Alumni News anh



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Unsung Hero Award

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NHTI Grad and CEO of Cottage Hospital named a '2017 Outstanding Woman in Business'

ew Hampshire native Maria Ryan, PhD, APRN, celebrated a homecoming of sorts after graduating from NHTI and beginning her career as an RN at Concord Hospital in 1989. Since then, her amazing journey has seen her rise to prominence in health care leadership, traveling the globe and ultimately leading her back to her roots in New Hampshire.

For more than 10 years Dr. Ryan has been the leading force behind Cottage Hospital, a 35-bed facility that serves 26 towns in New Hampshire and Vermont. During her tenure, the Hospital has garnered State and National recognition. Dr. Ryan, a board certified family nurse

practitioner with a specialty in emergency medicine, has compiled a vast portfolio in hospital leadership, including community, tertiary, for-profit, nonprofit, urban and rural settings. She was recently named a "2017 Outstanding Woman in Business" by NH Business Review.

Starting Young

Married at sixteen and the mother of three children, Dr. Ryan sought a career that would support her family as well as allow her to focus on her passion to care for people. She made the decision to become a nurse and enrolled as a student at NHTI. While completing her program

Maria Ryan continued on page 2

Dr. Ryan noted her desire for operating efficiencies and leadership development. This combination of clinical and business acumen would set the stage for her future endeavors.

Dr. Ryan's strong work ethic got her through the program – working full-time on the weekends, tutoring fellow classmates, carpooling because she was short on gas money, cramming before bed, and study dates at Manchester Public Library with her friend **Ramona McConville**, a fellow '89 NHTI nursing alumna. Both women went on the become nurse practitioners. Ryan eventually earned a BSN, Master's and a Ph.D.

Dr. Ryan took her clinical experience and leadership skills to Hospital Corporation of America, a health care facilities operator with more than 200 facilities across the U.S. and U.K., where she served in various executive roles. "I realized that as a clinician, I could help one person, but as a leader, I could affect an entire department," she says. She gained attention as someone with a keen business eye that could turn around a troubled hospital.

Focusing on efficiencies, streamlining processes, and creating an environment of empathy and service are hallmarks of her leadership style. These critical skills are required for staying ahead of changes in healthcare. "The business side, especially in a rural hospital, is like playing chess," she said in a recent interview. "You have to have a lot of strategy. And there's great satisfaction when you build something up and see those rewards.

Among those "rewards" was the opening of Ray of Hope, a voluntary adult behavioral health unit, which provides care for older adults struggling with mental health, dementia and other issues. The 10-bed unit is a "win-win," serving a "very vulnerable population"

and a financial asset for the hospital. Under Dr. Ryan's direction, Cottage Hospital has received numerous accolades for quality, efficiency, innovation and low cost.

Keep It Simple

Dr. Ryan's drive comes down to what led her to NHTI in the first place, a passion to care for others. "If I have five minutes free, sometimes I'll just go and ask permission to meet patients," says Ryan. "It just fills my heart."

For the Manchester native, the secrets to success are simple: be transparent and passionate, have enthusiasm and insight, listen well and be visible. Her colleagues add that she has an energy and zest that is contagious. Dr. Ryan finds relaxation in biking, tap dancing, or spending time with her five grandchildren. She makes her home in Manchester and Lisbon with her retired Marine husband, Robert, where the two enjoy target shooting—an activity that appeals to both her competitiveness and sense of precision.

Cottage Hospital has earned numerous accolades under Dr. Ryan: honored by the Norris Cotton Cancer Center at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center for its leadership role in a collaborative outreach program centered on cancer prevention and early detection; recipient of a 2013 HealthStrong Award for Excellence in Efficiency; recognized as a 2014 HealthStrong Top 100 Critical Access Hospital by iVantage Health Analytics; and a Top 20 Best Practices in Quality designation by the National Rural Health Association. Cottage Hospital was one of the first hospitals in the nation to successfully attest to Meaningful Use Stage 2 in the first year qualifying period. The Hospital also was recipient of the 2015 Business of the Year by the Cohase Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Ryan's personal accomplishments are just as impressive, including making Becker's Hospital Review's list of "Top 50 Rural Hospital CEOs to Know" in the U.S. for five consecutive years (2014, 15, 16, 17 and 18), among many more, and an equally impressive list of articles and speaking engagements throughout the industry.

