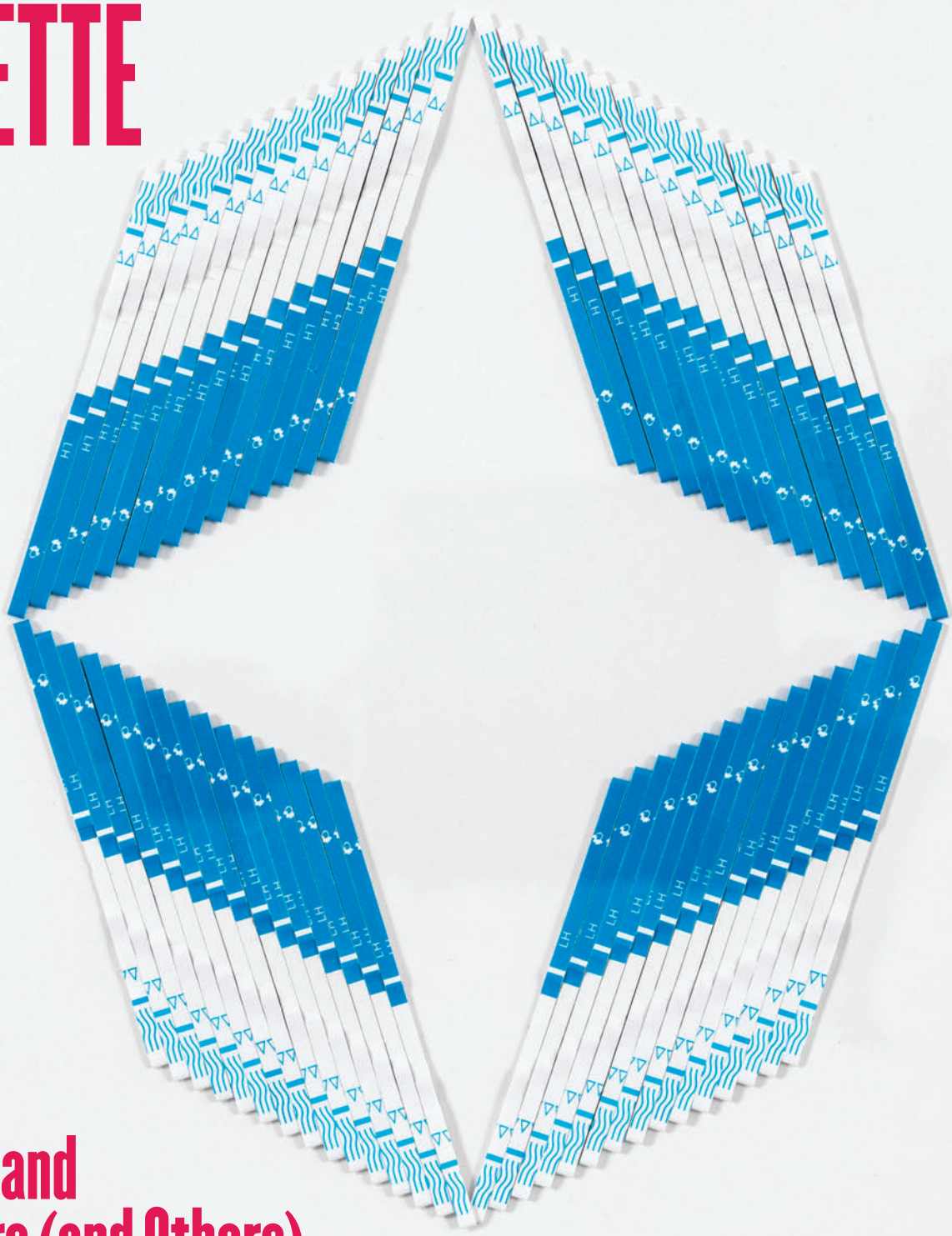
THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE

NOV | DEC
2024



Artists and Mothers (and Others)

The "Mungermen" Get the Last Word

Monumental Sculptor

New Policy on Public Statements

THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE

NOV | DEC
2024

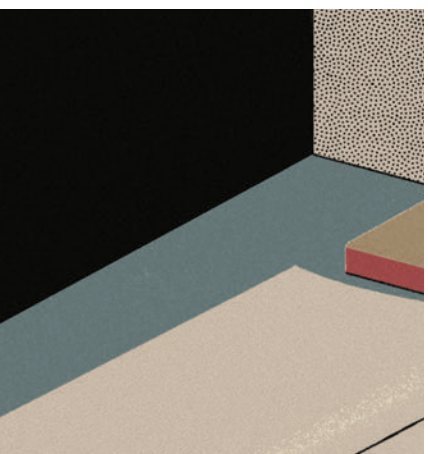
Features

Vol. 123, No. 2

Published by Benjamin Franklin from 1729 to 1748.
Cover | *Tested VII*, pregnancy test strips on paper, 2020, by Aimee Koran GFA'17

thepenngazette.com

Departments



thepenngazette.com

More Sports

More Arts & Culture

More Letters

Latest News

THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE

VOL. 123, NO. 2

EDITOR John Prendergast C'80
SENIOR EDITOR Trey Popp
ASSOCIATE EDITOR Dave Zeitlin C'03
ASSISTANT EDITOR Nicole Perry
ART DIRECTOR Catherine Gontarek
PUBLISHER F. Hoopes Wampler GrEd'13
215-898-7811 fhoopes@upenn.edu
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR Linda Caiazzo
215-898-6811 caiazzo@upenn.edu

EDITORIAL OFFICES
The Pennsylvania Gazette
3910 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3111
PHONE 215-898-5555 **FAX** 215-573-4812
EMAIL gazette@ben.dev.upenn.edu
WEB thepenngazette.com

ALUMNI RELATIONS
215-898-7811
EMAIL alumni@ben.dev.upenn.edu
WEB www.alumni.upenn.edu

UNIVERSITY SWITCHBOARD
215-898-5000

NATIONAL ADVERTISING
IVY LEAGUE MAGAZINE NETWORK Heather Wedlake
EMAIL heatherwedlake@ivymags.com
PHONE 617-319-0995
WEB www.ivymags.com

CHANGE OF ADDRESS? Go to MyPenn, Penn's Online Community, at mypenn.upenn.edu to access and update your own information. Or contact Alumni Records, University of Pennsylvania, Suite 300, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-5099; record@ben.dev.upenn.edu; Phone: 215-898-8136; Fax: 215-573-5118.

THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE (ISSN 1520-4650) is published bimonthly in September, November, January, March, May, and July by Penn Alumni, E. Craig Sweeten Alumni House, 3533 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6226. Periodicals postage paid at Philadelphia, PA, and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pennsylvania Gazette, Alumni Records, Suite 300, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-5099.

Role Models

I first encountered Catherine Ricketts C'09 when she was hosting a panel at Kelly Writers House over Alumni Weekend in May called The Parent Artist—a more inclusive variation on the title of her recent book, *The Mother Artist*. As far as this writer and father of two (now grown) daughters was concerned, it was a great discussion, with a lot of give and take, honest comments, and humor from the panelists, spurred on by Ricketts' thoughtful, on-point questions. It also featured well above the usual number of children in attendance, which made sense given the subject.

That panel comes up in "The Art of Mothering," Molly Petrilla C'06's cover story in this issue, as does a discussion of the similar challenges faced by every artist who also cares for children, parents, or others. But the bulk of the article focuses on Ricketts' quest to find specifically *mothers* who could serve as artistic role models—launched by a mostly fruitless search through the galleries of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where she was working soon after the birth of her first child, and ultimately leading to the 30 artists and mothers whose stories she interweaves with her own in the book. "I was really struck by how many different ways there are to be a mother," Ricketts told Molly, "and how many different ways there are to be an artist."

"I was really struck by how many different ways there are to be a mother and how many different ways there are to be an artist."

One artist featured in the book (also on the Writers House panel) was Aimee Koran GFA'17. Molly interviewed Koran—whose art takes motherhood as its subject and is featured on the cover—and spoke as well with Philadelphia-based tap dancer and mother of three Pamela Hetherington C'01 for the story. She also traces Ricketts' time as a student and her development as a writer at the University, in particular through classes with the music critic and distinguished lecturer at Penn Anthony DeCurtis.

Some 70 years ago, when it became part of the newly formed Ivy League, Penn said a complicated goodbye to its history as a big-time football power. That experience was still fresh in the memories of the remaining "Mungermen" (so called for their allegiance to beloved coach of the era George Munger Ed'33) interviewed by Dan Rottenberg C'64 for his new book *The Price We Paid: An Oral History of Penn's Struggle to Join the Ivy League, 1950–55,* excerpted in this issue.

Rottenberg—himself a journalistic role model of persistence and productivity—was profiled by associate editor Dave Zeitlin C'03 a while back in these pages ["Professional Contrarian," Sep|Oct 2022]. Both a *DP* sportswriter and a member of the football team as a student, he's also the author of *Fight on Pennsylvania: A Century of Red and Blue Football,* which covers the period from 1876 to 1985. The new book offers a vivid window on how the players perceived Penn football's rocky transition to its modern era both at the time and in retrospect, and represents what may be the "last word" on the subject, since several of the men interviewed have since died.

Coincidentally, Rottenberg was once sued (unsuccessfully) by former Philadelphia Mayor Frank Rizzo, who was also the subject of a sculpture created by Zenos Frudakis FA'82 GFA'83—profiled in "Sculpting a Life Story," with text by JoAnn Greco and photography by Michael Branscom. While that work fell victim to controversy (about Rizzo, not Frudakis), his overall oeuvre—which ranges from historical figures like Benjamin Franklin and Frederick Douglass to Muhammad Ali, golfer Payne Stewart, and singer Don McLean—is more generally beloved. At this point in his 30-plus years as a sculptor, "I can be picky about what I take on," Frudakis says. "A lot of these people are personal heroes."

U of P

Homecoming Weekend

FEATURING ARTS & CULTURE AT PENN

NOVEMBER 15-17, 2024

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, CA. 1930, DEXTER PRESS PEARL RIVER, NY

PennAlumni
University of Pennsylvania

REGISTER
ONLINE TODAY!

WWW.ALUMNI.UPENN.EDU/HOMECOMING

DISCOVER PENN
DURING HOMECOMING WEEKEND!

ARTS: Join us for a guided tour showcasing the best of the **Penn Museum,** where you can explore world-class art galleries and immerse yourself in history. Participate in the **Gallery Hop** to discover Penn's numerous outstanding art galleries. Support fellow alumni by browsing and enjoying the creations at the **Alumni Arts Fair.**

CULTURE: Discover the stunning campus sculptures and marvel at Penn's architectural masterpieces. Engage with insightful lectures featuring Penn Alumni and faculty. Celebrate Penn's vibrant diversity at "**The Taste,**" a **Penn Spectrum** community event featuring local fare.

TRADITION: Join the Class of 2028 and the **Morris Arboretum & Gardens** for the annual class tree planting, a cherished tradition that grows with each new generation. Raise a toast to dear old Penn at **Quaker Fest,** then head to Franklin Field to cheer on the Quakers as they take on the Harvard Crimson. Sing along to your favorite student or alumni band at the 11th annual **Blutt Band Slam.**

---

the Gala
ALUMNI AWARD OF MERIT
EIGHTY-NINTH ANNUAL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15
6:00 - 10:00 PM
ANNENBERG CENTER

Join the Penn community for an evening of food, fun, and celebration at the 89th Annual Alumni Award of Merit Gala! Meet and mingle with fellow alumni and friends from across the University as we honor those who have demonstrated outstanding service to Penn.

For the list of award recipients and additional information,
visit **www.alumni.upenn.edu/aamgala**.

QUESTIONS? Call **215.898.7811** or email **alumni@ben.dev.upenn.edu**.

scan here

@pennalumni | #HomeSweetPenn

Engaging support, gratitude for nothing, home work, and more.

We Welcome Letters

Please email us at gazette@ben.dev.upenn.edu. Letters should refer to material published in the magazine and may be edited for clarity, civility, and length. For more letters, visit thepenngazette.com.

Join a New Homecoming Tradition

In his cover story "The Unexpected Entrepreneurs" [Sep|Oct 2024] Dave Zeitlin C'03 captured the talent, excitement, and diversity of projects and ideas in 10 years of President's Prize winners.

Alumni have rallied to support these incredible people. Behind the scenes, Leanne Huebner W'90 (founder of Minds Matter), Karen Schub Epstein C'92 W'92 (PennPAC executive director), and Harvey Floyd (investor, executive coach, and lecturer at the Aresty Institute of Executive Education at the Wharton School), have devoted countless hours to developing content and recruiting professional pro bono resources to support these entrepreneurs.

Elise Betz (senior executive director, Alumni Relations) has ensured that a President's Prize Winner Showcase will be a permanent feature of Homecoming Weekend programming. This year's virtual session on November 13 at noon will be introduced by Penn President Emerita Amy Gutmann Hon'22, who launched the prizes in 2014. Registration for the session is available on the Penn Alumni Homecoming site: alumni.upenn.edu/homecoming.

Ann Reese CW'74, Rye, NY

Alumni Assets

As the executive director of PennPAC, a community of 2,000-plus Penn alumni working together to strengthen nonprofits through pro bono strategic consulting, I have had the pleasure of working with many of the President's Engagement and Innovation Prize (PEP/PIP) winners over the years. Each one inspires me—their innovative ideas, intense passion, and true commitment to change is remarkable.

"I have immense Penn pride in seeing the difference the past PEP/PIP winners are making—and look forward to hearing about the plans of future winners."

When Rowana Miller C'22, executive director of Cosmic Writers and a 2022 PEP winner, asked me to join a new alumni initiative focused on better supporting PEP/PIP winners, I jumped at the chance. The University possesses the resources to fuel these promising ventures; ensuring winners know how to access them is crucial. In addition, the assets the alumni can offer—their time, experience, networks, and capital—can make all the difference in launching these young entrepreneurs. When our team asked other alumni if they were interested in getting involved, they couldn't say "yes!" fast enough.

Working with Rowana, Ann Reese CW'74, Lee Spelman Doty W'76, Leanne Huebner W'90, and Harvey Floyd II on this effort has been a true privilege. I have immense Penn pride in seeing the difference the past PEP/ PIP winners are making—and look forward to hearing about the plans of future winners. The PennPAC community will be ready to support them on their journey from ideas to impact.

Karen Schub Epstein C'92 W'92, Mamaroneck, NY

Not Nothing, Just Something Different

This letter is sent to express gratitude to College senior Lila Dubois, whose essay "My Summer of Nothing" ["Notes from the Undergrad," Sep|Oct 2024] brought perspective to this Penn alum, who was greatly in need.

Ms. Dubois writes of her summer, and thoughts that she should have done more with her days. That is exactly (and painfully) where I have found myself recently. After 40 years of quite full days devoted to the needs of various employers, I find my days now devoted to my five-year-old granddaughter.

It's not like I believe the work that filled my days previously was particularly impressive, but—after a drive to Speech class, after the Kindergarten drop-off and pick-up, after buying a gift for a weekend

birthday party, after making dinner and time at the park—just a nagging sense of, *Really? That's how I spent the day?*

Ms. Dubois' point is helpful: It's not a day of *nothing*; it's a day of … something different. A child seeking emotional solace by leaving her bed in the middle of the night to sleep on the floor next to Saba is not akin to completing a financial report for the board of directors. It is something different—very different.

My thanks again to Ms. Dubois. And, truly, the photos included in the feature on Harvey Finkle ["The Instrument Is Yourself," Sep|Oct 2024] that "depicted women nurturing young children"—those were a great help, too.

Hail Pennsylvania!

Matthew Arbit C'83, Highland Park, IL

A View from the (Home Office) Trenches

I read Molly Petrilla's article "Doom or Boom" ["Gazetteer," Sep|Oct 2024] and immediately thought of my own situation as a consultant in nanomaterials. I operate completely out of my home, as do many of my friends who are fellow alums in the same situation.

As you will be able to tell from my graduation date below, I have had the time in my career to develop (and to learn how to develop) many contacts from whom I can get a contract. These people are dispersed throughout the world, but with video conferencing it doesn't matter whether they're in Perth, Bordeaux, or Toronto. The same is true for my various support services, such as my patent agent, who operates from his home on the Outer Banks in North Carolina. The savings from avoiding the expense of a physical office are considerable, not to mention the tax break I get for using my home office. Of course, in the absence of others, one needs a strong sense of self-discipline to stay focused, but my Penn education provided me with that.

I am working with a group of investors to build a nanomaterials manufacturing plant here in New England, but outside of a handful of production technicians the plan calls for no one else to actually work on-site. The applications engineers, the VP of production, and even the quality control people will all work remotely. So perhaps the trend is expanding well beyond office workers.

Mark Banash C'82, Bedford, NH

Focus On What Matters

Thanks for the article "(Re)introducing *In Principle and Practice*" ["Gazetteer," Sep|Oct 2024] on Penn's new strategic framework.

Question: Under the section *Lead on the great challenges of our time*, why not list issues that genuinely demand immediate attention? Climate change and other agenda-driven issues are minor in comparison to our looming national deficit and debt; our ever-expanding, unchecked, and ineffective federal government; and, worst of all, the disaster we call our public education system. (Have you been to a school board or committee meeting lately?) I hope the University can focus on what matters. I know others share my concern.

Bruce Bergwall C'80, Newburyport, CT

Not All the Same, But All Valuable

I read Trey Popp's article "The Newcomer Dividend" [Jul|Aug 2024] with more than normal interest. For the last 30-plus years, as a volunteer, I've been coordinating a mobile feeding program for the Salvation Army in my home county outside of New York City. For the last 20–25 years, almost all of those we serve have been undocumented immigrants from from South and Central America—primarily Guatemala, Ecuador, and El Salvador. We serve about 250 people each week—a combination of *jornalero*s (day laborers) and families.

Based upon my experiences over the years, I have two comments about the article:

First, I fully agree with Wharton Professor Zeke Hernandez's comment about pro-immigrant pundits who "paper over the differences. They use slogans like … 'Deep down, we're all the same.' But that doesn't hold water, because we're not the same, right?"

We are a nation of immigrants, from our founding to the present. And this has contributed mightily to the richness of the American culture and society. But we are not all the same. Our experience as immigrants has been very much shaped by our region of origin—e.g., Europe vs. Central America—and our ethnicity and race—e.g., white vs. non-white.

Second, the economic contribution of immigrants—particularly those in service rather than professional roles (such as landscape workers, restaurant support staff, etc.)—needs to be better understood and valued by those of us who receive these services. The absence of these services would certainly impact the quality of our lives. It'd be great if Professor Hernandez, with the the support of others, could use existing and possibly newly developed data sets to quantify the economic value of professional and nonprofessional immigrants, sorted as feasible, e.g., region of origin.

Here's hoping we will be a nation that continues to value and welcome the contribution of immigrants, whatever that contribution is.

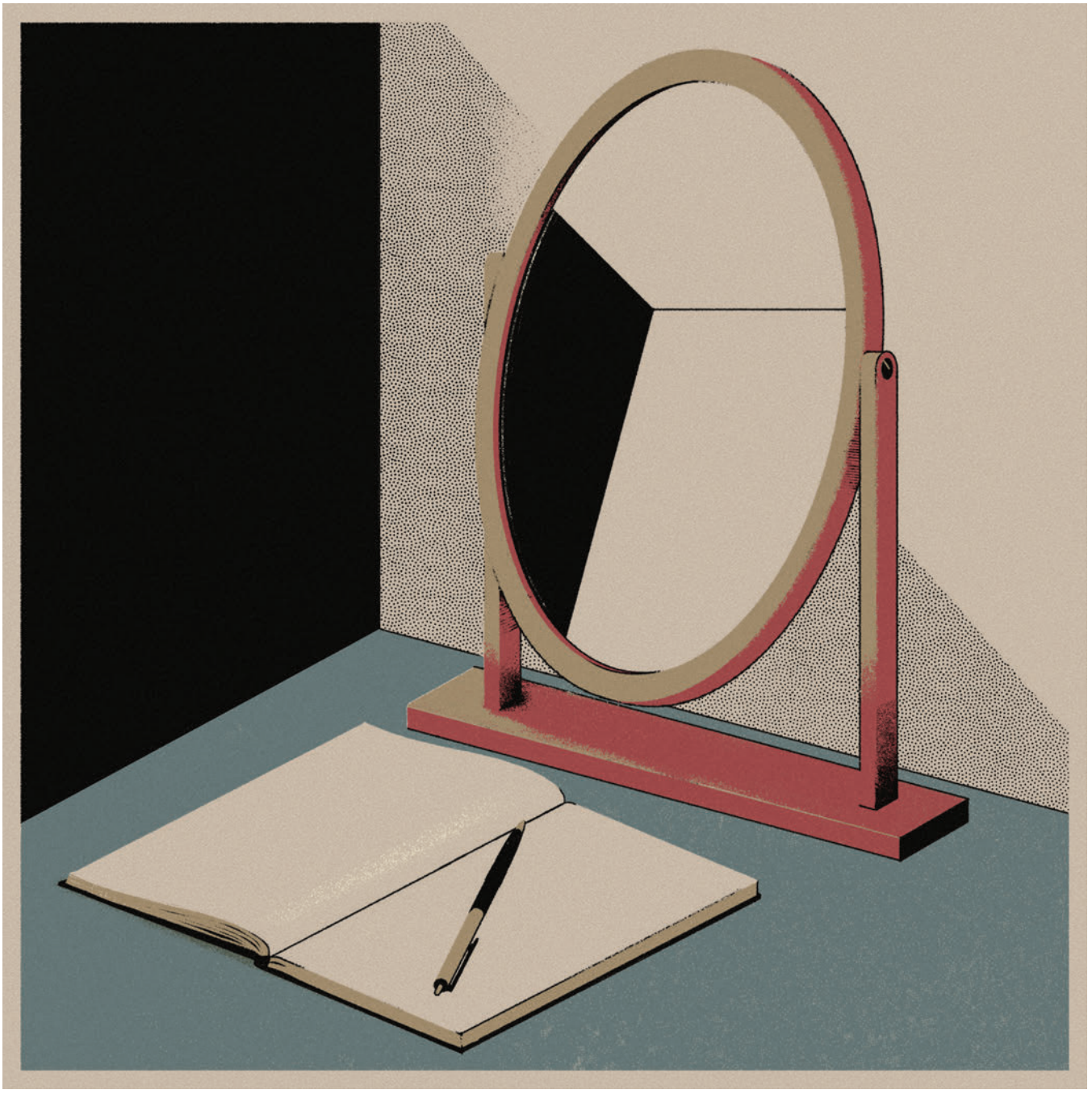
Jim Waters WG'71, Pearl River, NY

Keep Up the Fine Work

I receive and read the *Pennsylvania Gazette* because our daughter received a master's in bioethics from the University of Pennsylvania. I write now to tell you that I believe the publication that you generate is superb.

The Jul|Aug 2024 issue had a truly information-based comment on immigration ["The Newcomer Dividend"], the article "Supporting Supportive Housing" ["Gazetteer"] was important, and the item involving Ruth Katz ["Our Policies, Our Health"] combined substance with personality. I enjoy substantially all that appears in the *Gazette*. Please keep up the fine work.

Don Bergman, parent, Westport, CT



Self-Portrait

Orwell says that at 50 a man has the face he deserves. And at 92?

By Nick Lyons

Illustration by Juan Bernabeu

It's not an unpleasant face, not to me. The flesh is furrowed, freckled, and the eyes squint. Decades have passed since the hair turned partly gray, mostly white, the beard likewise. There's a keratosis in the middle of the forehead, black, the size of a half dollar. Now and again someone asks, "Is Ash Wednesday early this year?"

Others have wondered if I'm Indian or if the mark has some religious meaning, a cult perhaps. But it's just there—only a skin blemish, not the melanoma that took my oldest son. It's less potent than a basal-cell carcinoma, but more visible.

Orwell says that at 50 a man has the face he deserves. And at 92? Keratosis included?

It's an old face and lived in, but not as profoundly worn and wise as a Rembrandt self-portrait, beseiged by pain and the knowledge pain often brings, and the mark great art sometimes leaves on its maker, and the losses age cannot forget.

It's an old face and lived in, but not as profoundly worn and wise as a Rembrandt self-portrait, beseiged by pain and the knowledge pain often brings.

There is nothing there of Dorian Gray's portrait—that monstrous painted home to his every nasty sin. But my portrait in the mirror says something, or is trying to do so, and I sneak a look at it now and then, to see if it's in a mood for revelation.

The eyes know more. They have definitely changed. Despite the squint they register some serious stuff and a touch of whimsy, and surely worlds they never knew when I was younger. They may not yet see a world in a grain of sand, and may never do so, but they know the difference between sand in an oyster and in an eye.

At the edges of sleep, when I first lie down and before I rise, my head often fills with images, scenes, remnants of events past—and words, so many words, words that want to be fashioned into phrases and sentences, words that want me to convert them into gold, like Rumpelstiltskin his straw. Much of this I forget but sometimes not. Does this transient dreaming appear on my face?

In those tense years when I only vaguely dreamed of transforming myself, when I found neither hope nor skill within myself, I often had a tired, bewildered look. I could hardly shape words, and never lingered with them. Friends wondered if I had wandered off the rails. One frank teacher advised me that saints with powers of levitation could not rise from the pit I'd dug.

I feel no compulsion to boast how I climbed out, how so many flaws and failings vanished and how something in me sparked and grew into whatever it has now been for decades, something self-sustaining, quietly stubborn, even proud of itself.

Friends my age, even younger, have finished their journey; one told me several times, "Nick, all I want is the ticket out of here." Quietly, I don't share that solution. Still, age has brought challenges: Sunday follows Sunday too quickly; my back pains erupt too soon after I begin to walk; reading a book takes hours longer; I need minutes to untangle even moderately complex thoughts, and most road signs take seconds to understand, seconds too long, so I've quit wheels.

Except for the black spot on my forehead, I sport few enough marks or scars of age. I don't dwell on old grievances, false hopes, a multitude of regrets, painful losses. I write a lot and have cheated memory loss by writing very short essays. I can get my arms around these, see them whole, then fuss with them until they sound unfussed-with.

I keep wanting to write better. I like to hear good comments about what I write but I've grown such gnarled alligator skin that even a snotty or dead-wrong review might sting for 30 seconds but mostly only draws a smile. The writing is what counts lately, not what happens to it; making it keeps me on this side of senility.

My eyes wake fully when I see Ruth or any of my children, or one of my grandchildren. And I may have fewer friends now, but those left, and a few new ones, brighten my eyes. My best passions are still intact. My worst have mostly slipped downstream.

Today I've spent half an hour looking at the face. I don't rate this narcissistic; I look at myself and write about myself because I worked so hard to save this person and know him better than all else. Something in the writing itself has a voice that is kin to my face—the swift craftiness of basketball, several thousand books, my improbable midlife shape shift, my wild and passionate love of literature, the satisfaction of having shared much with classes, a few years of ghostwriting in other voices, editing the work of hundreds of others, some raw experimenting, fathering, loving deeply and unconditionally, a smorgasbord of disparate occasions, even fly fishing.

My late wife often said that she loved self-portraits because she never had to flatter the model; I don't want to cheat it.

"Peel your own image from the mirror," writes Derek Walcott. "Sit. Feast on your life." At 92 I try to live faithfully with who I now am. I dream of what the face might become—whatever the threats, the unfathomable future. In another five years, perhaps six or seven, how and how much will my image in the mirror change?

Nick Lyons W'53 is a longtime *Gazette* contributor.

After the Rain

A dispatch from Asheville in the wake of Hurricane Helene.

By Dennis Drabelle

The Grail Moviehouse, "which shows flicks that do not insult one's intelligence," was among the losses in Asheville's River Arts District.

To paraphrase a lyric from the 1956 Broadway musical *My Fair Lady*: in Asheville, Weaverville, and Hendersonville, hurricanes hardly ever happen. Or so almost everyone living in and around those western North Carolina towns believed—not least my partner, Mike, and I. Weren't we hundreds of miles inland from both the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean? And hadn't we fetched Mike's mother from a storm's path in Savannah, Georgia, to shelter with us in Asheville a few years ago? Accordingly, on September 26 we and most other residents of the region ignored a county directive to evacuate the valleys of the Swannanoa and French Broad Rivers as Hurricane Helene bore down.

Mike and I did take precautions, though. Before going to bed that night, with rain falling and a forecast accumulation of inches in the double digits, we stockpiled jugs of water on a kitchen counter, filled up the bathtub with tap water, and did likewise with the sink in our garage. Candles, matches, and flashlights were at the ready. It was still raining when we woke up the next morning, but the power was on, our cell phones could send and receive messages, and the internet was accessible.

That proved to be the lull after the storm.

By 8 a.m. electricity was gone, our phones had quit working, we had no internet, and when we turned on our faucets, out came a sad drool. Yet we were among the lucky ones. Our house, which stands on fairly high ground in our neighborhood, Haw Creek, was undamaged. Scores of branches littered our yard, but the trees themselves were still upright. In our nine years of living in Asheville, the only outage to last more than a few hours had resulted from a 13-inch snowfall, so we expected normality to return within a day or two. Ten days later, our place is still without electricity or running water.

I repeat: we are lucky. As of this writing, the storm has taken more than 200 lives, and hundreds more of the living have been rescued from flooded areas. Asheville's River Arts District has been wiped out, and our beloved Grail Moviehouse, which shows flicks that do not insult one's intelligence, is gone. Officials at our arboretum estimate that 2,000 of its trees are down or damaged. And the Swannanoa River has become so acidic that anyone stepping into it with boots on will have them eaten right off their feet.

No, wait—that last item has been cited by Asheville city councilwoman Maggie Ullman as a prime example of the false rumors circulating to the detriment of regional recovery. Staying out of the

Photo by Davida Horwitz

Swannanoa is a good idea, but not because of illusory footwear-devouring pathogens in its water.

As disasters are wont to do, Helene has united its victims as never before. For an example, look no further than our horseshoe-shaped subdivision, Stonebridge. On that first day after, all of its residents were mired in ignorance. We had no sources of outside information—no TV or radio, no landline phones or cell service, no newspaper or mail. Then we remembered our car radios and turned them on, only to get little or no help there either. Not until the second day did we obtain reliable information as the city of Asheville teamed up with Blue Ridge Public Radio to air a daily briefing. And it took a while for even that to be useful. Early on, "assessing" was the operative word. Duke Energy was assessing how to get electricity flowing again. The city and county were assessing damage to the water system and roads blocked by downed trees. In truth, the powers that be didn't know much more than we did, and, tiresome as the word might be, *assessing* was what had to be done.

Meanwhile, the food in our fridges would last awhile, and Mike and I have a gas stove in a neighborhood where electric ones are the norm. Lighting the burners with matches, we were able to cook or warm up simple meals—leftovers, canned goods, scrambled eggs. Other residents rolled out their portable stoves and grills and put on their aprons.

Bodily functions were another matter. Flushing the toilet had become a chore, and we abided by a saying I'd heard in California during periods of drought: "Pee Don't. Poo Do." Before taking care of the latter, we had to remove the tank's top and fill it with water by hand.

The president of our homeowners' association and his husband have a generator, from which they ran a line to a many-sided plug. Need to charge your laptop? Come on up. Your phone is dead? Bring it. Mark and George live on even higher ground than Mike and I do, and by the third day people were gathering in their driveway to make and receive phone calls. They also repurposed their swimming pool as a well from which anyone was free to haul away a bucketful of water suitable for anything but drinking.

For exercise, we walked round and round that horseshoe, socializing more than we do at our annual meetings or the occasional social held in the commons. That was how we got exciting drive-by news from a neighbor: he'd just come back from the nearest Home Depot, which was selling packs of drinkable bottled water. We drove there straightaway and joined the first line of many to come. Half an hour later, we each had our allotted 12-pack.

By the fourth day, our phones were working well enough to receive two offers from worried friends to host us at their homes. Still without running water and electricity, tired of having to go to bed every night at 7 p.m., even tired of reading, we accepted the offers seriatim, the first in Athens, Georgia, which we'd visited several times and know our way around, the second in Washington, DC, our hometown before we moved further south.

But with those possibilities came a new problem. Our car's gas tank was about a quarter full, and Athens was a three-hour drive away. Only a handful of Asheville gas stations were open, and the wait for service was said to be two hours or more. We heard credible rumors that gas was readily available in towns an hour-and-a-half southward, but did we have enough fuel to reach them? We dithered until a friend with no intention of leaving gave us a pledge: "I have 300 miles worth of gas in my car, and if you run out on the highway, call me and I'll come pick you up." With that insurance policy, we packed up, got going, and made it to the appropriately named Travelers Rest, South Carolina, where we treated ourselves to the luxury of filling the tank.

After a week in Athens, we returned home to check on our house, pick up our mail, and repack for the DC trip. I set aside a couple of hours to drive downtown and confirm what I believed was the case. Despite rumors to the contrary, the stylish Art Deco heart of Asheville was intact, and although few businesses were open and car and foot traffic was sparse (the state's governor, Roy Cooper, had warned tourists off until further notice), literal signs of volunteerism and creative cooperation were everywhere. A typical example: "FREE FOOD AT BOMBA, OCTOBER 6, 1 P.M. TILL SUPPLIES LAST. MUCH LOVE TO ALL." Stacks of bottled water sat on street corners for the taking, and the Basilica of St. Lawrence was providing free laundry service in the church parking lot. Hazel Twenty Boutique, a women's clothing store, had transformed itself into a distribution center for donated clothing. "We've received so much stuff that we're only accepting winter garments now," the owner, Lexi DiYeso, told me. "And we've outgrown this spot—we'll be moving to a bigger one soon." Asked when she thought her shop would reopen for business, she replied, "I have no idea."

While driving back to Stonebridge, I heard a familiar voice on the radio. It was Jim McCallister, a friend from our book group, who after moving to the region dove into politics and got himself elected mayor of Woodfin, a small town adjacent to Asheville. "We'll come back better than ever," he cheer-led. That is not only what we all need to believe. It may also be true.

On a highway out of town later that afternoon, Mike and I noticed a miniparade of bright yellow trucks going the other way, each with a cargo of 36-inch pipes. The spectacle was self-explanatory: water pipes to the rescue, the start of Asheville's comeback.

