Margaret Petherbridge Farrar ’16
QUEEN OF THE CROSSWORD
What's a high school education? A goal in and of itself? Or a metaphorical stepping stone, a means to a much bigger end? At Berkeley Carroll, of course, where students are taught to consider all sides of a question and to feel their way through different—and sometimes contradictory—answers, it’s both. Berkeley Carroll teachers prepare their students for the “next big thing,” which virtually always means college. But they also construct an environment where intellectual stimulation is its own goal. Our teachers are proud of what they build; the students are proud of what they extract from it. Nuts-and-bolts learning skills to be sure, but learning that leads them to a lifelong world of ideas.

In this issue of the magazine, we focused on Berkeley Carroll graduates whose successful careers have a direct line to the creative and intellectual stirrings first awakened at 181 Lincoln Place.

There’s Radley Horton ’90, a scientist working with NASA to battle climate change—he sees his work as an opportunity to learn everything he can about worlds ranging from Nigerian settlements to the New York City subway system.

In order to delve deeper into the world of intellectual ideals, we organized a roundtable conversation with three alums whose law practices focus on the area of intellectual property.

The issue also includes a contribution from one 93-year-old alumna whose youth, and memories of pre-war Berkeley Carroll, have in a sense become history. She wrote an essay for this issue, researching and studying her life with a scholar’s eye.

Lastly, there’s the late Margaret Farrar from the Class of 1916, who defied the social expectations of a pre-suffrage America by leading a trail-blazing life in the world of crossword puzzles. An intellectual who devised most of the organizing principles of today’s puzzles, she remained determined “not to become set in cement at the age of forty.”

And that’s the goal. Enjoy the issue!

Jodie Corngold
Editor
jcorngold@berkeleycarroll.org
22 **How a Crossword Queen Went Off the Grid**
Most of the rules that govern the crossword puzzle today were developed by the late Margaret Petherbridge Farrar, a pioneer from the Berkeley Institute’s 1916 class.

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Ariel Peikes ’97, John Fowler ’01, and Helen Ogbara ’01 met for coffee and a funny, thoughtful chat about the ever-evolving world of entertainment law.

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75 years after going on a Berkeley-sponsored trip through Paris, Venice, and Third Reich Germany, Trudie Colson Nicholson ’38 shares her memories.

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The climatologist talks about the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, working with NASA to predict the future via climate models, and his friendships with global warming skeptics.
DEAR FRIENDS,

We constantly strive to provide the highest quality learning experience for our students: it is in the DNA of BC! Our mission pushes us to innovate in thoughtful ways so as to deepen the academic experience of our students. Our efforts in shaping the program are driven by the mission of our school, and the most critical aspect of the mission is that we aim to “prepare our diverse students for success in college and for the greater endeavor—a life of critical, ethical and global thinking.” How are we doing that?

A good example of our thoughtful planning is the American Studies course that is required for all 11th graders. This course is team-taught by two teachers, one an expert in English, the other an expert in History. The classes meet for double periods that allow for in-depth discussions, group work, visits by special guests, and trips around the city.

During the course of the year the readings and writings may focus on central themes such as justice, the economics of power, or the role of gender in society. Students are expected to do extensive reading and are required to submit clear, incisive essays on a regular basis.

This interdisciplinary course helps to prepare our students to confront the real world where events do not occur in simple, defined boxes. The American Civil War was just not caused by political reasons; there were economic and racial issues that touched and impacted the human spirit. To grasp such a complex occurrence calls for an intense examination of history and literature, and that combination can lead to a depth of understanding that is not attained with an approach within the usual, narrowly defined parameters.

It is inspiring to speak with students and parents at the conclusion of the junior year for what they tell is us is the American Studies class is transformational.

It is inspiring to speak with students and parents at the conclusion of the junior year for what they tell us is that the American Studies class is transformational. In addition to improving as thinkers and writers, the students leave the class with a better understanding of all the forces in play in our world and a keen appreciation for the role they can play in society.

We are engaged in the most important work there is, and your support is integral to our success. Please enjoy this magazine and all the good news it brings you about what our students and graduates have accomplished.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Vitalo
Head of School

Follow Bob at twitter.com/bobvitalo
The 53 members of the Class of 2013 were lauded, toasted, hugged, and bid tearfully goodbye on May 31, 2013. Class president Amalya Schwartz ’13 kicked off the speeches by reflecting on the unique charms of Berkeley Carroll, “the only school some of us have ever known.” Near the top of her list was the sainted Berkeley Carroll day planner.
After the Upper School Choir’s full-throated performance of “Remember My Song,” BC lifer and forensic champion August Rosenthal ’13 gave an eloquent speech that spun from the gentrification of Brooklyn (some people, he said, “distinguish a good neighborhood from a bad one by the proximity of soy milk”) to the “human, fluid, nebulous” nature of Berkeley Carroll itself. After reminiscing about American Studies, muffins, and the grade’s “wonderful two-hour power nap at the opera,” August pointed out that “Continuity allows us to turn on auto-pilot.” Although “change is scary,” he said, Berkeley Carroll will always feel like home because it is always changing.

The notions of change and risk taking were tempered by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Rohde. Rohde spoke about spending seven months as a hostage of the Taliban in 2008, which he attributed to having been “consumed with ambition and competitiveness…I had to interview the Taliban so that I could write the best book possible.” He criticized the “rising polarization in politics” and urged the class to “think before making major decisions.”

After each student received a diploma and a yellow rose, they threw their mortarboards in the air as one. After they’d finished scrambling to retrieve them, Upper School Director Suzanne Fogarty gave closing remarks about the “uncomfortable” but necessary feeling of failure. “We have to learn how to tolerate failure,” she said.
Class president Amalya Schwartz ’13.

Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist David Rohde was the guest speaker.
During the June 13, 2013 Middle School Closing Ceremonies, fifth-grade speaker Helena Wilson ’20 spoke of learning how to navigate a new environment. “I’ve changed,” she said. I’ve matured. I’ve grown. All of us have. We’ve risen to the challenges.”

Madison Eve ’19, speaking on behalf of the sixth grade, recalled advice she’d been given upon entering Berkeley Carroll. “Just be cool,” she’d been told. The effectiveness of this advice was underscored by the comments of sixth grade dean Elizabeth Kellogg, who called the class “smart, goofy, scrappy, and kind.”

The seventh grade speaker, Kian Sadeghi ’18, mentioned that Middle School requires everyone to overcome challenges and then just keep going. The speeches were capped off by two students representing the eighth grade—Amirah Winston ’17 and Xabier McAuley ’17—who reflected on all the knowledge they’ve acquired thanks to their teachers, but also on the fact that they’ve achieved the ability to think and seek knowledge on their own. And then—some teary-eyed, some impatient, some still giggling at inside jokes—the eighth graders “moved up.”
Lower School
ARCH DAY CEREMONIES

Songs were sung and chickens were mentioned fondly on the morning of June 12, 2013, at Arch Day—the beloved Berkeley Carroll tradition in which lower schoolers march, sidle, and strut through an arch coated with primary-color flowers to symbolize their passage to the next grade. Arch Day is also accompanied by speeches. Lavonia Mayers ’21, speaking on behalf of her fourth grade class, told the parents, students, and teachers assembled that she remembered “walking into Berkeley Carroll and knowing immediately that it was the right school” for her. Lucy Chant ’21 said, “I loved the way the we experienced learning about chickens in real life.” Eden Weissman ’21, the final fourth grade student speaker, also evoked his experiences with the Lower School’s newly minted Real-World Problem Solving program; each grade spent the spring studying and acting to improve issues that ranged from reducing waste to the often-difficult assimilation of immigrants to America.

Like so many rites of passage, this Arch Day was bittersweet, as Berkeley Carroll said goodbye to three long-time retiring staff members: Lower School nurse Wendy Schlemm, administrative assistant Helen Teagno, and summer day camp director Judy Valdez.
CLASS OF
2013
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2013

JOSHUA ANYASI
Colgate University

NINA AUSTIN
Oberlin College

CHARLES BAKER
Miami University of Ohio

TIMOTHY BENDERNAGEL
Ohio State University

DONDRE BENSON
Emory University

SARAH BERANBAUM
Temple University

ISABELLA BOORNAZIAN
New York University

ALLISON BROWN
Carleton College

ANNA-CLAIRE CHOI
University of Richmond

MAY COHAN
Skidmore College

ISABELLA DEL VALLE
New York University

ARIEL DINEEN
Haverford College

MICHAEL DOSIK
Bucknell University

JANE DRINKARD
Occidental College

SAMANTHA GILES
Smith College

HALEY GILLIA
Vanderbilt University, Blair School of Music

JAMES GOODIN
Macalester College

ISABEL GOTTLIEB
University of Vermont

ROBERT GRAHAM
Skidmore College

JASON GRUNFELD
Connecticut College

ELISE GUARNA
Columbia University

BREANNA HICKSON
Lawrence University

ELENA HIRSCH
Johns Hopkins University

CORBIN HOPPER
McGill University

JADA HUDSON
University of Richmond

MAX JENS
Ursinus College

WILLIAM JOHNSTON
Rochester Institute of Technology

ANYA KATZ
Oberlin College

EMILY KATZNER
Northeastern University

MIA KELLMAN
Occidental College

ALLISON KORB
Macalester College

HANNAH LIVANT
Bard College

ISABELLA MASTROGIACOMO
University of Vermont

KATHERINE MCDONOUGH
Bard College

MATTHEW MICHAEL
Fordham University

MARGO MILLER
New York University

MEKHIA POSEY
New York University

ANNABELLA ROSA
Tulane University

JOSHUA ROSAS
Rochester Institute of Technology

AUGUST ROSENTHAL
Middlebury College

JAYA SAHIBI
Wesleyan University

BRITTANY SCHREIBER
Muhlenberg College

AMALYA SCHWARTZ
Bates College

OLIVIA SCOTT
Oberlin College

ROBERT SEBER
University of Colorado Boulder

ANTHONY SPINA
Amherst College

NEITH STONE
College of Charleston

PHILIP SWEETING
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

SOPHIA TIMKO
Cornell University

JACOB UDEWITZ
Santa Clara University

LEYLA WADE
Wesleyan University

EMMETT WHITE
Evergreen State College

KAYLA YOUNG
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
SENIOR PROJECTS

Senior project presentations culminate an entire year’s worth of intensive, independent study. As juniors, interested students draw up a study plan and ask a faculty member to serve as mentor. A year later they write lengthy reports of their research and present the highlights in front of a crowd of teachers, parents, and peers.

Josh Anyasi ’13 argued that President Theodore Roosevelt’s “big stick” ideology permanently “changed the trajectory of United States foreign policy.” Josh studied Roosevelt’s colorful life and his efforts to successfully complete the Panama Canal, as well as the influence of “big stick” policy on subsequent U.S. Presidents.

After his favorite video arcade closed, Jamie Goodin ’13 channeled his grief into an exhaustive study of arcade culture. Jamie researched video-game granddaddies like Pong and Space Invaders, and examined how community formation in arcades resulted in “a triumph of the nerds...when they were in arcades, unpopular kids could be kings.”

Robert Graham ’13 produced a comprehensive study of the Great Recession, snaking back to the Reagan-initiated deregulation of investment banks and continuing through Japan’s “eerily similar” financial crisis in the 1990s, the amorality of bankers, the foreclosure crisis in America, and legislative attempts to protect the economy.

Elena Hirsch ’13 researched neuroplasticity and post-traumatic stress syndrome in an effort to understand the minds of African child soldiers. Drawing from literature about childhood trauma and brain scans of war veterans and drug abusers, Elena wrote a fictional case study of the relationship between a child soldier and a UN psychotherapist.

In the wake of September 11, the ex-firefighter father of Max Jens ’13 built a memorial to honor his fallen colleagues. Ever since, Max has been “fascinated” by the function of public monuments as “a vital connection to our past.” He spoke to architects, studied the rise of memorials in the Civil War, and spent hours interviewing tourists on the National Mall.

Jason Grunfeld ’13 read psychological texts and interviewed multiple children of Holocaust survivors to determine whether, as Elie Wiesel observed, “The children are now more tragic than their parents.” Jason, a grandchild of survivors himself, discovered a wide range of characteristics in his subjects—from rage and paranoia to resilience.

