

TCNJ

MAGAZINE WINTER 2017

INSIDE

Emotional triage for Syrians

Being Roscoe changed my life

John Lennon *and who?*

TRENTON MAKES MUSIC

A project recognizing the city's serious
musical chops is hitting its groove.



Sarah Dash of the
groundbreaking trio LaBelle

Who meant everything to you at TCNJ?

We heard from a slew of got-your-back friends, spouses, and grateful students in response to this utterly personal question. More stories, page 44.



The well-traveled Nancy Mink

Junior year, I needed a roommate. Trouble was, most of my friends had plans other than Decker, the all-girls' dorm. I thought, "How about an exchange student?" So my exchange student arrived — Nancy Mink, a sophomore from Idaho. [Insert potato joke here.] Nancy may not have been from an exotic land, but I couldn't have asked for a better roommate the year she was here. Thanks to her, I've traveled not only to Idaho, but also to Portugal, a country I probably never would have visited otherwise, but now love. I never made it to Alaska or Japan, two other places she has lived, but knowing I had an invite meant so much. —VAL SHESTAKOW '90

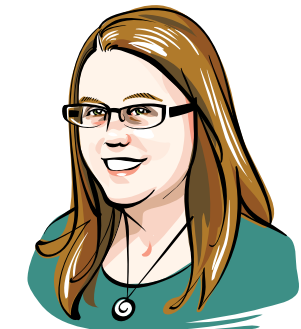
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WANT TO PLAY ALONG?
 Check out the back cover to see the question for the next issue, then send your story to magazine@tcnj.edu.

This is what they had to say ...



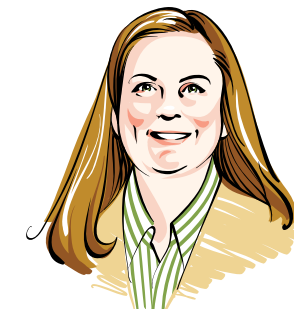
"Biology professor Steve Klug took a bunch of us unsophisticated, working-class, first-generation college kids with mush for brains and sent us out thinking like scientists."

—DAVID ECKER '76



"I was a regular at Student Health Services. Rita Ma knew my name and would always say hello with a big smile and ask how I was doing. It would brighten my day no matter how bad I was feeling."

[Ma passed away in 2013.]
 —LARISSA RICHELLE DILLON '15



"My floormate in Cromwell and husband of 22 years, Doug Mattoon '94 is the best thing that happened to me at TCNJ. We're also the proud parents of two college students — one a freshman at TCNJ!"

—BETH SCHAEFER-MATTOON '91

Cont. on page 44



Inspiration station Sarah Dash at Trenton's Sprout University School of the Arts, where students gravitate to her like bees on honey.

14

THIS IS ABRAR EBADY.

When the world fails to stop bombs from raining on Syrians, shelter may be found in the unexpected. Abrar Ebady goes close to the border to help a people heal.

By Abrar Ebady '17, as told to Dan Morrell



12



14

20

TRENTON MAKES MUSIC

Punk. Funk. Itchi gitchi ya ya da da. Hard bop. Martial music. If we could package the sounds inside these pages, they'd be bouncing.

By Christopher Hann

28

WRITTEN ON THE BONES

Human remains found in the desert under the punishing Arizona sun help professor Jared Beatrice and his wife unlock the reasons migrants risk everything to cross the border.

By Kevin Coyne



04



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Cover photo: Peter Murphy

departments

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48 TCNJ X 10

"There was so much great talent. I don't know why we didn't get the break that Asbury got." RANDY "NOW" ELLIS, page 20

Talk Up

WE'RE BLUSHING

The magazine is beautiful and a great image-booster for a college I dearly love. Congratulations.

WADE CURRY
DEAN EMERITUS, ARTS AND SCIENCES

BUILDING ON SUCCESS

A video companion to our photo gallery on new campus construction is live. Watch at www.tcnj.edu/tcnjnow3 and sample the reaction below:

- TCNJ Chemistry, finally!
- so much is happening!!!
- Love love love what they've done with campus
- OMG we have to go see all the changes
- Quimby's Prairie forever
- Don't even recognize the college anymore
- Wow!
- I think they also filled in one of the lakes

Editor's note

No worries. Both lakes are still intact.

INSTANT REPLAY

There was an article ("Ahead of the Game," December 2012) in *TCNJ Magazine* regarding the date the women's athletics program was established. The information in that article was incorrect. Please have someone check the archives for an interview I did with the A/V department during my tenure at TCNJ, which has the correct information. I feel it is important that the article be corrected. Your attention to this would be greatly appreciated.

LILYAN B. WRIGHT
PROFESSOR EMERITA,
PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Editor's note

The article stated that women's sports transitioned from intramural to varsity programs in the 1961-62 academic year. We also went to the tape, but didn't find anything that challenged the reporting in the story. We'd love to hear from readers who can provide more information, including images, about this significant milestone in the college's history.

WELCOME, CLASS OF 2021!!!! 🐉❤️🧡

When Early Decision acceptance letters go out each December, the college feels a warm glow when Twitter lights up with our newest Lions tweeting the good news.

SUPER EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT I WILL BE ATTENDING MY TOP SCHOOL, TCNJ!!!

Just got accepted for mechanical engineering!!! #yesTCNJ

if you're a #tcnj21 nursing major hmu* i wanna meet people!

I GOT INTO TCNJ #DREAMSCHOOL #YES

So excited to be accepted to the Lion family

I still can't believe I'm going to my number one school 🐉❤️🧡 @TCNJ

Ranked up! #yestcnj

*Hit me up, contact me



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PRAIRIE

WINTER 2017



KOMET & GETHER

UNTIL NOW!

ART: ERIC NYQUIST

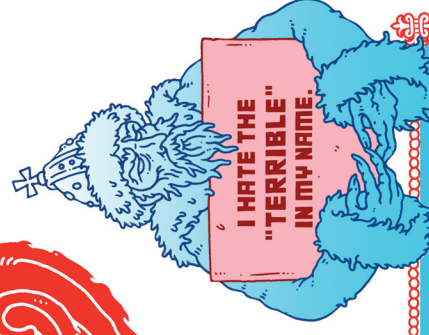
WORDS: RENÉE OLSON

IVAN *the TERRIBLE* and JOHN LENNON *had nothing in common*



I HATE THE
SOUND OF
MY VOICE.

Without each other's knowledge, two sharp English majors conducted research on ideas around the mental health of these very notable but worlds-apart world figures. We found their work in TCNJ's Journal of Student Scholarship — and got a little twisted ourselves.



I HATE THE
"TERRIBLE"
IN MY NAME.

DEBORAH FADE '14

SCHOLAR

ALBERT G. CAVALLARO '15

“Exposing the Voice of Truth:
A Psychological Profile of John Lennon”

TITLE

“Western (Mis)perceptions
of Tsar Ivan IV Vasilyevich the ‘Terrible’”

I'm a LOSER

Did Lennon have
borderline personality disorder?

THESIS

Was Russia's Ivan insane, or are historians throwing
him shade while giving a pass to Western European
contemporaries committing the same state violence?

“Deborah Fade's essay is brilliant. None of
Lennon's biographers consider the BPD diagnosis.”

WHY JOSS EDITOR
DAVID VENTURO
DIGS IT

“Albert's essay represents
TCNJ undergraduate research
at its best.”

PRIZED

The inaugural 2016
Adeline Hoffman Prize for
stellar research goes to
Cavallaro, along with a
sweet \$1,500 check.

what's real inside you and what isn't.”—John Lennon

—Niccolò Machiavelli, espousing thinking contemporary to Ivan

“It's easier to shout 'revolution' and 'power to the people' than it is to look at yourself and try and find out

In 1964, Lennon met *Daily Express* reporter Ivor Davis
and promptly nicknamed him Ivan the Terrible.

AWARENESS
OF EACH OTHER

None. Ivan met his maker in 1584.

“Fear of alienation ... pours from his psyche in songs
such as ‘If I Fell,’ ‘I’m a Loser,’ ‘Nowhere Man,’
and, of course, in his lyrical plea for ‘Help.’”

RED FLAGS

In 1570, Ivan sacked Novgorod over alleged treason by
residents: “The tortures and executions were brutal ...
with both immolations and drownings occurring.”



“On the night of Nixon's reelection, at a
party thrown by Jerry Rubin's campaign
supporters,” Lennon “cheated on Yoko with
another woman in the very next room.”

NOT HIS
FINEST HOUR

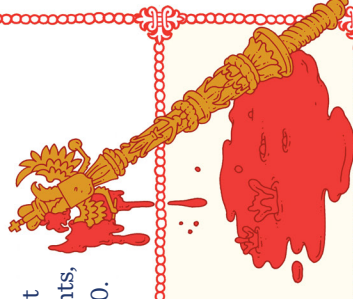
Ivan's black-clad *Oprichnina*, or secret
police, massacred 2,000 to 3,000 residents,
and possibly more, in this city of 30,000.

Lennon yelled at his four-year-old son Sean
for not using his fork and knife properly.

“Sean recalls: ‘He [yelled] at me very, very loudly.
He damaged my ear, and I had to go to the doctor.’”

VIOLENCE
UPON SONS

Enraged at Ivan,
his son and heir apparent,
Ivan the father reportedly hit him
with his staff, killing him.



Primal scream therapy

GOING MECHANISM

Commissioning St. Basil's Cathedral,
Moscow's fanciful, onion-domed icon.

Likely

MENTAL ILLNESS?

No substantive evidence

“Eyewitness reports of John's erratic behavior”
suggest a BPD diagnosis, with DSM-5 matches for
eight of the nine criteria. Only five are necessary.

FINAL
SMAGKDOWN

Cavallaro doesn't mince words about how modern historians'
failure to take a critical approach to Ivan's reign aids in
“setting up a model of an ‘evil’ Russian ruler” in perpetuity.



Strawberry Fields in NYC's Central Park
TripAdvisor page? Yes.

COMMEMORATION

After nearly half a millennium, the first-ever statue of Ivan
was erected outside of Moscow in October 2016.
TripAdvisor page? *Nyet*.

Read these articles and others at joss.tcnj.edu.

“Whoever becomes the master of a city accustomed to freedom, and does not destroy it, may expect to be destroyed himself.”

Eating like mad

Can rehashing angry thoughts trigger binge eating? This psych major went to Yale to explore that question.

Way to go

Yale gave Wang a spot on a team and grant money last summer to pursue her own research interests.



Shirley Wang '17 was out for a walk with a woman being treated for an eating disorder when the latter shared that she was addressing her deep-seated anger with her therapist.

"Eating disorders are so often tied to depression," says Wang, who at the time was a clinical intern at the Center for Eating Disorders Care in Plainsboro, New Jersey. "Her struggle was really different than that. She felt angry a lot, towards herself and others."

But when Wang looked into the literature, she found nothing on the relationship between eating disorders and angry rumination — the mental rehashing of problems that keeps anger alive. So she put it at the center of her honors thesis. Her research, using TCNJ students as subjects, found that such a link does exist. Just like that, the door was opened.

"I knew I wanted to expand my research into the patient population next," says Wang, who had chosen a target group. "I knew from reading through literature that binge eating was the most prevalent eating disorder."

Wang took her thesis findings to researchers at Yale University's Program for Obesity, Weight, and Eating Research. Her new angle

earned her a spot on Yale's research team last summer, grant funding, and the opportunity to study the effects of rumination on binge eating disorder and obesity.

