

Class Notes

Say Hawaii and most people picture vacationers relaxing on palm-tree fringed beaches with fruity drinks in hand. Eric Piper '56, however, thinks of swimming for 2.4 miles, biking for 112 miles, and running for 26.2 miles.



GOING the Distance

1930s

Ruth McIntosh (Chlumsky), '33 B.A., retired from New York State teaching. She is now in her thirty-second year of retirement.

1940s

Ruth Bennett (Hutt), '40 B.A., is active in the field of social work at the Ecumenical Consultation Center in Hicksville, NY.

Mabel Coha (Munkenbeck), '40 B.A., retired as a mathematics teacher in San Diego, CA in June 1980. She did volunteer work until moving to South Carolina in 1990. Her husband built his Vreize airplane and finished it in 1980. They tried it out by flying to Alaska that year and eventually to Brazil in 1983.

Marion Olson Armstrong, '44 B.A., is a widow with three adult children. She has five grandchildren.

Jane Crony (Becker), '47 B.S., is retired and living in an independent living facility.

Renee Simon (Blatt), '47 B.A., was recently elected president of Long Beach Jewish Family and Children's Service Researching and Writing Corp./Institutional Histories.

Pearl Cande (Lupowitz), '48 B.A., is a board member of the Five Towns Senior Center in Woodmere, NY. She is the grandmother of five who live in Salem, OR.

Stanley Schwartz, '48 B.A., retired from the practice of dentistry on May 4, 2005 after fifty-two years. He is a fellow of the International College of Dentists as well as the Academy of General Dentistry.

Irwin Gonshak, '49 B.A., is a radio producer for Teachers & Writers Collaborative and chair of the Workers Guild of America Short Radio Drama Committee. He was executive producer of The Big Apple Short Radio Drama Festival on WNYE-FM.

1950s

Theodore Grant, '50 B.A., is an active clergyman.

Arthur Herman, '50 B.A., constructed the Adelphi University Center in 1968 and the addition to the Adelphi library in 1981. He did restorations at Dowling College after a fire in 1975.

Annabelle Schnitman (Stapen), '50 B.A., retired in a beautiful complex called Leisure World and is spending her time writing children's books and hopes to write a play in the future.

Nancy Grant (Hollister), '51 B.S., '81 M.S.W., is active in the field of social work at the Ecumenical Consultation Center in Hicksville, NY.

Dorothy Wick Marinoff (Stockwell), '51 B.A., remarried in 1990 after her husband passed away in 1988. She has three stepchildren.

That's the course for the world championships of the Ironman triathlon, held on Hawaii's Big Island every year. Mr. Piper, a Corona del Mar, California-based small-business owner and an Adelphi University Athletic Hall of Fame member, has qualified for and completed the race five times since 1981, finishing first in the 60 to 64 age group in 1994, at eleven hours and forty-six minutes.

When Mr. Piper was co-captain of the swim team in his senior year at Adelphi, it became the first of any sports team in the school's history to have an undefeated season, but he stresses he wasn't one of the group's stars. "I swam the individual medley, and I was fair at it," he recalls. He also played lacrosse during his four years in Garden City, but it was not until the triathlon was invented as a sport in the 1970s that he found his true athletic calling.

Mr. Piper's interest was piqued by the combination of skills required to participate in the sport. "I'd always been into running and swimming, so the triathlon was a perfect fit for me." He found his first Ironman championship to be difficult, but he was convinced he could do better. That motivated him to qualify for the championships again in 1982,


1984, 1992, and 1994. Mr. Piper also competed in other big endurance races over the years, including the Boston Marathon (five times, all under three hours) and the 54-mile London to Brighton, England race (twice).

Mr. Piper says he likes the challenge of pursuing tough goals. "It takes a lot of discipline," he says. "You've got to watch what you eat, get your sleep, do everything by the numbers. The secret to all this endurance stuff is the training you put in."

The training is time-consuming. For the 1994 Ironman championship race, for example, he put in about twenty six hours a week for six months—running 60 miles, biking 225 miles, and swimming 10,000 meters a week. In some years, he's practiced with high school cross-country teams, pushing himself against runners twenty to thirty years younger than him. But because of a path he started walking at Adelphi, Mr. Piper has been able to craft a life that's been flexible enough to allow him to pursue endurance racing.

Mr. Piper earned a business degree at Adelphi, which helped him qualify for an officer's commission in the Marine Corps. After four years of active duty, he joined the Marine

Corps reserves and got a job with Continental Can Company, a packaging company run by General Lucius Clay, the four-star general who had organized the Berlin Airlift, that was seeking servicemen to turn into business executives. After learning the ins and outs of the packaging industry there and earning an M.B.A., Mr. Piper started his own packaging design and distribution company, Eric Piper & Associates, in California in 1980. Today the company boasts \$25 million in sales. Being the boss of a business that soon included one of his two sons and his daughter gave him the freedom to balance work with racing.

