

# Spring 2026 Landscape

For Alumni and Friends of Landmark College

## Breaking New Ground

Upper Campus Commons project strengthens campus neuroinclusivity

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Cover photo of groundbreaking (from left): former Governor Peter Shumlin; President Jim Dlugos; first Director of Admissions Carolyn Olivier; first President Jim Olivier; first Dean of Academic Affairs Jim Baucom (photo credit: Todd Miller).

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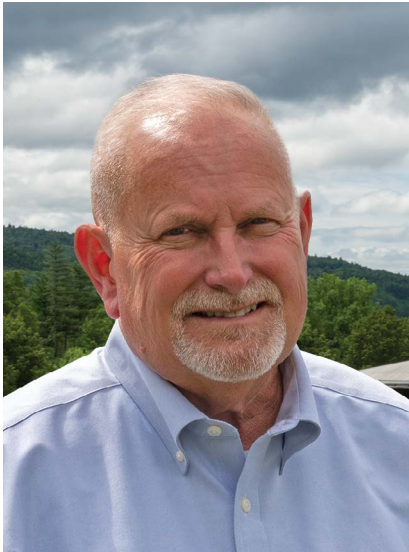
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*From the*

# President's Desk



The Upper Campus Commons groundbreaking ceremony took place during our Fall Family Weekend, Alumni Homecoming, and 40th Anniversary celebrations. It brought together a range of people from across Landmark's four decades who have shaped and continue to shape this institution through their commitment to the College's mission, the communities we serve, and to each other. Together, they represented the College community's history.

The development of the Upper Campus Commons marks an important inflection point in that history.

Landmark College began enrolling students in 1985—five years before the 1990 passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Dr. Charles Drake and

College's other founders were ahead of their time in recognizing that more had to be done to meet the needs of students with dyslexia and others who learned differently and to assist them in achieving their full potential.

And while the acquisition of much of what had been Windham College's campus allowed Drake and Landmark to move more quickly from vision to reality, it was not a perfect fit. Today, we continue to make the best of buildings that were not designed with our students in mind.

The development of the Upper Campus Commons allows us to change that.

The design of the Upper Campus Commons grew out of listening sessions with students about what kinds of improvements they would like to see on campus. Our students will continue to be involved in decision-making about the interior finishes and furnishings.

Central to the project is the College's commitment to using neuroinclusive design. This human-centered approach will create environments, products, and services to accommodate the diverse sensory and cognitive needs of neurodivergent individuals, and promote inclusivity and accessibility for all.

Neuroinclusive design focuses on creating spaces and experiences that

are accessible and user friendly for individuals across the entire spectrum of neurodiversity, including those with conditions such as autism, ADHD, and dyslexia. This approach emphasizes the importance of understanding and integrating the unique strengths and challenges faced by neurodivergent individuals into the design process. What we learned through the development of the Upper Campus Commons will be applied to all our facilities work at Landmark.

In addition to photographs of Homecoming Weekend, this issue of Landscape captures the energy of the Upper Campus Commons groundbreaking through pictures of the event and the reactions of some alumni who attended. You'll also get to meet—or get reacquainted with—a recently engaged alumni couple and catch up with the exciting things happening in the lives of other members of the Landmark community.

Enjoy!

Best wishes,



Jim Dlugos, Ph.D.  
President, Landmark College

*Aerial view of the Upper Campus Commons groundbreaking ceremony held September 27, 2025.*





# Heartfelt Transformation

Alumni express excitement and support for Upper Campus Commons project

While Fall 2025 Homecoming/Family Weekend festivities mainly focused on celebrating Landmark College's 40th anniversary, one event marked an important step forward into the College's future.

Indeed, many of the weekend's attendees took time out from fond reflections on the past to climb the hill from lower to upper campus. Together, they witnessed the groundbreaking ceremony for Upper Campus Commons (UCC)—the College's first new building project since the Charles Drake Athletic Field nearly 10 years ago.

When completed, the project will create a new addition onto Stone Hall, featuring an outdoor courtyard in the back and a large plaza overlooking lower campus. The facility will be open around-the-clock and provide multiple spaces for informal and organized student activities.

Its proximity to all the residence halls has many people referring to the UCC as the campus's future "living room." Former Vermont

Governor Peter Shumlin, who played an instrumental role in bringing Landmark College to Putney as a member of the town's Selectboard, offered an even deeper analogy.

"Anyone who's spent time here will tell you that what the campus was missing was a heart," said Shumlin following the groundbreaking. "Something close to where people live, where you can hang out, build friendships, and celebrate the fact that you're getting to live with folks who went through a similar journey as you. I hope everyone in the community will support this."

The UCC project was born from a series of listening sessions conducted with students during the 2023–24 academic year. The excitement from those conversations turning into construction was evident in the



Many alumni eagerly joined the groundbreaking celebration. From left: **Cullen Elwell '24**, **Nicole Yee '21**, student **Ethan Lyles**, Landmark President **Jim Dlugos**, **Gabby Killin '24**, **William Epifanio '19**, **Marion Yager '25**, **Alex Kiratsous '24**, **Martha Meigs '22**.

number of young alumni eager to grab a shovel and join in the ceremony.

