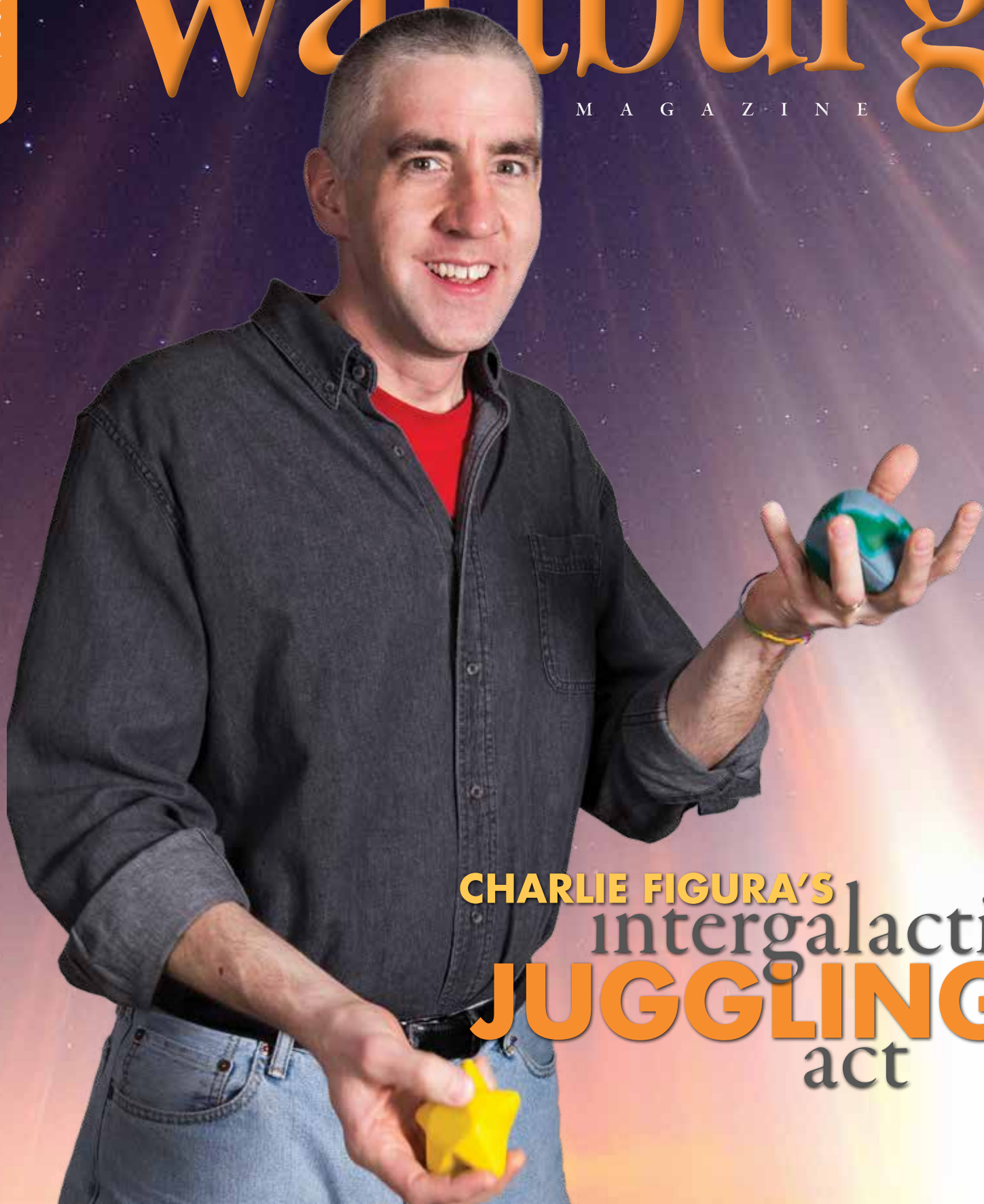


VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE | COMPOSER LAUDS CHOIR | ENGINEERING SUCCESS

Wartburg

M A G A Z I N E

SPRING 2014



CHARLIE FIGURA'S
intergalactic
JUGGLING
act

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If you have suggestions for stories in the *Wartburg Magazine* or comments about the content, contact Saul Shapiro, director of news and community relations/magazine editor, at saul.shapiro@wartburg.edu.

Wartburg

SPRING 2014
M A G A Z I N E

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ON THE COVER:

Charlie Figura

Dr. Charles Figura, professor of physics and astronomy, is a juggler—when not teaching or contributing to a report on the shape of the Milky Way Galaxy. Photo by Julie Drewes '90.

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Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.

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To obtain an official college transcript, contact the Registrar's Office or complete an online request form at www.wartburg.edu/academics/registrar/trreq.html. There is a \$5 fee per transcript. Requests must include maiden and all married names used, as well as birth date and/or Social Security number. Enclose return address and payment with the request.

WARTBURG

— IN THE NEWS —

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Social Work Institute surpasses \$2 million goal



A \$50,000 grant from the R.J. McElroy Trust helped Wartburg College meet its \$2 million fundraising Social Work Initiative goal. A total of \$2,002,625 will support the Tomson Family Distinguished Chair in Social Work and the Slife Institute for Social Work Consultation, Research, and Training. The effort was spurred by a \$500,000 challenge grant from O. Jay and Patricia Tomson of Mason City and a November event honoring the legacy of institute namesakes Harry and Polly Slife. Jack and Sarah Slife Salzwedel, both 1982 graduates, had previously made a \$1 million commitment.

Dr. Tammy Faux, associate professor of social work and the Tomson Family Distinguished Chair, said the institute is making a difference with students and clients. **Kayla Fricke '14** of Cedar Rapids is working with **Dr. Susan Kosche Vallem '66**, professor emeritus of social work, to help medical social workers serve as navigators for clients selecting health insurance. Fricke said the project has "transformed my perspective on how I can impact individuals and organizations. It has given me a real-life application that I will carry well into my future."

Among other projects, the institute is:

- Consulting with the United Way and presenting a workshop to help member agencies transition to a more professional and competitive process for requesting and tracking funds, plus offering basic grant-writing information.
- Collaborating with the Iowa Department on Aging to host a conference in May.
- Completing program evaluations for the Cedar Valley Friends of the Family.

Students celebrate holidays with service



More than 350 students participated in 10 service projects on Martin Luther King Day, Jan. 20, ranging from working at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank to coaching St. Paul's Lutheran Elementary School students in a Green Olympics to creating Blankets of Love for youths at the Bremwood Residential Treatment Center.

In addition, 60 students participated on the first Thanksgiving Break service trips, following a change in the academic calendar that gave them the week off. The trips included rebuilding a disabled veteran's home in Oklahoma; doing flood relief in Denver; working with a food bank in Cleveland; helping the poor in East St. Louis, Ill., and Chicago; and receiving Community Emergency Response Team training in Waverly.

Davis program co-founder Geier gets honorary degree



Dr. Philip Geier, executive director of the Davis United World College Scholars program, received an honorary doctorate of humane letters at midyear Commencement Dec. 15. Geier and philanthropist Shelby M.C. Davis co-founded the program that helps nearly 2,500 undergraduate students from 150 countries attend 91 U.S. colleges and universities annually. Wartburg has had 82 Davis Scholars, including 62 now on campus with a first-year class of 25.

Browne receives Graven Award



Award-winning author, poet, and librettist Michael Dennis Browne was the recipient of Wartburg College's 25th annual Graven Award Feb. 18. The University of Iowa graduate earned critical acclaim and a Pulitzer Prize nomination for his post-Holocaust oratorio, *To Be Certain of the Dawn*.

The award, named for Judge Henry N. and Helen T. Graven of Greene, is presented annually to a person "whose life is nurtured and guided by a strong sense of Christian calling and who is making a significant contribution to community, church, and society."

Knight Riders will stop in Waverly



Join the Knight Riders this summer on RAGBRAI, which will stop in Waverly for the first time in 15 years on Thursday, July 24. Watch *Knightline*, the alumni newsletter, for more information on how you can become involved.

Wartburg adds science instruments



Dr. Matthew Zart

Wartburg College received a \$150,000 grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust and \$50,000 from the Kinney-Lindstrom Foundation to help purchase a high-performance liquid chromatography system with a mass spectrometer for Fall Term for students in biology, biochemistry, and chemistry courses.

Dr. Matthew Zart, assistant professor of chemistry, described the device as "one of the most powerful analytical pairings in modern instrumental science." It is used in analytic chemistry to separate, identify, and quantify components in a mixture and how they interact. Zart wrote, "The instrument is only recently becoming more common in undergraduate institutions and opens up many new research possibilities and (enables) collaborative work with nearby academic institutions and industry because there are few instruments with this type of detector in Iowa outside of the three public universities."

Among potential uses, the device:

- Measures organics in water samples for studies on the survival and growth of various organisms including tree seedlings and rusty crawfish.
- Determines the quantity of pesticides at low levels to understand the impact on tall grass prairie restoration.
- Monitors pheromone changes in the estrous cycle as a part of studies in neuroscience, the college's new interdisciplinary major.

Wind Ensemble schedules Tour Week dates

The Wind Ensemble will hit the road in late April for a three-state tour, including these stops:

- **Owatonna, Minn.** – Owatonna High School; Monday, April 21, 7 p.m.
- **Rochester, Minn.** – Gloria Dei Lutheran Church; Tuesday, April 22, 7 p.m.
- **Lansing, Iowa** – Eastern Allamakee High School; Thursday, April 24, 7 p.m.
- **Stockton, Ill.** – Stockton High School; Friday, April 25, 7 p.m.
- **Sigourney, Iowa** – Sigourney High School; Saturday, April 26, 7 p.m.
- **Guttenberg, Iowa** – Clayton Ridge High School; Sunday, April 27, 4 p.m.

Visit www.wartburg.edu/music/tours.aspx for more information.

It's your 'Burg, so register for myBurg



Keep abreast of what's happening at Wartburg with myBurg, a free online resource from the Alumni Office to keep alumni and students engaged in the life of the college. myBurg is a virtual meeting place, news source, and vital connection to the college and each other. Search the alumni directory, learn what's happening on campus, and sign up for alumni events across the country. Log on to myBurg at www.wartburg.edu/alumni.

African students recognized for projects



Daniel Sopdie '14

Daniel Sopdie '14, an economics, international relations and political science major from Cameroon, was recognized by the Clinton Foundation as one of five black "change-makers" whose "big dreams have turned into tangible commitments to improve the world." Sopdie was honored at the Clinton Global Initiative University at Arizona State University in March, where more than 1,000 U.S. and international student leaders gathered. He and fellow fourth-year students Aseya Kakar, Afghanistan, and

Linda Nkosi, Swaziland, received Clinton funding in 2013 for a biodigester converting animal and plant waste into energy in a Swaziland refugee camp. They also built latrines to stave off diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and infectious hepatitis.

Kwabena Owusu-Amoah '15, a biology and economics major from Ghana, was awarded a fellowship to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Global Startup Workshop in Marrakech, Morocco, in March, the world's leading workshop dedicated to building business ecosystems worldwide. Renowned entrepreneurs, government officials, professors and 10 fellows from Wartburg, Harvard, Stanford, MIT, and Dartmouth pitched ideas to funders and investors. Owusu-Amoah has developed an application to provide information for women at a Ghana maternity clinic.

HOW TO SAVE A LIFE

Grant funds suicide awareness effort

by Emily Christensen

PARIS WHITE '15 HAS ONE PIECE OF ADVICE for anyone who thinks a loved one might be suicidal: Take all threats seriously.

As a high school freshman in Muscatine, one of White's friends—they were estranged at the time—told her he wanted to die. She told no one, and he later killed himself. In all, White has lost four loved ones to suicide.

As president of Suicide Awareness for Everyone (SAFE), White works to ensure that others know and heed the signs of suicidal behavior.

"Take note when people say those things. If their behavior indicates they might be serious, tell someone," she said. "People who are suicidal are mentally ill. We have to break down the stigma so they will not feel embarrassed about getting help."

White works closely with Kelly Moeller '10, the college's suicide prevention coordinator, to develop prevention programming for faculty, staff, and students.

Moeller was hired in 2012 after the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded Wartburg a three-year grant totaling \$210,000 to fill gaps in services related to suicide prevention. Wartburg was the only small school selected to receive the Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention funding. The legislation was sponsored by Oregon Sen. Gordon Smith, whose son suffered from depression and committed suicide while at college.

Stephanie Newsom, director of Counseling Services, said Wartburg—like other small schools—lacked the resources to provide a full slate of suicide prevention programming.

"This grant has opened up a floodgate of information for us," Newsom said. "We now have access to websites and ideas about successful activities and programming from other institutions."



Kaitlin McElroy '14 of Ottumwa



Drs. Nagarathnamma and Mukund Nadipuram (seated) and sons, Dr. Santhosh (upper left) and Abhay.

Nadipurams give back in unique way

At age 11, **Abhay Nadipuram '10** raised \$20,000 to help the Waterloo Fire Department buy an infrared camera.

As a Wartburg College student, Nadipuram and classmate **Rachel Coleman '10** were the recipients of a \$10,000 Davis Projects for Peace grant to provide villagers in Guyana in South America with the means to sew mosquito nets to protect against malaria.

Nadipuram's latest good turn is a distinctive Wartburg scholarship to encourage civic engagement in Washington, D.C.

Nadipuram and his parents—Waterloo physicians Drs. Mukund and Nagarathnamma Nadipuram—have established the \$2,500 Nadipuram Washington, D.C., Experiential Learning Scholarship to help second- and third-year students complete an unpaid internship or field experience with a government or nonprofit by covering out-of-pocket expenses.

"It's a joint effort between myself and my parents to give back to the school that gave me a lot," Abhay said, "while at the same time making sure that the money is going toward something tangible that will directly benefit students."

"He is very motivated to do public service," said Abhay's father. "He is keenly interested in making Iowa a better place. I admire him for that."

"I came from India 33 years ago, and we are blessed to be physicians and live in a country like the United States and a state like Iowa," Mukund added. "If this can help students at Wartburg, it's our way of giving back."

Abhay was student body vice president and later president. His interest in politics extended beyond student government.

He interned in Washington for Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, during the summer of 2008, helping with administrative efforts in response to the flooding in Northeast Iowa. He returned to Wartburg as a field organizer for the presidential campaign of then Sen. Barack Obama.

"I learned a lot about the political system," Nadipuram said, "and I was able to apply the knowledge I received in the classroom from (political science professors) Dr. (Dani) Thomas and Dr. (Bret) Billet."

Thomas, in turn, is impressed with his former advisee's initiative.

"Abhay and his family's generosity, which is especially impressive at such a young age, creates a great experiential learning opportunity for young people with a passion for public service at the center of national policymaking in Washington, D.C.," Thomas said.

Nadipuram graduated from the University of Iowa College of Law in May 2013 and now is an associate attorney for the Cedar Rapids firm of Lederer Weston Craig. He said law school professor Willard "Sandy" Boyd set an example as a former dean of the College of Law and president of the university, by starting a nonprofit center there.

"He taught us a lot about philanthropy, and how it's important as an alum to give back and to find creative ways to help our institutions," Nadipuram said.

The initial scholarship will be awarded for a May Term or summer 2015 internship or field experience. The Nadipuram family will be involved in the selection process, which will be overseen by the political science department.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide is the third leading cause of death for those 15 to 24 years old. Wartburg has never recorded a suicide, but has reported more than 50 hospitalizations due to suicidal ideations since 2005.

"Statistically we know suicide is one of the top reasons people in this age group are dying. Just because we are Wartburg College doesn't mean we are immune," Newsom said. "I do think our history of being able to help people and provide assistance in time is because of our environment. There are so many caring individuals on this campus."

Last year, Moeller and White focused their efforts on training about 100 students to be gatekeepers. These students were taught basic information about suicide as well as intervention skills. They also are students who have the confidence to respond in the case of a suicide threat or assist in the aftermath.

"We want them to know whom they can reach out to.

We want them to be the transit person who refers an individual to a professional," Moeller said.

Training continued this year with students, faculty, and staff. She also offered more culturally sensitive prevention material for populations that might be more at risk.

Moeller, with the help of the student organization, also organized a healthy cooking class, ice cream socials, and a mud run to raise awareness. Already this year SAFE

has hosted another ice cream social, sold T-shirts, and asked students to share inspirational messages via whiteboard with their classmates. The messages will be used for a poster and social media campaign.

SAFE is collaborating with other student organizations promoting acceptance and healthy lifestyle choices to offer even more opportunities.

"We are all working together for a good cause," she said. "I want us to have a stronger voice and stronger image so we can help even more students."

This spring, the school will host its second Suicide Prevention Conference for small area colleges—a key component of the grant. Last year's event drew about 70 people from more than 20 institutions.

"As a counseling staff we are all trying to meet the needs of our students," Newsom said. Her counselors come in contact with about 25 percent of the student body every year. "It is very beneficial to have a day to focus on our own education, and our colleges' policies and procedures dealing with suicide prevention."

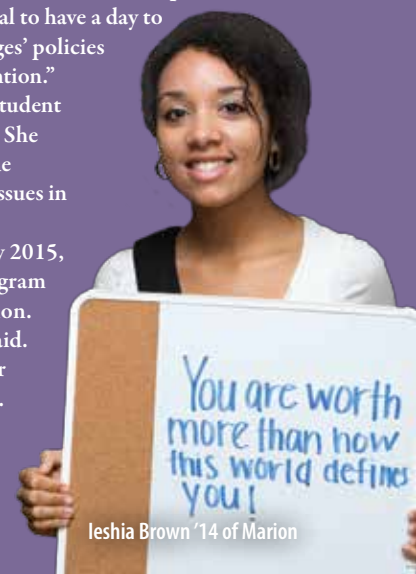
Dr. Deborah Loers, vice president for Student Life and a psychologist, was grant director. She made a presentation about the project at the prestigious Aeschi Conference on suicide issues in Vail, Colo., in May 2013.

When the grant money runs out in July 2015, White believes the suicide prevention program can live on through the student organization.

"That is why we created SAFE," White said. "I have had so many people tell me that their good friend or family member was suicidal. We need this on campus. We can help so many people." ☺



Kim Conner '17 of Jesup



Ileshia Brown '14 of Marion



Lauridsen

Lauds Wartburg Choir

I attended the Wartburg Choir's rehearsal of my 'O Magnum Mysterium,' a piece that is 19 years old and has been recorded more than 100 times. It has been sung by the finest choirs in the world. It is part of the basic repertoire of choral singers. Their performance was wonderful. It brought tears to my eyes. I couldn't talk for two or three minutes because it was so exquisite and sublimely done. It was in the top echelon of any performance of that piece by any choir that I have ever heard. And that is saying a lot.

– Morten Lauridsen, composer

AND SO FLOWED ONE OF MANY ACCOLADES for Dr. Lee Nelson and the Wartburg Choir from a giant in his profession—the most frequently performed American choral composer, “the only American composer in history who can be called a mystic,” according to Nick Strimple, author of *Choral Music in the Twentieth Century*.

Morten Lauridsen is one of only eight composers to receive the National Medal of Arts and has been honored as an American Master Composer by the National Endowment for the Arts.

“(With) Lauridsen’s greatest music—*O Magnum Mysterium* or *Lux Aeterna* or *Nocturns*—we have the sense of operating at the highest levels of creativity at the very limits of our senses in a way which leaves us breathless with our perception of beauty,” remarked poet Dana Gioia, a past NEA president.

Often described in his forays away from his home base at the University of Southern California as a “legend-in-residence,” Lauridsen was at Wartburg in late January. He prepared the Wartburg Choir, Castle Singers, Ritterchor, St. Elizabeth Chorale, Kantorei, a select group of 225 high school choir students from throughout the Midwest, and the Mason City High School Choir for the annual Meistersinger Honor Choir concert.

“Within minutes of meeting him, I knew I was in the presence of a true musical genius,” said Nelson, associate professor of music and director of choral activities. “However, what I found most captivating was his kind and gracious personality. Finding someone of his stature that combines musical genius with authentic humility is very rare.”

Lauridsen, who has taught music composition at USC since graduating in 1967, was at home with the students.

“I’ve done more than 100 residencies at universities,” he said. “I like the interaction with the students. I’m able to tell them about things that are important to me that should also be considered by them as a part of their educational experience.

“It’s very beneficial in many ways,” he added, “but particularly for students performing the music to meet the person who created the music and learn what was on his mind.”

Poetry is frequently the source of his inspiration. He reads a poem at the start of all his USC classes.

