Saying Goodbye

Before processing to the Class of ’49 Greene Field to accept their diplomas, members of the Class of 2015 descended the Castle stairs for the last time—as students, anyway. À bientôt.
PHOTO OF THE DAY
May 28, 2015
School Life Council co-president Dana Grey ’15 crowdsurfs during the Final Countdown, a tradition for Class I students as they celebrate their last moments at Nobles.

PHOTO BY KIM NEAL

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Watching Futures Unfold

I RECALL MANY BITS AND PIECES of various assemblies from my student days at Nobles. Like many graduates, I still have in my head more assembly moments than I do specific classroom experiences. For example, before the construction of Lawrence Auditorium, I remember sitting in the old study hall (today’s Gleason Hall) for the morning meeting. I was a relatively new member of Class III, and it was the week before the Milton game in November 1973. I will never forget school president Harry Elam ’74 and Kevin McCarthy ’74 coming into the room and smashing pumpkins to get us all psyched for the game—I had never seen anything like that before at my public junior high school. There were poignant and thoughtful moments as well, but it is some of these crazy things that get most clearly imprinted on an adolescent’s memory.

A year or so after that, I sat in Lawrence Auditorium as a member of Class II as Ted Gleason was building up to one of his brilliant oratory crescendos. I have no recollection of what he was talking about (although I well remember many of his favorite themes and stories), but I can still conjure exactly what I was thinking while watching him. I concluded that I could never do what Mr. Gleason was doing. I could not imagine a time when I would have something significant enough to share with several hundred people. More to the point, I could not project myself into a future where it was conceivable that I could effectively speak in public.

When I went off to college, I knew I loved the study of history and that it would likely be my major. Then I imagined I would go to law school, and as a result I spent several months in 1978 on an internship in the U.S. Senate. Then came the time to look for a job and think about a career. Depressed by corporate interviewing, ready to get away from study, and disinterested in going to any kind of graduate school, I went to talk to Mr. Gleason about my future. He offered me a job as an intern (a role we now call a “teaching fellowship”). By default, I accepted. I loved school life from the start and never looked back, using the opportunity to work for many years in California, Hawaii and Maine before returning to Nobles in 2000.

Watching the Class of 2015 go through their final weeks at Nobles, I found myself reminiscing about the ways that life would shift and unexpected opportunities would arise for the remarkable and closely connected members of this First Class. I spoke often in public to them and about them (although I daresay I still cannot come close to the eloquence of either of my predecessors, Ted Gleason or Dick Baker), and I was profoundly struck by how my life and expectations have shifted since I had last sat in the Class I assembly seats. The depth of my uncertainty and self-doubt as a young adult, coupled with the bravado and effervescent exhilaration of being 18 years old, all came back to me. I thought to myself, is a future head of school out there in this group? What will these amazing young people do to make the world a better place? While a few will follow paths in life they can already see, most will evolve in ways they cannot now imagine. And I wondered, what pieces of assembly will they take with them on that path? What relationships with adults in this community were inspirational? What elements of their Nobles experience will be the foundation upon which they build a life, in whatever fields and places they choose, that will inspire leadership for the public good? It is a story that will be exciting to watch unfold.

—ROBERT P. HENDERSON, JR. ’76, HEAD OF SCHOOL
In order to find a place at Nobles, I had to be open about who I was at home, and I had to allow Nobles to continue to build upon that person. In order to liberate my voice from the chains that prohibited it from freely forming words, I had to allow Nobles to be a part of my life.

—EXCERPT FROM GENESIS DE LOS SANTOS’ GRADUATION SPEECH, “YOU’RE A FIRECRACKER”
MacQuinn Leaves Legacy of Care and Hard Work

“I HAD ALWAYS KNOWN since I was a little kid what I wanted to do,” said Sandi MacQuinn in spring 2015 as she prepared to retire after 17 years at Nobles and 24 years as a public school teacher in Washington state. She estimates that she’s taught about 6,000 students in her career. Ben Snyder, longtime upper school head and now director of Nobles’ experiential learning program, hired MacQuinn in 1997 as the service learning program director. During her tenure, her positions also included associate dean of faculty, dean of faculty, English faculty member and director of community service.

“One thing I have always admired about Sandi is that she is not afraid of hard work,” said longtime colleague Nick Nickerson when feting MacQuinn at an end-of-year celebration in June. “Sandi is not only a doer but also a giver,” said Jenny Carlson, another longtime colleague and friend. “Sandi digs deep and encourages others to do the same. She views herself—and everyone else in the world—as a work in progress.”

Certainly, MacQuinn’s contributions to Nobles exemplify that ethic of effort and adaptability. “Through everything she has said and done in her long career here, Sandi has exemplified the school’s mission to inspire leadership for the public good,” said Bob Henderson, head of school.

“Her legacy is rich and includes building and sustaining a culture of service that sets Nobles apart from peer schools and is core to the ethic we instill in students,” Henderson said. “Sandi has held more titles than nearly any other faculty member. She has developed powerful relationships around the world, including one of more than a decade with Opening Doors.”

“Something Different About You
As part of Nobles’ NED talk series, Annie Blackburn ’16 spoke about being born with a cleft palate, noting more than 18 surgeries, the inconvenience of recovery, a six-week “hockey player” diet of protein shakes and the eight-week restriction on lifting 10 pounds that she promptly broke “because of her Nobles backpack.” “Everyone has challenges and qualities that make them unique...[Other] people may think the qualities that set you apart are interesting or cool. Appreciate your own differentiating experiences and characteristics as others do.”

Success on the Slopes
Ski team captains Caley Dickinson and
an orphanage in Romania—yet she has invested at least as much care in feeding the hungry right here in Dedham. “She has shaped our approach to experiential learning, which is about the impact of the service as well as what doing service teaches us—how it changes us as people.”

MacQuinn came to Nobles circuitously and fortuitously. In her home state of Washington, her first interview was in the Spokane school district. “I went to interview for a teaching position, and they asked me my philosophy on discipline. I said to the principal, ‘It seems to me that your classroom should be run from a different angle entirely and that discipline should be your last line of defense against chaos. I think you are asking the wrong question.’”

“He crumpled up my file and threw it at the wall and said he’d never hire me in a million years. I was devastated.” MacQuinn explained that her interviewer died of a heart attack just weeks later, and her resume was resurrected by the secretary. MacQuinn became a teacher that fall and remained in the classroom for more than four decades.

In her first years teaching in Spokane, she worked with students who had not successfully completed their senior year. They were capable students, she said, but the sort who chafed at putting on sneakers for gym. MacQuinn engaged them where they were and established community service as an alternative for the more structured gym class.

“It was a wild success. We didn’t have any books. We didn’t have any chairs. We started out reading comic books,” she said. “They hired four of us, and we wrote IEPs [individual education plans] for every student every day. We graduated 19 of the 20 that first year. That’s how I started with community service. These kids didn’t want to take PE [physical education]. We’d go out and build ramps for a little old lady’s wheelchair. We discovered that you can go out and work really, really hard and have a team effort and get a lot of what you might get from sports.

“I did that for five years before the government money dried up,” she explained. “Then I was pulled into the main building to teach college prep.”

When MacQuinn’s son left for college, she recognized that she was ready for a change. Having traveled the previous summer in Romania and Bulgaria on a Fulbright, MacQuinn met Patti Carbery, now her longtime partner, who taught at a private school in New England.

“When I decided I needed an adventure, I called up Patti, and we started networking. I didn’t know private schools really existed. I wrote to 300 schools in Boston. I didn’t get one public school bite. But I got three bites in the private sector. One of Patti’s friends threw my resume at Ben [Snyder] and said, ‘I think you ought to look at this one.’”

Nickerson, senior master at Nobles, said to MacQuinn upon her departure for another new adventure—this time in California—“I want you to know how much I have valued your friendship, your supportive notes, your wise suggestions, your shared appreciation of metaphors, your vision,” he said.

It is that vision and ability to bridge divides gracefully and forcefully that has been a hallmark of MacQuinn’s contributions to Nobles.

MacQuinn contemplated the two educational landscapes, of which she has been a part, each of which taught her to teach. “The two worlds don’t speak to each other very often.

“I really believe in the public system. I think we ought to support it, and I learned an enormous amount about how to work a classroom so any kid can get something out of it,” she said.

“What I saw my role there as was opening the door to this world and saying, ‘You could be a college student.’ And, here, my job has been to open the door on the other world and to say, ‘You need to care about what you see here.’

“My career has been about opening the other door,” she said.
the bulletin

Such Sweet Sorrow

When Nobles reluctantly said farewell to cherished faculty member Peter Raymond in May, colleague and friend Julia Russell offered an unforgettable tribute (an excerpt follows). A friendship built upon a shared office and a love of literature gave her insight into his impact in the classroom and the overall tone of our community as a supporter of human rights. No matter your story, he insisted on hearing it. His passion for Shakespeare, his sensitivity toward and compassion for others, especially those who needed it most, are among his legacies.

Peter Raymond could have turned into a very different kind of man. White, straight, tall, athletic, good-looking, Princeton graduate, Olympic rower and Navy guy, on the surface, he had it made. He could have strolled through life with his privileged blinders and earplugs, worrying about what was slowly being taken away from him. But he didn’t. He made the conscious decision to listen to women and to people of color and to gay people. Every day I have known him—and it’s been 16 years in our shared office—he has been hard at work trying to understand how other human beings feel and what that means for this joint enterprise we call “school.”

For Peter, literature is a profound way to understand other people and himself. He leaps and laughs with infectious joy when you, his students, come to understand it that way too. He also knows that learning to write with clarity and conviction is both extremely complicated and vitally important.

Peter loves questions even more than answers, though, and that’s really why he has been such a cherished friend, colleague and teacher. He asks wonderful questions:

What does the act of reading really entail?
What do great casts and great teams and great classes have in common?
How can I re-create those conditions in my classroom?
Are my students happy? Do they sleep? Do they eat? Are they scared? Have they ever been in love?
Why is it so hard to learn to write?
What’s it like to be gay here?
Should I buy a boat and learn to sail?
Why are bees dying? Can I help?
How can we both understand and let go of some of our pasts?
How do people who weren’t parented well learn to parent?
How can I share my unearned privilege?
Isn’t that birdsong unbelievably beautiful?
What are the thousand things this line in Shakespeare could mean?
What do I want to learn next?

That last question will surely lead to more as he begins the next chapters of his life—not being here. Peter, we are going to miss you—that spontaneous laughter from somewhere high in the back, that silly joke at lunch that lightens the mood, that way of asking questions that provokes our best thinking and feeling.

—JULIA RUSSELL, ENGLISH TEACHER

Class Act
African soul, jazz and gospel singer, songwriter, producer and poet Offiong Bassey ’03 lent her
sweet vocal stylings to morning assembly. She pointed, “I used to sit there, and there, and there,” and then performed two songs before dismissing students by class, serenade style.

Daybreak Dance Party
Music teacher and acclaimed musician and composer Paul Lieberman, together with friends, led the school on a musical odyssey of African American music spanning 50 years. Their set included favorites like James Brown, Montell Jordan, and Earth, Wind and Fire. To cap it off, Alexandra Maund ’15 performed Lauryn Hill and Beyoncé. Lucky us.
IN THE NEWS

Chef Marc Sheehan ’03 has made headlines for the opening of his restaurant, Loyal Nine, whose “East Coast Revival” cuisine has won over the Cambridge community. By day, Loyal Nine is a rustic café that serves pastries, sandwiches, salads and coffee. By night, it transforms into a unique historical niche—a place to immerse oneself in the rich culinary tradition of New England.

Dishes on Sheehan’s menu can range from fried-clam-and-pig-ear salad to duck liver mousse. But there are more familiar options as well, such as bluefish and roasted chicken. A May 26 Boston Globe article describes the “joyousness” to be found in the stories behind each meal Sheehan serves.

On June 6, the New York Times published an article referencing the list of young adult transgender books compiled by Talya Sokoll, a Nobles librarian. The article, written by Alexandra Alter, discusses the rise of transgender children’s literature and the powerful role it has had in breaking down stigmas and promoting societal understanding of transgender youth.

Sokoll’s list includes more than 50 titles—the number is small but growing rapidly, she said. According to Sokoll, “Since this is still a relatively new topic for a vast majority of people, [these stories] give readers a way to connect and understand the stories and struggles of trans teens….It shows [those teens] that they are not alone.”

The May issue of New England Soccer Journal featured an article on Chris Tierney ’04, a star for the New England Revolution soccer team. Despite a successful soccer career at Nobles and then at the University of Virginia, Tierney did not attract professional recruiters. But after impressing coaches with his calm, skillful performance at a Major League Soccer open tryout, Tierney made his way onto the Revolution.

Tierney proved himself, establishing himself as a regular starter for the Revolution for much of a decade. In ESPN analyst Taylor Twellman’s words, “Credit to him: He’s made a hell of a lot more out of it than a lot of people thought he would.”

Tierney goes forward determined to always improve: “When my career is coming to an end, I’ll look back and say that it was pretty cool that I got to live out a childhood dream. Right now, I’m just focused on winning the next game.”

In the February issue of Archaeology Magazine, Jason Urbanus ’96 published an article on Rome’s main imperial port and its key role in the development of the Roman Empire.

According to Urbanus, for years Rome relied on inadequate ports and land travel to import necessary materials, specifically grain. Grains were the staple of the Roman diet, and shortages in grain supply due to lack of an adequate port led to periods of civil unrest. Emperor Claudius initiated the construction of Portus to address the problem. Portus was “the answer to Rome’s centurylong search for an efficient deepwater harbor.”

In the early second century A.D., the emperor Trajan advanced the project, developing a larger and more cleverly engineered hexagonal basin. The result was a port of remarkable capability that became a symbol of Rome’s power and wealth. The Portus Project seeks to rediscover the history and influence of the port, which is almost entirely silted over today because of archaeological excavation and study.

—JULIA FITZGERALD ’14

Not What You Think
Nairi Brown ’16 shared her experience with Type I Diabetes during a NED Talk. She dispelled the myths and misinformation she’s gotten. The disease hasn’t ruined her life; in fact, even though she’s had it since age 6, it’s helped her become “a stronger, more independent and responsible person.” This summer, she worked on stem cell research related to diabetes.

Nepal Earthquake Relief
Nobles’ Asian Culture Club (ACC) and A2A (Asian to Asian) launched an initiative to raise money for survivors of the earthquake that struck Nepal on April 25. Their efforts continued throughout the late spring, following a subsequent quake on May 12, when they held a pizza party.
IN VICKY SEELEN’S Creative Writing senior elective, the art of telling stories is vibrant and explorative. Assignments range from profiling an interesting person you don’t know well to writing the history of your hair. Class time is devoted to sharing and revising writing, and The New Yorker is the class textbook.

At the end of the semester, all the little pieces—the assignments and workshops and revisions—come together when students have the chance to create their own class magazine. The Memorial Room, named after the classroom where the class meets, is modeled after The New Yorker. “It feels awesome to have a physical final project, something I can actually hold in my hands and keep forever,” says Caley Dickinson ’15. Below are excerpts of stories featured in this year’s issue of The Memorial Room, all inspired by the assignment asking students to write the history of their hair.

—JULIA FITZGERALD ’14

HAIRY
The saga of my hair began around my second birthday, when the first peachy wisps appeared on my completely bald head. The moment was exhilarating for everyone; the rational members of my family could stop speculating about what strange implications chronic baldness might bestow upon me later in life, my uncle could stop joking about using me as a bowling ball, and of course, my mother could finally rejoice in the fact that my clammy infant fingers might just stop twirling her salon-styled blonde curls. She forced my hands to my own head that day, and as the strands grew

Cover art and paintings by Katie Graham ’15. Cartoon, entitled “You’re Being Watched” (left), by Lucy Lyons ’15.

sale and collected donations for the America Nepal Medical Foundation.

Latin Honors Bill Mizgerd and Max Jones, both ’15, earned prizes for outstanding achievements on the National Latin Exam (NLE). The NLE seeks to promote the study of Latin and encourage the individual student. Ninety Nobles students received recognition on the NLE in 2015.

A Matter of Life and Death Dakota Fenn and Kunwoo Shin, both ’15, described their once-in-a-lifetime experiences attending the trial of Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, with Nick Hunnewell ’16. They arrived at 4:30 a.m. to secure spots in court at one of the most historic trials of our time.
long enough, I developed my lifelong habit. I have been running my fingers through my hair every day of my waking life now for 16 years.

Part of the reason my hair has kept its toddler-like consistency must have something to do with its general tardiness. I tend to say that technically my hair is two years younger than me, which would make it only 16. Admittedly, 16 isn’t baby age, but I am trying not to ask questions because I don’t want things to change. As long as I wash it diurnally, my hair is cold silk; liquid relaxation between my fingers, my savior and my hair is still dark from clouded winters but also eager for sun. As the weeks of summer went by, my hair would grow longer and wilder, and the color would return white as snow. As these shifts in my hair came, so did shifts in my attitude. As my hair became more vibrant, so did I. It took a few summers of the same happenings for me to realize what this really meant. It took these changes to occur for me to realize that I never truly lost my affinity with the South and my family there. I just take short breaks in the winter, and it takes me no time at all to revisit those memories.

—LUCY LYONS ’15

SMASHED

Her visage came in fragments (as things often do after a collision), sharp shards poking at different perspectives, a tangling of darkening red hair, tall pale limbs, yellowed green eyes. Then the full portrait, a lithe figure with coiling burnt red hair, darkly clothed and running ahead unbounded down Mull. She’d vanished, rounding right on to Fleet Street, nearly as soon as I’d paused my family would all get haircuts. The hair atop my head was still dark from clouded winters but also eager for sun. As the weeks of summer went by, my hair would grow longer and wilder, and the color would return white as snow. As these shifts in my hair came, so did shifts in my attitude. As my hair became more vibrant, so did I. It took a few summers of the same happenings for me to realize what this really meant. It took these changes to occur for me to realize that I never truly lost my affinity with the South and my family there. I just take short breaks in the winter, and it takes me no time at all to revisit those memories.

—WALKER JESTER ’15

MO-HAIR

When I was suddenly uprooted from my home in the South and plopped down in Massachusetts, the change in my hair became more pronounced. As the colder winter came, my hair lost some of its vibrancy. The once-white hair turned to a darker shade of brown, and the curls lost their willingness to twist and turn. For many months out of the year, my hair remained darker like the seemingly constant winter.