**Cullen Elwell '24** was one of those alumni. He said a project like this “had always been on the wish list” when he was president of the Student Government Association.

“There was always interest, especially in winter, to have an indoor place on upper campus and potentially more outdoor public spaces for students to enjoy our amazing view,” said Elwell.

Elwell credited **Guinevere Downey '24** for taking the lead in initiating those student discussions. While she was not present at the groundbreaking, Downey was very excited to hear the project was moving forward. She said her original motivation was to try and encourage more students to attend

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*“I think it’s going to be a huge improvement for Landmark’s culture.”*

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programs in the Centers for Diversity & Inclusion, because their less accessible location in the basement across campus was frequently cited as a barrier.

“For young people, I think there are few places left in American society that are free, accessible, and not home, school, or work,” said Downey, referencing

the “Third Place Theory” about the importance of public spaces. “I think it’s going to be a huge improvement for Landmark’s culture.”

As a former resident advisor, **Gabby Killin '24** saw practical benefits in the creation of the new space. “An issue for many students, mainly in their first year, is trying to figure out where to study. Some will do it in their room, but it doesn’t always work with their roommate, or they get distracted. So having the Upper Campus Commons open all the time will be really good for homework as well,” Killin explained.

**Nicole Yee '21** was one of several alumni who admitted a tinge of jealousy about the new space. Her time at Landmark College overlapped with the COVID-19 pandemic when students

weren't permitted to visit with each other in their rooms. Yee currently lives in New York and had an opportunity to visit the office of architect and Landmark College Trustee Bennett Fradkin, who showed her some of the three-dimensional models and renderings he created when planning the Upper Campus Commons.

"It was cool that I got this preview and then once I was back at Landmark, I was able to see that it was being built on the exact path that I walked," said Yee, adding that she was very intrigued about the interior furnishings being built with neuroinclusivity in mind.

As a member of the Alumni Advisory Board (AAB), **Rachel Brown '16** had been aware of the project for some time. Still, personally attending the groundbreaking felt to her like there was a "new breath of air" on campus.



*"Forty years is amazing—but especially for such a niche population—any expansion, any growth, any reinvestment in ourselves is always exciting to see."*

"It shows the campus is here to stay," said Brown. "Forty years is amazing—but especially for such a niche population—any expansion, any growth, any reinvestment in ourselves is always exciting to see."

Current AAB Chair **Andrew Garcia '11** used similar language when he called

the project a "shot in the arm," and talked about the pride he felt about the project as an alumnus.

"You get out of college, you go into the world, you do big things, and there's this greatness to coming back

to campus and recognizing where you came from and how it all started," Garcia said. "The 40th anniversary brought a lot of that back. And I think having the groundbreaking tied into that, to show the next big step, was incredibly well done." 🐦



*Former Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin makes remarks at the UCC groundbreaking ceremony. Shumlin was instrumental in bringing Landmark College to Putney as a member of the town's Selectboard.*

# Homecoming Weekend

## and 40th Anniversary

# 2025

Every Homecoming Weekend is special. But it was so wonderful to have even more alumni than usual visit campus this past September to help us celebrate the College's 40th anniversary.

In addition to the usual festivities, there was a special program that included keynote addresses from Jim and Carolyn Olivier (Landmark College's first president and admissions director), as well as reflections from alumni and special recognitions. Attendees also enjoyed video montages showing the College throughout its four decades! Scan the QR code to watch a replay of the day.



Scan QR to view video.



The traditional homecoming weekend shot of alumni on the stairs.



**Brian Littlehale '87** on the first cohort of Landmark College students. "We addressed our fears, we addressed our anxiety, and our abilities. We realized that we did have abilities. We created positive learning habits, and this group was forever changed."



**Brett Himsworth '90:** "What I remember about Landmark is I found home. Landmark is where I'm comfortable. Landmark is where I can be myself."



Governor Phil Scott proclaimed September 21-27, 2025 as Landmark College 40th anniversary celebration week in the state of Vermont.



**Marc Thurman '18** (at podium) was presented with the Alumni Service Award for his work building the Landmark College Centers for Diversity and Inclusion. Also on stage (from left): Resident Dean and Assistant Director of CDI **Sho Conley '21**; student Josh Sampaio; student Brigid Hamwey; student Eliza Gilpin; student Jaden Clark; student Nailah Quail-Parker; former Resident Dean Ellen Wood; student South Graves; and student David Jenerson.



**Katherine (Scrivner) Wagenbach '98** (center) was inducted into the Landmark College Sports Hall of Fame, along with her husband **Kurt Wagenbach '98** (not present). Their youngest son Cole (right) accepted the award on his father's behalf. Also pictured, Landmark College Director of Athletics Josh Asceni (left).



