Largest enrollment ever at Sterling p 9
New minor areas of study p 17
The Rian Fried Center for Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems p 18
New artisan cheese program p 19
Record fundraising year p 24
In 2013, Stirling “Tuck” Adams ’60 named Sterling College as a beneficiary to his estate. His sister, Rosamond Adams Chadwick, said of his donation:

“Sterling School always held a special place in Tuck’s heart. So much so that he named Sterling in his will.

He was looking forward to this year’s Reunion and I am planning on attending the festivities on his behalf.

I encourage others to follow his example and remember Sterling in their wills.”

Since our founding, gifts—large and small from many individuals—have helped transform this campus community, making it a leader in environmental stewardship. We encourage you to consider your personal legacy to the College. By making a planned gift, your support will become a part of our future and will serve as a permanent reminder of your generosity to, and love for, Sterling.

There are many creative ways to support Sterling College while continuing to benefit you and/or your loved ones. Judy Bevans, our Director of Advancement and Government Relations, will be happy to speak with you. Please contact her at jbevans@sterlingcollege.edu, or by calling 802-586-7711 x111.
that it is among the last places in rural
recalled the place in vivid detail when
enough impression that I immediately
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front of North House and walking the
than a decade after stopping my car in
that is here, 55 years later. For me, more
social characteristics of the 21st century,
end—lend well to a postcard impression
of our home. I have not lost the awe of
have lived .

There is a timeless quality to the cam-
pus and community that I believe may
be unique to Sterling. A young man who
entered in the autumn of 1958 would not
find this an alien place, but rather would
find a comfortable familiarity with all
that is here, 55 years later. For me, more
than a decade after stopping my car in
front of North House and walking the
length of the Common, it left a dramatic
enough impression that I immediately
recalled the place in vivid detail when a
friend recommended that I become a
candidate to be president. To the degree
that it is among the last places in rural
New England yet to be intruded upon by
many of the more objectionable commer-
cial characteristics of the 21st century, it
is distinctive, perhaps someday to
become unique, and I am deeply grateful
to make my home here with Julian.

While the setting and campus remains
recognizable, there is, of course, much
about Sterling that has changed over its
first half century. Although a boy’s board-
school named Sterling has evolved
into an institute and eventually a college
of the same name, this remarkable place
still binds us all together. What students
learn here and what faculty teach has
always been inextricably linked to this
beautiful rural place. These thoughts
come to me because of a recent bequest
made by Sterling "Tuck" Adams, an
alumnus of 1960 who asked that his ashes
be placed on the Common. We are all
deeper grateful for his loyalty to Sterling
and his love of this place.

One of the most remarkable changes
at Sterling this fall is the number of students. The College has a larger
enrollment now than at any point in its
history, with 118 students starting the fall
semester with us. The excitement and
energy the students bring to campus is
important to all of us, and to the com-
munity beyond the campus. It has been
such a pleasure to hear local people say:
“Thereseems to be a lot going on at
Sterling these days, things really seem to
be busy.” The impact of a larger student
body for Sterling is significant. The
amount of press coverage of events at the
College and our recent successes in
enrollment, the refinement of our majors
and the addition of minors, and the
adoption of a five-year strategic plan has
all helped to strengthen the college. For
those of you who follow us on Facebook,
we now have over 2,000 “likes,” up 20% from last September.

We also raised a record $550,000 in
the annual fund last fiscal year, and saw a
20% increase in the number of individual
donors to the fund. We also launched a
new effort to raise resources for finan-
cial aid through our new Stewardship
Continued on page 23
Cultural Sustainability Symposium at Sterling College

In August, Sterling hosted "Sequen-tering Tradition? A Cultural Sustain-ability Symposium" (co-sponsored by the Vermont Folklife Center and Goucher College's MA program in Cultural Sustainability). Thirty-five scholars, students, practitioners, and community workers came together for three days to discuss the theory and practice of "cultural sustainability," which grows out of the premise that "cultural vitality is as essential to a healthy and sustainable society as social equity, environmental responsibility and economic viability," as articulated by Jon Hawkes in "The Fourth Pillar of Sustainability: Culture's Essential Role in Public Planning." In short, cultural sustainability considers the role that culture plays in environmental sustainability and the role that environmental sustainability plays in the understanding of cultural traditions and cultures.

Presentations ranged from a workshop by Rosann Kent of the University of North Georgia on heirloom seed-saving and arts-based research to a discussion on preserving traditional Arabic music by Hicham Chami of the University of Florida to Jamie Andrew's story of engaging immigrant teens as cultural leaders at the Children's Museum and Theater of Maine. In the evenings, conversations continued during a reception at President Matthew Derr's house, informal music jams, and a contra dance featuring caller Peter J. Conroy and the art of contra dancing in New England.

A number of Sterling community members participated in the Symposium: Ecology faculty Farley Brown led a field session on "Exploring a Changing Rural Culture" with adjunct faculty members Ross Morgan and Mark Dunbar at the Dunbar Farm; Ecology faculty member Laura Beebe presented "A Berried Geograph: Fruit from the Circumpolar North" via Skype from Denali National Park; and student Jesse Lee, Director of Sustainability, and adjunct faculty member Stark Biddle all participated in sessions. Participants left inspired—by the presentations, by Sterling's program, and by our surroundings—to continue these conversations in their schools and communities.

Continued from page 7

Ms. Obelnicki said students at some colleges have started a "real food" challenge. They go into their college cafeterias and start asking questions about how much of the food is local, organic and fair trade. If a series of questions can be answered affirmatively, the food can be called real. The students who came up with the idea set a goal, she said, "Let's get real food into our college—20 percent by 2020."

Under these guidelines, Sterling's cafeteria has about 70 percent real food, one of the highest percentages in the country. Jonathan Kaplan, lead faculty for the Governor's Institute on Farms, Food, and Your Future, teaches biology and history at Lyndon State College. He is a former state advisor for the Future Farmers of America (FFA). Lyndon State is also a participant in the real food challenge. After hearing Ms. Obelnicki's discussion of Sterling's food system, he told the students they might want to take that real food challenge back home with them.

"There's nothing stopping you from going back to your high school and making this happen," he said.

Christina Feuverent, Director of Communications for Sterling, noted the college now offers minors in draft horse management, climate justice, and sustainable food systems.

Bethany M. Dunbar originally wrote this story for the Barton Chronicle. She is a graduate of the Short Course, circa 1974.

**Sterling College Hosts Governor's Institute on Farms and Food**

---BEATHAN M. DUNBAR

Toby Marx-Dunn, a high school student from Jericho, was listening to National Public Radio one day, and it got him thinking about the food he eats. He decided he wanted to know more and get better, healthier food. This impulse led him to sign up for a brand new summer Governor's Institutes of Vermont—one called Farms, Food and Your Future.

Last week the impulse left him stand- ing behind the back end of a pair of large, patient workhorses in a farm field at Sterling College.

Sterling was one of the hosts of this year's institute, the first one to focus on these subjects. Mr. Marx-Dunn seems to be not alone in his impulse, judging by admission numbers at Sterling. Last year the college—which teaches sustainable agriculture and food-related topics—had about 90 students. This fall the doors will open to a full class of 110. Tim Patterson, director of admission, said the classes are full.

The Governor's institutes are resi- dencies for high school students with accelerated learning on college campuses in specific subject areas. This year's institute included one on the arts, engineering, information technology, mathematics, and Asian cultures.

On Wednesday, July 31, Toby Marx- Dunn picked up the handles of a plow behind two big horses named Daisy and Rex. His new job was to try to make the thing go straight.

"It doesn't go straight by itself," he reported shortly after plowing his very first furrow. "Asking if it was fun, he said vehemently, "No."

Not fun, Mr. Marx-Dunn explained, because it's much harder than it looks. Even so, Mr. Marx-Dunn and a dozen other high school students did get the basics on how fields are plowed, and why good soil is im- portant, and how Sterling plans to enrich the soil on the particular field they were plowing that day. Draft horse manager Rick Thomas explained that plows can only dig so deep, and the soil was hard below the furrow. In order to loosen it up and add some organic matter to the hardpan, they would plant dukon radishes as a cover crop. These radishes grow fast and have deep roots.

High school students at the Gover- nor's Institute on Farms, Food and Your Future walk through the turkey pen to see the pasture at Sterling College in Craftsbury.

Also that day, the students met a flock of young turkeys destined for a flock of Thanksgiving tables, and they learned about the difficulty of growing turkeys to the right weight, why pasture is good for them and why they are good for pasture, and a little about heritage breeds. Sterling raises 1,000 birds a year on its farm. The young turkey poult the students saw that day had already grown 12 pounds in a month and a half, so the farm manager explained they would have to be processed and frozen well before Thanksgiving, so they would not be too big to fit into a regular oven.

