

Monmouth

M A G A Z I N E UNIVERSITY

LATE FALL 2013



**NOAA GRANT FOR UCI
SPECIAL CALENDAR ISSUE
POZYCKI HALL UNDERWAY**

Monmouth University Magazine
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**MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**
WHERE LEADERS LOOK forward

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ON THE COVER: MARINE SCIENTIST JIM NICKELS, A USCG LICENSED CAPTAIN AND A BOARD CERTIFIED HYDROGRAPHER, WORKED DURING THE SPRING AND SUMMER AS A FEMA SUB-CONTRACTOR, CONDUCTING SIDE SCAN SONAR SURVEYS IN SANDY HOOK AND RARITAN BAYS, SEARCHING FOR AND IDENTIFYING DEBRIS FROM SANDY THAT POSED A HAZARD TO NAVIGATION OR THE PUBLIC. THE EFFORT INVOLVED THE ASSISTANCE OF MONMOUTH STUDENTS ABOARD THE UNIVERSITY'S 27-FOOT SURVEY VESSEL, *SEA HAWK*. THE SURVEY DETECTED TWO SUNKEN VESSELS, WHICH WERE REMOVED BY A CLEANUP CONTRACTOR. DURING THE FALL SEMESTER NICKELS DEMONSTRATED THE SURVEY TECHNIQUES TO STUDENTS MARINE BIOLOGY STUDENTS, ALONGSIDE STUDENTS FROM THE MARINE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ABOARD THEIR VESSEL, *BLUE SEA*.



Paul R. Brown, Ph.D.
President
Monmouth University

Dear Alumni and Friends,



Thank you for your continuing support of Monmouth University. I am proud to serve as the president of such a vibrant and growing institution. Your generosity has enabled us to accomplish significant achievements in 2013, and with your help, even greater things are in store for 2014 and beyond.

Recent academic highlights include a significant seven point rise in *U.S. News & World Report* annual rankings of America's Best Colleges—from 37 to 30—up from 76 in 2005. Monmouth continues to be one of the fastest-rising universities in the “Regional Universities North” category. For an eighth consecutive year, The Princeton Review has also recognized Monmouth as one of the *Best 378 Colleges* in the nation.

The GPA of the incoming 2013 freshman class has also climbed to a record 3.4, up from 2.94 a decade ago. Our success is also supported by the fact that 95 percent of our graduates are employed or in graduate school within nine months after graduation.

Our new master's-level Physician Assistant (PA) program has earned provisional accreditation from the Accreditation Review Commission on the Education of the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). Monmouth's program is the first available in New Jersey's Monmouth, Ocean, and coastal counties.

The Board of Trustees has approved major upgrades for the School of Science facilities. The renovation and expansion will open new opportunities for collaborative learning, and form the base of a new academic quad with state-of-the-art facilities at the center of campus surrounding an inviting green space. Transformative renovations to the facilities began this past summer, and work will continue in phases with a targeted completion date of 2016. I look forward to sharing a comprehensive review of the project with you in the coming months.

Plans for the construction of Pozycki Hall have been approved, and construction will begin soon, with completion expected in the summer of 2015. Financial support from alumni and friends like you makes it possible for Monmouth to offer a personalized education tailored to nurture the intellectual, and employment, needs of our students and graduates.

Paul R. Brown, Ph.D.
President

NOAA GRANT FOR URBAN COAST INSTITUTE

The Urban Coast Institute (UCI) recently received a \$380,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to continue its work to enhance the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal, which is a collaborative effort with the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO) to better manage the ocean with the appropriate tools.

MARCO, a partnership for the Governors of the five Mid-Atlantic States, is committed to providing the tools and resources necessary for an accessible, scientifically-informed and adaptive approach to ocean management. The MARCO Mid-Atlantic Portal is an online toolkit and resource center that

consolidates available data and enables state, federal and local users to visualize and analyze ocean resources and human use information such as fishing grounds, recreational areas, shipping lanes, habitat areas, and energy sites, among others.

