

FALL 2013

GRAND VALLEY

MAGAZINE

*Exploring
history at
Seidman
House*



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Volume 13 / Issue 2 / Fall 2013

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1. Grand Valley State College mug, ca. 1965.
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3. Souvenir teacup from the Michigan Soldiers' Home, Grand Rapids, ca. 1890.
4. Pennant, Grand Valley State College, 1965.
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6. World War I U.S. Army uniform tunic, Russel Kirkhof Collection.
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8. World War II U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, medals and insignia, F.W. Beasecker Collection.

Background: Oil painting, "Allegory on the Death of Lincoln" by Belgian artist Constantin Meunier, 1865.



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GRAND VALLEY
MAGAZINE

See the entire magazine online at
www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.



Connect with students, faculty, staff and alumni
through Grand Valley's official social media channels.

On the cover:
Items pictured are found inside Seidman House.
Read more about these historical gems on page 20.
photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

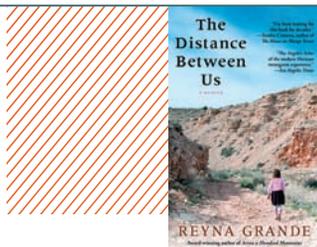
On these pages:
photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

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a minimum of 10% postconsumer recovered fiber.

BOOKMARKS

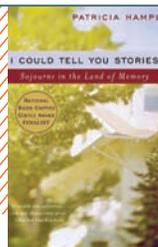
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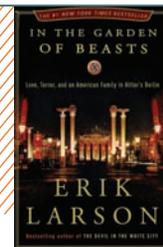
THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US: A MEMOIR
 WASHINGTON SQUARE PRESS,
 PAPERBACK EDITION 2013
 BY REYNA GRANDE

This book was chosen for the 2013-2014 Community Reading Project, sponsored by the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, University Libraries and University Bookstore. "The book was selected by the committee partly because of its timeliness with the immigration debate," said Brian Jbara, director for the Office of Integrative Learning and Advising. "More than that, Grande writes a beautiful memoir that provides an authentic look into the experiences of Mexican-American families as they risk everything to start a new life in the U.S. It emphasizes the universal themes of loss, heartbreak, uncertainty, and triumph that all people can relate to."



I COULD TELL YOU STORIES
 W. W. NORTON, 1999
 BY PATRICIA HAMPL

Courtney Sherwood, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences secretary, said Hampl presents a refreshing look at a memoir. In a collection of her own memoir pieces as well as essays she's written about others, Hampl explores what it means to write one's own life and its impact on those connected to the writer. The subtitle, "Sojourns in the Land of Memory," takes the reader to the heart of Hampl's book — that memoir is memory and represents our perception of how our life has unfolded. Sherwood said the author inspires readers to remember their lives.



IN THE GARDEN OF BEASTS: LOVE, TERROR, AND AN AMERICAN FAMILY IN HITLER'S BERLIN
 CROWN PUBLISHING GROUP, 2011
 BY ERIK LARSON

Pat Haynes, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences assistant dean for finance, said her latest, best read is set in 1933, when William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Germany. "The opportunity to review what I thought I knew about that period in history through the eyes of Dodd and his somewhat dysfunctional family was quite an experience," she said. "I wish my college history teachers had offered a tool like this when we all asked questions: how could this happen anywhere, and could it happen in America?"

Results from magazine survey

Thanks to all who participated in the Grand Valley Magazine reader survey.

In addition to letting us know your likes and dislikes, we learned more about you. Nearly half of survey respondents said they read all four issues of the magazine and enjoy it.

This issue reflects some of your good suggestions. Campus News and Alumni News have expanded to give you more quick stories about university news. In forthcoming issues, we'll work to incorporate more of the story ideas you submitted and other suggestions.

Comments are always welcome at gvmagazine@gvsu.edu.



I love that everyday something reminds me how much I love being a Laker!
 #GrandValley
 #LakerForALifetime



Posted by Amanda Wingelaar
 on Sept. 12, 2013



Board approves expansion for health campus

Grand Valley’s Board of Trustees, during the November 1 meeting at the Detroit Center, approved the purchase of nearly 11 acres northeast of downtown Grand Rapids to expand the university’s health campus.

The university already owns four acres of property adjacent to its Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences located at Michigan and Lafayette streets on the Medical Mile. This latest purchase, bordered by Hastings and Trowbridge streets and Clancy and College avenues, provides the university a total of 18 acres to expand health programs and accommodate the growing demand by both students and employers seeking well-trained health professionals.

“This is transformational for our university, for our region and for the future of health care in Michigan,” President Thomas J. Haas said. “This plan is part of our vision and long-term strategy as a key player in health education. We’re obligated to anticipate and produce the health care providers our state needs for the future.”

The College of Health Professions and the Kirkhof College of Nursing currently offer 12 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including two doctoral programs. There are currently more applicants than some programs can admit. The university needs more laboratories and classrooms to accommodate additional enrollment and for additional health-related academic programs planned to meet future needs.

“Our health programs are at capacity and we need to make more room for students who want to go into these fields,” Gayle R. Davis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said. “Grand Valley plans to provide additional health-related academic programs as these fast-moving professional areas develop. This proposal indicates a significant and exciting investment in the future of health care.”

The purchase price will not exceed \$18.9 million for the property. Tuition will not be raised to pay for it. University leadership has been planning and saving for the expansion of health care programs, and the Campus Development Fund will be used to finance the purchase.

Grand Valley will be conducting long-term planning for the site, envisioning what the health campus will look like in the coming decades. The university will work closely with city leaders and neighbors in that process.

“The university has a history of improving areas in which it has campuses, and takes that obligation seriously,” Haas said.

Gayle R. Davis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, speaks at a news conference October 31 in the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences. Davis and university leaders announced a plan to expand the health campus, which was approved by the board.

photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

REPRESENTING GRAND VALLEY



Lakers bring a little Grand Valley with them when they travel.

Do you represent GVSU when you travel? If so, send a photo of yourself sporting Laker gear to gvmagazine@gvsu.edu and it may be seen in a future publication.

From top are Jason Paulateer, '96 and '05, who visited Churchill Downs in Kentucky; friends Todd Knapp, Mark Schweitzer, Marisa, (Kwiatkowski) Schweitzer, '05, and Beth Moshier, '06, visiting Edinburgh Castle in Scotland; and Anne (Harig) Sayre, '01, at Chichen Itza, Mexico.



Unveiling of statue launches new tradition

Grand Valley launched a new annual tradition that celebrates the efforts of L. William “Bill” Seidman, recognized as the founder of Grand Valley, and nearly 300 community members who supported his vision.

The inaugural Founders Day event was held on the Allendale Campus October 10 and attended by Seidman family members and other founding families. The celebration included the unveiling of an iconic outdoor statue of Bill Seidman near the Cook Carillon Tower. An annual celebration will be held each year on October 25, commemorating the date Seidman organized a group effort to raise the \$1 million required to receive legislative support to build a four-year college in the Grand Rapids area.

In 1960, Grand Valley became Michigan’s 10th state-supported college. In 1963, Grand Valley State College enrolled its first 226 students, and has since become one of the nation’s most successful regional universities. The Founders Day tradition celebrates how vision and passion culminated in a

tremendous philanthropic outpouring and the establishment of Grand Valley.

During the celebration, President Thomas J. Haas greeted and thanked members of Grand Valley’s founding families, and the first student to enroll at Grand Valley, Diane Paton. “We would not be here today without the vision and drive of Bill Seidman and the support he gathered,” said Haas. “Though his career included working for three presidents and serving as chairman of the FDIC, he once told me that Grand Valley was his proudest accomplishment.”

Tom Seidman, Bill’s son, also spoke, saying that his father was “just one guy” and that the efforts of all the founding families were just as important. He joked about the features required to be included in the artist’s statue of Bill Seidman, including a bicycle, since he rode one to work during his FDIC days in Washington, D.C. Also noted was his lopsided smile “that will forever look out over the campus.”

David Frey, son of Edward Frey, also a founding family member, introduced

J. Brett Grill, the artist who created the bronze of Seidman. Frey invited Grill to join members of the Seidman family, Paton and Student Senate President Ricky

Benavidez to unveil the statue to the gathering of several hundred people.

Grand Valley music faculty members Dale Schriemer and Min Jin sang “High Hopes,” the theme song the founders played as they traveled the region and asked for support from community organizations, area banks, businesses and labor unions, as well as individuals who gave a “buck a brick” to help transform Seidman’s idea into reality.

Cake was served on the Allendale, Pew Grand Rapids and Holland campuses as well as at Grand Valley centers in Muskegon and Traverse City.

Members of the Seidman family stand with, from left, J. Brett Grill, David Frey, Diane Paton, Ricky Benavidez and President Thomas J. Haas in front of the Bill Seidman statue.

photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Image ad campaign helps students 'Find' Grand Valley

Billboards with Grand Valley's new image ad campaign were unveiled in late August, timed with the start of the fall semester.

The "Find" campaign helps audiences understand what can be found within Grand Valley and/or within one's self because of Grand Valley through messages about connections, experiences, and opportunities: Find Connections Within, or Find Experiences Within, for example.

Messages have been incorporated within recruitment materials sent to prospective students; a more targeted roll-out of the campaign to faculty, staff and students occurred in mid-October to help them be positive ambassadors. In addition to billboards, the "Find" campaign includes web ads, bus signs, print ads, and a television ad.

Rhonda Lubberts, associate vice president for Institutional Marketing, said the campaign messages were tested with focus groups of more than 100 high school students in West Michigan and the Detroit area. She added that the words selected for the campaign highlight academic advantages and overall quality of a Grand Valley education.



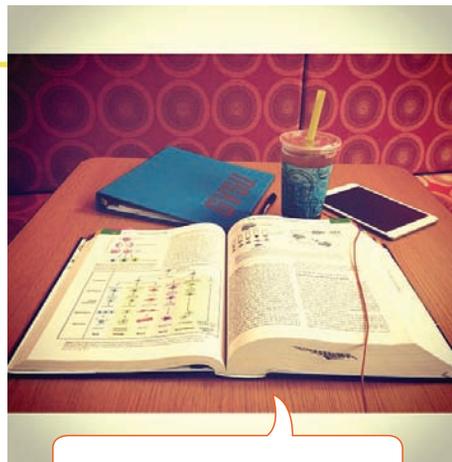
A student holds up a new image campaign t-shirt. The campaign encourages students to 'find' themselves at Grand Valley.

photo by Amanda Pitts

CAMPUS CHATTER

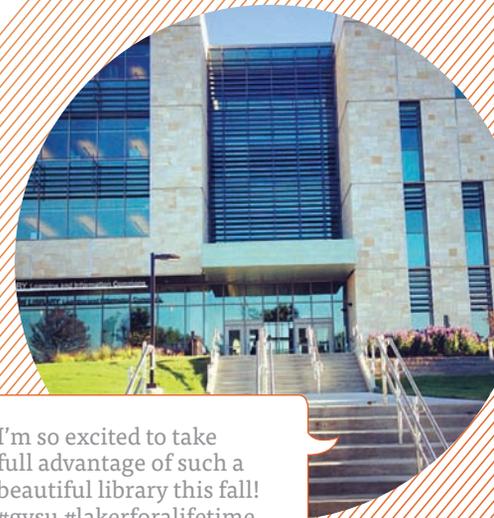
T. Haas getting crazy with the students! #GVSU @GVSUStudentLife @gvsufootball

Posted by Travis Love (@travislove23) on Sept 21, 2013



First time studying at the new library and it couldn't be more right #argotea #pathophys #8tracks #study #Laker #GVSU

Posted by kelseyferrand on Sept. 18, 2013



I'm so excited to take full advantage of such a beautiful library this fall! #gvsu #lakerforalifetime #MIPLibrary

Posted by jennalynnhines on Aug 14, 2013



Jessica Jennrich

Jennrich named Women's Center director

Jessica Jennrich was named the new director of Grand Valley State University's Women's Center. She succeeds Marlene Kowalski-Braun, who is now assistant vice provost for Student Affairs.

Jennrich comes from Dartmouth College, where she directed the Center for Gender and Student Engagement. Prior to that, she led the undergraduate program in the Women's Gender Studies Department at Dartmouth and taught at the University of Missouri.

"Moving forward, we'll look at how to integrate all students into the center and make sure all people feel like they have a place here," Jennrich said. "We'll make sure all aspects of our work have an intersectional lens, so we're thinking about how a student's identity is more than just gender."

Originally from Cleveland, she received a bachelor's degree in English from Bowling Green University, a master's degree in women's and gender studies from Eastern Michigan University, and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Missouri.

Jennrich said her plans for the Women's Center include maintaining current programs and events as well as leveraging work that has been done at the center on a local and national level.

I love my school, not only because it's perfect, but because there are flags in the lawn honoring all of the 9/11 victims #GVSU

Posted by Kellie Connelly (@kellieconnelly) on Sept. 11, 2013



Posted by GVSU on Sept. 11, 2013



Jack and Alex #GVSU #friends #football #militaryappreciation

Posted by erinnyoung95 on Sept. 21, 2013



The cutest pumpkin ever! #golakers #goblue #gvsu #pumpkin #cute #GV

Posted by kristinagabriella0526 on Sept. 21, 2013

Love that professors at #gvsu pay attention enough to remember you even after a year! #lovemyschool #lakerforalifetime

Posted by Jess (@jessmarie_94) on Sept. 5, 2013

f Skip Lockyear --> Grand Valley State University (August 21 at 3:21 p.m.): I have to say a special thank you to the University and all the volunteers for "move in day." My daughter moved in yesterday, and I was surprised and delighted at all the volunteer groups that were there assisting with moving all sorts of items from the curb to the dorms rooms. You are very much appreciated!