Dennis Drabelle G'66 L'69 is a *Gazette* contributor and the author, most recently, of *The Power of Scenery: Frederick Law Olmsted and the Origin of National Parks*.

The Campus Controversy Complex

Collegiate speech rules are not as dystopian as some would have you believe.

By Adrian Daub

Once upon a time, students at the University of Illinois were required to attend a morning service in the university chapel, listen to a faculty member read "a portion of the New Testament," "repeat the Lord's Prayer," and "sing religious hymns." A student named Foster North objected; the university (a state institution) expelled him. North sued, but in March 1891 the college prevailed before the Illinois Supreme Court. Until the late 1960s, the University of Illinois' practice was regarded as constitutional, due to a doctrine called *in loco parentis*. The university, the reasoning went, related to the students as parents relate to their children. As the Illinois Supreme Court wrote in its judgment against North, the university "had the lawful right to adopt all reasonable rules and regulations for the government of the university, and in pursuance of that right did adopt the rule in question."

The rules universities could frame by invoking *in loco parentis* were almost limitless and frequently bizarre. Until 1970 women students at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, were forbidden from "spend[ing] the night in a motel or hotel without special permission from their parents or college officials." Other colleges banned jeans, Sunday dancing, blasphemy—or political activities.

The beginning of the end of *in loco parentis* came with the civil rights movement in the 1960s. The US Supreme Court ruled in 1961 that a public institution could not expel students for taking part in a protest. The Free Speech Movement in Berkeley was in part an attempt to counter the paternalism of *in loco parentis*. The notion that American universities are, or once were, precincts of perfect freedom of expression that have since lost their way relies on a considerable amnesia. And bizarrely, it wasn't until after the abolition of *in loco parentis*, Sunday dancing bans, and the like—roughly since the 1970s—that public discourse in the United States became fixated on supposed threats to free speech on campus.

Historically, this became very clear in the late-20th-century panic around "speech codes": language rules against harmful or hurtful speech. Many universities, wrote Jonathan Rauch in his 1993 book *Kindly Inquisitors*, "are doing exactly what a university, of all institutions, should not do: defining offensive speech as quasi-violent behavior, and treating it accordingly." The debate about such supposed speech codes ran alongside the panic around political correctness. *Time* magazine famously claimed that "nowhere is the First Amendment more imperiled than on college campuses." This fear found its expression in legislation. A Collegiate Speech Protection Act was proposed in Congress, but it never passed. California, on the other hand, enacted the Leonard Law in 1992, which prohibits private universities from punishing students for statements protected by the First Amendment. It (of course) exempted religious institutions.

The problem, however, was that the whole debate was based on a deliberate distortion of university practices. The debate assumed that universities had let their students and professors say all sorts of things for centuries and now were suddenly imposing narrow limits on campus discourse—all in the name of feminism and anti-racism. As we have seen, the first part of that story is incorrect—US universities have sought to curtail campus speech for centuries, and in far more draconian ways than today. But the second

Illustration by Martha Rich

part of it also turns out to be bunk. As John K. Wilson wrote in 1997:

> No one really knows how many colleges have speech codes for the simple reason that no one has ever defined what a speech code is. If a speech code means that colleges have the authority to punish students for certain verbal expressions that are threatening or abusive or offensive, then every college has a speech code and always has had one.

Indeed, there were plenty of traditional rules on the books, but they were tacitly accepted as irrelevant or baked in; they didn't seem to merit reflection or media attention, but were simply part of how colleges had always run. Meanwhile any attempt to clarify or change existing rules was treated like the passage of laws. Many of the colleges that we read about in articles from the 1980s had not really created speech codes so much as simply rewritten outdated codes of conduct. Out were the arcane holdovers of *in loco parentis*; in came rules that brought the university into compliance with Title IX.

Many of the old rules, and many of the new ones, were never enforced. But the criticism of the new speech codes in the media and in conservative legal circles very often reverted to what-if scenarios: what *might* be prohibited, who *might* be ensnared, what *might* no longer be sayable. This mode of storytelling became a mainstay of the various college panics—from David Sacks and Peter Thiel warning in 1995 that students could get expelled for using the "n-word"; to psychologist Jordan Peterson, who rose to prominence in 2016 by spuriously claiming a new law in Ontario, Canada, would "elevate into hate speech" his misgendering of students; all the way to the winter of 2022, when media worldwide ran with the story that Stanford University would punish students or faculty for using the word "American."

Certainly the attempts to adapt the old rules of conduct to the requirements of a modern university (and the end of *in loco parentis*) were not without problems—some of the updates were ridiculous, ham-handed, or ill-considered. Nevertheless, from the late 1980s and onward, media reports deliberately misunderstood the processes of decision-making and conflict resolution at universities.

Many of the most commonly cited excessive rules on campuses were withdrawn immediately by the colleges themselves, quashed by the courts, or were drafts that were never implemented. In the folklore surrounding political correctness, however, they continued to be treated as actually existing and applied regulation. What's more, critics did not distinguish between pronouncements of values embraced by the university and university requirements for students. Just because a college described a particular word as hurtful did not mean that its use would result in disciplinary action. And finally, critics were happy to fudge who exactly counted as "the university" that "prohibited" or "mandated" certain kinds of speech.

The conservative intellectual Roger Kimball wrote about one such regulation in *Tenured Radicals*:

> At Smith College, a brochure is distributed to incoming students rehearsing a long list of politically incorrect attitudes and prejudices that will not be tolerated, including the sin of "lookism", i.e., the prejudice of believing that some people are more attractive than others.

Notice the expression "at Smith College." It looks innocent enough, but it's actually part of an elaborate shell game. In the fall of 1990, the Smith Office of Student Affairs had put out a pamphlet, intended as a guide for first-semester students. This pamphlet was Kimball's source.

An American university consists of a huge number of dean's offices, vice provosts, countless student groups, a mad thicket of campus offices and proliferating titles, in which even locals easily lose their way. They constitute a cacophony of competing voices, some committed to pedagogy, some to harmonious coexistence, some to reducing the legal exposure of the university, yet others to compliance with federal standards. That some of the endless stream of text spewed forth by these hundreds of thousands of outlets will occasionally contain nonsense isn't that surprising. That critics manage to pick out and distill—from this mad tangle of opinions, guides, and policies—a single rule, admonition, or metaphor and then present it as though it were to be understood as a legal mandate would be impressive if it didn't also distort reality so badly.

In anecdotes about political correctness, there was always the moment when the real university—with its various departments, overburdened administrators, independently acting student groups—disappears and suddenly "the" university emerges as a single monolithic entity. "The" university says, forbids, or commands. "The" university demands, dictates, defines. This, too, is a form of fictionality—whose very vagueness makes it all the more useful to higher education's adversaries.

To use the Smith example, the staff of the Office of Student Affairs, in the words of Smith College's current website, "helps students access a variety of services, programs, and activities." This isn't "the" university, this isn't the president, the faculty senate, the dean of students. If we want to be glib, these folks are—please don't cancel me—pedagogically sophisticated camp counselors. Their words carry no legal force. Kimball's book reframes a well-meaning and overeager suggestion as a commandment handed down by the university administration that made "lookism" a punishable offense. Similarly, who was behind Stanford's supposed prohibition of the word "American"? Not the president, not the provost, not the faculty senate; the IT department had drawn up a list of *possible* terms to avoid on official Stanford websites.

Speech codes were and remain therefore unreliable indicators for the actual state of

freedom of expression at American colleges and universities. But one thing that has made this fixation on them so potent politically is that there is no way to get the speech question right: If universities are seen restricting speech, they will come under fire for illiberalism; if universities are seen as not restricting speech enough, they will come under fire for moral relativism. In early December 2023, the US House of Representatives held hearings with the presidents of Harvard, Penn, and MIT about their efforts to combat antisemitism on their campuses. The hearings themselves were long, but the clip that attained infamy featured the three presidents unable to say whether a "call for genocide of Jews" would run counter to their antiharassment policies. Their answer, notoriously, was "it depends"—an "it depends" that, as Congressman Ritchie Torres put it, showed "that our college campuses are lacking in moral common sense."

You may think the answer "it depends" is unsatisfactory, that it substitutes technocratic legalese for a moral compass. But there are two things to note about this answer. First—and most obviously—the answer is correct. The kinds of slogans that Representative Elise Stefanik, who was running the hearings, had offered up might indeed run counter to a university's code of conduct—something that would have to be determined with a hearing and a fairly involved disciplinary process that would almost certainly come to involve the actual legal system. This frustrates many within the academy, but it ought not to have frustrated the politicians questioning the presidents—for they helped make this a reality.

After all—and perhaps less obviously—the reason "it depends" is the right answer is that for decades now universities have bent over backwards to accommodate periodic freak-outs over free speech controversies on their campuses. The lax rules about speech have nothing to do with antisemitism, but rather with the wide berth universities are—sometimes by law—required to give to student speech. Private universities do not have to permit all speech that conforms to the First Amendment, but any time they (or, at least, famous, nonreligious, and supposedly left-leaning ones) deviate from it, they can be assured of a torrent of public opprobrium. Congressman Kevin Kiley, who suggested that soon-to-resign Harvard president Claudine Gay was hedging on what speech was punishable on her campus because she regarded "the forces of antisemitism" as a "constituency," had it exactly backwards. It was because of people like Kevin Kiley. After years of being charged with moral rigorism, colleges and universities had positioned themselves as always erring on the side of free speech. But the same actors who had excoriated them for their censoriousness then turned around and chided them for their lack of censoriousness.

What remains in each case is the moral fervor. Faced with campuses muddling through competing impulses and competing stakeholders, faced with administrators who aren't actually trained to be administrators, the one thing no one seems to be able to see is the haplessness, the myopia, and the timidity of these places. And anyone who points this out is accused of making excuses. Yet it is telling that those who insist on portraying campus kerfuffles as harbingers of a Leftist Armageddon are so keen to avoid truly comprehensive accounts of current controversies and appeal instead to their audiences' gauzy memories of a supposedly prelapsarian past. It's a nifty trick. Although the number of people getting to know college as it is today may be greater than comparable numbers 40 or 70 years ago, there will of course always be more and more Americans who see the institution in the rearview mirror. At that point, the generalized nostalgia of the aging meets a well-stocked cultural reservoir of prejudices about supposedly ever-declining standards, lower quality of teaching, the various faults of "millennials" or whatever generation we are worrying about this week.

But perhaps there is another dynamic reinforcing this distorted dystopian view of contemporary collegiate life. The campus is full of young people who, for the first time, are developing their own rituals and discourses relatively independently of adults. It's not always a pleasant process; it's deeply eerie and certainly also depressing for parents. And parents are perhaps torn between the feeling that they know better than those children and the sense that they no longer understand them at all.

Since the 1960s at least, this intergenerational aspect—the fact that, whatever else it is about, it is also always about ungrateful youth—has given this conflict its enormous power. In the mid-1960s, the university had a far more central position in US society: Professors were more present in the media than today, and the point of college was far more self-evident—between the space program, the military-industrial complex, and the GI Bill. Academic perspectives were a natural part of public discourse. In the last 50 years, the university has at least partially lost this position, but the belief that one can infer what the Left is up to, based on the activities of a handful of professors and students at a few elite universities, is more deeply rooted than ever. The panic over Marxist professors never really caught on outside of conservative circles—in the end college professors were just not that important. But when the politics of the students themselves became an issue with the advent of the worry over political correctness, when prejudice against the university campus was linked to a generational conflict, a modern American mythology was born.

Adrian Daub G'04 Gr'08 is a professor of humanities, German studies, and comparative literature at Stanford University. Excerpted from *The Cancel Culture Panic, How an American Obsession Went Global*, by Adrian Daub, published by Stanford University Press,

Denial of Coverage

Climate change is stressing our fragile property insurance system. We've been here before.

By Katherine Hempstead

As a changing climate increases property damage from hail, water, wind, and fire, insurers around the nation are raising rates, dropping customers, and exiting markets altogether. In a growing number of states—extending far beyond usual suspects like Florida and California—homeowners are increasingly presented with coverage options that are unaffordable, inadequate, or nonexistent. In 2023, property insurers reported losing money in close to 20 states. A growing share of homeowners are going without coverage. Meanwhile, insurers have resorted to flying drones over their policyholders' rooftops, looking for reasons to drop them.

The recent instability in the home insurance market raises troubling questions for homeowners and policymakers alike. But although the context has changed, these problems are not new. We are witnessing another episode in a long narrative that has played out repeatedly throughout our history, whenever the gap between what people demand and what insurers are willing to provide becomes unacceptably wide and spills out into the public square. Over time, nearly every line of insurance business has faced a crisis over access and affordability.

Unfortunately, we have not been particularly adroit at addressing these problems when they emerge, and many remain unresolved. This is in part a byproduct of the fragmented nature of insurance regulation, which is largely conducted by states. There, differences in political values, financial resources, and exposure to risk prevent a uniformly robust approach. Yet it also reflects the American mindset about insurance. Historically, we have started from the premise that insurance is a private transaction, where price and quantity can be best determined by market forces. Yet these private transactions have enormous social consequences—especially when they do not take place. We have entrusted what is in many ways a public service to private companies that owe their primary allegiance to investors.

In life and health insurance, some public coverage has emerged to fill part of the yawning gap between what people need and what they can afford, albeit incompletely and agonizingly slowly. Yet in property and casualty markets, the presumption of privateness is far stronger. When margins tighten, insurers naturally assert their prerogative to drop customers or exit markets altogether. State regulators have found themselves limited to unattractive options: accepting large rate increases, facing insurer exits, or creating subsidized insurers of "last resort," which in some cases have mushroomed far beyond the original intent, creating unanticipated liabilities for taxpayers. Progress has been further hindered in states where policymakers are prone to dismiss insurers' consideration of all-too-real environmental factors as a manifestation of "woke capitalism."

In the past, property and casualty market problems got better because losses declined. As fire departments, water supply, and building codes improved, losses from fire began to drop in the 1930s, reducing the cost of home insurance. Mid-

Illustration by Rich Lillash

century pressure in the auto market eased as traffic enforcement, driver education, and safety improvements began to catch up with the volume of cars. Reducing losses will again be critical to containing the scope of our current dilemma, though the challenges are greater in the face of a changing climate. Mitigation programs have emerged in some states to incentivize home modifications that can reduce storm damage. So far, these programs are not adequately funded or sufficiently available to all who could benefit from them. Some states and localities have begun efforts to relocate homeowners and are taking more action to disincentivize building and rebuilding in hazardous areas. Yet these efforts too are underpowered and lag badly behind actual need, and too many places permit rebuilding without protective modifications in areas that have been subjected to repeated flooding.

The accelerating pace of severe weather events may spur change.

The US approach thus far has been reactive, and overly focused on relief. Disaster relief is a tool of last resort for dealing with catastrophic events. National flood insurance was created in part to offset what was seen as a mounting federal burden after a series of mid-20th-century hurricanes. Yet the National Flood Insurance Program has not provided sufficient protection, and enrollment has even been declining in some flood-prone areas. Nor is flooding the only significant peril. Meanwhile, spending on disasters has only grown.

The fragmented nature of our state-based system of insurance regulation has impeded the development of a truly national approach. When special appropriations are sought for massive events such as Hurricane Sandy, regional and partisan ill will are often on display. This lack of unity has repeatedly throttled attempts to create national disaster insurance, sometimes described disparagingly as a "beach house bailout." Earlier this year the Federal Insurance Office abandoned its attempt to collect detailed climate risk data from insurers after facing howls of protest from the insurance industry, state regulators, and conservative members of Congress.

Nevertheless, at all levels of government there are signs that a more proactive response is emerging. Individual states are trying to increase mitigation and promote access to affordable coverage. For example, Pennsylvania's recently convened task force recommended tax incentives and other strategies to boost home improvements and increase enrollment in flood insurance. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) recently adopted a national climate resilience strategy, a major component of which is a process of data collection and analysis designed to improve the ability of regulators to understand risk and conduct solvency analyses. The NAIC is advocating for more federal mitigation funds and collaborating with FEMA and others to increase mitigation and preparedness. FEMA is raising its resiliency requirements for rebuilding with their funds. There are even calls for federally funded reinsurance, modelled after the federal terrorism insurance created after the World Trade Center attacks.

The accelerating pace of catastrophic weather events is a powerful force for change. Disasters cause insurers to raise premiums, withdraw from markets, exclude certain types of perils, and develop new models to forecast the future. International reinsurers have raised their rates considerably in response to events around the world and have signaled that climate risk is still not adequately priced into the market. To insurers, higher prices are an important and necessary signal that will drive prudent choices about mitigation and rebuilding, and they are wary of attempts to increase affordability that may undermine incentives to prevent losses.

Disasters can be unifying and can promote a sense of a shared fate, hopefully compelling a new and more collective mode of risk sharing. How will repeated and escalating cycles of severe weather events affect our approach to sharing risk? With the accelerating frequency of deadly storms and fires, the question is hardly theoretical. There are signs of positive momentum, but also rapidly growing vulnerabilities. The pressure of natural events should push us to create a more robust strategy for risk sharing. In the meantime it will likely subject us—or at least some of us—more fully to the shortcomings of the fragile systems that are currently in place. It's not clear when, whether, or how we will rise to this inescapable challenge, but as we emerge from a summer of record storms and temperatures, we are surely getting closer to finding out.

Katherine Hempstead C'85 Gr'94 is the author of *Uncovered: The Story of Insurance in America* (Oxford University Press, 2024).

DIGITAL+ IPAD

The **DIGITAL EDITION** is an exact replica of the print copy in electronic form. Readers can download the magazine as a PDF or view in a browser from their desktop computer or laptop. The digital edition is available through iPad and iPhone apps, too.

thepenngazette.com/digigaz

"Quieting Penn's Institutional Voice"

The University will limit comments on public issues in the future.

Illustration by Tracy Walker

"Going forward, the University of Pennsylvania will refrain from institutional statements made in response to local and world events except for those which have direct and significant bearing on University functions," according to a statement signed on September 10 by Penn Interim President J. Larry Jameson, the deans of Penn's 12 schools, and other senior administrators. "The University will issue messages on local or world events rarely, and only when those events lie within our operational remit."

"The University will issue messages on local or world events rarely, and only when those events lie within our operational remit."

Jameson shared the statement, *Upholding Academic Independence*, in an email message, along with a newly formulated expression of the University's values (see box). In laying out the case for the new policy, the text points to a "well-meaning trend" among leaders at Penn and universities generally to weigh in on a wide variety of external events, which has accelerated since the pandemic "when we faced unprecedented challenges and social connections were so desperately needed." While such messages have value, the statement continues, "there are also challenges and consequences to these messages."

For example, singling out certain issues for comment inevitably neglects others ("omissions that carry their own meanings, however inadvertent"), and institutional messaging may also result in taking sides, or appearing to, in a given situation. "Although there is alignment on the consequences of a natural disaster, economic, social, and legal actions, and even acts of war, have proponents and opponents," the statement notes, and also cites the danger that having institutions render opinions could suppress "the creativity and academic freedom of our faculty and students" and "undermine the diversity of thought that strengthens us and that is central to our missions."

The new policy applies to the president, provost, and other leaders "communicating in official capacities, where their statements may imply institutional positions." By thus "quieting Penn's institutional voice," the intended outcome is to amplify that of the faculty. "Faculty members play an essential role in educating the public and offering the insights borne from their scholarship and research. Penn is, and should remain, a trusted source of truth."

The statement acknowledges that "this new approach will not be easy" and that there may be disagreements over what "is or is not of direct concern to University operations," but adds that "a great university such as Penn can use the debates that arise to grow stronger."

"By upholding our commitment to academic independence, Penn reaffirms a dedication to a culture of excellence, freedom of expression and inquiry, and respect—values that are fundamental to the dynamic and inclusive culture of the University of Pennsylvania," the statement concludes. "Facing these challenges together is another way to enhance our institutional culture, develop our community, and live our values."

In his email message, Jameson wrote that the "new guidance represents the culmination of intensive deliberation about how Penn and its leaders can best support our mission and our community—now, and moving forward." The policy aligns Penn with a number of universities that have moved to embrace various forms of "institutional neutrality," espoused most prominently in the University of Chicago's 1967 Kalven Report, in the wake of last year's controversies around the Hamas attack on Israel and the subsequent war in Gaza, which led to pro-Palestinian encampments and other protests on campuses across the country, including at Penn.

But Jameson cautioned against interpreting the statement as "fear to take a studied position" or "as a response to past or upcoming events, or prior institutional positions." And he emphasized that he and other leaders would "continue to communicate about policies and activities that have direct relevance to the University's missions and its operations." —*JP*

Restatement of Values

On the same day as announcing it would step back from commenting on local and world events not directly related to its own functions in *Upholding Academic Independence*, Penn also released a new statement of *University Values*, acting on recommendations from both the University Task Force on Antisemitism and the Presidential Commission on Countering Hate and Building Community ["Gazetteer," Jul|Aug 2024]:

The University of Pennsylvania is a scholarly community that advances discovery and opportunity toward a better future for all. We embrace excellence, freedom of inquiry and expression, and respect. Penn's culture is inspired by its founder, Benjamin Franklin—open-minded and curious, inventive and practical, exhibiting brilliance across fields, imperfect but self-improving, and relentlessly focused on enhancing social good. These values are enduring and inspire us to be a positive force for the world, while remaining anchored and committed to our Philadelphia home.

September's two new statements join the University's motto from 1755, *Leges Sine Moribus Vanae,* generally translated as "Laws without morals are useless," and the University's current strategic framework *In Principle and Practice* ["Gazetteer," Sep|Oct 2024], Interim President Jameson wrote in an email. "We are guided by framing and foundational words from hundreds of years ago, from last year, and from today. Over time, new words will capture and shape how we define and describe ourselves and chart our course. We are, and hope to forever be, a work in progress, and an institution that creates and disseminates knowledge for good."

Embracing the New

The Class of 2028 is urged to come together and "look out for each other and this community."

After a tumultuous 2023–24 year at Penn, a new school year—the University's 285th—began in August with the official welcoming of the Class of 2028. And although last year's protests and unrest were acknowledged during Convocation, the main emphasis throughout the ceremony at Franklin Field was on new beginnings and unity—and the word "embrace."

During his remarks, Provost John L. Jackson Jr. encouraged the University's first-year students to both embrace new things and "embrace humility, not hubris" as they meet their classmates and debate hot-button issues. He acknowledged that "this is a time of strong opinions and deep divisions, but I want to challenge you to find a way to *be* in this world that doesn't fall victim to the polarizing tendencies that seem to infect every facet of our society." To do so, Jackson added, it's important to "step out of your comfort zone" with the classes you take and the people you encounter, while always striving to be empathetic. He also urged "a willingness to embrace what is new to you"—whether that means playing a new sport, trying a new activity, or exploring a different culture.

Speaking at his first Convocation, Interim President J. Larry Jameson highlighted four "quintessential" characteristics of Penn—anchored, interwoven, inventive, and engaged—and urged the students to "embrace these principles" and "embrace Penn." In describing these principles, which also form the basis for the University's strategic framework *In Principle and Practice* ["Gazetteer," Sep|Oct 2024], he explained that Penn is *anchored* in its proud history and tradition of *interwoven* partnership and teamwork. And he challenged the students to be *inventive* and bold in facing obstacles, while always remaining *engaged* with the communities around them.

"There is another thing we all share," Jameson continued. "I believe it is so critically important to repeat this early and often. We share a responsibility to look out for each other and this community. To treat everyone, no matter their background or point of view, with the same courtesy and respect that we ourselves expect. These can be divisive days. No corner of the world is exempt. But here, when you join a community like this, what we share vastly outweighs what may divide us. Never forget that."

Vice Provost and Dean of Admissions Whitney Soule used boxing—a hobby she has taken on that's helped her "adapt to pressure"—to paint a picture for the incoming class of tackling the next four years. "You will face familiar pressures of class content, exams, and deadlines. But you'll also be challenged to explain your convictions, to reconsider your position, your approach, or your point of view," she said. When facing these pressures, Soule challenged the students not to "just throw the throws you know," but to "commit to learning new combinations, shore up your core, so that you have more to rely on when you need to focus your energy."

Before some of the 2,396 members of the Class of 2028 and transfer students exited Franklin Field, Penn Masala, the Penn Glee Club, and the Penn Band performed music to mark the occasion. "The performances in between the speeches grabbed my attention," first-year student Angela Wu said, and "made the event more enjoyable." For Wu, Convocation "solidified the feeling of being on campus," and another freshman, Alana Shin, shared that "after Convocation, I felt happy and excited to start college."

—Hannah Chang C'27

Photo by Eric Sucar/ University Communications

Demographic Winter Is Coming

Are there enough babies? A Penn economics professor says no.

Demographers and statisticians are debating this question at an increasingly fevered pitch: Is the world's population destined to grow for the rest of time, or could it instead begin to shrink? Penn economics professor Jesús Fernández-Villaverde has a decisive view, which he puts in blunt terms. "If you're 55 years or younger," he predicts, "you are likely to witness something no human has observed for around 60,000 years, not even during wars or pandemics: a systematic decrease in the world population."

There are inherent challenges in assessing global population trends, largely due to imperfect data: some regions of the world generate more reliable statistics than others. This means that Fernández-Villaverde, who collaborates with a multitude of organizations in the US and abroad (on research topics ranging from the fast-evolving world of artificial intelligence to the intricacies of monetary policy), occasionally disagrees with prominent international bodies, such as the United Nations, that estimate that humanity is still reproducing above the so-called replacement rate. While he concedes that demographic data can be fragile, his analysis of trends in more than 180 countries suggests that in many places, UN estimates of fertility rates are probably too high.

His calculations are particularly striking because they suggest that a crucial moment has arrived: the global fertility rate, he says, may have already dipped below the replacement rate, as more and more couples around the world have decided to have fewer children or forego parenthood altogether. Although he allows that the global population is still growing, he expects it to peak in roughly 30 years, with a steep decline unfolding in its wake. And when the transition comes—when the world's population eventually tips into contraction—he believes the impacts will be disruptive and swift.

According to his research, the stage is quickly being set. He has found, for instance, that dramatic declines in childbirths are evident in virtually every region of the world and have taken hold across rich, poor, and middle-income countries alike. "Fertility has dropped much faster than anyone anticipated," he says, pointing to South Korea as a telling, if admittedly extreme, case. In 2023, the nation's fertility rate fell to roughly one-third of its replacement rate. As recently as 2015, Korean fertility was nearly double its 2023 levels.

Korea's case is by no means isolated. Fernández-Villaverde has amassed a startling list of places where fertility has declined precipitously. China, India, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Vietnam, Iran, Thailand, and South Korea are on the list. So are Argentina, Colombia, Canada, the US, all of Europe, and parts of Africa.

Fertility levels are influenced by many factors, making it difficult to single out a dominant reason behind their descent. Fernández-Villaverde believes that shifting social norms are responsible for the fact that many young people do not view parenthood as something that can fit comfortably into their lives. If they have children at all, they are having fewer of them, a shift visible even in societies that typically embrace larger families. A particularly instructive set of circumstances recently played out in China, whose government lifted restrictions on birth rates in 2016. It would have been reasonable to expect a substantial uptick in birth rates in subsequent years, but after a short-lived bump, the country's fertility rate fell *below* levels seen while the restrictions existed. As Fernández-Villaverde has documented, the results in China are part of a global decline in the appeal of parenting. "Raising children is no longer a priority for many young people," he says, "either in the more traditional societies of eastern Asia or the more progressive countries of northern Europe."

Fernández-Villaverde points out how the so-called peer effect, which influences social norms, can build on itself, put-

Illustration by John Tomac

ting pressure on fertility rates: If your four closest friends decide not to have children, he says, "there is a good chance you'll follow suit."

The peer effect seems to apply on an international scale as well. In a 2021 research paper titled "Demographic Transitions Across Time and Space," Fernández-Villaverde and coauthors Matthew J. Delventhal and Nezih Guner observed that "demographic transitions are contagious: an important predictor of a country's transition is the prior transition of other countries that are close to it geographically or culturally."

With the peer effect as a starting point, the investigation considered a variety of other potential demographic drivers. The authors used economic modeling to examine how parents are apt to address a tradeoff between how many children to have and how much schooling to pursue for them given the cost of education. Fernández-Villaverde's model revealed a strong relationship between declining fertility rates and rising educational attainment.

While a shrinking population poses big existential questions—with no playbook for addressing them—the practical implications are equally daunting. Will universities face enrollment downturns? Will the labor force have a sufficient inflow of younger workers? Given the weighty problems society will face, Fernández-Villaverde suggests that successful policy prescriptions will need heft as well, noting that marginal changes will likely be insufficient.

Take housing costs, for instance. In many parts of the world, especially in urban areas, real estate prices are high enough to discourage people from having children. Until affordable housing becomes a priority in these places, childrearing will remain a challenging proposition. Or consider extended parental leave and child tax credits, which Fernández-Villaverde notes have been introduced or expanded in various countries, from France to South Korea, but "have shown limited success" in moving the needle.

Fernández-Villaverde takes a kaleidoscopic approach to what he foresees as "the coming demographic winter," arguing that "what we're facing isn't an orderly decline in the number of humans—it's a population collapse." Amid the ambiguities and uncertainties that researchers are grappling with, Fernández-Villaverde aims to provide evidence-based tools that can guide policymakers. The time for action is already here, he believes, and he hopes his research can lead to good decisions about the next steps.

"No [single] policy is guaranteed to work," he says, "but we should experiment, because it's essential to create conditions for large families to flourish. Otherwise, the consequences could be harsh—more so than people might expect." —*Andrew Carr*

Science

Where Research Meets Community

PennFERBS gives first-year undergraduates a chance to dive right into biology research.

During her first semester in college last year, Charity Robbins C'27 wasted no time finding research opportunities with labs.

Upon a recommendation from her mentor, she stumbled across PennFERBS (First Exposure to Research in the Biological Sciences), an undergraduate fellowship program focused on "identifying, recruiting, and nurturing the next generation of high-achieving students to serve at the forefront of future scientific leadership," per a description on its website.

Knowing that the program was for a diverse group of people "who are driven and motivated about science," Robbins says, "I was like, *Please let me in*."

Once she got in as an undergraduate fellow, Robbins felt comfortable with her newfound community of other

Illustration by Melinda Beck

first-year students she could learn from and share research with. "I was so scared to ask questions," Robbins admits, but her friends at FERBS—some of whom became her first at Penn—have been instrumental in her journey.

Robbins' research focuses on damaged mitochondria in astrocytes (a type of brain cell). She was paired with a senior to help guide the research, and she learned how to conduct and adjust experiments based on results, as well as how to analyze data. Unlike some of her classmates in the program, who plan to go to medical school, she's hoping to be a scientific researcher after college.

Robbins also found that the program has given her a holistic experience of research, as it focuses on turning scientific researchers into leaders. During the spring semester, FERBS requires its students to take courses on topics like leadership and communication in science, and it invites speakers to teach fellows how to present their research in a clear and effective way.

That's the objective of FERBS, says its director Meckly Pohlschroder—"to train exceptional scholars that reflect the diversity of our society."

Pohlschroder, a longtime Penn biology professor, founded the PennFERBS program in 2020 as a collaboration between the biology, biochemistry, and biophysics departments. Supported financially by the pharmaceuical company Merck, the program allows undergraduates to gain early experience in research that they are genuinely curious about, with FERBS providing mentors and resources. Recently, the FERBS fellows have also been given the opportunity to teach and share their research with students at a nearby elementary school and at events like last spring's inaugural PennFERBS Spring Research Symposium, which Pohlschorder hopes develops their critical thinking skills and gives them a head start in the world of biology and science.

Having taught undergraduates for decades, Pohlschroder has seen some "become more self-conscious and not in a good way," she says. "I think what happens [at FERBS] is we reinforce how amazing they are. They come in their first semester going straight into top-notch labs. These students are working on what many students don't get to until their senior year."

Pohlschroder believes the "community part is unique" compared to other research programs, an emphasis spearheaded by Jean-Marie Kouassi WEv'01 SPP'09, the FERBS Director of Community Development and Partnership.

Robbins admits that working with older, more experienced researchers as a first-year student can feel "daunting." But "that's something we need to change from the inside out," she says. "There's always more work to be done just to make [science] something that can be shared with a community."

—Hannah Chang C'27

ADMINISTRATION

New Appointments

Over the summer, the University announced the appointments of Peter Struck as the Stephen A. Levin Family Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw as the inaugural faculty director of the Arthur Ross Gallery, and Brigitte Weinsteiger as the director of the Penn Libraries.

Struck, the Vartan Gregorian Professor of the Humanities in the Department of Classical Studies, assumed the role of dean of the College on August 1, succeeding Paul Sniegowski, who left the position to serve as president of Earlham College in Indiana. Struck was among the first Arts & Sciences faculty members to engage in online instruction, and his Greek and Roman Mythology class on Coursera has enrolled almost 250,000 students. He's earned Penn's Lindback Award, the School of Arts & Sciences Dean's Award for Innovation in Teaching, and the College of General Studies Distinguished Teaching Award. Struck also served as the director of the Benjamin Franklin Scholars (BFS) from 2009 to 2023, enhancing the program by creating the Integrated Studies first-year curriculum for BFS students and helping turn it into a residential program in which first-year students live together.

