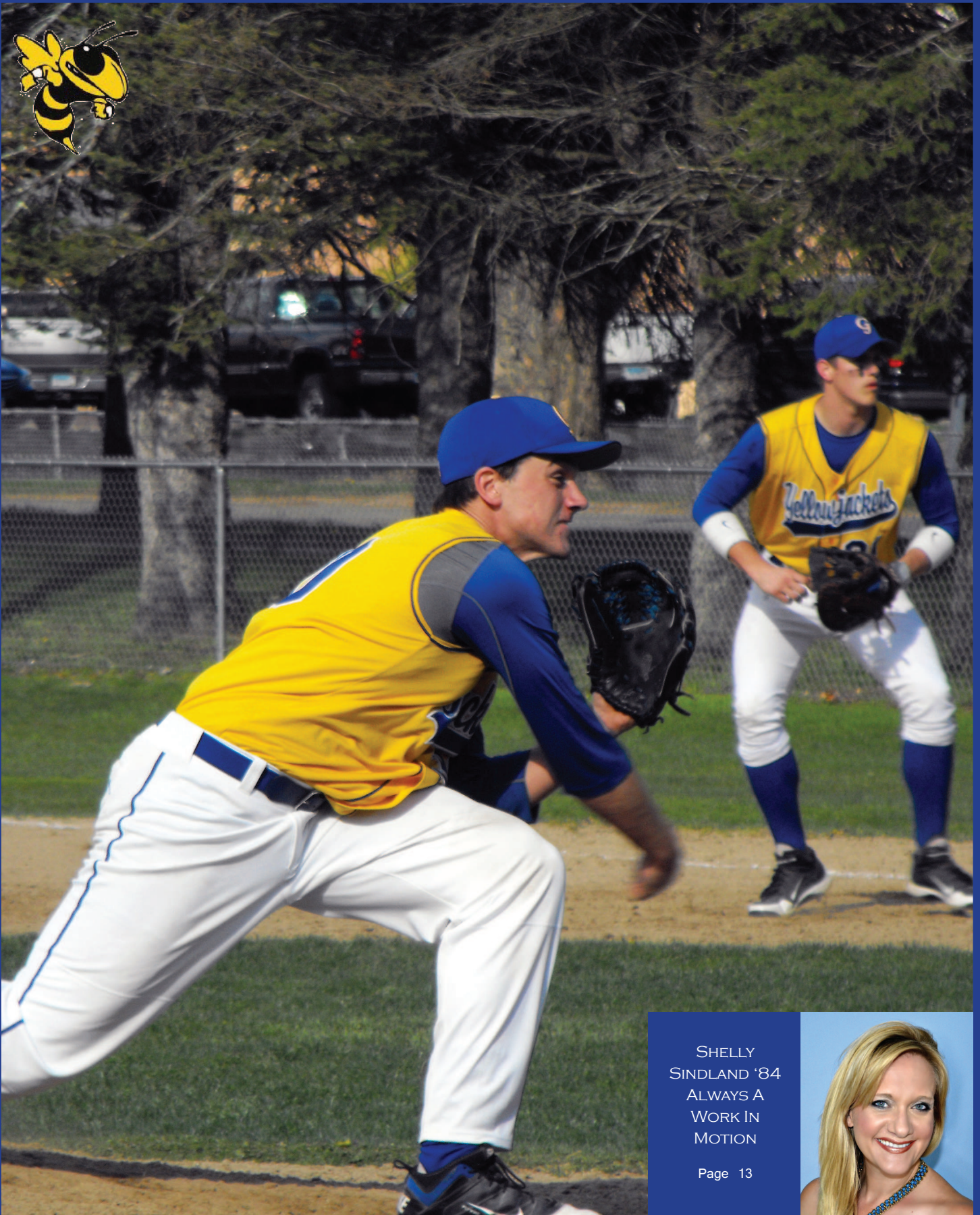


# THE YELLOW JACKET



SHELLY  
SINDLAND '84  
ALWAYS A  
WORK IN  
MOTION

Page 13



FALL 2012

*The Alumni/ae Magazine of The Gilbert School*




# Gilbert Hires New Administrative Team



*New Head of School Anthony Serio, D.Ed.*

The Gilbert School has hired two highly capable administrators over the summer.

Superintendent and Head of School Anthony Serio, D.Ed., comes to Gilbert from the Billerica, Massachusetts  schools where he served as superintendent for five years. Before that, Dr. Serio worked for several years in Connecticut, serving as head of the Canton Public Schools from 2000 to 2006.

