

KANSAS ALUMNI

No 5, 2014 ■ \$5



Self Portraits

Fanciful faces launch 'Elsa Rhae' to Internet stardom

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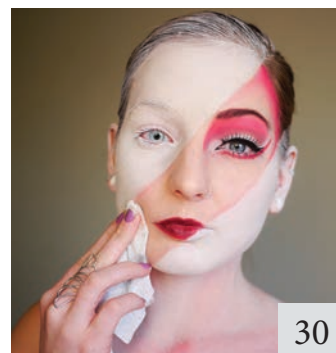
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Face to Face

Elsa Rhae's fanciful creations—which use her own face as a canvas—have turned the young free spirit into an Internet star.

By Chris Lazzarino

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The Wow Factor

Nancy O'Connor believes school gardens can plant a seed of wonder that inspires kids to rethink their relationship with food.

By Steven Hill

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Fine Feathers

Once available only for the privileged few, the pristine examples of 19th-century ornithological illustration in KU's John Gould collection are now accessible to a worldwide audience.

By Chris Lazzarino

*Cover photograph by
Steve Puppe*

Lift the Chorus



Cover credit

KUDOS TO YOUR CREATIVE crew for the clever, colorful *Kansas Alumni* cover [“Story Lines,” issue No. 4] featuring painted bricks as books! Contemporary titles authored by alumni Laura Moriarty, Gillian Flynn and Robert Day arranged on steps among classics written by Charles Dickens, Virginia Woolf and Mark Twain perfectly captured one of summer’s most enduring, pleasurable pastimes—reading a brick-thick page-turner while sipping a cold drink on a shaded porch. End of story.

Kimberly Gronniger, g’83
Topeka

Mary’s chair

I, TOO, CALL Mary Klayder [“It’ll Be Fine,” issue No. 4] a friend, adviser, professor, travel guide, sage, and, perhaps most influentially, a vivid conversationalist.

Mary’s passion for literature, for stories and storytelling, is the root of her empathy. What is storytelling if not the relation of shared experiences? In her

classroom, her beloved chair, on strolls down Jayhawk Boulevard. ... these were precious moments for me and any impressionable young man or woman on their singular journey growing up.

As touched on gracefully in Chris Lazzarino’s profile, Mary values benevolence, retrospection and introspection as means of connecting with (and, cleverly, empowering) others. The piece captures her essence with heart and clarity. I was moved.

“... Life is bigger than ourselves,” she says. Indeed, kindness shifts us out of the center-of-our-own-world perspectives, and Mary, from the moment I met her at Honors Program orientation, was generous and respectful. She listened, and I very much enjoyed listening back. I loved her brilliant independence. I valued the moments spent with her. It all felt authentic. And it was, and is today.

How fitting that the topic of family anchors the piece. Mary hosted an English alumni gathering in New York City on May 2, where a large number of East Coasters spent the evening reconnecting, meeting new members of the “family,” and generally basking in the familiarity and comfort of the Kansas- and Mary-ness of it all.

Yes, the chair is a fantastic, tangible, nostalgic thing. But, thankfully, Mary’s magical chair can reach out its arms and embrace you wherever you are in the world.

Cheers, Mary.

David Wilcox, c’10
Brooklyn, New York

McSorley’s toast

THANK YOU FOR including the wonderful story by Bob Day [“We’ll Always Have McSorley’s,” issue No. 4] in the most recent edition of *Kansas Alumni*! I love reading about the work of our alumni, and the McSorley’s essay is a great example of the sort of thing that makes me dive into the magazine the day it arrives!

Sandra Bornholdt Cook, c’64
Piedmont, California

Vivid lecture

KEVIN NELSON’S LETTER [“Who’s counting,” Lift the Chorus, issue No. 4] reminded me of another professor who often had students who were not enrolled in his class attend the final lecture of his course: philosophy professor Clifford P. Osborne. I attended once and those present gave him a standing ovation.

Franklin Shobe, c’64, g’77
Muncie, Indiana

Not just for Jayhawks

YOUR EDITORIAL PAGE invites letters commenting on the content of the magazine, so here’s mine:

I usually (read, almost always) find at least one of the feature articles to be of significant interest to me and/or people I know who are not KU-connected.

Two recent examples are:

1) Two attorney friends from Kansas (not KU) were interested in the Jesse James investigative history article by

Steven Hill [“True Crime,” issue No. 3, 2014].

2) I have Colorado hiking associates who liked Katherine Millett’s piece about mountain climber Lynn Hartwell Prebble [“Peak Performer,” issue No. 3, 2012].

Jay Janzen, c’62
Golden, Colorado

Editor’s Note: We received several angry responses to a letter that appeared in issue No. 4, 2014, regarding alumnus Steve Doocy’s appearance as master of ceremonies at the Rock Chalk Ball in Kansas City. Those who wrote did not wish their letters to be published, but they requested that we respond.

The Alumni Association and its magazine strive to remain nonpartisan, but in publishing the letter about Mr. Doocy, we inadvertently introduced partisan discussion into the magazine. We regret the error.

Mr. Doocy’s appearance at the Rock Chalk Ball was completely nonpartisan in nature; he agreed to participate because of his allegiance to the University of Kansas—a loyalty that thousands of alumni share, regardless of our political affiliations.



Your opinion counts

Please email us a note at kualumni@kualumni.org to tell us what you think of your alumni magazine.

September 2014

KANSAS ALUMNI

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Scene on campus

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by Jennifer Jackson Sanner **First Word**



STEVE PUPPE (2)

Pageler

Magazine-making is messy, full of spills and surprises—and therein lies the fun. Our early plans for this issue of *Kansas Alumni* did not even mention Elsa Rhae Pageler, the young alumna who graces our cover, but after we learned the Internet favorite was one of our own, we wanted to share her artistry. Pageler, c'13, deftly wields brushes and paint to transform her face into astonishing characters.

Using skills she developed as a student video assistant for KU Marketing Communications and Kansas Athletics, along with techniques she learned from a course on stage makeup, the film and media studies graduate has launched a promising online enterprise. As Associate Editor Chris Lazzarino explains, her ingenuity and social media savvy offer lessons for fellow new graduates—and perhaps those not so new—in the fine art of creating a career.

Nancy O'Connor is a familiar face in Lawrence as longtime education and outreach

director for The Merc Co-op, the city's customer-owned food cooperative and natural grocery. She also leads Growing Food, Growing Health, an innovative partnership of The Merc's non-profit foundation and the Lawrence Public Schools to create school gardens across the city. O'Connor, g'95, teaches students about healthy eating by putting them to work outside, tending plants that produce wholesome fare for their own school cafeterias. Associate Editor Steve Hill traces O'Connor's winding trek from New Jersey through Illinois to Kansas and her abiding passion for the simple wonders of homegrown food.

Another odyssey is the subject of our third feature. *Kansas Alumni* first described KU's lustrous John Gould Ornithological Collection in a 1985 cover story; now the collection has arrived at its ultimate destination, the Internet. Thanks in part to a National




O'Connor



Kansas Alumni, 1985

Endowment for the Humanities grant, staff members in the Kenneth Spencer Research Library have completed a painstaking four-year project to catalog and digitize the vibrant, richly detailed illustrations and manuscripts of Gould, a 19th-century British ornithologist, and his team of talented artists. Lazzarino recounts the fascinating tales of a gifted scientist; an eccentric, obsessive collector; a revered KU scholar, E. Raymond Hall, c'24; and a visionary chancellor, Deane Malott, c'21.

Nearly 70 years after the collection first landed on Mount Oread, fans can view the luminous birds via the Internet, where there is plenty of room for 19th-century masters like John Gould and 21st-century magicians like Elsa Rhae Pageler to dazzle us all. 

On the Boulevard



DAN STOREY (4)



Despite complications posed by ongoing construction of two new residence halls, move-in day on Daisy Hill was the usual hive of activity, as parents pitched in, old friends got reacquainted and students settled in for the start of fall classes Aug. 25.

Exhibitions

Selected items from the John Gould Ornithological Collection, Spencer Research Library, through Nov. 15

“Conversation XIX: Phases: Multinational Works, to Now,” Spencer Museum of Art, through spring 2015

“Cabinet of Curiosities,” Empire of Things, Spencer Museum of Art, through 2015

“World War I & The End of Empires,” Spencer Museum of Art, through 2015

“Forms of Thought,” Spencer Museum of Art, through 2016

“This Land,” Spencer Museum of Art, through 2016

Lied Center events

SEPTEMBER

- 19** KU Collage Concert
- 24** Jazz at Lincoln Center with Wynton Marsalis
- 28** Yun-Chin Zhou, piano
- 30** KUSO with Joshua Roman, cello

OCTOBER

- 5** Sphinx Virtuosi
- 6** Joyce Castle, Mezzo-soprano
- 9** The Midtown Men
- 15** “Basetrack”
- 16** Colin Jost, co-anchor of SNL’s “Weekend Update”
- 18** Circo Comedia
- 25** An Evening with Leo Kottke
- 28** “Anything Goes”

NOVEMBER

- 2** Vienna Boys Choir
- 9** Beatrice Rana, piano
- 14** Rennie Harris Puremovement

University Theatre

OCTOBER

- 3-5, 7-9** “Proof,” by David Auburn, directed by Amanda Boyle, William Inge Memorial Theatre
- 17-19, 24-26** “Tovarich,” by Jacques Deval, directed by John Staniunas, Crafton-Preyer Theatre

NOVEMBER

- 14-16, 21-23** “The Big Meal,” by Dan LeFranc, directed by Peter Zazzali, Stage Two!

Murphy Hall events

SEPTEMBER

- 15** Kansas Virtuosi
- 25** Brass Ensembles

OCTOBER

- 20** Collegium Musicum
- 27** Tuba/Euphonium Consort

NOVEMBER

- 6** Trombone Choir
- 17** Kansas Virtuosi

Performances

OCTOBER

- 3** Jazz Ensembles I, II and III, Lawrence Arts Center
- 28** Jazz Combos I-VI, Lawrence Arts Center

NOVEMBER

- 7** Alaturka and Jazz Ensemble I, Lawrence Arts Center
- 10** Wind Ensemble, Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- 17** Percussion Group, Spencer Museum of Art
- 18** Jazz Singer & Jazz Combo I, Lawrence Arts Center

Lectures

SEPTEMBER

- 16-17** Katherine Boo, Humanities Lecture Series
- 17** "The Media and the Midterms," Dole Institute of Politics
- 20** Wojciech Lesnikowski Retrospective

OCTOBER

- 2** Tuttle Lecture, Woodruff Auditorium
- 2** "From Berlin to Baghdad: When Art Historians Go to War," Franklin D. Murphy Lecture Series, Spencer Museum of Art
- 2** Gregory Hospodor, "Forgotten Transcendence: the Battle of Buena Vista, 1847," Dole Institute of Politics
- 7** John Symons, Humanities Lecture Series
- 9** Dave Owen and Bill Roy Jr., "Your Story, His Story, the Legacy: the 1974 Dole-Roy Senate Race," Dole Institute of Politics
- 16** Tanya Fields, "Eco-Warrior of the Food Revolution," Dole Institute of Politics
- 23** Sen. Bob Bennett and Sec. Dan Glickman, "We Can Fix It: A Bipartisan Blueprint to Strengthen Our Democracy," Dole Institute of Politics

- 29** Julian Go Lecture, Hall Center
- 29** Frank Calzon and Marifeli Perez-Stable, "Is It Time to Recognize Cuba?" Dole Institute of Politics
- 30** Ayesha Hardison, Langston Hughes Visiting Professorship Lecture

NOVEMBER

- 3-4** Amy Wilentz, Humanities Lecture Series
- 6** Sean Kalic, "The Siege of Budapest: A Decisive Battle against Nazism," Dole Institute of Politics

Academic Calendar

OCTOBER

- 11-14** Fall break

Kansas Honors Program

SEPTEMBER

- 17** Wellington
- 22** Sedgwick County
- 24** Leavenworth
- 24** McPherson

OCTOBER

- 1** Hutchinson
- 1** Lawrence
- 1** Dodge City
- 8** Garden City
- 8** Salina
- 8** Shawnee Mission
- 9** Hays
- 15** Garnett
- 20** El Dorado
- 22** Southern Johnson County

NOVEMBER

- 3** Emporia
- 3** Wichita
- 3** Manhattan
- 4** Topeka
- 5** Independence
- 5** Liberal
- 11** Kansas City
- 12** Arkansas City
- 12** Chapman
- 17** Johnson County Blue Valley

Alumni events

SEPTEMBER

- 17** Houston networking breakfast
- 18** Denver networking breakfast
- 18** Denver Hawktoberfest
- 20** Member Tailgate at the Kansas Union
- 20** School of Education Party on the Patio
- 21** KU Day at the Sunset Zoo, Manhattan
- 21** KU Day with the Miami Dolphins
- 22** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Houston
- 23** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Austin, Texas
- 24** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Fort Worth, Texas
- 25** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Irving, Texas
- 25** KU College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Distinguished Alumnus Reception honoring William Fisher, Austin, Texas
- 27** Member Tailgate at the Kansas Union

OCTOBER

- 1** KC Chapter Hawktoberfest at Boulevard Brewing Company
- 4** Jersey Shore alumni picnic, Wall, New Jersey
- 5** KU Night at the Indianapolis Repertory Theatre
- 11** Member Tailgate at the Kansas Union
- 15** Houston networking breakfast
- 16** Science of Beer at Gella's Brewing Company, Hays
- 20** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Northern Colorado
- 21** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- 21** Denver networking breakfast
- 22** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Denver
- 23** Lawrence Guided Wine Testing
- 25** Jayhawk Roundup

NOVEMBER

- 8** Member Tailgate at the Kansas Union
- 9** Veterans Day Run
- 10** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Los Angeles
- 11** Evolution of the Jayhawk, San Diego
- 12** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Phoenix
- 13** Evolution of the Jayhawk, Portland, Oregon
- 15** Member Tailgate at the Kansas Union

Events listed here are highlights from the Association's busy calendar. For complete listings of all events, watch for emails about programs in your area, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957

Jayhawk Walk



Parallel lives diverge

CHRIS CARTER AND CODY JANOUSEK grew up together on the same Lawrence street; attended the same elementary, middle and high schools; and jammed in the same bands from sixth grade through college, where Chris played drums and Cody mellophone in the Marching Jayhawks and basketball pep bands.

Chris was majoring in music education and Cody in physics when each decided the best route to his chosen profession—teaching—was through the UKanTeach program. They switched within a week of each other and found themselves in the same classes, too.

They knew it had to end, of course, come graduation day, but not before they shared one last milestone: The walk down the Hill.

As it happened, Cody broke his ankle two days before Commencement.

“A lot of people were like, ‘Dang, that’s too bad you won’t be able to go down the

Trash into treasure

Ahh, spring. It’s a bittersweet season. Goodbyes. New beginnings. A heckuva lot of stuff that needs moving out before students can move on.

KU Surplus makes sure tons of forsaken futons, deep-sixed desk lamps and other superfluous necessities from campus residence halls find a use other than refuse. Working with Student Housing and social service groups, the waste reduction effort overseen by the Center for Sustainability helped “divert and donate” 1,534 pounds of food, 5,000 pounds of clothing, 623 pieces of campus furniture and 539 “personal appliances and decor items.”

Nonperishable food—left in handy bins in residence halls—went to Just Food, the Douglas County food bank founded by the late dean of social welfare Ann Weick. Clothing went to Planet Aid in Kansas City. Other items (enough to fill a 50-foot semi trailer) went to Lawrence Creates Makerspace, a shared workshop for artists, designers, inventors and other creative people. A garage sale raised money to fund scholarships for 15 college students to use the space.

“To us it’s a win-win-win,” says Eric Kirkendall, c’73, g’79, g’82, director of the makerspace. “We keep things out of the landfill, we raise some funds and we give students memberships. Students will give us new skills, capabilities, energy—all those things you get from students.”



Carter and Janousek



Hill,” says Janousek, c’14. “Chris was like, ‘Well, that changed his day a bit, but he’s still doing it.’”

Do it he did, with a little help from a pair of crutches—and an old friend to run interference.

“I was watching out for him the whole time,” says Carter, c’14. “It’s one of those things. Our first day of kindergarten was together; our last day of college was together. I had to walk a little slower to take it in with him, but he made it well worth it. He’s a hilarious dude.”

Now that they’ve taken their first teaching jobs (Chris at Olathe Northwest High School and Cody at their alma mater, Free State High School) the friendship may change, but it won’t end.

“I think I was supposed to learn something from breaking my ankle,” Janousek says. “Looking back I guess it was knowing he was still there.”

A delicate response to football’s ferocity

THE PREGAME RITUAL of draping themselves in tape and pads is a football player’s time-consuming chore. It’s worse after the game, when, exhausted and aching, they must somehow peel away Saran-wrap-tight jerseys and pants and free themselves of massive shoulder pads festooned with buckles and laces that challenge a big man’s bruised and weary hands.

But the puzzle of how to free a football player from his protective gear becomes infinitely more complex when it’s faced by emergency responders treating an athlete with a possible neck or spine injury.

“You want to keep the cervical spine aligned throughout everything you do, whether it’s putting an airway in, taking off the shoulder pads or taking off the helmet,” says Dennis

Allin, m’83, chair of the emergency department at University of Kansas Hospital. “We want to maintain the alignment because we want to take no chance of having any further injury to the spinal cord.”

KU Hospital in July hosted a clinic for hospital staff to learn from Kansas City Chiefs trainers, who demonstrated how to gently pull a helmet and pads free while maintaining support for the head and neck.

Chiefs trainers noted during the clinic that on-field personnel would likely remove the face mask from the helmet of an NFL or college player headed to the hospital, but that might not be the case for high school or youth athletes, so they demonstrated how it’s done, along with how to cut away shoulder-pad straps.

When pursuit of gridiron glory ends in the hospital, victory suddenly takes on a drastically different definition. Thanks to their summer training, KU’s ER professionals stand ready to be every area game’s most important receivers.



Cha-ching!

With a \$2 million lottery prize light-speeding its way to his bank account, an unmarried, 51-year-old KU employee already had celebration plans in mind when in early June he claimed his winnings for matching five numbers—but not the Powerball, which would have been worth \$100 million—in the May 17 Powerball drawing.

“There are parts of the Caribbean,” he told Kansas Lottery officials, “that will see my face.”

The Kansas Lottery is one of the few state lotteries in the country that allows big winners to remain anonymous, which is exactly what our new best friend did. Well, he would be our new best friend, except we don’t know who he is. Or where on campus he works. Even the rumor mill has been oddly muted on the matter, making the latest BMOC a certified Man of Mystery.

“I’m a positive person and I always felt like I’d win,” he told the lottery crew, adding that he had no plans to quit his job. “I thought about the people who’ve won and I thought, why not me?”

After signing his winning ticket and tucking it safely in his backpack, Mr. X waited two weeks to trek to Topeka to claim his \$2 million.

“That backpack,” he said, “has gone everywhere with me.”

From Topeka to the tropics ... that’s one lucky backpack.

STEVE PUPPE



"I tell everyone I have no magic wand; I don't have power," Rasnak says. "My only power is the power of persuasion, of advocacy. I can't say, 'Don't worry; forget your finals.' But I can let people know there's a valid reason for a student's request, and let students and their families know what the options are."

The personal touch

In newly created role as student advocate, Rasnak helps Jayhawks in need

With more than 25,000 students returning to Mount Oread for the start of classes in August, odds were pretty good that at least a few would find the transition from carefree summer to demanding school year less than smooth.

Many of those students wound up in Mary Ann Rasnak's Strong Hall office, where a hint to the kinds of interactions that unfold there can be found in the contents of a small round table: a vase of flowers, a box of tissues, a bowl of chocolates.

In her recently created job as KU's Student Special Advocate, Rasnak since January has offered aid and comfort to 180 students dealing with the kinds of personal challenges that can easily derail a college career: the death of a family member, physical or mental health issues, or simply the daunting cultural change that can

happen when students move from their hometowns to a college campus.

Whatever the issue, Rasnak is the go-to source for students who need a little help navigating the many options that exist at KU to assist students facing a make-or-break moment in their college careers.

"They've gone off the road and they can continue in that direction," Rasnak says, "or they can correct and get back on track without too many problems. The getting back on track is the part I help with."

So far this semester Rasnak has helped a student with chicken pox and another facing a hospital stay secure delayed starts to their classes. Last spring she arranged final exams out of state for a graduating senior who lost a sibling two weeks before semester's end and returned home to deal

with the loss. She has also helped students deal with academic setbacks during the semester.

Often the Student Special Advocate's role is knowing which existing services to put students in touch with. "It's legwork. Phone calling, emailing, making contacts, that's what I can do," she says. She writes professors, assuring them there's a legitimate reason for a student's need, and connects students with campus programs designed to address their specific issues. "It's taking the time to make the contacts," Rasnak says, "and then following through to make sure it all gets done."

Similar advocacy roles were filled in past decades by the dean of men and dean of women (and after a merger of the two offices in the 1970s by the dean of students). Rasnak says the current setup, created with the help of Lucy Russell, assistant vice provost for undergraduate studies, is modeled on "retention concierge" positions established at other

"I'm a personal contact for students who are experiencing some pretty significant kind of circumstances. I hate to call them crises, but often they are."

—Student Special Advocate Mary Ann Rasnak

schools as part of a documented retention strategy.

While she's not fond of the concierge label ("My fear," Rasnak jokes, "is that if you say 'concierge' everybody is going to want basketball tickets"), she recognizes the role a student advocate can play not only in helping individual students, but also in boosting the institution as a whole.

"Bold Aspirations has set some pretty specific retention goals," Rasnak says of the KU strategic plan that established a freshman retention target of 90 percent. "One thing we know about keeping students is that if they feel a connection to the University, they are more likely to want to come back and make a go of it, even if things didn't go as well as they wanted. In terms of that overall retention plan, I'm one of those threads of connection."


Rasnak filled a similar role as director of the Academic Achievement and Access Center, which as part of the Office of Undergraduate Studies offers many of the services students will be referred to. Approaching retirement, she welcomed the opportunity to focus specifically on helping students without the administrative demands directing a center brings. She hopes to hone the concept of the Student Special Advocate job before

turning it over to someone else when she retires in May.

Her advice to her successor may sound a lot like the wisdom she shares with those who come to Strong Hall seeking help.

"I tell everyone I have no magic wand; I don't have power," Rasnak says. "My only power is the power of persuasion, of advocacy. I can't say, 'Don't worry; forget your finals.' But I can let people know there's a valid reason for a student's request, and let students and their families know what the options are."

Nor does she have a monopoly on wanting to help: There's no shortage of people on campus willing and able to help students, Rasnak says—which may be the best news of all for those who need it.

"A young man came into my office and said, 'They told me to see you. They said you're the only one who can help.' Well, I'm not the only one, but I'm a good place to start." 

Best care, anywhere

Grant funds KU Hospital project to improve rural response to heart attack and stroke

A new health care initiative led by the University of Kansas Hospital will try to reduce deaths from heart attack and stroke in western Kansas by 20 percent. Funded by a three-year, \$12.5 million grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Kansas Heart and Stroke Collaborative will work to improve



STEVE PUPPE

MacArthur



COURTESY KU SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Ebert and Thomas

Two years after it began, the School of Business program that matches prospective buyers and small-town business owners ready to retire ["Open for Business," issue No. 5, 2012] is seeing its efforts to promote a healthy rural economy pay off.

The Redefining Retirement program (Red Tire, for short) brokered its first deal in February,

helping veterinarian Casey Thomas sell his Junction City practice to K-State graduate Julie Ebert. In April, Red Tire helped Kansas Ventures Publishing owner Joel Klaassen, j'68, find a buyer for his company, which produces Hillsboro's community newspaper and several other publications.

More than 100 business owners and 150 potential buyers have signed on, and

four more deals should be finalized in the coming months, according to Wally Meyer, director of the school's entrepreneurship program.

"It's a great start that validates the concept," Meyer says, "but there is still miles to go. Our view is that once we prove ourselves in Kansas, there's no reason this concept can't be taken national."

UPDATE

Hilltopics



Value judgment: The School of Law is ranked the No. 18 “best value” law school by National Jurist magazine, which highlights affordable law schools whose graduates excel on the bar exam and at finding jobs as attorneys.

Dean Stephen Mazza hailed the ranking as reflecting “our broader definition of value—one that goes beyond our affordable tuition to consider how well our graduates are prepared to excel in their careers.”

treatment and education of heart attack and stroke risk in the predominantly rural region, with a goal of reducing costs while delivering better outcomes for patients.

“More than 5,000 Kansans died of heart disease in 2011, and 1,333 Kansans died of cerebral vascular disease, or stroke,” says Barbara MacArthur, g’81, vice president of cardiac services at University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City. “The highest mortality rates for those deaths were actually in rural communities. So we know this is a health care issue for our state.”