Elyamala Schwartz ’13 was shocked to learn that sex trafficking remains “a painful and complex problem” not just globally but in the United States. To tackle the issue, she studied survivor memoirs, read court transcripts, and interviewed a therapist about sex slave coercion techniques (drugs, love-bombing, death threats) and rehabilitation.
On April 1, 2013, First Lady Michelle Obama read Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs aloud at the White House’s annual Easter Egg Roll. “It was certainly thrilling,” says Cloudy author Judi Barrett, who has taught art at Berkeley Carroll for thirty-seven years. “You have your regular life, and it’s interrupted by these bumps of wonderful—like when the Cloudy movie opened in 2009 and Sony sent a limousine to take me to the premiere. I had to keep pinching myself.”

Two days after the Easter Egg Roll, Judi was back in 712 Carroll Street, teaching BC kindergarteners how to make multi-jointed paper robots. Some gave their robots long, lustrous metal eyelashes; others laced theirs with sticks of Warner Bros. TNT. “Remember, these robots are mechanical,” Judi urged them. “Don’t make them too sweet.”

Growing up in postwar Brooklyn, Judi says she was “always writing, always making little creatures.” She studied advertising design at Pratt, did freelance ad work during the “Mad Men” era, and started teaching in 1968. Her first children’s book, Old MacDonald Had an Apartment House, rolled out a year later. Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs originated in the mid-70s when—sitting in her Park Slope brownstone—Judi spontaneously
scribbled the following sentence: “Henry went out and got hit in the head with a meatball.” “I was not thinking of it as a book idea,” she says now. “But after I’d written the sentence, I looked at it. Weather that is food. You don’t come up with a concept that large very often.”

The 32-page book (illustrated by Judi’s ex-husband Ron Barrett) is an ingenious series of ever-heightening riffs on that notion, centering around the town of Chewandswallow, which has mashed potato snowstorms, roofless restaurants, and a “huge pancake” glopped in maple syrup that covers the school and forces its closure. Despite the fact that Cloudy has sold over four million copies since its publication in 1978 and recently became a hit movie (a sequel came out this fall), “There’s no awe from my students,” Judi explains. “They’re blasé about it. Here and there one will say ‘Oh, I read your book!’”

In 2009 Judi scaled back to teaching only kindergarteners, and she publishes frequently; this August saw the release of a third Cloudy volume, Planet of the Pies, as well as Grandpa’s Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs Cookbook. Still, she says, “Writing is ultimately lonely. My students offer this wealth of human contact.” As for Berkeley Carroll, “It’s always been the most spectacular school. And I’m not saying that because I work here. I look forward to my Tuesdays.”

Apart from robots, the kindergarten art curriculum mixes demanding skill-building projects (self-portraits, still lifes, masks, wood block monoprints) with goofy crowdpleasers (in April, the kindergarten drew wild animals—and then added bars so they wouldn’t escape from the page). “One of my favorite things,” adds Judi, “is talking with the kids who are unhappy with their work. I try to convince them that you can take something you don’t like and turn it into something you do. Art grows. It develops. Then we talk—I tell them, ‘To think that you didn’t like this! And look, now it’s gorgeous.’”

BERKELEY CARROLL ART TEACHER AND AUTHOR, JUDI BARRETT.
Thirteen students braved a 17-hour flight to get to India, where they lived with host families, built furniture, and studied the politics of poverty and development.
RIGOROUS, REWARDING “SPRING INTENSIVES” DEBUT

From March 4 to 15, 2013, each Berkeley Carroll Upper Schooler spent his or her days in a comprehensive Spring Intensive course, designed to stress experiential learning about subjects as diverse and demanding as musical theater, mountain climbing, Kenyan culture, and the construction of gender. “We deliberately carved out space for this new program because it offers the opportunity to study one subject in great depth,” says Upper School Director Suzanne Fogarty. “Our normal school day is compartmentalized, which has its benefits, but life isn’t like that.” The eighteen Spring Intensives reflect the passions of BC teachers, many of whom teamed up to teach interdisciplinary courses. “There aren’t many schools that do this,” explains Suzanne. “Part of it is in response to the fact that students and teachers get antsy in March. The Intensives—with their variation, museum visits, guest speakers, and fieldwork in Spain and India—are designed to rejuvenate.” What follows is a brief sampling of the Intensives.

SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY OF FOOD

Fresh off churning a batch of Cookies n’ Cream ice cream on March 6, 2013, students in the Food intensive went on a scavenger hunt to inspect as many Berkeley Carroll tongues as possible. (Those who reacted strongly after licking PTC strips were dubbed “supertasters,” who comprise 25% of the population and experience salty and spicy foods with an incredible intensity.) “There’s definitely psychology involved in your data,” US Science teacher Vanessa Prescott told students. “Think about confirmation bias. People desperately want to be supertasters.” Of course, emotion is inextricable from food—as US English teacher Brian Chu points out. “Yes, taste involves chemicals and human anatomy,” he says, “but there’s also a literary component. I’ve been teaching American Studies to the juniors all year, and this is America: the question of happiness, and whether you can achieve it by eating commercially prepared food.”
GETTYSBURG

“There’s a squeamishness about teaching war, a fastidiousness about the bloodshed,” US History Chair Lorne Swarthout says. “Which is understandable: we try to teach the art of peace and reconciliation. On the other hand, our country is at war a lot. Understanding why our country goes to war is a question I want to grapple with.” As part of their grappling process, Lorne’s students watched the Ken Burns documentary “The Civil War,” and pored over the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *Killer Angels*. Of spending two weeks mired in warfare, one student notes, “You gain such a deep understanding of the battle. You realize that it wasn’t just Lincoln and Lee duking it out.”

The course included a two-day trip to Gettysburg battlefields; while the students’ on-location grub may have been popcorn chicken (as opposed to the crackers and “aprons full of ripe cherries” eaten by the actual Union soldiers), it was otherwise an immersive visit.

HOMELESSNESS IN NEW YORK

Students went to soup kitchens, interviewed city officials, and created social action projects as a way of understanding the thorny questions of policy, politics, and empathy surrounding homelessness. On March 5, 2013, all ten students worked a 12-hour day that culminated in the cooking and eating of a lasagna-brownie-popcorn meal with ex-homeless men honing their social skills. “We had some great conversations,” says Richie Palacios ’15. “One had his Masters but eventually fell into crime and drug abuse.” Anya Katz ’13 agrees. “There are certain stereotypes about the kind of people you’d expect to meet,” she says, “but they’re just blown out of the water. Before this, when I saw homeless people on the street, I didn’t know how to react—there was this awkward anonymity. That’s changing.”
NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

“We do learn about depression and anxiety,” US psychologist Karen Kauffmann says of her intensive—but she admits that students seemed more interested in the bizarre anomalies of neurology: from narcoleptic squirrels to alien hallucinations. Each taught a seminar on the subject of their choice (Alzheimer’s, Stockholm syndrome, autism), and they did close readings of texts by n+1 co-founder Marco Roth and Yeshiva University professor Joy Ladin, both of whom visited the class to discuss their work. The group also practiced yoga, heard a Tibetan monk discuss memory, and dissected sheep’s brains. “We deal with so many concepts and facts and 2D animations,” says US science teacher Gale Corneau, “and the dissection helped us remember: there is actually an organ in our skills the size of two fists that’s responsible for all these things we’re talking about.”

FAULKNER

Members of this intensive decoded two of the writer’s cryptic, disjointed masterpieces: The Sound and the Fury and As I Lay Dying. “I call it hacking away,” says US English Chair Erika Drezner. “This is my eighth time reading The Sound of the Fury, and I love seeing the kids meet my favorite narrators, and make the same discoveries I made.” During an end-of-intensive celebration, attended by Faulkner student (and Swarthmore College junior) Emma Corngold ’11, virtually inscrutable Faulkner in-jokes abounded. “I feel like Dilsey preparing Father a hot toddy,” said Erika after foisting homemade brownies on a student. “He’ll be dead in a year if he keeps eating like this,” said Thomas Lippert ’14. Everyone laughed. The use of conspiratorial Faulkner-speak seven hours a day has made it tough for Erika’s students to adjust to the civilian world. “When I was home last weekend,” Kirsten Ebenezer ’16 said, “I kept blurring out things like, ‘She had an affair with a priest!’ My mom got really annoyed. But this stuff sticks with you. I don’t get out of it. I still haven’t gotten out of it.”
Fourth Grade Musicians Study Prokofiev and Glass

Every student suspects that their teachers lead a secret life—but few might guess that Lower School music teacher Carolyn Sloan has written macho Ford-truck commercial jingles and has long been developing a full-length musical about Shakespeare's Ophelia. Carolyn gets to flex her song-writing skills at Berkeley Carroll, of course—a bulging blue binder in her classroom contains sheet music for 65 original songs she's tailored to suit the abilities and interests of each Lower School grade. This September she even traveled to Moscow's International House of Music to conduct a children's choir performance of her song “All We Wish is Peace” for the international Ship of Tolerance project. Of her snappy, Menkenesque songs, Carolyn explains, “I never write down to the kids. That’s what’s wrong with the choral literature available for children. Kids don’t want to sing “Turkey in the Straw” ad nauseum.”

Carolyn's description of BC students' tastes as “cosmopolitan” was borne out by a visit to one of her fourth grade classes. Girls bopped their heads to Philip Glass, and a mini-debate broke out over whether the pots and pans used to create music in Stomp! contained “tone color.” The fourth grade curriculum includes units on orchestras, individual instruments, and Peter and the Wolf-style musical storytelling—all of which culminate in the collaborative composition of an all-class instrumental piece. “Can I change my part?” Andreas Welch '21 asked Carolyn during one of the composition sessions. “I feel like it’s dissonant with the others.”

“Let’s hear it,” said Carolyn. “Dissonance is not always bad.” After Andreas played his xylophone part, Carolyn told him to keep it in, explaining, “I like the way they rub.”

After class, she elaborated on the curriculum. “Musical theater has been called the ultimate collaborative process,” she said, “so whenever we talk as a school about curriculum integration and social cooperation, I always think about that Mickey Rooney mentality: Let’s put on a show! My program is grounded in the music education philosophy of Carl Orff, and pushes kids to apply things they’ve learned in every class—about music, movement, teamwork, and storytelling.” (Carolyn knows her share about storytelling—her multimedia pop-up book My First Symphony will be published in 2014.) “I’m asking them to constantly jump back and forth,” Carolyn said, “between composing and talking about their work with a critical remove.” She laughed. “Every so often, I have to remind myself: they’re nine.”
Weeks of research into 1980s fashions and fine art movements finally bore fruit for eight BC students on February 25, 2013—when their “self-portraits” were featured on an episode of The Carrie Diaries, the CW prequel to Sex and the City which follows Carrie Bradshaw’s coming of age in the decade of “Ronald Reagan and shoulder pads.”

“The set producer called me out of the blue in November,” says Visual Arts Chair Joe Poon. “She asked if I had any students willing to create the ‘self-portraits’ that Carrie and her friends made in their high school art class. The show hadn’t even started then. I thought it was a great opportunity to get the students’ work seen by a huge audience, and to learn about that period.” Students looked at movements like Xerox art, pop art, and anime that were in vogue in the 1980s, and Katie McDonough ’13 collaged the hair for her self-portrait out of pages from Carrie-friendly magazines like Seventeen and Cosmo. “We also examined fashion trends,” says Joe, “and decided to give one of the guys a popped collar.”

