In Full Bloom
Regina Maria Brimmer, SSJ ’40 reflects on 70 years at the College.
Doing Harry Potter proud, the Quidditch teams of Chestnut Hill College and Middlebury College scrimmaged in March. Visiting the College on its 2010 Spring Break Quidditch Tour to spread the word about the magical pastime, Middlebury claimed victory by catching the golden snitch.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE :: 15

FEATURERS
By Ryan Dougherty

IN FULL BLOOM :: 18
Upon the 70th anniversary of her graduation, Regina Maria Brimmer, SSJ reflects on the changes to — and enduring mission of — the College.

LENDING A HAND :: 22
Seeking to instill in children the love of reading, the College is spearheading an effort to build a library at Emlen Elementary.

A LEG UP :: 28
Offering a wide range of support in difficult economic times, the College is developing a reputation as an ideal fit for the adult learner.

DEPARTMENTS
2 :: EDITOR'S NOTE
3 :: AROUND THE HILL
33 :: GRIFFINS SPORTS
36 :: ALUMNI LINK
42 :: LAST WORD

ON THE COVER: Regina Maria Brimmer, SSJ '40 poses with her beloved orchids in March, soon after their bloom.
We’re happy to welcome you back to the spring edition of Chestnut Hill and the first issue of 2010. Have you finally dug out from the winter blast? The snowfall that blanketed our city this past winter was one for the record books, at 55.1 inches. But who’s counting — spring has finally arrived at the College, and as Doug Larson once said, “Spring is when you feel like whistling, even with a shoe full of slush.”

The magic of Chestnut Hill lies in its community — a community of versatile individuals of spiritual, intellectual, and meaningful depth. In every issue, we try to convey this sense of place through stories.

In this edition of Chestnut Hill, our cover story features nonagenarian Sister Regina Maria Brimmer, celebrating the 70th anniversary of her graduation from Chestnut Hill and sharing her thoughts on how the College has retained its mission amid spectacular growth. Can you imagine an elementary school without a library? Jessica Kahn, Ph.D., professor of education, and her students can’t! Dr. Kahn and scores of volunteers define what it means to be a good neighbor as they spearhead a book drive to build a children’s library at Emilen Elementary. Last but not least, adult learners are plentiful at the College. Due to the economy, more adults are looking to go back to school, whether it’s to finish an undergraduate degree or continue with an advanced degree. Read how the College lends a hand to make sure students have the tools to succeed.

On a special note, the President’s Message elaborates on the details of the College’s Master Plan and why the expansion of the SugarLoaf campus is essential to the College’s Strategic Plan and the growth and success of the College. Show your support of the SugarLoaf expansion by completing the online petition at www.chc.edu/showyoursupport.

As with every issue, our goal is for this collection of stories in Chestnut Hill to connect you to today’s Chestnut Hill College. We invite you to submit story ideas and comments on any of the material that appears here. Please don’t hesitate to let us know how we’re doing.

Enjoy,

Kathleen M. Spigelmyer ’98
Relying on grants for 90 percent of her doctoral tuition, Carol Pate, Ed.D., noticed how doggedly her program director pursued them.

“That stuck with me,” she said. “I promised myself that if I were ever in a position to help others the same way, I would.”

Eight years into her tenure as Chair of the College’s education department, Pate has done that and then some. Indeed, she is responsible for bringing the department more than $3 million in grants — enough to defray the tuition of more than 100 graduate students.

The first of the grants came in 2003, when Pate responded to a proposal to partner with an urban school. She secured nearly $200,000 in grants to work with Philadelphia’s Eleanor C. Emlen Elementary School, offering education students experience with children of diverse backgrounds while supporting Emlen’s teachers. Next, Pate joined forces with Gwynned-Mercy College and Eastern University on collaborative grants that brought nearly $1.5 million to the College to cover graduate tuition for students hired for special education positions.

Pate then got an e-mail from the University of Illinois Monarch Center offering to help minority institutions write grants. Armed with new know-how, Pate re-tooled a previously rejected proposal and secured nearly $800,000 in federal grants, covering the tuition of 34 graduate students in secondary and special education. One is Jennifer Peruso, who will complete a master’s in special education next year and teaches at Martin Luther King High School in the East Germantown section of Philadelphia.

“I was incredibly excited about this opportunity,” said Peruso, who left her job as an attorney to pursue teaching. “For this to be there to help us enter a profession in which we can help people is just a dream come true.”

Most recently, Pate secured a $500,000 federal planning grant to help reconfigure the College’s special education program in advance of changes prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Department of Education. And don’t expect her to stop anytime soon.

“We’ve developed a mindset of discovering which grants are out there and arranging things to take advantage of them,” Pate said, citing the help of fellow faculty members Richard Black, Ed.D., and Margery Covello, Ed.D., in procuring many of the grants. “So long as there are opportunities, we’ll keep trying for them.”

Grants procured by Pate have covered the tuition of more than 100 graduate students.
Patrick Mureithi knew that by bringing his documentary “Icyizere: Hope” to the College he could inspire students to think and act. Indeed, it was seeing the film “Ghosts of Rwanda” that inspired him to pick up the camera in the first place.

“That’s one of a few films I can think of that really changed my paradigm of what the world is, reinforcing my belief that with my skill and talent I could make a difference,” said the Kenyan filmmaker. “I hope that my film inspires hope here, and for that hope to motivate action.”

“Icyizere: Hope” documents the emotional gathering of 10 perpetrators and survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. Participants gathered for a three-day workshop in an effort for reconciliation. The workshop provided a glimpse into how the genocide affected their lives, whether it was regretting roles in the killings or feeling the loss of loved ones.

Mureithi’s documentary focused on the importance of dialogue and forgiveness between the survivors and perpetrators. The subject matter aligned well with the College’s Institute for Forgiveness and Reconciliation, which brought him to campus in February.

“The themes of the Institute were my purpose for making the documentary,” he said. “It was about getting a chance to go back to Rwanda to show the film and to promote reconciliation. So for [the Institute] to invite me to show the film here was a great honor.”

Viewing “Ghosts of Rwanda,” Mureithi was struck by how close the massacre was to his home in Kenya. He met with a representative of the African Great Lakes Initiative and received clearance to film reconciliation workshops, “Healing and Rebuilding Our Community,” taking place in Rwanda and the surrounding areas. The documentary he made was presented at the 2008-2009 Rwanda Film Festival, on television in Rwanda, and extensively throughout Rwanda, Kenya, Uganda, and the United States. He has since brought the film and its message of hope to various colleges and universities.

“Students are eager to watch the film, and ask me very interesting and profound questions,” he said. “They are moved by it, and that’s a rewarding experience for me.”
The College's art students and alumni showcased their talent this spring via Project Sketchbook, an initiative to brighten vacant storefronts with the work of local student artists. The project ran from February to May in storefronts along Germantown Avenue in Chestnut Hill, highlighting the artists' role of promoting economic and community vibrancy. Artwork from students enrolled in the College's watercolor, oil painting, and Art by Heart courses featured bright color and multiple artistic techniques and mediums. Seniors Erica Nix and Caitlin Shuker helped alumna and adjunct art instructor Andrea O’Driscoll ’97 and Associate Professor of Art Margaret Thompson, SSJ, MFA, to install exhibits in four windows, displaying different themes from the art classes.

Chestnut Hill College was selected as a Top Workplace 2010 in the region and was featured in the Sunday, March 21 edition of the Philadelphia Inquirer. The 100 companies profiled in the Top Workplaces were selected following a survey of their employees, and only the companies that employees rated as the best companies to work for were featured in this prestigious list. College employees were sent a 21-question electronic survey in November asking for their opinions on six areas of the workplace:

- Direction: Assessment of the company’s values, leaders, and future
- Execution: Assessment of the how the company communicates and gets work done
- Career: Opportunity for training and progression
- Conditions: Assessment of the working atmosphere and working environment
- Managers: Quality of the managers and their managerial skills
- Pay and Benefits: Assessment of the employee compensation for the work done

Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D., president of the College, remarked to faculty and staff on the award, “I have known for a very long time that our College community is special. This affirmation by you bestows Chestnut Hill College a new visibility in the Philadelphia business community, and the value of positive publicity for the College is immeasurable. I am grateful for your dedication to the College and very proud to share with you this distinct honor of being named a Top Workplace.”

To read more about the Top Workplaces 2010, visit www.philly.com/workplaces.
Sustainability became a buzzword in recent years, typically with regard to preserving the environment. But what is it that sustains us as a people?

That question will be one of many pondered at the “Sacred Earth: Spirituality and Sustainability” conference at the College’s SugarLoaf Hill campus on June 11-13. Blending science with spirituality, its programs will examine the role of the College, the Sisters of Saint Joseph (SSJ), and attendees as individuals in promoting sustainability.

“This conference will provide an opportunity for people to make the connection between the deeply spiritual shift in consciousness that the New Universe Story gives us and the critical urgency of the sustainability practices needed for Earth’s survival,” said Mary Elizabeth Clark, SSJ, director of the SSJ Earth Center.

Sponsored by the School of Graduate Studies (SGS), the holistic spirituality program, and the SSJ Earth Center, the conference is open to the public. Its programmatic framework hinges on three main themes:

- Spirituality and Sustainability: Our Place
- Spirituality and Sustainability: Historical and Religious Perspectives
- Sustaining Ourselves for the Great Work Ahead

Miriam Therese MacGillis, co-founder of Genesis Farm in New Jersey, will deliver the keynote address “Unveiling the Sacred, Exploring the Spirit: Laying the Foundation of a Sustainable Future.” Other programmatic highlights include an interfaith panel moderated by Marie Conn, Ph.D., chair of religious studies and the philosophy department; a session led by Robert Meyer, Ph.D., professor of biology, on the College’s bioregion and his efforts to improve the Wissahickon watershed; and the dedication and blessing of the SSJ Earth Center.