Looking for Brian Malhoit and Donna Grassie

ana Torsey, a 1978 graduate of NHTI, is trying to reconnect with classmates

Brian Malhoit and Donna Grassie, who attended NHTI around the 1976-78 time frame. Dana lives in New Hampton and you can contact him at dtorsey@pccstructurals.com.

Dana notes that you might remember his as "Spitfire." Dana recalls that he ran into another of his classmates last year.

"I hadn't seen him in 30 years. He was in the same program, we had every class together, we were in the dorm and the fraternity together, we were good friends. His wife was a freshman our senior year and I knew her too. He could not come up with my name, but his wife said, 'Its Spitfire!'"

Dana works at PC Structurals in Tilton. "I'm sitting in the same office I started in a month before I graduated from 'The Tech' on Memorial Day weekend in 1978."

And he is still farming. His parents owned 111 acres in New Hampton and Dana has grown that to 904, along with 33 head of cattle. "I got in 9,000 bales of hay last summer," he says.

Hi-Yo, SilverTech!



For many years, NHTI Information Technology (IT) and Computer Engineering Technology (CPET) students have found internship positions with SilverTech, Inc., a digital marketing and technology agency based in Manchester, NH -- and quite a few have gone on to become employees of the company. Last fall, SilverTech's NHTI alumni posed for a group photo. From left: Josh Anderson (IT '12), Cody Roberge (CPET '16), Matthew Fintonis (CPET '16), Gina MacIntyre (CPET), Joe Blanchette (CPET '17), Thomas "Cassidy" Curl (CPET '16), Michael Darling (IT '13), and Lee Ames (IT '17).

Giving back to NHTI has never been easier!



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From this page, you can also update your contact information, and learn about the benefits and services NHTI offers its alumni.

NHTI Launches New Computed Tomography Program

n Fall 2018, NHTI will launch a new certificate program in Computed Tomography (CT), the technology commonly referred to as the "CAT scan." Designed for students who

are already certified in radiography, radiation therapy or nuclear medicine technology, this twelve month, 19 credit program will train students in the medical application of CT imaging techniques and equipment for screening, diagnosis, and treatment. Graduates will be eligible to sit for the CT certification examination conducted by the **American Registry** of Radiologic **Technologists** (ARRT).



Katherine Stockton, a 2007 graduate of NHTI's Radiologic Technology program, is now CT Operations Manager at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

The Computed Tomography program integrates scientific concepts and working skills through intensive clinical experience and classroom study. After the first (summer) semester, 2 days a week will be spent at a clinical site. NHTI has a total of 14 clinical sites across New Hampshire, with five more pending.

Graduates may work in hospitals, clinics, labs and outpatient centers. Experienced technologists may become managers/supervisors or manufacturer/corporate representatives. Diagnostic imaging is a growing field; jobs for radiologic technologists are projected to grow 12% in the U.S. from 2016 to 2026.¹

To learn more about NHTI's new Computed Tomography certificate program, visit nhti.edu/academics/programs-study or contact program coordinator **Michelle Wade**, mwade@ccsnh.edu.

¹Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Radiologic and MRI Technologists, www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/radiologic-technologists.htm (12/25/17).

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31st Annual NHTI SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT

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Beaver Meadow Golf Course Friday, May 4, 2018 1:00 pm Tee Time

Fun! Prizes! Fun!
Teams of 4
Faculty - Staff
Students - Alumni
Best Ball Scramble

\$20 per person Register at the Wellness Center, (603) 230-4041, by Wed., May 2nd.

Rain or Shine! (No metal spikes, please)

NHTI Introduces ...



ome students come to NHTI with a clear vision of where they are headed ... but most have only a vague idea, if any, of what direction they want to go. NHTI has a new tool that can help them find their way!

