

RIDER

a magazine for alumni and friends

Spring 2019



BRONC BUDDIES

The heartwarming,
life-affirming 52-year friendship
at the center of one of the largest individual gifts
Rider has ever received



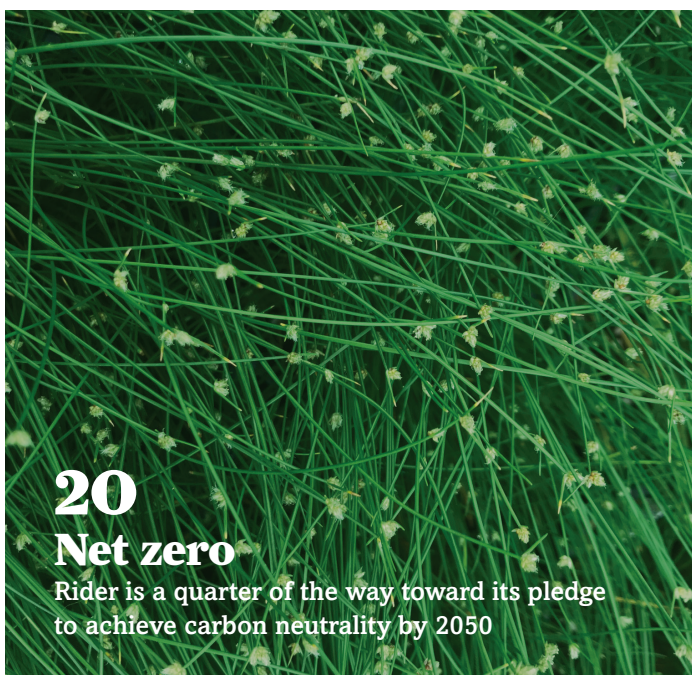
A NEW TICKER

Last fall, a brand new Business Data Analytics Lab opened in Sweigart Hall. The lab is a centerpiece of a months-long, \$4.3 million renovation project to the home of Rider's College of Business Administration that includes updated classrooms and office spaces, as well as a brand new entrance and lobby space with dining options.

Spring 2019



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The friendship at the center of one of the largest individual gifts Rider has ever received



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RIDER

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Dear alumni and friends,

EVERY DAY WHEN I WALK AROUND CAMPUS AND SEE GROUPS OF STUDENTS WALKING TO CLASS TOGETHER, LAUGHING OVER A MEAL IN CRANBERRY'S, RELAXING ON THE PATIO OR ENJOYING COFFEE AT STARBUCKS, I AM STRUCK BY THE POWERFUL FRIENDSHIPS THAT I SEE BEING FORGED ALL ACROSS OUR UNIVERSITY.

I know these college friendships may very well last a lifetime, and can be just as transformative and valuable as the education received in the classroom.



valuable friendships you formed as a Rider student.

I believe *Rider* magazine showcases the best of our University. Outstanding faculty, successful alumni, talented students and athletes,

In the pages of this magazine, you will read a compelling story of friendship and philanthropy, built upon an unexpected Rider experience that began many decades ago. Last fall, former TE Connectivity CEO Thomas Lynch '75 revealed a \$5.5 million gift to the University that included a surprise naming of the former North Hall for his best friend and fellow Rider alumnus Joseph Adler '75, '90.

and palpable progress move our University forward each and every day. Thank you for your ongoing support, and for taking time from your busy life to read more about Rider both in this magazine and online at rider.edu/magazine.

Sincerely,

Gregory G. Dell'Omo, Ph.D.
President, Rider University

Tom's extraordinary gift is one of the largest individual gifts ever received in Rider's history. Watching this surprise unfold between best friends was quite an experience, one I won't soon forget. I encourage you to read more about Tom and Joe's friendship, and reflect on the

UNIVERSITY *News*

QUOTABLE

“We are not here to tolerate each other. We are here to build a culture of acceptance, regardless of whether we’re talking about diversity in government or diversity here at Rider.”



-New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal, as quoted in *The Rider News* from his Oct. 29, 2018, appearance at Rider

\$2million

Last December, Rider hosted a ceremony to dedicate the auditorium in Sweigart Hall in honor of distinguished alumnus and Board of Trustees member William M. Rue '69. The ceremony also celebrated the recent \$2 million scholarship gift from Rue and his wife, Joan, to the Rider University endowment. Endowed scholarship support is Rider's highest fundraising priority.



Need a Lyft?

Rider and Lyft, the ride-hailing service, partnered last fall to give students a smart, reliable and convenient way back to campus late at night. This initiative, part of Rider's Safe Rides program, allows all students to use the Lyft app to request late-night rides at no charge.

On the books



James P. Hartman, a certified public accountant, was appointed Rider's new vice president of finance/ treasurer and chief financial officer in January following a nationwide search.



Fine art

Professor of Fine Arts Harry I. Naar, who retired at the end of the fall semester after 38 years at Rider, exhibited his artwork last fall in the campus art gallery he founded and directed. The exhibit featured 32 of Naar's watercolors, the first time at Rider he focused exclusively on that medium.



Science project

Last fall, the second phase of the three-phase renovation project to the Science and Technology Center was completed. The \$2.9 million project included nearly 4,000-square feet of renovations to lab spaces, common areas, a computer lab and faculty offices.

NJ first

Rider recently became the first college or university in New Jersey to participate in the Barron's in Education program. The program provides experiential learning opportunities for students and faculty in Rider's College of Business Administration, including a small group visit to the Dow Jones Headquarters, a tour of the Barron's, *Wall Street Journal* and *MarketWatch* newsrooms, free access to Barron's online content, and intern and job opportunities from its corporate recruitment team.

QUOTABLE



“You don’t have an ability to understand what’s happening to you. You have to accept that. You can do good things with (social media), but you have no influence on the machine in the back room.”

-Jaron Lanier, who delivered the annual Business of Media Lecture at Rider University on "Social Media: Addiction, Deceit and Manipulation" in November 2018



Truckin'

Bronc Bites, Rider's first-ever food truck, debuted on campus last fall, with a second truck on its heels.

Game on

Rider recently announced a new Bachelor of Arts in Game & Interactive Media Design that will launch this fall. As an industry, video games surpass Hollywood and the music industry combined, with \$140 billion in revenue worldwide, according to the Electronic Software Association, the trade association of the video game industry in the United States.

93%

This graduation success rate for the 2008-11 cohort of Rider student-athletes tied for second in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC). The MAAC stands fourth in the nation among all Division I conferences for the four-year cohort, matching last year's rate.

UNIVERSITY *News*

Touring China

Since its founding in 1920, the Westminster Choir has served as an American Choral Ambassador through its tours and performances in 29 countries. Last October, it added one more nation to that list: China. At the invitation of Kaiwen Education, which also provided financial and logistical support, the ensemble spent eight days in Beijing participating in the 2018 Beijing International Students Choral Festival, visiting both Kaiwen Academy campuses and squeezing in some sightseeing along the way.



Walk this way

This semester, a new deck opened outside the Student Recreation Center, with seating for around 20 people, charging stations and lighting. On a nearby walkway, graduating seniors, along with family members and friends, have chosen to leave their mark on the University through a series of personalized engraved bricks — the Class of 2019 Legacy Walkway is this year's senior class gift.



Dancing with a star

Derek Hough from *Dancing with the Stars* and *World of Dance* visited Rider to personally teach students dance routines during Campus Fitness Day in February.

Mealtime

Every morning from Monday to Friday, Meals on Wheels volunteers, Rider students and staff members from Gourmet Dining have been preparing healthy meals — more than 1,600 weekly — as part of a new partnership that benefits local residents who are unable to cook and/or shop for themselves.

Full ride

High school senior Eric Voros won a full, four-year tuition scholarship to Rider for his business idea — Orion's Belt, a product in which a traditional-looking belt transforms into a tourniquet during emergency situations. Voros was one of 10 high school students to showcase their business ideas in front of a panel of judges in the 2019 Norm Brodsky Business Concept Competition at Rider on Jan. 26.



Screen time

Say My Name, a new feature-length film directed by Rider assistant professor Jay Stern, won "best indie feature," "best actor" and "best director" last October at the Los Angeles Film Awards. The film is Stern's fourth full-length as director. He has produced and directed more than 30 short films that have played at festivals across the U.S. and Canada, as well as theater productions.

Peerless conductor

Joseph Flummerfelt, Westminster Choir College's former artistic director who significantly influenced choral music worldwide, died on March 1 in Indianapolis. He was 82.

Leonard Bernstein once praised Flummerfelt as "the world's greatest choral conductor." For more than four decades, the emeritus professor of choral conducting and conductor laureate collaborated in the preparation of hundreds of choral and orchestral performances and recordings, several of which were nominated for, or won, Grammy Awards.

Flummerfelt joined Westminster in 1971. For 33 years, he was conductor of the Westminster Choir. Among the many recordings he made with the choir, *Singing for Pleasure*, his Delos recording of Brahms' choral works, was chosen by *The New York Times* as a favorite among all existing Brahms recordings. Joseph Flummerfelt's Westminster Symphonic Choir and New York Choral artists were featured in 45 recordings.

A master teacher, Flummerfelt witnessed many former students



go on to occupy a number of major choral positions throughout the United States. Yannick Nézet-Séguin, the conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Metropolitan Opera, studied with Flummerfelt as a teenager, and he cites him as one of the two major influences in his life as a conductor. Donald Nally '87, another former student, who is now director of choral activities at Northwestern University and the founder and artistic director of The Crossing, a professional choir and the recipient of two consecutive Grammy Awards, collaborated with him on the 2011 book *Conversations with Joseph Flummerfelt*.

Flummerfelt retired from his position as artistic director and principal conductor of Westminster Choir College in 2004 — the same year he was

named Conductor of the Year by Musical America. For 37 years he served as director of choral activities for the Spoleto Festival U.S.A. in Charleston, S.C., from which he retired in 2013. Three years later, in 2016, he retired from 44 years of choral preparation for the New York Philharmonic.

A memorial service will be held on May 3 at 11 a.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Indianapolis. Plans are being finalized to honor Joseph Flummerfelt's life and legacy in Princeton.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorial contributions to the "Joseph R Flummerfelt Endowed Choral Scholarship" c/o Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Office of the Dean, 101 Walnut Lane, Princeton, NJ 08540.



Easy being green

Of the more than 600 colleges examined during the 2017-18 academic year by the Princeton Review, Rider was selected as one of the 399 most environmentally responsible colleges in the nation. This is the ninth straight year Rider has been included in the annual edition of the Princeton Review's "green guide."

Dr. Michael Curran Jr. '71, '74

PROFESSOR OF
TEACHER EDUCATION

Isn't that rude?

So thought Dr. Michael Curran Jr. '71, '74 watching President Obama address Congress in 2009. He couldn't believe how many people were taking the opportunity to stay glued to their phones. Then he realized most of them were on social media, sharing their thoughts about the president.

The idea captured his attention, and from that moment on, he began to develop his ideas for how sharing information in real time could be a powerful tool for educators. He decided that Rider, where he has taught since 1991 in the business education program, needed a new course. Today, that course, "Social Media and Education," is perpetually oversubscribed, even as its curriculum evolves each semester alongside new technology.