In addition to raising the visibility of the link between spirituality and sustainability, organizers expect the conference to have a positive impact on academics at the College.

“This is a great way to gather perspective and reflection from many other people,” said Steven Guerriero, Ph.D., dean of SGS. “I see it as a strong foundation for a re-visioning of the holistic spirituality program as well as new certificate programs we hope to move forward with in the next year.”

For more information on the conference and to register, contact SacredEarth@chc.edu or visit www.chc.edu/sacredearth.
When Nicholas Raspanti ’11 first arrived at the College, he considered it “absolutely insane” to put a musical production in the hands of a student. Two years later, he was that student.

Indeed, once the music department secured the rights to produce “Once On This Island,” it was up to Raspanti, the director, to build a show. What followed for Raspanti and his handful of assistants were 10 frenetic months of raising money, marketing the production, developing its sets and costumes, choosing musicians, auditioning actors, balancing class schedules, and holding daily rehearsals.

And then, on opening night, holding their breath.

“There are always a few glitches, but you hope it’s nothing that the audience notices,” Raspanti said. “But the feeling you get when the lights go up and you see how much the actors have grown as performers — I wouldn’t trade that for anything.”

“Once On This Island” was the College’s third student-run production in recent years, following “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown” and “Godspell.” The number of students auditioning for roles has tripled since the first, lending talent and diversity. But that also means more people on and around the stage at any given time in need of direction. And it wouldn’t be theater without a few nights of everyone wondering whether they could really pull it off.

“It was chaotically fantastic,” said Alyssa Cherewaty ’13, who portrayed Mama Euralie. “We just kept practicing and rehearsing until the kinks came out and we had ourselves a show. By opening night, it was mostly excitement, a little bit of nerves, and pride in knowing our hard work was about to pay off. That’s an intoxicating feeling.”

Added Mark Urmson ’10, who founded the student-theater program in 2008 and directed the music of all three shows:

“From the moment the thunder and bongos started [in “Once On This Island”], I knew we would surpass everything we had done to that point,” he said. “I felt gratitude for all those who helped bring my dream to life — to show that the students of Chestnut Hill College can do anything.”

The main responsibility for Raspanti (foreground) was directing the performances of 14 students.

Aiding the production were students in charge of makeup, music, vocals, choreography, and lighting. The band included piano, synthesizer, clarinet, flute, bass, and percussion.
Three international Fulbright scholars are now enrolled in the School of Graduate Studies (SGS), enhancing their education and enriching the College.

“People are extremely fearful about the infectious diseases affecting the human race, and their eradication is of critical and global importance,” said Lakshmi Atchison, Ph.D., professor of biology and founder of the Biomedical Seminar Series. “This was a golden opportunity for the College community to hear directly from an expert like Dr. Brandt on this most important and timely topic.”

Mary E. Brandt, Ph.D. ’76 presented “The Fungus Among Us: An Introduction to Public Health Mycology” in April. Speaking here for the first time since graduating, Brandt discussed the various fungal infections and diseases in the environment as well as the role of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in public health.

Given widespread fear of viruses such as West Nile and H1N1 in recent years, Brandt’s lecture commanded attention.

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Brandt is Chief of the Mycotic Diseases Branch of the CDC, where she directs 20 staff members and 10 fellows in a program dedicated to the prevention and control of fungal infections. She spends time in the agency’s fungus identification laboratory and reviews and edits scientific papers, journals, and textbooks related to medical mycology.

She praised the Biomedical Seminar Series for giving audiences insight into how scientists think and work, and noted that seeing acclaimed members of the scientific community up close can inspire students.

“It’s very helpful for them to see, say, a Nobel Laureate and realize that he or she is an actual flesh-and-blood human being,” she said. “It tells them it’s something they can aspire to.”

It was especially easy for students to relate to the seminar speaker this year, Atchison said, given Brandt’s alumna status. But that wasn’t a one-way street — Brandt vividly recalls student life.

“I spent most of my time at the College running around worrying if I was going to pass an exam or meet a deadline, always stressed,” Brandt said, laughing. “This was a nice change of pace.”

For 17 years, the Biomedical Seminar Series has brought prominent figures from the scientific and medical communities to campus. This year, it brought back one of the College’s own.

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Normally, Susan Retik starts the film, leaves the room, then comes back to take questions. But at the College in March, she sat with her audience to view “Beyond Belief,” which chronicles her journey from losing her husband on 9/11 to running a nonprofit to empower widows in Afghanistan. “The beginning of the film is so powerful that it brings me right back, emotionally,” she said.

Retik wasn’t alone in her emotional connection to the film, as many in the audience could be seen wiping tears from their eyes.

Inspired by the outpouring of support they received after 9/11, Retik and Patti Quigley, who also lost her husband in the attacks, decided to visit widows in Afghanistan to help them rebuild their lives after decades of war and oppression. At the heart of the film is how quickly they were embraced, with one Afghan widow saying, “There was no hope for us — until now.”

Retik’s nonprofit organization, Beyond the 11th, cites a mission of “reaching beyond differences of culture and geography to embrace the most essential of connections: humanity.” It funds programs that help widows gain the skills to generate their own income and become self-sufficient. An example is its support of CARE International, which provides chickens to Afghan widows so that they can sell or eat the eggs. Unbeknownst to Retik, sitting in the audience at the College was a student for whom the work of Beyond the 11th resonates.

>> WIDOW REACHES BEYOND 9/11 TO EMPOWER AFGHANS

Esmael Darman, M.D., a mental health practitioner from west Afghanistan now at the College on a Fulbright scholarship, approached the podium to tell his own story. His father died from a respiratory condition in 1997 because he was located between warring factions and couldn’t get to proper medical care. To support the family, Darman’s mother kept hens and chickens and weaved carpets with his sisters. Today, she provides support to other widows to help them generate income, and his sisters sell crafts to support a local orphanage.

When he returns, Darman plans to treat patients traumatized by the war. “His story was amazing, so moving,” Retik said, “and it brought it all home that these programs really can work.”

For more information, visit www.beyondthe11th.org.
More than 50 students, staff and faculty members, and friends volunteered their time to the first Martin Luther King Day of Service in January. Teams raked and removed trash from the front of the headquarters of The Arc of Philadelphia/PDDC, a provider for persons with intellectual disabilities. They also painted the art room and updated the computer system of Face to Face, a Germantown agency that offers an array of life services to empower citizens. In recognition of these and other acts, the College was named to the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll in March — the highest federal honor a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service learning, and civic engagement.
EVENT CO-CHAIRS
James & Patricia Shacklett ’06

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Tom & Christine O’Donnell Carroll ’71
Betty Anne Marron Cooper ’71
Amy McLeer Frangione ’94
Anne Gardner
Joanne & Phillip Gilligan
Cecelia Englebert Passanza ’77
Carol Melvin Pate, Ed. D. & John Melvin, M.D.
Rich & Mary Ann Stahl Patton ’87
Lisa Fiorillo Perfido ’84
Heyda Baez Toth ’77
Jo Marie Victor ’04 SCPS

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History
Alison Borden ’10
Psychology
Alvin Ehiriodo ’11
Business Administration
Lauren Farrow ’10
English Literature & Communications
Faheem Johnson ’10
Psychology
Chris Lauber ’11
Spanish/Secondary Education
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Ristorante Panorama
Shoemaker Construction Co.
Elizabeth Sauter Weber '74

Pictured:
1. James & Patricia Shacklett '06, Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D.
2. Mary Zuccarini, Margaret Leutwyler, Theresa McCarthy
3. J.J. Singer, Joanne Fink '76, Bob Gauvin, Donna Singer
4. Jacqueline Trujillo '12, Kelly Wilson '10
5. Adrienne Zemnick Fuscellaro '05, Ronald & Carol Voelmle Zemnick '75
6. Thomas & Ginny Lynch, Frank Davey, Kathleen McBride Shoup '61, Jim Quinn, Paul Shoup, Elaine Bennett Davey '65
7. Steven & Mary Zuccarini Gordon '85, Carol Jean Vale, SSJ
8. Teri Wiedeman-Rouse, M.Ed. '05, George & Lois Trench-Hines '64
9. The Honorable M. Patricia Richmond '70, Rosemary Galbally Endres '76 & John Endres.
RECOGNIZING THE CRUCIAL ROLE ACADEMIC scholarships play in the pursuit of higher education, more than 130 members of the College community attended the first Annual Scholarship Gala on March 13 — making it by far the most successful spring fundraiser in the College’s history.

Not even torrential rain could deter the spirit of attendees, whose participation and generosity will open doors for current and future students at the College. Putting a face on the cause were student ambassadors who mingled with attendees as well as a performance from music majors.

The event grossed more than $68,000, with net proceeds of more than $42,000 — second only to the 2008 Golf Invitational in the history of fundraisers at the College. And because a first-year event incurs many one-time costs, organizers of next year’s Gala expect to increase net proceeds significantly.

The Gala began with a cocktail reception, before College President Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D., event co-chairs James and Patricia Shacklett ’06, and Erin Andersen ’10 conducted the program. A raffle drawing offered prizes ranging from vacations to spa packages, but the big winners of the night were the countless students who will now have access to a fine education at the College.
Save The Date
SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2011
COCKTAILS AND DINNER

Chestnut Hill College strives to keep a college education rooted in Catholic values within reach for students and families. Now, more than ever, academic scholarships play a crucial role in the pursuit of higher education. Scholarships ensure that the brightest, most dedicated students have access to the excellent educational opportunities Chestnut Hill College offers, regardless of their economic background. Your participation and generosity directly affects these students and the communities they serve after graduation.

Please join us at the second Annual Scholarship Gala at Chestnut Hill College.