“Poets not only speak to us in elegant language, but they’ve been honing these words



Watch the Wartburg Choir's performance of *Prayer* at
www.wartburg.edu/magazine/prayer.html

just like musicians do with notes,” Lauridsen said. “They are philosophers and teachers. They inform us about ways of dealing with the parts of the human condition that we all experience: loss, love, hope, happiness and sorrow, etcetera. The great music, the great art, the great literature are the things that elevate us as a human species.”

The soft-spoken Lauridsen conveys a deep sense of serenity—perhaps reflecting summers he spends on his beloved Waldron Island, a primitive outpost on the San Juan Archipelago in northwest Washington state that had been a family retreat during his childhood. He has found refuge there as an adult since 1975, when he hauled a \$50 Spinnet piano in the back of a VW van and converted an abandoned general store into his home without electricity or running water.

“I’m right by the water. It’s complete quiet. The lapping water. The eagles. It’s a place where I can go very deeply, because I’m not distracted by ambient noise and other things,” said Lauridsen, who composed *O Magnum Mysterium* and *Lux Aeterna* there.

The latter work (“light illuminated”) reflected his deep love for his mother, who was dying at the time, and resonates widely.

“It’s about eternal life and illumination—intellectual and spiritual,” he said. “You should see the letters I get from all over the world. People latch onto that piece. It helps them cope.”

As for being a mystic, he seems sent from central casting with a bushy gray beard and flowing hair. But it’s more than a façade.

“I’m dealing with universal themes and with texts that have great meaning for people, especially those pieces in time-tested Latin, passages in the *Bible*,” Lauridsen said. “When you combine these words with music that often has a meditative quality. It seems to put them in a state of deep contemplation. I think that’s the mystic that is being talked about.”

Lauridsen got his start after being invited to join the USC faculty upon graduation in 1967 and subsequently earned both his master’s and doctoral degrees at USC.

He also would become the composer-in-residence for the Los Angeles Master Chorale (1994-2001), where his most renowned work debuted.

As the story goes, choral director Paul Salamunovich told the audience, “Until now, Vittoria’s *O Magnum Mysterium* has been the most beautiful and well-recognized setting of this text composed to date. I predict that will change after tonight.”

Echoes of that prediction can be heard in Lauridsen’s tribute to Nelson and the Wartburg Choir.

“Just a few days ago,” he said on a late January afternoon, “I’m speaking to the composer of *Prayer*—this beautiful piece that Dana Gaio wrote about his son who died of SIDS that I’ve set to music, and he’s saying, ‘I’d love, love, love to hear a recording of it.’”

“It’s a new piece. It hasn’t been recorded yet. Wartburg College is going to be the first one to put it out. People are going to have a superb example of how to do my work. That’s huge for Wartburg, because all of a sudden people will say, ‘Look what’s going on in the choral department at Wartburg College. Lauridsen, who has heard groups from around the world, is saying, ‘You need to hear this group. They will knock your socks off.’”

“We made history that evening,” Nelson recalled. “Morten Lauridsen’s music will be studied centuries from now by scholars all over the world, and Wartburg College will be part of that scholarship. We created, as Morten said, ‘the defining performance of *Prayer*,’ which is something I and the students will never forget.”

Koppin selected as a featured composer

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

AN ALUMNUS' MUSICAL TALENTS have garnered national attention.

The works of Connor Koppin '13 are being published by Greater St. Louis-based MorningStar Music Publishers, which specializes in music for churches and schools.

“I think the beautiful thing about my relationship with MorningStar is that our paths crossed without me having to scratch and claw to get them to publish my music, like I would have with most music publishers,” said Koppin, a Mason City native.

Koppin’s first piece with MorningStar was *Jesu Dulcis Memoria* (*Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*), which he recorded with a Wartburg choral group, then posted online and shared with Dr. Lee Nelson.

“He is an intuitive composer with excellent musical instincts,” Nelson said. “He works very diligently on each piece, ensuring that each voice part is singable and interesting. It takes many composers years to develop this skill. It appears to simply be innate to Connor.”

Nelson shared Koppin’s work, which resulted in numerous emails and phone messages, including one from MorningStar CEO Mark Lawson.

“Lee had performed some of his pieces and felt very strongly about his future as a published composer,” Lawson said. “We took a look at his work and felt that there was, indeed, the kind of quality that should be seen by a large group of choral conductors.”

Morningstar describes it as “a lovely and moving setting of a beautiful Latin text.”

“Connor’s work has a mystical aura about it,” Lawson said. “It draws the listener into the text and then takes you on an exploration of deeper meanings apparent in the writing. A good composer has a way of setting a text that helps you feel that you are somehow inside the text. Connor’s work does this and is satisfying for both the singer and the listener.”

Koppin graduated from Wartburg in December after doing student teaching.

“Connor is going to exceed many people’s expectations,” Nelson said. “He is a gift to the music world and will bless many with his talents.”



Photo by Haley Flores '13



THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

A SCRIPTURE ILLUMINATED

by Emily Christensen

THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE IGNITED the imaginations of more than 1,000 visitors—young and old—during its six-week stay at Wartburg College. At least two volumes will remain through 2014.

The Saint John's Bible is the first handwritten and illuminated Bible commissioned by a Benedictine Abbey in more than 500 years. At the request of Saint John's (Minn.) University, calligrapher Donald Jackson, with help from many others, produced the books—each 2 feet tall by 3 feet wide when open, featuring more than 160 illuminations and numerous special text treatments in 1,150 pages.

"As a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we treasure the Scripture," said the Rev. Walter "Chip" Bouzard, professor of religion. "One of Martin Luther's great accomplishments was translating the Bible from the original languages into German. The opportunity to celebrate the Bible—in particular, this Bible—is just outstanding for us."

The complete seven-volume Bible was displayed in the Waldemar A. Schmidt Gallery Jan. 10–Feb. 23. The exhibit was made possible through generous gifts from Dr. William Hamm '66, former interim president of the college (2008-09); the Rev. Larry Trachte '66, retired campus pastor; and Julie Frantsen, a college employee and master craftsman.

Two volumes—the Pentateuch and the Gospels and Acts—will be on display in




Vogel Library through 2014. Bouzard hopes the college can secure the donations necessary to bring all seven volumes back permanently.

The full exhibit attracted preschoolers to senior Bible study groups. A corps of 18 volunteers—dubbed the Knights of the Page—manned the cases to ensure visitors could experience the full beauty of the Bible's pages.

Guests also were offered tours, the chance to dine on campus, and take a break in 'The W.

"They experienced so much more than just *The Saint John's Bible*. They experienced how involved our students are," said Gail Sexton, coordinator of church relations and faith community outreach. "They are getting more than a glimpse of the Bible. They are seeing what Wartburg does in our learning, in our faith expression."

With 25 years of history—five years of planning, 11 years creating the one-of-a-kind pages, and nine years to release the replicas—two months isn't enough time to absorb all there is to know about the masterpiece, Sexton said.

"The more I see it, the more I want to curl up with one volume and read it cover to cover," Sexton said. "It brings God's word to life in so many ways." 



John Valen '14, a Knight of the Page, shows St. Paul's Lutheran Church confirmation students the intricacies of *The Saint John's Bible*.

(above) Creation, Donald Jackson with contribution by Chris Tomlin, Copyright 2003, *The Saint John's Bible*, Order of Saint Benedict, Collegeville, Minnesota, USA.

(left, top) Messianic Predictions, Thomas Ingmire, Copyright 2005, *The Saint John's Bible*, Order of Saint Benedict, Collegeville, Minnesota, USA. Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Version of the Bible, Catholic Edition, © 1993, 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

(left, below) Calligrapher Donald Jackson writes "Amen," the final word in *The Saint John's Bible*. Image courtesy of Donald Jackson's Scriptorium, Wales.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

RESIDENCE LIFE STILL A HALLMARK EXPERIENCE

WHETHER DECORATING T-SHIRTS FOR OUTFLY or watching a movie with floormates, living on the Wartburg College campus gave Barbara Gamez Sims '98 "some of the best memories."



Gamez Sims '98

"Wartburg's residential experience is second to none," said Gamez Sims, alumni board president-elect and a technology licensing manager at Mayo Clinic. "From the moment that I arrived on campus, I felt like a part of the community."

That experience is vanishing on many campuses.

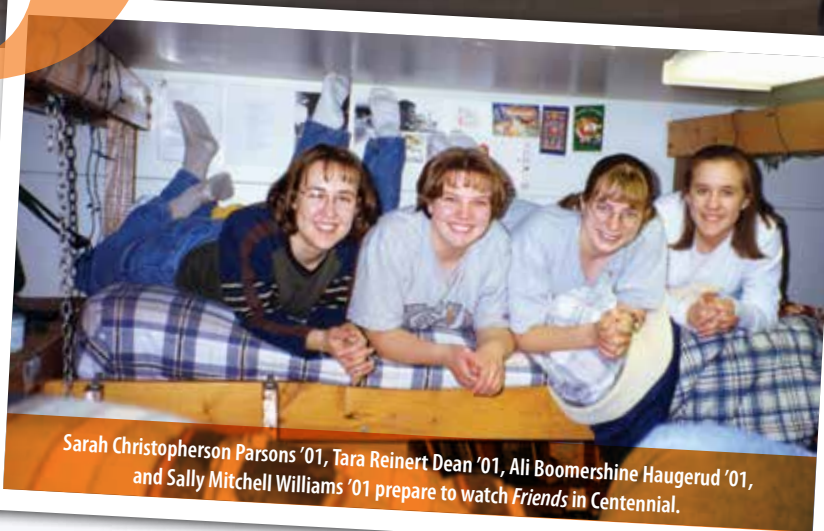
"A lot of institutions, even our size, have started to go away from the concept of a residential community.

We have not," said Wes Brooks, associate dean of students and director of Residential Life. "We have stood strong with our belief that the on-campus experience is vital to the overall holistic development of our students."

"We're essentially different from an online education or a commuter school, because the nature of the community we build helps students develop in a positive way," said Dr. Deborah Loers, vice president for Student Life and dean of students. "We want the residential experience to be positive, interesting, challenging, and different."

Gamez Sims cited the importance of living with a diverse group of people.

"Living on campus was a great opportunity to meet people from different backgrounds and with different perspectives," Gamez Sims said. "When first meeting a new floormate,



Sarah Christopherson Parsons '01, Tara Reinert Dean '01, Ali Boomershine Haugerud '01, and Sally Mitchell Williams '01 prepare to watch *Friends* in Centennial.

you may notice the differences in religion, background, or upbringing, but before you know it you realize how much you have in common."

Brooks agreed. "I would consider ours to be a very diverse community. We have international students and domestic students of color; students from rural and urban communities, and so many different countries and states are represented. They all meld together in the residence halls."

Sarah Christopherson Parsons '01, marketing director for the Cedar Valley United Way, still keeps up with her first-year roommates. She recalls living in Centennial and holding the TV's rabbit ears so they could watch *Friends*.

"I stay in contact with them, have running jokes with them, and go to them for career advice," Parsons said. "I just got to know people so well. That's who I still lean on."

Parsons said her friends from other institutions who lived off campus "didn't enjoy college. I think that's sad that they didn't have those experiences."

Communication arts major Matt Gruemmer '15 of Durant applied to live off campus. He wanted a less distracting environment—and a lower cost—despite Wartburg limiting off-campus housing requests.

"They weren't very lenient, but when I told them why, they were a little more understanding," he said. "They want you to be really involved. Moving off campus doesn't make me less involved."

"Our hope is that by living on campus, by living in this community of scholars, there is more of an opportunity to reflect about learning," Brooks said. "I would emphasize that the community experience and



Students celebrate Outfly Monday morning, Oct. 15, 2012.

continued on next page

the living-learning environment far outweigh the opportunity to live off campus for potentially less or equal money."

Alyssa Larson '14, a music education major from Marion, is glad she has lived on campus all four years.

"Wartburg draws people in with its tight-knit, friendly, welcoming atmosphere," Larson said. "Besides, imagine Outfly morning if only a few students lived on campus."

Of Wartburg's approximately 1,700 students, nearly 1,450 live on campus and stay over weekends.

"Students encourage each other to stay for the weekends rather than going home," said Tanner Wenger '14, an education major from Elkader. "Some colleges and universities are known as 'suitcase' colleges, because everyone goes home. That definitely is not Wartburg."

The goal of the on-campus experience, Brooks said, is to develop community.

"At the end of the day, we hope that our students are coming to Wartburg with an understanding that they're going to be comfortable, that this is their home away from home, that we want to make them feel part of the Wartburg family," he said.

SPECIAL PROJECTS ENHANCE LIVING AND LEARNING

EACH YEAR STUDENTS APPLY to live in Löhe Hall and The Residence with a project dedicated to a special topic or community service.

"Other institutions do similar things, but this is a relatively wide-scale program with almost 300 students involved," said Brooks.

Students in The Residence complete a yearlong service project of their choice with their seven suitemates. They have an adviser and complete monthly hour logs with reflections.

Löhe Hall residents complete educational projects of their choice and design with suitemates. The projects are displayed in bulletin boards outside residence halls campuswide and on social media or student blogs.

Applications begin in late October, and students are interviewed about their proposals during Fall Term. They reside in Löhe or The Residence the following academic year.

"With the mission of the institution and learning and service being so strong, it's a highly sought program. We have more applicants than beds," Brooks said.

Courtney Geibert '14, a history and religion major from Beavercreek, Ohio, lived in Löhe Hall as a sophomore and a junior. Her topics included social entrepreneurship and TOMS, a shoe company that donates a pair of shoes to an underprivileged child for every pair sold.

"We wanted to educate the Wartburg community on making purchases



Courtney Geibert '14 with TOMS partner
Kelsey Smith '15.

that could 'pay it forward,'" Geibert said.

Wenger, who also lived in Löhe during his sophomore and junior years, compared U.S. educational systems to other countries with his suitemates. Three of the four suitemates were education majors.

"It was interesting not only because of our majors, but the countries we had connections with," Wenger said. "We knew people there, had been there ourselves, or would be going there."

Hannah Strandberg '15, a psychology and neuroscience major from Zimmerman, Minn., had never heard of Waverly's Head Start program before applying to live in The Residence in 2012. She and her suitemates spent time aiding children of low-income families with their health, nutritional, and educational needs.

"My experience volunteering taught me more about the difficulties low-income families deal with," Strandberg said.

She applied to live in The Residence again this year to continue serving with her suitemates at Head Start.

"The woman on the phone from Head Start was so happy that we wanted to come back that she almost started to cry," Strandberg said. "That moment made me realize that our volunteering is appreciated and makes a difference in many peoples' lives."

Alex Jensen '15, an engineering science major from St. Anthony, Minn., returned to The Residence this year to serve residents at Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community in Waverly.

"We had a blast helping them entertain residents through various activities like balloon volleyball and kickball and even gave some residents manicures," Jensen said. "Volunteering a second year allows us to enhance the relationships we built our first year."

Jensen said the Bartels residents have taught him patience.

"They constantly remind me to slow down and cherish the moments, which can be easy to forget in our hectic lives," Jensen said.

Brooks said other institutions' living-learning programs are much less student-driven.

"Residential Life runs parallel to students, and we provide that scaffolding to meet their goals, but this is a student initiative," Brooks said. "Every year it's stronger. I think our students are proud of it."

RENOVATING THE OLD, BUILDING NEW EXPERIENCES

WARTBURG COLLEGE WANTS TO INCREASE the value of living on

campus with a master plan to renovate some residence halls, construct new housing, and enhance the culture.

"We're trying to renovate our oldest halls to reflect the needs and interests of students into the future and still preserve the qualities of Wartburg—the smaller size and opportunities of community," Loers said.

Wartburg is prioritizing improvements to its traditional first-year halls—Clinton and Centennial Complex, which were built in the 1960s and are due for major renovations.

"Equipment ages, and we have 600 students who live in our first-year residence halls," Brooks said. "That's a lot of showers, foot traffic, and day-to-day living."

The improvements would include updating bathrooms, conjoining separate showers and restrooms into one, and making the halls air-conditioned and handicapped-accessible.



Holly Halstead '15 helps a student with sight reading.



Dr. Deborah Loers



Artist depiction of Clinton Hall updates above and right.

“We’re trying to renovate our oldest halls to reflect the needs and interests of students into the future and still preserve the qualities of Wartburg—the smaller size and opportunities of community.”

— Dr. Deborah Loers

Classroom and program offices would be added, and an improved lounge area could possibly have a small theater.

“Our newer halls aren’t traditional,” Brooks said. “They don’t have long corridors and 22 doors on each side of the halls. Society shifts and building design shifts.”



Wes Brooks

But Wartburg also wants to go “back to the future,” embracing a concept popular in the 1970s—faculty members living in residence with students in a newly constructed apartment in Clinton.

“It will allow students the opportunity to engage with a faculty member and their family in a different capacity,” Brooks said. “We’re trying to develop whole students, and it’s important for students to see their faculty and staff as whole people as well.”

Dr. Edith Waldstein ’73, vice president for enrollment management, and her husband, political science professor Dr. Fred Waldstein ’74, were among the faculty families in residence at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston while she taught there and he taught at nearby Bentley College.

“It was a great experience,” she said. “You had regular contact with students outside the classroom. It encourages that developmental process among students to see their residence hall experience as an opportunity to learn things about community and about the subject areas they are studying.”

The Waldsteins had a small budget to do activities with students including mountain hiking, Sunday brunches, and bringing in speakers. It was a women’s dorm, so they had “built-in babysitters” for their children.

Because MIT, like Harvard, has a long, British-influenced tradition of faculty living with students in residence halls, Waldstein said it felt normal. At Wartburg, it might take some adjustment.

“Cultural changes are always challenging,” she said. “I think eventually it will be fine, but it will take good conversation and education about what the opportunities are like.”

Jenny Lynes ’14, a history education major from Keokuk, expressed some concerns.

“That’s sort of your area, and now there’s a faculty member living there?” Lynes asked. “(Students) will think that they might have to watch what they do. Is that going to change the dynamic between faculty and students?”

Loers and Brooks believe it will—positively.

“This idea would allow the faculty member to be a mentor to the students in the hall, not in charge of conduct, but perhaps teach a class, invite students to small gatherings,” Loers said. “It’s not difficult to create those relationships.”

“It’s not as though these faculty members and their families will be intrusive in students’ lives,” Brooks said. “They’ll have opportunities to engage students, and students will have opportunities to engage faculty on a different level.”

Faculty apartments could be added to first-year residence halls, pending the outcome of the pilot project.

For upperclassmen, the master plan includes an apartment complex north of Grossmann and Löhe halls that would cater to them.


“That apartment-style space would capture more of those fourth-year students and give them a space on campus where they want to live,” Brooks said. “This would be in response to that desire for independent living. Fewer students would live off campus.”

Students like the idea.

“Part of the college atmosphere is to experience life in the real world, or at least closer to it, and living in apartments—through the college or in the city—is another way of doing that,” said Justin Cervantes ’14, a communication studies major from Cedar Rapids.

“There is not enough senior housing,” Geibert said. “I wish I had the opportunity to live in Knights Village, but because of the lottery system, I am not able to experience my final year with my peers.”

The proposed residential changes would be financed through fundraising.

“The goal is to evaluate the college’s physical plant and how to move into the next century in a way that’s compatible with the values of the college,” Loers said. 



SUMMER CAMPERS

keep campus lively

by Emily Christensen

FOR A FEW BRIEF DAYS during late spring the Wartburg College campus is quiet.

Students have gone home for the summer. The residence halls and Mensa sit empty. The sidewalks and skywalks see little foot traffic. That stillness is short-lived.

Each summer, thousands of elementary-, middle-, and high school-aged students spend a day, a night, or even a week on campus partaking in a summer camp experience. They see the campus, live in the residence halls, and eat in the Mensa. Some even develop a strong sense of belonging that brings them back to Wartburg upon their high school graduation.

"Anytime you can bring students on campus for an overnight stay, they become that much more familiar with the college and the people. It starts to feel like home," said Dr. Lee Nelson, associate professor of music and director of the Meistersinger All-State Choir Camps. The camp draws upwards of 700 students each summer.

The college hosts numerous music and athletic camps, as well as communication, leadership, and other groups.

Christopher Kurt '14 from Independence and Andra Peeler '14 from Indianola grew up nearly 200 miles apart, but found a fast friendship on the Wartburg College campus during a Meistersinger All-State camp.

"We met at All-State camp, then again at All-State. We became Facebook friends. We were at a Scholarship Day together. We both made Wartburg Choir as first-years," Kurt said. "All three of my roommates were at All-State camp. That's something cool, to see how the community you build in high school can transfer on."

