



The Journal News

Back from college — 42 years later!

By Candice Ferrette
March 8, 2007

Lee Higdon has come full circle.

When he left Larchmont to go off to college more than 40 years ago, there was no telling where life's path would take him.

At 60, Higdon, the new President of Connecticut College had some sound advice for the college-bound crowd when he stopped for a cup of coffee on Palmer Avenue this afternoon. (It's just about the season when seniors and their parents nervously wait for "the fat envelope" or college acceptance letters, so I picked his brain).

"Give it some time and think about what it is you want to get out of your college education," Higdon said. "Typically, students and admissions boards will make good decisions. You'll find a good match — a school you want and a school that wants you."

Higdon became the tenth president of the popular liberal arts college last July. He's been a strong advocate of a liberal arts education as preparation for diverse careers.

And, Higdon is proof. He majored in history at Georgetown University, earned an M.B.A. in finance and spent 21 years working for Salomon Brothers, eventually becoming the vice chairman and member of the firm's global investment banking division. After college, he and his wife, Ann — also from Larchmont — spend two years in the Peace Corps teaching in Malawi, Africa, where the first of their four children was born.

Lee and Ann Higdon met at a "mixer" in high school. Lee attended Fordham Prep in the Bronx and Ann went to the Ursuline School in New Rochelle. They married at Sts. John and Paul Church on Weaver Street 38 years ago.



Connecticut College President Lee Higdon and his wife, Ann, spent Wednesday afternoon in Larchmont where they both had grown up. Lee Higdon, 60, became the 10th president of the popular liberal arts college last June.

But some of the best advice the couple left for young people is perhaps something even those of us a few (or several) years out of college could use.

"Reinvent yourself. Know how to adapt," Ann Higdon said.

"Remember that the world is changing and that you have to go with the flow of the world," Lee Higdon said.