Career Coach is actually a whole set of tools that can help new and prospective students explore career possibilities and related academic programs.

- Career Assessment Get career suggestions based on your interests. Choose between a quick 6-question assessment or an in-depth 60-question version.
- Browse Careers Get data on wages, employment, and the training you need to pursue the career(s) that interest you.
- Browse Programs Discover academic programs at NHTI that lead to the career you want.
- Are you a veteran? Find civilian careers related to your military occupation.
- Build Your Resumé An easy-to-use tool that will help you create a professional resumé.

Find Career Coach on the Career Resources page of the NHTI web site: nhti.edu/student-resources/career-resources.

Nursing Grad Wins National Writers' Award

n September 2017, NHTI graduate
Shawna Kay Rodenberg (Nursing
'00) received a \$30,000 Rona Jaffe
Foundation Writer's Award, given
annually to six women writers who
demonstrate excellence and promise in
the early stages of their careers.



Shawna is a 10th-generation Appalachian from Kentucky whose parents became deeply involved in a wilderness community in northern Minnesota, where her family lived for seven years. Her coming-of-age memoir explores this time as well as the isolation and difficulties her family faced upon their return home to the insular mountains of Kentucky.

"The book is still taking shape," she says, "but some recurrent themes are already visible: the astounding cost of both belief and disbelief in America, the vulnerability of the working poor, and the magic two-sided antidote to all of the above—learning to abandon fear and embrace the self and the greater world."

In addition to her nursing degree, Shawna holds a B.A. from the University of Southern Indiana, and an M.F.A. from Bennington College. She now teaches English at a small community and technical college in eastern Kentucky. Her essays have been published in *The Village Voice*, *Salon*, and *Consequence Magazine* and she has completed a poetry manuscript entitled *Black Magic Gun*. She lives in Evansville, Indiana, with her husband and five children.

AET Alumni Share Their Experience

In January 2018, the Architectural Engineering Technology (AET) Club invited five alumni back to campus to share their post-graduation experiences. All five are either working in the field and/or have gone on for further education after earning their degrees at NHTI.

Caroline Corriveau '09 went on for a degree in architecture from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, and now works for Warrenstreet Architects in Concord, NH. Jonathan George '12 transferred to UNH for a degree in civil engineering, and now works for HL Turner Group Architects in Concord. Billy Kitchens '15 is currently at UNH working on a civil engineering degree, but has worked "on and off" for HL Turner, and also did an internship with the NH Department of Transportation while a student at NHTI. Alice Zhou '16, who came to NHTI as an international student, is pursuing a bachelor's degree at Boston Architectural College while working for HL Turner. Finally, Matthew Angell, who graduated from NHTI last spring, went directly to work for Cobb Hill Construction in Concord, and is still thinking about whether or not to continue his education.

The AET Club students had lots of questions for the alumni about their career and educational choices, their post-NHTI experiences, the importance (or not) of further education, dealing with student debt, etc. The alumni tended to favor seeking further education, depending on one's career goals, but urged the students to seek ways to minimize their debt -- e.g. attending lower-cost institutions, persuading employers to share educational costs, and seeking out scholarships. It was a great opportunity for the club to get some real world advice from their near-peers!



From left: AET alumni Caroline Corriveau '09, Siyne (Alice) Zhou '16, Jonathan George '12, Billy Kitchens '15 and Matthew Angell '17.

An Artist Goes Pro!

ormer NHTI Visual Arts major

Dan Tavis has just signed his first contract with an agent from Curtis

Brown literary agency. The agent will handle Dan's in-house illustration projects, leaving him available to pursue other freelance publishing opportunities.



Dan showed early promise as a student at NHTI, winning a scholarship contest from Jerry's Artarama with his picture of "The Bear and the Boy" (below), part of an illustrated story he later exhibited in the NHTI Library Gallery.