In addition to handling the superintendent's duties, Dr. Serio will spearhead the W.L. Gilbert Trust's resident international students program expect-

ed to commence in the fall of 2013.

"I am extremely excited about our implementation of the International Residency Program that will have its inaugural year in August of 2013," said Dr. Serio.

"This is a great opportunity for our students to have their horizons expanded by experiencing the multicultural atmosphere that will exist at The Gilbert School."

New Principal Alan J. Strauss, who replaces the retiring Daniel R. Hatch, comes to Gilbert from Windsor High School, where he served as assistant

principal for the last four years. Mr. Strauss has also worked in the Weston and Naugatuck schools as a teacher and coach. In addition, he is an adjunct professor at Sacred Heart University's Griswold campus, teaching curriculum and instruction to future school administrators and educational psychology to master's-degree level candidates.




*Principal Alan J. Strauss*

## On the Cover:


Alec Brochu '12 hurls a fastball at the plate as first baseman Justin Morhardt '12 looks on during a varsity game against Housatonic at Walker Field last spring.

The Yellow Jackets finished the season at 15-7 and lost 3-2 to East Catholic in the second round of the state tournament.

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## THE YELLOW JACKET

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# For 85 Seniors, It's Goodbye, Gilbert!

Commencement speaker Rick Hall '75 urged 85 graduates to find their identities and develop self-confidence at The Gilbert School's 117th graduation ceremony on Monday, June 18, 2012.

Hall, a former executive at Ovation Guitars, parlayed his love of music into a lucrative and exciting career as he traveled the globe as a representative of one of the most successful guitar companies of all time.

"Find your guitar inspiration, your identity, your reason to believe this wild ride you are about to begin is going to be way cooler than you can ever imagine ... You have the gift of time. Use it to do what you live. Dream the life you want to live, then work like hell to make it happen. Above all, don't stop believing."

Hall later joined The Gilbert School Vocal Ensemble and Jazz Band in a performance of Jonathan Larson's Finale B (video below). The song is the finale to the Broadway musical Rent.

Retiring Principal Dan Hatch had some parting words for the graduates, Ariana Brady '12 gave the valedictory address.



Under the direction of choral teacher Adam Atkins '90, The Gilbert Vocal Ensemble performs Albrecht and Althouse's "May Our Paths Meet Again."



Rick Hall '75 delivers the commencement address to the class of 2012.



Nicole Martin '12 is all smiles as the ceremony begins.



# Blue & Gold Reunion 2012

## Attracts Quite A Crowd

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.

About 150 graduates of The Gilbert School turned out for the 11th annual Blue & Gold reunion in the school cafeteria Friday, May, 4, honoring those alumni who graduated from Gilbert 50 years ago or more.

Attendees enjoyed a light buffet supper, followed by remarks from members of the W.L. Gilbert Trust Corporation, which sponsored the event, and the awarding of certificates of appreciation to members of the class of 1962. There was also a student performance by the Gilbert School jazz band under the direction of music teacher Scott Minnerly, as well as a student art show.



The Gilbert School Jazz Band performed and the work of Gilbert art students was displayed on the walls.



The Class of 1962 posed for a group picture. Front row (from left) Ginny (Bazzano) Rogala, Jo Ann Showl, Barbara Sesko, Gail Hoxie, Kathy (Alexander) Willis, Bill Dillon. Row 2 Karen Nichols, Pat (Whyte) Lawerance, Janice (Gableman) Southworth, Kate Barrett, Lyn (Desmond) Robitaille, Ellen (Barrett) Cunha, Barry Lawerance. Row 3: Jim O'Meara, Norman Chamberlin, Jim DiVita.



Jim DiVita '62 and Charlie Gabelmann '46.



Kate Barrett '62, Ellen (Barrett) Cunha '62 and Yolanda (DiNatale) Barrett '49.





*Charles "Spud" Fecto '42*

## Former Principal Dies

Former Gilbert Principal Charles John "Spud" Fecto passed away on Monday, Aug. 13, 2012, at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington after a brief illness. He was 88.

Starting in 1949, Fecto was on the Gilbert faculty, eventually helped start the guidance department and served as principal from 1973 to 1981. He was remembered fondly by those with whom he worked.

Former Gilbert science teacher and coach Craig Schroeder told the Yellow Jacket, "Spud Fecto was a fair, caring and competent teacher, and administrator. He was known for his quick wit, his insightfulness, and his commitment to excellence.