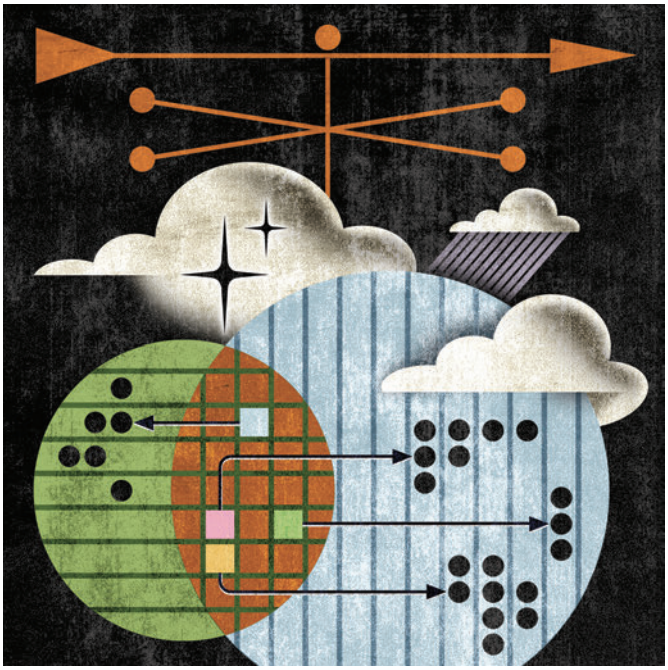
Shaw, the Class of 1940 Bicentennial Term Professor in the Department of Art History began as the Arthur Ross Gallery's faculty director on June 1. She has taught at Penn for almost 20 years and is also an experienced curator. She served as acting chief curator at the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution and has been the faculty curator of shows at the Arthur Ross Gallery, the ICA, and the Penn Museum. In a statement, Shaw said her goal is to "foster creativity and critical thinking, providing a platform for individual expression and a welcoming space for collective learning."

Weinsteiger began in June as the H. Carton Rogers III Vice Provost and director of the Penn Libraries, where she leads a system that includes 19 physical libraries. She's worked for Penn Libraries for the past 16 years, having overseen 11 departmental libraries across campus, including the Fisher Fine Arts Library and the Holman Biotech Commons. "I see my role as a library leader to connect vision, patterns, resources, and strategy," said Weinsteiger, who will oversee the Libraries' $30 million budget, 10 million print and digital volumes, 350,000 journals, and abundant collection of digital resources. "Libraries are not just about books or buildings; they are also about people."

Photos by Candace diCarlo; Eric Sucar/ University Communications

Fragile Foundations?

At Perry World House, experts weigh in on the global threats that keep them up at night.



"**Leadership really matters.** We can put institutions in place, policies in place, regulations in place. At the end of the day, with the right or the wrong leaders, you get very different outcomes," Perry World House Executive Director Marie Harf was saying, toward the conclusion of the PWH World Today forum in September.

Earlier, Harf had laid out the four "pillars of work" that PWH will focus on this year—democracy, security, climate change, and human rights and global justice—which, she said, "represent both the biggest threats to global stability, but also in which we believe we can make the most significant impact." She then led a discussion among the PWH affiliates who will be leading work in each area, starting with the question "What keeps you up at night the most?" Here is some of what they covered:

In the security area, Michael C. Horowitz, PWH director and Richard Perry Professor, who recently returned to Penn from government service as the inaugural deputy assistant secretary of defense for force development and emerging capabilities, singled out "promoting and sustaining US political, economic, and military leadership in the face of the challenge posed by the People's Republic of China" as his chief concern.

While headlines may focus on the wars in Gaza and Ukraine, and the US faces many other security challenges, "the PRC is the only country that presents a short-term and long-term economic and political challenge to US leadership," he said. "The combination of their desire to become a global leader in artificial intelligence, for example, and their much more repressive vision of what they would do with [AI]—along with their missiles, ship purchases, other military advances—[is] why, in the 2022 National Defense Strategy, the PRC was identified as the 'pacing challenge'—the thing that the United States needs to focus on the most."

Among emerging technologies, "AI really lies at the heart of all of it," he said. "You're talking about a transformational, general-purpose technology with economic, societal, and military consequences." Horowitz contrasted approaches to AI in democratic and authoritarian cultures more generally. "In democratic countries, and the United States in particular, we tend to think about artificial intelligence as something to empower people, as we think of our people as the best in the world—and I mean that especially from an American military perspective but also more broadly. Whereas more autocratic countries, they don't trust their people in the first place. If they trusted their people, they might have different political regimes. That means they're more likely to try to use emerging technologies to try to control, to try to repress," he said. "There's a real contrast in values there." As a result, "we've ended up, in some ways, in what I'd call a competition of coalitions, which is why it's so important that the United States not only be a beacon of freedom for the world, but a good collaborator and partner with the world."

Sarah Banet-Weiser, the Walter H. Annenberg Dean and Lauren Berlant Professor of Communication, a media scholar who is leading work on democracy, cited the "normalization of authoritarianism across the world" as "the thing that terrifies me the most right now."

She highlighted the "enormous role" played by the media in democratic societies in shaping the public agenda and forming public opinion, which "doesn't just depend on information and sharing news, but also depends on trust and confidence." But she added that faith in the media has been eroded by factors including "devastating cuts in local and investigative journalism," the amplification of "polarizing rhetoric and misinformation," and the concentration of ownership of media platforms by "billionaires who are looking to make a profit" and may not care "whether or not we trust them and whether or not the information is true."

"Any democracy depends on informing its citizens," she said. "We teach our students here at Penn to be informed citizens, and we teach them to be discerning when it comes to the media, and to know how to figure out whether or

not a message is fake or true, and I think that we need to be ever more vigilant about that," as AI, for example, makes it harder and harder to tell the difference. "And so media manipulation is an absolutely crucial area for us to contend with if we want to have a healthy democracy."

"Media manipulation is an absolutely crucial area for us to contend with if we want to have a healthy democracy."

—SARAH BANET-WEISER

That qualifying *if* is important. "Democratic backsliding is seen to be occurring in an unprecedented number of wealthy countries that once were thought to be immune from those kinds of forces, the United States among them," she said. While things like civil wars and military coups continue to occur, threats to democracy have increasingly been "emerging from autocratic leaders who leverage democratic institutions like elections, elected officials, legislators, courts, and the media to consolidate this kind of power, and so I think this is something that we need to really be paying attention to in all its elements."

"When the temperature gets above 35 degrees [Celsius] with 100 percent humidity, that means that we can't survive outside," noted Michael Weisberg, PWH deputy director and the Bess W. Heyman President's Distinguished Professor of Philosophy. "So I think my greatest fear from the climate perspective is that we're teetering on the edge of that possibility, and that would lead to mass casualty events of the sort that we've never seen before."

In the shorter term, Weisberg lamented that ongoing negotiations and policymaking on climate have somewhat stalled as the world has awaited the outcome of the US presidential election. "Because if it goes one way, then the world will involve US leadership on these issues," he explained. "And if it goes a different way, then the PRC and other large countries—India, maybe Brazil—have a very different role to play."

Beyond the election, he pointed to work toward updating the target amount for developed countries to contribute toward climate funding, known as the new collective quantified goal (NCQG). Previously set at $100 billion per year, these funds pay for decarbonization projects like windmills and solar plants, as well as mitigation measures like coastal protection and cooling centers. "The North has just barely started to be able to mobilize that money at the $100 billion level. And now the question is, what happens next?" Weisberg said. "When you have fragile global institutions anyway, and money gets involved, all those issues of trust come up." An additional challenge this year is that many developed countries that have been "generous with their bilateral development aid have redirected that to go to things like the Ukraine war," he said.

Two other issues Weisberg cited were adaptation ("how to protect humans and ecosystems and infrastructure and heritage and everything else from adverse climate impacts") and compensation for loss and damage ("how to deal with unavoided climate impacts"). In the former area, Penn and PWH were involved in work at the COP28 environmental meeting last year ["Gazetteer," Mar|Apr 2024] to make progress toward goal-setting similar to the 1.5 centigrade limit for global temperature rise, but "there's got to be a lot more work on articulating what these goals are for protecting humans, ecosystems, infrastructure, and so forth." The question of compensating for loss and damage is more fraught, he added. There has been "lots of progress, but also an incredibly difficult context, and also incredibly difficult to have hard conversations about this when there's already a trust

GIFTS

$10 Million Each for Two New Interdisciplinary Initiatives

The University recently announced two separate $10 million gifts to create a pair of new interdisciplinary centers and initiatives.

A $10 million gift from Alp Ercil EAS'95 W'95 will establish the Penn Climate Sustainability Initiative, which will be a University-wide effort to address climate change and sustainability across all 12 schools on campus, as well as interdisciplinary programs like the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy. The Penn Climate Sustainability Initiative will also accelerate Penn's Climate and Sustainability Action Plan, which outlines steps toward a 100 percent carbon-neutral campus by 2042 ["Gazetteer," Jan|Feb 2020].

"Penn has the key pieces in place to make a significant contribution to the urgent issue of climate change," said Ercil, an active Penn volunteer and donor, and the founder of the investment management firm Asia Research and Capital Management. "I am thrilled to help advance this work, accelerate innovation, and strengthen Penn's role at the forefront of this field."

Another $10 million in funding—$5 million from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, as well as an additional $5 million from Penn Engineering, Penn Arts & Sciences, the Annenberg School for Communication, Wharton, Penn Carey Law, the School of Social Policy & Practice, and the Annenberg Public Policy Center—has been earmarked for a new Center for Media, Technology, and Democracy, which will be housed in Penn Engineering's new Amy Gutmann Hall and operate in partnership with five other schools at Penn.

The hope is that the center can become a global hub for researchers, private sector leaders, and policymakers to gather and share data across the fields of media, data science, AI, and more, while providing a clear view of the current media landscape.

"This pioneering research center will develop new programs, support new opportunities, and coalesce many different data sets so that they are available for others to use," Penn Provost John L. Jackson Jr. said in a statement. "In these ways, it will vividly reaffirm Penn's leadership in the interconnected study of global media, technology, and democracy."

deficit" between the developed and developing world.

Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, PWH Professor of Practice of Law and Human Rights and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights from 2014 to 2018, spoke of "the fragility of all of what we hold dear, whether it's within states or between states," as his overriding concern. "Everything seems so tenuous and so prone to disruption, and [there's a] lack of original thinking to overturn this weakness that we see creeping into almost every area of our experience."

> **"Everything seems so tenuous and so prone to disruption."**
>
> —ZEID RA'AD AL HUSSEIN

A former UN peacekeeper, Al Hussein contrasted his experience 30 years ago, when forces included robust numbers of troops representing member states "from all corners of the globe" with today's inability to protect civilians caught in the "horrific" war in Sudan and other conflicts. "We have a sepsis that is spreading through many parts of the world, and the very tools we used to rely on are just not available or seem not to be available," he said.

Echoing Banet-Weiser, he cited the emergence of authoritarian-minded leaders within democracies as another worry, perhaps even more so than great-power conflicts. Tracing the growth of right-wing populist movements that target immigrant communities in recent decades, he said, "What we have now is the peddling of hatred as a means of shoring up political support for rather mediocre political actors" who have "resorted to rather low sorts of tactics, which, after the Second World War, we hoped had been eschewed and driven out of the political systems, and they haven't. So, the hatreds are building."

Al Hussein also called for "much stronger leadership" from the UN. "The leadership is really not there," he said. While it's conceivable that the loss of certain parts of the UN wouldn't cause a major impact, "certainly the specialized agencies, if you saw them degenerate and then die off, the world would be in a very perilous state quickly. The basic architecture of the way that we run governance, beyond the financial systems, would be in deep trouble. And so, there is something that we need to protect."

In a recent speech to the UN Security Council, Al Hussein recommended that the body "go back to basics," he said. "In the 1950s when the Security Council was very paralyzed, basically they mandated the Secretary General of the time to go to the hotspot in question, basically see for themselves what was happening, and then come back to the Security Council, to the international community, and say, 'This is what we need to do to arrest this decline in the security situation,' and then they would discuss how best to do this."

That's not the case now, and "it needs to change," he said. "With a few changes, it's amazing what can happen. It's not so much a system, it's the right people in the right place. Miracles often happen, and they happen very quickly." —*JP*

FACULTY

Sanctions Imposed on Law Professor Amy Wax

Penn Carey Law professor Amy Wax will be suspended for the 2025–2026 academic year at half-pay, lose summer pay "in perpetuity," be stripped of her named chair, and be required to point out that she speaks for herself and not the University or the Law School in future public appearances.

The sanctions were published in *Almanac*, the University's journal of record, as part of a public letter of reprimand from Provost John L. Jackson Jr.—which was also included among the recommendations of the five-member Hearing Board appointed by the Faculty Senate that weighed the charges against Wax, as laid out in Penn's Handbook for Faculty and Administrators.

In his letter to Wax, Jackson wrote: "As you know, following a three-day hearing held in May 2023, the faculty Hearing Board concluded that you engaged in 'flagrant unprofessional conduct' that breached your responsibilities as a teacher to offer an equal opportunity to all students to learn from you. That conduct included a history of making sweeping and derogatory generalizations about groups by race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and immigration status; breaching the requirement that student grades be kept private by publicly speaking about the grades of law students by race and continuing to do so even after cautioned by the dean that it was a violation of University policy; and, on numerous occasions in and out of the classroom and in public, making discriminatory and disparaging statements targeting specific racial, ethnic, and other groups with which many students identify."

Wax's history of controversial statements and actions—including claiming that Black Penn Law students rarely graduate in the top half of their class, saying that the US would be better off with fewer Asian immigrants, and inviting a white nationalist to speak in her classroom—have long drawn condemnation, even while supporters defended her on the grounds of academic freedom and her value as a rare conservative voice on campus.

In June 2022, former Law School Dean Ted Ruger filed a complaint against Wax with the Faculty Senate after hearing from students and alumni offended by Wax's conduct. The Hearing Board convened in October to review the written record, scheduled the hearing in May 2023, and voted to impose the sanctions in June. Their recommendations were accepted by then Penn President Liz Magill that August, as was expected in the faculty-driven process, where the president's role is "sharply limited" barring "exceptional circumstances."

Wax appealed that decision, and the board's finding was then reviewed by the Faculty Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility (SCAFR) for procedural irregularities, which however found none. In September Penn Interim President J. Larry Jameson announced that he was "confirming and implementing this final decision."

SCAFR's verdict, Jameson's message, and a link to Magill's decision letter all appear in *Almanac*'s September 24, 2024, issue, along with Jackson's letter.

From top left, juniors Ethan Roberts, Dylan Williams, and Michael Zanoni have been brought in as transfers to help reload the men's basketball team.

Transfer of Power

In a new college basketball world, the Quakers might live and die by the players transferring in and out of the program.

Ethan Roberts is not your typical Penn basketball newcomer. Then again, this is not your typical Penn men's basketball team.

Roberts grew up in Memphis, played high school ball outside of Chicago, went to West Point to play for Army, transferred to Drake University in Iowa, and is now in University City, where he's poised to have a key role for a revamped 2024–25 Quakers squad featuring three transfers and seven total newcomers.

"There's a new excitement," Roberts said after an October practice. "I think we're bringing a new bit of life."

Though Penn head coach Steve Donahue has said in the past that he believes major personnel overhauls are not the best way to achieve success, his hand was forced in a lot of ways this year. Shortly after the 2023–24 season ended, Tyler Perkins announced his departure from Penn following a standout freshman campaign—a huge blow for a program that had also lost its best player from the prior season, Jordan Dingle, to the transfer portal. And similar to last year when Max Martz opted to forego his final season at Penn, senior Eddie Holland did the same this fall, deciding to leave the program while remaining at Penn to get his degree in May. Holland, who averaged 5.8 points per game last season, plans to use his final year of NCAA eligibility as a grad transfer elsewhere in 2025–26.

After having been blindsided by the sudden Dingle and Martz departures, which contributed to an 11–18 overall record and 3–11 mark in the Ivies last year, Donahue "determined during the [2023–24] season that we were going to go for trans-

Photos by Ethan Young/Penn Basketball

fers," the coach said. "It's a different type of recruitment. In some ways, I like it because they know what this place can do for them. They've been somewhere else, and now they really value this probably more than a freshman."

Perkins's decision to transfer out of Penn—even worse, to Big 5 rival Villanova, a team he helped the Quakers upset last season—may have felt like the sky falling for Quaker faithful. But other Ivy stars made similar moves. Yale's Danny Wolf departed for the University of Michigan and Harvard's Malik Mack transferred to George-

"It's a different type of recruitment. In some ways, I like it because they know what this place can do for them."

town, showing that retention may be a league-wide issue in a shifting college basketball landscape that now allows players to chase NIL (name, image, and likeness) money and national exposure at higher-profile basketball programs without having to sit out a year (as previous NCAA transfer rules dictated).

Yet Donahue believes that the Ivy League should remain a top 12 conference, given that most other mid-major squads lose more players to the transfer portal than Ancient Eight teams do. And it's possible that the Quakers may benefit from this new college basketball world, as Penn tapped into the portal more aggressively than any of their Ivy counterparts with the additions of Michael Zanoni (Mercer University) and Dylan Williams (Triton College) in addition to Roberts.

Donahue now hopes those three junior transfers can help make up for the program's recent losses and maintain a veteran presence in the locker room and on the court. "It's a whole different vibe," the head coach said. "And we're motivated more than ever to get this right and have a great season."

Donahue praised assistant coaches Nat Graham C'97, Joe Mihalich Jr., and Kris Saulny for sifting through many resumes to find players likeliest to be the right "cultural fit and basketball fit," while having the academic capacity to cut it in the Ivy League. He also credited administrators for not only sharing the "vision of how to build us back up" but helping with the "collaborative effort" of integrating the new student-athletes through the transfer of credits, enrollment in summer classes, and more. Donahue said other Ivy schools didn't go down the same path, in part because Penn is bigger and "I think the depth and breadth of our curriculum allows for more transfer credits." And although he admitted that he doesn't "want to do this every year," he noted that several championship-winning Penn teams have been fueled by transfers—from Perry Bromwell C'87, to Matt Maloney C'95 and Ira Bowman W'96, to Andy Toole C'03 and, most recently, Caleb

SPORTS

New Hall of Fame Class Inducted

On September 27, at a ceremony at the Inn at Penn, 12 people were inducted into the 13th class of the Penn Athletics Hall of Fame. Here's a look at the inductees:

Al Bagnoli, football coach, 1992 to 2004 | The program's all-time winningest coach, both overall (148) and in Ivy League play (112). Won nine Ivy League championships—all outright—and coached Penn to three undefeated seasons (1993, 1994, 2003).

Alyssa Baron C'14, women's basketball | The 2013–14 Ivy League and Big 5 Player of the Year, when she helped Penn capture its first Ivy title in 10 years. A two-time Ivy League scoring champion who graduated second in program history with 1,806 career points.

Erin Brennan W'12, women's lacrosse | Won four Ivy League championships, with the Quakers going 26–2 in Ivy play across her four seasons. Graduated second on Penn's all-time list in goals (126), assists (87), and points (213).

Natalie Capuano C'09, women's soccer | The first three-year captain in program history and a three-time unanimous first-team All-Ivy midfielder who started 63 of 65 matches across her career. Led the Quakers to their first outright Ivy League championship in 2007.

Shelby Fortin C'14, women's swimming | A seven-time Ivy League individual champion who graduated with the Ivy Championships meet record in the 200 free, five program marks as an individual, and four more Penn records on relay teams.

Henry Laussat Geyelin C1877 L1879 G1880, men's track & field | A member of the first Penn football team and the intercollegiate national high jump champion in 1877. Chose red and blue as the colors of the University and was a founding member of the undergraduate Athletic Association.

Kristen Lange C'10, women's squash | A four-time College Squash Association (CSA) first-team All-American and the 2008–09 Ivy League Player of the Year. Played No. 1 for Penn's 2007–08 team that won the Ivy League.

Yoshi Nakamura W'02, wrestling | The 2002 Ivy League Wrestler of the Year, a two-time first-team All-Ivy selection, and a two-time NCAA All-American. A member of four Ivy League championship teams.

Ugonna Onyekwe W'03, men's basketball | A two-time Ivy League player of the year and a member of three Ivy League championship teams, two of which went unbeaten in conference play. Graduated second on Penn's all-time scoring list (1,762 points) and eighth on the all-time rebounding list (759).

John Pescatore C'86, men's heavyweight rowing | Captain of Penn's 1986 Varsity Eight that won Eastern Sprints and Ivy titles for the first time in 24 years. Went on to compete at the 1988 and 1992 Olympics.

Karl Thornton C'72, men's cross country/track & field | Captain of the 1971–72 track team that swept the Indoor and Outdoor Heps, and captain of the 1971 cross country team that won the program's first Ivy Heps title and finished a best-ever third at the NCAA Championships.

Tom Wecal W'76, men's golf | The first three-time All-Ivy recipient in program history. Helped Penn advance to 1973 and 1974 NCAA Championships and placed second at the 1976 Ivy League Championship.

Photo by Hunter Martin/Penn Athletics

Wood C'18. "I think it's something we embrace," Donahue said. "We've just got to make sure it's the right guys."

Whether or not Roberts, Zanoni, and Williams prove to be the "the right guys," they've all shown how much they want to be at Penn since arriving on campus. "All three got offered money somewhere else," Donahue said. "So to me, it was kind of refreshing because everyone talks about the NIL money, and here are three kids that were in those experiences, had chances to go other places and make money, and they still see the value of what Penn has—basketball, academics, and what it does for their life."

All three have had interesting journeys, too. Zanoni—a Charlotte, North Carolina, native who was the only one of the trio on Penn's radar in high school—is a sharpshooter who had a productive freshman season at Mercer before missing almost all of his sophomore season with an injury. Williams, a diminutive point guard from South Carolina, played the last two seasons at junior colleges and last year led Triton to the National Junior College Athletic Association national championship game. And Roberts was the Patriot League Rookie of the Year at Army, but never played a game for Drake because of an undisclosed medical issue (which he said is completely behind him).

"In a weird way, that's a fun part of transfers, because they bring a different story to your program," Donahue said. "And guys get to learn from them, about their experiences.'"

Roberts was thrilled when Penn reached out to him and hopes this will be the last stop on his circuitous college basketball journey. Although he loved his time at West Point—and he had a big-time rookie season, averaging 12.4 points and 4.4 rebounds per game while shooting 40.7 percent from beyond the arc—he realized he'd rather pursue professional basketball after college than serve in the US Army. He then chose Drake for its excellent basketball program—the team has been to the NCAA tournament three of the last four years—but "I went there just for basketball, that's it," he said. "You go to Penn for everything. I'm so proud to be here. I'm proud to be a student at Penn." Both his coaches at Army and Drake also left at the end of his seasons there, which pushed Roberts to follow them out.

Roberts said he and his fellow transfers have meshed well and are like-minded in their hunger to bring Penn to the top of the Ivy League. He's also friends with senior guard Reese McMullen, who he knew in Memphis, which has helped with his transition to Penn. And he's been impressed with Penn's other seniors, including center Nick Spinoso, whom he called such a "good passer." Spinoso was tied for fourth in the league with 107 assists last season while averaging 10.8 points (19th in the league) and 7.9 rebounds (fourth in the league) per game.

"We've got high hopes," Roberts said. "We're hungry."

Although Penn was picked seventh in the preseason Ivy League poll, Roberts insisted that "we're gonna shock people." Donahue, too, expects Penn to compete for a conference championship, calling his team a "wild card" because of the transfers bolstering a group that also returns sophomores Sam Brown (one of Penn's' top players as a freshman last season) and Augie Gerhart, a 6-foot-9 forward who the coach noted "has really jumped out" and is ready to become "a really good player in this league." Unlike last year, Donahue also believes he can ease in the freshmen rather than being forced to throw them right into the rotation.

"My expectation," the head coach said, "is that we will be a really good team." —*DZ*

INCLUSION

New Office Centralizes Anti-Discrimination Efforts

The University has created a new Office of Religious and Ethnic Inclusion (Title VI) to investigate and resolve claims of discrimination on the basis of religion, ethnicity, shared ancestry, or national origin. The office is the first of its kind nationally and comes in response to recommendations included in the Action Plan to Combat Antisemitism released in fall 2023 as well as the final reports of the University Task Force on Antisemitism and the Presidential Commission to Counter Hate and Build Community, issued last May ["Gazetteer," Jul|Aug 2024].

"The establishment of this new Office ensures that Penn can continue to fulfill its obligations under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and under Penn's own policies ... and provides us with a critical central point of contact for Title VI training and compliance related to religion, shared national ancestry, and ethnicity," wrote Penn Interim President J. Larry Jameson in a message announcing the office's creation.

Citing the "disquieting surge" of antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of hate over the past year, Jameson added that "this type of prejudice is simply unacceptable, and has no place at Penn." The new office will be "a stand-alone center for education and complaint resolution. It represents an institutional commitment to address both the short-term and long-term recommendations that we have received."

The new office is charged with ensuring that Penn takes steps to prevent and respond to incidents of hate and maintains a welcoming environment for all groups. It will also work with other relevant University entities to assist in "identifying and supplementing the development of new programs and strategies to support an educated, respectful, diverse community on our campus."

Once the office is formally launched later this semester, it will serve as the sole point of contact for complaints about religious and ethnic discrimination at Penn. This is meant to ensure that the response will be uniform across schools, that complaints from or about different University stakeholders "are treated seriously and sensitively, investigated, resolved or referred, and recorded," and that investigations are swift and thorough.

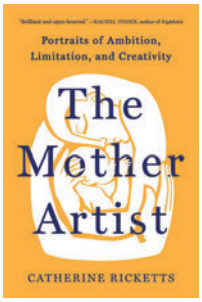
"We believe the establishment of this Office is essential to ensuring that Penn can continue to offer its students, faculty, and staff the most welcoming, supportive and safe environment possible," Jameson concluded. "Its creation reflects Penn's unwavering determination to confront antisemitism and Islamophobia and establishes our University as a national leader in this critical effort."

The Art of Mothering

In her debut book, *The Mother Artist*, Catherine Ricketts explores the limitations and creative benefits for mothers who make art. A mother herself, she faced many of the same hurdles as she wrote the book—and she's not the only alumna (or alumnus) finding both challenge and success navigating the balance between art and caregiving.

By Molly Petrilla

Fresh from maternity leave, just moments after breastfeeding her newborn son at home, Catherine Ricketts C'09 roamed the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She worked in their public programming department and often cruised the galleries for inspiration. But today was different. Among the museum's hundreds of thousands of works, she was searching for something specific: fellow mothers.



As she found them in medieval paintings, in Post-Impressionist portraits, and on the walls of the American wing, it occurred to her that these images of motherhood had all come from men. Here are the mothers, she thought, but where are the mother artists?

She looked into it. Only a few women ever make the list of household-name painters—Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keeffe, Mary Cassatt—and none of them had children. Ricketts scanned her own list of upcoming PMA programs. Out of over 30 performers, just one was a mother.

"I started to wonder about the compatibility of caregiving with creative work," Ricketts recalls.

How, exactly, are motherhood and artmaking at odds? Can they also enrich each other? Why aren't there more mother artists out there, and what does it take to be one?

Those questions became the foundation of her debut book, *The Mother Artist,* released in April by Broadleaf Books. In it, Ricketts mixes her own reflections with insights from 30 other mother artists who have persevered in their various art forms. There are big names—Joan Didion, Toni Morrison, Greta Gerwig—but also lesser-known Philly-area creatives, and even a fellow Penn alumna.

Ricketts hopes that women who make art will read the book and feel "re-energized about how important their particular vision of the world is, and how much our culture needs their voice and their vision."

"Something really significant is lost," she adds, "when caregivers are absent from the making and shaping of culture."

I spoke with some of those caregivers who, like the ones in Ricketts's book, are decidedly *not* absent. They've plowed forward in their creative work, even when caring for tiny humans made it feel impossible—and many, including Ricketts herself, have found fresh artistic inspiration along the way.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CANDACE DICARLO

Aimee Koran: ***Milkscape (Trio I)***, dried breast milk on glass, as inkjet print on paper, 2016; ***Chromed Life (Sophie)***, chrome plated rubber teether, 2016.

Spilled Milk

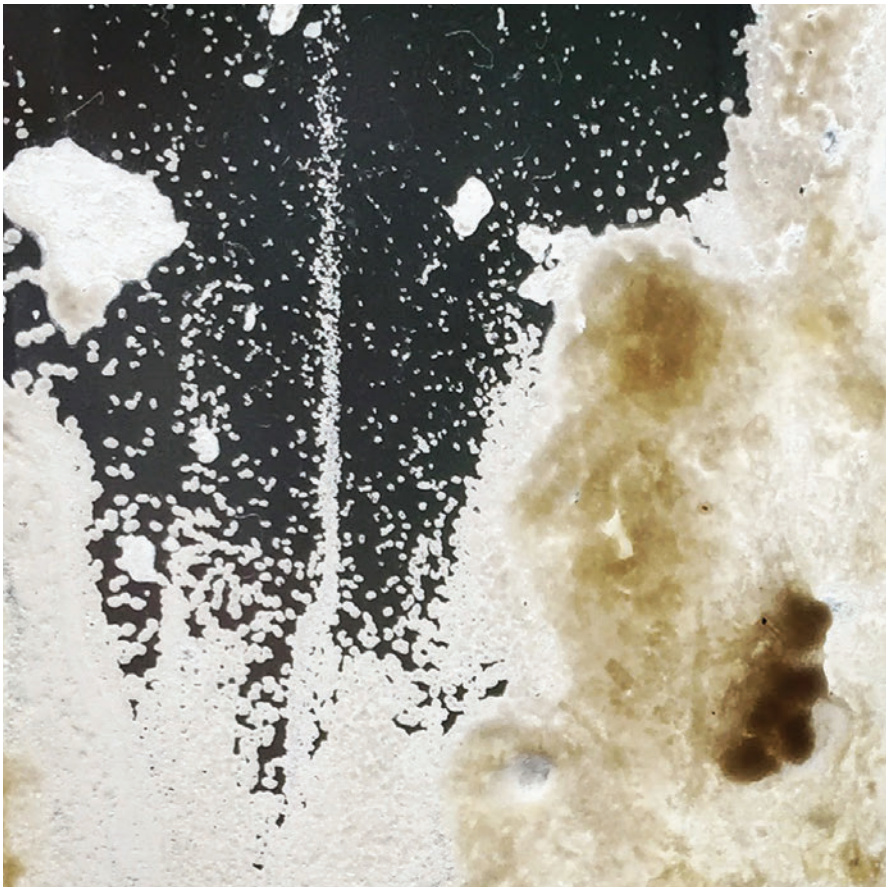
An electric breast pump, fully encased in shiny red chrome, sits on a matching red end table. Hanging nearby: framed works, in the style of Ukrainian embroidery designs, made from carefully arranged ovulation and pregnancy test strips.

We're inside Aimee Koran GFA'17's Philadelphia studio, where she has spent the last seven years exploring motherhood in her art.

Koran entered Penn's Master of Fine Arts program when her first child, daughter Maya, was just three months old. As her classmates stepped outside for cigarette breaks, Koran—the only parent in the class—felt uneasy asking for her own much-needed breastmilk-pumping breaks. And with no pumping-friendly spots near her classrooms, she'd often run to her studio in Philadelphia's Fairmount neighborhood, pump, then run back to campus.

On one of those time-crunched breaks, she'd just finished pumping out her milk—and then spilled it all over her desk. It's a tragic moment that all pumping moms understand. But Koran had no time to mourn her spilled milk, or even wipe it up. She had to run back to class.

When she returned the next day to tidy up, she noticed how her milk had dried onto a clear plastic Mylar sheet sitting on her desk. "I picked it up to throw it away, it hit the light, and I was like, 'It's so beautiful!'" she remembers. "The milk had curdled, it had dried, and it had turned different colors. I was so amazed by how it looked both macro and micro."



"I think about the work really as ways of holding on to memories and ways of showing the passage of time."

She began spilling her milk onto pieces of glass intentionally to make more "Milkscapes," as she eventually termed them. "I thought it was such a beautiful metaphor for the fleetingness of it all," she says, "because my body is only making this material for a very specific and short amount of time. So these images are special, and this series is limited. I thought that was overwhelmingly beautiful."

But when she presented her new pieces for MFA critiques, "immediately the overwhelming response was *no, no, no, no, no* from everyone," Koran says. "Too sentimental," they all told her. One professor asked why she would waste her breastmilk rather than donate it. *Don't worry,* said another. *You're a good artist, and you'll be interested in other things again.*

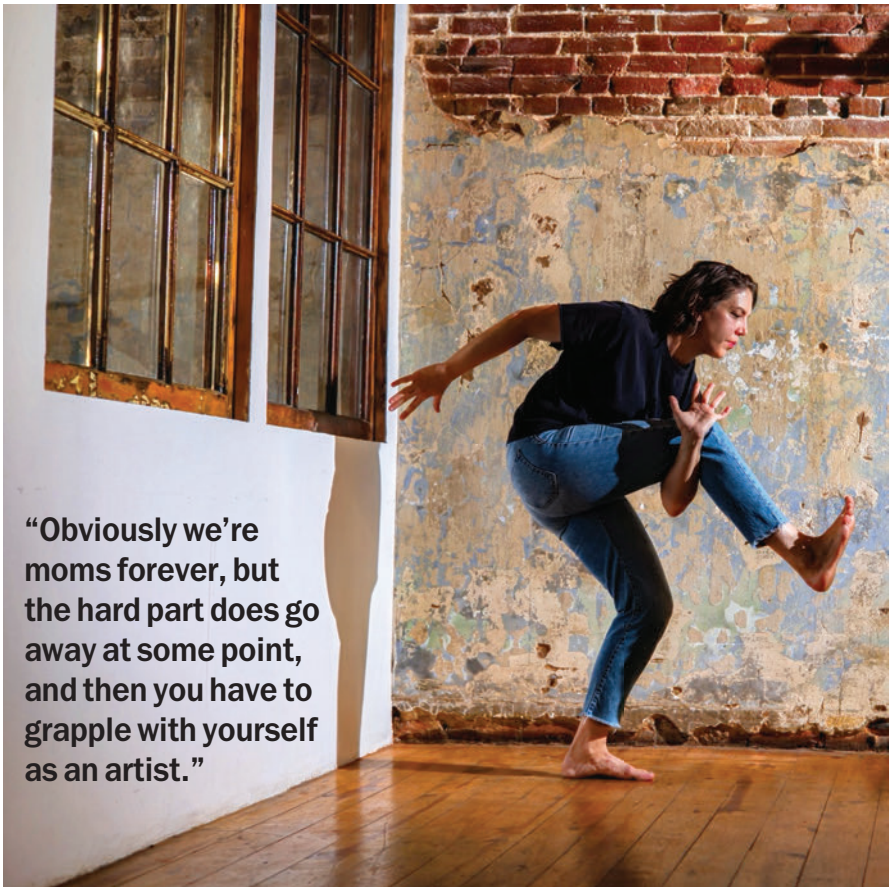
Andy Warhol made his Oxidation paintings by urinating on copper-coated canvases. Other artists have used semen and feces in their work. But breastmilk? "No one wanted to talk about breastmilk," she says. She often cried after getting "horrible" class critiques.

