about under the hood. Writing this book made me more aware of the ways that cars permeate the American experience. If you take something like music, the Beatles have very few songs that reference the car, but American musicians use the car to talk about escaping bad relationships (Tracy Chapman, Melissa Etheridge), avenging bad behavior (Carrie Underwood, Beyoncé), seeking out freedom and joy in cars.





y almost every measure the party was a grand and cheerful affair. A large tent was set up in the backyard, a jukebox had been rented for the evening, and more than 100 people showed up to celebrate the homecoming of Christian Benedetto Jr. '89, who had just spent the better part of the past year serving as a United States Marine in Operations Desert Shield and Storm. Gathered at his parents' home in Middletown, New Jersey, friends and family laughed and smiled with delight at seeing the 24-year-old safe and sound, showering him with frequent hugs or pats of congratulation on the back. But as the night grew later, Benedetto's father couldn't shake the feeling that something wasn't quite right with his son.

Walking over to Christian and putting an arm on his shoulder during a lull in the celebration, he asked, "You OK?"

"Sure," said Benedetto, surveying the party with a detached, faraway look in his eyes. "I guess it's kinda surreal for me. Just trying to take it all in."

Surreal indeed. The nine months spent on the front lines had been an arduous and ceaseless journey comprising equal parts fear, adrenaline, and exhausting vigilance. Not only had he witnessed the jarring and often sudden violence of war, but he also hadn't slept inside a building in more than seven months and had been afforded the luxury of a shower only once during that same time. And just five days before his homecoming party he was stationed at an agricultural compound in Saudi Arabia, waiting for the slow, tedious gears of his deployment to churn in the direction of home.

Now, as if in a flash, here he was, standing in his backyard with a mind trapped

thousands of miles away.

"Are you sure you're all right," his father asked again, this time with a little more insistence in his voice.

"Yeah," he said. "Why do you keep asking me?"

"Well, you've got more than 100 people here. And we've got four bathrooms inside the house. But all night you keep walking over and taking a piss in my flower beds."

Like waking from a dream, Benedetto snapped to a realization. He hadn't used a proper bathroom in more than half a year. Like every other soldier, he had become accustomed to simply walking 50 feet and doing his business wherever he could find spare ground. And that's what he was doing now, subconsciously reverting to the crude, indelicate routines of military life in his parents' backyard. Until his father said something, it hadn't even occurred to him to use the bathrooms inside. And while he breezily dismissed the moment with a

chuckle, Benedetto couldn't help but wonder if the episode signaled something dire about his state of mind.

Over the next few weeks he continued struggling to adjust to everyday life. He couldn't sleep in the house, so he'd go out to his parents' deck and spend his nights on a lawn chair with nothing but a pair of shorts and a thin sheet to cover him. One night a major thunderstorm rolled in, but instead of moving inside, Benedetto simply flipped two chairs over and slept beneath the makeshift shelter. Sometimes he would even dig a hole in the yard and spend evenings curled up in the cool, familiar earth. And he was also drinking. A lot.

"I knew something was wrong," recalls Benedetto, now 50. "But there was a lot more going on."

It's been more than two decades since that memorable homecoming, and the journey hasn't been easy. Wrestling with the demons of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), Benedetto has emerged from a darkness that once threatened to consume him, soberly and honestly accepting his condition while also serving as an enthusiastic voice of advocacy and support through *PTSD Journal*, a magazine he founded last year to educate and help others who suffer from the crippling condition.

But before he could help others he first had to help himself, and that meant experiencing moments far darker than nights spent sleeping beneath deck chairs or relieving himself in his father's flower beds.

"Here's the paradox about being a Marine," says Benedetto. "The best thing is that you're tough as nails. Nothing bothers you. You can deal with anything. But guess what? That's also the worst thing about being a Marine. You never think you need any help. I had no idea what struggles were ahead."

hen Benedetto enlisted in the Marine Corps in December 1989 after earning his undergraduate degree in financial services from Monmouth, he did it because he "wanted more from life than a wife and a starter home with three and a half bedrooms." He wanted to see the world.

It was during his time at boot camp that Desert Shield got underway, and Bene-

detto was enthusiastic about the opportunity to eventually serve his country overseas. And for the first few weeks of his deployment everything progressed more or less as he'd imagined it would, with a few notable exceptions.

"I had some preconceived, romantic notions from the movies. Some of them were true and others were definitely not," says Benedetto. "For example, one of my jobs during the war was to drag 55-gallon drums from under the privies into the desert, pour diesel fuel in them, and burn the waste. That definitely wasn't in the brochure."

Benedetto doesn't care to share specific horror stories from his time overseas, but looking back, he is unflinching about tracing his PTSD back to that long, interminable stretch of time spent in the theater of desert warfare.

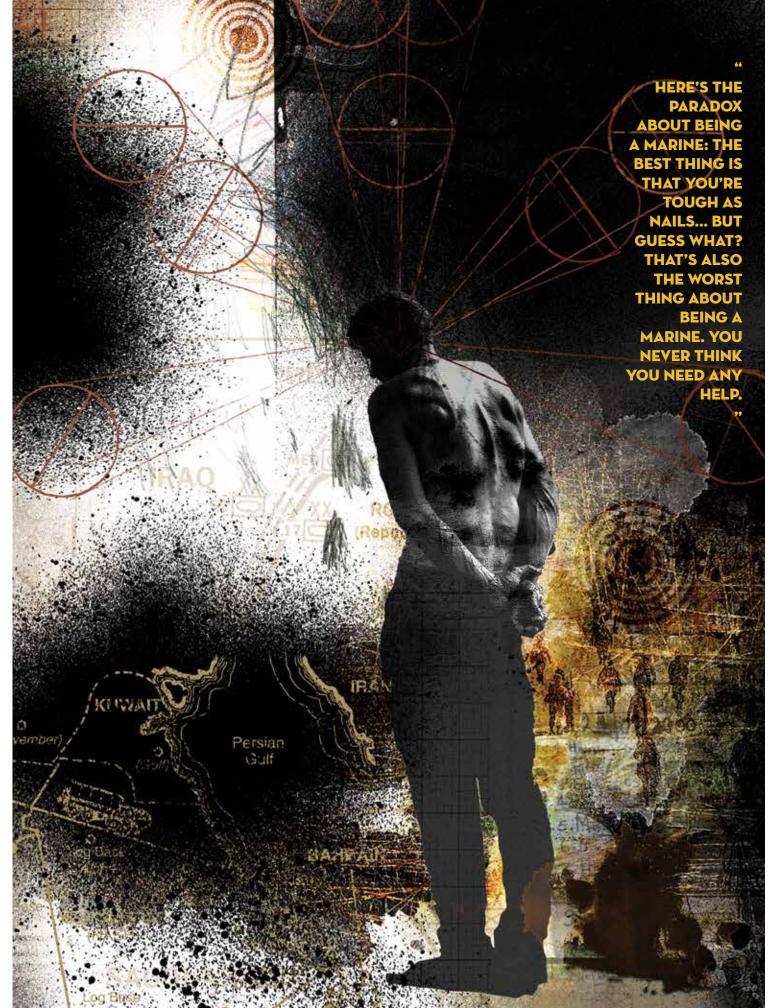
"My PTSD comes from being in really, really cramped places that were really, really hot while things are blowing up all around us," says Benedetto. "And then there was the sleep deprivation. You're up every night for a few hours and then up and at it the entire next day, cleaning weapons, digging holes, always on alert. All of that starts to take its toll. To this day, I still can't sleep for longer than an hour and 45 minutes at a time."

Benedetto's military service eventually came to an end in 1994, at which point he decided to go into sales, a career lifestyle perfect for hiding the demons lurking beneath the surface.

"I was the life of the party. A former Marine! OK, so he drinks a little too much, but who cares? He's bringing in deals. And I was good at it," says Benedetto. "I could drink while golfing, wine and dine clients, and entertain business partners at casino bars. And nobody thought anything of it because I was just this big, fun-loving war vet. People cut me a lot of slack."

But when he was alone the walls came down. In addition to drinking himself to sleep, Benedetto was also becoming increasingly paranoid, wracked by panic attacks, and thrust into nightmares almost every time he closed his eyes. He would sometimes barricade his basement door or hide behind his living room couch and keep watch for no specific reason other than to obey the crippling whims of his untamed anxiety.

By 2007, he knew something had to change. He'd recently gotten married,



and he and his wife were already making plans to have a child. He stopped drinking and built a life of sobriety that's now lasted 10 years. And yet he had not come to terms with the disorder that was ruining his life.

"I just didn't want to deal with it," says Benedetto of his then-repressed PTSD. "I did whatever I wanted to. I wasn't considerate of anyone's feelings but my own. And it wasn't until I was 38 that I started to realize life actually had consequences."

The final turning point came one early Saturday morning in the fall of 2013. Benedetto and his now ex-wife were lying in bed when their 5-year-old son came into the room at 6 a.m. asking to sleep in their bed. Eventually Benedetto and his son fell asleep, and the moment should have passed as an otherwise peaceful and happy one. But then his son stirred suddenly in his sleep, jarring Benedetto from a nightmare and causing him to instinctually grab the boy's wrist with frightening and unconscious intensity. Emerging from the fog of sleep, Benedetto was horrified, and later that day he made a call to his local Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) office. It was time he admitted that he needed help.

"My son's nine now, and he doesn't even remember that moment. And even at the time I think it scared me more than it scared him," recalls Benedetto. "But that's when I knew I had to do something, because either I was going to manage my PTSD or it was going to manage me."

TSD statistics for service members are often sobering and staggering. According to the VA, about 12 percent of U.S. troops who served in Desert Storm have been diagnosed with PTSD (compared to 20 percent of soldiers from the most recent theaters in Iraq and Afghanistan, and 30 percent from Vietnam).