"His strongest characteristic was his interpersonal skill. He had a knack for relating with other people including faculty, staff, students and parents. Spud was comfortable being Spud and he was able to transmit that feeling of comfort to every situation and all the people he dealt with."

Fecto is survived by his wife Mae (Gillette) Fecto '42, two sons, two brothers and a granddaughter.

## Alumni Raise Funds For Clough Scholarship

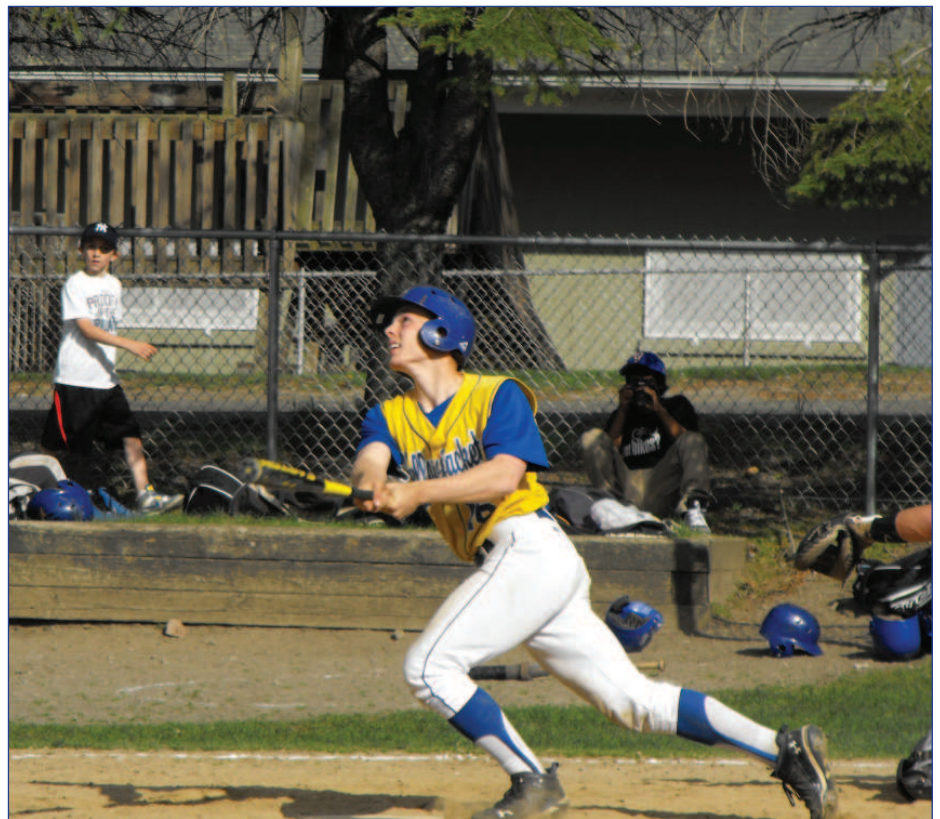
A crowd of Gilbert alumni and friends turned out July 13 at P. Sam's in Torrington for the fourth annual silent auction to benefit the Ean Clough '84 Memorial Scholarship.

The auction raised more than \$2,500 for the scholarship. Many thanks to the donors and planners who made it all possible!



*Willis Whalen '84 and Mike Karolyi '84 were among the Gilbert alumni who organized the fourth annual fund raiser in Torrington to benefit the Ean Clough '84 Memorial Scholarship.*

## Sky-High Fly



*Jonny Marshall '12 hits a high-fly during a varsity game against Housatonic at Walker Field last spring. The Yellow Jackets finished the 2012 season at 15-7 but lost 3-2 to East Catholic in the second round of the state tournament.*

# In Africa, Three Gilbert Alumnae Keep Eyes On The Mission



Terrie (Cannavo) Walker '71, Sabrina (Howard) Allard '96 and Jenna Marzullo '96 in the western African nation of Ghana earlier this year.

Most people who travel have at least one game-changing trip in their lives. For three Gilbert graduates, the chance to see life up-close in western Africa was a transformative experience. For Terrie (Cannavo) Walker '71, Jenna Marzullo '96 and Sabrina (Howard) Allard '96, it was a chance to learn about the world, do some good and help their company at the same time.

The trio, along with about 30 other sales associates from Viridian, a retail green-energy supplier based in Connecticut, journeyed to Ghana in February 2012 -- not to

save the world, but to help improve the lives of poverty-stricken Ghanaians one brick at a time. Principal among their tasks was to help establish the village of Asunafo's first library and install solar panels so that the remote settlement would have a sustainable energy supply.

