

# wittenberg

The Magazine of Wittenberg University Spring 2015



## Part of the Magic

Students train life-  
changing service  
dogs through  
4 Paws for Ability



*Wittenberg Magazine* is published three times a year by Wittenberg University, Office of University Communications.

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*On the cover: Service dog-in-training Kit Kat spends a semester on campus to socialize with co-trainers Anna Jackson '15 (pictured), Abbie Henry '15 and Carrie Schmaus '15. Photo by Erin Pence '04. See story page 20.*







At Wittenberg, we transform students, helping them discover their passion, purpose, and place in the world – not just now, but for a lifetime. And *your* commitment to Wittenberg is what makes it possible.

**Help us transform promise into reality. Commit to Witt today.**

Fulfill the promise by making your gift **on or before June 10.**

[www.wittenberg.edu/commit](http://www.wittenberg.edu/commit)


*When the cornerstone for Hollenbeck Hall was set May 1, 1998, the Springfield News-Sun wrote that Jane Hollenbeck accepted applause "with a gentle smile as bright as the bouquet in her arms." See page 40 to read more about her legacy.*





*Lights, action, music! The Wittenberg Symphonic Band applies creativity and fine-tuned techniques – a balance that resonates with students of all majors – during a pre-performance rehearsal in historic Weaver Chapel. Photo by Erin Pence '04*





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## Wittenberg University Board of Directors

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## Letter From The President



ERIN PENCE '04

As I approach the completion of my third year as president, I am reminded of what drew me to visit Wittenberg University back in 2011. Quite simply, it was the Wittenberg mission to educate students holistically and to challenge them to find success in their chosen field and to contribute to the greater good.

As you know, at Wittenberg we focus on students' intellectual, social, spiritual and physical development in order to help them discover their passion or "calling" within the world. This liberal (in the classical sense) approach to education was transformative for me as a first-generation student. Indeed, my journey helped me to understand the power and promise of the kind of education we offer at Wittenberg, and to dedicate my administrative career to ensuring that the intellectual and ethical benefits afforded to students by private, liberal education remain accessible to future generations.

I have met and spoken with many of you across the country and have learned that Wittenberg graduates understand the factors that make this university remarkable: a rich faith tradition, accomplished and caring faculty, personalized advising and mentoring, rigorous and relevant curricular offerings, engaged co-curricular learning experiences and a storied athletic history.

Yet, despite our incredible strengths, when I became president we were facing considerable financial challenges, most notably a debilitating and growing structural deficit. During this time, Wittenberg, like many higher education institutions across the nation, was facing heightened scrutiny about the value of its broad-based, residential, educational experience.

In order to address these challenges, we immediately began conversations about our values, strengths and core mission, and prepared as a campus to make strategic decisions geared to either reducing costs or increasing revenue. Here is a sample of what resulted:

**Academics.** We have added new academic and summer programs while increasing curricular efficiency – all undertaken with the imperative that we not compromise the core learning enterprise. We also spent nearly two years developing The Wittenberg Commitment, a value proposition that helps us communicate to the next generation of Wittenberg students and families how our historic strengths as a liberal arts university can position them for success in the new century. Please visit [www.wittenberg.edu/commitment](http://www.wittenberg.edu/commitment) to learn more.

**Student Development and Athletics.** We have added to and strengthened our leadership and athletic programs by introducing the President's Leadership Academy (see page 8 for more information) and adding men's volleyball to our varsity sports.

**Financial Stewardship.** We have reached that point in the history of our University when preserving this mission that we are all so passionate about requires effective stewardship and serious attention to our financial condition. The careful and sometimes difficult decisions that we are implementing are producing positive results. Here is a snapshot:

- \* Total traditional enrollment is above 1,800 for the first time in five years and we have met our incoming class goals for two consecutive years;

- \* First-to-second year student retention increased by six percentage points;

- \* Annual giving and alumni participation rates have improved;

- \* Operating deficits were reduced by \$1 million in FY 2014, achieving the University's best financial results in more than a decade; and

- \* Current projections in our five-year budget model indicate more than an \$8 million improvement to our operating margin by FY 2017.

We have made progress, to be sure, but there is still work to do. And as we continue to bring together everyone who cares deeply about Wittenberg to help us confront these challenges, our focus will remain on preserving our core mission and making the improvements necessary for Wittenberg to remain a competitive and desirable choice for future generations of talented students.

As I write this message, our beautiful campus is awakening to yet another spring filled with newness and hope. At this time especially, please know that you have my deepest gratitude for your continued engagement in the transformative work taking place at Wittenberg, at your University, each day.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie M. Joyner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laurie M. Joyner, Ph.D., President





## Healthcare Administrator, Designer and Business Leader To Be Honored at Commencement

With Commencement just days away, the Class of 2015 is excited to welcome American Hospital Association Regional Executive Kim Byas '74 as its keynote speaker May 16. The class will also honor Ann Ziff '68, nationally recognized philanthropist, jewelry designer and arts supporter, who will receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters. Harry Egger, a Springfield business leader and member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors from 1996-2002, will be awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters posthumously.

With more than 30 years of experience in healthcare administration, Byas has served as president, CEO and consultant for a variety of organizations, including Kailo Alliance, Inc. and Coopers & Lybrand. He currently serves as a regional executive for the American Hospital Association.

Involved in numerous ambitious healthcare projects throughout his career,

Byas has served on the board of directors for the Asian Health Care Leaders Association and for the Chicago College of Performing Arts. Additionally, he has served as a board member of March of Dimes for 26 years and currently sits as chairman.

Tamsen Ann (Kojis) Ziff returned to her home state of New York following graduation to serve as a social worker with children and young adults in domestic abuse situations. A successful entrepreneur, Ziff is the founder of and designer for her custom jewelry boutique, Tamsen Z.

Ziff continues to help children in need and to bring culture and arts into the lives of young people through her tireless support for arts and culture in the greater New York area and beyond. In addition to her generous philanthropic support of the Metropolitan Opera, she serves on the boards of Sing for Hope, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Carnegie

Hall, the American Museum of Natural History, the New York Restoration Project and the World Science Festival, among many others.

Harry Egger worked at Security National Bank for nearly three decades as President and CEO until his retirement in 2013.

Devoted to his community, Egger served as Vice Chairman of Park National Corporation in addition to serving on the boards of Wittenberg University, the former Mercy Medical Center, Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, Clark State Foundation Board, Springfield Symphony Foundation, Springfield Rotary Club and Springfield Foundation, among others. He received the Richard L. Kuss Lifetime Community Achievement Award from the Springfield Chamber of Commerce in 2013 and an Alumni of Distinction Award from Springfield City Schools in 2014. ■



Byas



Ziff



Egger



## University Adopts Robust International Baccalaureate® Policy



Recognizing the power of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program’s “unique academic rigor and emphasis on students’ personal development” in high schools across the country and around the world, the faculty has approved the adoption of a new IB-friendly policy that will allow IB diploma holders who achieve a score of 4 or better on required tests to earn up to 29 credits, essentially allowing them to enter Wittenberg with sophomore status.

IB diploma holders will now have the opportunity to receive English 101 credit. Additionally, the policy provides for a faculty IB advisor; the opportunity to engage with Wittenberg’s award-winning Writing Center to prepare their required IB Extended Essay for publication or for further development as an independent study project; an annual IB banquet geared

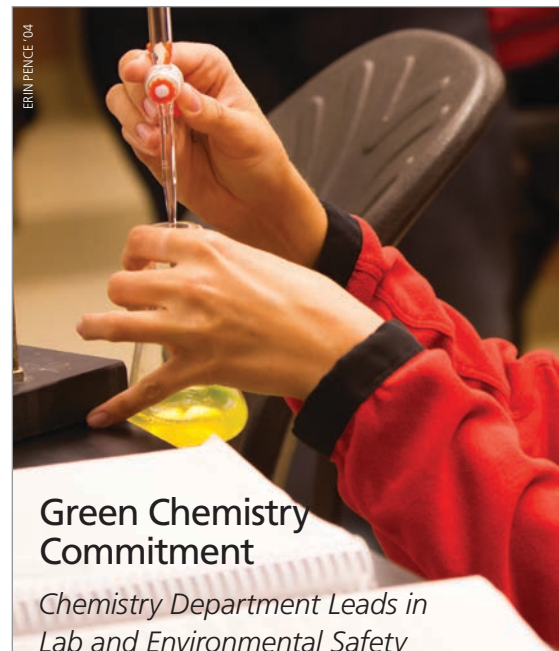
at introducing IB students to each other; and the chance for domestic IB students to have an international IB student roommate on a space-available basis.

The new policy was initiated by Ty Buckman, vice president for strategic initiatives, in partnership with Wittenberg’s Office of Admission and Wittenberg Parents Association Co-Chairs Steven and Kristen Roach, whose son Aeron, class of 2015, earned an IB diploma while in high school. It has already received considerable praise from high school IB coordinators.

“This policy is absolutely phenomenal,” said Eric Bringardner, International Baccalaureate coordinator for Dublin Coffman High School in Dublin, Ohio. Beyond offering credit, “it really gets at the heart of what it means to be an IB student and rewards their educational risk-taking both socially and academically. The sophomore status will allow students to further their intellectual curiosity, allow for potential double majors and alleviate schedule difficulties that frequently arise

when planning semesters abroad. The advisor and banquet will help continue the cohort-like atmosphere that the IB program fosters.”

Visit [www.wittenberg.edu/IB](http://www.wittenberg.edu/IB) to learn more about Wittenberg’s IB program. ■



### Green Chemistry Commitment

*Chemistry Department Leads in Lab and Environmental Safety*

Recognizing the connection between laboratory and environmental safety, Wittenberg’s Department of Chemistry has joined the Green Chemistry Commitment (GCC), a consortium program that fosters green chemistry education.

One of only two schools in Ohio and 24 across the nation to make the commitment, Wittenberg aims to transform chemistry education through green improvements.

“Almost all of our labs have been adjusted to be more green, and we make special efforts to explain to the students how these changes have come about and how they will need to be aware of the green principles as they use chemistry in their future careers,” explained Professor of Chemistry and Department Chair Kristin Cline.

Associate Professor Justin Houseknecht said changes have been made across the department, from organic chemistry, which historically uses the most hazardous chemicals and generates the most chemical waste, to advanced inorganic courses, which challenge students to redesign experiments in ways that are more green. Additionally, Associate Professor Peter Hanson

## Renowned Choir Concludes Spring Tour



The world-renowned Wittenberg Choir, under the direction of Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Frances Fonza, completed its annual Spring Concert Tour across the Midwest. Accompanied by University Organist David Crean, the choir performed works with the theme “True Light,” including *Solidaridad*, Mendelssohn’s *Verleih uns Frieden*, *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, *A Might Fortress* and *True Light*.

“This music not only urges people to let their light shine in every area of their lives, but it also explores the ways that light can be transmitted: spiritually, poetically, artistically and musically,” Fonza said. “Light has the

power to illuminate communities and bring people together.”

Pamela Stewart ’69 attended the concert in Vincennes, Ind. Five of her six children are Wittenberg Choir alumni.

“As a parent and an alumna, I see the choir tour as a demanding, intense experience that forms deep connections among the students and between the students and their director – all grounded and expressed in music. I wanted that for my own children as well as for current and future students. When I sit in the church pew and hear the exquisite voices and see the radiant faces, something spiritual and transforming happens. The gift is that we are better because the students bring their music – and a bit of Wittenberg – to us.” ■



## Community Engagement Efforts Earn National Distinction

Wittenberg's dedication to community service and engagement has once again been recognized nationally as the university was named on the 2014 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll With



supervises student research projects specifically designed to explore new green procedures.

"We now embrace greener procedures while still allowing our students some hands-on experience with proper handling of hazardous chemicals—a skill they will later need in their careers," Director of Chemistry Laboratories Richard York noted.

Selected for the 2012 NIOSH/CHAS College and University Healthy and Safety Award for the most comprehensive laboratory safety program in undergraduate higher education, Wittenberg's chemistry department is finding the right balance to meet exceptional safety and green standards. "What's safer for chemists in the lab also necessarily becomes safer for the environment," Professor David Finster said.

"Although we have already taken many steps to emphasize green chemistry and chemical safety in the classroom and lab, we want to continue to enhance this focus of our curriculum," Cline said. "Being part of the GCC will help us improve our award-winning program as we share ideas with chemistry faculty around the country." ■

Distinction thanks to efforts spearheaded by the Susan Hirt Hagen Center for Civic and Urban Engagement and the Community Service program.

Last year, the Hagen Center facilitated more than 40,000 hours of community engagement, including service, internships, work-study, community-based courses and research projects. Service projects account for 25,000 hours, translating to more than \$180,000 in volunteered time to Springfield.

Additionally, Wittenberg was recognized on the 2014 Interfaith Community Service Honor Roll, a new category added this year by the U.S. Department of Education's Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, which joined the Honor Roll team as a program partner.

"It is because of Wittenberg's relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that we seek to respect and understand people of all backgrounds, including diverse faith groups," said Community Service Director Kristen Collier '92. "Serving alongside people from various faith traditions allows us to explore interreligious commonalities and at the same time join together to address many of the challenges facing our communities."



Launched in 2006 by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service learning and civic engagement.

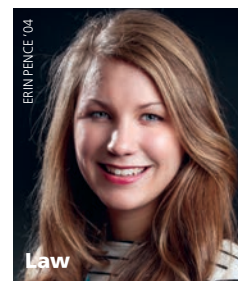
"We are fortunate to have dedicated staff such as Kristen Collier and Cindy Larson, who work tirelessly to support the students and community partners each year," said Warren Copeland, Springfield mayor, Wittenberg professor of religion, director of the urban studies program and faculty director of the Hagen Center. "Through their work, Kristen, Cindy and the students make Springfield a more humane and productive place to live." ■

## \$500,000 Endowment Furthers Legacy of Professor

The late Professor Emerita of English Mary Ellen Jones always wanted students to appreciate the breadth and depth of the American experience. Her classes took students back to life on the American frontier, explored Steinbeck and the California scene, and examined novels of social significance. While her passion shaped many a mind, her love of her field also inspired her to leave a legacy for future Wittenberg students through the creation of an endowed scholarship in her name.

"Mary Ellen celebrated heroism of every kind, whether that was the physical bravery of soldiers or the moral integrity of people who fought the good fight," said Robin Inboden, professor of English, longtime colleague and friend of Jones. "She loved putting her students in touch with real experiences, too, whether that was sending her classes to the Fair at New Boston to learn about frontier life or arranging for her students to interview veterans and write oral histories of their service. She was one of a kind."

Jones' gift of just over \$500,000 will provide financial assistance to deserving students at Wittenberg with preference given to students having an interest in American Studies or to American Studies majors or minors. The first recipient is Madison Law '15 from Wilmington, Ohio. ■





## History Department Offers Combined Degree Program with Miami University



In an effort to offer even more opportunities to ensure student success, Wittenberg has joined with Miami University of Oxford, Ohio, to allow highly qualified Wittenberg students to pursue both their bachelor's and master's degrees in a new combined program over five years. "Institutions of higher learning constantly need to look

for ways to meet the needs of students," said Wittenberg Interim Provost and Professor of Psychology Mary Jo Zembar. "Wittenberg is fortunate to have a partner institution like Miami University that values the skills Wittenberg students bring with them to a graduate program."

Thanks to the partnership, Wittenberg students who have completed the required coursework may now be given priority consideration for admission to one of Miami's 20 combined programs.

Wittenberg's department of history is the first campus program to identify the graduate courses that would allow its students to complete their B.A. in history at Wittenberg before heading to Miami to complete their M.A. in the same discipline.

"Part of what made this agreement possible was the close relationship that members of our department have with faculty at Miami," said Darlene Brooks Hedstrom, professor of history and department chair. "Our collegiality

enhances our joint mission to deliver excellent teaching and training in history."

Wittenberg students can pursue one of two M.A. tracks at Miami either in professional history for employment in the public sector or academic history to pursue a Ph.D., Brooks Hedstrom explained.

"As a Ph.D. of Miami (2001), I know the commitment of Miami's faculty to work with our students and guide them to successful professional careers and strong placement in Ph.D. programs," she added. "A cooperation between our departments only deepens Wittenberg's ability to direct students to satisfying careers and excellent training for future professions." ■

## Campus Takes National "It's On Us" Pledge



[ItsOnUs.org](http://ItsOnUs.org)

Joining higher education institutions across the county, members of the Wittenberg community are taking the "It's On Us" pledge to prevent sexual assault.

The campaign seeks to engage students and all members of the campus community in preventing sexual assault. "It's On Us" reflects the belief that assault prevention is an issue in which everyone has a role to play, and it aims to shift how the campus community deals with assault by inspiring each individual to take part in preventing it. The campaign aims to create an environment in which assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.

Launched this spring, Wittenberg's campus campaign encouraged students, faculty, and staff to sign pledge cards and create PSAs to foster a culture of consent and educate on areas of sexual assault and harassment intervention and prevention. Campus partners include the Office of Student Development, the Department of Athletics, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, the Office of Residence Life, the Office of Student Involvement, the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life, No Woman Left Behind, Student Senate and The Diversity Center.

Part of a national effort initiated by the White House, the campaign is being launched with the Center for American Progress, in partnership with the White House Council on Women and Girls, and the Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health. Joining in are student body leadership from more than 200 colleges and universities across the country, collegiate sports organizations such as the NCAA, and private companies that have strong connections with students at colleges and universities. ■

## Second Annual President's Leadership Academy

*A weeklong camp for rising students*



A one-of-a-kind immersion experience that builds on Wittenberg's tradition of academic excellence, service and leadership development, Wittenberg's second annual President's Leadership Academy begins June 21.

A weeklong camp for rising high school juniors and seniors, the academy embraces several learning goals, including: identifying one's own leadership style; managing controversy with civility; understanding servant leadership; integrating mission, purpose, and civic responsibility into one's efforts; leading groups through strategic goal-setting and planning exercises; and finding mentors and networks.

Courses, workshops and hands-on experiences help participants learn how to lead



## Education Professor Receives AILACTE Scholar Award

Demonstrating Wittenberg's dedication to teaching excellence, Assistant Professor of Education Brian Yontz received the 2014 Association of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges for Teacher Education (AILACTE) Scholar Award. Designed to enhance research that demonstrates the impact of teacher preparation at AILACTE institutions, the award will support Yontz's research on supplemental curricula for teacher preparation.

"Wittenberg has a long tradition of preparing teachers in the context of the liberal arts, and I'm honored to receive this award from a national organization that thinks about teacher education the same way we do," Yontz said. "This award will help us continue to design

multi-disciplinary curricular experiences for our students who will one day work in our nation's schools."

Yontz hopes to understand which curricular experiences would best help undergraduate students who seek licensure through alternative routes and to design a model curriculum for this increasingly important educational path.

"This project has great potential to impact independent and liberal arts colleges' teacher education and add to the national conversation around high-impact curricular practices for alternative credentialing programs," Yontz explained.

"Liberal arts colleges are uniquely designed to help future teachers – no matter what pathway they may go



through for credentialing. With a focus on multi-disciplinary curricular partnerships, excellent teaching models, and emphasis on global understandings, these institutions are best positioned to add value to future teachers during their undergraduate careers." ■



## 2014-2015 Wittenberg Series Wraps Up

An annual selection of free cultural activities, the university-sponsored Wittenberg Series concluded yet another successful year, one that included management philosopher and assistant professor Jeremy Hunter, Ph.D. '94; best-selling author Joyce Carol Oates; The Rev. Dr. Cheryl M. Peterson '86, associate professor of systematic theology at Trinity Lutheran Seminary; The Rev. Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt, Bishop of the ELCA Southern Ohio Synod; world-famous physicist and

author Michio Kaku, Ph.D.; Civil Rights movement leader and author The Rev. C.T. Vivian; historian David Brakke, Ph.D.; and comics artist and author Scott McCloud.

In addition to the lectures, the Wittenberg Series featured a medley of performance arts events: The award-winning a capella ensemble VoicePlay; the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, one of the longest-running chamber ensembles; and the political comedy troupe Capitol Steps. ■

with confidence, as well as understand the ins and outs of college admission processes such as writing admission essays and conveying leadership opportunities so as to stand out during admission and scholarship decisions.

Wittenberg President Laurie M. Joyner hosts the academy and will share her insight on what leadership means in a special course during the week. Upon finishing the program, participants will receive a Wittenberg Certificate of Completion.