More importantly, Kurt forged a bond that continues today with Dr. Jennifer Larson, associate professor of music.

"During camp I had a private voice lesson with Dr. Larson. At the end, she asked if I had a private voice instructor, then handed me her card, and said she would like to teach me," Kurt said.

The weekly campus visits and faculty interaction made Kurt's college decision an easy one, he said.

Athletic camps hosted by Wartburg coaches and staffed by Wartburg athletes are another big draw for prospective students.

More than 100 runners attend Steve Johnson's cross country camp each summer. For four days the athletes live on campus and build relationships with others who are passionate about the sport—including Johnson's team.

Income from the camps helps Johnson cover the cost of taking his team to the Black Hills in South Dakota for its training purposes. The camp also is a great way to promote the sport he loves.

"From the moment they come on campus everything is upbeat, positive, and inviting," he said. "These kids love cross country, and for some this is the first time they are with others who feel the same way. They go home fired up."

They aren't just fired up about their sport and the upcoming season. Johnson said many leave fired up about Wartburg. His proof—many of his student-athletes are former campers.




Many Meistersinger All-State Choir Camp participants later enroll at Wartburg.

"For prospective athletes, seeing the environment and team they could be a part of, they walk away with a good feeling about our program and the college," he said. "That's what will bring them back."

The college also hosts outside camps, like Snow Valley Iowa Basketball School, which draws hundreds of basketball players to campus each July.

These outside camps serve a dual purpose, said Kyle Anderson, camps and conference coordinator. The college is paid to host the external camps—about seven each summer—and students who otherwise may not have an interest in Wartburg are exposed to the campus, facilities, and faculty and staff.

"This is another opportunity to show students everything we have to offer," Anderson said. "We want them to see just what Wartburg is about, even if only for a couple of days. Summer camps—whether hosted by the college or another organization—are great recruitment opportunities." 



Grapplers at the Wartburg Wrestling Camp work with Coach Eric Keller and past and present wrestlers, like Kodie Silvestri '13, pictured here.



ReelOrange

makes real-world impact

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

REELORANGE PRODUCTIONS IS THE REAL DEAL

at Wartburg College, giving students hands-on experience in video production with clients on and off campus.

The co-curricular production business run by communication arts students and adviser Travis Bockenstedt '09, lecturer in communication arts and McElroy Chair in Communication Arts, in association with the Marketing and Communication Office, began in 2012. Quickly gaining a reputation for quality work, it has expanded its client base from the campus to the greater Cedar Valley.

ReelOrange has reeled in Waverly Economic Development, Rada Manufacturing, Iowa Foster and Adoptive Parents Association, City Workplace Uniforms and Mats, KWWL, Blue Suede Memories, and the Waterloo Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Waverly Economic Development was its first outside client when then-director Brent Matthias '92 enlisted ReelOrange to develop a video, *This is Waverly*, showcasing the benefits of living and working in the community.

"Their work was super," Matthias said. "In fact, one person asked what 'agency' did our new video. They couldn't believe it when I told them it was done by college students. That says a lot about the Wartburg communication arts program and the students involved with it."

Dan Kielman '93, vice president of sales and marketing at Rada, said ReelOrange has "done a spectacular job," producing 200 videos since January for the cutlery company, which previously made its videos in-house. Views on its YouTube channel tripled from 28,000 to 84,000. The company assists 18,000 nonprofit groups with fundraisers.

"My team and I have all gotten so much real work experience in shooting, editing, and working with music and effects that we wouldn't have gotten otherwise."

— Bethany McAtee '14

One highlight, he said, was a Thanksgiving cooking show special broadcast statewide on Mediacom.

"We have worked with four different ReelOrange students since the program began," Kielman said. "They bring a high level of expertise and professionalism to the project. They, of course, add value during the filming and editing, but also have been a great help in streamlining work flow and helping us improve the quality of the videos produced."

"The combination of the professional filming, close-ups, lighting equipment, microphones, and editing really creates videos that we are proud to have represent our brand," he added.

John Huff, general sales manager for KWWL, applauded ReelOrange's work on commercials.

"One in particular was a local car dealer (Krueger Auto) in which they took a different approach than the typical car dealer commercials," Huff said. "The commercial really stands out, and the client is happy with the production."

Bockenstedt said ReelOrange used "green screen and advanced motion graphics" for the commercial.

ReelOrange is fully staffed year-round.

"This is a unique program for a college campus our size," Bockenstedt said. "Essentially we are running a small business from the communication arts department. It gives students an opportunity to put education into action."

Bethany McAtee '14 of Coggon has been involved in the program.


"I had worked for (student-run) Wartburg Television previously, but found that my interests did not lie in news, but in other video production. So I thought this would be a great opportunity for me," said McAtee, who has been a manager and project coordinator.



ReelOrange producers work with Krueger Auto in Waverly on a television commercial that aired on KWWL.



Simon Sager '14 produces a corporate video for City Workplace Uniforms and Mats in Oelwein.

"I've learned an indescribable amount about my field of interest from working with ReelOrange," McAtee added. "My team and I have all gotten so much real work experience in shooting, editing, and working with music and effects that we wouldn't have gotten otherwise." 

ReelOrange PRODUCTIONS



Learn more about ReelOrange at
www.wartburg.edu/reelorange and see videos at
www.wartburg.edu/magazine/reel.html.



ENGINEERING SUCCESS

Program takes off under Dr. Daniel Black's leadership

by Emily Christensen

ALTHOUGH IT'S NOW THE COLLEGE'S FASTEST-GROWING PROGRAM, Dr. Daniel Black often compares the early days of engineering science to a dizzying ride on a carnival carousel.

"The first three years of the program, all of our courses were taught on a three-year rotation. It was like a merry-go-round. Students stepped on when they got here and finished when their four years were up," said Black, who started the engineering science degree program in 2002. "It was insane."

"There were some classes we had to take out of order because that was the only time they would be offered before we graduated," Mark Giesmann '05 said.

The college had offered a 3-2 program prior to 2002. The dual-degree program allowed students to complete three years of study in a math or science field at Wartburg followed by two years at an accredited engineering school. Students would continue earning credits toward a Wartburg degree after transferring. Upon completion of sufficient work to satisfy the remaining requirements for a Wartburg degree, the credits were transferred back to Wartburg. Students then would continue coursework for engineering degree. The degrees were then awarded concurrently.

By the late '90s, Black said, very few students were choosing that option. The engineering science program was born as a better alternative.

"The first students had to be risk takers. I told them up front I didn't know if it would work," said Black, the Gary and Donna Hoover Distinguished Endowed Professor in Engineering Science. "Now, those students are out there selling the value of their education. They opened doors for a lot of students who have graduated since then."

Engineering science—recently buoyed by a \$1 million gift from the Hoovers—has ballooned from only nine or 10 at the outset to nearly 70.

With the program still in its infancy, Wartburg is blazing its own path.

"Our program is predicated on the assumption that some number of students prefer a student-centered teaching school over a large, research-driven institution," Black said. "We just have to make sure they know this is an option."

The reputation of the program received a boost with the success of Annie Olson Kappelman '05, who quickly rose to project manager for cab assembly at John Deere Engine Works in Waterloo. That

has been parlayed into hands-on opportunities at the agricultural manufacturing giant for current Wartburg students.

"This isn't three months of summer work done toward the end of the their degree program. Our students are doing real work, and many are starting as early as their sophomore year," said Dr. LeAnn Faidley, assistant professor of engineering science. "They are sitting with engineering teams. They see how the real world works, and how the work they do fits into the larger project."

After teaching five years at a public institution, Faidley, who joined Black in 2011, found the Wartburg opportunity a welcome change.

"I wanted a role where I could innovate in the classroom, help shape a program, and focus on the students and student learning," she said. "This was a great fit for that."

Giesmann came to Wartburg expecting to earn a math degree and play football. He left with a double major in math and engineering science after playing collegiate football, basketball, and tennis.

"What I enjoyed most about Wartburg is that you can be involved with everything, regardless of your major," said Geismann, who lives in Omaha with his wife, Amanda Nelson Giesmann '05. "You learn things you can take with you and use later in life. If I had pursued an engineering program at another school, I wouldn't have had those same opportunities. The liberal arts classes I had to take gave me a different perspective and the soft skills that a lot of engineers coming out of state schools didn't have. It was a more well-rounded education."

Black has continued his dogged promotion of the program, recruiting more students who found worth in the degree and the opportunities Wartburg could offer—playing sports, participating in music ensembles, service-learning, and studying abroad or at Wartburg West.



Graduates like Annie Olson Kappelman '05 have found success in their field.

The opportunity to pursue varied interests attracted Mary Wrage '15 of Dysart, a track and field athlete.

"I looked at bigger universities, but I knew I wouldn't be able to study engineering and German or be a student-athlete. It just shows how flexible the program is," said Wrage, following in the footsteps of older sibling Margaret '04, who earned degrees in math and physics, and Matthew '07, one of the first to earn an engineering science degree.

Tawanda Murinda '15 of Zimbabwe had already received an offer from the University of Chicago—considered one of the top five universities in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*—when Reon Sines-Sheaff, associate director for global admissions, visited him on the job at the U.S. Embassy in Harare.

"I was looking for a place where I could study engineering, but also a place where I could focus on psychology," Murinda said. "The idea of a liberal arts school was very appealing."

Murinda had doubts. Today, he knows he made the right decision.

"Dr. Black nurtured me into trusting the program," he said. "Dr. Faidley and Dr. (Shaheen) Munir (professor of psychology) have shown me that I can combine my love for engineering and psychology in the real world."


Black said getting students to trust in the program is easier, in part, because of the success of its nearly 80 graduates. More than half of the program's graduates go directly into the workforce. The rest go on to earn specialized graduate degrees.

"The things we say about placement are now statistically meaningful," he said.

Which path they choose is all part of the journey.

"Rather than say to students 'you are grad school bound and you are industry bound,' it is up to them to find their calling," he said. "Many of our students could easily work through a graduate program, but they don't feel called to do it at this time. We have to work to ensure that our degree program is adequately preparing them for either option."

Black knows there will come a time—possibly sooner rather than later—when other private, liberal arts schools will offer a similar degree. Most are still partnering with universities for a 3-2 program.

"These schools will see what we are doing can be done without millions of dollars in program investments," he said. "When other private liberal arts colleges decide to launch a bachelor program, I want to be in a position to say ours is always better. We can't stand still." 



Donna and Gary Hoover invested \$1 million to "ensure the future" of the engineering science program.

Hoovers invest \$1 million in engineering leaders

by Megan Reid

THE ROBUST GROWTH of Wartburg's engineering science program as it enters its second decade has been recognized and rewarded with a \$1 million gift from Gary and Donna Hoover.

The program began in 2002-03 with only nine or 10 majors, but began the current academic year with nearly 70 under the guidance of Dr. Dan Black, professor of physical and engineering science.

Gary is a retired engineer and co-founder of Tenaska, which develops, owns, and operates non-utility power plants. As a member of the Wartburg Board of Regents and the Engineering Science National Advisory Board, he likes what he's seen.

"Our leaders of tomorrow need a moral compass to guide them to determine right from wrong, and Wartburg provides that," he said. "I have attended secular universities—Iowa State and the University of Pittsburgh—as well as a faith-based school, Santa Clara University. From that experience, I recognize the difference that Wartburg can make in molding our future leaders."

"The best way to ensure the future of a program is to invest in the faculty and facilities that support that program," he added. "This ensures that Wartburg will be able to attract top-notch faculty, one of the keys to success at Wartburg and keys to success for a student."

The Hoovers' gift creates a distinguished endowed professorship in engineering science, which Black assumed at the beginning of this academic year. He also is chair of the biochemistry, chemistry, and engineering science department.

"Dr. Black, with the help of Dr. LeAnn Faidley (assistant professor of engineering), will make sure the gift enhances the college's focus on integrative and experiential learning in the liberal arts tradition and success in the science, technology, engineering, and math disciplines," Hoover said.

The Hoovers became affiliated with Wartburg through Gary's uncle, Marv Walston, a Waverly businessman. They are the namesakes of Walston-Hoover Stadium. The fieldhouse of the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center honors the Hoovers.

The Hoovers have been involved with the college's recent strategic planning and capital campaign efforts. In addition, they enjoy interacting with Wartburg students and host the men's golf team in their Arizona home each winter.

They also support his alma mater, Iowa State University, where Hoover Hall, one of two buildings in the Engineering Teaching and Research Complex, bears the couple's name.



Skylar Dierikx '15, a football player, and Mary Wrage '15, a track and field athlete, have found it possible to pursue other interests while earning an engineering science degree.

through THE STORM

Wartburg grad witnesses Typhoon Haiyan and Philippines aftermath

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

SHUBIRA BOCKO '12 SURVIVED one of the most powerful storms ever when Typhoon Haiyan struck the island of Visayas in the Philippines last fall.

Bocko, from Chicago, was a Peace Corps volunteer when the typhoon unleashed its 195 mph fury on Nov. 8, 2013, claiming more than 6,000 lives. Amid the devastation, she was impressed by the Filipinos' resilient spirit.

"There were times I went outside my hotel and just watched people and tried to make sense of what was going on," Bocko said. "There were some Filipinos who told me, 'Sister, keep your head up, or would ask if I was OK, despite the fact that they lost everything.'"

Her Facebook post described her ordeal.

"I've spent the last couple of days in Tacloban trying to survive looking for food and water with other Peace Corps volunteers. The wind knocked trees down, stripped mountains bare, houses were destroyed because of the wind and the ocean coming on land. Seen dead bodies of people and babies everywhere and how did we survive? We were in (a) concrete hostel and today we spent 3 hours walking to the airport, which was also destroyed. We finally got airlifted by the Philippines military and I am now in Manila. Tacloban no longer exists and there remains thousands of homeless, hungry and thirsty people and dead bodies. Please help them!"

She was evacuated from Tacloban to Manila on Nov. 10 and helped bag rice for Haiyan victims before returning home to Chicago.

Bocko joined the Peace Corps in late 2012 and was assigned to the Philippines as a social work volunteer. She worked for an anti-poverty program near Tacloban that provided impoverished families with cash for education, health, and nutritional needs.

Bocko was on a team of eight serving 2,000 families. They conducted house visits and interviews, facilitating monthly family development sessions focused on parenting, hygiene, and natural disaster evacuation.

"I was getting into my job. I love working with families," Bocko said. "They were very fun. Although they didn't have a lot, that never stopped them from being happy."

She had been in the Philippines a month and a half when Typhoon Haiyan struck. Its fierce winds propelled ocean waters.

"A lot of water came on land," Bocko said. "It was high enough that people drowned in their homes. In some cases, houses were floating away in the water."

After the typhoon subsided, three feet of water remained. Bocko said nearly everything was destroyed or damaged.

"Many lost their lives, and it took a while to get all the dead bodies of both people and animals from the streets," Bocko said. "Those who survived either lost their loved ones or knew someone who lost their life. Most people died from being hit by debris or from drowning."

"I have never in my life seen destruction of that level," she added, "but I'm thankful for all the Filipinos who I met and the ones I saw after the typhoon. Haiyan chewed up Tacloban, but it didn't kill the resilience of the Filipinos."

Bocko said most volunteers removed bodies from the debris or helped the wounded, but she had no training for that.

"I helped with the small things like cleaning drainage for neighbors nearby so the remaining water could go down," Bocko said. "Sometimes the small acts count, too."

She returned to Chicago on Nov. 27 to celebrate Thanksgiving with her family—with an assist from a special Filipino friend.

Bocko's host mother traveled two days through the debris after Bocko was evacuated in order to get her passport, clothes, identification, and credit cards to the Tacloban airport.

"Despite the fact that my host mom's house was damaged and she lost almost everything, she was willing to help me," Bocko said. "Her spirit and kindness is beyond grasp and that's something that can be said about Filipinos." 🌿



Shubira Bocko '12 bagging rice.



CHARLIE FIGURA'S intergalactic JUGGLING act

by Saul Shapiro

WELCOME TO CHARLIE FIGURA'S WORLD—roughly 40 kiloparsecs or 130,000 light years from edge to edge.

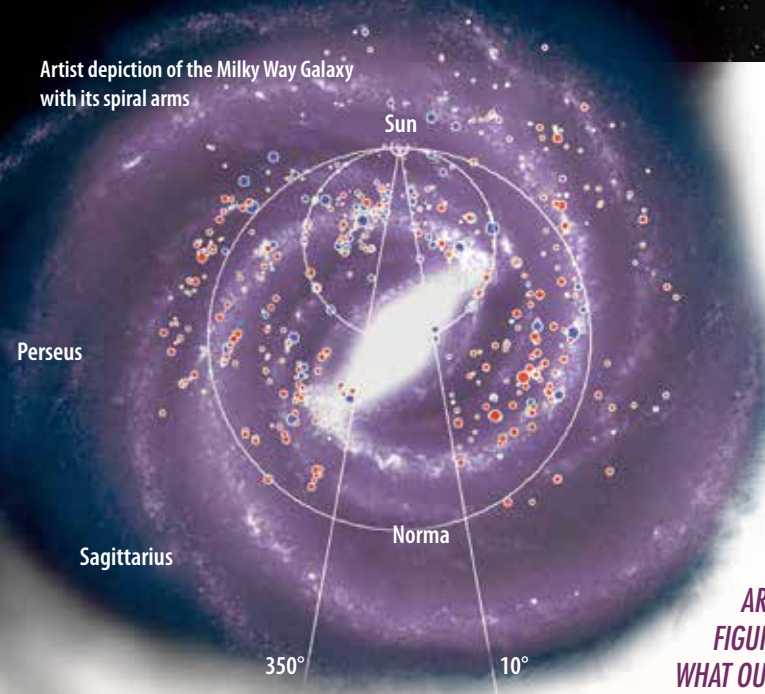
Dr. Figura, professor of physics and astronomy, director of Wartburg College's Platte Observatory, and juggler extraordinaire, happily resides in the Milky Way Galaxy, just like the rest of us, but with a greater awareness of his surroundings.

Figura was among the collaborators on a much-publicized 12-year study released in December that determined that the Milky Way has four significant spiral arms—not two major and two minor ones as cited in observations using NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope in 2008.

"That was one small part of a paper that is 16 pages long, but it's only one of the conclusions in a study that was the most complete set of observations of these high-mass-star forming regions in our galaxy that has ever been done," Figura said. "It's this huge tool set. If you're going to do studies of high-mass stars, this is the place that you start."

continued on next page





for earthlings without a clue about kiloparsecs (3.08567758 × 1016 kilometers) or otherworldly terminology.

WHEN YOU FIRST MOVE INTO A HOUSE IN A NEW TOWN, YOU LIKE TO GO AROUND AND SEE WHAT THE NEIGHBORHOOD LOOKS LIKE, SEE WHAT THE NEIGHBORS LOOK LIKE, FIGURE OUT WHERE YOU ARE. THIS IS LIKE THAT. WE'RE FIGURING OUT WHERE WE LIVE; WHAT OUR ENVIRONMENT IS ALL ABOUT.

The study was led by British astronomers at the University of Leeds and reported by the Royal Astronomical Society. Figuera worked with the lead author, James Urquhart of the Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy in Bonn, Germany, for more than five years doing data analysis and some writing. He presented research on it in January at the meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Washington, D.C.

The researchers relied primarily on radio telescopes in West Virginia, Hawaii, Australia, Chile, and China as well as data from space telescopes. They studied 1,650 "massive" stars—all at least eight times larger than the sun—and plotted the distances between them and Earth to reaffirm the four major arms theory popularized in the 1950s.

"Part of the main reason we studied this was to get a better understanding of how the Milky Way Galaxy works," Figuera said. "How did it form? How did it get to look the way it does? Why does it look the way that it does? Why are galaxies different?"

"A galaxy, in some ways, is like a machine or a living organism," he added. "It responds to stimuli. It does things. We see star formation. We see star deaths. In some cases, particularly with the high-mass stars, there's a feedback process that tends to trigger more star formation. Understanding the shape of our Milky Way and where the stars are forming is important in determining how that works."

It's easy to get lost in space when discussing the findings. But Figuera relies on insightful analogies (italicized in purple)

The Milky Way's four spiral-arm "neighborhoods" are each populated by high- and low-mass stars.

"High-mass stars live a very, very short period of time. In time scales, we're looking at a (medium-mass) star like our sun that will live for 10 billion years. Incidentally, we're about halfway through that right now," Figuera said, pausing to add, "So make your plans."