One of the first things they found was that the villagers' healthcare facility was in need of a reliable power source.

"We put solar panels on the health facility -- there's great sun in Africa," said Walker. "24/7 it generated electricity for the refrig-

erator. We also put solar panels on the library that not only was going to give the library electricity for lighting and fans because it's oppressively hot there -- but it was also charging batteries that went to the lanterns that the children could borrow with their books. They had 44 hours of charge, they could also better do their homework at night and educate their mothers who had not gone to school."

And the associates from Viridian also partnered with a company that used small children's merry-go-rounds to generate energy.

"We put two of those into the ground," Allard explained. "As we were leaving, there were 20 kids who jumped on that thing. They were so excited. They really wanted to be able to read and they understood this was going to help them."

And before the trip, the company had conducted a book drive, eventually shipping over 6,000 books to Africa, 2,000 of which went to Asunafo.

"Some of these children had never laid eyes on the ocean," added Marzullo. "You could watch a child flipping through a book not even understanding what the words said, but visually becoming stimulated by images they had never seen before. I could have watched that all day."

The trio traveled to Ghana as

See Africa  
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## Douglas G. Atwood '37



Douglas Gilbert Atwood '37 passed away in Atlanta on September 13, 2012. He was 92 and died peacefully of natural causes.

He was born in New Britain on September 15, 1919, and spent his childhood in Winsted, where as a boy he delivered newspapers for the Winsted Evening Citizen (now defunct) for seven years.

He attended The Gilbert High from 1933-1937, where his father John was a math teacher and basketball coach (Doug was a player on the team). Doug attended Dartmouth College from 1937-1941, graduating from the prestigious Tuck School of Business.

He joined the American Field Service, for which he drove ambulances with the British Army in the North African campaign in World War II from 1941-45.

Doug's principal profession was with CARE, the global relief organization, where he worked from 1962-1990. He was CARE Country Director in Malaysia, Honduras, Colombia, Afghanistan, India, and Bangladesh.

For the last 22 years, he lived in Sarasota, Florida, and Atlanta, Georgia. He is survived by his wife, Francine, and three children, Ken, Eric and Monique.

## In Memoriam

**1928**

Anna O'Brien Harding  
*April 4, 2012*

**1952**

Carolyn Auer Wargo  
*February 8, 2012*

**1929**

Ruth Tyler Drummond  
*May 11, 2012*

**1953**

Audrey Kandler Riiska  
*March 9, 2012*

**1937**

Douglas Gilbert Atwood  
*September 13, 2012*

David Fredenburg  
*November 9, 2010*

**1955**

Anthony J. Bardino  
*April 30, 2010*

Roddy V. Amenta  
*July 28, 2012*

**Ralph I. Scoville**

*December 14, 2011*

Barbara Johnson Henrickson  
*February 18, 2011*

**1942**

Mary Sweet Fracasso  
*September 18, 2012*

Thomas H. Maccalous  
*February 29, 2012*

**1947**

George A. Terwilliger Jr.  
*March 7, 2012*

**1958**  
Robert A. Thompson  
*December 17, 2010*

**1969**

Terence C. Smyth  
*July 1, 2010*

**1950**

Theodore J. Talbot  
*May 17, 2012*



# Gilbert Trust Awards \$90k In College Aid

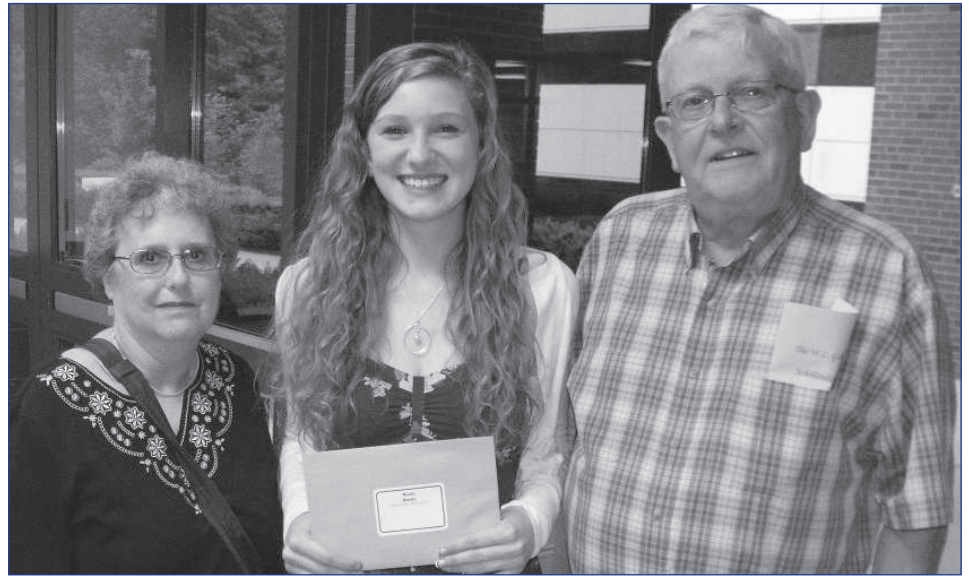
At its annual scholarship awards event Monday evening, June 11, The W.L. Gilbert Trust Corporation awarded about \$90,000 in higher education assistance to 54 Gilbert School seniors and alumni/ae.