Posted by GVSU on Aug. 19, 2013



New police chief named

Grand Valley alumna Renee Freeman was named director of Public Safety and police chief. She replaces Barb Bergers, who retired at the end of June.

Freeman had served as a lieutenant in the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety. She spent 27 years in Grand Haven, working her way up from an officer position. She was with the Police Academy at Grand Valley for 14 years, starting as an adjunct faculty member; for one year, she served as the academy's assistant director.

"The opportunity to return to campus and work with such a reputable group of individuals is exciting," Freeman said. "It will be a privilege to serve the students and staff at Grand Valley and work with my colleagues to provide a safe learning and living environment."



President Thomas J. Haas swears in new Public Safety Director Renee Freeman September 30 at the Alumni House.

photo by Amanda Pitts

Jim Bachmeier, vice president for Finance and Administration, said there were many highly qualified candidates. "We are fortunate to get someone who is highly experienced and well connected to local law enforcement agencies as well as the Grand Valley community," Bachmeier said. "Renee is bringing a lot

of energy and ideas to campus."

Freeman is also certified as a fire officer from the Michigan Office of Firefighter Training and as a medical first responder from the Michigan Department of Community Health. She received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Grand Valley in 2004.

Alumna takes her story to nation's capital

Alumna Stephanie Brown said as a student-parent, she would not have been able to graduate in four years and find a job without the resources available at Grand Valley.

Brown, '13, spoke about her experience as a student-parent on the steps of the U.S. Capitol during an event in July to promote the Women's Economic Agenda, led by U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi and other members of Congress.

Brown, from Clinton Township, was invited by the Institute for Women's Policy and Research to share her story and discuss the importance of child care and education. The Women's Economic Agenda also addressed job training and education, and paycheck fairness legislation.

Sharalle Arnold, director of the Children's Enrichment Center at Grand Valley, was contacted by the organization to recommend a student-parent who could discuss the challenges of parenting and getting a degree.

"I've worked with Stephanie over the years and she used the Children's Enrichment Center for child care for her daughter, so I immediately thought of her

to recommend," said Arnold, who also chairs the Higher Education Alliance of Advocates for Students with Children.

During her speech in Washington, Brown talked about how Grand Valley made her feel comfortable about being



Above, Stephanie Brown stands next to Nancy Pelosi during an event to promote the Women's Economic Agenda. Brown was invited to talk about her experience as a student-parent.

photo courtesy of the Institute for Women's Policy Research

a young mom. "I knew my daughter was getting quality care at the center. It put me at ease, knowing she was at ease," she said. "I was a single mom in college. I really wouldn't have been able to graduate without the help of the center."

Brown graduated with a bachelor's degree in sociology and a minor in criminal justice; she works as a youth counselor for Bethany Christian Services in Grand Rapids. Her daughter, Makenzie, is 4 years old.

She said the Children's Enrichment Center is unique because it offers child care for students, while many campuses in Michigan offer child care only for faculty and staff members.

Arnold said the number of undergraduate student-parents, about 900 at Grand Valley, is on the rise at universities across the country. "It's important undergraduate student-parents have access to child care and other resources they need for them to succeed as a student," she said.

More than a million student-parents are enrolled at four-year institutions around the country, comprising 13.1 percent of their total population.

Students lead zero waste initiatives

Waste on campus is diminishing as the effort to recycle and compost as much as possible grows.

A group of students led a zero waste initiative at Lubbers Stadium during the first home football game September 7.

More than 600 pounds of compostable and recyclable materials were collected, which diverted 79 percent of the total materials from the waste stream.

And for the first time, the all-campus picnic that followed the convocation ceremony August 23 produced zero waste.

During the picnic, 15 members of the student-led Campus Dining Green Team were stationed throughout the picnic area to help students, faculty and staff members sort their waste into compost and recycle bins.

At the picnic, more than 1,010 pounds of compost were collected and 1,500 water bottles were recycled.

The efforts are part of an ongoing effort to reduce waste at large events on campus, organized by the Sustainable Community Development Initiative, Athletics, Facilities Services, Office of Student Life and Campus Dining's Green Team.

Students from the Campus Dining Green Team help people sort waste into compost and recycle bins during the all-campus picnic August 23.





Fan's guide to fall sports

Here is the 4-1-1 about several standout student-athletes from fall sports. Some teams have a few remaining games on their schedules, visit www.gvsulakers.com to catch the action.



Football

Matt Armstrong, senior offensive lineman, is a preseason All-American pick.



Women's Golf

Kelly Hartigan, sophomore from Lake Orion, won four tournaments last year and earned GLIAC Women's Golfer of the Year honors.



Women's Tennis

Transfer student Carola Orna, from William Carey University, was ranked 12th nationally in singles. Orna is from Italy.



Volleyball

Betsy Ronda, sophomore outside hitter, was the first Laker freshman ever to earn All-GLIAC First Team honors.



Football

Quarterback Isiah Grimes, threw three or more touchdowns in a game four times last year.



3
or more
TOUCH DOWNS
per game
4 TIMES LAST YEAR

13



STRAIGHT SHUTOUTS



Soccer

The Lakers have not lost at home for 58 games, the second-longest streak in the country.

Scientist of sound

brings love of studio to classroom by Mary Isca Pirkola

Joseph McCargar considers sound recording in the same realm as a photo essay, a story in a book or a collection of favorite family recipes. “They’re all forms of archiving things we think are important,” he said. “Sound recording is the aural form of preservation.”

An affiliate professor in the School of Communications, McCargar has been sharing his passion for sound with Grand Valley students since 1979. As a founding staff member of River City Studios, a commercial sound recording facility in Grand Rapids for nearly four decades, he also brings his vast expertise.

As a scientist of sound, McCargar finds it challenging to concoct a balanced formula for teaching both the technical aspects as well as the artistic approach to audio recording. On the first day of class, he tells students that his job is to tell them what he knows, to help them organize their time, and to encourage them to “feel the love.” He said, “Those who go into this field don’t go on just because they can do cool things with computer software and audio hardware, but because they love the process of pulling something out of nothing — as in any art form.”

McCargar admits that in his younger days he wasn’t immune to the “cool factor.” He was in a local rock band that produced several records, with two releases under the name Rock Garden, under contract with Capitol Records.

“We ended up at A&R Studios and Capitol Records studios in New York, and that is how I got introduced to what I call ‘the other side of the glass’ and became very interested in the technical side of audio production,” he said. McCargar paired that passion with his interest in teaching and earned a bachelor’s degree in education. After a teaching stint at Montana State University, McCargar returned to Grand Rapids in 1977, to work

with a former band member who started River City Studios.

“We’ve worked with national acts, recording Rascal Flatts, AC/DC and Aerosmith, among others,” he said. That experience transfers to the classroom during musical recording exercises known as “sample sessions,” which have become a favorite of students. These are very spontaneous performances by

“Sound recording has a place in culture, and certainly in the university, as a skill and a creative endeavor in and of itself — not that different than any other field of study.”

Joseph McCargar

student musicians and include anything from a guitar and voice to a large group. “My students get an opportunity to understand the workflow of a complex recording and their musician friends get a free recording,” said McCargar.

Students also get experience producing radio dramas, broadcast commercials, long-form documentary audio, and a soundscape, which uses musical and nonmusical sounds to create a mental image that may not have the benefit of the spoken word to convey its meaning.

Other audio skills are taught to prepare students for a wide variety

of jobs: forensic audio for legal and law enforcement courtroom evidence, industrial audio, which includes spoken word for corporate audio/visuals, and arts and entertainment audio.

“Currently, one of the most sophisticated and prolific areas of sound recording is in the gaming industry,” said McCargar. “The film industry has proceeded on a parallel track with many multi-speaker and surround-sound applications.”

McCargar said the one thing all forms of audio production have in common is that they all come out of the necessity to archive communications.

“Sound recording has a place in culture, and certainly in the university, as a skill and a creative endeavor in and of itself — not that different than any other field of study,” he said. “At many colleges it shows up as courses in a film program or music department. I think that at Grand Valley, sound recording is rightly based in the School of Communications because it is a communication arts science.”

In fact, McCargar and colleague Keith Oppenheim, director of the broadcasting major, are in the process of building an audio recording minor, not only as a vital part for all communications majors, but with interdisciplinary applications for students in other fields, such as music, physics or engineering.

By incorporating an educational mix of interpersonal and technology skills, this scientist of sound continues to refine an impassioned formula for success.

A scientist of sound, Joseph McCargar concocts a balanced formula for teaching technical and artistic aspects of audio recording.

photo by Amanda Pitts





“All it takes to capture the imagination of a student and get them thinking about a career in science is one small spark, one maddeningly interesting question that the student can’t stop thinking about.” Jim Ruble, ’10

Endowed lecturers challenge students, community to imagine

The Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry and the Frederik Meijer Lecture Series are both privately supported endowed lectureships that demonstrate how learning at Grand Valley is ignited beyond the traditional classroom setting.

The Ott Lecture Series, established in 2001, features renowned chemists. Professor and chair of chemistry George McBane said invited lecturers present a wide range of scientific topics to students, faculty members and the community.

“The lecturers are expert chemists and teachers,” McBane said. “They build on the things that the students already know, and show them how those ideas apply to something new and exciting.”

Jim Ruble, ’10, had the opportunity to collaborate with Ott Lecturer Virginia

Cornish, from Columbia University. Their research on the evolution of antibiotic resistance resulted in an article published in the *International Union of Crystallography* with Ruble as lead author.

Now a doctoral candidate studying pharmacology at University of Washington School of Medicine, Ruble agreed that the lecture series exposes students to opportunities in science they otherwise might not encounter. He encouraged current students to attend the lectures and take advantage of the opportunities they offer.

→ Frederik Meijer Lecture Series

The Meijer Lecture Series, started in 2010, focuses on leadership, innovation and entrepreneurship. It helps students

understand the benefits of a liberal arts education and apply it to succeed professionally and personally. The lecture series has featured regional, national and international speakers.

Rachel Gregg, a senior Frederik Meijer Honors College student majoring in communications, attended a lecture by Barbara Pierce Bush, the co-founder of Global Health Corps and daughter of former President George W. Bush. Bush’s international nonprofit organization connects college graduate fellows with opportunities to meet health needs around the world. During her presentation, Bush said the Global Health Corps fellows fill jobs that vary greatly. “We look for people who are culturally sensitive, flexible and work with humility,” she said.

Gregg said she was inspired by Bush and the nonprofit she created. “She really identifies with people who are in need around the world and, instead of sitting back, chooses to do something about it,” Gregg said, adding that Bush’s lecture showed her how to use the knowledge she’s gained through her classes in ways that go beyond a career. With a minor in public, health and nonprofit administration, Gregg said she hopes to work for a nonprofit organization or in the health care field.

Mike Jandernoa, at left, gave a presentation as part of the 2012 Meijer Lecture Series.

→ Donors make it possible

Both the Ott Lecture and the Meijer Lecture series are endowed and will stimulate education and dialogue for years to come. These lectures are supported by donors who sought to directly benefit students, the university and the community through these events. The Ott Lecture was established by Arnold C. Ott, a chemist and member of Grand Valley’s founding board,



GIVING MATTERS

Johnson Center establishes first community philanthropy chair

In August, President Thomas J. Haas announced the establishment of a new faculty chair position focused on community philanthropy within the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy.

The W.K. Kellogg Community Philanthropy Chair was established with a gift from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Kellogg Company 25-Year Employees' Fund. It is the first chair of its kind in the nation dedicated to community philanthropy.

The individual who will assume the new chair position will help communities understand their philanthropic landscape and emerging best practices. It is anticipated that partners will include private and corporate donors and the non-profit sector.

Gift match doubles impact

Gifts given to the Ott-Stiner Fellowship in Chemistry and Natural Sciences by November 1 had double the impact on Grand Valley students. All gifts to the fellowship were matched dollar for dollar up to the goal of \$10,000.

The fellowship was established in 2011 to provide mentoring and financial assistance to a student in the Student Summer Scholars Program who is focused in the areas of chemistry or natural sciences.

Thank You! The Robert B. Annis Field Station campaign exceeds goal

Thanks to the generosity of more than 220 donors, the campaign for the Robert B. Annis Field Station exceeded its goal. In one year Grand Valley supporters, including alumni, community members, and those passionate about protecting Michigan's freshwater resources, gave \$2.32 million in private gifts.

The new, 14,700-square-foot Robert B. Annis Field Station allows for year-round research and provides a space for better collaboration, better science and better solutions to protect our Great Lakes. With the addition of the Annis Field Station, the institute will be able to help Muskegon County and West Michigan visibly demonstrate leadership for the blue economy, hire more researchers and increase the opportunities for Grand Valley students. The Annis Field Station was dedicated on August 12.

Grand Valley calling

Grand Valley's Student Telephone Outreach Program is a student-operated calling program that seeks support for the Grand Valley Fund.

During their weeknight calling shifts, the program's student employees make connections and build relationships with alumni and friends of the university. They also collect current contact information, give updates on the university, and provide information about upcoming campus events.

The students who make calls nightly are dedicated Lakers for a Lifetime who are helping advance Grand Valley.



Students listen to Ada Yonath, Nobel Laureate in chemistry. Yonath gave the winter 2013 Ott Lecture.

and his wife, Marion. Frederik Meijer, who established the Meijer Lecture Series, was the former chairman emeritus of Meijer Inc.; his generous philanthropy helped shape the university.

Other privately funded lectures at Grand Valley include the Peter F. Secchia Breakfast Lecture Series and the Huntington Breakfast Lectures, sponsored by the Seidman College of Business; and the Professionals of Color Lecture Series, sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

The Fall 2013 Ott Lecture was held October 29 and featured W. Carl Lineberger, from University of Colorado at Boulder. This year's first Meijer lecturer was Brian Walker, CEO of Herman Miller. His presentation was held November 11.