From left: **Mac Beattie '92**; **Andrew Giordano '92**; **Kimberly Moreau '92**



From left: **Theodora van Roijen '00**; **Blain Namm '00**; **Andrea Tolliver '00**; **Genevieve Friend '96**; **Sarah Holmes '14**



**Genevieve Friend '96:**  
 "My fondest memories are of the professors and staff who believed in me when I didn't believe in myself. Their encouragement planted seeds of confidence I carry to this day."



**Nathaniel Gulley '20** and **Jiana Eisenberg '20**

# On and Around Campus



## Senator on Campus

U.S. Senator Peter Welch (D-VT) delivered the keynote address at the inauguration of President Jim Dlugos, which was incorporated into the Fall 2025 Convocation ceremony held on August 30.

## Reimagining Art Spaces

Campus planner Charles Craig (standing at whiteboard) conducted a series of listening sessions with the Integrated Arts faculty and students last October to aid the College's plans to utilize the recently purchased facility at 78 River Road. Craig returned in December with a report detailing possibilities for relocating the visual arts studios to the new building and creating more space for performing arts in the current Fine Arts Building.





## Advancing Neuroinclusivity

Two classrooms in the Lewis Academic Building were outfitted with new furniture this past fall as a pilot program for advancing neuroinclusivity in learning environments. Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Karrie Kalich said the tiered classroom experience can “reduce anxiety, improve focus, and encourage active participation.”



## Chartwells Partnership

The College’s food service vendor, Chartwells, partnered with the Landmark College Institute for Research and Training on a program to better support neurodivergent students across all 350 of the colleges and universities it serves.

**Screen capture of Vice President for Neurodiversity Research and Innovation Dr. Adam Lalor from the Chartwells Training Video**