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 Nicole Martin 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 last year by a generous bequest from the late Ms. Locascio of Winsted.

Last year, Mallory Rotundo, now a sophomore at Purdue University, won the first Locascio scholarship, which was also renewed for this year. Nicole will attend Western Carolina University in the fall. Mallory will continue at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.



*Nicole Martin '12, winner of the Phyllis C. Locascio '32 Memorial Scholarship, poses with Patricia Wiarda, Ms. Locascio's niece, and her husband John Wiarda. Nicole is now attending Western Carolina University.*



*Jared Groth '10, Alec Brochu '10 and Guy Guyton '08 shared a light moment after the event.*



*Allison Battista '12, winner of five scholarships, celebrates with her parents, David Battista '78 and Siobhan Battista. Allison attends the University of Connecticut.*



## Around the Years: Class Notes

### 1945

Stan Ransom has retired after a 43-year career as a public library director in the state of New York, calling it quits



as director of the Plattsburgh, N.Y., Public Library on June 1, 2012. Stan received a proclamation of thanks from the mayor and from the New York State Legislature. He authored a book on Jupiter Hammon, the first black in America to publish his own works, and created Black Poetry Day on Oct. 17, Hammon's birthday. That day is now celebrated throughout the United States. Stan is returning to his alternate occupation, creating CDs and performing as The Connecticut Peddler. Along with his wife Christina, a medical librarian, Stan has four children and five grandchildren.



Spencer and Patricia McAllister in Tucson, Arizona.

### 1952

Spencer E. McAllister writes: I didn't actually graduate Gilbert in '52 because I quit school at the beginning of the '51-'52 school year when I would have been a senior. I joined the U.S. Navy in September, 1951. After discharge I attended Michigan State University where I received a B.A. degree in Social Science and Education. In

the meantime I was married and soon had three daughters and a son. I taught high school in Saginaw, MI for six years. In 1967 we moved to Chicago. I held jobs as a writer/editor for several companies including Allstate Insurance. Presently, I am happily married for 34 years to my second wife, Patricia, and retired in sunny (and HOT) Tucson, Arizona. Together we have eight children, 17 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren (Just don't ask me to recite all their names!). Contact me at [spencerintucson@yahoo.com](mailto:spencerintucson@yahoo.com).

### 1953



John Darcey dropped us a note over the summer: "I finally decided to retire after teaching Spanish in high school and college (UConn) for 55 years. It's been lots of fun working with young people in this state, but it's time to move on."

### 1974



George Burgess send us the following message: "MPL Music Publishing, founded and owned by Paul McCartney of the Beatles, has signed two new instrumentals by George Burgess. The songs are titled 'Broken Chain' and 'Dash.' The signings are significant in that after concluding an initial artist contract with George, MPL has affirmed its interest and support of George's music. This marks George's third round of music signed by MPL. To listen to a sampling of his music go to [mplcommunications.com](http://mplcommunications.com) and look for George's name in the artists menu."

### 1982


Jim Langer wrote us over the summer: "I am performing in my seventh Shakespeare production as Bottom in A Midsummer  Night's Dream this weekend; did the Scarecrow in The Wizard of Oz  in July, with my daugh-

ter Sabine, making her stage debut as a Munchkin. Joanie and I are expecting #2 in January."

### 1996

Rebecca McDonald Encao writes: "A lot has happened since my last update. My husband and I welcomed a son, Nickolas, on Veterans Day in 2008. Since then, I returned to school and moved. My husband is still active duty in the military and was transferred to a base in Colorado in March 2011. We absolutely love Colorado! On our 5th wedding anniversary, in October of 2011, we went to Vegas to renew our vows with Elvis. In May 2012, I graduated from Walden University with an MS in Mental Health Counseling. I am currently a member of Chi Sigma Iota - the mental health counseling honor society, the Colorado Counseling Association, and the American Counseling Association. I am also a nationally certified counselor. My specialization has been military and military spouse counseling."