"Lower mass stars—and there are many, many more lower-mass stars than our sun—may live for 100 billion years.

"The very highest mass stars—the ones that we're interested in—may live for tens of millions of years. When you see a high-mass star, you are seeing a young star, at least young as stars go. They don't have time to get very far away from where they were born. Live fast, die young. That sort of thing. If you see a high-mass star, you're seeing it pretty much where it was formed."

YOU CAN LISTEN TO THE RADIO ON A VERY FOGGY DAY, BUT YOU CAN'T SEE THROUGH THE FOG.

Because stars are often obscured by cosmic "dust," astronomers rely on radio waves to "see" them.

"Dust is basically small aggregations of cold atoms—carbon and oxygen," Figuera said. "These are chunks of thousands of molecules that are clumped together, and they do a very good job of absorbing light and scattering light just like fog would."

"Radio or microwaves get through gas and dust that visible light cannot. So radio waves become a very good way of 'seeing' though the gas and dust in the Milky Way, where we cannot see very far with visible light. If I point to the center of the galaxy, you cannot see anything special because there's so much dust

in the way that it blocks out the visible light. We need radio telescopes to collect that information."

WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE OUT THE SHAPE OF THE GALAXY FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS. THE PROBLEM IS IT'S LIKE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT THE SHAPE OF A FOREST WHEN YOU'RE STANDING IN THE MIDDLE.

The dilemma, as Figuera views it, "is that you can't see the edges, you can see only a limited distance. You can only see a number of trees that are close to you, but those trees block the view of the trees behind them."

"Now, if you're exceedingly good at climbing, you may be able to climb up a tree and see what's around you. But the galaxy is so big that we have no way of climbing outside of it to turn back and take a look."

"So we do a couple of things," he added. "We look around us and see that there are other spiral galaxies. By looking at some of these other molecular tracers, we can tell that a lot of the gas around our own galaxy is spread out apparently in a spiral pattern. So we think we are like one of those."

LOOKING AT SPIRAL GALAXIES IS LIKE VIEWING PRIMATES IN THE ZOO.


"They all have the same basic characteristics, but some have tails and some don't," Figuera said. "Some have orange fur. Some have black fur. Some have brown fur. So, which do you look most like?"

"That's where this mapping becomes very important. It's easy to see in the sky where the stars are, but you're only seeing the closest stars. You need to see farther, and that's where radio observations come in handy, because you can see through the gas and dust in the Milky Way," he added.

"The real difficult part is when you know exactly where something is in the sky, but you have to determine how far away it is. Then you can start plotting all these things and seeing where they are. That's essentially what our paper is about."

"We've taken this survey about these high-mass stars in the early stages of their lives and figured out with pretty good precision how far away they are. So then you can make a map. If you have three coordinates for each object, you can plot them."

A GALAXY'S SPIRAL ARMS ARE NOT PERMANENT STRUCTURES WITH RESIDENT NEBULAE AND STARS, BUT ARE MUCH MORE LIKE TRAFFIC JAMS. JUST AS CARS ENTER THE TRAFFIC JAM FROM BEHIND AND CREEP



**OUT THE FRONT, MATERIAL
(GAS AND STARS) ENTERS
FROM BEHIND AND CREEPS
OUT THE FRONT.**

"Our analysis of massive stars shows a distribution of these stars among the four arms that indicates that all four have similar massive star 'birthrates,' which contradicts the 2008 view of major and minor arms, but doesn't mean that the other study was wrong," Figura said.

"The other study was primarily looking at low-mass stars, which tend to live much longer than high-mass stars. The stars in the arms of the galaxies are not permanently there. They are not residents; they are migrants. Typically, stars form in the arms and then they may migrate outward, away from those arms. When you see low-mass stars, because they live a long time, they might have moved quite a distance from where they formed."

**ASTRONOMERS HAVE A MUCH DIFFERENT
DEFINITION OF TIME. WE THINK, 'OH, 100 MILLION
YEARS, THAT'S REALLY SHORT.' THAT'S A VERY SHORT
LIFETIME FOR A STAR.**

"We're looking at a galaxy that's 11 billion years old," Figura said. "If we look at stars that are 20,000 light years away, the light has been traveling for 20,000 years to get to us, which is a fair amount of time as far as humans are concerned. But for stars, not so much."

"With the starlight that we see, it's possible some stars have died by now, but most are just doing fine. The high-mass stars may have a lifetime of a million years, so after 20,000 years they're still there."

**WITH THE MILKY WAY, WE HAVE A NUMBER OF
SMALL SATELLITE GALAXIES HANGING ON AROUND
THE OUTSKIRTS. YOU CAN THINK OF THEM AS THE
SUBURBS OF A CITY.**

The largest one is known as the Magellanic Clouds, which is easily visible from the Southern Hemisphere.

"The closest comparable-sized galaxy—or city, by our analogy—is the Andromeda Galaxy," Figura said. "Andromeda is the most distant object that you can see with the naked eye. It appears as a very, very faint star, but it's actually a galaxy similar in size to the Milky Way."

"The Andromeda Galaxy is actually heading our way. We expect that there will be a collision between the two that will essentially start in about three billion years or so—before the sun goes out."

Which may be irrelevant for humankind.

"Interestingly, the sun will have increased in size and brightness enough that Earth more than likely will not be habitable," Figura said. ☾



To the Milky Way Galaxy and beyond

Dr. Charlie Figura's curiosity about the cosmos is evident from posters in his office, spanning the science fiction genre from *Star Wars* to *The X-Files*. His interest was piqued while growing up in St. Louis.

"The first time I remember thinking about what I wanted to do with my life I was in about fourth or fifth grade, and there had just been news about Voyager visiting one of the giant planets—Saturn maybe," Figura said. "I remember asking my dad, 'How do you get to work at JPL?'"

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory—an arm of NASA and the California Institute of Technology—is in charge of many of NASA's space probes.

His father, who has a master's degree in geophysics, laid out the academic path. But after earning a bachelor's degree at Bradley University and master's and doctoral degrees at Virginia Tech—all in physics, while taking course work in astronomy—JPL was no longer in the picture.

"I wanted to do some teaching, not research work only," Figura said.

While his course load precludes a lead role on collaborative projects, Figura used his Winter Term 2007 sabbatical to work at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank, W. Va., home of the Robert C. Byrd Telescope, the world's largest steerable radio telescope.

"I got involved with a couple of researchers studying star formation. Most astronomical research is done in collaborations. Some can be quite large," Figura said.

He made a connection to the Milky Way project, and his coding and data analysis expertise was put to use.

"I'll take a chunk of data—or all the data from a given set of observations—and do the analysis and figure out what it and other data we've collected tells us about the Milky Way," he said.

Figura is currently analyzing data collected from Green Bank as well as the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope on Mauna Kea, Hawaii.

"That's a different, but related, project—not part of the same collaboration," he said. "Right now, I'm hip deep in data to analyze. I'm an observational astronomer, not a theorist. A good observational astronomer has to know some theory—you can't do data analysis without theory—but, as an observationalist, I focus on collecting and analyzing data and trying to interpret what it means."

Kalke's Calling

A VOICE FOR THE DISENFRANCHISED

by Michael L. Sherer '63

THE PILGRIMAGE OF DAVID JOHN KALKE '70 from Elkader to Guadalajara, Mexico, has never detoured in his dedication to serve the least powerful in society.

He is now doing so as the ecclesiastical leader of a tiny religious denomination.

In January, the Council of Bishops of the Ecumenical Catholic Church elected Kalke as archbishop and primate following the sudden death of Mark Shrilau.

Kalke had been bishop for Mexico. His ministry center in Guadalajara, northeast of Mexico City, now has become the center of the ECC's mission and ministry.

The ECC, which also has a presence in Italy and Australia, considers itself part of the worldwide Independent Catholic family of churches. It rejects the idea that the Bishop of Rome is infallible. It also rejects the idea that married men or women may not be ordained. Divorced individuals who have been refused the sacraments in the Roman Catholic Church are welcome to receive them in the ECC.

Kalke's journey is a tale in itself. The son of German Lutheran farmers in Clayton County, he became sensitized to the needs of the disenfranchised while at Wartburg.

"Attending Wartburg was an amazing experience for me," he recalled. "(Professors) Erna Moehl and Marshall Johnson were key in my formation. They embodied the best of excellence and student mentoring. Their quiet and gentle support of campus movements for peace and racial justice were exemplary, as were their professionalism and demand for academic excellence in the classroom."

Kalke also remembers the formative influence of religion professor Dr. Robert

Dell and his wife, Polly, who hosted "house eucharists"—services of Holy Communion in an intimate setting, much as the first Christians may have experienced it—in their home.

"My visits to Germany and Palestine during my college years and other off-campus learning experiences greatly influenced my decision to study theology, but not to have congregational ministry as my focus," he said. "The combination of social justice and theological formation took seed in me at Wartburg."

During his seminary years at Hamma Divinity School in Springfield, Ohio, Kalke underwent language training in Argentina and did human rights work in Chile, until deported by a dictatorial regime.

After ordination, he worked in noncongregational settings in New York, advocating for human rights among immigrants and refugees.

In California, he served under an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America call to "Word and Sacrament ministry among the poor." Kalke organized the Central City Lutheran Mission while there.

"I organized it at the invitation of Bishop Robert Miller. It was located in San Bernardino, one of the poorest metropolitan areas in the country," he said. "The social indicators included high murder rates due to gang activity, healthcare issues, police violence, significant high school dropout rates, and high employment."

Kalke's passion combined with skills he'd learned in previous work environments created an effective ministry model. During 14 years there, he nurtured a program that changed lives for an entire subculture.

"Using a diverse fundraising model—drawing on foundations, government, and congregations—we built a complete community clinic; rehabbed 13 houses for HIV patients, plus homeless and undocumented Latinos; established a house for homeless people in recovery; started an extensive neighborhood education program in Spanish; and initiated a number of youth programs that challenged city structures, reducing police violence and opening spaces for art in public places."

Wartburg recognized his work with a 2003 Alumni Citation.

In 2010, when it became clear that the new ELCA bishop for his part of California was not ready to affirm his work under the synod's umbrella, Kalke resigned and became a priest in the ECC. Three years later he was appointed bishop for Mexico.

Why shift from a four-million-member denomination with established congregations to a relatively new faith community (organized in 1987) with limited resources—no property or church buildings—and priests who serve without salary?

In Kalke's case, his new faith community affirms without reservation the priorities he's embraced his entire ministry. The ECC, he explained, has as its salient feature "that we openly and directly witness to the disenfranchised of modern society."

Amid conservative denominations in Latin America—Roman Catholic and fundamentalist Protestant—the ECC stands in stark contrast, its stance

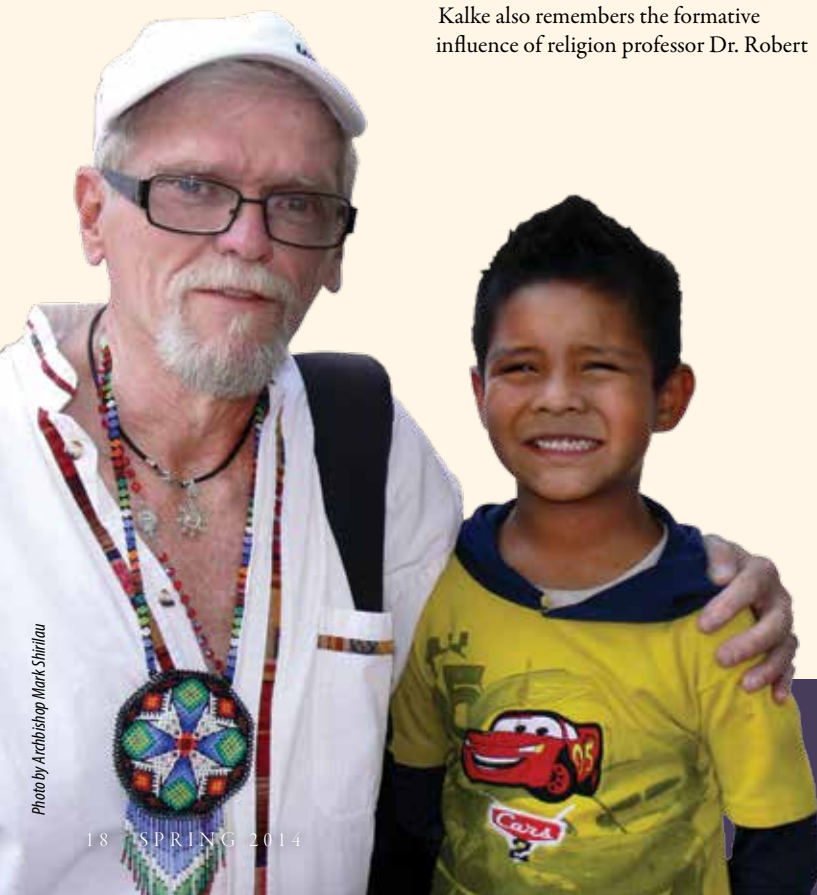


Photo by Archbishop Mark Shrilau

Bishop David John Kalke greets a child at a youth concert in a public park, where health care information on HIV prevention, family planning, and HIV testing was provided. The creation of public safe spaces using health and popular culture is part of Kalke's mission.



Bishop David John Kalke, right, poses with Bryan and Peter Santos, youth in the Community of St. Martin's youth arts program in Polanco, a poor, working-class neighborhood of Guadalajara, Mexico. Their band *Sky Bridge* performs many original acoustic jazz pieces regularly at the Café Los Martines (Café of the Martins), a restaurant committed to diversity and inclusion.

concerning sexual orientation, for example, sets it apart.

"We view the commitments of heterosexual and GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender) Christian couples to be exactly equivalent in value and sacramental validity," he said.

Kalke provides pastoral leadership for the St. Martin Community congregation and, simultaneously, serves as president of the "Community of the Four Martins"—embracing the values of Martin Caballero, Martin Luther, Martin de Porres, and Martin Luther King Jr.

A priority at The Four Martins is promoting comprehensive sexual social services for people in vulnerable situations.

Kalke coordinates work throughout Mexico, including:


- Sacramental pastoral work promoting peace, justice, and love.
- Nurturing a base community rooted in and embracing spirituality and human solidarity.
- Recruiting and training popular local leaders in Latin America.
- Implementing pastoral work dedicated to the poor and those living in the margins.
- Promoting human rights and resistance to militarization in the region.

The ECC is building a network across Latin America with candidates for ordination being trained in Chile, Peru, Colombia, and Mexico. Connectivity between leaders is accomplished via the Internet.

Kalke is now responsible for work that reaches far beyond Latin America. "New ministries will be opened in Italy, Serbia, Dubai, Brazil, and Colombia," he said.

"Developing new spaces to serve the poor and living in the margins will be our focus," he added, "as we grow and develop both nationally and internationally."

As he nears retirement (he's already drawing on his pension), Kalke has no regrets about his pilgrimage—spiritually and geographically—or forsaking a large denomination for a small one. The test of faithfulness, he believes, is clear.

"One needs to ask," he said, "what kind of impact does the faith community have in the areas of war and peace, human rights, and other social issues on the cutting edge?" 

Sherer '63 is a retired Lutheran pastor and journalist. He lives with his wife, Kathe '66, in Waverly.

Rethinking God

by Michael L. Sherer '63

A 1963 WARTBURG COLLEGE GRADUATE believes the best way to encounter the divine is through art.

Carl Jech's recent book, *Religion as Art Form* (Wipf and Stock, Eugene, Ore., 2013) takes an inclusive view of religious experience, arguing that faith communities—both Christian and non-Christian—need to stop claiming that they alone have the truth.

The book is described as "a postmodern understanding of 'God' as an ultimate eternal Mystery" and is intended "for those who think of themselves as spiritual but not religious."

A unifying principle for Jech is artistic expression. The title comes from a concept he encountered doing reading for a college-level course he was teaching.

"Roman Catholic theologian Karen Armstrong introduced me to the concept of 'religion as art form,'" he said. "When I read that in her book, *A History of God*, I thought, 'She's right.'"

After Wartburg College, Jech earned degrees from Wartburg Theological Seminary and Harvard Divinity School.



Carl Jech '63

He served a Lutheran congregation in Ypsilanti, Mich., before becoming pastor to university students in Whitewater, Wis. When he relocated to the San Francisco Bay Area, he began teaching in non-traditional settings—a community college in Silicon Valley and Jewish community centers—and his students have ranged in age from the late teens to the 80s.

The questions, challenges, and pushback he received—from curious to confused to skeptical to hostile—forced him to rethink his understandings of God, the meaning of life, and the role of the church.

Using the *Bible* to proof-text an argument, he believes, is dangerous. "If (since) you can prove anything with the *Bible*, then nothing is proved."

He has little patience for those who force the faithful to choose between science and religion. Science, he believes, is our friend. We should learn from it.

Jech said believers and seekers alike are turning away from religious argumentation that turns theology into a contact sport.


"By focusing on religion as an art form, I help my students to see how religion can be a positive force in the world. In this context, everyone can affirm his or her own religious tradition without denigrating anyone else's."

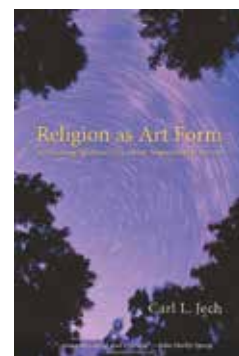
After attending a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod parochial high school, Jech began revising his thinking at Wartburg.

"My philosophy professor, Dr. Clifford Hanson, got me to start seeing things differently," he said. "So did Dr. Robert Dell, who taught a course in world religions."

At seminary he encountered the theology of Paul Tillich and Rudolph Bultmann. Graduate studies at Harvard Divinity School further expanded his horizons.

Jech has come to appreciate contemporary theologians, including Armstrong, Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Elaine Pagels, and John Shelby Spong. The latter two theologians have endorsed his work.

In affirming the content of *Religion as Art Form*, Spong particularly endorsed the idea of "seeing God as a verb to be lived, not a noun to be believed." He called Jech's writing "groundbreaking." 





ARTIST PAINTS SOCCER PORTRAIT OF SUCCESS



by Saul Shapiro

WARTBURG MEN'S SOCCER COACH

Kirk Artist '06 got a view of the mountaintop in 2013 and plans to keep climbing higher.

In his fourth year as Knights mentor, he led his team to the NCAA Division III Sweet 16 with a 17-5-2 record and No. 13 national ranking, while sharing the Iowa Conference regular-season championship with Loras (No. 3) and Luther (No. 22).

Artist was named conference and National Soccer Coaches Association of America Northern Region Coach of the Year. Bob Brown '14 of Solon was Wartburg's first first-team All-American, a NSCAA Scholar All-American, and conference Defensive Player of the Year. Dan Nadeau '15 of White Bear Lake, Minn., the team's leading scorer with 11 goals, was third-team All-Region.

Artist also takes pride in his teams' classroom accomplishments—a 3.15 GPA or higher during each of his four years.

He loses Brown and four others next year, but foresees new heights for the program.

"My vision is to make Wartburg the best place to play soccer in Division III," he said. "We still have a long way to go, but starting a soccer dynasty is possible here at Wartburg."

He takes inspiration from women's track and field coach Marcus Newsom, who has seven national titles, and wrestling coaches Jim Miller and successor Eric Keller who have 11.

"There are plenty of blueprints about that happening here," he said. "My office is 10 feet away from Coach Newsom, and I'm 10 feet away from coaches Miller and Keller."

He took the job in 2010—five years removed from being one of the program's top players. An Iowa high school state champion wrestler at Glenwood, Artist considered being a two-sport athlete at Wartburg, but decided to focus solely on soccer. He was twice named the team's most valuable player and first-team All-Conference. He was on Wartburg's first-ever NCAA tournament team in 2003 and Elite Eight and Sweet 16 squads.

"Starting a soccer dynasty is possible here at Wartburg ... My office is 10 feet away from Coach Newsom, and I'm 10 feet away from coaches Miller and Keller."

— Kirk Artist '06

Following stints as a Wartburg assistant and Indian Hills Community College head coach, he led his alma mater to an 11-8 record and regular-season conference co-championship in 2010. The Knights then slipped to 8-10-1 and 7-9-2.

"To go .500 or a little bit under at Wartburg is not acceptable," he said. "We just weren't getting it done. I knew I could do it in some way—putting in more hours or whatever was needed."

He found the necessary ingredients.

"We concentrated a lot in the offseason on developing team chemistry—trusting each other, giving 100 percent, a commitment and work ethic—and we had some other tactical things, like defending first," Artist said. "We had a leadership council in the offseason that was a huge advantage. The players organized a lot of things, like weights and conditioning three-to-five times a week."

