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The Abridged, May 1989

Roger Williams College Alumni Association

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Dith Pran: A Survivor's Story

"I am not a hero or politician, just one survivor of the Khmer Rouge."

More than 400 people filled the Student Center to hear Dith Pran speak. Pran was invited because, as Dr. Karen Haskell introduced him, he represents "the best of humanity, and is a champion of human rights."

Pran's experiences in Cambodia during the early 70s were the subject of the movie The Killing Fields. Forced to remain in Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital, as it fell into the hands of the Khmer Rouge, Pran was witness to the genocide inflicted on the people by that group. Through the movie and his lectures, Pran hopes to tell the true story of what happened in Cambodia. "Maybe I was assigned to be a survivor, to be a messenger" he said of his escape.

Pran explained to the audience what life was like before the Khmer Rouge. A neutral nation, Cambodia was a peaceful country of "very friendly, very religious people," he said. The culture was "very strong" and tourism was a large industry. Then, in 1970, the country became trapped in war.

When the Khmer Rouge came into power, Pran pointed out, they emptied all the cities, not just the capital, as shown in the movie. "You say the movie is too much, too moving, too sad — but it is ten times worse than that," Pran said of the killing and violence he witnessed. The Khmer Rouge killed nearly half the population — three million people.

Cambodia today is in danger of another civil war, Pran fears. He would like America to act as a peacemaker; he would like to see President Bush appoint a special envoy to solve the Indochina problem so Cambodia can return to neutrality. "If the Chinese keep helping the Khmer Rouge, Cambodia will have no future." K.M.

Improving Life for Minorities

Dith Pran's visit was sponsored by the Minority Affairs Committee, a concerned group of faculty, administrators, and students. Whether black, Asian, Hispanic, or handicapped, there is a population at Roger Williams College who have a different experience of life than the majority. The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) is sensitive to their concerns.

The committee was formed five years ago when a counselor approached dean of students Dr. Karen Haskell with the information that a minority student (who gave permission to share the information) felt the campus was not a very comfortable place for minorities. Dr. Haskell then brought together a committee that later became MAC. "The committee set two goals that first year, which have remained the goals. To increase the number of minorities on campus — students, administrators, and staff. And to improve the quality of life for minorities."

The visibility of MAC has increased during the past year, in part because of its sponsorship of cultural events. Native American Bill Miller, Harlem Renaissance, and Dith Pran were on campus as guests of the committee. MAC also co-sponsored a panel discussion about...
Jewish life on campus, and organized the President's Annual Forum called "Racism," which featured U.S. Civil Rights Commissioner Dr. Mary Berry.

"We want to bring in different groups to make students aware that there are different people in the world, and to help groups get in touch with their own roots and identities," says Scott Yonan, 77, director of the International Center and chairman of MAC's programming committee. "Improved quality of life is not just understanding from other groups, but self-knowledge." In addition to this cultural enrichment, MAC has established scholarship funds for minority students. Next fall, a total of $16,000 will be awarded to new and currently enrolled minority students. Part of this money is the insurance claim from the theft of the controversial weather vane, turned over to the committee by President William H. Rizzini. (The weathervane was stolen from the Performing Arts Center roof in December of 1987.) Beyond the scholarships and programming, the committee tries to address the difficult task of changing misconceptions about minorities. "We are trying to make people aware," says Dwight Datcher, 74, chairman of the committee. "Educating students, faculty, and administration is really important. I learned how to cope," Datcher says of his experience.

The committee is in the process of tabulating results from a campus-wide survey that covers racial, religious, disabled, and sexual preference topics. Committee members hope the information will be of help in guiding future programs and decisions, but realize that changes in attitude don't happen quickly. "You just work — work at changing," Datcher says.

Live, From Roger Williams College

The campus radio station is back on the air. Roger Williams College students are broadcasting on WQRI, 88.3 FM, following a four-year hiatus. With a new format and 100 watts of power, the station is heard in Bristol County as well as southeastern Massachusetts. Alumni may remember the station as WROC, an AM station accessed by plugging radios into wall outlets in the dorms — but all that has changed. A new, professional-quality studio is staffed by 55 students, broadcasting 20 hours each day. A broadcasting tower, wired during a late winter blizzard, stands just west of the student center. The students have applied for FCC (Federal Communications Commission) licensing, which should be granted after the station has been operating for a few months.