### 2005

Alyssa Olavarria graduated from the University of Bridgeport's Shintaro Akatsu School of Design with bachelor of science and 3.8 GPA. She is also a member of the National Honor Society of Leadership & Success. 

### 2007

Sean Sultaire is a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin. He writes: I am coming off my undergraduate work in Montana where I graduated from the University of Montana, and worked on a variety of field projects. I started out working on private land conservation on

See Class Notes  
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## ... Class Notes, cont. from p. 9

the Rocky Mountain Front for the USFWS. Then I spent a year and a half working on a snowshoe hare research project investigating whether their coat color change can adapt to changing snow conditions. Recently I worked on a wolf research crew in Idaho and Yellowstone National Park, researching their response to different hunting regimes. I am interested in how anthropogenic stressors, such as climate change and fragmentation, impact wildlife populations. With the potential for these factors to act synergistically, it is critical to know how wildlife populations are responding and potentially adapting to them. My research will incorporate detailed historical data, occupancy modeling, and remote sensing to determine how climate change is impacting the distribution of snowshoe hare in Wisconsin. After graduating I would like to be involved in on the ground work, helping to improve people's lives through better natural resource management."

### 2012

Justin Morhardt is in his freshman year at Oral Roberts University, a Division 1 baseball school in Tulsa, Okla. Justin was selected in the 39th round of the Major League Baseball draft by the California Angels, where his father Greg '81 works as a scout. Justin's uncle Darryl '80 is head coach of the Holyoke (Mass.) Blue Sox of the New England Collegiate Baseball League. Grandfather Moe is a former major-league first baseman with the Chicago Cubs and a longtime former teacher and baseball coach at Gilbert. All were featured in a June 20 article in the Waterbury Republican American entitled "Morhardt Follows in Footsteps of His Baseball Family."

## Reunion Activity



Janet Hazzard Stack '55 emailed the above photo and wrote: A group pic of classmates at our third gathering of the year on 6/12/12 at the Log House restaurant in Barkhamsted celebrating our 55th reunion. Attendees pictured: Yvonne T. Connor, Gary LaFountain, Ellen Carrozzo, Linda McKelvey, Eileen O'Connor, Carol Jeffers, Kathy Yacovino, Janet Stack, Carolyn Capell, Josie Bernard, Bob Fiske and Fran Schaller.



Tammy Gemetro Van Allen reports that on Saturday evening, Sept. 1, at Ye Old Newgate Coon Club in Norfolk, 31 guests attended the class of 1992's 20th reunion. Front row: Sarah Wadsworth, Veronica Epres, Tammy (Gemetro) Van Allen. Second row: Ruthie (Ursone) Napoleone, Tina (Kelley) Goodman. Back row: Scott Allshouse, Todd Arcelaschi, Israel Larriu, Tim Barber, Amy Shoppey.



# Shelly Sindland '87 Always A Work In Motion



*Shelly Sindland '87 covering The White House for Fox-CT (channel 61) television.*

"There are no second acts in American life," F. Scott Fitzgerald once wrote. Fitzgerald may have been one of America's most brilliant writers, but he was dead wrong on that one. And perhaps nowhere in the Gilbert community has Fitzgerald's maxim been more emphatically disproved than in the still-evolving career of Shelly Sindland '87.

Best known as an on-air talent at Hartford's FOX-61, where she spent 15 years as a political reporter and program host, Sindland, 43, found herself out of television two years ago after filing an age- and gender-discrimination complaint against the station's parent company.

According to published reports, even though a state commission found that her complaint had merit, Sindland settled her claim against the company and left of her own accord a few months later. That's when she found herself out of work as a single mother with a young child, Sadie, then 3.

"I can't talk about it but I will say I

have no hard feelings," Sindland said. "The matter has been resolved and I have moved on. Most of my years at Fox were great ones, but I'm happier now than I've ever been because I have control of my life."

Sindland needed a steady income and work that would allow her a flexible schedule and time to be with her daughter. If there were two things Sindland learned from being in television, it was what looks good and how to deal with the press. So she parlayed a lifelong hobby, photography, along with the media skills she acquired from college and work, into a public relations and photography business.

