

GRAND VALLEY

SUMMER 2012

MAGAZINE

BLUE WATER
COULD MEAN
BIG BUSINESS



Contents

GRAND VALLEY MAGAZINE VOLUME 12, ISSUE 1, SUMMER 2012

14

**It's the (blue)
economy, stupid**

17

**Fall Arts Celebration
brings arts and ideas
from across the globe**

20

**Integrated business
processes help
students land jobs**

22

**Reynolds uses
perseverance, poetry
to find way to college**

Departments

- 4 **Bookmarks**
- 5 **Campus News**
- 10 **Arts**
- 11 **Athletics**
- 12 **Donor Impact**
- 25 **International Education**
- 26 **Q&A | Paul Mixa**
- 28 **Focal Point**
- 29 **Sustainability**
- 30 **Research**
- 31 **Alumni News**
- 38 **Off the Path**



Editorial Staff

Mary Eileen Lyon, M.S., '05
Associate Vice President for
News and Information Services,
Executive Editor

Michele Coffill
Editor and Writer

Dottie Barnes, M.S., '05
Contributing Editor and Writer

Nate Hoekstra, B.S., '06
Contributing Editor and Writer

Mary Isca Pirkola
Contributing Editor and Writer

Leah Zuber, B.A. '10
Contributing Editor and Writer

Bernadine Carey-Tucker, B.A., '99
Photography Services Manager and
Contributing Photographer

Elizabeth Lienau, B.S. '05
Photography Coordinator and
Contributing Photographer

Amanda Pitts, B.S. '05, M.S. '10
Photographer and Contributing Photographer

Abigayle Sloan '07
Alumni Editor

Sherry Bouwman B.S. '12
Editorial and Circulation Assistant

Matthew E. McLogan
Vice President for University Relations

Design Staff

Jacqueline Cuppy, B.F.A., '87
Creative Director

Christine Parkes-Schaw, B.S., '06
Graphic Designer

Contact Us

Grand Valley Magazine is a publication of
News & Information Services. Comments
and suggestions are welcome.

E-mail
gvmagazine@gvsu.edu

Write
Grand Valley Magazine
Grand Valley State University
1 Campus Drive, 133 LMH
Allendale, MI 49401

Grand Valley State University is an affirmative
action/equal opportunity institution

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:

photo by Elizabeth Lienau
Pictured is the lighthouse at Pere Marquette in
Muskegon. Lake Michigan, the channel and
Muskegon Lake are a hub of the blue economy.

On these pages:

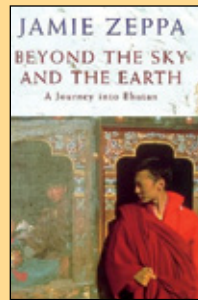
photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker
Read more about the blue water economy
on page 14.



The Grand Valley Magazine is printed
on FSC®-certified paper manufactured
with electricity in the form of renewable
energy (wind, hydro, and biogas).
The cover includes a minimum of 10%
postconsumer recovered fiber.

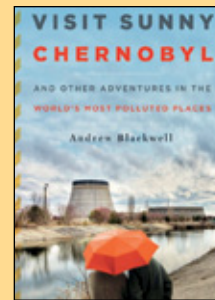
Bookmarks

Check out these book recommendations from **Hospitality and Tourism Management** faculty members. Send an email to gvmagazine@gvsu.edu to see how recommendations from your office or department could be featured in a future issue.



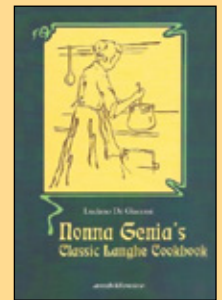
**Beyond the Sky and the Earth:
A Journey into Bhutan**
(Macmillan, first edition 1999)
by Jamie Zeppa

Lisa Sisson, assistant professor, was fascinated by this nonfiction book about a 23-year-old Canadian English student who signed on to teach two years in remote Bhutan. Engaged to be married, the author decided to step out of her prescribed academic life and “do something in the real world — whatever that means.” Sisson said this story of love, culture, beauty, people and transformation depicts how travel can lead to calling more than one place home.