The Portal serves as a platform to engage all stakeholders in ocean planning from the five-state Mid-Atlantic region—putting all of the essential data and state-of-the-art mapping and visualization technology into the hands of the agencies, industry, and community leaders engaged in ocean planning.

The project will enhance development of community-based fisheries mapping efforts and on other ocean use data; improve the Portal reporting planning

MARCO

MID-ATLANTIC OCEAN DATA PORTAL

functions, including new interactive features; develop online tutorials and applications training; and initiate regional ecosystem assessment work in collaboration with MARCO.

“The UCI is planning extensive outreach to ocean stakeholder groups in the coming year to ensure that the Portal reflects the best information available in a way that is accessible and useful to MARCO and the ocean community at-large,” said UCI Director Tony MacDonald.

A DAY AT THE OPERA



LEFT TO RIGHT: THUY TRAN, J'LYN MARTIN, JOSE AGUILAR, JESSICA J. CURBELO, JAMILAH MCMILLAN, GENESIS SANCHEZ GONZALEZ, JOSEPH MORRELL, PRESIDENT PAUL R. BROWN, CHAIR OF MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ROBERT B. SCULTHORPE '63, MONIK SUIT, KELLY THOMAS, MARIANA BASSI, JASMINE MONET WALKER, RAY BOGAN, SARAH R. OLSEN, ALEXANDRIA FITZGERALD, BRIANNA GOLDEN

President Paul R. Brown invited 15 students to join him for the Met: Live in HD simulcast performance of *Tosca* in Pollak Theatre on November 9.

“Opera is great entertainment, but unfortunately too many students have not been exposed to it. I thought this was a great way to pay back my own experience as a student,” Brown said.

Brown’s love of opera stems from studying German at Franklin & Marshall as an undergraduate where his professor had him translate the words from German opera records. “We would translate the words to Wagner’s *Tannhäuser* while the music played,” Brown said.

Hoping to instill a similar appreciation for opera in Monmouth

University students, President Brown ran an essay contest in October inviting winning students to join him for the *Tosca* performance and brunch at his house before the show.

“As a rather reserved individual, I was surprised by the ability of *Tosca* to leave me all at once breathless, heartsick, bemused, and hopeful—evoking a circuitous roller coaster of emotions that I’ve never experienced before from the performing arts. I’m grateful to have had the opportunity to share in this experience with my peers as a guest of President Brown, and I now consider myself a fan of the opera,” said Sarah R. Olsen.

Monmouth University’s Met: Live HD series is made possible thanks to a generous donation from Robert B. Sculthorpe '63, chair of Monmouth University Board of Trustees, and grants from the Fairleigh Dickinson Foundation.

VAN EVERDINGEN CERAMICS LAB



Associate Professor of Art Emeritus Arie van Everdingen was recognized in July with the naming of the van Everdingen Ceramics facility. Professor van Everdingen began his teaching career at the University in 1966 and served with distinction for 25

years. He was chair of the Art Department from 1974 to 1980 and instrumental in the successful effort to attain the B.F.A. degree at Monmouth.

An accomplished ceramist, and recipient of the 1993 Distinguished Teaching Award, van Everdingen's works have been exhibited throughout the United States and with Greenwich House Pottery in New York City. In 2013 he was honored at Founders' Day with the President's Vision Award, which recognizes individuals, foundations, corporations or groups whose actions have made substantial contributions toward furthering the ideals and progress of Monmouth University.

In 1967 van Everdingen organized and coordinated the Monmouth University Festival of Fine Arts, a highly regarded annual event that lasted until 1980. He was instrumental in rebuilding the ceramics studio, and initiated the fundraising campaign for the Rotary Ice House Gallery, which continues to be an important part of the cultural atmosphere of Monmouth University.

