

# Plymouth

MAGAZINE

THE MAGAZINE OF PLYMOUTH STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2015

## PEOPLE FIRST

The Presidency of Sara Jayne Steen



### A LIFE UNFOLDS IN LETTERS

A correspondence with Professor Norton Bagley '41. **p. 4**

### GENEROUS NATURE

A tribute to a remarkable woman supports tomorrow's environmental leaders. **p. 10**

Kaleb Hart '11 photo.

*Museum of the*  
**WHITE MOUNTAINS**  
PLYMOUTH STATE UNIVERSITY

# TRAIL CLUBS

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH THE MOUNTAINS

March 31, 2015–March 6, 2016

Curated by

Steve Smith, author and co-editor of the AMC White Mountain Guide

Mike Dickerman, author, publisher, and co-editor of the AMC White Mountain Guide

Ben Amsden, director of PSU's Center for Rural Partnerships

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# Plymouth MAGAZINE

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On the cover: PSU President Sara Jayne Steen. Christopher Navin photo.



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ALLWell North is on schedule to open in October. Meet its founding manager on page 7. Kaleb Hart '11 photo.

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The reason I came is the reason I have stayed, and I will always love PSU. Together, we have been able to, as my mother would have said, “imagine a way” to do good and transformational work.

**T**HIS IS MY FINAL MAGAZINE MESSAGE TO YOU, and I am happy to say that Plymouth State University’s future is bright.

PSU’s largest integrated academic building, Active Living, Learning, and Wellness (ALLWell) North, will open in fall 2015. It will serve as a living-learning laboratory, increasing opportunities to provide educational, athletic, wellness, and recreational activities to the campus, local communities, the region, and the state. Like the Savage Welcome Center and Hanaway Rink before it, ALLWell North will create momentum to propel PSU forward.

New academic programs are being developed, such as the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT). This exciting program, when approved, will help to meet the health care needs of our region. Housed in the newly remodeled Samuel Read Hall Building, DPT will join the departments of counselor education and school psychology and of nursing, which have first-rate instructional laboratories there. The nursing simulation labs are a recreated hospital wing that will enable students to have the hands-on, minds-on education for which PSU is known. Also under way this year is a new Center for Student Success to integrate international efforts, academic advising, and career counseling. The list goes on.

PSU is recognized for providing a personalized educational experience. This year, enrollment management efforts and an integrated marketing communications campaign have led a record number of prospective students to apply for admission, attend open houses, and make early deposits for fall 2015. That, too, is exciting.

All of this energy and forward momentum is because of PSU’s people—the bright and energetic undergraduate and graduate students, the vibrant faculty and staff members, the dedicated senior leadership team, the committed alumni, donors, parents, trustees, regional partners, and friends—all of whom come together on behalf of PSU and its mission to educate and serve.

In my inaugural address, I spoke of my first visit to Plymouth State and of being impressed by the people here, by their shared commitment to student success and to each other as a community, by their genuine engagement with the region, the state, and beyond. The reason I came is the reason I have stayed, and I will always love PSU. Together, we have been able to, as my mother would have said, “imagine a way” to do good and transformational work. I look forward to helping with the presidential transition and cheering as PSU continues to advance into that bright future.

Sara Jayne Steen, President

# THE ADVOCATE

One young woman's journey to help others

**S**TACI KEENAN '14 OF JAFFREY, NH, WAS 11 YEARS OLD and home alone when intruders broke in. Fortunately she was unharmed, but the experience changed her life forever: it inspired her to help people. "The way that I was helped by my local police department—they were great," recalls Keenan, who was honored with a Brave Citizen of New Hampshire Award from the state the following year. "They made me feel like I was part of the investigation process and kept me and my family informed about how the investigation was progressing and when the robbers were caught. I wanted to help people the way that they helped me."

Years later, when Keenan started her college search, she knew exactly what she wanted: a small New England school that offered a criminal justice major. Plymouth State was the perfect fit. "The criminal justice program was a huge motivation for me to come here," she says. "Many of the professors have worked or currently work in the field, so I knew they wouldn't be teaching me from textbooks; they'd be teaching me from first-hand experience."

The program and its faculty weren't the only things that won Keenan over. "After walking around the beautiful campus and hearing about the different student clubs and organizations, I could see myself fitting in and thriving here," she says.

"It's truly rewarding to see the difference you can make in the life of another person."

As it turns out, Keenan did fit in and she has certainly thrived at PSU. "The first week of my freshman year, I went into my advisor's office to introduce myself and I said, 'This is my plan: I want to study abroad, graduate early, and go to law school. Let's make it happen,'" she recalls.

Keenan's advisor, Christopher Warn '02, '03G, who is not only a PSU faculty member but also police chief of Campton, NH, worked with her to ensure she got the most out of her PSU experience. Keenan spent a semester abroad at the Universidad de Málaga in Málaga, Spain, where she took her electives and general education courses, became fluent in Spanish, and traveled throughout the country. An internship at the Cheshire County Regional Prosecutor's Office in Keene, NH, gave her an opportunity to apply what she'd learned in class to the real world. She took extra courses each semester, as well as during the summer and winter, to earn her degree a semester early. She was inducted into the Criminal Justice Honor Society as a sophomore, an honor reserved for



Staci Keenan is a victim's advocate with Voices Against Violence, a local crisis services agency. Kaleb Hart '11 photo.

students who have a GPA of 3.2 or higher and rank in the top 35 percent of their class. And she achieved all of this while holding down various part-time jobs on and off campus.

While law school remains a long-term goal, Keenan is finding great satisfaction in her role as victim's advocate with Voices Against Violence, a local crisis services agency she joined shortly after earning her Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice last December. Her responsibilities include working with victims of domestic and sexual violence crimes, putting them in touch with lawyers,

accompanying them to court, and more. "I've been there for four months and I love it," she says. "I'm learning so much."

Keenan's education and her work with Voices Against Violence have confirmed that the goal she set for herself as an 11-year-old—to help people as she was helped—is indeed what she wants to do with her life. "It's truly rewarding to see the difference you can make in the life of another person," she says. "This experience has shown me that victim advocacy is what I want to be doing. This is my passion."  
—Brittany Harty '15



# A LIFE UNFOLDS *in Letters*

MY CORRESPONDENCE WITH PROFESSOR NORTON BAGLEY '41 ■ PETER JARRETT '66



Professor Norton Bagley, 1920–2014

Norton Bagley's life reads like the script for a Hollywood movie: a poor boy with a genius IQ and a severe stuttering problem dreams of going to college and becoming a teacher. With the help of an unlikely champion—a respected college president—he overcomes faculty skepticism and is admitted to college. After a few years of teaching and serving in World War II, he furthers his education on the GI Bill and returns to his alma mater as a professor, becoming a beloved educator, administrator, and ultimately, a campus legend.

I reconnected with Professor Bagley at PSU in May 2006 during my 40th reunion. Shortly afterward, I wrote a letter to him, acknowledging him for touching my life. He wrote a lengthy letter back and we started a correspondence that lasted six

years. His letters made me feel like I was having a conversation with my favorite professor, and I quickly came to view him as both friend and colleague. I saved his letters—35 in all, totaling 150 single-spaced pages—sensing they were both social history as well as an uncommon autobiography.

## The Gifted Professor

“As I speak to you, I may get stuck on some words, so bear with me ...” This was how Professor Bagley started his address to my classmates and me at freshman orientation in September 1962. In those first few words, I think we sensed that if he could deal with his stuttering problem in such a public way, we could surely deal with our insecurities about college.

I took Professor Bagley's child development class on the third floor of Rounds Hall. His teaching style projected both a matchless mastery of content and a sensitivity to people. When, in an autobiographical piece, I wrote that I was floundering with some of my beliefs, he wrote a comment in the right-hand margin: “Try the Unitarian writers like Thoreau and Emerson.” In my senior year, I signed up for another class with him and took a risk by writing a satire instead of the serious paper that was expected of me. Anxious that I might have offended him, I was surprised to find out that he had the paper copied and handed

out to the whole class because he liked the way I had clarified some ideas. Even after graduation he was supportive, driving three hours round-trip to Hampton one night to meet with some of us who were starting a Seacoast alumni chapter. His presence always made a statement.