What she found only strengthened her theory. First, rumination led patients to internalize stigmas surrounding obesity, which researchers know contributes to poorer mental and physical health. Plus, experts now believe that a central component of eating disorder psychopathology is the overvaluation of shape and weight, or placing an overwhelming emphasis on physical attributes. Wang found that rumination actually influenced eating disorders above and beyond the effects of overvaluation.

She submitted her preliminary findings to *European Eating Disorders Review*, and the paper — with her as first author — has been accepted. She's also applied to doctoral programs in clinical psychology to further her work. Ultimately, Wang hopes her research can help patients like the woman she met as an intern.

"These findings can have significant implications for clinicians in the field," she says, "since we now know how important it can be to reduce rumination among eating disorder patients."

—Melissa Kvidahl '07

Required reading

The Class of 2020's first college assignment? A book by a farmer who won the MacArthur "genius" grant.

IT WAS NOT A TITLE that Alyssa Joyce, a self-described fan of young adult fiction, would have chosen. Ditto for Brian Peng, who typically gravitates to historical fiction and fantasy.

But, to be fair, *The Good Food Revolution: Growing Healthy Food, People, and Communities* isn't a book that author Will Allen probably ever imagined he'd write.

The son of a sharecropper, Allen wanted to escape the small family farm where he grew up. He found his ticket out, first in collegiate and professional basketball and later in corporate America. But, as he describes in his book, his roots pulled him back. Allen began to long for the "rhythms of agriculture" and the self-worth he gained from a successful harvest. So at a time when he could have settled into mid-life comfort, he took a risk.

He cashed in his retirement savings to purchase a plot of land and a run-down greenhouse, five blocks from Milwaukee's largest public housing project and right in the middle of a food desert. He set up a farmer's market to sell crops he grew on family land and later transformed the lot into a thriving garden cultivated by local youth. Today, he is the CEO of Growing Power, an urban agriculture initiative that harnesses the power of farming and gardening to provide jobs, help youth, improve health, and empower communities.

If the goal of TCNJ's annual summer reading program is to unify the incoming class and college community under a common academic theme — this year's is sustainable and just communities — this book has done it.

For Lindsey Harris, who grew up in a rural part of South Jersey and was raised on community-grown vegetables, the book and the fall semester discussions it inspired opened her eyes to the challenges faced by residents of urban food deserts. What resonated for Joyce, an aspiring teacher, was Allen's willingness to take a financial risk for the good of the community. And Peng, the historical fiction fan, came away with a lesson on changemaking not often found in history books: "My reaction was, wow, you don't have to be a policymaker or someone with immense wealth to make a difference. It was incredibly inspiring."

—Melissa Kvidahl '07



Urban farmer Will Allen came to campus to speak about his book.

Summer Reading Redux

Every year, faculty and staff join together in the complex process of choosing a summer reading book. The chosen text must fit within the college's current academic theme, tell a compelling story, and provide a call to action. Here are previous picks:

- 2015 *The Nature of College*, James J. Farrell
- 2014 *The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates*, Wes Moore
- 2013 *The Big Truck That Went By*, Jonathan M. Katz
- 2012 *Revolution 2.0*, Wael Ghonim
- 2011 *The Victorian Internet*, Tom Standage

BRAG BOARD

15 things that make us happy

01

A 300-lb gain

The Bonner Institute's holiday food drive tipped the scales at 309 pounds for the Mercer Street Friends Food Bank and the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen.



02

Shameless adoration

Alumna Shelia Callaghan's dark but funny writing style has scored her a **2017 Writer's Guild Award nomination for an episode of *Shameless***, a Showtime drama starring William H. Macy. Callaghan '95 has to quietly bite her nails until the awards are announced on February 19.

03

Jet set

For business major Ali McKeever '17, fall semester looked like **the work of a mad travel agent**: 15 flights—all to finish college as a TCNJ student and spend time with her husband, who had moved to Florida for a job. She can now add finding cheap flights to her résumé. The best fare? \$29 one way.



04

A duel fit for *Hamilton*

In response to House Speaker Paul Ryan's Instagram post last summer of a predominantly white class of House Republican interns, House Democrats posted a far more diverse photo of their own interns. Among those pictured are Bunyad Bhatti '17, **one of only five Muslim interns on Capitol Hill** at the time.

05

1+1=2 awards

The American Mathematical Society has named math professor Nancy Hingston a 2017 Fellow, acknowledging her **contributions to the field**. She is the first TCNJ faculty member to receive this distinction.

Associate Professor of Mathematics Jana Gevertz won the 2016 Henry L. Adler Award for Distinguished Teaching from the Mathematical Association of America. The national award is given to beginning faculty whose **influence goes beyond the classroom**. Gevertz was one of three award recipients in 2016.

06

Happy & healthy

TCNJ ranks **No. 6 in the nation for overall student satisfaction**, No. 13 for happiest students, and No. 15 for best health services, says Princeton Review's *The Best 381 Colleges: 2017 Edition*. This news comes as New Jersey's Department of Health named TCNJ Emergency Medical Services **Best Volunteer EMS Agency 2016**.

07

The Oscars of teaching

At a surprise assembly last fall at Van Derveer Elementary School in Somerville, New Jersey, second-grade teacher Lindsay Frevert '05 accepted the **highly coveted Milken Award**. Frevert was one of 35 teachers nationwide, and the only one from New Jersey, to be honored in 2016. With the win comes a \$25,000 check — and lots of congratulatory hugs from her students.



MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

08

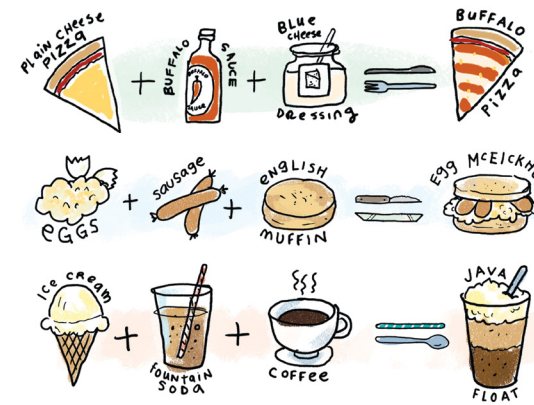
PhD powerhouse

The National Science Foundation ranks TCNJ third among the top 10 schools in New Jersey for the number of **undergraduate alumni earning doctorates** in the past decade.

09

Meal mashups

Even with the abundance of dining choices on campus, students sometimes have to **take matters into their own hands**.



10

Look who's talking

Shout out to some familiar names lighting up campus this fall: Jerry Greenfield of Ben and Jerry's dished out business tips and **free ice cream**. *New York Times* bestselling author Gretchen Rubin (*The Happiness Project*) and NPR host Maria Hinojosa got personal and urged students to **write their own narratives**. Finally, an all-alumni panel talked the **business of sports**, with Al Guido '03, 49ers president; Luis Perez '86, formerly with the Lions and Pistons of Detroit; and Phillies announcer Tom McCarthy '90.

11

Cultural appropriation: T or F?

Are white writers "allowed" to write about people of color, or anyone different from themselves? And "who is doing the allowing?" Those are questions English professor and novelist Jess Row raises in "What Are White Writers For?" in *The New Republic* (September 30, 2016).

12

To lead a nation

MacDella Cooper '01, who once fled from Liberia's civil war, is **back home and running for president**. If she is successful, she will follow Liberia's first female leader, current President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Elections are in October 2017.

13

How'd the Mannequin Challenge even happen?

In *The Power of Networks: Six Principles That Connect Our Lives* (Princeton, 2016), co-author Christopher Brinton '11 explains how social networks function, making it easy to answer questions such as, "Is everyone on Facebook really connected in six steps or less?" or "**How do cat memes — or anything — go viral?**"

14

Bowie is back!

He's scored five Grammy nominations for 2017 — and a First-Year Seminar course called "**Loving the Alien: The Music and Art of David Bowie**." It's only a matter of time now for one on Prince.

15

The shoe fits

When our cover model, Sarah Dash, wants to get comfortable during a *TCNJ Magazine* photo shoot, **this is how she goes glam**. More, page 20.



SPORTS >

How I Got Here >

BRITTANY REEDMAN '18

The Microsoft engineering intern and singles player listens to her mom.

> I started playing tennis at the end of seventh grade. I had played every sport. I figured I'd give it a try for fun. I ended up loving it and dropped all the others.

> This fall, the TCNJ team won the New Jersey Athletic Conference for the 34th year in a row. In our conference, we've won 171 straight matches. We do very well in the fall. In the spring, we play nationally ranked teams, and they're more competitive.

> I try to get my work done as efficiently as possible. The second you start realizing how much stuff you have to do, you'll get overwhelmed. So I just keep calm.

> I love being involved on campus. I'm the president of Women in Computer Science; secretary of the Association for Computing Machinery; secretary of Pi Mu Epsilon, the mathematics honor society; and treasurer of Upsilon Pi Epsilon, the computer science honors society.

> I'm very involved in getting more women into technical fields like computer science. My classes are primarily male.

> My mom was a computer science major. Without my mother, I would have stayed with math. A lot of women don't have that influence in their life, and they don't find out about the field.

> She told me to try one computer science course — if I didn't like it, I could drop it. A week later, I loved it. I told her, "I'm going to be a computer science major." She was very excited.

> I spent the summer interning at Microsoft. There were 1,600 interns from all around the world. I'm interested in software development. I worked on a machine-learning application that is going to be launched soon. It simplifies the process of making predictions about data.

> I lived in Seattle for three months. On weekends, they would take us all hiking. We even had a private Ellie Goulding concert.

> The Microsoft campus is like a playground. There were rock-climbing walls in my office. It was very cool.

—as told to Christopher Hann



What to Watch | Early 2017

BASEBALL

A SPECTACULAR LIONS SEASON in 2016 culminated with a bid to the NCAA Regional Championships. **Watch:** Junior shortstop **Zachary Schindler** and junior right-hander **Joe Cirillo** (left), both Mid-Atlantic All-Region selections in 2016.

**SOFTBALL**

LAST SPRING, TCNJ was one game away from a trip to the NCAA Super Regionals. Six starters return to the lineup, led by ace hurler **Samantha Platt '18**. **Watch:** Platt, along with **Gaby Bennett** and **Jess Santelli**, both named to the All-NJAC First Team in 2016, their rookie year.

LACROSSE

THE LION LAXERS SEEK their seventh straight NJAC championship and 31st consecutive appearance in the NCAA championship tournament under the incomparable coach Sharon Pfluger '82. **Watch:** Junior **Elizabeth Morrison** (right), 2016 UWLCA Division III National Player of the Year.

**MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD**

A BLOWOUT EVENT EACH YEAR, the Lions Invitational rocks campus on April 29, with more than 1,000 athletes lacing up for the meet. **Watch:** Junior **Andrew McNutt**, who finished one place shy of All-American status at the NCAA championships last spring.

WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

WITH 29 NJAC TITLES EARNED since 1983, the Lions are determined to wrestle the championship back from Rowan's Profs — five-time winners — at the conference championships May 6–7. **Watch:** Long-distance runner **Erin Holzbaur '19**, an NCAA qualifier her rookie season, and sprinter **Danielle Celestin '18**.

How does she do it?

Reedman maintains a stellar GPA on top of going 10–2 this past fall.

