Engineer Richard Cournoyer ’96 helped build the rover that landed on Mars.
The Community College of Rhode Island celebrated the accomplishments of the 92 graduates of its Nursing program, including John Cordeiro and Betsy Kivie, during a pinning ceremony at the Flanagan Campus in Lincoln on Jan. 16. To see more photos of CCRI’s newest nursing graduates, visit www.ccri.edu/marketing/photogallery.html.
A message from the President

There are two windowless rooms on the fifth floor of the round building at the Knight Campus in Warwick. Accessible from the library, these rooms are home to the Community College of Rhode Island archives, full of publications, news clippings, photographs and tokens of times gone by. We are fortunate that Associate Professor John Collins started the archival project, transforming these humble rooms to preserve CCRI’s history for future generations.

In September 2014, CCRI will kick off the celebration of its 50th anniversary, bringing the archives to life. The planning stages have begun, and alumni, students, faculty and staff are looking forward to reflecting on college history through a series of special events, exhibits and presentations. Each one of you is a part of CCRI’s history, and I hope you will be able to take an active role in celebration activities. As plans take shape, we will keep you informed.

This issue of the Green & White magazine highlights a student who has benefited from the generosity of alumni and a former Foundation Trustee who has devoted her time and talent to the college on Page 7. As we approach CCRI’s 50th anniversary, we will be telling more stories like these that show the impact the community has on students and vice versa. While this milestone is a time for reflection; it is also a time to look to the future. The college is helping students change their lives and achieve their dreams, and CCRI is counting on alumni like you to help us fulfill that mission for another 50 years.

Ray M. Di Pasquale
President
CCRI Foundation’s annual fundraiser honors three for changing lives
The Community College of Rhode Island Foundation held its sixth annual Changing Lives Celebration, “An evening of enthusiasm and enchantment,” on Nov. 29 to honor three community leaders while raising $80,000 to help students achieve their dreams. The event’s honorees were Education Champion Judge Frank Caprio, the former chairman of the Board of Governors for Higher Education; Business Champions Taco Inc. and the White Family Foundation, led by CEO John Hazen White Jr.; and Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian as Community Champion. Premium sponsors of the event included Lifespan, Amica Mutual Insurance Co., National Grid, Taco Inc./The White Family Foundation and The Washington Trust Co.
Two CCRI volunteers lauded for philanthropy

Judith E. Maccarone ’99, a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and Nancy McMahon, a Foundation Trustee, were recognized as Partners in Philanthropy for their leadership and contributions to the college and its mission on Nov. 20 at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet in Cranston. The event coincides with National Philanthropy Day to recognize the impact philanthropic activities and volunteerism have on the community.

Alumni Nursing Chapter sponsors ‘The Ethics of End of Life Care’ seminar

Dr. Diann B. Uustal, clinical nurse ethicist and founder and president of Educational Resources in HealthCare Inc., presented “Hope and Promise: The Ethics of End of Life Care” to a crowd of more than 100 CCRI alumni, students and health care professionals on Nov. 20 at the Knight Campus in Warwick. The seminar covered the ethics of palliative care and what health care practitioners can do to improve end-of-life treatment. Sponsors included the CCRI Alumni Association, Foundation and the Office of the Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Sciences.

CCRI Players’ production of ‘The Receptionist’ selected for regional competition

The Community College of Rhode Island Players’ production of “The Receptionist,” an office comedy with a dark side and a timely message, was one of five shows out of 60 in the running to compete for national honors. The students were selected to restage their play in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) Region 1 competition, beating out shows performed all over New England and New York. They performed in Hyannis, Mass., on Jan. 31 for a chance to go on to the KCACTF National Festival. While they did not advance in the competition, the Players’ spent four days in Hyannis performing their play, watching their competitors’ shows and attending workshops on acting and set design.