General manager Ted Morgan and programming director Ronald Off, both seniors, have been putting in long days at the station since they were freshmen. In addition to handling technical problems with the construction of the studio and delays in putting up the tower, they have worked out a programming philosophy for WQRI. Recognized as an educational station, the goal at WQRI is show student workers how a commercial radio station is run. According to Morgan, an important step toward achieving this goal is to establish a consistent format and sound for WQRI. Morgan and Off have worked out a programming schedule for student DJs to follow, carefully constructed around the projected needs of the audience.

"We're not catering specifically to the College," says Off. "We hope that members of the community will participate." Morgan points out that consistency will be the key to gaining an audience outside of the college community. Some college stations play punk music one minute and classical the next. "That confuses the audience," he says. "If they tune in expecting to hear one thing, and get something else, they'll change the station." WQRI will be playing album-oriented rock, aimed at young adults.

"If you say you work for a college radio station, they probably won't hire you, because college DJs are used to doing whatever they want. But we've set up here to be more like a commercial station." The experience they've gained has already helped both Morgan and Off. They work as programmers for TrafficNet reporter Mike Sheridan, who is heard on many Rhode Island radio stations. Several other student DJs have already secured summer jobs working in the field, or serve as interns at local stations.

While students still have some obstacles to overcome, such as what to do about the noise from carts being pushed around in the cafeteria overhead, WQRI is off to a strong start. All alumni of WROC and other interested alumni are invited to stop by and tour the new facility during Reunion Weekend, May 19-21. K.M.
For many students who attended Roger Williams College in 1979, those words bring back fond memories, though I’m sure some of you have broken into a cold sweat.

In the spring semester of 1979, Roger Williams students, along with some administration members, accomplished what no group had ever done before: We played Monopoly for 81 days, six hours, 54 minutes and 45 seconds, breaking the previous record by more than two days.

The decision to play Monopoly was simple: Most of us had played it before, and we were all sure we had played the longest game ever. Now we would have our chance to prove it. The purpose of the marathon was two-fold. One was to put Roger Williams College in the record book, and the other was to raise money for The Bristol Town Chapter for Retarded Citizens and The Marcia Stark Memorial Scholarship Fund. (The fund was set up in memory of my sister, who died in 1978 at age 27. She taught both retarded children and illiterate people. Her last student was a 51-year-old man who could not read, but learned so he could earn his high school equivalency diploma.)

On Thursday, February 15, 1979, at exactly 1 p.m., the first of 1,053 games was played. Games were played on a rotating shift basis, allowing for a stoppage of play only to set up for a new game. The response to the marathon was fantastic. Students had no qualms about playing before, after, and instead of going to class, although it did take some doing to get people to play the 3 a.m. to 7 a.m. shift. Bill Winter, a friend and executive editor of the school newspaper The Quill, recalled that he played those late hours because he knew he would never stop bothering him.

One of the best places to sign up players was at dinner. I remember going in one time and finding a very good friend, Ken Mooney, sitting at a table. Mooney quickly hid under the table (with his dinner) hoping I wouldn’t see him. I took my dinner and sat on the floor with him until he agreed to play the 3 a.m. to 7 a.m. shift.

Two players I had no trouble signing up were President William H. Rizzini and director of student activities William O’Connell (then acting dean of students). President Rizzini’s involvement in the marathon was well defined before the marathon began. When co-organizer John DiCarlo and I spoke to him seeking permission for the marathon, he agreed on one condition: that we allowed him to play.

I remember most the way we shared one collective dream: to reach April 5, 1979, the day we would break the all-time record for continuous Monopoly playing. On that day, we received a plaque from Parker Brothers (makers of Monopoly) officially acknowledging our record. I also remember that I have never seen a group of more caring, warm-hearted people. I’ll never forget the friendships created somewhere between Mediterranean Avenue (a bargain at $60) and Boardwalk ($2,000 with a hotel on it). Mooney also recalled that the marathon opened doors to a lot of friendships. To all who played, thank you.