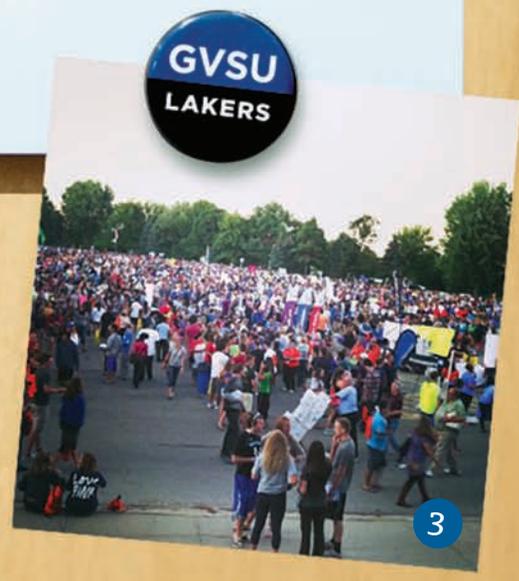
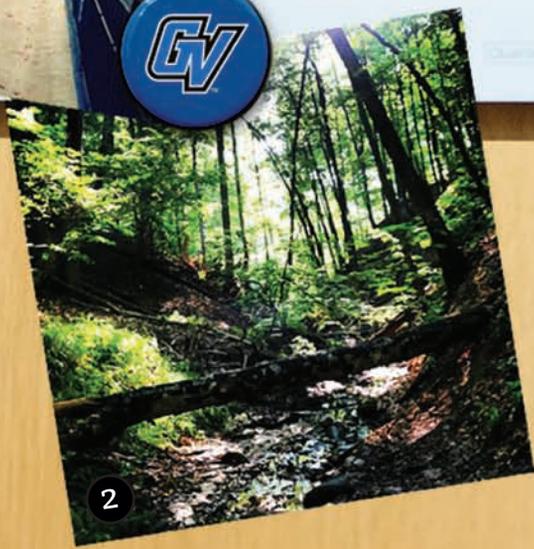
For more information about creating a lectureship, contact University Development at (616) 331-6000 or send an email to universitydevelopment@gvsu.edu.

A Laker Bucket List

by Leah Twilley

“What’s one thing every Laker should add to their bucket list?”

This question was asked to thousands of students, alumni, faculty and staff members through Grand Valley’s social media networks. Hundreds responded with their recommendations on what students should do and experience before they graduate.





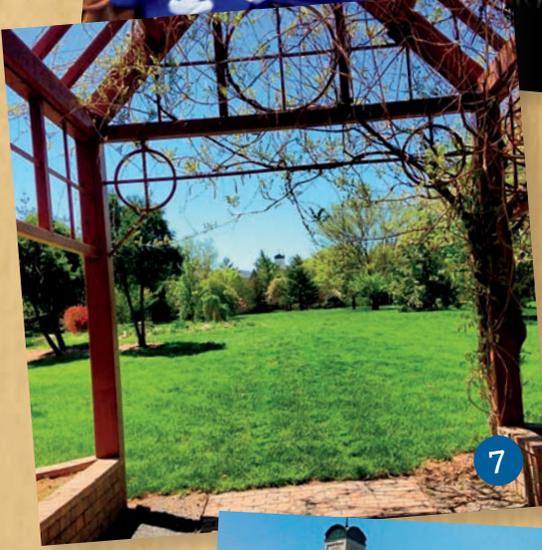
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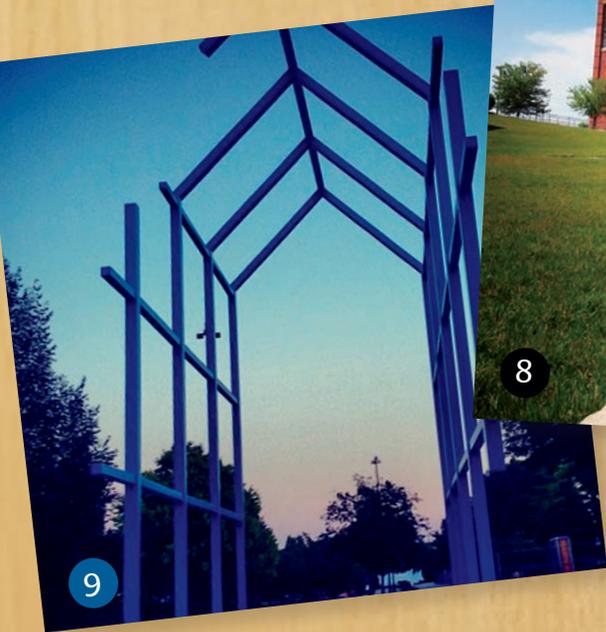
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8

Here are the top things that should be on every Laker's bucket list:

- 1. WALK ACROSS THE LITTLE MAC BRIDGE ON A CRISP, FALL DAY**
Or walk across the bridge at midnight, said Matt Griewahn on Facebook.
- 2. EXPLORE THE RAVINES**
Instagram user smtaylor580 said Lakers should hike the trails in the ravines, especially in the fall.
- 3. GET INVOLVED**
Kent Games said, "Get involved and be an active member of at least one student organization. I've had many tremendous opportunities in my life and I can trace it to my time at GVSU and involvement within the major and student organizations."
- 4. SWIM IN LAKE MICHIGAN**
Jennifer Dykstra's advice to students: "Drive out to Grand Haven for a late-night beach, study break with a group of friends. Bonus: stop at Meijer for a pint of Ben & Jerry's on the way."
- 5. GO TO A LAKER SPORTING EVENT**
Megan Renee said go to as many football games as possible, while @brostyfrosty on Twitter recommended going to at least one game of every sporting event.
- 6. GET A PHOTO WITH LOUIE THE LAKER**
teenbean14 on Instagram said, "Take a picture with Louie the Laker and T-Haas!"
- 7. STUDY IN THE VANSTEELEND ARBORETUM**
Jennifer Monteith said all students should also take a nap under the trellis in the Arboretum.
- 8. HANG OUT IN FRONT OF ZUMBERGE POND IN BETWEEN CLASSES**
Instagram user heuwages suggested having a picnic in the middle of the day next to Zumberge Pond.
- 9. WALK UNDER THE TRANSFORMATIONAL LINK**
Katie Vrugink said students should "walk under the blue structure near the lake halls during finals week. Live life on the edge!"

What would you add to this list?

Email gvmagazine@gvsu.edu or tag your tweets and Instagram photos with #GVBucketList.



BRIDGING THE JUSTICE GAP

STUDENTS PROVIDE
LEGAL INFORMATION,
HELP PEOPLE BE HEARD

by Dottie Barnes

Facing a legal problem alone can be scary and confusing, said Akshita Patel, a 21-year-old Grand Valley senior majoring in legal studies.

Patel is preparing to attend law school and is one of many Grand Valley students who served an internship at The Legal Assistance Center in downtown Grand Rapids. The LAC, housed in the Kent County Courthouse, provides information for those who cannot afford an attorney.

"Most of the people coming in need help with family law issues," said Patel, "like divorce, child custody, visitation or child support. We talk with people who come into the center and then give them the information and forms they need to navigate the courts and represent themselves."

The center opened in 2002 and Grand Valley students have served there for the past five years. "The LAC was created to bridge the 'justice gap' between those who can afford legal representation and the few who qualify for free legal help," said executive director Deborah Hughes.

Hughes said most of the people they help have lower incomes and have no other choice but to solve legal problems on their own. Most are referred to the center by the Clerk of Court's office, the Friend of the Court or judges themselves. Many are referred by other agencies where they are seeking help.

The center served 17,000 people last year, most of them from Kent County, and the need is growing.

"It's rewarding to see people be successful in mediation or able to get themselves out of a bad situation."

Charlie Campbell

Hughes said the center's goal is to help people be informed, be prepared and be heard. She said while most need help with family issues, the LAC also helps people with housing and consumer issues like landlord/tenant disputes, debt collection and small claims. She said student volunteers and interns are an essential part of the center.

"We couldn't provide the service we do without our volunteers and interns," said Hughes. "We provide students with training and quiz them on their legal knowledge before they begin working with the public. Our interns from Grand Valley are well-prepared and often already have knowledge about family law and the court system. We also appreciate that many speak at least one foreign language."

Grand Valley students learn about opportunities at the LAC through faculty

Akshita Patel, a senior majoring in legal studies, listens to a client at The Legal Assistance Center, where Patel is a volunteer.

photo by Amanda Pitts

members. Ruth Stevens, assistant professor in the School of Criminal Justice and coordinator of Grand Valley's ABA-approved Legal Studies program, said students from any major can

volunteer at the center. "It is a great opportunity for our students; the procedures and laws they are learning about in the classroom come to life," said Stevens. "Students experience the real functioning of a courthouse and see how the law works in the lives of everyday people."

Stevens said it is a great setting for students to develop important skills necessary for work in the legal field. "Students build on the listening, critical thinking and cultural competency skills that are emphasized in the Legal Studies curriculum and also learn how to converse with people in crisis and to be helpful and reassuring while maintaining boundaries," she said.

Patel said she knew in high school that she wanted to become a lawyer. She was born in Zambia and her family moved to Grand Rapids when she was 12. She is a Spanish minor and is fluent in several languages.

"I learned a lot about legal issues at the center, but I also realized the importance

of good communication skills," said Patel. "I learned to ask the right questions to draw out necessary and accurate information. It is exciting to talk to new people each day and then refer to what the law says. It's also gratifying to know that the information I give people will truly impact their lives, especially with custody cases."

Yarenis Salazar has one month left in her seven-month internship at the LAC, and will graduate in April with a degree in legal studies. She is fluent in Spanish and her goal is to be a court interpreter.

The LAC does not give legal advice or provide representation, which can be challenging.

"It can be hard when people ask for my advice," said Salazar. "Some want me to tell them what to do, or fill out forms for them. I can't. I can only guide them and assure them that I can give them the information they need to move forward themselves. I encourage them to take a second look at their forms and to be sure to tell the judge everything."

The Lansing native said her classes and professors at Grand Valley prepared her for what she would encounter at the center. "What I learned in my family law class was right on. Everything I have learned is applicable here," she said. "I now know more about court rules, I'm more experienced with ethical issues and I have better interpreting skills. My professors are passionate about law and that makes me love it more."

One of the LAC's few full-time employees is Charlie Campbell, who serves as program coordinator and a paralegal. He graduated from Grand Valley in 2007 and was hired at the center in 2010.

"I was a history major who became interested in the law," said Campbell. "I am thankful for my experience at Grand Valley. I learned how to manage people, make connections and think critically. My liberal education gave me a broader perspective and point of reference. We see many successful Grand Valley students come through here and go on to law school."

Campbell said he also sees many successful people who are able to use the information they are given at the LAC for a positive outcome.

"It's rewarding to see people be successful in mediation or able to get themselves out of a bad situation," said Campbell. "This is what a democratic system is: free access to courts."

The Legal Assistance Center is the first legal self-help center in Michigan, established by the Grand Rapids Bar Association, Kent County, Legal Aid, Michigan State Bar Foundation and the Grand Rapids legal community. It serves as a model for smaller centers in Ottawa, Berrien and Allegan counties and the online tool: www.michiganlegalhelp.org.

THE CENTER SERVED

17,000

PEOPLE LAST YEAR,
MOST OF THEM FROM
KENT COUNTY, AND
THE NEED IS GROWING.

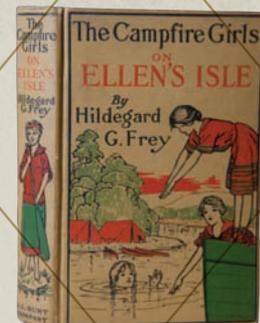


Seidman House holds

HIDDEN NATIONAL GEMS

by Nate Hoekstra





Robert Beasecker and Nancy Richard run the Special Collections and University Archives, both found in Seidman House.

photo by Bernadine Carey Tucker

Anyone who has walked the Great Lakes Plaza from the south end of the Little Mac bridge to Lake Michigan Hall has passed by a unique collection of historical artifacts that are hidden in plain sight.

The collections hold a remarkable array of hidden gems, rare treasures that are available for research, study and general exploration. A pristine World War I uniform worn by Russel Kirkhof, for whom a campus building in Allendale is named, is a highlight. So is the collection of notes, manuscripts and letters of celebrated Michigan-born author Jim Harrison, and one of the larger collections of books, letters and artifacts about Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War anywhere in the U.S.

These, and much more, can be found inside the Seidman House, a small building that is home to thousands of pieces of history in the University Libraries' holdings. Robert Beasecker is the director of Special Collections and University Archives, and asking him to pick his favorite piece from the collection doesn't elicit a simple response. "So you're asking me to pick which one of my children I love the most?" he said, jokingly. The collection is so vast, and each piece or collection so different from the others, it's a hard choice to make, he said.

The variety of the university's Special Collections is what makes

it so interesting to Beasecker and University Archivist Nancy Richard. The number of books tops 32,000, and the collections continue to grow, but quantifying the total number of items in the Seidman House is difficult.

"The materials range from books to manuscripts, from one item collections to collections of hundreds of cartons, from digital files, to paintings, artifacts, newspapers and photographs," Richard said. "Because of this, there really isn't an accurate way to measure the collection except by the number of feet of material on the shelves and that really doesn't do it justice since all of the material here is unique."

The collections often go unnoticed by students and the public because they're not on display like books in the library, but kept in controlled conditions for the sake of preservation, Beasecker said. "The special collections are usually rare items, one-of-a-kinds, and other materials that are exceptionally significant," Beasecker said. "We have a duty to keep these things safe, and well cared for, but we also don't want to keep them hidden away or sitting in storage. We want



Libraries since 1970, or Richard, who has been at Grand Valley since 2005.

