

VERMONT TECH

OUR FUTURE FOR AGRICULTURE

is continuing to grow at Norwich Farms

New future
for agriculture
students p4

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lives
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returned "home"
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Register now:
Homecoming Day is
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It's been a year for new president Dan Smith.

4 **Buying the Farm**

Vermont Tech accepts \$1.5M gift of Norwich Farms in Norwich, VT.

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Get all the details on the day's events and see who was there!

8 **Transforming Lives**

Vermont Tech alumni are starting some amazing careers.

GREETINGS!



Well, summer is almost ending and everyone is looking forward to starting the new school year. First, I would like to thank all the alumni that have contributed to Vermont Technical College this past year. As you may or may not know, the college is operating in a deficit and will take two to three years to return to the "black," according to new college President, Dan Smith. In light of the deficit, the VTC Alumni Association has contributed some of our operating funds toward the cost of printing and mailing of this issue of the alumni newsletter. I am asking all college alums to help defray future costs of the alumni newsletters by sending a contribution of any amount to the Alumni Association. You're also welcome to earmark a contribution to the college's general fund or specific program. As alums, we should also provide the college assistance promoting the college to prospective students.

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 24, 2015!** Vermont Tech is hosting the annual Alumni Homecoming Day. Don't forget that the luncheon is free to alumni and guests are only \$15 per person. This is an event one can connect with old friends and make new friends. I am also looking for input from alumni on other events they would possibly like to attend. Thanks again for your time and hope to see you at an alumni event!

Sincerely,
Alan Curler, AG '70
Vermont Tech Alumni Association President

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

When I began my tenure as president, I was frequently asked if I knew what I was getting myself into. Having served the college in my role at the Chancellor's office and as Interim President, I always responded in the affirmative.

In fact, not only did I know what I was getting into, but I was, and remain, incredibly bullish about Vermont Tech. While there have been challenges that are still being overcome, new energy, collaboration and innovation are delivering many reasons to feel good about your alma mater.

Our programs – those degrees with which each of you graduated – are tied to industries that are vital to the state and region: energy, manufacturing, health care, construction, efficient building design and operation, dairy and diversified agriculture, and software development and computer systems. With our core education linked to good jobs, we find employers across the region wishing we produced more graduates. Last year, the graduating class of 2014 had amazing outcomes: a full 96% of them were employed or pursuing advanced education within their fields within six months of graduation.

A prime example of innovation and collaboration is the State of Vermont's new \$26 million lab building going up on the Randolph Center campus. We are enthusiastic about the increased activity on the campus, the 26 scientists who will come to work here every day, and the opportunities that will bring to our students, our programs, the state, and our faculty. Michelle Sama, whom you will read about

in this newsletter, helped coordinate student observations of the soil borings completed on campus. The living classroom aspect of this project is already under way.

We are committed to playing a role to help Vermont meet its energy challenge and are using our digester project and upcoming 500KW solar tracking facility to both provide energy and revenue to the college, but to also strengthen our position as the institution to provide workforce development to the state. We have an innovative four-year degree in renewable energy. Educational programming associated with the digester has graduated certified technicians, as the digester has reached its full

production capacity. This is one industry, and one set of examples that demonstrate the level of innovation and collaboration that is occurring in programs across the college. I hope you share my pride for the work being done by our faculty, staff and students.

What more can be done to assure that Vermont Tech's future is bright? If I could



PRESIDENT DAN SMITH

reach into every corner of the state and remind people of the exceptional and affordable education we offer, I would. If I could reintroduce the college to everyone who might not already know about the amazing students and their abilities, I would.

I hope you, our alumni, will take it upon yourselves to carry this message to potential students and their parents: If you are willing to work hard, there are excellent and affordable opportunities here at Vermont Tech and good jobs

"What more can be done to assure that Vermont Tech's future is bright? If I could reach into every corner of the state and remind people of the exceptional and affordable education we offer, I would."

— Dan Smith, President

waiting for you after graduation. I hope you will tell employers that Vermont Tech is a partner of the first regard across the state and region. Lastly, and importantly, make public higher education an issue for your Vermont legislators. When more Vermonters pursue post-secondary education, we experience a stronger, more resilient economy and brighter futures for those we serve! **vtc**



NEW OWNER.
NEW MISSION.

NEW FUTURE FOR AGRICULTURE STUDENTS.

When
Vermont Tech
President
Dan Smith
approached
the Vermont
State Colleges
Board of
Trustees

with a proposal to accept the Sigler family's donation of their 350-acre dairy farm in Norwich, VSC Chancellor Jeb Spaulding had reservations.

But Smith had a vision for Norwich Farms. He saw the gift as an opportunity to expand Vermont Tech's commitment to Vermont farming, Vermont dairy and the working landscape, while diversifying and exploring an innovative new model for the delivery of applied agricultural education.

A CELEBRATION

On June 18 – a beautiful, sunny day in Norwich – the college celebrated Andy Sigler's donation and President Smith's leadership during a press conference at the college's second and newest farm. Norwich Farms will join the college's Water Street farm in Randolph, allowing Vermont Tech to diversify its programs and broaden its academic offerings. Vermont Tech will use Norwich Farms as a working dairy farm, allowing the Randolph farm to explore beef production. Vermont Tech also is pursuing



TOP LEFT PHOTO: BEAUTIFUL NORWICH FARMS IN NORWICH, VERMONT.

TOP RIGHT: A YOUNG VISITOR LENDS A SCRATCH AT NORWICH FARMS DURING THE MEDIA EVENT ON JUNE 18.

BOTTOM LEFT: CHANCELLOR JEB SPALDING AND VSC DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS TRICIA COATES CHAT ON THE PORCH OF THE FARM HOUSE.

BOTTOM CENTER: VTC INSTITUTE OF APPLIED AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS OPERATIONS MANAGER PETE HOWE POINTS TO SOME OF THE NORWICH FARMS OUT BUILDINGS FOR YASMINE ZIESLER, VSC CHIEF ACADEMIC & ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY OFFICER.