At age 71, Mr. Piper says his Ironman championship days are behind him, although he still visits Hawaii regularly to see a son who lives there. In early March, in fact, he was headed to Oahu and the Big Island with Mary, his wife of fifty years, whom he met at Jones Beach when he was a lifeguard there the summer before his first year at Adelphi. What did his vacation plans include? "I think I'll swim a little bit of the Ironman course, and I'll do a little running," he said. 

-Samantha Stainburn

She taught elementary school for seven years, was a social worker for years in Commack, NY, and served as a Suffolk County social worker for about five years. She has lived in Florida since 1989, doing volunteer work when possible.

Jane Ryan (Cory), '51 B.S., retired from nursing twenty years ago and is healthy and active. She is busy with photography, gardening, and accounting for her son's service station.

Victor Streit, '51 M.A., was in the Marine Corps from 1937 to 1949. He was a teacher and an administrator from 1950 to 1975. From 1977 to 1978, he was a missionary in Grenada where he established a consortium of Wesley College. He remembers the transfer and building of Adelphi College from Brooklyn to Garden City in 1929.

Robert Weschler, '51 B.A., completed his fifty-fourth year of teaching at the Waldorf School of Garden City, NY.

June Mehrberg-Rothstein (Shapiro), '52 B.A., is a mental health clinician and seeks to have a private practice. She has an M.A. in mental health from New York University and is a certified therapist, although art, music, and drama still play important roles in her life. She does local theater work.

Lois Jason (Kester), '53 B.A., is the principal spokesperson for the Connecticut Humane Society and is featured in current television commercials. She is also an active founding member of the Yale University Retirees Association.

Philip Albanese, '55 B.A., retired in 1997 and has been traveling each year with his wife and family. He has been to Hawaii, Sicily, and twice to Italy.

Sandra Marlow (Kane), '55 B.A., is retired now but continues doing research and working on articles. She is an advocate for people

involved in the testing of nuclear weapons. She was a spokesperson on human radiation experimentation before President Clinton's commission on radiation experiments.

John Kalberer, '56 B.A., is the author of the book, *History of Disease Prevention at the National Institutes of Health*, published in March 2006 by the American Journal of Disease Prevention.

Lois Schnakenberg, '56 B.A., '68 M.A., recently gave a slide lecture on the Canadian artist Emily Carr at the Garden City Community Club.

Barbara Lebkuecher (Musso), '58 B.S., works at the North Fork Nursery in Jamesport, NY. She is serving on the executive board of Custer Institute Observatory, Southold, NY as treasurer, celebrating twenty-five years in 2005.



A CLASS ACT

Angela Greco '94, M.S.'97 hopes that her fourth grade students at the Old Mill Road School in North Merrick, New York remember her as "the teacher who let them make a really big mess and learn something from it."

Last spring, Ms. Greco was one of ninety-five teachers nationwide, and the only one from New York State, to be honored with the 2004 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She flew to Washington, D.C., met with President Bush, and received a check for \$10,000.

Ms. Greco was nominated for the prestigious honor, "the Nobel Prize of teaching," by her principal, Marianne Greisofe M.A. '76, and submitted a ten-page description and videotape of a lesson on experimenting with and comparing series circuits and parallel circuits. She had plans to return to graduate school and was especially motivated by the possibility of using the money to cover some expenses.

Today, the money, which she describes as "miniscule compared to the week we had in D.C.," is still in the bank. The award has literally changed her life, creating so many opportunities, she is still deciding which one to pursue.

She got a taste of education policy last summer when she was invited to Albany to work with state coordinators on the New York State science test. The press and prestige also brought her back to Adelphi, where she is an adjunct professor.

She loves working with the Adelphi faculty and being back at the place where her career first took shape.

As an undergraduate psychology major, Ms. Greco worked at Adelphi's Child Activity Center where she quickly discovered she wanted to pursue a teaching career. The position helped her qualify for graduate school, and earning her degree at Adelphi meant that

she could continue working at the Center, applying "everything I learned in my classes at night...the next day in my job."

When she graduated, she was already ahead of the curve in her classroom management skills, skills that are often the most challenging for new teachers. "When you have twenty-three 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds on a daily basis for six years, it's something you learn and learn well," she says.

Ms. Greco builds her science lessons around her students' natural curiosity, calling them all "budding scientists." She finds fourth graders are naturally inquisitive, and sees it as her job to encourage them to ask questions, which she has admitted can be a challenge.

"I see it all the time in their eyes that they just don't get something, but they hesitate to take the risk of questioning in front of their peers," she noted in a statement shortly after receiving the award. "To overcome this, I try to create a safe environment that welcomes every comment. I point out my mistakes and let my students know there's no such thing as a bad question."

No surprise, she is in love with her profession and attributes her success to being caring, committed, patient, extremely organized, "and willing to come home at the end of the day exhausted."

Like most people who are passionate about what they do, Ms. Greco finds the job never really leaves her. "I come up with the best ideas when I'm in the shower, driving, when I'm cooking," she says, noting that she is also never without pen and paper for writing them all down.

She also knows that opportunities to teach science and math don't stop at the classroom door. Prices, speedometers, the number of passengers in a car, all inspire mathematical or scientific thought. "You can make anything a math problem, and everything around you has some kind of scientific basis."