Interested in learning more or joining the Gala committee? Contact Jessica Hannan at 215.753.3666 or hannanj@chc.edu.
“TO LIVE IS TO CHANGE; to change is to grow; to grow is to have changed often” (adapted from John Henry Newman). Life, change, growth — a pattern shared by people and by institutions. Chestnut Hill’s growth has influenced the way the College views itself and how it plans for the future. In fact, the change the College has experienced is the springboard for the growth the institution will experience. “The past is prologue to the future” (adapted from William Shakespeare).

The dawn of the 21st century marked the beginning of a major new era in the ever-evolving history and growth of Chestnut Hill College. Early in the new century, Chestnut Hill initiated its shift from a women’s College to coeducation. That shift was successful in a number of ways. In particular, it diversified the student body, added life to the student experience, and contributed dramatically to the growth of the College population. Further, it significantly enhanced the development of the College as a compassionate, caring community of scholars, learners, and friends.

In 2006, the College seized a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The purchase of the 32-acre SugarLoaf property from the Greenfield Foundation nearly doubled the size of the campus and opened up an array of options to further develop the educational potential of the institution.

Chestnut Hill’s Strategic Plan 2005-2008, “Realizing Our Future of Hope,” challenged the College to build upon its strong traditions and become a “College of uncommon excellence.” Among the goals of the Strategic Plan is the development of a curriculum that facilitates an enriching living/learning experience for each student. In addition to the educational vision, the plan also focuses on the College’s successful transition to coeducation and an increase in full-time undergraduate enrollment to ensure long-term viability.

Chestnut Hill’s Strategic Plan maps out a guide for the institution’s future by defining the College’s goals and aspirations. At the time the plan was adopted, it was clear that existing facilities and grounds, and their potential for further development, were unable to sustain the growth projected for the College’s three schools. Obviously, this challenge needed to be addressed.

The companion piece to the Strategic Plan is the Master Plan, completed in 2008. The Chestnut Hill College Master Plan was developed to provide the skeletal structure required to support the organic growth of the physical plant, grounds, buildings, and related facilities. The Master Plan, visionary in scope and design, sets the course required for a much greater campus expansion than envisioned in previous decades, one that will allow the College to become an “institution of uncommon excellence,” not only academically, but architecturally.

Having established the targets for growth in the Strategic Plan, the Master Plan locates significant new facilities required to accompany that growth, including:

- New student housing that will be among the largest components of new facilities growth
- New student life and amenity spaces
- Short- and long-term parking locations
- State-of-the art athletic fields, courts, and related facilities
- Crucial, environmentally sustainable approaches to land development
The next step in the master planning process was to determine the size and types of spaces needed to serve the mission of the College. That analysis allowed the planners to propose new structures and renovations to existing facilities, address campus access and transportation concerns, and develop solutions for present and future parking demands.

The Master Plan also carefully considers issues impacting campus quality of life to ensure the successful development of an “academic community of intentional learners.” With the campus’ existing patterns of closely juxtaposed, mixed-use buildings as the model, the Master Plan seeks to enhance interactions and foster relationships through the design of living and learning environments conducive to student gatherings. With the dramatic setting of Chestnut Hill and SugarLoaf Hill as the backdrop, the community-enabling architectural language of a European hill town gives articulation to the concept of “The College on Two Hills.”

The Plan emphasizes the physical connection between the two campuses through improved roadways, increased pedestrian access and connections, and the establishment of visual linkages between the two properties. The pedestrian experience, enhanced by woodland boardwalks and bridges, connects the bustling campus with the area’s natural forested sites. As a result, this walkway will provide students with a healthy, enriching alternative form of transportation between the two sites and reduce traffic flow on neighboring roadways.

A substantial and ongoing commitment to preserve the environment and the landscape of the local community is integral to the Master Plan. This commitment is demonstrated not only in the Plan’s attention to ecological details but also in the number of viewpoints considered during its development. Studies included an assessment of the impact development will have on the land we now occupy, the Wissahickon watershed, sites soon to be developed, and the quality of life in the surrounding community.
We have and continue to consult with local community groups to explain the details of the Master Plan as well as the time frame for its implementation, which may span 25 years. We have addressed concerns ranging from land use to noise management to traffic volume to storm water management to architectural styles. The College’s commitment to ecological issues is obvious in its preservation in perpetuity of one-third of the property as green space. Further, we have deliberately decided to limit our construction footprint, as well as to create “new land” by incorporating green-roofed courtyards into the design and parking areas that serve as platforms upon which to locate new buildings. We will also include a biking, walking, and hiking trail to connect the College and the Chestnut Hill community to Philadelphia’s Fairmount Park.

Elements of the Master Plan have already been implemented, starting with the $6+ million renovation and restoration of the Greenfield Mansion on SugarLoaf, which when completed will house a 166-seat dining facility, classrooms, and meeting facilities. The Mansion will serve as a conference and event facility when students are not on campus.

The Master Plan will not be completed quickly. The creation of a complementary campus on SugarLoaf Hill will be incremental and will be driven by the demands of growth. As mentioned earlier, completion of the plan could take 25 years with a cost of $350-$500 million. The initial steps will provide additional parking, pedestrian connections between the two campuses, and road improvements. These will be followed by first-priority construction, which will include the creation of student social space, a campus piazza, a parking garage, and the first SugarLoaf residence hall.

The emergence of the spring season and the occurrence of the Easter holidays, with their themes of rebirth and resurrection, are an apt metaphor for the ongoing transformation of Chestnut Hill College and the centers of “uncommon excellence” we are creating at this extraordinary liberal arts institution.

After 85 years, tradition and risk continue to blend in a combustible combination that fires the memory of the past, ignites the reality of the present, and propels planning for the future.

Sincerely,

Carol Jean Vale, SSJ

Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D.
President

Show your support for the College’s Master Plan and the expansion of the SugarLoaf property and sign the online petition at www.che.edu/showyoursupport

More details of the Master Plan are available at www.che.edu/masterplan/
IT’S WELL KNOWN THAT WHILE the College has retained its mission, it has changed dramatically over the last 70 years. But no one is more of an authority on the matter than Regina Maria Brimmer, SSJ ’40.

From her experiences as a student here to her 41 years working in Logue Library to her current role as the steward of not only a vaunted collection of children’s books but a stunning array of orchids, Sister Regina lives and breathes Chestnut Hill College. In the weeks leading up to the 70th anniversary of her graduation, she often found herself pausing to reflect on her experiences. “I look back with such joy,” she said. “God has just blessed me throughout my life.”

Sister Regina grew up in the Mayfair section of Philadelphia and attended St. Hubert’s Catholic Grade School. It didn’t take long for her to find a calling. “I always wanted to be a Sister, right from the time I was a little kid,” she said.

Upon the 70th anniversary of her graduation, Regina Maria Brimmer, SSJ reflects on the changes to — and enduring mission of — the College.
Sister Regina’s pride and joy, an orchid plant nearly 25 years old, yielded 18 Cattleya orchids in late February. In March, she removed the orchids and placed some in the chapel in front of Saint Joseph.
She first encountered the Sisters of Saint Joseph while studying at John W. Hallahan Catholic Girls’ High School in Philadelphia. From then on, Sister Regina’s sights were fixed on becoming a Sister of Saint Joseph. “Then I came to the College,” she said, “and it was all the more perfect.”

She took a trolley and a bus for two hours, each way, to get to and from the College, but being a day student didn’t stop her from feeling connected to campus life. “I just loved it here,” Sister Regina said. “For me, it was always a very happy, homey place. I made a point to stay on campus for everything that went on — plays, games, lectures, you name it.”

Athletically, Sister Regina’s main interest was archery, which was offered in addition to field hockey, tennis, and swimming. Also fondly recalled are the student theater productions held then — as now — in Motherhouse Auditorium, a glee club, and the annual May Day pageant, at which a May Queen was crowned. “We really had a wonderful spirit here,” she said.

Sister Regina also relished the academic rigor of the College. The array of courses, taught mostly by Sisters, a few priests, and several laypersons, gave students the tools they needed to grow and embark on careers. “If they put their mind to it, students here have always been afforded a fine and well-rounded education,” she said. “It’s always been about getting the most out of each student, and helping to show them a path to where they want to go.”

On the topic of discipline, however, let’s just say it was a different time and place. Imagine how a student today would react to a 10 p.m. curfew when lights had to be out, or needing to sign a paper to get in and out of the dormitory — or, just for good measure, Sisters guarding the building corridors after the lights were out. “We were very well guarded,” Sister Regina said, smiling.

But Sister Regina continued to admire the Sisters, who walked through the dormitory at night to bless rooms with Holy Water. She also fondly recalls how they would cook fine, elaborate meals for the students. Dinner, in particular, was an event, with white table covers and heavy silver appointments. Students were expected to dress accordingly. “It was very dignified,” Sister Regina said. “But that went for everything here. Back then, the College felt like a real private place. It’s more open now, of course, but we have retained our purpose. My sense is that on the whole, the College is very well thought of. People know that we have held onto our high standards in academics as well as general life.”

The Path Back to the Hill

Sister Regina graduated from the College in 1940 with a degree in history, and she entered the Sisters of Saint Joseph in 1944. She was a schoolteacher in Virginia for many years, before becoming the librarian at Delone Catholic High School near Gettysburg, Pa. But in many ways, her heart was still with the College, to which she returned in 1969.

After three years as a library assistant in Logue Library, Sister Regina became director in 1972. In those days, such positions could only be held for 10 years, so in 1982 she moved to the Curriculum Library, which she has run ever since. Back then, it was known as a language lab, consisting of 32 carols (like little telephone booths) wired so that students could communicate with a professor at the front of the room. The carols afforded students privacy to record lesson plans, but their relevance waned when technology like cassettes became widespread. In an example of things coming full circle, the woodwork from the carols was repurposed to create the office that Sister Regina uses today.

Located on the third floor of the library, the curriculum library today consists of the more than 7,000 elementary textbooks and children’s literature that Sister Regina has amassed over the years. It enriches the experience of everyone from educators to just plain lovers of children’s books. “It’s basically a laboratory for education majors, where they can come to get books and develop lesson plans and such,” Sister Regina said. “I consider it a thorough gathering of all of the good children’s literature and textbooks used in the Philadelphia schools.”