CCRI Student Film Festival debuts

Students in the New Media Group organized the Knighties, CCRI’s first Student Film Festival, which was held at the Knight Campus in Warwick on Dec. 20. Students exhibited films they completed both inside and outside of the classroom and competed for awards in the categories of Best Fictional Narrative, Best Documentary Narrative and Best Experimental Short. Honors also were given for directing, writing, editing and cinematography. To view the entries, visit CCRI’s Media Library at https://hml.ccri.edu/ and select “New Media Group.”
From CCRI to Mars: Richard Cournoyer ’96 completes accomplished career at NASA

by Robert Preliasco
Last year he succeeded, but no living soul witnessed his accomplishment. Cournoyer was an integral part of the team that manufactured the Curiosity Mars Rover that landed on the Red Planet on Aug. 6, 2012. Also called the Mars Science Laboratory (MSL), the rover traveled through space for almost a year and landed autonomously on Mars, 152 million miles away, in perfect adherence to the choreography of its computer programming.

The distance is so great that the data confirming success took 14 minutes to reach us. Millions of people huddled around their home computers to watch a live video stream of the rover landing – as live as it could be given the signal delay – and, despite his important role in the project, Cournoyer was one of them. He had been invited to the mission control room at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory for the occasion, but preferred to stay home so he could have some privacy in case the landing failed.

“We did a lot of things that nobody had tried before,” he explained. “We had a level of confidence, but it doesn’t take more than one separation nut to fail, and then things go bad from there.” Cournoyer had good reason to be nervous. The $2.5 billion Curiosity Rover is the most technologically advanced machine ever landed on another planet. Powered by a plutonium battery, it includes an X-ray spectrometer for determining soil composition, weather instruments and its own chemistry lab. The rover itself, weighing nearly a ton and about the size of a hatchback car, was too heavy to be landed by parachutes and airbags like two previous, much smaller rovers were.

“Anybody can build a good rover,” Cournoyer mused, “but if you can’t land it, all you have is a mass of metal at the bottom of a small, smoking crater.”

NASA engineers came up with an audacious solution to the landing problem, but a full-scale test flight on Earth was scrapped because of the Curiosity project’s rising budget overruns. The first test of the landing procedure would come on Mars.

Just before entering the Martian atmosphere, a controlled explosion separated the Rover and its delivery vehicle from the protective shell that had carried them through space. The delivery vehicle, nicknamed the sky crane, clutched the rover as they both hurtled toward the planet’s surface. With less than a mile before impact, and falling at more than 200 miles per hour, the delivery vehicle fired eight rocket thrusters to arrest the descent.

For a few moments, the sky crane hovered above Mars as winches and cables lowered the rover 70 feet to the ground. When Curiosity’s computer detected weight under the rover’s wheels, explosive charges severed it from the delivery vehicle, which went into full thrust and flew away to harmlessly burn off its hydrazine fuel and crash onto another part of the planet. Curiosity had landed.

“I was absolutely elated,” Cournoyer said. “It was like the birth of a child – it’s that exciting, knowing that you spent over half a decade building something that nobody knew would work.”

The MSL executed this seven-minute landing maneuver completely autonomously, even actively steering on its own at one point to compensate for minute differences in the thickness of the Martian atmosphere. An immense number of calculations were precisely right and several hundred controlled explosions worked as expected, all while mission control waited nervously, knowing that the landing might have already failed by the time they received any signals about it. In short, it was an astounding scientific achievement.

Cournoyer’s role in the Curiosity project was as the group supervisor of Prototype and R&D Machining Services for NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, Calif. This is the combination factory and research lab that helped design and manufacture Curiosity, the sky crane and the so-called cruise stage spacecraft that carried them both from Earth.

Cournoyer’s group prided itself on being more than just a manufacturing team and used the motto: “We are involved from the sketch pad to the launch pad.” They sat in on early design concept meetings and were making final adjustments to the Rover’s components until just days before the launch.

A hands-on mechanic at heart and by experience, Cournoyer oversaw six machine shops that manufactured nearly all of the mission-critical parts that made up the rover and its delivery spacecraft.