KEYNOTE FOR MATHBOR IN MEXICO

Professor Golam M. Mathbor, vice president of International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD), addressed an international conference in March on *Poverty and Social Inequality in a Globalized World: Challenges*



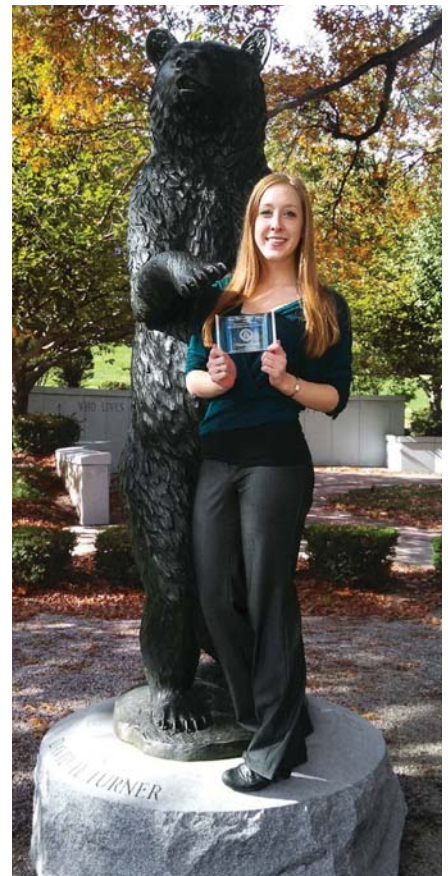
for the Reconfiguration on Social Policy organized by the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in Mexico City, Mexico.

In his keynote address, Dr. Mathbor discussed the dichotomies existing in globalization. He noted that globalization has brought both blessings as well as miseries to society and that the planet has been fragmented more than ever before as a result of globalization.

Mathbor also stressed the need for us to acknowledge diversity and the difference in the needs of others. He called for more partnerships at all levels and more of a connection across the borders.

MOCK TRIAL AWARD FOR TURCICH

Monmouth University fielded two mock trial teams in competition at the Guardian Mock Trial Tournament hosted by the United States Coast Guard Academy on October 25-27. The tournament included 20 teams from universities such as Seton Hall, Fordham, Quinnipiac, Holy Cross, the United States Military Academy at West Point and Brandeis. In this highly competitive invitational at the Coast Guard Academy, students are judged in four rounds with two ballots being awarded in each round for a possible total of eight ballots. In only its second year, Monmouth's mock trial program placed a team in the top 50% of the competition and also brought home the University's first individual award. Senior Cara Turcich, co-captain of team A, took honors for best witness portrayal.



MONMOUTH STRENGTHENS CHINA TIES

Monmouth University officials visited China in September to further the University's commitment to developing joint-partnerships. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Thomas Pearson and Chair of Computer Science and Software Engineering Department Jiacun Wang attended Nanjing University of Science and Technology's (NUST) 60th anniversary celebration and met with several Chinese university presidents during the trip. Provost Pearson also made a presentation on private education to over 250 undergraduate and graduate students and met with parents of Chinese students currently enrolled at Monmouth.

"Forging relationships with foreign universities helps Monmouth students

extend their awareness of the world on the diverse heritage of human thought, behavior, and creativity. We are honored to be partnering with colleagues at NUST in support of student and faculty collaboration," Dr. Pearson said.

NUST is one of the top 50 research universities in China and one of Monmouth University's active partners. Monmouth hosts NUST students and visiting scholars on campus. Professor Wang, who received his Ph.D. from NUST and was a faculty member until 1997, has helped develop relationships with NUST and other Chinese Universities including Xi'an University of Posts and Telecommunications and Xi'an University of Science and Technology.