"Photography, PR. I represent a few attorneys, which is turning into my niche," Sindland said in a recent interview over lunch. "I take publicity shots, high-definition video, plus I represent non-profits too. I know how to make men and women look great. That comes from my TV training."

Among Sindland's recent projects was a lead role as creator and photog-

rapher for Connecticut's first calendar featuring female firefighters. She conceived of the highly successful project, aptly named "Guts & Glamour," and saw it through to completion under some pretty tight deadlines. G&G was featured in print and electronic media stories across the state.

As for switching careers, Sindland added, "A lot of people are being forced to reinvent themselves in this economy and we need to prepare for two or maybe even three careers." But the road to professional success started humbly for Sindland after graduating in 1991 from Seton Hall University with a B.A. in communications. She landed a job at a tiny and chaotic television station in Hagerstown, Md.

"The station went bankrupt after like eight months," she recalled. "We wore a lot of hats. I had a teleprompter control under my foot that I used like a gas pedal. It was tough. Our paychecks would bounce. It was just small-market TV."

From there, she went on to WTAP in Parkersburg, W. Va., where she anchored and helped launch the station's first morning show. And in her spare time, Sindland produced and anchored the noon news. But the big break came

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How do you like our new design? Your comments are welcome at:  
[cowgillt@gilbertschool.org](mailto:cowgillt@gilbertschool.org)

## ... Sindland, cont. from p. 11

when she landed the job at FOX-CT, an event that also brought her back to Connecticut and much closer to her native Hartland.

"I went from the 189th market to number 27," Sindland said. "It was a big leap."

That leap allowed Sindland to really learn the journalism trade and cover a wider array of stories than she could ever dream of in a small market like Parkersburg.

In addition to becoming the station's lead political reporter covering the Capitol in Hartford, Sindland created and anchored *The Real Story*, Fox-CT's weekend political interview show.  That thrives to this day.  When she has time, Sindland is also a radio talk show fill-in host, subbing for Brad Davis and Mary Jones on WDRC and Colin McEnroe during his WTIC days.



*Shelly Sindland '87*



*Sindland interviewing then-Rep. Rob Simmons and then-state Attorney General Richard Bulemthal on FOX-CT's The Real Story.*

She also covered then-Sen. Chris Dodd in Washington, as well as protests at Connecticut's two nuclear power plants, Millstone and Connecticut Yankee. During the latter assignment, Sindland met some anti-nuclear activists who traveled to Chernobyl once a year on a humanitarian mission.

In a life-changing experience, she accompanied them on a trip to Russia and reported from the site of the world's worst nuclear disaster.

"We were in the dead zone," Sindland said, referring to the 19-mile exclusion area around the plant. "We were almost arrested."

Closer to home, Sindland remembers her Gilbert days fondly. She lives in the Elmwood section of West Hartford but comes back to Hartland and Winsted often. Sindland returned to the Gilbert campus in 2002 to give the commencement address and still remembers her message: "Remove the 'self' from self-doubt."

Her father, now retired, was a self-employed contractor. His company, Les Sindland Flooring, was well known in the area. After her

sophomore year at Gilbert, Sindland's parents suggested she go to a Lutheran boarding school, Hillcrest Academy, in Minnesota. The school was predominantly for Americans who, like the Sindland family, were of Norwegian extraction. But she became very homesick and returned to Gilbert for her senior year.

"Coming back to Gilbert is why I am where I am," Sindland insisted. "I don't know where I would have wound up if I had stayed at Hillcrest."

Living in East Hartland and attending Gilbert made for a long day: "The bus came at 6:10 a.m. I was wiped out at the end of the day!" But not too wiped out to get grades strong enough to get into Seton Hall, where she maintained a 3.7 GPA in her major.

Sindland played for Ed Keeley in both the jazz and marching bands, played basketball for Craig Schroeder and Gerry Hicks '69 and volleyball for Mary Ellen Vaccari '72 and Cindy Fixer '78.

"It was a great place to be. The teachers were friendly and inspiring. I loved Gilbert and can't imagine going any place else."



# Two Gilbert Grads, Case And Renzullo, Square Off In Race For State Rep

As fate would have it, a pair of Gilbert grads are running for the same seat in the General Assembly.

Democrat Mike Renzullo '91 and Republican Jay Case '88 secured the nominations of their respective parties over the summer and will square off to represent Winchester and portions of surrounding towns in the highly competitive 63rd Assembly District. The election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Renzullo is in his third term on the Winchester Board Of Selectmen and is founder of Laurel City Revamp, a local nonprofit dedicated to the restoration of Winsted. He is a graduate of the Metropolitan State College of Denver, Colorado.