## A Life Unfolds in Letters

In the first letter I received from Professor Bagley shortly after we reconnected at reunion, he began sharing his life story:

*“I was bullied often because of my small size and stuttering. I created an extensive fantasy world to retreat to. Using a pile of bricks behind my house, I created castles and worlds that only I dwelled in ... I stuttered as soon as I could speak due to the turmoil in my home.”*

Despite a difficult home life, Bagley excelled at school and skipped second grade. To overcome his fear of public speaking due to his stutter, he would force himself to raise his hand in class whenever possible and even entered speech contests. “I wanted to make something of myself,” he explained. Interestingly, he was very comfortable onstage, acting in school plays. “I did not stutter. I was someone else,” he wrote.

His knowledge of history was so great that his 8th-grade social studies teacher would let him

substitute teach on occasion. “It was during that experience that I knew I wanted to be a teacher,” he recalled. The teacher, Viola Brown, was asked at her retirement party who her brightest students were. “Norton Bagley and Alan Shepard,” she replied. Professor Bagley said this was his favorite compliment.

## The Happiest Years

In his senior year at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, Bagley had an admission interview with the president of Plymouth Normal School, Ernest Silver. “He was interested in helping people with disabilities enter teaching,” Bagley recalled in a letter. President Silver was blunt, saying to the young aspiring teacher, “You will be my personal guinea pig,” and overruled the school's faculty who expressed reservations.

There was no tuition then and Bagley received 30 dollars a month from the National Youth Administration, an agency created by Franklin Delano Roosevelt as part of the New Deal. The program helped more than 4.5 million young people find work, get vocational training, or, like Bagley, get an education. He also took a variety of odd jobs to pay for his room and board since his family had no money.

In 1937, there were 200 women and only 10 men at the Normal School. In one of his letters, Professor Bagley

## Keep Professor Bagley's Teaching Legacy Alive for Future Generations

Gifts in memory of Norton Bagley may be directed to the Norton R. Bagley Scholarship Fund to benefit a Plymouth State student majoring in education.

Contact Diane Tiffany '76 at (603) 535-2592 or [dtiffany@plymouth.edu](mailto:dtiffany@plymouth.edu) to make your gift.

*“Put me down as one who always worshipped the Romantics and the Transcendentalists ... and one who still believes in our youth ... that the world is not going to the dogs and that the best is yet to be.”—Norton Bagley*

President Hyde's leadership style change from authoritarian in the '50s and '60s to more democratic in the tumultuous '70s. “Hyde wanted to grow the College and he was successful at it,” Professor Bagley noted.

I loved his sense of humor. In one class, a student asked him how candid he should be in an autobiography. With a slight smile, Professor Bagley said, “Don't include anything I could hold against you.” Describing his decision to retire he said, “I knew it was time when the students stopped laughing at my jokes.”

Professor Bagley retired in 1982 and immersed himself in studying his ancestry. He traveled to Europe as well as throughout the US. Additionally, he did intensive transcription work at local cemeteries for the NH Historical Society. He read vociferously and was an avid gardener. He was also a caregiver for a friend with Parkinson's disease. He moved to the Taylor Community in Laconia, NH, in the 1990s where he died on February 23, 2014, after a long illness. Commenting on his particular branch of the Bagley family, he observed: “I am the last leaf on the tree.”

In one letter he expressed his life philosophy; the ideals that he lived by: “Put me down as one who always worshipped the Romantics and the Transcendentalists ... and one who still believes in our youth ... that the world is not going to the dogs and that the best is yet to be.”

*Peter Jarrett '66 was active as an undergraduate student, serving as student council president. He has been a lifelong educator, working as a Head Start director, social studies teacher at Portsmouth (NH) High School, director of guidance at Farmington (NH) High School, and manager of the Project Pride Program (for at-risk students). Jarrett is retired and living in Boynton Beach, FL, with his wife, Joyce, an artist.*

Below: Peter Jarrett from the 1966 Conning Tower yearbook.



Photos of Norton Bagley courtesy of Spinelli Archives.

describes late-night bull sessions discussing philosophy, world affairs, and a peace movement that was developing at the time. He also met President Silver's friend and former Normal School faculty member Robert Frost—by then a three-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for poetry. Looking back on his experience at Plymouth Normal School, he commented, “My four years at Plymouth were the happiest of my life ... I found acceptance.”

### A Long and Fulfilling Career

Shortly after graduating in 1941, Bagley taught 8th-grade social studies in Pittsburg, NH, averaging 45 students in a class. When the US entered World War II, he enlisted in March of 1942. In an eight-page, single-spaced letter he described his experience as a clerk typist in a medical corps and his brief stint in an artillery

unit. He was involved in the invasion of North Africa and Italy, and recounted a harrowing experience when German planes repeatedly attacked his landing craft. “It is difficult to dig a fox-hole on the hull of a steel ship, but we tried,” he wrote. He earned a Bronze Star for his service.

Bagley got his PhD through the GI Bill and began teaching in the early 1950s at Plymouth Teachers College. He would weave back and forth between administrative and teaching positions throughout his 32-year career. Along with being a professor of education, he served as chair of the education department, dean of instruction, and dean of students, and worked closely with President Harold Hyde throughout his presidency, which spanned from 1950 to 1977. “He would tell you he wanted you in a certain role—he did not ask you,” Bagley wrote. He watched

# CLOSING THE GAP

\$2.2 million grant propels aspiring school psychologist toward a career



When Emily Russell '15CAGS started teaching 16 years ago, she quickly realized that academics were taking a backseat to her students' social and emotional needs. The more time she spent in the classroom, the more she wanted to help in a way that focused on their mental and behavioral health. "I loved being a classroom teacher," she says, "but I saw a need in some children that surpassed what I was able to provide."

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, an estimated one in five children has a diagnosable mental health disorder, and nearly two-thirds of them do not receive the help they need. Compounding the issue, the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) projects a cumulative shortage of close to 15,000 school psychologists by 2020. Without early diagnosis and treatment, children with mental health issues often have problems at home and in school that can continue into adulthood.

Determined to be part of the solution, Russell returned to graduate school, first earning a master's degree in school psychology, then enrolling in PSU's Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies program in school psychology. As a married mother of two young children, Russell immediately felt the pressure of balancing work, studies, and family. Given the demands of her internship—an unpaid 1,200-hour, yearlong field experience in a public school setting—the last year has been especially challenging. Russell is interning in four schools with students from preschool to 12th grade in both general and special education. Having a part-time job on top of her other responsibilities was nearly impossible.

Until this year, most interns in the PSU counselor education and school psychology program faced similar challenges. But when the Sandy Hook shootings brought into the national spotlight the need for more behavioral health professionals in schools and communities, President Obama took swift action. Last fall, Obama, with the support of the US Department of Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), launched a grant initiative to provide funding for students pursuing degrees in behavioral health. The grant netted PSU a remarkable \$2.2 million—one of the largest social sciences grants ever awarded to a University System of New Hampshire institution.

For Russell and other interns in the school psychology, school counseling, and clinical mental health counseling programs—39

this year alone—the grant represents \$10,000 that will not be coming out of their own pockets. Instead, they can focus on preparing to hit the ground running as behavioral health professionals next year. And there is an excellent chance they will have a job when they graduate: PSU's school psychology program has had a 100 percent job placement rate over the past three years; school counseling and clinical mental health counseling boast similar success.

Without the financial support, Russell says, "I would likely have had to take out loans. The stipend was enough to make a year of full-time unpaid work feasible for my family."

