Nursing, COVID & Care

Stories of nurses on the front lines of the pandemic.
Thank You.

During the past year you reached out and you pitched in.
You showed up on screens and in person.
You gave generously and selflessly.
And you made life better for our University community.

None of us could have imagined a year like 2020.
You answered the call.
Your participation made a difference.

We came together for Rochester.
One University.
And together we will go forward.
During the past year you reached out and you pitched in. You showed up on screens and in person. You gave generously and selflessly. And you made life better for our University community. None of us could have imagined a year like 2020. You answered the call. Your participation made a difference. We came together for Rochester. One University. And together we will go forward.

Together Rochester

Thank you.
Nursing in a Pandemic

In 2020, what was supposed to be a celebratory year for the nursing profession ended up challenging nurses in ways few could have imagined. The UR Medicine patient care system includes approximately 5,000 nurses. A few of them, including LaToya Baldwin (above)—Strong Hospital’s nursing quality, safety, and patient outcomes coordinator—share their stories from the front lines. By Karen McCally ’02 (PhD). Photographs by J. Adam Fenster

ON THE COVER: Strong Memorial Hospital ICU nurse Barbara (Babs) Greles. Photograph by J. Adam Fenster

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As the Peace Corps marks its 60th anniversary, Rochester alumni and faculty members reflect on their service as volunteers. By Jim Mandelaro

40 Everything My Husband Wasn’t There For

After losing Jeff Smith ’87, ’88S (MBA) in the September 11 terrorist attacks, Ellen Bakalian raised their daughters alone. Twenty years later, the children are grown, and she’s coming up for air. By Ellen S. Bakalian

Plus, remembering the six alumni who died that day.
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Meliora in Motion
Striving to be “Ever Better” means adapting to and embracing change.

By Sarah C. Mangelsdorf

As a leading research university, the University of Rochester is in constant motion, and always changing as the world around us changes. This summer is no exception.

A great change came in June with the groundbreaking of a new University of Rochester Medical Center orthopaedics campus in Henrietta, New York. This 19.1-acre facility will help meet the growing demand for musculoskeletal care and keep the Medical Center at the forefront of care for our community.

Among our recent not-so-welcome changes are the continued struggles with the global coronavirus pandemic. While nearly 70 percent of area adult residents have received some level of vaccination, and our campus has seen just a handful of new cases through summer break, the Delta variant of the disease has caused a mid-summer spike in infections around the world.

Many states are returning to early COVID-19 masking and social distancing requirements. And federal health officials are even recommending that people who’ve been vaccinated wear masks indoors again.

By embracing change and seeing these adjustments as opportunities for growth, we collectively reimagine the University of Rochester as One University.

Thankfully we at the University of Rochester have already taken steps that we believe will protect our community while allowing us to safely return to all in-person activities after a year-and-a-half of hybrid operations. Along with more than 620 other American colleges and universities, Rochester will require all students to be vaccinated to return to campus in the fall—in lieu of medical or religious exemptions.

Additionally, we will require that non-vaccinated faculty and staff be tested regularly, be masked at all times when inside campus buildings, and submit online surveys any day they come to campus. Additional details about the requirement and its implementation can be found at Rochester.edu/coronavirus-update.

These changes have allowed us to plan for an in-person Meliora celebration for fall 2021 and to host the long-overdue in-person recognition of the Class of 2020, which COVID denied a traditional commencement.

The fall will see a number of administrative changes as well. I was pleased to announce this summer that Kathy Galluci, formerly the executive director of human resources, has taken on the duties of chief human resources officer. Kathy’s service to and knowledge of the University made her right for the role.

Meanwhile, the search for a permanent provost is ongoing. And we have begun work on our university’s strategic plan. We’ll be in touch soon about how students, faculty, staff, and alumni can contribute.

In June we concluded the yearlong Together for Rochester campaign. In addition to raising more than $112 million, we’re particularly grateful that the campaign was so successful at a time when other institutions struggled to raise funds to support mission-critical programs.

Change also came in local government with alumnus Malik Evans ’02 winning the Democratic primary for mayor of Rochester. Pending the results of the general election, where Malik is currently unopposed, we look forward to working with his administration to move the University, the city, and the region forward.

In this issue of Rochester Review, you will read about change exemplified by the 400-plus Rochester alumni who’ve served as Peace Corps ambassadors since the program’s inception 60 years ago. Some will share how that experience changed them and the world for the better.

This issue also celebrates UR Medicine nurses, who bore the brunt of COVID locally and have heroically coped with burnout, PTSD, low morale, and staffing shortages for nearly two years. Fittingly, the World Health Organization declared 2020: The Year of the Nurse.

And with the 20th anniversary of the 9-11 terrorist attacks upon us, this issue also features a reflection of the day that changed this University and the world beyond. We commemorate that fateful day with an essay from the widow of alumnus Jeffrey Smith ’87, ’88S (MBA), and a list of the six alumni who died in the attacks.

Like the 9-11 attacks, COVID has changed the way we interact. Personally, COVID has limited my access to everyone in the University community through most of my presidency. But by adapting to change and embracing our vaccination requirement, I am hopeful that I’ll finally be able to meet more of you in person in the fall—many, for the first time!

All changes—the welcome and the not-so-welcome—require us to adapt. But by embracing change and seeing these adjustments as opportunities for growth, we collectively reimagine the University of Rochester as One University. It’s a worthy goal we can all get behind.

Meliora! ☑️

Contact President Mangelsdorf at sarah.mangelsdorf@rochester.edu. Follow her on Instagram: @urochestermangelsdorf.
I was surprised at what memory of Rochester came to mind in reading “This American Moment” in the Spring 2021 issue. I remember the English professor who chose to inform his class that the people who went to the American Frontier were the failures . . . implying that successful people would stay where they were. I characterize it as wrong—wrong-headed and personally offensive. I had ancestors at the American Frontier from about 1640 through 1900. Many moved from one success to a greater success.

Without trying to respond to all eight essays, I would choose to emphasize one aspect of the ongoing effort by the Democratic Party to change our voting traditions. While I note that [Professor of Political Science] James Johnson has published “Should Secret Voting Be Mandatory,” no other explicit mention of the importance of the secret ballot makes it into the essay series. But in the characteristically offensive piece by [Assistant Professor of Political Science] Mayya Komisarchik, we are told that “The Biden administration’s For the People Act, known as H. R. 1, is a good start.” Not a good start at protecting the People Act, known as H. R. 1, is a good start.” Not a good start at protecting the secret ballot but instead making it entirely optional. Passing control of all voting to the Democrats in Washington is guaranteed to raise forever the suspicion of unfairness.

I could go on but suffice it to state that the views presented are easily challenged if you allow sources not controlled by Big Tech and the Democratic party. Finally, as for who was the polarizing force, I note that I was characterized by [2016 Democratic presidential nominee] Hillary [Clinton] as being in “the basket of deplorables” in 2016, despite that I in no way find that an appropriate description of my personal beliefs. Shall we go on?

Bruce Brown ’66
Plainfield, Illinois

Assistant Professor Mayya Komisarchik is either misinformation or she is intentionally misleading the reader when she suggests that H. R. 1 is a “good start” to preventing state-level voter suppression.

If readers want to know anything about H. R. 1, they should read Walter Olson’s piece “How Many of H. R. 1’s Provisions Are Unconstitutional?” Mr. Olson is a legal scholar for the Cato Institute and demonstrates that many provisions of this bill are overtly unconstitutional. He states that the sponsors of H. R. 1 “won’t even drop the parts of their bill that courts have already declared unconstitutional.”

Harvey Jacobson ’82S (MBA)
Glendale, California

**Huzzah for Hajim**
Great article on Wall Street veteran and alumnus Ed Hajim ’58 (“Driven to Succeed”) in the spring issue. While at the Simon Business School in the late ’90s, I had the luck of attending a presentation by Hajim and the opportunity to briefly introduce myself. I never forgot the words of encouragement that I received from him that day regarding my goal to work in finance, despite having a humanities BA. And now, after 20-plus years in the financial markets, I was stoked to see him still motivating U of R students to this day.

Luigi Limentani ’98S (MBA)
Tokyo, Japan

**A Medley of Individual Groans**
Swimmers let us know that we were all wet when, on page 25 of the spring issue, we questioned why the 400-yard “intermediate medley” was such a tough race. Many of them groaned and silently mouthed the words “individual medley” at our mistake.

—Scott Hauser

Review welcomes letters and will print them as space permits. Letters may be edited for brevity and clarity. Unsigned letters cannot be used. Send letters to Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044; rochrev@rochester.edu.
Black Alumni Network


The University’s new Black Alumni Network fosters, promotes, and celebrates an inclusive community. Join and expand your personal and professional circles while sharing your life’s experiences, advocating for change, and connecting with students and fellow alumni.

JOIN US TODAY
uofr.us/BlackAlumniNetwork
QUADRUPLE COMMENCEMENT

Live from the Eastman Quadrangle

PHOTO FINISH: Elisabeth Rott ’21, a double major in international relations and Spanish from Clarence, New York, takes a selfie with the track team after the first of four commencement ceremonies for undergraduates in Arts, Sciences & Engineering. For all the ceremonies this year, only graduating students were allowed to attend in person and all the events were organized with masking, social distancing, and other health and safety protocols in place. All the ceremonies were streamed live for families and friends and for graduating students who couldn’t make it to campus. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER
CLINICAL CARE
‘Orthopaedics Campus’ Makes History

CARE CENTER: Ground was formally broken this summer on the largest
off-campus construction project in University history, a $227 million ortho-
paedics care center located on 19 acres about four miles south of the Medical
Center. Shown here in an architect’s rendering, the facility will be the largest
comprehensive ambulatory orthopaedics center in the Northeast when the
campus opens in 2023. UR Medicine sees about a quarter million orthopaedics
patients a year, a number that’s expected to grow as the population ages.
The new site will provide needed clinical space and expanded resources for
same-day procedures. The work is one of two major projects under way at the
Medical Center (see page 18). RENDERING PROVIDED BY BALLINGER ARCHITECTS.
TOGETHER FOR ROCHESTER CAMPAIGN

‘We Helped and Healed Each Other’

As a yearlong, $100 million campaign closes, University leaders thank the campus and alumni community for making a “real difference in the lives of so many.”

As the full picture of the year 2020 came into focus last spring—a devastating pandemic, an isolating life of lockdowns and closings, a renewed racial reckoning—the University community drew together. Over the course of a challenging year, alumni, faculty, students, parents, and friends pitched in to volunteer their time, personal attention, and resources to help ensure that Rochester emerged ready to succeed in a post-pandemic world.

That’s the report as the one-year Together for Rochester campaign came to a close at the end of June.

The yearlong engagement and fundraising campaign brought together more than 40,000 alumni, parents, and friends, raising more than $112 million to support students, faculty, coronavirus research, diversity initiatives, and other mission-critical programs.

The campaign also connected and supported the University community through an array of virtual engagement programs.

During a time when many universities experienced a decline in charitable giving, Rochester held steady. For the eighth year in a row, the University surpassed $100 million in cash receipts, demonstrating the commitment of the University’s alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents, and friends.

“Throughout this challenging year, we helped and healed each other,” says President Sarah Mangelsdorf, the G. Robert Witmer, Jr. University Professor. “We offered programs and experiences that enriched the hearts and minds of our community and gave them new ways to come together and learn from each other. We stepped up, we pitched in, and we made a real difference in the lives of so many.”

More than $3.7 million was raised to support diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) priorities, most supporting financial aid, which was accelerated by the Naveen and Courtney Nataraj Scholarship Challenge, sponsored by University Trustee Naveen Nataraj ‘97 and his wife, Courtney, and the Evans Lam Opportunity Scholarship Challenge, led by University Trustee Evans Lam ‘83, ‘84S (MBA). In total, some 1,222 donors supported diversity and equity initiatives during the one-year campaign. Additionally, the University launched new programs like the REAL Conversations series and new affinity networks—the Black Alumni Network and the Women’s Network—as a way to build relationships among alumni.

Donors funded COVID-19 initiatives including important vaccine research, emergency supplies for students, and resources for the Medical Center’s front line health care workers such as emergency childcare, meals, and personal protective equipment. Masks, boxes of latex gloves, and even hospital beds came from nearby Rochester businesses and from as far away as China.

With career opportunities and internships scarce because of the pandemic, the campaign emphasized support for career initiatives. The campaign facilitated more than 400 new job and internship postings and more than 2,800 new people joined The Meliora Collective, an online career portal connecting students, alumni, and friends. More than $668,000 was raised for the Gwen M. Greene Center for Career Education and Connections for summer internship funds, stipends, and virtual recruiting efforts.

“Although we faced challenges throughout the 2020–21 fiscal year, the ways we came together are truly quite remarkable,” says Senior Vice President for University Advancement Tom Farrell ‘88, ‘90W (MS). “We were there for each other. And our alumni, donors, and friends were there for Rochester—supporting an institution they believe in.”

BY THE NUMBERS
The Together for Rochester one-year engagement and fundraising campaign concluded on June 30, 2021.

more than 40,000 alumni, parents, and friends brought together for the yearlong engagement and fundraising campaign

more than 1,222 donors supported diversity and equity initiatives

more than $112 million raised to support students, faculty, coronavirus research, diversity initiatives and other mission-critical programs

more than $668,000 raised for the Gwen M. Greene Center for Career Education and Connections

$100 million in cash receipts surpassed for the eighth year in a row for the University

more than 400 new job and internship postings

more than 2,800 new people joined the Meliora Collective

$3.7 million raised to support diversity, equity, and inclusion priorities
A Signature Fall Weekend Returns—with a Twist

With a special celebration for the Class of 2020, Rochester marks the return of milestone reunions and family weekend with Meliora 2021.

Margaret Cho

The University is easing back into its celebratory traditions this fall with a variety of virtual and in-person events for alumni, students, parents, and friends on Friday, October 1, and Saturday, October 2.

Dubbed “Meliora 2021,” the tradition-filled weekend is the first large alumni event of the academic year.

Designed especially for the Class of 2020, parents and families, and reunion classes whose year of graduation ends in 0, 1, 5, or 6, the signature event of the weekend will be a “One University” commencement ceremony on Saturday morning for all students who had degrees conferred in 2020.

As the pandemic forced the University to hold only virtual commencement events last year, President Sarah Mangelsdorf promised 2020 graduates an in-person commencement as soon as it was feasible.

“I am so happy we are able to offer the Class of 2020 their moment,” Mangelsdorf says. “These students persevered through such a difficult time in our history. Some never had the opportunity to return to campus to say goodbye to friends and classmates, or to thank faculty and staff. I look forward to seeing them and their families back on campus this fall.”

Geena Davis, the Academy Award–winning actor, producer, and gender equality advocate, will give the commencement address on Saturday. As the founder and chair of the nonprofit Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media, she is working to increase the representation of women and reduce gender stereotyping in media and films targeting young audiences. Davis’s speech will be broadcast live to all Rochester alumni and parents through a special website.

On Friday night, comedian, actor, entrepreneur, advocate, and author Margaret Cho will perform. Named one of the 50 Best Stand-Up Comics by Rolling Stone magazine, Cho is active in antiracism, anti-bullying, and gay rights campaigns and was recently honored with the Intrepid Award from the National Organization for Women.

“We are eager to welcome back to campus our alumni and friends who missed out on so much last year—our 2020 graduates, our reunion classes, and of course our parents and families,” says Tom Farrell ’88, ’90W (MS), senior vice president for University Advancement. “We are planning a variety of intellectual and entertaining programs that will allow our guests to fully experience Rochester while we celebrate and honor the important life milestones that happened during the pandemic.”

Meliora 2021 will feature academic lectures and programming as well as a social village with food trucks, live music, and other activities. All events will be subject to campus safety guidelines and visitor policies. Check the Meliora 2021 website at Rochester.edu/melioraweekend regularly for updates.

Meliora Weekend will fully return in 2022 when the annual event will once again be open to all alumni, families, and friends.

—EMILY GILLETTE
IN REVIEW

Board Elects Three Members, Honors Four Life Trustees

New Trustees

Steven Grinspoon ’88M (MD) is a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, director of the NIH–funded Nutrition Obesity Research Center at Harvard University, and chief of the Metabolism Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he holds an endowed chair in neuroendocrinology and metabolism.

Grinspoon graduated with a bachelor’s degree in political science from Cornell University—Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude—completed his medical training at Rochester, and internal medicine and chief residency at Columbia Presbyterian in New York City. He completed a fellowship in endocrinology at Mass General, where he has since served on the faculty.

Curtis Johnson ’88 is managing director and head of consultant relations and private equity for The Carlyle Group, a global asset management firm with over $260 billion of assets under management. Based in New York City, he works closely with the firm’s global private equity and real assets teams in the US, Europe, and Asia to raise capital and develop relationships with institutional consultants.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in economics and political science from Rochester, and a MBA with a concentration in finance from the University of Michigan.

Mary-Frances Winters ’73, ’82S (MBA) is founder and CEO of The Winters Group Inc., a global diversity and inclusion consulting firm that helps organizations develop solutions for equity and inclusion. Winters was the University’s first African American woman to serve as a trustee when she was elected in 1987. She most recently served as a life trustee but is returning to the board as a voting member.

She graduated from Rochester with bachelor’s degrees in English and psychology and an MBA from the Simon Business School’s Executive Development Program.

Also this spring, the board approved the transition of four individuals to life trustee status.

Richard Aab
A board member since 2001, Aab served at different times as a member of the Advancement, Health Affairs, Human Resources, Research and Innovation, and Strategic and Financial Planning committees. His service includes membership on the Medical Center Board as well as cochair and vice chair of the Medical Center Campaign Cabinet.

He has been a key philanthropic supporter of Golisano Children’s Hospital and of cardiovascular research, where he established the Richard T. Aab Cardiovascular Research Institute Endowment, and the Aab Cardiovascular Research Institute Fund.

Larry Bloch ’75
Bloch has been a member of the board since 1998, serving as a member or chair of Audit and Risk Assessment, Executive, External Affairs, Health Affairs, and other committees. He chaired the Advancement Committee for 17 years.

A member of San Diego Regional Cabinet and vice chair of The Meliora Challenge Campaign Cabinet for the West Coast, he has also been a member of the Friends of Rochester Athletics Board and helped lead his milestone reunion committees. Bloch established the Larry and Cindy Bloch Endowment for University Advancement and the James D. Thompson Chief Advancement Officer in support of the chief fundraising officer position. Through their leadership of the Advancement program, he and his wife, Cindy, are credited with creating a cultural shift in fundraising.

Brian Prince ’86, ’89S (MBA)
A member of the board since 2015, Prince has served as a member of the Student Life, Investment, and Research and Innovation committees. As a member of the Friends of Rochester Athletics Board, he has committed support to renovate and expand the University’s outdoor athletic facilities.

Supported by a gift in honor of his parents, Richard and Christine Prince, the facilities are named the Brian F. Prince Athletic Complex. He has established endowments for men’s soccer and women’s lacrosse and helped lead his milestone reunion committees. Bloch established the Larry and Cindy Bloch Endowment for University Advancement and the James D. Thompson Chief Advancement Officer in support of the chief fundraising officer position. Through their leadership of the Advancement program, he and his wife, Cindy, are credited with creating a cultural shift in fundraising.

Thomas Sloan ’65, ’67 (MS)
Sloan has been a board member since 2006, serving as chair of the Executive Committee for 10 years, in addition to membership on several other committees. His many roles include vice chair of The Meliora Challenge Campaign Cabinet, a member of the Hajim Visiting Committee, and a volunteer for his milestone reunions.

As philanthropic supporters, he and his wife, Linda, have been leaders in the areas of theater and the performing arts, including the Sloan Performing Arts Center, which is scheduled to open this fall on the River Campus. The center provides much-needed space for students to experience and participate in the performing arts and serves as a showcase for campus and community programs.
Ask the Archivist: How Did a Yellowjacket Buzz Its Way into Wilson Commons?

A question for Melissa Mead, the John M. and Barbara Keil University Archivist and Rochester Collections Librarian.

I am an editor for the Campus Times. I am working on a story about the wooden statue of the yellowjacket found in the corner of Hirst Lounge, and was wondering if you had any information on it. I’ve been trying to figure out where it came from and if Jeremy Glick’s fraternity played a role in the creation of the wood carving.—Melanie Earle ’23

Campus Times staff often consult the University Archives for historical background and photographs, but usually the answer can be found in existing files. Tracking down the story of this wonderful sculpture truly required a “hive mind” approach, and Earle has graciously agreed to have her story scooped in Review.

The large, intricately carved sculpture depicting the University’s mascot and flower currently sits in the corner of Hirst Lounge near the six clocks depicting time at sites around the world (a gift of the Class of 2007) and the plaques honoring Rochester alumni and staff who died while serving in the armed services during wartime. An inscription on its surface reads:

Way to go Glick
9-11-2001

Jeremy Glick ’93 was one of six Rochester alumni who died in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. The others were Brendan Dolan ’86, Aram Iskenderian ’82, Jean Hoadley Peterson ’69N, Jeffrey Smith ’87, ’88S (MBA), and Zhe (Zack) Zheng ’95, ’98S (MBA) (see pages 40–43).

Along with Peterson and her husband, Donald, Glick was one of the passengers on Flight 93, and he was honored for his heroism in the counterattack which ended in the plane’s crash in Pennsylvania.