After the winters in Boston passed by, my family would always pack up the minivan and head to North Carolina. Right before this yearly pilgrimage, my family would all get haircuts. The hair atop my head was still dark from clouded winters but also eager for sun. As the weeks of summer went by, my hair would grow longer and wilder, and the color would return white as snow. As these shifts in my hair came, so did shifts in my attitude. As my hair became more vibrant, so did I. It took a few summers of the same happenings for me to realize what this really meant. It took these changes to occur for me to realize that I never truly lost my affinity with the South and my family there. I just take short breaks in the winter, and it takes me no time at all to revisit those memories.

—LIZ FURLONG ’15

Waxing Philosophical

Syra Mehdi ’17 won first place in the 2014–15 Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (PLATO) Essay Contest for “Aristotle’s Theory of Friendship Tested.” U.S. students were eligible to submit an essay in response to “Is friendship a more important value than honesty?” Essays were evaluated by a panel of philosophy teachers and professors. The winning essays were published in PLATO’s journal, “Questions: Philosophy for Young People.” Mehdi said she was motivated by being part of the Nobles Philosophy/Ethics Club and participating in the National High School Ethics Bowl. While looking for competition results on PLATO’s website—the Nobles team didn’t win—she saw the contest. “I channeled my disappointment and utilized what I learned for the Ethics Bowl. Even if it was not selected, I still wanted to feel like a mini-philosopher.”

“As it turned out, my whole family and I were in Pakistan attending my cousin’s wedding when we found out that I won first prize. I was so happy, but honestly my family was overjoyed,” Mehdi said. My family values education a lot. In Pakistan, only 40 percent of the girls my age can read or write. It is a fact that in many cases education is a life-or-death situation. They value education because without it they will not be able to feed their families. It is an incredibly important aspect of their lives and their futures.”
In early summer 2015, outside Head of School Bob Henderson’s office, the big screen usually reserved for admission slideshows was hijacked. By an octopus. Dozens of them, actually. Via a live feed from the marine bio classroom, the community began to root for Olive the Octopus and her babies, as they emerged and struggled for survival.

Marine biology teacher Ross Henderson, a passionate scuba diver and marine-life enthusiast, has long been enamored of these eight-limbed creatures. Olive, the mother of this summer’s consortium, was her fifth (these cephalopods are known for their intelligence, so this term for a group of them is hardly surprising). Unfortunately, Olive was doomed to what Henderson described as “a Charlotte’s Web ending.” Procreating was her final feat.

Unfortunately, Olive was doomed to what Henderson described as “a Charlotte’s Web ending.” Procreating was her final feat.

Henderson has tended to the care and feeding of the babies, including preventing their wily escape attempts. She also constructed mini “condos” for them. “I’m a tinkerer. It’s one way I found to keep them from finding their way into the filter. I like the puzzle.” One of the babies was dubbed Houdini, after the legendary escape artist.

Some members of the Nobles community have become deeply invested in the welfare of the little ones. “I think we’re all rooting for the babies even more because they’ll be on their own,” says Brooke Asnis ’90. Octopuses have three hearts, but Olive and her babies won more at Nobles. Henderson said: “If I can get one to survive to adulthood, that’d be pretty cool. I feel like I have to try.”
The spring 2015 musical, Legally Blonde, brought Nobles students to audition in droves and gave director Dan Halperin unprecedented numbers and talent. When Elle Woods (Syra Mehdi '17, left), a sorority girl unceremoniously dumped by Harvard Law–bound beau Warner (Chase Haylon '15), shows up on campus to pursue her “M-r-s.,” she’s met with a rude awakening. A humiliating experience in a course with Professor Callahan (Sam Hoban '15) quickly reveals how clueless she is, and she’s taken off-guard by her new romantic rival in Vivienne (Alexandra Maund '15), an intellectual. Ultimately, friendships with brassy hairstylist Paulette (Bianca Thompson '15) and shy but encouraging classmate Emmett (Chris Desanges '16, right) show Elle that hard work and ingenuity make her Ivy League material after all. From comedic relief to show-stopping choreography, first-rate vocal numbers and a Barbie-inspired set, this Blonde was more fun. It was dedicated to retiring English faculty member Peter Raymond, who played major roles on- and off-stage in many NTC productions and has long been one of the program’s staunchest supporters.

—KIM NEAL
Freeman Legacy Dinner Celebrates Progress and Possibility

The 18th Annual Freeman Legacy Dinner on May 20 honored longtime arts faculty member Bob Freeman and his wife, Bettye, for their diversity work.

During a year punctuated by racial tension across the nation, Dean of Diversity Initiatives Steven Tejada expressed his appreciation to the Freemans for the environment created for Nobles students. “I needed a space that celebrated the identity of young people—this evening has always focused on diversity, achievement and possibility. It highlights the fact that there is not one standard description of what it means to be a student of color at Nobles. The range of experiences in this room is vast, and the depth of involvement of this group within the larger community is significant.”

Graduate Yasmin Cruz ’02, program and grants manager for corporate social responsibility at John Hancock, spoke about obstacles she has overcome. “You must see value in yourself if you want others to see value in you.” She encouraged students to pursue leadership for the public good long after leaving Nobles. “One of the aspects of our lives that gives us the most joy and purpose is being leaders invested in something bigger than ourselves. I encourage all of you to find out what that is, and you will be the hope for a future generation.”

$5M Endowment Gift Will Support Financial Aid

An anonymous graduate from the 1970s has made a $5 million provision for Nobles in his will. The gift is restricted to financial aid. Head of School Bob Henderson announced the landmark gift at the Members of the Corporation and Trustee dinner in June.

This generous commitment is the largest estate gift for Nobles in its 149-year history. The gift also aligns with the Be Nobles Bold Campaign as the school seeks to strengthen its endowment in support of all programs. Currently, 26 percent of Nobles students receive financial aid.

“Financial aid simply makes the school better,” says Henderson. “It gives the school the flexibility to bring extraordinary talent to build our exceptional community.”

In fewer than five years, the Be Nobles Bold Campaign stands at $87.5 million raised toward a goal of $112 million.
HEAD OF SCHOOL DINNER

Excerpt From “Misbehavior for the Public Good,” delivered at the Head of School Dinner, April 16, 2015, at the Seaport Hotel in Boston, by Director of College Counseling Kate Ramsdell. The dinner is an annual event, hosted by Head of School Bob Henderson, for the school’s most loyal and generous supporters.

I WAS TALKING TO A GOOD FRIEND who came to Nobles in 2007 about big life transitions, and she remarked, “You know, you’ve had a different job every year since I’ve been at Nobles?” I don’t often think about it in those terms, although my Nobles job descriptions have included admission officer, English teacher, college counselor, dorm parent, advisor, dean of students and coach.

I am often asked if I went to Nobles, particularly when I share that I have been here for 17 years. I did not. But I love Nobles. Though I am not a graduate, I have grown up here. At 23, I was hired as a teaching fellow in admission and English. During my first year, more than a few parents, sitting in my office for admission interviews, asked me, “So, we haven’t had a student interview us at other schools. Will we have a chance to meet with a faculty person?” Somehow, in spite of my youthful glow, I secured a full-time admission, coaching and teaching job for my second year. Even after committing to returning, I often wrestled with the idea that I was working at an independent school. Having been public school educated, albeit in a lovely Connecticut suburb, I had grown up believing that independent schools were not built to uphold the very virtues that I now know are at Nobles’ core—a commitment to diversity, humility, purposeful citizenship and even humor.

Earlier this week, when I stopped in to see Bob at the end of a long day, he asked me if I’d read David Brooks’ op-ed in [the] Sunday Review—“The Moral Bucket List.” Brooks laments, “…our culture and our educational systems spend more time teaching the skills and strategies you need for career success than the qualities you need to radiate [a] sort of inner light. Many of us are clearer on how to build an external career than on how to build inner character.”

Sometimes I’m asked why I don’t just go “hang a shingle” and become an independent college counselor. My answer is this: In that line of work, there is far less insistence on developing that “inner light,” and there’s no community. At Nobles, no matter how successful our graduates look on paper, the fact that I get to help adolescents figure out who they are is what keeps me coming back.

When I was growing up, I felt little pressure to build an impressive résumé or to get into an elite college. My dad’s parents—Irish immigrants, a housekeeper and a security guard—did not go to college. My father earned his degree from City College New York in his mid-20s while he was working in the mailroom at Time, Inc. It was at Time, when he’d worked his way into a job in the editorial department, that he met my mom. She, conversely, came from a family where her parents and her siblings attended college and graduate school. She attended an all-girls boarding school and an all-women’s four-year liberal arts college.

My siblings and I grew up on a cul-de-sac surrounded by a few acres of woods. We spent hundreds of hours building forts, playing war. Elementary school summers meant four-square and HORSE marathons; they were always competitive, always unsupervised, and inevitably landed someone in tears. Somehow, we’d figure it out. Fortunately, we had the privilege of safety and a place where we could roam freely. Without a formal curriculum in place, we took “safe (and perhaps some not-so-safe) risks” and “learned to fail in a low-stakes environment.”

I got my first job the year after my dad died, when I was 12. Every day after school, I’d get off the bus, roll 36 Stamford Advocates into tight bundles, slide them into my canvas paper route bag, and take off for the neighborhoods that surrounded Wakeman Road. I had the pleasure of an hour to myself, on the road, every afternoon. In high school, summers brought a 45-hour workweek and swim practice either before or after an eight-hour day. As a lifeguard, I spent much more time worrying about getting a tan and saving money so that I could “pay half” to go on a NOLS trip I’d been dying to take than I did about compiling a résumé or honing a passion. I wanted to swim in college, but mostly because I couldn’t imagine life without teammates. I didn’t want to play music in college, but that didn’t stop me from picking up the
trombone to help out our high school band director. Was I good? Not really. Did I love sitting next to Boris Coronado in band practice? Yes.

Believe me when I say that I worried about doing well and making my mom proud. However, not once did she convey to me that where I went to college said something to her about the kind of person I was or the kind of parent she was to me.

As the interim dean of students, I spoke in assembly about an ESPN Nine for IX film about Pat Summitt. Summitt was known for her unrelenting pursuit of excellence, and also of accountability. If one of her players screwed up, she didn’t let it slide; in fact, she often brought the mistake into plain view and expected the player who’d made the error to own up to it immediately. Her tough love approach garnered immense respect. This brand of leadership appeals to me for so many reasons, not the least of which is that my mother approached our childhood this way. My mom died from cancer when I was 28. By that time, Nobles had become a place I was certain I might never leave.

This is what I remember most often about my mom: Though she wasn’t an activist of any kind, she was as clear in her convictions as anyone I have known, perhaps to a fault. And now that I’m a parent, her steel will is awe-inspiring. For example, she didn’t believe in flaunting the brand name over everything else. They possess traits that David Brooks refers to as the “résumé virtues” as opposed to the “eulogy virtues.” Deresiewicz argues that “excellent sheep” test well and choose the best activities for a college or job résumé, but they sacrifice opportunities to build meaningful relationships or any sense of what really matters at the altar of high achievement.

Now, what pulls me back from the edge is that Nobles has a soul; it is filled with faculty who care a great deal about making sure your children don’t become achievement automatons. This year we paired it with Martin Luther King Jr.’s Letter from Birmingham Jail. At the core of Thoreau’s essay is the question: “Unjust laws exist; shall we be content to obey them...or shall we endeavor to amend them and obey them until we have succeeded...or shall we transgress them at once?” This year, when I rolled out the assignment, I asked my Class III English group to brainstorm the rules or laws that they disagreed with so vehemently that they would be willing to go to jail in defense of their personal stance. Crickets.

My class struggled this year with the disobedience assignment. It could be a function of their age or their experiences. But all I want, really, is for them to find a voice and a set of opinions that they are willing to share and defend. When Nobles seniors graduate, I often don’t remember where they’ve gone to college. What would make me feel like I—we—had done an excellent job of educating them would be if they had just one public interest that they’d stage a sit-in for. It could be saving the whales, recycling, education equality, universal access to health care, or no to pasta Wednesdays! I had to add that last one to mask my political leanings.

Nobles is celebrating 40 years of co-education and 150 years of institutional life. I have been alive exactly as long as women have been going to Nobles, and the most important changes and discussions during my lifetime have been about equity, access and inclusion. As many events of the last year—whether in Ferguson, Indianapolis or Paris—would suggest, the world’s work, our work and our graduates’ work is far from done. It made my job as the dean of students a lot easier when kids followed the rules, but I have to say that I love it when kids misbehave, and I am hopeful that we can do our part to make Nobles a place where that is ever more possible.
by the numbers

240 gallons of reclaimed grease converted into biodiesel every year

14 the number of FLIK staff members who make the magic happen

$16,000 dollars saved in paper products each year since the Castle renovation

100 pounds of organic material recycled each day by our Somat System, which turns it into biofertilizer

8,250 pounds of cardboard recycled each year by FLIK

1,650 gallons of chocolate milk consumed each year

8 to 10% average food waste (food taken but not eaten)

750 students, faculty and staff served each day totaling 123,750 lunches each school year

SOURCE: MATTHEW J. BUREK, DIRECTOR OF DINING SERVICE, FLIK INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
end-of-year awards

■ THE GREG MONACK PASSING OF THE SHIELD TRADITION (recognizes the long-standing importance of athletic camaraderie, competition and sportsmanship in the overall life of the school): Watson Cheek and Katie Benzan, both ’16
■ THE GEORGE WASHINGTON COPP NOBLE CUP (to athletes in Classes V and VI, for sportsmanship in athletics): William Welch ’19, Schuyler Edie ’19, Jake McHugh ’20 and Emily Orscheln ’20
■ THE JOHN PAINE AWARD (to a junior varsity or third-level participant for sportsmanship and consistent work in athletics): Leo Pandolfi ’18 and Charlotte Del Col ’17
■ THE ROBERT J. AGOSTINI AWARD (presented with the support of coaches and captains of Nobles teams for the greatest contribution to the school’s athletics program other than as a competitor): Heather Folgert
■ THE DAVIS CUP (to a member of Class I for sportsmanship and consistent work in athletics): Cody Todesco and Sam Jacobson, both ’15
■ THE NOBLES SHIELD (to the most respected athlete whose skill, sportsmanship and competitive spirit have personified excellence and the ideals of Nobles athletics): Walker Jester and Olivia Mussafer, both ’15

on the playing fields

 varsity baseball

Overall Record: 10–9
ISL Record: 8–7
All-ISL: Domenic Nardone and Seve Tocci, both ’16
Honorable Mention: Alex Dhionis ’15 and Ryan Duffey ’17
Awards: John Eliot Cooke Award (for significant improvement, devotion to the team and a genuine love for the game): David Yan ’15. The Lovett Medal (for excellence in baseball): Domenic Nardone and Seve Tocci, both ’16
2016 Captains: Domenic Nardone, Seve Tocci, Sam Rowley and Tim Barry, all ’16

varsity golf

Overall Record: 7–3–4
ISL Record: 7–3–4
Kingman Championship Tournament: 5th Place
All-ISL: Jack Roberts ’17
Award: Dewey Golf Award (for overall contribution to golf): Grady Zink ’15
2016 Captains: Jess Le ’16 and Jack Roberts ’17

varsity crew

New England Championship Results:
1st Crew: 6th Place
2nd Crew: 7th Place
3rd Crew: 5th Place
4th Crew: 8th Place

2016 Captains: Aidan Crawford, Hayden Folgert and Katie Hooker, all ’16
**BOYS VARSITY LACROSSE**

*Overall Record:* 13–7  
*ISL Record:* 11–4  
*All-ISL:* Cam Brown ’15, Alex Notman ’15, Teddy Strzetelski ’15 and Danny Jacobs ’16  
*Honorable Mention:* Watson Cheek ’16, George Loring ’16, Josh White ’16 and Hayden Cheek ’18  
*Awards:* Arnold Lacrosse Prize (to the player whose skill, dedication and enthusiasm most reflect a love of the sport): Teddy Strzetelski and Alex Notman, both ’15. Samuel P. Dawson Award (for significant improvement, sportsmanship and a genuine love for the game): Cam Brown and Walker Jester, both ’15  
*2016 Captains:* Watson Cheek, Danny Jacobs, George Loring and Josh White, all ’16

**GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE**

*Overall Record:* 13–3  
*ISL Record:* 10–2  
*All-ISL:* Tess Dupré, Tori Chanenchuk and Melinda Edie, all ’16  
*Honorable Mention:* Julia DiNovi, Lucinda Quigley and Bridget McCarthy, all ’16  
*All-New England:* Tess Dupré and Tori Chanenchuk, both ’16  
*Award:* Girls Lacrosse Bowl (for significant contribution in spirit and performance): Morgen Montgomery and Perry Lawson, both ’15  
*2016 Captains:* Lucinda Quigley, Tori Chanenchuk and Julia DiNovi, all ’16

**VARIOUS SAILING**

*Fleet Racing Results:* 1st place team overall in Mass Bay League C-Division; #1 Skipper in C-Division: Sonia Lingos-Utley ’17; #3 Crew in C-Division: Camille Fougere ’17  
*Awards:* The Sailing Award (for overall contribution to sailing): Sonia Lingos-Utley ’17. Corinthian Award for Sportsmanship (awarded to entire Nobles team by Mass Bay League C-Division)  
*2016 Captains:* Eliza Wright ’16, Nick Hunnewell ’16 and Sonia Lingos-Utley ’17

**BOYS VARSITY TENNIS**

*Overall Record:* 10–6  
*ISL Record:* 9–6  
*Award:* The Rice Cup (for enthusiasm, skill and sportsmanship): Will Holding and Armen Festekjian, both ’15  
*2016 Captains:* Seth Gluzman and Winfred Li, both ’16

**GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS**

*Overall Record:* 11–5  
*ISL Record:* 8–4  
*Award:* C.F. Olney Prize (for enthusiasm, skill and sportsmanship): Rachel Janfaza ’16  
*2016 Captains:* Rachel Janfaza ’16 and Allie Schlager ’17

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*Varsity softball beats Milton on a walk off home run.*

*Perry Lawson ’15 and Olly Gill ’18*
THE THEFT OF MEMORY: LOSING MY FATHER, ONE DAY AT A TIME

At the beginning of this year, Jonathan Kozol ’54 released a memoir, The Theft of Memory: Losing My Father, One Day at a Time, a departure from the fierce social commentary for which he is well-known. Through this more personal story that traces his father’s battle with Alzheimer’s, Kozol explores the nature of memory and love—and the unexpected ways in which we become closer to our loved ones as they leave us.

Kozol’s father was an acclaimed psychiatrist, skilled in his ability to diagnose interrelated neurological and psychiatric illnesses. He testified in prominent trials for criminal offenders in Boston and worked closely with playwright Eugene O’Neill. Having spent his life treating people with mental disorders, he was able to perceive the decline of his father’s ability to enter the world of his subjects, to live in the country of their experience and to tell their stories with clarity and compassion.

