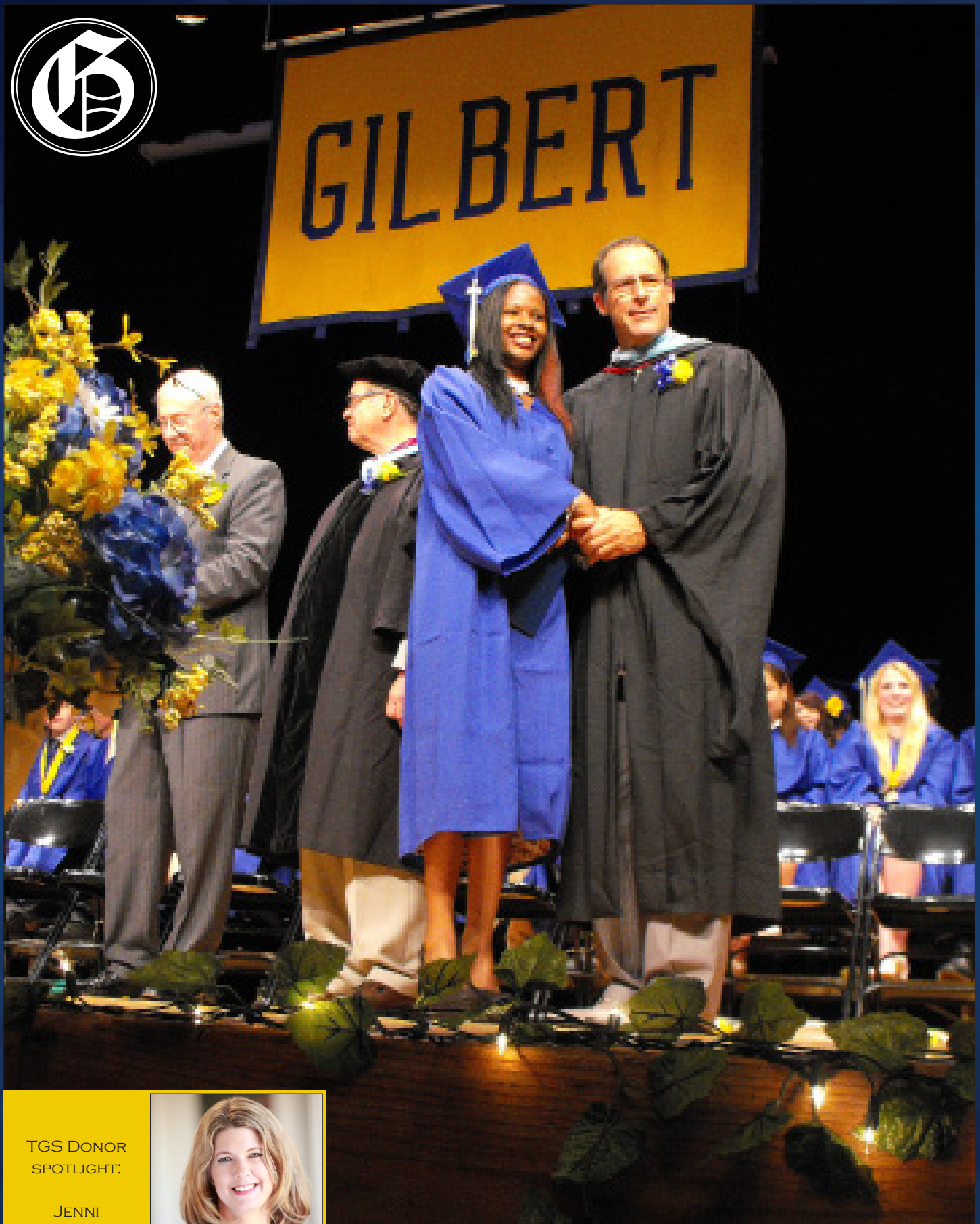


# The Yellow Jacket



TGS DONOR  
SPOTLIGHT:

JENNI  
BOURQUE '88  
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FALL 2013

*The Alumni/ae Magazine of The Gilbert School*

# Class of '63 Honored at Blue & Gold Reunion



Attendees from the Class of 1963 included: Vicki (Thiery) Atkins, Rebecca Beach-Schrock, Mildred Church, Bob Clark, Carolyn (Hawley) Day, Diana Guglielmino-Grazia, Carol (Hamilton) Miles, Karen (McCornick) Onion, Frank Rockefeller, R. Amber (Curtis) Roy, Sheila (Dings) Sedlack, Roland C. Seymour, Nancy (Hewitt) Silvester, Mary (Barrett) Todzia, Arnold Travaglin, Linda (Vogellus) Turgeon and Sally (Passini) Wabrek.