"My one goal for every student who leaves my classroom in June is to be passionate about learning, be confident enough to take a risk, to make mistakes and to learn from them, and to always do their best," she says. "I just think they aren't going to remember that Verrazano was the first person to reach New York in 1604, but they will remember that I allowed their predictions to be incorrect and we still learned a whole lot from that."

And what about her own goals? One dream is to pursue a graduate degree to study volcanoes. Another is to be a principal or a university professor. **A**

1960s

Robert Ziebarth, '60 B.A., is proud to announce the birth of his second grandchild, born on July 12, 2005.

Ronald Metzler, '61 B.A., retired after forty-three years of teaching, forty-one of which were at Plainview Middle School, Plainview, NY.

Herma Aiken (Jaye), '62 B.A., has retired as a personal coordinator for SCO Family of Services/RTF as of September 2005. She will be moving to Georgia to do volunteer work in warm weather.

Sandi Bloomberg (Harvey), '62 B.A., has had two of her children's books published,

The Magic Garden and *The Magic Cookies*. She is doing author readings in schools, libraries, and bookstores. She also has a monthly column in the *Great South Bay Magazine*, entitled "Sandi by the Sea."

William Cooperberg, '62 B.B.A., is enjoying retirement and his grandchildren.

Nancy Bischoff, '63 B.A., is an editor/proof-reader at Henry Schein, Inc. in Melville, NY.

Karen Mesquita (Rosenhack), '63 B.A., works part-time for a nonprofit agency that helps Jewish students go to college and graduate school with interest-free loans.

Monique Schwender (Cofman), '63 B.A., '69 M.A., has a granddaughter, Stephanie Schwender, who is eighteen months.

August J. Haltmaier, '64 M.A., is currently residing in Kapole, HI and working toward the completion of his Ph.D. degree.

Arlene Lennitt (Lesser), '64 B.A., '79 M.A., retired from teaching art in Miami, FL and works out of her own art studio in Boca Raton.

Nancy Straus (Barst), '64 B.A., is a sixth grade language arts teacher at Woodlands Middle School in Lake Worth, FL. She just bought a new vacation home in Pinehurst, NC, the golf capital.

Edward Gruber, '65 M.B.A., recently retired after more than twenty-five years of employment, but is still available for consulting projects.

S. Michael Plaut, '65 B.A., was awarded the 2006 (and first) service award by the Society for Sex Therapy and Research.

Robert Baker, '66 B.S., '76 M.A., retired from the Port Washington Public Schools after thirty-eight years of teaching. He will now live the life of the endless summer!

Stephen Kunkin, '66 B.S., '71 M.A., currently works for the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles as a license examiner. He taught biology and general science in the New York City school system for ten years.

Paul Quentzel, '67 B.A., has been listed in the *Guide to America's Top Physicians* by the Consumers' Research Council of America.

Tsoltim Shakabpa, '67 B.B.A., is a published poet and a Tibetan Freedom movement activist. His new book and autobiography, *Winds of Change—An Autobiography of a Tibetan*, was recently published and released by Paljor Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, India.

Thomas Steyer, '67 B.B.A., is happy to announce his daughter Sylvia's marriage in Caracas, Venezuela on May 5, 2006. Sylvia will also be getting her master's degree in dietetics and nutrition next year.

Thomas Carras, '68 B.S., retired from the U.S. Marines Corps in 1991 (Lt. Col.). He held the position of director of academic affairs for the Southern California, Hawaii, and Sacramento campuses with the University of Phoenix. He is semi-retired as lead area

chair for the University of Phoenix at the Sacramento campus.

Margaret Bicknese (Havens), '69 B.A., '70 M.A., represents her business, Music for Memorable Moments. She regularly performs as a piano soloist on the Main Line and throughout the suburbs of Philadelphia, PA. She also teaches piano lessons to children and adults.

1970s

Mary Elizabeth Abbate (De Van), '70 B.A., was elected to the executive board of the Suffolk County Criminal Bar Association for the 2004–2005 term. She is in private practice doing criminal, family, and matrimonial law.

Judith Tobolowsky (Wechter), '70 B.A., is working part-time as a speech pathologist in a private clinic.

Roby Young, '70 B.S., '72 M.A., currently resides in Syosset, NY and teaches physical education and woodworking at the Buchley Country Day School. He is also the women's soccer coach at Queens College.

Estelle Aden, '71 M.A., retired in 2001 after thirty-one years of being a professor of theater and speech at Hofstra University. She published an essay about the play, *Incident at Vichy*, written by Arthur Miller. She happily remembers many theatrical productions from her past.

Gloria Maffettone, '71 B.S., '75 M.S., received two awards for service to the community. She received a 2005 Woman of Distinction Award from the Nassau Chapter of the American Association of University Women in conjunction with the Island Park Public Library, and she was named a Suffolk County Organization for the Promotion of Education Outstanding Educator in Community Service. She earned a professional diploma in administration and supervision from Long Island University–C.W. Post Campus. She has been principal of Francis X. Hegarty Elementary School in Island Park for the past thirteen years.