One of the main things Curran likes to say about his use of technology is how it connects him with interesting people all over the world. But even long before social media, the simple idea of connection underscored every aspect of Curran's career and his overall experience at Rider. Almost from the time he stepped onto Rider's campus as an undergraduate in the 1960s, he began forging the relationships that shaped him into an enduring educator who has, in turn, influenced a couple generations of Rider students.

Curran received a bachelor's and master's from Rider and a doctorate from Temple University — all in business education. The mix of business and education was an easy fit for him. Growing up, he worked for his father's insurance business in Levittown, Pa., during the summer, and expectations grew around the idea of him taking the business over one day. Ultimately, he says it wasn't for him, and he chose instead to attend Rider — one of the most important connections he has ever made.

"I TEACH because it fits perfectly"

What do you see as the main benefits for educators who are avid users of technology?

Social media has leveled the playing field. I have students who interact directly and openly with teachers, supervisors, principals and superintendents. Educators in the field are learning and sharing every day within their professional learning networks (PLNs). In some cases, my students have been sought by administrators because of their presence on social media.

What about the downsides?

Some educators choose not to participate in social media. My daughter Bonnie and my son

Michael are school librarians/media specialists. Both are actively engaged in social media and serve as role models for their teachers. Some teachers are not interested and I think that is a tragedy. We can all share and learn from one another any time, any place.

You've been lucky to have many mentors and role models over your career. Is it luck or do you actively cultivate those relationships?

In my late teens I read Dale Carnegie's book *How to Win Friends and Influence People* and was struck with his message of kindness, listening, paying attention to other people's points

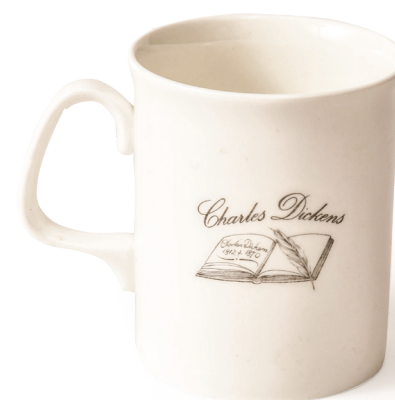
of view and taking a genuine interest in others. Others respond in kind and relationships begin to build. I have been fortunate to work with many great mentors who positively influenced me.

You stress the lessons of professionalism in your class. Why is that particularly important for teachers?

Students may not remember the content of each lesson, but they will remember how they were treated and how they felt in class. My students understand that message. Students don't learn from teachers they don't respect and care about. Professionalism is very important.

By Adam Grybowski
Photos by Peter G. Borg

What's in your office, professor?



Dickens mug

Charles Dickens was creative and a wordsmith. I learned a great deal about humanity through his words. My family and I value his *A Christmas Carol* as a lesson in life.



Rider College banner

Since I am a product of Rider, the banner reminds me daily of the mentors, colleagues and students who shaped my career.



American flag

I never forget, even for a moment, the opportunities this country has afforded my ancestors, my family and me. That American pride lives within each of my children and their children.



Anthony Cefolo of wrestling pinned Iowa State's Austin Gomez, who was ranked No. 7 nationally, on Jan. 17.



Elliott Otmani of men's soccer earned MAAC Championship MVP for the second time in leading the men's soccer team to its third MAAC Championship in four years.



Kourtney Cunningham of women's soccer was named to the All-MAAC First Team and finished her Rider career fifth all-time in assists (15) and sixth in goals (21).



Hailey Riede of volleyball earned All-MAAC First Team and is third in program history with 1,307 career kills.



Stella Johnson of women's basketball earned MAAC Player of the Year after finishing in the top two in the league in four different statistical categories.



Men's Swimming & Diving won its eighth-straight MAAC Championship. Head Coach Steve Fletcher was named MAAC Coach of the Year for the 10th time, while sophomore Dillon Wallis earned MAAC Most Outstanding Diver of the Meet.

A Whole New Ballgame

A. J. MOORE ON SPORTS AND MEDIA

Sports Journalism 2.0

NEWS REPORTING IS NOW A ONE-MAN BAND OPERATION, BUT SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE

By A.J. Moore

My guess is the image in your mind of what a sports journalist looks and acts like would resemble Chuck Bausman.

He's a veteran reporter who worked his way up the newspaper depth charts alongside various editors, photographers and columnists to eventually become the sports editor of the *Philadelphia Daily News*. At the newspaper's helm, Bausman had to worry about tight deadlines when Philadelphia teams played in San Diego or Vancouver. He also had to calm down angry team executives upset with his newspaper's coverage. That resolution usually came after a heated late-night discussion.

The game stories read by fans throughout the Delaware Valley over their morning coffee came as a result of quickly jotting down information and quotes on a notepad, then typed and sent off to editors and photographers for their group input.

We tend to think of sports journalists like Bausman, who is now an adjunct instructor in Rider's Department of Communications and Journalism, as the prototype since his career coincided with a time when newspapers were king.

Now that today's college students are more likely to churn their own butter than pick up a newspaper,

Now that today's college students are more likely to churn their own butter than pick up a newspaper, the time has come to tweak the picture in your head about what a sports journalist looks and acts like.

the time has come to tweak the picture in your head about what a sports journalist looks and acts like.

Think of the current sports journalist resembling Aaron Carter and performing his one-man band routine. Call Carter Chuck Bausman 2.0.

Instead of picking up the paper to read Carter's high school and college coverage, his readers click on his Philly.com links. Those stories first attract valuable eyeballs because Carter live tweets action from a Philadelphia gym and then highlights the article with his numerous Instagram posts.

Carter, also an adjunct instructor in the Department of Communication and Journalism, has carved out an impressive presence in a volatile industry by being able to perform many, if not all the tasks associated with sports journalism. He is a writer, videographer, editor and social media maven.

When Bausman was making a name for himself, those aforementioned roles were filled by various different people — today they are filled by someone with the last name Carter, first name Aaron and his trusty companion, the iPhone.

As Rider sports media students embark on their career paths, they are fortunate to be taught by both Bausman (@ChuckBausman) and Carter (@AceCarterINQ). These acclaimed professionals are in a valuable position to help guide students through a constantly evolving sports media landscape.

In the classroom Bausman offers students insight on writing, reporting, ethics and professionalism. Those skills remain vital regardless of today's new technology.

For Carter, instruction tends to focus on the importance of being able to tell a story across numerous digital platforms and then promote it on social media.

Not only has the image of the sports journalist changed, so has the way students studying the subject matter are taught. Those stories you enjoy during a quick glance at the phone during a lunch break or a doctor's office waiting room still have the same steak but must come with a modern sizzle.

Today's successful sports journalists look and act in a way that is a combination of both Chuck Bausman and Aaron Carter. Because these experts are now making significant classroom contributions, the future image of a sports journalist just might look like a Rider University student.



Associate Professor of Journalism A.J. Moore is the director of Rider's program in sports media.

Teaming up

RIDER ATHLETICS EMBRACES 8-YEAR-OLD FACING CHRONIC ILLNESS AS A GENUINE TEAM MEMBER

By Diane Cornell

It's not only on the court that the Rider men's basketball team can rally. For the past three years, the team has also rallied around 8-year-old Liam Knobl of Bristol Township, Pa., supporting him as he battles an immune disorder that leaves him prone to illness.

The youngster was made an official member of the men's basketball team in 2016 through his association with Team Impact, a national nonprofit that connects children facing serious and chronic illnesses with local college athletic teams

Rider has participated in the program since the baseball team first hosted a child eight years ago. Since then, the University's swimming and diving, softball, and women's basketball teams have also been involved.

As part of his experience, Liam gets to hang with the team — going to practices, attending home games (where he sits on the bench during warm-ups) and being announced along with the other players during Rider's annual MAACness event in October to celebrate the start of basketball season.

"I hear him yelling when I am

on the court, so I know he is really involved," says Anthony Durham '18, who is now studying athletic leadership as a graduate student at Rider.

Liam's courage in the face of his illness inspired Durham, along with other athletes and administrators, to participate in the Bronc Platelet Challenge, a community service program run by the Athletic Department that encourages blood and platelet donations.

After spending the first two years of his life in and out of the hospital with various illnesses, from ear infections to pneumonia, Liam now gets weekly subcutaneous injections of antibodies to lessen his risk of acquiring infections.

It helps that the basketball players — his team — cheer him up when he needs it most.

"They have been so support-

"They don't know it, but they are part of our daily conversations in our house. All day, every day, he talks about his team."

Photo by Peter G. Borg

ive," says Liam's mother, Katie Knobl, of the players and staff. "They don't know it, but they are part of our daily conversations in our house. All day, every day, he talks about his team. When they win, it's like he was out there on the court playing, too. And when they lose, he feels the loss as hard as they do."

Team members have visited Liam's school to host a basketball clinic and attended a church fair to play games with him. Players were also there at his kindergarten graduation.

"These young men have shown incredible leadership through the way that they have embraced Liam and walked with him and his family through his health journey," says Team Impact's Danielle Calabro. "I am in awe of the reciprocity and level of engagement that this team has with Liam and his family."

"I think the entire basketball team brings energy to Liam," says senior forward Devine Eke, a filmmaking, TV and radio major. "We allow him to express himself and have fun." He adds that Liam likes to dance so the players dance with him in the locker room before games.

When Liam first became part of the team, Rider held a "Draft Day" press conference where the University announced he was now a part of the team's roster and he got to sign his National Letter of Intent. He has been featured in the team photo and held a birthday party at Rider, getting a video-shout out during halftime.

Senior Associate Director of Athletics Karin Torchia says the Team Impact program benefits the athletes who participate as much as the children they help.

"Liam brings inspiration, courage and bravery to the team," says Torchia. "If they think they are having a tough day, they realize that others face even greater challenges."



Bronc buddies



The heartwarming,
life-affirming
52-year friendship
at the center of
one of the largest
individual gifts
Rider has ever received

By Adam Grybowski

Last October, Tom Lynch '75 and Joseph Adler '75, '90 were once again sitting next to each other on the campus of Rider University. More than 40 years earlier, the pair had graduated together, earning accounting degrees in only three years. Before receiving their diplomas, Lynch and Adler had married their high school sweethearts and, at their respective weddings, served as each other's best man.

Between then and now, their personal and professional lives had remained intertwined. But to ensure that Adler would be present at their alma mater on this particular day, Lynch had to lie to his best friend. Months before, he had called the Adlers and told them to set aside this day in October. Rider's Board of Trustees, of which Lynch was a member, was requiring him to bring fellow alumni to a ceremony and dinner. The story, which was vague and not at all true, set the stage for a trap.

Now, with most of the Board of Trustees in attendance, as well as dozens of other students and members of the faculty and staff, Lynch and Adler sat in between their wives and next to each other, looking out upon North Hall. The academic building, Rider's newest, was built in 2011, well after they graduated. As several speakers made introductions on a crisp autumn day, the clouds moved across the sky as if on pulleys while the wind whipped a brown tarp strung across a section of the building's face. Adler couldn't figure out what it was doing there. Was it covering some kind of leak?