Most of the time the collections are used by Grand Valley students, faculty and staff members, but they are also used often for research purposes, either for writing academic papers for post-graduate study or for books, Richard said. Some photographs and films have been used in publications, exhibits and movies. Others ask to see the materials simply to explore truly unique samples of

Yearbooks, meeting minutes, course catalogs and more can be found in the University Archives at Seidman House.

photo by Bernadine Carey Tucker

writing, art or history. Researchers have come from all over the world to the Seidman House to study. The curator of a museum dedicated to artist Constantin Meunier traveled from

Belgium to study an original oil painting called "Allegory on the Death of Lincoln" from 1865, and a California man stayed in the area for a month to study the L. William Seidman FDIC papers for his dissertation on the savings and loan crisis of the 1980s. Researchers from France have traveled to study the Jim Harrison collection, and researchers from the University of Missouri found digitized copies of old reel-to-reel audio tapes made by the City of Grand Rapids

people to find the things that are here."

Building awareness of the material kept in the Seidman House is a challenge, but online catalogs and ongoing efforts to digitize portions of the collection are helping the cause. Richard said the Special Collections and University Archives website is being redesigned with features that should help search efforts. Many of the Seidman House collections are catalogued and searchable through

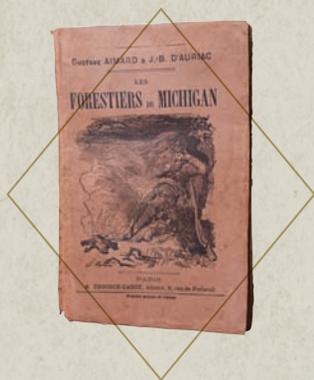
the University Libraries search engine (library.catalog.gvsu.edu/search/X and click "Special Collections and Rare Books"). The University Archives and Special Collections also maintains digital collections, which include electronic copies of pieces for online viewing. (gvsu.cdmhost.com/cdm/)

Another way to try to find something in the Seidman House is to ask Beasecker, who has been with the University

NOTABLE COLLECTIONS

MICHIGAN IN THE NOVEL:

Roughly 2,700 novels that are set within the geographic boundaries of Michigan.



15TH CENTURY PRINTING:

Commonly called "incunabula" this collection includes more than 140 books, all from the 1400s, which were printed within the first 50 years of the invention of printing from moveable type. Most of the books and pamphlets are religious in nature, and make up the second largest collection of its kind in the state. One particular piece, printed in Spanish, offers an indulgence for sale by the Bishop of Osma, and is the only copy in the U.S.

PAPERS OF JIM HARRISON:

This collection is available for research, but not digitized because of its size and copyright restrictions. The collection provides insight into the writer through his manuscripts, and extensive correspondence from the 1960s with other writers, publishers, celebrities, foodies and fans throughout the U.S. and France.

D.J. ANGUS PHOTO COLLECTION:

An extensive photographic record of Angus' work and travels throughout the U.S. and Mexico. Images reflect the photographer's interest in engineering projects such as the creation of Mt. Rushmore, ancient civilizations, natural phenomena, and family and friends.

WEST MICHIGAN EPHEMERA:

This collection includes postcards, photographs, memorabilia and other sundries from around West Michigan.

founders helpful for their study of speech patterns of the upper Midwest.

The materials in the Special Collections come from a wide variety of sources, Beasecker said. Most of the collections were either acquired as gifts from donors or through purchases. Collections also come from antiquarian book dealers who Beasecker has worked with for years. They know what kind of material Beasecker is looking for, and will let him know if they find an interesting piece. Other sources used to locate books and materials are the popular online auction site eBay and dealers' catalogs, Beasecker said.

Beasecker and Richard often work with university departments, collaborating to collect complementary materials like notes, manuscripts and edited works that go along with displays like art gallery exhibits and research projects. The Seidman House holds materials from artist Mathias Alten in conjunction with the university's collection in the Gordon Gallery, and it will receive the transfer of the papers of artist Cyril Lixenberg that complement a large collection of his art owned by the university. Papers from the founder of the Young Lords, donated through his liberal studies research project at the university, and photos and letters from the Veterans History Project are other examples (see page 30).

Materials in the archives include minutes from Board of Trustees meetings, department newsletters and the student newspaper. The archives also hold items that are less procedural and more historic, including documents that reflect a history of the Allendale Campus ravines, and magazine articles from the 1970s showing off an audio/video system that would give each student access to recorded lectures — a first-of-its-kind system 40 years ago. The archives were used extensively when material was gathered for the celebration of Grand Valley's 50th anniversary, and for the exhibit on L. William Seidman in the new Seidman Center. Faculty members frequently use the archives to look up a historical record of curriculum and policy.

Pieces from both the archives and Special Collections are often curated for display by Beasecker in glass cases in the lobby of the building, including books about fictitious future wars, ornately decorated book bindings and Michigan-based dime novels. "We try to change the displays as much as we can, and still don't get to do it as much as we want

to," Beasecker said. "It takes a lot to write descriptions and find hidden correlations between pieces from different collections, but we try to show off some of the most interesting content we can."

One positive effect of being relatively undiscovered is that students who are in-the-know use Seidman House as a quiet study space. There are comfortable chairs, a fireplace and floor-to-ceiling windows that look out over the ravines, which present an especially striking view in the winter with snow on the trees, Beasecker said. The Seidman House is open for studying and researching the archives and collections from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

"The materials in the University Archives and Special Collections give us a chance to solve puzzles, and to figure out how things were in the past, what they meant at the time, and what they mean now," Beasecker said. "The most exciting part about working here is being able to continue to learn as more material comes in. It's very rewarding to be able to continually develop and maintain such interesting and unique collections."

PRESIDENTS, SPYS:

Two collections of books donated to the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies and housed in Special Collections are the J. Randall Bergers Presidential Writings Collection and the Don Markle Espionage Collection. Both have been cataloged and are open to researchers.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND THE CIVIL WAR:

Thousands of books, periodicals, documents, works of art and more detailing the life, presidency and death of Abraham Lincoln and the war. The collection includes "Allegory on the Death of Lincoln," a 1865 painting (at right) by Belgian artist Constantin Meunier, and an extremely rare "Wanted" poster following Lincoln's assassination that was printed before photographs of the wanted men had been distributed.



ADVERTISEMENT

Theatre at Grand Valley



2013-2014 Season

Much Ado About Nothing, September 27-October 6

Kindertransport, November 15-23

Urinetown, The Musical, January 31-February 9

Sex and the Supernatural, March 28-April 5

Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center
Allendale Campus

For tickets or more information call
(616) 331-2300 or visit gvsu.edu/theatre/.



GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY
THEATRE

Study abroad opens up world

for student with vision problem by Michele Coffill

Although an eye disease restricts her vision to the size of a pinhole, Juanita Lillie took in the beauty of Costa Rica while immersing herself in Spanish during a study abroad program.

Lillie, a senior majoring in Spanish, said it was the doubters and her parents who pushed her to participate in a study abroad program — and she's forever grateful to them. Lillie was born with retinitis pigmentosa (RP), a degenerative eye disease, and is legally blind.

“A few people told me that I shouldn't do it ... But it's the doubters who gave me the courage.”

Juanita Lillie

“A few people told me that I shouldn't do it; I shouldn't go by myself,” Lillie said. “But it's the doubters who gave me the courage.” She left her family in Coopersville and life on campus to live in Costa Rica for a semester.

Lillie lived in San Pedro with a host family for the winter 2013 semester and took four classes at the Universidad Latina-San Pedro. Her trip was arranged through Grand Valley's Padnos International Center and International Studies Abroad (ISA).

“My No. 1 fear was the accessibility of the country,” Lillie said. “But ISA was very accommodating; everyone at the university was very accommodating.”

She explained how RP affects her vision. “If you imagine a funnel that is wider at the top then gets narrow, I can see what's in the center of that funnel,” Lillie said. She uses an iPad and laptop equipped with a text reader for her Grand Valley courses.

It was no different in Costa Rica. “The professors had no problem sending me my assignments on email,” she said.

Lillie would like to pursue a career as a medical interpreter and translator. She said her conversational Spanish improved

immensely while in Costa Rica. “The classes were not that challenging for me. What was challenging was not being able to use English words,” she said.

But she quickly adapted, mostly through conversations with her host family, a woman and her mother, whom Lillie called Mom and Grandma. With her host family and friends, Lillie traveled to the country's rainforest, toured a volcano, visited beaches and flew on a zipline.

“During the time I was abroad, my host

When she arrived in Michigan, Juanita was taken to vision specialists who diagnosed the RP and said she would lose most of her sight by the time she was a teenager.

“Russ and I decided we would do everything to make sure she grew up to do things for herself and make sure she was confident,” Sheryl said.

Last year, the confident college student told her parents that she wanted to study in Costa Rica for a semester.



Juanita Lillie, a Spanish major, is pictured in the language lab at Mackinac Hall. Born with a degenerative eye disease, Lillie spent a semester studying abroad in Costa Rica.

photo by Amanda Pitts

mom and grandmother were there during every moment and accepted my disability without problems,” she said.

Lillie was born in Bogotá, Colombia, and raised in an orphanage. Coopersville residents Russell and Sheryl Lillie adopted her at age 2. At the start of the adoption process, Sheryl and Russell learned that Juanita was blind, but the orphanage also told them she was deaf.

“We went to visit her for the first time, and get the paperwork started, and I remember taking a photo of her,” Sheryl said. “The camera clicked and she turned her head.” It was an undiagnosed ear infection that incorrectly led staff members at the orphanage to believe Juanita couldn't hear.

Sheryl said her daughter has always been very independent, and she knew she could count on Juanita to ask for assistance at the airport, Costa Rican hotel and university.

That is exactly what Lillie would say to other students who have a disability and are considering studying abroad.

“I'm so glad I had this experience,” she said. “My only advice to others would be to do it, and to advocate for yourself.”

Son preference in India

Professor examines gender bias *by Dottie Barnes*

Sonia Dalmia grew up in many different regions of India before her family settled in New Delhi. Dalmia was encouraged by her parents to follow her dream of higher education in India, earning a bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Delhi. At 24, Dalmia moved to the U.S. to pursue higher education.

Dalmia, professor of economics, had full support from her parents, but that is not the case for many women in India.

Girls are seen as a burden, partly because of the dowry that must accompany them at marriage.

Sonia Dalmia

Dalmia said boys are preferred over girls in her native country; she studied data in hopes of finding the underlying factors behind the gender bias in child survival rates in her homeland.

"Son preference is an ancient practice," explained Dalmia. "A larger share of a family's limited financial resources for education, health and food would be allocated for boys and men from birth."

"In view of India's social and economic diversity and the interplay of cultural and economic factors, it's difficult to pinpoint one reason behind son preference."

Dalmia examined data collected by the National Council of Applied Economic

Research in India from 1956-1996, which surveyed both men and women living in north and south India. More than 1,000 households spread over five districts in Uttar Pradesh in northern India, and 800 households spread over five districts in Karnataka in southern India, were surveyed by NCAER for a larger study, "Poverty, Gender Inequality and Reproductive Choice."

Dalmia said girls are seen as an economic liability and burden, partly because of the very expensive dowry that must accompany them at the time of their marriage. She said dowry is not the only cause for gender bias in child survival rates, noting that sons carry on the family name and often the business, and usually inherit family property and perform last rites.

Despite India's growing economic prosperity and education levels, Dalmia said the 2011 census figures reveal low sex ratios (849 to 900 girls per 1,000 boys) in some of the richest states in the nation.

Her research shows positive linkages between son preference, socioeconomic status and educational attainment. "This contradicts the explanation that sex selection is an archaic practice common only among the uneducated," Dalmia explained.

Some women surveyed indicated they did not want daughters, a choice motivated by the financial security provided by sons in old age, the cost of marrying a daughter and a strong desire not to want their daughters to live the kind of life they lived in India. This ideology has led to a declining female to male ratio in India that Dalmia described as alarming. In some areas, the ratio is as low as 80 females per 100 males.

"If the sex ratio at birth remains at 2001 levels, there will be 47 million more men than women in 2050," said Dalmia. She added that even if the sex ratio at birth were to remain at the normal level of 106 boys per 100 girls, the female deficit in the age group 20-49 would be at least 25 million in India by 2030.

Dalmia said the economic and social implications of these ratios will be far-reaching in the decades to come, especially given India's demographic weight and the recent decline in population growth.

"This will not only affect marriage rates but will also result in early marriage for women," she said. "The latter will be detrimental to women's education, training and employment, decrease women's labor force participation rates and, consequently, weaken their political voice in public decision-making."

Dalmia said trafficking of and violence against women will increase, brides will be imported from other regions and the demand for male labor, especially in the low-skilled and low-wage sectors largely occupied by women, will rise.

Although wealth and economic development do not reduce son preference, Dalmia's analysis found that a woman's control over her income more than her labor force participation is the single most significant factor in reducing the preference for boys. But, she also found the size of dowry payments is the largest driver of son preference, particularly among the Hindu households in north India.

Sonia Dalmia, far right, is pictured with her children and parents in the Leh District in the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir.

photo courtesy Sonia Dalmia

→ why the

HUMANITIES STILL MATTER

by Mary Isca Pirkola

Craig Reynolds remembers coming to Grand Valley intent on becoming a medical doctor — until he took a course on the ancient Greeks.

The course was taught by a team of professors in history, philosophy, literature, and the history of art and science as an interdisciplinary, six-credit freshman Honors course. “This course was a revelation to me about the depths of the humanities, the richness of scholarly inquiry and the interconnectedness of knowledge,” Reynolds said. “This course lit a fire in me for the humanities. I immediately changed my major to philosophy and never looked back!”

“I use these skills every day.”

— Craig Reynolds

Since graduating with honors in 1989, Reynolds has built a successful career in research administration, combining his love of the humanities with his interest in science. He has held positions at the National Science Foundation and several universities, including the University of Michigan, where he is currently the associate director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects.

