

MAINE CENTRAL INSTITUTE

ALUMNUS



SPRING/SUMMER 2019



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MAINE CENTRAL INSTITUTE

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Anna Parker '66 gifts Steinway piano to MCI

Over the winter, **Anna Maria Parker, '66**, generously gifted her Steinway baby grand piano to MCI's Visual and Performing Arts Education Center (VPA). Anna arranged for the piano, appraised at \$40,000, to be transported from her home in Tucson and delivered to MCI. The piano arrived in March and was installed in its new home in the Choral Arts Studio.



"The completion of the Visual and Performing Arts Education Center at MCI – a project near and dear to my heart – and the timing of downsizing to a smaller home was favorable, to say the least. I contacted Director of Music/VPA **Dean Neal** to see if he thought the school could use my baby grand piano and he assured me that it certainly could! Thus it was decided, and I've had the chance to attend a school recital where the piano was constantly in use. It did my heart good!" Included with the piano is the bench and a book about the history of Steinway pianos.

Mr. Neal commented, "Anna's gift left me humbled and grateful for the kindness and generosity of our alums and friends. MCI students and faculty will appreciate and enjoy this exquisite piano for many years to come."

 Pamela Dorman

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On the cover: **Isaac Tardy '20** and **Inna Osetrova '20** with awards from Manson Essay and Ella Night in the MCI Ella Powell Room 📷 *Pamela Dorman*

Dear MCI Family,

On a shelf in my office I have a framed document presented to me by the MCI Latin III students from 2010. The class had translated a poem by Max Ehrmann called *Desiderata* (reprinted on page 35), and while a quick online search tells me that this word means “a thing that is needed or wanted,” the rest of the translation is, well, Latin to me! You see, it took me three years – seventh, eighth, and ninth grades – to get through Latin II, and once I completed my high school’s language requirement, with relief I turned to other subjects.

I’m reflecting on this now for several reasons. First, because it reminds me of the passage of time – from that first Latin course I took as a seventh grader in 1976 until the class presented me with this gift during my second year at MCI – to the present. Secondly, because in so many ways we spend our lives chasing *Desiderata*, searching for what we think is needed or wanted.

And, finally, because the reason this Latin class presented me with this gift was because I had discussed with them Maine Central Institute’s motto, *Certum Pete Finem*, asking what they personally thought the School’s Founders wanted to convey when they selected those words to appear on the School’s seal.

Certum pete finem: literally, “The end is certain; ask on.” Upon first consideration, this sounds rather pessimistic, but I don’t think the Founders interpreted ‘the end’ in the way we might today. They were thinking of the search for knowledge and for a “life well-lived.” That regardless of the challenges and disappointments that inevitably come, they firmly believed that asking questions would bring MCI students to understand and exhibit all of the ideals upon which the School was founded and which still hold true today: integrity, honor, intellectual curiosity, optimism, and the pursuit of excellence.

This great old school is strong today and, with your loyal and generous support, poised to begin a new chapter that builds on this strength. MCI is *Desiderata* – a special school that prepares students to make a difference as they move on in life and to ask the questions required to achieve a positive outcome. I have been honored to be a part of this community for eleven years and am very grateful.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Hopkins



*Christopher J. Hopkins,
MCI Headmaster*



International Food Festival Highlights



Pamela Dorman

Every year, our boarding students, under the guidance of ESL teacher, **Artur Fass**, host the annual International Food Festival on the last Sunday of April in Parks Gym. Community members come to sample foods from more than a dozen countries that are prepared by students, faculty, and staff.

"Students gather recipes from their families to share with their MCI family and community," explained Mr. Fass. "They are proud to give back to everyone who welcomed them when they first came to our school."

Since 2007, the MCI community has held the International Food Festival to celebrate the rich cultural diversity of students and faculty who come to the School from many countries and regions around the world.



Pamela Dorman



Pamela Dorman

MANSON ESSAY 2019: Relevant and Global

On March 26, six MCI juniors presented their Manson Essay in MCI's Ella Powell Room to parents, friends, relatives, and faculty. **Inna Osetrova** was named the 2019 Manson Essay winner for the Class of 2020, and **Isaac Tardy** achieved second place honors.

Entitled *Digital Dictatorship*, Inna's essay focused on global surveillance and, specifically, China's practice of creating a single system-wide social credit score for each citizen and business that some consider a first step toward creating a national social credit system. Isaac's essay explored the gender pay gap as unconstitutional and put forth the idea of the *Paycheck Fairness Act* to ensure pay equality.

Led by **Kim Shorey '86**, other Manson Essay finalists were **Edith Tierney** on gender stereotyping in children, **Alexis Tardy** on mandatory childhood vaccinations, **Alexander Yan** on improving our environment, and **Abigeal Shea** on universal healthcare.

Now in its 150th year, the Manson Essay originated from the desire of **John C. Manson, MD**, who wanted to encourage writing and public speaking to all MCI students. The school's Humanities Department proudly continues this tradition to this day. Special thanks to judges **Eveline Bailey** and **Tanya Kingsbury**; speaking coaches **Jason Allen**, **Ethan Brownell**, **John Buys**, **Nancy Hughes '86**, and **Kim Shorey '86**; and videographer, **Andy Beach**.

MCI junior wins Manson Essay *and* Ella Night!

MCI junior **Inna Osetrova '20** of Russia achieved a rare level of academic excellence: on March 26, Inna won the top prize at the 2019 Manson Essay competition with her essay on *Digital Dictatorship*, then a week later on April 2, she received an Expert Performer award at Ella Night, where she recited a poem by Russian writer Eduard Asadov. Both achievements represented memorizing and rehearsing several pages of text and many stanzas of poetry then reciting both in public within a span of seven busy days of school and weekend activities!



Pamela Dorman

According to Humanities instructors **Kim Shorey '86** and **Steve Peterson**, Inna's efforts are remarkable. It is unusual when a student wins both the Manson Essay, which is a required academic activity for MCI juniors, and Ella Night, which was opened to all students in 2004. Ms. Shorey estimates that preparing for the Manson Essay can take at least six months, and Mr. Peterson and his team spend up to 6-8 weeks preparing students for their presentations.



Pamela Dorman

ELLA NIGHT: An MCI Tradition Continues

On April 2, parents, friends and community members filled the Ella Powell Room in the Powell Library for MCI's annual Ella Night. Named in honor of Ella Powell whose family gifted monies to build the MCI Powell Library, Ella Night has become a highly entertaining event for students to refine their skills in public speaking and performance.

Led by Humanities English teacher **Steve Peterson** with support from Humanities History teacher **Erin Fitts '02**, both act as coaches to help students select dialogues and perform their presentations. Every year, Mr. Peterson is amazed at how committed MCI students are in perfecting their Ella Night achievements. It is not uncommon for him to voice deep gratitude and amazement at how diligently students work for this event, and he often gives accolades and kind words of encouragement when he is handing them their medals of achievement during closing ceremonies.

"Public speaking is an important tradition at MCI," he said. "Throughout the years, we have featured many prize-speaking evenings, but Ella Night is different." He explained that the presentations are the students' choice, and the range of topics and genres are eclectic and thought-provoking.

Three students were honored as Expert Performers this year: **Inna Osetrova '20** (see inset); **Nicholas Carter '19**, who recited "Death Be Not Proud" by John Donne; and **Rylee Stock '20**, who recited a self-authored piece entitled "Make Myself Smaller" that, when she accepted her award, received a standing ovation.

Faculty and staff that lent a hand to the evening were **John Buys**, **Eliza Laamoon**, and **Ian Villmore**, who served as judges; **Andy Beach** and **Kim Shorey '86**, who provided videography and photography expertise; **Ed Walker**, **Bill Carr**, and their teams, who ensured the space was ready for the event. **Lily DeGrasse '19** served as master of ceremonies, and **Devin Chen '21**, **Adryanna Oliveira '21**, **Dawn Moss '21**, and **Allie Tilton '21** were ushers.

PATTERSON LECTURE SERIES:

Three Define Global Citizenship



During the winter of 2019, MCI hosted three speakers to campus to expound on the topic of global citizenship as part of the school's Patterson Lecture Series (PLS).

Our first speaker was **Christopher McDonald** from Stanstead College who gave a brief discussion and slideshow describing the work he leads in Vietnam to address social injustice and create sustainable change in that part of the world. "After the war," he explained, "there was much work that needed to be done for the people of Vietnam. This has been my passion since I was in college." Chris explained that every year, he brings students from all over the world to Vietnam to participate in community activities to 'give back' to a country that was ravaged by war.



Karlene Burrell-McRae, PhD, Dean of Colby College, visited MCI in February and spoke to students of the lessons of global citizenship from Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as her personal experiences growing up as a person of color in Philadelphia.

Explaining that Dr. King defined what it means to be a global citizen, Dr. Burrell-McRae challenged students to "strive to be powerful people of change. We each have a story to tell about our place in the world." She added, "Remember to always paint your own canvas."

Dr. Burrell-McRae spoke of her challenges growing up as a black woman in the United States, noting that we must strive for inclusion and acceptance on each person's terms.



Later in March, lawyer and international relations consultant **Phyllis Cox, PhD**, gave a presentation called "Think Globally, Act Locally," that focused on the importance of speaking up, listening to others, appreciating our differences, and identifying how we can affect small changes that could become a movement that changes the world.

"Two school girls from Bali saw a need in their community, so they encouraged their friends and neighbors to stop using plastic bags, and that became a local cause," Dr. Cox explained. "Over time, their efforts led to a global awareness of the dangers that plastic bags pose on the environment and, today, communities all over the world are working toward change. That initiative started with two students just like you."

Established by MCI trustees Gregg '69 and Elaine Patterson, PLS presentations enhance classroom exploration of themes during the school year by inviting speakers to share personal experiences and reflections. All PLS events are free, open to the public and, since its inception, has welcomed speakers from various walks of life.

Performing Excellence at MCI



MCI students have spent the school year busily producing and performing technically challenging and very entertaining plays, thanks to the efforts of Theater teacher **Debra Susi** with support from Humanities English teacher **John Buys**. Earlier last fall, MCI Drama Club students gave an amazing performance of *Clue, On Stage!* in the Visual and Performing Arts Education Center in the JR Cianchette Hall. The sets of this



impressive production were too large to store in Parks Gym, MCI's usual performance space, since the gym is used for classes and athletic practices. Although seating in the Choral Arts Studio was limited, parents and faculty squeezed in to enjoy the humor, costumes, and impressive sets that comprised this lively production.

On March 9, students performed *Wendy and Peter* in the Maine



Principals Association's One Act Play Competition at Skowhegan High School. Their performance boasted the largest cast ever for a one-act play in MCI history, providing a rousing dress rehearsal to MCI students and faculty before the competition.

Congratulations to the cast and crew for their outstanding performances!

MCI's award-winning Music Program

Congratulations to MCI's student musicians and vocalists! In March, MCI took part in the Maine Music Education Association's State High School Vocal Jazz Festival held at Lawrence High School. MCI's vocal jazz groups *Equinox* earned a bronze award, narrowly missing silver by .4 point, and *Caravan* earned a gold award, averaging 99.33 out of 100 points. Later, *Caravan* performed with Old Orchard Beach High School in

the evening finals event and earned first place in Maine's Division 2 Jazz choirs. All of MCI's soloists in both vocal groups earned commendations, and vocalists **Isabelle Grignon '20** and **Lily Miller '19** received two of the five outstanding musicianship awards given for their division.

The MCI Jazz Band and Jazz Combo gave fine performances at the Maine State Jazz Festival in March at South

Portland High School. The combo earned a bronze award and the Jazz Band earned a silver for their performances. **DJ Neal '19** was one of five musicians who earned an outstanding musicianship award in Division 4 Jazz Bands. MCI's Jazz Band earned one of the highest scores ever at the state level.

In December, four MCI students earned places in Maine's All State

Continued on page 11



Focusing on Visual Arts in Education



MCI's student artists have been busy creating art to show throughout Maine while refining the process of developing art pieces, self-critiquing and refining their work, and sharing their projects with a larger community. Under the instruction of MCI's art teacher **Paddy Aidan**, MCI students have participated in art shows throughout the school year and, most notably, at the Maine Department of Education's Art Show in April that featured student art from



all over Maine in the Statehouse Hall of Flags.

In Ms. Aidan's classroom, she teaches the process of creating art through careful planning and objective revising to reach student goals for their work. She explains that these steps require discerning focus, discipline, and solving challenging problems with effective solutions. The goal is for students to practice these skills throughout their studies.