Finally, Lynch was called to the podium to speak. He focused narrowly (and somewhat quizzically, from Adler's perspective) on his long friendship with Adler, which was at this moment in its 52nd year. That friendship was the source, Lynch informed the audience, of many of his most important connections. With Adler, he had gone out on his first date with his wife to be and found his way to Rider, two cornerstones that he believes helped propel him to enormous success, first as an accountant and then as a CEO of a Fortune 500 company.

Only seconds before being summoned to the podium himself, Adler leaned toward his wife, Wendy, and whispered, "I'm about to be ambushed."

The trap sprung, Lynch welcomed Adler to his side and then turned toward North Hall. With a gesture, the tarp fell, revealing a new name for the building: Lynch Adler Hall. The renaming accompanied Lynch's \$5.5 million gift to Rider, one of the largest individual gifts the University has ever received in its 153-year history.

Lynch's unrestricted gift will be used to support some of the University's highest priorities, which include providing an affordable education and ensuring the financial stability of the University, in addition to enhancing facilities and providing visionary programs of study.

Adler, surprised but stone-faced, embraced his friend. "That's about as emotional as he gets," Lynch deadpanned.

On the way home following the ceremony, the two old friends, elated and satisfied, stopped to see Lynch's parents, who are still living across the river from Rider in the old Bucks County, Pa., neighborhood where Lynch and Adler grew up.

Tom Lynch and Joe Adler were introduced by a nun. Lynch was born in Virginia in 1954, and his family transplanted to several cities before landing in Levittown, Pa., in 1964. By that time, Lynch was struggling academically, particularly in math and science. "My mom would never use this word, but I was an underachiever," he says.

In seventh-grade at Queen of the Universe grammar school, a nun recommended he receive tutoring three days a week in lieu of recess. She turned to one of Tom's peers, a bright student named Joe Adler, to provide instruction. The two hit it off immediately, and before long, Tom, a Baltimore Colts fan, and Joe, a Green Bay Packers fan, began playing sports together in their neighborhood that Adler recalls today as straight out of *Leave it to Beaver*.

Over time, Tom's grades began to improve, and Joe influenced him in other important ways too. One day, the pair rode their bikes to the bank so Joe could deposit some cash he had earned from his paper route and odd jobs mowing lawns. Tom noticed that his friend had accumulated more than \$800 in his account. It didn't take much more for Tom to start mowing lawns and delivering papers on his own.

By the time it came to apply to college, Lynch had improved academically, but he had no idea what he wanted to do with his life. Adler had chosen to attend Rider, the alma

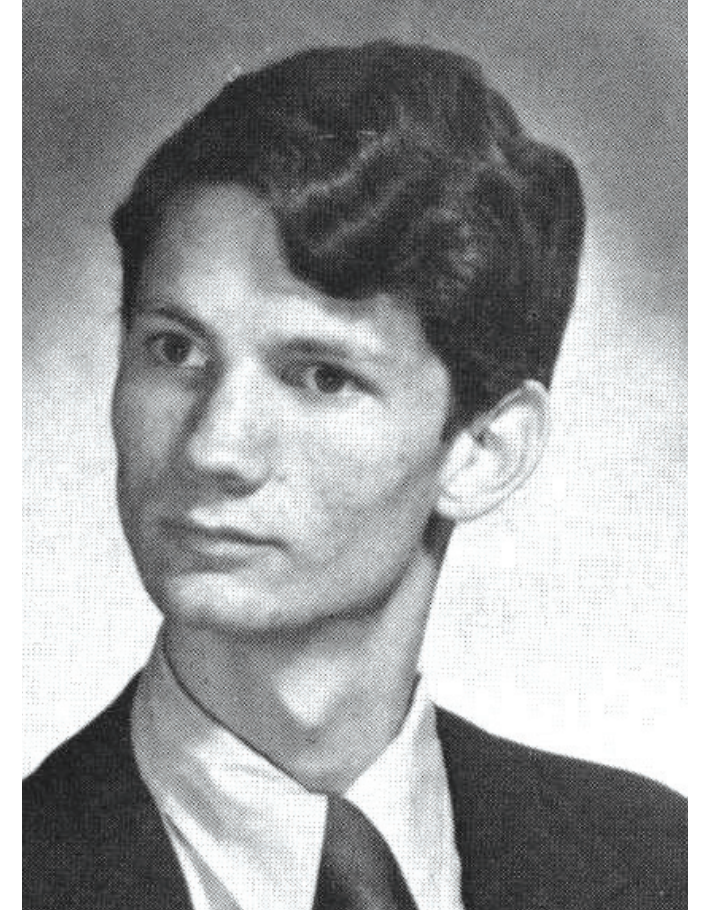
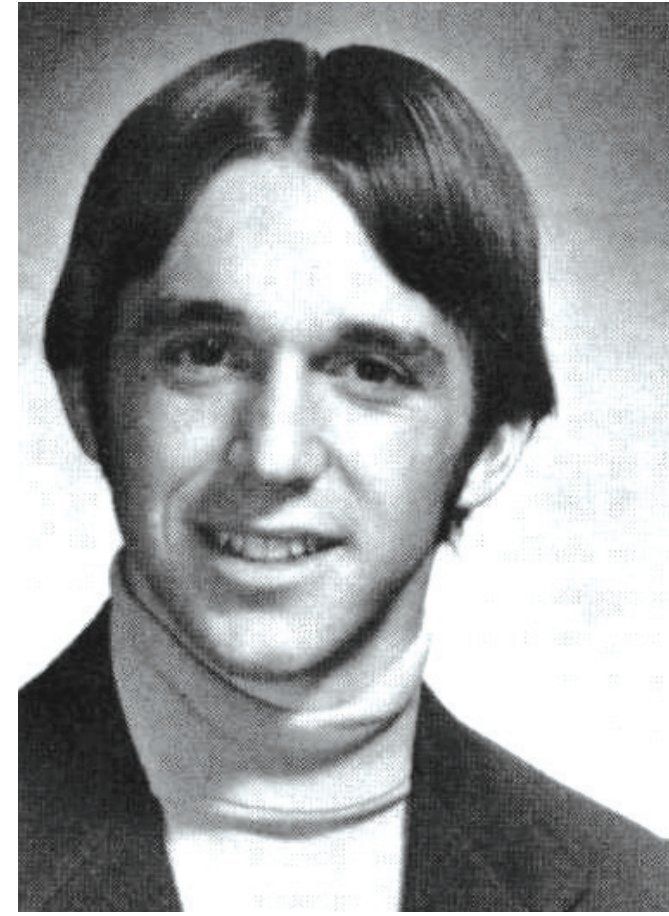
mater of his father, Jerrold Adler '49. Lynch, who credits much of his success to his college education, says, "When my best friend decided to go to Rider, it sounded good to me so I decided to go to Rider."

In his first semester, suffering from a broken shoulder, Lynch homed in on his studies. "Numbers are the language of business, and they have always told a story to me," he says. "That has served me well in life and, at Rider, it simply registered. I discovered what I was good at and gained confidence. It opened the world of possibility to me."

Soon, Lynch says, he was getting all A's, which didn't escape the notice of his friend and one-time tutor. A friendly academic rivalry was born, kindling their ambition. "The education here was phenomenal," Lynch says. "It was like an accounting boot camp. You had to know your stuff. That led us to challenge ourselves."

Taking many of the same classes, Lynch and Adler commuted together and studied together. In the afternoon, they played street

"If there wasn't a Joe Adler, there wouldn't be a Tom Lynch standing here."



The Rider yearbook photos of Tom Lynch, top left, and Joe Adler, right. The two friends have remained inseparable throughout their lives.



Photo by Peter G. Borg

hockey and at night, they worked at Sears. “We’re not brilliant people, but we’re pretty intelligent and we’re both extremely competitive,” Adler says. “Once Tom started getting A’s, I had to get A’s.”

Recalling their college years in separate interviews, Adler and Lynch tell many of the same stories. The time they smoldered after an economics professor gave them B’s despite expressing that he thought they probably deserved A’s. Or when it became clear, after a certified public accountant visited one of their night classes, what accountants actually do. Or how they discovered their career ambitions to become partners in one of the Big 8 (now Big 4) accounting firms.

As their professional futures were coming into focus, so too were their personal lives.

Back in high school, Tom and Joe worked at the same ice cream parlor, O-Boyle’s, in Bristol, Pa., where Tom had his eye on an employee named Patty. When Joe informed Tom that he had a pair of extra tickets to a Phillies game, Tom arranged to go with Patty — the couple’s first date. Not long after, Joe began dating another young woman from the neighborhood, Wendy.

Today, Tom and Patty have been married for 44 years and have four children. Joe and Wendy have also been married for 44 years and have five children. The two couples were wed before Lynch and Adler graduated from Rider. Neither was yet 21 years old, and for the first time since becoming attached at the hip after meeting almost a decade earlier, with a lifetime ahead of them, Lynch and Adler’s parallel paths finally began to diverge.

While awaiting the results of a CPA exam in the late 1970s, you did not want to find a fat envelope in your mailbox. A nice, fat envelope contained your application to retake the exam, or a section of it — the one you didn’t pass on the original test. A skinny envelope meant you passed. After taking the exam post-grad-

uation, Adler received a skinny envelope, Lynch a fat one. Lynch had passed three of the exam’s four parts, and even though he had to retake one, it was still quite an accomplishment. Within a year of graduating, Lynch and Adler were both working for two of the largest CPA firms in the world, with newborn children at their homes. Both would eventually become CPAs.

After Lynch moved up into a management position, first at Motorola and finally at the Fortune 500 company TE Connectivity, where he served as CEO, he realized how far a solid educational foundation could take a person in the world of business. “When people think of accounting, they think of keeping track of numbers,” he says. “That’s the baseline, but there’s a second and a third level of understanding. If you really learn this stuff, it will tell you exactly what’s going on in a business and it will almost tell you why.”

Meanwhile, Adler had found secure footing in the food industry, where he worked for more than three decades before retiring in 2018 as the VP Corporate Controller for Pinnacle Foods, the maker of branded foods such as Birds Eye vegetables and Duncan Hines baking mixes. Although for a time he and Lynch lived in separate places, the two friends remained close. When possible, they played basketball on the weekends. After Adler’s father passed away, Lynch delayed a business trip to Germany to attend the funeral. “My family is his family and vice versa,” Lynch says.

While working for Motorola, Lynch received an invitation from Bart Luedeke, who at the time was Rider’s president, to attend an alumni event in Chicago. “It reminded me what Rider meant to me,” he says. “I had forgotten how important this place was to me.”

He steadily became more involved with the University and joined the Board of Trustees. Later, as he became closer with Gregory G. Dell’Omo, Rider’s current president, and Vice President for University Advancement Karin Klim, he became persuaded that his philanthropy could make a real difference in supporting the vision outlined in Rider’s strategic plan and campus master plan.

“I feel more confident every day that places like Rider University really do change people’s lives,” Lynch says. “Education is so important, it really does make a massive difference.”