“My studies of the humanities helped to develop in me certain habits of mind that are critical to success: how to read and think critically, pay attention to detail, integrate new points of view and

discard illegitimate ones, write and speak clearly and persuasively, and recognize when I am wrong,” said Reynolds. “I use these skills every day.”

Reynolds’ experience exemplifies many of the points detailed in a recent report from the American Academy of Arts & Sciences on the state of the humanities and the social sciences. The report, two years in the making, was requested by a bipartisan group of legislators and distributed in June to every member of Congress. Its purpose was to advance discussions on the role of humanities in the classroom and modern American life at a time when the spotlight, and funding, is heavily focused on STEM courses: science, technology, engineering and math.

→ by the numbers

Throughout the summer, the discussion continued in national media. A *New York Times* article by Verlyn Klinkenborg said that when students choose majors they believe will lead to good jobs, they too often skip the humanities, presupposing that only the most immediately applicable skills are worth acquiring. He lamented, “a new and narrowing vocational emphasis in the way students and their parents think about what to study in college.”

Dozens of other articles and the academy’s report examined the employability of humanities graduates and the perception that the entire field is in crisis, with enrollments on the decline. However, the results at Grand Valley and elsewhere indicate little change over the past 40 years.

the HUMANITIES ARE THRIVING

percent of
college enrollments
in the nation

NOW 2010	THEN 2000
7.6%	8%

as reported by
*The Chronicle of
Higher Education*

percent of
bachelor's degrees
in the nation

NOW 2010	THEN 1970
17%	17.1%

as reported by
*The National Center
for Educational Statistics*

percent of
degrees awarded
at Grand Valley

NOW 2010	THEN 1990
31.8%	30.4%

2010 is the most recent year
of national statistics

➤ beyond the numbers

President Thomas J. Haas often uses the acronym STEAM to describe the university's integration of the arts with the STEM disciplines. More broadly, the interdisciplinary mode of education found in all current majors at Grand Valley is the basis for a liberal education.

Frederick Antczak, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, noted that the university's General Education reform specifically addressed bringing people from a broad range of interests together.

"That's the working world now, and at Grand Valley we have a very interdisciplinary way of integrating these different strengths in the classroom," he said.

As examples he cited how nursing students are being impacted by human rights issues, how ethics plays a huge role in the education of business majors, and how graphic design and media production have become an integral part of business, science and engineering as well as the more typical fields of art and communications.

Brittany Hunter, '08, a software designer with Atomic Object in Grand Rapids, said Grand Valley provided the environment and the opportunities to explore what was important to her and to develop qualities she didn't know she had.

"My clients and colleagues are often astonished when they learn that my formal training was in Classics rather than a more traditional degree for my field, such as art or computer science," she said. "However, the skills I built while studying ancient languages, philosophy and rhetoric have been invaluable in my career as a software designer."

Hunter said good design is much deeper and broader than just creating stunning visuals. Her work includes shepherding clients' ideas from initial concept, which is often just a few sketches and bullet points, to a fully functional software product. She relies on her skills of critical and analytical thinking as she decides what to build and what features to include. It also requires a lot of research and the skills to synthesize that research; skills Hunter said she learned and practiced every day while working toward a Classics degree.

"While my daily activities at work don't involve reading Homer's *Iliad* or Ovid's *Metamorphoses* in the original Greek or Latin, studying these ancient languages actually prepared me to be able to decipher complex systems like my clients' business processes and the application code written by software developers," Hunter said.

➤ engaging in discovery

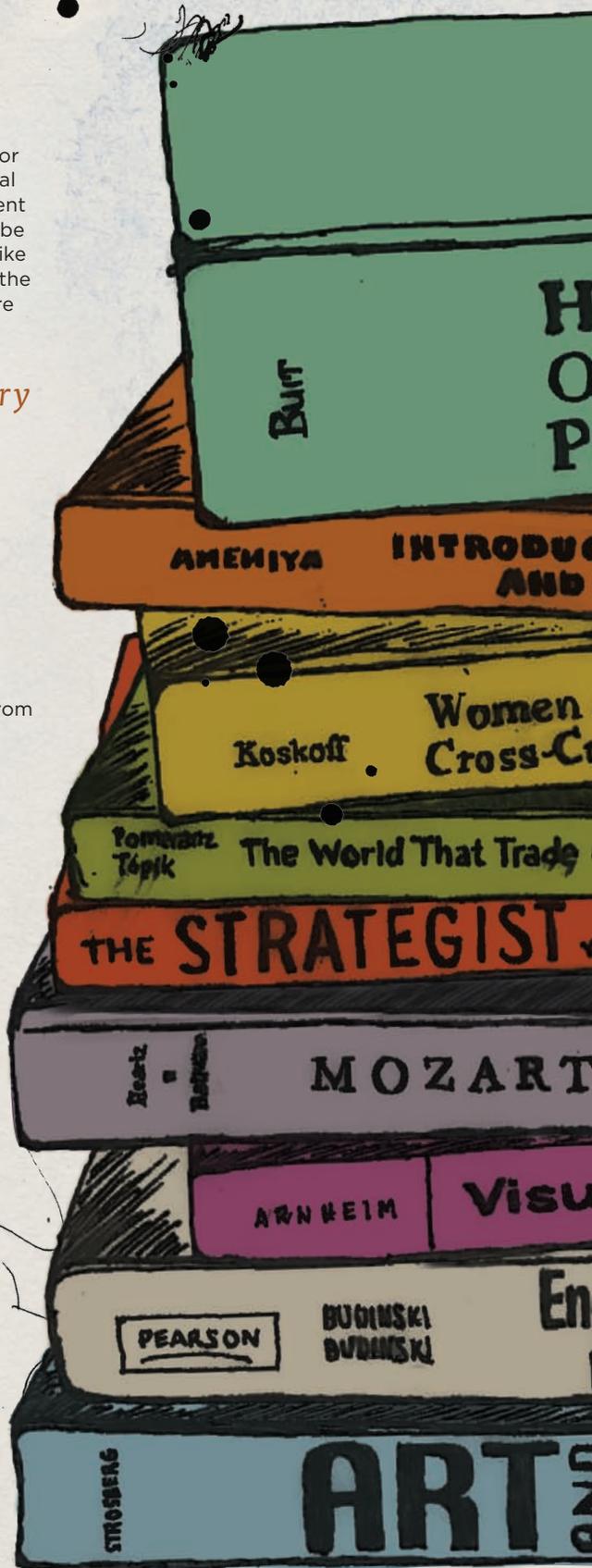
The humanities explore what it is to be human and teach empathy by revealing how people throughout time have tried to make moral, spiritual and intellectual sense of the world. The key to understanding others is through the study of their languages, histories and cultures.

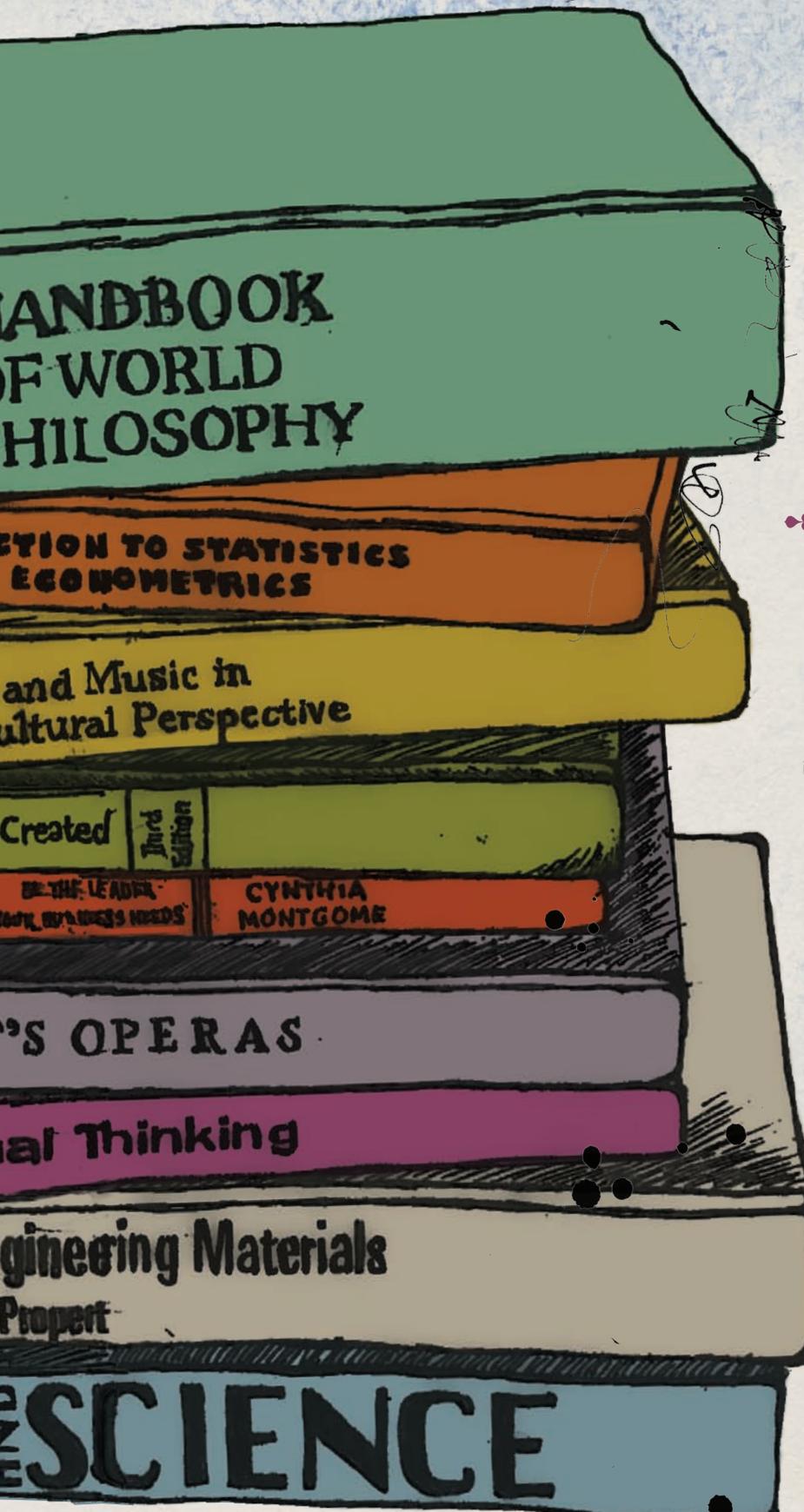
Hillery York knows her way around a vast array of cultures and periods of history. She graduated from Grand Valley in 2012 with a history major and an archaeology minor, then moved to Washington, D.C., to accept a year-long internship with the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. Numismatics is the study of coins and currency and the museum's collection contains 1.5 million such objects.

"Because our collection is so diverse I pretty much have to be an expert on the history of every country throughout time," she said.

York also believes her degree helped to set her apart from other applicants for the position. "The first day of my internship my advisor told me that she had picked up on my application because she thought my history major and archaeology were a unique combination and I would bring new insights into the collection," York said.

Her internship has been extended through 2014 and she is attending George Washington University working toward a master's degree in museum studies.





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INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS
AND ECONOMETRICS

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SCIENCE



York said she would not be there today without a liberal arts education and the guidance and support she received from her Grand Valley professors. "It was my general education course in European history that sparked my interest and set me on this amazing path. I now have the opportunity to meet and work with researchers from around the world who share a similar passion," she said.

➤ *the practical degree*

The American Academy of Arts & Sciences report included many recommendations and three specific reasons for advancing the humanities and social sciences in America: to provide students with an intellectual framework and context for understanding and thriving in a changing world; to foster a society that is innovative, competitive and strong; and to equip the nation for leadership in an interconnected world.

Antczak said a Grand Valley liberal studies education in general, and the humanities in particular, accomplishes all the above and prepares students with skills in demand by employers.

"Look at Fortune 500 company presidents and CEOs. You don't see narrow technicians, but rather people who are broadly educated, have an understanding of multiple cultures and languages, who can divvy up data in a variety of ways, communicate effectively and who have the sort of perspectives that the humanities teach," he said. "The people who make communities are not just those who are leading a project, but also the people who are working on it with creativity and some sense of how to make it special."

He said some of the types of jobs that this year's freshman class are going to get after graduation don't even exist yet. How do you prepare students for that? "What we try to do at Grand Valley is prepare students to be adaptable through a lifetime of change," he said. "And then we turn them loose with skills that can take on anything."



Q&A JAMES SMITHER

Capturing veterans' history and dispelling stereotypes

photo by Elizabeth Lienau

by Mary Isca Pirkola

History professor James Smither has personally interviewed about 700 American military veterans over the past six years.

As director of Grand Valley's Veterans History Project, he collects and preserves the personal accounts of veterans, from World War I to the Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts, and makes the stories accessible to everyone, in part, through a project with the Library of Congress.

Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000 to collect and archive the personal accounts of American war veterans. How did you get involved?

My first actual work in this field was doing a live presentation with World War II veterans in 2003. I was on stage with three men who fought on D-Day, and Ralph Hauenstein, who served on Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's intelligence staff. The event was organized by the people who were trying to bring a military museum to Grand Rapids. They had reached out to me and others from many of the area colleges and libraries.

You had developed a military history course at Grand Valley, but it was not your primary area of expertise then, right? Military history has been an interest of mine since childhood, but at the time, European history was my primary teaching focus. Then there I was on a stage, talking with people who actually lived the history I'd read about

for years. As someone who trained in the study of the Renaissance, you really can't do that. So this was pretty cool.

How did Grand Valley become involved?

After the plans for a military museum fell through in 2005, I set up the Veterans History Project at Grand Valley, through the Department of History. My main goal was to simply continue to conduct interviews of veterans, to archive the hundreds of interviews that this group had recorded, and to complete a documentary film we were working on with the School of Communications. The interviews hadn't been processed yet to send to the Library of Congress. It has actually taken us until this year to work our way through the backlog of older interviews and the hundreds we have done since then.