Student leadership extended to the playing field.

"Soccer is a game where you don't have timeouts," Artist said. "If I want to get something across to them, I would have to shout it across the field. That's not really a good set-up to have a coach that tries to move players around all the time. I take the initiative to have them take control of things and make choices."

Confidence also was critical.

"Our ability wasn't that much greater this year, but I knew in preseason that we had something different," Artist said. "The first game was huge. We went into overtime against a really good St. Thomas (Minn.) team and pulled out the win (2-1) there."

"The belief in ourselves just continued to rise. We took losses back-to-back against (University of Wisconsin) Whitewater (2-1 OT) and Oshkosh (2-1, 2OT) very early in the season, which really didn't set us back. We talked about whatever we do, we do together—winning or losing—and continue to develop."


"Then all of a sudden," he added, "we had a 10-game winning streak and 13 wins."

The pollsters took note of a 2-1 triumph over then No. 4 Loras.

"We'd been tested, but we didn't know exactly where we were competitively," Artist said. "I had a strong feeling we were going to do well, especially on our home field. We felt that there was nobody that we couldn't compete with."

In the NCAA tourney, Wartburg defeated Dominican (Ill.) University and Hope (Mich.) College before a 2-1 overtime loss to perennial power Trinity (Texas) University.

The season ended, but not the dream of what could be accomplished and the work required.

"The day after we lost to Trinity, 15 of the guys were already playing indoor soccer," Artist said. 



GOAL!

Soccer path to success for Brown

by Eileen McGuine



BOB BROWN '14 MADE HISTORY

this fall as Wartburg College's first first-team men's soccer All-American.

The engineering science major from Solon also was a first-team Scholar All-American—another men's soccer first—maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

"What sets him apart is that he has good physical ability, technical ability, and tactically he's very, very smart," said Coach Kirk Artist '06. "His leadership combined with his communication and command of the field showed that he had the confidence to be the best player on that field at all times."

The National Soccer Coaches Association of America gives out the scholar awards. Nominees must be upperclassmen with at least a 3.30 cumulative GPA, start more than 50 percent of all games, and be a significant team contributor.


Brown excelled in balancing academics and athletics.

"He is a credit to not only the soccer program, but also to the engineering program," said Dr. Daniel Black, professor of

physical science and engineering science. "Bob has always had a great attitude and work ethic, which comes naturally with student-athletes."

Brown said the scholar award exemplified the soccer program. "During my experience here, Wartburg's always had a strong academic team, earning academic honors. Now we are starting to re-establish that we are also a strong team on the field."

The Knights shared the Iowa Conference's regular-season title, advanced to the NCAA Division III Sweet 16, and finished 17-5-2.

"The most rewarding part of all this is sharing the success with my teammates and coaches. I couldn't have asked for a better season and teammates to play with all four years," Brown said. 



BILLINGS' BOOKENDS

Football star begins and ends Wartburg career with playoffs

by KatieJo Kuhens '07

FOR LINEBACKER RYAN BILLINGS '14, "determined" best describes Wartburg football's successful 2013 season.

"We hadn't won a conference title in three years coming into the season, and we were determined to end our college careers as conference champs," he said.

The Knights won the championship in Billings' freshman season, but he wanted to contribute to winning the crown as a senior captain.

Wartburg finished 9-3 overall, won the Iowa Conference championship for the 13th time in program history, upset then-No. 14 Illinois Wesleyan on the road in the first-round of the NCAA Division III playoffs and advanced to the Sweet 16. The Knights were six yards short of a possible upset in a 34-27 loss at then-No. 6 Bethel University in suburban St. Paul, Minn.


The Knights finished the season ranked No. 15 by D3football.com.

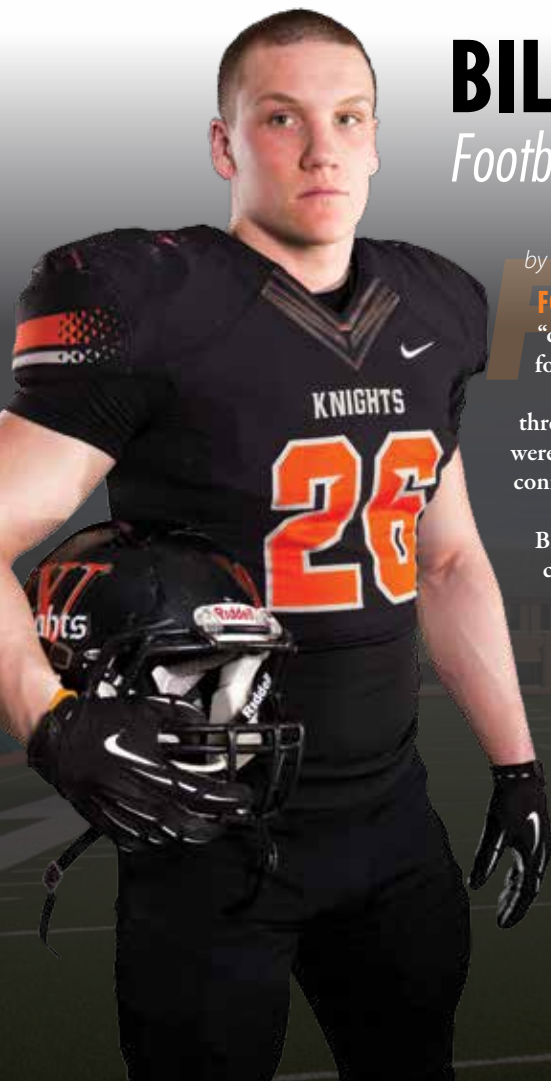
Billings was a first-team All-Conference selection and a second-team All-Region honoree by D3football.com—his second consecutive All-Region honor.

He finished his senior campaign with a team-best 85.5 tackles (66 solo and 39 assisted), including 22 for a loss of 70 yards and 4.5 sacks for a loss of 40 yards. He also had four interceptions.

His favorite memory last season was his game-ending play against Central. With seven seconds remaining, Central had the ball on its own 30-yard line with one final play. Billings sealed the Wartburg win, intercepting the pass at the Knights' 44-yard line.

The Sterling, Ill., native had not heard of Wartburg before the recruiting process. His interest was piqued when he learned about the department's athletic success and tradition of winning. "I knew I had to visit, and I saw that the facilities were top-notch," he said.

The fitness management major has his sights set on becoming a personal trainer and coach. 



KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

1957

DARLENE RATHMAN BARTLET and Verdel Berge, Alexandria, Minn., were married Oct. 13.

1964 - Class Reunion May 22-25

1965

The Rev. **DAVID ANDREAE**, Waukon, has retired after 44 years in the ministry. He spent 22 years at a three-point parish in rural Larimore, N.D., and 22 years at Big Canoe and Highland Lutheran parishes in rural Decorah.

1968

MARK BULS, Flippin, Ark., compiled stories of Vietnam War veterans from many nations in his new book, *Pertinent Vietnam War Stories*. Buls, who served for 14 months as a war correspondent in the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone, includes experiences of spies, special forces, ARVN rangers, Seals, and Green Berets. The ebook is available on Amazon.com.

1969 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

JERRY FOX, Rockford, Ill., retired from Rockford Memorial Hospital, where he was case manager social services.

1970

The Rev. **KARL OTTO**, Elkhorn, Wis., retired from full-time ministry after nearly 40 years. He most recently served 14 years in Belvidere, Ill.

1973

The Rev. **BENJAMIN SHUM**, Daly City, Calif., retired from San Francisco Chinese Christian Church in December. He is serving as a free evangelist in Hong Kong and China.

1974 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

LORA CHARLSON DARLING, Kirkman, retired in May 2013 after 38 years of teaching in the IKM-Manning Community School District.

SHERMAN FINER, Des Peres, Mo., is the owner/president of SK Finer Consulting Group.

1975

DOUG FLATER, Palm Springs, Calif., is volunteer and membership coordinator at The Center, a nonprofit community organization.

1977

MAREN LARSON JONES, Port Kembla, NSW, Australia, received the Life Member Award on Dec. 6 from the Support Amputees Family and Friends (SAFF) association. She is a physiotherapy manager at Port Kembla Hospital, where she supervises a staff of 23. She and her husband, Ray, have lived in Ray's native Australia since 1982.

DEBORAH MOLSTAD KELLOGG,

Bloomington, Minn., won an international poetry competition sponsored by the UK-based Poem Pigeon and received a cash prize. Her poem, *Autumnal Wish*, was originally written in German, then translated into English for this competition.

ANN BOTTELSON MORRIS, Des Moines, received the Mom's Choice Silver Award for her children's book, *Surprise in Auntie's Garden! / Sorpresa en el jardín de la tía*.

1978

LISA ANDERSON WOODRUFF, White Bear Lake, Minn., is the middle school counselor at St. Paul Academy and Summit School, St. Paul.

1979 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

1981

DEBRA ANDERSEN TURNER, Prior Lake, Minn., completed a master's degree in software engineering in May from the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul.

1982

MYRNA JOHNSON is executive director of Iowa Public Radio, Johnston. Before joining IPR in November, she had served since 2009 as executive director of the Boston Schoolyard initiative. She earned a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University. Her 31-year career in nonprofit management included eight years as a government relations associate for National Public Radio. She also was managing director of the National Forum on Children and Nature and director of government affairs for the Outdoor Industry Association.

DAVID WEISS, St. Paul, Minn., published a children's book, *When God Was a Little Girl* (whengodwasalittlegirl.com). He also released *To the Tune of a Welcoming God*, a CD of welcoming hymn texts set to familiar tunes (tothetune.com).

1983

Dr. **STEVEN SCHULZ**, Carroll, was named president of North Iowa Area Community College, Mason City, in October. He had been provost at the Carroll campus of Des Moines Area Community College since 2006. He holds a doctorate from Iowa State University in educational leadership and policy studies.

1984 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

KEVIN LUTKENHAUS, LaBelle, Fla., is the technology coordinator at LaBelle Middle School in the Hendry County School District.

JULIE HARDING SCATTAREGIA,

Raleigh, N.C., a former Knights sprinter, qualified for the 2015 Boston Marathon after completing her first full marathon.

1986

JAY HOHENSEE, Broomfield, Colo., is an actuary consultant with Milliman Consulting, Tampa, Fla.

GARY JOHNSON, Chicago, Ill., received a U.S. flag flown over the U.S. Capitol at the request of U.S. Rep. Janice D. Schakowsky, D-Ill. It recognized his service to the people of the United States as a law enforcement officer and a member of the Department of Homeland Security and Coast Guard Auxiliary.

1988

KIM OLESON HOHENSEE, Broomfield, Colo., received her Master of Education degree from Regis University with an emphasis in principal licensure/educational leadership for innovation and change.

1989 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

Dr. **ARTHUR SUNLEAF**, Dubuque, received a doctorate in educational leadership (Ed.D.) in January from Edgewood College, Madison, Wis. He concentrated his studies on higher education issues and wrote his dissertation on factors affecting retention of first-year students. He serves as vice president for student development and dean of students at Loras College.

DAVE WOOD, Pella, is a regional director with Heartland Area Education Agency, Johnston.

1991

Dr. **PHILIP FRANA**, Woodstock, Mass., is associate director of the honors program and associate professor of interdisciplinary liberal studies at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va.

JEFF MARTIN, Johns Creek, Ga., is breaking news supervisor in the Atlanta Bureau of The Associated Press.

1992

TIM KUEHL, Reinbeck, is superintendent of the Clear Creek Amana School District, Amana. He previously served as superintendent of the Gladbrook-Reinbeck Community School district and principal of the district's Reinbeck Elementary School.

BRENT MATTHIAS, Waverly, is vice president-branch manager for the Lincoln Savings Bank Waverly location.

1993

NICOLE LANG, Brooklyn Park, Minn., was re-elected as Central Region vice president of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges.

KELLY GEE TAFOYA, Woodstock, Ill., raised \$1,630 for childhood cancer research from sponsors who supported her completion of the October Chicago Marathon. She completed her first marathon in 4 hours, 30 minutes.

1994 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

1995

The Rev. **KARN SEVERSON CARROLL**, Phoenix, Ariz., took a new call as pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church after completing Doctor of Ministry in Biblical preaching in May from Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn.

1996

Jeff and **WENDY WATERS JACOBSON**, New Prague, Minn., announce the birth of Faith Emme, July 1. She joins Luke, 6.

Dr. **ANN MANN**, Albuquerque, N.M., joined the Presbyterian Medical Group's Rio Rancho family practice in August. A pediatrician, she was previously affiliated with Cherry Creek Pediatrics and the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver.

ANGELA WEEKLEY, Waterloo, was named one of the *Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier's* 20 Under 40 Award winners for 2013. The award recognizes outstanding young people who are making a difference in the Cedar Valley through their work and personal lives. Angela is the community inclusion manager at Veridian Credit Union.

1998

Joseph and **SHILAH LYBECK GOYETTE**, Summerville, S.C., announce the birth of Keegan Gabriel, May 17, 2012.

1999 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

Daniel and **HEATHER HUGLEY BELAIR**, Spring Lake Park, Minn., announce the birth of Henry Francis, Aug. 7. He joins Calvin, 5. Heather is a senior client support specialist with Internet Broadcasting Systems, St. Paul.

NATHAN and Amy **CHESTER**, Plainfield, announce the birth of Sophia Anna, Dec. 31. She joins Lydia, 3.

Erik and the Rev. **LISA SMITH FIEGEL**, Anchorage, Alaska, announce the birth of Logan Edward, Sept. 3. Lisa is director for evangelical mission with the Alaska Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

TIM and Nancy **LAUER**, Baltimore, Md., announce the birth of Natalie Louise, Oct. 7. She joins Evan, 4.

MARGARITA RODER, Waterloo, retired in May. She taught at Kittrell Elementary in the Waterloo Community School District.

Dr. **ERICA DAHL THOMASSON**, Hurricane, W. Va., was accepted into the Centers for Disease Control's Epidemic Intelligence Service and joined West Virginia Bureau for Public Health as a lieutenant senior assistant scientist in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

2000

TRACY HARTMAN KELLER, Waverly, is assistant director of human resources and payroll at Wartburg College.

JASON and Amanda **KRAMER**, Lawrence, Kan., announce the birth of Lauren Rae, Nov. 12. She joins Kylee, 2.

CHELSEY SPORE McDILL, Cedar Rapids, was recognized as a 2013 honoree of the *Iowa Corridor Business Journal's* Forty Under 40 Award.

2001

CHAD FELDMAN, Cedar Falls, was named one of the *Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier's* 20 Under 40 Award winners for 2013. The award recognizes outstanding young people who are making a difference in the Cedar Valley through their work and personal lives. Chad is a partner with Far Reach Technologies, Inc.

STACY HAAS and Matthew Nimmer, Falls Church, Va., were married Sept. 1.

Nathan and **ANNA WENZ HUMSTON**, West Des Moines, announce the birth of Lydia Eileen, Sept. 18. She joins Clara, 2.

Evan and **MANDY SCHALLER JASPER**, Carol Stream, Ill., announce the birth of Julia Katherine, June 8. She joins Jenna, 5, and Jillian, 2.

JONI HARRISON KLEMESRUD, Waukee, teaches fifth grade at Warren H. Meeker Elementary School in the Ames Community School District, Ames.

HEATHER NORTHCUTT and Travis Voshell, Iowa City, were married July 6.

CHRISTOPHER and **JEN KOCH REECE**, Tallahassee, Fla., announce the birth of Elliot Warren, Nov. 14. He joins Graham, 3.

SARAH SPELTZ, Boston, Mass., is assistant director of alumni education at Boston University.

2002

SARAH GROH and Nathan Morford, Dubuque, were married Nov. 12.

MITCH and Megan **RONNEI**, Chicago, Ill., announce the birth of Kaden Paul, Jan. 16.

NATE and Kerstin **STEEGE**, Waverly, announce the birth of Emree Ann, May 29.

2003

Mike and **MELISSA CARLSON BEER**, Woodbury, Minn., announce the birth of Katherine Elizabeth, Sept. 26. She joins Charlie, 2.

Matt and **ABRIEL YOUNG DIXON**, Scottsdale, Ariz., announce the birth of Savannah Faith, June 16.

Dr. **JILL GJERDE** and Justin Duke, Spokane, Wash., were married Sept. 21.

DANA ISAACSON, Slayton, Minn., is program director for Shetek Lutheran Ministries.

Drs. Justin and **SALLY SIMONS LEITCH**, Shoreview, Minn., announce the birth of Miles, July 9, 2012. He joins Owen, 4.

Travis and **EMILY PARCELL LOWE**, Arlington, Va., announce the birth of Miller Jay, Nov. 25. He joins Teddy, 1. Emily is a political direct mail consultant with The Pivot Group, Washington, D.C.

BETSY NEFF LUCK, Oskaloosa, was named Iowa Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year for 2013. She teaches physical education in the Oskaloosa Community School District.

MATT SIMON, Decorah, is environmental compliance manager for Pattison Sand, Clayton.

Dr. **JOEL TUTTLE**, Corvallis, Ore., is providing humanitarian eye care through the Mission of Sight organization, Jamaica.

2004 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

Mitch and **KIRA JOHNSON ANDERSON**, Faribault, Minn., announce the birth of Grace Nicolle, Dec. 18. She joins Claire, 5, and Owen, 3.

Charles and **KARA O'BRIEN CRAIN**, St. Paul, Minn., announce the birth of Thomas in October.

KATIE CROKER and James Schaefer, Osceola, were married April 20.

STEPHANIE FISK and Martin Mendez, Málaga, Spain, were married Nov. 30.

Shannon and **MEGAN GOSNELL GODBEE**, California City, Calif., announce the birth of twins, Ethan Perry and Conner Bracton, Jan. 17.

LAURA NIELSEN and Matthew Bernard, Burnsville, Minn., were married Sept. 21.

Dr. **RYAN SCHAEFER** and Jennifer Spahn, Blue Grass, were married Oct. 28. They announce the birth of London Marie, July 4.

Dr. **SHENA WADIAN** and Chad Smith, Lubbock, Texas, were married Sept. 21. Shena received her Doctor of Philosophy degree in counseling psychology from Texas Tech University.

2005

SARAH LEARN BRINCKS and **JUSTIN BRINCKS '06**, Clermont, announce the birth of Eve Marianne, Nov. 23. She joins Isaac, 3.

BRAD and **TERESE OTT CULBERTSON**, Whittemore, announce the birth of Hailey Rose, Nov. 2. She joins Avery, 3.

The Rev. **KATHERINE BOLLENBACH ROHLOFF**, St. Peter, Minn., was ordained Feb. 1 at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church.

2006

RILEY and **MELINDA YODER BOCHMANN**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Alex Nelson-Riley, Jan. 15. He joins Hannah, 2.

LEVI CUTLER, Brooklyn, Wis., is a partner with Financial Services Center, Inc., Oregon.

Dr. **DEL DOHERTY**, Missouri City, Texas, is director of managed care services and industry relations with Professional Compounding Centers of America.

Ethan and **MEGAN KAMPMAN EPLEY**, Waverly, announce the birth of Isaac Ethan, Oct. 17. He joins Jackson, 10, and Logan, 2.

TYLER HUBBARD and **ANDREA HUDGENS '08**, Kansas City, Mo., were married Oct. 11.

Luke and **AMANDA WEISS KRAUSE**, Dubuque, announce the birth of Micah, Nov. 18. He joins Aliyah, 3.

KRISTIN KUTAY and Ryan Temple, Aurora, Ill., were married May 28, 2011.

RYAN PHILLIPS, Parsons, Kan., is head wrestling coach at Labette Community College.

AIMEE BIGGS SAGAN, Georgetown, Calif., is an executive assistant with Chapa-De Indian Health Program, Inc., nonprofit health centers providing medical, dental, and behavioral health services to American Indians and low-income individuals in Northern California.

DAN and **ABIGAIL SCHALLER SEFKOW**, Faribault, Minn., announce the birth of Harrison Thomas, Nov. 5. Dan is an ESL teacher, and Abigail teaches second grade in the Faribault Public Schools.

BRADY SMITH, Cedar Rapids, is the weekend morning news anchor with KCRG-TV9.

JEFF SPIWAK, Oregon, Wis., was named Green Bay Packers High School Coach of the Week. He is head football coach and teaches social studies at Clinton Middle School, Clinton.

ALEK WIPPERMAN, Springfield, Ore., is an administrative law judge with the Oregon Office of Administrative Hearings.