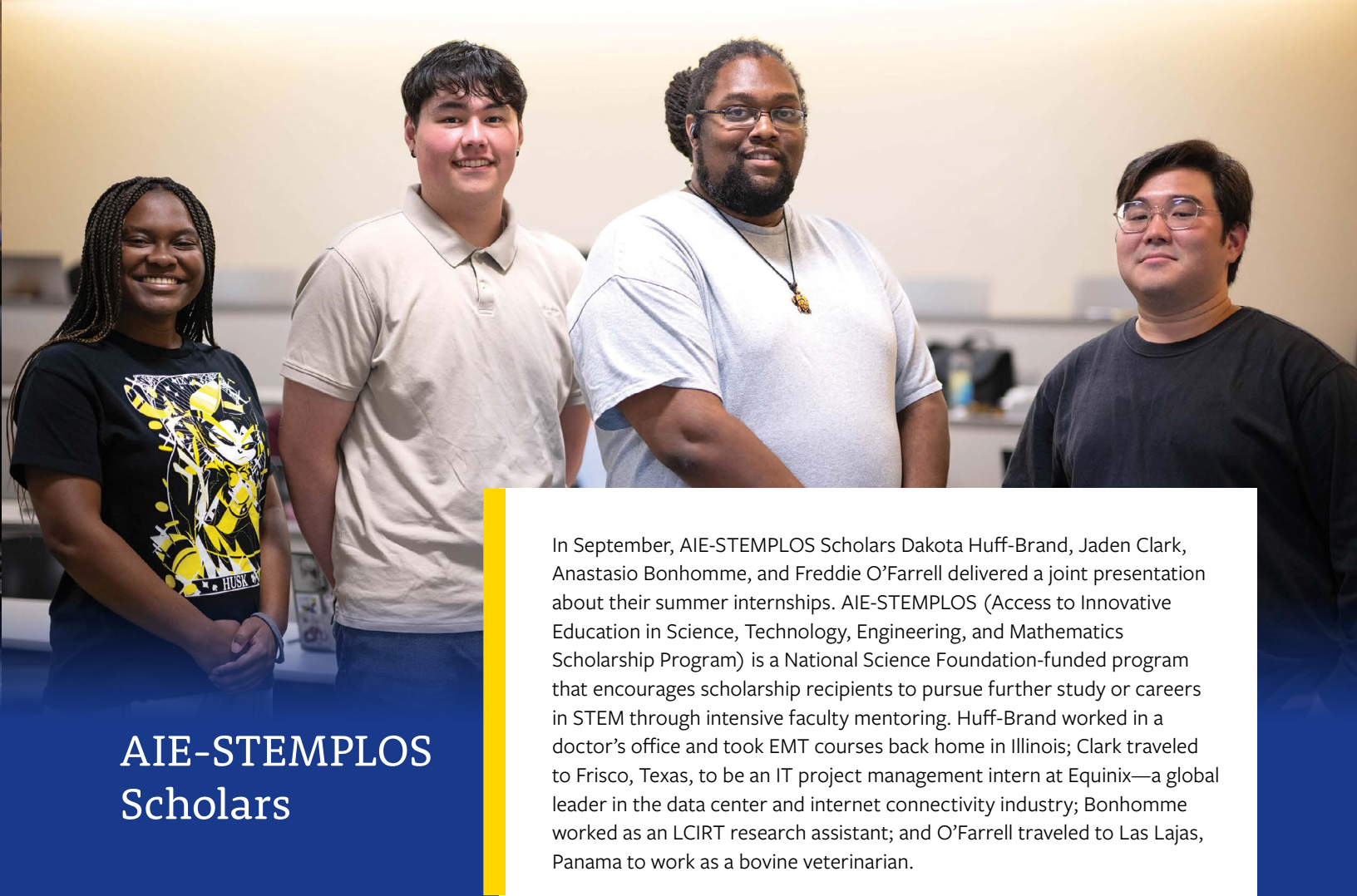
## First Neuroinclusive Career Fair

The Office of Career Connections welcomed 15 area employers and several Landmark College departments to its first neuroinclusive career fair on October 22, 2025. Prior to the career fair itself, employers had access to a training workshop on best practices in neuroinclusive hiring, onboarding, and management. A total of 183 students attended the fair to network, circulate resumes and get professional headshots taken for their LinkedIn pages.



## CAN Honors Professor Emeritus Ken Gobbo

The College Autism Network (CAN) named Landmark College Professor Emeritus Ken Gobbo the recipient of its 2025 Outstanding Research on Autism in Higher Education award during its annual conference, held November 2-5 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



## AIE-STEMPLOS Scholars

In September, AIE-STEMPLOS Scholars Dakota Huff-Brand, Jaden Clark, Anastasio Bonhomme, and Freddie O’Farrell delivered a joint presentation about their summer internships. AIE-STEMPLOS (Access to Innovative Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Scholarship Program) is a National Science Foundation-funded program that encourages scholarship recipients to pursue further study or careers in STEM through intensive faculty mentoring. Huff-Brand worked in a doctor’s office and took EMT courses back home in Illinois; Clark traveled to Frisco, Texas, to be an IT project management intern at Equinix—a global leader in the data center and internet connectivity industry; Bonhomme worked as an LCIRT research assistant; and O’Farrell traveled to Las Lajas, Panama to work as a bovine veterinarian.



From left: President Jim Dlugos; Dean of Campus Life Scott Ansevin-Allen; Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Luciani; Associate Director of Residential Life Nicole Pacenka; Assistant Director of Recreation and Outdoor Programs Molly Lawson; Manager of Administrative Services **Alexis Bird '17**; Dean of Students Craig Marcus at the Community Dinner held November 14, 2025 at Next Stage Arts.

## LC in the Community

Landmark College hosted two community dinners in November as part of the College’s commitment to giving back to residents in the Town of Putney. Both events—a community supper hosted on Friday, November 14 at Next Stage Arts and a Community Thanksgiving hosted on campus on Saturday, November 22—were iterations of annual events. This year was the highest ever turnout for the Community Thanksgiving, with 256 members of the Putney community attending. The event also raised funds and collected non-perishable items on behalf of the Putney Foodshelf, bringing in nearly \$1,000 in contributions and over 150 pounds of food.

## “Master Moon” Reconditioned

The Jules Olitski sculpture “Master Moon” that is at the front entrance of campus underwent reconditioning work this fall, with finishing touches set to take place when the weather warms up next spring. Local artist Rodrigo Nava has reconditioned several of Olitski’s pieces using a combination of power washing, scraping, and proprietary treatments.



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## LC In the News



Landmark College’s past and present were the subjects of two news features in October. Higher Education Reporter Kirk Carapezza (below) from the Boston, Massachusetts, public radio affiliate WGBH attended classes and spoke with several students and faculty members for a story celebrating Landmark College’s 40th anniversary. Also, Vermont’s CBS affiliate WCAX sent reporter Adam Sullivan to campus for a Learning Disabilities Awareness Month story about how WLMC radio helps neurodivergent students find their voices.





# Batter Up!

The Athletics Department installed a batting cage near Charles Drake Field last September. The baseball team also added alumnus **Ryan Sanchez '25** as an assistant coach. Visit the Athletics page on [landmark.edu](http://landmark.edu) for the spring sports schedule, and be sure to subscribe to the [@landmarkcollegeathletics](https://www.youtube.com/@landmarkcollegeathletics) YouTube channel for a growing number of livestreams.

# Serving His Community With Heart and Purpose

Landmark gave Nick Vidmar '16 the learning strategies and confidence to succeed.

By Don Miller

“Unpredictable, demanding, and deeply rewarding.” That’s how **Nick Vidmar '16** describes his career as the animal control officer for the town of Westport, Massachusetts. With an easy smile, he explains, “Animal control is mostly about people—educating residents, mediating conflicts, and enforcing the law fairly.”

Nick is proud to serve his community. “I oversee the health and safety standards for all household pets and farm animals in our area. I also work with area wildlife agencies to handle destructive, aggressive, or injured wildlife,” he says. While the work sometimes brings funny moments—like corralling loose livestock on the main highway—it also has serious and emotional challenges. “Some cases of abuse or neglect are really sad,” Nick says. “That part can be hard.”

