MAGAZINE | Spring 2018

For CMC Food, Inc., CEO Michael Culley '93, the C-Suite Isn't a Place...

# IT'S A STATE OF MIND. Page 15

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*Curry Magazine* is a publication for alumni, parents, and friends of Curry College.

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Inside cover photo: Tiffany Nguyen, Class of 2019, and Garrett Whatley, Class of 2019, experiment with lipids in Dr. Stephanie Walker's Biochemistry lab.

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President Quigley meeting Suffolk Scholar Athletes Zone Program participants Solanyel Perez, Class of 2019; Gabby Kehayias, Class of 2020; and Brenda Mata, Class of 2021

#### From the Desk of President Quigley

One of Curry's important aims is to prepare the future leaders of society – in health care, education, commerce, the arts, the social sciences, and beyond. This issue of *Curry Magazine* showcases some of our alums doing just that – and the Curry education and values that have helped them succeed. For example, you're probably far more likely to find CMC Food Chief Executive Officer Michael Culley '93 – the man behind one of the nation's best-known brands – helping team members on egg deliveries than addressing them through an email. Similarly, CP Travel President Gary Leopold '77 has spent decades teaching and mentoring employees at every level of his best-in-class companies, some of whom he still counsels today. Both leaders say promoting the health, happiness, and success of their workers, customers, and clients provides them the ultimate professional satisfaction, while also benefitting their bottom lines. All consistent with a Curry education.

In this issue's "Curry in the C-Suite" series, we also introduce Debra Blair '92, Chief Financial Officer at the May Institute; Anthony Chiaradonna '96, Chief Information Officer at Consigli Construction; and Dorothy Dowling, Chief Marketing Officer at Best Western Hotels and Resorts, and a proud Curry parent. Despite the differences in these accomplished executives' careers – which range across the food, construction, hospitality, and human services industries – all share a love of challenge, a passion for learning, and an appetite for service and success. All, again, traits of a Curry education.

I'm confident that the students pictured with me above – three members of the Suffolk Scholar Athletes Zone Program who have matriculated at Curry, and who will be joined by a fourth student in the fall – will be among future Curry C-suite leaders making great impact and contributions to our society.

These qualities also bring to mind one of Curry's greatest friends and leaders, Dr. James M. Sullivan, Hon. '05. Jim has spent decades in tireless service of the College, including eight critical years as the Chair of our Board of Trustees. His bold, clear-eyed vision has truly made Curry what it is today – an institution that proudly honors its storied past, while actively preparing students for an increasingly complex global future. I am pleased to announce that, in honor of the Sullivan family's enduring legacy of leadership, support, and service, the College recently named the President's Office as the "Sullivan Building."

"Dare to do what you dream, but be not an idle dreamer," Samuel Silas Curry urged a century ago. Today, Jim Sullivan embodies this timeless ideal of vision made real through action. Thanks largely to his exceptional leadership and long service, the College continues to shape minds and change lives – and will do so for generations to come.

Jim, we thank you.

Best wishes to all in 2018,

Kemeth K. Quinky Jr.

Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr.

#### ON CAMPUS

#### Board of Trustees Welcomes Three New Members: Robert E. Balletto '79, Christine A. Pulgini, Esq. '92, Kenneth Wagner '84



**Robert E. Balletto '79** is President of the Georgetown Bank division of Salem Five Bancorp, based in Salem, Massachusetts. Mr. Balletto previously served 29 years as Chief Executive Officer and 13 years as President of Georgetown BanCorp, Inc. – the holding company for Georgetown Savings Bank – with branch offices in Georgetown, North Andover, and Rowley, Massachusetts, and in Stratham, New Hampshire. He also held a Board of Directors role for over a decade.

Mr. Balletto began his tenure with Georgetown Savings Bank in 1982. In more than 30 years in local banking, he strove to make a positive difference in the community by facilitating exceptional personal service and helping customers achieve their financial goals.

Mr. Balletto graduated from Curry College in 1979 with a bachelor's degree in Business Management. He is a member of the Curry Council advisory group.



**Christine A. Pulgini, Esq. '92** is the current Chairwoman of the Boston Licensing Board, which issues and regulates municipal licenses for restaurants, bars, hotels, inns, dormitories, social houses, bowling alleys, billiard halls, and fortune tellers in the City of Boston. Mayor Martin J. Walsh appointed her to the role in 2014.

Ms. Pulgini previously worked as an attorney at the Law Offices of Joseph J. Pulgini, P.C., in Hyde Park, Massachusetts – a firm specializing in workers compensation, accidental disability retirement, social security disability, and civil litigation.

Ms. Pulgini graduated from Curry College in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in Communication, going on to earn her Juris Doctor from the New England School of Law. Ms. Pulgini is a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association and of the Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorneys.



Kenneth Wagner '84 is President, Chief Executive Officer, and Founder of Henry Elliott & Company, Inc., a leading national staffing firm that specializes in recruiting highly skilled database software and health care IT professionals.

Mr. Wagner named Henry Elliot & Company in honor of his father and grandfather, whose strong personal integrity and professional ethics he abides by in his own corporate practices.

Before founding his own company in 1992, Mr. Wagner spent eight years in the professional services, staffing, and human resources industries – working as a vocational and rehabilitation counselor, an account manager, and a technical recruiter.

Mr. Wagner graduated from Curry College in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in Psychology. He currently serves on the Curry Council advisory group.

#### ON CAMPUS



The Sullivan Building is located in the heart of the Milton campus, on Westhaver Park across from the Student Center

Curry College recently named the Sullivan Building – home to the office of President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr. – in recognition of Dr. James M. Sullivan, Hon. '05, and his family.

The naming pays tribute to Dr. Sullivan's longstanding service to the College, and honors the Sullivan family's generous financial support.

Dr. Sullivan has spent more than 20 years – eight of those as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees – working tirelessly to ensure Curry continues to uphold its highest ideals, educating and graduating students prepared to engage in successful careers and active citizenship.

"No person has had a greater impact on the College's progress over the past two decades than Jim Sullivan," President Quigley said. "His leadership and service truly leave a lasting legacy, which will influence Curry and its people for the better for countless decades to come. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to Jim, his wife Diane, and all of the Sullivan family."





## Gift from Benita and Joe Kaminkow '83 Funds WMLN Studio Upgrades



Left to right: Cory Kaminkow, MBA '15; Matthew Weddleton, Class of 2018; Joe Kaminkow '83; Max Cowell, Class of 2018; Martha Konstandinidis, Class of 2018; Derrell Wyche, Class of 2017; Dr. Alan Frank, faculty director of WMLN.

**WMLN-FM** looks and sounds better than ever, following extensive renovations last year. New soundproofing, roofing, furniture, and carpeting now supports the work of Curry's student broadcasters.

The major upgrades came thanks to a gift from Joe Kaminkow '83 and his wife, Benita, to WMLN-FM. The award-winning, student-run radio station has been on the air for more than 40 years. WMLN has served as a real-world training ground for thousands of alumni who have produced, directed, or hosted student shows, many of whom have gone on to successful careers in media.



Evelyn Riley, Class of 2018, WMLN-FM news director and co-host of a weekly entertainment news broadcast called "The Dark Side," uses the new studio equipment.

To find out how to listen to WMLN-FM live online anytime, anywhere, visit curry.edu/magazine.

# 932

The year Curry students first began producing and performing readings, plays, and impersonations over Boston's WLOE, a radio station that broadcast from the Hotel Bellevue on Beacon Hill.





Number of commercials



Number of hours a day that WMLN broadcasts

#### ON CAMPUS

# A Vision for Advancing Student Success SCIENCE AND INTEGRATED LEARNING COMMONS



Curry plans to build an integrated Learning Commons, connecting the Science Building and the Levin Library, and expand and enhance science facilities. This state-of-the-art space to promote student success will feature new classrooms, labs, offices, and 24-7 group study spaces. The 36,500-square-foot facility has been thoughtfully designed to encourage collaborative, multidisciplinary learning, engaging students and professors in an educational environment that extends seamlessly beyond formal classes.

