



A Galaxy of Stars Volunteer for Record-A-Thon 2004!

Princeton University President **Dr. Shirley M. Tilghman** (r.), is honorary chair of the New Jersey Unit's 2004 Record-A-Thon (R-A-T) which takes place **April 19-24** at the unit's studio in St. Joseph's Seminary in Plainsboro. This year's R-A-T includes celebrity volunteers **Rep. Rush Holt**, *The New York Times* science writer and author **Gina Kolata**, visiting professor at the Institute for Advanced Studies, Chair of the Department African and African American Studies at Harvard University and author **Henry Louis Gates, Jr.**, *Time* magazine senior science writer and author **Michael Lemonick**, best selling novelist **Peter Benchley**, 2003 Pulitzer Prize winner for poetry **Paul Muldoon**, *The New York Times* restaurant critic **Karla Cook**, Dodge poet and *Home News Tribune* editor **Charles H. Johnson**, historian and Cuba expert **Jane Franklin**, McCarter Theater Artistic Director, playwright and director **Emily Mann** and professor emerita of physics at the Institute for Advanced Study and author **Freeman Dyson**, Mercer County Executive **Brian Hughes**, Princeton University Professor of English **Lawrence Danson**, Princeton Borough Councilwoman **Wendy Benchley** and many others.



Don Tretola, Regional Public Affairs Manager for PSE&G, Corporate Co-chair of the 2004 Record-A-Thon and a Studio Sponsor for the event, discusses the recording of the *Norton Anthology of American Literature* with volunteer **Anne Sheldon**. Tretola shares the honor with unit board member and President and CEO of Caliper, **Herb Greenberg, Ph.D.** Caliper is also a studio sponsor for the event. For more information about how your company can support the 2004 Record-A-Thon, contact Director of Development **Sandi Wilson** at (609) 750-9579.

Record-A-Thon 2004 Sponsors

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This year's Record-A-Thon working committee has been busily preparing for the event. It includes (from left) **Oriel Quinlan**, **Sandy Shapiro**, **Anita Trullinger**, **Beverly Mills**, committee chair **Anne Young** and **Olivian Boon**. Also working hard to make R-A-T a success are **Mary Bell** and **Amy Greany**.

Remembering Pat Pell

Pat Pell, assistant studio director at the Princeton Studio for 22 years, died in December 2003, after a three year battle with cancer.

Pat was a great friend and a wonderful resource for volunteers. As **Anne Sheldon** commented, "The thing I miss most about Pat is just being

able to call her when I would come across something funny. Just the other day I read 'I'm not perfect, but parts of me are excellent.' I thought she'd like that."

Dry wit, acute observations, a passion for social justice, a lively intelligence—we all miss her.

New Jersey Says Goodbye to the Analog Era!



Patricia Burch Byers, Trustee of the Fred C. Rummel Foundation (I.) presents a \$5,000 check to unit board chair **Cynthia Hillas** for one of two grants, one of which will help pay for the unit's move from Princeton to St. Joseph's Seminary in Plainsboro and its conversion from analog to digital recording equipment. The other is for a Learning Through Listening® Institutional Membership for a Union County school.

In mid March 2004, technicians from national headquarters arrived at the New Jersey Unit to replace the last reel-to-reel recorder with digital recording equipment.

In February, the final analog recorded book, Eric J. Topol's 2,139 page *Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine* was completed. It filled 84 four track reels which included well over 300 hours of recording.

Thanks go to those who read this incredibly complex book including **Juanell Boyd**, **Cathy Culquhoun**, **Jerry Freedman**, **Grace Gagliardi**, **Bob Jackson**, **Mindy Langer**, **Rose Marie Proietti**, **Harvey**

Rothberg, **Dinesh Singal**, **Kathy Thompson** and **Felice Weinstein** and all the other volunteers who directed its recording sessions, performed quality control checks and prepared the books for reading.