As an added bonus, the program offers all participants a \$1,000 scholarship should they apply and be admitted to Wittenberg.

Learn more and register at [www.wittenberg.edu/PLA](http://www.wittenberg.edu/PLA). ■

## Freebourn Leads University Finance

Randal Freebourn, assistant vice chancellor for business services and comptroller at Purdue University-Calumet, has been named Wittenberg's new vice president for finance and administration.

In his previous position, Freebourn oversaw fiscal operations for the Calumet campus of Purdue University, with approximately 10,000 students and \$125 million of annual revenue. Prior to joining Purdue, he served as vice president for business affairs and treasurer for 11 years at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Ind. Additionally, he served in several leadership capacities at Allegheny College from 1993-2000, including as assistant vice president for administrative services.

"Randy brings extensive higher education experience to this position," Wittenberg President Laurie M. Joyner said. "This includes expertise in integrated planning and budgeting, budget modeling, investment/cash management, contract negotiation/administration, insurance/risk management, auxiliary enterprises, physical plant and financial aid strategy. I am delighted that he has agreed to join our team, and I look forward to working with him to move our institutional priorities forward." ■





## Campus Notes

## FACULTY



**Baker**  
Professor of Political  
Science

**Chan**  
Associate Professor  
of Foreign Languages  
and Literature



**Cline**  
Professor of  
Chemistry

**Doubt**  
Professor of  
Sociology



**Duraj**  
Associate Dean of  
Student Success  
and Retention

**Hesseman**  
Adjunct Instructor  
of Bassoon



**James P. Allan**, associate professor of political science and director of the university honors program, co-authored “Party System Change in Québec: Evidence from Recent Elections,” which has been accepted for publication in the *Southern Journal of Canadian Studies*.

**Rob Baker**, professor of political science, was selected by Cox Media Group Ohio to be a regular contributor to newspapers in southwest Ohio. He has been writing about America’s political challenges each month since December. This semester, Baker presented a paper titled “Inside the Twilight Zone: Small-City Board Operations and Members’ Assessments of Their Experiences” at the 2015 Southwestern Political Science Association meeting in Denver.

**Shelley Chan**, associate professor of foreign languages and literature, presented a paper at the annual Modern Language Association conference in Vancouver. Chan also submitted a book chapter, “Narrating Cancer, Disabilities, and AIDS: Yan Lianke’s Trilogy of Disease;” reviewed “A Buddhist Perspective: Trauma and Reincarnation in Mo Yan’s Life and Death Are Wearing Me Out” for *Rocky Mountain Review*; and reviewed “In the System (tizhi) but not of the System: History, Literary Autonomy, and Mo Yan’s Fiction as Aesthetic Intervention” for *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*.

**Howard Choy**, associate professor of foreign languages and literature, presented “Toward a Poetics of Postmemory: Mo Yan’s Memories of the Missing Memories” at the 130th Modern Language Association annual convention in Vancouver. He recently presented “Of Fate and Flower: Xi Xi’s ‘A Girl Like Me’ and Hong Kong Literature”

for the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Southwestern University.

**Kristen Cline**, professor of chemistry and department chair, joined two students, including Garrhett Via ’15, in attending Pittcon in New Orleans to present a poster titled “Investigation of a One-Step Synthesis-Grafting Method to Modify Glassy Carbon.”

**Bob Davis**, professor of English, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship to participate in a six-week faculty conference on George Herbert and Emily Dickinson at the University of Chicago last summer. His essay on Walt Whitman’s Civil War poetry, “Whitman, Levinas, and the Face of the Other,” was published in *Life and Limb: Civil War Literature and Medicine*. Davis will give a plenary address at an international conference on the American Civil War at the University of Liverpool in April.

**Keith Doubt**, professor of sociology, and Genevieve Tripp ’12 published their co-authored article “The Meaningfulness of Jelena in the Work of Ivo Andrić” in *New Zealand Slavonic Journal*, Vol. 46.

**Jon Duraj ’09**, associate dean of student success and retention, has been selected as one of 25 professionals to participate in the Council of Independent Colleges and American Academic Leadership Institute’s 2015-2016 Senior Leadership Academy. The purpose of the yearlong academy is to prepare prospective leaders to serve in a senior leadership capacity in higher education.

**Darlene Brooks Hedstrom**, professor of history and department chair, was selected by Harvard University’s Senior Fellows to be a Fellow in Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D.C., this summer.

Brooks Hedstrom will work on her latest archaeological project, “Feeding Asceticism: The Archaeology of Byzantine Monastic Kitchens,” which examines archaeological evidence of Egyptian, Gazan, Palestinian and Syrian monastic cooking areas. She also presented “From the Nile to the Desert and Back: Writing a New History of Egyptian Monastic Site Formation” for the American Schools of Oriental Research annual meeting in San Diego. She served as co-chair on the “Archaeology of Monasticism” panel.

**Joseph Hesseman**, adjunct instructor of bassoon, recently published an article titled “Developing Successful Habits for Beginning Bassoonists” in the December/January edition of *TRIAD*, the official journal of the Ohio Music Education Association.

**Ken Irwin**, reference librarian and associate professor, published an article titled “Graphic nonfiction: A survey of nonfiction comics” in the September 2014 issue of *Collection Building*.

**Seonhee Jeong**, assistant professor of business, recently published a chapter in *Handbook of Experiential Learning in International Business and International Management*. The chapter introduces the Global Social Venture Competition, an international case study competition, as an example of experiential learning in international business or social entrepreneurship based on the community enquiry model.

**Brandon Jones**, associate professor of music, presented a clinic at the Ohio Music Education Association State Professional Development Conference. He was guest conductor for the OMEA District XII Middle School Honors Wind Ensemble at Kettering Fairmont High School, served as president of the Ohio Private College Instrumental



## STAFF



**Irwin**  
Reference Librarian  
and Associate  
Professor

**Jeong**  
Assistant Professor  
of Business



**McHugh**  
Professor of  
Philosophy

**Waggoner**  
Professor of  
Communication



**Welch**  
Professor  
of Biology

**Woehrle**  
Assistant Professor  
of Psychology



Conductors Association and was in charge of the organization's annual Honor Band Festival, which consists of an Honors Jazz Ensemble and Honors Concert Band made up of students from nearly 20 private colleges and universities. Eight Wittenberg students were selected to perform in this year's Honors Concert Band. Jones will be a guest conductor of the Xavier University Symphonic Winds at their spring concert.

**Daniel Kazez**, professor of music, performed a cello recital at the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center with **David Crean**, university organist, who played harpsichord for the event.

**Thomas P. Martin**, professor of health, fitness and sport, hiked and snorkeled in the National Park of American Samoa, completing his goal of "physically" experiencing every National Park. The purpose of this personal and professional project has been to provide experiences that assist him in his writing and presenting on topics promoting physical activity on protected land and water.

**Nancy McHugh**, professor of philosophy, will publish her book *The Limits of Knowledge: Generating Pragmatist Feminist Cases for Situated Knowing* with SUNY Press this year. She has presented papers at the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy in Denver; the International Association of Women Philosophers in Alcalá, Spain; The American Philosophical Association in Philadelphia; and was invited to give papers at Middleburg College and Utah State University. She continues teaching with the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program at Ohio's London Correctional Institute and is co-writing a paper with Wittenberg students and people who are incarcerated.

**Doug Schantz '04**, director for the Office of Student Accounts, was recently appointed to a three-year term on the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) Presidential Council for Student Financial Services. The principal charge of this 12-member group is to advise the NACUBO president and staff on student financial services-related issues in the areas of legislation, regulations, process management and programs.

**Matthew J. Smith**, professor of communication, has been named co-editor of the newly launched Routledge Advances in Comics Studies book series. Working with Dr. Randy Duncan of Henderson State University, Smith will solicit and edit manuscripts for the series, which is dedicated to furthering the understanding of comics as an art form and a medium of communication. Founded in 1836, Routledge is a global publisher of academic books, journals and online resources in the humanities and social sciences.

Wittenberg's 12th President, **Baird Tipson**, recently published his book *Hartford Puritanism: Thomas Hooker, Samuel Stone, and Their Terrifying God*, Oxford University Press, which reflects four decades of new scholarship on Thomas Hooker and explores the relationship of New England Puritanism to later American evangelicalism.

**Catherine Waggoner**, professor of communication, was an invited panelist for a program on the future of feminism at the Ohio State University, sponsored by Tracers, a feminist and art educators' organization. She was also invited in the fall to be on a panel with other previous Bonnie Ritter Book Award winners for a program at the National Communication Association convention in Chicago.

**Jim Welch**, associate professor of biology and department chair, and **Kathy Reinsel**, associate professor of biology, recently published two papers co-authored with Wittenberg students in *Marine Ecology Progress Series*. Welch served as the primary author of "Settlement of fiddler crab megalopae on a North Carolina sandflat: species identification using multiplex PCR provides evidence for selective settlement," which presents a new molecular method for identifying fiddler crabs that are not identifiable morphologically. Reinsel served as the primary author of "Planktonic ingress of fiddler crab megalopae to the Newport River Estuary, NC: evidence for semilunar periodicity in *Uca pugnax* and species-specific sampling bias by hog's hair larval collectors," which presents the results of a two-year study with daily sampling of incoming fiddler crab larvae.

**Nancy S. Woehrle**, assistant professor of psychology, published her article "Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder and Gilles de la Tourette's Syndrome," co-authored with Stephanie C. Dulawa, in *Behavioral Genetics of the Mouse*, Cambridge University Press.

**Michael J. Zaleha**, associate professor of geology, presented two posters at the Geological Society of America Annual Meeting in Vancouver, Canada: "Grain size distributions, porosities, and permeabilities of a gravelly point bar deposit, Mad River, Ohio, USA," co-authored with Elly Moore '14, and "Geophysical subsurface investigation of the Serpent Mound area (Ohio, USA) using electrical resistivity ground imaging (ERGI): evaluation of bedrock controls on surface features."





## Men's Volleyball Introduced As 24<sup>th</sup> Varsity Sport



**D**irector of Athletics and Recreation Gary Williams has announced the addition of men's volleyball as Wittenberg's 24<sup>th</sup> varsity sport, starting in the 2015-16 school year.

Wittenberg has sponsored men's volleyball as a club sport for many years, but the Tigers will now compete for an NCAA Division III championship as a member of the newly formed Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League, which will have 14 member schools across seven states by the start of the 2015-16 school year. Men's volleyball season runs from January through April each year.

"This sport addition is part of a much larger strategic vision for Wittenberg's Department of Athletics as we look to the future," said Williams. "We are committed to providing a holistic and mission-driven experience for our student-athletes that upholds the need to be fiscally responsible in this ever-changing and competitive environment in higher education."

Williams is no stranger to NCAA Division III men's volleyball after serving as the founding commissioner of the Continental Volleyball Conference (CVC), which included his alma mater, Carthage, until the end of the 2014 season. He also served as the national chair of the NCAA Division III Men's Volleyball Committee from 2012-14.

Women's Volleyball Head Coach Paco Labrador also played a key role in developing just the second NCAA Division III varsity men's volleyball program in the state of Ohio. Labrador participated in a search committee that selected his former student assistant Evan Amstutz '13 as Wittenberg's first-ever men's volleyball head coach, and he continues to lend his expertise in recruiting and developing a winning program.

"Ohio boys' volleyball has exploded in the last few years," said Labrador, who has a phenomenal 377-59 record in 12 seasons as the women's volleyball head coach. "I'm thrilled that Wittenberg is going to provide a new avenue for the hundreds of high school boys looking to continue their academic and athletic careers with a collegiate, varsity volleyball experience."

Just weeks after Amstutz returned to his alma mater, Wittenberg learned that it had received \$6,000 from USA Volleyball through its Men's Collegiate Grant Program, which was developed to increase the number of colleges and universities sponsoring men's volleyball. Wittenberg will receive the funds in three annual installments of \$2,000, with the money utilized to support the establishment of the program and the costs associated with running it.

"Through the generosity of USA Volleyball, our ability to find more outstanding young men and introduce them to Wittenberg's outstanding academic programs has greatly increased," Amstutz said. "We are now able to push the boundaries of how far our outreach efforts can touch. With a resource like this, we are able to market a new and exciting collegiate opportunity to high school student-athletes who hope to compete in NCAA men's volleyball." ■

— by Ryan Maurer





## New Faculty Athletics Representatives Appointed



Maintaining a healthy balance between academics and athletics, President Laurie M. Joyner has announced the appointment of Assistant Professor of Sport Management Julie Aylsworth and Assistant Professor of Education Brian Yontz as the university's new Faculty Athletics Representatives (FAR).

Aylsworth is serving in the role during the spring 2015 semester while current FAR, Associate Professor of Business Wendy Gradwohl, is on a teaching sabbatical. Gradwohl will return to the role for the fall 2015 semester, and Aylsworth will assume the position full-time in January 2016. Yontz has stepped into the second FAR position to replace Professor of Economics Jeff Ankrom, who retired in December.

An FAR is a university faculty member designated to serve as a liaison between the institution and its athletics department and as a representative in conference and NCAA affairs. Faculty members appointed to these positions work to maintain an appropriate balance between academics and intercollegiate athletics.

Aylsworth joined the faculty at Wittenberg in 2011 after previously leading the sport management program

at Mount St. Mary's University. Yontz has worked at Wittenberg since 2006 after serving as the partnership and outreach coordinator at Wright State University. He was the director of student teaching and teacher placement for three years at Wittenberg before moving into a full-time teaching role.

Director of Athletics and Recreation Gary Williams said the Department of Athletics is strengthened by a healthy relationship with the university's faculty and staff. Wittenberg has a long tradition of cooperation between the Department of Athletics and its faculty, and Williams anticipates a smooth transition to Yontz and Aylsworth.

"We had many great years of service by Jeff Ankrom for which we as a university will forever be grateful," Williams said. "We also want to thank Wendy Gradwohl, who has been a nationally recognized leader in Division III as an FAR, and are pleased she will remain on through next January as we transition. We are all looking forward to the impact Brian and Julie will make on the lives of our student-athletes." ■

— by Ryan Maurer

## Sarah Jurewicz Named Senior Woman Administrator

Sarah Jurewicz '98 returned to her alma mater to follow in the footsteps of her mentor, Pam Evans Smith, as head coach of the Tiger women's basketball team. Eight years later, Jurewicz added a new set of responsibilities as Senior Woman Administrator for Wittenberg's Department of Athletics, also a position once held by Smith, who passed away in June 2007.

The program's all-time leading scorer and a 2009 inductee into Wittenberg's Athletics Hall of Honor, Jurewicz has guided the Tigers to a 125-89 overall record. Before returning to her alma mater, Jurewicz was an assistant coach at Savannah College of Art and Design and Colorado College.

"I am proud to serve alongside Sarah as she accepts the responsibility of becoming Wittenberg's Senior Woman

Administrator," said Director of Athletics and Recreation Gary Williams. "She is one of the most passionate, enthusiastic, and caring coaches in our department, and I believe she is the perfect fit for our administrative team."

Jurewicz guided her team to its first North Coast Athletic Conference Tournament title and NCAA Division III Tournament berth in 11 years in 2015. As a student-athlete at Wittenberg, she played on teams that won three regular season and tournament league titles.

"To have the opportunity to expand my service to the Department of Athletics and Wittenberg through my new appointment as the SWA is an honor and an opportunity I embrace with eagerness," Jurewicz said. "Much of my work in higher education has revolved around helping others get the most out of their



college experience and be the best they can be while striving for the most equitable experience possible. I sense I can have a greater impact now from this position." ■

— by Ryan Maurer



## Weighing the Balance of Opportunity

When Jared Crum '15 told Natalie Koukis he'd miss the fall term, the Tigers head swimming coach could have gone off into the deep end of the HPER Center Natatorium.

"He's an important leader on the team," Koukis explained. "He's also our top sprinter."

"But you have to weigh the balance of opportunity," she said. And in that balance, Crum's plans to join a film crew on the waters of the Big Muddy outweighed the prospect of swimming laps in a chlorinated pool on Springfield's north side.

"It's a legend, it's a ghost, it's a river, it's a highway," said Crum, reciting a short list of Mississippi River descriptors.

He might have added that it's a "life-shaper" because his trip on the river last fall sprung from a chance meeting near its banks a generation ago.

Back then, Crum's father, an English teacher, worked in St. Louis and went to a pickup basketball game at Webster University. There, he shook hands with Eddy L. Harris, an African American writer fresh from college in California and dreaming of a canoe adventure on the big river.

Both the friendship and dream stuck: Harris was best man at the elder Crum's wedding, and in 1988, Harris published *Mississippi Solo*, a book about his dream journey.

Fast forward to 2011 and a not-so-chance meeting in Paris at which Harris asked Denny Crum's high-school-age son, Jared, to join a film crew for a cinematic repeat of the river trip.

Jared Crum agreed and, though it took three years for the logistics to be worked out, was there in August when the trip began.

He quickly became a friend, indeed, to a man in need.

"Jared comes in because we didn't have a lot of money," Harris said.

"I was cheap and young and fit," Crum confirmed. "I did a lot of camera carrying, a lot of grunt work."

But, because the adventure was thrown in for free, Crum did more. First, he created a web site, which he also would maintain.

Then he "felt kind of obligated" to write a daily blog. When Harris suggested 300 words, Crum countered with 1,000.

Ninety-three thousand words downstream, the English major with journalism and creative writing minors, has no regrets.

"It was almost like a bonus for me to write after the day's work was done," he said. The solitary discipline kept him focused on Harris' vision, which Crum expressed as follows: "We were trying to capture all of America that is in contact with The River. They can be fishermen; they can be barge drivers; they can work at the Potosi Brewery in Wisconsin."

Crum helped Harris find those people, once parlaying a meeting at a canoe livery into a contact at the Ojibway nation, making possible a film segment about the annual wild rice harvest on tribal lands in Wisconsin.

"Jared was invaluable," Harris said.

And Harris found what he'd hoped to: A new generation of kind, generous hearts and welcoming spirits – spirits he contends Americans everywhere will rediscover "if we turn off our TV sets and we stop listening to all the bad crap that gets hurled at us."

In late November, a mean river shortened Harris' trip and Crum returned home to Deer Creek, Ind., to work out. After Christmas, he joined his teammates in Florida for "the real kind of grueling pool training" he'd need to get up to speed.

That took until the season-ending NCAC swimming and diving championships, the final meet of the year.

"Up until then, I was just swimming average times for my best," Crum said. But, just in time, the four-year letter winner hit his stroke and swam the freestyle legs for the 200- and 400-meter relay teams that set Wittenberg school records.

"I walked away feeling pretty good," said Crum.

So did Coach Koukis.

"I think he was really motivated to finish his swimming career on a high note, which he certainly did."

As for the time spent away on the river? That turned out to be an education. ■

— by Tom Stafford '76

Read Jared Crum's blog at [www.mississippi-solo2.com/film-blog/day-1](http://www.mississippi-solo2.com/film-blog/day-1). *Mississippi Solo 1* is now in post-production. To help fund the film's completion, go to [directory.crowdfundinsider.com/offering/mississippi-solo-2](http://directory.crowdfundinsider.com/offering/mississippi-solo-2).





## Tiger Track, Swimming Programs Lose Longtime Assistant Coaches



In a span of just two months, two Wittenberg varsity athletics teams lost assistant coaches following lengthy illnesses. On Dec. 24, 2014, Assistant Track and Field Coach Dennis Robinson lost his six-year battle with the blood disease Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), and on Feb. 3, 2015, Assistant Swimming and Diving Coach Jim Smith died after an eight-year battle with cancer.

Robinson had served as an assistant with the Tiger track and field program since 2004, even while undergoing treatments since January 2009 for MDS, which requires a bone marrow or stem cell transplant. He worked primarily with sprinters, hurdlers and jumpers, helping make All-North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) honors attainable for numerous student-athletes, including Skip Ivery '04, Josh Colbert '14, Victor Banjo '15, Justin Yates '16 and Laike Wallace '16, all of whom have qualified for NCAA Division III Championship competitions in the last decade.

Smith joined Wittenberg's swimming and diving coaching staff in 2004, guiding the team's divers to numerous honors and awards. Under his coaching, Cody Nicely '07 earned 2004 NCAC Diver of the Year, and Courtney Roth '08 earned the same award in both 2006 and 2007.