## Addressing a Critical Shortage

Professor of Counselor Education and School Psychology Cindy Waltman was the primary author of PSU's HRSA grant application. Waltman knew Mary Sherlach, the school psychologist who was killed in the Sandy Hook tragedy. When she heard about the grant initiative, she knew right away it was just what PSU—and this country—needed. "We hope to fill the schools with well-prepared school psychologists and school counselors," she says. "And we need more clinical mental health counselors in our communities."

Russell says, "This grant allows people to enter into these programs who may not have otherwise, and in that way it's increasing the work force." PSU, NASP, and the New Hampshire Association of School Psychologists are dedicated not only to growing the numbers

of school psychologists in the field, but to broadening their role to better serve all children. The grant addresses the need for training at a range of intervention levels, from children with minor social skills issues to those who struggle with substance abuse, violence, or suicidal tendencies.

In Russell's internship, she has witnessed first hand how the shortage in mental health services has affected children. It's not uncommon for a school psychologist to be in four or five different schools during the week, she says, making it challenging for them to focus on the primary tier of prevention: an approach that decreases risk factors and builds resilience for all students. Instead, they end up seeing the students who are already having more significant trouble. When she begins her career as a school psychologist next year Russell plans to build a support network to identify and help children before they start to struggle. "This grant and my work at PSU have helped train me to build partnerships with agencies, teachers, school counselors, and families to help as many kids as possible and prevent problems before they begin," she says.

—Emilie Coulter

For more information about PSU's CAGS programs in school psychology, school counseling, and clinical mental health counseling, visit [plymouth.edu/](http://plymouth.edu/) graduate or contact Professor Cindy Waltman at (603) 535-3119.

Visit [plymouth.edu/magazine](http://plymouth.edu/magazine) to learn about the **Helping Center**, a new training venue where Counselor Education and School Psychology graduate students can gain valuable counseling experience.







## *In Good Hands*

**John Clark '71, '73G to manage operations in ALLWell North's first year**

No one would question Athletic Director John Clark '71, '73G if he said he was ready to retire after serving PSU for more than four decades.

Instead, this fall, he will transition from his role as athletic director—a post he held for more than 20 years—to take on an exciting new position as founding manager of ALLWell North, PSU's state-of-the-art, 107,600-square-foot academics and athletics complex slated to open in October. It's a project that Clark has been deeply involved in and excited for from the beginning, so it's only fitting that he will oversee the building's operations in its inaugural year. "I couldn't be more excited for what ALLWell North will mean to our students, to the community, and to the state of New Hampshire," he says. "It's another crown jewel in the evolution of the campus, just like the Savage Welcome Center and Hanaway Rink, the Silver Center for the Arts, and so many other projects that have transformed PSU. I'm grateful for this opportunity."

And PSU is grateful that its newest crown jewel will be in good hands. —Barbra Alan

*Learn more about ALLWell North at [plymouth.edu/allwell](http://plymouth.edu/allwell).*

John Clark was all smiles at the ALLWell North construction site in early April. Kaleb Hart '11 photo.



# SAMUEL READ HALL'S SECOND ACT

The evolution of an innovative educator and a beloved campus building

**F**OR MORE THAN 90 YEARS, students of Plymouth Normal School, Plymouth Teachers College, Plymouth State College, and Plymouth State University called Samuel Read Hall Residence Hall home. But after a 16-month renovation, the beloved residence hall—named for an innovative teacher educator who taught at Holmes Plymouth Academy in the late 1830s—is enjoying a new life as a center for STEM programming, housing the departments of Counselor Education and School Psychology (CESP) and Nursing, as well as the Center for the Environment and Center for Rural Partnerships.

“This project represents a truly creative solution to repurposing and preserving a historical building and making it genuinely work for twenty-first-century needs,” says President Sara Jayne Steen. “The building gracefully retains historic features while providing modern classroom and laboratory space. It’s now a lively home for talented faculty dedicated to helping students grow and succeed.”

It’s a transformation that the building’s namesake would have certainly approved.

## An Educator’s Educator

For someone who ultimately became renowned as an innovative teacher educator and a respected author on education, Samuel Read Hall came from humble educational beginnings. When he was growing up in the early 1800s, schools in rural northern New England were few and far between. By the time he was 15, Hall barely had a year’s worth of schooling to his credit. His real education was completely self-directed, as he devoured his father’s small but excellent collection of books, his favorite being Locke’s *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, one of the classic works of early-modern empiricist philosophy.

All that reading paid off for Hall, who was hired as a teacher in Rumford, ME, at the age of 19. He proved to be a visionary educator, teaching his students not only grammar and penmanship, but also how to write compositions—something that parents initially objected to as being too hard for young children. Hall won them over and soon composition was a weekly exercise, its value obvious to all.

In 1823, he founded the first training institute for teachers in the US, the Columbian School in Concord, VT, where he taught all key subjects, lectured in pedagogy, and operated a model





Above: Kaleb Hart '11 photo.



Left: PSU's nursing simulation lab in Samuel Read Hall Building provides students a safe, high-tech learning environment to hone their clinical skills. Nina Weinstein '15 photo.

Below: Portrait of Samuel Read Hall courtesy of The Old Stone House Museum, Brownington, VT.



"The building is beautiful—a long way from when I lived there the first semester of my freshman year!!"

—Kathleen Collins McCabe '69, '87G, '01CAGS on Facebook

school so his students could practice teaching. In 1827, his first book, *A Child's Assistant to a Knowledge of the Geography and History of Vermont*, introduced a new approach to geography instruction by starting with the child's own community and working outward.

His second book, a teacher's manual titled *Lectures on School-Keeping*, appeared in 1829 and was a sensation, earning its author not just a national reputation, but also job offers from all over the country. After a stint at Phillips Academy in Andover, MA, he accepted a teaching post at Holmes Plymouth Academy on the condition that he could

start a co-educational teaching department. A strong supporter of female educators—most formal teaching was done by men in those days—his 1832 book, *Lectures to Female Teachers*, was surely the first book of its kind, and inspired more women to pursue teacher training.

In 1838, Holmes Plymouth Academy boasted 248 students, nearly half of whom were women. During his time in Plymouth, Hall broadened the educational scope of Holmes Plymouth Academy and earned an honorary master's degree from Dartmouth College—a wonderful honor for a man who had not attended college himself.

After Holmes Plymouth Academy closed, Hall would teach for another six years before fully focusing on the ministry. In his final years, he pursued his passion for geology, assisting Vermont State Geologist Edward Hitchcock on geological surveys.

When Plymouth Normal School was established in 1871 as the first state-supported normal school in New Hampshire, it drew on a proud tradition of innovation in education forged by a national leader in the field, Samuel Read Hall. It's a tradition that continues at PSU to this day.—Rebecca Noel

Rebecca R. Noel is a professor of history in the Department of History, Philosophy, and Social Studies Education. Her work has appeared in the books *Children and Youth in a New Nation*; *Salem: Place, Myth, and Memory*; and *The Worlds of Children, 1620–1920*. Her upcoming book, provisionally titled *Save Our Scholars: The Quest for Health in American Schools, deals with the emergence of school health and exercise programs in New England before the Civil War*.





# GENEROUS NATURE

*Shaughn Bolton's late mother, Marjorie "Marty" Stokes, instilled in her an appreciation for the environment and a commitment to giving back to her community. To honor her mother's memory, Bolton established a scholarship to support environmental science and policy students—tomorrow's environmental leaders.*



**M**arjorie "Marty" Stokes was a woman ahead of her time. Born in New Britain, CT, in 1921, she came of age during the Great Depression, when money, jobs, and food were scarce. It was during this time that she learned the value of conservation. After high school, while most of her peers were settling down and raising children, Stokes furthered her education at the Hartford College for Women and worked as a fashion designer at the Barbizon New York.