The students who participated in the opportunity were juniors Xin Yi Liu and Itaiah Pierce, seniors Olivia Churchwell and Lauren Howe, and Class of 2013 graduates Katie McDonough, Isabella Delvalle, Annabella Rosa, and Mekhia Posey. Their artwork can be seen a minute into the episode “Caught” (viewed by over a million people, according to Nielsen), in a scene where Carrie listens to Blondie and makes a joke about Mary Lou Retton. ❖
SPRING

(connections)
ame-dropping the late “Margaret Petherbridge Farrar” may not prompt gasps and spilled wine glasses today, but she was something of a Zelig in early twentieth-century culture. Her father founded the licorice company that eventually marketed Twizzlers, her book was the first ever published by Simon & Schuster, she hobnobbed with T.S. Eliot and Thornton Wilder, and—most notably—she was the first crossword puzzle editor of The New York Times, serving from 1942 to 1969. Universally known as the Queen of Crossword Puzzles, Margaret was (according to puzzle expert Stanley Newman) a “genius [who] established many, if not most, of the rules that govern crosswords.” In an era when most women were expected to marry or become schoolteachers, Margaret Farrar carved out a triumphant career founded on knowledge, devilish wit, and a determination to never “become set in cement.”
Margaret was born on March 23, 1897, and always knew she wouldn't have to work for a living; she came from licorice money. Her father was the licorice king H.W. Petherbridge, and although his Brooklyn-based National Licorice Company wouldn't begin marketing Twizzlers until 1929, the family was prosperous. “Her mother had died quite young,” says Curtis Farrar, Margaret’s son, “so she was brought up largely by a couple of servants. They were very well off.” So despite the demanding curriculum of the Berkeley Institute in the 1910s—juniors read Milton and Silas Marner, and fifth-years read Balzac and Hugo in the original French—Margaret could afford to “get around” her homework just as many Berkeley girls did then, according to the late Helen Leeming Thirkield ’19: by having male relatives do it. “What fun it was,” wrote Helen in 1936, “to have my father’s ability at algebra competing in classroom with the knowledge of another girl’s brother!”

Helen’s one-liner may seem shocking today, but it embodies the duality of Berkeley in the 1910s. In what the late Margery Boody Valentine ’16 called those “days of long black stockings and big bows atop of fat pigtails,” the nation was not only pre-feminist but pre-Nineteenth Amendment. Berkeley trained young women for what were then thought to be their only two options: teaching or marriage. Would-be schoolteachers could dig into Dickens and Hawthorne, while future housewives could focus on Household Science, a multi-year course that covered the “composition, fuel value and care of foods,” as well as regular lessons on body carriage, fruit preservation, and voice placement.

Twenty years after graduating, Margery Boody Valentine wryly said, “We listened to [our principal] lecture to us on the importance of ‘a low voice in women’ and then took him out and beat him up at tennis”—suggesting that there were girls at Berkeley who bristled at conventional gender roles and viewed them with skepticism.

However, Margaret Petherbridge seems to have wholeheartedly bought into the teacher-wife binary. A brilliant pupil who never stinted on her homework, Margaret was also (as one Berkeley classmate put it) a “nervous, energetic type, always on the move,” who feared that her intelligence doomed her to a sedentary life in the classroom. “I thought I was going to become a teacher,” she said, “but then I realized that if I did, I’d never get married.” Even in her forties, she still viewed teachers with pity. Of one friend who was studying to become a history teacher, Margaret wrote, “How I wish she had something more to look forward to.”

Her aversion to the life of the “schoolmarm” may have been a response to the gifted but legendarily intimidating Ina Clayton Atwood, who joined Berkeley as vice-principal in 1913. “She seemed to be a woman who was not living life in the real world,” the late Dorothy Taylor Mesney ’34 once said of Miss Atwood. “She never married. She lived with her mother. So what did she know about life? That’s the way I felt about it. I just thought, Ooh, I don’t want to live like she does. I hope I don’t grow up...
Perhaps Margaret Petherbridge had the same thoughts her senior year—which, despite the Great War, was marked by a Hawaiian music craze (“Hula, Hula” was the senior song), outings to Broadway shows, and the pooling of the Berkeley girls’ collective spare change in November 1915 to purchase “a rather mangy lion” for the Prospect Park Zoo. (The animal was named “Berkelydius” in a school-wide vote, and his popularity eventually resulted in the institution of the lion as Berkeley’s mascot.)

Even after graduating from Smith College four years later with a degree in history, Margaret remained determined not to teach, eventually settling on a job as secretary to the Sunday editor of the New York World. The newspaper had published the world’s first crossword puzzle in 1913, but by 1920 the puzzles were routinely riddled with errors, and Margaret was tasked with proofreading them. She had never done a crossword before, and was dismayed by the unimaginative clues, such as “a woody plant” for “tree.”

Margaret encouraged her puzzle constructors to incorporate puns, multiword phrases, quotations, and cultural references, and she introduced the concept of themed puzzles. She banned two-letter words and insisted that “all words must meaningfully intersect in a symmetrical pattern,” with each letter square serving as part of both an across word and a down word, because it was “prettier.”

Charmed by her work, Richard L. Simon and Max Schuster convinced Margaret to co-edit a book of crossword puzzles, which became their...
fledging company’s debut publication; each copy was accompanied by a free pencil. The 1924 book—the first of its kind—was an immediate sensation and sold 400,000 copies within a year. Margaret recalled driving “up and down Fifth Avenue…[we’d] run into a bookstore and ask how many puzzle books had been sold that day, and the answer would be in the thousands. We were young and very excited.”

Crosswords supplanted mahjong as the national fad: black-and-white boxes began showing up on gowns and jewelry, puzzlers from Yale and Harvard competed in stadiums, and newspapers tut-tutted about the “sinful waste in the utterly futile finding of words the letters of which will fit into a prearranged pattern.”

Margaret edited two crossword books each year, and by 1929 had sufficient royalties to loan her husband, editor John C. Farrar, the money to found the publishing company Farrar and Rinehart. Farrar was a champion of the eclectic (and according to Margaret, “the youngest and friskiest editor of the time”), who edited writers ranging from Ezra Pound to Groucho Marx, often with Margaret’s help.

For years the august New York Times...
had refused to publish crosswords, but in late 1941 the paper began wooing Margaret to edit a proposed Sunday puzzle, plans for which solidified after Pearl Harbor made it “possible that there will now be bleak blackout hours.” In a 1941 memo to her Times editor, Margaret argued that, in “an increasingly worried world,” crosswords were a necessary form of escapism (indeed, during her Times reign she banned any mention of diseases and dictators). The newspaper’s first Sunday crossword was published under Margaret’s supervision on February 15, 1942. She later joked that her three children had “tended to conceal the fact that Mother was a puzzle editor...But when I joined the Times I became respectable.”

Still, that respectability came with a daunting workload. In 1943, when John decamped to Africa for nine months to work in the government’s Psychological Warfare branch, Margaret maintained her puzzlework, took over many of her husband’s publishing duties, tended to their daughters, and regularly did laundry for their teenaged son (which she had shipped to him at Andover). She also sent John cigarettes, Pocket mysteries, slippers, and ninety-three letters—or about ten every month.

“I seem to have created an international incident on Nov. 7th by defining Gomel as a recaptured Russian city!” she wrote in one of them. “It was duly noted in the New Yorker Talk of the Town that the crossword puzzle had scooped the news pages! The definition is all right now, thanks to the Russians, but my face was red going into the Times last week. However, everyone seems to think it was good publicity.” A group of puzzle-obsessed sailors on a Navy supply ship in the Pacific wrote asking for Margaret’s photo, which they intended to use as a pin-up.

After the war, Margaret helped her husband start a second company, Farrar, Straus, and Co., where she moonlighted as an editor of mystery novels while maintaining puzzle standards at the Times, which instituted daily crosswords in 1950. Margaret hit on the now-familiar notion of having the puzzles escalate in difficulty over the course of the week, and selected her puzzles from hundreds of submissions by mostly amateur constructors who ranged from Philharmonic violinists to prison inmates. She test-solved each puzzle herself (to determine if it had “gripping power”) and edited the publishable ones on her lap while riding the subway home to prepare dinner for her family.

In addition to all this, the Farrars’ social set included luminaries such as Edna Ferber and T.S. Eliot, around whom Margaret felt slightly “sheepish” about her background of Brooklyn and licorice. Still, she was warmly accepted; in 1953, Thornton Wilder wrote John, “Tell Margaret I can do all those Mr. Kingsley’s Double Acrostics—but there’s always one part of her x-word puzzle I can’t finish. Isn’t that awful?”

When The New York Times’ then-policy forced Margaret to retire at 72, she had served as the newspaper’s crossword editor from 1942 to 1969, a period of seismic social and cultural change. Almost miraculously for someone who came of age before women had the right to vote, Margaret kept the puzzles witty and modern throughout. (She was a controversial advocate of using dictionaries and reference books to solve crosswords, arguing that it was how one learned new things.) Her correspondence with her husband is dotted with critical references to old friends who had grown “stuffy,” and in 1943 she wrote him, “I guess we were right in deciding not to become set in cement at the age of forty. I’m still feeling pretty pliable myself.”

Indeed, when Margaret Petherbridge Farrar died on June 11, 1984, she was in the midst of editing her 134th crossword book for Simon & Schuster. Crosswords were not only a source of escapism and mental exertion for her, but a life choice. Two years before her death, Margaret was asked about the appeal of the national pastime she’d helped shape. “I think it keeps us young,” she said.”
lawyers from the
A Roundtable with Ariel Peikes ’97, John Fowler ’01, and Helen Ogbara ’01

The writer Stewart Brand’s claim that “information wants to be free” has become the rallying cry of music pirates and the free culture movement, but nobody quotes what Brand said next. “Information also wants to be expensive,” he said. “That tension will not go away, [and] each round of new devices makes the tension worse, not better.” Ariel Peikes, John Fowler, and Helen Ogbara have devoted their legal careers to examining that “tension”—Ariel as an associate at the intellectual property law firm Gottlieb, Rackman & Reisman; John as an entertainment lawyer at Johnson & Johnson LLP in Los Angeles; and Helen as an associate at Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz working with clients on culinary and fitness media ventures. In April the trio met for coffee in a midtown diner, where they chatted about recipe plagiarism, rock-star legal battles, and how the law has evolved in an era of rampant file sharing.

By Matt Weinstock

(left to right) Ariel, John, and Helen.
How did you become interested in law? Helen, you always seemed inclined in that direction—the Class of 2001 yearbook called you “our arguer.”

Helen: Oh, god. I have a type-A personality, so I thought, “I want to be a lawyer, so I have to do debate.” Now that I’m a corporate attorney, I know that not all lawyers are in the courtroom, but I really cherish my debate team experience—and I loved [Speech and Debate coach] Mr. Shapiro. I went back to Berkeley Carroll recently to watch a debate, and the team is huge now; it’s thirty or forty kids. When I started, it was four people. Then we started winning trophies, and it caught on.

The yearbook also called John “our surfer,” and said that in ten years he’d be “searching for the giant squid.”

John: (laughs) It’s funny how these things turn out exactly to be true. After graduating from Vanderbilt, I actually worked at Surfer magazine as a journalist for two years. It was the grooviest job of all time. I’d known I was going to move to California since I was thirteen; I can remember the first Surfer magazine that I picked up, with Darryl “Flea” Virostko on the cover. I thought, I’m doing this. No doubt about it. The job had a lot of autonomy. If the waves were good, you’d come to the office at eleven, surf again in the afternoon, and surf a third time after work. And yet everyone had a great intellectual perspective on surfing. After a while, though, I thought, What am I doing with my life? Then I had to (laughs) break the news to my parents that I was going to law school.

Ariel: They were afraid you’d be taking a pay cut?

John: It’s nice to barter work for money now. At Surfer I was getting paid in board shorts. But I went to law school for almost entirely the wrong reasons: I liked public speaking, liked the courtroom atmosphere. “Law & Order”: great show.

Helen: Great show. “SVU,” too. I took a more traditional route: I started studying for the LSAT my junior year at Harvard, and went straight through from college to Columbia Law School. I wouldn’t change a thing; there was nothing I was really passionate about other than going to law school, which sounds really awful, but it’s true. Law school was really grueling for me. It’s not like college—which is all about being the well-rounded student. You can’t have “interests” when you’re in law school.

John: It’s brutal.

Helen: After two years working at a very big corporate law firm, I realized I could get closer to brands and businesses at a smaller firm. At Frankfurt, celebrity clients and small businesses really look up to us on issues like, say, who owns the photos on a Pinterest board. The whole concept of Pinterest, of course, is taking other people’s stuff and putting it on your board. We advise clients to do the right thing in these instances, but no one really knows what the “right” thing to do is yet. I don’t even think the courts know.

John: We could spend the rest of the day talking about that question. Oh my god.

Ariel: Our clients themselves usually have some moral concerns, and some business concerns.

Helen: Most of the time, I think about it in a practical sense: if you start a company and your main asset is your intellectual property, and if you plan to sell the company down the line, people will need to know that your intellectual property is actually owned by you. If somebody created a logo or developed software for you, you need to own it. But sometimes clients say, “I’m a start-up, I’m small, I want to keep it simple.”

