Jane Reno-Munro explains why she loves reviving orchids and bringing the Caribbean to life in her very own backyard.
The Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation gave the College the 2012 Historic Preservation Honor Award for its 2009-10 restoration of the Cistern Yard and its surrounding structures.

The College was awarded the 2012 Germann Cup, the Southern Conference’s female all-sports trophy, for having the best overall women’s athletics program.

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute awarded the College a $1.4 million grant to enhance undergraduate science education.

The Neuroscience Program won the American Psychological Association’s Board of Educational Affairs Award to Advance Interdisciplinary Education and Training in Psychology.

mutindu ndunda received a Fulbright scholarship to help universities and schools in Tanzania collaborate and improve teachers’ lessons.

The College ranks No. 2 on the Peace Corps’ list of top Peace Corps volunteer-producing colleges and universities in the Southeast for 2012.

Employees visiting Biltmore are eligible for discounted ($50/person) two-day admission, which includes one Biltmore House visit and unlimited access to the gardens and Antler Hill Village and Winery. Lodging is also available at discounted rates at partner hotels. For details, reference code 2012ED when you call 866.851.4661 or email groupsales@biltmore.com.

To order a discounted 2012 Gold Pass to Charleston County Parks, visit cccp.com/COFC and enter the online code COFC2012 with your purchase. For more information, call 795.4386 or email customerservice@cccp.com.

For more faculty/staff discounts, visit hr.cofc.edu/benefits/special-discounts.php.

Central Stores is now purchasing 30% recycled paper by the truckload, which saves departments $35 cent/veam over virgin paper. To order this paper, fax your IDT form to Central Stores at 308.6502. For more information, contact Sean Van Hannegeyn at vanhannegeynsm@cofc.edu or 3.3849.

Classroom requests for special events can now be sent to specialeventsrequests@cofc.edu.

Resources and tools for department retreats are compiled at mcclenaghan.people.cofc.edu/retrait.

Any changes to employees’ emergency contact information should be sent to Tenita Manigault, manigaultt@cofc.edu.

The Cash Value Center on the first floor of the Addlestone Library is now available for transferring cash to Cougar Cards for immediate use.
RESIDENCE LIFE BUILDINGS: This summer, quite a few repairs and renovations were made to many of the residence halls and historic houses on campus. Completed work includes interior painting at Craig Hall, siding repairs at 2 Bull, kitchen renovations at 6 Bull, porch repairs at 70 and 72 Cominig and bath renovations at 15 St. Philip and 28 and 38 Cominig. In addition, chimney repairs were made and new siding was installed on the roof of 24 Bull. Cornices were repaired at 32 Cominig, joists were repaired at 34 Cominig and mortar was replaced at 40 Cominig (pictured above). The slate roof and porch were repaired at 298 Meeting, where interior renovations will begin in May. Siding repairs are wrapping up at 105 Wentworth (pictured below), and the stairs at the Knox-Lesonne House will be removed this semester.

WILSON-SOTTILE HOUSE: Exterior repair projects — including roof, gutter and siding repairs, as well as some painting — began last month at the Sottile House. The work will continue throughout September.

GRICE MARINE LAB: Facility improvements and laboratory renovations continue at Grice Marine Lab. The new casework, lab hoods and reheat coils and controls are now installed; the structural and envelope repairs are open for bidding; the electrical-upgrade work is being awarded; and the rooftop-replacement design is under review.

CENTER FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH: Most of the construction, electrical wiring and HVAC installation was completed for the new research center on the second floor of the BellSouth Building. The design-build work will wrap up this semester, and the space will be outfitted in early spring.

ADDLESTONE LIBRARY: Rivers Green and the first floor of the Addlestone Library were off limits for a six-week stretch over the summer while the cork floors and 40 cherrywood tables on the first floor were refinished.