The Learning Commons will house the Academic Enrichment Center (including The Writing Center and Peer & Professional Tutoring), the Academic Success Office, the Advising Office, the Office of Disability Services and Assistive Technology Lab, the Speaking Center, and the Study Abroad office. A new Quantitative Commons will support curricular and cocurricular programming in mathematics, statistics, and quantitative reasoning.

Newly-constructed science laboratories will support: Anatomy & Physiology, Introductory Chemistry, Organic/Inorganic Chemistry, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Physics, and Science Research. These labs will provide hands-on learning and research experiences, providing benefit and opportunity for all students, particularly those studying Biology, Biochemistry, Nursing, Community Health & Wellness, and Public Health & Wellness. The laboratories will also allow the College to consider adding new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programs, and will create further lab-based opportunities for existing majors, such as Criminal Justice and Psychology.

High-tech classrooms will be designed to support Curry's innovative General Education program and provide spaces for active learning to occur. The active learning spaces will include four active learning classrooms and two seminar-style rooms.

Site preparation and initial construction activities have commenced on this exciting project, which is expected to be completed before the start of the school year in the fall of 2019.

For more information about how you can provide philanthropic support for this project, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 617-333-2121.

#### ON CAMPUS



### When William J. Bratton Talks, People Listen

Master of Arts in Criminal Justice program hosts discussion of 21st century policing



Dorchester, Massachusetts native William J. Bratton, Hon. '97, took the Boston Police Oath of Office at a tumultuous moment in American history – close on the heels of the Kent State Shootings, the Stonewall Riots, and the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. The young, idealistic rookie officer – who would go on to become one of the most famous figures in American law enforcement – believed better police practices could do more to ease society's ills and less to exacerbate them.

"I came into a world that was changing – and a world I wanted passionately to change by changing policing," Mr. Bratton told students and alumni during a guest address in the Oscar B. and Frances A. Keith Auditorium last fall.

The Master of Arts in Criminal Justice (MACJ) program invited Mr. Bratton to campus to discuss the challenges and opportunities of policing in the 21st century, 47 years after he began his career. He would go on to lead



Mr. Bratton addressed students and alumni in the Oscar B. and Frances A. Keith Auditorium.

#### ON CAMPUS



Left to right: Richard "RJ" Silva, Class of 2018; Nathan Almeida, Class of 2019; William J. Bratton, Hon. '97; Daniel Ceurvels, Class of 2019; Nicholas Brosseau, Class of 2019

six police departments, including those in Boston, Los Angeles, and New York. During that time, Mr. Bratton advocated for progressive policing, with a greater emphasis on crime prevention and community engagement. He believed a heavy focus on reactive crime response – driven in part by shrinking department budgets and a growing reliance on costeffective vehicle patrols – had alienated law enforcement agencies from the communities they served. This created a vacuum in which violent criminals, gangs, and drug dealers thrived.

Many law enforcement experts credit Mr. Bratton with driving down crime in New York City, first as head of the New York Transit Police Department and later as the city's Police Commissioner. During his



time as Commissioner of the Boston Police Department, the city's homicide rate plummeted from 154 deaths per year to 26.

"His experiences and insights have saved countless lives in declining homicide rates, improving the quality of life in communities across the country, from coast to coast," said Retired Boston Police Captain and Curry Senior Lecturer Al Sweeney, MACJ '00.

By 1996, Mr. Bratton had won global recognition as a community policing advocate and crime fighter, with a reputation for re-engineering departments to make cities safer. That year, *Time Magazine* featured him on its cover.

Prof. Sweeney and MACJ Co-Director Dr. Jennifer Balboni said they wanted their master's degree students, many of whom are law enforcement professionals themselves, to hear Bratton's perspective on leading in challenging times.

"We live in a very polarized world," Dr. Balboni said. "Communities need good police. Through our MACJ program, we're trying to encourage officers to embrace this moment in history, embrace these values, and really listen to each other in order to move forward." ◆



**WEB EXTRA:** Before the lecture, Mr. Bratton – who had just returned from Las Vegas following the mass shooting at the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino – addressed the tragedy in remarks to the media. To see event coverage from NBC Boston, WCVB-TV, and Boston Herald, visit curry.edu/magazine.

### Not Your Mother's Algebra: New Math Ed Major Brings Concepts to Life

Amidst a nationwide shortage of math teachers, Curry's new Math Education major intends to change lives – one problem at a time.

This fall, Curry will launch a new Math Education major that integrates coursework from both the Education Department and the Science & Math Department, to best prepare students for the unique challenges of teaching middle and high school math.

"Math changes lives, and we want all students' lives to be changed," says Dr. Jennifer McNally, Associate Professor of Natural Sciences & Mathematics. "Not just our students, but the ones that our students will someday teach."



At Curry, Mathematics course-work goes far beyond mindless, formula-crunching with hands-on, in-depth explorations of concepts. Students discover how math works and why it matters, resulting in deeper and more meaningful learning.

Dr. McNally, herself a former sixth-grade math teacher, says she is confident Curry's Math Education majors will land good jobs after graduation.

"Schools really want to see teachers who love math and who can inspire that love of math in their students," she says.

The Math Education major prepares students for licensure, with four semesters of on-the-ground experience in middle- and secondary-schools.

For more information about the Math Education major, contact the Admission Office at adm@curry.edu or 617-333-2210. "Math changes lives, and we want all students' lives to be changed – not just our students, but the ones that our students will someday teach."

- Dr. Jennifer McNally Associate Professor of Natural Sciences & Mathematics

#### **REFER A FUTURE CURRY STUDENT**

Do you know a promising high school junior or senior who you think would love Curry College? Share that student's contact information with the Admission Office, and we'll reach out to share more about what makes Curry great.

Just email adm@curry.edu or call 617-333-2210 – we look forward to hearing from you!



#### **IIE's Generation Study Abroad Welcomes Curry as Partner**



The Institute of International Education (IIE) recently welcomed Curry College as a partner institution of the

Generation Study Abroad Initiative, in recognition of the College's strong commitment to global education.

Generation Study Abroad seeks to double the number of American students studying abroad annually – from 300,000 to 600,000 – by the end of this decade. IIE believes education experiences outside the U.S. facilitate the development of important key competencies, such as language and problemsolving skills.

As an official partner of Generation Study Abroad, Curry will join other thought leaders in sharing and discussing best institutional practices for facilitating impactful international experiences. The College will also contribute annual updates to IIE for inclusion in the initiative's yearly progress report.



*My study abroad experience changed my whole outlook on life. It taught me to reach outside my comfort zone.* • Meaghan Leary '17

Curry Students Have Studied on Every Continent Except Antarctica

### Nursing Students Observe Healthcare Practices in France

A group of Curry nursing students traveled to France last summer to observe nurses in European hospitals, clinics, and home-health settings. Prof. Linda Tenofsky, who led the trip, calls the opportunity to explore foreign healthcare systems invaluable and eye-opening. "The students saw major differences when compared to the evidence-based practice we espouse in the United States," Dr. Tenofsky says. "We found a greater emphasis on caring, particularly with regard to home care for elders." ◆



Top row, left to right: Karissa Murphy, Class of 2019; Alivia Wokoske, Class of 2018; Idris Khiyhaty, Class of 2018; Anthony Maffie, Class of 2018. Front row, left to right: Talia Forte, Class of 2018, Gabrielle Marhoffer, Class of 2018; Haley Soltys, Class of 2018; and Professor Linda Tenofsky visited the operating room at the Toulouse Lautrec Clinic in Albi, France. *Photo courtesy of Linda Tenofsky*.