John: “I don’t want to pay lawyers.”

Helen: (laughs) And then you end up paying lawyers like John a lot on the back-end.

John: My firm handles cases on behalf of actors and models where their image will be plucked and used in a way that they couldn’t have contem-
plated. We also deal with disputes among band members. There are so many times where someone will come into the office with a problem, and all you can think is, What were you thinking? Why was none of this in writing? Why didn’t you keep any of your state-

It’s nice to barter work for money now. At Surfer magazine I was getting paid in board shorts.

— John Fowler ’01

ments? But I’ve been in bands my whole life, and you never sit down with the band that you started with some buddies and think, “Okay, so who’s going to own the name in the event that we break up? And why don’t we create an LLC so that if we get sued because you chucked the amp out the window, it’s not going to be all of us on the hook?”

Helen: It’s the blessing and the curse of the entertainment industry. You work with such cool, interesting people, but they’re not business-minded. Creatives don’t think about LLCs and personal liability. As a lawyer, you have to be the one to focus them in on those issues.

Ariel: You have to understand your client’s business. We’ve had clients say, “My garment designs have been knocked off by”—to throw out a name—“Forever 21. But I don’t want to sue Forever 21, because they might distribute my products some day, or I might collaborate with that company on a line of products—so I’d like to avoid any dispute becoming public.”

John: You don’t want to be known as a litigious person in the entertainment industry, especially if you’re a burgeoning artist, you’ll never work again. My boss likes to say that “We represent people from the ’80s in their eighties”—because the people willing to go against studios tend to be ones who’ve had a degree of success and are now sitting and waiting for certain clauses in their contracts to kick in.

Ariel: For me, the most exciting clients are the ones on the rise. You have to do things really efficiently with them, because they don’t have a lot of money. You’re making an investment in them—hoping to stay with them as they grow.

Helen: At my firm we represent celebrity chefs, which wasn’t even a category that existed fifteen years ago. As chefs blow up, they can spin off into all kinds of businesses: books, franchises, reality TV. It’s really interesting.

Has anyone ever sued a chef for stealing a recipe?

Helen: That’s something I was curious about when I first started. I thought, “Why can’t you just protect your recipes?” But you can’t copyright a recipe.

Ariel: I’d qualify that. The list of ingredients isn’t protectable, but if you communicate your recipe in some cool way—“a dash of this, a splash of that”—and someone puts it in their book, you could argue that they’ve copied your artistic expression. A big part of my job is helping people understand what isn’t protectable. One client was just threatened with a lawsuit by an entity that had registered a copyright for certain patterns of hearts. But the two patterns weren’t very similar—and we’re talking about hearts. That shape has been around forever. Sometimes you have to tell people, “Slow down; your rights really aren’t what you think they are.”

It’s nice to barter work for money now. At Surfer magazine I was getting paid in board shorts.

— John Fowler ’01
Helen: Exactly. A heart is a heart, and a roast chicken is a roast chicken. Also, chefs want people to use their recipes. It goes back to this idea that information wants to be shared. When you’re talking about a recipe, it’s hard to say “This is mine!” while also saying “I want everyone using it.”

John: The real issue is monetizing that recipe. You want everyone to have access to it, to buy your book and read your website, but you don’t want them to look at it on someone else’s website. It’s all about money. It has nothing to do with anything else. The reason you’re protecting that right isn’t a matter of principle.

Helen: You might also want to protect the quality of your brand. I think that for some artists, it is a personal thing.

John, do you listen to songs to figure out the moment at which the use of a previously existing work becomes “transformative,” and protectable under the fair use doctrine?

John: I’ve done that ten or twenty times in the past year. A potential client will say, “My song has been infringed upon; here’s my song, here’s the other person’s song.” We’ll all sit around the office, yelling at each other sometimes—“No, it absolutely is!” “No it isn’t, that’s a garbage case!” I don’t have a trained musical ear, though, so we actually send the songs to a specialist, who we’d use as an expert at a trial. She never tells us, “You have a home run.” She’ll say, “It appears as though there are elements of copying, and I would recommend your pursuing litigation.”

Ariel: About two thirds of what I do is litigation, which often becomes really fun. I’ll get to tell the story of a young photographer—where she came from, how she got started, how people began paying her to make postcards using her images, and how unseemly shops are now reproducing her pictures on t-shirts without compensation. That goes back to what I learned at Berkeley Carroll, which was how to frame particular issues and articulate them clearly. Judges look at the papers, meet with the lawyers, and they form an impression virtually at that moment about who’s the good guy and who’s the bad guy. It’s a storytelling issue: how do you portray your client as reasonable, and the other people as greedy, slick, or unfair?

John: We really should plug Berkeley Carroll. I always think, “How would Mr. Tran have filed this brief?” (laughs)

Ariel: How would Mr. Corfield have framed the situation? “The defenestration of Prague…”

John: That’s how I know that word, from his history class! I use defenestration once a week. It means chucking someone out of a window.

John: We can be honest; there’s a statute of limitations that’s expired on whether or not the federal government can go after us. I burned the odd CD in high school; now I’m on the pay version of [the music streaming service] Spotify. I don’t want to get on a holier-than-thou soapbox, but you wouldn’t just walk into a store, pocket a CD, and walk out. You’re doing the same thing by downloading illegally—but there’s no stigma to it. It’s a socie-
tal problem. Soon it won’t matter, because everything’s going to be streaming for ten bucks a month.

**Ariel:** I’m a big believer in that. There’s no point in owning anymore. It’s about access. I still have friends who love owning movies and albums—but ownership of anything seems so completely irrelevant when you can just watch it on YouTube or Netflix, or stream it on Spotify. We’re becoming an access society.

**Q** Your work must make you hyper-conscious of what’s illegal. Do you ever feel like a goody-goody around friends?

**John:** You want to take this outside? Do I feel like a “goody-goody”?

**Ariel:** By the time I got to law school, I decided that it wasn’t worth having to deal with the government or the [performance-rights organization] ASCAP coming after me for music sharing. I went to a subscription service.

**Helen:** I’m definitely more conscientious, just because I’ve seen things go badly with clients who cut corners. I write a health and fitness blog, ChicFitChef.com, and if I rely on somebody else’s recipe, I always cite it. Instead of googling for photos, I joined a stock image site so I could post images without having to worry about infringement issues. That’s only because I’m a lawyer and I’m thinking about it. Most people don’t.

**Ariel:** We live in a world where it’s so easy to take and reproduce.

**John:** Look at the evolution of the music industry. Everyone bought the record, then 8-track tapes came out and they bought the same album on tape, then cassettes came out and they bought it again, then CDs came out and they bought it again. Everyone was buying four or five copies of the same album, and now you can’t get people to buy an album once. The whole industry is supporting itself on probably 4% of the revenue that it was fifteen, twenty years ago.

**Helen, earlier you said that you’re not allowed to have “interests” in law school. Is that true for lawyering?**

**Helen:** You always have to make time for things that are important to you. I have my blog, and I’m a runner. I did a half-marathon; I’m thinking about the New York City marathon, but I don’t know if my knees can take it.

**John:** Surfing is still very important to me. A few weeks ago I ordered a board from Mike Hynson, one of the two stars of [iconic 1966 surf movie] The Endless Summer. He’s in his seventies and still shaping boards in San Diego. I’m going to pick that up when I go back. I wish I had more time for it, though. Litigation has its ups and downs. I wrapped up a trial last September where I worked at least one day a weekend for seven months straight. But I’m at a smaller firm, where if I need some time off, it’s no problem to ask for it.

**Ariel:** We’ve all ended up at small firms. That’s a great advantage: not being at a firm where you have to bill 2,000 hours every year. Last year I took my first drum lesson in fifteen years. I’m trying to get back to playing in bands.

**John:** I just set up my drums in my garage.

**Ariel:** I gave John drum lessons when I was 15 and he was 11 for a summer at the BC Creative Arts program. He was a very good student.

**Helen:** I meet so many lawyers who are “closet creatives,” who grew up singing or cooking or creating art. You tend to go into an area of the law where you can get a glimpse of a particular world, and represent people who live in it full-time.

**Ariel:** My firm doesn’t have a lot of music clients, but I’m trying to grow that part of the firm. I guess we’re all frustrated by, and attracted to, the things we can’t find time to do.

**Q** Are there parts of the law that are still mysterious to you?

**Ariel:** ASCAP and BMI often go after bars and supermarkets that play music—because if you’re playing music to an audience other than “a normal circle of friends and family,” you have to pay royalties. My question is: what are the economics of suing one bar in Oklahoma? The suit will cost more money than you’re going to get back.

**John:** They probably just write the angriest letter you could possibly imagine citing a bunch of case law and saying, “I will come down on you, little saloon.” In fact, my greatest skill is angry letter writing. That’s one thing Berkeley Carroll really enabled me to do.

**Ariel:** Maybe it was Park Slope that did that.

**John:** Exactly.
Six Berkeley girls setting sail for Europe in June 1938. From left to right, after boarding the SS Washington: Adelaide Mitchell Dougherty '39, Betty Flavelle Nelligan '38, Virginia Fowler Gurney '38, Adrianna Fowler Pearsall '35, Trudie Colson Nicholson '38, and Mary Anderson Seymour '34.

Berkeley Blotter

Europeans Routed By Berkeleyites

First trip aboard comes, mathematically speaking—ah, once!

Positively last entirely, “Do try not to lose your purse, dear.”

“’So long!’ to the waving wheat with confetti in your mouth and a lark-catcher in your hand, with much wandering to “Bon Voyage” candy.

Second day out, Mary Lang takes on. Look at the ship’s doctor and settles down for a nice, quiet corner of the mast.

For England! Plymouth... Copenhagen... Amsterdam... Birmingham... Westminster... the Tower... Little Boat to Holland... means more tulip bulbs... feather beds... Germany... Cologne... Cathedral... Coburg... trip down the Rhine.

Hitler youth, drooping with weakness, sixteen-year-old lad, speaking Dutch. Masters... a wooden shoes (Title “Shoes below the knee are considered to be strictly an Argentinian affair.”... cheese factory... candies, light...
On June 29, 1938, fifteen girls set off on the Berkeley Institute’s European tour. In preparation, Principal Ina Clayton Atwood reminded them of two things: that it was dangerous to be overheard speaking out against the Nazi regime in Germany, and that they were limited to a single hatbox apiece. One of the girls was Trudie Colson Nicholson ’38. Still quick-witted at 93, Trudie shares her recollections of the seven-week trip—aided by a cache of detailed letters she sent her parents that summer. Her experiences veered from the madcap (the girls pulled an all-nighter while on the SS Washington) to the terrifying (Trudie encountered Hitler youths in Heidelberg and had a brief white slavery scare in Paris)—and offer a glimpse into a vanished era.

By Trudie Colson Nicholson ’38
For many years, Miss Atwood had escorted students on what was called “The Grand Tour of Europe”—with stops in England, Holland, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and France—and she was eager to take a group in the summer of ’38. Rumors of war were rumbling through the Western world, and she felt it might be the last time such a trip would be possible. She kept reminding us not to forget our gloves, and how much luggage to bring: one 28”x15”x10” suitcase and one round linoleum hatbox. We only had a certain amount of space, but Barbara Lethbridge Wood ’38 brought an enormous straw hat that was the size of a duffel bag. It had a great big sophisticated brim, and she looked like a movie star—far more so than the rest of us. We look so drab in our pictures; it’s really a scream.

A few girls were reluctant to leave their boyfriends for the summer, but most of us weren’t involved. In a letter home, I wrote that “I wore my brown suit dress [the first night] and we just ran around the ship looking for boys. We had to look awfully hard and nothing happened.” One night, four of us decided we wanted to see the sunrise—so “we stayed in our cabin and talked like mad to keep each other awake. Finally at 5:30 in the morning we went up on deck—but the sun [had risen] behind some clouds and we didn’t see it! Really we got into hysterics. It was so funny.”