The Archives holds photographs of the sculpture in its original location on Faculty Road near Gilbert Hall. The descriptive information embedded in the photos dates them to 2011 and makes particular note of the inscription. Glick served as president of the Rochester chapter of Alpha Delta Phi, so it seemed reasonable at first to conclude that it might have been commissioned by his fraternity. In 2002, a scholarship in Glick’s name was established to provide financial assistance to students in fraternities and sororities. But inquiries to a wide range of Alpha Deltas, spearheaded by John Braund ’53, did not reveal any connection.

Staff in several University offices were contacted, but their records did not include the piece or its funding source. The medium of the sculpture, and its original location helped lead to the answer.

Shawn Casey, former manager of properties and contracts at the University, suggested contacting Dan Schied, now director of grounds at Cornell University. He is well remembered for his many contributions at Rochester, including expanding the horticultural variety on

Need History?
Do you have a question about University history? Email it to rochrev@rochester.edu. Please put “Ask the Archivist” in the subject line.

For more photographs of the Yellowjacket sculpture, visit https://rbscp.lib.rochester.edu/blog/ATA-Summer2021.
Could Clothing Mitigate Climate Change?

In recent years scientists have learned to create so-called “living materials” by embedding biological cells into a nonliving matrix. The idea is to harness the power of living cells to respond to their environment and bring that same property to materials in a variety of applications.

In a paper published in the journal Advanced Functional Materials, associate professor of biology Anne S. Meyer and colleagues at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands report that they’ve developed a novel, photosynthetic living material by combining bacterial cellulose, which is nonliving, with algae. One day, you may be wearing it.

Why the two ingredients? And why in clothes? Bacterial cellulose, a compound produced and excreted by bacteria, has flexibility, toughness, strength, and an ability to retain its shape, even when twisted, crushed, or otherwise physically distorted. Algae is photosynthetic; it can harvest the energy of the sun to feed and regenerate itself.

The two ingredients, combined in a 3D printer using a bioprinting technique developed by Meyer and her colleagues, have resulted in “the first example of an engineered photosynthetic material that is physically robust enough to be deployed for real-world applications,” says Meyer.

Although Meyer envisions multiple applications for the material, including in the energy and medical sectors, clothing—so-called bio-garments—may be the most intriguing. Bio-garments made from algae would be sustainably produced and completely biodegradable. They would also work to purify the air by removing carbon dioxide through photosynthesis and would not need to be washed as often as conventional garments. They would save water—as well as trips to the laundry.

—Lindsey Valich

COVID-19 Infection, Death Linked to Racial Disparity in Nursing Homes

People in nursing homes with higher concentrations of Black and Latino residents were more than 50 percent more likely to be infected with COVID-19 and twice as likely to die in the first months of the pandemic, compared to those in homes with predominantly white populations.

That’s according to a study led by Yue Li, a professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences and published in the journal Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology.

The new research adds to previous studies by Li and his colleagues that found older residents from underrepresented racial and ethnic backgrounds and their caregivers bore the severest brunt from COVID, and linked the COVID toll in nursing homes to staffing levels and quality scores.

For the new study researchers analyzed cases and death reports for a 10-week period between April 13 and June 19, 2020, in nursing homes in Connecticut, one of the few states to provide weekly counts early in the pandemic. The researchers found disparities in nursing home infections and deaths increased as the pandemic progressed. By week 10 of the study data, the infection rate was 54 percent higher and the death rate was 117 percent higher in nursing homes with larger proportions of underrepresented residents compared to those with a whiter population.

Says Li: “Going forward, it is imperative that future federal, state, and local initiatives are designed to couple efforts to fight the pandemic and those designed to redress enduring disparities in health outcomes, while also avoiding programs that may perpetuate systematic inequalities and discriminations.”

—Mark Michaud

What Tweets Reveal about Anti-Asian Hate

Last spring, tweets displaying the hashtags #StopAsianHate and #StopAAPIHate spiked sharply after March shootings in Atlanta, in which six of the eight fatalities were Asian women.

To gauge the public response to the hashtags, an interdepartmental team of researchers from computer science, political science, and the Goergen Institute for Data Science analyzed postings by nearly 50,000 Twitter users across 30 states over a three-and-a-half-week period following the shootings.

In results posted on the open-access scholarly repository arXiv, the team reported that a growing political divide in the US was reflected in responses to the hashtags. Supporters of President Joe Biden were more likely to support the hashtags, while supporters of former President Donald Trump were more likely to express negative views about the hashtags.

The researchers also found that the hashtags received more support in states with higher percentages of Asian populations and a higher incidence of racially motivated hate crimes; and that the hashtags attracted more participation from women and younger adults, and within Asian and Black communities.

“Our interest is to always understand public opinion first, and then maybe discover some insight into how the situation can be improved,” says Jiebo Luo, a professor of computer science and one of the authors. Luo and coauthor Bruce Lyu, a PhD student in Luo’s lab, conducted a similar study in April 2020 that connected use of terms like “Chinese virus” and “Wuhan virus” on social media to increased reports of attacks on people of Asian descent.

—Bob Marcotte
Inside Jupiter, It’s Raining Helium

It’s been decades since scientists first predicted the existence of helium rain inside planets composed primarily of hydrogen and helium, such as Jupiter and Saturn.

But achieving the experimental conditions necessary to test the hypothesis has not been possible until recently. In a paper published in *Nature*, Rochester researchers report that by combining the powers of a diamond anvil cell and the Omega Laser at the University’s Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE), they were able to reproduce the high pressures and temperatures believed to prevail at the cores of those planets.

“Our experiments suggest that deep inside Jupiter and Saturn, helium droplets are falling through a massive sea of liquid metallic hydrogen,” says Gilbert (Rip) Collins, the Tracy Hyde Harris Professor of Mechanical Engineering; associate director of science, technology, and academics at LLE; and director of Rochester’s Center for Matter at Atomic Pressures. “That is a pretty amazing thing to think about next time you look up at Jupiter in the night sky.”

It’s also useful information in the quest to understand the nature and evolution of Jupiter. Collins says Jupiter is believed to be “somewhat of a space trash collector—protecting our planet in the solar system.” That’s because its strong gravitational field traps asteroids and comets as they fly through the solar system.

—Lindsey Valich

Successful Alcohol Intervention Efforts Need to Include Partners of Mothers-to-be

A study by a team of Rochester psychologists and other researchers in the Collaborative Initiative on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders finds that partners of mothers-to-be can directly influence a pregnant woman’s likelihood of drinking alcohol and feeling depressed, which affects their babies’ development.

The study, which appeared in *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, highlights the importance of engaging partners in intervention and prevention efforts to help pregnant women avoid drinking alcohol.

A baby’s prenatal alcohol exposure carries the risk of potential lifelong problems, including premature birth, delayed infant development, and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD).

“The findings emphasize how many factors influence alcohol use during pregnancy,” says lead author Carson Kautz-Turnbull, a third-year graduate student in Rochester’s Department of Psychology. “The more we learn about these factors, the more we can reduce stigma around drinking during pregnancy and help in a way that’s empowering and meaningful.”

The team followed 246 pregnant women at two sites in western Ukraine as part of an international consortium of researchers that includes members of the University’s Mt. Hope Family Center. The collaboration is funded by the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, part of the National Institutes of Health.

The team found that higher use of alcohol and tobacco by partners as well as pregnant women’s lower relationship satisfaction increased the likelihood of their babies’ prenatal alcohol exposure.

Conversely, women who felt supported by their partners reported lower rates of depressive symptoms and were less likely to drink during pregnancy.

—Sandra Knispel
IN REVIEW

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Helping Doctors with Hard Conversations

A friendly virtual patient aims to teach physicians how to talk about the end of life.

By Bob Marcotte

It’s a hard pill for doctors to swallow: Studies show that as many as 68 percent of late-stage cancer patients leave their doctor’s offices either underestimating the severity of their disease, overestimating their life expectancy—or both.

Such misunderstandings can hinder the ability of patients and their families to make realistic decisions about whether to continue aggressive treatments or instead turn to palliative care.

To address the problem, a team of Rochester computer scientists, palliative care specialists, and oncologists have created SOPHIE (Standardized Online Patient for Healthcare Interaction Education)—an online virtual “patient” that helps physicians practice how to communicate effectively with late-stage cancer patients about their disease. SOPHIE appears as a real-life—albeit AI-derived—human face and voice on the user’s screen.

“During difficult conversations about facing the potential of one’s own death, patients are frightened and don’t know how to ask the right questions, and clinicians may oversimplify, omit, or sugarcoat information, or feel too pressed for time to address patients’ emotions,” says Ehsan Hoque, an associate professor of computer science.

SOPHIE was made possible by a body of nearly 400 conversations that were recorded between late-stage cancer patients and their oncologists, and initially analyzed by Medical Center palliative care expert Ronald Epstein, a professor of family medicine, psychiatry and oncology, and his colleagues. Mohammad Rayafet Ali, a postdoctoral researcher, and PhD student Taylan Sen, both members of Hoque’s Human-Computer Interaction Lab, created algorithms that could be applied to the transcripts of the conversations so the researchers could develop metrics to assess a physician’s ability to communicate clearly with patients.

The metrics focus specifically on the extent to which physicians engage in lecturing—delivering a lot of information without giving the patient a chance to ask questions or to respond—or, on the plus side, how well they employ positive words and phrases in ways associated with increased patient understanding.

While doctors may also work with human actors, SOPHIE “can provide training at a fraction of the cost and be available to physicians worldwide,” says Epstein.

MEET SOPHIE: Appearing as a real-life human face, the AI-generated avatar is designed to help physicians have difficult conversations.

Strong Expansion Aims to Improve Patient Care

The Medical Center has begun planning for a long-term project to significantly expand Strong Memorial Hospital’s Emergency Department—roughly tripling its size to relieve overcrowding—while also providing for new inpatient space designed around modern care needs.

Known as the Strong Expansion Project, the initiative aims to bring necessary updates to the facility, allow for future growth, and provide space for faculty and staff to deliver care in modern and private facilities that meet the expectations of patients.

Design work on the project has begun, and the final plan ultimately is contingent upon approval from the University’s Board of Trustees.

Rochester’s emergency department has not expanded significantly since the loss of two city hospitals about 20 years ago.

Since then, Strong Memorial has seen a substantial 66 percent increase in emergency room visits. Patients frequently experience long wait times because of lack of treatment space, which also challenges staff who serve patients and their families.

The plan calls for completing the project in 2027.

EXPANSION: As shown in an architect’s rendering, a proposed expansion project would triple the size of Strong Memorial’s Emergency Department.
Is What You See What You Get?

Art historian A. Joan Saab explores what it means when seeing is believing.

By Kathleen McGarvey

What does it mean to believe our own eyes?

That’s a question A. Joan Saab explores in *Objects of Vision: Making Sense of What We See* (2020), part of the Pennsylvania State University Press’s Perspectives on Sensory History series.

Saab, the Susan B. Anthony Professor in the Department of Art and Art History and the vice provost of academic affairs, sees the matter as one of context.

“Objects of vision,” she writes, “are not seen objectively or simply for what they are but are situated within the context of relationships, ideas, and cultures that shape what we see when we view these objects.”

Since antiquity in Western thought, sight has been understood as the primary and foundational sense for understanding the world. Embedded in that idea is an assumption that has remained relatively intact since: that the visual world can be recorded and described in objective terms.

Non-Westerners who have found themselves the unwitting subjects of Eurocentric narratives have done much to discredit that assumption. But the notion of objective vision has also marginalized many in the West whose views fall outside the dominant frameworks. Thus Saab describes her project as “an intervention” that focuses on “objects of vision often excluded from master narratives—material artifacts and ways of seeing that are too easily dismissed as unimportant, strange, frightening, and even silly.” Often, she notes, the objects are ones that defy easy categorization.

The result is a peripatetic narrative that carries readers from the Renaissance to the 1835 *New York Sun* articles claiming life on the moon; from Cooperstown, New York’s famous Cardiff Giant to the supposed capturing of ghostly images in early photography.

In each case, Saab shows how basic emotions such as desire, pleasure, and fear have operated in shaping how we see things—and why we believe we’re seeing what we think we see.

Saab frames the book, however, with a prologue dedicated to a more recent example: the infamous video of the 1991 beating of the African American construction worker Rodney King by members of the Los Angeles Police Department.

The incident was captured by a man, George Holliday, who lived in a nearby apartment. It provoked a national outcry and ultimately led to the officers’ arrest for excessive use of force.

But a largely white jury concluded—based on that same video—that there was insufficient evidence to convict. Defense attorneys broke the tape into its component frames, Saab writes. “By showing the beating in slow motion, they treated each of the fifty-six blows separately. According to one of the jurors, ‘A lot of those blows, when you watch them in slow motion, were not connecting. . . . not that much damage was done.’”

Blowing up images and rendering the tape as a series of still images changed what the members of the jury believed they saw.

The defense argued the video was evidence of the dangerous nature of police work and cast each still frame as a discrete example of that danger. When a prosecutor asked one of the officers, “You can’t look at the video and say that every one of those blows is reasonable, can you?” the officer replied, “Oh, I can if I put my perceptions in.”

“The uses of Holliday’s videotape at the officers’ criminal trial not only demonstrated the ways in which technologies of vision can shape our understandings of what and how we see what is before our eyes, it showed how the same visual evidence can be manipulated to tell very different stories,” Saab writes. “By blowing up and freezing the frames, the actions of the four officers on trial, as well as King’s own movements, were—at least in the eyes of the jurors—disconnected from the rest of the tape as well as from the fraught history of race relations in the United States.”

While we continue to expand our capacity to record ever more technically advanced objects of vision, the central problem—“making sense of what we see”—remains.

Kathleen McGarvey was an associate editor and writer for Rochester Review from 2006 until her death this past spring. For more about her career and her contributions to the magazine and the University, see page 59. —Scott Hauser
Books

Forever: Poems

In his sixth collection of poetry, James Longenbach, the Joseph Henry Gilmore Professor of English at Rochester, reflects on living with cancer—“a life lived with the knowledge of its end.” (W. W. Norton)

A Grammar of Gyeli

Drawing on 19 months of fieldwork, Nadine Grimm—an assistant professor of linguistics and the director of the Language Documentation and Description Program at Rochester—offers a grammatical description of the Ngôlô variety of Gyeli, an endangered Bantu language spoken among hunter-gatherers in southern Cameroon. (Language Science Press)

The Routledge Handbook of Japanese Cinema

Joanne Bernardi, a professor of Japanese and of film and media studies at Rochester, coedit an anthology of Japanese cinema scholarship. The book is arranged thematically and addresses the entire span of Japanese cinema, from its origins to the emergence of gaming, surveillance video, and other new media platforms of the 21st century. (Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group)

Hyam Plutzik: 32 Poems/32 Poemas

Poetry by Hyam Plutzik—a three-time finalist for the Pulitzer Prize who taught in Rochester’s English department from 1945 until his death in 1962—is presented in its original English along with translations into the Spanish by 14 poets and translators under the aegis of editor George Henson, an assistant professor at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies. (Suburbano Ediciones)

Gaddiments

Drummer Steve Gadd ’68E presents his first instructional book, a series of “rudimental passages” inspired by Gadd’s time in several Rochester-area drum and bugle corps.

Enriched Meanings: Natural Language Semantics with Category Theory

Ash Asudeh, a professor of linguistics and director of the Center for Language Sciences at Rochester, coauthors an introduction to a novel approach to natural language interpretation. (Oxford University Press)

Flying High: Ed’s Words of Wisdom from the Real World

University Life Trustee Ed Colodny ’48 tells his life story, from his beginnings as the son of a grocer in Burlington, Vermont; to his years as the CEO of what became US Airways; to his service as interim president of the University of Vermont and its medical center. (Bethesda Communications Group)

A Dictionary and Grammatical Sketch of Dagaare

Scott Grimm, an associate professor of linguistics and the director of the Quantitative Semantics Lab at Rochester, co-authors a dictionary of the Dagaare language of the Dagaaba people in Ghana and Burkina Faso. The dictionary is intended as a resource both for linguists and for Dagaare speakers. (Language Science Press)

The Witch Demands a Retraction: Fairy Tale Reboots for Adults

Humorist Melissa Ballmain, an adjunct instructor in the English department at Rochester and editor of the journal Light, presents a collection of “adult fairy tales” written as light verse, including “The Peeved Piper,” “Not So Snow White,” and others. The book is illustrated by Ron Barrett, illustrator of the classic children’s book Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs. (Humorist Books)

Deaf Players in Major League Baseball: A History, 1883 to the Present

Rebecca Rourke Edwards ’97 (PhD), a professor of history at Rochester Institute of Technology, tells the little-known stories of the deaf players who “developed a distinctive approach, bringing visual acuity and sign language” to the highest ranks of professional baseball. (McFarland)

Books & Recordings

Playing in the Shadows: Fictions of Race and Blackness in Postwar Japanese Literature

William Bridges, an associate professor of African American literature and jazz on Japanese writers following the Allied Occupation of Japan. (University of Michigan)

From Hierarchy to Ethnicity: The Politics of Caste in Twentieth-Century India

Alexander Lee, an associate professor of political science at Rochester, examines the political roots and consequences of shifting notions of caste in 20th-century India. (Cambridge University Press)

Excuse Me While I Disappear: Stories

Joanna Scott, the Roswell Smith Burrows Professor of English at Rochester, presents her third collection of stories. (Little, Brown and Company)

Books & Recordings

Summer 2021
Letters to Men of Letters
Diane Charney ’68 writes to the authors she admires, both living and dead, including Kafka, Proust, Nabokov, and Leonard Cohen. Charney taught French and served as an English writing tutor at Yale University. (*Ology Books*)

The Essential MD-PhD Guide
Mark Eisenberg ’85M (MD), director of the MD-PhD program at McGill University in Montreal, coeditst a guide to becoming a physician-scientist, offering insights from students, recent graduates, and practicing physician-scientists. (McGraw-Hill)

False Wisdom
Gary Merrill ’74 (PhD), a former philosophy professor at Loyola University Chicago, addresses such questions as: What is pseudo-philosophy? How is it different from genuine philosophy?

How can we identify pseudo-philosophy when we encounter it? (*Bowker*)

The Right Price: A Value-Based Prescription for Drug Costs
Coauthor Dan Ollendorf ’86, a director at the Institute for Clinical Research and Health Policy Studies at Tufts Medical Center, offers an overview of the American pharmaceutical market and a critique of drug pricing practices. (Oxford University Press)

Unlike Anything That Ever Floated: The Monitor and Virginia and the Battle of Hampton Roads
Dwight Hughes ’76 (MA) explores the first engagement between ironclad steam warships—a naval, industrial, technological, and social revolution during the Civil War. Hughes is a retired lieutenant commander in the Navy and a contributing writer at the *Emerging Civil War* blog. (*Savas Beatie*)

Hospital Capacity Management: Insights and Strategies
Robbin Dick ’88M (Res) coauthors a guide to the processes and procedures that patients encounter in emergency rooms and hospitals—and explains how to improve the system. (*Routledge*)

Topics in Jazz Bass Vol 2: Soloing
Danny Ziemann ’12E, ’19E (MM) offers a book for bassists to “step into the foreground and solo with freedom and authentic self-expression.” (*Low Down Publishing*)

Recordings

Aquarelles
The Eastman School of Music faculty trio of flutist Bonita Boyd, cellist Steven Doane, and pianist Barry Snyder ’66E, ’68E (MM) perform four classics from the repertoire. (*Bridge Records*)

Dreams of a New Day: Songs by Black Composers
Baritone Will Liverman and pianist Paul Sanchez ’09E (MM), ’13E (DMA) perform selections by Black composers from the early 20th century to the present. (*Cedille*)

Love the Color of Your Butterfly
Soprano Janinah Burnett ’02E (MM) fuses jazz and opera. (*Clazz Records*)

Glass and Bach in Dresden
Mark Steinbach ’90E (DMA), director of the Eastman School of Music faculty trio of flutist Bonita Boyd, cellist Steven Doane, and pianist Barry Snyder ’66E, ’68E (MM) perform four classics from the repertoire. (*Bridge Records*)

Mozart: Complete Piano Sonatas
Kristian Bezuidenhout ’01E, ’04E (MM) presents a nine-CD box set of Mozart’s complete keyboard sonatas. (*Harmonia Mundi*)

YAZZ Band: New Normal
Saxophonist, composer, and arranger Greg Yasinitsky ’95E (DMA) features original compositions newly scored for “little big band”—four saxophones, two trumpets, trombone, and rhythm section. (*Origin Records*)

Sandburg Songs
Composer Matthew Schreibes ’03E, an assistant professor of composition at Hong Kong Baptist University, presents a song cycle based on Carl Sandburg’s *Chicago Poems*, along with chamber works. The Zohn Collective, including pianist Daniel Pesca ’05E, ’16 (DMA), violinist Hanna Hurwitz ’08E, ’16E (DMA), and guitarist Dieter Hennings ’15E (DMA), performs on the recording. (*Albany Records*)

Luminous
Pianist Siu Hei Lee ’11E (MM) presents her debut album, with soprano Kirsten Ashley Wiest. (*Centaur*)

Dedications
Pianist and composer Dave Flippo ’82E (MM) performs original compositions as well as jazz arrangements of works by Radiohead, Amy Winehouse, and Stevie Wonder. (*Oppilf Records*)

Books & Recordings is a compilation of recent work by University alumni, faculty, and staff. For inclusion in an upcoming issue, send the work’s title, publisher, author, or performer, a brief description, and a high-resolution cover image, to Books & Recordings, Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044; or by email to rochrev@rochester.edu.
Douglass Leadership House Becomes First ‘Living-Learning Community’

With a new support and operational structure, the Douglass Leadership House will become the University’s first “living-learning community.”