Each spring, we welcome our “golden alumni” (alumni of classes from 50 years ago and earlier) as we celebrate the annual Blue & Gold Reunion with a light buffet supper in the school’s cafeteria.

It is an opportunity for alumni to gather and reminisce about their years as students and for us to say thank

you for the important part they have played in the history of our school.

Attendees enjoyed a performance by The Gilbert School’s award-winning Jazz Band and a student art exhibit.

And for the first time this year, TGS apparel from the Nike-LIDS Store was on sale.



Above: George Manchester '50, Judy (Vaill) Manchester '58 and Lois (Kellogg) Mangione '58. Below, the Gilbert School Jazz Band.



## On the Cover:

Ivonne Chacon '13 is delighted to share her special moment with Principal Alan Strauss at commencement exercises on June 25, 2013.

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## THE YELLOW JACKET

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# 70 Seniors Say Farewell To Gilbert!

Dr. Judith Counihan Palmer '81 gave the 2013 commencement address as The Gilbert School graduated 70 seniors on Wednesday, June 25, 2013.

"I'm not sure my teachers knew it at the time, but they were providing me with life's lessons," Palmer said. She went on to describe an experience with her legendary science teacher Craig Schroeder, who firmly but gently disciplined her for cutting class with her basketball team.

"He didn't yell at me. He put his hand on my shoulder and told me he was worried about me. From that time forward I never skipped another class because I became a different person."

Palmer is currently superintendent of the Region 7 School District and is the former superintendent of Oxford.

There were also speeches from Principal Alan Strauss, Head of School Anthony Serio, valedictorian Corey DeSanti and salutatorian Phoebe Jordan-Reilly.

The graduates then received their diplomas from Serio, Strauss and Steve Sedlack, who chairs the W.L. Gilbert School Corporation.



*Dr. Judith Counihan Palmer '81 delivers the commencement address to the class of 2013.*



*Principal Alan Strauss congratulates Alanna Callahan '13 on receipt of her diploma.*



*Taylor Carfiro '13 is all smiles as the ceremony begins.*



## Homecoming 2013

A brisk fall morning welcomed about 250 alumni/ae and friends back to the Gilbert campus during Homecoming Saturday, Sept. 21, for the eighth annual Distinguished Alumni awards, followed by a luncheon and the football game against Granby Memorial on Van Why Field.

Before the alumni award ceremony, a group of graduates and current students gathered for the third annual Gilbert Alumni Cross Country Run. It was an invigorating trot on the Gilbert team course. Coffee and donuts were served afterwards. Medals were awarded to the top finishers.

After lunch, many alumni made a day of it by staying on campus to watch the Gilbert-Northwestern Yellowjackets play Granby.

Five alumni received awards from the W.L. Gilbert Trust recognizing their achievements in various fields.



*Jim Welcome '70 accepts his award.*



*Congratulations to Jim Rollins '80 (front, in lime green shirt) for once again winning the Gilbert Alumni Cross Country Run.*



*The alumni volleyball game attracted a record number of players.*

### **The Gilbert Heritage Award**

*Neil R. Kelsey '48*

### **Young Alumni Achievement Award**

*Matthew T. Werner '98*

### **Distinguished Professional Achievement Award**

*Todd J. Grazia, M.D. '88*

### **The W.L. Gilbert Award for Outstanding Community Service**

*Gemma C. DiMauro '38*

### **Outstanding Achievement in Athletics Award**

*James T. Welcome '70*



*Neil Kelsey '48 poses with trustee Steve Sedlack '60 and Trust President Tom Botticelli after receiving The W.L. Gilbert Heritage Award.*

## *Around the Years: Class Notes*

### 1932

Florence Vining Thomen turned 100 this July and recently moved to a great senior village, which she reports as quite an adjustment! Florence says hello to "anybody still living from the class of '32. God bless The Gilbert School."

### 1947

Barbara Campbell Galbraith has five children, fourteen grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

### 1953

Mary Vernali Bradley and husband Roger celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in June. They have two sons: James, a music teacher in the Webutuck Central School System in Amenia, N.Y., and Keith, a retired air traffic controller. Both retired, they reside in Kinderhook, N.Y. You can contact them at [randmbradley@gmail.com](mailto:randmbradley@gmail.com).

### 1954

As International Chairman in her 6th year, Anita Caine Rocheleau is working with [LittleDressesForAfrica.org](http://LittleDressesForAfrica.org). So far she has made 100 dresses. She says, "I'm now looking for ways to get the dresses to Africa. With God's help, I will accomplish my goal."

### 1957

Alan Lawson announces his marriage to the former Denise Shopey '55. In September 2011, Alan retired from the Winsted Police Department. As Sergeant, Denise also served in the police department. In addition, Alan retired from the U.S. Army as 1st Sgt. after 20 years of service.

