SCORE

- SPRINT FOOTBALL
- LARGEST FRESHMAN CLASS
- NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
YOUR GIFTS MEAN EVERYTHING TO OUR STUDENTS

WHY? Because the Caldwell University Annual Fund is present in everything that we do to shape our students’ experience—from application to graduation. Starting with scholarships and financial aid, it also supports the academic, athletic, campus life, cultural and service opportunities that lead to success in the workplace, community and beyond.

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Dear Friends of Caldwell University,

As is always the case, so much has happened on campus since the publication of the last issue of our Caldwell Magazine. Commencement 2016 has come and gone. Faculty and staff have enjoyed periods of vacation during the summer. The bookstore has relocated from the Newman Center to the Student Center, and the campus has received its annual ‘refresh’ as we prepare for the opening of the fall 2016 semester. I am pleased to share that as of the writing of this letter in early summer, we anticipate welcoming the largest freshman class and the biggest residential population in the history of the institution. Knowing that students believe in the value proposition of Caldwell University—an excellent liberal arts education delivered within the context of our Catholic and Dominican traditions—makes me excited about the coming year and proud of our ongoing heritage.

I’d like to highlight a few of the topics you’ll find contained within this magazine: new academic programs at the university, the installation of an interdisciplinary honor society for undergraduates and graduates, and the Sisters’ oral history project.

Caldwell has been approved to offer the following new programs: the BA in Applied Language, the BS in Public Health Education, the BS in Healthcare Administration, and the MA in Higher Education. The BS in Sport Management is awaiting state approval and will be ready to launch in 2017. These new programs demonstrate the entrepreneurial spirit of the faculty and the leadership of the academic unit to propose new programs that are attractive to both undergraduate and graduate students. Caldwell has also entered into a partnership with Capital Education, to assist us with the launch of our fully online programs: the RN to BSN completion program and the MBA.

Through another new venture, Caldwell University is now the proud home of Chapter 335 of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (PKP), the oldest interdisciplinary honor society in the United States. Once the PKP board approved Caldwell for a chapter, the national executive director of PKP came to campus to install our chapter in April, and the first initiation of 50 students and 10 faculty, staff and alumni took place on May 3. Because Phi Kappa Phi recognizes academic excellence—both in students and also institutions of higher education—it is quite an honor to be awarded a chapter at Caldwell. For me, this is also a moment of great pride since I was initiated into PKP as a doctoral student many years ago.

I hope you’ll enjoy reading about the SisterStory Oral History project featuring the following Caldwell Dominicans: Sister Anne John, Sister Elizabeth Michael, Sister Gerardine, Sister Mary Amelia, Sister Michel, and Sister Vivien. Each of the Sisters was paired with a Caldwell student who interviewed one of the Caldwell Dominicans as part of a national awareness campaign intended to broaden the understanding of the lives of Catholic Sisters and the many roles that they have played. The resulting posters and video presentations were shared on the campus in spring and will be highlighted during Homecoming weekend.

As I close this letter, I hope that all of the alums who are reading this issue of our magazine plan to come back to campus for Homecoming on September 24. We’d love to welcome you back to campus, show you some of the changes that have occurred and hear about the time you spent as a student at your alma mater.

Best regards,

Nancy H. Blattner, Ph.D., OPA
President
HOMECOMING AND FAMILY WEEKEND 2016

Please join us for an exciting weekend of events with family and fellow alumni!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

12 PM
Homecoming Kickoff Lunch
(SC Cafeteria)

2 PM
Veritas Lecture Series featuring the Honorable Arline M. Friscia ’56, Veritas Award Recipient

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9 AM
Registration and Welcome Breakfast with the President (Alumni Theatre Lobby)

10 AM
President’s State of the University Address, Honors Recognition and Alumni Awards Ceremony (Alumni Theatre)

11 AM – 3:30 PM
Homecoming Carnival and Barbecue (Newman Center Plaza)

11 AM
Women’s Soccer vs. Wilmington University (Soccer Field)

12 PM
Caldwell “Mini-University” – Faculty Lectures (Various locations)

12:30 PM – 2 PM
Art Exhibition Reception (Visceglia Gallery)

12:30 PM
Tennis vs. University of the Sciences (Tennis Courts)

1:30 PM
Men’s Soccer vs. Wilmington University (Soccer Field)

2 PM
Golden Anniversary Tea (Cougar Den) – By invitation only

3:30 PM
Homecoming Mass (Alumni Theatre)

4 PM
Alumni Soccer Matches (Soccer Field)
Pre-registration required

4:30 PM
Women’s Volleyball vs. Chestnut Hill College (Newman Center Gym)

5 PM
Dinner in the Den (Cougar Den, SC Cafeteria)

5 PM
Class of 1966 Celebratory Dinner (Quigley Board Room)
Class of 1966 alumni only; pre-registration required

5 PM
Music Reception (Alumni Theatre Lobby)

6:30 PM
Music Series Concert: Faculty Favorites (Alumni Theatre)

Want additional information on the mini-university faculty lectures? Curious about the family-friendly activities available at the carnival? Need help with accommodations? Ready to register?

For any and all of the above, please visit www.caldwell.edu/homecoming

The Office of Alumni Affairs can be reached at 973.618.3352 or alumni@caldwell.edu

www.caldwell.edu/homecoming
Since February, the Caldwell University campus has been buzzing over the announcement of a new athletic program: sprint football. The excitement over adding a football program has created a welcoming environment as the university seeks to increase undergraduate enrollment and to create a unique fan experience at Caldwell. The addition of the program concluded a four-year process of research for acceptance into the Sprint Football Conference.

The discussions about sprint football began in 2012 following year three of sprint football at fellow Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference member Post University. Vice President for Enrollment Management and Communications Joseph Posillico and Assistant Vice President/Director of Athletics Mark A. Corino began evaluating the benefits this program might bring to Caldwell.

The momentum picked up in 2014 following the announcement that another CACC institution, Chestnut Hill College, was adding sprint football and would begin play in fall of 2015. This caught the attention of President Nancy Blattner, who engaged in lengthy discussions with the Chestnut Hill president. After extensive research, Blattner moved forward with the assistance of Posillico and Corino to develop a proposal to add sprint football at Caldwell. A formal proposal was created and submitted to the Collegiate Sprint Football League last October. Corino, Posillico, Associate Athletics Director Dean Johnson and Chief Information Officer Don O’Hagan presented their proposal to the CSFL administrators and coaches later that month. In January, Caldwell was accepted as a full member of the CSFL for the fall 2017 season.

Last October, Corino, Posillico, Johnson and O’Hagan attended a sprint football game on the Army-West Point campus. It proved to be a rewarding experience as the group gathered critical operational information and observed the incredible fan response to the sport.
WHAT IS SPRINT FOOTBALL?

Sprint football is a full-contact, intercollegiate varsity sport. It has the same rules as regular college football except that players must weigh 172 pounds or less. The league has existed since before World War II. (From CSFL website)

Sprint football was created in 1934 by University of Pennsylvania president Thomas Sovereign Gates who wanted to give smaller athletes a chance to play the sport. All CSFL members are from the Northeast. The league has gained four schools since 2008, including CACC members Post University and Chestnut Hill College. Former president Jimmy Carter played sprint, then known as lightweight football, at the Naval Academy, as did Patriots owner Bob Kraft at Columbia University. George Allen, the Hall of Fame coach, began his career as a sprint assistant at the University of Michigan.

The Cougars will become the ninth member of the CSFL, which includes Army-West Point, Chestnut Hill College, Cornell University, Franklin Pierce University, Mansfield University, the U.S. Naval Academy, Post University and the University of Pennsylvania.

WHY SPRINT FOOTBALL?

Sprint football provides the university with a unique opportunity to add a significant number of male undergraduate students. The potential addition of 75 to 80 male students with sprint football would allow Caldwell to align with the national average for male-to-female ratio.

The addition of sprint football will attract many non-athletes to campus and continue to grow the student population at Caldwell. The expected increase in student population is already having a positive impact on Caldwell’s academic programs. New academic majors are being initiated in several departments. The business school has announced the addition of sports management as an undergraduate major. This is one of the fastest-growing majors nationally. The Music department plans to introduce a marching band that would perform at halftime of sprint football games.

HEAD COACH HIRED

In July, Corino announced the hiring of Daryle Weiss to lead the sprint football program. Weiss is a Caldwell native and coached for several years at James Caldwell High School as the head freshman coach and a varsity coordinator. His experience spans almost a decade at the collegiate level from Bates College to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as an offensive coordinator and a recruiting coordinator. Weiss’s role in the Athletics Department will also include recruiting as he will be the primary recruiting contact in the department and will assist with the organization and management of the recruiting process. His experience on the football field and in recruiting will be a tremendous asset in forming the foundation of the program and in ensuring its future growth.

—JT
As part of the university’s strategic initiatives to provide excellent educational opportunities and increase enrollment, Caldwell unveiled a myriad of dynamic new academic programs providing students flexibility for their lifestyles and real-work experiences in internships and field work.

MASTER’S IN HIGHER EDUCATION
This fully online master’s degree program in higher education will prepare students for leadership and administrative roles in areas of higher education such as student affairs, enrollment management, resource management and human resources at public, private and Catholic institutions. A strong benefit to this program is the innovative experiential and internship opportunity requirement for students. These online classes are accelerated with courses running every seven weeks. Students who choose to attend full time will be able to complete their degrees in just one year. The seven-week course rotation allows students to enter the program at the beginning of any seven-week session, maximizing the flexibility and appeal of the program.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION IN THE NEW DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
The demand for health educators and community health workers is expected to grow dramatically by 2022. To meet that need, Caldwell University has established a new Department of Public Health and created a bachelor of science in public health education.

The new department provides interdisciplinary coursework across many programs, ranging from nursing and health science to art therapy and sociology. The bachelor's in public health education will qualify students to work in community settings with populations like the aged, veterans and those with disabilities. “Community health education specialists are in demand to address the staggering rise in health costs related to preventable diseases,” says Professor Brenda Petersen, who is chairing the department.

Graduates will be prepared to work in hospitals, insurance companies, primary care provider offices, private and commercial community health organizations and research groups. They will be ready to work as health coaches or educators in government public health or the biology and pharmaceutical industries.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE OF HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION
The Division of Business is offering a bachelor of science in healthcare administration to prepare students for the business of health care. “In an industry that the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects will grow at the rate of 17 percent between 2014 and 2024, graduates can expect to find successful and rewarding careers in diverse settings, including hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, physical therapy facilities, nursing homes, continuing care health communities, wellness centers, physician offices and others,” says Dr. Virginia Rich, professor of business. Health care administrators plan, direct, and coordinate medical and health services and adapt to changes in health care laws, regulations and technology. Offered as a traditional four-year program on campus and online as a degree-completion program for working adults, this program will advance careers for a wide range of students.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN APPLIED LANGUAGE
The university is offering two tracks in its new bachelor of arts in applied language. The helping professions track combines Spanish courses with psychology and sociology courses. The public policy track combines Spanish with political science and sociology courses.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, jobs will increase for health educators, community health workers and social and human services assistants. “Both tracks in the applied language major prepare students in these fields,” says Dr. Domenic Maffei, chair of the modern languages department and professor of political science.

