

TCNJ

MAGAZINE SPRING 2016

PLUS

Clinging to the Jersey Shore

Two alums go prehistoric

Reading to dogs



EYE SPY

A big look at small worlds

What traditions were popular when you were a student?

We enjoyed all the stories readers submitted about beloved and memorable antics, but this tale of the softball team's Scarlet Letter-like rubber chicken was our favorite by far.



**WANT
TO PLAY
ALONG?**

Check out page 5 to see the question for the next issue, then send your story to magazine@tcnj.edu.

Helen the Chicken. Former softball Coach June Walker required any player who made a mistake—on or off the field—to carry a rubber chicken around. We nicknamed the chicken Helen, and the offending player had to take her everywhere until someone else messed up or did something stupid (say, for example, bleaching Coach's colored clothes on the team's spring break trip). A new chicken was purchased each year, and at the end of the season, we held a ceremony during which we buried that year's worn-out Helen behind the outfield fence. Countless All-Americans carried Helen, and the tradition continued until Coach Walker's retirement. When the old softball field was cleared to make room for a parking lot, a few of us went to rescue all of the Helens. We couldn't find even one! —ROBIN PAYNE '83



This is what they had to say...



Tray Sledding

We “borrowed” trays from the dining halls and sledded in front of Decker. There wasn’t much of a hill there, but it was still fun.

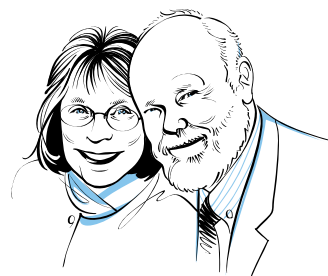
—CARLY COSCIA DIBBEN '97



LollaNoBooza

It brought the entire campus community together for a night of alcohol-free fun and was a great way to kick off the new academic year by cultivating school spirit and inclusivity, while promoting healthy lifestyles.

—NAVID RADFAR '15



Christmas Caroling

What made caroling so unique was the intense rehearsal time required to learn the beautiful four-part men’s choir arrangements written by budding student directors.

—MAX '58 MA '62 AND
GINGER STEFFENS '58 CULPEPPER



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20



14



30

Cover: A fruit fly, belly up, magnified 30x

Top: Buds within a broccoli floret under TCNJ's new scanning electron microscope.

features

14 THE TROUBLE WITH SANDY

With more superstorms a given, why do we cling to our pre-Sandy idea of the Jersey Shore?

20 EYE SPY

This is what happens when you put a microscope on steroids.

30 LATE ADOPTERS

Doug Hill '04 and Bill Schindler '00 have gone retro, all the way back to buckskin-wearing, fire-making prehistoric times.

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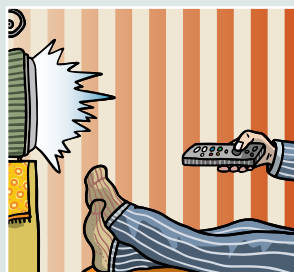
44 TCNJ X 10

re: Winter 2016

HIGH TIMES

The spirited group on the back cover of the last issue brought back memories of the bit Charlotte “Bunny” Hills Linthicum ’40 and I performed for College Amateur Night in 1939. Our act included pulling live goldfish (in reality, carefully sculpted carrots) from a swirling fishbowl and eating them, as well as tiny, unassuming Bunny lifting 800-pound weights (actually, painted cardboard) above her head. It culminated in me, hitched up by piano wire, being lifted high enough to stand on Bunny’s shoulders. The husky phys-ed student who controlled my lift got so enthusiastic about the job she kept cranking until I had risen to the ceiling above the stage. Unless you’ve been up there you’ll never know how exhilarating—make that scary—it can be. By act of Providence I was let down safely to great applause. The next morning, Dean Vernetta Decker called us in to her office and, after a scolding, told us to never enter an Amateur Night again.

MAY HESTON HILTEBEITEL ’40



What modern convenience can't you live without?

Facebook app?
Smartphone? E-ZPass?
Laundry detergent pods?
Confess your dependence and share what it means for civilization.

Send your response (no more than 200 words please), along with any photos or artifacts you have, to the address on the right.

READ THIS, ROGER RADA

The winter edition was one of the best I have read to date. What great stories! I particularly loved Gary Woodward’s essay, the article on Sharon Goldbrenner Pfluger, and reading about the college’s historical artifacts in “From Normal to Now.” I’m sorry I missed the question in the summer issue asking which professor had the biggest impact in my life. For me that was Roger Rada, my health and physical education professor and the hitting coach for the softball team. His creativity and passion opened my eyes to teaching young girls about why and how we can play any sport. In short, he inspired me to be the coach I am today.

ROBIN PAYNE ’83

The article in which alumni shared the professor who had the biggest impact on their lives brought back memories of Roger Rada, one of my former professors and the hitting coach for the baseball team. He had a unique way of connecting with students and people. I had the pleasure of coaching youth sports for many years, and like Coach Rada, I still have my bags of “gadgets” to help teach a skill and make it fun!

BOB HARTMAN ’72



Letters from our readers are important to us. Send email to magazine@tcnj.edu or write Editor, TCNJ Magazine
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Lifesavers in Training

A School of Nursing team in Haiti
helped pull a toddler back from sure death.



SEVERELY MALNOURISHED, FLACCID, AND CRYING WEAKLY, the 15-month-old was barely responsive when his mother carried him in to the clinic's triage section where Kelly Williamson met them. Williamson '16 immediately sensed the urgency of the child's condition and ushered the boy and his mother to Sharon Byrne for further evaluation.

"As soon as they walked in, I knew that this was not a good situation," says Byrne, an assistant professor of nursing and certified nurse practitioner. The boy, Thomas, hadn't eaten or breastfed for at least a month, and ensuing muscle weakness left him unable to walk. He was having trouble breathing; a wound on his leg had gone untreated, allowing an infection to set in.

It had taken his mother, Marie, four hours to walk to the free pop-up clinic in Port-au-Prince that day.

"I would classify him as 'failure to thrive,'" says Byrne. "We had to transport the baby to the emergency room, or he wasn't going to make it. He's lucky he made it that far."

Because Haitian ERs require up-front payment before medical staff will provide treatment, Byrne handed over \$95 she had on her, then stayed with Marie and Thomas while another TCNJ volunteer bought IV fluids and medication from a nearby pharmacy. "I'd equate the ER there to a dirty utility room in the United States," says Byrne. "The bed the baby was on was an old OB-GYN table, missing its legs and drawers."

Byrne, Williamson, and six others from TCNJ were in Haiti's capital in January to volunteer at a clinic run by the Haitian American Caucus, which opens every few months and relies on staffing from a rotation of aid groups. Over the course of five days, the students treated more than 650 patients—triaging, taking vital signs, performing assessments, and maintaining a pharmacy area to fill prescriptions.

"As we were triaging some of the kids, they would say, 'Oh, my stomach hurts, it has been hurting for a couple of weeks now,'" says Kimberly Hackshaw '17. "And I would ask them, 'When was the last time you ate? Are you eating? Are you drinking water?' The kids would tell us that the meal they have at school was their only meal for the day."

Though she considers herself a global health "newbie," Byrne has made five trips to the western half of Hispaniola to volunteer as a

health-care provider with Explorers Sans Frontières, a Philadelphia-based NGO. On this most recent one, she brought undergraduate students from her Nursing in Global Health class. Byrne designed the course so that students would gain experience in delivering care in a resource-poor community abroad, while also developing cultural competency—crucial skills for anyone working in medicine today, she says.

"Providers have to be aware of the beliefs, values, and languages of their host community and show respect for cultural differences," says Byrne.

Byrne stayed with Marie and Thomas throughout his time in the ER and checked back with the family later in the week before returning to the United States. "I wanted to provide psychosocial support for Thomas' family—particularly his mother," says Byrne.

Thomas hadn't eaten or breastfed for at least a month, and ensuing muscle weakness left him unable to walk.

Ultimately, the triage evaluation and intervention that TCNJ's cohort performed at the mobile clinic was a lifesaving one. Explorers Sans Frontières wired funds to pay the rest of Thomas' bills for his three-day stay in the hospital. He was then transferred to a Catholic children's hospital on a charity basis. Says Byrne, "He continues to receive treatment and grows stronger every day."

—Emily W. Dodd '03

Get it done Nursing majors treated more than 650 patients at a Port-au-Prince clinic.

17 Things That Make Us Smile



01

Buh-bye leukemia

The bone marrow transplant that Lions running back **Matt Popek** made possible for a nine-year-old girl with leukemia has been a success. “We were able to exchange get-well and thank-you cards,” says Popek, who awaits her decision on a future meeting. “I am happy enough to have had the opportunity to help in the first place.”

02

Applause for The Signal

“Proud to announce that the New Jersey Press Association named @tcnjsignal the third-best college newspaper in the state.”

—Tweet from Editor **Colleen Murphy**

03

Friends take over D.C.

The White House
Shawn Syed '17 kept the White House running this spring as an intern in the Office of Presidential Correspondence, reading hundreds of the thousands of letters that arrived at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. destined for the eyes of the President of the United States. “There are simply no words fit to describe the Oval Office,” says Syed, a serial political intern (U.S. Senators Menendez and Booker; Congresswoman Watson-Coleman). “Its sheer aura stops you in your tracks and makes you short of breath.”

The Supreme Court
Over the summer, **Tom Cilla '17**, another serial political intern (New Jersey Lt. Gov. Guadagno; organized crime, Brooklyn DA), will keep the nation’s highest court humming. How does it feel to be chosen as one of very few interns? “They called over spring break and said, ‘We’d like to offer you an internship,’” says Cilla. The court’s website cautions applicants that “competition is keen, and a certain amount of self-screening is advised.” Good thing that didn’t stop Cilla, a Lions defensive lineman: “I didn’t expect it, but it was a call I was ecstatic to get.”

04

Starting a law school BIDDING WAR



Symone Yancey '16 found herself in an enviable position: She had been accepted by every law school to which she applied, including NYU, Harvard, Penn, Boston University, Columbia, Georgetown, and the University of Chicago. When Chicago offered a complete financial package, “the other universities had a bidding war to

get her to come,” says Spanish professor Ann Walter-Ault, a Yancey booster. After a summer working and stashing away enough cash to live in the city, Yancey will attend her dream school: Columbia.

05

Knowing that the equator is a ginormous closed geodesic

Professor of Math **Nancy Hingston** lectured on lines and loops at Einstein’s former stomping grounds, the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton.

06

CONTEMPORARY jazz tuba?

Fulbright scholar and Yale-educated tubist **Antonio Underwood '83** brought jazz and hip-hop this year to Novi Sad, Serbia.

07

Panera

Broth bowls (aka soup) and sandwiches are a hit in this new Campus Town haunt with students, town residents, and a certain **TCNJ cabinet-level administrator** pegged as a regular by a Panera manager.

08

It adds up

Junior **Rebecca Santorella** is the third math student in the last three years to be named a national Goldwater Scholar.

09 A record 1,100 Lions on campus for reunion



10 Being kids again

The release that **Funival** brings before finals

11 Guggenheims & Pulitzers

As part of a *Los Angeles Times* reporting team, **James Queally '09** won a 2016 Pulitzer Prize for breaking news with coverage of the San Bernardino shootings.

Novelist and English professor **Jess Row** can now add Guggenheim Fellow to his CV as one of 175 winners selected from a pool of 3,000 candidates in the U.S. and Canada.



12 Japanese tsunami recovery

TCNJ choral groups performed with tsunami survivors at Lincoln Center as part of a concert supporting recovery efforts for the 2011 disaster.