From 2006 to 2009, Cournoyer’s team researched and built thousands of parts, many of them supreme engineering challenges. These included gearboxes that had to be accurate within a few microns of their blueprint after the prototype was turned to powder during testing in simulated Martian conditions, and a core drill for taking rock samples that had to be exactly 4 inches square, which was not used in the final design.

Sometimes the JPL staff engaged in “concurrent engineering,” beginning to manufacture a part before it was even fully designed and making adjustments on the go as changes were handed down by the NASA scientists and engineers.

Many outside contractors were hired as well, but the Jet Propulsion Laboratory team built nearly all of the hardware that was essential for the spacecraft, including the already iconic camera mast, the instruments at the end of the rover’s arm and the brackets and radiators for its nuclear battery.

Cournoyer is not quite a rocket scientist, but his job at the JPL before he retired in March 2012 was certainly a prestigious one. It required an advanced engineering degree, deep technical knowledge and a significant intellect – not a bad set of assets for a man who didn’t go to college until he was 35 years old.

Cournoyer always enjoyed working with his hands and was the type of child who disassembles anything and everything just for the fun of putting it back together. His first education in manufacturing came from his high school machine shop, and he thought at age 18 that this would be his career for life.

“To me, it always felt like I was an artist,” Cournoyer said. “I could envision a final product out of a piece of metal and that was something that was a rare trait, evidently. … My parents said, ‘You’re going to college,’
and I said, ‘Yeah right.’”

After high school, Cournoyer was hired at General Dynamics Electric Boat Division as a tool and die maker. He learned as much as he could about precision machining and climbed the company’s career ladder, ending up as manager of process engineering and CNC programming, writing computer programs for automated machines.

As a manager, Cournoyer was privy to payroll records and realized that employees subordinate to him made more money than he did because they had a college degree. He asked his boss for a raise, who told him, “This is the maximum I can give you. You just don’t have that sheepskin,” referring to a college diploma.

Cournoyer resigned. He walked into the admissions office of the University of Rhode Island and was told that because he had been out of school for 17 years, it would be better to start at a community college. He enrolled full time at the Community College of Rhode Island in the spring of 1995.

“I thought I would just go for a semester and then transfer to URI, but I fell in love with CCR,” he said. “There was no way I was leaving there until I got my degree.”

School was a challenge for Cournoyer, who had a young daughter to raise and whose father had just been diagnosed with terminal cancer. “I was trying to double dip between school and being a full-time nurse because my dad was just too much for my mom to handle alone,” he said.

Nonetheless, he was enjoying his studies and was impressed with his professors. One of them, CRI calculus Professor Michael Latina, had a critical impact on his future even though, as Cournoyer says without a hint of resentment, “I have never used calculus during my professional life.”

“I found out that [Latina] was a Brown University graduate and he was a pretty bright guy, and I remember asking him, ‘What are you doing here? You could teach anywhere.’”

Latina responded: “Turn around. Do you see those students looking at me? They’re here because they want to be here … and that’s why I’m here.”

Latina, who taught at CCRI for 41 years, remembers Cournoyer for his intelligence and drive.

“We have a lot of older students, but he had an exceptional determination,” Latina said. “He’s more of an equipment guy than an analytical person, so the calculus was a little bit of a struggle for him, but he came through very well. He’s quite amazing, actually.”

Cournoyer called Latina “a driving force,” and so when Latina suggested that Cournoyer finish his baccalaureate degree at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, he listened.

Cournoyer spent three years there. In his junior year, he caught the attention of the college administration and they offered him a job as the supervisor of the school’s Industrial Robotics/Automation Laboratory. He became a teacher’s assistant and a college employee, working and taking undergraduate courses by day and attending graduate-level courses at night. He was able to complete his master’s degree for free and stayed on for about a year as an employee.

In 2000, Cournoyer made a life-altering decision. He and his wife fell in love with Arcadia, Calif., while on vacation in the area and decided to move there, almost on a whim. They spent the last three days of their two-week vacation searching for jobs in the area and were both hired.