Smith, who also helped Megan Shubitowski '08 to a pair of all-conference awards, was named NCAC Men's Diving Coach of the Year in 2008. In addition, a host of student-athletes set records and scored points for the Tigers in NCAC

Championship meets, including such divers as Matt Erenpreiss '10 and Gus Appenbrink '12, both of whom joined the team with little prior experience and earned top-10 finishes by the end of their collegiate careers.

As Smith's illness worsened in recent months, an unlikely Tiger stepped in to continue his tutelage of the team's divers. Eric Roberts '15 made an extraordinary return to the pool deck just one month after suffering a frightening injury in the 3-meter competition at the Transylvania University Invitational on Dec. 6 at the University of Kentucky's Lancaster Aquatic Center in Lexington.

Read more about Roberts' unlikely transition from competitor to coach online at [www.wittenbergtigers.com/sports/mswimdive/2014-15/releases/02\\_10](http://www.wittenbergtigers.com/sports/mswimdive/2014-15/releases/02_10). ■

— by Ryan Maurer



Since the opening of the National Trail Parks and Recreation Department (NTPRD) Chiller in October 2013, Wittenberg University's ice hockey club team has enjoyed great success on the ice. Since the middle of the 2014-15 season, the Tigers have also had a locker room space in the facility befitting a championship-caliber team.

An anonymous Wittenberg alumnus worked with a local non-profit organization to secure a grant in 2014 to fund construction of the new locker room, which is located just steps from the Chiller's popular ice rink. Read more about this successful partnership online at [www.wittenbergtigers.com/news/2014-15/hockey](http://www.wittenbergtigers.com/news/2014-15/hockey).

**Sports  
Shorts**

**Women's Basketball  
Reaches Second  
Round of NCAA  
Tournament**

**Track Student-  
Athletes Excel  
at NCAA Indoor  
Championships**

**Diver Returns  
To Pool Deck  
As Coach After  
Frightening Injury**

Read more at [www.wittenbergtigers.com](http://www.wittenbergtigers.com)



# Engaging Students *from* the Start

From trying to unlock the universe's secrets to encouraging questions of any kind, Ohio Professor of the Year Elizabeth George shines as she shares her passion for physics and inspires students every step of the way.

*By Karen Saatkamp Gerboth '93  
Photos by Erin Pence '04*

taking a road trip in Elizabeth George's family never seemed to end at a final destination. Rather, it was often a journey of discovery, peppered with inquiry and problem-solving, thanks to parents who insisted that learning should be a lifetime pursuit. Her dad used to say, "I'll give you a nickel if you can explain why this works that way."

While she isn't sure how much she made off the childhood challenge, she recalls with ease some examples. On a family vacation to San Francisco, her dad pointed to the famous TransAmerica Pyramid and then asked George and her sister what those squares were. George was 9 at the time, and she quickly studied the structure, determined to figure it out. (Spoiler alert: elevator shafts) Her mom would do the same, dumping out utensil drawers to see what the girls could create.

"My mom said she knew I would be a scientist when she saw me taking apart the stroller and then trying to put it back together again," George explains.

Years later, George continues to bring that same level of inquiry into the lives of her students – a passion that clearly captured the attention of peers who recently honored her with the 2014 Ohio Professor of the Year Award.

Sponsored by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the U.S. Professor of the Year program is the only national program to recognize excellence in undergraduate education. Since the program's founding in



**"My mom said she knew I would be a scientist when she saw me taking apart the stroller and then trying to put it back together again." – Elizabeth George, Ohio Professor of the Year**



ERIN PENCE '04



# Engaging Students from the Start

1981, Wittenberg has led the state among four-year institutions in the number of professors receiving the coveted distinction. George's award brings the official count to seven and shines the spotlight on Wittenberg's superb teaching inside the classroom and outside of it. George's honor also marks another milestone in Wittenberg history, as it has been nearly three decades since CASE awarded the distinction to the same institution two years in a row. Last year, John Ritter, professor of geology, earned the distinguished recognition.

Surprised and deeply appreciative that faculty colleagues, administrators and former students nominated her for the award, George has insisted that the teaching of physics, and science in general, requires a commitment to hands-on learning and experimentation.

"We need to meet students where they are and encourage them to look at how the world behaves and then compare what they see to their own mental models," says George, who helped implement real-time physics in her classrooms and labs.

"Making people aware of how much of everyday life revolves around physics is important," she continues. "It's also important for people to be able to ask questions and figure out how best to answer."

George's own curious nature and love of inquiry stem from her childhood experiences. Her dad taught mathematics at the University of Missouri at Columbia, and her mom taught Latin at the high school level. Both were dedicated to creating a home that encouraged problem-solving, which George wants to ensure defines her classroom, as well.

1981, Wittenberg has led the state among four-year institutions in the number of professors receiving the coveted distinction. George's award brings the official count to seven and shines the

"Students need to have a chance to play with things, which is why it is so important to have labs where they can get their hands on things to experience something tactile, kinesthetic," she says.

An experimental nuclear physicist and campus leader in classroom innovation, George is also committed to matching students, regardless of intended major, with a research project of some consequence.

"I'm lucky to be in a department that is willing to try new things," George says, adding that her department does really well at offering opportunities for student research and remaining open to student ideas.

"Students can be involved as early as they want to be, and we will work to find a project that matches their interest."

To see this effort in action requires one to look no further than student-athlete Thomas Chuna '16 of Kettering, Ohio. George approached Chuna his first year on campus, long before he declared his major, about collaborative research options. That effort has since turned into a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Chuna to work with George and department colleague Associate Professor of Physics Paul Voytas this fall on an experiment at the National Superconducting Cyclotron at Michigan State University. They will examine the relationship between radioactive decay and nuclear weak force bonds. (See sidebar.)

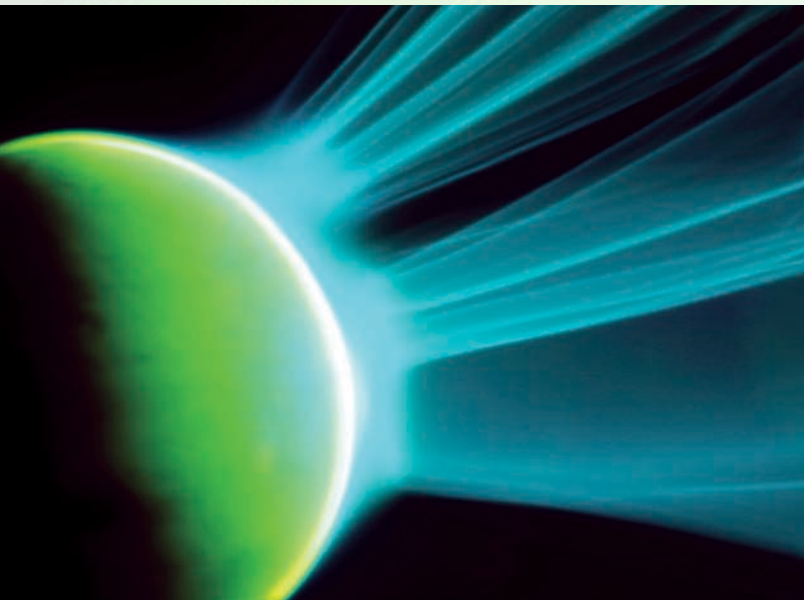
"People think that if you hold the universe up to a mirror, you will see everything reflected exactly, but that is not the case," George explains, noting that the left- and right-handed nature of atoms alters behavior. While others are examining the structure of the atom, she and Voytas are digging deeper into what happens inside the atom, trying to understand the reaction of weak-force bonds.

"My study is focused more on the interaction of particles inside the nucleus, especially how protons can change into neutrons," she says.

When she finds the answer, the results could alter everything the human mind has come to understand about the universe. And George gets one step closer every year, going it alone and in partnership with student researchers and faculty peers at top-ranked research institutions.

Yet, the chance to work with undergraduates one-on-one – a hallmark of the Wittenberg experience, and the reason George wanted to work in a liberal arts setting despite earning her B.S. from the University of the Arizona, her M.S. from the University of Colorado, and her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater – remains at the heart of her work. It's also the reason she keeps investigating the best practices for the teaching of science and why she will never stop seeking out new ways to engage students from the start.

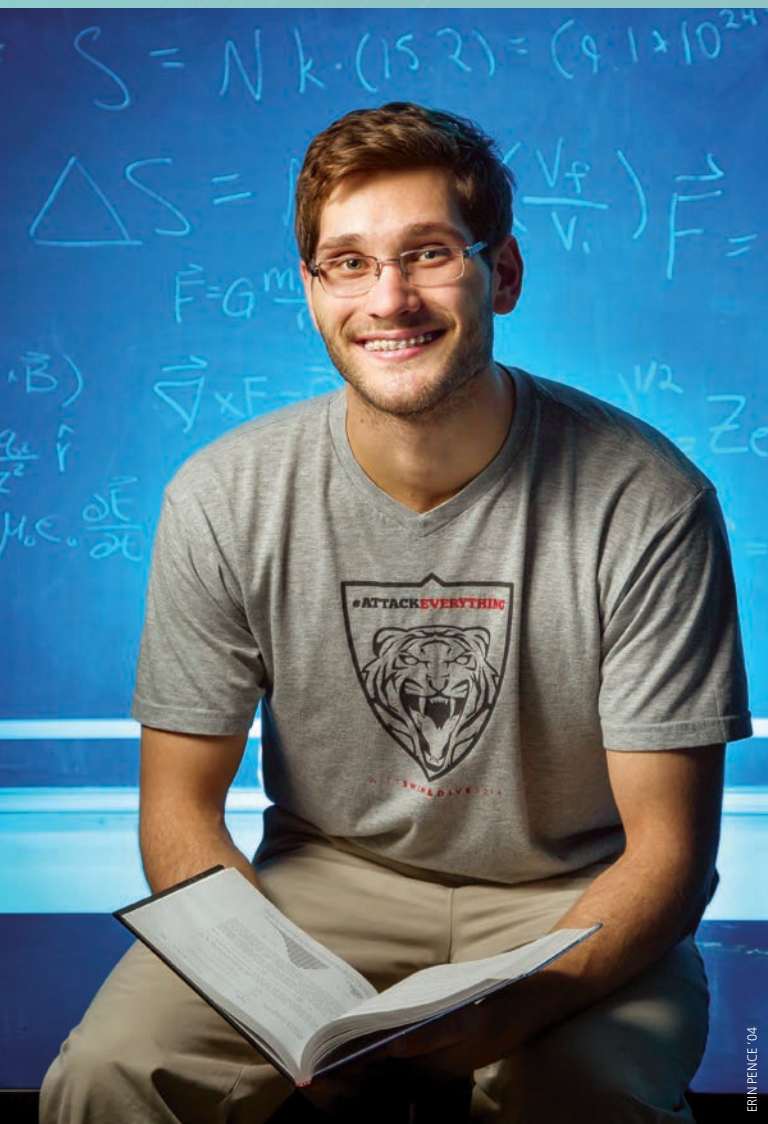
"I was the kid that enrolled in the science-kit-of-the-month program," George said. "That is what science is and should be: the chance to play, to ask questions and to have fun. Physics is fun stuff." ■





# From the Pool to the Cyclotron

By Tom Stafford '76



## Thomas Chuna '16 came to Wittenberg in fall 2012 because it answered the question foremost on his mind: Where can I swim?

This fall, he'll be at the National Superconducting Cyclotron at Michigan State University helping his professors to answer a question about physics' least understood fundamental force, the nuclear weak force.

Chuna's change in focus springs from three of Wittenberg's strengths: The personal interest teachers like 2014 Ohio Professor of the Year Elizabeth George take in their students; the university's emphasis on student-faculty collaborative research; and the power of Division III athletics to help students

apply lessons learned in their high school athletic careers to other aspects of their lives.

Although he tested out of all the physics courses offered his first fall, "Thomas approached me about a job in the department" because "he wanted to get involved," George recalls. "He was not only reliable, but wanted to learn."

When she suggested he get involved in research, the freshman told George he didn't yet feel capable. But since his sophomore year, Chuna, now a junior, has been doing computer modeling of an experiment George is working on with Wittenberg physics colleague Paul Voytas.

The experiment will use the cyclotron at Michigan State to send a beam of fluorine atoms into a detector, then measure the decay of those atoms, a decay attributed to the weak force. The team then will compare the results of its experiment with established findings about a pattern of decay attributed to the electromagnetic force. Because the end product of both experiments is the same atom, the Wittenberg team hopes the comparison will shed light on the relationship of the two decay processes, and, therefore, the two forces.

An important tool of physics, computer modeling is crucial to the venture because it helps the team choose approaches that will yield the most reliable results and get the greatest benefit from limited "beam time" on the cyclotron. Modeling "actually requires almost more knowledge" than the experiment itself, Chuna explains, because it involves considering a wider range of approaches than any single experiment can employ, then choosing the best.

Aside from presenting Chuna with the kind of dense analytic challenge he likes, working with George and Voytas has given him the benefit of their guidance, "hands on" experience with an important tool of the physics trade, and the chance to become more intimately acquainted with the science in a crucial area of inquiry.

The result is that the swimmer and diver has been able to dip his toe into what he's likely to encounter in the waters of graduate school physics.

Thankful for the opportunity, Chuna says he was able to take on the challenge because his professors "really believed in me."

Consistent with Newton's Third Law ("For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction") Chuna also believes in them.

"This department is full of diamonds that aren't even in the rough," Chuna says. "They're just standing diamonds."



# Part of the Magic

Students Team With 4 Paws for Ability to Train Life-Changing Service Dogs





by Leigh Hall '13

## It was only the third day of on-site training, and Zumba sat next to 10-year-old Max Switala.

“All of the sudden, Zumba snapped to attention, got up and started walking around Max, tracking a scent in the room full of other dogs and their families,” says Max’s father, Kevin. “She came back to Max and started licking his hands and ears.”

“Four hours later, almost to the minute, Max had a seizure.”

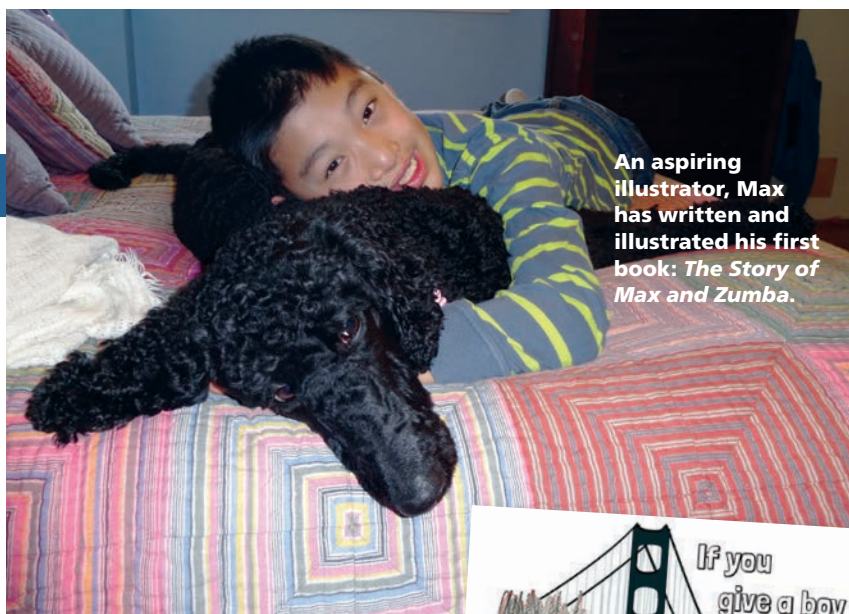
When the same thing happened again the next day, the frightening problem the Switalas had been unable to manage with uncounted doctors became manageable with the help of one gentle dog.

“We knew right away – she was completely zoned in on Max,” Switala said. “I understand the science behind it, but the only word I can use to describe it is ‘magic.’”

Since 2009, Wittenberg students have helped that magic happen. Through a groundbreaking co-curricular opportunity with Xenia-based 4 Paws for Ability, students prepare puppies for their life-changing work as service dogs.

“To me, that’s the blessing of 4 Paws: their ability and willingness to place service dogs in the exact kind of challenging environments in which they are needed the most.”

– Max’s father, Kevin Switala



An aspiring illustrator, Max has written and illustrated his first book: *The Story of Max and Zumba*.

Students have helped socialize nearly 120 dogs on campus, 53 of which have been placed with a family and actively work as service dogs in 24 states from Alaska to Florida. One dog works in Canada.

A year ago, the Switalas were living in constant worry that Max might have a seizure while swimming in a pool, riding a bike or eating – making such common childhood activities potentially life-threatening.

After years of searching for a solution in traditional medicine, therapy, changes to the physical structure of their home and different schools, the Switalas still struggled to find a way to help Max with his ADHD that manifested itself as anxiety, Tourette’s syndrome and a seizure disorder.

Born in China with a cleft lip and palate, Max was adopted along with his sister, Eva, when they were toddlers.

“Ninety-five percent of his challenge has been his cognitive delays – the social



and emotional delays – that come from lack of nutrition early on and lack of stimulation in the orphanage,” Switala says. “Those, along with a seizure disorder that emerged about two or three years ago present Max with some real life challenges.”

They have presented challenges for his parents, too.

“We just never knew when Max would have a seizure or an anxiety attack,” Switala says. “There was no way to be prepared or to positively intervene. As a parent, that’s what’s so concerning. It’s always in the back of your mind and you never get a break from that.”

“So we were seeking innovative, outside-the-box methods to help him get over the hump, to give him some protection, and to give us an early warning system for his seizure disorder and anxiety in particular.”



Then a family friend saw Pip, a wide-eyed Papillion fostered at Wittenberg, on the front page of the March 9-11 edition of *USA Weekend* in 2012, and shared the article about service dogs and 4 Paws for Ability with Max's mom, Katie.

A Ph.D. in civil engineering, she started researching as a true scientist and concerned mother would.

"What she kept finding was that 4 Paws was the only place we could find that was willing to place a service dog in our household with Max, who was underage and has these emotional outbursts. It's a really unique situation," Switala recalls. "To me, that's the blessing of 4 Paws: their ability and willingness to place service dogs in the exact kind of challenging environments in which they are needed the most."

To better serve the needs of thousands of families across the country, 4 Paws has



The Switalas celebrated Zumba's graduation from the 4 Paws training program.

"Getting a dog that could alert us of Max's seizure activity and disrupt his anxiety was like magic."

– Max's father, Kevin Switala

allowed families to foster a puppy after it has gone through obedience training. Families socialize the dogs, giving them the opportunity to experience daily life out in public before beginning specialized training for the families they'll serve.

Committed to providing co-curricular opportunities that allow students to develop compassion and explore service to the world, Wittenberg proposed a campus foster program, a 4 Paws first.

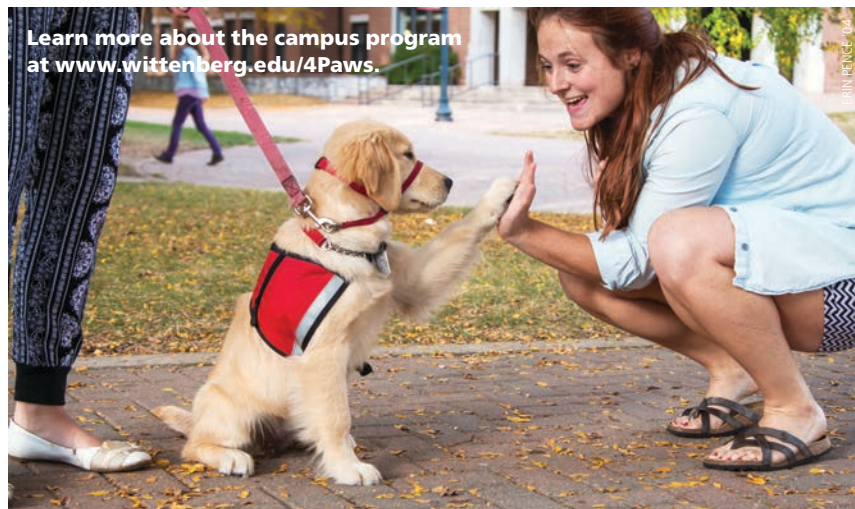
"Wittenberg asked how students could help, and we decided to expand the traditional foster program so that students could be included," explains 4 Paws Trainer Jessa Kensworthy, who coordinates the college campus foster programs. "Wittenberg was the founding college for our campus program, with just three dogs the first year, and we're so grateful that more and more students are interested and that the program continues to grow every year. For the dogs, being

comfortable and confident in public – wherever they go and whoever they meet – is vital for their success."