Indeed, Kozol’s story is wrought with love and clarity. He reminds us that memory, for all its fallibility, is the lifeblood that sustains us: “On cold November nights, when I’m in a thoughtful mood or worried about problems with my work, or personal missteps I may have made, and go out walking by myself along the country roads around my house, I like to imagine that he’s there beside me still, tapping that old cane of his, making his amusing comments on the unpredictable events and unexpected twists and turns in other people’s lives.”

THE EUTHANIST

Pamela Wonnacott is a complicated 26-year-old woman who leads a double life in the debut novel of Alex Dolan’s ’89, The Euthanist. She’s a firefighter/EMT who moonlights as Kali (the name for the Hindu goddess of death) and helps terminally ill patients end their lives.

As with Pamela/Kali, Leland is not who he seems to be. She becomes ensnared in an intricate plot that slowly reveals a complicated past. Leland deconstructs her world, dragging her down the rabbit hole kicking and screaming.

Dolan highlights the gray in a black-and-white world, while also bringing you close to the banality of evil. As the plot unfolds, it becomes clear that Pamela and her alter ego embody her desire to absolve herself by helping others, as both a guardian angel and the Angel of Death.

FEDERALIST TYCOON: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ISRAEL THORNDIKE

Timothy H. Kistner ’03 breathes life into his biographical account of Israel Thorndike, one of our country’s first successful entrepreneurs. Thorndike, who was born in 1755 and died in 1832, was the epitome of the American dream—his business savvy and tenacity helped him make his own luck.

Kistner depicts the birth of the United States and the struggle of this newly formed nation to find its identity and shake off its colonial past. The book illustrates the rise and fall of the Federalists as our nation’s first political party and its domination of the New England political scene. Thorndike, a staunch Federalist, supported the party’s agenda of developing both a strong central government and financial institutions.

Kistner tells of how shipping and privateering became an entrepreneurial adventure that shaped the North Shore and brought money into the region. Thorndike went to sea as a young man, rising from sailor to privateer to shipping magnate to early industrialist. He became one of the region’s largest employers and his economic endeavors were intricately woven into building New England’s economy.

COLLECTING SHAKESPEARE

In Collecting Shakespeare, Stephen H. Grant ’59 recounts the American success story of Henry and Emily Folger of Brooklyn, a devoted couple, who were also in
love with Shakespeare.

Shortly after marrying in 1885, the Folgers started buying, cataloging and storing all manner of items about Shakespeare and his era. The couple financed their hobby with the fortune Henry earned as president of Standard Oil Company of New York, where he was a trusted associate of John D. Rockefeller Sr.

While a number of American universities offered to house the collection, the Folgers wanted to give it to the American people. Afraid the price of antiquarian books would soar if their names were revealed, they secretly acquired prime real estate on Capitol Hill near the Library of Congress. They commissioned the design and construction of an elegant building with a reading room, public exhibition hall and the Elizabethan Theatre. The Folger Shakespeare Library was dedicated on the Bard’s birthday, April 23, 1932.

The library houses 82 first folios, 275,000 books and 60,000 manuscripts. It is also a vibrant center in Washington, D.C., for cultural programs.

The library provided Grant unprecedented access to the primary sources within the Folger vault. He draws on interviews with surviving Folger relatives and visits to 35 related archives in the United States and in Britain to create a portrait of the remarkable couple who ensured that Shakespeare would have a beautiful home in America.

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my books...

THE BOOKS OF SUMMER

BY TOM RESOR, COLLEGE COUNSELOR, ENGLISH FACULTY MEMBER

After teaching The Cellist of Sarajevo to my Class IV English class, I jumped right into my summer reading with the community read A Walk in the Woods. I continued with two books that had sat on my bedside table for far too long.

THE CELLIST OF SARAJEVO, BY STEPHEN GALLOWAY
Taking place during the siege of Sarajevo, this novel follows four characters: the cellist, who performs daily for 22 straight days to honor the 22 victims of a bombing; Arrow, the sniper whose job it is to protect the cellist from an enemy sniper; and Dragen and Kenan, residents who go about their daily lives having to navigate the streets while avoiding the snipers in the hills above Sarajevo.

A WALK IN THE WOODS, BY BILL BRYSON
Bryson weaves his story about hiking parts of the Appalachian Trail (AT) with a history of the AT and the Appalachian Mountains. At times, I literally found myself laughing out loud. Bryson and his companion, Katz, poke fun at themselves and each other, and, sometimes inappropriately, at people they meet on the AT. A Walk in the Woods is funny and informative.

THE BOYS IN THE BOAT, BY DANIEL JAMES BROWN
This book chronicles the young men from the University of Washington who eventually make up the 1936 U.S. Rowing team, providing a close look at the Nazi buildup that was taking place in Germany, the host country. Remarkably, all of the rowers were local boys who came from very humble origins, and almost all of them had never rowed until they started in college. Less than three years later, they won the gold medal.

ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE, BY ANTHONY DOERR
This terrific novel examines the end of WWII through two main characters: Werner, a Hitler youth prodigy who eventually becomes disillusioned with the Nazi way, and Marie-Laure, a blind French girl who helps the resistance in occupied France and protects a valuable diamond from the Nazis. Their stories run parallel until they meet at the end. Like The Cellist of Sarajevo, All the Light We Cannot See reveals that war rarely is a clear conflict between two opposing sides.

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN, BY PAULA HAWKINS
My daughter gave me this novel after she had read it for her book group, saying it was a pure page-turner. It is. A psychological murder-mystery compared to Gone Girl and written in the same alternating first-person narration, the novel is set outside of London. While Rachel rides to and from the city each day, she observes and become enamored with her “ideal” couple whose house is along the tracks. One morning, Rachel glimpses a strange man with the woman and then later learns the woman has disappeared.
Nobles Celebrates 149th Graduation

Seventeenth-century poet Anne Bradstreet declared, “If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.” Most New Englanders can relate and, on May 29—closing an academic year marked by a barrage of blizzards and a slow-coming spring—Noble and Greenough School graduated 124 members of the Class of 2015 under sunny skies. Very pleasant, indeed, Ms. Bradstreet.

THE MORNING CELEBRATIONS included awards and the granting of diplomas to a class characterized by its kindness, extraordinary work ethic and resilience in response to loss and difficulty. Speakers shared thoughts on change, challenge and intentionality.

School Life Council co-presidents Joelle Sherman and Dana Grey were among the first to address the audience. Sherman reflected on her friendship with Grey, peers and faculty members. “You’ve helped me start to figure out who I am and who I want to be. I cannot imagine a greater gift.”

Grey talked about learning of his mother’s breast cancer and seeing her post-surgery at Beth Israel Hospital. His mom, he said, had been his rock for 17 years. And her vulnerability coincided with his hardest-ever semester in school. “But this community ... gave me incredible support and love to help me deal with my situation.”

Grey also said that he repeatedly called upon the humor and strength of his mother’s repetition of the NASA Apollo 13 ground control commander: “With all due respect, sir, I think this is going to be our finest hour.”

Head of School Bob Henderson announced the awards that were accepted by students the previous evening. He also recognized seniors who earned distinction, high distinction and highest distinction.

In addressing the Class of 2015, Henderson said, “Allow me to share a hyperbolic example of the evolution of education over the last half century.”

He proceeded to outline the evolution of a story problem, which originated in a 1965 math text. He illustrated the progression of the basic concept through pedagogical fads and cultural trends—including a 1980s dumbed-down version that might sound shockingly authentic to students of the era. (The full evolution is too long to share here—but very funny. Read it in the full version of Henderson’s remarks online.)

Citing the counter-productivity of embracing trends thoughtlessly, Henderson asserted that what really matters in good schools is that expectations are consistently high and relationships are central. “I assert that what matters most is what has always mattered most. Learning best occurs in an environment where the expectations are uniformly very high in terms of both achievement and behavior. More important, learning flourishes when those standards are set by adults of inspirational intellect, admirable character, unflagging dedication and intuitive empathy. And, of course, those same adults must be able to connect with kids, and be able to laugh and revel in their company,
while never forgetting the degree to which they serve as role models of balance, engagement and success in life.

“Such adults create schools that are fundamentally joyous places. Not joyous every minute of every day, because getting through high school is tough, requires hard work, and there are inescapable disappointments. But today, at the end of the road, it is my hope that this senior class can feel the essential joy of having grown up here, under the care of this remarkable faculty.”

Before introducing faculty speaker John Chung, Henderson also bestowed the Vernon Greene Award for excellence in teaching to science teacher Dominic Manzo, who teaches robotics, engineering and physics.

“One of his kids said to me that he is a ‘stealth’ teacher: You learn way more than you think you are because you have such a good time doing it,” Henderson said. “Class is about storytelling, and personal connections, and joyful exploration. Relentlessly curious, with an eclectic intellect, he seems to be interested in all the things the person he is talking to is interested in. Mr. Manzo, one of his former students said, is the sort of person who can have an animated conversation with a rock, and the rock will feel good about it.”

Faculty speaker Chung, a member of the math and science departments, recalled how quickly the concluding school year has gone—in part, he quipped, because he had a first-class concussion, earned by poor timing passing a Nobles athletic field.

After serial math jokes—teachers can’t resist math jokes?—Chung turned serious and invited students to contemplate personal mission statements. “Just as the school has a mission statement that drives its decisions, people need individual mission statements that provide a set of defining principles. While the value of the question may be obvious, answering it eloquently is a daunting task that requires genuine contemplation and reflection.”

Genesis De Los Santos and Nick Jaczko were selected by their peers to speak on the dais. De Los Santos spoke of her nearly paralyzing fear when she entered the Nobles community, unsure how much of her real self and life to reveal. She recalled connecting with Kate Burr, who is a late-afternoon receptionist, postage expert and student sounding board.

“In many ways, I was afraid of Nobles because I was afraid I had to hide who I was,” said De Los Santos. She said one of the pivotal moments might have been when she shared with the community that her parents work extraordinarily hard as a hotel maid and a janitor—or it might have been the time when Burr said to De Los Santos: “You are a firecracker.”

“You [classmates] helped me free my voice—and, boy, is it loud!”

Jaczko said that he and a classmate went sailing with nearly disastrous results. The boat was filling with water from the Charles River, he said. “It’s kind of like graduation.”

He elaborated, explaining that when the boat is spinning, one finds oneself in that strange and intriguing in-between place.

The ceremony included additional awards such as the Head of School Prize, Miller Medal and Gleason Award, which went to new graduates Ian Katz, Caley Dickinson and Jordan Sandford, respectively. Longtime trustee and Nobles parent Ernie Parizeau was awarded the George F. Fiske Award for a non-graduate who has given extraordinary service. The honor includes an honorary diploma, which resulted in Parizeau and his son Sam Parizeau both becoming members of the Class of 2015.
Voyages on the Black Atlantic

How Hardy Musical Flowers Grew  
PAUL LIEBERMAN, MUSIC FACULTY MEMBER

Why isn’t anyone talking about this?” a stunned teacher asked at an all-day seminar I was invited to give a few years back. The multimedia presentation on Brazilian culture, music and dance, and its African and European roots, was given to a roomful of K–12 teachers at Primary Source—a nonprofit organization in Watertown, Mass., that works to advance global education in schools.

Because I’ve received similar responses at other presentations of this material, I’ve been developing an educational performance project entitled “Voyages on the Black Atlantic” and have expanded the geographical, historical and musical scope to include the United States, the Caribbean and all of Latin America. My dream is to continue to build this project as a vehicle devoted to continued educational outreach, scholarly research and collaborative artistic exploration.

My Rosetta Stone has been the work of Robert F. Thompson, the Colonel John Trumbull Professor of the History of Art at Yale University, and I’d like to share excerpts from a 2010 profile by Cathy Shufro in the Yale Alumni Magazine:

“Black music controls the airwaves of this planet. How did that happen?”

Now 77, Thompson has spent his life exploring the art of Africa and the African diaspora. In his teaching and books, Thompson demonstrates how [traditional African civilizations] have permeated and enlivened cultural life on this side of the Atlantic, from Brazil to Cuba to New York—the place he calls “the secret African city.”

Thompson wants his students to recognize how aspects of African cultures infuse not only the music, art and dance of the Americas, but also philosophy, religious practice, textile design, everyday gestures and vocabulary. He coined the term that became prevalent in academia: “Black Atlantic.” Says Thompson, “We can’t know how American we are unless we know how black we are.”

...To study Afro-Atlantic music—and body language, visual arts and dance—is also to study Afro-Atlantic philosophy....In the West, Africa is seen as not having a philosophy, because what we see as philosophy is primarily text-based. In the Afro-Atlantic world, however, existential quandaries tend to be embodied in the language of gesture, dance, music and fashion. To understand Afro-Atlantic values and beliefs, we have to become literate in this nonverbal language. If you want to know Afro-Atlantic philosophy, go to a Miles Davis concert.


My musical research has led me to one specific West African rhythm that pulses through four out of today’s Top 5 pop hits (Shut Up and Dance, See You Again, Want to Want Me, Talking Body) back through rock, funk, country & western, R&B and jazz, to Jelly Roll Morton’s “Spanish Tinge” and ragtime, as well as through samba, tango, mambo and so much of the music of the Americas. It’s the rhythmic chassis upon which rides an astonishing variety of music we listen to every day.

One surprising nexus of this influence was twice-daily ferry service between Havana and New Orleans, which ran from the late 19th century into the early 20th century. The so-called Habanera (Havana-style) rhythm that emerged set off the first worldwide dance craze—so popular it flowed back across the Atlantic to find its way into the eponymously famous aria from Bizet’s opera “Carmen.”

The “Voyages” educational project uses the music that powers the world’s two biggest parties—Brazilian Carnaval and New Orleans’ Mardi Gras—to reveal the musical DNA that has made American, Brazilian and Latin music the world’s favorites and teach...
students about the African roots of our music and culture.

The fact that these exquisite, hardy musical flowers grew out of the poisonous soil of slavery attests to the power contained in their seeds.

Martin Luther King hinted at this when he wrote:

“Jazz speaks for life. The blues tell the story of life’s difficulties, and if you think for a moment, you will realize that they take the hardest realities of life and put them into music, only to come out with some new hope or sense of triumph.

This is triumphant music....It has strengthened us with its sweet rhythms when courage began to fail. It has calmed us with its rich harmonies when spirits were down.

And now, jazz is exported to the world. For in the particular struggle of the Negro in America, there is something akin to the universal struggle of modern man. Everybody has the blues. Everybody longs for meaning. Everybody needs to love and be loved. Everybody needs to clap hands and be happy. Everybody longs for faith.

In music...there is a steppingstone toward all of these.”

Thompson’s work leads us to see the African musical DNA as a genetic marker for much more—for the African philosophical and spiritual gift to America at the heart of the internationally beloved American spirit and culture.

It is no mere coincidence that this music is the soundtrack of our American life. So the next time you’re enjoying some American music—jogging, driving down the road, at a sporting event, or perhaps at a wedding party celebrating love and the bright promise of a new union—I hope you’ll take a moment to think about the emotional wave inside the music that’s shaping the moment, about who brought it here and what else came with it. Reflect on that enormous, transformative gift and its fundamental role in making America great, and maybe wonder, “Why isn’t anyone talking about this?”
The history of the United States is built on the pervasive American ethos of pulling yourself up by your bootstraps to become a self-made success. This freedom to pursue your dreams is central to the American narrative. More recently, the pursuit of entrepreneurship and innovation has entered the American vernacular. In earlier generations, Ben Franklin, Thomas Edison and Howard Hughes played in their own “maker space.” Today’s equivalents include entrepreneurs Bill Gates, Richard Branson and Mark Zuckerberg. Lindsey Marshall Gray ’01, as director of the New York University Entrepreneurial Institute, is positioned where innovative and problem-solving technologies meet business.

GRAY DESCRIBES HER TIME at Nobles as being transformative, providing her with important critical thinking skills and a thirst for exploration. She cites her exposure to Japanese language and culture via a Nobles trip as influencing her decision to major in Japanese language and literature and international relations at Connecticut College.

After graduating, Gray joined a small marketing analytics company that she describes as “helping large consumer packaged goods retailers and manufacturers better understand what products they should sell, how they should sell them and where they should sell them. It was an early look at big data in the world of packaged goods.”
While she was there, the company found that it could build an online tool, and Gray became “part of a team that built a new product that we would sell to our customers as enterprise software and use it to do a whole bunch of analysis.” She describes this as her first experience with “intrapreneurship,” also known as internal entrepreneurship.

Before she started at Harvard Business School (HBS), Gray realized she had an interest in “building new businesses inside of larger companies,” and she wanted to learn more. During her time at HBS, she studied with Clay Christensen, a well-known innovation expert and author of The Innovator’s Dilemma.

After earning a master’s degree, Gray joined Innosight, a company Christensen had started. In 2011, while continuing to work at Innosight, Gray moved to New York City where there was a booming start-up scene. And while she wanted to be directly involved in the New York start-up community, she also wanted to give back, so she contacted an NYU leader in entrepreneurial initiatives and volunteered to be a mentor. She found that she liked working with faculty and students by helping them realize the potential in their ideas or innovations. Soon after, Gray says, “NYU made a commitment to entrepreneurship and started the NYU Entrepreneurial Institute.” She left Innosight to take on a full-time role in mentoring start-ups.

Gray talks about the benefits innovation and entrepreneurship have on everyone. In creating new businesses, they bring to society “new products that save lives and innovations that improve the economy, create jobs, or improve the environment.” She emphasizes how much she finds this fulfilling and describes it “as very rewarding work where you can see a clear and direct impact.”

Looking forward in NYU’s Entrepreneurial Institute, Gray sees opportunities in industries such as health care, green technologies and education, and how faculty and students work to solve problems in those industries. She talks about the tools and knowledge that help drive today’s innovators and entrepreneurs. “There has been a democratization of tools that enable anyone to be creative and innovative in the entrepreneurial space. For example: prototyping tools like 3-D printers. Now we’re seeing students who don’t have 20 years of experience in health care have access to the tools and information they need to come up with really amazing ideas for improvement in health care. It has made it easier for people who couldn’t have innovated in more complex spaces, such as health care or clean tech, to begin working in those spaces.”

As for misconceptions surrounding innovation or entrepreneurship, Gray says, “The biggest myth is that you have to be a businessperson to start a company, to be an entrepreneur. Entrepreneurs come from every corner of the world, every corner of a university. They are not just developed in a business school. All you need to be an entrepreneur, regardless of your age or expertise, is the recognition of a problem that needs to be solved and the willingness to be the person who creates the solution to that problem.