### 1962

Jeanne (Morningstar) Kent writes: "I currently have work showing at both the Mount Kearsage Indian Museum in Warner, N.H., and the Mashantucket Pequot Indian Museum in Ledyard, Conn. I have things on permanent display at the Chimney Point Museum in Crown Point, N.Y., the Institute for American Indian Studies in Washington, Conn., and the Roger Williams University Collection in Rhode Island. I will be offering a talk to teachers on classroom sensitivity toward Native American students in Stratford, Conn., this month, offering a gourd workshop at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and also will be on a panel of Native artists who will be discussing our work at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum as part of the New England Native American Grants Program. I received a grant to help fund expenses for researching

my upcoming book *The Visual Language of Wabanaki Art*, which is scheduled for release in 2014."

### 1966

Pete Fracasso has completed 27 years of employment with the State of Connecticut with 26 years as an investigator for the Labor Dept. His wife Susan Avery Fracasso also works for the Labor Dept. as an employment specialist. They have two sons, Kerry and Christian.

### 1973

Sylvia Orcutt and her husband Keith have

moved to Highland Lake in Goshen, MA, and "absolutely love country living." Keith has retired and Sylvia has transferred to People's United Bank in Shelburne Falls, Mass.

### 1985

Paul Gallo '85 and wife Katie are expecting their second daughter, Kelsey Jordan, right around Halloween. Aunts are Joyce Gallo '87 and Kimberly Gallo '89 along with many other Gallo cousin alumni.

## Class of 1955 Mini Reunion

Twelve Gilbert graduates from the class of 1955 met for lunch in August at Mario's Tuscany Grille in Winsted. The classmates had a great deal of "catching up" to do and quickly rediscovered the bonds they shared 58 years ago. The grads have agreed to meet again next summer and hope to contact more of the class of '55 in the hopes they will join in!



*Seated left to right are: Ron Royer, Phil Ostapko, Madeline Kilbourn Johnson, Betty Curtiss Driscoll, Trudy Wilbur Tanner, Robert Sturm, Ted Church, Jim Foster, Hubert Parmelee, Glenn Madison, Suzanne Turner Dooley. Not pictured: Greg Woodworth.*



# Class of 1973 40th Reunion



*Above: Joanne Pillarella Selkey, Jim Shelesky, Patricia Frazee Shelesky, Harriet Perlak Mastrogiovanni, Carrie Cuatt Delaney. Below: Heather Smyth Capabianca, Carol Keeley Maas, Robert Fancher, Diane Dombrowski Cook, Vici Bordonaro Larson.*



Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013  
*Green Woods Country Club*

## Strauss To Be Honored



Principal Alan Strauss has been selected as the recipient of The Connecticut Association of Schools High School Division's William Cieslukowski Outstanding First-Year Principal of the Year Award for 2013-2014.

Strauss was nominated for this award by Superintendent and Head of School Anthony Serio.

In his recommendation, Dr. Serio said, "Mr. Strauss has demonstrated the ability to motivate students to believe in themselves by initiating a number of campaigns to build self-esteem. Mr. Strauss believes that one must practice what they teach. Mr. Strauss is by far the best instructional leader that I have encountered.

"He is the most innovative and forward thinking educator that I have had the pleasure to work with. His understanding of educational philosophy has been brought to life in The Gilbert School."

Mr. Strauss will be honored at the Connecticut Association of Schools Recognition of Excellence Celebration to be held on November 19, 2013, at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington.

## More Reunion Activity Class of '78



*Marilyn MacGregor Gagner, Meg Brown McGinn, Joe Nichols, Gail Kecekemethy Garacalo, Cindy Fixer.*

Saturday,  
July 17,  
2013

*Masser  
Park*

## *Funds Raised In Memory Of Susan Gifford DeLeon '80*



Friends of the late Susan Gifford DeLeon '80 held a colossal fundraiser Sept. 14 at Green Woods Country Club.

A golf tournament followed by a dinner dance raised about \$9,000 for an endowed fund in Susan's memory. The fund, to be administered by the W.L. Gilbert Trust, will be used to enable Gilbert students to participate in field trips and/or activities that pertain to environmental science or encourage respect for the environment and wildlife — two of Susan's passions.



## Class of '82

Saturday,  
July 13,  
2013

*People's  
Forest*



## Needed: 60th Reunion Planner

The class of 1954's 60th reunion will be coming up soon in 2014 and I will not be able to put the time and effort into making it a successful affair. I do not want this to fall by the wayside. I'd like to pass along the information I have from past reunions to make the task easier for someone else. I have enjoyed work-

ing on the class of 1954 reunion committee these past years, but cannot devote the time to it right now. If there is a classmate or classmates who would like to take on the planning of our 60th reunion, please contact me. Hope to hear from someone soon!

Janet (Morton) Follert: 860-379-1071 or  
jhfolly@yahoo.com.