In 2013, Patty and Tom established the Danaher Lynch Family Foundation with the purpose to help unleash the potential of people in their community, primarily through the support of education. “Our lives have been so lucky,” Lynch says. “We have no confusion about that. When you look at people who have been dealt a lousy hand in life and realize that you have had more breaks than the average person, you realize you have to give back somehow.”

Seeing how the mission of their foundation aligned with Rider’s, Tom and Patty decided they wanted to make a transformative gift to the University. There was only one catch: Neither of them wanted much, if any, recognition for it. Naming a building was out of the question. “You don’t want people to think it’s an ego thing,” says Lynch, a self-described introvert.

When the idea was floated over a joint naming, it immediately struck Lynch as the right answer. “If there wasn’t a Joe Adler,” he says, “there wouldn’t be a Tom Lynch standing here.”

Since the unveiling, members of the Adler family have made the trip to campus to see Lynch Adler Hall. “I know we’re great friends, but to have someone do that, I was totally shocked and I’m immensely grateful,” Adler says. “I was speechless at the ceremony and didn’t know what to say. So I simply said thank you, and that’s all I needed to say.”



RIDER IS A QUARTER OF THE WAY TOWARD ITS PLEDGE
TO ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRALITY BY 2050.
WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO FINISH THE JOB?

By Adam Grybowski

Over the past decade, Rider's Office of Facilities Management has been on a mission to make energy use on campus more efficient. With hardly anyone noticing, boilers have been discarded, windows replaced and HVAC systems overhauled.

The sum of that work and other efforts have contributed to a milestone: This academic year, Rider officially reached the quarter mark on its pledge to become carbon neutral by 2050.

The University originally made the pledge in 2007 when it became a charter signatory of what is now called the Carbon Commitment, an initiative supported primarily by Second Nature, an organization that aims to advance solutions toward climate change specifically through institutions of higher education. Carbon neutrality is a concept that refers to achieving net zero carbon emissions from activities and processes that release carbon dioxide, either through their reduction or elimination or by somehow offsetting them. By signing the commitment, the University was required to develop an action plan to achieve carbon neutrality and implement an annual evaluation of its progress toward that goal.

"We've been very aggressive and when the data is put together, you can see in a simple line graph that we've been achieving reduction goals," says Melissa Greenberg, Rider's sustainability manager. "Seeing our progress so far makes me optimistic about reaching our ultimate goal."

To keep Rider on course, Greenberg is currently in the process of contributing toward the completion of an energy master plan that will establish the vision for the strategic consumption of energy, set guidelines for new construction and make recommendations for improving existing infrastructure.

The burning of fossil fuels to create electricity and heat remains the University's biggest source of carbon emissions. To address that, Rider has made several major investments over the past decade, such as the creation of a 740-kilowatt solar array outside the fence of Herb and Joan Young Field and the construction of an on-campus power plant called Tri-gen.

The Tri-gen plant is responsible for the greatest single drop in emissions since the pledge was signed. In addition to generating about a quarter of all electricity used on the Lawrenceville campus, it helps reduce

Rider's carbon footprint because it uses natural gas to generate electricity instead of coal or oil, both of which create more carbon dioxide when they are burned. Of the common human activities that release greenhouse gases, such as deforestation and certain industrial processes like cement manufacturing, the burning of fossil fuels is by far the most widespread and therefore the most detrimental. By some estimates, the burning of fossil fuel results in about 87 percent of all human-produced greenhouse gas emissions.

Ideally, any individual or organization seeking carbon neutrality would simply avoid, or at least reduce, these kinds of activities, but that's not always practical. A

**"We're
showing that
we're serious
about being
part of the
solution."**

common strategy to neutralize unavoidable activities is to offset them by investing in sustainability initiatives that reduce greenhouse gases.

For years, Rider has purchased renewable energy credits that support national wind production to help offset the electricity it continues to buy from the grid. That particular strategy may become less important if, say, the University chose to invest in a second Tri-gen plant or expand the existing one. But because other choices are less straightforward — like those around transportation — the use of offsets is going to be a crucial part of Rider's plan to achieve carbon neutrality.

Next to energy use, transportation is the second greatest source of carbon emissions generated by the University. In measuring its carbon footprint, Rider includes the effects of students flying around the globe to study abroad; faculty and staff commuting to career-related events like academic conferences; Admissions staff shuttling around

the country to recruit new students; and athletic teams driving and flying to games and tournaments.

"We don't have a lot of control over these things," Greenberg says. "We also don't want to reduce these activities and opportunities."

In 2016-17, Rider students, faculty and staff racked up two million air miles studying abroad alone, according to data compiled by Rider's Center for International Education, which administers the University's study abroad programs while also working closely with Greenberg in her assessments.

"We have a very robust study abroad program, which is fantastic," Greenberg says. "So one way we have to tackle that problem is through offsets."

In other ways, the University has taken action designed to directly influence the behavior that can help the University achieve its carbon-neutral goal. In 2017, Rider installed five electric vehicle charging stations, where current faculty, staff and students can charge their plug-in vehicles for free. The initiative, which was recognized last year by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, has exceeded expectations for use. A big reason this is significant, Greenberg says, is because by encouraging the use of electric vehicles, it affects personal decisions that go beyond the limits of the University.

"Some people are making decisions about which car to purchase based on the fact that they can charge for free at work," Greenberg says, adding that even smaller individual decisions, like turning off a light, can play a significant role over time. "Every little bit adds up."

Greenberg's position was created as a result of the 2007 commitment. In addition to her administrative responsibilities, she plays an educational role at Rider. Working directly with students in and out of the classroom, she says she continues to see more of them who are personally affected by climate change.

"I've seen students from California who have lived through the wildfires and students from Texas and Florida who have dealt with the floods," she says. "As more and more people are affected, we're showing that we're accountable and that addressing climate change is important and that we're serious about being part of the solution." ▀



MENTALLY PREPARED

AS TEEN SUICIDE RATES CLIMB,
TEACHERS FACE A GROWING NEED TO BE
TRAINED IN MENTAL HEALTH

By Rachel Stengel '14

By Jan. 9, 2018, parents, teachers and members of the community had had enough.

Over the previous 20 months, seven teens committed suicide throughout Mercer County, N.J. These acts were not isolated incidents, but part of what some continue to call a public health crisis. Just a few weeks earlier, a student at Hunterdon Central Regional High School in Flemington, N.J., took her own life during class time.

So in January, hundreds of school leaders, parents and community members from Mercer County gathered at Rider University in an effort to destigmatize discussions about suicide and mental health concerns.

Suicide rates in the United States have risen nearly 30 percent since 1999, and mental health conditions are one of several factors contributing to suicide. While recent reports show a slight decline in suicides among 19-24 year olds, what's more sobering is that the rate among 10-18 year olds is on the rise.

The need for mental health education and support is apparent within schools.

A change in behavior

Mental health concerns are on the minds of many, from celebrities discussing their struggles with depression and anxiety, to the #SelfCare movement on social media, to the Netflix show *13 Reasons Why*, which details the events leading to a teen's suicide.

"It really came to a head when *13 Reasons Why* hit," says Dr. Shauna Carter '07, principal of Community Middle School in Plainsboro, N.J. "It was a young adult novel for years, but maybe a few kids read it. Once it hit Netflix, well, everybody watches Netflix. We had to catch up quickly because our kids were in crisis."

Millions of Americans experience mental health issues each year, with one in five children experiencing a severely debilitating mental disorder, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Those in education are noticing the increase in mental health awareness and prevalence in recent years.

"There have been so many hospitalizations for suicide ideation. I've seen over time that stress levels have gone up in students. There's a whole epidemic of depression and anxiety," says Dr. Christine Abrahams, supervisor of counseling services at Hopewell Valley Regional School District in New Jersey and adjunct professor in Rider's Department of Graduate Education, Leadership, and Counseling.

Defiant behavior is something Karen Abrams '88, '96 deals with daily as a first-grade teacher in the Trenton School District. During her 27 years in the district, it's not uncommon for a student to throw a chair or a desk in anger, slam a door and walk out of the classroom, or aggressively confront another student.

"There's a great need for mental health awareness for parents and teachers in schools because we have major mental health issues in the city," she says. "The students are very angry with everything and fly off the handle easily, and I teach first grade so it's pretty se-

One in five children experience a severely debilitating mental disorder.

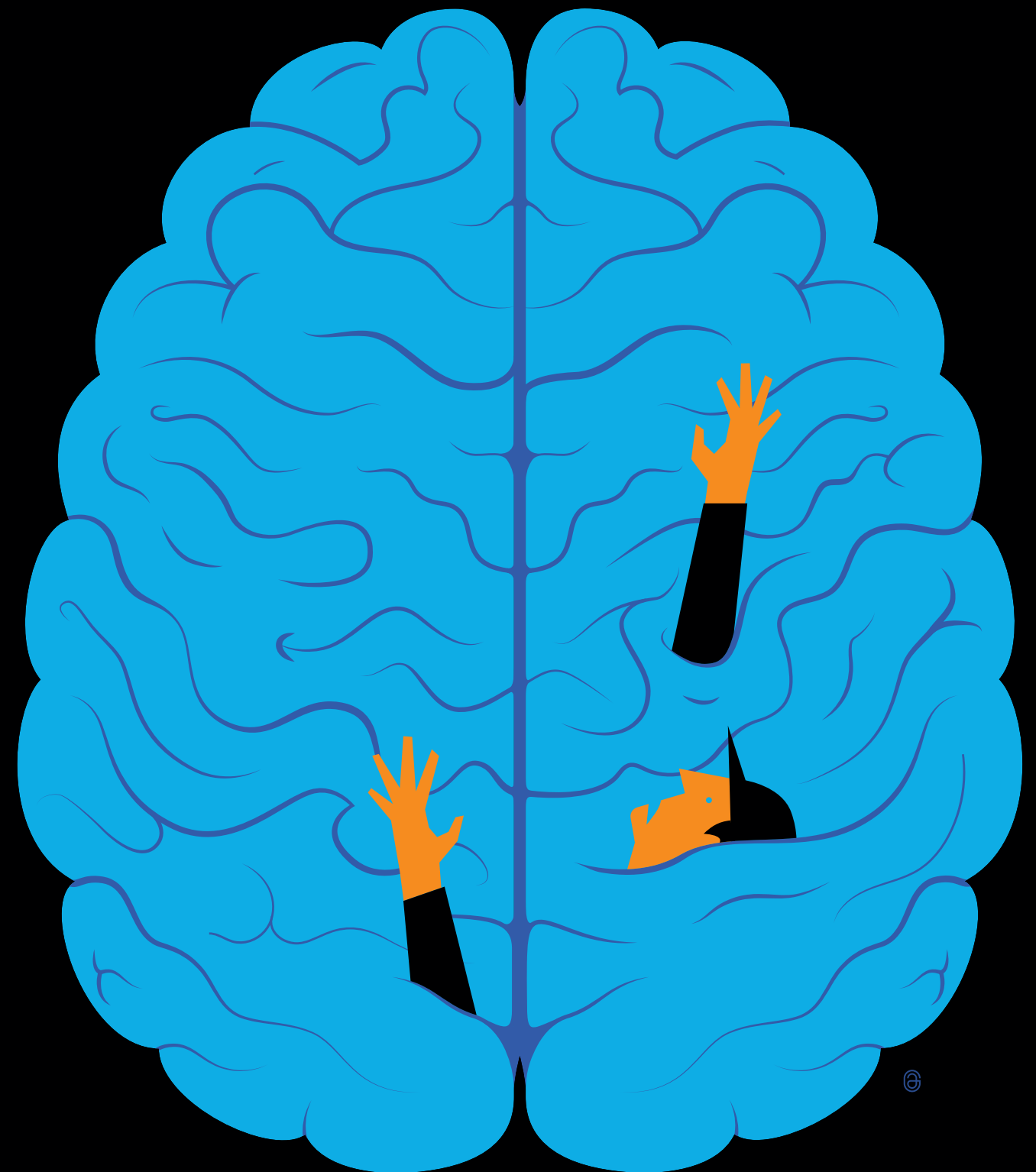
vere. It's definitely getting worse. Where you might have had just a few children in your room with mental health issues in the past, now there's a lot of them."