SCHOOL OF SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS BUILDING: The design development drawings were completed over the summer, bids will be made and reviewed this fall and construction will begin in December to complete the second floor of the School of Sciences and Mathematics Building. The space is scheduled for a late 2013/early 2014 occupancy.

THE ROAR SCHOLARS PROGRAM HAS RELOCATED TO THE LIGHTSEY CENTER, suite B61. Although the program’s director, Tom Holcomb, misses the view of the Cougar Mall that he had in the former location in the Robert Scott Small Building, he appreciates the new space, which includes bays for mentors to work with students, plenty of open space for meetings and events — and even an office for Rene Reese, assistant academic program director for the REACH Program. And, with better access for students, the program is expanding its hours, opening two Saturdays a month from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. All contact information remains the same.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNICATION FACULTY HAVE RELOCATED TO 5 COLLEGE WAY: David Moscowitz (rm. 101), Elena Strauman (rm. 102) and Namjin Lee (rm. 103). All contact information remains the same.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE ENGLISH FACULTY HAVE RELOCATED TO 5 COLLEGE WAY: Scott Peeples (rm. 203), Bret Lott (rm. 301), Anton Vander Zee (rm. 302), Emily Rosko (rm. 401) and Tony Varallo and Malinda McCollum (rm. 402). Crazyhorse’s office has moved to room 303. All contact information remains the same.

THE FOLLOWING AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES FACULTY HAVE RELOCATED TO THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE ROBERT SCOTT SMALL BUILDING: Anthony Green (rm. 229) and Marion Mendy (rm. 231, new phone: 3.1025). All other contact information remains the same.

NAME: Jeanette Wood Guinn
TITLE: Visiting Assistant Professor for the Arts Management Program
ALSO KNOWN FOR: Producer, writer and host of ETV Radio’s Arts Daily
LOVES: Her daughters, traveling, movies, convertibles at night, greyhounds, libraries and ethnic food
HATES: Mean people and chewing gum stuck under desks
COLLECTS: Quotes. (“A great quote is like a snapshot of wisdom or clarity or laughter that can come from anyone.”)

RADIO HIGHLIGHTS: When her then-3-year-old next-door neighbor heard her on the radio and asked, “Is that our Jeanette?” and when she met Emmy-winning CBS News correspondent Martha Teichner, “and she said she listens to me.”

NAME: Rosko
TITLE: Visiting Assistant Professor for the Arts Management Program
ALSO KNOWN FOR: Producer, writer and host of ETV Radio’s Arts Daily
LOVES: Her daughters, traveling, movies, convertibles at night, greyhounds, libraries and ethnic food
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Ahead of the Game

New employee orientation is over. They’ve settled into their offices. Found where the copier and water cooler are. Set up their email. Figured out the best way to get to work each morning. They’ve got the daily routine down pat. But this fall is when they really get to work – under the glare of arena lights and crowds of people watching and cheering. For the College’s two new basketball coaches, the upcoming season can’t come soon enough.

In the meantime, let’s go beyond the whistle and clipboard and get to know Coaches Doug Wojcik and Natasha Adair.

What’s your coaching philosophy?
Adair: Play smart, be prepared, never get out-worked and always have fun.
Wojcik: Play hard and together.

Any pre-game rituals?
A.: No pregame ritual. Just win!
W.: I like to go running.

Who are your coaching mentors and what did they teach you?
A.: My role models are all of my coaches over the years: Patti Langworthy in high school, Vicki Carson in junior college and Trudi Lacey in college. All have been inducted into their respective halls of fame, and they all taught me toughness and pushed me to be better every day. Patti saw potential in me and gave so much of her time to my development. Vicki shared her passion for teaching and her ability to motivate. Trudi gave me her competitive drive and tireless work ethic. They all are winners!
W.: For me, it was Skip Prosser and Tom Izzo. My story with basketball began at a very early age. And I’ve been very fortunate to have been around so many great people – at Navy, at North Carolina, at Notre Dame. Skip (the former head coach at Wake Forest) was my high school coach, and he created the dream for me. Perhaps the guy who has done the most for me, however, is Tom Izzo (Michigan State), who’s like a big brother to me. Both Skip and Tom taught me how to teach, how to care for players – and discipline. And they instilled in me a belief that you can get it done with talent and character.