The marathon was played in the vestibule connecting the classroom building to the lecture halls, and every Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. the president and acting dean of students of Roger Williams College played Monopoly. President Rizzini admitted that he had doubts at the onset, but quickly changed his mind. “I saw that the students wouldn’t give up,” he said. “I remember the great spirit. It was really an exhilarating time from beginning to end.”

There were very few dull moments. You might expect the Saturday morning shift to be dull, but nothing could be further from the truth. Two players, John Mount and Mike Neumac, played every Saturday morning. They brought with them friends and enthusiasm. They played disco Monopoly and Three Stooges Monopoly.

Along the way, we received the attention of the local media, appearing twice in The Providence Journal, almost daily on the radio, and seven times on television, including the record-breaking game being carried by the three local television stations. We also received continuous coverage by The Quill and WPRO.

The Providence Journal, IMAGES AND AIDS WITH PERMISSION FROM POURADEN TO JON

Grants Support College Programs

Sears-Roebuck Foundation, the Rhode Island State Council for the Arts, and the March of Dimes have contributed grants to Roger Williams College. The Sears-Roebuck grant totals $2,900 and is unrestricted by that company. It will be put into the College’s annual fund. The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts has awarded $2,000 to Ampersand Press of the Creative Writing Program. The award will help finance publication of How the Weather Was, an anthology of work by emerging fiction writers. Six of the nine authors are Rhode Island natives. The anthology is due for publication in the fall of 1989. The March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation has awarded $2,900 to support an intensive health promotion program to be launched on the Bristol campus. The program will utilize lectures, workshops, and a newsletter to educate students about sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, and substance abuse. The goal of the program is to reduce risk-taking behavior.

In Brief

Avon Old Farms Inn was the setting for the Roger Williams College Alumni Association’s Connecticut Chapter Kick-Off. Twenty-eight alumni gathered for a cocktail reception, where they were brought up to date on campus activities by President William H. Rizzini. Christopher Zepp ’85, chairman of the membership committee, spoke to the group about future events for the chapter, as well as upcoming regional events. Kick-off events for Boston and New York/New Jersey Alumni Chapters are also planned for the spring.

Richard Chafee, architectural historian in the Architecture Division at Roger Williams College since September 1988, in January was elected president of the New England Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians. Membership in the Society is open to everyone, not just to professional historians; the New England Chapter organizes lectures, conferences, and tours.

Lou Proccacini, a 13-year faculty member in the Open Division, has been appointed vice chairman of the Juvenile Hearing Board by the City of East Providence. The Board was established by the East Providence City Council to assist the police department in dealing with juvenile offenders. Instead of sending them through family court, the board will assign creative adjudication, such as public service or work on city projects. Proccacini is one of five members of the board.

Dr. Ram Gupta, faculty member in the Engineering Division, has had a textbook entitled Hydrology and Hydraulic Systems published by Prentice Hall.
Betsy Peck is the editor of the newsletter for the Consortium of Rhode Island Academic and Research Libraries. In the last issue (fall 1988), she contributed an article “Planning New Libraries—written from her perspective as the Architecture Librarian at Roger Williams College.

Nondas Hurst Voll, Director of Public Relations for Roger Williams College during the past eight and one-half years, has resigned his position to become Deputy Public Information Officer for Governor Edward DiPrete. While at the College, Voll was instrumental in producing a number of firsts, including, a visual standards manual, a publications’ policy, the first award for the alumni magazine, a recruitment video, the first admissions marketing award, and the first College logo.

Barbara L. Grotta, placement assistant with the Cooperative Education Program, has been elected vice president/president-elect of the New England Association for Cooperative Education and Field Experience. Her major responsibilities will include planning spring and fall conferences. The fall conference will be a joint conference with the New York Cooperative Experiential Education Association; a first for the organization.

Dr. Ralph Chassaing of the Engineering Division has had a textbook published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. of New York. The textbook Digital Signal Processing with the TMS320C25 resulted from his work teaching a course by the same name. In addition, Chassaing has been invited by the National Science Foundation to Washington, D.C., to review grant proposals.