NUST DEAN OF GRADUATE SCHOOL RIHONG ZHU AND MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY PROVOST THOMAS PEARSON

9/11 MEMORIAL DEDICATED ON VETERANS DAY



LEWIS M. EISENBERG HN '01 READS NAMES DURING NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE DAY ROLL CALL ON VETERANS DAY AT MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY WITH LIFE TRUSTEE JUDY EISENBERG (LEFT), PRESIDENT PAUL R. BROWN (RIGHT) AND HIS WIFE JOAN G. FISHMAN

On Veterans Day, November 11, President Paul R. Brown dedicated Monmouth University's 9/11 Veterans Memorial. During the event, Life Trustee Judy Eisenberg,

and her husband Lewis M. Eisenberg HN '01, were thanked for their generous donation in support of the memorial. Eisenberg was the chairman of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

at the time of the September 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center.

The dedication was followed by the National Remembrance Day Roll Call, a synchronized reading of the names of the service members killed in the line of duty since September 11, 2001. The nationwide grass-roots effort has more than 80 colleges and universities participating in 2013. The names of more than 6,700 military personnel who lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan were read aloud.

The event took place at the 9/11 Veterans Memorial, which is located across from the entrance to the Rebecca Stafford Student Center. The podium is engraved with the message, "Here stands once more a symbol to 9/11 Heroes and America's Military Veterans." The podium support was made from a beam pulled from the wreckage of the World Trade Center site.

events calendar

JANUARY

JANUARY 11



Alumni: Beer Tasting

Magill Commons
7:00-9:00 PM

For more information
call 732-571-3489

JANUARY 19

Best of the Met: Live in HD (Encore)

Puccini's *Tosca*

Pollak Theatre

1:00 PM

\$23

JANUARY 21-MARCH 7



Gallery Exhibition

Lewis Mumford: Selections from
the Permanent Collection

DiMattio Gallery – Upper Level

Joan & Robert Rechnitz Hall

Free and open to the public.

JANUARY 21-MARCH 7

Gallery Exhibition

Eye Cons: Michael Anthony Donato

DiMattio Gallery – Lower Level

Joan & Robert Rechnitz Hall

Free and open to the public

JANUARY 21-APRIL 11

Gallery Exhibition

Inforifices: Jeremiah Teipen

Ice House Gallery

Free and open to the public

JANUARY 26

Best of the Met: Live in HD (Encore)

Verdi's *Falstaff*

Pollak Theatre

1:00 PM

\$23

JANUARY 28

Provost's Film Series

Walk on Water (2004)

Pollak Theatre

7:30 PM

Free and open to the public

JANUARY 30

National Theatre: Live in HD

Shakespeare's *Coriolanus*

Pollak Theatre

7:00 PM

\$22

JANUARY 31

Opening Reception

Eye Cons: Michael Anthony Donato

DiMattio Gallery – Lower Level

Joan & Robert Rechnitz Hall

7:00-9:00 PM

Free and open to the public

JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 28

Gallery Exhibition

Mike Harper: The Art of Illustration

Pollak Gallery

Free and open to the public

FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 4

School of Science:

Career Choices Roundtable

The Club, Magill Commons

5:00-9:00 PM

Alumni welcome

For more information contact

Margaret Cate,

mcate@monmouth.edu

FEBRUARY 6

Opening Reception

Inforifices: Jeremiah Teipen

Ice House Gallery

4:30-7:00 PM

Free and open to the public

FEBRUARY 7



Opening Reception

Mike Harper: The Art of Illustration

Pollak Gallery

6:00-8:00 PM

Free and open to the public

FEBRUARY 8

Symposium:

Ladies and Gentlemen...The Beatles!

In collaboration with the

GRAMMY Museum

Wilson Hall

10:00 AM

Open to the public

Best of the Met: Live in HD

Dvorak's *Rusalka*

Pollak Theatre

1:00 PM

\$23

FEBRUARY 12

Art Now: R. Luke Dubois

Generative Musician

Pollak Theatre

6:00 PM

Free and open to the public.