In May, MCI held its first Visual and Performing Arts Education Open House, an event that celebrated MCI's visual art and music education with the entire school community. Students learned about displaying sculpture and drawings while also demonstrating how they created the artworks of display. Student musicians performed throughout this free event, and the MCI theatre department displayed the intricate costumes from the recent *Peter and Wendy* play.



BBT welcomes and amazes



Hinano Kondo (front) perform Swan Lake
 🎭 Gene Schiavone (left) and Mike Nyman (right)



(Left to right) Gabrielle Elkin, Mykayla Weinstein and
 Kyra Rosenberg perform In Search of Silence

Bossov Ballet Theater at MCI (BBT) rang in the holidays with *The Nutcracker* in December, and some of our new dancers experienced this American tradition for the first time. For **Hinano Kondo '22** and **Kotoha Kyoso '21**, *The Nutcracker* was their introduction to the American holiday season, and both were thrilled to dance in this treasured ballet while learning about the traditions of our holiday season, which they found welcoming and inclusive.

"I was so scared before I came to MCI," admitted Hinano. "However, people here are so nice to me even though I am from a different country and I'm learning to speak conversational English."

Kotoha agreed. "Every time they see me, people here always smile."

In April, BBT dancers traveled to Massachusetts for the Worcester County Dance Festival at the Hanover Theatre. As one of several groups from across New England, BBT dancers amazed festival participants with three pieces from its spring production, *In Search of Silence* (that was performed at MCI in May). *In Search of Silence* is a new choreographic work by BBT artistic director **Natalya Getman**, and the original work includes recordings of classic poetry read by the British actor, director, and dramatic instructor, Tim Hardy.

BBT looks forward to its Summer Intensive program, welcoming 43 dancers to campus from the United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Russia, and Japan. The 6-week program allows dancers to experience being in a professional-level production of *Sleeping Beauty* to be performed at Hampden Academy Performing Arts Center in Maine. Tickets for the BBT's July 26-27 performances will be available to purchase on MCI's website (www.MCI-school.org/bbt-tickets).

New this summer is Young Performers Summer Program for younger dancers, and two ballet camps for young children to have fun learning about ballet and performing for family and friends.

Music from page 9



Music Ensembles: **Dyllon Dunton '20** (trumpet, All State Band); **Tabyr Briggs '20** (soprano, All State Treble Choir); **Isabelle Grignon '20** (soprano, All State Treble Choir); and **Lauren Lancaster '21** (soprano, All State Treble Choir). MCI student musicians joined other all-state musicians in May for the annual All State Music Festival.

Sixteen MCI students auditioned and earned positions in the Kennebec Valley Music Educators Association Senior Honors Choir and Senior Honors Band this year, culminating in the KVMEA Honors Festival in February at Messalonskee High School. Senior honors choir placements were **Isabelle Grignon '20**, **Tabyr Briggs '20**, **Isaac Tardy '20**, **RJ Chadwick '21**, **Thomas Ulrickson '21**, **Gaia DiGennaro '19**, **Haleigh Foss '21**, **Lillian Verrill '22**, and **Danika Stock '21**. Senior honors band placements were **Makaila Bailey '20** (trombone), **Nicholas Carter '21** (percussion), **Dyllon Dunton '20** (trumpet), **Grace LaMarre '21** (clarinet, also qualified for choir), **Lauren Lancaster '21** (flute), **Hannah Peacock '20** (flute), **Dawn Moss '21** (bass clarinet), **DJ Neal '19** (trombone) and **Kendrah Willey '19** (alto sax).

MCI student athletes excel



By **Jim Leonard**, Director of Athletics

Kim Shorey

It's been a very good year for MCI Athletics and MCI student athletes. Fall saw the Husky Football team win the regular season title in Class C North. MCI fell in the playoffs to eventual State Champion Nokomis Regional High School, but will return a talented cast for another championship run next fall.

The Husky Field Hockey team also had an outstanding season, finishing high in the Class B standings. The Huskies fell to eventual regional champion Gardiner in the playoffs.

Both MCI Girls and Boys Basketball teams made the playoffs and the quarterfinal round at the Cross Center in Bangor. The Swim Team won three meets – an outstanding effort for such a young program. MCI Wrestling also had an outstanding season, with **Shelby Ostrowski '22** (shown above) gaining runner-up honors in the Girls' State Individual Championships.

As of March 2019, 38 MCI student athletes have been named to All Academic Teams within the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference or at the state level. Those gaining conference and state honors in these areas are seniors **Christa Carr '19** and **Hayden Caldwell '19**.

MCI student athletes have garnered 58 All Conference or All-State honors for their athletic performances. Hayden won the Wendy's High School Heisman Award for his efforts on the soccer pitch and in the classroom. MCI senior **Madisyn Hartley '19** was named a Miss Maine Field Hockey finalist. Fellow senior **Seth Bussell '19** was named the Class C North Lineman of the Year in football.

This spring, our Girls Lacrosse team will pair up with young women from Nokomis for their first year at the varsity level. This team competed as a club team during the past two seasons.



Abigail Engelhardt Oliver '12

Hayden Caldwell receives MPA Principals' Award

Hayden Caldwell '19 received the 2019 Principals' Award this spring. The award, sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association (MPA), is given in recognition of a high school senior's academic achievement and citizenship. Hayden is the son of **Shandrea '95** and **Matthew Caldwell '95**.

"Throughout his years at MCI, Hayden has distinguished himself in the classroom, on the playing field, and as a leader in the school and the community," **Christopher J. Hopkins** noted in making the award. "He very much deserves this recognition."

The Principals' Award is presented in more than 100 Maine public and private high schools by MPA member principals, the professional association that represents Maine's school administrators.

Participation has grown each year of this program's existence.

Spring sports participation numbers are up by 10% over last year, and at their highest level in over a decade. We hope to carry the excitement forward into next year.

Colby Wyatt '92 warns students of vaping risks

*MCI graduate/pediatric
pulmonologist leads
campaign to raise awareness*



 Pamela Dorman

On March 25, MCI alumnus from the Class of 1992, **Colby Wyatt, MD, PhD**, gave a presentation to MCI students on the history and known dangers of vaping. Vaping uses e-cigarettes that are tobacco delivery devices that resemble thumb drives and are targeted to children.

“How did we get here,” Dr. Wyatt pondered at the beginning of his talk. As a pediatric pulmonologist at Maine Medical Center in Portland, he gave a brief history of tobacco usage in the United States, showing that increased tobacco usage started when combat soldiers were given cigarettes when they were sent to World War I. “We see increased tobacco usage during wars that the country has participated in, with slight declines after those wars ended,” he said. “It wasn’t until after Vietnam that the practice of giving soldiers cigarettes stopped.”

Dr. Wyatt explained that when tobacco companies needed to find new tobacco users, they turned to children. “We saw in 1975 that tobacco companies began marketing their products to youth with characters like Joe Camel. They discovered that the earlier smokers began using, the stronger their addiction became.”

Vaping is a relatively recent development that was introduced to Americans in 2006, Dr. Wyatt explained. Its popularity can be directly linked to social media marketing and print advertising.

“It’s no coincidence that the person who designed the Apple iPod also designed the Juul vaping device,” he stated. “Juul is the most popular tobacco delivery device currently sold today, and the company regularly

takes out full-page ads in newspapers or magazines and promotes their products on Instagram and Twitter.”

Dr. Wyatt stated that his practice has seen an alarming increase in patients who are vaping, and “no one knows what vaping does to children’s anatomy.” Vaping products contain more nicotine than cigarettes, and many of the flavorings used in vaping products can cause *bronchiolitis obliterans* or popcorn lung, which causes shortness of breath, asthma attacks, and can lead to lung damage.

“Sadly,” Dr. Wyatt added, “today’s youth are the test subjects for a product that clearly is unhealthy, and we won’t know how unhealthy e-cigarettes are for several more years.”

The Ongoing Adventures of Caitlin McKenney



Caitlin remembers the first time she stepped onto the MCI campus: she was 12 years old and her younger brother, **Nathan McKenney '22**, was playing a game at the school, so she came to cheer him on.

“When I got to campus, I knew right away that this was where I wanted to be,” she said. “And I was ready for a new adventure.”

Caitlin’s academic talents were developed and nurtured early on, as well as her determination to achieve academic excellence. Talent and fierce determination are what led to Caitlin becoming the Valedictorian of the Class of 2019, which is also MCI’s 150th graduation, in June.

Born and raised in Harmony, Maine, Caitlin remembers always enjoying school and her classes. “School came easy to me,” she explained. “And I was committed early on to being the best student in my class.”

Yet it was in the third grade when Caitlin was diagnosed with cancer, which led to surgery and months of chemotherapy that took her away from school. Although her battle with cancer was grueling, Caitlin’s resolve to get

back to school only strengthened. When she was ready to return to classes, she was more determined to excel academically and become the best student she could be.

“I missed my entire third grade year recovering,” she remembered, “but when I came back to school that fall, I skipped fourth grade entirely because I was ready for the next challenge.”

When Caitlin began considering high school, she asked her parents about MCI. “They were very supportive of me coming here,” she explained. And although she was younger than her freshmen classmates and knew hardly anyone in the school district, Caitlin worked tirelessly to integrate herself into the MCI community. With classmate **Nicholas Clark, '19**, they founded the Running Club to provide opportunities for MCI runners to stay active between cross-country and track seasons. She became active in MCI’s Student Orientation and Language Integration or SOLI program that welcomes new international students and helps them acclimate to student life on campus and living in central Maine, and Caitlin is active in the school’s Outdoor Activity Club, which provides students opportunities to get outdoors and enjoy

natural resources throughout central Maine with overnight biking trips, hikes, and occasional paddling excursions along the Sebasticook River.

“Hiking Katahdin last fall taught me a lot about myself,” she recalled. “Problem-solving, overcoming challenges, working as a team – my knees were sore for days after, but it was an amazing experience that is one of my favorite achievements so far.”

Self-described as socially awkward with a dry sense of humor, Caitlin confesses to struggling with the stresses of being a student preparing for graduation and college. “I am grateful for friends like **Abigail “Abbie” Bergdoll ’15**, who I volunteered with in SOLI, and **Col. Michael Wily**. Both are great role models and supportive friends who I can talk to and count on for good advice and support,” she explained.



At Katahdin's summit with the Outdoor Activity Club in 2018

📷 Scott Giallombardo



At a SOLI ceremony in August 2018 📷 Kim Shorey

Although Caitlin generally enjoys most of her subjects and activities, she credits her advisor, **Lincoln Robinson**, with helping keep her school days fun and positive. “He has a down-to-earth approach to school stresses that puts me at ease every morning,” she said. She added that teachers like **Jessica Libby**, **Kim Shorey ’86**, **Ethan Brownell** and **Jason Allen** “make difficult subjects accessible, engaging and fun.”

Caitlin also mentioned her close friendship with retired science teacher Regina Herrick, who taught science at Warsaw Middle School and area schools for many years. “We go to the same church, and I consider her one of my greatest influences.” Caitlin mentioned that their friendship led to her commitment “to help people both



Team photo of MCI Track Team 📷 Kim Shorey

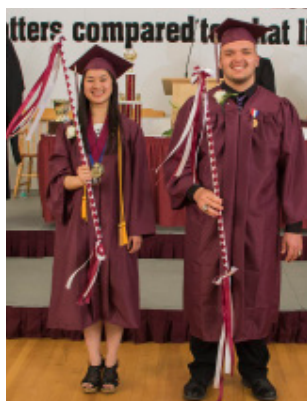
in small ways and ultimately in profound ways that can benefit many people all over the world.”

Caitlin plans to study history and pre-law at the University of Maine. Her parents, Brian and Tracy McKenney, reside in Harmony.



Caitlin with one of her favorite teachers, Kim Shorey '86

MCI's 150th Graduating Class: Class of 2019 Commencement



A Legacy of Kindness

Christopher J. Hopkins walked onto campus in 2008 and, over the past eleven years, he guided MCI through transformations and milestones. Chris's last day is June 30.

Over the years, Chris led positive change at the school. One of the most noteworthy has been the careful restoration of the exterior of Founders Hall, MCI's oldest, most iconic building. Under his leadership, we restored the roof and the beloved bell tower, and we are replacing all of the historical windows in this cherished building. At last year's class reunion, Chris pointed out that the three main windows facing the front campus were finally illuminated after several years of darkness. Chris was also instrumental in the transformation of the JR Cianchette Hall that was repurposed in 2017 to become home to the *Visual and Performing Arts Education Center* that houses music, theatre, and visual arts departments in one location. Along with sharing resources for teachers, students now enjoy easy access to classes and practices, and enrollment in classes has actually increased since the center

opened, making it one of the liveliest, most popular buildings on campus.