—Mark Gola

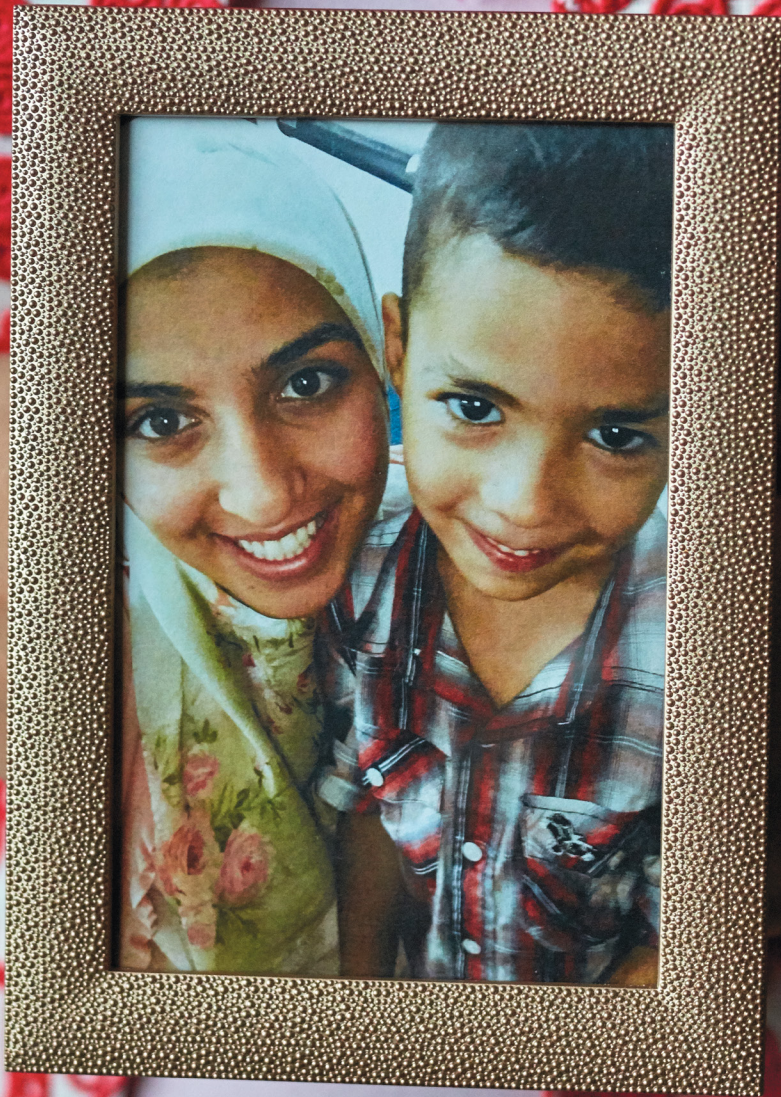
This is
ABRAR EBADY,

the psych major who listened to Syria's refugees.

words Abrar Ebady '17, as told to Dan Morrell images Matt Furman



Compassion
With more than an estimated
400,000 Syrians dead in the war,
Ebady, fluent in Arabic,
could no longer stand by.



Next-gen rage
Ebady observed this young boy threaten to kill Bashar al-Assad by name. He lost his father in the attack employing the nerve agent sarin in Ghouta, Syria.

REMEMBER THIS WOMAN LAUGHING

about the futility of her situation in Syria. “There’s nowhere to hide,” she would say. When the bombs would drop, she and her two children would huddle underneath a staircase. But there wasn’t enough space for her husband to fit, so he would just have to throw himself on top of them. I don’t know if you can imagine living like that. But she was laughing about it. After a minute, she’d return to the reality of the situation. This is Syria. They laugh about hiding from bombs.

It was a 1½- to 2-hour commute north every morning from Amman, Jordan’s capital, to the psychosocial clinic at the Syrian-American Medical Society where I worked last summer in Irbid, Jordan. Syria’s right across the border from Irbid, a couple of miles further north. Over the span of a month, I would say I worked with more than 200 people at the clinic.

I attended group therapy sessions for children on my first day at SAMS. In the first session, the kids were ages 5 to 10. The session focused on helping the kids combat fear, sleeplessness, and temper problems. The therapist told the kids a story and really emphasized certain emotions, and then later she asked the kids what stood out to them. They would always recognize fear. They’ll always recognize the scary things, because that’s what’s so familiar to them. This is what they know best.

Then the kids were asked what reminded them of sadness or happiness. What really stood out to me — what was so heartbreaking — was there were so many examples of death. A lot of these kids will say, “When my brother died I was sad.” Or, “When my dad died ...” Then, when asked to describe fear, one of the kids said, “A fear of being slaughtered.” It’s such a heavy word for someone that age. For me to just have a reference point, I’d think, “What’s a 5- to 10-year-old in America thinking in terms of fear?” They probably think of ghosts under their bed or Disney movies.

The first week, I spent a lot of time shadowing. After that, I would help my coworkers with the group sessions for the kids. I attended some sessions with mothers and contributed to those therapies.

One day, after a session, one of the mothers told me, “You know, Abrar, my second-eldest son died in the war. He died June 2012. Abrar, that day, my heart died.” You just have to take a second and swallow that phrase: “My heart died the day that my son died.”

Apparently a bomb went off and cut off both his legs. They sent the body to his village. Then this woman says, “Now my youngest son wants to go back and fight in the war.”

I’m sitting there, thinking, “What can I do?” I told her, “Okay, give me your phone number. I’m going to ask you to invite him to the clinic for a therapy session.” The following week, I asked, “Did you tell your son to come?” She says, “Abrar, I tried speaking to him. He won’t listen. I can’t afford to lose another son.” I said, “Where do you live — we’re going to come over.”

So we’re sitting at his mother’s house and talking to her 19-year-old son. My coworker asks, “What’s this I hear that you want to go back and fight in the war?” They’re talking and eventually, he says, “You know, sometimes when I get really, really angry, there’s this intrusive thought that I want to go back and fight in Syria.”

I said to him, “So, you find it courageous that you’re going to run away from your problems and you’re going to run away from your family and break your mother’s heart and probably die? Do you recognize that there’s a lot more involved now than at the beginning of the war?”

At the beginning of the war, it was just the Assad regime and the rebels. Now it’s Hezbollah, the Russians, who knows, ISIS even. Patients would tell me, “We don’t even know who’s hitting us anymore.” I asked him that and he said, “Yes, but if I have this mentality and we all have this mentality, all the Syrian people are going to die, and nobody is going to help them.”

I said, “We appreciate your courage, but if the Prophet Mohammed was sitting right in front of you, would you give him the argument you just gave

me?” He looked at me and he said, “No, I wouldn’t.” I think it was in that moment that he realized how emotional and irrational this notion of going to Syria and fighting was. It was his attempt at coping. It was his attempt at getting control over something he had no

control over. You see that a lot in people with PTSD. We talked for a little bit, and he started to see our perspective.

That family really had an impact on me. He’s still getting therapy and hasn’t gone back to fight, which is a relief for all of us.



On campus
Photos from around the globe dot Ebady's dorm room wall.

I was born and raised in New Jersey. My dad actually grew up in Brooklyn. My mom grew up in Egypt, but then she married my dad and moved to the United States.

I was raised by a single mom for most of my life. She’s always been a strong person. Growing up, I thought that’s what the female was supposed to be like: an independent, strong-willed, goes-after-what-she-wants type of person.

We were always taught, “You have to get an education. You have to stand up for injustice.” Those were the core values that my family instilled in me.

I went to Islamic school and learned the teachings of my religion and the teachings of the Quran. The Quran teaches justice, peace, equality, and humanity. These beautiful aspects of the religion that I try to implement every day of my life really took a hit when the Syrian refugee crisis started. I think we underestimate how much of our upbringing has an impact on us until there comes a time when you have to practice your beliefs.

At TCNJ, I was in the library taking a break from studying. Scrolling through my Facebook feed, I saw this picture of this little Syrian boy holding a dead body that I believe was his baby sister or brother.

I’m actually not a very emotional person. But just seeing that picture, I felt physical heartbreak. Seeing this going on in the world today — and here I am in a peaceful environment — I wanted to do something.

I remember peeking outside the [clinic] door one day, and I see this four-year-old kid who doesn’t want to come into the therapy session. I tried to get to know him. I introduced myself, and he’s just not having it. I’m like, “Okay, okay, fine.” I was like, “Worry not, I have a month here, we will get to know each other.”

Later, on my drive back to Amman, I asked my coworker, “What’s his story?” She shared with me that he and his brother and his mom were survivors of one of the acid attacks on Ghouta, Syria. His father died in the attack.

Their balcony overlooked a government hospital. One day he told his mom, “Mom, you’re lying to me. You said that the ambulances save people. They kill people.” Later, they realized that the government was actually taking people from protests to government hospitals and killing them there. The young boy would see them get shot on a daily basis. He once saw a tank run over an injured protestor. Nobody had noticed that he was seeing this.

“AT THE BEGINNING of the war, it was just the Assad regime and the rebels. Now it’s Hezbollah, the Russians, who knows, ISIS even.”

Flash forward a couple of years, and that boy is at the clinic, where I attended one of his therapy sessions, where we put him in the room with toys. He brought down this car, and there was paint in the room, and he said, “I’m going to paint this car black because that way I’m going to recognize that it’s Bashar al-Assad’s car so I could kill him.”

I’m thinking to yourself, “Did I even know who the president was at five years old?” I knew George Washington, but I didn’t know any of the things that this five-year-old knew. He kept on mentioning Assad throughout the session, I’d say, 15 times in half an hour.

While I was in Jordan, I was out to a dinner with a family friend and her

Jordanian friends. They discovered that I’m doing work with refugees, and this one lady had the audacity to say, “These refugees are taking our money, they’re taking our jobs. My son can’t find a job.”

I said, “What do you want them to do? Stay in Syria and have it rain bombs on them until they die? Is it because they live across a certain border, they’re less worthy of life?” I really felt so helpless and frustrated because, from nine to five, I was dealing with people who have faced horrible, horrible experiences — things beyond our imagination. Then there I was at night, when it was peaceful and beautiful. I could afford to go out and have dinner, while some of the refugees were struggling to put food on their table. I thought to myself that this woman could afford to do all these nice things — and she was complaining about a population the entire world has closed its doors on?

Honestly, I don’t know how on earth I coped for a month. I really don’t know. My journal really helped me. I think, too, that it helps to know that I’m making a difference by spreading the word.

I want to emphasize to people that it’s not a crime to be ignorant. I think it’s a crime to be ignorant and remain in ignorance and not do anything about it. Once you learn about something, I think it’s on all of us to take action. Just trying to spread the word and channeling my sadness and frustration into action is really my main coping mechanism.

I think I’m more rational than I was before. Now, when I look at something, it’s no longer the end of the world. I think we live in a society where everything’s such a drama — literally. Everything’s such a big deal. You get into a disagreement with someone, and it’s the end of the world. I think people need to start getting over their differences. I think that’s what this has taught me the most — that the world needs us. We are the generation.

A photograph of Sarah Dash, an African American woman with short black hair and bright pink lipstick, singing joyfully. She is wearing a voluminous, bright red fur coat over a black sequined top. Her hands are raised in a gesture of passion. The background features a window with patterned curtains and a dark wall.

TRENTON MAKES MUSIC

Giving the city's sounds their due takes two passionate professors, some inquisitive students — and hometown R&B queen Sarah Dash.

WORDS *Christopher Hann*
IMAGES *Peter Murphy*

Back home again
Dash in Trenton's Thomas
Grice Academy of Music.