One evening I saw Miss Atwood leaning over the rails of the deck, gazing at the water. I moved up to her and said, “A penny for your thoughts.” She looked at me and said, in sort of a

“I wore my brown suit dress and we just ran around the ship looking for boys,”

Trudie wrote her parents.
On July 5, we saw our first sight of land—the beautiful mustard, wheat, and barley fields of Ireland. We docked in the Cobb harbor, where “there were a few little row boats,” I wrote. “In one was a little Irish boy, about 13 years old. We talked to him from up on deck, and he was killing, honestly. We asked if he knew who Tarzan was. He started whooping like Tarzan does in the movies. Then we asked him if he knew who Dopey was and he said in an awful brogue, ‘No, I don’t know any such mon!’ He asked us if we were from the West, and we said, ‘Yes. We’re all Indians!”’

We passed through Plymouth, England, during poppy season, saw Macbeth at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, and visited Westminster Abbey—where one girl who had not enjoyed studying Wordsworth’s work went up to his resting place and

Nonie Jarboe Olson ’38 in the Dolomite mountains, as photographed by lifelong pal Trudie.
stamped on it. “London as a whole would disappoint you,” I wrote my father. “It’s nothing more than Times Square on a smaller scale…No street has the spaciousness and beauty of 5th and Park Avenue.” I should say that I’ve since become a devoted Anglophile and heartily agree with Samuel Johnson’s statement, “When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life”!

After exploring the windmills and cheese farms of Holland, we continued into Germany—where, I wrote, “we passed through customs easily. The customs officials were very nice to us.” Miss Atwood had instructed us to be very careful of our behavior, and particularly about being critical of the Nazis where we might be overheard. I’m embarrassed to say I was just too ignorant back then to know how serious things were. None of us did; we were just not “with it.” Berkeley didn’t offer the sort of global education that it does today. We hadn’t learned about the situation in Europe in History class, and even Mamselle Palisse, who of course was French, never said much about it. I’m sure that if I’d been European or Jewish, I would have been much more alert as to what was going on. But in the mid-1930s I didn’t think about Hitler, one way or the other. He was sort of a clown to us—the way he ranted and went on like Chaplin in The Great Dictator. Just a few years later, we started hearing about concentration camps and it became obvious that he was a madman.

But I didn’t know about that in 1938, as my letters reveal. The day we spent on the Rhine was the first sunny day of our trip, and I wrote, “We met some young German Hitler Youth who were going on a camping trip—and spoke quite good English. They were very interesting and intelligent…” That night, Miss Atwood let us go across the road to a little ‘sort of night club but far removed’ and I had a dance with a cute little German soldier in training. He couldn’t speak English and, of course, I can’t speak German, but I discovered that he did speak a little French. You have no idea what fun it is to try and make yourself understood. I would like to have stayed all evening but there were two Americans who kept bothering us so we left early. Lethbridge has some American friends here and they took her and four others on dates and they had loads of fun. I was invited but I didn’t think I’d fit, so Jeanne Lyons [Barth ’38] went instead and thrived on it.”

In Munich, I vividly remember walking behind Miss Atwood into a public building with Nazi guards stationed at the entrance. Looking determined and rather severe, Miss Atwood marched directly into the building without heiling the guard. I was terri-
fied, and wondered whether we would hear a knock at our door that night. But nothing happened. I didn’t write my parents about that incident, because I knew that German officials would be checking the mail.

We continued by train into Italy on July 18, through the Bavarian Alps. Nonie Jarboe Olson ’38 and I went for a walk up into the Dolomites, whose peaks were covered with snow, and talked about the future. She was in love with a childhood friend and had just learned of her acceptance at Wells College, so her spirits were high. I hadn’t heard from any colleges, nor was I “in love,” so my outlook on life was a bit different. It always was. Teachers couldn’t quite understand how my friendship with Nonie worked—but she lightened me, and I heaved her. We stayed close until she passed away in 1997. Anyway, early evening was approaching, and the angelus bells started ringing in town. Nonie and I thought we heard a rattlesnake and tore down the hill. It was one of those special moments in life.

Upon arriving in Venice, “the first thing we rushed for was the mail, of course.” To my delight, my mother had written the news of my acceptance to Oberlin College. “I was so excited I didn’t know how to act,” I wrote her. “I had to read the letter a couple of times before I [could believe it]. Nonie and I celebrated ourselves tonight with a bottle of champagne,” which we shared with some friends. (We were eighteen, after all, and had already graduated from Berkeley.) I added, “I can’t understand people loving romantic Venice. The Grand Canal is clean and quite attractive because it is wide, but the little side canals are filthy….There are awful little bugs on the walls and all kinds of garbage floating on the water.” Lido Beach, though, was “a perfectly gorgeous place just like you see in the movies….Noel Coward gave Lethbridge a thrill by talking to her and letting her smoke one of his cigarettes.”

We polished off July with visits to Rome and Florence—where we studied works by Donatello, Fra Angelico, Ghiberti, Della Robbia, Brunelleschi, and Michelangelo (which I spelled “Michael Angelo” in my letters). Miss Atwood was an Art History teacher and was very well informed. A motor coach took us through the Alpine passes of Switzerland, where I found myself constantly looking around for Heidi’s chalet.

Our final destination was Paris. What a magnificent city! Though we visited the Louvre, Les Invalides, and Notre Dame, one remembrance that I feel I should record—which might have had a tragic ending—was when four of us young American girls were lured from the elegant Lanvin parfumerie to a back-alley store. Miss Atwood was very careful about us, but she allowed us a certain amount of independence. An American woman had positioned herself in the Lanvin lounge and—with salespeople out of hearing—she told us that we could save lots of money by going to a store nearby. I was immediately suspicious of the set-up, but my three friends insisted, so I went. I knew all about white slavery—I’m not quite sure how—and our situation looked like an easy trap. I stood in the doorway of the store while my friends shopped, ready to bolt if necessary. Obviously, nothing happened. I came away with a bottle of “My Sin,” which my mother had asked me to bring back from Paris. I can’t remember how much the bottle was—but the whole seven-week trip cost $865.

Our voyage back across the Atlantic went smoothly. I talked a great deal with a young Mormon on board who was returning from his mission. The ship was packed with Europeans. I thought of them as poor immigrants coming to the “land of promise”—completely oblivious to the fact that they were miserable refugees. Our hearts were still “young and gay.” As I said, we weren’t aware that the world was on the very edge of an abyss.

“Miss Atwood had instructed us to be very careful of our behavior, and particularly about being critical of the Nazis where we might be overheard. I’m embarrassed to say I was just too ignorant back then to know how serious things were. None of us did; we were just not ‘with it.’ Berkeley didn’t offer the sort of global education that it does today.”
RADLEY HORTON ’90 AND THE APOCALYPSE

PHOTO: JOHN KENNEDY
Four floors above the iconic Upper West Side diner where Jerry, Elaine, George, and Kramer spent the 1990s debating minutiae, Dr. Radley Horton is engaged in an undertaking with considerably higher stakes. As associate research scientist at Columbia University affiliated with NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies, he’s working to prepare New York City and the world for a future of global warming—a topic that became more urgent than ever last October, when Hurricane Sandy hit the Northeast and caused over $68 billion in damages.

BY MATT WEINSTOCK
Although the lights were out in Radley’s home due to the storm surge, he gave phone interviews in the dark to the New York Times, NBC, and NPR’s “Fresh Air with Terry Gross” (whom he sheepishly admits he’d never heard of before; “When I told that to people afterward, they were disgusted,” he laughs). Radley spoke to the press about possible causes of the hurricane, the prospect of combating sea level rise through managed retreat and ‘so-called ‘floating houses’ that move up and down on beams,” as well as his hope that Sandy would function as an international wake-up call. Almost a year later, he believes that it has. “When people see a great city like New York temporarily brought to a standstill,” he says, “nobody can think that climate change is a problem we can ignore.”

This passionate, soft-spoken Radley might be unrecognizable to some of his BC classmates. A lifer who starred in school plays, served as Student Council President, and spearheaded the school’s first-ever community service program, Radley still feels guilty about being “arrogant” at Berkeley (the senior yearbook suggested that his dream was “to be God”). “I was so focused on how people perceived me,” he explains. “I wanted to be seen as cool and smart and strong. But a lot of my dearest friends to this day are people from Berkeley, who stuck with me through that phase.” Teachers helped jolt him out of his complacency—like US history teacher Marvin Pollock and the late Marlene Clary, whom Radley says “was part of my life from kindergarten through twelfth grade. If you’d been playing a part by rote, she could help you open up this well-spring of emotion you didn’t even know you had.” (Marlene would later teach Radley’s sister Georgia, who is currently a BC senior.)

After graduating, Radley went to Brown University, which he describes as a “humbling experience.” A semester abroad in Tanzania gave him a visceral sense of “what vulnerability and poverty really mean,” and he subsequently became an anthropology junkie. That, unfortunately, meant taking an additional year and a half of undergrad prerequisites before going to Columbia University for his masters in earth and environmental science. “I was 25 and taking intro calculus, physics, and chemistry,” he says. “It was tough. But I think my liberal arts education at Berkeley and Brown helped me develop creative and critical thinking skills that I don’t always see among earth scientists.”

These skills—and a wide-ranging grasp of world culture and economics—come in handy in his job at Columbia/NASA, which is more or less to use mathematical global climate models to predict the future. This year Radley co-authored a study that suggested that heat-related deaths in New York City could approximately double by the 2080s, with the biggest increases occurring during May and September—months that might soon “be part of the summer.” With every projection, Radley explains, “You have to think about everybody who’ll be affected by it—especially our most vulnerable populations.”

Even though he works in a specialized field, Radley believes that “climate scientists today have the opportunity to learn so much about different systems and worldviews.” Lately he’s observed informal settlements in Rio de Janeiro, Nigeria, and Indonesia; toured the decimated, saltwater-corroded South Ferry subway station; and surveyed damage in the Rockaways. “That was hard,” Radley says. “As the winter sun was setting along the beach, months after the storm, I realized that the lights still wouldn’t be coming on that night for some people.”

While Radley spent the last five years helping prepare the city for climate hazards as one of the lead scientists on the New York City Panel of...
Climate Change, he is quick to acknowledge that “the scale of Sandy surprised everybody. The city didn’t fully understand how interdependent our networks are—how you can’t pump water out of the subway system without power, how you can’t use generators when the generators are flooded, how telecommunications would be hampered.” Still, he’s proud of the city’s response, citing the MTA’s protection of “almost all” of its rolling stock, and Mayor Bloomberg’s interest in continually updating climate projections. “In parts of the country,” he says, “climate change is still a taboo topic. They won’t even let you use that term.”

Even if Radley is frustrated by the historical “absence of national leadership” regarding the climate, he’s surprisingly forgiving of global warming skeptics (despite the fact that 97% of climate scientists believe that it is happening, and that it’s primarily due to human activity). “The majority of skeptics are engaging in an honest dialogue,” he says. “They genuinely don’t believe in climate change, either because of their worldviews or the evidence they’ve personally seen. I have friends who believe that. It might be a flaw on my part, but I don’t try to steamroll them.”

Still, spending nine hours a day contemplating apocalyptic events exerts a psychological toll. “I do get pessimistic and concerned about our future,” says Radley, “especially as someone with young children.” (He and his wife Danielle have two: Leo and Genevieve.) “But worrying has always been part of the human condition. What’s different now is that it’s this planetary emergency, rather than just a threat to our families or communities. I believe that worrying can help us mobilize to actively improve our future. Although if the message is too negative, there’s a danger that people will tune out.”

That’s why Radley is a fierce critic of Cassandra-style alarmism. He told Terry Gross that it was “very difficult to say whether the ocean warming this year was associated with climate change”—partly because he believes that overhyping individual storms mischaracterizes the “gradually creeping threat” of climate change. “We’ll still have natural variability—warm years, cold years,” he says, “but as greenhouse gas concentrations increase, the dice will become loaded. By the time we get to the 2080s, that roll of a six—the really hot year—will be happening three times as often. And it might effectively be impossible to get a low roll.”

Furthermore, he adds, “There’s a chance that we could see extreme events like drought and heavy rain within our lifetimes that are beyond what society can handle. Even if there’s only a 1% chance of catastrophic scenarios happening, is that a risk we’re willing to take as a society? And who has a right to decide to take that risk?”