The project’s goal is to establish “a level of care that will benefit you regardless of geography,” MacArthur says.

“We want to look at integrating care across all levels, so that if you are at risk or have a heart attack or stroke in western Kansas, your chances for survival and recovery would be the same wherever you are.”

To do that, the hospital will set up a rural clinically integrated network that includes primary care providers—the doctors, nurses and emergency medical technicians—and 10 Critical Access Hospitals that form the first line of defense for rural heart attack and stroke patients. The 10 hospitals are Cheyenne County Hospital, Citizens Medical Center, Gove County Medical Center, Ness County Hospital District 2, Norton County Hospital, Pawnee Valley Community

Hospital, Phillips County Hospital, Russell Regional Hospital, Sheridan County Health Complex and Trego County-Lemke Memorial Hospital.

Also integral to the network is Hays Medical Center, the transfer destination for many of those patients.

A tertiary care facility that offers full cardiac services, HaysMed expects to treat 90 to 95 percent of patients in the project’s target area, according to John Jeter, c’77, m’81, president and chief executive officer.

“We take care of those patients now,” Jeter says. “I think what we’re trying to do with the grant is take care of them in a more coordinated fashion that results in better outcomes.”

The project will set up a reliable system that ensures doctors all along the chain of care are working together to standardize treatment for heart attack and stroke and using established standards that indicate when a patient needs to be transferred for a higher level of care, MacArthur says.

The Kansas Heart and Stroke Collaborative also will enable the University of Kansas hospital to more effectively share its technology and expertise with health care providers in western Kansas. The program will use telehealth technology, health data exchanges and integrated care management to treat patients closer to home. Health education will focus on prevention and rehabilitation.

“Ideally, we can educate and prevent heart attacks and stroke before the occurrence,” MacArthur says. “And if you have a heart attack or stroke, can you rehabilitate and prevent further health care problems?”

A quick emergency response is key to successful treatment of heart attack and strokes, and response times in rural counties are often longer because of distance. But cultural factors also come into play, according to Jeter.

“People out here tend to not run to the emergency room or their doctors if they have chest pains or symptoms that might suggest a stroke,” he says. “We have a lot of independent, strong-willed—even stubborn, I suppose—folks, that if they would seek care earlier we could deal with their problem a lot quicker and maybe even resolve it completely.”

Grant funding will help pay for more education efforts (which could include community presentations, advertising campaigns and teaching schoolchildren to recognize signs of stroke in their parents or grandparents) than have previously been possible, Jeter says.

“We haven’t had the resources to overcome those cultural obstacles,” he says, “and KU hasn’t had as much presence out here as they’d like to. So the grant will allow both of us to go after this in a much more effective way.”

It could also reduce health care costs in the long run.

“These are chronic, progressive diseases,” MacArthur says, “and if we can manage them step by step through that trajectory [of prevention to rehabilitation] we think patients will do better and it will cost us less.”

A new day for shade

Jayhawk Boulevard upgrades include new storm sewer that funnels rainwater into plantings

Phase 2 of the \$11 million Jayhawk Boulevard improvement project wrapped just in time for the start of fall classes Aug. 25, and many of its benefits

are immediately obvious: a new concrete street surface, new sidewalks, expanded crosswalks, LED lighting and removal of street-side landscaping that had long ago lost its luster.

Less visible are the upgrades that will give new trees and bushes a great chance at survival through hot and dry Kansas summers: installation of a stormwater sewer (remarkably, Jayhawk Boulevard's first) that channels rainwater into custom soil engineered to retain moisture in the curbside "vegetated swale," with the soil-filtered overflow draining into the storm sewer.

"A big part of the improvements has been putting in catch basins and the storm sewer to direct stormwater runoff in a more purposeful manner," says Paul Graves, deputy director of the Office of Design and Construction Management. "That should have a measurable offsetting of the need to use treated water for irrigation, from watering trucks, faucets or hydrants, during dry periods."

The new system is ecologically friendly while also protecting expensive investments.

Landscaping for the entire four-summer project, which so far has reached from the Chi Omega fountain to the four-way stop at Sunflower Road, is estimated to include

200 trees and 80,000 square feet of additional plantings, at a cost of \$1 million, all of which is being raised by KU Endowment from private donations. (For further information on how to assist the project, contact KU Endowment at 785-832-7400.)

"The beauty of our campus is a real asset, and this will only enhance it," says Endowment assistant vice president Dale Slusser, assoc. "The atmosphere on the Hill is so important for recruiting students and in shaping their KU experience."

The third phase of Jayhawk Boulevard improvements will extend from Sunflower Road to 14th Street. The final phase, scheduled for summer 2016, will reach 13th Street and, depending on remaining funds, possibly beyond.

Also underway is a reconfiguration of Engel Road on Daisy Hill. The new Engel, scheduled to open this month, will wind behind the new residence hall now under construction to provide a landscaped quad between Hashinger and Lewis halls and the two new halls. (Construction of the second new hall will begin after the 2015 closing of McCollum Hall.)

Engel Road's 15th Street access point will be moved west, closer to Templin Hall.

—Chris Lazzarino

Milestones, money and other matters



STEVE RUPPE

■ **Gov. Sam Brownback, I'82**, appointed three new members to the Kansas Board of Regents: Joseph Bain, I'05, Goodland; Bill Feuerborn, Garnett; and Zoe Forrester Newton, Sedan. They will serve four-year terms.

■ **Karen Miller**, assoc., dean of the School of Nursing for the past 18 years and dean of the School of Health Professions for the past 16 years, will step down from both positions in June. Seven programs in the two schools were ranked as top-25 public school programs in the most recent U.S. News and World Report rankings. Miller will remain at KU as a tenured professor in the School of Nursing.

■ **Eli Michaelis**, assoc., University Distinguished Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, will step down from his role as director of the Higuchi Biosciences Center after 25 years. Succeeding Michaelis is William Picking, PhD'90, Foundation Distinguished Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Michaelis will continue his research on brain function, the nervous system and the diseases of aging.

■ **Charles, b'54, and Sharon Lynch Kimbell, d'58**, gave \$435,000 to establish a scholarship for Hutchinson High School students who are incoming KU freshmen. The renewable scholarships—which will eventually support four students concurrently—provide \$5,000 per student per year.



DAN STOREY

Construction crews ripped out old pavement and put down a new concrete roadbed on Jayhawk Boulevard this summer as part of an \$11 million, four-summer project that also brought new sidewalks and an eco-friendly stormwater system to Mount Oread's main drag.

Hilltopics

ADMINISTRATION

Thomas heads effort to increase campus diversity

E. NATHAN THOMAS III, who helped design and launch the campus diversity program at the University of South Florida, will guide KU's efforts to improve the diversity of its faculty, staff and students as the University's new vice provost for diversity and equity.

Creating a more diverse campus community is one goal of the University's Bold Aspirations strategic plan, which lists professional development participation by faculty and staff and numbers of minority faculty members, staff and students as key metrics for gauging progress. The position was elevated to the vice provost level in 2011 in recognition of the importance of the University's mission of

COURTESY KU MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS



Thomas

creating a diverse community of scholars. Thomas replaces Fred Rodriguez, assoc., who retired in 2013.

On the job since July, Thomas plans a climate study to help determine how successful the University is at creating a "diverse, equitable and inclusive environment."

Diversity, he stresses, is not measured strictly by race and ethnicity. It can also involve demographic subsets like transfer students and working mothers.

"The key piece, I think, is you want to be able to create an environment where all individuals feel—I call it wanted, needed and expected—from the institution," Thomas says. "We really, really want you here. And we really need you to be successful, and we expect you to be successful. That then becomes a culture of individuals working hard to achieve at their highest level."

TEACHING

Chancellors fund new business professorship

FORMER KU CHANCELLORS Archie Dykes, assoc., and Gene Budig have teamed up to establish the Dykes-Budig Teaching Professorship at the School of Business.

Dykes and his wife, Nancy, assoc., joined Budig and his wife, Gretchen, assoc., to create the \$100,000 endowed award, which honors teaching excellence with a one-year professorship that provides additional salary and travel support to a research professor in the school who has demonstrated outstanding teaching skills. The first recipient is Suman Mallik, associate professor of supply chain management and decision sciences.

Dykes, KU's 13th chancellor, served the University from 1973 to 1980. He and Nancy live in Leawood. Budig, KU's 14th chancellor, served from 1981 to 1994. He and Gretchen live in Isle of Palms, South Carolina.

"Both chancellors made considerable

VISITOR

FAMOUS FLIER

Historical interpreter Leslie Goddard portrayed pioneering Kansas aviator Amelia Earhart in a first-person presentation that spanned Earhart's Atchison girlhood to her ill-fated 1937 attempt to become the first person to fly around the world at the equator.

WHEN: July 16

WHERE: Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics

BACKGROUND: Goddard, who holds a PhD in American

Studies and U.S. History and master's degrees in theatre and museum studies, has portrayed famous women (Jane Austen, Jacqueline Kennedy and Estée Lauder) for more than a decade. She has written two books of Chicago history, *Remembering Marshall Field's* and *Chicago's Sweet Candy History*.

ANECDOTE: Goddard related how Earhart's formative years in Atchison—which included thrill-seeking sledding and caving adventures that elicited disapproval from elders who found such behavior unbecoming of a girl—

foreshadowed the reception she often got as a woman aviator. After a harrowing trans-Atlantic flight that included fire, ice and fuel leaks, there were two questions everyone asked: "Was I afraid? No. And what did I wear?"

QUOTES: Having set her sights on one last challenge, Earhart felt pressure to push ahead with the 1937 flight despite setbacks that required her to reverse the flight's direction. "Things were moving so fast, I knew I had a small window of time to capture these last great aviation prizes."



COURTESY ROBERT J. DOLE INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

contributions to KU during their tenures,” said Neeli Bendapudi, PhD’95, dean of the School of Business, “and this gift is another sign of their commitment to the KU student experience. Both recognize the importance of teaching and instruction to the University.”

RESEARCH

NIH grant for bioscience research renewed for \$19 million

A NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH grant that has brought in \$64 million since 2001 to help Kansas enhance its research capacity will continue for another five years at KU Medical Center.

The Kansas Institutional Development Award Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (K-INBRE) funds faculty development, retention and infrastructure projects that support research in cell and developmental biology. It also tries to inspire undergraduate researchers to pursue careers in biomedical research.

The latest grant commits \$19 million to numerous initiatives, including research

projects and startup funds for new faculty, postdoctoral fellowships and undergraduate student research projects. A major initiative is to enhance Kansas bioinformatics research that builds biological information databases.

“This award will continue to enhance and strengthen our network of researchers, students and others in the biomedical field, and help researchers in Kansas remain competitive for national research grants,” says Douglas Wright, professor of anatomy and cell biology and director of the multidisciplinary program. “It also brings together universities in Kansas that work together to help make students and faculty successful in their biomedical research.”

Ten campuses in Kansas and Oklahoma are part of the K-INBRE network, including KU Medical Center, which leads the grant. The other campuses are KU’s Lawrence campus, Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Haskell Indian Nations University, Kansas State University, Langston University, Pittsburg State University, Washburn University and Wichita State University.

Milestones, money and other matters

■ **Donors set a new record** for private giving in 2014. For the fiscal year that ended June 30, alumni and friends of the University donated more than \$253 million to KU, a 45 percent increase from 2013 levels.

The gifts count toward *Far Above: The Campaign for Kansas*. Set to continue through 2016, the capital campaign had raised \$1.15 billion of its \$1.2 billion goal through June.



■ **A \$227,000 grant** from the National Science Foundation will fund a three-year study on state and local climate risk governance by Dorothy Daley, associate professor of public affairs and administration. Daley will collaborate with researchers at Western Washington University, Washington State University-Vancouver and the Environmental Council of the States in Washington, D.C. The project examines the environmental impact of state and local climate actions.

■ **Patrick Dooley**, professor of visual communication design in the School of Architecture, Design and Planning, received the 2014 AIGA Kansas City Fellow Award in September. The award, presented by the Kansas City chapter of the professional association for design, recognizes a designer with at least 15 years of experience who has made a significant contribution to raising the standards of excellence in practice and conduct within the local and regional design community, as well as in the AIGA chapter.



COURTESY KU/MC

“I’ve always believed the lure of flying is the lure of beauty.”

—Amelia Earhart

STEVE PUPPE (2)



Weis hands off

Reagan returns to run offense; Bowen takes control of defense

Charlie Weis made his professional reputation, and won four Super Bowl rings, as a guru of state-of-the-art NFL offenses. But his first two seasons at KU proved that old-school inclinations—relying on big-armed quarterbacks to sling the ball downfield from a static post behind the line—are not a good fit in the modern Big 12, where spread offenses and mobile quarterbacks toy with defenses. So, shortly after the Jayhawks finished 2013 with the worst offense in the conference, perhaps even the country, Weis fired himself as offensive coordinator and went shopping for a replacement.

He didn't shop for long. Weis privately scouted Rice offensive coordinator John Reagan during the season—"I'm probably the only person in Lawrence who ordered Rice games on pay-per-view"—and once he had a chance to talk with Reagan, KU's offensive line coach and run-game coordinator under Mark Mangino, Weis assured Reagan the offense would be his to run.

"From the very first phone call," Reagan says, "he said that he wanted to give up control of the offense, that he was ready to be a head coach and he wanted somebody to come in and run the spread offense. That is exactly what he has done, from my perspective."

For his third season as head coach at Kansas, Weis devised an unusual coaching structure: Not only has a Super Bowl-proven offensive mastermind removed himself from designing the offense and calling plays, but another NFL veteran, Dave Campo, who won three Super Bowl rings in his 19 years with the Dallas Cowboys, is coaching cornerbacks; although Campo retains oversight of the defense as assistant head coach, linebackers coach Clint Bowen, d'96, is now the defensive coordinator. As he did last year, Bowen calls game-day plays.

Nobody in the Anderson Family Football Complex feels greater urgency than Bowen to turn around a string of dreadful seasons: Since 2009, KU has won

Changes for KU football this season include the addition of John Reagan, Charlie Weis' first offensive coordinator, and helmets emblazoned with supersized "Fighting Jayhawks," created in 1941 by Gene "Yogi" Williams, m'54.

three Big 12 games, and, in two seasons under Turner Gill and two with Weis, the Jayhawks went 9-39.

Bowen's father, Charley, was a high school All-American at Lawrence High School, and his older brother, Charley Jr., '94, was a four-year letter-winner at KU who made a reputation as a fearless, hard-hitting safety. Clint followed his brother to the Jayhawks' defensive backfield, and in 1993 led the team with 114 total tackles and won KU's prestigious Willie Pless Tackler of the Year award.

He joined coach Glen Mason's staff as a graduate assistant in 1996, and followed Mason to Minnesota before returning as a graduate assistant for coach Terry Allen. After a year as director of football operations, Bowen in 2001 began a string of assistant coaching jobs that



Weis being a kid going to games to now.

I know our fans are all hungry for us to be successful, for this university, for this town, for this program. So it's on us, as coaches, players and everyone involved in this organization, to get our jobs done."

Bowen is careful to not let urgency morph into panic. In the calm, straight-talking manner that won him devoted fans and many lifelong Lawrence friends, he counsels players to not get caught up in a futile rush to change the past or recklessly grasp at the future. In Bowen's mindset, only today counts.

"You show up and give the best effort you possibly can," he insists, "and never cheat the system and never cheat the process."

As *Kansas Alumni* went to press, only one step in the 2014 process had yet occurred, a 34-28 victory Sept. 6 over Southeast Missouri State. The Jayhawks



Bowen

opened the game by scoring on four consecutive possessions, and for the first quarter of the first game of the season, Reagan's new stretch offense, led by mobile sophomore quarterback Montell Cozart, and Bowen's experienced defense, anchored by speedy senior linebacker Ben Heeney—"He might be as good as any defensive player in the league, period," Weis says—were off and running.

From the second quarter on, Southeast Missouri outscored KU, 28-10.

"We have a bunch of older guys now and they're tired of losing," Weis says. "This is the best we've felt, by a wide margin, about the talent we have here. That being said, we've done very little to back it up, from me right on down."

Despite Southeast Missouri's comeback, capped by a 26-yard touchdown pass with 1:33 remaining, there were plenty of positives for Weis to emphasize in his postgame analysis.

Senior running backs Brandon Bourbon

"This is the best we've felt, by a wide margin, about the talent we have here. That being said, we've done very little to back it up, from me right on down."

—head football coach Charlie Weis

and Taylor Cox were both lost for the season to leg injuries sustained days apart during training camp, and their replacements, freshman Corey Avery and junior-college transfer De'Andre Mann, combined for 211 yards rushing. Senior sensation Tony Pierson racked up 139 yards and a touchdown with three carries and four receptions, and Cozart completed 50 percent of his passes for 196 yards, three TDs and no interceptions.

"When is the last time they're up 24-0 in the first quarter?" Weis noted. "Sometimes people don't only have a tough time handling failure; sometimes when you have success you get shocked, too. ... I think they might not be used to success, to be playing on top. I think it might have caught them off-guard a little bit, but I couldn't have asked for much more in the first quarter."

Weis also proved to be a man of his word—with one small exception.

"I left [Reagan] alone. I called one play, and that was kneeling down on the last play of the game. So if you want to know how many plays I called, I called one."

Sweet and sour

Soccer opens in style, but field conditions delay Rock Chalk Park

Soccer's season was not yet two minutes old when junior midfielder Liana Salazar, racing toward the Wyoming goal, stopped a crossing pass with her head, bounced the ball just high enough to retain control, and swiftly executed the most thrilling of soccer shots, a bicycle kick into the goal. The season opener and Rock Chalk Park debut could

not have started any better.

"I've been practicing that every single day, and I've never scored one until today," Salazar said after the 3-1 victory.

Four days later, athletics officials announced that the soccer team would return to the Jayhawk Soccer Complex to allow the new field's Bermuda turf, which suffered in the mild summer, to improve. The team hopes to return to Rock Chalk Park in time for the Big 12 opener Oct. 3 against Oklahoma State.

Despite that disappointment, soccer ran its record to 6-0, its best start to a season since 2004.

Go for the kill

Painful NCAA Sweet 16 exit motivates senior outside hitters

Those of us on the outside looking in carried nothing but great memories from volleyball's thrilling 2013 season: After its best-ever, second-place finish in the Big 12, KU qualified for its second-consecutive NCAA Tournament and, for the first time in program history, advanced to the Sweet 16 with an adrenaline-fueled four-set victory over Creighton. In the tournament's first-round, the Jayhawks triumphed over Wichita State to avenge their 2012 NCAA loss to the Shockers.

But players remember it differently.

Their lasting memory of 2013 wasn't NCAA wins in Allen Field House, but the Sweet 16 sweep by Washington, at UCLA.

"We didn't play competitively. We played scared," says senior outside hitter Chelsea Albers, who electrified the home crowd with 18 kills and 17 digs in the second-round match against Creighton. "I think

Sports

JEFF JACOBSEN



Sara McClinton soars for a kill during KU's 3-1 victory Aug. 30 over Creighton. "You know it's going to be a kill when you're in the air. You know you're going to be able to crush the ball. You can just feel that coming off your hand. It's amazing."

that's something that we can look back on, because that wasn't the type of Kansas volleyball that we want to play. Those [NCAA Tournament] games will set us up for future games, so when people look at us they'll know that Kansas is going to compete, Kansas is going to attack.

"We're not going to rally with people; we want to put the ball away."

Senior outside hitter Sara McClinton—an Omaha native and Nebraska high-school rival of Albers, of Papillion, whom she now considers her best friend—also used the Sweet 16 loss to fuel her preseason training. Like Albers, McClinton, who played overseas for the USA Devel-

opmental Program for the second consecutive summer, focused on improving her athleticism and skill sets to enable her to remain in the game as a "six-rotation" player, rather than getting removed when it comes her turn to rotate to the back line. "Our match against Washington, we

didn't even start playing until that last set [26-24, UW] and at that point it was too late," McClinton says. "Part of that was just nerves. We'd never been to the Sweet 16 before. So now we have that experience. We know how to play with that pressure, so we can take that into this year and hopefully we will advance even further."

As of press time, the Jayhawks were 5-1, including a four-set victory over previously undefeated Denver in their first true road game of the season.

"I don't think we'll be under the radar," says 17th-year coach Ray Bechard, reigning two-time Big 12 Coach of the Year. "I think we have a higher-profile reputation now, after the last couple of years. But it comes back to the fact that last year doesn't equal this year, and two years ago doesn't have anything to do with this year. It's all about what this group wants to get done."

KU opens Big 12 play Sept. 27 at Oklahoma. The first conference game in the Horejsi Family Athletics Center is Oct. 1 against Kansas State.

UPDATES

Redshirt freshman **Grace Morgan** was named Big 12 Runner of the Week following her victory Aug. 30 at the **Bob Timmons** Classic.

Morgan, a Lawrence native, beat Oral Roberts' **Samantha Watson**, who won the traditional cross country opener last year, by more than 30 seconds; her 5K time of 18 minutes, 49.1 seconds was the best meet mark by a Jayhawk in four years. ...

Soccer's **Liana Salazar** was named Offensive Player of the Week Sept. 2 after scoring three goals and an assist in matches against UT-San

Antonio and No. 24 Wake Forest. Salazar led the Big 12 in points (11) and goals (5). ... Top-10 finishes by juniors



Morgan

Connor Peck and **Ben Welle** pushed men's golf to a third-place finish at the Michigan invitational at Ann Arbor. ... Senior cornerback **Dexter McDonald** was named Big 12

Defensive Player of the Week after intercepting two passes in the opener against Southeast Missouri State. McDonald, the first KU defender to win the weekly award since 2010, also recorded two pass breakups and two solo tackles. ... Senior

hurdler **Michael Stigler**, three-time winner of the Big 12 400-meter hurdles, repeated as winner of KU's Male Athlete of the Year. Volleyball alumna **Caroline Jarmoc**, e'14, was named Female Athlete of the Year, and volleyball also won awards for best team GPA (3.42) and for community service and school spirit. ... Former coaches **Ted Owens**, **Larry Brown** and **Roy Williams** on Oct. 27 will join coach **Bill Self** at a 60th-anniversary celebration for Allen Field House. Ticket information is available at kuathletics.com. ...

KU track fans will want to visit RunnersWorld.com for an engaging history of the Kansas Relays in Memorial Stadium. "I

will remain the Memorial Stadium Kansas Relays record-holder in the mile," three-time Olympian **Jim Ryun**, j'70, told Runner's World. "I can be assured that record is set in concrete." With the opening of Rock Chalk Park, which hosted last spring's Kansas Relays, the stadium's track was removed and replaced with turf, greatly improving player safety. ...

Relief pitcher **Brett Bochy**, '12, on Sept. 2 was called up by the San Francisco Giants, where he joined his father, manager **Bruce Bochy**. "When Bruce goes out there and gives [Brett] the baseball," says KU coach **Ritch Price**, "that will be one of the greatest days in baseball history."



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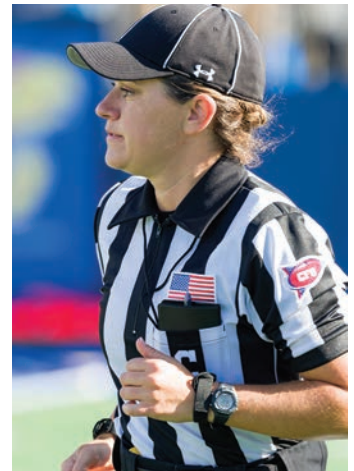
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Sports Photographs by Steve Puppe



With the field now ringed by extended turf and a welcome appearance by center judge Cat Conti, the first woman to officiate a Big 12 football game, the Sept. 6 season opener at Memorial Stadium featured a fierce tackle by linebacker Victor Simmons (27), nifty moves by receivers Justin McCay (19) and Nick Harwell (8), and plenty of cheers for KU's 34-28 victory over Southeast Missouri State.





The Wow Factor

Bev Lockwood heard the knock at the door and thought, “Milk man.” A dairy delivery was scheduled to ready the West Middle School cafeteria for the return of more than 600 students from summer break, and Lockwood, the food services manager at West for 13 years, had a ton of chores to complete before the following day’s lunch service, the first of the school year. Stowing a thousand pints of milk in the walk-in cooler would check one more box on her long to-do list.

But when she opened the door, Lockwood was greeted not by a semi-driver on a routine milk run, but by five stoked, grinning teenagers bearing 20 pint baskets of perfect red cherry tomatoes and a box of three dozen sleek, dark green cucumbers—a harvest picked just that morning from the 250 tomato plants and 150 feet of cucumber vines growing a few steps from the cafeteria kitchen.

“They all had their arms full of the most beautiful colors,” says Lockwood, “and they were so excited. It just made my day.”