# Peg Barth '36



Peg died Dec. 30, 2012. She was born in Winsted and had wonderful memories of growing up there, especially of summers at a cottage on Highland Lake. She spoke often of a dance pavilion, now long gone, and the sounds of the big bands drifting across the bay on those summer evenings.

She was so proud of her education at The Gilbert School, which she was quick to remind us, was an endowed public school and had a very rigorous curriculum. She loved learning.

In her twenties, an aunt and uncle in California convinced her to move west. A tough decision, but at the time it offered her more opportunities.

She moved to Westwood and worked at Douglas Aircraft, where she met Carl Barth. They were married in 1945 (unfortunately no wedding pictures, because the photographer accidentally double exposed everything!). Peg loved people and activity. She volunteered in many organizations, including PTA, Woman's Club, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, PEO, and LHH Historical Committee. She was always willing to take on duties or leadership roles in these organizations.

She loved to write, took a creative writing class at UCLA while living in Westwood, and was in a creative writing group at Woman's Club for many years. Her family treasures her writing, offering a glimpse into her past as well as her love of people and nature. Peg Barth lived her life with joy and a respect for everyone she encountered along her journey.

## Deaths

**1936**

Margaret (Solover) Barth  
*December 30, 2012*  
Dorothy (Bruey) Beckman  
*August 2, 2011*

**1938**

Marion (Coffey) Vaccari  
*March 16, 2013*

**1942**

John Potpolak  
*August 29, 2013*

**1943**

Dudley H. Manchester  
*August 9, 2013*

**1946**

Pauline Millard  
*February 24, 2013*

**1957**

Felix Youmatz  
*September 17, 2013*  
Carol (Clark) Lataif  
*August 31, 2013*

**1958**

Martha (Manghue) Fulton  
*November 9, 2012*

**1960**

Philip F. DePaoli  
*March 5, 2011*

**1982**

Jeffrey Sacco  
*August 15, 2013*

## Class of 1957 Get-Together



*Class agent Janet Stack writes: "We had a gathering/reunion Sept. 10, 2013, at the Log House. About 30 people attended. We had a great time visiting. Mostly local people attended, but Norman Dallis came from Utah, and Remo Renza came with his wife from New Jersey." Pictured above are Carol Jeffers, Norma Spada, Remo and his wife, Lucille Stocking.*



# Gilbert Trust Awards Record Amount In College Aid

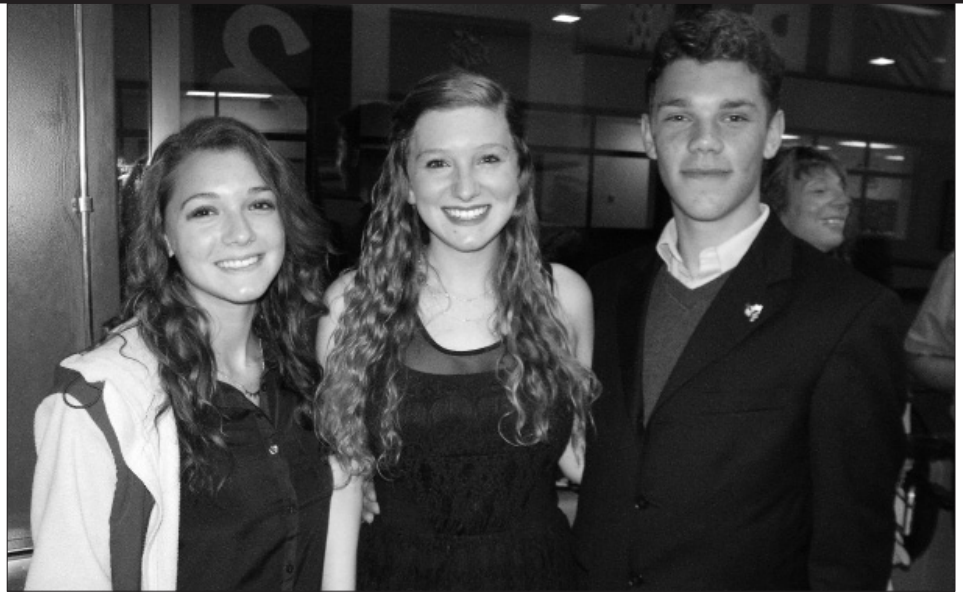
At its annual scholarship awards event Monday evening, June 11, The W.L. Gilbert Trust Corporation awarded more than \$110,000 in higher education assistance to 54 Gilbert School seniors and alumni/ae.

More than 150 award recipients, parents, board members, faculty and staff attended the trust-sponsored awards event in the school auditorium, followed by a coffee and dessert reception.