**Visit Sunny Chernobyl:
And Other Adventures in the
World's Most Polluted Places**
(Rodale Books, 2012)
by Andrew Blackwell

“Written as a part travelogue, part environmental memoir, the book content won’t entice you to visit these destinations, however, it will help foster a deeper understanding of our planet and some of the challenges we face,” said Paul Stansbie, associate professor and HTM department chair. The negative impacts caused by commercial tourism, and in particular the need for greater awareness of environmental and ethical considerations, are highlighted in this book, which offers both a witty and insightful view of ecotourism at its worst.



Nonna Genia
(Araba Fenice Edizioni, 2007)
by Araba Edizioni, translated from
Italian by Antonia Schlueter

This wonderful, compact book is a compilation of recipes and stories about the foods and food traditions of rural village cooks in northern Italy. It was recommended by Charlie Baker-Clark, who, since 2003, has led study abroad programs to the area. He said the book militates against notions of gourmands and foodies while bringing our attention to the creation of wonderful food with limited resources. This is not just a cookbook. It is an invitation to consider the place of food and cooking in our everyday lives.

*Past Bookmarks are archived online at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine/books.
Submit a book recommendation online, or view books written by campus authors.*

Representing Grand Valley

Lakers go global in these photos.

Do you represent Grand Valley when you travel? If so, send a photo of yourself wearing Grand Valley gear with a brief description to Grand Valley Magazine at gvmagazine@gvsu.edu and it may be seen in a future publication.

Pictured are, from left, Justin Best, '99, and Erika Best, '00 and '05, on vacation in Bangkok, Thailand; Katherine Rittichier in Zambia; and Katelyn Haskin, '10, at an orphanage in Haiti.



Students build life-changing device for girl with spina bifida

— by Leah Zuber

When engineering students Phil DeJonge and Jake Hall enrolled in their senior project class last fall, they didn't expect their final result would change someone's life.

DeJonge and Hall were in their Advanced Product Design class when Lisa Kenyon, assistant professor of physical therapy, proposed an idea to students that could help Madison, a 2-year-old girl with spina bifida, be more mobile. Spina bifida causes loss of function and sensation in the lower half of the body.

"I had been working a lot with Madison and her family, and while she is making great progress on her walker, we wanted to find a way for her to play outside with her siblings," said Kenyon, who is also a physical therapist for Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital. "We wanted an age-appropriate device that might be similar to what any child her age is doing. We came up with the idea of a personal vehicle."

DeJonge and Hall met with Madison's mother, Valerie Riemersma, and Kenyon to discuss their expectations for the vehicle. "Our next step was finding the vehicle and getting donations for the components of the car," said DeJonge, an Allendale resident. They found a Barbie Jeep on Craigslist, and Airway Oxygen, a West Michigan company, donated a joystick that allows Madison and her parents to control the pink vehicle.

From there, DeJonge and Hall determined steering capabilities and mounted a 12-volt electric battery to the Jeep. They went through several testing phases with Madison to install proper cushion and seat belts for support and safety.

Developing the control



systems was the most difficult. "A power wheels car typically has three modes of speed: reverse, slow and fast forward," said Hall, who is from Grandville. "We programmed the car to have gradual speeds, similar to a regular vehicle. When Madison first drove the Jeep, she had a hard time, but after a while she got the hang of it."

Riemersma said the Jeep is perfect for Madison. "Madison is the seventh child out of eight, so when they're all playing with each other outside, it can be hard for Madison to be part of that," she said. "When she gets in her Jeep, she can just cruise around and participate in the fun with the other kids."

DeJonge said the best part of the project was creating something that helped make Madison's life easier. "We could tell she liked it because she



photos by Amanda Pitts

Madison Riemersma learns how to drive the personal electric vehicle built by engineering students Phil DeJonge, above far left, and Kevin Hart, right.

would laugh and smile a lot when she drove it around," he said. "Making something that actually matters to someone was so rewarding."

Riemersma said: "She doesn't have limits like she did before. A 2-year-old wants to be independent, and with her Jeep, she can."

Campus children's center chosen for obesity program

The Children's Enrichment Center was one of 10 centers in Michigan to receive a grant to participate in an early childhood obesity prevention project.

Funded by the Michigan Department of Community Health and the Early Childhood Investment Corporation, the center will use the Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care program to improve physical activity practices and policies. The \$3,000 grant will be put toward new equipment the children can use inside and outside.