Women’s Resource Center

Undergraduate women have a place to discuss problems and concerns, now that a Women’s Resource and Support Center has been established at the College. Lisa Lisiecki, assistant coordinator of student activities and organizer of the program, feels that while the Counseling Center, Health Services, and the Dean of Students have been addressing women’s concerns in the past, a centralized support group is still needed.

“Faculty, administrators, and students will be able to share experiences they have every day as women; health issues, relationships, etc.” Lisiecki says. The experiences are shared through informal discussions, each with a topic chosen by student participants. Two or more campus resource people facilitate the discussions, held monthly during the spring semester. For now, women meet in the Bay Room, but Lisiecki hopes to have a room reserved to the Center sometime next year. In addition to the discussions, the Center also makes available articles and books on women’s issues.

Wealth of Speakers on Campus

The Contemporary Forums Committee presented a full program of lectures over the course of the second semester. Speaking on a variety of topics, each guest also participated in classroom discussions and formal receptions with the audiences.

Dr. Richard Restak, in conjunction with the Natural Science Division, spoke on “Exploring the Brave New World of the Infant Mind.” Dr. Restak is best known as the author of The Mind, the book that served as the companion to the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) series of the same name. The material presented by Dr. Restak, a neurologist and psychiatrist, was a combination of facts, speculation, and experimental research.

Career Services and the Business Division co-sponsored Frank Capello, speaking on “Finding the Next Super Stock,” also the subject of his latest book. Capello is a regular panelist on the PBS television show Wall Street Week with Louis Rukeyser and is president of an investment counseling firm. In April, teacher, writer, and social activist Jonathan Kozol was on campus to speak about the plight of the homeless. His most recent book, Rachel and Her Children: Homeless Families in America, was the basis of his speech. In conjunction with the visit, community activists involved with the homeless spoke to classes.

Also on campus was Raymond Hutchings, expert on the Soviet Union. His comments centered around the issue of secrecy in the USSR. Finally in April, White House correspondent Larry O’Rourke gave his views of the Bush administration, and historic preservationist Dean Clark spoke on revitalizing historic buildings as part of planning for the future.

Alice! Arts in Full Swing

The Alice! Arts series began its spring season with a novel one-woman performance by Robin Lane. Using slides, film, and music, Queen of Back Bay portrayed the life of Isabella Stewart Gardner, a nineteenth century cultural leader from Boston. Gardner often entertained literary and artistic figures of the day, and eventually built a replica of a Venetian Palace as her home in Boston’s Back Bay. The building is now the Gardner Museum, and houses her collection of rare paintings, sculpture, and tapestries. To enhance their appreciation of the play, many members of the audience participated in a bus trip to the museum on the afternoon of the show.

Roger Williams College News of Interest to Parents

During an organizational meeting of the Roger Williams College Parents’ Association, many of you who attended offered suggestions on the type of activities that you would like to see the Association involved with. These suggestions included a parents’ newsletter, the formation of a parents’ network, and welcoming receptions for parents each semester.

All parents currently receive The Bridge magazine and The Abridged newsletter. It is our intent to keep you abreast of activities involving your son or daughter through this column until a separate newsletter can be put into place. Hopefully this will become a reality next fall.

Lianne C. Oberg, Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, is working closely with the Parents’ Association, and welcomes your input and support.

Health Services Now Includes Health Education

In the fall of 1988, Health Services extended their outreach component by hiring a full time health educator. Pauline Vose arranges programs and activities to promote healthful practices.

Health promotion begins with students who are basically healthy, and seeks to develop community and individual measures which encourage them to adopt lifestyles to maintain and enhance their wellness. The programs and activities offered work with the students to promote general health and prevent illness. To date, topics covered have included sexuality, substance abuse, eating disorders, risk management, stress management, smoking, heart health, coping/adaptation, and self-esteem. Health Services, with their new health education program, is working to create an environment to support healthy choices and life-enhancing decisions.

Annual Fund Phonathon

The Roger Williams College Annual Fund Phonathons will be held during the last two weeks in April. Each year, unrestricted dollars are raised to support student financial aid, academic programs, and faculty development. Don’t be surprised if you receive a call from your son or daughter asking for your support! Last year, approximately $5,000 was contributed by parents, and your help is needed this year more than ever. L.C.O.
Hockey’s “Killer Bs”

By Denise Thybaut

They are known as “The Killer Bs.”