What's more, NBC reported in 2016 that U.S. military suicides hit a record high in 2012 when more than 349 military men and women took their own lives (a higher number than those lost in battle that same year). That number dropped to 265 last year, and while overall awareness of the disorder has risen throughout the

past decade, many who specialize in the treatment of PTSD and general trauma say there is a long road ahead.

"This is one of those topics in mental health that hadn't been very well understood for a long time, and there's still a lot to learn," says Tom McCarthy, assistant director of counseling and psychological services at Monmouth. "And the more we try to understand PTSD, the more we understand how pervasive and detrimental it is to a person's life. It doesn't just go away after combat. It stays with the person and affects every single level of their life."

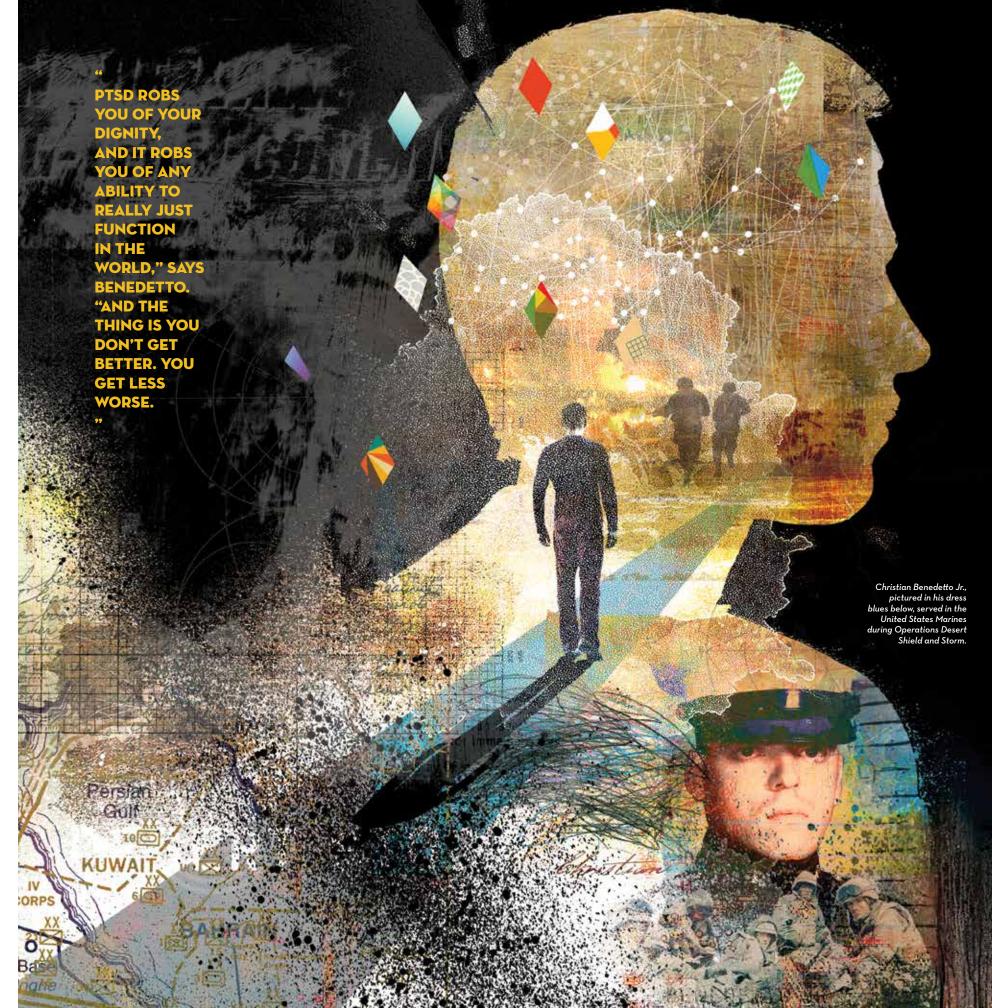
This is the message Benedetto has been trying to broadcast ever since that fateful morning in 2013. In addition to maintaining his sobriety, Benedetto has been getting regular treatment from the VA, which includes a combination of medication and counseling. And while he still encounters triggers—unannounced, spontaneous circumstances that can ignite debilitating panic attacks—he now knows how to recognize and manage them through breathing and mindfulness.

"PTSD robs you of your dignity, and it robs you of any ability to really just function in the world," says Benedetto. "And the thing is, you don't get better. You get less worse."

Help and healing, he says, are made that much more difficult by the persistent, lingering stigma PTSD still has within the military community and beyond, which Benedetto likens to "where samesex marriage was seven to 10 years ago."

"People still think admitting you have PTSD means you're not strong enough, but in fact you get PTSD from being too strong for too long," says Benedetto. "I literally had someone come up to me once and tell me that his grandfather fought in World War II and that he was just fine, so what kind of wuss was I to say I had PTSD? That's what we're still dealing with."

To that end, Benedetto founded *PTSD Journal* in the summer of 2015, which bears the tagline "Not all wounds are visible." The idea came about when he first started seeking treatment and discovered there weren't any periodicals dedi-



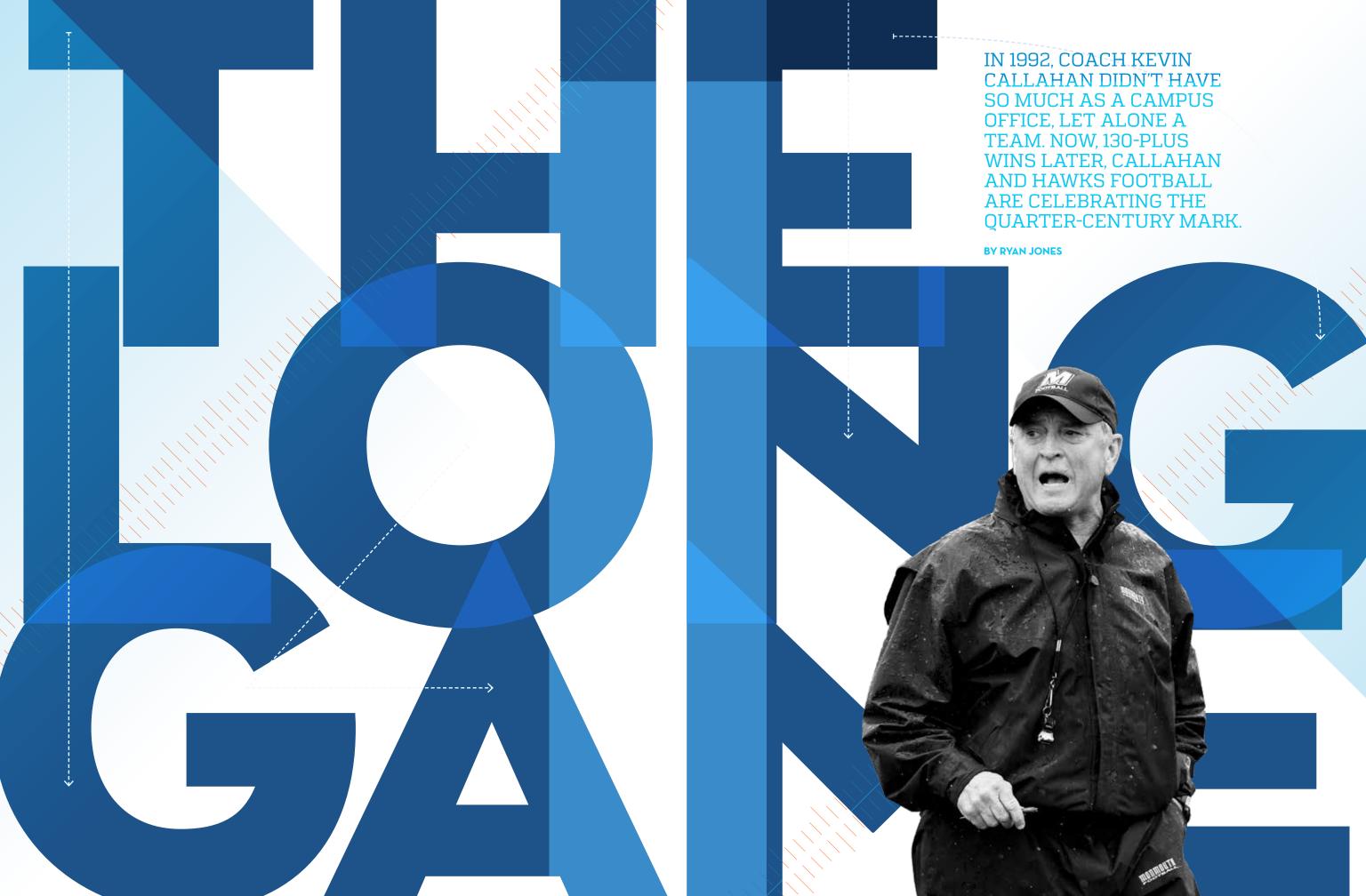
cated to this pervasive and critical topic. Since then he and his publishing partner have released five issues, each dedicated to improving the quality of life for PTSD sufferers and their families. Functioning as a veritable advocate for the PTSD community, the biannual journal comprises a mixture of research articles, personal essays, and myriad service pieces highlighting the causes of PTSD and the tools needed for recovery and healing.

And the journal is not limited to combat-related PTSD. According to Benedetto, PTSD can arise from a wide variety of traumas, including sexual assault, domestic abuse, car accidents-even unexpectedly witnessing a distressing event. Statistics related to non-combat PTSD are hard to come by, but according to the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Alliance, about 70 percent of U.S. adults have experienced a traumatic event at least once in their lives, and up to 20 percent of those go on to develop PTSD. What's more, an estimated 5 percent of Americans have PTSD at any given time, and about 8 percent of all adults-1 in 13 people—will develop some level of PTSD.