The New Jersey Unit's analog recording era (I.) has finally come to a close replaced by digital volunteer recording workstations. The 84 tapes required for the last analog book can fit on eight AudioPlus® digital textbooks.

Unit's Website Makes it Easier for Schools to Order NJ Core Curriculum Books

Schools may search the New Jersey Unit's website and RFB&D's 11,000-plus digital library to order RFB&D's AudioPlus® books online. Teachers may also browse RFB&D's 98,000 volume CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library for a comprehensive listing of books on CD or audio cassette at RFB&D's National website www.rfbd.org.

New Jersey's new on-line ordering system at our website www.rfbdnj.org hosts a new, easy to use, searchable database by standard and grade level. Many of the RFB&D's AudioPlus™ digitally recorded textbooks in RFB&D's National Library are included in the New Jersey Frameworks to assist teachers with student instruction of the standards. RFB&D has textbooks in the following content areas: Health, Language Arts Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Technology, Visual and Performing Arts and World Languages.

The shopping cart is reserved for New Jersey member schools having a current membership ID number with RFB&D and their students. Orders may

be e-mailed to dpassafiume@rfbd.org in the New Jersey Educational Outreach Center's member services department for processing. The on-line ordering feature is not available for individual borrowers. If your school is not a current institutional member, you can download an RFB&D Learning Through Listening Institutional Membership application from the RFB&D national website at www.rfbd.org or call the RFB&D National Member Services department toll-free at **800-221-4792** for more information about RFB&D's membership programs. You may also contact the RFB&D's New Jersey Educational Outreach Center's toll-free number **877-4RFBDNJ**.

The unit is very appreciative to a number of volunteers for their roles in making this vehicle ready for schools and for their generous time and expertise. Thanks go to **Steve Saporta**, studio volunteer and web programmer; **Leonard Epstein**, president of Computer Consulting Group and education programmer; **Sandy Shapiro**, unit webmaster, board member, and volunteer; and Outreach staff member **Sherry**

Deutsch for making the database and shopping cart a reality for school and community use. Outreach received special assistance from **Peter Gibson**, president of Princeton On Line, board member and former Co-Chair and **Jeff Gould**, Princeton On Line with hosting the website.

Thanks also go to **Pam Johnson**, Director of RFB&D National Library Services and **Adrienne Kemp**, RFB&D Director of Members Services and their staffs for their support and assistance.



The New Jersey Unit website, www.rfbdnj.org offers a searchable database for New Jersey schools of the state's Core Curriculum books available in RFB&D's CV Starr Learning Through Listening Library.

Assistive Technology Specialists to Provide Training to Institutional Member Schools

When **Christine Ranaghan**, Director of Educational Outreach for the New Jersey Unit, first heard **Dr. Brian Friedlander's** articulate address to educators about Assistive Technology for the 21st Century, she had met another professional who also wanted to help students meet with educational success. Since then, Chris and Outreach Officer **Sherry Deutsch** have met with Dr. Friedlander, **Tom Caine**, president of Tom Caine and Associates, and **Joan McNinch**, coordinator of the Warren County Educational Technology Training Center. The seeds for a possible relationship with Tom Caine and Associates and RFB&D's New Jersey Unit Outreach Center took root.

Through Brian's awareness and recommendation of RFB&D and our products and services, and through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Education "Supporting Students with Disabilities in the General Education Classroom", three school districts received approvals to purchase and implement RFB&D's Learning Through Listening™ (LTL) programs. To date, Harmony Township School District Superintendent **Vicki Pede**, Bethlehem Township School District Director of Special Services, **Jackie Roposh**, Director of School Services **Linda Mullin** of the Allamuchy Township School District and Franklin Township

School's Director of Special Services **Carol Wolfe** have added RFB&D's LTL as part of their school's Assistive Technology solution for students with learning disabilities.

This month, the New Jersey Unit's Educational Outreach Center will extend an invitation to Tom Caine and Associates, LLC to become independent teacher trainers for RFB&D's LTL program in New Jersey. Chris, "looks forward to Tom Caine and Associates working with educational outreach staff to attract new RFB&D LTL Institutional member schools and provide training to our existing institutional members."