The kids—Lawrence Public School students who tend the West garden as paid employees of The Merc Co-op—also came bearing a bouquet of cut flowers for

Nancy O’Connor’s big idea starts with a little seed: To boost childhood nutrition, bring kids back to the garden

Lockwood and her staff, who are happy to receive the bounty that usually awaits them when they arrive on Monday mornings. “Mondays are like Christmas around here,” Lockwood says, “because we get to see what they’ve picked for us this week. It’s always good. You can’t beat from your own garden.”

The moment marked an important step for Growing Food, Growing Health, the school garden project that Nancy O’Connor, g’95, founded in 2010 as the education and outreach director of The Merc, Lawrence’s customer-owned food co-operative, and as executive director of the natural grocer’s nonprofit Community Mercantile Education Foundation (CMEF). For the first time, the school gardeners and their Merc employers are concentrating their efforts on a few select crops—namely cucumbers, tomatoes and (later this fall) lettuce—and trying to grow all of those foods that the school cafeteria needs for its salad bar. The mid-August

delivery was “a momentous day” in the five-year-old effort to bring local food into school cafeterias, O’Connor says, “because the cafeteria actually placed an order with us, instead of us saying, ‘Here, would you like this?’” That subtle distinction—the difference between helping the school meet a need rather than pushing vegetables on an already harried cafeteria crew—is the difference between being wanted and being tolerated, and the great care that went into making the best possible impression was plain to see in the gleaming produce and on the beaming faces of the young people who grew it.

“To give them 20 pints of perfect cherry tomatoes we handled every single tomato,” O’Connor says. “We hand-sorted them. We washed the cucumbers and dried them and arranged them in a lined box. It was ceremonial, six of us carrying it in there. And the kids were like, ‘Bev, Bev, open the box and look at the cucumbers.’”

by Steven Hill | Photographs by Steve Puppe

“We talk about the wow factor,” O’Connor continues. “Because if the cafeteria staff open that produce and go, ‘Wow!’ then we can make headway. But if they open a box and sigh, ‘We can deal with this,’ then where are we at? We have to make it easier for them to want us than not want us.”

Generating “wows” is the strategy behind O’Connor’s quest to reverse some alarming health trends. Numerous studies have demonstrated that childhood obesity rates have been on the rise nationwide; the Centers for Disease Control reports that in the past 30 years obesity has more than doubled in children and quadrupled in adolescents: Nearly 21 percent of 12- to 19-year-olds were considered obese in 2012, compared to 5 percent in 1980. Altogether, a third of children and adolescents are classified as overweight or obese, but even a healthy weight is no guarantee that kids are eating right. A 2014 Vital Signs report by the CDC says that 9 in 10 kids don’t eat enough vegetables.

“It’s like, ‘God, how do we crack this nut? This is tough,’” says O’Connor, who earned a master’s degree in community health from the department of health, physical education and recreation (now health, sport and exercise sciences). “Because kids are bombarded with other

“How do we crack this nut? This is tough. Because kids are bombarded with other messages. Eat this: It’s tasty, yummy, salty, fatty, you’re gonna love it. Drink this soda: You’ll be hip. And we’re going, ‘Would you like a carrot?’”

messages. Eat this: It’s tasty, yummy, salty, fatty, you’re gonna love it. Drink this soda: You’ll be hip. And we’re going, ‘Would you like a carrot?’”

O’Connor decided to counter the media blitz of food advertising with a little local persuasion: Make healthy, fresh food grown on school grounds available to kids, and let them taste—and decide—for themselves.

“We wanted to create a garden that put food in front of youth in an understandable way: That’s my garden. Those are tomatoes. That’s what cucumbers are like. Because as an educator, you’re asking, ‘What’s the inroad here?’ How do we talk to kids about food and not just be a bunch of talking heads saying, ‘Don’t drink so much soda; don’t eat fast food.’ It has to be a deeper understanding of this is what food is, this is what it tastes like, this is where it comes from.”

Lectures don’t work. Passion alone doesn’t change minds. O’Connor still remembers the exact moment—an awkward encounter with a classroomful of Southern Illinois University students—when that realization struck.

It was during the 1970s, the height of a back-to-the-land movement that inspired idealistic youths to move to the country and, as musician John Prine spoofed, blow up the TV, throw away the paper, plant a little garden and eat a lot of peaches.

O’Connor and her husband, Jim Lewis, lived in a little shack of a house in rural southern Illinois. The county’s old-school farmers got a kick out of the new neighbors, decided the young folks might be fun to know, taught them the difference between straw and hay. “We had an outhouse and raised chickens and bees and the whole garden thing,” O’Connor recalls. “It sounds stereotypical, but it made a lot of sense. We were of that time, and it was a very honorable and simple lifestyle. There was a lot of personal satisfaction in learning about food and realizing we could grow it.”

In Carbondale, O’Connor joined a women’s collective devoted to whole foods. They hosted community dinners and taught classes, and after the group dissolved, O’Connor took the kitchen gear and started a whole foods bakery, Ozark Ovens, that she and Lewis ran for years.

Passion was the fuel that kept her going.

“Nothing was too much,” O’Connor says. “Working seven days a week and around the clock on Friday nights to get ready for the farmer’s market. Cooking for 300 people, not getting paid? Sure! A guru is coming to town; would you like to cook for him for free for five days? Sure! I didn’t even think about it. The thought was I had





endless personal resources and passion and I'm gonna do this."

Carbondale's food culture then was similar to Lawrence's now, O'Connor says, but it was a long way from the gritty, blue-collar ethos of Rahway, New Jersey, where she grew up. Her family gathered for dinner every night, without fail, and on the table was typical 1950s fare. "I never ate broccoli. Never had an avocado. Didn't know what whole wheat was. Jello was a fruit serving. I was a meat-and-canned-vegetables-at-every-meal gal."

She attended a Catholic, all-girls high school because the public school was considered rough, but by the time O'Connor was 15, she and her sister were on their own: Both her parents died suddenly—her father of a heart attack and her mother, five years later, from a brain hemorrhage. She is asked if extended family stepped in to help them through that traumatic time. "No, it was pretty sloppy," she says, and the defiance that colors her voice suggests the toughness that saw her through is still present 50 years on. "Not to get too much into that, but it was a survival thing for a while, and it wasn't very pretty."

When she graduated in the tumultuous

year of 1968, college looked like a good way out of Rahway. She enrolled at Mundelein College in Chicago—like her high school an all-women's Catholic institution—and took a summer job in a factory making processed meat patties.

"I remember saying, 'Who buys these?'" O'Connor recalls. "I didn't eat good food, but I knew this was really bad food."

Two years later, on line in the college cafeteria, she was stunned to see the patties again. "I went back and said, 'Can I see the box these came from?'" They were from the same Jersey factory she'd worked in. "I wasn't elevated in any kind of thinking about food, was just this kid who slogged out a summer in a food factory making stuff I'd never eat, and then I saw it at college and went, 'Arrrgh!' The women I worked with told me prisons bought them, but obviously colleges did too."

Like many of her generation, O'Connor was beginning to rethink her relationship with food. Born in 1950, she'd grown up at a time when Americans, having gotten past the lean years of Depression and wartime rationing, finally had the means to enjoy meat at every meal, an era when big food companies wooed homemakers with the convenience and ease of frozen

"Kids get jazzed about their football team; we'd like to see them get jazzed about their school garden," says O'Connor (p. 22), who launched the Growing Food, Growing West garden in 2010 and has since expanded the program to include two elementary-school gardens.

dinners and instant cakes. When she discovered the *Whole Earth Cook Book* in an Evanston bookstore, it was a revelation.

"I read it like a book—like, wow, there's a lot here," she says. "I wasn't looking for recipes; I was looking for direction."

She'd decided, after four years of college, that she didn't want to "do the whole straight-and-narrow thing;" that being an art major seemed, to her, somehow self-involved and hollow when her peers were fighting and dying in Vietnam. She left without graduating, went back to New Jersey, sold her parents' house and traveled the country before moving to southern Illinois and meeting Lewis and seemingly finding her calling as an educator and advocate for healthy eating.

Which all seemed fine until the day she stood before the class of dietitian students



and realized they weren't buying her spiel.

"They thought they were better and smarter than us because they were in school," O'Connor says. They didn't think much of the countercultural collective's ideas on nutrition. "I remember thinking, 'This is not friendly. This is going to be contentious.' It was uncomfortable."

The encounter convinced her that passion wouldn't carry the argument without credibility to back it. She needed credentials.

By then the mother of two boys, O'Connor finished her Mundelein degree, wrapping up the final transfer credits at KU, and started working toward her master's degree on the Hill. For her thesis, she cooked plant-proteins (beans, grains, tofu) for undergrads in health-education classes and measured their attitudes with pre- and post-meal surveys.

Their attitudes toward vegetarian food changed after eating the food—significant, O'Connor says, "because attitude change

precedes behavior change." It was the same method she used in Illinois, the same method she'd use at The Merc and in classroom visits to schools. "Give people food that's offered with great respect and no judgment and energetic intent, and then you get their attention a little bit," she says. "That's the wow factor—when you get someone's attention with food that's so beautiful they just have go, 'Wow!'"

Kansas can be tough on growers, and today—a workday for the five West gardeners—is a perfect example. Temps are well on their way to 100, the sun is unrelenting and there's not even a rumor of breeze to provide relief.

But the garden looks great. Flowers are blooming, and the tomato plants and apple trees are heavy with fruit. Carly, Di, Maya, Hope and Elise are busy harvesting cucumbers, pulling weeds and putting down mulch. They are readying their

pride-and-joy for Running for Food, Running for Health, the big fundraiser that brings 250 runners and volunteers to West for a fun run, farmer's market and garden tours.

The garden shed is the picture of order: A chalkboard displays a long chore list for the day and pegboards hold watering cans and tools, each item neatly labeled and spotlessly clean. A barrel composter stands ready to turn garden weeds and vegetable scraps into black gold, and a shining, stainless steel commercial-grade sink—installed by the school district—is filled with cold water, set for cleaning the day's harvest.

The pleasant appearance is no accident: O'Connor and her crew, which includes Lily Siebert, education and outreach assistant at The Merc, and Crystal Hammerschmidt, CMEF's garden coordinator, know their presence on school grounds is contingent on things looking nice. No principal wants a weed patch on his lawn.



But the blooming flowers and weed-free vegetable beds and neatly mulched paths serve another purpose: to draw in the entire student body, even those who may not particularly like vegetables.

“If a kid goes to school here and never touches one piece of produce out of this garden,” O’Connor says, “I still think we’ve made a change. Even the kid who just walks by the garden everyday, and it’s always clean and tidy and there are flowers, it still says something to them, like the Golden Arches say something to them.”

The idea behind the garden is to wow students—all students—with a different kind of blitz.

“We’re gonna make a statement that is so big that you cannot ignore the fact that you’ve got this gigantic garden outside your school. We’re not gonna go away here with some puny 15-minute lesson on nutrition. We’re gonna just bowl you over with a garden that’s got flowers, and an archway—we’re gonna make you pay attention to this. Even if we understand that some of it is on an unconscious level—just like they get bombarded all the time with media messages about what to eat.



“And when it appears on their salad bar with a little sign that says, ‘Grown in your school garden,’ they’re starting to build connections.”

Bev Lockwood, from her vantage point in the West cafeteria, agrees.

“Usually I’ll say, ‘Now, I’m just going to give you one tomato. Try it.’ And those are the ones who come back the next day and ask for more.” She’s seen students pointing out the garden to visitors as a source of pride, and that carries over to the lunch line. During the first week of school, she had to switch out serving utensils in the tomato bowl—demand was so high that hard-to-handle tongs were creating a bottleneck in the serving line. “At first they took pride in the fact that the food comes from their own garden, but after that they came back because it tastes good.”

It’ll take more than a few cherry tomatoes to counter the most alarming trends in childhood nutrition, of course. We all scream for ice cream, not green beans. (Even the student gardeners, taking a break to enjoy Popsicles and sliced cucumbers in the shade of an oak, get more excited about the frozen treats than the veggies.) But the lessons are sinking in. Pulling weeds later, Maya notes how



Student gardeners are chosen after a rigorous application process and work as paid employees of The Merc Co-op. Cucumbers, tomatoes, apples and other garden produce are sold to the school cafeteria or The Merc, with all proceeds benefiting Growing Food, Growing Health.





bringing home produce for herself and her family has made her more aware of what she eats, and “smarter about my food choices and helping other people make smarter decisions about food choices.”

“It also makes you realize how much labor goes into food,” adds Hope, whose grandparents keep a big garden and run a ranch, MJ Farms, that sells beef to The Merc. “Before, you could just drop by a grocery store and get a pint of raspberries. But now I know it takes forever to harvest a pint of raspberries, and you might get some scratches. It just makes you appreciate and savor food a little more.”

When the comments are relayed to O’Connor, she’s thrilled. “They get how extraordinary it is, and that’s profound for how young they are, don’t you think?”

Getting a thoughtful response from five students is good. Letting the occasional roomful of students taste fresh vegetables for themselves, as O’Connor has been doing for 22 years as The Merc’s education director, is good too. Better still would be using school gardens at every Lawrence public school to teach kids the economic and nutritional importance of local food in the classroom, while making fresh, student-grown fruits and vegetables a

bigger part of the menu in the cafeteria. Making school gardens part of a system-wide change is her ultimate goal.

“When we go into a classroom, we get maybe those 30 kids. But the thing about the gardens is, I feel like what we’ve built is a tool, a really effective hands-on tool, and the next challenge is building it into the curriculum. Then you have the ability to have 600 kids taste tomatoes, not just 30.”

Signs suggest the Lawrence Public Schools are on board. The district’s other three middle schools all have school gardens (one started with the Merc’s help). Several elementary schools (including Sunset Hill, which the Merc also started) have had gardens as well; most are on hiatus now because of construction, but architects included dedicated garden spaces in their expansion plans. This summer the district hired Denise Johnson as K-12 curriculum coordinator for health and wellness, and it is also hiring a half-time school garden coordinator. Johnson will spend half her time working on wellness issues (including nutrition) and half working with food services on farm-to-school initiatives. Among her first tasks is to help the middle school gardens collaborate and refine their missions,

working to build a model that can serve as an example for the elementary and high schools.

Johnson credits West for the growth of gardens at the school and district levels, and says the Growing Food, Growing Health plot has already set the standard that other school gardens aspire to.

“The West garden was the beginning, was the model,” Johnson says. “Often you have a starter where things don’t go so well, and that makes people wonder whether they need to move forward. That was not a question here. West was 100 percent a piece of us wanting to move forward in spreading the gardens.”

Weekly sampling sessions at The Merc allow students to promote the garden and its produce. “We look for leaders, because this isn’t just about how well you grow tomatoes,” O’Connor says. “It’s about public speaking and communicating with your peers; these youths are our greatest advocates.”

The West garden crew: Elise, Hope, Crystal Hammerschmidt, Carly, Nancy O’Connor, Maya, Lily Siebert and Di.

As a teacher at Hillcrest Elementary, Johnson saw O'Connor at work with her kids many times, in her classrooms and on field trips to The Merc, and it made her a school garden advocate before she took her current job.

"I saw it when the kids worked in the garden and then brought the food in," Johnson says. "There's no way in the world they would have tried a turnip, except they grew it and they picked it, so by golly they were going to eat it. It makes such a difference."

There will be failures, of course. O'Connor—who says she's always been an "in-the-trenches kind of gal"—is no Pollyanna. (There's as much Jersey steel as hippie fairytale in her backstory, don't forget.) Her war metaphor is apt, as should be evident to anyone who has followed the political battles over federal requirements that set minimum fruit and vegetable

servings for school lunches. Even the White House vegetable garden has inspired political sniping.

There's also the undeniable fact that plenty of kids will toss their federally mandated fruit and veggie serving straight in the trash. Not to worry, O'Connor says. All part of the process.

"The point is, we're giving kids the best food. The big dream is that becomes a cultural shift and kids eat better because it's so good they can't deny it's good. That they stop asking where the French fries are because they've gotten used to sweet potato fries." To people who complain there's too much waste when kids are served healthy food, she counters, "embrace the throwing away. They don't go from zero to 60, from McDonald's to black bean stew, without something in between."

Like her young gardeners, O'Connor has learned to savor the fruits of her labors. Yeah, it takes time—and you pick up a few scratches along the way—but that just

makes the good stuff sweeter.

In August, she spoke to Fulbright scholars visiting KU's Applied English Center, as she does every year. Later a half-dozen of the "brilliant, bold, amazing people," from Niger, Tajikistan, Indonesia and other far-flung locales spent a morning at West Middle School, pulling weeds and picking tomatoes side-by-side with the student gardeners. At the end of the day, everyone shared a watermelon. "We talked about the experience, and why they were here, and we sat around the table and slurped up the watermelon. It was hot. Everybody got messy. It was so intimate, so rich, that it was like, 'This is life-changing stuff!' People talk about chefs' reductions, how intense they are: That was an educational reduction."

She shakes her head, a big grin creasing her face, flailing for words before finally lighting on just the right one to capture the wonder of it. "Hoooooo, yeah," she says. "Wow!"







Face **t**o Face

‘Elsa Rhae’ paints fanciful faces to worldwide acclaim, helping her sniff the first scents of special-effects stardom

Faces grab. Faces sell. Faces work when all else fails. Visual storytellers know this, and diligently place happy human faces anywhere they hope to attract and hold the attention of readers or viewers. Sad human faces work, too. Crying, laughing, grimacing ... the emotion isn't what matters.

Turns out, it's not really the human part, either. Shapeshifting sensation Elsa Rhae Pageler—“Elsa Rhae” to her many thousands of admirers—has got faces, loads of 'em, and the only one that's human—hers—is the one she splashes about the least.

Pageler, c'13, who swept to sudden and unexpected Internet fame in May, transforms her sublime Midwestern beauty into playful adaptations of pop-culture characters from video games, movies, television and cartoons.

The ghoulish White Walker, from HBO's “Game of Thrones,” rocketed her to Internet stardom, but she's built her fan base with a steady stream of equally thrilling visages, including The Joker, The Grinch, the “Star Wars” Sith Lord Darth Maul, Katniss from “The Hunger Games,” V for Vendetta from the graphic novel and the Wachowski brothers' movie, Master Chief and Cortana from

by **Chris Lazzarino**

Portraits by **Steve Puppe**

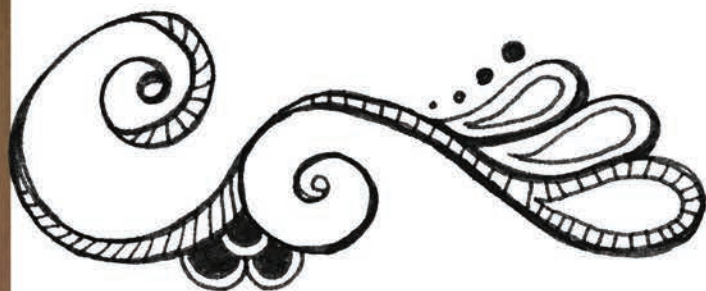
the video game “Halo,” and a slew of sinister slayers from the Mortal Kombat franchise, including Scorpion, Sub-Zero, Quan Chi, Ermac and Baraka.

While many are menacing, there's a noticeable lack of blood and gore.

“I don't really do the horror looks,” Pageler says while seated behind her makeup table in the unfinished basement of her rented home on a leafy suburban street in Overland Park. “I've never really cared for that. They're not very nice. I'm more of a flowery-type person.”

Hence, an homage to Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree*. A black-and-white “face-on-face” illusion, inspired by the Russian photographer Alexander Khokhlov and makeup artist Valeriya Kutsan. Or, in honor of Earth Day, Captain Planet, from the video game “Captain Planet and the Planetears.”

And, perhaps most elegantly, her “Winter Wash,” inspired by a painting Pageler once saw of a face with a white stroke down the middle; in Pageler's version, a diagonal strip across her face filled with flowery color represents the spring she yearned for, while the flat-white portions bordering the spring cheer represented an icy season deflating her spirits.





“I twisted it around,” she writes on the caption on her YouTube video, “and used this to symbolize my dislike for winter and how I wanted it (very badly) to go away.”

The transformation that blossomed into Elsa Rhae, queen of the Internet face painters, began just a year and a half ago, when Pageler purchased a makeup kit for her stage makeup class, the final elective course for her KU film and media studies major.

Already experienced with years of interest in applying creative makeup, Pageler began experimenting.

She hunted through the Internet for ideas and inspirations, and, encouraged by family and friends, began pushing her new hobby to extremes. In late spring 2013, shortly before her KU graduation, she did an Iron Man face and posted a photograph to a makeup chat group on Reddit, a networking and news site where community members can explore particular interests in “subreddit” bulletin boards.

The response was fast, but also furious: Pageler admits that she committed the grave sin of digitally manipulating and enhancing the posted image. In the parlance of our times, she got flamed.

“People just ate me alive,” she recalls. “But, it got on the front page, which was crazy.”

Having learned her lesson—“It makes me sound really bad; I don’t *ever* Photoshop my images”—Pageler instead focused on creative *and* righteous wayfaring into the mysterious, worldwide audience of makeup and face-painting aficionados.

The first little breakthrough came last fall, shortly after she created a Facebook page dedicated to her “Elsa Rhae” alter ego, when she shared an image of the deathly creepy skeletal mouth and teeth she’d painted over her own mouth and cheeks.

“I created it by opening my mouth over and over to see the shape of my teeth,” she wrote on Facebook, “then drawing them on top of my mouth area. It was pretty fun, took me about an hour.”

Made even more startling with her innocent, wide-eyed expression, the image captured the fancy of fans looking for Halloween makeup inspirations.

“I don’t know if I ever had as many likes on my Facebook as that one,” she says.

The many faces of Elsa Rhae include (this page, from top) Captain Planet, Scorpion and (p. 33) White Walker from “Game of Thrones.” From her austere home studio (r), Pageler documents each step (p. 33) in the creation of her fanciful faces.





But the big break, the face that launched a thousand likes, was still more than six months away: On May 18, she posted to Facebook one of her masterpieces, White Walker, along with a link to a stop-motion video on YouTube showing the work in progress. A friend asked permission to post it to Imgur, a massive clearinghouse for online images.

And, in the parlance of overnight Internet sensations, boom goes the dynamite.

“It blew up,” Pageler recalls. “It went to Reddit and The Chive and HuffPost-UK and then the Huffington Post. Ashton Kutcher put me on his blog. Then the No. 1-subscribed YouTube channel put me on their Facebook page, twice, and that got me a lot of subscriptions.”

(“You can’t makeup this stuff,” HuffingtonPost.com declared on May 21.)

She still sorts through a daily flood of Facebook and YouTube comments that offer tantalizing clues to Elsa Rhae’s worldwide reach.

“I thought it was going to last a day, maybe two days, but it kept going. It kind of lasted about a week, and then slowly died down over the next few weeks, but then there are these bursts. There’s magazines and newspapers all over the world that people say they’re coming from. I guess I was on some television station in Argentina. I don’t really know where they’re from, but they keep coming.”

On the quiet weekday afternoon when *Kansas Alumni* visited

Pageler at her home studio, her mobile phone buzzed just as she began work on her first practice attempt at a new face she hoped to soon reveal to her Facebook fans. She glanced at the screen and said, “That’s a European phone number. I should probably take it.”

On the other end of the line was a producer from “Weekend,” a show on the UK network ITV, calling to firm up plans for a Skype video interview the next day. As she distractedly listened to a very British and very lovely voice that was charmingly insistent enough to be heard 10 feet from Pageler’s phone, Pageler continued to putter around with her paints and brushes, and finally signed off with the assurance that she would be ready at the appointed hour.

“They Skype people who do weird things, and I guess I’m one of them,” she explained with a smile. “The world’s smallest horse. A 14-year-old body builder. And they found me.” As she returned her attention to the tray of colorful paints awaiting her, Pageler glanced up and added, “They say ‘brilliant ... *Brilliant!*’ after everything.”

Unlike most special-effects wizards, Pageler isn’t too concerned about secrecy. In fact, she shares with her fans makeup and face-painting tutorials and stop-motion videos that capture every step of a face’s creation. She also creates makeup videos for Cate McNabb Cosmetics, an online retailer.

Her own face-painting education came thanks to a friend’s suggestion that she contact Creative Carnivals & Events, a Kansas City company. There she met MJ Matthews, who owns an affiliated company called Sister Act Face Painting. Matthews and Pageler formed a quick bond, based on mutual admiration for each other’s talents and their shared dedication to their unique art form.

“It’s the complete opposite from doing makeup,” Matthews explains. “The shading and things you learn as a makeup artist help, but it’s a different form. You’re painting, and you’re painting on something that moves and something that is three dimen-



With “Winter Wash” (above), Pageler illustrated her yearning for the return of spring. To help her fans celebrate the World Cup (p. 35, l-r), Pageler posted a video tutorial on how to face-paint a Brazilian flag, and she honored her tastes for nature and kindness with “Face to Face” and The Giving Tree.

sional. It’s a talent. It’s a weird talent, but it’s a talent.”