“Applied language graduates can work in a variety of different sectors including the government, education, information and library services, nonprofits, business, public relations, international business, travel and tourism, communications, advocacy, social services,” says Maffei.

— CL
The admissions office at Caldwell University has always been nervous about uttering the F-word, as in four hundred deposits. This spring, as the staff approached the May 1 deposit deadline, it became increasingly clear that Caldwell University was headed for its first freshman class of 400 students. The four largest freshman classes in the history of the university, and of the college, have enrolled in four of the last five years. The previous high was 372 freshmen in the fall of 2014. This year’s class is shaping up to be almost 30 percent higher than last year’s class, which was the second-largest class in history and is now bumped down to third.

“We are not sacrificing quality either; the average SAT score for our regular admits is exactly the same as the prior year, and we have many more of them this year,” said Vice President for Enrollment Management and Communications Joseph Posillico.

With such a large freshman class, total undergraduate enrollment will exceed 1,400 students this fall for the first time in school history. The school hit other first-time milestones, reaching 1,100 students in 2011, 1,200 students in 2013 and 1,400 students this fall. From 2009 to fall 2016 the university has experienced an increase in traditional students of 44 percent, a tremendous accomplishment in a time when there are fewer high school graduates and many other colleges and universities are experiencing enrollment declines.

“We used aggressive financial aid techniques and predictive modeling techniques to target our efforts more effectively,” said Stephen Quinn, assistant vice president for enrollment management. Next year with the addition of a football program, the possibility of a marching band, and new majors in sport management, public health education and possibly physical education, the university could experience additional growth. President Nancy Blattner found it hard to hold back her excitement. “It’s a defining moment for us and for our students. I couldn’t be more excited about what is happening at Caldwell University.”
Caldwell University’s Division of Business sponsored a short-study trip to Ireland during spring break 2016. Professor Virginia Rich and I had the wonderful opportunity to lead 20 students—10 graduate and 10 undergraduate—on travels throughout the beautiful Irish countryside and on visits to three cities: Galway, Cork and Dublin. While in Ireland, students visited 10 major business organizations, including Irish subsidiaries of Boston Scientific, Stryker Corp. and Janssen Pharmaceutical (a Johnson & Johnson Company), as well as Irish agencies and companies.

The visits provided a wealth of information about the dynamic business conditions in Ireland, the latest trends in information technology and operations management, and the vital impact of U.S. direct investment on the Irish economy. Students heard presentations from three top U.S. multinationals and learned about the best practices of Fortune 500 health care companies. At the Irish food company Dawn Farms Foods, the Caldwell group got an inside view of agribusiness in Europe and the significance of the European Union. In a stimulating change of roles, at HSBC Bank in Dublin, teams of students made presentations to the bank’s management team.

Between business-related stops, students enjoyed visiting renowned historic and cultural sites such as Clonmacnoise, the Cliffs of Moher, Bunratty Castle, the Blarney Stone, the Rock of Cashel and the Guinness Storehouse. The group also visited a nursing home, St. Luke’s, in Cork. There, students were given a non-tourist view of Ireland, gaining insights into the health care of seniors and talking with residents. Students later had the opportunity to forge new friendships with university-level business students at Griffith College in Dublin.

The Caldwell students saw a lot of benefits from the trip. Jessica DeRiggi, an MBA accounting student, said, “Because of this short-term study-abroad experience, I will follow a new approach in the way I envision my future career goals.” Steven Eigenlaub, an MBA online student, said, “The short-term study-abroad trip to Ireland was hands down one of the best experiences of my life. It is apparent why large U.S. corporations invest heavily there. I had the pleasure of traveling with a great group of students, which made the trip that much more enjoyable.”

This was the tenth international business short-study trip sponsored by Caldwell’s Business Division since 2000. Earlier trips featured Italy, Prague/Vienna and destinations in the Caribbean and Central America.

— By Bernard O’Rourke, J.D.,
Dean of the Business Division

Short-Term Study Trip Explores Ireland’s Dynamic Business Environment

Students learned about Ireland’s lucrative pharmaceutical industry at Janssen Pharmaceutical, a Johnson & Johnson company.

SPRING BREAK STUDY ABROAD IN THE NETHERLANDS

During spring break, the Departments of Art and History and Political Science ran a study-abroad program to the Netherlands. Seventeen students traveled to Amsterdam, Delft and The Hague where they experienced the history, culture and art of the Netherlands. The students ate local cuisine, enjoyed high tea at the Royal Manufactory in Delft, toured the canals by private boat, visited the Anne Frank house, biked through the countryside and saw many works of art, including Vermeer’s “Girl with a Pearl Earring.” Student Samantha Cruz said “traveling by tram, bike or on foot in Amsterdam proved to be a truly unique experience.” She found that studying abroad gave her a way “to experience a new culture firsthand in addition to being able to see history and art in person.” Professor of History Benjamin Lammers and Associate Professor of Art History Jennifer Noonan led the trip.

Caldwell students on one of Amsterdam’s famed canal bridges near the Museum of Our Lord in the Attic.
SCIENCE STUDENTS SHOWCASE THEIR RESEARCH

Caldwell University biology major Eva Suchar presented her research findings at the third annual Independent College Fund of New Jersey’s Undergraduate Research Symposium at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City on March 7.

Suchar reported her findings on the “Optimization of Fluoridation using Streptococcus sanguinis and Streptococcus salivarius for Better Oral Hygiene” in the form of a poster presentation. Her co-author for the poster was senior biology major Christina Blonski Cupo.

Suchar worked with her adviser Dr. Agnes Berki, associate professor of biology. There were some late nights in the lab, but the work paid off, said Suchar. It was a “full research experience” because of Berki’s guidance. “She is absolutely brilliant, and I truly cherish every moment we worked together.”

Accompanying Suchar and Blonski Cupo at the conference were freshman biology majors Michelle Eng and Foujan Moghimi.

Suchar received a $1,000 research grant from the Independent College Fund of New Jersey, earning her the opportunity to participate in the symposium.

INTERNING AT JOHNS HOPKINS

Science students Pamela Marte, Christina Blonski Cupo and Juan Garcia did summer internships with Johns Hopkins University. This was the second summer Caldwell students were able to participate in the JH Bloomberg School of Public Health Diversity Summer Internship Program thanks to a partnership encouraged by Dr. Barbara Detrick, an alumna of Caldwell and a professor of pathology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Dr. Berki says the department is looking forward to expanding opportunities for research so more students can benefit from these enriching experiences.

— CL

SHARING CALDWELL UNIVERSITY WITH STUDENTS IN GOA, INDIA

Beverly Afonso ’65 enjoys spending her winters in the warm tropical temperatures of Goa, India. Ever since her husband, Adrian, a native of Goa, passed, she makes it a point to travel there to see her nieces, nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews.

This past winter she had the opportunity to visit the pre-K-through-12th-grade Sharada Mandir School in Panjim, the capital of the state of Goa where she was able to share the joys of studying at Caldwell University. Afonso had been familiar with Sharada Mandir as her grandnieces and grandnephews attend the school and the school administrator was a friend of her late husband.

Afonso holds a biology degree from Caldwell and spent 20 years in the pharmaceutical business working as a microbiologist at Schering-Plough and Warner Lambert. She managed new product launches for Wyeth including those for Advil Liqui-gels and Centrum vitamins.

She told the students that her time at Caldwell prepared her for success in the pharmaceutical industry. She had strong course work in the sciences including biology, chemistry and physics, learned to work collaboratively with people and developed leadership skills. “I mentioned that my husband was in their place years ago and chose to get his higher education in the U.S., become a renowned chemist, and he stayed connected with Goa.”

She emphasized that being an international student “brings a tolerance of cultures and a unity of spirit” to U.S. and international students. The teachers at Sharada Mandir were eager to learn about the study-abroad opportunities for students at Caldwell. The students are “focused and committed” to furthering their education, said Afonso, so she is hoping Caldwell will be a choice for some of them. “I told them that Caldwell gave me a great academic foundation and prepared me to face life’s trials and triumphs with grace and fortitude.”

Before traveling to Goa this year, Afonso and Dr. Nancy Blattner spoke about Blattner’s recent business trip to India and the possibility of doing more outreach in that country. Vice President of Enrollment Management and Communications Joseph Posillico was all too happy to have Afonso do some recruiting on behalf of the university. “I met Bev when we traveled to Notre Dame and DePaul to support the men’s basketball program, and she is so enthusiastic about her Caldwell experience. I couldn’t think of a better ambassador.”

“It is part of our strategic plan to increase the number of international recruits, and this was a nice addition to the plans we had in place,” said Posillico. “If we could get more enthusiastic alumni involved with recruiting around the country and the world, we would surely welcome the opportunity.”

— CL
Marie Mullaney remembers that her father, a Newark schoolteacher, loved politics and reading newspapers. “We had newspapers all over the house,” she says. As a child, she would accompany her father to Asbury Park not to go to the beach but to sit in “a newspaper office” that had publications from all over the country. There her father devoured the papers and Mullaney learned to love the world of history and politics. “I had this phenomenal interest.”

Her zeal for history grew as she attended Catholic schools in Newark. When she was in third grade she couldn’t wait to enter fourth grade, which had a social studies curriculum. In eighth grade she wound up memorizing her history book “because I kept reading it and reading it.” And then there was the 1968 presidential election. She recalls the television coverage starting at 2 p.m. and continuing all day. “I was fascinated by the whole process and certainly by Nixon’s story.”

But Mullaney never thought she’d pursue history professionally. “My father kept telling me, ‘You need to get a job.’” With an aptitude for math, she started out in college as a math major, but by the end of her first semester in freshman year, she knew her heart was not in it. She switched to political science until she had a revelation in her international relations class. “I became furious with the instructor and the textbook,” realizing that all of it was “garbage.” Quite simply, she says, “You can’t study political science without knowing history, especially in international relations.”

This “aha” moment shaped her direction. “You needed history before you can get to any sort of theoretical analysis. History is just the fountain of truth.” She graduated from Seton Hall summa cum laude as valedictorian with a double major in history and political science.

She always thought she’d go to law school and was accepted into several including Harvard. But her college history professors encouraged her to go to graduate school and to apply for the prestigious Danforth Foundation Fellowship. Mullaney was one of only 65 students nationwide selected to receive the scholarship. “Here I was with all these law school acceptances.” After two weeks in law school, she did a 180 and decided to pursue her passion for history, enrolling in graduate school at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. She was a scholar in feminism, interested in women who were rebels against their societies and in Marxism. “(It’s) actually ironic because I’m a very politically conservative person,” she says.