"The program at Wittenberg and other schools that partner with 4 Paws is absolutely instrumental because Zumba, in public environments like the grocery store, Sunday school and church, is so well-acclimated," Switala says.

Zumba stays with Max wherever he goes, even riding in a crate next to Max's seat on the school bus, staying with him

The campus foster program enables students to oversee socialization, a key element of service dog training.



Learn more about the campus program at [www.wittenberg.edu/4Paws](http://www.wittenberg.edu/4Paws).



in class in a room with other children who have special needs, and shadowing him in the yard when he plays after school.

“We’re an active family, and Max is very outgoing, energetic – very exuberant and emotional. When he’s playing, it’s always an adventure game, and Zumba is alongside him the entire time,” Switala says.

“She’s been our lifeline,” he praises Zumba, who has correctly alerted the family to every seizure Max has had since she joined the family in September 2014. “And when she works, she can’t be distracted by what’s going on around her, and it is really interesting to see. Because of that socialization, she is able to screen out the subway train coming onto the platform or not be disturbed by a truck going down the street.”

Since Zumba joined Max and his family, their lives have changed for the better.

“We were always worried. But that was all pre-Zumba – ‘P.Z.’ as we like to call it,” Switala says. “The entire anxiety of the household has decreased dramatically. We’re back to appreciating family time together,” knowing that Zumba is always focused on Max.

“The only reason she can do that is because of her socialization training.”

The students who foster 4 Paws dogs on campus find that the experience helps them focus as well.

“It really made my college experience what it was,” says Emily Goodman, who fostered Zumba with co-trainers Sarah Funderburg and Lorena McConnel, all class of 2014. Now a Children’s Services social worker, Goodman says the foster experience “helped me to decide that I

wanted to work with kids every day and to at least try to help improve one thing in their lives.”

The three co-trainers fostered six service dogs total, five of which are serving families of children with special needs, doing seizure detection, diabetic alert, search-and-rescue tracking and behavioral distraction.

“This program changed my life from the moment we got our first dog, and it gave me a new perspective on families with children who have special needs,” says Funderburg, who plans to practice as a pediatric physical therapist. “It’s such a humbling experience to be able to help families by working with the dog that changes their lives.” ■



**Learn more about  
4 Paws for Ability at  
[4pawsforability.org](http://4pawsforability.org).**



# ACCOMPLISHED PEOPLE, ACCOMPLISHED LIVES

Celebrating the lives of Stanley  
L. Mickel II (1941-2014) &  
E. Charles Chatfield (1934-2015)



At the core of Wittenberg's mission is a commitment to the development and education of the whole person. Charles Chatfield, professor emeritus of history, and Stanley Mickel, professor emeritus of foreign languages and literature and one of the founders of the university's distinguished East Asian Studies program, carried out that mission in teaching, guiding and caring for generations of Wittenberg students. At recent memorial services for both, the Wittenberg community paused to celebrate the whole persons they were.

BY TOM STAFFORD '76



## The Rather Unlikely Travels of Dr. Stanley L. Mickel II

Jeremy Mickel stood in Weaver Chapel on Dec. 7, describing the moment his mother realized at some deeper level that her husband was an exceptional teacher.

“Stan” was teaching Jeremy to ride a bike. “He didn’t get frustrated. He kept showing me, giving specific feedback and pointing out what I was doing wrong and how I could do it better,” Jeremy said.

The eldest of three Mickel sons likened the process to “telling students where to put their tongues to get the right tone in Chinese.”

But as Jeremy’s youngest brother, Patrick, pointed out, when their father graduated from high school near Springfield in 1957, it seemed unlikely that he would teach anywhere, much else at Wittenberg ... much, much less for 36 years.

Finishing in the bottom third of his class, the future Dr. Mickel did leave high school with a love of language instilled by Latin teacher Gwen Runyan. Paired with a facility for foreign languages, that landed him a place at the U.S. Army Language School at the Presidio in Monterey, Calif., where he studied Mandarin.

After an honorable discharge, Mickel put himself through the structural linguistics program at the University



Dr. Mickel was a gentle genius who helped define my experience at Wittenberg and prepared me to understand, appreciate and relate to the Asian culture.

**Lorna O’Hara ‘90**

of California at Berkeley, working in restaurants to keep himself fed and watching the demonstrations held by the campus’ radical Free Speech movement, whose marches were quite different from the army’s.

The yin and yang of Mickel’s life then took a rebound as

## Charles Chatfield: Epitaph for a Village Elder

A lifespan even of 80 years is not enough, on its own, to earn a person the status of village elder.

The other qualities that conferred the honor on Charles Chatfield were celebrated Jan. 24 in the stone and wood sanctuary of Springfield’s Covenant Presbyterian Church – qualities echoed in loving condolences sent by students who enjoyed his classes and company from 1961 to 1999.

“Charles Chatfield had a profound impact on my life path,” wrote Richard Tracy ’77. “After he brought the Lutheran Bishop of Chile to speak against the Pinochet coup in Chile, I switched majors to Spanish and Latin American Studies... joined the Peace Corps and married my Columbian bride.”

Paul Tuttle ’83 called Chatfield “a big part of why I dropped my intended career path and went to Divinity School instead.”

Sandra Bennett, a 1983 exchange student from Liverpool, England, summed up Chatfield’s character when she said he both “taught us American history ... and was our Guardian Angel.”

Just as he welcomed Bennett, Chatfield sent a host of Wittenberg students abroad through the Global Issues and World Churches international studies program. He did so with the help of



The Lord did not shout at my father; He whispered into his ear, so that command and inner desire were barely distinguishable. I will ponder that the rest of my life.

**David Chatfield, son**

Mary, his wife of 57 years, whom one colleague called his “constant partner, editor and co-conspirator.”

Son David Chatfield, who chairs the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Florida International University, called that period of collaboration “one of the happiest times” of his father’s life.

A graduate of Illinois’ Monmouth College who



ACCOMPLISHED PEOPLE,  
ACCOMPLISHED LIVES

## STANLEY L. MICKEL

robust as any he'd generate in years on the racquetball court when he used the degree he earned at Berkeley to get a job at the Central Intelligence Agency. Mickel summed up his brief stint at the CIA succinctly: "I decided, this is not for me."

So in October 1966, the 25-year-old spent his last \$150 in Portland, Ore., for passage on a slow boat to what then was called "Nationalist China," or Taiwan, for a university job. His unusual mode of travel led to a chance meeting with a man by the unlikely name of "Orient Lee." Lee, who may have been on the wheat boat because of a fear of flying, invited his fellow passenger to take a position at a different university. Two years later, Mickel returned to Springfield with a master's degree from the College of Chinese Culture, and the *Springfield News-Sun* wrote a story about a hometown boy headed for a doctoral program in Chinese Literature and Language at Indiana University.

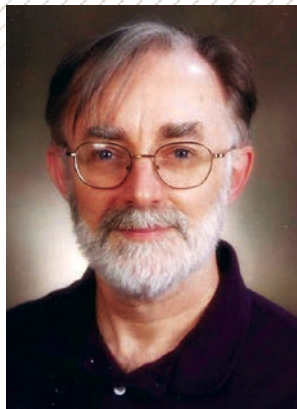
When Wittenberg Provost Allen O. Pfnister and Professor Eugene Swanger, who specialized in East Asian religions, read the story, Mickel's unlikely journey began to come full circle. Granted an extra year to complete his doctoral research, the man who one might not have gained admission to Wittenberg as a student was on the path to a professorship.

Mickel joined the faculty in 1971. By the time he earned his Ph.D. in 1976, he had married Karen Adams '73 and set his sights on raising a family and building the East Asian Studies department.

Among his major professional contributions was *Reading Chinese Newspapers: Tactics and Skills*, released by Far Eastern Publications at Yale in 1996. *The Modern Language Journal* called it "a major breakthrough in Chinese language materials," and the *Journal of Chinese Language Teachers Association* said it set "a new standard" for using newspapers as a practical teaching tool.

Matevia Endowed University Pastor Rachel Tune said Mickel's sensitivity to students' overall learning needs also is written into the nooks and crannies of Hollenbeck Hall: "Stan chaired the building committee, and for many, his presence can be felt in every inch of that space."

In like manner, Mickel helped to build ASIANetwork, a consortium of liberal arts colleges promoting Asian studies. When it presented him with a 2009 Distinguished Service Award, the organization said Mickel was part of a time in which "so much was accomplished in so little time by so few individuals – all asking for so little in return."



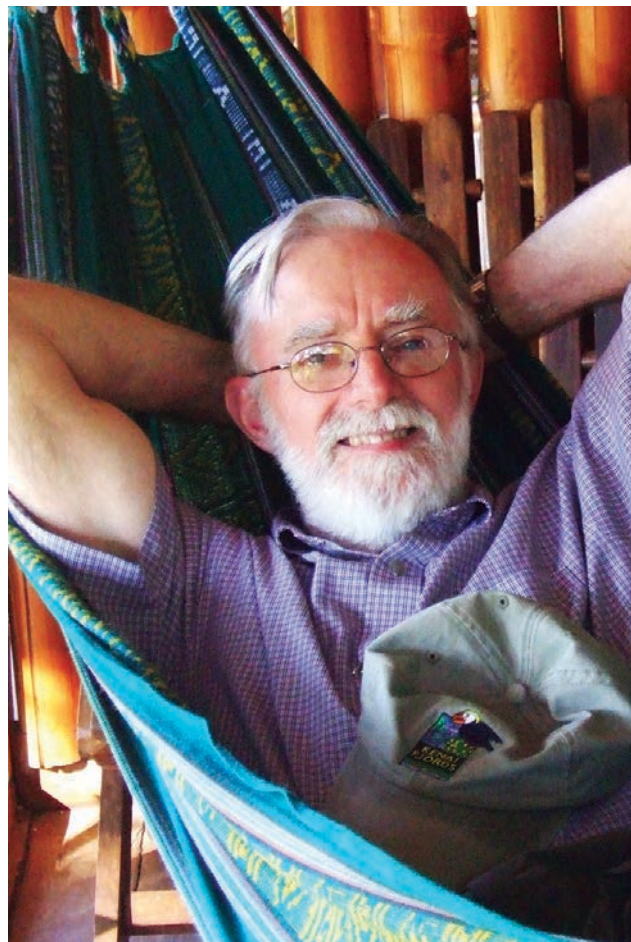
In a letter read at Mickel's memorial service, Professor Emeritus Jim Huffman said that although Mickel was as "frenetically busy" as any builder, "he exuded the contemplative spirit."

"When I looked at [Chinese] oracle bones, I saw political records and artifacts," Huffman wrote. "When he looked at them, he saw courtiers singing, he saw the ancients' hearts."

Mickel saw the hearts of those around him, too.

"He was even more 'there for' and part of his family than he was at work," son Patrick said. At birthdays, "instead of balloon-wielding clowns, we had Professor Mickel painting the Chinese interpretations of our Western names on T-shirts to keep as party favors."

And when Jeremy and middle son Andy took an interest in Cub Scouts, their father first signed on as den leader, then as pack leader for Springfield's entire north side.





ACCOMPLISHED PEOPLE,  
ACCOMPLISHED LIVES

## CHARLES CHATFIELD

earned his master's degree and Ph.D. at Vanderbilt University, Chatfield made his first contributions to peace studies when he proposed a dissertation topic and heard his adviser ask, "Was there a pacifist movement?"

Chatfield's full answer came in 1972 with "Pacifism in America, 1914-41," winner of the Ohio Academy of History's publication award.

President Emeritus William Kinnison said that in his years at Wittenberg, Chatfield was part of a "hinge generation" linking "what was to what was to come."

At the memorial service, Mary-Kaye Soderlind '65 captured the feel of Chatfield's early days by invoking bow ties, Berlin and balderdash.

"His lectures were better, his jokes funnier and even his terrible puns ("egregious," suggested his obituary) were more understandable when he wore bow ties."

**Although Mickel was "frenetically busy" in his work, he "exuded the contemplative spirit," said colleague James Huffman. "When I looked at [Chinese] oracle bones, I saw political records and artifacts. When he looked at them, he saw ... the ancients' hearts."**

**Charles Chatfield, part of what President Emeritus William A. Kinnison called a "hinge generation" at Wittenberg, talks with former history professor Tammy Proctor.**

When Soderlind studied abroad in Berlin, Chatfield persuaded her to interview one of the best-known German pacifists for him, arguing: "You are in Berlin ... your German is better than mine, and you can do it."

"Balderdash" is a PG version of the word Chatfield actually used to chew her out during her graduate years, Soderlind said. If she couldn't adjust her dissertation subject to suit her committee, he continued, "maybe you don't deserve the degree."



"Only a friend would have talked to me that way," she said.

If Chatfield stood up to his friends, he stood up for them, too.

Sandi Cooper, a professor at the City University of New York's Graduate Center, recalled that when an Oxford University don sought to discredit the field of peace studies at a conference, "In about two or three quiet

sentences, [Chatfield] managed to puncture both the egoism and the absence of moral content in everything that had been said and re-establish (the) larger moral-intellectual project which we had to engage."

Kinnison described Chatfield as "a humble and gracious advocate of peace and reconciliation" who, even in the "highly charged" late '60s and early '70s "remained a voice of calm, showing respect for others." He never came unhinged.

Chatfield often remarked on the happy historic coincidence between the birth of peace studies and the rise of a peace movement.

"The Vietnam war just picked us up and moved us," he said in a 2012 interview with the *Springfield News-Sun*. "It was so exciting," he added, as was being in "a field that attracts people with a real sense of values."

One of those people was University of Toledo scholar Charles DeBenedetti, who had composed 1,100 pages of a book, 840 of them in the first-draft stage, when he was diagnosed with a fast-growing brain tumor.

Four years after DeBenedetti's death, *An American Ordeal: The Anti-War Movement of the Vietnam War* won the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations' Keuhl Prize, and as "assisting author," Chatfield drew praise from parties as diverse as *The*



## STANLEY L. MICKEL



**Stanley Mickel taught Chinese culture to the smallest learners in Springfield area schools.**

All this notwithstanding, colleague Jennifer Oldstone-Moore suggested that “the perhaps most poignant of this great gift of giving ... was Stan’s nurturing of his blessed partnership with Karen,” whom he married in a double-ring ceremony in Weaver Chapel on July 13, 1974.

When Mrs. Mickel asked him why he constantly was willing to do what she wished to do, “he told her it was because his purpose in life was to make her happy,” Oldstone-Moore said. “At the dinner table, he always had a small bottle of soap bubbles handy so that if Karen was having a bad day, he could blow the bubbles to cheer her up.”

Diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia during his first year of retirement, Mickel

began studying the language and behavior of another life form, birds. Eventually, his illness necessitated a move to Springfield’s Forest Glen Health Campus, where he spent his final years.

Jeremy Mickel said his 73-year-old father’s passing on Nov. 28 has, in an unexpected way, brought his spirit bubbling back.

“As a friend told me, now that he’s gone, it’s like he’s all around us. He’s free of the disease. He’s free of this one single place that he lived. And we can take him with us wherever we go.”

They are words that could open the sequel to “The Rather Unlikely Travels of Dr. Stanley L. Mickel II.” ■

## CHARLES CHATFIELD

*Chronicle of Higher Education* and radio commentator Paul Harvey.

The first holder of Wittenberg’s H. Orth Hirt Chair in History and the first recipient of the Peace History Society’s Lifetime Achievement Award, Chatfield also was named a “Peace Hero” by the Dayton International Peace Museum, received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater, was a Danforth Fellow, and received the Wittenberg Alumni Association’s Distinguished Teaching Award.

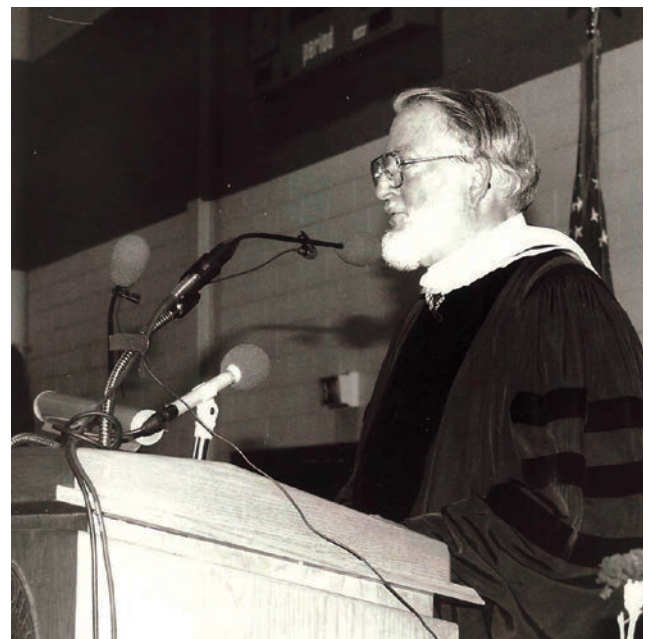
That he had remained in regular contact with campus after retirement contributed to the sense of reverence and respect in which he was held. So did his continued contributions to Wittenberg, notably in two articles he wrote

for this magazine: “Breaking In: The Vietnam War Comes to Wittenberg” and “Breaking Out: The Sixties Reshape Wittenberg.”

David Holmgren, son of the Chatfields’ daughter, Carol Anne, described his grandfather as a “realistic but ever hopeful man” who had “a lifetime of knowledge and perspective that he could – that he wanted to – share.”

“He never lost his sense of wonder and shared that wonder with everyone around him,” the 18-year-old added. “From him I learned that the world is a wonderful place, and it is all the more beautiful for his having been in it.”

There could have been no more apt epitaph for the 80-year life of a grandfather, teacher and village elder. ■



**Among Charles Chatfield’s many honors was an honorary doctorate from his alma mater, Monmouth College.**



'34

**Verdena Fox Mardis** celebrated her 100th birthday last October in Waynesville, Ohio. During her professional years, she had a distinguished career in education and psychology in the Dayton area.

'64

**Paula Sommer Clise** retired from the middle school gifted program in Northville, Mich. During her career, she taught in five states, and in three of those states, she directed, initiated, wrote curriculum for or taught programs for gifted children. She was included in *Who's Who in American Education* a record five times and was honored by the University of Chicago as an "outstanding and inspiring" teacher. She is continuing her association with a local college as an adjunct instructor.

'65

**John "Jack" Scandrett** retired last spring from his position as associate professor of horn at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), where he joined the music faculty in 1980 and taught applied horn and music theory.

A pioneer in the use of technology in teaching music, he established the first computer lab in the university's music department and was instrumental in establishing the College of Fine Arts technology teaching lab. He performed regularly with IUP music faculty and in recital and continues to perform as third horn with the Pittsburgh Opera Orchestra.

'66

**John W. Pettibone** has retired after 30 years as executive director and curator of Hammond Castle Museum in Gloucester, Mass. He was featured this past season on the Travel Channel discussing John Hays Hammond Jr.'s experiments with ESP and the U.S. Navy, and on the Syfy network's *Ghost Hunters*, where it was determined that of the 400 properties the show has visited and experienced, Hammond Castle was "number one as to

**Doug Wittig '72, Beverly Trout '76, Greg Trout '73, Alex Ridel '17, Eric Wittig '13 and Richard Wittig '48 attended the memorial service for Richard's wife, Janice Sowers Wittig '46, who passed away May 30, 2014.**



**James M. Rehlin '70, shown with his painting "Sunflowers I" at the Fall 2014 Rackham Exhibition "Reaching for the Light."**

finding spirits or things that go bump in the night." He is writing a history of the castle museum with medieval scholar Martha Easton of Seton Hall University.

'69

**Charles V. Painter**, United States Professional Tennis Association (USTPA) member, received the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Award for girls' tennis, the top award bestowed upon a coach by OHSAA. He recently retired from his position as head coach at Beavercreek High School, where he recorded his 660th career coaching victory. He was the USPTA Midwest High School Coach of the Year in 2012 and is a member of the Dayton Amateur Tennis Hall of Fame, The Miami

Valley Coaches Hall of Fame, the Dublin Coffman High School Hall of Fame and the Dublin City Schools Hall of Fame. He lives in Dayton, Ohio, with his wife, Karen.

'70

**George W. Biddlecome**, a judge for the Elkhart County Superior Court No. 3 in Indiana, recently retired. He will continue to serve as senior judge in Circuit Court in addition to traveling with his wife, Mona.