Matthews and Pageler met last summer in Matthews’ Overland Park home, where Matthews explained how to use water-based paints, high-quality and expensive brushes, sponges, even Elmer’s glue sticks.

“We sat down in my kitchen one afternoon and just played”



Unlike most special-effects wizards, Pageler isn't too concerned about secrecy. In fact, she shares with her fans makeup and face-painting tutorials and stop-motion videos that capture every step of a face's creation.

Matthews says. "I gave her a bunch of products, some really good brushes and some advice. And other than that, she ran with it. She was one of those people who jumped in with both feet and was ready to go, and she hasn't looked back.

"She's having a blast. She's so stinking talented, and she's savvy. She understands the social media thing. She's found this little niche, she has a huge following, and she's reaching out there to a much broader audience and is saying, hey, this is an art form, it can be a lot of fun, and it's available."

Pageler continues to book jobs with Sister Act, especially for big events like the annual Monster Dash 5K. She does the tutorial videos with Cate McNabb Cosmetics (and even rents her home from the company president), and is affiliated with a Polish manufacturer that supplies her with a variety of colored contact lenses. She purchases her own brushes, which cost \$10 to \$20 apiece, and trays of water-based face paint and cosmetic-grade Liquid Latex.

She creates her fanciful faces by alternating glances at the screen of her battle-worn MacBook Pro laptop, which displays Internet images of the face of the day, and a small mirror that doesn't have a bulb and isn't plugged in anyway. Light boxes on tripods flank her workspace, and a tripod-mounted Nikon D600 clicks away like a metronome, capturing an image every three seconds.

"To do that in a mirror, backwards, and have it come out correct is hard to do," Matthews explains. "I would say that out of about 17 of my artists, maybe there are three or four who can paint on themselves and paint well on themselves. That is really tough, and the intricacy of what she does is amazing."

Buddy, a lovable old dog who came with the house, can't navigate the stairs, and her Shiba Inu puppy, Kamp, is, for now, too high-spirited to join his mama when she's getting in the zone for a couple of hours of face painting. ("I try to freak them out," Pageler concedes when asked whether she ever rushes upstairs to startle the dogs, "but even Kamp, as a puppy, is too smart." She pauses, then adds, "But I do freak out my boyfriend. Usually when I paint my eyes on.")

So, with the pooches and her Tegu lizard Yoshi safely ensconced upstairs, Pageler is alone in the basement—*always*, except when humoring nosy reporters—when she makes faces that whirl worldwide and set the Internet ablaze.

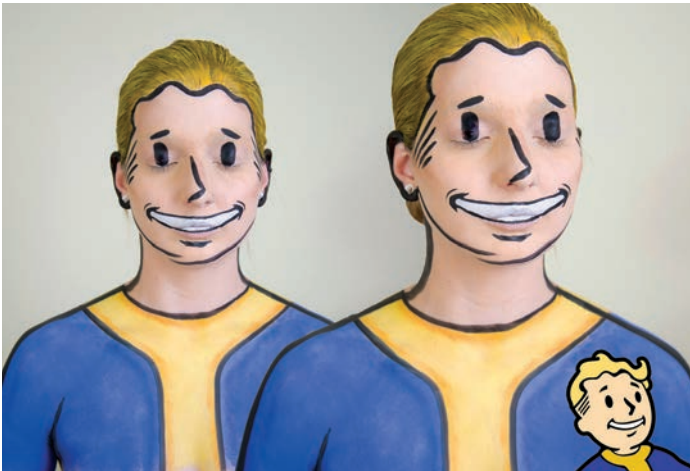
It's all rather mundane, in its eclectic way, and Pageler finds that comforting.

"Nobody ever watched me do this before," she says, fidgeting while trying to navigate her way around a new face that wasn't really coming together as she'd hoped. She has a charming, open manner of sharing what's on her mind, revealing a creative spirit that doesn't have much patience with linear logic.

"I'm trying to figure out my style still," she explains, blending a neutral-colored face-paint foundation with her stippling brush, "and I don't think it really needs to be figured out."

The secret, if she has one, is that for Elsa Rhae Pageler, it's not really about the face painting, but about facing life, finding a way to live it on her own terms.

She came to KU to study film, with hopes of one day making her way to directorial stardom in Hollywood; one trip to Los



From top, Marvel Comics' Venom; Vault Boy, from the "Fallout" video game; and Master Chief of "Halo."

Angeles immediately convinced Pageler that Southern California wasn't for her.

She honed her video production skills with KU Marketing Communications, in the Office of Public Affairs, and, during her senior year, Kansas Athletics, where she shot footage at football and basketball games and cut together inspirational highlight films for the soccer team.

"Once she got her feet wet and really started feeling comfortable, you could tell that there were little sparks of creativity, some flair in what she did," says Frank Barthell, g'81, electronic media coordinator for Marketing Communications. "She didn't try to jump ahead. She learned the basic skill set, the mechanics of it, and then started learning the software, and off she went. It was clear that this is what she wanted to do, and she really took advantage of the opportunity."

Pageler has edited her own videos since junior high and has maintained a personal video channel "since YouTube started," and now her hobby seems primed to put her in position to attract offers that would allow her to take her creative passions into big-budget film production.

It's a question she fields often from friends and fans, and her answer remains:

"I don't know. I've always kept my options very open. I wanted to be a director in Hollywood, and now everything is so different. So I don't know if this is going to continue. I love it, and I'm going to continue doing it for at least the next long while and see what happens, but I don't know. It's definitely a cool path that has opened up."

Pageler was recently notified that she'd been named a "YouTube partner," which means YouTube places ads on her video pages and gives her a cut of the revenue. How much, exactly, she still has no idea, but for now, the business details aren't yet the primary concern.

She admits to being "the most frugal person you will ever meet," so it won't take much for her to build up enough YouTube funds to realize her dream of "working from wherever I want, whenever I want."

"Truly," Pageler says, "my whole passion is to be able to work through making YouTube videos. That's been my goal, and so that's kind of why I took face painting into the videos, so that I could maybe have a chance of getting there."

"And now it is happening. Face painting is a hobby that I'm trying to mash together with my career-type passion, and it's sort of now kind of working out a little bit for me."

She glances up from her mirror and smiles, the makeup not yet concealing her happy, human face. Brilliant. *Brilliant!*

For more fantastic faces

- facebook.com/ElsaRhae
- youtube.com/user/ElsaRhae



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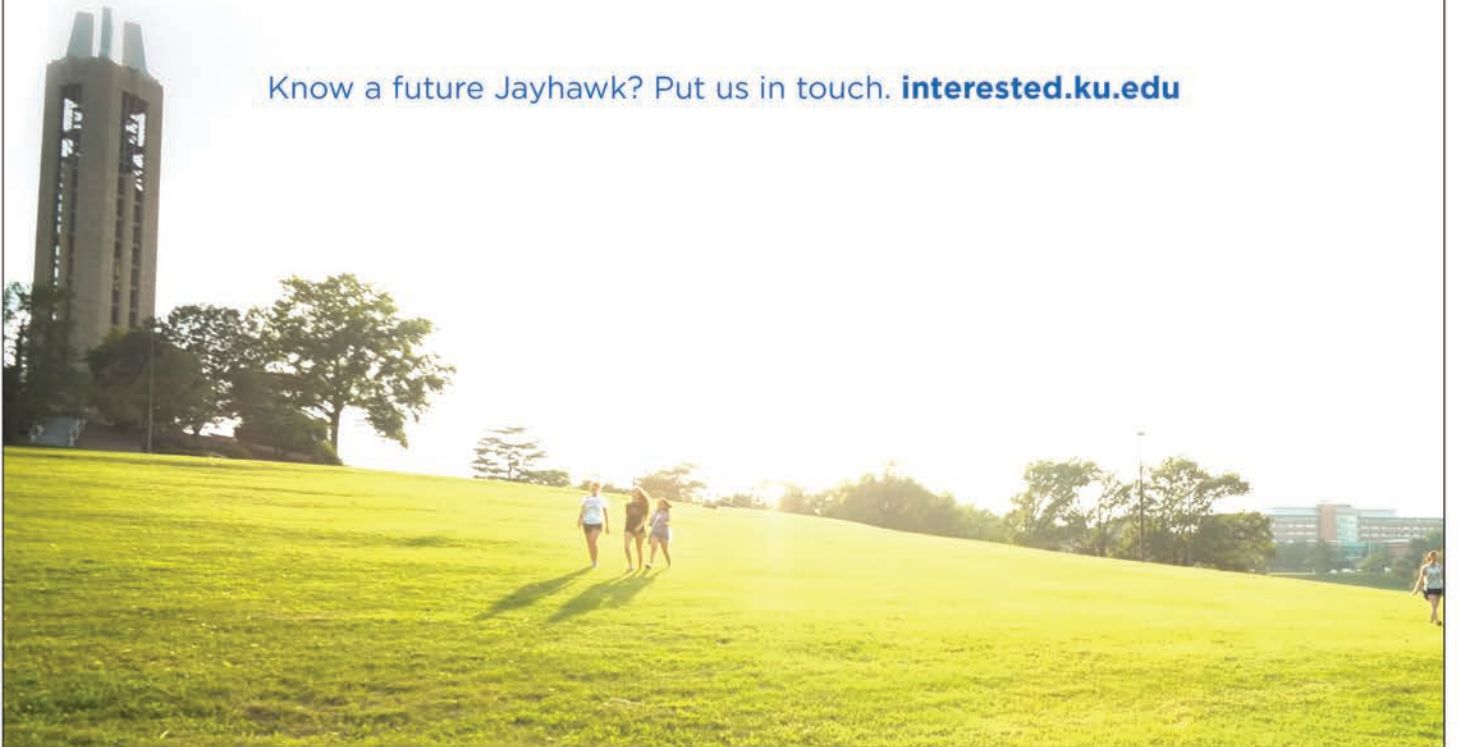
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Fine Feathers



Sumptuous Gould Collection finds its final home,
online and accessible to all

For its time, the technology that 19th-century British ornithologist John Gould relied upon to produce his magnificently illustrated books on birds of the world was state of the art.

“Lithography had been invented around 1800, and the mid-19th century was, in some respects, the height of natural-history illustration,” says KU special collections librarian Karen Cook. “By the mid-century they had perfected the crayon shading technique, which was used for these illustrations. It provides a tonal background and helps bring out the shape of the bird, the texture of the feathers. Then coloring by hand, which was the final step, sort of colors the shading that is already there. It makes a wonderful combination.”

But the process, which involved teams of sketch artists, fine artists, coloring specialists, and a complex and labor-intensive printing process, was prohibitively

expensive. Only wealthy patrons and institutional clients, such as museums, could afford the hand-colored lithographs, so until smaller, cheaper volumes were later created on lithographic color presses, Gould’s magnum opus—47 large-format volumes of sumptuous illustration and authoritative scientific descriptions—was beyond the reach of all but the privileged few.

“These are not the kind of books to snuggle up with on a frosty winter evening,” the late KU graphics curator James Helyar wrote of the Gould Ornithological Collection in a 1985 *Kansas Alumni* article. “No, these are *serious* books, nearly 50 of them, each measuring 15 inches by 22 inches and weighing as much as 25 pounds. Resplendently bound, some in red leather, each is heavily decorated and lettered in gold; even the edges of the pages are gilded. It doesn’t take an

ornithologist or bibliophile to appreciate their distinctive craftsmanship. *They’re beautiful*, visitors say, *and so big!*”

And now, thanks to the 21st century’s dramatic redefinition of state of the art, the entire collection—plus more than 2,000 work-in-progress manuscript pages of paintings, drawings and sketches, many with edits, doodles and even a grocery list in Gould’s own hand, which are essentially unique to KU’s Gould Collection—are available online, free and in exceedingly fine detail to everyone in the world, thanks to a massive cataloging and digitization project funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

“In fact, you can see more than you can see with the naked eye,” Cook says of KU’s online presentation of the beautifully preserved books. “You can enlarge them and identify the techniques the artists are using in order to create the images. For me that’s really exciting.”

by Chris Lazzarino

Illustrations courtesy

Kenneth Spencer Research Library

Left: Green-billed toucans, from
Family of Toucans

Above: Purple-breasted carib, from
Family of Hummingbirds



Karen Cook says 10 years spent studying botanical illustration while working at London's British Library deepened her appreciation for Gould's work: "The shading, the fine brushwork ... I know how difficult it is to create an effect like that."

Right: Great northern loon, by Henry Richter, with Gould's corrections

P. 41: Gould portrait and, from *Birds of Australia*, red-winged fairywrens

The collection's journey from field observations around the globe to London studios and print shops to a 1945 arrival at the University and now instant online accessibility is, given the backstories of its prominent players, appropriately improbable.

John Gould, born in 1804 in Dorset, England, developed an early interest in natural history and taxidermy. He was 14 when his father took a job as foreman at Windsor Castle's Royal Gardens; he joined his father there, and his diaries include his memories of picking dandelions for Queen Charlotte's tea. He continued as a gardener in training at Ripley Castle, in Yorkshire, but in 1825 returned to London to go into business as a taxidermist, and two years later was named curator for the Zoological Society of London.

In 1829 he married Elizabeth Coxen, a

society governess with impressive artistic skills. While beginning their family, John and Elizabeth also collaborated on their first illustrated ornithology book, on birds of the Himalaya Mountains, with 80 plates issued from 1830 to 1833.

Not satisfied with working from skins collected by others, Gould in 1838 organized a trip with his wife to Australia, one of the first to study the continent's birds and mammals. (Gould later produced three illustrated volumes on Australia's mammals, his only non-bird books.) They returned in 1840, but Elizabeth died the following year, a few days after giving birth to their eighth child.

Gould hired little-known Henry Richter, the son of an eminent artist, to help complete the Australia books, a collaboration that continued for 40 years; he also collaborated with other artists, most notably the landscape artist Edward Lear and German painter Joseph Wolf, who once described Gould as "the most uncouth man I ever knew."

More charitable impressions were held by the likes of Charles Darwin (for whom Gould created the ornithology volume for Darwin's series *The Zoology of the Voyage of the H.M.S. Beagle*), Charles Dickens and even Queen Victoria. "It is impossible to imagine anything so lovely as these little

Humming Birds," the queen wrote in 1851, after visiting Gould's personal collection of stuffed hummingbirds at London's Zoological Gardens.

Gould's 20th-century fans included famed naturalist and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough, who, in his preface to the 1987 biography *John Gould—Bird Man*, wrote, "I saw plates of his birds of paradise when I was a boy and I remember now the bounce my heart made. ... Few of us, who remain his devoted public a century after his death, can hope to own one of his massive sumptuous folios complete, but many of us can and do hang plates from them on our walls."

Shortly after Gould's death, in 1881, a London bookseller and publisher purchased publication rights to his works and, more crucially, also paid 5,000 pounds (roughly equivalent to about \$550,000 today) for 30 tons of original artwork, lithographic proofs, illustration plates and unsold text. Facing financial difficulties, the firm in 1934 offered much of it for sale, and its catalog in 1936 lured Ralph Ellis Jr., a 28-year-old American book collector.

Born in 1908 to a wealthy Long Island, New York, family, Ellis was a sick child.





Gould's birds, online and in person

The entire John Gould Ornithological Collection can be viewed online at luna.ku.edu:8180/luna/servlet/kuluna01kui-19-19. It can be searched by such categories as book, year, species and artist, or easily browsed.

All of Gould's text pages, which accompany each illustration, are included, as is KU's entire collection of unpublished manuscript pages, which magnificently illustrate Gould's work process. (A few smaller volumes, with few illustrations, are held by KU but not digitized.)

Note that each image can be magnified for close inspection of artistic detail, as well as a study of composition, flora and other elements.

A public exhibition featuring a selection of original works is now underway at Spencer Research Library, through Nov. 15.

—C.L.



His family moved to South Carolina, where he, like John Gould a century earlier, became interested in natural history in general and birds in particular. Ellis was 15 when he moved with his mother to Berkeley, California, and there he continued exploring his fascination with the natural world, this time under the tutelage of senior scientists at the University of California who took the curious boy under wing.

His formal education never took hold; although he participated in numerous field trips with California scientists, and is said to have made contributions to the university's notable collections, Ellis became ill during a Harvard Zoological Expedition to Australia and set aside his aspirations of becoming a field scientist, choosing instead to devote himself to collecting natural-history books.

And collect he did. Once described as suffering from "galloping bibliomania," as well as "frequent attacks of bizarre and unbalanced behavior," Ellis indulged in book binges that only increased after his father's death in 1933, which left the family an estate worth today's equivalent of approximately \$13.5 million. Despite their wealth, his mother was at times forced to sell family property to pay his bills, yet Ellis continued adding to his scholarly library.

When he received notice of the Gould sale, Ellis managed to make his way to London, and over the next year and a half spent today's equivalent of about \$1 million. His purchases included a complete set of Gould's 47 large-format books as well as more than 2,000 work-in-progress manuscript pages.

"He did not purchase absolutely everything that was on offer," Karen Cook says, "but he made a pretty good selection."

When he returned to California, Ellis was committed to a mental institution, was racked with debt and alcoholism, and was divorced by his first wife. In 1944, facing continuing money troubles, Ellis and his second wife traveled to New York City, where he hoped to find a buyer, or an institutional home, for his 65,000-item collection. Eastern universities and



museums were not interested, but, as it turned out, a most unlikely institution way out in Kansas would be.

E. Raymond Hall, c'24, named director of KU's Natural History Museum in 1944, studied for his doctorate at Berkeley with one of the scientists who had befriended young Ralph Ellis, and, thanks to their shared interest in natural history, Hall and Ellis maintained their acquaintanceship over the years. It's likely that Hall suggested Ellis stop in Lawrence on his way to New York in 1944, but there is no evidence of a visit; what is known is that Hall convinced Chancellor Deane Malott, c'21, himself a bibliophile, to visit Ellis while on his own trip to New York, and within a month the University offered Ellis a home for his books as well as an official position at KU and a small salary.

Ellis accepted, and apparently notified his wife—who had by then returned to California to pack and ship the collection—to have the shipment diverted to Lawrence. The contract between KU and Ellis, signed in May 1945, allowed Ellis to take the collection back at any time, after



Reference drawing of a red-billed chough

reimbursing KU for its expenses, but also assured that it would pass to the University's holdings upon his death.

The Ellises moved with the collection to Lawrence in spring 1945, and he joined his beloved books in an office in Strong Hall. The idyll did not last. Ellis died alone, reportedly of pneumonia, six months later while on a hunting trip in California. His wife contested KU's ownership of the Gould books and manuscripts, claiming that her husband was not in his right mind when he signed the contract, but courts ruled in KU's favor, and in 1950 the Ralph N. Ellis Jr. Collection officially joined KU Libraries, becoming the cornerstone for the new Department of Special Collections in 1953.

It still awaited cataloging and research, which could not begin in earnest until the 1968 opening of the Kenneth Spencer Research Library, and even then relied in part upon yet another unlikely character to assist in the journey: dermatologist Gordon Sauer, whose lifelong passion for Gould's work was sparked when he purchased some Gould prints in an antique shop shortly after World War II.



When Sauer moved to St. Joseph, Missouri, in the early 1950s, he was shocked to learn that the world's most important Gould collection was 75 miles away, at KU. (Though dozens of complete sets of Gould's published works are held in institutions worldwide, it is estimated that KU owns 85 percent of all known unpublished manuscript pages.)

Sauer threw himself into assisting curators with unpacking and cataloging, and took on original research of his own, including a Gould chronology and bibliography, published in 1982, and a five-volume set of Gould's correspondence, the last volume of which was published in 2003, the last year of Sauer's life.

In 2010, KU Libraries applied for NEH grants to digitize the collection, and was awarded the funding in spring 2011. What was estimated to be an 18-month project got delayed by equipment breakdowns and stretched into three years, during which time the entire collection was cataloged, curated and photographed.

Even so, the immensity of the Gould Ornithological Collection wasn't fully grasped until it made its way online.

"It really needed the digital age," Cook says. "I think it didn't strike you all at once because it was so difficult to see a lot of it at one time. It wasn't totally cataloged, the books are very large and awkward to get out, the drawings were not all processed, half of them were in boxes and the other half were in piles.

"So it's only now, when I can see everything online at our website, that I can get more of an overview and be overwhelmed by the scope of it."

A long and difficult migration finally reaches its destination, in the ether of the Internet, where high art meets high tech. Its aerie might be unlikely, but bird watchers and book lovers, scientists and artists, can all rejoice together: John Gould's beautiful birds are here, there and everywhere, awaiting your discovery.

Left: Chick drawings for Gould's illustration library

Right and opposite: Sketches and final illustration for Elliot's bird of paradise, from *Birds of New Guinea*





Association

Ellsworth tradition

Jayhawks emulate example of legendary leader

The combined KU service of Jay Howard and Margaret Lewis Shirk spans more than seven decades, starting in the 1940s, when Shirk, c'39, began volunteering for the Alumni Association and KU in the era of Fred Ellsworth, c'22, longtime executive director of the Association.

As a student, Howard, b'79, guided Student Union Activities as president, and he has steadfastly served his alma mater as a graduate, volunteering for the KU Memorial Unions, the Alumni Association and KU Endowment.

Shirk and Howard are this year's recipients of the Fred Ellsworth Medallion, the Association's highest honor for extraordinary KU service. The Association created the award in 1975 to honor Ellsworth, the organization's longest-serving chief executive, known as "Mr. KU" for his dedication.

Shirk, who celebrated her 97th birthday in August, still lives on her family's farm just north of Lawrence, in the home her father built in 1920. She got to know Ellsworth as a student and soon began volunteering to help at Commencements and alumni reunions. The day after her graduation, she began working for the Kansas City Board of Trade, using her economics degree and continuing her passion for stock trading that began at age

5, when her father gave her 100 shares of Kansas Power & Light stock.

She became a part-time Association staff member in 1945, working for almost 25 years, but her volunteer service has continued long beyond her employment ("I don't think I've ever missed a Commencement," she says). She also has faithfully participated in the annual Gold Medal Club reunions for graduates who have passed their 50th anniversaries; during the 2014 event in April, she told staff members, "Be sure to call me if you need any help."



Howard



Shirk

Shirk met her husband, David, c'39, captain of the 1938 KU football team, at the gas station where he worked, and they were married 69 years before his death in 2009. During his career as a high school teacher and coach, they lived in Augusta, Abilene and Topeka. Following his retirement, the Shirks returned to Lawrence and the family farm. They invited many prospective KU students to their home through the years, and they hosted countless parties for fraternities, sororities and other KU groups; the mention of "Shirks' Barn" conjures memories for generations of Jayhawks. Shirk continues the tradition, hosting KU and community events in the barn.

The Shirks have contributed to the University through KU Endowment as members of the Chancellors Club, and they supported Kansas Athletics through the Williams Education Fund and as season ticketholders for football and basketball. She still attends KU games.

Shirk, an Alumni Association Life Member, received the Mildred Clodfelter Alumni Award in 1989 for her volunteer service. The honor is named for her longtime friend Clodfelter, b'41, who worked for the Association for 42 years and retired in 1986. They hosted many alumni events together.

"One of the most powerful attributes that Margaret has is the sense of family and friendship," says KU Endowment President Dale Seufferling, j'77. "It really impressed me over the years, watching the 50-year classes returning for their reunions and seeing faces light up because Margaret knew them and knew their families. All those connections came forth, making alumni feel so tied to the University through Margaret."

Howard, a Salina native, travels frequently to Lawrence from his home in Austin, Texas—most recently for meetings of the steering committee of KU Endowment's *Far Above* campaign. As a trustee, he also serves on Endowment's investment committee. Howard and his wife, Julia, are members of the Chancellors Club, and they have supported a variety of KU programs, including a professorship in humanities and Western Civilization honoring his parents, Jack, b'51, and Shirley Rice Howard, d'51. Howard also has pledged \$1 million from his estate to support the Alumni Association.

Howard's service to Endowment overlapped his years as a volunteer leader for the Alumni Association. A Life Member and Presidents Club donor, he served on the national Board of Directors from 2003 to 2012 and led the organization as national chair from 2010 to '11. During those years, Board members repeatedly raised concerns about KU student recruitment, so former national chair Joe Morris, b'61, appointed Howard to lead a task force and recommend measures to strengthen recruitment.

Based on a study of tuition discounts that universities in neighboring states used to recruit legacy students, Howard and Association president Kevin Corbett, c'88, worked with KU leaders to develop the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship for academically qualified students from

out-of-state KU families. The team convinced the Kansas Legislature to approve partial tuition waivers for all Regents schools, and the Jayhawk Generations program began in 2009.

“Jay has been a leader, a philanthropist, a mentor and a friend to many staff, students and alumni across the country,” Corbett says. “He has given his talents, resources and time to make KU the best university it can be.”