BOTTOM RIGHT: WELL-MAINTAINED - AND ICONIC RED - BARN AT NORWICH FARMS.

NORWICH FARMS

Built in the 1990s, the Norwich Farms property includes three residential buildings and multiple barn buildings. Starting in fall 2016, Vermont Tech plans to begin offering an intensive residential education in agriculture to strengthen

additional partnerships that will sustain and expand student exposure to the equipment and practices of middle- and large-scale dairy operations through externships and site visits.

To successfully maintain its second farm, Vermont Tech has forged a partnership with the Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT) to transfer title of the open land to the trust for \$300,000. The funding will help the college pay for maintenance and transition of operations in Norwich. In addition, the UVLT has proposed a contingent purchase option that

would allow it to acquire the remaining property if the college chose to discontinue the enterprise. At a time

“Students will know the intensity of dairy farming firsthand even after the first few weeks of their semester at the Norwich Farms.”

— Chris Dutton

when the college is facing financial challenges, this strong partnership offers a way to mitigate the risk to Vermont Tech while opening the door to innovation.

students’ relationships with peers and instructors. Working at the 40-stall dairy farm from 4 a.m. Monday through 5 p.m. Friday, students will have more direct





WELCOME HOME.

Alumni Homecoming 2014



Alumni Homecoming Day 2014 found the Randolph Center campus full of fall sunshine and great conversations with representation from classes spanning 60 years.

Alumni visited with the president, toured the campus, visited the orchard and enjoyed a traditional fall turkey dinner during the Alumni Association annual meeting. This year's event will be held on **Saturday, October 24**. To register or see a list of events, see page 22. We hope to see you in October! **vtc**

TOP LEFT: 1954 ALUMS JOHN MALONEY, ARTHUR GATES, AND THEODORE HINCKLEY, PURUSE THEIR YEARBOOK AND TELL STORIES.

TOP RIGHT: ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT, ALAN CURLER, AG '70, BRINGS THE MIC AROUND DURING THE ANNUAL MEETING.

BOTTOM RIGHT: PRESIDENT DAN SMITH GIVES AN OVERVIEW OF THE COLLEGE DURING THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING.

BOTTOM LEFT: CLYDE GOODHUE, AG '49 AND WIFE, LORAIN SMILE FOR THE CAMERA DURING BREAKFAST.



1964: (L-R): JULIUS LARROW, JOHN PIERCE, GALE PARMELEE, THEODORE HINCKLEY, JOHN MALONEY, ARTHUR GATES.



1959: (L-R) ROBERT BRALEY, RALPH ELLIOTT, GENE SARGENT, CURT BIRNBAUM



1984: WILLIAM STROHMAIER



1969: RAY CLARK, JOHN COOLIDGE, JAMES PULLMAN, WAYNE BARR



1974: (L-R) RICHARD GRANT, PAUL STANLEY, RALPH TINGLEY, ARDEN TINGLEY, FRANCIS WOODS, KEVIN HAMILTON, DAVID THAYER, MIKE RABOIN, TIMOTHY ROCKWOOD, JAMES FARNSWORTH, BRIAN TUTTLE, BARRY BORDNER, KENNETH HATCH, KENNETH HICKS, CHRIS LEISTER, RAE WASHBURN, III, BRUCE TEMPLE



1964: (ALPHA) LOUIS BILODEAU, ARTHUR BOMBADIER, JOHN DOUGLAS, ROBERT FARNSWORTH, ROBERT JONES, ALBERT LAMSON, RICHARD LUNNA, ROBERT MATTHEWS, PAUL MCGINLEY, RICHARD PATTEE, BYRON QUINN, BARRY RAMSEY, DOMINIQUE ST. PIERRE, EDWARD STRATTON.



1970s: (L-R) FRANCIS WOOD '79, ALAN DAVENPORT '78, CHRIS DAVENPORT '78.



NONREUNION: (L-R) LLOYD DIKE '66, GARY PHELPS '66, ANN MATTHEWS '65, WALTER BOTHFELD '73



1989: (L-R) DANIEL MARTIN, MELISSA CLARK, JEFF CLARK



1999: PAULA BROWN, ELIZABETH FARNAM



2000s: (L-R) STEPHEN GAGNON '04, CHRIS SOLKOSKI '04, CHRIS MCNAMARA '03

TRANSFORMING

Vermont Tech uniquely offers: Applied education, hands-on learning, close-knit relationships between students and faculty. But what did that mean to you?

To the following six recent alums, it meant doing real work while they studied and being prepared to make a difference and provide a good living after graduation.



ALLISON MILLER

Software Developer, Logic Supply, South Burlington, Vermont
Graduated with a BS in Software Engineering, 2010

I was homeschooled in Vermont from fourth grade on. When it was time to choose a college, I knew I wanted to be in Vermont and that I wanted to work in computer science (web development). At least I thought I knew.

I fell in love with Vermont Tech, and started out in the IT program. It didn't take long for one of my professors to notice that I wasn't enjoying myself. This is the beauty of small classes and close relationships with professors! I switched to software engineering—there were seven of us in the first graduating class for that program.

There's a lot going on at VTC—which was perfect because I don't have a typical software personality—I'm chatty!

Career services at Vermont Tech is very strong. I had an internship. I completed a senior project—a website to organize accreditation data (it was my baby)—and I got a job immediately after graduation. My goal was always to make a living in a way that was fun, fulfilling, and in line with the values I developed growing up in Vermont.

When the first company I worked for closed, I went looking for a company with a culture similar to VTC's—small, open, hands-on. I always got a positive response from employers when they saw Vermont Tech on my resume. Today, I work in the same room as my CEO!

LIVES



CARLY TEDESCO

**Dental Hygiene Clinical Associate, Vermont Tech, Williston, Vermont
Tutor, Champlain and Addison County Head Start, Vermont
Graduated with a degree in Dental Hygiene, AS, 2007; BS, 2012**

I've wanted to be a dental hygienist since I was ten. Why? Maybe because my dental hygienist always seemed so happy! I chose Vermont Tech because they offered flexible programming—I could start with a two-year program and add on credits toward my BS. When I started, they had a brand new, state-of-the-art clinic in Williston.