Favorite basketball movie?
A.: Love & Basketball. It reminds me of how my husband and I met on the basketball court. It also shows that a woman can have it all – family and career – while achieving the highest levels of success.
W.: Hurricane Season, based on the true story of John Ehret High School’s state championship team after Hurricane Katrina. I enjoy it with my two sons.

Greatest victory?
A.: My greatest victory as a coach was upsetting No. 10 Texas A&M to win the Paradise Jam Tournament in the U.S. Virgin Islands and, as a player, beating No. 7 Miami in the ACC Tournament.
W.: As a player (at the U.S. Naval Academy), I would say beating Syracuse in the Carrier Dome to go to the 1986 Sweet 16. As a coach (at Michigan State), beating Kentucky to go to the 2005 Final Four.

What’s the most beautiful play in basketball?
A.: The pick and roll.
W.: Lob pass for a dunk.

How can the faculty and staff help you?
A.: They can help our women’s basketball program this season and beyond by committing to coming to games. Our young women need to feel the love and support from our campus first! We want TD Arena to be the exciting place to be on game night for the men and the women!
W.: Work together.
You might think of him as a walking email blast, delivering thousands of letters, memos, notes and other correspondence to 50, maybe 60, different departments a day. Or maybe as a living, breathing line of communication, carrying messages from one corner of campus to the other, connecting the people in the TD Arena to those in the Addlestone Library. But Marcus Bridgeforth knows that there’s more to it than distributing parcels, junk mailers and intercampus envelopes across campus.

That’s why, no matter where his route takes him, it always starts with a smile.

“When we go out on the morning route, we’re usually the first people to visit each department that day. We pretty much start their day; we set the tone,” says the postal specialist. “That’s why I always greet people with a smile. It’s contagious. They’ll go about their day smiling, which makes everyone they meet happy, too.”

It’s also just good customer service (who doesn’t love service with a smile?) – something that Bridgeworth takes pride in and that the Office of Mail Services is heavily focused on.

“Some departments are more busy – taking phone calls, talking to students – and so I work around them and continue on my way. But, whenever it’s appropriate, I stop and talk. I really enjoy communicating with different kinds of people, getting to know them, being exposed to the different perspectives on life.”

As a Chicago native who landed in Charleston after four years in the Navy, Bridgeforth has found the general well-mannered, yet laidback nature of the College’s staff, faculty and students especially refreshing.

“That leisurely pace, however, has hardly rubbed off on him. When he gets home after a day of hauling mail all over campus, he somehow still has plenty of energy to put toward his wife, two young children and dog – not to mention his second and third jobs (landscaping and carpentry).

“I’m always going. And I’m always looking for something else I can get into,” he says. “I like to be busy. I like to learn.”

And he learns fast, too. Since joining Mail Services in October 2006, he’s learned both the student and the faculty/staff side of the operation, as well as where pretty much everyone on campus works.

“Marcus is our go-to guy when it comes to campus knowledge,” says Al Andreano, administrative mail operations manager. “When we are sorting mail in the morning and come across a name that is not too familiar to us, we yell it out, and Marcus will tell us which department it should go to. He is like the Google of Mail Services. And he is always willing to give others a hand.”

“I like to make sure everyone is taken care of before I take care of myself. It gets pretty hectic in there. Everyone’s usually moving. Efficiency is big,” says Bridgeforth, noting that the busiest time of year for the department spans July through December. “Every so often it dies down a little bit, so we can take a breath and regroup, get together to brainstorm how to improve customer service or to make operations better – because you can always be better. You can always make one more customer happy.”