Howard’s service to the Alumni Association actually began in 2000, when he became the Association’s alumni representative to the KU Memorial Unions, returning to the organization he had served in his student years as president of SUA. In 2003, he provided gifts for the Traditions Tower, a focal point of the Kansas Union renovation that features exquisite campus views and plaques honoring KU students, faculty and staff members for their leadership. At the base of the tower on the first floor is the Rock Chalk Stone, a tribute to KU’s famous chant.

Howard’s speech on May 3, 2003, during the dedication of the Rock Chalk Stone is framed above an engraved limestone slab from Old Fraser Hall. During his speech, Howard recalled a conversation with someone who “has the unfortunate burden of not being a KU grad,” he said. When she asked him what makes KU such a special place, he likened her question to “Why do you love your parents?”

“As I tried to list for her the many things that distinguish KU and make it such a special place, it occurred to me that this structure, this tower, embodies three of the very qualities I was trying to explain: tradition, beauty and excellence.”

All in the family

Scholarship helps Jayhawk clans extend lineage; apply by Nov. 1

For Hannah Whitten-Vile, b’14, of Oakland, California, the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship for out-of-state legacy students meant more than financial aid. Her experience at KU helped her forge

a special bond with her father, Sheldon Whitten-Vile, c’83, m’87.

“I loved hearing stories about his college days in Lawrence, like how he used to sit and read by Potter Lake every spring, or the great restaurants he used to always frequent on Mass Street,” she says. “For an out-of-state-student, it made Lawrence feel a lot closer to home to know that my dad used to be a proud student at the same

university. If I called and complained about walking up the Hill every day, he would understand. Or if I told him I was going sledding near the Campanile he would know what a breathtaking view I would see with the snow over campus. He knew how special it felt to finally walk the Hill on graduation day because he is a Jayhawk, too.”

Whitten-Vile is one of 424 Jayhawk

A NOTE FROM KEVIN

Association’s student programs help new Jayhawks feel at home

On the first day of classes, when the temperature surged above 100 degrees, I was walking back from Strong Hall down through Marvin Grove toward the Adams Alumni Center when I noticed a student walking up toward the Campanile, flipping a campus map in every direction imaginable. It was another seasonal sighting of a lost freshman trying to navigate his way across Mount Oread.

I approached him and asked if I could help him with directions. Red in the face from the heat, he said, “Yes, thank you. I’m looking for the Spencer Museum of Art and the Alumni Association.”

I first told him he was going the wrong direction and to follow me. His name was Steven and he was indeed a freshman—from Minnesota, studying art and theatre. We chatted about why he chose KU and his reasons were common: academic reputation, campus beauty, a scholarship and campus traditions.

After his class at the art museum, he was coming to the Alumni Association to pick up his Student Alumni Association packet of goodies. I explained that by joining the Student Alumni Association, he became part of one of the largest student organizations on campus, if not the largest, with more than 1,200 members.

It’s likely not a well-known fact that anyone can join the Alumni Association. You do not have to be a graduate to be a



part of the powerful, worldwide Jayhawk network. Students today understand better than most generations the concept of building networks, whether they be social or career. While the likes of Facebook and LinkedIn provide electronic links, there is simply no replacing the Jayhawk-to-Jayhawk connection that the KU Alumni Association seeks every day to expand for the benefit of students, graduates and members.

In today’s highly competitive world of higher education, we are firmly committed to helping students while on campus and as graduates. Thanks to generations of compassionate and loyal alumni and friends, helping members navigate the Jayhawk network has been the Association’s forte since 1883.

As always, thank you for your membership and for all the opportunities your support provides for students like Steven. Rock Chalk!

—Kevin Corbett, c’88
KU Alumni Association president

Association

Generations Scholarship recipients since the program began in 2009.

“For some students who would come to KU regardless, the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship is icing on the cake, but for others like Hannah, the scholarship is the linchpin that makes it possible for them to attend their top choice,” says Joy Larson Maxwell, c’03, j’03, the Alumni Association’s director of legacy relations. “More than 150 Jayhawk Generations Scholarship recipients set foot on the KU campus this fall. This is double the number we saw two short years ago in the fall of 2012. It’s gratifying to see more students take us up on this incredible offer.”

Students are automatically considered for the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship when they apply to KU. Nov. 1 is the deadline for applicants who will be Fall 2015 first-time freshmen. Applicants must meet the academic qualifications and have a parent, stepparent, grandparent, step-grandparent or legal guardian who attended KU. The renewable scholarship includes three tiers, based on students’ GPAs and ACT/SAT scores, and amounts range from \$19,864 over four years to \$50,032 over four years. For details, visit jaygen.ku.edu/.

Tried and true

Volunteers earn ‘Millie’ honor for their staying power

Six volunteers are the recipients of the 2014 Mildred Clodfelter Alumni Award. They are Jim Christensen, d’64; Dee Burrows Clifford, c’71; Warren Corman, e’50; Scott Ennis, d’83; Kelly Finnerty, e’98; and Leland Hansen, p’71.



Sheldon Whitten-Vile and his daughter, Hannah, a Jayhawk Generations Scholarship recipient, celebrated her KU graduation in May. Hannah followed her dad to the Hill—and to the same apartment—three decades after his student years.



COURTESY HANNAH WHITTEN-VILE (2)

The “Millie” recognizes Jayhawks who have served as KU ambassadors in their local communities for 10 years or more and honors the memory of Clodfelter, b’41, for her 47 years of service to the University, including 42 years working at the Association.

Christensen, a native of Marion and a Jayhawk Society and Life Member, has helped recruit prospective students and served as the Marion County coordinator for the Kansas Honors Program since 1977. He has volunteered as a member of Jayhawks for Higher Education, and he contributes to the Williams Education Fund for Kansas Athletics. He played football at KU and began his career as a teacher. He later joined his father in business and took over Lynn Farm Equipment, an international dealership, until his retirement in 2006.

Clifford is a Jayhawk Society member who has been active in the Las Vegas chapter since retiring in the area in 2005; she currently serves as chapter leader. She was the watch site coordinator and helped

the local KU Jayhawks grow from a handful of participants to about 200 faithful. Before her retirement, she spent her career in information technology, including 16 years with Marion Laboratories and affiliated companies in the Kansas City area. She retired from Aventis Pharmaceuticals in 2000 but returned to work as director of information technology for North Kansas City Hospital before retiring “for good” in 2004.

Corman, of Lawrence, served as the University architect from 1996 until he retired in 2010. Before he was hired at KU by Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway, Corman spent 31 years as staff architect and director of facilities for the Kansas Board of Regents and, before that, 10 years in private practice in Topeka. He launched his career shortly after his World War II service—during which he saw combat at the Battle of Okinawa as a U.S. Navy Seabee—with the state architect’s office, helping to design Allen Field House. Corman regularly hosts campus bus tours

Continued on page 48



Christensen



Clifford



Corman



Ennis

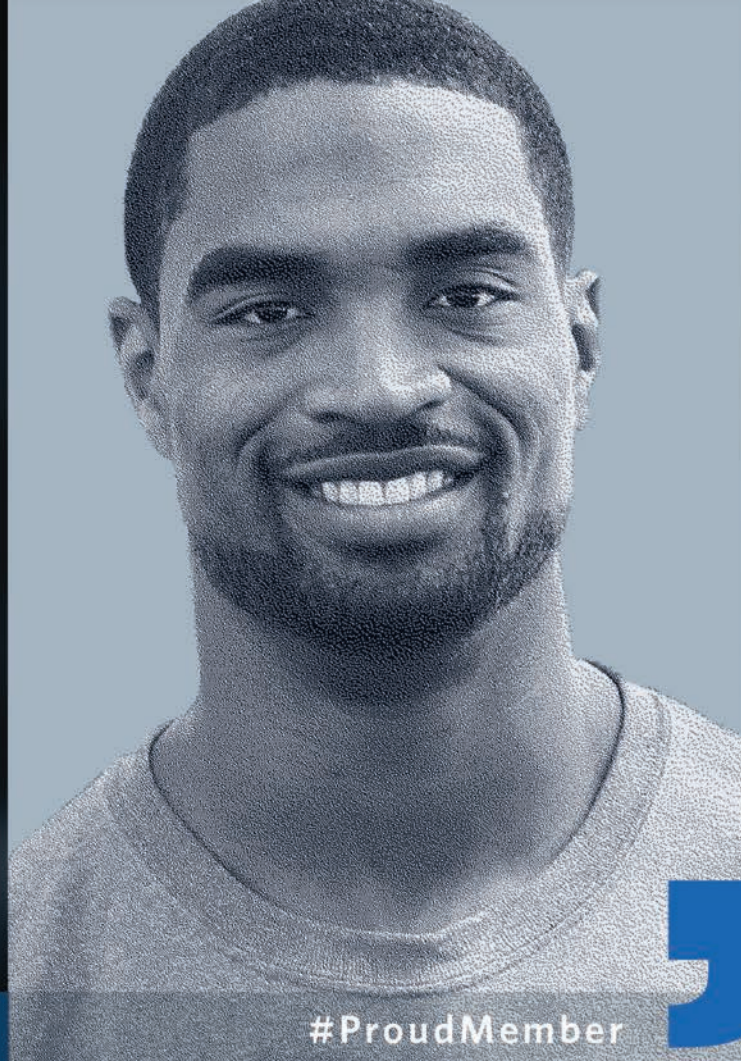


Finnerty



Hansen

I am
Darrell Stuckey,
and I am a
PROUD
MEMBER



#ProudMember

“I’m a member of the Alumni Association because I believe in the University of Kansas. I believe in the demands of the students, the prestige of the education and the excitement of our athletics.”

—Darrell Stuckey, c’09, Proud Member, Professional Athlete, San Diego Chargers

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for Association events, and he serves on the executive committee of the Association's Veterans Alumni Chapter, for which he helps raise funds for Wounded Warrior scholarships. He has received distinguished alumnus awards from the schools of Engineering and Architecture and in 2011 served as grand marshal for the KU Homecoming parade. He currently works part-time for the School of Engineering as an adviser for construction projects. He and his wife, Mary Crissman Corman, c'73, are Life Members and donors to the Presidents Club.

Ennis, also currently of Las Vegas, was a longtime KU volunteer in the El Dorado area. A former Kansas Honor Scholar, Ennis served as the co-coordinator and coordinator for the Kansas Honors Program in Butler, Elk and Greenwood counties since 1998. Ennis is an Association Life Member and volunteers as a member of Jayhawks for Higher Education. As a KU student, he assisted the football and baseball programs as an athletic trainer. He devoted his career to education, serving as a teacher and coach in Paola and athletics director, assistant principal and principal in El Dorado before retiring and moving to Las Vegas.

Finnerty is an annual member and has assisted KU and the Association in the Twin Cities area for 10 years. He helped increase membership and participation through organizing local KU events and watch parties, and he serves on the Twin Cities alumni board. He is a senior mechanical engineer at Starkey Hearing Technologies in Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

Hansen, of Hiawatha, has served as the Brown County Kansas Honors Program coordinator for the past 30 years. He is also a member of Jayhawks for Higher Education. For the School of Pharmacy, he hosts first-year pharmacy students as a preceptor and supports academic programs as a member of the dean's club. Hansen and his wife, Debbie Crawley Hansen, c'73, are Life Members. He began his pharmacy career at Tice Rexall Drug in Hiawatha following his KU graduation and became the local hospital's first full-time pharmacist in 1978. He is the owner and pharmacist of Tice Healthmart, which he purchased in 1992.



www.kualumni.org



Party like pirates

Jaunty Jayhawk Roundup features 'Hawks Ahoy' theme

Wichita's annual Jayhawk Roundup, the largest KU event in the area, will offer dazzling auction treasures, plenty of grub and grog, and rowdy revelry Oct. 25, when hosts David, b'75, e'75, and Janet Lusk Murfin, d'75, welcome fellow

Jayhawks to their stables near Andover. Since 2002, the event has raised more than \$760,000, annually drawing about 500 alumni and friends.

This year's event is chaired by Glenn, '79, and Camille Bribiesca Nyberg, c'96, g'98; she leads the Alumni Association this year as national chair. "The Roundup allows area KU supporters to gather for an exciting evening of entertainment while raising funds that will impact the Association's efforts," Camille says. "The support enables the Association to host

academic and athletic programs in Wichita and recruit high school students to KU—and, besides that, it's just so much fun."



Special guests at this year's event will include a scurvy mate who bears a striking resemblance to Captain Jack Sparrow from the "Pirates of the Caribbean" films. For those who missed his entertaining save-the-date video, visit www.Jayhawk-Roundup.org to view his antics—and make reservations aboard 'Hawks Ahoy.'

Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life memberships July 1 through Aug. 31. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

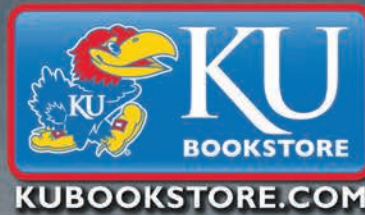
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Tracy L. Kaufman
Dee Klausman
Philip J. Kliewer
Christopher L. Klockau
Jay P. Kreitzer
Debbie Leonard
Kimberly A. & Jordan M. List

Elizabeth A. Llewellyn & Sandra L. Hull
Ruben J. Lopez
Jason K. Marlin
Ann B. Marsh-Meigs
Patrick M. McCarty
Amy E. McVey
Richard J. Meier
James C. Mifsud
Reginald L. Mitchell II & Meghan L. Misenhelter
Avraham M. Mor
Jay P. Morley
John D. & Amy Schwindt Nachtigal
Kashif Naseem
Laird G. & Karleen Noller
Gilbert E. Oaks III
Lauren L. Oberzan & Devin P. Byrne
Michael L. Odrowski
Timothy W. & Virginia Suh Olsen
Alejandro & Ann M. Ortega
Sallie S. Page-Goertz & Kenneth K. Goertz
Kim Parson
Vishal K. Patel
Charissa A. & Michael Patterson
Matthew J. Pjesky
Rande C. Poupirt
Brett A. & Kathryn Meade Reber
Laura J. Roddy

Rhonda A. Roy
Kenneth C. Sackin
Anne E. Salvato
John A. Sanford
Anthony R. Santaularia
Clark A. Sexton
Stephanie L. Shipley-Barry & Sean G. Barry
Scott C. Smith
Hilda N. Soza
Thomas L. Talkington
Steven K. & Kammi Thompson
John G. & Ona Swearingen Tonge
Tim Travis
Mary Kaye Dial Tyson
Robbie & Madi Thornton Vannaman
Melanie Botts Viola
Nancy Douglas Wallace
David B. Weaver
Billy R. Wedgeworth
Barbara M. Wells
Jayne E. Whitehead
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Class Notes by Karen Goodell

44 Joe Gray, e'44, serves as honorary chair for the Agri-Business Expo Center capital campaign. He's board chairman of Gray Manufacturing and for Vektex, and he lives in St. Joseph, Missouri.

52 Bill Lienhard, b'52, former senior vice president of First National Bank and a member of KU's 1952 national championship basketball team, makes his home in Lawrence.

53 Dean Smith, d'53, former University of North Carolina basketball coach, was honored last spring with a plaque at Topeka High School, his alma mater. He lives in Chapel Hill.

56 William Brainard, p'56, c'57, m'61, practices orthopedic surgery with

Arizona Speciality Physicans in Phoenix. He and **Barbara Froman Brainard**, d'57, live in Litchfield Park.

58 Jean Eckles Siegfried, d'58, has been elected to the board of directors of Mad Cow Theatre. She lives in Winter Park, Florida.

60 The Hon. **Edward Larson**, l'60, was honored last spring with the KU School of Law's Distinguished Alumni Award. He is a retired justice of the Kansas Supreme Court, and he lives in Topeka.

William Seavers, g'60, owns Environmental Technology Group in Hauppauge, New York. He lives in Centerport.

Gary Thompson, b'60, f'68, g'74, plays in the Tulatin Valley Community Band in Tulatin, Oregon, where he and his wife, **Sandi**, assoc., make their home.

Paul Walter, PhD'60, was named the recipient of the American Chemical Society's 2015 Charles Lathrop Parsons Award for outstanding public service. He is retired chair of the chemistry department at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. Paul and **Grace Carpenter Walter**, c'57, make their home in Savannah, Georgia.

61 Joyce Malicky Castle, f'61, was named a KU Distinguished Professor of voice. Joyce, who lives in Lawrence, performed in Brazil earlier this year.

Nancy Topham Chadwick, c'61, has been re-elected to the California State Board of Community Colleges Trustees. She lives in Oceanside.

Robert Ebendorf, f'61, g'63, received the Society of North American Goldsmiths Lifetime Achievement Award. He lives in Greenville, North Carolina, and is a distinguished professor of art at Eastern Carolina University.

Michael, e'61, and **Roberta Johnson Garrison**, c'62, moved last spring to Port St. Lucie, Florida.

Loring Henderson, c'61, retired as founding executive director of the

Lawrence Community Shelter. He was honored with a 2014 Substantial Citizen Award from the Lawrence Kiwanis Club.

63 David Black, p'63, a pharmacy consultant at Kingman Community Hospital, has been honored by the Kansas State Board of Pharmacy for 50 years of service. He lives in Derby.

Carl Peck, c'63, m'68, received the 2014 Nathaniel T. Kwit Memorial Distinguished Service Award this fall from the American College of Clinical Pharmacology. He's founder and chairman of NDA Partners, and he lives in San Luis Obispo, California, with his wife, Barbara.

64 Terry Barnhart, b'64, and his wife, **Carolyn**, live in San Jose, California. **Ron Koger**, g'64, EdD'75, serves as interim president of Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Georgia.

65 Richard Dalrymple, d'65, a professor of math and physics at Minnesota West Community and Technical College, lives in Worthington with his wife, Dianne.

Curtis Harris, c'65, m'69, received the American Association for Cancer Research's Award for Excellence in Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention. He's head of molecular genetics and carcinogenesis at the National Cancer Institute's Center for Cancer Research in Bethesda, Maryland. Curtis and **Tance Thomson Harris**, d'65, live in Garrett Park.

Frederick Slicker, c'65, l'68, is president of Slicker Law Firm in Tulsa. He received the Oklahoma Bar Association's John E. Shipp Award for Ethics and the Tulsa County Bar Association's Neil E. Bogan Award for professionalism.

66 Benjamin Cutler, b'66, retired in June as chairman and CEO of USHEALTH Group. He and **Mary Williams Cutler**, '66, live in Fort Worth, Texas.

David Dwyer, b'66, is general partner and founder of Visa Ventures in Boulder, Colorado. He and **Kathryn Mize Dwyer**, d'67, live in Fort Collins.

Sandy Kaiser Praeger, d'66, received a

School Codes Letters that follow names indicate the school from which alumni earned degrees. Numbers show their class years.

a	School of Architecture, Design and Planning
b	School of Business
c	College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
d	School of Education
e	School of Engineering
f	School of Fine Arts
g	Master's Degree
h	School of Health Professions
j	School of Journalism
l	School of Law
m	School of Medicine
n	School of Nursing
p	School of Pharmacy
PharmD	School of Pharmacy
s	School of Social Welfare
u	School of Music
DE	Doctor of Engineering
DMA	Doctor of Musical Arts
DPT	Doctor of Physical Therapy
EdD	Doctor of Education
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
(no letter)	Former student
assoc	Associate member of the Alumni Association

2014 Substantial Citizen Award from the Lawrence Kiwanis Club. Sandy lives in Lawrence and is Kansas insurance commissioner.

68 James Berzina, g'68, continues to live in Wichita Falls, Texas, where he's retired city manager.

Robert McAdoo, b'68, c'68, is managing director of Imperial Capital in Los Angeles.

Alan Mulally, e'68, g'69, serves on the board of directors audit committee at Google. He retired in June as CEO of Ford Motor Company. Alan and **Jane Connell Mulally**, d'69, live in Dearborn, Michigan.

Ward Russell, f'68, received a lifetime achievement award from KU's Department of Film and Media Studies. He lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he's a cinematographer and photographer.

69 Patricia Cahill, c'69, g'71, serves as vice chairman of the board of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. She is assistant professor of communication studies and general manager of KCUR-FM at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Robert Dotson, j'69, received an Alumni Achievement Award last summer from Delta Tau Delta. He is responsible for American Story, a news report featured on NBC's "Today Show." Bob and his wife, Linda, live in New York City.

Charles Pepper, b'69, is retired in Fairway, where he and **Pamela Kulp Pepper**, d'71, make their home.

Kent Saylor, b'69, l'72, owns Saylor Insurance Service in Sabetha, where he and **Donna Porter Saylor**, d'69, live.

Linda Harmon Thomas, n'69, is RN-BSN coordinator at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky. She lives in Hanson and was appointed to the board of Baptist Health Madisonville.

70 Elizabeth Fager, d'70, received an honorary doctor of humane letters last spring from Washburn University, where she serves on the board of trustees. She and her husband, **Duane**, c'68, make their home in Topeka.

Sally Mauk, c'70, retired as news director of Montana Public Radio. She



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Manhattan 97.9 FM
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Atchison 89.9 FM
90.3 FM Chanute

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lives in Missoula.

Larry McElwain, c'70, has been named CEO of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce.

Sandra Smith, j'70, g'72, has retired from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. She and her husband, James Murphy, moved from Minneapolis to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Joe Vaughan, j'70, serves as honorary chairman of Wyandotte County's United Way campaign. He lives in Prairie Village and owns Joe Vaughan Associates Publishing.

71 Denise Dotson Low-Weso, c'71, g'74, PhD'98, wrote *Melange Block*, a book of poetry published by Red Mountain Press. Denise founded the creative-writing program at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, and is a former Kansas Poet Laureate.

72 Carmelo Monti, a'72, published *Is Your Mind Like Your Hair?* last

year. He lives in Orlando, Florida.

William Penny, e'72, president of Penny's Concrete, has been named to the Lawrence Business Hall of Fame. He and **Marlene VanGundy Penny**, c'71, make their home in Lawrence.

Francie Stoner, c'72, c'73, was honored last summer by Capital Who's Who Branding for her contributions to the field of communication, motivational speaking and healthcare implementation. She's CEO and partner at DifCom Designs. Francie and her husband, Bill, are residents of Weston, Missouri.

Kathryn Warren, c'72, earned a doctorate in education with a specialization in online learning design last spring from Capella University. She lives in Egg Harbor, Wisconsin.

73 Tonda Rush, j'73, l'79, owns American Press Works, an association management and public-affairs firm in Falls Church, Virginia. She lives in Arlington.

Class Notes



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Barbara Beeson Stuber, f'73, wrote *Girl in Reverse*, which was published in May by Simon and Schuster. Barbara and her husband, **Jack**, c'62, m'66, live in Mission Hills.

Perry, f'73, and **Janet Beebe Warren**, d'73, were honored by the KU School of Law with a James Woods Green Medalion. They live in Lawrence.

74 James Bartley, m'74, is an associate clinical professor at the Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, California. He also serves on the board of the American College of Medical Genetics.

William Cathcart-Rake, m'74, has been named campus dean of the KU School of Medicine in Salina, where he and **Ruth Cathcart-Rake**, c'71, g'76, live.

Sara Lytle, f'74, became advertising chair of the Santa Barbara Studio Artists board. She and her husband, Fred Davis III, live in Santa Barbara.

Krista Postai McCoy, j'74, has been appointed a trustee of the Sunflower

Foundation in Topeka. She's president and CEO of the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, and she makes her home in Pittsburg, with her husband, Max.

Patrik Neustrom, c'74, practices law with Neustrom & Associates in Salina and serves as the 2014-15 president of the Kansas Association for Justice.

75 Sheila Bair, c'75, f'78, is senior adviser for Pew Charitable Trusts in Washington, D.C. She lives in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and was elected a trustee of the RAND Corporation.

John Ryan, g'75, PhD'85, retired as a professor of history at Kansas City Kansas Community College. John and his wife, **Lois Moushey**, d'75, n'77, g'84, live in Overland Park.

76 Katherine Conway-Turner, c'76, PhD'81, serves as president of SUNY Buffalo State in Buffalo, New York.

Bertina Bender Hiss, d'76, teaches math at Great Bend High School. She was

inducted into the Kansas Teachers' Hall of Fame.

Rebecca Gartung Lyons, b'76, is a principal at Lyons Consulting. She and her husband, Michael, live in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Stanley Moore, c'76, retired from a 38-year career with Dow Chemical, lives in Lake Jackson, Texas, with his wife, Karen.

77 Bill French, j'77, retired after a 37-year career in technology sales and marketing with IBM, EMC and CISCO. He lives on a farm and ranch near St. John.

Elizabeth Llewellyn, c'77, vice president of mission integration at Alegent Creighton Health, was honored last summer by the Women's Center for Advancement for her commitment to helping women. She lives in Omaha, Nebraska.

78 Hannes Dear Combest, j'78, received the National Auctioneers Association Presidential Award of Distinc-

tion earlier this year. She lives in Lawrence and has served as CEO of NAA since 2008.