WHEN SARAH DASH decided nearly a decade ago to return to Trenton — the city in which she and her dozen brothers and sisters were raised, where she sang in her pastor father's Pentecostal church choir, and where she got her start on a singing career now in its sixth decade — she moved into her childhood home in a West Trenton neighborhood that she describes, with all the tender mercy of a devoted native daughter, as “challenged.”

Recalling her return to the city over lunch at South Rio, a downtown Trenton restaurant, Dash says it took almost a year before she settled on restoring the three-story, five-bedroom brick house. “I had to decide whether I wanted to keep money in the bank or continue the legacy of my parents,” she says. “I chose the latter.”

At the time of her return, Dash had not lived in her hometown for more than three decades, yet for Trentonians of a certain vintage, she remains something of a cultural touchstone. Passersby still approach her on the street, often with an embrace. After lunch, a parking garage attendant fusses over her when he realizes he's talking to *that* Sarah Dash. At 71 years old and with a lifetime spent in show business, Dash still carries herself like a diva. The nail polish is crimson. The sunglasses are oversized. And one ring in particular seems to bear the approximate heft of, say, Mount Rushmore.

Never let it be said that Sarah Dash does anything halfway.

DASH'S HOMECOMING came full circle five years after she returned to Trenton, when she responded to a Twitter post from Kim Pearson, a professor of journalism. Pearson and her music faculty colleague, Teresa Marrin Nakra, were planning an ambitious digital campaign to document Trenton's rich but often overlooked musical history. They called the project Trenton Makes Music, and it would

cover the full symphonic range of rhythms and melodies ever to emerge from New Jersey's capital city, from the fifes and drums that provided the soundtrack of the American Revolution to the emergence of the nightclub City Gardens as one of America's most revered temples of punk rock.

“Trenton is, in its own way, every bit as much of a music city as cities like Nashville.”

The encyclopedic approach would be necessary because Trenton — unlike Nashville, a country town, or New Orleans, a jazz town — has produced musicians across the sonic spectrum. Pearson and Nakra's students would use podcasts, written and oral histories, even live performances to document a wide range of musical styles, from gospel and klezmer to the blues and funk. They would also survey a wide range of musicians, among them Thomas Grice, a legendary music teacher in Trenton public schools who, in the late 1950s at Junior High 5, taught Sarah Dash to play the violin. “Trenton is, in its own way, every bit as much of a music city as cities like Nashville,” Pearson says, “except nobody knows it except the people who were part of it.”

Born in Camden and raised in Philadelphia, Pearson had cultivated an incremental appreciation of Trenton's contribution to American song. She knew about the city's jazz clubs from her days as an undergraduate at Princeton, where she was a classmate of the jazz guitarist Stanley Jordan. Later, she learned of Clifford Adams, a Trenton native and longtime trombonist for Kool and the Gang, when their sons attended elementary school together in Ewing.



Trenton Makes Timberlake
Trenton's own Adam Blackstone (on bass) directed Justin Timberlake's 20/20 Experience Tour.

By and by, Pearson heard about Sarah Dash, who had found fame as a member of LaBelle, the groundbreaking pop-rock-soul-funk-disco vocal group of the 1960s and 70s, and who had recently returned home.

So it was in the fall of 2014, in the project's earliest days, that Pearson invited Dash to campus to sit for an oral history interview. But Dash sought a larger voice in the project — she felt obligated to contribute, she says, given her long ties to Trenton's musical community — and she wound up delivering a public lecture on the role of the city's musical culture in launching

her career. “She expressed an interest in being more involved, using her contacts in the community, giving us guidance about who the important people are,” Pearson says. “You can't buy that expertise.”

Dash would become the public face of Trenton Makes Music. She would record the audio introduction on the project's website, and she would serve as master of ceremonies for the project's public events. She would also write the eponymous theme song, which she debuted last October at a Trenton Makes Music program at Mayo Concert Hall.

Dash wasn't just in, she was *all* in.

THE PENTACOSTAL DOCTRINE enforced at the Trenton Church of Christ provided a rigid framework for Dash's girlhood. Her parents — Elizabeth, a nurse, and the Elder Abraham Dash — did not permit young Sarah to roam the streets unaccompanied or hang out with friends after school. Under her parents' strict supervision, she would attend classes, do her homework, take violin lessons, sing in the church choir, and worship the Almighty. Recalling the regimen of her early years, Dash quotes an old friend: “We would go to church on a Sunday,” she says, “and come home on a Wednesday.”

All the while she continued to sing. At Trenton Central High School, Dash and her classmate Nona Hendryx teamed with Cindy Birdsong, who was from Camden, and Patti LaBelle, from Philadelphia. By 1962, Patti LaBelle and the Blue Belles had a Top 20 hit with “I Sold My Heart to the Junkman.” Dash was 16 years old. “I'm all underage, and I got these adults, church people, fighting over whether I'm going to sing or not,” Dash recalls. “And I'm sure my father had pressures from his church members:

BRIAN KILLIAN/WIREIMAGE

Cont. on page 26

TAKING NOTES

Trenton Makes Music is writing the city's musical history measure by measure.



1770s

FIFE AND DRUM CORPS helps direct 2nd New Jersey Regiment troops on the battlefield and in Trenton's Old Barracks during the Revolution.



1860s

TAYLOR OPERA HOUSE — named for the founder of the Taylor Ham company — opens and hosts Yankee Doodle Dandy's George M. Cohan.



1900–1910s

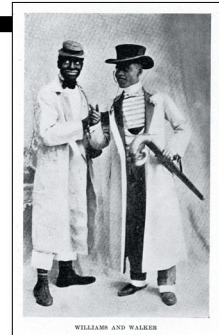
Lyric tenor and Metropolitan Opera star **RICHARD CROOKS** is born in Trenton in 1900 and sings as boy soprano in local church.



1920s

WILLIAMS AND WALKER perform their minstrel hit "In Dahomey" in 1902 at the Taylor Opera House before moving to Broadway.

BIG BAND COMES TO TRENTON Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, and Fats Waller (above) each perform at the Carver Center.



HEINER FALLAS

1950s

THOMAS GRICE joins staff of Junior High 5; teaches LaBelle's Sarah Dash and Nona Hendryx; gives Kool and the Gang's Clifford Adams his first trombone.



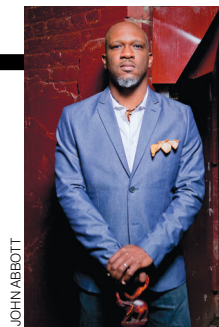
TRENTONANA COLLECTION, TRENTON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1960s

CAPITOL RKO MOVIE THEATER (formerly Taylor Opera House) brings in names like James Brown, Diana Ross and the Supremes.



Nona Hendryx (left) and Sarah Dash (right) top the Billboard chart in 1975 with LaBelle's hit "LADY MARMALADE."

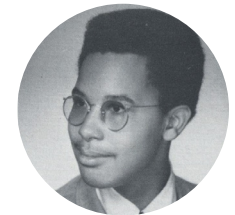


JOHN ABBOTT

1970s

Jazz pianist **ORRIN EVANS** is born in Trenton in 1975. *The New York Times* calls him a "pugnacious and resourceful postbop pianist." TCNJ's Don Evans Black Box Theater is named

for his father, a longtime faculty member who created the college's History of Jazz course.



CLIFFORD ADAMS, who studied music theory at TCNJ, reaches national acclaim as trombonist for hit group Kool and the Gang.



WWW.DAVIDSIMCHOCK.COM

TRENTON MAKES MUSIC begins documenting in 2014 what makes Trenton a hidden treasure of the music world.



MATT ROBERTSON, LAKEWOOD CREATIVE CO./BASSIC BLACK ENTERTAINMENT, 2016

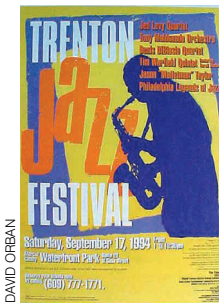
Songwriter and producer **ADAM BLACKSTONE** works with Janet Jackson, Justin Timberlake, and Kanye West.

2000–present



In 2009 **JACQUI AND STERICK IVEY** open Conservatory Mansion in the same building that once housed the Trenton Conservatory of Music. It's now home to the Thomas Grice Academy of Music.

1990s



DAVID OREBAN

Arm & Hammer Park hosts **TRENTON JAZZ FESTIVAL** with headliners Tito Puente, Patti Austin, Oleta Adams, Al Jarreau, and Roberta Flack.



KENNETH SALERNO

1980s

DJ and promoter **RANDY "NOW" ELLIS** turns City Gardens into a CBGB for disaffected suburban youth in New Jersey and Pennsylvania in the 1980s and early 1990s. Comedian Jon Stewart tends bar from 1984–1987.

"It was just an incredible and vibrant scene, and there was nothing else like it." —Jon Stewart

In 1981 Trenton native **JOSEPH PUCCIATTI '76** and wife, **SANDRA MILSTEIN-PUCCIATTI MA '80**, found Boheme Opera NJ, now based at TCNJ.

"He was one of the baddest trombone players in all the planet." —

Michael Ray, trumpet, Kool and the Gang

"I would say music is coming back to Trenton." —Thomas Grice

Cont. from page 23

‘What is this child doing singing rock ‘n’ roll, the devil’s music? And you’re supposed to be a preacher?’”

In 1971, after Birdsong had departed for the Supremes, the group changed its name to LaBelle and traded in its prim stage presence for the flamboyant space-age costumes that would come to define LaBelle’s live performance. Three years later, the group released “Lady Marmalade,” featuring one of the most enduring lyrics in the history of American popular music: *Voulez-vous coucher avec moi ce soir?* (Do you want to sleep with me tonight?) For one glorious week in the spring of 1975, “Lady Marmalade” held the number-one spot on the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart.

LaBelle broke cultural ground with routine. In July 1975, the trio became the first all-black musical group to grace the cover of *Rolling Stone*. A year earlier, LaBelle delivered the first performance by an all-black group at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City, an event that carried such historical weight even the Elder Abraham Dash made sure to attend. “I think I made my father very proud of me,” Dash says. “Because he never had to get me out of jail or rehab, and that’s important today, you know. That is very important.”

One sunny morning last October, Dash came to campus to record the Trenton Makes Music theme song. During a break, she suddenly reached for her cell phone. “It’s Sam’s birthday today,” she said with urgency. “Sam” was Sam Moore, one half of Sam and Dave, the seminal soul duo of the 1960s and 70s, who was turning 81. Dash dialed Moore’s number, and when he didn’t pick up, she left a voicemail — “Hi, Sam. It’s Sarah.” — that ended with her crooning “Happy Birthday.”

AS PEARSON AND NAKRA and their students began to research Trenton’s musical legacy, they unearthed nugget



Big band leaders
Professors Kim Pearson (left) and Teresa Nakra head up this complex project.