Chris oversaw the construction of new athletic fields in 2015, enabling student athletes to play on the same fields on which they practice. This marks the first time that all fall sports could be played on campus.

Chris has been a quiet, determined advocate for MCI's future. He was influential in the integration of Bossov Ballet Theatre (BBT) with the MCI campus and has guided the significant growth of this pre-professional ballet school that brings students from around the world to study with **Natalya Getman** during the school year as well as throughout the summer with the BBT Summer Intensive program.

Equally important is Chris's influence as a respected leader and his commitment to modeling a sense of gratitude and service to MCI students. He fortified MCI's presence within the community by encouraging students to graciously give back to those who have welcomed them and supported their academic and athletic

achievements. In 2008 when the market sent oil prices soaring, Chris organized student and faculty volunteers to donate, cut, split and deliver wood for families in need, underscoring the importance of serving and caring for others. This led to MCI's Community Service Days that have become a popular service throughout the Pittsfield area. Chris readily encourages individual students as well as student organizations to support causes that are important to them, and his profound concern for the safety and well-being of students and their families have been evident throughout his tenure and will remain his lasting legacy to MCI.

Chris's two children have grown up here: **Margot Hopkins '18** attends Unity College and **Lillian Hopkins '20** is readying for her senior year of high school. On behalf of the entire MCI community, we wish Chris and his family the very best: thank you for your service to MCI!



Dean of Admissions Clint Williams '86 leaves MCI

Clint Williams '86, who has served at MCI since 1993, stepped down as Dean of Admissions in May to begin a new personal and professional chapter in his life. Clint is the new director of admissions at Thornton Academy in Saco, Maine.

Christopher J. Hopkins noted, "All of us know well how dedicated and devoted Clint is to MCI. His decision

was one of the most difficult he's ever made," adding this was a family goal to move to southern Maine. Son Owen '20 will complete his senior year at MCI.

Thanks to Clint's leadership, MCI welcomed hundreds of students from all over the world to study alongside district students, and the result of his efforts expanded the educational experience for all students. Said Clint, "It saddens me

to say goodbye to a place that has been so very special to me and my family. I have made great friends over the 25 years and have worked with some excellent people who I will miss. Though I will be at a different school, I remain a proud MCI Husky!"



Pamela Dorman

REUNION WEEKEND CELEBRATION: August 2-3, 2019



This year's Reunion Weekend will be packed full of activities unlike any other! Even if it is not your reunion year, please consider returning to campus for the celebration: we hope to see you there!

Friday, August 2

Alumni Association Golf Scramble

8:00 a.m. registration; 9:00 a.m. golf
JW Parks Golf Course, Pittsfield

Rain or Shine

Join MCI alumni and friends for an 18-hole golf scramble. Space is limited; reservations honored on a first come, first served basis. Arrange a foursome or we can create a team for you. Spouses and friends welcome to play. \$50 per person (includes cart rental and lunch).

Awards Celebration

Sponsored by Bangor Savings Bank

4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Savage Family Dining Room • Trustee Memorial Student Center

Join us in recognizing the achievements of Hall of Fame inductees and our Distinguished Achievement Award recipient. Early bird discount is \$20 per person and regular price is \$25 per person.

All Alumni Party on Front Campus

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Boutelle Savage Lawn (under the tent)

Visit with alumni and friends to listen to music while enjoying a Maine summer evening. Cash bar.

Saturday, August 3

Registration and Historical Video

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Patterson Lounge • Trustee Memorial Student Center

Reunion Breakfast and Registration

Sponsored by Jim '69 and Judy Rowe

8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Savage Family Dining Room

Enjoy a relaxing full brunch as you gather with friends and classmates. Hot and cold offerings include fresh fruit, waffles, eggs, home fries, sausage and pastries (vegetarian/vegan options available). Early Bird Discount is \$10 per person and regular price is \$15 per person.

Alumni Association Annual Meeting

9:00 a.m.
Kinney Conference Room



 Larry Ayotte

Class Agents' Meeting

10:00 a.m.

Kinney Conference Room

Reunion Luncheon / Class Party Kick-Off

Sponsored by Gregg '69 and Elaine Patterson

1:00 p.m.

Boutelle Savage Lawn • Front Campus

What would Reunion be without our annual luncheon under the tent on front campus? Gather with your friends and classmates for a wonderful meal with vegetarian/vegan options available. Early bird discount is \$25 per person and regular price is \$30 per person.

Class Parties for years ending in 4 and 9

3:00 p.m.

Reunite with your friends and classmates to reminisce and reconnect! Check with your class agent or call the Advancement Office at (207) 487-5915 for party locations.



On-Campus Accommodations

MCI offers rooms in Manson Hall for alumni and friends who wish to stay on campus Friday and Saturday nights during Reunion Weekend. The rooms are not air conditioned and will be filled on a first come/first serve basis. Each room features two twin beds with bedding; however, please bring towels, toiletries, fans, and any personal items you may need. Rooms are \$35 per person/night or \$50 per couple/night.

Please note that MCI is a tobacco-free campus and smoking on campus or in any MCI building is not allowed. For more information, contact the Alumni Office at (207) 487-5915 (alumni@mci-school.org).



REGISTER BY FRIDAY, JULY 19 TO RECEIVE EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!

MCI's Hall of Fame and Distinguished Achievement Award Ceremony will be held during Reunion Weekend on Friday, August 2, 2019, and all are invited to attend. Please use the enclosed registration form or contact the Advancement Office by August 1.

GARY FITTS '69

Gary Fitts '69 has provided significant service and support to MCI as a member of the Board of Trustees and as a generous contributor to the Annual Fund and capital projects. Gary spent three years at MCI and attended Warsaw High School for his senior year. While he graduated from Warsaw, Gary later received an honorary diploma from MCI.



The son of **Gerald '47** and **Jeannette Web Fitts '46** and grandson to **Lewis R. Fitts '19**, Gary was raised in the MCI community. Yet, Gary feels his time on the Board of Trustees taught him a lot about MCI: "I am very proud of how we stabilized MCI" during very difficult times for the school. Gary retired from Cianbro in 2005 where he worked in human resources.

Gary was instrumental in uniting MCI alumni with the alumni of Warsaw High School, which graduated classes in 1969 and 1970. "Gary was interested in repairing the rift," said **Mike Fendler '70**. Gary worked with **Lynne Cianchette '69**, **Shelly Martin Drillen '69** and **Dawn Peterson Cox '68** to explore the idea of bringing the alumni groups together.

"Gary was also influential in bringing the freshmen class back to MCI," Mike recalled. "Gary spoke in favor of this move as best for the community, focusing on putting the past in the past. For him to speak out was important."

"Gary has done a lot for the school," stated his brother **Kevin Fitts '72**. "He's a great guy who gives it his all. Gary has never been a quitter. He's always at the top of everything, and he has always been passionate about MCI."

Gary and his wife, Amy, are the parents of Laura, Hilary, and Gavin and grandparents to seven grandchildren.

LINDA SHOREY '69

Linda Shorey '69 has devoted decades to giving back to MCI. Growing up in Palmyra, Linda's father, Leigh Shorey, would bring Linda and her sister to the Pittsfield Public Library every Saturday, and the three Shoreys would return to their dairy farm with stacks of books.



According to sister **Donna Young '64**, those trips were the highlight of their week. Linda devoured her studies at MCI and was thankful that the school nurtured her interest in knowledge, curiosity and critical thinking, and MCI's faculty helped prepare Linda for a career in the law.

Since her MCI graduation, Linda has generously given back to her alma matter with her time, talents and financial contributions, supporting the MCI Annual Fund and capital campaigns. As a member of MCI's Board of Trustees, Linda has served with distinction. Past board president **Norbert Young '66** recruited Linda to join the board. He describes Linda as a valuable board member who always challenges and pushes us to do our best. "Linda always kept me on my toes during board meetings," he remembered fondly.

Trustee **Tania Carnrick '73** recalled when Linda came on the board and became the chair of the education committee. Linda spent time on campus attending classes, talking with students, faculty and the academic department staff and took it upon herself to learn more about MCI today. In addition to chairing the education committee, Linda serves on the finance and investment committee, the executive committee, and most recently was very instrumental on the head of school search committee, where she spent a tremendous amount of time researching candidate references and writing detailed summaries. Her peers on the Board consider Linda to be very thorough in her work, a supportive alumna who is a tireless volunteer who is completely dedicated to MCI.

Linda joins her aunt, **Catherine "Kaye" Mooers '53**, who was inducted into MCI's Hall of Fame in 2013.

D I S T I N G U I S H E D A C H I E V E M E N T A W A R D

TIM ROLLINS '73 (1955-2017)

This year's Alumni Association's Distinguished Achievement Award winner is artist and educator **Tim Rollins '73**, who passed away in 2017.

After graduating from MCI, Tim attended the University of Maine at Augusta, where he received a degree in art. Tim then moved to New York City to attend New York University and study with conceptual artist, Joseph Kosuth. In 1981, while working for a school in South Bronx, he developed a program that combined reading and writing with art for students with learning disabilities. The program eventually became K.O.S. or *Kids of Survival*, and the group exhibited as *Tim Rollins + K.O.S.* Within a few years, their art pieces were shown throughout New York City, Venice, Germany, and London. The Emmy-winning documentary, *Kids of Survival: The Art and Life of Tim Rollins + K.O.S.*, explores the group's artistic process and Tim's vision for art education and how art transforms lives. His biography, *Tim Rollins and K.O.S.: A History*, was

published in 2009 by the MIT Press.

Under Tim's guidance, K.O.S. created several large-scale artworks that are on exhibit in museums all over the world. Tim and the six longtime K.O.S. members/artists

conducted workshops in schools across the country and around the world to instruct students in the process of creating art for exhibition in their local museums.

Tim is survived by his mother, Charlotte; his brother, **Ron '74**, and his sisters, **Carlene Rollins '76** and **Cindy Rollins McGrady '80**, as well as nieces and nephews.



Join us during the **2019 Reunion** for the

MCI Awards Ceremony

**Friday, August 2,
4:30 to 7:00 PM**

Savage Family Dining Room

Honor MCI's **Hall of Fame Inductees**
and recipient of the
Distinguished Achievement Award

Paul Rieckhoff's new tour of duty



IAVA

After founding the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) 14 years ago, **Paul Rieckhoff '94** stepped down in February 2019 as CEO of the advocacy group that is the country's first and largest organization for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. IAVA has defined the national dialogue for American veterans while improving the lives of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and their families.

Paul is now focusing on his growing family and new creative endeavors that include launching his first podcast in April, "Angry Americans," writing a follow-up to his first book, *Chasing Ghosts*, and leading other projects while raising two small boys with his wife, Lauren, in New York City. Paul serves on the IAVA Board of Directors.

Paul came to MCI the fall of 1993 as a post-graduate after the recommendation of a high school coach. "I needed more time to 'cook,' I guess," he chuckled. "Although I felt like I was missing out by not going directly to college with my high school friends, I benefitted from MCI's structured environment in a small but safe, supportive community."

During his time at the school, Paul remembered the friendships he made with students like **Kevin Norris '94**, **Brad Miller '94**, and others who went on to pursue successful careers after their humble days at MCI. "I remember walking to Richie's Pizza in our spare time," he recalled fondly, "and trips to the mall. People must have thought we were the Harlem Globetrotters or something because we clearly stood out from the other shoppers!"

Coming to MCI was Paul's first time away from family to live in central Maine, which was the case for his friends in the dorms. "Challenging environments often create strong bonds between people," he observed. To this day, Paul attributes his success at MCI to those friendships, his host family – the Oliverias, and the friends he made during his time at the school.

"MCI was a great landing pad for me then," he said.

Following MCI, Paul attended Amherst College where he graduated with a degree in political science. Since his father and grandfather both served in the armed forces, Paul enlisted and eventually served in the reserves until he transferred to the New York National Guard, where his unit was activated for rescue and security operations on September 11th. Soon after, Paul began Infantry Officers Basic Course in Georgia and was called to deploy to Iraq, where he was assigned as a platoon leader.