FEBRUARY 13

National Theatre: Live in HD

Nick Dear's *Frankenstein*

Pollak Theatre

7:00 PM

\$22

FEBRUARY 18

Children's Theatre: Seussical

Pollak Theatre

12:15 PM

\$12



Provost's Film Series

The Time that Remains (2009)

Pollak Theatre

7:30 PM

Free and open to the public

FEBRUARY 20

ON SCREEN: IN PERSON

Film: *The Exquisite Corpse Project*

Director, Ben Popik

There will be a Q & A with the
filmmaker following the screening

Pollak Theatre

7:30 PM

Free and open to the public

FEBRUARY 27

National Theatre: Live in HD

War Horse

Pollak Theatre

7:00 PM

\$22

MARCH

MARCH 1



Best of the Met: Live in HD

Borodin's *Prince Igor*

Pollak Theatre

12:00 PM

\$23

MARCH 2

Performing Arts: Les Ballets

Troadero de Monte Carlo

Pollak Theatre

4:00 PM

Post-show Q&A with

the company members

\$45/\$35

APRIL 10



The Inauguration of

President Paul R. Brown

Events Subject to Change

For information about Alumni
events, call Alumni Affairs at
732-571-3489.

For information about
Performing Arts and Opera
events, call the box office at
732-263-6889.

For information about other
events, contact Special Events
at **732-571-3509**.

FROM THE OCEANUS TO CHOCOLATETOWN



LEFT TO RIGHT: PETER CHACE, PATRICK FEDICK, JUSTIN SCHLEMM, AND JESSICA KOZMA

Four School of Science students with unique summer internship opportunities shared their experience at a presentation in September. The forum, sponsored by the School of Science Peer Mentor Program, presented the benefits that come from an internship.

Peter Chace, Patrick Fedick, Jessica Kozma, and Justin Schlemm, had internship experiences ranging from “Chocolatetown,” in Hershey, PA, to the Oceanus off the coast of Oregon.

Chace said of his experience, “In order to study the chemistry of the oceans, you have to first take your science to sea, and that’s exactly what I did this last summer.”

“I worked for three months as a research assistant in Newport, OR, where I analyzed the chemistry of sediments found far off Oregon’s coasts. As part of the research I had to first acquire such sediments, a task that took me to sea for 10 days aboard the purpose-built research ship Oceanus,” he said.

Fedick said of his experience, “One of the best ways to learn Software Engineering is to actually practice it.” During the summer, Fedick worked with a team of students for the Rapid Response Institute to create a tool for Lockheed Martin. “The project allowed me to experience many aspects of my field from a perspective that cannot be provided in a classroom,” he said.

Schlemm, a chemistry major who participated in a 10-week summer research program through MassNanoTech at the University of Massachusetts, said,

“The experience really opened my eyes to what graduate school will be like, it gave me a lot of connections, and it also gave me an edge by being able to experience research outside of what I was used to.”

“My summer research focused mainly on monitoring the atom groups (ligands) attached to Gold Nanoparticles within complex biological systems. It was an insightful summer experience because prior to my internship I knew little about analytical mass spectrometry techniques and absolutely nothing about nanoparticles or the biological systems that we used,” he said.

What do Kit-Kat, Reese, and Take 5 all have in common? For Kozma, a computer science and mathematics major who interned at the Hershey Company, the answer is mathematics and computer science.

“Working for Hershey, a Fortune 500 company, gave me the opportunity to meet new people, learn real world applications, and of course eat plenty of chocolate,” Kozma said. “The relationships that I made at Hershey are some of the strongest ones I have formed. I still currently talk to my manager about potential job opportunities.”

A recent article in *Forbes*, “Internships May Be the Easiest Way to Jobs in 2013” noted, “Sixty-percent of companies with 100 or more employees offered full-time jobs to their interns in 2012.”

William Hill, assistant dean for Career Services, agrees. “There are many benefits to interning such as, leading to a full-time job, networking with professionals in your field, and an excellent addition to your resume.”