On the 65th anniversary of Sister Regina’s graduation, Sister Carol Jean Vale, Ph.D., recognized her for “consistent professionalism and visionary librarianship” and announced that the collection would henceforth be known as the Regina Maria Brimmer, SSJ, Children’s Collection.

Sister Regina continues to work full time managing the collection — researching, circulating, and maintaining its bibliographic...
records. She also adds to the collection, thanks to the relationships she has developed over the years with faculty, staff, and alumni. And she serves in the less formal capacity of listener for her work-study students and the others drawn to her wisdom.

“There are a few students who come visit me all the time, telling me their troubles, or asking for advice,” Sister Regina said. “The way I see it, I’m just here to help them when they need someone. It makes you feel good, like you’ve really done something, when you get the chance to interact with our wonderful students.”

**THE MORE THINGS CHANGE...**

Of course, the College’s student body that Sister Regina speaks so highly of now includes men — certainly the biggest change on campus since her days as a student. But she raves about the “gusto” they’ve added to the College, and the overall surge in popularity for its athletics, arts, and community service projects.

“The fact that it’s no longer just a girl’s school changed the whole look and feel of the College,” Sister Regina said. “I think it just feels much looser and livelier. Like most colleges have become over the years. But what I’m proud of is the fact that we’ve still held on to our academic standards here.

“That’s vital,” she added. “When you graduate from Chestnut Hill College, that degree needs to mean something. People need to know you’ve received a well-rounded education, which is something that’s always stressed here.”

She marvels at the explosion of academic areas at the College over the last 70 years, and praises in particular the personal attention that administrators, faculty, and staff members provide to each individual.

“They get to know you personally so you don’t get lost in the crowd,” she said. “That makes this a much happier and homier place for the students. And most of them do seem really happy here.”

Also striking to Sister Regina is the strength of spirituality on campus, despite the overall decline in the Sisters of Saint Joseph population over the years.

“Girls have so much more freedom today, and I think some of them feel they can do just as much good out in the world as they can in religious life,” she said. “But spirituality is still very strong here.

“We try to bring Christ to everybody,” Sister Regina added. “Students are encouraged to get involved in all sorts of works, whether it’s social work, teaching, ministering to the sick or dying, or helping the poor. That is how they can help us to carry out our mission.”

These days, Sister Regina doesn’t have to go very far to worship — she resides in the convent, a few steps from the chapel. Also pleasant is her walk to work, during which she absorbs the vibrancy of today’s Chestnut Hill College. “To me, this is home,” she said. “I feel so much a part of this place that I really don’t want to go. I still feel the pull of our purpose here.”

**HER PRIDE AND JOY**

Of course, to really know Sister Regina is to ask her about her orchids. They’ve been her pride and joy since the grandmother of a student she taught in Virginia gave her one as a gift in the mid-1950s.

“God rest her soul, after that she always made sure I had an orchid,” Sister Regina said. “The year that I came to the College was the last one she gave me. After that, people just kept giving them to me. It became my thing.”

For nearly 30 years, Sister Regina has kept her orchids on the curriculum library’s windowsill, where they get just the right amount of sun. They’re also tucked away from the high-traffic areas of campus, which is just fine with Sister Regina. “I don’t want them walking off as Valentine’s Day gifts,” she said, laughing.

Sister Regina received one of the more bountiful orchid plants as a gift from her sister nearly 25 years ago. She waters her orchids once a week, but coming up to view and talk to them has long been a morning ritual.

“I just love seeing them come to life,” Sister Regina said. “They only bloom once a year, but it brings me joy to wait and watch them develop. When they bloom, it’s breathtaking.”

One wonders whether there’s a parallel between the way Sister Regina treats her orchids and the students at the College — the dedication to nourish them, the joy upon their bloom. “You know,” she responded, smiling broadly, “I never thought of it that way.”

>> Sister Regina directed Logue Library for 10 years before moving to the Curriculum Library.>>
Ashley Hilliker ’10, Jessica Kahn, Ph.D., and Travis Wolfe ’12 work in the budding Emlen library.
Entering data into a spreadsheet is a rote task. But when those data are the titles of children’s books, it’s enough to send Ashley Hilliker ’10 down memory lane.

“As I go through them, I’ll stop and exclaim, ‘Oh my gosh! I remember this one!’” said Hilliker, an elementary education major at the College. “It’s a thrill. You tend to forget about these books from your childhood, but when you see them again, you can vividly remember how much they meant to you.”

Thanks to a book drive spearheaded by the College, students at Eleanor C. Emlen Elementary School in the West Mount Airy section of Philadelphia will soon forge such memories. The school went without a library for six years due to budget cuts, before turning to the College for help. Within a few months, 7,000 books had been collected, the library’s infrastructure developed.

Seeking to instill in children the love of reading, the College is spearheading an effort to build a library at Emlen Elementary.
“It’s a great learning experience for our students, and demonstrates the College’s commitment
to public schools and helping the dear neighbor,” said Jessica Kahn, Ph.D., professor of
education, who leads the project. “We want kids to know what it feels like to take a book
out and get lost in it — that thing we all did and loved.”

The book drive began with a bake sale at the College that raised $400. But Kahn knew that
it would take a lot more than that. She sent an e-mail out to the entire College community,
and posted a request for new and lightly used books on the main and alumni Web sites.
Within 20 minutes, Garry Flower, an adjunct professor who owns the Original Book Swap
in Horsham, Pa., called Kahn to say she could come and take whatever she wanted.

“So I did,” Kahn said. “I took six or eight cartons of books. I was dragging the stuff
out myself. It all started from that.”

Then, donations began to pour in. The mother of one
student wheeled in a shopping cart full of books,
and various faculty members, staff, students,
alumni, and friends carried in boxes and bags.

“We had an enormous response from people
connected in whatever way to the College
who had books their children had outgrown or,
in the case of our students, books that they
themselves had outgrown,” Kahn said.
“Every time I turn around, the donation bin
[by the Fournier Hall security desk] is full again.”

When news of the book drive was reported
on KYW Newsradio 1060 in Philadelphia,
the effort snowballed. Several area schools began
collecting books for Emlen, and area children pledged
to collect books from their friends and classmates for their confirmation projects. (One girl
has amassed nearly 600 books.) The news even reached a woman in upstate New York who
runs a reading program and called Kahn to pledge her support.

“I expect that to continue as more and more people find out about the project,” Kahn said.
“It’s an easy sell — who doesn’t realize the importance of children having a library?”

A LABOR OF LOVE
Once books began pouring in, it was time to roll up the sleeves — so to speak. Books needed
to be sorted, logged, and stacked. They needed labels, pockets, and due date slips. They needed
shelves, for which old coat cabinets and book bins were used. But more than anything,
what the library needed was an army of volunteers.

“The first day we walked in there, we saw bags of books everywhere,” Hilliker said.
“We didn’t even know where to start. Then, we’d finish a stack only to see another had
been donated. It was a lot of work, but before long we started to see the progress, and
that kept us going.”

Kahn managed a yeoman’s effort to gather, deliver, and process donated books, with the help
of about 30 students from the College. The project received a big boost on Martin Luther
King Day, when dozens of parents and residents volunteered their time.

“That’s community,” Kahn said. “People are
truly committed to this. And that’s what we
really need. There can’t be enough hands
for this mammoth job.”

In particular, Kahn praised the generosity
of her students, who voluntarily worked in
the library in addition to their academic,
athletic, and social commitments. Groups of
students from the education department and
campus ministry even gave up days of their
spring break to toil in the library.

“I remember the quiet, and a
distinct smell,” Raisman said.
“I remember how cold the
water was from the fountain.
I remember the joy in taking
out the next book. Here I am,
40 years later, and I can vividly
remember this stuff.”

“It hasn’t been a burden for us at all,”
said Hilliker, who has spent countless
hours in the library entering all the books
into a database. “If I can spare an extra five
hours a week to help make this library a
reality, that’s not much to ask. And it means
a lot to know that a little piece of this library
comes from my life.”

The library is expected to open to students in
September, when a newly appointed library
aide will begin managing the collection.
In the meantime, a buzz is growing.

“My students can’t wait to get in there,”
said Richard Raisman, principal at Emlen.
“Whenever they go down there to use the
girls’ or boys’ room, they’re peeking into
the library. They’re really curious about
what they’ll be able to do in there.”
The goal is for that curiosity to blossom into a love of reading.

“It’s vital for these children to develop the habit of reading for pleasure,” Kahn said. “I like to say that the children who read succeed. It’s terribly important for them to develop the concentration and vocabulary and background knowledge that you really only get from books. That’s what we’re trying to give to these kids.”

That mission hits close to home for Angela Blair — literally. The mother of two young children, Blair lives in the Emlen school district. Disturbed by its scarcity of resources for children, she requested donations from area businesses and through March had raised more than $1,000.

“Children need all the help they can get to succeed in life,” said Blair, who majors in elementary education at the College. “As early as possible, they must foster a sense of independence, of becoming literate and critically minded individuals. This library will give them a boost toward that.”

Nationally, fewer and fewer children cite reading as a pastime, as video games and the Internet explode in popularity and budget constraints force the closure of school and community libraries. This saddens Raisman, whose fondest childhood memories are of walking up 54th Street to get to the City Line library branch.

“I remember the quiet, and a distinct smell,” he said. “I remember how cold the water was from the fountain. I remember the joy in taking out the next book. Here I am, 40 years later, and I can vividly remember this stuff.

“But we’re not hearing that anymore,” he added. “The kids tell us they don’t go to the library. Finally, an alarm went off — we have to do something. We have to bring that joy of reading back.”