Though Cournoyer worked as an engineer and operations manager at Ducommun AeroStructures, there was now only one job in the world that he wanted: supervisor of the machine shops at the nearby Jet Propulsion Laboratory. He had always been a space enthusiast, visiting Cape Canaveral dozens of times, and this job would be a dream come true. For six years, he networked and waited patiently for the position to become available.

When it did, it was everything he had hoped it would be, and more. There were casual lunches with Nobel Prize laureates and satisfying engineering challenges to overcome, all in an environment where science was being conducted on the frontiers of human knowledge.

An example: Scientists chose to equip the Mars Science Laboratory with deliberately outdated computer processors, less powerful than the average smartphone. One reason for this is because the MSL’s rugged computer trades processing power for the ability to withstand extremes of temperature and radiation. Another reason is that the scientists were afraid of a threat at the sub-microscopic level.

Suppose that the MSL’s flight computer were hit with a neutrino, one of the so-called elementary particles that makes up the universe. Microchips are so compact that if a neutrino were to hit one, there would be no space for it to pass through without destroying the whole unit. That would be the end of the MSL’s flight computer. Older models of processors, however, have so much extra space that there is room for the particles to pass through and merely destroy a few transistors. The scientists installed plenty of backups.

“The chances of [the computer] being hit were small,” Cournoyer said, “but we had to design around that possibility.”

Cournoyer said that one JPL scientist had calculated that stopping a neutrino would require a lead shield half of a light year thick.

“That’s the caliber of conversation that was going on,” Cournoyer said, “just pure brilliance wherever you went. I always said that when you’re in an elevator there you should stop whatever you’re doing and listen to the conversation that’s going on behind you, because it’s going to be an education.”

Why would Cournoyer retire from an environment such as this? For one thing, he thought that no achievement could top working on the Curiosity Rover. “Why not retire at the top?” he asked.

Besides this sentiment, he was following his father’s deathbed advice to retire young. His father had worked all his life and did not live to enjoy his retirement for long.

Cournoyer now spends his days traveling and teaching engineering courses part time. He said he may want to do more teaching in the future as a way to give back.

He got back in touch with Latina a few years ago, telling him that he attributes his success in large part to the education he received at CCRI, and inviting the professor and his wife on a tour of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

“CCRI was a great starting point in my life,” said Cournoyer.

The achievement of working on Curiosity is an immense one for someone who grew up in Warwick peering through a telescope.

“When I’ve made something that my grandkids can point to someday and say ‘Dziadziu (Polish for grandfather) built that rover,’” he said.
Ashley Medrano overcame homelessness and a learning disability in her drive to attend college.

Medrano suffers from dyslexia, which caused her to be an unmotivated student in the past. She finished high school at Providence’s E-Cubed Academy (often called E Three) in 2008 but did poorly at Rhode Island College in 2009.

Medrano received failing grades in her first semester and did not return. “Going back to school was a big fear of mine,” she said. In 2010, Medrano’s family lost its home and they had to move from place to place, staying with relatives and friends for limited periods. They lived in a basement at one point.

Medrano worked in retail to try to help with expenses but, even though she worked three different jobs, money was still tight. Faced with long hours and exhausting overnight shifts, Medrano knew she would have to return to college if she wanted to change her life.

She enrolled at CCRI last fall and received the Special Circumstances Award with the help of CCRI Senior Financial Aid Officer Barry O’Connor Jr. The money is going toward her tuition and textbooks.

“Barry and CCRI really helped me out,” Medrano said. “It feels good.”

Medrano wants to one day work in film, which is a lifelong passion. She is the treasurer of CCRI’s New Media Group and won honorable mention in last year’s CCRI Student Film Festival.

She is a full-time student this semester and plans to remain so until she graduates in about two years. Her highest academic goal is to be able to transfer to the Rhode Island School of Design after CCRI.

“I’m very thankful to be a student again,” she said.

Gifts to CCRI support students like Ashley Medrano. To make a gift online, visit www.ccri.edu.
The Community College of Rhode Island Alumni Association will induct four graduates into the Society of the Knights and present two honorees with the Honorary Alumni Award at Quidnessett Country Club in North Kingstown on April 5.