“We find people of all ages and backgrounds who are able to do that. Sometimes it’s someone who has the business insight, but very often it’s someone who through their daily lives discovered something that doesn’t work or is inefficient or unsolved today, who has a creative mind to find a solution to that problem. I feel I’m saying all the time it’s not the province of the business school or just business people. Anyone who wants to solve a problem and is motivated to do it can be an entrepreneur.”

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**Innovation at Home**

Three Nobles grads, Anthony Ackil ’94, Robert Glazer ’94 and Will Fulton ’86 were named finalists of Ernst and Young’s 2015 Entrepreneur of the Year Awards in New England.

Ackil, co-founder and CEO of b.good, was among the winners who were announced in June during a special gala in Boston. EY’s Entrepreneur of the Year Awards recognize individuals that “not only create and build market-leading businesses but also help take the standard of excellence to new heights, transform the face of industry, create jobs, and contribute to the vibrancy of communities.”

After his inclusion in the Boston Business Journal’s 2013 “40 under 40,” Glazer—founder and managing director of Acceleration Partners, a digital marketing agency—said “It’s an honor to be listed alongside the other finalists, many of whom I have known and worked with for years. This recognition is really a testament to the partnership of our amazing clients and the hard work of the entire team at Acceleration Partners.”

Fulton, whose company, Dane Street, has been named for two consecutive years on Inc. Magazine’s List of Fastest-Growing Private Companies in America, said that he was honored to be a finalist. He cited his company’s mission: “As a national IME and Peer Review provider, we strive to provide a high-quality experience around medical review advisory services for all of our clients, while improving outcomes for patients and ensuring they receive the proper treatment.”
Matthew Glassman ’94 Leads Troupe Rooted in Sustainability and Spectacle

Creative Roots
Double Edge Theatre gets the highest rating possible on Trip Advisor. It’s not common for a progressive, international theatre company to have a Trip Advisor listing, but ratings are everywhere, and the theatre troupe also earns rave reviews from the Boston Globe, the DC Theatre Scene and others. After 12 years in Allston, Mass., Double Edge migrated in 2002 to the Pioneer Valley in western Massachusetts, landing in pastoral Ashfield.

WHAT IS DOUBLE EDGE? The website says that it’s an international center for performance, collaboration and training. DC Theatre Scene wrote, “Double Edge Theatre might be the most exciting theatre group you’ve never heard of.” At the epicenter of this creative kaleidoscope is Matthew Glassman ’94, an actor and the troupe’s co–artistic director.

“It’s a laboratory rooted in collaboration with international artists,” explains Glassman. “Our training is physical, improvisational and concerned with flying.” The company’s 20 members include 11 permanent ensemble players, as well as resident artists, apprentices and long-term collaborators. The actors in the group focus on the discovery of the body and voice as responsive, expressive vessels.

“Our training is not for everybody. It’s not about virtuosity or athleticism. It’s about desire,” Glassman says.

On the 105-acre farm in Ashfield, members of the troupe use the landscape and river on the property as their stage, periodically extending far beyond with shows in Moscow, Norway and Argentina, where they share their unique mix of theatre spectacle and community activism and engagement. In Ashfield, the group raises animals, tends gardens, and partners with local nonprofits and artisans for set design, stone structures, mosaics, boats and fabric design.

When on tour away from what the group calls “The Farm,” members adapt segments of epic tales to their surroundings and to the audience. At Amherst College, they performed a collage of material from Don Quixote, The Odyssey and Shahrazad. A summer 2015 tour at a Norwegian coastal fortress overlooking the North Sea featured material from The Odyssey and Shahrazad as well as repurposed and adapted work from a local artist.

Glassman, co–artistic director Carlos Uriona and Stacy Klein, the troupe’s founding artistic director, shape spectacles that are multidisciplinary, gracefully using circus, dance, costume, puppetry and music to deliver visceral experiences to the audience. Each performance may present an idea, but the art inspires feeling more than analysis.
Top left and bottom right: The Farm and vegetable garden; Top right and bottom left: Training and étude showing at the Farm as part of the company’s year-round training program; Inset: Matthew Glassman ’94
“Western theatre is typically from ‘the head up,’ anchored in the inquiries of the playwright. Words are in equal place with image,” Glassman says. “Our training is rooted in trying to find a totality—physical and psychological—and using images that include costumes and richly imaged mise en scène.”

The Boston Globe wrote of The Grand Parade (of the 20th Century), a spring 2015 performance at Emerson College in Boston, that it used “stunning visual imagery, haunting vocal harmonies, musical accompaniment and jaw-dropping aerial feats.”

Of the same show, artistic director Klein wrote that, inspired by the work of Marc Chagall, the artistic directors looked at the recent past, attempting to paint a mythology of our time: “The actors donned and shed different personas, and we found ourselves rooted in the midst of the ‘American Century’... We soon realized that reflecting history through our own eyes was the only way to speak to our desires for the future.”

The scale of Double Edge is intimate. Their first performance in Ashfield, Saragossa Manuscripts, drew an audience of 50. Now their summer audiences exceed 3,000. The summer 2015 spectacle, Once a Blue Moon (Cada Luna Azul), was sold out before its opening. It is the first Latin American–based spectacle in the company’s history, taking its story from the magical realism of Isabel Allende and Bioy Casares.

As a young man, Glassman—who was School Life Council (SLC) president at Nobles—did not seem destined for leadership in the theatre. He performed in some of classmate Sam Forman’s productions. (Forman ’95 is a lyricist and writer who works on Broadway and is a writer for the Netflix hit House of Cards.) But Glassman never participated in a mainstage production, though he did write for Calliope, the literary magazine, he said.

He came as a sixie in middle school, where he met Hunter Wooley ’94, who remains a great friend. His love of writing was certainly encouraged at Nobles. “Vincent Broderick [former English teacher] influenced a love of creative writing. He had an open, humanistic and contemplative approach,” Glassman says.

“Being [SLC] president was also a platform for performing. In some ways it’s not far from what I do now. There’s a strong community component.”

Glassman also traveled during his time at Nobles. During a trip to Chile, he met the mother of his son, Nico. Nico is now an actor with Double Edge. “Nico has been an inspiration to me... My personal narrative [becoming a young father] led to deep reflection and a sense of accountability.”

Glassman says that this personal accountability is closely tied to his mission as an artist. “You connect your survival to your artistic work,” he says.

“At the same time I care about creating the highest standard of theatre, I also need to think about being rooted in practicalities. “We want to move beyond a commercial model as we serve the community. We have created an ecosystem that is not purely transactional,” Glassman says, explaining that their artistic model aims to help sustain working artists and enhance the community they belong to.

Glassman earned a bachelor’s in theatre and dance from Trinity College in Connecticut. He began working with Double Edge Theatre in 2000 and has led training for workshops at Emerson College, UMass Amherst, New York.
University, Columbia University, Boston University, the University of Georgia, MIT, Trinity College, the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and others. He has worked in elementary schools throughout New England under National and State Arts in Education and was awarded the Mary Lyon Foundation “Spirit of Adventure Award” for innovative support of local education.

Glassman serves on the board of the Network of Ensemble Theaters, co-leads the National Rural Arts & Culture Working group, and has served as a grant panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts.

Top left and bottom: The Grand Parade (of the 20th Century), which recently toured to Norway, Boston and New Orleans; Top right: Once A Blue Moon (Cada Luna Azul)—Double Edge’s most recent summer spectacle, also to be performed at the Farm next year.
WATC

BY HEATHER SULLIVAN

PORTRAIT BY BRAD PARIS

32 Nobles Fall 2015
On May 27, 2014—less than two months before the Staten Island, N.Y., death of Eric Garner and three months before the Ferguson, Mo., shooting of Michael Brown—Phil Eure ’79 took office as the first inspector general for the New York City Police Department. The office, independent of the NYPD, is tasked with reviewing and making recommendations related to the policies and practices of the department.

Eure’s appointment on March 24, 2014, could not have been timelier.

Since then, other highly publicized and scrutinized deaths of African Americans confronted by police have brought this accountability issue to the forefront—while also igniting protests, public condemnation and frustration with ineffective investigations into police conduct.

That’s where Eure’s office comes in.
The Office of the Inspector General for the NYPD (OIG-NYPD) sits within the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country and an international leader in combating corruption in public institutions. Eure reports directly to DOI Commissioner Mark G. Peters. His office aims to enhance the effectiveness of the police department, increase public safety, protect civil liberties and civil rights, and increase the public’s confidence in the police force through the investigation of individual cases but, more intensely, through extensive, systemic reviews.

The mission is unprecedented, and the creation of Eure’s post was controversial, with some in the city arguing that NYPD’s Internal Affairs Bureau and the Civilian Complaint Review Board, which respond to individual complaints, already provided sufficient oversight.

In the midst of controversy, however, Eure’s depth of experience in the complex field of police accountability and his firsthand knowledge of building an investigative office won the confidence of city officials. As the director of the District of Columbia’s Office of Police Complaints (OPC), Eure developed the sensibility and skill set crucial for scrutinizing the country’s largest police force and proposing reforms to strengthen it.

“We are looking for patterns—for broad systemic data that can inform recommendations and improve police-community relations.” He says that he has no personal agenda, though his role could easily become political, which is not productive. “You let the facts determine the outcome. You follow the facts,” he says.

Eure began following those facts at a young age, saying whatever work he chose, involvement in civil rights was a priority. “I’ve always been concerned with the plight of the less privileged,” he says, referencing the teaching “to whom much has been given, much shall be required.”

Eure is the child of an inner-city public school teacher and the first black columnist for the Boston Globe. He grew up in Roxbury and Sharon, Mass.

After six years at Nobles, he earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from Stanford and a law degree from Harvard. He spent a dozen years as an attorney with the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and, during that time, served a year as a legal advisor to the U.S. Embassy in Haiti, where he helped oversee the training of judges and prosecutors throughout the country. (He credits Nobles teachers Michel Bevillard, who taught French, and Ben Lawson, who taught Latin, for his love of languages.)

While Eure led the Office of Police Complaints in Washington, D.C., he also served as president of the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement, a national nonprofit dedicated to promoting greater police accountability and reducing police misconduct in the United States.

During his first year at OIG-NYPD, Eure has been building a team of policy analysts, investigators and attorneys in the new office space on Maiden Lane in Lower Manhattan.

“I am blessed to have a talented and diverse staff,” he says, noting that he hired former NYPD staffers as well as professionals with civil rights backgrounds as members of his 43-person staff. “This is not groupthink—not everyone has the same perspective, which is crucial when you are dealing with important and sensitive issues.”

Eure is also learning to navigate his position within city government—particularly his relationships with Mayor Bill de Blasio and Police Commissioner William J. Bratton, who, like Eure, grew up in Boston.

Of his relationships with city leaders, Eure said, “We should be on the same side of the fence; we shouldn’t be at odds with each other...[but] we’re going to go wherever the facts lead.”

Among reports already compiled during Eure’s tenure are an analysis of the use of chokeholds (a tactic banned by the NYPD); how data from lawsuits and legal claims against the department can be used to strengthen police accountability; and a deep-dive into the NYPD’s policies governing its pilot body camera program. The reports make nearly two dozen recommendations for improving the program going forward and received widespread media coverage.

The office has several more reports planned in the coming months, including reviews of the NYPD’s use of force, quality-of-life summonses (commonly known as “Broken Windows” policing), and the NYPD’s surveillance of political and religious groups.

Still, Eure continues to push forward. “There’s still a lot of work to be done,” he says.

Follow Eure’s office on Twitter @OIGNYPD or read more about his office’s work at http://www.nyc.gov/oigny whole.
Bill Brush writes, “This picture was taken at Plum Island as our family celebrated Harriet’s 90th birthday. We have just enjoyed the birth of a fifth great-grandchild and now have two in Maine, two in the Netherlands and one in North Carolina.”

Gregg Bemis reports little action among the remaining classmates. Phil Baker is actively making the rounds for graduations: Granddaughter No. 1 received her Ph.D. from Colorado University in biochemistry; granddaughter no. 2 is a full-fledged vet from Cornell; and granddaughter No. 3 graduated from high school in Maine. Congratulations, Phil. And this author is just back from a week in Ireland attending multiple emotional commemoration services for the Lusitania sinking 100 years ago May 7. The Irish take their history seriously.

Classmate George Fogg and his wife, Jane, report that they have a grandson, Arthur Schleifer, coming to Nobles this fall. He is the son of Jane Fogg Schleifer ’83.

Winston “Hooley” Perry writes: “‘Boston Breaks Snowfall Record.’ Boston’s miserable winter is now also its snowiest season, going back to 1872, with an official measurement of 108.6 inches at Logan International Airport. But what about Dover, N.H., and Falmouth and Fryeburg and Portland and Waldeboro, Maine, and Jackson and Holderness, N.H., and South Royalton and Grand Isle, Vt., which saw snowfall records beyond and deeper than belief (and/or Boston)? In Dover, Peter Hallett ’52 and his snow-bunny wife, Carol, again decided this year to not worry about the winter weather and to ‘stick it out.’ So what do you think now, Peter? In Falmouth, I’m sure that Charlie Soule ’53 hunkered down and feasted on Maine lobstah for the duration. In Fryeburg, I’m also sure that ‘Dandy’ Don Atwell ’52 has built
himself a large snowman to talk to, because the local telephone people are still on strike since last year, and his computer server and/or email address is still inactive. As a matter of fact, I just talked to Don two days after spring officially arrived, and it was still snowing. In Portland, where Pete Willauer ’52 and his vivacious wife, Carol, now call home (and are presently without a watercraft), I heard that they wisely decided ‘to visit some friends in Nevis, West Indies, where the living is easy and there ain’t no snow.’ Smart move, Pete and Carol. In Waldeboro, where our ‘Nanook of the North’ Jack ’53 and Jane Farlow live, I’m sure from watching the daily weather reports that they enjoyed making enormous snow igloos in and around the town’s enormous snowbanks to pass the time while watching it snow, more and more and more. And then for our class’s high achiever and ‘Mountain Man’ John Dunn ’52, who has made Jackson his home base for many years, and who thrives in the North Country environment, one can only imagine what winter good works he has instituted for the good of his neighborhood, in spite of the mountains of snow blocking his way.

After sending out the Putnam Legacy DVD to everyone, I received the nicest card and newsy handwritten letter from Jake Dunnell ’52, who along with his brother Bill lives in Holderness. As Jake describes it, he shuffles around their cabin on Squam Lake and doesn’t even venture outside because it’s too darn cold. Jake, I sincerely appreciate your kind card and letter. Bill Badger ’53 in South Royalton lives in downhill and cross-country skiing country. I’m sure the ‘Codger’ is in seventh heaven with all of the snow to play in. And last, but certainly not the least, of our northern snowbound band of brothers are Bobby and Carolyn Prasch ’53, who prefer the quiet solitude and beauty of the northern end of the windswept Lake Champlain, where the fun city of Montreal is only a normal one hour’s drive away, but with this year’s winter storms, ‘Don’t even try driving there (even by snowmobile).’ As for the rest of you lower New England and Cape Cod snowbound stalwarts, you also shared in the winter wonderland fun and games. As for the rest of you ‘smarter than the average bear’ classmates who live in Virginia, Illinois, Florida, Kentucky, New Mexico, California, Vermont, Idaho, Indiana and Maryland, we can only offer you the solace of knowing that you escaped record-making and copious amounts of snow in New England. ‘Fun in the sun’ has its benefits.

In early February, I received a phone call from ‘Hollywood’ Hal Knapp ’52 and his lovely wife, Carol, informing me that between the Cape’s daily snowstorms, they had just barely escaped snowbound Cape Cod and were heading south to Longboat Key in Florida, where they usually hang out for a few months every year to thaw out. Normally we would have thrown out the welcome mat, but with Andrea’s recent double-hip replacement and my recent fractured vertebra, we weren’t capable entertainers. So depending on our recovery quotient, we talked about meeting for lunch later on at St. Armand’s Circle, so we will see what happens. Stay tuned.

During our phone conversations with Peter Hallett and his lovely wife, Carol, we checked on the Dover depth of snowdrifts, and their many feet of roof snow, and their trying to see beyond their frost-covered windows any of the horizontal, directional snow (aren’t those cute little snowflakes so pretty) and ever-growing snow piles. Peter regaled us with his weekly efforts to go to the grocery store for food supplies. He also mentioned that he had a V.A. doctor’s appointment in Portland, and the snow on the Maine Turnpike was so high that it covered all of the road directional signs, so when he missed his Portland turnoff, he just continued on a few more miles to Freeport, where his favorite L.L. Bean store was having ‘Winter Bargain Sale Days.’ He did have a bit of an eye problem with a detached retina in his right eye, but fortunately Mass. Eye and Ear fixed that all up over time.

I regularly receive handwritten (very small handwriting, I might add) postcard from our Terranora Wombat Bo-Bub Wakefield ’53, telling me about his and wife Catherine’s travels around the wilds and outback of Australia’s never never land. Their ‘Tug & Trailer’ is rigged with all sorts of survival gear, including lots of extra gasoline, because gas stations are few and far between. I know that in my 2014 Summer Bulletin notes, I included a long dissertation of Bo-Bub’s Outback adventures, but it seems that now he’s retired, the travel bug has bitten him big time, and with the unusual wide-open spaces so copious in the Australian Outback, he is determined to visit each and every bar, gas station, small town restaurant and sheep station everywhere and anywhere in the Outback.

On Super Bowl Sunday February 1, Sally and Dick Flood ’53 and son Dickie Flood ‘77 (who flew in from France for the event) just so happened to be invited by their son Sam Flood ’79, who again just so happens to be the executive producer of NBC Sports, and just so happened to have front-row seats for Dad, Mom, and Sons, who then presented them all with the golden opportunity to witness the Boston Patriots beat the Seattle Seahawks in the final moments of this year’s game. As Dickie said, ‘I experienced an athletic historic marathon that never stopped. Wrap 10 Nobles-Milton thrillers together, and that was our moment in the desert.’ We TV watchers will always remember this game as ‘Pete Carroll, what were you thinking when you called’
that last pass play at the goal line? Another fun and interesting aspect of this story that Dickie shared with me a few years ago was when his son Sam first went to work for NBC Sports. On his first day on the job, at an event in the rain, Sam asked his boss how he could help, and he was handed an umbrella and was told to hold it over Howard Cosell’s head so that Howard wouldn’t get his carefully coiffed hair wet from the rain. Which just goes to show you that anyone, after years of smart and hard work, while learning a business, can get to the top. Congratulations, Sam (and Mom and Dad, of course).