The Gilbert Trust, the non-profit organization that supports the town's quasi-public high school, holds more than \$1.5 million in endowed scholarships and other named funds, many of which have been in existence since the early 1900s. The funds were established by graduates, local businesses and other friends of the school and are awarded each year to deserving applicants.

One of the highlights of the evening was when Trust President Tom Botticelli presented graduating senior Megan Brewer with the Phyllis C. Locascio '32 Memorial Scholarship. The \$10,000 higher-education award, renewable for a total of up to four years, was made possible by a generous bequest from the late Ms. Locascio of Winsted.

Megan now attends Boston University with a dual major in athletic training and physical therapy.



*Award winners Sarah Martin '14, her sister Nicole Martin '12, and Ian Ellsworth '13.*



*The 2013 recipients posed for a group photograph after receiving their scholarships. More than 60 seniors and alumni/ae received \$112,226 in aid for higher education.*



*Library media specialist Jody Pillar, who recently was named Connecticut High School Exemplary Educator of the Year, with former TGS librarian and current trustee Elaine Fortuna.*

# Wayne Andrighetti's Success: Hard Work, Talent ... And Luck



**Wayne Andrighetti '78**

The story of Wayne Andrighetti '78 seems like a classic tale of hard work, talent and perseverance. But there was another important element that contributed to his astounding success — luck.

When Andrighetti graduated from Northwestern Connecticut Community College, one of his first job offers was as an assistant at the Litchfield County medical examiner's office.

"But they wanted to pay me per autopsy, so I would have to sort of hope someone dies so that I could work and I really didn't want to do that," Andrighetti recalled.

"Also, this is a small town. I knew eventually I would walk up to the table and it would be somebody I knew. I wasn't sure how I would deal with that. I thought it was probably bad karma."

Not taking that offer from the coroner's office turned out to be one of the best decisions Andrighetti ever made. Shortly afterward, he took a job at the now defunct Value Vacations, a wholesale travel consolidator on Main Street in Winsted. It was the 1980s, relatively early in the office computer age. But Andrighetti identified several problems with the company's computer systems.

"I went to the president of the company

and told him and they hired me to stay on," Andrighetti said modestly.

And so a wonderful life and an impressive career in information technology were born. Andrighetti went into programming and landed an IT job at Lender's Bagels headquarters in West Haven, where he met Laurie, his wife of 23 years.

Andrighetti stayed at Lender's for several years, eventually leaving for stints at MAI Systems and then Hyperion, where he served for ten years as senior director and technical consultant. While at Hyperion, Andrighetti completed his B.S. in biology at Southern Connecticut State University and met Peter Mulholland, with whom he forged a relationship that resulted in the formation of their own company, Global Analytics Corporation, in 2003.

GA was a business software consulting company that helped select, install, customize and implement performance management software for budgeting, budget forecasting, financial consolidation and reporting. Inc.com listed it among the 500 fastest growing companies in America in 2008. Revenues for the then tiny company grew from \$400,000 in 2004, its first full year in operation, to \$4.5 million in 2007.

GA became so successful that it was almost a foregone conclusion that a larger company would try to buy it. Three years ago, Ernst & Young, the accounting and financial services giant, made a successful bid to acquire GA. As part of the deal, EY agreed to keep Andrighetti on the payroll as an executive director heading up the technical consulting group. He just retired from that position earlier this year.

"EY has been very good to us," Andrighetti said. "It's been a great relationship."

Andrighetti looks back fondly on his years at Gilbert and in Winsted.

"I was very lucky to have good teachers during my time at Gilbert. Some of my favorites were Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, who taught various English courses and art, respectively. Mr. Reynolds used to take

kids on trips to see various rock concerts, Broadway shows, etc. It is something that would probably never happen now, in this overly litigious society. They were always great fun, though. Other favorites included Mr. Gamari, who I had for three years of history classes, and Mr. Schroeder, who I had for biology and photography club. Mr. Clarke and Mr. Trout also deserve a mention for the special relationships they formed with so many students. Overall, I thought that the quality and the commitment of our teachers during my years at Gilbert was above and beyond normal expectations.

"Growing up in Winsted, my family didn't have a lot of money, so we didn't travel much. When we went on vacations, we usually went to see my relatives up in Plymouth, Mass. When I was 18, you could have taken a compass and drawn a 120-mile circle around Winsted and that's the farthest I had ever traveled. So after high school, one of the things that was high on my list was to get out of Winsted and see the world."

Having traveled the world — he and Laurie just returned in October from two weeks in Belgium and Holland — Andrighetti has more than made up for his provincial past. And, unlike his devoted mother who worked tirelessly as a waitress to support him, Andrighetti and his wife live quite comfortably. Life is very good.