Senior Kevin Bessette and junior Todd Bartol were the top two offensive players on the Roger Williams College hockey team, which concluded its regular season with a record of 12-11-1. The pair not only were pass away from each other on the ice, but are the highest scorer on the team.

Bessette and Bartol, both 21, came to be Hawk teammates via different routes. Bessette, a native of Washington D.C., was a hitch in the military over. Bessette played his high school hockey for Burrillville (two years) and a full season as a senior at La Salle in Providence.

About that time, Bartol was playing hockey for Danvers High, a Division I squad that twice made the Massachusetts state tournament. While admittedly not a high scorer at Danvers, Bartol still received leadership honors from the school for his qualities on the ice.

After high school Bartol attended Gurneys, a Connecticut prep school, for a year. He played hockey there, competing in the New England Prep League (SENE). Bartol’s single season on the ice was successful. He ranked 12th in New England with 145 points, the third highest scorer on the team.

Next season half of the “Killer B” combo will be missing, which means Bartol will have to get used to playing with a new partner. “It’s going to be different, not having Kevin there, playing alongside me,” Bartol said. “I’ll have to learn to play with someone different.”

Bessette won’t be completely out of the picture; he plans to return to the Hawks to help coach the forwards; Bessette will put in another semester to fulfill class requirements. That brings a smile to Bartol’s face, but he’s a bit concerned, too. “Just as long as he’s not in charge of the sprint drills,” Bartol said.

Winter Sports Roundup

The women’s basketball team finished its season with 12 wins and 14 losses. In the Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC), they were 6-9, finishing third overall. Sandy Vinton, a senior from Holmen, Mass., was named the Women’s Basketball Conference most valuable player. Vinton scored her 1,000th career point, February 14th during a home game against Westworth. Gerry Shea, a senior from Greenfield, Mass., received all-conference honorable mention.

The men’s basketball team ended its season with an 8-18 record, and a CCC record of 6-4, also placing, third overall.

Lee Marveill, a junior from Hampton Falls, N.H., was named a conference all-star. Rick Severson, a senior from Cape Coral, Fla., received all-conference honorable mention.

Kevin Bessette, high scorer for the Hawks’ hockey squad, was voted to the first team ECAC South all-stars.

SPORTS

1970

Dr. Robert M. Hashway is a professor of education at Grambling State University, Louisiana. He is the author of numerous books, including Foundations of Developmental Education (1987) and Objective Mental Measurement (1978). Both are published by Praeger Publishers in Westport, Conn. Dr. Hashway is also co-founder of Associated Learning Centers, which specialize in adult training.

1973

Edward Cobbett has joined Jaworski Geotech Inc. branch office in White River Junction, Vt., as a consulting engineer. Cobbett has extensive environmental experience with site assessment relative to hazardous materials and groundwater contamination and remediation.

1975

Thomas F. O’Connor, Jr., has been hired by the Middle School in Tiverton, R.I. to counsel students with drug and alcohol abuse problems. The program is the first in the state to have a counselor at the middle school level. One of her responsibilities will be to meet with students and refer them to agencies that can provide long-term assistance in dealing with their problems. A counselor with Codac in Providence, Ms. Rice is working toward a master’s degree in human development at Salve Regina College. She is a state certified alcohol counselor.

1976

Patricia A. Rize has been hired by the Middle School in Tiverton, R.I. to counsel students with drug and alcohol abuse problems. The program is the first in the state to have a counselor at the middle school level. One of her responsibilities will be to meet with students and refer them to agencies that can provide long-term assistance in dealing with their problems. A counselor with Codac in Providence, Ms. Rice is working toward a master’s degree in human development at Salve Regina College. She is a state certified alcohol counselor.