Jessica Miranda-Bevier, program assistant for CEC, said this is the second year the center has participated in the program. "Last year we made it a goal to incorporate more fresh produce in the meals," she said. "This year we want to be more intentional about providing ample physical activities for the children within the classroom setting, hoping to help reduce the issue of inactivity, which can lead to obesity."



photo by Amanda Pitts

Kids from the Children's Enrichment Center play on a campus playground. The center received a grant to participate in an early childhood obesity prevention program.

Grand Valley license plate gets new look

The newest accessory for a Laker's vehicle is going to be a big G-V.

The new plates cost \$35 each, and \$25 of that goes directly to the university. The reason for the change on the license plate is that it is easier to read and a great way to support the university.

It's important to note that the blue "Circle-G," shown on

current license plates, is still the institutional logo and that this change is being made to the license plate design only.

If you are interested in ordering the new plate, visit any Michigan Secretary of State branch office or go online to www.michigan.gov/sos and search for "Grand Valley State University."



Record number of students graduate

More than 2,500 Grand Valley students participated in commencement ceremonies April 28 at Van Andel Arena.

A record-breaking 5,340 students received degrees during the 2011-2012 academic year.

Students heard addresses from James Brooks, vice chair of the Grand Valley Foundation, and Juan Williams, political analyst for Fox Television.

Four students from the Kirkhof College of Nursing earned the university's first doctor of nursing practice degrees, including Emily Quiney, from Spring Lake. Quiney is a Spectrum Health employee who enrolled in the program when it started in 2009, after she earned a master's of nursing degree from Grand Valley in 2004.

"The DNP has enhanced my skills as a nurse practitioner in providing better care for my

patients and increased my knowledge of the health care system," Quiney said. "I am planning to stay in my current clinical position at Spectrum Health and become more active in advocating for access to health care for vulnerable populations, as well as for independent practice and full prescriptive authority for nurse practitioners in Michigan."

photo by T.J. Hamilton

Jaclynn Lubbers receives a doctor of nursing practice degree at commencement ceremonies in April. She was one of four Kirkhof College of Nursing students to earn a DNP degree.



Women's track team continues reign



The Grand Valley women's track and field team won the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field National Championship in Pueblo, Colorado, in May. It was the second straight outdoor title for the Lakers and the fourth straight track national championship overall (2011 indoor, 2011 outdoor, 2012 indoor).

The Lakers were led by numerous top finishers,

courtesy photo

The outdoor women's track and field team won its second consecutive NCAA Division II title at the championships in Pueblo, Colorado.

including Liz Murphy, who won an individual title in the hammer throw, Kristen Hixon (first in pole vault) and Brittney Banister (only freshman in the 100-meter final, finished fourth).

"This was a great accomplishment for our Lakers," said head coach Jerry Baltes. "It was a total team effort from start to finish. I am proud and thankful for everyone who has helped us get to this point."

In June, the track and field team and women's cross country team received "Program of the Year" honors for the fourth consecutive year from the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Read more about Laker athletics on page 11.



ArtPrize 2012

Among the artists to be featured at Grand Valley during ArtPrize 2012 is 87-year-old Charles McGee. His sculpture (pictured above), 'Freedom Bound,' is 24 feet by 8 feet. McGee's artwork will be installed in the Eberhard Center courtyard. He is an internationally renowned artist based in Detroit, and was the inaugural recipient of the Kresge Eminent Artist Award, which acknowledges his

innovation and unwavering artistic leadership. McGee, whose career spans six decades, has exhibited at the Detroit Institute of Arts and venues from New York to Thailand, and has been a teacher and mentor to thousands of young artists.

ArtPrize runs September 19-October 7. For information about ArtPrize at Grand Valley, visit www.gvsu.edu/artgallery.

Grandparents, grandchildren share college experience

One hundred grandparents and grandchildren went away to college and moved into Grand Valley. They lived on campus, took classes, ate in the dining halls and had fun in the Fieldhouse.

Grand Valley held its first G3 — "Grandparents, Grandkids, Grand Valley" — summer camp for children ages 8-12 and their grandparents. Families spent three days and two nights on campus, taking part in hands-on learning activities in areas like art, history, math, engineering, technology and law enforcement.

Class sessions were taught by Grand Valley faculty members and held during the day in the campus academic buildings in Allendale. In the evening, families took part in activities including swimming, volleyball, the rock climbing wall, and ping pong.

The camp began on June 26 and ended with a

graduation luncheon ceremony in the Alumni House June 28.