On March 2, we lost one of our very best. The news of Louis Newell’s passing brought forth bunches of his classmates’ remembrances. Jim Bailey ’53 stated, ‘He was my Harvard College roommate for four years and my teammate in football, hockey, baseball and golf, and best friend,’ which without a doubt makes for a longtime and loved friend. As I (Hooley) knew Louis over the years, there wasn’t a nicer or more giving individual in this world than he—always with a smile and a laugh—and always giving back to so many causes that he championed over the years. Obviously it was a downhill health battle for so many years with Louis, that after fighting so hard to reverse its course (and what a fighter he was), he finally realized that it was time to ‘let go and let nature take its course,’ and to let his beautiful and loving wife, Emmie, get on with her life. Now, that is real love and real giving. On March 20 at Louis’s ‘Celebration of Life’ ceremony at the First Parish Church in Brookline, there were bunches and busloads of people in attendance paying tribute to Louis, who after the memorial service attended a lavish luncheon at The Country Club in Brookline. A fitting tribute to a wonderful and amazing guy.

As for the rest of you ’52 and ’53 classmates, while losing Dick Anderson in September 2014, and Billy Allen in November 2014, and Jack ‘My Best Buddy’ Tucker in November 2014, and now Louis Newell in March 2015, I guess you could call it ‘The Law of Diminishing Returns,’ with our two classes growing smaller every day. But on the other hand, what a wonderful run it has been for everyone involved, with so many happy memories and experiences, which I now call, at my age of 80, ‘The Age of Precious Moments,’ because every moment in our lives from now on is a gift and is precious.

So you take good care, my friends and classmates, and hopefully someday our paths will cross real soon somewhere, which I look forward to. Love you all.”

1954

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1955

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Bob Chellis writes: “18 of our original 29 classmates survive, and 10 classmates rallied to our 60th, as did four widows. Lots of May weddings, so Cindy and Bill Thayer could only attend Friday for the always outstanding Nobles’ Dinner in the Castle, and Wally Stimpson flew back for our class dinner Saturday night. Saturday morning, Wally was awarded the Lawson Service Award—a stunning tribute to Wally’s dedication and years of contributions to the school. His son Ted was proud to accept it on his dad’s behalf.

Classmates attending both Friday and Saturday were Charlie Nichols and Linda, John Harrison and Sally, Bebo Gregg and Phoebe Fairburn, Sam Gray and Gerry, Larry Flood and Tyler, Bob Chellis and Sandy, and—from farther away—Dave Fisher from California and Dick Finlay from Texas. Bob Taylor could not get down from Peterborough, N.H., but his wife, Carolyn, came with his good wishes. Tim Horne is now living in Connecticut but sent regrets. Lee Patterson was unable to come. Peter Nichols sent regrets from New York, but he included a good Eliot Putnam anecdote, which was read aloud. We were sorry not to hear back from Freeman Davison, Frank Warner and Jim Lowell.

Loyal widows at our class dinner were Koko Doty, Judy Newell, Pam Newell and Sandy Gorham. Charlene Clifford sent regrets. Club’s daughter Tamar ’84 came with Judy, and Pi’s daughter Jenny came with Pam and helped us take some pictures. Sandy Gorham took center stage when she produced a tantalizingly short home movie that Buster took at our 10th Reunion—50 years ago! There were some relaxed and very young people at an excellent party in Jim Lowell’s big, sunny Westwood backyard—complete with beer, softball and some very pretty girls.

Bob Chellis hosted the class dinner at Fox Hill Village—his new home and lifestyle—just two miles down the road from Nobles, where a staff does all the heavy lifting—and catering. Place cards creatively organized by Nichols, Flood and Chellis encouraged maximum mixing and fresh conversations. It was a good time. Early on, Nichols read the names of classmates who have died and asked for a moment of silence. Later, many of us rose to discuss our lives so far, and it’s so far, so good.

Many brought memorabilia to the class dinner. Charlie and Linda did an interesting job arranging it. One of the three tables was all Mike Jonsberg’s material—report cards, dance cards—all labeled with his comments. Remember the dance card rituals? High-level trading, but always saving for yourself the first dance, the last before intermission and the last dance. Mike was kept in Maryland by his daughter’s graduation, but at least we could enjoy his sense of humor again.

Nobles loaned us a big banner that was taped to the bar for atmosphere. As a highlight, we played two new films by former Nobles faculty member Jim Bride. Nobles 1866-1943 was a good history of Nobles and Volkman, and The Putnam Legacy showed Mr. Putnam from his Harvard days—carrying the ball for Harvard against mighty Michigan before 87,000!—and followed him through all the Nobles years, everything from the morning assemblies to the football field. There were some shots of
the great team of Putnam and Flood together, and with Laura Putnam and their children. The films were much enjoyed—conversation actually stopped—and every classmate was gifted a copy of the DVD under their place card. Indeed, Eliot Putnam was referred to so often that he was a presence at the party, especially for those of us who also saw his induction to the Nobles Athletic Hall of Fame in the afternoon. He reappeared in his Legacy film and in so many of our anecdotes.

Let’s hope that those who missed this year’s reunion will come to the Noblest Dinner next year. We can get a table together in the Castle’s new banquet hall.”

1956

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From George Waterman: “I am assembling a library of art information. Now with 50,000 books and catalogs, the Visual Art Library, in New London, Conn., is just a block and a half from the Amtrak station. I have formed a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) and am donating all these books to it. It will be open to art scholars and others in a year or so, I hope.

The website is not bad at visualartlibrary.org. Take a look if you wish.”

“I am still upright, mostly, in New Mexico,” writes Bill Wiese, “staying busy in retirement working on drug policy issues—we have a much worse than average problem with heroin—trying to get our teaching hospital to be more effective in getting care to people who still can’t get care even with Obamacare. We are still managing a couple of old adobe rental houses (call me if you need a bed in Santa Fe), caring for a few elderly sheep and goats, and hoping there will be enough water to sustain a few acres of alfalfa. Fortunately, we have some of our grandchildren nearby, which allows us to maintain healthy perspectives, and we have plenty to keep us occupied with New Mexico’s cultural offerings.”

Tom Oleson reports, “We are well, not much exciting. Spent last Christmas and New Year’s in North Dakota with our in-laws. The coldest it got was -29 degrees, and the warmest was +29 degrees.”

Fred Wells “managed to escape the snow last winter by heading south in December and returning to Massachusetts in April, visiting family and friends from Virginia.”

1957

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Eliot Putnam wrote the following for class notes, “A Two-Part Story About Life on the Edge”:

“In the course of a consulting assignment in Dhaka, Bangladesh, I visited a prominent Bangladeshi NGO and was asked if I would like to go to one of the urban health centers it supports. I was advised that the visit would involve a short boat trip. Not a little intrigued by that particular detail, and always anxious to see where services actually meet people’s needs, I immediately said yes. We walked down the street to where a stagnant, fetid canal traverses the city and a fleet of wooden skiffs awaits anyone wishing to visit the large slum community, reportedly the largest in Dhaka, on the other side of the water.

Clambering down the rutted bank, I gingerly boarded a craft as tippy as a round-bottomed canoe and set on its floor, hoping fervently not to fall overboard into the green, trash-strewn water. I should not have worried. The boatman guided us Skillfully to the far bank, from whence we proceeded to walk through the crowded, narrow passageways of the community, home to 50,000 people who have moved to Dhaka from the countryside in search of jobs and hope for the future. It was full of commerce, trash, noise, children, dogs and chickens, smells both intriguing and unpleasant, bicycle rickshaws, all in close quarters—the stuff of everyday life. Along the way, we sidestepped a man stirring a very large pot of some sort of stew in the middle of the alley, and we were told it was for the celebration of an infant’s recent circumcision.

We passed a section of slum
Nobles

We stayed to observe a bit longer, after saying hello to the white guy, very functional facilities. Happily, such personal settings, and this always humbled when allowed into gracious and welcoming. I am caring, the people typically prenatal and postnatal care. The this trip), and other essentials of (my particular preoccupation on to get their vaccinations on time early lives, the need to be sure exclusive breastfeeding in babies’

Saddest of all was an interview one of the newspapers published with a young man who had lost his pregnant wife and child in the collapse. ‘She had just cooked me lunch,’ he said, ‘and I had gone back to my job selling sugar water on the streets downtown. Now she’s not here. I don’t know what I will do.’”

Charles Wiggins wrote, “Granddaughter’s coming, Granddaughter’s coming. Hooray! Hooray!”

David Woods wrote, “Eleanor and I are headed to Switzerland in August, where we will visit my Danish roommate and his French wife. We will then return to Wengen near the famous Alp Die Jungfrau, where Walther Mohr and I joined my parents for a Christmas break from Heidelberg University in 1959. From Wengen, we will head to Madrid, where a Spanish friend will put us up for about a week and I will continue to attempt to speak and understand Spanish, my retirement language.”

Robert Macleod wrote, “I returned to New Zealand. Very special trip. Left February 1 for about seven weeks, first to Auckland. Signed up for three bike trips with NZ group (Pedaltours). Small but wonderful company—nothing like being with the locals. First leg from Auckland to Rotorua (South Central North Island), around the peninsula, along the coast, and through farmland. Next leg on the South Island from Picton (interisland ferry port) to the West Coast, again along dramatic coast and through spectacular rolling country. After time in Christchurch and a drive to Queenstown through vast Otago farmlands, the final leg was down to the South Coast and the Tasman Sea, a real thrill. Having done the West Coast trip last year to Queenstown, I have now biked the entire length of the South Island. Can’t say enough about the New Zealand people or their country—spectacular.”

Lance Grandone wrote, “This has been a fairly momentous six months, with both our son and daughter exercising early-retirement packages from their respective employers. Sounds strange to talk about your kids retiring, but time marches on. Both plan to do some independent consulting and get involved in a less stressful lifestyle. I say more power to them and only wish I’d done the same thing 25 years ago. Our son just bought a lovely home outside of Denver and is in the process of selling his Illinois residence so he and his wife can split their time between Colorado and Florida. Our daughter is temporarily moving to Columbia, S.C., to take care of a sick friend, but she will continue to consult in the mining industry and travel around the world on her own terms now. Karin and I are coming to Boston for a couple of days to attend our grand-daughter Megan’s graduation on May 16. She is getting her degree in chemical engineering, speaks Japanese, and wants to work in Japan for a few years because she loves the people and their culture—but not their sushi.

Our granddaughter, Sara, has another year to go at the University of Colorado, in Denver, with a dual major in astrophysics and aerospace engineering. She’ll be working for Lockheed Martin as an intern this summer with a good shot at a permanent job after graduation. She’s also getting engaged in a couple of months, but she doesn’t know it yet. Her fiancé graduates from the University of Colorado this month and plans to propose to her in Paris on their vacation. The best news was that he asked my son for permission, so I guess good manners aren’t dead yet. My son was here two weeks ago, helping me do some work around the house, and managed to fall off the ladder and tear his ACL and both meniscus cartilages. No golf or skiing for him this year. The good news is that I am now exempt from any ‘Honey Do’ jobs requiring ascending a ladder, and my son had to leave his BMW 650 here at the house for three months. With 500 horses and dual turbochargers, it’s a real rocket to drive. All electronic, but I hate those run flat tires. It brings back memories of those tire tracks on the back driveway at Nobles.
I’m still on the right side of the grass and doing a lot of work in the collectible stamp market. I’m a lot slower moving around, but now that the weather is good, I’ll be in the pool daily and should limber up. Karin’s playing bridge three to four days per week, but we never play together. It helps keep the marriage intact after 54 years. We had a bit of a scare with her when she was diagnosed with stage 4 kidney failure a few months ago. It turns out that it was a side effect from taking Celebrex for many years for her arthritis. Weaning her off the drug has resulted in major improvements, and the doc feels the kidney issues will mostly disappear. Definitely a lesson to be learned here, with all the side effects warnings given by pharma companies, who constantly bombard us with ads on television and in the print media. I’ll stay with my vitamins, supplements and diet.

By the way, check out Stu Burchard’s Facebook page. What a terrific artist and sculptor! Great work, Stu. Who’d a thunk it.

As I have said many times before, our house is always open to any classmates who want to get away from New England and other colder locales. My best regards to each of you and to your families.”

Nim Marsh reports that this spring, like during most vernal equinoxes in the past 70 years, he has been putting a vessel in commission. His current pair of “seven league boots” is the 78-year-old catboat Chessie, formerly the dream ship of Bill Gallagher’s father-in-law. His conclusion: Romancing old wood on a boat that was born before you were is as good as it gets.

John Valentine writes, “All’s good in the woods. There is an irresistible surge of energy as spring overtakes woodlands. Water rushes through streambeds, the iron trunks of naked trees soften, well-known trails and ponds renew their welcome, and sunlight vivifies all, calling us back to the primal truth of our beginning. And then there was light.”

1958
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
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Peter Wadsworth reports, “After moving to the Hamptons, my civic duty was first activated by helicopters flying low and loud over my house. I founded Citizens for a Quieter Airport in 2003, with 1,500 signatures on a petition, and then spent several years on a noise-abatement advisory committee, which accomplished little but taught me a lot about local politics and noise abatement. Eventually I was appointed to the East Hampton Budget and Financial Advisory Committee, and three years later, airport noise finally reached center stage. On April 16, 2015, the Town Board passed three laws restricting noisy aircraft, especially helicopters. Naturally, they’re being sued, and the saga continues.”

George Foss recently hosted Chris Morris for lunch and a local tour in Fernandina Beach, Fla., where he and Sara have been living for several years. George is active with emergency management and continues to enjoy ham radio and their two Portuguese water dogs.

Henry and Béa Batchelder are moving from Geneva, Switzerland, to Monaco and will spend time as usual this summer in Mattapoisett. Their older son, Sidney, works for the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. Their younger son, Gordon, returns to Bates College in September after a semester in Beijing and Shanghai.

Peter Norstrand “stays busy as president of the Brookline Community Health Center Board and treasurer of the Brookline Teen Center Board. Kathy is loving her position as executive director of the Coolidge Corner Theatre.” Peter also enjoys playing tennis with Bill Gallagher ’57.

Tappy Wilder reports that his granddaughter, Niven Wilder Labrum, who lives in Salt Lake City, will be 2 in August. He visits (and spoils her there) as often as possible. In June he will lecture on “High Points and Low Points in the Life of a Literary Executor” at the second International Thornton Wilder Conference at Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I. Tappy has been at it now for 20 years and says he has lots of shocking things to (perhaps) reveal. Tappy also reports that he is getting accustomed to paying California taxes but still resists yoga classes.

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“Some classmates who entered Nobles in the seventh grade in 1955 have been contacted by Jesse Putnam, son of Eliot ’57 and grandson of our renowned headmaster. Jesse is putting together a film about his uncle, Arthur Putnam, who started school with us as a Sixie in 1955 only to die a few weeks later in a tragic accident. We remember Arthur, a nice, athletic 12-year-old, and how his desk stood sadly unoccupied for the remainder of the year.

I ran into Tony Wood ’61 and Dave Mittell ’61-2 at my cousin Louis Newell’s ’53 funeral in March. Dave is closely following the Ukrainian civil war, having visited the Ukraine 22 times and having many Ukrainian friends. Dave and I discussed our upcoming 55th Nobles Reunion and how we would like a class dinner and/or other events surrounding the traditional Friday evening dinner put on for alumni by the school. If anyone has any ideas or would like to help, please let us know.”

Sam Perry writes: “On March 28 I ventured ‘into the waters’ for a third time and am now married again. My bride’s name is Melissa, and she came with Bella, her teacup Yorkshire Terrier.”
1962

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
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Peter Damon ’62 writes, “I retired from Dexter Southfield as an IT manager (and school bus driver) last June after nine-plus years with the school. (I’d been with Digital Equipment Company for 25 years till it was taken over by Hewlett-Packard, and I was laid off by Carly Fiorina.) It was a great run at the school—no corporate travel, a short commute and a regular schedule (no all-nighters). Even though I still live in Dedham (five minutes from the school), I don’t get there often, and when I do, most often you’re there, too! Our 50th reunion coordinator, Peter Hamilton (also ex-Dexter), lives around the corner.

Marcie and I are empty-nesters now with one daughter an attorney in Manhattan and another daughter an Internet marketing wizard moving from a to-die-for apartment in South Boston to an unknown location in the San Francisco area this summer. I feel very fortunate.

Though we’ve rented in mid-coast Maine the past two summers, we’re here this summer in case any classmates want to drop by. You’d better like our new Cavalier King Charles puppy, though!”

1963

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1964

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
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On Friday, May 15, the above gathered at the Hamilburgs’, who graciously hosted yet another N ’64 gathering, to welcome Joel Richman back to New England. Gathering were Dena Hamilburg, Gail Wiggins, Janet Lawson, Sandy Bigelow and Robin Cutler. Joel really seemed well and, in addition to giving us all a short bio on his family and career, promised to return next May. Among other things, his two sons are world-class kitesurfers (guess who they learned from?), and his daughter goes off to college next year, having graduated first in her high school class. Joel practices law, but it sounds like he’s in the
water whenever possible. He let it be known that any classmates who find their way to Maui should definitely look him up.

1965
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1969
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Parkman Howe planned a wonderful trip to England. He writes, “This summer I will take advantage of a fourth sabbatical from Concord Academy to visit London and Shakespeare’s Globe, Stratford-upon-Avon, Tintern Abbey, and the Coleridge Way, a five-day walk in Somerset, retracing the steps of Coleridge and Wordsworth during the composition of The Rime of the Ancient Mariner. We’ll also visit our daughter Caroline, currently teaching at Wycombe Abbey, a girls’ school halfway between London and Oxford.”

Peter Gates and his wife, Debbie, escaped Boston in January by taking their first trip to India, where they visited Rajasthan, Delhi, Varanasi and Agra (home of the Taj Mahal).

Brad Wilkinson writes, “One of the things I am most proud of is the creation and maintenance of Health Horizons International. HHI is a small NGO that I helped co-found with four or five other Connecticut family doctors about six years ago. We have established a true primary-care medical system in four very impoverished villages in the Dominican Republic, which is truly cutting-edge stuff in the world of global health. We have a full-time staff of four employees in the DR and have trained a cadre of community health workers in each village to help monitor our patients. Furthermore, we are developing programs for diabetes detection and management and healthy lifestyles. Although the conditions are frequently appalling, the patients are lovely, the community health workers inspiring, and the work the most intensely rewarding medicine I have ever practiced. I participate on the board and travel on medical service trips two or three weeks a year. I invite all my classmates to visit our website at hhidr.org to learn more and perhaps click on the donate button!”