13 School of Business gets rave reviews

Employer Happiness "Best Undergrad Business Schools 2016" ranks **TCNJ's BSchool** No. 20 in the country for employer satisfaction with job preparedness, according to *Bloomberg BusinessWeek*.

National The magazine propelled the school overall to No. 35 in the nation, up 28 spots.

Jersey No. 1 once again in New Jersey. That's yuuuge.

14 Cheaper diplomas

The College The front page of the May 9 *Star-Ledger* gave us a shout-out for having the second highest on-time, four-year graduation rate (73 percent, 2015) in New Jersey. (Yes, Princeton came in first.)

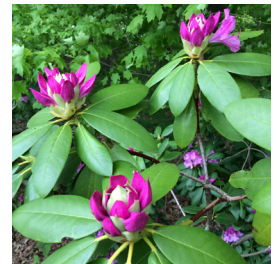
Educational Opportunity Fund That same day *The Philadelphia Inquirer* reported how efforts taken by TCNJ's EOF program raised its on-time student graduation rates to 70 percent (2016), greatly narrowing the gap between it and the college as a whole. EOF supports students in college readiness and success.

17 Living in AMERICA'S greatest food state

Saveur spent April praising New Jersey eats, genuflecting before a classic and hallowed, if not bizarre, diner sidedish: "Disco fries soaked in savory brown gravy and shrouded in fistfuls of stretchy, melty mozzarella that envelope ... the potatoes in an unbreakable body lock." The magazine also gave fist bumps to only-in-Jersey staples: pork roll (aka Taylor ham) and, for TCNJ, the hyper-local Trenton tomato pie.

15 Impatience the good kind

The **Brower Student Center** renovation and **STEM Complex** construction projects are taking visible shape.



16 Exuberant rhododendrons dotting campus

Your Best Interest

An expert in finance and capital markets explains how to take advantage of today's historically low interest rates.

It's clear to anyone with a savings account that the era of five percent interest rates is long gone; these days you're lucky to see any return on savings. So what happened?

It all comes down to how the country reacted to the financial crisis of 2008, says Associate Professor of Finance Susan Hume. When banks and financial firms lost big by lending to borrowers who couldn't pay them back, the

government responded by lowering interest rates in an effort to restore the institutions to their pre-'08 strength.

The move was done to encourage people to take out loans, says Hume, bringing money back into the failing institutions. "It also [ensured] that banks [could] build themselves back up because they're not paying out as much in interest."

Hume anticipates interest rates will stay low for the foreseeable future, and depend-

ing on where you are on your financial journey, that's either a challenge or an opportunity. But have no fear. Hume shared her tips on what you can do to either capitalize on, or minimize the damage from, today's historically low rates.

Recent college grads: Scrutiny is high for potential borrowers even with today's low interest rates. That means those with outstanding student loans are likely to find it more difficult to borrow for that starter home than their debt-free peers. So find a way to refinance that student loan debt at a lower rate, says Hume. That will make you more qualified for a mortgage.

Mid-career earners: If a new car or home is at the top of your purchase list, now is the perfect time to buy. "You won't find lower interest rates in our lifetime," says Hume. Or maybe you've always dreamed of being your own boss. Those past the hurdle of student loans will find that it's also a favorable climate for starting a business of their own. "Never underestimate the power of borrowing at a low rate," says Hume.

Young families: Low interest rates won't deliver the return needed to grow college funds and other savings, so Hume recommends a long-term savings plan that includes investing in the stock market. The market's potentially higher returns bring higher risk, so you'll need to be prepared to ride out the highs and lows. "Don't panic and pull your money out when the stock market goes down," says Hume. "You can change the allocation, but you don't want to pull that out."

Retirees: People with wanderlust will be happy to know that while interest rates are low in the U.S., rates abroad are even lower, which contribute to a favorable exchange rate and a stronger dollar. In the meantime, Hume advises a recalibration of retirement savings: "We used to advise people to subtract their age from 100 and invest that percentage in the stock market, put about 5 to 10 percent in cash, and the rest in fixed income," she says. "That doesn't work in a low-interest environment." Instead, she advises investing more heavily in the stock market or even finding a stock that pays a dividend, to mimic what a government bond used to do. Overwhelmed? "Hire an adviser you trust to help you with these decisions," she says.

—Melissa Kvidahl



Mindfulness 101

Give yourself the gift of the present.

If your idea of meditating involves sitting lotus style and disconnecting from the outside world, think again. There's another approach—mindfulness meditation—that's more accessible and still provides a host of benefits, says psychology professor Ashley Borders.

At its core, mindfulness meditation isn't about shutting off the mind; that's impossible to do, says Borders. "The point is to notice your thoughts and then, rather than getting stuck in them, let them go by. It's about always returning focus to the present," she says. That's important when it comes to mental health, says Borders, because dwelling on the past can lead to depression, worrying about the future can cause anxiety, and ruminating on negative emotions or stressors can make matters worse.

"It's hard to step away from those thoughts but, by learning to focus on the present, meditation can train your mind to intentionally choose what to focus on," says Borders.



This means mindfulness meditation can ease the strain of anxiety, depression, eating disorders, and substance abuse. It can help you manage heightened emotions and reactions. And, perhaps most important, it can help you move stressful thoughts from the top of mind to the periphery, where they do less damage. Plus, by limiting stress, meditation facilitates a host of physical benefits, from increasing immunity to promoting restful sleep and heart health.

Ready to get started? Here are Borders' tips for meditation neophytes:

> JOIN A YOGA CLASS

In addition to the 10-minute meditation that ends most yoga sessions, yogis experience many of the same benefits as meditators because the basic tenets of the two practices are so aligned. "Yoga and meditation are about noticing what your body is doing," says Borders. "Yoga is a movement-based practice, while mindfulness meditation is more of an awareness practice."

> USE A GUIDED MEDITATION

Whether they're done in-person or online, guided meditations are great for beginners who aren't sure they're doing it right.

> DO IT YOURSELF

No time for a class? Informal approaches to meditation can be just as effective, says Borders. Whether you're doing the dishes, walking to your car, or eating, Borders recommends submerging yourself in the experience and taking calm, deliberate notice of your five senses. "Just pay attention to the sensations you're feeling, instead of distracting yourself in some way. All of that can help bring you to the present."

—Melissa Kvidahl

THE
NEED-TO-
KNOW
BASIS

Pup Fiction

Just how effective are reading-to-dog programs?

Trained therapy dogs have become commonplace in hospitals, nursing homes, and special needs centers. Now they're popping up in classrooms, where they're serving as captive audiences for struggling and shy young readers.

Studies have suggested reading-to-dog programs have a positive effect on students' self-esteem, interest, and enthusiasm—but do students' reading test scores reflect a similar benefit? Not always, discovered Professor of Psychology Jean Kirnan.

In an article published last fall in *Early Childhood Education Journal*, Kirnan reported that while kindergarteners who participated in a dog reading program performed better on end-of-year reading tests than a control group, a similar

analysis on students from first to fourth grade found no noticeable improvement.

However, certain subsets of students do appear to make greater strides in reading and writing as a result of interaction with therapy



dogs. Special needs and ESL students, as well as children who struggle with reading, speech impediments, or shyness, seemed to experience less fear and embarrassment.

"You can make a mistake when reading, and the dog just sits there, smiling at you," Kirnan explains.

Looking ahead, Kirnan wants to investigate how the use of therapy dogs in the classroom might impact more qualitative measures for school-age children, such as attitudes toward and interest in reading.

"*Aliterate* is a word that describes a child who is capable of reading but is not interested," says Kirnan. "As children age, their reading ability goes up, but their interest declines. But if reading is associated with fun, maybe they'll continue to read."

—Meeri Kim

SPORTS >

How I Got Here >

ZAKARIA ROCHDI '17

The accounting major/sprinter-jumper talks comic books, cityscapes, and living life in locomotion.

> My mom was born in Saint Lucia and my dad in Morocco. They both came to the United States when they were 19 and never had the opportunity to attend college. So being at TCNJ is something I never take for granted.

> Last summer I interned with Mitsubishi UFJ Securities in New York City. I interacted with people from across the company—human resources, payroll, product control, accounting—and gained experience that will be invaluable when I start my business career. But one of the best perks was the beautiful view I had from the 29th floor on 50th Street.

> I took a writing class my freshman year in which we examined modern superheroes—Batman, Superman, Captain America—through a postmodern lens. It was cool to watch a movie like *The Dark Knight* and question whether Batman's use of force is counterproductive to the good of the city—then tie that into a larger discussion about power struggles between governments and their citizens. My professor made the topic so much fun I decided to minor in English.

> I wasn't even a comic book fan until I took that class, but now I collect. I'm on a college budget, but I hope to expand my collection once I get a job.

> TCNJ has become another home for me in many ways, and I like helping other students embrace the school in the same way. As a peer mentor in TCNJ's Pride Mentoring Program, I assist other first-generation college students who come from diverse backgrounds. Being a community adviser gives me the chance to help younger students find their role in the TCNJ community.

> My main focus is always academics, but I also came to TCNJ to be an athlete. Coach J [track and field head coach Justin Lindsey] was definitely part of the reason I chose the college. I admire his knowledge of and passion for the sport. I'm learning life lessons from him that I'll take with me after I graduate.

> I love the winning culture here and the feeling that comes from competing. If I had to pick a favorite event, I'd say it's a tie between the triple jump and 400-meter. Both are equally rewarding. There's a lot of technique involved in properly executing the phases of a triple jump, and it's physically draining to sprint 400 meters.

> There's a quote from my favorite comic, *The Flash*, that I think describes my time at TCNJ: "Life is locomotion. If you're not moving, you're not living." I have a lot going on—schoolwork, being a peer mentor and community adviser,

competing on the track and field team—but I thrive off the controlled chaos. The busier I get the more focused I am. I'm driven by a desire to challenge myself and learn from my mistakes, because I believe that's the key to success.

—as told to *Brandon Gould*

Favorite event Rochdi says it's a toss-up between triple jump and 400-meter.



Repost: 1984 Olympics

Orlando Cáceres '90 came so close to capturing the bronze in men's freestyle wrestling. We asked him to reminisce about the experience.

"I was born in Puerto Rico, so I have dual citizenship. Two of my teammates were also from the United States: Carmelo Flores from Chicago and Mark Cabrera from New Jersey. It's funny because when the three of us went over there to try out, we were the Americans. Then I'd come back to the States, and I'm the Puerto Rican. I remember thinking, 'So what am I?' [laughs]

"Competing in the Olympics was a dream come true. It was surreal running into Carl Lewis: I wasn't on the U.S. team, but I'm still an American, so to be in the company of someone like him was unbelievable. I crossed paths with so many great athletes. Some of them couldn't speak a lick of English, and I couldn't speak a lick of theirs, but we all had a common goal. That's what made the experience so amazing.


"A guy approached me before one of my matches and told me to get a hold of him afterward, that he could get me video of all my Olympic matches. But I got whisked away to take a drug test and I never saw him again. I always wanted those tapes.

"Then a year or two ago, a video of me wrestling at the Olympics pops up on YouTube. A coworker found it and told me. It was wild watching that. I always thought I was out of shape and goofy when I wrestled, but when I saw that video I thought, 'Oh my God, look at me.' My coworker told me I looked like Lionel Ritchie with all that hair. I vaguely remembered the match, so it was great to relive that moment. But the best part was that my wife and daughter got to see it."