During World War II, Stokes traded fashion design for aeronautical design after earning an engineering degree at the Pennsylvania State University. Following a stint designing propellers at Hamilton Standard Propeller Corporation in East Hartford, CT, she felt the time was right to marry her beau William R. Bolton, a Navy lieutenant and graduate of Syracuse University whom she met while at Penn State, and raise a family.

But settling down didn't mean slowing down. The family, which grew to include four children, moved around frequently with

every promotion William Bolton earned. With each move, Stokes enjoyed her surroundings to the fullest and instilled in her children an appreciation for nature and the Earth. "There was never a time when

years. "Wherever she lived, she was always community-focused," says Bolton. "She volunteered at four different hospitals over the years and was honored by Speare Memorial Hospital for 8,000 hours of service."

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*"There was never a time when she wasn't gardening, identifying plants, and taking us on hikes."—Shaughn Bolton*

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she wasn't gardening, identifying plants, and taking us on hikes," says Shaughn Bolton, the eldest of the Bolton children. And long before eating organically was in vogue, Stokes made sure her family ate homegrown vegetables and fruits as often as possible. "She never used pesticides or anything that was harmful to people or the environment," Bolton says. "She was very conscious of what we were putting into our bodies."

In addition to her love for the environment, Stokes loved serving in her community, which included Plymouth in her later

Inspired by her mother's example, Bolton wanted to find a way to give back to a community she cared for, PSU. Bolton worked at Plymouth State for nearly two decades in a variety of capacities. The role that's closest to her heart is administrative assistant for the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Environmental Science and Policy, where she worked from 2008 until she retired in 2014. There, she says, "the staff and the faculty work as a team to create a comfortable, supportive atmosphere in which to grow



## You Can Make a Difference

**“You don’t have to be wealthy to make a difference; you just have to care enough to do something,” Shaughn Bolton says.**

When she established the Marjorie “Marty” Stokes Environmental Science and Policy Scholarship, Bolton made the important first step toward supporting the students she had come to know and care about. To date, the scholarship has eased the financial burden of a college education for four students who represent tomorrow’s environmental leaders. Bolton looks forward to the day when the fund is fully endowed and can support more students with larger scholarships. “That’s my dream,” she says.

To learn how you can support the Marjorie “Marty” Stokes Environmental Science and Policy Scholarship, or to establish a scholarship of your own, contact Laure Morris in University Advancement at [lmorris5@plymouth.edu](mailto:lmorris5@plymouth.edu) or (603) 535-2952.

professionally and to work. And the students are just phenomenal!”

One of Bolton’s responsibilities was to supervise student workers, sometimes as many as seven at a time. “They were my kids,” Bolton says. “They were with me for four years, then they graduated, and there was always a new group coming in. I still keep in touch with many of them.”

In 2010, Bolton decided that establishing a scholarship for undergraduate environmental science and policy students would be a great way to support PSU. “I needed to give back to the department that had given so much to me, and I knew that there were students who could use some scholarship support,” she says. “So I started the fund and I add to it whenever I can.”

To date, five students have received the scholarship. Environmental Science and Policy Department Chair Mary Ann McGarry says Bolton’s gift is inspiring. “Shaughn’s commitment and generosity toward our students has become a model for everyone in our department,” she says. “This scholarship reflects our true purpose at PSU—to educate and support students.”

“Receiving the scholarship was such an honor for me,” says Allison Savage ’13, now an environmental educator. “I always worked hard in school, and this scholarship not only recognized that but also rewarded me for it. There’s a huge amount of financial stress associated with college—receiving the scholarship was a reminder of the community of people I had supporting me and encouraging me to work toward my goals.”

For Sarah Ray ’15, the scholarship provided her with more than financial support—it gave her a boost in her self-esteem when she needed it most. “Last year, I was feeling discouraged about the impact I was having in the world, and I was concerned about my future,” she says. “Receiving the scholarship helped me feel more confident in myself and my abilities.”

Not a day goes by when Bolton doesn’t think about her mother, and she believes that she’d be pleased with having this scholarship named for her. “Mom would be thrilled that she was part of a student’s success,” she says. “I believe in PSU and its students, and she did, too.”

—Barbra Alan

Opposite page: Marty Stokes, 1940s.

This page, top: Shaughn Bolton (second from left) with scholarship recipients and future environmental leaders (left to right) Sarah Ray ’15, Alexandra Paccadolmi ’16, Rebecca Jacobson ’13, and Rebecca Brown ’15. Kaleb Hart ’11 photo.

Bottom: Marty Stokes (on right) volunteered 8,000 hours at Speare Memorial Hospital. John Hession photo.



Sara Jayne Steen's official presidential portrait will join those of her predecessors in Lamson Library. Christopher Navin photo.





# People First

## The Presidency of Sara Jayne Steen

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**I**F YOU ASK PEOPLE WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESIDENT SARA JAYNE STEEN'S NINE-YEAR PRESIDENCY, they'll tell you about the beautiful new and renovated buildings, sustainability efforts, cutting-edge programs, and community partnerships. But they'll also make a point of sharing their thoughts on her relationships with those on campus and throughout the community: how she makes everyone feel special and respected, how her calm demeanor puts others at ease, and how she genuinely cares about people, especially students.

In her introductory remarks for her first Faculty Day on August 23, 2006, President Steen said, "PSU's future is something we'll shape together." What follows are just some of the many initiatives launched and nurtured during her presidency, as told by the people who worked with her to shape them.

### GROWING A UNIVERSITY

When Sara Jayne Steen became the 14th president of Plymouth State University on June 30, 2006, the University was smaller both physically and programmatically. Since then, the campus has flourished. With the opening of Langdon Woods Residential Complex, one of the first and largest residence halls in the country to receive gold-level certification from the US Green Building Council, students are developing valuable life skills as they learn to live in an environmentally sustainable community. EcoHouse provides a new model of living that immerses students in a living laboratory that allows them to experiment with sustainable design, alternative energy sources, and a sustainable way of living. A new welcome center and ice arena has enhanced academics, athletics, and

recreation on campus and beyond and has led to two MASCAC Championships for the men's ice hockey team. The Museum of the White Mountains—the first of its kind—celebrates the art, history, and culture of the White Mountains region using multimedia and online tools and collections. The Enterprise Center at Plymouth serves as a resource and an incubator for small businesses and is enhancing economic development in the region. The construction of the new Active Living, Learning, and Wellness (ALLWell) North, an academic and athletic complex, will enhance recruitment and enrollment, provide jobs, and support academics, research, and outreach activities when it opens in October.

Longtime PSU Athletic Director John Clark '71, '73G fondly recalls when he and President Steen served on the planning committee for the ice arena and

welcome center. “When she started at PSU, we’d already begun plans for a beautiful new ice arena,” he says. “But she made it more than that—because of her leadership, it became not only an ice arena, but also a welcome center for visitors, and an attractive ‘front door’ for PSU. This was her vision, and she wouldn’t accept anything less. To me, that facility truly reflects her leadership.”

Once the ice arena and welcome center opened, Clark—who has lived in Plymouth for more than four decades—was gratified to see how often community members visited campus, particularly to enjoy the ice arena. “Everyone in Plymouth, in the region, feels so welcome and comfortable here, and that’s because of President Steen,” he says. For Clark, one night in particular typifies the president’s vision. “In 2013, the men’s ice hockey team was in the MASCAC championship game. At the end of the night, we had lost the game,” he recalls. “But nobody left afterward. The stands were filled with PSU students and community members chanting ‘PSU! PSU! PSU!’ together. That’s the story I want to tell about President Steen. What she’s done for this campus and the community—we’ll never be able to thank her enough.”

## BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS

Less than a year into her presidency, President Steen was a charter signatory of the Presidents’ Climate Commitment, pledging PSU’s participation in a broad effort by the nation’s higher education institutions to address global warming. The signing was a catalyst for the creation of PSU’s Climate Action Plan and its Office of Environmental Sustainability (OES), both initiatives to help move the campus closer to climate neutrality. The Mary Lyon Residence Hall remodel completed in 2008 joined Langdon Woods in earning awards for design and sustainable construction. Shortly after, EcoHouse opened and the Department of Environmental Science and Policy was created, offering both undergraduate and graduate degree programs. In 2010, PSU opened the energy-efficient Hanaway Rink and Savage Welcome Center, which garnered *Business NH Magazine*’s Lean and Green Building Award for cost containment and sustainability.