A FRUITFUL PARTNERSHIP

When Raisman took over as principal at Emlen in 2007, its programs and resources had been depleted by budget cuts. After reintroducing physical education, art, and music, he decided it was time to build a new library. And for that, he knew where to turn.

Elizabeth Miller ’10 volunteered to sort books at Emlen on Martin Luther King Day.
The College has partnered with Emlen since 2001, when Carol Pate, Ed.D., chair of the College’s education department, procured the first of two grants linking the schools. Students from the College and teachers from Emlen first developed educational workshops. Then, an interdisciplinary team of students from the College’s education, psychology, and administration of human services programs worked to improve the Emlen students’ behavior and academic achievement. The partnership also yielded a buddy program linking 6th graders with kindergarten students.

“It gave our students experience with diversity — students of all backgrounds — and provided a support system for not only our students but Emlen’s teachers,” Pate said.

The grant funding ran out years ago, but the partnership persists. Each year, students from the College enter Emlen classrooms as student or practicum teachers, and Kahn often brings students from her Reading Methods course to read to children. The partnership gives prospective teachers a chance to find out for themselves what it means to teach in an urban school.

“They hear these horror stories, but the truth is that kids are kids,” Raisman said. “They face most of the same problems, and have the same needs. [The College’s students] get their feet wet and see what it feels like to stand in front of 30 children — to capture them and manage their behavior.”

“They’ve made us feel welcome there for years, which has been our privilege,” added Kahn. “This is our chance to give back.”

And that giving back won’t stop any time soon. While the 7,000 books collected through mid-April may sound like a lot, consider that Emlen has more than 600
students, and that the best libraries have both volume and variety.

“And when you consider that they’ll get worn as they circulate,” Kahn said, “the reality is that we’ll never have enough. We’ll always be on the lookout for new and gently used books here.”

Rummaging through a brown paper bag full of books in her office, Kahn paused to reflect on the success of the book drive, and what it will mean for the children at Emlen.

“This is the stuff that makes all the administrative work and daily grind worth it,” she said. “It’s vital to lead these children to choose at an early age to engage in learning. If you can do that, you can make a difference.”

If you’re interested in donating new or gently used children’s books (kindergarten to sixth grade), drop them off at the security desk in Fournier Hall. If you have any questions or would like to make a financial contribution, contact Jessica Kahn, Ph.D., at 215.248.7045 or jkahn@chc.edu.
Returning to complete her degree 20 years later, Kim Lowe epitomizes the dedication of the adult learner at the College.
IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR KIM LOWE TO PROVE HOW SERIOUS SHE WAS about getting her degree.

The 38-year-old single mom anxiously awaited her first night of class at the College, only to be rushed to a hospital because of complications related to a disability. But it was going to take more than nurses hooking her up to emergency room machines to diminish Lowe's determination.

“I showed up to class that night and said, ‘I’m here. I have to go back to the hospital later, but I’ll give you the best two or three hours that I’ve got,’” she said. “I’d been out of the classroom for 20 years at that point and wasn’t going to waste another minute.”

While the story of Lowe’s start at the College is unusual, it reflects the hunger and commitment of the growing number of adult learners here. Whether it’s a nagging desire to finish long-abandoned degrees or fear of how the recession will affect their jobs, more and more adults are going back to school. According to the U.S. Department of Education, more than one-third of persons studying for a degree are over the age of 24, and the total number of these adult learners is expected to increase by 25 percent by the end of this decade.

Offering a wide range of support in difficult economic times, the College is developing a reputation as an ideal fit for the adult learner.
The increase has been even more dramatic here at the College. In September, enrollment in the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) and the School of Continuing & Professional Studies (SCPS) was up 14 and 22 percent, respectively. And through open enrollment, SCPS is adding more than 60 new students each semester.

“Last year at this time, we were scheduling 50 courses every eight weeks,” said Elaine R. Green, Ed.D., dean of SCPS. “Now, we’re at 60, and we could do even more.

“I feel fortunate to work at such a student-focused institution,” Guerriero said, “one that’s so supportive of the adult learner in terms of the attention and customer care we’re able to provide.”

“When the economy bottomed out, we were bracing for [a decline],” she added. “But it’s had the opposite effect. It has amazed us.”

And while the economy isn’t as significant a factor in the enrollment increase at the graduate level — for which students must make a far greater commitment of money and time — it bodes well for its future.

“When people go back at the undergraduate or continuing studies level, they get into a mindset of study,” said Steven Guerriero, Ph.D., dean of SGS. “They’re more likely to say, ‘Well, I’ve done this for a year or two, I might as well keep going.’ They get a certain level of confidence back.”

CLEARING THE HURDLES

While SCPS enrollment was rising steadily through 2007, administrators noticed that 70 percent of the students with little to no college experience were not completing degrees here.

“Some of them weren’t even finishing their first class,” Green said. “It wasn’t that they weren’t motivated — they were just overwhelmed by trying to handle school on top of life and work, and some were having trouble with the financial aid process.”

Enter the Professional Practices Seminar. Developed through a “Serving the Underserved” grant aimed to promote lifelong learning at the College, the seminar became a required course in 2008 for all SCPS enrollees who have earned fewer than 15 credits or been out of school for 10 or more years. It offers workshops on a variety of topics of interest to the adult learner, from public speaking to study skills to information literacy.

“We developed the course to provide enough rigor that students could earn academic credit for it,” Green said. “We knew people were so busy that they wouldn’t come to these kinds of workshops if they were optional. So instead we took the workshops to the students.”

The results have been extremely encouraging. According to an internal study, nearly 70 percent of the students who have taken the Professional Practices Seminar remain enrolled in SCPS, and many students say it reduced their anxiety and helped them to apply their skills to a framework of learning. In particular, Lowe credits the positivity and respectful manner with which Walter C. Childs, director of the ACCELERATED degree program, conducted her seminar.

“It took me from ‘Can I do it?’ to ‘Yes, I can!’” Lowe said.

Another hurdle for the adult learner to clear is adapting to modern technology — something Norman Bell can speak to from the perspective of student and teacher.

Eager to enhance his credentials and one day go into management, Bell enrolled in the College’s administration of human services master’s program in 2001. But having finished his bachelor’s degree in 1993, pre-Internet, his first hurdle was adapting to classroom technology.

“It wasn’t really about the card catalog system anymore,” Bell said, laughing. “All of a sudden this amazing amount of information was right at my fingertips, which was intimidating at first. There was so much to learn. But I got used to it, and came to see it as a lot of fun.”

Bell now relishes that growth from the other side of the desk, as an SCPS adjunct professor.

“Once the adult learners are exposed to technology and you give them that blueprint, they’re hungry to learn and get some bang for their buck,” he said. “It’s rewarding to see them go from being a little intimidated to being confident. That’s when you start to see them shine.”

A WARM ENVIRONMENT

For a variety of reasons, the College has earned a reputation as a great fit for the adult learner. One is its location, since many of the approximately 30,000 adults with some college experience but no degree in the Philadelphia area reside in its northwest neighborhoods. Another is its infrastructure of resources, from its writing and math centers to instructors like Bell and Colleen Vernitsky who once
walked in the adult learners’ shoes. Then there’s the fact that the College boasts more majors, with a wider range of subjects, than any other accelerated degree programs in the area. And no checklist would be complete without mentioning the effect of the College’s relatively small class sizes.

“I feel fortunate to work at such a student-focused institution,” Guerriero said, “one that’s so supportive of the adult learner in terms of the attention and customer care we’re able to provide.”

In 2008, the College became one of the first in the area to partner with Graduate! Philadelphia, a program offering support to Philadelphia-area adults looking to return to college. Since its inception at the Gallery Mall in center city, the Graduate! Philadelphia College Success Center has helped nearly 500 adults return to college, with another 1,500 preparing to do so. The College sends an academic advisor, April Fowlkes, to the center twice a month to speak to prospective students about academic programs, financial aid, and next steps. Fowlkes’ kindness eased Lowe’s first step toward the College.

“I walked in [to Graduate! Philadelphia] not even sure what I was doing,” Lowe said. “But I was so warmly received. It just felt right. And it changed my life.”

Lowe began a bachelor’s program at Temple University in the late 1980s before setting it aside. She worked as a corrections officer before developing a permanent disability while pregnant with her now seven-year-old daughter. But as she began feeling better in recent years, a return to the classroom lingered in the back of her mind.

“People kept telling me that I should, but until you’re ready, that means nothing,” Lowe said. “Then one day I made the leap of faith that if other adults can do it, I could too.”

On track to graduate with a bachelor’s degree in human services next May, Lowe is already setting her sights on earning a master’s degree. In the meantime, she’s inspiring her neighbors, family members, and friends, several of whom plan to follow her lead and go back to school.

“I feel like I’ve been through it all now,” Lowe said, “and I want to help others out. I want them to know that with the right attitude, there’s not much you can’t accomplish.”
Making a provision in your will for Chestnut Hill College, for as little as five percent (5%) of your estate, is a simple process that will have a profound impact on the experience that future generations will have when they attend the College.

Just think, you can provide for the future of the College and not impact your current cash flow. By naming CHC as a beneficiary for only a small portion of your estate, you still can provide for your family and loved ones as well as other charities.

Making a bequest has many advantages that are important to keep in mind as you make your estate plans:

- **Simplicity** – Just a few sentences in your will complete the gift.
- **Versatility** – Of course, you can bequeath a specific amount of money, or a particular item or piece of property. However, most individuals prefer to donate a percentage of the remainder of their estate.
- **Tax-Smart** – Your estate gift to Chestnut Hill College helps to remove assets from your estate.
- **Revocability** – Until your will goes into effect, you may make changes at any time.

For more information on including Chestnut Hill College in your estate planning, please contact Mary Theresa Shevland, SSJ, in the Office of Planned Giving at 215.753.3617 or shevlandm@chc.edu.

www.planyourlegacy.com
Huddled under a blanket at a December 2008 tournament in central New Jersey, Women’s Soccer Head Coach Seamus O’Connor looked around and saw only one or two other coaches brave (crazy?) enough to bother.