Francis J. Flynn ’74
Professional title: President, Rhode Island Federation of Teachers and Health Professionals, Providence, R.I.
Education: Master’s degree in education, RIC; bachelor’s degree in elementary and special education, RIC; associate degree, CCRI
Community involvement: Troop 13, Centerville, Boy Scouts of America; West Warwick Little League; West Warwick Youth Soccer Association; West Warwick Pop Warner Football League; Amos House; Jamestown Penguin Club; Rhode Island Special Olympics
Accomplishment most proud of: “When a former student comes up to you and recognizes the positive influence you have had on their education and their life, I find that very humbling and very gratifying.”
Family: Wife Sharon M. (Allin) Flynn; sons Daniel P. Flynn and Sean F. Flynn; daughter Kathryn M. Flynn
Lives in: West Warwick, R.I.

Joshua M. Klemp ’04
Professional title: State Association Director, SkillsUSA Rhode Island, Warwick, R.I.
Education: Studying for a bachelor’s degree in history, RIC; associate degree, CCRI
Community involvement: Member of Leadership Rhode Island’s Iota II Class of 2013; past president and former student representative of the CCRI Alumni Association; vestry member of Grace Episcopal Church; served on education subcommittee of governor’s workforce green grant consortium; raised more than $10,000 for the American Cancer Society
Accomplishment most proud of: “When I see SkillsUSA students achieve success, and I was a part of that, that motivates me and makes me proud.”
Family: Partner Raul Iriarte ’10
Lives in: Providence, R.I.

Antonia (Toni) Gilberto McGuire ’75
Education: Master’s degree in public health administration, St. Louis University; bachelor’s degree in sociology of the family, Maryville University; associate degree in nursing, CCRI
Community involvement: CCRI Alumni Association board member; volunteers to encourage youth to consider jobs in health professions
Accomplishment most proud of: “When I was in St. Louis early in my career, I was working at a community health center. We realized the immunization rate among youth in the population we served was less than 17 percent. With a group of nurses and the National Guard, we organized a one-day clinic to provide immunizations for the community. It was a Saturday in the lives of the nurses, but it was the gift of a lifetime for those kids.”
Family: Husband Michael; son Ryan McGuire; daughter Jillian McGuire Turbitt
(Toni) Gilberto McGuire ’75 and David P. Tikoian ’88 are this year’s inductees. Foundation President Mark K. Gim and CCRI Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Sciences Maureen E. McGarry will receive the Honorary Alumni Award.

Proceeds from the event will provide financial assistance for students. For more information, or to register now, visit www.ccri.edu/alumni.

Honorary Alumni

David P. Tikoian ’88
Professional title: Major, Inspectional Services, Rhode Island State Police
Education: Bachelor’s degree in business administration, Bryant University; associate degree in business management, CCRI
Community involvement: Serves as community outreach liaison officer for the state police, working with Big Brothers of Rhode Island, Children’s Friend, Project Night Vision, Socio-Economic Development Center for Southeast Asians, Crossroads Rhode Island and Hispanic Ministers Alliance; president of the Rhode Island State Police Museum Foundation; past vice president of the National Governor’s Security Association
Accomplishment most proud of: “I am the first Armenian-American to serve on Rhode Island State Police Command Staff. I am very proud of that.”
Family: Wife Deborah J. Tikoian
Lives in: Smithfield, R.I.

Mark K. Gim
Professional title: Executive Vice President, The Washington Trust Co.
Contributions to CCRI: Gim joined the CCRI Foundation in 2002 as a trustee and has served as president of the non-profit organization since 2007. An ardent supporter of the college, Foundation and Alumni Association, he has spent countless hours leading programs that encourage corporate and private fundraising for CCRI students and programs. His vision and leadership have helped the college advance its mission of providing academic excellence. From 2007 to 2011, he guided the college’s Imagine capital campaign, which raised $5.5 million for new facilities and scholarships.