When Paul returned home in 2004, he wrote *Chasing Ghosts*, which chronicles his experiences in Iraq and the motivations that led to his activism for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and creation of IAVA. Paul's efforts with the IAVA have led to the passage of the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, the repeal of "Don't Ask Don't Tell," the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act, the creation of the Rapid Response Referral Program, and the IAVA/NBC Commander-in-Chief-Forum. Under Paul's leadership, the IAVA has served as watchdog on countless issues affecting a new generation of veterans, like raised awareness of post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD, access to services, homelessness, and the surprisingly high suicide rate among veterans.

Paul noted that everyone is touched in some way by a veteran. "Whether it's a relative or a friend, veterans who have honorably served our country strike a deep emotional chord in all of us."

Paul's message to MCI students and alumni is "enjoy what you have at MCI – the camaraderie and caring community. Take care of this treasure – it's worth protecting."

Notes from the Cianchette House

By **Alicia J. Nichols**, Dean of Advancement

What does MCI's Annual Fund support? This is a question we enjoy answering because the Annual Fund supports the School's bottom line, making MCI stronger with each contribution.

MCI has an Annual Fund and, like other town academies, colleges, libraries and various nonprofits, MCI raises unrestricted dollars to support its operating budget. Each year, between July 1 and June 30, we invite alumni and friends of MCI to support the school's Annual Fund.

MCI's Annual Fund uses several ways to invite donor support: mailings, emails, ads in the *Alumnus* magazine, social media, and in person.

Unrestricted gifts to MCI are counted towards the \$350,000 Annual Fund goal. Restricted, capital campaign, and endowment gifts are all counted separately from the Annual Fund. Our highest priority is helping students identify and achieve their goals for life beyond school. Last year, we began asking students to share their goals with us. You can be proud of what they shared: 85% of students want to attain a college degree, while 15% want to learn a trade, serve our country, or enter the workforce.

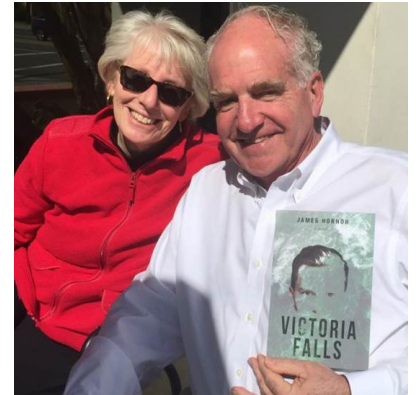
As this issue arrived in your mailbox, we launched the new Annual Fund for fiscal year 2020. You'll find an Annual Fund envelope enclosed: we'd be most grateful to earn your support.

Your contribution makes MCI STRONGER.

If your summer travels find you in Pittsfield, please drop by to visit. We love hearing from you. Whether by phone, email, letters, and in-person, please stay in touch.

Catching up with Jim Hornor, author

Former Dean of Academics and past interim head of school **Jim Hornor** recently published his first book, *Victoria Falls*, which he is promoting while working on his next book. Jim is also teaching literature and composition while



On book tour in San Diego: with Elaine Patterson

serving on the Foundation Board at Southern Maine Technical College, running the school's Writing Center at its midcoast campus, raising two teenage children with wife, Eileen, and running *The Brunswick Inn* that they purchased in 2009. Although he worked at MCI for eleven years (and left in 2014), Jim is busier than ever and enjoying his new career as an author.

"When I was at MCI, what I liked most was meeting with alumni," Jim recalled. "I try to stay in touch with as many alums as possible." During a recent book tour, he met up with MCI trustees **Gregg '69 and Elaine Patterson**.

Jim explained that he had been "thinking about this book for the past 25 years," but it wasn't until he entered a writing contest sponsored by a Vermont publisher that he began work on what would become *Victoria Falls*.

"It was a fascinating process," he explained. "About seventy authors entered the contest, but only a few were selected to visit the publisher to read the first chapters to judges and explore how their book would be marketed and promoted. It was a fascinating process, and I won!" Hornor explained that it took nine months to write the entire book, then another 18 months to edit it, rewrite, and get it published.

Jim always knew he would tell this story of when he worked in international banking in 1994. As an instructor of literature, he enjoys discussing topics with students that explore relationships and roles within our culture that are always evolving.

IN MEMORIAM:

Roger Berkley Percival (1926-2019)



MCI alumni and trustee emeritus, **Roger Berkley Percival '45**, passed away on January 6, 2019. Roger served two terms on MCI's board of trustees and was appointed to the executive, development and investment committees during his tenure. As a dedicated and effective trustee, Roger was pivotal in helping

MCI to invest funds wisely to protect the school during financial challenges by increasing the school's invested assets from thousands to millions during his tenure, and his advocacy raised millions of dollars for the Chuck and Helen Cianchette Math and Science Center.

The son of Wallace and Bessie Percival, Roger attended MCI when World War II raged throughout Europe and, on the day of his graduation, he was thousands of miles from home serving in the US Navy. After his tour ended, Roger returned to Maine and received a degree in business administration from the University of Maine. He returned to active duty after college graduation and served during the Korean Conflict from 1951 to 1953.

When he came back to Maine, Roger became a bank examiner for the State of Maine and joined Portland Saving Bank where he eventually became a senior vice president and treasurer. During his tenure at Portland Savings Bank, he attended various graduate programs, most notably Brown University's three-year Graduate School of Banking. Thanks to Roger's financial acumen and solid leadership on the board of trustees, MCI strengthened its finances to protect from economic hardships.

Roger was one of MCI's strongest advocates. During his induction to the MCI Hall of Fame in 2000, he stated that "many people tend to support the college they attended rather than the private secondary school from which they graduated. Since my dollar wasn't going to make any significant difference at the college level, I chose to make contributions to MCI. It is very clear that without the support of alumni, MCI and other private schools cannot

survive and grow to meet the needs of today's students and faculties." He firmly believed in the promise that MCI and private secondary schools offer and could readily compare MCI's small class sizes and graduation rates with other schools throughout Maine and the United States. He celebrated the top quality of the school's faculty and staff, MCI's diverse student population, and our commitment to students to thrive and lead in the global community.

His commitment and tireless service to MCI are extensive. **Michael Savage '62** remarked when Percival was inducted into the Hall of Fame, "There are few rare people for whom community service is a way of life."

Roger is survived by his wife of 27 years, Lydia (Morelli) Percival, his three children, Marina Percival of Belfast, Suzanne Schneider and her husband, Buzz, of Marblehead, Massachusetts, and William Percival and his wife, Allison of Naples, Florida; as well as his treasured grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his first wife, Dorothy (Trenholm) Percival, who was the mother of his three children.

Ruth Percival Parkhurst (1926-2019)

Days after her brother, Roger Percival '45 passed away, **Ruth Percival Parkhurst** died in Skowhegan, Maine. After leaving MCI, Ruth married Lester Parkhurst and, together, they raised five children. Ruth is remembered for her efforts with special-needs children: what began as a daycare at the local Baptist Church became the *Marie Bradford School* that focused on student ability and helping children gain acceptance in the community. Ruth was a beloved teacher there for 22 years.



Ruth is survived by her children **Carol Goodwin '65**, **Richard Parkhurst '68**, **Jeanne Cooper '69**, Jack Parkhurst and Douglas Parkhurst, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Class of 1953

William Sullivan wrote that he didn't have much news but was he was sorry to hear about **Buddy Gage** and **Roger Ross**. He played American Legion baseball with them before he ever got to MCI. He and Maggie are enjoying their grandchildren, watching them grow academically and athletically. The four of them keep him and Maggie busy. He will hook up with **Dave Fenderson** when he gets back from the sunny south. He is still on the road selling American-made uniforms and enjoys being a small part of employing American workers.

Dave Fenderson wrote that he hasn't been snowshoeing yet this year. He loves cold weather: it is very invigorating. He says he can't stand the hot weather... too many huge man-eating snakes! He is preparing to go fly fishing in Rangeley. As soon as the ice is out he will be headed for Blackville, New Brunswick, to his son's log cabin on the Mirimichi River for Atlantic Salmon. His son, David, does guiding as a hobby so he is in good hands. He talked with classmate and outstanding football player, **Joe Vachon**, who resides in Stetson. He was busy preparing for a great apple production season. Joe says there are no worms in his apples, but some have high-protein worms... which are delicious. Dave loves them! (I see Dave still has his odd sense of humor!)

Susan Robinson Farmer wrote a quick note from the West. She said they continue to eat their vegetables and walk up and down their 7% slope property of 2 acres shy of 200 acres. They do one mile to look at the neighbor's property on Raspberry Butte that is very steep. They could do that as Mother Nature tried to make up for a long dry spell by giving them 12 inches of heavy, wet snow. They take their two Collie dogs, Sweet Basil and Fine Black Pepper and Dill Weed whenever they can. They plan on running their horse-riding clinic and recognized horse trail for the 43rd year in May and June with the help of some younger people. They had 90 horses in the May clinic and 120 horses at their horse trail in 2018.



Catherine Doyle Mooers said November found her and Stirling back in Florida for another winter. It was great seeing their Florida friends again. Stirling and Kaye joined **Matt Scott** and his partner, Bev, at the Palace Dinner Theatre Christmas Show in Hudson, Florida. After that it was a long siege of bronchitis for the both of them. She is also looking forward to having five members of her family visit in Florida in April. Stirling still enjoys a game of golf weekly. They are glad to miss the freezing temperatures in Maine, but tell us Florida has been colder than usual. February, however, was way above average.

Classmates who gathered at Papa Joe's Italian Restaurant on Valentine's Day enjoyed seeing each other: **Beverly Libby**, **John Shaw**, **Faye Ellingwood Shaw**, their special friends, **Charlie and Audrey Allen** (who always makes a special gift for all classmates), **Carl Smith**, **Brian Craig**, **Matt Scott**, **Kaye Doyle Mooers**, and **Sally Barnes Craig '55**. It was the first time many had seen **Carl Smith** since graduation.

We all send our condolences to the families of **Buddy Gage**, and **Roger Ross**. Their deaths were difficult for many as they were our classmates and were always friendly to all.

George Pierce sent in news but it was too late for the winter *Alumnus* so here it is: he and Doris continue to do well despite maladies that come with the passing of time. They feel fortunate to be able to move back and forth between northeastern Vermont and the Florida Panhandle, with stops at Susie's in Maryland. George plays tennis regularly, golfs occasionally, and plays softball a few days. Doris is able to do some gardening

in Vermont and gets together with her sister-in-law in Fort Walton Beach.

"We hope all is well with you and yours."

Matt Scott missed last fall so will wrap his news up now. He and his partner, **Beverly Libby**, spent last winter in Florida and one month in Arizona. They returned to Maine in April and are on the lecture tour for the Maine Lakes Association's beekeeping lectures in Kennebec County. Just too darn busy, he wrote, with beekeeping and pro-bono lectures. He and Beverly continue to ballroom dance throughout their travels and when they return to Maine. They are members of the Central Maine Ballroom Dance Society and he said the dancing keeps them in good shape. His oldest grandson and wife had a daughter, so at 84 he is a great-grandfather and just doesn't know where all the time has gone. (I think we all wonder about that). It is always sad news when a fellow classmate passes, but perhaps a reality check for all of us to plan for the next stage of our lives. He says he appreciated the academic training at MCI that prepared him for undergraduate and graduate school at UMO. He wished everyone a pleasing and healthy summer.

Faye Ellingwood Shaw and **John Shaw '52** are the proud great-grandparents of two new family members: Lida, born February 19th (named after John's mother) and, a few days later, a great grandson, Finnley John. They now have 4 great grandsons and 2 great granddaughters. Congratulations!

Class Agent: Catherine Doyle Mooers

Class of 1955

Priscilla Spencer Grant writes, "I was pleased to find out that my friend **Leona Lovely** has taken over as class agent. I have been quite busy the past few years. I took my first plane ride at age 78 in 2014. Since then I have been to Scotland, Dominican Republic, and returned from Thailand in November. I had a great time – people are very friendly and polite. I got to play in the mud with elephants, saw the "big Buddha" and bought a lot of items. The trip took us around the

world and over the International Date Line. At home, I crochet, and play on my computer. It will be nice to hear how others are doing.”

Margaret Kinney “Peg” Thompson writes, “I moved to Connecticut 10 years ago because it is where my children and my brother live. I lost my husband to cancer in 2005, so I am a widow. I keep in contact with **Kay Pierce Dunton**, who now lives in Florida in the winter and Maine in the summer. I also keep in touch with **Rae-Jean Jacobs Thompson**. My son, **Eric Thompson ’84**, is quite involved with MCI. I was in Pittsfield with him last June for a meeting with the Alumni Association. My three children are all MCI alumni: **Scott Thompson** (deceased), **Tammy Vuocolo** and Eric.”