**Gregory A. Park** has retired from Xavier University, where he was the associate athletic director for business for 25 years. From 1977-1988, he was the internal auditor for the Cincinnati Reds, and prior to that, he worked for Security National Bank in Springfield as a branch manager and then as an auditor. He received his M.B.A. from Bowling Green

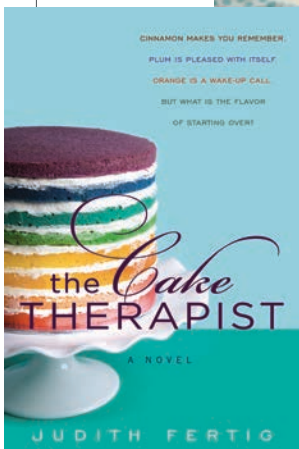
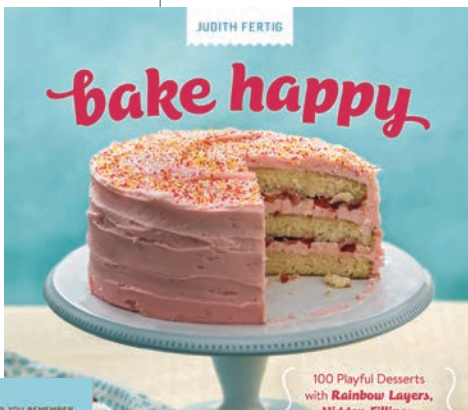




**Stephen F. Boyd '75** has been elected president of The Metropolitan Golf Association in Elmsford, N.Y.

State University in 1972. His wife, **Pamela Sutherland Park '72**, taught first grade in Urbana, Ohio, and Cincinnati. From 1997 until her retirement in 2012, she was an elementary school counselor in northern Kentucky. Greg and Pam met at Wittenberg on a blind date at a fraternity party in 1968 and celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary last July.

**Judith Merkle Fertig '72** will have three books published in 2015: *The Cake Therapist*, *Bake Happy* and *Bistro BBQ*.



**James M. Rehlin** had one of his paintings, "Sunflowers I," selected for the Fall 2014 Rackham Exhibition "Reaching for the Light: Observations, Lessons, Mysteries of the Botanical World" at the University of Michigan. A few years ago, Jim and his wife, **Joan Moorhead Rehlin '71**, transitioned their company, Rehlin Graphics, from creative services to the fine art field. Via the company's website, they offer Jim's original and commissioned artwork, plus high-resolution prints and greeting cards created from his paintings and drawings. Jim and Joan have been business partners for more than 20 years, previously with Jim in charge of graphic design and illustration and Joan providing writing and editing services.

**'71**

Last September, **John C. Bengson** returned to Wittenberg to present "Launching Your Job Search Process and Managing Your Career." A senior consultant at Right Management, he has developed and delivered talent management, executive coaching and career management services for individuals and organizations in



**Sheryl Kandel Loeffler '71** signed copies of her book *A Land in the Storytelling Sea* last June in Valletta, Malta.

a wide variety of industries in the Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton, Ohio, markets. Prior to joining Right Management, he worked for The Procter & Gamble Company, managing the consumer market research for brands including Bounce®, Downy®, Duncan Hines® and Jif®.

**Sheryl Kandel Loeffler's** *A Land in the Storytelling Sea*, a book of poetry and photographs inspired by Malta, was published in May 2014 by FARAXA Publishing, Rabat, Malta.

**'72**

**Judith Merkle Fertig** has written three books that will be published this year. *Bake Happy* (Running Press) and *Bistro BBQ* (with Karen Adler, Running Press) are cookbooks. *The Cake Therapist* (Penguin Random House) is a debut novel about a pastry chef with a special gift who seems to stir up trouble.

**Masaya Oba** retired as professor of applied English linguistics from Yokohama National University in Japan where he worked for 34 years. He returned to his hometown of Kanazawa, Japan, where he connected with many Wittenberg alumni.

**Donald E. Scott** retired last July after 40 years with television station WJZ/CBS in Baltimore, Md. He continues to work on a

freelance basis as a voice-over artist and narrator and has done a little background acting for two national TV series. He and his wife, **Deborah Moore Scott '72**, continue to make their home in Lutherville, Md.

**'74**

**Thomas J. Lee**, a partner at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, has been selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America® 2015. He practices commercial litigation at the firm's Cleveland, Ohio, office.

**'75**

**Stephen F. Boyd**, president and CEO of Manufacturers Reserve Supply Inc., has been elected to a one-year term as president of The Metropolitan Golf Association (MGA), Elmsford, N.Y. In this role, he leads the 22-member executive committee and serves as chairman of the Association's charitable



**Donald E. Scott '72** retired from WJZ/CBS in Baltimore, Md., after 40 years.



foundation. An accomplished golfer, he is a two-time MGA champion and the reigning Senior Club Champion of Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J.

In June 2014, **Robert B. Downing** was named president of the Washington National Opera. He has served on the WNO executive board for several years including as treasurer.

**Kathy Killian Gherardi** is in private practice as a psychotherapist in St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England. She volunteers weekly at a local community-based alcohol and drug rehabilitation service and is an individual member of the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy, working toward accreditation.

**Jeffrey S. Heaton** works with **Kelly McKay Darnell '05** in Baton Rouge, La., for The Water Institute of the Gulf, a non-profit formed to apply scientific research to the restoration and protection of coastal Louisiana and similar deltaic systems world-wide. They discovered the Wittenberg



**Thomas J. Lee '74 (top) and Eugene B. Lewis '79 have been selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America® 2015.**

connection while reviewing resumés on the company's website, and while both now cheer on the Louisiana State University Tigers, they have fond memories of Tiger-ing-Up at Wittenberg.

## '76

**Robert L. Moseley's** debut novel *Out of Bounds* was named a national finalist in the Young Adult-Coming of Age category of the Readers' Favorite Award Contest at the Miami Book Fair. The book is a sports mystery aimed at ages 12 and up.

## '77

**Michael D. Drenan**, who recently joined the San Diego office of Jackson Lewis P.C. as a shareholder, has been elevated to litigation manager. Previously, he was a partner at Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo. He has more than 20 years of experience counseling, representing and defending employers in all facets of employment law matters.

**Kenneth Wittenauer** is employed as in-house counsel for Britax USA, which makes child-safety seats and strollers. He deals with legal issues that range from corporate compliance and cross-border transactions to intellectual property, product liability, regulatory and environmental compliance, and employment law. Previously, he worked for 16 years at Continental Tire North America Inc., where he was general counsel for litigation and regulatory affairs.

## '78

**Deborah Dent** recently relocated to Clemson, S.C.

## '79

**Suzanne Cooke** married Lawrence P. Cook May 7, 2011. She works as the art department manager for Hersam Acorn Media in Shelton, Conn.

**Rachel Harter** married Richard B. Havill Aug. 10, 2014. She is a senior research statistician at Research Triangle Institute. The couple resides in Chapel Hill, N.C.

**Eugene B. Lewis**, a partner at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, has



**Jeff Heaton '75 and Kelly McKay Darnell '05, both employees of The Water Institute of the Gulf in Baton Rouge, La., were surprised to discover their Wittenberg connection while working together on a project.**

been selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America® 2015. He practices family law at the firm's Columbus, Ohio, office.

**Eric Olsen**, co-author of *America's Most Haunted: The Secrets of Paranormal Places*, presented "Writing, Publishing and Ghost Hunting" at Wittenberg last October.

## '80

**Scott K. Hudson** is the principal manager of social responsibility and community outreach for the Alcoa Foundation and oversees community investments for the company's locations in Asia, Australia, Brazil, Europe, Russia and Suriname. He honed his community development skills at Wittenberg and in Fiji, where he served with the Peace Corps



**Kenneth E. Urban '81 has been appointed interim president at Nicolet College in Rhinelander, Wis.**

from 1989-91 as a management planning advisor to local governments. He and his wife, Susan, reside in Mt. Lebanon, Pa.

In June 2014, **Jacqueline Askew Johnson** was honored by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association with the Honorable William K. Thomas Professionalism Award. The first assistant for the Federal Public Defender Office for the Northern District of Ohio, she recently celebrated 30 years in the practice of law.

**Susan Haynes King** is a riding instructor of eventing in the equestrian studies program at the University of Findlay. Eventing includes the disciplines of dressage, cross-country and show jumping. She has competed in and taught three-day eventing for 30 years and holds a master's degree in education from Syracuse University.

## '81

**Kenneth E. Urban** has been appointed interim president at Nicolet College in Rhinelander, Wis., and will serve through June 2015. He previously served as the college's vice president of teaching, learning and student success.

## '82

When **Tom Atchison** qualified for the 75th Senior PGA Championship last May, his good friend **Wayne Fennis** caddied for him. Tom is the PGA head golf professional at Congress Lake Club in Hartville, Ohio, and has qualified for and played in three Senior PGA Championships and one Senior U.S. Open Championship. He promised Wayne years ago that he could caddy for him if he ever

*continued on page 33...*





1



2



3



4

# WEDDINGS



5



6



7



8



9



10

**1 & 2** Many Wittenberg alumni, faculty, staff and friends celebrated the marriage of Teresa A. Coda '11 and Caleb T. Murray '13 June 14, 2014.

**3** Stephanie Wacenske '13 married Timothy Johnson Jr. in May 2014.

**4** Natalie A. Muir '05 and Justin Eden were married May 26, 2012.

**5** Timothy C. Hansley '94 married Katie Tymann Sept. 28, 2013, on Long Island. The couple lives in Manhattan.

**6** With a large group of alumni in attendance, Kristen E. Dutro '10 and Cory M. Shoemaker '10 were married in Weaver Chapel Oct. 18, 2014.

**7** Rachel Harter '79 married Richard B. Havill Aug. 10, 2014. The couple resides in Chapel Hill, N.C.

**8** Jennifer Schubert '02 married Ryan Ransburg June 28, 2014.

**9** Jenna L. Montali '12 married Aaron T. Moore '12 May 31, 2014, in Weaver Chapel.

**10** Aaron W. Copley '04 married Rickey Spivey Jan. 19, 2014, in Chicago, Ill.

**11** Aubrey A. McConnell '10 married John L. Lowther '11 Sept. 20, 2014, at Savannah Center in West Chester, Ohio, with many alumni on hand to celebrate.

**12** Jamie L. Bockelman '07 and Peter F. Seiley '08 celebrated their marriage Aug. 25, 2012, with a kiss on Wittenberg's

Kissing Bridge. (See another photo, page 38.)

**13** Suzanne Cooke '79 married Lawrence P. Cook May 7, 2011.



11



12



13





**When Tom Atchison '82 qualified for the 75th Senior PGA Championship last May, his good friend Wayne Fennis '82 was there to caddy for him.**

qualified for a PGA Tour event; both were thrilled that timing and circumstances finally allowed that to happen.

**Donna Modern Scharding** has been appointed food safety program manager for the Allegheny County Health Department, where she has worked for 30 years. She will oversee and administer the testing and potential implementation of the department's proposed restaurant grading system.

**'84**

**Lisa Ludwig Wichman** recently performed at Carnegie Hall as an accompanist for an invitational choral concert. She accompanies for multiple choral groups in northern New Jersey, including the Drew University Chorale and the New Jersey Honor Choirs. A recipient of the Governor's Teacher Recognition Award, Lisa teaches vocal music in the Kinnelon School District. She has presented workshops for music teachers at local, state and division conferences. The organist at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Mountain Lakes, N.J., she resides

in Rockaway with her husband, **Jeffrey A. Wichman '83**, and their two sons.

**'85**

**Dr. Gregory J. Benson** has been named director of the Outpatient Surgical Center at Akron Children's Hospital. Previously, he was a pediatric anesthesiologist at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. He resides in New Albany, Ohio, with his wife, **Jessica Knup Benson '86**, and their two children, Bradley and Jamie.

**Diana Johns Brower's** Crop Circle Clay, located in Troy, Ohio, was selected by Martha Stewart and her panel of judges as a finalist in the Crafts category of the 2014 Martha Stewart American Made Awards. Diana began selling her pottery online in 2006 through her previous business, Dancing Dolphin Pottery, establishing her reputation for creating ceramic water fountains. She has taught pottery classes at Troy-Hayner Cultural Center in Troy and was a founding member of the Troy Arts Alliance. In 2009 she changed the business name to Crop Circle Clay. Her creations can be found at Brower Stationers in downtown Troy.

**Dr. Christopher J. Cooper** has been named the dean of the University of Toledo's College of Medicine and Life Sciences. He joined UTMC in 1994 after completing a cardiology fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass. He has held a variety

of positions at UTMC, including chairman of the department of medicine, director of the division of cardiovascular medicine, and director of the UT Heart and Vascular Center. Since 2012, he has served on the board of governors of the American College of Cardiology and is president of its Ohio chapter.

**'86**

**Candice Floyd Castle** is a French teacher in her hometown of Minerva, Ohio. She offers college French courses as well as high school French classes at Minerva High School.

**Debra A. Loftus**, a licensed psychologist and leadership coach, returned to Wittenberg during Homecoming Weekend to discuss her work with leaders and leadership teams. Her company, Liminal Solutions, is dedicated to improving leadership effectiveness and organizational performance. Prior to starting her own consulting practice, she worked for more than 10 years as an internal leadership effectiveness consultant and senior human resources leader for companies including Baxter Healthcare, Alliant Foodservice and W.W. Grainger. She holds doctoral and master's degrees in clinical/personality psychology from Northwestern University and served as a Clinical Fellow in the Harvard University School of Medicine.

**'90**

**Shelly Funderburg, Ph.D.**, vice president and principal consultant for the Americas East region of Right Management, presented "How Organizations Help Leaders Succeed" at Wittenberg last September. Her areas of expertise include candidate attraction, leadership assessment and development, succession management and organizational assessments. She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in industrial and organizational psychology from the University of Akron.

**Michael "Noose" Newsom** and **Kenneth "Jube" Jubert '89** caught up at a Browns game in Cleveland last November. Michael is the Fatherhood Program coordinator for the Montgomery

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS



This year's Homecoming and Reunion Weekend takes place October 1–4, 2015. Come back and enjoy your beautiful alma mater in all of its fall colors, and reconnect with classmates!

Classes celebrating reunions this year are: 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015.

The Reunion Class Giving Challenge is underway. Give as a member of your class any time before September 28, 2015, to bolster your class to victory and earn bragging rights to tout at Homecoming.

Visit the Homecoming and Reunion Weekend website to learn more: [www.wittenberg.edu/homecoming](http://www.wittenberg.edu/homecoming).



County Department of Job and Family Services in Dayton, Ohio. Kenneth was promoted recently to director of the northwest region for Wells Fargo Financial.

'91

In pursuit of a master's degree from Miami (of Ohio) University, **Leah Hafer Crowe** participated last summer in the university's Earth Expeditions global field course in the Amazon, where she studied evolution and maintenance of biodiversity and the effects of human intervention. She is a Spanish teacher at South Ripley High School in Batesville, Ind.

**David W. Huml** has been appointed senior vice president of global marketing for Tennant Company in Golden Valley, Minn. He has spent the majority of his career in the industrial equipment industry, including 14 years at Graco and most recently at Pentair as vice president of the applied water platform.

'92

**Amy Wing Boeck** serves as a member of the Mechanicsburg (Ohio) Public Library Board of Trustees. A lifelong resident of the village, she worked for the library for several years as well as in Wittenberg's Thomas Library.

'93

**Kara W. Teeple** has been appointed chief operating officer at Lawrence Hall Youth Services in Chicago, Ill. Founded in 1865, the organization provides residential treatment, foster care, therapeutic day school and transitional services for older adolescents, as well as various supportive services for youth and families. Previously, she worked for 16 years for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

'94

**Laing P. Akers**, a real estate attorney, has joined the real estate

department of Barnes & Thornburg LLP's Columbus, Ohio, office. She concentrates on commercial real estate and corporate transactional matters and represents companies in all stages of development and evolution. She frequently speaks on syndication issues and low income housing tax credits.

**Timothy C. Hansley** and Katie Tymann were married Sept. 28, 2013, on Long Island. The couple lives in Manhattan, where Tim is a real estate agent with Town Residential.

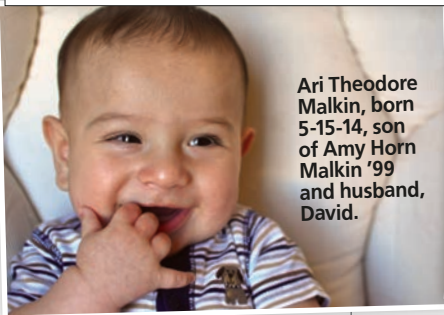
**Jeremy P. Hunter** presented the keynote address "Finding Your Way: Why Moments Matter!" at Wittenberg's Opening Convocation last August. An assistant professor of practice at the Peter F. Drucker Graduate School of Management at Claremont Graduate University, he created and teaches The Executive Mind, a series of demanding and transformative executive education courses that seek to redefine and enhance productivity by cultivating quality

of mind. Featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, the *Los Angeles Times* and National Public Radio's *Morning Edition*, he received his Ph.D. from University of Chicago, under the direction of Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi. He co-founded the Quality of Life Research Center at the Drucker School of Management, where he served as co-research director from 1999-2004. He also holds a master's degree in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

**Michelle Parrett-Jackson** announces the birth of her daughter, Ellie Lynne Jackson, Dec. 19, 2014.

A certified general appraiser, **Tracy Stahl Reiss** was recently designated as a Member of the Appraisal Institute. Last May, she opened Rubber City Appraisal Studio LLC, in Akron, Ohio. The firm specializes in the valuation of commercial assets, with a niche focus on green buildings, highly performing properties and sustainable real estate.

LIL TIGERS



Ari Theodore Malkin, born 5-15-14, son of Amy Horn Malkin '99 and husband, David.



Graydon Cardone Smith, born 6-28-14, son of Kimberly Cardone Smith '95 and husband, John.



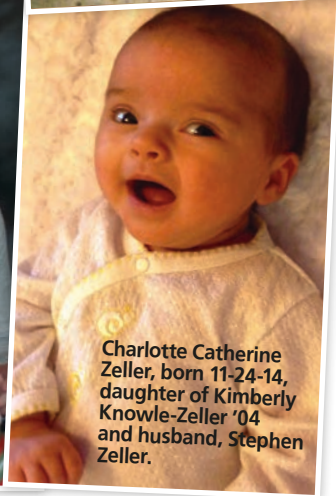
Reese Ellen Herbert, born 10-29-13, daughter of Stephanie Beery Herbert '05 and husband, Bob.



Finnea Geonne Wise, born 1-15-14, daughter of Kori Eastman Wise '01 and husband, Matt.



James, Samantha (born 7-31-14), Madelyn and Jacob Kuhn, children of Brian '03 and Erin Gallagher Kuhn '04.



Charlotte Catherine Zeller, born 11-24-14, daughter of Kimberly Knowle-Zeller '04 and husband, Stephen Zeller.





**Kenneth "Jube" Jubert '89 and Michael "Noose" Newsom '90 caught up at a Browns game in Cleveland last November.**

## '95

**Dr. Anup D. Patel** is an assistant professor of neurology and pediatrics for Nationwide Children's Hospital and The Ohio State University College of Medicine. He is an associate medical director for Partners for Kids, the largest pediatric Accountable Care Organization in the United States and a subsidiary of Nationwide Children's Hospital. He also is the associate director of the child neurology residency program and the director of the complex epilepsy clinic.

**Kimberly Cardone Smith** announces the birth of her son, Graydon Cardone Smith, June 28, 2014. He joins his two sisters, Reilly and Reeve.

## '96

**Ashley Patterson Hayball** a third-grade teacher at Amelia Earhart School of International Studies in the Desert Sands Unified School District, was selected from among 24,000 teachers as a 2014 Riverside County (Calif.) Teacher of the Year. In the state-level competition, she was named a state semi-finalist of 2014 and honored at a ceremony in Sacramento. She was the

International Baccalaureate Educator of the Year in 2012.

**Patricia J. Rettig** received the Friends of the South Platte Award Oct. 22, 2014. The award is given annually by the South Platte Forum, a local watershed organization, to "recognize individuals and organizations who, through diligence and dedication, have made exceptional contributions in the South Platte River Basin." Head archivist for the Water Resources Archive at Colorado State University, she was recognized for her work documenting the history of the Colorado water community.



## '97

Last September, **Scott W. Rickel** was inducted into the Port Clinton (Ohio) High School Athletic Hall of Fame. He earned six varsity letters in football, basketball and baseball before graduating in 1993 with numerous team and league honors.