After I received my license, I decided that a BS would allow me to take on other roles outside the clinic—public roles in sales, research, education, and policy. My education at Vermont Tech really helped me understand the profession. When I graduated, I wasn't afraid to roll up my sleeves and do the work.

I struggled as a student, but the faculty and my supervisors believed in me. My supervising dentist in the clinic offered me a full-time position when I graduated! Vermont Tech introduced me to a whole network of practitioners and researchers. It put me on the front lines of research.

I learned at VTC that I didn't have to choose between didactic and clinical work—I could do both. People think dental hygienists just clean teeth, but we do so much more. We educate people on critical issues of dental health.

At Vermont Tech (and since), I realized how important and useful this work is. We can, as dental hygienists, literally reverse disease into health.

CHRIS BURGESS

**Manufacturing Engineer, Keurig Green Mountain, Inc., Waterbury, Vermont
Graduated with a BS in Electromechanical Engineering Technology, 2010**

Technology is moving fast. Understanding how new pieces and devices fit in the larger picture is the key to success in this business. At Vermont Tech, I got the big picture, the hands-on skills, and the work ethic. Real world experience through jobs and internships during college helped me to see where I could use the information I learned in the classroom and where I might fit in the industry. Classes were small, so I really got to know professors and peers.

Even as a child growing up in Colchester, Vermont, I learned best through hands-on experience. From day one at VTC, I was taught how to troubleshoot, problem-solve, and design engineering efficiencies. I learned how to map out an industrial control scheme, get it plugged in and programmed; and then how to maintain and update it. Industrial controls play an enormous role in manufacturing. Understanding controls means knowing how to read schematics—thoroughly!

Potential employers loved seeing Vermont Tech on my resume. They knew it meant they were talking to someone who could keep up in a fast-paced world.





The Annual Fund is critical to the operation of the College. It is our greatest source of unrestricted support and support designated for departments and academic divisions. Annual Fund gifts are expended in the year received and are applied to those areas of greatest need and opportunity.

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The Annual Fund Honor Roll lists contributions by club level. Gifts made by local businesses, corporate matching gifts, and honor and memorial gifts are listed here as well.

PRESIDENT'S CLUB

Gifts of \$500 and above.

DEAN'S CLUB

Gifts of \$250 to \$499.

CENTURY CLUB

Gifts of \$100 to \$249.

GREEN & WHITE CLUB

Gifts up to \$99.

1% CLUB (*)

Gifts of 1% of salary.

3.5% CLUB ()**

Gifts of 3.5% of salary.

*Vermont Tech regrets any omissions or errors in the listing. Please bring corrections to the attention of the Alumni Affairs office at
(802) 728-1250
alumni@vtc.edu*



COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND IN PHOTOS: (TOP LEFT) COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER, ZEBULON SCOVILLE, SPEAKS TO A PACKED TENT. (TOP RIGHT) NURSING STUDENTS SMILE FOR CAMERA. (BOTTOM LEFT) PRESIDENT DAN SMITH WITH THE PLATFORM PARTY BEFORE THE FIRST CEREMONY. (OPPOSITE PAGE) STUDENT LINE UP AND BEGIN MARCHING TOWARD THE TENT LOCATED ON THE PRESIDENT'S LAWN ON THE RANDOLPH CENTER CAMPUS.

RETURNING HOME.

On May 16 & 17, Vermont Tech celebrated the college's 149th annual commencement ceremony.

The Ceremonies returned to Vermont Tech's Randolph Center campus location for the first time in more than five years. Vermont Tech graduates students in both bachelor's and associate degree programs.

"Leave here today with the confidence that graduates from this college will lead the way, because you know how to get things done," said Vermont Tech President Dan Smith to the graduating class. "That is the exception in this day and age."

NASA Flight Director Zebulon Scoville, a native of Middlesex, Vermont and graduate of Union 32 High School in East Montpelier, returned to Vermont to inspire and encourage Vermont Tech's graduates with this year's commencement speech.

"As a species we are engrained with a fear of failure," said Scoville. "The trick is to fail smartly, and early. By this I mean you need to set up your failures so you can learn from them. Fail early when the stakes are lower. Learn from your mistakes, and do it all over again. Fail early, fail often. Make it break, then make it better." Scoville is currently based at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center and is the Lead Flight Director on Expedition 52. He also leads the International Space Station Flight Control team and is responsible for pre-flight mission development and real-time mission execution.



At three different ceremonies through the weekend, the college honored more than **460 graduates**. Of those graduating, 399 (86%) were Vermonters. The Nursing Department, which delivers its program in multiple locations around the state, featured the largest number of graduates. One hundred forty-four (144) nursing students received degrees. **vtc**

responsibility, consistent instruction and hands-on learning to increase their practical knowledge and experience. The Upper Valley location, close to Interstate 91, also will allow students quicker and easier access to field trips and farm visits throughout the state.

"Students will know the intensity of dairy farming firsthand even after the first few weeks of their semester at the Norwich Farms," explained Chris Dutton, associate professor and director of the Institute for Applied Agriculture and Food Systems at Vermont Tech.

The addition of the dairy lab in Norwich opens the door to educational opportunities for VTC alumni and the Upper Valley region's 70,000-plus residents. With its proximity to central Vermont and New Hampshire, the Vermont Tech's new site, part of its Institute for Applied Agriculture and Food Systems, plans to also offer short, hands-on courses in dairy processing and value-added production like yogurt and cheese-making, along with summer camps, after-school programs and school field trips, serve a wide range of ages and interests. The college is exploring the use the farm's modern meeting and classroom spaces for events and conferences and the use of the Norwich Farm as an incubator for value-added dairy and food start-ups.