(Left to right) Radley with Oaxaca Schroder ’90 and Nick Hayman ’90 at their graduation. “A lot of my dearest friends to this day are people from Berkeley Carroll.”
1930s

- Janet MacDonald Bates ’33 continues to live in Warren, Connecticut. She says, “At 97, I’m not doing too much! But I’m glad that I was able to do all that I did while I did it. Berkeley was a wonderful, caring experience; I had three sisters older than me and we all went there. It was a different era. Now I see my children and grandchildren going through trauma, saying, ‘I can’t find myself.’ It’s nonsense. I found myself in kindergarten, and I keep finding. It’s never too late to learn.”

- Barbara Weathers ’37 lives in a retirement home in North Carolina, and proudly remembers being on the staff at “the beginning of the Blotter.”

- Doris Allen Holmes Beyer NG ’38 attended the Berkeley Institute for several years in elementary school before transferring to (and graduating from) PS 171. Doris will turn 92 on December 14, and lives in a nursing home in Glen Cove, NY. She’d be delighted to hear from anyone in her class. To contact Doris, please call her at (516) 671-2942.

- Doris Seler Van Nostrand ’38 celebrated her ninety-third birthday on May 18, 2013. “I don’t know how I ever got this far,” she laughs. “Who-oo-ee! Two days a week I work as a volunteer ambassador at the Sarasota airport. I sit up there on the concourse and watch the flights come in, and announce them to customers. I’ve been with my garden club for forty years. I put the stamps and labels on the Blooming Chatter, which we publish every month. Most of them go out by email now, but I’ve said that as long as they still send some to the post office, I’m putting the stamps on!”

1940s

- Dona Chumasero Everson ’41 writes: “In speaking with my remaining classmates, I learned that Katherine Babcock McCurdy ’41 still lives in Pittsford, New York. She has just turned 90, is still in a family-founded historic book group, and was looking forward to a granddaughter’s upcoming wedding. She rhapsodizes about Berkeley. Because of Berkeley she got into Smith, at Smith she met her husband, and so on. She attributes her great life to Berkeley—and I think many of us feel that way. Jane Cooke Harris ’41 is the only one of us still living in her own home, in Madison, CT. She remains a working artist and is still taking printmaking classes. Lois Craig Schmidt ’41 lives in Bloomfield, CT, where she participates in cultural activities and lectures. Jane Harden Sutcliffe ’41 is in a nursing home in Queens, but still manages to participate in family occasions. We all keep in touch by phone—we reminisce about our school days, and at this point, often discuss our ailments! We exercise and remain fairly productive. (We seem to have lost track of Betina Coffin McNulty ’41, who was living in London.) I live in Evergreen Woods in North Branford, CT and am still involved in journalism, writing biographies of new residents as they arrive. I look forward to each issue of the Berkeley Carroll magazine. What a vibrant school you are, and how impressed I am by the student body and by what the graduates of today are doing—in our day, we had so few options!”

- Marilyn Mills Sale ’45 writes: “My marriage and careers led me to live in Greenwich Village, New Haven, Ithaca (where I was managing editor of the Cornell University Press), Philadelphia, and St. Louis (where my daughter, son, and two grandchildren now live). I now live in a fine retirement community, White Sands La Jolla, where I help edit our weekly newspaper and serve on a resident budget committee. Also helped start, then chaired, a resident play-reading group: it performed last summer, showcasing the amazing talents of octogenarians. As background for the last, when I moved to California twenty years ago, I signed up for a $2 acting class, which led to more classes and then to the lead role in a community theater production of Ladies in Retirement. When I was at Berkeley, I trembled and stuttered if I had to make an announcement on stage. My best friend at Berkeley was the late Helen McCooey Ambro ’45 (who also went to Smith College), and my best mentor Miss Arnold, English teacher and faculty advisor to The Blotter. Mamiselle Palisse expanded my awareness, Miss Arnold my demand for excellence. Long live Brooklyn!”

- Harriet Greenberg Berlin ’46 writes: “Wish I could tell you that this past year I traveled to Timbuktu or explored the deep sea off the coast of Cuba (I did live there from 1951-53 and returned for a visit in 2003), but my husband’s health no longer permits travel to any place further away than Vermont. I manage to keep very busy, taking courses at the local ‘Learning in Retirement’ facility; volunteering as a docent at the Corcoran Gallery of Art (been doing this for 22 years); spending time with our many children and grandchildren in the area, and some with those further away; going to the theater, museums, and the many cultural empiria in the vicinity; sponging off friends in New England and the nearby beaches since we sold our own beach house; never seeming to have enough time to do everything while seeming not

HAVE NEWS OF YOUR OWN?
We’d love to hear about your work, family, travels, and if you’ve met up with any Berkeley classmates recently.

E-mail us at alums@berkeleycarroll.org
or send to Laura Gaertner,
c/o the Berkeley Carroll School,
808 Union Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215
On June 3, 2013, professor and gay rights activist Karla Jay ’64 served as one of the presenters at the gala 25th Annual Lambda Literary Awards ceremony, which celebrates excellence in LGBT literature. Other presenters included Frank Bruni and Edmund White. “We sat right behind the Village People’s Randy Jones, still dressed as a cowboy!” Karla says.

Jean Chandler Miller ’46 writes: “We’re moving to New York after all these years in Connecticut. It’s time to start taking elevators instead of climbing stairs! Our daughter lives in the city with her son, and our older grandson is a lawyer in Manhattan, so we’ll be close to family.”

Linda Michelson, daughter of Lee Weiss Marks ’48, writes that her mother is “82 years old and doing great. She lives in Denver, Colorado. She still plays golf, teaches art to seniors, and can pass for a 65-year-old!”

Ann Coffeen Turner ’48 is tutoring full-time at Gill St. Bernard’s School in New Jersey.

In January 2012, Frances “Bitsie” Thompson Clark ’49 retired from the New Haven Board of Aldermen after decades of civic activism in order to focus on her role as executive director of East Rock Village, a nonprofit organization that offers health and living services for elderly people who want to continue living in their own homes. A recent profile of Bitsie in the Yale Daily News hailed her as “a force of nature” and “a city legacy.”

Nina Zoldin Solarz ’50 was elected to the Board of Directors of the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health, a public charity devoted to funding the research of illnesses such as Alzheimer’s disease, HIV, malaria, and cancer. She began her term on May 16, 2012.

Patricia Typond Inaba-Chu ’57 writes: “I moved to Hawaii in 1963 and raised my family there. I am the proud mother of a son, Craig, and my daughter, Carrie Ann Inaba, who is one of the judges on “Dancing with the Stars.” Now I’m back in New York, living in quiet Westchester. I loved my Berkeley days and have stayed in touch with some of my classmates.”

Rachel “Shelly” Gallagher ’59 writes: “I moved back to Brooklyn after years of living in the West Village as a writer. My first novel, The Girl Who Loved Garbo, was inspired by working in the Film Department of the MoMA. I’m working on a true-life novel about growing up in Park Slope and my Mad Men years in the 1960s.”

Valerie Hallenbeck Perrins ’63 writes: “I’m retired from the Social Service Agency, Unity House of Troy. I do some volunteer work with Troy’s Hope 7 Community Center and the United Methodist Skye Farm Camp in Warrensburg, New York. I also have a one-year-old granddaughter, Hazel Pea Perrins, who lives in Brooklyn with my son, Tim, and daughter-in-law Jessica.”

Barbara “Lee” Utmark Wicks NG ’63 writes: “I am currently retired from a career in independent school communications that culminated as Secretary of the Academy at Deerfield Academy. I now live in western Massachusetts and teach an online course in public relations writing at UMass Amherst. My nephew lives in Brooklyn with his dad. My daughter and her wife live nearby in Amherst, and I enjoy my two grandchildren with all my heart. The Berkeley I remember featured Friday afternoon tea, curtsies to Mrs. Mason, and respect for women’s education, particularly science. It looks as if Berkeley Carroll is strong and growing!”

Isabel Slotnick Dresdale ’64 works for Michael Kors and writes that she and her husband are “avid travelers. Our last big trip was Namibia & Botswana, we’ve been to Madagascar, Burma, Tanzania, the Amazon, and more! We have six grandchildren between us. I’m hoping for a big turnout for our 50th Berkeley reunion in 2014!”
“I was saddened to see the obituary for Mary Susan Miller in the latest edition of the magazine. It was surprising to learn that she had earned her doctorate—especially after seeing her referred to as ‘Mrs.’ Miller throughout the article. During her tenure as Headmistress of Berkeley, she encouraged us all to achieve our goals, and to take pride in having done so. I think a woman who has had a doctoral degree for 25 years has earned the right to be referred to as Dr. Miller. (Although, truth be told, we all privately referred to her—affectionately—as Mary Sue!)”

— Holly Peters-Golden ’71

Dr. Peters-Golden is a faculty member in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Michigan. Her textbook Culture Sketches: Case Studies in Anthropology recently entered its sixth edition.
Kieran Juska DiTullio ’91 writes, “Our family grew in the last year—our son Max joined our four-year-old daughter Chloé in March 2012, and is a happy, delightful little guy. Chloé just finished up her first year at Berkeley Carroll, and loved every minute of it—as did we! So much of the wonderful BC spirit is the same as it was when I attended the Lower School (over 35 years ago!), and it was such a great feeling of déjà vu to drop her off at Carroll Street every morning. Unfortunately for us, we won’t be able to have her there a second year. We are leaving Brooklyn for the wilds of Westport, CT to give the suburbs a try. As hard as it is to leave Brooklyn, it’s just as hard to have Chloé leave Berkeley. In other areas of life, I am getting my interior design business up and running after staying at home with the kids, and my husband Stéphane started at Bank of America this fall.”

In the summer of 2012, Janine Kenna Dozier ’91 moved from Manhattan to Charlottesville, Virginia, where she lives with her husband and two children, Jack and Henry.

Zack Haynes ’94 writes: “I am back in New York after spending the last year living and working in Europe. I have had quite a career change in the last year. Where I had spent the majority of my post-college years writing and producing for television and film, I’m now working in Global Business Development for Oxford University Press. I am also excited to share that I got engaged on the Charles Bridge in Prague, on Halloween.”

Jordan Kenna ’94 has been living in Cold Spring Harbor, New York, for the past three years, and has two sons, Ryan and Luke.

Andrew Lines ’95 lives in Chicago with his wife and their three-year-old son. He obtained the MAI designation for commercial real estate valuation and is a Manager at CohnReznick, a national accounting firm, where he is in charge of Real Estate Audit Support. Andrew is state licensed in Illinois, Arizona, New Jersey, and California. In his spare time Andrew plays golf, is in a bowling league, and serves on the board of the Syracuse University Alumni Club.

Justine Fludgate ’96 writes: “Our daughter Katie started kindergarten at Berkeley Carroll last year and it’s great to be involved in the BC community and living in Brooklyn. The new school facilities are amazing, and Katie loved her first year here. It’s nice to see some friendly faces from my past, too. Katie recently reported that her favorite class at school is their iPad lesson, taught by Maureen Sheehan, who was my first and third grade teacher, and one of my favorites. It’s great to see the school in a new light through my daughter’s eyes. We also have a two-year-old son, Owen, who’s loving his new life in Brooklyn. I’m still working for Bank of America, where I have been for the past eleven years. Currently, I am responsible for marketing for the Bank’s cash asset management division.”

Malik Graves-Pryor ’96 writes: “I’m a Senior Technical Manager and Certified Scrum Master at AKQA. I have worked on projects for Verizon, Olympus, and (RED) ranging from native iOS and Android applications to responsive product websites. In my free time I race with the Major Taylor Development Team, an affiliate of the Major Taylor Iron Riders national cycling organization, as a category 4 racer. For the past five years I’ve lived in Fort Greene.”


Congratulations to Carmine Giovino ’98 and his wife Annie on the birth of their son, John Carmine Giovino, on March 21, 2013.
Ayana Johnson ’98 is a marine biologist and Director of Science and Solutions at the Waitt Foundation; she’s working to restore the ocean to cornucopic abundance while supporting sustainable fishing for the one billion people in developing countries who depend on the ocean for their nutrition and livelihoods. Ayana received her Ph.D. in marine biology from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in 2011, and completed a Knauss Sea Grant Fellowship in 2012. She moonlights as a jazz singer.

Alyssa Whitbeck Rose ’98 and her family recently relocated to Maine, where Alyssa is working as Provider Relations Manager for Maine Community Health Options, a nonprofit health insurance cooperative.