"We're trying to help people, to raise awareness, and to engage in meaning-ful interactions with our readers," says Benedetto, adding that the magazine's Facebook page receives a steady stream of traffic and user comments. "We're touching people's lives on a daily basis." Outside of the magazine, Benedet-

to is tireless in his personal outreach, publicy offering his cell phone number to anyone who feels like they need to reach out for help. It's all part of his new appropriation of the PTSD acronym: Please Tell Someone Directly.

"If you have PTSD or feel like something is wrong, don't waste any time. Tell someone how you're feeling," says Benedetto. "And if you think someone you know is acting a little odd or depressed or angry or drinking too much, talk to them about it. I'm sharing my story not so I can come across as a professional victim with a sob story. I'm doing it because I want people to get the help they need—the same help that I needed for so long."



Of course he had doubts. Not many, mind you: Kevin Callahan wouldn't have taken the job if he hadn't thought he could make it work. But starting a program from scratch, all the scraping and building and struggling that implied, with no guarantee it would pay off? Yes, there were doubts, moments when he wondered what exactly he'd gotten himself into, whether he'd made a mistake. It's perhaps fitting that those moments that stick in his mind now have nothing to do with anything that happened on the field.

"My first year here was the first time that I wasn't actually coaching a team in probably 15 years," says Callahan, "I didn't even have an office at that point. I was kind of wondering, Is this really going to happen here? Did I do the right thing?"

That was 1992, a quarter century ago, when the football program at Monmouth College-university designation was still three years away—was more of an idea than a tangible thing, a concept that he and a handful of others were willing into reality. It's a process few coaches ever get to experience, one that no amount of game planning, practice reps, or film study can ultimately prepare them for. The challenge appealed to Callahan, of course, as did the



chance to relocate from upstate New York, where he was the top assistant at Colgate, to the sun and warmth of the Jersey Shore. (It didn't hurt that his wife, Ann Marie, is a Monmouth County native.) A year later, he was on the sidelines, coaching once again. He had his players, and he had a program, bare bones as it all was at the time. He was in his element, doing the work he knew. long gone.

Presumably it took a bit longer for the rest of the college football world to realize that this experiment on the Jersey Shore would succeed. Twenty-five years and more than 130 wins later, there's no denying the project has been a success. Those who know Callahan best will tell you that the first—and still, only—head coach in Monmouth football history simply wouldn't allow it to fail.

"Coach Callahan is never satisfied, never happy with being average," says former All-American linebacker Joe Sentipal '03. "He always wants more out of his players and more out of the program. He's always on the forefront of doing what's best for his team."

Adds Don Burnaford '72, a longtime Callahan friend: "With Kevin, it's about structure, integrity, and-most of allcharacter."

This fall, Callahan led the Hawks into their 25th season, a testament both to his consistency and to his ability to adapt to change. It's an almost unrivaled tenure on the college football landscape, and one he couldn't have managed without repeated evolutionary leaps. "We've grown so much in his time here, moving from a little non-scholarship program

to where we are now, so there have always been new challenges," says Monmouth Athletic Director Marilyn Mc-Neil. "I think in many ways this has really been more like four or five different jobs for him."

One of the longest-tenured athletic directors in the nation, McNeil has led the Hawks athletic department since 1994, a full two years after Callahan arrived By then, for Callahan, the doubts were to start building the football program. By that time, the first of Callahan's jobs—the daunting task of implementing a plan, of simply figuring out where to start-was complete. "When I first started," Callahan remembers, "we did not have any facilities, we did not have any equipment, we did not have any players. We also didn't have time to worry about the problems. We just had to focus on solving them."

> Without games to coach that first year, he spent his Saturdays in the fall of 1992 traveling the region to watch other teams play. In part, he simply wanted to be involved in the game. But he was working, too, scouting potential opponents for the Hawks' first season the following year. "I knew we were going to be a team made up of 100 freshmen," he says, so he looked for teams he thought his young squad would be able to compete with physically. He also picked the brains of colleagues at a handful of other schools, places that had either recently established football, or had salvaged moribund programs. It was all steady and deliberate, a chance to learn from the success of others and, whenever possible, avoid their mistakes.

It paid off quickly: Without a scholarship player on the roster, the Hawks

PROGRAM NOTES

A TIMELINE OF HAWKS FOOTBALL

» 6/11/92

The Board of Trustees approves starting a football program at Monmouth, ending months of speculation.

» 8/13/92

Kevin Callahan is hired as head coach.

» 8/13/93

The Hawks welcome 105 recruits to campus for the program's first practice.

» 10/2/93

A last-minute field goal gives the program its first win, a 44-42 victory over St. Peter's College.

» 11/16/96

The Hawks clinch a share of the inaugural NEC championship, the first of five conference titles for the program to date.

» 1998

Callahan is named NEC Coach of the Year. (He'll win again in '03 and '06.)

went 2-5 in their inaugural season, but they were competitive in every game. The program's first victory came just three games in, a dramatic fourth-quarter comeback against St. Peter's in which the Hawks overcame a 17-point deficit to win on a late field goal. "That one was special," Callahan says. His only real regret from that first season was not scheduling more games; in retrospect, he says, "I probably underestimated what we could handle."

A year later, the team went 7-2, the first of 11 winning seasons to come. For Callahan, countless moments stand out: the 2003 team bouncing back from a dreary '02 season with 10 wins and a Northeast Conference championship; the last-second Hail Mary to beat Robert Morris in '04 en route to a second straight NEC title; shutting out Albany on the road in '06 to clinch another **CARES, BUT** conference crown; the 2011 road upset of Villanova. There are more such moments, of course, but you will be disappointed if you expect Callahan to dwell on any of them for long. "I prefer to think about where we're going," he says, "and what the next steps are going to

Those steps are a continuation of the progress the program has made since its inception, from those early seasons as an independent, through 17 years (and five conference titles) in the NEC, to the move to the Big South Conference in 2014. That success, the increase in scholarship numbers, the transformation of Kessler Field into a state-ofthe-art stadium, all are marks of the program's ambition—and all are inseparable from Callahan's refusal to ever be satisfied with "good enough." It was

Callahan's vision that drew guys like Sentipal, a North Jersey native who turned down scholarship offers from other programs to play for a Monmouth squad that couldn't offer him aid when he arrived.

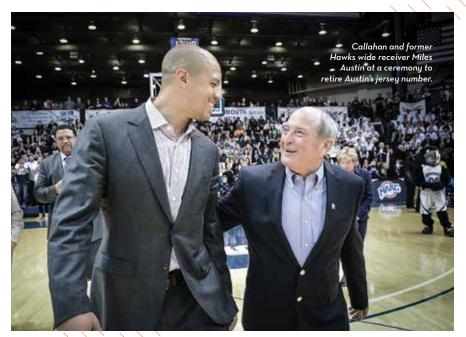
"My parents were not happy, to say the least," says Sentipal, with a laugh.

By the time he was done, wrapping up a stellar career as Monmouth's first All-American selection, Sentipal (and presumably his parents) had no doubt he'd made the right choice. "When I think of the program now, I think about all the friends I made, the learning experiences, the winning seasons we had, but ultimately it goes back to the guy who gave me the opportunity," he says. "Coach Callahan just has a dedication to winning, and to turning out good people."

Mike Basile felt a similar pull. Now a senior safety on pace to finish his career as Monmouth's all-time leading tackler, Basile came to West Long Branch in part because of the tangible signs of ambition-a new conference, a new stadium—that were part of Callahan's recruiting pitch. But there was something less tangible that clinched it, says Basile: "I thought he was the guy who could make me better."

Basile cites Callahan's instinctive knack for balancing discipline and encouragement with his players—"He knows when it's time to yell and when it's time to have fun"—as one of the keys to his success. Indeed, the idea of balance in all aspects of life might go a long way in explaining why Callahan has endured. He can focus on the futureon recruiting and facilities and all the rest-even as he maintains strong ties to past players like

Sentipal and so many others. He





puts in the hours required to prepare for ever-tougher challenges on the field, vet never seems to lose perspective.

"What's always fascinated me about Kevin-he's so calm," says Marilyn Mc-Neil. "It's easy to forget that this is a sport, that it's not the only thing going on in these young men's lives. He's passionate, and he cares, but he doesn't make it bigger than it is."

This is the man McNeil remembers being impressed by from her earliest days at Monmouth, a positive, approachable leader whose tenure has made him, in her words, "our dean of coaches." To this day, she says, Callahan's office door is always open, an unspoken invitation to other coaches in the department who might be looking for advice or a sounding board. "He loves to coach," says Mc-Neil, "and he loves to teach."

Where balance is concerned, perhaps that is Callahan's most impressive achievement: constantly evolving, vet never losing the qualities that allowed him to succeed in the first place.

Don Burnaford has known Callahan since he was an applicant for the head coaching job. As chair of the committee tasked with making a recommendation on the addition of the sport, Burnaford remembers being impressed by Callahan's resume even before they'd met. "In 26 years," Burnaford says, "there's never been a hiccup that has ever made me change my feelings about him."

With Kevin Callahan, it seems the only change is progress. And he has no plans to stop getting better anytime soon. "I think there's still so much potential in this program, so many places we can still go," he says. "I want to keep pushing us forward. There's more to come." M

ONLINE EXTRA

Go to monmouthhawks.com for a video chronicling the program's rise.

11/15/03

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YOUNG MEN'S

A 28-21 win over St. Francis earns the team an invite to the ECAC Classic, the program's first trip to the postseason.

» 11/22/04

Monmouth wins its first-ever I-AA midmajor national championship following a 10-1 campaign.