Maureen E. McGarry Ph.D., RN, NCC
Professional title: Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Science, Community College of Rhode Island
Contributions to CCRI: McGarry joined CCRI as assistant dean of Nursing, Allied and Dental Health Programs and an adjunct faculty member in 1988. She was promoted to the dean position in 1999. Since her arrival at the college, CCRI’s Health and Rehabilitative Science offerings have expanded from eight programs to 21, producing thousands of alumni who work in hospitals, medical facilities and dental offices around the state. McGarry serves on CCRI’s strategic planning committee, co-chairs the New England Association of Schools and College’s Standard 1 self-study committee and was instrumental in the supporting and founding the CCRI Nursing Alumni Chapter with Angela Creta ’98.
Jahira Smith ’13 is on track to become CCRI’s best-ever female basketball player. As a child, she loved the game but didn’t have a park to go to near her family’s home in Norwich, Conn. Without a court to play on or a hoop to shoot for, she endlessly dribbled, charged and dodged up and down her street.

The result is an expert ball handler who, in the words of Community College of Rhode Island Women’s Basketball Coach Kate Lynch, “can get to the basket pretty much whenever she wants.”

Smith is in her second year as co-captain of the Lady Knights and has already broken the college’s record for career steals with 237 and counting. She is the first player to ever record 200 steals and is on track to break two more records by the end of the season, uniting under one name titles formerly held by four different women.

She set four single-season records in her first year at the college: assists (183), steals (128), free throws (123) and single-game assists (a tie at 14). With 287 assists, she has set a new school career record. This year she has more records in her sights. With 18 more free throws, she will set that career mark as well, which is held by Jeri-lynn Johnson (183). Smith has scored 918 points and needs 39 more assists, she has set a new school career record. These achievements would make Smith the first female basketball player at CCRI to top 1,000 points. “She’ll be in the record books for a really long time,” Lynch said.

Smith isn’t letting it get to her head. “I didn’t even know I was breaking those records until the day of, or the day before,” she said. “I just let it happen. I just played the game.”

At 5 feet 8 inches tall, Smith may not look like an archetypal ball player, but her athleticism is obvious. She moves with an easy, buoyant energy, as if in a perpetual jump shot or defense-beating drive into scoring position.

And on the court she is a dynamo.

“She is our engine,” Lynch said, “and what she does, we do. The attitude that she takes on the court is the attitude that we adopt.”

Smith played a lot as a point guard last year, a position that is primarily responsible for moving the ball up the court toward the basket. These players must be able to protect the ball from defending players and pass it to teammates who are in scoring position. They have to be aware of the flow of action on the court and are often called “floor generals” for their decisive ability to control how their team attempts to score.

All of these requirements were a great fit for a player whose childhood practice routine was based almost entirely on dribbling, but Smith knew she needed to develop shooting skills, too. Coming off of a disappointing season-ending loss to Lackawanna College in last year’s district championship, Smith spent hours on the court alone during the summer, just shooting.

This year she is the Lady Knights’ best shooting guard, tasked with getting into an open position on the fringes of the action and making shots. Now she is edging in on the records for free throws, assists and overall points.

“Coming from where I was in high school, a lot of people wouldn’t have expected me to do what I’ve done, so I’m very proud of myself,” Smith said.

When Smith was on her high school team two years ago, she spent a lot of time on the bench. “I wasn’t really looked upon as a basketball player who can make things happen,” she said. “I just needed an opportunity to show what I can do, and I got that at CCRI. This is a good environment to be in and I love my coaches and teammates here.”

Smith has been accepted to Claflin University in South Carolina, where she will complete her basketball career. “I love the game of basketball, but I see an end to it after college,” she said.

She intends to study criminal justice, inspired by her mother who took some classes in the subject before having to leave college to care for her family.

“I love law enforcement,” Smith said. “I think it comes from spending time with my mother as a kid. She would always watch ‘Law and Order’ … and all of those shows, and I would be right there next to her.”