You also created an online home for these interviews at Grand Valley, which includes more than 1,000 interviews.

How are the projects different? The Library of Congress Project is geared for the general public and doesn't provide for the expanded type of thing we want

to do. With the Grand Valley project, we allow veterans the opportunity to record a very complete and chronological biography of their experience, as a historical record available to researchers. So I have some interviews that go as long as six hours, recorded over two or three sessions.

To get an interview up on the websites, we not only have to produce a DVD, with time codes embedded into it for a searchable database, we then have to assign people to do the summaries and outlines, which all have to be digitized. It all takes a lot of time.

What kind of support do you have?

We get a lot of in-kind support from the university, especially from the library's Special Collections, as well as some funding, but we rely heavily on private support. There is now a Veterans History Project Endowment fund at Grand Valley, thanks to the continued support of Don Jandernoa and others. We use the money largely for video processing and to hire student workers who perform a variety of tasks for the project. We also have student interns and rely on the help of volunteers who recruit veterans and, in some cases, conduct interviews.

What is the biggest challenge in capturing veterans' stories? Getting to the veterans while they are both willing and able to tell their stories. Many vets don't discuss their experiences at all when they are younger. World War II vets mostly began to talk about it 40 years afterward. It's now 40-50 years after Vietnam and those guys are now starting to talk.

The youngest Vietnam vets are going to be in their 60s now, and then there are guys in their 70s and 80s. Now is the time to capture them. Ideally you want to interview vets right when they come back home. But many of those who went to Iraq and Afghanistan haven't yet processed their experience enough to talk to us about it.

Your current focus on Vietnam veterans has manifested in more than 100 interviews, a book project and public presentations. Are their stories similar or distinct? I had a lot of stories that don't usually make it into published works. Most books on Vietnam are about combat, because that's what sells. My own projects include that, but what about

everyone else? Most people who went to Vietnam were something other than combat infantry, including engineers, truck drivers, military police, medical personnel and others, and they saw and did all sorts of things that tend not to make it into the books, but add depth and perspective to the larger story. As a historian, the important thing I'm doing is getting these interviews recorded. Once preserved, people hundreds of years from now can still access it. That's the really cool part of it for me.

Another goal of your work with Vietnam veterans has been to help dispel stereotypes. What do you hope people learn? The issues of race, drug use and war crimes grabbed a lot of headlines during the Vietnam War and gave the public a perception that these were widespread. All of these do appear in some interviews, but are a much smaller part of the experiences of most Vietnam vets than people assume.

There's also the general assumptions that being enrolled in college kept you out of the draft, and that the working-class guys got sent to the front lines of combat while the "fortunate sons" of the wealthy or influential were kept out of harm's way. But deferments were temporary, and plenty of college guys were drafted, and people from all walks of life found themselves in all sorts of situations.

What I've learned is that your experience depended mostly on what year of the war you went into the service, what your assignment was, where you were based and something as simple as what day you were in or out of the field.

"My Year in Vietnam" has been ongoing since September and will continue at least into April. Did you expect so many participants to come forward? We had a tremendous response, enabling us to put together 10 panels, each featuring three veterans with something in common: the time or location they served, or military branch, for example. (See sidebar for dates, locations.)

My Year in Vietnam

Vietnam Veterans Share Their Stories

All presentations are free and open to the public at 7 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium, unless otherwise indicated.

December 3

After Tet, 1968-69:
Ron Howell, Dennis Bassett,
Tom Sibley

January 9

With the Marines:
Ron Oakes, Rich Jakubczak,
Jim VandenBosch

Week of Jan. 27, 2014

With the Calvary:
Barry McAlpine,
Mike McGregor, Rich Dorsey
(at Gerald R. Ford
Presidential Museum)

February 18

Odd Job Men:
Jim Dykstra, Rex Greenawalt,
David Guevara

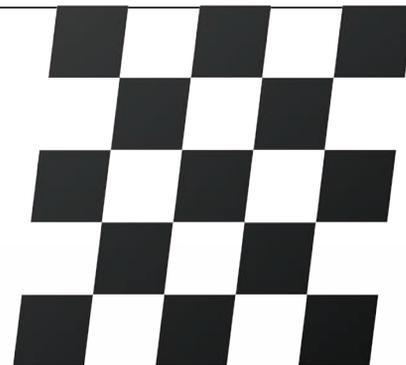
March 18

Cambodia and Ripcord, 1970:
Al Walker, Bob Anderson,
Jeff Wilcox (at Aquinas College
Donnelly Center)

April 9

Vietnamization and Withdrawal:
Joe Lange, Alan Vande Vusse,
Gabe Hudson

Details at
www.gvsu.edu/vethistory.



RACE DAYS ARE FAMILY AFFAIR

by Nate Hoekstra

Saturdays in the summer are special for Mark Nawrocki, because Saturdays are race days, when he spends time turning wrenches and adjusting the tire pressure on the 1988 Chevrolet Monte Carlo that his son Tyler, 23, races at Berlin Raceway in Marne.

Nawrocki, assistant facilities manager for the Recreation Center and Fieldhouse, is the de facto manager of his son's racing team, and owner of the No. 20 car that Tyler is driving for the second year in the Sportsman division at the track. The three main sponsors for the car are Kaczmarek Hearing Services, Nawara Brothers Home Store and Direct Fitness Solutions.

Nawrocki said that while Tyler handles most of the mechanical work on the race car, he helps when he can, including

working on tires and maintaining the car throughout the season. The brunt of the work comes from planning and organizing what will be needed for races, and driving to specialty shops to buy new springs, shocks, carburetors or body panels when they need to be replaced. He also works hard to recruit sponsors for the car.

Upkeep is pricey; Nawrocki said it costs about \$10,000 to keep the car race-ready during the off-season, including refreshing the motor, rear end and body, and at least \$5,000 during each season, including racing tires and special 110-octane racing fuel that sells for about \$7.60 a gallon.

Nawrocki said that he's always looking for sponsors, and added that it is a mutually beneficial relationship.

“THE BIGGEST WIN ON RACE DAY IS BEING ABLE TO SPEND TIME AROUND MY WIFE, MY KIDS, AND MY FRIENDS. THERE’S NO BETTER FINISH THAN THAT.”

MARK NAWROCKI

He and Tyler patronize their businesses, advertise for sponsors, and will bring the car to locations for special meet-and-greet autograph sessions. Another sponsor is Earthtone Landscape Management and Services, a lawn care, landscape and snow plow company owned by Tyler's brother, Eric. Tyler works for Earthtone when he's not working on the car or racing. Nawrocki said getting sponsors is all about asking. He approaches restaurants, apartment complexes and other businesses.

“Sure, it's a lot of hard work, but I help Tyler as much as I can because I love to do it,” Nawrocki said. “I'm a big family man, and racing cars is just one way I get to spend more time with my kids, with my family.”

Race days at Berlin often turn into family affairs, with Nawrocki's wife, Kay, a teacher at Grand Rapids Public Schools, their three other children, and Tyler's two nephews, Mason and Jack, ages 4 and 2, sitting on pit road watching the race. Friends and neighbors come to the track as well. In fact, it was a neighbor, Chris Anthony, who first





WATCH A VIDEO
OF TYLER NAWROCKI
AT BERLIN RACEWAY
ONLINE AT
[WWW.GVSU.EDU/
GVMAGAZINE](http://WWW.GVSU.EDU/GVMAGAZINE).

got Nawrocki's son interested in racing. Anthony raced in the Sportsman class and now races in the Super Late Model division at Berlin; he and Tyler used to work on his dirt-track car.

"He worked on the neighbor's car for several years, helping clean the chassis and learning about the mechanics of the car and how to adjust things if the car was running loose or tight. One day about five or six years ago he came to me and said, 'Dad, let's get a little four-cylinder and have some fun,'" Nawrocki said, "and the rest, as they say, is history."

Nawrocki bought a Dodge Neon and helped Tyler put in a five-point safety harness, customize it with racing parts to be competitive, and add paint and stickers from sponsors. Over the next three years, Tyler finished 19th in points, then second in points, then won the four-cylinder division in his third year.

"When he won the track championship his third year, we were approached by a guy who owned a Sportsman class car who wanted Tyler to drive it," Nawrocki said. "His first year in Sportsman he won Rookie of the Year, and that's when I bought the car."

Tyler is in his second year of the Sportsman class, where the cars thunder around the half-mile oval at speeds that average about 83 mph, with top speeds hitting more than 100 mph on the straights. "It doesn't sound as fast when you compare it to NASCAR," Nawrocki said, "but short-track racing is a whole different animal. You've got to see it to appreciate what those drivers are doing out there."

Nawrocki said people take racing seriously, but the prizes awarded for winning are not a huge motivation. First prize in a race is \$500, with awards going to the top five finishers, but the costs offset any winnings. "If you're lucky, it's a break-even proposition. People are out here because they love to race, and they love the atmosphere," Nawrocki said. "Sometimes people get heated when someone drives crazy and smashes up a body panel, but that's just because you know how much hard work went into getting that set for your driver."

Nawrocki said people ask his wife in the stands during races if she's nervous that Tyler will crash, but the general consensus is that with the crash helmet,

Mark Nawrocki, left, and his son Tyler are pictured in front of their race car on pit road at Berlin Raceway in Marne. Tyler's No. 20 car is pictured on page 32.

photos by
Bernadine Carey-Tucker

roll cage, and specialized HANS (Head And Neck Support) device, he's likely safer in the race car than driving a car down the highway.

"I get nervous sometimes when you see stuff happen, but he races because it makes him happy, and I'm glad to work on the car with him and help him win because it means I get to spend time with him," Nawrocki said. "If I could go to work and hang out with all three of my other kids as much as I do with Tyler, I'd be the happiest guy around. They grow up too fast."

"I love to win, but the biggest win on race day is being able to spend time around my wife, my kids, and my friends. There's no better finish than that."



CAMPUS DRIVE ROCKSTARS

Unlike the Beatles jamming to music on Abbey Road, Grand Valley's student traffic controllers stop traffic from jamming along Campus Drive.

In their yellow submarine-colored attire, the well-known figures can be found directing pedestrians and vehicles at crossings during busy times on campus.

Paul Weaver, a police officer for Grand Valley, manages the team of 40 students. He said the need for traffic controllers began in 2000 because of the growing campus and student population.

"Grand Valley's campus is unique because parking is on one side of the road and academic buildings are located on the other side, so there's a steady flow of pedestrian traffic coming from the parking lots during the day," he said.

The campus community is thankful for this group of students who navigate traffic safely along Grand Valley's Campus Drive, also known as "A Long and Winding Road."

by Leah Twilley

photo by Elizabeth Lienau

Pictured from left are Rachel Jasinowski, Elizabeth Webb, Olivia Caton and Deon Atkins. The white VW Beetle is driven by student Alivia Rutkowski.

The Beatles' legendary Abbey Road album cover was the inspiration for this Focal Point photo. Watch a behind-the-scenes look of the photo shoot at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.



Planning students learn how transportation choices affect lifestyle

by Michele Coffill

Cassie Miles is among the 4,000 students who live in the housing complexes along 48th Avenue, the west border of Grand Valley between M-45 and Pierce Street.

Miles was also enrolled in an introductory transportation class that spent a semester studying a road construction project proposed for that street.

Her class, led by Patricia Houser, hosted a meeting in the Kirkhof Center about the project. The April meeting drew about 80 people, including stakeholders, Ottawa County officials and transportation experts.

Houser, assistant professor of geography and planning, said her class learned real-life examples of how transportation choices can shape lifestyles and landscapes. Officials are discussing a plan to widen 48th Avenue, possibly from two to four lanes; construction is expected to begin in 2016.

"Everything we learned from our textbook seemed to come up in the project," Houser said. "Current literature on transportation shows that our country is in the midst of a paradigm shift toward alternative modes of travel — to not be so car-dependent. Planners want to get people out of their cars and shrink streets instead of widening them."

Miles said she and others in her class were concerned that a wider avenue might discourage off-campus residents in that area from walking or biking to class. Several different road layouts were presented at the public meeting.

"My favorite was the plan with the median in the middle and an indirect left-turn lane," Miles said. "It would make it easier for pedestrians to get across."

Houser said of critical importance is addressing the

needs of the students who live near 48th Avenue and cross it daily to get to campus.

Houser's class studied what makes a community walkable and bikeable. A class survey was presented during the meeting. Of the nearly 300 respondents, 73 percent lived along 48th Avenue. Most survey respondents (76 percent) said they use bus transportation to get to campus.

Miles said she takes the bus to campus from Country Place Apartments. She said many common campus complaints about driving and parking in Allendale would be alleviated by thinking more sustainably about transportation.

"Most of campus is walkable and bikeable," she said. "Grand Valley has a record enrollment, but people still consider it to be a small campus. There's no need to drive to class. But we learned that it takes baby steps to change people's minds."

Bus ridership on all Rapid routes that serve Grand Valley continues to climb. In the 2012 fall semester, the South Campus Express, which serves the complexes on 48th Avenue, saw ridership of more than 300,000.



This Google map shows Rapid buses turning into the apartment complexes near 48th Avenue. Construction plans call for the road to be widened.



Students operate on-campus BIKE SHOP

Seeing an opportunity for sustainability, several students developed a plan to operate the campus bicycle rental program and enhance its services.

The GVSU Bicycle Rental and Repair is operating in the Services Building on the Allendale Campus. Dominic Kootsillas-Conybeare, who graduated in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in statistics, developed the plan with two friends after receiving a start-up grant from Grand Valley's Sustainable Community Development Initiative.

The university introduced a bike rental program to students, faculty and staff members several years ago. Kootsillas-Conybeare said his group studied that plan and added bicycle repair to make it more sustainable.