—as told to Brandon Gould



The Trouble with Sandy



**What about us makes
“Restore the Shore” our default
response to disaster? Environmental
sociologist Diane Bates has the answer.**

INTERVIEW BY
RENÉE OLSON

Soon after Superstorm Sandy made landfall along the Jersey Shore in 2012, scientists were projecting that by 2050, sea levels would rise 1.5 feet, and by 2100, 3 feet. On March 31, 2016, researchers in *Nature* upped those 2100 projections—based on unchanged greenhouse gas emissions and a melting Antarctic ice sheet—to 6 feet.

If that makes us shore habitués worried about our beloved patch of sand, there's good reason: "Sea level rise rates are 'three to four times higher than the global average,' along a large stretch of the U.S. East Coast, which researchers dubbed a sea level rise 'hotspot,'" according to the *Washington Post* in early February of this year.

Why did New Jersey go straight to reconstruction after Sandy?

We basically decided not to devote time, energy, and money—both in the public and private sectors—to make public policy on a very complicated problem. But I don't think it was a conscious decision. Decision-making in modern society involves complex abstract systems we're not in control of, and that makes us anxious.

interest. A lot of people have a financial interest in making sure that tourism stays healthy.

While money is probably the fundamental thing driving our need for the shore, I would also argue—this is the sociologist in me—that it culturally ties New Jersey together in a way that nothing else does. We're divided in terms of our urban focus—New York or Philadelphia—and the teams we pull for [I make a little comment in the book about having the Devils, but Jersey isn't really a hockey state]. But talk to people in New Jersey of all generations, of all age groups, of different races and ethnicities, North Jersey, South Jersey, and they all have shore stories. The shore is uniquely New Jersey and an important cultural anchor for the state.

The shore “culturally ties New Jersey together in a way that nothing else does.”

Yet even as cleanup crews cleared the substantial debris Sandy left behind, rebuilding took off, relegating any other scenario to some distant future.

“These are decisions that we make as a society,” says Diane Bates, professor of sociology and author of *Superstorm Sandy: The Inevitable Destruction and Reconstruction of the Jersey Shore* (Rutgers, 2016). “Part of my problem is that we really don't think through them carefully.”

A summer shore baby herself, Bates has strong family and emotional ties to the region, which shape her attitude toward the pull of the shore: Love it, but understand how social factors play an outsized role when it is threatened. Bates spoke to *TCNJ Magazine* about looking at Sandy through a social lens.

What else makes us shy away from reassessing the shore's future?

Making decisions would require a complete re-evaluation of the way that we use [the shore], and since we're not at a crisis point, there's basically no rational reason for us to deal with that right now. We can put it off and put it off until we get Katrina—and then we'll have to do something. For now, the idea of actually doing what we need to do to face the really troubling aspects of climate change is just more than we can handle politically.

Why do we need the Jersey Shore?

Tourism is one of the most important factors in the state's economy. It also creates a lot of employment, private-sector economic activity, and investment in real estate. The shore is one of the fastest-growing parts of the state in terms of single-family home ownership and second-home ownership, so it's not just big-business

Is it relevant to even rank the need the state has to retain the shore as an economic engine and our social and cultural need for it?

I don't think they're mutually exclusive. One of the important things about the Jersey Shore is that the people who love it don't want the whole thing to be Island Beach State Park. Most of us have accepted the Jersey Shore as a very socialized environment, which is to say that we don't expect it to be environmentally pristine.

We accept the boardwalks, we accept that you have to pay for beach badges, we accept the fact that the beaches are crowded. We want the sausage sandwiches and the ice cream. We expect all the social and economic components attached to it. But most people would also fight tooth-and-nail to preserve places like Sandy Hook and Island Beach State Park. We want that, as well.



Not for sociologists

Bates, here in Asbury Park, wrote *Superstorm Sandy* for the general public.



Rollercoaster redux

Seaside Heights is weighing the expansion of Casino Pier, damaged during Sandy.

When did shore tourism start?

Both Long Branch and Cape May can actually document tourism—elite tourism—back to the late 1700s.

It's easy to spin in circles trying to decide whether rebuilding after Sandy is smart. Last year, to refill Monmouth and Ocean County beaches with sand, the federal government spent \$168 million.

The amount of money we dump into it is insane. It makes no sense why we keep doing this to ourselves, but this is part of my argument in the book: You can't treat these things as engineering problems. These are social decisions, and one of the big problems I see is that we don't think about it that way.

We say, "OK, we need an engineering solution." Well, the only engineering solution for a barrier island is to not build. That's simply never going to happen. We talk about things like elevation and hardening of personal property. You know the assumption is, "We just need to build a bigger berm." What we need to understand is why we

make the decisions that we do about rebuilding when we know we're going to have to put millions, if not billions, of dollars into mitigation both at the public and private level.

"Build a bigger berm." That could be a bumper sticker.

There was an article in *Science* on April 1 about how the future of environmental studies requires the incorporation of social science. The science is actually less mysterious and easier to understand than the social science. That's not to say that science is easy—it's just that, with environmental issues, what we generally don't understand is why people continue to make decisions that they do often in the face of pretty unequivocal scientific evidence.

Why don't we base decisions more on science?

I was talking to my TCNJ colleague Nate Magee, a professor of physics who studies global warming. He said there's really no debate anymore in the scientific community about climate

change and it makes scientists absolutely crazy that they have such clear evidence and nobody does anything. [For more about Magee, see page 26.]

Did you find it in any way difficult to write the book given the stage of climate change we're in—foreboding projections, yet this lack of movement?

Most of what we're going to be doing is not stopping climate change, but adapting to it. "What do we need to do to address climate change?" is the wrong question. It's happening. There's irreversible damage that's been done. In the past 100 years, the sea level in New Jersey has increased almost 12 inches.

We were talking about the fact that humans tend to trust that things are OK despite the potential harm in everyday life. In your book, you write about sociologist Anthony Giddens' concept surrounding this, which he calls "ontological security."



Tell us more.

Ontological security is basically the idea that we feel safe because there's nothing to make us feel unsafe. If you think about driving, for instance, you will go crazy because of all the possible things that could go wrong with your car. You're basically driving a controlled explosion that propels you at relatively high speeds, using machinery built by people you don't know.

And you get onto a road built by people who may or may not have known what they were doing—there may be sinkholes, bridges can collapse. There are all these other people in boxes with controlled explosions who may or may not follow the traffic rules. If you think about driving, it's terrifying, right?

It's hard to function, thinking about every little possibility.

Because nothing bad happens when we drive, we start feeling like it's safe, even though the high level of complexity and the reliance on other people and their expertise in modern systems makes them pretty risky. And when there's a

disruption like Superstorm Sandy, we think, "Oh wow, this is a risky system. Maybe we do need to think about these decisions." But as we go back into our daily routine, all that gets backgrounded again.

You're basically explaining what happens after every crisis. We're very focused for a while—certainly what happened in Paris last November was shattering—but I'm not thinking about it every day now.

Human beings are actually pretty clever at being able to survive. To not be crazy worried about these things all the time—stress does terrible things to human health, as well as human psychology—we've culturally adapted to these highly risky systems through ontological security.

Everything you've said about how to analyze the pressures on the environmental health of the shore has been fascinating: the economic, sociological, and natural sciences.

What will the social sciences add going forward?

The good thing is that you're seeing more agreement between the natural sciences and engineers about incorporating the social sciences when seeking answers. It will allow for more practical discussions about what actually causes environmental risk and which combination of solutions might actually fix the problem rather than just provide Band-Aid solutions. Still, it won't be easy: Social scientists will require us to think about the way social systems—famously resistant to change—are organized. As I write in the book, humans are creatures of habit, and habits provide much-needed security. Restoring the shore may be important symbolically and economically, but the desire to get back to normal is a siren song that drowns out the catastrophic risks inherent in dense coastal development.

Renée Olson is the owner of Squint, a content shop.

The background is a composite of two microscopic images. The upper portion shows a green leaf with prominent, branching veins in shades of green and yellow. The lower portion shows the brown, textured skin of a mouse, with numerous fine, light-colored hairs and a small, pinkish ear visible on the right side.