Class Agent: Leona Cross Lovely

Class of 1956

I recently received a very nice letter from classmate **Norman Nutter** who lives in Lunenburg, Massachusetts. He is planning a trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, soon and after Memorial Day, a trip to Maine. He has been busy guiding contractors on a church kitchen since he drew up the plans for it. He enjoys designing small projects using *Visio* software.

Dale Hersey and his wife **Raejean ’66** are doing well and enjoying retirement very much. This year he didn’t produce any maple syrup, but he still raises a big bountiful garden. Both enjoy yearly trips to the north shore of Prince Edward Island. He said it is beautiful country. Recently, Dale sold his beautiful New England farmhouse. He plans to relocate and build in Palmyra. Good luck, Dale and Raejean!

Marvis Bryant Chambers is still a patient at the Sanfield Rehab and Living Center in Hartland, Maine. She was a greeter at Walmart in Palmyra for quite some time. Her spirits are good and she’s her jovial and good-natured self. We’re praying for you, Marvis.

Ken Cray and wife Mary Jane are doing well and still reside on White’s Pond in Palmyra. Ken worked for a vending company for 20 years and at International

Paper (now Verso) as a security guard. Before retiring, he also worked with group homes. Their camp is now remodeled and is a nice cozy year-round home. Ken was a great left-handed pitcher for MCI and **George Newhouse ’54** was his star catcher!

On a sad note, **Greg Libbey** passed away on July 29, 2018. Greg was a great classmate, a true friend, and we had a lot of fun, laughter, and good times together. With Greg, **Mike McGowan ’56** and I worked together in 1956 building the Edwards Plant. Greg loved all sports and played baseball and football for MCI. He will be greatly missed!

Sallie Sinclair Huot still lives in Saco, is doing very well and enjoying retirement. In March, she flew to Arizona to visit her sister, **Nancy ’52**. Her daughter, Heather, flew back home with her. She stays busy “quilting like crazy,” visiting friends, going shopping, and keeping in touch with classmates and friends. She stays in touch with **Grace Mercier Brown** who still volunteers and is involved with her church in Westbrook. Grace is a retired registered nurse at the Maine Medical Center.

Harry P. “Skip” Gordon visits his classmates and friends in Pittsfield quite often. In good weather he bikes down from Ripley where he lives. He still works part-time for Sargent Construction. He’s in great shape and still a lot of fun. He was a top runner on the MCI track team led by **Norbert Young, Sr.**

Recently I called **Elizabeth “Betty” Benner Wilson** who now lives in Sarasota. She is doing just fine and is happily married. She has two daughters and five great grandchildren. Two are in Colorado and three are at home. Her husband is from Indiana and is a retired Naval officer. For a few years they lived in Annapolis. Betty is a fine artist, and she really enjoys painting. She loves landscapes – a talented lady!

Lonnie Allen has been retired for 16 years after owning a small sales form printing business for 43 years. He and his wife spent a few years in Fort Myers. He has three sons in the service and also a daughter who owns a software company in New Hampshire. He now resides in

Cumberland Center and owns a camp in Eustis where he does a lot of boating in the summer.

Judy Merrithew Paine visited me at my service station. I was so happy to see her in good health and spirits. We reminisced about our happy school days, friends, and classmates. Judy had her sister Kathy at her home in Boothbay Harbor for Easter. Judy and her late husband Travis owned a clothing store in Boothbay Harbor for many years. She enjoys going to lunch with friends and stays in close touch with her family.

Diane Tatlock Pierce now lives in Las Vegas. She and her husband are both retired and have lived there for 21 years. For 25 years, her husband owned a business in automotive glass and plate glass for high-use buildings. His company was based in Kansas City but did business all over the United States. Diane has been substitute teaching to keep busy. After graduating from MCI she attended the University of Maine and did very well. They have a winter home in Maine, two children, and four grandchildren. One daughter lives in Ohio and a granddaughter attends Baylor College. Diane told me that she was the maid of honor in **Sallie Sinclair Huot’s** wedding and, in turn, Sallie was Diane’s maid of honor. True, loyal friend and classmates, I’d say!

A phone call to **John Carroll** found him happy and healthy and in Florida. He spends winters in Florida but resides in Greenville Junction. John was a great basketball player for the MCI Preppers under coach **Bert Pratt**. He has been in law enforcement most of his life. He was a police officer, sheriff and chief deputy in different areas in Maine. He also was in politics in Augusta for awhile, but he chose law enforcement. He has three sons and two daughters and is very proud of them. They all have done well with their careers. He plans to visit my service station when he returns from Florida.

I called **Lois Langley Trafton** and was happy to hear that she is in good health and enjoying life. She is fully retired after spending many years working at several post offices. She enjoys her cozy woodstove during the winter. She also teaches ceramic classes once a week and

attends many of her two nephews' games at Nokomis.

Eva Allen Charity lives in Key West and is enjoying the sunny south very much. She is very happy, healthy, and content. She lives with her daughter who works at a medical center in Key West. Her views from home are the Gulf of Mexico on one side and the Atlantic Ocean on the other. It is approximately 118 miles to the mainland with a 7-mile bridge to cross. She still has her pitbull which she rescued from the humane society. She goes to the beach, shopping, walks her dog, and still raises exotic orchids. What a life!

Several calls to **David Reed** and found no answer. In the winter, he lives in Green Cove Springs, Florida. He retired from the Army in 1977 after serving for 21 years. He usually comes back to the Ellsworth area around the first of May. He worked as a park ranger for 15 years! I'll call him again when he returns home and catch up on the news.

Keith McFarland still resides in West Chester, Pennsylvania. The call found him in good spirits, happy, healthy, and enjoying retirement. He stays busy as the treasurer of Marshalton United Methodist Church Men's Mission and as financial secretary of Marshalton United Church. He is also president of the men's group. His grandson is a star pitcher on the baseball team and in the fall will attend Thomas Jefferson College in Philadelphia on a baseball scholarship. Keith and family spend the first week in August on the Jersey Shore. He says "hi" to all his classmates and hopes to attend the class reunion in August.

I spoke to **Barbara Vance Bell** and she and her husband Lew are doing just fine. Lew is a pastor in Hartland and teaches prayer meetings at the church. They have four children of their own and four that are adopted. Their daughter Odessa lives in Tampa and Lew visited her for the month of March. They have Bible study at home and volunteer at the polls in Palmyra. A family that prays together, stays together. God bless, Barb and Lew!

Your class agent, **Forest G. Frost**, is still working (61 years of labor) at Frost's Mobil Service, which I own. I thank the Lord each day and keep going. Serving

and working for all my customers has been very rewarding. My two brothers, **Dino Frost '55** and **Roland Frost '58**, have been a very big part of this. They were "pros!" They're both enjoying their retirement very much with family, gardens, the farm and hobbies. God bless all my classmates! Go Yankees!

Class Agent: Forest G. Frost

Class of 1959

Larry Dysart continues to tutor math at Merrimack College. He has two grandchildren who have graduated from college, one grandchild who is a freshman at the University of Minnesota, two grandchildren in high school, and one grandchild who is in the seventh grade. He expressed what many of us have experienced – grandchildren are growing up too quickly!

Donna Richardson Glenn and her husband, Jerald, sold their home two years ago and moved into a retirement area where there are many activities with pools, gyms, and a golf course. They did not move far from their home and still live close to their two sons and their families. Their daughter and her family live in California. Donna and Jerald have 14 grandchildren, many of whom live nearby, so they are busy with soccer games, wrestling meets, volleyball games, and swimming meets. Both Donna and Jerald are in good health. Donna writes that she has two sisters in Maine and still loves Maine in the spring, summer, and fall. She says that if any of our class make it to Arizona, she would love a visit.

Nancy Files Peters writes that, after her knee replacement surgery, her knee is as good as new and she is back to yoga and walking a lot. Once again, she and her husband, Mike, have avoided a cold winter in western New York by spending time in Mexico. They will be back home by the time this is published. She is going to try to make our 60th Reunion in August and says that "we should all try to make it and celebrate while we can, right?"

Barbara Deane Charlamb has moved from her home in Middlebury, Vermont, to an apartment in the same town. Her granddaughter, Anna, is in Sitka, Alaska

which is a small, island community. Anna is working with hospice to provide social and emotional support for those who are elderly, isolated, facing illness, grief, or the end of life. It is a service that fills the gaps that hospitals and retirement homes can't fill. Barbara's grandson, Ethan, is serving in the Peace Corps in Costa Rica where he has been for about 21 months. He is presently teaching basic English to seventh and eighth grade students in a local school there. He is returning home to Middlebury in May and will attend Stanford in the fall to pursue a Ph.D. in learning sciences and technology design. His goal is to use brain scans and discoveries in neuroscience to drive the design and implementation of academic technologies. Barbara's grandson, Julian, is studying Spanish in high school. This summer, he will travel to Tajikistan with the NSLI-4 program run by the US State Department and will study Tajik, a Persian dialect.

Our 60th Reunion is Saturday, August 3rd. Please let me know if you plan to attend.

Class Agent: Red MacMichael

Class of 1960

Joan Basford Bradley: "A thank you to all my classmates who took the time to drop me a line. My long-time companion and business partner passed away last spring. I am still selling books on a limited basis with books in three area shops. A vacation to England is being planned this summer with daughter **Karen Fecteau '87**, and grandson, Justin."

Sandra Davis Degreenia has been retired for two and half years now. She writes that her new adventure is helping people smile. Her cat, Mr. Bailey, goes to the nursing home and visits the residents once a week. She said, "We go room to room until we have seen all. He came to me six months before I retired in June 2016. It is a blessing to see the people that he makes so happy. We walk at the mall and of course we have to stop a lot so people can pat him. It is amazing to see people so happy to see him." Sandra and Mr. Bailey don't go too far as her husband is on dialysis.

Deanna Leavitt Clark's new home is Hickory, North Carolina, but visits Maine often. She has been in Hickory now since November 2017. She writes that it is a very interesting "little" city - population 40,000 at night; about 100,000 in the daytime. Hickory was known as the furniture capital of the world (or at least in the USA) until a few years ago when everything built in the USA went overseas. But it is a thriving little place, with new businesses moving in all the time. She has also joined two book clubs, belongs to a quilters guild, and the local, city-owned gym. There is a Newcomers Club, of which she is a member, but said she has yet to attend a meeting and wants to get on that one of these days! They play every card and board game imaginable, go bowling, range shooting, and a myriad other activities. Her next endeavor is to take bridge lessons, which she played back in the Eighties. She is keeping busy in "her old age." And yes, it may be cliché, but she marvels that it has been almost 59 years since we graduated. Time does fly, especially when you are retired - there just aren't enough hours in the day! How did we ever find time to work?

Floyd Lawrence says that he and his wife Jean are still enjoying the winter in Fort Myers. They are extremely busy with doctor visits and everything that is going on. He says that getting older is a journey that we didn't think much about when we were younger. We are very fortunate to have had all these years to enjoy. Painting keeps him busy and he paints with three different painting groups each week. He posts some on Facebook and they are quite exceptional. His only grandson will be graduating from high school in June. He hopes to see everyone at the 60th reunion.

Janis Withee Lahaie and **Natalie McGuire Mandell** are still enjoying the warm weather in Florida. Janis, who lives in Venice, does a lot of volunteering. Natalie and her husband Don have recently moved to a new home in Ellenton, Florida. They are both involved in working at the club house in their complex and taking care of the pool and recreation areas.

Glennis Brown Fields and I recently had lunch together and reminisced about our

MCI days and discussed the books that we have currently been reading. Her husband Dana has been in poor health for some time.

Class Agents: **Joan Basford Bradley** and **Marilyn Nash**

Class of 1962

After a long illness, **Terrance Dale Grant** passed away in November, surrounded by his wife Betty and his children: **Cheryl Grant Mansir '84**, **Tim Grant '86**, **Toby Grant '90**, and **Terri Jean Grant Wilkinson '97**. He was predeceased by his daughter **Tracy Grant '89**. Terry was a brother to **Denzil Grant '58**, **Dean Grant '60**, **Sonja Davis Coston '62**, **Russell Stackhouse**, and me, your class agent. Terry went through almost all of the 12 grades with many of us in the class. As my "little brother" Russell puts it so nicely, Terry can be remembered for "that little shuffle he would do with a mischievous glint in his eye." As a child, Terry took piano lessons for six years with **Ruth Plummer Cook**. He always appreciated the piano, and in later years he found an old accordion which he enjoyed playing while singing along.