Jay Pasternack, '71 B.A., is the director of Behavioral Health Services for Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Northampton, MA.

Barbara Lipman Wulf, '71 B.A., received a Ph.D. from Stony Brook University. She taught language and literature at Stony Brook Hunter College, and the New School for Social Research, but is now retired.

Laurette Shrage (Benda), '72 B.S., is the assistant director of special and alternative services at the elementary level in New Rochelle, NY. She is the recipient of the 2002 We Are One Septa Award and the Mini Grant in 1998, 1999, and 2000. She received a certificate for Academic Excellence at the College of New Rochelle in 1994 and a certificate for Parent Leadership in New York City's P.S. 40 in 1990.

Robert Anderson, '73 B.S., '75 M.S., works in magazine/newspaper publishing. Some of his clients include CMP Media, the Hearst Corporation, and Downtown Media.

Mabel Fisher, '74 M.A., at age 87, is in a healthy, active retirement. She is the oldest member of her large family of fifty-two.

Dianne Honig (Robbins), '74 M.S., '75 M.S., retired in 1998 after working as an English teacher for twenty-five years at Oceanside High School, and is now living happily in Somers, NY.

Cynthia Glatt (Forman), '75 Post Doc. Cert., is a psychoanalyst/psychotherapist who is currently in the Brandeis University National Leadership Academy. She is on the Regional and Boca Raton Board of Brandeis University Women's Committee, along with being precinct captain for the Boca Raton Democratic Party, and has numerous other affiliations.

Janice Levy (Egre), '75 B.S., '77 M.A., is the author of eight children's books. Her latest two books are *Finding the Right Spot: When Kids Can't Live With Their Parents*, published by The American Psychological Association, and *Alley Oops*, about bullying, published by Flashlight Press.

Clarence McMaster, '75 B.A., was appointed to LaGuardia College's President's Cabinet in September 2005.

Catherine Rivera (Horbil), '75 B.A., '77 M.A., received national board certification in teaching in 2004.

Joan Scerbo, '75 B.A., is teaching Italian at Don Bosco Preparatory High School in Ramsey, NJ. She was recently promoted to chairperson of the World Language Department.

Joan Capua, '76 B.A., founded her own speaking skills company entitled Talk the Talk Bootcamps. She trains professionals in public speaking, Spanish, English, successful selling, etc.

Daniel DiBernardo, '76 M.A., recently joined Travel Time Travel as vice president, sales and marketing. Travel Time is a travel company serving corporate, government, and college/university travel needs.

E. Willa Haas (Ethel Seldin-Schwartz), '76 M.S.W., writes mostly screenplays and stage plays. Her book, *Divorce Ghosts* (composed of twelve connected stories and a novella), will be published soon. The themes are adjusting to divorce and old age, as well as a lifelong relationship between two women. Her screenplay, *Burt's Boy*, is in pre-production.

Jeanne Rose (Bouza), '76 M.A., is a teacher for grades 1–4 and an artist who ran a course in Orkney in the summer of 2005 to provide inspiration for her life's work. She was recognized for her course, which specializes in watercolor or white-line woodblock technique, in the *Orcadian* in February 2005.

James Walsh, '76 M.A., is the executive director of the Thrasher Home Center for the Arts, a major regional cultural arts center in Florida. A playwright, he recently produced *Miami Beach Dialogue* in South Florida. He is also a freelance theater consultant and an acting and direction teacher/coach.

Sam Bernstein, '77 M.S.W., provides individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, and behavioral interventions as a school social worker at the Theodore Roosevelt School in Elizabeth, NJ.

Floria Herbst, '77 M.S., has been a real estate owner/broker of Landmark Realty in Staten Island, NY, and a special education teacher for the New York City Department of Education. She is currently an inclusion teacher at Tottenville High School. She has spent twenty-five years working with emotionally disturbed children and twenty years and counting working as a real estate broker.

Karen Loeffler, '77 B.B.A., worked for Castagna Realty Corp. She was featured in *Newsday* in the People on the Move section. She is the director of marketing and communications for The Maurer Foundation for Breast Health Education based in Port Washington, NY, where she finds new sources of funding and directs branding and promotion of corporate sponsorship of the foundation's breast health programs.

Joan Camardella, '78 B.A., recently completed a health insurance billing and coding program at Edutech Centers in Clearwater, FL. She graduated in July 2005 and is currently completing an externship.

William Conforti, '78 B.A., is a certified acupuncturist with a private family practice in North Huntingdon, PA.

Lisa Filippi, '78 B.S., '95 Ph.D., is an assistant professor of biology at the New College of Hofstra University.

Charles Rasmusson, '78 M.S., was recently named chief financial officer of All Metro Health Care.

Ruth Anderson, '79 B.A., '81 M.A., is an assistant librarian at MS Palmer School. She is still interior designing and had an exhibit of her sculpture at the Sea Cliff Museum.

Beverly Fiegelman, '79 M.S.W., is an adjunct professor in the Adelphi University School of Social Work.