The new program is designed to allow members of the house to offer academic, social, and housing options through partnerships with several University curricular and cocurricular units.

The house, located on the Fraternity Quad of the River Campus, will operate under an umbrella of support consisting of the College, the Office of Minority Student Affairs, the Frederick Douglass Institute for African and African American Studies, Residential Life and Housing Services, and the Office of Equity and Inclusion.

Jeffrey Runner, dean of the College, says the formalized partnerships will provide a stronger, more effective infrastructure for the house and its programs.

The house was established in 2012 by a group of undergraduate students as a physical expression of the principles set forth by Douglass, a 19th-century African American social reformer and abolitionist who made Rochester his home for a quarter century. The house’s mission is to establish an engaging intellectual community where students of all cultural backgrounds live together and raise awareness of the Black experience, including culture, politics, history, and diasporic roots.

Rochester Sets Vaccine Expectations for Students, Faculty, and Staff for the Fall Semester

The University has set guidelines for vaccinations as students, faculty, and staff return to campus for the fall semester.

All students were required to submit proof of vaccination by August 1 in order to be on campus. For those who were unable to get vaccinated by that date, the University plans to provide vaccines as students arrive on campus through both UHS and the Medical Center.

Students can apply for religious and medical exemptions, but those without an approved exemption who fail to get vaccinated face having their registration revoked early in the semester.

Similarly, faculty and staff were required to submit their vaccination status by the middle of August. Those who aren’t vaccinated are required to take a COVID-19 test frequently and regularly beginning this fall.

The moves are part of a national effort among colleges and universities to help ensure safe learning environments on the nation’s campuses and to help limit the potential for outbreaks as students return to campus.

Opera Performances Go Online

With pandemic restrictions limiting in-person performance opportunities, Eastman Opera Theatre has taken its summer season online.

In a series of three productions, the program launched an on-demand streaming format to overcome some of the challenges faced by vocal and operatic performance teams.

The third production in the series, Postcard from Morocco, by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Dominick Argento ’58E (PhD) and librettist John Donahue, is available to stream until September 13. The performance was directed by Steven Daigle, a professor of opera and artistic director of Eastman Opera Theatre, with music directed by Timothy Long, an associate professor of opera and music director for Eastman Opera Theatre.

Earlier productions included Mozart Mayhem, an inventive, immersive twist on three of the composer’s most beloved operas: Le nozze di Figaro, Così fan tutte, and Die Zauberflöte. The production was directed by Eastman School of Music master’s student Madeleine Snow with music directed by Wilson Southerland, an assistant professor of opera and assistant music director of Eastman Opera Theatre.

The second production was Elizabeth Cree by Pulitzer Prize–winning composer Kevin Puts ’94E, ’99E (DMA) and Mark Campbell. The performance was directed by Stephen Carr, an associate professor of opera and assistant music director of Eastman Opera Theatre.

For more about the season, visit https://www.esm.rochester.edu/voice/summer-season.
GETTING TO CARNEGIE HALL: The invitation to perform during Carnegie Hall’s 2021–22 season follows the Gateway Music Festival Orchestra’s extraordinarily successful 2019 festival, the group’s largest to date.

Gateways Music Festival Orchestra Sets Carnegie Hall Debut

The spring 2022 edition of the Gateways Music Festival will feature the orchestra’s debut at Carnegie Hall, along with a commissioned work composed by Jon Batiste. Organizers announced the New York City leg this summer as part of the upcoming season for Gateways, a biennial festival that celebrates musicians of African descent and their contributions to classical music.

Featuring about 100 musicians from across the country, including several Eastman School of Music alumni, the festival is a collaboration involving Eastman and Rochester-area churches and community organizations. Originally planned for this fall, the 2022 festival will kick off in Rochester on April 18 with a series of recitals, talks, and other events. The Rochester portion wraps up with an April 20 concert at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre. Gateways will then travel to New York City for a similar series of events, April 21 through April 24, culminating in a concert at Carnegie Hall on April 24.

The spring festival includes the world premiere of a Gateways-commissioned work by Batiste, the Oscar-winning musician and music director for The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. Created for a full orchestra and narrator, the work will be premiered as part of Gateways’ Carnegie Hall program.

A full schedule, including information about purchasing tickets for both the Rochester and New York performances, is available online: Gatewaysmusicfestival.org.

New Coalition Focuses on Student Mental Health and Wellness

A newly formed University Coalition on Student Mental Health and Wellness will assess the current state of student mental health at Rochester and make recommendations for ways the University community can work to improve student well-being.

The decision to form the coalition was made jointly by President Sarah Mangelsdorf and Melissa Sturge-Apple, vice provost and University dean of graduate and postdoctoral education.

The coalition begins with 11 members, forming a steering committee chaired by Susan McDaniel, a family psychologist and the Dr. Laurie Sands Distinguished Professor of Families and Health in the Departments of Psychiatry and Family Medicine.

Steering committee members, including representatives from the University Counseling Center, University Health Service, several academic units, as well as two students, anticipate forming working groups composed of additional members of the University community as well as colleagues at other universities engaged in similar projects.

The group hopes to announce recommendations to the University community by the end of the calendar year.

Chief Human Resources Officer Appointed

One of the University’s key leaders in the development of the institution’s workforce has been named vice president and chief human resources officer.

Kathleen Gallucci, who has served as vice president for human resources at the Medical Center since 2016, moved into the University-wide role on August 1.

Appointed on an interim basis last fall, Gallucci led University-wide HR programs as the institution responded to the COVID-19 pandemic and the changing needs of the institution’s 25,000 employees.

Reporting directly to President Sarah Mangelsdorf, Gallucci oversees human resources programs and services for every division of the University.

The cabinet-level leadership role directs the overall strategic and operational human resources functions and implements programs and policies that recognize the diversity of the University community, enhance organizational effectiveness, and ensure quality recruitment retention, training, and development of employees.

The appointment came after a national search to succeed Tony Kinslow, the former associate vice president for human resources.

Kathleen Gallucci
COACHING UPDATES

Prominent Sports Programs Get New Leaders

The rowing, lacrosse, and squash teams will go into the 2021–22 seasons with new leadership. Each of the prominent programs announced coaching changes late this spring.

Rowing
Serra Sevenler ’15 takes over as director of rowing and women’s rowing head coach in August.

Most recently an assistant coach at Columbia University, Sevenler was the women’s varsity coach at RIT for two seasons and was an assistant coach at Rochester under John Gaskin from whom she’ll take over the program. Gaskin announced his retirement earlier this year.

As an undergraduate at Rochester, Sevenler was team captain her junior and senior year and was named to the all–Liberty League team as a senior.

Lacrosse
Carly Ritchlin has been named the new women’s lacrosse head coach, and began the role in August.

With more than 200 career victories during her 19-year coaching career, including 18 at nearby SUNY Geneseo, she ranks among the top 20 active coaches in Division III in career wins.

While at Geneseo, Ritchlin led the Knights to the NCAA Division III tournament twice, in 2013 and 2014, earning the school’s first ever NCAA appearances. In addition, she guided Geneseo to the SUNYAC conference championship game six times and was named the SUNYAC Coach of the Year twice.

Squash
Mario Yanez Tapia ’17 has been named squash head coach, and longtime coach Martin Heath ’10S (MBA) has been appointed as director of men’s squash elite performance.

Yanez Tapia has served as assistant coach for three seasons. As a player, he earned First Team All-America honors all four years at Rochester. He was an intercollegiate doubles champion and was ranked as the No. 2 individual in college squash in his senior year. Yanez Tapia ended his Rochester career as the program’s all-time wins leader (70) over his four seasons.

Heath is credited with changing the trajectory of the squash program over his 16 years as head coach.

Since taking over the program in 2005–06, Heath has an overall record of 166–88 (.654) including a 46–11 conference record in the Liberty League. Heath led Rochester to its first ever appearance in the national championship match in 2015–16 and has coached two players to the finals of the sport’s individual championships.

The Scotland native also has been selected as Liberty League Coach of the Year nine times during his tenure.

ACADEMIC ALL-STARS

Seniors Named Academic All-Americans

Basketball forward Ryan Algier ’21 and softball infielder Alexis Pope ’21 capped their Rochester careers with one of the nation’s highest accolades for a student athlete.

Algier, a data science and business double major from Fairport, New York, was elected as a Division III First Team Academic All-American, becoming the seventh men’s basketball player to earn the recognition and the first one named a member of the first team.

Pope, a biochemistry major from Ewing, New Jersey, was named a Third Team Academic All-American, becoming just the third player in program history to receive the honor.

Conducted by members of the College Sports Information Directors of America, the accolade recognizes student athletes for their achievements in the classroom as well as for their athletic accomplishments.

In a shortened six-game season this year, Algier led Rochester in multiple categories, including scoring, rebounding, blocked shots, and field goal percentage. He was also named as the D3hoops.com East/Northeast Regional Player of the Year and first team all-region.

Pope had a career year in 2021, helping the Yellowjackets reach the NCAA Division III tournament finals in Salem, Virginia. She hit .338 in starting all 45 of Rochester’s games. She earned Second Team all-Liberty League accolades this year and was named the Most Outstanding Player of the Erie, Pennsylvania, regional leg of the tournament.

Both Algier and Pope were elected to the academic honor society Phi Beta Kappa, and each was selected as a Lysle (Spike) Garnish Scholar-Athlete, an honor that goes to the top 10 senior Yellowjacket student athletes.

More than 100 Yellowjackets have been named Academic All-Americans since Michael Corp ’78—a running back on the football team and a double major in history and psychology—earned the first honor in 1976.

Sports
The Rochester softball team finished the season in seventh place nationally after advancing to the final round of the NCAA Division III championships for the second time in program history. The Yellowjackets, ranked No. 14 in the nation at the end of the regular season, fell in two consecutive heartbreakers at the Elite Eight tournament in Salem, Virginia.

Rochester lost 3–2 on a walk-off home run to Birmingham Southern College in the first game and came up short against the University of St. Thomas in a 2–1 second game that started on Friday but was suspended by rain and restarted on Saturday.

The trip was Rochester's second appearance in the NCAA's final round, following a first appearance in 2014.

Along the way, the team set a program record for single-season victories, finishing at 35–10. Rochester's softball coaching staff also earned honors for the season, selected as Liberty League Coaching Staff of the Year and as the Northeast Region Coaching Staff of the Year.

Joining the softball team with postseason appearances were the baseball team and the women's and men's track and field teams.

In baseball, the Yellowjackets advanced to regional competition in Marietta, Ohio, where Rochester ran into a Penn State Behrend buzzsaw and fell 11–1 in an elimination game. In the first regional game, fourth-ranked Marietta College defeated the Yellowjackets 9–6.

The program finished at 24–8 and claimed the Liberty League title to advance to the regionals.

In track and field, the Yellowjacket women finished with five All-Americans at the NCAA Division III outdoor track and field championships.

Graduate student Jordan Hurlbut ’20 placed third in the 1,500 meters with a time of 4:27.14, eclipsing the mark of 4:27.31 set by Josefa Benzoni ’88, ’92W (MA) in 1987, breaking one of Rochester’s oldest standing track records. Benzoni was a three-time NCAA champion.

The result gave Hurlbut, a microbiology and immunology student at the School of Medicine and Dentistry, All-American honors for the second time in her career.

The women’s 4-by-400-meter relay team of Michaela Burrell ’21 (T5), Kristin Hardy ’23, Eileen Bequette ’22, and Susan Bansbach ’23 also claimed All-American status with a third-place finish. The quartet’s NCAA time of 3:48.08 capped a season in which the group set the Rochester school record in the event on three different occasions, including during a preliminary heat at nationals.

For Burrell, the meet marked the sixth time she was named an All-American, but her first during the outdoor championships. Bequette and Bansbach each earned a third All-American honor, while Hardy claimed her second award.

In the men’s championships, Scott Sikorski ’23 finished 10th in the 1,500 meter finals, improving two spots from the preliminaries and crossing the finish line in 3:50.18. The time was a personal best for Sikorski, who was making his first appearance at the championships.

**Keep Up with the Yellowjackets**

For the latest updates on Rochester athletics, including schedules, scores, live-streaming, and other news, visit Uofrathletics.com.
Leading up to 2020, professional nursing organizations around the globe looked forward to a landmark year. The World Health Organization had declared it the Year of the Nurse and Midwife. The WHO would release the State of the World’s Nursing Report—its first ever global assessment of the nursing field—which would figure prominently at the 73rd World Health Assembly in May.

As it turned out, the report was released just weeks after the WHO declared a global pandemic. COVID-19 dominated the agenda at not one but two WHO assemblies in 2020, both held online. And the Year of the Nurse was extended into 2021, as the pandemic dramatically underscored the centrality of nurses to the present and future of world health.

Nurses make up the largest segment of health care providers in the United States and globally. No other type of medical professional spends a greater proportion of time delivering care to patients. For those reasons, nurses often bear the brunt of the responsibility, as well as the risks, of caring for patients with COVID-19.

That has been the case among the approximate 5,000 nurses employed in the seven hospitals and numerous outpatient facilities of UR Medicine, a system that extends across the region.

Karen Keady, the vice president and chief nursing executive for the system, says nurses have taken risks that have also demanded “ultra-flexibility.”

When outpatient procedures were suspended in many facilities, “we took all those nurses and brought them in the hospital, where they worked at the bedside day and night, with complete stranger teams that they’d never met before,” says Keady, who is a registered nurse with a PhD in nursing from Johns Hopkins University.

Nurses who had left patient care for leadership positions took on bedside roles. A few nurses came out of retirement. To help nurses make these and other transitions, Keady and faculty at the School of Nursing joined together to create a re-entry course virtually overnight. Keady, who credits the School of Nursing, says, “they put it together in, like, a weekend. It was incredible.”

The stories in these pages are just a sampling from UR Medicine nurses who have found their lives upended during the pandemic. With partners and children at home, with frail loved ones nearby whose health is constantly on their minds, they have headed into the eye of the storm. Under unprecedented strain, and witness to great suffering, they’ve also found renewed inspiration and abilities they didn’t know they had.

Says Keady: “The teamwork and commitment, it’s just an amazing thing. I’ve never been prouder to be a nurse than during this timeframe. That’s for sure.”
With No Data to Go On, a Quality Control Nurse Adapts

LaToya Baldwin
Registered nurse and nursing quality, safety, and patient outcomes coordinator, Strong Hospital

As the leader at Strong Hospital in charge of quality control in nursing, LaToya Baldwin spends a lot of her time and attention focused on things that have gone wrong. Or on anticipating things that might go wrong without preventive action.

When the pandemic hit—and the things that could and did go wrong exploded in number and scope—Baldwin, an RN with a master’s in public administration who is also a doctor of nursing practice student in the School of Nursing, was nonetheless compelled to step out of her quiet office and don her scrubs.

Ironically, when she returned to clinical work to set up and manage an entirely new unit, it followed months she’d spent convincing fellow nurses to make similarly dramatic changes. In the summer of 2020, she was part of the reassignment team that kept critical units staffed, often with nurses accustomed to outpatient settings, or in specialties far afield from what Baldwin was now asking them to do.

“It was scary for a lot of individuals,” she says of the nurses she approached, one at a time, during that summer. They included nurses who had not worked in an inpatient care area for years, who were now being asked to step up, and to work in an area that could potentially expose them to the virus. “Those conversations had to be handled with much sensitivity,” Baldwin says. “Because we didn’t want people to feel like they were being forced to do this.”

It was in December that Baldwin was approached herself. The hospital faced an overflow of patients, and Karen Keady, the vice president and chief nursing executive for UR Medicine, asked Baldwin for her thoughts in addressing the problem.

“As nurses, we tend to want to have control over our environment, and to have all the information needed to carry out a care plan. We did not have that, and to be vulnerable in that way was very difficult.”
“I said, ‘Maybe we could start a new unit.’ I was joking, right?” Baldwin recalls. But shortly after the conversation, she learned that an obstetrics unit would be devoting the space. She got to work, asking Keady when she needed this done. “She said, ‘yesterday,’” Baldwin remembers. “We were both wearing masks, but I saw her eyes. And she wasn’t kidding.”

Keady put Baldwin in touch with the people who could arrange for the equipment, help with the staffing, and handle the accompanying logistics. “We met on Tuesday and we opened on Friday,” Baldwin says.

Eventually some 70 nurses joined the unit under Baldwin’s supervision. As someone who spent 13 years as a nurse manager, Baldwin says it was difficult to lead with so much uncertainty.

“As nurses, we tend to want to have control over our environment, and to have all the information needed to carry out a care plan. We did not have that, and to be vulnerable in that way was very difficult,” she says. Moreover, “staff look to their leaders to have the answer. No one had the answer. We were thirsty for information, which was flowing daily, and sometimes changing throughout the day,” she explains.

For Baldwin, there was also the challenge of moving from the office back to clinical work. She describes office work and bedside work as “two different sides of my brain.” When the temporary unit closed in March, she took a week off before restarting office responsibilities to “reset.”

“But I now have the understanding and exposure to relate to people that are at the bedside, because I was there myself,” she says. “I have the credibility as well, because people saw me in my scrubs, taking patients.”

For now, back in her role as nursing quality, safety, and patient outcomes coordinator, Baldwin, like many nursing leaders, is evaluating what she’s learned. Most of the problems she encounters can be attributed to lack of proper training, she explains. But in the past year, she saw many nurses adapt quickly to new roles.

“I’ve learned a lot about the impact of real-time education and training,” she says.

Successful adaptation depends, of course, on the nurse and the type of roles that are involved. But she’s found that there are nurses “willing and able to flex.” Nurses who have told her, “Call me. I’m willing to do this again.” The question for Baldwin is: how can the hospital respond, for the mutual benefit of patient care and the professional satisfaction of these nurses? What kind of education and training might be involved in creating, for example, a central flex team?

And how can she and her colleagues achieve the delicate balance of encouraging willing nurses, while being sensitive to the lingering trauma of a very difficult year?

“How can we capitalize on this,” Baldwin asks herself, “without bringing up old wounds?”

From a Hard Year, New Self-Knowledge and Perspectives about Care

Meghan Reddy ’20N (MS)
Registered nurse and nurse manager, Evarts Joint Center and the Collins Unit, Highland Hospital

M eghan Reddy has been a nurse at Highland Hospital for 18 years. As a nurse manager in a surgery unit, her job has been fairly predictable.

“Surgery, you come in, there’s a planned procedure, and you do that procedure,” she says.

There are distinct steps before, during, and after the patient’s appointment, as well as clear parameters to define successful outcomes. Reddy describes the work as a good fit for her. “I’ve always thought of myself as a type A person,” she says. “It’s like, I’ve got to color between the lines.”

Now, more than a year following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, she says, “I’ve learned I’m more adaptable than I thought I was.”

As cases rose in the fall of 2020, the joint center halted scheduled procedures, and Reddy and her team, like so many health care providers and professionals across the area, were scattered across units. Reddy became part of Highland Hospital’s Surge Plan Team. Like counterparts at Strong Hospital, Highland was contending with a looming overflow resulting from rules designed to protect residents in long-term care facilities (see LaToya Baldwin, previous page). Patients who were medically ready to be transferred to rehab or to nursing homes had to remain at the hospital, in acute care beds, because COVID-19 protocols in those other settings prevented them from accepting the patients.

“We took our biggest conference room here at Highland, the Collins Auditorium, and we turned it into a nursing unit,” she says.

Reddy was charged with staffing and managing what became known as “the Collins unit,” which also included an adjoining conference room, and putting in place new procedures for patient flow and care. She led in the development of entirely new protocols: criteria for transfer to the unit; goals for the patients staying there; criteria for transfer to acute or inpatient units if a patient’s condition changed.

The work challenged some of the ways Reddy was used to thinking about patient care. In short, her new role took her from one to the other of what many practitioners have long seen as two fundamentally different realms: she went from surgery to medicine.

Working in medicine, Reddy had to adjust to a messier world, with more uncertainty and variation among patients. “People come in with all these comorbidities, and you’re trying to piece them back together and give them what their best is,” she says. “Sometimes their best is not what I would have considered the best—but it is for them.”

At the Evarts Joint Center, Reddy was also used to a high patient turnover. But now she was developing a different kind of relationship with patients, as well as their families, as she helped patients stay connected with loved ones through FaceTime or Zoom. “We celebrated a 90th birthday, We had T-shirts for everybody. It filled my cup,” she says.

In the months since the temporary unit closed last March, Reddy has found that she values teamwork more than ever. The nurses who worked in the unit came from all over the hospital. Together, they learned, adapted, and helped shape entirely new roles for themselves over a period of what turned out to be mere months.

Back at the Evarts Joint Center, she is both tired and renewed. She is more adaptable than she thought she was. “And,” she adds, “I can help lead the change and get other people to make changes, too.”
“We took our biggest conference room here at Highland, the Collins Auditorium, and we turned it into a nursing unit.”
A Taste—and a Talent—for Work in the Trenches

Daniel (Danny) Pasquarella
Registered nurse, advanced trauma care
Strong Hospital Department of Emergency Medicine

Danny Pasquarella loves the teamwork, the “hustle and bustle,” and the strong bonds he’s formed with his fellow providers in the past several years in the trenches of the emergency department at Strong Hospital. And he identifies strongly with the people he helps care for.