#### COLONELS CORNER

#### New Athletics Website Set to Score with Colonels Fans



In early February, the Athletics Department rolled out major upgrades to curryathletics.com, with a new userfriendly interface to keep Colonels fans effortlessly up-to-date and in-the-know. If you bleed purple, bookmark the site to keep up with team news, check stats, view schedules, browse merchandise, and even stream games live online.

#### Check out the new look and upgraded functionality at: curryathletics.com

#### Nothin' But Net: Emily Irwin Scores 1,000 Points and Counting as Curry Colonel

Emily Irwin, Class of 2020, scored her 1,000th point as a Curry Colonel in a home game against Gordon College on January 20 - also tallying a game-high 20 points.

Emily's impressive performance has garnered regional buzz. The New England Women's Basketball Association has named the student-athlete to its weekly Honor Roll multiple times this season, and the Wilmington Town Crier and Lowell Sun recently highlighted her achievements in their sports coverage.



"Emily is an exceptional athlete," Women's Basketball Coach Francis Elms told the Town Crier. "There is no quit in her - she has played through everything from a broken nose to an injured wrist ... She never stops."

> WEB EXTRA: To read the Town Crier's in-depth profile of Emily, visit curry.edu/magazine.

#### **Ryan Madden '16 Lands Dream Job as Athletic** Director

Ryan Madden '16 recently landed his dream job as the athletic director at Milton High School, where he, his parents,



and his grandparents all attended school. Ryan, says he loves sharing his passion for sports and sports education with young athletes.

"Sports teaches you about leadership, team morale, and being part of a team," he told the Milton Times. "It teaches you life lessons."

Ryan earned a bachelor's degree in Business Management with a concentration in Sports and Recreation Management while at Curry, also interning at Milton High's athletic department.

SAVE THE DATE! The 2018 Football Golf Outing will be June 28 at the Brookmeadow Country Club.



#### COLONELS CORNER

### After Banner Football Season, Coach and Players Take Home Big CCC Awards

Curry Football fans had plenty to cheer about in the 2017 season, with the team counting an impressive five-win year-overyear improvement and securing a spot in the New England Bowl.

The Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) recognized the team's achievements with three major post-season awards – naming Quarterback Alex Corvese, Class of 2018, as Co-Offensive Player of the Year, and Sean Amaru, Class of 2019, as Offensive Rookie of the Year. Head Coach Skip Bandini took home the award for "CCC Football Coach of the Year." The CCC also named 25 members of the Football Team to the Academic All-Conference Team.

To qualify for this honor, student-athletes must attain at least second-year standing and maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.



#### Colonel Plays with Baseball Legend Pedro Martinez

David Griffin, Class of 2018, had an "unbelievable experience" last summer, playing catch with Red Sox Hall of Famer Pedro Martinez. The two warmed up before taking the field as teammates in the 24th annual Oldtime Baseball Game, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The 2017 game benefited Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis research.



Skip Bandini, Head Football Coach



Alex Corvese, Class of 2018



Sean Amaru, Class of 2019

**Gear Up!** 

Curry Athletics Launches New Online Store

# shopcurryathletics.com

From coffee mugs and t-shirts to duffle bags and infant onesies,

Curry Athletics' new online shop has something for every Colonels fan. Visit shopcurryathletics.com to browse available gear and show your purple pride.



20% OFF ALL

# JOURNEY TO THE C-SUITE

# **C-SUITE**

#### noun, adjective

: a colloquial term used to refer to an organization's top tier of executive leaders • C-LEVEL

#### Meet the C-Suite: Key Executive Positions

# Chief Executive Officer or President noun

: the leader of an organization with primary decision-making authority

# Chief Financial Officer

: the executive responsible for overseeing fiscal matters

#### Chief Information Officer noun

: the executive who manages information technology and computing resources and strategies

# Chief Marketing Officer

: the executive in charge of communication and content strategies

Additional C-Suite positions may include titles such as Chief Human Resources Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Compliance Officer, and more. The number of C-level positions, and their titles, vary from company to company, and depend on the size of the company, its mission, and its operating industry or sector. F inding a path to the C-Suite is less like using Google Maps and more like using Waze, with an infinite number of ever-changing and evolving possible routes to the top.

For some professionals, like Gary Leopold '77, a leadership role proves the natural next step after achieving success in a particular field or industry. Others, like Debra Blair '92, identify their dream positions early, and work to gain the skills and experiences necessary to achieve their goals. While-every successful executive has a unique journey to the C-suite, virtually all share some important personal and professional qualities – like passion, curiosity, and drive.

Curry alumni, friends, and parents in C-level positions helm organizations and brands ranging from The Farmer's Hen to Best Western Hotels & Resorts. These top-of-their-field executives – several of whom share their career journeys and professional advice in the following profiles – represent the kinds of leaders the College is proud to educate and know. Their insights, experiences, and advice serve as both inspiration and guide to those aspiring to carve their own path to the C-suite, and execute great work once getting



Watch for more profiles in our ongoing "Curry in the C-Suite" series in upcoming editions of Curry Magazine. Are you a Curry alumnus/a in an executive-level position? We want to hear your story! Please email magazine@curry.edu.

# Michael Culley '93 President, CEO, and Owner CMC Food, Inc.

*Graduating Class:* 1993

*Major:* Business Management

*Minor:* Communication

The Farmer's Ilen Cmc

12 Eggs Grade A Large

*First job:* Supermarket Cashier/Stocker

*Favorite part of current position:* Every day is different.

*Advice:* You have to like what you do.



CMC Food President Michael Culley '93 touches base with Safety and Security Director Bill Panich.

When he first stepped into the CEO position at the wholesale egg company behind The Farmer's Hen brand, Michael Culley '93 says he didn't know that one of the most critical and demanding parts of his role would have nothing to do with eggs.

"Balancing the highs and lows of more than 90 different employees' personalities is probably the most challenging thing I do," the CMC Food, Inc., CEO says. "It's tough, but I enjoy it."

Michael views the ongoing cultivation of internal relationships as a top business priority saying that a strong, harmonious, and happy team makes achieving profit and growth objectives possible. As a hands-on leader, he regularly visits the warehouse floor, often pitching in to operate machinery, drive trucks, and make deliveries alongside employees.

"I care an awful lot about them and their happiness," Michael says. "I don't want to sit in an ivory tower – I want to be as approachable as possible."



CMC Food President Michael Culley '93 and Sergio Portorreal, a Lead De-Nester on the Processing Team, examine a palette of eggs.

He adds that his time at the College shaped his leadership style and how he views his C-suite role, which he has now held for 14 years. "Curry prepared me for what I am today. I learned how to work within a community, build relationships, and communicate with people, and I definitely took those experiences into my career."

#### LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

Michael's father, Charlie Culley started CMC Food in 1984, after 32 years in the food industry. Charlie started his career when he was 15, stocking shelves and pushing shopping carts at a New Jersey supermarket. He rose through the ranks, ultimately becoming Vice President Director of Dairy & Deli at a large New York retailer, before leaving to open his own company.

"As a young kid, I saw my father in business, and I wanted to work with him. That was the initial draw," Michael says. "But I was fortunate in that I also developed my own passion for the food business. I enjoyed the work."

At the age of 16 – determined to learn the industry from the ground up – Michael followed in Charlie's footsteps and got a job at a local grocery store. He went on to work for a retail food broker, before graduating from Curry with a major in Business Management and a minor in Communication.

With a particular interest in marketing and sales, Michael began his tenure at CMC Food as a junior sales representative. He worked alongside his father for 10 years, holding positions at all levels of the company, before taking over as President and CEO in 2004. Michael promised to grow the family business one egg at a time. "Every day is different," he says. "Whether I'm working on growth, operations, or marketing, it's always challenging, and it's never monotonous."