» 10/31/09

The program earns its 100th win, a 10-6 victory over Bryant University at Kessler Field.

photo MONMOUTH ATHLETICS

» 9/17/11

The Hawks upset 2012 NCAA semifinalist Villanova, 20-9, for one of the marquee wins in program history.

» 2/14/13

Monmouth football announces it will join the Big South Conference in 2014.

» 10/17/15

The Hawks beat No. 22 Liberty, 20-17, for the program's first win over an FCS-ranked opponent.

» 9/2/17

Monmouth opens the new Kessler Stadium with a win, beating Lafayette, 31-12.

CHANGEMAKER » Alumni making waves

TURNING TRAGEDY INTO CHANGE

HERO CAMPAIGN CHAIRMAN AND CEO BILL ELLIOTT IS WORKING TO END DRUNK DRIVING TRAGEDIES.

BY MELISSA KVIDAHL

arly in the morning of July 22, 2000, Ensign John Elliott, a recent graduate of the United States Naval Academy, was driving from Annapolis, Maryland, to his family's home in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, to celebrate his mother's birthday. He never made it.

Instead, his parents, Bill '95M and Muriel Elliott, were awakened by a knock on the door from police, who informed them their son had been killed in a head-on collision with a drunken driver. That other driver had been arrested earlier in the evening on DUI charges, then released to a friend, who allowed him to get behind the wheel again.

"My thought was if that friend had only driven his buddy home instead of putting him back behind the wheel, our son would be alive," says Bill. "A designated driver would have been a hero to us."

Looking to honor his son and make a difference, Bill formed the John R. Elliott HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers. The name's meaning is twofold, reflecting both the heroic potential of designated drivers and John's service as a peer advocate and counselor in the Naval Academy's Human Education Resource Officer (HERO) program, where he was honored as his graduating class's Outstanding HERO.

The goal of the HERO Campaign is simple but ambitious: register 1 million designated drivers and make having a designated driver as automatic as wearing a seatbelt. Thanks to Bill Elliott's tireless work, numerous stakeholders and partners have joined the effort, putting the campaign well on its way to meeting that goal.

One of Bill's tactics has been to enlist bars and taverns to serve free soft drinks to designated drivers. This past summer, the campaign challenged 32 such establishments along the Jersey Shore to come up with nonalcoholic "mocktails." Patrons voted

OPPOSITE: Bill Elliott,

pictured holding a photo

of his son, John, received the 2017 Distinguished

Alumni Award from Mon-

mouth University's Alumni

JOHN'S LAW

The HFRO Campaign championed what's now known as John's Law, a piece of New Jersey legislation passed in 2001 that gives police the authority to impound the cars of drunken drivers and hold them for 12 hours.

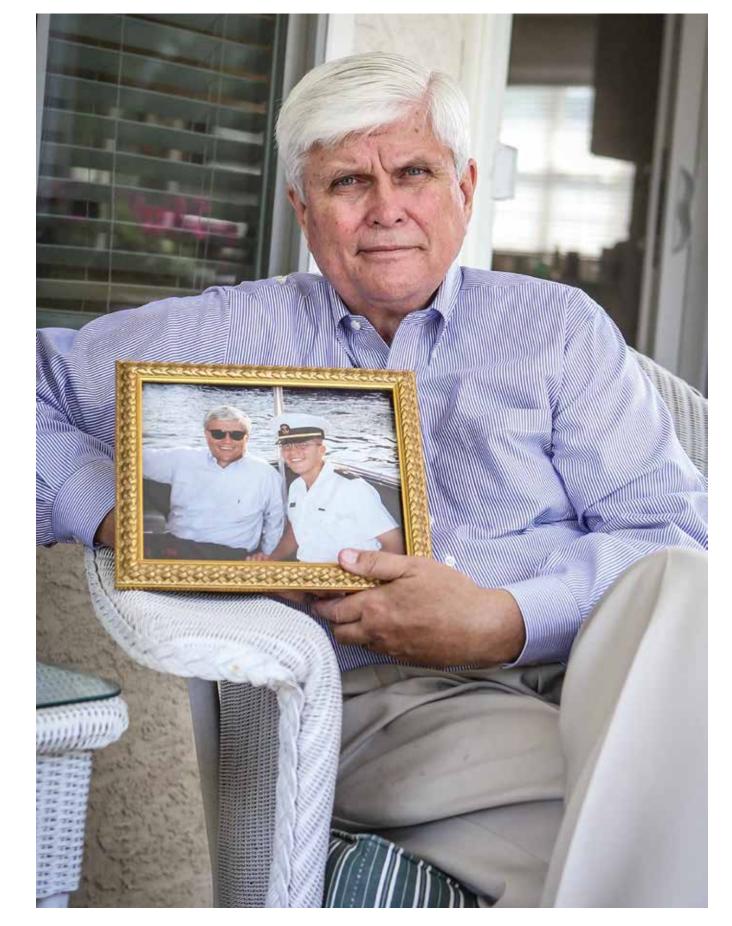
> on their favorite, from the Berry Sobertini to the No-hito. "The idea is that designated drivers don't have to be the odd man out, and they can still have fun and enjoy a great drink," says Bill. "They're not party poopers. We like to say they're actually

> The campaign also partners with police, accompanying them at DUI checkpoints and handing out T-shirts to thank designated drivers. A partnership with Uber provides discounts to those who sign the HERO pledge to be a designated driver. Additional partnerships with sports teams provide free soft drinks to designated drivers.

> "This is all designed to prevent families in the future from getting that knock on the door that we received, because you never get over it." savs Bill. "You never leave the memory of your child behind. It's impossible. But we think we have certainly made every effort to honor him in a way that is appropriate and reflects who he

the life of the party."

was as a person."



ALUMNI ROUNDUP

LISTED BY GRADUATION YEAR

1960s

» Dr. Robert G. Kahrmann '63

(Ed.) is a retired university dean who is now the president of Woods Landing Homeowners Association in Mays Landing, New Jersey. Kahrmann, who earned his master's degree at Seton Hall University, followed by his doctorate at New York University, taught at New Jersey City University before joining Seton Hall as the dean of University College. He also served as the dean of academic affairs at the Pennsylvania Institute of Technology and as the enrollment dean at Hudson County Community College. Kahrmann, who has since retired, now substitute teaches in the Greater Egg Harbor Regional high schools and serves on the Hamilton Township Zoning Board of Adjustment. He lives in an adult community with his wife, Linda.

Adm.), who is the author of five published books with two major publishers, has completed three more book manuscripts that cover the topics of volunteer leadership, canine behavior, and the teaching of a cappella singing-subjects that he has covered extensively in his widely published feature articles. Rafe is also the head of two consulting firms—Starfire and Rapport Communications—both in the field

» Stephen C. Rafe '63 (Bus.

» Lois La Pointe Kiely '65 (Engl.) (M.S. Ed. '80) (D.H.L. '88) published "My Father's Voice," an essay in

of behavior-based communication.

Chicken Soup for the Soul for Military Families (May 2017). The story tells about the organization that was formed in honor of her father, who died in WWII. Its goal was to raise funds to send the fallen soldier's daughter, Lois, to college. When Lois graduated from high school, she chose Monmouth College because of its strong journalism and English literature programs. She earned two degrees before being awarded an honorary doctorate in 1988 when she became the New Jersey Teacher of the Year. Lois returned to Monmouth as an adjunct professor in the education department while she was working as a school administrator and staff developer. Recently, Lois won two writing awards from the Phoenix Writers' Club. She is an artist and has not only shown, but has won awards in, many local art shows. Lois lives in Ocean Township and winters in Phoenix, Arizona,

- » Joyce Hospodar '66 (A.A.) is senior advisor of rural programs at the Center for Rural Health at the University of Arizona's Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. She is a member of the newly formed National Emergency Medical Services Council being led by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy.
- » Patrick C. Ciniello '67 (Bus. Adm.) and his wife, Lisa, are the 2017 recipients of the John Davis Award. The award is named in honor of John Davis, a lifelong bowler and founder of The Kegel

Company, whose innovations, inventions, and vast contributions to the sport are recognized and celebrated. The Ciniellos, who have both bowled since a young age, received the prestigious honor for everything they have done to advance the sport. Together, the Ciniellos own seven bowling centers and have hosted several PBA50 Tour events. Patrick, who is the past president and chairman of the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame and president and chairman of QubicaAMF Worldwide, has received a slew of accolades, including the Victor Lerner Medal for a lifetime of service to the game.

1970s

- » George Severini's '70 (Engl.) book, Lost Amusement Parks of the North Jersey Shore, was published in March 2017. Co-written with Rick Geffken, it documents how the Jersey Shore became the most famous vacation and recreational destination in the coastal United States.
- » Professor of theatre at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, James Fisher '73 (Speech/Comm./Thtr.) was presented with the UNC Board of Governors Mary Settle Sharp Award for Teaching Excellence during graduation week at UNCG in May 2017. A theatre director, Fisher has not only authored 14 books, but he has also written many essays and book chapters and has worked as an editor on several books. His most recent book, The Historical Dictionary of American Theater: Modernism, to be published by Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, will appear in print later this year.
- » Irene Gilman '73 (Engl.) received the Monmouth University-Roberts Charitable Foundation Outstanding Teaching Award at the annual awards dinner hosted by Monmouth's School of Education on May 4, 2017. Gilman, who taught at Ocean Township High School

in Oakhurst, New Jersey, until her retirement in 2016, credits a number of her professors at Monmouth with cementing her desire to become an educator.