"Most of my paintings are straight out of my imagination," says Dan.
"Many of the scenarios I create involve fearless characters, oblivious towards the overwhelming odds stacked against them; making the viewer think, 'What's going to happen next?' I love illustrating stories built around unusual friendships, an example being the Bear and the Boy. The bear could easily eat the boy for a lunch time snack but instead, he'd much rather sit with the roaming traveler over a cup of tea."

Check out Dan's work at dantavis.com.

"Dancing with the Concord Stars" Dazzles!

early 500 Concord glitterati turned out for NHTI's 8th Annual Winter Fling fundraiser, featuring the ever-popular Dancing with the Concord Stars competition. The event raised over \$46,000 for the President's Fund for Excellence, which awards scholarships to NHTI students. Winter Fling has raised more than \$300,000 since it debuted in 2011.

It was a banner night for NHTI's dancers, with Keith Wilding, head of the Paramedic Emergency Medicine program, and his wife Heather earning the Judge's Award for Best Overall performance! NHTI Visual Arts adjunct Tom Devaney and his partner Michelle Olivier of Merrimack County Savings Bank (the event's presenting partner) also took home the trophy for Best Theme. Well done!



Left: Heather and Keith Wilding danced the Viennese Waltz to victory in NHTI's 8th annual Dancing with the Concord Stars competition!

Right: Tom Devaney and his "Galway girl" Michelle Olivier.



Left: "Hot Stuff" award winners Kate Flemming of Intown Concord and Concord-based musician Aaron Jones.

All photos © Scott Bulger Arts

Below: Dawn Champagne of Lincoln Financial and Paul Gaffney of TITLE Boxing Club mesmerized the crowd with their lyrical style, and were judged the night's "Most Graceful" couple.



Right: Pembroke businesswoman Christine Mamos Ryerson performs a jazz combo with actor, director, and professional magician Andrew Pinard, owner of the Hatbox Theatre.





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About Those Coupons....

In this issue of the NHTI
Alumni News, you'll find
coupons for a number of
Concord-based restaurants.
These are some of the folks
who donated their time, staff
and delicious food to this year's
Winter Fling fundraiser. So, clip
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say "Thanks" to these generous
businesses!



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Start Here ... Stay Here!



We all know NHTI's motto: Start Here ... Go Anywhere! But there are an astonishing number of people on campus who started here and simply never left -- or came back. This fall we tried gathering them all for a photo, but we didn't even come close! Above are roughly half of the 60+ current members of the NHTI community who are also NHTI alumni (plus President Susan B. Dunton, at center). Here's the full list:

Kate "Kat" Andritz (Campus Safety)
Barbara Anstey (Business Office)
Chanelle Arsenault (Orthopedics)

Sandra Beliveau (Radiologic Technology) Eliot Berman (Paramedic)

Jason Bishop (Campus Safety)
Carol Boucher (Campus Safety)

Cathy Brock (Dental Assisting)

Nancy Brubaker (Paramedic)

Aaron Conn (Information Technology)

Betty Corliss (Business Office) Stephanie Couture (CFDC)

Sue Dalpra (Health Services)

Mo Dawod (Campus Safety)

Jeff Desharnais (Technology Services)

Carrie Dupell (CFDC)
Ross Ewing (CFDC)

Tyler Fish (English)

Tim Ford (Campus Safety)

Dave Franklin (Paramedic)

Sue Gatton (Continuing Education)
Joseph Geisler (Landscape & Env. Design)

Connie George (Dental)

Ken Gitlitz (Computer Engineering Tech.)

Sheri Gonthier (Financial Aid)

Kerri Goupil (Nursing)

Eric Hewson (Campus Safety)

Marlene Hillman (Paramedic)

Sterling Hough (Computer Engineering Tech.)
Rosemarie Hughes-Smith (Cross Cultural Ed.)