In between these outdoor adventures, the students heard about how the cafe- teria works at Sterling College.

The college grows 20 percent of its own food, and 44 percent of the food in the cafeteria is grown on local farms. Faculty, staff, and students all eat together and each helps with the work of putting that food onto the tables.

Anne Obelnicki, director of food sys- tems, explained to the group that last year the college grew 260 pounds of rutabagas and because of the skill of cooks at Sterling, no one got sick of rutabagas. She said they used it in all sorts of unusual ways, even mashed as an ingredient in cake.

"I think that deliciousness is part of sustainability," she said. If the food doesn't taste good, people won't keep eating it.

She said another part of sustainability is making the food affordable.

"The food at Sterling doesn't cost any more than at any other college," she said.

She said people are always saying local food is more expensive, but it doesn't have to be. Sterling has great cooks, she said, who can make a delicious meal out of rice and beans, for example.

Ms. Obelnicki passed out free samples of salami made at Sterling, which she explained is made with raw meat and bacteria so it will ferment.

At Sterling, she said, "We don't just eat to eat. We eat because we're trying to live our education here."

Continued on page 6

---CAROL DICKSON, FACULTY MEMBER

From Sterling's Kitchen: Crystallized Ginger and Honey Dressing

2 cups chopped crystallized ginger
4 cloves garlic, minced
1/2 cup chopped green onions
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup cider vinegar (unspunulated)
1 cup + 2 tablespoons honey
1/2 cup canola oil

Combine all ingredients in a bowl, whisk to combine. This dressing can be used in a variety of ways. The Sterling Kitchen uses it for a carrot salad which is very popular on campus.
27 Graduates for May 2013

—GORDON ALEXANDER, CALEDONIAN-RECORD NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The sun was warm and high overhead as 27 Bachelor of Arts degrees were presented to Sterling College graduates on a spacious lawn in Craftsby Common. The informally dressed grads and spectators shielded their heads from the sun with programs and straw outdoor work hats. There were no caps and gowns or traditional strains of “Pomp and Circumstance” filling the air.

The welcome address was given by Robert Shelton, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. A Citation and Presidential Environmental Stewardship Award was presented by Sterling College president Matthew Derr to Josh Trought, farmer at D Acres, a permaculture farm and educational homestead. Trought delivered the commencement address.

“It is my perception, that to address the challenges of the future, we will need a cadre of innovative activists who can work collectively for the common good,” Trought said.

Trought, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Colorado who, spent several years interning and volunteering with various environmental and agriculture projects included participating in the Solar Energy International summer intern training programs in Colorado, building a straw bale house in the Pacific Northwest, building a timber frame house with locally forested materials in Wyoming, post-hurricane reconstruction of homes on St John, USVI, and farming on several organic farms and experiencing sustainable communities in the U.S. and South America.

“We don’t need cap and gown, to graduate in this old town,” sang Trevor Ring, accompanying himself on guitar. Following Ring’s song were student speakers Kristen Ella Kropp and John Shaw.

Before awarding the degrees, five students including Trevor Ring sang a Gospel bluegrass rendition of “I’ll Fly Away.”

Receiving their degrees from Robert Shelton, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Matthew Derr, President, and Pavel Cerdik, Dean of the College and Faculty, were: Deborah Benson Alford, Matt Anderson, William Appleby, Lindsay Constanza Blyth, Rianna Clark, Andrew Condor, Charles Gill, Nicole Harkness, Amanda Kosukerth, Jonathan M. Kreindel, Kristen Ella Kropp, Sierra LeCrois, Jacob Lepkoff, Alyssia Muese, Natasha Mattioli-Pauller, Trevor Ring, John Shaw, Gwen Slagle, Jacci Slaterrey, Joseph Torre, Paige Wierikki.

Graduating in December 2012, but not attending the ceremony, were: Eric Tichurte Dube, Shannon Marissa Maes, Ira Ash Fowler, Maegan Reichle, Joseph Tashafrou, and Ryan Tashafrou.

The article about Sterling’s May 2013 graduation courtesy of the Caledonian-Record.

Sterling College Completes Fossil Fuel Divestment of its Endowment Fund

STERLING COLLEGE has completed the divestment of its endowment fund from the fossil fuel industry. As of July 1, 2013, the college’s endowment is invested in a fossil fuel free portfolio at Trillium Asset Management in Boston, MA.

President Matthew Derr said, “Sterling College is an institution that lives by its core values of environmental stewardship and sustainability, and our investment strategy is now completely in line with those values. By fully divesting its endowment from fossil fuel extractors, we are reaffirming our mission to educate problem solvers and the next generation of environmental stewards.”

Derr continued, “Our Board of Trustees realizes that there is something inherently contradictory about relying on profits from fossil fuels to fund an institution like Sterling. I am gratified that we were able to complete this divestment, which was championed by my friend and colleague Rian Fried, before his recent and untimely passing.”

“The work of dealing with climate change will require human change—changes in our institutions, our habits, our thinking. Sterling, with its leadership on divestment, makes clear that it’s not just an educational leader, but a leader—period,” said Bill McKibben, co-founder of 350.org, the influential organization that is spurring the divestment movement.

“It is clear that climate change is the defining investment issue of our generation. We have been managing fossil fuel free investment portfolios for years, with long-term performance that is comparable to standard benchmarks,” said Matthew Patsky, Trillium’s CEO.

He continued, “We are excited to be working with Sterling College as they align their investments with their values.”
Michael Tessler '09 Reflects

Michael Tessler ’09 taught a course over the summer at Sterling College on spore-bearing plants and mosses (Common Voice, Spring ’Summer ’13). Here he recounts his experience.

Over the course of my first year as a Sterling student, I quickly left behind the distance for academics that my public education had left me with. After my second year, I decided that I never wanted to leave academia. Faculty member David Gilligan, in particular, taught several classes that were life changing for me. David Gilligan, in particular, taught several classes that were life changing for me.

Students often had a “take-home message” at the end of lectures, but my “take-home message” from his courses was always something along the lines of, “chasing frogs is the best!”

I don’t think that I actually caught any frogs in David’s classes, but the feeling in his courses always awoke the 5-year-old in me that spent so much time catching frogs and minnows. I worked hard in my classes and learned a tremendous amount about ecology, evolution, and natural history. Years later, after an M.Sc., a few grants, my second publication submitted, and the start of a Ph.D. program, I am still following that “take-home message.”

When I was invited back to Sterling to teach a course on mosses and ferns this past summer, I was thrilled; not only because Sterling holds such a special place in my heart, but also because I would have a chance to give back to the community that most strongly shaped my current trajectory. But coming close to achieving the quality of the courses I took at Sterling would be a real challenge, especially since I needed to get students, some new to natural history who had yet to hear the “take-home message,” excited about odd, difficult to identify plants that few people ever think twice about.

I worked hard to prepare field trips and lectures that were meant to engage, challenge, and be fun. Not only did we cover the difficult identifications and peculiar biology of spore bearing plants, but we also addressed a number of difficult topics related to evolution. The hard work seems to have paid off; by the end of the course the number of students actually confessed to enjoying the difficult work of moss identification using microscopes and pondering topics such as phylogenetics, which we used to understand classification and the relationships between organisms. I know that I gained a lot from this course and, if I’m lucky, Sterling might let me brainwash a few more Sterling students.

Sterling Returns to South House

In the 1960s and early 1970s, South House was a residence for the students of Sterling School. South House was no longer needed in the later 70’s and it then became a part of the former Inn on the Common. This semester, Sterling leased South House from its new owners, to be able to house our larger-than-usual student body. Sterling students are once again living in South House after almost four decades.

Kicking Back in New Rocking Chairs

Over the summer, Sterling College saw some very colorful improvements to campus: green doors and brand new green rocking chairs! Every exterior door on campus was painted a dark forest green, which stand out beautifully against the white clapboard building. The porches of Mager and Kane were also spruced up with the addition of rocking chairs and side tables! Students have, naturally, found them cozy places to curl up with classroom readings, as well as chat with friends, but the chairs have also been the site of many an impromptu meeting.

Dr. George Hill Receives the 2012 David Cowen Award for Achievement in Medical History

We are proud to announce that George J. Hill, M.D., D.Litt., M.A., was presented the 2012 David Cowen Award for Achievement in Medical History. Dr. Hill was the interim president at Sterling College during the summer of 1996, a Sterling trustee for many years, and is a distinguished surgeon, educator, and author. He was honored for his many years of publications and presentations in medical history, especially his work on New Jersey’s own Thomas A. Edison and Edison’s impact on the environment.