- » Angel Kames '75 (Bus. Adm.) was recently featured in the Asbury Park Press' Small Business Spotlight Q&A column highlighting his eatery, the Cuban Café. Kames co-owns the café, which serves authentic Cuban cuisine, with Dunechky Hernandez and Roberto Perez.
- » Raymond G. Klose '77 (Bus. Adm.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the Leon Hess School of Business. Klose is currently the president and CEO of Klose Associates, a full-service design and build production firm, which provides creative solutions for trade show, museum, and showroom displays. Klose, who is also a managing partner at Meditirinia Properties in West Long Branch. New Jersev, serves on the Monmouth University Advancement Committee and the Business Council Steering Committee, and is chair of the Business Council's Mentoring Committee.
- » Bill Schroeder '78 (Bio.) joined Larry Kaplan (Bio.) and Phil Crincoli '79 (Bio.) at the Jersey Shore for a reunion on July 4 weekend—a fun opportunity to talk about the biology department and model the new alumni shirts.

1980s

» David M. Wilson '80 (Engl.) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Wilson is currently the stocks editor for Bloomberg Radio, where he writes a chart-based story each weekday for Bloomberg News and contributes to the Markets Live blog on the Bloomberg terminal. He joined Bloomberg News in 1990, becoming the second U.S. stock-market reporter ever hired, and eventually ran

the Princeton and New York bureaus. Wilson got his start as an editorial assistant and pop-music writer for Asbury Park Press before moving on to work as a reporter at the now-defunct newspaper in Millville, New Jersey, and ultimately making his way to Dow Jones, where he worked as a news assistant and stock reporter before heading to Bloomberg. Wilson is a member of Monmouth's Communication Council and is a board member of the Friends of the Bruce Springsteen Special Collection, housed at the university.

» Karen Schwanzer '82 (Ed./
Art) was named teacher of the
year at Northfield Community
School in Northfield, New Jersey.
Schwanzer, who has spent her
35-year career in teaching in the
Northfield School District, shares
the spotlight with fellow teacher
Mary Sudra, who teaches art at
the elementary school level in
the district. Schwanzer and her
husband live in Galloway with their
two college-aged children.

» Michael "Greeny" Greenblatt

'83 (Psych.), former captain of the Monmouth University men's tennis team, wed Sarah Anne Sherman in a rare and unique wedding on the campus of Monmouth University on June 3, 2017. The couple held their ceremony outdoors in the Erlanger Gardens, where their guests also enjoyed cocktail hour to the sounds of the garden fountains. The reception was held in Anacon Hall and was attended by nearly 300 guests, including over 50 alumni from Monmouth University. Greenblatt is a celebrity fitness trainer, actor, model, and proud owner of the "World's Most Famous Rescue Cat," Roadrunner. The bride, who holds degrees in exercise physiology from Rutgers University and Adelphi University, is a marketing coordinator for The Mindful Eating Company and also does personal training. She is a certified group fitness instructor and currently teaches Zumba fitness and R.E.D. Warrior classes. The couple resides in North Brunswick, New Jersey.

NOT TO MISS » Dec. 7

A MUSICAL WINTER WONDER-LAND



A cavalcade of holiday favorites featuring the Monmouth University Chamber Orchestra, the Jazz Hawks, the Concert Choir, the Chamber Choir, soloists, and a special appearance by the Colts Neck Reformed Church Exultation Ringers, all in the magisterial setting of Wilson Hall.

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Fall 2017 MONMOUTH 45

THE RECOMMENDER » Tips & good advice

5 STEPS TO LANDING YOUR DREAM TECH JOB

BUZZFEED'S JESSICA ANASTASIO SHARES HER RECIPE FOR SUCCESS.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

"IT'S REALLY THE COOLEST THING ever," Jessica Anastasio '16 says of working as a full-stack software engineer at BuzzFeed, a leading independent digital media company that delivers news and entertainment to hundreds of millions of people around the world. The 23-year-old, who was hired right out of Monmouth, was lead engineer on the Tasty.co website, which corresponds with the recently launched iOS app "Tasty," which Anastasio also worked on. Based on BuzzFeed's popular online cooking brand, it includes more than 1,700 instructional cooking videos and syncs with the Tasty One Top, a new smart cooking appliance. Here, in true BuzzFeed fashion, she shares tips on how anyone can land their dream job.

1. Follow your heart.



Michael Coahla

Though fascinated by computers and coding, Anastasio considered majoring in graphic design "because the culture that surrounds engineering is intimidating, I felt like I'd fit in as a woman designer versus as an engineer," she says, citing the oft-reported bias against women in the tech industry. Ultimately, she followed her passion and entered Monmouth as a computer science major.

2. Embrace challenges.



Barcex

Being the only woman in a handful of her core classes was daunting at times, but it taught her the importance of challenging herself. "It's just fighting through... and not letting [anything] stop you" that's important, she says.

3. Network, network.



Pui Shan Chan

"I adored my experience at Monmouth, but you will 100 percent not get an awesome, high-paying job if you don't... do stuff outside of the classroom," says Anastasio. Joining ACM/IEEE, Monmouth's computer science club, connected her to the larger engineering and computing communities. So too did attending the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing, the world's largest conference of women working in tech, as a student. (She's headed back this year as a rep for BuzzFeed.)

4. Get an internship. Better yet, get several.



Eviatar Back

Attending a career fair early on at Monmouth helped Anastasio connect with several companies, which in turn helped her build the experience she needed to get where she is today.

5. Be your own advocate.



Ralpharam

Anastasio was already eyeing her next step when she was hired as a junior software engineer in May 2016. She took the challenging assignments, and didn't hesitate to ask her boss what she needed to do to advance. "It's all about reaching out and trying to put yourself out there," she says. In less than a year she was promoted to software engineer. "I can see myself continuing up the ladder, but I'm happy with where I am for my age and I feel like I'm on a good path for sure."

» Allen R. Mitchell '84 (Bus. Adm.) joined RISK Technologies, a cyber network consensus SaaS company, as vice president of channels and client executives, where he will be responsible for identifying partner channels for cooperation and growth while championing the position of customer needs in program management. Mitchell has over 30 years of experience in the information technology industry with IBM, where he served as a client executive along with other client-facing positions within the sales and distribution division.

» Thomas Holt '87 (M.B.A.) joined Sterling National Bank's commercial banking team as senior vice president and managing director. Holt, who was previously senior vice president and public sector market leader for Bank of America, is now based at Sterling's Paramus, New Jersey, office.

1990s

» Jose "Chuck" Martin '93

(Comm.) was hired as the assistant coach of the men's basketball team at the University of South Carolina. Martin, a native of The Bronx, New York, has spent nearly 20 years coaching across the college and NBA ranks, including five years as head coach at Marist. He assisted at Manhattan College, the University of Massachusetts, Drexel University, St. John's University, and the University of Memphis.

- » Andrea Romano '94 (Sp. Ed.) was named the Sussex County Superintendent of the Year for the 2016-17 school year. This honor was bestowed on her by her colleagues in her fourth year of her superintendency at the Sussex County Educational Services Commission. Romano just recently signed a five-year contract with SCESC.
- » Ramona Johnson '96 (Comm.) (M.A.T. '02) was inducted into the Red Bank Regional High School Hall of Fame on April 28, 2017. Johnson, who graduated from Red Bank Regional in 1991, is currently

the lead reading comprehension instructor at Hawkins Street School, which is part of the Newark Public Schools district.

- » Brian Vieth '96 (Ed.) (M.A.T. '98) was awarded the 2017 Dedication to Education Award by Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society in education, during a ceremony at Monmouth University on April 2, 2017. Veith, who has taught social studies at Roosevelt Intermediate School for 20 years, also serves as an adjunct professor at Monmouth's School of Education.
- » Candice Bidner '98 (Comm./ Ed.) and husband, Jerry Ouellette, welcomed their second child, Hayden Karielle, on February 17, 2017. The couple also have a fouryear-old daughter, London Brielle.
- » Brad Hennessy '98 (Comm.) won a Daytime Emmy for his contributions as a stage manager for the Emmy Award-winning morning program "Good Morning America." Hennessy has stage managed the show for three years.
- » Mike Luna '98 (Comm.) completed a doctoral degree in educational leadership from California State University, Long Beach on May 23, 2017. This accomplishment stems from Monmouth University, which jump-started Luna's career in student affairs administration, following what he describes as "the best undergraduate campus life experience!"
- » Dan Sabella '98 (Bus. Adm.) was ranked No. 24 on NJ.com's second annual ranking of the most influential people in New Jersey high school sports. Sabella was recognized for leading the Paramus Catholic Paladins to a 10-2 season that culminated with a Non-Public Group 4 title.
- » **David Stout '98** (M.A. Psych. Coun.) was appointed as Brookdale Community College's interim president beginning on July 1, 2017. Stout, who was previously vice president of the college, assumes the duties of outgoing president

Maureen Murphy while officials conduct a national search for a permanent president. Throughout his 20-year career at Brookdale. Stout worked as a student counselor, a full-time faculty member, department chair of the psychology and human services department, and dean of the college's Freehold campus before assuming his role as vice president for student success. In addition to serving as a member of Brookdale's senior executive leadership team and the president's cabinet. Stout has served as an adjunct faculty member at Monmouth, Rutgers, Kean, and Thomas Edison State universities.

» Monmouth County Sheriff Shaun Golden '99 (Poli, Sci.) hosted the second annual Student Ambassadors for Heroin Use Prevention forum on April 25, 2017. Students from a handful of education institutions in Monmouth County, including students from Monmouth University, joined law enforcement officials, educators, and members of nonprofit drug abuse agencies not only to brainstorm ways to steer their peers away from heroin use but also to come up with new strategies and solutions to inhibit the growing opioid epidemic. 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 Sheriff's Association of New Jersey (SANJ), 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.

