

CLAIMING OUR CALLINGS +10 YEARS | CHICAGO HOPE | IOWA QUEST

Warthburg

M A G A Z I N E

WINTER 2013



RAISING

Voices

Professors balance work in class, on stage

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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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ON THE COVER:

Raising Voices

Drs. Brian Pfaltzgraff and
Jennifer Larson, classmates at
Michigan, reunited at Wartburg
as professors and performers.
Photo by Julie Drewes '90.

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

TRANSCRIPTS:

To obtain an official college transcript, contact the Registrar's
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at www.wartburg.edu/academics/registrar/trreq.html.
There is a \$5 fee per transcript. Requests must include maiden
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Security number. Enclose return address
and payment with the request.

WARTBURG

— IN THE NEWS —

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Wolff presented with Wartburg Medal



Dr. Darold Wolff, professor emeritus of biology, received the Wartburg Medal for his distinguished service to the college and community during Opening Convocation.

During his 35 years at Wartburg, Wolff was chairman of the biology department; medical pre-professional program adviser; softball coach; football, baseball, wrestling, and basketball announcer; and faculty representative for the Iowa Conference.

He also served on the boards of the Waverly Health Center and the Waverly Senior Citizens Center and chaired the Bremer County Daffodil Days fund drive for the

American Cancer Society.

Wolff and his wife, Diane, are members of the President's Round Table, Tower Society, and Booster Club. Their children are both Wartburg graduates — **Jennifer '93** and **Jon '96**.

Doherty, Gamez Sims will lead Alumni Board



Dr. Del Doherty '06 is the new president of the Wartburg College Alumni Board.

Doherty, a native of Sierra Leone in western Africa, became the first person at the University of Minnesota to simultaneously earn a doctorate of pharmacy degree and a master's degree in public health. He is a resident of Sugar Land, Texas, and director of managed care services, Professional Compounding Centers of America, which provides chemicals, equipment, training, and support for independent pharmacies.

Barbara Gamez Sims '98, the new president-elect, has a degree from Marquette University Law School. She lives in Rochester, Minn., and is a Mayo Clinic technology licensing manager.

New board members are:

- **Trudie Heikkila Goff '85** of Herndon, Va., a gifted specialist with the Loudoun County (Va.) Public Schools.
- **Kristin Huinker '11** of Ankeny, a development manager with Youth Emergency Services and Shelter in Des Moines.
- **Meredith Keelan '76** of Van Vleck, Texas, a teacher in the Van Vleck School District and chief of the Van Vleck Volunteer Fire Department.
- **Jesse Leichsenring '98** of Wisconsin Dells, Wis., an attorney and municipal judge.
- **Judy Jebson Nuehring '85** of Glen Ellyn, Ill., a homemaker and color guard coach at Glenbard South High School.
- **Trina McPeake '97** of Wheatland, a fifth-through-eighth grade instrumental music teacher and band director at North Cedar Middle School.

Elementary education teaching program recognized

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education has honored Wartburg College for its elementary education teaching program following a review by the Association for Childhood Education International, a specialized professional association.

ACEI evaluated students' scores on assessment tests and student-teaching evaluations. Wartburg students had a 100 percent pass rate the past three years on the Praxis Elementary Education Content Assessment tests, which includes development, learning, and motivation; curriculum (reading, writing, and oral language); and instruction. Wartburg is one of four Iowa colleges and universities with teaching education programs accredited by NCATE, which department chair Dr. Cheryl O'Brien called "the standard of excellence in teacher preparation."

Fred Waldstein honored by Iowa Campus Compact

Dr. Fred Waldstein '74, director of the Institute for Leadership Education; Irving R. Burling Chair in



Leadership; and professor of political science, received an Anniversary Award from Iowa Campus Compact, which has been celebrating its 10th anniversary as a group of Iowa colleges and universities promoting civic engagement and service-learning. Waldstein was cited as chair of the Iowa Commission on National and Community Service and the American Association of State Service Commissions, which he helped found, and for being actively engaged in leadership development by promoting service and volunteerism as a means for encouraging civic engagement in a democratic society.

Beta Beta Beta earns volunteer honor

The Wartburg College chapter of Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society received a 2013 Governor's Volunteer Award. Members of the honor society regularly clean up a two-mile stretch of U.S. Highway 3 east of Waverly as part of the Iowa Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program. Adviser Dr. Ann Henninger, chair of the Department of Biology, said the group, which has 91 members, also sponsors blood drives and has sold daffodils for the American Cancer Society.

Whitefield gets Phi Eta Sigma award



Phi Eta Sigma, the national honor society for first-year college students, awarded a \$6,000 distinguished member scholarship to **Cailee Jo Whitefield '15** of San Antonio who served as the Wartburg chapter president. She was one of 37 national recipients of the top PES award for undergraduates. The criteria included a minimum 3.5 GPA, participation in chapter activities, creative ability, and the potential for achievement in her chosen field.

Saint John's Bible on display

The Heritage Edition of *The Saint John's Bible* will be on display in the Waldemar A. Schmidt Art Gallery beginning Friday, Jan. 10. The seven volumes — each 2 feet tall by 3 feet wide when open — include more than 160 illuminations and numerous special text treatments. The exhibit, which runs through Feb. 21, is free and open to the public 8 a.m.-7 p.m. daily or by appointment. Two volumes will remain on display on campus through 2014.



Wartburg named a 'military friendly school'

Wartburg is a Military Friendly School, among the top 20 percent of higher-education institutions working to ensure the academic success of service members, veterans, and spouses. The designation by Victory Media, which owns G.I. Jobs and G.I. Education, is based on recruitment, retention, and programs and policies.

Wartburg is part of the federal Yellow Ribbon Program, providing tuition assistance to veterans and financial aid for any unmet tuition needs. The Pathways Center offers comprehensive guidance and support for students' academic, personal, and professional goals, and also tailors its services specifically for guardsmen and veterans. The college also partners with Retrieving Freedom Inc., which trains service dogs for military personnel with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Huth leading Alumni Tour to Tanzania

Dr. Les Huth '58, professor emeritus of education, will lead one of the most popular Wartburg College alumni tours when he travels to Tanzania in Summer 2015.

"Tanzania is one of the most exciting places to visit in all the world," Huth said. "You will have an opportunity to see all the wildlife in Tanzania, visit the Maasai people, and learn about the Lutheran Church in the fastest-growing Lutheran country in the world."

Huth has led tours to Tanzania in 2003, 2005, 2007, and 2012. The tour — his final one — is open to Wartburg alumni and friends. Watch for news on the travel dates and itinerary at www.wartburg.edu/events/travel.html.

Down and DIRTY

The art of dumpster diving used to improve recycling

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

THE TERM "WASTE MANAGEMENT" has taken on a new meaning at Wartburg.

Anne Duncan, Wartburg's sustainability coordinator, and her staff "dumpster dive" regularly to sort and assess Wartburg's trash.

"We pull the waste from specific areas we want to analyze and then assign the bags to groups for sorting," Duncan said. "One student, with sharps-resistant gloves, opens the bags, and dumps it out. The rest sort the items based on a sheet I have attached."

Duncan and her student employees started this routine in 2012. Each building on campus is getting a full analysis this year.

"It is the most accurate tool to measure waste," Duncan said. "We can see what is or is not being recycled. Based on what we find, we can adjust waste management and provide feedback to building occupants."

Last year's report determined that 66 percent of what was thrown away at Wartburg was recyclable. According to Sarah Kielly '15, a sustainability office assistant, most of it was compost (food, paper towels, napkins) and paper.

"It was really interesting to see how much is wasted and not disposed of correctly," Kielly said. "Even though I have a clear picture of what overconsumption is doing to our planet globally, I just had never visually seen it laid out like that — and Wartburg is only a very small fraction of the big picture. Not only do we harm the environment, but we waste money."




Students sort and assess Luther Hall trash.

The sustainability employees got help sorting waste from IS 101 classes focused on social entrepreneurship. They will take what they learned during the trash audit to work on human-centered design projects with the goal of a waste-free Wartburg.

Students shared their ideas in a poster session and presentation during Fall Term. The best designs will be part of RICE (Research, Internship, and Creative Endeavor) Day in April.

That is, if they can stomach the sorting.

"One student said it well," Duncan remarked. "We humans are gross creatures. I need a shower."

"I hope they think, 'This is ridiculous,' and use this new knowledge to change their perspective and actions and influence others," Kielly said. 

CLAIMING OUR CALLINGS' 10th ANNIVERSARY

How a \$2 million Lilly grant changed the campus culture

CALLINGS INITIATIVE REINVIGORATES THE COLLEGE CULTURE

by Saul Shapiro

WHILE THE WARTBURG COLLEGE INFRASTRUCTURE WAS BEING OVERHAULED early in this millennium, the Discovering and Claiming Our Callings Initiative was reshaping the cultural landscape.

Now, a decade after that heavy lifting began, the mission statement's four pillars — leadership, service, faith, and learning — have been embedded in nearly every aspect of college life.

"People with a broad spectrum of beliefs and values came together around this shared notion of calling and purpose in life," said Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, professor of religion, Mike and Marge McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission, and DCCI committee member. "It's in the water now. The culture has been intensified and highlighted in such a way that most people wouldn't think you could get out of Wartburg without talking about meanings and callings."

DCCI was launched with a \$2 million Lilly Endowment grant received in December 2002, following a comprehensive planning project spurred by then President Jack Ohle with input from faculty, staff, alumni, and students. The college was awarded — and matched — a \$500,000 Lilly renewal grant in 2006.

LILLY GRANT MILESTONES

Fall Term 2003

Dr. Anna Sims Bartel begins her work as director of experiential education.

Fall Term 2004

Melissa James begins her work as the first Pathways associate for vocation and mentoring.

Fall 2009

Campus ministry expands to two full-time pastors.

Nov. 30, 2012

Grant funding (including Wartburg match) ends.

20
03

'04

'05

'06

'07

'08

'09

'10

'11

'12

'13

20
14

Feb. 26, 2004

First meeting of Vocation National Advisory Board, chaired by Carla Schulz '82.

2006

College receives \$500,000 renewal grant from Lilly Endowment, to be matched with college funds.

June 30, 2010

Dr. Lake Lambert leaves Wartburg for Mercer; Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans becomes second DCCI Project Director.

Among the signature DCCI achievements:

- Integrating the pillars into first-year Inquiry Studies 101 courses, then seamlessly sewing them across much of the curriculum.
- Establishing the Center for Community Engagement with its multifaceted service, community outreach, and leadership programs.
- Investing in faculty development.
- Prioritizing and centralizing internships.
- Expanding the Pathways Center's role.
- Creating Spiritual Life and Campus Ministry to enhance involvement with the campus community and outreach off campus.



Ramona Bouzard

The Rev. Dr. Ramona Bouzard, a DCCI project leader, called it a difference maker.

"I honestly believe that without the Lilly grant we would have disappeared into a generic void of small liberal arts

colleges," she said. "That's not because we don't have strengths, but because we would have had no common language to build on them. We would have had no insistence on helping faculty and staff learn what this place is about. We wouldn't have had a creative way to move faith, learning, leadership, and service into the future, except as taglines.

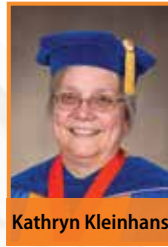
"Now you find all those words describing the institution, and we do it in a unified way. You can go anywhere on campus — athletics, music, campus ministry — and hear the talk about service and leadership. That makes a real difference for our students."

Dr. Lake Lambert, then an associate professor of religion and now dean of the Mercer (Ga.) College of Liberal Arts, led the project. He also became the first director of the CCE, an idea conceived by faculty.

"Experiential education was a key component of the original grant — internships, service-learning, and other field experiences," he recalled. "Fred Waldstein (professor of political science) and Bill Withers (then associate professor of communication arts) suggested that we integrate various functions related to experiential learning. This included a residence hall director who worked with service-learning and service trips, a part-time staff position that worked with Fred's Community Builders program, and a part-time staff position that handled education field placements.

"A key goal was to better serve our community partners," Lambert added. "Schools would need to call three different people related to engaging students in schools because one person handled education field placements, one person handled volunteer efforts, and one person handled course-based service learning. We wanted our partners to be able to call one place."

The CCE is now a one-stop shop for community partners as the umbrella for the Institute for Leadership Education, Community Builders, the school partnership program, Church Relations and Faith Community Outreach, internships, service-learning, and the student-led Volunteer Action Center.



Kathryn Kleinhans

The mission pillars have been largely embedded across the curriculum, starting with Inquiry Studies courses.

"The most significant thing in terms of curriculum is that IS 101 was redesigned to reflect

the mission statement of the college," Kleinhans said. "So the IS 101 reader has sections on faith and learning and leadership and service. It was not something we had initially planned, but the folks who led IS101 had this idea of embedding the mission into the curriculum."

DCCI also led to faculty and students attending more conferences.

"In a lot of research fields you'd like students to attend conferences even before they have something to present. It's an opportunity to explore and get a sense of what their profession will look like when they get out of school," Kleinhans said. "We had no idea how popular that program would be, but if you took it away people would notice."

Faculty development included heritage trips to Germany, summer workshops, and internship opportunities in their fields.

"I think the faculty development part has created momentum and raised the bar," Kleinhans said. "You give people some resources, and it helps them follow up on ideas and opportunities they were interested in, but didn't have the time or the funds."

The Wartburg ethos, she stressed, had long been in place before DCCI. "We simply thought about ways of amplifying it and creating more buy-in."

Much of the college's strategic plan reflects the Callings Initiative.

"That reaffirms that we made a difference that was notable enough that it was picked up at the board level and is being carried forward," Kleinhans said. "That's pretty cool."

THE CCE: A DOOR TO THE COMMUNITY

by Kristin Canning '14

THE SUCCESS OF WARTBURG'S CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT isn't

about the numbers, according to director Dr. Dan Kittle, but the deep experiential learning students gain by participating in service.

But if proof were needed, since the CCE's creation in 2005 the number of service trips has more than doubled. Before the CCE, an average of six to eight trips were offered per year. Now there are 18 to 20 different trips annually.



Dan Kittle

"The first couple of years, we were the new shiny object," Kittle said. "Now we're embedded in the college. If you asked students, 'What is vocation? What is calling?' I think students here would have a more thoughtful answer."

The CCE was conceived as part of the Discovering and Claiming Our Callings Initiative, initially adding four full-time staff members (director, internship coordinator, school partnerships coordinator, and service-learning coordinator). The grant also supplemented service trip costs and provided mini-grants for student projects.

Since then, a church relations/faith community outreach coordinator has been added.

The CCE works with the Volunteer Action Center to provide learning opportunities for students and faculty as well as meet Waverly community needs.

"The Lilly grant was the spark that started the CCE," Kittle said. "It removed barriers to projects; let the mission of the college become more vibrant and evident. We took things that were good about Wartburg and made them excellent."

The CCE is involved in coordinating Community Builders, a program that connects Wartburg students, Waverly-Shell Rock and St. Paul's Lutheran School sixth graders, and adult volunteers to learn about service.



Center for Community Engagement opened the door for more outreach.



Wartburg was designated by Waverly to lead 2008 flood relief and recovery.

The VAC coordinates blood drives, MLK Day service, Cans for a Cause, St. Elizabeth Week, and sends students to service-focused conferences.

"What the CCE provides is what the future demands of students," Kittle said.

Ashley Dickinson '14 of Blair, Neb., was looking for a way to get more involved in the community before becoming the student organization liaison for the VAC.

"It's helped me realize there are a lot of different service opportunities in the Cedar Valley area," she said. "No matter what you're interested in, there's something you can do. Integrating service into organizations can make them even stronger."

Last year, Dickinson was involved in coordinating 511 volunteers in one of 20 different projects on MLK Day, raising \$248 during St. Elizabeth Week for Hurricane Sandy relief, sending 13 students to the Midwest Service Leaders Conference in Milwaukee, and organizing two blood drives with the American Red Cross.



Renee Sedlacek

Former service-learning coordinator Renee Sedlacek (now at Drake) said Wartburg's focus on community engagement was strengthened by the creation of the CCE.

There are not only more students participating in service trips, but they're writing reflections about their service-learning during and after their trips.

"There is a stronger focus on social justice and appreciation for being reflective volunteers who consider the voice of the community and respond according to the community's direct needs rather than pushing their own agenda," Sedlacek said.

Alex Brannaman '13 of Mount Vernon, a CCE work study student, went to Denver, Colo., for a service trip in 2010. He worked with Brothers Redevelopment, an organization that provides housing and services to the



Alex Brannaman '13

region's low-income, elderly and disabled residents. He also was involved in the Community Builders program during his senior year.

"I enjoyed being able to put my learning into

action with the local youth, and this out-of-classroom experience was challenging and rewarding," Brannaman said.

Kittle and Sedlacek were both proud of the CCE's relief efforts during the 2008 floods in Iowa. Waverly designated Wartburg — and, by extension, the CCE — to coordinate the relief efforts. The CCE matched resources and needs within the flooded areas, coordinated the work of outside agencies, and established the Bremer County Recovery Coalition.