Professor Brian Eisenhauer, OES director, is at the center of Plymouth State’s sustainability and climate neutrality efforts, and has worked with President Steen to ensure PSU is the greenest it can be. “President Steen’s commitment to sustainability has established PSU as a leader,” he says. “Her support of sustainability throughout our capital planning, and in our daily operations, has been essential to our success. Because of her support, we have a Climate Action Plan, several programs that encourage conservation within the campus community and promote



Top: Community members enjoying the Hanaway Rink during Teen Night. Jen Swaine photo.

Above: President Steen with Janice Griffith and professor Brian Eisenhauer. Eisenhauer was named the Helen Abbott ’39 Professor of Environmental Studies in 2012. The professorship was created by Griffith to honor her former teacher and mentor.

“I really appreciate President Steen’s support for students ... her dedication to students and her advocacy for their well-being have been essential parts of her professional life that I greatly admire. She has positively impacted students’ lives, which should be our highest goal as educators.”—Brian Eisenhauer

efficiency, and a growing sustainability presence in our curriculum. Removing trays from the dining halls to reduce food waste, installing low-flow fixtures across campus, and increasing our recycling efforts have been made possible by her leadership.”

Even more than her support of PSU’s sustainability initiatives, Eisenhauer appreciates President Steen’s support of students. “One of my OES student employees got to know President Steen very well; and I know the time that President Steen spent with her was sincerely appreciated,” he says. “Another student who works in OES received a scholarship. The president helped make that happen by recognizing her good work. I really appreciate President Steen’s support for students. Sometimes those efforts were visible, and other times she’s worked behind the scenes. In all cases her dedication to students and her advocacy for their well-being have been essential parts of her professional life that I greatly admire. She has positively impacted students’ lives, which should be our highest goal as educators.”

## MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY STUDENT

In the last nine years, PSU has added several undergraduate and graduate degree options that prepare students for rewarding careers in growing industries, such as tourism management, environmental science, professional sales, and nursing.

One of the most significant additions to PSU's offerings, however, was the Doctor of Education in Learning, Leadership and Community program, launched in summer 2009. Given PSU's long history in teacher training and education, a doctoral program in education was a natural next step, and had been a goal of many on campus for years. "One of the first questions President Steen asked when she started her presidency was, 'Why don't we have a doctoral program?'" recalls Kathleen Norris '98CAGS, coordinator of the Doctor of Education program. "From that point on, she was determined to see that we would."

Norris was part of the team of PSU faculty, staff, and administrators who worked to make the program a reality and says, "President Steen was part of every step in the process, and the fact that we received unanimous approval from the state legislature had a lot to do with her."

President Steen remains highly involved with the program, promoting its success wherever she speaks, welcoming each incoming cohort, honoring its graduates, and attending the annual Doctoral Program Research Symposium. By doing so, says Norris, "She shows that she really values students."

*"Sara Jayne has done a wonderful job developing relations between the University and the community. She's been able to captivate the imagination of our town and translate it into a mutually beneficial partnership with the University."—Dick Hanaway*

## A UNIVERSITY OF PLACE

Part of PSU's mission is to enrich the community and region in which it resides. The Silver Center for the Arts, the Hanaway Rink, the Enterprise Center at Plymouth, and ALLWell North all provide cultural, business, health and wellness, and recreational resources for the region. And the work of the Center for the Environment, the Center for Active Living and Healthy Communities, and the Center for Rural Partnerships—PSU's centers of excellence for healthy places, healthy people, and healthy economies—benefit the region while providing learning opportunities for students and research opportunities for faculty.

Experiential education combined with regional service has become a hallmark of a Plymouth State education, and has earned PSU a place among only 311 other higher education institutions nationally that have received the community engagement classification from the Carnegie Foundation.

"Ours is not a town-gown relationship, it's a dynamic partnership between the University, the town, local businesses, and nonprofits," says Valerie Scarborough, a member of the Plymouth select board from 2009 until 2015. Scarborough has been a speaker for several fall Convocation exercises. "From the day students arrive, the message is there—the town leadership is a partner with the University. And when we celebrated Plymouth's 250th anniversary in 2013, Sara Jayne was an honored speaker. That same day, the University held Summerfest in front of Mary Lyon Hall, and the community was invited to participate. There were people who'd been living in Plymouth their whole lives and hadn't been on campus who came to enjoy the food, games, and music. It was wonderful! Sara Jayne has always invited community members to a Joyful Noise holiday concert, then to her house for Christmas cheer. It has gotten so popular that we had to move it to the HUB because her house wasn't big enough!"

But it wasn't just the good times when Plymouth could count on President Steen, Scarborough points out. "At the memorial service for the 10th anniversary of 9/11, Sara Jayne and I both spoke," she says. "After Hurricane Irene, we stood together by a flooded road, waiting for the Governor to arrive ... celebrations and emergencies, she's been there for all of them. We stood together, and I hate to see her go."

Holderness residents and business owners Dick and Betty Hanaway have also been impressed with President Steen's emphasis on community engagement. "Sara Jayne has done a wonderful job developing relations between the University and the community," says Dick Hanaway. "She's been able to captivate the imagination of our town and translate it into a mutually beneficial partnership with the University."

Below: PSU's inaugural doctoral cohort at Commencement 2012. Ian Masse photo.





## STUDENT SUCCESS

The first in her family to attend college, President Steen has dedicated her professional life to helping other first-generation college students experience the transformative power of education. Throughout her presidency she has ensured that PSU prepares its students for rewarding careers and lives enriched by service, global citizenship, and a lifelong love of learning.

Alex Herbst '15 clearly remembers when he first met President Steen. "Our class came in right after Hurricane Irene came through," the meteorology major says. "The flooding delayed Convocation and the first day of classes by a few days, so everything felt a bit off. When we did have Convocation, President Steen seemed so calm, so in control, and so welcoming, that it had a calming affect on us."

In the years since, Herbst has seen President Steen regularly due to his involvement with student government. "She comes to the Student Senate meetings, listens to us, and shares what the administration is discussing," he says. Moreover, he says, she is in tune with what students want and need, and is their staunchest advocate. "When we've asked her about something, there was never a time when she said, 'No, that's not possible.' Instead she says, 'We can do that,' or 'I will look into it.' She holds students in high regard."

Whether introducing herself to students and their families at Move-In Day, hosting students in her home, or simply having a conversation while walking across campus, President Steen makes the effort to get to know people on a personal level.

And according to Herbst, President Steen not only remembers students' names, but also personal details. For example, he says, "A few days after Hurricane Sandy, President Steen made a point of checking in with me to see how my family was because she remembered that I was from New Jersey," Herbst says. "I couldn't believe it. And now that I'm ready to graduate, she's asked me what my plans are. I never expected to have that kind of relationship with a college president. She's a genuine, warm, and friendly person, and I hope the next president will connect with students as well as she has."

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Julie Bernier has worked side-by-side with President Steen for her entire presidency. "Sara Jayne is a quintessential leader, an effective manager, and one of the most effective advocates Plymouth State has ever had," she says. "It is her values however, that I appreciate most. She puts people first. It has been a joy to work with someone with whom I share values and vision for the future."

President Steen certainly made good on her Faculty Day promise nine years ago. She and faculty, staff, students, and community members, have shaped PSU's future together.—*Barbra Alan*



Top: President Steen conferred 10,780 degrees during her presidency.

Above: President Steen with Beau Dykstra '18 (left) and his parents Mark '89 and Laura Dykstra '89, '00G.