Dr. Hill has published over 150 scientific reports and is the author/editor of 14 books. He is Emeritus Professor of Surgery at the UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School and is Clinical Professor of Surgery at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. He is a veteran of the War in Vietnam and was recalled to duty as a surgeon in the Navy during the Gulf War of 1990-91. Dr. Hill was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal from the U.S. Navy in 1993 and in 2001 received the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal.

Defining Sterling Alumni

Over the years, Sterling has awarded high school diplomas, Grassroots certificates, Associate of Arts degrees, and Bachelor of Arts degrees. In addition, Sterling has also hosted various short-course programs. Therefore, who are the alumni of Sterling? The answer to that question is anyone who has completed a short-course program or has successfully completed a semester at Sterling and is in good standing with the College is considered to be an alumni/alumnus of Sterling.

For any questions about Sterling alumni, please contact Sydney Flowers ’01, the Director of Advancement/Alumni Relations, at sflowers@sterlingcollege.edu.
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Sterling College Students Intern in Mongolia and Siberia

Two Sterling College students had internships in far-flung lands this past summer. Peter Detwiler ’13 spent his summer around the city of Irkutsk, in Siberia, and Kayla Scheinreif ’13 was in Mongolia.

Detwiler worked as a trail guide for the Great Baikal Trail Association. The group is working to promote the sustainable development of ecotourism in the Lake Baikal region.

Detwiler first heard of Lake Baikal in a Winter Ecology class taught by Jeff Lake Baikal region. 

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Asked how good his Russian was, Detwiler laughed and said, “Pretty non-existent.”

Communication was continually a challenge. “I was living in a youth hostel with some Russian students, and another intern from Finland,” he remembers. However, he was able to edit the Russian-to-English translation of the organization’s website.

He also worked on upgrading the area, participating in the trash cleanup initiative, and general upgrades for the trail.

Scheinreif was a research assistant, banding the azure-winged magpie. She worked with Dr. Michael Muehlenberg’s team from the University of Göttingen.

“I’ve always been really interested in Mongolia,” she said. “It’s such a different landscape.” She first became interested in Mongolia when she learned of the traditional yurt dwellings known as ger and the nomadic lifestyle some Mongolians still adhere to. She then researched internship opportunities and reached out to Dr. Muehlenberg’s team.

This was Scheinreif’s first internship and her first work experience abroad. “My experience was so different,” she said. “Just the fact that I was working there and not a tourist was different. Only my supervisor spoke any English.”

Before setting out for Mongolia, she got some tips from Dr. Laura Spence, faculty member in Ecology, who has done research in Mongolia herself.

“I could have done similar internships in the United States,” Scheinreif said. “But the personal growth and learning with a different culture was amazing. If I can work in Mongolia, working in the U.S. shouldn’t be a challenge.”

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OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Women’s Canoe Trip

Once upon a time, canoeing was the fastest way to travel from one place to the other. Humans evolved the canoe form over hundreds of years from a style known as dugout, to skin and bark canoes, to aluminum canoes, to plastic canoes, to fiber-glass canoes and onward into the future. Along the way paddles also have changed size, shape, and craft and are ever evolving. With this sense of tradition, I led a group of women, varied in age, skill, and overall lifestyle, through the waterways of the Adirondacks by canoe—a mode of transportation that outdated us all.

The total mileage for this trip was 25 miles, and along the way, I learned valuable techniques in teaching others.

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The total mileage for this trip was 25 miles, and along the way, I learned valuable techniques in teaching others.
In June, faculty member Farley Brown ’85 presented the results of an eighteen-month investigation into the ecology and natural history of Hardwick Lake, undertaken at the behest of the Northern Rivers Land Trust. The study was conducted by Brown and her students, including Alecia Drane ’13, who conducted her research as part of her internship. Excerpts are below; for a full copy of the report, see www.northernriverslandtrust.org/hardwicklake.html.

JACKSON DAM

Although originally intended to generate electricity for the Hardwick granite industry it has never been used for that purpose. It has been used in the past to regulate stream flow below the dam to support the operation of the Hardwick Electric Department’s hydroelectric generating facility at Potterville Dam in Wolcott. Jackson Dam is operated and maintained by the Hardwick Electric Department under an agreement with the Town which owns the dam, the land under the lake and some surrounding lands east of the lake.

Over recent years the operation of Jackson Dam has focused on controlling sediment release and controlling ice formation and flooding upstream. A large sediment release in 1999 from lowering the dam, bank erosion and influence of the dam on fish population composition in the river have caused the State concern for many years.

HISTORIC AND CURRENT LAND USE

Even before the installation of Jackson Dam, the land surrounding Alder Brook (now Hardwick Lake) was once productive agricultural land and both hillsides throughout the valley were actively farmed for many years. This area of Town was never highly populated but supported a district school and small local stores. In the spring of 2012, Sterling College students conducted a property deed research on several properties around the lake and found evidence of farming and maple sugar production in deeds from the 1800s.

Current land use around the lake is predominately residential with limited businesses closer to the edge of town. The landscape is now forested and the Town gravel operation is the only natural resource extraction at this time. Many enjoy recreational opportunities on the east side of the lake with the establishment of the Hardwick Recreation Trail, and others enjoy canoeing and kayaking on the lake. The Hardwick Lake area is no longer a working landscape but more a residential and recreational landscape and its future is unknown.

NATURAL FEATURES OF HARDWICK LAKE

During June 2012, a team of Sterling College students and Professor Farley Brown conducted a preliminary ecological survey of the flora and fauna around Hardwick. An aquatic bioassessment of two tributaries on the eastern shore was also conducted to better understand the health of the streams and the quality of the water entering Hardwick Lake. The survey also included a four-hour “bioblitz” of the lake and shoreline by students and faculty as part of field ornithology and botany classes.

During four visits to the lake, various inventory techniques were used to determine the natural communities. We divided the lake and surrounding landscape into general natural communities such as cattail and emergent marshes, sedge meadows, tributaries, forested areas, and open water, and then inventoried those areas using several methods including field observations and stream assessment. Evidence of many different wildlife species were observed through tracks and scent. These mammals are indicator species of the health of the natural communities studied throughout Hardwick Lake, and reflect that the water edge and surrounding landscape provide sufficient habitat. Majority of tracks were seen in the mud associated where the tributaries meet the lake thus confirming the interrelationship of the habitat needs. Sterling College students and a Vermont Fish and Wildlife biologist walked a small portion of the town property along Hardwick Lake and determined that deer wintering area components (softwood cover, food source) are present on the landscape.

THE COUNTRY STORE

Sterling College students and Professor Farley Brown conducted a survey of the flora and fauna around Hardwick. An aquatic bioassessment of two tributaries on the eastern shore was also conducted to better understand the health of the streams and the quality of the water entering Hardwick Lake. The survey also included a four-hour “bioblitz” of the lake and shoreline by students and faculty as part of field ornithology and botany classes.

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THE COUNTRY STORE

Sterling College students and Professor Farley Brown conducted a survey of the flora and fauna around Hardwick. An aquatic bioassessment of two tributaries on the eastern shore was also conducted to better understand the health of the streams and the quality of the water entering Hardwick Lake. The survey also included a four-hour “bioblitz” of the lake and shoreline by students and faculty as part of field ornithology and botany classes.

During four visits to the lake, various inventory techniques were used to determine the natural communities. We divided the lake and surrounding landscape into general natural communities such as cattail and emergent marshes, sedge meadows, tributaries, forested areas, and open water, and then inventoried those areas using several methods including field observations and stream assessment. Evidence of many different wildlife species were observed through tracks and scent. These mammals are indicator species of the health of the natural communities studied throughout Hardwick Lake, and reflect that the water edge and surrounding landscape provide sufficient habitat. Majority of tracks were seen in the mud associated where the tributaries meet the lake thus confirming the interrelationship of the habitat needs. Sterling College students and a Vermont Fish and Wildlife biologist walked a small portion of the town property along Hardwick Lake and determined that deer wintering area components (softwood cover, food source) are present on the landscape.
My reasons for volunteering at Bread and Puppet began as an impulse towards community and engaging people who are living creative activism. The ultimate impact that it has had on me, and will continue to have, is yet to be known. Bread and Puppet Theater provided me with an amazing opportunity to learn from a community alive with culture, activism and expression. Through this, my studies and life will forever be informed by my experience of Bread and Puppet. How (in this most difficult of times) this rag-tag community of brilliant rejects saves a place for the organic, the subversive, the extravagant, the raw, the handmade, the ugly truth-telling, the ridiculous, and especially, the simple act of sharing bread.