And, of course, that’s what it’s all about at the end of the day.

“Never frown, because you never know who’s falling in love with your smile.”
Orchids thrive on neglect. They don’t like much water, don’t like much sunlight, and don’t care for pruning. Heck, they don’t even want much soil around their roots. What they do like is to be left alone. But try telling that to a nurse.

For more than a decade, Jane Reno-Munro, director of Student Health Services, has tended to a small orchid collection at her home on James Island, careful not to have too heavy a hand with the delicate plants and their wondrous, fragrant flowers. Her basic care involves frequent misting of the humidity-loving plants and a soaking of their roots under the kitchen sink every two weeks. Because most of her orchids are potted in a loose substrate (such as wood chips) rather than dense soil, the bulk of the faucet water is not retained, keeping the orchids quite happy.

Orchids grow throughout the world, but most species can be found in the tropics—and that’s exactly where Reno-Munro had her first memorable encounter with the plant. Montserrat. She and her husband, Duncan Munro, a retired professor in the College’s biology department, lived on the Caribbean island from 1984 to 1992 before moving to Charleston.

“There were orchids everywhere,” says Reno-Munro. “They were falling out of trees.”

While her husband worked at the American University of the Caribbean, Reno-Munro soaked up island life and found occasional work as a village nurse. She treated islanders suffering from colds and the flu and remedied their minor injuries. In return, villagers brought her sweets.

At her James Island home, she has imported some of that island flavor. Assorted palms grow throughout her yard, an inviting swimming pool glistens and tropical plants pop up around every corner, from hibiscus to hoya.

“I’m kind of recreating the tropics because I loved living there so much,” she says.

And though she no longer treats villagers, Reno-Munro does operate a clinic of sorts—for orchids, that is. Friends and colleagues bring her their sick, dying and depressed orchids in hope of resuscitation. Reno-Munro finds these patients a spot on the orchid table built by her husband and begins a treatment plan designed to restore their health. She knows the plants are on the path to recovery when they produce the eye-popping flowers that have captivated orchid lovers for centuries.

“I’m not so much an orchid grower,” she says, “but a rebloomer.”

Still, despite her experiences with orchids and her lessons learned about tough love, the nurse practitioner finds it difficult to totally deprive orchids of the same kind of tenderness and care that she regularly lavishes on so many of the College’s 10,000 undergraduates. If she pampers a few of them, who cares? The results speak for themselves.

“Look at what you get,” says Reno-Munro with a smile, before giving one of her leafy patients a squirt from the spray bottle. “It’s just beautiful.”
WHEN YOU’RE WALKING ACROSS THE CISTERN YARD – breathing in the tranquility of the oaks, the quiet of the Spanish moss, the stillness of the stoic buildings – it’s easy to forget that the world isn’t always a safe, peaceful place. Fortunately, Victor Swindell is at our defense. As the CEO of PepperEyes.com – an online retailer of self-defense products, including stun guns, pepper spray, hidden safes and personal alarms – the IT programmer analyst wants people to feel as safe as they do on campus, no matter where they go. Swindell was introduced to defensive methods while serving in the Army, and – now that he sells these tools himself – he is proud of the fact that his products are nonlethal, yet very, very effective. “I really like to stress preparedness and self-defense,” he says. “I’m really about providing the tools and knowledge necessary for anyone who wants to take responsibility for their safety in this very uncertain world.”

IF YOU’VE EVER BEEN ON THE EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTER GROUNDS, you know that this is no ordinary playground. In fact – with its sound garden, archaeological dig site and rain barrel-watering system – it’s the only one of its kind in the state, and one of only about 100 certified Nature Explore Classrooms in the nation. Having earned the distinction from the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Educational Research Foundation over the summer, ECDC is officially recognized for its outdoor learning environment that connects young children to nature and sets an example for education centers everywhere.