David Reff, '79 B.S., is a dental hygiene program director at Apollo College in Boise, ID. He started dental hygiene and dental assisting programs at Middle Georgia Technical College in Warner Robins, GA in 2000, and at South Florida Community College in Avon Park, FL in 2002.

Martin Stoneman, '79 B.A., received his B.A. in 1979, graduating *magna cum laude* at age 60. He is now retired at 86 years old.

Michael Varady, '79 B.S., retired from The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey with twenty-seven years of service. He now owns and operates a boatyard.

1980s

Nancy Brill, '80 B.S., '82 M.B.A., has been a member of the Creative team since 1985. In her current position as assistant vice president, she is responsible for streamlining corporate policies and practices to maximize efficiency. She has held numerous positions, including both director of educational services, as well as director of the strategic project group.

Miriam Katz (Weiss), '80 M.S., is retired from the New York City Department of Education, but was recently hired as an adjunct professor at Nova University in Florida. She and her husband have three grandchildren.

Sandra Reed-Bottino, '80 B.S., is employed by the Las Vegas Valley Water District as a management analyst. She does volunteer mediation for the Clark County Neighborhood Justice Center. She is also the owner of a small at-home business, making handcrafted beaded jewelry.

Alan Fluger, '81 M.A., has owned and worked for Brea Chiropractic and Wellness Center for the past twenty-two years, helping people attain a state of wellness. He has a federal trademark for "chironosis," which is using the principles of chiropractics and hypnosis to achieve a state of well-being. He is now living happily and healthfully in Southern California.

Debra Garshofsky, '81 M.A., is an art therapist at Flushing Medical Hospital Center in Queens, NY. She works in the inpatient psychiatry department and the chemical dependency unit.

Patricia Mulvaney-Roth, '81 B.S., '91 M.S., has worked part-time at Molloy College since 2002 as an adjunct clinical instructor, in addition to being the clinical nurse specialist of behavioral health at South Nassau Communities Hospital.

Joseph Coen, '82 M.S., is the co-author of *Diocese of Immigrants: The Brooklyn Catholic Experience 1853–2003*.

David Kunen, '82 B.A., works for Medical Billing Consulting with major Philadelphia billing departments.

Laurie Pferr (Weintraub), '82 B.A., worked in the New York State Senate for twenty years. She joined the New York State Office for the Aging in August 2003.

Jacqueline Ward, '82 B.S., is presently employed as a teacher in West Bloomfield Schools in West Bloomfield, MI. She also is a real estate investor in the southwest Florida area.

Priscilla Bocca, '83 A.S., '84 B.S., '86 M.S.W., retired in April 2004 from Pilgrim Psychiatric Center, outpatient department. She worked for the New York State Office of Mental Health for almost forty-six years.

Thomas Burkart, '83 B.B.A., has been selected as vice president of claims and elected an officer of the Providence Mutual Fire Insurance

Company. He is responsible for the overall operation of the claims department. He is a current member of the Boston Association of Claims Executives. He and his family are in the process of moving to the Rhode Island area.

Richard Gallucci, '83 B.S., is a senior geologist working for Cascade Earth Sciences in Pocatello, ID. He does environmental geology and groundwater studies at regulated sites. He received his M.S. in 1997 from Idaho State University in Pocatello. He has also worked as a licensed environmental health specialist and now does a variety of technical projects related to pollution prevention and mitigation for industry and government.

Douglas Miles, '83 B.B.A., hosts and produces *The Sports Forum*, a daily two-hour sports talk show on WIBQ radio in Sarasota, FL. He also hosts a big band/jazz program. He is a panelist on *Talking Sports* on Comcast Channel 21 in Sarasota. He does freelance work in voice-overs and audio/video production in his business, Milestone Productions.

Patricia Ruiz (Donegan), '83 M.S.W., is working part-time. She and her husband have rented studio space where they paint with oils and watercolors.

Alumni Association Board

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Stewart I. Schwartz, '83 M.S.W., has been a medical director at one of Albert Einstein's major outpatient psychiatric clinics in Bronx, NY since September 2002. He is a pediatric psychiatrist, and his team consists of social workers and psychologists, as well as interns in these two disciplines. Currently, their census is 735 children and adolescents.

Lynne Keenan, '84 M.B.A., has been recognized with the Orchid award for outstanding service to the Long Island Association of Family and Consumer Science Professionals.

Philip Chester, '85 B.B.A., '97 M.B.A., joined Colemont Insurance Brokers on September 19, 2005 as assistant vice president.

Joseph Ferrari, '85 M.A., '89 Ph.D., is a professor of psychology at DePaul University in Chicago, IL. He is the treasurer of the Easton Psychological Association and editor of *The Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community* (Haworth Press, NY). He is active in research and field work on procrastination and several areas of social-community engagement, such as substance abuse, addiction, and recovery; caregiver's stress and satisfaction; sense of community; and assessing higher education institutional missions. He was featured in the December 9, 2005 cover story in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, "New Insights into Chronic Dawdling."

Nancy Fink, '85 M.B.A., a graduate of St. Michael's College in Colchester, VT, was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters at the college's commencement in May 2005. She is the first woman elected president of the college's alumni association, and was lauded for her more than twenty-five years of volunteer service. She has also been a member of the board of trustees for twelve years. She earned her master's degree in business finance. She is now a resident of Rockville Centre, NY and is a managing director at Rockefeller & Co.