Realizing how “horrible” the job market was for history students, Mullaney was driven to complete her master’s and her Ph.D. in 4½ years, breaking all kinds of records for her age. “That fear pushed me like you would not believe.” While she was finishing her Ph.D., Rutgers put out a brochure highlighting its upcoming graduates. Caldwell College saw it and hired her as an adjunct to teach a women’s history course. Not long after, she was offered a full-time teaching job. “No search committees; I suppose they checked my
references. I don’t know. I was a good Catholic girl,” she says.

Seeing Caldwell’s growth has been most gratifying for Mullaney. She came to Caldwell when it was a small women’s institution. “That was great. I’m still in contact with some of the students. Those were special days, those early years.”

In the 1980s, she was on the committee to determine whether the institution should go coed. Since she had taught at Douglass College, which was then the undergraduate women’s college at Rutgers University, and had studied the history of women’s colleges, she knew it was time for Caldwell to transition.

Her contributions to Caldwell’s growth are numerous—chairing the History Department for 21 years, bringing the history honor society Phi Alpha Theta to campus, creating the political science major, overseeing the department during curriculum revision and the creation of the senior outcomes assessment research process and serving on the Faculty Council as secretary for many years. She returned to work after having each of her three children. After giving birth to her oldest, she was back on campus four days later for graduation.

As a professor, Mullaney has stretched and grown. At the beginning, “We had to teach everything. You would laugh if you knew some of the courses I have taught.” She appreciates being in an environment where professors and teachers can grow and develop. “If I were at a larger institution, I would be stuck teaching whatever specialty I developed in graduate school.” Her Ph.D. is in European history, but her passions have expanded; she loves teaching Western civilization and a range of courses on American history. Her more recent research interests have involved the history of the Catholic Church, and she has created two courses on the topic for the enriched core. “I love the flexibility we are given. If you have an idea, if you have a talent, if you have a desire, you are allowed to run with it, and I think that is terrific.”

Mullaney calls herself “neurotically organized” and has used that attribute to help the university reach lofty goals. Since 1985 she has played a pivotal role in Caldwell’s Middle States reaccreditation processes, chairing the curriculum work group in 1985 and the entire steering committee in 1995. Along with President Nancy Blattner, the board of trustees and the cabinet, she led the most recent Middle States effort in 2015. While most would be happy to be done and to take a rest after a three-year process involving massive documents, just weeks after the completion, Mullaney was heard saying how she missed Middle States. “I loved doing Middle States. You want to help the university, and I’m a historian, a storyteller. We use documents and we support what we say with facts and evidence.”

She makes to-do lists all the time, often on pieces of paper. “I don’t need a fancy computer or smartphone … I get things done. You want something done, give it to me.” But she admits that her “driven” personality can sometimes be tough, even for herself.

Her two sons and one daughter were all swimmers and always knew their mother was there for them. “My daughter said, ‘My mother was at every swim meet.’” She was class mother, involved in her kids’ school committees, and ran “gigantic” parties for her children. “I wound up in the hospital one year with pneumonia for doing that,” she says.

Still, Mullaney says she is most grateful to God for giving her a family and “the health and energy” to do what she has done.

Building relationships with students and keeping in contact with them have been most gratifying. “The history students are the greatest. They become teachers themselves. They ask me for help,” she says.

Mullaney spent a recent sabbatical researching the history of the Katherine Gibbs schools, and she is excited about being able to develop new courses. “After so many years of juggling work and children, I feel even more intellectually alive than I did when I was in graduate school. And it’s a great feeling.” — CL

You can’t study political science without knowing history, especially in international relations.

THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT MARIE MULLANEY

If you are talking to her when she is home, it is not unusual for her to say, “Hold the phone. I have to get the cookies out of the oven.”

“I love to decorate. I love to cook. I’m like Martha Stewart with a Ph.D. I cook dinner five nights a week. One of my side specialties is the history of food.”

She is a voracious reader. “In my house I have thousands of books in my collection. To quote Thomas Jefferson, ‘I cannot live without books.’”

“Things you might not know about Marie Mullaney”

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BRENDA PETERSEN:  
COMPASSIONATE NURSES INSPIRED HER CAREER PATH

Brenda Petersen never wanted to pursue a nursing career, even though her mother was a nurse. “I heard the stories and I thought, ‘I could never do that.’” She started college studying business and then entered the professional workforce as a special deputy sheriff in the Hunterdon County Sheriff’s Office and was certified as a sex crimes investigator. She left the county and went to work for an engineering firm and then for a Fortune 500 company in cost accounting.

But everything changed after she had her first baby. Hospitalized for a month on complete bed rest and unable to care for her infant son, Petersen saw the compassion of the nurses and realized she wanted to pursue a dream of “being just like them.”

“It wasn’t the doctors; it wasn’t the medicine that made the biggest difference in my healing and recovery; it was the caring of those nurses who came to my bedside at one of the worst times of my life,” she said.

Her journey to become a nurse began a few years later. “When my kids went to school, I went to school. And I’ve been in school ever since,” Petersen said. She is completing her Ph.D. in Health Sciences Leadership at Seton Hall University’s School of Health and Medical Sciences, and expects to defend her dissertation this fall.

Her nursing studies began in an associate degree program because that was what she could afford. After receiving her degree, she worked in home care and then quickly enrolled in Seton Hall’s R.N. to B.S.N. program.

During her studies, Petersen met a pediatric nurse practitioner/nurse educator who would become her mentor. “She touched me and inspired me to want to go on for my graduate degree, so I pursued the same path she had.” That path would lead Petersen to become a pediatric nurse practitioner and then a nurse educator. She spent a decade on the nursing faculty and as a program administrator at Seton Hall and joined Caldwell in 2013.

In addition to her role as assistant director in the Department of Nursing, she was recently named director of Caldwell’s new Department of Public Health, which will feature a B.S. in public health education.

She takes seriously the responsibility that comes with educating students in a changing health care environment. “I’m very passionate about supporting student success, not just academically but emotionally.”

Success in nursing education means constantly keeping pace with industry changes especially since professional standards have been raised over the last several years. In 2013 the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses became more difficult because preventable patient injury is the third-
leading cause of death in the United States, Petersen explained. From day one on the job, she joined the nursing team to research evidence on best teaching practices, and the team is seeing results. She boasted of recent grads who have passed the exams and are all employed, several in jobs that are not standard for the new nurse. Employers are impressed by the way Caldwell’s nursing students represent themselves in their field work, Petersen stressed. “We teach with great passion, great hope and great expectation that the words we use and the lessons we provide will impact our students to have practices that reflect who we are as an institution.”

One of the field work settings is the Dedicated Education Unit at Morristown Medical Center where Caldwell has partnered for the past two years. “They were very vocal in the fact that they chose us because of our faculty, in particular Dr. Marnie Sperling,” said Petersen. Unlike a traditional student/faculty model, the DEU model provides a “practicing expert nurse” who works directly with the student to manage patient care, which is the type of work the student will do after entering the workforce, she said. Since statistics show that a large number of new nurses leave the profession in the first six months of being on the job, gaining this type of experience can counter that trend and benefit the employer by reducing orientation costs, she explained.

Petersen and her husband John have been married for 37 years and have three grown children, Tyler, Victoria and Erik. On weekends she enjoys reading anything related to education or best practices for educating nurses. “I’m at a great time in my life; I’m passionate about seeing Caldwell grow and our department expand and grow.” She also gives back by serving on the board of the New Jersey Physicians Advisory Group, which provides up-to-date medical information on teen sexual health to educators, parents and health professionals.

Word is spreading about what she called the “brand” of Caldwell nursing graduates, a brand that includes core values as well as skills and ability, she explained. “It’s with great humility I do my best to try to give them examples of what that really means.”

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THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT PROFESSOR BRENDA PETERSEN

She and her husband John met in high school when she was 15, and they’ve been together ever since. “He is my rock, my touchstone, my ‘true north,’” she said.

Her father, Norman Berner, was a World War II veteran, a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division who jumped into Normandy on D-Day. He was named by the Guinness Book of World Records as the world’s oldest arborist. “I don’t think anyone is going to beat him, because he was 86 when he was recognized,” said Petersen.

Her mother, Alice Emfinger Berner, a nurse with an associate degree, was one of the first physician assistants in New Jersey. “That was the early stages of nurse practitioners and physician assistants, so she sat for the exam, passed it and became licensed as a physician assistant before it was full regulated. She was a trailblazer,” said Petersen.


Ann Marie Callahan, CPA, professor of business, was selected as a New Jersey Society of CPAs Woman of Note in recognition of her NJCPA participation, accounting profession involvement and community service dedication.


Mark Corino, assistant vice president and director of athletics, was a guest on “One-on-One with Steve Adubato” to discuss growing a successful Division II collegiate athletics program. He explained the benefits for students who play in a Division II program including a well-rounded emphasis on academics, community engagement and athletics.

Rebecca Driscoll, references services/archives librarian, attended the New Jersey Library Association Conference at Atlantic City and presented a poster titled “Sharing Campus History and Activities through Artstor’s Shared Shelf.” The poster detailed the two projects she has been working on in Shared Shelf: digitizing the photographs in the archives and materials related to students’ mission-related service activities.

James Flynn, associate professor of theology/philosophy, and chair of the Department of Theology/Philosophy, served as chair of a symposium on Aristotle’s ethics at the American Philosophical Association’s Eastern Division meeting in Washington, D.C., in January. He presented his paper “Best Practices in Faculty and Administrative Job Searches in Terms of Dominican Mission Statements” at the June 11 conference “Seeking Truth, Growing Together, 800 Years of Dominican Tradition” at Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Rosemary C. Hilbert, a lecturer in the English Department, spoke at Washington’s Headquarters National Historical Park in Morristown, New Jersey, in January. Her speech focused on the Battles of Connecticut Farms (now Union) and Springfield, New Jersey, in June 1780.

Robert Ingoglia, Ph.D., lecturer in the Department of History and Political Science, published six reviews in the American Library Association’s Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries. The reviews, which appeared in November of 2015 and February, June and July of 2016, were of Emanuele Sica’s “Mussolini’s Army in the French Riviera: Italy’s Occupation of France” (University of Illinois Press, 2016); Peter Gray’s “Air Warfare: History, Theory and Practice” (Bloomsbury Academic, 2015); David Gentilcore’s “Food and Health in Early Modern Europe: Diet, Medicine and Society, 1450-1800” (Bloomsbury Academic, 2015); John Scheid’s “The Gods, the State, and the Individual: Reflections on Civic Religion in Rome” (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016); Robert Mallett’s “Mussolini in Ethiopia, 1919-1935: the Origins of Fascist Italy’s African War” (Cambridge University Press, 2015), and Dominik Geppert’s “The Wars before the Great War: Conflict and International Politics before the Outbreak of the First World War” (Cambridge University Press, 2015).