"This type of summer camp is a growing trend in universities," said Karen Meyers, director of the Regional Math and Science Center. "The camp provides a great opportunity for generations to connect in a fun and educational environment. The goal is to offer educational activities that will strengthen the family bond, give children a college-life experience and create many positive memories for family members."

G3 is sponsored by Grand Valley's Regional Math and Science Center and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The next G3 camp is set for June 25 : 27, 2013; visit www.gvsu.edu/g3 for more information.



photo by Daniel Aistrop

Participants in the 'Grandparents, Grandkids, Grand Valley' camp work in a lab on the Allendale Campus. More than 100 people took part in the inaugural camp.



To watch a video and view photos from G3, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

Entrepreneur appointed endowed chair for Honors College

An entrepreneur with solid local and global connections was named the first endowed chair for the Frederik Meijer Honors College at Grand Valley State University.

Bill Holsinger-Robinson, principal at BHR Consulting, was named the Meijer Endowed Honors Chair in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, a two-year position in which he will teach a course and work closely with students on leadership and innovation projects.

University leaders called Holsinger-Robinson the perfect candidate for this position.

Gayle R. Davis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said: "Bill has the experience, enthusiasm and creativity that we are seeking in this new position, qualities

that will draw students to him as they develop their interests in experimental projects that today's world demands."

Holsinger-Robinson helped launch ArtPrize and served as executive director for its first two years. He also serves as the host for the 2013 TEDx Conference in Grand Rapids, and is the co-founder of SEED Collective, an organization dedicated to connecting social entrepreneurs and investors in West Michigan and globally.

Jeff Chamberlain, director of the Honors College, said Holsinger-Robinson brings the qualities that the Meijer Foundation sought in its endowed chair.

"He's going to help students focus on entrepreneurship and innovation," Chamberlain said. "He's so well-connected to Grand Rapids, to West

Michigan and internationally. He's going to be a link for students like they've never had before."

Students who work with Holsinger-Robinson may find opportunities to get involved in his projects, he said.

"As the endowed chair, it will be my job to connect students to meaningful projects and businesses in Grand Rapids," Holsinger-Robinson said. "With those students who want to explore their own ideas, I will help them find the methods, people and resources to make them real."

Holsinger-Robinson earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Alma College and pursued a master's degree in comparative religion from Western Michigan University.



photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Karen Loth

Loth named vice president for Development

Karen M. Loth has been named vice president for University Development.

President Thomas J. Haas praised Loth's experience, history with the university and her performance as interim vice president when he made the announcement at the university's April 27 Board of Trustees meeting.

"Karen's history with Grand Valley and her track record of performance and integrity will lead the Development unit of this university in the direction in which it needs to go," Haas said. "We'll rely on her leadership to make sure our long-time supporters and new supporters continue to see the value that Grand Valley brings to the people of this region."

Loth joined the university in 2000 and has led 11 campaigns, helping to raise more than \$130 million dollars for Grand Valley in the past 10 years.

"It is an honor to work with our donors who have given so much of their time, talent and treasure to support Grand Valley over the years," Loth said. "With their help, we will continue to provide our students with an academically rigorous learning environment, and provide our region and our state with the next generation of talented leaders."



photo by Amanda Pitts

Bill Holsinger-Robinson was named the Meijer Endowed Honors Chair in Entrepreneurship and Innovation for the Frederik Meijer Honors College.

MUSICAL SCORES

From field to stage the Music Department hits high notes on campus and beyond.

222 years old

age of the oldest musical instrument on campus — a loaned William Forster cello from 1790 used by Professor Pablo Mahave-Veglia



3

critically acclaimed recordings by the New Music Ensemble

14 years of

GVSU Opera Theatre productions



155

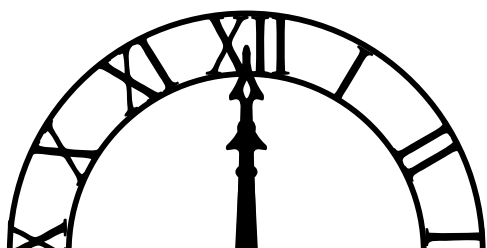
free concerts on Allendale Campus in 2011-2012

2

Trumpet Ensemble National Championships

34 years of Arts at Noon

concerts (originally called the Lunchbreak Series)



50

different majors held by members of the Laker Marching Band

Veteran goalkeeper ready to police nets for one more season — by Michele Coffill

Chelsea Parise spent her summer working as an intern for the Kalamazoo Public Safety Department, helping keep the streets safe from crime.