## '98

**Kathleen L. Mackie** graduated last June with a doctorate in ministry from Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, Mich.

**Inge Williams '07**, pictured here with her father, **Rev. Owen Williams**, and her mother, **Marie Fueger Williams '81**, graduated from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in May 2014 and was ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament last November. She serves as pastor of Friedens Church in Shartlesville, Pa.

## '99

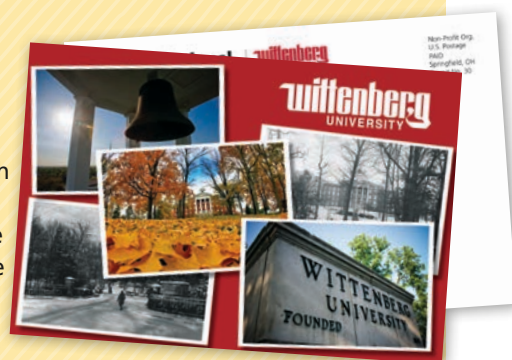
**Shakeeer Abdullah** is the assistant vice president for equity and diversity at the University of Minnesota. In this role, he provides leadership and oversight

## THE PERSONAL TOUCH

Thank you to our 400 alumni, parent, faculty and staff volunteers from around the world who participated in the second annual Postcard Project! Through our volunteers' participation, Wittenberg had the opportunity to connect with newly admitted students and encourage them to enroll. This personalized touch can truly make a difference as to where a student will call home for their college career. Thank you for your time and effort to recruit our incoming class!

If you are still interested in volunteering, please visit our Parents and Alumni Volunteers Engaging (PAVE) website at [www.wittenberg.edu/pave](http://www.wittenberg.edu/pave). Learn about the many volunteer activities that are available for the rest of 2015: represent Wittenberg at college fairs, join an alumni chapter in your area, or get involved with your class reunion.

Please contact [alumni@wittenberg.edu](mailto:alumni@wittenberg.edu) with any questions.







**Elizabeth R. Miller '02 studied diverse terrestrial, coastal and coral reef communities in Belize last summer as part of Miami University's Earth Expeditions global field course.**

for the planning and design of programs, services and initiatives that support student access and success. Previously, he had served since 2008 as the director of the Multicultural Center at Auburn University. He holds a doctorate in higher education administration and has published in the area of multicultural competence, including the 2012 book *Baptism by Fire: An Investigation of the Experiences and Multicultural Competence of Diversity Staff in Higher Education*.

**Amy J. Horn** married David Malkin July 20, 2013. The couple welcomed a baby boy, Ari Theodore Malkin, May 15, 2014. She graduated from Wharton with an M.B.A. and works in finance for IBM in San Francisco, Calif.

'00

**Christopher D. Campbell** has been promoted to senior vice president for Centier Bank in Valparaiso, Ind. He joined Centier in 2006 as a management development trainee and since then has worked in Centier's credit department, served as manager of the bank's residential builder division, and served as vice president and group manager of business banking. He and his wife, **Laura Schrage Campbell '01**,

live in Valparaiso with their two children.

**Andrew W. Marr** and his wife, Emily, announce the births of Zoe Mila and Asher Edwin Feb. 20, 2014. The family lives in Oakville, Ontario, Canada.

**Brandy Schillace** presented "It's How You Use It: English, Medicine, Museums, and the Muse" at Wittenberg in January. She is the managing editor of *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry* and research associate involved with public engagement for the Dittrick Museum of Medical History at Case Western Reserve University. She writes non-fiction, blogs for *Inside Higher Ed*, *Huffington Post* and the Centre for Medical Humanities, Durham University (U.K.), and is the author of a book series for young adults, *The Jacob Maresbeth Chronicles*.

**Rachel L. Tuck** is pursuing a master's degree from Miami (of Ohio) University's Global Field Program. Last summer, she participated in Miami's Earth Expeditions global field course in Australia, where she studied coral reef ecology along the Great Barrier Reef. She is a medical device sales representative at Hanger Inc. (OrthoXpress) in San Diego, Calif.

**Sarah Jurewicz '98 (left) and Rachel Deehr '98 (right) celebrated with Kathleen L. Mackie '98 when she graduated last June with a doctorate in ministry from Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, Mich.**

# IT'S ALL ABOUT ALUMNI APPRECIATION

April is all about Alumni Appreciation. **Download the Wittenberg Alumni Mobile App, and get a free Wittenberg T-shirt.\***

Here's how:

Start by visiting [wittenberg.edu/mobileapp](http://wittenberg.edu/mobileapp). Use your on-file email address to log in. (If you are unable to log in, Alumni Relations staff will contact you.)

Next, update your alumni profile. Be sure to include your shipping address and shirt size.

That's it! Suggested updates may take several days to process.

Available only to alumni, the Wittenberg Mobile App features the following:

- Alumni directory searchable by name, class year, company, or location
- Facebook and LinkedIn integration
- Alumni events and campus news access
- Authorized member verification log in

Don't use a mobile device? Email your updated bio information, shirt size, and shipping address to [alumni@wittenberg.edu](mailto:alumni@wittenberg.edu) to get your free Wittenberg shirt.

\*Available to the first 1845 alumni. Offer ends April 30.





'01

**Erin Shockey Brannick** was named one of the American Veterinary Medical Association's Future Leaders for 2014-15.

**Kori Eastman Wise** and her husband, Matt, welcomed a baby girl, Finnea Geonne, Jan. 15, 2014.

'02

**Elizabeth R. Miller** participated in Miami (of Ohio) University's Earth Expeditions global field course in Belize last summer. A senior keeper at the Brookfield Zoo Seven Seas Department in Oak Park, Ill., she is pursuing a master's degree from Miami's Advanced Inquiry Program.

An attorney with Fishel Hass Kim Albrecht LLP in Columbus, Ohio, **Stacy V. Pollock** has been appointed to chair the Labor and Employment Section Council of the Ohio State Bar Association. Named a "Rising Star" attorney in employment law for 2014, she advises and represents employers in all areas of employment law and human resources. She earned her law degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law and holds a certification as a professional in human resources. She is active in the Supreme Court of Ohio Lawyer-to-Lawyer Mentoring program and has volunteered with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program in central Ohio since 2006.

**Jennifer Schubert** married Ryan Ransburg June 28, 2014. She works as a K-2 interventionist at Twin Peaks Charter Academy in Longmont, Colo., where the couple resides.

**Anna C. Beach '11** has self-published *How to Fly with Rocks in Your Pocket*. See page 39.



'03

**Joshua M. Curtis** is managing director at Footprint Capital, assisting owners of privately held companies in mergers and acquisitions, strategic planning and corporate finance. Since 2011, he has served on the board of directors for Modular Assembly Innovations, a specialty automotive manufacturer that consistently ranks in the top privately held businesses with revenues in excess of \$1 billion.

**Brian and Erin Gallagher Kuhn '04** welcomed Samantha Elizabeth, their fourth child, July 31, 2014. Brian is the assistant superintendent for the Clark-Shawnee Local School District in Clark County, Ohio.

**Rebecca Russ Spencer** is the digital marketing director for the Neil Huffman Auto Group in Louisville, Ky., where she resides with her husband, Scott, and son, Tyler.

**Brent D. Yekisa** recently became a limited partner with Edward Jones. In the past two years, he has earned and been awarded trips to Lanai, the Dominican Republic, the French Riviera, Puerto Vallarta, Kauai and Aruba. He regularly travels to the headquarters of Edward Jones in St. Louis to lead training classes for new advisors and serves locally as a coach and mentor. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Amy, and their children, Aubrey and Evan. They are actively involved at Messiah Lutheran Church in



**Joshua M. Curtis '03** is managing director at Footprint Capital in Columbus, Ohio.

Reynoldsburg, Ohio, where they live and Brent's practice is located.

'04

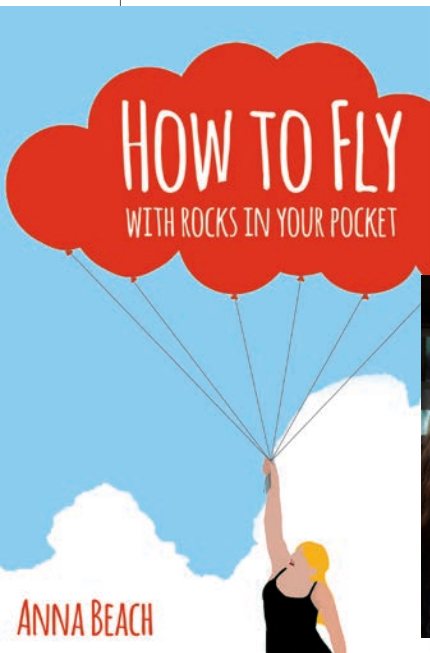
**Heidi N. Charles** married Jody Taylor on Nov. 3, 2012. She is employed by Gordon Food Service as a marketing specialist. The couple resides in Marysville, Ohio.

**John P. Cocco** returned to Wittenberg last October to participate in the History Alumni Career Day during Homecoming Weekend. He is pursuing a doctorate in social work at Indiana University.

**Aaron W. Copley** married Rickey Spivey Jan. 19, 2014, in Chicago, Ill. Aaron is the coordinator for residence life and student relations at Columbia College Chicago. He also works for the Chicago Fire Soccer Club as part of the mascot team.

**Mark and Sarah Dennett Huber '09** spoke and shared music at Wittenberg last October. Mark is an ELCA pastor who began a church called Sanctuary in Marshfield, Mass. Sarah is an ELCA commissioned minister of music who plays guitar, mandolin, harmonica and violin.

**Kimberly Knowle-Zeller** and her husband, Stephen Zeller, announce the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Catherine Zeller, Nov. 24, 2014.



## TIME TO UPDATE OUR DIRECTORY



It is time to update our alumni directory. The Wittenberg University Alumni Association knows how much our alumni like to reconnect with old friends and find new contacts. But we don't want to publish a new alumni directory without your updated information.

This project will begin mid-July 2015 with directories shipping in the late spring of 2016 to those who order. Please help by responding when Publishing Concepts Inc. sends you mail, email, or calls.

For more information about the project, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumni@wittenberg.edu](mailto:alumni@wittenberg.edu) or call Linda Beals at 937-327-6374.





Jamie L. Bockelman '07 married Peter F. Seiley '08 on Aug. 25, 2012. Below, they attend Homecoming 2013.



## '07

**Jamie L. Bockelman** married **Peter F. Seiley '08** on Aug. 25, 2012. Jamie received her registered nursing license from Case Western Reserve University in 2009 and is attending Wright State University to earn an acute care nurse practitioner's license. She is employed as an R.N. at Miami Valley Hospital's Heart and Vascular ICU in Dayton, Ohio. Peter graduated from Case Western's School of Law in 2012 with a J.D. He works for Wright Patterson Air Force Base as a contract negotiator and also does work for the Volunteer Lawyers Association in Montgomery County.

**Colleen R. Costigan** and **Jansen S. Wehrlay** wed June 14, 2014, in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. They live in Medina, Ohio, where Colleen teaches fifth grade and Jansen is director of Medina Parks and Recreation.

**Andrea N. Hackett** married Anthony M. Miller on Oct. 12, 2013. She is employed by Marysville (Ohio) Exempted School District. The couple resides in Columbus, Ohio.

**U.S. Marine Capt. Ronald G. Hageman** has returned from Afghanistan, where he served in Operation Enduring Freedom as a logistical and engineering mentor to Afghan Special Operations Forces Kandak in anticipation of a U.S. troop withdrawal. He now is serving as a combat engineer assigned to MARSOC, 2D MSOSB at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

**Sarah Yehle Keil** graduated from Indiana University in May 2013 with a master's degree in library science and a Master of Arts in African Studies. She lives with her husband, Ben, in Nashville, Tenn., where she is the instruction and serials librarian at Trevecca Nazarene University.

**Arthur R. Kraatz** graduated magna cum laude in May 2013 from the Louisiana State University Paul M. Herbert Law Center with his J.D. in May 2013. A member of the Order of the Coif, he is serving as a law clerk to the Hon. Jane Triche Milazzo on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

## '05

**Stephanie Beery Herbert** and her husband, Bob, announce the birth of their second daughter, Reese Ellen Herbert, who was born Oct. 29, 2013.

**Natalie A. Muir** married Justin Eden May 26, 2012. She is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon with Noblesville (Ind.) Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Noblesville. The couple resides in Indianapolis.

## '06

**Tara Kierstead Drewett** is benefits administrator at the corporate headquarters of Dayton Freight Lines Inc. Previously, she worked in human resources and benefits at Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley. She is pursuing a master's degree in business at Wright State University.

**Graham H. Ketcham** and his wife, Jennifer, announce the birth of their son, Henry Haldon Ketcham, June 2, 2013.

**Charles R. O'Dell** teaches at Bellbrook (Ohio) Middle School and is the head boys track coach at Bellbrook High School. He is also an assistant football coach at the University of Dayton. He and his wife, Erin, live in Beavercreek, Ohio.





**Top: Trevor Grandy '13** landed a small part last year as an extra on the film *Unbroken*. **Middle: Kathryn McQueen '13** studied coral reef ecology along the Great Barrier Reef in Australia last summer. **Bottom: Dan Buchan, D.O. '09, Bethany Rohr, M.D. '10, and Scott Morris, D.O. '10** matched into residency programs at OhioHealth hospitals in Columbus, Ohio.

**Julianna D. Parks** married **Caela B. O'Connell '04** Aug. 13, 2013, in a beautiful outdoor ceremony presided over by **Andrew L. Scarponi**. Julianna and Caela met at Wittenberg in 2003 and celebrated 10 years of togetherness while honeymooning in Iceland.

**Trinity Rufus Ruggles**, education coordinator and office manager for The Center for Holocaust & Humanity Education in Cincinnati, Ohio, participated in the History Alumni Career Day at Wittenberg during Homecoming Weekend last October.

**John M. Shields** has joined the optometry practice of Dr. R.G. Witchey Jr. in Lower Burrell, Pa., where he practices full-scope family optometry with an emphasis on eye disease care. In 2010, he earned a doctor of optometry degree with high honors from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

Last October, **Zach Simon**, program coordinator for the Study Abroad Foundation in Indianapolis, Ind., participated in the History Alumni Career Day held during Wittenberg's Homecoming Weekend.

## '08

**Anna Hahn** works in a medical intensive care unit at The Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center. She returned to Wittenberg last October to participate in the History Alumni Career Day held during Homecoming Weekend.

**Zachary J. Karl** completed a Ph.D. in synthetic biology from Purdue University in December 2013.

## '09

**Ronald J. Ross**, English department chair at Highland School in Warrenton, Va., recently completed his M.S.Ed. in school leadership from the University of Pennsylvania.

## '10

**Kristen E. Dutro** and **Cory M. Shoemaker** were married in Weaver Chapel Oct. 18, 2014.

**Sara M. Heider** is a clinical research coordinator for Clinical

Research Solutions in Middleburg Heights, Ohio.

**Hollie K. Hongosh** is the inaugural managing director of McKinney Youth Theatre (MYT) in McKinney, Texas. She had been a director with Plano Children's Theatre, McKinney Youth Theatre and Frisco Youth Theatre for three years. In this newly created position, she is responsible for creating the theatre's annual program and managing day-to-day operations. Prior to joining Plano Children's Theatre in 2011, she was the youth program manager at Olmsted Performing Arts in Cleveland, Ohio. She also has provided private voice, dance, acting and modeling lessons.

**Aubrey A. McConnell** married **John L. Lowther '11** Sept. 20, 2014, at Savannah Center in West Chester, Ohio.

**Bethany R. Rohr, M.D., Daniel R. Buchan, D.O. '09, and Scott E. Morris, D.O.** matched into residency programs at OhioHealth hospitals in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Rohr is in a transitional year residency at Riverside Methodist Hospital. Dr. Buchan is a resident in orthopedic surgery at Doctors Hospital. Dr. Morris is a family medicine resident at Riverside Methodist Hospital.

**Edith P. Sicken**, who completed a master's degree in library science at Kent State University in August, is an instruction and access services librarian at Manchester University in North Manchester, Ind.

## '11

**Anna Beach** has self-published *How to Fly with Rocks in Your Pocket*, a debut novel based in part on her experiences moving home after graduation from Wittenberg. The story explores timeless struggles between tradition and self-realization in a raw, honest voice unique to Gen Y. Anna successfully funded the start-up publishing costs in Gen Y style with a Kickstarter crowd-funding campaign in 2014.

**Teresa A. Coda** married **Caleb T. Murray '13** June 14, 2014. Teresa is a hospital chaplain at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass., and Caleb is in his second

year of a master's in theology program at Harvard Divinity School. They live in Somerville, Mass.

**Katherine A. Martin** married **Ryan T. Resides '09** June 29, 2013. The couple met in 2008 at Wittenberg, where Ryan proposed on the Kissing Bridge in 2011. They now live in Columbus, Ohio. Katherine is a closing coordinator for Westport Homes.

## '12

Last summer, **Lindsey M. Korfel**, an environmental scientist in Westerville, Ohio, traveled to Baja California through Miami (of Ohio) University's Earth Expeditions program to study the ecosystems and desert plants at the Bahía de los Ángeles, a UNESCO World Heritage site and biosphere reserve located on the Sea of Cortez. She is pursuing a master's degree from the university's Global Field Program.

**Jenna L. Montali** married Aaron T. Moore May 31, 2014, in Weaver Chapel.

## '13

While traveling around Australia and New Zealand for more than six months last year, **Trevor Grandy** landed a part as an extra on the film *Unbroken*. When a supporting actor hurt himself during the first day of filming, Trevor ran in his place during a scene set at the 1936 Olympics. In addition to his brief film appearance, he worked odd jobs as a telefundraiser, door-to-door salesman and grocery store attendant, among others, which allowed him to see every major Australian city, state and landmark, including the Great Barrier Reef. **Connor Riley** joined him for much of the trip.

Last summer, **Kathryn M. McQueen** studied coral reef ecology and the conservation of marine systems along the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. A finance manager at OTS Inc. in Middletown, Ohio, she took the course in pursuit of a master's degree from Miami (of Ohio) University's Global Field Program.

**Stephanie Wacenske** married Timothy Johnson Jr. in May 2014.



## In Memoriam

**1932**

**Elizabeth Swingle Meyer**, Wilmington, N.C., passed away June 27, 2014. She taught high school in Ohio and Maine and at the college level at the University of Texas at Austin, Skidmore College, Wittenberg University, North Texas State Teachers College, Queens College, University of Arizona and University of Maine at Orono. An accomplished seamstress, she was a member of the American Association of University Women, Daughters of the American Revolution and Kappa Delta sorority. She also was an active member of North Carolina Sorosis Women's Club and First Baptist Church in Wilmington.

**1935**

**Amine Cosby Kellam**, Jamesville, Va., passed away June 14, 2014. She taught music, gave violin lessons, and played violin for the ESO Ensemble and Belle Haven Presbyterian Church, where she served as a deacon, elder and trustee. She composed *The Golden W* to commemorate the 50th-year reunion celebrations at Wittenberg and wrote two books, *Once a Shoreman* and *A Shoreman's Travel Tales*. Passionate about the environment, she worked for the passage of a wetlands protection bill in Virginia and for the preservation of the natural beauty of the Eastern Shore. She was a founding member both of The Eastern Shore Historical Society and of The Barrier Islands Center, and a member of the Mayflower Descendants, Daughters of the American Revolution and the Colonial Dames. A member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, she received the Wittenberg Alumni Association Citation

in 1973 and the Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson Award from Keep America Beautiful in 1984.

**1937**

**Janet McKenzie Gilmore**, Lancaster, Ohio, passed away Aug. 31, 2014. She organized Red Cross Blood Banks, served on the board of the local Red Cross, started the Fairfield Medical Center's Twig Two's Bargain Boutique, volunteered at the Lancaster Public Library, and delivered Meals on Wheels to shut-ins. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta, the Lancaster Country Club and First Presbyterian Church, where she served as one of the first female elders.

**Lois Winkler Valbracht**, Fairfield Bay, Ark., died Feb. 26, 2014. A member of Alpha Xi Delta, she directed various church choirs in Toledo and Zanesville, Ohio; Chicago; and Des Moines, Iowa.