Aneesha Jean, MSN, RN, instructor of nursing, received the prestigious certified nurse educator credential.

Pat Levins, director of corporate, foundation and government relations, spoke at the Association for Fundraising Professionals’ Westchester chapter breakfast meeting and workshop on “Grant Writing Lessons I’ve Learned, Sometimes Painfully, and the Personal Qualities of a Great Grant Writer.”

Thomson J. Ling, Ph.D., associate professor and chairman of the Department of Psychology and Counseling, wrote a book chapter on activities for teaching statistics in the field of psychology. He created two ethical decision-making models: a generic called Doables and one for art therapy called Do Art. He presented on Do Art at the American Art Therapy Association conference in July and wrote a peer review paper on the subject that will be published in Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association. He presented on Doables at the American Counseling Association conference in the spring. Both models were co-authored and co-presented with graduate counseling student Jessica Hauck.

Bob Mann, chair of the Communications and Media Studies Department, was elected president of the New Jersey Communication Association. The Communications and Media Studies Department hosted the 20th anniversary conference of the NJCA on April 9 at Caldwell University. Communication professors and students from all over the state attended. Professors Mann, Steve Cameron and Rachel Carey participated in panels. Mann, host of the SiriusXM Satellite Radio program “Let’s Consider the Source,” and Nick Amabile, studio manager for the university and co-producer/technical supervisor for the program, received a 2016 Garden State Journalists Association Memorial Award for the show on 9/11.
Mary Ann B. Miller, Ph.D., professor of English, guest-edited a special issue of a women’s literary journal Adanna that appeared in fall 2015 and was devoted to poems concerning women and spirituality. Founding editor Christine Redman-Waldeyer and Miller hosted two poetry readings to launch the issue. The first was held Feb. 21 at TK Music in Nutley, New Jersey, and intertwined piano and voice solos with poetry. The second, held May 22 at the Church of St. Mary in New York City, featured visual art by the cover artist, Father Andrew More O’Connor, pastor.

Joan Moriarty, Ed.D., associate dean of the Education Division and co-coordinator of Ed.D./Ph.D. the Educational Leadership Program, was recognized in March by the Friends of Brian Boru for her many years of dedicated community service. The award was presented by Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin with a resolution from the Essex County Board of Freeholders. Moriarty and her husband Hugh Moriarty Jr. received the Heart of the Lion Award from Immaculate Conception High School, Montclair, for volunteering and working to keep the school open.

Marie Mullaney, professor of history, presented on “Catholic Sisters and the Shaping of America” at St. Paul Inside the Walls: The Center for Evangelization of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Paterson in Madison, New Jersey, on June 22.

Jennifer Noonan, Ph.D., art history professor, was one of a select group of faculty members nationwide chosen by the Council of Independent Colleges to participate in the special weeklong program “Teaching Pre-Modern European Art in Context.” The seminar “Sight and Sound in Renaissance and Baroque Europe (c. 1300–1700)” was hosted by the High Museum of Art in Atlanta June 20–24.

Kathleen Prendergast, APN, psychiatric nurse practitioner in the Counseling Center, moderated a panel titled “Spring Conference: Weighing In–Psychiatric Perspectives on Obesity, Disordered Eating & Nutritional Health” for the Society of Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurses of the New Jersey State Nurses Association.

Sara Margaret Rizzo, electronic resources/serials management librarian, presented at the New Jersey Library Association Conference in May on “Jerseyn it up in Central Asia: Bringing ideas from NJ libraries and implementing them in a Kazakh library.” The talk described her two years of work as expert manager of patron services at Nazarbayev University Library in Astana, Kazakhstan. She presented at the American Library Association’s annual conference in June on “Surviving a Toxic Work Environment: How to cope with burnout until you find a new job.” The talk described strategies for dealing with burnout and difficult work environments.


Marie Wilson Ph.D., ATR-BC, ATCS, ACS, LPC, coordinator of art therapy programs and professor in the Department of Psychology and Counseling, and Diane Quiroga, art therapy adjunct professor and secretary for the New Jersey Art Therapy Association, were guests on “Life and Living” with Joanna Gagis. They discussed how art therapy is a mental health profession and the ways it can improve the physical, mental and emotional well-being of people of all ages.


Ruth M. DeBar, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, associate professor of applied behavior analysis, was recently selected as an accreditation site visitor for the Behavior Analysis Accreditation Board. DeBar was a co-author on recently accepted research papers in Behavioral Interventions and the Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders. She co-authored eight research papers presented at the 11th annual New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis conference, four papers presented at the sixth annual Association of Professional Behavior Analysts conference in Washington, D.C., and two research papers presented at the third annual Drexel University ABA Research Day in Philadelphia. DeBar co-authored eight research papers presented and two poster presentations at the 42nd annual Association for Behavior Analysis International convention in Chicago. At the conference, she also chaired a symposium related to refinements of preference and reinforcer assessment procedures and served as a discussant in a research poster session.

April N. Kisamore, Ph.D., BCBA-D, assistant professor of applied behavior analysis, was a co-author on a manuscript accepted for publication at the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis with ABA department colleague Jason Vladescu. She gave an invited presentation on complex verbal behavior at the Florida Institute of Technology Behavior Analysis Student Association conference in Melbourne, Florida. She was a co-author on six research papers presented at the 11th annual New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis conference in East Windsor, New Jersey, and was a co-author on five research papers presented at the sixth annual Association of Professional Behavior Analysts convention in Washington, D.C. Kisamore also served as a discussant for a symposium on language acquisition by children with autism, was the chair for a symposium on social, vocational and self-advocacy of adolescents and adults with autism, was a co-author on several research projects related to assessment and skill acquisition, and was a co-author on nine research papers presented at the 42nd annual Association for Behavior Analysis International convention in Chicago. At the convention, one of her doctoral students (Lauren Goodwyn) won a research grant competition award and another (Catherine Taylor-Santa) won the research paper competition award from the Verbal Behavior Special Interest Group. Kisamore recently became the chair-elect for the group.

Kenneth F. Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D, the Alvin R. Calman professor of applied behavior analysis, was recently selected as an accreditation site visitor for the Behavior Analysis Accreditation Board. Dr. Reeve was a co-author on two research papers published in peer-reviewed journals.

Nancy Cummings, university bursar, received the Caldwell Cup. Created in 1987, the cup is awarded to the employee who has made a unique contribution to the campus, has exhibited a superior professional approach that goes beyond mere job description and that uniquely benefits Caldwell, and whose positive influence demonstrably affects the university community.

Dr. Thomas Keen, professor of business, received the Excellence in Teaching Award. Each year the university presents the award to a faculty member who best exhibits excellence in teaching, passion and enthusiasm for learning, and concern for students’ academic and personal growth.

Maureen McNish, retention specialist, was presented with the Mission in Action Award, which recognizes the extraordinary contributions and quality service of staff and acknowledges their integral role in advancing the university’s mission.

Colette Lindroth, Ph.D., professor of English, was named professor emerita, which is conferred upon faculty members or former faculty members who have distinguished themselves as outstanding teachers, researchers, administrators or professional leaders.
journals. He also co-authored nine research papers presented at the 11th annual New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis conference and nine papers presented at the sixth annual Association of Professional Behavior Analysts conference in Washington, D.C. At the APBA conference he gave an invited talk on the importance of skepticism. At the 42nd annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International in Chicago, he was an invited discussant in a symposium on the role of emergent language and was also an invited panel member discussing the distinction between science and pseudoscience. Dr. Reeve co-authored 13 research papers presented at the ABAI conference.

Sharon A. Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, professor of applied behavior analysis, was a co-author on two research papers accepted for publication in behavior analysis journals. At the 42nd annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International in Chicago, she was an invited member of a panel addressing quality indicators of graduate ABA programs and also co-authored nine research paper presentations. She co-authored six research papers presented at the sixth annual Association of Professional Behavior Analysts conference in Washington, D.C., and seven research papers presented at the 11th annual New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis conference.

Tina M. Sidener, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, professor of applied behavior analysis, was recently selected as an accreditation site visitor for the Behavior Analysis Accreditation Board. Sidener was a co-author on three research papers published in the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis and the Journal of Behavioral Education. She was an invited speaker at the Florida Institute of Technology, presenting on methods for developing new rewards for individuals with autism spectrum disorder. She also served as a subject matter expert for the Behavior Analyst Certification Board in Denver. She co-authored eight research papers presented at the 11th annual New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis conference, five papers presented at the sixth annual Association of Professional Behavior Analysts conference in Washington, D.C., and 10 papers presented at the 42nd annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International in Chicago.

Jason C. Vladescu, Ph.D., BCBA-D, NCSP, associate professor of applied behavior analysis, was invited to give talks for Queens College and the Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis. He co-authored two studies in peer-reviewed journals and a total of 26 research papers presented at the international conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis, the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts convention, the New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis conference, and the annual Drexel University ABA Research Day. With his doctoral student Antonia Giannakakos, he mentored a Livingston High School student who took third place in the biometric poster category at the 2016 Junior Science and Humanities Symposium for a project she worked on with Vladescu and Giannakakos. Another of Vladescu’s doctoral students, Lauren K. Schnell, won a Verbal Behavior-Special Interest Group Student Paper Competition Award. He was recently elected treasurer of the VB-SIB.

Caldwell University received a Garden State Journalists Association Memorial Award for Caldwell University Magazine’s Winter/Spring 2015 edition.

Sharp Imaging and Information Company of America received a Bronze Stevie® Award for AQUOS BOARD interactive displays on campus in the 14th annual American Business Awards. The video featured Caldwell University staff, faculty and students including Chief Information Officer Don O’Hagan, Communications and Media Studies Professor Bob Mann and Learning Commons Librarian Heather Cooke.
Caldwell University celebrated its 74th annual commencement May 15.

Anabela Santos delivered the student address at the undergraduate commencement ceremony. “Caldwell University has shaped us into better thinkers and leaders, helped us discover our passions and helped us realize potential that we may not have seen in ourselves on our own,” said Santos.

She quoted from the 1990s television sitcom “Boy Meets World” in which the history teacher, Mr. Feeney, advises his students to “believe in yourselves, dream, try, do good.” Santos said, “During this four-year journey, we have each met, in some way, our own version of Mr. Feeney who encouraged us to dream big, believe in ourselves, try our best, and taught us the importance of using our talents to do good. As we prepare to go out into the world, we should embrace and act upon Mr. Feeney’s advice.”

An honorary degree was presented to Dr. Ernani Sadural, director of global health for the RWJ Barnabas Health System. A board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist, Dr. Sadural is co-founder and chief medical officer of the Life is Great Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to bringing medical and non-medical volunteers to underserved populations throughout the world. He and his wife, Dr. Sarah Timmapuri, were inspired to start the organization following the suffering and deaths caused by the earthquake in Haiti in 2010. Dr. Sadural has participated in or led over 50 medical missions across several countries including Haiti, the Dominican Republic, India, the Philippines, Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan, Grenada, Peru, Nepal, and Honduras. He is a member of the Rotary Club of the Caldwells.