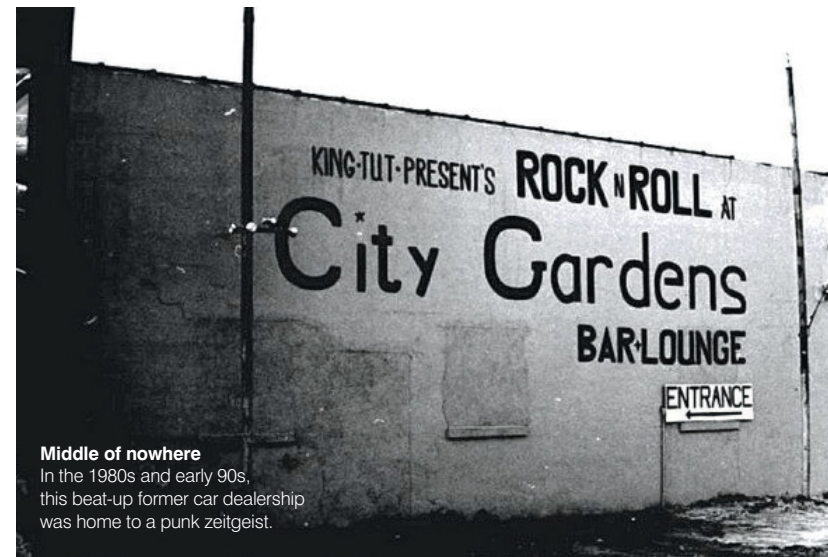
after nugget of rich material. As Pearson says, they “followed the breadcrumb trail.” One day, taking a bus into Trenton from campus, Pearson struck up a conversation about Trenton Makes Music with the bus driver. Turns out the driver, Vance Holland, was a former session musician with Salsoul, the New York City record label. Holland told Pearson about his sister, Diane Jones, a former backup singer for Guns N’ Roses and Taylor Dayne. Pearson reached out to Jones, who soon became one of the first musicians to provide an oral history for Trenton Makes Music.

And so it went along the breadcrumb trail. Through a former Princeton classmate, Pearson was introduced to Clifford Adams. Before his death in 2015, Adams provided valuable assistance to Pearson’s early efforts to wrap her head around Trenton’s music scene. They shared many telephone conversations, Pearson says, “with him telling me stories and pointing me to people.” Adams told Pearson about influential music educators in Trenton, such as Thomas Passarella and Thomas Grice. In October 2014, Trenton Makes Music presented a concert featuring Grice, a saxophonist, and the TCNJ Jazz Band. At another program last October,

Dash presented a plaque to her 87-year-old mentor: “Honoring Thomas Grice in appreciation and recognition to your many contributions to Trenton and to music education.”

“People’s awareness of music, and people’s investment in music, really have an effect on the way communities operate.”

Pearson says one of the highlights of her work on Trenton Makes Music has been hearing so many musicians recall the influence of the city’s music teachers. At the November pop program, the singer/songwriter/producer Showtyme Brooks gave a shout-out to his Trenton Central High School music teachers Joseph Pucciatti ’76 and Ted Plunkett. The same program featured a performance by the high school’s orchestra, under the direction of Pucciatti. “There is no greater evidence of the transformative power of



Middle of nowhere
In the 1980s and early 90s, this beat-up former car dealership was home to a punk zeitgeist.

education,” Pearson says, “than what these artists have said about their teachers.”

Jacqui Ivey has watched the evolution of Trenton Makes Music with particular interest. She was born and raised in the city, and in 2009 she and her husband, Sterick, opened the Conservatory Mansion on East State Street. For Ivey, Trenton Makes Music represents an unprecedented effort to document a long and rich chapter in the city’s cultural life. “I don’t know if anyone, to date, has captured the significance and the contribution to the music industry from the Trenton area in a way that this project has done,” Ivey says.

At the core of Trenton Makes Music is a pair of podcasting courses that Pearson and Nakra began teaching in the fall of 2014; Pearson’s focused on content and storytelling, Nakra’s on production and technology. The two dozen students in their classes work together to produce podcasts about Trenton musicians that will become part of the Trenton Makes Music website, www.trentonmakesmusic.org.

Gabe Salazar, a junior interactive multimedia major from Hillsborough, New Jersey, secured a research role last summer under the Mentored

Undergraduate Summer Experience program. He wrote scripts for podcasts, and last fall he enrolled in Pearson’s Trenton Makes Music course, in which he researched Jewish music in Trenton. “I never realized the Jewish community had such an in-depth and complex musical history,” Salazar says. “This project really opened my eyes to a lot of musical genres that I found really interesting.”

Salazar also worked on a podcast about Trenton’s punk music scene in which Randy “Now” Ellis played such an outsize role. A former bar band drummer (and WTSR deejay) who quit his job as a mailman to become a full-time promoter at City Gardens, Ellis booked the Ramones, Parliament Funkadelic, Kurtis Blow, Nirvana, Sinead O’Connor, Black Flag, the Dead Kennedys, and a thousand other bands during City Gardens’ heyday in the 1980s and early 90s. He’s also the central figure in director Steve Tozzi’s 2014 documentary about the club, *Riot on the Dance Floor*. These days he’s the proprietor of Randy Now’s Man Cave, a record store in Bordentown, New Jersey, where he grew up. As far back as the 1960s, Ellis says, Trenton was every bit as much of a music town

as Asbury Park. “There was so much great unrecognized talent,” he says. “I don’t know why we didn’t get the break that Asbury got.”

Salazar’s classmate Christopher Hingston Tenev, a sophomore electrical engineering major from Princeton Junction, spent last summer recording and editing interviews with Trenton musicians. In October, he co-produced the Trenton Makes Music theme song with its author. “I think it’s a good project geared toward generating awareness about something people ought to be aware of,” Tenev says. “People’s awareness of music, and people’s investment in music, really have an effect on the way communities operate.”

Sarah Dash appreciates that effect as much as anyone. As a young girl growing up in Trenton, she witnessed the profound impact of music within her own communities. She saw it when she sang in her church choir and later when she and Hendryx would rehearse with their earliest vocal group, the Del Capris, in the basement of Junior High 5 (under the eye of Thomas Grice, their appointed chaperone). Upon her return to Trenton, she’s seen it yet again, in the celebration of a musical community that aspired to greatness beyond the borders of her hometown, and in the work of a pair of committed professors and their students who are recording that greatness for all the world to see and hear.

Christopher Hann is a freelance writer and a former senior editor at *New Jersey Monthly*. He wrote the cover story about 49ers President Al Guido ’03 in *TCNJ Magazine*’s Fall 2016 issue.

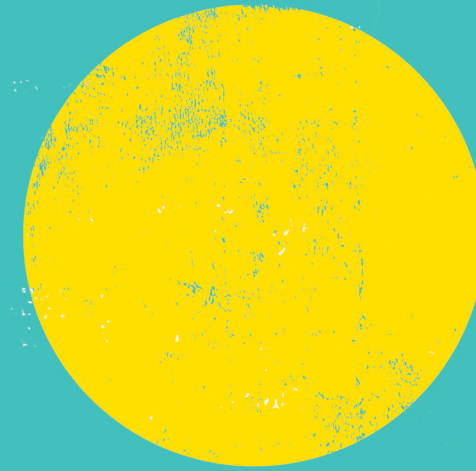
MATT FURMAN

Written on the Bones

HUMAN REMAINS FOUND ALONG OUR
SOUTHERN BORDER GIVE VOICE TO WHAT DRIVES
SOME MIGRANTS TO **TAKE THE ULTIMATE RISK.**

Words
Kevin Coyne

Art
Edel Rodriguez



All that remained of the man when he was found was the skeleton that had once held him upright and had carried him to the place where he died. Time and nature had reclaimed anything else that might have revealed more about him. He had no flesh, no clothes, no personal effects, no name. But his bones told a story that Jared Beatrice could read.

The two long bones in the man's right forearm — the radius and the ulna — had been fractured when he was a boy and had not healed properly. The first molar in his lower left jaw had an untreated abscess. The enamel on his front teeth was thinner than it should have been. The back of his skull was speckled with small holes, giving it an oddly porous look.

"Normal bone looks smooth," says anthropology professor Jared Beatrice, pointing to a photograph on his office wall of the skull and showing where the bone was not smooth. "All that pitting that you can see almost everywhere? That shouldn't be there."

He points to another photograph, of the eye socket, which was similarly pitted. "That should be flat dense bone," he says. "Those pores you see shouldn't be there."

Beatrice has been studying bones for 15 years, and he knew immediately that he was looking at another case of

porotic hyperostosis: The outer layer of bone had thinned as the inner layer of spongy tissue had thickened. Read together, the skull and the teeth told a story of a man whose boyhood had been marked by deprivation: poor nutrition, anemia, and persistent bouts of other illness. Beatrice had read the same story before in many other sets of bones he had studied as an anthropologist — from 5th-century Greece, 8th-century Italy, and 12th-century Albania.

But the man with the broken right arm was from 21st-century Arizona, found in the desert outside Arivaca, not far from the Mexican border, in October 2012. Beatrice had come to the Pima County Office of the Medical Examiner in Tucson on a research grant to join his fellow Michigan State University PhD candidate, and future wife, Angela Soler, who had arrived at the office a few months earlier as a postdoctoral fellow. Their job was to try to learn more about the hundreds of bodies that had been found in the Southern Arizona desert whose identities were still unknown.

Most were presumed to be undocumented immigrants, part of the grim tally of 2,465 known or presumed border crossers whose remains have ended up since 2001 in the medical examiner's office, which also covers most of the other counties along Arizona's border with Mexico. The office tries to identify each body found in its wide jurisdiction — from DNA, dental records, the things they carried and wore, and whatever other clues their remains may hold — and then return them to their families. Soler's specialty was the recent dead; Beatrice's those who had died centuries before. The job, to their surprise, drew on both their specialties.

Says Soler, "The purpose was to identify people, and it just so happened

that the things that we were finding to identify them ..."

"... we had seen before ...," Beatrice says. They met on the first day of graduate school in 2004, married in 2014, and often finish each other's sentences.

"... and were telling us that they were coming across the border for specific reasons, that it was because their childhoods and their livelihoods south of the border weren't sustaining them or their families," Soler finished.

They left Arizona at the end of 2013 — Soler is now a forensic anthropologist for New York City's Office of Chief

Medical Examiner, and Beatrice came to TCNJ as an assistant professor of anthropology in 2015 — but what they learned there launched them on an ongoing research project that has helped illuminate a hidden side of a volatile issue.

Beatrice left his hometown of Youngstown, Ohio, for Ohio University with a guitar that he played in a rock band but little idea about what he would major in, or what anthropology was. A class with a professor, a biological anthropologist, quickly answered those questions. In graduate school at

Michigan State he did fieldwork in Albania and Greece.

"I've always wanted to explore what life was like in the past," he says. "I was really interested in how we can reconstruct living conditions and lifeways."

Soler's high school in Rockville, Maryland, offered a class in biological anthropology that made it easy for her to later choose a major at George Washington University. "I went to college pretty certain I wanted to be an anthropologist," she says. She did fieldwork in Albania in graduate school, too, deciphering juvenile scurvy rates in

AS FAST AS THE DESERT CAN KILL YOU, IT CAN ALSO REDUCE YOU TO A SKELETON, MAKING THE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S JOB — TO IDENTIFY A BODY AND A CAUSE OF DEATH — ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT.



Data behind death
Beatrice and his wife, Angela Soler, together here at TCNJ, are giving the dead a way to describe the deprivation they fled.

BILL CARDONI

the Middle Ages. “You can look at many aspects of past life in bioarchaeology, but we focused specifically on disease and nutrition, and general indicators of health.”

When she finished her PhD, she was steered by her advisor to a place with a large backlog of unidentified bodies: the Pima County office, which investigates almost all of the deaths in Southern Arizona. “Before I moved to Tucson to do this work, I had no idea what was happening on our border,” Soler says. “I don’t think many people do.”