GRATEFULNESS

"Vermont Tech is grateful to the Sigler family for their generous gift," Smith said. "In making their donation, the Siglers recognized the long-term value for the Vermont economy, communities and the dairy industry as a whole. The farm will have a lasting impact on the working landscape, the Vermont dairy and farm industry, wholly in keeping with Vermont Tech's mission. We are proud to play that role." **vtc**



GRACE DE GEUS

**Associate Software Engineer, Sensors & Integrated Systems, United Technologies Corporation (UTC) Aerospace Systems, Vergennes, VT
Graduated with a BS in Computer Software Engineering, 2013**

I had only a vague idea of what I wanted to do when I went to Vermont Tech. Now I develop software to collect and analyze data from sensors in helicopters!

Small is important to me. I'm from a small Vermont town—Calais. VTC was small enough that I knew everyone in my department and recognized most people on campus. This is a big company but I work in a small department.

Many schools claim to be hands-on, but when their students get to the job they have a hard time, technically and culturally. One of the most important skills I learned at Vermont Tech was how to write well technically and document your work. Without detailed documentation, other people can't replicate your results. This is the kind of skill that earns the respect of future employers!

The professors at Vermont Tech have a lot of experience in their fields. Classes include great conversations and problem-solving. When it came time to look for a job, I knew what I wanted. I did an internship at UTC in my junior year and they created a position for me when I graduated. That's how much they respect the Vermont Tech education.

MATT FRANZOSA

**Civil Engineer, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Little Rock, Arkansas
Graduated with a degree in Construction Management, AS, 2012; BS, 2014**

As a kid, I always liked building things with my hands. By the time I was a senior in high school, I knew I wanted to be in construction. Vermont Tech was the only school I saw that offered construction management as a major. When I first got to VTC I was not a great student. Advisors at Vermont Tech helped me set higher standards for myself. Professors organized tutoring sessions and helped me set the bar higher.

I was determined to graduate with a job. Career services used their extensive network to get me an interview, followed by a great offer. VTC is a tight-knit community—the friends you make there are friends you'll have for the rest of your life.

Today, when I'm out in the field, this work shows—professionals tell me how conscientious I am, and how detailed and in-depth my work is. I travel all over the country as a consultant on big jobs (some \$65 million and more). I help states create estimates for projects. I do a lot of math and accuracy is critical. The work I did at Vermont Tech didn't just help me get a job. It helped me start a career.



PATTY DANAHY

**Mechanical Engineering Intern, EYP Architecture & Engineering, Boston, MA
Graduated with a BS in Architectural Engineering Technology, 2013**

The professors at Vermont Tech were amazing. They helped me understand the diversity of this field and where I might fit in it. They also helped me to see that I am more practical than conceptual—so architectural engineering was a better fit than architectural design. Even after I graduated, my professors and advisors stayed in touch. They still check up on me! And I still see my fellow students at various conferences. VTC is all about the networking, but also about the friendships.

When I began applying for jobs, everyone was impressed with the Vermont Tech curriculum and with some of the projects I worked on as a student. I really learned how to create and analyze a schematic design using several different systems. The level of detail was remarkable. It meant that I started work in the real world very prepared.

This technology changes fast, so a deep understanding of how it works and what it can do really helps. I'm still learning, but at least it is all familiar. Most of the challenges I face can be related back to something I learned at VTC.

FACULTY PROFILE

MICHELLE
SAMA, PHD



Michelle Sama knows a thing or two about learning. More importantly, Dr. Sama knows what your brain knows about learning.

She's not just a respected faculty member at Vermont Tech; she's also a trained researcher who has her Ph.D. in Pharmacology. Her post-doctoral research fellowship at Dartmouth

College's Geisel School of Medicine was focused on neuroscience and the physiology

of learning and memory. She studied how environmental enrichment can enhance our learning and memory, and

was able to demonstrate that increased exposure to new and novel activities can improve learning and memory as well as

delay the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease in an animal model of the disease. The mice with environmental enrichment that developed Alzheimer's had fewer symptoms than similarly aged control subjects in the experiments. "By providing exposure to novel tasks and greater levels of social interaction, mice performed better in memory-related tasks and had higher levels of things like nerve growth factor that has been shown to be an important modulator of learning and memory," says Dr. Sama.

This expertise, as well as her love for being an educator, makes Dr. Sama the major contributor she is today. Her students appreciate her teaching methods to teach some of the most complicated material in a lab setting. Graduate Andrew Van Buskirk was quick to add, "Professor Sama combines her enthusiasm for chemistry with a concern for the learning experience of each individual

"Professor Sama combines her enthusiasm for chemistry with a concern for the learning experience of each individual student. I felt luck to have her as she guided us through difficult but rewarding labs."

— Andrew Van Buskirk, CET '15

student. I felt lucky to have her as she guided us through difficult but rewarding labs."

CLASS NOTES

OBITUARIES

JAMES WALKER, AG '39, passed away on January 13, 2014 in Plant City, Florida. After graduating from Vermont Tech, he was a dairy farmer in Benson, Vermont, maintaining a Century Farm. He left a wife of 20 years, Frances, seven children, and currently has two great grandchildren attending Randolph.

DONALD TARBELL, AG '40, passed away on Sept. 14, 2014, after a long illness. He was the third of six siblings in the Tarbell family. He served in the Army Air Forces 1942-45, where he was assigned to the Air Transport Command and stationed at Recife, Brazil, a key base on the South Atlantic air ferry route to Africa and Europe. He assisted his brother Francis Tarbell on the family farm in Healdville and was employed on road crews of the town of Mount Holly. He served frequently as Road Commissioner for Mount Holly, and after that elected office was discontinued in 1974, as Road Foreman for the town. Following his retirement from full-time employment in 1982, he continued for many years to operate the town grader during the summer. The roads he built and maintained are still in use today.

FRANK STAFFORD, AG '41, passed away on May 30, 2014. Frank would carry on the family legacy by operating his farm bordering the Hartsboro Road in South Wallingford. His farm operation and practices qualified the farm as being one of the top Ayrshire Farms in Vermont. In 1950, he married Virginia Mae Hesse of Rutland, Vermont. They had two daughters. Frank and his family would continue to farm and participate in many agricultural shows and activities at the local, state, and national level until he retired from farming in 1973.