Nick was born in Romania and spent his first 19 months in an orphanage, where poor care and lack of social contact led to developmental delays in many of the children. After being adopted and coming to the United States, Nick received occupational and speech therapy. Over time, he learned to manage his ADHD, dyslexia, and an auditory processing disorder. “I had IEPs and 504 plans throughout school. Academically, I did okay, but tests made me especially anxious. I would study to exhaustion.”

When it came time for college, Nick and his family looked for small and



*Nick and fiancée Eliza Caughey, a fellow LC graduate.*

supportive schools. He applied to several colleges and was accepted into all of them. Landmark stood out because of its teaching style and scholarship support. “It just felt like the right fit.”

At Landmark, Nick thrived in small classes with hands-on teaching by professors who actually taught in ways he could learn. “In math classes, we had whiteboards that covered the walls. I’m a visual learner, so that was huge. I went to office hours constantly. I was taught learning strategies that I still use today at work, like slowing down and asking people to repeat information. And

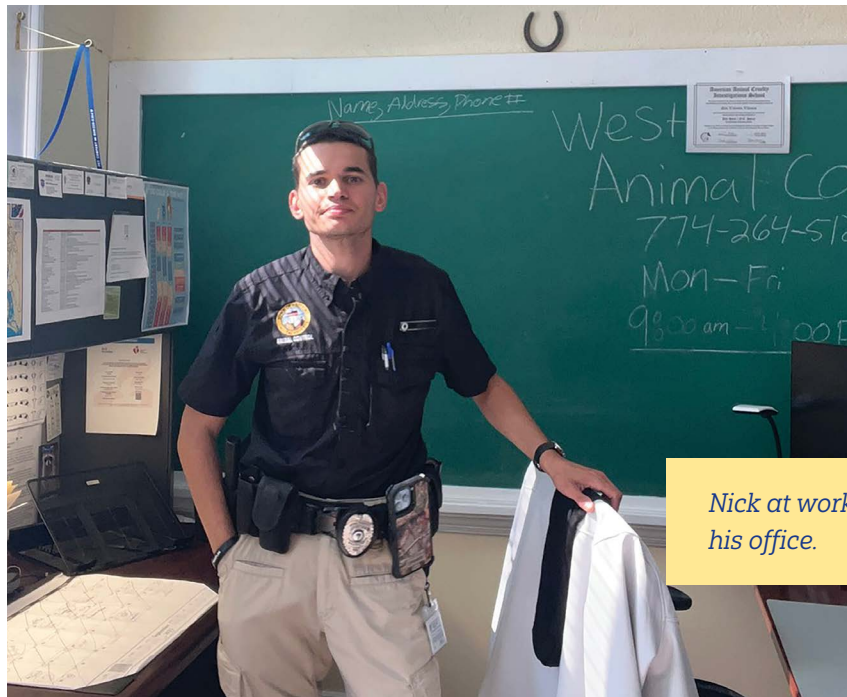
thank God for the speech-to-text technology I learned at Landmark! I still dictate all my reports, but now I can use my phone to do the job.”

After earning an A.A. in Liberal Studies at Landmark, Nick set his eyes on the future. He once considered becoming a K-9 police officer or a math teacher, but neither felt right. Landmark’s career services helped steer Nick to Unity College in Maine to study conservation law enforcement. There, a professor suggested a career in animal control. “It was the perfect mix of animals and law enforcement,” Nick says.

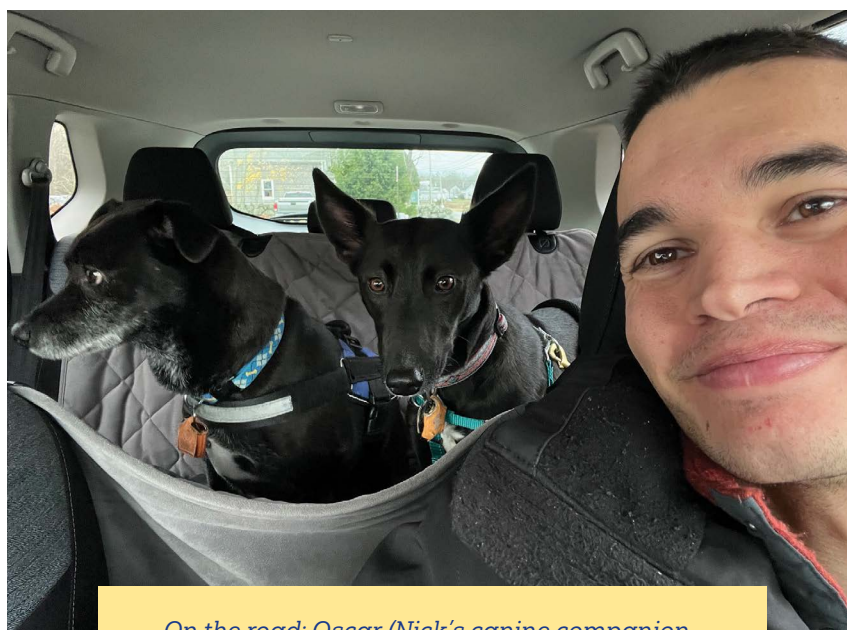
In 2019, Nick was hired as an animal control assistant in Westport and he rose through the ranks. Today, his days include responding to calls about lost or loose animals, and following up on open cases. As a state-appointed animal inspector, Nick also visits farms to check on animal care and living conditions. When needed, he issues citations or testifies in court. Recently, he worked with local wildlife authorities to help rehab and release an injured screech owl.