Elizabeth Pecoraro is a third year student with a self-designed major in Cultural Activism.
tune program. The facility will encompass new and improved farm and draft horse instructional spaces, including new construction and renovation of existing structures.

President Matthew Derr said, “I loved working with Rian; he was a wonderful person and a gifted Trustee, whose loss will be felt for years to come. The Fried Center will continue his mission to transform the local economy and to Sterling College’s curriculum so we can continue to be a boot camp for a revolution in the stewardship of our food system.”

The Center will also be an incubator for collaborative programs with non-profits in the Northeast Kingdom, as these relationships were of great interest to Fried. One such partnership under development is with the Center for an Agricultural Economy. Collaborations with local businesses are being explored with the Cellars at Jasper Hill, High Mowing Organic Seeds, and others.

“Sterling College has for years given new students a generous introduction to the local socio-economic environment,” said Sarah Waring, the Executive Director for the Center for an Agricultural Economy. “The launch of The Rian Fried Center for Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems will both deepen this existing network, and harness the creative power of young adults into our local, regenerative food systems.”

She added, “We are proud to be at the table, bringing students closer to food businesses, infrastructure, and systems challenges. To integrate Sterling College into the emerging local and regional food systems is the next step in changing our economy and the future of our rural opportunities.”

“Sterling is to be the recipient of a challenge grant from an anonymous donor, and the establishment of the new center, which will bear Fried’s name. The foundation will match up to $250,000 in donations for the Center. The College hopes to raise a total of $500,000 or more for this project.

“Rian was a fierce critic of business as usual, especially when it came to food and farming on a community scale,” said Tom Stearns, Sterling College trustee and president of High Mowing Organic Seeds. “My hope for the new center is that innovation and creativity will abound at every level—classroom, community partnerships, entrepreneurship, finance and more. That would make Rian proud.”

Eric Becker, the Chief Investment Officer of Clean Yield Inc., said, “Rian was passionate about developing local, organic and sustainable food enterprises, both to serve local communities and to become working models that could be replicated broadly. He was devoted to building bridges between social investors and sustainable food enterprises, as well as sharing his business acumen with Vermont’s emerging food entrepreneurs. I can think of no finer or fitter way of honoring Rian.”

Trustee and journalist Marian Burros said of the Center: “Rian did more than anyone to bring town and gown together, working tirelessly to connect the sustainable agriculture community of the Hardwick area with Sterling College’s sustainable agriculture programs.”

For more information about the Rian Fried Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems, including how to contribute to the center, please visit www.sterlingcollege.edu/friedcenter.

Sterling College will now offer a two-week short course in artisan cheesemaking. This intensive program will be offered in partnership with the Cellars at Jasper Hill in Greensboro, Vermont. The first course will be held January 13–26, 2014.

The program, led by world-renowned master cheesemaker and educator Ivan Larcher, is designed to provide students the practical and scientific knowledge involved in creating small-scale artisan cheese. Students will learn the full process of cheesemaking, from milk production, lactic technology, and coagulants, to salting, tasting, ripening, and cheese quality.

At workshops offered on the Sterling College campus, at the Cellars at Jasper Hill, and at the Center for an Agricultural Economy in Hardwick, Vermont, students will also learn about the business of cheesemaking, sales and distribution, and marketing. The program will also include visits to local producers, and an overview of the history of cheesemaking in Vermont, and their influence on local food systems.

“Sterling has a long tradition of short courses that serve the needs of students in the Northeast Kingdom,” said Sterling College President Matthew Derr. “Our new artisan cheese program will both serve Vermont and bring students from around the world to learn more about our dynamic artisan food system and local focus on sustainable agriculture.”

Matteo Kehler, master cheesemaker, affinage, and co-owner of Jasper Hill Farm, said, “Both Jasper Hill and Sterling College are passionate about cheese and artisan culture. We want to give hands-on classes in cheesemaking, and also work with people interested in moving our food system in a much more responsible direction.”

Derr continued, “The opportunity for Sterling College to work with Jasper Hill and the Center for an Agricultural Economy will provide yet another link between Vermont higher education, non-profits, and businesses focused on the health of our state’s food system. This collaboration is an important example of how we can build bridges between our worlds in an effort to serve students.”

Ivan Larcher said, “I wish to work with students to help build their cheesemaking future. My love of cheesemaking is matched by my passion to pass on vitral cheesemaking knowledge. I am truly looking forward to the opportunity to again link my teaching and work in France with that of my colleagues in Vermont.”

Future continuing education short courses across the Sterling College curriculum are under development for 2014-15. For more information about this program, please visit www.sterlingcollege.edu/artisan-cheese-program-winter-2014.html.

The Monthly Giving Program provides you the opportunity to maximize your annual gift to Sterling College by paying in monthly installments. By contributing to Sterling College with your monthly gift, you will support our most important aim—providing financial access to a rigorous education that looks at the liberal arts through the lens of ecology.

To make a monthly sustaining gift, please go to www.sterlingcollege.edu/why-give.html or email Micki Martin at mmartin@sterlingcollege.edu.
All College Meeting was held on September 25, 2013. This is Sterling College’s largest ever on-campus community.
Climate Justice Scholarships

—Tim Patterson, Director of Admission

Of the 50 new students in the Sterling College community this year, eleven are recipients of a Climate Justice Scholarship, awarded in recognition of leadership demonstrated through environmental stewardship and climate justice activism. In 2013, the College awarded a total of $80,700 in Climate Justice Scholarships, and as the scholarship campaign was so successful, it has been renewed for the 2014 entering class.

The impetus for the Climate Justice Scholarship was the decision to divers the College’s endowment from fossil fuels (see page 9), and to launch a new Climate Justice minor that builds on existing coursework in ecology, and environmental and social justice (see page 15).

“Sterling is preparing a generation of environmental stewards to address the myriad issues raised by climate change,” commented President Matthew Derr.

“Climate change will impact our entire society, and by awarding scholarships to students with a track record of climate justice activism, we are investing in the future resilience of our communities.”

Bill McKibben, author, educator, and environmentalist, said: “Any institution can announce its ideals; great ones live them out—in the curriculum, on the campus, and in the portfolio.”

Scholarship recipients included recent high school graduates, adult learners, veterans, and seasoned activists. Their scholarship application essays highlighted a wide range of actions, from personal life choices like planting a kitchen garden, to helping organize protests against mountaintop removal in Appalachia.

Julia “Loo” Lepping, a scholarship recipient who has devoted the past four years to climate activism, wrote of the importance of working together and learning from fellow activists.

“I’ve fought hard for social and environmental justice, but my work would be nothing without the work of others doing the same, taking different approaches, and thinking innovatively,” wrote Lepping. “It’s taken me a long time to undo lessons of solitude and competition that are instilled in us all. It’s taken me a long time to fully understand that I am great, but we are greater.”

For 2014, the Climate Justice Scholarship campaign includes one full-tuition scholarship, renewable for up to eight semesters / four years of enrollment, in recognition of the leadership an admitted student has offered through environmental stewardship and climate justice activism.

The College will also award ten $5,000-$10,000 merit scholarships to admitted students in recognition of the commitments they have made to environmental stewardship. For more information, or to nominate a student for the scholarship, please visit www.sterlingcollege.edu/climate-scholarship.html.

Continued from page 4

Program. To say that those of us who are at Sterling College are grateful for your support is an understatement. We know that without your generous gifts, the College could not move forward with building its academic curriculum, supporting its talented faculty, and ensuring that students have the benefit of a Sterling education as they prepare to commit to become environmental stewards.

You will find in the pages of this issue of Common Voice a number of stories that relate to the work of our fine and dedicated faculty. It is there sense of commitment throughout the history of Sterling that has made it possible for the institution to survive and to thrive. They are and will always remain the keepers of Sterling and its mission. The strengthening and the expansion of our program of study, the support of a larger student body, the improvement of our facilities, will engage the faculty in helping to lead the effort to refine the bold initiative in liberal learning that Sterling represents. It is with gratitude to many people that this year has been such a rewarding year for me and that Sterling has made such progress. One of those people was trustee Rian Fried. While I only met Rian a little over a year ago, his passing in June had a great impact on me and on the College.

I am saddened by the loss of my new friend and mentor. It was Rian’s passion and convictions that led the College to divest from fossil fuel extraction this past year, and his vision that led us to build new partnerships with local entrepreneurs like our new partnership with the Cellars at Jasper Hill. With the support of an anonymous foundation that will match all gifts, Sterling is well on its way to raising $500,000 in support of our sustainable agriculture and food systems program, which will now be named in honor of Rian Fried (see page 18).