"She's a genuine, warm, and friendly person, and I hope the next president will connect with students as well as she has."—*Alex Herbst '15*

Right: Planting a tree with children on campus in observation of Arbor Day.



## Readers, we want to hear from you!

What are some of your favorite memories of President Steen? Share them in the online version of this story at [plymouth.edu/magazine](http://plymouth.edu/magazine).

# 5 Questions for President Steen

### What did you learn about yourself during your presidency?

I learned how comfortable I can feel in a job from day one. I found so much joy in my work. People would meet with me and say, "I'd love to have your job." And I'd think, "You're right. It's a great job, and I'm glad it shows." Also, I learned how much I enjoy helping people succeed at this level. It's what I did as a teacher, and I've drawn on many of those same attributes.

### What surprised you most about being president of PSU?

How profoundly moving being president would be. There are more good things, good stories, than I could ever share. I had no idea the degree to which I'd be a repository of the history, stories, and connections that are PSU; the degree to which I became the University storyteller, on campus, around the region, and beyond. That was a surprise—a wonderful one.

### What does leadership mean to you?

Part of how I see leadership is as a team. I have a role, other people have their roles, and we need to work together to make positive change. I've spoken at events where I talk about the difference between a hero and a leader: a hero comes in, does something wonderful, and then leaves, whereas a leader is a part of the community, part of the team that collaborates to do something wonderful, and then stays to see it thrive.

### What do you see for PSU in the next decade?

I expect to be cheering as PSU goes to new levels. There's such a vibrant, energetic team on campus. ALLWell North will be making an important impact on



teaching, research, recreation, and economic development ... it's going to be exciting to watch. I'm excited about PSU's future.

### What are your plans for after the presidency?

My husband Joe and I built a getaway on Lake Winona, so we're going there first. We also want to travel this summer, to celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary.

I've agreed to write a chapter for a book coming out next year, and I'm still a member of the PSU faculty, so I may be doing some teaching and research. There are many opportunities.

Nina Weinstein '15 photo, courtesy of *The Clock*.

## BY THE NUMBERS

During Sara Jayne Steen's presidency:

### 10,780

bachelor's, master, and doctoral degrees conferred

### \$112,500,000

invested in new buildings and renovations

### 1,800,000

hours of service students contributed to community organizations and schools

### 94%

of PSU students participated in at least one hands-on learning activity during their education (internship, practicum, service learning, etc.)





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## 2015 Alumni Recognition Awards

### Who do you know that deserves recognition?

The Plymouth State Alumni Association seeks nominations for the annual Alumni Recognition Awards, bestowed at the Celebrating Excellence Brunch during Homecoming & Family Celebration on Saturday, October 3, 2015.

There are seven award categories to honor six alumni and one PSU faculty or staff member:

- \* Alumni Achievement Award
- \* Outstanding Graduate Alumni Award
- \* Distinguished Alumni Service Award
- \* Recent Alumni Award of Excellence
- \* Faculty/Staff Award of Excellence
- \* Ut Prosim Award
- \* Graduating Senior Award of Excellence

View past award recipients and submit a nomination today at [go.plymouth.edu/alumni-awards](http://go.plymouth.edu/alumni-awards)

Kaleb Hart '11 photo.

# STAY CONNECTED!

Your classmates want to know what you've been up to. Send us your personal and professional accomplishments so we can share your news with the alumni community. Submit your update today.  
[plymouth.edu/alumni/class-notes](http://plymouth.edu/alumni/class-notes)



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# CLASS NOTES

## 1960s

**Stephen Bamford '65, '75G** has spent 10 years in teaching, coaching, and high school administration, and 27 years in college athletic administration.

## 1970s

**Doug MacLeod '74** has owned Public Spectacle Opticians in downtown Plymouth since 1981.

**Andy Byrne '75**, all-time winningest coach in the history of the Ithaca College men's soccer program, announced his retirement after 31 years.

**Larry Kontos '78** is looking forward to hosting the 38th gathering of Plymouth State musicians, friends, and family in Campton, NH, later this year.

## 1980s

**Edwin Hulse '80** retired in October 2014, after 30 years as an agent with the IRS. He plans to move to New Hampshire after having been in Texas for the past 20 years. At retirement, he received the Albert Gallatin Award for his IRS agent work.

**Toby Russell '81, '90G** is finishing his second year as vice president of finance at AGC AeroComposites, a growing aerospace and defense manufacturer in Coeur d'Alene, ID.

**Daniel Madden '84** is on sabbatical from teaching at a Maine high school, and studying at Dongbei University of Finance and Economics in Dalian, China, in their Chinese Language and Culture program.

**Scott Maltzie '86** received his PhD in business administration from North-central University (Prescott Valley, AZ) in 2014.

**Kelly Whitcomb '86** is owner and director of White Mountain Montessori School in Holderness, NH. She lives in—and loves—Plymouth, and has enjoyed seeing the University grow.

**Thom O'Mara '87G** has been program chair of the teacher-education program at Carteret Community College in Morehead City, NC, for the past six years.

**John DelMastro '88** is an artist and a ranger for Acadia National Park on Mount Desert Island, ME. His work is currently on exhibition in the Southwest Harbor (ME) Public Library.

**Kimberly Willard '88** is the director of education for Jenny Wiley Theatre, a small professional theatre company in Eastern Kentucky; a professor of theatre at the University of Pikeville, where she is developing a theatre minor set to launch next fall; the minister of music at Pikeville United Methodist Church; and a private voice teacher.

## 1990s

**Craig Cushman '90** is vice president of marketing at Hunter's Specialties, a producer of hunting accessories in Cedar Rapids, IA.

**Karen Mead '90G**, a 30-year telecom industry veteran, is senior vice president of external relations and community high-speed Internet development at Fairpoint Communications. She works with economic and community development leaders across northern New England.

**Andrew Clark '91** (*top right*) is a research associate at DuPont Pioneer in Greeley, CO.

**Kerri Louise (Mather) Cotter '91** is a comedian and has appeared on reality shows, Comedy Central, Nickelodeon, *The View*, and in live stand-up performances. She performs in a monthly webisode called "My Mommy Minute," about the trials and tribulations of being a mother.

**Ellen (Pietrzak) Kotzen '92, '94G** is an adjunct French professor at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, NY. She and her family live in the Syracuse area and have hosted an international student this year, which has been a rewarding experience.

**Susan Garand '93** was recently promoted to senior finance manager at Ora, Inc., but says that "the more exciting news is that I started a New England Chapter of the National Canine Cancer Foundation."



Andy Clark '91, Corn Yield Trials 2013.

**James Kelly '95** is an attorney who owns Kelly Law in Nashua, NH. He was recently elected to the Greater Nashua Habitat for Humanity board of directors.

**Paul Andrew '96** has been appointed Harvard University's vice president for public affairs and communications.

## 2000s

**Ellen Ward-Hill '04**, a teacher at Pleasant Street School in Laconia, NH, and her husband, Jeff, adopted a 13-year-old former student after serving as her guardian.

**Francis Page '05** was promoted to senior eLearning designer at Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, where he collaborates with peers and colleagues to design and develop self-paced online learning for internal associates. He and his wife, **Lindsay (Bruneau) Page '05**, welcomed their first child, Milo David Page, on March 19, 2015. (*see page 23*)

**Christopher Viesselman '05G** will be an assistant professor in kinesiology and director of an entry-level undergraduate athletic training program at Grand View University in Des Moines, IA, starting in August 2015.

**Jennifer DuPont '08** is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Molecular Cardiology Research Institute at Tufts Medical Center in Boston, MA. Her research is focused on molecular factors that contribute to the development of cardiovascular disease, specifically hypertension, with advancing age.

**Kristen Abbott '09** was hired as Pinkerton Academy's head softball

coach. She was named the 2014 New Hampshire JV Coach of the Year for softball by the NHIAA.