Rather than discourage her, the negative feedback drove Koran more firmly into work inspired by her mothering. "Maybe it's the middle child or the Philly in me," she says, "but hearing 'no' just fueled the fire."

At the same time, she was finding her way through new motherhood. In those early

Photos courtesy Aimee Koran

Pamela Hetherington says she is "unique" in her field of women tap dancers "in that I have children, especially three."



MFA days, when Maya was still a newborn, Koran would wear her in a carrier while working or grab time to sketch and ideate during naps. Private studio space became a must-have. "I need this studio," she says now. "This studio is pivotal to my work. This is 'A Room of One's Own,' for sure."

But her kids are welcome there, and in fact spend much of their time playing and drawing nearby while Koran works—or plays right along with them, since "a lot of the work really does come from playing with my kids and being around them," she says.

Now Maya is nine and her son Max is five. She brings them to any artist talks she gives and invites them to her museum openings. Sometimes they're loud. Sometimes they run around, or touch things they shouldn't, or run a finger through the refreshment-table hummus.

She always includes them though, even if it feels like some people would rather she didn't, because "I want them to see my work in a space that's beautiful, see other people commenting and enjoying it, and to be able to share a proud moment with them," she says.

At some level, the anti-kid nature of the visual art world (*don't touch, stand back, no running, shhh!*) may be why Koran has gravitated toward making work that can be touched. "I don't really feel that kind of gatekeeping," she says. "Like this dollhouse," she adds, pointing to another of her chrome pieces. "It's so detailed and shiny and you've got to get in there to feel and look at it."

Objects of inspiration are tucked around her studio: a box of stuffed animals, a bin of breastmilk bottles, the walls of a backyard playhouse. Koran plans to continue making mothering-related art, and since graduating from Penn, she's found a more enthusiastic audience.

She's been in group and solo shows, and Boston's Museum of Fine Arts acquired a prayer-style necklace she made from breastmilk-infused beads in 2022. She appears in Ricketts's *Mother Artist* book, sharing a chapter with the esteemed painter Alice Neel. The Fabric Workshop and Museum and the Philadelphia International Airport will both be exhibiting her work this winter.

Many of the group shows she's been in have focused on motherhood and mother artists, and Koran loves that. "But my push for the work is that it's included in shows that aren't specifically about that," she says. "I think about the work really as ways of holding on to memories and ways of showing the passage of time."

And besides, she adds, "what's more universal than being born?"

Dancing Through

Getting older doesn't stop a tap dancer. Bill "Bojangles" Robinson was tapping on Broadway in his late 60s, and Ann Miller danced on live TV at age 66. But what can cause a tapper to throw aside their metal-soled shoes? Motherhood.

"When I look around at my field of women tap dancers," says Pamela Hetherington C'01, "I am unique in that I have children, especially three."

That's because professional dancing requires a flexibility of time and place that many moms don't have. There's the travel—to festivals, to residencies, to teaching gigs, to shows. "When these jobs come up to teach places, the people that grab them first are the ones that can just pick up and go," Hetherington says. "That's not really a possibility for people with families." And even if you stick close to home, odds are you're performing at night, right when you'd be putting the kids to bed and finally snagging some rest yourself.

A lifelong Philadelphian, Hetherington began dancing at age three and kept it up through her time at Penn. She performed with Penn Dance and started Soundworks, the University's only tap group. The double major in English and psychology? That was to mollify her family, who insisted she take a more tradi-

Photo by Ashley Smith courtesy Pamela Hetherington

tional undergrad route, even though she'd gotten into several dance schools.

"I had been conditioned from a very young age, because of how I grew up in a blue-collar Philadelphia household, that I could never be an artist," she says.

The same thinking led her into the corporate world, where she stayed until 2013. But she kept dancing, too, even as her own family began to grow. Her first child, a daughter, was born in 2006. By the time her youngest came along in 2014, Hetherington had quit her publishing job and opened her own dance studio.

She had also founded the Philadelphia Jazz Tap Ensemble (PJTE). Her pieces there blend tap choreography with jazz music, poetry, history, and body percussion—and lately, they've been focusing on women of the past. "I've been making what I call 'jazz stories' about women who had powerhouse careers and then sort of fell off the map," Hetherington says. "There are many of them, and it's largely due to choosing a family."

That includes Terry Pollard, who became a major presence in the 1950s Detroit jazz scene. "Then she had her son and she kind of disappeared," Hetherington says. Her piece for PJTE, *Terry Pollard: A Jazz Epistolary,* includes a section on the challenge of laying a baby down to sleep while you're brimming with impatience to go make your art. It won a Best Music Performance award at 2023's Philadelphia Fringe Festival.

To create pieces like *Pollard*, "I need so much time to just be doing nothing, letting my brain cogitate so that I go into a flow state," Hetherington says. With kids in the picture, "it takes a very determined person to find and make that time," she adds. She's learned to grab moments to think wherever she can—especially in the car—and often gets up as early as 3 a.m. to work in solitude.

In decade-old videos, Hetherington tap dances inside her studio while her youngest crawls by. The teaching studio she opened became "my way of having a space" to create new work, she says. Now she has a few spots around the city where she can go to dance. Just like Koran with her "room of one's own" in Fairmount, every artist-mom needs "a place where they do what they do," Hetherington adds. "That was a key hack for me, and it was important to me that I maintain that."

Her kids are older now—18, 15, and 10—and she's in her mid-40s. At an age when dancers who postponed motherhood are just settling into life with young kids, Hetherington is starting to become free for nighttime gigs and travel. She's in the thick of planning a PJTE show at the Barnes Foundation in November and organizing a springtime "jazz without patriarchy" festival.

"Obviously we're moms forever, but the hard part does go away at some point," she says, "and then you have to grapple with yourself as an artist." When you're deep in the trenches of newborn care or chasing after curious toddlers, it's easy to put your creative work aside. Hetherington urges moms to keep going, even when it feels impossible.

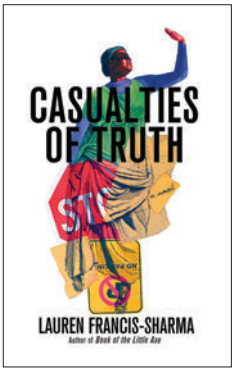
"Make the work and don't let anything stop you from it," she says. "There's going to be a whole bunch of excuses as to why you can't do it, but you just can't pay any attention. Even if the baby is screaming that day, if you have to hold them in one hand and feed them while you type, that's what you do."

Not Just Moms

Lauren Francis-Sharma C'94's daughter had just finished her freshman year at Penn and was ready to come home. She asked her mom to pick her up at night, and Francis-Sharma agreed—but she was worried. Copy edits were due the next day for her third novel, *Casualties of Truth*, which comes out in February 2025.

As she drove through rainy darkness, heading from the Washington, DC, suburbs to West Philly, her view began to shift from stress to opportunity. "I calmed down, and I was like, 'OK, you've got two hours in the car, what are you going to do with this?'" she recalls.

Lauren Francis-Sharma left her job in corporate law to become a writer when her kids were four and two.



She focused on a scene she'd been struggling with in her book. Any big changes would have to come in this round of edits or not at all. And somewhere along that drive to Philly, "I got it," she says. The tricky scene was officially cracked.

"There are moments where I resent that the kids are interrupting me. But there are also huge moments where I realize that I probably wouldn't even be doing this work but for my children."

It's late May, and Francis-Sharma is telling this story inside the Kelly Writers House. She's on a panel with four other Penn alumni who have all come to discuss the ups and downs of their parent-artist lives for an Alumni Weekend event. "There are so many moments like that," she says, "where you are taken in by the parenting, and yet it opens a space and an opportunity you just would not have had. … If we can actually turn those moments for ourselves, they're just fantastic, fiery, energetic opportunities."

Francis-Sharma has been using her mom-task time—driving, doing dishes, making meals, cleaning—to mentally work through her novels for the past 15 years now. She left a job in corporate law to become a writer when her kids were four and two years old. "There are moments where I resent that the kids are

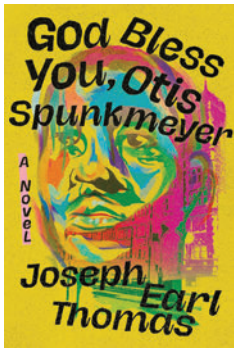
Photo courtesy Lauren Francis-Sharma

Father artist Joseph Earl Thomas, who has four kids ages six to 13, recommends "always wake up before them."

interrupting me," she says. "But there are also huge moments where I realize that I probably wouldn't even be doing this work but for my children."

Sitting beside Francis-Sharma is Joseph Earl Thomas Gr'24, who wrote the acclaimed memoir *Sink*. He's one of two men on this five-person panel—because dads struggle with this stuff, too. Thomas says that after leaving the military to become a writer, he imagined he'd start each day doling out Eggo waffles, seeing his kids off to school, then settling in for a long stretch of productive writing and thinking. Reality had other plans. "Every other day is a dentist's appointment, doctor's appointment, somebody's sick, then the other one's sick," he says.

"Every other day is a dentist's appointment, doctor's appointment, somebody's sick, then the other one's sick."



When school went virtual in 2020, his kids would often pop in to ask whether he was working or what he was writing. "I was frustrated, but it was also kind of cute, and sometimes really funny," he says. But "I think it did make me much slower. I can't get through projects as quickly as I used to anymore."

Much like Francis-Sharma, Thomas has learned to maximize the time he does have. He's a single dad with four kids, ages six (twins), 12, and 13. On family road trips, he throws on audiobooks that enhance his dissertation work or writing projects ("you can stay awake, you can fall asleep, it is what it is," he responds to any grumbles).

When an idea for a scene pops into his head or one of his kids says something funny or poignant, Thomas pulls out his phone and taps it into his Notes app—even if he's breaking up a sibling fight with his other hand. Conversations with his kids have shaped his written dialogue (*Sink*'s narrator is a child) and given him new powers of description. They also surface ideas he'd never come to on his own.

"I don't necessarily think about how people know what dinosaurs do or don't sound like," he says, "but I ended up doing a lot of research on that because I was having an hour-and-a-half-long conversation with a six-year-old who wanted to imitate the sound of a pterodactyl."

Ricketts, who is moderating the panel, asks what advice these parent-artist alumni would give to someone else in their shoes. "You do not have to do your art every single day," Francis-Sharma says. "You can give yourself a break. You can think. You can go on vacation. And it's good if you do."

"I would say, always wake up before them," says Thomas, whose novel *God Bless You, Otis Spunkmeyer* came out in June. "Even if I don't get any work done … that gives me enough energy for the rest of the day."

When we speak months later, Ricketts says that she wasn't surprised to hear dads grappling with the same challenges that she and the other women in her book do—and she knows it isn't just parents, either. When she prepared to lead several Caregiving and Creative Practice workshops at the Philadelphia Museum of Art this summer, she expected to see mostly moms of young kids there. Instead, she met people who were caring for their own aging parents or aging spouses, and others who work in art therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy.

"It was a really wonderful conversation more broadly—not just about mothering, but about caregiving," she says, "and how caring for an individual might change the way we see the world and therefore the art that we make."

Penn to Paper

Ricketts's own caregiving began long before she was a mother herself. Only a few years out of Penn, she helped tend to her dad, who had brain cancer. "When I was a student here," she says, "I didn't seek opportunities … to examine concerns of caregiving. Though I hoped one day I might become a parent, at the time, caregiving felt like a concern for the very far future."

But groundwork for *The Mother Artist* was in motion. Ricketts read Joan Didion and took two writing classes with Anthony DeCurtis, the music journalist and lecturer in creative writing at Penn, in which she crafted record reviews, book reviews, artist interviews, and longform pieces. "That was really the beginning of my training for the kind of writing that ends up in this book," she says.

Her senior year, she actually met Didion, who was a 2009 Kelly Writers House Fellow. Ricketts's seminar class studied Didion's work before a visit that included intimate conversations with the author herself. "Her voice has always stuck with me throughout my years of writing," she says, "and it was fun to realize that she had a place in this book."

The Didion chapter, entitled *Pietà: The Loss of a Child*, opens with Ricketts telling her own mom that she's pregnant. The news comes two years after the family buried Ricketts's father along with her brother, who died from a drug overdose. Didion lost a child, too—daughter Quintana, who was 39 years old.

"My mom sits on our couch, and I show her the test, which still reads, 'Pregnant,'" Ricketts writes. "Her gladness is absolute—hard-earned joy on the other side of suffering. She doesn't squeal or jump, just tilts her head and

Photo courtesy Joseph Earl Thomas

says, 'Aww,' with tears in her eyes. They're the same tears I see when she's remembering my father—just enough to wet her eyes but not enough to fall."

Ricketts doesn't shy from these highly personal moments as she continues to weave her own motherhood story with those of the other 30 artists in her book. Her writing has a tranquility to it. It's the same unhurried calm that infuses a conversation with her. "That's truly her essence," notes Koran. "She's just, like, so chill."

Here's Ricketts describing those early days with her first baby at home, in a passage steeped with that sense of chill:

We speak in hushed tones. The baby sleeps deeply as though he knows he is home, as though the sounds and smells and the light through the western windows—once barely discernable through the scrim of my skin—are familiar to him. He is still unfamiliar to us, but our only task now is to get to know him. Austin and I sit on the couch and study. He's nine and a half pounds. His hair is fine and dark. He thrusts his tongue forward like he's tasting the air and opens and closes his hands, slow as jellyfish. Everything he does is slow, and we settle into step. We study his slender fingernails. The way his lips turn down from the weight of his cheeks—these delicious cheeks. His discerning brow, the outsized length of his lashes, the slate of his eyes. We are utterly focused. We have entered the sanctum of his infancy.

Fifteen pages later, even the seemingly unflappable Ricketts has shifted into a state of newborn-induced stress:

We're ten weeks into parenthood, and the magic of infancy is dimming. Our son still wakes every one or two hours and wails for my milk. When his cries are shrill, I know they are for my body, mine alone, and this unnerves me. My back aches. I dread nights. I've never been so needed.

The questions that became *The Mother Artist* sprang up only a few weeks later, as she roamed the PMA galleries.

"There are just many ways to maximize our resources, and resources are not limited to money and to time."

But it wasn't until the pandemic paused her art museum job in 2020 that Ricketts found space to deeply explore. Eventually she sent out a proposal and landed a contract with Broadleaf Books.

They gave her a year to write. By that time, Ricketts's first son was two and a half and he had a new baby brother. The same hurdles that so many of the artists in her book describe—time, exhaustion, space, nursing demands—were her challenges, too.

She relied on self-made mini-writing retreats. Each month, she'd spend two days at an Airbnb or retreat center. She'd write for a full day, sink into an uninterrupted night of sleep, then write the next day and be home in time for dinner. She produced one chapter a month, and spent the time in between refining her prose, preparing her research, and finding moments "where I could keep my head in the world of the book"—like putting on related podcasts while in the car.

"There were these two tracks in my mind happening at all times," she says. "One was the world of the book, and one was the urgent, immediate needs of my kids. Somehow, I was able to keep both of those tracks at once."

As she continued through her book—writing about a dancer who now performs and choreographs with her young daughter, an artist who exhibited more than 2,000 found photos of childbirth, a musician who nursed her baby minutes before taking the stage, and so many others—"I was really struck by how many different ways there are to be a mother and how many different ways there are to be an artist," she says.

Ricketts learned that Toni Morrison sent her two sons to stay with their grandparents every summer so she could write. She brushed up on Didion and discovered that she'd brought her young daughter to film shoots and on reporting trips. "There are just many ways to maximize our resources, and resources are not limited to money and to time," Ricketts says. "If you are married or have a partner in parenting, that's a resource. If you work a lucrative day job, that's a resource. If you have a really flexible day job, that's a resource. If you have extended family nearby, that's a resource. If your kid is a really good sleeper, that's a resource."

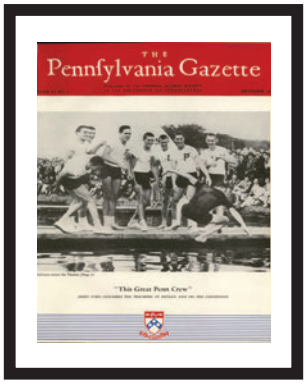
In early July, Ricketts was in the thick of promoting *The Mother Artist* while tending to her two young sons and ill husband. She was also nine months pregnant with her third child.

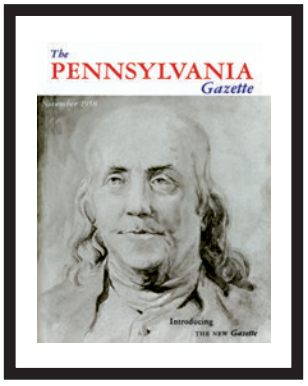
On top of her full-time day job in higher education, she had been giving podcast interviews, leading public workshops, reading at a Brooklyn art gallery, and curating a list of "smart and artful books about motherhood" to publish online. A few months earlier, she'd held her book launch at a gallery in Old City. Wellspring: A Mother Artist Project turned the second floor into a children's make-space. The third floor housed an exhibition of mother artists' work. Ricketts's four-year-old son sat in the front row for her reading.

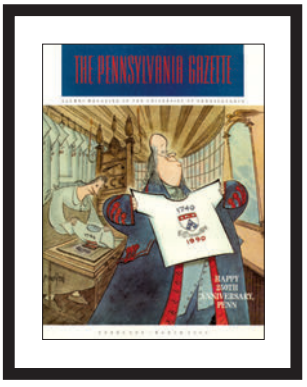
This all sounds like seamless mom-artist balancing, at least from the outside. But it turns out Ricketts is still feeling her way through—just like so many other mothers and artists and mother artists. As she writes at the end of her book: "I have not yet resolved many of the tensions I explore in these chapters. Except for one: whether an artist comes back to her art practice three weeks or thirty years after her child is born, her audience is better for her departure, and for her return."

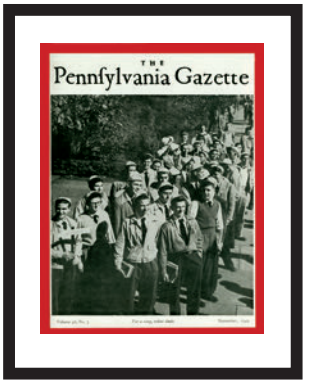
Molly Petrilla C'06 is a frequent *Gazette* contributor.

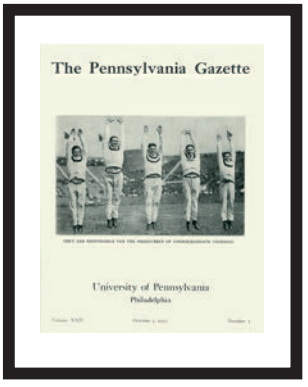
COLLECTIBLE COVERS

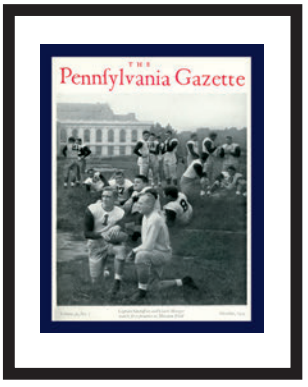


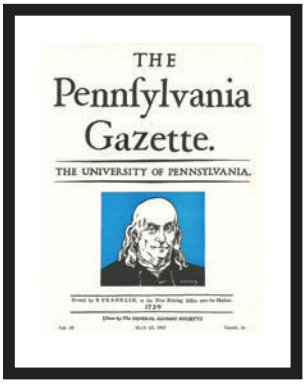


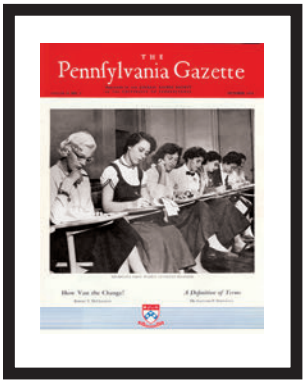












Looking for a specific cover? We take special orders.
Matted and framed: $125.00; matted only: $75.00
(Prices include S&H). Email caiazzo@upenn.edu

THEPENNGAZETTE.COM/COVERS

The last of Penn football's "Mungermen" recall the painful transition from big-time football to the Ivy League 70 years ago—including a University president's short-lived "Victory with Honor" campaign, a not-so-harmonious "harmony dinner," and the unceremonious exits of a legendary football coach and controversial athletic director.

By Dan Rottenberg

THE PRICE THEY PAID

Facing page, a game program for Penn's 1950 season opener against Virginia—the last of several high-profile clashes between the two schools in a series that dated back to 1890.

Through the first half of the 20th century, the University of Pennsylvania was celebrated in many quarters not as America's first university, nor for incubating America's first medical school, first business school, first psychological clinic, and the world's first electronic computer—but for its leading role in the American game of football.

From the sport's earliest years in the 1870s, Penn became football's primary laboratory for innovation, from the first fake handoff to the first placekick to the flying wedge to the "quarterback kick" (a forerunner of the forward pass) to America's first football stadium, not to mention America's first double-decked stadium. College football's two most prestigious awards—the Heisman Trophy for the game's outstanding player, and the Outland Trophy for the best lineman—are both named for Penn men. The Quakers won seven national championships in the 1890s and 1900s, played in the Rose Bowl in 1917, and competed against national powers in the 1920s. Through most of the 1940s, Penn football teams led the nation in home attendance, routinely drawing crowds of 70,000 and more to Franklin Field at a time when the local professional team, the Philadelphia Eagles, rarely attracted more than 12,000. Even now, Penn retains its status as the institution that has played more football games than any other organized team at any level—professional, collegiate, or scholastic.

Yet midway through the 20th century, this same gridiron colossus stunned the sports world by voluntarily downgrading its big-time football program to join the newly organized Ivy League, a consortium of eight of America's oldest and most distinguished universities. This earthshaking decision sought to make Penn as famous academically as it had been athletically. But the newly established Ivy code required all eight schools to subordinate athletics to academics, which in practice meant eliminating athletic scholarships, spring football practice, the physical education major, and any form of special privileges for athletes. Under the Ivy code, intercollegiate athletics would be operated not as vicarious entertainment for alumni or as a promotional fundraising tool, but as an educational opportunity for all students, much like any other campus activity.

These conditions imposed little sacrifice on the other Ivy League schools, which already subscribed to most of these ideals. But it seemed a cruel wrench for Penn, whose teams had twice been ranked among the nation's top ten in the 1940s and had routinely thrashed their Ivy rivals during that decade. Harvard and Yale had even refused to play Penn after 1943 and objected to admitting Penn to the newly organized league altogether.

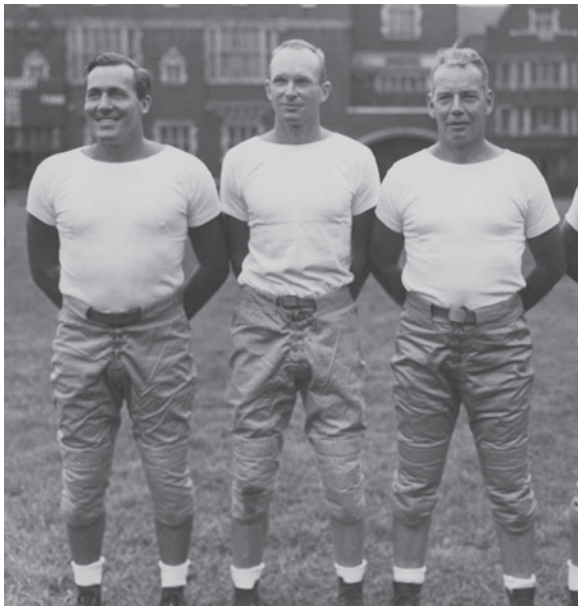
Yet ironically, Penn had honored much the same academic standards long before the Ivy code was formalized. As early as 1917, Penn had transferred control of its athletics programs from its alumni to the University administration (in theory, if not necessarily in practice). In 1931, when Penn was one of only four American universities taking in more than $1 million annually in football ticket receipts, the University assumed full control of all athletics—sharply reducing Penn's football budget, de-emphasizing intercollegiate competition in favor of intramural sports, and classifying coaches as full-time faculty members.

Despite these handicaps, by the 1940s Penn was once again ranked among the nation's football powers, thanks largely to its fortuitous choice of a remarkable head coach. George Munger Ed'33 was a

Program cover courtesy Penn Archives and Records Center


irginia
Pennsylvania
Franklin Field Illustrated
September 30, 1950 - 50 cents

George Munger, center, is flanked by assistant coaches Paul Riblett, left, and Rae Crowther, right, in 1945. Below, Penn President Harold Stassen (center, in hat) joins the Penn football team at its training camp in Hershey in 1948.



quiet introvert, just 29 years of age, when Penn selected him over a host of more celebrated candidates in 1938. As a student and teacher at Episcopal Academy on Philadelphia's Main Line, Munger had been marinated in the concept of a coach as a teacher and adviser rather than a drill sergeant, and consequently he personally embodied the Ivy philosophy long before the Ivy League was formalized.

In pursuit of his vision, Munger encouraged his players to call him "George" instead of "Coach." He let the team captains pick the starting lineup each week and call the plays, with only minimal direction from the sidelines. After practice, he left his players free to run their own lives. He was a poor speechmaker who shrank from giving pep talks or posting slogans in the locker room. As a football tactician, he was merely average. He was, wrote *Collier's Weekly*, "shy, inarticulate, slightly-goofy-looking." Yet by devoting himself to his players and treating them as adults, Munger generated a loyalty and commitment from them that few other coaches enjoyed anywhere.

During Munger's 16 years at Penn—then the longest tenure in the school's history—Penn teams lost just six of their 62 games against Ivy League opponents. The Quakers beat Army four times, once by a score of 48–0, and Navy nine times. They administered sound thrashings to famous teams like Wisconsin and North Carolina, and they were led by stars like Chuck Bednarik Ed'49, widely considered the greatest college center of all time.

Since Penn seemed so far superior in football to its Ivy League rivals, those schools generally assumed that Penn must be inferior academically or ethically, if not both. Penn was ridiculed for offering a major in physical education, a presumed haven for football players who couldn't cope with standard academic courses. Penn was also seen as benefitting from Pennsylvania's State Senate scholarship program, which entitled each of the commonwealth's 50 state senators to award three state-supported scholarships to Penn each year. Yet while Penn *did* have more players on scholarship than other Ivy programs in the 1940s, they ranked relatively high academically.

Penn's hopes of joining the Ivy League were further complicated by the arrival in 1948 of a new president in Harold Stassen Hon'48, the former governor of Minnesota, who was hired primarily to address the University's financial deficit. Stassen's desire to join the Ivy League was exceeded only by his pressing need to exploit Penn's famous football team to help solve the University's fiscal quandary. Thus, even as Stassen met with other Ivy presidents to discuss ways to de-emphasize football, he was arranging a big-time football schedule as a tool for increasing Penn's national visibility and for generating greater ticket sales and national television exposure—the very opposite of the de-emphasis that the other Ivy presidents had in mind.

Although the restrictions agreed upon by the Ivy presidents went into effect in 1953, the round-robin Ivy League schedule didn't begin until 1956. And the new big-time schedule created by Stassen and his athletic director Fran Murray C'37 began in 1953. Stassen, a Republican politician who sought the US presidential nomination in 1948 and 1952, departed early in 1953 to take a government job, leaving Munger and his players to face one of the most formidable schedules in college football history while hampered by the newly approved Ivy League restrictions against athletic scholarships and spring practice. In effect, in

Photos courtesy *Pennsylvania Gazette*

Ernie Prudente idolized George Munger and was a fixture at Mungermen reunions at Penn before passing away in 2020.

1953 they were required to play by Ivy League rules even though they played only one Ivy League opponent—Penn's traditional rival, Cornell.

Murray was fired as athletic director that May, and a week later Munger (who was only 44 years old) and his staff resigned in protest rather than commit professional suicide that fall. Penn's acting president, William DuBarry C1916, prevailed on them to remain for one more season, but their hearts were no longer in the task, and the recruiting they did for their successors was minimal.

Meanwhile, Penn players who were recruited to play big-time football found themselves competing against a big-time schedule but with the handicap of Ivy League restrictions. In many cases, they also found themselves unqualified academically for an Ivy League curriculum but were precluded, under Ivy restrictions, from receiving the sort of tutoring that had previously been provided to Penn players who needed it. Against the so-called "suicide schedule" of the next three years, Penn won just three games in 1953 and none in 1954 and 1955.

This bizarre football saga has been the subject of many newspaper and magazine articles and several doctoral theses. But these accounts have often overlooked the personal stories of those players and coaches who were caught in the gears of Penn's painful transition to the Ivy League. The excerpts below convey the words of several "Mungermen," as Munger's players were known. Some of them have died since 2019, when I began interviewing about two dozen survivors of the Munger era. Their voices provide a sense of the human price that was paid for the prestige of Ivy League affiliation, and of the confusion and bitterness that resulted from Penn's decision to scrap its celebrated football program. But with 70 years of hindsight, all of them concede that, in retrospect, Penn did the right thing, as the University's affiliation with the Ivy League became the decisive factor in its ability to attract world-class faculty and world-class students.

Missing, of course, are the voices of the involved coaches and administrators, who were already adults in the early '50s and thus long gone by the time I undertook this project. Readers may rightly reproach me for failing to undertake this mission decades ago. I trust they will agree when I reply: Better late than never.

ERNEST "ERNIE" PRUDENTE ED'51 GED'62

He played tackle for Penn's 1948, 1949, and 1950 teams, and went on to become a coach at Haverford and Swarthmore. Interviewed January 11, 2019. Died April 14, 2020.

When I was a sophomore, I was on the third team and hardly ever played. In those days, they didn't have many subs. Even if you were on the second team, you might not get in the game. When you played, you ran down on kick receiving teams, punting teams, kickoffs—you played the whole game.

So, guys were killing each other in practice because everybody wanted to play on Franklin Field. That was everybody's goal—heaven on earth and everything else. It's hard to believe, 80,000 people in the stands, screaming. Just a wonderful experience.

George Munger was like a father image. He always took care of his boys. He wanted everybody to love Penn like he did. These poor guys came to Penn with no coats; he bought them suits, shirts, ties. He wanted everybody to look Ivy League and be classy looking. He wanted good morals, good everything.

Every time we won a game, we got an ice cream cake the following Tuesday night. My junior year, we lost to Army, 14–13. [Army was ranked No. 2 in the nation at the time.] But we got an ice cream cake anyway.

A guy like me, I wasn't like an All-American, and I was an education major. After my senior season, George called me into the office and said, "What are you gonna do now?"

I said, "Well, my education takes five years to get a master's degree."

He said, "We'll take care of that for you, too."

"It's hard to believe, 80,000 people in the stands, screaming. Just a wonderful experience."

So I had a scholarship for my fifth year even though I was not playing. Who would ever do something like that? It made me cry.

When I came to Penn, Harold Stassen got to be president. He came to Hershey to see us practice. He said we're gonna win with glory and all that other stuff. [Author's note: Stassen's slogan, announced by his athletic director Franny Murray in 1950, was "Victory with Honor."]

I got out in '51. And George had a hard time winning games after that. When he quit, in '53, he was only 44 years old—to become director of intramural athletics. His assistant coach Paul Riblett W'32 said, "The only thing George does now is check the pH level in the water at the swimming pool." I know he did more than that.

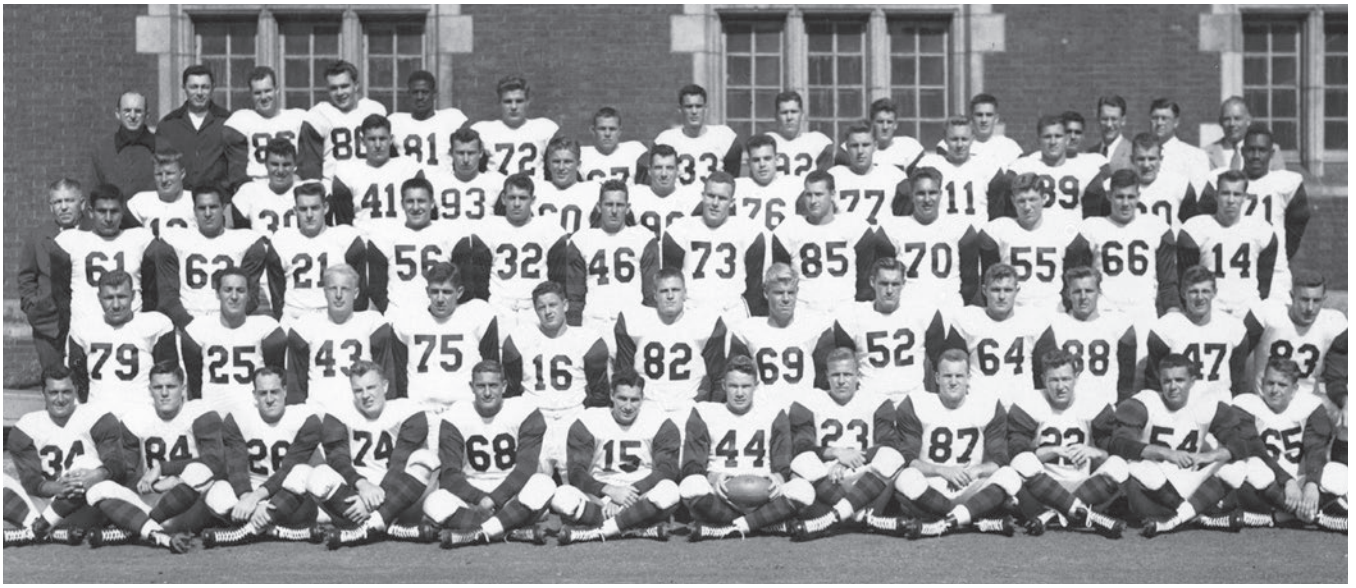
NORMAN WILDE W'53

He played end on Penn's 1950, 1951, and 1952 teams and later ran an investment house in Philadelphia. Interviewed February 6, 2019.