2000s

» Lisa Marino '00 (M.S. Ed.) was appointed as principal of Indian Hill School, a three-year elementary school located in Holmdel, New Jersey. Marino, who started her career in education as an elementary teacher, was previously an assistant principal for the

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Manalapan Public School District before serving as an assistant principal of the William R. Satz School in Holmdel. Before taking on her current role, she served as assistant principal of Holmdel High School.

- » Michael McLaughlin '01 (Bus. Adm.) married Kierstin Gillis on March 31, 2017, at The Breakers on the Ocean in Spring Lake, New Jersey. Alumni in attendance included Eddie Zurawski '01 (Comm.), Teddy Bomba '01 (Bus. Adm.), and Jason Biehl '02 (Comm.). McLaughlin is an independent energy derivatives trader at the New York Mercantile Exchange, and Gillis works for the National Basketball Association in Manhattan.
- » Adam Worth '02 (Comm.) was nominated for a New York Emmy in the cinematography category for his short film highlighting the Lakewood Renaissance Fair. This is the third nomination for Worth. who works professionally as a filmmaker and video DJ.
- » Andrew Bertrand '03 (Bus. Adm.) is corporate account manager for Mosa, a Dutch tile manufac-

turer. Previously an architectural sales consultant for the company, Bertrand will now be partnering directly with national retail, hospitality, and food service brands along with Mosa's distribution network, focusing on serving multiunit projects with a national scope. Prior to working at Mosa, Bertrand spent more than a decade in multiple design-sales oriented positions in the homebuilding and building materials industry.

» Danielle Brunelli-Albrecht '03 (Bus. Adm.), president of R.J. Brunelli & Co., based in Old Bridge, was recognized as one of Chain Store Age magazine's "Real Estate 10 under 40" for 2017. Brunelli-Albrecht, who began her career at the age of 16, started out as a part-time marketing assistant. She earned her real estate license while attending Monmouth University, where she was also captain of the Division I women's tennis team, and began making her first deals for Sally Beauty Supply. She went on to broker assignments for Massage Envy and European Wax Center and has represented major chains such as Toys "R" Us, Zales, and Tuesday Morning. Brunelli-Albrecht was named a principal of

NOT TO MISS » Dec. 8 **THE LORDS OF 52ND** STREET-**LEGENDS OF THE BILLY JOEL BAND**



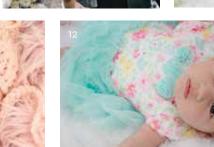
The Piano Man's original band takes the Pollak Theatre stage for a special concert, proceeds from which will benefit Monmouth's SRF Suicide Prevention Research and Training Project. Opening for them is singersongwriter Matt McAndrew from The Voice.

- R.J. Brunelli & Co. in 2010 before becoming president of the company in 2015.
- » Heather Markson '03 (Bus. Adm.) was elected as corresponding secretary to the board of trustees of the Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County. Additionally, she serves as chair of the art exhibit subcommittee, as well as serving on both the membership and nominating committees.
- » Nicole Virgilio '04 (Anthr.) married Sean Smith on April 14, 2017, at Elberon Church in Elberon, New Jersey. Monmouth alumni were in attendance, as well as many of the bride's sisters of Alpha Sigma Tau. The couple honeymooned in the Riviera Maya, Mexico.
- » Lauren Harms-Kreig '05 (Art) was appointed to the Dean's Advisory Council for the Leon Hess School of Business. Harms-Kreig currently serves as the assistant vice president of public relations for George Harms Construction Co. Inc., a family-owned and operated business in Farmingdale, New Jersey. She has worked for the company since she was 16 years old and today oversees the company's external communications, including community involvement and interaction in the firm's overall public presence. Harms-Kreig, who also manages the George and Ruth Harms Foundation, has also served on the Hackensack-Meridian Women's Heart Fund Board since 2015.
- » Joseph Lizza '05 (Hist./Poli. Sci./Ed.) received his doctoral degree in education from Rowan University on May 10, 2017. Lizza, whose degree focuses on educational leadership, wrote a dissertation titled "A Qualitative Case Study of the Congruence between Fraternal Organizations' and Members' Values, Principles, and Standards.".
- » A play written by Jennifer Pergola '05 (Engl.) titled Change or Death























CELEBRATIONS **ENGAGEMENTS: 1.** Jaclyn Schultz '13 (Crim. J.) and Michael Gloria '11 (Crim. J.). 2. Christine Parker '10 (Comm.) and Ryan Richardson '09 (Bus. Adm.). 3. Christine D'Ottaviano '11 (Crim. J.) (M.A. Crim. J. '12) and Allen Franchi. 4. Genevieve Fasano '14 (Bio.) and Anthony Imparo. WEDDINGS: 5. Michael Greenblatt '83 (Psych.) and Sarah Anne Sherman, June 3, 2017. 6. Michael McLaughlin '01 (Bus. Adm.) and Kierstin Gillis, March 31, 2017. 7. Nicole Virgilio '04 (Anthr.) and Sean Smith. 8. Diana (Vasquez) Jarvis '10 (For. Lang.) and Rashaun Jarvis '07 (Comm.), February 11, 2017. 9. Courtney (Verblaauw) Shippee '13 (Bus. Adm.) and Jonathan Shippee '12 (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '14), May 19, 2017. 10. Kimberly (Talbot) Dolan '15 (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun.) and David Dolan '15 (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun.), June 17, 2017. BIRTHS: 11. Candice Bidner '98 (Comm./Ed.) and Jerry Ouellette, daughter Hayden Karielle, February 17, 2017. 12. Heather (Berger) Donato '11 (Engl./Ed.) and Robert Donato '10 (Bus. Adm.), daughter Izabella Rose, February 13, 2017. 13. Jessica (Santos) Chomko '11 (Comm.) and Thomas Chomko '06 (Bus. Adm.), daughter Stella Marie Chomko, March 28, 2017.

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will be performed by The Grange Playhouse in Howell, New Jersey, on October 27, 28, 29 and November 3, 4, 5,

- » James T. Pierson '05 (Crim. J.) (M.A.T. '07) was inducted into the Red Bank Regional High School Hall of Fame on April 28, 2017. Pierson, who graduated from Red Bank Regional in 2001, is currently vice principal at Red Bank Middle School.
- » Chrissy L. Skudera '05 (Comm.) was promoted to director of curriculum development at Independent Electrical Contractors, a national trade association for merit shop, electrical, and systems contractors. IEC includes more than 3,000 member companies within 50 chapters across the United States.
- » Thomas Chomko '06 (Bus. Adm.). See note for Jessica (Santos) Chomko '11.
- » Psychotherapist, motivational speaker, coach, and author Bailey Frumen '06 (Soc. Work) (M.S.W. '07) LCSW helps ambitious women escape stress and overwhelm to find life balance through her unique, self-made coaching programs. She recently published her first book. Own Your Power: Your Guide to Feeling Powerful, Fearless, and Free.
- » Rashaun Jarvis '07 (Comm.). See note for Diana (Vasquez) Jarvis '10.
- » Michael Maiden '07 (M.A.C.P.C.) (M.A. Hist. '14) was glad to be wearing a Monmouth T-shirt when he had a chance encounter with President Emeritus Samuel H. Magill while in the lighting section of Lowes in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, this past July. Maiden says Dr. Magill was gracious at having his quiet Saturday morning errand interrupted by a stranger with a love of Monmouth history and a fearless approach to asking strangers to take his picture.
- » Ryan Struck '07 (Hist.) displayed a collection of his surf images taken

















CELEBRATIONS CLOSE ENCOUNTERS: 1. Michael

Maiden '07 (M.A.C.P.C.) (M.A. Hist. '14) and President Emeritus Samuel H. Magill, chance meeting at Lowes in Chapel Hill, N.C., in July. 2. Three Chi Sigma Delta sisters-Mariam Noel Bediguian '66 (Psych.), Racielle Kardane Lande '65 (Elem. Ed.) and Carol Barbanel Bryan '66 (Psych.) -reunited recently after 50 years. 3. Bill Schroeder '78 (Bio.), Larry Kaplan (Bio.), and Phil Crincoli '79 (Bio.), July 4 weekend reunion on the Jersey Shore. MILESTONES: 4. UNC-Greensboro theater professor James Fisher '73 (Speech/ Comm./Thtr.) was presented with the UNC Board of Governors Mary Settle Sharp Award for Teaching Excellence, May 2017. 5. Angel Kames, left, '75 (Bus. Adm.), recently featured in the Asbury Park Press' Small Business Spotlight for his eatery, the Cuban Café. 6. Brad Hennessy '98 (Comm.), Daytime Emmy for contributions as a stage manager of "Good Morning America." 7. Mike Luna '98 (Comm.), received a doctoral degree in educational leadership, California State University, Long Beach, May 2017. 8. Joseph Lizza '05 (Hist./Poli. Sci./Ed.), doctoral degree in education, Rowan University, May 2017.

from the coastlines of New York and New Jersey at Patagonia Bowery's surf gallery on April 26. A New York-based photographer, Struck's client list includes Rolling Stone. Outside Magazine, The Weather Channel, Verizon and Condé Nast,

- » Joseph Palmer '08 (Comm.) is engaged to marry Aimee Brown. The couple plans to wed on November 3, 2018.
- » **Lin Tang '08** (M.B.A.) has been appointed non-executive director of the board of Empire Energy Group Limited. Tang has over 12 years of experience in the finance and energy sectors and is currently a financial manager for China CITIC Bank International in New York. Previously, she spent seven years in the energy finance strategic business unit at China Minsheng Banking Corporation in Beijing, China, and was the financial manager for Global Oil Corporation Limited. Tang was appointed to the board as a representative of Global Energy and Resource Development Limited.
- » Danielle Butera '09 (Comm.) has joined Mint Advertising as account supervisor and digital marketing specialist, where she will be responsible for aiding in client account management and in identifying digital opportunities for clients. Previously, Butera was account director at Single Throw Marketing in Wall, New Jersey.
- » Andrew Katz '09 (Bus. Adm.). See note at Margaret DeVico '10,
- » Ryan Richardson '09 (Bus. Adm.). See note for Christine Parker '10.
- » Jackie (Trainer) Stezzi '09 (Poli. Sci./Hist.) was hired as Kutztown University's head women's lacrosse coach. Prior to the appointment, Stezzi spent eight years at Wilmington University where she was head coach from 2012 to 2017. She was named the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference Coach of the Year in 2012 after leading her

team to the conference semifinals. Stezzi, who was a four-year member of the Hawks lacrosse team, helped lead the squad to three regular season Northeast Conference titles as well as the first round of the NCAA National Tournament in 2007.