Deirdre Gambino, '85 M.S., was named business administrator for the Bellmore School District in December 2005. With experience in both the private and public sector, she was a business administrator for the Levittown and Malverne public schools, an assistant superintendent in the Lawrence school district, and an adjunct professor at Farmingdale State University. In addition to her M.S., she holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from St. John's University and a professional diploma in school business administration from the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University.

Jeffrey Kolodny, '85 B.A., is the owner/president of Jeff Kolodny Photography, Inc. in Palm Beach County, FL. After spending nearly twenty years in Los Angeles, CA, he relocated to Florida where he successfully re-established his photography business. One of his photographs won second place in the Wedding Portrait and Photographers International and National competition. He married Robin on June 4, 2000, who gave birth to their son, Joel, on July 2, 2004.

Alexander Pose, '85 B.S., is employed by Omya AG, a Swiss multinational company. He is currently the CEO of Omya Latin America based in Mexico City. He combines business travel with mountain climbing. He successfully climbed Kilimanjaro in Africa in 2001 and will attempt Aconcagua at 7,000 meters in late 2005.

Robert Candela, '86 M.B.A., is the senior vice president and chief financial officer for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. He and his wife, Carolyn, have three daughters: Kristen, 20; Laura, 20; and Tricia, 16. They reside in East Setauket, NY.

Jane Looney, '86 B.S., is a medical technologist at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Hospitals. She was selected by the senior clinical laboratory science students as an Outstanding Clinical Instructor and was recognized at a reception in May 2005 at the university.

Judith Jack, '87 M.B.A., has worked as a broker-salesperson in Key West, FL and lower Keys since 1987. She opened the Keys to the Sea Realty, a real estate and property management company, in 2003.

Fran McClain (DiGioia), '87 M.S.W., manages programs for five neighborhood centers and on-campus treatment homes in Las Vegas and Henderson for the Nevada State Division of Child and Family Services program. She is seeking clinical social workers, clinical supervisors, and mental health counselors to work with children 6–18 years old and their families.

Mara Romano (Kleinhardt), '87 B.S., has maintained her own law office with her husband in Brooklyn and for the past five years has also been the assistant general counsel for the 1-800-Mattress headquarters in Long Island City, NY.

Janet Zuckerman (Rivkin), '87 M.A., '91 Ph.D., is a visiting professor at the Westchester Center for Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy in White Plains, NY.

Gloria Collura (Agnew), '88 B.S., was promoted to clinical practice coordinator of the neonatal intensive care unit of Schneider Children's Hospital in New Hyde Park, NY in August 2005.

Limor Tintweiss, '88 B.A., '89 M.A., is a psychologist at Nassau BOCES and is currently working on his Ph.D. at Capella University. He has been married for fifteen years and has three children.

Shelley Beckwith, '89 M.B.A., was recently named president of International Patterns, Inc., a manufacturer of graphic products in Bay Shore, NY.

Maria Mazzola, '89 M.A., has been working for seventeen years as a full-time art teacher in the Huntington Public School District and is currently teaching K–3 in a primary school. Along with the librarian at her school, she established the Book Nook Club, part of an enrichment program in her district whereby art and literature are combined for a very rewarding, enriching experience.

1990s

Patrick Wallach, '90 B.B.A., '92 M.S., was promoted to associate professor of mathematics and computer science at Queensborough Community College, Bayside, NY. He also recently received tenure and is in his third year as deputy chair of computer science at Queensborough.

Lisa Cohen (Wartur), '91 M.S.W., is the founder and president of NoodleHead Productions, a multimedia publicity company, and works in the marketing and communications department of Women's American ORT.

Rhodi Cohen, '91 M.S.W., has a private practice providing individual, couple, family, child, and group psychotherapy.

Jill Goodman, '91 B.A., is employed by Fredrick County Public schools as a school/guidance counselor. In 2004, she published a book called *Mustang, The Little Dog Who Was Afraid To Go To School*, Youthlight Publications.

Michael Krass, '91 M.A., '96 Ph.D., presented a paper at the APA Annual Convention, August 2005 in Washington, D.C. entitled "Fear and Loathing on the Couch: the Intersection of Managed Care and Masochism."

"One of the reasons why Eduardo has been so successful is because his vision is very clear,"

– NANCY TURANO

A Company of His Own

Luna Negra Dance Theater, the Chicago-based dance company run by Eduardo Vilaro '95, opened its 2006 season of performances with a show called *Coreografos Cubanos*, consisting of works by four Cuban choreographers. That doesn't mean the audience was treated to an evening of traditional salsa dancing—Mr. Vilaro's six-year-old company is devoted to commissioning and presenting contemporary works by Latino choreographers. The lineup featured one of the Bronx-raised but Cuban-born Mr. Vilaro's latest pieces, *Quinceañera* (Sweet Fifteen), a look at the moment when girls transition to women, including tottering on their first pair of high heels, set to a variety of music ranging from a traditional bolero to a contemporary score by Mexican composer Ana Lara. "My dances usually deconstruct and reconstruct what culture and identity is all about," Mr. Vilaro explains.