## THE YELLOW JACKET

The Alumni/ae Magazine  
of  
The Gilbert School

How do you like the Yellow Jacket?  
Your comments are welcome at:  
[gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org](mailto:gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org)



## John G. Groppo Sr. '40

### *A Life In Public Service*



*John G. Groppo '40, right, shared a light moment with former faculty member and current Gilbert trustee Craig Schroeder at a Homecoming reception in 2011.*

John G. Groppo '40, a beloved figure in the Winsted community and across the state, died June 12, 2013.

Groppo was born Aug. 14, 1921, and attended both St. Anthony's and The Gilbert School before leaving school to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served from 1942 to 1946, earning a Purple Heart for his service in Guam.

He later served on the W.L. Gilbert Trust for seven years and was honored in 2009 by The Gilbert Trust with the W.L. Gilbert Heritage Award and given an honorary diploma.

Groppo was elected to the Connecticut House of Representatives in 1959. A Democrat, he served as House Majority Leader for two terms before narrowly losing a re-election bid in 1984.

While in the House of Representatives, Groppo also served as Winsted's mayor from 1965 to 1967. After losing his seat at the Capitol, he was appointed commissioner of the state Department of Revenue

Services by then Gov. Bill O'Neill.

Groppo's public service also included Democratic town chairman and deputy chief of the Winsted Fire Department. In addition, he was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Sadie (Avenia) Groppo '40, his wife of 63 years, passed away three years ago on June 3, 2010. In an interview with the Register Citizen newspaper, he recounted how he had known her since she was in grammar school and later married her after spending his four years in the Marines.

"I was discharged in Springfield, we got together and got married," Groppo said. "It'll be 64 years in September. I know some [marriages] that don't last 64 days."

According to his official obituary, Groppo was "a man of uncommon kindness, with a gracious, generous spirit, always living up to the ideals of his faith." He will surely be missed.

## Daniel Smith '52

### *Featured In New York Times*



*Dan Smith '52 talks with a Times reporter in his study in Washington, D.C.*  
- COURTESY THE NEW YORK TIMES

Daniel R. Smith '52, who won a prestigious alumni award from The Gilbert School in 2011, was featured in an Aug. 24 front-page article in The New York Times on the 50th anniversary of the civil rights march on Washington.

Smith, whose own father was born a slave in 1862, attended the march himself along with tens of thousands who watched and cheered Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech.

In his interview with Times writer Rick Lyman, Smith waxed philosophical on the civil rights movement, noting the progress that has been made but adding that there is still a lot of work to be done in order to achieve racial equality. Smith also discussed growing up in one of the few black families in Winsted.

Smith and his family returned to Winsted for Homecoming two years ago to accept his Distinguished Professional Achievement Award from The Gilbert Trust.

# Gilbert's Annual Fund: *WHAT GOOD CAN YOU DO?*



GIFTS TO THE GILBERT ANNUAL FUND GO DIRECTLY TO THE GILBERT SCHOOL FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND EQUIPMENT; STUDENT AND FACULTY SCHOLARSHIPS; TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES; AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS.



Dear Friend of The Gilbert School,

The annual enhancement monies raised by alumni like you help The Gilbert School with projects, activities and capital expenses that are not covered by the operating budget.

In recent years, the annual appeal funds have provided equipment for the Middle School Music Program; assisted with financing for Gilbert students attending Model UN at Harvard; and purchased library supplies and software.

Through the generosity of alumni, we have been able to update classroom equipment for the study of math and science; acquire a printing press for the Art Department; and purchase a scoring table for the gymnasium. Please consider being part of the innovations and creative learning going on every day at Gilbert. Be assured that your gift will be used well to enhance the academic and extracurricular experiences at Gilbert. Donate using the enclosed envelope or online at [www.gilbertschool.org](http://www.gilbertschool.org).

On behalf of The Gilbert School community, I thank you for your consideration.

Tom Botticelli

President  
The W.L. Gilbert  
Trust Corporation



Make check payable to:  
The W.L. Gilbert Trust  
200 Williams Ave  
Winsted CT 06098  
Memo Line: Annual Fund  
Or give online at:  
[www.gilbertschool.org](http://www.gilbertschool.org)



# Letter From The Head of School

November 2013

*Dear Alumni/ae and Friends of The Gilbert School:*

I wanted to address what has been going on concerning the funding situation for the Town of Winchester and how it relates to you as Gilbert Alumni. While some of you still reside in the area, others have moved away and may not be aware of the current funding issues. First, though, I'd like to mention a bit about The Gilbert School and its history as I think it is important to understand what The Gilbert School is and how it fits into the fabric of the Winchester community.

The Gilbert School was founded in 1895 by William L. Gilbert, who wanted to ensure that local residents had an opportunity for a good education to secure their future. His legacy continues to this day with a private school that educates the middle and high school children of Winchester, two high school students from Hartland, and now — thanks to the foresight of the W.L. Gilbert Trust Corporation — 22 international students from China.