"That was a challenging time for Iowa and Waverly," Kittle said. "We lived out our mission during those floods. I don't think it would have been as well-coordinated and meaningful without the CCE."

Sedlacek said coordinating volunteers for flood relief was a memorable project.

"It made me very proud that the city looked to the CCE as a coordinating entity. It was a big responsibility, and it demonstrated that we had established partnerships and that people outside of the college trusted us," she said.

While the Lilly grant is no longer providing funds for the CCE, VAC, and Service Trips, Kittle said the organizations are established now.

"The college is committed to it," he said. "There are alumni and friends interested in the services the CCE provides, so I think there will be donors for sustainable funding."

Brannaman thinks Wartburg would be very different without the CCE.

"The college would be missing an experienced and valuable staff that contributes to the mission statement," Brannaman said. "The CCE truly serves as a door to the community, and the office is involved with many aspects of campus life."

INTERNSHIPS HELP STUDENTS CLAIM THEIR CALLINGS

by Emily Christensen

A SUMMER JOB IN 2005 INSPIRED RYAN HAHN '08 TO EMBARK

on a journey of exploration that would lead him to both coasts, another country, and define his career.

Hahn spent the summer following his freshman year digitizing a bank's paper files. At night, he researched internship opportunities in his field: electronic media and public relations.

"The bank job was thankless and mindless," he said. "I vowed I would never have a summer like that again."

He started school that fall armed with hundreds of internship applications.



Jo Dorrance

Jo Dorrance, Wartburg's newly hired internship coordinator in the Center for Community Engagement, was waiting. Her position was created following research from the Commission

on Mission, the college's three-year strategic planning process, and is an integral part of the Claiming Our Callings initiative.

"It became clear that it was important for students to have experiential learning experience," Dorrance said. "Employers are saying a student without an internship is not as viable a candidate for employment. It became very critical not only for the students, but also for us, to give them the tools to be employable when they graduate."

Dorrance provided direction for Hahn, who completed internships in San Diego, Sydney, and Chicago before landing in New York City, where he now works in consumer marketing at HBO.

Hahn credited Dorrance and her relentless work for his success.



Ryan Hahn '08 now works at HBO.



Jacob Huegel '15 is an intern with the Waterloo Black Hawks hockey team.

"She was the spark. She said, 'You are here. Here are the steps that you need to get where you want to go,'" Hahn said. "The internships she helped me secure were essential."

Dorrance's primary responsibility is to create an awareness of internship possibilities, while establishing relationships with businesses and organizations that could lead to opportunities.



Penni Pier

Prior to 2005, individual departments helped students secure internships. Most Wartburg majors strongly recommend an internship, but only 11 require one.

Dr. Penni Pier, professor of communication arts and Grant L. Price Endowed Department

Chair, knows classroom theory must be matched with real-world experiences for a truly well-rounded education. All communication arts majors must complete one internship — two are recommended — before graduation.

Pier's students have found positions with the NFL's Green Bay Packers; High Noon Entertainment, the production company responsible for *Cake Boss*, VH1's *Tough Love*, and several HGTV reality shows; and the 80/35 music festival in Des Moines.

"Our students are only restricted by their ability to try," Pier said. "We encourage all of our students to do one internship locally and another outside their comfort zone."

Even though many interns are not paid for their work, the experience more than makes up for the lack of compensation. "Our internships have to be just as academically rigorous as our course work," Dorrance said. "Students must go into the internship with clear goals and objectives that have been vetted by their faculty sponsor and site supervisor."

Pre-med students start their journey beyond the classroom at Waverly Health Center, where they engage in more than 1,500 hours total of volunteer service annually as part of the program. After completing 30 volunteer

hours, students are then given the opportunity to shadow physicians in areas such as general surgery, OB/GYN, emergency room, and the walk-in critical care clinic.

Students must be in their third or fourth year before they can do an internship for credit. Many want to complete their hours in the Cedar Valley to work around class schedules.

Last summer, Jacob Huegel '15 worked in a Charles City CPA firm. This fall he's a game-night intern with the Waterloo Black Hawks hockey team. Huegel, a business administration major with a sports management concentration, said both are good career stepping stones.

"Internships are a great opportunity to begin building connections with people who can help you later," he said. "My boss this summer already told me to come back if I ever wanted to work for him."

Dorrance has developed a traditional pipeline of internship opportunities in the Cedar Valley and has helped others land opportunities in Des Moines, Minneapolis, Chicago, and Seattle.

"If a student comes to me with a specific request, like law, then I get on the phone," she said.

The Wartburg West Urban Studies Program in Denver, Colo., is a growing part of the internship picture, including positions at Denver Health, where students who gained experience with the Waverly Health Center program can move on to more specialty areas.

Mackenzie Compton '14 was looking for an opportunity in event planning when she headed west last summer. She found a general management internship at Comedy Works in downtown Denver — and her calling.

"It was the total opposite of what I was looking for, but I loved it," Compton said. "I shadowed the general manager and did

everything from office work to rolling out a new menu to working the shows."

Compton will return to Denver and Comedy Works this month after graduation, joining more than 100 other Wartburg graduates who call the metro area home.

"If you talk about the Callings Initiative broadly, it's about researching vocation," Dorrance said. "These opportunities — internships here, in other countries, and in Denver — that is all part of that work."

PATHWAYS CENTER GUIDES CALLINGS

by Saul Shapiro

THE PATHWAYS CENTER WAS A PRIMARY FOCUS of the Discovering and Claiming Our Callings Initiative, emphasizing vocation — helping students discern their callings — and mentoring.



Rachel Claman Oppold '10

Rachel Claman Oppold's Pathways mentoring experience influenced her choice of vocation.

Oppold '10 was a mentor in the College Achievement Program, which enlists upperclass

students to assist their first-year peers in the transition to college. She said CAP helped her "discern what my passion is, and how I can incorporate that into a vocation. I wanted to contribute to the greater good. I also enjoyed listening to the first-years tell their stories."

She found the right fit as marketing manager for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

"My faith has been a part of my life, and this opportunity to work at the national church-wide office of the ELCA was an opportunity I couldn't pass up," she said. "I get to listen to people and tell the story of the good work being done across the U.S. and around the world by individuals, congregations, and our global companion churches."

Dr. Vicki Edelnant, the Pathways Center director, was a member of the DCCI committee.

"We're now more upfront about not only finding the careers students are good at and interested in, but it's also about applying their values," she said. "We've lifted that piece up in discussions with students."

The Pathways effort didn't end there, but "changed the ethos of how we approach



Mackenzie Compton '14



Vicki Edelnant

who we are in terms of being a mentoring community,” Edelnant said, citing four critical developments:

- The position of Pathways associate for vocation and mentoring was created. “That has helped us articulate to students an understanding of the notion of calling,” Edelnant said.
- The Orange Connection program was established, offering 30 students an opportunity during Winter Break to go to Des Moines or Chicago and connect with alumni in their workplaces, shadowing them and learning about their responsibilities.
- CAP has taught first-year students about time management, test preparation, note taking, stress reduction, and other techniques.
- More emphasis was placed on mentoring students with work-study jobs. “It’s been really important for mentors on campus to recognize that what they’re doing is educating students and helping them find their strengths and their callings,” Edelnant said.

Orange Connection provided insights for Jessica Schenk ’11, a social work and religion major. Now a graduate student in social work at Washington University in St. Louis, Schenk shadowed an alumnus who is a social worker at the YMCA in Chicago.

“Orange Connection was a really significant experience for me,” she said. “Spending several days with her really empowered me to consider what it would mean to claim my calling. Wartburg’s commitment to accompanying students on what really is a lifelong journey of discernment is one of the characteristics that sets it apart.”

Undergraduate students appreciate the guidance.

“One of the most rewarding pieces for me — and hopefully for the students — is meeting with them individually and helping them reflect on who they are and what their callings might entail,” said TJ Warren, the Pathways associate for mentoring and vocation.



TJ Warren

“One student was just so excited to have a road map for pursuing a career. She set up a meeting time to share a unique idea she wanted to pursue upon graduation — to establish a mentoring program to assist students and families

in urban areas and all the challenges they may face. She happens to be a first-year student, but she is already dreaming big.”



Pastors Ramona Bouzard and Brian Beckstrom, pictured with students Felicia Finley '15 and Paris White '15.

CAMPUS MINISTRY ADDS NEW LIFE

by Saul Shapiro

LILLY ENDOWMENT GRANTS helped Wartburg College advance its faith mission.

The \$2 million grant in 2002 for the Discovering and Claiming Our Callings Initiative was supplemented by \$500,000 (matched by Wartburg) from Lilly’s Programs for the Theological Exploration of Vocation in 2006.

After the Rev. Larry Trachte retired as campus pastor in 2009 after 34 years, campus ministry was transformed into Spiritual Life and Campus Ministry. The Rev. Dr. Ramona Bouzard, formerly director of church relations, became the new dean of the chapel. The Rev. Brian Beckstrom was hired as campus pastor. Church relations became part of the Center for Community Engagement.

“Larry and Ramona functioned as if there were two campus pastors, but technically she was director of church relations and only a quarter-time in campus ministry, although she was doing three things at once,” said Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, professor of religion. “Now we have two full-time people, which intensifies the campus ministry.”

Bouzard said the changes were essential “when students aren’t coming to college interested in institutional religion.” She distinguished between “spiritual life” and “campus ministry.”

“The campus ministry part is Christian formation. We have worship. We have Bible studies. We have a Christian mission in terms of supporting students in their faith,” Bouzard said. “But Spiritual Life represents the fact that all of us are asking questions about who we are and who God is, especially at a liberal arts institution where our mission is leadership, faith, service, and learning.”

Bouzard has been invigorated.

“I’m so excited about what it’s done to have the two of us meeting students,” she remarked. “We can play good cop/bad cop a lot, we have lots of fun, and students see a modeling of a male and

female working together. We also do partnerships across campus with other departments to really expand the mission.”

Beckstrom, she said, adds another dimension. “Brian has both experience and a personal interest in leadership, and we have been able to use his gifts.”

Lilly advocated promoting church vocations. “With the religion and philosophy department,” Kleinhans said, “it was about preparing students specifically for church vocations. We had funds for students to visit seminaries or attend conferences related to vocational formation.”

Spiritual Life and Campus Ministry, Kleinhans added, “has broadened the vision and provided more opportunities for student leadership. They’ve been intentional about doing training for campus ministry leaders, incorporating more musical groups and students with musical ability, even hiring a student as musical coordinator.”

Lilly recommended moving church relations out of campus ministry. “It is a lot of public work,” Bouzard said. “The CCE was the perfect place for it.”

Gail Sexton, director of church relations and faith community outreach, goes beyond the college’s affiliation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

“We had reached out to ecumenical groups,” Bouzard said, “but we had no vehicles or programs to do that in an organized way. She has connected students to congregations for volunteer work and paid positions that have been ecumenical and outside the Waverly area.

“As part of the CCE, she knows what’s happening with service trips and can help make connections with churches and schools through the school partnerships program in ways that weren’t happening before.”

All the changes, Bouzard said, “have helped us expand and deepen our mission as we commit ourselves to challenging students to connect their spiritual journey to all aspects of their daily lives and to the good that they can do as they serve the world’s need.”

Class Action

partners

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

GETTING OUT OF THEIR COLLEGE CLASSROOMS

and into different ones makes all the difference for some Wartburg students.

Partnering with elementary and secondary schools has provided them with authentic experiences designed to deepen their understanding of leadership, education, and service.

"The partnerships developed with local schools make both entities better," said Dr. William Soesbe, assistant professor of education. "We can sufficiently provide traditional- and peer-learning experiences on campus, but it is more of a challenge to provide authentic experiential-learning opportunities."

Wartburg partners with 81 schools in 16 school districts — all within 45 minutes of Waverly — and involves hundreds of students each year from virtually all majors.

While the partnerships provide Wartburg students with learning experiences, Soesbe said the college has worked hard to make the collaboration beneficial on both sides.

"These partnerships serve the needs of all stakeholders which in turn helps the community," Soesbe said. "The partnerships help develop a sense of community and bond people together as they all work toward a common goal."

Jessica Meier '99, a second-grade teacher at a Waverly-Shell Rock elementary school, has had Wartburg students return to her classroom long after their required hours are complete.

"I really enjoy my partnership with Wartburg," Meier said. "I feel like I am giving back to my alma mater and the education profession. In turn, I am getting quality assistance to help meet the needs of my educationally diverse second-graders."

A major component of the School Partnership Program is field experience for education majors. Amanda Sanderman, Wartburg's school partnerships coordinator, directs 600 field experiences each year.

"For our education students, the real-world experiences offered by our local schools simply cannot be replicated within our campus," Sanderman said. "Wartburg is dedicated to providing our students with experiences that will allow them to grow as professionals and educators, and the local classroom component is vital to that growth."



Sarah Wickett '14 of Indianola teaches band lessons to fifth graders at the Waverly-Shell Rock Middle School.


Liz Lincoln '14 of Maynard has been placed in many different schools for field experiences — from Charles City to Wapsie Valley.

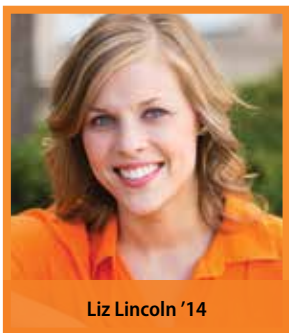
"The cooperating teachers do a very good job of passing on helpful tips," Lincoln said. "It's really cool to be able to use what I have learned in class at Wartburg in a real elementary classroom with real students."

Community Builders partners Wartburg students with Waverly-Shell Rock and St. Paul's Lutheran sixth-graders to experience leadership and service.

"The central focus of the program is on leadership, so collectively a diverse group of students from multiple majors come together to teach sixth-graders about making their communities better through public action," Soesbe said. "This diversity enriches the experience for all and creates a truly interdisciplinary learning environment."

Individual mentoring of at-risk students is another program Wartburg students participate in as part of the course Meeting the Needs of Children. Waverly-Shell Rock students work one-on-one weekly with a Wartburg mentor completing tie blankets to be sent to Bremwood Lutheran Children's Home.

"The W-SR student benefits from this individualized attention and learns to appreciate the importance of service while the Wartburg student gains experience in working with at-risk youth," Sanderman said. 



Liz Lincoln '14

Partnering in Schools programs:

- **Teacher Academy Program** partners some of the top education students with a local teacher for a multiyear partnership.
- **Developing Young Writers Conference** partners teaching elementary language arts and local second- through fourth-graders for a conference in writing and literacy.
- **Leadership 360 Conference** partners Leadership Theory and Practices course members with local fifth-graders in leadership activities.

- **Academic Cultural Exchange** brings Wartburg international students into local classrooms as guest speakers.
- **Steeple to Steeple** partnership with St. Paul's Church and elementary school includes a math club and lessons in science and engineering.
- **Graduate-level coursework** for cooperating teachers. Wartburg offers two graduate-level courses for cooperating teachers of field experience and student teachers in order for them to better understand the Wartburg teacher education program, the millennial student, communication, and feedback.

FOLLOWING THE LEADERS

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN THE LATE 1980s, Wartburg's Institute for Leadership Education has produced hundreds of unique leaders.

"We believe that everyone can be a leader, and it is something that can be taught," said Dr. William Soesbe, assistant professor of education and a leadership fellow. "Leadership is not reserved for the powerful or charismatic, and it is not a position or role. Rather it is about learning about yourself and using your strengths to serve others."

While Wartburg has always held leadership in high regard, "the college made a decision in the late 1980s to be more intentional about making students conscious of their leadership opportunities and attributes," said Dr. Fred Waldstein, professor of political science.

The ILE and the Irving R. Burling Chair in Leadership were created in 1989 thanks to generous funds from the Burling family and CUNA Mutual Insurance Company. Waldstein, who holds the chair, was given the opportunity to develop a program to implement Wartburg's vision for leadership.

When the program began developing in the early 1990s, it was ahead of its time, Soesbe said. Many colleges modeled their own leadership programs after what Wartburg has been doing.

"The part that makes Wartburg's leadership program so unique is that it does not view leadership through the traditional lens, but rather looks at leadership from the perspective of servant leadership," Soesbe said. "We

are confident that anyone can be a leader based on our definition that anyone who serves their communities is considered a leader."

The three integral ILE components include the leadership certificate or minor, Community Builders, and the High School Leadership Institute.

Wartburg's first leadership minor was awarded in 2001. Today, between 80 and 90 students complete the certificate each year.

To earn a leadership certificate, students complete the core classes Exploring Elements of Leadership, Leadership Theories and Practices,

and Leadership Summary Seminar. They also complete three leadership electives from a list of preselected courses: one within their major, one outside, and one from either.



Lanie Crouse '14

Lanie Crouse '14 of Maxwell chose to pursue the leadership minor for reflection experience.

"In Leadership Theories and Practices we were challenged to think in-depth about why we do the things we do and what we want to leave behind after we are gone," Crouse said. "I think being pushed to think like this somewhat changed the way I think in general."

Community Builders takes leadership students out of the classroom and into the community through interaction with elementary schools, Self-Help International, and senior citizens.