“Because we are a demonstration site, we have a responsibility to provide leadership in the region – not just to our students, but to other institutions and organizations and communities,” says ECDC Director Candace Jaruszewicz. “Anything that promotes environmental awareness and connecting children with nature – we just think it’s worth it.” Jaruszewicz says she and her staff began working toward Nature Explore Classroom certification three years ago, when they began designing “a long-term plan to make the playground more like a park, more like a habitat.” But it wasn’t until about a year ago that they really made the commitment, recruiting the help of the parents, the College Grounds Crew and the Office of Sustainability to help create the required activity areas.

“It’s really a community project,” says Jaruszewicz, whose staff attended Nature Explore Workshops in June as the final requirement for certification. “We reached out for collaboration across campus, and the result is something the College can point to with pride. Plus, the children love it!”

Four pteranodons – a male, a female and three babies – have landed in the atrium of the School of Sciences and Mathematics Building. A gift from philanthropist Mace Brown, the casts are made from fossils of Pteranodon longiceps from the Niobrara Chalk Formation of Kansas, which is approximately 85 million years old.
How can we possibly make the College of Charleston even better than it already is? Here are a few of the suggestions that you and your colleagues sent in. If you’ve got a big idea of your own, send it to theportico@cofc.edu.

**FREE ADMISSION TO ALL THEATRE AND ARTS EVENTS FOR OUR STUDENTS!**

**Why don’t we refill printer ink cartridges** rather than just recycling them? It would result not only in huge cost savings for the College, but is also a viable sustainability project.

Every new student gets connected to a CofC alumna/alumnus. Promote lifelong social connectivity between generations and back to the institution.

**Add new bike racks for “Day Bikes Only.”** All bikes are removed from these bike racks before 6 a.m. every day to make room for people who actually ride bikes regularly during the day.

**LET’S PUT ZIPCARS ON CAMPUS. LET THE COLLEGE BE A LEADER IN SUSTAINABILITY AT NO COST. (PRIVATE FUNDING AVAILABLE!)**

**Here’s an Idea: Get Cougar Fit!**

IT’S ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA TO BE HEALTHY. That’s why Campus Recreation Services is offering faculty and staff the Cougar Fit exercise program from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays in the F. Mitchell Johnson Physical Education Center, room 201. Designed for people of all fitness levels, the workouts are individualized circuit training sessions that target the upper and lower body, as well as the core. “Cougar Fit is a great opportunity for faculty and staff of all fitness levels to get healthy and reach their fitness goals,” says Kevin Ferrelli, CRS coordinator. “CRS wishes to better the College community, and this is one of the ways that we are accomplishing that.” And – at $5 a class (or $42 for the full seven-week session starting October 17) – the Cougar Fit program is one idea that’s within reach for everyone! For more information, contact Ferrelli at ferrillikd@cofc.edu or 3.5559.

**Brick the sidewalk around J.C. Long/Tate/Beatty like the rest of campus.**

**Redesign the back alley leading from Glebe St. to the back of the Ed Center to be a garden walkway that is the envy of Southern Living.**

**Take a breather from Cougar Fit workouts on Tuesdays and Thursdays with this fall’s yoga sessions.** Classes meet from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Johnson Center, room 201. For $42 a class (or $70 for both classes per week), you’ll be on your way to a stronger, firmer body – not to mention a better state of mind! For more information, contact Skip Rector at rectors@cofc.edu or 442.9162.
**GUESS WHAT?**

**FALL 2012**

CONGRATULATIONS TO CRISTY LANDIS, academic advisor in the Academic Advising and Planning Center, who correctly guessed that the object in question was the glockenspiel in the N.E. Miles Early Childhood Development Center’s music garden.

IF YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHAT THE OBJECT in the above photo is and where it can be found, send your guess to theportico@cofc.edu by Friday, October 5. The names of those who submit the correct answer will be entered into a drawing for two tickets to the theatre department’s production of *The Love of the Nightingale*. The contest is open to all College faculty and staff.