Nick has learned that calm, clear communication defuses most situations, and he credits Landmark with helping him develop that skill. “How you talk to people and how you treat people matters,” he says. He remembers many faculty members—including Liza Burns, Geoffrey Burgess, Eric Matte, Ned Olmsted, Dorothy Osterholt, and John Rose—taking extra time to help him refine his writing, understand his learning differences, and gain confidence when speaking. “When I first arrived at Landmark, I thought, ‘What if people judge me because I learn differently?’ But at Landmark, everyone learns a little bit differently. Once I saw that, I felt accepted, respected, and valued as a student. I felt like I belonged.”

Landmark also changed Nick’s life in other unexpected ways. Several years after graduation, he reconnected with former classmate **Eliza Caughey ’17**, and the two are now engaged. After earning her A.A. in Psychology at Landmark, Eliza went on to earn her B.S. in Psychology at Eastern Michigan University. She is now a behavioral health technician working with individuals with dementia. The couple lives in Fall River, Massachusetts, with their dogs, Oscar and Aiden.



*Nick at work in his office.*



*On the road: Oscar (Nick’s canine companion since he was a student at Unity College) and new pup Aiden, adopted by Nick and Eliza after he was abandoned by his owners.*

“Landmark was the place where I realized I wasn’t alone,” says Nick. “It taught me how to ask for help and how to succeed. It helped me become the person I am today.

Today, when a tough problem comes up concerning animal safety or control, people in Westport know who to call. “They trust me,” Nick says. “I know what to do.” 🐾

# Alumni Notes

Have a professional or personal update?  
Share it at [alumni@landmark.edu](mailto:alumni@landmark.edu)

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**Rosie Luker '24** has always had an interest in modeling work. She got to do just that by being part of last fall's marketing campaign for the Providence, Rhode Island, location of Bitty & Beau's Coffee, where she works as a barista. The company has a special mission to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, with more than 450 employees working in its 16 locations across 11 states.

"I couldn't believe I was actually the face of it," Luker said, while pointing out she is one of many staffers who are part of the campaign. "I enjoy welcoming everybody who comes in the store and recommending the best drinks for people."



*Rosie Luker '24 in an ad campaign for Bitty & Beau's new location in Providence, Rhode Island.*

## Students Promoting Admissions Recruitment & Knowledge [SPARK]

Lauren Orser M.Ed Higher Education  
Advisor: Dr. Susan Marlee

### Learning Outcomes

- Supervisors will be able to support their students in their undergraduate year to build employable skills to transfer to their careers after graduation.
- Students will be able to build employable skills through their current work, critical thinking, adaptability, team based communication, team leadership.

### Literature Review

- Students aren't prepared for employment after graduation; not given the opportunities to build skills in position (Hernandez & Smith, 2019)
- Structure of program should be founded with values & mission (Kirsch & Peters, 2017)
- Using leadership theories to base reasoning of the program
- Build opportunities for students to rotate leadership roles/supervision of others (Jacobs & Themasie, 2017)

"Leadership is an action, not a position" - David McGannon

### Pathway to Professional Excellence

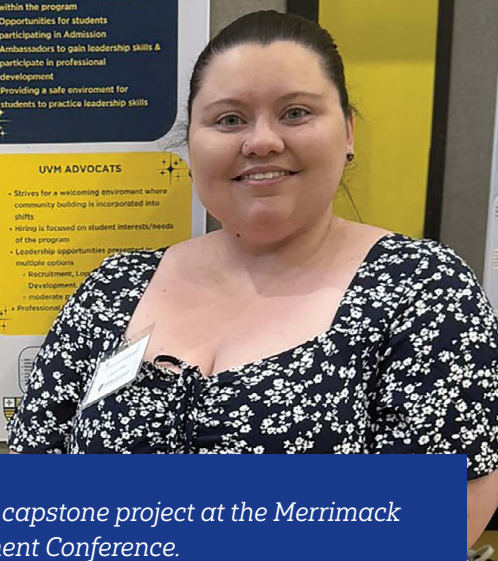


### What is SPARK?

- Program framework to enhance admission ambassador programs
- Strong foundation of professional growth, leadership theory based structure, professional development opportunities
- Supporting supervisors of Ambassador Programs to enhance their offerings within the program
- Opportunities for students participating in Admission Ambassadors to gain leadership skills & participate in professional development
- Providing a safe environment for students to practice leadership skills

### UVM ADVOCATS

- Strives for a welcoming environment where community building is incorporated into shifts
- Hiring is focused on student interests/needs of the program
- Leadership opportunities provided in multiple options
  - Recruitment, Leadership Development, Supervision, moderate and Professional



*Lauren Orser '22 presenting her master's capstone project at the Merrimack College Research and Creative Achievement Conference.*

**Lauren Orser '22** completed her M.Ed. at Merrimack College in Andover, Massachusetts, last May. She then moved to Virginia in October to take a position as an Admissions Visit Coordinator for Shenandoah University. In a LinkedIn post announcing the job, she thanked the Landmark College Office of Admissions for "giving me my passion for enrollment management and helping students find their dream school."