In March, James Bruffee ’99, Ford Harris ’99, and Steve Sullivan ’99 released “So Right,” an R&B slow jam tribute to New York Knicks shooting guard J.R. Smith. The song racked up over 450,000 YouTube views and has been declared “amazing” (by USA Today) and “the greatest song about the Knicks’ J.R. Smith ever” (by Gothamist). “I just love J.R. Smith,” Ford told the New York Post. “He captures my imagination.” Ford sings lead on the track and crafted it in a series of weekly meetings with James and Steve (who belong to a rock/pop band called Kidding on the Square).

Ryan deLorge ’99 co-founded Brownstone Dog Walkers in 2011, which has a staff of ten full-time employees and walks over 100 dogs every day in Park Slope and its surrounding neighborhoods. In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, Ryan helped lead a pet food relief program that raised over $1,000 (which Brownstone matched). “We would be more than happy to offer our services to any BC parents or alumni—who will receive 10% off,” Ryan writes.

Deborah Greig ’99 writes: “I’ve been working with East New York Farms for five years, helping gardeners grow food for their community and hosting some BC ninth graders from time to time to help with garden work projects. This season I’m taking over management for our half-acre farm. It would be great to have some more BC folks come out to help. I have also been working to start Molly Oliver Flowers, a small floral design business committed to growing and sourcing local and sustainable flowers for wed-

Tim Hill ’96 married Pamela Baird on July 27, 2013, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Guests included Tim’s sister Stephanie Hill Wilchfort ’92 and Head of School Emerita Bongsoo Zuhay, who writes, “The highlight for me was seeing Tim, Jeremy Ezra ’96, Andrew Farrell ’96, Terry Sacchi ’96, David Sullivan ’96, and Philip Tisne ’96 almost seventeen years after their graduation!” Tim is senior vice president of integrated investment at Universal McCann, and Pam is a nurse practitioner at NYU Hospital. They live in Park Slope, just a few blocks from Berkeley Carroll.
dings and other events. We’ve been benefiting from the wisdom of Viva Max Kaley ’99.”

Molly Hall ’99 lives in Paris and has two children, Savanna and Liv.

Viva Max Kaley ’99 writes: “After planning weddings for almost 8 years now I have finally decided to be my own boss. Over the years I have helped a few Berkeley Carroll alumni with their nuptials and I often see BC alumni as guests, and even vendors, at the events I produce. It’s always fun to hug and catch up. It is nice to have a career that keeps me so closely connected to the Berkeley Carroll community. So now I hope to produce more weddings as Viva Max Weddings. I do have to admit, I seem to have planned more Saint Ann’s alumni weddings than Berkeley Carroll—we’ll have to work on changing those stats! Ian, my husband of five years, and I still happily live in Manhattan. We try to keep up with new music, good food, mixology trends and, most importantly, friends. Deborah Greig ’99 and I have had the opportunity to work at a couple of weddings together because she is a wonderful floral designer! I’ve been keeping an eye on all the amazing artistic skills of Audrey Manning ’99 as she works at Etsy and sells her impressive products there.

Jillian Sacks NG ’99 is in Durban, South Africa, coordinating and conducting research on tuberculosis and HIV. She is a biomedical post-doctoral fellow at the Public Health Research Institute.

Dena Smith ’99 writes: “I moved to Baltimore two years ago to accept a position as Assistant Professor of Sociology at Goucher College.”

Zach Firestone ’00 got married to Nicole Hertz on April 27, 2013 in Key Largo, Florida. The groomsmen included Greg Covey ’00, Brian Geraghty ’00, Glen Straub ’00, and Ben Weisberg ’00; Melissa Golden ’00, Janine Labriola ’00, and Shawna Jacob Trager ’00 were also in attendance.

Brian Geraghty ’00 is responsible for managing the 5,500-vehicle fleet of Citi Bike, the new bicycle sharing system that began serving New York City in May. He writes: “This has been a demanding job, but I am very proud to be part of launching New York City’s first new mode of transportation in over a century! I’m confident that it will be a huge hit.” As Operations Manager for NYC Bike Share, LLC, Brian is devising ways to rebalance the natural dispersion of bikes, and managing the teams who install and maintain bicycle stations around the city.

Ayana Goldman ’01 writes: “After teaching at the Community Partnership Charter School for six years, I took this past school year off to explore my love of travel, dance, and music. I visited friends and family around the United States, and went to Ghana for a dance and drumming program. After being back in Manhattan for just six weeks, I returned to Ghana, became engaged to Amos Gabia, and had an exciting engagement party filled with dance performances and live music. Amos is currently leading African drumming workshops and performances in primary and secondary schools in Australia. I plan to return to CPCS next year and have Amos join me in New York.”
In January, Glen Straub ’00 launched a new app for iPhones and iPads titled What the Block?! An “addictive, educational, physics-based puzzle game,” What the Block?! has a five-star rating on iTunes and was declared App of the Week by Corona Labs in February.

Shawna Jacob Trager ’00 became the Executive Director of the New York Alliance for Careers in Healthcare (or NYACH) in January 2013. NYACH is a public-private partnership that engages healthcare organizations and stakeholders in the analysis of current and future labor force needs; it is a recipient of grant funding through the White House Social Innovation Fund. By working with its partners and community colleges, NYACH aims to train low-income individuals with the skills being sought for healthcare jobs in high demand. Shawna lives in Brooklyn with her husband.

Nick Ford ’01 writes: “I graduated from law school in May 2012, passed the bar, and have started working as an assistant district attorney in Brooklyn. The job is an interesting one and it’s been exciting to stand up in court.”

Ben Furr ’01 has lived in Portland since 2008, and just started working at Gard Communications this year in the public relations department—doing in-depth research, writing, and general project management. He has also volunteered as a Big Brothers Big Sisters mentor since 2010.

Crystal Hudson ’01 has launched GAYgreetings—a greeting card company designed to meet the needs of gay, lesbian, and transgender people. In April she reached her fundraising goal on Kickstarter, thanks to the support of many from the Berkeley Carroll community!

Lexie Pregosin ’02 graduated from Emerson College with a BA in Theater Studies in 2006 and has been working steadily in the New York theater community ever since. She has directed over a dozen productions, has worked at the American Theatre Wing and Roundabout Theater Company, and is currently the resident casting director for the Attic Theater Company. She recently cast the New York premiere of Tennessee Williams’ The Notebook of Trigorin, and served as the assistant director for Neil LaBute’s Reasons to be Happy. Just as her senior year yearbook stats predicted, Lexie still drags many of her close friends from Berkeley Carroll to go to the theater regularly.

Jamie Wrubel Proust ’01 writes: “For the past few years I’ve been working in New York City as a jeweler for designer Pamela Love. I also recently launched the debut collection for my own jewelry line, Passerine—produced in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, where I live with my husband. You can visit www.passerinecollective.com for more information.”

Lexi Sacchi ’01 is the buyer and manager of FROCK, a vintage boutique located in NoLita. She has styled celebrities such as Sarah Jessica Parker and Alison Williams.

Cordelia Lembo ’01 is a specialist in 20th and 21st century design at Phillips, the international art auction house. She lives in New York.

Denise Mui ’01 is a dentist practicing in Manhattan. In April, she and Crystal Hudson ’01 celebrated their birthdays in Las Vegas. She writes: “It’s nice to know that we still remain best friends since the day I entered BC!”

Pia Monique Murray ’01 has not stopped dancing since graduating from Berkeley Carroll. She is a teaching artist, choreographer and performer and returns to BC frequently as a guest instructor and choreographer. Pia performs traditional dance from Ivory Coast with Kotchegna Dance Company while leading her own group PMMDC, an interdisciplinary performance collective of dancers, musicians, actors and videographers. You can learn more about Pia’s current projects and upcoming performances at pmmdc.com.
Alexis Toriello ’01 is a professional dog trainer and certified dog behavior consultant specializing in treating fear and anxiety in dogs. The CEO of Zen Dog Training, she also volunteers at the Washington Humane Society, Pets for Vets, and a number of small rescue organizations. Alexis lives in Washington, DC, with her husband and their three-year-old pit bull mix. She’s currently pursuing her second Master’s in Animal Behavior.

Charlie Jacob ’02 graduated from Northwestern Law in 2011 and now works as an associate at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, where he primarily focuses on global investigations. This spring, Charlie and Sam Nathan ’02 attended Ben Grossman-Cohen ’02’s bachelor party in New Orleans.

Erin Iwanusa ’02 married Evan Tetsworth on August 25, 2012. She works in Ludington, Michigan, as a therapist for people with developmental disabilities.

Hannah Brooks ’03 writes: “I got married to Samuel Adams in August of 2012! We met at Vassar College and he is an associate at the law firm of Pomerantz, Grossman, Hulford, Dahlstrom, and Gross LLP in New York City. I’m currently a full-time student at CUNY Hunter’s Post-Baccalaureate program to fulfill pre-med credits, and I’m hoping to start medical school within the next two years. Samuel and I live in Prospect Heights.”

Julia Loonin ’03 recently moved back to New York and is living in Brooklyn. She continues to work for the Girls Leadership Institute as a year-round educator and director of their summer camp. In the fall, Julia started a Masters of Education program at Columbia University’s Teachers College.

Sheryl Comet ’04 writes: “At BC I danced and played volleyball, basketball, and softball—and I’m still pursuing my interest in health and exercise! In May 2012 I graduated from Long Island University’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program, and am working as a physical therapist at Masefield & Cavallaro, based in Dyker Heights. I plan to enroll in a residency program in order to become an orthopedic certified specialist.”

Alex Dean ’04 taught English at Shanghai University for two years before relocating to Santiago de Chile in 2012, where he currently teaches English to producers of reality television. He’s climbed all over some fantastic scenery and eaten of the most exciting and most boring cuisines on the planet. He hasn’t seen any BC alumni in his current hemisphere, but wouldn’t mind if some came out of hiding to say hello. Yes, of course he still watches “Survivor.”

Chloe Kroeter ’04 writes: “I recently finished my PhD in art history at King’s College, Cambridge, and wrote my dissertation on the art produced by British activists at the turn of the twentieth century. Mr. Corfield did the invaluable favor of editing my final draft! After a six-month fellowship at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, I moved back to the UK in March 2013 to become the curator of The Chitra Collection, a new museum in London.”

This June, Maxim Pinkovskiy ’04 received his PhD in Economics from MIT; his dissertation was on public policy in developed and developing countries. Maxim is joining the research team of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, where he’ll be focusing on the impact of public policy (such as the health care reform) on the United States economy. “I very much look forward to returning to Park Slope and being in closer connection to the Berkeley Carroll community,” he writes.

Jake Scieszka ’04 graduated from NYU in 2009 with a bachelor’s in Communication Studies. He regularly contributes articles and videos to OneResult.com’s fitness and nutritional supplements blog, and works as a certified personal trainer at Equinox’s

In November 2012, singer-songwriter-actress Sophie Auster NG ’05 released the EP Red Weather, inspired by the poetry of Wallace Stevens and produced by Barry Reynolds (who’s worked with Lou Reed, Rufus Wainwright, and Marianne Faithfull). To promote the album, Sophie appeared on WNYC and in the pages of Vogue and Glamour (which shot her in Coco Chanel’s former apartment in Paris). This March, Sophie began recording her first long-playing album.
Matthew Sauvage-Mar ‘04 lives in Washington, DC, and works for Mobile Accord, a mobile technology company whose services include GeoPoll, a platform that allows users to conduct surveys using mobile phones.

Laurie Lee-Georgescu ‘05 is returning to Berkeley Carroll as a fourth grade associate teacher. Laurie has a bachelor’s in fine arts from Cooper Union, has worked as a museum educator at the Bronx Museum of the Arts, and was involved in education programs at the Children’s Museum of Manhattan.

Katie Renzler ‘06 writes: “I’m happy to announce that I started at Harvard Law School this fall. My experiences working with prisons while in college and as a middle school teacher in New Orleans have led me to law school. As such, while at Harvard I plan to study criminal and education law and policy with an eye towards understanding how to untether the systems from one another. This spring, I spent a few months traveling in Southeast Asia and South America. I met up with Ollie Chanin ‘09, Peter Drinan ‘07, and Mike Singer ‘05 in Argentina, and Chloe Lew ‘06 in Nicaragua.”