2007

The Rev. **JEANETTE BIDNE** and Daniel Foster, Eagle Bend, Minn., were married Oct. 4. Jeanette is pastor of Esther Lutheran Church, Parkers Prairie.

JASON CROSSER and Erica Chinetski, Naples, Fla., were married June 22.

Michael and **MEGAN RYAN GLEASON**, Topeka, Kan., announce the birth of Henry Thomas, Nov. 9.

HEIDI HESSE GOETZINGER and Dr. **CHRIS GOETZINGER '09**, Marion, announce the birth of Grady James, Oct. 31.

JONATHAN GREGG, Milwaukee, Wis., is a multimedia journalist with WITI-TV FOX6.

SONCI KINGERY, Des Moines, graduated from Drake Law School in Dec. 2012.

KATELYN KRULL and Nathan Kooi, Tiffin, were married May 18.

BRYAN and **ASHLEY DIETZ '08 McCARTY**, Minneapolis, Minn., announce the birth of Norah Grace, Oct. 13.

LISAMARIE NIELSEN ODEEN and **BRYAN ODEEN '09**, Mason City, announce the birth of Hattie Mavis, Nov. 3. She joins Maren, 2. Bryan is taking classes at Wartburg Theological Seminary through the Distributed Learning Program.

2008

Dr. **NICOLE CHAPMAN**, Memphis, Tenn., received her doctorate in immunology in December from the University of Iowa. She is a postdoctoral research fellow at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

REDA CHESTER and Josh Stajcar, West Des Moines, were married May 25.

BENJAMIN CLARKSON and Anne Samuelson, Madison, Wis., were married Sept. 8, 2012.

KACI HANSON DeSOUSA, Jesup, was promoted to project manager with NCS Pearson, Inc.

JESSICA FOSTER and Joshua Kalvig, Barrow, Alaska, were married June 16, 2012.

MELISSA HAGEMAN and Dustin Franzen, Oelwein, were married July 6. Melissa is the grades 5-8 band director in the Oelwein Community School District.

Dr. **HEATHER HANSON** and Armando Alaniz, Chicago, Ill., were married Oct. 26.

MARISSA KINSETH and Ryan Gruenberg, Fort Dodge, were married March 17, 2013. Marissa teaches third grade at Cooper Elementary in the Fort Dodge Community School District.

STACY LARSON and Scott Fink, Oelwein, were married June 1. Stacy is a K-12 music teacher with West Central Community School, Maynard.

ELIZABETH LEIER and **MATTHEW DOLTER '09**, Hiawatha, were married Sept. 14.

SCOTT MANGIN and Stephanie Regenold, Waterloo, were married May 18.

TAYLOR and **AMANDA SWEET OLSON**, Estherville, announce the birth of Alana Julia-Jade, Nov. 23. She joins Thor, 3.

JEREMY OSTMAN, Bloomington, Minn., was recognized on Jan. 12 as a dedicated paraprofessional with the Edina Public Schools, Edina. He is an educational associate.

MARK SCHULTZ and **KIM BREHER**, Iowa City, were married May 18. Mark received his doctorate in molecular and cellular biology from the University of Iowa.

SARA SWANSON and Omar El-Nashaar, Bemidji, Minn., were married Aug. 31.

2009 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19
The Rev. **SHANNON ARNOLD**, Willmar, Minn., is associate pastor of Peace Lutheran Church, New London.

AMY BERINGER and Derek Radke, Sioux Falls, S.D., were married Dec. 3, 2011.

The Rev. Matthew and **AMANDA WILLS CARPENTER**, East Tawas, Mich., announce the birth of Gabriel Mark, Jan. 5.

AMY DANIELS and Dan Allbaugh, Urbandale, were married Nov. 16.

SARAH DENTLINGER and Brian Flaherty, Osceola, were married July 27.

ERIK DuBARRY and **TAMIKA CROWDER-WALKER '11**, Hialeah, Fla., were married July 2.

RACHEL FELTMAN and **JEREMY MURRAY '10**, Davenport, were married Aug. 17. Rachel received her M.S. degree in recreation, park, and tourism administration from Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill.

RACHEL HARTZ and **TAYLOR SUTTON '10**, Waverly, were married Oct. 19. Taylor works in Waterloo as a public defender for the State of Iowa.

Dr. **MARCUS HEMESATH** and Betsy Marsden, Ballwin, Mo., were married April 27.

MARTY McDANIEL and Lyle Brahn, Nashua, were married Nov. 30.

STEFFANI TOLLEFSON NOLTE, Des Moines, is a photographer/reporter with KCCI-TV.

Drs. **ADAM** and **MEGAN BABER RIES**, Coralville, received their Doctor of Chiropractic degrees in 2013 from Palmer College of Chiropractic, Davenport. They practice with Bowman Chiropractic Associates, Iowa City.

BRITTANY WEISINGER and **DUSTIN JAEGER '10**, Manchester, were married Nov. 9.

SYDNI WILLIAMS, Silver Spring, Md., was promoted to marketing manager with Bean, Kinney & Korman, Arlington, Va. She was named 2013 Member of the Year for the Capital

Chapter of the Legal Marketing Association.

CHRIS WOOD and **ABBY GOLTZ**, Cedar Falls, were married May 18.

2010
BRANDON BUSBEE, Rosemount, Minn., is a media development coordinator with Mediaspace Solutions, Hopkins.

DANIEL HENRICH and **JENNA ZENK**, Iowa City, were married Aug. 3.

RILIND LATIFI, Washington, D.C., received his master's degree in international economics and international relations from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, D.C., and Bologna, Italy.

KELLY McCARVILLE and **SAMANTHA HARRINGTON '11**, Cresco, were married Sept. 28.

CHANNING MERCHANT and Martin Halstead, Vinton, were married June 29.

ERIC RUGGLES and **WHITNEY DOTSON**, Eden Prairie, Minn., were married May 14, 2011.

MAC SLAVIN, Detroit, Mich., is social media coordinator for the Detroit Tigers, Detroit, Mich.

2011
SAMUEL BOENDER, Macomb, Ill., is a sport management graduate student at Western Illinois University.

JON FARRELL and Anne Jacquin, Kansas City, Mo., were married Sept. 21. Jon received his master's degree in sport management in December from the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan. He is an assistant team administrator with Sporting Kansas City.

JORDAN JOHNSON and **KATIE SLOCUM**, Des Moines, were married Oct. 18.

REID KELLER and **SARAH KUIL**, Minden, were married July 27.

CHRISTINE MARCHIK, Kansas City, Mo., is a physician assistant student at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

GABI MILLER, Anchorage, Alaska, is a specialist with Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society.

BRANDON MOELLER and Kathryn Bowers, Fort Dodge, were married Sept. 14.

KATE NIEMI, Waterloo, is a social worker (LMSW) in the Allen Hospital Emergency Room.

ERIC PETERS and **JENNIFER GANSHIRT**, Dubuque, were married Oct. 19. Eric is a product designer with Cartgraph.

KYLE STEINFELDT, Waverly, and a partner won the Bass Pro Shops Crappie Master's National Championship on Sept. 28 in Grenada, Miss. This is the largest crappie tournament in the nation with 193 teams competing for two days on one of the top crappie lakes in the nation.

2012
NICOLE FELTON, Sleepy Eye, Minn., received her Master of Social Work degree in December from Washington University's George Warren Brown School of Social Work, St. Louis, Mo.

JESSICA GLENDENNING and Matt Devries, Stillman Valley, Ill., were married June 8.

CHELSEA LORENZ MORRISON, Cedar Falls, is a program assistant in the University of Northern Iowa Regional Business Center.

NICHOLAS MORRISON, Cedar Falls, is a music therapist with New Aldaya.

DEREK NASH and Amy Carnahan, Chicago, Ill., were married Nov. 24.

ZACHARY YEOMAN, Denver, Colo., received his CPA license. He is an auditor with Crowe Horwath.

2013
JORDAN ANDERSON, Overland Park, Kan., is a project manager with Scenic Development.

KELLI ANDERSON, Cary, Ill., is a middle school English teacher at Nashua-Plainfield Schools, Plainfield.

KRISTINE ARNOLD, Sheldon, is an independent nanny in Chicago, Ill.

DYLAN AZINGER, Camanche, is an administrative assistant with Peoples Insurance, Waverly.

SAMANTHA BANSER, Des Moines, is an osteopathic medical student at Des Moines University.

ERIC BARTNESS, New Hampton, is a general manager with Hillandale Farms, West Union.

IAN BEE, Fairfield, is an account executive, adviser relations with Cambridge Investment Research.

CHAS BEELER, Armstrong, is director of bands and choirs at South Hardin Middle School, Hubbard.

AARON BENSON, Story City, is an asset protection manager with Walmart, Fort Dodge.

STEVEN BLACK, Webster, is in the management program with Sherwin-Williams.

NICOLE BOESENBERG, Maplewood, Minn., is a lab technician with Flint Hills Resources, Fairbank.

HANNAH BOREN, Clive, is a substitute teacher with the Greater Des Moines Area Schools.

LAURA BRUGMAN, Royal, is in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo.

JESICA BUTLER, Vernon Hills, Ill., is a neuro-academic teacher with the Brain Balance Achievement Center.

BREANNA CALLESE, Lincoln, Neb., is a forensic science graduate student at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

FATOUMATA CISSE, Robbinsdale, Minn., is in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo.

MALINDA CLAEYS, Welton, is an activities assistant with the InnovAge Cody Center, Lakewood, Colo.

MACKENZIE COMPTON, Denver, Colo., is an assistant general manager at Comedy Works and an admissions counselor for Wartburg College.

JORDAN CONRAD, Winthrop, is a claims generalist with the CUNA Mutual Group, Waverly.

BRANDON COOK, Bondurant, is a loan servicing specialist III with Wells Fargo, Des Moines.

JARED CORDES, Strawberry Point, is an Internet sales and support consultant with GoDaddy.com, Hiawatha.

MARCELA CORREA, Toronto, Ontario, is a biomedical engineering graduate student at the University of Toronto.

HANNAH COX, Dubuque, is a Web project editor with Great River Technology.

CHAD CRAWFORD, Galena, Ill., is an assistant football coach—defensive line and video coordinator—with the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, La Crosse, Wis.

DREW CRAWFORD, St. Louis Park, Minn., is an account manager with C.H. Robinson, Eden Prairie, Minn.

SAMANTHA CRUMPTON, Anamosa, is a member of Youth Encounter's Captive Free ministry band.

CONNOR DAHLSTROM, Eldridge, is a manager at the Fainting Goat, Waverly.

JENNIFER DALLENBACH, Decorah, is a personal trainer at the Aspen Athletic Club, Des Moines.

CLARA DAVIDSON, Lauderdale, Minn., is a theology/marriage and family counseling student at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, and St. Mary's University of Minnesota, Winona.

OLIVER de QUADROS, Maputo, Mozambique, is a graduate student in electrical and computer engineering at Northeastern University, Boston, Mass.

TATE DeMEULENAERE, Victor, is an area field manager with Precision Soya, Belle Plaine.

JESSICA DeVRIES, Lime Springs, teaches at Glen Spring Preschool, Glen Springs.

OLIVER DIERKS and **ALLYSSA NEIGHBOR**, Marion, were married June 15. Oliver is an Internet sales and support consultant with GoDaddy.com, Hiawatha. Allyssa is an elementary teacher with Summit Schools, Cedar Rapids.

TREVOR DISMORE, Independence, is an activities director with Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community, Waverly.

Hartl's softball success earns Kurtt Award

by Eileen McGuine

RENAE ROST HARTL '99 KNEW SHE WOULD ONE DAY BECOME A SOFTBALL COACH as she walked through the halls behind the old Knights Gym in 1997.

Hartl has realized her dream, turning the Luther College softball program into a perennial power with a career record of 363-147 (.712) and six appearances in the NCAA Division III tournament, including four in the championship final series, finishing fifth three times. In addition, her teams have won both Iowa Conference regular-season championships three times.

For her achievements, Hartl was selected as the 2013 John

Kurtt Alumni Coach of the Year, named for the former Wartburg athletic director, who also served as head coach for cross country and baseball and as an assistant for basketball.

"It means a lot that Coach Kurtt and the committee even recognized me at this point in my career," said Hartl, who joins former University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh softball coach Cindy Sues '85 as the only women to receive the honor since it was established in 1962. "Coach Kurtt is a true inspiration and role model."

Hartl earned her bachelor's degree in psychology and physical education from Wartburg, where she was an All-Midwest Region and All-Iowa Conference shortstop, while also playing on teams that made the NCAA Division III volleyball tournament in 1997 and 1998. She earned her master's degree in sports psychology at Minnesota State-Mankato.

Kurtt '53 lauded Hartl's success on the field, adding that her players "have excelled in the classroom and other campus endeavors as well."




"The most rewarding part of coaching is not the wins—it's the relationships that are created between my players and my coaching staff," Hartl said. "That is what makes every day even more enjoyable. I love what I get to do."

Hartl has coached 51 All-Iowa Conference players, two conference most valuable players, 46 All-Midwest Region players, and 13 All-Americans at Luther.

Her coaching career began as an assistant for volleyball and softball at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn. She became head coach at Luther in 2001.

The Norse were ranked No. 7 in the NCAA Division III Top 25 preseason poll by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.

Among her other duties, Hartl serves on the NCAA Division III Softball Committee and is Luther's senior women's administrator/compliance officer. 



Renae (Rost) Hartl '99

ANDREW DREXLER, Lake Mills, is a hardware technician with Next Generation Technologies, Buffalo Center.

JORDAN DUWA, Kalona, is a retail wireless consultant with Next Generation Wireless, Waverly.

MONICA EDEKER, Allison, is a substitute teacher aide in the North Butler School District.

RACHEL ELLEFSON, Marshalltown, is an accounting clerk with the Marshalltown Community College.

SETH ENGELBRECHT and **TRICIA INGERSOLL**, Waverly, were married Sept. 21.

ANDREW ERICKSON, Cedar Rapids, is an accounting business analyst with Transamerica Life Insurance Company.

CLAIRE EVANS, Brookings, S.D., is a fitness graduate assistant and a student in the Master of Exercise Science program at South Dakota State University.

ROBIN EVANS, Davenport, is an elementary music teacher in the West Liberty Community School District, West Liberty.

SARAH FIKE, Mason City, is the director of children, youth, and family ministries at Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

KYLE FLEMING, Worthington, Minn., is a music therapy intern with the Iowa Veterans Home, Marshalltown.

TIMOTHY FLORES, Cicero, Ill., is a food expeditor with GT Fish and Oyster, Chicago.

MARIA GAFFNEY, Ryan, is a leave-of-absence coordinator with Hibu, Cedar Rapids.

LIDA GALINDO, Denver, Colo., is an ENTRA health care advocate with Servicios de la Raza.

CRAIG GAUERKE, Great Bend, Kan., is director of youth and family ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church.

JOEL GINDO, Brookings, S.D., is an accounting assistant with Daktronics.

KRISTINA GOEMAAT, Sheldon, is director of music therapy with Village Northwest Unlimited.

CASEY GOETZ, Mason City, is a dental student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

DAYNA GOSSLING and Kyle Soukup, Waucoma, were married Sept. 7.

SHELBY GRANATH, Gainesville, Fla., is an intern with GatorVision.

BRICE GRETCH, Iowa City, is a substitute teacher in the Iowa City Community School District.

MICHELLE MCKENZIE GRIMOSKAS, Waverly, teaches fourth grade in the Dodgeville School District, Dodgeville, Wis.

MANDY GRUTZMACHER, Cedar Falls, is a conversation artist with Williams Interactive.

MARJORIE HALVERSON, Storm Lake, is a music therapist with Aurora Behavioral Health Care, San Diego, Calif.

PARIS HARE, Waverly, is a computer programmer with CUNA Mutual Group.

MARY RACHEAL HAVENS, Grundy Center, is in the accelerated RN/ Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo.

CATHERINE HENNESSEY, Kaukauna, Wis., is in the Master of Science in Nursing program at DePaul University, Chicago, Ill.

KIM HERMSEN, Jesup, is a long-term substitute teacher with the Bosco Catholic School System.

CHELSEA HILL, Winterset, is the high school band director in the West Central Community School, Maynard.

NICHOLAS HIRSCH, Farley, is an associate teacher in the Norwalk Community School District, Norwalk.

DAVID HOEHNE, West Des Moines, is an IT recruiter with Apex Systems, Des Moines.

ROGER HOEPER, Waverly, is a programmer I with the CBE Group.

JOSHUA HONES, Ames, is a graduate student in biomedical science at Iowa State University.

BENJAMIN HOPPENWORTH, Cedar Rapids, is a newscast producer with KCRG-TV9.

JOSEPH HERRIGAN, Waterloo, is a rehab technician with Allen Hospital.

PATRICK HUFF, Iowa City, is a management trainee with Enterprise, Cedar Rapids.

SARA HUMMEL, Spirit Lake, is in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo.

SETH HUMPHREY, Atkins, is a security supervisor at Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids.

JIMMIE HUNTER, Cedar Falls, is a police officer with the City of Marion.

CHAD JENSEN, Iowa City, is a medical student at Des Moines University, Des Moines.

VICTORIA JOCHIMS, Cedar Falls, is a client services/creative assistant with Mudd Advertising.

EMILY JOHANNESSEN, Montrose, Colo., teaches fourth grade at Northside Elementary School in the Montrose and Olathe Schools.

ANDREW JOHNSON, Kaneohe, Hawaii, is a dental student at the University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

KELSEY JOHNSON, Hayfield, Minn., is in quality control with Hydrite, Waterloo.

LARRY JOHNSON, Cedar Falls, is an adolescent substance abuse counselor with Pathways Behavioral Services, Waterloo.

ERIK JOLIVETTE, Garner, teaches social studies at Garner-Hayfield/Ventura High School in the Garner-Hayfield Community School District.

JORDAN KAISER, Keystone, is a logistics employee with DePont Industrial Sciences, Cedar Rapids.

SADIE KAMINSKI, LeClaire, is an administrative assistant with Heritage Wesleyan Church, Rock Island, Ill.

AMIR KANTAREVIC, Waterloo, is a mechanical engineer with John Deere.

STACEY KAYSER, Jesup, is a second grade teacher and assistant volleyball coach in the Jesup Community School District.

NATHANIEL KENNE, Algona, is pursuing teacher certification at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake.

JUSTIN KINSETH, Independence, is a sport management graduate student at Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, Wis.

ERIN KLEIN, Cedar Falls, is an accountant with Schumacher Elevator, Denver.

KIRSTEN KNIGHT, Manchester, is a nutrition/registered dietician student at Iowa State University, Ames.

BRITTANY BURKLE KNIPPER, Waverly, is a child care professional at Waverly Child Care and Preschool.

ELIZABETH KRATOSKA, Waterloo, is a receptionist at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, and a piano instructor.

ALLISON KREHBIEL, Donnellson, teaches fourth grade in the Central Lee Community Schools.

ANDREW KREHBIEL, Denver, Colo., is a math fellow at Lake International School and Blueprint Fellowship.

KRISTOPHER KROHN, Ames, is a graduate student in biomedical sciences at Iowa State University.

SHEA KRUGER, Grafton, is a medical student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

APRIL KUHN, Ft. Atkinson, is a staff accountant with MDK, Inc., New Hampton.

SAMANTHA KUNTZELMAN, Leaf River, Ill., is an intern with Aspire Therapeutic Riding Program, Waterloo.

BEAU LAHMANN, Tripoli, is a construction laborer with Snelling Construction.

JOSHUA LEMERT, Denver, is an osteopathic medicine student at A.T. Still University, Kirksville, Mo.

BROOKE LENTZ, Palo, works at Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa, Cedar Rapids.

STEPHANIE LIJEQUIST and Corey Erps were married June 1. Stephanie teaches science at Northside High School, Jacksonville, N.C.

MARK LUESCHOW, Waverly, is a yard associate with Spahn and Rose Lumber, Readlyn.

VENISHA LYONS, Waterloo, is a youth specialist with Lutheran Services of Iowa, Waverly.

ALEXANDRA MADOLE, Dubuque, is program and event coordinator for the Dubuque Alzheimer's Association.

Welcome back to WAVERLY

by Saul Shapiro

IT'S 0.6 MILES FROM THE WARTBURG COLLEGE campus to the East Bremer Diner.

A detour through Las Vegas makes the trip considerably longer.

Matt Lamos, Wartburg's 2005-06 student body president, made the more circuitous trek, forsaking an upwardly mobile career at the Hooters Casino Hotel en route to landing his dream job of managing the East Bremer Diner.