CMC Food's eggs are sold in grocery stores across the country. Under Michael's leadership, the company expanded its product line, adding organic, free-range, cage-free, and pasture-raised eggs about a decade before similar wholesalers followed suit. CMC has also embraced the farm-totable movement, inviting customers to buy fresh shell eggs directly from its New Jersey facility.

"We start with baby chicks, raise them, and feed them corn and soybean we grow ourselves," Michael says. "I really enjoy that part of the business."

Recently, he spearheaded the design and construction of a high-tech, 104,000-square-foot production facility, which opened in Elizabeth, New Jersey, in 2016.

"It is probably one of the most state-ofthe-art facilities in the world right now," he says. "Seeing it progress from an idea in my head to a rendering on a piece of paper, to a finished product in motion is one of my proudest accomplishments."

#### **LOVE WHAT YOU DO**

Michael advises young professionals who dream of a C-suite role to first look for work they love.

"If you enjoy what you do, you can devote more energy to career and skill development, building on that passion," he says. "Of course, you won't like everything about any job, but try to find work where the 'likes' outweigh the 'dislikes."" Michael also suggests building a habit of regular goal-setting. In addition to the typical five-year plan, he says he also sets smaller monthly goals, which help him build and maintain momentum while working toward ambitious long-term objectives.

"It's not as easy as it looks – I'm constantly adjusting," he says. "But I don't feel like I'm working, because I'm doing something I want to do. I'm happy to do it." •



# Gary Leopold '77 President CP Travel

*Graduating Class:* 1977

*Major:* Communication

*Minor:* English

*First job:* Shoe Store Sales Associate

*Favorite part of current position:* Creating and maintaining an environment that promotes professional excellence, team camaraderie, and individual growth

#### Advice:

Always do your best, and be prepared for unexpected opportunities. Travel President Gary Leopold '77 says when it comes to professional success, luck is underrated. "It's about being in the right place at the right time, and being smart enough to take advantage of it," he says.

Gary adds that he has always tried to prepare for lucky breaks, adding that many casual conversations on airplanes or at conferences have led to unexpected business opportunities.

"You always try to do your best, because you never know who you might be impressing."

After graduating from Curry with a Communication degree, Gary worked briefly as a student activities coordinator at a college before taking a public relations position at Sonesta Hotels.

"They didn't have much money, and I didn't have much experience," he quips. "So it was the perfect marriage."

After a couple of years, Gary went to work at a footwear company, before returning to Sonesta as its new director of public relations. When his boss left to start a consulting company, specializing in travel marketing, she asked Gary to join her.

"I was fortunate she believed in me," he says. "She saw something in me I didn't necessarily even see in myself. She became that mentor who really invested in me and changed the course of my career."

The two spent about 20 years in business together, with Gary eventually buying her share of the company. Five years ago, he merged with Connelly Partners, a Bostonbased integrated marketing agency.

#### LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP

Since merging with Connelly Partners, Gary still works with key clients and serves as a strategic resource for his team, while gradually stepping back from daily operations. "I'm getting older and preparing for the next phase of my life," he says. "I'm still figuring out what I'm going to do 'when I grow up,' as they say."

In reflecting on his considerable career accomplishments, Gary says he feels proudest when catching up with former employees.

"Many of them tell me those were some of their happiest years, professionally," he says.

"I think we created an environment that people enjoyed, where they felt they did good work and found a sense of camaraderie. There's a family of people who have stayed in touch and gone on to enjoy great careers. That makes me very proud."

Gary says he developed his leadership skills through a combination of education and experience. At Curry, he learned to communicate clearly and effectively – a skill that has proven critical, whether articulating a strategic vision or delivering employee feedback.

Through on-the-job experience, Gary says he learned to tailor his approach to align with employees' different personalities, temperaments, and motivations.

"Two people doing similar work in the same department might respond very differently to the same style," he says. "I'm in the marketing business, and we like to try to understand our customers. Similarly, I try to understand my employees – what motivates them and what they care about. Then I can figure out the best way to impress on them the values and vision of the business."

He adds, however, that every swing can't result in a home run, and everyone occasionally strikes out.

"We all sometimes think, 'I wish I had handled that better. I need to listen better, or intervene earlier, or be clearer." "Pragmatism is key. You need to deal with reality and be flexible when unanticipated challenges come up."

Throughout his career, Gary has also made a point of observing leaders he admires, saying most share two qualities: empathy and pragmatism.

"If there is anything I've learned it's that pragmatism is key," he says. "You need to deal with reality and be flexible when unanticipated challenges come up."

Gary advises young, aspiring business leaders to show initiative, present themselves well, and conduct themselves honestly. He also suggests taking a broad view of networking, as more than just shaking hands and exchanging cards at professional events.

"Networking also means going on informational interviews, doing unpaid internships, and volunteering," he says. "Get out there, pursue your passions, and give back. Show others the kind of person you are."

Finally, when you find yourself in the right place at the right time, be ready.

"I can't say where I've wound up is where I planned to land all along," Gary says. "Stuff just happens, and you gravitate toward work you love."

WEB EXTRA: To see a video interview with Gary, visit curry.edu/magazine

# Debra Blair '92, MBA, CMA, CPA Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer May Institute, Inc.



*Graduating Class:* 1992

*Major:* Business Management

*Concentration:* Accounting

*First job:* Nurse aide at a nursing home

*Favorite part of current position:* The challenge

*Advice:* Go for what you want, and make your own opportunities.

n her first day as a business manager at the May Institute, Inc., a colleague introduced recent Curry graduate Debra Blair '92 to the not-for-profit organization's chief financial officer. The rest is history.

"I was so impressed with what she did and the impact she could have," Debra remembers. "I knew then that I wanted the CFO role."

Debra spent a decade at the national notfor-profit organization, based in Randolph, Massachusetts, before leaving to work for another not-for-profit group. But in 2012, she returned to the May Institute – this time as Assistant Chief Financial Officer.

"I am very goal-oriented: You set a goal, you make a plan, and then you work the plan and get where you want to be," she says. "When I started at May Institute, I was very open about wanting the CFO role, and I learned everything that I could. If there was something I didn't know, I would find a way to understand it, whether through a conference, a class, or a book."

#### A MISSION-DRIVEN CAREER

May Institute provides educational, rehabilitative, and behavioral healthcare services to individuals with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disabilities, brain injury, neurobehavioral disorders, and/ or other special needs. Debra says she finds enormous professional purpose and meaning in the group's mission.

"You set a goal, you make a plan, and then you work the plan and get where you want to be." "I always knew that I wanted to work in a mission-driven organization," she says.

"Every day, my top priority is to make sure that the organization has the resources it needs to provide services to the people we serve, and to hire and retain the best staff to meet our goals."

As CFO, Debra oversees the May Institute's finance, IT, human resources, and facilities departments. Like many C-level executives, she spends much of her time developing high-level strategic plans that either address existing organizational challenges or plan for future ones.

"My favorite part of my position is the challenge: I know every day something different is going to come up," she says. "If I come across a problem, I get to fix it and make a difference."

#### **THE PATH TO THE C-SUITE**

Debra says she initially had no intention of studying business as an undergraduate student, but she quickly fell in love with it after an introductory Accounting class.

"My time at Curry definitely shaped my future," she says. "That's one of the great benefits of a liberal arts-based education. You get to try different things and explore multiple paths."

She went on to major in Business Management with a concentration in Accounting, interning at Curry's Office of Student Financial Services. The College soon offered Debra – still a full-time student – a position as a full-time staff accountant.

"I explained my situation to Career Planning, and they helped me organize my classes so I could take advantage of this great opportunity," she says.

The Office of Student Financial Services soon promoted Debra to an assistant controller position. After graduation, her interest in technology led her to take another roleat the "As women, we're taught to be polite and wait our turn...But you should still reach for what you want. Carve your own path."