Associate Head Coach George Pendergast led the Tufts University golf squad to a win in the Wildcat Invitational (Rhode Island). First Jumbo win since 2007. He writes, “With some snow still on the course, Cranston CC, we were happy just to play.” There were 21 schools in the tournament, including Williams and Middlebury, making it a good win against a tough field.
It wasn’t enough for David Brown to walk across Scotland once, last spring. This May he was back for another stroll through the Highlands, this time a little farther north on a more rugged route. You can read about his journey online at aweewalk.com.

Steve Baker writes of a different kind of walking challenge: “Since I moved back from California in 2010, I’ve wanted to have a really big snowstorm. We got 27 inches here on the Cape in late January. By the time five more weeks had passed, we had somewhere between five and six feet total snowfall. I was absolutely quiet in Middle Haddam. Perhaps it was the record-setting cold of the winter. Otherwise, don’t forget to write. It always makes my day.

Kevin McCarthy writes, “Much has happened since I submitted an update to Nobles magazine. First of all, I have had several conversations with Jan Jelleme ’74, who is enjoying life on Nantucket, reporting that he survived the winter of 2015. Last fall I attended a concert by Offiong Bassey ’03 at Scullers Jazz Club with Marzuq Muhammad ’01 and Lewis Bryant ’73. Lewis had his 60th Birthday party this spring, attended by Harry Elam Jr. ’74, Rick Pinderhughes ’73, and Robert Pinderhughes ’67.

While completing my final year of my master’s program at the Boston College School of Social Work, I had the pleasure of getting to know another member of the Nobles family, Justin Cambria ’98, who will be in the class of 2016. My year at the Heights was rounded out by having frequent conversations with André Stark ’76. Forty years later, my Nobles connections are still strong, and I have always thought that those transformative years would always resonate as the most memorable ones in my academic life. In no way did I think that when I left Nobles for Boston College in the fall of 1974 that 40 years later I would be leaving BC with the same feelings I had leaving Nobles. I have been changed forever by my recent experiences with social and economic policy and the state of mental health in our society. I have a host of new friends, mentors and protégés whom I will miss and cherish as we all go forward into what life has in store. So many of us left Nobles to become today’s leaders for the common good and were blessed with wonderful families.

To be part of the Nobles family is to share those moments of triumph and joy. My classmate Jim Draper shared, ‘I am entering my 30th year at Keene State College, still fat and happy and broadcasting KSC Lax Home Games on the Web. Hope you are doing well.’ Gene Knox, whom I caught up with after missing him at our last two reunions, sent his regards and is still doing well in Seattle. I am sad to say it must be tough on a Patriots fan.

Classmate Rick Holway became a grandfather last summer. He says, ‘Yikes! My daughter Alexandra gave birth to a strapping 8 lb. 12 oz. baby boy, all healthy and happy. Looks like we may have a future linebacker. Richard Jeremy Adkison, born 7/17/14.’ And he shared with me that ‘Becoming a grandparent is a perspective changer, for sure. I suppose the older you get, the older younger becomes. Loving life on the Cape: Caught more than 350 lobsters last season, boatload of stripers. Playing lots of tennis, getting prepared to exact revenge on Gary Markoff. Still helping start-ups get to the next level. Best to LAB classmates. Hope to see you all soon.’”
1975

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Jed Dawson writes, “What a great reunion weekend for the class of ’75. We had close to 30 folks return for reunion, which is a major feat for a 40th. A Quaker-style gathering was held at the boathouse to remember Jim Wolfe, Stan Whitten and Ned Colt, who are no longer with us. We shared some tender moments along with some memories that brought us to laughter. We all appreciated being together and agreed that this is a gathering we need to do more often. We pledged as a class that at our 50th each person will try to bring one new reunion guest from our class who has not attended a reunion. That is a tall order. We already have six names claimed by four different members of our class. Our youngest, Asher ’15, has decided to venture west for college at Santa Clara. We already have two living in San Francisco, so the family will be tilting toward the West Coast this fall.”

Peter Rice provided this piece published in the Huffington Post series on people making later in life career changes: At age 51, after 25 years as a practicing surgeon, Rice made a big change. He had grown increasingly frustrated with being a physician and realized that what he liked most about practicing medicine was the teaching aspect. And so he did precisely that: He got a teaching degree at night and is now a high school science teacher in Brooklyn. And yes, it is a significant pay cut. And yes, he did it with the support of his family.

“Should you not take something that you are good at and try to love it. You should take something you love and try to be good at it,” he said. Even so, he admitted that “teaching adolescents is harder than operating.”

Steve Flaherty, superhero to his children (before they were teens), has “designed experimental kayaks this year, joined a committee managing a new farm in Lexington, started the GovOnTheT.org initiative that got 51 legislators on the T, ridden a new venture from six to 65 staff, and explored the magic of dating women in their fifties. I am still the luckiest man on the planet.”

Dwight Allison pipes in with the following update: “I spend most of my time traveling with my wife, Jane, doing volunteer work for the nonprofit Semester at Sea, and working with my two sons, Matt (28) and Dewey (31). When not traveling, Jane and I spend most of our time during the summer on one of the Belgrade Lakes in Maine, and the balance of the year in Rye, N.H. Dewey went on a study-abroad program (Semester at Sea) in the spring of 2005, where he traveled by ship around the world for 15 weeks with 600 other college students. As a result of that, Jane and I learned adult passengers also joined the voyages—taking classes and participating in all aspects of the voyage. From 2005 to 2009, although I did some consulting, I was mostly retired. Jane and I decided to take the opportunity to join the fall 2006 Semester at Sea voyage (my 50th birthday present). It was an amazing 15-week experience, and it led Jane and me to volunteer for Semester at Sea. Over the past 10 years, Jane and I have done work on the Parents Council, the Alumni Association Board, and now I serve as trustee for Semester at Sea. For each of the past five years, we have been able to spend one to six weeks on the ship in a different part of the world. The program has had a tremendous impact on our entire family. It’s a fantastic study-abroad program for both college students and adults (adults can attend for either part of a voyage or the whole voyage). Beginning in 2010, together with a group of investors and with the help of my two sons, we built a new telecommunications company in Maine: Maine Fiber Company. With the goal of helping to expand broadband in Maine, we received a federal stimulus grant to build 1,200 miles of fiber optics through the state. The project has done well, and it is tremendous fun working with Matt and Dewey on the business. With two other people, Matt and Dewey run the company day-to-day from our office in Portland. (I work part-time from home in New Hampshire.) I enjoy the balance of work, play and volunteering, and can’t complain at all.”

Chuck Warner made it back to campus and shared this finding.
and contemplation: “When I made it back to the Castle from the old-folks’ home, I noticed for the first time ever (I think) the carving over the fireplace in the Castle great room and a Latin inscription that none present remembered either: Per Castra ad Astra. ‘Hang out with a better class of people and you’re sure to get ahead’ seemed 1970s apropos, but rather a stretch for the 19th century. Some greater wit suggested ‘castra’ might not mean caste but be instead the root of ‘castration’: something involving men’s tender parts and seeing stars would certainly speak to the 1970s boys’ school experience as well, but it turns out to be the Nicholson family motto, as shared by the Nickerson variants: ‘Through the camp to the stars.’ Huh?”

1976
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Tom Bartlett writes, “All quiet on the classmates front...or maybe that’s because I live so far from Bridge Street. No bridges across the Big Pond, but one classmate who lives in my time zone is Robin Cracknell. In a recent message, Robin confirmed that he is living life and creating art just south of me, in a city called London. His creations look good on social media, and I’m sure even better hanging on walls in the big city, if that’s where they are. We hope to meet up soon.

The art I try to create, but am failing to do now, is with letters and words. I have recently revived a family business in memoir writing—Warren Cove Memoirs (www.warrencove.com). Have a look, and don’t hold back from sending me some work. And how about some news for the next Nobles mag? Here’s hoping you who are reading this are well in your health and happiness.”

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Dan Rodgers writes, “And we’re back. Having somehow missed submitting a column about the great Class of ’79 for the last edition of Nobles magazine, I must first offer my apologies, dear classmates. I’m not quite sure how it happened, but it did. Moving on.

I went to the Nobles reception on February 12 in Manhattan. Didn’t know or recognize a soul there, but they had a slideshow running the whole time. And suddenly there was a picture of Tom O’Brien and me (and I think his lovely wife, Lauri) from a Nobles reception in Manhattan sometime before 2009–10, when Tom headed over to Ireland and England in furtherance of his career at AIG.

On April 21, I was on Virgin Flight 26 from NYC to London. It’s always a long walk from the gate to passport control at Heathrow, and everyone is just chugging along to get there, and perhaps that’s how I missed him, but once I got in line, I suddenly noticed Tom O’Brien was also standing there. Turns out Tom had been on the same Virgin flight but had been sitting in another section of the plane. As luck would have it, we were behind a large number of Chinese tourists who had flown in from Beijing, so Tom and I had a good chance to talk. Tom told me that he was wrapping up his tan sometime before 2009–10, so Tom and I had a good chance to talk. Tom told me that he was wrapping up his adventures with AIG in Ireland and England and was contemplating two alternatives, one of which would be to relocate to AIG in Boston, and that he and his family were considering housing options on the South Shore.

I hope it turns out that way for Tom, as when I last saw him that evening, the British authorities seemed very interested in why he carried two U.S. passports, and I heard Tom yell out that he was ‘not familiar with anyone named Osama!’ I moved away quietly and quickly so that I could write this entry of the class notes. Duty obviously takes precedence over friendship.

1980
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From Susan Carlson Kirk: “Both kids are in Maine. Katherine is at Bowdoin, and Jackson is in his second year at the Landing School, a boat-building school in Kennebunk. John and I are enjoying the empty nest with trips to Colorado and Asheville this past winter.”

Peter Henderson writes, “Hope you are well. After 20-plus years working with healthcare technology and services companies, I have switched to helping those companies build great boards and executive teams. I recently joined Ross & Company as a managing partner in retained executive search based in Boston. Our last of three girls, Noelle, is at the Island School this spring, and then only one more year left at Nobles until empty nesting. Unbelievable but true.”
Some quick news from the Jim Jelin family: “After living outside of Atlanta for the past 11 years, I moved with my wife and four kids to Concord, Mass. My two oldest sons go to Groton, so it’s great to be near them and back in New England. Looking forward to getting back over to Nobles and catching up with former classmates and friends from the past.”

1986

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1994

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Sara-Mai Conway proudly reports, “I completed my 200-hour yoga teacher training in December and have since been teaching a few yoga classes along with managing the team at Resolute Fitness. And in February I got engaged to Travis Gardner. We’ll do a small wedding in October in Fort Worth.”

1995

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Kelly Flaman
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Deena Zhelezov Freed writes, “I’ve recently embarked on yoga teacher training and am practicing on my family.”

1996

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Alex Slawsby
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Hannah Gardener writes, “I am living in Westwood with my husband and two kids, Leia and Jonah, who will be 6 and 2 this summer. I have been working remotely as an epidemiologist at the University of Miami Medical School for the past eight years. Also, five years ago I started my own healthy-living consulting business called A Green Slate (www.agreenslate.com). I help...”
families choose the safest nontoxic products for their homes and children—items like cookware, dishware, cleaning products, personal care products, baby gear, toys, mattresses, furniture, etc. I have been excited to offer my A Green Slate services to many Nobles alumni over the past few years!"

Matthew L. Miller has been living in Los Angeles for seven years now. Matt is a senior manager at Ernst & Young in the forensic technology and discovery services practice. Matt recently was head coach for his son, Zachary Miller’s, AYSO Boys U8 soccer team, which made it to the tournament.

Tara (Shaw) Michaels reports, “During a recent trip I had the good fortune of spending an afternoon with my dear friend Spencer Railsback in California.”

Matt Kane has joined Laredo & Smith, LLP’s business litigation practice as a partner, where he represents financial services institutions, banks, businesses and individuals in an array of disputes concerning finance, employment, construction, real estate and general business litigation. He has been included on the SuperLawyers list of Massachusetts “Rising Stars” for the past four years.

1997
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Kim Blois (Ching) married Joe Blois last September in Dedham. They had an amazing time with friends and family, especially their Nobles crew!

Erik Balsbaugh and his wife are expecting baby No. 2 this June. In addition, Erik, a lobbyist and organizer with the Dewey Square Group, will work as a grassroots organizer in Massachusetts for Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign. Erik will work with Clinton supporters to organize meetings, volunteer trainings, house parties and days of action.

Jacque Burke has joined Mintz Levin, where she’ll become colleagues with Rob Sheridan and looks forward to after-work drinks with him in the Seaport or elsewhere.

Katie Lee Fishbone and her husband, Jeff, welcomed a son, Benjamin Russell Fishbone, on Nov. 29. Big brother Sam and big sister Libby love their little brother!

Steve Glazer, his wife, Melissa, and their two children, Riley and Dylan, live on the beach in Santa Monica. They spent all winter laughing at the suckers in the Northeast.

Katie Hamilburg writes of the sad passing of Jon Bernson (see Memoriam section), “I believe Jon went to Chile as part of a Spanish class trip during his time at Nobles. What I personally will remember about Jon is that he had a wicked sense of humor (in a good way) and was very honest and direct. He loved to laugh and was very well-rounded in his interests. He had great taste in music and movies, loved theater and musicals, but was also a big sports fan (especially the Sox and Patriots). I know after college he was initially unsure about his career path but eventually began working with his father, and once he committed, he really excelled. Unfortunately, this is about the time he and I lost touch. But from everything I have heard, he met a great girl, and they were very happy, and he was doing really well before his illness. He was a good guy and losing him at such a young age is a real heartbreaking to our class.”

2000
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Joe and Sophie Palombo welcomed baby Elizabeth Marie Palombo on April 3, 2015, in Hong Kong. Mom, baby and proud dad are really enjoying life with the twins and looking forward to getting out this spring as a family of four!

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2001
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Jake Clapton and Sarah Marich were married in Boston on March 7, 2015.

2002
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2003

2004
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2005
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
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Julia Spiro writes, “I’m still an exec at Warner Bros., and things in L.A. are great. The most exciting project I put together recently is going to be directed by Steven Spielberg with Jennifer Lawrence starring, and it’s the true story of war photojournalist Lynsey Addario, based on her memoir.”

Zach Cohen got engaged to Emily Bray and is starring a whiskey distillery: Red Brick Craft Distillery.

Amy Seibel writes, “I married college sweetheart Nat Seelen (Brown University ’08) at Plimoth Plantation in October. We are now living in Spain where I’m doing a joint Fulbright grant and MBA program at IE Business School. I’m sorry to miss the reunion but look forward to catching up when I’m back in the States.”

Chelsey Reynolds writes, “I am the lead singer in the band Marriage Material, and we released our self-titled studio album this May. Our single, ‘Fresh Air,’ is making waves on California stations, and we would love to get more air time in New England. Any feedback or suggestions for the album from the Nobles community are welcome.”

Bryne Suliman is proud to announce the arrival of her new baby, Henry Walter Suliman, born December 3, 2014.

2006
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
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Be proud of Emma Bigelow (née Tail): She submitted a class note to me BEFORE I EVEN SENT OUT THE EMAIL ASKING FOR UPDATES. Not only is Emma a total champion when it comes to updating us on her life, she is also killing it at life in general.

She writes, “My husband, Robin, and I still live in Baltimore. I’m a co-founder and vice president of R&D at a medical device start-up focused on continuous, real-time blood-data collection in critically ill patients. This is our third year in business, and we launched our first (preclinical) product in 2014. Robin is doing research for a year before resuming medical school for his final year. This fall he will be applying to ear, nose and throat residency programs around the country. So a 2016 move may be in our future. Also, a Nobles aside: Robin and I met Lulu Miller ’01 at a Nobles event in D.C. last year. We’ve been following her new podcast, Invisibilia, and it’s amazing!”

You should sign up for harp lessons with Krysten Keches right now. Check out her new website, www.krystenkeches.com, for more information. She is quite the skilled harpist—remember when she played the Harry Potter theme in assembly while Harry Aspinwall walked across the stage? Ah, I’ll never forget it.

Noelle Cooper also wrote in to share exciting news: Last September, she married David Hannah in Santorini, Greece, in a small ceremony with the company of her parents and sister. Congratulations, Noelle!

Well, Noelle may be off the market now, but look out, ladies! The dating app Hinge named their top 30 most eligible men and women in San Francisco, listing 2006’s very own Arthur Levy as lucky No. 13.

Caroline Holland has been getting involved in Boston politics. During Mayor Marty Walsh’s recent Twitter Q&A (#ASKMJW), Caroline tweeted the hard-hitting question “Why have you not yet released an official statement on the Zayn Malik situation?”

Mayor Walsh responded, “We are all devastated about Zayn Malik, but we must soldier on.” The story was picked up by The Boston Globe, People and even NPR’s Wait Wait...Don’t Tell Me! Making Nobles proud every day, Caroline. One Direction will never be the same without you, Zayn.

Left: Chelsey Reynolds ’05 is in the band Marriage Material. Right: Some Nobles alumnae reconnected at a party in Brookline this spring. From left to right: Erin Bruynell ’06, E.B. Bartels ’06, Melissa Bruynell ’05, Caroline Holland ’06 and Lydia Paine ’06. Photo courtesy of Lydia’s then-fiancé-by-the-time-you-read-this-husband Henrik Hagtveld.
2007

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
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To the graduates of 2007: We are creeping ever closer to our 10th reunion, and as was predicted, we continue to make waves in the world. There is one thing that we knew would happen, though, and that is the nuptials of our own Katie Paniszyn and Benjamin Dawson. They will be entering (entered by the time this is in print) into holy matrimony on June 6 down in Rhode Island, and I have no doubt that it’ll be picture perfect. DJ Hatch will also be marrying his longtime sweetheart, Ms. Ally Kuriloff, this fall.

This would also be a good time to note that Katie P. and Gina Chen have graduated from medical school at Brown and will be entering into their respective residencies. Gina will be heading to Boston Medical Center, and Katie will be at Yale Primary Care in New Haven. Joining Katie at Yale will be Jake Tower, fresh out of the University of Chicago and entering into head and neck surgery. “Wicked smaht.” Those also pursuing their medical degrees include Julia Hickey (McGill), Amy Chamblass (GW), and Henry Foote (UNC).