Sam Heller emailed that he moved from Las Vegas because it got too big. He joined his youngest daughter in South Carolina. He has restored about 15 antique cars and pick-up trucks, such as a 1929 Ford, a 1936 Ford pick-up, and a 1970 MGBGT.

We are saddened to hear of the passing of **Linda M. Swift** on March 1st. The following information is taken from her obituary. After graduation from MCI, Linda attended the University of Southern Maine. She was owner of A to Z Picture Framing and was a member of the Waterville Art Society and Skowhegan Downtown Small Business Association.

She cherished time spent with family and enjoyed travel, photography and painting. Linda is survived by two sons, Christopher Dillingham and Kevin Dillingham, both of Skowhegan, and grandson, Cody Dillingham of Old Town. She was predeceased by a brother, Roy Swift, Jr., and a sister, Lorraine Burns. Linda went through all 12 grades with many in our class, and she is remembered for her positive attitude and inquisitive manner. On our 25th/50th Anniversary album quilt, she wrote the words, "always talking" to describe herself.

Richard J. Bantel emailed: "I was a fifth year student at MCI. I went on to receive a B.A. from American University, and in 1978, I continued my education with a M. Ed. I served in the U.S. Naval Reserves as a naval aviation officer and was awarded a full expense trip to Vietnam in 1968. After serving dinner to a mosquito, I was sent to the Naval Hospital in Portsmouth, Virginia. Following active duty, I went to work for the U.S. government for nine years. Jumping into the fast life of business ownership, I ran a "multi-hundred" dollar corporation until 2005. Retirement meant moving to my horse farm located in Greenbriar County, West Virginia. In 2016, I founded and continue to run a small business in Virginia. I also live in Tennessee where I am enjoying the view from my property of the Cherokee National Forest Smokey Mountains. My wife Helen and I are very happy, and we have a total of 10 grandchildren - two of whom are with us often. Life has been good to me, and I would do very few things differently if I had the chance. MCI helped in establishing the foundation for my educational and professional pursuits. **Jean Carnes** has been phenomenal in her work for the class. THANK YOU Jean."

Judie Mercier Vacchina writes: "My husband Leonardo and I are completely retired and loving it. We love to travel, hike, bike, boat, and explore as many places as possible. Last year we traveled to Africa with our two daughters - it was so amazing and beautiful. We saw the Big 5 ("African Royalty"- African Lion, Leopard, Elephant, Cape Buffalo and Rhino). We spent a month in Italy and a month in France and Barcelona. We also took a trip through Ireland, England, and Scotland. There is so much beauty

in the world to see, we just need more time. We are spending more time at our home in Venice, Florida. Recently we had dinner with a few Mainers who were all in Venice – **Kenton and Eileen McMann Wright, Brian McMann** and my sisters **Nancy McGinnis, Connie Curtola, Jackie Robinson, and Sandra Friend**. It was lots of fun. We all say that the best gift our parents gave us was our sisters and brothers. In between travels, we are still living in California where I'm an American Cancer Society volunteer. Hi to all my old classmates, and please try to come to our next big reunion."

Madelyn Kenniston Given writes, "I enjoy life at our home on Range Pond, Maine, and our winter home in Fort Myers with my husband (celebrating our 50th anniversary this year). Holidays and vacations with our daughter, son-in-law and two teenage granddaughters. My most recent adventures have been in the jungles of Panama to see the Embera Indians who have remained in that location for over 600 years. I spent a month last spring hiking mountains with a guide in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. I hiked in remote areas of the ancient Silk Road in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Last summer I hiked 16 of the 4,000 Footers to complete the 67 highest mountains in New England. I swim a mile 3-5 days (at Bates College or in Florida), bike 20-30 miles 2-3 days a week in Florida and kayak 2-3 days a week in Maine and work out year-round with exercise classes, gardening, and walking our dog. I write daily blogs which are edited and are on my website (outstandingfeats.com). Life is an adventure: make the most of it!"

Class Agent: **Jean Carnes**

Class of 1963

Erick Johanson writes, "As the Class of 1967 Regimental second in command, I had the privilege and honor of trooping the line and addressing the entire Regimental Corps of Cadets, Commandant of Cadets and staff, President of the University, and other attendees at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, during the Corps pass in review ceremony honoring the induction of the Class of 1967 into the Old Guard, 50th reunion."

Allen Dyer writes, "I am still finding my work in Washington challenging and exciting so I continue seeing patients, teaching residents and medical students, and developing programs in Global Mental Health at the George Washington University. Each year I plan to spend more time in Maine and the times there are always special, especially when our kids and six grandchildren can be with us on Lake Sebasticook."

Louise Haynes, wife of **Jon Haynes**, writes, "I am sad to share that Jon suffers from Alzheimer's and is receiving care at the UVM Medical Center. He retired in 2009 from Bellows Free Academy in St. Albans, Vermont, where he taught English for 40 years. He also wore the school's mascot costume at many athletic events but especially with the BFA Bobwhite hockey team. He was an integral member of many negotiating teams for the BFA teachers' union. Our 5 children are well-settled and good parents to our 9 grandchildren ages 4 to 25." If any of you would like to contact Jon through his wife, Louise, he would love to hear from you. Louise and Jon welcome the mail.

Jack Ely writes, "Hello everyone, I am retired, fortunate to be relatively healthy and spend time with family and friends."

Gerald Parmenter writes, "Hi all, and thanks for reminding me and others to stay in touch with our fellow '63 MCI alums. So following is a summary of what I've been up to since 1963. I graduated from University of Maine, civil/environmental engineering in 1969 with a BS and 1971 with an MS. First job was in 1971 for the US Forest Service in Fresno and Bishop, California. In 1971, I married Judy King from Old Town, Maine. In 1974, we moved to Portland, Oregon, to work for Army Corps of Engineers on 2nd Powerhouse Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River. In 1976, we moved to Stuttgart, Germany, to work for VII Corps US Army for 5 years as a Manager of Utilities, Environmental and Energy Conservation Division. It was also a great opportunity to live in foreign country, and we were lucky to travel extensively by camper-van throughout Western and Eastern Europe, British Isles, Scandinavia, former Yugoslavia, Mid-East, Egypt, and Morocco. We returned to Seattle in 1981 to attend the University of

Washington Graduate School for Public Administration (in 1982, I received my MPA). In 1982, we returned to Portland Army Corps of Engineers and worked on Mount St. Helens Recovery Activities caused by the 1980 volcanic eruption. From 1984 to 2003, I worked for Washington County Department of Land Use & Transportation as Manager of Major Transportation Infrastructure Project Division. In 2003 to 2005, I was Director of Transportation for an engineering consultant. After 34 years of a rewarding career in engineering, I retired. My wife and I had a daughter in 1986 who has become a world citizen while traveling with us and on her own – and now expecting our first grandchild! Last 8-10 years I have been volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, Global Village building homes in Mongolia, Vietnam, Kenya, Peru, and India, including after build treks and safaris as well as visiting friends in China, Portugal, Mexico, Germany and other European countries. Lucky to still be relatively in good health except the normal aging aches and pains. And finally I'd like to say that the best thing that ever happened to me, besides getting married and having a beautiful daughter, was attending MCI. MCI allowed me to attend the University of Maine and the opportunity to have a very rewarding engineering career as well as being able to see the world and experiencing other cultures."

Phil Crossman writes, "Retired from building. Struggling to retire from inn-keeping but it's too much fun. Still writing columns for several publications, including the Island Institute's Working Waterfront. My second book, *As the Crow Flies*, is at the publisher. The first, *Away Happens*, has sold 6,000 copies. I am heading up an opioid abuse task force in Vinalhaven. Serving as a town selectman and on the Maine State Ferry Service Advisory Board. Elaine and I are enjoying grandchildren here on the island as well."

Class Agents: **Marcia Sprague Hodson '63 for Janet Viger Bryant and Wayne Pinkham**

Class of 1964

Greetings! I hope you all made it through the winter, and just think: in a few more

months, our 55th class reunion will be here. More details to follow this spring.

Jim Flynn writes, “All is well with Sue and me. Last November, we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in Nags Head with our family. Have fully enjoyed retirement since 2009 with travel, sporting events, family and friends. We continue to spend our summers in Monson, Maine, and our winters in Virginia. Foreign travel is on the docket for 2020 as our health remains good.”

Joe Barnes and **Karoldene '65**: Joe reports that he is maple-syruping with Karoldene's two brothers, Stanton and Steven. He is looking forward to hunting and fishing soon.

Rita Flood Bubar says to say “hi” to everybody, and she is looking forward to seeing everyone when we have our 55th!

Dorothy “Dot” Creasy Ackerman shared that her youngest granddaughter, who is in nursing school, plans a June 1st wedding, and we also talked about her 2 cute great-grandsons.

Carolyn Dutill Belanger and husband Buzz welcomed the cutest granddaughter, Vivian. They are planning a trip down south to see old friends this spring.

Donna Brooks Rolfe moved to Corinna with her little dog and appreciates not shoveling snow. She is spending more time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Tom Smith, from Portland, Maine, shared that he and his wife Connie will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a 12-day Mediterranean cruise later this spring. Their 8th grandchild arrived in December and Tom was honored that the baby's middle nick name is Tommy.

Georgie Brown Farrin and husband Ron spend a lot of time with their 8 grandchildren – always something new and exciting happening!

Joan VanDerveer Gould lives in the Littleton, New Hampshire area, and reports the White Mountains are still beautiful, especially in the fall. She enjoys walking and being with her two

grandsons, who are always busy with interesting projects.

Lowell Martin, up in Cambridge on a real working farm, is busy getting ready for spring planting and new baby calves.

Robert “Bob” Mercier and wife Laura plan on spring and summer traveling. Bob still spends many hours volunteering and provides support for people who are diagnosed with cancer.

Crystal Hunt Cyr and husband Arthur are celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary and in the spring will be opening their antique shop in Burnham.

Marlene Hunt Ward and husband are still down in the Sunshine State – in case we forget, that's Florida!

Ralph Damren will be refereeing baseball games 3 days a week and then come fall, it's football time. It's a great thing Ralph enjoys sports! “Go Huskies!”

Ronald Kinney from Connecticut was last seen heading south for the golf course. Sounds like fun!

Mike Vigue is still hard at work with his business; no retirement just yet!

Steve Barnes plans to be in the Pittsfield area for the class reunion. It wouldn't be Reunion without Steve and Leon at the Putter social gathering!

Leon Southard hopes to be back in Pittsfield along with his wife Lee. He still enjoys playing his trumpet, if he's not on the golf course.

Linda Eastman called from south San Francisco and says “Hi to all.” She isn't sure if her and Phil's summer travel plans will include the east coast this summer. Linda remains as busy as always with traveling and hobbies.

Carole Daily Vigue and husband **Peter '65** hope to get more time at their camp with their children and grandchildren. Two of their granddaughters are planning careers in nursing.

Bonnie McGaffin Baker says “Hi from RI”. She hopes to be in Pittsfield for

reunion. She is still busy with her hospice work. We talked about our classmate **Carol Gould** and saddend with Carol's unexpected passing on November 23, 2018. They had a lot of fun together at MCI.

Glenda McMann Weymouth and George were able to cross another trip off their bucket list. They visited Greece, Italy, France and Spain. This year's bucket list adventure is the Caribbean and Haiti.

Jane Woodcock Woodruff and husband Don's car was sporting the neatest front license bicentennial plate celebrating Pittsfield's 200th anniversary. Jane spends her time and talent making Pittsfield's 200th birthday something special. Pittsfield is very fortunate to have Jane's artistic aptitude. Jane has a Facebook page: Heart of Pittsfield MCI Class of 1964 jane@mainmast.com.

Frank “Tom” Haseltine and wife Anne are hoping to be back from Knoxville, Tennessee, in time for our reunion. He always has very interesting travel stories to share.

Pat Elkins Pratt and husband Billy report Ocala is still a beautiful spot in Florida to live, but like everywhere, it is quickly changing. This year they plan on traveling, outdoor concerts and antiques.

James “Jim” Scribner plans on being here from British Columbia for our 55th class reunion. His father's MCI classmates are also planning their get-together – very impressive! Jim is still hard at work with his animal wildlife rescue efforts.