The “hardest thing,” he says of his experience of nursing during the COVID-19 pandemic, was the no-visitors policy and its effect on patients. “I would think about my grandmother, or my parents, going in there alone. And maybe not coming out.”

An empath with an ability to thrive in the hustle-and-bustle—those are just the qualities any patient or family member would want in someone like Pasquarella. As a triage nurse, he is among the first people a patient may see after arriving at Strong Hospital with a medical emergency. He’s among those who do the first evaluation, leading to the first consequential decision: does the patient go to an acute care bed, what department staff call “on the track”? Or is the patient’s condition life threatening, in which case they get sent immediately to critical care?

In normal times, there are relatively set protocols that guide nurses like Pasquarella in making that initial call. But during the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a lot more guesswork, as leaders absorbed new knowledge and developed new protocols—“daily, if not hourly,” in the early months.

“If a patient came in with possible COVID, or if they had a positive test result, and they were having respiratory problems, we would just decipher where they needed to go,” he says. There were multiple breathing treatments to decide among. Patients needed constant monitoring, as their condition could change rapidly. Deteriorating patients would be intubated by critical care staff. “They did everything they could to prioritize our patients,” he says, including transporting equipment to the emergency department, rather than having patients moved to the critical care unit to begin treatment.

Pasquarella has spent a decade in the department, a Level 1 Regional Trauma Center, the highest designation of the New York State Department of Health. The first several of those years he was part of the clerical staff. He joined the nursing staff four years ago, after completing an RN program at nearby Nazareth College. That makes him relatively new, he says, in a department where some nurses have served much longer.

“There’s a bond you form in the trenches,” he says. The nurses look out for one another, along with the rest of their colleagues in the department. For example, one of the nurses took an unused office space and turned it into a “Zen den.”

“It’s really popular in our department right now,” he says of the space that’s designed for one person at a time and equipped with a lounge chair, a beanbag chair, a water cooler, snacks, and a computer. It allows department staff to take their breaks free of interruptions and in peace—“to really get away, and then come back to work.”

Now a master’s degree student at the School of Nursing, Pasquarella has an interest in, and an appreciation for, good leadership. As chair of the emergency department’s Unit Council—a body that offers a voice for nursing staff in decision making—he says, “we have a very strong leadership team. Amazing.” From his perspective as a staff RN, good nursing leaders are people “who are present. Present on the floor and in the trenches with you. That makes all the difference.”
BARBARA (BABS) GRELES, an RN in adult critical care, had been working in a specialized surgical intensive care unit at Strong Hospital for years before COVID-19 came to the Rochester region in March 2020. When the hospital opened a COVID-19 intensive care unit to handle an anticipated spread of the virus, she volunteered to join it.

That’s when “the ground beneath me began to shift and crack,” she wrote in a brief introduction to her essay, “COVID Chronicles,” published earlier this year in the anthology Her(oi)s: Women’s Lived Experiences during the Coronavirus Pandemic (Regal House).

While hot spots like New York City were overwhelmed with COVID-19 patients in the early spring of 2020, the pandemic arrived slowly in Rochester-area hospitals. But as Greles shows, the volume of patients wasn’t the only metric by which to measure the emotional toll on health care workers in those early weeks and months.

Her essay is based on a journal she had been keeping, originally on social media, to share with family and friends a sense of what was
happening from her perspective on the hospital’s front lines.

**April 11, 2020**

At the start of my shift, I make sure to fill out the online health survey daily to see if it’s safe for me to report to work. Green check mark. I’m good to go.

My fellow nurses and I huddle at the start of the shift. I stand there in my scrubs, wrinkled as an elephant’s knees. I’m hoping my shield has a little life left in it. I’m imagining the scene from Shakespeare’s *Richard III* where he gives that great rousing pre-battle speech.

A thousand hearts are great within my bosom:
Advance our standards, set upon our foes
Our ancient word of courage, fair Saint George,
Inspire us with the spleen of fiery dragons!
Upon them! victory sits on our helms.

I’m teamed with a pediatric intensive care nurse who looks like she’s afraid to breathe. I give her a quick tour of the massive unit, explain the negative pressure doors, show her the drips running on the in-poles outside the rooms of our patients. I set her up with a walkie-talkie. I communicate with her nurse via walkie-talkie connected with her through the talkie.

“You okay? Go up on that propofol if you need to, twenty mcgs.”

contracted chicken pox during the summer. I was quarantined with a high fever, and my mom cooled me with calamine lotion and cherry Jello. My older sisters brought me gifts, books, and Colorforms. I experienced a new pain, like someone trying to cut off my arm with a spoon—hearing my friends playing in the oval swimming pool that sat between two garages in a tiny city yard. I loved that pool. I was sure I would never see it or them ever again. I lay there, surely dying, burning, itching, feeling sorry for my pathetic self.

I think of them as I stand there telling the person in the bed to hang on.

**April 14, 2020**

You are off the ventilator, breathing on your own, asking me for apple juice. I ask you where you got that unusual, stately name. “My father,” you are proud to say. You are gentle and polite, and you give me hope in an ocean of despair. I tease you that I want to give you a bath so I can read all of your tattoos. Your sister calls twice every shift. I am happy to tell her that you are watching ESPN and looking good. She cries with joy and I knock on the window to get your attention. “Your sister!” I yell, pointing to the phone. You smile and wave and I tell you that she loves you. You give me a thumbs-up and I tell her, “He knows.” She laughs and thanks me. I can hear the lightness of relief in her voice.

My friend calls me the next morning to tell me that you had died. That the nurse held up an apple and I tell you that she loves you. Your sister grieves. I’m trying to anticipate her next move. I focus on the patient. I take his hand and assist him by trying to anticipate his next move.

The motor on my head makes it impossible to hear the radiologist. I finally give up and just assist him by trying to anticipate his next move.

My throat is getting scratchy, my varicose veins branches out and making friends with my plantar fasciitis as I stand there holding my patient in position with one hand, stroking her sweaty hair from her face and telling her to hang on. She is very close to my own age. I imagine her being born, riding her first bicycle, her first day of school, her first joke. . . .

I am getting dizzy, probably rebreathing my own CO2.

When I was around seven or eight I—to hang on. You are safe here with us. We won’t leave you alone.” He nods and squeezes harder.

I show the new nurse all the things to do. She must be the right nurse for the right patient, surely dying, burning, itching, feeling sorry for her pathetic self.

I hold the hand of a woman as she lays dying. I communicate with her nurse via walkie-talkie when she needs more pain medicine because the pump is outside the glass door. I wait with her until her breathing becomes easy and gentle. I notice that someone has painted her fingernails bright pink. They were chipped, probably done weeks ago. I imagined her then, maybe laughing and joking and blowing on the polish impatiently to make it dry more quickly.

She cannot get the sacrament of Last Rites because the diocese was swapped with a backlog of sacrament orders.

**Human touch. Human voice. Human compassion. Sedation. Time. These people are terrified. The virus gives them red eyes that look like a million fiery tears have run through them.**

out when I return to work. He wants to give me the time and the space to grieve you.

I grieve you. I will never forget you. I’m so exhausted.

It’s snowing. I watch a surreal sunset from the eighth floor through a blizzard. In April.

It’s snowing. I watch a surreal sunset from the eighth floor through a blizzard. In April.

The nurses are all over the hospital, moved to wherever they’re needed. They are unsettled, afraid, angry, sad.

I hold the hand of a woman as she lays dying. I communicate with her nurse via walkie-talkie when she needs more pain medicine because the pump is outside the glass door. I wait with her until her breathing becomes easy and gentle. I notice that someone has painted her fingernails bright pink. They were chipped, probably done weeks ago. I imagined her then, maybe laughing and joking and blowing on the polish impatiently to make it dry more quickly.

She cannot get the sacrament of Last Rites because the diocese was swapped with a backlog of sacrament orders.

**April 26, 2020**

It’s getting curioser and curioser. Mark drops me off at the official drop site—the lobby of the Golisano Children’s Hospital. It looks like The Jetsons’ living room. I stand there for a minute, centering myself for the night ahead. I want to just curl up on that lime green sectional that’s shaped like a boomerang and sleep for a week.

Old friends have come back to the hospital to work in our ICUs. We struggle not to hug.

I’m working with young nurses whose names I can’t always remember but they treat me like a respected elder or an old goofball.

We’re starting to see glimmers of hope; she waves back through the glass, he squeezes my hand for the first time in weeks.

Human touch. Human voice. Human compassion. Sedation. Time. These people are terrified. The virus gives them red eyes that look like a million fiery tears have run through them.

A new nurse, brave as any child soldier, calls me over. “He’s gagging on the tube! What should I do?” She’s trying not to panic, because anxiety is the most contagious germ. I gown up and mask up.

I focus on the patient. I take his hand and meet his eyes. He squeezes so hard my fingers go numb.

“We will get you through this. Okay? You just hang on. You are safe here with us. We won’t leave you alone.” He nods and squeezes harder.

I show the new nurse all the things to do. She is open, grateful to learn. She is a wonderful nurse.

His wife is on the phone with his other nurse. We talk through the glass. Charades, yelling, writing backwards on the window. I tell his wife that he is my new boyfriend. He is smiling now and gives me a thumbs-up.

His fight to live is only beginning.

I take a cool washcloth and hold it to his reddened forehead. He sleeps the strange sleep of the body under massive attack. Only my respirator mask can be heard in the slowly dimming room.

Outside the window the sun is melting down the side of an indifferent sky.

“We are right here with you.” I tell him.

“We’ve got you.”

The essay is adapted from “COVID Chronicles,” by Barbara (Babs) Greles, which was published in Her(o)ics: Women’s Lived Experiences during the Coronavirus Pandemic (Regal House Publishing, 2021). © Used with permission. All rights reserved.
Dizzying Change—and Heartening Improvements—in Mental Health Care

Laura Inclema ’15N, ’19N (MS)
Assistant director, Ambulatory Psychiatry Nursing Team
Department of Psychiatry, University of Rochester Medical Center

In October 2019, Laura Inclema dove into a new role as assistant director of UR Medicine’s ambulatory psychiatry nursing service. “We were expanding services to meet the community demand,” she says of the program that operates a series of outpatient mental health clinics in the region. “It was great, because we were growing, and there was new opportunity.”

Inclema was not the only one stepping into a new role; she was training a team of six newly promoted nursing leaders. When COVID-19 arrived, everything was new again.

She says that working under conditions of constant, unrelenting change during the pandemic took a toll on her and many of her colleagues. It’s been “exhausting.” “I don’t think that we’ve even started to see the impact that this pandemic is going to have on our workforce,” she says.

But Inclema is optimistic, too, and proud of what she and her colleagues in the ambulatory psychiatry program have accomplished. She helped sow the seeds of some important improvements in the delivery of care—changes she anticipates will endure well beyond the pandemic.

When COVID-19 forced a reliance on telehealth, providers adapted overnight to a change that serves many patients well. The pandemic confronted patients (as well as providers) with challenges in such areas as childcare, and sometimes, transportation. “When we removed those barriers, we had people more engaged in their care,” Inclema says.

Another important change was the expansion of a crisis hotline. In April 2020, Inclema oversaw the transformation of the hotline from a Monday through Friday service to a 24/7 crisis call line. It required a lot of new staffing. And it came at an auspicious time.

In early September, it became public that Daniel Prude, a Chicago man visiting his brother in Rochester, had died after an encounter with Rochester police six months before, and that the Monroe County medical examiner had declared the death a homicide. Prude, who was Black, had a history of mental illness and was having a psychotic episode at the time of his arrest. A video of the event led to protests and heightened attention to a long-festering problem: law enforcement officers called to respond to mental health crises, while lacking the training necessary to respond effectively.

The call line was already experiencing high volume when people began sharing the number with friends on social media. “I would say that speaks volumes to where our community was, and how much support they actually needed,” says Inclema.

The call line is staffed by licensed clinicians who can help callers immediately—“in the moment, versus having someone call them back,” Inclema adds. “They refer people to different services, including a mobile crisis team.”

It’s a project she undertook with just one of her nurse managers, Kristy Lamb. “It’s an amazing service. And we’re really proud of that, and of being able to support the community in this way.”
ANSWERING A CALL: Peter Redmond ’85 says he took to heart President Kennedy’s call to “do for your country” and joined the Peace Corps in 1990. While serving in Honduras, he met fellow volunteer Melissa Estok. The couple married when they returned to the United States. They have three children.
The Toughest Job They Ever Loved

As the Peace Corps marks its 60th anniversary, Rochester alumni and faculty members reflect on their service as volunteers.

By Jim Mandelaro

Peter Redmond ’85 had wanted to join the Peace Corps since seventh grade, when his social studies and English teachers left their jobs to begin volunteer service in Africa.

“Growing up in an Irish-Catholic family, I was well aware of John F. Kennedy saying, ‘Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country,’” says Redmond, director of the Center of Excellence in Foreign Affairs Resilience at the US Department of State. “I took that challenge seriously.”

But it took years—and a tragedy—for Redmond to join the volunteer government program established by Kennedy in 1961. “After graduating from college, I was unclear about what I wanted to do with my life and tried out different jobs,” he says.

His indecision ended when his cousin died of a brain aneurysm at 25—the same age as Redmond. Redmond calls her death “a wake-up call to follow my dreams.” A year later, he was on a plane to Honduras. He worked at a forestry college in a poor region of the Central American country from 1990 to 1992. He taught workshops, trained midwives and volunteer health workers, and promoted infant vaccinations and rabies vaccinations for dogs.

“The Peace Corps gave me confidence to know I could do anything I set my mind to,” says Redmond, who majored in political science at Rochester. His service also led to his meeting Melissa Estok. She, too, was serving in Honduras. The two married in 1992 and raised three children.

At Rochester Right from the Start

Redmond is one of 427 Rochester alumni, faculty, staff, and administrators who have served in the Peace Corps—which celebrates its 60th anniversary this year.

As with all corps ambassadors, University community members have volunteered to spend two years abroad after a three-month training period, working side by side with local leaders to tackle pressing challenges—teaching, giving immunization shots, building schools and houses, and supporting other activities.

Rochester community members were among the first of the now 240,000 or so Americans who have served in nearly 150 countries.

Janet Russell ’62 was one of the first volunteer nurses to serve in Pakistan. Penelope (Penny) Carter ’65 worked in Colombia as a teacher and community developer, crediting anthropology classes at Rochester with sparking her interest. William Condo ’65 served in India on health and nutrition projects.

The late Donald Hess was director of the Peace Corps in North Korea from 1970 to 1972 and worldwide Peace Corps director from 1972 to 1974 before working at the University until 1996, first as vice president for campus affairs, and then for administration.

By that year, Rochester had sent 284 alumni to the Peace Corps—eighth most among US colleges with fewer than 5,000 students.

Kennedy Establishes the Corps

On October 14, 1960, after a long day on the campaign trail, John F. Kennedy’s motorcade rolled into the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor at 2 a.m. Kennedy was hoping to get some sleep. But when he was met by 10,000 energized students outside Michigan Union, the presidential candidate issued a challenge:

“How many of you who are going to be doctors are willing to spend your days in Ghana?” he asked the students. “Technicians or engineers, how many of you are willing to work in the foreign service and
spend your lives traveling around the world? So I come here tonight to go to bed! But I also come here tonight to ask you to join the effort.”

That impromptu speech is considered the birth of the Peace Corps, which Kennedy created through executive order just five months later. The University of Michigan still has a plaque outside the Union entrance marking the occasion.

Kennedy wasn’t the first to call for Americans to volunteer their service in developing nations. Wisconsin Congressman Henry Reuss pushed for a “Point Four Youth Corps” in the late 1950s, and in June 1960, Minnesota Senator Hubert Humphrey coined the name “Peace Corps” while introducing a bill that would send “young men to assist the peoples of the underdeveloped areas of the world to combat poverty, disease, illiteracy, and hunger.”

Neither proposal gained traction. Kennedy’s idea forged ahead. By the time of his inauguration in January 1961, more than 25,000 letters had arrived at the White House from prospective volunteers, mostly college age. On March 1, 1961, the 35th president of the United States signed an executive order establishing the Peace Corps and named his brother-in-law, R. Sargent Shriver, its first director. Volunteers began serving in five countries in 1961, and within six years nearly 15,000 volunteers—most of them fresh out of college—were serving two-year terms in 55 countries.

Not everyone was a fan. Critics mocked the young volunteers, calling them “Kennedy’s Kiddie Corps.” Richard Nixon, narrowly defeated by Kennedy in the 1960 presidential election, called it a “cult of escapism” for young men hoping to avoid the military draft. Dwight Eisenhower, who had preceded Kennedy as president, called it a “juvenile experiment” and suggested volunteers be sent to the moon.

Born of eternal optimism, the Peace Corps has endured challenges. While the program sought to share American skills with people in developing nations, the corps often went to work in countries that had no diplomatic relations with the US government. Volunteers
had their own obstacles—living space, weather, language barriers, homesickness, lack of supplies, and threats of injury or death. More than 300 volunteers have died on duty from car crashes, accidents, sickness, drowning, animal attacks, and violent crime.

The organization has faced criticism in recent years over claims of sexual assault alleged by volunteers, many accusing the Peace Corps of putting them in dangerous situations, ignoring their claims, or blaming the volunteers for getting into danger. A USA Today story published this spring reported that 33 percent of volunteers (about 1,280 people) who finished service in 2019 said they experienced sexual assault that ranged from groping to rape. That figure was up from 25 percent in 2015. Following the story, acting Peace Corps director Carol Spahn said in a statement that she was “very sorry for the trauma” volunteers had endured, adding that “these stories demonstrate that we still have work to do to support our volunteers.”

In March 2020 more than 7,000 volunteers were called back to the United States due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Earlier this year, volunteers were deployed across the US to help administer COVID-19 vaccinations. It was only the second time in history that Peace Corps volunteers had worked within the country’s borders, the first being in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

One of the those called back to the United States was Chiamaka Alozie ’17, a chemical engineering major from Brooklyn, New York. She worked in Panama on a water and sanitation project from July 2018 until her recall in March 2020.

She says her experience has given her a new perspective on how easy it is for American citizens to view the world through a lens of prosperity that’s not available to people in other parts of the world.
“It’s made me want to take an active role in not perpetuating the cycles bred from ignorance,” she says.

The Peace Corps received new attention in June, when US Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) led a bipartisan group calling for “robust funding” for the Peace Corps after several years of no increases.

“As we begin to emerge from the pandemic, a renewed American footprint of Peace Corps volunteers around the world will help our country’s diplomatic efforts and strengthen our country’s relationships around the world,” the senators wrote. “Doing so will ensure that the Peace Corps not only sustains robust programs and services in the face of deteriorating purchasing power but returns to the field with vigor and American spirit, renewing the promise of its creation six decades ago.”

Renewing the spirit of the Peace Corps is important, says Dillon Banerjee, a former Peace Corps volunteer and author of the 2000 book, So You Want to Join the Peace Corps: What to Know Before You Go. His “hope and expectation” is that volunteers soon will be deployed across the globe.

“The Peace Corps is an important and very cost-effective arm of our larger diplomacy machinery,” Banerjee says. “It has a positive ripple effect at home and in the countries where our volunteers serve.”

He acknowledges that the program has changed through the decades to mirror world priorities, such as gender awareness and environmental protection programs.

“Volunteers nowadays often have access to cell phones in even the most remote regions and can access information online, create and maintain blogs, post videos, and solicit grant money for projects,” says Banerjee, acting deputy chief of mission at the US Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden.

“This means volunteers can plan and implement projects in more holistic and directed ways, with input from a wider array of experts. But it also means volunteers stay connected to home, which can make full cultural integration and the ‘Peace Corps experience’ more elusive. There is something to be said about being disconnected and slightly bored for two years. You learn self-reliance.”

Self-reliance was just one of the lessons for Donald Hall, the Robert L. and Mary L. Sproull Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Sciences & Engineering. He served in Rwanda from 1984 to 1986 as a visiting professor, teaching business and technical writing at the National University of Rwanda.

Hall had completed his master’s degree in comparative literature at the University of Illinois before joining the corps, and his

**Peace Corp Facts**

**Established:** March 1, 1961, by executive order of President John F. Kennedy

**Volunteers:** More than 240,000 to date

**Host countries:** 142

**Most served:** 45 percent have served in Africa

**Gender:** 65 percent women, 35 percent men

**Marital status:** 99 percent single, 1 percent married

**Nonwhite volunteers:** 34 percent

**Average age:** 26

**Volunteers over age 50:** 3.2 percent

Source: PeaceCorps.gov
volunteer service offered him a chance to see if he wanted to pursue an academic career. An avid hiker who “interacted with the gorillas several times,” he was attacked by a pack of wild dogs his first year, suffered a dislocated shoulder that still troubles him, and endured rabies treatment. The takeaway was worth it.

“I learned resilience, and how to push through immediate difficulties,” he says. “I stayed on the job. When I left the Peace Corps at 26, I was ready to pursue a PhD and well prepared for the career that awaited me.”

Denise Malloy, an assistant professor in the Writing, Speaking, and Argument program, served from 1988 to 1990 in Western Samoa—now Samoa—with future husband Robert Malloy ’00D (Pdc), ’01M (Res).

“I’d been a teacher for six years, so I wasn’t fresh out of college,” Denise says. “We were in graduate school and had been exploring opportunities to teach overseas. We both pulled a Peace Corps post card off the bulletin board the same night and mailed it in.”