The Career Services Department provides all students and alumni with numerous opportunities for internships. Career Services delivers biweekly job newsletter emails with full-time and part-time positions. The free newsletter subscription contains local and regional internship and job opportunities for students.

GALLERY NAMED FOR DIMATTIO



PHOTO: MARK LUDAK '81

VINCENT DIMATTIO

Professor Vincent DiMattio, recipient of the 2013 Distinguished Teacher Award, was honored with the naming of the ground-level DiMattio Gallery in the new Joan and Robert Rehnitz Hall.

“You know, you usually don’t get something named after you unless you’re super wealthy or you’re dead. I know I’m not wealthy,” DiMattio told *The Outlook*.

DiMattio, who has taught at Monmouth for 46 years, has previously served as the chair of the Art and Design Department for 13 years, initiated the gallery program, had a scholarship named in his honor, and secured important pieces for the University’s permanent art collection. He is also the co-author of the book, *The Drawings and Watercolors of Lewis Mumford*, published by Edwin Mellen Press in 2004.

“I walk out of the classroom every day and as a professor I am always on the lookout for those students who can teach me something,” DiMattio said. “The way I see it is I am lucky as hell to still be alive and be here with young people and to still be doing it after all of these years.”

POZYCKI HALL MOVES FORWARD

Groundbreaking
scheduled for May

A new 20,000 square foot state-of-the-art academic facility will soon adjoin Samuel E. and Mollie Bey Hall, which houses the Leon Hess Business School and the Kislak Real Estate Institute (KREI). The new wing, which will be named Pozycki Hall, will include four classrooms that will accommodate 30 students each, a 175-seat lecture hall, eight faculty offices, a student lounge and an exterior terrace.

Pozycki Hall, which was designed by DMR Architects and predominantly funded by a generous donation from Trustee Steven Pozycki '73, will sit between Bey Hall and the Rebecca Stafford Student Center. This two-story building will be connected to the north side of Bey Hall by a pedestrian bridge on the second floor.

"Architectural details and exterior brick will compliment already existing buildings surrounding Pozycki Hall," said Patricia Swannack, vice president for Administrative Services.

Jason Kroll, vice president for University Advancement, said the building is being named in honor of '73 alumnus Pozycki because of his many contributions to the University, including his generous donation to fund Pozycki Hall. Pozycki has been a generous benefactor of the University, according to Kroll, including his endowment of the Steven J. & Elaine Pozycki Endowed Professorship and the Steven J. & Elaine Pozycki Endowed Scholarship in 2001.

Construction is scheduled to begin in May and be completed by the summer of 2015. The adjacent parking lot will remain the same as a result of the project, and the new wing will provide much needed classroom space.

"We need space to provide an enhanced learning environment. We want our student to be more comfortable in the space we provide," said Donald Moliver, dean of the Leon Hess Business School.

Peter Reinhart, director of the KREI, said, "Pozycki Hall will provide new, larger and more technologically-advanced classrooms as well as a larger auditorium. I hope that with the new Pozycki Hall and the growing number of KREI alums now in the industry making their mark, that the reputation and influence of the University will continue to grow."

Pozycki, chairman and CEO of SJP Properties, has been an active and ardent supporter of the KREI. He was awarded the Institute's Leadership of Excellence Award in 1996 and the New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) Lifetime Achievement Award last May. Pozycki also topped the 2012 list of NJBIZ's 50 "most powerful and influential leaders in New Jersey's real estate industry."



ELAINE AND STEVEN J. POZYCKI '73

BEQUESTS OR GIFT ANNUITIES?

Making a bequest to Monmouth University provides a gift to Monmouth at some time in the future and provides a charitable deduction for estate and inheritance taxes. Establishing a charitable gift annuity now provides an immediate charitable tax deduction and the assurance of additional income for the remainder of your life. Monmouth is appreciative of either of these planned gifts and recognizes both with membership in the Shadow Lawn Society and inclusion in the annual Honor Roll of Donors (Requests for anonymity are respected.). Check out the table to the right to see what income you might expect if you establish a charitable gift annuity with the University.