Dr. Sadural told the graduates, “I applaud your hard work and academic achievements and I share your love of learning. But what I really admire about Caldwell University is your mission of service.” Each of us, he said, “has a role in creating a just and compassionate global community.”

Sarah Schiffelbein delivered the student address at the graduate commencement ceremony. She said that Caldwell has supported the students throughout their journey in numerous ways. “Any time we felt defeated and discouraged, Caldwell was there to support us. When we saw our theses and dissertations slowly taking form and becoming the final product, Caldwell was there supporting us. Now, today, as we are walking on this stage to accept our degrees, Caldwell is here to support us.”

The university awarded 435 students with undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees. President Nancy Blattner presented doctoral students with their Ph.D.s and graduate students with their Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration or Master of Science degrees. She presented undergraduates with their Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts or Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees.

Dr. Blattner said it was a day of great pride and joy for all of the family members and friends who supported the students during years of study. “And it is a day of celebration for the faculty, staff and administration of Caldwell University as we send forth our 74th class of graduates to make a positive impact on our world.” She encouraged the students to carry the university’s core values of Respect, Integrity, Community and Excellence into their communities and workplaces.

The grand marshal of the graduate ceremony was Dr. Tom Keen, professor in the Business Division, and the grand marshal for the undergraduate ceremony was Dr. Sally Jo Weber, professor in the Department of Modern Languages. Honored alumni from the 50th anniversary class of 1966 were recognized at the undergraduate ceremony. — CL
TOP LEFT: Dr. Ernani Sadurral, director of global health with the RWJBarnabas Health System, with President Blattner as he receives an honorary degree.

TOP RIGHT: Sarah Schifferlein receives her master’s academic hood from Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Barbara Chesler. Schifferlein was selected to deliver the graduate ceremony commencement speech.

LEFT: Anabela Santos was selected to deliver the student address at the undergraduate commencement ceremony.
Chabwera Phillips has a passion for literature and a zeal for sharing that passion with middle school and high school students, thanks to the faculty in the university’s English Department. His advisor, Dr. Trish Verrone, showed him masterpieces of Western literature. Dr. Mary Lindroth made Shakespeare come alive. “Nothing can replace the experiences I had in class. Now I read Shakespeare for enjoyment,” he says.

Faculty in the Education Division also gave him support and guidance during his college career. “Dr. Chernobilsky, Dr. Moriarty, Dr. Jasmine and Dr. Rosado served as mentors for me,” says Phillips, who had a double major in English and secondary education. “When I struggled and almost gave up, they helped me regain focus. They helped me remember that failure was not an option.”

Phillips learned early the difference a good teacher can make in a student’s life. He grew up in New Jersey’s poorest city, Camden, but two teachers helped him believe in himself and created opportunities for him to grow. Danielle Montague, his fifth-grade teacher, and Josephine Parr, his high school English teacher, have always been there for him whether it was taking him to visit colleges or picking up the phone when he needed answers. On May 15 at Caldwell’s graduation, Montague and Parr were on hand as he walked across the stage to receive his diploma from President Nancy Blattner. “I would not be graduating without them,” he says.

Montague and Parr knew what it took for Phillips to get there. At 17, he was kicked out of the house by his mother and had no male role model to show him how to reach further in life. Despite many obstacles, he achieved his dream of earning a college degree and received the Leadership in Ministry Award at Caldwell’s honors convocation.

Phillips worked all through college in off-campus and on-campus jobs. One of those positions was as a resident assistant in the community service wing of Rosary Hall where he led students in ministry projects including one that hit close to home. They collected school supplies for the fifth-grade class at Holy Name Catholic School in Camden. Unless you are from Camden, you can’t understand how much that means, he explains. “In Camden, everyone is struggling.” Giving back has always been a part of his life. Graduating from MetEast High School, a magnet school in Camden, he had ‘something like 150 community service hours … my grandma used to say, ‘No point in making it to the top if you’re alone.’”

As a resident assistant, Phillips says, he was able to help students through rough times. And the Caldwell community was there for him sophomore year when tragedy hit—he learned a lifelong friend from Camden had been shot and killed. Phillips was sitting at the desk at Dominican Hall when the call came in. “Many people came to support me and check on my well-being.”

The experience changed his views on life. Phillips started appreciating every moment. “You can be pulled away from life any day … it taught me to take advantage of any opportunity,” he says.

And some of those opportunities arrive this fall when he starts his teaching career at Essex County Technical School in West Caldwell and begins working toward his master’s in special education at Caldwell. He wants to work with inner-city middle school or high school students to show them that they can do great things—whether pursuing a career, falling in love with literature or becoming a great writer. “We have to start caring about our neighbors. I made it out. I did not have a male role model. I want them to realize their true potential.” ■

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Graduate says ‘unmistakable magic’ of Caldwell University helped her receive a degree

When Mary Ann Albornoz of Fairfield, New Jersey received her diploma May 15 at Caldwell University’s commencement it meant much more to her than anyone could imagine. “Everything that diploma holds defines me,” she says.

Born with cerebral palsy, Albornoz says she had always been told that she would “have to adapt and mold” and that she couldn’t be a productive member of society. “Caldwell didn’t tell me that … I found everything I was looking for here,” she says. “I knew in the deepest end of my soul I would find it here.”

Albornoz had overcome many obstacles by the time she earned her degree in psychology.

In 2011, after Hurricane Irene hit New Jersey, her family’s home in Fairfield was condemned, and she and her parents had to live in Central and South Jersey. The house’s foundation had cracked, and by the time her father had the home readapted for Albornoz’s needs, she had missed several months of school.

In 2013 her motorized wheelchair died. It took nine months of waiting for approvals, finding a way to pay and designing the chair before she received a new chair and could return to her college studies.

Albornoz aspires to use her experiences to become a life coach for others with disabilities and to show them “there’s a world to see, a life to live and we should be a part of it.” She wants people with disabilities to know that they can reach their goals. “It might take 20 years, but dreams do and can come true.”

She leaves college with gratitude for the friends she has made and to the faculty and staff, especially Dr. Stephen Maret in the Psychology Department, “the number-one person who greatly impacted my growth as a person,” she says.

The openness at Caldwell makes it a special place, she says. “They think with their hearts instead of our society’s values.” Caldwell is a place where people think about what one can do instead of what one can’t do and they find a way to make those possibilities a reality. “That’s the unmistakable magic of Caldwell,” she says.

“If God gave me the opportunity to do this, it must be for a bigger reason. And I can’t wait to see what that reason is.”

— CL

Financial economics grad excelled in the classroom and on the court

Brian Kenny was inducted into the New Jersey Collegiate Business Administration Association Honor Society last spring at the State House in Trenton along with other top business students in the Garden State. The honor recognizes students ranking in the top 1 percent in their business programs.

He graduated from Caldwell University May 15 with a bachelor’s degree in financial economics.

A four-year starter for the Caldwell University Cougars men’s basketball team, Kenny appreciated the many opportunities he had in athletics and in the Business Division and was grateful to the faculty for helping him grow professionally.

Professor Lori Harris Ransom “prepares you to think like you would in the real world,” Kenny said, and Dr. Tom Keen “makes you prepare for future presentations.” Dr. Anatoly Kandel helped him with analytical thinking, “putting the pieces together and making sense of every little thing.”

Kenny was accepted into the Caldwell Scholars Program, a nationally recognized initiative that provides intellectual enrichment and scholarships for top honor students. His final scholars project focused on the analytics of basketball.

Recalling his four years, Kenny said highlights included “number one, Notre Dame,” which the Division II Caldwell basketball team visited to play one of the top-ranked Division I teams in an exhibition game, and “number two, San Francisco,” where the team played his sophomore year. “(It) became my favorite city,” he said. Kenny thanked Coach Mark Corino and all the other coaches for giving him the opportunity and President Nancy Blattner “for everything.”

As he prepared to start an accounting job at the Wakefern Corporation, Kenny took with him fond memories of Caldwell University, calling it “a tight-knit community” with “a family atmosphere.” He found great joy in the simple things of university life like “being in the cafeteria, seeing sports events all the time.”

— CL
Father Tom Blind is Caldwell’s New Campus Minister/Chaplain

Caldwell University welcomed Rev. Thomas F. Blind as its new campus minister/chaplain on July 1.

Father Tom comes to Caldwell from St. Catharine Parish in Glen Rock, New Jersey. He was a Catholic chaplain at the University Medical Center of New Jersey in Newark, New Jersey, where he ministered to students, the future medical professionals, and the staff and faculty. He was also previously a campus minister at Kean University.

He has served at a number of parishes in the Archdiocese of Newark and is experienced in running RCIA, pre-Cana, social concerns and Scripture programs. He previously worked with the Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell when he was an associate pastor at St. Philomena parish in Livingston, New Jersey.

Father Tom says he hopes to be a listening presence on campus and to live out the gospel of truth. He cites the saying often attributed to St. Francis of Assisi: “Preach the gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.”

Sister Kathleen Tuite, O.P., vice president for student life, said Caldwell is grateful to partner with the Archdiocese of Newark in serving the spiritual needs of the students, faculty, and staff of the university with the presence of Father Tom. “We are excited that Father Tom brings a rich experience of campus ministry and that his presence and oversight will continue the Caldwell hallmark of service to others. His passion to ‘preach the gospel’ provides the opportunity for our students to experience Jesus and do the same.”

Father Tom holds a bachelor of arts degree in history from Seton Hall University and a master of divinity degree from Immaculate Conception Seminary. He also completed a continuing education program at Seton Hall in biomedical ethics, counseling enrichment and priest renewal.

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Caldwell University Receives a New Jersey Governor’s Council Mental Health Award

Caldwell University was honored by the New Jersey Governor’s Council on Mental Health Stigma with a 2016 Ambassador Award. Sister Kathleen Tuite, O.P., vice president for student life, and Robin Davenport, director of counseling, attended the awards ceremony on April 21. The university and other organizations were recognized for outstanding service in providing effective support services and programs that reduce the ways in which society stigmatizes people with mental illness. The council celebrated individuals and groups associated with houses of worship and faith-based or religious institutions for their work in this area.

Caldwell President Nancy Blattner says the university is grateful for the recognition and dedicated to removing any barriers or stigma that would prevent students from seeking the help they might need. “In the same way that we are committed to our students thriving academically, we want them to understand that caring for their mental health is a positive and life-enhancing activity.”

Caldwell University became New Jersey’s first stigma-free campus for mental health last October. The stigma-free initiative is sponsored by the Codey Fund for Mental Health and was founded by former governor Richard Codey and his wife Mary Jo Codey, a Caldwell alumna.