There is rarely a singular cause for a mental health concern. Some students come from unstable home situations, some are constantly surrounded by negativity, some are born with conditions like ADHD, but larger societal changes exist that are influencing children's mental health.

"Kids are dealing with things other generations didn't have to deal with in the past. It's that constant connection that they have to others," says Dr. Karen Gischlar '03, associate professor in Rider's Department of Graduate Education, Leadership, and Counseling. Gischlar teaches a variety of courses in the school counseling program, including ones focused on behavior, and social and emotional needs.

"When we start looking at the impact of technology beyond just being a learning tool, it's detrimental because kids are connected 24/7," she says. "Kids have more access to things that they didn't in the past. It can make them more informed, but it can also be hurtful. They're hearing things that they developmentally don't quite have the ability to make a sound judgement on. They're exposed to tragedies in all parts of the world. They're seeing things that other generations may have been sheltered from. The global access can be a lot for a developing mind."

Social media has particularly altered the way children interact with one another. If a group of friends decides to hang out and exclude others, none would be the wiser 15 years ago. Now, social media



Illustrations by Aed Goudappel

dictates that the hangout should be captured and shared with the world. Happy and carefree is the only mood welcome on Instagram and Snapchat.

"We all hated being a middle schooler. It was the most traumatic experience, but now it's a traumatic experience because they're given the message through social media that everything has to be perfect. No one shows the bad side," Carter says.

While cyberbullying training is typically part of students' education, the ability of educators and experts to keep pace with the development of new social media platforms and technological growth is seemingly impossible. Gischar once drafted a publication offering ways parents could help keep their children safe online.

"By the time it was published, it was already out of date," she says.

The culture of competition within school-aged children is also noticeable. College is not a choice but a requirement. A career plan is required by age 17. Being a B student is no longer applauded. Kindergartners are expected to be able to read before entering the classroom. Schedules must be filled, first with playdates and then clubs and sports. Leisure time may be nonexistent.

In high-performing school districts, such as Carter's and Abrahams', the pressure is accelerated and the thought of failure is crushing.

"We had third graders testing into our honors math program who were breaking down because they felt like they didn't do well," Carter says. "Their definition of what failure is, is different. A 'B' in a high-performing district is failing and that's just unacceptable. It's irrational. Now, how do we shift that?"

"There's a lot of pressure on kids because everyone feels like you have to go to college, and it doesn't need to be an immediate step right after high school. The little ones have anxiety and they haven't even heard the word college," Abrahams says. "School-aged children are like tuning forks. They can really pick up what's around them and vibrate it back with intensity. So if there's anxiety in their home life, at school or within their peers, the kids feel it, and it becomes generalized."

All of these stressors can accumulate, leading to anxiety and depression. Society is asking a lot of children today, things they may not be developmentally prepared to handle.

"As much as the world has changed, child development has not," Gischar says. "In terms of development, it hasn't changed what ages kids are ready for certain things. I think the world has tried to make them ready before they are. We're expecting them to be able to handle this adult world because they have so much exposure to it."

Everyone's responsibility

Sometimes, it's just a moment to breathe that can make a difference.

At Community Middle School, Carter's students are encouraged to take a break when things are just too much. She created a wellness center within the school where they can use their Chromebooks to download an app to walk them through a guided meditation or a breathing sequence.

"It's part of the culture now. We rebranded it to be named after our mascot so it's the Panther Pause. We also have a featured activity every month for the students, so one month could be mindful coloring and another therapy dogs," she says.

These efforts are in response not only to the evident need for mental health practices within the classroom, but also to a movement from the New Jersey Department of Education. In 2017, the Department implemented social/emotional learning competencies, which aim to promote positive school climates. They outline five categories for social-emotional learning educators are expected to

“I think the world has tried to make them ready before they are.”

implement in the classroom — self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, responsible decision-making and relationship skills.

There is no prescribed way to implement the competencies, rather it is left up to the schools' interpretations.

Some schools begin the day with a mindfulness activity or yoga. In the Hopewell School District, students have access to a biofeedback machine that educates them about their emotional reactions. They will also be introduced to a psychosensory technique called Havening that provides a calming effect. It teaches children to touch certain points on their upper arms, cheeks or hands to create delta waves.

There's an increased emphasis for mental health education among teachers, parents and students. Trainings on suicide warning signs, PTSD and other mental health issues are becoming more common.

"When we talk about mental health, it is everyone's responsibility. It's how we help our friends who express that they want to kill themselves on Snapchat. When a child is in crisis, you hope the child goes to the first person they can and that person needs to be able to

react appropriately," Carter says.

Though, a stigma still prevails among certain groups.

"There's a lot of people who don't want their children labeled," Abrams says. "Mental health shouldn't be viewed as a bad thing. If a child had an illness, you'd give them medicine. If they have a mental illness, they need help, it's the same thing. It's not different. Help could be life changing for the child."

A lack of resources can also be a challenge in certain schools. In Abrams' school, there is one counselor and one behavioral specialist for the approximately 500 children enrolled. Some districts are partnering with outside organizations to bring psychologists to the school to provide therapy to students.

"In the past, we were sending out kids for psychological evaluations. The approach was to send them away and they can come back when they're ready. Now it's being more proactive than reactive," Carter says.

Therapy shouldn't be an isolated event though, Abrahams says. It needs to be a holistic experience involving an entire family unit.

"Parents are OK with sending kids to therapy, but not getting the

whole family there. Sometimes the parents blame themselves if their child is having an issue, but it's so much more than that," she says.

Paying attention is the most basic way to help students in need, Abrams says.

"I'm always checking in on some of my current and former students so they know someone is looking out for them. You never know which kids you'll make the difference with and you may prevent something from happening," she says. "Everyone has to look out for everyone."

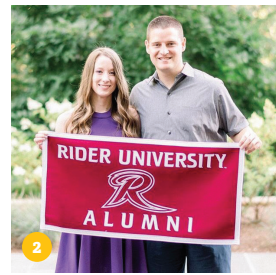
Many times, the responsibility falls to those in the school system, teachers, counselors, the school nurse, even other students.

"I tell my teachers all the time, a stressed brain can't learn. It's about recognizing those changes in behaviors," Carter says. "We want teachers noticing that the jovial kid who's always saying 'hi' isn't anymore. We need to create spaces and time within our instructional time for mindfulness. Students' lives may be so regimented that they don't have the time to create the space on their own to deal with their feelings. We need to let them know that it's OK not to be OK, to know that you don't have to do this alone." ■

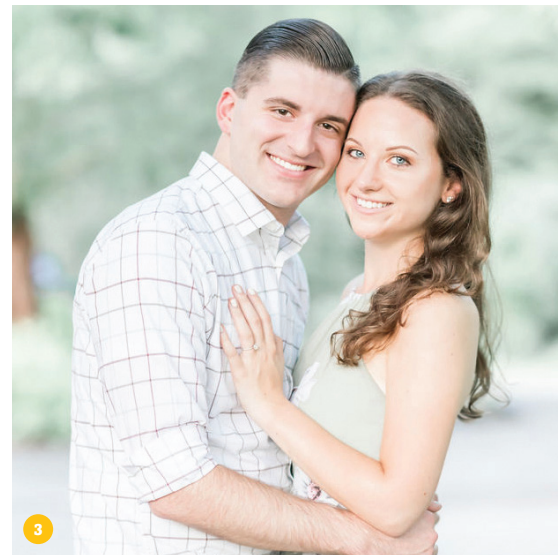




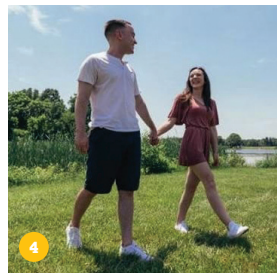
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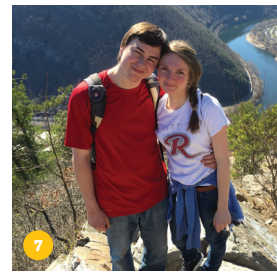
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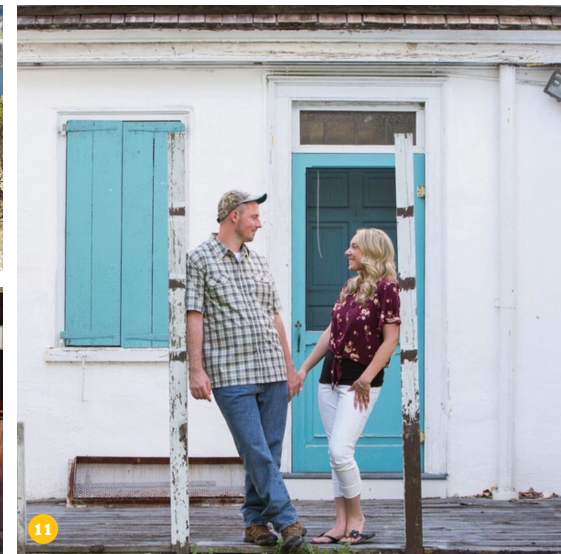
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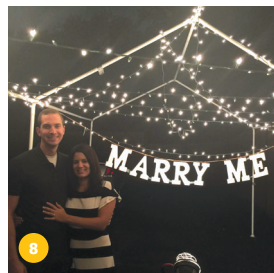
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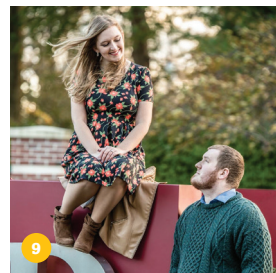
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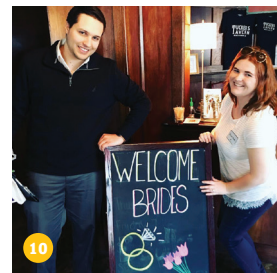
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Weddings, births and gatherings

1 Meredith McCarthy '10 and Kyle Thompson-Bass '10, who met at Rider, are engaged to be married.

2 Jaclyn Giameo '13 and Kevin Noon '12 are engaged with plans for a May wedding. The pair met at Rider, where Giameo played tennis and Noon played basketball.