*Photo of Jalen Cyrus '24 from Eagles Autism Foundation Facebook post.*

Fellow graduate **Jalen Cyrus '24** is also gaining public acclaim as a member of the Game Day staff for the Philadelphia Eagles football team. The Eagles Autism Foundation tabbed him as their “Star of the Game” during the team’s October 26 win over the New York Giants.

“Jalen consistently shows a positive attitude and is eager to learn new responsibilities!” wrote the Foundation in its Facebook post. Two weeks later, they tapped into his Voices TV experience to deliver a video message about his experience.

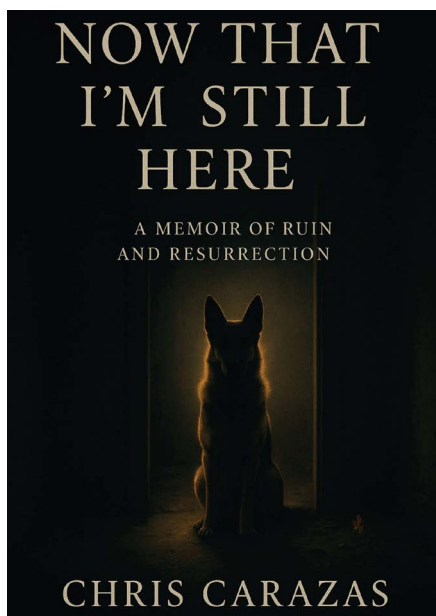
**Chris Carazas '07** published “Now That I’m Still Here: A Memoir of Ruin and Resurrection” in September 2025 and set out on a series of promotional events in eastern Massachusetts throughout the fall.

“When I arrived at Landmark, I was a student on the edge—uncertain if I could even stay in college,” said Carazas. “Landmark gave me more than structure; it gave me the tools to rebuild my life. Those lessons carried me forward, and today, I’ve published a memoir about surviving collapse, navigating neurodivergence, and learning to keep breathing when it felt impossible.”

Visit [chriscarazas.com](http://chriscarazas.com) for information about how to get the book.



*Chris Carazas '07*



*Matthew Davin '00 photo from his biography page on [medium.com/@beyondabsurdity](https://medium.com/@beyondabsurdity).*

**Matthew Davin '00** has also ventured into publishing with his own column on medium.com. While much of @beyondabsurdity is dedicated to “sports, satire, and nostalgia,” he also frequently draws on his time at Landmark College, most recently in an August 31, 2025, post entitled “Indelible Footprints in the Sand: Landmark College and the Upward Trajectory.”

“Without the transformation I experienced at Landmark...I would never have discovered the spark that ultimately propelled me to earn a master’s degree from the University of Indianapolis 17 years later,” wrote Davin.

Former Alumni Association Board member **Michael Langer '15** was featured in the *Wall Street Journal* last September for the launch of T.Rx Capital, a new firm focused on supporting early-stage healthcare innovation.

“It has been a lifetime dream to work with my father, Bob Langer, whose career has shown me what it means to turn bold science into lasting impact,” he wrote in a LinkedIn post. “This milestone is also a reminder of the advice, mentorship, and support from friends, family, and colleagues that make any journey possible.”



From left to right: T.Rx Capital Executive Chairman Dr. Bob Langer, and Co-Founders Dr. Corey McCann, Kwesi Frimpong-Boateng, and Michael Langer '15.



Sabrina Cohn (far left) as the leader of the mischievous “Blades” taunting Clothilde outside church, with Leonce standing by (Clothilde: Maria Clark, Leonce: Miguel Àngel Vàsquez).

**Sabrina Cohn '24** was back in Vermont last fall to perform in a production of “A Bayou Legend” at the Chandler Center for the Arts in Randolph. The opportunity came through a partnership between Opera Vermont and the Longy School of Music of Bard College, where she is pursuing a master’s degree.

“I’d originally thought that I would be covering my role and singing in their choir (which would still be a huge opportunity), but because I have one of the smaller roles, I will be singing with the main cast in Vermont. They will also be doing the first-ever studio recording of this opera (which I will also get to sing in!),” Cohn wrote in an email.

Sabrina Cohn '24 (right) with her fellow Blades backstage before first entrance (left: Aretha Angçao, center: Nan Yan).





**Dylan Sullivan '24** served as master of ceremonies for the National Center for Learning Disabilities 48th Annual Benefit, held November 20, 2025, at SECOND in New York City.

**Dylan Sullivan '24** continues to deepen his involvement with the National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD). After serving on the organization's Young Leadership Council for about a year, he was appointed to the Board of Directors in June. Sullivan then served as master of ceremonies for NCLD's annual fundraising event in New York City this past November.