## 2010s

**Brianna Frost '11** teaches at Mountain Village Charter School in Plymouth, NH, a public, tuition-free, nature-based elementary charter school.

**Erin O'Connell '11** works as receptionist, promoter, and on-air "textress" on Boston radio station WEEI's *Planet Mikey* sports program.

**Kayla Thornton '12** has been promoted to benefits specialist and front desk trainer at ProEx, a physical therapist-owned private practice in Epping, NH, specializing in orthopedics and spine and sports medicine.

**Cara Stoner '13** is the associate solution architect at Pegasystems, a software company in Cambridge, MA.

**Cynthia Stuart '13G** is deputy commissioner of the Vermont Department of Financial Regulation's Banking Division in Montpelier, VT.

**Alyssa Hammond '14** works for the US Forest Service in Tallahassee, FL, as a wildfire dispatcher. She previously worked for the Bureau of Land Management in Rawlins, WY.

**Dennis Manning '14** was elected Tilton-Northfield (NH) Fire Commissioner in March 2015.

**Ryan Wakefield '14** signed a professional baseball contract with the Washington Wild Things of the Frontier League. The Sanborton, NH, native is the first Plymouth State alumnus to sign a professional contract in the last 25 years.

## Out of Hibernation: Drerup Bear Figurine Returns Home

Joann Weeks Bailey '50 (pictured on right) and her daughter, Roberta Bailey '78 (left) returned to campus in March accompanied by a family treasure—a ceramic bear created in celebrated artist Karl Drerup's classroom almost 70 years ago.

Drerup, Plymouth State's first art professor, started in 1948, the same year Joann began her studies. Drerup helped her create the bear in the basement art studio of Rounds Hall; he would later become a nationally renowned American enamellist and New Hampshire Living Treasure.

Joann is the third member of four generations of her family to attend Plymouth.

Her grandmother, Winnifred Page Smith '00, and mother, Esther Smith Weeks '24, graduated from Plymouth Normal School; Roberta Bailey '78, completes the family's multi-generational connection.

Joann said donating the ceramic piece to her alma mater was a joy. "I have such wonderful memories of my experience here. I felt Plymouth should have my Drerup bear for its collection and safekeeping," she explains. PSU maintains a collection of Drerup's artwork, much of it donated by his former students.—*Bruce Lyndes*



"Like many others, I was devastated to hear of the passing of David McBride. To me, he was a great friend, mentor, and occasional psychiatrist. I cannot begin to describe the impact he had on my life, as well as countless others. He is a legend and will be greatly missed."—Chris Trapp '06, '07G on Instagram

### IN MEMORIAM

**Carole Adele Bartlett '63**, March 18, 2015, Belmont, NH

**Robert Grunditz Jr. '75**, February 22, 2015, Lee, NH

**Jane (Poire) Babin '83, '88G**, March 4, 2015, Laconia, NH

**Thomas Savage '84**, December 21, 2014, Windsor Locks, CT

**Jean Marie (Barlow) Gogonis '87**, February 21, 2015, Worcester, MA

**Mary Ann Fleming '04G**, March 23, 2015, Sarasota, FL

### Faculty, Staff, and Friends

**Gordon Clay**, September 11, 2014, Morrisville, VT

**George Hehir**, September 6, 2014, Manchester, NH

**David McBride**, February 18, 2015, Meredith, NH

**Melisa "Lisa" Spradley**, March 27, 2015, Portsmouth, NH

**Gerald Zinfon**, March 30, 2015, Manchester, NH

"Nearly 100 @plymouthstatealumni gathered here last night to raise a toast to the 20-year anniversary of the Hartman Union Building, a pillar of Plymouth State fostering leadership and enhancing the student experience. A great night reminiscing ... with old friends."

—Bryan Funk '11 on Instagram





# ALUMNI EVENTS

## Seacoast Alumni Social

Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.  
Portsmouth Brewery, Portsmouth, NH

## Upper Valley Alumni Social

Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.  
Salt Hill Pub, Lebanon, NH

## Alumni & Family Night at the Fisher Cats

Thursday, July 9, 2015  
NH Fisher Cats vs. Trenton Thunder  
Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, Manchester, NH  
6 p.m. dinner, first pitch at 7:05 p.m.,  
fireworks following the game

## Homecoming & Family Celebration

October 2-4, 2015  
Reunions for classes ending in 0 and 5, Bradford  
Manor Reunion with the Classes of '75 and '76,  
Celebrate the HUB's 20th Anniversary

## Alumni Adventure Weekend with Appalachian Mountain Club

October 16-18, 2015  
Stay at the Highland Center in Crawford  
Notch, NH, and hike to overlooks and  
waterfalls during the height of foliage season



## Tell us about your alumni gathering!

Do you have an annual get together with your college friends?  
Send us the story and a photo or two, and who knows,  
it might end up in *Plymouth Magazine*!

Share your story! [go.plymouth.edu/classnotes](http://go.plymouth.edu/classnotes)





## ALUMNI PROFILE

### JAMISON CLOUTHIER '08

# Finding the **Silver Lining** in Cloud Computing

**J**amison Clouthier '08 manages cloud sales and strategy for the Northeast at Hewlett-Packard (HP). An award-winning sales representative, Clouthier works with clients, partners, and HP account teams to strategize how building a cloud model in their own environment can help businesses innovate, reduce costs, and create a competitive advantage.

*Plymouth Magazine* talked with Clouthier about his remarkable career trajectory in the short time since he graduated from PSU.

#### How did you come to your career choice?

I never would have thought my career would be in sales. When I was little, I wanted to create commercials and be a professional athlete. In college I was interested in marketing, economics, and finance, putting a pure focus on business.

It wasn't until my final year at PSU that I took a professional sales course and realized I had an interest in the subject. I ended up representing PSU at the National Collegiate Sales Competition in Georgia and, amazingly, walked away with nine job offers; I selected Hewlett-Packard based on industry

reputation, corporate culture, training, and, most importantly, opportunities for advancement.

**You've been recognized as a high performer (in the top 1 percent) at HP, a company with more than 300,000 employees, and have held multiple roles with increasing levels of responsibility since starting in 2008. What motivates you?**

I love what I do and am 110 percent motivated by our ability to help clients exceed their goals. It's gratifying when a project you work on comes to fruition and is market changing for that client.



# PSU PROFESSIONAL SALES STUDENTS RECEIVE ON AVERAGE 2.8 JOB OFFERS BEFORE GRADUATION

## It sounds like you're "on" all the time. What's your favorite way to unwind?

My favorite place on Earth is the Lakes Region. There's nothing like spending the week on the lake relaxing, enjoying the views of the area, and tubing and wakeboarding.

## As part of a generation that prioritizes flexibility and autonomy, what benefits have you experienced from making a long-term commitment to one employer?

I've been fortunate to work for a great company like HP and have built strong relationships both inside and outside of the company. Over the last seven years, I've experienced the best of times and times of turbulence. I've learned how to navigate adversity and varying economic conditions. Every role I've held has challenged me in different ways, enabling me to continuously learn and work on advancing my professional skillset.

## Describe your work on PSU's Sales Advisory and NH Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) boards. How have you grown through your experiences with each organization?

I look at both of these organizations as a way for me to give back. With NHJAG, we aim to prevent high school students from dropping out by creating positive change through education, leadership, training, and career-building programs. With the PSU Sales Advisory Board, we make sure the program is preparing

today's students for tomorrow's jobs. We want to help students build a solid foundation they can carry into the real world, regardless of position or industry.

Serving on both boards has given me the chance to meet intelligent, talented students and to work alongside some influential and successful professionals. It's helped me gain a different perspective on the world, motivating me even further to help wherever I can to positively influence young adults.

## Why is networking important in business, especially in areas such as sales?

Many of the people in your network will not just be contacts, but friends, sometimes for life. Networking helps you learn the dynamics of your industry from trusted contacts, accelerates your professional development and advancement, and creates connections. Whether you have questions about an industry, are seeking a new position, or are facing a challenge or obstacle, relationships are the catalyst for success.