Two other professors in the Writing, Speaking, and Argument program are Peace Corps alumni. Rachel O’Donnell taught health, sexuality, and hygiene to youths in Guatemala from 2002 to 2004, and Kate Phillips taught English to middle schoolers in Madagascar from 2006 to 2008.

Glenn Cerosaletti ’91, ’03 (MA)—now assistant dean of students and director of the Center for Community Engagement at the College—helped farmers improve crop production in Bolivia from 1994 to 1996. He worked in a desert-like climate more than 10,000 feet above sea level.

“My motivation for serving was to gain international experience, benefit from language learning, and explore a career in international development,” he says. “I’ve advised many students over the years about applying to the Peace Corps.”

The Peace Corps: For ‘Glass Half-Full People’
Spahn reflected earlier this year on the 60th anniversary and the global pandemic. “I am reminded of how far we have come and what an unprecedented time we are in now,” she said. “The past 60 years have truly prepared us for this historic moment. During a pandemic that has touched every corner of the globe, it’s clear that we are all in this together. As we look to the next 60 years, I know the Peace Corps will continue to be a community of people—all over the world—willing to do the hard work of promoting peace and friendship.”

Redmond says he’s proud of his service, and those of hundreds within the University community.

“There’s a famous Peace Corps public service announcement that says they’re looking for ‘glass half-full people,’” Redmond says. “One of my favorite sayings is, ‘A pessimist sees the glass half empty. The optimist sees the glass half full. The Peace Corps volunteer says, ‘I could take a bath in that.’”

“As we begin to emerge from the pandemic, a renewed American footprint of Peace Corps volunteers around the world will help our country’s diplomatic efforts and strengthen our country’s relationships around the world.”
—US Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)
Editor’s Note
Ellen Bakalian knows all the tropes about remembering 9/11. Rather than think about the violence of that day, the widow of Jeffrey Smith ’87, ’88S (MBA) has tried to focus instead on remembering the many ways in which those who died would have enriched the lives of their families, friends, and communities.

Over the past several years, as the anniversaries approached, Bakalian has written short essays on what it was like to raise the couple’s two daughters—Margaret and Charlotte—alone while instilling in the children Jeff’s spirit and ideals.

This essay was written for *The Atlantic* in 2019 as Bakalian found herself an empty nester—with both young women off to college and another anniversary on the horizon.
After losing Jeff Smith ’87, ’88S (MBA) in the September 11 terrorist attacks, Ellen Bakalian raised their daughters alone. Twenty years later, the children are grown, and she’s coming up for air.

By Ellen S. Bakalian
I N APRIL 1996, JEFFREY R. SMITH moved from Florida into my apartment above the Old Print Shop on Lexington Avenue in New York City. I had lived alone for almost 10 years at that point. I cannot say I was living the Carrie Bradshaw life, but I was an independent woman. I loved my job at ABC News, I traveled around the world for work and for pleasure, and I was a doctoral candidate in English literature at NYU. It was a good life, made immeasurably better when Jeff moved in.

Within six months, while on a dive trip to Little Cayman, he proposed. Six months later we were married. We dove in the Coral Sea on our honeymoon, then returned to our jobs, me to ABC, him to his office at the investment-banking firm Sandler O’Neill, on the 104th floor of Two World Trade. Our diving trips were put on hold when our daughter Margaret was born in 1998, followed by Charlotte in 2000. We dreamed of one day diving in the Galápagos with our daughters, but we never got a chance. Jeff was killed on September 11, 2001.

On the Sunday before Jeff was killed, we raced together in my parents’ Comet, a 16-foot sailboat, on a lake in northern New Jersey where I grew up. Afterward, while sailing back to the dock, we talked about what would happen if one of us died. It’s uncanny that we had this conversation. I don’t know how it came up, and of course I have never forgotten it. Jeff said he would want me to remarry. “Life is for the living,” he said. I hedged; I didn’t want to talk about this. I remember how he teased me, saying, “Hey! Now you’re supposed to say that you want me to remarry, too.” I finally told him I did. “But not to anyone younger than me, or blonde.” He agreed. Two days later, he was killed.

Many people are surprised when I tell them that I did not watch the news that Tuesday. I busied myself by keeping the girls occupied, and fielding and making phone calls—when the phone lines worked—hoping for information. I also began to write a letter to Jeff, telling him to “come home to me, come home to me and the girls.” I thought I’d be able to show him the letter when he walked in the door, but the letter ended up becoming a journal entry instead, one of countless such entries to come.

It took me a long time to realize that Jeff was really and truly gone, and when I did, I struggled to figure out what my new reality meant. I met and married Jeff when I was in my late 30s, and when it became clear that we were meant to be, I had to learn to lean on him, a task that was not easy for me, an independent New Yorker. Now he was gone, after only four and a half years of marriage, and I had two daughters to raise alone. The terrorists took my husband from me; there was no way I was going to let them ruin my daughters’ precious psyches too. I planned to win.

I wanted our daughters’ lives to be as close to what they would have been if Jeff were alive to help me raise them, and I told my girls that we would continue to do the things that “Mommy and Daddy planned to do.” My mom and I taught the girls how to snorkel off our dock at Maho Bay Camps, an eco-resort (that unfortunately no longer exists) on St. John. We traveled there yearly until their sports schedules dictated otherwise. When they were 7 and 9 years old, we went on a snorkel excursion boat, out to a coral reef in a protected cove. It was a particularly windy day, and there was a lot of chop in the ocean: not the best day to snorkel, especially for young children. Other vacationers were queasy, but the girls were fine, even excited, so we kept going.

My girls were the youngest children on the boat, and I remember the other families watching us as I gathered up our gear to be first in line to enter the ocean via the slide. I was determined to make sure my girls were not afraid. I literally pushed Maggie down the slide ahead of me, then grabbed Charlotte and we went down together. I swam backwards, hooked my fingers through the girls’ life preservers, and dragged them along, telling them to kick, kick, kick, as I sang a little song about Mommy and Daddy going diving with our girls, a song I made up on the spot. Divers my girls would be.

I knew that it was important to keep Jeff alive for my girls, to give them information about their father, so they would know his likes and dislikes, and what he might have said or done in different situations. Jeff and I loved to travel, and whenever we traveled anywhere, I would tell our girls how pleased Daddy would be with their adventurous nature. “Mommy and Daddy wanted to have good travelers,” I would say. Sometimes, even now, when my daughters and I are exploring a walled medieval city in Europe, I turn to them and repeat that phrase, to make them smile.

Most important, I made sure my daughters knew that without a doubt their father tried very, very hard to escape the towers and come home to them, and to me. “Daddy wanted to be with us,” I told the girls. Once, when Maggie was not yet 3 years old, she explained to her 10-month-old sister, “He ran very fast, but smoke got in his mouth.” As much as it pained me to teach my girls the truth, I did it. They needed to know how much he loved them, and how much he wanted to come home. “He was killed, Charlotte,” Maggie said.

Despite what Jeff told me that day on the sailboat, I never remarried. I never had any desire except one: to ensure that my daughters grew into the best versions of themselves, not hindered in any way by the fact that the terrorists killed their father when they were babies. I believe I succeeded: Maggie is now 20 and studying abroad in Belgium this semester, and Charlotte is, at 18, a college freshman. The girls are in the throes of their college careers, as planned, and I find myself living alone again for the first time since 1996.

This time feels different. I live in a suburban house, not a one-bedroom in Manhattan. I’m teaching at a university, not working in television news. I am not in my 30s anymore, and many of my fellow empty-nest friends are downsizing. My cousin Anne, my closest friend, is exploring seaside towns with her husband, trying to find the right mix of location, location, and location. Everyone I know seems to be making plans for the next phase of life. All I can seem to do is exhale.

Living alone can be liberating, and most of my friends have, at some point, told me they are jealous. If the sunset is right and I am holding a glass of rosé in one hand, my new freedom can seem downright exhilarating, but when the sun sets, it’s just me in the room. I ate sautéed vegetables for dinner last night, and I did not clean up the kitchen until early this morning; but I would rather have had Jeff here to nag me about the dishes.

Jeff and I used diving terminology when we made plans of any kind; we would “plan the dive” and “dive the plan.” I recently texted my daughters, who are somewhat concerned that I am now all alone, not to worry about me because they are diving the plan that they and I created.

It has been 18 years since my husband was killed, time enough to raise a child into adulthood, which I have—twice. After losing him, that was my plan, my only plan, and I dove it. Now I am surfacing. It’s time to plan a new dive.

Ellen Bakalian is a writer and an adjunct professor at Montclair State University. She lives in northern New Jersey.
IN MEMORIAM

Remembering September 11, 2001

Among the nearly 3,000 people who died in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks were six alumni—young professionals and retirees, new parents and grandparents, volunteers and heroes.

Across campus, they’re remembered with a set of memorials. On the plaza outside Meliora Hall, a plaque and benches reminds those who pause of what the community lost that day. Similarly, there are plaques in Gleason Hall and in the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity house. Most important, the alumni are remembered in the hearts of classmates, community members, and friends.

With this year’s 20th anniversary of that dreadful day, we mark their lives and imagine how different their days might have been.

Brendan Dolan ’86

A quarterback on the Yellowjackets football team, a rugby player, and the social chairman for the Psi Upsilon fraternity, Dolan was the second in his family of five to go to Rochester. He followed his brother Charles Dolan ’85.

A senior vice president at Carr Futures, Dolan was a successful energy broker who traveled the world for clients whom he just as often considered friends. He was at work in the North Tower when the attacks took place.

On September 11, he left behind his wife, Stacey, and two daughters.

Jeremy Glick ’93

Glick, a sales and marketing executive on United Airlines Flight 93, is believed to have been one of several passengers to counterattack the hijackers, forcing the plane to crash in rural Pennsylvania. He left behind his wife, Lyzbeth, and their newborn daughter.

His bravery earned him two posthumous honors: the Arthur Ashe Courage Award and the Medal for Heroism, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the Sons of the American Revolution.

An English major, Glick was president of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity. His fraternity brothers helped establish the Jeremy L. Glick Memorial Scholarship Fund—awarded to recognize Rochester Greek system students for their leadership. On campus, a carving of a wooden yellow-jacket is dedicated to his memory (see page 15).

In 2019, Glick’s legacy was celebrated when he was inducted posthumously into the Rochester Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Aram Iskenderian ’82

A vice president in global risk management at Cantor Fitzgerald, Iskenderian was working in the financial services firm’s head-quarters at the top of One World Trade Center on September 11.

An optics major at Rochester, Iskenderian was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. After graduation, he married his high school sweetheart, Sheri, and the couple had four children.

Jean Hoadley Peterson ’69N

As a nursing student, Peterson would return to the hospital after hours just to say hello to patients she had seen earlier in the day. Many years later, the mother of six was an emergency medical technician, led Bible studies, traveled on overseas missions, lent money to families in need, and offered help to people with drug and alcohol addiction and to pregnant women in crisis.

Peterson and her husband, Donald, were on United Airlines Flight 93, on their way to an annual family reunion at Yosemite National Park.

Jeffrey Smith ’87, ’88S (MBA)

Trained as an emergency medical technician, Zeng was seen by several witnesses—including a TV crew—going into the World Trade Center to offer aid to the injured. Still wearing the suit he wore as a project manager for the Bank of New York, he was in the second tower when it fell.

Zeng was an electrical engineering major as an undergraduate and later earned an MBA from the Simon Business School. To honor Zeng’s heroism, the New York City Council renamed a street after him in the Chinatown area of Manhattan. The street, known as Zhe (Zack) Zeng Way, borders a park where Zeng used to meet friends. And in 2016, the ambulance service of the Rochester suburb of Brighton, where Zeng had been an EMT, dedicated an ambulance in his honor.

Zhe (Zack) Zeng ’95, ’98S (MBA)
A Change in Tempo
A touring musician stuck at home, Tony Levin ’68E used the pandemic year to complete a long-dreamed-of project.

Interview by Karen McCally ’02 (PhD)

Tony Levin ’68E is among the most acclaimed bass players in popular music, a virtuoso on the electric as well as the upright bass, and on the Chapman Stick, a 10-stringed instrument played with both hands and ideal for complex arrangements.

In a typical year, he’s on the road nine or ten months, touring with a range of acts that have included the Levin Brothers—with his older brother, keyboardist Pete Levin—the Stick Men, King Crimson, Peter Gabriel, and Sting.

But COVID-19 brought his roving lifestyle to an abrupt and lengthy pause.

Homebound in the Hudson Valley, he took on the ambitious task of reviewing tens of thousands of photographs he has taken from nearly a half century of touring. Compiling a selection of those images into a coffee-table book was a project that Levin, who has enjoyed photography ever since he was a kid growing up outside Boston, had envisioned for years. But he wouldn’t be able to pull
it off as long as he was touring. “It would just take so much time,” he says. “And that’s exactly what I had in 2020.”

Over six months, he winnowed his collection of images down to the 240 that appear in his self-published soft-cover photo book *Images from a Life on the Road*.

**How did you come to a life on the road?**

I went to the Eastman School planning on becoming a classical musician. However, I changed paths and quickly learned that if you want to play other genres of music—if you really love that music and want to play it as your life’s work—then you’re going to have to travel and play concerts around the world. That’s what I embarked on doing in the late ’60s when I left Eastman.

**What has inspired you to document your life on the road in pictures?**

I was always interested in taking pictures of what’s going on around me, and on the road, there are some special moments. If you can capture them, they lead to an understanding of what it’s really like out there.

**How would you describe in words what it’s like?**

It’s not for everybody, but it’s very gratifying. You get to do what you love—for about two or three hours a day. And I will continue to do it as long as my health allows, because of those few hours of sharing really special music with an audience.

The rest of the time—I’m laughing as I say this—is spent getting you to the place and getting set up. It’s extraordinary how much that experience varies. There’s the van tour, the bus tour, the plane tour, and for the last few Peter Gabriel tours I’ve done, there’s a private plane tour. Surprisingly, they’re all satisfying. You would think the better hotels make for a happier person. But as long as the music is good, and the group gets along well together, we’re happy.

**You’re the photographer even when you’re in the photo. How do you get those shots?**

In the ’80s, when I was touring with Peter Gabriel and King Crimson, I started setting up a tripod on stage, with a camera attached to a foot pedal among the foot pedals I have for my bass. And I was able to use that to surreptitiously take pictures. With Peter Gabriel, especially, there’s a lot of choreography in the show. A lot of jumping and dancing. And I would give some thought before the show to how I could capture that.

The “Shock the Monkey” image—it was quite a challenge to get that picture because we all sing and jump every time Peter sings the word “shock.” And what I did is pick up a squeeze ball, which you can see in the picture if you really know where to look. I picked up the squeeze ball and as I jumped and played and sang, I squeezed the ball and captured a picture. And of the maybe 500 times I took it, two or three came out OK.

**How did you manage being homebound for 15 straight months?**

I can’t complain. I do tour a lot. But I also record a lot, both of my own music and plenty of tracks for other people. I was able to do ones that I usually wouldn’t or would have had to postpone. I could say, “I’m home in my studio, send the track and I’ll play on it.”

And, of course, I tackled the photo book. I began it in June and finished in December. I went through tens of thousands of pictures, laid them out to see which went together and which deserved to be in the book. The first week of that was fun, but after that I thought, “What am I taking on here?”

**But you’re returning to touring.**

Yes, a typical year for me. It’ll get to be normal for me again—I hope.

Tony Levin returned to touring in the spring, with the Levin Brothers’ Vaccinating Rhythm Tour. His summer and fall tours include King Crimson’s Music Is Our Friend US Tour, and the Stick Men’s fall European tour. See Tonylevin.com for more information, as well as a complete discography and additional images. The site also includes a link to “one of the web’s longest running blogs”—Levin’s touring diary from 1996 to 2014, plus hundreds more images, at the archived site Papabear.com.

**Tony Levin**

Levin, who has been taking images of his surroundings since childhood, finds entertainment in photography during the long hours between shows, and captures many “special moments” even while he is performing onstage.
COMMENCEMENT 2021

Alumni, Scholars, and Teachers Honored

Over the course of two weekends of ceremonies in May, the University recognized distinguished leaders, educators, and humanitarians for their achievements and service.

University Distinguished Guests

Honorary Doctor of Science

James Wyant ’67 (MS), ’69 (PhD) is a professor emeritus and founding dean of the James C. Wyant College of Optical Sciences at the University of Arizona. The founder of two companies that produce optical measuring equipment, Wyant is a life trustee of the University.

Eastman Medal

John (Dutch) Summers is an entrepreneur and the CEO of the Rochester-based global private equity firm Graywood Companies. Begun as a small tool and die business started by Summers’s father, Graywood Companies has grown to its current scope under Summers’s direction. Over the past few years, much of his philanthropy has been focused on education.

Charles Force Hutchison and Marjorie Smith Hutchison Medal

Alice Holloway Young ’57 (Mas), ’69W (EdD) is a groundbreaking educator, community leader, and children’s advocate. During a decades-long career with the Rochester City School District, she was among the first African American teachers in the district and the first African American to hold the titles of reading specialist, vice principal, and principal in RCSD. She wrote and supervised the district’s first integration programs, including the Urban-Suburban program, the oldest voluntary desegregation program in the country.

University Teaching Awards for Excellence

Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Stewart Weaver is a professor of history in the School of Arts & Sciences. He teaches on subjects including global exploration, natural history, the history of India, British history, and the First World War. In 2019, he was named an Andrew Carnegie Fellow, and this year his project to document change in a remote area of India won the Public Outreach Award of the American Society for Environmental History.

Reinhild Steingrüber

Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Reinhild Steingrüber is a professor of German at the Eastman School of Music and an affiliate professor of film studies in the Program of Film and Media Studies in the School of Arts & Sciences. She has won grants and awards from the German Academic Exchange Service, the Deutsche Film-Aktiengesellschaft Foundation, the Suhrkamp Foundation, and the Eastman School, which awarded her the Eisenhart Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Graydon Curtis ’58 and Jane W. Curtis Award for Nontenured Faculty Teaching Excellence

Tricia Shalka is an assistant professor in the Warner School of Education’s higher education program. Among her research interests is the internationalization of higher education with an emphasis on the experiences of international students in American colleges and universities. She is an associate editor of the Journal of Trauma Studies in Education and is on the editorial board of the Journal of College Student Development.

Graydon Curtis ’58 and Jane W. Curtis Award for Nontenured Faculty Teaching Excellence

Ellen Matson is the Wilmot Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry in the School of Arts & Sciences. Her research is supported by the National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, Research Corporation for Science Advancement, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Her awards for her teaching and scholarship include the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation’s Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award.

William H. Riker University Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching

Brian Brent is the Earl B. Taylor Professor at the Warner School of Education. Brent and his colleagues reimagined the EdD degree and developed one of the first accelerated cohort models of doctoral education for school administrators in the country. At Warner, Brent has served as the senior associate dean for graduate studies and as the acting dean.

J. ADAM FENSTER (BRENT AND WEAVER); PROVIDED PHOTOS (OTHERS)
Malik Evans ’02 Prepares to Be Rochester’s Mayor

Malik Evans ’02 became the city’s presumptive next chief executive this spring when he defeated current Mayor Lovely Warren in the Democratic primary.

As of this summer, there were no Republican challengers for the position in the heavily Democratic city, meaning Evans is on track to become mayor at the first of the year.

Since graduating from Rochester, Evans has worked with several Rochester-area civic and community organizations. He was elected to the Rochester City School Board at age 23 and served as board president from 2008 to 2013, before being elected as an at-large city council member in 2017. Evans also works in finance, most recently for the ESL Federal Credit Union.

Yellowjacket Helps Lead Israel Baseball to Olympic Debut

Nate Mulberg ’14 had a sideline view of history this summer as an assistant coach for the Israeli baseball team as the country made its debut in the sport at the Tokyo Olympics.

Mulberg, an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator for the NCAA Division I baseball program at the University of Richmond, helped Israel secure one of just six baseball spots in the Olympics when he coached the team during the 2019 European championships.

At the Olympics, the team beat Mexico but was eliminated after a ninth-inning loss to the Dominican Republic.

At Rochester, Mulberg was a four-year starter for the Yellowjackets. Before joining the Richmond staff, he was an assistant coach at Division III Franklin & Marshall College and with Division I Bucknell University.

Alumnus Named Director of Rochester’s Police Accountability Board

Conor Dwyer Reynolds ’13 has been appointed as the first executive director of Rochester’s Police Accountability Board. Established by a community referendum in 2019, the board was created to provide civilian perspectives on public safety in Rochester. Reynolds’s appointment was confirmed unanimously by the Rochester City Council.

A graduate of Yale Law School, Reynolds was teaching at Yale when he was selected by the board to be executive director last fall and maintains the position at the law school of visiting clinical lecturer in law.

Grads Named to Lead Two Community Colleges

Kate Smith ’94W (MS) has begun a tenure as the fifth president of Rio Salado College in Tempe, Arizona, and William Heineman ’87 has been named the fifth president of Northshore Community College in Danvers, Massachusetts.

Smith began her presidency last May after leading the college for 18 months as interim president.

Heineman began his position in July. He previously was provost and vice president at Northern Essex Community College.

National Honors for Warner Teacher

Joyce Akwaa ’05, ’06W (MS), ’14W (Pmc) is one of four teachers recognized by Horizons National, a program to improve educational equity by providing enrichment and other support for students in pre-K through high school during the summer. Akwaa, a teacher in Horizons at Warner, received the program’s Lyn McNaught Teacher Award for Teaching Excellence.