“The referee walked up and asked, ‘What are you doing here?’” O’Connor said. “Hey, my mentality is you’re not going to get better sitting at home. It’s my job to get good players to the College,” he said. “Once the season starts, it’s up to the players to perform.”

That, they did. Exuding the same dedication as its coach, the team finished 8-3-1 in the Central Athletic Collegiate Conference (CACC) and became the first at the College to host a Division II playoff game. In addition, O’Connor and sophomore forward Lauren Riiff became the first from the College to win the conference’s Coach of the Year and Player of the Year awards. Each is, however, quick to deflect credit.

“I got that award because of my teammates,” Riiff said. “Everyone was so good this year. We worked together really well and became a close-knit team.”

O’Connor entered 2009 looking to improve a team with more ability than its previous 2-9 CACC record indicated. He recruited aggressively, adding eight first-year starters, including goalkeeper Jessica Veachey. The team committed to a preseason condition program and adopted a team-first ethos. It also received some external motivation when the conference’s coaches ranked the Griffins number 11 of 13.

An early, hard-fought loss to Philadelphia University instilled confidence, O’Connor said, and the team won eight of its next nine games. It finished 2-5-2 down the stretch, however, and lost the playoff game 2-1 to Dominican University — a team it defeated 3-1 earlier in the season.

Hoping to finish the 2010 season on a stronger note, the players returned to the weight room in January for grueling workout sessions. They will follow individual training programs this summer, before returning for scrimmages in which O’Connor will experiment with players at different positions. Returning players include Riiff and two All-CACC second team honorees, senior midfielder Tara Morey and junior defender Lauren Brown, who will help to incorporate five new recruits into the mix. Optimism abounds.

“Reaching the playoffs was a great achievement — it was special for our players to get a taste of that — and the individual awards were nice.” O’Connor said, “But next year we want a big, shiny team trophy.”
This isn’t your mother’s cheering section.

When you’re with The Big Red Candle, you’re raising your hands and dangling your fingers and bellowing “whooooosh” when a Griffin sinks a free throw. You’re yelling your favorite player’s nickname and razzing opponents when they have the ball. You’re packed shoulder to shoulder with fellow crazies — assuming you got there early enough to nab a spot.

You’re changing the face of athletics at the College.

“One once we get in there, we get the crowd rocking,” said senior D.J. Santoro, Jr., a co-creator of the cheering section. “You see other fans standing up and getting into it, and it changes the vibe of [Sorgenti Arena].”

Men’s basketball senior Larz Jeter goes further.

“They’ve changed the momentum of games,” he said. “They fuel us to play harder and longer. The Big Red Candle lights our fire — pun intended.”

The cheering section grew out of a conversation between Santoro and fellow baseball player Mike Knipe, who attended basketball games but sensed that something was missing.

“You see fans going crazy at the big colleges on television,” Santoro said. “So we thought, ‘Why can’t we do that?’ We started telling everyone to come, and the stands started filling up with more and more people.”

“It’s growing as the school is growing,” added Knipe, a junior. “More people are coming here and wanting to get involved in athletics. It’s an exciting time — you can feel it building.”

CHEERING SECTION LIGHTS UP SORGENTI ARENA

EIGHT GRIFFINS NAMED TO ALL-ACADEMIC TEAMS

It can be extremely difficult for student-athletes to thrive on the field and in the classroom, but eight Griffins were recently recognized for making it look easy.

Senior Mike Cavanaugh was chosen by the Philadelphia Inquirer and the sports information offices of the 28 Philadelphia-area institutions as one of eight student-athletes on the Academic All-Area Men’s Cross Country Team. Cavanaugh is a sociology major with a 3.85 grade point average (GPA) who belongs to the Delta Epsilon Sigma and Alpha Lambda Delta national honor societies. He also volunteers at the Sisters of Saint Joseph Welcome Center, tutoring immigrants for citizenship exams and higher education.

Cavanaugh, who said he was honored to be recognized, is also one of eight Griffins named to the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) 2009 Fall All-Academic Team. Recipients needed to play a fall sport and be at least a sophomore academically and athletically, with a GPA above 3.49.

Earning first time All-Academic honors were women’s volleyball sophomore Alyssa Miller (psychology, 3.70 GPA), men’s soccer sophomore Chris Moore (business administration, 3.78), women’s volleyball sophomore Katherine Tohanczyn (political science, 3.82), and women’s tennis senior Erin Andersen (history, 3.94).

Men’s soccer junior Julian Fernandez (history, 3.65) became a two-time honoree. Men’s soccer senior Robert Larkin (international business, 3.88) and women’s soccer senior Jackie Nevius (English, 3.89) were honored for the third time.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2010
28TH ANNUAL GOLF INVITATIONAL
WHITEMARSH VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB
LAFAYETTE HILL, PENNSYLVANIA
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SPONSORING OR PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT, CALL 215.753.3666.
Transformation was the word of the day at the 2009 Annual Alumni Conference. A spirited keynote speech by Nancy Day Kelley, Ph.D. ’71 set up an afternoon of statistics, strategic plans, and national surveys, all leading into an hour-long brainstorming session examining opportunities for meaningful and measurable volunteer activity.

“Transforming Chestnut Hill College,” the theme of the October 25 Annual Fall Conference for Alumni Volunteers, challenged more than 70 alumni ambassadors to focus on recruiting and retention as the key College-alumni priority over the next two years.

Keynoter Nancy Day Kelley shared salient points about today’s college students, drawn from both national research and her experience as director of Academic Learning Communities at Villanova University and assistant professor in the university’s Center for Liberal Education.

Speakers who expanded the conference theme included Dean of Enrollment Management Jodie King Smith ’94 on “Where We Are, and How We Got Here ... Admissions-Wise,” VP for Institutional Advancement Ken Hicks on “Institutional Vision and Priorities,” and Director of Alumni Relations Patricia Canning ’70 on “Alumni Engagement ... A Shared Purpose,” who displayed a series of slides on CHC alumni statistics, the results of a national survey of alumni organizations on engagement with their institutions, and key questions for conference participants to consider as they approached the one-hour brainstorming session, “Transforming CHC and Ourselves: Structuring What We Do for Maximum Impact,” led by Alumni Association Past President Joanne Fink ’76, chair of the association Bylaws Committee.

Alumni statistics are now available to registrants of Chestnut Hill College’s free alumni online community at www.CHCgriffinsonline.com/Fall2009AlumniStats. More information on issues discussed at 2009 Annual Fall Conference is available at www.CHCgriffinsonline.com/2009FallConference.

Conference keynoter Nancy Day Kelley, Ph.D. ’71 presents the national freshman profile.
Looking Ahead

The 2010-11 academic year will christen two new events for alumni. The Alumni Fall Festival, in either late September or early October, will invite alums of the most recent 15 classes of the School of Undergraduate Studies, plus all alumni of the School of Continuing & Professional Studies and the School of Graduate Studies of the last 10 years, to a day of educational-personal enrichment-career sessions, sports activities, and fun for the entire family. On Sunday, December 5, alumni and their children/grandchildren are invited to share Breakfast with Santa, including brunch fare, visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and a traditional sing-along. Additional details on these two new events will be posted on www.CHCgriffinsonline.com toward the end of the summer.

A Note to Our Readers

We’re going greener. How does it affect you? We’ll be sending more to your inbox and less to your mailbox. Reunion materials will continue to be produced in print form, but ongoing alumni communication in other areas will be carried out electronically. Help us help you stay in the know by checking the College’s Web site at www.chc.edu and by registering in the College’s free alumni online community, Griffins Online, at www.CHCgriffinsonline.com. Need your authentication code to log in for the first time? Contact canningp@chc.edu.

Reunion of the Stars 2010

Graduates of the School of Undergraduate Studies (traditional college) classes ending in 0 and 5 will celebrate their Reunion of the Stars 2010 on June 4-5-6. For the first time in the College’s history, overnight accommodations and activity programming will be offered to spouses, significant others, travel companions, and guests. The all-suites, air-conditioned Fitzsimmons Hall will house solo registrants; The Lodge on SugarLoaf Hill, consisting of air-conditioned, private-bath rooms for two, will house alums registering with others. “Saturday Special” on-and-off campus activities are slated for these non-alums while reunion celebrants attend the traditional alums-only Memorial Mass-through-Class Meetings sequence. Among the weekend’s additional new features is the Artists and Authors Reception during the “Starring You” festivities Saturday night. Reunion alums who would like to display their artistic and literary creations (no public readings) are urged to reserve exhibit space with Jessica Hannan at hannah@chc.edu or at 215.753.3666 by May 18. Reunion FAQs, updated information, and other announcements are available on www.CHCgriffinsonline.com/Reunion.

Class Notes

50s

Patricia Hickey Fabricius ’55
(political science) e-mailed a photo capturing a Christmas gathering of classmates at the Manasquan, N.J., home of Barbara Beers Oberle. Enjoying the holiday season are (standing l-r): Renee Hopkins Tracey, Catherine Condon Johnston, Barbara Beers Oberle, Sister Mary Virginia Orna, OSU, Nancy Peter McMahon, Pat Hickey Fabricius, Marian Byrne Ellis (seated, l-r): Joanne Waldron Dwyer, Mary Ann Kenny Devine, Lee (Emily) Landers Boyan, Helen Devine Coen.

60s

Joan McDermott Forry ’58
(English) and her husband, Tom, moved from Killington, Vermont, to San Antonio, Texas, “at least for a year,” she writes. They’ve not sold their home but are renting it “just to see if we like San Antonio and if we can withstand the brutally hot summer here.”