EYE

SCIENCE GETS BIG

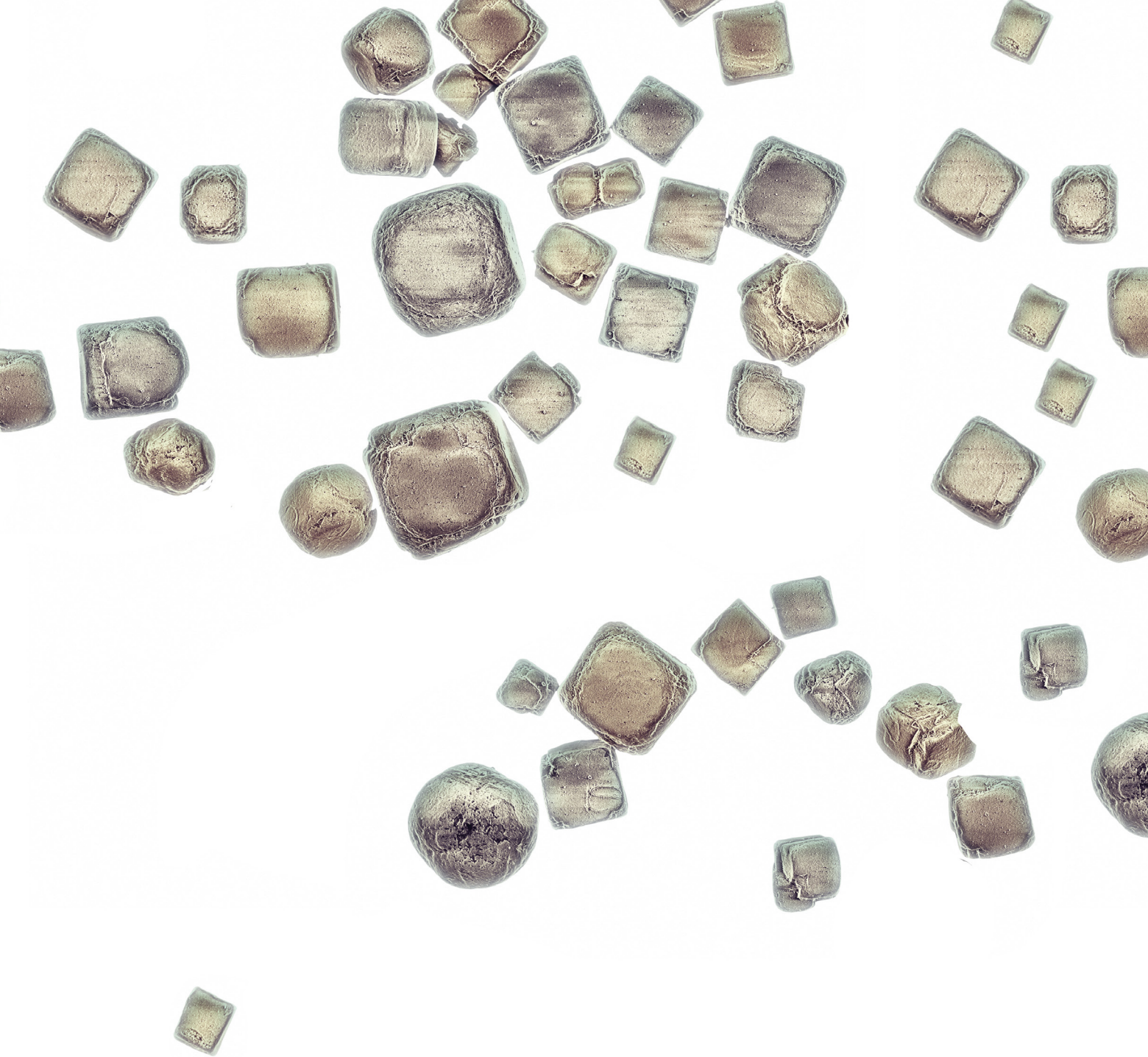
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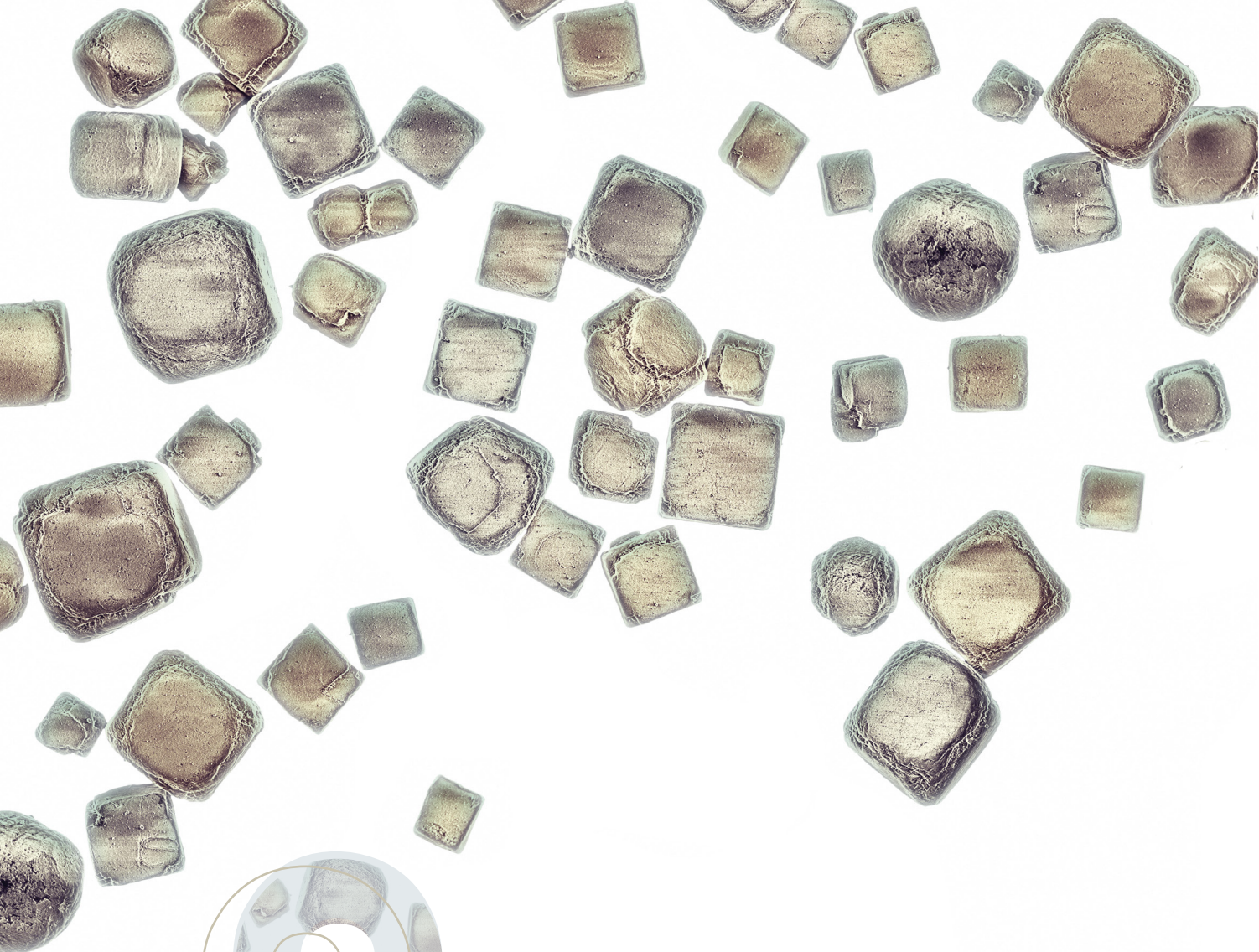
IMAGE SCANS BY LUCAS BANCROFT '16 · COLORIZATION BY STEPHEN WEBSTER



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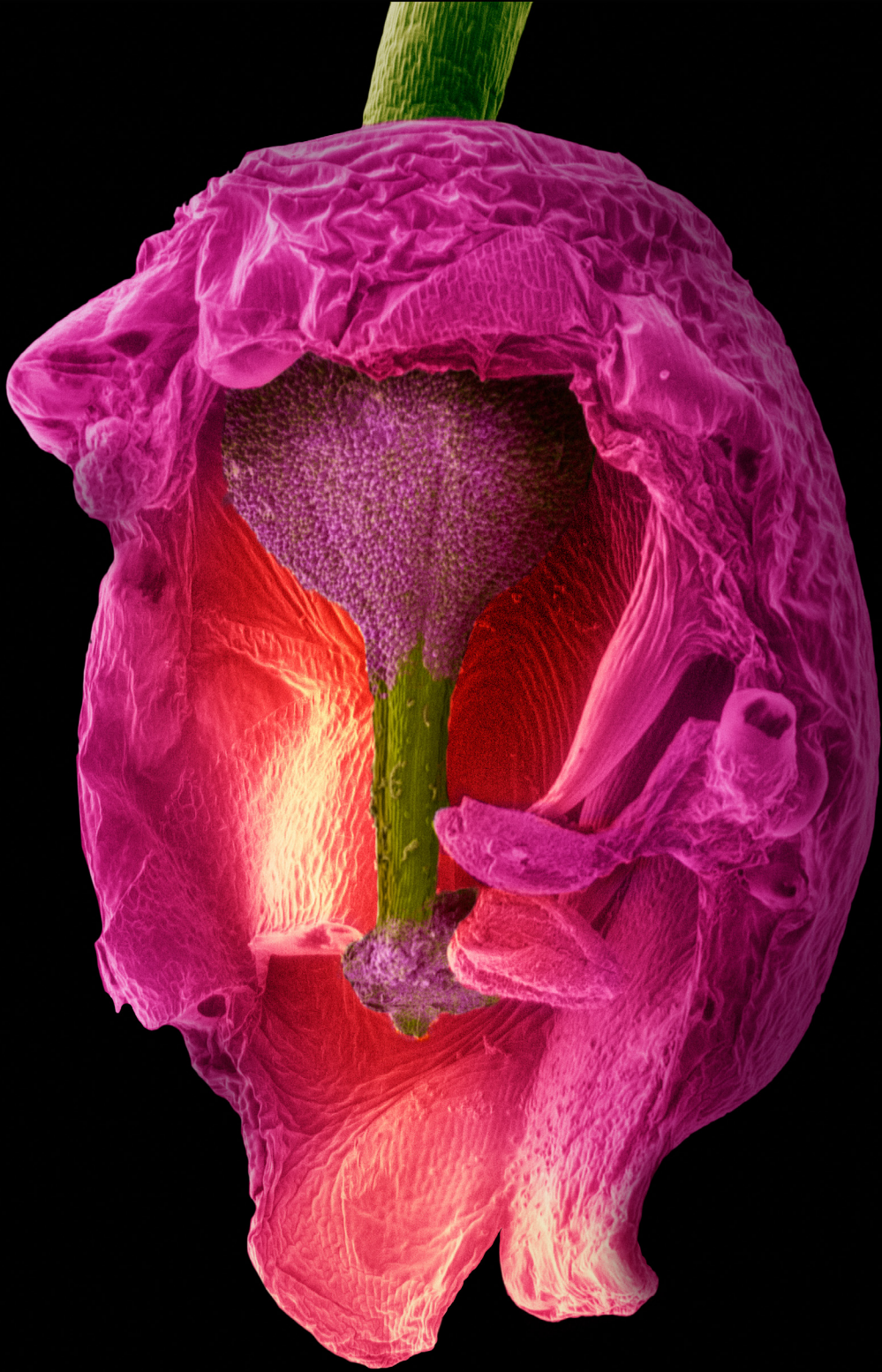


In a scale of meh to crazy amazing, these images of the natural world come in at crazy spectacular.

Castle-like ice crystals, lacy patterns covering fruit fly eggshells, the delicacy of a single grape hyacinth flower: This is the genius of the college's new scanning electronic microscope. With a full kit of accessories, TCNJ's SEM can generate some specialized types of images in greater detail than any other U.S. college or university, leading to expansive new knowledge and giving students enviable hands-on experience. Enough pats on the back. Turn the page to see what we mean.

Too big to fail (Preceding spread) The SEM makes studying maternal genetic mutations in *Drosophila melanogaster*, the common fruit fly, an option for biology professor Amanda Norvell. (Above) Salt magnified 18x.

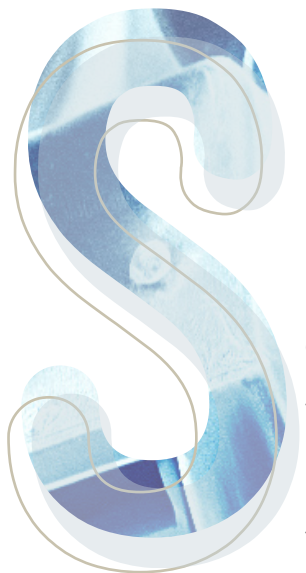
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he SEM already has its groupies. Faculty-student teams are using the microscope's ability to resolve details as small as 1 nanometer (1 billionth of a meter) for research on topics from thin-film photonics for next-generation screen technology to whether shells of marine invertebrates are stressed by climate change (at least one crab species appears to be holding its own). The options don't stop there: An atomic force microscope has just arrived on campus. The pair of cutting-edge instruments, made possible by New Jersey's Building Our Future funding for STEM initiatives, promise even more discoveries.

Flower power Opened to reveal its green style tipped with a purple stigma, this single grape hyacinth flower is magnified 20x.