We played nine games in those days, and seven or eight of them were at home. We used to take a 45-minute bus ride to Philmont Country Club the day before home games, change up there, and have a workout on one of the fairways on

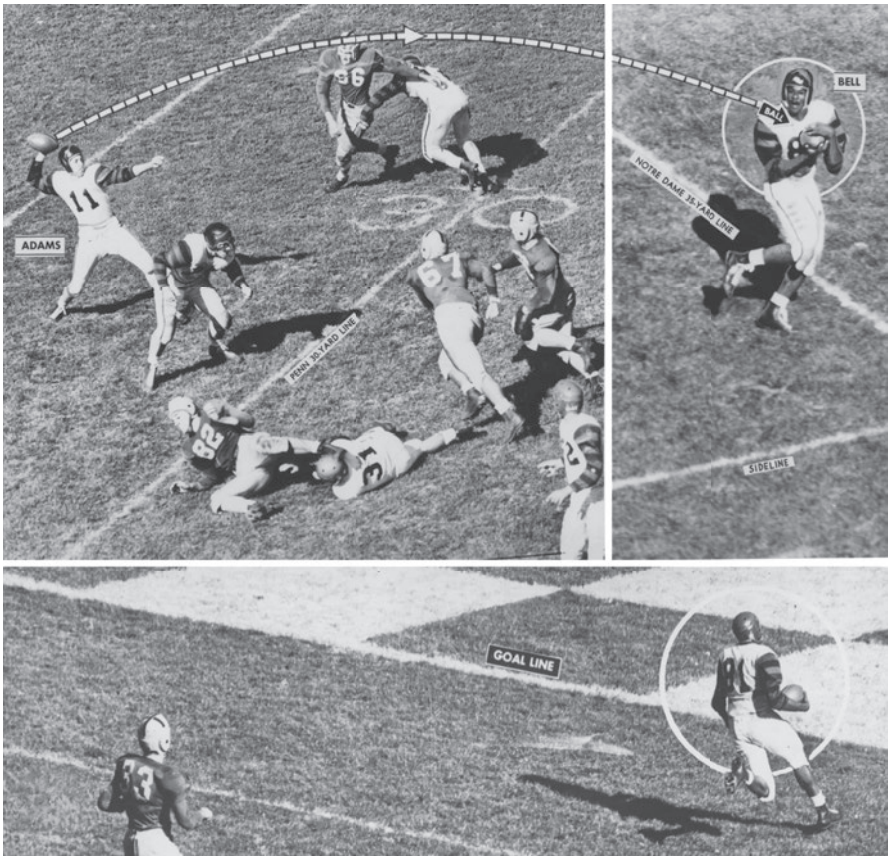
Photo courtesy Penn Archives and Records Center

A photo of the 1950 team includes Norman Wilde (No. 14 in third row, right) and Ernie Prudente (No. 75 in second row). Below, quarterback Glenn Adams completes a long touchdown pass to All-American Eddie Bell during a 7–7 tie with 10th-ranked Notre Dame in the 1952 season opener.



the south golf course. Then we would go in and have dinner. We'd sleep there. They had some single rooms upstairs for the best players, and a big room where they put cots in for the rest of us. And you'd get up in the morning and have a big glass of orange juice and a huge filet mignon and a big potato—stuff like that. We'd eat that at about 10 in the morning before riding back to Philly.

At that time, we brought in the first two Black players to play for Penn, Bob Evans C'53 and Eddie Bell C'54. Evans was the captain of the 1952 team. Eddie Bell was a first team All-American that year. After dinner up in Hershey one year, four or five of us decided to go out and get some ice cream cones. We drove over to Hummelstown, which is between Hershey and Harrisburg. We walked into this ice cream store, and Bell was with us—four white guys and one Black guy. And the owner or the counterman said, "We can't serve him." So we all walked out: "If you're not serving Eddie, you're not serving us."



George Munger had a contract that went through the '53 season. As I remember assistant coach and former Penn football player Bill Talarico Ed'49 telling the story, George had the chance to continue as coach, or become head of intramural athletics at Penn. He was trying to make up his mind because they were about to enter the Ivy League. And he knew that he wasn't going to get the same things scholarship-wise, compared to what he had been getting. There was a Penn trustee—Jim Skinner C1911, the president of Philco—who gave a lot of money to the University. [Author's note: A major booster, Skinner was the donor of "Skinner Scholarships" for Penn football players and paid for the program's preseason camp in Hershey.] According to Talarico,

Photos courtesy Penn Archives and Records Center and *Pennsylvania Gazette*

any time Munger had a problem getting a good football player in through the admissions department, Skinner would go to the dean. Talarico said that he was on his way back to a meeting with Munger and line coach Rae Crowther and Riblett to decide what they wanted to do the following year. "I walked in the room," Talarico said, "and somebody told me that Skinner just had a heart attack and died." And that's why George picked up the intramural stuff.

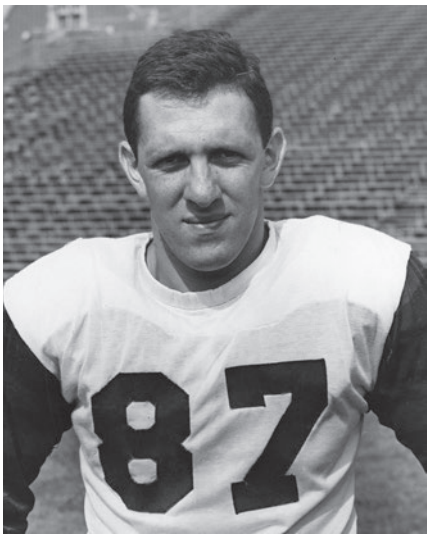
I had dinner with [former Penn State football coach] Joe Paterno about 20 years ago at some charity function. And he said, "When Penn went Ivy League, that made the program of Penn State, because we used to lose six to eight recruits a year to Penn. I know George was grief stricken over that, but we were the ones who took advantage of that situation."

RICHARD "DICK" ROSENBLEETH W'54 L'57

He played defensive end on Munger's last teams, from 1951 to 1953. He became a lawyer and a coach in Philadelphia, beginning as an assistant under Munger's successor, Steve Sebo. Interviewed March 8, 2019.

We had the biggest scholarship class in the history of Penn football at that time. There were, I think, 33 football scholarships, because the Stassen "Victory with Honor" program had just begun. We had major opponents from around the country. So, it was a very interesting time, and we had a great freshman team with guys like Joe Varaitis W'54 and Jack Shanafelt W'54, who became stars. We beat everybody by four and five touchdowns. *Look* magazine called us "Stassen's Assassins." That's where that expression originated.

George Munger was really a gracious man, a gentleman, not a typical football coach in his outlook and the way he handled people. He was interested in the whole picture of college football, not just the wins and losses. Of course, he was very competitive. But he loved the game and the color and excitement. And he loved to see the progress of his players over the



years, both as players and as citizens.

I didn't start my sophomore year [1951]. I was on the kickoff team, and I played in most of the games. And then my junior year, I started on defense. They were great, exciting years—Franklin Field filled, playing the best teams, the best coaches, the best players in the country.

The game tickets were a major factor for the players. You got four free and you could buy eight. And there were times—a couple of the Notre Dame games, maybe Ohio State—where players would buy the eight tickets and then sell them. And that was important money. You could make two or three hundred dollars on a game. This was at a time when tuition was only about $600 a year. And we played just about all our games at home.

In '53 we played under both the new Ivy League restrictions and the new NCAA substitution rules. That was a disaster. No spring practice, and you had to play both ways. You couldn't stay in the game—they had some silly rule that if you were in on defense, you had to stay in for at least ten plays. Also, it limited the number of our recruits.

As I understand it, the other Ivy presidents were going to boot Penn out of the Ivy League. They weren't going to play Penn anymore, if Penn continued on the Stassen path, with the big-time schedule and big-time crowds, and getting your revenue from that.

By 1953, out of the 33 very good scholarship football players we had as freshmen, there may have been 12 or 13 left. They either left school or were injured or were no longer interested in playing football. And the sophomore and junior classes were much more limited.

Oh, there were some good football players, but not the quantity you need if people get injured and you need replacements. But '53 was still a great year because of the opponents and playing on Franklin Field. The games we did win—Eddie Gramigna W'54 kicked a field goal to beat Navy, 9–6, and we beat Vanderbilt and Penn State. But playing that national schedule under the new Ivy League rules brought George his first losing season.

I always took the position that to have dropped the major college football teams from Penn's schedules was a big mistake. But I've since concluded, if you look at what the University has become, and its affiliation with the rest of the Ivies, it was probably the right course. Still, if you ask any of the Mungermen, we would have still opted for seventy, eighty thousand people in Franklin Field playing Army, Navy, Notre Dame, and so on.

The last time I saw George Munger was the last Mungermen get-together before he died [in 1994]. He had made a speech, and it was a typical George Munger speech—funny, witty, and inspiring. I went to the game afterward, and I was sitting behind George, and I said, "George, what a great speech. Just like old times." He looked at me and his eyes filled up with tears—I could see them behind his glasses—and he hugged me and said, "Richard, I love you."

A ticket stub for George Munger's final game as head coach of Penn, in which Dick Rosenbleeth (photo) played—and players may have scalped for tuition money.

Photos courtesy Penn Archives and Records Center

GEORGE BOSSELER W'54

An All-American defensive back in 1952 and captain in 1953, he wrote a letter to Penn officials pleading for the right to hold spring practice in preparation for Penn's 1953 season. Interviewed September 13, 2019. Died April 21, 2021.

George Munger was a shy person and a humble person. He didn't go out of his way to embellish anything. If he gave an interview, it was pretty short. He had a lot of empathy, and he cared for people. He would often ask—not only me, but all the players—"How are you doing in school? Do you need any help with it?" I don't know anybody that disliked him except, you know, Fran Murray at the end.

Early in 1953, the NCAA changed the rules from the two-platoon system to one-platoon, which required the coaching staff to utilize players differently. And they imposed some other substitution rules too. If you came out of the game in the first quarter, you couldn't go back in until the second quarter. Meanwhile, the Ivy League had agreed to eliminate spring practice. But they were mostly playing each other. We had a big-time schedule with only one Ivy opponent.

When this happened, we players didn't know how to handle it. So, I called a meeting in late February of '53. And through the consensus of the team, I wrote a letter to the University's trustees. It gave some examples of perhaps what we could do to keep ourselves in shape and maintain unity in the absence of spring practice.

One suggestion was touch football. Another one was track. Another was rugby. DuBarry [Penn's acting president] replied in a letter to me, saying he agreed with everything that I had written, except that he didn't know how the University and/or the Ivies would accept a special sport just for the football team, unless it was open to all students.

So that didn't come to pass. Some of the guys—not all—played different sports or intramurals in the spring. I played baseball, but only that one year.

In any case, my letter to the Penn trustees leaked to the *Daily Pennsylvanian* and other news outlets. DuBarry summoned me to his office. I don't even know if I knew he was the president before I got the message to report to his office. He wasn't a name you would see in news articles, like Harold Stassen. I put on the best clothes I had and reported to College Hall. The secretary led me into a big room—nice furniture, long table, maybe six chairs on each side. DuBarry sat at the head. I think I sat between George Munger and DuBarry. Fran [Murray] was on the other side of the table.

And this was how it started: Mr. DuBarry said, "Mr. Bosseler. Why did you write this letter?" And I thought to myself, *Oh, shit.*

I went through the litany of telling him why. But that's putting a 21-year-old kid on the defensive in a hurry, right? Then he tried to lead the discussion between Fran and George. From the questions that he was asking, I got the feeling that he didn't know much about athletics. And of course, Fran and George each had their own agenda, their own job description. Fran's job description, through Stassen, was to fill Franklin Field. But the part that I didn't know at the time was that the University was in financial difficulties and Stassen had felt filling Franklin Field was a way of gaining revenue.

What he didn't do was consult with George. And George took offense at this, because George was the guy who had to play these teams. And now he had to play these teams without spring training, and with a change in rules, which meant a change in coaching philosophy—how to use players effectively. And George resented it all.

So the two of them [Munger and Murray] went back and forth. And then Fran turned to me and said, "You guys are afraid to play this schedule, aren't you?"

"No, we're not," I said. "We just would like to have some good backup, so mentally and physically, and in every other way, we're prepared to play these teams."

Well, to Fran, it looked like we were scared. That wasn't true. We had good ballplayers out there. Many guys could have played for any one of those teams we played. George stood up for us, too. "These guys are good football players," he said. "They can take care of themselves."

That was kind of how the conversation went. I don't think there were any winners or losers. Five days after the meeting [on March 9, 1953] there was a so-called "harmony dinner" for the team, summoned by Murray, at a downtown club. I remember Fran saying at the dinner that we players were afraid of our 1953 schedule, and George took the players' side. [Author's note: Several former athletes recalled an uncomfortable and tense meeting, with Munger calling Murray's prepared remarks an unjust attack on his players. Rosenbleeth said he fruitlessly pleaded for spring practice by asking, "Would you exclude us from studying before finals?" Former player John Cannon W'54 called it "a nasty exchange—an unusual experience, to say the least, for students to watch that fight going on between adults."] Fran was pretty slick, in the sense that he was good with words. He had a way of putting the knife in you, too.

If you look at the scores of our games in '53, we were only blown out by California. Otherwise, we were competitive. We lost to Ohio State, 12–6. Michigan, 24–14. Notre Dame, 28–20. But looking back, we certainly lacked the manpower these teams had. And they were all good athletes, obviously. By comparison, we had maybe 30 guys who played a reasonable amount of time. We doubled up so much—I was on all the special teams. And back then, the game was a little bit different: less passing and more hard-nosed stuff.

JIM SHADA W'56 GED'67

As a Penn sophomore in 1953, he played on Munger's last team and captained the 1955 team, which lost all nine of its games. He went on to work at Penn for more than 30 years. Interviewed February 12, 2019. Died June 6, 2019.

When I was recruited [in 1952], the Ivy League didn't exist. And if you would have said to me when I was recruited, you're going to play some Ivy League

schools, I would have said, "Where's the Ivy League?" I went to Penn to play against the best teams in the East and South and Midwest. We played California, Michigan, Ohio State, Virginia Tech. We played Notre Dame, and Army and Navy, who then were big powerhouses.

When Jerry Ford C'32 G'42 came to campus [as athletic director in 1953], I was working as a clerk in the dorms and helped him get settled. He certainly believed in the Ivy league totally. He came from St. George's School in Rhode Island, which is a good prep school. And he was an academic.

The other Ivy League schools had thin skins, because we were beating the hell out of them over the years. And they did everything they could, I think, to make it difficult for us [to join the Ivy League]. Whoever struck the deal to "allow" us into the Ivy League didn't compensate for the fact that we'd have a transition period. My class was George Munger's last recruiting class. We didn't have a team squad meeting that I know of where Munger came and explained what was going on. And we suffered from the restrictions: no spring practice, difficulty in the classroom, and no help in the classroom.

We played under these Ivy rules—but we didn't know what the Ivy League was! We never had an Ivy League schedule. I'll give you a laughable example. My senior year [1955], I was named an All-Ivy guard. In my four years at Penn, I played four games against Cornell, two games against Princeton, and that was it. I never saw Brown, Dartmouth, Harvard, or Yale. And I was All-Ivy. Bob Paul W'39 [Penn's director of sports information] pulled it off. He said Penn had to have somebody, and I was the somebody.

George Munger was a happy-go-lucky guy. Bill Talarico, the backfield coach, was tough as nails. Rae Crowther was probably the best line coach in America, and also the inventor of the blocking sled. Crowther taught me how to play football—what to do with your feet, what to do with your balance, what to do with

Jim Shada served as captain of the 1955 team that finished 0–9 for a second straight season.

Photo courtesy Penn Archives and Records Center

your mind. But I never learned one bit of football after that year. Never. Because Crowther left. Munger left. They all left.

My junior and senior years, we went 0 and 18. We didn't win a game. It was brutal. When we stayed at the country club the night before games, I used to room with Stan Chaplin W'56, and we would talk about what was coming. I'll never forget some of those conversations. We'd say, "Well, let's see. We have Penn State, Navy, Notre Dame, and Army coming up in the next four weeks. Lord above, send down a dove." It's an old saying my Irish grandmother used. That summed up how we felt. We were desperate.

What's interesting is, in those games, we played pretty good in the first half. But we ran out of gas in the second half. We had a pretty good first team but we had no depth. The first half against Notre Dame in '55, we were tied. [The game began with a famous 108-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by Frank Riepl W'58.] It shocked the country when they first broadcast the score. It was nationally televised—10 of our games were, over those two years. At halftime in the dressing room, I think we knew what was coming. In the second half, Notre Dame's third team came on and beat us. I mean, they had so much depth. They had guys playing that could have gone any place else and started.

When I think back, my Penn football career was dismal, but my academic career was very fruitful. If I was a senior in high school again, I would not have gone to Penn. To go 0 and 18? I would have gone somewhere else. But I'm glad I didn't, because of Penn's rigorous education. That was very, very important to me—my education there.

EPILOGUE

A few months after Shada and his class graduated, Penn began its official round-robin Ivy League schedule. The Quakers snapped a 23-game and nearly three-year winless streak with a 14–7 home win over Dartmouth in the second game of the 1956 campaign. According to the New York Times *recap of the game, "some over-exuberant Penn rooters rushed out onto the field and tore down the goal posts. That happened with a half-minute of play remaining, and the game was concluded with no uprights."*

Three years later, Penn captured its first of 18 Ivy League football championships. Fans tore down the goal posts after every *win of that 1959 season.*

For many decades, the Mungermen gathered for reunions to relive Penn's football glory days ["Gazetteer," Jan|Feb 2018]. They facilitated the erection of a George Munger statue, ensuring that it can be seen by fans outdoors at Franklin Field. Many died believing that Munger's finest coaching job came amidst all the turmoil in 1953—his only losing season.

Excerpted from *The Price We Paid: An Oral History of Penn's Struggle to Join the Ivy League, 1950–55*. Edited for length and reprinted with the author's permission. Rottenberg will speak about this book on November 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Penn Bookstore and on November 16 at 11 a.m. at the Penn Alumni Old Guard brunch at Houston Hall's Hall of Flags. A former Penn football player and longtime journalist, Rottenberg has written 13 books, including a recent memoir, *The Education of a Journalist*, which was featured in the *Gazette* ["Professional Contrarian," Sep|Oct 2022].

Sculpting a Life Story

From legendary athletes to historical luminaries, Zenos Frudakis has created some monumental works of art.

By JoAnn Greco

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL BRANSCOM

Muhammad Ali was always larger than life, but encountering him in the middle of a sunlit barn in the Philadelphia suburbs is especially startling. That's partly because he's split in half.

Head slightly tilted, his gloved fists are poised to sting like a bee. The elastic waistband of his boxing shorts, clearly marked by the Everlast logo, rises above the table upon which his torso rests. On a neighboring wood plank, planted in a wide stance, his boot-shod feet seem antsy, itching to dance in the ring. Adding to the late boxing champion's presence: he's flanked by a modestly

Previous page: Frudakis in his studio.
Below: detail of Muhammad Ali's boot, with reference photo and sculpture tools.

attired Benjamin Franklin and a confident Thomas Paine, holding a quill pen in one hand and a copy of *Common Sense* in the other.

The three 10-foot-tall pieces occupy center stage in this huge studio, where sculptor Zenos Frudakis FA'82 GFA'83 spends most of his waking hours. Here, over the next few weeks, just steps away from his clapboard home, Frudakis will add textural details to the statues before workers from Laran Bronze, a fine art foundry in Chester, Pennsylvania, come to collect them for casting. After they're completed and settled in their new homes—Ali's soon-to-be-joined halves are destined for Lewiston, Maine, where "The Greatest" famously knocked out Sonny Liston in round one of their 1965 heavyweight championship rematch—they'll join Frudakis's oeuvre of 100-plus figurative works.

Over four decades, the sculptor has earned commissions to capture many sports luminaries in action (including a quartet of Philadelphia Phillies Hall of Famers—Mike Schmidt, Steve Carlton, Robin Roberts, Richie Ashburn—that greet fans outside of Citizens Bank Park), as well as historic personages like Clarence Darrow, Martin Luther King Jr., Frederick Law Olmsted, and Nina Simone. It's a prodigious output that reflects his diverse interests. "I have an intrinsic desire to learn," Frudakis says. "And I've gotten to the point where I can be picky about what I take on. A lot of these people are personal heroes."

"I've gotten to the point where I can be picky about what I take on. A lot of these people are personal heroes."

Dressed in a black polo shirt and black pants, Frudakis weaves through the other nearly completed statues positioned around his studio. There's Thomas Paine (eventually headed to the National Mall) and teen idol Bobby Rydell (making its way to Wildwood, New Jersey). At the far end of the studio, a life-sized form of a stalking jaguar waits patiently to move on to the Elmwood Park Zoo in Norristown, Pennsylvania. The Ben Franklin sculpture? "That's not a commission," Frudakis says. "It's for me, for now. He's important to me. He's part of America's Enlightenment age."

He continues his tour, pointing to some of the dozens of bronze and plaster artist's proof casts that rest on top of the bookshelves, crammed with art and history tomes, that line the walls. "There's

From top: Benjamin Franklin in fur cap and bifocals, life-size portrait in the round of Frederick Douglass, portrait relief of Charles Darwin, and a rough study for a bust of Don McLean.

Payne Stewart—I do a lot of golfers," he says. "Here's an RBG that I gave to Hillary Clinton. That's ['70s balladeer] Don McLean, he's become my best friend. There's our dog."

Pausing his stream-of-consciousness chatter for a minute, he peers down at his hand. "What am I doing, walking around with this thing?" he says of the pointy chisel he's holding. "Your tools become an extension of your fingers and thumb." Over the years, he's acquired vintage tools like this one from the estates of sculptors who have died. "You don't see many of these anymore—they have handles made from ebony and other exotic woods. And look at this," he adds, stopping to grab a small chunk of what looks like dark gray putty from a larger ball. It's an oil-based clay from Italy that's about 100 years old and valued for its ability to stay moist and

Bust of Ruth Bader Ginsburg flanked by Mark Twain and two casts of Ulysses S. Grant, and a photo of Frudakis at five or six in a traditional Greek military uniform.

be reused. "I have some of this stuff that was used for the Lincoln Memorial and the sculpture of Ben Franklin at the Franklin Institute," Frudakis says. "I love those connections to history."

Before he even raises antique chisel to pre-loved clay, Frudakis's preparations include—depending on whether the subject is a historical hero or a living legend—sifting through books, articles, and photographs for information and inspiration; interviewing the subject's peers or family members; preparing a series of sketches and/or painting a portrait and sourcing the props that will help enliven the sculpture. Forming the piece involves dozens of additional steps, with hundreds of modifications and course corrections along the way.

"My first language, in a sense, was visual. ... Drawing was a way of learning and understanding reality for me."

Growing up in an Indiana household where his Greek-American parents didn't speak much English at home, Frudakis says "my first language, in a sense, was visual. I remember a babysitter who liked to sketch, and she drew a profile with two noses. I thought, *that doesn't match the reality I see*, so I redrew a face with one nose. I remember a little later taking a test at school and when I was done, I flipped it over and drew the teacher. Drawing was a way of learning and understanding reality for me."

He would go on to study painting with his much older (by 30 years) half-brother EvAngelos Frudakis, an accomplished sculptor, and eventually follow in his footsteps by coming to Philadelphia to attend the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. In the mid-1970s, he began producing his first sculptures, including a polychrome bust (featuring a glass eye) of his father, Vasilis, and one of his new-

Cast of seven-foot figure, *Flying*, outside Frudakis's studio, which is also part of a three-figure work, *Dream to Fly*, located in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

lywed wife Rosalie Gluchoff. (Even though they've been divorced for nearly 30 years, she still visits his studio every day to help run his business.)

In 1977 he enrolled at Penn to study art history with the renowned scholar and critic Leo Steinberg. "I was very excited to be around great professors like him and to learn about the humanities," Frudakis says. "Sculpting was always people-centered for me; it's just a medium to understand the measure of a man or woman. I like to think that I'm going to grow in making a piece, and that hopefully the viewer will too."

Soon after earning his master's degree, Frudakis received one of his earliest commissions to fashion a bust of the newly elected mayor of Philadelphia, W. Wilson Goode. That gig eventually led, some 15 years later, to the unveiling of a much larger sculpture of an even more controversial Philadelphia mayor, Frank Rizzo. "I arrived in Philadelphia in 1972," he says now, "and I was very aware that he was polarizing then and became even more so after he died [in 1991]. But when you want to make a living in monumental sculpture, you need to have some of men in suits and at the time I didn't have many. This was a big commission in a prominent place that would make it possible to really showcase my work." The sculpture stood for two decades on the plaza of the Municipal Services Building but was removed in 2020 during the Black Lives Matter protests and placed in storage.

"I like to think that I'm going to grow in making a piece, and that hopefully the viewer will too."

While his career has emphasized portrait sculpture, Frudakis has occasionally dipped into the allegorical, including his personal favorite, *Freedom,* which was installed in Center City in 2000 and depicts four bas relief figures in various stages of breaking free from their bronze encasement. Currently, he is working on a piece about the persistence of time, inspired by *Four Quartets,* T. S. Eliot's classic meditation on the subject.

"I've always thought a lot about death, mutability, and loss," the 73-year-old sculptor says. "But as I get older, now seems the right time to explore these ideas through sculpture. Context, and being a different person in a different time, has always guided my work and kept me from repeating myself."

JoAnn Greco is a frequent contributor to the *Gazette*.

FOLLOW US ONLINE

THEPENNGAZETTE.COM
@PENNGAZETTE

Calendar

Annenberg Center
pennlivearts.org
Nov. 3 Zakir Hussain & Rahul Sharma
Nov. 7 The Gesualdo Six
Nov. 10 Abdullah Ibrahim Trio
Nov. 16 Ben Folds
Nov. 22–23 Limón Dance Company
Nov. 24 Seo Jungmin
Dec. 6 Gillian Welch & David Rawlings
Dec. 8 Bria Skonberg
Dec. 13 Grand Kyiv Ballet: The Nutcracker
Dec. 13–14 Le Patin Libre

Above: Le Patin Libre.
Photo by Rolline Laporte courtesy Penn Live Arts

ICA
icaphila.org
Where I Learned to Look: Art from the Yard
Joanna Piotrowska: unseeing eyes, restless bodies
Both through Dec. 1

Kelly Writers House
writing.upenn.edu/wh/
Nov. 6 Rae Armantrout
Nov. 7 Don Mee Choi
Nov. 13 Karen Tumulty & Dick Polman
Nov. 16 Emerging Journalists on Culture Writing: Beatrice Forman C'22, Taylor Hosking C'17, Samuel Yellowhorse Kesler C'20, Amanda Silberling C'18, Meg Gladieux C'23 GEd'24
Nov. 19 Chef to Chef: Shaina Loew-Banayan & Gabrielle Hamilton
Nov. 19 Gary Shteyngart
Nov. 21 Ross Gay

Morris Arboretum and Gardens
morrisarboretum.org
open daily

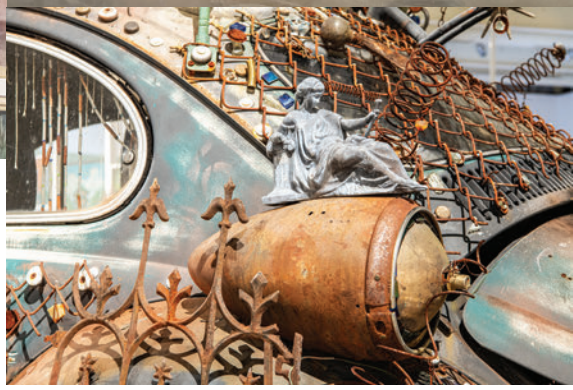
Penn Libraries
library.upenn.edu
Boxing at the Legendary Blue Horizon: Photographs by Larry Fink
Through Dec. 15
Concrete on Paper: The Architectural, Technological, and Cultural Heritage of Concrete
Through April 28, 2025
Through Nursing's Lens: The Nurse in Wartime Imagery and Photographs
Opening Nov. 13

Penn Museum
penn.museum
Open Tuesday-Sunday

World Café Live
worldcafelive.com
Nov. 6 Mickey Guyton
Nov. 7 Joel Kim Booster: Rude Little Pig
Nov. 10 Craig Finn
Nov. 12 Blake Proehl/Haven/Madison/Kaibrienne/KAYKO
Nov. 15 Haley Heynderickx
Nov. 19 Coco Montoya & Ronnie Baker Brooks
Nov. 20 Forest Blakk
Nov. 21 Bit Brigade Performs "Super Mario World" + "F-Zero"
Nov. 22 The Pineapple Thief
Nov. 23 Jason Wade of Lifehouse
Nov. 26 Kings Kaleidoscope
Nov. 30 Minas Quintet
Dec. 3 The Moth StorySLAM: Silver Linings
Dec. 6 Carbon Leaf
Dec. 7 Bermuda Search Party
Dec. 10 Squirrel Nut Zippers
Dec. 11 Tinder Live! With Lane Moore
Dec. 12 Fantastic Cat
Dec. 13 The Bygones
Dec. 14 York Street Hustle Holiday Spectacular
Dec. 19 The Voices of Motown Christmas
Dec. 30 The Slambovian Circus of Dreams

Garden Variety

The ICA takes a spirited swing at American yard art.



Untitled (windmill) by Hipolito "Polé" Hernandez, and painted mesh screens by the Painted Screen Society; *Lot 060624 (house, orange)* by Donald Moffett; detail from Clarke Bedford's *Art Car (Volkswagen)*.

One of the most striking—and fun—pieces on view in "Where I Learned to Look: Art From the Yard," which runs through December 1 at the Institute of Contemporary Art, is a handmade contraption that exemplifies what inspired Josh T. Franco, the exhibition's guest curator, to become an artist and art historian. A whimsical windmill crafted from found objects by his grandfather, Hipolito "Polé" Hernandez, it's a prime example of "yard art." Often made by untutored artists, such works—adorning backyards, porches, and driveways across America—expand the idea of who gets to create art, and where it's displayed, Franco contends.

He adds that Hernandez's untitled mixed-media tower also epitomizes the Chicano aesthetic known as *rasquachismo*, which the curator defines as a culturally specific term for "creating the most with the least." Many of the 30 pieces on view, from both well-known and community-trained artists, are made using unexpected and often inexpensive materials.

Examples include Franco's own *Giant White Snake (probably Mescalero Apache),* which slithers across a bed of artificial turf and is crafted from cheap marble chips sourced from big-box garden centers. Nearby, a monumentalized tangerine-hued birdhouse, *Lot 060624 (house, orange)* by San Antonio–born artist Donald Moffett, rests high atop a common driftwood post that's set into a mound of pecans—a symbol of Texas—piled into the center of an abandoned rubber tire. Others, such as *Gazing Ball (Birdbath),* a signature piece by Jeff Koons, elevate common garden ornaments, in this case by casting a Classical-style pedestal from plaster and topping it with a royal blue mirrored glass orb. And Franco playfully juxtaposes Koons' grandiloquent version of a birdbath with an imposing assemblage by self-taught artist vanessa german. Titled *nothing can separate you from the language you cry,* and composed in part of cobalt blue bottles, it references Southern "bottle trees"—real or fake trees hung with glass vessels, a tradition brought over from Africa and designed to ward off evil spirits.

There's also a minimalist pine bench by the one other contemporary celebrity artist to make the cut, Donald Judd. It's a beautiful piece, and one that has an unexpected connection to the place where the exhibition's curator first "learned to look." It turns out that Franco's grandfather lived in Marfa, the West Texas town to which Judd famously retreated in the 1960s and which has since turned into a pilgrimage site for art buffs.

Photography by Constance Mensh courtesy ICA

Detail from *Preparing La Virgen (December 3, 2023, Marfa, TX),* video and mixed-media installation by Josh T. Franco; *Winter Garden Bench 16* by Donald Judd and still image from *Coney Island Baby* by BUSH Gallery; *Giant White Snake (probably Mescalero Apache),* by Josh T. Franco.

Franco underlines that linkage with a video and mixed-media installation of his own creation that interweaves the artistic movements and intergenerational traditions that this diverting collection of work aims to unpack. Filmed in the home and yard where his grandfather once lived, *Preparing La Virgen (December 3, 2023, Marfa, TX)* follows the Sanchez family who now live on the property as they cobble together an altar with *rasquachismo* inventiveness—a bathtub stood on end serves as a small chapel—in anticipation of a feast day celebrating the Virgin of Guadeloupe. Accompanying their preparations is a fanciful spoken and written narrative from the Virgin, who muses on the nature of iconography and pilgrimages and considers those who worship her and those who come to pay tribute to her neighbor, Judd.

More directly, this collection of art from the yard attempts to explore the purpose of an often communal and always liminal outdoor space between our homes and the greater world. And, as several pieces obliquely point out, the yard doesn't have to be pastoral. Selections from Baltimore's Painted Screen Society, for example, showcase the decades-old tradition of painting mesh screens to provide privacy when windows were thrown open to allow in cool breezes. The images here range from a portrait of three neighborhood women (wearing huge pearls, bouffants, and cats-eye glasses), to depictions of the horse-drawn carts used by the mobile vendors long known by Baltimoreans as "arabbers," to a cartoonish but fierce alien creature. Also attention-getting and very urban is Clarke Bedford's *Art Car (Volkswagen)*, a bedazzled Beetle that's completely covered in junkyard finds like rusted fencing, metal figurines, architectural salvage, and a surfeit of rear-window mirrors.

Occasionally these ideas veer further afield, both literally and figuratively, as in a disturbing pair of films, shot in the snowy interior of British Columbia by First Nations artists, that attempt to expand our notions of the backyard while exploring the difficulty of carrying on cultural traditions that contemporary circumstances have a way of thwarting. *Coney Island Baby,* a digital video by the collective BUSH Gallery, follows the filmmakers as they stalk and gut rabbits. Brian Jungen and Duane Linklater's 16mm *Modest Livelihood*—the title refers to a 1999 Canadian Supreme Court decision that affirmed the rights of First Nations to hunt and fish but only to the extent needed to maintain a moderate living—similarly depicts a moose hunt. While far from pleasant to watch, these graphic actions are intended, according to curatorial notes, to "represent the resurgent assertion of indigenous rights."