The school's present building, constructed in 1959, was built entirely with Gilbert Trust funds. Likewise, when the school underwent a significant expansion from 1999 to 2000, The Gilbert private funds and school building assistance funds from the State of Connecticut were used to fund the project — and again there was no cost to the town. However, since town students are being educated here, the Winchester Board of Education (WBOE) and The Gilbert School have a contract regarding the cost to educate the students (e.g., teachers' salaries, books, school programs, heat, maintenance, etc.). With Winchester's recent financial difficulties due to the alleged embezzlement, the WBOE has not adhered to that contract. The Gilbert School has agreed to grant them some leeway on a short-term basis while a long-term solution is reached. The school is, of course, working cooperatively with the WBOE and the town since such a solution is essential.

While we've heard that the Winchester Board of Education may seek other schools to educate their secondary-age students, public high schools in surrounding communities have neither the capacity nor the infrastructure to support 500+ children in grades 7 to 12. Annual tuition at nearby private schools ranges from \$39,000 to \$51,000 for boarding schools and \$38,000 to \$41,000 for day students. It is crucial that town officials make a commitment to educating the 7th through 12th graders as they enter their key college preparatory years, just as they have made a commitment to educating the K through 6th graders in the community. We at The Gilbert School are doing everything possible to keep our school viable and achieving at higher levels to provide the best possible education for our students.

For the first time in its history, the CT Association of Schools presented three awards to the same school: The Gilbert School. Principal Alan Strauss is the William Cieslukowski Outstanding First Year Principal recipient; Jodi Pillar, our Library Media Specialist, is the Outstanding Secondary School Educator; and our Student Ambassadors program has been chosen as the Outstanding Student Program of the year. In addition, our students' Advanced Placement scores and CAPT and CMT standardized assessments demonstrated dramatic improvement in one year. Finally, our International Residency Program and the move to wireless tablet technology (iPads) for instruction and assessment represent two more examples of recent innovations. We are making this growth with limited resources, but we need your assistance.

To that end, a Trust formed in the late 1800s only stretches so far in the 21st century, despite careful and prudent fiscal management. We have been fortunate over the years to grow that endowment and offer scholarships to deserving students as well as provide amenities to the entire school, such as our media center, through generous donations from alumni and student families. At a time like now when money is tight for The Gilbert School, if you have the ability to make a gift to our endowment and invest in the future of TGS, please do so.

I would ask two things of you during this challenging period: (1) please let our local town and state officials know that educating children from grades 7 through 12 and supporting them financially is just as important as educating and supporting them financially in grades K through 6; (2) if you or anyone you know is financially able to donate to the endowment of The Gilbert School, now would be a wonderful time to do so and we would be most grateful. For our part, we are committed to providing all students with the best possible education as we prepare them for college and the world beyond. Please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff with any questions.

Sincerely,

*Anthony Serio*

Dr. Anthony Serio, Head of School, The Gilbert School



Head of School  
Anthony Serio, Ed.D.

## Jenni Bourque '88 Looks For Maximum Impact



*Jenni L. Bourque '88*

Jenni L. Bourque '88 is confident, poised and self-assured. She lives in an exciting city and has a career that is the envy of many of her peers. Still, she felt like she was missing something.

After a great deal of reflection, she used the aforementioned talents to determine precisely what was missing: fulfilling a desire to help others in her hometown of Winsted.

"I guess it's pretty simple," Bourque said in a recent interview. "I wanted to do something, something that would have some kind of impact and meaning."

So in 2011 Bourque proposed an idea to the W.L. Gilbert Trust about a fund she wanted to start. The concept

was as simple as it was generous. Bourque agreed to establish The Jenni L. Bourque Fund that helps students at Gilbert who lack the needed resources to take advantage of educational activities and opportunities.

Such activities include field trips, other off-campus enrichment trips, summer enrichment courses or programs for students, and unanticipated athletic expenses for needy student-athletes.

"If a student needs sports equipment or if a student wants to be part of the band trip but can't because of financial constraints, then this fund will enable them to participate," Bourque added. "I really feel those kinds of out-of-classroom experiences provide you with the social growth that can help you later in life."

Bourque's mother Pat is a member of both the Gilbert Trust and the School Corporation; her sisters Ali and Jessi are TGS alumnae and her sister Carrie also attended Gilbert.

"Through my mom's work on the School Corp, I was aware that the demographics in the town have changed and that there was really a need for students to have the things that might seem really small. It

could make a difference, for example, to have a tennis racket or a uniform."

Bourque fondly remembers her days at Gilbert. She was on the track team as a freshman and then on the school's first-ever girls' soccer team and on the school's tennis team beginning in her sophomore year.

She credits her English teacher Tom Cangelosi with helping spark her interest in writing and critical thinking. Bourque went on to major in creative writing at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and later completed her M.B.A. in marketing and finance at New York University's Stern School of Business.

