

# University Roundup

## Around the Rindge campus ...

Rindge Hall was officially renamed **Clifford Coles Hall** at a dedication ceremony during Alumni Reunion Weekend last fall. Dr. Coles came to Franklin Pierce as the Dean of Academic Affairs in 1964. He was an administrator, teacher, and member of the Board of Trustees, and was sometimes referred to as “Mr. Franklin Pierce.” According to Vicky Rank ’02, G’05, “He helped shape the lives of hundreds of students, faculty, and staff while serving here.” Dr. Coles, who died in 1992, had an innate knack for making each individual feel that she or he was his only concern.



Four generations of the Coles family from the Seacoast to Fitzwilliam, including the three Coles daughters, gathered at the dedication, many of whom are connected to the University. Dr. Coles’s daughter Nancy began her Franklin Pierce career as a switchboard operator and rose to become bursar; granddaughter Cyndie Martin is the textbook manager of the University bookstore; grandson David Nye and great-granddaughter Samantha Wattendorf both graduated from Franklin Pierce. Samantha and student Mariah Wattendorf have both worked in the bookstore; and granddaughter Cathy Mills was employed in the Registrar’s Office.

Donors who made this honor possible to date, include: Anthony Abatino, Nicolas Albonizio, Diane Albonizio, Joseph Alessi, Susanne A. Alyce, Gary R. Appleton, Lloyd and Helen Astmann, Danny L. Becker, Sheila Bergeron, John Borino, John T. Burke, Joseph Cafaro, James P. Calvet, Brant A. Elkind, Henry G. Ellis, Stephen Faccidomo, Richard E. Falconi, Carleen Farrell, Art and Marcy Fink, John S. Flood, Stuart Fried, Carmine Giangreco, Temple Grandin (Grandin Livestock Handling Systems), Richard Green, David B. Groder, James Hoag, Charlene Hulten (ABC Disposal & Recycling), David Irwin, Clifford Lattin, Harold M. Levy, Dennis J. Maliangos, Al Marulli (Amco Property Management), Diane Parvin, John Popp, Daniel F. Sansevieri, Raymond G. Schank, Mary Jane Sheldon-McKenzie, Sharon Lyn Stein, Marietta Stone Anastas, Marc Tieger (Tieger Realty Company), Angela Waldron, Les Weitzman, Howard Wohlander, Joseph and Arlene Wzorek, and Joseph Zampino.

Mike Fiorello and Ethan Bird of **Securitas USA**, which provides security services to Franklin Pierce University, visited the campus in July 2013 and presented a donation to be used for scholarships. Pictured here are Campus Safety Director Maureen Sturgis; Mike Fiorello and Ethan Bird, both of Securitas; Director of Communications Lisa Murray; and Vice President for Student Affairs Jim Earle.



The **2013 Fry Lecture Series** was sponsored by the Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communication last fall. “The Fitzwater Center named the lecture series for **Stanley and Cheri Fry** in recognition of the endowment fund for programming at the Center,” said the Center’s director, Dr. Kristen Nevious. Christopher Nixon Cox opened the series in November. A grandson of former President Richard Nixon, Cox spoke of his trip to China in May 2013, during which he and his wife retraced the path of his grandfather’s historic 1972 trip to China. Cox said he was “amazed at the speed at which China has developed.” He emphasized how the new Chinese regime wants to “engage with the world,” giving Cox “hope for a bilateral relationship between China and the United States.”



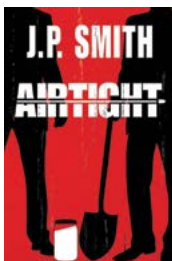
In December, the lecture series welcomed Rita Cosby, special correspondent for CBS’s *Inside Edition*. The author of two bestsellers, *Blonde Ambition* and *Quiet Hero: Secrets from My Father’s Past*, Cosby spoke about wounded veterans and their families, whom she calls “quiet heroes.”



## Alumni in the news ...

A profile of **Gene Schiavone '69**, former trustee of the University, appeared in *The Huffington Post's* Arts & Culture blog (search "Gene Schiavone" on [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com)). In the post, "Gene Schiavone – One of Ballet's Top Photographers Explores New Realms," the co-authors call Schiavone "one of the very best of an elite cadre of photographers." They also claim, "He is also a legend within the dance world for his easygoing kindness."