"The purpose of this project is to use the assets of community members with different cognitive, social, civic, and intergenerational backgrounds and skills to build and strengthen the community they share both locally and beyond," Waldstein said.


"I've never really been around kids before, so this was a big change for me," Crouse said about being a Community Builder. "I think it will help me become a better leader because I am learning to work with all different demographics of people."

The High School Leadership Institute engages high school students from around the country as youth leaders in yearlong service-learning projects. Wartburg students serve as leader mentors on the youth leaders' projects.

"The college mentors grow as they consider their own skills and abilities, and the impact they can have on the lives of the high school students," said Dr. Michael Gleason, former associate for vocation and mentoring at Pathways, now at Washburn (Kan.) University. "The high school students are empowered and learn the impact they can have in their communities through their community service projects."

Soesbe focused his dissertation for his doctorate on Wartburg's leadership program to "determine the essence of the leadership experience as determined by alumni who graduated from 2003-2011" based on 33 alumni interviews.

Soesbe has had numerous conversations with graduates of the program about how "life-changing" it is.

"It was the opportunity to learn about themselves, gain confidence in leading, and participate in experiences and opportunities that they would not be able to do any other way," Soesbe said. 



William Soesbe



Ieshia Brown '14 of Marion



Adam Azzaro '14 of Chicago, Ill.



Daion Irvin '14 of Broadview, Ill.

Chicago HOPE

Record Wartburg gift, program helping Chicago students

by Megan Reid

RAY AND JUDY McCASKEY THOUGHT students at the Rowe-Clark Math & Science Academy in Chicago would be an excellent fit for Wartburg College.

Likewise, they believed the college would be an excellent fit for graduates of Rowe-Clark, a campus of the Noble Network of Charter Schools in Chicago that opened in 2007 and has nearly 600 students in grades 9-12 — 63 percent African-American and 32 percent Hispanic students.

Rowe-Clark is ranked ninth out of 116 open enrollment public high schools in Chicago. Students engage in a rigorous college preparatory curriculum.

So the couple, 1965 Wartburg graduates, established the McCaskey Orange Opportunity Scholarship Program for Wartburg students from the Chicago area with financial need. Their \$11.5 million gift to Wartburg — \$1.5 million in immediate scholarship resources and an additional \$10 million to be fulfilled through their estate — is the largest commitment ever made to the college.

The current chair of the Wartburg Board of Regents, Ray McCaskey is the retired CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. A Chicago native, he earned his undergraduate degree in math from Wartburg and his master's degree from DePaul University in 1971. Judy Slade McCaskey, a native of Mason City, graduated summa cum laude with a degree in elementary education.

"Everyone aspires to make a difference in the world, each in their own way," Ray said. "For us, education is the key to changing young peoples' lives and thus impacting our world."

The McCaskeys attribute their passion for education to decades of involvement with the Chicago school system. Judy taught for 40 years in the Chicago area and still volunteers in inner-city public schools.

Among the seven not-for-profit boards on which Judy serves is After School Matters, a program that develops cultural activities for the city's teenagers founded by former Chicago First Lady Maggie Daley and former Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs Commissioner Lois Weisberg. Judy has been involved with After School Matters since it began two decades ago. She saw firsthand the life-changing power of education through the program.

"We would visit the schools, and we saw a lot of those kids who gained self-confidence and an attitude of 'I can be somebody' and 'I can do something with my life,'" Judy said.

The McCaskeys are active supporters of Rowe-Clark. Their connection came through their association with the founders — friends John and Jeanne Rowe and Frank and Vera Clark.

"They would talk about this new school, and their enthusiasm rubbed off on us," Ray said.

"Rowe-Clark has students who have tremendous economic needs, but also have academic potential," he added. "They need to go to a place like Wartburg where people know about them and care about what they're doing."

"We have been working for the past decade at increasing our recruitment initiatives and enrollment among students from Chicago and larger Illinois," said Dr. Edith Waldstein, Wartburg's vice president for enrollment management.

"Much of our diversity recruitment initiatives have focused on Chicago. Since Ray and Judy McCaskey introduced us to the Rowe-Clark Academy, we have cultivated a closer relationship with the faculty, staff, and students," she continued.



Ray '65 and Judy Slade '65 McCaskey

This summer, Rowe-Clark students participated in the Summer Knights program, a new five-week residential program for students who otherwise may have difficulties making the transition from high school to college.


"Wartburg excels in enabling students to live their learning, unlock their potential, and find their calling," Wartburg President Darrel Colson said. "This gift allows students who otherwise may not have an opportunity to consider a college education to take full advantage of the distinctive educational environment for which Wartburg is well known."

One of the recipients is Angelina Carrasquillo '15, a first-generation college student who describes the scholarship as "life-altering."

"I always wanted to come to college, but I never thought I would be blessed with people like the McCaskeys to support me and make my dreams become a reality," Carrasquillo said. "They are the open door at the end of the tunnel; they are that one special opportunity in life; they are, in a way, your ticket to success."

To Carrasquillo, the McCaskeys are even more than the donors of her scholarship.

"I consider the McCaskeys to be a second set of parents, because they actually took the time to get to know me as a person and look out for me."

"We have been blessed in our lives and have always been guided by the biblical quote, 'To whom much has been given, much is expected,'" Judy McCaskey said. 

SUMMER KNIGHTS

by Emily Christensen

AFTER THREE WEEKS ON CAMPUS Esteban Hurtado '17 was ready to dole out sage words of wisdom to other Wartburg College first-years.

"Don't make stupid decisions in the first week," he said.

Hurtado was one of 15 first-year students in Summer Knights, the college's first summer bridge program. The five-week residential program was designed to help promising students who may otherwise have had difficulties transitioning from high school to college.

Students — many of them from Rowe-Clark Math & Science Academy in Chicago — did college-level course work and acclimated themselves to the campus and Cedar Valley.

"The first (bridge) week was pretty rough. We were here. We finally got to make our own choices. We stayed up too late. We focused too little," said Hurtado, who has an advising preference in history. "You have to be careful about the decisions you make because you will be overwhelmed by the new environment."

The difference: The Summer Knights students made those mistakes before classes started this fall.

"The program succeeded in helping the students develop the confidence that they can succeed in college-level studies," said Jette Irgens, the Summer Knights director.

The pilot program was made possible by a gift from Ray '65 and Judy Slade '65 McCaskey.

Destiny Davis '17, a business administration major, was one of 12 Rowe-Clark students in the Summer Knights program. Fourteen of the 15 participants returned to campus for Fall Term.



Dr. Christine DeVries gives a chemistry demonstration.

She also is one of two first-year Rowe-Clark students to receive an Orange Opportunity Scholarship this year. The scholarship program was solidified by the McCaskeys' recent \$11.5 million gift, which will provide scholarship support to students from the Chicago area.

"It feels good to be part of something so big," Davis said. She will have the opportunity to receive the scholarship in each of the next three years.

Davis said Summer Knights taught her the discipline she will need to be successful at Wartburg.

"It doesn't matter what background you came from, or how smart you think you are, college is going to be difficult. You have to find the motivation to do it even when you don't feel like doing it," Davis said.

Students took three for-credit courses. Mandatory study hours kept them on top of their class work.

Irgens said the jumpstart meant students could begin more major-related course work during their first or second term.

The students also participated in several hands-on academic opportunities on campus; visited Waterloo; and traveled to Genuine Faux Farms in Tripoli, a certified organic farm co-owned by Rob and Dr. Tammy Faux, an associate professor and Tomson Family Distinguished Chair in Social Work.

The program also gave Davis the opportunity to meet and develop relationships with Wartburg faculty and staff — people she can now turn to if she struggles academically or personally. Irgens said many first-years are reluctant to reach out when they need help.

"This program gave them that point of contact. We will continue to meet every two or three weeks during the school year. We will be following these students," Irgens said. The hope is that all will return for their second year.

"Their transition this fall was greatly facilitated by their participation in the Summer Knights bridge program. They came with an infrastructure all set in place. They moved about campus in comfort from Day One." 



Students visit Genuine Faux Farms.



Students attend lecture.



Wartburg students scour Cedar River for predators

by Emily Christensen

THREE WARTBURG COLLEGE STUDENTS waded through the Cedar River this summer in search of a voracious crayfish with a diet detrimental to the entire aquatic ecosystem.

Unfortunately, they found what they were looking for.

"Rusty crayfish are along the whole Cedar River area we studied," Jeremy Corbett '14 said. "But, we also found native crayfish in the river, so the rusty crayfish (Ohio River Valley natives) have not completely taken over."

Corbett of Cedar Rapids, Kelsie Durscher '15 of Waverly, and Therin Bradshaw '15 of Port Byron, Ill., set about 150 crayfish traps in 50 locations along the Cedar River, Little Cedar River, and other smaller tributaries.

The summer research project was done in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Kim Bogenschutz, the DNR's aquatic invasive species program coordinator, said the students' work will help them get a "better handle on rusty crayfish distribution in the state."

The rusty crayfish feeds on aquatic insects, fish eggs, and other invertebrates. A reduction in aquatic plant beds can lead to fewer nesting areas and shelter for fish and other species.

"We don't have the staff or the time to go out and do this kind of research," Bogenschutz said. "When Dr. (Eric) Merten contacted us, it

was an easy way for us to get work done that we needed done, and it was a good way for him to get students involved in research."

The students also spent August working in the Superior National Forest in Minnesota to determine the long-term impact of the 2011 Pagami Creek wildfire in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The fire burned about 100,000 acres.

"All of this research is getting them practical sampling experience. The techniques they are using are being used in the field as well," said Merten, an assistant professor of biology who worked for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for seven years.

"They will be the first authors on whatever products come out of this, writing completion reports to Iowa DNR and the forest service. Ideally we will also submit papers to journals and have them present their findings."

The summer spent slogging through the Cedar also helped the students focus on their future plans.

Corbett wants to be a science teacher. The lessons learned this summer — critical thinking, communication, and collaboration — can be integrated into his school work and passed along to his future students.

"I'm taking an ecology class right now, and I have a different

HE BROUGHT A

ZOO

by Emily Christensen



THE SOUND OF HUNDREDS OF SCURRYING COCKROACHES

is commonplace in Dr. Michael Bechtel's Science Center classroom.

Some students are turned off by the noise. Others are intrigued.

"Animals are a way to liven up the classroom. It makes things interesting," said Bechtel '94, who joined the Wartburg faculty this summer as a professor of science education. "The animals can draw them in."

Bechtel has taken a page — or several — from Howard Gardner's 1983 book *Frames of Mind: The Theory of Multiple Intelligences*, which outlines seven criteria for a behavior to be considered an intelligence. Gardner then chose eight learning abilities he believed met those criteria, including naturalistic.

"That's how I learn," Bechtel said. "When I think about plants, life, or reproduction, kids want a hands-on experience."

In Bechtel's room, they usually get it. Students are encouraged to touch and hold the animals, even during class. In previous years, he owned a Patagonian mara — a large jackrabbit-like rodent — that would regularly roam his classroom begging students for snacks.

"A lot of students think science is scary, but if they can come in and say, 'Guess what? Today I touched a snake' or 'We saw the cockroach have babies,' those are the things that draw them in," Bechtel said. "And it works on all ages, even my college students."

Erika Ott '96, a fifth-grade teacher at Waverly-Shell Rock Middle School, had Bechtel, his students, and his animals visit with her school's fifth-graders. While there were no babies born during this presentation, Ott said the students were still in awe of the collection and experience.



Michael Bechtel '94




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



A summer spent studying crayfish along the Cedar River helped Therin Bradshaw '15, a biology and environmental studies major, narrow his career focus.

perspective on what we are learning because of this experience,” Corbett said. “The things I am doing in my Humanity and the Environment class also apply to the work I did this summer.”

For Bradshaw, a biology and environmental studies major looking toward a future with the DNR or a forestry service, the experience could be his key to professional success.

“People who work with the DNR stay with us and they stay a long time,” Bogenschutz said. “This kind of experience shows us that an applicant is interested in the work they do, and they are trying to do more. It is a competitive job market, and the experiences these students had this summer are invaluable.” 

“A lot of students think science is scary, but if they can come in and say, ‘Guess what? Today I touched a snake’ or ‘We saw the cockroach have babies,’ those are the things that draw them in.”

— Dr. Michael Bechtel '94

“It was truly amazing,” Ott said. “This is something our students will remember forever. Many of our students never would have thought to touch a snake before, but Mike and his students were so calm and kind, the kids just came out of their shells.”

The animals are particularly helpful

when engaging special-needs children, Bechtel said.

“My master’s project was on animals in the classroom. I found that autistic students wouldn’t speak, but once the animals were involved — especially the bearded dragon — it wasn’t about them, and they would talk to their peers,” he said.

Bechtel was a Wartburg student when he purchased a ball python — the first animal in his menagerie, which now totals more than 30 species. His collection includes snakes and other reptiles, amphibians, rodents, and a couple mammals. He has rats, mice, and hamsters. He has Australian tree and Pacman frogs. The snakes, tortoises, and other reptiles are too numerous to count.


In fact, his collection has grown so large he prefers to share the animals with other educators.

While teaching high school science in Saydel, Bechtel placed animals

in more than 15 school districts and 100 classrooms. Each year Bechtel set up the animal in the class and trained the teacher to care for it. Every other month his students would visit, check on the animals, and do a short presentation for the class.

Ott has yet to request an animal, but she knows many Waverly-Shell Rock Middle School teachers, including herself, would love to.

“That is such an awesome experience for Wartburg students,” Ott said. “They are not only learning about the animals, but they are learning about being teachers in a classroom as well.

“Our kids get to see what it’s like to be a college student and the opportunities they can have at that level. The Wartburg students who came to visit with us were all great role models,” she continued. “Everyone benefits from this kind of collaboration.” 



Gratias receives France's highest award for WWII veterans

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

A WARTBURG GRADUATE AND WORLD WAR II VETERAN

who has dedicated his life to service has received France's highest honor.

Arthur "Art" Gratias '70 of Mason City received the Knight of the Legion of Honor medal on April 26 from the French government for his service in World War II. A Legion of Honor medal is its highest recognition for military and civilian service, dating back to Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802.

The award — also given to the likes of Dwight D. Eisenhower and Walt Disney — recognizes World War II veterans with a minimum 20 years of public service or 25 years of professional activity.

"It's been amazing," said Gratias, who turned 93 on May 1.

Gratias enlisted in the U.S. Army in January 1942. He participated in the Normandy landings on D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge. He was wounded in France in August 1944, for which he received the Purple Heart.

Coincidentally, he and his wife, Alice '70, were married on June 6, 1943 — exactly one year prior to D-Day, the Allied invasion that changed the course of World War II.

Gratias' public service and professional history span well beyond the award's minimum requirements.

He has been a farmer, school teacher, administrator and school board member, 4-H leader, nursing home board member, state commander of American Legion Iowa, served eight years in the Iowa

Senate, and has held many offices in his home church and the Nora Springs Kiwanis chapter among many others.

"Alice, says, 'Art, you never know enough to say no,'" Gratias said. "I've been in so many things, but I always feel that God has more for me to do."


Gratias said another reason he is involved in so much is to keep his mind off the tragedy and trauma he experienced during his service in World War II.

"I do get very emotional," Gratias said. "It's hard for me to talk about."

Art and Alice arrived at Wartburg as non-traditional students in the late 1960s when they were in their 40s. They completed their degrees in education in 1970 after four years of driving 50 miles per day from Nora Springs and farming 440 acres.

Gratias was presented the medal at the Mason City Senior Center before 100 friends and relatives.

"I've been incredibly blessed," Gratias said of his accomplishments.

Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, paid tribute to Gratias in the Congressional Record: "Art Gratias is a prime example of that remarkable American spirit of voluntarism that the French writer Alexis de Tocqueville discovered in the early years of our nation, so it is fitting that he was singled out by the French government for its highest honor. I am proud to add my voice to those who pay tribute to his life of service." 

View more of Art's story



A 2007 Iowa Public Television interview with Art Gratias is at
http://www.iptv.org/iowastories/story.cfm/wwii/1992/wwii_20070920_gratias/video.

Art and Alice Gratias were interviewed at a 2011 Mason City Outfly
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pf0sXnt0H70>.

WWII Revisited

WWII tour will commemorate 70th anniversary of D-Day and European battlegrounds

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

A WARTBURG ALUMNI TOUR WILL REVISIT the D-Day invasion on its 70th anniversary.

The Rev. Larry Trachte '66, former Wartburg campus pastor, and Dr. Terrance Lindell, professor of history, will lead the tour, June 14-28, which also will include historic sites related to Wartburg College.

"D-Day, June 6, 1944, is one of those key dates in history when, had the outcome of the day been different, we might have a very different postwar world," Lindell said.

"Larry and I visited about some key sites related to significant events in the war," Lindell said. "From that list we chose sites that would work well for the length of tour we wanted."

Trachte and Lindell also included important Wartburg historical sites, including Eisenach and the Wartburg Castle.

"Many of these also show the impact of World War II," Lindell said. "For example, the St. George Church in Eisenach has a memorial to local soldiers killed in World War I and II."

Trachte has been to almost all of the sites, but always wanted to learn more. He also had been interested in taking Lindell's World War II course, but his schedule never permitted it.


"We hit on the idea of doing an alumni tour with a World War II theme," Lindell said. "The arrangements take advantage of Trachte's long experience leading tours and my experience teaching about World War II."

"As Dr. Lindell says, 'We should have done this 10 or 15 years ago!'" Trachte added. "Well, we're finally going to do it."

As it happened, their idea resonated, and the tour was completely sold out in short order. They will repeat the tour in Summer 2015.

The tour will have a personal meaning for Trachte.

"My father landed at Normandy, fought under General Patton, fought at the Battle of St. Lo (an early, crucial battle in Normandy), and was part of the push to liberate Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge," Trachte said. "He reached the Rhine before finally coming back home to meet me as a one-year-old son he had never seen."

"It's going to be a terrific opportunity to see some of the most significant sites in a conflict that dwarfs other wars along many measures and that shaped the world in which we live," Lindell said. "These are places where history changed because of what happened there." 

"From D-Day to VE Day" will travel from London and Paris to Germany.

Specific sites pertaining to the Allied war effort will include:

- The war room of Winston Churchill, where some wartime planning took place.
- Portsmouth, England, a major port where Allied forces gathered.
- Normandy, France, the site of the D-Day invasion.
- Bastogne, France, one site from the Battle of the Bulge.
- Remagen, France, where the Allies first crossed the Rhine.

In Germany, the sites include:

- The Merker salt mines where Nazis stashed gold.
- The Buchenwald concentration camp.
- A Nazi museum in Nürnberg.

The Rev. Larry Trachte '66 and Dr. Terry Lindell are teaming up for a 70th anniversary tour of historic WWII sites. Visit www.wartburg.edu/events/ww2.html or email abbie.smith@wartburg.edu for more information on Alumni Tours.





RAISING Voices:

Professors reflect on teaching students, performing

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

THEIR WORLD IS NOT AMERICAN IDOL OR THE VOICE. They are not “drop-in coaches” providing quick pointers for aspiring music stars.

Drs. Brian Pfaltzgraff and Jennifer Larson, associate professors of voice, know the intricacies involved in instructing students seeking careers in music and voice because they perform as well as coach.

“The process of training to become a vocal performer, just as for any other highly skilled professional, involves serious and deep self-reflection, and not just once, but again and again throughout the process,” Larson said.

“Most of my students have preferred careers in education, and several have gone on to study at Florida State University, University of Missouri-Kansas City, and Indiana University,” Pfaltzgraff said. “They perform regularly in the Ohio, Missouri, and Florida operatic and oratorio markets.”

Their students are immersed in a program that recognizes the demands they will face.

The core curriculum includes music theory, history, and ear training. Larson said Wartburg voice majors also receive instruction in vocal technique — using the voice as an instrument; vocal pedagogy — anatomy, physiology, and teaching techniques; artistry, including musicianship and acting; vocal literature; and diction — the ability to deliver sung words with clarity and native authenticity.

“Singers learn how to sing understandably and believably, not only in English, but also in Italian, Latin, Spanish, German, and French,” she said. “Some students even venture into Czech, Russian, Swedish, Norwegian, and other languages.”

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— Dr. Jennifer Larson

The artistic requirements of singing, she added, “require and invite a sort of spiritual submission to feeling and expressing human emotion without fear and without regard to whether or not you have ever experienced or felt what your character is experiencing.”

The professors — class and office mates at the University of Michigan while working on their doctorates — know well the balancing act of teaching and performing that lies ahead for many of their students.

“Ours is not an 8-to-5 job that one leaves behind to spend the evening relaxing with friends and family,” said Larson. “We have concerts and rehearsals in the evenings and on weekends. We have music to discover and to learn and memorize. Of course, this has to happen after hours for those of us working as full-time teachers.”

“[Singing] requires and invites a sort of spiritual submission to feeling and expressing human emotion without fear and without regard to whether or not you have ever experienced or felt what your character is experiencing.”

— Dr. Jennifer Larson



Dr. Jennifer Larson coaches Marie Sorenson '13 of Cedar Rapids.

Pfaltzgraff, a tenor, has performed in more than 30 leading operatic roles and an even wider range of concerts. He appears regularly with the Union Avenue Opera in St. Louis and in productions with multiple operatic companies.

Larson, a soprano, was once described as having a “golden voice” by *USA Today*. She has performed in lead roles with numerous operatic companies and has been in high demand as a featured concert soloist.

“Voice performance is not for wimps,” she said. “As a solo vocal performer there is usually nothing between you and your audience but a few feet of air. It takes great courage to open oneself up to that kind of vulnerability and judgment.”

Larson, who is originally from Cedar City, Utah, attended the University of Utah, where she earned her bachelor and master’s degrees in voice performance.

Her love for music started at a young age.

“My older siblings tell me that when I was very young, I would stretch my arms as high as they would go in order to reach the keys on the piano and pick out melodies of the songs that I heard them singing around the house,” Larson said.

She began piano lessons at age 4 and voice lessons at 13. From there, she was actively involved in three choirs, two orchestras on the cello, a country fiddle group, and various musicals.

By 17, she was the youngest member of the Coca-Cola World Chorus for the opening ceremony of the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics.

“I fed on music much like people feed on pizza, cookies, and soda pop in their youth — willfully oblivious of the eventual trimmed-down diet that a healthy adult life would require,” Larson said.

Larson has performed with renowned orchestras and concertos. She earned high praise for her creation of the title role in Detroit’s world premiere of David Finko’s opera *Abraham and Hanna*.

A particular memory she holds dear was performing in the title role of the opera *Susannah* at the University of Michigan alongside Pfaltzgraff while they pursued their doctorates in musical arts.

“Not only did I get to share the stage with my friend and colleague, Brian, but I also got to share the opera stage with my oldest son, Anders (now a Wartburg student), who was only 7 years old at the time,” Larson said.

Pfaltzgraff is a native Iowan.

“My dad was a Methodist pastor,” Pfaltzgraff said, “so as a symptom of the itinerant system that his calling implies, I grew up in lots of different places in Iowa — Ackley, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls, Clinton, and Clarion.”

He added, “My adolescence was further enriched by living three months out of the year,

from the time I was 12 through my college graduation, with my sister and her husband on their cattle ranch in the high plains of Colorado.”

His family took notice of his singing in his teens, and he started taking it seriously while in high school.

“My brother-in-law heard me singing as I cleaned out the feedlot,” Pfaltzgraff said. “He told me that I had the loudest voice he’d ever heard, and that maybe I should consider opera as a career.”

Pfaltzgraff took up voice training after that. He attended Simpson College where he received a Bachelor of Music degree in education and German. He earned his master’s degree at Bowling Green State University before moving on to the University of Michigan for his doctorate.

His fondest memories, though, are singing with the choir at Simpson College. He married his fellow Wartburg voice instructor, Carita, also an Iowa native, after graduation from Simpson.

“The people I met there, and the skills I learned, constitute the cornerstones of everything I’ve done since,” Pfaltzgraff said. “Additionally, the work I did with the Toledo Opera in Ohio, and the Union Avenue Opera in St. Louis, hold very special memories for me.”

Pfaltzgraff notes that his career has been “reasonably fulfilling, full of just enough highs to make me feel like I have something to offer.”



Dr. Brian Pfaltzgraff uses his professional experience when training students like Christopher Kurt '14 of Independence.

“Wartburg College is exactly the type of school where I belong. I was drawn because of the music department’s excellent reputation. The institutional emphasis on service especially suits my personality.”

— Dr. Brian Pfaltzgraff

He has performed in a variety of venues from a Detroit cabaret to a cathedral in Salzburg, Austria, as well as the Festival Hall in Eisenach, Germany. The majority of his audiences have been German-speaking — both in the United States and Germany.

Both Larson and Pfaltzgraff have enjoyed their performance careers, but admit it can be a difficult path.

“I found that full-time performance is a tremendously satisfying, exhilarating, and often crushingly lonely experience,” Pfaltzgraff said. “Some folks are able to outrun their early operant conditioning and are perfectly comfortable with the solitude that every performer feels at some time in their life on the road. Or, they find the short-term friendships that accompany two- and three-week gigs to provide an adequate basis for interaction and fulfillment.”

Pfaltzgraff did not fall into that latter category.

“Because my wife has always worked, joining me on the road was never an option,” Pfaltzgraff said. “My family provides me with daily support and guidance, and I treasure that.”

Larson has had to leave her husband and three sons on several occasions for performances and auditions.

“Making expensive and often lengthy trips to audition can create a strain on the family

finances — one that has no guarantee of paying back,” Larson said. “The additional time away also puts a strain on the family in general. So I feel very blessed and grateful for the many wonderful career opportunities that have resulted from good friends and trusted colleagues who know my work and hire me based on our past work together.”

Pfaltzgraff said the audition process is the one obstacle every artist must overcome. More so, he finds holding an active teaching as well as performance schedule to be “even more frustrating.”

“Working 8-10 hours a day doesn’t leave much energy for practicing one’s own music,” he said.

Pfaltzgraff and his wife came to Wartburg, in part, so their son and daughter could be closer to their grandparents and in a quieter atmosphere.

“Wartburg College is exactly the type of school where I belong,” Pfaltzgraff said. “I was drawn because of the music department’s excellent reputation. The institutional emphasis on service especially suits my personality.”

He often travels with the Wartburg Choir during May Term tours overseas.

“Having a position at an institution like Wartburg College provides a unique opportunity to pursue a performance career


on a part-time basis,” Pfaltzgraff said. “Faculty members are encouraged to continue performance as a way to stay in the public eye and to generate interest in the college.”

Larson found her way to Wartburg entirely because of Pfaltzgraff when a position opened up shortly after she finished her doctorate in Ann Arbor, Mich.

“Jennifer and I shared a very cramped office at the University of Michigan,” Pfaltzgraff recalled. “After hearing her sing, watching her teach, and working with her in four different operas I promised myself that if I ever had a chance to suggest an ideal colleague for a collegiate teaching position, Jennifer would be the person I would recommend.”

“My family and I feel very happy here and are grateful for the beauty and the grace of the land and the people,” Larson said. “The ingenuity, talent, and diversity of our community’s members continue to inspire and amaze me.”

Larson doesn’t regret a moment of her career as a voice performer and encourages her students to take the same kinds of risks that she did.

“Life rewards you for the thoughtful risks you take and for the meaningful goals you make sacrifices to pursue,” Larson said. 

Sport SHORTS

Wartburg wins five conference titles

- The football team won the Iowa Conference title and a first-round NCAA Division III playoff game at No. 13 Illinois Wesleyan University, 41-7, before falling to No. 6 Bethel University in a 34-27 thriller in Arden Hills, Minn.
- The No. 3-ranked women's cross country team won the conference and NCAA Central Regional championships before finishing 11th in the NCAA national meet.
- The men's soccer team made the NCAA Division III Sweet Sixteen, losing in double overtime to No. 7 Trinity (Texas) University, 2-1. The Knights shared the regular-season conference championship with Loras and Luther.
- The Wartburg women's volleyball team won both the Iowa Conference regular season and tournament titles, before a five-set loss to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in the first round of the NCAA Division III tournament.
- The No. 24-ranked women's golf team won its seventh straight Iowa Conference title and will participate in the NCAA Division III tournament in May in Florida.

The fast and the furiously academic

The U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association named the Wartburg College and UW-Oshkosh women's track and field teams as NCAA Division III Scholar Teams of the Year. Wartburg, the outdoor champion, had a cumulative GPA of 3.274. UW-Oshkosh was the indoor champion.

Coaches take top national honors

The U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association named Wartburg head coach **Marcus Newsom** as the women's Outdoor Coach of the Year for the third time (also 2009, 2012) and **Melissa Norton**, who coaches throws, as the women's Assistant Outdoor Coach of the Year. The Knights defended their NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field team title (four total). Newsom and Norton earned similar Central Region honors. Newsom also was Iowa Conference Coach of the Year.

Britlyn Sieck among the NCAA elite

Volleyball and track star **Britlyn Sieck '13** of Fayette was nominated as an NCAA Woman of the Year.

Women's basketball shows its class

The Wartburg women's basketball team was named to the Women's Basketball Coaches Association Top 25 Academic Honor Roll with a team GPA of 3.489, which ranked No. 18.

Hinschberger headed for Hall of Fame

Dustin Hinschberger '06 will be inducted into the NCAA Division III Wrestling Hall of Fame March 13, prior to the national championship tournament in Cedar Rapids. The Belle Plaine native was Wartburg's first three-time national champion with 141-pound titles in 2004-06. He was a member of the 2004 and 2006 NCAA and NWCA National Duals championship teams.

Miller has special days

Former Wartburg wrestling coach **Jim Miller** was honored with a special day on Aug. 26 in Waterloo. The Waterloo East High School graduate led the Knights to 10 NCAA titles before retiring in March. He also was grand marshal of Wartburg's Homecoming parade.



Dr. Thomas Wicks '90

by Kristin Canning '14

THE HEARTS OF TWO WARTBURG ALUMNI

were with Plaza Towers Elementary School in Moore, Okla., after an EF5 tornado devastated the area on May 20, killing 23 people.

Dr. Thomas Wicks '90 of Chickasha, Okla., a first responder, would help clear rubble from the top of the collapsed school and search for children.

Emily Eimers '12, who had placed third in her first marathon the day before, would donate her cash prize to a very special Plaza Towers teacher and her students.

For Wicks and Eimers, faith was their guide.

"A house had been dropped on top of the school, so we kept finding all these kids' clothes and toys, but no kids. It was eerie, very eerie. But God pulls you through it," Wicks said.

Wicks, a podiatrist and chief medical officer for the Grady County Fire Department, searched through several buildings despite the risk of natural gas leak explosions. He helped bring in tanks of water because the town's water treatment plant had been damaged.

Wicks and his team also gave rides to families that had evacuated the town and weren't able to drive back to their homes to retrieve the few belongings that survived the storm.

"These people have nothing. They were so happy just to have pictures, little family mementos. To help them find those things was so rewarding, but very sad," Wicks said. "I still get a chill when I drive past there. They were so thankful to be alive."

Eimers, a first-grade teacher at Algona Elementary School and an All-American in track and cross country at Wartburg, found a different way to assist Moore.

As she raced to the finish line of the Cellcom Green Bay Marathon on May 19, she thought of her first-grade students — her motivators. She prayed to God to help her place high enough so she could donate the prize



Emily Eimers '12 in Moore, Okla., with teacher Evans and students.

AIDING Oklahoma



er Becky Jo

money to someone who really needed it. She asked God to be blunt about where the money should go.

After her phenomenal finish, Eimers was still unsure of what to do with the money. God made it clear the very next day.

"I thought, 'This is exactly where it was called to be,'" Eimers said. "So I Googled any teacher that taught first grade at Plaza Towers Elementary."

Eimers found Becky Jo Evans, a young first-grade teacher — a lot like herself. Evans had thrown herself on top of her students as walls collapsed in her classroom. Eimers was determined to give her money directly to Evans to help her students and buy classroom materials.

With her \$1,000 marathon prize, the help of her students who wanted to contribute to the Moore fund, and Algona faculty and staff, Eimers raised \$1,600. She also collected Friendship Faith dolls and Moses Monkeys for the students.

Eimers got in touch with Evans in late July, and they scheduled a meeting. She then drove to Moore to see the woman who was an inspiration to her and deliver the check.

"It was so shocking," she said about the devastation at the school, "but it's something I wanted to do for so long. It almost felt totally untrue. It's hard not to imagine your own kids."

Eimers met some of Evans' students and delivered the dolls and toys to them.


"She said it was one of the first times she's seen the kids smile and have fun like they used to, like maybe they will get over this," Eimers said. "She said her mind has been turned around to the love of people."

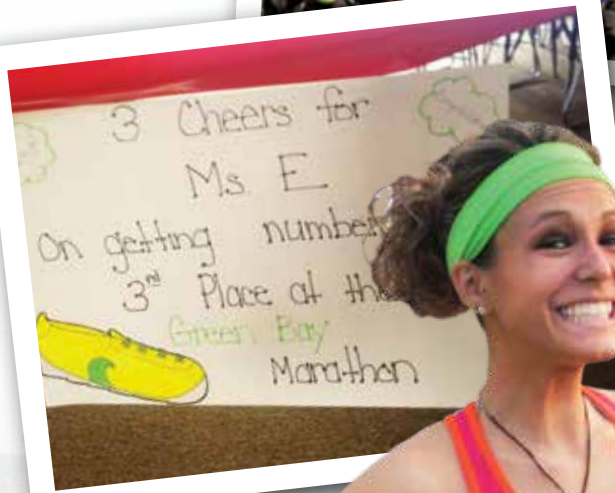
Eimers' and Evans' students are now pen pals. Eimers' class plans to donate Christmas decorations to Plaza Towers Elementary and have a Skype session with the Oklahoma students at the end of the year.

"This is what living is all about," Eimers said. "We were meant to find each other."

Wicks was meant to be with a certain Plaza Towers student the day of the tornado.

After driving a family to its home to sift through the remnants of their belongings, a young girl was distraught that her pet lizard was missing. As the family searched, a tiny reptile scurried across Wicks' foot.

"That was the life I saved that day," Wicks said. "She was one of the bravest little kids I've ever met. Seven little kids died at her school, and her whole world had turned upside down, but that lizard put a smile on her face. It was a humbling experience, but I'd do it all over again." 



Eimers before the start of her first marathon. She placed third, earning \$1,000.



KNIGHT VISION



Visit Knight Vision at www.wartburgknightvision.com

Knight Vision logo created by Ta'Mone Williams '14

THROWING HIS WEIGHT AROUND

Feltes is setting new records for Wartburg track and field

by KatieJo Kuhens '07

FOR COLT FELTES '15 OF DELHI, the 2013 track and field season was one for the Wartburg College record books, literally, as he broke four school records, including one set in 1971.

Feltes now holds school records in the shot put (indoors and outdoors), hammer throw, and the discus throw.

Besides setting records, Feltes also is accumulating a lot of hardware, winning the weight throw and the shot put at the Iowa Conference indoor championship to become the fields-event MVP. The accounting and business administration major also was named Academic All-Conference. He finished 13th at the NCAA Division III outdoor championships in the shot put.

Outdoor Records:

- Discus throw, 168'7", formerly 161'10.75" set in 2003 by Jason Huegel '03.
- Hammer throw, 178'6", formerly 172'8" set in 2009 by John Kuckelman '09.
- Shot put, 54'6.5", formerly 53'10" set in 1971 by Mark Guthrie '75. (Feltes' record, though was short-lived when Coltin Hahle '13 of Mason City hit 55'.75" and went on to become an All-American with a sixth-place finish in the NCAA Division III meet.)

Melissa Norton, who mentors Wartburg's throwers, calls Feltes "a great recruiter for the program."

"People see his progress and they begin to believe in the Wartburg track and field process," she said. "He is a great leader for this men's program. He has shown that believing in the family is crucial to being successful."

Feltes qualified in the shot put in the NCAA Division III indoor and outdoor national championships and the discus throw outdoors. He accomplished two of his goals by helping Wartburg win the Iowa Conference outdoor championship and being among four Knights to qualify for nationals as they finished 15th, their best team showing in five years.

He got involved in track and field at Maquoketa Valley High School because it was a requirement to go out for the football team.

"I didn't want to do any events because I didn't think I'd be good at any of them, and I didn't want to embarrass myself," Feltes said. "I did that for two years, and around my junior year, my coach suggested I try throwing."

Rather than being embarrassed, he began getting the right kind of attention.

FIELD OF VISION

by Emily Christensen

WARTBURG COLLEGE GAME DAYS will never be the same for Justin Szykowny '14 or Knights sports fans.

Szykowny, a communication arts major, is the first student production manager at Knight Vision, a multichannel sports live-streaming network that has changed the way fans experience Wartburg athletics. The video hub — run entirely by students — produces a single video stream for cable television, online, mobile, radio, and the new Daktronics video board.

The 12-member crew, which includes student athletes and non-communication arts majors, runs the cameras, provides instant replay clips, audio, and graphics for the live stream, and directs and produces the entire game-day package.

Szykowny is one of a few with previous production experience. He worked on the Chicago White Sox scoreboard crew last summer.

"I never thought I would have this opportunity while still in school," Szykowny said. "Whenever we would do live WTV SportsKnight stuff, it would take us all morning to set up. With Knight Vision, we have the infrastructure to just plug in and go."

The scoreboard and infrastructure upgrades that make Knight Vision possible are part of a \$500,000 gift from the Richard '51 and Marge Zimmerman family. The gift supports the college's \$3.4 million Outdoor Athletic Facilities Project — part of the upcoming Transforming Tomorrow campaign.


"We train professional journalists and storytellers. Classically, that has been our roots, but the industry is changing, and video is in places it never used to be," said Travis Bockenstedt '09, the Knight Vision faculty adviser and McElroy Chair in Communication Arts. "This donation

has allowed us one more way to put our education into action. These are the tools of our trade that our graduates have to know how to use to be successful."

The students also are acquiring real-world skills they can use, no matter their major.

"They are learning teamwork, communication, and working with a group in a high-pressure situation," Bockenstedt said. "These students are making quick, last-minute calls during a live production, and they are not getting frustrated with each other. At the end of the day, they know they can feel good about what they've accomplished."

Szykowny said the new station is a great way to connect alumni with the campus community. Knight Vision will broadcast at least 20 home match-ups during the academic year.


"Alumni can keep in contact with the Wartburg sports scene or, specifically, the program they were involved with," Szykowny said. "And, it's absolutely free. We post programs after we are done, so even if you can't watch the game live you can go back and watch it later. Then, when they are on campus, alumni can say 'Hey, I've watched you play. You're really good.'" 

"I made it to the (2A) state championships and medaled in two events that year," he recalled. "I started to get interest from colleges and knew throwing was what I really wanted to work on for my senior year."

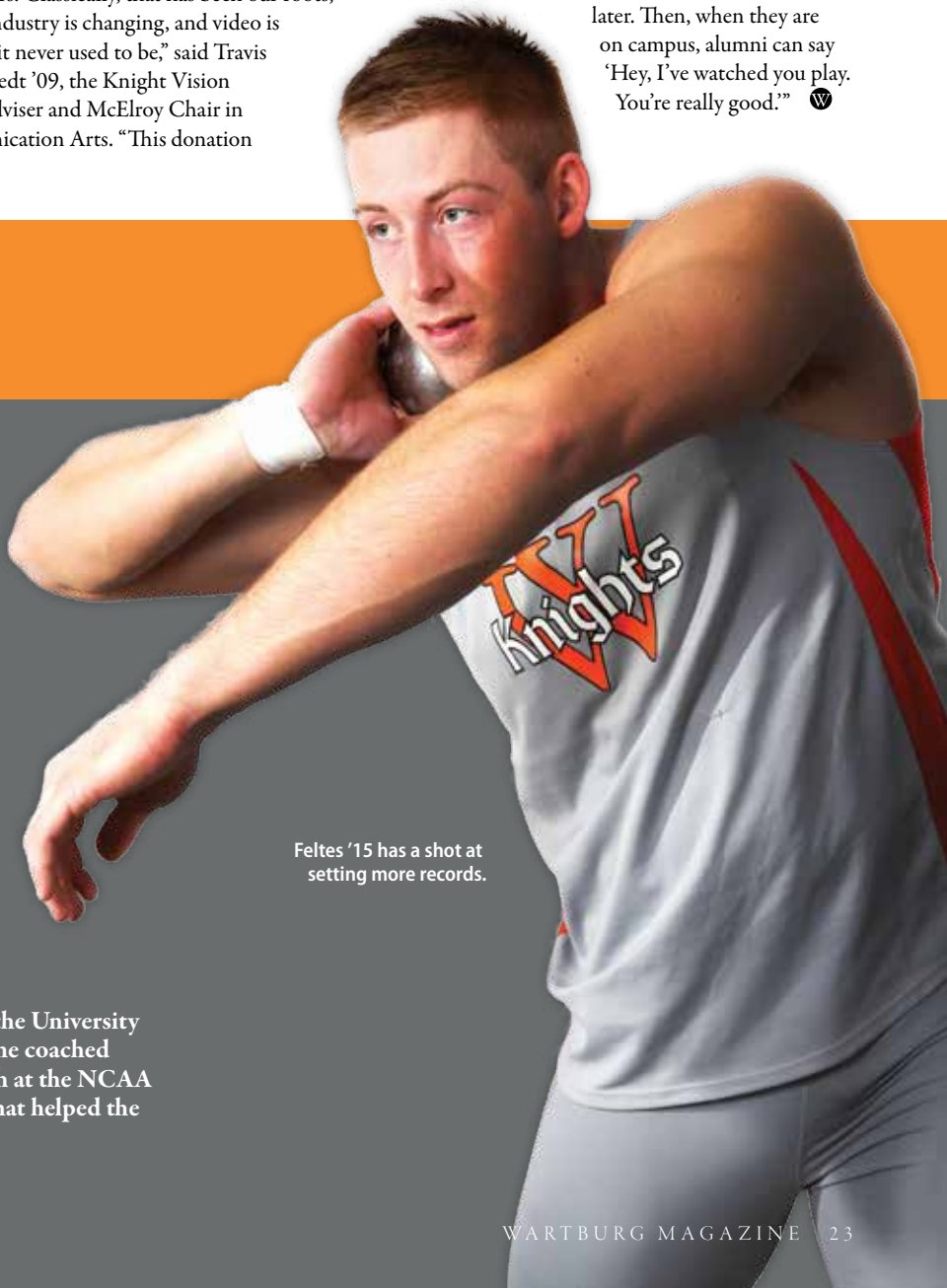
Feltes still has an outstanding goal on his to-do list — to be an individual national champion during the final two seasons of his college career.

"Colt has a great work ethic," Norton said. "He is someone who had his goals set back as a freshman and is determined to reach those."

As a footnote to Feltes' accomplishments, Mark Guthrie '75, who held the shot put record for 42 years, went on to become the head men's track and field coach at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, winning 22 NCAA championships from 1988-2006.

He is currently an assistant track and field coach at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, overseeing sprinters. In 2007, he coached Demi Omole to a runner-up finish in the 60-meter dash at the NCAA indoor championships, an All-America performance that helped the Badgers solidify their first NCAA team title. 

Feltes '15 has a shot at setting more records.



EIGHT ALUMNI INDUCTED INTO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Outstanding athletics honored Oct. 12 during Homecoming weekend



LeROY GARDNER '03 was a four-year member of the wrestling team and a three-time All-American. He was Wartburg's

first heavyweight individual national champion in 2003 as the Knights won the NCAA Division III team title and a two-time Iowa Conference champion as Wartburg took four league titles. He served three years as an officer in the U.S. Navy and is currently a lieutenant in the Navy Reserve. Gardner lives in Katy, Texas, where he owns and operates three fitness facilities.



MIRADIEU JOSEPH '02 was a four-year member of the football team and a track standout as a seven-time All-American

with seven school records still standing. Joseph was the 2001 Iowa Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships MVP, earning All-Conference honors all four years. He won the 2001 NCAA Division III outdoor 400-meter hurdles — Wartburg's first male national track champion. Joseph, who lives in Des Moines, is a material damage specialist and Grand View University hurdles coach.



JAMIE PORTER LEIN '98 was a four-year member of the softball team, a two-time All-American, three-time All-Region, and

four-time All-Conference. She had a career batting average of .430, with 163 hits, 24 doubles, 15 triples, 19 home runs, 105 RBIs, and 15 stolen bases in 137 games played. Lein, a social worker residing in Oelwein, is involved with Habitat for Humanity and A Watershed Awareness River Expedition.



ERIN RIES MOELLER '00 was a four-year member of the cross country and track and field teams. She was a four-time first-team All-Conference cross country runner and two-time All-Region,

qualifying for nationals as a senior. In track, Moeller was seven-time All-Conference, a three-time conference champion, and an All-American in 2000 in the distance-medley relay. She was an Olympic Marathon Trials qualifier and a two-time Drake Relays half-marathon champion, and has placed in the top 20 in the LaSalle Bank Chicago, ING New York City, and Bank of America Chicago marathons. Moeller, a community writer for the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, resides in Mount Vernon.



HOLLY MOHS '03 was a four-year member of the basketball team that won two Iowa Conference championships

and advanced to the Elite Eight in the NCAA Division III tournament during her sophomore year. She was named the conference MVP in her sophomore and junior seasons and received first-team All-Conference honors all four years. Mohs was named Kodak and Lutheran Brotherhood Honorable Mention All-American in 2001 and Kodak and D3hoops Honorable Mention All-American in 2002. She is second among career scoring leaders with 1,788 points. Mohs, who lives in Monona, is a teacher and varsity girls' basketball coach at Valley Community High School in Elgin.



JACOB OLSEN '03 was a four-year member of the football and basketball programs and a two-time All-

Conference selection in both. The 1999 football team won the conference championship as did the 2000-01 basketball team. Olsen played 36 games at quarterback and threw for 5,121 yards and 43 touchdowns. He played 102 basketball games and had 1,067 points. Olsen, who lives in Peosta, is the offensive coordinator and the inaugural head men's lacrosse coach at the University of Dubuque.



MICHAEL PIPHO '03 was a four-year member of the basketball team, including the Iowa Conference champions in

2000-01. He was a three-time All-Conference selection and ranks 10th in career scoring with 1,340 points. Pipho lives in Des Moines, where he is the office manager at Action Reprographics and coaches the sophomore basketball team at West Des Moines Dowling Catholic High School.



JOEL ROCHFORD '00 was a four-year member of the football and track teams. He was the Wartburg record holder and All-American in the shot put at the 1999 NCAA Division

III indoor meet and a *Football Gazette* third-team All-American as a lineman that year. Rochford received first-team Iowa Conference honors in football as a senior. He lives in New Hampton, where he is co-owner of Rochford Insurance.

Adamu's Excellent Iowa Adventures



Nigerian alumnus fulfills mission to visit all 99 counties in the state

by Kristine Milbrandt '14

WHILE IOWA MIGHT NOT BE A DESTINATION SITE for a typical vacationer, one former Wartburg international student can't get enough of it. Adamu Muhammad '12, originally from Nigeria, has completed a quest to visit each of the 99 counties.

"You will be surprised at how appreciative you might be of Iowa," Muhammad said. "Iowa is full of history — from a guy who coined the word 'tractor' (in Charles City) to John Bloom (a Davenport artist) to an artist from Northeast Iowa, you will find a lot more than you bargained for."

Muhammad arrived at Wartburg in 2008 intent on going into the health field, but realized he was more interested in energy.

"Wartburg helped me accept that fact and actually do something about it," Muhammad said.

In 2010, Muhammad and his friend and fellow Nigerian, Shalom Nwaokolo '13, proposed a solar lighting project in a small village in India through the Davis Peace Project. Their project received a second-place rating, but was not funded.

Muhammad ended up working — seven days on and seven days off — for an ethanol plant in Hartley to support himself and his solar lighting project.

He decided he needed something to do with his free time.

"As a hobby, I am the kind of person to have nostalgia for places," Muhammad said.

"I tend to have personal attachment to places I have lived or visited.

So, the more I know about the area where I

live, the more memory I would have of that place. I love Iowa, and I want to have an everlasting memory of it."

Muhammad began his travels at the end of May, starting with the barn quilts of Sac County. Since then, he visited the birthplaces of Grant Wood and Herbert Hoover, the Amana Colonies, the Iowa Speedway, the Iowa State Fair, and met Gov. Terry Branstad.

Some of his favorite visits include the world's smallest church in Festina in Winneshiek County (built in 1885 and seating eight), the Blood Run national archeological site in Lyon County, Iowa's only island city in Jackson County, and the Stacyville museum honoring the first U.S. woman elected to public office. (Julia Addington, who became Mitchell County superintendent of schools in 1869.)

"The place does not have to be glittery for me to like it," Muhammad said. "What matters is the place itself. So, for me, Iowa is very interesting and exciting just like I am sure New York or California would be."

Muhammad selected his sites based on uniqueness and notoriety. He typically typed the county name into Wikipedia and read about it, sometimes finding a particular site or noteworthy person.

"Otherwise, I would just drive to any town or city in the county and ask people at gas stations," Muhammad said.


Muhammad's travels were well received by both strangers and friends. David Prentice, husband of Dr. Deb Loers, vice president for student life, advised him to write a book about his tour.

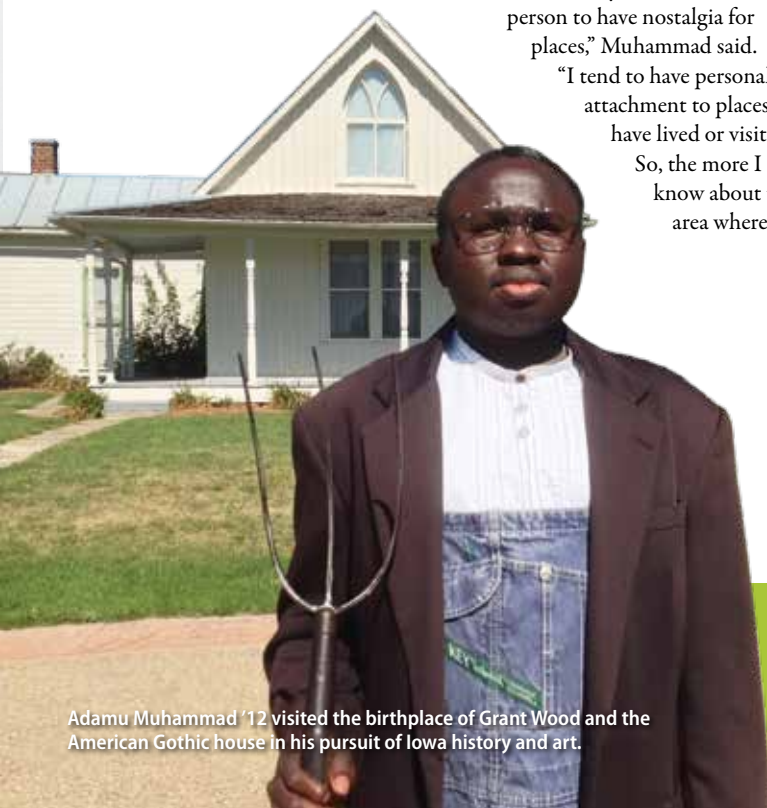
The encouragement is helping him carry on with his tour and mission to make international students aware about the importance of learning about their host state.

"There are tremendous benefits including, but not limited to, deeper understanding of the history of the state," Muhammad said. "With deeper understanding comes deeper appreciation."

Muhammad also keeps himself busy with speaking engagements in middle schools and participating in volunteer activities.

He isn't sure what to do next, but would like to build on his momentum.

"Maybe visit all the 50 states?" Muhammad said. "And maybe all the 196 independent countries in the world? Time will tell." 



Adamu Muhammad '12 visited the birthplace of Grant Wood and the American Gothic house in his pursuit of Iowa history and art.

Follow Muhammad's travels on his Facebook page "Coldhead" or listen to his interview on Iowa Public Radio at <http://iowapublicradio.org/post/putting-i-iowa>.

KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

1964 - Class Reunion May 22-25

Dr. **RONALD LECHNYR**, Eugene, Ore., published an article in the March/April 2013 edition of *The Oregon Psychologist Journal* entitled "Fast Phobia Cure: A Neuro-linguistic Programming Technique."

1968

DOUG SIRES, AIA, Polk City, retired from Sires Architects. His projects included the National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters at Camp Dodge and the historic restoration of the Iowa State Capitol.

1969 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

1970

MICHAEL JOHANSEN, Petersburg, Ind., retired in July after 41 years as a newspaper sports editor.

The Rev. **DAVID KALKE**, Guadalajara Jalisco, Mexico, was consecrated Aug. 25 in Licata, Italy, as a bishop in the Ecumenical Catholic Church. Based in Guadalajara, he serves as Bishop for Mexico and Latin America.

DARLENE MEISTER VOELTZ, Rochester, Minn., received a Fulbright Senior Specialist grant to teach microfinance for five weeks at the San Pablo University, Arequipa, Peru, during Fall 2013.

1972

LYLE HALLOWELL, Forest Hills, N.Y., received the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service.

1973

LAURIE ROBINSON COGNETTA, Woodbridge, Va., celebrated her 45th anniversary in church music as organist and choirmaster. She has served churches in Minnesota, Connecticut, Texas, northern Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, D.C., and was organist for an October 2012 benefit concert for Lutheran Malaria Initiative at the Lutheran Church of St. Andrew, Silver Spring, Md.

1964 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

1976

DALE MacNAUGHTON, Kingwood, Texas, is a business development executive with Paladin fs, LLC. research and consulting firm.

GARY and **MARGARET PHILLIPS '77 PORTER**, Lakeville, Minn., celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary Aug. 12.

DIANNE STAR and Carol Bulchuck, Minneapolis, Minn., were married Sept. 7.

1978

CRAIG FREEMAN, Lawrence, Kan., was one of two 2013 recipients of the KU Research Achievement Award, the highest honor given to a full-time

academic staff researcher working in a department or research center on University of Kansas-Lawrence campus. Craig is the curator-in-charge and senior scientist in the Division of Botany at the Biodiversity Institute's R.L. McGregor Herbarium, as well as a senior scientist with the Kansas Biological Survey.

1979 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

1980

Dr. **DENNIS BRICAULT**, Chicago, Ill., spent the summer working as a trainer for teachers of English as a Foreign Language at the Centro de Estudios Interamericanos, Cuenca, Ecuador, and the Pontificia Universidad Catolica, Santiago, Chile.

WENDY WEDEKING CRUSE, Plainfield, is the office coordinator in the Wartburg College Center for Community Engagement.

1982

RANDALL SCHROEDER is director of libraries, archives, and media with St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minn.

1983

KAREN PETERSEN BERG is an associate publisher for airport business and aircraft maintenance technology magazines with Cygnus Business Media, Fort Atkinson, Wis.

KATHI DIEHL DEVINE, Springfield, Mo., received her Master of Organizational Leadership degree from Evangel University. She is a project coordinator for the chief operating officer and the AG Trust at the Assemblies of God National Leadership and Resource Center.

MARTY JOHNSON, Waverly, is assistant director for retail, dining, and special events at Wartburg College.

1984 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

1985

TRUDIE HEIKKILA GOFF, Herndon, Va., is the gifted specialist at Meadowland Elementary School in the Loudoun County Public Schools, Sterling. She teaches four unique gifted programs for grades K-5 and administers eligibility testing for gifted services.

1986

DAVID HUGHES and **LISA SHARPNACK**, Urbandale, were married July 6.

STACEY SNYDER, Tripoli, is principal of St. Paul's Lutheran School in Waverly and also directs the school's talented and gifted program. She was chosen to serve on a 28-member Next Generation Science Standards Task Force, designed to review Iowa's science learning expectations grades K-12.

1987

BRET WORTMAN, Jeffersonton, Va., founded The Damascus Group, a

technology and software contracting company focused on agile software development for federal government clients. He also serves as worship leader for Amissville Baptist Church.

1988

STEVEN HARMS, West Des Moines, is vice president—financial reporting and tax with American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company.

Dr. **REBECCA DEBNER LINDSEY**, Baltimore, Md., defended her dissertation and received a Doctor of Education degree in special education from Johns Hopkins University on June 26.

KAREN THALACKER, Waverly, serves as pre-law adviser and teaches constitutional law and business law courses at Wartburg College. She is also a practicing attorney and Bremer County magistrate.

1989 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

LINNEA EVERTS LETO, Parkersburg, is finance director at Allen Memorial Hospital, Waterloo.

1990

JEFF FROST, Gilbertville, is director of teaching and learning in the Linn-Mar Community School District, Marion.

Dr. **ANNIE KEEHNER HEIDERSCHITZ**, Plymouth, Minn., leads the master's degree program in music therapy at Augsburg College, Minneapolis.

The Rev. Dr. **JEFF HEIDERSCHITZ**, Plymouth, Minn., received his Doctor of Theology degree in May from Luther Seminary, St. Paul.

ROBERT HOWIE, Davidson, N.C., was named the lead for new business development with the IMPLAN Group LLC, following the company's relocation from Hudson, Wis., to Huntersville, N.C. IMPLAN is an economic impact assessment data and software system.

1991

KERRY KAHLER, Bancroft, teaches special education in the North Union Schools, Swea City.

1992

LAURIE GITCH EVERHARDT, Waverly, is the alumni and parent relations and annual giving associate at Wartburg College.

DENISE LENNING HILL, Bondurant, received Des Moines University's 2013 MHA Faculty of the Year Award. An assistant professor with a joint faculty appointment to the DMU Colleges of Health Sciences, Medicine, and Podiatric Medicine, she teaches health law and ethics. She also remains an of-counsel attorney with Whitfield & Eddy PLC, Des Moines. She co-authored

a book, *Powerful Learning Communities: A Guide to Developing Student, Faculty, and Professional Learning Communities to Improve Student Success and Organizational Effectiveness*, published by Stylus in February 2013.

1994 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

Dr. **MICHAEL BECHTEL**, Waverly, is an assistant professor of science education with Wartburg College.

SCOTT GLASER, Denver, Colo., is executive director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Colorado.

KEVIN MCCARTHY, Des Moines, stepped down in August as the top-ranking Democrat in the Iowa House of Representatives to accept a newly created position of special assistant attorney general in the state Attorney General's Office. He served 11 years as a state legislator.

TROY SMITH, Cedar Falls, is vice president, private client group, in the trust department of U.S. Bank, Waterloo.

1995

KERRY HERTEL BOYSEN, Corvallis, Ore., is a physical therapist with Samaritan Physical Rehabilitation.

LILAH HICKS GRIMM, Waverly, is a patient service representative with Mauer Eye Center.

1996

ANNE ROTHFUSZ JOHNSON, Des Moines, received her Juris Doctor degree in May from the Drake University Law School.

Joseph and **LEA LUCAS La FERLITA**, Locust Valley, N.Y., announce the birth of Mary Elizabeth, March 20.

ANGELA WEEKLEY, Waterloo, was recognized in the *Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier's* 20 Under 40 Class of 2013. She is the manager of the Community Inclusion Department at Veridian Credit Union and was a candidate for the Waterloo Board of Education.

1997

Dr. Bjorn and **ERIN LARSON ANDERSON**, Iowa City, announce the birth of Ingrid Ebba Lee, July 26. She joins Lars, 6.

Mark and **KRISTI HIMSTEDT HALEY**, Grain Valley, Mo., announce the birth of twins, Mateo Slade and Jai Vincent, June 3. They join Cruz, 9, and Salome, 6.

STEVE JOHNSON, Logan, Utah, is head softball coach at Utah State University.

1998

MATTHEW ARMSTRONG, Waverly, is a visiting assistant professor of music at Wartburg College and directs the Castle Singers.



Three graduates receive ALUMNI CITATIONS

Honorees recognized for achievements and contributions to the college, church, community, and workplace

LAURA M. OLSON '92

has focused her efforts on international law and justice. Her work led her to the International Committee of the Red Cross and The Constitution Project, where she served as senior counsel.

Olson helped integrate elements of international humanitarian law into the curriculum for Moscow State University journalism students covering the war in Chechnya. She also was part of a team from the ICRC that interviewed detainees at Guantanamo Bay.

For the last three years she has headed the immigration section in the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. She works collaboratively with senior government officials and representatives of international and nongovernment organizations, and academia to inform current policy debates at the intersection of international law and efforts to combat terrorism.

Olson is active in the American Society of International Law, including as a member of its Lieber Society, which promotes the study and dissemination of international humanitarian law. She is a volunteer judge for the annual International Humanitarian Law Student Writing Competition.

As an active member of the Arlington (Va.) County Community Emergency Response Team, she assists in major disasters when emergency personnel are unable to respond. Olson enjoys camping, yoga, and improving her motorcycle skills.

She is the daughter of Wartburg graduates Dr. Varick Olson '67, a physical therapist, and Dr. Jeanette Jensen Meyer '67, a doctor of internal medicine.

JENNIFER D. WOLFF '93

has worked as an occupational therapist with Taylor Physical Therapy Associates in Waverly and dedicated her life to advocating for those with varying abilities. Since 2006, Wolff has used a wheelchair following removal of a tumor inside her spinal cord.

She earned her master's degree in occupational therapy from the College of St. Catherine in 2005, when she had already had one spinal cord surgery and could walk only short distances with assistance. Wolff was instrumental in establishing a Parkinson's disease and stroke support group at Waverly Health Center. She has lobbied for improved transportation and access issues on Capitol Hill as part of the National Registry of Rehabilitation Technology Suppliers.

Wolff also has led efforts to improve public transportation for persons with disabilities. She was named Ms. Wheelchair Iowa in 2011 on a platform advocating better insurance coverage for complex rehabilitation technology, like wheelchairs and standers.

Wolff is the daughter of Diane and Darold Wolff, professor emeritus of biology and recent Wartburg Medal recipient. Her brother, Jonathan, graduated from Wartburg in 1996.

THE REV. DENNIS H. DICKMAN '59

has been a pastor and educator. After graduating from Wartburg Seminary in 1963, he led two churches in Ohio before moving to Colorado, where he served as pastor at Valley Lutheran Church and director of Wartburg Seminary's Denver House of Studies.

He returned to Iowa in 1980 as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church until 1997. Dickman also served as director of continuing education at Wartburg Seminary and senior pastor at Faith Lutheran Church in Clive. Since 2011, he has worked part time, teaching Old Testament courses and assisting with Sunday services at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls.

Dickman was a Wartburg College regent (1984-97) and was awarded an honorary degree in 1998 for his work as a pastor and theologian from Wartburg Seminary, where he and his wife, Karen (Mantin) '61, established the Dennis and Karen Dickman Life-Long Learning and Discipleship Endowment. He chairs the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center Advisory Board and is a member of the Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community Board.

The Dickmans live in Waverly. They have three children, all Wartburg graduates. Four of their grandchildren are either current Wartburg students or recent graduates.

Jake and **JESSIE DOERFLER ELSON**, Neenah, Wis., announce the birth of Jack Kilpatrick, May 22. He joins Quinn, 7, and Ben, 4. The family returned to Neenah in July after spending 18 months in South Africa.

TODD and Renee **SORGE**, Waverly, announce the birth of Piper, April 28.

1999 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

JOHN and Heather **BERGMAN**, Jesup, announce the birth of Landon John, Aug. 16. He joins Kaylie, 6, Jordyn, 4, and Brinley, 1.

ANDY and **ERIN RIES '00 MOELLER**, Mount Vernon, announce the birth of Kellyn Edward, Aug. 1. He joins Ryne, 8, and Evelyn, 4.

Lowell and **JENNIFER AFDAHL RICE**, Oakland, Calif., announce the birth of Gregory James Afdahl Rice, May 29.

2000

George and **ELIZABETH ROESCH HUFFMAN**, Lakewood, Colo., announce the birth of George Langford Huffman IV, June 7. He joins Abigail, 4. Liz is a caseworker in the Division of Children, Youth, and Families with the Jefferson County Department of Human Services. She became a licensed clinical social worker in April 2012.

STEPHANIE LADLIE MYERS, Grain Valley, Mo., teaches elementary music in the Lee's Summit R-7 School District.

CHRIS ORTNER, Jesup, is an assistant wrestling coach at Wartburg College.

2001

The Rev. **ALISON BOOMERSHINE** and Neil Haugerud, Fergus Falls, Minn., were married in June. Alison is pastor of Eagle Lake Lutheran Church, Battle Lake.

SHALONDA CLIFFORD, Hoover, Ala., announces the birth of Zoi Aminah, June 1, 2012. She joins Jeremiah, 5. Shalonda was nominated for and successfully completed the Leadership Forum 2012 at the Southern Research Institute.

AMANDA PORTER GREUBEL, DeWitt, is director of field education and clinical instructor in the School of Social Work at St. Ambrose University, Davenport.

Chad and **GRACE SALGE KALKBRENNER**, Waverly, announce the birth of Alyson Grace, July 31. She joins Noah, 2.

DINA TANNOUS and William Vega, Chicago, Ill., were married June 15.

Jeff and **SALLY MITCHELL WILLIAMS**, Sauk City, Wis., announce the birth of Molly Elizabeth, Feb. 19.

2002

The Rev. Nathan and **LISA BONORDEN ANENSON**, Altoona, announce the birth of Luke Eric, May 29.

Maj. Brandon and **ERIKA LAMB CAVE**, Manhattan, Kan., announce the birth of Sonja Anneliese, May 31.

2003

STEPHANIE BLAKE, Waverly, is office coordinator for the Wartburg College religion and philosophy department.

LUKE CUTKOMP and Kathryn Marchi, Aurora, Ill., were married June 22.

BEN and Erica **DIEHL**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Nicholas Pryce, June 24.

ANDY FECHT, Waukee, is head high school wrestling coach and teaches physical education in the Ames Community School District.

Nick and **MELISSA WENDLAND FEHRING**, Stevens Point, Wis., announce the birth of Emily Jean, July 21.

DAN and **SALLY MITCHELL HANSON**, Chicago, Ill., announce the birth of Huck William, July 17. He joins Izak, 5, and Croix, 2.

CHAD and **KRISTIN BAER '05 JOHNSON**, Carlisle, announce the birth of Kaylee Jane, April 3. She joins Natalie, 3.

Scott and **BETH FRANZMAN SIGMUND**, Marion, announce the birth of Freya Caelin, Aug. 3.

Brent and **TARA NORBERG YOUNG**, Dallas, Wis., announce the birth of Stellan Foster, June 25. He joins Zanna, 1.

2004 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

CARRIE CLEMENT and Bryan Dermody, North Liberty, were married Oct. 13, 2012.

Ben and **EMMA ROHDE-FRANK ELLISON**, Odenton, Md., announce the birth of Samuel, May 14.

Bryce and **RACHEL HUSBY GIESMANN**, Lander, Wyo., announce the birth of Bryer Jonathan, April 12. He joins Ella, 4, and Hadley, 2.

KARYN MEIER, Anoka, Minn., earned a Master of Special Education degree from Bemidji (Minn.) State University.

2005

MINDA DAVISON, Mt. Vernon, is director for communications with the Southeast Iowa Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

CINDY HANNEMANN and John Olson, Reinbeck, were married Nov. 24, 2012.

The Rev. **ELIZABETH BURNS LEE** and **JOSHUA LEE '06**, Waupun, Wis., announce the birth of Alexander Josiah, March 30.

Corey and **KELLY KOHLHAAS MENNING**, Algona, announce the birth of Aubrey Mae, Sept. 11. She joins Landon, 3.

Brian and **MISTY ONKEN PROSSER**, Fredericksburg, announce the birth of Lydia Mae, April 9. She joins Natalie, 3.

PEDRO SALAZAR, Omaha, Neb., received his Juris Doctor degree in May from Drake University Law School,

Des Moines. He is an associate attorney with Baird Holm LLP.

CONOR SIMCOX, Brighton, Colo., is a high school counselor at Brighton High School.

NATHAN and **SARAH CORPSTEIN SPECHT**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Mila Caroline, Aug. 21. She joins Lillian, 3.

LAURA YOHN, Clear Lake, is co-owner of Yohn Co. Ready Mix and Construction.

2006

KEVIN and **ANDREA SCHILTZ '07 AULT**, Hiawatha, announce the birth of Howie Donald, July 19. He joins Henry, 2. Kevin manages the Kirkwood Bookstore, Cedar Rapids, and Andrea is a physician relations specialist at Mercy Medical Center, Cedar Rapids.

DUSTIN HINSCHBERGER, Cedar Rapids, will be inducted into the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) Division III Hall of Fame on March 13, 2014.

DANIEL and **WHITNEY VOLDING '08 LUEPKE**, Waterloo, announce the birth of Luke Mark, Sept. 27.

BRYAN and **AMY NEWTON '07 MAURER**, Marion, announce the birth of Hannah Rae, June 8.

ANGELA OHRT and Chris Snyder, Davenport, were married June 1.

JESSICA WILKE, College Park, Md., is assistant director of College Park Scholars-Life Sciences at the University of Maryland.

2007

JESSICA ADLER and Dan Scott, Bartlett, Ill., were married July 17, 2010. They announce the birth of Barrett, Jan. 8.

DAVID BRANDON, North Liberty, is principal of Kenwood Elementary School in the Cedar Rapids Community School District.

LACI FOLKERTS HUMMEL, Waverly, completed a Master of Arts in Education degree in May from the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

JENNY KOELE and Jordan Fuehrer, Chicago, Ill., were married Aug. 24.

BLAKE and Jesse **LAHMANN**, Cedar Falls, announce the birth of Bentley Joseph, July 6.

Brett and **SHEENA TREANOR MAHAN**, Waukee, announce the birth of Brayden Robert, April 19.

BRAD and **KRISTEN BOCKENSTEDT '09 SCHAEFER**, Plymouth, Minn., announce the birth of Henry Bradley, June 17. Brad completed his doctorate in physics from Indiana University, Bloomington, in December 2012. He is a consultant with Concord. Kristen is a HRIS/financial specialist with Pella Windows & Doors.

AUDRA SCHUTTE, Evansville, Ind., earned a Ph.D. degree in anatomy and cell biology in May 2013 from Indiana

University. She is a visiting assistant professor of anatomy and cell biology with the Indiana University School of Medicine-Evansville.

EVA SERSLAND and Cody Hagan, Surprise, Ariz., were married Nov. 2, 2012.

CRYSTAL TEWS and Eric Crowley, Winona, Minn., were married July 20. Crystal is a student in the Master of Nurse Anesthesia program at Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences, Rochester.

2008

BRYAN ARNDT and **EMILY WIENEKE '09**, Clive, were married Aug. 3.

The Rev. **KATIE PEDELTY CHULLINO**, Englewood, Colo., was ordained Aug. 3 and installed as pastor of Centennial Lutheran Church.

ELLEN ENGH, Omaha, Neb., is director of residence life at College of Saint Mary.

EMILY HARKINS, Winston-Salem, N.C., is director of student ministries with Augsburg Lutheran Church.

ALICIA HENRY and Eric Mackey, Ely, were married Aug. 14.

Jake and **KATIE ROUSE McPHERSON**, Eagan, Minn., announce the birth of Noah Titus, March 12. He joins Kennadie, 3. Katie completed her master's degree in special education: autism from the University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis.

AMANDA SWEET OLSON, Estherville, completed a Master of Science degree in mental health counseling with a specialization in trauma and crisis counseling. She is a licensed mental health counselor with Hope Haven, Inc., providing therapy services for communities in Northwest Iowa and surrounding areas.

KENDRA CHRISTENSEN OSWALD, Waverly, is administrative assistant for enrollment management at Wartburg College.

ALLISON STRUTHERS, Winter Park, Fla., is a student in the music business program at Full Sail University.

LIZ REEDSTROM ZARUBA and **AUSTIN ZARUBA '09**, Reinbeck, announce the birth of Jacob Alan, June 26. Austin teaches music in the Dike-New Hartford Community Schools.

2009 - Class Reunion Oct. 16-19

KIMBERLY CHAFFIN and Dr. Todd Wical, Live Oak, Texas, were married May 11.

Dr. **JARED FAIRBANKS**, Litchfield, Minn., is an optometrist with Visionworks of America, Willmar.

DREW FAYRAM, North Liberty, completed a master's degree in microbiology at University of Iowa in May 2013. He was selected as a 2013 APHL/CDC Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory Training Fellow and assigned to the State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa for one year.

RACHEL FELTMAN and **JEREMY MURRAY '10**, Davenport, were married Aug. 17.

Dr. **MARA GROOM**, Sioux City, graduated May 25 with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Des Moines University.

JOEL HANSON and Megan Olson, Cedar Rapids, were married June 15.

MEGAN HEITMAN and Caleb Albertsen, Urbana, were married July 20.

Dr. **MARCUS HEMESATH**, West Des Moines, graduated May 25 with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Des Moines University.

Dr. **KELAN KROHE**, Davenport, received his Doctor of Physical Therapy degree on May 25 from Des Moines University.

Dr. **HALLIE LEHMAN**, Fort Dodge, graduated May 25 with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Des Moines University.

Steve and **JODI KEMPEL MORETZ**, Vinton, announce the birth of Kade Steven, April 16.

Dr. **NATHAN PALMOLEA**, Duluth, Minn., graduated May 25 with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Des Moines University.

Dr. **KATELYN THOMPSON**, Fort Dodge, graduated May 25 with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Des Moines University.

2010

KELLY BENTER and Adam Moeller, Sumner, were married June 29. Kelly is the suicide prevention coordinator at Wartburg College.

Dr. **BRYNDEE BOHEMAN**, Reinbeck, received her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree on May 25 from Des Moines University.

KATRINA BERNHARD BUFFINGTON, Pierre, S.D., teaches seventh grade in the Pierre School District.

DREW CORPSTEIN and **ARIANN MORSCH '11**, Davenport, were married June 22. Ariann is a high school teacher in the Ankeny Community School District.

ROMEO DJOUMESSI, Waverly, is assistant director for group fitness with the Wartburg-Waverly Sports and Wellness Center.

REESE GRAFFT and **BRITTANIE BARNETT**, Denver, were married July 5.

STEPHANIE HOVICK, Round Lake, Ill., received her Master of Science degree on July 10 from Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Mich. She is a registered occupational therapist after passing the national board for certification in occupational therapy in August.

Dr. **KRISTIN MacDONALD KAHLER**, Waverly, received her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree on May 25 from Des Moines University.

RACHEL KUDOBÉ, Tama, is a high school teacher and large group speech coach in the South Tama County Community School District.

AMY OSHEIM LONG, Waverly, earned a Master of Health Care Administration degree on May 25 from Des Moines University.

JENNIFER NOE and Riley Bell, Marion, were married May 25.

MAGGIE SCHATZBERG and Joshua Ostrander, Waterloo, were married June 29.

The Rev. **ANTHONY SCOTT**, Hazelwood, Mo., received his Master of Divinity degree in May from Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis. He was ordained May 19 at the New Sunny Mount Missionary Baptist Church in St. Louis.

JASON THUEME, Cedar Falls, is catering manager at Wartburg College.

KYLE VOWELL, Nashua, is an admissions counselor at Wartburg College.

2011

MOLLY ERIKSON, Papillion, Neb., is a missionary in Madagascar with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Young Adults in Global Mission program.

EMILY EWY, West Des Moines, is a cheer and tumbling coach with Iowa All Stars in Urbandale and Des Moines. She also works for YRC Freight.

NICK GRIMOSKAS and **MICHELLE MCKENZIE '13**, Waverly, were married July 13.

JASON NELSON, Marion, is public relations director for Higher Learning Technologies, Coralville, a finalist for Mobile App of the Year and winner of the Des Moines Innovation Expo and University of Iowa business-related contests.

BRYAN JURRENS and **BETHANY SCHAUFENBUEL**, Waverly, were married June 22.

JACK STOUT, Burnsville, Minn., is the lot manager at Luther Burnsville Hyundai.

KAREN SUMMERSON, Washington, D.C., received her Master of Arts degree in modern and contemporary art history, criticism, and theory in May from Purchase College, State University of New York.

KATIE WEISERT TIEDT and **JEFF TIEDT '12**, Clarksville, announce the birth of Mitchell Jeffrey, July 9.

ROSS TIMMERMANS, Minneapolis, is a school-age child care site director with the Eagan YMCA.

2012

AMY BACKER, Waterloo, is member services director for VGM Club.

ANDREA FREDERICK and Lance Janssen, St. Paul, Minn., were married July 28, 2012.

CHELSEA FRYE, Waverly, is an assistant women's soccer coach at Wartburg College.

JOY GIBSON, Woodstock, Ill., is a medical/oncology nurse with Cadence Health, Central Dupage Hospital, Winfield.

JENALEE GROVER and Dan McElroy, Winthrop, were married July 14, 2012.

JULIANE HERDER, Minneapolis, Minn., is a student at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

ALLISON KLEIN, Burlington, is an interim athletic equipment manager at Wartburg College.

EMILY KUENNEN, Kansas City, Mo., enrolled for a second year with the AmeriCorps VISTA. She works with the Mayor's Literacy Initiative, Turn the Page KC, recruiting community volunteers to raise literacy rates among K-3 students in the Kansas City area.

JOHN SCHULZ, Baltimore, Md., is a medical student at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

GRETTA STARK, River Falls, Wis., is a reporter for the *River Falls Journal*.

MEREDITH STENSLAND, Mount Vernon, is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in social work at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

2013

STEPHANIE ADAMS, Cedar Rapids, is choral director at Ascension Lutheran Church, Marion.

YVONNE AYESIGA, Waverly, is a residence hall director at Wartburg College.

CLAIRE BEHRENDIS, Iowa City, is a production scientist with Integrated DNA Technology, Coralville.

DELIA BINGEA, Stillwater, Minn., teaches English at Grace Center in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Young Adults in Global Mission program.

JENNA BUHR, Cedar Rapids, is a substitute teacher with Grant Wood Area Education Agency.

JEREMY CARPER, Waterloo, is in consumer sales with CUNA Mutual Group, Waverly.

ETHAN CONNORS, Davenport, is a band director at John F. Kennedy Catholic School.

STEVEN ELLIS, Waverly, is an engine quality engineer with John Deere Power Systems, Waterloo.

ASHLEY FISHER, St. Paul, Minn., is an SAF/environmental lead employee with 3M, Maplewood.

HALEY FLORES, Waverly, is a graphic designer at Schumacher Elevator Company, Denver, and owner of Haleybelle Photography.

BETHANY FRISTAD, Sartell, Minn., was featured in the Sept. 9 issue of *USA Today*, highlighting her work with Adventures in Missions. She will serve in 11 countries in 11 months with duties that include teaching English, working in orphanages, or working to stop child slavery and sex trafficking.

DANIELLE GOODWIN, New Hampton, is a social worker with Heritage Residence.

LINNEA HALER, Hastings, Minn., is an associate manufacturing engineer with UTC Aerospace Systems.

Lo'KYIAH HART, Waterloo, is a benefits vericator with VGM.

KRISTIN HELLE, Peosta, teaches first grade at Lincoln Elementary School in the Dubuque Community Schools.

PAYTON HUINKER, Des Moines, is a UX/UI designer 1 with The Principal Financial Group.

SARAH ISRAEL, Newton, teaches eighth-grade language arts in the Newton Community School District.

TORIE JOCHIMS, Cedar Falls, works in client services/creative with Mudd Advertising.

STACEY KNOLL, New Hampton, teaches first grade in the Hampton-Dumont Community Schools, Hampton.

DAVID KRUEGER, Lime Springs, is a production manager with A to Z Drying, Inc., Osage.

MEGAN LeVASSEUR, Waverly, is youth and family director at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

CASSANDRA WILLERT McCASLIN, Denver, teaches third grade at Southeast Elementary School in the Waverly-Shell Rock Community School District, Waverly.

GENTRI MEIER, Greenfield, is a program assistant with Eyerly Ball (FACT Program), Des Moines.

STEPHANIE RIES, Iowa City, is a substitute teacher in the Iowa City Community School District.

KEVIN SCHNEIDER and **LEXI SPAIN**, Ames, were married July 13.

ERIC McCLUNG and **RACHEL SCHULZ**, Waverly, were married June 15.

BRIANNA TIESKOTTER, Charles City, teaches K-12 vocal music in the Pekin Community School District, Packwood.

SARAH WILKIN, Tiltonka, is a Benedictine Sojourner with the Benedictine Women of Madison, Madison, Wis.

BLAYNE WILLADSEN, Wayland, teaches second grade in the Winfield-Mt. Union Community School District, Winfield.

2014

ALLIE SEAVERT, Manson, is an accountant with John Deere.

IN MEMORIAM

1938

MILDRED BENEKE MEYER, Manson, died July 4. After completing her two-year teaching certificate, she taught in Jesup and in country schools in Palmer. She and her husband farmed in Palmer, and she later worked in the dietary department of Trinity Hospital in Fort Dodge until 1984, when the couple retired from farming and moved to Manson.

1941

FLOYD WILLIAM FREDRICK, Aurora, Colo., died Aug. 17. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the 15th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division in Italy and France. He worked for 30 years as a tax manager at Ideal Basic.

1943

NEVA BAIRD LAGOMARCINO, Ames, died June 25. She was Wartburg's first female chemistry graduate and taught at Fredericksburg High School and later Vinton High School and in the Keystone School District. She left teaching in 1949 to become a full-time mother and support her husband, who became the longtime dean of the Iowa State University College of Education. She was active in the Iowa State University Faculty Women's Club, P.E.O. Chapter AA of Ames, and First Baptist Church and served on the Northcrest Community board of directors.

1944

ROBERT "BOB" BENCK, Algona, died May 19. He and his wife lived in Waverly for several years and established a motel/restaurant and travel agency. They moved to Algona in 1958, where he served for 25 years as the Kossuth County court reporter and bailiff and created a community service program for adults in the legal system who could not pay their bills. He was also a Federated Insurance agent. He and his wife received the Algona Heritage Award in 2009 for their dedication to the Algona area.

IRENE MUELLER KLEEN, Sun City, Calif., died Sept. 16. She taught in Iowa public schools for 27 years and was an active member of Windsor Lutheran Church in Des Moines for 34 years and Faith Lutheran Church in Sun City for 23 years.

EDWIN NEUMANN, Bethesda, Md., died Sept. 5. He chaired the English department at the American University of Beirut before joining the U.S. State Department as a cultural attaché in 1956. His assignments included Bombay (now Mumbai); Linz and Vienna, Austria; Kano, Nigeria; and West Berlin. After leaving the Foreign Service in 1972, he worked for the Office of Higher Education, which later became the Department of Education. He was involved in funding for grants affecting innovative programs in higher education. He retired in 1990. He volunteered for the past 15 years with Learning Ally, a nonprofit group that supports students with disabilities. He earned his master's degree and doctorate in American literature from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

1945

RONALD JENSEN, Madison, Wis., died Sept. 9. As a Lutheran pastor he served congregations in Reserve, Mont.; Callender, Iowa; and Eau Claire, Ortonville, and New London, Wis. After completing a doctorate in psychology in the 1980s, he was a counselor in the Chicago area with Heinz Veterans Hospital and in private practice.

1946

MERLYN D. KLEEN, Sun City, Calif., died Sept. 19, three days after the passing of his wife, Irene. He was involved in baseball and basketball early in his career and then became assistant treasurer at Iowa Power and Light in Des Moines before retiring in Sun City. He was an active member of Windsor Lutheran Church in Des Moines for 34 years and Faith Lutheran Church in Sun City for 23 years.

1950

MARTHA SCHNAIDT FLESSNER, Peoria, Ill., died May 6. She was a Lutheran deaconess, served congregations with her late husband, the Rev. Henry A. Flessner, and was active in Lutheran women's organizations and global missions of the Central Southern Illinois Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The Rev. **GARLAND GOTOSKI**, DeWitt, died Aug. 6. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, then enrolled at Wartburg College and went on to earn a Master of Divinity degree from Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque. He served American Lutheran Church congregations in Duluth, Minn.; Albuquerque, N.M.; Tulsa, Okla.; Chillicothe, Ill.; Manchester Mo.; and Ogden, Utah; and Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations in Clifton, Whitney, and Dallas, Texas. He retired in 2007.

MILBERT GRUMMERT, Des Moines, died Aug. 10. After attending Wartburg and graduating from the University of Nebraska, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served in Japan during the Korean Conflict. He worked in radio and television news until 1968, then moved to Des Moines, where he was employed by the Iowa Taxpayers Association and MidAmerican Energy.

The Rev. **HAROLD J. MEYER**, Margate, Fla., died June 1 after several years of declining health. He served in the U.S. Navy before enrolling at Wartburg College. After teaching for one year in Parkersburg, he earned a divinity degree at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1954. He served as a pastor in San Jose, Calif.; Burr, Neb.; and Des Moines and was an intern chaplain at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C., for 27 months. He was pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Margate from 1972 until his retirement in 1991.

HENRIETTA BIEBER WRIGHT, Sterling Heights, Mich., died July 7. After receiving her master's degree from Wayne State University, she taught for 28 years in the Fraser Public School District in Michigan, retiring in 1986.

1952

ALVINA SENNE PERRY, Iowa City, died Aug. 10. In the 1960s and early 1970s, she worked as a candymaker for Evert's Flowers and Gifts and as a teacher associate in the Ames school system. After moving to the Twin Cities in 1976, she worked for many years as a secretary/receptionist at Northrup King Seeds and at Crystal Care Center in Minneapolis. She moved to Iowa City in 2012.

1953

ROSEMARIE GAYER KRAMER, Waverly, died Aug. 23. She taught in Primghar, then moved to Iowa City and then Waverly, when her husband, Melvin, joined the Wartburg College faculty. She taught fourth grade in the Janesville School District for many years until her retirement.

MARDELL MUELLER, San Bernardino, Calif., died on Jan. 16 of Parkinson's disease. After completing her two-year teaching certificate, she taught at Marble Rock and Grafton, and then in San Bernardino.

1954

GLADYS KLEINSCHMIDT BENINGA, Auburn, Calif., died June 5. After attending Wartburg and Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, she taught six years at Fremont #5 rural school, sixth grade in the Monona Public Schools for two years, and in a rural school at Arcadia, Wis. She and her husband, the late Rev. Marvin Benninga, served congregations in Granton and Neilsville, Wis., and Jesup and Preston. After his death, she moved to Waverly and spent 12 years teaching and tutoring students at St. Paul's Lutheran School. She moved to California in 2001 to be near her children.

The Rev. **PAUL E. "PK" KNECHT**, Richmond, Ind., died Aug. 30. He earned a master's degree in social work from Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y., attended Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, and completed a divinity degree at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque. He worked at the Lutheran Children's Home in Waverly before becoming executive director of Wernle Children's Home in Richmond, Ind., in 1966. Before his retirement in 1997, he also served for many years as president of the Indiana Association of Residential Child Care Agencies. He is survived by his wife, June Sheldon Knecht '56.

1956

GENE L. BRODERS, Grinnell, died March 27 of pneumonia. He was employed at Eisenman Motors in Grinnell until 1980. He also worked in maintenance for the City of Grinnell, as a bartender at Grinnell Golf and Country Club, and as a courier for the *Grinnell Herald Register*. He was a Scout leader and a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Grinnell.

ERNA GRANTIER NESBITT, Medford, Ore., died June 27 of pancreatic cancer. After two years at Wartburg, she graduated with a speech therapy degree from the University of North Dakota in 1956 and completed a master's degree in counseling at Kean College of New Jersey in 1977. During the 1980s and early 1990s, she worked as a researcher in the development offices at Princeton University and Rider University. Active in equestrian competitions and dressage, she also served as adviser to the Rider University Equestrian Team. After moving to Oregon, she volunteered at and was a board member for the HOPE Equestrian Center and assisted at local dressage shows. She also volunteered at the Jackson County Court Appointed Special Advocate program for abused and neglected children.

1957

MAURINE NISSEN JANSSEN, Tulsa, Okla., died June 4 following a May 25 stroke from which she never regained consciousness. She began her career in education as a teacher in Denver, Iowa, and Cedar Rapids/Iowa City, then pursued graduate work in library science at the University of Washington and taught in the public schools while living in Seattle. When the family moved to Long Beach, Calif., she taught in Long Beach and Watts, then settled in Topeka, Kan., where she became a media specialist and introduced computers in the Topeka elementary schools. She then took a position with a national

company selling library and audiovisual materials. She served on the Wartburg Alumni Board from 1978 to 1984, chairing the board in 1982-83. She received a Wartburg Alumni Citation in 1986. She was active in her church and served as a church council president and volunteer church administrator. She also directed and participated in church choirs and music groups, even after experiencing a severe stroke in 1997. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Erwin Janssen '58.

1958

LEONARD FLACHMAN, Golden Valley, Minn., died Sept. 23 of lung cancer. After graduating from Wartburg, he earned a degree at the Evangelical Lutheran Seminary (Trinity). Following ordination, he directed the publication division of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church-Mekane Yesus. In 1967, he accepted a call to Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, where he served as director of product development, served as managing editor of the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, and retired in 1993 as assistant to the president at Augsburg Fortress. In 1993, he and a partner founded Kirkhouse Publishers and its imprints, Quill House and Lutheran University Press. He served on the Golden Valley Human Rights Commission and chaired the Congregational Constitution Review Committee of the Minneapolis Area Synod. He served on two Hennepin County light rail advisory committees and was president of Central Lutheran Church Congregation. He chaired the National Lutheran Choir board of directors and served on the boards of Midwest Independent Publishers Association and REAL, an organization dedicated to furthering education for girls in Ethiopia. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Ehlert Flachman '60.

1961

The Rev. **WILLIAM GUTKNECHT, JR.**, Port Hueneme, Calif., died May 18 of ALS. He was a graduate of Wartburg Seminary and served parishes in Lodi, Cupertino, Santee, and Fresno, Calif.

1962

ROSAUE (FROELICH MICHAEL) BOOTS, Uniontown, Pa., died Aug. 2 in Kalispell, Mont., after suffering a stroke while on vacation with her husband. After earning her bachelor's degree and receiving the "Maggie" Award at Wartburg, she completed a master's degree in library science at the University of Pittsburgh. She taught English and science as a Peace Corps volunteer on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines from June 1962 to October 1963. She then taught secondary school English, co-owned NPW Consultants, and worked as a librarian at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, Pa. She was active in American Association of University Women, Girl Scouts of Southwestern Pennsylvania, and Otterbein United Methodist Church in Connellsville, Pa.

LYNN MEIER, Manson, died April 4 of cancer.

RUTH CHATFIELD SAATHOFF, Gig Harbor, Wash., died June 21 after an extended battle with cancer. She was a lifelong nurse and nurse educator and started the Parish Nurse Program at St. Mark's Lutheran Church by the Narrows, Tacoma, Wash.

DAVID STAEHLING, Raytown, Mo., died Sept. 14.

He was a graduate of Wartburg College and Iowa State University and worked for 35 years as a design engineer and test engineering specialist for Wilcox Electric Company. He was also an active member of Peace Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Mo.

LESLE VRIEZE, Nipomo, Calif., died Feb. 9. He joined the Air Force after graduating high school and was sent to serve as a radar operator for B29s in the Korean War. After completing a degree in electrical engineering, he moved to California to work for General Dynamics. He later earned teaching credentials and taught mathematics and science at Ontario (Calif.) High School. After retiring, he moved to Nipomo and worked for many years as a substitute teacher at Santa Maria High School. He was a past commander of the Nipomo VFW Post and was named Veteran of the Year.

1964

The Rev. **VERLE REINICKE**, Bismarck, N.D., died July 12. After graduating from Wartburg, he completed a divinity degree at Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. He served as a Lutheran pastor in North Dakota for 40 years at congregations in Alamo, Bismarck, Riverdale, Regent, and Minot. In retirement, he chaired the North Dakota Resource Council and was an active environmentalist.

NORMAN WOELBER, Spencer, died Jan. 7. He served in the United States Army and then worked for Central Telephone Company in Le Mars until enrolling at Wartburg to pursue a social work degree. He completed a master's degree in social work at the University of Nebraska in 1970. He worked for the Iowa Department of Human Services for 35 years in Black Hawk, O'Brien, and Clay counties.

1965

The Rev. **GARY BAUMANN**, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., died June 24. After completing the colloquy program at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind., he was ordained into the ministry of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod on Dec. 8, 1985. He served congregations in Bancroft, Neb., and Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., until his retirement in 2005.

1966

ELAINE NORMAN KOSBAU, Waverly, died Sept. 15 from complications of ovarian cancer. She studied at the University of Iowa for two years before her marriage, then moved to Waverly, where she spent two years as secretary at Waverly High School. Following her husband's death, she completed a teaching degree at Wartburg. She taught for two-and-a-half years in Denver, Iowa, then spent 24 years as a fourth-grade teacher at Irving and Southeast schools in Waverly. After retiring in 1989, she volunteered in the Waverly schools for eight years and spent 14 years working as a hospital volunteer. She was recognized as the Hospital Auxiliary Volunteer of the Year in 2001 and was an active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church for 60 years.

JOYE SCHEMBER MUELLER, Clinton, died July 8. After completing a degree in education, she taught at Fulton Middle School and was a substitute teacher in the Clinton School System while raising her family. She taught English for 24 years at Camanche High School, where she also worked with the Speech and Drama Club and National Honor Society. She was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

1967

LARRY OTTO, Elkhorn, Wis., died Sept. 22. He worked as a certified public accountant with Deignan & Associates for many years before he and his late wife, Mary, established MAO & Associates Accounting Firm

in 1984. He belonged to National Association of Tax Preparers, National Association of Enrolled Agents, and the Wisconsin Society of Enrolled Agents.

1968

WILMA EBDING BECK, Nashua, died Sept. 16. After earning a teaching certificate at Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, she taught in Floyd County schools. After her marriage, she taught in Nashua and then worked toward her bachelor's degree at Wartburg while teaching in the Plainfield Community School District. After retiring in 1985, she continued to work as a substitute teacher for another nine years. She was an active member of St. John Lutheran Church in Nashua, where she taught Sunday school for 26 years.

FRANCIS WOLLENZIEN, Waverly, died July 27 from complications of cancer. He owned and operated the Waverly Home Bakery for more than 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Jane Barnard Wollenzien '67.

1971

CHARLES DAVID WINTERS, JR., Nevada, died June 5. He served in the United States Navy and was a truck driver.

1976

MARY L. GRACE, Mason City, died June 14. She became a medical technologist after completing her bachelor's degree at Wartburg and a one-year hospital internship. After 16 years with Mercy Medical Center North Iowa, she began working with a travel agency on assignments that took her from the East to West coasts. She then worked for Kadlec Hospital in Washington before illness forced her to retire. She made regular visits to Maui for the annual birthing migration of humpback whales and was a lifetime member of the American Society of Clinical Pathology.

1993

KYLE HERTZLER, Marion, died March 28. He earned a master's degree at Bellevue University and was a longtime employee of Linn County, most recently working as a disaster project specialist for the State of Iowa, mainly coordinating flood relief and assistance for Linn County flood victims. He is survived by his wife, Sharon Wendell Hertzler '93.

SPECIAL ALUMNI – FORMER STAFF

JEROME P. ROWAN, Naperville, Ill., died July 5. He was a former Wartburg College assistant director of admissions and assistant football coach. A native of Bayonne, N.J., he played football at the University of Iowa and graduated with a degree in communication arts. He completed a graduate degree in public administration. Before joining the Wartburg staff, he was a field operations director for the Jesse Jackson, Sr., for President Campaign and field coordinator for New York Hospital Union. He was vice president of the Goeken Group before establishing his own firm, Rowen International, LLC, where he served as CEO/president. He is survived by his wife, Rochelle, also a former Wartburg employee, and two sons.

MARGARET WOOD CODDINGTON, Waverly, died July 30. She was a former Wartburg speech instructor and coached the debate team. She was also a past president of the Waverly Hospital Auxiliary.



President Darrel Colson



Jack '53 and Marietta Schemmel



Liz Zaruba '08

ORNGEPL8D

Wartburg is the license plate leader for Iowa private colleges

by Sarah Boraas '14

WARTBURG COLLEGE WAS THE LEADER THIS FALL among Iowa private colleges and universities in vanity license plates.

The distinctive orange-and-black Knights plates adorned 468 vehicles, outdistancing Central, 392; Drake, 298; Luther, 189; and Simpson, 153.

The vanity plates for private colleges and universities have been on sale for only four years following legislative approval. The Alumni and Parent Relations Office was quick to promote them, finding instant interest among Wartburg alumni, families, students, and friends.

"The license plates are just a fun sense of camaraderie and a great conversation starter," said Renee Voves, director of Alumni/Parent Relations and Annual Giving. "Alums and students are proud to be associated with Wartburg and want to share it."

The alumni office promotes the license plates, which are sold by the Iowa Department of Transportation and must conform to a state design.


Information has been on Knightline for alumni and friends, while posters have been placed on campus with photos of prominent faculty, staff, and students with their personalized plates. Flyers also were included in graduation packets.

"People get excited when they see faculty and students they know on the posters," said Megan Nuehring '13 of Glen Ellyn, Ill., a recent alumni office intern. "It's definitely a community feel around campus. The license plates are a fun way to share your favorite experience with people all over."

"Our increasing sales and creativity with the license plates just shows that Wartburg alums, faculty, and students are passionate about this school," Nuehring said. "They're a great way to share memories."

The alumni office is determined to maintain the No. 1 ranking. It believes it has an inherent advantage.

"It's people's love for Wartburg that keeps us No. 1 in license plate sales," Voves said. "People's pride in Wartburg is really what sets us apart from the rest."

Wartburg vanity license plates are available to Iowa residents for a one-time cost of \$25 for a numbered plate and \$50 for one with letters — plus an additional \$5 annual fee. More information and an order form are available from the Iowa Department of Transportation at <http://www.iowadot.gov/mvd/ovs/plates/private.htm>. 



Brian Greiner '06

The vanity license plates often are uniquely personalized:

- WARTBRG — President Darrel Colson
- GR8D2RN — Steve "It's a great day to run" Johnson, cross country coach
- WRCHMPS — Jim Miller, former wrestling coach
- CHOIR — Dr. Lee Nelson, director of the Wartburg Choir
- BST4YRS/ CYITS4U — Renee '04, director of Alumni/Parent Relations and Annual Giving, and David Voves '07
- 1BIGFAM — Jane Lindner, Alumni and Parent Relations office coordinator
- ENROLL — Dr. Edie Waldstein, vice president for enrollment management
- GIV2WBG — Don Meyer, director of development
- NEWZGUY — Cliff Brockman, associate professor of communication arts
- TVNEWS — Travis Bockenstedt '09, lecturer in communication arts
- UKNIGHT/2KNIGHT — Julie '90, Marketing and Communication visual media manager, and Greg Drewes '89
- AUGSFLG/NTHEH20 ("Because so many people at Wartburg end up married, it must be something 'in the water.'") — Dr. Kevin '00 and Abbie '00 Smith, Urbandale
- 7 VB 22 — Britlyn '13 and Ramey '14 Sieck, Fayette, All-Conference volleyball players
- IMABRGR — Troy Mullen '90, Urbandale



There's also a Facebook photo album where you can contribute and view photos of Wartburg license plates. www.facebook.com/wartburgcollege/photos_albums

Severson Alumni

2013-14 CHALLENGE



Sally and Bob Severson '66

Wartburg alumni!

Channel your days as a student and take this true/false quiz.

(There are only two questions. And here's a hint: There's no wrong answer.)

T/F I've never given to Wartburg.

T/F I've given to Wartburg in the past, but didn't give last year.

If you answered "true" to either of these statements, the Severson Alumni Challenge is for you.

For one year, Bob '66 and Sally Severson 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.

Don't miss this opportunity to increase the impact of your gift and its benefit to Wartburg. Go to www.wartburg.edu/give, where you can set up payments or make a one-time gift.

If you have questions, contact the Annual Giving Office at 319-352-8512 or development@wartburg.edu.



Scan the code or go to www.wartburg.edu/give to find out more.



Double Bass Delicacy

Grand Gourmet

SAVE THE DATES

JANUARY

- 10 Saint John's Bible**
Waldemar A. Schmidt Art Gallery
9 a.m.-7 p.m. daily until Feb. 21
- 28 Broadway's Next Hit Musical**
Artist Series, Neumann Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 8 Double Bass Delicacy**
Wartburg Community Symphony with Hunter Capoccioni, Wartburg instructor of double bass, Neumann Auditorium
7:30 p.m.
- 8 Parent-Student Luncheon**
Saemann Student Center ballrooms
noon
- 20 They Called It Rock**
Artist Series, Neumann Auditorium
7:30 p.m.
- 25 Nataly Kelly '06 Convocation**
Author on translation, interpretation
Neumann Auditorium, 11:30 a.m.

MARCH

- 8 U-Knight Day of Service**
Various locations
- 24-25 Texas Tenors**
Artist Series, Neumann Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

APRIL

- 10 RICE Day**
Research, Internship, and Creative Endeavor Day, campuswide, all day
- 10 Young Alumni Awards Dinner**
Saemann Student Center ballrooms
5:30 p.m.
- 12 Grand Gourmet**
Wartburg Community Symphony with guest pianist Yuko Izuwara Gordon
7:30 p.m.



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WARTBURG HOMECOMING 2013

THANKS FOR MAKING THIS YEAR'S
HOMECOMING A SUCCESS!

Photos are available to order on
www.wartburg.edu/galleries.html