The university has several other programs dedicated to mental health. The Wellness Center combines the Counseling, Health Services and Campus Ministry offices; the Counseling Department collaborates annually with the Mental Health Association of Essex County to hold a mood checkup/depression screening event, and the Psychology and Counseling Department runs the Helpline Center in partnership with the National Suicide Prevention Hotline where Caldwell graduate students volunteer and gain professional experience. In 2015 the university received a $24,076 grant from the Partners for Health Foundation for a technology upgrade for the center to enable an increase in the number of student volunteers.

Caldwell offers a graduate program in mental health counseling with an art therapy specialization, the first and only program of this type in the nation to receive accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs.

In December, Caldwell learned it had been awarded a grant of $125,000 from the George I. Alden Trust to use toward construction of new art therapy classrooms and faculty office space.

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This past spring, Caldwell University was installed as a chapter of the prestigious honor society Phi Kappa Phi and held its inaugural induction ceremony. The organization is the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society.

The university was inducted as a chapter on April 13 at an event on campus attended by Phi Kappa Phi Society Executive Director Dr. Mary Todd. “Phi Kappa Phi is pleased to welcome Caldwell University to our growing community of scholars,” said Dr. Todd. “Caldwell’s commitment to excellence is evident in the transformative changes of the past few years and in its determined focus on collaborative learning and community partnerships.”

Fifty students, faculty, staff and alumni were welcomed into the society at an installation ceremony on May 3.

Caldwell University President Nancy Blattner said PKP’s motto of “Let the Love of Learning Rule Humanity” so beautifully complements Caldwell University’s emphasis on lifelong learning and the pursuit of truth as graduates are called to contribute to a more just society.

The mission of PKP, with its emphasis on academic excellence in all fields and the encouragement of service to others, resonated with her. “Truly the values of PKP and Caldwell University are clearly well matched.”

The first class of initiates at Caldwell “holds a special place” in her heart, she said, recalling her history with PKP, first as a doctoral student, continuing as a charter member, and then as an administrator who started a chapter at her previous institution and now at Caldwell University.

Associate Professor of Biology William Velhagen Jr., Ph.D., president of Caldwell University’s chapter, told the initiates, “We are pleased and proud that each has chosen to become part of a century-old community of scholars and professionals that includes men and women who have distinguished themselves in positions of leadership, and whose careers have been characterized by achievement.”

On April 26, the National Executive Board of Phi Kappa Phi awarded Dr. Blattner distinguished membership status in recognition of her extensive service to and unwavering support of the honor society. The university celebrated that honor at its May 3 ceremony.

— CL

THE SISTER BRIGID BRADY, O.P., DELTA EPSILON SIGMA GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD

A graduate award has been named in honor of Sister Brigid Brady, O.P., Ph.D. The Sister Brigid Brady, O.P. Delta Epsilon Sigma Graduate Student Awards of $1,000 each will be given to three graduate student members of DES who have shown strong commitment to graduate study, and maintain the society’s ideal of service to others.

Sister Brigid was a national executive board member, vice president and past president of the society. She spent 60 years as a Sister of St. Dominic of Caldwell, 43 teaching at Caldwell University. For information and an application for the award contact the DES national office at DESNational@Neumann.edu.

SISTER PATRICIA COSTELLO, O.P.

Sister Pat Costello, O.P. ’66 died peacefully on April 9 at St. Catherine’s Convent and Healthcare Center. She served on the university board for five terms. She was on the executive, finance and audit committees and chaired the Student Life Committee.

With a bachelor’s degree in history and education and an M.A. in counseling, she was well prepared for her teaching ministry. After several years in the elementary schools of St. Michael’s in Union, Our Lady of Peace in New Providence and Holy Spirit in Asbury Park, she moved into secondary education, which became her specialization. Her experience at the secondary level included Laca¨roire Academy in Upper Montclair and the Academy of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station where she was principal, and St. Mary’s High School in Rutherford, where she served as guidance counselor. Most recently she was director of sponsorship for the Dominican Congregation.
The celebration of the 800th jubilee of the Dominican Order that began with the opening Mass in November continues. During the spring semester, the focus shifted to documenting the contributions of the Sisters of St. Dominic as the university began participating in a national campaign aimed at broadening awareness of Catholic sisters. Organized by Minnesota’s St. Catherine University and funded by a major grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, SisterStory is a campaign aimed at “broadening awareness of Catholic sisters” with the intention of demystifying religious life—the vows of poverty, celibacy and obedience, the experience of living in community, the desire to belong totally to God—by sharing their stories through the Catholic Sisters Oral History Project.

As the project mission statement notes, “the mission is to capture stories that would otherwise go unrecorded, ones that play an important role in American history. Given the aging population of women religious, our work takes on urgency: We are preserving these stories before it is too late. By sharing the personal experiences of sisters and demonstrating the breadth of religious life, we are creating an archive of enduring significance. We aim to illuminate the lives of women religious at large and the noteworthy contributions they make to the community and the country. We hope to inspire the young women involved in this project to recognize the power of spirituality and to empower them to think more broadly about their futures.”

The oral history project at Caldwell University has been designed to preserve and document the contributions of Caldwell Dominicans while offering upper-level undergraduate students the opportunity to participate in a unique learning experience. As coordinator of the project, I had the pleasure of working with Professor Louise Edwards-Simpson and Molly Hazelton from St. Catherine’s University. I completed the project training in July 2015 at St. Catherine’s and was provided with the resources to conduct the oral histories at Caldwell, including supporting documentation and all technical equipment. We worked with the Sisters of St. Dominic to pair six students with a sister who had held a faculty or administrative position at the university.

The project was designed as an independent study course that fulfills the Catholic and Dominican tradition requirement of the university’s enriched core. Dr. Marie Mullaney, professor of history, taught the history component of the course, and Professor Rachel Carey, assistant professor of communications and media, handled the technical aspects. The selection process for participation in the project was highly competitive, and six student participants were chosen from a large and talented applicant pool. Each student was paired with a sister, and the oral history interviews were conducted during the spring 2015 semester. The students transcribed the interviews and prepared creative projects and poster presentations of their work on the project.

Perhaps the most important outcome of the project is the bonds that were formed during the semester and the impact the meetings with the sisters had on the students. Many of these young women had very little previous contact with women religious and began the project with cautious enthusiasm, not knowing quite what to expect.

“As silly as it sounds, I was afraid she would try to convert me or convince me to become a sister. In all actuality, though, I made a friend,” said Olivia Ruiz, who was paired up with Sister Gerardine Mueller, O.P.

“Coming into this project, I was beyond nervous and full of questions. I had my doubts. I was filled with worry, thinking, ‘How can I bond with a total stranger in a semester and expect to come away knowing their entire life?’ That fear melted the moment I met Sister Michel in her apartment the end of January. The fact that I was even worried we would have nothing to talk about suddenly seemed silly,” said Julianne Worgul.

“On my way to meet with Sister Elizabeth Michael for the first time by ourselves, I considered myself somewhat shy, so I thought our first visit would be pretty short. Instead of a quick 30-minute meeting as I expected, we ended up talking for almost two hours,” said Kirsten Whitt.

By the end of the semester, it was clear that strong, positive relationships had been formed.
formed and the students had discovered new friends who would be lifelong influences on their academic, personal and spiritual lives.

“As the oral history project has come to an end, I feel it is time to reflect on everything that has occurred. Throughout this project, I have learned so much. I learned how to use video equipment and how to edit a video, gained insights into sisters who founded the university I attend, and most importantly, I learned about Sister Anne John. She truly is an amazing person who has accomplished so much. She has inspired me to always say yes to everything I could possibly do. I would really want to stay in contact with my paired sister. I hope we can still occasionally meet in the near future,” said Karla Barzola.

“After starting as a lay student at Caldwell College, Sister Vivien has come a long way and has given back to the Caldwell community a thousand times over. The Caldwell community and I are so grateful that she chose to become a Dominican sister because she has had great accomplishments for the town of Caldwell and the university. She has become a role model for me, and I can only hope to achieve as much as she has,” said Kerry McGrath, who was paired with Sister Vivien Jennings, O.P.

“As I reflect on her life, I am moved by how this amazing woman took a different path from most and how the world is a better place for it. She has forever affected and changed the lives of her students, just as the Dominican Sisters affected her … One takeaway that I found most surprising was that Sister Amelia is just a regular person, albeit a wonderful one. She was warm, funny, interesting and told some great stories. I feel a real connection to my sister and am very grateful to have been part of this project,” said Averi Zarbetski, who was teamed up with Sister Amelia Cetera, O.P.

The oral histories have been archived at St. Catherine’s as part of the national project and in the university and motherhouse libraries. The extent of public access to the oral histories is determined by the individual sister and in most instances is extremely limited. However, so that the sister’s story is available to a broader audience, the students also prepared creative projects that highlight the accomplishments of their sisters and celebrate the relationships they built over the semester. These creative projects have been added to the SisterStory website and were shared with the campus community during a celebration of the Sisters Oral History Project in May. A similar event is planned for Homecoming and will be announced when the schedule is finalized.

Catholic sisters have made remarkable contributions, and the impact of these women’s lives on society could be easily overlooked unless there is a concerted effort to make certain that does not happen. I believe all of us whose lives have been touched by sisters have a responsibility to preserve their legacy as women of God, who through roles that some might dismiss as inconsequential, made the world a better place.

— Nancy J. Becker, assistant to the president for special projects.
Graduating nursing students completed a clinical rotation with a sense of pride and gratitude as they gave HIV/AIDS patients brand-new pillboxes that they had created with the university’s 3-D printer.

The students in Professor Aneesha Jean’s community and public health nursing course spent the spring semester working with clients at Broadway House for Continuing Care in Newark, which provides medical, nursing, educational, psychological, recreational and other services for people with HIV/AIDS.

The students polled the residents and learned that one of their biggest stressors is medication adherence. They found that many patients take 25 to 30 pills per day and that for some, there is a stigma to carrying conventional medication bottles.

To make life a little easier, the students decided to create a container that did not look like a medication organizer and that differed from commercially available pillboxes.

Working with Ellen Johnston, interim director of Jennings Library, they came up with a model for a cylinder box that was portable, small, neutral and safe, said senior Charlotte Goyea. They chose white because it symbolizes peace, explained senior Jonaryis Reyna.

Besides needing medication and treatment, many of the patients want to talk someone “to bring out the positivity in their life,” said Reyna.

On their final visit to Broadway House there were plenty of tears from Caldwell students and residents—tears of joy and gratitude for developing meaningful relationships and for having an enriching learning experience.

One of the many lessons for the nursing students was “patient empowerment … learning how to give patients the tools to help themselves,” said Jean. “It was a powerful experience for the students to be able to grow as nursing professionals.”

The other graduating seniors in the course were Valentina Centeno, Corrine Dudas, Mario Lardizabal, Erica Malacas, Shannon Scarfiff, Jessica Scarpelli and Jamie Tangredi. Dr. Janet Chance-Hetzler was the Caldwell clinical faculty member for Broadway House.