RICHARD MATTISON, AG '46, died Oct. 6, 2014, at his residence. He was born May 16, 1929, in North Bennington, the son of the late Wendell and Anna (Niles) Mattison. For four years, he served in the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne. He served with Company B while stationed in Fort Bragg, N.C. After the service, Mr. and Mrs. Mattison returned to the area and purchased a farm in Shaftsbury, where they started a dairy farm. Mr. Mattison was employed at Polygraphic Printing Co. in North Bennington. He maintained both careers for 20 years. In 1972, the Mattisons purchased Iron Kettle Restaurant in Shaftsbury. The restaurant was sold in 1988. They began the process of cultivating and planting trees on their Shaftsbury property, which became Mattison Christmas Tree Farm that the family continues to operate.

NED HAYES, AG '49, died June 27, 2014, at Vermont Veterans Home in Bennington. He was born in Tinmouth on July 8, 1927, the son of Warren and Florence Rabtoy Hayes. Following graduation from Middletown Springs High School, he served in the U.S Army Air Force and then earned a degree in agriculture from Vermont Tech. Mr. Hayes married Janice Gordon on June 6, 1992. In earlier years, he farmed and later operated a Mobil service station, worked in sales for a petroleum company and was a machine operator for General Electric. He enjoyed snowmobiling, fishing, hunting, coaching baseball, and was a Boston Red Sox fan.

ALFRED MCCOY, AG '49, passed away on October 8, 2013. He worked for Sullivan County 30 years. Before that he worked for 5 years for a private farm in Cornish, NH. He retired at age 75.

AMORY "DOC" SMITH, AG '50, died June 1, 2014. Amory was born July 2, 1931, to Eva and Merton Smith Sr., in East Bethel, Vt. Doc's life defies definition with words. He was intensely patriotic, a great humorist, auctioneer, pilot, builder, musician, and lifelong educator in Vermont at South Royalton High School, South Burlington High School, and Burlington High Technical School. He was a Korean War veteran, member of the Melody Knights band, life member of the East Bethel Grange, as well

as a proud Honorable Kentucky Colonel. Amory was president of the New England Adult Education Assoc.; Potentate of Mt. Sinai Shrine (1997), Montpelier; coordinator of 2000 census in Vermont; Chaplain, Secretary and Life Member of B.P.O.E. Lodge #916; and Chaplain and Life Member of V.F.W. Post #0094.

HOLLIS "SONNY" EDWARDS JR., AG '51, died at home on January 22, 2014, after a long illness, just down the road from the brick farmhouse where he was born 81 years ago on April 16, 1930. He was the sixth generation to own the family farm. During his lifetime, the farm changed from having Jerseys to Holsteins. The Edwards' farm was the last working farm in South Cambridge. The owner of a distinctly dry sense of humor, he delighted in passing along the latest joke, or occasionally springing one on the unwary. An inveterate old Yankee farmer, Sonny could fix nearly anything with baler twine, duct tape, wire and hope. He was a member of the Vermont Farm Bureau for over 50 years, and served the Lamoille County Farm Bureau in many capacities. He received the Kieth Wallace award from the Vermont Farm Bureau in November 2011.

DELBERT PALMER, AG '53, passed away peacefully at his home on Jan. 25, 2014, surrounded by his loving family and dog. He grew up working on the farm

and helping with the production of maple syrup for the well-known family business. Delbert graduated from Waitsfield High School in 1951. On Oct. 25, 1958, he married his lifelong partner, Sharlia (Bohannon). He lived his life a short distance from his childhood residence with his wife and three children. As he welcomed his grandchildren into the world, they too lived within a short distance. In 1995, Delbert and his wife took over the six-generation family maple sugar business, Palmer Maple Products, that won prestigious awards and was known all over the world during its duration. He made sure the business had a large emphasis on family and all members had a specific job, no matter how young they were. He was a local meat cutter for 26 years and enjoyed interacting with the many community members that counted on his skill and attention to detail.

NELSON JACOBS, HT '60, passed away May 8, 2014, at the St. Mary's Hospital VITAS Unit with his family by his side. He was the devoted husband of Carmen Beasley Jacobs. He worked for the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation as a Civil Engineer, retiring in 1997 after 36 years of service. Jake enjoyed hunting, fishing, country music, dancing, kicking up his heels, and his camps in New York and Vermont, but most of all he enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

He was a member of the N.R.A. and a founding member of the Prospect Gun Club. Mr. Jacobs proudly served his country in the Army National Guard from 1963 to 1969. He was a member of the American Legion in Adams, N.Y. and was very active with the Prospect V.F.W.

ROBERT RUSS, HT '60, went to be with his savior while in Okeechobee, Florida on July 21, 2014. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather, always putting his family first. When he and his wife retired, they enjoyed traveling in their RV, visiting 49 states. Okeechobee, Florida became their favorite spot to spend the winter months. He enjoyed NASCAR and attended races at many of the different tracks. A more loyal fan of the New York Yankees and the Washington Redskins could not be found. Fishing, woodworking, reading, and tending to his flower garden were a few of his favorite pastimes. He moved to Virginia in 1960 and began his career for the Dept. of Highway. He worked in 1970 for E.F. Blankenship Co. as Construction Superintendent. He also worked for Pendleton Construction Co. and retired from English Construction Co. in 2000, after 30 years in the business.

KENNETH SCHWENN, EET '63, died April 24, 2014, at home, following a long battle with COPD and lung cancer. Ken moved to Vermont in 1957 and graduated from

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Essex Junction High School in 1961. In 1963, he joined the IBM Corp. in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., as an electronics technician. In 1964, he took a leave from IBM and joined the Vermont Army Guard and was trained as a radar repairman. While stationed in Fort Monmouth, N.J., he married the love of his life, Elizabeth (Marcoux) Schwenn on Dec. 19, 1964. After leaving active service, they moved back to East Fishkill, N.Y., and transferred back to Vermont in 1965. Settling in Milton, they raised two beautiful, smart and talented daughters. Ken worked for IBM his entire

career holding many different positions in engineering – management and technical staff – until his retirement on Jan. 31, 2002, with more than 38 years of service. He often remarked that he really hadn't gone far – as his last office was no more than 50 feet from where he had his first summer job for IBM in 1961.