Sandy Inzer (Dental)

Chad Johnson (Information Technology)

Jelena Karajcic (Bursar's Office) Michele Karwocki (Registrar)

Sherry Krejckant (CFDC)
Sue Krenzien (Student Affairs)

Nick Lawrence (Athletics Office)

Katie Lugg (CFDC)

Billie Lunt (Dental Hygiene) Lisa Malfait (Dental Hygiene)

Lorrie Matott (Financial Aid)

Deb Maynard (Dental Hygiene)
Nancy Moffett (Radiologic Technology)

Kaitlin Moody (Student Affairs)

Abimana Ngira (English) Lynn Noonan (Dental) Mike O'Bryant (Human Service)
Tom Pelletier (Campus Safety)

Tracy Phillips (CFDC)

riacy Fillings (CFDC)

Christine Roz (Financial Aid) Heidi Schmidt (Academic Affairs)

Cory Schofield (Admissions)

Andy Schwab (Information Technology)

Cheyenne Schwalbe (CFDC)

Lisa Scott (Dental Assisting)
Andrew "AJ" Seibert (Business Office)

Bill Shurbert (Information Technology)

Joanne Shurbert (Accounting)

Kristin Smith (CFDC)

Pam Smith (Computer Services / Banner)

Barbara Stowers (Dental Hygiene)

Kelley Taylor (Nursing)

Kathy Trantham (Technology Services)

Amy Upton (Early Childhood Education)

Lori Warner (CFDC)

Claudia Wason (Academic Affairs)
Joanna Willis (Accessibility Services)

Jason Wovkanech (Campus Safety)

CFDC = Child & Family Development Center

Safiya Wazir '16 Receives Unsung Hero Award

n February 21, 2018, NH Governor Chris Sununu presented NHTI graduate Safiya Wazir with an Unsung Hero award in a ceremony at the State

House. This award from the New Hampshire Children's Trust seeks to honor and recognize extraordinary parents and caregivers. Safiya was recognized for her outstanding volunteer work with the Head Start program, and for the care she provides to Concordarea children, to her own two daughters, and to other family members who rely on her for assistance.

Safiya was born in Afghanistan but spent her formative years in a refugee camp in Uzbekistan before coming to Concord with her mother and father, a former petroleum engineer. Safiya was an outstanding NHTI student, worked in the NHTI library and for area businesses, and was the pride of her family when



Safiya and her family with Governor Sununu. Photo © Becky Field, FieldWork Photos

she graduated with a degree in Business Administration in 2016. NHTI President **Susan Dunton** singled out Safiya in her commencement address that year for all she had overcome on her path to graduation.

NHTI Prof. **Paula DelBonis-Platt**, Safiya's mentor for the past ten years, also attended the ceremony with Safiya and her family. "I cannot think of anyone who is more deserving of this award," says Prof. DelBonis-Platt. "Safiya is an amazing, smart, and talented young woman. I am honored to know her and her family. She contributes a great deal to our community and makes life better for all who have the pleasure of knowing her."

14th Annual NHTI Northeast Delta Dental 5K Road Race

Friday, April 20 at 6 pm

Come back to NHTI, run a 5K race, have a free barbecue, and maybe win an award for the fastest NHTI alumni! For details visit nhti.edu/5k.



M-F, 8 am - 3 pm (603) 228-2000 88 Washington Street Concord, NH 03301

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Chinese Dumplings Buy One, Get One Order Free

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Coupon valid until 12/31/18. One coupon per purchase. Coupon cannot be duplicated.

Alumni Updates

1973

Howard Harris

is employed with BAE Systems as a Principle Engineer working with electrical mixed signals. He graduated NHTI in 1973 with an electronics engineering degree and went on to obtain his Bachelor's in Electronics Engineering at UMass-Lowell in 1981. He is interested in volunteering to plan a class reunion at NHTI.

2004

Mike Bussiere II

is employed with Ipswich Bay Glass (IBG) in Rowley, MA, as a BIM Coordinator. Last Fall, he transitioned from Autodesk AEC support to the IBG design team. In his new role the objective is to help expand the BIM department. He recently reached out to AET Department Head **Dr. Liaquat Khan** reflecting on how the base architectural knowledge he gained at NHTI has proven to be a great foundation in his career progression.