As a student in Adelphi University's B.F.A. in dance program in the early 1990s, Mr. Vilaro dreamed he'd eventually have a company of his own. But first he wanted to dance, and he says Adelphi, with its "remarkable teachers," like Tex Hightower, who had done a lot of musical theater and worked with Agnes de Mille, and Katya Geleznova (a Russian dancer who had performed with Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo), gave him a great technical background. Upon graduation, Mr. Vilaro joined Ballet Hispanico de New York, where he spent nine years as a principal dancer, touring the world. In 1996, he enrolled in a master's program in interdisciplinary arts at Columbia College in Chicago, and when he


was ready to launch his company a few years later, he chose to stay in the Windy City.

The reason? "I started out with \$10,000," says Mr. Vilaro. "My company is now a half-million dollar organization. I have a staff, I have dancers, we have a schedule. I could never have done that in New York, ever, because it's so saturated with dance and everyone wants a piece of the funders."

"One of the reasons why Eduardo has been so successful is because his vision is very clear," says Nancy Turano, the artistic director of the New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble and a former principal dancer with Ballet Hispanico de New York who's also choreographed for



Luna Negra. "His company does fill a tremendous void in the dance world. You might find a flamenco company or a company doing a folkloric type of dance, but that's not what his focus is. He's looking into the human condition through Latino music or themes without being stereotypical." And, she adds, "he's also a rare and kind human being. That's why things have come back to him."

Mr. Vilaro has his own theories about why he has been able to fulfill his dream when so many artists fall by the wayside. "I went to school for dance," he says. "I got my education. When I joined a dance company, I was able to be articulate, so when they needed someone to talk, they would put me in front. When they needed someone to help in the negotiating of a contract, they asked me to help. I walked into the dance world with tools that helped me progress." But what about all those aspiring dancers who think the best way to succeed in the business is to simply move to New York City after high school and start auditioning for shows? "That's great if you want to be an entertainer, but if you want to be an artist, you better get all your stuff together," Mr. Vilaro says. 

–Samantha Stainburn

John Leviness, '91 B.S., is a supervising probation officer for the New York City Department of Probation.

Jacqueline Y. Salmon, '91 M.S.W., has a private practice in Bellmore, NY.

Christopher Scheno, '91 B.S., is an optometric physician in a private practice specializing in the treatment of corneal disorders, dry eye, and allergy. He is the chairman of the Lions Club Public Health and Vision Committee as well as a member of numerous health associations.

Andrea Wachholtz, '91 B.F.A., is currently a soloist, choreographer, and instructor of dance. She performed in the *Nutcracker* with the SI Ballet Company in December 2005.

Audrey Marion Goropeuschek (Selzer), '92 B.A., '93 M.A., was recently appointed Title IX compliance officer for the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District.

Mary Tantillo, '92 Ph.D., is the director of the Eating Disorder Department in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, Unity Health System. She was recently promoted to clinical associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

Cathy Brannigan, '93 B.F.A., is an attorney with Willman & Arnold, LLP, in Pittsburgh, PA, which specializes in asbestos defense litigation.

Carole Cappello, '93 M.S.W., is the co-owner of South Shore Counseling Services. She owns two businesses, SSCS and Pacano Medical Billing.

Kristen Oikle (Dirschel), '93 B.A., is an executive manager of Nurses Educational Funds, Inc. and an attorney. She received an M.A. in political science, a J.D. from Suffolk University Law School, was admitted as an attorney in Massachusetts, and studied Chinese Law in Beijing, China.

Jennifer Leest (Lein), '94 B.A., received her doctorate in psychology and practices on Long Island.

Jennifer R. Miller (Tobani), '94 M.S.W., works with adults with mental retardation, developmental disabilities, and mental illness in residential settings with Aid to the Developmentally Disabled in Riverhead, NY.

Daniel Tobin, '94 M.A., is proud that WHPC 90.3 FM has access to his original CD. He continues to read and perform with the Performance Poets Association.

Gloria Zarkin, '94 M.S.W., relocated to Boca Raton, FL and retired.

Audrey Barzideh, '95 M.S.W., is a social worker/counselor for the Board of Education in Maspeth, Queens, NY.

Barbara J. Tawil, '95 B.S.W., '99 M.S.W., is a project director at BFFY/Catholic Charities in Woodhaven, Queens, NY. The project serves the aging by providing case management, senior centers, and Alzheimer's Meals on Wheels.

Jeannine Catalano, '96 M.S.W., recently left her position as social work coordinator and director of HIV Services at North Shore University Hospital's Drug Treatment and Education Center after ten years in order to concentrate on her studies in the Ph.D. program at Fordham University. She is in the final semester of her coursework and has been selected to present her AIDS-related research study findings at the 2005 International AIDS Society Conference in Brazil, the 2006 United States Conference on AIDS, and the 2006 National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS. She is also teaching graduate and undergraduate social work courses as an adjunct faculty member at Fordham University and Molloy College and has started a private practice in Lynbrook, NY.