1977

Jack Conway of Taunton is the editor of Information Center, a Boston-based computer magazine with a circulation of 70,000. Previously, Conway was editor of Computers and Special Education, a monthly newsletter published by the Massachusetts Department of Education. He is currently the featured humor columnist for Bovensia magazine, and teaches writing at Boston University and Northeastern University. Conway was also a humor writer for The Providence Journal and worked as a correspondent for The Taunton Daily Gazette. He holds a master’s degree in mass communication from Norwich University (Vt.).

CLASS NOTES

Alumni Directory

Coming Soon

The Roger Williams College Alumni Directory is nearing completion and soon shipment of the directories will begin.

This comprehensive new volume is a compilation of the most current data available on over 6,774 Roger Williams College alumni. All alumni who reserved a copy of the directory during the verification phase of the project should be receiving their copies in June. If you have a question about your order, or if you wish to place an order, contact:

Customer Service Department
Bernard E. Harris Publishing Co., Inc.
3 Barker Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601
914-628-8921

To those of you who returned the questionnaire, many thanks for your cooperation. And to those who ordered a copy of the directory — enjoy!
Darlene Lycke Memorial Scholarship Fund

Thanks to her family, friends, and alumni — particularly from the Classes of '84, '85, and '96 — the Darlene Lycke Memorial Scholarship Fund has been endowed. The fund will ensure that a $500 scholarship can be awarded each year to a Roger Williams College junior or senior pursuing a degree in education.

Lycke’s major course of study was humanities with a concentration in education. She was the editor of the 1985 Talisman, and she also served as a resident assistant. After graduating with the Class of 1985, she accepted a teaching position in the Madison, Conn., Public School System. Lycke died of cancer in December, 1986 — a month after her 23rd birthday. Because she touched so many lives with her outgoing and caring personality, she will truly be missed and thought of often.

Special thanks to Mrs. Joan M. Lycke; Michelle A. Murodca '85, Katie O'Maley '84, and Jeannie McFadden for initiating this lasting tribute to Darline while helping deserving undergraduates at Roger Williams College. M.K.

Paul J. LeBoeuf was promoted to the rank of captain in the Providence Police Department’s Detective Bureau, Investigative Division. Affiliated with the Police Department since 1986, LeBoeuf is the recipient of several commendations for outstanding police work and devotion to duty. He graduated from the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management and Command Training Institute, Babson College (Mass.). He is married to the former Irma Paola, and they have a daughter.

1978

Robert E. Brien resigned as planning director for the Town of Braintree, Mass. in order to accept a position with a consulting firm. The firm is working on Boston’s third harbor tunnel project. A senior planner in Central Falls, for five years, Brien resides in Seekonk.

Paul V. Verrechia was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the Providence Police Department’s Prosecution Bureau, Administrative Division. He began his career in 1975, and was the first Rhode Island police officer to graduate from the Drug Enforcement Administration Conspiracy Seminar and F.B.I. Advanced Investigation School. He and his wife Meredith (Read) have two children.

1980

Richard T. Sullivan was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the Providence Police Department’s Traffic Bureau, Uniformed Division. Sullivan holds a master’s degree in Criminal Justice from Salve Regina College, and completed Basic and Advanced Traffic Accident Investigation training at the University of Northern Florida. Sullivan received the Department Ribbon, the highest honor awarded by his department. Other awards include the Lions Club Award, the Rhode Island Award, the Silver Star of Bravery from the American Law Enforcement Officer’s Association, and the Attorney General’s Law Enforcement Award. He is married to the former Kathleen Mackin, and they have three children.

1982

William V. Devine was promoted to the rank of captain in the Providence Traffic Bureau, Uniformed Division. Devine holds degrees from Rhode Island School of Design, the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management, and the Command Training Institute, Babson College. He has been a guest speaker for numerous business and fraternal organizations on the topic of safe and drunk driving. Devine is married to the former Patricia Mangiante and they have two children.

1983

Stephen F. Burke has been appointed systems planning analyst for the Providence Gas Company. Burke is a member of the Providence Journal, Rhode Island Hospital, and the Providence College. Burke holds a degree in Criminal Justice from Salve Regina College, and completed Basic and Advanced Traffic Accident Investigation training at the University of Northern Florida. Sullivan received the Department Ribbon, the highest honor awarded by his department. Other awards include the Lions Club Award, the Rhode Island Award, the Silver Star of Bravery from the American Law Enforcement Officer’s Association, and the Attorney General’s Law Enforcement Award. He is married to the former Kathleen Mackin, and they have three children.