Case, a 41-year-old West Wakefield Boulevard resident, is a former executive for Special Olympics Connecticut and was the owner of Distinguished Car Cleaning. He attended Northeastern University in Boston.

Case's late father, George '53, was



Jay Case '88 (left)  
and  
Mike Renzullo '91  
(right)

a member of the W.L. Gilbert Trust. Case's sister, Heather Dzielak '86, is a current member of the Trust.

Earlier this year, Republican state Rep. John Rigby of Colebrook announced that he would not seek a third term in the statehouse.



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## ... Africa, cont. from p. 6



*Terrie (Cannavo) Walker '71 with friends she met in the western African nation of Ghana.*

part of Viridian's "7 Continents in 7 years" program, which undertook a major sustainability project on each of the seven continents over a period of seven years, and serves as the global component of the company's sustainability initiatives. Last year, Viridian Associates traveled to Brazil to replant trees in deforested areas of the Amazon.

For Walker, Allard and Marzullo, the trip to Ghana also helped them realize how much they appreciated the career changes that brought them to the clean-energy industry. Walker ran her family's business, Cannavo Landscaping, for 17 years before becoming a manager of special products at an aviation company near Bradley International Airport. And the family pattern repeated itself. In all, there are 14 Cannavos working at Viridian, including Jenna Marzullo and Joanne Cannavo Marzullo '70, who is Theresa's sister and a member

of the W.L. Gilbert Trust. Between 20 and 30 Viridian associates are Gilbert alumni/ae.

Allard, who is close friends with Marzullo and roomed with her when both were at UConn, spent almost a decade at Liberty Mutual

"I had tremendous opportunities and appreciated them," said Allard. "But now I work from home and can put my child on the bus in the morning."

Marzullo was owner of a holistic healing center in Torrington, teaching yoga and meditation but looking for a second job. She eventually gave up her business for a full-time gig at Viridian.

The trio love to wax philosophical about their experiences at Gilbert. Walker fondly recalls the legendary Gilbert music teacher, the late Elizabeth "Ma" Sonier and English teacher Helen M. Shel-drick, whose pithy "quote of the

day" delighted Walker's English class.

Allard, whose grandfather Hamilton Pitt taught at Gilbert, was fond of English teachers Tom Cangelosi and Charles Trout, as well as athletic director Mike Gamari. At one point in her Gilbert career, Allard played in Torrington on an indoor track team since Gilbert did not have such a program.

"I had a single mother who could not always take me to my meets," Allard recalled. "And for that entire season, Mr. Gamari brought me to all these different meets. He also brought me to states. He wasn't my coach but he was my community."

For her part, Marzullo, a fourth-generation Gilbert alumnae, recalls not only Cangelosi but also freshman English class with John W. Reynolds: "He brought out a creative side that I didn't know I had. He used to make us listen to Cat Stevens, Bob Dylan and reflect on the lyrics and that awoke something in me -- a desire to express myself to the world. I discovered a skill I had with writing and with speaking that I didn't know I had before. It's sort of what I do for a living now. We speak sometimes before thousands of people at conferences. I feel like I've had to rely on some of those skills I learned at Gilbert and really dig deep for inspiration. Mr. Reynolds inspired me tremendously."

All three are passionate when conversing about sustainable energy, but they are just as animated when talking about their experiences at Gilbert. So there you have it. The altruist's dream: improving healthcare and literacy in one shot, while touting the virtues of their high-school alma mater.



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

*The W.L. Gilbert Legacy Society:*  
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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 2011 to make a  
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Legacy Society.*

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cowgillt@gilbertschool.org.

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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 last year, 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 ground work 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 1940's and my mother, Mary Ellen (Murphy) Cormier, began her teaching career in the early 1950's. 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.
- Enable The Gilbert School to make a difference in the lives of generations of students to come.

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:



## Bequest

\* An outright gift through your will or trust of property or a specific sum of money.

Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Trusts

\* Typically guarantee the donor a fixed income for life and then the remaining principal passes to Gilbert upon the donor's death.

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### **Class of 1952 - 60th Reunion**

*Oct. 13, 2012*

### **Homecoming**

*Oct. 27, 2012*

### **Classes of '72**

### **40th Reunion**

*Nov. 2, 2012*

### **Class of 1982 - 30th Reunion**

*Nov. 24, 2012*

For event details and more, visit us online: [www.gilbertschool.org](http://www.gilbertschool.org)



Email:

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