Rae Philbrick sends warmest wishes to our class. I shared with her that it was 29 degrees at 11:15 a.m. in Maine and she was kind enough *not* to tell me what Florida's temperature was!

Barbara Vigue Day: I'm looking forward to seeing you all. Thank you for your information over the phone. If I missed you, I apologize. Believe it or not, I was asked to teach a gardening class. Word probably got out about my two major crops – dandelions and burdocks! I am going to do my children's free gardening program for the 17th year. Hope to see you all at our 55th!

Class Agent:
Barbara Vigue Day

Class of 1966

Prescott Arnold writes that he's having more health issues. His cancer has moved to his bronchus intermedius, which is repairable! He may have to do chemotherapy again. He also still is fighting osteoporosis which has made him "a walking Humpty Dumpty!" Now for the good news: he has 5 grandkids! Three are honor students in grade school, and two are still in diapers. They live 15 minutes from him in an area south of his house. Good luck with your treatments, Prescott, and please keep up apprised of how everything's going.

I had a fun chat on the phone with **Lance Browne**. He and his wife Donna spent two months in Florida this past winter. He just finished up his 23rd year participating in Gritty McDuff's annual cribbage tournament in Portland - he's won the \$2,000 winning purse three times! (I don't think he won this year....) He said he'd been going through lots of nostalgic photos he had of **Jim York '65** who recently passed away. A lot of us have been remembering Jimmy lately.

Jim Cirillo visited the Pittsfield area and came to lunch! We had a wonderful visit. He is getting along well in Florida - his health seems to be under control now. I must say, he has the MOST INCREDIBLE MEMORY I've ever seen! He can remember everybody's name and details about what they've been doing both now and while growing up. I wish my memory were a quarter as sharp as his!

Vicki Boetsch Harriman writes: "We have put the farm on the market again and have had a surprising amount of interest already this spring. It's very sad to have to do this, but it's time both physically and financially. I'm looking at a senior living cottage close to my family roots in Rockport. Yes, we're all at that age! Herb is very much under the care of the VA, so will be going in the direction of a veterans' home. He had a rough winter with his declining health issues but currently is still at home with home visits from the VA. I was honored by the Town Of Union and Emergency Medical Services for my

leadership and community service in 2018. I think I'm the first woman in some time! I've been the health officer in Union now for about 5 years. In connection with this honor, I chaired the Union Aging in Place into its infancy. Now the committee is big. I handed that position on to another member and still sit as a member. I attended senior learning luncheons, "Good Morning Union," and wellness checks for shut-ins and fragile community members. I conducted home visits when referred, mostly being a resource in town. I worked with the code enforcement officer on complaints regarding health related issues such as rodents and mold. I no longer go out on complaints alone. I have the Sheriff's department on standby on a potential child neglect case when doing the initial investigation. I have to keep up with Maine Public Health and CDC issues - vaccinations, medical marijuana, and climate change issues. Anyway, it's whatever I get called in on or if the town manager feels is in my ballpark. My work continues at Rockland's Mid-Coast School of Technology's health occupations areas. I've been invited to help move into the new technical center that will be opening this September. I'm still enjoying the role of clinical instructor and hope to do that for one more year. My horse is still very much a part of my life. He's stabled nearby where my nephew's daughter goes to ride him. I also rode him this past winter.

Peter McAleney responded to my postcard! He sent the following news about his life that appeared in his college's magazine, slightly edited by me for context. I don't believe he's been back to MCI for a reunion since he graduated. I'm working on that! Born in Portland, Maine, in 1947, Peter grew up in the boom following World War II. He graduated "barely" from South Portland High school in 1965, excelling in basketball and track. He attended MCI's prep school program in 1965. He entered Northeast Louisiana University in the fall of 1966 and started the Theta Xi fraternity on campus, along with other transplanted northern "Yankees" and southern sophisticates. He graduated with a degree in education in 1970. During this time he met and dated "much to her father's chagrin" Kathleen Williams of Oak Ridge, Louisiana. In August 1970, Peter and Kathleen were

married in Oak Ridge before returning to Maine "though her father kept the car running at the church just in case she came to her senses and needed a quick getaway." After returning to Maine, Peter started teaching at the Maine Youth Center, a correctional facility for under-age youth at risk. Starting an Outward Bound Program, Peter taught his students winter survival skills and the thrill of whitewater canoeing on Maine's Saint Croix and Sheepscot rivers. During that time, he also went to the University of Southern Maine and received his master's degree in education. Much as now, though, a teacher's salary makes it tough to support a family, and a chance meeting buying some lobsters for a family dinner changed his life. Peter went to a friend's lobster company, New Meadows Lobster, in 1978 to buy lobsters for a family gathering. After a brief conversation, he left with the lobsters and a job offer. The seafood industry suited the burley red-bearded Irishman, and Peter quickly rose through the ranks and took over the day-to-day operations at New Meadows. Realizing he had found his calling, Peter and Kathleen eventually bought the business, and after their son, Matthew, graduated from college, they moved down to the waterfront full-time. Modeling their home after plantations and homes of Kathleen's beloved Louisiana, the lobster pound became a source of pride on the Portland waterfront. Lavish parties were held, which culminated every year with Portland Harbor's Holiday Boat Parade of Lights. With Peter at the helm, New Meadows and the Maine lobster industry flourished. Along with other lobster dealers in Maine, Peter formed the Maine Lobster Dealers Import/ Export Association (serving as its President for over 15 years) and the Maine Lobster Promotional Council, expanding the Maine Lobster from a regional treat to a worldwide delicacy. Through conservation practices and advancements in harvesting, the Maine lobster catches grew from 22 million pounds in 1980 to 132 million pounds in 2016! After years of dedicating his life to the Maine lobster industry, Peter has retired and moved off the waterfront to be more of a doting husband and loving grandfather. He says that without the help of MCI, he never would have been successful in his career.

Dalen Mills writes that he and Liz are, at last, going on a river cruise in Europe to belatedly celebrate their fifteenth wedding anniversary. After they return, they will be deciding on the next approach to Liz's nearly 3-year battle with cancer for which she's intermittently received fourteen rounds of chemotherapy. Test results make it unclear as to the status of the disease and whether more chemo will be necessary or advisable. Our thoughts are with you both as you navigate these muddy waters, and we hope you are able to spend some time in Maine where we can visit with you this summer!

Linda Abbott Morgan has a new job with the Lazy Boy company. She wrote "I finally closed the Maine chapter of my life after 7 years of living there and taking care of my mom until she passed away on May 13th, 2018. I am now happily living in beautiful Huntsville, Utah, in a valley surrounded by majestic mountains and breathtaking vistas."

Kathy Sweet Waugh has taken on more responsibility with her 6 year-old special needs grandson and is being kept very busy with that. Her relatively new puppy (who is no longer little!) continues to bring her great joy.

Tom Webster writes that he and **Judith Hobbs Webster** are semiretired, "trying to get son and grandson to take over the reins of our small business. We are busy with life, family, boating and antique cars. I am building a cornfield here in rocky Gloucester – it's a bucket thing." They're coming to the Pittsfield area in July for a memorial for Judy's brother, Greg, who passed away recently, so they don't think they'll make it to reunion this year.

I continue going to Tucson during the worst of the winter months, although I decided to sell my house there and, in the future, find something to rent if I go back to escape winter. It's too confusing having two homes! I want to mention that there are a lot of our classmates still in or near Pittsfield whom I see around town while I'm in Maine. I often go to the Knights of Columbus breakfasts and have seen **Carl McCrillis** and **Roger Wiles** there; I see **Gail Ballard Ross** at Dysart's on the corner of Main and Somerset; I saw **Carol Butler** at Rite Aid but understand

that she had worked at what used to be Peoples Bank for many years; and I found out that **Faye Bickford** is my neighbor in Newport, although I haven't run into her yet. I hope to see many of you at reunion this summer - remember, always the first weekend in August. GREAT food!

Class Agent: **Anna Parker**

Class of 1968

Congratulations to **Richard Simonds**, who will be inducted into the Maine Basketball Hall of Fame on August 18, 2019. Former MCI coach **Max Good** will also be inducted during the ceremony.

Class Agent: **Sharon Hanson Ringuette**

Class of 1969

The Reunion Committee for the MCI-Warsaw Class of 1969 is busy planning events for the class reunion. The 9 members of the committee, **Jim Maynard, Susan Furbush Ryman, Dianne Debay, Gary Fitts, Bonnie Jean Hanson Gulliver, Wendy Brookes, Lynne Cianchette, Jim Rowe, Dean Homstead** and **Joe Roberts**, MCI's associate dean of advancement, have been planning a very busy and fun-filled weekend. Read the details on page 20 of this magazine, and please plan to attend for the Roll Call of the Class of 1969.

A class party is planned after the reunion luncheon at the camp of Amy and **Gary Fitts**. We are hoping and planning for a party to surpass our very successful 45th reunion class party.

The class of 1969 should be very proud of two class members: **Linda Shorey** and **Gary Fitts** will be honored at the Hall of Fame and Distinguished Achievement Awards Dinner on Friday evening. Linda and Gary have served MCI and have contributed to MCI's success in many different ways.

Please plan to come to the reunion on August 2-3. Plan to stay on campus! Let's make this a great celebration!

Class of 1970

Kip Files here. I have now retired from my windjammer – sold her last fall. Now

living full time at Sugarloaf winters and at the family summer home at Phillips Lake outside Bangor. Had the vessel 30 years – quite a run. Looking forward to doing some summer stuff I have missed these many years at sea. Saw **Steve Merrill** recently. Other than that not many folks from MCI. Still getting 75 days of skiing in. I work on snow reports for the local TV station, WSKI TV, at the Loaf during winters. Lots of fun! Stopped by the campus this winter, and dropped off some old MCI stuff I found in the family archives from the late 1800s. Brought back some great memories. Place has grown. Anyone who gets to Sugarloaf is invited to look me up!

Wendy Murdock Esposito writes, "My husband, Espo, and I are still working at our pottery business full time. I guess we will never stop as it's what we do. Last summer we mentored a young Kentucky husband and wife. They have gone on to establish a small pottery studio of their own back in Kentucky. In between making pots in the summer, we manage to go kayaking and do some hiking (me not as much as apparently I am getting older). We also have a funky tiki boat we use in the summer right here on Unity Pond. Winter is snowshoeing with champagne in the snow at sunset. What can I say much of our free time we love to spend with our grandkids enjoying the lake and the winter snow. They are now ages 8, 10, 16, 19. We have reconnected with "Surfer" and Susan and see them throughout the year, enjoying lots of laughs together. I visited Denise in Florida last winter, with Georgie, too, and that was quite a hoot. I am very lucky to still have my mother with us at age 92 and very active. My brothers, Steve and George "Chip," live in Unity, also which is great. Lots of eating together with family and friends. Which reminds me, the eating is catching up and our 50th reunion is right around the corner. Better start shaping up for that!

Bill Cunningham enjoyed cross-country skiing on trips this past winter to northern Minnesota, Carrabassett Valley, Baxter State Park, Twin Pines, West Branch Pond Camps, and Acadia National Park. He continues to work on a hand-carry boat launch to be built this year to provide safe access to Pittsfield's Mill Pond River Waterway.

David, Martha and Bill will be holding a meeting open to all our MCI and Warsaw classmates to help plan an enjoyable time for our 50th Reunion in 2020. The meeting will be at this year's Reunion on Saturday, August 3, at 3:00 pm after the luncheon in Kinney Conference Room.

Rich Power writes, "Hard to believe Cindy and I survived another winter in the great state of Florida! Heading back to northern Wisconsin for the summer. Retirement fits me like a glove. Hope to see y'all at the 50th!"

David England writes "We had a very mild winter here in Rhode Island. I only had to use the snow blower once. Susan and I are still enjoying being able to pick up and travel around the countryside at will. This past March we traveled south to the low country of South Carolina and Georgia. We rented a house Beaufort and visited that area. There is a restaurant in Beaufort that displays school banners. MCI's banner is proudly on display with all the other schools. I am still working at my plumbing business on a limited basis, 4-6 hours a day, 4 days a week is just fine."

Class Agents:

David England
Bill Cunningham
Martha Lloyd

Class of 1971

Jolene Roberts Tupper has moved to Tissues Country Estate in Athens, Maine, and welcomes cards and visits!

Deb Morancie Giallombardo with husband Rick is enjoying their new home in St. Albans with sons Jeff and Scott on either side with grandkids, Luke, Roland, Will and Nora from 6 years to 8 months.