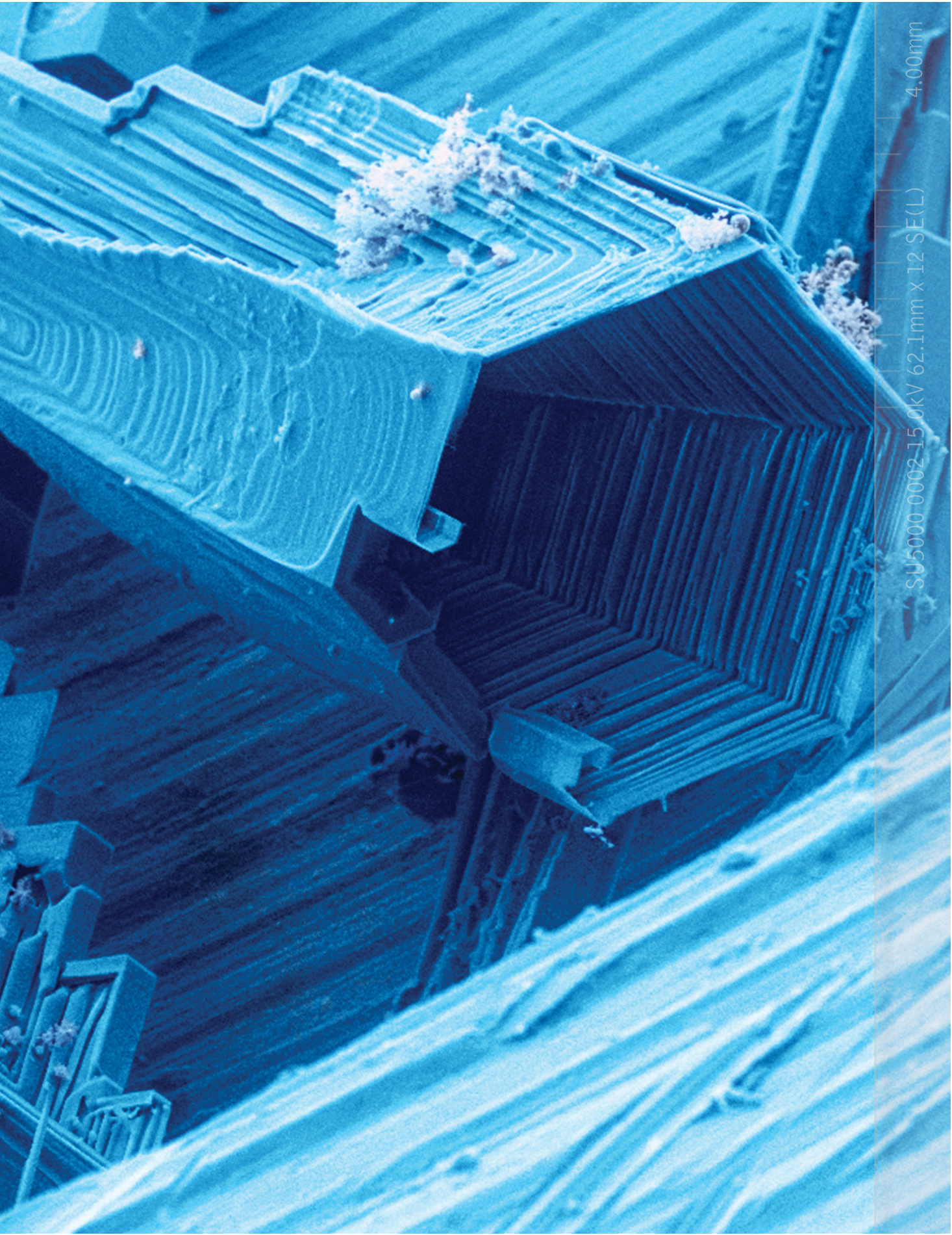
EMs beam a stream of electrons at an object and send back exquisite detail. “These are ice crystal shapes we’re seeing for the first time—they’re not in the literature,” says physics professor Nate Magee, one of several dozen researchers in the world who look at ice crystal shape and texture.

“It’s because people haven’t had the technology to look at this level of detail.” Why does this matter? Magee focuses on the crystals in cirrus clouds, once thought to be as smooth as a mirror, reflecting the sun’s energy back skyward. But then the idea of an uneven surface gained traction—and TCNJ’s SEM images now back that up. “The rough shape of the crystals will make the sunlight go up, down, and sideways,” he says. For climate-warming calculations, “That’s going to change the way cirrus clouds are represented in climate models.”

Ice twice A cubic ice crystal, only theorized about until now. (Following spread) Intricate hexagonal crystals magnified 110x.







4.00mm

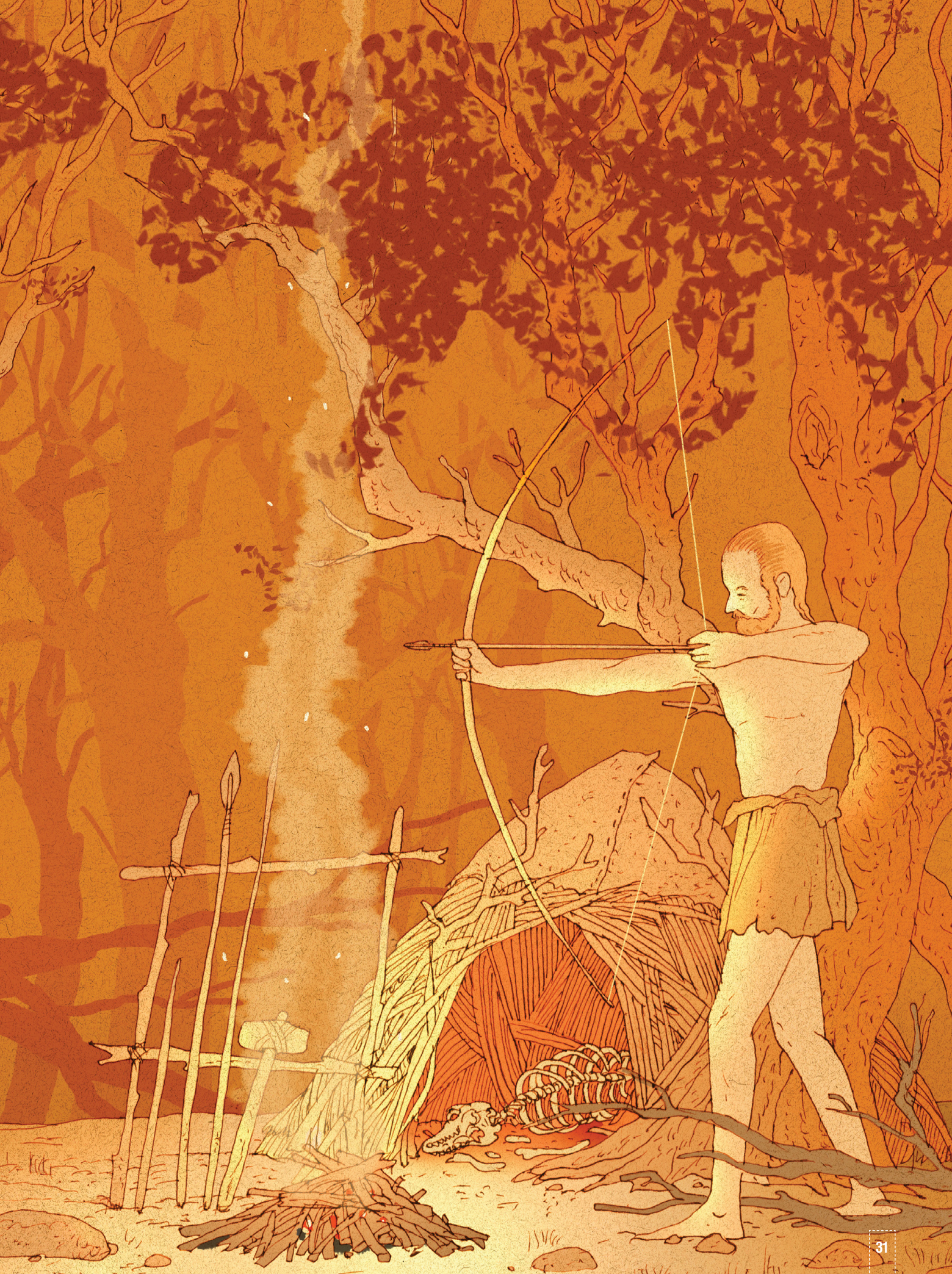
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LATE ADOPTERS

The technology that alums Doug Hill and Bill Schindler
covet most isn't sold in big-box stores.

INTERVIEW BY RYAN JONES • ILLUSTRATION BY IZHAR COHEN





IDEALLY, A CONVERSATION BETWEEN DOUG HILL '04 AND BILL SCHINDLER '00 WOULD TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE, NEXT TO AN EXPERTLY BUILT CAMPFIRE—PERHAPS GATHERED USING IMPLEMENTS THEY'D MADE THEMSELVES.

Instead, given the 1,600 or so miles between them, we got these two primitive technology experts together in a decidedly non-primitive fashion: a conference call via iPhone.

Hill and Schindler aren't stuck in the past, but they immerse themselves in it as much as possible—both in their careers and their daily lives. Hill lives in Lafayette, Colorado, where he's the founder and director of *Gone Feral*, a school that teaches primitive skills—from building tools out of stone to making containers from animal hides.

Schindler is an associate professor of anthropology and archaeology at Washington College in Maryland; he also cohosts *The Great Human Race*, a show on the National Geographic Channel for which he travels the world recreating the lives of primitive humans.

Experts in a tiny field, they've met once, briefly, but never had the chance to trade stories.

Til now.

How did each of you develop this interest in the skills and tools of primitive humans?

BILL: It was really my father who instilled it. He had me out hunting, fishing, trapping, and camping from when I was young. As a child, I fell in love with this idea of reconnecting with my ancestors. As I started to grow into this on my own, it was a desire to reconnect with my food; hunting, fishing, and trapping as a way to reconnect on the most basic level with what I was putting into my mouth. That led me to wanting to understand how [early humans] did it, and that's what led me to archaeology.

DOUG: I grew up in South Jersey, and I always had an interest in older, more traditional tools [and] skills, from the Stone Age through the Iron Age; there was something that just really drew me in. I also grew up spending a lot of time outside and developed a comfort in the outdoors. As I got older, I started asking some questions: Where do we come from? What's that truth out there? And then I wanted to be a little more honest about where my food came from. One of the first things I did was call up a slaughterhouse, and they let me on the floor to watch what was happening. That was a profound experience, and that pushed me a little further down that path.

It seems you, Bill, come to this more from an academic perspective, while Doug's experience seems immersive. But listening to you, I get the impression there's a lot of overlap in how each of you approaches this subject.

BILL: I think there's more in common. If it was just from an academic perspective, I wouldn't be as interested in it as I

am. When [my wife and I] started having kids, I became much more focused on doing this for them: influencing their diets, understanding how we make food choices at home. Beyond that, it's about taking these skills and using them to better understand the archaeological record.

DOUG: I would definitely second that. I work with archaeologists here in Colorado, and personally, I think of myself as a teacher, not a businessman.

How would you describe the people who sign up for your classes?

DOUG: A lot of people come to me looking for what they call survival skills. But I think what they're looking for is a deeper connection.

BILL: These people want to reconnect with something—with their past, with their environment, or even with themselves. For example, I regularly conduct urban foraging tours in Washington, D.C., and people sign up because they want to take more control over their food sources and supplement their diets with nutritious wild plants that grow in the city. However, they also leave with a much deeper appreciation of and connection with their local environment.

DOUG: I'd agree. It's about that relationship with the natural world—the first time you see somebody make fire by rubbing two sticks together, this look people get in their eyes. It's an experience people don't have when they can put their dinner in the microwave. There's an extinction of experience today. We talk a lot about that; people lack experience with real things.

BILL: I think one of the things Doug and I do for our students, whether in the mountains or in a classroom, is build these virtual time machines. Whether it's for an hour or week, they step back in time.

How do you balance this with the need to stay connected in the modern world?

DOUG: To me, it's a spectrum. My personal preference is for simpler things, but I produce some of my own video work, and I don't shy away from that. I don't watch television, but I live in a normal suburban house, and I wear normal clothes. I don't run around half naked in buckskin all the time—except when I'm lucky enough to have an excuse (laughs).

BILL: For me, this was the start of an entire journey. I had this desire to get to the most basic level of everything I did. So if I learned to hunt, I had to learn to bow hunt. If I was going to bow hunt, I had to learn how to make the bow, and the arrows and the stone points. When I think of modern technologies, I certainly engage in them. I can't do my job without some of them. However, I still try to maintain my basic approach to everything I do—I don't want to do anything unless I've learned how to do it first from scratch. That way I can better understand the process and also how it impacts me, my family, and the world around me in a larger context.

Was there any pivotal experience or no-going-back moment on your path to really embracing this?

DOUG: I had an experience early on in my studies. We were out trying to live as hunter-gatherers for a week, and one night, we'd waited too long to start a fire. We're staring down nighttime, it's raining, everything is a bit wet, and we're struggling to get any friction for a spark. Fortunately, I lived to tell about it. I don't wait until dark to get my fires going anymore.