"We're able to make small, basic repairs here, instead of sending the bikes out to area shops to be fixed," Kootsillas-Conybeare said. Bike repairs aren't limited to the rental inventory, anyone on campus can bring in their bikes for repairs; there is a fee for repairs.

Last year, the 35 bicycles available for rental on campus were reserved quickly; Kootsillas-Conybeare said more bikes have been added to the inventory.

All bikers on campus are encouraged to register their bikes with the Grand Valley Police Department; visit www.gvsu.edu/gvpd for information.

Degree opens door for woman to lead, advocate for others

by Abigayle Sloan, '07

Perseverance is in Maurilia “Molly” Ortiz Blakely’s DNA. Her seemingly insurmountable challenges began when she was growing up during the Great Depression in Beeville, Texas.

Born in 1928, she was one of five children born to a Mexican-American mother and an Irish father. Both of her parents died by the time she was 6; Blakely and her siblings were sent to an orphanage. Several years later, her mother’s sister came for the children and raised them as her own. When she recalled her childhood, Blakely said her father always insisted that his children receive educations, despite the chronic segregation in Texas at the time.

“My dad always told me, ‘Education is the key to the future. You educate the woman and you educate the whole family,’” she said.

In her formative years, her aunt taught Blakely to embrace her Mexican heritage and to stay loyal to her Catholic values. She said those values have guided her for nearly eight decades.

At the age of 17, Blakely left high school before graduation and got married. She moved to Grand Rapids with her husband in 1953 to look for work. By 1966, she was a single mother in her late-30s raising five children and working full time in the meat department of a local grocery store.

Blakely was laid off from her job after 20 years. Health complications from overwork put her on bed rest and forced her to re-evaluate her life’s path. She was reminded of her father’s advice to get an education.

She called her decision to go back to school a dream. “It’s something that is in you and you can’t deny it,” she said.

Blakely enrolled in night school and earned a high school diploma. In 1976, she registered for classes at Grand Valley, seeking a degree in social work.

“I got a scholarship and I didn’t even know what a scholarship was,” she said, laughing.

During the day she worked at the Latino Action Council (now the Hispanic Center of Western Michigan) and attended



Maurilia ‘Molly’ Ortiz Blakely, ‘79, is pictured in Calder Plaza in downtown Grand Rapids, home to the Mexican Festival, which she co-founded.

Grand Valley classes in the evenings. She made up for her missed work hours on the weekends.

Navigating through college courses as a non-traditional student in the 1970s was intimidating, but Blakely insisted that she didn’t have time to be ashamed. She was determined.

“Going back to college at the age of 47 helped me to find myself,” she said. “You grow up with a feeling that you should have done more, but until my family was grown, I couldn’t finish my education. Going back to school not only helped me with my inner growth, but enabled me to help other people.”

After three years, Blakely graduated with a degree in social work and counseling. It was 1979.

“I didn’t want a job where I had to sit behind a desk,” she said, “I wanted action. I was so anxious to get started. I always dreamed of going into social work because I wanted to work with kids and I saw the need.”

Her dreams came to fruition when she became the coordinator at the Hispanic Institute in Grand Rapids, which offered adult education classes for Spanish-speaking residents. She later worked as the emergency shelter director for the Catholic Human Development Office. She worked daily with the city’s homeless

and spent her extra time advocating for local Latina women and inner-city children.

With a vision to share her Mexican culture with her children and the community, she co-founded the Mexican Festival, which is one of the longest running ethnic festivals in Grand Rapids.

After several years of working as a translator for the Department of Social Services, Saint Mary’s Hospital and Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital, she retired and is being cared for by her adult children.

Blakely reflected fondly on the obstacles she overcame to provide opportunities for Latina women. “I carried a big load. Sure, I was called a few names along the way, but I wasn’t afraid because

God gave me the courage,” said the 85 year old.

Many awards are displayed on the walls and shelves of Blakely’s home on the west side of Grand Rapids, but her Grand Valley diploma has a special place among her family photos on a table in the living room.

“I didn’t do all of this for the recognition. I did it because it’s the right thing to do and it needed to be done,” she said.

Blakely always had the heart to face life’s toughest challenges, but she said her education unlocked her confidence to make cultural and social changes in the community. She has opened doors for generations of Latinos to follow.

Blakely at a Glance

1969: Co-founded Mexican Heritage Festival in Grand Rapids

1979: Graduated from Grand Valley, became coordinator at Hispanic Institute

1992: Earned City of Grand Rapids Lifetime Achievement Award

1999: Featured in Women’s History Council Exhibit at Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

2005: Earned Cesar Chavez Community Service Award

2013: Celebrates 44th anniversary of Mexican Heritage Festival



x2

Timothy Neumair, '12, volunteers at the Social Welfare Institute in Sichuan, China.

Community Outreach Week sees double the participation

Community Outreach Week celebrated its fifth year of collaboration between the Community Service Learning Center and the Alumni Association. The partnership brought out 930 participants who volunteered in their communities around the country and the world, including Japan, Germany and Thailand.

Get spotted volunteering during Community Outreach Week 2014. Send in photos of you and your friends volunteering in your neighborhood between March 24-30, and you could win an alumni Laker prize package. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/cow.



Alumni run, walk, wheel at River Bank Run 2013

More than 65 Lakers were a part of the first Laker for a Lifetime Team at the River Bank Run on May 11. Lakers from as far as Denver and Washington, D.C., traveled to Grand Rapids to participate in the largest 25K road race in the country with 25,000 other walkers, runners and wheelchair racers.

Friends and family cheered on the participants at the GVSU spirit station along the course, and celebrated at the post-race party on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. The team raised more than \$8,600 for the Grand Valley Fund, which supports students with financial assistance, skill development and educational opportunities. Everyone is welcome to participate with the team next year on May 10.

Grand Valley alumni cheer on a runner at the 2013 River Bank Run.

photo by Megan Swain Photography



Golf outings raise thousands for students

The All-Alumni, Football Alumni, Irwin Club and Corky Meinecke golf outings collectively raised more than \$40,000 this summer to support Grand Valley scholarships and programs. Approximately 400 golfers and volunteers participated in the events that took place at the Meadows Golf Course on campus.



Alumni movers and shakers

Alumni, faculty and staff members, and friends pushed, pulled and lifted at the Freshmen Move-In alumni volunteer event on August 20. More than 120 alumni volunteers welcomed students and parents to campus and carried items into Robinson, Swanson, North B and C and other living centers on campus.

Wayne Hsieh, '02, assists a student inside Kirkpatrick Living Center.

photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker



Alumni Golf Outing first place team: Adams, Miller, Schroder and Adams.

Careers

1960s

Robert J. York, B.A., 1968, is displaying sculptures in the City of Hesperia's Public Works Building. The pieces will be on permanent exhibit in southern California.

1970s

James R. Spaanstra, B.S., 1974, was reappointed to the Colorado School of Mines Board of Trustees.

Thomas E. Werkema, B.S., 1975, is the vice president of American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

Peter D. Derrick, B.S., 1976, retired from Raytheon Vision Systems in Goleta, California, after 33 years.

Kevin R. O'Neill, M.Ed., 1976, is interim chief executive officer of the John Ball Zoo.

James M. Schaap, B.S., 1976, of Spring Lake, retired after 30 years with Jostens.

Kenneth Tacoma, B.S., 1976, was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to serve a three-year term as chair of the Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Kathleen M. Kinkema, B.A., 1979, is the chair of Department of Recreation, Exercise and Sport Science at Western State Colorado University.

1980s

Christine M. (Dwyer) Jaroszewicz, B.S., 1981, is a realtor for Greenridge Realty Inc. in Grand Rapids.

Michael E. Born, B.A., 1984, was ranked a "Leading Lawyer" in the areas of natural resources and environment in the 2013 Chambers USA Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers.

Robert C. Crisan, B.B.A., 1984, was promoted to senior vice president of health care reform and strategic growth at Hylant Insurance.

Kevin L. Prins, B.B.A., 1984, is the principal of the Ryan Leadership Team in Los Angeles, California.

Julie R. Blodgett, B.S., 1986, is a physical therapist at Northern Physical Therapy in Sparta.

Joy A. Strand, B.S., 1986, is the chief executive officer for the McCready Foundation in Crisfield, Maryland.

Lorraine A. Farr, B.S., 1987, is the director of informatics at the Yuma Regional Medical Center in Yuma, Arizona.

Steven C. Woodard, B.B.A., 1988, is the assistant vice president of underwriting at Lockton Affinity LLC in Overland Park, Kansas.

Michelle L. (Egeler) Doetsch, B.S., 1989, is the owner of New Yew in Grand Rapids.

Joni L. Erlewein, B.N., 1989, M.N., 1998, is a women's health practitioner at Saint Mary's Comprehensive Breast Center.

1990s

Lori A. Budnik, B.S.W., 1990, M.S.W., 2001, was appointed for a one-year term by Gov. Rick Snyder to represent Child Protective Services on the Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Matthew E. McKinnon, B.S., 1991, is the recreation director for Coopersville.

Therese A. Comor, B.S., 1992, is a part-time comedian at Mark Ridley's Comedy Club in Royal Oak.

Christina L. (Harris) Hildreth, B.B.A., 1992, M.B.A., 2007, is director for Metro Health in Grand Rapids.

Michael J. Kolar, B.S., 1992, received the General E. DePuy Award.

Michael T. Lawton, M.B.A., 1992, is serving a one-year term on the board of directors for La-Z-Boy.

Timothy J. Syrek, B.S., 1992, is the head softball coach at Calvin College.

Christopher A. Kelenske, B.S., 1993, was appointed to captain and commander of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division of the Michigan State Police.

Alan A. Kimber, B.A. 1993, is a senior finance analyst for the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn.

Michael D. Novakoski, B.S., 1993, was a finalist for the Entrepreneurial, Progressive, Innovative and Collaborative Excellence in Business Award.

David M. Mitchell, M.B.A., 1995, is the North American director of sales for Accenture in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Kathleen B. Vogelsang, B.B.A., 1995, was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Michigan Women's Commission.

Catherine E. Lazarock, B.A., 1996, was a finalist for the Entrepreneurial, Progressive, Innovative, and Collaborative Women-Owned Business of the Year Award.

James Robinson, M.B.A., 1996, is the director of strategic planning, research and evaluation for Rotary International in Chicago, Illinois.

Kristopher R. Pawlowski, B.B.A., 1997, received the L. Brooks Patterson "Elite 40 Under 40" award.

Jason M. Surian, B.A., 1998, is the principal at Godfrey Elementary in Wyoming, Michigan.

2000s

Alan P. Babbitt, B.S., 2000, is the sports information director for Hope College.

Jeff S. Kruse, M.Ed., 2000, is the director of inflight and system operations training at JetBlue Airways in Orlando, Florida.

James A. Murray, B.B.A., 2001, is one of MR Magazine's Uptown Downtown award winners.

Elaine C. (Hoover) Spencer, B.S., 2001, is a registered nurse in the Mother and Baby Unit at Spectrum Hospital.

Kim D. Barnhill, B.B.A., 2002, is a financial services manager for the Physician Services Group in the Carolinas HealthCare System in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Meghan A. Burke, B.A., 2002, was named 2013 Professor of the Year at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois.

Adam M. Lippert, B.S., 2002, is a postdoctoral fellow at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation at Harvard University.

Adrienne M. Trier-Bieniek, B.A., 2002, published a book, *Sing Us a Song, Piano Woman: Female Fans and the Music of Tori Amos*.

Jason W. Brown, B.B.A., 2003, is a risk manager for Thornapple Insurance Agency in Grand Rapids.

Cheri L. (Skrzycki) Busenitz, B.S., 2003, is the president of the Elbing City Council in Elbing, Kansas.

Rachael M. Schneider, B.S., 2003, received the 2013 Hospitality and Tourism Management Emerging Alumna award.

Adrian M. Aldrich, M.Ed., 2004, is the executive director of development and alumni affairs for North Central College in Naperville, Illinois.

Wesley L. Bierling, B.S., 2004, is the deputy sheriff for the Newago County Sheriff's Office in White Cloud.

Scott B. DeVries, B.S., 2004, is the president and general manager for Rogue Valley Terminal Railroad Corp. in White City, Oregon.

Eric F. Fleming, B.A., 2004, earned a doctoral degree in philosophy from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

James M. Lesarge, M.B.A., 2004, is the vice president of the board of directors for the Michigan Chapter of the Warehousing Education Research Council.

Ryan J. O'Hare, B.S., 2004, received the "Managing Partner of the Year" award for the second year in a row at Bonefish Grill in Chantilly, Virginia.

Diana M. Painter, B.S., 2004, D.P.T., 2007, earned certification in mechanical diagnosis and therapy.

Justin M. Jennings, M.Ed., 2005, is the principal of the new Ypsilanti Community High School.

Eric I. Maino, B.S., 2005, is the senior software design engineer in test for Windows build, codeflow, and deployment for Microsoft.

Erin L. Merz, B.S., 2005, earned accreditation in public relations from the Public Relations Society of America.

Barbara Nan Schichtel, M.P.A., 2005, was elected to serve on the board of trustees for the Grand Rapids Historical Society.

Marisa L. Schweitzer, B.A., 2005, is an investigative reporter for *The Indianapolis Star*.

Thomas J. Van Cleave, B.S., 2005, is the director of service and experimental learning for Iona College in New Rochelle, New York.

Sarah A. Willey, B.S., 2005, was accepted into the 2013-2014 Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellows program.

Brittany N. (Dotson) Austin, B.S., 2007, is a quality operation specialist at Pfizer in Kalamazoo.

Steven R. Denhof, B.S., 2007, is an emergency medicine physician resident at the Henry Ford Macomb Hospital in Warren.

Dwight C. Dettloff, B.B.A., 2007, is the senior accountant for Altitude Edge Companies in Boulder, Colorado.