The experience was a reminder of what being a nurse means, said Tangredi. “You may not be able to cure a patient’s situation, but you can make his or her day better and contribute to helping them look to the future with hope.”

— CL

UNIVERSITY RECEIVES $125,000 GRANT FOR ART THERAPY RENOVATIONS

The university was delighted to learn that it had been awarded $125,000 for art therapy renovations, thanks to the George I. Alden Trust (Worcester, Massachusetts), which focuses on financial support of independent undergraduate education with full-time traditional enrollment of 1,000 to 5,000 students in New England, New York and New Jersey. The money will be used to repurpose unused gym locker-room space to renovate and double art therapy classroom, studio and faculty office space.

The art therapy specialization trains counseling professionals to help those in society who are among the most vulnerable struggling with mental illness. Caldwell’s program offers a unique integration of spirituality within a liberal arts structure along with accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). It is the first and only CACREP-accredited program of this type in the nation. This is Caldwell’s second recent grant from the trust since it helped to fund the retrofitting of the science building with simulation labs for use by nursing students.

PARTNERS FOR HEALTH FOUNDATION GRANT TO BENEFIT CRISIS COUNSELING FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

The vision of the local Partners for Health Foundation (Montclair, New Jersey) is to create healthier communities by supporting and advancing good health, wellness education, and disease prevention and treatment. Caldwell was awarded a $24,000 grant from the foundation that will expand the crisis counseling that highly trained graduate students provide through the free, anonymous HelpLine as part of the National Suicide Prevention Hotline.

Dr. Thomson Ling, professor of psychology and supervisor, says, “It provides the dual purpose of serving the community and giving our graduate students real hands-on crisis counseling experience.”

The Psychology and Counseling Department hopes to double the number of counseling graduate volunteers and their 2,000 hours of public service.

Pam Scott, foundation executive director, says, “Addressing mental health is one of the foundation’s core priorities. We’re so pleased to support this HelpLine, which will provide invaluable services to the students at the university, the local community including area seniors, and beyond.”
ALUMNI WELCOME THE CLASS OF 2016 AT THE CONGRADULATIONS COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Caldwell University’s Class of 2016 was officially welcomed to the alumni community at the ConGRADulations Cocktail Reception co-hosted by the Alumni Association and the university’s Office of Student Life.

ALUMNI RECOGNIZED AT 31ST VERITAS AWARDS DINNER

Caldwell University alumnae Mary Lou Donnelly Doneski ’56 and Eileen Curtis ’68 (seated to the left and right of President Nancy Blattner, respectively) were recognized for their outstanding personal and professional achievements at the university’s 31st Veritas Awards Dinner on April 1. Col. Christopher Doneski ’90, son of fellow Veritas Award recipient Mary Lou, received the award in absentia.

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Our annual Scholarship Luncheon each April allows donors to get to know the students who are the beneficiaries of their generosity. It also allows the students to personally thank the donors for their support. Pictured here is Helen Fogarty ’72, a scholarship donor, and Alexa Lubrano and Lovenia Frazil, two of the students who have received scholarship support from the endowed fund established by Helen and her sister, Bettyann Howson ’69, in memory of their mother, Betty Matuszak ’43.

Caldwell University Alumni Explore Cattus Island

(L to R) Helen Fogarty ’72, Gerri Lopez ’08 and Bettyann Howson ’69 spend a brisk April morning exploring Cattus Island County Park in Ocean County, New Jersey, as part of the Caldwell University Outdoor Enthusiasts Affinity Group.

28TH ANNUAL CALDWELL UNIVERSITY GOLF OUTING

The university’s annual golf outing was held in June at the Cedar Hill Golf & Country Club in Livingston. Approximately $30,000 was raised to support student scholarships. Pictured here at the outing is incoming freshman and Nutley, New Jersey, resident Sean Giordano, this year’s recipient of the Bruce Gallagher Memorial Scholarship, along with his parents Mary and Richard Giordano, Dr. Nancy Blattner, and Mark Corino, assistant vice president for athletics.
The Caldwell Cougars sprint football squad is coming to the gridiron in 2017. But before players can take the field, the university must prepare to kick off a world-class football program that is worthy of the Cougar name.

Former student-athletes Kathleen Barabas ’85, Bill O’Brien and Don O’Hagan know how a strong football program can benefit individuals, campuses and communities. That’s why they have each made a major commitment to getting Caldwell in the game and hope to inspire others to follow their lead.

Barabas, who was a guard for the Caldwell women’s basketball team, says she made some of her favorite college memories on the court and wants to offer the same opportunity to a greater number of students.

“One being part of something bigger than myself, honing my leadership skills, keeping in shape and having fun were all life-affirming parts of my experience as an athlete,” explains the head of client services for Quantitative Management Associates, LLC, a financial services subsidiary of Prudential.

O’Brien, who serves alongside Barabas on the university’s board of trustees, had reaped similar personal rewards playing men’s basketball at Colgate. He says he expects sprint football to help Caldwell gain greater name recognition and prestige along with strengthened enrollment.

According to O’Hagan, the benefits of sprint football will extend beyond Caldwell’s campus and into the larger community, creating a boon for the local economy and enhancing the sense of community spirit.

One such friend is O’Hagan, Caldwell’s chief information officer and a former collegiate linebacker, who met O’Brien at Colgate in the 1970s. It was O’Hagan who encouraged him to get involved at Caldwell, which led the Rumson, New Jersey, resident to become a major advocate for sprint football and for President Nancy Blattner’s vision for the university.

The founder, president and CEO of Commercium Technology, LLC (a risk and compliance consultancy) says he also looks forward to seeing teammates become friends.

“I met a number of other athletes who shared my competitive nature both on and off the court,” he says. “I’ve become lifelong friends with many of them.”

To learn more about the benefits of sprint football and how you can support the program, contact Beth Gorab, director of development, at (973) 618-3204 or email bgorab@caldwell.edu.

There are a variety of ways to make a lasting gift to Caldwell University that won’t cost you anything today and may perhaps provide long-term tax advantages. Including Caldwell in your estate plans gives you the satisfaction of providing for your alma mater in the future while taking your financial priorities and those of your loved ones into consideration. Learn more in the complimentary guide “4 Simple Gifts That Deliver Big Results.”

To request your free copy or to speak with someone about planning a gift that fits your lifestyle, please call 973.618.3242 or email giving@caldwell.edu.
Three outstanding honorees were recognized at the 41st annual Presidential Scholarship Gala on April 25. The event raised approximately $100,000, which will directly support student scholarships.

Lisa M. Bromberg ’80 is a principal of Porzio, Bromberg & Newman P.C. and a member of the firm’s Real Estate and Environmental Practice Group. Regarded as an authority on environmental law, Bromberg is a well-published author and a frequent speaker on the topic and has been recognized by many professional organizations. An active member of the community, Bromberg serves on the Board of Trustees at Caldwell University where she chairs the Development Committee. She has also served on the Board of Directors of Gilda’s Club of Northern New Jersey and on the Board of Trustees for CASA of Morris and Sussex Counties.

Dr. Colette Lindroth has been part of the Caldwell University community since 1966, teaching courses in American literature, the English and American novel, literary criticism and journalism. She served on numerous committees and was president of the Faculty Council for three years. In 2010, Lindroth received the university’s first Excellence in Teaching Award. She retired in May after more than 50 years of teaching at Caldwell.

John C. Peterson is the president and owner of the O.A. Peterson Construction Company in Montclair, New Jersey. The family-owned general construction/construction management firm was founded in 1914 by Peterson’s grandfather. Now in its fourth generation, the company works mainly with medical, education and Fortune 500 companies. Peterson joined his father at the family business in 1973, becoming president of the company in 1985 and sole owner in 1989. He has been very involved in the community, serving on several boards and professional associations, including the Board of Trustees at Caldwell University for several years.

More than 250 guests enjoyed a wonderful evening celebrating these three pillars of the university community. The gala committee thanks all who supported this event and invites continued participation from alumni and friends as planning begins on the 2017 affair. Contact Beth Gorab at 973-618-3204 for more information.
Softball Head Coach Dean Johnson added another milestone to his coaching career as he earned his 700th career victory with a doubleheader sweep against Bloomfield College on April 11. Johnson guided the Cougars to another outstanding season as they won the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference regular-season title and were the top seed in the conference tournament. Caldwell finished its season with a 36-15 record and posted a 23-3 record in the CACC. The Cougars were selected to their ninth straight NCAA Division II tournament and were the top seed in the East Region for a second straight season.

Sophomore catcher Marisa Monasseri (Monroe, New Jersey) was named the CACC Player of the Year and was selected to the All-American Second Team by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association and the Division II/Conference Commissioner’s Association. Six others earned CACC All-Conference recognition: Seniors Caitlin McCready (Jupiter, Florida), Brielle Reighn (Runnemede, New Jersey) and Amber Padilla (Chino, California) and juniors Lauren Frye (Jupiter, Florida) and Amy Hickman (Jackson, New Jersey) were selected to the First Team, while junior Sydney Ponto (West Deptford, New Jersey) earned Second Team honors.

The women’s lacrosse team posted its best season, setting a program record with five wins in 2016. The Cougars qualified for their first-ever CACC Tournament, finishing in fifth place with a 5-4 conference record. The program had its first major award winner as freshman Rachel Lucia (Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey) was named the CACC Rookie of the Year. Junior Amanda Timmes (Pine Beach, New Jersey) earned the program’s first all-conference selection when she was chosen for the CACC Second Team. Women’s track and field had another outstanding year as the team placed second at the CACC championships for a third consecutive season. Courtney Macaluso (Hopatcong, New Jersey) shined for the Cougars and was named the CACC Women’s Track Athlete of the Year. At the CACC championships, she won two individual events, taking first place in the 100- and 200-meter dashes. Victoria dos Santos (Maplewood, New Jersey) won the 400-meter dash at the conference meet, taking third place in the 100-meter dash and fifth place in the 200-meter dash. Macaluso and dos Santos were part of the first-place 4x100-meter relay team as well as the second-place 4x400-meter relay team.

The men’s track and field team finished in seventh place at the CACC championships in its second season of competition. Sophomore Jevaughn Jackson (St. Elisabeth, Jamaica) finished second in the triple jump and third in the high jump. Eric Broderick (West Keansburg, New Jersey) placed second in the pole vault to help lead the Cougars. The men’s tennis team finished its season with 6-7 record and went 2-4 in the CACC, falling one win short of advancing to the conference tournament. Junior Maximilian Ziegler (Erfurt, Germany) finished the season with an 8-6 record in singles play and went 5-9 in doubles play. He was a CACC Second Team All-Conference selection and was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-District Team.