Aside from the medical world, we also have a crew of budding lawyers among ’07, with Liz Barry and Ben DiCamillo leading the charge. Liz has dropped the proverbial gavel and has finished her time at Boston College Law. She will be joining the Manhattan DA’s office. Young Ben, on the other hand, has gone all sorts of esquire down at Duke and will be joining Ropes & Gray. Maggie Suprey (Suffolk), Kaitlin Raymond (BU), Joanna Clark (Northeastern) and Julia Ahn (NYU) are also snagging law degrees. Congrats are in order, and best of luck with the bar to all of you. We are looking forward to the team raining justice across this fine country.

Caitlin Cassidy writes, “I received my MFA in acting and recently founded nonprofit theatre company LubDub Theatre (www.LubDubTheatre.org).” Speaking of raining degrees, coming in with a dual degree at Georgetown (public policy/MBA) is our very own Maddie Pongor. She will be marrying Abedin Sham, whom she met in India while traveling. Congrats to her on all accounts!

The way we started these class notes is exactly how we’re going to finish them. Also taking the plunge into holy matrimony are our very own Courtney Monahan and John Phillips. Courtney is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Classics, and John just received his master’s in philosophy at UNC-Chapel Hill (also pursuing his Ph.D.). With that, I will leave it there. Drop a line and stay in touch.

2008

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
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Hagghai Kipsat writes, “Since graduating from college, I went to work in New York City before going back to school to pursue my MBA. I am now a first year MBA student at Washington University in St. Louis. This summer, I will be interning with IBM in their Chicago office.”

Louisa Harrison writes, “I just finished my first semester of nursing school at the MGH Institute of Health Professions, in their accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) program. I had a great first semester and am looking forward to the rest of the program and the future profession!”

Julie Macalaster started a social media platform called Preeline (www.preeline.com), which gives members the exclusive opportunity to see and socialize future fashions that have yet to arrive in stores. Will Geary writes, “I recently started a strategic and financial consultancy for start-ups called FounderLift (founderlift.com). Our services range from financial modeling and data analysis to pitch deck creation and investor relations. Our mission is to help entrepreneurs realize their dreams. I’d love to connect with Nobles alumni who are starting up new ventures and would thus like to be included in the next edition of the Nobles magazine.”

Taylor Cazeault writes, “I recently moved to D.C. and currently work at Arnold and Porter as a legal resource assistant. I am definitely settling into the city life. I would love to meet up with some classmates or alums!”

Alexandra Conigliaro says, “I am a realtor with Coldwell Banker on Newbury Street, and I ran the Boston Marathon this year.”

Cliff Reynolds writes, “I have a bit of a whirlwind tour lined up this year. I’m currently a research intern for a think tank with a name that makes me chuckle—The Center for Complex Operations at National Defense University in D.C.—focusing on peacekeeping, counterinsurgency and other security issues. This summer I’ll be leading a youth travel service trip to China. My co-leader and I will take a group of 14 or so 15-year-olds to three different cities for equal parts community service and cultural engagement. In August I ship off to Indonesia to teach high school English on a Fulbright grant. This time next year I’ll be back on the job hunt.”

Earl Smith shares, “I’ll graduate this May with a master of science in finance from USC Marshall and will then move to NYC to work for Oak Circle Capital Partners, which is the external manager of a residential mortgage REIT called Five Oaks Investment Corp.”

Lucas Zullo writes, “I will be starting my graduate studies this upcoming fall at UT Southwestern as part of their clinical psychology Ph.D. program. My research and clinical efforts will be focused on youth suicide prevention.”

Hanna Atwood writes, “The day after my graduation from Colgate University last May, I was on a plane to Denver with one of my best friends, searching for apartments. Many things were uncertain; we didn’t know exactly where we wanted to live and were uncomfortably excited to be in a new city and to make new friends. I
was ecstatic to have been accepted to the Teach for America program but did not know what age or what subject I would be teaching. I spent the summer in Tulsa, Okla., at the Teach for America Institute, learning how to become an effective teacher and leader. An exponential learning curve was upon me as I was also teaching a fourth-grade summer school class. So now it is May again, and I am a proud middle school special education teacher at Strive Prep Montbello, a public charter school in far northeast Denver. Due to gentrification, the population of students I teach has been forced out of the city and does not have the same opportunities or resources as families living in Denver. I work with a majority Hispanic population, and although I do not speak Spanish, I have been able to build meaningful relationships with students and families. Each day presents a new challenge. I have grown significantly as an educator and as a mentor since my first day with students in August. I look forward to beginning round two as a Teach for America corps member in August with my feet solidly on the ground and prepared to begin teaching my second school year.

**Natasha Tyagi** says, “I will be attending Northeastern School of Law this September after two years of working in politics and health reform. My passion lies within the health law field, where I hope to someday help consumers have better access to quality affordable health care. In the midst of all the hard work, I’ve still had some fun! Sarah Mitchell, Nubia Whitaker and I went to Naples, Fla., to celebrate my 24th birthday. Long live great Nobles friendships!”

**2010**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

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**Meghan Borden** writes, “I’m living in NYC with May Henderson and working in PR at Edelman.”

**Alexa Zilberfarb** says, “I moved to D.C. after graduation from Scripps College in May 2014 and am working for an environmental consulting company.”

**2011**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

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Hello! The class of 2011 has been up to some great things since we last checked in. As most of us approach our graduation, it’s hard to believe that it’s been four years since we left Nobles. It’s been exciting to hear what people are going to be doing after graduation and where we’re all going to end up in the next year or coming years.

After graduating from Hamilton College with a major in music, I will be moving to Manhattan to pursue a career in classical singing. I presented my senior recital in voice this past April with a program that consisted of late-Romantic French art songs, Italian arias and cabaret songs. While chasing the dream in NYC, I will also be working as a relationship manager with the Talener Group, doing recruiting and sales. I can’t wait to get involved with young Nobles grads events in the city.

**Annie Winneg** writes, “This has been a really exciting final year at Oberlin for me. I’ve completed my honors research in psychology and earned membership to two national honor societies. I’ve also had the opportunity to perform on campus every semester and am an active member of the theater department, working in the box office and as a representative for the department’s student body. After graduation, I’ll be spending my third summer in Oberlin, participating in the Oberlin Summer Theater Festival. This is a professional theater festival with free admission that strives to make classic plays (from Shakespeare to Arthur Miller) accessible to the surrounding community. This season, I’ll be assisting the artistic director, working in the box office, and playing Helena in All’s Well That Ends Well. Once the festival ends in August, I’ll be moving to New York City to pursue an acting career.”

**Julia Weber** writes, “I cannot believe graduation is upon us already. College has been a very fun ride that challenges us to grow as individuals. I will be graduating from Dartmouth College this June as an anthropology major and a film and media studies minor, which I took classes for in Scotland this past summer. What a great opportunity and experience! This is very different from what I thought I would be doing coming into college, so naturally I have explored a lot of different academic areas. I assume this will be the same for the real world, too. I have been looking into the global health industry as well as the film industry and plan on going into something next year that combines the two. Hope all of the Nobles Class of 2011 are doing well, and I cannot believe how old we are already!”

**Jennifer Ngo** says, “Congratulations to everyone graduating this year! I will be graduating from Barnard College of Columbia University (celebrating our 125th anniversary) with a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics. After completing five internships in the fashion industry throughout my college career, I will be working at Ralph Lauren in their corporate offices in New York City, starting in June. I look forward to seeing anyone in NYC at the graduate events and to seeing everyone at our five-year reunion next year.”

**2012**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

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![Victor Ordenez '12 and former faculty member Chris Mabley hold the Jope Cup, representing Cornell’s recent national championship in men’s lightweight crew. Victor rowed in this year’s championship boat, as Chris had as a Cornell rower 51 years ago. The photo was taken in June while Chris and his wife, Jan, were at Cornell for their 50th reunion and Victor and his crewmates were practicing before heading to England for the Henley Regatta.](image-url)
memoriam

John Richardson ’39 passed away on December 26, 2014, in Bethesda, Md. He was born on February 4, 1921, in Milton, Mass. At Nobles, he was a “born leader” who displayed both deep integrity and a good sense of humor (Class book, 1939). His role in the community was expansive: He served as the class president for three years, the co-captain of the crew team, and a member of the Glee Club. He distinguished himself academically, receiving the Saltonstall Prize and Trustees Prize.

After graduating from Nobles, Richardson continued to excel. He attended Harvard University and Harvard Law School and served as an officer and paratrooper in WWII. In 1945, he married Thelma Ingram. His career was impressive yet diverse: He was a Wall Street lawyer, an investment banker and a public servant. He served as the CEO of Radio Free Europe and Assistant Secretary of State for Education and Cultural Affairs. He helped to found and lead various councils that fought for democracy, peace and the rights of refugees. Richardson’s commitment to these causes was unfailing and inspiring.

Richardson’s wife, Thelma, predeceased him by one month, but he is survived by daughters Eva, Teren, Lee, Hope, Catherine, and Hetty; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his cousin, Fred ’44.

Richmond Mayo-Smith ’40 passed away on January 10, 2015, in Boston, at the age of 92. He grew up in Dedham, Mass., and during his years at Nobles, he was a member of the baseball team, the Nobleman board and the Dramatic Club. His strengths were ecletic, as evidenced by his reception of the Trustees Prize, the Nobles Cup and the Public Speaking Prize. Mayo-Smith’s classmates knew him to embody a winning combination of hard work and lighthearted fun: While he led his class scholastically, his antics during his occupancy of the Round Room contributed to the Castle dorm room’s vibrant reputation.

Mayo-Smith went on to graduate summa cum laude from Amherst College. After serving in Europe as a staff sergeant in the Army, he returned to the United States and embarked on a lifelong career in education. During his first years teaching, he received a master’s in education from Harvard. He then traveled to India, where he spent several years preparing curriculum for elementary school students. Mayo-Smith’s commitment to education endured throughout his life. He was the headmaster of Roxbury Latin School, worked on the boards of various independent schools, including Nobles, and served as the chair of the Board of World Education. In his words, “Watching young people grow up” was his “greatest pleasure.”

Mayo-Smith is survived by his wife of 63 years, Nancy Fox Mayo-Smith; three children, Richmond, Michael and Katrina; and six grandchildren.

Arthur Floyd Blackman ’41 died peacefully in his home on February 5, 2015. He grew up in Cambridge and Brookline, Mass., but being a natural outdoorsman, he felt most at home at his grandparents’ summer home in Chichester, N.H. At Nobles, he was an active member of his class, involved in extracurricular activities from Cercle Français to the football team to the Glee Club. As president of the Dramatic Club, he skillfully led the cast in the revolutionary production of “Bachelor Born.”

After graduating from Nobles, Blackman served as a pilot and flight instructor in the U.S. Army Air Force. He then went on to receive his bachelor’s degree from Harvard University. Over the years, he was a businessman, an educator, a public servant and a passionate conservationist. After working in business for several years, he returned to Harvard, where he received a doctorate in education. He cofounded Cambridge Pilot School, which became a model for modern charter schools. When he moved to Groton in 1953, he became involved in local government. He found the deepest fulfillment in simple pleasures—baking bread, gardening and spending time outdoors.

Blackman is survived by his wife of 63 years, Camilla Cunningham Blackman; four children, Oliver, Camilla, Phoebe and Isabella; and eight grandchildren. He is also survived by his nephew, Harry ’71.

David Dudley Bidwell ’43 was born in Weston, Mass., in 1926. He passed away in Geneva, Switzerland, on April 10. In his six years at Nobles, Bidwell contributed to a wide array of activities. At various points, he played football, hockey, baseball and tennis, and rowed crew. He lent his voice to the Glee Club, Dramatic Club, and the Quartets. Bidwell also served on the Student Council and Classbook Committee and was involved with the Science Club, The Nobleman, and Cercle Français. While he balanced a full schedule outside the classroom, he maintained an impressive record in the classroom as well. He was awarded the Saltonstall Prize, the Nobles Cup, the Wigglesworth Latin Medal and the Harvard Book Prize. These accolades are not surprising, as Bidwell won the Trustees Prize for Scholarship five of his six years at Nobles.

Bidwell attended Harvard University. His study was interrupted for two years in 1945 and 1946, when he served in the U.S. Army Air Force. In late summer 1945, he deployed to Okinawa. As a staff sergeant in the 435th Bomb Squadron, 333rd Bomb Group, 8th Air Force, stationed at Kadena Airfield, he was in charge of maintaining the electronic controls and analog computers that ran the gunnery systems on the B-29s. He graduated from Harvard summa cum laude in 1948 with an AB degree in engineering sciences and applied physics. Harvard also awarded him a Sheldon Fellowship for a year’s travel in Europe following graduation.

Bidwell spent the first half of his professional life with Procter & Gamble in both the United
States and Europe. He managed manufacturing plants and helped develop Head & Shoulders, Secret, Scope, Crest and Pampers. After leaving Procter & Gamble in 1969, he remained in Europe as a private consultant and project manager in areas such as Japanese investments, Middle East trading, product development, resource management, land development, color photo finishing, and computer typesetting and printing. He retired in 1991.

In 1993, Bidwell traveled to Kathmandu with his wife, Jennifer, for a nine-month volunteer assignment with the International Executive Service Corps (IESC) under a USAID contract. He connected IESC consultants with local small-business owners who were looking for advisors. While living in Nepal, Bidwell’s love for the Himalayan region and people deepened. This inspired him to cofound the Himalayan Youth Foundation (HYF) to support the education of underprivileged children from remote areas of the Himalayas. Today, HYF continues to educate and care for more than 200 children and youth at the Kailash Home in Nepal and the Choki Traditional Art School in Bhutan. Bidwell visited the schools annually with his wife and was beloved by the staff and students.

For his whole life, Bidwell was passionate about learning new things; exploring new places through travel; pursuing outdoor interests such as trekking, cycling, and skiing; and sharing his knowledge and expertise with others. He was a respected mentor to family, co-workers and friends around the world. The Canadian Rockies, the Alps and the Himalayas were among his favorite places.

He is survived by his wife, Jennifer; seven children, two stepsons, and their spouses; 12 grandchildren and seven step-grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren.

Thank you to Jennifer Bidwell for contributing this piece.

Frank Goessling ’44 passed away at home on March 22, 2015. He was born in Norman, Okla., but as a military son, he spent his childhood traveling with his family to various stations across the United States. Though he attended Nobles for just one year, he immersed himself in the community, joining the football, track, and baseball teams.

After Nobles, Goessling attended Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, where he met his wife of 61 years, Nancy Jeanne Miller. After working for 10 years at General Dynamics in Fort Worth, he and his family moved to Huntsville, Ala., where he built a career at the Army Missile Command. By the time he retired in 1987, he had achieved the status of Chief of the Engineering Standards/Documentation Division. In the wake of his retirement, he and Nancy traveled extensively, both within the United States and abroad. The two relished long vacations on St. George Island and in Texas. Goessling’s hobbies included woodworking and cabinetmaking.

Goessling is survived by his wife, Nancy; his children, Kim and Ward Walden (“Chip”); and his brother, Lt. Col. Ward Currey ’44.

Samuel Gelston King ’45 was surrounded by family when he passed away on January 9, 2015. During his six years at Nobles, King was deeply involved in the community. He participated in a spectrum of extracurricular activities, serving as captain of the crew team; editor-in-chief of Classbook; and an active member of the hockey and football teams, the Student Council, the Nobleman board, and the Glee Club.

After graduating from Nobles, King studied at Harvard. There he met his future wife, Jean MacLeod, on the ski team. He then continued to Harvard Law School and began a lifelong career at the law firm of Herrick and Smith in Boston. Moved by a deep sense of social responsibility, he generously donated both money and volunteer hours to various charities. He was committed to the welfare of children and pragmatic environmentalism. Each summer, he returned to Cape Cod, where he enjoyed sailing and spending time by the sea. His priority was always his family, and his most cherished time was spent on family cruises to Maine, ski trips to Cannon Mountain, and walks in the woods in Dover with his children, through which he instilled in them his love of nature.

King is survived by his children, Sam ’70, Ginny, Debby and David; five grandchildren; two great-grandsons; sister-in-law Paulie Loomis; and many nieces and nephews, including Nick ’64, Philip ’79 and Margaret King-McFarland ’83.

Robert Edsall ’48 passed away peacefully on April 8, 2015, at Maine Coast Memorial Hospital in Ellsworth, Maine. He was born on September 20, 1930, in Boston. He was an outgoing and well-loved student at Nobles; his classmates viewed him as a social, athletic and academic leader. He played for the football, wrestling and crew teams, and was a member of the Student Council, Glee Club and Debating Club.

Davis went on to receive his bachelor’s degree from Bowdoin College in 1953 and then to serve in Korea as an Army First Lieutenant. After graduating from Harvard Business School in 1957, he began a career in the food business. He served in administrative positions at various food companies, including Star Market, Stop and Shop, Fishery Products Inc. and Jasper Wyman & Son, in Milbridge, Maine. After retiring from business, he worked as a small-business counselor and an adjunct professor of business strategy at the University of Maine. Davis was an avid skier; he enjoyed winter trips across New England, the West, the Canadian Rockies and the Alps. He and his wife, Yvonne, often welcomed family and friends to their condo at Sugarloaf in Maine.
Davis was predeceased by his parents and his sister, Jane Darling Lewis. He is survived by his wife, Yvonne; his daughters, Linda ’76 and Kathryn; his son, Chip ’84; two stepdaughters, Deborah and Michelle; and seven grandchildren.

Thank you to Linda and Chip Davis for contributing to this piece.

On March 2, 2015, William Gorham ’51 of Jupiter, Fla., passed away at the age of 81. During his time at Nobles, he excelled across the board. He was a brilliant student, winning an array of academic awards; an exemplary leader, serving as president of the class for his junior and senior years; and an involved member of countless clubs and organizations, from The Nobleman to the Debating Club to the Glee Club. In the words of his classmates, the only thing more impressive than “his small library reaped at Prize Days” was “his wonderful, dignified friendliness towards everybody” (Class book, 1951).

Gorham continued to distinguish himself after leaving Nobles. He went on to study at Princeton University and Harvard Law School. From there, he began working at the Goodwin Procter law firm in Boston, where he spent his whole professional career. He took pleasure in classical music, golf, sailing and traveling with his wife of 48 years, Natalie Gorham.

Gorham was predeceased by his wife, Natalie; his parents, Arthur and Anne Gorham; and his brothers, Benjamin and Arthur ’55. He is survived by his sister, Linda; his sons, Steve ’76 and Michael ’80; and four impressive grandchildren.

The following piece was furnished by Winston “Hooley” Perry ’53.