Named for the first executive director of Horizons National, the award recognizes exemplary Horizons teachers across the country.

Founded more than a decade ago, Horizons at Warner was one of the first such programs located on a university or college campus.
CAPITOL CONCERT: Students in the Eastman Philharmonia gather on the steps of the Capitol in Washington, DC, in 1961 for a photo with members of Rochester’s congressional delegation, Representative Jessica McCullough Weis and Senator Kenneth Keating, Class of 1919 (center of the middle row). The trip was part of a series of run-out tours organized by Howard Hanson (fourth from right in the top row), then director of the Eastman School of Music. While in DC, Hanson conducted the orchestra in a concert at Howard University, with William Warfield ’42E, ’46E (MM) as soloist. Recognize anyone? Email us at Rochrev@rochester.edu.
College

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

MEDALLION REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

Medallion Reunion Alumni who graduated before the Class of 1971—this year’s 50th reunion class—are invited to take part in Medallion reunion events. Learn more at Rochester.edu/reunion.

1943

University Life Trustee Ed Colodny writes that he has recently published a memoir, Flying High: Ed’s Words of Wisdom from the Real World (Bethesda Communications Group).

1953

Stacy Stevens writes, “Being retired in Maine is a hoot—always finding new things. While hiking on Mackworth Island in Casco Bay last weekend, we came upon this ‘dandelion tree’—or, more precisely, vine. First I have ever seen. Old dog, new tricks.”

1963

Elnor Abbey would like to reconnect with classmates. Now 86 and living in Clifton Park, New York, Elinor says that she recently received a phone call from a college friend, “and we were both surprised to discover the other was still alive!” She’s hoping to catch up with long-lost friends from Rochester and asks that they call her at (518) 630-5267, as she doesn’t have email.

1965

Angelyn Forbes-Freeze sends an update. She “retired from a career as a college administrator. My husband, George, and I moved to Frederick, Maryland, to be close to our grandchildren, in 2015. After a year, I started substitute teaching at the high school (I can walk to work) until COVID forced me to retire again; at 80, I have decided to give retirement another try. We stay active and healthy with daily walks, yoga, gardening, making music, and being with our kids and five grandchildren.”

1967

Kay Hatton Ryder writes that she has retired from her TV and radio program, Conversations with Kay, after doing more than 350 interviews with Vermont leaders in government, health care, education, the arts, and community life.

1953

Evelyn Lutz (see pages 60–61).

1963

Alan Agresti, who holds the title of Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Florida, has coauthored Foundations of Statistics for Data Scientists: With R and Python (Chapman and Hall/CRC), an introduction to mathematical statistics for students training to become data scientists, using software for examples and simulations to illustrate key concepts. . . . Diane Gillman Charney writes that she retired from teaching at Yale after 33 years and has written a book, Letters to Men of Letters (Ology Books). In it she writes to authors she admires, both living and dead, who continue to keep her company. Among them are Kafka, Proust, Nabokov, Camus, Flaubert, Balzac, Leonard Cohen, Christo, and her father. . . .

David Farkas, a professor emeritus in the Department of Human Centered Design & Engineering at the University of Washington in Seattle, writes that he has published Performing 10-Minute Plays with Friends: A Guide to Do-It-Yourself Theater (FarkasWords). The book explains how to organize an informal theater group, find scripts (nine are included), stage the plays in a living room or other small space, and perform script in hand (no memorizing). He adds that he and his wife, Nettie (Jean) Blank Farkas, are once again enjoying home-brew theater post-COVID.

1970

50TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

Gerry Katz (see ‘67 Eastman).

1971

50TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

Richard (Rick) Renzi (see pages 58–59).

1975

45TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

Geriatrician, author, and educator Allen Power ’80M (MD), ’83M (Res), who holds the Schlegel Chair in Aging and Dementia Innovation at the Schlegel-University of Waterloo Research Institute for Aging in Ontario, cowrote the music for singer/songwriter Anne Hills’s new release, Accidental August (Hand and Heart Music). He also coproduced the recording and plays rhythm guitar on one track. Other accompanists include Tyler Woods on piano and organ, bassist Scott Petito, and drummer Peter Erskine. Allen—who studied jazz and classical composition and orchestration with Rayburn Wright ’43E and Samuel Adler and wrote for the 1978 and 1979 Arrangers’ Holiday concerts—set Hills’s lyrics to music for nine of the 10 tracks, including two pandemic-inspired songs. Allen continues his work as an international educator on innovative approaches to supporting people living with dementia and dealing with other age-related challenges.

1977

David Kopitz (see ’79). . . . Tim Smith writes that he and his wife, Deb, have published three books, with a fourth in the works. He adds that he and Deb have “a unique backstory that serves to frame up” their second careers as authors: Having met on the first day of high school, they dated for four years before going the next 40 years without seeing each other. Their mothers’ deaths led to a reunion, after which Tim and Deb, both retired teachers, began writing a weekly feature for their hometown newspaper, the Mendon-Honeoye Falls-Lima Sentinel. In their “Life with the (Word)Smiths” column, which covers a range of topics, they “have brought tears of both joy and sorrow to our many faithful readers by sharing an incredible array of adventures,” Tim writes. Their books, all published by Pandimensional Solutions of Honeoye Falls, include The Beatles, the Bible and Manson: Reflecting Back with 50 Years of Perspective (2019); Tit For Tat Exchanges: Tim & Deb’s Greatest Hits (2020), a collection of their best “(Word)Smiths” columns over the last six years; and What’s in a Name?, a “razzle” compilation of short stories about places with intriguing names. Tim writes that he and Deb have spent years researching special places and have created “a unique book full of facts, fun, mayhem—and even the macabre” from Virginia, Utah, to Intercourse, Pennsylvania, and around the world. And “more frivolity will ensue,” adds Tim, when their fourth book, Listing Dangerously to the Left, is released later this year.

1978

Joseph Sellers, an assistant professor of clinical medicine at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, has been elected president of the Medical Society of the State of New York, the state’s principal nonprofit professional organization for physicians, residents, and medical students. He has previously served the society as president-elect, vice president, treasurer, assistant treasurer, and secretary. Joseph is an attending physician in internal medicine and pediatrics at the Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown, New York, and the Cobleskill Regional Hospital. He has been a trustee of the hospital for the past 20 years and served for 22 years on the Schoharie County Board of Health. He has served medical missions in Haiti and Kenya and is a volunteer physician with the Boy Scouts of America. He is a fellow of Continued on page 52

Abbreviations
E  Eastman School of Music
M  School of Medicine and Dentistry
N  School of Nursing
S  Simon Business School
W  Warner School of Education
Mas  Master’s degree
RC  River Campus
Res  Medical Center residency
Ftw  Postdoctoral fellowship
Pdc  Postdoctoral certificate
A ‘Note’-Able Milestone

Centenarian John Manhold ’41 joins a special group of alumni this year as he celebrates eight decades as a Rochester graduate.

John Manhold ’41 has led a full life: accomplished dental researcher and professor, pathologist, Navy veteran, gifted sculptor, golfer, and competitive shooter.

Manhold and his wife of 50 years, Kit, are adventurers who have sailed a large part of the Caribbean in their 42-foot yacht, Ketita II.

At 101 years old, Manhold this summer published a memoir of his life, a life that includes an 80-year membership in the University community.

As an 18-year-old first-year student in 1937, Manhold entered the University’s archives, where—from his admissions application—to a life of class notes and other materials—his achievements are documented.

“There is much to learn by looking at the past,” says Manhold. “My undergraduate education at Rochester prepared me well for a very full career and life. It helped me hone the skills needed to adapt to changing times, including changes in technology, society, and scholarship.”

Manhold notes in his essay, “When I was a small child, I decided that I should like to follow the medical profession. There is no apparent reason why I should decide in favor of this profession. However, as I have grown older, the desire has grown strongly and for this reason I hope to obtain from college all possible knowledge to help me gain my ambitions.”

At Rochester, Manhold was an English major and a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. He was also a fencer, football player, and boxer, a pastime that also helped him pay his way through Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

“There’s much to learn by studying the past,” says Manhold, who enrolled in 1937.
Class Notes: A Life

As John Manhold ’41 celebrates 80 years as an alumnus, we follow his life in the University community through past issues of Review class notes.

October-November 1944
Lieut. (j.g.) John Manhold received the degree Doctor of Medical Dentistry in March.

June-July 1947
John Henry Manhold is now practicing dental surgery at 403 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass.

November 1955
Dr. John H. Manhold, Jr., was appointed on July 1 to the post of assistant professor of oral pathology in the Washington University School of Dentistry in St. Louis. He is a graduate of the Harvard University School of Dentistry and has taught at Tufts College of Medicine and Dentistry.

November 1956
John H. Manhold, Jr., received a master of arts degree from Washington University in St. Louis in June.

January 1957
Dr. John H. Manhold has been appointed professor and head of the department of oral pathology in the Seton Hall College of Dentistry, Jersey City, N.J. He was previously acting chairman of the departments of general and oral pathology at the Washington University School of Dentistry in St. Louis, Mo.

Fall 1965
Dr. John H. Manhold has published his third book, Clinical Oral Diagnosis.

Summer 1978

Spring 1984
John H. Manhold, associate dean for graduate and continuing education at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, has written Practical Patient Management: Patients and Practice. This is the fifth published book for Manhold, who is past president of the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine.

Summer 1987
John H. Manhold writes that he has just published his seventh book, Handbook of Pathology. Recently retired as professor and chairman of general and oral pathology at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey after 31 years in medicine, Manhold is now clinical director for Woog International, a Swiss health-products company that is now expanding into the United States.

Winter 2004-05
John Manhold writes that he completed a commissioned sculpture for the Single Action Shooting Society. The bronze bust of the organization’s founder will be placed in the SASS’s new museum in Gatlinburg, Tenn. John writes, “At 85 years of age, I still participate most actively in SASS, where members competitively shoot weapons of the 1860-1900 period in action scenarios from western pictures and historical events. Admittedly, competing against younger individuals is difficult, but it still is possible to win occasionally—although, like Frank Butler and Annie Oakley, I am not in my wife’s class, which is Grand Dame World Champion.”

July-August 2012

March-April 2013
John Manhold and his wife, Kit, recently traveled from their home in Florida to South America. “We flew to San Francisco and then cruised down the west coast of South America, around the horn, and back up to Buenos Aires, visiting penguins, sea lions, and seals in some sun and rain, wind and cold, and saw whales and huge sea turtles as well as the usual dolphins and a couple of hammerhead sharks,” he writes. “The trip perhaps is not for everyone. However, I long have been intrigued by tales of the rugged seamen who ‘rounded the Horn’ and of the wild Tierra del Fuego, desolate Patagonia, and the wild-life of the area.” John adds, “I also have my gold earring, which one traditionally earns the right to wear by ‘Rounding the Horn.’”

March-April 2015
Last summer, the Harvard School of Dental Medicine gave special recognition to John Manhold, who returned to the school on the 70th anniversary of his graduation. Witness to a long stretch of the history of modern dentistry, Manhold shared many of his observations in an essay in the summer 2014 edition of the Harvard Dental Bulletin. Manhold spent much of his career as a dental reformer and as a pioneer in the now established subspecialty of psychosomatic or biobehavioral dentistry.

Winter 2020
John Manhold observed his 100th birthday late last summer with a celebratory dinner and other activities. . . . The ceremonies included a compendium of John’s wide-ranging career as a dental scientist, author, veteran, artist, competitive shooter, and other endeavors, as well a commemorative coin struck for the occasion. . . . The coin features John’s image on one side, and the flip side reads “Scientist, World Lectures, Sculptor, Author, USCG Captain & Master, International Sport Awards, WWII, Korea.” His centennial birthday was also noted in the Genesee Sig, the newsletter of Rochester’s chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity.
Continued from page 49

the American Academy of Pediatrics
and of the American College of Physicians.

1979
Alan Rubenstein has joined FLB Law, a newly established full-service law firm in Westport, Connecticut. Alan has been practicing family and divorce law for more than 30 years. . . .

Vicki Unger sends an update. She and David Kopitz ’77 are celebrating the 15-year anniversary of the Kopitz Unger Wealth Management Group, based in Los Angeles. Before founding Kopitz Unger, they had separate careers in investment management, both with major financial institutions, but decided to merge their practices because of their “complementary skills and capabilities,” writes Vicki. They met at the University in 1976 and have been married for 37 years and, she adds, have three fully employed adult sons.

1980

1981

Jonathan Kaplan (see ’86). . . . Daniel Mantell (see ’83).

1982
Marcia MacDonald Mantell has been named by ThinkAdvisor as a 2021 IA (Investment Advisor) 25. Her firm, Mantell Retirement Consulting, has been offering clients strategic retirement business development and marketing communications services since 2005. She writes frequent blog posts, hosts workshops, has written books on women and retirement, and trains advisors on how to work with clients, especially when it comes to Social Security, Medicare, and benefits for divorced spouses. Her husband, Daniel Mantell ’82, an investment manager with Wells Fargo, writes about the “big news in the Mantell household—out of the blue, Marcia’s Twitter account started going nuts pinging her phone” (after ThinkAdvisor released its list of honorees). “This time,” he notes, “It was not our daughters.” . . . Randy Whitestone writes, “In September I was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Village of Scarsdale in a contested election that was delayed six months by the pandemic. My fellow board members and I are working to help the village grapple with the fiscal and social impacts of this turbulent time.”

1985

35TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

1986

35TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

Jonathan ’82 and Nina Simelson Kaplan send a photo of themselves with their daughter, Alison, “an incoming freshman of the Class of 2024.” Nina notes that they are thrilled Alison will attend the U of R. . . .

1987
William Heineman has been selected to become the fifth president of Northshore Community College in Danvers, Massachusetts. He has been in faculty and administrative positions with the state’s Northern Essex Community College for more than 22 years, most recently as provost and vice president of academic affairs. He began his presidency in July.

1989

25TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

1990

30TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

1991

30TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

1993

Abe Dewing was highlighted in the Fan Stories section of the New England Patriots’ website last November. A longtime Patriots fan, he had been performing NFL-themed covers on violin (using an app to record himself playing four parts) and posting them to Twitter weekly during the football season. Abe is a marketing and events consultant, cofounder of the Fusion String Ensemble, violinist for several musical groups, and a private instructor of violin, guitar, piano, viola, and ukulele.

1995

25TH REUNION
Rochester.edu/reunion

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UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER
and deceptiv...
second career as a senior software engineer, he was honored by having a ridge in Antarctica named for him in recognition of contributions to Antarctic databases and information services. Dwight is also the author of *A Confederate Biography: The Cruise of the CSS Shenandoah* (Naval Institute Press) and a contributing writer at the *Emerging Civil War* blog.

1998 Michal Freedhoff (PhD) was nominated by President Joe Biden and confirmed by the Senate to be the assistant administrator for chemical safety and pollution protection within the Environmental Protection Agency. Michal has more than 20 years of government experience, having begun her congressional service as a Congressional Science and Engineering Fellow after receiving her PhD at Rochester.

1997 Rebecca Rourke Edwards (PhD), a professor of history at Rochester Institute of Technology, published *Deaf Players in Major League Baseball: A History, 1883 to the Present* (McFarland), which was selected as a 2021 SABR (Society for American Baseball Research) Baseball Research Award winner.

Eastman School of Music

1956 Francis Brancalone, professor emeritus at Manhattanville College, was featured in an April episode of *Square Notes: The Sacred Music Podcast*. Francis shares the story of his growth as a musician from a young age and discusses his research findings on the history of the Pius X School of Liturgical Music, which was the precursor of the Manhattanville College music department.

1966 Barry Snyder ’68 (MM) (see ’71).

1967 Taavo Verkhaus (DMA) died from COVID-19 in February at age 86, reports Gerry Katz ’70RC, who studied piano at Eastman during his four years on the River Campus. “In pulling together some memories of faculty who had a lasting impact on my life for our 50th reunion, I decided to look up Taavo, who was the head of music activities on the River Campus during that time but also taught conducting at Eastman. I learned that Taavo had passed away,” writes Gerry. “I took three music literature courses from Taavo and worked closely with him when he conducted the professional orchestra for our student productions of Broadway musicals (e.g., *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, etc.) His courses were always totally engaging and fun. He had a dry sense of humor that you had to pay attention to in order to get it.” He was a good-looking guy whom the women students absolutely loved. But Eastman soprano Nancy Herman ’70 (MM) got him, and they were a wonderful couple for the rest of his life. While I arrived at Rochester with a pretty good music education under my belt already, it wasn’t until Taavo’s courses that I came to understand what defined each of the major eras in classical music (and) made them different from one another: baroque, classical, romantic, atonal, contemporary, etc. I credit him with turning me into a lifelong classical music enthusiast, becoming a Boston Symphony and Tanglewood subscriber for more than 45 years now. One particularly colorful memory had to do with one of his final exams. We were asked to go to the library and listen to an LP of the Mahler 6th Symphony a total of five times, to take stream-of-consciousness notes, and to write a paper about it. This was my first exposure to Mahler, and it was like nothing I had ever heard before. Mahler’s symphonies are generally quite long and complex (this one is about an hour and 25 minutes), and they express every possible emotion that human beings experience. The recording we listened to was a famous one by the Boston Symphony conducted by Erich Leinsdorf. I immediately ran out and bought it, and I still have that recording (and this was long before I realized that I would end up in Boston for the next 50 years). It was unquestionably the most self-revelatory assignment I ever received, and, happily, I ‘aced’ the course!” Gerry adds, “I know that it’s a long time ago, but I think that many alumni would remember him and would want to know of his passing.” (See also pages 60–61.)

1968 Barry Snyder (MM) (see ’71).

1969 David Levy ’80 (PhD) writes that as of July he is a professor emeritus at Wake Forest University after 45 years of service in the Department of Music. During his tenure, he served as chair of the department, associate dean of the college, and president of the university’s senate. David also directed music history seminars at Eastman for nine summers. His retirement plans include remaining active in musico logical research and continuing his services as a member of the board of the Winston-Salem Symphony and contributing program notes and lectures for the Winston-Salem and Chautauqua Symphony Orchestras.

1970 Charles (Chick) Herman sends an update: “I had a 40-year career directing school bands and received three national awards, including Who’s Who,” he writes. “I studied with Frank Crisafulli at Northwestern University and have had the opportunity to play under a number of superior band conductors at the University of Michigan. I currently play first trombone in the Atlanta Wind Symphony. My band compositions are published by Warner Brothers in their Supersound series, and my brass compositions are published by the Warwick Music Group. I have also published three books of poetry and have been a Baal Shofar for 25 years.” Chick adds that all three of his kids play trombone and formed a quartet to play his original wedding music on his 30th anniversary. He and his “wonderful wife, Jessie,” live in Cumming, Georgia. . . .

Phyllis Davis Pieffer (MA) received the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Women in American History Award for her 50 years of service to music teachers and students at the local, state, and national levels of the Music Teachers National Association. Her service has included terms as president of the Colorado Music Teachers Association, president of the MTNA West Central Division, and MTNA national president. She was awarded the MTNA Distinguished Service Award in 2013. The DAR award is given annually during Women’s History Month. . . .

1971 Flutist Bonita Boyd is featured along with fellow long-time Eastman faculty artists cellist Steven Doane and pianist Barry Snyder ’66E, ’68E (MM) on the CD *Aquarelles* (Bridge), released earlier this year.

1972 Charles Herrold Jr. ’75 (MA) retired in July 2020 after a 38-year
career as a music cataloger for Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.


1980 David Levy (PhD) (see ’69).

1981 William (Bill) Picher (MM) sends news of his new CD, William Picher Plays the Great Schoenstein Organ at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine (Stemk Music). “Yeah, I know . . . longest title ever,” writes Bill. “This is the premiere recording of the new Schoenstein pipe organ consisting of 86 ranks and over 5,000 pipes at this Marian Shrine in Central Florida.” The CD features music of Buxhude, Verdi, Gigout, Schubert, Debussy, Gershwin, and other composers.

1982 Dave Filippo (MM) has led his contemporary jazz quartet, Planet Filippo (formerly Filippomusic) in Chicago since 1993. He released his sixth CD, Dedications (Oppill Records), in June. Dave writes, “The disk primarily contains originals by Filippo as well as jazz arrangements of tunes by Radiohead, Amy Winehouse, and Stevie Wonder. Many of the originals explore odd/multi-ply meters and cover a wide range of styles and grooves.” He adds that the CD includes many tunes written for fellow players and dedicated to friends and family, including his wife, Melissa Lee, and children, Gabriel and Gillian.

1987 Mark Steinbach (MM), ’90 (DMA) has released Glass and Bach in Dresden (Orange Mountain), performing music of Philip Glass and J. S. Bach on the 1755 Silbermann organ at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Dresden, Germany. Mark is the university organist and instrument curator and a senior lecturer in music at Brown University.

1994 Benjamin Sosland has been appointed provost and dean of the New England Conservatory. As chief academic and artistic officer, he will oversee the school’s programs in the College, Preparatory School, and School of Continuing Education. He served as interim dean and director of the music division at New York’s Juilliard School before he assumed the new position in July.

1995 Saxophonist, composer, and arranger Greg Yasinitsky (DMA) released YAZZ Band: New Normal (Origin Records) in January. The CD features contemporary, original compositions newly scored for “little big band”: four saxophones, two trumpets, trombone, and rhythm section. The project began as a studio recording, but the remainder was recorded virtually, due to the pandemic, with musicians contributing their parts individually, most recording in their homes—thus the title, “the new normal,” Greg writes. The YAZZ Band is a group of Northwest-based improvisers and ensemble veterans.