College – assisting in the implementation of its first administrative computing system. She then moved on to her first role at May Institute, which eventually led to her current role as CFO and Chief Administrative Officer.

Debra says she found in her early days as a member of the C-suite that such executive positions carry unexpected demands and unique challenges, requiring shifts in mindset and perspective.

"You have to change the way you look at things," she says. "You can't just focus on your department or your area of expertise; you really have to work across the organization. That's a big change for anyone coming from a typical management role."

Debra advises young professionals with their eyes on C-suite roles to develop their communication skills, from writing to public-speaking. She also urges them to fearlessly pursue their goals.

"Don't limit yourself – if there's something you want to do, you should go for it," she says. "As women, we're taught to be polite and wait our turn. But that doesn't mean you should just sit back. You should still reach for what you want. Carve your own path." ◆

> WEB EXTRA: To see a video interview with Debra, visit curry.edu/magazine

# Anthony Chiaradonna '96, M.Ed. '99 *Chief Information Officer* Consigli Construction

#### *Graduating Class:* 1996, M.Ed. 1999

*Major:* Business Management

*Minor:* Applied Computing

*First job:* Paper Carrier, *The Boston Globe* 

*Favorite part of current position:* Constant change

*Advice:* Listen, and don't try to be the smartest person in the room.

CONSIGLI

onsigli Construction's Chief Information Officer Anthony Chiaradonna says an organization's technology only works as well as its people do, which is why he prioritizes training, educating, and communicating with employees companywide.

"My job is to understand the technology, but also to make sure it's used effectively," he says. "You can buy the best software in the world, but if people don't know how to use it, then it doesn't matter."

When Anthony enrolled at Curry in 1992, he initially hoped to become a professor. He soon discovered a passion for applied computing, however, enrolling in every course that Curry then offered.

"I think I was the only person with an email account and a computer," he says. "Everyone else had word processors. It was an interesting time."

Anthony went on to earn his Master of Education degree at Curry. While he ultimately decided to pursue a career in the private sector rather than in the classroom, he says his teaching skills and experiences have played a critical role in his professional success.

"Understanding the different ways people absorb information helps me bridge the gap between my team and the employees who struggle with new technology," Anthony says. "I learned to ask myself, 'What's the best way to talk about this? What's the best way to roll out this system? When someone is trying to use this, where will they trip?"

Anthony says his time working with PAL students as a residence director helped him understand and appreciate different learning styles.

"It was an incredible education for me to see people who were successful when given the right tools," he says. "And to some degree, we all have learning differences. We all prefer to hear things a certain way or study things a certain way."

#### 'DON'T GET IN THE WAY'

Consigli Construction, based in Milford, Massachusetts, provides construction and general contracting services in the mid-Atlantic and New England regions, building facilities for large organizations such as schools, hotels, and commercial businesses. With 700 staff employees, 300-400 contract-based laborers, and more than 100 job sites stretching from Washington, D.C., through Maine, the company has extensive, complex, and evolving connectivity needs.

"My philosophy is, 'We don't get in the way,'" Anthony says, adding that his team runs a comprehensive, daily network health check at 5:30 a.m. "Our goal is to catch problems before you as an employee do – before you call and say, 'Something's not working.""

Unlike a typical company with static branch offices, Consigli Construction has hundreds of short-term locations in various project stages. Rather than introduce technology changes across the organization, Anthony says his team must offer a highly tailored approach to each individual site.

"For example, we can't go in and change the way a team works two weeks before a hotel opens," he says. "We have to be flexible and agile."

In an industry where every minute counts, Anthony's team must also fully test and vet updates before rolling them out in a production environment to ensure unexpected glitches don't cause project delays.

#### LEAD BY LISTENING

Anthony says he enjoys solving problems, whether troubleshooting unexpected data or network issues or trying to anticipate the next major technological shift.

"I have to make sure we're not building the next great Blackberry app," he says. "You don't want to invest heavily in something that will be irrelevant in six months." "You can buy the best software in the world, but if people don't know how to use it, then it doesn't matter."

As an executive, Anthony says he prefers to lead primarily by listening.

"I don't try to be the smartest person in the room," he says. "I try to treat everyone as partners. You want people to follow you because they want to, not because they have to."

He adds that his involvement at Curry – as a hockey player, football player, resident director, tutor, and student government member – taught him the value of teamwork and collaboration, both in and out of the office.

Today, he regularly gives back to his community, coaching his children's sports teams and volunteering with the Upton Men's Club, which hosts senior dinners and various charity events.

"It's nice to be involved, but it's also a little selfish on my part because I'm always trying to get better," he says. "I'm trying to improve how I communicate with all kinds of people, and to better understand where they come from and how they see the world."

# Dorothy Dowling, P '18 *Chief Marketing Officer* Best Western Hotels & Resorts

*Major:* Commercial Recreation

*First job:* Marketing Researcher

*Favorite part of current position:* Opportunities to keep learning.

*Advice:* Have goals: Know what's important to you. B est Western Hotels & Resorts Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) Dorothy Dowling, the mother of a current Curry student, describes her path to the C-suite as non-linear and fueled by a lifelong love of learning. Today, her curiosity still drives her.

"When you get to work with technology partners like Google and Facebook – exploring how our use of chatbots could evolve, or how we might talk to customers differently to build brand loyalty – it pushes your brain in very gratifying ways," she says. "It's an opportunity to think differently and keep learning."

As CMO of one of the largest hotel companies in the world – at a time of unprecedented industry disruption – Dorothy works to craft innovative strategies that anticipate how the landscape will shift next.

"Artificial intelligence, augmented reality, and virtual reality will bring the next wave of transformative changes," she says. "With that in mind, we have to be thoughtful about how we're developing our content and marketing approaches."

For example, while today's customers might engage with a text-based chatbot, tomorrow's could prefer a voice-based experience.

"Disruption in the hospitality and retail industries is happening at a pace that I don't think anyone fully anticipated," she says.

#### **MEASURED RISKS**

A dual citizen of Canada and the U.S., Dorothy earned a bachelor's degree in Commercial Recreation and a joint master's degree in Sociology and Recreation at the University of Waterloo in Ontario.

"I think the best thing you can take from a college education is the ability to learn," she says, pointing out that her career only tangentially relates to her field of study. "That's what solidifies your foundation for the future."

After graduation, Dorothy accepted an entry-level marketing research role with the Canadian government before going on to work for a variety of hospitality companies in Canada and the United States, including Aramark and Travelodge Canada. She joined Phoenix-based Best Western Hotels & Resorts in 2004 and took over the CMO role in 2015.

"I think it is important to have goals," she says. "You have to understand what's important to you, but also stay open to exploring unexpected opportunities."

As a young professional, Dorothy says she seized every chance to learn and grow.

"I was always someone who took risks – measured risks – but when doors were opened I went through them," she says. "Following a non-linear path can lead to a really interesting career."

#### **LEADING BY EXAMPLE**

Dorothy says executives sometimes receive filtered impressions of on-the-ground operational realities, which can skew highlevel decisions. To ensure she has a cleareyed view of the business, Dorothy regularly schedules time to solicit authentic feedback from both team members and customers.

"I participate in monthly, quarterly, and annual business reviews, because I want to engage with customers in a meaningful way and understand what is troubling them and how we can help," she explains.

Dorothy says she always strives to hold herself to the highest standard of professional and personal behavior, and similarly counsels aspiring C-level executives to lead by example. " I was always someone who took risks – measured risks – but when doors were opened I went through them."

"When you're in any highly visible role, people observe you and make decisions based on your leadership," she says. "As a person in a position of power, you're always on a stage, whether you want to be or not. Others learn and take cues from you."