2010s

- » Margaret DeVico '10 (Poli. Sci.) (M.A. Pub. Pol. '12) and her husband, Andrew Katz '09 (Bus. Adm.), welcomed a daughter, Amelia Mae Katz, on November 22, 2016.
- » Robert Donato '10 (Bus. Adm.). See note for **Heather (Berger)** Donato '11.
- » Diana (Vasquez) Jarvis '10 (For. Lang.) wed Rashaun Jarvis '07 (Comm.) in Punta Cana on February 11, 2017. The couple, who met at Monmouth, had three of their Hawk family members in their wedding party, including Jamise Barret '08 (Bus. Adm.), Terik Tidwell '07 (Bus. Adm.), and Marcus Matthews '07 (Bus. Adm.).
- » John Kofka '10 (Bus. Adm.)

joined Beacon Hill Staffing Group as an account executive at the company's 52nd office location in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. Kofka brings six years of experience in the staffing and medical device fields to the group, which just launched its clinical research/life sciences specialty division, Beacon Hill Pharma. He will focus on the New Jersey-Pennsylvania-New York tri-state area markets.

- » Kevaney Martin '10 (Comm.) is a sports anchor/reporter for WFXR. Previously, she worked in the San Francisco Bay Area as a sports anchor/reporter for the prep sports show "Cal-Hi Sports Bay Area." She worked as a sideline reporter at CollegeInsider.com, was the host of MidMajorTV.com, and took on several roles, including anchor, color commentator, and sideline reporter during her time at KSFY-TV and Midco Sports Net, both in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. As a Hawk, Martin played all four years for the women's basketball team.
- » Christine Parker '10 (Comm.) and Rvan Richardson '09 (Bus. Adm.) became engaged on May 20, 2017. The couple, who do Continued, p. 54

NOT TO MISS » Dec. 10

THE TAMING OF THE **SHREW** (BROADCAST IN HD)



Acclaimed choreographer Jean-Christophe Maillot brings out the wit. fast-paced athleticism and vibrancy from the Bolshoi Ballet dancers in Shakespeare's rowdy comedy.

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TALKING WITH TERRY SPEAR '81M

SEXY WEREWOLVES, JAGUAR SHIFTERS, AND MEDIEVAL HIGHLANDERS ARE ALL IN A DAY'S WORK FOR THIS USA TODAY BEST-SELLING AUTHOR OF PARANORMAL BOOKS FOR TEENS AND ADULTS.

INTERVIEW BY KELLEY FREUND

How did you get interested in this genre?

I love anything paranormal. When I was 13, my mother took me to see *Dracula* at the local community college. I fell in love with him. He was the underdog, and I thought he deserved to be loved. I started writing vampire stories, but that was becoming popular, so I thought what else could I write? When I created the Heart of the Wolf series, I based it on some of the lore of werewolves. I researched wolf behavior and incorporated some of their characteristics into the stories to make the werewolves as realistic as possible. My stories are also very contemporary—the pack travels in SUVs.

You were a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserves. How does that help you as a writer?

I got to fire a tank. I did confidence courses, leadership courses, obstacle courses. It's experiences like that you can't get anywhere else. I have written

several stories where I've used some of the situations I was in.

What did you like about Monmouth?

To make lieutenant colonel in the military, you have to have a master's, so I went for my M.B.A. I loved Monmouth. I remember for some of my classes, I was sitting in [Wilson Hall]. I'm trying to concentrate on the lecture, but I'm thinking, this was somebody's home. I was thinking of time travel, and if I went back to the past, I'd be sitting in the middle of somebody's bed.

You've written more than 50 books. Can you pick a favorite?

When you're working on a book, that's your favorite. Your whole focus has to be on it. You have to love your characters [and] love your story or it really shows. One time, I tried to write a straight young adult novel—not paranormal—and it was an absolute struggle. I finished it, but it was awful and I never shared it with the world.

SPEAR SNIPPETS

Terry Spear is every bit as fascinating as the characters who inhabit her stories.

» Star Student:

Spear skipped two years of high school and entered college at age 16.

» Big Down Under:

She has a huge Australian fan base; it's her third largest after the U.S. and U.K.

» Award Winner:

Spear crafts award-winning teddy bears for various charities including Ronald McDonald House.

Q. What personal accomplishments are you most proud of?

I raised a son and daughter, and I'm proud they have done really well. My son is in the Air Force, and he's getting his master's in computer science. My daughter is a dietician for a school system. She just had her first child, and I get to take care of her two days a week. Being a grandparent is fantastic because after the day is through, the baby goes back home with her parents and I get to sleep.

Your latest novel, *Dreaming* of a White Wolf Christmas, hit bookstores in October. What can you tell us about it?

Readers had been asking for more of the white wolf pack, a group of private investigators who were turned into wolf shifters in *Legend of the White Wolf*. So, *Dreaming of a White Wolf Christmas* was born. Romance, suspense, and adventure are all part of the wolf shifters' world—this time at Christmas.



SEND US YOUR NEWS

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» 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 subjec 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 achieve ments, 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; howev er, 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@

not have a date set as of yet, met each other while living in Willow Hall during the bride's freshman year.

- » Christine Altland '11 (Anthr.) is the head coach for Mater Dei Prep's girls cross-country team. Prior to the appointment, Altland coached the girls track and field team for the prep school, and also served as head coach of the boys and girls cross-country and track and field teams at the now-closed Cardinal McCarrick High School in South Amboy, New Jersey. In 2016, she was named Middlesex County Girls Coach of the Year and was previously inducted into the Raritan High School Hall of Fame for her track and cross-country achievements with the Rockets.
- » Jessica (Santos) Chomko '11 (Comm.) and Thomas Chomko '06 (Bus. Adm.) welcomed daughter Stella Marie Chomko on March 28, 2017.
- » Christine D'Ottaviano '11 (Crim. J.) (M.A. Crim. J. '12) and Allen Franchi are engaged and planning a July 2018 destination wedding in Maui, Hawaii. D'Ottaviano is a crime analyst for the Evesham Township Police Department, and Franchi is a police officer for the Washington Township

Police Department.

- » Heather (Berger) Donato '11 (Engl./Ed.) and Robert Donato '10 (Bus. Adm.) welcomed a daughter, Izabella Rose, on February 13, 2017.
- » Michael Gloria '11 (Crim. J.).See note for Jaclyn Schultz '13.
- » After 10 years of teaching high school in Monmouth County, **Brianne Sardoni '11** (M.A. Engl.) joined higher education as a professor of English at Brookhaven College in Dallas, Texas.
- » After graduating from the Ocean County Class II Police Academy in May 2014 and working as a Class II special officer in Seaside Heights, Monmouth Beach, and Jamesburg,

Steven De Caesar '12 (Crim. J.) was sworn in as a member of the Colts Neck Police Department at a township committee meeting in March 2017.

» Michael Thomas Hughes

'12 (Poli. Sci.) wed Dr. Julianne Elizabeth Pereira at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Old Bridge, New Jersey, on June 17, 2017. Hughes is the council president in East Brunswick, New Jersey, and is the chief of staff for a New Jersey assemblyman and a state senator. Pereira is a pediatric resident at Cohen Children's Medical Center in New Hyde Park, New York.

» Rena Levine Levy '12

(M.A.C.P.C.) was recognized as an outstanding humanitarian at the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties' Humanitarian Gala on March 24. Levy—who coowns WindMill Restaurants with her brother and fellow outstanding humanitarian, Steven Levine—announced the creation of the "Eleanor Levine Unsung Hero Award" at the gala. The award, which was inspired by her mother, will recognize outstanding volunteers.

- » Jonathan Shippee '12 (Bus. Adm) (M.B.A. '14). See note for Courtney (Verblaauw) Shippee '13.
- » After receiving his J.D. and M.B.A. in Florida, **Victor M. Nazario III '13** (Hist./Poli. Sci.) passed the Florida Bar and is thus authorized to practice law in the state of Florida. He recently moved to Washington, D.C., to attain his LL.M in taxation from Georgetown University Law Center. He started a tax internship with Northrop Grumman Corporation in spring 2017.
- » Jaclyn Schultz '13 (Crim. J.) and Michael Gloria '11 (Crim. J.) were engaged on April 8, 2016, in the Ice House Gallery at Monmouth University in front of their family and friends. The wedding is set to be held on October 6, 2018, at the Park Chateau in East Brunswick, New Jersey. Schultz works as a workers' compensation claims team manager for Liberty Mutual Insurance, Gloria is co-owner of Digital Music Pool, an online music distribution service for professional DJs: owner of Allure Events entertain-

NOT TO MISS: » Jan. 16-March 23

MAUNDERINGS BY TONYA D. LEE



The artist and faculty member presents a collection of multidiscipline work that explores the abstraction of nature and environment. Rotary Ice House Gallery.

ment company; and a freelance photographer.