1996 Jennifer Au Tung ’98 (MM) has been selected as one of two inaugural conductors for the Women in Musical Leadership fellowship. The three-year fellowship provides support, connections, and experience to help promising music directors and conductors to enter fully into the profession while also expanding the talent pool of musical leadership in Canada.

1999 Composer Adeline Wong, a senior lecturer in the composition faculty at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music at the National University of Singapore, co-preserved “Restriction, Repetition, Result: Minimalist Approaches in Art and Music,” in April as part of a virtual forum series hosted by the conservatory.

2001 London-based pianist Kristian Bezuidenhout ’04 (MM) released a nine-CD box set Mozart: Complete Piano Sonatas (Harmonia Mundi), and this summer his final volume of Beethoven’s five piano concertos was scheduled to be released.

2002 Soprano Janinah Burnett (MM) released Love the Color of Your Butterfly (Clazz Records) in February. Janinah has performed roles on both Broadway and the Metropolitan Opera stage and has acted in film and television as well. . . Cellist Leslie Kouzes Hamric (MM) is serving her second term as a board member of the National Federation of the Blind Performing Arts Division. She’s also a new member of Guiding Eyes for the Blind’s graduate council. She joined the National Federation of the Blind in 2010 and has held positions as a chapter president, board member, and committee member. Leslie married cellist Andrew Hamric in 2006, and they have a son, Michael. She performs with the Elmhurst (Illinois) Symphony and teaches cello and braille music in her private home studio. . . Melissa Ngn has been appointed president and CEO of American Composers Orchestra. She will be responsible for the orchestra’s strategy, finances, and operations in New York City and nationwide. Melissa was most recently the CEO of Filth House Ensemble, the Chicago-based organization she founded and has led since 2005.

2003 Composer Matthew Schreibeis, an assistant professor of composition at Hong Kong Baptist University, released a new CD, Sandburg Songs (Albany Records), which features his large-scale song cycle based on Carl Sandburg’s Chicago Poems along with other chamber works spanning a decade of creative work. Among those featured are Zohn Collective, which includes Daniel Pesca ’05, ’16 (DMA); Hanna Hurwitz ’08, ’16 (DMA); and Dieter Hennings ’15 (DMA).

2004 Kristian Bezuidenhout (MM) (see ’01). . . Trumpeter Stephanie (Steph) Richards released her third CD as a band leader, supersense (Northern Spy). She also performs with Anthony Braxton’s group on the CD 12 Comp (ZIM) 2017 (Firehouse 12), released this summer. Stephanie has joined the music department at the University of California San Diego as an associate professor. She and her husband, Andrew Munsey, had a baby girl, Anza, during the pandemic.

2005 Daniel Pesca ’16 (DMA) (see ’03).

2008 Brad Hogarth, an assistant professor of conducting at San Francisco State University as well as the music director and conductor of both the Contra Costa Wind Symphony and the Art Haus Collective, has joined the San Francisco Conservatory of Music as conductor of the newly formed wind ensemble. Brad has a master’s degree in trumpet performance from the conservatory. . . . Hanna Hurwitz ’16 (DMA) (see ’03). . . Tom Vandaferedo is the music director and arranger of “New Faces Sing Broadway 1961,” the latest virtual installment of Chicago’s Porchlight Music Theatre’s New Faces Sing Broadway series, “taking audiences on a musical journey from start to finish of an entire Broadway season in 90 minutes.” “New Faces Sing Broadway 1961” was filmed at Chicago’s historic Studebaker Theatre.

2011 Siu Hei Lee (MM), a London-based music researcher, pianist, scholar, and teacher, writes, “I am happy to share that my debut album, Luminous (Centaur), was released last year. With Kirsten Ashley Wiest as soprano and me on the piano, the album features music by James Erber (London), Jack Van Zandt and Jeffrey Holmes (Los Angeles), and György Ligeti.”

2012 Bassist Danny Ziemann ’19 (MM) published Topics in Jazz Bass Vol 2: Soloing (Low Down Publishing), earlier this year. In addition to performing, teaching, and recording, Danny produces educational video courses for the website Discover Double Bass and founded Low Down Publishing to produce music education books.

2013 Helen Zhibing Huang ’13RC is one of 15 finalists in the 2021 Lotte Lenya Competition out of a record applicant pool of 500. The finals will take place in person in August, livestreamed worldwide, and will be broadcast beginning in September on OperaVision. . . . Pianist Paul Sánchez (DMA) recorded Dreams of a New Day: Songs by Black Composers (Cedille) with baritone Will Liverman. Released in February, the CD reached No. 1 on Billboard’s Traditional Classical Album chart. . . . Jessica Wilkins, owner and arranger at JDW Sheet Music and a Los Angeles–based freelance oboist and teacher, created an educational website, the Black Excellence Music Project (blackexcellencemusicproject.com), after teaching herself to code. The website was inspired by a collection of videos she created last summer to celebrate Black excellence in the music world.

2015 Dieter Hennings (DMA) (see ’03).

2016 Hanna Hurwitz (DMA) (see ’03). . . Daniel Pesca (DMA) (see ’03).

2017 Composer and percussionist Kyle Peters (MM), a per—

Continued on page 58
AWARDS & HONORS

Recognizing Leaders

The University’s academic units honor alumni and friends for their service, leadership, and achievements.

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING
Distinguished Alumnus Award
Wade Norwood ’95
The CEO of nonprofit Common Ground Health in Rochester, Norwood has held leadership positions in the community for more than three decades, including roles in public service, education, and health care. From 1990 to 2005, Norwood served as a Rochester City Council member and chair of the council’s Committee on Housing and Community Development. Since 2009, he has served as an at-large member of the New York State Board of Regents.

EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Distinguished Alumni Award
Kelly Hall-Tomkins ’93E
Hall-Tomkins is a renowned violinist and social entrepreneur who has been acclaimed for her virtuosity as well as for her work to bring music to often-overlooked populations. Winner of a Naumburg International Violin Competition Honorable Prize and featured in the Smithsonian Museum for African American History, she is the founder of Music Kitchen–Food for the Soul, a nonprofit organization that arranges for top artists to perform in homeless shelters across the country.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY
At a virtual gathering last fall, Dean Mark Taubman presented alumni, faculty, and friends with some of the unit’s highest honors.

Dean’s Medal
Raymond Mayewki ’76M (Res), ’78M (Flw)
A professor emeritus at the School of Medicine, Mayewki served as chief medical officer of Strong Memorial Hospital for more than 20 years, part of a 50-year tenure at Rochester. A recipient of a professorship endowed by one of his patients, Mayewki established a philanthropy program that encourages other senior clinicians to support the Medical Center. The program has become a model for centers across the country.

John N. Wilder Award
Peter ’83 (MS) and Kathleen Landers ’82
Longtime philanthropists for the Medical Center, the Landerses have been active supporters, volunteers, and champions of the University. Their company, Landers Communities, is a Rochester-area real estate company that develops, owns, and manages residential and commercial property.

Humanitarian Award
Holly Atkinson ’78M (MD), ’79M (Res)
A clinical professor and medical student advisor at the CUNY School of Medicine in New York City, Atkinson is a writer and journalist who founded and directed the Mount Sinai Human Rights Clinic at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

Distinguished Alumnus Award
Lowell Goldsmith ’02M (MPH)
A dean emeritus of the School of Medicine and Dentistry, Goldsmith is a noted dermatologist whose research and service has earned recognition from leading clinical and professional organizations in the field. He is currently a professor emeritus of dermatology at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine.

Alumni Achievement Award (Posthumous)
Timothy Benson ’00M (MD)
A successful psychiatrist, author, and speaker, Benson specialized in treating elite athletes and high achievers in business and academia. A clinical instructor at Harvard Medical School, he was the author of Surviving Success, a book about the challenges of being a professional athlete. He died in 2019.

James S. Armstrong Alumni Service Award
John Hansen
A professor emeritus of neuroscience at the Medical Center, Hansen has held leadership roles for more than 35 years, including the Robert Wood Johnson Dean’s Senior Teaching Scholar and the Kilian J. and Caroline F. Schmitt Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy.

ALUMNI HONORS: Wade Norwood ’95 was recognized by Arts, Sciences & Engineering for his achievements and service and delivered the commencement address to the College Class of 2021. Because of COVID-19 restrictions on the size of gatherings, the Eastman Quadrangle ceremony was divided into four events.
also served as the Medical Center’s associate dean for admissions for 21 years.

SCHOOL OF NURSING
At a virtual edition of the Dean’s Diamond Circle celebration held earlier this year, Dean Kathy Rideout ’95W (EdD) recognized alumni and friends with the school’s top honors.

Dean’s Medal
Patricia Chiverton ’80N (MS), ’91W (EdD)
A former dean of the School of Nursing, Chiverton is the founder of the Center for Nursing Entrepreneurship. Joining the school’s faculty in 1984, Chiverton held several leadership roles, including vice president for Strong Health Nursing.

Joanne Clements ’77N, ’88N, ’92N (Pmc)
A retired member of the School of Nursing faculty, Clements held clinical, educational, administrative, and leadership roles for more than 30 years. A nurse practitioner in the Center for Perioperative Medicine at the Medical Center, she also was program director for the nursing school’s baccalaureate programs.

Harriet Kitzman ’80W (MS), ’84N (PhD)
A researcher whose lifetime of work in pediatrics reshaped how health care is provided to young mothers and their children, Kitzman earned international recognition over the course of her six-decade career. A nurse-home visitation program that she helped create now serves more than 38,000 families per year across 41 states. The award was presented to Kitzman in 2019. She died in the spring of 2020.

John N. Wilder Award
Patrick Lee Foundation
Focused on education and mental health care, the private foundation established the Patrick P. Lee Foundation Family Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Scholarship to help address a shortage of such practitioners in western New York. The foundation offers five scholarships a year to help increase enrollment in the school’s family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program.

Humanitarian Award
Jose Perpignan ’16N
A float nurse on the cardiothoracic ICU and critical care float pool at New York-Presbyterian/ Columbia Hospital, Perpignan is a founding member and current historian of the Greater New York City Black Nurses Association. Members of the group provide access to resources and health care to underserved communities as well as serve as youth mentors.

Megan Reynolds ’19N
A registered nurse at the Medical Center, Reynolds is a former mentor in the Center for Academic and Professional Services at the School of Nursing. She assisted students in improving their learning strategies and study habits and acted as a liaison with the school’s administration. She also founded an outreach program with two schools to expand health care services.

Legacy Award
Andolina Family
As a tribute to the late Elaine Andolina and her family, the School of Nursing established the Elaine Andolina Memorial Scholarship Fund to support nursing students. Andolina, who died in 2019, served as an admissions counselor, recruitment coordinator, and director of admissions. An assistant professor, Andolina also helped direct the Accelerated Programs for Non-Nurses.

Karch Family
Over the course of a 50-year career on the nursing faculty, Amy Karch taught one of the school’s largest and most substantive courses. After she died in 2019, the school established the Amy Karch Memorial Scholarship Fund to support nursing students as a tribute to Karch and the members of her family.

Distinguished Alumnus Award
Bernadette Mazurek Melnyk ’92N (PhD), ’02N (Pmc)
The vice president for health promotion, university chief wellness officer, and professor and dean of the School of Nursing at Ohio State University, Melnyk is internationally recognized for her clinical knowledge as well as her innovative approaches to health care challenges. Also a professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at Ohio State’s College of Medicine, Melnick is one of the few women and nurses elected to the Institute of Medicine.

LaRon Nelson ’02N, ’04N (MS), ’09N (PhD)
A leading expert in implementation science and HIV prevention with African diaspora communities, Nelson is the inaugural associate dean for global health and equity and an Independence Foundation associate professor at Yale University. Before Yale, he was the first Dean’s Endowed Fellow in Health Disparities and an associate director in the Center for AIDS Research at the School of Nursing.
Continued from page 55

cussion instructor at the Eastman Community Music School and a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, joins Roberts Wesleyan College this fall as an adjunct professor of percussion. Kyle recently published "Charm" (KP Percussion), "a two-mallet vibraphone solo that provides an opportunity for the player to highlight the lyrical and resonant nature of the instrument using techniques such as dampening and dead strokes," he writes.

2019 Jessica Elder was a 2020-21 fellow at the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Florida, and became the new principal horn of the Utah Symphony in June.

2019 Danny Ziemann (MM) (see ’12).

2020 Yixin Huang (MM) participated as a fellow in this year’s Los Angeles Film Conducting intensive’s workshop.

School of Medicine and Dentistry

1962 Geoffrey Sperber (MS), a professor emeritus of dentistry at the University of Alberta, writes that Rena D’Souza, director of the US government’s National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, delivered the endowed annual Geoffrey H. Sperber Lecture at the university’s School of Dentistry in March. Geoffrey adds that the University of Alberta’s Health Sciences Library will be named for Geoffrey H. Sperber Lecture at the Dental and Craniofacial Research, government’s National Institute of Dentistry.

1985 Nina Gaby ’90N (MS) published a personal essay in the anthology (Her)oics: Women’s Lived Experiences during the Coronavirus Pandemic (Regal House) about her friendship with Fran London ’91N (MS) from their very first day at the School of Nursing. The centerpiece of the essay concerns a ritual Nina and Fran have kept to stay connected with one another over the many years since Fran settled in Arizona and Nina in Vermont. Each year, in between their May birthdays—and coinciding with National Nurses Week—they trade sending the same plastic Florence Nightingale doll back and forth to one another, in the same box, along with a birthday note. In 2020, it was Nina’s turn, and a “perky postmistress,” she writes in the essay, “wants me to use a new box for Flo. I tell her I can’t. She’s interested in the why not, in the whole story. There is no one else at the counter, but still I apologize as I sob my way through the telling of it. The addresses layer over themselves in sacrament, like a collage of our lives made of labels, handwriting fading over the years. A plastic screen separates me from the postmistress, but I know she wants to hug me and I wish she could. How terribly strange to be turning seventy in the age of the coronavirus, I say, but she’s too young to get the reference. I tell her it’s from the famous Simon and Garfunkel song about the old friends who sit on a park bench like bookends. She still doesn’t get it. ‘Nice mask,’ she says." Nina is a writer, artist, and psychiatric nurse practitioner. Her essays have appeared in numerous anthologies. She keeps a blog at Ninagaby.wordpress.com. Fran is a health education specialist at Phoenix Children’s Hospital and the author of multiple books, including No Time to Teach: The Essence of Patient and Family Education for Health Care Providers, winner of the 2010 American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year.

School of Nursing

1955 Evelyn Lutz (see page 60-61).

1986 Nina Gaby ’90N (MS) has published a personal essay in the anthology (Her)oics: Women’s Lived Experiences during the Coronavirus Pandemic (Regal House) about her friendship with Fran London ’91N (MS) from their very first day at the School of Nursing. The centerpiece of the essay concerns a ritual Nina and Fran have kept to stay connected with one another over the many years since Fran settled in Arizona and Nina in Vermont. Each year, in between their May birthdays—and coinciding with National Nurses Week—they trade sending the same plastic Florence Nightingale doll back and forth to one another, in the same box, along with a birthday note. In 2020, it was Nina’s turn, and a “perky postmistress,” she writes in the essay, “wants me to use a new box for Flo. I tell her I can’t. She’s interested in the why not, in the whole story. There is no one else at the counter, but still I apologize as I sob my way through the telling of it. The addresses layer over themselves in sacrament, like a collage of our lives made of labels, handwriting fading over the years. A plastic screen separates me from the postmistress, but I know she wants to hug me and I wish she could. How terribly strange to be turning seventy in the age of the coronavirus, I say, but she’s too young to get the reference. I tell her it’s from the famous Simon and Garfunkel song about the old friends who sit on a park bench like bookends. She still doesn’t get it. ‘Nice mask,’ she says." Nina is a writer, artist, and psychiatric nurse practitioner. Her essays have appeared in numerous anthologies. She keeps a blog at Ninagaby.wordpress.com. Fran is a health education specialist at Phoenix Children’s Hospital and the author of multiple books, including No Time to Teach: The Essence of Patient and Family Education for Health Care Providers, winner of the 2010 American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year.

2004 Roger Di Pietro (PdC), a clinical psychologist in private practice, has published Decoding Persistent Depression: Book Four: Illustrations and Persistence (self-published), the final book in his series on persistent depression.

In Memoriam

Faculty

Bryan Gopaul, assistant professor in the higher education program at the Warner School of Education, died in May. He taught courses and conducted research in several areas of higher education, particularly equity and inclusion.

David Holloway, assistant professor of Japanese in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, died in June. Holloway taught courses in Japanese literature, popular culture, and gender.

Alumni

Canon H. S. Knight ’34, November 2020

Jennie Pilato Bianconi ’41N, August 2019

F. Henry Krenz ’41, March 2021

Eleanor Wallace Terry ’41N, January 2021

Marlene Falkenheim De Lancie ’42, ’46M (MS), October 2020

Dorothy Ann Isaac Gotham ’44N, April 2021

Erwin Klingsberg ’44 (PhD), March 2021

Dorothy McConnell Brown ’45E, ’46E (MM), March 2021

Jerald B. Bullock ’45, ’47 (MS), February 2021

Donald H. Gaylor ’45, ’49M (MD), April 2021

Loren Glickman ’45E, January 2021

Jean Marie Rogers Kelly ’45N, April 2021

Helen Buchholz Church ’46N, May 2021

Norman C. Francis ’46, ’52 (PhD), January 2021

Mary Jane Izzo ’46, ’49M (MS), April 2021

Mary Travis Parkinson ’46N, February 2021

Mary Mitchell Rapier ’46E, ’49E (MM), April 2021

Stephanie Henoch Barch ’47, January 2021

Ann Esmond Powers ’47N, February 2021

F. Winona Fenton Scott ’47N, February 2021

James W. Wilson ’47 (MA), April 2021

Cromwell A. Anderson ’48, April 2021

Paul W. Brayner ’48, March 2021

Robert L. Brent ’48, ‘53M (MD), ’55M (PhD), February 2021

Margaret Campbell Cole ’49N (Diploma), April 2021
Kathleen McGarvey wrote her first feature stories for the March–April 2007 issue of Rochester Review. As her editor, I wasn’t sure how she was going to do in her debut, particularly because the assignments were very different in scope. One was about a program to improve diversity among the faculty, and the other was about a historian's scholarship that explored the public’s relationship with poetry.

I needn’t have worried. Each story needed only the lightest of editing. More important, as soon as the issue was published, Kathleen received a steady stream of feedback from faculty members and other readers for the way she was able to distill complex subjects into readable, relatable prose.

That was Kathleen—a talented writer who, with her own PhD in British literature, was deeply grounded in the humanistic tradition of critically evaluating ideas and connecting them to the world around her.

And, as everyone who worked with her would attest, she did it with kindness, empathy, and great collegiality.

Kathleen was an integral part of Review—and of University Communications—for the next 14 years until her death this summer. She died in June after a battle with cancer, leaving behind her husband, Greg, and their daughter, Abigail.

She joined the University in 2001 to work in a communications role in a previous iteration of the Advancement program. Following a reorganization of that department, our former VP, Bill Murphy, asked if Kathleen could join our team. “She can really write,” Bill said, knowing that truly talented writers were not easy to find, much less hold onto.

We all came to find Kathleen indispensable, as she took on stories that ranged from student profiles to new ideas in data and computational science to art history to literature to institutional leadership and strategies. I think her favorites, though, were the ones where she could dig deeply into how the University’s people were improving the lives of others, like her stories on programs to reduce childhood obesity and to mitigate lead paint in the Rochester area, efforts to establish the Gateways Music Festival at the Eastman School of Music, and her profile of Paul Burgett ‘68E, ’76E (PhD), as the late dean and vice president celebrated 50 years at Rochester.

Kathleen wrote nearly 50 feature stories for Review and probably hundreds of smaller pieces; she spent countless hours poring over final page proofs—nobody could spot a stray comma better than Kathleen—but to be honest, I remember only a handful without the help of the archives.

Instead, what I remember are long conversations about raising kids, comparing notes about daycares, summer camps, and elementary school teachers. We talked about the challenge of helping aging parents while raising children, and the best way to drive to see family in the Midwest.

She was that way with everyone she met—a perceptive listener, a kind and attentive colleague who was always more interested in learning what was new in your life than in talking about her own.

This issue includes the last story that Kathleen worked on for the magazine (see page 19). She wasn’t quite able to finish it herself, but we wanted to include it not only because it’s an example of her good work. We also wanted to hold onto her voice as long as we could.

—Scott Hauser
UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Those We Lost
As the COVID-19 pandemic moved into its second year, the University community felt the loss of classmates, colleagues, family members, and friends.

Hattman made major contributions to the field of molecular biology, specifically his research on the regulation of gene expression. “He provided a foundation for the field through his research in pure science,” says former colleague Cheeptip Benyajati, an associate professor of biology. “With his advances in mapping the human genome, the scientific world is now applying to humans some of this foundational research that Stan undertook.”

Benyajati remembers Hattman as “a great colleague, who was always so kind and bright.” Even in retirement, Hattman maintained an office on the River Campus and visited often until last year’s COVID-19 lockdown.

The Brooklyn native attended the City College of New York and was a physics major until his junior year, when he had what he called “an epiphany” after taking his first biology course. “It came during one of the first dissection exercises; viz. the earthworm,” Hattman wrote in a Department of Biology newsletter in 2004. “I was blown away when I discovered all that ‘stuff’ inside. Biology suddenly became interesting.”