She will return to the Laker soccer field this fall to keep the nets safe from goals.

It's the fifth and final season for the senior goalkeeper from Sterling Heights. Parise predicted it will be a bittersweet year, but said she's ready for a new chapter in her life. A criminal justice major, Parise plans to enroll in a police academy after graduation and begin a career as a police officer.

"I realize that I'm truly blessed to have this fifth year," she said. "I know I will never have this opportunity again, let alone be a part of such an elite program. I will embrace every moment this coming season has to offer and simply enjoy the sport I have been playing for years."

She will leave with her name in the record books. Parise had 14 solo shutouts last year and finished the 2011 season ranked fourth in NCAA Division II in goals against average (0.39). She was named to the Division II All-America Team

and National Soccer Coaches Association of America Scholar All-America first team.

Parise was a multi-sport athlete in junior high and high school, participating in softball, volleyball, basketball, soccer and track, but the year-round sports schedule took a toll when she was in the eighth grade.

"It happened when I was in AAU travel basketball. I was taking a pass and going into the lane when the ACL in my knee tore," she said.

After discussions with her family, Parise dropped other activities to focus on soccer. She played with a travel soccer team and was selected for Michigan's Olympic Development Program, a national program for top youth players. Through ODP, she met Laker coach Dave DiIanni, who was coaching another ODP team.

Parise, then a high school junior, didn't think DiIanni would recruit her. When they first met, she was rehabbing a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) on her other knee. DiIanni, though, had a plan. He wanted Parise to redshirt her first year at Grand Valley to watch and learn from

Kristina Nasturzio, the senior goalkeeper at that time.

"It was a developmental year for me and Kristina was a great mentor," said Parise. DiIanni said Grand Valley is now "reaping the benefits" of having Parise for five years.

"We want her to be a role model for younger players in our program," he said. "She's a lightning rod and an example of what hard work can do."

Parise was named a team captain for the third straight year. She acknowledged that learning the skills needed to be a leader was harder than learning the skills needed to be a top-rated goalkeeper.

"You do need to be a little crazy to be a goalkeeper," she said. "In my second season, my goal was to build a strong relationship with the team, trust being the foundation. I wanted to create a chemistry that Kristina had when she was playing."

"When I was younger, coaches were always telling me to work on the vocal part of my game. Now they laugh and say they can't get me to be quiet."

courtesy photo

Chelsea Parise prevents a goal against the Laker soccer team. A fifth-year senior, Parise had 14 solo shutouts last year.

Baseball coach retires

Head baseball coach Steve Lyon retired at the end of the 2012 season but remains in Laker and NCAA Division II record books as one of the winningest coaches.

While at Grand Valley for 14 years, Lyon led the Lakers to five Division II World Series and eight Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference titles. Lyon is one of 25 Division II coaches to reach 600 or more wins.

Jamie Detillion was named head coach in June. Detillion served as associate and assistant coach under Lyon for 10 years.

After graduating from Ashland University, Detillion pitched for three seasons in the Detroit Tigers' and Cincinnati Reds' organizations from 2000-2002.



Ryan Thum holds Eurasian watermilfoil, an invasive species he studies.



In addition to researching invasive species, Carl Ruetz works to preserve Michigan's native species like the Lake Sturgeon, above.

Protecting freshwater resources

You may never have heard of the Eurasian watermilfoil, but when a swim in your favorite lake or river leaves you covered in this slimy green aquatic weed, you will understand why Ryan Thum's work is so important.

Millions of swimmers, boaters and tourists take advantage of Michigan's freshwater resources each year, but many are unaware of the potential impact invasive species have on the state's lakes and rivers.

According to researchers at the Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute, a species is invasive when it is non-native, spreading and considered to be a nuisance. These plants and animals may quickly evolve and adapt to new conditions. Some invasive species that most often pose a problem in Michigan's waterways include round gobies, zebra and quagga mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, and cyanobacteria (blue-green algae).

While invasive species are not always harmful, they do often come with negative consequences. Thum, assistant professor of water resources, said Eurasian watermilfoil, a common aquatic weed found growing from the bottom of lakes, can really have a tangible impact on freshwater resources.

"Eurasian watermilfoil can impede recreation like boating, swimming and fishing," Thum said. "It can get stuck in boat motors and make the water look unappealing. It can also affect property values, create hydrology issues, reshape the shoreline and impact native species."