I first met Louis Newell ’53 in the 6th Class back in 1946, and I immediately sensed that he was going to be one of the leaders of the class. But little did I know back then in how many wonderful and exceptional ways. I soon found out that he wasn’t the first Newell to grace the halls of Nobles, and as it turned out, he wasn’t the last. To know Louis was to know an exceptional gentleman and human being with a great sense of humor, and one who for his whole life helped and gave back to others, which can best be described as an individual who “lived to give.”

Louis, or “Louis-Boy,” which I loved to hear his mother call him in her southern belle accent, immersed himself in all areas of activities that Nobles had to offer, including the 1951 undefeated football team, baseball squad, hockey squad, Glee Club, Quartets, Student Council, Dance Committee, Nobleman board, Dramatic Club and Deutscher Verein, while also winning the Harvard Club Prize and the Sziklas Hockey Trophy, and who (obviously) in his senior year was voted by his classmates as having “Done Most for Nobles.”

To review his amazing life, Louis attended the Park School, the Noble and Greenough School, Class of 1953, and the Harvard College Class of 1957. Louis was employed for 27 years by the Bank of New England, the Boston Company for 12 years, and the Seaward Management Co. He was a member of The Country Club, the Miramachi Salmon Association, the Atlantic Salmon Association, the Society of Colo-

Louis Newell ’53

nial Wars, the Tihonet Club, the Black Brook Salmon Club and the Thursday Evening Club. He was on the boards of the Harvard Varsity Club, Noble and Greenough School and HAA, and was a director of the Norfolk & Dedham Group, the Freedom Trail and the Harvard Happy Committee.

He was also on the boards of the Massachusetts Eye & Ear Hospital, Faulkner Hospital and Brigham & Women’s Hospital. Louis was an active sportsman who played golf, hockey and curling, and absolutely loved to fish (mainly for salmon). At the 2014 commencement at Harvard, he was awarded the Harvard Medal by President Drew Faust for outstanding achievement at the school. He was also awarded the HAA Alumni Award, the Jas. R. Hamlen ’04 Award and the Varsity Club Award in 2008, in addition to serving on every reunion committee and ANF committee. He is a recipient of the Lawson Service Award at Nobles for overall service to the school, and the Flood Award for service to the Annual Fund. He was a longtime member of the Graduates Council, often serving on the strategic planning commit-

tee. Most recently, he leveraged his experience with the Harvard Varsity Club Hall of Fame to serve as a valuable consultant for the Nobles Athletics Hall of Fame Committee. It was created under his watchful eye, helping the school avoid many early pitfalls and turning it into a wonderful lasting legacy of the school.

In his later years, and for many years, he fought valiantly to reverse the course of a crushing host of health issues, but finally, on March 2, 2015, Louis passed away peacefully in his sleep at the age of 79.

Louis is survived by his wife of 57 years, Emily Milliken Newell; his children, John L. Newell ’77 of Seattle, Katherine H. Newell ’79 of Watertown, Dr. Susan M. Newell ’80 and daughter-in-law Lori Pelletier of Exeter, R.I.; his sister, Anne N. and Philip Robertson of Milton; and his sister-in-law, Judith W. Newell, of Hudson. He was also predeceased by his brother, Franklin S. “Chub” Newell ’55.

Louis was an amazing man, a loving husband, a wonderful friend, an enormously giving and caring individual, and a delight to know for so many years. You will be sorely missed, my friend, by everyone who knew and loved you.

David Wilkinson ’63 passed away on March 25, 2015, at the age of 70. Wilkinson grew up in Weston and spent five years at Nobles. An honor roll student, he played football and participated in the Cercle Français. He was a literary editor for The Nobleman and co-chairman of the Debating Club.

After Nobles, he attended Bowdoin College and Ohio University.
Among his many interests, he enjoyed fishing and cross-country skiing in Maine, music and writing. He wrote more than 60 songs and four books. A passion for photography developed into success in videography when Dave and his wife, Marilyn, created “incredibleMAINE,” a show that aired on the Maine Public Broadcasting Networks and was nominated six times for an Emmy.

William is survived by his wife, Marilyn; his daughter, Hester, and his son, Brad; three grandchildren; his sister, Hope, and his brother, Brad ’69; many nieces and nephews; and countless friends.

Jeff Harrison ’65 died peacefully at home on January 24, 2015, following a battle with cancer. Harrison came to Nobles from Dexter and fostered what would become his lifelong love of music in the Glee Club and Christmas Choir, while also supporting the Dramatic Club his junior and senior years. He was a co-captain of the football team and played hockey and tennis in the winter and spring, respectively. He was also a member of Cercle Français and the Boarding Council.

Harrison went on to Bowdoin College after Nobles and enlisted in the armed services during the height of the Vietnam War. He would become a 1st Lt. in the U.S. Marine Corps and an active volunteer at the Norfolk County Correctional Center, dedicating his life to the service of others.

Correctional Center, dedicating volunteer at the Norfolk County U.S. Marine Corps and an active would become a 1st Lt. in the armed services during the height of the Vietnam War. He

Copley Fine Art Auctions and served as senior vice president at ChildLife, Inc. An avid outdoorsman, he spent much of his time on environmental sustainability and stewardship, cochairing the Board of Councillors for the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, serving on the Board of Trustees for Sailor’s Snug Harbor of Boston, and acting in leadership roles at numerous other organizations, including Ducks Unlimited, the Boston Flycasters and Duxbury Beach Reservation. Jon also loved hunting, fishing, skiing, gardening, cooking and spending time with friends and family.

Nash is survived by his daughters, Isabel and Charlotte; their mother, Laura Potter; and his beloved friend, Sarah McBride. He is also survived by his sister, Emily; his brother, Tim ’80; as well as four nieces and a nephew.

Jonathan Bernson ’97 passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, on May 25, 2015, following a battle with cancer. He was 36. Bernson was a beloved member of his class. He came to Nobles in the fall of 1991 with the last class to use the old middle school on the second floor of the main schoolhouse, before moving to the new Pratt Middle School the next year. While his classmates describe him as low-key, they all fondly remember the enthusiasm and support he brought to every school activity, especially JV soccer or hockey games. He also acted in the Mainstage production “Bull in a China Shop” his senior year. Classmate Bobbi Wegner will remember his genuine nature, saying, “His eyes always seemed to be smiling.”

After Nobles, Bernson went on to graduate from Emory University before entering his family’s business, Safety Flag Company. Bernson’s life, however, was characterized by his love for his family. He is survived by his wife, Dana; his parents, Norman and Jocelyn; and his brother, James.

Spencer Omuemu ’09 died suddenly on March 1, 2015, in New York City. He was 23 years old. He was a beloved member of the boarding community at Nobles and served as a mentor for the younger students. Though he carried a generally quiet disposition, that mentoring instinct continued to manifest itself throughout campus in other organizations like Brother to Brother and the Peer Help Program. He was also an officer in the Investment Club and played football for several successful seasons. Former faculty member Eric Osorio recalls, “Spencer was one of those kids who made me feel so privileged to be an educator.”

After Nobles, Omuemu went to New York City to attend Columbia University. He graduated in 2014 with a degree in biomedical engineering and most recently worked at Blackrock Financial in New York City. Spencer had a passion for the Big Brother/Sister organization, and did volunteer work in New Orleans and Argentina. He held a black belt in mixed martial arts and loved to cook.

He is survived by his mother, Mercy; his aunt, Kate; and his siblings, Stephanie, Sylvester and Sophia Omuemu. He also leaves his father, Sylvester, and many beloved aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and friends.
Summer 2015 graduate news

Announcements

Engagements

Sara-Mai Conway ’94 got engaged to Travis Gardner in February; Zach Cohen ’05 got engaged to Emily Bray; DJ Hatch ’07 will marry Ally Kuriloff this fall; Maddie Pongor ’07 is engaged to Abedin Sham;

classmates Courtney Monahan and John Phillips ’07 are engaged.

Marriages

Sam Perry ’61 married Melissa on March 28, 2015; Kim Blois (Ching) ’97 married Joe Blois in Dedham in September 2014; Sarah Clabby ’00 married Ryan Schroeder in a festive New Year’s Eve celebration; Jake Clapton ’01 and Sarah Marich were married in Boston on March 7, 2015; Kristin Magee Hurley ’03 married Ted Jarzynka on July 26, 2015, in Mashpee, Mass;
FALL 2015
Nobles 57

Elizabeth Marie Palombo, daughter of Joe '00 and his wife, Sophie

Jake and Blake Tobey, twins born to Ben Tobey '99 and his wife, Jordan


Benjamin Russell Fishbone, son of Katie Lee Fishbone '97

Ben Thompson '96 with son Augie, born April 2014, and Jon Rechner '96 with son William, who arrived in August 2014

Amy Seibel '05 married Nat Seelen at Plimoth Plantation in October 2014; Lydia Paine '06 married Henrik Hagtvedt on June 5, 2015, at the Lyman Estate in Waltham, Mass.; Katie Paniszyn and Benjamin Dawson, both '07, were married on June 6, 2015, in Providence, R.I.

New Arrivals

Katie Lee Fishbone '97 and her husband, Jeff, welcomed a son, Benjamin Russell Fishbone, on November 29, 2014; Ben Tobey '99 and wife Jordan Tobey welcomed twins Jake Harrison and Blake Madeline on December 1, 2014; Joe Palombo '00 and wife Sophie welcomed daughter Elizabeth Marie Palombo on April 3, 2015, in Hong Kong; Brynne Suliman '05 is proud to announce the arrival of her son, Henry Walter Suliman, on December 3, 2014.

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For the class of 1965, Reunion 2015 began before the official events kicked off on the morning of Saturday, May 9. In anticipation of their 50th reunion, nearly 20 members of the class gathered for a celebratory dinner on Thursday night. Another 500 Nobles graduates and their families joined members of the Class of 1965 at 10 Campus Drive over the weekend. Graduates spanning 70 class years, from 1940–2010, reconnected under clear skies and abundant sunshine.

During a Q&A session with Head of School Bob Henderson ’76, graduates learned highlights of the 2014–2015 school year and upcoming plans for several campus projects. At the assembly for graduates, Percy Nelson and Bill Brush, both ’40, were recognized in honor of their 75th reunion year. Dana Gershengorn ’87, an associate justice for the Plymouth Juvenile Court who works to protect children from crimes and exploitation, was named as the 2015 Distinguished Graduate. Megan Chapman ’00 received the Young Graduate Award for her efforts on behalf of human rights and development. Currently co-director of Justice & Empowerment Initiatives, she brings skills and resources to poor communities in Nigeria. Caitlin Fai ’10 joined the board as a graduate trustee. Wally Stimpson ’55 received the Lawson Service Award. Matt Ross ’90 and classmates from the 25th reunion class selected Bill Bussey for the Coggeshall Award, as the faculty member who was particularly important to their class.

Other highlights included athletic contests against St. Paul’s School, and a carnival and a cookout lunch from b.good, founded by Jon Olinto and Anthony Ackil, both ’94. At the annual Athletics Hall of Fame ceremony, Sarah Parsons Wolter ’05, Didzis Voldins ’90, Jen Lane ’88 and Eliot T. Putnam (posthumously) were recognized as the 2015 inductees.

Saturday afternoon, the Grads of Color Committee hosted more than 30 graduates in hopes of revitalizing the group, a mission that the late Devin Nwanagu ’05 envisioned and worked toward. A memorial bench overlooking Almy Field was dedicated to Nwanagu in tribute to her love of soccer, both as a Nobles student and coach.

The day concluded with class dinners on campus. The Harding Skate House, which overlooks the Charles River, hosted the Class of 1970 for its 45th reunion dinner. The reunion program evolves each year, but the pride and dedication to Nobles remains the same.

—Anne Sholley ’07
Clockwise from top left: Members of 2010 gather on the Castle Terrace for their 5th Reunion; Matt Ross '90 Presents the Coggeshall Award to Bill Bussey during the Graduates Assembly; 2015 Coggeshall Award recipient Bill Bussey poses with the award’s namesake, Tim Coggeshall; Ryan, son of Laurie Harrison '91, having fun at the Nobles Carnival; graduates, current students and members of the Nwanagu family gather to celebrate the life of Devin Nwanagu '05 with a pickup soccer game; Eliot Putnam Jr. '57 and Charlie Putnam '70 accept the Hall of Fame induction on behalf of their father, Eliot T. Putnam, presented by Katie Benzan '16; Sasha Papernik '00, Marisha Barlatier Sirois '00 and Sarah Reeves Williams '00
**1965 50TH REUNION**

**1970 45TH REUNION**
From left to right: Charlie Putnam, Hugh d’Autremont, John King, Lev Byrd, Tom Simpson, Steve Horan, Linc Lyman, Pieter Van Slyck

**1975 40TH REUNION**
From left, back row: Jim Fitzgerald, Kurt Somerville, Ethan Tower. Middle row: Jeff Dingle, Jed Dawson, John Slingerland, Bob Richards, Dwight Allison, Peter Rice, Dave MacCrelish. Front row: Jerry Rappaport, Andrea Pape, Jeff Barker, Tom Perry, Asa Phillips, Joel Flaherty, Ellen Quinlan, Laurie Young, Wendy Taylor

**1980 35TH REUNION**
From left to right: Joe Horrigan, Deborah Smith, Martha Kittredge Rowley, Jane Bliss Graham, Caleb Tower (in back), Roy Waldron, Jonathan Hayes (in back), Ginger Cox Gatewood, Neal Cousins, Pam Bowers Notman, David O’Donnell, Scott Ellison
1985 30TH REUNION

From left, back row: Mark Goodman, Jeff Alpaugh, Betsy Dawson, Eric Smith, Amie Carroll Abdal-Khabir, Peter Blanchard, Ted Stimpson. Front row: Kate Saunders Grove, Marci Griffith Loeber, Cathy Simmons Browne

1990 25TH REUNION

From left, back row: Tim Partridge, Geoff Doyle, John Rounseville, Matt Ross, Kristen Kingsbury Vu, Marta Gonzalez Magallanes, Mike Wexler, Christy Pfannenstiehl Bergstrom, Brooke Earley Asnis, Sarah Brumwell Burke, Jen Bigelow Williams, Suzy Klotz, Monica Woelfel Stevenson, Greg Lewis, Bill Bussey. Middle row: Lisa Donahue Rose, Greg Bates, Ben Whitestone, Bart Steele, Emily Golenberg, Elizabeth Austen Lawson, Laura Schram Page, Leigh Heyman, Hilary Gallagher, Jonathan Jacobson, Moira Kelly Giacalone, Alycia Cutone Markowski, Laura Keally Heywood, Maggie Birmingham Mittan, Martha Schneider, Lorna Lowe, Alex Gallagher. Front row: Lulu vonRumohr Davis, Kate Helm Richer, Erin Keith Epker, Christina Novicki, Karin Walker Moskal, Didzis Voldins

1995 20TH REUNION

From left, back row: Kaveh Mojtahai, Tyler Roberts, Kelly Flaman Roberts, Bill Gallagher, Selma Holden, Ben Walsh, Alex Clark, Donny Wright, Mark Sullivan, Daniel Fine, Holtie Wood, Justin Levy, Chris Guthrie, Soph
Sophocles, Molly Hamill. Front row: Rob Allen, Sam Bigelow, Chris Page, Becca Hayes, Doug McCracken, Tim McCabe, Lewanda Elliot, Gary Jennison, Deena Zhelezov Freed, Meg Lawson Hyde, Anmarraine Arena DiRado, Jill O’Loughlin Edgar, Alex Smith Ozerkis, Katharina Grautoff Form, Jenessa Lee Freid, Lindsay Russell Moseley, Julie Levin, Molly Haverty Whitridge

1995 15TH REUNION

From left, back row: Wilda Perez, Lynne Antinarelli, Devin Green, Lisa Marx Corn, Jeff Sousa, Vikrum Sequeira, Mike Sanders, Spence Balboni, Peter Lacalade, Marisha Barlatier Sirois, Chris Naumes. Front row: Sasha Papernik, Karen Abraham Silver, Yasmin Hamed, Joanna Aven Howarth, Sarah Reeves Williams, Edwin Johnson, Chris Owen, Katie Sarles Garvey, Alex Sirkin. Missing from photo: Heather Anderson, Megan Chapman, Kate Eisenberg, Emira Gjata

2000 10TH REUNION

Kate Spelman, Erin Bruynell.
Front row: Erika Nakamura, Sayre McAuliffe, Molly Valle, Lauren Valle, Marya Stansky, Sarah Churchill, Hannah Trachtman, Jenny Koningisor, Kate Parizeau, Britany Oliver, Lauren Bresnahan, Sarah Lieff, Kaitlinn Goode, Jess Hatch, Becca Starr, Madeleine Lazaris, Amy Zwanzinger, Allison Khederian, Ben Cultice, Audrey Murray, Andrew Fine, Mike Chin, Nick Kistner

2010 5TH REUNION


Alumni reunion lacrosse game. Left to right, kneeling: Chris Coutu ’89, Mark Epker ’89, Nick Hayes ’05, Jim Kenny ’78, Ben Dawson ’78, Josh Tower ’78, Bill Bell ’80, Kevin O’Marah ’80, Tim Sheridan ’02, Cam Marchant ’02, Kellen Benjamin ’02. Standing: Nick Raffone ’10, Mark Harrington, Tom Southworth ’05, Neil White ’05, Tom White ’03, Brendan Richards ’05, Adam Benjamin ’06, Harrison Alpaugh ’14, Jeff Alpaugh ’85, Ben Wiggins ’10, Curt Stevenson ’88, Jamie Waldinger ’94, Eliot Marchant ’94, Pete McIntire ’02, Mike O’Connell ’02, Senam Kumahia ’02
RAPT ATTENTION

Exactly how many dimensions are we talking?
This assembly audience, with Provost Bill Bussey at its center, clearly has a vision.
We just can’t remember what it was (or when).
If you were an audience member wearing the kooky glasses—or if you can recall what captured your attention on stage—let us know on Twitter @Noble_Greenough.
School Life Council co-president Dana Grey '15 crowdsurfs during the Final Countdown, a tradition for Class I students as they celebrate their last moments at Nobles.

PHOTO OF THE DAY

May 28, 2015

PHOTO BY KIM NEAL

Give the gift of challenge and exhilaration!

Make your gift to the Annual Nobles Fund today. Visit www.nobles.edu/giveonline or contact Director of Annual Giving Allie Trainor at Allie_Trainor@nobles.edu or 781-320-7005.
Saying Goodbye

Before processing to the Class of ’49 Greene Field to accept their diplomas, members of the Class of 2015 descended the Castle stairs for the last time—as students, anyway. À bientôt.