Peter Gilligan, PhD'78, director of clinical microbiology-immunology laboratories at the University of North Carolina, received the 2014 Hardy Diagnostics Professional Recognition Award last spring from the American Society for Microbiology. He and his wife, **Lynn Smiley**, c'74, live in Chapel Hill.

Joanna Miranda Glaze, j'78, was honored last spring by Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women for her community service. Joanna, who lives in Kansas City

with her husband, **Lawrence**, b'78, co-founded Bridge of Hope and is active in the Junior League and other civic organizations.

The Rev. **Sharon Howell**, '78, serves as interim president of the St. Paul School of Theology in Leawood. Her home is in Lawrence.

The Hon. **Julie Robinson**, j'78, l'81, received the KU School of Law's Distinguished Alumni Award. She lives in Lawrence and serves as a judge of the U.S. District Court.

George Wood, g'78, is county manager

of Wayne County in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

79 Karen Arnold-Burger, c'79, l'82, was nominated to be a Kansas Supreme Court justice. She serves on the Kansas Court of Appeals and lives in Overland Park with her husband, **Kurt**, '78.

Mark Copeland, b'79, manages special delivery for Allscripts-Liberty Hospital in Liberty, Missouri. He and his wife, **Melanie**, live in Overland Park.

David, j'79, and **Julie Updegraff Mikols**, c'82, returned home to Chicago after a

PROFILE by Steven Hill

'Half-pint Ironman' eyes triathlon's biggest race

Khem Suthiwan's Thai immigrant parents stressed academics over athletics, so she had little experience with sports as a kid. Not until high school would she try tennis, gymnastics and cheerleading.

An exception was the River Run, a race held each May at Wichita's Riverfest. Every year Suthiwan ran the 2-mile loop with her father. "Back then I didn't know what a PR [personal record] was," she says, "but every year I tried to set a new one."

The constant push to improve stayed with Suthiwan, c'01, as she began running marathons after moving to Colorado in 2001. By 2009 she'd completed more than a half-dozen with Team In Training, an endurance-sport training program that raises money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She switched to triathlons after the program's triathlon coaches told her she'd have more fun with the tri team.

Now the self-described "half-pint Ironman" has completed three Ironman races (most recently the Ironman 70.3 Kansas, a 1.2-mile swim, 56-mile bike and 13.1 mile run at Clinton Lake in June) with the Ironman Foundation Newton Ambassador Running team. She now

coaches for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society program where she started, and she recently was asked to represent the group in 2015 in a coveted charity slot at the sport's preeminent event: The Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii.

"It's been my dream to make the World Championship,"

Suthiwan says of the iconic race that started the triathlon craze. "It's the original Ironman; it's back to the roots of the sport. It's like getting to play in the Super Bowl."

Kona is a big jump for an athlete who says she was a "late-blooming bench warmer" in every sport she tried. But the important thing, she believes, is she tried.

"Never in a million years would I have thought I'd be able to run a marathon," says Suthiwan. "Never say never. If you have a dream, go for it."

That attitude inspires both her coaching and competing in the demanding sport.

"For me, it's not so much the professional athletes or really elite amateurs, it's the 85-year-old guy who goes out and



AMANDA COURT PHOTOGRAPHY

"When I was training for marathons, I thought people who did Ironman were crazy," Suthiwan says. "Now I'm one of them."

does it," she says, "or the person who might be 100 pounds overweight and they're out on the same course as the professionals."

Besides the physical demands posed by a grueling Kona course, the World Championship brings another daunting challenge for charity participants: a \$75,000-fundraising commitment.

Her coach, Nicole Drummer, says Suthiwan brings to fundraising the same competitive drive that fuels her racing.

"I know she's going to map out what she needs to do to get there. That's part of the Type A triathlete," Drummer says. "Some of them want to know how to get that A-plus." 🐟

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76,000-mile, yearlong trip around the world. They visited six continents and 38 countries.

Lucynda Raben, c'79, owns Tallgrass Dentistry in Wichita. In April, she was named the Kansas Dental Association's 2014 Dentist of the Year.

80 Phillip Anderson, j'80, works as a digital marketing specialist for Caterpillar Inc. in Peoria, Illinois.

Laura Ice, d'80, is deputy general counsel for Textron Financial Corporation in Wichita. She received the Howard C. Kline Distinguished Service Award from the Wichita Bar Association.

Rolfe Mandel, g'80, PhD'91, was named a KU Distinguished Professor. He lives in Topeka and is an internationally known geoarchaeologist.

Christian Miller, c'80, serves as president of the Dallas County Dental Society. He and his brother, **Matt**, c'80, own Miller and Miller, a restorative dental practice in Plano, Texas.

David Rebein, l'80, is a partner in the Dodge City law firm of Rebein Bangerter Rebein. He also serves as 2014-'15 treasurer of the Kansas Association for Justice.

Thomas Tingle, a'80, is senior vice president and national director of sports and entertainment for Skanska. Tom and his wife, Patricia, live in Shawnee.

81 Daniel Crabtree, l'81, was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as a judge of the U.S. District Court for Kansas. He and his wife, **Maureen Mahoney**, l'90, live in Kansas City.

Scott Somes, c'81, works for Good Times Restaurants in Golden, Colorado, as COO of Bad Daddy's Franchise Development. He and **Christie Coulter Somes**, c'82, live in Vail.

82 Michael Bicknell, b'82, is vice president of dealer sales and marketing for Omni United USA. He lives in Littleton, Colorado, with his wife, Vickie.

Robin Hayes Bowen, h'82, was elected this summer as president of Arkansas Tech University in Russellville.

Toni Eilerts, c'82, is a senior staff geologist at Range Resources in Fort Worth, Texas. She lives in Keller.

Gregory Friesen, a'82, president and director of design for CSNA Architects, lives in Colorado Springs.

David Hill, f'82, is vice president and distinguished designer for Lenovo in Morrisville, North Carolina. He and his wife, Jena, live in Cary.

The Hon. **Mary Murguia**, c'82, j'82, l'85, received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the KU School of Law. She is a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, and she makes her home in Phoenix.

Derek Rovaris, c'82, was named vice president for diversity at Louisiana State University in New Orleans.

Beverly Allen Schnitzer, h'82, works as a lymphedema specialist and physical therapist at CARES Health Services in Mobile, Alabama.

Laura Stephenson, g'82, PhD'86, is dean of arts and sciences at Washburn University in Topeka. She and her husband, Francois Henriquez, live in Lawrence.

MARRIED

Beverly Allen, h'82, to Edward Schnitzer, March 23 in Fairhope, Alabama. They live in Spanish Fort.

83 Sandy Clark, j'83, was named managing editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer. She lives in Wyncote.

John Dicus, b'83, g'85, is chairman and CEO of Capitol Federal Savings in Topeka, where he and **Brenda Roskens Dicus**, b'83, make their home. He received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the KU School of Business.

Donald Hall Jr., g'83, was honored with a Distinguished Alumni Award from the KU School of Business. He is president and CEO at Hallmark Cards, and he lives in Mission with **Jill Shackelford Hall**, c'78.

Martin Haynes, a'83, works as a designer at 360 Architecture in Kansas City. He and his wife, **Patricia Thomas**, g'86, live in Overland Park.

Theodore Lorenzi, e'83, has been named vice president of engineering and sustainability at Marcus Hotels & Resorts. He

lives in Hopkins, Minnesota.

Beverly Fuller Mortimer, d'83, is superintendent of schools for USD 333. She lives in Concordia and was appointed to the state K-12 Student Performance and Efficiency Commission.

Ronaldo "Nick" Nicholson, e'83, is road and highway division capital district manager for Parsons. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Frank Tsuru, e'83, is president and CEO of M2Midstream in Houston, where he and **Stephanie Skelton Tsuru**, h'83, make their home. He also serves on the University of Texas Lands Advisory Board.

84 Jason Engel, b'84, is vice president and chief regulatory counsel for Experian in Costa Mesa, California. He lives in San Juan Capistrano.

Peter Goering, PhD'84, received a Distinguished Achievement Award from Bethel College in North Newton. He works as a research toxicologist at the Food and Drug Administration, and he lives in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Connie Larsen Hodges, s'84, plans to retire in December as president of United Way Northeast Florida in Jacksonville.

Sheryl Kidwell, '84, is assistant director for residential dining at KU. She lives in Lawrence.

David Sullivan, b'84, is CEO at SDI in Chicago.

Craig Vaughn, e'84, is managing partner of Environmental Resources Management. He and his wife, Cynthia, live in Longmont, Colorado.

Martha Warren, c'84, l'87, received a James Woods Green Medallion from the KU School of Law. She is a partner at Shook, Hardy & Bacon in Kansas City.

Andrew Welch, b'84, joined Inland American Lodging Group as executive vice president and chief financial officer in Orlando, Florida.

85 Mark Deatherage, l'85, received a James Woods Green Medallion the KU School of Law. He's a partner in the Phoenix firm of Gallagher & Kennedy.

James Hoko, g'85, PhD'88, will become director of behavior services for Area Cooperative Educational Services in

Class Notes

Hamden, Connecticut, on Jan. 1.

Joseph McMahon, j'85, manages national sales for KHBS-KHOG in Fort Smith, Arkansas. He lives in Lowell.

Robyn Nordin Stowell, c'85, was named in the 2014 edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*. She's a partner in the Phoenix firm of Stinson Leonard Street.

James Wright, l'85, lives in Fairfax, Virginia, and is a principal with Wright Tax Consulting.

86 Richard Ferraro, g'86, PhD'89, has been named editor-in-chief of *Current Psychology*. He's a distinguished professor of psychology at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

Curt Landis, g'86, l'92, serves as administration director of decision support at Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare in Milwaukee. He lives in Thiensville.

Erick McCurley, g'86, is senior vice president at Marsh & McLennan in Leawood. He and **Karen Simpson McCurley**, g'87, live in Overland Park.

Jamsheed Mehta, g'86, is deputy town manager of Marana, Arizona.

87 Gary Gould, e'87, g'91, has been promoted to senior vice president of operations at Continental Resources in Oklahoma City. He and **Elizabeth Kensington Gould**, d'91, live in Edmond.

Joseph Hattesoehl, b'87, is chief financial officer at Research Affiliates in Newport Beach, California. He and **Hope Strampe Hattesoehl**, b'93, live in Aliso Viejo.

Gregory Kaul, j'87, is general manager of Hello! Texas Destination Management. He and his wife, Shannon, live in Dallas.

Bridget Huerter Richards, j'87, directs communications for Blue Ocean Enterprises in Fort Collins, Colorado. She and her husband, Chris, live in Evergreen.

Martha Aaron Ross, c'87, l'90, has been appointed to the board of trustees of the

Sunflower Foundation. She's a principal at Pershing Yoakley & Associates, where she advises doctors and hospitals about healthcare regulations. Martha lives in Leawood.

88 Bryan Becker, m'88, received a 2014 Leadership Award from Becker's Healthcare. He is associate vice president of hospital operations at the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System and CEO of the University of Illinois Hospital in Chicago.

Timothy Cook, c'88, has been promoted to president of Shick USA. He and **Hunter Gibbs Cook**, c'91, g'96, live in Kansas City.

William Covington Jr., '88, chairs the curriculum, assessment and administrative division of the Broadcast Education Association. He lives in West Monroe, Louisiana.

The Rev. **Kevin Hopkins**, s'88, serves as minister to Baker University in Baldwin City. He lives in Leavenworth.

James Larson, PhD'88, wrote "*A is for the Alchemist: A Winnie and Winslow Adventure*." He lives in Omaha, Nebraska, where he was longtime artistic director of the Omaha Theater Company.

Jacob Winenz, g'88, has been appointed finance director for the city of Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

MARRIED

Michael Frakes, c'88, to Malisa Iannino, June 14 in Boston. Michael directs clinical services and organizational quality for Boston MedFlight, and Malisa is a nurse in the neonatal intensive-care unit at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center. They live in Mansfield.

89 Gary Allen, PhD'89, serves as deputy director of the Instrumentation Training Analysis Computer Simulations Directorate at the U.S. Army Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany.

Frederick Gould, l'89, and his wife, Julie, received a James Woods Green Medallion from the KU School of Law. He practices law in Seattle, where they live.

Kelly Herman-Roberts, d'89, is assistant superintendent for student achievement

and accountability for the Putnam County Charter School System in Eatonton, Georgia. She and her husband, Clarence, live in Gray.

Steven Huff, b'89, g'91, was named 2014 Kansas City Father of the Year by the National Center for Fathering. He manages information technology at Capital Federal Savings Bank in Topeka.

90 Gregory Burger, p'90, p'92, teaches medication safety and error prevention for the KU School of Pharmacy. He's a medication safety pharmacist at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. Greg lives in Lecompton.

Bradley Harris, c'90, is a senior philanthropic adviser for the Arizona Community Foundation in Phoenix.

91 Eric Finkbiner, p'91, works as a clinical pharmacist at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City. He and **Karen Mitchell Finkbiner**, p'92, live in Tonganoxie.

Jon Mohatt, b'91, g'97, is chief financial officer at Kalispell Regional Healthcare in Kalispell, Montana, where he and his wife, Courtney, make their home.

David Morris, a'91, is a principal with the Beck Group in Denver.

Angela Jacobson Watson, b'91, is vice president of international sales for United Parcel Service. She lives in Weston, Florida.

BORN TO:

Bo, c'91, and **Caroline Koch Gollier**, j'00, c'00, son, Benjamin Joel, July 29 in Lawrence, where he joins a brother, Elijah.

92 Robert Burns, g'92, is president and CEO of City First Homes in Washington, D.C. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia.

Tara Ferguson, c'92, received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to study Mozart in Vienna, Austria, last summer. She teaches at Desert Marigold School and lives in Phoenix.

Scott Hanna, j'92, g'00, was promoted to vice president of business development for Skyline Displays. He and **Mendi Stauffer Hanna**, j'94, live in Lenexa.



Clay Pearson, g'92, is city manager of Pearland, Texas.

Katherine Blatherwick Pickert, c'92, g'98, has been appointed to a three-year term as a trustee of the Pi Beta Phi Foundation. She's a client-relationship manager for Pegasus Capital Management. Kate and her husband, **Allen**, c'92, j'97, live in Lawrence.

93 Harry Herington Jr., l'93, and his wife, Cindy, were honored by the KU School of Law with a James Woods Green Medallion. He's chairman of the

board and CEO of NIC-USA Inc. in Olathe. Harry and Cindy live in Lawrence.

Chris Moeser, c'93, j'93, is of counsel with Ballard Spahr in Phoenix, where he and **Susan Brinkman Moeser**, j'92, make their home.

Frank White III, c'93, is vice president of Source One Group in Blue Springs, Missouri. He lives in Lee's Summit.

94 Blythe Focht Talbott, j'94, is director and independent fashion consultant for Vault Denim. She and her husband, Steven, c'92, live in St. Louis.

95 Mark Button, j'95, directs communications for the Texas Golf Association in Dallas, where he lives.

Mary Hinton, g'95, has been selected as the 15th president of the College of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph, Missouri.

MARRIED

96 John Blair, c'96, to William Black, June 14 in Provincetown, Massachusetts. They live in Washington, D.C., where John is director of intergovernmental and external affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior. William manages projects for

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

Professor pursues pews for health outreach studies

After earning her KU bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, Jannette Berkley-Patton worked for three years at AlliedSignal Aerospace in Kansas City, building components for nuclear weapons. Then came three years with Alcoa, based in Dallas, selling aluminum sheets to aerospace companies across the country.

"I was part of the war machine," Berkley-Patton, e'88, g'97, PhD'04, says from her office at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, where she is a newly tenured associate professor of psychology and director of the Community Health Research Group.

Berkley-Patton grew up near 39th and Prospect, in what she calls "inner-city Kansas City." While living in Texas, she gravitated toward the urban neighborhoods of South Dallas, where she spent her weekends counseling girls. "That's where I found my joy," she recalls, and six years into a successful career, she left it behind to enroll in graduate school at KU.

Studying under Steve Fawcett, g'73, PhD'74, Distinguished Professor of applied behavioral science, Berkley-Patton focused on community-based health improvement projects that addressed youth substance abuse, violence preven-

tion and teen pregnancy. She brought that "community-engaged approach" to UMKC, where she works closely with African-American churches on health-disparity issues of particular urgency to the black community.

Funded by an \$850,000 federal grant, Berkley-Patton and community volunteers last fall conducted health-needs assessments with 450 members of 11 Kansas City churches, focusing on diabetes, heart disease and stroke; that project launches this fall in six metro KC churches. She also recently received a \$3.2 million grant to assess HIV testing in 14 African-American churches.

Her studies build upon existing church hallmarks of inspiration, communication and support. Messages are delivered by pastors during sermons and extend into Bible study groups, social events, bulletins and even scripted telephone outreach.

"On any given Sunday, over 50 percent of black folks are in somebody's pew," Berkley-Patton says, "and these messages are woven into the whole existing process



Jannette Berkley-Patton says her studies are extensions of such 1990s initiatives as the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS and the National Week of Prayer.

of church. They're hearing a sermon, they're hearing a testimonial, they're doing responsive reading, and all of those things have been tailored around the health outcomes and prevention messages that we've designed into the project."

The work demands countless hours, including evenings and weekends, but that's nothing new for Berkley-Patton, who lived in Grandview, Missouri, the entire time she was in graduate school in Lawrence, commuting three hours a day with two toddlers at home.

"I have a ball," she says. "I work incredibly long hours, but I absolutely love what I do."

STEVE PUPPE

Class Notes

the law firm of Latham & Watkins.

98 Mindi Stoppel Davidson, b'98, is vice president of human resources for First Bank Kansas in Salina, where she and her husband, **Todd**, b'95, make their home.

Michael Goodwin, g'98, was named senior vice president and chief information officer of PetSmart. He lives in Leawood with his wife, Monica.

99 Jordan Smith Rose, c'99, g'08, received the Bobs Award from the Lawrence Schools Foundation. The \$10,000 annual prize honors outstanding teachers. She teaches chemistry at Free State High School in Lawrence, where she and her husband, Micah, c'01, make their home.

BORN TO:

Kevin Yoder, c'99, f'02, and **Brooke Robinson Yoder**, f'05, a daughter, Caroline Lucille, Nov. 7 in Merriam. Kevin is a U.S. congressman representing the 3rd District of Kansas, and Brooke is chief of staff and director of government relations for Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences.

00 Caleb Stegall, f'00, was appointed by Gov. Sam Brownback to serve as a Kansas Supreme Court justice. He makes his home in Lawrence.

BORN TO:

Molly McNearney Kimmel, j'00, and Jimmy, daughter, Jane, July 10 in Los Angeles, where Molly is head writer at Jimmy Kimmel Live!

01 Erinn Barcomb-Peterson, j'01, directs news and media relations for KU's Office of Public Affairs. She and her husband, **Gregory**, c'02, live in Lawrence.

Kelli Deuth Calhoon, e'01, is senior manager and air-quality consultant for ENVIRON International in Overland Park. She and her husband, **Bradley**, '98, live in Shawnee.

Lisa Gargano, c'01, works for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, where she's a scientist for

disaster outcomes. Lisa lives in Long Island City.

David Mitchell, c'01, g'03, is an assistant professor of public administration at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

Amanda Witty, d'01, g'05, and **Bryan Harrity**, c'04, j'04, make their home in Overland Park with their son, Bennett, 1.

02 Janice Keller Williams, j'02, directs data analysis and reporting for the Emporia State University Foundation. She and her husband, Bryan, live in Emporia.

BORN TO:

Andrew, a'02, and **Melissa Biggs Moddrell**, c'03, son, Max, April 27 in Chicago.

03 Scott Meyer, c'03, is associate commissioner for the Colonial Athletic Association. He and **Amanda Wilcox Meyer**, j'01, live in Richmond, Virginia.

Stephanie Smith, c'03, f'07, lives in Wilmington, Delaware, where she's an associate with Rawle & Henderson.

04 Jason Farley, b'04, was named to the Master Builders of Iowa future leadership program. He lives in Des Moines and works at Whitfield & Eddy.

Kathryn Domet Putnam, j'04, practices law with Slowiaczek, Albers & Astley in Omaha, Nebraska.

Juan Toledo, p'04, lives in San Diego, where he's a clinical pharmacist at UCSD Medical Center.

MARRIED

Julie May, c'04, to Dontrell Austin, July 12 in Fort Worth, Texas, where they live.

BORN TO:

Drew Thomas, c'04, g'11, and Abbey, daughter, Vera Catherine, June 3 in Overland Park. Drew is a high-school instructional-resource teacher for Olathe USD 233.

05 Joseph Bain, f'05, serves on the Kansas Board of Regents. He is vice president of the law firm of Cure and Bain in Goodland, where he lives.

John, p'05, and **Sue Hamon Kollhoff**, p'97, own Kollhoff Pharmacy in Junction City.

Anthony Santaularia, c'05, directs real estate for Running Specialty Group in Denver.

MARRIED

Bradley Thies, b'05, g'07, to Alexandra "Sacha" Nana, Feb. 8 in Kansas City, where they live. Bradley owns Barr Assurance & Advisory, and Sacha works for Hallmark Cards.

06 Jeffrey Larkin, c'06, joined Personalized Family Dental Care in Lawrence, where he lives.

Kate Morrard, f'06, manages the U.S. Navy's Archaeology and Conservation Laboratory and the Archaeological Artifact Loan Program. She lives in Washington, D.C.

Toni Argueta Witt, p'06, manages the Hy-Vee Pharmacy in Lawrence, where she and her husband, **Jason**, '10, live.

MARRIED

Mary Ann Mohr, b'06, and **Mishkin Santa**, assoc., May 25 in South Padre Island, Texas. They live in Austin, where Mary Ann is a recruiter for Embarcadero Technologies and Mishkin directs tax resolution at Five Stone Tax Advisers.

07 Paul Lantis, c'07, f'10, is associate attorney with Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Wendy Lynn, f'07, works as an associate for Glynn & Finley in Walnut Creek, California. She lives in Dublin.

Brian McTaggart, c'07, and his wife, Kari, will celebrate their first anniversary Oct. 5. They live in Chicago, where Brian is a surety account executive at AON.

Amy McVey, c'07, is a consulting meteorologist for TRC Environmental. She lives in Dracut, Massachusetts.

Whitney Novak, j'07, is a research attorney with the Kansas Court of Appeals in Topeka. She lives in Shawnee.

08 David Harmon, g'08, m'10, is an instructor of medicine at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland.



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Class Notes



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36 USC 220506

Mark Hulsey, c'08, has been promoted to senior vice president of production and executive producer at the Big Ten Network in Chicago.

Jenna Custer Jones, d'08, c'11, g'12, is an assistant principal at Spring Hill Middle School. She and her husband, Erik, make their home in Olathe.

Megan Hodges McCord, c'08, works as an ABA implementer for Partners in Behavioral Milestones. She and her husband, **Brett**, a'06, live in Olathe.

Bryce McMichael, d'08, directs IEG in Chicago. He and **Elizabeth Buddig McMichael**, d'07, g'13, live in Clarendon Hills.

Darin Olivarez, b'08, g'09, manages project accounting for Black & Veatch in Overland Park.

Kelli Stout, c'08, is an associate with the Kansas City firm of Husch Blackwell.

MARRIED

Ryan Naylor, c'08, to Myka Maxwell, June 14 in Oklahoma City. They make their home in Edmond.

09 Jill Custer, b'09, works as a client service coordinator for MLB.com in New York City, where she lives.

Samuel Jeter, c'09, and his wife, Anna, celebrated their first anniversary Sept. 14. They live in Kansas City, where Sam is an associate with Polsinelli.

Alyssa Boone Williamson, f'09, l'12, practices law with Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer in Los Angeles. She and her husband, **Robert**, b'06, l'11, live in Playa Del Rey.

MARRIED

Andrew Stiles, c'09, and **Brianna Fenn**, d'13, Jan. 4 in Lawrence. Andy coordinates enrollment and is an adviser at Ottawa University, and Brianna is a receptionist at Luthi & Rosentreter Eye Care in Olathe.

BORN TO:

Jordan Ferguson Lisher, b'09, and **Carl**, '10, son, Pierce Michael, in Lawrence, where Jordan coordinates prospect management for KU Endowment. Carl is a

respiratory therapist at Children's Mercy Hospitals & Clinics in Kansas City.

10 Erica Braker, b'10, manages marketing for Unbound in Kansas City.

Nathan Carter, b'10, g'11, works in senior transaction advisory services at McGladrey in Dallas.

Blake Phipps, c'10, m'14, practices medicine at the John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth, Texas.

Patricia Ryberg, PhD'10, has received a research grant from the National Science Foundation for her work on Antarctic paleobotany. She's an assistant professor of biology at Park University in Parkville, Missouri.

Patrick Salyer, b'10, joined Kennedy & Coe as an associate. He makes his home in Wichita.