Dorothy adds that the same principle applies whether on social media, in a meeting, or at a social event.

"I always think this is a good piece of advice: If your mother was at an event, or if you were tagging your mother on a social media post, how would you conduct yourself?" she says.

Dorothy also serves as an independent trustee on the board of directors for CubeSmart, a publicly traded self-storage company; several travel industry association boards, including the Global Business Travel Association; and as an advisor to her alma mater, the University of Waterloo.

"My work with the university is about helping others discover unexpected career paths, because I myself have followed a nonlinear path," she says. "I also want to help students see that the most important skill to take from a college education is the ability to learn. If you have that foundation, you have a bright professional future."

#### ON CAMPUS



# Curry Shows **PURPLE PRIDE** at Homecoming and Family Weekend

A lumni and parents joined current students at Homecoming and Family Weekend 2017, on October 20-22. The Football team played Nichols College under blue skies, defeating the visitors 46-16.

Other events included the annual Family and Faculty Breakfast; a Center for Career Development open house; a celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Nursing program; and a meet-and-greet for African-American, Latino, Asian/ Asian American, and Native American (ALANA) students and alumni.



OLONEL

Parents and professors enjoy the annual Family and Faculty Breakfast.



The Colonel poses for snapshots with fans.



The visting Red Sox Showcase featured a batting cage, pitching stations, and more!



Go Colonels!



Kupah James '04 shares advice with students at an Office of Diversity & Inclusion meet-and-greet event.



Colonels fans cheer on the Football Team to a 30-point victory.

#### ON CAMPUS



Alumni and parents return to campus on a picture-perfect Fall day.





Guests of all ages decorated pumpkins at the Fall Fun Fest.

It was a beautiful day for lawn games in Westhaver Park.







Dozens of Curry alumni, students, friends, and family participated in a Saturday morning hike on the Blue Hills Reservation, in support of the EvvGirl Foundation.



Bleed purple!





Left to right: Laura Coussoule; James Coussoule; Loukas Coussoule, Class of 2022; Kate Coussoule; and Alexa Coussoule

Keep up to date on new information for Homecoming 2018 at curry.edu/homecoming18

#### ALUMNI

# Reunited, and it Feels So Good!

**On October 21, 2017**, members from the Curry College classes of '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02, '07, and '12 gathered at the Alumni Recreation Center for a special Reunion event. They, along with other Curry grads back on campus for Homecoming, caught up and enjoyed top hits through the decades, as played by international DJ and business owner Kupah James '04.



SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, September 29 Does your graduation year end in "3" or "8"? If so, you're invited to your own milestone reunion at Homecoming this fall! If you're interested in helping plan

your class' event, please email alumni@curry.edu.

3





Reehr







- 1. Kupah James '04 returned from Los Angeles to DJ the event.
- 2. Class of 1982 graduates

 Robyn Hiller Coopersmith '88, Cindy Kay Merritt '87, Steve Stranahan '86, Julie Gutensohn Moran '86, Marc Coopersmith '86, Mary Kate McConville, Kim Guarino '86, Janine Martella '87, Karen Oldham, Steve Palmerino '87, Dan O'Hara, Cindy Kohl, Kurt Carberry '87, Kevin Moran '86



4 Alumni are all smiles at the event. 5. Left to right: Dennis Fedor '06, Christian Burgoyne '06, Ryan Swatz '08, Yaniv Havusha' 08, President Kenneth

- Hyan Swartz UB, Yaniv Havusha UB, President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr., Jamie Coy Whitacre '08, Andrew Whitacre '08, Sarah Kurs Hartnett '06 6. Left to right: Kevin Duff, Jr., Class of 2018; Toni Duff '93;
- Left to right: Kevin Duff, Jr., Class of 2018; Toni Duff '93; Ashley Duff, Class of 2020; and Kevin Duff, Sr., '89
   Left to right: Keith Crowell '93, Alex Mooney '93, Brian
- 8. Left to right: Keith Crowell 93, Alex Mooney 93, Brian Bohne '93, Micheal Geaney'93, Andrea Krikorian '93

 The Class of 1992 celebrates its 25th reunion.
 Left to right: Cindy Kay Merritt, Mary Kate McConville, Dennis Colarusso '87, Kevin Gingras' 87, Cindy Kohl, Dan O'Hara, Karen Oldham, Steve Palmerino, Janine Martella, Rich Sabatini '87

10.Left to right: Marilyn Smith '80, Cindee Luca Dacey, and Susan Meagher '79



#### **ALUMNI**



# **Alumni, Parents, and Friends Connect at**



President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr., Carrie Sonne O'Reilly '95, and Brendan Carobene '96

Alumni, parents, and friends of Curry joined President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr., for a reception in New York City on November 9, 2017. President Quigley and members of the Executive team shared College updates and invited guests to reconnect, reminisce, and network.

Curry College is grateful to UMH Properties President and CEO Samuel A. Landy, Esq. '82, who sponsored the event, that took place at Manhattan's storied 21 Club.



**RECEPTION** 



Connor McKeon '16, President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr., Kevin Coleman '15, and Alexander Cannon '15





Diane Genovario Carugati '78



CURRY COLLEGE Welcomes Parents, and Friends to the 21 Club

UMH UMH Properties and nt and CEO Samuel A. Landy, Esq. '82



Michael Stafford '82 and Livian Mayer '83



Curry alumni, parents, and friends mingle at New York's famed 21 Club.



President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr., Michael Marks, P '19, and Vice President for Institutional Advancement Chris Lawson



George McPhillips '85



#### 1965

**Fred Demarco '65** retired after 43 years in broadcasting with NBC, as vice president and general manager of NBC WRC-TV, and as chief operating officer at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. He and his wife, Pat, live on the eastern shore of Delaware and are enjoying time with their children and five grandchildren. Fred sends his best to the Class of 1965 and all Curry students and faculty.

**Stephen Perlman '65** worked for the federal government for 39 years. He recently enjoyed a cruise on the Viking Sun Italian Sojourn in October 2016 and a transatlantic voyage on the Queen Mary 2 in July 2017 to Norway. Stephen recently visited his grandchildren in Roswell, Georgia, where he watched his grandson play tennis and soccer, and watched his granddaughter cheerlead.

**Philip Schwartz '65** settled in Israel shortly after graduating from Curry College in 1965. In 1970, he married Lucille Beryl Cohen of Liverpool, England. They are the proud parents of three children and have four grandchildren. Since 1969, Philip and his wife have been members of Kibbutz Degania Bet, located near Tiberias. He previously worked in agriculture and food services in the Kibbutz. He is now semiretired, but still works part-time in the Kibbutz Dining Room.

**David Speciale '65** is the chairman of the Chatham Council on Aging in Chatham, Massachusetts. According to the Cape Cod Chronicle, Mr. Speciale will help the council expand programming, outreach, and communication efforts. He also works as a consultant on issues of identity theft and systems security.

#### 1969

**Hal Slifer '69** is the owner of Biography Stories, a video production company in Boston. He is now the full-time host for the Sunday morning radio program Chagigah, on WERS-FM Boston and WERS.org. Hal is working to make the show a 24/7 stream. He is also the fill-in host for the popular George Knight & Company weekday show on the same station. Hal worked at the Curry College radio station when it was Carrier Current, just before it got its FM license.

#### 1970

**Carolyn (Torigian) Atanian '70** retired from teaching at Plymouth Middle School in Plymouth, Massachusetts. She belongs to the last graduating class from Perry Normal in Boston.

#### 1972

**Carol MacDonald '72** retired a few years ago after working for 25 years for the Massachusetts State Police. She had a great career and is now enjoying retirement.

#### 1973

**George Dudasik '73** is retired but still acting, as he has done for the past 35 years. Most recently, he had a limited role in the production of *La La Land*. He continues to live near the beach in El Segundo, California.