I have put a lot of focus on building my network by helping others. I take the "pay it forward" approach. Without the power of a network, I never would have met many of the good friends I have today.

## What is your favorite book of all time?

It's a hard read, but I've gotten a lot out of *The Intelligent Investor* by Benjamin Graham.

## EXCHANGING VOWS

**Richard A. Simula '04** and **Katlin H. Sullivan** (currently enrolled in PSU master's program), August 2, 2014, Bristol, NH

**Carrie (Maiden) Waldron '09** and **Blas A Garcia-Granados**, December 2014

## NEW ARRIVALS

**Christiana Goodwin '96** and **Jon Gray**: daughter, Anastasia Jane, August 23, 2014

**Francis Page '05** and **Lindsay (Bruneau) Page '05**: son, Milo David, March 19, 2015

**John "Wes" Irvin '94** and **Tricia Irvin**: daughter, Mary Rose, February 3, 2014

**Marybeth (Deveau) Robinson '07** and **Chad Robinson**: son, Wyatt Reed, October 29, 2014



Above: Lindsay (Bruneau) Page '05 and Francis Page '05 with son Milo David Page, born March 19, 2015.

Left: Wyatt Reed Robinson, born October 29, 2014.



# 10 Ways to stay connected with Plymouth State!

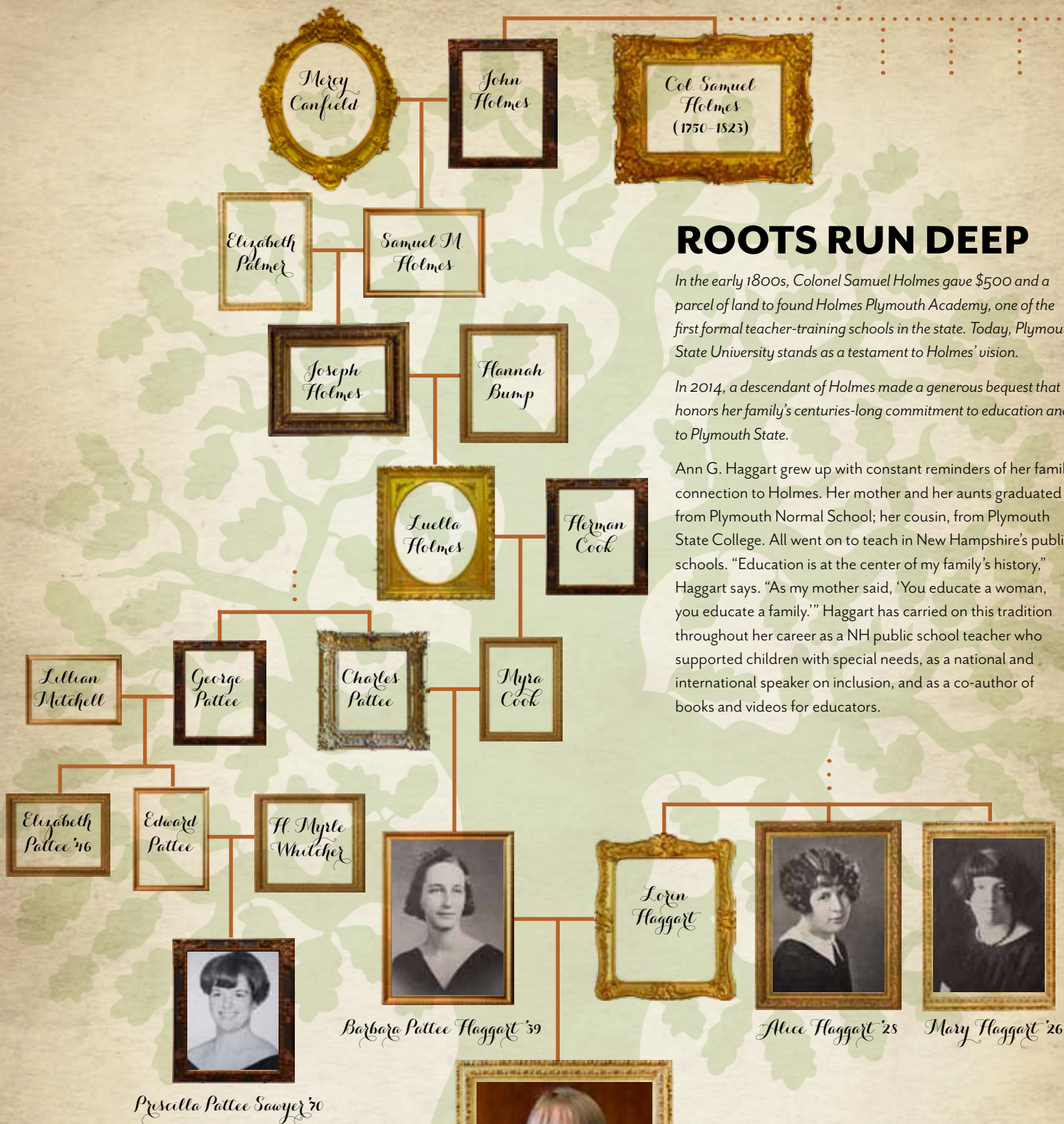
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2. Submit your news to Class Notes.
3. Attend an alumni event.
4. Mentor a current student.
5. Join our online communities.
6. Tweet live from campus events.
7. Share your photos on Instagram.
8. Nominate someone for an alumni award.
9. Like PSU on Facebook.
10. Cheer on the Panthers at an athletic event.



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## ROOTS RUN DEEP

In the early 1800s, Colonel Samuel Holmes gave \$500 and a parcel of land to found Holmes Plymouth Academy, one of the first formal teacher-training schools in the state. Today, Plymouth State University stands as a testament to Holmes' vision.

In 2014, a descendant of Holmes made a generous bequest that honors her family's centuries-long commitment to education and to Plymouth State.

Ann G. Haggart grew up with constant reminders of her family connection to Holmes. Her mother and her aunts graduated from Plymouth Normal School; her cousin, from Plymouth State College. All went on to teach in New Hampshire's public schools. "Education is at the center of my family's history," Haggart says. "As my mother said, 'You educate a woman, you educate a family.'" Haggart has carried on this tradition throughout her career as a NH public school teacher who supported children with special needs, as a national and international speaker on inclusion, and as a co-author of books and videos for educators.

**The Holmes-Pattee-Haggart Family Fund** provides scholarship assistance to New Hampshire students who aspire to teach and promotes transformational leadership initiatives. Haggart sees the gift as an investment in future generations of educators and hopes to inspire others to support scholarships and education. "You don't have to have a lot of money," she says. "You just have to decide how you want to spend it."



*Ann G. Haggart*

### Plant Your Roots

Learn more about how your planned gift today can provide support for future generations while offering you potential tax benefits.

Contact Laure Morris in University Advancement at [lmorris5@plymouth.edu](mailto:lmorris5@plymouth.edu) or (603) 535-2952.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



(From left) Steve Lee '86, Kevin Buckley '79, Jim Currier '89, Wendy Freeman '88, Dave Hart '85, Andy Kopf '84, Sam Smith, and Sally Wright '86 proudly sport PSC T-shirts they created for Homecoming & Family Celebration 2014. Kaleb Hart '11 photo.

## Reconnect. Rediscover. Reunite.

Come home to Plymouth and be part of this annual tradition featuring athletic, art, music, and theatre events. The new addition of class celebrations honoring landmark reunion years with the traditions of the PSUAA Barbara Dearborn '60 Golf Classic, Alumni Tent at the athletic fields, Alumni Recognition Awards, and Harvest Festival will make it a weekend to remember!

**Celebrating reunion years:**

**'40, '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, '05, '10, plus the Bradford Manor Reunion**

Registration, event, and lodging details at [plymouth.edu/celebration](http://plymouth.edu/celebration)