2005

Chris Dawe

met Mayor Jiang Youwei in Shenyang, China where he received the Rose Award for Foreign Experts who make "outstanding contributions to the economic construction and social development of Shenyang City" in recognition for his work as the Director of Teachers at Northeast Yucai School, an elite international school in Shenyang. He credits his NHTI experience as extraordinarily helpful equipping him with both the academic and career skills needed to achieve his goals. Following his time at NHTI where he earned his associate degree in Liberal Arts, he enrolled at Brigham Young University of Pennsylvania where he received a Bachelor's in Classics and a minor in History. He went on to earn a Master of Science in Education at the University of Pennsylvania which led to his current position as Director of Foreign Teachers.

2006

Christian Mathews

earned a nursing degree in 2006 and is now pursuing his Bachelor's degree in Nursing through Chamberlain College of Nursing. His plan is to work as a hospice nurse. Christian tells us, "NHTI was the best place for me to learn about Nursing. I gained valuable experience and knowledge which has been very useful throughout my nursing career. I

would definitely encourage anyone who is pursuing a degree in nursing to start at NHTI. The professors were honest and really taught you what to expect when you became a nurse at a facility. Best decision I ever made." Christian lives with his wife Samantha, also an NHTI alum, and their two children, Dez and Griffin in North Port, Florida.

2013

Mark Bodanza

earned a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice at Liberty University in 2016 and also earned his Criminal Justice Studies (1998) and Paralegal Certificate (2013) at NHTI. He is currently employed as the Captain of the Hanover, NH Police Department. Prior to that he worked for the Police Academy for nine years. He is also an ordained minister of a small church in Chesterfield, NH. He is the father of seven children – four girls and three boys. He found his days at NHTI rewarding and foundational for where he is today.



2017

Taylor Parent

recently left her position at Canobie Lake Park to work as the Function Sales Manager/ Wedding and Event Coordinator at Candia Woods Golf Course in Candia, NH. Taylor earned her associate degree in Business Administration in 2014, and her Wedding Planning Management and Event Conference Management Certificates in 2017.

2018

Stephanie Jones Guislin

will be graduating from NHTI in May with a degree in Business Administration – this is after earning her accounting certificate in 2017, her associate degree in Health Science in 2011, and her Dental Assisting certificate in 2009. She is the business manager for A.D. Guislin Construction, a business she and her husband, Andrew Guislin, built from the ground up beginning in January 2012 and the major reason she decided to return to NHTI.

Engagements and Weddings

Albee'14 - McFarland

Jillian Albee is engaged to Blake McFarland of Indianapolis, IN. A June 2018 wedding is planned. Albee earned a bachelor's degree in Communication from UNH, and



an associate degree in Dental Hygiene from NHTI in 2014. She is currently a student at the Indiana University School of Dentistry. McFarland earned a bachelor's degree in Construction Management from Purdue University. He is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

In Memory

Caron'69

Andre F. Caron, 68, of Berlin, died peacefully at his home on July 21, 2017, with his wife and family at his side, after a long battle with renal cancer.

He was born in Sherbrook, Quebec, Canada, the son of Ovila and Aline Caron, on July 30, 1949.

He moved to Berlin, NH, in 1958 and attended Berlin schools, graduating from Berlin High School in 1967. He graduated from



NHTI in 1969 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology, and obtained a bachelor of arts in business administration from University System of NH in 1989.

He married his high school sweetheart, Colette Garon, in 1971, and they resided in Manchester, where Mr. Caron was employed by New England Telephone and Telegraph. He later worked in Gibraltar and London, England for NYNEX. Following his retirement from NYNEX in 1996, he worked in Africa for Comstar, then for FLAG in Bermuda and Dubai, and finally for Conversant in Manchester where he fully retired from telecoms and moved to Berlin full-time. He was employed by the City of Berlin as its first housing coordinator from 2004-2013.