Gaby Schechter ‘06 entered Harvard University this fall to get her Master’s in Public Health.

Tyler Ben-Amotz ‘07 co-produced the viral video “The Camp Gyno,” which racked up four million views in its first four days on YouTube. The plainspoken comic ad—produced for the monthly tampon subscription service HelloFlo—was called “the best tampon ad in the history of the world” by The Huffington Post and “an amazing breakthrough in tampon advertising” by BuzzFeed.

Adrianna Giaviano ‘07 writes: “After graduating from Berkeley Carroll I moved to Milan to pursue photography. After working as an assistant in my father’s photo studio for several years, in 2012 I started really working on my flag location in New York.

Alana Ferguson ‘08 graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 2012. She just finished a painting residency at the Vermont Studio Center and is selling her work while teaching private drawing lessons.

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own as a freelance photographer. I’ve shot many personal and commercial projects in art, fashion, and design. This May I was in Berlin and Greece to shoot pieces by various furniture designers, and in July I went to Tuscany to photograph a group exhibition of marble sculptures. Earlier in the year I shot catalogs for artists’ exhibitions; it’s been an amazing experience to work for such talented people, and figure out how to show their work the way they want it shown.”

Liz Luciano ’07 joined the Berkeley Carroll faculty this fall as a first grade associate teacher. Liz received her BFA from St. Lawrence University and her masters in elementary education from Lesley University.

In January, Tim Barz ’08 began working as a research assistant at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Teresa Fardella ’08 writes: “After studying English at Cornell University, I was afforded the incredible opportunity to segue into publishing—an opportunity I previously believed resided only in some sort of post-college fantasy world. I started at Simon & Schuster last August working in the Sales department, specifically in digital and online sales. In nine short months, the breadth of my exposure has extended to all realms of the publishing industry, including marketing and editorial. My boss said he met Kanye West when he was shopping his book around, my goal is to meet Hillary Clinton when we publish her new memoir in June 2014.”

Katie Farrar ’08 graduated from Dickinson College in May of 2012 with a B.A. in English. She has spent the last year photographing and working on organic farms across North America. Katie plans to pursue this artistic investigation (the fruits of which are online at www.lifesustained.tumblr.com), she recently started working with farmer, photographer, and writer Michael Ableman.

In June, Anna Friemoth ’08 had her debut solo photography exhibition at the Paula Brown Gallery in Toledo. Titled “10 Commandments,” the series of self-portraits investigate Anna’s relationship with “a subject that has always interested me,” she told the Toledo Free-Press. “By working in self-portraits I was able to take on a number of different aspects of myself.” The series has been published in MATTE magazine, and one image was featured on the New Yorker’s Photo Booth blog.

Max Hardy ’08 started a new job in public relations at the OutCast Agency in March.

Jane Horowitz ’08 writes: “I’ve been working as a City Year Corps Member in an elementary school in East New York, Brooklyn this year and I started graduate school at the Columbia University School of Social Work this fall.”

Rebecca Ballhaus ’09 graduated from Brown University this spring with a degree in political science and is currently interning at the Washington bureau of The Wall Street Journal. At Brown, she served as managing editor and vice president of The Brown Daily Herald, and was associate director of the university’s annual film festival.

Vanessa Carvajal ’09 spent the summer interning with the press team at the cable television channel Oxygen. She’s enjoying life in Staten Island, and will soon finish her last year at Wesleyan University, where she is studying psychology.

Daniel Horwitz ’09 writes: “I graduated from Skidmore College in May 2013 with a double major in Business and Psychology and a minor in chemistry. In August I returned to New York City to join the MD program at New York University School of Medicine as a member of the class of 2017.”

Emma Goldberg Liu ’10 auditioned for and was accepted to AIMs, a six-week summer music program in Graz, Austria. She studied German in the morning and lieder songs in the afternoon, the course culminated in a number of public recitals. Emma is a senior at Skidmore College. In May she received the Barbara Gruntal Allen ’35 Prize from Skidmore’s music department, honoring excellence in the study of voice. In June she performed two selections at a concert at the Sembrich Opera Museum.

Dylan Mich ’10 completed his junior year at Villanova, and worked for a BMO in an investment banking position this summer.

Natalie Perry ’10 writes: “I’ve been doing very well since coming to Madison—I’ve made a lot of friends and am very active in my school’s theatre department. Recently I starred in Space Voyage: The Musical Frontier, a “Star Trek”-inspired sci-fi musical that was written, produced, and performed entirely by students. A filmed version of the musical is available on YouTube. While I’ve been in Wisconsin for the past three years, two of my good friends and fellow BC alums have been traveling the world. Allison Susser ’10 studied in Copenhagen, Denmark last semester and Nicole Crupi ’10 is currently studying in Florence, Italy, and we all manage to still keep in touch. Although I love Madison, there are definite things I miss about New York. I miss the food (especially pizza!), the accents (you have no idea how many times I have heard people say ‘baggle’ when they’re talking about bagels) and the theatres. Also, the Wisconsin weather is so strange. One day it was over eighty degrees, and then two days later it snowed. College is going by so fast and everyone is trying to figure out what they’re going to do after they graduate. I know I want to go into children’s theatre and plan on auditioning for the Disney Parks. I can’t wait to get back to NYC, though!”
Julie Polizzotto ’10, is a senior at Bates College, where she is double majoring in environmental science and studio art. She has a dog and cat, and says she is “still repping Berkeley Carroll at Bates with Kayla Hertz ’10, Mickey McAlary ’10, and Henry Schwab ’11.”

Will Trigg ’10 spent the summer interning in marketing and accounting at Batali & Bastianich Hospitality. He’s now a junior at Skidmore, and plans to study in Argentina in the spring.

Audrey Denis ’11 is a junior at Georgetown University and spent the summer working in the Office of the Chief of Staff at the White House. As one of only two interns in the office, Audrey had the opportunity to aid with numerous aspects of day-to-day procedure, and experienced firsthand the operation of the Executive Branch.

Hana DeHovitz ’12 just finished her freshman year at Muhlenberg College. She writes: “I don’t have a major in mind yet, but I plan on minoring in Business and French. This summer, I was a camp counselor at the Camp KenMont and Evergreen.”

Sophie Deverell ’12 writes: “I had an amazing year at Purchase College, studying film with some incredibly talented professors and students. I spent the summer working on film sets, and am moving to Chicago to study at Columbia College Chicago.”

Adam Kochman ’12 was elected treasurer of the Tufts Community Union Senate for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Courtney Roach ’12 is the social chair of Trinity College’s Black Women’s Organization. She plans to major in Economics.

Anna Saltman ’11, currently a junior at the University of Rochester, spent the summer in Cape Town, South Africa, studying Public Health and Community Development of South Africa through the University of Cape Town. She also volunteered in primary, secondary, and tertiary health facilities.

Drew Stazesky ’12 writes: “At the University of New Hampshire, I am a member of the Ballroom Dance Team, Horsemen’s Club, and the Native American Culture Association; I’ve also been volunteering for the Therapeutic Riding program UNH hosts.”

Olivia Wilson ’12 writes: “I just finished my freshman year at Villanova University, where I am double majoring in English and Communications, with specialties in Broadcasting and Journalism. This summer I had two internships, one at Madison Square Garden in the Production department and the other as a writer for FantasyBuzzer.com. At Villanova I’m the basketball manager for the Women’s Basketball Team, as well as a camera operator for sporting events and a reporter for Villanova Television. I love Villanova and I had a great time this year. Go Cats!”

HAVE NEWS OF YOUR OWN?
We’d love to hear about your work, family, travels, and if you’ve met up with any Berkeley classmates recently.

E-mail us at alums@berkeleycarroll.org
DEATHS IN THE BERKELEY CARROLL FAMILY

Margaret Kasper Baker ’30 died on July 8, 2012 at the age of 98. She was born in Brooklyn on October 19, 1913, and while at Berkeley she played basketball, was voted “best looking girl” of her senior class, and served as business manager of the Inkwell, a precursor to the Blotter. As a senior, Margaret gave a speech in which she explained, “Though our gayest childish fancies have disappeared, we have something in their place. The wonderful things we some day meant to get were going to be dropped in our laps by some kind fate. We know now that if we wish to get them, we ourselves must gain them. And if we fail, we have a reward in trying.” Margaret attended Wellesley College and Katherine Gibbs School. She is survived by her sister Lucille Sovinsky, two sons, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Constance Klee Foulkes ’32 was born on April 1, 1915, and died on May 20, 2012. She was 97. Constance attended the Berkeley Institute and Packer Collegiate Institute, and worked with the Laymen’s National Committee. She was married to Clarence R. Foulkes for many years until his death in 1998. Constance loved the mountains, the Red Sox, bridge, and golf (which she continued to play until her early nineties). She is survived by two sons.

Joan Ross Rafter Keyes ’41 died on August 23, 2013. At Berkeley she served on the Blotter staff and was captain of the hockey, basketball, and baseball teams, while still making time for the music of Jimmy Dorsey and her beloved cocker spaniel Tony. “Joan was one of those bubbly people,” says her friend Dona Chumasero Everson ’41. “And that makes her sound vacuous, but she wasn’t at all. She was an all-around Berkeley girl: smart, athletic, and very popular.” Indeed, the senior yearbook declared Joan “an appendix girl—always being taken out,” and while at Berkeley she parlayed her social skills into a part-time job as a CBS page, where she met Edward R. Murrow and had ice cream with the legendary composer Mitch Miller. Joan matriculated at Adelphi University, where she was class president and penned songs for the Glee Club. After graduating in 1945, she worked as a reporter for the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. In 1970 Joan began teaching English as a second language (ESL) classes to children and adults. Noticing a deficiency of materials for her students—and fascinated by the burgeoning use of multimedia tools in the classroom—Joan designed a slew of ESL products, from rap albums to video programs. After many years as an ESL workshop

Mary Maloney Gilbride ’44 died peacefully on April 27, 2013. During her four years at the Berkeley Institute, Mary was a gifted pianist, badminton player, and student of philosophy. She attended Saint Francis College and married Gerard Gilbride, a law professor and dean; they settled in Brooklyn and raised eleven children. After her youngest child had grown, Mary returned to college and earned her bachelor’s in English, explaining, “I just wanted that degree.” Predeceased by Gerard in 1998, Mary remained an active traveler and sportswoman until suffering a stroke in February 2012, a day after winning a golf trophy. She is survived by ten of her children, twenty-six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.
facilitator and adjunct professor at Long Island University, Joan retired in 1994 to focus on her idea for a modern children’s picture dictionary. Published four years later as *The Oxford Picture Dictionary for Kids*, the title has sold over 400,000 copies and has been translated into Spanish and Japanese. Joan is survived by four children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

- **Irma Salzman Winer ’44** died on September 21, 2012, aged 86. After graduating from the Berkeley Institute (where, according to the yearbook, she was “efficiency personified”), Irma received an associate’s degree from Centenary College in 1947. She is survived by her daughters Jane and Barbara, seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

- **Ted Cirillo ’04** died on January 16, 2013. He is survived by his parents, Kathy and Dick; his younger sister Amanda; his older brother and sister-in-law, Ben and Silvia; and an extraordinarily large circle of close and loving friends.

- **Jenifer Becker ’95** died on December 30, 2012.

DEATHS continued
ERKELEY CARROLL’s student newspaper, the Blotter, was first published in May 1929. The paper—then called the Inkwell—was just four pages long (Funny about the name change. We would have liked to have been privy to that conversation….)

We’re fortunate to have a mint-condition copy of the Blotter’s debut issue, but as the school newspaper ballooned in both size and ambition, our archives grew patchier. (We’re in particular need of issues from the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s). As part of a continuing effort to preserve Berkeley Carroll’s history, we’re asking BC alumni, family, and faculty to donate any back issues of the Blotter you may have tucked away. In the long term, our goal is to digitize and make searchable the entire Blotter collection, in what we hope will be a kind of trove or Hit Parade representing 82 years of BC news, opinions, and culture.

Please send issues to:
The Berkeley Carroll School
808 Union Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215
Attn: Jodie Corngold
Camille Johnson '16 and Kirsten Ebenezer '16 share a laugh in the library.