"That's a bit of a curveball," he admitted.

Lamos, a native of Denver, Iowa, began a yearlong internship at the Hooters Casino Hotel a week after graduation. Waverly restaurateur Susy Johnson, who was involved in the Hooters startup with some of its former Waverly founders, helped provide a connection.

During his five years in Las Vegas, Lamos managed a staff of more than 50 cocktail servers and bartenders, moved into sales, and then became sales director for the hotel with its 696 rooms and 3,000-square-feet of banquet space.

Lamos said he was 15 to 20 years younger than other managers, but had a crew—some his age, others much older—helping him learn the ropes.

"It was a fun dynamic because they had somebody leading them with a good work ethic who wasn't afraid to make changes," he remarked. "But I also had these people with experience who had been in Vegas long enough that they'd seen something I wanted to do—seen it tried five times—and they'd tell me, 'Well, it's probably not going to work.'"

While his career was on an upward trajectory, other considerations brought him back to Earth.

"It was more of a cutthroat industry. You have friends, but they are in the same field," he said. "Our money and our lives were based on making sure we're getting the same groups. So you're friends on the weekends, but not on the weekdays."

Lamos did make a friend unlike the others in 2007—Adrienne Solo, a Riverside, Calif., nursing student who was visiting Las Vegas with friends after her home had been flooded. Thereafter, Lamos would make a three-and-a-half hour commute to be with the woman who would become his wife and lead him home.

Matt Lamos '06.

REBECCA MARION, Cedar Falls, is a graduate student in student affairs at the University of Northern Iowa.

SYDNEY MARSH, Omaha, Neb., is a medical student at Creighton University.

TIMOTHY MATTSON, Parker, Colo., is a shift supervisor with Corner Bakery Café, Highlands Ranch.

ZACHARIAH McCARTHY, Waterloo, is a materials specialist with Volt Workforce Solutions.

KYLE McCASLIN and **CASSANDRA WILLERT**, Denver, were married June 15. Kyle is in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo. Cassandra teaches third grade at Southeast Elementary in the Waverly-Shell Rock Community Schools, Waverly.

ERIC McCLUNG, Ann Arbor, Mich., is a corporate engineer support technician with Google.

RACHEL SCHULZ McCLUNG, Ann Arbor, Mich., is a customer service representative with Proquest.

ELIZABETH McELLIGOTT, St. Paul, Minn., is a curriculum coordinator in the department of family medicine and community health at the University of Minnesota, Minn.

MICHAEL McFARLANE, Plymouth, Minn., is a staff accountant with Bohr, Dahm, Grief and Associates, Cedar Rapids.

MICHAEL MERRITT, Austin, Minn., is an associate computer programmer/analyst with Hormel Foods.

CARLY MEYER, Winslow, Ill., is a volunteer youth development promoter with the Peace Corps, Dominican Republic.

KRISTINE MILBRANDT, Buffalo Center, is a creative marketing specialist with AgCareers.com, Ames.

DANIELLE MILLER, Aplington, is a graphic design and marketing assistant with Housby Mack, Inc., West Des Moines.

SHANNA MILLER, Ames, is an optometric assistant with Eye Care Center of Newton, Newton.

NATHAN MOELLER, Fort Dodge, is a manager/technician with Moeller's Furnace Company.

DYLAN MOORE, Elgin, is a personal Trainer at The W, Wartburg College, Waverly.

ASHLEY MORRISON, Lakefield, Minn., is a mental health rehabilitative worker with The Unity House, Worthington, Minn.

GRANT MOSER, Wapello, is an operations finance analyst with Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids.

DANIELLE MOTT, Story City, is a management trainee with Enterprise, Ankeny.

MITCHELL MURPHY, Cresco, is a network administration and engineering student at Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo.

DAVID NELSON, Rochester, Minn., is an administrator with the Mayo Clinic.

EMILY NOVOTNY, Ridgeway, is a marketing coordinator with City Workplace Uniforms and Mats, Oelwein.

MELANIE OELTJENBRUNS, Cedar Rapids, is a sales assistant with Communication Engineering Company, Hiawatha.

CHRIS PARSON, Clarksville, is a graphic designer with Mid-American Publishing Company, Hampton.

SAMANTHA PEARCE, Cedar Falls, is a bookkeeper with Moeller & Walter, Reinbeck.

KRISTA PEDERSON, Martelle, is a digital product analyst with *The Gazette*, Cedar Rapids.



Adrienne and Matt Lamos '06

"We both knew that we didn't want to raise a family in Las Vegas," Lamos said. "We didn't want to do it in the L.A. area either."

Adrienne made the first move, landing a job as a surgical nurse at the Waverly Health Center in 2011. Matt followed with a position at Mudd Advertising.

Then his career kismet occurred. He was offered his "dream job." "I had worked at the Diner for two years while I was in college," Lamos said. "I actually had been in communication with (owner) Sue Landau ever since I moved out here. I liked the Hooters brand and the food and beverage industry, and it was neat to see everything on a big scale, but I loved the Diner. I appreciated it even more after I saw the way other businesses are run, particularly the amount of work Don (Landau) and Sue have done."

Lamos is confident he made the right move. The EBD, he said, is largely insulated from economic downturns by the loyal customer base cultivated by the Landaus.

"You treat your local people right, and they're going to be very loyal to you," he said. "The biggest thing I've learned from Sue and Don is how to develop that loyalty. It's so different from that transient crowd in Vegas."

Lamos is putting his marketing expertise to work with an emphasis on social media.


"The mom-and-pop places are coming back," he said. "Now with all

the online sites—the Yelps and the Googles—people are kind of getting excited about these other places they didn't know about before, and that's helping us a lot.

"We want people to share their stories about the receptions and everything else. I solicit responses and reviews as much as possible. They're not going to come here because I tell (them) to do so, but because somebody else had a good time."

Lamos credits a well-rounded Wartburg education for laying the foundation for his career. He gained experience with internships at Bachhaus and the Opel automaker in Eisenach and with KWWL sports in Waterloo. He developed skills as a manager as student body president and heading various committees. And he had the benefit of his professors' insights.

"One thing they taught me is don't be afraid to learn," he said. "I never felt dumb asking questions. Their doors were always open, so I just assumed that they were there to answer questions."

"My takeaway from Bill Withers (professor of communications), who is a big concept guy, is that marketing decisions are based on numbers. In everything I do, I want to look at the numbers. Sometimes an idea might be great, but there might not be a business value to it. Showing a return on the decisions I make I think has helped me to advance." 

REED PEDERSEN and **MEGAN NUEHRING**, Dubuque, were married Oct. 26. Reed is a divinity student at Wartburg Theological Seminary. Megan is an interim youth director at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Villa Park, Ill.

JAMIE PETERSON, Oelwein, teaches high school mathematics in the Oelwein Community School District.

BREEA PLESCHOURT, Waverly, is a youth specialist with Bremwood.

LAUREN POPOV and Kent Munitz, Collinsville, Ill., were married April 20. Lauren is an English teacher at O'Fallon Township High School, O'Fallon.

MICHAEL POSIVIO, Iowa City, is a services sales representative with GoDaddy.com, Hiawatha.

ISLAM QADOUS, Nablus, Palestine, is a membrane engineering graduate student at the University of Montpellier, Montpellier, France.

BRIAN RASMUSSEN, Fort Dodge, is a leisure and movement sciences graduate student at the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho.

DEVON REESE, Edgewood, is a self-employed personal trainer.

AMY REICKS, Denver, Colo., is a genetic counseling intern with Swedish Hospital.

JACOB REINHARDT, Waverly, is systems certificate student at Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo.

BAYLEE RILEY, Billings, Mont., teaches middle school art and high school sculpture in the Shepherd School District, Shepherd.

CHRISTIAN RIQUELME, Union City, N.J., is a public affairs and event manager with The Bahche, Inc., Brooklyn, N.Y.

SARAH ROBINSON, Osceola, is a piano pedagogy student at the University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.

EMILY ROWAN, Northfield, Minn., is in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at South Dakota State University, Sioux Falls, S.D.

KATELIN RYAN, Portland, Ore., is a volunteer with Quaker Volunteer Service.

LUKE SALZWEDEL, Iowa City, is a management trainee with Enterprise.

ZACHARY SAMSON, Atkins, is a commodities team member with Van Meter Inc., Cedar Rapids.

SARAH SCHICKEL, Sergeant Bluff, is a studio associate with Portrait Innovations, Sioux City.

ALEXIS SPAIN SCHNEIDER, Ames, is a student affairs graduate student at Iowa State University.

KEVIN SCHNEIDER, Ames, is a science teacher at Dowling Catholic High School, West Des Moines.

KRISTA SELLERS, Iowa City, Iowa, is a museum studies graduate student at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill.

ERIN SEYMOUR, Peosta, Iowa, is a grassroots community organizer with Clean Water Action, Denver, Colo.

NEIL SHIELDS, Adel, is an associate systems administrator with General Dynamics IT, West Des Moines.

JASON SHUPP, Robins, Iowa, teaches chemistry and physics at Burke High School in the Omaha Public Schools, Omaha, Neb.

MELISSA SIMS is an ESL teacher at the Wie Island Elementary School, Jinju, South Korea.

JAY SODERBERG, Shenandoah, teaches fourth grade in the Essex Community School District, Essex.

SARA SPEVACEK, Silver Spring, Md., is the head varsity and middle school volleyball coach at Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart, Bethesda.

ANTHONY STENBERG, Atkins, is a high school teacher at the Alternative High School in the Vinton-Shellsburg Community Schools, Vinton.

BRITTANY SWANSON, Madrid, is a counseling student in the Drake University School of Education, Des Moines.

ERIKA SWEARSON, Waterloo, is a day habilitation specialist/supported community living with North Star Community Services.

MEGHAN TENDALL, Mason, Ohio, is a global marketing communications specialist and graphic designer with Crane ChemPharma Energy, Cincinnati.

REESE THOMPSON, Van Horne, is a substitute teacher and high school football and track coach with the Waverly-Shell Rock Community Schools, Waverly.

MAISIE TIMP, Anamosa, is in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo.

KATHERINE TJEERDSMA, Sioux Falls, S.D., is in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Sioux Falls.

NOELLE TOPITZHOFFER, East Bethel, Minn., teaches kindergarten at Primrose School of Woodbury, Woodbury.

CLAIRE TRAYNOR, Star Prairie, Wis., is a K-2 general music teacher in the School District of Amery, Amery.

KAYLA VALE, Milton, Wis., is a substitute teacher in the Parkview School District, Orfordville.

HEIDI VAN, Mendota Heights, Minn., teaches preschool at the Jardín Mágico Spanish Immersion School, Minneapolis.

MATTHEW VERCILLO, West Des Moines, is a procure specialist with Stryker Corporation, Des Moines.

CAMERON WAGNER, Ogden, is a youth director at Community United Methodist Church.

TIFFANI WALLACE, Aurora, Ill., is an assistant preschool teacher with District 88—Metro Elementary School, Bellwood.

SHANE WAREHIME, Gowrie, is an exercise science graduate student at Wayne State College, Wayne, Neb.

AUDREY WEIDMAN, Council Bluffs, is a running specialist with Dick's Sporting Goods, Omaha, Neb.

MAGGIE WEIDEMANN, Iowa Falls, is a media buyer assistant with Mudd Advertising, Cedar Falls.

ELIZABETH WEINBERG, New Hartford, is a resident assistant with Exceptional Persons, Inc., Waterloo.

CARLEY WERNIMONT, Pocahontas, teaches first grade in the Waukee Community School District, Waukee.

DEIDRE WHIPPLE, Indianola, is a graphic artist with Gannett Imaging and Ad Design Center, Des Moines.

SHANTAVIA WILLIAMS, Waterloo, announces the birth of Sarija, May 20. Shantavia is a residential officer with the Waterloo Women's Center for Change.

JACOB WITTMAN, Appleton, Wis., is an optometry student at Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, Ill.

JUSTINA WUEBKER, Rockwell City, is a library and information sciences student at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

RYAN WURTZ, Milford, is a computer applications teacher with the Estherville Lincoln Central Community School District, Estherville.

TAYLOR YEZEK, North Liberty, is an emarketing specialist with Collins Community Credit Union, Cedar Rapids.

DREW YODER, Wellman, is a staff accountant with McGladrey, Davenport.

JORDAN YOUNG, Cedar Rapids, is a high school world history teacher with the Washington Community Schools.

KIRSTEN YOUNGBERG, Pocahontas, is a divinity student at Northwestern College, St. Paul, Minn.

KATIE ZIMMER, Waverly, is a youth specialist with Bremwood.

2014
MATTHEW BRADY, Waverly, is a teacher with Arizona Teaching Fellow, Phoenix, Ariz.

ROBERT BROWN, Solon, is an estimator with Modern Piping, Cedar Rapids.

KELSEY CHURCH, Grimes, is a physical therapy student at Des Moines University, Des Moines.

MOLLY FELDMAN, Waverly, is a clinical mental health counseling graduate student at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

AMY KASCHKE, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., is a music therapy intern with the Danilo Perez Foundation, Panama City, Panama.

AARON KOTECKI, Geneseo, Ill., is a dental student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

RACHEL LIGHTY, Solon, is a music therapy intern with Primary Children's Medical Center, Salt Lake City, Utah.

KAITLIN McELROY, Ottumwa, is a missionary with The World Race, Adventures in Missions.

CODY OSEGARD, Atlantic, is a programmer analyst with Securian Financial, St. Paul, Minn.

TODD PARSONS, Cedar Falls, is a senior management analyst at Wartburg College, Waverly.

MEGAN PULS, Fort Dodge, is a staff auditor with Deloitte & Touche, Cedar Rapids.

ABBY SHANNON, Waverly, is a clinical mental health counseling student at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

COLLEEN TAGUE, DeWitt, is the liturgy and music coordinator with Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque.

DANIELLE TANNER, Waterloo, is in the accelerated RN/Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College.

Rev. Charles Kurtz recuperating following brain aneurysm



"Dr. Smita Gupta at UCLA Medical Center saved my life," the Rev. Charles Kurtz '91 said.

AS HE HAD DONE ON MOST SUNDAYS, the Rev. Charles F. Kurtz '91, of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif., prepared for pastoral activities on May 13, 2012.

But a day that started uneventfully changed dramatically after dinner.

"I've got a bad headache," he told his wife, Julie, who was concerned about his slurred speech.

Kurtz was taken to a local hospital where he was diagnosed with a brain aneurysm, then transferred by ambulance to the UCLA Medical Center, where he underwent surgery to stop massive bleeding in his brain.


Rehabilitation involved lengthy hospital stays for intensive physical, occupational, and speech therapy before he could return home nearly five months later.

His congregation showed its support by establishing a financial fund, providing meals, and offering transportation to school and sports activities for the Kurtz's two children, Crystal and Ernesto. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America pastors offered constant support.

Kurtz returned to the pulpit of St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Oct. 26, 2013, but he remains on disability.

"I don't know what God intends for me," Kurtz said, "but I believe He has a plan. I am concentrating on continuing to improve my speech and reading skills and will see what happens."

Kurtz, who received his Master of Divinity degree from Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., is the eighth generation of his family to serve as a Lutheran pastor.

He also is a fourth-generation Wartburg graduate. His father is the Rev. Philip Kurtz '53; his grandfather, the Rev. Henry Kurtz '24; and his great grandfather, the Rev. E. A. Kurtz, Class of 1893. More than 70 of his relatives have attended Wartburg since 1885. 

1938

IRENE GLUCK BRAATZ, Eau Claire, Wis., died Sept. 26, 2013.

1944

GERALDINE REINTS BRUGGEMAN, Marble Rock, died Jan. 12, 2013. She completed her teaching certificate at Wartburg and later earned a bachelor's degree in teaching from the University of Northern Iowa. She taught in a Plainfield one-room schoolhouse for a year and spent 45 years in the Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock Schools before retiring in 1991. She was active in St. Paul's Lutheran Church and the Marble Rock Historical Society and served on the Marble Rock Library Board.

ARLENE RIENSCH WIRTZ, Waterloo, died Nov. 4, 2012. She worked in the office and plant at Rath Packing Co. for 15 years.

1946

DOROTHY HELMBRECHT BROKERING, Windsor, Colo., died Oct. 7, 2013. She worked as a parish worker at Trinity Lutheran Church in Chicago before her marriage to the Rev. **Harold Brokering '45**, who survives her. They served parishes in Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado. Dorothy worked as a Christian educator, sales representative for Augsburg Publishing House, Christian education adviser for the American Lutheran Church Central District, and elementary school secretary.

1947

GERTRUDE BROKERING KINZER, Baltimore, Md., died Nov. 11, 2013. Alumni survivors include her brother, the Rev. **Harold Brokering '45**.

1948

MARCIA JANE ELS ANTOLIK, Fort Dodge, died Nov. 22, 2013. She taught school for three years before becoming a registered nurse.

DON WIEDERANDERS, Cedar Falls, died Jan. 19. He served in the U.S. Navy after graduating from Wartburg, and then earned a master's degree from the University of Miami, Ohio. He taught in Iowa and Minnesota public schools for 10 years and served on the faculty of Price Laboratory School in Cedar Falls from 1958 to 1991. He was twice president of the Iowa Council of Teachers of Mathematics and co-authored the "Ideas" feature in the *Arithmetic Teacher* publication for several years. He co-developed the hands-on Elementary Mathematics Learning System and was a charter member of the Iowa Chapter of Veterans for Peace.

1949

MAXINE SCHUCHMANN CLEVEN, Madison, Wis., died Nov. 11, 2013. As a parish worker in the Ohio District of the American Lutheran Church, she helped pastors establish churches in Ohio and Memphis, Tenn. In 1955, she accepted a call to St. John's Lutheran Church in Madison. After her marriage, she volunteered in the church library, with the quilting group, and in many other capacities. She also worked at Manchester's store and Stevens House of Gifts, and for 14 years at Artisan House of Gifts.

GLEN KLOCKE, Ledyard, died May 17, 2013. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1941 and served in World War II. He returned home to live and work on the family farm in Ledyard. He was a member of Matzener and Estle American Legion.

1950

WAYNE HARMENING, Cherry Hill, N.J., died Sept. 28, 2011, of lymphoma and leukemia. He had retired in 1994 from a celebrated career in the aerospace industry. He earned a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering at Iowa State University and later completed a master's degree in applied mathematics at Adelphi University. He spent the majority of his career with the RCA Corporation's Missile and Surface Radar Division, where he was a pioneer in the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System in the 1960s and was later involved with the Gemini and Apollo space programs. He was recognized by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for his contributions to the Apollo moon-rover program. He received RCA's Technical Excellence Award for Outstanding Performance.

IN MEMORIAM (continued)

in 1979 and was recognized in 1994 by Lockheed Martin's Aegis Excellence Program for "setting the standard for mechanical precision in near-field antenna test scanners."

The Rev. **ARNOLD IMBROCK**, Waverly, died Oct. 4, 2013. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and returned to his native Ohio, where he worked as a part-time grocery clerk and with the Veterans Administration Farm Rehab Program until enrolling at Wartburg College. He earned his divinity degree at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, and served churches in Gordon, Neb.; Arlington-Badger, S.D.; Hudson, S.D.; Le Mars; and Rock Rapids. He retired in 1988 and moved to Waverly, filling area pastoral vacancies and serving as visitation pastor at Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Waterloo, from 1991 to 2008. He sang in the St. Paul's Lutheran Church choir, was a member and past president of the Waverly Kiwanis Club, and a former member and past president of the LeMars Rotary Club and Rock Rapids Kiwanis Club. He was a member and chaplain of American Legion Post #176 in Waverly.

1951

WILLIAM 'BILL' BOYKEN, Algona, died Jan. 12. After earning a master's degree at the University of Iowa, he worked at Iowa Trust and Savings in Ames and Wisconsin Community State Bank in Eau Claire, Wis. He later taught at Alexandria Technical and Community College in Alexandria, Minn., before joining Charter Bank in Eau Claire. After his retirement, he moved to a farm near Buffalo Center in 2009. Survivors include his wife, **Muriel Hanselmann Boyken '51**.

1952

The Rev. Dr. **VICTOR WENGER**, Albert City, died Oct. 14, 2013. He completed a divinity degree at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1956. He later earned a Doctor of Ministry degree. He served congregations in Toledo, Ohio; Mason City; Waterloo; and Storm Lake, and was mission developer for Christ Lutheran in Wyoming, Mich. Survivors include his wife, **Dorothy Krieger Wenger '55**.