RALPH BURRINGTON, HT '64, formerly of East Burke, VT., passed away July 22, 2014, in Palmer, Texas. Ralph was born June 26, 1943, to Pete and Arlene (Batchelder) Burrington in Lyndonville. He attended Lyndon

Institute and also graduated from Northeastern University. Ralph filled his career surveying and bridge and road engineering in Vermont, Texas, South Carolina, Florida, St. Thomas, and Puerto Rico.

TONY COSENTINO, HT '67, died May 31, 2014, at his home. He was born in Rutland, June 2, 1947, son of Anthony and Romalda (Delliveneri) Cosentino. Tony was also a graduate of Mount St. Joseph Academy.



ALUMNI CRUISE GREAT SUCCESS!

More than 50 alumni, friends, and family climbed aboard The Spirit of Ethan Allen III on June 27 to set sail on a beautiful dinner cruise. This was the second annual event and it was so nice to see some of the same faces as last year.

Next year's event is scheduled for **Saturday, June 20, 2016**. Mark your calendar's now and don't miss it!

RALPH TASSIE, EET '68, passed away at home March 5, 2014, after a long illness. Ralph began a 39-year career with IBM as a technician, engineer and manager based in Essex Junction. He enjoyed business travel to many states, Canada and Europe and temporary assignments to New York, Virginia and Florida, retiring in 2007. From an early age, Ralph enjoyed hunting, fishing, biking, hiking, and boating. He loved shark tagging in Maine with his buddies, Jack and Steve. After retirement, Ralph and wife, Betty, bought a motor home and travelled up and down the East Coast with future plans to drive across the U.S. as they had done in the 1970s.

CHARLES VAN COR JR., MEC '70, died Sept. 13, 2014 from injuries sustained in a roll-over accident in Lexington, Mass. He drove tractor-trailer trucks of all shapes and sizes for 17 years. He drove flat-bed, reefer-trailer, tank, and doubles. This is what he liked to do. He drove in over 35 different states, and delivered just about anything you might need in your house from cleaning supplies to food, furniture, and mail. Chuck was an avid model builder, belonging to three different model groups in N.H. He built cars, trucks, tanks, but his favorite was WWII-class warships. Chuck loved animals and they loved him, but his greatest love of all was his family.

STANLEY CUTTS, AG '71, died peacefully June 5, 2014, in the comfort of his home with his family near after a period of failing health. He had faith by being with family and nature. He believed in hard work and family values. He loved to travel and was an avid outdoorsman and spent a lot of time in the woods hunting, fishing, cutting wood, cultivating his vegetable garden, restoring fields, riding his all-terrain vehicle, and raising his small herd of beef cows. He was very passionate about umpiring in the softball leagues for men's and women's associations in New Hampshire and Vermont with his primary focus being the Greater Keene Men's and Women's Leagues. He was very passionate about the Vermont Wood Bat Softball Tournament, which he was instrumental in establishing and held for over 10 years in Chester, Vt. He was also a big Red Sox fan.

GERRY LAPAN, EET '72, passed away on June 6, 2014. Gerry worked for New England Telephone, AT&T, and Lucent as a product manager, retiring after 30 years with the combined companies. Gerry leaves his wife of 43 years, Ginny, two daughters and three grandchildren.

LINDA HULL, AMT '76, age 62, died peacefully at her winter home in Port Charlotte, Fla., on Thursday, April 17, 2014. She had worked for Vermont Castings and retired from Pepin Granite of Barre.

She had lived in Pomfret, South Royalton, Hartland, Randolph and many happy years in Woodbury with her husband, Chip Chaffee II. She enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing, and just being outdoors.

CLIFTON LANGMAID, AMT '76, died August 7, 2014, just before evening chores, at Northeastern VT Regional Hospital in St. Johnsbury following a courageous battle with F-ALS. Clif owned and operated the farm in North Danville village for over 30 years, being the sixth generation on that farm. He bred and raised high quality Registered Holstein cattle and received the Master Breeders Award from the Holstein Association in 2014. He also received the Century Farm Award from the Vermont Farm Bureau/Grange organization. Clif made it his personal mission to raise awareness and funds for ALS research in order to find the cure for this devastating disease. Besides operating his farm, he built the Apple Log Lodge at the Curtis Vance Memorial Orchard in N. Danville where many community functions are held.

BRIAN MORRISSEAU, EM '75, died in the early morning hours on April 11, 2015, in Dekalb County, Georgia. Born October 22, 1955, in Burlington, Vermont, he was the son of John Morrisseau and Dorothy Morrisseau (Peck). He worked at the local cable

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company for 30 years. He was active in hockey, softball, model airplanes, and enjoyed playing golf and guitar.

BRUCE CHARLAND, CET '79, passed away peacefully in his home while surrounded by family and friends on June 21, 2014. Bruce bravely and courageously battled cancer for over six years with his loving and supporting wife, Debra, and countless family and friends by his side every step of the way.

RUTH BEARD, RHT '96, died at her home surrounded by her family on Oct. 29, 2014. She devoted her life to the service of others and leaves a husband and two children behind.

PROMOTIONS & CAREER MOVES

RICHARD MOORE, AG '42, wrote in to tell us that he nominated for the Agriculture Hall of Fame at the Essex Fairgrounds. His photograph should be hung up this year - look for it!

DAVID MAHONEY, HT '59, After spending two years with contractors, he joined the State Highway Dept. in 1961. He spent just short of 34 years there working in the maintenance district, bridge design, planning, and mostly in the construction division on interstate, state roads, and town roads. He has now been retired for 20 years and lives in Florida.

ROBERT FARNSWORTH, HT '64, is the owner of Farnsworth Surveys in Brownsville, Vermont.