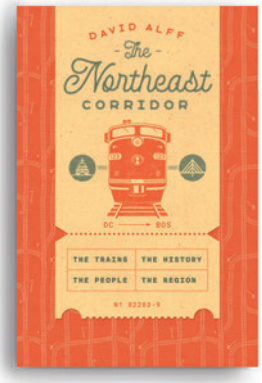
There's a lot more to sift through—from beat-up vintage cars languishing in driveways (Apsáalooke artist Wendy Red Star's photographic series *Rez Pop)* to lawn mowers transforming into lowriders (Mexico City–born Rubén Ortiz Torres' video *The Garden of Earthly Delights).* Visitors might not always get the connections or understand exactly how a piece fits into this generously inclusive survey. But while it sometimes seems that all that's missing is the pink flamingo, this lovingly twisted roundup of the traditional icons of the American domestic landscape will surely hit a chord with anyone who's spent some time dreaming in the yard. *—JoAnn Greco*

Boulevard of Steel

From Native American trails to the bridging of Hell's Gate, David Alff explores the surprisingly wide-ranging history of the Northeast Corridor.

It's not exactly the Orient Express, but to David Alff Gr'12, taking the train from Philadelphia up or down the Eastern Seaboard has a romance of its own—so much so that he's written an entire book about the route.

Northeast Corridor: The Trains, the People, the History, the Region, published earlier this year by University of Chicago Press, manages to find mystery and even poetry in the utilitarian ladder of steel running between Washington and Boston. A literary scholar by trade, Alff traces the line—and the state of mind—all the way back beyond even the earliest Native American paths up and down the coast. By the end he's limned its transformation from train into synecdoche.



Northeast Corridor: The Trains, the People, the History, the Region
By David Alff Gr'12
University of Chicago Press, 280 pages, $30

The central theme of this witty and energetic history is that the railroad, like the place that it serves, was built over time in bits and pieces, without anybody intending for it to coalesce. Various segments, Alff writes, "reached for each other like houseplants toward sunlight. They seemed destined to mesh into something greater than their parts. But 19th-century railroaders thought in more local terms. They could not yet recognize their individual epics as chapters of a single volume. No one knew they were building a corridor."

Alff grew up near the line in Bucks County and, after attending Haverford College, earned a PhD in English at Penn. He spoke of his detour into railroading with *Gazette* contributor Daniel Akst C'78 in a Zoom interview from Buffalo, where Alff teaches English literature at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Your doctoral dissertation became a book called *The Wreckage of Intentions: Projects in British Culture, 1660–1730*. How in the world did you get from there to the Northeast Corridor?

During the pandemic, academia went into hibernation. I missed traveling to gather with people in my field. But I also missed travel itself—especially train travel. I missed the smell of creosote on wooden ties, the sizzle of pantographs on copper catenary. I used to walk from my apartment in Center City to Fisher-Bennett Hall on Walnut Street, across the Schuylkill River and overtop the busy corridor tracks. Everywhere I heard the whistle blares of Amtrak trains approaching and departing 30th Street Station. The line was an omnipresent feature of my Philly life.

But my scholarly work also led me to trains. I had already written a book about what used to be called "projects," in the sense of public works. That term was eventually displaced by "infrastructure," originally a French term coined by railway engineers. So I began writing about the Northeast Corridor—a passion project, if you will. The busiest, fastest, most important passenger rail line in North America has a history that stretches back to the 1600s and 1700s—the period that I study. The tracks follow old colonial highways, which themselves followed indigenous traces. The corridor, I learned, is much older than trains.

Who first used the term Northeast Corridor?

It's hard to track that down, if you'll pardon the expression. Some of the earliest references I found come from the 1960s when Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island began arguing for a greater integration of what was then the New Haven Railroad between Manhattan and Boston and the Pennsylvania Railroad between Manhattan and Washington, DC. He called for a consolidation of freight and passenger service that would be called the Northeast Corridor.

The rail line has come to stand for the places it runs through (including communities hosting six of the eight Ivies). To what extent did the Northeast Corridor shape the place and vice versa?

To a certain extent, we're not really talking about space at all. We're talking about culture. The Northeast Corridor is both a rail line and it's also the region that coalesced around it, one in which train travel became so important that we use the train as shorthand for the whole. And the Eastern Seaboard has developed corresponding cultural coherence. Corridor states are a good bit more liberal and Democratic than the rest of the country, though Pennsylvania remains a swing state. At the same time, a lot of what's shared is rivalry. Before the United States was even a country, Philadelphia, Boston and New York competed for transatlantic trade and interior trans-shipment. New York had the best idea, the Erie Canal, which inspired Boston to begin experimenting with steam railroads to keep pace.

According to your book, a big reason we can't ride up and down the corridor at 150 miles an hour is the piecemeal nature of the railroad's construction.

The names of the early carriers—Boston and Providence, Trenton, the Philadelphia and Trenton, the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore—betray their provincial origins. Now, there were some visionaries in the early 19th century who imagined an interlocking chain of logistics that would draw together all of these states, but that would take a century to achieve. In the 1830s, we weren't capable of tunnelling under the Hudson River or bridging New York's Hell's Gate (something done eventually by Alfred Pancoast Boller CE1858). All of these works required advancements in engineering; it didn't become possible to take an unbroken ride between Washington and Boston until 1917.

The corridor's fragmented history is a constant source of frustration for today's travelers (just ask the New Jersey commuters who suffered through disastrous delays this summer owing to the corridor's ancient electrical supply system). We look with longing to the high-speed rail of France, Japan, and China. But the piecemeal nature of the Northeast Corridor is what makes it such an interesting historical subject. To ride the line is to encounter these old decisions, these lost battles over eminent domain, these weird quirks that invite you to think about why it is our trains are pretty good, if not any longer the global standard. The great curve that sweeps the line west through North Philadelphia results from the tenacity of 19th-century Kensington residents who fought to keep the rails out of their community.

The Northeast Corridor today is a government rail line, but the components were built by private companies. Which were the most important?

The Baltimore and Ohio launched America's rail revolution, but the true seaboard colossus was the Pennsylvania Railroad, which like the B&O aimed to establish connections with the West. Following the Civil War the PRR saw lucrative passenger and freight markets that would connect New York, Philadelphia, Trenton, Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington, and a rebuilding South. So the Pennsylvania acquired several individual lines, upgraded them and melded them into a great boulevard of steel. By 1900 it was the largest corporation the world had ever seen, and it was headquartered in Philadelphia, where it was a source of local pride, something too big for Wall Street to colonize. But after World War II, the spread of auto ownership and advances in aviation made railroads vulnerable. In the 1960s the Pennsylvania merged with the New York Central in a marriage of desperation. The combination soon collapsed in what was, until Enron, the largest bankruptcy in US history. That eventually led to Amtrak, and to regional entities like New Jersey Transit and SEPTA, which in fits and starts have resurrected American passenger trains and fulfilled the idea of the Northeast Corridor.

"The busiest rail line in North America has a history that stretches back to the 1600s. The tracks follow old colonial highways, which themselves followed indigenous traces. The corridor, I learned, is much older than trains."

You tell the amazing story of Ben Franklin's days-long pre-railroad journey from Boston to Philadelphia, during which he endured hunger, thirst, and the risk of drowning. Tell us about some other noteworthy figures in the book.

Sure. Albert Einstein lived in Princeton and habitually rode the Princeton shuttle known as the Dinky. He was fascinated by trains. His son created model trains for him. His popular rendition of the Theory of Relativity uses trains to illustrate principles of physics. George Gershwin said that the rattle and hum of the rails on the New Haven Railroad inspired him to compose "Rhapsody in Blue." When jazz great John Coltrane lived at 1511 North 33rd Street in Philadelphia, corridor trains ran through his backyard. FDR rode the train. So did poet Marianne Moore. Obama famously rode his inaugural train to Washington. Joe Biden rode as a senator. I rode with him once when I worked at a consulting firm. I remember my boss casually pointing him out. It seemed like no big deal.

Building the Northeastern railroads involved building a lot of great stations. What did people have in mind when they created places like this, and which important ones have we lost?

People imagined stations as gateways to their cities, as meeting points, as centers of activity. Although 30th Street Station is not in the heart of Philadelphia, for my money it's the best train station in the world. Just stand under the dust-moted sunlight near the Western portal, gaze at the travertine walls, feel the trains rumbling underfoot—it's one of the most quintessential Northeast Corridor spaces. The murder of the original Penn Station in New York is the most tragic station loss, but don't forget Philadelphia's Broad Street Station, designed by Frank Furness (who designed Penn's terminal-esque Fisher Fine Arts Library). Broad Street came to seem like an overbuilt folly when downtowns were hemorrhaging residents and commerce, and it too was demolished. Nor should we overly glamorize some of these lost terminals. Many people criticized the original Penn Station as an architectural White Elephant, and later for its grime-coated windows and seedy atmosphere. It wasn't always as great as we might like to think. On the other hand New York's Moynihan Train Hall, created from Penn Station's grand postal companion, has its critics, but the first time I walked up that escalator and looked at the skylight, it took my breath away.

Soprano Karen Slack.

Royals

Lorene Cary and *African Queens*.

In recent years the writer and Penn senior lecturer Lorene Cary C'78 G'78—best known for memoir and fiction—has branched out into playwriting. Two of her works have been staged by Philadelphia's Arden Theatre Company: *My General Tubman* ["Her General Tubman," Mar|Apr 2020] and *Ladysitting* ["Arts," Jan|Feb 2024], based on her 2019 memoir of the same title.

She's also begun writing librettos, the text for operas and other vocal works. In addition to a short opera, *The Gospel According to Nana*, also drawn from *Ladysitting*, Cary is collaborating with the composer and singer Damien Geter on a full-length opera about Fisk University's famed Jubilee Singers, commissioned by the Portland Opera Company and scheduled to premiere in 2026.

But readers don't have to wait until then to sample their work. Geter and Cary have also contributed a song to *African Queens,* a collection of nine new works on the theme of queens in Africa and the African Diaspora by contemporary African American composers, poets, and librettists commissioned by soprano Karen Slack, a Curtis Institute of Music graduate and Philadelphia native.

The recital premiered over the summer at the Ravinia Festival in Highland Park, Illinois, and is currently touring the US. Geter and Cary's subject was Amanirenas, a warrior queen who ruled the Kingdom of Kush in the years before and after the beginning of the Common Era and fought against Roman forces in Egypt.

In a "digital postcard" after attending the premiere, Cary recalled how, while preparing to write, she had gone to sit by the Temple of Dendur in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, "waiting for the aria's structure to blow through me. Because that's what a librettist gives—the structure—to the composer, who writes the drama in music so that the singer can slip into the character's story and tell it from the inside."

In their song, "Queen Amanirenas has returned from battling the Roman army that killed her husband and son," Cary wrote. "The historical Amanirenas had the head of Augustus Caesar, whose statue the Romans had carried into battle, lopped off and buried under the entrance to her temple where worshippers would step on it before and after prayer—the very head sits in the British Museum today, perfectly preserved by the burial in sand.

"Amanirenas lost an eye in battle, but according to the Greek historian Strabo, recovered to send to Augustus arrows cast from pure gold with this message, which I quoted, and Damien set:

If you want peace,
Take these with my blessing;
If you want war,
You will need them.

"The music here soars, queenly, determined, bright red!

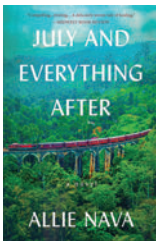
"But it's also true that after losing a husband and son to the Romans, Amanirenas would not let her daughter go to war. So, the music slows and quiets.

"In one exquisite moment, Damien takes away the piano and the voice sings unaccompanied. Karen has climbed to this moment, switch-backing between power and maternal tenderness, and the voice hangs just above our heads, before she makes the final ascent into prophecy: Her one eye, she says, can see a matrilineal future dynasty and peace for her people." —*JP*

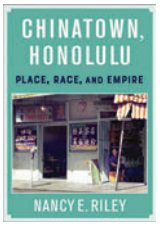
Performances in 2025 include at the Kennedy Center Terrace, Washington, DC, March 9; Kaufmann Concert Hall, 92NY, New York, March 11; Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Nashville, March 16; and Symphony Hall, Phoenix, April 12–19. Visit www.sopranokarenslack.com/performances.

Photo courtesy Kennedy Center

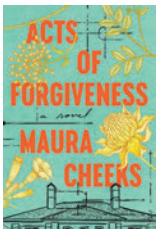
Briefly Noted



JULY AND EVERYTHING AFTER *by Allie Nava C'94* (DartFrog Books, 2024, $15.99.) This debut novel, spanning the US, Sri Lanka, and India, is a modern tale of resilience and transformation against extraordinary odds, genocide, and war.



CHINATOWN, HONOLULU: Place, Race, and Empire *by Nancy E. Riley C'77* (Columbia University Press, 2024, $35.00.) A social sciences professor foregrounds elements that are often left out of narratives of Chinese history in Hawai'i, particularly the place of Native Hawaiians, geopolitics and US empire building, and the ongoing construction of race.



ACTS OF FORGIVENESS *by Maura Cheeks C'09* (Ballantine Books, 2024, $28.00.) This novel imagines what it would be like if America granted reparations to Black families. It follows one family's struggles to keep their business afloat while they retrace painful parts of their past to prove they are descended from slaves.

Visit thepenngazette.com for more *Briefly Noted*.

From Finance to Farming

This Long Island regenerative farmer has found a new calling raising and selling pastured meats.

Photo courtesy Acabonac Farms

"**If you've ever bitten into a locally grown tomato** you're like, 'Whoa, I've never tasted something like that,'" says Stephen Skrenta WEv'97. "It's the same with wine. What makes a Bordeaux or a wine from Tuscany or Napa so special? It's the local soil and the environment."

"It should be the same with meat," he continues. "If you fatten an animal on local forages, grasses, and clover, what happens is that the meat takes on the flavor of the local community, just like a bottle of wine."

In 2015 Skrenta left a career in finance to start Acabonac Farms, a company on Long Island that tries to do just that. He sells 100 percent grass-fed beef and pastured lamb, pork, and chicken.

Unlike other farms that use feedlots, where animals are confined in small areas and fattened up with corn and grain, Skrenta lets his animals roam freely and chow down on natural, nutritious grass. "We seed our fields with grasses that are high in energy, high in sugar. The animals then eat everything in sight, and then we move them to another area while we let that area recover," he says. "It's the way bison used to migrate across America. They eat everything in sight and move on. By the time they get back to the original spot the next year, everything would be regrown and healthy. The animal would not require antibiotics or to be supplemented with grain, and the land wouldn't need to be fertilized."

Skrenta does this work, called regenerative farming, on 300 acres on Eastern Long Island. He then ships his meat to individuals, farm stands, and restaurants in the Hamptons and New York. The business, he posits, is "better for human health, good for the environment, and supports local farmers" since he leases the land from them and makes their soil richer—and more valuable—by not using chemical fertilizers. "Most farmland in America is ploughed and tilled and filled with synthetic fertilizers, herbicide, and pesticides that cause soil to very quickly be functionally bankrupt," he says. "We don't plough, we don't till, we keep the animals rotating on our property that deposit manure and urine and saliva and all sorts of good things into the soil."

It's a long way from the career he envisioned as a student.

Skrenta, who transferred to Wharton from James Madison University as an undergraduate, studied economics and finance. Needing a job to pay tuition, he approached the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, sitting outside "until someone asked me what I was doing," he recalls. "I said that I needed a job, and the person said, 'There is a fella who runs a clearing firm, which is a back-office function for traders, who is always looking for guys.' I asked for his name and went up and knocked on the door."

Skrenta was hired as a runner, collecting paper trades from the brokers, calculating them, and bringing them back to the trading floor. He worked between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., before attending his Wharton classes in the late afternoon and evening. "I only graduated one semester late," he says. "I loved the excitement."

The business, he posits, is "better for human health, good for the environment, and supports local farmers."

After graduating, he got a job in Chase Bank's mergers and acquisitions group before moving to DLJ, which was soon acquired by Credit Suisse. A few years later he took a job at Blackstone, where he spent the rest of his finance career, eventually moving to London to help build an advisory business. "In finance you have to carve out your own little spot, you have to make the pie bigger," says Skrenta, who spent 10 years abroad, traveling almost every day to meet clients.

By 2015 he had a wife and three children, and the family was ready to move back to the Northeast to be closer to family. "I asked my wife where she wanted to move, and she said she wanted to raise the kids on the beach," Skrenta says. So they moved to Amagansett, a town in the Hamptons.

His plan to stay at home and help raise the kids didn't last long. "It wasn't that easy for my wife to deal with me all day," he laughs. So he started searching for his next project.

Listening to Bloomberg Radio, Skrenta heard Chipotle's then CEO Steve Ells attribute disappointing quarterly earnings to the company's difficulties sourcing enough humanely and sustainably grown pork to satisfy demand. Surprised that a fast-casual restaurant chain "cared that much about their meat," Skrenta did research and concluded that Americans were starting to pay more attention to what they put into their bodies. "People were also starting to think through the problems we had in the United States and the western world with obesity and heart disease and mental disease and what was going on with our air quality and water quality," he says. "If you really dig into this stuff, it has to do with the way our food is grown, what we are eating."

And so, Acabonac Farms was born. (Acabonac is an Algonquin word that means "root place.")

Skrenta started by traveling to meet farmers in Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. He learned how more sustainable communities raised animals, fed them, and nourished their soil. He then convinced farmers on Long Island to lease land to "someone who knows nothing about agriculture," he says. "But I have a gift for gab, so I convinced people."

One of the biggest hurdles along the way has been hiring people. "If you are at Blackstone, and you are looking to hire one person, you get a few hundred thousand applications, and they are all 4.0 from Princeton and Harvard and Penn," he quips. "If you are on Long Island, and you want to hire one great rancher, you have like zero people apply."

In the early days, before he managed to employ three farmers (though it changes each season), he did most of the labor himself, including the "terrifying" experience of moving cattle. "These are thousand-pound animals," he says. "If the animal doesn't want to do what it doesn't want to do, he isn't going to do it." But Skrenta learned tricks like positioning his body a certain way, snapping his fingers, and using voice tics to coax the animals into moving.

Acabonac Farms started by selling beef. In the last few years, chicken, lamb, pork, and even dog food have been added. "For every animal we get 10 pounds of filet mignon but around 300 pounds of ground beef," he says. Since customers wanted more of the former than the latter, they started using the ground beef to sell as dog food.

The business is now one of the largest grass-fed animal operations in the Northeast. "We are slaughtering a few hundred cows a year and a few thousand birds," he says. "It's working with mother nature. It takes a little bit longer, but it is the way we are getting big and strong."

—Alyson Krueger C'07

Eyeballs on the Olympics

This marketing and brand strategist "created a digital cheer squad for Team USA" in Paris this summer.

"It was a really special thing to see all of your fellow Americans coming together to support a common cause," says Heather Leeds Greenfield C'00. "It was a one team, one dream scenario to collaborate to support our athletes."

A marketing and brand strategist, Greenfield lived out that dream this summer in Paris, where she was tasked with enticing Americans back home, especially younger ones, to watch the 2024 Summer Olympics.

"While the Olympics have high brand recognition," says Greenfield, television ratings had been declining. "Younger kids, especially the GenZennials, aren't consuming TV in the same way, so the remit was: *How do we get more people excited about the Olympics?*"

Greenfield—who owns Element Brand Group, a company based in Los Angeles and New York that specializes in brand strategy, media relations, talent partnerships, and integrated marketing—did it by building a team of influencers and celebrities to come to Paris, watch the Games, meet the American athletes, and post what they were seeing online. "We created a digital cheer squad for Team USA," she says.

She arranged fun coverage opportunities for social media personalities such as Brittany Broski, who streamed a video with women's rugby star Ilona Maher to her more than seven million TikTok followers. She accompanied Hollywood celebrities like Elizabeth Banks C'96 to the Team USA House at Palais Brongniart (which was built in the early 19th century to house the Paris Stock Exchange) to mingle with the athletes and watch NBC's live coverage. And she took influential figures to the sporting events to make sure they captured the action and shared it with audiences back home.

One of her favorite memories was watching beach volleyball—at the sand courts set up in front of the Eiffel Tower—with basketball superstar and Team USA gold medalist LeBron James. "We got there, and this huge thunderstorm happened halfway through the match, and everybody fled," Greenfield says. "But not LeBron. He stayed, and once the skies cleared up, the match resumed, and we were the only people left in the crowd. To see one Olympic athlete really support other ones, people he doesn't even know, it was really nice to see."

Photo courtesy Element Brand Group

The efforts worked: According to NBC, an average of 30.6 million people tuned into the Olympics daily across all of its platforms—an 82 percent increase from the Tokyo Games three years ago. And led by Peacock, 23.5 billion minutes of Paris Olympics coverage were streamed—up 40 percent from all prior Summer and Winter Olympics combined.

Greenfield has been interested in marketing from an early age. She remembers flipping through *Seventeen* and *Cosmopolitan* magazines as a teenager and focusing on the ads. "I loved that they were these worlds you could jump into via these actors and models and envision yourself in them," she says.

She knew she wanted to study communications, which helped her home in on Penn's Annenberg School for Communication "as the right place for me." She minored in French and spent a year abroad in Paris, mastering the language (which would come in handy decades later at the Paris Olympics). While there she also interned in the marketing department of Warner Bros., aiding in the distribution of American films in France. "We were trying to understand what would appeal to a French demographic," she says. "It was how to recut a trailer, how to pick different stills for movie posters. It was interesting to learn that things I found appealing as an American wouldn't be the same for a French audience."

After graduating and trying a few different jobs, she landed at the national film publicity department at Universal Studios. Working with actors and filmmakers, she helped create the publicity campaigns for box office hits like *Jurassic Park*, *Seabiscuit*, and *A Beautiful Mind*.

That led to her next gig at the public relations company ID, where she stayed for more than a decade and helped create publicity strategies for celebrities including Salma Hayek, Ellen DeGeneres, and Jennifer Connelly. "When you are promoting a film or one project, you want to get as much publicity as possible,

She accompanied Hollywood celebrities like Elizabeth Banks C'96 to the Team USA House at Palais Brongniart.

but with talent you have to be strategic," she says. "It's part of a long line of projects that person has coming, and you might want to save that big interview for something coming out later that year."

In her role she often received requests from brands hoping that her clients would promote their products or participate in campaigns. The way the industry was changing fascinated her. "It used to be trade deals," she says. "Someone would say give us a quote about this mascara, and we will give you a lifetime supply of makeup." But by the early 2000s, brands were getting more sophisticated with how they used talent, realizing if they employed celebrities for long-term partnerships or created more nuanced publicity opportunities, the return on investment was greater. "We told these stories about this brand doing really great things with this really great talent, and it would create narratives that media editors wanted to write about," she says. The change also coincided with the rise of social media, which created more opportunities for celebrities to showcase different brands.

She soon convinced ID to let her start a brand partnership division, which she grew from three people to 30. Her clients included Starbucks, which was trying to create unique music and films that could be played in coffee shops, and Tiffany, which wanted to get exposure for its jewelry by dressing celebrities on red carpets. "Tiffany is still my client to this day," Greenfield says. "They are my most long-standing client."

Eight years ago, Greenfield decided to form her own company with two other employees from ID. Element Brand Group now employs nine people and boasts a client roster that includes Airbnb, Aston Martin, Universal Music Group, Tiffany, and Coca Cola, the latter of which led her to Team USA. "A former client of mine at Coca Cola looped me in with her team at the beginning of last year," Greenfield says. "The planning for any Olympics really starts years in advance."

Which means she's already looking forward to the next Olympics. "Given I am a native Los Angelino, LA 2028 seems like a perfect fit."

—Alyson Krueger C'07

Photo courtesy Element Brand Group

"I term myself 'the world's least wealthy philanthropist.'"

–Dr. Eli Goodman C'69

We Want to Hear from You

EMAIL gazette@ben.dev.upenn.edu
Please include your school and year, along with your address and a daytime telephone number. We include email addresses only when requested or obviously implied.

ALUMNI NOTE DEADLINES 7/15 for the Sep|Oct issue; 9/15 for Nov|Dec; 11/15 for Jan|Feb; 1/15 for Mar|Apr; 3/15 for May|Jun; and 5/15 for Jul|Aug.

1953

The late **Howard Magen W'53 CGS'07** is quoted at length in **Dan Rottenberg C'64**'s latest book, *The Price We Paid: An Oral History of Penn's Struggle to Join the Ivy League 1950–55*, which was adapted into a feature in this issue of the *Gazette*. In addition to "faithfully attending Quaker games since 1943," Howard had served as the president of the Class of 1953's "hugely successful 40th Reunion" and as the first treasurer of the Friends of the University of Pennsylvania Libraries. [Ed. Note: Howard's wife **Cirel Watnik Magen CGS'07** sent this Alumni Note in before Howard's death on Aug. 8 (see "Obituaries," Class of 1953, this issue)].

1962

Barrett W. Freedlander C'62, a former Penn lacrosse player and a member of the Penn Men's Lacrosse Hall of Fame, writes, "I am inspired to write this note after reading a chapter about me in the recently published book, *The Price We Paid: An Oral History of Penn's Struggle to Join the Ivy League 1950–55,* authored by historian/journalist **Dan Rottenberg C'64** ["Professional Contrarian," Sep|Oct 2022]. It is mostly about the enduring impact of the legendary **George Munger Ed'33** on the men who played football under him ["Gazetteer," Jan|Feb 2018]. It is a great read, despite the chapter about me being just two pages long (appropriately). I was also involved in advocating for the induction of **H. Laussat Geyelin C1877 L1879 G1880** into the Penn Athletics Hall of Fame, which happened in September. I still attend many Penn athletic events and host events in Baltimore for Penn lacrosse alumni and parents of players past and present. I was pleased to recently host in Baltimore classmates **Joe Fidanque W'62**, visiting from Panama, and **Mike Ades W'62**, from Lexington, Kentucky. We had reconnected at our 60th. On a sad note, my brother **Howard Freedlander C'67**, died suddenly in June ["Obituaries," Sep|Oct 2024]. He was a longtime, revered president of his class. A few years ago, classmates endowed a scholarship in his honor. He was a good friend to many Penn alums and to me. I have taken up pickleball with passion. It brings some thrills and lots of frustration. I am also in the midst of putting together a memoir so that my memories along with family lore will be available to generations descended from cousins and from my kids."

1964

Dan Rottenberg C'64 see **Howard Magen W'53 CGS'07** and **Barrett W. Freedlander C'62.**

1969

Dr. Eli Goodman C'69 writes, "Pathologically polyphasic, I have the entire time worked as an internal medicine physician and medical consultant. Not even remotely retired, I continue to work in the realms of wound care, corrections medicine, home health care, and hospice. For better or worse, I remain in demand, even in my dotage. Other activities over the years have included radio work, product inventions, including the rarity of a patented punctuation mark—the 'rhetoricon.' Have written many articles. Have created with the help of collaborating artists hundreds of cartoons. Have published three books, including the recently released *GOLF IS LIFE … Or Close to It* that proves that golf's and life's vicissitudes are essentially the same. Very active in community organizations, including especially Rotary. I term myself 'the world's least wealthy philanthropist.' Have failed in marriages, but have the blessings of marvelous kids, grandkids, and fabulous friends." Eli can be reached at progressnote@aol.com or through his website, EliGoodmanMD.com.

Stuart Rawlings ASC'69 writes, "After many years of being an attorney, university professor, writer, musician, world explorer, and more, I have posted a YouTube video, *Lucky Man: A Seven-Hour Telling of My Life Story*. The narrative is combined with 850 photographs and excerpts from 40 songs played with friends. This is the kind of project that I believe all alumni should consider doing—for yourselves, your family and friends, and posterity." Stuart's video can be viewed at youtu.be/y2iPG5OifyE, and he can be reached by email at stuartrawlings910@gmail.com.

Celebrate Your Reunion, May 17–19, 2024!

1970

Sandi Shustak Kligman MT'70, Ted Gilmore W'70 and **Maureen Hare Lus-**

chini Nu'70 cochairs of the Class of 1970's 55th Reunion, were delighted to virtually reconnect with classmates **Anna Sophocles Hadgis CGS'70 G'85, Ann Kent Cowen CW'70, Andy Wolk C'70, Vicki P. Caine CW'70, Judith Nemez Vredenburgh CW'70, Toni D. Schmiegelow CW'70, Ann L. O'Sullivan Nu'70 Gnu'72 Gr'84, Donald G. Maynard ChE'70, Phyllis Liu MT'70,** and **Judith Kalicka Ingis CW'70** during the recent Penn Reunion Volunteer Kick-Off. Along with returning Gift Committee Chair **Bob Graham W'70,** planning has already begun for May 16–19, 2025. The cochairs write, "All members of the Class of 1970 are warmly welcome to attend an informal get-together during the November 16 Post-50th Homecoming Brunch in Houston Hall or join the Reunion Committee. To sign up for either, please contact Charles Marsh at chmarsh@upenn.edu."

Howard Lipke W'70 is a semi-retired clinical psychologist whose work focuses on psychotherapy and teaching therapists about how to work with combat veterans and first responders. He recently published the book *No Applesplatter: Short Stories about Thinking*, which, he writes, "provides some answers to questions about how thinking styles we all share can affect anger, confidence, competition, jealousy, and other tricky parts of life, for kids and even for adults." His wife of 50-plus years, Lynn, was his primary editor.

1971

Dayton Duncan C'71 won two awards for his script for the Ken Burns Hon'22 documentary *The American Buffalo*, which was broadcast on PBS last fall. The Writer's Guild of America gave him the 2024 award for best documentary script, and the Western Writers of America gave him its Spur Award for top documentary script. It was Duncan's second Writers Guild award in a row, having received it for writing Ken Burns's 2022 documentary film *Benjamin Franklin*, and it was his fifth Spur Award. His companion book for the film, *Blood Memory: The Tragic Decline and Improbable Resurrection of the American Buffalo*, published by Knopf, was called "elegiac" by *Publisher's Weekly*, and the *Wall Street Journal* cited its "compelling narration and flawless execution."

Robert Meadow C'71 W'71 Gr'76 and **Carrie Menkel-Meadow L'74** share that they have "turned to theatrical production in their semi-retirement." Their play production, *Fatherland*, (about a son who turned his father in to the FBI for the January 6 insurrection, based on trial transcripts) opened in New York at the Manhattan Theatre Club on September 26, won many awards, and received a five-month extended run at the Fountain Theatre in Los Angeles. Their next play, *I, Daniel Blake* (based on the 2016 British film directed by Ken Loach and written by Paul Laverty) opened in Los Angeles on October 13 at the Fountain Theatre. The play was brought over from Carrie's scholar-in-residency at the Oxford Centre for Socio-Legal Studies in 2023. "Not yet completely retired," Bob shares that his work as a "pollster and political consultant for major Democratic candidates [continues] all over the country," and Carrie shares that she serves as Distinguished and Chancellor's Professor of Law (and Political Science) at the University of California, Irvine, and as professor emerita of law at Georgetown University. "Other productions are in the works for both coasts," they write.

1973

Bruce Richardson WG'73 is coauthor of a new book with Raymond Wilson. Bruce writes, "Our book, *Brothers*, ... is our story of why a Black man and a white man became brothers 50 years after they served in Vietnam." Bruce served in the US Army during the Vietnam War from 1969 to 1970, and now serves on the board of the Veterans Defense Project.

1974

Hon. Gordon Goodman C'74 L'77, a justice on the First Texas Court of Appeals, has published a new article in the *UC Law Business Journal* (July 2024), titled "The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence." He explains, "This article discusses the techniques derived from complexity studies (including genetic algorithms and neural nets) that are incorporated in modern AI programs and the ethical challenges that will be encountered in using them within the legal practice of the 21st century." In April, Gordon also gave a keynote address on "The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence" at the UC Law Business Symposium, an event that focused on AI's role in the legal landscape.

David Ladensohn W'74, a mediator, retired executive, and entrepreneur who has been fly-fishing for 40 years, has authored a new book, *Fly-Fishing with Leonardo da Vinci*. Published by Trinity University Press, the book explores the art of fly-fishing and Leonardo da Vinci's obsession with water. From the press release: "The famed Italian Renaissance artist meticulously drew every aspect of rivers, from the nature of water drops to the ways currents create and destroy the earth's surface. His obsession led him to become a professional hydraulic engineer and an expert on the physics of water. ... [The book] is meant to inform and entertain anyone interested in the artist or fly-fishing and their unlikely intersection."

Carrie Menkel-Meadow L'74 see **Robert Meadow C'71 W'71 Gr'76.**

1978

Diane Kaplan C'78 was named a senior fellow at the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at Indiana University, with support from the M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust, in 2023. In addition, she was appointed by President Joe Biden Hon'13 and confirmed by the US Senate to the board of directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. In 2023, after 27 years as president of the Alaska-based

Rasmuson Foundation, Diane cofounded Nudlaghi Leadership Institute, a remote retreat center for nonprofit leaders.

Steven Weisz C'78 GEd'79 is celebrating 45 years as CEO of Rainbow Promotions, an event production agency in the Philadelphia region. He also marks 35 years as CEO of Delaware Valley On Line, which provides web hosting and marketing solutions for small to midsize businesses, nonprofits, and educational institutions. Recently, Steven returned to his "passion for photography with the launch of Art Imagined Photography," he writes. His work received Honorable Mention at the 2024 Prix de la Photographie de Paris in the Fine Art/Nudes category, with one of his images exhibited at Expo Metro Milan, Italy, on October 26–27, in Piazza San Carlo, in front of the Basilica of San Carlo. Steven is also an active member of the National Press Photographers Association, an organization dedicated to the advancement of visual journalism.

John "Jock" Whittlesey C'78 shares, "I am writing a series of nonfiction, general-interest books, called *Under the Keel: A Guidebook to the North Atlantic*. Each book covers one day of a transatlantic crossing on the ocean liner *Queen Mary 2*. I talk about historic events, marine art, fisheries, marine biology, oceanography, shipping, navigation, and the places we go near. *Under the Keel* is available on Amazon."