For information about making a bequest or gift annuity, please contact Georgina West, director of Gift Planning at 732-571-3503 or gwest@monmouth.edu.



Age	Income	Rate
Based on \$10,000 charitable gift annuity		
62	\$450	4.5%
63	\$450	4.5%
64	\$460	4.6%
65	\$470	4.7%
66	\$480	4.8%
67	\$480	4.8%
68	\$490	4.9%
69	\$500	5.0%
70	\$510	5.1%
71	\$530	5.3%
72	\$540	5.4%
73	\$550	5.5%
74	\$570	5.7%
75	\$580	5.8%
76	\$600	6.0%
77	\$620	6.2%
78	\$640	6.4%
79	\$660	6.6%
80	\$680	6.8%
81	\$700	7.0%
82	\$720	7.2%
83	\$740	7.4%
84	\$760	7.6%
85	\$780	7.8%

SHARE YOUR NEWS

Monmouth University encourages communications from alumni regarding career changes, promotions, relocations, volunteer work, marriages, births, and other information that is of interest to fellow classmates, alumni, and the University community. Although we love to see adorable baby pictures from alumni, individual photos of infants will not be published in Class Notes for safety reasons.

In addition to news items sent by alumni, we receive press releases from businesses or other organizations announcing alumni achievements. The Monmouth University Magazine staff also actively searches for alumni news online, and subscribes to an online news clipping service that provides news items about alumni. These items are edited and placed into the appropriate class section.

HOW TO SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE

1. **E-mail:** classnotes@monmouth.edu
2. **Call:** 732-263-5592
3. **Mail:** Class Notes

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TO SUBMIT A PICTURE

We welcome submissions of photos of alumni for possible use in the *Monmouth University Magazine*. We prefer to receive digital photos because it saves us from having to scan printed photos. But the resolution has to be high enough for us to publish. What looks good on your computer screen might look grainy in

the magazine. For publication purposes, the resolution should be at least 300 dpi (dots per inch). Without getting too technical, a larger file size is usually better than a smaller file size.

CONTACT THE ALUMNI OFFICE

Marilynn Perry, Director of Alumni Affairs
Alumni House
400 Cedar Avenue
West Long Branch, NJ 07764
www.monmouth.edu/alumni
Phone: 800-531-ALUM or 732/571-3489
Fax: 732-263-5315
Email: alumni@monmouth.edu

IN MEMORIAM

FRIENDS

BARBARA H. AARON MAY 18, 2013
(teacher at Highland Manor Junior College in 1948-9)
NICHOLAS F. ALFANO JULY 19, 2013
(former student in the 1970s)
JOAN L. BILDNER JUNE 23, 2013
JERRY G. GUERRERA JUNE 18, 2013
(former member of MU School of Science Advisory Council)
ERIC S. HAUSSER JUNE 20, 2013
(former student)
GEORGE C. HOOKER JUNE 25, 2013
(former student in the 1990s)
WAYNE M. KANIPER OCTOBER 5, 2013
(former adjunct professor)
BETTY-JEAN KING JUNE 12, 2013
(former student)
LAURIE MCMURRAY AUGUST 26, 2013
(former student)
VIRGINIA C. MONTEDORO OCTOBER 12, 2013
(former student)
ROBERT J. (BOB) NOLAN OCTOBER 10, 2013
(former student in the late 1950s)
CHARLES F. O'KEY JULY 18, 2013
(former student in the 1960s)
ROSIE STRUTZ PAITAKIS JUNE 8, 2013
(former student in early 1990s)
JANE MIRKIN SANDHAUS JUNE 22, 2013
(former student)
RICHARD F. ZAHLMANN OCTOBER 6, 2013
(former student)
ROGER H. GUTTORMSEN NOVEMBER 7, 2013
(former student)
TERRY R. GUY NOVEMBER 17, 2013
(former student in 1960s)
NEIL STUART OCTOBER 21, 2013
(former student)

Presidential Timber

Strong evidence led my family to believe our pool table was once the plaything of Woodrow Wilson. But our research only scratched the surface. **BY JOANNA BUFFUM**

'M ONLY COMING OVER if I can play on Woodrow Wilson's pool table."