ROBERT MAUL, MEC '65, retired at the end of 2013 after 43 years of Mechanical Design and Sales Engineering. He worked for Ringfeder Power Transmission, a mechanical power transmission components manufacturer, for 35 of those years. He looks forward to travelling around the U.S. and abroad with his wife, Pat.

DEBORAH WILKINSON, ABT '78, is working as a Senior Estimator for Batson-Cook Company in Atlanta, Georgia.

RICHARD FISHER, ABT '79, is working as a Sr. Architectural Designer for Integrated Project Services.

CRAIG FERGUSON, MEC '82, is a Principle Consultant and the Owner of Ferguson Solutions LLC in North Carolina.

ERIC MORSE, TO '86, is being inducted into the Mount Washington Road Race Hall of Fame on June 20, 2015. He set the Vermont state record for the Mount Washington race – 1:01:09 in 1999. He has finished second in the race three times, in the top five 10 times, and 14 times in the top ten. He was also inducted into the athletic Hall of Fame at Harwood Union High in 2010.

PETER ALDRICH, ABT '89, is working as an Operations Manager for Milestone Kitchens and Cabinetry in St. Thomas, Ontario Canada.

NEIL WEST, CPE '90, is working as a Customer Solutions Architect SAP for Cisco Systems in Texas.

HANNAH ROHLOFF, VET '00, is a Licensed Massage Therapist and the Owner of Tessera Therapeutic Massage in Montpelier, Vermont.

COREY LINE, CET '01, has been hired as the project management director for the Montpelier Public Works Department. Line has experience managing Federal Transit Administration- and VTrans-funded projects in his most recent position as the capital project coordinator for the Chittenden County Transportation Authority. He previously served as a project resident engineer and paving program manager for the Burlington Department of Public Works. He began his new position with the Public Works Department on June 16.

JEN NOYES, LAH '01, owner of Creative Contour Landscape Design won Best in Show at the 2015 Flower & Garden show in Hartford, CT.

MICHAEL BLACK, ABT '03, made the Connecticut Magazine's 40 under Forty: Class of 2015 list. He made the list for creating

designs that are motivated by preserving the environmental landscape of Connecticut for future generations.

NICK BIGELOW, EET '07 & ELM '09, has accepted a position at New England Wire in Lisbon, NH as a Process Technician. Nick worked for the ACT (American Canadian Tour) and Thunder Road for almost seven years before taking the job at New England Wire.

MIKE MCMANUS, CPM '12, opened the Powder Hollow Brewery LLC in Enfield, CT. The Brewery opened in November of 2014. The facility is 2,400 square feet and fits about 80 people. The brewery will feature five brews and will operate similar to wine tasting venues. Customers will be able to taste the brews, purchase a 64-ounce growler and bring in food.

MARYAH MERLO, CPE '13, is working as a Software Engineer for Data Innovations, LLC in South Burlington, Vermont.

TABITHA TOTTEN, FSC '13, has been hired by the Stark Summit Ambulance as an EMT in Wooster, Ohio.

ENGAGEMENTS, WEDDINGS & ANNIVERSARIES

MICHELLE TRAHAN, VET '94, is pleased to announce her marriage to Michael R. Jones. They are both employed by GE Healthcare.

CHARLES EZEQUELLE, ABT '99, married Mallory McDonnell on June 7, 2014. The bride is a project engineer at Omya Inc. in Pittsford, VT and the groom is a project manager at Renaud Brothers Inc. of Vernon, VT. The newlyweds reside in Brookline, VT.

BRIAN SODARO, CPE '01, is thrilled to announce his engagement to Ashley Eller. Ashley currently works as Program Manager for the University of Denver and Brian is a Solution Engineer for RealPage, Inc. They are planning a Colorado wedding for Aug. 2, 2014.

ANTHONY GIRELLI, EET '04, married Corey Klecha on September 20, 2014. The bride is a Qualified Intellectual Disability Professional at AIM in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. The groom is a Senior Engineer at Global Foundries in Malta, N.Y.

TRAVIS PALMER, CPE '04 & BSCPE '06, married Valerie M. Thibodeau on Feb. 8, 2014. Valerie is currently working as a Pre-Professional Architect at Dore &

Whittier Architects Inc. Travis is currently working as a Software Engineer at FullStack, a web development company out of Iowa.

TRAVIS HALE, CPM '05, is proud to announce his engagement to Jenna Gingue. Jenna is an office assistant at Gingue's Auto Body and Travis is a sub-contractor at Hale Construction. The wedding is planned for Aug. 22, 2015.

BETHANY OSHA, VET '05 & JOHN SILLOWAY, CET '10, were married March 1, 2014. The bride is employed as the office manager for the Specialty Clinics at Gifford Medical Center in Randolph. The groom is a partner and works with Silloway Farms and Silloway Maple in Randolph Center. The couple makes their home on their farm in Randolph Center.

DUSTIN HUME, ATT '06, recently announced his engagement to Karla M. Giardino. Together, the couple owns and operates New England Automotive in South Burlington. An August 2015 wedding is planned.

STANLEY LUDORF, ATT '06, is pleased to announce his engagement to Krystal Sterling. Krystal is currently employed at Hickok & Boardman Retirement Solutions and Stan is employed at Burlington Subaru/Hyundai. The couple will be married at the Sleepy Hollow Inn in Huntington, VT on August 9, 2015.

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CHRISTOPHER MANGO, ATT '06 & BUS '08, is pleased to announce his engagement to Haley Pryce. A 2015 wedding is planned. The groom is currently attending Central Connecticut State University and will finish his bachelor's degree in construction management. After a honeymoon in Antigua, the couple currently lives in Middletown, Conn.

PATRICIA TRAHAN, DHY '07, is pleased to announce her marriage to Carl Halbach. Patricia is currently employed at Dickinson & Branon Dental Care. Carl is currently employed at Coca-Cola of New England. The couple was married in August, 2014.