Later she became director of corporate and foundation relations at both the NYU Stern School of Business and at Columbia Business School.

Now she is a partner at Silchester International Investors, an international equity management firm.

"I do feel really strongly about giving back. There were times in my life when I didn't have what I have now. I also just have a strong feeling about where I grew up."

Yes, and somewhere William L. Gilbert is glad she does.

Update your profile at our new Alumni Portal  
[www.gilbertschool.org](http://www.gilbertschool.org)

**facebook**

**For regular updates,  
 join 700 other members and follow  
 "The Gilbert School"  
 on  
 Facebook!**

**twitter**

And follow us on Twitter

@gilbertschool



# Consider Joining ... The W.L. Gilbert Legacy Society

*The W.L. Gilbert Legacy Society: recognizes the generous alumni and friends who have indicated that they will make a bequest or other planned gift to benefit The Gilbert School.*



*State your intention by the end of 2013 to make a planned gift and become a charter member of The W.L. Gilbert Legacy Society.*

*Interested in learning more about making a planned gift?*

*Contact the Director of Development, at 860-379-1245 or via email at [gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org](mailto:gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org).*

## Charter Members:

Thomas J. Botticelli

Ellen Cormier Marino '83

Concetto Marino '82

James A. Pettit '71

Jean Woodward Partridge '50

Steven A. Sedlack '60

Anonymous

Harry and JoAnn Briggs

## THINKING BIG ... LOOKING FORWARD >>>

### *Why I Joined The Legacy Society*

When my husband and I reassessed our philanthropic priorities a few years ago, we decided to look at innovative ways to give to a number of worthy causes. But one of those causes seemed like an especially sound investment.

With great enthusiasm, Concetto and I have decided to join the W.L. Gilbert Legacy Society by including The Gilbert Trust and The Gilbert School in our estate plans. It was an exciting move for us and one that will benefit a wonderful institution that has played a critical role in laying the groundwork for our lives.

For as long as I can remember, Gilbert was a part of my life and my family's life. My father, Robert Cormier, began teaching at Gilbert in the late 1940s and my mother, Mary Ellen (Murphy) Cormier, began her teaching career in the early 1950s. In fact, it was at The Gilbert School where my parents first met, dated and eventually married on New Year's Eve 1955. By 1966, they had nine children that they raised and educated until the time they retired from Gilbert in 1985. The importance of a good education can never be underestimated. Not only did the fine teaching and high academic expectations at Gilbert put us on a path toward professional success, the values instilled in us by Mr. Gilbert's original vision compelled us to be deeply involved in the greater Winsted community.

As a former member of the Gilbert School Corporation and as a current member of the W.L. Gilbert Trust since 1995, I can speak not only to the role the school has played in my life, but to the profound impact Gilbert has had on the lives of the thousands of young people who have benefited from its excellent programs and outstanding faculty.

Including Gilbert in your estate plan is really quite simple and there are several unique ways to leave a charitable legacy – in a will or as a beneficiary in a qualified retirement plan, life insurance policy, gift annuity or charitable trust. The possibilities are endless. Depending on your individual situation, there could be significant tax savings, which could benefit your heirs and beneficiaries.

Please consider joining the W.L. Gilbert Legacy Society. It's a great way to "pay it forward" and ensure the future of a truly great school.

*Ellen Cormier Marino '83, W.L. Gilbert Trust Corporation*



**Help ensure the legacy of The Gilbert School in a simple and affordable way.  
Make a deferred gift that costs nothing during your lifetime.**

### Enjoy tax advantages.

It just takes a simple designation in your Will or Trust and will not affect your cash flow during your lifetime. If your situation changes, you can make modifications or revoke it at any time.

There are so many ways you can help, from a specific bequest to a deferred gift or life income agreement that benefits your family now and Gilbert later. Here are a couple of the most popular vehicles used for



planned charitable giving:

### Bequests

**Charitable Gift Annuities  
and Charitable Trusts**

**Gifts of Real Estate or Life Insurance**



*Let us hear from you!*

*Whether you've recently married, celebrated an anniversary or an addition to your family, received a promotion, changed occupations, started a business, written a book, won an award—or just want to send greetings to your classmates—let us know!*

*Fill out this form and mail it to the Alumni Office, submit online at [www.gilbertschool.org](http://www.gilbertschool.org) or send us an email! We — and your classmates — would enjoy hearing from you!*

*Photos for publication in the Yellow Jacket are always welcome!*

Calling all alumni! Send us your news for the next issue of the Yellow Jacket!

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Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Office of Development & Alumni Relations, The Gilbert School, 200 Williams Avenue, Winsted, CT 06098  
Or email to [gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org](mailto:gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org).



Email:

[gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org](mailto:gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org)

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