I've grown accustomed to friends telling me that—and it's my own fault. For the last six years, I've helped spread the word that my parents' antique pool table was once the plaything of the 28th president. It certainly looks presidential. A jaw-dropping, 10-foot-long Brunswick with fleur-de-lis carvings on its base, the table was crafted in 1915. Our part in its story begins in 2006, when my dad decided to transform our unfinished Morristown basement into his own lair, complete with bar, mounted animal heads, a vent for cigar smoking, and a pool table.

In the *Morris NewsBee*, he spotted an ad for an antique billiard set. It came with 16 balls, 12 cue sticks, a cue stand, five bar stools, three observing chairs, an overhead lamp and a rack of ivory scoring beads. The seller was offering it for what seemed a fraction of its worth. During the transaction, he mentioned that the table might have belonged to Woodrow Wilson.

With the centennial of Wilson's first presidential inauguration approaching this month, I decided to learn more about the table's origins. A native of Virginia, Wilson served as president of Princeton University from 1902 to 1910, as governor of New Jersey from 1911 to 1913, and as U.S. president for two terms, bracketing World War I.

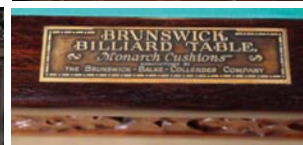
Among other proclivities, Wilson liked to shoot pool. My dad learned that Wilson played on a table in Prospect House at Princeton, in the Map Room at the White House and at the Shadow Lawn estate in West Long Branch, where he summered as president in 1916.

With help from the Monmouth University Library, we received images from a 1940 auction catalog of items from Shadow Lawn, including a billiard set that matched ours. My dad even found a photograph of the Shadow Lawn billiard room—another perfect match. Convinced we had the real thing, we let the world know that our new acquisition had presidential bloodlines.

As word spread, we began to accumulate Wilson paraphernalia. One friend framed a portrait of the president to hang over the bar's fridge. A neighbor gave us an original Wilson calling card that he acquired from a collector in Princeton. At a party, a rowdy guest accused my family of being racist because the president—a Southerner—had infamously supported Jim Crow laws.



BANK SHOT: Jay Buffum lines up a shot on his family's 1915 Brunswick pool table. Below: The table as it appeared at the rebuilt Shadow Lawn estate in 1940.



Recently, while further researching our table, I encountered this bombshell: The West Long Branch mansion where Wilson stayed in 1916 burned down in 1927, reducing the pool table that the president played on and all the rest

of the home's contents to smoldering ash.

So what was the true provenance of our billiard set?

Enter one Hubert Parson. The president of the Woolworth's discount-store chain from 1919 to 1932, Parson rebuilt Shadow Lawn in 1929 on its old site. The Great Depression later caught up with him, and his widow was forced to auction off the family's lavish furnishings—including their 1915 Brunswick pool table.

Today the second Shadow Lawn, renamed Woodrow Wilson Hall, is part of Monmouth University. In our Morristown basement, the president's portrait stares down at Hubert Parson's billiards set. I trust old Woodrow doesn't mind too much, but my dad has yet to recover from our family miscue. ■

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SPECIAL
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ART IN SCIENCE

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Monmouth University biology, chemistry, math, computer science and software engineering students, faculty, and alumni are eligible to submit images. **The deadline to enter your art is February 1, 2014.**

For detailed information please visit:

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