CALVIN RUSSELL, CPM '08 & BAILEY DIMMICK, AET '13, were married on August 24, 2013, at the Dimmick Farm. The bride is currently employed as a project engineer at Whiting-Turner Construction in New Haven, Conn.

JOSEPH ANGELL, DFM '09, is pleased to announce his engagement to Jacklyn E. Preston. The future bride is currently employed at Lebanon High School as an English Teacher. The future groom is a co-owner of White Rock Farm and Lumber in South Randolph. A summer wedding is planned.

BETHANY DOE, VET '09, is pleased to announce her marriage to Samuel Irish. Bethany currently works in Williston at Peak Veterinary Referral Center as a Veterinary Oncology Technician. Samuel enlisted into the United States Army in 2008 where he served for four years. He is currently attending Community College of Vermont. The couple was married on July 19, 2014.

ANDREW DONALDSON, CIT '10, is pleased to announce his engagement to Paige MacDougall. Paige is an assistant manager at F.Y.E. in Concord. A September 12, 2015, wedding is planned.

ANDREW VIAPIANO, ATT '10, was united in marriage to Sarah Pecor on April 26, 2014. The bride is employed by University of Vermont Medical Center and the groom is employed by IBM. The couple resides in South Burlington, VT.

NICHOLAS DAIGLE, DFM '11, is proud to announce his engagement to Sheena L. Brown. Both are currently employed at the Nadeau's farm in Morgan and dream of owning their own farm someday. An August wedding is planned.

DAREN RIVARD, CPM '11 & BUS '12, married Brittany French at in St. Albans, VT on Saturday, August 9, 2014. The bride is employed at

Husky Injection Molding Systems in Milton. The groom is employed at Dale E. Percy Inc. in Stowe, VT as an Assistant Project Manager.

BROOKE SHARPE, LPN '11 & ADN '12, is proud to announce her engagement to Lado Brotasyo. Brooke is an RN employed by University of Vermont Medical Center. Lado is employed by FabTech. The couple resides in South Burlington. A September 2015 wedding is planned.

ZACHARY HUTCHINS, CSE '12, married Samantha Champine on March 1, 2014. Samantha is currently employed as a bookkeeper with Shaws. Zachary is currently employed by Newsbank Inc., in Chester. After a honeymoon in Washington D.C., the newlyweds returned to their home in Ludlow.

ASHLEY LOCKERBY, CPM '13, is proud to announce her marriage to Casey Toof. Ashley is currently employed as an Estimator at Engelberth Construction since May 2012. Casey is currently employed as an Internet Sales Manager at Handy Toyota since January 2013. They married on July 19, 2014.

JULIA MCKINLEY, EQS '13 & VET '14, AND CHRISTOPHER MERCON CPM '13, were married on September 27, 2014. Julia is privately employed as an estate manager. Chris is a Vermont State employee with the Agency of Transportation.



ACCREDITATION NEWS

Vermont Tech is proud to announce that they have received official accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Vermont Tech has received full national initial accreditation for their RN-Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, and continued accreditation for their Associate Degree in Nursing and Practical Nursing programs.

FACULTY PROFILE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

As the college liaison for the Vermont State Laboratory building, Dr. Sama facilitated observations for students of the soil borings happening on the Randolph Center campus. Even though the building is not scheduled to be open until the spring of 2018, Vermont Tech students are already involved in the design, permitting, and in the future, building of the state lab. Dr. Sama is aware that introducing these new and novel activities for Vermont Tech students will enhance their understanding of their classroom content. As Dr. Sama sees it, "Students truly benefit from the opportunity to interact with contractors, engineers and architects on the State Laboratory. They will gain a real-world, hands-on experience right on campus."

Bringing together two agencies, Natural Resources and Agriculture, the State hopes to achieve bureaucratic efficiencies by virtue of them co-locating in the new laboratory facility.

Vermont Tech has similar hopes, anticipating that the agency staff will provide guest lectures and that students may intern in the lab. Another future dividend lies in the tendency of Vermont Tech students to stay in Vermont after graduation to start their own businesses and farms, which will fall under the regulatory areas of these agencies. "Vermont Tech students will be interacting with, and in many cases, working with professionals who may be future employers, agencies that oversee their future work, and important contacts for professional development," notes Dr. Sama. Thanks to proximity, the state lab experts will have the opportunity to engage the next generation of entrepreneurs, farmers and engineers while they are still learning at Vermont Tech and help to shape the workforce of our state. **vtc**



SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 24

ALUMNI
HOMECOMING DAY

Save the date! Saturday, October 24.

There will be food, friends, and more. Call a few classmates and come celebrate. But before you do, here are a few things to keep in mind.

Did you graduate in a year ending in either 0 or 5? That means this is an honor year. Class of 1990, it's your 25th Anniversary. Class of 1965, don't let the Big 5-0 pass you by. Come see old friends and make a few new ones.

Alumni eat FREE at the luncheon! Guests are \$15/pp. Register online or below.

PROPOSED AGENDA

12 pm	Registration (Judd Hall)	3 pm	Soccer with Skip Distel and/or class reunions
1 pm	Luncheon (Judd)	4 pm	Basketball Scrimmage (SHAPE)
1:30 pm	Class photos (Judd)		
2 pm	Alumni Association (Judd) Annual Meeting and Presidential Update	5-7 pm	Cheers to our Alum! Local craft beer cash bar, munchies, music with Mike Van Dyke and WVTC (campus center)

For more information, please visit our website and Facebook page:
www.vtc.edu/alumni | www.facebook.com/VermontTechnicalCollegeAlumni

REGISTRATION *Clip and send to: Attn: Alumni Office, PO Box 500, Randolph Center, VT 05061 or call 802.728.1250*

- ☐ Luncheon: Enclosed is \$_____ for _____ ticket(s) to the Alumni luncheon. Alumni are FREE; guests are \$15/pp.
- ☐ Craft Beer Tasting (cash bar)
- ☐ Both Luncheon & Beer Tasting

Name: _____ Major & Year: _____

Address: _____

Guest's Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

 REGISTER ONLINE www.vtc.edu/alumni