Nancy Koonmen Schmidtmann ’61
(English) is serving a two-year term as the elected president of the Catholic Library Association, an international membership organization. Nancy is a frequent contributor to the CLA’s publication, Catholic Library World.
IN MEMORIAM

Kathryn Brown Davis '33
M. Irene Testa Rotello '35
Beverly Lamm Jarrett '40
Lorraine Delafrange Deeney '42
Margaret Codd, SNJM '46
Dorothy Bachmann '48
Virginia McCarthy Byrne '48
Mary Alice Kliment '48
Dolores Everling Audet '50
Ellen Jane Pariset Crosson '50
Ruth Patterson McCarthy '51
Dorothy Zeller Miller '52
Therese (Tese) Dickinson Sullivan '52
Jane McGuckin Buczowski '53
Sally Donnelly '53
Patricia Bounds Corcoran '54
Betty Harty '55
Dolores Connell Schaefer '55
Adrienne Wardell '57
Patricia O'Keefe Obrimski '59
Marianne Patrice Kelly DeFelice '61
Dorothy Toohey Schultz '71
Adelle Frunzi-Teachey '73
Jeanette Hoover '86 SCPS
Frances Lutz '98 SCPS
John J. Musewicz, Esq. '04 SGS

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

Olivia Grace Tatyana Haenn adopted by Teresa Haenn '88
Alexa Lynna to Lynna McLeod Wilson '99 and Gregory Wilson '11
Irelynd Nicole Laney to Megan Donovan '03 and Edward Laney

with a “fabulous two-week trip China, lecturing in six cities, visiting numerous historic areas, viewing the tremendous building all over China, and meeting many wonderful Chinese scientists and enthusiastic graduate students.”

‘90s

Tammy Dao Lai '91 (business administration) and her husband, Benny, were profiled in the February 25 Chestnut Hill Local regarding their new eatery, the 11-table Vietnam Café, located in the University City section of Philadelphia. Tammy arrived in the United States in 1983 with her mother and brother, living first in Houston, then in Philadelphia to be near her aunt, a nun and student at Holy Family College. Tammy’s father, an interpreter for American forces during the Vietnam War, was killed in the 1968 Tet Offensive, six months before she was born. While attending CHC, Tammy and friends stopped in Chinatown’s Vietnam Restaurant and, there, she met her future husband, whose family owned the establishment and a grocery store. Tammy and Benny, whose own family fled Communist Vietnam in 1978 and who attended Temple University, married after her graduation. Tammy worked for Enterprise Rental Cars for 10 years before joining the family business. They have two sons, ages 10 and 14. Vietnam Restaurant has earned numerous awards since 2002, and their new Vietnam Café also displays an array of art works from Vietnam (www.eatatvietnam.com).

Maryanne L. Walsh '98 (communications), '02 SGS (applied technology) continued with the informal get-togethers of younger alums that she’s been spearheading in the Delaware Valley with a February happy hour at Houlihan’s in Cherry Hill, N.J. Maryanne is an elected member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and has initiated a series of gatherings at various hot spots on both sides of the Delaware River. The next event is scheduled for April 23 at MaGerks Pub & Grill Fort Washington (formerly The Bent Elbow), minutes away from the College. Maryanne reported more than 70 yes and maybe responses as of March 19.

‘80s

Teresa Haenn ’88 (sociology) adopted Olivia Grace Tatyana, born in Smolensk, Russia, on October 31, 2008, and arriving in the United States on November 26, 2009, Thanksgiving Day.

Jane M. Fearn-Zimmer, Esq. ’88 (English) spoke at the New Jersey Institute for Continued Legal Education’s 2009 Elder Law College in early December on methods to preserve the home from forced spend down. Several days later, she spoke on federal and state tax developments before the Enrolled Agents of Central New Jersey. Jane is an associate with the Law Offices of Jerold E. Rothkoff, a boutique elder law firm with offices in Cherry Hill, N.J., Philadelphia, and Trevose, Pa. Jane earned a Master of Laws degree in taxation at Temple University.

Pictured clockwise at February’s South Jersey gathering: Rieke Baize ’98, Marlo Dobbs ’95, Amy McLeer Frangione ’94, organizer Maryanne L. Walsh ’98, Patricia Sharp ’96, Mary Valle ’93, Diane Felcyn ’00, Virginia Hajash ’98.
Annie Sampson ’01 (psychology) recently wrote that she has a “great, stable federal position at a time of economic hardship.” Annie is with the National Institutes of Health, “in such an amazing field,” and “found my way here,” she says, “due to the education I attained at CHC and in graduate school [London School of Economics].” Annie works in the applied research program of the National Cancer Institute’s Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences. “I’m grateful to God for this,” Annie continues, “and I’m also grateful to CHC for everything I learned there and the people (like Sister Kathryn) who had influences on me during my four years.”

Katie Murphy ’05 (English, secondary education) is in her fourth year of teaching at St. Matthew School in Northeast Philadelphia. Katie taught seventh grade for three years and is now teaching sixth while pursuing a master’s degree in history at LaSalle University. Katie was looking forward to her March 27 wedding to Eric Carlino, a customer relations representative for Waste Management.

Amanda Favreau ’08 (biochemistry) is a Post-Baccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award (IRTA) recipient for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This highly competitive award has her located on the Rocky Mountain Laboratories (RML) campus in Hamilton, Montana. Amanda works in the Genomics Unit of the Research Technologies Section (RTS), which is part of the Research Technologies Branch (RTB) of the National Institutes of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). She performs DNA sequencing for all project investigators and researchers in the NIAID, which are located on the main campus in Bethesda, Md., as well as in satellite campuses.

Alex Kowalski ’09 (biology) recently shared the good news of his admission to the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Alex begins his medical studies in the fall.

Sherri Retif ’09 SGS (holistic spirituality). head coach of Germantown Academy’s girls basketball team, won her 500th game on January 27 with a 72-61 win over Archbishop Wood Catholic High School (Warminster, Pa.), and in a non-league game that marked the 2,000th point for one of her players. Coach Retif is in her 12th season at GA, located in neighboring Fort Washington, where she has won the Inter-Ac (Inter-Academic) League title each year. The Inter-Ac is the oldest inter-scholastic athletic conference in the county, representing 10 independent and private boys, girls, and coed schools in the Philadelphia area. The Louisiana native also coached at Ursuline Academy, near her own Mercy Academy in New Orleans, and at Sun Valley High School (Aston, Pa.). Sherri graduated from Tulane, where she played for the Green Wave and was inducted into its Hall of Fame in 1993. Three years later, she was named to Tulane’s All-Quarter Century team. Sherri is continuing her studies in holistic spirituality in a doctoral program at Fordham University while coaching, enjoying two sons with husband Stan, and conducting spirituality classes at a number of churches in Drexel Hill. She chairs the advisory board for the Center for Sport and Spirituality at Neumann College and, four years ago, co-authored “More Than A Game: Stories, Prayers and Reflections for the Student Athlete” (St. Mary’s Press) with two Neumann colleagues.

Irelynd Nicole Laney was born to Megan Donovan ’03 and Edward Laney.

Alex Kowalski ’09 (biology) recently shared the good news of his admission to the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Keep in touch with your friends and classmates! Career news, advanced degrees, births, marriages, deaths — whatever your news, share it with us. Submit items by August 15, 2010 for print consideration in the next issue of Chestnut Hill.

1. E-mail: canningp@chc.edu Name: ____________________________________________

2. Fax: 215.248.7196 Maiden Name (if SUS): ________________________________

3. Mail: Patricia Canning Class Year: ____ SUS ____ SCPS ____ SGS ____
   Director of Alumni Relations
   Chestnut Hill College
   9601 Germantown Avenue
   Philadelphia, PA 19118

4. Online: www.CHCGriffinOnline.com
HIS EXPERIENCES COULD FILL two lifetimes, products of incredibly bad luck, unrelenting drive, and remarkable energy. He’s earned multiple degrees in a variety of disciplines, defied medical science in the face of the toughest of odds, and launched a biotech start-up that’s on the verge of a major breakthrough for more than a million Americans suffering from spinal cord injuries. And he knows all too well what they face. He has truly been there, done that.

Native New Yorker Frank Reynolds ’94 SGS (counseling psychology and human services) arrived in Philadelphia in 1991 and, while on his way to work a year later, suffered such severe back injuries in a car accident that he was left in a body brace from his neck to his knees. Hope for recovery was slim; his Johns Hopkins physicians, in fact, told him to go home and accept his lot in life.

Three years into Frank’s paralysis, actor Christopher Reeve broke his neck in an equestrian accident, and the national spotlight suddenly turned to spinal cord injuries and the therapies and technologies, including embryonic stem cell research, then under study to rescue millions who suffer from SCI. At the same time, Frank watched the film “Lorenzo’s Oil,” which depicted the true story of Michaela and Lorenzo’s fatal condition, and the medical community left them no alternative but to watch Lorenzo suffer until his inevitable death. Instead, and with no medical training, the Odones embarked on a multi-year search for a treatment that led to the first effective intervention for ALD.

Frank could relate; he had grown frustrated with the current therapies for spinal cord injuries and soon began his own research for a treatment. “It’s simple. When you’re desperate, you either quit or do something about it,” he recalls. Two years on the Internet produced a wealth of information, and a dramatic change. Frank learned that an injured spinal cord with enough spared tissue can learn to function again, and he literally trained his body to walk — five years of pain and struggle wiped away by a 14-month physical therapy and rehabilitation program.

Studying the problem, keeping the eye on the goal is an operating principle that guides this apparent perennial student, who’s earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing from Rider University; two MBAs, one from St. Joseph’s University,
the other from MIT’s Sloan School of Management; a master’s degree in e-business from Temple; and a recent multidisciplinary Executive Master’s in Technology Management degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

He originally aspired to a top administrative position in a psychiatric hospital, and he was enrolled in the health administration program at St. Joe’s when he decided to complete his Chestnut Hill College degree first. “The master’s in counseling psych,” he said, “was exactly the program that I needed to reach that goal. It was terrific, with Scott Browning, Tom Klee, and John Regan as my principal faculty.”