11 Amanda Austerman, n'11, works as a nurse at Lee's Summit Medical Center in Lee's Summit, Missouri, where she lives with her husband, Tim.

Elliot Johnson, b'11, g'14, coordinates

development for Health Care Access in Lawrence.

Anthony Mott, n'11, works for St. Luke's of Kansas City. He lives in Roeland Park.

Kashif Naseem, e'11, works as a reservoir engineer for Schlumberger Technology. He lives in Houston.

Michael Tetwiler, c'11, a student in the KU School of Medicine, has been accepted into Harvard's master's program in public health and received a Fulbright Scholarship to study in Peru. He helped found the Coalition for Global Community Health, a nonprofit organization that helps provide

clean water and medication to people in impoverished areas of Peru and Guatemala.

MARRIED

Anthony Mott, n'11, to Crystal DeLorenzi, May 17 in KU's Danforth Chapel. They live in Roeland Park, and Anthony works for St. Luke's Health System.

12 Joshua Baden, c'12, is an actuarial assistant at Se2 in Topeka. He lives in Lawrence.

Kelli Blacklock, a'12, g'14, works as a

designer for Treanor Architects in Lawrence.

Casey Eisenbarth, g'12, works as a speech-language pathologist for the Shawnee Heights school system. She lives in Topeka.

Timothy Ellis, c'12, received a five-year teaching fellowship from the Knowles Science Teaching Foundation. A Manhattan native, Timothy lives in Lawrence.

Emily Franke, b'12, coordinates development for Ronald McDonald House Charities in Austin, Texas.

Anne Salvato, c'12, g'14, works as a

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

Sharapova latest superstar to turn to Groeneveld

The coaching philosophy that guides Sven Groeneveld as coach of Maria Sharapova—2014 French Open champion and one of the world's most popular female athletes—grew out of a frustrating end to his brief KU tennis career.

An unconventional path to Kansas, from his native Holland, through a family move to South America and then two years as an NAIA champion at a small Missouri college, created a confusing transcript, which in turn led to a startling NCAA ruling: On the eve of his senior year, Groeneveld, '89, was told he had exhausted his eligibility.

A Big Eight singles champion in 1987, Groeneveld remained at KU as an assistant to coach Scott Perelman, but left before completing his degree, hung up his racket and worked construction for six months before returning to Holland.

"That's why I've had the success," Groeneveld says, "because I go to the person and I make sure they don't make the mistakes I made. You learn from your mistakes, not only in tennis but in the daily activities of your life."

Shortly after finishing college in Holland, Groeneveld in 1991 accepted an offer to coach at a tennis school in Japan.

The man who hired him, Tex Swain—whose brother, Gary, was then John McEnroe's manager—tried to convince Groeneveld to resume playing; Groeneveld insisted he wanted to devote himself to coaching.

That's when Swain's brother dispatched a request for a coach to spend 10 days with Monica Seles, then the world's top-ranked player, as she prepared for a tournament in Japan. Swain offered the gig to Groeneveld, Seles won, and his career took off.

For the next decade and a half he coached such stars as Seles, Mary Pierce, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and Greg Rusedski.

In 2006 Groeneveld joined Adidas as its first director of player development, coaching all of the brand's players. He helped Ana Ivanovic to the 2008 French Open title and worked with Andy Murray and world No. 1 Caroline Wozniacki.

His run with Adidas ended when Sharapova, eager to resume her place among the tennis elite after a frustrating and injury-shortened 2013, asked him to join her team.

"A coach's role varies in different stages of the player's career, but my main role has been performance, which is results related. At the end of the day, what I'm doing, it's about getting the trophy."

Another lesson gleaned from his playing



Sven Groeneveld with Maria Sharapova's French Open trophy shortly after her June victory. It was a second for both: she also won in Stade Roland Garros in 2012, and he coached Ana Ivanovic to the '08 title.

career is to see the person, not just the player. Groeneveld says he is calm, observant and analytical, yet he played "forward and aggressively." The style did not suit his personality, a lapse in judgment he wants to help his players avoid.

"I find the character, their strength, their inner drive, their passion, their motivation, and then I assess: How do I match their game to their personality? Who is the person that makes the player?"

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speech-language pathologist for the Pacific Autism Center for Education in Santa Clara, California.

Taylor Teague, c'12, teaches first grade in Dallas.

Keith Yackle, b'12, is a delivery consultant for Cerner in Kansas City.

MARRIED

Ian McGonigle, b'12, to Mary-Rachel Dick, June 7 in Dana, Indiana. Ian works for the Altria Group, and Mary-Rachel is a television sportscaster. They make their home in Wichita.

Megan Ritter, c'12, and **Steven Belgeri**, c'12, May 24 in St. Louis, where they live. Megan is the St. Louis regional admissions representative for the KU Office of Admissions, and Steven is a manufacturer's representative for Central Marketing Associates.

13 Chanda Machebe, e'13, works as an engineer trainee for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation in Oklahoma City, where she lives.

Nicholas Purifoy, f'13, practices law with Disability Professionals in Kansas City.

Zhi Qiao, f'13, is an associate with the Tian Yuan Law Firm in Beijing, China.

Daffodil Reumund, j'13, is an assistant account executive for Pierpont Communications in Houston.

MARRIED

Amy Schrupf, p'13, and **Christopher Carter**, p'13, May 24 in St. Louis, where they live. Amy is a pharmacist at Bellevue Pharmacy in Maryland Heights, and Christopher is a pharmacy resident at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

PROFILE by Margie Carr

Tenacity propels Thomas in life and career

Perhaps no one is better suited to work with children with autism than Carmen Thomas. "I know how a disability can scare people off," she says. "But I think when the kids see me, we connect on a deeper level."

Born with bilateral amelia, a condition that left her without arms and with shortened legs, Thomas, c'12, relies on a mouth stick for most things others use their hands for, and a specially designed wheelchair which she operates with her right foot. "One of the boys calls it 'Carmen's car!'" she says, laughing.

Her wheelchair may make her popular with preschoolers at Olathe Public School's Harmony Early Childhood Center, where she works as a paraeducator and autism specialist, but what makes her such an asset to a population often considered difficult to reach are the personal traits—the tenacity and outgoing nature—she has exhibited all her life.

Although doctors thought she would never walk, she taught herself. She can walk for short distances, usually around her apartment. "I fell a lot in the beginning," she says, "but I didn't give up."

At KU, Thomas joined AbleHawks, a student organization that heightens

awareness of disability issues, and made a lasting impact on the group and future students. After being trapped in a newly remodeled Wescoe Hall elevator (the control panel was beyond reach of her mouth stick and foot), she served on KU's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Review Task Force. She and other AbleHawks successfully advocated for hiring a full-time staff member devoted to accessibility issues and ADA education.

Thomas also brought her affable personality to the group.

"When I got there it was all about advocacy; there was nothing social about it," she says. She began organizing monthly social gatherings such as game nights and dinners. "It is important to have get-togethers to forget the stresses of school—at least for a little while."

Her accomplishments and determination impressed the Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation, which last year gave her the Peter John Loux Award, started by former Kansas House of Representatives minority leader R.C. "Pete" Loux to recognize those who demonstrate "excep-



STEVE PUPPE

Carmen Thomas, a paraeducator and autism specialist with Olathe Public Schools, says her personal experience with a disability helps her connect with the autistic schoolchildren she works with. "They know I am not one to give up on them."

tional desire and dedication" in overcoming difficulties presented by disabilities.

"Nothing holds her back," says Pat Terick, award committee chairman, noting that her selection was a natural fit. "Pete was an early advocate for special education in the state, and we liked that Carmen is in the classroom working with special needs students."

Thomas likes working with the students as well. "I know things don't always come easily," she says, "but I like finding solutions, finding ways around the obstacles these kids face."

—Carr, d'84, g'89, PhD'04, is a Lawrence freelance writer.

Class Notes



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14 Maria Rocha Arandia, e'14, works as a chemical engineer for Black & Veatch in Leawood. She commutes from Lawrence.

Sean Barker, g'14, is president and Microsoft architect at SkyScape Technologies. He lives in Grain Valley, Missouri.

Megan Bracciano, u'14, teaches music in the Lawrence public-school system.

Benjamin Buyanovsky, e'14, is an assistant electrical engineer with Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City. He lives in Spring Hill.

Jacob Clauton, c'14, is a research assistant at the Kansas Geological Survey. His home is in Paola.

Ashley Ennis, p'14, works as a pharmacist with Walgreens in Wichita.

James Ferguson, g'14, is a database analyst at Russell Stover Candies in Kansas City.

Bethany Gagelin, d'14, works as a seasonal sales representative for the Kansas City Chiefs football team.

Shanah Gaskill, b'14, is community

manager for Uber in Dallas.

Matthew Gasparovich, e'14, works as a product engineer for SOR Inc. in Lenexa.

Lauren Giarratano, j'14, works for the National Agri-Marketing Association in Overland Park.

Dylan Gondek, c'14, manages accounts for Valor Group. He lives in Lawrence.

Israel Grafals, c'14, is a senior loan officer for Delmar Financial in St. Louis.

Taylor Hatfield, '14, is assistant softball coach for the Lady Tigers at Cowley College in Arkansas City.

Mark Hays, c'14, manages staffing for Supplemental Health Care. He lives in Overland Park.

Sean Heard, e'14, works as a mechanical engineer with SmithGroupJJR in Chicago.

Julie Hettinger, d'14, is a project coordinator at Anschutz Health and Wellness Center in Aurora, Colorado.

Kelli Hobbs, c'14, works as a customer-service specialist for Sophia Global in Lawrence, where she lives.

Craig Jackson Jr., g'14, is associate

director of development for the Oklahoma State University Foundation in Stillwater.

Larkin Jaynes, s'14, works as an intensive in-home therapist for KVC Behavioral Healthcare in Kansas City.

Jessica Joffe, b'14, is a marketing and events intern at Sprint in Overland Park.

Anna Kimbrell, f'14, g'14, is an associate with Husch Blackwell in Kansas City.

Madeleine Klusman, c'14, is executive director of Five Star Quality Care in Overland Park. She lives in Weston, Missouri.

Veerendra Koppolu, PhD'14, is a molecular biology research scientist for Metacclipse Therapeutics in Atlanta, where he makes his home.

Jill Langlas, e'14, works as a project engineer for Chevron Phillips Chemical Company. She lives in Wheaton, Illinois.

Jordan McNally, e'14, is associate southern production engineer for Continental Resources. She makes her home in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Emily Mills, g'14, works as a learning

consultant for The Hartford in Overland Park, where she lives.

Kelsey Nelson, d'14, teaches physical education for the Gardner Edgerton School District. Her home is in Overland Park.

Riley Noll, e'14, works as a structural engineer for CEO Structures in Mission. He lives in Valley Falls.

Jennifer Ohler, d'14, works as a professional services consultant with the Cerner Corporation in Kansas City.

Cody Paul, c'14, is a performance modeler with Westar Energy in Topeka. He lives in Lawrence.

Tanner Poppe, d'14, plays baseball with the Brevard County Manatees in Viera, Florida. The Manatees are the Class A-Advanced affiliate of the Milwaukee Brewers. His home is in Lawrence.

Nicole Rissky, e'14, is a process engineer with Chevron Phillips Chemical Company. She lives in Tecumseh.

Katie Yohe Roberts, d'14, teaches for the Cartwright School District. She and her husband, **David**, e'13, live in

Avondale, Arizona. He's a mechanical engineer.

Katherine Rowe, e'14, works as a drilling engineer for Occidental Petroleum. She lives in Overland Park.

Theresa Ruperd, g'14, is an administration director for the American Institute of Musical Studies in Kansas City.

Elaina Smith, u'14, works as a customer support specialist for Uhlig. She makes her home in Olathe.

Erin Smith, PhD'14, is a research associate at Mathew Greenwald and Associates in Washington, D.C., where she lives.

Lauren Spain, c'14, is a university service adviser at Washburn University in Topeka, where she lives.

Angela St. Louis, s'14, works for ReDiscover in Lee's Summit, Missouri. She lives in Liberty.

Lisa Scrivener Vachalek, g'14, is an associate social-media analyst for Intouch Solutions. She lives in Lenexa.

Chelsea Weeks, j'14, is assistant marketing coordinator for Burns &

McDonnell in Kansas City. She lives in Leavenworth.

Kaitlyn Winkler, d'14, is an office claims adjuster for Farmer's Insurance. She makes her home in Olathe.

Mark Withrow, g'14, works as a laboratory technician for Triumph Foods in St. Joseph, Missouri.

MARRIED

Morgan Shockley, s'14, to Andrew Haney, June 6 in Tivoli, Italy. She is a residential care specialist at Kids TLC in Olathe, and he's a correctional officer for the Douglas County Sheriff's Office. They live in Lawrence.

BORN TO:

Larissa Johnson Edmonds, g'14, and Brent, daughter, Lilly Elyse, May 9. Larissa is a nurse at Olathe Medical Center, and they make their home in Eudora.

Allen Reinhardt, c'14, and Bernadette, daughter, Morgan Jane, Jan. 19 in Lawrence, where Allen works for General Dynamics.

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In Memory

30s Dorothy Moore Harbaugh, d'32, f'32, 102, March 1 in Enid, Oklahoma, where she was a retired teacher. She is survived by a son, Hank, assoc.; a daughter; three grandsons; and four great-grandsons.

C. Kenneth Harris, c'39, 96, Jan. 2 in Ottawa, where he was a partner in Central Check Company. He is survived by his wife, Jane, assoc.; two sons, one of whom is Scott, '74; a daughter; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Harry Reitz, b'37, 98, June 19 in Eudora, where he was a retired captain in the U.S. Marine Corps and a former life-insurance agent. Surviving are a son, Joe, b'60; five grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandson.

John Sheaks, b'37, g'43, 101, July 11 in Wichita, where he was a businessman. He is survived by a daughter, Susan Sheaks Hammons, c'66; a son; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

40s Lafe Bauer, c'44, m'49, 94, March 14 in Mission. He had been chief of anesthesia and president of the medical staff at St. Mary's Hospital in Kansas City. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are three sons, two of whom are Martin, c'69, m'73, and James, '76; three brothers; a sister, Pera Bauer Eichelberger, '49; and five grandchildren.

Sara Jayne Scott Breyfogle, d'48, 86, April 17 in Leawood, where she was a founder of the Olathe Service League. She is survived by a son, Scott Kreamer, c'74; a daughter, Kate Kreamer, d'75, g'86; a stepson; a stepdaughter; and two grandchildren.

Robert Castor, b'47, l'49, 91, May 20 in Leawood, where he retired from a career in construction. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by a son, Robert, '73; a daughter, Melinda Castor Korte, '80; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The Hon. **Kenneth Harmon, b'47, l'50**, 92, July 18 in Lawrence, where he was a retired judge. He is survived by his wife,

Sue, assoc.; two sons, Kevin, '78, and Kelly, '82; a daughter, Susan Harmon Coleman, n'94; and four grandchildren.

Mary Ewers Heimann, b'42, 93, March 20 in Corpus Christi, Texas, where she did volunteer work. She is survived by three daughters, a son, two grandsons and two great-granddaughters.

Shirley Hyde, n'48, 88, July 23 in Courtland, where she was a retired nurse. Her twin sister, Beverly, n'48, survives.

Robert Jelinek, c'48, m'53, 88, March 21 in Granite Bay, California, where he was a retired physician. Surviving are his wife, Meryl, a son, a sister and two grandchildren.

Charles "Bud" Keller, e'45, 88, June 4 in Overland Park, where he was a retired executive partner at Black and Veatch. Surviving are his wife, Marie; two sons, Charles V, e'68, g'70, and William, '84; a brother, John, b'52; a stepson; a stepdaughter; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Martha "Marty" Learned, '48, 87, May 14 in Lawrence, where she was an accountant at Allen Press for 47 years. She is survived by two brothers, George, c'49, g'52, m'55, and Robert Jr., c'51, p'54.

Alice Shankland Miller, '47, 89, May 17 in Kansas City, where she was active in community affairs. She is survived by a son, David, j'78; a daughter, Allison Miller Frizell, n'81; a sister, Betsy Shankland Gill, c'59; and three grandchildren.

W. Keith Moore, g'48, PhD'51, 91, July 26 in Marshall, Michigan. He was a professor emeritus of math at Albion College. Surviving are his wife, Mary Margaret Felt Moore, c'45; three sons, two of whom are Timothy, f'79, and Donel, l'81; a brother; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

William O'Brien, c'49, 88, April 25 in Leawood, where he was former vice president and board secretary of Home Savings Association and a vice president of C.F. Curry and Company. He is survived by his wife, Harolyn Clark O'Brien, d'49; three sons, Clark, c'76, m'79, William,

b'78, e'84, and John, b'84; a daughter, Cynthia, c'75; a sister; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Wallace Rouse, e'49, 86, Jan. 18 in Delavan, Wisconsin, where he was a retired engineer and a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. He is survived by his wife, Rosalie; two daughters, one of whom is Anne Rouse Maraccini, c'80, d'82; five sons, one of whom is Thomas, c'85; a sister, Mary Jo Smith Jones, c'57; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Marjorie Jean Spurrier Sirridge, m'44, 92, July 30 in Kansas City, where she was a professor emerita of medicine and dean of medicine at UMKC. She is survived by a daughter, Mary, '64; three sons, Stephen, c'70, g'72, m'75, Patrick, c'71, l'74, and Christopher, '76; and 11 grandchildren.

Margaret Leisy Steineger, s'49, 88, May 16. She divided her time between homes in Delray Beach, Florida, and Kansas City, where she was former board chair of the Kansas Arts Commission. Surviving are two sons, John III, b'72, and Chris, g'92; two daughters, Cynthia Steineger Blair, a'74, and Melissa, j'77; and a granddaughter.

50s Victor Aldea, e'56, 84, Oct. 19 in La Junta, Colorado, where he was retired vice president of Western Canning. Among survivors are his wife, Dona Benschmidt Aldea, b'56; three daughters; a son; and eight grandchildren.

The Rev. **Robert Alpers, c'55**, 79, May 31 in Hendersonville, North Carolina, where he was retired after a 55-year career as a pastor in the United Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; two sons; two daughters, one of whom is Debra Alpers Puga, '76; a stepson; and seven grandchildren.

Rebecca Larson Bohon, c'50, 86, May 24 in Overland Park, where she was a retired physical therapist. Surviving are two daughters, Barbara Bohon, h'77, m'82, and Beth Bohon Dixon, '81; a sister, Virginia Larson, d'52; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

George Corcoran, c'54, 91, June 1 in Lawrence, where he practiced law and was an administrative law judge and special assistant attorney general. He is survived by a daughter, Mary Corcoran McCracken,

d'72; a son, George, c'81; nine grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

William Decker, c'57, June 13 in Parsons. He is survived by a son and two daughters, one of whom is Dianne Decker Bomar, '80.

John Eriksen, b'57, 78, May 8 in Hutchinson, where he was retired vice president of business development at First National Bank. He also was a board member of the KU Alumni and Endowment associations and of the Greater University Fund. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Jane Faubion Eriksen, '58; a son, Jeff, b'79; a daughter, Jana, c'81; and five grandchildren.

Forrest Fernkopf, g'58, 85, May 25 in Topeka, where he had a 41-year career in education and had supervised student teachers at Washburn University for several years. Surviving are three daughters, one of whom is Louann Fernkopf Fulmer, '82; a sister; Donna Fernkopf Parmiter, assoc.; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Cynthia Patterson Goodwin, c'55, 81, July 27 in Chesterfield, Missouri. She is survived by her husband, Lynden, c'54; a daughter; a son; a brother, Richard Patterson, b'59, g'60; and two grandchildren.

Dean Grimm, e'58, 83, April 26 in Parker, Colorado, where he was retired from a career with NASA. In 2010, he received KU's Distinguished Engineering Service Award. He is survived by his wife, Eunice, assoc.; a son, Gregory, e'85; a daughter; a brother; and five grandchildren.

Bill Herwig, b'50, 85, May 17 in Overland Park, where he was retired from a career in the floor-covering industry. Among survivors are his wife, Betty; a daughter; and two sons, Robert, c'77, and Mark, c'85.

Glen Hutchison, m'50, 92, May 9 in Overland Park, where he was a retired anesthesiologist and family physician. He is survived by his wife, Nada; two sons, Michael, m'78, and Marc, m'79; two daughters, one of whom is Marla Hutchison Crockett, n'78; two brothers, one of whom is David, '45; six grandchildren;

and three great-grandchildren.

Joan Happy James, d'50, 85, July 5 in Raymore, Missouri, where she was active in church and community affairs. She also helped run James Printing. She is survived by her husband, Roger, j'48; two sons, Roger, b'76, and Evan, j'78; a daughter; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Edith Malott-LaBonte, c'50, 84, July 9 in Palo Alto, California. She is survived by a son; a daughter; a sister, Janet Malott Elliot, f'50; a brother, Robert Malott, c'48; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Robert Pope, e'52, g'58, 82, March 2 in Ballwin, Missouri, where he was executive director emeritus of Theta Tau engineering fraternity. He had been editor-in-chief of the fraternity's magazine, The Gear of Theta Tau. Bob and a friend developed a professional strong-man act called The Iron Men, which performed at venues across the nation and on several national TV shows.

Diana Sherwood Rinehart, d'51, 84, May 16 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where she was active in Republican politics. She is survived by her husband, William Jr., c'52; four sons, one of whom is William III, d'73; and seven grandchildren.

Jadeen Scott Rivard, '50, 80, April 28 in Leawood, where she was active in her church and in PEO. Among survivors are her husband, Mark, b'53; three daughters; and a son.

Robert Schaeffer, '55, 83, April 23 in Liberty, Missouri. He participated in track and field at the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki and had been president of Krug Litho Art Co. He is survived by his wife, Evie, a daughter, a son and five grandchildren.

Donald Slawson, c'55, 80, July 7 in Wichita, where he founded Slawson Companies, an independent oil-exploration firm. He was former chairman of the Kansas Board of Regents and had been past president of the KU Alumni Association and of the KU Athletics Board. He received the 1984 Ellsworth Medallion for his service to KU. He is survived by his wife, Judith Garver Slawson, '57; three sons, two of whom are Todd, e'84, and Craig, c'80; and five grandchildren.

Gomer Stukesbary, p'50, 87, May 21 in Ness City, where he operated Rexall Pharmacy for many years. He is survived by his wife, Becky, assoc.; two daughters; a son, Robert, d'73; three granddaughters; and five great-grandchildren.

Jerry Ward, '50, 86, May 28 in Great Bend, where he was a retired attorney. He is survived by his wife, Norma Souther Ward, '51; two sons, Martin, b'74, j'77, and William, '78; a daughter, Dana Ward Peters, d'77; six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Charles Wertz, d'57, g'63, 79, March 9 in Sherman, Texas, where he was a music educator. He is survived by his wife, Georgia; a son, Brad, f'78, d'81; four daughters, one of whom is Marcy Wertz Gaston, '79; four stepsons; 28 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

John Whitmore, e'52, 89, April 3 in Conklin, New York. He owned a research and development company and had helped design the Hubble Space Telescope. He is survived by two sons; two daughters, one of whom is Jennifer, assoc.; two stepsons; a stepdaughter; a brother; four grandchildren; five stepgrandchildren; and seven stepgreat-grandchildren.

Howard "Press" Wilson, c'50, l'52, 90, July 12 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he was a retired oil and gas landman. He is survived by his daughter, Eve Wilson Messick, c'81; three sons; a brother; and seven grandchildren.

Dennis Wolfe, '50, 90, Jan. 31 in Keller, Texas, where he was a retired sales representative for Armco Steel. He is survived by a son, two daughters, a sister, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

D. Spencer Yohe, b'50, l'54, 88, June 2 in Villa Park, California, where he was a former partner at Arthur Andersen & Company. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by three sons, Thomas, e'73, John, b'77, and Rob, '82; a sister; a brother; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Marianne Gear Zoller, c'51, 84, April 20 in Long Beach, California, where she had a career in real estate. She is survived by three sons, one of whom is Jeffrey, c'77; a

In Memory

daughter; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

60s Virginia Paus Adler, '64, 72, July 7 in Darien, Illinois. Two daughters, a son, a brother and six grandchildren survive.

Judith Bock Carey, d'62, 73, April 22 in New Braunfels, Texas. She was a former teacher and is survived by three sons; a sister, Jane Bock Fortin, d'54, g'94; and seven grandchildren.

Earlene Pierce Dean, n'61, 74, Jan. 2 in Anaheim, California. She is survived by her husband, Murrel, assoc.; two sons; a daughter; and seven grandchildren.

Susan Ault Glenn, '67, 69, March 27 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is survived by her husband, Larry, b'67; two sons, one of whom is Brian, d'99; and four grandchildren.

Ralph Hagenbuch, c'60, 80, April 13 in Wenatchee, Washington. He lived in Pateros and is survived by his wife, Betty, and three sons.