The baseball team had a pair of standouts as juniors Ryan Rivera (Saddle Brook, New Jersey) and Michael Bernstein (Staten Island, New York) were selected to the CACC All-Conference Second Team. — JT
Caldwell Athletics Grants Wish on Super Saturday

Caldwell University Athletics hosted a Make-A-Wish Foundation event on Feb. 22 and granted a wish to a child battling an illness. Between the basketball games against Bloomfield College, Caldwell University Athletics and Make-A-Wish revealed to a young woman that her wish to go to Hawaii with her family had been granted. Elle and her family were presented with gifts and items that she would need in Hawaii for a week thanks to donations that made her dream a reality.

The Caldwell University Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) raised $3,500 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation on Super Saturday through its annual silent auction event. Each athletics program, as well as other departments at Caldwell, donated themed baskets for the auction, and fans who attended the games were encouraged to bid on the baskets. The highest bidder won the right to buy the baskets.

“It was great to be part of an extraordinary day to grant a wish through our partnership with the Make-A-Wish Foundation,” said Associate Athletics Director and SAAC Coordinator Kristina Danella. “Our SAAC team was excited to participate in granting a wish to Elle and our teams did a great job putting their baskets together to raise money for Make-A-Wish.”

Since Caldwell University became an NCAA Division II institution in 2002, the Athletics Department has been fundraising for Make-A-Wish. An official partner with NCAA Division II, Make-A-Wish grants wishes of children who are facing life-threatening medical conditions. All of the proceeds from the silent auction on Super Saturday were donated to Make-A-Wish.

— JT

Caldwell Basketball Remembers

Longtime Scoreboard Operator George Zanfini

Simply known as Mister Z, longtime Caldwell University basketball scoreboard operator George P. Zanfini passed away on Aug. 19, 2015. He was a mainstay at Cougars’ games for 28 years, and he was honored for his dedication prior to the men’s basketball game against Dominican College on Jan. 20, 2016.

Caldwell Athletics along with family and friends honored Zanfini for his dedication and service to the basketball program. Some of the attendees included his brother Bobby and his longtime scoreboard partner, Phil Augusta.

For 33 years, Zanfini worked as the scoreboard operator for Head Coach Mark Corino when he started his coaching career at Bloomfield College and for the 28 years at Caldwell. Starting in 1966, Mister Z taught history in the Belleville school system for 47 years, helping to shape the lives of thousands of students and athletes including Caldwell women’s soccer Head Coach Nate Guagliardi and Coach Corino. In addition to teaching history, Zanfini was the baseball coach at Belleville High School where the field is named in his honor.

A plaque with his photo will be hung in his honor in the Caldwell Athletics Hall of Fame and at the scorers’ table where he sat for nearly three decades. The inscription on the plaque reads, “George P. ‘Mister Z’ Zanfini, Well-loved coach and history teacher, basketball clock operator, June 5, 1943–August 19, 2015.”

— JT
Caldwell Athletics Elects Three for Hall of Fame and First-Ever Team

The 2016 Caldwell University Hall of Fame Committee has voted to induct a trio of honorees and the 1992-93 basketball team. Assistant Vice President/Director of Athletics and Men’s Basketball Head Coach Mark A. Corino will headline the induction ceremony and will be enshrined for his years of service to the institution. Men’s soccer standout Uke Duati and women’s basketball star Gwen Gunn will also be honored at the annual Hall of Fame ceremony on Oct. 21 at Cedar Hill Country Club. Corino’s 1992-93 team, his first championship squad, will be the first team to receive Hall of Fame honors.

Dauti played for the men’s soccer team from 2004-06 and was a two-time Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference First Team All-Conference selection. In his three seasons, he totaled 69 points with 31 goals and seven assists for the Cougars. He totaled 35 points in the 2005 season with 16 goals in 15 games. Dauti was honored twice by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America on the All-Region Second Team. During his time at Caldwell, the Cougars posted a record of 37-19-3 and appeared in the CACC tournament semifinals all three seasons. Caldwell was the tournament runner-up in 2005 when Dauti earned CACC All-Tournament honors.

Gunn played for the women’s basketball team from 1996-2000 and was honored as a CACC All-Conference selection in her junior and senior seasons. In her senior season, she averaged 12 points and 6.9 rebounds per game to earn All-American Honorable Mention. She ranks 12th in school history with 1,225 points and ninth with 742 rebounds. She helped lead the Cougars to a second-place finish in her freshman season and to the CACC regular-season championship as a senior. The Cougars advanced to their second National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics tournament appearance in 2000. Caldwell posted a four-year mark of 66-49 during her time in a Cougar uniform.

In the sixth year of the program, the 1992-93 men’s basketball team posted 21 wins, tying the record set the previous season. The Cougars went 11-1 in the CACC, repeating as regular-season champions and winning their first CACC tournament championship. In the District 31 tournament, Caldwell defeated Nyack College and Teikyo Post College (now Post University), earned its first District 31 title and advanced to the NAIA national tournament for the first time. Matt Stuart was the top player, averaging 18.1 points per game along with 8.9 rebounds and 1.2 blocks per contest. He earned NAIA Second Team All-American honors, becoming the first All-American in Caldwell men’s basketball history.

— JT

Mark A. Corino

Dauti

Gwen Gunn

1992-93 men’s basketball team at NAIA Championships in Idaho.

— JT
Dear Alumni:

As we enter the final few weeks of summer, the Caldwell University campus is looking forward to a new academic year filled with lots of exciting activities. One of the highlights is the addition of sprint football to Caldwell’s athletic programs in 2017-18. This enhancement will have a significant impact on the university's admissions program and will energize school spirit throughout the campus. I hope you enjoy reading about this athletic initiative in this edition of the university magazine.

As another exciting addition to the university community, it is my distinct honor to welcome Meghan Moran ’07 as Caldwell’s new director of alumni affairs. Meghan replaces Jenny Mundell, who has decided to pursue professional opportunities outside higher education. Meghan is a proud Caldwell alumna who has been working at the university since her graduation nearly 10 years ago. I know you will join me in wishing Meghan all the best in her new role.

I invite you to meet Meghan at our Homecoming and Family Weekend, Friday, Sept. 23, and Saturday, Sept. 24, on the Caldwell University campus. This special weekend will be packed with wonderful opportunities to connect with classmates, professors and staff, and many of Caldwell’s exceptional students. I look forward to seeing you there!

On a final note, I am proud to share that once again this year, every Alumni Association Board member has made a personal financial commitment to Caldwell University. I would like to thank the board for its generosity and to extend my sincere appreciation to all fellow alumni who have joined us in supporting our alma mater.

With best regards,

Mary Sellitto-Curcio ‘83
President, Caldwell University Alumni Association

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Please remember these deceased alumni and family members in your prayers.

- Frances Dugan Weissenbach ’46
- Robert Michael Novack Sr.
  Husband of Mary MacBay Novack ’53
- Anne Marie Weber Salmon ’54
- Mary Kathryn McDonald Jakus ’55
- Alice Forte Miceli ’62
- Elisabeth Jacobsen Gombka ’63
  Sister of Linda Jacobsen Szipszky ’59
- Maureen Coyne Middleton ’64
- Susan Honeywell Gulick ’65
- Mary Hayden Socci ’65
- Sister Patricia Costello, O.P. ’66
- Sister Ann Marie Lennon, O.P. ’66
- John A. Ross
  Husband of Laura Perrotta Ross ’68
- Carol Ballerini Crosson ’73
  Sister of Gary Ballerini
  Sister-in-law of Margaret Curley ’73
- Robert Gebhardt
  Father of Susan Gebhardt-Burns ’79
  Uncle of Lori Giovannelli Steinhauser ’97
- John A. Rovento
  Father of Rosann Rovento Bar ’82
- Michael G. Ippolito ’84
- William Falco Jr. ’07
- Diane Cocchia McGee ’09
- Adam Trenton Price ’09
- Dennis Quinn ’12
- Tara Carty ’13
- Patricia Ann Shpock
  School Nurse/Education Certificate

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2016-17 Caldwell University Alumni Association Board of Representatives

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Joanne Ward ’69, associate publisher and editor-in-chief of The Catholic Spirit, the Metuchen diocese newspaper, recently received a papal honor, Benemerenti medal, for her work in communications and journalism.

Ward received a bachelor’s degree in English from Caldwell College, and a master’s degree in journalism from Pennsylvania State University.
SAVE THE DATE

CALDWELL DAY
THE UNIVERSITY’S ANNUAL DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
SEPTEMBER 30

COMING HOME
SEPTEMBER 23-24
SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

VISCEGLIA GALLERY
BELIZE: A LOOK AT SHORT-TERM SERVICE TRIPS
SEPT. 6 – SEPT. 27
RECEPTION SEPT. 24 12:30-3:30 PM
EXPERIMENTS IN VIDEO ART
OCT. 19 – NOV. 17
CALDWELL ART DEPARTMENT FACULTY EXHIBITION
FEB. 9 – MARCH 1
RECEPTION FEB. 22 5:00-7:30 PM
(SNOW DATE – MARCH 1 5:00-7:30 PM)

CONCERTS
FACULTY FAVORITES AT HOMECOMING
SEPTEMBER 24 • 6:30 PM
GARDEN STATE OPERA MATINEE FOR SCHOOLS: ABU HASSAN
OCTOBER 21 • 11:00 AM
GARDEN STATE OPERA PERFORMANCE: ABU HASSAN AND SCENES FROM MATHIS DER MALER
OCTOBER 23 • 4:00 PM
SOLO AND CHAMBER CONCERT
NOVEMBER 9 • 8:00 PM
JAZZ AND PERCUSSION CONCERT
NOVEMBER 17 • 8:00 PM
OPERA WORKSHOP CHILDREN’S OPERA
NOVEMBER 19 • 2:00 PM
SMALL ENSEMBLE CONCERT
NOVEMBER 29 • 8:00 PM
CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR CONCERT
DECEMBER 9 • 8:00 PM
CHILDREN’S CHOIR CONCERT
DECEMBER 10 • 4:00 PM
(SNOW DATE 12/17)

UNDERGRADUATE, ADULT AND GRADUATE INFORMATION SESSIONS/OPEN HOUSES
OCTOBER 15 • 10:00 AM
NOVEMBER 19 • 10:00 AM

ADULT AND GRADUATE INFORMATION SESSION
DECEMBER 8 • 6:30 PM
caldwell.edu/RSVP

HALL OF FAME DINNER
OCTOBER 21
SEE PAGE 32 FOR DETAILS

SHORE CHAPTER OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SOCIAL
AT KLEIN’S ON THE WATERFRONT SEPTEMBER 11

VISCEGLIA GALLERY
BELIZE: A LOOK AT SHORT-TERM SERVICE TRIPS
SEPT. 6 – SEPT. 27
RECEPTION SEPT. 24 12:30-3:30 PM
EXPERIMENTS IN VIDEO ART
OCT. 19 – NOV. 17
CALDWELL ART DEPARTMENT FACULTY EXHIBITION
FEB. 9 – MARCH 1
RECEPTION FEB. 22 5:00-7:30 PM
(SNOW DATE – MARCH 1 5:00-7:30 PM)