He still reaps rewards, though not as expected, more than 15 years later. “I find at times it’s surreal that Nobel Laureate in Medicine Rich Roberts works for me, but it amazes me how often I’m sitting in a meeting with Dr. Roberts that I pull things I learned from my Research and Design and Practica courses to engage him in key scientific decision-making conversations. I still use the principles I learned in the Chestnut Hill program in all areas of my work.”

Over the next eight years, with several degrees earned and self-healing a success, Frank held senior positions with IT consulting firms, pharmaceutical companies, and other commercial concerns in the life sciences. He also bought and sold businesses. He was recruited by Siemens AG, the international electronics and engineering firm, as director of global business development and where he was on the fast track to the pool of potential CEO candidates.

While at MIT, however, he met Professor Robert Langer, internationally acclaimed engineer, researcher, prolific inventor, and head of the largest academic research lab in the world. With technology developed at the MIT Langer Lab and weekly meetings with the Langer team and Harvard Medical School researchers — coupled with years in the life sciences and health care fields, solid sales and management experience, and personal mission — Frank founded InVivo Therapeutics Corp. in 2005 to develop technologies for the more than 1,275,000 Americans who live with spinal cord injuries.

Interviewed in late November 2009 for Chestnut Hill, Frank was looking forward to moving from his successful primate experiments to the FDA’s approving the start of human studies in the United States. In October 2009, Inc. magazine identified Frank as one of “America’s Most Innovative Medical Entrepreneurs” in a feature highlighting 10 medical technologies in development to treat various parts of the body. As follow-up to its October story, Inc. published a 10-page feature article in its March 2010 edition on Frank and his work at InVivo Therapeutics Corporation.

Vested interest is very much at play, as he looks to his own product for potential relief from his constant pain. But, even so, not much holds him back. This 48-year-old Bronx-born son of Irish immigrants — mother from County Mayo, father from County Leitrim — still has much to accomplish. If his stride is as lightening fast as his speech and as determined as his spirit, he leaves others in the dust.

Frank’s base of operation during the last year shifted from Cambridge to the Caribbean and back to Cambridge, where he maintains a residence with his family while retaining a home near Philadelphia. He is a board member of the Irish-American Business Chamber and Network in Philadelphia, the Special Olympics of Massachusetts, and the MIT Alumni Association. He is a Moore Fellow of the University of Pennsylvania School of Engineering, an IT Fellow of Temple University, and a MIT-Sloan Fellow.

He applied for the human studies only days later. “No one in history has proven therapeutic benefit to paralyzed primates, and every primate we have treated has benefited significantly from our treatment. We’re hopeful for positive therapeutics benefit in humans.”

His Cambridge, Massachusetts-based firm uses a biodegradable polymer platform technology that is injected into the spinal cord and can be combined with drugs and/or stem cells to produce results. According to InVivo’s 50th research article published in the Journal of Neuroscience Methods (March 2010), a ‘scaffold’ would form that reduces cell death and scar formation and promotes the survival of neural stem cells, which repair the injured spinal cord. “InVivo doesn’t use embryonic stem cells,” Frank says. “The risks are high; in fact, 65 percent of them become malignant tumors.”

Frank learned that an injured spinal cord with enough spared tissue can learn to function again, and he literally trained his body to walk — five years of pain and struggle wiped away by a 14-month physical therapy and rehabilitation program.
In the weeks preceding my semester abroad at Regent’s American College in London, I heard more “indispensable” advice than I knew what to do with. Friends, professors, and family members offered expertise on how to make the most of my first trip to Europe: where to eat, drink, and shop; how to survive a mugging; the best curry in the city; how to travel economically. I took notes feverishly, soaking up every last drop of wisdom my well-traveled companions could offer.

Since my arrival, I’ve learned a very important lesson: often, the best way to experience a new place is to abandon your guidebook altogether and simply wander. (Not to mention, I have no navigational skills to speak of, so treasure-map tourism is out of the question.) I’ve found some of the best spots in my travels accidentally. A not-so-short shortcut to Regent’s College led me to a secret garden behind St. John’s Lodge in Regent’s Park. A visit to the London Design Museum with Leslie Zemnick started as a trip to another museum entirely but changed course when we realized how wrong our directions were. But little did I know that, six years after her experience, I would find myself in the same city at the same school.

As a business major with a double minor in art history and mathematics, I couldn’t wait to explore other countries and absorb their cultural differences.

My time abroad in London has been nothing short of fantastic. The city itself deserves more exploration than I can fit in a semester, but we’ve also made traveling outside its confines a priority. A last-minute airfare deal led Leslie and me to Oslo, Norway, while an 11-day spring break will take us to Venice and Rome. Admittedly, I was nervous to leave the friendly halls of Fournier behind, but as the globe shrinks before my eyes, it doesn’t feel so far after all. — Max

Ever since my sister, Adrianne, left the then single-sex Chestnut Hill College to study abroad at Regent’s American College London, I knew I wanted to study abroad as well. But little did I know that, six years after her experience, I would find myself in the same city at the same school.

As a business major with a double minor in art history and mathematics, I couldn’t wait to explore other countries and absorb their cultural differences.

Just weeks prior to my travels, I spotted my close friend Max Kaplan speeding down the stairs in St. Joseph with a Regent’s College application in hand. Never did it occur to me that London could be the epicenter to my cultural experience in Europe. The United Kingdom, with its quirky towns and endless architectural wonders, proved just that.

As I entered the halls of the college, similarities between Regent’s and Chestnut Hill College flooded my mind. All of the buildings are connected. The staff tries to greet you by name, or at least with a kind smile. Then I hear it: the sounds of Arabic, Italian, French, and many other languages spoken by passing students. Classes are filled with such diversity that simple subjects, like copyright laws in an advertising class, spark full international debates. The fantastic cultural differences continue beyond the classroom.

Between traveling from quiet historic landmarks like Stonehenge to the lively streets of Portobello Market, I can’t believe that I’m almost done with this amazing experience. In the extremely short time I’ve been here, London has become a home to me. The quaint streets, little shops, and almost-hidden neighborhood pubs that are scattered between skyscrapers and Tudor houses alike magnify the ideals of the city — forward thinking with a rich past. As I will soon embark on another sort of journey, finishing my college career at Chestnut Hill and eventually breaking into the working world, I will carry this experience with me as I continue to explore. — Leslie

We invite all members of the College community to submit articles to be considered for the “Last Word” column. If you’d like to contribute, please send your idea to magazine@chc.edu.
Calendar of Events

63RD ANNUAL REUNION: REUNION OF THE STARS 2010
June 4-5-6
School of Undergraduate Studies classes ending in “5” and “0”
Information: 215.248.7144
Reservations: 215.753.3666

2010 GOLDEN GRIFFINS MASS & BRUNCH
Sunday, June 6
School of Undergraduate Studies Class of 1959 and earlier, and welcoming the Class of 1960
Reservations: 215.753.3666

SACRED EARTH CONFERENCE
June 11-12-13
Information: SacredEarth@chc.edu

SUMMER TEACHING AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
June 27-30
Conducted by The Great Books Foundation
Information: www.chc.edu/greatbooks
Registration: 800.222.5870

PRESIDENT’S CIRCLE DONOR RECOGNITION CELEBRATION
Sunday, September 19

FAMILY WEEKEND
September 24-25-26

ALUMNI FALL FESTIVAL
Coming in late September or early October
Information: www.CHCgriffinsonline.com

28H ANNUAL GOLF INVITATIONAL
Monday, October 11
Whitemarsh Valley Country Club
Reservations: 215.753.3666

2010 ANNUAL FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS
Sunday, October 17
Reservations: 215.753.3666

12TH ANNUAL EMPTY BOWL DINNER
Mid-November TBD
Sorgenti Arena, Martino Hall
Information: 215.248.7095

CAROL NIGHT
Friday, December 3, 7:30 p.m.
Rotunda, St. Joseph Hall
Information: 215.248.7194

5TH ANNUAL ALUMNI HOLIDAY CHEER
Friday, December 3, immediately following Carol Night
Reservations: 215.753.3666
All alumni welcome

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Sunday, December 5
New this year!

For the latest event information, visit www.chc.edu and www.chcgriffinsonline.com

Travel the World with Alumni and Friends

JULY 2010
11-Day Alpine Explorer with the “Glacier Express” & Oberammergau Passion Play. It’s all here: Italy, Switzerland, Austria, and Germany, capped by the world-renowned Passion Play performed only once every 10 years since 1634. July 6-16.

SEPTEMBER 2010
14-Night Canada and New England Cruise on the Celebrity Summit. Sail round trip from Cape Liberty (Bayonne) N.J., take in the autumn colors from the sea, explore the old ports of Canada and New England — Newport, Boston, Portland, Bar Harbor, Halifax, and Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island — only to be topped off by two days in glorious Québec City. A wonderful value for the money. September 26 to October 10.

JANUARY 2011
13-Night Full-Transit Panama Canal Cruise on NCL’s Norwegian Star. Traversing the 40-mile Panama Canal is an experience you’re not soon to forget, as you cruise from Miami to Los Angeles, visiting such ports as Cartagena, Huatulco, and Costa Rica. January 16-29

MARCH 2011
12-day “Splendors of the Nile,” Smithsonian Journeys Travel Adventure, including a deluxe four-night Nile River cruise; enjoying Cairo, the Pyramids, Memphis, Sakkara, Luxor, Valley of the Kings and Queens, with optional excursion to Abu Simbel. Includes round-trip nonstop flight from JFK to Cairo. Air from Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Harrisburg might be offered at a later date. March 2-13

For information and/or reservations, contact Craig or Christie at 610.341.1979 or 800.506.7447 or at www.alumnivacations.com.
Launched in March, the redesigned Web site features streamlined navigation, an integrated calendar system, and an exciting new athletics site.