What was happening was death — migrants dying as they walked across the unforgiving Sonoran Desert, trying to evade the U.S. Border Patrol. “When I was a grad student training here in the 80s, there would be maybe 10 or 15 cases a year, because people weren’t crossing in the desert,” says Bruce Anderson, a forensic anthropologist in the Pima County office. But when he returned to work there in 2000 — just as the Border Patrol was tightening enforcement along the border, and migrants began steering away from established routes and into harsher territory to avoid apprehension — the body count soared. It’s averaged about 180 a year over the past 18 years. “It hasn’t been under 130 in any year since 2001,” Anderson says. “The peak was 225 in 2010.”

Most are from Mexico — 85 percent of the 1,581 who have been identified so far. Guatemalans account for eight percent. “And virtually every other country is at one percent,” Anderson says. They died trying to join the estimated 11 million other undocumented immigrants who live and work in the United States, and who were at the center of a contentious debate in the 2016 presidential election.

“The deaths speak for themselves as far as how dangerous it is and

continues to be,” says Anderson. “Being in the desert, out of water, not knowing where you’re at — it can happen very quickly when the temperatures are in triple digits.”

And as fast as the desert can kill you, it can also reduce you to a skeleton, making the medical examiner’s job — to identify a body and a cause of death — especially difficult. To try to determine which bodies are foreign-born migrants and which are Americans, the medical examiner’s office relies in part on a series of clues written on the bones. The bones of a migrant tell a different story than the bones of an American, and it’s a story that Soler, like Beatrice, had read before, too — in the skeletons she had studied for her own dissertation, of Nubians who lived on an island in the Nile River from the 6th to the 15th centuries.

“These were people who had lived in really difficult circumstances — tuberculosis, malaria, hookworm,” she says, and their skeletons retained the marks of disease and malnutrition. “When I saw this in my normal day-to-day casework with border crossers, I was taken aback.”

When Beatrice arrived and started examining skeletons in Tucson, he was similarly struck by how much they resembled the ones he had examined at centuries-old archeological sites. “You’re dealing with an environment where subadult mortality was extremely high,” he says, pointing to a photo on his office wall of a medieval Albanian eye socket that was pitted in the same way as the one from the Arizona desert. “And yet we’re seeing some of the very same things in border crossers who died yesterday. It doesn’t make sense to see this stuff in modern people.”

Anthropologists in the Tucson office had long noticed these markers — they

were part of the profile used to help identify border crossers — but Beatrice and Soler set out to measure just how prevalent they were. “We wanted to make sure that we could put some numbers behind it and make sure, to a statistically significant degree, that individuals coming across the border in Arizona and dying were showing indicators of physical stress to a greater extent than somebody born in the United States,” Beatrice says.

And they were. Using X-rays and their expert eyes, Beatrice and Soler examined the remains of 160 border crossers and compared them to the remains of 65 Americans. They found that porotic hyperostosis was 7.9 times more prevalent among the border crossers, and that enamel hypoplasia, the thin tooth enamel that also marks poor childhood nutrition, was three times more prevalent. The border crossers’ skulls were more pitted even than those Beatrice had studied from Greece, where the rate of porotic hyperostosis was 17 percent; it was 58 percent in the border crossers.

“More people have this condition coming through Arizona right now than in medieval Greece,” Beatrice says. “That’s why we couldn’t believe it.”

He and Soler presented their findings at conferences of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, and in a paper slated for publication in an upcoming issue of the *Journal of Forensic Sciences*.

“When you find this stuff in archeological remains and you’re trying to tell the story of those people, you usually talk about things like invasions, massive drought, famine ...,” Beatrice says.

“Earthquakes,” Soler adds.

“THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE DYING IN TEXAS NOW,” SAYS BEATRICE. “WE COULD CONCEIVABLY CONTINUE TO DO THIS FOR YEARS.”

“There’s all kinds of disasters invoked to explain this in archeological skeletons, but here it is right in front of us,” Beatrice continues. “We have to be careful as objective scientists not to sound like we are advocating a certain viewpoint, but what the data says is very clear — that the individuals who attempt to cross the border in Southern Arizona and die in the desert very frequently experience pretty rough living conditions as kids.”

“I think this shows the desperation and makes it real,” Soler says. “If people realized more often that people were migrating to this country because of desperate circumstances, that might change some minds,” Beatrice says.

What they found confirmed what the medical examiner’s office had long suspected. “It went from anecdote to data,” Bruce Anderson says. “And the data makes us feel more confident when making a call on an unidentified person: Are they more likely an American citizen or a foreign national of a lower socioeconomic stratum?”

Their research continues — the Undocumented Border Crosser Health Project, they call it — and has expanded to Texas, where their initial findings

seem to show more border crossers from other Central American countries, whose remains carry fewer signs of childhood deprivation. “We don’t see quite the same level of systemic stress in people coming into Texas as we do in people coming into Arizona,” Beatrice says. That could indicate more Central Americans fleeing violence, rather than Mexicans escaping poverty — but more research is needed.

“There are a lot of people dying in Texas now,” Beatrice says. “We could conceivably continue to do this for years.”

The man with the broken arm was eventually identified, his remains returned to his family in Mexico. Beatrice and Soler have not met them, nor the families of anyone else they have examined, but they would like to someday.

“We’d like to talk with the families of people who have been identified, to understand what their childhood was like ...,” Beatrice says.

“... to put all this in perspective,” Soler adds.

Kevin Coyne is a freelance writer who teaches at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR TCNJ

NEWS

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Family affair

Two generations of the Gater family make exemplary educations a reality.

THE ROOTS OF GIVING RUN DEEP in the Gater family tree. And it was those roots that motivated the family's matriarch to endow the Kathryn Gater Nursing Scholarship for the School of Nursing, Health, and Exercise Science.

Inspired by doctors on her mother's side of the family, Kathryn Gater trained to be a nurse during World War II and received her certification from Mercer County Hospital in 1945. She worked in public health, private duty, and school nursing. "I always wanted to help people," she says. "It's what I try to do."

That spirit of service also surfaces in the hats she knits for the needy, the roses she delivers to nursing homes, and the time she gives as a school volunteer.

"My mom has always been a giving person," says Jim Gater '71, MEd '80. "We learned from our parents that giving back to the community was what a good citizen did."

But with her gift to TCNJ, Kathryn followed the example set by her son.

The only one of Kathryn's children to go to college, Jim took advantage of a \$500 scholarship to attend TCNJ. "If the state hadn't provided that, he wouldn't have been able to go to college and have the success he later had," Kathryn says.

Over the years, Jim has been loyal to his alma mater. He has served as president of the Alumni Association and now chairs the TCNJ Foundation. In 2011, he and his wife, Kathleen, established the Newton B. Collinson Scholarship (named for Kathleen's father) for students in the School of Education.

"When my wife and I created our scholarship, it really resonated with my mom," says Jim. "It was something she wanted to do, too."

The recent sale of her house allowed Kathryn to achieve that goal. She gave funds to each of her children — Jim, Judy Cook, Glenn Gater, and Jeffrey Gater — to start the scholarship in her name, making it truly a family affair.

The family hopes the scholarship will help non-traditional nursing students to stay the course and graduate.

"I believe investing in someone's education is really helping on many levels," says Kathryn. "I wanted to give back to the institution that gave the knowledge to my sister Janet Davison '41, my son, and grandson David Gater '98 to become successful adults and excel in their chosen fields," she says. "It's nice that I got to see this happen."

—Kara Pothier MAT '08

Learn more and get involved
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A legacy of education
Jim Gater; his mother, Kathryn;
and his wife, Kathleen.

PETER MURPHY



\$25,000
BUSINESS SCHOOL FUND

Tom Sabroe '86, MS '88, chair of the Dean's Advisory Council, has established an endowment to support the School of Business.

\$100,000
NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

Melvin '75 and Joanne Sykes believe every student accepted to TCNJ should have the opportunity to attend. The couple's gift will support student scholarships to ease the cost of college for those with the most financial need.



\$50,000
ARTS AND COMMUNICATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Peter Russo Scholarship Fund supports a student in the School of the Arts and Communication who has returned to college after taking leave. Nancy Russo McDevitt '85 named the fund in honor of her father's commitment to education.



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THE CAMPAIGN FOR TCNJ GOAL **\$40M** GOAL TO JUNE 30, 2017 **\$8.5M**

\$25,000
HIS AND HERS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Frankel family engineered a first for TCNJ: a his and hers scholarship. Blossom Frankel '55 established The Eugene Frankel '54 Scholarship in 1987 for engineering students in memory of her husband, whom she met on her first day on campus. Now their children, Andrew and Dorian, have created a companion scholarship in Blossom's name to be given to biomedical engineering students.



\$37,500
COMMUNITY-ENGAGED INITIATIVES

The Peter and Mary Russo Foundation advances community-engaged learning initiatives that improve local populations, including Trenton Makes Music, a TCNJ project recording the city's rich musical history. (See page 20.)

Gift List

priorities from the wished-for to the real.



\$32,500
ATHLETICS SUPPORT

Former Denver Broncos General Manager and TCNJ Hall of Famer John Beake '61 and his wife, Marcia '61, an exercise science major, scored big with their recent generosity. Their planned gift is designated to support the athletics program, helping to further the college's significant sports tradition.



\$25,000
ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP

Jay Belding '72 and his wife, Barbara '72, met in line at the bookstore in Green Hall freshman year. Their scholarship will help engineering students pay their way to a TCNJ degree.

Day of Giving 2016

More than 1,000 of you collectively shattered the 2015 record during the second annual TCNJ Day of Giving in November. Drumroll, please:

\$135,763

2016 TOTAL

\$75,444

2015 TOTAL

14%
Current students (Impressive!)

50%
Alumni

Class of 1976
Largest number of donors

Class of 1993
Largest total giving

“This gift is a thank you to TCNJ for providing me with a strong foundation to become the best educator I could be.”

A planned gift. An everlasting connection.

Alumnus to give future teachers an exemplary education.

KEITH FIGGS '74, MEd '79, EdD Columbia has lived his life with an eye to the future. A retired assistant superintendent of the Vineland (New Jersey) Public Schools, Figgs attributes his success to the preparation TCNJ gave him. “I really appreciate and value the training I received from the college,” he says. To ensure that future students are afforded the same opportunity, Figgs worked with the college’s planned giving office to designate a gift in his will to support the School of Education.



Join Keith in helping future TCNJ students. Contact Jim Spencer at 609.771.3285 or jspencer@tcnj.edu for information on bequests and other planned gifts.

tcnj.edu/plannedgiving



Field of Dreams

Gary Gellman’s grandparents seeded their American future on a Garden State farm.



Family portrait
 Preceding page: Meyer and Fannie Gellman and their youngest son, Manny, who sent three sons to TCNJ. This page, top: As Jews, Meyer and Fannie weren't allowed to own land in Russia, so it was a proud day when they bought their New Jersey farm. Bottom left: Gary Gellman's aunts and uncles, including Rose, now 98 (far right). Bottom right: Uncle Nathan amid the corn.

After more than a half-century of farming, Meyer and Fannie Gellman, Jewish immigrants from Russia, sold their Englishtown, New Jersey, farm in 1959, but the two tractors they used to sow their fields remain in the family, and still run.

Their grandson, filmmaker Gary Gellman '89, tells the story of his family's farm in his documentary *Gellman American Dream*. Part celebration of a proud New Jersey family, part chronicle of a hardworking generation, the film, he says, captures a chapter in New Jersey history.

"There are history lessons in every family's story," he says. "My grandparents helped build America through farming. It was a labor of love and family."