3 Emily Reese '14 and Justin Geissler '14, '15 are engaged with plans to marry in August. They met their senior year at Rider.

4 Kyle Anacker '15, '17 and Emily Lieb '16, who dated for three years while students at Rider, are now engaged with plans to marry in November.

5 Cody McElyea '13 and Courtney Stuck '13, '18, who transferred to Rider together in 2011, were married on July 14, 2018, in Marlton, N.J., with many Rider alumni in attendance and in the bridal party.

6 Alumni of the early 1980s from Delta Sigma Pi gathered at the home of **Phil '81 and Bonnie Vogel** in September 2018.

7 Salina Vitale '14 and Kevin Smith '14 met at orientation on July 11, 2010, and were dating two weeks into the academic year. In July 2018, the pair became engaged, with plans to marry in September.

8 Matthew Wagner '15, '16 and Kimberly Amato '15, '16, who met as students and completed their undergraduate and graduate degrees together, became engaged to be married on Sept. 27, 2018.

9 Brian Kelley '15 and Karryne MacLean '15 are engaged with plans to marry in July.

10 Caitlin Cronin '13 and Tyler Bakely '14 met during Cronin's junior year. After six years together, the couple became engaged in April 2017.

11 Kara Reedy '13 and Ryan Carson '15 met during a class in 2011 at Rider. They were married in September 2017 and welcomed a baby boy in December.

12 Daniel Saforo '18 and Carmita Charles '17 were engaged on Oct. 13, 2018, and plan to marry on Sept. 7, 2019. To commemorate their engagement and where they met, the couple had their photos taken on Rider's campus by fellow alumna **Emily Kelley '17**.

13 Reggie Rashad Walker '05, '08 and Zuri Walker '08, along with their son Guy Rashad Walker, welcomed their daughter Ryder Julia Walker on Oct. 17, 2018. She is the couple's second child and named in honor of their alma mater where they met in the summer of 2004 in the Educational Opportunity Program.

14 Ryan Wolfe '17 and Chelsea Conover '18 became engaged on Feb. 2, during a Rider wrestling match. At the same match, Ryan's mother, Julie, was honored for winning her recent battle with breast cancer. The couple says Rider has played a very important role in their lives and their relationship. Ryan is the assistant wrestling coach at Rider and Chelsea is a preschool teacher.

15 Frank Romano Jr. '10 '15 and his wife, Tarah, are excited to share the birth of their son, Thomas Michael, who was born on Feb. 12. Tommy was excited to don his Bronco bib!

'60s

Gary Werner '68 is the CEO of Maryland-based Bantry Bay America. Under the brands of Bantry Bay or Next Wave Seafood, the company is the No. 1 brand of frozen value-added mussels in the United States.

'70s

Gail Sokolowski Thornton '78 received the Atlas Award for Lifetime Achievement in International Public Relations from the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). This award recognizes a public relations practitioner who has made extraordinary contributions to the practice and profession of public relations in an international environment over the span of his or her career. She also recently published a communications textbook along with three other editors, *Strategic Employee Communication: Building a Culture of Engagement* (Palgrave Macmillan). It features 27 essays by communicators in Latin America, the U.S. and emerging markets. Thornton is also the co-editor and author of an e-book published on Amazon and KindleDirect, *The Voices of Patients, Hospital CEOs, Health Care Providers, Caregivers and Families: Personal Experience with Critical Care and Invasive Medical Procedures*. She also writes for the *Huffington Post* and *Thrive Global*, as well as international health journals and public relations magazines.

Carol H. Berg '74, '76 was appointed state director of the Virginia Veteran and Family Support (VVFS) Program within the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. VVFS provides care coordination and access to behavioral health and



Dear alumni and friends,

In a few short months, we will welcome our newest members of the Alumni Association with the 2019 graduating class. Congratulations graduates!

This past year we had the opportunity to gather on and off campus for various reunions and affinity events. With so many building renovations and enhancements happening, the campus has never looked so great. I strongly encourage you to stop by or plan a visit with the Alumni Office. You will be as proud as I am with the way your alma mater has grown.

The alumni website was recently updated to engage all of you and keep you abreast of things happening at the University. Please visit the site and see how you can get involved. We are always recruiting alumni volunteers in various capacities to support our students. Think about making an impact with your time and giving back to your University.

We will also be seeking nominations for our annual alumni awards and I encourage you to visit the website and nominate someone for these worthy awards.

My best wishes for a wonderful spring and summer!

Marci Gnadtt '00, '03

President, Alumni Board of Directors and Alumni Association

rehabilitative and supportive services to Virginia veterans and their family members. Berg received a bachelor's in education and her master's in counseling from Rider.

Jeffrey M. Welch '79 was appointed chief executive officer of Florida Medical Center (FMC) and Tenet's Miami-Dade Group, which consists of a network of five hospitals. He oversees all strategic, operational and clinical activities at FMC, and provides oversight and leadership for the other hospitals in the Miami-Dade Group. Welch received a bachelor's from Rider and a master's from Rutgers University.

'80s

James Buonemani '80 directed the Choir of Saint James' recently released album *Beauty Ever Ancient Ever New*. Buonemani earned his master's in church music from Westminster Choir College.

Tony Cortese '81 is now senior vice president and regional manager of People's United Bank. He was previously employed at Santander Bank for more than 15 years. Cortese received his bachelor's in accounting from Rider and is a member of the CFA and New Jersey Society of CPAs.

Harvey Goldhersh '81 joined the IRI Media Center of Excellence as executive vice president of data and innovation. IRI is a provider of big data, predictive analytics and insights that assist health care organizations, retailers, financial services and media companies. Goldhersh earned a bachelor's from Rider.

Steve Todd '81 was named the regional distribution director of the *Bucks County Courier Times*, where he is now responsible for managing circulation operations, distribution, strategic planning, budgeting and forecasting for several newspapers. Todd received a bachelor's in journalism and history from Rider.

Charles K. Miller '82, '84 was appointed a member of the Alliance MMA's board of directors in October 2018. A certified public accountant, Miller graduated from Rider with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and a Master of Business Administration.

Theodore Byer '89 of Smolin Lupin & Co. was just recently selected as Top CPA of the Year by the International Association of Top Professionals (IAOTP) for his outstanding leadership and commitment to the industry. Byer received a Bachelor of Arts from Muhlenberg College in 1979, his Master of Business Administration from Rider in 1989 and a certificate in financial planning from Fairleigh Dickenson University in 2002.

Kenneth J. Stephon '89 was named president of William Penn Bancorp, Inc., the mid-tier holding company for William Penn Bank, on Oct. 1, 2018. He first joined William Penn as senior executive vice president, chief operating officer and director as part of a merger with Audubon Savings Bank, where Stephon served as president, CEO and director. He brings more than 35 years of community banking experience to the organization. He received a bachelor's in accounting from Trenton State College (The College of New Jersey) and a master's in business administration from Rider.

Newsmaker



She saw the sign

Lost during Hurricane Sandy, a real estate sign belonging to Diane Turton '69 shows up in France

By Rachel Stengel '14

Jersey Shore real estate mogul Diane Turton '69 has a knack for creative advertising.

Owner of Diane Turton, Realtors, she began her unusual methods early in her career. When buying newspaper ads was out of her price range, she would purposely deliver Tupperware orders to the wrong houses. She always managed to ask if the homeowner was looking to sell or buy a house.

During family outings in Point Pleasant, N.J., she'd roam the shoreline asking beachgoers if they had seen her children — who she knew were safely with a relative — and slid in a pitch for her business.

Her latest campaign began last May after receiving a message from a man explaining that one of her real estate signs washed up on a beach near Bordeaux, France.

After asking the sender to email a photo of it to see if it was true, there was no doubt that the green and blue sign — despite missing about a third of its structure — was hers. "What are the chances of not just it getting there, but someone finding it and contacting me?" she says.

It has been estimated that in October 2012 the sign, which imparted a listing in Brielle, N.J., made the same transatlantic voyage as Christopher Columbus approximately three times following Hurricane Sandy before landing more than 3,000 miles away in France in 2018.

The sign's treacherous journey struck a chord with people, Turton discovered after flying to France to retrieve it. While enjoying a meal before departing, another diner said, "You're the woman with the sign!"

Before long, "the woman with the sign" was in mainstream media — *The New York Times*, *USA Today* and *People* magazine, just to name a few.

Turton capitalized on the serendipitous opportunity. Her latest marketing campaign says the firm is "recognized worldwide" and "our service and signage can't be beat!" Her team earned the "Most Innovative Marketing Technique" award from Luxury Real Estate Company in 2018.

Turton has wanted to build her own path since she was 16, when her father first introduced her to the industry.

"I want to own my own real estate company. I want my logo to be blue and green, and I want a billboard with my face on it," she recalls telling her father.

At just 19, she earned her real estate license. At 22, she graduated from Rider with her bachelor's in real estate and insurance. And, at 23, she secured her broker's license, which allowed her to work independently and hire other agents.

Turton has been named "Top 25 Women of Influence" by *Nj Biz* and "One of New Jersey's Leading Women Entrepreneurs & Business Owners" by *Nj Monthly*. The awards are nice, but, for her, it's always been about the love of the field. "You have to do something you really love," she says. "I don't know anyone who's successful who hates their job."

ALUMNI TRAVEL



2019 & 2020

Ireland • Portugal • Morocco

Join President Gregory G. Dell'Omo, his wife, Polly, and an intimate group of alumni and friends for these unforgettable private tours.

For more information, contact Natalie Pollard,
Director of Alumni Relations, at 609-896-5340
or pollardn@rider.edu

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HARRISON MCCABE, CLASS OF 2022

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'90s

Cathy Davis '91 was promoted and named a principal of MSPC Certified Public Accountants and Advisors, which provides assurance, tax, and consulting services to a wide-range of industries with offices in New York and New Jersey. A CPA, Davis received a bachelor's in accounting and finance from Rider.

Dean H. Forman '91 was named the new chief operating officer of Chapters Health System and its affiliates in the fall of 2018. In 2017, the organization served almost 19,000 patients and families across eight counties in Florida. Forman brings more than 16 years of experience in hospice operations to the role. He received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Management and Organizational Development from Rider and Master of Business Administration from La Salle University.

Santos Torres Jr. '91, '95 was selected as a finalist for the Trailblazer Award from *PM360*, a health-marketing industry trade magazine. Established in 2009, the Trailblazer Awards are given to outstanding companies, marketers, marketing teams, brand managers and initiatives representing the best the industry has to offer. Santos has more than 20 years of experience working in the pharmaceutical industry.

Steve Rummel '92 was appointed vice president and business relationship officer of Kearny Bank, with a focus on Passaic and Essex counties in New Jersey. Rummel received a bachelor's in marketing from Rider.

Newsmaker



Your honor

Hon. Linda R. Feinberg '71
receives highest honor from NJ
State Bar Foundation

By Rachel Stengel '14

Hon. Linda R. Feinberg '71 has practiced in almost every area of law and at every level of state government. Her career spans more than 40 years — half of which were spent as a Judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey (Mercer Vicinage).