He held postdoctoral research appointments at the Max Planck Institute in Munich, Germany—where he became fluent in German—and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx before joining the Rochester faculty.

Hattman and his wife, Rosemarie, had three daughters, Heidi, Ursula ’89, and Rebecca ’91, and five grandchildren. Rosemarie later served as an administrator in the Department of English at Rochester.

Evelyn Lutz ’55N, ’63

Known to friends and family as “Evie,” Lutz was born in Elmira, New York, during the Great Depression. While in high school, she worked at her family’s meat market to save money for her college education. She earned bachelor’s degrees in nursing from the School of Nursing in 1955 and from the College in 1963 and added a master’s degree from the University of Colorado and a doctorate from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio.

Although she went on to a highly successful career as a nurse, educator, and author, Lutz lived a frugal existence, buying only what she needed and saving items others would throw away. She saved enough money to be considered a millionaire—several publications called her a “secret millionaire” after her death—and

The devastating toll of the COVID-19 pandemic included alumni and faculty members from all walks of life—and all corners of the globe.

Richard (Rick) Renzi ’75

Renzi graduated with a bachelor’s degree in political science at Rochester and also played quarterback under legendary football coach Pat Stark. He earned a law degree from Albany Law School and was a practicing attorney in the Rochester area before his death in December 2020 at age 67.

Terry Gurnett ’77, associate director of athletics, says Renzi was a “lifelong supporter of all UR sports” who kept in touch with many of his teammates and coaches long after he had graduated. He looked forward to attending the Rochester homecoming football game each fall.

COVID-19. She was 86. In her will, she gave much of her fortune to her alma maters—including support to establish the Dr. Evelyn M. Lutz Nursing Research Endowment at the University of Rochester to support data analysis, pilot funding, research project coordination activities, and recruitment. Kathy Rideout ’95W (EdD), dean of the School of Nursing, said it was the largest gift the school has received to support research and will benefit future generations.
Ray O’Neill ’74 became close friends with Renzi at Albany Law School and later as colleagues. “Rick was a very generous person with a good sense of humor,” O’Neill says. “He laughed the hardest when he was the butt of a joke.”

O’Neill says Renzi was devoted to his children, Robin and Chris, and his grandson, Finn. He regularly attended University basketball and football games and often brought bagels for his friends who attended Sunday basketball games.

“I still feel like he’s not really gone, but just that I haven’t seen him in a bit,” O’Neill says. “I assume it will be more real when we all attend a game again and he is not there enjoying the give and take between friends.”

Goetz Richter
Professor emeritus, medicine

Richter joined the faculty of Rochester’s School of Medicine as a professor of pathology in 1967 and served there until his retirement in 1992. He continued to give lectures as professor emeritus until moving with his family to Dunwoody, Georgia, in 1999.

He died in Atlanta in December 2020 at age 97.

Goetz was born in Germany in 1922 and lived there until moving with his family to Illinois in 1939 on the eve of World War II. He attended Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, then enrolled in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and enlisted in the US Army during the war. He received his medical degree from Johns Hopkins in 1948 and completed a residency in pathology at the New York Hospital–Cornell Medical Center, where he was one of the pioneers in the field of electron microscopy and experimental pathology. Richter joined the US Navy during the Korean War, then served on the faculty of the Cornell University Medical College until coming to Rochester in 1967.

Richter learned to play the violin while growing up in Germany and loved classical music. He was married to Mary Lucretia Henry from 1946 until her death 40 years later, and they had three children.

Parker Sherwood ’75E

Before receiving his bachelor of music degree from the Eastman School of Music, Sherwood was a marimbaist and percussionist who played regularly with the Albany Symphony while still a student at Scotia-Glenville High School in Schenectady, New York.

A man of many passions who reinvented himself numerous times, he held a master of arts degree in philosophy from Syracuse University and studied hotel management at Paul Smiths College in New York’s Adirondack State Park and accounting at SUNY Albany. He also earned several Microsoft certifications and worked as a bank computer technician late in his career. Before that, he taught elementary school music and college philosophy and worked in human resources, serving those with mental illness.

Sherwood and his wife, Cynthia, married in 2004 and had two children. He loved cooking, gardening, backpacking, and canoeing and spent the final eight years of his life as a stay-at-home dad. He died in January 2021 at age 70.

Taavo Virkhaus ’67E (DMA)

Virkhaus was destined for musical greatness. His grandfather, legendary conductor David Otto Virkhaus, is considered the father of Estonian band music—the Estonian Songfest held every four years begins with a parade carrying a torch lit from the eternal flame at his grave. Taavo’s father, Adalbert Virkhaus, was the first professionally trained (in Leipzig, Germany) conductor of the Estonian Opera House.

One survived a Soviet Union invasion in Estonia and years in refugee camps during World War II. Another fled Germany with his family on the eve of that momentous war. One overcame poverty and became a millionaire who willed most of her fortune to the universities that shaped her career path.

During World War II, the family escaped Russian forces in Estonia and later Czechoslovakia, spending five years in refugee camps before being welcomed by American forces when the war ended. Adalbert received a job offer in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Taavo received a full scholarship as a violinist in the University of Miami orchestra.

He earned master of music and doctor of musical arts degrees and served on the conducting faculty at the Eastman School of Music, where he met his wife, Nancy Herman Virkhaus ’70E (MM).

He served as music director and conductor of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra in Huntsville, Alabama, from 1989 to 2003. Virkhaus always said he was America’s “biggest patriot” and thanked the country for the opportunities it gave him.

He died in February at the age of 86.

Gerry Katz ’70 studied piano at Eastman during his four years on the River Campus and took three music literature classes from Virkhaus (see page 54). He also worked closely with him when Virkhaus conducted professional orchestra for the student productions of Broadway musicals.

“He courses were always totally engaging and fun,” Katz says. “He had a dry sense of humor that you had to pay attention to in order to ‘get it.’

“While I arrived at Rochester with a pretty good music education under my belt already, it wasn’t until Taavo’s courses that I came to understand what defined each of the major eras in classical music and made them different from one another.

I credit him with turning me into a lifelong classical music enthusiast, becoming a Boston Symphony subscriber for more than 45 years now.”
Sandy Parker: Rochester Advocate and Friend

Whenever there was a need to advocate for the economic, educational, and cultural success of the Rochester area, few people were as willing to make the case as University Trustee Sandra (Sandy) Parker.

An unparalleled community advocate, philanthropist, and admired business leader, Parker will be remembered for dedicating her professional life to the region where she grew up.

Parker, a member of the Board of Trustees, since 2013, died in June at the age of 75.

In addition to her service on the board, Parker was chair of the School of Nursing National Council and was a former chair of the Warner School’s Center for Urban Education Success Advisory Council.

In the community, she prominently served as president and CEO of the Rochester Business Alliance (now known as the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce) from 2005 until her retirement in 2014.

She was instrumental in establishing an effort that became the Rochester Community Coalition, which brings together business, labor, local government, education, faith organizations, and non-profit organizations to seek state investment in projects to create long-term jobs and boost the regional economy.

“Sandy’s death is a huge loss for the University of Rochester and the Greater Rochester community,” said President Sarah Mangelsdorf. “She was a skillful unifier, a tireless advocate for this community, and a great friend.”

One of the inaugural recipients of the ICON Award by the Rochester Business Journal, Parker was also given a key to the City of Rochester in 2006. In 2002, she received the Athena Award, presented annually by the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce to a woman for outstanding contributions to business and the community.

In 2017, she and her husband John (Dutch) Summers received the Salute to Excellence Award from the Monroe Community College Foundation for the couple’s commitment to the community and for inspiring local high school students to pursue higher education.

Together, they became known for their leadership and commitment to education, health care, and the Rochester community.

—SARA MILLER

Continued from page 59

Paul J. Coombs ’55, February 2021
Beverly Wheeler DeSmith ’55, April 2021
Marilyn Brownell Jones ’55N, January 2021
Robert E. Marshall ’55, March 2021

Carolyn McCamey McPherson ’55, ’58 (MD), February 2021
Leonard Moses ’55E, April 2021
Robert E. Simpson ’55, April 2021
Gerhard F. Wellmann ’55, February 2021
Bernard Zeifang ’55, February 2021

Joan Danick ’56N (Diploma), January 2021
Mary Hutchinson Drexler ’56, February 2021
Paul W. Fields ’56, January 2020
N. Thorne Griscom ’56M (MD), September 2019
Alan Kusa ’56, August 2020
Constance Nusbaum Mayer ’56, ’58 (MA), April 2021
Leonard D. Pannone ’56, April 2020
Enid E. Pellow ’56, April 2021
Shirley B. Platt ’56, March 2021
Ellen J. Siegal-Ossosky ’56, February 2021
Richard J. Woltaich ’56E, October 2020
Rosemary Vona Alvarez ’57E, May 2021
Roberta Beckman Gonzalez ’57, March 2021
Gwendolyn Smith Lewis ’57, April 2020
Howard S. Sturim ’57M (MD), March 2021
Taavo Virkhaus ’57E (MM), ’67E (DMA), February 2021
Raymond C. Weyl ’57, April 2021
Donald T. Culley ’58, January 2021
William S. Hammond ’58M (MD), February 2021
Bryan S. Hay ’58, ’69 (PhD), March 2021
Cynthia Nafton Libby ’58N, April 2021
Dorothy Saabel Little ’58E, March 2021
Glenn C. Morrison ’58 (PhD), February 2021
Carl F. Schalk ’58E (MM), January 2021
Woodlief Thomas ’58S (MS), February 2021
Janice Eilsworth Watterworth ’58, April 2021
Janet M. Danielson ’59E, ’61E (MM), April 2021
Stanley O. Foster ’59M (MD), ’65M (Res), March 2021
Olavi V. Kauko ’59E (PhD), June 2020
George R. Martin ’59M (PhD), February 2021
Noel Reynolds Michaloski ’59, February 2021
Sanford Schneider ’59, April 2021
Charles F. Weick ’59 (PhD), March 2021
Alexander Altschuller ’60, September 2020
Nicholas J. Borrelli ’60, March 2021
Valerie Bohman Bozzone ’60, June 2020
Jasper R. L. Daube ’60M (MS), ’61M (MD), April 2020

Albert P. Gordon ’60, February 2020
Gail Paxson Mates ’60, August 2020
Sonia Reid Straw ’60, January 2021
Susan O’Brien Briggs ’61, May 2021
Frederick G. Emmert ’61, November 2020
George R. L. Gardner ’61, April 2021
William P. Hauser ’61 (PhD), March 2021
Nancy E. O’Daniels ’61N (Diploma), May 2021
Katherine Murray Sorenson ’61E, ’74E (MA), May 2021
Robert J. Stevenson ’61W (EdM), March 2021
Doris A. Williams ’61, May 2021
June E. Ackroyd ’62E, ’64E (MM), February 2021
Eileen Lynch Atwood ’62N (MS), May 2021
Thomas G. Coleman ’62, February 2021
James E. Herman ’62, February 2020
Gary H. Kirkpatrick ’62E, February 2021
Richard G. Powell ’62W (MA), February 2021
Eva Wbis Szabo ’62 (MA), April 2021
Robert R. Abbe ’63M (MD), February 2021
Jane Brandon Bins ’63N, January 2021
David E. Chard ’63, March 2021
James R. Grover ’63E, April 2021
Elizabeth Cayley Gruner ’63N (MS), February 2021
Byron J. Hanson ’63E, ’65E (MM), May 2021
Walter J. Krasavage ’63M (MS), May 2021
James C. Daly ’64 (MS), March 2021
Carole Jolley Nary ’64, ’69W (MA), March 2021
Richard T. Ognibene ’64 (MA), ’73W (EdD), December 2020
Catherine Clark Covey ’65, March 2021
John D. George ’65M (MD), March 2021
William M. Larson ’65M (Res), April 2021
David B. Shuttleworth ’65M (MD), March 2021
Thomas J. Skola ’65, January 2021
Ronald Wright ’65, ’70W (MA), May 2021
Bruce W. Bashford ’66, February 2021
Ridley M. Ruth ’66S (MBA), February 2021
Martin D. Begleiter ’67, March 2021
Philip Cooper ’67 (PhD), February 2021
Rodney F. Kaiser ’67, March 2021

PROVIDED PHOTO
TRIBUTE

Hugo Sonnenschein ’61: ‘Constant and Gracious Voice’

A renowned economics scholar and one of the nation’s most distinguished academic leaders, Hugo Sonnenschein ’61 helped shape the course of some of the nation’s top research universities.

From an early administrative role as a dean at the University of Pennsylvania to provost at Princeton to president of the University of Chicago, he was widely recognized for guiding the country’s preeminent institutions to new levels of achievement.

At Rochester, Sonnenschein was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1992 to 2017. He died this summer at the age of 80.

“Every university president should have a Hugo Sonnenschein,” President Sarah Mangelsdorf wrote in a letter to the Rochester board. “And even though I was only 16-year-old first-year student who planned to be an engineer but switched to mathematics, after taking an economics course, I switched majors, studying with the late economist whose contributions in such areas as social choice, competition, and game theory established him as one of the top scholars of his generation. Beth is a retired cancer epidemiologist. Together, they were strong supporters of Rochester’s arts programs, particularly dance.

Leading Chicago from 1993 to 2000, Sonnenschein raised the celebrated university’s profile even higher. He oversaw increases in student applications, increases in enrolled students’ test scores, the launch of a campus-planning initiative, and the near tripling of Chicago’s endowment.

As he stepped down as Chicago’s 11th president, he told Rochester Review that he always saw himself as finishing his career as a teacher and mentor. He returned to the Chicago faculty as the Hutchinson Professor of Economics and President Emeritus.

“I’ve always missed my time as a scholar and a teacher,” he said. “As much as I’ve enjoyed my work as an administrator and as satisfying as that work has been, I’ve always felt that I wanted to end my career in the classroom.”

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Hugo Sonnenschein

Lionel McKenzie, the former Wilson Professor Emeritus of Economics.

As an undergraduate, he met Elizabeth Gunn Sonnenschein ’61, ‘62N and the two were married after they graduated from Rochester. He went on to earn a PhD at Purdue before beginning his life as an economist.

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Noel Gray Lawson ’67 (MA), February 2021
Suzanne Jacobs McKim ’68N, ’73N (MS), March 2021
Nancy J. Salomon ’68, May 2021
Edith Goldin Stem ’68W (MA), February 2021
David W. Doner ’69M (Res), October 2020
Joy Folkman Moss ’69W (MA), March 2021
Carol Ann Niznik ’69, ’72 (MS), May 2021
Stanley F. Novak ’69M (Res), February 2021
Oksana Markus Charchalis ’70, February 2021
Robert H. Dano ’70, April 2021
Richard Swain Fits ’70S (MBA), April 2021
Walter F. Glowiak ’70S (MBA), January 2021
Charles W. Mitchell ’70, ’74S (MBA), March 2021
Warner H. Strong ’70, February 2021
K. Alan Kelts ’71M (MD/PhD), February 2021
Rodney O. McLeod ’71E (MM), February 2021
John Moran ’71M (Res), May 2021
Barbara A. Settel ’71, April 2021
Mary Keliman Adamo ’73, May 2021
Charles F. Cronheim ’73S (MBA), January 2021
Mary Ann Kinsky Fischer ’73W (EdM), March 2021
Michael S. Rayburn ’73 (PhD), January 2021
Richard P. Waido ’73 (MS), March 2021
Krishna Kalra ’74S (MBA), February 2021
Julia C. Lenel ’74, April 2021
David J. Partington ’74, January 2021
Edward F. Sammler ’74S (MBA), May 2021
Gretchin L. DeFbaugh ’75 (PhD), October 2020
Carolyn Ann Figueroa ’75 (MA), May 2021
Rebecca Kantor-Martin ’75, April 2021
Mary C. Lynn ’75 (PhD), February 2021
Marvin H. McIntyre ’75, February 2021
Elizabeth Kingsley Miller ’75, ’76N, ’80N (MS), February 2021
Thomas H. Prevost ’75, May 2021
Laurence J. Robbins ’75M (MD), February 2021
Ralph C. Verdi ’75E (MM), May 2021
David R. Fisch ’76, November 2020
Terese Kelleher-Rader ’76 (PhD), February 2021
John R. Laiq ’76 (Fiw), ’97M (MBA), April 2021
Thomas J. McCarty ’76W (EdD), March 2021
Michael E. Kantor ’77M (MS), ’77M (PdC), March 2021
Nancie Roop Kennedy ’79E (MM), March 2021
Jerome C. Swartz ’79, March 2021
Dale Bieber ’80M (Res), May 2021
August Curley ’80M (MS), May 2021
David A. Macyk ’81M (MS), February 2021
David L. Gandell ’82M (Res), March 2021
Paul A. Makarewicz ’82, March 2021
Karen L. Miller ’82, April 2021
Julie P. Harmon ’83 (PhD), January 2021
Joyce Weidner Rapp ’83, March 2021
Michael R. Rosen ’84 (MS), April 2021
Thomas S. Sciabetta ’85, February 2021
Michelle M. Bruzee ’86, May 2021
William J. Nardone ’87S (MBA), April 2021
William G. Patrick ’87M (Res), January 2021
Gabrielle Bercey-Roberson ’89, ’93M (MD), September 2020
Mark C. Derusha ’90, March 2021
John H. O’Grady ’90M (MS), February 2021
Cheryl Ann Oppelt-Barbieri ’93N, ’94N (MS), February 2021
Jeanine C. Logan ’97M (PdC), March 2021
Fred A. Rogosch ’97M (PdC), November 2020
Stephen Lauterbach ’99M (Res), March 2021
Brian R. Mooney ’01S (MBA), March 2021
Jamie Heard Satlino ’05W (MS), April 2021
Ashlei Brumfield-Johnson ’13W (MS), February 2021
City Planning in Unpredictable Times


Interview by Karen McCally ’02 (PhD)

I work with a team of planners. Most of our clients are public agencies like cities, counties, and transit agencies. The things we’re talking about now are, what are patterns going to settle into in the post-COVID world? And when will we know that they’ve settled? I don’t think we’re through that shift in our commuting behaviors, or in where we are choosing to live, with the flexibility many people now have to work remotely some or much of the time. The traditional patterns in commercial real estate, peak rush hour—that’s going to radically change.

Disruption is hard. There’s never a really good time to shut something down in order to improve it. But we’re in a moment of disruption. How do we want to use this moment? How do we decide we’re not going to go back to exactly how things were? That we’re going to address climate change, to ameliorate inequity by better serving people who have less privilege and less opportunity?

There’s a segment of the population that finds the idea of urban, walkable communities disturbing. I saw this when I started my career in Washington, DC, working for the American Public Transportation Association. That’s when I really had my eyes open. Now when folks say to me, “I’m never going to ride the bus,” I’ll say, “that’s fine. You know, my dad’s a plumber. He can’t take the bus to work. He’s got to drive in this truck. But my kids and me, we can take the bus and the train. We like it better. And then we get out of the plumber’s way. This is a win-win. Everybody benefits when we all have more mobility and more options.

The pandemic has also created some unexpected opportunities. In Seattle last year we had to close a major bridge, on the busiest highway, because it was starting to fail. Pre-COVID, that would have been a disaster. But we were about a month into the pandemic. It was inconvenient and difficult, but it pushed agencies to rise to the challenge by offering more foot-ferry service, to make sure the connections for bicycling are better.

We’re excited about federal progress on infrastructure. But we’re interested in seeing whether the administration will be asking, how is your project going to benefit essential workers, or people who are transit dependent? These are often the people who have saved us in the pandemic but haven’t always been the best served in planning projects.

If we only listen to folks who are able to volunteer and be the squeaky wheel, we’ll continue to propagate disproportionate benefits and services. So government agencies and the people who support them have to think harder about what we’re not seeing or anticipating—for example, the people less likely to make public meetings or to call the city for help, or the people for whom a project is causing unintended harm.

The good news is we’re developing tools across the country to anticipate and address inequities. We’re having a good conversation here about community-informed budgeting—about how resources we all pay to support our city flow back to the people in our city. The Seattle city government also has the Race and Social Justice Initiative, which been a model for other cities on how to combat structural racism.

As for whether people will move toward or away from cities post-pandemic, I think it will be all of the above. In Seattle, we’ve seen people who have left the city since the pandemic. But a lot of younger people want a vibrant, urban lifestyle. I am desperately curious to see where we are a year from now, five years from now, and 10 years from now.
Rewind.
Honor the Class of 2020 at a special University-wide commencement ceremony.

Reunite.
Celebrate your reunion or reconnect with your student.

Revive.
Awaken your Meliora spirit wherever you are with livestreamed programs.

OCTOBER 1-2, 2021
Registration opens in August. uofr.us/meliora2021

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER ALUMNI
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Neuroscience for New Students

NEURO FOR ALL: Lulu Abdullahi (right), a junior at East High in the Rochester City School District, practices soldering to repair an experiment component with Manuel Gomez Ramirez, an assistant professor of brain and cognitive sciences. Abdullahi and a classmate visited campus as part of NEURO East, a Del Monte Institute for Neuroscience program designed to give underrepresented high school students access to scientific research experiences in an academic setting. The program is one of two initiatives organized by the Del Monte Institute that are aimed at creating pipelines for students from underrepresented populations interested in pursuing neuroscience research. The other, called NEUROCITY, brings students from City College of New York to campus to learn about research in neuroscience.

PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER