

NEW MAJORS | THE 'DIFFERENTLY ABLED' APPROACH | GAME ON!

Wartburg

M A G A Z I N E

GO WEST,
YOUNG KNIGHT

WARTBURG WEST IS GROWING.....

INSIDE:

WHO LET THE
DOGS IN?

TRAVELING TALENT

KNIGHTS

RECLAIM TITLES

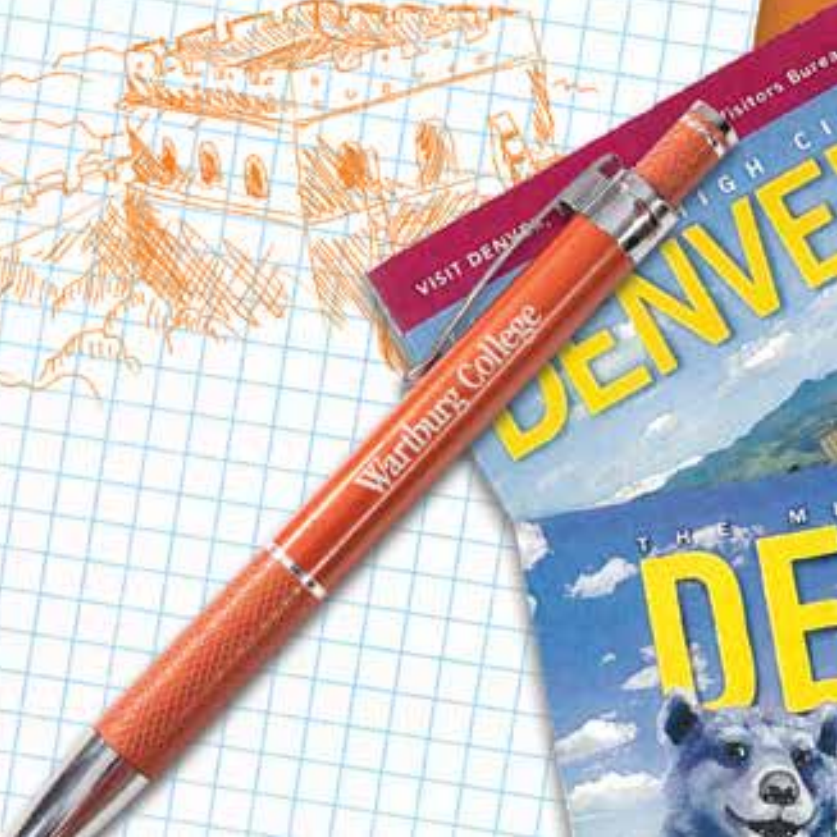
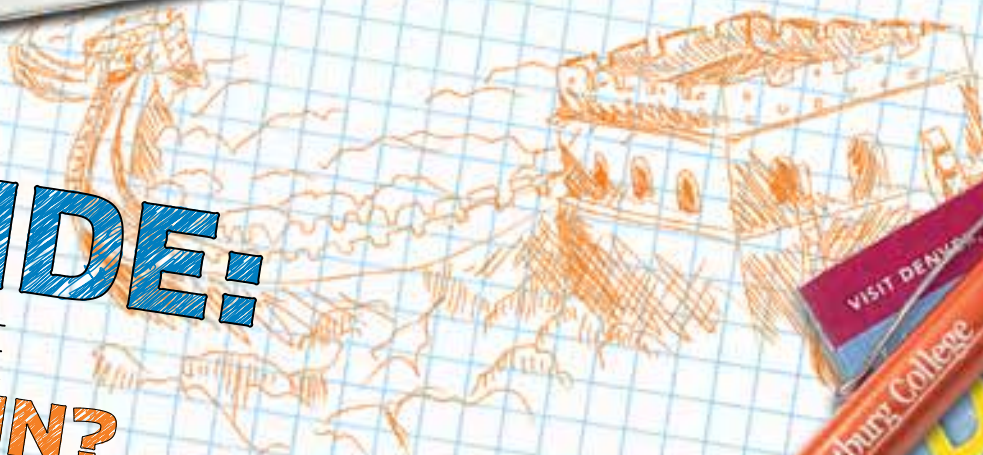


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If you have suggestions for stories in the Wartburg Magazine or comments about the content, contact Saul Shapiro, director of news and community relations/magazine editor, at saul.shapiro@wartburg.edu.

Wartburg

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M A G A Z I N E

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ON THE COVER:

Go West, Young Knight

Wartburg Magazine art director Josh Peterson depicts changes in the Denver Wartburg West program, with the photographic help of Julie Drewes '90 and Emily Novotny '13.

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TRANSCRIPTS:

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.

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WARTBURG — IN THE NEWS —

Ellefson receives Graven Award



James Ellefson

Iowa District Court Judge **James Ellefson '74** received Wartburg's 2013 Graven Award.

The award, named for the late Judge Henry N. and Helen Graven of Greene, is presented to a person who has a "strong sense of Christian calling" and is making a "significant contribution to community, church, and society."

The Rev. Ramona Bouzard, dean of the Wartburg Chapel, said Ellefson "has done everything from serving Lutheran Services in Iowa to singing in the Marshalltown Men's Choir." The longtime Marshalltown attorney was appointed to the bench in 2012.

Sukup named honorary alumna

Mary Sukup of Hampton was named an honorary Wartburg alumna in recognition of her support of higher education and faith-building opportunities for young people.

A generous gift from Mary and Eugene Sukup and the Sukup Family Foundation underwrote the 2011 Iowa Public Television production of Christmas with Wartburg, which has aired statewide and nationally on public broadcasting stations. Their donation also supported a commemorative DVD/CD set of the entire concert.

The Sukups own Sukup Manufacturing, one of Iowa's leading agriculture-related businesses.

Eight longtime employees retire

Wartburg honored eight retiring faculty and staff members during a Milestones ceremony in May. The retirees (start date in parenthesis) are:

- **Dr. Kathy Book**, associate professor of education (2001)
- **Mary Brecht**, dining services (2001)
- **Gary Grace**, vice president for administration (1996)
- **Dr. Paul Hedeem**, professor of English (1995)
- **Dr. Diane McCarty**, professor of education (2001)
- **Linda Moeller '66**, senior strategist, Marketing and Communication (1986)
- **JoAnn Strottman**, office coordinator, International Programs (1993)
- **Dr. Susan Vallem '66**, professor of social work (1987)

Watch the retirees talk about their time with Wartburg online at www.wartburg.edu/videos/milestones.html



See more headlines on our Twitter feed @WartburgCollege, like us on Facebook, and check out info.wartburg.edu for more news.

Vallem receives lifetime achievement award



Dr. Susan Vallem

Dr. Susan Vallem '66, professor of social work, was the 2013 recipient of the Iowa National Association of Social Workers' Lifetime Achievement award for "repeated outstanding achievements and outstanding creativity."

Vallem, who retired after 26 years of full-time teaching, was a volunteer and trainer for the American Red Cross Disaster Mental Health Services, went to New York City in the aftermath of 9/11 and to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and is chair of the Waverly Health Center Board of Trustees.

PT and Terry's Excellent European Adventure



Larry Trachte

Join Pastor **Larry Trachte '66** and **Dr. Terry Lindell**, professor of history, on Wartburg College's World War II Alumni Tour, "From D-Day to VE-Day," June 14-28, 2014.

During the 70th anniversary of the D-Day invasion, trace the path of the Allied Forces from Prime Minister Winston Churchill's London "war room," across the English Channel from Portsmouth to the beaches and, later, the cemeteries of Normandy. Visit Bastogne, site of the Battle of the Bulge; cross the Rhine at Remagen, and continue to Berlin. On the way, visit the Wartburg Castle, the new World War II Museum in Nürnberg, and stay overnight in Neuendettelsau, the birthplace of Wartburg College.

For more information about this exciting trip, go to www.wartburg.edu/events/travel.html



Beth McAtee '14 and Travis Bockenstedt '09

Students get the red carpet treatment

David's List, a 30-minute May Term 2012 film by communication arts students, was exhibited at the 2013 Cedar Rapids International Film Festival. The film follows a group of college students working to fulfill a deceased friend's college bucket list.

Led by **Travis Bockenstedt '09**, lecturer and multimedia producer in residence, were students **Simon Sager '14** of Forest City; **Ben Hoppenworth '13**, Waterloo; **Bethany McAtee '14**, Coggon; **Danny Housholder '14**, West Des Moines; and **Justin Szykowny, '14**, Palos Heights, Ill.

Watch *David's List* online at www.wartburg.edu/videos/davidslis.html

Seversons challenge alumni to give back



Sally and Bob Severson

Bob '66 and **Sally Severson's** tradition of giving to Wartburg College started with \$25.

Through the years the couple has supported the institution with donations of time and money. Bob is a member of the Board

of Regents and chair of its audit committee.

Now they want to encourage others to give back through the Severson Alumni Challenge. For the next year the Seversons will give \$50 to the Annual Fund, up to \$50,000, for every new donor gift to the Annual Fund, annually funded scholarships, and academic and co-curricular programs.

The challenge and matching gift apply to new alumni donors and alumni who have given in the past, but did not give last year.

"Wartburg College provided me with a strong academic and faith-based foundation that allowed me to enter the 'real' world at 21 with a sense of giving back and serving others," Bob said. "Sally and I believe in the mission of Wartburg and desire to support sustaining the mission for the benefit of the future generation."

"We hope that through our challenge alumni see the value their gift can make in sustaining the mission of the college and providing to others what each of us received from our 'Wartburg Experience.'"



Wartburg Television took six Eric Sevareid Awards at the Northwest Broadcast News Association Conference in Minneapolis, Minn.

Student media adds to their trophy case

Wartburg student media took top honors in state, regional, and national contests:

- First place in the Associated Collegiate Press' "Best of the Midwest Awards" — **Nathan Ford '15**, Grinnell, Sports Media Package.
- Six firsts from the Iowa College Media Association, including four for Wartburg Television — **Shelby Granath '13**, Rockford, Ill., Best Documentary; **Ben Hoppenworth '13**, Waterloo, Best Storytelling Package; **WTV**, Best News Programming and Best Sportscasting. **The Circuit**, Wartburg's online news and information site, also took two first places.
- Four first-place awards from the Society for Collegiate Journalists, including two for **Ford**, Sports Page Design and Multimedia Sports Story; "Good Morning Waverly" producers **Jacqueline Schutte '14**, Luana, and **Hoppenworth**, Television News Show Overall Excellence; **Tristan Gardner '13**, Milo, Radio Commercial, Promotion and Public Announcement.
- Six first places from the Iowa Broadcast News Association, including staff honors for Overall Excellence (tied with Loras College), Best Newscast, Spot News Coverage, Sports Play-by-Play, Political Coverage and Overall Excellence; and **Danny Housholder '14**, West Des Moines, Features.

Wartburg Television, KCRG air live show on bullying

Wartburg and KCRG-TV9 teamed up to fight bullying May 5 with a live, one-hour special, "Bullied: Stand Up and Speak Up," designed to educate families about bullying and what can be done to stop it. The program, which included a forum for open discussion, aired on KCRG's subchannel 9.2 and The Circuit at Wartburg.

Wartburg honored for commitment to diversity and inclusion

Wartburg College was among the recipients of the first Greater Cedar Valley Alliance and Chamber's Diversity and Inclusion Awards in March.

Wartburg was honored in a category for medium-sized organizations (151-500 employees) that demonstrate inclusion and diversity.

"The campus of Wartburg College is welcoming, warm, and friendly for people of all cultures and backgrounds," the judges stated. "It is evident by the activities, events, and social gatherings that diversity is valued and celebrated by all."

"I am very honored to be a member of the Wartburg community because of our vision and our commitment to diversity," said Krystal Madlock, director of student diversity programs. "I believe people are surprised by the diversity we have on campus. The percentage of American-ethnic and international students we have is outstanding — especially for a small liberal arts school in rural Iowa."

Wartburg has one of the highest percentages

of international students (143 of 1,747 students) among Iowa colleges, has made a commitment to diversity in staff and purchasing decisions, and promotes activities and student organizations dedicated to diversity including:

- Wartburg Alliance (LGBT)
- International Club
- Black Student Union
- Sexual Misconduct and Assault Research Team (SMART)
- Interfaith chapels
- GAYLA Week
- Culture Week
- V-Week featuring the Vagina Monologues
- Martin Luther King Jr. Week

Dr. Deborah Loers, vice president for student life, said students from small towns and big cities must be cognizant of the need for inclusion.

"This is the world," Loers said. "We may not grow up having the most exposure to differences in others — race, religion, disabilities, sexual orientation, whatever. But as we move out into the world, it's clear that's the world we're working in."

Wartburg students' energy plan is hot idea at Clinton Global Initiative

by Saul Shapiro

THREE WARTBURG COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS are spending August in a Swaziland refugee camp implementing a renewable energy project with far-reaching effects.

With a \$6,000 grant won in President Bill Clinton's Global Initiative University competition, Linda Nkosi '14 of Swaziland, Daniel Sopdie '14 of Cameroon, and Asey Kakar '14 of Afghanistan purchased materials for five biogas digesters to convert animal and plant waste into methane.

The 400 occupants of the Malindza Refugee Camp in Mpaka, Swaziland, fled various conflicts. They were attracted to the southeast African nation by its history of political stability and proximity to South Africa. But the impoverished nation can offer little aid, nor can the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which focuses on larger camps.

"Swaziland is close to South Africa," Nkosi said, "so the men keep traveling, looking for work. Women stay in the camp because some have young kids and can't continually be moving."

"Their life is very precarious," he added. "They live from day to day. Some have small jobs and may make \$70 a month. This project will help cut electricity costs, so they can use that money for something else."

"When we were estimating the cost," Kakar said, "we thought it would save \$14 per month for each household. That would help them send their kids to schools because the Swazi government will not help pay."

The Wartburg students are Davis United World College Scholars. The program founded by financier Shelby Davis and Dr. Philip Geier, a former history professor, provides 2,500 international students with scholarships to study in the United States after graduating from two-year programs at one of 12 UWC campuses on five continents.

Kakar attended the UWC in the United Kingdom. Nkosi and Sopdie did so in Swaziland, where they were involved in service projects at the camp, often organizing children's activities. They were concerned education was being neglected.

"It's hard for them to actually focus in school because in their minds they aren't children. They have all these adult things to deal with," Nkosi said. "They know there's no food at home, there's no clean water, there may be younger children. So they think, 'I shouldn't be going to school because my mom needs my help.'"

"We want to make sure other issues — such as the cost of electricity — are covered."

A camp engineer will train the refugees — many of whom have high school or college degrees — to build and operate the biogas digesters, obtaining transferable job skills.

"The training is very important," Kakar said. "We will invest as much as we can to move their skills into the future. They won't be spoon-fed by us or the government or our engineers. We've seen the potential in them; we've seen the energy in them that they want to do something different."

The biogas digesters also will reduce reliance on firewood, which has caused deforestation.

The multifaceted approach impressed the Clinton Global Initiative University judges.

The Wartburg project initially was a Sweet Sixteen entry in the CGIU Challenge, an online-voting competition in late March akin to NCAA basketball tournament brackets. Wartburg defeated New York University, but lost to the University of Oklahoma.

Wartburg got a second chance at the CGIU conference the next week. After their preliminary presentation, the students awaited their fate.

"That night we were supposed to receive an email for the finalists and a formal presentation time with the judges," Kakar recalled. "Our email was down, so we didn't receive anything. The next morning Linda received a text asking where we were, that we were supposed to present before the judges at 11 and were 10 minutes late."

"We've seen the potential in them; we've seen the energy in them that they want to do something different."

— Asey Kakar '14

They hurriedly gathered their materials and raced to their presentation.


"When everything was done," Kakar said, "we thought we weren't getting close to the finals. There were no expressions on the judges' faces."

Then Chelsea Clinton announced that Wartburg had won the Resolution Social Venture Challenge.

"They give awards ranging from \$3,000 to \$5,000. It doesn't go above that," Kakar said. "But for some reason they saw the need in our project and gave us \$6,000. We received the highest score."

The CGIU funding will pay only a portion of the \$14,900 project, so the students spoke to service clubs and foundations to pursue the remainder. The college also contributed.

The Swaziland project is just a first step.

"We want to look at ways we can implement a project in Afghanistan so Asey can help her people," Sopdie said. "We want to look at projects in Asia and South America — all these different places that need assistance." 

You can support the students' efforts by making a contribution through the Wartburg College Development Office or online at www.gofundme.com/350548.



New majors HAVE AN INTERDISCIPLINARY FOCUS

by Saul Shapiro

ABIGAIL BLAKE'S PASSION FOR EXPLORING the woods and prairie behind her Mora, Minn., home prompted her to add one of two new Wartburg College majors.

"I love nature, biology, and ecology — the way different levels of the environment interact with one another to form an ecosystem and habitat," said Blake '15, who will become an environmental science and studies major.

The new major gives students a choice of emphasis in either a science or policy track. Blake, who had minored in environmental science, also is a biology major.

Jessa Bidwell '16 of Grinnell is switching from biology to neuroscience, the new interdisciplinary major found at the intersection of the physical (biology) and cognitive (psychology) sides of science.

"I like the idea of studying why people do what they do. I also like the prospect of getting to learn something new every day. Since we have a lot to learn about the brain, it seems to be a good fit," said Bidwell, who will continue to take the biology courses required for medical school.

Wartburg has now added three interdisciplinary majors in two years — including peace and justice studies in 2012-13 — after 11 years without any changes. Interdisciplinary majors are in vogue nationally, said Dr. Mark Biermann, dean of the faculty.

"The old-school silos where disciplines looked out for themselves and didn't cooperate are going away," he said. "When disciplines

"Offering students an opportunity to focus on the intersection of [psychology and biology] seemed like a logical fit."

— Dr. Samantha Larimer Bousquet

work together everyone benefits, particularly the students because they get more perspectives, develop skills, and obtain knowledge."

Biermann also cited "pent-up demand" and an "entrepreneurial faculty looking for programs and majors that attract a new group of students."

Dr. David McCullough, professor of biology, proposed an environmental science degree to do just that, and the faculty raised the ante.

Gift of heritage and mission

by Megan Reid

NEITHER MIKE NOR MARGE MCCOY attended Wartburg College, but they've seen firsthand its commitment to helping students discover and claim their callings.

Their son Matthew McCoy '93, an AEGON accounting manager, graduated with degrees in accounting and business administration with a concentration in finance. Daughter Michele Thompson '97 owns and operates a child-care center. She earned

a business administration degree with concentrations in marketing and management.

But degrees don't tell the whole story.

"Shelly has taken what she learned in a way none of us ever thought she would," Mike said. "There was a real need in their community. She has done very well, not only because of her marketing skills, but also because of what she learned about service, leadership, faith, and learning. This continues to follow both of them as they move forward."

The McCoys have given \$2 million to Wartburg to establish the Mike and Marge McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission — the largest outright, non-estate gift from an individual donor or couple.

The gift will strengthen the college's commitment to vocation by supporting efforts to help students discover and claim their callings — meaning and purpose in their education, work, and lives.

The Rev. Dr. Kathryn "Kit" Kleinhans, professor of religion and director of the Callings Initiative, will hold the distinguished chair. "It's a joy to teach at Wartburg College," she said, "because Wartburg understands that its Lutheran identity is not just about the past, but is about how we continue to educate students to make a difference in the world today."

Kleinhans is a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and has taught at Wartburg since 1993. A highly respected Luther scholar, her expertise is the theology of Martin Luther and the Lutheran Confessions.

Kleinhans' induction and a celebration of the gift will occur Oct. 31, Reformation Day, at 11:30 a.m. in the Wartburg Chapel. The Rev. Dr. Stanley Olson, president of Wartburg Seminary, will give the keynote address.

The McCoys are sold on Wartburg. Mike McCoy is a vice chair on the Board of Regents and served on the President's Advisory



Marge and Mike McCoy



Matthew '93



Michele '97

"The faculty as a whole said it was a neat idea — a real good major in regard to the hard sciences," Biermann remarked. "But they were wondering whether it was possible to have a complementary program more focused on public policy, legal aspects, programming, and things like that."

The major primarily will include existing courses in economics, philosophy, religion (Christian Ethics), political science, history, sociology, and social work, while adding introductory and capstone environmental science and studies courses.

McCullough and Dr. Bret Billet, professor of political science, will oversee the science and studies sides, respectively. McCullough believes the balance is important.

"The 'sciency' side of the environmental world is leery of studies majors," McCullough said, "because the consensus is that they are too light on science to be effective in preparing students for science-based careers. The flipside is that for students who wish to get into urban planning, management, nongovernmental organizations, administration, and environmental law, they don't need as much science, but darn well better have a good sense of policy."

"We decided to allow for a distinct choice of track so students will share a common core yet are most prepared for their vocation of choice."

A 2011-12 American College Testing survey revealed a growing interest in neuroscience. More than half of the high school students registering for Wartburg's 2013 Cedar Valley Science Symposium listed a neuroscience workshop as their top preference.

The major culminates work done by Dr. Samantha Larimer Bousquet, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Andrea Eslick, assistant professor of psychology; Dr. Ann Henninger, professor of biology and department chair; and Dr. Shaheen Munir, professor of psychology and social science department chair.

"Wartburg has strong psychology and biology programs, and we historically have many students who take courses in both. Offering students an opportunity to focus on the intersection of these areas seemed like a logical fit," said Larimer Bousquet, who will coordinate the program.


"Neuroscience also pairs nicely with other majors. We have a few students who have expressed an interest in understanding what occurs in the brain during language learning or music performance. As we learn more about the brain, it adds a new dimension to our

understanding of many different fields."

Kaitlin Boyd '15, of Rock Island, IL, switched her major from biology to neuroscience.

"I found that I really love psychology and studying the brain from a biological perspective," she said. "I have looked into specializing in neurological physical therapy, which deals with individuals who might be suffering from trauma, Parkinson's, brain tumors, or other nervous system issues."

Neuroscience also incorporates a topic once associated with science fiction.

"Studying artificial intelligence in computer science is about understanding very basic ideas about how we know and learn things," Biermann remarked. "They're applying it to how a computer can actually learn and operate more effectively and efficiently." 



Jeremy Corbett '14, Kelsie Durscher '15, and Therin Bradshaw '15 track crayfish for a summer research project with the Iowa DNR.



Kleinhans

Council and as national chair for Commission on Mission, the college's long-range strategic planning initiative. The McCoys currently are co-chairs of the Transforming Tomorrow Campaign Steering Committee.

"You just feel that you want to be a part of it," Marge said. "There is something that draws you in. You want it to be the best it can possibly be and do whatever you can do to help it reach that point."

"I am so happy that the McCoys, themselves faithful Lutherans, found it within their generous hearts to establish this distinguished chair, ensuring that Wartburg will forever house a scholar who can preserve our Lutheran heritage, and, more importantly, inspire us to live out that heritage in authentic and innovative ways," President Darrel Colson said.

"Lutheran higher education, especially as it plays out at Wartburg College, is about preparing young people to discern and claim the callings that will transform them and transform tomorrow for all of us."

The McCoys' gift makes the college's dream of having a Lutheran heritage chair a reality. Among colleges affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, only Augsburg, California Lutheran, Gustavus Adolphus, and Roanoke have similar positions.

"This gift creates such a sign, a powerful one," said former Wartburg College President Robert Vogel '56. "All of us who care about Wartburg and the future are grateful to the McCoys for their thoughtful and generous gift."

Wartburg's German and Midwestern roots in the Lutheran


spiritual and intellectual tradition inspired the four pillars in its mission statement — leadership, service, faith, and learning.

"If we truly value where we came from, it will certainly enhance our mission statement and help us focus on our mission going forward," Mike said.

As chair of the Commission on Mission, Mike was heavily involved with the 2010-20 Strategic Planning Committee that created goals based on the four pillars. The Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission embodies two of them — strengthening the commitment to vocation and telling the Wartburg story.

"These are really the cornerstones of what we think, what we hope and, frankly, what we will demand out of this chair," Mike said.

In 2011, Mike and Marge visited the college's namesake castle in Eisenach, Germany, where Martin Luther took refuge during the Reformation.

"When we learned the history about Martin Luther, it really brought home the heritage involved when Wilhelm Löhe sent Georg Grossmann to America and moved with the college from Michigan to Galena, ultimately settling in Waverly," Mike said. "That is the story that we want to make sure continues to be told." 

"Lutheran higher education, especially as it plays out at Wartburg College, is about preparing young people to discern and claim the callings that will transform them and transform tomorrow for all of us."

— President Darrel Colson

It's Elementary

by Jerica George '14

LUCAS DeWITT '96 CREDITS HIS WARTBURG COLLEGE EDUCATION with helping him become the 2013 Iowa Elementary Principal of the Year.

DeWitt has been principal of Fairview, Johnson, and Lincoln elementary schools in the Spencer Community School District for the past nine years. He was nominated by his peers, selected by the School Administrators of Iowa, and recognized at a governor's awards ceremony in May.

DeWitt said his Wartburg education opened many doors, allowing him to have a unique understanding of K-12 instruction.

"It directly contributed to where I am today. I am proud to tell people that I graduated from Wartburg College," DeWitt said.

DeWitt was active at Wartburg as a basketball player, a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, student body treasurer, and president of the Student Athletes Advisory Board.

DeWitt knew he wanted to be in education when he came to Wartburg, but needed help figuring out his direction. Dr. Cheryl O'Brien, his adviser, helped him explore different opportunities. He graduated with a teaching degree in elementary education, American history, and world history.

"He was a well-rounded student and engaged well with the K-12 students. He is such a genuine young man, so he was an excellent candidate for the award," O'Brien said.

DeWitt received his master's degree in history and certification in PK-12 educational administration from Iowa State University and his superintendent certification from the University of Northern Iowa. He started his career as a teacher in the Hampton-Dumont Community School District.


"I really benefited from being part of elementary and secondary methods classes as well as field experiences," DeWitt said. "Having that two-pronged approach allowed me to really begin to understand education as a system."

While it was hard to leave the classroom, DeWitt said he enjoys teaching teachers.

"As a principal you are affecting all the teachers and kids through the decisions you make or don't make. I see my main focus as helping maximize life opportunities for our kids," DeWitt said.

"Having been in the same district for nine years as an elementary principal," he added, "it has been really rewarding to watch initiatives and professional developments have the desired impact on student learning."

Dan Smith, executive director of the School Administrators of Iowa, said DeWitt "displays an abundance of energy and passion in working with students. He relies on a strong moral code to serve as a role model and as a basis to make decisions every day."

The National Association of Elementary School Principals will honor him as a National Distinguished Principal this fall in Washington, D.C. 



by Kristine Milbrandt '14

ANDREW TUBBS '16 IS DIFFERENTLY ABLED, but he doesn't want to be treated differently.

Tubbs, a music performance major from Des Moines, has a thrombocytopenia-absent radius, or TAR genetic syndrome, meaning he was born without the radius bone in his arms, causing them to be very short. The syndrome also causes reduced blood platelets.

After years of being treated differently for his disability, Tubbs decided to create videos as a way of making people more comfortable around what he calls "the differently abled."

"Being differently abled, you have a vested interest in awareness for the differently abled because you are living that life," Tubbs said. "If you don't make people aware of the accommodations you need, you will not receive them."

After watching video bloggers — "vloggers" — he admired, Tubbs knew he wanted to be on YouTube.

Hannah Soyer, his vlog partner whom he met while attending Johnston High School, was interested in the same videos. Soyer, who recently graduated from Johnston High, has muscular dystrophy, confining her to a wheelchair.

The pair have a YouTube channel called *Cripple's Corner*. They decided on the channel name because they use comedy to deal with their disabilities and want to make people around them more comfortable.

"Hannah describes the word 'cripple' as a Jewish birthright," Tubbs said. "You are either born with it and can

The Differently Abled Approach



use it or you're good friends with someone with a disability who is OK if you use the word."

"It just seemed right that we should work together," Tubbs said. "Seeing how we both are disabled, we decided that we should put them on YouTube and spread awareness."

"We may be differently abled and need accommodations here and there," he added, "but we still have similar experiences and feel the same as everyone else."

He also noted that awareness for the differently abled is important because most people don't understand the kind of accommodations they might need.

"For example people probably wouldn't realize the Mensa was unfriendly to the differently abled until I made it aware," Tubbs said, referring to his video "College Top-Ten" where he talks about having to ask food-service personnel to get his food for him.

Tubbs typically makes "Top-Ten list" videos that explain his daily life. Soyer usually talks about her daily life with a special subject for each video like her parents and her interests in Halloween and *Catcher in the Rye* character Holden Caulfield.

When Soyer and Tubbs collaborate on a video, they try to make it fun like in "Harlem Shake: Cripple Edition."

Tubbs and Soyer each create one video per week depending on their schedules. While Tubbs is at Wartburg, they do little collaboration, but promote each other's videos on social media.

Tubbs' favorite video so far is "The Top Ten Things Most People Don't Know About the Disabled."


"Because I love to use comedy to make my point, I was able to use a lot of short-arms jokes in the video, like, 'The game Tiny Wings was based off my life,'" Tubbs said.

The video with the largest response — with 1,500 views last spring — is one Soyer created entitled, "The Great Request." In it, she expresses her desire to experience her senior prom with a date.

"A major obstacle among the disabled is romantic relationships," Tubbs said. "She hadn't found a date and decided to make an impact by writing famous actors and asking them to prom."

Tubbs is interested in film as a hobby as well as acting, but says his heart is in music as a vocal performance major.

"I love art in all forms and I enjoy creating it," Tubbs said.

During the summer, Tubbs was back in Des Moines with Soyer to collaborate on more videos. 



Check out Andrew's vlog at www.youtube.com/user/tubbsyclone

Traveling TALENT

by Tyler Creed '15

FIFTY-SIX WARTBURG COLLEGE STUDENTS got a double dose of culture this spring during a whirlwind three-week performance and sightseeing trip through China and Japan.

Members of the Wartburg College Wind Ensemble, led by Dr. Craig Hancock, professor of music and director of bands, performed 13 concerts while traveling in the two countries April 28-May 20. Wartburg's touring ensembles — the Wind Ensemble, Wartburg Choir, and Castle Singers — travel internationally on a three-year rotating basis as part of the Tour with the Arts course.

"This class is a culture class.

You can't see the culture by looking out the window and looking in the window at things," Hancock said. "The people really are the culture. Our best communication with the people is to meet the people, stay with the people, and live with the people as closely as we can."

In Japan the students lodged in pairs with the locals. During their free time they shared traditional meals and experienced the Japanese culture in very authentic ways.

The same experiences could not be had in China where the government did not allow home stays. The ensemble performed in universities in China and high schools in Japan.

Aren Souhrada '16 of Allison, said her fondest memories of the trip involved the families she stayed with in Japan.

"You learned so much more about what the Japanese family holds as important," said Souhrada, a bass clarinetist. "You can feel how close they are."

Souhrada also was able to share a special moment with a member of her family — her father Lt. Cmdr. Todd Souhrada, a U.S. Navy officer currently stationed in Yokosuka, Japan. Todd's military assignments have kept him on the move since Aren was in eighth grade. They met while the band stayed in Ichikawa.

"It allowed us to bond a little bit. He got to show me what he does everyday, and he got to see me play with the Wind Ensemble," she said. "He had never had the opportunity to see me play for Wartburg. It allowed me to know my dad better than I have in my entire life."

Aren wasn't the only band member to come home with an extra-special personal memory from the Asian experience. David Wedeking '13, a tuba player from Waverly, particularly enjoyed a trip to the Great Wall of China. The band performed on the wall, and Wedeking proposed to his girlfriend, Brittany Manning '13 a clarinetist from Dubuque. She said yes.

"Other than getting engaged, it is a world wonder that I have wanted to see since I was little. It really amazes me what people were capable of even before the advancements of modern technology," Wedeking said.

Other China stops included seeing the 9,000 Terracotta Warriors and Horses — a 2,400-year-old archeological find uncovered 40 years ago — near Xian on the old Silk Route. Students also saw the Beijing Zoo, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, a silk museum, jade factory, and Peking duck restaurant in the capital.

In Japan, students visited Nikko National Park, Tokyo, Kumamoto Castle, and Hiroshima.

"I would visit Japan again, though not for the sites," Wedeking said. "My host families in Japan were amazing, and it would be really fun to see them again."



Wedeking '13 and Manning '13



Watch David's proposal to Brittany on the Great Wall of China.



www.wartburg.edu/videos/proposal.html



The album is available to purchase at wartburg.edu/band/recordings.



9,000 Terracotta Warriors and Horses



Katie Rice '13, Megumi Otaki '14, Tyler Creed '15, and Ben Bogard '16.



Children enjoy the Wind Ensemble.



“This notion of being on the baseball team, the football team, the band, and running track, which is what we do, is completely foreign to them. They do one thing and do it to the highest level they possibly can.”

— Dr. Eric Wachmann

Wedeking isn't interested in a return trip to China because of how little “the government trusted our intentions,” he said, referring to the government's decision to not allow the students to stay with families.

In Utsunomiya, Japan, Wedeking stayed with the same family for three days.

“They made delicious food ... and when they found out I was engaged, they wanted to make sure Brittany and I spent as much time together as possible,” he said. “It was pretty funny, and we ended up getting to see many of the local sites together. Brittany and my host families also seemed to become best friends while we were there, so it would be wonderful to go back and see them both.”

Souhrada exchanged email and mailing addresses with each of her host families and has already contacted them since returning to Iowa.

This was the Wind Ensemble's second Asian tour. Hancock is already planning a third — possibly as soon as 2019. They will return to Europe in 2016. A return trip to China will depend on the calendar. Japan celebrates Golden Week in late April and early May. The celebration encompasses several national holidays and makes travel inside the country very difficult.

Hancock considered other locales for 2019, but wants to build on the progress made in Japan this year. He and Dr. Eric Wachmann, professor of music, spent time at Tokyo high schools talking with school leaders about ways to bring Japanese students to Wartburg to study. He hopes a third trip will solidify those relationships and begin opening up new opportunities for the Japanese students and the college.

Wachmann said the time in the schools allowed Wartburg students the opportunity to see how Japanese students studied music — it is considered a club, and students practice for several hours daily after school.

“It was very much an eye-opener for our students. It's a completely different approach, very serious,” Wachmann said. “Everything is


very regimented and very polished, but at the same time the music is a different style of music, more mainstream, more listenable as opposed to serious classical music.”

Wachmann added that the experience was also beneficial for Japanese students who could meet students majoring in areas like biology or English, but still playing music at a very high level.

“This notion of being on the baseball team, the football team, the band, and running track, which is what we do, is completely foreign to them,” he said. “They do one thing and do it to the highest level they possibly can.”

Jessica Turnlund '16 of Owatonna, Minn., said seeing how other cultures respond to music also was interesting. Instead of clapping, said Turnlund, who plays the French horn, the audiences were reserved, but their facial expressions showed “that they appreciated the music the same way we do.”

Hancock and Wachmann agree the exposure to international travel and new cultures is just as important as the music on these trips.

“I've always believed that Wartburg strives to graduate a different product. Having taught at other places, I can verify that Wartburg graduates do have different perspectives and one of those things is a fairly universal global picture,” Hancock said. “Not everyone gets a chance to go on these music tours, but a vast majority of the students during their time at Wartburg are going to see another part of the world and find out that even though it is a great big globe, it's a pretty small place, and you can get there from here.” 



photos courtesy Ben Bogard '16

The Wartburg Wind Ensemble performed at the base of the Great Wall in China.

go WEST, YOUNG KNIGHT

by Saul Shapiro

WARTBURG WEST IS ON THE MOVE — to a new location in Denver, an enhanced experience, and an ambitious future.

“Our focus at Wartburg West has been on experiential education to prepare students for careers that could well take them into major metropolitan areas,” said Dr. Dan Kittle, assistant to the president for strategic initiatives. “But now we’re looking at a lot of different pieces that will enable Wartburg West to grow from a program to a center of activities and, possibly in the long-term vision of the college, a campus.”

Since 1985 more than 900 students have participated in the urban semester-long program, which combines academic courses with for-credit internships and community engagement.

FACILITIES UPGRADED

The first piece of the evolving puzzle is a groundbreaking new agreement with Saint John’s Episcopal Cathedral in Denver’s centrally located Capitol Hill District that significantly upgrades housing, classroom facilities, offerings, and environment.

Wartburg is leasing a 36-unit apartment building across the street from Saint John’s Cathedral with individual studio apartments for students, classrooms, offices, and meeting space.

Since 1999 Wartburg West students have lived in a nine-unit apartment building owned by the college south of downtown that limited student participation to 20 per term. The building — in a commercial district — lacked classrooms and parking, which were leased from a church three blocks away.

But Saint John’s offers more than improved facilities.

“Saint John’s is such a good partner,”

“The students’ residence will be smack in the middle of Capitol Hill, which is the largest and one of the most active neighborhoods in the city.”

— Nelson Bock, Wartburg West Co-Director



The new Wartburg West apartments are in Denver’s Capitol Hill District.

Kittle said, “because it is seen as the community cathedral of downtown Denver. For example, after 9/11 the community was looking for a place to do an interfaith service and decided that Saint John’s would be the most appropriate place.

“They want to reach out to the various communities in Denver and partner in ways that spread their mission and ours as well,” he added.

“We’re looking forward very much to this partnership,” said Peter Eaton, dean of Saint John’s Cathedral. “We’re looking forward to being a catalyst for a range of experiences we hope will be unique.”

‘WIN-WIN’ SITUATION

The Revs. Nelson and Bonita Bock, titled faculty in Wartburg’s religion and philosophy department, have been co-directors of the Wartburg West program since 1991, teaching its courses, while overseeing internships,

housing, and other logistics. They live in Denver’s inner city and have been actively involved in social issues.

“It’s a win-win for the college and the cathedral,” said Nelson Bock. “The cathedral is very much dedicated to serving this very urban neighborhood in which it is located. That fits in with the mission of Wartburg West to ‘nurture and

challenge students for lives of leadership and service in the urban context.”

Bock said the former site “was like an island in the middle of three very busy streets. McDonald’s was across the street along with a car parts store.”

Now Wartburg West will be in a vibrant neighborhood.

“The students’ residence will be smack in the middle of Capitol Hill, which is the largest and one of the most active neighborhoods in the city,” he said. “Capitol Hill United Ministries is an organization composed of 16 churches and eight social service agencies. Capitol Hill United Neighbors is a neighborhood organization. The Colfax Business Improvement District runs along Colfax Avenue, one block from where the residence will be located.”



Bonita and Nelson Bock



No need to share. Each student will have a studio apartment.

RECRUITING EFFORTS

Wartburg West was started at the behest of Denver alumni, who now number 603 — one of the larger contingents in a metropolitan area outside Iowa. The college hopes that a revitalized program will boost recruiting efforts in the metroplex with its 2.5 million population and high school graduation rates that are climbing significantly while declining in Iowa.

Colorado (population 5.2 million) has only seven non-profit, four-year private colleges compared to more than 20 in Iowa (population 3.1 million).

“We’re thinking differently about Wartburg West as an asset that also could enrich the Waverly campus, perhaps with a ‘bridge program’ where students from high schools in the Denver area enroll there and later come to Wartburg,” Kittle said. “Maybe we can have more for-credit experiences in Denver that aren’t just for our students, like our High School Leadership Institute.”

“There are so many opportunities, so many possibilities,” said Wartburg President Darrel Colson. “Wartburg has always been good at experiential learning, really trying to integrate what students do in the classroom with what they do in the world with their hands and with their hearts.”

UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP

The partnership between Wartburg, which is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and Saint John’s Cathedral will be unique.

“The ELCA and the Episcopal Church have what is called a ‘full communion relationship,’” said the Rev. Sherman Hicks, a member of the Wartburg Board of Regents and director of ELCA multicultural ministries. “The two churches have started congregations and campus ministries together, and we also exchange clergy. But this is the first time that a college of the ELCA has been in any kind of a relationship with an entity of the Episcopal Church.”

The Denver partnership developed as a convergence of interests.

Saint John’s, which was founded in 1860, had established task forces leading up to its sesquicentennial celebration to discern the primary needs in the Capitol Hill district, including uses for land it owned in its Cathedral Square North plan.

The Bocks, whose congregation is in the neighborhood, have been involved with Saint John’s through Capitol Hill United Ministries. Nelson served on a Saint John’s task force that explored affordable housing for seniors and working families. He broached the idea of a Wartburg West connection.

Saint John’s officials agreed. Senior Warden Tom Stoevers said having students in “the multigenerational mix is critical to the success of the master plan.”

“Wartburg students and faculty will bring life, energy, and a spirit of community service to Denver that enriches the lives of everyone who lives here,” he added. “To have the Wartburg community on our campus is a privilege. We look forward to exploring the ways in which we can build on Wartburg’s programs, the ways in which we can integrate Wartburg students into our common life, and the new programs and projects we can take on together. A Wartburg-Saint John’s partnership is greater than the sum of its parts.”

Bock said, “They’ve never been associated with an institution of higher education, so they are very excited about this. They’re excited about internships and opportunities they can offer our students, particularly in church music and church administration.

“They’re also excited that down the road there might be possibilities to connect their young people with a college of the church,” he added. “Since the ELCA and the Episcopal Church are full partners in ministry, they are glad to have that connection.”



photos courtesy Emily Novotny '13

Wartburg students take advantage of Colorado’s recreational opportunities.

INTEGRATED EXPERIENCE

The three-pronged Wartburg West experience includes, for the most part, classes on Monday and Friday mornings and Wednesday evenings, community engagement projects on Monday and Friday afternoons, and internships on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

The schedule varies for education and social work majors — who student teach or complete a social work practicum, respectively — and for second-year students. Third- and fourth-year students take two courses in addition to a two-credit internship. Second-year students during Fall Term take three courses as well as a one-credit internship.

Bock said curriculum offerings may be expanded.

WARTBURG WEST COURSES

METROPOLIS Studying urban life and issues, including a community-service project.

URBAN LIFESTYLES Exploring major issues in urban America as well as participation in the life of the city.

RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OF IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES How and why religious communities came to the Denver area and their impact.

CHRISTIAN FAITH AND POLITICS IN AMERICA The evolution of U.S. church-state issues and the ways Christian persons and organizations exercise their faith in the political realm. The Colorado Legislature offers a real-time study of how the issues play out.

“The current program doesn’t provide a lot of flexibility for students who have particular needs as far as their majors and the curriculum,” he said. “Juniors and seniors taking upper-level courses offered only once a year or every other year just can’t miss those courses. We’re beginning to explore ways to deliver a diverse academic curriculum here. Our model of curriculum is going to change over the next several years as we work with faculty on campus to figure out ways they can author courses in Denver.”

ATTRACTIVE INTERNSHIPS

Internships — a major component in the program — also may be enhanced. At the very least, the site is more convenient.

“The new location is only about three or four blocks from the state capitol and just across the way are the city offices,” Bock said. “We’ve had students do internships in the Denver Public Library and the Denver Art Museum, which are in the same civic center area. The main downtown commercial street is within easy walking distance.”

Brandon Hosch ’13 of Epworth recently landed a job with radio giant Entercom, which has four stations in the Denver area. He interned there while at Wartburg West.

“The Wartburg West experience enabled me to meet great professionals,” Hosch said. “I used those connections to start my career immediately after graduating.”



Brandon Hosch '13 turned an Entercom internship into a career.

RECENT INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS HAVE INCLUDED:



BIOLOGY: Denver Health Medical, St. Joseph's Hospital, Rocky Mountain Youth Clinic, North Washington Dental Clinic, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Doctor's Care Clinic, Homestead Animal Hospital

COMMUNICATION ARTS: Denver Parks and Recreation, Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver, Historic Denver Inc., B's Ballpark Museum

FINANCE, ACCOUNTING: Mercy Housing, Denver Health Medical, Merrill Lynch, Colorado Department of Housing

SOCIAL WORK: Lutheran Family Services Refugee Program, Empowerment Program, Mount St. Vincent Home, Bridge Project, Life Care Center, Servicios de la Raza

BUSINESS: REI, Live Nation Concerts, Denver Film Society, Visit Denver, Denver Parks and Recreation

EDUCATION: numerous schools in and around Denver

ENGINEERING: Major Geothermal; Denver Public Works

MATH, COMPUTER SCIENCE: Denver Department of Environmental Health

HISTORY: Historic Denver, Colorado History

A LONG-TERM VISION


“Go West, young man, go West and grow up with the country,” Horace Greeley wrote in an 1865 editorial.

Wartburg is intent on doing just that.

“When President Colson first came out here,” Bock said, “one of his first observations was that we needed to grow the program in terms of numbers. This gives us that possibility.”

“Wartburg West has done a phenomenal job of providing students with an experiential education,” Kittle said. “But the sea change is going from a program to a center of activities to — in the long-term vision of the college — a campus. How quickly that happens, how it happens, is still to be decided. It depends on the interest of alumni engaged in this process, constituents, and partners in Denver.

“We have a three-year vision,” he added. “In that time frame we will have successfully transitioned into the new space and will have identified the new opportunities that we can pursue and executed them.”

“We don’t know where we will be 25 years from now,” Colson said, “but the possibilities are endless.” 



Wartburg West Partners with Saint John's Cathedral



Watch a video explaining the Wartburg West partnership at www.wartburg.edu/videos/wartburgwest.html

WARTBURG WEST INITIATIVE GOAL — \$1.5 MILLION

THE WARTBURG WEST INITIATIVE seeks to expand experiential education opportunities for Wartburg students in Denver.

The college and the Wartburg West National Advisory Board (NAB) are working to secure \$250,000 in gifts short term and \$1.25 million long term.

The immediate goal is to add a Director of Community Outreach and Private Development, who would work with organizations, foundations, alumni, and donors to expand the program, while assisting the Admissions Office in student recruitment. The additional funds would help develop a Wartburg West Center with new programs and projects.

The initiative — part of the college’s anticipated comprehensive campaign — already has a challenge gift of 100 percent participation from the Wartburg West NAB.

Alumni and friends can learn more by contacting Donald Meyer, director of development, at 319-352-8495 or donald.meyer@wartburg.edu. Contributions can be made online at www.wartburg.edu/give.

SCHEMMELS’ GIFT A LEGACY OF SUPPORT

by Megan Reid

WHEN FRED AND MENA SCHEMSEL PURCHASED FARMLAND in May 1944, they had no way of knowing their investment would benefit Wartburg College decades later.

Fred was born and raised in Lyon County, Iowa. He worked for two years as a mechanic for Graves Construction, which helped build the Alcan Highway in Alaska, enabling him to make his farmland investment.

Jack Schemmel ’53 is their son.

“My father was born and raised on a farm in the same county and knew the meaning of farm stewardship,” Jack said.

Jack and his wife, Marietta, have been closely involved with Wartburg West since its inception 28 years ago. Their close relationship with the students in Denver has provided the Schemmels with a glimpse into the experiences students take away from their time in the program. They have witnessed firsthand how the program helps shape the future of each student who comes to Denver.

This past spring, Jack and Marietta made a unique gift to the program. They established a charitable remainder trust using the farmland Jack had inherited, which appreciated in value over seven decades. The Jack V. and


Marietta M. Endowed Scholarship will provide scholarships for students with financial need who attend Wartburg West.

The nature of their gift also offers some distinctive benefits for Jack and Marietta. The trust will provide:

- Income from the account.
- An income tax charitable deduction.
- The ability to sell the property free from capital gains tax.

Most significantly, the Schemmels’ gift will leave a legacy of support far into the future for the program and students they are so passionate about.

For that, Jack and Marietta are grateful to Fred and Mena.

“It’s not what we’ve done, but what some hard-working, sacrificing, middle-class, God-fearing parents accomplished,” Jack said. 

For more information on charitable remainder trusts, see the inside back cover of this issue or visit www.wartburg.edu/giftplanning.



The Schemmels dine in Denver with Wartburg West participants.



DR. ERIC ROSSOW



RENEE LEONARD OBERGFELL



BRAD WOOD



KRISTA ULLESTAD KILGUS

THEY CAME. THEY STUDIED. THEY STAYED.

by Saul Shapiro

Wartburg West has made a difference in the lives of many of its participants who later made Denver home.

DR. ERIC ROSSOW '00, originally from Spirit Lake and now a Denver-area dentist, was a biology major who worked as a dental assistant at the Denver Inner City Clinic while at Wartburg West during Fall Term 1999.

"Although I had an excellent biology education at Wartburg College," Rossow said, "nothing during my four years did more to prepare me for my career as a dentist and my life as a city dweller than my Wartburg West experience. It was the most valuable part of my undergraduate education, and the only part I feel I could not have gotten elsewhere."

It may have helped him gain admittance to dental school at the University of Iowa.

"I believe the experience proved to the University of Iowa I was committed, and it contributed to my first-round admission," Rossow said. "It also gave me experiences in the clinic that had me ahead of my peers in graduate school."

Rossow trained as a dentist in the U.S. Navy, then relocated to Denver after being discharged. He chairs the Wartburg West advisory board and "pays it forward" by hosting Wartburg interns.

RENEE LEONARD OBERGFELL '02, who is employed by the Principal Financial Group, also works with other Denver alumni to host outings that make Wartburg West students comfortable in their new locale.

A communication design major from Cedar Rapids, she attended Wartburg West in Fall Term 2001.

"Despite the big-city atmosphere of Denver," Obergfell said, "I felt at home immediately thanks to the encouragement of (Wartburg West co-directors) Nelson and Bonita Bock to explore the city, the support of alumni in the area, and wonderful co-workers at my internship site."

She interned as a graphic designer in the media relations department at the Denver Center for Performing Arts, developing materials for its shows.

"An added benefit was complimentary access to many of the events," she said, "making the internship all the more exciting as I saw my work put to use. One notable experience included working on signage for the first national tour of the Broadway production of *The Lion King*, which was the hottest ticket in town, and I'm able to say I was a part of the excitement."

Wartburg West was a career catalyst.

"Besides selecting Wartburg College, making Wartburg West a priority was the best decision I ever made," Obergfell remarked. "It broadened my horizons, put the skills I learned in the classroom to use, and instilled confidence in me that I could successfully transition from my undergraduate experience to the professional world."

Obergfell began working for Principal in Des Moines in 2003. She was able to take advantage of an opening in 2008 to relocate to its Denver office, where she is now a communications strategist.

BRAD WOOD '95 is the director of advocacy for the Rocky Mountain Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. A business (marketing) and communication arts (public relations) major from Anamosa, he interned in the planning and marketing department of St. Joseph Hospital during Winter Term 1995.

"Taking a class on world religions where we could experience them doing a project with a local nonprofit to learn about community problems and real-world

experience at my internship all greatly enhanced my educational experience," Wood said. "It really put many of the things I had learned at Wartburg into action."

Wood returned to Denver after graduation — "in love with the city and the weather, being outside in shorts in the sun in February" — to do a year of service as a full-time volunteer with the Urban Servant Corps.


The Bocks, both reverends, founded the Urban Servant Corps in 1987 as a mission development project of Avondale Lutheran Church. The program works with various local nonprofit organizations to address the needs of low-income and at-risk populations in the inner city.

KRISTA ULLESTAD KILGUS '03 has directed the Urban Servant Corps since 2009. She attended Wartburg West during Fall Term of her senior year. Like Wood, she volunteered after graduation.

The daughter of Steve '75 (bishop of the Northeastern Iowa Synod) and Ruth Schultdt '75 Ullestad of Cedar Falls, Kilgus was an elementary education (Spanish endorsement) major with a social welfare minor at Wartburg. At Wartburg West she did student teaching in second- and fourth-grade classrooms with diverse demographics.

Wartburg West, she said, "gave me the opportunity for an urban school experience that applied my Spanish endorsement at a different level. I wanted to take advantage of all the ways to explore different communities during college, and Wartburg West was one of those."

She was smitten with the city. "Denver is a great mix of urban life — art, culture, music, and more — balanced with very friendly people."

"I'd encourage anyone to engage in this experience," she said. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity — a way to explore a new city with other students as you learn about a new community together." 



WHO LET THE DOGS IN?

by Saul Shapiro

THE DOGS LAY IN PEACEFUL REPOSE on the Old Main 100 floor as Wartburg College students filed into Military Families and Subcultures, a first-of-its-kind course in Iowa.

The students would study issues facing military families and engage in a solution — training service dogs.

Dr. Susan Vallem, professor of social work, taught the Winter Term 2013 course inspired by Capt. Dan Grinstead '72, a medical social worker at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, who enlisted in the Iowa Army National Guard at 58 to serve in Afghanistan and gain a better understanding of military life.

"Our focus is not about war or combat," Vallem told the class, "but the folks looking at mental health and physical disabilities. We'll be looking at how service dogs work, and the science behind it. You'll be getting a grade, but what you'll be doing will go a whole lot further by making a difference in people's lives."

Scott Dewey, co-president of the nonprofit Retrieving Freedom Inc., runs the facility in

Waverly that trains service dogs to assist veterans and autistic children. He divided the class into small groups — each with a dog to train. Clickers were used as “marker signals” to produce desired behaviors.

“With the dogs, you’ll use markers several times,” he said. “For instance, they’ll have to open the refrigerator door, get something out like a bottle of water, then shut the door and, finally, they have to bring the bottle of water.”

To get a firsthand appreciation of the process, Dewey sent individuals out of class, returning with an unknown task to learn. The students roamed the classroom, guided positively by a clicker or deterred by shouts of disapproval (“No!”). If successful, they were rewarded with a prize.

“If you say something once or twice, the dogs gets it,” Dewey said. “Most of the time with the dogs — and the average person — the encouragement of success is going to do a lot more than the fear of failure.”

Vallem said the course is important for social work students.

“I had students in senior practicum telling me, ‘I’m doing in-home family counseling,

There are military issues with guard people that I don’t understand — deployment, family issues, and kids’ school issues.’ We’re hearing that from students working with various agencies, which shows we need more understanding about military-related issues.”

Dewey said the dogs would benefit from being on campus and attending classes with student trainers. “The more socialization the dog has, the better for the recipient.”

Dewey trained Labradors and golden retrievers for hundreds of AKC-regulated retriever competitions over 14 years, but tired of the travel. His younger brother, who served eight tours in Iraq and Afghanistan in the U.S. Army and as a contractor, and RFI co-president Charles Dwyer told him about veterans and service dogs.

Retrieving Freedom tries to place 10 dogs a year — at a cost of \$20,000 each (below the industry average) wholly supported by donations. Training begins once the dog has become obedient and socialized, usually at 6 to 8 months old. The training time depends on the recipient — longer to assist a veteran with physical disabilities than one with post-traumatic stress disorder.

The students would teach the dogs four or five main tasks.

“They teach them to nudge. That’s a good one for post-traumatic stress,”

Dewey said. “If you were a veteran who came back with post-traumatic stress, and you feel yourself getting anxious, you would say to the dog, ‘Nudge.’ Within one or two weeks, they’ll pick up on your anxiety, and you’d never have to tell him to nudge again. He’d just start reading you.

“If the dog isn’t getting any attention by nudging and could see the anxiety climbing higher, the next step would be for him to put his paws up on you and then lick you in the face. If the dog goes through all those steps, little by little, when you start petting him he’ll be like, ‘He’s OK, he’s all right, he’s petting me.’ The dog is trying to break the chain of thought.”

“The class did an amazing job of incorporating both hands-on work and learning about military lifestyle,” said Keegan Birkicht ’15, a psychology major from Robins. “The assistant dog trainers from Retrieving Freedom shared stories about their experiences in the military and how the dogs have helped them.”

Veterans Chad Johnson and Brent Wightman are beholden to their service dogs.

“I had some combat-related stress incidents that happened where I would have reactions,” said Johnson, who spent 12 years in the Iowa Army National Guard with deployments in Egypt, Iraq, and Afghanistan. “My dog Copper brings me back to the here and now. I was on a lot of medications, but didn’t like the side effects.

“Seeing how happy the people are who receive the dogs really warmed my heart. I almost cried on the last day of class because I didn’t want to stop helping RFI.”

— Rachel Krug ’15



Students in Military Families and Subculture listen intently as Scott Dewey of Retrieving Freedom Inc. provides pointers on training service dogs.

"With nightmares and flashbacks, nobody wants to wake me up, because I can come up swinging. But the dog can nudge me, wake me up, and bring me back to reality."

— Brent Wightman

The dog makes me more cheerful and happy. My stress level has gone down a lot."

Wightman served on high-profile missions with the U.S. Army Rangers during 14 years in the service. "With nightmares and flashbacks, nobody wants to wake me up, because I can come up swinging," he said. "But the dog can nudge me, wake me up, and bring me back to reality."

He said students need to understand "how combat and war change a person."

"You take an 18- or 19-year-old kid and send them over to Iraq and Afghanistan for a year. You can lose a buddy. There's just a constant sense of alertness — 24 hours a day, seven days a week — because somebody is trying to kill you. I want to let these kids know what it's like to come back with the unseen injuries of PTS — depression, anxieties, and survivor guilt."

Dewey and his dogs returned to campus for a May Term social work course, Working with Different Abilities, taught by Dr. Tammy Faux, associate professor of social work, which addressed inclusion issues for people with disabilities, including children with autism.

"I've seen what the dogs do for autistic children," Wightman said. "They just change the parents and the child's life. The parents have had to watch those kids constantly. With the dogs,

there's another set of eyes, and the kids don't want to leave the dog."


As that course neared its conclusion, Amber McKain '16, a religion major from Oconomowoc, Wis., said, "I feel amazing to teach a dog something that could help someone. My dog Trump and I are working on backing up a wheelchair."

The students held a bake sale on the final day, raising \$300 for Retrieving Freedom, and, Faux added, "spreading awareness about the importance of service dogs working to help with inclusion."

Dewey appreciates the students' help.

"The next step in the placement process will be that much easier," he said. "New person, same commands, but the dog will be more willing to do it."

"Seeing how happy the people are who receive the dogs really warmed my heart," said Rachel Krug '15, a social work major from Mount Pleasant. "I almost cried on the last day of class because I didn't want to stop helping RFI."

Dewey and RFI will team with Dr. William Soesbe, assistant professor of education, for an interdisciplinary course, Leadership Theories and Practices, during Fall Term and with Vallem again for Military Families and Subcultures in social work during Winter Term. 



Veterans Brent Wightman and Chad Johnson assisted the Military Families and Subcultures course.

Donations can be sent to Retrieving Freedom, Inc., 1148 230th St., Waverly, IA 50677. Contact Scott Dewey for more information at 319-290-0350 or retrieving.freedom@live.com.



Communication arts students Brandon Hosch '13, Epworth; Samantha Meier '14, Durant; Mackenzie Compton '14, Muscatine; Shelby Granath '13, Rockford, Ill.; and Emily Novotny '13, Ridgeway, formed All Four One Films to create *Unlocked: Releasing the Wounds of Brave Hearts* for their capstone project with Dr. Penni Pier, professor of communication arts.

The documentary, which premiered on April 11 during RICE Day, portrays the sacrifices of military veterans and their families, focusing on their struggles readjusting to everyday living. More than 30 percent of the men and women who have spent time in a war zone experience Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. That number jumped 50 percent in the past year when suicides claimed the lives of more soldiers than those killed in action.



Learn how Wartburg students have been working with Retrieving Freedom Inc., which trains service dogs in Waverly, to help veterans cope with their anxieties in this video at <http://www.wartburg.edu/videos/freedom.html>.



Bridging the divide in East St. Louis

by Alyssa Noble '15

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT ABOUT EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL. Mine changed during a recent service trip.

I heard about East St. Louis two years ago on a trip to St. Louis. *Do not make the mistake of crossing the Mississippi River into East St. Louis*, we were told.

So I was nervous when I found out my service trip would be to East St. Louis.

Don't worry. You'll be fine. I was told. You'll be staying in a safer part of the city. Just don't go out at night, and always travel with someone.

Yeah, real comforting.

My service trip group learned about the poverty, abandoned houses, crime, and rotten politics. But we couldn't prepare for what we would actually see.

The abandoned buildings evoke a "ghost town" sensation with broken windows and boarded-up doors. Hubbard House, a shelter for volunteer workers, was our home for the week in a quiet part of town.

Sister Marge Clifford, who ran the house and organized our volunteer services, was happy to have Wartburg students back. "Wartburg wrote the book on service," she said. "We have to be careful not to compare everyone who comes to volunteer here to Wartburg."

She added, "The East St. Louis students remember the Wartburg students spent time with them, and they cared about them."

Our first stop was Opal's House, a shelter for abused women and children.

"I look forward to every break Wartburg has," said the shelter's founder, who wished to remain anonymous. "I can't honestly say enough about the appreciation I have for the Wartburg students."

Joe Hubbard, the Hubbard House namesake, was born and raised in East St. Louis when its population was about 89,000. It's now about 29,000.

"When all of the businesses left to go down South to get cheaper taxes, the people left with it," he said.

We worked at St. Vincent De Paul the next day. Attached to the thrift store is Cosgrove's Kitchen, a soup kitchen that gives free meals to the hungry. We served more than 100 people — a relatively slow day, we were told.

Wednesday we went to Holy Angels, a homeless shelter for women and children.

"When the economy went down we lost a shelter in the community," said Pauly Snyder,



"The people here are amazing. One person can make a difference, whether it's to put a smile on a child's face or feed a starving person."

— Alex Valentine '14

the shelter manager. "At the same time there was a rise in the homeless population. Usually we're full, and we turn away 20-25 requests a day."

Holy Angels even cares for its clients after they move on, as was evident when a resident known as Miss Louise died. She briefly stayed at the shelter years ago.

We were pallbearers at her funeral, although we had never met her.

"We don't ever drop anybody. We're blessed," Snyder said. "We take care of those who have the least. When you start taking care of the least, once you touch them, you can't just let go."

We helped at Sister Thea Boman Catholic School on our last day. Most students receive a scholarship to attend this school, which empowers students to succeed. Students are required to play the violin. They are taught if they can master one of the most difficult instruments, then they can do anything.

"Sr. Marge and I are talking about someday soon having our first Sister Thea Boman student at Wartburg — someone who has seen Wartburg interact with them throughout their service trips actually come to Wartburg," said Renee Sedlacek, Wartburg service-learning coordinator.

East St. Louis is a magnet that continues to attract Wartburg students.

Natalie Gemberling '12 took four service trips to East St. Louis and had a summer internship.

"What keeps bringing me back is the

people. You become part of the community. What's going on here is something that I've never experienced before," Gemberling said.

Gemberling works for AmeriCorps in St. Louis to be close to the community that has impacted her life so greatly.

Alex Valentine '14 has had three East St. Louis service trips.

"I really feel a calling in East St. Louis. I feel like I fit here," said Valentine, who plans to teach there. "The people here are amazing. One person can make a difference, whether it's to put a smile on a child's face or feed a starving person."

Sr. Marge is thankful for those who make that commitment.

"Sister Thea Boman, the Hubbard House, and the Catholic Urban Program are all pockets of hope, but we couldn't do this by ourselves. It takes everyone working together."

The misconception is that East St. Louis is too dangerous, but bad things happen everywhere. You can't just focus on the negative and overlook the positive.


In East St. Louis, the positive is people working to make the community better. Wartburg College and its service trips contribute to that effort with students carrying the hope in their hearts and the desire for change back to the college that made it all happen. 



photo courtesy Mark Mulville, *The Buffalo News*; photo illustration by Josh Peterson

by Milica Njezic '15

SYLVIA MEYN COLES' AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Living with an Architect and Finding Myself, only hints at her unconventional life.

Coles '50 has been married to Buffalo, N.Y., architect Robert Traynham Coles for 60 years.

She is white. He is black. Her memoir details her battles with society and identity.

"Being in love with Bob, I had no idea when we got married how complicated my life would become as a result," she said.

Sylvia, from rural Altenburg, Mo. (pop. 200), began her college career at Southeast Missouri State and transferred to Wartburg in 1948. She was a sociology major and active in Castle Singers, Wartburg Theater, and sociology-related clubs.

"I chose Wartburg because my father, a Lutheran minister, had attended Wartburg Seminary, and I felt a connection with Wartburg College," she said.

Sylvia later moved to Minneapolis. Robert, a native of Buffalo, N.Y., was studying at the University of Minnesota. Their paths crossed at a jazz club in St. Paul, Minn., when he asked her to dance.

"I was very impressed when I met him. He told me he was studying to be an architect — a lofty ambition," she said. He would go on to earn his master's degree in architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Interracial relationships were a sensitive issue when the two wed in 1953.

"My parents, as liberal as they were, were shocked when they met Bob," she said. "It took a couple of years until they fully accepted Bob, impressed by his ambition and his winning personality."

The couple encountered many racial prejudices from both whites and blacks.

"Whenever Bob encountered racial discrimination, I could empathize with him, but there was no way as a white person I could feel the hurt as he did. There were times I felt he resented me — a white person with all the attendant privileges," she said.

Sylvia remarked that obtaining commissions was difficult for him because society preferred white architects. Nevertheless, he established his career and gained widespread respect.

The business he founded in the early 1960s that still bears his name is the oldest architectural firm owned by an African-American in the Northeast. Robert designed numerous multi-million-dollar projects from university buildings to public libraries.

Sylvia, who earned master's degrees in business administration and social sciences at the University of Buffalo, served as the firm's office manager and the business manager. Later, she was a financial consultant to the firm.

The Coles have two children, Marion and Darcy, who live in the San Francisco area.


Although interracial couples today do not draw the hostility and shock she faced in the 1950s, Sylvia said some factors should be thoroughly considered.

"Certainly being married interracial expands one's understanding of the broader world we live in," she remarked, "but one should be prepared for the unexpected and sometimes negative consequences. If I were asked, 'Would you do it again?' I'd honestly be hard put to find an answer."

Together with her husband, she has traveled throughout the U.S., Europe, Asia, and Africa.

"The lesson I learned from my travels around the world is that people are the same everywhere in that they all want respect and understanding," she said. "I've always been interested in other cultures and felt that, if I had my life to do over again, I'd like to be an anthropologist."

Her creativity emerged when she turned to photography, joined several artists' groups, and participated in art exhibits. She also joined a creative writing group and was inspired to write her memoir following an innocent remark.

"I used to tell my adventures to my hairdresser whenever I came in for a haircut. She always enjoyed hearing my stories. One afternoon she said, 'You ought to write a book.' Well, I thought, why not? Besides my travels, I decided I'd also write about living as an architect's wife — supportive but very much in his shadow," Sylvia said. 

 *Living with an Architect and Finding Myself* is available on Amazon.com.



photos courtesy Sibusiso Kunene '14



Wartburg students use Davis grant to help ease Ethiopian water crisis

Sibusiso Kunene '14 and Aman Gebremariam '13

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

AN ETHIOPIAN VILLAGE is experiencing clean water this summer thanks to two Wartburg students.

Aman Gebremariam '13 of Ethiopia and Sibusiso Kunene '14 of Swaziland were awarded a \$10,000 Davis Projects for Peace grant. Philanthropist Kathryn Wasserman Davis initiated the program on her 100th birthday in 2007, committing \$1 million annually to fund 100 grassroots efforts by college students. Wartburg students have received grants the past seven years.

The students provided clean water to the village of Dansa, Ethiopia, through the construction of three 26-meter deep wells. They also educated villagers on sanitation to reduce the rates of deadly waterborne diseases like dysentery. They partnered with A Glimmer of Hope and the Relief Society of Tigray for engineers and labor for construction.

According to Gebremariam, a biology major who intends to become a doctor, 65 million of the 84 million Ethiopians are without clean water. Women walk miles each day barefooted to carry 40-50 pounds of water back to their homes.

"The people live in precarious conditions. The area receives little rain, and there is limited transport to places that provide modern medical care," Gebremariam said.

The project has special meaning for him.

"I have noted the blunt differences between my life and that of many villagers' lives when I was young. When I came to Wartburg College, a meal was as simple as going to the school cafeteria and, to some extent, I could acquire all that I needed to survive without much strife on my part," he said. "I realized that access to all of these resources was crucial to improve the living standards of individuals."

Kunene, a communication design and political science major, is a Davis Scholar, the scholarship program founded by financier Shelby Davis, son of Kathryn Wasserman Davis, and Dr. Philip Geier, a former history professor. Students attend one of the 13 Davis United World Colleges before enrolling at a partner U.S. college or university.


"My sensitivity to the suffering of those on the lower rungs of the socioeconomic scale was heightened when I went to private school and had the literal experience of transcending my social class and attaining an education that many would never afford," Kunene said.

The project will have diverse applications.

"Since the region of Tigray, where Dansa is located, receives a bulk of its revenue from farming, the villagers can harness the wells for use in gardening or in the rearing of livestock as well as cooking," Kunene said.

Dr. Daniel Kittle, director of the Center for Community Engagement, told them about Davis Projects for Peace and connected them with Ed Scharlau '61 of Austin, Texas, who works with Water to Thrive, which has funded 300 water projects helping 150,000 people.

"To many of us, people who are living in poverty ... are presented to us as statistics, thus, creating an abstract relationship with those that we help," Kunene said. "If charity became more about engaging those that we assist, we could truly understand their lives and the experience could be transformative, if not life-changing."

Gebremariam added, "Since I was young I made it one of my goals in life to make sure that people should not die from waterborne diseases or any kind of diseases that can be cured." 

Knights reclaim titles

WARTBURG COLLEGE DEFENDED ITS NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS in wrestling and women's outdoor track and field in 2013.

Wrestling coach Jim Miller was given a ride to the podium on his team's shoulders as the Knights claimed their third consecutive and 10th championship, a record he now shares with Augsburg's Jeff Swenson.

"I'm just so elated," said the co-head coach, who retired after the meet. "I'm elated for our fans, for the college, our program as a whole, and I'm glad to be a part of the ride."

"God put me at Wartburg," he continued. "I'm just really appreciative of the ride."

Wartburg, which had its first 19-0 dual meet season, had 103 points. Kenny Anderson '14 of Billerica, Mass., won his second consecutive individual national championship at 133 lbs. He ended the season 28-0 and has a streak of 46 consecutive wins.

Kodie Silvestri '13 of Franklin, N.J., was runner-up at 149 lbs. Other All-Americans were Gilberto Camacho '14, Fresno, Calif., 125, and Tommy Mirocha '13, Davenport, 141, both third; Landon Williams '15, Eldridge, 165, fourth; Cole Welter '14, Gilbertville, 157, fifth; and Ryan Fank '14, Independence, heavyweight, seventh.

Miller's reign concluded with:

- Five national titles in the last six years.
- 100 points at the championships the past five years.
- The second three-peat in Division III wrestling history.
- 21-straight Iowa Conference championships, the longest wrestling conference winning streak in Division III history, and a 165 dual-meet streak against league foes.
- An inaugural Central Region championship.

THE WARTBURG WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD TEAM WON its fourth national title — to go along with three indoors — without winning any events.


After finishing fourth indoors in March, the Knights beat indoor titlist UW-Oshkosh, 46-43, outside, May 23-25, in La Crosse, Wis. The schools were tied going into the triple jump when Monique Davisson '13 of Cedar Rapids soared 12.15m (39'10.5") for a sixth-place finish.

The Knights had three runners-up — Tashina McAllister '14 of Hazleton with a school record in the 400-meter hurdles, Sammi Bruett '14 of Urbandale in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, and Kayla Hemann '15 of Stacyville in the shot put.

Wartburg also scored with Kendra Kregel '13, fifth in the 400-meters; McAllister, fifth in the 100-meter hurdles; the 4x100-meter team, sixth, consisting of McAllister, Davisson, Sarah Boraas '14 of Sherrard, Ill., and Libbey Schubert '14 of Fairfield.

Britlyn Sieck '13 of Fayette was fourth in the shot put, and Hemann was fifth in the discus.

Marcus Newsom was named Coach of the Year, while Melissa Norton, who oversees field events, was named Assistant Coach of the Year.

Wartburg repeated as the Deb Vercauteren Division III Women's Program of the Year. The U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association award honors the outstanding cross country and track and field programs in each of the NCAA's three divisions and for each gender. Besides finishing first in outdoor track and field and fourth indoors, Wartburg was second in cross country. 



KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

1950

SYLVIA MEYN COLES, Buffalo, N.Y., published *Living With an Architect and Finding Myself*, available on Amazon.com.

1951

Dr. **JAMES FRITSCHER**, Pittsboro, N.C., is the subject of a doctoral dissertation on his choral works written by Jennifer Vanderhold, who earned her Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

1952

Prof. **HERB HILDEBRANDT**, Ann Arbor, Mich., and a Chinese colleague published *International Sales Letters: an Emic-etic Perspective, in the Management International Review*. They are collaborating with Dr. Tim Ewest of the Wartburg business administration and economics department on collection of data comparing the perspectives of Chinese managers and Chinese business students.

1953 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

ED KITTLESON, St. Ansgar, was inducted into the Saints Booster Club Hall of Fame at the 16th annual St. Ansgar Booster Club Banquet April 17.

1956

STAN KITTLESON, Solon, was inducted into the Saints Booster Club Hall of Fame at the 16th annual St. Ansgar Booster Club Banquet April 17.

1958 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

1962

DONNA SCHILLING HOLTE, Minneapolis, Minn., is the author of *Journey to the Top ... A Journey of Mother and Daughter with God through Dyslexia and Attention Deficit Disorder*, published in November 2012.

1963 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

1964

NANCY KEEL, Muscatine, is a member of Harper's Delight, a harp quintet.

OSCAR LENNING, Tucson, Ariz., co-authored a book, *Powerful Learning Communities: A Guide to Developing Student, Faculty, and Professional Learning Communities to Improve Student Success and Organizational Effectiveness*.

RENIE BUNTING LENNING, Tucson, Ariz., conducted the survey for the book, *Powerful Learning Communities, A Guide to Developing Student, Faculty, and Professional Learning Communities to Improve Student Success and Organizational Effectiveness*.

1965

GERALD BALDNER, La Crescent, Minn., had his book, *Successful Servant Leadership*, published by the Viterbo University Department of Ethics and Leadership.

MYRNA KLUITER CLUBERTSON, Waverly, retired July 1 as director of the Wartburg College Artist Series.

1968 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

RON BARTELT, Grimes, retired after 45 years of teaching.

1969

AL ALCOCK, Marion, retired Dec. 14 after 43 years of teaching mathematics. He taught five years at Turkey Valley, 28 years at Mason City, and 10 years at North Iowa Area Community College.

CHARLES and Susan **MISSMAN**, Sheldon, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 28. They were married June 15, 1963.

RUSS and **LORA HOWELL '71 TALBOT**, Belmond, were recognized by the Iowa State University Foundation with its Order of the Knoll Cardinal and Gold Award for their philanthropy. The Russell G. and Lora L. Talbot Scholars in Veterinary Medicine fund annually provides a four-year scholarship to six students. The Talbots also made a lead gift to the College of Veterinary Medicine's \$1 million Kresge Foundation Challenge Grant and have aided construction of the Dr. W. Eugene and Linda Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center and the Hixson-Lied Small Animal Hospital.

1970

ART GRATIAS, Mason City, received the Knight of the Legion of Honor medal on May 1 for his service in World War II. The medal is the highest honor bestowed by the French government.

Three receive Young Alumni Award



Young Alumni Award recipients were Sarah Albertson-Corkery '98 (second from left), Dr. Jamie Bakkum-Gamez '98 (third from left) and Ryan Hess '00 (second from right). The awards were presented by Shon Cook '91 (left), Alumni Board president; Stacey Knoll '13 (third from right), Student Alumni Council president; and Wartburg President Darrel Colson (right).

PEGGY ELLIOTT OTTO, Belvidere, Ill., retired Jan. 2 after 17 years as a hospice social worker. Her last position was as a patient and family care supervisor with Northern Illinois Hospice and Grief Center, Rockford.

CAROL SILHAN, Palos Heights, Ill., is the owner of Animal Ark, Inc., a pet shipping business that celebrated its 20th anniversary in March. The company handles all facets of shipping pets for families who are relocating in the United States and abroad. It is part of a worldwide organization of approximately 300 professional pet shipping agents.

1972
JUDI LANGHOLZ, Waverly, retired in January from a career in telecommunications. This fall she will be teaching English in a Lutheran Girls' Boarding School, Usangi, Tanzania.

1973 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13
TRUDY CARTER COLEMAN, Waverly, retired in spring 2011 from teaching language arts and coaching individual speech events in the Clarksville Community Schools.

THOMAS GUY, Kingston, Tenn., has retired and is caring for his parents in his home.

1974
JEANNA HASS TENDALL, Prescott, Ariz., received her accreditation as a professional Bowenwork practitioner from the Bowenwork Academy USA in January 2011. She is currently in private practice.

1975
MELINDA BARNES HOKE, Marine on St. Croix, Minn., is vice president of development with Twin Cities Public Television.

JEAN SCHRADER LANG, Honolulu, Hawaii, is the university registrar at Hawaii Pacific University.

CRAIG LIMING, Hereford, Ariz., is the owner of Arizona Family Law Center, L.L.C., Sierra Vista. It provides a certified legal document preparer who meets with clients and determines what is needed to accomplish a desired court outcome.

1976
Dr. **MARK** and **ANDREA KEGEL PETERSON**, Juneau, Alaska, are doing locums work. They have been to New Zealand, India, New Mexico, and Minnesota, and are currently back in New Zealand. Mark retired from medical practice in 2010.

1977
The Rev. **DAN BARWINSKI**, Greeley, Colo., is pastor of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, La Salle.

1978 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

1979
CORRINE HEINE, Bloomington, Minn., was appointed city attorney for the City of Minnetonka.

Dr. **GUNDARS KAUPINS**, Boise, Idaho, published a book, *Business Aha! Tips on Creativity*, co-authored with Nancy Napier.

JIM WOLFF, Keokuk, retired from the Keokuk Community School District after 32 years as an elementary teacher.

Dr. **LORA KIES WOLFF**, Keokuk, retired after 29 years with the Keokuk Community School District, most recently as superintendent for the past four years. She is an assistant professor of educational leadership at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill.

1980
RUTH BAHE-JACHNE, Hammond, Ind., was named as one of the top 100 Women Business Lawyers in Illinois. The list is compiled by Leading Lawyers Network, a division of the Law Bulletin Publishing Company.

1983 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

1984
Dr. **MICHAEL ZACHARISEN**, Bozeman, Mont., was featured in the January issue of *Montana Parent* magazine.

1988 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13
BRIDGET GEBOW-HELFENSTEIN, Oconomowoc, Wis., led the Spanish National Honor Society in sponsoring the fourth Zumbathon for Hunger Task Force Milwaukee. This fundraiser annually brings in 500 pounds of food and \$500 while offering a two-hour Zumba workout for 250 teens. Bridget is a high school Spanish teacher with the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District, West Allis.

1989
ANDREA WESTMEYER, Clive, launched a new business, Measurement Mojo, in October 2012. The company measures and optimizes marketing spend for Fortune 500 companies.

1990
LESTER FRANZEN, Columbia, S.C., was appointed president of the Harriet Hancock Center Foundation, a nonprofit LGBT community center with a variety of programs. lgbtcentersc.org/leadership

Sarah Albertson-Corkery '98, Dr. Jamie Bakkum-Gamez '98, and Ryan Hess '00 are the recipients of the 2013 Young Alumni Award, recognizing special achievements and contributions to the community, church, and workplace.

SARAH ALBERTSON-CORKERY '98



Albertson-Corkery majored in communication arts and received the "Maggie" award for outstanding seniors. She has been director of healthcare marketing at ME&V, a Cedar Falls-

based public relations firm, since 2004.

She has been recognized among the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier's "20 Under 40" award winners and as an Iowa Jaycees' "Outstanding Young Iowan" award winner.

Albertson-Corkery volunteers for various organizations, including the American Cancer Society and United Way Women in Philanthropy, and serves on the board of directors for Beau's Beautiful Blessings and TASH, an organization promoting equality, opportunity, and inclusion for people with disabilities.

DR. JAMIE BAKKUM-GAMEZ '98



Bakkum-Gamez graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine in 2002 and was one of four national and international medical school graduates selected for a residency in

obstetrics and gynecology at the Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education.

Bakkum-Gamez joined the Mayo College of Medicine as an assistant professor of obstetrics-gynecology in 2009 and has served as a consultant in the Mayo Clinic's Division of Gynecologic Surgery.

She is a two-time recipient of the Ann Harris Research Award from the Mayo Clinic Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the 2013 recipient of the Career Development award from the Mayo Clinic Women's Health Research Center.

Bakkum-Gamez is a Diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

RYAN HESS '00



Hess was recognized for his efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. He turned his fledgling Pro Tree Services into a major player in the Louisiana cleanup, leading to his current position as chief

executive officer of Alliance Consulting Group, LLC. Under his leadership, the company has grown from a mom-and-pop business into a multimillion-dollar, vertically integrated construction company.

Along with his father, Gary, Hess developed Integrated Pro Services, LLC, a full-service company that branched out into several facets of construction. His companies have been involved with Gulf cleanups following the BP oil spill and Hurricane Isaac.

An NCAA Division III All-American wrestler, Hess coached wrestling from 2000 to 2005 at New Orleans area high schools.

Do you know Wartburg College young alumni who exemplify the four pillars of the college's mission statement both personally and professionally? Nominate them for the Wartburg College Young Alumni Award. For more information and the nomination form, go to <http://www.wartburg.edu/alumni/awards.html>.

1991

RICK GEITZ, McLean, Ill., was named 2012-13 FCS Video Coordinator of the Year by the Collegiate Sports Video Association. He is a videographer with Illinois State University, Normal.

1992

DENISE LENNING HILL, Bondurant, co-authored the book, *Powerful Learning Communities, A Guide to Developing Student, Faculty, and Professional Learning Communities to Improve Student Success and Organizational Effectiveness*.

RUTH POTTER-RUTH, Iowa City, is a Clerk III in the department of family medicine with University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

RHONDA RICKER, Brighton, Colo., announces the adoption of Celia, 8, on March 15.

1993 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

ROD DUROE, Jesup, was featured in the *Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier* as a '20 Under 40' honoree. He is a chief financial officer with Farmers State Bank.

WENDY SHERER, London, England, is completing a master's degree in broadcast journalism at the University of Westminster. She is a volunteer broadcaster at Radio Northwick Park (hospital radio) and recently won a Bronze Award for Best Newcomer from the Hospital Broadcasting Association, a national United Kingdom organization.

1994

Dr. **MICHAEL BECHTEL**, Onalaska, Wis., was recognized by the Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers (WSST) for his outstanding work with science education in Wisconsin. Most recently a science teacher at La Crosse Central High School, he will join the Wartburg College biology faculty this fall.

KRISTA WENTZEL JOHNSON, Minneapolis, started a concert band program at the Twin Cities German Immersion School, a K-8 charter school in St. Paul.

1996

Francis Ng and **SHIEU YE AU**, Selangor, Malaysia, announce the birth of Mary Jane Ng, March 22. She joins Mary Anne, 8.

LUCAS DeWITT, Spencer, was named 2013 Iowa Elementary Principal of the Year. He is an elementary principal with the Spencer Community School District. He also is a National Distinguished Principal.

MICHIRU HIGUCHI and Atsusi Kato, Tokyo, Japan, announce the birth of Mei Kato, Feb. 1. He joins Ma, 6, and Mu, 3½.

Mark and **JESSICA KROGMANN HILGENDORF**, Clinton, announce the birth of Luke Randall, Feb. 9. He joins Anna, 11, and Sarah, 9.

AMELIA HOLDEN-McMURRAY, Fayette, is the marketing and communications coordinator for the College of Education at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

JANA CUTLER LARSEN, Albion, is an infant/toddler development specialist in Marshall County for Mid-Iowa Community Action, Marshalltown.

MIKE PEASLEY, Dallas, Texas, is a pregame and postgame host with the Texas Rangers Radio Network.

JUSTIN SMITH, Beirut, Lebanon, is principal of the American Community School.

1997

MELISSA BRUNER and Alejandro Solas, Denver, Colo., were married Sept. 23.

RYAN and Karen **BUCKINGHAM**, Kasson, Minn., announce the adoption of Chloe Christine, April 4.

GREG HALSOR, Cedar Falls, is a school psychologist with the Keystone Area Education Agency.

JENNIFER KEAT-BECK, Lima, Ohio, is director of marketing and the main on-air television host for WTLW TV-44. She is also manager/promoter for singer/songwriter Hannah Beck, www.hannahbeckmusic.com.

Jack and **NANCY LAMBERTY LINDER**, Verona, Wis., announce the birth of Malcolm Earlyon, Feb. 5. He joins Katelynne, 9, Emma, 8, Owen, 5, and Darren, 3.

CHRIS and Stacy **MONTROSS**, Williamsburg, announce the birth of Brynn Mae, July 25, 2012.

1998 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

The Rev. **JUSTIN BOEDING**, Red Wing, Minn., is pastor of United Lutheran Church.

Mishan and **KIMBERLY SCHREIBER HAN**, Cottage Grove, Wis., announce the birth of Martisha (Martie) Elaine, April 8.

MARK HARGRAFFEN, Grimes, was selected as one of Iowa's 100 Great Nurses for 2013. He is the inpatient nursing manager and critical care unit service manager at ChildServe, Johnston.

GINA HIBBARD and Michael Brown, Des Moines, were married April 20.

Brent and **EMILY OTT KELL**, Urbandale, announce the birth of Gabriel Ellis, Oct. 9. He joins Mallory, 8, and Norah, 3.

1999

ADAM and Adrian **BELLIN**, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., announce the birth of John Patrick, Feb. 13. He joins Samuel, 1 ½. Adam is completing a one-year course at the U.S. Army's Command and General Staff College.

JEN BRO, Savage, Minn., was named CEO and president of Existential Evolution, LLC.

MELISSA BROBSTON, Iowa City, is a middle school music curriculum writer for Connections Academy, a free, online, virtual school for elementary, middle school, and high school students. In 2011-12, 23 Connections Academy

schools operated across the United States, serving more than 40,000 students.

Dr. **ANDREW** and Amber **GREEN**, Pella, announce the birth of Reilly Camdin, May 1. He joins Reese, 2.

KIRK and Krista **LEBECK**, Peosta, announce the birth of Avery, Dec. 26, 2011. She joins Trevor, 3.

AARON and Elise **LOAN**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Asher Alden, Sept. 13, 2011. He joins Claire, 5.

Tim and **JAIME HAMANN OSGOOD**, Mason City, announce the birth of Emily Joy, April 12, 2012. She joins Isaac, 9, KallaiAnna, 7, and Abigail, 5.

2000

Greg and **AMY WILLIAMS DICKKUT**, Grimes, announce the birth of Andrew Scott, Dec. 6.

JUSTIN GALBRAITH, Reinbeck, completed his Master of Education degree in May.

Rodney and **JAIMIE EDE HESTERBERG**, Windsor Heights, announce the adoption of Hannah Lee, Jan. 21, born on Jan. 16.

Matt and **BRANDI BECKER MENSCHING**, Jesup, announce the birth of Matias Harold, Jan. 10. He joins Cecelia, 5½, and Edynn, 3½.

DAN MORKEN, Colorado Springs, Colo., is the program office lead for Aerospace Commercially Hosted InfraRed Payload (CHIRP), including data exploitation and daily operations of the government ground system. The CHIRP Team was the recipient of the first Aerospace Team of the Year Award. The larger CHIRP team received the Aviation Week Program Excellence Award.

GRAHAM and **MINDY VANCLEVE SCHARDT**, Ankeny, announce the birth of Jad, Sept. 4. He joins Avryn, 9½.

Ryan and **BRITT OLSON WEHRENBURG**, LeRoy, Minn., announce the birth of Sylvie, Oct. 5. She joins Cale, 8, and Maren, 6.

Noah and **ERIN SANDQUIST WENDT**, Cambridge, announce the birth of Daphne Sadler, Dec. 2. She joins Harper, 4.

2001

MIKE and **ALISHA SASS '03 ARMSTRONG**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Alexander William, Nov. 17. He joins Maddux, 3. Mike is a Microsoft analyst with Iowa Health System. Alisha is a social worker at St. Luke's Hospital.

LAURA MEDBERRY and Eric Albert, Sumner, were married July 28, 2012.

Adam and **CHRISTINA HANSEN RODRIGUEZ**, Westchester, Ill., announce the birth of Henry Elton, April 26. He joins Matthew, 2½.

Neil and **STEFFANY MOON SASS**, Shell Rock, announce the birth of Reagan, Oct. 26. She joins Alice, 5, and Sam, 3.

MATTHEW and **JESSICA KRUGER '03 THEDE**, Ely, announce the birth of Brooks Joshua, Feb. 15. He joins Maddox, 4, and Jace, 2½.

2002

Jay and **ELIZABETH HADLER CANNON**, Flower Mound, Texas, announce the birth of Kjersten, Dec. 2, 2012. She joins Riley, 3.

Brent and **SUSIE REINHARDT COONROD**, Omaha, Neb., announce the birth of Everett, March 16. He joins Lawson, 2.

Jonathan and **HOLLY PELLETIER RUSSELL**, Urbandale, announce the birth of Amelia Lois, March 25. She joins Annabelle, 4.

MATT TRETTIN, FSA, Des Moines, is an actuary and director of annuity modeling with Sammons Financial Group, West Des Moines.

CHAD and **SARA COSE WINTERS**, Lansing, announce the birth of Ella Grace, Jan. 12. She joins Addison, 5, and Conner, 3.

2003 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

ZACK and **AMELIA WEBER '04 ARMSTRONG**, Platteville, Wis., announce the birth of Samuel Thomas, March 25. He joins Gabriel, 3.

GRETCHEN GRAHAM and Jeff Grant, Batavia, Ill., were married July 21, 2012.

TYSON and **MANDY FOX '04 KEITH**, Waverly, announce the birth of William Wallace, April 12, 2012. He joins Harper, 4. Tyson was promoted to director of operation with People's Insurance Agency.

Travis and **EMILY PARCELL LOWE**, Washington, D.C., announce the birth of Theodore Robert, Dec. 12. Emily is a senior vice president at The Pivot Group.

BETH FRANZMAN SIGMUND, Marion, was named the 2013 Employee Owner of the Year for the Iowa-Nebraska Chapter of The ESOP Association.

Matthew and **JENNIFER ZUMBACH TYSON**, Chanhassen, Minn., announce the birth of Catherine Rose, Feb. 25. She joins Luke, 4, Ashley, 3, and Daniel, 1½.

KIMBERLY MAYER WIPPERMAN and **BRADEN WIPPERMAN '04**, Bondurant, announce the birth of Reece William, March 23. He joins Caelyn, 4.

2004

CORY BERKENES, Waverly, is the state director for the Iowa Food Bank Association, Waterloo.

JACOB and **LAUREN KAHLER '07 BOYD**, Dubuque, announce the birth of Eleanor Leeann, Oct. 21.

Dr. **TIM** and **CARRIE CORPSTEIN '06 GEARHART**, Oelwein, announce the birth of Isabelle Marie, Nov. 15. She joins Grace, 4, and Emma, 3.

Jacob and **JULIA BAKER HANSEN**, Denver, Colo., announce the birth of Eloise Ryan, Nov. 27.

SUE KUENNEN and Paul Rieland, St. Cloud, Minn., were married Aug. 25, 2012.

BRITTA NELSON, Miami, Fla., is an international logistics analyst in the Corn Milling North American Business unit with Cargill, Inc.

BRIAN and **TIFFANY TREANOR '05 PINS**, Waverly, announce the birth of Tyler, April 24.

BROOKE TRENT, Waterloo, was promoted to partner at Nelson Law Firm, PLLC. She practices general law with an emphasis in real estate and creditor's rights.

RENEE CLARK VOVES and **DAVID VOVES '07**, Waverly, announce the birth of Michael David, March 16. Renee was promoted to director of alumni and parent relations and annual giving at Wartburg College.

2005
RUSSELL and **BECKY TOWNSLEY '06 GOEREND**, Waukeg, announce the birth of Wesley, April 7. He joins Henry, 3. Becky teaches fifth grade in the Waukeg Community Schools.

COLLIN and **JANNAE HOLUBAR LANE**, Grimes, announce the birth of Cora May, Feb. 25.

WYATT SHEEDER, Wichita, Kan., is a hospice music therapy student at Rivercross Hospice.

KIERSTIN SKOVGAARD THOMPSON, Seymour, Wis., was promoted to sales manager-recruitment for Gannett Wisconsin Media, Green Bay.

2006
Caleb and **ABBY GOETZINGER BERGMANN**, Waverly, announce the birth of Violet Joyce, Feb. 10. She joins Oliver, 3½.

TOM and **MANDY INDRA BREKHUS**, Dallas, Texas, announce the birth of Cora Rose, Feb. 19.

MEGAN DEMEULENAERE, Iowa City, is a Social Worker II at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

Dr. **ALEX FELDT**, Knoxville, Tenn., received the 2012 University of Oklahoma Provost's Ph.D. Dissertation Award for his dissertation, *Climate Change and Human Rights: Creating Norms to Govern Earth's Atmosphere*, named best dissertation in the Humanities and Fine Arts for calendar year 2012.

MATT and **MEGAN BENNING '08 HOODJER**, Waverly, announce the birth of Bennett Matthew, March 7.

LINDY KAMPMAN IBELING, Overland Park, Kan., was named vice president at LS2group, West Des Moines.

ASHLEY JESSICK and Allen Bohnstengel, Omaha, Neb., were married March 16. Ashley is a quality assurance analyst with Transgenomic.

CASEY and **CARI KINZENBAW PAULI**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Chloe Luree, Dec. 10. She joins Caden, 2.

Nick and **AMY KIELBLOCK WEMHOFF**, Fort Calhoun, Neb., announce the birth of Wyatt Stanley, April 25.

Michael and **KATHRYN MROZ WESTERN**, Waverly, announce the birth of Jaxon Matthew, Jan. 25. He joins Owen, 1.

2007
JAY BREITBACH and **TESS ARMSTRONG**, Waverly, were married June 8.

LAUREN CHRISTENSEN and **ZACH WITTENBURG '08**, Coralville, announce the birth of Finley Kay Wittenburg, Feb. 17.

JENNA DENSTAD, Viroqua, Wis., received a master's degree in health care administration. She is a health information specialist/billing auditor with Vernon Memorial Healthcare.

ANDREW HUMMER, Cedar Rapids, was promoted to director of ACE (Air Cargo Expedited) with CRST Expedited.

KATIEJO KUHENS, Waverly, received the 2013 College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) College Division Rising Star Award.

ANDREW SALVATERRA, Eau Claire, Wis., is executive director of the advertising department with Holiday Vacations.

John and **JULIE PHILIPP SCHMITZ**, Manchester, announce the birth of Jack James, Sept. 13, 2012.

Dan and **SARAH PETERSON SLIWINSKI**, Burlington, announce the birth of Benjamin Ross, Jan 21.

MATT VOIGTS, Clarion, received a Master of Science degree in digital anthropology with distinction (top grade possible) from University College London in 2012. His dissertation was *Negotiating Arcadia: Secular Summer Camp in a Digital Age*.

Kuhens is a 'rising star' among sports information directors

by Hannah Lilienthal '15

KATIEJO KUHENS' EFFORTS at "telling the story" of Wartburg College athletics have earned her the 2013 College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Rising Star award.

The peer-nominated award recognizes two individuals annually — at the university and college levels — who have been in the sports information field for less than 10 years and exhibit the professionalism, dedication, energy, and enthusiasm of a "rising star."

"I feel very, very honored to be worthy of the nomination, let alone to have received this award. The fact that it was peer-nominated makes it even more special," Kuhens said.

Kuhens '07 is in her second year as sports information director. She handled many similar duties as a student.

"I responded to a call for a volleyball statistician my freshman year and ended up doing stats for all sports by my sophomore year," she said. "I worked for (then SID) Mark Adkins for three years and fell in love with the job."

As SID, Kuhens writes news releases for all 19 Wartburg sports teams, manages the go-knights.net website and social media, blogs for CoverItLive (a play-by-play sports information site), compiles video, and supervises student workers.

Kuhens takes a "behind the scenes" approach.

"We do have a lot to manage, and there's a saying that 'no one should know you exist, because that means you're doing your job well,'" she said. "You definitely have to have a passion for working not only in college athletics, but in the SID realm as well."

Kuhens' skills were tested March 10, 2012, when Wartburg became the first school in any division to win two NCAA championships on the same day.

"I couldn't be in two places at once and had to figure out the best way to cover both teams," Kuhens said.


She covered the track meet at Grinnell and delegated the wrestling coverage.

"The track meet was in Iowa, and I followed wrestling (at UW-La Crosse) via Twitter, the NCAA's live video feed, and the host SID's email updates after each session," Kuhens said. "I hired a photographer to shoot wrestling for the website and for the archives."

"The most exciting part was attending the wrestling celebration at Joe's Knighthawk that Monday," she added. "My phone just blew up with texts and phone calls from people who said 'Wartburg is on ESPN!'"

Kuhens has worked in all three NCAA divisions, including positions at the University of Wisconsin and Maryville University in St. Louis before returning to Wartburg.

"This has been one of my dream jobs. After I graduated, I knew I wanted to be back at Wartburg," Kuhens said. "I never thought it would happen so early in my career."

"I feel very fortunate to have found this job that I love," she added. "Being an alum, I have seen the progression of the programs on campus and am happy to be part of it." 



ERIN YODER, Pella, received a master's degree from Concordia University. She teaches high school science in the Pella Community School District.

2008 – CLASS REUNION, OCT. 10-13

WHITNEY FREE, Waverly, is a public relations and communication specialist with Hellman, Waterloo.

KARLEE COOPER HUFFORD and **GARRETT HUFFORD '09**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Garrison Allen, March 7. He joins Eden, 4.

LIA KAMPMAN, Clarksville, is campaign director at Wartburg College.

LINDSEY BEGEMANN MULLENBACH, Center Point, is the medical laboratory science program director at St. Luke's Hospital, Cedar Rapids.

Dr. **JUSTIN PETERSON**, Holly, Mich., received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree on May 2 from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is an orthopedic surgery resident at Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc.

JESSICA SAUNDERS, Iowa City, completed the first recital for her Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

BECKY URLAUB, Omaha, Neb., received a Master of Science degree in organizational performance in August 2012 from Bellevue University, Bellevue, Neb., where she is a manager of creative service.

2009

SARAH FRAZELL, is a care manager/behavioral health provider with Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, Silver Springs, Md.

KATIE FRIEDLINE and David Foag, St. Paul, Minn., were married Oct. 27.

RYAN GERADY and **AMANDA ROUSE**, Cedar Rapids, were married June 2. Amanda received her master's degree in healthcare administration in January from Ashford University, Clinton.

JOEL HANSON, Cedar Rapids, is a case manager for Damon Walker and Premier Investments of Iowa.

NATALIE TENDALL, Beavercreek, Ohio, is an investigative reporter at WDTN (2 News), Dayton.

2010

CASSIE BECKER BENNING, Waverly, is an admissions counselor with Wartburg College.

TONY BROWN and **LAUREN MILLER**, Eldridge, were married June 8.

JESSICA BURRIER and Greg Morgan, Hebron, Ky., were married May 4.

DEIDRE FREYENBERGER, Wayland, received a Master of Arts degree in professional communications in May from East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tenn.

BRYAN GRAMLICH and Julie Luzum, Bondurant, were married Sept. 15.

DANI JOHNSON, Fort Collins, Colo., received a Master of Music degree in December from Colorado State University and started her music therapy internship with Foundation Music School. She works as a direct support provider for children and adults with developmental disabilities through Mosaic of Northern Colorado.

BEN MESSERLI, Chattanooga, Tenn., is assistant director of compliance at the University of Tennessee.

CORY MINER and **STACY BERNS**, Traer, were married in August 2012.

JOSHUA MONIZ, New Ulm, Minn., received the Minnesota Newspaper Association (MNA) award for New Journalist of the Year. The category included all dailies in Minnesota.

JENNIFER KUIKEN PETERS, Waterloo, received a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from the University of Iowa, Iowa City. She passed boards in January and is a licensed physical therapist with Woltz/Rock Valley Physical Therapy, Waverly.

ANGIE SHAFFER, Alburnett, is a program associate at the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, Waterloo.

ABBIE SMITH, Waverly, was promoted to assistant director of alumni and parent relations at Wartburg College.

Brian and **AMBER McMAHON STAMPER**, West Des Moines, announce the birth of Daelynn Grace, July 20, 2012. Amber is a special education teacher at Smouse Opportunity School.

DAVID URLAUB, Vinton, was promoted to a sales trainer position with Clickstop, Urbana.

BRENDELYN WHITE and Eric Juergens, Coal Valley, Ill., were married May 4.

2011

BLAKELY BOCHMANN, Clarksville, is a support center specialist with CUNA Mutual Group, Waverly.

ANTHONY GRECO and **ERICA KROGMAN**, Iowa City, were married June 16, 2012.

BRET HOUSTON and **LEANNA JENKINS '12**, Waverly, were married July 28, 2012. Bret is a group leader at the Target Distribution Center, Cedar Falls. Leanna teaches kindergarten in the Hampton Dumont Community Schools, Hampton.

KELSEY KOVACEVICH, Fort Worth, Texas, is an outreach specialist with the Fort Worth Zoo.

JOSH McROBERTS, Des Moines, was selected by his employer to enroll in the Certified Public Manager Program, an 18-month certificate program coordinated between the State of Iowa and Drake University. Josh is an administrative assistant with Iowa Finance Authority.

LUCAS PRATER, Zambia, is spending 24 months as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer with the Rural Aqua Development Program in the Luapula Province.

ALEX WIEBKE and **RACHAEL ANDRESEN '12**, Waverly, were married April 6.

Bleckwehl finds success in print, apps with

by Sarah Boraas '14

MARY EVANSON BLECKWEHL '77 IS PROMOTING CHILDREN'S LITERACY through her award-winning picture books, including one with an interactive application that reached No. 3 in the iTunes I (heart) apps category.

Bleckwehl's app, created for her first book — *Henry! You're Late AGAIN!* — allows young readers, ages 4-8, and their parents to interact through an Apple platform, delivering a multisensory experience.

"Every time I demonstrate the app during a presentation, the whole room goes silent," Bleckwehl said. "It's just something ages preschool to adult can all enjoy and are truly interested in."

The app brings interactivity to the whole reading experience, Bleckwehl said. It allows readers to touch, listen to sounds and music, see animation, and have the story read aloud. Readers can choose between the voice of the main character Henry or Bleckwehl narrating the story.

"Children learn in a variety of ways, and some need more than just paper to learn," Bleckwehl said. "Kids now have the chance to engage in the story and get really excited about books."



Bleckwehl had success with *Henry! You're Late AGAIN!*, which has sold around 3,500 copies. She has heard that the average children's book sells only 90 copies.

She is continuing her success with the release of her second book, *Henry! You're Hungry AGAIN?*, and working on an app for it.

Bleckwehl has won eight awards for the books, including being a Mom's Choice Awards Gold Recipient for humor in children's picture books. She also was an International Book Awards finalist among children's picture books.

A native of Waterville and a Waukon High School graduate, Bleckwehl lives in Northfield, Minn. She was an elementary education major with a concentration in biology and became a teacher and administrator. In the mid-'80s, she was director of Wartburg's Learning Resource Center, while her husband, Bill, a member of the Wartburg Hall of Fame as a cross country and track standout, was director of Admissions. The couple has three children, including Nicole '04, who married Wartburg classmate Vlad Ilic.

Bleckwehl said "a love of picture books and life experiences as a teacher and mom" prompted her efforts as an author.

"That inspired me to write light-hearted books that deliver a message that all ages can relate to — like being late and liking junk food. I'm really passionate about finding different ways to inspire kids to start their own reading and writing journey."

2012

MICHELA DALSING and **EMILY FAUST**, Ellensburg, Wash., were married Oct. 19, 2012.

LOGAN HANSEN, Glenville, Minn., is a structural engineering student and running backs coach at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

ELIZABETH HILLSON, Blooming Prairie, Minn., was promoted to internal communications coordinator with Hormel Foods, Austin.

KYLE JAEGER, Guttenberg, is the youth director at St. John's Lutheran Church.

COURTNEY KLOOSTER and Jon Anderson, Waterloo, were married April 13.

PAIGE KLOSTERMANN, Waverly, is an admissions counselor at Wartburg College.

CHELSEA LORENZ and **NICK MORRISON**, Davenport, were married March 23.

ADAMU MUHAMMAD, Hartley, was featured in *The Hartley Sentinel* newspaper, covering his visit to the Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn Middle School, Sanborn.

BAYLEE RILEY, Rockford, is a middle school art teacher and high school sculpture teacher with the Shepherd Public Schools, Shepherd, Mont.

CHARLES TIMS, Waterloo, is a territory manager with Mudd Advertising, Cedar Falls.

AMANDA WOODING, Fairfield, is a media account coordinator with Hawthorne Direct.

2013

RILEY ANDERSON, Dubuque, is an exercise science and sports performance student at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

ANNA AQUINO, Bettendorf, is enrolled in the physician assistant program at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis.

KAITLYN BALDRIGE is a Young Adult in Global Mission volunteer with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Jerusalem, Israel.

SHAYLA BARNES, Story City, is a Title 1 reading teacher with the Interstate 35 Community Schools, Truro.

KYLE BARTON, Davenport, is a divinity student at Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque.

LAUREN BASKERVILLE, Cedar Rapids, is a personal lines assistant with United Fire Group.

ASHLEY BIENEMANN, Alburnett, is a marketing intern with Crystal Group, Hiawatha.

DELIA BINGEA, Stillwater, Minn., is a Young Adult in Global Mission volunteer with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Malaysia.

LINDSEY BOYKE, Verona, Wis., is a nutritional epidemiology student at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, Minneapolis, Minn.

ALEX BRANNAMAN, Mount Vernon, is an accountant at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

MYCALA BRIGGS, Manchester, is a social work student at Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

AMANDA BURT, Fenton, works in the Iowa State Auditor's Office, Des Moines.

ERICA BUSH, Fulton, Ill., is an audit associate with Eide Bailly, Dubuque.

ALEXANDRA CIOTA, Albert Lea, Minn., is a medical student at the University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis.

ALYX COBLE-FRAKES, Lima, Peru, is an economic development worker with the Peace Corps.

PARKER COMENTINO, Nora Springs, teaches high school mathematics in the Lake Mills Community Schools, Lake Mills.

EMILY DAHLE is a Young Adult in Global Mission volunteer with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, South Africa.

RANDENE DAVIS, Glenville, Minn., teaches first grade in the Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock Community School District, Rockford, Iowa.

MONIQUE DAVISSON, Cedar Falls, is a program center manager with RuffaloCODY.

COURTNEY FREY, Janesville, Wis., is a statecraft and national security student at the Institute of World Politics, Washington, D.C.

BETHANY FRISTAD, Sartell, Minn., is a missionary with Adventures in Missions.

SUSANNAH GAFKJEN, Spencer, is a music therapy intern with Helping Hands Center for Special Needs, Columbus, Ohio.

BENJAMIN GANSEMER, Sherrill, is a student in The Master of Science in Anatomy program at Des Moines University, Des Moines.

DEREK GARTNER, Dubuque, is a medical student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

JENNIFER GASKILL, Lake Mills, teaches high school science in the Hampton Dumont Community Schools, Hampton.

AUSTIN GRECO, Boone, is a medical student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

HOLLIS HANSON-POLLOCK, Mingo, is a staff auditor with Crowe Horwath, LLP, Chicago, Ill.

RYAN HARMS, Waterloo, is a drivetrain product engineer with John Deere.

BEN HARTING, Brandon, is a graduate student in music at the University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.

KELLI HOLMES, Clarion, is a leave-of-absence coordinator with Sedgwick, Coralville.

MAREN HOPKINS, Marion, is a communications assistant at Ministry of Caring with Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Wilmington, Del.

BRANDON HOSCH, Epworth, is a sales associate with Entercom Communications, Denver, Colo.

CURT HRUSKA, New Hampton, is an insurance agent with The Life Group, LLC, Dubuque.

HOLLY HUSER, Waverly, is a group leader with the Target Distribution Center, Cedar Falls.

JEREMY IDLER, Fort Collins, Colo., teaches 5-12 instrumental music in the Clayton Ridge Community School District, Guttenberg.

BRITA JENSEN, Richfield, Minn., is a pharmacy student at Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove, Ill.

JONATHAN JUETT, Marion, is a computer science student at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

MEGAN KELCHEN, Edgewood, is a graduate student in clinical pharmaceutical sciences at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

ERIC KIST, Eagle Grove, is an ag/commercial lender with First State Bank, Fort Dodge.

JOHN KLEPPE, Elgin, is a mortuary science student at Worsham College of Mortuary, Wheeling, Ill.


children's books

Interactive apps have opened up a world of opportunity, she said, taking out the traditional middleman in publishing. Authors can skip the once complicated distribution process, while connecting to a global market with tablets often preferred over print. Her app is available for 99 cents in the App Store for all Apple products.

"Technology is a positive thing; truly a win-win all the way around," Bleckwehl said. "Our society is somewhat driven by our devices, and readers are beginning to expect something compatible."

She is grateful for the role her Wartburg education played in her career.

"Education is the single most important goal in my life, and Wartburg granted me a college degree that launched me to a place where I could teach, listen and, hopefully, be an agent of change in the lives of others," Bleckwehl said. "Wartburg taught me that ordinary people can make an extraordinary contribution."

And, she added, "I found the love of my life at Wartburg. So I feel blessed many times over." 

"Wartburg granted me a college degree that launched me to a place where I could teach, listen and, hopefully, be an agent of change in the lives of others. Wartburg taught me that ordinary people can make an extraordinary contribution."

— Mary Evanson Bleckwehl



Stream the books and order copies on Bleckwehl's website at www.marybleckwehl.com

AMY KOBLISKA, Alta Vista, is a dental student at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, Iowa City.

CHELSEY KRAMER, Dyersville, is a physical therapy student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

MICHAL KRAY, Lisbon, is a financial advisor with MassMutual Financial Group, Iowa City.

OLIVIA KRULL, Nashua, is a customer service representative with CUNA Mutual Group, Waverly.

BRIANA LAGE, Meservey, is a dental student at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, Iowa City.

CAROLINE LAKE, Independence, teaches first grade in the Independence Community School District.

SARAH LANGSTON, Davis Junction, Ill., is a graduate student in aeronautics and astronautics at the University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

EMILY LAYTON, Ankeny, is a communication coordinator with Master Builders of Iowa, Des Moines.

MALLORY LEE, Shell Rock, is a consumer service contact center representative with the CUNA Mutual Group, Waverly.

BROOKE LENTZ, Palo, is a Social Worker with Mercy Medical Center, Cedar Rapids.

JUSTIN LIDDLE, Tripoli, teaches high school Spanish in the Tripoli Community School District.

BRITTANY LOUK, Webster City, is an accountant with The Waldinger Corp., Des Moines.

ETHAN LOWMAN, Boone, is an osteopathic medicine student at the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, Kansas City, Mo.

ALEXANDRA MADOLE, Granger, is a marketing coordinator with Sunset Park Place, Dubuque.

BRITTANY MANNING, Dubuque, is a middle school band director with Central Community Schools, DeWitt.

ELIZABETH McELLIGOTT, Brooklyn Park, Minn., is a volunteer Summer Reads VISTA member with AmeriCops.

GARRETT McGRANE, Sumner, is a physical therapy student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

MEGANNE McMURRAY, Nora Springs, is an occupational therapy student at St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minn.

THOMAS MIROCHA, Davenport, is a programmer and graphic designer with TrackWrestling, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.

JOSEPH MOEN, Rochester, Minn., is a biostatistics graduate student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

NNEKA MOLOKWU, Waverly, is a graduate student in public health at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

DAN MYSNYK, Iowa City, is a graduate student in mathematical data mining at Tarleton State, Stephenville, Texas.

MARY O'LOUGHLIN, Independence, is a veterinary medical student at Iowa State University, Ames.

KYLE PALMOLEA, Ankeny, is a producer with KWWL-TV, Waterloo.

MADISON PAXTON, Waverly, is a direct support professional with REM Iowa, Cedar Rapids.

NICOLE PEYTON, Marion, is a medical student at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

SAVANNAH PIKE, Council Bluffs, is an occupational therapy student at the College of Saint Mary, Omaha, Neb.

JORDAN PUTZ, Andover, Minn., is a social work student at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul.

CHELSEA KOMSCHLIES REISNER, Appleton, Wis., is a graduate student in music composition at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo.

STEPHANIE REINERT, Dyersville, is a 5-12 band director with the Edgewood-Colesburg Community School District, Edgewood.

CATHY REITER, Buckingham, teaches middle school science in the Newton Community School District, Newton.

ERIN RIDGEWAY, Anamosa, is a photography student at the New York Film Academy, Los Angeles, Calif.

LUCAS ROBISON, Crawfordsville, is an accountant with Transamerica Life Insurance Company, Cedar Rapids.

GORDON ROEDEL, Loyal, Wis., is a medical student at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison.

JONATHON ROSE, Dallas, Texas, is a financial analyst with J. P. Morgan Chase & Company.

JESICA ROSENMEYER, Wesley, teaches kindergarten in the Logan-Magnolia Community Schools, Logan.

MADISON SADECKY, Coralville, teaches fourth grade in the Davenport Community Schools, Davenport.

KELSI SAWATZKY, Ankeny, is an optometry student at the Indiana University School of Optometry, Bloomington, Ind.

ALEXANDER SCHAEFER, McCullom Lake, Ill., is a graduate student in atmospheric sciences/meteorology at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Rapid City, S.D.

AMANDA SCHARES, Gilbertville, is a pharmacy student at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy, Iowa City.

KELSEY SCHERVEN, Parkersburg, is an administrative assistant to human resources, care/influence with Prairie Lakes Church, Cedar Falls.

JANELLE SCHNEIDERMAN, West Burlington, is a client service representative with Two Rivers Financial Group, Burlington.

MATTHEW SCHOPP is a youth director with Christ the King Lutheran Church, South Bend, Ind.

DEREK SCHWANZ, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., is a material engineering student at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.

KATELYN SCHWENNEN, Parkersburg, is a social work student at Boise State University, Twin Falls, Idaho.

BRITLYN SIECK, Fayette, is a residential officer with the Waterloo Residential Correctional Facility, Waterloo.

SHELBY SIEREN, Keota, is a graduate student in genetics counseling at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

SCOTT SIMPSON, Moline, Ill., is a physical therapy student at St. Ambrose University, Davenport.

ERIC SLETTEN, Webster City, is a graduate student in chemistry at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

SETH SMITH, Cedar Falls, is a manufacturing engineer with John Deere.

MARIE SORENSON, Cedar Rapids, is a graduate student in vocal performance at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

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

SARA SPEVACEK, Excelsior, Minn., is a marketing and sales associate with Wisdom Executives, Bloomington.

KENDALL STELK, Bettendorf, is a sales and marketing specialist with The HON Company, Muscatine.

RAEHEL STONE, Waverly, works at the Bremwood Residential Treatment Center with Lutheran Services in Iowa.

BRITTANY SWANSON, Madrid, is a family coach with Life Line Resources, Perry.

WHITLEY TESLOW, Decorah, is an event manager with Argus Event Staffing, Denver, Colo.

JOSH TRUEBLOOD, Bettendorf, is a graduate student in sports administration at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind.

SHAWNA VAN MEIGHAM, Marion, is a nursing student at Allen College, Waterloo.

KAITLYN WAGNER, Wapello, is a vocational instructor with Systems Unlimited, Inc., Iowa City.

IRENE WALETZKI, Bloomington, Minn., is a customer service worker with Kwik Trip, Inc., Eagan.

BRAD WALKER, Eagan, Minn., is a financial adviser with North Star Resource Group, Iowa City.

JESSICA WALLACE, Knoxville, teaches kindergarten in the Marshalltown Community School District, Marshalltown.

DAVID WEDEKING, Waverly, is a physical therapy student at St. Ambrose University, Davenport.

SHALEIGH WERKMAN, Waverly, is a weight loss counselor with SlimGenics, Fort Collins, Colo.

GABRIEL WILLIAMS, Roland, is a staff accountant with Gardiner Thomsen Certified Public Accountants, Charles City.

MACKENZIE WILLIAMS, Dike, is a mortuary science student at Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny.

HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND DATES SET!

"Protect this Castle" is the theme for the 2013 Homecoming, Oct 10-13.

Classes celebrating reunions during the festivities will be '08, '03, '98, '93, '88, '83, '78, '73, '68 and Golden Knights - '63, '58, '53.

More information will be available at www.wartburg.edu/homecoming in August.

Family Weekend will be Oct. 4-6, complete with a president's tailgate, Artist Series: Kenya Safari Acrobats, and much more!





GAME ON!

by Jerica George '14

DURING HIS DAYS AT WARTBURG COLLEGE, Scott Davis '96 never thought the gaming world would consume his every waking moment.

Davis, a McGregor native, majored in computer science and math with a minor in engineering. Three years ago he and six co-founders started QONQR (pronounced "Conquer"), a mobile gaming company. Davis is chief executive officer.

"We pitched QONQR as an idea for a Twin Cities Startup Weekend event, where the goal was to build a company and a product in one weekend and pitch to a group of investors and startup experts," said Davis, who has a master's degree in business administration with an entrepreneurship concentration from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn.

QONQR won the competition and has built momentum ever since. It entered the summer as the No. 2 game in the "Best Rated" category of the Windows Phone marketplace in the United States and also is available on iPhone. An early summer launch was planned for Android.

QONQR is a multiplayer "geosocial game of world domination" that Davis admits is "highly complex."

Players enter "an invisible war" with an "Artificial Intelligence (QONQR) of unknown origin," although they must determine whether its intentions are to "enhance or destroy humanity."

"Whether you accept it or not, the war is here," the game description states. "Your future survival, prosperity, and even glory depend

on the choices you make and the skill you demonstrate."

Players seek control over three million battle zones in more than 250 countries. They help their "Faction" capture battle zones by deploying Nanobot swarms. The "Faction" with the most bots in a zone controls that zone.

"In effect, the players are trying to capture and control their hometowns and the surrounding areas in a secret battle for world domination," Davis said.

Since the official release of the game in March 2012, QONQR players have captured 400,000 cities in 175 countries.

Since Startup Weekend, QONQR has been on a winning streak.

It was accepted into the Demo Track of MidVenturesLAUNCH in Chicago — one of the largest startup conferences in the Midwest, which showcases new and innovative startups and apps. It was a finalist (finishing behind the legendary Lord British) in the Entertainment category at the 2011 South by Southwest (SXSW) Accelerator, which has a reputation as a breeding ground for new ideas and creative technologies.

While the iPhone market is dominated by big name companies like Disney and is more difficult to break into, Davis said Windows Phone has helped boost QONQR's success. Disney and EA titles ranked behind it at No. 4 and 5, respectively, among best-rated Windows Phone games.

With its growing recognition in the gaming world, Davis said QONQR's community is gaining rapidly, especially with their primary

demographic — males in their 30s.

"They are competitive, usually have a significant amount of disposable income, and a busy life, resulting in a lack of time to play Xbox or PlayStation," Davis said.

He also has seen that QONQR works for busy moms and teens who have some down time to play a one-to-three-minute game.

"In mobile gaming, you aren't competing with other games as much as you are competing with everything else in people's lives," Davis said.

With the release of its Android version, QONQR anticipates its player population will expand rapidly.

One marketing strategy that has helped QONQR succeed is social networking, Davis remarked. Posting that you have captured a city on Facebook or Twitter allows your friends or followers to see what the game is all about.

"It is a tremendous feeling to know that you have been part of making something that so many people use for entertainment every day," Davis said. 📱

QONQR is available to download on the Apple App Store and on the Windows Marketplace.
www.QONQR.com



IN MEMORIAM

1935

GLADYS AALBUE SCHLACHTENHAUFEN, Tomahawk, Wis., died April 14 at Country Terrace, Rhinelander. A pastor's wife, she lived 36 years in Iowa in Rockwell City, Ottumwa, Waterloo, Decorah, and Des Moines, then moved to Wisconsin, living in Loyal, Tomahawk, Sun Prairie, and Rhinelander. She was a volunteer, part-time secretary, Cub Scout leader, newspaper delivery driver, junior choir director, Bethel Bible teacher, and full-time church worker. In Des Moines, she assisted the Iowa District of the American Lutheran Church staff and joined a statewide Via de Christo program as leader/lecturer.

1942

EVELYN JENSEN DUCKER, Waverly, died May 25, 2012, at Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community. She taught 18 years in country schools and 29 years in the Denver, Iowa, schools.

VERNITA PROTTENGEIER PAYNE, Denver, Colo., died April 15. She worked briefly as a secretary for Farm Bureau and Lutheran Mutual, both in Waverly, then married and moved to Denver. Her husband's job took her family to Israel from 1962 to 1964.

1944

The Rev. Dr. **HANS E. "SANDY" SANDROCK**, Fairfield, Calif., died Feb. 4. He graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, in 1946. He served parishes in Lost Nation, Iowa, and Streator, Ill., then entered the Air Force, serving 30 years as a base chaplain, command chaplain, Icelandic Defense Force chaplain, senior installation chaplain, chief of chaplains, chief of education for the Office of the Chief Chaplains, and executive director of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board. He received the Air Force Commendation medal on four occasions, the Meritorious Service Medal three times, and the Legion of Merit twice. He was awarded honorary doctorates from the Atlanta School of Law and Wartburg Seminary and earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Graduate Theological Union, Notre Dame. He retired from the Air Force in August 1978 and spent the next 12 years working with the deferred giving programs of the Lutheran Seminary Appeal and Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, where he was installed as a Canon to the Ordinary.

EVELYN FREDRICK ELLIOT-WHITLOCK, Strawberry Point, died April 12 at the Regional Medical Center, Manchester, of age-related causes. She taught rural school for three years and was a clerk at the Strawberry Point post office until her marriage. In 1967, she graduated from Upper Iowa University, Fayette, and earned a master's degree from Western New Mexico University. She returned to teaching in the 1960s in Elkport, then transferred to the Starmont School system, where she taught fifth grade, junior high, and high school language arts before her retirement in 1988. For 20 years she taught evening and summer extension classes for teachers as a Drake University adjunct professor. After her retirement, she co-authored with the Rev. Al Hock, *The History of Strawberry Point School*. Later she taught freshman composition at Northeast Iowa Community College, Peosta, and conducted GED classes in the Strawberry Point area. She was the first female officer of the Strawberry Point Lion's Club, served on the boards of directors for the Strawberry Point Community Center and Clayton County Conservation Board at Osborne, and was active in her church.

1947

MARVIN E. "MARV" DIEMER, Cedar Falls, died April 23 at Covenant Medical Center, Waterloo. He served in the U.S. Marines during World War II. In 1950 he completed a B.A. degree from Drake University. He was a public accountant until his retirement in 1978, then served as a state representative in the Iowa Legislature until 1992. He was a member of Rotary, AMVETS, the American Legion, and Nazareth Lutheran Church.

EVELYN TONN TEGELER, Grand Forks, N.D., died April 12. She was employed by KWWL Television and Rath Inc. in Waterloo as an administrative assistant and briefly owned a yarn shop.

1949

The Rev. **ROBERT H. REITZ**, Rhinelander, Wis., died March 22. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and was promoted to sergeant. After his discharge, he graduated from Wartburg College and Wartburg Theological Seminary. He was ordained into the Lutheran ministry in June 1950 and served congregations in Washington state and Iowa.

The Rev. **RICHARD W. SCHWARZ**, Elwood, Neb., died March 19 at Golden Living Center in Cozad. He graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary and was ordained in July 1952. He served congregations in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska prior to his 1988 retirement from full-time ministry. He then served as interim pastor in more than 30 different parishes in the ELCA Nebraska Synod. His wife, Vera Hock Schwarz '51, died in May (see obituary below).

1951

EUGENE C. "GENE" KREGER, Waterloo, died March 13. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps, then worked as a teacher, guidance counselor, and driver's education instructor. He earned a master's degree from State College of Iowa (now University of Northern Iowa) and was employed with the Iowa Department of Vocational Rehabilitation for 30 years, primarily as an area supervisor.

VERA HOCK SCHWARZ, Elwood, Neb., died May 4 at Elwood Care Center. She taught country school in the Strawberry Point area for 10 years before her enrollment at Wartburg. Upon her graduation she taught one more year in a rural country school, then moved with her pastor husband, the late Rev. R. W. Schwarz '49, and began her ministry as a pastor's wife. She accompanied him on many pastoral calls, taught Sunday School, conducted Bible studies, and was involved in the congregational life of the churches they served. He died in March 2013 (see obituary above).

1952

CLARENCE D. "BUD" PHILLIPS, Cherry Hill, N.J., died Feb. 7. He studied engineering at Georgia Tech before enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1942. As a Signal Corps radar mechanic, he attended radio school and set up early warning stations in the Aleutian Islands, Alaska. In 1946, he opened a radio repair shop in Waverly, later working as a city policeman and in a chicken hatchery while getting his Wartburg degree. He taught physics and coached football and basketball at Marion High School, then became an electronics engineer, pioneering 20th century radio and TV technologies in education and international development. He was the first to take TV cameras into a hospital operating room and to build an educational TV station at a university. A National

Association of Broadcasters member, he was named a Fellow of the National Association of Education Broadcasters. Working with USAID and the U.S. Embassy, he built a national radio service in Sudan. While working at RCA, his mobile TV vans earned him an international reputation. He retired in 1985 to run the Washington Township Golf Course, and later worked at the Willowbrook Country Club Pro Shop. His part-time golf club repair business earned him a PGA membership.

1953

KENNETH L. MALPERT, Wausau, Wis., died March 21 at Mount View Care Center. He worked at Deshler Grain and Feed Company, then graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque. He was ordained at his first church in Lodgepole, Neb., and served congregations in Birnamwood, Wis., from 1970 to 1977.

1954

MELITA "MEL" FRANZEN ANTRIM, Lincoln, Neb., died Dec. 23. She was a homemaker, private secretary, and taught English studies in the Waverly, Neb., schools. She also attended the University of Nebraska and earned credit toward a master's degree. Upon retirement as a full-time teacher, she did substitute teaching in the Lincoln Public Schools. She volunteered in the adult literacy program, the Lincoln Public Libraries, and her church.

1955

SHIRLEY MUELLER BRUNS, Cedar Falls, died May 7 at Windhaven Assisted Living Center. She was a chaplain assistant in Fort Sill, Okla., when her husband was in the military service. Following his discharge, they moved to Cedar Falls, where she was a bookkeeper at Midway Bank.

1957

FRANKLIN E. WELTZIN, La Porte City, died Feb. 11 of cancer. He farmed and worked at Vicker's Gas Station and Town & Country Home Improvements. He was a volunteer driver for the VA hospital in Iowa City and also volunteered at the La Porte City Nursing Home.

1958

JAMES W. URFER, Grinnell, died May 21 at Iowa Medical Center in Des Moines from injuries sustained in an auto accident. After attending both Wartburg and Grinnell colleges, he joined the family business, Grinnell Implement Store, in 1959, serving as president from 1962 until his retirement in 2003. He was a former president and active member of St. John's Lutheran Church, a 35-year Rotarian and former club president, and a member of the Grinnell Elks Lodge. He served Grinnell Regional Medical Center on the board of directors and foundation board. He was co-founder and co-chair for 18 years of AgAppreciation Day. He and his wife were honored as grand marshals of the Grinnell July Fourth parade in 2011.

1959

DALE C. BAUMAN, Ames, died June 9, 2012, at Israel Family Hospice House. He completed his degree at Iowa State University and worked as general manager at Doughboy Seed Company. In 1971, he joined State Bond Companies, which later became Capital Financial Services, retiring as vice president in 2006. He and his wife owned and operated Batman Sayers Abstract Company until 2006. He was active on boards and numerous church projects and helped establish the Ames High Booster Club, which

recognized him and his wife as Boosters of the Year in 1990.

ANNELLE FLESNER HAZLETT, Waimea, Kauai, Hawaii, died Sept. 23 at Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital. She was program manager at the former WFI Government Services.

BARBARA BAUER ROSEN, Houston, Texas, died Jan. 7 at her daughter's home in Tucson, Ariz.

RUTH STRENG TEMPLETON, Hays, Kan., died Dec. 10 at Hays Medical Center. She was a sales clerk for Kuhn's Diamond Jewelers for 37 years, active in the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and Smoky Hill Country Club Ladies Golf Association, and sang in her church choir.

1960

DIANA PASSOW HIBBERD, Hot Springs, Ark., died May 4 of cancer. She became one of the first employees at the Caterpillar plant in Aurora, Ill., where she retired after more than 33 years of service. She was active in numerous clubs, leagues, and her church and was secretary of the Caterpillar Credit Union.

1963

KAROLYN KAISER ANDERSEN, Oskaloosa, died Jan. 9 at Crystal Heights Care Center. She completed her degree at Iowa State University and taught home economics at Oskaloosa High School from 1963 to 1967. A stay-at-home mom, she operated Fins and Things pet store for 25 years until her retirement in 2007. Co-founder of the Corner Cupboard, now known as Hunters, she was a member of P.E.O. Chapter NN, Consumer Health and Science Club, a past member of Questers, and sang in her church choir.

SHARON CARUTHERS HUDELSON, Omaha, Neb., died March 22, 2010. She was a church secretary in Des Moines and Omaha, and with her husband operated weekly newspapers in Kansas and Iowa.

DONALD L. MEYER, Arnolds Park, died Dec. 19, 2011, at the Milford Nursing Center, Milford. He completed his degree at Iowa State University, Ames, and worked as an accountant in Waukegan, Ill., Mesa and Scottsdale, Ariz., before returning to Iowa.

JAMES L. OLLENBURG, Baxter, died May 13. He worked a short time in social work, then at the *Manson Journal* and Indianola newspaper where he wrote sports articles. He became disabled early in life but remained independent until 2011, when he moved to the Baxter Health Care Center.

1964

LOIS REMMERS CALLAN, Auburn, Neb., died Feb. 10 in Blanding, Utah, in a vehicle accident. She received a master's degree in music at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and was a longtime high school music teacher in Dubuque. After her retirement from teaching, she held realtor and contractor licenses in Arizona.

1965

PHILIP F. ELLIOTT, Jesup, died April 28 at ABCM Rehabilitation Independence-East. He was an event designer for clients all over Iowa. He served on the board of directors for the Sturgis Falls Celebration in Cedar Falls and was one of the originators of Arts in the Park in Jesup.

1966

A. MARINE BAKKER BETTS, Marshalltown, died Nov. 29 at Villa Del Sol in Marshalltown. She completed nurses' training at the former Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing in Marshalltown and worked at the Marshalltown Hospital, including 11 years as associate director of nursing service. She was director of nursing education and health sciences at Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny for 11 years. She was a member of the Iowa Quilters Guild, her church, and United Methodist Women.

DAVID M. MINOR, Indio, Calif., died Nov. 11 from a lingering illness. He taught high school English in Manchester, Iowa, and Stockton, Ill., before moving to California in 1975. He traveled to Europe, Hawaii, and the Amazon area on expeditions for the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. He wrote professionally and had articles and photos published in various publications including *TERRA*, a magazine of the museum.

1969

BRADLEY D. WILLIAMS, Tucson, Ariz., died Jan. 10 at home after a long struggle with lung cancer.

1973

JON W. HOLSTEN, Fremont, died March 23 at the University of Iowa Hospitals. He served in the Army Reserve Signal Corps from 1966 to 1972. After graduation, he worked for DeKalb Seed Company in Greenville, Ohio; Crow's Seed in Milford, Ill.; and Vinton Seed Corn Company, which became McCurdy Seed, in Vinton and Fremont. He also worked at Holub Greenhouse in Oskaloosa and drove a school bus for many years. He was a business agent for Laborers' Union Local 566.

1975

ALFRED R. ALBERT, Golden Valley, Minn., died May 26 at home. He earned a master's degree in art from the University of Northern Iowa. He was an artist, an art and music teacher, a linguist, avid gardener, and world traveler. In 1979, he became one of the first recipients of a kidney transplant, with his sister, Becky, as the donor.

1982

DAVID R. RUEBER, Cumming, died April 24. He was a network engineer, most recently with Direct Communications, Inc.

1983

LOUANN EVERDING LAUBE, Tripoli, died March 30 at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home, Waterloo. She taught school for one year at Plainfield and for many years in Tripoli. She was active in the Ladies Society at her church.

DAVID C. CASTER, New Brighton, Minn., died March 30 at home of natural causes. He lived in Austin, Minn., for many years, then in the Twin Cities. He was a shipping technician for Lubrication Technology.

Special Alumna

HELEN J. NOAH, Charles City, died Feb. 19 at Mercy Medical Center, Mason City.





saving a life **EVERY DAY** in Africa

submitted photo

The Wartburg Malaria Initiative recently raised **more than \$35,000** for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Malaria Campaign to help eradicate the disease in Africa. Rachel Claman Oppold '10, formerly of Gilbert, was involved in the ELCA campaign effort and traveled with a group to southern Africa to gather stories, photos, and video footage on its impact.



Rachel Claman Oppold '10

is marketing manager for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

IMAGINE YOU'RE A NEW PARENT and your child is ill. The nearest hospital is seven to 10 miles away. It's a long, hot journey by foot — one you can't financially afford. But you know it could mean life or death for your newborn.

This scenario is lived out every day in sub-Saharan Africa. Children under the age of 5 die every 60 seconds from malaria — a preventable, treatable disease.

The ELCA Malaria Campaign is working to eliminate that statistic. Working through Lutheran partners in Africa, the ELCA Malaria Campaign is uniquely positioned to provide mosquito nets, insecticides, medication, health care, education, and more to help eliminate deaths from this disease — for good.

When we see an area of need in the world and take up a cause like the ELCA Malaria Campaign, the enormity of the undertaking can be overwhelming. Can we really make a difference? Will my donation have an impact?

These questions were answered for me on my recent trip to Zambia. I was able to witness firsthand the work of the ELCA Malaria Campaign on the ground.

The headman (who is not Lutheran) in one village said, "My observation is that the program has been so successful in terms of awareness in this area. If you interview everyone gathering in the congregation here and ask 'What is malaria? What are the symptoms of malaria?' I'm telling you that everyone will be able to give a positive answer. They are now aware what malaria can do to a human being."

I traveled to different rural communities and gathered in Lutheran

churches. People came from all over to greet us. I witnessed children being tested for malaria and, if positive, handed medication.

I witnessed instructions on how to effectively use insecticide-treated bed nets, then saw them handed out not only to Lutherans, but to people throughout the community.

I talked with mothers who now know the importance of taking preventive measures and acting early when they see signs of malaria.

But the most important thing I was able to witness in Zambia was the people. The program's success is because people are working on the ground every day to combat this disease.


Pastors in communities have been trained on how to prevent malaria, the signs and symptoms, and how to treat the disease. They integrate these messages into worship services on Sundays and educate the community through workshops.

The people listen. Why? Because people trust and act on what the Lutheran pastors tell them.

The malaria coordinator in Zambia told me, "Every day a life is saved here in Africa — especially children under the age of 5. By giving to the malaria program, it means you are saving a child, and you are saving the future in Africa."

While on the long plane ride back to the United States, I felt blessed to have seen and taken part in something bigger than myself. I reflected on what I saw and how each of us together can make a great impact when we contribute toward a shared purpose.

At Wartburg I was always challenged to think beyond myself, to live a life of leadership and service to my community. I can't help but look at what I'm doing now and thank Wartburg for molding me into the professional and person I am today.

I will always be grateful for my orange education. 

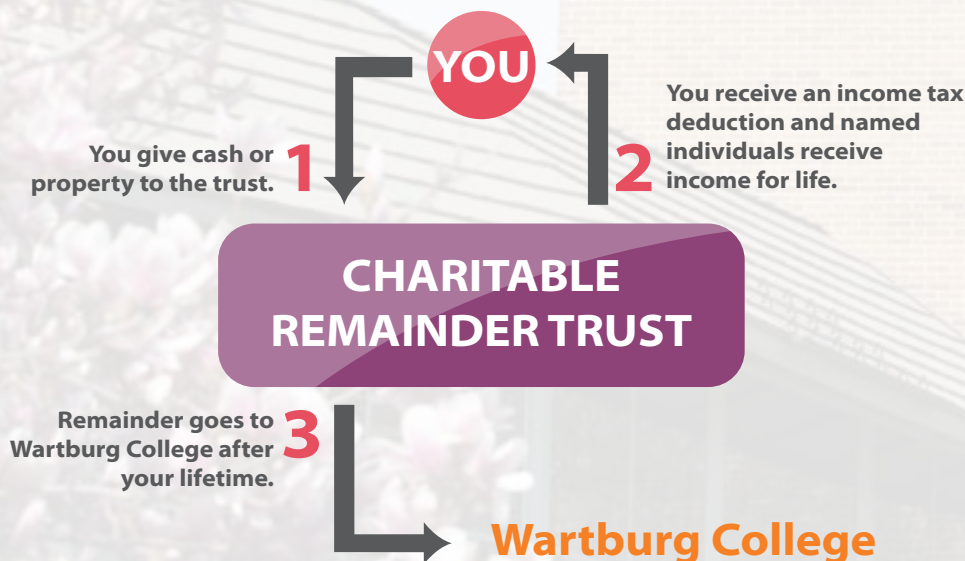
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Make a gift to Wartburg College that takes into consideration your financial circumstances and the needs of your loved ones. With a charitable remainder trust, you can receive annual income — variable or fixed — for the rest of your life from assets you give to create the trust. After your lifetime, the remaining balance goes to the charities of your choice.

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or visit www.wartburg.edu/giftplanning



SAVE THE DATES

OCT.

4-6 – Family Weekend

5 – Kenya Safari Acrobats

Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

10-13 – Homecoming

Kastle Kapers

Parade

Renaissance Faire

Oktoberfest

Details at:

www.wartburg.edu/homecoming

12 – Sizzling Strings

Wartburg Community Symphony with

guest violinist Hye-Jin Kim,

Neumann Auditorium, 8 p.m.

NOV.

19 – President's Convocation

Guest speaker Bill Bolster

DEC.

6 – Christmas with Wartburg

Lutheran Church of Hope,

West Des Moines, 7:30 p.m.

7 – Christmas with Wartburg

Neumann Auditorium, 3 and 7:30 p.m.

8 – Christmas with Wartburg

Neumann Auditorium, 3 p.m.

15 – Symphony Holiday Concert

Wartburg Community Symphony with

area high school musicians, Neumann

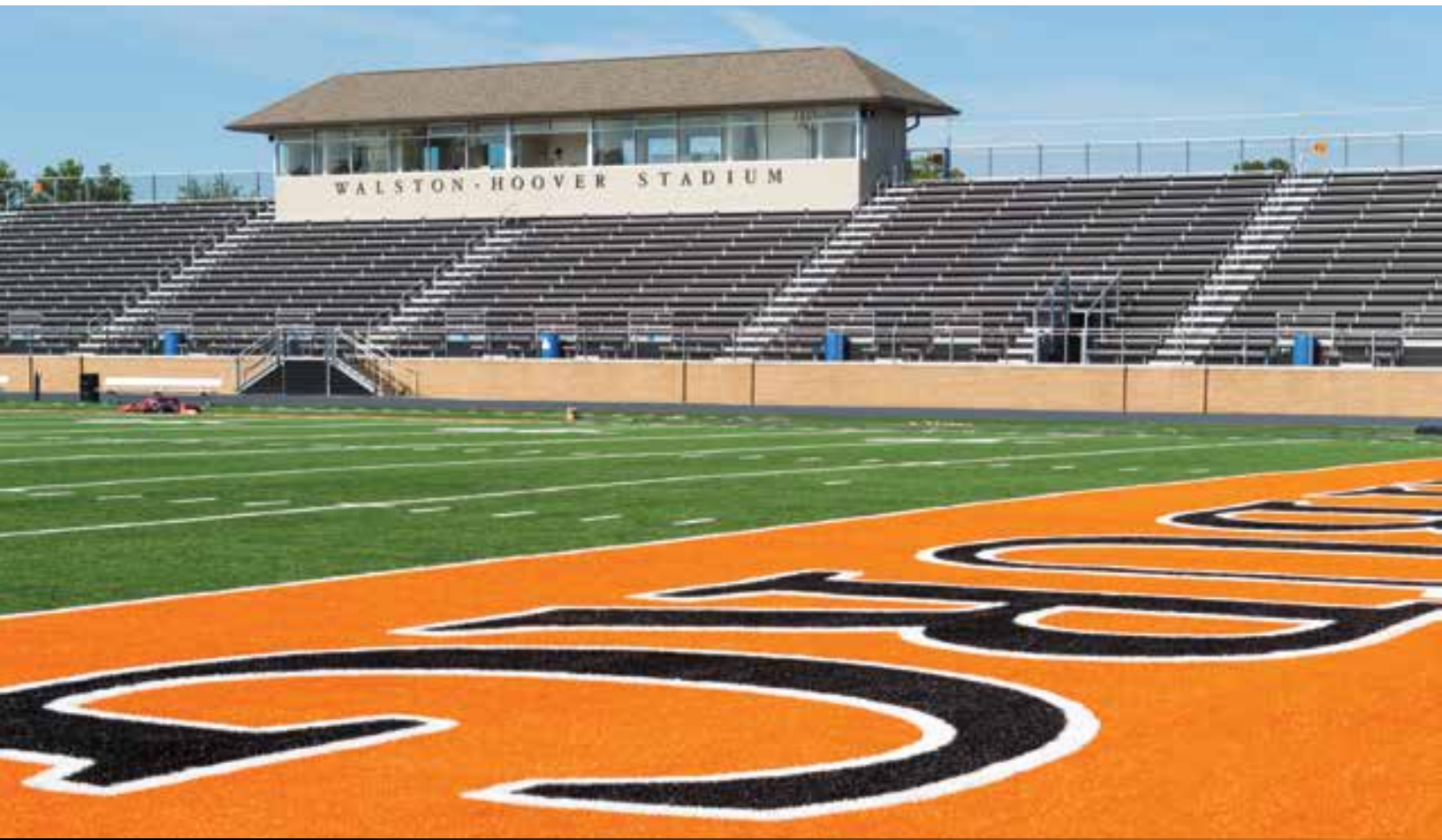
Auditorium, 3 p.m.



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A NEW LOOK FOR WALSTON-HOOVER STADIUM

In recognition of a major gift to the Outdoor Athletic Facilities Project from Richard '51 and Marge Zimmerman, the football field has been named Zimmerman Field in their honor.

The gift allowed for renovations at Walston-Hoover Stadium this summer. The upgrades include new FieldTurf for the football field and a resurfaced track. That's not all. Prior to the first home football game, Sept. 21, a new 14-foot x 35-foot Daktronics scoreboard will be installed to show live video, replays, graphics, statistics, scores, and track results. The donation also allows for the launch of KnightVision, a premium online sports video streaming network, which will employ up to 10 students.

Scan the QR or visit www.wartburg.edu/videos/stadium.html to see a time-lapse video of the field renovation.

Other elements of the Outdoor Athletic Facilities Project, which is part of the Transforming Tomorrow campaign, include:

- Field updates at Lynes and Hertel fields. Plans also call for a new multipurpose building and improved seating areas.
- A new lacrosse field with FieldTurf will be constructed next summer in support of the new women's intercollegiate sport debuting spring 2015.