**1939**

**The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Thureau**, Franklin, Pa., died Aug. 18, 2014. For 36 years, he served in active ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, first serving St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Jeannette, Pa., from 1943-48, and then serving St. John's Lutheran Church in Kittanning, Pa., which elected him pastor emeritus upon his retirement in 1979. He served on the boards of the Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia and the Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg, and was a frequent contributor to *The Lutheran* and *Lutheran Partners*. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, Grace Lutheran Church and Franklin's Historic Architectural Review Board. His interests included art, photography and music.

**1940**

**Helen Basler Rankine**, formerly of Gladwyne, Pa., passed away Feb. 24, 2014.

**1941**

**Lily Richards Jensen**, Meadville, Pa., died Nov. 28, 2014. During World War II, she worked for the U.S. Navy Department in Canton, Ohio, then followed the job to Washington, D.C., where she worked until 1954. From 1968-1985, she worked for Oakdale Corporation. She was a member of Luther Memorial Church and Delta Zeta sorority.

**Dr. John E. Orebaugh**, Tampa, Fla., passed away Aug. 10, 2012. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in the Philippines and later returned to the University of Michigan Medical School, where he was appointed clinical assistant professor of surgery. In 1956, he began his private practice in general surgery and peripheral vascular surgery in St. Petersburg. In addition to participating in many medical associations, he served as chief of staff of St. Anthony's Hospital and president of the Florida State Board of Medical Examiners.

**Reda Lapinsky Singer**, Springfield, Ohio, died July 26, 2014. She taught elementary school for more than 30 years in the Springfield City School District and was a member of Temple Shalom.

**1943**

**Emma "Kay" Feldkircher Henkel**, Tualatin, Ore., passed away Nov. 24, 2014. She had a career in music education and as a vocalist, pianist, organist and choir director, serving in these capacities in Nashville, Tenn.; New York City and for Lutheran congregations in Indianapolis; Eugene, Ore.;



**Jane Pratt Bayley Hollenbeck '38**, died Feb. 19, 2015, in her Springfield home. She was 99.

Born Aug. 9, 1915, in Newport, R.I., Hollenbeck moved to Springfield after her parents divorced, and joined one of the city's prominent families when her mother married Lee Bayley. Wittenberg's alumni house and science auditorium were named for the Bayleys, who were featured in *Newsweek's* 1983 American Dream edition.

Joining Gamma Beta Phi sorority, Hollenbeck spent two years at Wittenberg, then studied fine arts at the Stuart School in Boston, where dance partner John F. Kennedy revealed his family's plan to buy the school building at 102 Fenway. She later used 102 on her license plates.

She returned to Wittenberg, finished her degree and in 1939 married Dwight W. Hollenbeck, future CEO of Springfield's Credit Life Insurance Co. They had two children, Peter (wife Gail) and Dwight W. Hollenbeck, Jr.

In 1997, a year after her husband's death, Hollenbeck pledged the lead gift for a \$13.5 million humanities building at Wittenberg. She received the Wittenberg Medal of Honor at the Jan. 28, 2000, dedication of Hollenbeck Hall. (See photo page 2.)

Mrs. Hollenbeck was a supporter of fine arts and music in Springfield and a member and supporter of Christ Episcopal Church.



Brockville, Ontario, Canada; Vienna, W. Va.; Saginaw, Mich.; and Stayton, Ore. She tutored voice and piano students and performed as a soloist in musical theater and in many productions of religious, spiritual and classical music around the United States, Canada and in Europe.

**Fannie Pickens Lee**, Racine, Ohio, died Aug. 14, 2014. For many years, she worked as a music teacher and choir director at Southern Local School District and was the organist and accompanist for Racine United Methodist Church. President of the United Methodist Women's Association, she was an honorary member of the West Ohio Conference of United Methodist Women and a member of the American Association of University Women and Alpha Delta Gamma sorority.

**J. Robert McClaran** of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and formerly of Youngstown, Ohio, died Aug. 11, 2014. After serving in the U.S. Navy, he helped create the Youngstown Bears in the National Professional Basketball League. He then spent his career in sales. He was an avid sailor who participated in many regattas around the world and competed in two Olympic trials for sailing. A member of the Curbstone Coaches, he was inducted into the Coaches Hall of Fame in 2009. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi and served on Wittenberg's Alumni Council. He also was a member, elder, trustee and deacon of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown.

**Robert E. Sheriff**, Missouri City, Texas, died Nov. 19, 2014. During World War II, he worked on the Manhattan Project in Oak Ridge, Tenn. Following the war, he worked for 25 years for Standard of

California (Chevron) in a variety of positions managing geophysical crews and drilling in South America and Australia. Upon retirement from Chevron, he served five years as senior vice president of development with Seiscom-Delta Corporation before joining the University of Houston as a professor of geophysics. In 2003, he retired as professor emeritus with more than 23 years teaching geophysics. He authored or co-authored several textbooks, including the highly regarded *Encyclopedic Dictionary of Exploration Geophysics*, and was active in many professional societies. He enjoyed traveling, music, art and opera. He was a member of Pines Presbyterian Church in Houston and Phi Gamma Delta.

**Ellen "Bert" Kline Ward**, Billings, Mont., died Aug. 14, 2014. She worked for a time as a dietician in Detroit, Mich. She was a longtime member of Billings' First Presbyterian Church.

## 1946

**S. Patricia Hibbard Jermyn**, formerly of Sun City, Calif., died June 30, 2014. A member of Gamma Phi Beta, she was interested in music, animals, gardening and jigsaw puzzles.

**Janice Sowers Wittig**, Berea, Ohio, passed away May 30, 2014. A member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority, she worked in a defense plant during World War II.

**Evelyn "Birdie" Bird Wood**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away May 29, 2014. She was retired from the Ohio Masonic Home as director of laboratory. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, Neal Chapter of Eastern Star and the Clark County Historical Society.

## 1947

**Mary Horn Reusswig**, Costa Mesa, Calif., died Oct. 10, 2012. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

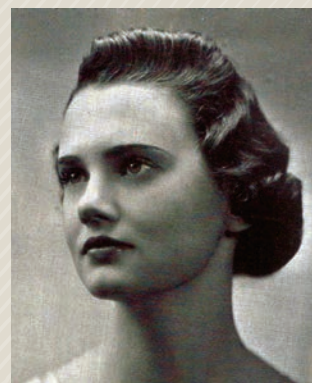
## 1948

**Jane Heyman Brooks** of Braintree, Mass., and formerly of Omaha, Neb., died May 11, 2014. While in Omaha, she founded the Eastern Nebraska Mental Health Association and was involved with United Community Services, the Volunteer Bureau, the Bureau on Aging, Planned Parenthood and the National Council of Jewish Women, receiving several awards for her community involvement.

**The Rev. Leslie C. Yeager Sr.** '50S, Richmond, Ind., died July 11, 2014. He served three Lutheran churches in Indiana: Zion in Pershing (East Germantown) from 1950-1956, Good Shepard in Indianapolis from 1956-1974, and St. James in Greenfield from 1974 until his retirement in 1991. After retirement, he served as interim pastor for churches in Winchester and Berne and as an associate pastor for St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Richmond. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega.

## 1949

**Marilyn Westfall Beckey** of Salisbury, Md., and formerly of Towson, Md., died July 25, 2014. She taught in elementary schools in Buffalo, N.Y., Hanover, Pa., and Towson, where she was active in the Towson State Faculty Wives Club and performed in talent shows. She retired as an art teacher from Stoneleigh Elementary School. A member of Kappa Delta sorority, she enjoyed traveling and making pottery.



**Georgiana Stearns Albright '41**, died Dec. 1, 2014, in Sarasota, Fla. She was 99.

Born June 4, 1914, in Cleveland, she majored in English, graduated cum laude in 1941 and was named Alma Mater in 1939 for embodying "Wittenberg's ideals of scholarship, character, service and leadership."

She also was judged Wittenberg's most beautiful girl in 1938 from among 10 candidates whose pictures were submitted to entertainers Bing Crosby, Gracie Allen, George Burns and Jackie Cooper.

A member of Chi Omega sorority and the Shifters, she married David B. Albright '40, who later chaired Wittenberg's Board of Directors. The two served as honorary co-chairs of Wittenberg's Sesquicentennial Challenge in the early 1990s.

In 1997, Albright donated \$1 million to build the David B. and Georgiana S. Albright Tennis Complex in her husband's memory. She also supported the university through the Albright/Landefeld Scholarship and hosted annual gatherings of Wittenberg alumni in Florida.

In 2003, she received the Class of 1914 award, given to an individual "who has served Wittenberg above and beyond what might be expected of any contributor to the university's welfare."

Albright is survived by her son, David, and daughter-in-law, Heather; two grandsons; and son-in-law, John Ginaven. She was predeceased by her husband and daughter, Peggy Albright Ginaven.



**David L. Berry**, Albuquerque, N.M., passed away Aug. 22, 2014. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, worked with the radar group at Sandia Lab and was a passionate artist. He was a member of St. Thomas Canterbury Episcopal Church, Gamma Phi Beta and Dorm League.

A member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, **Barbara Wolfe Culler**, Akron, Ohio, died Aug. 23, 2014. She served as a Girl Scout leader and chairman of the Stitchery Showcase, volunteered at the Simon Perkins and John Brown House in Akron, and was a member of the Stan Hywet Needlework Guild. She also was president of the Lutheran Church Women in Ohio, the Northeastern Ohio Synodical Women's Organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, and Church Women United.

**Walter P. Kendig**, Springfield, Ohio, died May 24, 2014. After serving in the U.S. Army Infantry as a machine gunner in the Philippines during World War II, he briefly taught mathematics and coached basketball at Phillipsburg High School. He then began a career with International Harvester Co., holding positions in Emeryville, Calif., Fort Wayne, Ind., and Springfield. Upon retiring in 1982, he served as a management consultant with D.H. Manufacturing Co. A member of Covenant Presbyterian Church, he was active with the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis and United Way and served on the boards of numerous charitable organizations, including Springfield Urban League, Ferncliff Cemetery and the Springfield Country Club. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he was president of the Wittenberg Alumni Association from 1974-75.

**William S. Morgan**, Lexington, Ky., died Nov. 25, 2014. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army, and in 1949, joined the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and served during the Korean conflict. He worked for National Cash Register for 24 years, retiring as regional financial manager. In Danville, Ill., he was vice president of operations for Second National Bank and served as president of the Danville YMCA. He then opened a real estate office, where he worked until his retirement in 1997. He was a member of Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church.

## 1950

**The Rev. Charles A. Burkey**, '52S of Westborough, Mass., and formerly of DeLand, Fla., died March 14, 2013. A Navy veteran of World War II, he was an ordained minister in the Lutheran Church. He was active with many organizations, including The Lions Club, the DeLand Orchid Society, the Civil Air Patrol, American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, the West Volusia Amateur Radio Society and Faith Lutheran Church in DeLand.

**Eleanor "Ellie" Armstrong Grubbs** of Columbus, Ohio, and formerly of West Liberty and London, Ohio, passed away June 22, 2014. Early in her career, she was an illustrator at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and then at Nationwide Insurance. In 1969, she became the first art teacher at London High School, where she taught for 25 years and received the Jennings Award. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, **Ernest B. Hanmer**, Cambridge, Md., passed away March 9, 2014. In 1962, he began a 30-year career as a manufacturer's representative,

founding his own firm in 1965 and retiring in 1992. A lifelong sailor, he competed in many national and international regattas, including Star Class World Championships. He was a protest committee judge at Cleveland Yachting Club, an international judge for 20 years, and a life member of the International Star Class Yacht Racing Association. He was active in the Dorchester Skipjack Committee and was a Coast Guard licensed captain of the *Nathan of Dorchester*, a historical sailing skipjack. He achieved the highest rank of senior navigator with the Cambridge Sail and Power Squadron and was a docent at the James B. Richardson Maritime Museum.

**Richard E. Werstler**, North Canton, Ohio, died Jan. 2, 2015. He was commissioned in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. During his 44-year career as an educator, he served the Northwestern School District of Clark County (Ohio), Lakewood (Ohio) Schools, the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Schools, the School of Education at Central Michigan University, and on the board of directors at Carthage College. For more than 20 years, he served as chairman of the Professional Division of Teacher Education at Adrian College. He then became executive director of the McKinley Museum of History, Science and Industry and the McKinley National Memorial. He volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America, Kiwanis International and the Michigan State Board of Education, and was a member of St. Jacob's Lutheran Church. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he received the Wittenberg Alumni Association Citation in 1984.

## 1951

**The Rev. James E. Garrison**, '54S of Albany, N.Y., and



**Ronald Fook Shiu Li '50**, known as "The Godfather" of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and "Headmaster" by devoted followers, died Dec. 27, 2014, in Thailand following a bout with cancer. He was 85.

From an influential Hong Kong family, Li graduated magna cum laude in economics in 1950 and earned a master's degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

He founded the Far East Stock Exchange in 1969 and merged it with three others in 1986 to create an exchange important both for its size and the insight it provides into the Chinese economy. Li ran the combined exchange until 1990.

In 1984 Li donated 90 Chinese hand-embroidered silk tapestries – an estimated half of a collection considered the world's largest – to Wittenberg. He served on the Wittenberg Board from 1994 until 2001, when he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. He also was a significant donor to Hollenbeck Hall. Upon his death, the Board adopted a resolution honoring him.

Li is survived by his wife, Irene; sons, Alfred and Lawrence; and daughter, Dora. A grandson, Gordon, graduated from Wittenberg in May 2014.

Selected tapestries from the Li Collection can be viewed online at [www.wittenberg.edu/ronalddli](http://www.wittenberg.edu/ronalddli).



formerly of Kalamazoo, Mich., died July 22, 2014. He served congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and the Florida Keys, and was campus pastor at Western Michigan University from 1971-1994. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, he was active in civil disobedience and peace and justice events.

**Georgia Giannakopoulos Kaye**, Staten Island, N.Y., died Sept. 16, 2014. A homemaker and former elementary school teacher, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority, the Asia Society and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and she helped organize the Staten Island chapter of the American Association of University Women. Her interests included reading, entertaining, Japanese art and Asian culture. She was a member of Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Bulls Head, N.Y.

**Mark Allan Kniss**, Harrisonburg, Va., died June 6, 2014. After his medical training, he served in India under the Mennonite Board of Missions of Elkhart, Ind. In 1960, he started a clinic that grew to be a 60-bed hospital by the time he left India in 1973. He then opened Park View Medical Center in Park View, Va., where he worked until his retirement in 1998. He was superintendent of the Avante Nursing Home in Harrisonburg and a member of the Rockingham Male Chorus and Ridgeway Mennonite Church. An avid hunter, he also enjoyed bicycling and gardening.

**Marjorie Hines Metzger**, Gnadenuhnten, Ohio, died Feb. 22, 2012. She was the high school librarian at Indian Valley South High School and taught sixth grade at Gnadenuhnten School before retiring in 1989. She

was an active member of the Gnadenuhnten United Methodist Church, where she sang in the church choir and was treasurer of the United Methodist Women. She also worked for the Board of Elections for many years, was a member of the Naomi Circle and was active in Dress-A-Child.

**Dr. W. Clifford Sampson**, Carlisle, Ohio, passed away Dec. 20, 2014. He served in the U.S. Army. He began his family practice in Middletown, Ohio, specializing in manipulation and retiring after 45 years in 2001. He attended Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Germantown.

## 1952

**George W. Koerner**, a lifelong resident of Springfield, Ohio, died Aug. 15, 2014. An artillery spotter during the Korean War, he served in the U.S. Army from 1952-54, rising to the rank of sergeant. He worked in numerous positions for the Springfield City School District, first as a teacher at Grayhill Elementary and then as principal at McGuffey, Emerson, Perrin Woods, Horace Mann and Highlands elementary schools. After retiring from the school system, he worked for eight years as manager of the Springfield Public Schools Employee Credit Union. He was a member of Northminster Presbyterian Church and Kiwanis.

**The Rev. Frank L. Starkey** '55S, King City, Calif., died May 20, 2013. Following his ordination, he established a church in Grand Rapids, Mich., under the auspices of the Board of American Missions. He served parishes in Michigan, Iowa and Arizona. He then served parishes in Escondido, Glendale, Cerritos, and Mission Viejo in California

before retiring from Red Hill Lutheran Church in Tustin. In retirement, he served as interim pastor at Los Altos Lutheran Church, Light of Christ Lutheran Church in Turlock, Trinity Lutheran Church in Hollister, Grace Lutheran in King City, and a mission church in Rancho Madera. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he wrote four books and supervised five internship programs. After retiring to King City, he operated the Carriage House Inn Bed and Breakfast with his wife.

## 1953

**Robert W. Schmeding** '57S '06H, Daleville, Va., died Nov. 14, 2014. He served as pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in London, Ohio. He then spent his career with the U.S. Agency for International Development. His expertise in international human resource development and the economics of education was critical to the development of new programs and policies in developing countries. He was stationed in Ibadan, Nigeria; Dacca, Bangladesh; Jakarta, Indonesia; Yaound, Cameroon; and Sanaa, Yemen. In Washington and abroad, he helped develop programs to extend agricultural education in universities, train primary school teachers, and prepare foreign nationals for higher education. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, he received an honorary doctorate from Wittenberg in 2006.

**Robert J. Schreiber**, Elyria, Ohio, passed away Nov. 28, 2014. He served in the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant aboard the U.S.S. Lloyd. He was senior vice president and general counsel to the Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation until retiring in 1983. He later returned to act as chief strategist in coordinating the

development of Remington Park Racetrack in Oklahoma City. A member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, he was an avid sailor, runner, cyclist and wood turner.

**Frederick C. Snobarger**, Carey, Ohio, died July 30, 2014. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, he served on the Philippine Sea aircraft carrier. Early in his career, he was a licensed funeral director and embalmer and then became a senior teller for First National Bank. He spent his last 28 years of employment with Snyder Lumber Company in Carey, where he held the position of secretary-treasurer and co-owner for 15 years. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Carey, Elks Lodge 83 in Upper Sandusky, and several Masonic bodies. He also was active with the Carey and Hancock County United Way and the Carey Board of Education.

## 1954

**Julia Fraunfelter Gerber** of Beaufort, S.C., and formerly of Upper Arlington, Ohio, and Winston-Salem, N.C., passed away July 8, 2014. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she retired from Nationwide Insurance in 1993. Her interests included sewing, knitting and rose gardening.

**The Rev. Richard E. Neal** '57S, Martinsburg, W. Va., died Dec. 21, 2014. He served as pastor of Saint Thomas Lutheran Church in Charles Town, W.Va., from 1957-2003. He volunteered for the Jefferson County Association for Mental Health, Charles Town General Hospital Board, Jefferson County Ministerial Association, and Jefferson County Community Ministries and taught Red Cross swimming lessons for more than 50 years. A member of Phi Gamma



Delta, he enjoyed singing with the Masterworks Chorale at Shepherd University and serving on the CCAP-Loaves and Fishes Board, as well as the Caroline Furnace Church Camp Board and Thrivent Leadership Team. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Martinsburg.

**Mary Lou Rutz Robins**, Statesboro, Ga., died Sept. 13, 2013. She taught second grade for several years and was actively involved at Wittenberg University, Ball State University, University of Georgia and Georgia Southern University during her husband's employment at those institutions. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she was a gifted soprano who sang in several choirs from Springfield, Ohio, to Statesboro and performed in numerous community theatre musicals.

## 1955

**Dorothy Williams Eaton**, Brookfield, Wis., passed away March 28, 2014.

## 1956

**Carolyn Scheid Ray** of Centerville, Mass., and Baton Rouge, La., died June 10, 2014. Until 2013, she and her husband operated William Ray Interiors. A miniaturist, she created two miniature houses and 13 room boxes that have been exhibited at the Historical Society of Old Yarmouth. She was a member of Kappa Delta sorority.

## 1957

**E. Joan "Jo" Marlow Parkey**, Butler Township, Ohio, passed away Sept. 28, 2014. She began her 30-year teaching career in Springfield, Ohio, and then taught at Vandalia Elementary, Murlin Heights Elementary, Helke Elementary and Smith Middle School. She

was a member of Vandalia United Methodist Church, Greenview Garden Club, Cox Arboretum, Wegerzyn Garden Center, College Women's Club, and the Kappa Beta Chapter of Sigma Phi Gamma sorority. She was a lifetime member of the Historical Society of Vandalia-Butler and a Muse Machine advisor. Her interests included gardening, cross stitch and cooking.