Carl Ruetz, associate professor of water resources, said that the impact of invasive species on waterways is an issue that should not be ignored. If Asian carp, for example, are introduced to Michigan's lakes, they could pose a problem.

"When you add a non-native species to an environment, it will have repercussions in the food chain," Ruetz

said. "It's really difficult to predict the effects of what will happen when an invasive species is introduced."

Thum, Ruetz and other researchers at AWRI are working to develop ways to protect Michigan's waterways from invasive species.

"The goal is to detect and identify an invasive species before you see one. This is surprisingly one of the main challenges in the fight against invasive species," Thum said. "We're working on developing technologies to detect species in really low abundances, before they become a problem."

Environmental DNA, and DNA barcodes are just a few of the techniques that are being used at AWRI. Since 2001, work such as this has dramatically increased, helping to make AWRI nationally recognized in the field of freshwater research. However, many of the nine research scientists and dozens of student researchers work in conditions that are either not heated or are too cramped



**GREAT LAKES.
GREAT PROMISE.**

The campaign for the new Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute Field Station began this summer and officially kicks off in September. AWRI has outgrown its current facilities and has an urgent need to increase space for freshwater research. Once completed, the new field station will better position Muskegon County and West Michigan to become a leader in the new blue economy. (See page 14 for more on the blue economy).

For more information or to give to the campaign, visit www.gvsu.edu/giving/awri.

to expand research projects. Funds are being raised for a new field station that will significantly improve AWRI's research capabilities.

"With the new field station we will have the ability to do experiments year-round," Thum said. "The current facility is not heated, so we

are restricted to doing most of our experiments within the four to five warm months."

Ruetz said that the new facility will also free up some much needed lab space in the main building, the Lake Michigan Center, for student researchers and additional experiments.



The Eurasian watermilfoil (left) and round goby create issues for Michigan's recreation and tourism industry, and can cause repercussions in the food chain.

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: All non-native species are bad.

Fact: Many non-native species are not inherently harmful to an ecosystem or to humans. They often have negative impacts on humans when they become invasive, but in their native ecosystems they may have beneficial impacts. Some of the most prized species, such as rainbow trout and salmon, are non-native to the Great Lakes.

Myth: Asian carp are going to take over the Great Lakes.

Fact: Dealing with any invasive species is very complicated and predicting outcomes is nearly impossible. If Asian carp are able to make it into Michigan from the Illinois River, the lakes are not going to turn into giant carp ponds. It's possible though, if this invasive species is introduced, the carp might colonize tributaries and have an impact on food chains.

Myth: There's nothing I can do to prevent invasive species from harming the Great Lakes.

Fact: It's easy to help! By simply being conscious of your personal impact on the lakes, you can help prevent an invasive species from establishing. Make sure not to transport water, plants, or fish from lake to lake and report any significant population increases to the DNR.

Giving Matters

Gordon Gallery renovation

On September 15, the George and Barbara Gordon Gallery will reopen with two floors dedicated to the work of Mathias J. Alten (1871-1938), a remarkable artist from West Michigan. The gallery, in the Richard M. DeVos Center, will be expanded to display 75 to 100 of Alten's unique paintings.

After reopening, the gallery will extend its hours, allowing more students and the public to see the paintings. This renovation is made possible by the generosity of the Gordon family and other private supporters. Visit www.gvsu.edu/artgallery to learn more about Grand Valley's art galleries. A public open house is scheduled from 1-5 p.m. on September 15 at the gallery.

New scholarships to be announced

At the Scholarship Dinner on October 8, new scholarships will be announced while donors, student scholars and their parents celebrate the power of giving and education. Twenty-four new scholarships were created this year from private gifts totaling more than \$1 million. Every year, private scholarships help more than 2,000 students access a Grand Valley education. Get more information about how to support an existing scholarship or create one at www.gvsu.edu/giving/scholarships.

Be recognized in Lubbers Stadium

Laker football fans will pour into Lubbers Stadium for the first home game of the season on September 8. During the game against Notre Dame of Ohio, the stadium will be rededicated to honor President Emeritus Arend D. Lubbers, who played a major role in advancing Grand Valley athletics during his time as president from 1969-2001.