1979

Jennifer Joy Freyd C'79, a professor emerit of psychology at the University of Oregon and an affiliate professor at the University of Washington, received an honorary doctorate and was the keynote speaker at the 2024 commencement ceremony for Claremont Graduate University. In addition, this year Jennifer received the Gold Medal Award for Impact in Psychology from the American Psychological Foundation. In its description of her, the APF called Jennifer "internationally known as a pioneer in the fields of trauma psychology and institutional courage and is also a lifelong activist in the realm of sexual violence."

Joshua Mostow C'79 G'87 Gr'88 of Vancouver, Canada, spent the 2023–24 academic year on sabbatical as a visiting fellow at Clare Hall, University of Cambridge, and Ca'Foscari University of Venice. In April the Government of Japan conferred on him the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon "for his contribution to the development of Japanese studies and promotion of mutual understanding with Japan."

Michael Saron EE'79 GEE'81 WG'81 retired from Mizuho Securities in October after a 40-year career in banking. He worked in liability management for Merrill Lynch, Credit Suisse, and RBS as well. He and his wife have two children: Veronica, who is married and lives in California, and Mitchell, who fenced sabre for the US Olympic team in Paris.

Kim Van Do GFA'79 is an artist-in-residence and will be exhibiting his paintings at Blue Mountain Gallery in New York through November 23. His work can be viewed at his website, thekimdo.jimdofree.com/artwork, where he can also be contacted.

Celebrate Your Reunion, May 17–19, 2024!

1980

Alfred U. Pavlis C'80 has returned to Finn Dixon & Herling as a litigation partner. He most recently served as the First Assistant US Attorney in the District of Connecticut overseeing the Civil, Criminal and Administrative Divisions and acting as principal advisor to the US Attorney.

1981

Dr. Gregg Coodley C'81 recently published his sixth history, *American Salvation: How Immigrants Made America Great*. Gregg writes, "The book chronicles the contributions of individual immigrants from the American Revolution to the present. It also describes the different waves of immigrants and how they have faced the same repetitive prejudice and challenges. Finally, the book shows how America would not have become a superpower or world leader without the contribution of immigrants, who were so often reviled as 'broken men from broken races.'"

Jeffrey Moche C'81 has self-published a new book, *I Swear This Actually Happened to Me!— 100 of My Personal Life Stories that You Won't Believe*. Jeffrey writes, "These anecdotes are taken from all different parts of my life, including a handful from my college years. I've had a very atypical life since graduating from Penn. I'd planned to become a clinical psychotherapist, working in Aaron Beck's cognitive depression clinic, and in the prestigious Payne Whitney psychiatric hospital in New York City. But in my mid-20s, I dropped that career path entirely and became a comedian/magician."

Jordan Peimer C'81, former executive director of ArtPower at the University of California, San Diego, has been selected as the next director of the Lenfest Center for the Arts at Washington and Lee University.

1982

Deirdre Murphy C'82 displayed her painting and monoprints in a solo exhibition, titled *Gradients of Growth,* at Philadelphia's Chimaera Gallery, September 8–October 28. From the press release: "The exhibition emphasizes ecological hope and the potential for environmental healing, offering a unique perspective on the resilience of nature in the face of climate change."

1984

Elizabeth Yawitz Sehring C'84 is a film producer with Blowback Productions in New York City. She recently screened *It's Basic* at Penn for the Center for Guaranteed Income Research at the School of

Social Policy & Practice and the Penn student chapter of the International City/County Management Association. Serving as a panelist, she relayed the effectiveness of using storytelling to communicate research data to an audience. The film showcases participants of US pilot programs who receive unconditional cash transfers and examines the impact on their daily lives ["Fighting Poverty with Cash," May|Jun 2021]. She writes, "It was a thrilling opportunity to be back at Penn presenting the film as its producer and even more inspiring to speak with students who are effecting change." *It's Basic* made its world premiere at the 2023 Tribeca Film Festival and continues to be featured on a nationwide film festival tour, where Elizabeth has "had the joy of reconnecting with former classmates in multiple cities, in particular at Philadelphia's Ritz Theater this past October." She is currently producing new films and handles distribution for existing films.

Celebrate Your Reunion, May 17–19, 2024!

1985

Stephen M. Cohen C'85 writes, "I am proud to note several books in print, including *America's Scientific Treasures, 2nd edition* (Oxford University Press, 2020), describing scientific and technological sites of interest to adults in all 50 states around the USA; *O Mg! How Chemistry Came to Be* (World Scientific, 2022), the first accessible history of chemistry in over half a century, and in graphic form (which I both wrote and drew as a pandemic project); and *What's in a Name? A Young Person's Jewish Genealogy Workbook, 2nd edition* (JewishGen Press, 2024), a unique how-to Jewish genealogy book for teens, including charts for the junior genealogist to fill in. Alumni can also hear my popular podcast, *The History of Chemistry*, available on most popular podcast apps, telling the history of chemistry (for the non-scientist) from prehistoric times to the present. (I mention Penn in both *O Mg!* and the podcast occasionally, and Philadelphia has several important sites for you to visit in *America's Scientific Treasures*.) I am available to give talks on both genealogical and chemical topics for the general audience."

John H. Grady L'85 see **Athena Anthopoulos C'86 GEd'93.**

Charles Hecker C'85 has worked as a journalist and a geopolitical risk consultant and is now the author of a new book, *Zero Sum: The Arc of International Business in Russia*. Charles writes, "The book relies extensively on interviews from executives, government officials, analysts and expats active on the ground in Russia since the collapse of the Soviet Union. I also was greatly aided by professors at Wharton, the School of Arts and Sciences, and affiliates of Perry World House in reporting the book. The book is quite Red and Blue, you might say."

1986

Athena Anthopoulos C'86 GEd'93 and **John H. Grady L'85** were married on June 12, 2021, in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Ralph H. Cathcart C'86, a partner at Ladas & Parry, was recently recognized by *Savoy* magazine as one of the "2024 Most Influential Lawyers" (Summer 2024). He was also recently named as an IP Star 2024 by *Managing Intellectual Property* magazine and as a WTR1000 top attorney by *World Trademark Report*. Ralph represents clients in the maintenance, protection, and enforcement of intellectual property rights.

Dr. David Nash WG'86, an internist, dean emeritus, and professor of health policy at Jefferson College of Population Health, has been named secretary/treasurer of the board of directors of the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education.

1987

Lisa Litt C'87 W'87, a clinical faculty member of the department of psychology at the New School for Social Research, recently celebrated the publication of her new book, *Treatment of Traumatic Stress and Substance Misuse: A Guide to Integrative Practice*, written with colleague Denise Hien. Lisa writes, "The book offers a meaningful and practical perspective on working with these challenging co-occurring clinical concerns. [We] review the landscape of evidence-based treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), other trauma-related problems, and substance misuse, and present an integrative, culturally responsive framework for assessment and treatment."

1988

Michael Levy W'88 see **Diana Busch Levy C'89.**

David M. Mizrachi C'88, a lawyer, has been appointed a senior fellow of the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government of the Harvard Kennedy School at Harvard University.

1989

Diana Busch Levy C'89 and **Michael Levy W'88** are the owners of Undercover Chocolate, which manufacturers Undercover Chocolate Quinoa Crisps. Recently, Diana, who is 57 years old, was named to *Forbes*'s "50 Over 50" list for her work at the company. The couple shares that their quinoa crisps are "now sold in nearly 30,000 locations, [and] our products are also served on United Airlines, which hands out 4 to 6 million units per month."

Celebrate Your Reunion, May 17–19, 2024!

1990

Dr. Lawrence R. Selinger GD'90 writes, "My wife, Millie Korman Selinger, published a memoir, called *Hidden in the Open*, which chronicles how her mother's ingenuity and bravery managed to defy Hitler during World War II. The family of three survived [in Nazi-occupied Poland] by living on gentile papers. My wife did not know she was Jewish until she was

eight and a half years old, when in 1947 the family escaped to Germany. More information can be found on her website, millieselinger.weebly.com."

1992

Dr. Dawn Filos Mauro V'92 is a small-animal veterinarian and author of a new book, *Tales of a Pet Vet: Stories from the Clinic and House Calls*. From the press release: "From eccentric families with too many pets to owners whose devotion to their animals knows no bounds, veterinarian Dr. Dawn Filos shares the highs and lows of vet care in her new memoir."

1994

Constance Cone GFA'94 has been working as an artist since 1973. A new show of her photographs, titled "78° North," is now on exhibit at 3rd Street Gallery in Philadelphia through December 1.

Karen Fang C'94 is the author of *Background Artist: The Life and Work of Tyrus Wong*. From the press release: "The book ... delves into the extraordinary journey of Tyrus Wong, a Chinese immigrant who overcame significant challenges, including time spent in offshore detention centers, to achieve a successful career as an artist, most notably for his work on Disney's *Bambi*."

Allie Nava C'94 writes, "I'm excited to share news of the release of my novel, *July and Everything After*. It's a story of resilience amid unspeakable oppression and dehumanization, and the story of forgotten voices, survival, and healing during an overlooked dark period in human history. The story cuts across the US, Sri Lanka, and India. The novel has been called 'Compelling ... riveting ... a delicately woven tale of healing' by *Midwest Book Review*. I'm grateful for the support the book is receiving and share this now with our wonderful classmates."

1996

Falguni Desai W'96 is a senior advisor at Microsoft. She works with large banks and financial institution clients in a strategy advisory role, helping with digital transformation. "Still traveling and supporting environmental causes," she writes that she is "particularly focused on rainforest and ocean related causes" in her free time. She is based in New York City.

Pamela L. Geller C'96 Gr'04, an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Miami, has authored a new book, *Becoming Object: The Sociopolitics of the Samuel George Morton Cranial Collection*. According to the book's press release, "Geller uses a biohistoric approach, which examines skeletal remains and archival sources, to take a close look at the times in which Morton lived, his work, and its complicated legacy."

Jeremy A. Kahn C'96 is the author of *Mastering AI: A Survival Guide to Our Superpowered Future*. From the book's description: "A *Fortune* magazine journalist draws on his expertise and extensive contacts among the companies and scientists at the forefront of artificial intelligence to offer dramatic predictions of AI's impact over the next decade, from reshaping our economy and the way we work, learn, and create to unknitting our social fabric, jeopardizing our democracy, and fundamentally altering the way we think."

Joseph Sciorra Gr'96, director of academic and cultural programs at Queens College, received the Vernacular Architecture Forum's 2024 Catherine W. Bishir Prize, which is "awarded annually to the scholarly article from a juried North American publication that has made the most significant contribution to the study of vernacular architecture and cultural landscapes." He won it for his article "'The Strange Artistic Genius of This People': The Ephemeral Art and Impermanent Architecture of Italian Immigrant Catholic Feste," published in *Buildings & Landscapes: Journal of the Vernacular Architecture Forum* (Spring/Fall 2023). More information can be found at vafweb.org/page-1821960.

1997

William A. Sikes Gr'97 is an artist, educator, and the author of a new book, *The End of Meaning: Cultural Change in America Since 1945*, which charts the decline of experiences that give life meaning—art, literature, education, and more—and considers the implications of this loss for society at large.

1998

Katie Murtha C'98 has been appointed senior director of development at the Penn Museum. In this role, she is responsible for advancing the museum's fundraising and alumni relations program. Previously, Katie served as the senior

director of principal and major gifts at the Juilliard School, a performing arts conservatory of music, dance, and drama.

Doug Stambaugh W'98 has been promoted to senior vice president of corporate development and business operations for the global publisher Simon & Schuster, where he has worked for 16 years. He writes, "I have added global M&A and corporate development to my prior portfolio of operational and business development responsibilities."

Cynthia Gibbs Wilson G'98 was awarded a PhD in Organizational Development and Change by Fielding Graduate University in July. She writes, "My research is on African Americans in the private equity industry, with a focus on those working in the venture capital sector. In many respects, the insights shared with me are inspirational. This research allows me to contribute to highlighting pathways to success as experienced individually and collectively by African Americans engaged in the private equity field. You may have insights to share on the topic. If so, please message me on LinkedIn at linkedin.com/in/cynthia-wilson-wealthgapresearcher."

1999

Jennifer Estaris C'99 W'99 is the director of a new video game arriving on Netflix Games in December, called *Monument Valley 3*. Described as "a beautiful and meditative puzzle game," the Monument Valley series has been featured in museums such as New York's Museum of Modern Art and has inspired artists like singer-songwriter Ariana Grande. More information can be found at monumentvalleygame.com.

Ella Woger-Nieves C'99 is CEO of Invest Puerto Rico, a nonprofit that works to elevate Puerto Rico as a world-class business destination. She was appointed in 2023, after serving as acting CEO in 2022.

Celebrate Your Reunion, May 17–19, 2024!

2000

Grace Chiang Nicolette C'00 is the co-host of the fourth season of the podcast *Giving Done Right*, which she describes as "a show with everything donors need to know to make an impact with their charitable giving." It can be found on all podcast platforms and at givingdoneright.org. As of this fall, Grace has been working at the Center for Effective Philanthropy in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she is vice president of programming and external relations.

2002

Jeremy Braddock Gr'02 has published a new study of the Firesign Theatre, titled *Firesign: The Electromagnetic History of Everything as Told on Nine Comedy Albums*. From the book's description, it's "a cultural clearinghouse of the American 1960s and '70s told through the story of the period's most important forgotten comedy group."

Artis Henderson C'02 W'02 is a recipient of a 2024 Fulbright-National Geographic Award. As such, she will spend eight months in Western Australia studying marine stromatolites, the world's oldest living microorganisms. Artis writes, "I'll be working with a team of scientists that includes a paleontologist, an astrobiologist, and an oceanographer, as well as the Malgana people, traditional custodians of Shark Bay (Gatharragudu)." Artis is an author of two books, the first a memoir about her husband's death in Iraq; and the second, an investigative piece about drug smuggling in the 1980s, forthcoming from HarperCollins. She writes, "I intend to use the research from my Fulbright-National Geographic award as material for my third book, a braided narrative that includes the perspectives of scientists, Malgana elders, and my own experiences."

2004

Athena Aktipis G'04 Gr'08 has authored her second book, *A Field Guide to the Apocalypse: A Mostly Serious Guide to Surviving Our Wild Times*. Drawing on evolutionary biology, history, brain science, game theory, and more, cooperation theorist (and, coincidentally, zombie expert) Athena reassuringly explains how we, as a species, are "hardwired to survive big existential crises—and how we can do so by leveraging our innate abilities to communicate and cooperate," according to the press materials. An associate professor at Arizona State University, Athena is cofounder of Zombified Media, "a nonprofit media company that produces educational podcasts, TV shows, and academic crossover events to help humanity survive the zombie apocalypse and other catastrophes." Read more about Athena's work at athenaaktipis.org.

Patrick Spero G'04 Gr'09 has been appointed CEO of the American Philosophical Society. Founded in 1743 by Benjamin Franklin, the APS is "the nation's oldest learned society." Patrick is

a historian who has published widely on the era of the American Revolution. Previously, he was director of the APS's library and museum from 2015 to 2023.

Celebrate Your Reunion, May 17–19, 2024!

2005

Adam Burgos C'05 was recently awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor in the philosophy department at Bucknell University. His research and teaching focuses on political philosophy, philosophy of race, and Latin American philosophy. He shares that he has many fond memories of his time as a philosophy major while at Penn.

Nicole Oddo Smith C'05 is the founder of a new business, Advantageous Recruiting and HR Consulting (www.advantageoushr.com). Nicole shares that she's excited to combine her "experience and passion for recruiting and human resources" and welcomes the chance to support fellow Penn alumni businesses. Nicole and her family reside in Mount Airy, Philadelphia, and are "looking forward to reconnecting with classmates during our 20th Reunion, May 16–18!"

Daniel J. Tyrrell C'05, an attorney, has joined Bressler Amery & Ross as counsel in the commercial litigation practice group. Previously, he served as an assistant district attorney with the New York County District Attorney's Office.

2007

Cirel Watnik Magen CGS'07 see **Howard Magen W'53.**

2009

Maura Cheeks C'09's debut novel *Acts of Forgiveness* was released in February. In late June, Maura opened Liz's Book Bar in the Carroll Gardens section of Brooklyn, a bookstore offering coffee, tea, beer, and wine with light bites. Named after her grandmother, the store has been described as "a place where you can feel comfortable just spending time."

David Corvi GEd'09 GEd'11 writes, "On October 26, 2021, my wife and I lost our son, Charlie, to stillbirth due to a true knot in his umbilical cord. Since then, we have learned that around 21,000 babies die each year from stillbirth. About a quarter of these are preventable." David and his wife have created the Charles Martin Corvi Fund to support families who have experienced pregnancy or infant loss. In addition, David wrote a book, *Dear Charlie... Letters to My Son: A Father's Journey of Loss, Grief, and Remembrance*. More information about both can be found at charlesmartincorvi.org.

Celebrate Your Reunion, May 17–19, 2024!

2010

Marcia Budet GAr'10 GFA'10, a fine jewelry designer, is featured in a new book by Linda Kozloff-Turner, titled *Women of Jewelry,* now a part of the University of Pennsylvania's Fisher Fine Arts Library permanent collection. Marcia shares that she is the only Puerto Rican designer featured in the book, which is a compilation of work and interviews of 100 women jewelry designers from all over the world. Marcia's pieces have been showcased on the red carpet at the Met Gala and New York Fashion week runway shows, and her work has been published in *British Vogue*, *Elle*, and *Women's Wear Daily*. She writes, "I'm proud to bring my Penn architectural background into my work and believe it to be a differentiator that makes it easily recognizable in the jewelry industry." More information about Marcia and her line of jewelry can be found at marciabudet.com.

Liza St. James C'10, a writer, translator, and writing teacher, was recognized with a 2024 Artist Fellowship in Fiction from the New York State Council on the Arts and the New York Foundation for the Arts. More information about Liza and a sampling of her work can be found at her website, lizastjames.com.

2011

Diana Imbert-Hodges C'11 LPS'15 is cofounder of Defying Legal Gravity, a nonprofit that teaches legal literacy and civics to low-income students in New York City. Recently, Diana was awarded $200,000 from the David Prize, which recognizes people in New York who have "big ideas to make it even better." More information about the prize and a short video-biography of Diana can be found at thedavidprize.org/winners/diana-imbert-hodges.

2013

Paul Wolff Mitchell C'13 G'14 Gr'22 and Christiaan van Dijk were married in Urk, the Netherlands, on June 7, and held a ceremony in the Hooglandse Kerk in Leiden, the Netherlands, on June 8. Guests included **Samantha Sharon Ashok C'17** and **Ana María Gómez López C'03 G'04**. Paul is a postdoctoral researcher in anthropology at the University of Amsterdam. Christiaan is a chaplain at the Leiden University Medical Center. The couple lives with their two dogs in Leiden, the Netherlands.

2016

Aly Murray C'16 is cofounder of UPchieve, an edtech nonprofit that helps low-income students access live academic support ["Opening Doors," Sep|Oct 2021]. UPchieve was recently named the top winner of the CTIA Wireless Foundation annual competitive grants program, Catalyst. As such, UPchieve will receive a $100,000 grant to help further its mission of providing free tutoring and college counseling.

2024

Nisha H. Shah EAS'24 has been selected to be part of Carnegie Mellon University's inaugural cohort of the Rales Fellows Program. As a member of the cohort, Nisha will be studying Materials Science and Engineering, and she will receive faculty mentorship, professional development, career advisement, and a financial award that covers tuition, as well as a monthly stipend for living expenses.

1942

Hazel Zislin Zief CW'42, Philadelphia, a former high school and college-level chemistry teacher; July 28. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority. One son is Joel R. Zief C'73.

1944

Dr. Neal R. Fee D'44, Plattsburgh, NY, a retired dentist; March 18, 2023, at 101.

1945

Marguerite Saltzman Bedell CW'45 G'47, Northampton, MA, June 8.

Anna L. Cravener HUP'45, Hummelstown, PA, Oct. 14, 2023, at 99.

Marcia Damsky Nad Ed'45 GEd'47, West Orange, NJ, a former math teacher in the School District of Philadelphia; June 29. One daughter is Charlotte D. Nad WG'79.

1947

Freda Taub Easton PSW'47, Redding, CT, a retired social worker in the Norwalk, CT, public school system; July 22, at 101.

1948

Robert F. Gemmill G'48, Washington, DC, a retired international economist at the Federal Reserve Board; Sept. 23, 2023.

1949

Dr. Edwin Cowen C'49 D'51, New Rochelle, NY, a retired dentist; May 14.

Julian Ehrenberg W'49, Audubon, PA, July 10, at 100. He worked at a furniture store. He served in the US Army during World War II.

1950

George V. Curchin W'50, Tinton Falls, NJ, a retired accountant; July 8. He served in the US Navy. As a student at Penn, he was a member of Delta Upsilon fraternity and the *Daily Pennsylvanian*. He was also an officer for his class.

1951

Elizabeth Raney Harvey CW'51, Devon, PA, June 29. She retired from Bryn Mawr College. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and the choral society.

Leonard Hayflick C'51 G'53 Gr'56, Sea Ranch, CA, a pioneering microbiologist and former anatomy professor at the University of California, San Francisco; Aug. 1. He is best known for the seminal discovery of "cell senescence" when he found that normal human cultured cells are mortal, popularly called the "Hayflick limit."

Sara Ehrenreich Jospin CW'51, Savannah, GA, a real estate agent; Aug. 23. Her son is Walter E. Jospin W'74 LPS'22.

Dr. Norman N. Kohn C'51 GM'59, Voorhees, NJ, a retired rheumatologist; April 14. He served in the US Army as a psychiatrist. One daughter is Susan Kohn Stern C'82.

Dena Gibbs Sher CW'51, Philadelphia, July 6. She worked for GlaxoSmithKline in the medical literature department. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority and the choral society.

1952

Edward B. Collins C'52, West Newton, PA, a technical writer and editor for a nuclear research laboratory, and a poet; July 26. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, the ROTC, and WXPN.

Dr. Martin S. Goldberg C'52, Wynnewood, PA, an orthodontist; July 12. He served in the US Air Force.

Patricia Machlan Graef HUP'52 NU'55 GNu'87, Mount Laurel, NJ, a retired nursing instructor at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; Aug. 25.

Frank J. Kinn W'52, Fostoria, OH, former chief financial officer for a flooring manufacturing company; June 27. At Penn, he was a member of Theta Chi fraternity.

Dr. Edward B. Lewis D'52, Hershey, PA, a retired dentist; June 10. He served in the US Navy as a dentist during the Korean War, and also served in the US Naval Reserve.

William T. Shea W'52 L'55, Greenfield, MA, a lawyer and former mayor of the City of Meriden, CT; July 12. He served four terms in the Connecticut State Legislature and then was elected mayor of Meriden from 1964 to 1968. One daughter is Margaret Shea C'95.

Hon. Herbert Smolen C'52, Philadelphia, a retired judge; Dec. 14. At Penn, he was a member of Pi Lambda Phi fraternity and the ROTC. One son is Robert M. Smolen C'89.

1953

William J. Fallon W'53 WG'57, Weston, MA, founder of a software company that automated school administration, scheduling, attendance, and grade reporting; Sept. 1. He served in the US military during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Howard Magen W'53, Philadelphia, a retired accountant; Aug. 8. He served in the US Army during the Cold War. As a student at Penn, he was a member of Kappa Nu fraternity. He was also a longtime volunteer and officer for the Class of 1953, and in his retirement he audited classes at Penn for 17 years. His wife is Cirel Watnik Magen CGS'07. (See "Alumni Notes," Class of 1953, this issue.)

Dr. Rodney H. Stauffer D'53, New Holland, PA, a retired dentist; May 18. He served in the US Navy Medical Corps and Dental Corps during World War II.

Notifications

Please send notifications of deaths of alumni directly to: Alumni Records, University of Pennsylvania, Suite 300, 2929 Walnut Street, Phila., PA 19104

EMAIL record@ben.dev.upenn.edu

Newspaper obits are appreciated.

Marguerite Kanter Townsend Ed'53 GEd'56, Hockessin, DE, a retired lead reading specialist for the Wissahickon (PA) School District; Aug. 21. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

Carol Kaestner Van Zanten DH'53, Pinehurst, NC, July 31.

1954

Inez Horan Cullen DH'54, Waterford, CT, a retired dental hygienist; March 8.

Elaine Snyder Danzig CW'54, Little Silver, NJ, a painter and sculptor; July 13. At Penn, she was a member of the Debate Council. One son is Allen J. Danzig C'77, and her sister is Muriel Snyder Gluckman CW'50.

1955

Norma Molitch Deull CW'55, Newburgh, NY, president of an entertainment trucking company that transported national tours of musicians, theater companies, and more; Aug. 15.

Charles J. "Jim" Farrell WG'55, Wynnewood, PA, Feb. 20, 2023. He worked in information services and data processing. He served in the US Army.

Dr. Herbert F. Gretz Jr. M'55, Stamford, CT, a retired obstetrician-gynecologist; June 25. He served in the US Army for many years, as both a doctor at West Point and in the legal department at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

H. John Henry W'55, Camden, NJ, July 10. At Penn, he was a member of Psi Upsilon fraternity, Mask & Wig, Penn Players, and the swimming team.

Robert M. Johnson W'55, Cumming, GA, a retired manager at Bristol Myers Squibb; June 23. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and the marching band.

Alan Richard Kasdan C'55, Chevy Chase, MD, former assistant general counsel for the US Government Accountability Office; April 5, 2023. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Delta Phi fraternity, the ROTC, and the *Daily Pennsylvanian*.

Kenneth H. Kirtz W'55, Cleveland Heights, OH, former president of an insurance underwriting agency; April 3. At Penn, he was a member of the Phi Sigma Delta fraternity, Sphinx Senior Society, and the sprint football and lacrosse teams. He's a member of the Penn Men's Lacrosse Hall of Fame for an All-American career in which he set the program record for assists in a season (46 in 1954).

Paul B. Littmann WG'55, Forest Hill, MD, a retired executive at the investment management firm T. Rowe Price; Jan. 17. He served in the US Marine Corps during the Korean War.

Frank W. Pease W'55, Marco Island, FL, Aug. 3. He retired from the chemical industry and later worked for an electronics company. He served in the US Army during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Solomon R. Pollack C'55 G'57 Gr'61, Philadelphia, professor emeritus of bioengineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science; Aug. 4. In 1964, he joined the Penn faculty as an assistant professor in what is now the School of Engineering and Applied Science. In 1977, he joined Penn Engineering's department of bioengineering, where he continued to serve until 2003, when he retired. During his time at Penn, he also held secondary appointments in the School of Medicine's department of orthopaedic surgery and in the School of Nursing. He served as the department chair of bioengineering from 1977 to 1982 and again from 1990 to 1991, and also as associate dean of graduate education and research in Penn Engineering from 1981 to 1986. He studied the bioelectrical properties of bone and connective tissue, the electrical stimulation of bone growth and fracture healing, and transport phenomena in bones. In 1968, he received Penn's Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, and in 1992, he was recognized with Penn Engineering's S. Reid Warren Jr. Award. Upon his retirement, his daughter Andrea Pollack C'83 L'87 GEd'17 and son-in-law Adam Usdan established the Solomon R. Pollack professorship in honor of his groundbreaking contributions to the department of bioengineering. His other children are Carolyn Sultanik C'90 and Michael Pollack W'80, who is married to Deborah Moses Pollack C'79. One granddaughter is Hanna Usdan C'19.

Ernestine A. "Dolly" DeHart Renaud HUP'55, Orange City, FL, retired executive director of Planned Parenthood of Kent County (MI); June 16.

1956

Robert J. Albertson WG'56, Northfield, NJ, a retired municipal administrator in various cities and townships throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, and Kansas; June 20. He served in the US Army Military Police.

Robert B. Sanborn WG'56, Fort Myers, FL, president and CEO of an investment management company; July 19. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

Drew F. Seibert D'56 GD'58, Lakewood, NJ, a retired dentist; Aug. 23. He served in the US Army.

Karel J. Alberdingk Thym W'56, Laren, the Netherlands, a retired marketing executive; Jan. 16.

Dr. Bernard J. Zeldow D'56, Bellevue, WA, a retired professor of endodontics at the University of Washington; July 16. He served in the US Navy.

1957

Dr. Chester J. "Chet" Baran Jr. C'57, Bradenton, FL, a radiologist; Aug. 11. He served in the US Air Force as a flight surgeon. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Dr. Williamson Z. Bradford Jr. M'57 GM'61, Charlotte, NC, a retired obstetri-

cian-gynecologist; July 31. He also founded and served as the medical director of the first Planned Parenthood clinic in Charlotte. His wife is Catherine Boyle Bradford HUP'56 Nu'58.

Dr. Frederick Friedman Sr. C'57, Livingston, NJ, a retired obstetrician-gynecologist; Aug. 16. He served in the US Air Force. His wife is Marian B. Mullen W'58, and his children include Dr. Ricky Friedman C'81, Douglas C. Friedman C'83, and Jill M. Porat C'87 W'87. One grandson is Benjamin J. Porat EE'20 GEng'21.

Ernest Garry W'57, Huntington Station, NY, June 8. At Penn, he was a member of the ROTC and WXPN.

Robert J. Levy L'57, Aventura, FL, professor emeritus of law at the University of Minnesota; Aug. 16.

Robert L. Spohr W'57, Portland, ME, founder of a consulting practice; June 2. At Penn, he was a member of Acacia fraternity and the ROTC. He served in the US Army and the US Army Reserve.

Brian B. Topping C'57 WG'65, Baltimore, a retired bank executive; July 30. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, Sphinx Senior Society, and the basketball team.

Dr. Allen Vershel D'57, New York, a retired dentist; Aug. 5. He served in the US Navy.

Dr. Alan M. Weintraub GM'57, Chevy Chase, MD, a retired cardiologist; July 20. He served in the US Navy Medical Corps.

1958

Arnold I. Abelow WG'58, Brookline, MA, a retired attorney; April 21.

Paul Auerbach W'58 G'59 L'62, Merion Station, PA July 9. One daughter is Jennifer A. Willner GEd'04, and one granddaughter is Talia R. Willner C'27.

John H. Bennett WG'58, Chatham, NJ, a retired marketing executive for Visa; July 12. He also served as mayor of Chatham from 1978 to 1982. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity.

S. David Brandt L'58, Naples, FL, a retired attorney; Aug. 24. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

Karen Combs Flickinger DH'58, State College, PA, a former dental hygienist and teacher at Penn's School of Medicine; July 3. Her husband is Dr. George L. Flickinger Jr. V'58 Gr'63, and one daughter is Dr. Barbara J. Flickinger C'81 V'85.

David M. Lang WG'58, Jaffrey, NH, a retired accountant; Nov. 28, 2023. He served in the US Air Force.

Edmund G. Langhorne W'58, Advance, NC, June 30. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and the baseball team.

William F. Rich W'58, Mill Valley, CA, a general contractor; July 12. He served in the US Air Force. At Penn, he was a member of the sprint football team.

Alburt M. Rosenberg Gr'58, Harwich, MA, June 30.

1959

Rachel Lavinthal Chasin CW'59, San Diego, a retired speech pathologist and audiologist in the Irvine (CA) Unified School District; July 16. At Penn, she was a member of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority.

Gregorio A. Concon WG'59, Cortes, Bohol, Philippines, Sept. 7.

Robert A. Corrigan G'59 Gr'67, San Francisco, former president of San Francisco State University; July 5.

Paul Davidson Gr'59, Morton Grove, IL, an economist, author, and editor; June 20.

Alan L. Feldman W'59, Wayne, NJ, a retired accountant; Aug. 17. One son is Mark C. Feldman W'91, who is married to Jennifer Goodman Feldman C'92, and one grandchild is Sydney M. Feldman C'26.

Laurence W. Fredrick Gr'59, Charlottesville, VA, professor emeritus of astronomy at the University of Virginia; May 19. He served in the US Navy.

Irwin C. Gross WG'59, Kingsport, TN, a retired sales manager for McGraw Hill, an education company; Aug. 11.

Samuel G. Hall WEv'59 CGS'61, Media, PA, a retired bank executive; Aug. 7. He served in the US Navy.

Cornelius J. McCarthy W'59, Wilmington, MA, a retired president of an insurance agency; July 10. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity and the ice hockey team.

1960

Sherwood W. "Woody" Carter SW'60, Doylestown, PA, a retired social worker; Aug. 3. He served in the US Navy.

Dr. Richard C. Durbeck D'60, Hancock, NY, a retired dentist; July 12. He served in the US Air Force Reserve Dental Corps.

Charles A. Heimbold Jr. L'60, Riverside, CT, former US Ambassador to Sweden and retired chairman emeritus at Bristol-Myers Squibb, a pharmaceutical company; Aug. 20. He served in the US Navy and the US Naval Reserve.

Dr. Arthur L. Klein C'60, Harrisburg, a retired physician; Jan. 9. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity.

Ingeborg M. Schuster CW'60, Dresher, PA, a retired chemistry professor at Penn State University; June 28. At Penn, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Vernon Stanton Jr. L'60, Jupiter, FL, a retired attorney who specialized in corporate and securities law; June 14. He served in the US Navy. One grandson is Graham B. Stanton C'16.

Merrett R. Stierheim WG'60, Miami, a longtime public administrator in south Florida; July 7. Among other roles, he served as county manager of Miami Dade County (FL) and superintendent of the Miami-Dade Public School District. He served in the US Air Force.

Joseph W. Weed W'60, Rye, NY, July 15. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Psi fraternity.

Alan S. Whelihan WG'60, Adamstown, MD, retired director of planning and coordination for the US Metric Board, which was formed to encourage the use of the metric system and later dissolved by President Reagan; July 4. He served in the US Navy.

1961

Dr. Arthur G. Baker Jr. M'61 GM'68, Newtown Square, PA, a retired vascular surgeon; April 9. He served in the US Army as a surgeon during the Vietnam War. At Penn, he was a member of the football team.

Edward Chu ChE'61 GCh'63, King of Prussia, PA, a retired chemist for DuPont; Aug. 6.

Phyllis Fine Eisenberg CW'61 G'63, Rockville, MD, a retired high school science teacher; Sept. 16. At Penn she was a member of Hillel Choir, University Chorus, the Philomathean Society, and Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. Her husband is Murray Eisenberg C'60 G'62, and her brother is Burton D. Fine C'51.