Danielle Gardner (Calvagno), '96 B.S., was honored in *Who's Who Among American Teachers*. Teachers are nominated by former students whose lives have been impacted in some way by the nominated teacher.

Amy Ross (Gershenson), '96 M.A., '00 Ph.D., gave birth to Jacob Benjamin Ross in 2002 and Layla Faye Ross in 2004.

Leonard K. Sarro, '96 M.S.W., is a clinical supervisor at Children's Village in Central Islip, NY.

Lynne A. Schwartz, '96 M.S.W., supervises interns in clinical services and student counseling as associate director for counseling services at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University in Brookville, NY.

Denise Armus (Maniscalco), '97 M.S., '02 M.S., received the Instructional Leadership and Inspiration Award at Suffolk County Organization for the Promotion of Education's annual school board forum and awards ceremony. She is currently a speech therapist at McKenna Elementary School in Massapequa Park, NY.

Cira Fraser, '97 Ph.D., received the 2005 Journal of Neuroscience Nursing Writing Excellence Award. She is the principal investigator of the winning study, "A Prospective Study of Adherence to Glatiramer Acetate in Individuals

with Multiple Sclerosis." The study was published in the June 2004 issue of *The Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*.

Joan Martinez, '97 M.A., and has been a GED instructor at South Bronx Job Corps for ten years. She also competed in the nationals and worlds as a Golden Glove Boxer, and is ranked as high as eighth in the country. She is currently training for the New York City Marathon, after qualifying for the event. She was also named in *Who's Who Among American Teachers* 2005.

Stephanie Williams, '97 B.S., '98 M.A., is currently teaching second grade inclusion. She enjoys working with her children.

Louise Burkhead, '98 M.S.W., supervises the early intervention program for children with disabilities from birth to age three at Little Wonders in Glendale, NY.

Gilda MacDonald, '98 M.S.W., is a school social worker with the Middle County School District in Centereach, NY. She has earned her R-certification and certification as a treatment counselor for compulsive gamblers. She received training at the Ackerman Institute and Albert Ellis Institute. She maintains a private practice in Smithtown, NY.

Paul B. Serrato, '98 M.A., '99 M.A., is proud that his undergraduate degree in music has resulted in the steady growth of his independent jazz label, Graffiti Productions.

Hamidah Sharif, '98 B.A., is now teaching graduate classes at Marymount University in Arlington, VA.

Jackie Tasca, '98 M.S.W., is the director of social work at the Forest View Adult Day Care Center in Inwood, NY.

2000s

Dorothy Jean Hubbard, '01 M.S.W., is a forensic social worker at the Brooklyn, NY office of the Legal Aid Society.

Carmen Alpizar, '02 M.S.W., provides case management and psychotherapy for clients and their children as a transitional housing social worker with the Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence.


Anna De Santis, '02 M.S.W., supervises peer case management/support programs at Coney Island Hospital.

Carol Montcrieffe-Miller, '02 M.S.W., supervises four case planners and manages sixty cases as a case management supervisor at Safe Space Preventive Services in Far Rockaway, NY.

Margaret Murphy, '02 M.S.W., is an outpatient mental health social worker at the Neighborhood Help Center in Jamaica, NY.

Valerie Gelber, '04 M.S.W., coordinates the Dual Diagnosis and Adolescent program at The Pederson-Krag Center in Wyandanch, NY.

Kari Gruber, '04 B.A., is currently working as a freelance associate producer/editor for Rainlake Productions in New York. In January 2006, she represented Rainlake Productions at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, UT for the world premier of their full-length documentary, *Crossing Arizona*.

Christine Wheat, '00 B.A., '04 M.B.A., has started her own special events planning firm. She deals with corporate, social, philanthropic, and sporting events, as well as weddings. She has already planned events in four different states. 

In Memoriam

Janis Cunningham (Ronk), '35 B.A.

Dorothy Torpey, '40 B.A.

Josephine Hawrylko, '45 B.A.

Peter Covert, '49 B.A.

Joseph Wilson, '50 B.A.

Claire Tauben (Lane), '52 B.A.

John Doherty, '53 B.A.

Wilfried Sievers, '55 B.A.

John Collins, '57 B.S.

William Montgomery, '60 B.S.

James DeCosmo, '62 M.S.

Hope Conte, '64 B.S.

Chester Jirak, '65 M.S.

Marvin Ohriner, '65 M.S.

William Weaver, '65 M.B.A.

Caroline Schoonover (Mathe), '66 B.A.

Elizabeth Rummell, '69 M.A.

Annie Oliver, '73 M.S.W.

Katherine Charles, '74 M.A.

Thomas Bernard, '75 B.A.

Joan Camardella, '78 B.A.

Therese Heese, '78 B.B.A.

Dorothy VanClief, '78 B.A.

Miriam Harris, '83 M.S.W.

Mary Sturdy (Brew), '83 B.S.

Patricia Dempsey, '88 B.S. Ed.

Genoveva Rodriguez, '88 M.S.

Sean Cashin, '90 B.S.

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