**Frederick "Rick" Reilly '73** retired in 2017 after working 28 years in radio and 15 years in advertising sales. Frederick and wife, Barbara, will celebrate 35 years of marriage this year. They are taking it easy in Topsham, Maine.

#### 1976

**John Morrow '76** is retired and spends most of the summer months hiking and kayaking in the Adirondacks. He recently welcomed his first grandchild.

#### 1978

**Tom Alcott '78** is division vice president for Five Guys Burgers and Fries.

#### 1980

Susan Griffin '80 joins South Shore

Health System as manager of news and information.

**Richard Padula '80** sold his agency to The Hilb Group from Virginia, which is now doing business as the Hilb Group of New England with a private equity partner in Boston. The company is in 17 states with 48 offices, and is ranked 42nd among the nation's top privately held agencies. Richard is a minority shareholder in the Hilb Group.

#### 1983

**Glynnis (Diskin) LaRosa '83**, MPH, MSN, RN, PHNA-BC, CPHQ, earned national recognition from the Public Health Nursing Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA), receiving the Lillian Wald Service Award at the APHA Annual meeting in November 2017. This award honors individuals who demonstrate exemplary public health nursing service, especially through professional, legislative or public advocacy channels. Glynnis is employed at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health as the senior public health nursing advisor.

**Paul Silk '83** is the vice president of sales at Cim Strategies, Inc., in Georgetown, Massachusetts. Paul is married with four children. His two sons graduated from George Washington University and Seton Hall University. His daughters are students at Fairfield University and Norwood High School.

#### 1985

**Colleen (Foley) James '85** is the nurses improving care for healthsystem elders (NICHE) coordinator for the University of Texas Medical Branch, in Galveston, Texas.

#### 1986

**Melissa (Yagoda) Morris '86** is a Clinical Manager for Human Patient Simulation and Skills Lab for Nova Southeastern University, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

#### 1988

**Peter Romersa '88** has been working as a residential counselor for Pathways, Inc., in Greenwich, Connecticut, since 2003. His hobbies include practicing photography; listening to all types of music, including rock, jazz, and classical; and working on political campaigns, most recently the presidential bids of Bernie Sanders and Jill Stein. Peter has also been a moderator of local polling places in Connecticut since 2004, and is active in the Episcopal Church.

#### 1997

**Thomas P. Athridge '97** is an employee of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and recently published a book, *American Presidents at War*. It was released as an e-book, paperback, and hardcover in October 2017.

#### 1998

**Erin Foley '98** has worked as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist at Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine, for the past seven years. In June 2017, she received a Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice degree.

**Jody L. Koch '98** celebrated the birth of her second child, son Myles Alexander, in April 2016.

#### 1999

John DiMaso, III '99 and Tracy Nagle '13 are engaged to be married in September 2018. John has worked at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston since 2009.

#### 2000

**Brett Joseph '00** has worked at the Registry of Motor Vehicles since graduation. In 2012, he became a supervisor in the Braintree service center. Brett married his wife, Claire, in 2008; they have a daughter named Kathleen who is in 3rd grade.

#### 2001

**Jill (Gordon) Szeller '01** was married on October 9, 2016. She celebrated the arrival of her first child, a girl, in November 2017.

#### 2003

**Mark Lange '03** has accepted a new position as the head coach of the Spartan women's lacrosse team at Castleton University. Previously, he served as head coach of the boys' lacrosse team at Burr and Burton Academy in Manchester, Vermont, and was named Coach of the Year by the Marble Valley League and the *Bennington Banner*.

#### 2004

**Imogen Alter '04** and her husband, Dr. Davor Frleta, welcomed their first child, Simon, on May 29, 2016. Imogen received a Master of Social Work degree in 2007 from New York University.



Maggie Jia and Stephen Frey '04

Stephen Frey '04 is engaged to his girlfriend of nearly 10 years, Maggie Jia.

# *Curtain Call* Alumni Celebrate D-L Garren's 30 Years with Curry Theatre



Left to right: Prof. D-L Garren and Curry Theatre alumna Katie Mello Pak '00

Dozens of alumni returned to campus last September to pay tribute to Professor D-L Garren, as she concluded her 30-plus-year tenure as Curry Theatre's director.





"There's a full and healthy curriculum," she says. "Five shows a year, and faculty who are really dedicated to theatre. And a legacy built through three decades of dedicated students."

To see more photos, visit curry.edu/magazine.

Prof. Garren continues in her role as a Communication professor at Curry.



## Meet New Alumni & Parent Relations Officer Steve Whittemore

Steve Whittemore recently joined Curry's Office of Institutional Advancement as the College's newest Alumni and Parent Relations Officer, bringing with him several years of alumni and development experience. Steve has a passion for program and policy development and looks forward to enhancing and expanding the alumni and parent relations programs at Curry College.

Steve grew up, and currently resides, on the South Shore of Massachusetts, as the oldest of five boys. He is an avid Boston sports fan, enjoys staying active, and loves spending time with his family.

Have a question, comment, or just want to say hi? Email him at steven.whittemore@curry.edu, or call him at 617-333-2188.

**Steven M. Sargent '04**, Chief of Police in Worcester, Massachusetts, received the Distinguished Catholic Layperson Award in October 2017.

#### 2005



The Lenox Hotel recently featured the work of wedding photographer **Molly** (Bergeron) LaCroix '05 on a two-story banner, in downtown Boston.

**Sarah Majidy '05** received post-graduate degrees in television and elementary education. She is working as a teacher of special needs students in Hartford County, Connecticut.

**Christopher Roberson '05** is working as a reporter for The Advocate Newspapers, covering Lynnfield, Massachusetts, and Peabody, Massachusetts.

#### 2006

**Joseph Morabito '06** continues in his production management role at Magical Elves, working on reality series "Braxton Family Values" and "Tamar & Vince" for WEtv. He recently chaired the annual Producers Guild of America Holiday Party, hosted at the Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel. This was Joseph's fifth year producing the yearly Producers Guild of America event.

#### 2008

Jamie (Coy) Whitacre '08 recently began working at Walden Behavioral Care as an office assistant. Previously, she spent almost four years as a mental health worker at The Bridge of Central Massachusetts, in the Transition Age Community Treatment (TACT) program, and six years at the New England Center for Children, helping adults diagnosed with autism/autism spectrum disorders. She married **Andrew R. Whitacre '08** on August 22, 2015. Andrew took a position as a mental health worker for the Department of Mental Health in Waltham, Massachusetts, after graduation, and still holds the same job today. Jamie and Andrew are living together happily in Milford, Massachusetts, with their cat, Kittie.

Yaniv Havusha '08 recently celebrated his two-year anniversary as the Director of Jewish Student Life at the University of Rhode Island Hillel in October 2017. He is looking forward to his third URI Birthright Israel trip this summer.

**Peter Laitinen '08** was recently hired by Mount Wachusett Community College to run the college's new Paramedic Technology Certificate program.

#### 2009

**Samantha A. (Dyer) Crescitelli '09** is working as a Compliance Administrator for Eastern Bank in Lynn, Massachusetts.

**Laurie Goulding '09** is a Registered Nurse with CCRN and PCCN certifications, working in the Level I Cardiac Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Joanne (Pasquinelli) Hallahan '09 is a registered nurse at Brigham & Women's Faulkner Hospital in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts.

**Daniel Mazella '09** was named the night host for WGIR-FM/Rock 101 in New Hampshire.



Left to Right: Donald Norris, Evan Frangos, Matthew Printer, groom David Norris '10, Anthony Fernandes, Matt Lamonakis '10 and Nicholas Manochio. The Bride is in the background, meet Mrs. Lydia Norris.

Alumnus and Worcester Police Officer **David M. Rojas '09** deployed to Puerto Rico last year to offer support in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.