BILL: For my dissertation, I spent several years recreating a 2,000-year-old fishing station on an island in the

middle of the Delaware River. I took students and volunteers out for several weeks to test a lot of archaeological questions and, in order to do it properly, made it an immersive experience—what we call “living archaeology.” It's one thing to wake up in the hotel every morning, have breakfast, then go out and run these experiments. It's another thing to live in the context of the experiment day and night. So we go out on this island, and I'm a nervous wreck; my grad school degree is hinging on this. We'd been out there a week, we'd made a wigwam, we were fishing in the river. And one night, sitting around this fire, I was just watching everybody laugh and joke. That was the moment we became a group and started to figure it out. We weren't eating a lot, we weren't comfortable, but we were OK. The way we were laughing around this fire was the way they might've been laughing around a fire in this exact same spot 2,000 years ago. We throw around this word “survival” all the time. It's not survival. Our ancestors weren't surviving; they were subsisting and doing well—really well. In fact, I think we can learn a lot about how to better live our modern lives from our ancestors.

DOUG: I like the term “thrival.”

BILL: “Thrival.” That's great!

DOUG: Thanks! One of the distinctions I try to make with my students is really that goal, the end result. Survival is whatever it takes to get home—you chop down every tree in the forest and set it on fire if you need to. With primitive skills, it's just the opposite. It's about sustaining.

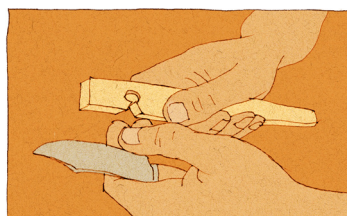
Ryan Jones is a freelance writer based in State College, Pennsylvania, and a deputy editor at The Penn Stater. Interviewing TCNJ alumni pairs is becoming a cottage industry for Jones: he spoke with minor league baseball managers George Coleman and Will Smith in the Summer 2015 issue.

TINDER UNPLUGGED

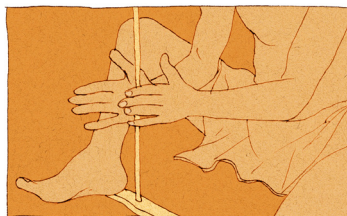
Start your prehistoric journey by learning to make a fire without matches. Hill recommends reading *Earth Knack: Stone Age Skills for the 21st Century* by Bart and Robin Blankenship for more detail. In the meantime, here are some basic tips:



STEP 1: For the fire board, locate a dry piece of wood with two flat sides. For the drill, find a straight, dry stick about 18" tall to use as a spindle.



STEP 2: Cut a circular hole to cradle the spindle and a v-shaped notch that extends to the edge.



STEP 3: Rub your hands in long back-and-forth strokes to twist the spindle. Over time, dust will build up.



STEP 4: Shape dried grasses and shredded tree bark into a bird's nest. Place next to or under fire board.



STEP 5: Accelerate the spindle until smoke and ultimately, a chunk of burning coal (borne of the dust) is ready to meet the tinder.



Now at Amazon UX designer Niveda Harishankar is the antidote to a problem-riddled world.

Help in Your Hand

Inaugural Polansky Fellow folds mental wellness resources into an app.

A deep sadness about a troubled classmate spurred Nivi Harishankar '16 to make mental health resources at TCNJ no more than a swipe and tap away.

For a mobile computing class, Harishankar, an interactive multimedia major, connected the death of that classmate to an assignment her junior year: Create an app.

“It just came together in my mind that this app would be a small step toward bringing students the resources they need,” says Harishankar.

To gear up for the project, she attended HOW Design Live, a weeklong professional graphic design conference in Chicago, giving her the expertise and motivation to bring the project to life.

Who picked up the conference tab? Andy and Maria Polansky (both '83) endowed a fellowship that had Harishankar's name all over it. The Polanskys' target audience is students who lead and enrich the community through communication, media, and technology.

“The conference taught me how graphic design can solve problems,” she says. And that's exactly what she set out to do. The Android app allows students to lift their spirits, track their moods, and get help from the community, all while protecting their privacy. It features a mood tracker, suggested activities and exercises, and quick access to existing psychological resources at the college.

A new alumna, Harishankar is now working at Amazon as a full-time user experience designer. Says the new West Coast resident: “Every single project at TCNJ was a step toward becoming a better problem solver.”

—Emily W. Dodd '03

2016 POLANSKY FELLOWS NAMED

Rising seniors Ryan Laux and Chris Lundy are the next Polansky Fellows. The pair, both interactive multimedia majors and videographers, will present two campus seminars on filmmaking this coming year. **See campus from the sky in their video tour: admissions.tcnj.edu.**



THE CAMPAIGN FOR TCNJ

INNOVATE • INSPIRE • ENGAGE



The 98 Percent

Who will push The Campaign for TCNJ to goal? Co-chairs Barbara Meyers Pelson '59 and Allen Silk are looking at you.

TCNJ Magazine: How are we doing?

BMP: Remarkably well. With a year left, we have surpassed 80 percent of our goal. We've raised \$33 million and have another \$7 million to go.

Here's the \$7 million question. What's it going to take to put us across the finish line?

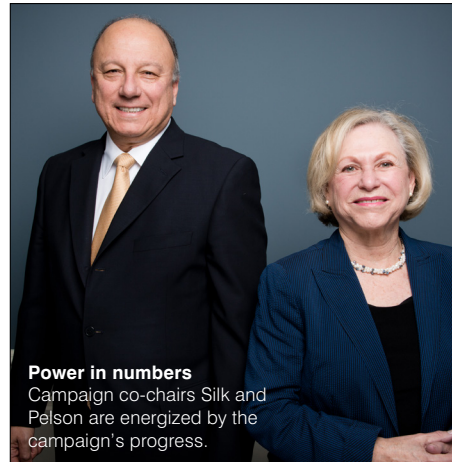
BMP: There's an apt phrase that we've been using since the beginning: "Our success depends on the generosity of many." We will reach TCNJ's highest potential if those of you who have not yet contributed to the campaign send the most generous gift—be it \$20 or \$200—that you can possibly afford.

AS: More than 10,300 individuals have supported the campaign so far, 98 percent who've made donations averaging \$250. The campaign's real strength is in these numbers.

Is this breadth of support a surprise?

BMP: Given the deep bond alumni and supporters have with TCNJ, no, but it has been so satisfying to see this outpouring of support.

AS: Many of you are new donors supporting the college for the first time, including current students, young alumni, and faculty and staff. We are deeply appreciative to all.



Power in numbers
Campaign co-chairs Silk and Pelson are energized by the campaign's progress.

When the books close on this campaign, what do you hope its legacy will be?

AS: In the short term, the campaign is going to make—and already is making—a real impact on the quality and accessibility of a TCNJ education. But in the longer term, we hope the campaign leaves behind a culture of philanthropy in which alumni pride leads to active support for their alma mater's well-being. We have the ability, even a responsibility, to continue to make TCNJ synonymous with exemplary higher education on a national level.

Close.
Closer.
Closest.

Where need remains to reach our goal



\$2.8M

Academic Enrichment



\$2M

Student Experience



\$1.4M

Facilities



\$1M

Student Support

Numbers That Inspire

The latest figures that define The Campaign for TCNJ

Average gift
under \$10,000



Millionaire's Row

Total giving by
first-time donors

Largest gift

Total giving to date

Campaign goal

1

6.6

33

40

M

M

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M

Learn more and get involved
campaign.tcnj.edu

Family Album



Cardlyn Knapp wed Richard Adams '05 on August 15, 2015.



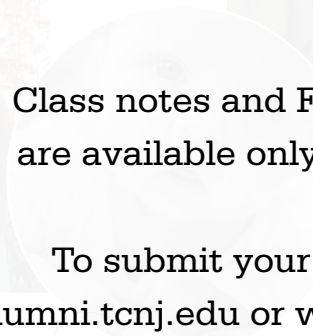
Jennifer Bertson '10 wed Michael Zane '10 on August 8, 2015.



Kelsey Engelstad '10 wed Paul Reardon '10 on August 1, 2015. Included in the wedding party were Lindsey Hackbarth '10, Nicole Reilly Petrone '10, Tom Andreovich '10, and Greg Aschoff '10.



Stephanie Maria '09 wed Jesus Fabian on December 23, 2015.



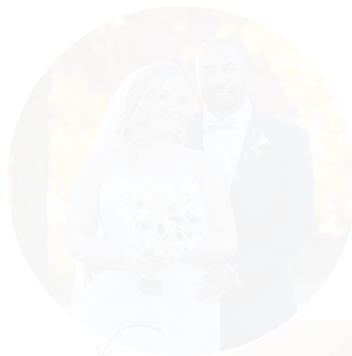
Jamie Moir Conroy '11 and husband, Tom '11: a daughter, June Marie, on November 26, 2015.

Tara Ciccone Donatiello '06 and husband, Joseph '06: a daughter, Joanna, on December 26, 2015. Joanna Elizabeth (age 2).

Class notes and Family Album photos are available only in the print edition. To submit your news and photos, visit alumni.tcnj.edu or write us at alumni@tcnj.edu.



Katie Zavoda '11 wed Tom Pagnotta '10 on June 19, 2015. (Photo by Mark Jaworski '10)



Lydia Field '09 wed Justin Lynch '08 on October 30, 2015.



Kara Kowaleski '04 wed Jonathan Hart MEd '07 on December 5, 2015. Many TCNJ friends were in attendance.



Jennifer Jedziniak Solazzo '02 and husband, Steven '02: a son, Teddy Gerard, on October 30, 2015. Teddy joins big brothers Lucas (age 6) and Levi (age 2) and big sister Annie (age 4).

1950s

Sandy Wanner '58 began as interim county administrator for Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Board of Supervisors, in February.

1960s

Audrey Berkowitz Wallock '68

is interim principal at South Mountain Elementary School in South Orange, New Jersey.

Anita Kurland deSatnick '69

was featured in the Cape May Gazette for her program "Story Hour with Miss Anita," which takes place weekly at the Cape May, New Jersey, library.

1970s

William Hoover '74 was

inducted into the Haddon Township High School Athletic Hall of Fame as an honored athlete of the 1960s. He was inducted into the State Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2005.

Jeffrey Tessier '75 has been elected to the board of directors for the International Securities Exchange (ISE) and ISE Gemini. Last April, **Jeff Lesser '77**

was honored by the East Brunswick Education Foundation for his contributions to the East Brunswick school district and community. Jeff retired in July 2015 as East Brunswick's supervisor of arts education after a 35-year career in public schools, during which he served as a music teacher, high school band director, department chair, and supervisor.

Judson Moore '77 retired from full-time municipal service as township administrator/CFO of Commercial Township, New Jersey, in 2011; in 2014, he was elected mayor. Jud has served as a local fire chief (four-year term) and was elected in 2014 for a

two-year term as president of the New Jersey State Fire Chiefs Association. As a student at the college, he served as treasurer of the College Union Board and a Student Association senator, was a recipient of the Student Leadership Award, and was a member of Chi Rho Sigma fraternity.

Gerald D. Jeitner Jr. '78 has been elected as potentate of his chapter of Crescent Shrine in Westhampton, New Jersey.

Robert Pfeiffer '79 participated in the Florida Senior Games, competing in two cycling and six track and field events.

1980s

Constance Colon-Jones '81 has been named a Pinnacle Professional by *Continental Who's Who* for her

work. She was an assistant professor at the University of Chicago.

Reflections—Women and Their Lives was released in early 2016 by **Constance Colon-Jones '82, MEd '88.**

Robert Kinsey '82 was elected to a third term as mayor of Millstone Township, New Jersey. He has served on the township's committee since January 2005.