To commemorate her remarkable career, Feinberg was recently awarded the highest honor from the New Jersey State Bar Foundation, the Medal of Honor Award. It recognizes those who have made exemplary contributions to improving the justice system.

“I was honored, surprised and really humbled by it,” Feinberg says. “As a lawyer and trial judge, I have worked to honor the dignity of the profession, to foster professional excellence, and to treat clients with patience and respect.”

Feinberg has won a litany of awards during her legal tenure. In 2013, she received awards from the New Jersey State Bar Association and the Mercer County Bar Association for her contributions to the profession. She was also named the New Jersey State Bar Association's Dispute Resolution Practitioner of the Year in 2012.

Law was not Feinberg's original plan. A sociology major at Rider, she thought about becoming a teacher or psychologist. Her career trajectory changed during her senior year when she visited a friend at Rutgers Law School. To pass the time as he studied, she decided to crack open a law textbook herself.

“I got hooked,” she says. “Once I got the bug, I never looked back.”

Upon graduation, she enrolled in the University of Akron Law School as one of only three female students that year.

Feinberg's professional career began at Fort Monmouth, a U.S. Army base in Monmouth County, N.J., where she was a labor attorney. She then worked in various roles in Mercer County as an assistant prosecutor, assistant county counsel, municipal court judge and presiding judge of the municipal courts. She also joined the faculty of the law and justice department at The College of New Jersey in 1977 and started her own private practice.

The path for the next 20 years of her career was set in 1992 when Gov. James Florio appointed her as a judge of the New Jersey Superior Court.

“The best part about being a judge is that you are the only person in the courtroom who is neutral and has no allegiance to any side,” she says. “As a judge, I was always guided by my responsibility, as a neutral party, to review all the evidence and to make a fair and reasonable decision. Being a judge is the greatest honor that a lawyer can have.”


Retirement in 2012 was a short-lived period for Feinberg.

“Two weeks into retirement, I said to my husband, ‘I don't have any issues to decide.’ Coincidentally, the following week I had breakfast with the managing partner at the Szaferman Lakind firm.” Feinberg recalls, “At the end of the meal, we shook hands, and I joined the firm two weeks later.”



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Susan Manzi '97 was named chief financial officer of Samaritan Healthcare & Hospice, South Jersey's largest and oldest not-for-profit hospice organization. A certified public accountant and a member of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants, she earned a master's in healthcare administration from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, and a bachelor's in accounting from Rider.

Michael D. Adasczik '97, '98 was appointed vice president of finance and chief accounting officer of B&G Foods. A certified public accountant, Adasczik received his bachelor's in accounting and master's in business administration from Rider.

Cheryl Cohen '98 joined Santander Bank as senior vice president and national business development officer for the health care industry. Cohen received a bachelor's in finance and accounting from Stockton University and a master's in business administration from Rider.

Joseph Giquinto '99 was promoted to vice president of finance at Edison Partners, a growth equity investment firm. He earned a bachelor's in accounting from Rider.

Heather Hodsdon '99 self-published a book, *Women Who Hate Other Women*, last year.

'00s

Peter P. Pfreundschuh '00 was appointed chief financial officer of UroGen Pharma Ltd., a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical, in August 2018. Pfreundschuh previously served as the CFO of Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and CircuLite, Inc. He received

a bachelor's in accounting from Rutgers University and a master's in business administration from Rider.

Bryan Yurcan '02, a financial technology reporter for American Banker, was hired by Caliber, a marketing communications firm focusing on the fintech, financial services and professional services sectors, last summer. He had been a senior writer at American Banker since November 2015, covering all aspects of banking and banking technology. He also moderated webcasts and live panels, and had been a speaker at industry conferences. He received a bachelor's in English from Rider.

Lauren (Rogers) Lynch '03 was promoted to chief marketing officer of Mandelbaum Salsburg P.C., a full-service law firm in Roseland, N.J. She has more than 15 years of experience providing strategic marketing advice to professional service firms and in her new role is responsible for guiding the marketing and branding efforts of the 80-attorney, 27-practice area firm. She received her bachelor's, cum laude, from Rider where she majored in journalism and public relations with a minor in advertising.

Stephen O'Brien '03 was appointed director of SolomonEdwards, a national professional services firm. In the role, he is responsible for serving clients in the Houston metro area with complex accounting, reporting and strategic transaction initiatives. O'Brien received his master's in accounting from Rider and a bachelor's in history from Fordham University.

Digesh Patel '06, '08 was promoted to managing director of The Mercadien Group and

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Advice for alumni, from alumni



On tax preparation

By Alan R. Sumutka '72

Be aware of federal law changes

Contribution limits increased for IRAs (Traditional or Roth) to \$6,000 (from \$5,500) and for 401(k)/403(b) plans to \$19,000 (from \$18,500). The medical expense floor increases to 10 percent (from 7.5 percent). The Affordable Care Act penalty for failure to maintain health insurance was repealed (though New Jersey instituted its own penalty). Estates valued at \$11,400,000 (up from \$11,180,000) escape estate taxation.

“Bunch” itemized deductions

If itemized deductions are below the standard deduction (single = \$12,200; married = \$24,400), alternating their use can save taxes. For example, make no charitable contributions and take the standard deduction

in 2019, but double/maximize contributions (consider a donor-advised fund) to itemize deductions in 2020.

Take advantage of tax-advantaged education

Under certain conditions, contributions and earnings from Section 529 savings plans, Coverdell accounts and Roth IRAs are tax-free when used to pay for primary, secondary and/or college education; the American Opportunity Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Credit provide tax relief for undergraduate and graduate studies, respectively; and student loan interest is deductible.

Plan well for retirement

Before required minimum distributions (RMDs) begin at age 70½, retirees low-

er taxes by delaying Social Security (to increase future benefits) and taking tax-free withdrawals from after-tax savings. However, at 70½, RMDs can cause higher income taxes and Medicare premiums. To reduce RMDs make Roth conversions or take distributions from tax-deferred accounts before 70½.

And also for post-RMD

After 70½, taxpayers with charitable intentions can reduce RMDs (and income taxes, Medicare premiums) by making a “qualified charitable distribution” of up to \$100,000 by a direct transfer from a Traditional IRA to a charity. The withdrawal counts as part of the RMD but is not considered taxable income. No charitable deduction is allowed.

Alan R. Sumutka '72, an associate professor of accounting, has taught at Rider University for 42 years.

Newsmaker



Let the music play

Ming Luke '00 shares his conducting talents all over the world

By Anthony Stoeckert

For Ming Luke '00, variety is the spice of his musical life.

Luke, who graduated with a double major in music education and piano pedagogy, is a conductor who makes music with many different ensembles. The early weeks of 2019 saw him conducting the Berkeley Community Chorus and Orchestra's performance of Dvorak's *The Spectre's Bride* and assisting during the San Francisco Symphony's presentation of Bruckner's *Symphony No. 5* and concerts by San Francisco Opera and San Bernardino Symphony.

Based in California's Bay Area, Luke is also the principal guest conductor for San Francisco Ballet, music director for the Merced Symphony, associate conductor and education director for the Berkeley Symphony, and music director for the Berkeley Community Chorus and Orchestra.

He says collaborating with different ensembles allows him to conduct more of the great music repertoire. And while conducting different types of music such as pops, classical, opera and choral works isn't unusual in Europe, it's much less common in America.

“In the U.S., conductors tend to be pigeonholed,” Luke says. “They tend to be classified as orchestra conductors, opera conductors or ballet conductors only. It's not that common in the rest of the world because composers didn't limit themselves to writing one type of genre. Tchaikovsky wrote great operas, great ballets and great symphonic works, so only focusing on only certain areas of his compositions doesn't make sense to me.”

He describes the conductor's job mainly as trying to unify an orchestra or ensemble in a singular musical vision during a performance.

“If you're an instrumentalist, like a violinist, different violinists will have different interpretations of various pieces, different approaches and different experiences that lead to those interpretations,” he says. “The same thing goes for conductors. Conductors will have a certain interpretation of a piece.”

One of the reasons Luke, who was raised in nearby Belle Mead, N.J., attended Westminster Choir College was to work with Professor of Music Education Frank Abrahams, with whom Luke had collaborated with on a chorus featuring vocal singers throughout the tristate area.

His collaboration with Abrahams also influenced his decision to conduct choral performances as a professional. “It's something I was always interested in, and the opportunity at Westminster to perform with some phenomenal orchestras like the New York Philharmonic and the Philadelphia Orchestra was a big influence on my training and musical experiences,” Luke says.

While Luke has long loved music, he considered other career options. His mother is a chemist and his father is a mathematician, and he studied both of those while attending Westminster.

“I realized music was what I wanted to do, and to be expressive and to work with all these great ensembles,” Luke says. “My experience at Westminster solidified that.”

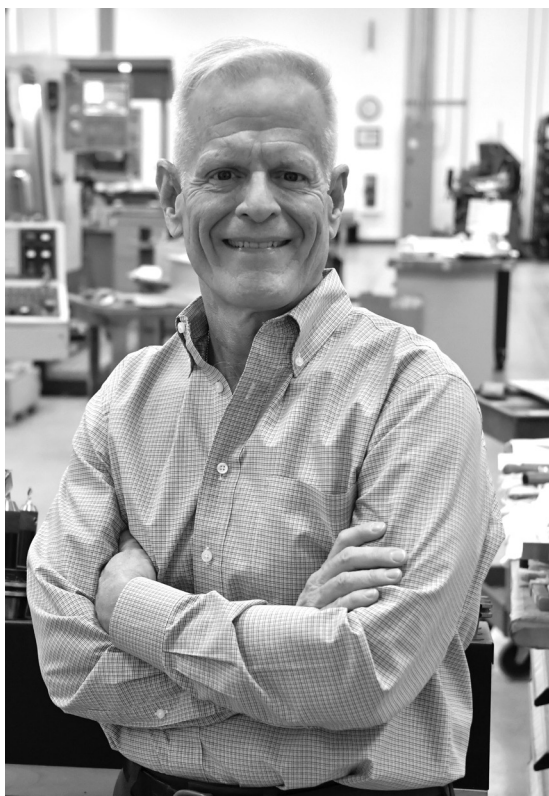
principal in Mercadien, P.C., CPAs. He has been employed with Mercadien since completing his college internship with the firm in 2006. Patel received a bachelor's in accounting and a master's in business administration from Rider.

J.P. Krahel '06, '08 was granted tenure and named associate professor of accounting at Loyola University Maryland's Sellinger School of Business and Management. Krahel, whose research interests include accounting standards and continuous auditing, was an instructor in the department of accounting and information systems at Rutgers Business School before joining Loyola. He received a doctorate in accounting from Rutgers University and a master's in accounting and bachelor's in English from Rider.

Howard Moore '07 was appointed vice president in the marketing division of Gerber Finance. In the role, he is responsible for generating, analyzing, structuring and managing new client relationships. Moore received a bachelor's in liberal studies from Rider.