David D. Harris II, B.S., 2007, received a fellowship for the 2013 W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Woodrow Wilson teaching program in Michigan.

Elizabeth F. (Burnside) Peluse, B.A., 2007, is the senior account manager for Envisionit Media in Chicago, Illinois.

Allison D. (Price) Wynbissinger, B.S., 2007, is a victim advocate at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Darci A. Ward Cole, B.S., 2007, is a buyer for Federal Mogul.

Daniel L. Adams, M.S., 2008, was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to serve a one-year term as chair of the Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Gina M. (Hinel) Games, B.S., 2008, is a pharmacy resident at Union Hospital in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Bradley J. Gibbons, B.S., 2008, is the corporate operations and marketing manager for Legacy Group Holdings LLC in Canton.

Harsha V. Lella, M.S., 2008, is an SQL database developer for BlackRock Inc. in Seattle, Washington.

Juliana M. Nahas, B.S., 2008, M.P.A., 2012, is a communications coordinator for Varnum Consulting in Grand Rapids.

Scott M. Cameron, B.S., 2009, is an assistant women's swim coach for the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho.

Hunter S. Eberly, B.M., 2009, is the principal trumpet player for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Kenneth E. Games, B.S., 2009, is the assistant professor of athletic training at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Robert C. Groothuis, M.B.A., 2009, is the chief financial officer for Zeeland Lumber and Supply Company.

Stephen A. Hopkins, B.B.A., 2009, is a team leader for Southwest Airlines.

Jennifer M. Hughes, B.A., 2009, is an academic advisor for Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

2010S

Marion P. Chardoul, M.T., 2010, is the director of family office services at Legacy Trust.

Megan C. Collins, B.S., 2010, is the account executive for the Integer Group in Lakewood, Colorado.

Alicia M. Crawford, B.S., 2010, is a materials chemistry consultant for Steelcase Inc.

Adam G. Merrill, B.S., 2010, is the lead senior acquisitions specialist for Deloitte in Boston, Massachusetts.

Molly E. Thompson, B.S., 2010, M.H.A., 2013, is a supply chain analyst at Cleveland Clinic.

Mathew R. Cassidy, B.B.A., 2011, is an underwriter for Quicken Loans in Detroit.

Blake E. Karapuz, B.S., 2011, is a firefighter and paramedic for the Waterford Regional Fire Department in Waterford Township.

Kaylee A. (Gonzales) Rosecrants, B.B.A., 2011, is the office manager of Equip Inc. in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Emily J. Cole, B.S., 2012, is the director of membership services at Egypt Valley Country Club.

Sarah A. (Lowry) Day, B.A., 2012, is the regional military and international services director for the American Red Cross of West Michigan.

Salvador B. Lopez, B.A., 2012, received the Young Hispanic Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Allison E. Staley, B.A., 2012, is a sixth-grade teacher at Legacy Charter Academy in Detroit.

Derek J. DenHartigh, B.S., 2013, received a fellowship for the 2013 W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Woodrow Wilson teaching program in Michigan.

Anastasia C. Haisma, B.S., 2013, received the 2013 Student Intern of the Year award from Grand Valley.

Emma M. Jack, B.A., 2013, received the 2013-2014 Hospitality and Tourism Management Scholarship.

Mieke I. Stoub, B.A., 2013, is the communications specialist for the Grand Rapids Bar Association.

Celebrations, Births, Weddings

1990s

Faith C. (Chichester) Opiela, B.S., 1998, M.Ed., 2002 & 2006, and husband Mark announce a daughter, Sophia Christine, born March 29, 2013. Sophia is welcomed by sister Annalise. The family resides in Grand Haven.

Gregory C. Ayers, B.F.A., 1999, and wife Allison announce a son, Connor Gregory, born May 21, 2012. The family resides in Chicago, Illinois.

Andrea L. (VanderStel) Snyder, B.A., 1999, and husband Matthew announce a daughter, Reagan Elizabeth, born November 24, 2012. The family resides in Allendale.

2000s

Beth A. (Beaufait) Brodnicki, B.S., 2000, M.S.P.T., 2002, and **Steven E. Brodnicki, B.S., 1998, M.S.P.T., 2001**, announce a son, Graham Thomas, born February 27, 2013. Graham is welcomed by brothers Charles and Luke. The family resides in Hudsonville.

Rebecca L. Sack, B.B.A., 2000, and Ryan Grasmeyer on June 23, 2013.

Chrystena L. Talamantez, B.A., 2000, and **Armando V. Talamantez, B.B.A., 2000**, announce a son, Joaquin, born on April 4, 2013. The family resides in Arlington, Texas.

Julie C. (Winger) Tallent, B.S., 2000, and husband Marcus announce a daughter,

Molly Katherine, born April 14, 2013. Molly is welcomed by siblings Abby and Evan. The family resides in Shelby Township.

Amy K. (Rakoski) Cole, B.F.A., 2001, and husband Eddie announce a son, Edward Christian, born February 28, 2013. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

April L. Hornbuckle, B.A., 2001, and husband Michael announce a daughter, Terilyn Margaret, born January 4, 2013. The family resides in Highland, Indiana.

Jillian A. (Corsi) Pranter, B.S., 2001, and husband Bill announce a daughter, Emerson Faith, born December 27, 2012. The family resides in Bruce Township.

Rachel G. (Molina) Ysasi, B.A., 2001, and husband **Joesph G. Ysasi, B.B.A., 2002**, announce twins, Gabriela and Lucas, born on March 18, 2013. The family resides in Zeeland.

Nakeya K. (Crawford) Frank, B.S.N., 2002, and **Scott D. Frank, B.B.A., 2002**, announce a daughter, Mila Harper, born January 1, 2013. The family resides in Haledon, New Jersey.

Andrea L. (Hawkins) Helms, B.S.N., 2002, and husband Cody announce a son, Benjamin Odin, born February 13, 2013. Benjamin is welcomed by siblings Meghan and Alexander. The family resides in Mulliken.

Aaron M. Seifferlein, B.A., 2002, and wife Ana announce a son, Santiago, born March 22, 2013. Santiago is welcomed by brother Sebastian. The family resides in Sandusky, Ohio.

Brooke L. (Stanley) Byrne, B.S., 2003, and **Matthew C. Byrne, M.S., 2004**, announce a son, Finnegan William, born April 15, 2013. Finnegan is welcomed by brother Tristan. The family resides in Byron Center.

Jillian E. Dyer, B.B.A., 2003, and Jonathon Koets on June 1, 2013.

Jason A. LaBaumbard, B.S., 2003, and wife Jennifer announce a son, Evan James, born on June 20, 2013. The family resides in Grandville.

James C. Sidou, B.B.A., 2003, and wife Danielle announce a son, Elias James, born March 1, 2013. The family resides in Lakeland, Florida.

Sharon A. (Koole) Byington, B.S., 2004, and **Walter M. Byington, M.Ed., 2007**, announce a daughter, Lauren Celeste, born January 26, 2012. The family resides in Wyoming.

Scott B. DeVries, B.S., 2004, and Laura Greene on March 8, 2008.

Jennifer B. (Dietch) Olney, B.S., 2004, and husband Adam announce a daughter, Avery Brook, born January 11, 2013. The family resides in Whitmore Lake.

Julie R. (Watjer) Vander Pol, B.E., 2004, and husband Mark announce a son, Reuben Gerald, born on June 23, 2013. Reuben is welcomed by siblings Alexia, Tytus and Elliot. The family resides in Edgerton, Minnesota.

Jennifer L. Crake, B.A., 2005, and fiancé Jason Lipa announce a son, Jameson Paul, born April 25, 2013. The family resides in Attica.

Melissa G. (Van Slembrouck) Favot, B.S.N., 2005, and **David C. Favot, B.S.N., 2005**, announce a son, Ryan David, born January 16, 2013. The family resides in Canton.

Katie A. (Lewis) Hayes, B.A., 2005, M.Ed., 2008, and husband Matt announce a son, Malcolm Archer, born April 21, 2013. The family resides in Waterford.

Richard M. Markiewicz, B.S., 2005, and Nicole Martini on August 16, 2013.

Sarah L. (McPherson) McDade, B.S., 2005, and husband **Craig R. McDade, B.S., 2005**, announce a daughter, Grace Carah, born August 28, 2012. Grace is welcomed by brother Carson. The family resides in Belleview, Florida.

Jonathan E. Osborn, B.S., 2005, and wife Erika announce a daughter, Victoria Colleen, born March 1, 2013. The family resides in Forest Park, Illinois.

Beth A. (Aldridge) Postema, B.S., 2005, and husband Curt announce a daughter, Audrey Annabelle, born June 26, 2013. Audrey is welcomed by siblings Cole and Lillianna. The family resides in Allegan.

Jean M. (Bumstead) Ricord, B.A., 2005, and husband Jesse announce a daughter, Sophia JennaMarie, born March 3, 2013. Sophia is welcomed by brothers Aaron and Ty and a special guardian angel sister Jenna. The family resides in Alden.

Lindsey R. Jacob, B.S., 2006, and Lisa Cole on January 12, 2012.

Dennis K. LaGorio, Jr., B.A., 2006, and wife Tiffany announce, a son, Asher Marc, born February 7, 2013. The family resides in Chicago, Illinois.

Nicole F. (Britten) Rodammer, B.S., 2006, and husband Nicholas A. Rodammer, B.B.A. 2005, M.S., 2009, welcome a daughter, Britten Jean, born May 8, 2013. Britten is welcomed by brother Benjamin. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Nicole L. (Morris) Dahl, B.S.N., 2007, and husband Andy announce a daughter, Alyssa Claire, born January 26, 2013. The family resides in Auburn.

Steven R. Denhof, B.S., 2007, and wife Jeniece announce a son, Noah Joseph, born February 27, 2013. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Christen E. (Hernandez) Fox, B.A., 2007, and Douglas M. Fox, B.B.A., 2005, announce a daughter, Alessandra Grace, born July 22, 2013. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Jennifer O. Malinowski, B.S., 2007, and Joe Teague on August 16, 2013.

Nicole A. (Tinsley) Mitchell, B.S., 2007, and husband Jeremy announce a daughter, Lena June, born August 1, 2013. The family resides in Linden.

Kimberly C. (Jacobsen) Rangel, B.S., 2007, and Zachary S. Rangel, B.S., 2007, announce a daughter, Brooke Rangel, born May 25, 2013. The family resides in Grand Ledge.

Erica L. Bechtel, B.S., 2008, and Joel R. Bailey, B.B.A., 2008, on June 1, 2013.

Gina M. Hinel, B.S., 2008, and Kenneth E. Games, B.S., 2009, on June 15, 2013.

Jacqueline M. (Ridley) Kareus, B.S., 2008, and husband Matthew announce a son, Connor Alan, born on May 31, 2013. The family resides in Freeland.

Michelle E. (Hamilton) LeGault, B.A., 2008, and husband David A. LeGault, B.A., 2008, announce a daughter, Winifred Katherine, born April 9, 2013. The family resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Amanda C. (Tarasiewicz) McCarty, B.S., 2008, and husband Richard McCarty III, B.S., 2008, announce a son, Richard James IV, born July 26, 2013. The family resides in Alto.

Cristina R. (Teijeiro) Stoll, B.A., 2008, and Jeffrey A. Stoll, B.S., 2006, M.P.A., 2010, announce a son, Noah Peter, born on August 6, 2013. The family resides in Allendale.

Andrew J. Dykstra, B.B.A., 2009, and Jana Borgman on August 18, 2012.

Jennifer M. Pietraz, B.N., 2009, and Benjamin D. Langholz, B.A., 2011, on June 29, 2013.

Rebecca Y. (King) Rodriguez, B.A., 2009, and husband Dante announce a son, Miguel Timothy, born January 15, 2013. The family resides in Zeeland.

Amber J. Vermote, B.S., 2009, and Colin DuBord on June 22, 2013.

2010S

P. Daniella Mejia-Reyes, B.B.A., 2010, and Augusto Egred on June 21, 2013.

Ashley E. Shembarger, B.A., 2010, and Will Thorsberg on June 3, 2013.

Kevin M. Bouwman, B.A., 2011, and wife Kendra announce a son, Olivier Kennedy, born March 24, 2013. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Stephanie A. LeMire, B.F.A., 2011, and Robert R. Aikens, B.S., 2005, on June 1, 2013.

Allison E. Pentecost, B.A., 2011, and Kenneth W. Horne, B.A., 2011, on May 19, 2012.

Kylie (Darling) Hussain, B.A., 2012, and husband Syed announce a son, Ryan Edgar, born on February 28, 2013. The family resides in Grand Haven.

Katherine J. Bobrowski, B.S., 2012, and Jacob Hartford on April 19, 2013.

Brittney G. Hannivan, B.S., 2012, and Andrew Kirby, B.S., 2012, on June 22, 2013.

Delicia L. Legato, B.B.A., 2012, and Kevin E. Kimball, B.S., 2012, on June 22, 2013.

In Memoriam

1970s

Michael L. Goodness, B.S., 1975, of Owosso on February 19, 2013.

Stephen M. Peterson, B.Phil., 1975, M.B.A., 1980, of Grand Rapids on March 16, 2013.

1980s

Robert H. Toms, B.S., 1983, of Belding on January 20, 2013.

1990s

Frederic D. Byrne, B.S., 1990, of Big Rapids on February 13, 2013.

Michael E. Dickson, B.B.A., 1993, of Ann Arbor in January 2013.

2000s

Cullen J. Finnerty, B.B.A., 2008, of Howell on May 28, 2013.

Paul D. DeWolf, B.S., 2010, of Schoolcraft on July 24, 2013.

Christopher M. Evans, B.B.A., 2010, of Evergreen Park, Illinois, on July 4, 2013.

Joshua P. Canary, B.A., 2010, of Mentor, Ohio, on April 28, 2013.

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