Sharon Goldbrenner Pfluger '82 has been honored as a 2015 Division III Regional Coach of the Year by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association for her work as TCNJ's women's lacrosse coach. Sharon also was named a 2015 4U Field Hockey/NFCA Division III Regional Coach of the Year by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association for her work with TCNJ's field hockey team during the 2015 season. In February, she was named a 2016 Tribute to Women honoree by the YWCA Princeton.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Wedding, birth, promotion, anniversary, award, or retirement? Submit news of your major life events online at tcnj.edu/alumni or write us at Alumni Office, The College of New Jersey, PO Box 7718, Ewing, NJ, 08628-0718.

Information in the Class Notes section of *TCNJ Magazine* was submitted for publication. TCNJ staff members try to verify the accuracy of the information; however, the college cannot be responsible for incorrect information contained herein. If you would like us to correct any inaccuracies that have been printed about you, please contact the editor at magazine@tcnj.edu.

Class notes and Family Album photos are available only in the print edition.

To submit your news and photos, visit alumni.tcnj.edu or write us at alumni@tcnj.edu.

Donna Aromando '83 received the Lloyd Ritter Community Service Award from the Volunteer Center of Burlington County, New Jersey. She was praised for her various events and services at

the University of Chicago. **Fred Syragus '83** is the divisional secretary of the Rotherham UK division of the Teachers' Association of

Antonio Underwood '83 was recently named a Fulbright scholar, which allowed him to travel to Serbia, where he helped create a jazz program at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad. He currently is working on his ninth album, *Third Eye Continuum*, which is set to be released under his own label, Tone East Music, this spring.

Erica Daniel Winebrenner '83 has been named a Governor's Educator of the Year by the school district of Readington Township, New Jersey, for her work as a speech/language specialist at Three Bridges School.

Rodney Morris '85 joined Methodist Hospitals (Indiana) as the new director of public safety and security. He previously was senior director for public safety and security, parking, and transportation at the

University of Chicago.

John Fierko '88 is now the vice president of ticket sales for the Trenton Thunder baseball team.

Regina M. Peter '88 was honored by Seton Hall University with the Hanbury Alumni Mission Award for her work as the co-executive director of Newmark Schools in Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

John Convery '89 was promoted to the rank of lieutenant for his work in the Jackson Township Police Department.

Carol Harnett '89 was presented the Outstanding PA Educator award by the New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants.

Jeffrey Lenox '89 retired on December 1, 2015, from the Toms River Police Department after serving 26 years. He was assigned to the Emergency Services Unit for 12 years.

During his time on the unit, he was active as a firearms instructor and police sniper, and he served as coordinator of the Ocean County Regional Sniper team. Throughout his career, he trained numerous new officers, supervised patrol and detective squads, and commanded the Office of Professional Standards and the Administration Bureau.

1990s

Kevin Fenlon '90 has been named New Jersey Herald's Coach of the Year for his work as the head coach of High Point Regional High School's soccer team in Sussex, New Jersey.

Lorena Bennett Dolan '91 is assistant principal for Summit High School in Summit, New Jersey.

Andrea Bowen '92 is the author of the newly released book *H3: Harmonious, Healthy & Heaven-Sent Union*.

Linda Dobbins '92 has been elected partner at Rawie & Henderson's Philadelphia office.

Barbara Harmon-Francis '93 has been named the new Educational Opportunity Fund director at Ramapo College. She was heavily involved in the EOF program during her time at TCNJ, serving as an EOF peer mentor, tutor, and summer RA.

Ed Mendham '93 has been named vice president, finance—portfolio companies for BelHealth Investment Partners in New York.

Ana Berdecia '94, '02, MEd '04 is a senior fellow with The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy and director of the Center for the Positive Development of Urban Children at Thomas Edison State University. She was honored by Children's Futures with its 2016 Guiding Light Award at the Wyndham Garden Hotel on Dec. 11. In its announcement, Children's Futures noted that Berdecia was being recognized for her commitment to helping children, early in life, develop a foundation of academic excellence and achievement.

Jennifer Cortese Brenner '96 has been named the new varsity girls' lacrosse coach for Burr and Burton Academy in Manchester, Vermont.

Someone We Love Has ALS



In 1995, as Jodi DeMarco O'Donnell-Ames '88 was absorbing her husband Kevin's Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) diagnosis and devoting herself to his care, another family member also needed her help: the couple's 2-year-old daughter, Alina.

A language arts teacher, O'Donnell-Ames turned to books first, searching for one that could help her explain things to Alina. There weren't any. Nor could she find a support network for kids whose parents had ALS—the progressive

neurodegenerative disease also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease.

Today O'Donnell-Ames offers such resources through her own nonprofit. But back in the late '90s, pulled between a toddler who was gaining skills and a husband who was losing them, she says she really could have used them herself.

O'Donnell-Ames realized that it's hope—not misery—that loves company.

After Kevin died in 2001, O'Donnell-Ames eventually met an ALS widower Warren Ames; they were married in 2004. He had two children, Nora and Adam, both about Alina's age. "My goal became raising three kids who were all grieving, and getting all five of us in a good place," says O'Donnell-Ames.

At some point in that healing process, she realized that it's hope—not misery—that loves company. The revamped maxim became her inspiration for Hope Loves Company, the nonprofit she founded in 2012 to support kids whose family members have ALS.

The organization's main focus is Camp HLC, a three-day, overnight camp that started in North Jersey and now has iterations in New York, Indiana, and Massachusetts. About 200 kids have attended so far, and O'Donnell-Ames says she recently received grants to fund two more sites. The free weekends combine summer camp staples—campfires, sing-alongs, a talent show—with sessions on the effects of stress and the benefits of meditation.

"The whole purpose is for these children to realize they're not alone," she says, noting that because ALS is so rare, kids don't normally know anyone else in their situation.

As she spoke, O'Donnell-Ames was getting ready to call an 18-year-old whose mother was at the end of a battle with ALS. She makes similar calls daily. The conversations are difficult, but they illustrate what O'Donnell-Ames' sees as her mission: channeling her own grief into action.

"I can't change what happened, and it was a horrible situation on so many levels," she says. "But at least I'm not wallowing. I think I'm honoring Kevin's life and his legacy by continuing his fight in this unique way."

—Molly Petrilla

Family Album



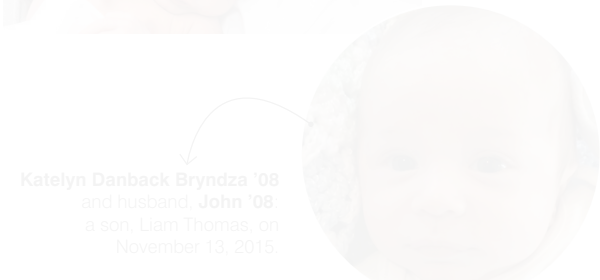
Rachel Samuel Varughese '07 and husband, Gebyr, a son, Joseph Rajan Kottupallil, on November 20, 2015.



Stephanie Zbikowski '03 wed Rich Bleakley on August 8, 2015.

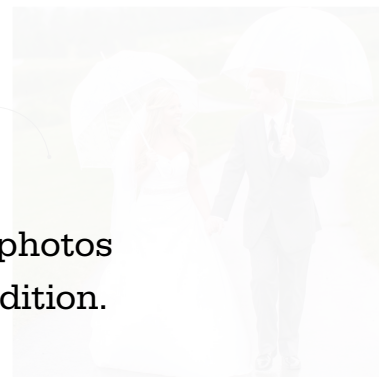


Lorraine "Lara" Soltis '97 wed Mark Iovino on November 14, 2015.



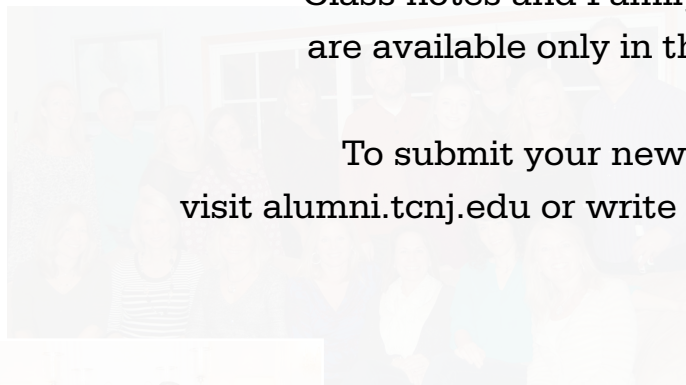
Katelyn Danback Bryndza '08 and husband, **John '08**, a son, Liam Thomas, on November 13, 2015.

Nicole Nagle '10, MA '12 wed Robert Panaro June 27, 2015. They met as next-door neighbors on Wolfe 3 during their freshman year.



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Kimberly Padner Strauss '91 and "The Crew," a group of 12 women annual Crew Christmas Party, a tradition that began when they were undergrads. In attendance at this year's event were **Chris Ondrey Dumont '90**; **Eric Strauss '90**; **Paula Lukasiewicz Londono '90**; **Joe Heath '88**; **Madison Foglia '19**; **Chris Kucinski '04**; **Kris Halt Foglia '90**; **Mike Foglia '86**; **Laura Radwanski Kucinski '90**; **Cherie Johnson Karmilovich '89**; **Laura Murzenski Fitzgerald '90**; **Kim Davis Villani '90, MA '00**; **Maryanne Catone Adams '90**; **Amy Hurley Heath '90**; and **Ann Meiman Corbett '90**. Crew member **Christine Pelletreau '91**, who lives in Seattle, was unable to attend the 2015 party.



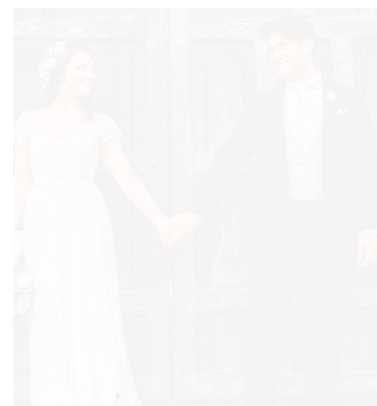
Danielle Petti '07 wed **Michael Marra '07** on April 17, 2015.



Lisa Dornbach Flanagan '00 and husband, John, a daughter, Lila Noelle, on December 15, 2014. Lila joins big brother, Ryan (age 4)

Elizabeth Gerger '13 wed **Nicholas Vitovitch '13** on October 16, 2015. The ceremony and reception were held at the historic Aldie Mansion in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

Tim Honeywell '13 (best man), **Kyle McCabe '15**, **Johann Derflinger '13**, **Rachael Scott '15**, and **Tia Brown '12** were in the wedding party, and several other alumni were in attendance. Liz and Nick met during rehearsals for *Drowsy Chaperone*, an on-campus musical production, in their junior year. If you were lucky enough to attend in spring 2012, you remember the play was a rousing success. Elizabeth played the ever-inebriated Chaperone and Nick played Adolpho, her hilarious Latin lover. Somewhere in the second act, the pair prophetically "get married" during the song "I do, I do. In the Sky." They may be the ultimate TCNJ "showmance."



Family Album



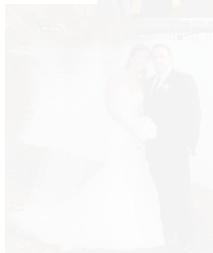
Courtney Baker Briamonte '03 and husband, Rick, a daughter, Caroline Nicole, on January 9, 2015. Caroline joins



Bernadette Campbell Connor '07 and husband, **Matthew '06**: a son, Nathan Ridge, on December 20, 2015.