"Landmark was an inflection point for me to change my personal story from an illness, or something to overcome, to rather learning how to work with my dyslexia. It changed my narrative of what it means to be dyslexic," said Sullivan at the time of his appointment to the board.



*Alicia Keating '15 at Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington.*

**Alicia Keating '15** was profiled on the Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington website last September for connecting neurodiversity with her studies in its Bachelor of Architectural Studies program. After graduating from Landmark, Keating spent time working for Kurn Hattin Home and School for Children and The Greenwood School before relocating to New Zealand with her partner.

"Through that work, I observed firsthand how much of an impact the spaces we occupy have on wellbeing and cognitive load. This made me want to study architecture and bring a lens of psychosocial observation into the built environment," said Keating.



*Behind the happy couple (from left): Ben Raskin-Gross '19; Gryph Stein '21; Danielle Silverman '19; Martha Meigs '22; Toby Nadell '20; Erin Crosby '18; Emily Forsyth '18; John Theodaskis '21; Jalen Cyrus '24; Cameron Witt '21; Chris Ogle '19; Eric Nordstrom '20; and Peter Constable '19.*

**Holy Sharks!** Just look at all the Landmark College alumni who celebrated the wedding of **Matthew Houston '20** and **Jenna Houston (née Pavucek) '20**. The nuptials were held on June 7, 2025, in Collegeville, Pennsylvania.

# Still a Fan of Milestones

By Tricia Stanley



Well, we did it! Landmark College officially celebrated the big 4-0, and what a celebration it was! If the pre-party was all nostalgia and jokes about overhead projectors, the anniversary weekend itself was a powerful reminder of why this place has thrived for four decades...and why the next four look even brighter.

Campus was buzzing all weekend, and not just because the WiFi finally behaved with so many guests online at once. Alumni returned with stories that made us laugh, cry, and, occasionally, question how any of them survived student life before some of the new campus upgrades. Families wandered through campus like it was a living scrapbook. Faculty swapped “remember when?” tales that somehow get more dramatic every year.

The panels, the art show, the tributes, the hugs (so many hugs) all painted a picture of Landmark’s past and present. But the real star of the weekend was the future. You could feel it everywhere—in conversations about new academic programs, the new building, the excitement of students showing off their work, and alumni saying, “Wow, I wish we had this when I was here.”

The truth is, turning 40 hasn’t slowed Landmark down one bit. If anything, it’s given us a power boost: upgraded infrastructure, more opportunities for students, and bold plans that are already shaping our next chapter. And perhaps most importantly, a renewed collective belief in the mission that brought us all together in the first place.

As we wrap up this milestone celebration, here’s what I hope everyone walks away with:

- Landmark’s story is still unfolding—and you’re part of it.
- Our community is stronger than ever.
- The next 40 years will be full of innovation, connection...and probably a few more renovations.

Let’s keep the energy of this anniversary alive. Stay connected. Share your story. Support the work that transforms lives every year. And if you haven’t climbed the hill lately...well, consider it your cardio challenge for the 50th!

Here’s to the next 40 years, with more milestones, more memories, and, most of all, always moving forward together.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tricia Stanley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Tricia Stanley  
Director of Alumni Relations  
[alumni@landmark.edu](mailto:alumni@landmark.edu)



## Alumni Advisory Board

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Sara Fradkin-Dunne '16  
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## Seeking New Members

If you interested in joining the Alumni Advisory Board, please email:

[alumni@landmark.edu](mailto:alumni@landmark.edu)

# Donor Profile

Windham College alumnus Robert M. Kern passed away in 2025, leaving a significant bequest to Landmark College as part of his planned giving. The College is deeply grateful for the generosity and lasting impact that Robert's gift will make on our campus and in our community.

Kern earned a B.A. in English at Windham College in 1973 before going on to earn an M.S. in Special Education. Kern resided in Westchester County, New York, and in retirement pursued passions of international travel, genealogy, reading, and writing. Kern was an avid fan of classic rock, frequently sharing photos of himself with musicians from the 1960s and 70s.

In addition to his career as an educator, Kern wrote the semi-autobiographical novella *College Bound for Misadventure*. He also published the short story "Larry's Other Son" in the New York City-based literary journal *The Village Square*.

Director of Alumni Relations Tricia Stanley recalled that Kern "was always involved in the Windham College alumni group, and in building a connection between Windham alums and Landmark College—he would check in regularly to discuss how things were going at Landmark and was frequently involved in planning Windham College reunions in Putney," Stanley continued. "We're deeply grateful for the impact he has had on the shared Windham-Landmark community."



## LANDMARK COLLEGE CHARLES DRAKE LEGACY SOCIETY

Those benevolent supporters who have decided to contribute to the College in their will or estate planning are eligible to join the esteemed Charles Drake Legacy Society. Although there are numerous advantages to putting Landmark College in your will, its influence on future generations is what is most important.

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**March 3, 2026**





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