Farming is not typically associated with Jewish-American culture. But an estimated 250 Jewish-owned farms peppered the landscape of the Garden State when Meyer Gellman came to America in 1905. A garment worker by trade, Meyer turned to farming to better support his growing family. After several years of renting land, in 1920 he and Fannie bought their 100-acre farm, where they grew beans and strawberries, eggplants and tomatoes. They raised chickens alongside their nine children.

Four generations of Gellmans still live in New Jersey — all but one of the Gellmans' children stayed in the state. Manny, Gary's father and the youngest of the Gellman siblings, worked on the farm until it was sold. His three sons, Myron '86, Gary, and Brian '91, all went to TCNJ.

And those two tractors? Gary keeps them on his own land in Monmouth County as a tangible reminder of the farm, which, even among later generations, is still often referred to as "home."

—Kara Pothier MAT '08

'70s and earlier

Judith Conner Cinquina '64 marks 38 years of coordinating the Mount Peter Fall Hawk Watch in Warwick, New York, and begins her 28th year teaching birdwatching for the Midland Park (New Jersey) Continuing Education Program.

A student in the Class of 1965, **Richard Sterban** of the Oak Ridge Boys performed in August at the Levoy Theatre in Milville, New Jersey. Richard is a bass vocalist.

Jean Martin James '66, Judy Roe Janaushek '67, Margaret Scheuring Mount '67, Lee Talocci Schmidt '67, and Jane Zimmerman Stirrup '67 reunited as Ionia Sigma Sisters in Tempe, Arizona.

An Even Exchange, a novel by **Chris Suozzo** (TCNJ '74, MEd '78), was selected as the Delta Chapter's 2016-17 book.

Fedorka Tomczak '71, MEd '78 was selected as the Delta Chapter's 2016-17 book. The Independence Book Club met at Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, to discuss the book at many New Jersey libraries and to a book club in Wilmington, North Carolina. Chris' children's book *If I Had a Tail* is in publication.

Jacque Sneddon McNamara '72 received more than 40 years of teaching experience as a physical education instructor at Hogan Elementary School, Middlebury, Vermont.

Dave Sulley '75 was inducted into the Mount Olive (New Jersey) High School Hall of Fame as a cross country and track and field coach (and English teacher) before he retired in 2012. Dave is now a coach and teacher at Delbarton School in Morris Township, New Jersey.

Paul Zimmerman '76 is the new district coordinator for the Richmond (Virginia) Tax Aide Program, co-sponsored by the AARP Foundation and the Internal Revenue Service.

Allan Stumpf '77, MA '86 retired from Voorhees (New Jersey) High School after 39 years as a teacher, coach, and director of athletics. Allan has been appointed as an assistant director at the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Ron Bartlett '79 has been named a general manager at Hill+Knowlton Strategies, where he oversees offices in Tampa and Tallahassee.

'80s and '90s

Sharon Pfluger '82, TCNJ's women's lacrosse head coach, has been named the Division III Boardwalk Region Coach of the Year by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association.

Barbara Knoll '84, MA '88 has been welcomed into the International Association of HealthCare Professionals with her appearance in its Worldwide Leaders in Healthcare. Barbara

currently serves patients in her private practice, Knoll Acupuncture, in Lavallette, New Jersey, and is an adjunct lecturer at the Ocean County Massage Institute.

Eugene Schwartz '85 is project manager at Reading Bakery Systems, a manufacturer of baking and snack systems.

Charles Potter '86, a researcher at Sandia National Laboratories, was named a national fellow in the Health Physics Society at its 61st Annual Meeting in Spokane, Washington. Charles was honored for his scientific, educational, and administrative contributions to the profession.

Robert Dispoto '87 is the new deputy chief of the Mercer County (New Jersey) Prosecutor's Office.

Bruce Bronstein '88 is executive director of the Ferguson Center for the Arts in Newport

Ans Montero '89 is regional chief executive officer of the Red Cross' New Jersey region. Kim Brandley '89, partner in John Reznick's law firm, has received a commendation from the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Christina Vitale Howard '90 is regional safety operations manager at Selective Insurance Company of America.

Veldon Harris '90 has been promoted to chief of detectives for the Mercer County (New Jersey) Prosecutors Office.

Christopher Manno '90, MEd '94, MEd '98 is superintendent of the Bedford (New York) School District. Christopher was previously chief school administrator of the Burlington County (New Jersey) Special Services School District/Institute of Technology.

Rob Massa '91, director of retirement for EPIC Insurance Brokers and Consultants, has been named "Retirement Advisor of the Year" by EmployeeBenefitAdvisor.com.

Joseph Rullo '92 announced his candidacy for New Jersey governor in the 2017 Republican primary.

South River native **Mike Lepore Jr. '93** is the *Home News Tribune's* 2016 Baseball Coach of the Year. Mike received the award after delivering a sectional championship to South River (New Jersey) High School. It marks the school's first such championship in 52 years.

First-time author **John Odalen '94** published *Real Value: New Ways to Think about Your Time, Your Space, and Your Stuff* in March 2016. John is a professional organizer from Lawrenceville, New Jersey.

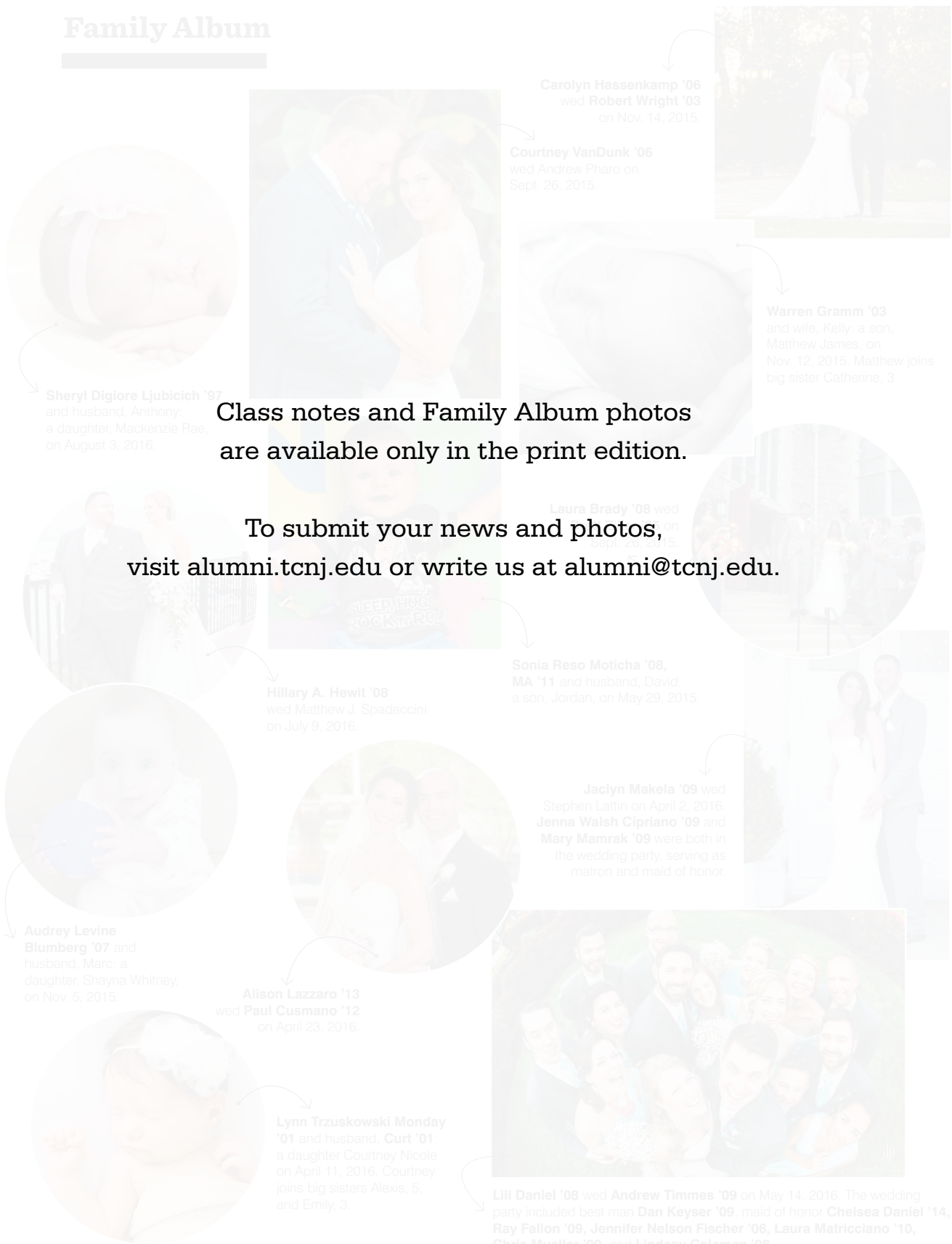
We would be lion if we said we didn't miss you.

It's 2017. Let's make time for each other.



alumni@tcnj.edu

Family Album



Sheryl Digore Ljubicich '97 and husband, Anthony; a daughter, Mackenzie Rae, on August 3, 2016.

Class notes and Family Album photos are available only in the print edition.

To submit your news and photos, visit alumni.tcnj.edu or write us at alumni@tcnj.edu.

Carolyn Hassenkamp '06 wed Robert Wright '03 on Nov. 14, 2015.

Courtney VanDunk '06 wed Andrew Pharo on Sept. 26, 2015.

Warren Gramm '03 and wife, Kelly; a son, Matthew James, on Nov. 12, 2015. Matthew joins big sister Catherine, 3.

Laura Brady '08 wed on Sept. 26, 2015.

Sonia Reso Moticha '08, MA '11 and husband, David; a son, Jordan, on May 29, 2015.

Hillary A. Hewitt '08 wed Matthew J. Spadacini on July 9, 2016.

Jaclyn Makela '09 wed Stephen Lattin on April 2, 2016. Jenna Walsh Cipriano '09 and Mary Mamrak '09 were both in the wedding party, serving as matron and maid of honor.

Audrey Levine Blumberg '07 and husband, Marc; a daughter, Shayna Whitney, on Nov. 5, 2015.

Alison Lazzaro '13 wed Paul Cusmano '12 on April 23, 2016.

Lynn Trzuskowski Monday '01 and husband, Curt '01; a daughter Courtney Nicole on April 11, 2016. Courtney joins big sisters Alexis, 5, and Emily, 3.

Lili Daniel '08 wed Andrew Timmes '09 on May 14, 2016. The wedding party included best man Dan Keyser '09, maid of honor Chelsea Daniel '14, Ray Fallon '09, Jennifer Nelson Fischer '06, Laura Matricciano '10, Chris Mueller '09, and Lindsay Coleman '08.



"The Slayer"
Gayer finished the triathlon in 12 hours. Inset: Gayer about 10 years after graduation.

Triple threat

"Slacker dad" Harvey Gayer showed World Ironman 2016 who's boss.

There are all sorts of small, seemingly insignificant accessories without which an Ironman triathlon goes from grueling endurance test to something like torture. For Harvey Gayer '90, on this most difficult of all stages, it was socks. "I forgot 'em, man," says Gayer, a little less than 24 hours after competing in his first Ironman World Championship in October. "It was a tough course, and I'm beat up all over, but my feet are the worst. I had to run the whole 26 without socks."