I thank you sincerely for your support over the past year and your continued enthusiasm for Sterling and its future. •

Sincerely,

Matthew Derr
President

To Sterling College and the Greatest Kingdom of the Northeast,

I’m sitting fireside in a small cabin below Arkos Ridge in Palmer, Alaska and reflecting on the turning points and activating moments of my life. Among these are skateboards and punk rock, but I would never have had the character to be here in the final frontier if it were not for the people, the lessons and the lifestyle I developed on your campus. Sterling College is at the grassroots of who I am today, and so I felt moved to share with you my sincerest gratitude and appreciation for our little community on the hilltop in Craftsbury. I suspect you’re changing the world more than I could know.

Thank you for that cozy library room on snow days and the crest of the horse pasturing up Mt. Mansfield. I was looking after a team of horses and would not have had the courage to do so if not for the love for animals that faculty member Rick Thomas and his students radiated on that farm.

Thank you for the emphasis on stewardship and the motto “working hands — working minds.” Education had previously felt so miserable because I had been sitting at desks for too long! At Sterling, digging deep in the dirt, inspired digging deep in the books (okay, I missed some readings!), inspired looking deeper into systems, and inspired going back to the dirt. I know now that when life is feeling at all stale or static, it’s because I’m not getting dirty. In other words, hands on engagement with our world, in whatever aspect befits you, are critical to our personal and planetary well-being. Start digging!

Thank you for teaching geology in the Sierra Nevada, marine ecology on a sail boat in the Bay of Fundy, for sharing local history on the ski trail, and for consistently challenging me to define myself and my interests. These intensive models encouraged taking my Senior Project to the Appalachian Mountains in West Virginia to study the impacts of coal mining first hand. Five years later I am working on local and national direct action campaigns to confront the root causes of climate change, and to keep coal in the ground.

So to contradict my previous paragraph—stop digging!

Thank you for wearing Carhartts and wool vests all the time.

Thank you to the piano before every meal. Thank you for showing me that growing our own food is resistance and resilience. Thank you for slow meandering walks among Viburnum species, beside fox tracks, and inside the songs of a Winter Wren.

Love that situation!

For a vibrant and fossil-fuel free future,

Brandon Hill ’09

—Brandon Hill ’09 when he was a student at Sterling College.

Matthew Derr
President

Letters to the Community

For a vibrant and fossil-fuel free future,
Sterling College celebrated a successful fundraising year with $546,723 in charitable gifts for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2013. This amount is as of July 1, 2013. Unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund account for 10% of the college’s operating budget, and support endowments and academic scholarships, so the goal is truly a testament to the strong loyalty and commitment by our extended community of alumni, parents, faculty, and friends.

Over 500 alumni, friends, foundations, and corporations gave to Sterling College for the 2012-2013 Annual Fund. "This has been an exciting first year at Sterling and I have enjoyed getting to know the large community of people who care deeply about the College," said President Matthew Derr. "To see the growth in annual fund participation is inspiring and it will continue to have a positive impact on our ability to support the work of our faculty and staff.

Of significant help with this year’s fundraising goals, Derr continued, were two matching grants: one from an anonymous foundation and another from Comb, which created a $75,000 matching fund, as well as a gift designated for improving campus signage.

For more information contact: Dana Turner, Director of Development.

June 30, 2013 • 2524 • Fall 2013 • www.sterlingcollege.edu
Family Weekend 2013 saw over 50 families come to Craftsbury Common to visit with their students and to sample life at Sterling College. Family members were encouraged to push their boundaries and leave their comfort zones with new activities, just as Sterling College students push their limits every day. Activities included an invasive plant identification walk with faculty member Laura Spence and Farley Brown ’85; a challenge course with faculty member Anne Morse; a farm tour; and, of course, the ever-popular talent show, where students performed for families and vice versa, in Dunbar Hall.

Families enjoyed seeing daily life on campus, including the awards (left) and the animals on the farm.
Alumni Notes

1960s
David Bernard ‘60
David and his wife Dona are excited about the upcoming October Pioneers Reunion of Sterling School faculty, headmasters, and friends 55 years later. David believes this probably will be the last reunion as pioneers, as going forward it will be incorporated into the alumni events of the College. Although now a four year college, he is pleased to see that the ‘Excellence in Education’ that was received from 1958-73 is still at the forefront of Sterling. He is happy the senior walk is still in place. David and Dona are good friends with five adult children, and several grandchildren in assorted cities throughout the country. They live in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania and like to spend time in Okemo, Vermont and Dona’s hometown of Coral Gables, Florida. If ever in Philadelphia area please do contact: Behrend52@aol.com.

Chris Desigan ’65
Chris is remembering Craftsbury Common days but after 48 years it gets blurry. Some things remain clear though: the ‘dirt pit’ they used as a smoking area under the study hall, the rope tow, the mop shop, living in Johnson Hall, the inaugural winter trip into the woods of the Northeast Kingdom (yes— they were truly pioneers!), robust headmaster Ted Birmingham, the chain smoking Mr. Field, the common tinged with maple trees, massive images of ‘capture the flag’ that covered the whole campus, the building of Danbar Dinner Hall, and writing names in the cement walkway. After graduating, he left the Common and had what turned out to be an unexpected gap year. He was supposed to be studying at the American College in Paris but . . . well, let’s just say that the plan shifted. He was 18 and according to his brother those days . . . the unbelievable 60s! He learned a lot about art, wine, independ-ence, etc. Came back and started over again at Assumption College (Worcester, MA) where he graduated and went to work as a Peace Corps Volunteer . . . stayed on there for many years after Peace Corps farming in a remote village. Eventually returned to do graduate work in South Asian Studies through a fellowship from the East-West Center in Honolulu where he lived for five years. He then went back to India to do doctoral field research on pilgrimage activity in a particular river valley. Met and married his wife there and they lived in the arid desert state of Rajasthan for four years where he was the director of a US college study abroad program. Also did some research work for UNICEF and in water sources and guinea worm disease. Came back to Vermont in 1991 to live and work in Barre (for a small college as Dean of Asian and Pacific Studies for study abroad. This gave him a great opportunity to visit and develop programs in places as diverse as Mongolia, Nepal, Thailand, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, and the south Pacific island nation of Samoa. Twelve years later they moved to Chicago where he has been for almost ten years still working as an administrator in international higher education. Now they are empty nesters with their daughter off to college this year. Retiree target is four years from now when the college tuition sucking sound from his bank account stops? Any takers out there?

Bruce P. Watson ’65
Bruce joined the Marine Corps directly after graduating from Sterling School and did a few tours in Viet Nam. He belongs to a few historical military organization memberships and is a member of the Society of Cincinnati and holds the full seat of Colonel Zebulon Butler (fifth grandfa-ther). 1775-1776 induced by John Jay and discharged by George Washington. He received his B.A. degree in Sociology in 1974, went on to Lehigh for a graduate degree but ended up buying the Lehigh Tavern in Medina. He and hand Maggi had a farm seven miles west of the beach, he owns many self-storage units and a small trucking company, and still spends a lot of time managing resorts that he built in the seventies and eighties in St. Thom- as. He has two sons, ages 27 and 25. One is a second officer in the commercial fleet of Nor-Oceans and the other is a Marshall/Sherriff in Indian River County and co-owns the trucking company with Bruce. His wife is a manager with QVC in Port St. Lucie.

1970s
Sam Card ’79
Sam graduated from Western Wash-ington University with a B.S. degree in environmental science. He has been a Disaster Assistance employee for FEMA and a National Park Ranger. He is also a substitute teacher in the Clarke County School system in Virginia and does some land surveying. He helps coach high school boys’ tennis in the spring and cross-country in the fall. In 1975 he assisted the high school debate team and judges at high school debate tournaments throughout Virginia. He enjoys hiking in the Blue Ridge Mountains and canoeing in the Shenandoah River.