NHTI Alum Heads State Children's Ed Association

Cara Prindiville (Early Childhood Education, 2014) became President of the New Hampshire Association for the Education of Young Children (NHAEYC). The NHAEYC is the state chapter of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, an organization that provides professional development and other forms of support for early childhood education (ECE) teachers. The NHAEYC is also the accrediting body for NHTI's Child and Family Development Center (CFDC).

It's quite an achievement for someone only a few years out of school herself, but Cara's path seems to have been all but predestined early on. "I was always interested in working with children," says the Hooksett native, "and my dream job was to be a teacher. I wasn't fully sure what direction to head in though. I honestly came to NHTI to take some general education courses for my first year and to save some money."

Fate intervened when Cara spoke with then department head Gale Hall about possibly joining NHTI's ECE program. "She instantly knew I was the right fit for the field, and I enrolled in classes to start my associate degree. I loved the professors and started to build friendships in some of my classes. I had an amazing experience observing at the childcare center on campus. I quickly got asked to apply for a part time position in the infant room at CFDC; I got the job and absolutely loved it! My mentors allowed me to build my knowledge of early childhood, and my love for working with children grew.

"I graduated with my associate degree in 2014, having built strong relationships with my co-workers and professors in the field. I knew that there was more in my future though, so I went to Southern New Hampshire University to continue my education and got my bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education in 2016."

Cara currently works at the Pembroke Village School as a Title One Interventionist. "This means that I work with children in Kindergarten and First Grade who need extra help in reading, writing and math skills," she says. "My job is to help these students become grade level learners and give them that extra boost that they need."

In her new role as president of NHAEYC, Cara says she hopes to reach out to kindergarten through third grade teachers to provide them with the support they need. "Those public school teachers are sometimes forgotten," she says. At NHAEYC, "we believe that all children in New Hampshire should grow up with quality care. Our main goal is to make sure we are offering teachers what they need to help every child grow up to be the best they can be."



Tim Near Goes Far

im Near is out to change the world ... and <u>you</u>. Or at least, to change what you can do, "to help you be the best you've ever been," as his website puts it.

But we'll come back to that.

Six or seven years ago, when Tim was a Mechanical Engineering Technology student at NHTI, the Moultonborough native began working as an intern at Land and Sea, Inc., a Concord engineering firm that specializes in the design and manufacture of dynamometers, devices that measure engine horsepower. Though used primarily by high performance car designers, dynamometers can be used to test all types of engines, and Land and Sea has products designed for use with virtually any type of vehicle or machine, ranging in price from \$500 to



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\$2 million. After graduating with his associate degree in 2012, Tim continued working at the firm; over five years he became its lead engineer.

But Tim has dreams that go far beyond observing engines; he wants to create technology that assists people. "I've always been fascinated with the integration of man and machine," he says. So in 2017, working out of his Concord home, Tim started designing wearable devices that he hopes will provide the average person with Olympic-level physical abilities.

The two products currently under development include FLO2™, an "intelligent air pump" that helps you breathe, and Halo™, a device which combines drone technology and a body harness to alter the physics of your actions. Tim hopes that athletes wearing his devices will soon be able to break world records for fastest footspeed, the running mile, the 100 and 200 meter dash, and the fastest ascent of Mount Washington. Tim explains, "In my physics classes at NHTI we were taught about the constant influence of gravity. It was at that moment I thought, if we can somehow oppose the forces of gravity … everything we know about our movement will change."

In the nearer term, however, Tim's company The Cyborg Lab just released "Cyborg GO," a free iOS smartphone app

that calculates your exercise benefits more accurately by taking altitude into consideration. There is a link to download the app at thecyborglab.com.

Tim credits NHTI's small class sizes and hands-on teaching approach with preparing him for success in the real world. "The professors went way beyond just the curriculum," he says. "They helped me explore my curiosity about CAD modeling and 3D printing, which ultimately led me down this road of creation. One of my most-prized possessions is my first 3D print, which I made on campus while a student at NHTI."

Who knows? Tim's products and vision may one day take us all farther and faster than we ever thought we could go.



Tim Near models a prototype of one of his products.