That's 26.2 miles, of course, coming hot on the heels of a 112-mile bike ride and 2.4-mile ocean swim. The famously sun-blasted, wind-blown Ironman course on Hawaii's Big Island is unforgiving even for the properly attired; but for Gayer, who came back from a serious bike accident last year that left him with a fractured pelvis and unable to train for months, there was no thought of quitting. Quitting isn't what a guy nicknamed "Slayer" does.

His finish at the world championship marked Gayer's seventh Ironman, an impressive feat for anyone, let alone a 48-year-old who was, not long ago, a self-described "Ironman couch potato." A clinical psychologist in Athens, Georgia, he was busy with life, work, and raising kids when he realized, "like a lot of us do, you're neglecting yourself. Next thing I knew, I was up to about 300 pounds."

He's now immersed in the sport, both as a nationally competitive age-group triathlete and a local youth coach, finding motivation in memories of his sedentary, pre-triathlon life. He still thinks of himself as a "beer-drinking, doughnut-eating slacker dad" who doesn't belong among his ultra-fit, ultra-competitive crowd, but on the day after his most recent Ironman, at least, he figured he'd earned the right to splurge. "I'm eating donuts like crazy today, and I've had three or four slices of cold pizza," he says. "Man, you do one of these, you just tear food up." —*Ryan Jones*

THIS PAGE, FINISHERSPIX. INSET COURTESY HARVEY GAYER



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Who meant everything to you at TCNJ?

(cont. from page 1)



Nikki and Shawn

Nicole "Nikki" Gentile '09

It all started fall of sophomore year when I walked past Eickhoff thinking, "Who is that girl who looks *just like me*?" Little did I know, my freshman doppelgänger was thinking, "I want a hot-pink pea coat like that girl so we can match and *really* be twins!" Nikki soon joined my sorority, Kappa Delta. She has been my best friend, my sounding board, my maid of honor; we've gone through grad school, medical school, surgeries, breakups, and more. She's taught me that those who mean the most to you in college can be those who mean the most to you for *life*. —**SHAWN McCALL SHERIDAN '08**



Deana and Bob

Deana and Bob Kozlowski '03

Freshman year I was lonely and homesick and beginning to regret my choice of living away from home when Bobby, the guy in the room across the hall, asked me to go for a walk around campus. Seventeen years later, we are still best friends with a happy marriage and an amazing son. My husband, Bobby, is my cheerleader, my shoulder to cry on, my happy place. I am grateful for that walk and this man every day. —**DEANA KOZLOWSKI '03**



Diane and Jan

Jan Graver '68

Jan and I met freshman year through Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. At her gracious suggestion, we roomed together the next two years and formed a bond through our common majors and Christian faith that has lasted nearly 50 years! Both retired from teaching, we recently got together to celebrate our month-apart birthdays. Whenever we talk, we just pick up where we left off. Thanks for the memories, TSC. —**DIANE E. TREMPER '68**



Margaret and Virginia

Virginia Ann Roberts, professor emerita

I was so very fortunate to have had her as my undergraduate advisor in speech-language pathology. She was a terrific person and had a great sense of humor, which made her so easy to be around. Thanks to her, I earned my doctoral degree. —**MARGARET M. LASKOWSKI '77** [Roberts died in 2016.]

Christopher Brown '95 was appointed to the Burlington County (New Jersey) Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Lisa Camosso Miller '95 joins Reser Public Affairs as partner.

Tara Fiandaca Jaidullo '97 is now a sergeant in the South Brunswick (New Jersey) Police Department. Tara, the first woman to be promoted to sergeant in the department's history, is a 19-year veteran, serving in patrol and community policing and support services.

Reginald Meadows '99 was unanimously appointed the next co-principal at Pennsbury (Pennsylvania) High School East.

2000s

Adirondack Life Magazine featured photography by TCNJ library staffer **Katy Ellis '00** in its September issue.

The New Jersey Supreme Court has appointed **Georgette**

Georgette Court Committee on Model Judiciary Changes for its 2016-2018 term. Georgette is a partner at Montgomery McCracken.

Jonathan Huan president of investor relations at Market Trip Limited.

After 22 years, **Tim Schaeffer '85** has retired from UNICEF.

Royal Schaffter MEd '01, are retiring to Chiang Mai, Thailand. Diana and Tim will continue to support community development and work with the Baha'i community.

Identical twins **Jason and Jeremy Julio**, both '05, are physical education teachers who are also growing their business, Last Bite Mosquito Control.

Ryan Carty '06 is in his first year as head coach of the Gill St. Bernard's (New Jersey) girls tennis team. Ryan is a former captain of TCNJ's men's tennis team.

Courtney VanDunk Pharo '06 has been promoted to global account director at Symrise. Courtney manages a cosmetic-ingredient business featuring innovative technologies in preservation, sensitive skin, senses, and botanical extracts.

Inessa Shor Vaccaro '06, MA '10 and **Elisabeth Rich Pope MAT '10** were each recognized by the Jonathan D. Krist Foundation with the James McBride Teaching Award. The award recognizes excellent teachers serving under-resourced communities and inspires others to make the same commitment.

Kaitlin Boyle '08 completed her PhD in sociology at the University of Georgia in May 2016, and her MA at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 2011. Kaitlin was hired as an assistant professor in the Department of

Sociology at Virginia Tech, where she studies social psychology, violence, and mental health.

Alanna Jamieson '08 has joined Taft Communications as communications manager.

Hillary A. Hewitt Spadaccini '08 was recently appointed as attorney advisor for the U.S. Department of the Navy, Office of the General Counsel, at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in Lakehurst, New Jersey. She formerly served as assistant counsel and deputy director of government relations for Gov. Chris Christie.

Jaclyn Makela Lattin '09 earned her master's degree in educational administration from Georgian Court University in May 2016. Jaclyn is a fourth-grade teacher in the Wall Township (New Jersey) School District.

Charissa Gomez '10 has joined the

Stephanie Egan '10 is operations director of Push to Walk of Riverdale, New Jersey. Push to Walk provides individual workouts and

and other forms of analysis.

Natalie has joined the law firm of Quinn Messer Schulman & Woodcliff Lake (New Jersey) office. Natalie concentrates her practice in family law, including all aspects of divorce, domestic violence, and non-dissolution.

Shannon Grooms DeGrooms '13 is youth advocate at the Los Angeles LGBT Center.

Hilarey Wojtowicz '13 was awarded a New York Women in Communications Foundation "Class of 2016" scholarship for graduate studies in communications. Hilarey is working on her master's in journalism and interactive media online at the University of Missouri.

Scott Kelly '14 finished his second season of professional baseball as an infielder with the Atlantic League's Somerset (New Jersey) Patriots.

Jason Cepparulo '16 and **Aaron Miller '16** are recent hires of MPI, a business valuation and advisory firm in Princeton, New Jersey.

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Brandeis University awarded **Zachary Elliot '16** and **Steven Rodriguez '16** Diversity, Excellence, and Inclusion Scholarships. The program enables students to pursue master's degrees at Brandeis.

Dan McMillan '16 completed his first year as soccer coach for South Hunterdon (New Jersey) High School. Dan played soccer during his time at TCNJ.

Class notes and Family Album photos are available only in the print edition.

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Watch for more stories in our Spring 2017 issue.

Family Album

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Pamela Hanscom Downs '06 and husband, Brandon: a son, Nolan Chamberlin, July 25, 2016. Nolan joins big sister Jordyn, 3.

Rebecca Enright '12 wed **Michael Bunalski '12** on March 12, 2016. Between friends, family, siblings, and cousins, the family includes 27 TCNJ alumni.

Megan Allen Moriarty '08 and husband, **Ryan '08**: a son, Collin John Allen, on Sept. 21, 2016.

Vanessa Wolkovitsch Hohenwarter '06 and husband, **Michael '06**: a son Dean Silas on Feb. 16, 2016. Dean joins twin siblings Leah Paige and Evan Bryce, 2.

Stephanie Sansone Brigandi '07 and husband, **Joe '07**: a son, Cole Joseph, on Jan. 19, 2016.

Natasha Perez '11 wed **Tariq Shabazz '10** on April 30, 2016.

Dana Schillig Bogner '05 and husband, **Ryan**: a daughter, Natalie, on April 15, 2016.

Melanie Taylor Reis '03 and husband, **Christopher**: a daughter, Eliana Catherine, on Jan. 31, 2016. Eliana joins Alexa, 3½.

Christine Fasano Palumbo '07 and husband, **Joe '07**, MA '09: a son, Thomas Raymond, on August 24, 2016. Christine and Joe hope that Thomas will be part of the Class of 2038.

Donna Kardos Yessalovich '05 and husband, **Frank**: a daughter Melissa Marie, on July 14, 2015. Melissa joins big brother Frankie, 2.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Wedding, birth, promotion, anniversary, award, or retirement? Submit news of your major life events online at tcnj.edu/alumni or write us at Alumni Office, The College of New Jersey, PO Box 7718, Ewing, NJ, 08628-0718.

Information in the Class Notes section of *TCNJ Magazine* was submitted for publication. TCNJ staff members try to verify the accuracy of the information; however, the college cannot be responsible for incorrect information contained herein. If you would like us to correct any inaccuracies that have been printed about you, please contact the editor at magazine@tcnj.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

- Mary Hubert Krauss '46
- John "Jack" Ball '50
- Dolores Anderson Fischer '50
- Jean Hartig MacCullough '50
- Joan Willis Bort '51
- George Stiefbold '51
- Phyllis Nielsen Van Nest '53
- Janet Metzler Hintze '56
- Katherine Cerone '60
- Robert Forte '65
- Susan Clayton-Randolph Greene '65
- Gail Clapp Parnicky '66
- James Lenox MA '67
- Jane Federico MED '76
- Paul F. Goepfert '79, MED '80
- Barbara Brown Burnett '83
- Kellie Hinshillwood Smith '95

Faculty/Staff

Professor of History John P. Karras
Visit www.tcnj.edu/karras to read Professor Emeritus Daniel Crofts' tribute to his colleague.



10

things you need to know about...

BEING ROSCOE

ASK JOSH KESTENBAUM '15 what it's like to be the life of the party. As a mild-mannered junior, he worked as Roscoe and found the experience so compelling that he wrote about it for NBC's Today.com, coinciding with the fall Netflix release of *Mascots*, the Christopher Guest mockumentary. —*Ted Johnsen*

1.
No. 1 inviolable rule of being Roscoe: "Don't talk."

2.
Unwritten rule for success as a mascot: "Be friendly."

3.
He was surprised by how much people love mascots: "Everyone is always so happy to see you!"

4.
"A lot of the job is taking pictures with kids, whether they want a photo with a fake lion or not."

5.
Worst part of being the mascot? "The suit is hot and stinks like used football pads."

6.
"I always tried to be the first to wear the suit each shift because it was the only time it would be sweat free."

7.
He once posed for a picture with three women holding up their drinks to Roscoe's mouth, which is not where his was: "I thought I was going to get drenched."

8.
Being the mascot helped to make him more expressive and outgoing. Just ask him to show off his two-handed wave.

9.
He can go up to anyone now and talk to them, which is ironic in that Roscoe is completely nonverbal.

10.
Most of his friends did not know he was Roscoe. "It made it easy to make a fool of myself."

COURTESY, JOSH KESTENBAUM



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LOOKING BACK

LIBRARIES

Between the stacks

Libraries are packed with stories, but what stories can you tell about ours — either the original library in Roscoe L. West Hall or the current one? Show your love by sending your story (max. 200 words) and photos or artifacts to magazine@tcnj.edu or the address above.