**Delphin "Del" T. Shannon**, Kettering, Ohio, died May 31, 2014. A standout high school and college athlete in football and baseball, he played against the legendary Satchel Page on traveling teams. Early in his career, he taught and coached at Olmstead Falls High School. For 37 years, he worked for the Dayton Public Schools as a school psychologist. A member of Alpha Tau Omega, he was an avid gardener, cook and woodworker.

## 1958

**The Rev. David T. Riley** '58S, Upper Arlington, Ohio, died Aug. 6, 2014. He began his ministry at Zion Lutheran Church in Canwood, Saskatchewan, Canada, then served Trinity Lutheran Mission in Vermilion, Ohio; Christ Lutheran in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; Holy Trinity in Columbus, Ohio; Emmanuel Lutheran in Lancaster, Ohio; and served as chaplain for the Franklin County Jail. He also authored *Paul's Personal Letters*.

## 1959

**Shirley Neer Denney**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away May 29, 2014. She was a primary school teacher in Clark County. Following her teaching career, she worked at The Medicine Shoppe. A talented seamstress and avid gardener, she was a long-time member of Hillside Avenue Church of God.

## 1960

**G. Parks Souther**, Ocean Ridge, Fla., died at home on March 20, 2014. He worked for Dow Chemical in Midland, Mich., before spending most of his career as president of Parkson Corporation in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. After retirement, he divided his time between the Florida seashore and the mountains of North Carolina, where he was involved with Grandfather Home for Children in Banner Elk.

## 1961

**Jeffrey R. Crandall** of Naples, Fla., and formerly of Guanacaste, Costa Rica, died Sept. 28, 2013. For many years, he was the owner and operator of Villa Decary, a small bed-and-breakfast overlooking Lake Arenal in Costa Rica.

**Gail Baldwin Fredensborg**, Cincinnati, Ohio, died July 24, 2014. She was the associate registrar at the University of Cincinnati before retiring in 2007. A member of Alpha Xi Delta, she was active with Trinity Lutheran Church and volunteered as a reading tutor. She enjoyed singing, biking and traveling.

**Paul S. McCartt** '61MEd, Homer, Alaska, died July 4, 2014. He joined the U.S. Army in 1948 and served in the Army Reserves until he was honorably discharged as a captain upon his retirement in 1986. He taught in Tennessee, Ohio and Oregon. He then moved to Alaska, where he worked as a substitute teacher in Juneau, Seward and Anchorage schools. He was a member of the Elks Lodge 2127, the Homer Elks and the American Legion in Seward. His interests included fishing and motorcycling across the United States.



**Ron Murphy '60 '64MEd**, one of Wittenberg's most revered coaches across multiple sports, died July 17, 2014. He was 76.

As an undergraduate, Murphy starred for the Tiger football team, scoring 34 touchdowns and winning two conference championships. He returned to his alma mater as a coach and professor, making a tremendous impact upon thousands of students.

After contributing to 12 league titles and five national championships as an assistant to National College Football Hall of Fame inductees Bill Edwards and Dave Maurer, Murphy took the helm in 1984. In five seasons as head coach, he compiled a 34-17 record, culminating with an Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) championship in 1988 and a memorable double-overtime win over Dayton in the NCAA Division III Tournament.

Murphy also coached Wittenberg's men's track & field and men's tennis teams. His track & field teams posted an 88-32-4 dual meet record, and he guided the men's tennis team to six consecutive OAC titles. Murphy was granted emeritus status in 1995 after 28 years of teaching in the Department of Health & Physical Education.

A 2000 inductee into Wittenberg's Athletics Hall of Honor, Murphy is survived by his wife, Mary Jo, his daughter, Lysa, and four grandchildren. His son Greg '77, also a member of Wittenberg's Athletics Hall of Honor, died in December 2013 after a lengthy battle with leukemia.

## 1962

**Mildred Gross Berger** '62MED, Bowling Green, Ohio, passed away July 5, 2014. She taught at schools in Argyle, Iowa, and Springfield, Ohio, including George Rogers Clark Junior High School, Springfield High School, and Springfield North High School, retiring in 1979. A member of Central Methodist Church (now Faith United Methodist Church) in Springfield, she taught Sunday school and was a member of the Women's Circle, Susies and the bell choir. She also was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, the Fortnightly Musical Club and the Senior Center. During retirement, she volunteered at Mercy Medical Center and enjoyed needlepoint, book clubs and traveling.

**Gladys Hart Gracy**, New Carlisle, Ohio, passed away Feb. 17, 2013. She was a teacher at Catawba Schools and Warder Park Elementary in Springfield, Ohio, retiring in 1994. A long-time member of First United Methodist Church of New Carlisle, she was involved with Young Woman's Mission, United Methodist Women and Rebekah Circle, among others.

## 1963

**Suzanne Sherkel Nagle**, Indiana, Pa., passed away March 21, 2014. She taught French at Clearfield Area High School, retiring in 2002. She was a charter member of the Springfield Civic Opera Company and sang in the State College Choral Society, the Clearfield Choral Society, the Pennsylvania Chorale and the Indiana Chorus. She belonged to Zion Lutheran Church, where she was a member of the choir and the music and worship committee.

## 1964

A member of Phi Gamma Delta, **Terrence E. Bradley**, Berea, Ohio, died Feb. 25, 2014. He retired as an international sales manager. A member of the American Guild of Organists and International Trumpet Guild, he played piano, saxophone, horn, trumpet and pipe organ and performed with several local jazz bands.

**Kenneth R. Brenneman**, Hilliard, Ohio, passed away Sept. 1, 2014. He was the Hilliard High School choir director for more than 24 years, the executive director of the Hilliard Arts Council and a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church of New Rome, where he served for many years as choir director. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity.

**William E. Noffke**, Springfield, Ohio, died Aug. 27, 2014. He was an All-American volleyball player at Wittenberg, an alternate on the 1964 U.S. Men's Olympic Volleyball Team, and a high school and college volleyball referee for more than 30 years.

**Steve A. Rhoades**, Wardensville, W.V., passed away Oct. 1, 2014. For 27 years, he was principal of Bellbrook (Ohio) High School. He coached track, football and wrestling. He was president of Southwestern Buckeye League and a recipient of the North Central Association John Vaughn Excellence in Education Award. In Wardensville, he was president of the Zoning Board and Appeals Committee and a member of the War Memorial board. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he received the Melvin Jones Award from the Lion's Club, of which he was president for 13 years.

## 1965

**Barton L. Beyl** of Dublin, Ohio, and formerly of Tipp City, Ohio, died July 16, 2014. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves, then worked for many years as a buyer for Frigidaire Corp. in Dayton.

**Shirley Williams Purkey**, Kettering, Ohio, died Dec. 17, 2013. For 32 years, she taught special education at schools in Springfield, Centerville, Fairborn and Kettering, Ohio, retiring in 2009.

**Mary Jane McAllister Schnoor**, Cocoa Beach, Fla., died Aug. 23, 2013. She was retired from Cocoa Beach High School as a teacher and guidance counselor. She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, the U.S. Power Squadron of Cocoa Beach, the Knights of Columbus Auxiliary and the Florida Flyfishing Association.

## 1966

**Emelie Schuring Markl** of Marion, Ohio, and formerly of Dayton, Ohio, died July 3, 2014. She was retired as an English teacher and also as a registered nurse who enjoyed working the night shift. A member of Delta Zeta, she enjoyed history.

**John G. Scott**, Santa Fe, N.M., died Sept. 4, 2014. As an ordained Presbyterian minister, he served congregations in Fort Wayne, Ind.; Chicago; San Geronimo, Calif.; and Truchas and Chimayo, N.M. Upon arriving in Santa Fe in 1994, he was the executive director for Hope House, then headed the Alice King Family Center at the New Mexico Penitentiary. He served as interim minister for La Mesa Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque and for Westminster Presbyterian Church in Gallup, and also was a hospital chaplain for Presbyterian Hospital in

Albuquerque. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi.

## 1967

**Elizabeth Furst Johnson Gustafson** '67MED of St. Joseph, Mich., and formerly of Springfield, Ohio, died March 29, 2014. A member of Homemakers Club, she taught seventh-grade science and home economics at Northwestern Local Schools in Springfield for 18 years.

## 1970

**John W. Schneider**, Springfield, Ohio, died July 17, 2014. He taught for more than 30 years in the Northeastern Local School District and retired in 2003. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, he also was a member of the Mourning Glory band, which was formed at Wittenberg in the late 1960s and performed at numerous events and reunions during the past 20 years.

## 1972

**Thomas W. Bullock**, Metairie, La., died April 14, 2014. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he was a managing director with the Prudential Insurance Company of America.

## 1974

**G. Craig Hunt**, San Jose, Calif., died Oct. 7, 2014, while defending Yosemite National Park from the Dog Rock Fire. An air tanker pilot with DynCorp in California, he also taught chemistry at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He served in the Navy on active and reserve duty for nearly 20 years, rising to the rank of lieutenant commander, and had been a firefighting pilot for 13 years. His interests included flying, golfing, fishing, hiking, scuba diving, and math and sciences.



**Krista Hollabaugh Layman**, Martinez, Ga., passed away July 26, 2014. She held a master's degree in occupational therapy from Western Michigan University and worked as an occupational therapist.

**James "Jake" F. Lehrer**, Asheville, N.C., died Nov. 5, 2014. He worked for more than 20 years in the Orange County (N.C.) Public Library System, serving as branch manager of the Carrboro Library, where he successfully created a community library within the public school. After retirement, he worked for the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre (SART) in Mars Hill, N.C., and with the Buncombe County Board of Elections. His interests included reading, playing bridge and knitting.

**Wanda Erb Wienke** '74MSM of Paxton, Ill., and formerly of Armstrong, passed away June 6, 2014. A member of Sidney United Methodist Church, she played the organ at several churches in Illinois and taught organ lessons. She enjoyed gardening and basketball and was a member of the American Guild of Organists and Mu Phi Epsilon.

## 1975

**Todd A. Chambers**, Marshall Township, Pa., died Jan. 2, 2015. A longtime landscape architect and owner of Chambers Design Associates, he was president of Rachel Carson Trail Conservancy. An avid golfer, basketball player and environmentalist, he also was a member of Phi Mu Delta fraternity.

**William B. Endres**, Glen Mills, Pa., passed away Feb. 19, 2013. He spent his professional career in education at schools including Shady Side Academy in Pittsburgh, Boys Latin in Baltimore and Sylvan Learning

Systems. Most recently, he was employed at Keystone School in Bloomsburg, Pa. He was a member of Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Del.

**Mary Sommers Lubbers**, a lifelong resident of Springfield, Ohio, died July 28, 2014. She was a member of St. Bernard's Parish and taught at the parish school from 1970-1988. A long-time member of Delta Kappa Gamma and the Ohio Lyric Chorus, she enjoyed music, science, reading and volunteering at Mercy Medical Center.

## 1977

**Tamara Makdad Albrecht**, Decatur, Ga., died July 15, 2014. An instructor in Emory University's music department, she served several Atlanta churches as organist/choirmaster, including Emory University Worship and most recently at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. She wrote *Singing Through the Church Year*, a children's choir resource book released in 2005, and composed the music for the four-act play/cantata *The Grief and The Promise*.

## 1978

**Barbara Jo Eiden-Molinaro** '78S, Athens, Ohio, died Feb. 15, 2014. From 1979-1992, she served as associate dean of student affairs at Concordia College. She then established Success Services Inc., a project management consulting firm, in Fergus Falls, Minn. In 2006, she relocated to Washington, D.C., where she continued to operate her business. After moving to Athens, Ohio, in 2012, she joined the staff of Rural Action, The Plains, Ohio, as chief operating officer. She served on the boards of numerous nonprofit organizations and as president of First Trinity Lutheran

in Washington, D.C., and Augustana Lutheran in Fergus Falls.

## 1979

**The Rev. Ronald C. Brugger** '79MSM, Huron, S.D., passed away Sept. 12, 2013. His career in ministry involved 40 Lutheran congregations in Iowa and South Dakota, as well as several interim positions with Episcopalian parishes. He was a skilled organist, pianist and church musician with a vast knowledge of the worship liturgies, hymns and traditions of both the Lutheran Church and other denominations. A member of the Organ Historical Society, he was an enthusiast of pipe organs, reed organs and melodians. He also was a member of the Fellowship of St. Augustine's in Oxford, Mich.

## 1988

**Robert R. Brems Jr.**, Coshocton, Ohio, died Jan. 15, 2015. He worked for Lockheed Martin in Marietta, Ga., followed by Georgia Institute of Technology. In 1999, he relocated to Coshocton, where he worked for Pretty Products, the Franklin County Health Department, the Ohio State Board of Health as regional epidemiologist with the Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department, and he also taught at The Ohio State University Summer Public Health Institute on Global Information Systems. Most recently, he worked for Organic Technologies as a quality assurance engineer and was health commissioner for Coshocton County and an adjunct professor at Columbus State University. A member of Delta Sigma Phi, he volunteered with Boy Scout Troop 406, Financial Peace University, Coshocton Presbyterian Church and Habitat for Humanity.

## 1989

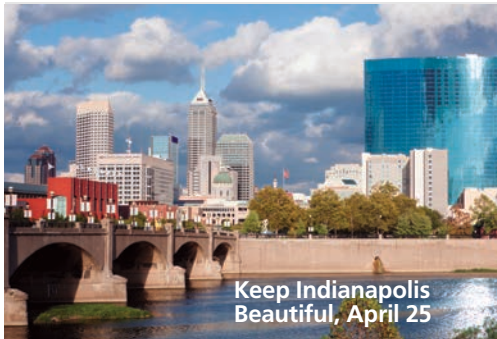
**Keith A. Kavinsky**, Dublin, Ohio, passed away Sept. 10, 2014. He earned his J.D. from Capital University Law School in 1992 and formed the law firm Gallagher & Kavinsky LPA, where he was a commercial litigator until he retired in 2013. He coached youth sports teams and was an active member of Indian Run United Methodist Church in Dublin.

## 1991

**William F. Denkwalter**, Urbana, Ohio, passed away Sept. 17, 2014. A lawyer, he co-owned West Central Ohio Title Agency as well as Monument Square Motors, pursuing his love of trading in motor vehicles. Most recently, he practiced law with Harris, Meyer, Heckman & Denkwalter LLC. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Third Degree member of the Urbana Chapter 1727 and Fourth Degree member of the Monsignor Buckley Assembly in Springfield. He served and held leadership positions on various boards, including those of Champaign Residential Services Inc., the Urbana Foundation, the Urbana Rotary Club, the Champaign County Arts Council, Urbana University Foundation, and the Cancer Association of Champaign County.

## 1994

**Trisha L. Manning**, Cincinnati, Ohio, passed away July 19, 2014. A member of Kappa Delta sorority, she worked in several community mental health agencies before opening her own business in Columbus.



## April

- 22 **San Francisco Alumni:** Presidential Event – Dinner with the President at El Techo de Lolinda
- 25 **Indianapolis Alumni Chapter:** Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Service Day
- 27 **Wittenberg Series:** Capitol Steps Comedy Troupe – 7:30 p.m., Pam Evans Smith Arena
- 27 **Springfield Alumni Chapter:** Happy Hour at Season's Bistro
- 29 **Boston Alumni Chapter:** Presidential Event
- 30 **New York City Benjamin Prince Society (BPS):** Presidential Reception
- TBA\* **Cleveland Alumni Chapter:** Great Lakes Brewery Tour



## May

- 5 **Toledo BPS:** Reception
- 9 **Chicago Alumni Chapter:** Greater Chicago Food Depository Service Day
- 16 **Cincinnati Alumni Chapter:** Reds Game
- 30 **Cleveland Alumni Chapter:** Wine Tasting Fundraiser

## June

- 11 **Washington D.C. Alumni Chapter:** Networking night
- 18 **Cleveland Alumni Chapter:** Lake County Captains Game
- 21-25 **President's Leadership Academy:** [www.wittenberg.edu/pla](http://www.wittenberg.edu/pla)
- 25 **Springfield Alumni Chapter:** Summer Arts Festival, *Fiddler on the Roof*
- TBA\* **Columbus Alumni Chapter:** Grill Out with Grads Cookout
- TBA\* **Pittsburgh Alumni Chapter:** Music at Mellon Park

## July

- TBA\* **Cleveland Alumni Chapter:** Brew Kettle
- TBA\* **Indianapolis Alumni Chapter:** Indian Game
- TBA\* **Columbus Alumni Chapter:** Clippers Game

## August

- 7-9 **Columbus Alumni Chapter:** Pelotonia
- TBA\* **Cleveland Alumni Chapter:** Mitchell's Ice Cream Tour

\*Consult [www.wittenberg.edu/alumni](http://www.wittenberg.edu/alumni) or contact Linda Beals '87, director of alumni relations, at [lbeals@wittenberg.edu](mailto:lbeals@wittenberg.edu) or at 937-327-6374 for further information on all alumni events and activities.



Mitchell's Cleveland, Ice Cream Tour





## Telling the Wittenberg Story

*A discovery of what can encompass a meaningful life*

Shortly after moving to Ohio to serve as editor of the Wittenberg magazine, I had the opportunity to interview the late Richard “Dick” Kuss ’36. Many people know the Kuss name on campus and in the community, but as a young journalist and new editor, I remember having knots in my stomach as I traveled to his Springfield office for our first-time conversation. Dick Kuss – astute businessman, community leader, inspiring philanthropist, and devoted husband, father and grandfather – was going to take time to talk with me.

Our chat changed my life. Not only was he one of the most generous, kind and tenderhearted human beings on earth, but he also turned what I initially thought might be a short stint into nearly two decades of telling the Wittenberg story. How did he do that? With one simple answer to the question, “What has been your defining moment?” Interestingly enough, he actually didn’t answer the question in his office that day; he wanted some time to reflect. A few days later, a personalized note arrived in the mail from Dick. He indicated that he could not give one defining moment; there were just too many. Instead, he simply wrote, “I believe the meaning of life is to live a meaningful life.”

One sentence. One magazine mission defined. Reading that note, I realized that Dick had captured the essence of the Wittenberg story, for it is at Wittenberg where students learn to “make meaning” of the world and of their own lives. What an honor and privilege it has been to learn



“Find meaning in all that you do, and always call Wittenberg home. I know I will.”

and share so many meaningful stories in the pages of our alumni magazine. I’m pleased to say that this issue is no different.

From Jane Bayley Hollenbeck ’38, whose passing reminds us of the power of friendship, especially the one she developed with former President Baird Tipson, which eventually led to the building of Hollenbeck Hall; to beloved late professors Stan Mickel, Charles Chatfield and Mary Ellen Jones, who taught countless alumni to appreciate life and the world in which we live; to alumni Ron Murphy ’60, who coached for 30 years at Wittenberg and who left an indelible mark of his own on the gridiron, and Georgiana Albright ’41, whose generosity in memory of her husband, David ’40, made the tennis courts possible, this issue certainly shines the light on what can encompass a meaningful life.

This issue also does something else. It allows me the chance to thank you for letting me tell your stories and the story of Wittenberg for 16 years. My mentor and friend, Dick Veler ’58, professor emeritus of English, turned over the reins to me years ago, and now I am turning the reins over once again. My sincerest thanks to Tom Stafford ’76 and Leigh Hall ’13 for bringing this issue to the finish line as I begin a wonderful new opportunity with my family in Connecticut. Their talents are evident on every page.

Having read hundreds of class notes throughout the years, I’ve come to learn that Wittenberg graduates never really say goodbye. They just keep passing their light on to others. May each of you continue to share your light, find meaning in all that you do, and always call Wittenberg home. I know I will. ■

– Karen Saatkamp Gerboth ’93



## We want to recognize you.

Today's Tigers have a world of opportunities to explore at Wittenberg. We help them cultivate a lifelong love for learning on campus and across the globe, as they discover how to turn their passions and unique skills into fulfilling lives and careers. *Our tigers have access to these transformative opportunities thanks to the support of dedicated alumni and friends like you.*

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- Your participation will also boost our national rankings, supporting our nationally recognized professors and enhancing our status as a #MyTopCollege by Forbes.

As you can see, **your support makes so much possible** – so let us recognize you on this year's Honor Roll.

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A detailed silk embroidery of a grapevine, featuring clusters of white grapes, dark green leaves, and a black vine with tendrils. The embroidery is set against a light-colored background.

## A Legacy Stitched in Silk

The late Ronald Li '50, founder of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, donated 90 hand-embroidered silk tapestries – half of a collection considered the world's largest – to Wittenberg in 1984.

View the collection at [www.wittenberg.edu/ronalldi](http://www.wittenberg.edu/ronalldi).