1990s
Jennifer Barton ‘90
Jennifer got married in September 2013 to her sweetheart and suiting partner, John Scarinza! She still loves living and teaching in the North Country. Renee Lorenzo Standing Tree ’93
Renee eloped with Adam Standing Tree on August 26, 2011. They met while working in Zion National Park in 2001. In June 2007, they purchased a run down farmhouse in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. The next year a mile long biking, hiking, and winter sport trail around the property opened. Mark and his 13 year old daughter is very active in 4-H and riding. Their 19 year old son started college this fall and is a Landscape Architect. Zannah Crowe ‘79
Zannah is still employed as a professional horticulturist in Wisconsin. She has been married for 22 years to her husband Robert who is a Landscaping Architect. Their 19 year old son started college this year (where does the time go?) and their 13 year old daughter is very active in 4-H and 4-H’ s love of animals and the outdoors. They share their lives with a multitude of companion animals including: dogs, rabbits, and birds. She would like to tell Atlantica Credit Union that she appreciates the attention and service from the staff. Also, she enjoys adventure tours on the back of her endure bike (F650GS) and recently completed a 3,200 mile tour of New England. Last year, also in June, they rode 1200 miles all over Costa Rica! Although this mode of transportation is not entirely sustainable, it bears doing the same ad- ventures in nearly any four wheeled vehicle and the bike directly connects us to the different people and places on the road; he was able to use some of these experiences for completing his degree.

If anyone wants to reach out through email, please do so at: markcarrer@msn.com. And, he wishes GOOD LUCK to this year’s new students at Sterling, the experiences there will last you a lifetime, he guarantees it!

Calling all alumni from 1959–1989!
Sterling School and Grassroots alums! We want to hear from you. Email Sydnye Flowers (at) the Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations, at sflowers@sterlingcollege.edu.

1980s
Heather Allory ’80
Heather still enjoys traveling the world and in the past year walked from Oslo to Tromsdalen Norway on St. Olav’s Way and rode a horse across Crete. She is a volunteer with the Connecticut River Parks and Partnership and created the New England Trail, the nation’s newest National Scenic Trail, from Guilford CT (her home) to New Hampshire. She is the vice president for the Guilford Land Conservation Trust, the last volunteer land trust in Connecticut. To make ends meet, she is an associate pro-fessor at the Yale School of Medicine.

Mark Carrera ’80
Mark did it! At 51, he earned a Mas- ter’s degree with honors in Leadership Studies at the University of Southern Maine! His degree focuses on leadership in environmental activism developed through peer to peer experiential learning and community leadership. He is an educational pilot using the theme of human impact on pelagic species, specifi-cally the impact on larger sharks. Oceans and sea creatures of all types have been an important and very positive part of his life and he wanted to educate at the community level regarding current shark issues. Consequently, he successfully threaded the topic of shark conserva-tion issues throughout his undergraduate and graduate studies. Mark is currently living out his dream in Hedgehog Hill Farm, a 175 acre farm in Sumner, Maine with his girlfriend of two years (Luca Scott) and their two cats. Mr. Sticks and Deedoes (both shelter rescues). Being on the farm has rekindled his desire for more sustainable living; they grew their first raised bed organic garden this summer; mentored by their own 17 children. He doesn’t plan on having more kids as he is getting divorce. He has two sons, ages 27 and 25. One is a second officer in the commercial fleet of Nor-Oceans and the other is a Marshall/Sherriff in Indian River County and co-owns the trucking company with Bruce. His wife is a manager with QVC in Port St. Lucie.

2010s
Doro Perkins ’93
Doro recently started her own busi- ness with her husband called The Consulting and Con- tract Services, in which she is working independently as a wildlife consultant.
Jes has a small farm named Barnumtown sends best wishes to the entire Sterling Shaker-style maple desk that he made at 2014. Every day he sits at his beautiful Monique Espana, and they will get mar-thon in Long Beach, CA on October son. He is an active runner in the sum-ager for Wave Rave Snowboard Shop.

John Bennett ’96 John is currently living in Mammoth Lakes, CA and works as the Sales Man-ager for Wave Rave Snowboard Shop. He is still living the dream and gets to snowboard between 100-100 days per se-aon. He is an active runner in the sum-mer and training to run his first mar-athon in London, UK in the fall of 2013. He recently got engaged to love, Monique Espana, and they will get mar-ried in Mammoth Lakes, CA on July 26, 2014. Every day he sits at his beautiful Mammoth Lakes style maple desk that he made for Sterling for his woodworking project. He sends best wishes to the entire Sterling community.

Jes has a small farm named Barnumtown Farms. It was established in 2011 and is located in Monckton, Vermont on family-owned property. The farm grows and raises food: pork, eggs, vegetables, and maple syrup thanks to his brother’s restaurant—the Antixote Restaurant in Vergennes, Vermont. When available, she also sells products to the local community and offers a weekly egg share. In addition to the farm, she owns and oper-ates a gluten-free company (Gluten Free trEATS! in Lincoln, Vermont) selling products to natural food stores/co-ops and markets all over New England. The business has grown quickly over the last year and in order to meet the demand, an alternate processing facility proved to be necessary. She has been working on the new space and hopes to be up and running by mid-October. She has also been the Building Manager at the Red Cedar School (an independent K-9 school in Bristol, Vermont) for 9 years, and she also teaches weekly art classes there. Her daughters graduated from the Red Cedar School in June 2013. They now attend their local high school as 9th and 10th graders. Her son still attends Red Cedar School and is now a 5th grader.

Jeff Pirog ’95 Jeff explains his Sterling Years as surreal. He learned to use his senses, yet alone explaining how becoming who we are. Thanks to Victory—as no one can explain the best of Jeff Pirog’s years at Sterling—Class of 95!“

Jeff Pirog ’95 Jeff is currently the Director of Ex-anded Learning Opportunities for the Burlington School District. He directs afterschool and summer programs. Lots of kids! He is still living in Montpelier with Micah, Lily (just turned 12!), Teddy 2 1/2, and a new baby on the way this fall! Super busy and good!

Erik (Small) Lann ’00 Jeff and Erin welcomed their first daugh-ter, Tessa Autumn on June 8th, 2013. She has strawberry blonde hair, blue eyes and is growing super-fast! She is also living in Montpelier with Micah, Lily (just turned 12!), Teddy 2 1/2, and a new baby on the way this fall! Super busy and good!

Erik (Small) Lann ’00 Jeff and Erin welcomed their first daughter, Tessa Autumn on June 8th, 2013. She has strawberry blonde hair, blue eyes and is growing super-fast!

Jay Merrill ’02 Jay just finished his first year working at Northfield Mount Hermon. Though it was a bit of a stumble trying to navigate the demanding world of aboarding school, he now feels confident going into his second year at Hams Hall and has asked to coach the JV boys tennis team and though he had not picked up a racquet in 20 years, he managed to figure out coaching and the team came away with a 5-4 season. This year, the travels for the school are taking him abroad to Kuwait and then back in the NEK working at it. Not much else to note, he is staying safe in the country and still listening to Jerry... So Many Roads.

Anna (Heidorn) Wilkins ’02 Anna and Ian would like to announce the birth of their second child, Van Ed-Ward Wilkins, on June 22nd of this year. His three year old older sister, Eleanor, is jazzed about having a baby around and pretending to be a baby (a girly/boyish/ dinosaur). They are currently living in Fitchburg, Massachusetts while Ian completes a teaching degree at Fitchburg State. Anna continues to work for the Lincoln Land Conservation Trust and is always looking for unsuperseding interns for summer work.

Alexa (Remy-Powers) Holmes ’03 Alyssa is co-authoring a book called The Medicinal Gardening Handbook, which will be published by Skyhouse Publish-ing and will be out in paperback in May 2014. She also gave birth to her second daughter, Penelope, this past April. She is sending her love to you all!

J‘Mae Steiner-Boake ’01 J‘Mae is managing her local farmers market this year, after being a vendor for five years selling goat meat that she raises lovingly in the Sterling tradition. She started a pesto business when she took on the manager role. She is so excited to be living in a town with two farmers markets and two health food stores. She has two kids and has started her homestead. She is also in the Life Wikis Easy Childhood Teacher Training program in Boulder, Colorado with you’ll never believe it! Megan Gardner! She knew Megan as a little girl at George and Colleen’s house during her Sterling West semester. She is busy and life is good. She thinks of Sterling often as so much of her lifestyle now reflects her time there.

Dan Schieffelin ’06 Dan just spent a year at McMurdo Sta-tion on Ross Island, Antarctica, where he worked as a Shuttle Driver (a monster truck driver) for the summer and as a Materials Person (read box opener) for the winter months. During this time he was involved with Ross Island Foundation’s mission of furthering the understanding of the polar region and the human impact on our planet. The cold, clear days, mostly filled with south-ern whos, andFords and winds. He also was a member of the Joint New Zealand/ US Search and Rescue Team (which involved many training’s and field trips into the dark wastelands.

Chris Goodwin ’07 Chris recently got engaged to Naomi Roberts. They just had a beautiful baby boy, Henry Stephen Goodwin, in April 2013. Chris is now a helicopter pilot for the Army National Guard.