Marjorie Jones Scott and Larry have cared for Marjorie's parents until they moved to Madison Nursing home recently. Marjorie will travel to Minnesota this summer to see Brady's family. They are enjoying their 7 grandkids and happy that Maggie will be moving to the Portsmouth, New Hampshire, area.

I was sorry to learn that **Jack Parkurst's** mom, Ruth, passed away this winter along with **Michael Glencross's** mom. Michael's mom cared for many of us at Sebasticook

Valley Hospital. Sad to find that our elders are leaving us.

A bunch of women from our class text together regularly: **Jean Davis Zarate**, **Donna Ramsdell Nash** (looking to relocate in Pennsylvania), **Cindy Nash Dempsey** (really enjoying her granddaughter but broke her wrist this winter), **Linda Wiles** (retiring soon and looking to relocate in the Dover, New Hampshire, area), and myself (buying a doublewide in Venice, Florida, to escape a couple of months of New Hampshire winters).

Learned that **Milton Webber** had an art show for the Pittsfield Bicentennial which has a celebration this summer.

Lastly, **David Harmon** has recently passed away. He had enjoyed coming to some of our reunions. Hope to see many of you at reunion this summer!

Class Agent: **Laurie Fitts Loosigian**

Class of 1973

Hi to all classmates. I hope you have weathered the winter and are beginning to enjoy all that spring has to offer. David and I continue to find plenty to keep us busy... his work, our projects at home, my substitute teaching and various activities seem to fill up our days. Like last year, we took time in March to head south for some sun, fun and warmer weather. We are now looking forward to the summer ahead. I highly recommend retirement!

Craig R. Sargent announces that his Insurance Aggregation Business (North American Insurance) exceeded \$1 billion in annual written premium sales in 2018. Currently, his is the fifth largest insurance consulting/aggregation business in the United States. After 60 years as a resident of Rangeley, Maine, where he still lives as a summer resident, Craig's business (he is 100% shareholder) and residency are now located in Laughlin, Nevada.

Class Agent:
Susan Smith England

Class of 1975

Mike Susi writes, "Well it might be time to chime in as to what life has been and what is coming. Married 40 years in June to **Debra Susi** (teacher, theatrical director). Two children, son Michael (wife Caitlyn) both school teachers living in Lewiston, who gave us one granddaughter (Olivia) and one on the way in October. Daughter Meredith, a nurse in the Maine cancer care unit Scarborough (significant other is Mike in finance) with granddaughter (Micah Everleigh) due in September. Two big dogs. Same basic job in construction management since graduation. Still live in Pittsfield (3rd house however). Buddy is my neighbor (and lives in one of my parents' old houses). Parents deceased. I'm surrounded by family and good friends. Two new knees and rebuilt shoulder. Hope to be totally rebuilt by retirement which can't come too soon however not imminent. Can't work out too much anymore but I'm still fairly fit. I still ride the hell out of my motorcycles. I'd like to remember all our friends and classmates no longer with us and send out my best wishes to those who are facing obstacles of their own at present. Thanks for listening."

Bruce Palmer writes, "Just a note to let everyone know we are still alive and well. Kristy and I are still happily married and trying to enjoy all that life can provide for us. We have been blessed with three wonderful daughters and 8 incredible grandchildren. Best wishes to all."

Class Agent:
Buddy Ingraham

Class of 1976

Hi, gang, I'm here once again with what few bits of news I've got for our class. I've seen **Barry Bishop** getting coffee in Dysart's here in Pittsfield and a few days later I ran into **Pam Tozier Vance** in the same place while she was waiting to have her car looked at across the street. She was telling me she's working at St. Joseph's Hospital in Bangor. I've seen **Milt Kirk's** dad a few times this winter. Milt Sr. looks good, although he (like me) is using a cane to help him get around.

I also hear that Lacrosse has made a comeback by teaming with Nokomis as a varsity sport for both guys and girls. Hope to see some of you at Egg Festival (I'll be in the Beano tent, if I can get there) or at reunion. Remember this is Pittsfield's 200th Birthday this year and Maine's 200th next year. All for now from here. Take care and don't take too many wooden quarters!

Class Agent:
Don Hallenbeck

Class of 1979

Randy Foltz has 3 children and 1 grandchild. He was an EMT firefighter for 20 years and worked in quality at Grede Foundries for 29 years. He enjoys hunting and fishing and loves spending time with his kids and granddaughter and family.

Class Agent:
Kathy Kelley

Class of 1986

Clint Williams has taken the position as dean of enrollment at Thornton Academy in Saco after 25 years at MCI (*see page 13 for story*). He said, "Though I will be at a different school, I remain an MCI Husky and will always proudly support the MCI Huskies!" Congratulations and best wishes, Clint!

Class Agent:
Lisa Nickerson

Class of 1987

Jason Fenderson reports that he and his wife Elizabeth are living in Orlando and they have their second child on the way.

David O'Brien reports all is great with the O'Brien family. He writes, "My oldest daughter has just finished her freshman year at Oklahoma City University and my youngest daughter is quickly recovering from a torn ACL injury she sustained playing volleyball. Lastly, the Class of '87 is considering a winter reunion in Florida, since there are quite a few of us that live here, and it's warm."

Class Agent: **David O'Brien**

Class of 1992

Dean Virgil is living in Scotland and attending medical school to be an MBBS medical physician.

Class Agent: **Sean Callahan**

Class of 2010

Hunter Benthinen was named to the fall 2018 dean's list at the University of Maine at Orono.

Terra Fredrick has been accepted to Boston University School of Theology for her master of divinity degree, starting this fall. She was awarded numerous merit-based scholarships.

Class of 2011

Jessica Riley has been named to the fall 2018 Dean's List at Husson University.

Class of 2014

Yifan Wu received a degree in accounting from the University of Iowa at the close of the spring 2018 semester.

Class of 2015

Abbie Bergdoll and **Cassie Miller** were named to the fall 2018 dean's list at University of Maine at Orono.

At Maine Maritime Academy Regimental Commander change ceremony, **Parker Morrison** was promoted to Regimental Commander. Quite the honor!

James Hall was named to the fall 2018 dean's list at Maine Maritime Academy for outstanding academic achievement. He is studying Power Engineering Operations.

Class of 2016

Alex Bertrand was named to the fall 2018 dean's list at Husson University.

Amanda Hays earned the fall 2018 dean's list recognition at Ohio Wesleyan University.

Logan Rollins and **Jamie Wone** were named to the fall 2018 dean's list at University of Maine at Orono.

Save the Date: Homecoming is October 7-12, 2019

The MCI Homecoming is scheduled for the first full week of October.

Check MCI's website and Facebook for details.

Mia Fox was named to the fall 2018 dean's list at Maine Maritime Academy for outstanding academic achievement. She is studying marine engineering technology.

Class of 2017

Carter Pearl was named to the fall 2018 Dean's List at Stonehill College.

Joshua Buker was named to Husson University's fall 2018 President's List.

Dakota Patterson was named to the fall 2018 Honors List at University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Abby Bernier and **Marshall Lawler** were named to the fall 2018 dean's list at the University of Maine at Orono.

Class of 2018

Sydney Morton was named to the fall 2018 dean's list at Husson University. She received a \$1,000 Legacy Scholarship and a \$3,000 Provost's Leadership Scholarship during the 2018-19 academic year. Sydney is a first-year student who is currently enrolled in Husson's communications technology program (with a concentration in audio engineering).

April McAlpine will be receiving a \$3,000 Provost's Leadership Scholarship from Husson University during the 2018-19 academic year. McAlpine is a first-year student who is currently enrolled in Husson's nursing program.

Elsbeth Taylor was named Presidential Scholar at Clarkson University. Elsbeth is a biomolecular science major.

Aiden Nolan, **Devon Varney**, and **Sarah Welch** were named to the fall 2018 dean's list at University of Maine at Orono.

MCI | In Memoriam

The Advancement Office wishes to honor the members of the MCI family who recently passed away:

Byron Ballard
Robert Beattie '48
Dennis Bragg '67
Marilyn Bunker Cianchette '47
Muriel Kenniston Clement '45
Mary Rafferty Connolly
Yvette Bickford Davis '92
Anastasia Fuller Dennis '39
Arnold Dunning '62
Kay Pierce Dunton '55
Clifton Gage '53
Linda Goodblood '75
Michelle Duplisea Goodridge '90
Michael Harkins '58
David Harmon '71
Leona Haseltine
Gregory Hobbs '69
Robert Litman '49
Marilyn Lloyd
Elwood Lovejoy '54
Carroll "Skip" MacGowan, Jr. '70
Janice McGowan
John McAuley '51
Joseph McDonough '57
Delbert McLaggan '51
Priscilla Vigue Norris '79
Ruth Percival Parkhurst '48
Roger Percival '45
Jean Pottle
Julia Jackson Rodenbeck '50
Roger Ross '53
Richard Scott '61
Valorie Sherburne '73
Linda Swift '62
Roger Thompson '57
Norman Vance
Katherine Vigue-VerHey '70
Susan Walker
Jesse Jones White '34
Nancy Hatch Winship '51
Harry Xarras '77
James York '65
David Zanin '96

The Advancement Office extends our deepest condolences to the families and friends of those who have passed on. We try to accurately record the names of the alumni/ae and friends who have passed away. Please contact our office about the passing of MCI alumni/ae and friends by calling (207) 487-5915 or by email (alumni@mci-school.org).

Desiderata

By Max Ehrmann (1872-1945)

GO PLACIDLY amid the noise and the haste,
and remember what peace there may be in
silence. As far as possible, without surrender,
be on good terms with all persons.

Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and
listen to others, even to the dull and the
ignorant; they too have their story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they
are vexatious to the spirit. If you compare
yourself with others, you may become vain
or bitter, for always there will be greater and
lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your
plans. Keep interested in your own career,
however humble; it is a real possession in
the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs,
for the world is full of trickery. But let
this not blind you to what virtue there is;
many persons strive for high ideals, and
everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection.
Neither be cynical about love; for in the face
of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as
perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years,
gracefully surrendering the things of youth.

Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in
sudden misfortune. But do not distress
yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears
are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle
with yourself. You are a child of the universe
no less than the trees and the stars; you have
a right to be here.

And whether or not it is clear to you, no
doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.
Therefore be at peace with God, whatever
you conceive Him to be. And whatever
your labors and aspirations, in the noisy
confusion of life, keep peace in your soul.
With all its sham, drudgery and broken
dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.



Alumnus Magazine

Maine Central Institute

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Pittsfield, ME 04967

www.MCI-School.org

Leave a legacy that makes MCI Stronger

Have you ever considered including MCI in your will? By remembering MCI through your estate plan, you honor education and leave a legacy that will make MCI stronger. MCI's Heritage Society recognizes those who have included the School in their will or estate plans. Members of the Heritage Society are listed in the *Alumnus* magazine, annual donor reports and Heritage Society promotions, or you may choose to be anonymous.

To join the Heritage Society, simply confirm in writing that you have included MCI in your will or estate plans. If you have already included MCI in your gift planning and wish to be included as a member of the Heritage Society, please contact the Advancement Office at (207) 487-5915 (alumni@mci-school.org). Specific details of your planned gift are strictly confidential.

Thank you for remembering MCI!

Members:

William '63 and Beverly Ball

Frank '55 and Anne McCready Bowen '55

Scott Carter '73

Helen Esty Cianchette '48

Robert Cianchette '78 and Hillary Ginsberg

Christopher Crowley '70

Ralph Damren '64

Robert and Rita Desjardins

David '70 and Susan Smith England '73

Michael Fendler '70 and Melinda Loveitt

Peter Fendler '80

Gary '69 and Amy Fitts

Susan Haseltine '67

Michael '86 and

Michelle Vigue Hodgins '91

Harold and

Sandra Humphrey Carson '52

Ralph, Jr. '75 and

Tamara Andrews Ingraham '77

John LeMieux '78

Jeremy Lord '62

James '69 and Cynthia Maynard

Jean Purinton Maynard '41

Dalen Mills '66

John Mosher '83

Gregg '81 and Laurie Newhouse

Margaret "Peg" Maynard Olson '84

Daniel Oakes '66 and

Anna Maria Parker '66

Gregg '69 and Elaine Patterson

Charles Pratt '59

Mary Dysart Quint '50

Michael '62 and Priscilla Savage

Linda Shorey '69

Peter '65 and Carole Daily Vigue '64

Norbert '66 and Christine Young



MCI Trustee Peg Maynard Olson '84 📷 Genie Snyder