MARIAN WOLKENHAUER WOODS, Aurora, Colo., died July 5, 2013. She was a longtime owner and operator of The Denver Swimming School, teaching thousands of children and adults to swim.

1953

EDWIN HARMENING, Fort Wayne, Ind., died Oct. 16, 2013. He was a U.S. Army veteran and an alumnus of the University of Dayton. He worked 22 years at Old Fort Industries in Fort Wayne and also at D&N Micro-Products. He was active at Our Hope Lutheran Church and in his community.

1955

The Rev. **JOHN DEINES**, Cedar Falls, died Nov. 11, 2013. He earned his divinity degree from Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, in 1959. After serving congregations in Correctionville and Davenport, he spent 30 years as campus pastor at the University of Northern Iowa Lutheran Student Center. He retired in 1999. Survivors include his wife, **Martha Grace Andrews Deines '54**.

MARDELL MAY MUELLER, San Bernardino, Calif., died Jan. 16, 2013.

PATTY BAKER SCHWESTKA, Fort Worth, Texas, died Dec. 22, 2013. She sang in the Wartburg Choir while earning a two-year business degree and was an active proponent of music.

CARL VOLKMANN, Springfield, Ill., died Oct. 11, 2013, after a 15-year struggle with cancer. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, and a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Illinois. He taught history at Tri-City High School in Buffalo and then spent 23 years at Lincoln Library, the public library of Springfield. He was library director from 1981 until his retirement in 1993. He received the Studs Terkel Humanities Service Award from the Illinois Humanities Council in 2004 and a Wartburg College Alumni Citation in 2012. In 2010, the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science named a scholarship fund in his honor. He was also the author of several books. Survivors include his wife, **Roberta Bock Volkmann '58**.

1956

The Rev. **RAY HEIDTKE**, Roseville, Minn., died Nov. 15, 2013. After completing his divinity degree at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, he served churches in Fredonia, Fargo, Valley City, and Verona, N.D., plus several interim pastor positions.

1957

GEORGE HANSON, Winnebago, Ill., died Jan. 19, of mesothelioma. He served in the U.S. Army from 1957 to 1959, stationed in France. He lived in Palatine, Ill., for 29 years while working as director of account development for the Intec Group Inc. He was the founder and choral director of the Sebastian Singers in Palatine. He relocated to Winnebago in 2000, following his retirement.

DONNA KRAMER HOBERMAN, Holland, Mich., died Dec. 20, 2013.

1958

PATRICIA JACOB CALDWELL, Glendale, Wis., died April 9, 2013.

MARILYN WALTHER OBERHEU, Janesville, died Dec. 3, 2013. She taught upper elementary grades in Strawberry Point, Long Lake, Minn., and for 30 years in the Waverly-Shell Rock School District, retiring in 2004. She was a past member of the National Education Association, Iowa State Education Association, and P.E.O. In retirement, she volunteered in the office at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Waverly, where she was a former church council member and active in a variety of ministries.

ANN FINNERN SMITH, Bellingham, Wash., died Oct. 13, 2013. She began her elementary teaching career in Minneapolis, Minn., and later taught in Tunnelton, Ind. She lived in Bowling Green, Ohio, for 23 years and was a member of the American Association of University Women, Peace Lutheran Church Council, Wood County Hospital Guild, and Kenwood Elementary School Parent Teacher Association. She became a Library of Congress-certified Brailist and taught braille through the Bowling Green State University Continuing Education Program and as a member of the Bowling Green Volunteer Brailists. She worked with blind students in several Ohio school districts. After retiring in Olympia, Wash., she helped found an after-school tutoring program at her church and volunteered with elementary school programs and the Adult Literacy Network. She and her husband spent 15 years as volunteers at Mt. Rainier National Park. They moved to Bellingham, Wash., in 2010.

JOHN WERNER, Clinton, died July 22, 2013.

He earned a master's degree from Marycrest College in Davenport in 1975. He was a high school teacher in Iowa and Illinois from 1958 to 1966. He taught in Chicago from 1966 to 1982, when he moved to California and taught through 2003 in the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School, Long Beach Unified Schools, Los Angeles, and Paramount districts. He was resident director of the Dubuque Civic Theatre in the 1970s and was involved with the Salvation Army after moving to Clinton.

1959

DONALD STEEGE, The Villages, Fla., died Oct. 30, 2013. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After earning a law degree at the University of Iowa in 1961, he practiced law in Council Bluffs for 32 years and spent 20 years as counsel for First Federal Savings and Loan. He served on the Pottawattamie County School Board, was a trustee of Iowa Western Community College, chaired the Mercy Health Foundation Board of Directors and the Pottawattamie County Republicans. He was a past president of the Council Bluffs Noon Rotary Club, served on the board of Abstract Guaranty, was instrumental in establishing Bethany Lutheran Home, and was an active church member. After retiring in 1991, he and his wife spent 10 years in Bella Vista, Ark., before moving to Florida.

Dr. **DENNIS WESSELS**, Portland, Ore., died Dec. 21, 2013, after an extended battle with Parkinson's disease. He earned his M.D. degree from the University of Iowa School of Medicine. After completing his medical internship in Portland, he served as a U.S. Naval flight surgeon stationed in Pensacola, Fla., and Cherry Point, N.C. Following his honorable discharge as a first lieutenant in 1968, he opened a medical practice in Shawano, Wis., then relocated to Lebanon, Ore., in 1977. He practiced medicine for 41 years.

MERLIN DETTMERING, Waverly, died Dec. 24, 2013.

He completed a master's degree at State College of Iowa in 1964 and spent 36 years as a high school biology, chemistry, and physics teacher in Hanlonton, Frost, Minn., and La Porte City until his retirement in 1997. He was an avid follower of Wartburg sports and other Wartburg activities. Survivors include his wife, **Kathryn Becker Dettmering '65**.

1960

CALVIN FOLKERS, Oklahoma City, Okla., died Sept. 16, 2013, from complications of Parkinson's disease. After attending Coe College and Wartburg, he graduated from the University of Iowa in 1959. He served with the U.S. Army in Augsburg, Germany, from 1954 to 1956. He sold real estate in the Waverly area and spent many years selling fire alarm systems in Oklahoma, Missouri, and Kansas. His daughter, Kimberly Folkers, is a member of the Wartburg business faculty.

1962

TERRANCE "TERRY" SCHNEIDER, Lake Ozark, Mo., died Oct. 18, 2013. He worked for Carnation/Nestle Co., as a sales representative and regional manager for 28 years. He retired in 1991 and worked part-time for Northwest Cherry Growers. He was an avid walker and sports fan and volunteered at Hope House. Survivors include his wife, **Patricia Kleinhaus Schneider '65**.

DIANA DAGGETT THORSON, Sioux Falls, S.D., died Nov. 26, 2013. She completed postgraduate work at the New School for Music Study in Princeton, N.J., and worked in Chicago until moving to Sioux Falls. In 1971, she established a piano studio that grew to more than 500 students. Over the years, she also trained 35 teachers. Two students became concert pianists, and others became music teachers or music therapists. She developed the keyboard education department and worked in music sales at Westmoor Music. Her Yamaha Music School was rated among the top 10 in the country. She performed at area events and for area nursing homes. She helped establish the first alternative school and first art museum in Sioux Falls and served as a board member and president of the Live on Stage Sioux Falls Concert Association.

1965

The Rev. **ALFRED KRUSE**, Washington, died Sept. 22, 2013. He earned a divinity degree from Wartburg Seminary and was ordained in 1969. Before retiring in 2009, he served congregations in Fremont, Neb.; Eldorado, Cushing, Carthage, Ill.; and Readlyn. He was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Washington and was a member and recent president of the Washington Lions Club. He received the Warren Coleman Award for transporting eye tissue for the Iowa Lions Eye Bank. Alumni survivors include his daughter, **Pamela Kruse Adams '95**.

AMELIA "AMY" LINKERT, Boise, Idaho, died of exposure during a September 2013 hiking trip at Craters of the Moon National Monument near Arco, Idaho. The retired special education teacher and her physician friend had been last seen Sept. 19 and were reported missing Sept. 24, when the physician failed to show up for work. Linkert's body was found Sept. 25 and her companion Oct. 22. A memorial service for the two women was Nov. 8. Linkert began her career as a missionary teacher in New Guinea and Cameroon and taught in North Dakota before returning to her native Minnesota. She earned a master's degree in education and taught special education in the Minneapolis public schools until 1999. After relocating to Idaho, she taught in the Meridian School District until her retirement. She was an accomplished oil painter and wood carver.

1966

CHARLA LARIMER MORELAND, Cedar Falls, died August 18, 2013. She attended Marshalltown Community College from 1961 to 1964 before earning a teaching degree at Wartburg. She taught at Lincoln School, Cedar Falls, for three years and spent 24 years as a teacher with Blessed Beginnings at Nazareth Lutheran Church.

1967

LARRY PLEGGENKUHLE, St. Ansgar, died Oct. 1, 2013. After graduating from Wartburg, he began a 40-year career as an English teacher in the St. Ansgar Community School District. He served on the St. Ansgar Board of Adjustment and Park Board, was active in developing the town's Children's Garden, and portrayed Santa Claus at several local events. He also was a gifted gardener.

1969

The Rev. **DANIEL WISSMANN**, Appleton, Wis., died Jan. 15, after a 23-year battle with a brain tumor. He was a Bonn University exchange student in his junior year and preached in German and English during his pastoral internship in Wishek, N.D., and in his first parish in Windsor, Colo. He was a 1973 graduate of Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque. He served in Bismarck, N.D.; Royal, Ill.; as a hospice chaplain in Normal, Ill.; and in Lincoln, Ill. He was an interim pastor in Decatur, Ill., and a visitation and supply pastor in Oshkosh, Wis. He retired from active ministry in 2007.

1970

MICHAEL JOHANSEN, Brazil, Ind., died Sept. 29, 2013. He began his college education at Wartburg and graduated from the University of Missouri School of Journalism in 1971. He was sports editor for the *Lexington Twin Weeklies* in Lexington, Neb., from 1974 to 1977 and then sports editor of the *Eastern Arizona Courier*, where he was honored for 25 years of service in 2002. He was sports editor of the *Petersburg Press Dispatch*, Petersburg, Ind. from 2003 until his retirement in 2013. He won several awards for his sports writing and was executive secretary of the Arizona Coaches Association and the Eastern Arizona All-Stars. In Indiana, he helped found a local cancer society, served as treasurer of his church, and was a member and officer of the Petersburg Kiwanis Club. Survivors include his stepmother, **Frances Westendorf Johansen '60**.

1971

NORMA EGGLESTON CREGER, Waverly, died Nov. 30, 2013. She earned her bachelor's degree at Wartburg and a teaching certificate at Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls. She taught at the Douglas Township country school, Osage elementary school, and at Waverly-Shell Rock junior high school, retiring in 1991. She was active in her church, the Waverly Hospital Auxiliary, Waverly Literature Club, and the Bremer County Unit of the American Heart Association. Survivors include her husband, **DeVere Creger '52**.

KAREN KOCK YOUNIE, Fort Dodge, died Oct. 2, 2013, of cancer. She was an educator for 42 years. She earned a counseling degree from Morningside College and an administrative degree through Drake University. She was a middle school language arts teacher and coach at Lake Mills and Northwest Webster, where she started the volleyball program. She was a high school counselor at Manson-Northwest Webster and Jefferson-Scranton schools. She was the first female building principal in the Jefferson-Scranton District, serving as high school principal and then as middle school principal.

1972

Dr. **DANIEL RETTBERG**, Cincinnati, Ohio, died Oct. 31, 2013. He was senior associate librarian and rare book and manuscript bibliographer at Klau Library of Hebrew Union College. He was considered an expert on ancient and medieval rabbinical tradition.

1973

LAVONNE KOELLING BAST, Ankeny, died Aug. 16, 2013. She spent 32 years as an elementary school teacher in La Porte City, Dunkerton, and Denver. She moved from Denver to Ankeny in 2002 to be closer to family.

1978

MARK RYDBERG, Loves Park, Ill., died March 18, 2013. He was a director with Huntington Learning Center and was a candidate for Third Ward Alderman in Loves Park at the time of his death.

1979

KEVIN REAL, Plymouth, Minn., died Dec. 7, 2013, after a seven-year battle with cancer. He worked as a senior business analyst for Emphasis/Wyde Corporation. Survivors include his wife, **Rebecca Knowles Real '80**.

MICHAEL DOHNALEK, Cedar Rapids, died July 1, 2013. He worked in the insurance business for many years in the Des Moines area and later sold advertising for WMT, KHAK, and WHO-TV in Des Moines. He moved to Florida to continue his sales career and returned to Marion in 2007 to establish his own men's clothing business.

1981

WENDY CONDIT ESPONDA, Buffalo, Wyo., died Nov. 2, 2010. She attended Wartburg and the University of Wyoming before completing a B.S. degree in education and business at Eastern Montana University. She taught in Clermont and Sheridan, Wyo., moved to Buffalo after her marriage in 1983 and began teaching Spanish in Buffalo in 2005. She was on the board of the Jim Satchel Museum, a volunteer and coordinator with the Summer Art Guild, and active in her church.

THOMAS "TOM" LANDSGARD, Elgin, died Oct. 2, 2013. After earning a degree in biology, he returned to Elgin to operate the family farm.

1989

JUDY WINKELMAN MILLER, Waterloo, died Oct. 28, 2013. She co-owned the Flower Bin from 1979 to 1984 and then taught art at West High School and Lowell and Cottrell Elementary schools in Waterloo until retiring due to disability in 2002. She was a volunteer art teacher at Valley Lutheran High School, led the Women's Support Group and children's ministry at her church, and was active with Girl Scouts.

1994

KEITH SCHIPPER, Aplington, died Oct. 9, 2013. He began his law enforcement career as a police officer in Aplington, and served as police chief in Plainfield and Tripoli. He was a sergeant in the University of Northern Iowa Public Safety Department until 1986. He and his wife then worked at Five Seasons Mobile Home Park in Cedar Falls. He also drove a truck for Iowa Select and Heartland Park.

2006

CHRISTOPHER COTTRELL, Castle Rock, Colo., died July 15, 2013.

BELARUS DIGNITARIES CONVENE AT WARTBURG

by Saul Shapiro

STANISLAU SHUSHKEVICH, THE FIRST HEAD OF STATE of an independent Belarus, a former Soviet republic, yearns for democracy in his homeland, which he calls “a colony of Russia.”

Shushkevich; Ivonka Survilla, president of the Rada (parliament) of the Belarusian Democratic Republic in Exile; and David Swartz, the first U.S. ambassador to Belarus (1991-94), advocated for democracy in Belarus during appearances at Wartburg College, including a Jan. 16 panel discussion.

All three met with various Wartburg classes, while Swartz also addressed the annual Michaelson, Kildahl, and Briner Literary Symposium.

Shushkevich made his imprint on history by signing the Belavezha Accords on Dec. 8, 1991, in Belarus with presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine, annulling the 1922 treaty creating the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Other republics followed suit. By Christmas Day, the Soviet empire had been swept into “the dustbin of history.”

The treaty spurred the promise of democracy for Belarus, which had a fleeting moment of independence from Russia in post-war 1918 before the Soviet Red Army forced its sitting government into exile. Survilla—an artist, journalist, and linguist born in Belarus, raised in France, and residing in Canada—has served 12 years as its sixth president in exile.

Shushkevich—a scientist and university professor who was not a Communist Party member—ascended to power after the failed August 1991 “putsch” in Moscow by hardliners seeking to reverse Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev’s reforms.

“The result was that we marginalized the Communist Party members from Belarus, and I was elected chairman,” Shushkevich said.

He removed Russia’s nuclear arsenal. “If you compared the number of nuclear weapons we had to the number of people, we were the most nuclear country in the world,” Shushkevich said.

He also was wary of foreign influence. “Belarus was the country that lost the most people in World War II. Out of 10 million people, 2.5 million were destroyed. If you take into consideration (Josef) Stalin’s purges of the most educated members of the Belarus intelligentsia, every third citizen was killed. We were destroyed on a genetic level.”

Shushkevich was unseated in 1994 by current president Alexander Lukashenko, who strengthened ties with Russia. Survilla asserts that Moscow played a role.

“In Belarus, we have a KGB—the same thing we had when we were part of the Soviet Union,” she said. “It works very closely with Moscow. We believe it helped get Lukashenko elected the first time.”

The United States and European Union have protested rigged elections, human rights abuses, and imprisonment of opposition leaders by removing diplomats and imposing sanctions.

Shushkevich, though, still lives in Belarus.

“Mr. Shushkevich is too important a person to be touched. He is the first president. The whole world would protest,” Survilla said.



David Swartz, Dr. M. Paula Survilla, Ivonka Survilla, Stanisla Shushkevich, and President Darrel and Christy Colson.

KNIGHT VISION



Swartz’s presentation can be accessed at new.livestream.com/wartburgknightvision/events/2695514.


The Russian foothold became even stronger last year with the establishment of a military base in Lida near the border with NATO members Poland and Lithuania.

“Russian bases in Belarus—from which it would be able to attack any kind of movement of the Western countries—also makes Belarus vulnerable,” Survilla said.

Reality tempers their dream of a truly independent Belarus.

“Russian authorities want Belarus as part of their empire. Belarusian authorities do everything the Kremlin says,” Shushkevich remarked. “We want to liberalize the Belarusian economy to enable its development. But Belarus authorities and the Kremlin prevent that. (Russia) gives small amounts of money to Belarus to control the situation and preserve Belarus as a colony of Russia.”

Shushkevich, Survilla, and Swartz were invited to Wartburg by Dr. Paula Survilla, professor of music and Harry and Polly Slife Professor in the Humanities. She is Ivonka’s daughter.

Paula Survilla has been researching and writing about the connections between popular music and democratic political processes in Belarus since 1991. Since 2008, she has served as executive director of the Center of Belarusian Studies, which encourages the revival of the Belarus nation through initiatives in higher education. 

Shushkevich’s other brush with history

Stanisla Shushkevich’s worked at a Minsk radio factory with American expatriate Lee Harvey Oswald. “I taught Oswald in the Russian language, but I can assure you that he didn’t kill Kennedy,” Shushkevich said.

He told Radio Free Europe that Oswald was a “passive, calm, compliant boy” who might have been “used” by U.S. extremists.





NEVER too young

Timely thoughts on the importance of wills

Many folks put off completing a will because they feel they are not old enough to need one, that it's a task best done when they retire, not yet high on the "to do" list, especially for younger adults. Here are sound reasons for having a will at any age:

1. Although it may be a remote possibility, death can occur by accident or illness at any age. Having a will makes good sense.
2. People with young children have an extremely important reason. Wills name custodians for minors and trustees who will provide for their dependents.
3. Once a will is in place, it is easy to alter and adjust as your circumstances and needs change.
4. Even though you may have a small estate, you can (and should) decide how your assets will be distributed. This includes designating bequests for charitable organizations such as Wartburg College that have been important during your lifetime.
5. Knowing you have a valid will gives you peace of mind, a sense of satisfaction in having completed this responsibility.

More information about wills and/or how to include a charitable bequest to Wartburg College is available—without cost or obligation—by contacting Mark Piel, director of gift planning, at 319-352-8666 (direct) or 866-219-9115 (toll free) or mark.piel@wartburg.edu.



Visit www.wartburg.edu/giftplanning.



SAVE THE DATES

MAY

4 Chicago Cubs Outfly
Wrigley Field, 7 p.m.

22-25 Class of '64 50-Year Reunion

JUNE

5 Iowa Cubs Game
10 Twin Cities Outfly
17 Dubuque Outfly
18-19 Chicago Suburbs Outfly
24 Iowa City Outfly

JULY

24 RAGBRAI overnight in Waverly
Citywide

AUG.

11 Wartburg Day at Iowa State Fair
12 Des Moines area Outfly
13 Cedar Falls Outfly
14 Waverly Outfly
24 Denver, Colo. Outfly

SEPT.

26-28 Family Weekend
Campuswide, All weekend

OCT.

16-19 Homecoming
Campuswide, All weekend

Dates are tentative; check Knightline and www.wartburg.edu/alumni for event details and information. Call the alumni office at 319-352-8491 with questions.

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Study Abroad photo contest 2013

These photos were selected from more than 60 submissions by Wartburg students who participated in a May Term or Study Abroad experience.



First Place: Ben Bogard '16 — Peace in China, China



Second Place: Mattea Otten '14 — Something Beautiful, Costa Rica



Third Place: Samantha Salow '15 — Faith Worldwide, San Salvador