Julie Olson ’07 Julie and Luke just got engaged and are expecting a healthy human (non-farm animal) baby in the beginning of November. Yay!!

Kacie Breault ’08 Kacie is living in western Massachusetts. She has put her roller derby and farming skills to work at a small farm that can attend Antioch University in Keene, NH to become a Waldorf class teacher.

Brandon Hill ’09 Brandon is currently spending time in several states of Malaysia, including Bor-derlands. He is working on several local and international organiza-tions on a photo and video project docu-menting the movement to stop rainforest destruction for mega-dams, palm oil plantations, and coal development. Their primary focus is to amplify the story of the displaced and impacted indigenous communities who live there—as their story should lead the movement to save the rainforests.

Crystal Hoye ’09 & Ryan Chesley ’08 Crystal and Ryan just adopted an Irish Setter/Retriever rescue dog named Clancy. Ryan made the big leap to work for himself as of Spring ’13, and Crystal has landed a Library Assistant position at the Montgomery Library in Keene, NH to become a Library Assistant.

Brandon Hill ’09 Brandon is currently spending time in several states of Malaysia, including Borderlands. He is working on several local and international organizations on a photo and video project documenting the movement to stop rainforest destruction for mega-dams, palm oil plantations, and coal development. Their primary focus is to amplify the story of the displaced and impacted indigenous communities who live there—as their story should lead the movement to save the rainforests.

Crystal Hoye ’09 & Ryan Chesley ’08 Crystal and Ryan just adopted an Irish Setter/Retriever rescue dog named Clancy. Ryan made the big leap to work for himself as of Spring ’13, and Crystal has landed a Library Assistant position at the Montgomery Library in Keene, NH to become a Library Assistant.
KATIE CONNOR ’12
Katie just finished her second season working as a wilderness adventure guide in Alaska with Matanuska Ice Climbing Adventures, Exposure Alaska and Glacier View Adventures. She takes guests ice trekking and climbing, zip-lining, kayaking, backpacking, and hiking. This winter, she will be heading to Colorado to work with Steamboat Springs Snowmobile Tours.

ERIN HONEYCUTT ’12
Erin has been learning Icelandic at the University of Iceland for the past year and working as a barista at a coffee shop in Reykjavik. She has a small art studio set up in a small town where she tries to keep busy, too. This past summer she had the wonderful opportunity to visit Finland and Estonia!

SHANNON MARS ’12 & ERIC DUBE ’12
Shannon spent the late winter and early spring in Colorado (the latter half with Eric). They did lots of biking and volunteered at an awesome, nonprofit community bike center/bike shop which had really fantastic community programs. Eric loved spending time working on the bikes (much like at Sterling). Many of the bikes will be given away to folks in need. Shannon also worked with the Colorado faction of Black Mesa Indigenous Support, an organization that works for environmental justice on the Hopi and Navajo reservations. Together, Eric and Shannon worked at a Mexican restaurant where they started a composting system.

ANDREW MESSINGER ’12
Andrew is happily growing organic veggies on 14 acres and managing a crew daily. He is also volunteering at Boscawen Elementary School to establish an afterschool garden program.

ELIZA MUTINO ’12
Eliza has a deep appreciation to all you alumni rockin’ it out there! She is apprenticing at EarthWalk in Plainfield, Vermont, working a variety of seasonal jobs; and living with some amazing folks in a lovely old house bordering the North Montpelier Pond. Come visit!

IRA POWNELL ’12
Ira is a carpenter and living in central Vermont. He loves to cook, contra dance, swim, and defend the earth with his forest friends.

ERICA TENNER ’12
Erica is living in Eden, VT on the lake and enjoying her mountain views. She has taken a step back from a career in the equipe industry and instead working as a Behavior Interventionist in the public schools with students who have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). She is looking forward to pursuing her master’s degree in School Psychology and Language Pathology.

PAGA WIERIKKO ’12
Paga has begun her first semester this fall at SIT Graduate Institute in Brattleboro, VT. Her master’s degree will be in Intercultural Service, Leadership, and Management. She will be leaving for Peace Corps at some point next year, but she still does not know where. She started her new job at Woodman Athletics coaching gymnastics, Parkour, X-training, and rock climbing.

OLIVIA ZUKAN ’12
Olivia just completed her five and half month hike on the AT with alumnus Olivia. She has been learning Icelandic at the University of Iceland for the past year and working as a barista at a coffee shop in Reykjavik. She is a student at SIT Graduate Institute in Brattleboro, VT. Her master’s degree will be in Intercultural Service, Leadership, and Management. She will be leaving for Peace Corps at some point next year, but she still does not know where. She started her new job at Woodman Athletics coaching gymnastics, Parkour, X-training, and rock climbing.

KATY BANASS ’12
Katy got a new job working at NH Southern District YMCA as a Site Director for school-age childcare & outdoor education! She is also pursuing her master of science in ecological teaching and learning and is going to be graduating in January 2014.

DARRY (WEAVER) MCCREA SMITH ’10
Darby and Elliot have a small biodynamic farm in the North Georgia Mountains and it is going very well. Their farm is called Sun Dog Farm (www.thesun-dogfarm.com). Darby is happy to hear Sterling is doing well. She owes the awesome life she now has to her experiences at Sterling. She has been recommending Sterling to any kid who visits her farm that is seeking a back to the land lifestyle and a solid education after high school.

ERIC PETERSON ’12
Eric and Shannon worked at a Mexican restaurant where they started a composting system/bike center in Denver. Together, they did lots of biking and volunteering at an awesome, nonprofit community bike center. They started a composting system at a Mexican restaurant where they worked. They now have a renewed appreciation for modern conveniences along with very beefy calf muscles.

SCHIRIN OEDING ’12
Current position: Freelance writer, graduate student
“A great education offers facts and figures hand-in-hand with a deeper understanding of the self by awakening a compassionate, thoughtful relationship with each other and our planet. The marriage of work and learning gave me the chance to connect more deeply to my purpose as a human being, as well as allowing me to partake in the challenges and delights of the college community’s day-to-day operation. In a time when student debt has become the norm, the work-college model combines the best of both worlds: a chance to graduate with less—or no—debt, and an opportunity to really dig in deep and get our hands dirty.

In my experience, one of the greatest joys of a Sterling education is the celebration of work and service done well. This commitment, along with the chance to explore multiple avenues of work on and off campus, have driven me to make no compromises in the vision of my life’s work.”

ALYSSA HOLMES ’03
Current position: Owner and Herbal & Nutritional Consultant, Brattleboro Holistic Health Center, Vermont
“Since graduating from Sterling College in 2003, my main focus has been in herb-alism, with a lot of emphasis on homesteading and community as well. My life in the past decade has been a beautiful tapestry of hard work, creative thinking, staying true to myself and my goals, and really dig in deep and get our hands dirty. Ira is a carpenter and living in central Vermont. He loves to cook, contra dance, swim, and defend the earth with his forest friends.

My life is filled with work that I love and that is deeply rewarding. I have gratitude for Sterling College, a wonderful opportunity to facilitate, teach, and learn.”

TOMMY GREENWELL ’06
Current position: Assistant Director, Camp Mowgli, New Hampshire
“At Sterling College, I was able to contribute to the community through the Work Program by working on the farm and in the kitchen. I was also able to combine my Work Program position and Senior Research Project working with a local, alternative middle and high school.

For the past four years, I have been serving as the full-time Assistant Director of Camp Mowgli, New Hampshire. My job at Camp Mowgli is a lot like being a student worker at Sterling College. I have the wonderful opportunity to facilitate, teach, and learn.”
Michael Dakin Guiness ’61

Michael passed away peacefully on July 30, 2013. He was born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada on March 20, 1943. He was predeceased by his parents, Diana Bonner and Anthony Wernenthus Guiness and nephew, Ranlet Miner. He is survived by his loving wife Irena Guiness; daughter, Shauna Guiness; son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Cassandra Guiness; grandchildren, Alex and Shelby Guiness; sisters, Shauna Robbins and Bronwyn Byrnes; brother-in-law, Kenneth Robbins; stepbrother and his wife, Ranlet Miner, II and Beth Miner; and numerous cousins, nephews, nieces and friends. Mike served as Vice President and co-owner of Brightout Securities where he was employed for over thirty years. He was an avid golfer, loved his dog, Loki, his boat the Da-Anna, summers in North Haven, Maine and always enjoyed a good party. He served on the Board of the Scortonville Free Library and the Wheatland Baptist Cemetery.