**J.P. (Jay) Smith '70** is a novelist and screenwriter who has recently published his sixth novel, *Airtight*. You can learn more about Jay's fascinating career on his website: [www.jpsmith.org](http://www.jpsmith.org), or search for him on Amazon's website. Jay's mentor as a writer was the late John Morressy, who was chairman of the English Department (as well as the Humanities Division), and remained one of Jay's closest friends.



**Robin Picard '82** is on a two-year community development assignment in Ukraine with the Peace Corps. In addition to her Franklin Pierce degree in Social Work and Counseling, Robin earned a master's degree in Higher Education Administration. A former alumni relations director at the University, she has also worked in micro-business development support and for humanitarian organizations, including Doctors Without Borders. Robin is writing about her experiences in Ukraine; you can read about them here: <http://robinp823.wordpress.com>.

**Theresa Hillery '92** returned to campus in the fall to participate in a panel presentation on Health and Science careers. Theresa is a senior associate scientist at Biogen Idec, a biotechnology company based in Weston, Mass. She specializes in mass spectrometry-based techniques for analysis of a variety of substances, including lipids and proteins as well as small molecules and metabolites in serum, plasma, and other biological matrices.

**Jason Lassen '92** headed off to Hollywood a month after earning his degree. While waiting to make it big, he gave

studio tours, did sketch comedy, worked in mailrooms, and took other jobs that came along. One involved dressing up as Barney to substitute for a friend at a child's birthday party. That gig, Lassen told an interviewer from the *Valley News*, launched his career in birthday parties. His memoir, *Hollywood Clown: An inside look into the competitive and political world of children's birthday parties of Hollywood's rich and famous*, is now available in paperback and Kindle versions.

**Michelle Giard Draeger '95**, who holds a J.D. degree from the University of Maine School of Law, is assistant United States attorney for the District of Maine. Based in Portland, Michelle litigates civil financial fraud cases in federal district court. She manages and oversees civil fraud investigations carried out by a number of federal agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service.

Triangle Credit Union of Nashua promoted **A. Scott MacKnight '98** to vice president finance/controller in October 2013. Scott, who holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from CGPS and a master's degree from Rivier University, is responsible for budgeting, cash management, financial analysis, and auditing controls at the credit union. He is president of the board of Nashua's Great American Downtown and has been a trustee of Hunt Community Building and treasurer of Salvation Army of Nashua.

**T.S. Krupa, a.k.a. Tara Schollenberg '04**, has published her first novel, *Safe & Sound*, which follows the yearlong journey of love, loss, friendship, and conquering the unexpected. Tara is working on her Doctorate of Education from North Carolina State University; she plans to graduate in May 2014.



**Brett Bilodeau '07** and his wife **Jennifer (Russo)**, who attended Franklin Pierce during her freshman and sophomore years, had a baby girl named Gabriella on Nov. 23. They seem to be keeping all things "Franklin Pierce;" November 23 is President Franklin Pierce's birthday as well!

**Ashley Saari '09** and **Alyssa Dandrea '11** were among the winners at the fall 2013 New Hampshire Press Association awards banquet. Saari, a reporter for the *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript*, a semiweekly regional newspaper based in Peterborough, N.H., took home a first-place award and six others; she majored in English and Mass Communication at Franklin Pierce. A Mass Communication major with a minor in History, Dandrea, who is now a reporter for the daily *Keene Sentinel*, won first-place, second-place, and third-place awards for stories she reported on while at the *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript*.

**Johannah Leedham '10** was named one of 10 finalists for the 2013 FIBA Europe Women's Player-of-the-Year award. The finalists were selected based on their performances at both the club and international levels throughout 2013. Leedham has been one of the top international players since graduating from Franklin Pierce.

**Dr. Tamara Stenn G'11**, adjunct professor in the Sustainable Development Program at the SIT Graduate Institute in Brattleboro, Vt., published a book based on her thesis research at Franklin Pierce, as well as on post-doctoral research. *The Cultural and Political Intersection of Fair Trade and Justice* focuses on a study of the effects of Fair Trade on indigenous women, particularly the Andean women of Bolivia.

## Faculty in the news...

**Dr. Frank Hubacz, Jr.**, professor of chemistry, was invited to participate with the National Museum of Natural History's "The Scientist Is In" program. He spoke in the museum's Sant Ocean Hall last December, sharing his experience as a participant in the Teacher at Sea program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Dr. Hubacz also visited NOAA headquarters to share his experiences with leadership staff there. To read Dr. Hubacz's firsthand account of his time at sea, visit his blog at: <http://teacheratsea.noaa.gov/2013/hubacz.html>.