1984

Mary S. Castrignano was promoted to assistant vice president of Citizens Trust Company. Castrignano joined the bank in 1987 and was working as an account executive in the Money Management Department. She is a member of the Rhode Island Government Finance Officers Association.

1988

David T. Grover, a member of the Providence Police Department’s Traffic Bureau, Uniformed Division, was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He completed courses on motor-carrier inspection, and he has received numerous commendations for outstanding police work and devotion to duty. Grover and his wife, Leslie (Couto) have one daughter.

1987

John O. Henry, Jr., of Warwick, R.I., is a new member of the Warwick Police Department after having completed training at the Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy. In addition, Henry earned an award for “academic achievement and extracurricular involvement while training.

John A. Simoneau was promoted to sergeant of the Providence Police Department’s Patrol Bureau, Uniformed Division. During the years he served on the Task Force, he executed over 550 arrests, two-thirds of which were felonies. He received numerous commendations for outstanding police work and devotion to duty. He and his wife Harriet (Black) have three children.

1988

Sandra J. Massion has accepted the position of Communications Manager for the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce. Her primary responsibility will be to write and produce the Chamber newsletter. Massion was formerly public relations assistant for Roger Williams College.

1989

Deaths

Robert B. Wilcomb '49 of Poultney, Vt. died at home February 2. An area manager for Coca Cola USA in Atlanta, Ga., for 30 years, he had retired in 1981. Wilcomb was a navy veteran of World War II, and a member of the Liberty Lodge of Masons, Beverly, Mass. He is survived by his wife, Norma (Lawton), a daughter and son.

Charles R. Macomber '52 died November 16, 1988. He was a retiree living in Roanoke, Va. He leaves his wife, Virginia W. Macomber.

Marriages

Jeffrey S. Sypek '73 to Judith A. Beaulieu, October 9, 1988
Paul Wilfred Levesque '77 to Dawn Marie Manning, September 17, 1988
Douglas Kerr Robinson '79 to Terri Ann Gilligan, October 29, 1988
Gene Paul Beaudoin '82 to Michelle Claire Pelletier, November 26, 1988
Elizabeth Ann Francis '82 to David Emil Stevens, November 26, 1988
Debra Vierra '82 to Peter Murphy, November 5, 1988
Scott Anthony Gergor '84 to Susan Elizabeth Dilling, October 14, 1988
Nancy C. Fredrickson '85 to Todd A. Burroughs, July 23, 1988
Kathleen E. Canning '87 to Vincent J. Mello, December 18, 1988
Keith Michael Johnson '87 to Mary C. Edwards, October 8, 1988

Deaths

Robert B. Wilcomb '49 of Poultney, Vt. died at home February 2. An area manager for Coca Cola USA in Atlanta, Ga., for 30 years, he had retired in 1981. Wilcomb was a navy veteran of World War II, and a member of the Liberty Lodge of Masons, Beverly, Mass. He is survived by his wife, Norma (Lawton), a daughter and son.

Charles R. Macomber '52 died November 16, 1988. He was a retiree living in Roanoke, Va. He leaves his wife, Virginia W. Macomber.
Robert M. Zeigler, Jr. '84, shown here inside the Rose Island lighthouse, is a carpenter working on the restoration project. He appeared in a photograph with Christopher Zepp '85 on page 6 of the winter issue of The Bridge, and we failed to identify him in the caption. We apologize to Zeigler, who has spent many hours on the scaffolding outside of the lighthouse, helping to restore the window frames to the decorative style that adorned the lighthouse from 1912 on. This attention to detail is an admirable and important part of the project. We also tip our hats to the American Studies Club students who volunteered on the project, including Todd Zeiger, Patti Conley, Todd Drury, Beth Hennessy, Doug Kelleher, J.J. Loglisci, Ken Mahood, Holly S. Nichols, Mike Robinson, Greg Sekula, Michael Trebbe, and Wendy Winslow. These students were commended by the mayor of the city of Newport for their work. K.M.

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