- » Courtney (Verblaauw) Shippee '13 (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '14) married Jonathan Shippee '12 (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '14) on May 19, 2017.
- » Jennifer van Alstyne '13 (Engl.), who is working on her second graduate degree as one of four master's fellows at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, will have her peer-reviewed article, "Long Branch, USA: Robert Pinsky's Extended Metaphor for Tenuous Social Capital," published in Midwest Quarterly, Vol. 59, No. 2 this winter. This past year, van Alstyne's poetry has appeared in Mad River Review, Qu, The Citron Review, ELKE, and Sweet Tree Review. She will be presenting at this year's Modern Language Association annual convention in New York City this January.

» Genevieve Fasano '14 (Bio.)

- and Anthony Imparo are engaged to be married in a Spring 2018 wedding in Sorrento, Italy, on the Amalfi Coast. The couple, who met shortly after Fasano's first semester at Monmouth University, enjoyed a photo shoot on campus this past April to celebrate their engagement. Fasano, who performed and presented research under the guidance of Dr. Michael Paladino while at Monmouth, will be graduating from Drexel University College of Medicine in May 2018 and plans to become a surgeon in the Monmouth County area.
- » Richard Novotny '14 (Crim. J.) was sworn in as a probationary police officer for the Long Hill Township Police Department, during a township committee meeting on April 26, 2017. Novotny graduated from Ocean County Police Academy in Lakewood before serving as a special officer class II with the Seaside Heights Police Department.
- » Taylor Bernstein '15 (Hlth. St. Phys. Ed./Ed.) is the graduate assistant for the track and

field teams at Bryant University, where he will work primarily with the throwers. Prior to the appointment, Bernstein spent the 2016-17 season as the throws coach at Rider University, where his team broke two school records and 11 qualified for the ECAC/IC4A Championships. Bernstein, who was a four-year member of the track and field program as a Hawk, is also the head coach and owner of Thrower Nation Track Club, where he instructs 30 throwers and has coached two Team USA selections, one Team Ecuador selection, one Master's World Medalist, 10 national champions. and 79 All-American selections.

- » David Dolan '15 (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun.). See note for Kimberly (Talbot) Dolan '15.
- » Kimberly (Talbot) Dolan '15 (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun.) married David Dolan '15 (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun.) on June 17, 2017, at Camp Zehnder in Wall, New Jersey.
- » Michael Napoli '15 (Crim. J.) joined the East Brunswick Police Department as a patrolman during a swearing-in ceremony held on May 2, 2017. Napoli, who graduated from Bishop George Ahr High School in 2011, worked as an intern for the department during his undergraduate studies He attended the Cape May County Police Academy as an alternate route recruit and was previously a patrol officer with the Bound Brook Police Department.
- » **Victoria Rivera '14** (Crim. J./ Psych.) wed Christopher Murray on February 25, 2017.
- » Marisa Sevasti Ayvaliotis

'17 (M.S.P.A.) wed Dayne Paul Mosconi on August 19, 2017, in Tenafly, New Jersey. The bride is a physician assistant for New York-Presbyterian/Columbia Medical Center, while the groom is a sales engineer for Sandvik Coromant.

IN MEMORIAM

» ALUMNI

Greta Boyter '51 (A.A.) March 12, 2017 James F. Robbins '54 (Bus. Adm.) June 30, 2017 Frederick Roman Sweeton '58 (Bus. Adm.) April 7, 2017 Mary Patricia Jones '62 (Elem. Ed.) (M.S. Ed. '81) June 30, 2017 Frank Roettinger '63 (Poli. Sci.) July 26, 2017 Louis J. Ploskonka '64 (Math) April 23, 2017 Mark Schusheim '64 (Bus. Adm.) December 21, 2016 Ruth Azulav Cahn '65 (Elem, Ed.) June 21, 2017 John Knieriem '65 (Bus. Adm.) July 29, 2017 Corrine Sosnowski '65 (Elem. Ed.) May 23, 2017 Leo Stephen Bulvanoski '66 (Bus. Adm.) May 29, 2017 Richard Arthur Kelly '66 (Math) (M.A.T. '72) April 27, 2017 George Henry Moffett '66 (A.A.) August 3, 2017 William G. "Bill" Voelkel '66 (Hist.) August 15, 2017 Rosemarie Troutman Jacobson '67 (A.A.) (B.S. Elem. Edu.) Willard Leroy Stockton III '67 (Bus. Adm.) August 17, 2017 Douglas J. Gatta '68 (Hist.) July 12, 2017 Myra Jane Fox '69 (Elem. Ed.) June 3, 2017 Linda E. Hess '69 (Psych.) August 4, 2017 Patrick Alban Vachon '69 (Elec. Eng.) May 31, 2017 John Thomas Allen Jr. '71 (Ed./ Art) April 28, 2017 F. Aldyth VanCamp Conover '72 (Elem. Ed.) (M.S. Read. Sp. '79) May 1, 2017

Dino Kapetanakis '73 (Hist.) April 30, 2017 Mary Louise (Barrett) Leen '73 (M.A.T.) May 25, 2017 Hilary Koyen Terjesen '75 (Art/Ed.) July 11, 2017 Domenick Michael Bellia '77 (Bus. Adm.) May 3, 2017 David A. Sutton '77 (Engl.) August 5, 2017 Barbara Jeanne (Dalley) Weber '79 (Elem. Ed.) April 3, 2017 Mary Beth Yost '79 (Engl.) (M.S. Read. Sp. '81) April 25, 2017 Norma E. Luettchau '81 (Engl.) April 13, 2017 Keith Ward McPherson '82 (Comp. Sci.) June 23, 2017 Joyce Maynard '84 (M.A. Hist.) April 17, 2017 Dr. Donald Swerida '84 (Bio.) July 27, 2017 Daniel B. Holt '87 (M.A.T.) June 20, 2017 Patricia (Phillips) Blume '89 (Bus. Adm.) May 31, 2017 David C. McPolin '89 (Bus. Adm.) May 7, 2017 Catherine F. Bianchi '93 (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '94) May 16, 2017 Heidi Caroline DeAndrea '95 (Nurs.) July 7, 2017 Daniel V. Kuczynski '96 (Crim. J.) June 12, 2017 Kevin Thomas Van Amburgh '00 (Comm.) July 21, 2017 Deborah Lee Ivey '02 (Bus. Adm.) August 12, 2017 Virginia C. Downey '05 (M.S.W.) July 15, 2017

» FRIENDS

Marvin Broder (friend) May 24, 2017 Scott James Diaforli (former student) May 17, 2017 Philip C. Donahue (former professor) June 28, 2017 Alan Foster (former professor) Frances J. Jaworski (former employee) July 22, 2017 James Robert Kane (former student) March 26, 2017 Hon. Paul A. Kapalko (friend) April 27, 2017 Robert Keratt (former student) May 19, 2017 Robert Trevor Krienke (former student) May 21, 2017 Elsa Lake (former professor) June 13, 2017 Walter E. Mayer (former student) April 2, 2017 Gail Ann McDonnell (former employee) April 9, 2017 Gertrude "Gert" Murphy (former employee) July 9, 2017 William Wheat Ragsdale Jr. (former professor) June 24, 2017 Sydney Patrice Shelton-Hood (former student) April 11, 2017 Emory G. Wall (former professor) March 28, 2017 Mark Wojcik (friend) August 12, 2017 Robert F. Wright (former Society of Trustees member) August 7, 2017

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dedicated teacher, mentor, colleague, and friend, Prescott Evarts was instrumental in shaping the direction of Monmouth for the last 51 years, particularly in our identity as a liberal arts institution. His passion for the liberal arts stemmed from his lived understanding of how they enrich our lives, help us form community, and connect us with others past and present. His mark on Monmouth is indelible.

Generous, humorous, caring, and constant, he was for so many the "first face" they saw at Monmouth, and certainly the face they saw so steadily and regularly. He was always eager for a conversation, not only about literature, but about movies, houses. running-anything and everything. He knew that the most cemented of relationships are not founded through the single grand gesture or the scheduled appointment, but through the day-in and day-out contact that let you know, over time, he would al-

ways be there. While his length of service is itself exceptional, it is not for that alone that we will remember him; it is for his grace of character and his grand example. We mourn his death, but we take comfort in knowing that he did what he loved, every day and thoroughly, his whole life: teaching, reading, writing poetry, running, working on his house, being with his family. A rich and model life, with pleasure, joy,

Prescott worked tirelesslyindeed, always with great vigor | the Department of English

and enthusiasm—with students, with colleagues, with the University community, to know us all, to reach us, to recognize us for who we are, and to push us, gently, to be better at being who we are. The tributes posted to him following his death testify to this: alumni from as many as 30 or 40 years ago remember much more than "a great professor"; they recount the details of papers he worked with them on during office conferences. He knew how to work to help students and colleagues learn, to experience the joy he knew through his own accomplishments, to challenge themselves. For the entire Monmouth community, we have lost a part of ourselves, but our best tribute may lie ahead in our efforts to reach higher than we think we can. And, of course, to read an epic (or at least a poem).

Susan Goulding is chair of

SAVE THE DATES Three reasons to come back to campus

12.02.17

Holiday Ball | Wilson Hall Black-tie event to benefit the Monmouth University Scholarship Fund

03.10.18

Beer vs. Wine Tasting | Wilson Hall Let the rivalry begin!

06.09.18

Alumni Weekend Rooftop Bash | Wilson Hall Roof Network and celebrate with alumni at this exclusive event on the Wilson Hall rooftop.

Details at monmouth.edu/alumnievents

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HAWKS ON THE ROAD

Join alumni in your area at one of our upcoming regional events. Visit monmouth.edu/hawksontheroad to see where we'll be in the months ahead.

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