Smith’s mother and 12-year-old brother live in North Carolina and will be able to see her play much more often after she transfers.

“They love watching me play and my brother looks up to me a lot, even though he’s starting to get into football,” Smith said.

The Lady Knights’ regular season ends in February and, as the No. 15-ranked team in the country, they are shoe-ins for the district championship. Smith said she hopes to make it to regionals and earn a rematch with Lackawanna.

“Last year, I feel like we wanted it so bad that we just let it go,” she said. “We had it, and once we felt like we had it, that was it. Now we know how that feels and we won’t let it happen again.”

She added, “I just want to see us succeed as a team and as individuals.”
**’70s**

**1975**

Thomas Warren has more than 40 years of experience in fire service. He recently retired as assistant chief of the Providence Fire Department after 33 years of service. He earned a bachelor’s degree in fire science from Providence College and a certificate in occupational safety and health from Roger Williams University.

**1978**

Scott Bill Hirst was re-elected to his sixth term on the Hopkinton Town Council in November 2012. He previously served on the council from 1996 to 2004. He attended the Republican National Convention last year for the sixth time; it was his third time attending as an alternate delegate.

**1979**

Emilio DiSpirito has been named a member of the sales team at Weichert Realtors – Cress and Co., where he will assist home buyers and sellers in Kent and Washington counties.

**’00s**

**2001**

The work of cartoonist Tim Jones has appeared in several publications, including the Walpole Times, Manufacturers Mart magazine, Common Ground and others. He describes his style as “simple,” and says the work of Charles Schultz is among the cartooning he admires most.

**2005**

Alison Roberto and Kevin Gendreau were married at St. Martha’s Church in East Providence on Sept. 15, 2012.

**2006**

Kyle Jucket was sworn in as an officer with the Pawtucket Police Department.

**2007**

Chris Baker transferred to Brown University and graduated in 2009. He is now a doctoral student at Brown and expects to finish his degree in 2015.

**2008**

Stacie Wildenhain Venargo recently claimed the 2012 World Miss Fitness America Pageant title at the Golden Nugget Casino in Las Vegas.

**2010, 2011**

Natalie Payne and Michael Rizzo were married at Rosecliff Mansion in Newport on Sept. 12, 2012.

**Calendar of events**

This calendar lists some of the upcoming events and important dates involving Community College Rhode Island students, alumni, faculty and staff. For more information about what is happening at CCRI campuses, go to www.ccri.edu. For athletic schedules, visit www.ccri.edu/athl.

**2013**

**The Annual Student Project**

Student-directed one-act plays
Feb. 28 and March 1 to 3
Liston Campus, Providence

**Society of the Knights Induction Ceremony**

6 p.m., Friday, April 5
Quidnessett Country Club, North Kingstown

**All College Week**

Celebrating the CCRI experience
April 8 to 12
All campuses

**“The Glass Menagerie”**

A play by Tennessee Williams
April 18 to 21
Liston Campus, Providence

**48th Commencement exercises**

May 17
Knight Campus, Warwick

**11th annual CCRI Alumni Association Golf Tournament**

Wednesday, June 12
North Kingstown Golf Course

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**In memoriam**

The Green & White Alumni Magazine publishes “In memoriam” in honor of college alumni. Because of space constraints, content is limited to an individual’s name and class year.

John M. Rabeck ’73
The Community College of Rhode Island inducted seven alumni into the Society of the Knights during a ceremony at Kirkbrae Country Club in Lincoln on Oct. 17, 2003. This honor recognizes graduates for professional and volunteer accomplishments as well as support of CCRI. Robert A. Carosi ’77, Tonia B. Fay ’86, Diane L. Johnson ’75, Paula S. Lahoud ’67, A. Michael Lombardi ’76, Sandra J. Pattie ’76 and Louis A. Pullano ’73 were members of the society’s third class of inductees and featured in the alumni newsletter pictured below. Since the society’s inception in 1999, 39 alumni have received this distinction.

The college will honor its eighth class of inductees on April 5. See Page 8 of this issue for details.
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