Edgar J. Gunter Jr. GCE'61 Gr'65, Charlottesville, VA, a retired professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Virginia; Aug. 14.

George S. Koval W'61, Broomall, PA, a retired administrator at Penn; June 15. He worked in the Office of Student Financial Aid and Student Employment from 1960 to 1969, and also served as assistant football coach. After spending five years as director of financial aid at Temple University, he returned to Penn in 1974 for the rest of his career, taking on roles including director of financial aid, director of housing and security, and acting vice provost, until his retirement in 1995. He served in the US Army National Guard and Reserve. As a student at Penn, he was a member of Sphinx Senior Society and the football and baseball teams. As quarterback of the football team, he threw a famous touchdown pass to Barney Berlinger Jr. ME'60 to lead Penn to its first Ivy League championship in 1959 ["Sports," Nov|Dec 2019]. One daughter is Lisa Koval Babitz C'86, who is married to Martyn S. Babitz W'84 L'87. Two grandchildren are Eric C. Babitz W'18 and Keith F. Babitz W'21.

Frank H. Pinkus WG'61, a retired admissions officer at Penn; July 27. Earlier in his career, he cofounded a women's clothing company and a clock parts distribution company. One daughter is Lynn Pinkus Lewis C'94, one granddaughter is Amy Morgan Pinkus C'17, and his brother is Ralph S. Pinkus C'67.

1962

Lorna H. Hahn Gr'62, Washington, DC, March 7.

Capt. George A. Ripsom GEE'62, Chelmsford, MA, a retired senior engineer for Raytheon and a longtime commanding officer in the US Navy; April 13. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War and in the US Naval Reserve.

Robert D. St. George G'62, Tustin, CA, retired dean of a boarding school; June 4. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War.

Dr. Terry L. Zimmerman V'62, Milton, PA, a retired veterinarian; June 28.

1963

Birchard T. Clothier L'63, Bryn Mawr, PA, a former insurance executive; June 29. Two sisters are Ann H. Clothier CW'56 and Sandra Clothier Singer CW'63.

Dr. A. Dwight de la Ossa D'63, Jupiter, FL, a former dentist for the US Navy; Sept. 20, 2023. His wife is Marcia Emery de la Ossa DH'63.

Anthony R. Destefano C'63, Americus, GA, a retired lawyer and former college English literature teacher; Aug. 4

Stephen A. Markowitz EE'63, Cherry Hill, NJ, founder and president of an industrial pump distributor; July 18. He served in the US Navy and Naval Reserve.

Sidney G. Masri L'63, Falls Church, VA, a former attorney for NASA and United Healthcare; June 30. One brother is Norman Masri W'53 WG'54.

David W. Merriman W'63 WG'66, Delray Beach, FL, a commodity trader; Aug. 6.

Wayne M. Pressnall GEd'63, North Platte, NE, a retired high school science and computer science teacher; July 25, 2023.

1964

Ralph A. Gakenheimer Gr'64, Cambridge, MA, professor emeritus of urban planning at MIT; June 17.

Edward J. Mannello ChE'64, Sinking Spring, PA, a chemical engineer; July 1.

Robert J. Powers WG'64, New York, July 24.

Barbara Newman Schieken CW'64, Richmond, VA, an English teacher, painter, and photographer; Aug. 15.

Dr. C. William "Bill" Springer D'64, Holladay, UT, a retired dentist; July 7. He served in the US Army Dental Corps.

1965

Bart S. Frechem C'65, Hatfield, PA, a retired corrosion specialist for the chemical company Rohm and Haas; June 30.

Gary P. Maher W'65, Naples, FL, a real estate developer; June 4. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity.

Frederick Malone III C'65, New York, June 17. He structured capital investment projects in England and Ireland. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Phi fraternity. His wife is Carol Collins Malone CW'75.

Frances Myers O'Brien CW'65, Trenton, NJ, a retired branch manager for the Trenton Public Library; Aug. 1.

William S. Slocum C'65, Leesburg, FL, a former banker and business owner; Aug. 5. He served in the US Navy. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Carl E. Steen GEE'65, Melbourne, FL, a retired avionics manager for an aero-

space company; Aug. 10. He served in the US Marine Corps.

1966

Florence M. "Floss" Crawford Nu'66 GNu'81, Flourtown, PA, a former nurse and nursing instructor; Aug. 15.

Joseph A. Lannon Gr'66, Stroudsburg, PA, retired director for the Armament Research and Development Center (ARDEC) at Picatinny Arsenal in Dover, NJ; Aug. 16.

Dr. Michael D. Ryan II GD'66, Chesapeake City, MD, a retired oral and maxillofacial surgeon; June 7.

1967

John C. Bentz GME'67 Gr'74, Morrisville, PA, an aerospace engineer for the US Navy and an associate professor at Villanova University; July 10. His wife is Irene Haluska Bentz Nu'67.

Carter W. Craigie G'67 Gr'76, Blacksburg, VA, a retired English professor at Cabrini College; Aug. 1. His wife is Kay Cothran Craigie Gr'72.

Dr. Sheldon R. Mandel C'67 GM'75, Brookeville, MD, a retired orthopedic surgeon; July 9. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity.

J. Bernard McCurley Jr. L'67, Chevy Chase, MD, May 27.

Joan Devito Reagan Nu'67, Lebanon, OH, a religion teacher and pastoral counselor; July 18. She worked in the US Army as a nurse.

Louise Schilgen Slama GEd'67, Gladwyne, PA, a retired junior high school guidance counselor; July 19, at 105.

1968

Surinder K. Gondal Gr'68, Las Vegas, June 5, 2023.

Neil P. Hoffmann GAr'68, Haverford, PA, a retired architect; June 26. His wife is Nancy E. Hoffmann G'70 Gr'96.

Stephen D. Klein C'68 GAr'70, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, an architect who specialized in designing hospitals; Aug. 13. He served in the US Navy during the Vietnam War. At Penn, he was a member of Psi Upsilon fraternity and the lacrosse team.

Helen Cavanaugh Komazec DH'68, Tinton Falls, NJ, a dental hygienist; July 8.

Donald R. Phoenix CGS'68 Gr'76, West Fairlee, VT, former project manager for Weston Solutions, an environmental engineering firm; July 25.

Dr. L. James "Doc" Snyder D'68, Bryn Mawr, PA, a retired dentist; April 30. He served in the US Army.

William H. Stickel C'68, Oreland, PA, July 2, 2023.

Bruce W. Wessels MtE'68, Wilmette, IL, professor emeritus of materials science and engineering at Northwestern University; April 7. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity. His son is David W. Wessels EAS'92 W'92, and one grandchild is Jacob W. Wessels C'22.

Patricia Klein Yourdon G'68, Fort Myers, FL, Sept. 3, 2022. She retired from the United Nations.

1969

Dr. Joan Celebre Dragonetti GM'69, Honey Brook, PA, an obstetrician-gynecologist and former professor at Penn; Feb. 18.

Myra Goldenberg Green CW'69, Lincoln, MA, a retired attorney; June 21.

Michael J. Hungerford C'69, Syracuse, NY, principal attorney for the New York State Mental Hygiene Legal Services; Aug. 21. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Dr. Allen L. Ingling V'69, Earlysville, VA, a professor of veterinary medicine at the University of Maryland, College Park; Aug. 9. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

1970

Richard O. Bassuener WG'70, Denver, a retired financial planner and accountant; May 3. He served in the US Army.

CORRECTION: The *Gazette* is pleased to hear from **Dr. Edwin L. Cohen D'67** that he is "very happily alive, enjoying life and not deceased, as reported" in the Sep|Oct 2024 issue. We sincerely regret the error.

Dr. Roy V. Bergman V'70, Louisville, CO, an equine veterinarian; June 29.

Paul A. Cruser Gr'70, Princeton, NJ, a retired English professor and former interim dean of Arts and Science at the College of New Jersey; July 29. He served in the US Army.

Lee G. Dorison WG'70, Marco Island, FL, a former corporate executive; July 8.

Sheldon R. Flamm W'70, Larchmont, NY, a financial advisor; Sept. 19, 2022. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity.

Dr. Stuart B. Fountain GD'70, Asheboro, NC, an endodontist; July 31.

Dr. Russell F. Griffith GM'70, Addison, TX, a dermatologist; Oct. 19, 2023. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

Howard B. Hile WG'70, Delray Beach, FL, an emergency oil spill response coordinator; July 16. He served in the US Navy.

Paul C. Hunt C'70, South Miami, FL, a retired senior services coordinator for the City of Coral Gables (FL); June 16. He served in the US Army Reserve.

Joel M. Kaufman C'70 L'73, Pittsburgh, July 26. He spent his career at the Allegheny County (PA) District Attorney's Office.

Robert D. Moffat WG'70, Atlanta, an investment banker; July 1.

Charles S. Otto C'70, Providence, RI, July 1. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity. His daughter is Molly G. Otto C'12.

James Scott Shaw Gr'70, Athens, GA, an astronomy professor at the University of Georgia; June 24.

1971

William R. Degraw Jr. CGS'71, Lewisville, NC, a retired attorney; July 13. He served in the US Marine Corps.

Dr. Robert L. Hodes C'71, Pittsburgh, an optometrist; July 2.

Burton S. Levine G'71 Gr'95, Hamden, CT, professor emeritus of sociology at Central Connecticut State University; Nov. 22.

Dr. Lawrence W. Samples V'71, Hummelstown, PA, a retired large animal veterinarian; July 9.

Willis "Lee" Stetson Jr. GEd'71, Ardmore, PA, Penn's former dean of admissions; July 31. He joined Penn as director of admissions in 1978 and was appointed dean of admissions in 1981. He held the position for over 25 years, becoming one of the longest-serving admissions deans in the Ivy League. Under his leadership, applications to Penn tripled as he implemented a strategy to diversify the University's undergraduate applicant pool, expanding outreach to prospective students from across the United States and around the world. He stepped down in 2007 and retired in 2008 ["Gazeteer," Sep|Oct 2007]. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

Samuel Wagner Gr'71, Kennett Square, PA, a retired professor of business administration and economics at Franklin & Marshall College; June 15.

David V. Williams Gr'71, Ithaca, NY, a retired psychology professor at Ithaca College; July 26.

1972

Dr. Paul C. Atkins GM'72, Wayne, PA, a professor of medicine in the Perelman School of Medicine; Sept. 1. After completing his fellowship in allergy and immunology at Penn in 1972, he served two years in the US Army Medical Corps. In 1974, he was appointed to the faculty at Penn as an assistant professor and he rose to the rank of professor of medicine. He retired in 2007. His wife is Elaine Atkins GEd'76 Gr'82, his daughter is Dr. Jennifer Atkins Armstrong C'91 M'98 GM'01, and one granddaughter is Deborah L. Armstrong C'26.

Dr. Dennis J. Bonner GEE'72, Upper Makefield, PA, a physician and a clinical assistant professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Temple University; Aug. 10. At Penn, he was a member of Friars Senior Society. One brother is Dr. James F. Bonner GM'82.

Dr. Frank Borzio Jr. V'72, Staten Island, NY, a veterinarian; June 20. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Christopher D. Kirby C'72, North Palm Beach, FL, a retired investment banker; Aug. 2. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and the golf team.

Debra More-Williams DH'72, Silver Spring, MD, a dental hygienist; June 25.

Abraham A. Raab WG'72, Atlantic City, NJ, retired manager of a poultry business; June 22.

Adam Regenbogen SW'72, Nineveh, NY, a workers compensation law judge for New York State; Aug. 10.

Clyde A. Tarbutton WG'72, Glen Mills, PA, a motorcycle dealer; June 13. He served in the US Army.

1973

Ralph J. Ibson L'73, Washington, DC, former national policy director for the Wounded Warrior Project; Aug. 17.

Edward M. Nazzaro C'73 GEd'73, Santa Fe, NM, a former supervisor of world languages at a high school who also taught at community colleges; July 7. At Penn, he was a member of Penn Players.

George J. Yelagotes Gr'73, Lititz, PA, a retired sociology professor at Millersville University; July 20. Earlier in his career, he also taught at Penn. One grandson is Jamison J. Vulopas W'19. He served in the US Army.

1974

Gerald J. Butler L'74, Scranton, PA, an attorney; July 29. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

Jacob Garvin Warden Jr. WG'74, Tahoe City, CA, a retired financial consultant and former interim CEO for the NHL's Pittsburgh Penguins; April 1. He served in the US Navy. In high school, he participated in the Penn Relays. One son is Jacob A. Warden C'99.

1975

Cecelia L. Fanelli CW'75, New York, an attorney; July 9.

Dr. Kathy Powell Roebuck D'75, Mountain Brook, AL, an endodontist and lawyer; July 31.

Jonathan M. Sarkin C'75, Rockport, MA, a former chiropractor and artist; July 19. Known as Jon Sarkin, he started creating art after complications from neurosurgery led to a stroke, preventing him from returning to work as a chiropractor and sparking a wildly prolific career of painting and drawing in a variety of media, including designs for rugs and a music video collaboration with the band Guster. His art has appeared on multiple covers and inside pages of the *Gazette*, and he was profiled in our May|Jun 1997 cover story, "Artist Unleashed."

Hollis J. "Holly" Sensenig CW'75 Nu'95 GNu'01, Philadelphia, a nurse; June 25.

Dr. John A. Wittner D'75, West Chester, PA, a dentist who also built engines for motorcycle racing; Feb. 15. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

1976

Joseph M. Lee L'76, Basking Ridge, NJ, a retired staff attorney for AT&T; July 23.

Michael W. Leibowitz C'76 EE'76 GEE'78, Charleston, SC, a telecommunications executive; July 25. At Penn, he was a member of the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, Mask & Wig, and the Sphinx Senior Society. His mother is Eileen W. Leibowitz Ed'48.

Gary T. Pickens G'76 Gr'82, Chicago, founder of a firm that specializes in healthcare decision support software; Aug. 16.

1977

Rebecca Thompson Cohen C'77, Wilmington, DE, a former public health nurse; July 20. At Penn, she was a member of Penn Players.

Benjamin R. Kittner GEd'77, Raleigh, NC, a small business specialist for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services; July 14.

1978

Jeffery Sobal Gr'78, Ithaca, NY, professor emeritus of nutrition sciences at Cornell University; Aug. 3.

1979

Darryl W. Hall Gr'79, West Norriton, PA, a former computational fluid dynamicist for General Electric who also taught at Penn State; Oct. 15, 2023.

Roger M. Poor WG'79, Laurel, MD, chief financial officer for a nonprofit specializing in US defense policy and budgets; July 14.

Nicolas P. Van De Walle C'79, Interlaken, NY, a scholar of African politics and a professor of government at Cornell University; July 15. At Penn, he was a member of the squash and tennis teams and a Franklin Scholar. One daughter is Nadia C. Van De Walle C'08, and his siblings include D. P. Van De Walle C'78, J. Van de Walle C'80 G'86 WG'86, and Patrice P. Van De Walle C'82 G'83 G'89 WG'89.

1980

Dr. Ricarda Kelly-Walrond V'80, Thurmont, MD, a veterinarian; Aug. 5. Her husband is Dr. Thomas G. Walrond V'78.

Stephen G. Perry EAS'80, New York, former CEO of CorporateRewards.com; Aug. 6.

Constance Pennington "Penny" Young Nu'80, Bristol, ME, a former nurse; Jan. 19.

1981

Mary Denver Beetham G'81, Highland Park, NJ, an elementary school teacher; Nov. 10, 2023.

1982

Dr. Steven F. Karlin M'82, Warwick, RI, a psychiatrist and artist; July 26. His children are Amelia Heiss Karlin Nu'18 GNu'21 and Samuel Heiss Karlin WG'22.

Julie Shapiro L'82, Seattle, a retired civil rights lawyer and professor of law, with a focus on LGBTQ law and policy, at Seattle University; March 12.

1984

George A. Davala III WG'84, Vero Beach, FL, an investment banker; July 1. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Psi fraternity. His son is George A. Davala C'14.

Thomas V. Reilly C'84 G'85, North Bergen, NJ, former financial editor for Standard & Poor; Oct. 7, 2023.

1985

Dr. Samuel M. "Sandy" Silver GM'85, Ann Arbor, MI, a physician specializing in bone marrow transplantation and a professor emeritus of medicine at the University of Michigan; Aug. 14.

Ward Lowell Smith G'85 L'86, Philadelphia, retired assistant general counsel for Exelon Corporation; May 8.

1987

Armond F. Cammarota G'87, Haddon Heights, NJ, a retired training director at Unisys and an instructor at Camden County (NJ) College; Sept. 22, 2023.

Frederick Glenn Tiffany G'87 Gr'88, Springfield, OH, an economics professor at Wittenberg University; July 27.

1990

Laura Hankins DiSilverio G'90, Colorado Springs, CO, an intelligence officer in the US Air Force and an assistant professor of English at the US Air Force Academy; June 14.

Susan Courtney Faruqee GEng'90 Gr'93, Silver Spring, MD, a professor in the department of psychological and brain sciences at Johns Hopkins University; June 10.

Dr. Ikuo Hirano M'90, Chicago, a gastroenterologist and professor of medicine at Northwestern University; July 22.

Edwin N. Probert II GEd'90, New Hope, PA, a retired English teacher at a private school; Aug. 22

1993

Christina H. Chung GAr'93, Livingston, NJ, July 25.

1994

John R. Ensminger WG'94, Portland, OR, founder of Everest Consulting Company; June 30. At Penn, he was a member of the Wharton Follies.

1997

Nancy Zobl Templeton GCP'97, Swarthmore, PA, an urban planner; July 24.

2000

Philip M. Nord GFA'00, King of Prussia, PA, owner of a camera shop and director of a museum; July 5. He served in the US Air Force.

2002

Hanae Katayama GEd'02, King of Prussia, PA, a teacher of Japanese language arts in the Lower Merion (PA) School District; Sept. 27, 2023. Her husband is Dr. Scott S. Nakamura D'94 GD'98.

Henry Blanco White L'02, Collegeville, PA, a retired patent attorney; May 2024. His former spouse is Magdalen Braden L'95.

2006

Jose L. Louro C'06, Philadelphia, a nurse; July 22. At Penn, he was a member of the a cappella group Counterparts.

2007

Tamara "Tami" Herold Sharma GNu'07, Arcadia, CA, a labor and delivery nurse and professor of nursing at West Coast University; Dec. 27, 2022.

2008

William F. Rust III Gr'08, Fairfield, CT, an archaeologist and magazine editor; May 29.

2010

Jason W. Ebersole GFA'10 SPP'12, Gilbertsville, PA, a senior associate director of reporting and analytics at Swarthmore College; Aug. 3. Earlier in his career, he was a senior information specialist at Penn.

2011

Susan M. Gavin-Leone LPS'11, Cinnaminson, NJ, a library service assistant in the Penn Libraries; June 17. She joined Penn Libraries in 2003 as a clerk, advancing through the years to her most recent position, in 2016, as a library service assistant.

2013

Bruce Denlinger LPS'13, Bethlehem, PA, a retired insurance agent; Aug. 18.

2022

Erinda Sheno C'22, Philadelphia, August 2024.

2025

Matthew L. Hoyt GEng'25, Mount Lebanon, PA, a student in Penn Engineering's online master of computer and information technology (MCIT) program, and a senior accounting manager at PNC Bank; June 24.

Faculty & Staff

Mark B. Adams, Philadelphia, an associate professor in the history and sociology of science department of the School of Arts and Sciences; May 9. He joined Penn's faculty in 1970 as an assistant professor of history and philosophy. He taught graduate and undergraduate courses in the history of Russian science; the history of biology, science, and literature; and the sociology of science. In 1973, he became an assistant professor of history and sociology. He was named the Janice and Julian Bers Professor in the Social Sciences in 1974. In 1970, he taught one of the first college courses on science fiction in the US, drawing upon his own collection of science fiction literature. Eventually, this collection grew to include more than 5,000 items, most of which are housed in the Mark B. Adams Science Fiction Collection at the Penn Libraries. He received Penn's Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1984. In 1995, he retired from Penn.

Dr. Paul C. Atkins. *See Class of 1972.*

Dr. Leonard Bachman, Chevy Chase, MD, a former professor of medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine and the former chief of anesthesiology at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; May 24, at 99. He was recruited to CHOP as chief of anesthesiology in 1955. At the same time, he joined Penn's School of Medicine as an assistant professor of anesthesiology. By 1966, he was a full professor. While at CHOP, he helped develop a pediatric intensive care unit and created groundbreaking tools and technology for anesthesiologists. He left Penn in 1973 to become director of health services for Pennsylvania Governor Milton Shapp; and from 1975 to 1979, he served as the secretary of health for Pennsylvania. He served in the US Navy.

Raymond C. Boston, West Chester, PA, a professor of biomathematics and biostatistics at Penn; June 29. He was also a research scientist at the National Institutes of Health and his research included areas ranging from veterinary to medical to epidemiological issues.

Richard Brilliant, New York, a former professor of the history of art in the School of Arts and Sciences; Aug. 8. He began teaching at Penn in 1963 as an associate professor of the history of art and

School Abbreviations

Ar	Architecture
ASC	Annenberg
C	College (bachelor's)
CCC	College Collateral Courses
CE	Civil Engineering
CGS	College of General Studies (till 2008)
Ch	Chemistry
ChE	Chemical Engineering
CW	College for Women (till 1975)
D	Dental Medicine
DH	Dental Hygiene
EAS	Engineering and Applied Science (bachelor's)
Ed	Education
EE	Electrical Engineering
FA	Fine Arts
G	master's, Arts and Sciences
GAr	master's, Architecture
GCE	master's, Civil Engineering
GCh	master's, Chemical Engineering
GCP	master's, City Planning
GD	Dental, post-degree
GEd	master's, Education
GEE	master's, Electrical Engineering
GEng	master's, Engineering and Applied Science
GEx	master's, Engineering Executive
GFA	master's, Fine Arts
GGS	master's, College of General Studies
GL	master's, Law
GLA	master's, Landscape Architecture
GME	master's, Mechanical Engineering
GM	Medicine, post-degree
GMt	master's, Metallurgical Engineering
GNu	master's, Nursing
GPU	master's, Governmental Administration
Gr	doctorate
GrC	doctorate, Civil Engineering
GrE	doctorate, Electrical Engineering
GrEd	doctorate, Education
GrL	doctorate, Law
GrN	doctorate, Nursing
GRP	master's, Regional Planning
GrS	doctorate, Social Work
GrW	doctorate, Wharton
GV	Veterinary, post-degree
Hon	Honorary
HUP	Nurse training (till 1978)
L	Law
LAr	Landscape Architecture
LPS	Liberal and Professional Studies
M	Medicine
ME	Mechanical Engineering
MT	Medical Technology
MtE	Metallurgical Engineering
Mu	Music
NEd	Certificate in Nursing
Nu	Nursing (bachelor's)
OT	Occupational Therapy
PSW	Pennsylvania School of Social Work
PT	Physical Therapy
SAMP	School of Allied Medical Professions
SPP	Social Policy and Practice (master's)
SW	Social Work (master's) (till 2005)
V	Veterinary Medicine
W	Wharton (bachelor's)
WAM	Wharton Advanced Management
WEF	Wharton Extension Finance
WEv	Wharton Evening School
WG	master's, Wharton
WMP	Wharton Management Program

was promoted to professor in 1969. That same year, he became chair of the department before joining the faculty of Columbia University. In 1967, he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for his project on Roman imperial sculpture and coinage. In 1969, he received Penn's Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching. He received a Fulbright scholarship for study in Italy (1957–1959) and a Rome Prize from the Academy in Rome (1960–1962). He retired from full-time teaching in 2004.

Michael Cohen, Wynnewood, PA, an emeritus professor of physics and astronomy in the School of Arts and Sciences; June 30. He came to Penn in 1958 as an assistant professor of physics and moved to full professor in 1973. He spent the rest of his career at Penn. A condensed matter physicist, he studied the quantum mechanics of liquid helium, as well as ferroelectrics and phospholipid membranes. In 1962, with George Stranahan and Robert Craig, he cofounded the Aspen Center for Physics in Aspen, Colorado. When the center became an independent nonprofit in 1968, he was elected its first treasurer. He followed this with a term as the center's vice president, and then, for another 48 years, as an honorary trustee. One son is Adam Cohen C'90.

Dr. Joan Celebre Dragonetti. *See Class of 1969.*

Jason W. Ebersole. *See Class of 2010.*

Karen Combs Flickinger. *See Class of 1958.*

Susan M. Gavin-Leone. *See Class of 2011.*

Patricia Machlan Graef. *See Class of 1952.*

George S. Koval. *See Class of 1961.*

Frank H. Pinkus. *See Class of 1961.*

Solomon R. Pollack. *See Class of 1955.*

Stuart Samuels, Los Angeles, a former assistant professor of history in the School of Arts and Sciences; Aug. 2. In 1968, he joined Penn's faculty as a lecturer of film history in the department of history. He was a trailblazer in teaching cultural history through feature films, and he was also a filmmaker himself. In 1972, he was promoted to assistant professor of history, and he continued his career at Penn until leaving in 1981.

Norman Schatz, a professor of neurology and ophthalmology in the Perelman School of Medicine; June 28. He became a Penn professor in 1978, and his career spanned years of teaching and practice at Penn, Wills Eye Hospital, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, and elsewhere.

Willis "Lee" Stetson Jr. *See Class of 1971.*

Susan Cotts Watkins, Santa Monica, CA, professor emeritus of sociology and demography in the School of Arts and Sciences; Aug. 26. She joined Penn in 1982 as an assistant professor in the department of sociology; she also became a faculty member of Penn's Population Studies Center. She rose through the ranks, becoming full professor in 1998. She also held a joint appointment as a lecturer in the English Language Programs. She received two University Research Foundation awards from Penn, in 1989 and 1991. Her research focused on demographic and social change driven by local social networks, with significant work in reducing fertility rates and combating the AIDS epidemic in Africa. She retired from Penn in 2007 and went on to become a Guggenheim Fellow in 2009.

George J. Yelagotes. *See Class of 1973.*

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

(PS Form 3526-R)
1. Title of publication: The Pennsylvania Gazette
2. Publication no: 0016-875
3. Date of filing: September 18, 2024
4. Issue frequency: bimonthly
5. Number of issues published annually: 6
6. Annual subscription price: $30.00
7. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: 3910 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3111
8. Complete mailing address of headquarters or general business office of publisher: E. Craig Sweeten Alumni House, 3533 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6226
9. Full names and complete mailing addresses of publisher, editor, and managing editor—Publisher: F. Hoopes Wampler, E. Craig Sweeten Alumni House, 3533 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6226; Editor: John Prendergast, 3910 Chestnut Street, Third Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3111; Managing Editor: None.
10. Owner: Penn Alumni, E. Craig Sweeten Alumni House, 3533 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6226.
11. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None.
12. The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes has not changed during the preceding 12 months.
13. Publication title: The Pennsylvania Gazette
14. Issue date for circulation information below: September-October 2024
15. Extent and nature of circulation:

	avg. no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months	No. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date
a. Total Number of Copies:	297,592	295,518
b. Legitimate Paid/Requested Distribution		
(1) Paid/Requested Mail Subscriptions	282,237	282,259
(3) Requested Distribution Outside USPS	12,191	11,971
c. Total Paid/Requested Circulation	294,428	294,230
d. Nonrequested Distribution		
(4) Nonrequested Copies Outside the Mail	43	113
e. Total Nonrequested Distribution	43	113
f. Total Distribution	294,471	294,343
g. Copies not Distributed	3,121	1,175
h. Total	297,592	295,518
i. Percent Paid/Requested Circulation (15c divided by f times 100)	99.9%	99.9%

I certify that all information furnished above is true and complete.—John Prendergast, Editor

Classifieds

Collectibles

BUYING COLLECTIONS OF BOOKS and Pulp Magazines, especially Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror and others. Email: ray@raybowman.com

College Admissions

TEST PREP & COLLEGE ADMISSIONS Robert Kohen, Ph.D., Harvard and Columbia grad, provides individualized tutoring for SAT, ACT, ISEE, SSAT & SHSAT and guides families through all aspects of the college admissions process. 212.658.0834; robert@koheneducationalservices.com; www.koheneducationalservices.com

Gift Ideas

PEACEWARE.COM Curated Indian textiles and delightful gifts designed for modern living. Sourced ethically.

PERSONALIZED ENGRAVED GIFTS Custom Engraved Decanters, Bowls, Vases & Wine Bottles. www.personalized-engraved-gifts.com

Health and Wellness

PSYCHOLOGIST specializing in supporting college student transitions. Email: dnorman@helixpotential.com; GEd'04

Travel

EXPERT-LED archaeological and cultural tours and gulet cruises. Multi-award-winning Peter Sommer Travels. www.petersommer.com

Vacation Rental—USA

STONE HARBOR, NJ On beach. Outstanding home. Great on/off Season Rental. Call (570) 430-3639. www.Stoneharborbeachhouses.com or email: RAdams150@aol.com

Classified Advertising

email Linda: caiazzo@upenn.edu
or visit thepenngazette.com/advertise

Regular Classified: $4.00 per word/$3.60 per word for 3 issues/$3.25 per word for 6 issues
- Add color to title (free)
- Add a photo ($25 one-time fee)
- Telephone numbers count as one word
- Ten word minimum

Display Classified: $150 per column inch (depth)
- 2" depth minimum; column width is 2.2"
- Electronic files required (300 dpi jpg/pdf)

All classified ads are prepaid. Pay online at www.alumni.upenn.edu/GazetteAdvertise

Quaker Spirit, Then and Now

Jack Melnick W'51, possibly Penn's first Quaker mascot, speaks to a crowd during a 1949 pep rally—almost exactly 75 years before several Penn fans decided to show up to Franklin Field wearing Quaker costumes.

In what could possibly have been the first sighting of a Penn Quaker mascot—at least according to this magazine's fine editorial staff in 1949—the *Gazette* reported that a student named Jack Melnick W'51 "has become, apparently, a permanent part of the Pennsylvania scene."

Decked out in full Quaker attire, Melnick, dubbed "William Quaker (from Quakertown)," was "conceived by the Spirit Committee" as an apparent homage to William Penn, the Quaker who founded the Province of Pennsylvania during the British Colonial era. (Although Penn has never been a Quaker institution, its athletic teams began to be called "the Quakers" in newspapers in the late 1800s, according to University Archivist Emeritus Mark Frazier Lloyd, who told the *Daily Pennsylvanian* in 2010 that because "Philly was known as the 'Quaker City,' it was natural for sports writers to call the Penn athletic teams the Quakers.")

Melnick, er, "William Quaker" (or "Willie" for short), introduced himself to his fellow students, alumni, and other fans with this chant at a pep rally before Penn's season-opening 21–0 win over Dartmouth on October 1, 1949:

"Now, Yale can keep its Bulldog
And buy fireplugs all day,
And Army keep its Army Mule
And chase the flies away,
And Harvard keep its Cantabs—
Whatever they may be,
'Cause Pennsylvania's got a man,
A real live human—me!"

The **November 1949 issue of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*** reported at length, as the magazine usually did in that era, on Penn football's strong play. With victories over Dartmouth, Princeton, Columbia, and Navy, the Quakers had gotten off to a hot start to its '49 season under head coach George Munger Ed'33, who routinely had Penn positioned among the nation's best until the program began its transition to the Ivy League in the early 1950s [see "The Price They Paid," this issue].

What caught our eye, though, was a small photo and paragraph alongside the several pages devoted to football coverage. The headline? "Pennsylvania Gets a Mascot."

In addition to those "stirring words" at the Dartmouth pep rally, the new Quaker mascot had "been pulling halftime stunts during football games and generally providing a focal point for student enthusiasm," per the *Gazette's* report.

Over the next 75 years, many other undergraduates would go onto wear old-school Quaker garb, before the mascot's costume changed to a fully enclosed suit and oversized head (with different iterations of its look along the way). But dressing up in clothes of a different era might not be completely lost. During Penn's 2024 football home opener on September 28 at Franklin Field, some fans were spotted wearing Colonial-style hats, wigs, suits, and dresses—almost exactly 75 years to the day of the Quaker's debut appearance. —*DZ*

Photos courtesy the *Pennsylvania Gazette* and Diego Zubieta-Soto/Penn Athletics

Photo by Scott Spitzer, University Communications

A Thoughtful Approach to Managing Your Philanthropy

Year after year, the generosity of alumni and friends fuels the University of Pennsylvania's mission, supporting scholarships and professorships, research, student-athletes, and Penn's nationally recognized cultural institutions. Now, you can support it all using the Penn Donor Advised Fund (DAF).

The Penn Donor Advised Fund offers a flexible, tax-efficient way to manage your charitable giving. Think of it as a philanthropic checking account, allowing you to make a contribution today and thoughtfully decide over time where your gift will have the greatest impact. With the Penn DAF, you can support your favorite Penn programs as well as other charitable organizations, while qualifying for a charitable tax deduction in the year your gift is made.

Key Features of the Penn DAF:

- Open an account with a minimum gift of $50,000.
- Choose from a range of investment portfolios.
- Involve the next generation and foster a lasting tradition of giving.
- Currently, there are no fees for managing your Penn DAF account.

Contact us today to learn more!

Office of Gift Planning
215.898.6171
giftplan@dev.upenn.edu
giving.upenn.edu/gift-planning

Already have a Donor Advised Fund?
Consider naming Penn as a successor beneficiary upon account termination.
Whatever your passion, you can find it here at Penn.

ASPEN IDEAS FESTIVAL

Be part of the conversation in Aspen next summer.

Each June, the Aspen Ideas Festival convenes the world's most influential leaders—visionaries in business, academia, public policy, science, and the arts—who are shaping the future. We invite you to be part of the dynamic conversations that unfold in thought-provoking panels, intimate roundtables, and spontaneous exchanges that happen across our picturesque, 40-acre campus nestled in a Rocky Mountain meadow.

Register by December 31 and enjoy a 20% discount plus a special gift with code: PENN.

300+ SPEAKERS, **150+** SESSIONS

Festival 1: June 25-28 | **Festival 2:** June 28-July 1

Limited public passes are available: AspenIdeas.org/PENN | (970) 544-7960