#### 2010

**Gabrielle Dube '10** is working for a second season as a Production Assistant on Criminal Minds. She is applying for the Assistant Directors Training Program to pursue a career as an Assistant Director in Los Angeles.

**Tony Luciani '10** is Manager of IT Risk and Compliance at Sony Pictures Entertainment.

**Dave Norris '10** married Lydia Frangos on September 30, 2017. His Curry roommate, Matthew Lamonakis '10, was a groomsman in the wedding.

#### 2011

**Scott Fersht '11** directed a sit-down interview with Hillary Clinton for Mic in September 2017.

**Michaela Gaffney '11** is a Registered Nurse working in the Emergency Department at Emerson Hospital in Concord, Massachusetts.

Have an update or interesting fact to share about your life after Curry? Your classmates want to know! curry.edu/update **Peter Harding '11** married Maria Rios in December 2017. Peter is currently the Director of Altar Servers at All Saints Church in Syracuse, NY.



Left to Right: Peter Harding '11 with bride Maria Rios and daughter Serenity



Justin Selig '13 in Modern Family (second from right)

#### 2012

**Isaac Levin '12** married Wendy Lebowitz in Bayville, New York. **Patrick Mellor '12** and **Mike Griffin '12** were groomsmen in the wedding. **Courtney Russo '12** works at the Center for STEM Diversity at Tufts University, where she was recently promoted to Program Coordinator.



Devin Sadlers '13 and fiancé Ana Bottary '13

#### 2013

**Ana Bottary '13** is engaged to **Devin Sadlers '13**, who recently graduated from Rhode Island College as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).

**Rodeline Chery '13** is working as a Registered Nurse at Boston Children's Hospital in the Urology Department.

**Justin Selig '13** appeared in a recent episode of the acclaimed hit sitcom *Modern Family*. Justin appeared in the episode's cold open as a friend of the Dunphy family, dressed as a zombie for a Halloween prank.

**Melissa Spillane '09** received her master's degree in Special Education and now works as a fourth-grade teacher at Nathaniel Morton Elementary School in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

#### 2014

**Jeremy Kittredge '14** recently co-authored an op-ed piece for the Baltimore Sun about lowering crime rates and improving public safety.

**Lauren Schneider '14** is earning her master's degree in Mental Health Counseling and is interning at New England Academy, a therapeutic middle and high school in Beverly, Massachusetts.

**Vincent Senerchia '14** founded Clear Fin Clothing in 2013. He credits his success partly to Curry's emphasis on internships, saying his experiences gave him tremendous insight into business operations across industries.

**Samantha Young '14** is a master's-level youth behavioral therapist at Youth Villages.

#### 2015



Kevin Coleman '15

**Kevin Coleman '15** works as a television broadcaster at Connecticut's HAN Network, recently reporting rink-side from Fairfield County's first-ever outdoor winter classic. In his role at the network, Kevin also co-hosts *Nutmeg Sports*, presenting highlights, analysis, and interviews from the Fairfield County Interscholastic Conference. **David Gebhardt '15** recently shared in an Emmy win for his part in covering the Summer 2016 Olympics as an associate producer at NBC. David's team won in the category "Outstanding Trans-Media Sports Coverage - Games of the 2016 Olympiad."

**Carl E. Hellberg '15** moved to Los Angeles and is working in the entertainment industry as a freelance production assistant for a network reality show.



Alexis Evers '15 and Christopher Triest '15

**Christopher Triest '15** and **Alexis Evers '15** are engaged to be married in July 2018. Christopher has been working as an inside sales consultant at Constant Contact for the past two years. Alexis is an Inclusion Facilitator at Medfield Public Schools.

#### 2016

Alicia Amato '16 is a Registered Nurse on a Cardiovascular Inpatient Unit at The Miriam Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island.



David Gebhardt '15 shared in a 2017 Emmy win for his work as an Associate Producer, covering the Summer 2016 Olympics for NBC.

**Alea Gilhuly-Mandel '16** recently earned her Master of Arts degree in Public Relations and Journalism from the School of Communications Arts and Sciences at Richmond, the American International University in London.

**Nicole E. Draicchio '16** and **Jordan Shairs '16** welcomed their first child, Lila Faye Shairs, in August 2017.

**Kelton Vuilleumier '16** has been a production assistant on three films since graduation. She also works at Boston 25 News as a production assistant.

#### 2017

**Jessica Abban '17** is a patient coordinator for the Nielsen Eye Center in Quincy, Massachusetts.

#### **NEVER STOP LEARNING: Alumni Now Save 20% on Master's Degree Programs**

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**Matt Army '17** mounted his first visual/poetry exhibition in October 2017 at the Boston Public Library's Dudley branch.

**Kelly Duggan '17** accepted a full-time position as a nanny.

Kayla Keany '17 plans to pursue a career in nursing.

Colin Murphy '17 is working for MEDI-TECH.

**Matt Triest '17** recently opened a new retail store called Be Charmed in Medfield, Massachusetts.

**Anthony Valentino '17** is a group worker for the Department of Youth Services in Boston.

#### **In Memoriam**

Francis William Tierney '59 Bishop Charles H. Brewer, Jr. '66 Sandra (Ambrose) Martig '67 Christine Farnsworth '70 Anne Leslie (Rosser) Paris '79 Peter J. Votto '98 James Carroll '14



Women's Alumni Soccer Game April 22, 2018 | 10 a.m. | Curry College

Men's Alumni Soccer Game April 22, 2018 | 12 p.m. | Curry College

#### **Once a Colonel, Always a Colonel!** *Alumni return for Annual Reunion Games*



Alumni Softball Game on September 24, 2017



Women's Alumni Lacrosse Game on October 8, 2017



Women's Alumni Basketball Game on October 21, 2017



Men's Alumni Basketball Game on October 21, 2017



Men's Alumni Lacrosse Game on November 11, 2017



"I call it the latte factor... it's very important to give, no matter at what level. "



Donor Profile

# Carrie Sonne O'Reilly '95 Psychology Senior Sales Representative Takeda Pharmaceuticals

Carrie Sonne O'Reilly '95 says giving to *The Curry Fund* is as simple as drinking a cup of coffee.

"I call it the latte factor," says Carrie. "If someone has money for a \$5 fancy coffee at the store, they can certainly start out by giving a small amount to Curry."

Carrie began giving to *The Curry Fund* in 2007, with gifts designated to the Justin P. Hughes Memorial Fund. Since then, she has continued to show her support through regular contributions.

"I want Curry to remain successful – that adds value to my diploma!" she says, adding that a high-quality education transforms students' professional trajectories. "Curry College is the foundation that launched many of us to the careers that we have today."

After graduation, Carrie went on to build a successful career in sales, leveraging the networking skills and professional connections she cultivated while at Curry.

Carrie is currently the Senior Sales Representative at Takeda Pharmaceuticals, where she taps into her company's matching gift program – which doubles every contribution she makes to *The Curry Fund*. She urges even recent graduates to consider making small yearly donations, which she says still have big impact.

"It's very important to give, no matter at what level," she says. "If you give \$5, it counts toward participation."

In addition to participating in *The Curry Fund*, Carrie frequently attends alumni events.

"I've met some tremendous, interesting, and successful graduates, and it makes me very proud," she says. "I am part of the Curry College family. You want to take care of your family."



# The Latte Factor: All Gifts Make an Impact

For the cost of a cup of coffee, you can help raise Curry's alumni participation rate.

The percentage of alumni who give to *The Curry Fund* – whether \$1 or \$100 – helps determine our school's national and regional rankings. And rankings impact everything from the value of a Curry College degree, to alumni job prospects! Last year, one in 20 alums participated. We need to raise our record... and you can make it happen!

Will you show your purple pride by making a gift to *The Curry Fund* today?



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# 10,000 Likes

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