Tom Caine, Brian Friedlander, **Julia Sonnenschein** and **Celeste Hammell**, provide Assistive Technology training to the K-12 special education community in New Jersey. Their company focus is complementary to the Unit's Educational Outreach Center purpose of serving students identified with learning disabilities by promoting the effective use of RFB&D's accessible textbooks. Since 1992, Tom Caine and Associates has trained special education teachers in hundreds of school districts.

Brian Friedlander, Ph.D. has over twenty years in the field of special education. As a licensed and certified school

psychologist, Dr. Friedlander is passionate about the application of assistive technology in the schools and is a national leader in the field and publishes *Inclusion Times: Technology for Children & Youth with Disabilities* (www.assistivetek.com)

Assistive Technology Inclusive School Packages

Educational Outreach has created Assistive Technology inclusive educational packages for New Jersey schools. Each RFB&D district site license includes an RFB&D's LTL membership, customer support, training materials and three hours of training.

Each school package offers teachers an effective method to assist students with IEPs or Section 504 Plans to meet the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and to help students keep up with their peers in the classroom. These packages are ideal for listening centers, resource centers, self-contained and inclusion classrooms. RFB&D's New Jersey Assistive Technology support team is available to assist each school in selecting a standard or custom technology license package. For more information contact Educational Outreach toll free **(877) 473-2365**, **(609) 750-0595** or cranaghan@rfd.org.



James R. Marhold joined the New Jersey Unit as Executive Director in October, 2003. Jim brings over ten years of nonprofit management experience to RFB&D including positions as Director of Mental Health Services for Volunteers of America of Greater New York and Director of Residential Services for Hudson Association for Retarded Citizens. Welcome aboard Jim!

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 Gail Clauer, Volunteer Coordinator
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Educational Outreach Center

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Unit to Host Corporate Open House

The New Jersey Unit will hold a Corporate Open House on Tuesday, April 20 from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. at its studio in St. Vincent's Hall of St. Joseph's Seminary.

Record-A-Thon corporate co-chairs **Don Tretola** of PSE&G and **Herb Greenberg, Ph.D.** of Caliper will host the event sponsored by **Tre Piani** restaurant in nearby Forrestal Village. During the open house, they will honor **Louis Mercatanti** of Nassau Broadcasting, the 2004 Record-A-

Thon lead sponsor, with the 2004 Leadership Award. Other activities will include door prizes, a silent auction, a tour of the unit's new state-of-the-art recording facility and networking opportunities.

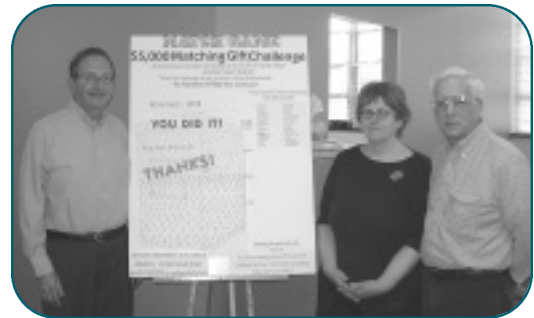
The event is free of charge, but attendees are asked to RSVP Director of Development **Sandi Wilson** at **609-750-9579** or **swilson@rfd.org**.

Volunteer Challenge a Matching Success!

New Jersey Unit volunteers were challenged to raise \$5,000 that would be matched by an anonymous donor. The \$10,000 total would be used to dedicate a booth "In Honor of the Volunteers of the New Jersey Unit."

The challenge was more than met and the booth will be dedicated on Friday, April 23 at the Dedication and Volunteer Recognition Reception. All volunteers are invited to attend.

Thanks to all those generous volunteers and the extremely generous anonymous donor!



Fred Horowitz, Anne Shultes and Larry Shultes were among the many volunteers who helped make the matching gift challenge a success.