Jenielle Alonso wed Albert Ribeiro '02 on November 6, 2015.



Katie Maricic '09 and **Steven Cohen '08**, who were married on November 8, 2014, say they feel lucky to have met at TCNJ, where they made many lifelong friendships—particularly through their fraternity and sorority, Alpha Psi Omega. There were 44 alumni at their wedding, including 11 from TCNJ. The reception

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'08; Steve Noon '09; Amy Keitel Noon '10; Nancy Fazzari Byrwa '07, MAT '09; Tara Mullen Gullans '10; Vicky Schiavone '09; Katie Maricic Cohen '09; Dawn Besser Fischer '09; Rothie Banzuelo '09; Melissa Hreha Michaels '09; Kristen Caiazzo '09, MED '12; Nataly Caceres '10, Melissa

Ross '10. Second Row (L-R): Jeremiah DeLeon '11; Brittany Wolfson Muscillo '08; Abe Lugo '10; Melissa Paulhus '09; Liz Mee Tashik '08; Michael Kelley '09; Steven Cohen '08; Bob Damiano '08; Lauren Zink '09; Jennifer Iacovano Belfer '08; Denise Guardino Owen '09; Matt Owen '09; Bill Rumaker '10. Third Row: (L-R): Dan Weber '06;

Jon Muscillo '08; Josh Wall; Tom Gogan '08; Michael Byrwa '10; Matt Johnston '09; Chris Konel '09, MAT '10; Sara Mahwinney Johnston '08; Christina Pickowicz '09; Ryan Shanley '09; Caitlin Lesniak Stebner '10; Colleen Baines Rumaker '10, MED '15. Back Row: (L-R): Jack Medina '09, MAT '10; James Queally '09; Conor Dunn '11; Carl Gullans '07; Elizabeth Maricic '14, maid of honor; Brandon Schiff '14; Jill Turner MAT '14; Eileen Holtz Beesley '77; Alli Stinsman '09.



Julie Frangia '06 on October 23, 2015.



Christine Nielsen Ostermann '05 and husband, **Michael '04**: a daughter, Ashley Rose, on June 1, 2015. Ashley joins big brother, Jonathan (age 2).



Marisa Ferraro Schick '99 and husband, Joseph: a daughter, Taylor Marie, on November 25, 2015. Taylor joins big brother, Blake Landon (age 2).



Debbie Witkowski '92, MSN '99 married Chris Rapciewicz on October 16, 2010.

Matthew Sharp '96 is the new head of school of Haddonfield Friends School in Haddonfield, New Jersey.

Neuman Leverett '97 recently joined Tyco International in Princeton, New Jersey, as senior corporate counsel. In this role, Neuman oversees Tyco's anticorruption and antitrust compliance programs and all internal investigations. He also recently joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania Law School as an adjunct professor teaching trial advocacy.

During his career, he was a partner in a white-collar practice group at Pepper Hamilton LLP and an assistant United States attorney in the U.S. attorney's office in Philadelphia. As a prosecutor, he investigated violent crime, public corruption, and complex fraud cases. Neuman started his legal career as an associate at an international law firm based in New York, and he clerked for two federal judges. He is a 2004 graduate of Rutgers School of Law–Newark.

2000s

Chris Turnbull '00, MEd '07 was recently named the principal of Bear Tavern Elementary School of the Hopewell Valley Regional School District in New Jersey.

Michael Walker '00 is the full-time assistant cross-country and track and field coach for TCNJ. He was captain of the Lions' track and field team during his senior year.

Kelly Rouba Boyd '02 was named Mrs. Mercer County and will compete for the title of Mrs. New Jersey in April.

Elizabeth Hopkins '02 is anchoring the new 4 p.m. newscast on FOX 25 Boston. Elizabeth joined FOX 25 in 2010 as a reporter and anchor for the morning news.

Timothy J. Ford '03 is a new

partner of Einhorn Harris. He joined the practice in 2007 as an associate.

Dean Rayside '03 was named Teacher of the Year at Northern Highlands High School in Allendale, New Jersey, where he teaches mathematics.

Richard Adams '05 graduated from the University of Notre Dame with an MBA in finance. Richard joined Salesforce.com

as senior account executive responsible for growth of financial services in the Connecticut

area. He was named Airman of the Year. He was also the recipient of the Master Sergeant Award for 2015.

Christina has been named The Record's Coach of the Year for her work as the girls' cross-country coach for River Dell (New Jersey) High School.

Truestar Urian '06 presented his first solo show, *Reclaimed Perception*, at the Stable Art Gallery in Ridgewood, New Jersey. *Guilty Pleasures*, a monthly comedy show hosted by **Joseph Moore '07**, was named "Best Comedy Night" by *Philadelphia Magazine* in the 2015 Best of Philly issue.

Canzi Wang MEd '07 was featured in The Badger Herald, University of Wisconsin–Madison's newspaper, for her work as a counselor at the university's health services office.

2010s

Robin Deehan '10 joined the KLBK-TV news team as a reporter in August 2015. KLBK-TV is the CBS-affiliated network for the Lubbock, Texas, area.

Michael Kowalczyk '10 is the Foreign Language Educators of New Jersey's Teacher of the Year

for 2016. He teaches Italian at Bishop George Ahr High School in Edison, New Jersey.

Dr. Jamie Raevis '11 co-authored a medical paper, "Treatment Outcomes and Spectral-Domain Optical Coherence Tomography Findings of Eyes with Symptomatic Vitreomacular Adhesion Treated with Intravitreal Ocriplasmin," which appeared in the January 2015 issue of *American Journal of Ophthalmology*. Jamie also co-authored Chapter 13 in the

textbook *Learning From Experience: From the Classroom to the Clinic*, by Allen J. Taylor. He graduated from Georgetown

University in May 2015. **Anthony Savasta '13** received his CPA certification in May 2015. He is currently an accountant in the state of New Jersey and is currently working with the Spire Group in Clark, New Jersey.

Tiffany DeTulio '14 is the assistant coach for the Marlboro (New Jersey) High School girls' basketball team. Tiffany was a 1,000-career-point scorer at Marlboro and played for TCNJ.

Alyson Lupinetti '14 is an account manager at the Construction Group of New Day Underwriting Managers LLC.

Melissa Spatz MEd '14 has been named a Governor's Educator of the Year by the Readington Township, New Jersey, school district for her work as a special education teacher at Readington Middle School.

Tina Truitt MEd '15 self-published her first novel, *Steppin' On*, in June 2015, and her second novel, *Teamwork*, in May 2016.

IN MEMORIAM

Henry Redlus '38
Margaret "Peggy" Young Elmer '42
Albert "Jack" Barlett '43
Alice Parent Goetz '43
Lillian Linski Lenig '48
Gilda Nardino Graziano '49
Madelyn Trowbridge Post '50
Marjorie Frey Vizbara '50
Pauline "Polly" Chesebro Clinton '52
Lucille Bennett Ward '53
Alice Clunn Ball '54
Beverly Ostroff Bloom '56
Moira Elder Kaye '56
Marilyn Fitzgeorge Vanderbilt '56
Betty Lee Watson '56
Gerald "Jerry" Nowak '58
Janet Goebel Dunshee '59
Robert "Bob" Bornstein '60, MEd '63
Marilyn "Sue" Laird Murray '61
Nancy Maragno Millwater '63
Patricia E. Hughes Forsyth '64
Galen C. Gohde '66
Harry "Skip" Mottola '67, MEd '72
June Axen Silver '69
Marjorie Wilson Pierson '70, MEd '77
Helen Lapiczak Cooke '72
Helen Schumacher Greener '73
Henry "Hank" Eveland III '74
Douglas W. Smith '76
Marie Correnti Kelson '77
Emanuel Glin '78
William "Bill" Haacker '78
Eugenia Reeve MA '78
Margaret Small Alpaugh MEd '86
Nicole Briamonte Malato '99
Ellen Kraus Osborn MAT '01
Jeremy Wasserman '15
Moshe Budmor, faculty emeritus
Enid H. Campbell, faculty emeritus
Richard Matthews II, faculty emeritus
Maurice "Marcy" Rainier, college staff

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10

things you need to know about...

THROWING A SIZZLING SUMMER BBQ.

PEOPLE ARE ONLY NOW STARTING TO RECOGNIZE chef and restaurant consultant Carl Ruiz as *that guy from TV*, but in reality he's been popping up on the Food Network for years. First, his Chatham, New Jersey, restaurant, Marie's Italian Specialties, appeared on *Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives*. Then he took first place in *Guy's Grocery Games*. Now he's returned as a judge on that show. Off-camera, Ruiz is the creative force behind the menu at Traditions, the new restaurant that opened in the Brower Student Center in February. Between expanding his own restaurant empire (which now includes Marie's Chicken Joint, also in Chatham) and helping other chefs with theirs, Ruiz is known to throw a mean barbecue. Here, he offers 10 guest-pleasing—and sanity-saving—tips to help you do the same.

—Compiled by Molly Petrilla

1

If you're cooking with propane, you're not really barbecuing, so skip the shiny gas grill and get yourself a classic charcoal kettle.

2

Keep it simple: Pick two types of meat and make them perfectly. If you try to juggle too much, something will end up burnt or dry.

3

Guests won't need a knife—or even a plate—if you serve chicken drumsticks. Ruiz fully cooks his in the oven, then uses the grill to add char marks and smoky flavor.

4

Sangria is mandatory. Try it with rosé, Sprite, white grapes, cantaloupe, and a sprig of mint.

5

Have potato or macaroni salad out early for that person who just can't wait for the grilled stuff.

6

Don't let yourself be turned into a short-order cook. Put condiments on the table and serve the meats all at once.

7

Wrap potatoes or corn in foil and keep them on the grill so they'll get some great flavor.

8

Crudités don't get enough credit; they're a must-have. Serve them on ice with a dip made from Greek yogurt and lemon juice.

9

Cobbler, pie, icebox cake, and pudding make the perfect barbecue chasers. Just be sure to serve them cold.

10

Tell guests to bring canned goods instead of a side dish—then do like Ruiz and donate them to the local food bank.



A planned gift. An everlasting connection.

*Education alumna's bequest will create
scholarships for a new generation of teachers.*

LOIS WILMOTT McCUE '67, MEd '89

always wanted to be an educator. "Growing up, while other kids were playing with dolls, I was playing teacher," she says. She credits TCNJ with launching her 30-year career as a second-grade teacher—and making her dream a reality.

Now retired, McCue wants to help TCNJ students with similar dreams. Specifically, she wanted to support education majors who don't qualify for financial aid, yet still can't afford tuition on their own. With help from the planned giving office, she left a gift in her will to create such a scholarship fund.

"My children will be taken care of, and I'll also be helping students in need," says McCue. "We felt this was an important thing to do. You can do it, too."

“A scholarship helped me afford college, and I want to help others in the same way. A bequest lets me do that—without diminishing my children's financial security.”

Join Lois in helping future TCNJ students. Contact Jim Spencer at 609-771-3285 or jspencer@tcnj.edu for information on bequests and other planned gifts.

tcnj.edu/plannedgiving



TCNJ THE COLLEGE OF
NEW JERSEY

**LOOKING
BACK**



Back in the day, your typewriter didn't talk to you or turn *Skyping* into *slurping*, and you were good with that. Typewriters, including the required bottle of dried-out Wite-Out, quickly became ubiquitous. What modern convenience do you remember from college? Or what can't you live without now? Facebook app? E-ZPass? Smartphone? Laundry detergent pods? Confess your dependence and share with fellow Lions what it means for civilization. Share your story by writing us at the address at the top of this page or at magazine@tcnj.edu.