Kelly A. Williams '07 was selected to be a Delaware Business Times 40 Under 40 (DBT 40) award recipient. DBT 40 is a select group of the region's best and brightest young professionals, all under the age of 40, who are making a difference with their intelligence, initiative and innovation.

Jonathan Chebra '09 was named senior director of federal affairs for The New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA). In the role, Chebra will serve as the chief advocate for NJHA's members' legislative priorities at the federal level and coordinate responses to regulatory developments.



"It is only fitting that I include Rider in my will to share in the wealth that they helped to create."

- Hugh T. Regan Jr. '82

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'10s

Joseph Ferber '11 joined Frenkel & Company's operations in New York as a principal. He is responsible for new business development; management of property/casualty insurance programs; and providing risk management strategies and solutions. Ferber received a bachelor's in finance and economics from Rider, where he was also a member of the wrestling team.

Bill Finnegan '11 was named a principal of Avison Young, the world's fastest-growing commercial real estate services firm. In this role he will help grow the company's Center City office in Philadelphia and focus on his specialty of corporate tenant representation. Finnegan brings 20-plus years of commercial real estate experience to Avison Young. Most recently, he served as a senior vice-president at Jones Lang LaSalle in Philadelphia. He holds a Master of Business Administration from Rider and a Bachelor of Science in accounting from St. Joseph's University.

Dr. Amy Lynn Werda '11 graduated in May 2018 from Salus University, Pennsylvania College of Optometry. She will be doing a residency at Omni Eye Services, focusing on the diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases.

Zachary DeBevec '14, who received a bachelor's from Rider, performed in Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn* in the fall at Philadelphia's Walnut Street Theatre. He previously performed as an understudy in the Walnut's 2017 production of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*.

Jane-Ellen Lennon '15 was named interim principal at the

Toll Gate Grammar School in Hopewell, N.J., by the Hopewell Valley Regional School District Board of Education in August. She earned a bachelor's in sociology from Rollins College, a master's in elementary education and teaching from The College of New Jersey, and a master's in educational leadership from Rider.

Rebecca Smith '15, '16 was promoted to the position of senior account executive at R&J Strategic Communications, a full service integrated marketing and public relations agency. In the role, Smith will continue to lead day-to-day account activities for her clients in the healthcare and nonprofit sectors, while expanding her role in the development of account strategies and oversight of team members. Smith graduated summa cum laude from Rider with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and a Master of Arts in Business Communication.

Stanley Clark '16 was awarded a Princeton in Asia (PiA) Fellowship for the 2018-19 fellowship cycle to teach at Northeastern University in Shenyang, China.

Victoria Trucksess '16 studied coral reefs, manatees, howler monkeys, jaguars and other wildlife last summer while learning the methods communities are using to sustain them in Belize. Trucksess, a water resources intern at Delaware River Basin Commission, lives in Hackettstown, N.J., and is a graduate student in Miami University's Global Field Program.

Paige Cornell '17 has been named a video editor at Skydive Jersey in Pittstown, N.J.

In Memoriam

Alumni

Jean Craig Clark '41
Constance Raite Frazier '42
Tacy Bleasdale Rose '42
Jane Thumma Benziger '43
Anna Lucas Greaves '43
Ethel Closson Smith '43
Helen Fenchel Weber '43
Ann C. Colangeli '44
Dorothy Reside Baldwin '45
Stella Perry Beaumier '45
Dorothyjean Downs Jamieson '45
Alice Sabat Daniecki '46
Mae Bowker Hamilton '46
Hilda Ruple Mannon '46
Ethel Deutsh Regenstein '46
Margaret Giudice Baker '47
Gloria Peretz Olin '47
Harry J. Weiss Jr. '47
Miriam Krise Young '47
Thomas L. Blake Jr. '48
Mary Broeffle Brooks '48
Harry J. Carl Jr. '48
Edward G. Frederick Jr. '49
Carmello J. Graziano '49
John Havran '49
Charles J. Horvath '49
Amy Park Jones '49
Jean Browne Turner '49
Shirley Siegfried Donohue '50
Jean Severa Heath '50
Robert J. Schmidt '50
Rose Pozzi Schneider '50
Arthur P. Sommer Jr. '50
Alvin E. Washington '50
George M. Wood '50
Frank P. Capella Sr. '51
Marilyn Bennett Doersam '51
Edwin H. Eckert '51
Edward R. Huey '51
Mary Jane Sanders Kenison '51
Ronald V. Lozak '51
Olimpio R. Pacchioli '51
John F. Sarnecky '51
Gabriel Szekeres '51
Cirino C. Tomarchio '51
Murry Bakel '52
Emidio C. Bubba '52
John F. Budinscak '52
John C. Farinick Jr. '52
Marjory Thomas Fuller '52
James D. O'Brien '52
D. Jayne Borneman Sawin '52

Phyllis Favata Atkins '53
John M. Fedorko '53
Gerald T. Marshall '53
Donald D. Wolven '53
Marie Biasi Bohm '54
Beverly Bronson Kearns '54
James M. Klingman '54
William M. Ryan '54
Elizabeth Peters Ziegler '54
Carolyn Cramton Allen '55
Margaret Turney Appleby '55
Elizabeth Weiss Domenico '55
Joseph F. McQuarrie '55
John H. Snyder '55
Lois Dormire Conboy '56
Arnold Taksen '56
John E. Radvany '57
Fred J. Gmitter '58
Warren Leshner '58
Barbara Whitmarsh Pond '58
John J. Wnuk '58
Thaddeus Knitowski '59
Sara Gray Baker '59
Lawrence R. Lanchoney '59
Leonard J. Nyberg Jr. '59
Seymour Zucker '59
Thomas H. Barker '60
Beverly Yurick Bobby '60
Frank W. Kirkleski, Jr. '60, '72
Michael M. Powers Jr. '60
Ellie P. Valentine '60, '61
Richard W. Jensen '61
Donald V. Page '61
Richard G. Penney '61
Paul E. Albus '62
Angelica Mancini Lapo '62
Elliot Nehmad '62
Francis R. Rinaudo '62
Mel W. Sanders '62
Donald W. Bogaards '63, '64
Laurence P. Lafrenz '63
Edwin B. Winkworth '64
Charles W. deMoss '66
Charles B. Small '66
Miriam Gyura Bayman '67
Ralph L. Price Jr. '67
Marcella Agabiti Cook '68
George Graffy '68
Jean Rosengarten Grala '68
Thomas Redclift '68
James M. Shelly '68
Richard Bannister '69
Edward M. Szathmary '69

Robert L. Holmes '70
Donald E. Eckman '71
Frank J. Gillick '71
Stephanie Lacombe Luty '71
Thomas M. Flynn '72
Barbara M. Pearson '72
William D. Povia III '72
Robert V.J. Zelli '72
Charles W. Hamilton Jr. '73
Samuel W. Mendelson '75
Jeffrey M. Rosenberg '76
William W. Furrer '77
Louis F. Nemeth Jr. '77
Charles H. Smith '77
Donald E. Walker '77
Brian L. Forik '79
Barbara L. Britton '80
Donna M. Csolak '80
Carole Ziegler Faust '81
Scott L. Gobac '82
Russell F. Hobson '82
Robert C. Murphy Jr. '85
Martha G. DeBardeleben '86
Cynthia L. Grayson '86
Lisa Cohen Kimball '86
Frank S. Siano '86
William J. Yost Jr. '87
Cathy Schwarz Butler '90
Raymond J. Amato '92, '98
John M. Bingaman '93
Jennifer Fisher Keller '93
Thomas A. Murphy '96
Jay K. Crohe '97
Timothy O'Donnell '98
Aaron R. Thomas '03
Thomas D. Lawrence '04
Daniel T. Musselman '04
Christopher G. Mattie '07
Shauna D. Parker '08
Glenn E. Schiltz '10
Anne Psolka-Green '13

Faculty / Staff

Joseph R. Flummerfelt
George W. Hess Jr.
Michele W. Kamens
Steven W. Klein
Willard E. Lally
Margaret M. Matthews
Francis C. Oglesby
Charles A. Speran
Albert Sternberg

Breaking free

AN EXCLUSIVE CONFERENCE, A SPONSORED TRIP AND A BURNING DESIRE TO ACHIEVE CAREER SUCCESS

By **Rahquan King-Stubbs '19**
Majors: **Accounting, Finance**



As an African-American male from Brooklyn, N.Y., it was easy to feel that I was expected to fail. I grew up under the care of my grandmother. We relied on monthly government assistance programs. Because we couldn't afford lights or hot water year round, we sat in the dark on many nights and we boiled water to wash on many days.

My life could have predictably remained a part of the cruel cycle of poverty and senseless crime, but that changed last January when a homicide occurred on my street. The murder — another statistic pointing toward my possible fate — definitively confirmed that Brooklyn was not where I wanted to spend the rest of my life. I knew I had to put myself and my grandmother in a better situation. Through that experience and others, I've developed a burning desire to make a successful career for myself by becoming a certified public accountant and an entrepreneur.

Rider has presented me with many life-changing opportunities that have put me on a path to achieve these goals. However, a trip to the Inc. 5000 Conference

in San Antonio, Texas, this past October gave me my greatest eye-opening opportunity to break free of my inner-city origins. The conference is normally open exclusively to successful entrepreneurs. But this year, Norm Brodsky '64 leveraged his longtime connection to the magazine to open the door to a handful of select Rider students.

I was chosen to attend by faculty based on an essay I wrote. I was excited but unsure how I was going to relate to extremely successful entrepreneurs. As if I had the acumen to talk about building million-dollar businesses! Not knowing what to expect, say or do, I followed the lead of Norm and his wife, Elaine, who paid for all of our expenses and eased our tension by assuring us our main job was to soak up as much knowledge and experience as possible.

With my nerves eased, I sat in VIP seating each morning and wrote down every piece of striking advice that the main stage speakers shared. Author Gretchen Rubin challenged me to be happier in my life. Panera Bread founder Ron Shaich spoke

“I felt incredible gratitude toward Norm and Elaine Brodsky for making the entire trip possible and changing my life by sponsoring this amazing, unreal experience.”

Illustration by James Yang

to me when he discussed financial consciousness. Researcher Brené Brown dared me to lead and painter Scott Jacobs shifted my entire perspective on finding my life's purpose.

After I graduate in May, I will start at KPMG on Wall Street — one of the Big 4 accounting firms — specializing in audit financial services. However, my ultimate goal is to own my own business. I want to serve as a role model for inner-city youth through my business success and entrepreneurship.

The Inc. 5000 Conference ended with my first-ever black-tie gala, where I sat in the first row watching companies and individuals being honored for their accomplishments. Norm received an award for his lifetime achievements. As I watched him, I felt incredible gratitude toward him and Elaine for making the entire trip possible and changing my life by sponsoring this amazing, unreal experience. Afterward, as I reflected on it, I told myself that in the future I wanted to be there attending not as a guest but as a successful business owner.



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Then and now

In this yearbook photo from 1965, a class takes place in what is now the DiDonato Family Lecture Hall in the Science and Technology Center. As part of a phased renovation project, the lecture hall has become one of the premiere classrooms on the Lawrenceville campus.