Robert La Forte, PhD'66, 80, July 11 in Galveston. He was a professor emeritus of history at the University of North Texas in Denton and is survived by his wife, Frances, three sons, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Janeth Auer Levitt, d'61, 75, April 8 in Alhambra, California, where she was a retired music and special-education teacher. She is survived by her husband, Tom; two daughters; a sister, Mary Lou Auer, d'63; and two grandsons.

David McKnight, m'62, 81, March 11 in Emporia, where he was a retired radiologist. A sister, Mary Palenske, '81, survives.

Neil Niewald, b'64, 71, April 23 in Wichita, where he had a career in finance and money management. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Higginbottom Niewald, f'64; a daughter, Molly, '90; a son; and two grandchildren.

Barbara "Bobbi" Mattix Richards, d'69, 67, March 26 in Garnett, where she was a self-employed financial manager. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Stephen, g'72; and a son, Kyle, g'02, PhD'11.

Richard Rome, l'61, 80, June 15 in

Hutchinson, where he had been a judge, a defense attorney, a prosecutor and an assistant U.S. attorney. He is survived by a son, John, c'91, g'96; a daughter, Christina Rome Edwards, c'98; and six grandchildren.

Virginia Smith Slone, d'61, 75, July 10 in Redding, California. She is survived by her husband, Michael, two sons, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Joe Terrell, '62, 74, June 12 in Kansas City. He worked for Ford Motor Company and for BASF. Surviving are two sons; a brother, Robert, d'66, g'75; and seven grandchildren.

C.E. "Chug" Tuttle, c'61, 78, March 29 in Leawood., where he founded the ChrisKev Company. He is survived by his wife, Bee; two sons, one of whom is Kevin, c'99; and three grandchildren.

W. Eugene Werner, g'64, EdD'70, 83, May 30 in Topeka. He was a retired professor of school administration and curriculum and instruction at Emporia State University. He is survived by four daughters, two of whom are Stephanie Werner Aldridge, c'78, and Rachel Werner LaHue, h'94; a son; two sisters; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Cecil Williams, l'60, 78, May 18 in Fraser, Colorado, where he had a long career as an attorney and judge. He is survived by his wife, Martha "Marty" Ormsby Williams, '61; a daughter, Allison Williams, c'91; two sons; and five grandchildren.

70s Lynn Neudoerffer Beahm, d'70, 65, Dec. 25 in Irving, Texas. Two daughters, a son and a grandson survive.

Betty Jo Canning Charlton, c'70, g'76, 91, July 22 in Lawrence. She was the first woman elected to the Kansas Legislature, and in 1997 she was inducted into the KU Women's Hall of Fame. Survivors include two sons, one of whom is Richard, c'78, h'80; and two granddaughters.

Ernest Hall Jr., m'78, 60, May 6 in Springfield, Missouri, where he was a physician. He is survived by his wife, Andrea, assoc.; five daughters; a son; two stepdaughters; three stepsons; his mother; two sisters; and 21 grandchildren.

Terrence Hofstra, c'74, 66, June 3 in Arcata, California, where he was retired chief of resource management and science at Redwood National Park. In 2008, he received a Meritorious Service Award, the second-highest honor given by the U.S. Department of the Interior. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; two daughters; his mother; and a brother, Gordon, b'60.

Carol Haverkamp Hood, d'74, 61, July 11 in Waterville, where she was a retired music teacher. She is survived by a daughter, Tonja Hood Metcalf, '99; her mother; a brother; three sisters, one of whom is Diane Hood Bean, assoc.; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Robert Jones, c'70, l'73, 65, July 11 in York, Pennsylvania. He had a 41-year career with the Washington, D.C., law firm of Arnold & Porter and also served as special counsel to the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Ethics and as an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University. He is survived by his wife, Joy, two daughters, a son, two brothers and five grandchildren.

William Lafferty, c'75, m'78, 60, May 5 in Kansas City, where he was a professor of medicine at UMKC. He is survived by his partner, Kevin Foxworth, and two sisters, Laine Lafferty Smith, d'65, and Patricia Lafferty Ballard, c'72.

Jane Sullivan Martin, s'79, 73, June 11 in Solomon, where she was a retired counselor. She is survived by her husband, James, assoc.; two daughters, one of whom is Mary Martin Benson, g'90; a son; a sister; and six grandchildren.

James Olson, j'74, g'92, 67, April 11 in Tecumseh, where he was former executive director of the Community Resources Council. He is survived by his wife, Anne Stauch, h'76; a son; three sisters; two brothers; and a granddaughter.

80s Kay Clancy Dolson, g'84, 72, Feb. 11 in Kansas City, where she had been a speech pathologist. She is survived by her husband, Ed, b'60; two daughters, one of whom is Jennifer Dolson Orvis, d'96; a son, Michael, b'86; two sisters; and 11 grandchildren.

Patrick Gaston, l'85, 63, April 22 in Kent, Washington, where he was a retired

case officer for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He is survived by his wife, Jane, assoc.; a daughter, Amelia Gaston Scheuer, d'10; and two brothers.

Joan Kay Raab, c'81, n'83, 55, July 11 in Overland Park, where she had a 25-year career as a nurse. She is survived by her mother, Kay Raab, g'78; and four brothers, Stephen, c'75, Louis, '76, Mark, c'79, and Thomas, '83.

Virginia "Ginny Pat" Volk, c'81, 55, April 17 in Arlington, Virginia, where she was retired from a 32-year career with the Federal Aviation Administration. Among survivors are two brothers, Dietrich, b'76, and Richard, '79; and a sister, Elizabeth, c'79, m'84.

90s Todd Holloway, '91, 45, April 10 in Lawrence. He had been a nurse at Select Specialties Hospital in Kansas City. Surviving are his mother, Judith Holloway, g'75; a sister, Jill Holloway Dunham, s'85, s'90; and two brothers, Kevin, '80, and Rick, '08.

Amy Kvasnicka, c'92, 45, June 7 in Lawrence. She taught in the Basehor and Linwood school districts before joining Sumner Academy in Kansas City, where she taught Spanish for more than 17 years. She is survived by her mother and stepfather, her father and stepmother, a brother, a sister and a stepsister.

Kiran Ahuja Minocha, m'93, 45, June 25 in Overland Park. She practiced internal medicine at Menorah Medical Center and is survived by her husband, Hans; three sons; and two brothers, Deepak Ahuja, c'83, m'87, and Alok Ahuja, c'84.

00s Tyler Martine, a'01, 35, May 9 in Oakland, California, where he was an architect with Skidmore, Owings & Merrill. He previously had worked for WRNS Studio. Surviving are his wife, Jennifer Larrabe Martine, '03; and a son.

Joseph York, g'00, 65, June 26 in Overland Park. He is survived by a daughter, his mother, a brother, a sister and a granddaughter.

10s John "Jack" Lange, '17, 19, July 13 in Lawrence, where he founded a band, The Faded Age, that toured in the

Midwest. He is survived by his parents, Michael, m'85, and Mary Pat Lange, assoc.; a brother; and his grandparents.

Chester Nez, f'12, 93, June 4 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he was a retired corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was the last surviving member of the original 29 Navajos recruited by the Marine Corps during World War II to develop the military code used for communication during the battles of Guadalcanal, Guam and Peleliu. The code talkers, who used Navajo as the code language, were forbidden to tell anyone about their work until 1968, when the information was declassified. In 2001, Chester received a Congressional Gold Medal from President George W. Bush. Survivors include two sons, nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Donvontae Walton, g'14, 24, July 7 in Blacksburg, Virginia, where he was a residential learning coordinator at Virginia Tech. He is survived by his father, Elem, five brothers and sisters and his grandmother.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Ruben Bunag, g'62, 83, June 17 in Lenexa. He was a retired KU professor of pharmacology. Surviving are his wife, Proserfina; a daughter; a son, Royce, c'83; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Owen Henson, g'52, EdD'61, 87, July 2 in Topeka, where he had been acting superintendent and deputy superintendent of the Topeka Public Schools. He also was an adjunct professor of education at KU and at Emporia State University. Surviving are a son; a daughter, Chris Henson, g'80, g'82, PhD'83; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

John Myers, d'62, g'67, 73, May 8 in Topeka. He served on KU's faculty and staff for 16 years and later was economic development specialist for Topeka and owner of Myers Consulting Services. He is survived by his wife, Sally Ann Moffitt Myers, d'66; a son, John Jr., '93; a daughter, Kristina Myers Kaiser, c'93, j'99; and two grandsons.

Betty Banks Howe Otto, assoc., 71, July 23 in Tonganoxie. She had a 47-year career

as a records specialist with the KU Alumni Association, where for many years she was the curator of KU class banners. Among survivors are her husband, Ronald, a sister and a brother.

Walter "Stitt" Robinson, 96, June 20 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor emeritus of history. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Constance Mock Robinson, '57; a daughter, Barry Robinson Cook, d'73, g'87, EdD'98; a son, Walter, c'75; a sister; and a grandson.

Dennis Saleebey, assoc., 77, July 16 in Lawrence, where he was a KU professor emeritus of social welfare. He had chaired the doctoral program and had helped found the school's Strengths Perspective, which focuses on an individual's strengths and available resources to solve problems. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Meghan, s'97; two sons, one of whom is John, '91; and two sisters. His wife, Ann Weick, assoc., died May 31.

Owen Spitz, e'58, g'70, 81, May 21 in Lawrence, where he was retired from a 33-year career with the Kansas Geological Survey. He is survived by his wife, Connie Rainwater Spitz, d'73, g'82; two sons, William, e'82, and John, e'89; a daughter, Anne, c'91, e'91; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Ann Weick, assoc., 73, May 31 in Lawrence, where she was dean emerita of the KU School of Social Welfare. Her work helped pioneer and grow KU's Strengths Perspective, a model of social-work practice. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Meghan Saleebey, s'97; two sons, one of whom is John Saleebey, '91; a brother; and a sister. Her husband, Dennis Saleebey, assoc., died July 16.

Ruth Bruhns Wiley, assoc., 78, June 27 in Lawrence, where she was an accountant in the KU comptroller's office and also worked for KU's department of housing. Surviving are her husband, Arnold, assoc.; two daughters, Sandra Wiley Barnett, b'79, g'84, and Lisa Wiley Horkey, b'82; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Rock Chalk Review

STEVE PUPPE



Theatre professors John Staniunas and Peter Zazzali guided the new Kansas Classical Repertory Theatre through its first season this summer, directing two plays that shared one set.

Round and round

Rotating repertory challenges student actors, faculty directors

Peter Zazzali and John Staniunas say the dozen or so actors who performed in the new Kansas Classical Repertory Theatre company's inaugural season this summer met the kind of challenge that helps create careers on the stage.

Performing in two plays—"The Comedy of Errors" and "The Boys from Syracuse"—at the same time, the actors had to learn multiple roles for very different theatre styles.

"They have to have the abilities to do Shakespeare and a musical, which are two of the most difficult things to do in theatre," says Staniunas, professor of theatre and director of "The Boys from Syracuse," a 1938 musical based on Shakespeare's comedy of mistaken identity. "You're singing and dancing and using verse. It takes chops, and it gives them what I call 'railroad tracks.' If they can do this, they're going to have the ability to do a lot of other things."

"There's no greater test," adds Zazzali, assistant professor of theatre and director of "The Comedy of Errors." "It gets schizophrenic. Not only because you're in two different productions, but those two different productions are different worlds, different styles."

Repertory theatre—a company of actors performing a series of plays, opening and closing one production before moving on to the next—is fairly common in the theatre world. Less common is rotating repertory, where multiple plays are all open simultaneously.

Less common still is rotating rep in which the plays share the same set, as the KU company's productions did throughout July at the Crafton-Preyer Theatre in Murphy Hall. "The Boys from Syracuse," by Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart and George Abbott, opened July 11; Staniunas transplanted the 1930s musical comedy to a Victorian "steampunk" setting. The play it's based on, Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors," opened July 12; Zazzali staged his production of the Shakespeare classic in homage to *commedia dell'arte*, which has origins in 16th-century Italy.

Rehearsals were intense.

"The actors were running back and forth from one rehearsal to another, having to change their game and working with two directors who work in very different ways," Staniunas says.

The creation of the Kansas Classical Repertory Theatre is part of University Theatre's push to professionalize its summer offerings. Half of the company consisted of KU students, and half were students from professional actor training programs. The Jayhawks are mostly recent graduates.

"This is the last thing they'll do here," Staniunas says. "So it's their first professional gig."

The theatre hired one professional equity actor and hopes to build on that number in future. The BFA and MFA students from the professional programs have a lot of production experience as well. The result is a "mature, professional quality" experience, according to Staniunas.

"It's really raised the game for everybody," Zazzali says, "especially for our KU students, to be exposed to that sort of company."

The directors count themselves among those pushed to raise their game by the rotating repertory format.

"Rotating repertory is just so challenging and demanding," Zazzali says. "You're trying to accomplish twice as much with the resources that would generally go to just one production. But it can be doubly rewarding for the audience, in this case especially so because the shows have very closely related narratives that are told in very different ways."

Kansas Classical Repertory Theatre will perform every July, providing some

structure to the theatre department's summer offerings.

"When you're starting anew each summer, it's always difficult to decide, 'Well, what should we do now?'" Staniunas says. "Now we've got a sort of charter as to where we want to take the summer."

—Steven Hill

Beacons of hope

Locator device will ease worries for parents of autistic children

Shortly before noon on a sunny summer day, 5-year-old Gene Cory-Ferguson slipped unnoticed from his grandparents' home in rural Cass County, Missouri. By that evening, July 8, breaking-news headlines delivered devastating reports that police divers had found the child's body submerged in an algae-covered pond just 100 feet from the house.

While heartbreaking for family and neighbors, the tragedy also added yet more urgency to KU Medical Center research devoted to helping parents and police quickly find autistic children such as Gene who wander from home, driven to repeat strong memories of previous sensory experiences.

"We know that one of the characteristics of autism is having an intense interest in something, being fascinated by particular objects or particular things," says Matt Reese, PhD'87, director of the Center for

Child Health Development and co-director of the Kansas Center for Autism Research and Training. "And then the other thing we know is that they don't have the same kind of social knowledge. A little 2-year-old is not going to take off and not come back; some of them don't even leave their parent's leg, and if they do and something scares them, they're back.

"Kids with autism don't have that kind of social perception, that kind of bonding, and that kind of fear of strange and unusual situations. And, a lot of them do have a very excellent memory."

Reese estimates that 60 to 70 percent of autistic people, from toddlers to adults across the autism spectrum, will at some point wander, or, as the researchers describe it, "elope."

With funding provided in part by a grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Reese and his team of KU researchers in 2010 joined with Intellispeak, a Lawrence-based developer of high-tech health care products, to create hand-held locator devices that would offer parents much-needed peace of mind while also potentially allowing for greater autonomy for their children.

When activated, the device, which resembles a standard mobile phone, displays arrows that guide parents or searchers to a lost child (or adult) who is outfitted with a locator beacon, either in a cellphone that children like to carry or hidden in a shoe or bracelet. Unlike the currently available GPS-based devices,

Reese says, this system also works inside buildings: think supermarkets and shopping malls, where autistic children who manage to break free and bolt are quickly lost in a crowded, confusing scene.

"We all see these news reports when children go missing. It's scary, and for parents, it's incredibly stressful," Reese says.

"Parents tell us, 'We don't sleep. We sleep in shifts.'"

The scariest scenarios,

unfortunately, often involve water. Autistic children can be particularly entranced by water, for the way light plays off the surface and, when submerged, the thrill of the unique sensations they feel on their bodies. Once exposed to such experiences, they will do whatever it takes to return, often with tragic consequences.

As with another of his current research projects, in which rural caregivers and school specialists across Kansas are being trained to assist in autism evaluations, with expert consultation provided via KU's telemedicine technology, Reese hopes to involve the wider community in addressing autism's unique challenges, many of which play out with life-or-death urgency.

Emergency responders are already being trained in how to best interact with autistic children and adults, and he hopes that dangers of particular threats—such as water—gain greater appreciation among those who will be the first to provide help.

"This is a real translational project," Reese says, "something that's going to be useful in so many ways."

—Chris Lazzarino

A novel KU journey

Moriarty's latest chapter is as author of Common Book

Even before they arrived at KU in August, incoming freshmen and other newcomers had homework: read the novel *The Center of Everything*, chosen for the third installment of the campus community reading and discussion program called KU Common Book.

If it's any solace, they weren't alone in their summer assignment. Author Laura Moriarty, s'93, g'99, newly tenured associate professor of English, also had to return to her debut novel, published to wide acclaim in 2003.

"To be honest, I haven't read it," Moriarty said in late July. "I've never re-read one of my books. Even when I do a reading on book tours, there's something kind of painful about reading your own prose. I'm sure it will be strange. I wrote it,



Reese

Rock Chalk Review

STEVE PUPPE



Laura Moriarty says she is eager to experience her novel's reception as the KU Common Book: "The book has enjoyed a pretty wide audience, so I've already had some experience with people talking about it, which is wonderful, but it will be so interesting to have that take place not just in a campus community, but my campus community."



of course sometimes anxious or bewildered, but even then, I understood that being here, being part of a community so focused on research and learning, was a gift. Now that I'm on the faculty, I still feel fortunate to be part of this kind of community."

Students already have interacted with Moriarty on an Internet video chat, with questions submitted via Twitter (#KUCommonBook). Moriarty's keynote address is set for 7:30 p.m. Oct. 23, in the Lied Center. The primary event will be

followed the next morning by a smaller-scale question-and-answer session, this time scheduled for the Natural History Museum's Panorama room, which Moriarty used as a setting in her book.

"I got my undergrad here in social work, then I went

back for graduate school in creative writing and now I'm teaching here," says Moriarty, who has published four novels with a fifth scheduled to be delivered to her editor next spring. "It's the only university for me. I really do love it. And I love teaching. I like that I'm at the same place where I was a student.

"There's this nice continuity to that. I'm just so honored that this is happening."

Moriarty's most recent novel, *The Chaperone*, enjoyed strong reviews and sales, including a movie deal, and has taken Moriarty around the country on publicity tours. Yet despite her hesitance to again read the book that launched her career, Moriarty seems intent on soaking up the experience. Not only is the ongoing attention unusual for authors, who tend to

toil in relative anonymity, but it's all happening where she continues to work as a teacher and writer.

"I wasn't sure, when I was writing it, what I was doing," she recalls. "People would ask me what my book was about, and I would say it's about a girl growing up in Kansas. Their eyes would sort of glaze over and I would think, 'Oh my god, what am I doing? Is this going to work? Is this ever going to be published?'"

"And to think that now not only was it published, but it's going to be the common book at the very university where I wrote and where I learned so much about writing and where I walked around while I was hoping and working on it, it's pretty amazing."

—Chris Lazzarino

Fourth and long

Sportswriter examines football's ability to alter destinies

The Sunshine State is perhaps unrivaled in its cultivation of championship tennis players, golfers, swimmers, sprinters and baseball players, yet, from Key West to Pensacola, football is Florida's passion, and enclaves in South Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Jacksonville and the tiny Everglades towns of Pahokee, Belle Glade and Immokalee are rightly proud of their football stars.

Few, however, can equal one tiny Fort Myers neighborhood—Dunbar—which has produced nearly two dozen NFL players, including superstars Deion Sanders, Jevon Kearse and rookie sensation Sammy Watkins, the No. 4 overall pick in the 2014 NFL Draft.

Fourth Down in Dunbar, by veteran Fort Myers sportswriter David A. Dorsey, j'94, reveals how Dunbar's unfortunate legacy of drugs and gangs helped create a community passion to steer promising athletes away from the dangers of the street, encouraging instead athletic excellence that offers the promise of university educations and, potentially, NFL paydays that can foster generational

I remember writing it, I'm the same person who wrote it, but it will seem in some ways like someone else did."

The Center of Everything, the first novel chosen for KU Common Book by Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little, on a recommendation from the program's review committee, was selected in part for its explorations of a young woman's growth through a difficult home life in small-town Kansas, with particular focus on issues of economic inequality and educational opportunity.

That the novel's journey also happens to lead its protagonist, Evelyn Bucknow—whom we meet as an inquisitive 10-year-old in fictional Kerrville, Kansas—to Mount Oread is a happy bonus.

"I remember when I was writing this book, I was thinking a lot about what it meant for me to come to KU as an undergraduate," Moriarty says. "As a new student from a small, faraway town, I was

More online

To view Moriarty's video chat with students and see the complete schedule of events, visit firstyear.ku.edu/commonbook/2014.



Fourth Down in Dunbar, by David A. Dorsey

\$24.95, University Press of Florida

change for an extended family.

“Dunbar introduced America to crack cocaine in its cruelest form,” Dorsey writes. “The same drug culture that threatened these young athletes, destroying some of the most promising among them, also once protected them, providing teenagers wads of cash, clothes, shoes, and support to keep them out of the drug business and on track toward their goal of reaching the NFL.”

With unrivaled access to an insular community, Dorsey examines football’s place within the context of its local culture, bravely tackling difficult and sensitive issues of race and economic disparity. *Fourth Down in Dunbar* provides important reminders that, when the true opponent is found on the streets rather than across the line of scrimmage, sport in American society is about so much more than the scoreboard. Young lives, not wins and losses, hang in the balance.

—Chris Lazzarino

Nepal’s peril

Geologist identifies dangerous fault line while advancing new ideas on Himalaya formation

Earthquake dangers that loom over Nepal took an ominous turn earlier this year with the announcement by a KU geologist and colleagues refuting long-held theories about plate tectonics that formed the Himalayas are not entirely accurate.

Mike Taylor, associate professor of geology, and colleagues from the University of Houston, Dalhousie University in Canada and Finland’s University of

Helsinki announced in the journal *Nature Geoscience* that they had identified and mapped a previously unknown and active fault line about 40 miles long in the high, western Himalayas.

The discovery potentially represents a leap in the understanding of geologic pressures that created the Himalayas, with larger implications for the entire notion of mountain formation worldwide.

At a human level, the newly identified fault system—which runs east-west, as opposed to previously known faults, which are oriented north-south—creates frightening scenarios of immense devastation. Kathmandu, with a densely packed population of about 2.5 million, is just 140 miles from the recently identified Tibrikot fault, and a regional capital, just 62 miles from the fault, has 30,000 residents.

Taylor and his colleagues determined that two quakes of a magnitude 7.9 or greater occurred along the fault between the years 1165 and 1400. That’s the same magnitude of the earthquake that in 2008 killed more than 70,000 people in nearby Sichuan, China.

“If you have the same process occur in Nepal, which is poorer and has less infrastructure, you could increase the death rate by an order of magnitude, easily,” Taylor says.

Taylor, who completed postdoctoral studies at Caltech before joining KU in 2005, says previously held assumptions about plate tectonics’ role in the formation of mountain ranges are no longer entirely valid. The model works well for rigid oceanic plates, he says, where deformation is concentrated around the edges, “but that doesn’t work for the continents. Deformation occurs all the way throughout the plates; they get crumpled and mashed up and they kind of flow. So they are fundamentally not plates. That’s a major focus of my research, to really characterize how the continents form.”

In the case of the Himalayas, it had been assumed that pressures applied by the Indian subcontinent’s northward creep of about 5 centimeters a year crumpled the Eurasian plate. Taylor’s research contends that along with those pressures, there also is an east-west stretching of the Himalayan

mountain belt. Previous seismic models estimated that earthquake energy would disperse north and south; now Taylor and his colleagues say a major seismic event would also radiate east and west, magnifying damage forecasts.

Working in collaboration with Nepalese scientists, Taylor is spreading the word about the startling new forecasts among municipal governments, school officials and operators of the country’s hydroelectric plants. He hopes to convince officials to build safer school buildings and educate citizens about emergency preparedness.

“They’re very open,” he says of Nepalese reception to his research. “They’ve experienced large earthquakes in the past, they know they occur, and if there’s any way that we can help them understand better, they are very receptive to that.”

Taylor has traveled throughout Nepal and Tibet since 1998. He first identified the new fault by studying satellite imagery, and two years ago received funding from KU to travel to Nepal for closer analysis, which, after complex data analysis, confirmed his initial suspicions.

“I’m basically an overeducated backpacker who looks at the world very similarly to regular people, but just through a different lens,” he says. “I try to understand the timing and the rate at which these mountains build. It’s very fascinating. I love it.”

—Chris Lazzarino



Taylor


STEVE PUPPE

Glorious to View

Photograph by Susan Younger



**The stone walls of Marvin Hall—
built in 1908 from Oread limestone
quarried nearby—tower above
Jayhawk Boulevard beneath
a blue summer sky.**

A man with a beard, wearing a blue hoodie, blue fishing overalls, and brown boots, stands in a modern office. He is holding a fishing rod. The office background is slightly blurred, showing desks and office chairs. A large blue hexagonal graphic is overlaid on the man, containing the text.

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