**Dr. Donna Decker**, professor of English, was published in *Ms. Magazine's* blog in December 2013. Her piece, "24 Years On: Never Forgetting the Montreal Massacre," discusses the subject matter that forms the basis of her forthcoming novel, which will be published in the fall of 2014 by Inanna Press in Toronto. To read the blog, visit: <http://msmagazine.com/blog/2013/12/05/24-years-on-never-forgetting-the-montreal-massacre/>.

**Nicholas Kostich '12** was awarded the "Dawn Sather Exemplary New Teacher Award" from the Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers. Kostich graduated with a double major in Biology and Secondary Education. He was hired as a science teacher at Oakmont Regional High School (Ashburnham, Mass.) immediately upon graduation.



**Maureen Sullivan G'15** is working toward a Doctor of Arts in Leadership degree. She was interviewed in the *Portsmouth Herald* last fall about her role as executive director of the Rockingham County Child Advocacy Center. Sullivan's research and dissertation topic is "New Hampshire Child Advocacy Centers: Are Children Best Served by a Grassroots or Centralized Agency?"

**Susan Triplett G'15** moved with her two young sons into her own house in Wilder, Vt., just before last Christmas, thanks to Habitat for Humanity. The disabled veteran of the Air National Guard is studying for an M.B.A. in Health Administration. Triplett volunteers two days a week at the White River Junction VA Medical Center as part of the program and hopes to work there after graduation.



## College of Graduate & Professional Studies news ...

In November 2012, **Paul Luizzi G'11**, now chief of the Goodyear (Ariz.) Fire Department, was concerned about the rise in injuries suffered by firefighters. Students in the Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) Program at **Franklin Pierce University at Goodyear** agreed to do a study whose subjects would be the firefighters at one of the city's six fire stations. The D.P.T. students designed a program – featuring injury-prevention techniques and exercises to improve strength, stability, and balance – which they taught at the firehouse. After the program ended, Chief Luizzi found that despite a citywide increase in injuries to firefighters, the group that received exercise training suffered no injuries. In a great example of higher education giving back to the community, D.P.T. students now work with three more fire stations and the water department in Goodyear.



**Dr. Joshua Cleland**, a faculty member in the D.P.T. program at Franklin Pierce University at Manchester, has won the distinguished **Rose Award** for the second consecutive year. This national award recognizes the best research article of the year in Orthopedic Physical Therapy. Dr. Cleland's article entitled "Manual physical therapy and exercise versus supervised home exercise in the management of patients with inversion ankle sprain: a multicenter randomized clinical trial," was published in *The Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy*.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at **Franklin Pierce University at Manchester** invited senior citizens

to a November seminar on the Prevention of Chronic Illnesses. The seminar took place at the William B. Cashin Senior Activity Center in Manchester. Participants were able to interact with students in the D.P.T. program to learn easy fitness strategies personalized to their needs.

**Franklin Pierce University at Lebanon** welcomed Catherine Gemmiti, MPAS, PA-c, as Director of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program. Gemmiti was the founding director of the Physician Assistant Program at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and was program director at Eastern Virginia Medical School and the University of New England.

Offices for CGPS programs have been centralized at **Franklin Pierce University at Manchester**, which moved to a new space within the historic Jefferson Mill building at 670 North Commercial Street. The customized facility includes state-of-the-art laboratory and seminar space. **Franklin Pierce University at Portsmouth** moved to new space at 119 International Drive, in the Pease Tradeport. Franklin Pierce at Portsmouth provides both undergraduate and graduate programs and is home base to the University's expanding Nursing Education programs. **Franklin Pierce University at Goodyear** also moved to newly designed space last summer. The facility was configured to meet the needs of its growing D.P.T. program.

The College of Graduate & Professional Studies student chapter of the **Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)** was recognized as one of the top SHRM student chapters worldwide for providing outstanding networking and educational opportunities. The chapter received SHRM's Merit Award and was formally commended at SHRM's International Annual Conference in Chicago last summer. M.B.A. Professor Carol Gravel and Nancy Blake, past president of the University's student chapter, led the effort to meet the requirements for the award, which include a variety of activities such as legislative advocacy, hosting seminars, and participating in internships.