Teressa L. Pruett ’76

Tereresa passed away in March 2013. After completing her studies at Sterling, Tereresa worked as a Wilderness Guard for the Nez Perce National Forest in Idaho, and as a Youth Conservation Corps Camp Counselor in Washington State. Tereresa graduated from Evergreen State College in 1982 and received a Lifetime Elementary School Teaching Credential from Humboldt State University in 1983. She taught for three years in Mendocino County, California, and for the three years in San Patricio County, Texas. She returned to Sterling College in 1992 to be a teacher assistant. During her time, and in 1993, Tereresa was the Head of the Circulation Department at the Mississippi University State Library, a collection of more than one million volumes and other circulating materials. She worked as an indexer for the Fire Ecology Data Base at the Tall Timbers Research Station Library, and she was the senior editor of the 20th volume of the Tall Timbers Fire Ecology Conference Proceedings on Prescribed Fire and Ecosystem Management. Tereresa also served as an Editorial Assistant for the Journal of Wildlife Management. She is survived by her husband, Aaron Bight, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

Thomas Nathan Garnish ’95

Thomas Garnish, 42, peacefully passed away at home on May 11, 2013. He fought a valiant, but long, fight with pulmonary fibrosis. Tom was born on May 19, 1970, to DeLories and Paul F. Garnish, their ninth child. Tom’s love of the outdoors brought him to study resource management at Sterling College. He then went on to study boatbuilding at The Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design in Durham, Maine. His love of the outdoors, nature, and wildlife lasted his entire life. Tom was very active in all kinds of sports, from running cross-country in high school, to cross-country skiing and cycling to skateboarding. Tom was an avid snowboarder, an intrepid mountain biker, enjoyed playing golf, and riding his BMW motorcycle. He enjoyed working for many years at Max BMW, in Troy, NY, first as a certified Master BMW motorcycle technician, then after his health no longer allowed him to move the bikes, he became the Service Manager. Throughout his lifetime, Tom was always in a good mood, ready to lend a helping hand, and had a quick, dry wit like his father. Family was very important to Tom, and he will be greatly missed by his five brothers and three sisters. Tom is survived by his oldest brother, Paul and sister-in-law Libby; his brother Fred and his children; his brother John, sister-in-law Holly and their daughter; sister Mary and brother-in-law Alan; sister Laura, her partner Mark, and her two boys; brother Matthew, sister-in-law Anne, and their children. Tom’s many nieces, nephews, and other relatives always enjoyed his company at family gatherings. He has many aunts, uncles, and cousins who will miss him dearly. Tom also leaves behind his beloved cat, Myrtle. Tom is also survived by his loving mother, DeLories, who cared for him over the last months of his life. He was pre-deceased by his father, Paul F. Garnish, in January 2011, now they are together.

Jen Castle ’95 was Tom’s classmate and would like to share the following with others: “When I heard of Tom’s passing it brought back many memories of Sterling and years past. Although Tom and I lost contact with each other he was always an important part of my life and played an important role in how I become who I am. He will be missed.”

They that love beyond the World, cannot be separated by it.

Deahut W. John B. Stebbins

With great sadness, we note the passing of John, age 85, on Thursday, July 25, 2013, after a long illness.

Originally from Niagara Falls, NY, he was a graduate of St Paul’s School, NH (’46) and Harvard College (’50), and became a beloved educator in NY, VT, MA, and CT.

He married the late Mary Emelie Tobias while in the Navy. He is survived by his second wife, Janet; sons Stubbins; his children, John B. Stebbins, Jr (Willy), George Stebbins, and Elizabeth Stebbins Tokreskien; four grandchildren; Alex, Ben, Emily, and Kristins; and two great-grandchildren—Bella and Chase.

John was passionate about his career as a teacher. Over the years, he taught subjects as diverse as astronomy, Latin, English and history. Despite his classical education and his ubiquitous bow ties, John never took himself too seriously.

As John would put it, he “festered as a youth” in Niagara Falls, NY where he was proud of his parents, Dr. Edward C. Stebbins and Hope Bledgett Stebbins, and his younger brother Ned, Edward C. Stebbins, Jr. Even so, at a tender age, he tried to run away, but only got as far as the comer because he was not yet allowed to cross the street by himself. Later, he fished fish out of the top of the American falls—securely anchored by old clothesline. He had a permanent spot on brother Ned – having dropped a ball-peon hammer on his hand from the tree-house.

John drew pictures of horses, planes and trains at Maple Ave. School, then moved on to act in theater and play drums in the marching band at Deveaux School. When he missed an exam there, he was sent to St. Paul’s School, Concord, NH (’46) where he learned discipline, crew, and Latin.

After four merry years at Harvard College (’50), where he was a cartoonist for the Lampoon and a member of Hastie Pudding’s “Haury Leg Chorus,” he emerged an English major, which prepared him perfectly for his next four years in the Navy in the exotic port of Charleston, SC. His time in the Navy was memorable for his having been bitten by an IBM machine (‘he was wounded”—he wanted a Purple Heart but the corpsman gave him a Band-Aid and laughed); acting in many productions at the Dock Street and Footlight Theaters; drawing and painting their PlayBills; and meeting and marrying Mary Emelie Tobias (Toby).

He then returned to teach at his old school, Deveaux, in Niagara Falls and nurture his first son Willy (John B. Stebbins, Jr.), there he completed a PhD program at the University of Buffalo.

Next, he seized the opportunity to help found a school in Northern Vermont (Sterling School, now Sterling College, in Craftsbury Common, VT) with several Berkshire School faculty. At Sterling, he served in virtually every position from school carpenter to Design Director and built his own house near the campus, and soon added son George to his family. He constructed and played three banjos, helped to launch the local fiddlers’ contest, served as the town’s representative, was a deacon in his church, and continued to act in local theater.

In a few years, cherished daughter Elizabeth was born. He earned a Masters in School Administration at Johnson State College, and became the school’s top English, history, and Latin tutor, while continuing his success in watercolor painting, woodworking, and local theater. During this time, he moved to an 1840 farmhouse in the neighboring town of Woodstock, where he converted half the barn into the woodshop of his dreams (a gorgeous inlaid sideboard was proof). After his retirement from Cushing, he lived in Westminster and Walpole, MA before moving to Pomfret School, in Pomfret, CT. There, he served as the school’s top English, history, and Latin tutor, while continuing his success in watercolor painting, woodworking, and local theater. During this time, he moved to an 1840 farmhouse in the neighboring town of Woodstock, where he converted half the barn into the woodshop of his dreams (a gorgeous inlaid sideboard was proof).

For many happy years there, he really retired, this time to Piper Shores Lifecare Community on the ocean in Scarborough, ME where he lived for his last four years. Weeks before his death, he celebrated his 85th birthday with children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, during which, as usual, all were riveted by his storytelling.

He loved giraffes, model planes and railroads. He always said his demise would come (embarrassingly) by being trampled by butterscotch ponies. When this almost happened—his last dream was almost The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock. He is survived by Janet, Amber the dog, and many wonderful family, friends, and memories.

*
Thank you to everyone who wrote in to identify people and timelines for this collage! From what we’ve been able to determine, the collage consists of:

**Top Row, Left to Right**
- Photo 1: Two farmhouses at the end of Calderwood Hill Road. Uppermost house/barn is the home of Bob and Suzanne Griffiths. Lower house/barn is owned by Connie Young.
- Photo 2: Heidi Pollard ’78; possibly Richard McDonald, a visiting lecturer who is a Canadian sheep farmer; and Bill Manning, former President. Picture taken sometime between 1977–1978. Picture was taken in the old library above the Dunbar Dining Hall, which is now the Career Resource Center.

**2nd Row Down, Left to Right**
- Photo 1: Sue Shaw ’79 and Red the horse are skidding a log in the Draft Horse Management class.
- Photo 2: Horses Red and Bonnie, with Marilyn Kenick ’78.
- Photo 3: Unidentified group of X-C skiers standing in what is now Susie and Ned Houston’s front yard overlooking the village.

**3rd & 4th Row Down, Left to Right**
- Photo 1: Chris Warren ’79 is in the bow and Cheryl Warren-Goodman ’79 (no relation) is in the stern. This photo was taken in the spring of 1979. This photo, by Richard Howard, was once the cover of Country Journal.
- Photo 2: Lenny Brennan ’76 filing (sharpening) a crosscut saw.
- Photo 3: Students returning from Winter Expedition, we believe in 1977.
- Photo 4: Janie Moulton ’76 and possibly David Bliss ’76 aging a spruce tree.

![Image of a group of happy students with no identifying information. Any idea who they might be? Email communications@sterlingcollege.edu!](image-url)
“We think it’s terribly important that you meet the people responsible for the food you’re eating tonight.”

Courtesy of the artist Edward Koren.