With new stadium renovations complete, there's no better time to show appreciation for Lubbers and his efforts that helped to make the Laker athletics program what it is today. You have the opportunity for your name to be listed in Lubbers Stadium. By making a gift to the Don Lubbers Excellence in Athletics Facilities Fund, you can help to provide immediate resources for upgrades to athletic facilities. Don't miss your opportunity to be recognized in the stadium!

Show your support for Laker athletics and honor Lubbers' legacy by making a gift at www.gvsu.edu/give.

Leave a Grand Valley Legacy

There are many ways to leave a gift for Grand Valley that will support the university's long-term strategic needs. The easiest and most common form of planned giving is making a bequest (a planned gift to Grand Valley in your will or estate plan) and the possibilities are endless.

Visit www.gvsu.edu/giving/giftplans for more information about how to include Grand Valley in your philanthropic plans.

It's the (blue) economy, stupid

— by Nate Hoekstra



photos by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

The W.G. Jackson, a research vessel with Grand Valley's Annis Water Resources Institute, performs research and community outreach on Muskegon Lake and Lake Michigan.

Inset: Alan Steinman, director of the Annis Water Resources Institute, works with researchers to improve and maintain the quality of the water that's crucial to the blue economy.

What was originally Bill Clinton's campaign slogan, "It's the economy, stupid," could fit an economic turnaround that's taking place in the Great Lakes region, including Muskegon and up and down Michigan's west coast. Grand Valley is right in the middle of it.

It's called the blue water economy, and while it's gaining strength, experts contend that characterizing the movement that looks to take advantage of our region's freshwater supply as being a solely economic issue is only looking at one side of the coin.

The basics of the Blue Economy

If you ask economic experts about what the blue water economy means, they'll tell you it's a combination of being prepared for new business growth while taking care of the natural resources, specifically water, that give Michigan and the Great Lakes region a

competitive advantage in the new economy.

Consider the scope of the resource that's being leveraged to move the blue water economy forward: the Great Lakes contain 18 percent of the world's, and 90 percent of the United States' surface fresh water.

While the economy stands to benefit greatly from increased business, maintaining the water resources that provide opportunities for growth is critical. Alan Steinman, director of Grand Valley's Annis Water Resources Institute, said that keeping the water clean, and using it in a sustainable, responsible way is critical to the expansion of the blue water economy.

"We want to make sure the water is clean, that's one of the lynchpins in the whole thing," Steinman said. "Our work can help identify how to clean the water that is impaired, what restoration activities are needed, and the economic value associated with our

water resources that don't pass through a traditional market."

Grand Valley's pair of research facilities in Muskegon make the university a central player to understanding and helping the blue water economy. With both AWRI and the Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center within a mile of each other on the shores of Muskegon Lake, the university's role in research and ongoing study of the area's water and natural resources is large.

The blue water economy concept also serves as a marketing tool by making the "blue" universal. Cindy Larsen, president of the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce, said that too often water is thought of in one of two ways, either as a vacation and recreation resource, or as a business tool.

"The community had really struggled with that, trying to determine, 'Are we tourism or are we manufacturing?' and it was a debate," Larsen said. "The blue concept brings together both of those communities and that's very important."

Jonathan Seyferth, a business development manager at Muskegon Area First, an economic development corporation, said that merger of tourism and business has been achieved in other cities all over the world, and it's something that the Muskegon area and the rest of West Michigan needs to embrace.

"If you look at areas like Virginia Beach, southern California, Sydney, Australia, and Wellington, New Zealand, they've all got tons of industry on the water, and great tourism draws as well," Seyferth said. "You can marry recreation with industry — some cities even



photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Jonathan Seyferth, with Muskegon Area First, and Cindy Larsen, with the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce, are leaders of the effort to bring new business, industry and opportunity to the Muskegon and the surrounding area.

use their big boats as tourist attractions — it can be done."

Larsen said: "The water is a sacred resource and many people understand that. While we can use it to build our economy, we have to be good stewards to ensure the opportunities for discovery and growth are maintained."

Riding the blue wave

The questions the experts are asking right now focus on the long-term possibilities for this ambitious goal, and how they can be achieved. Grand Valley's research facilities are at the leading edge of asking these questions, and they're finding real, meaningful answers.

Grand Valley's MAREC facility is currently studying possibilities for wind energy on

Lake Michigan with a world-class buoy to determine if turbines on the water would be feasible. AWRI is researching water quality and biodiversity in a number of studies to help preserve the sport fishing industry in the Great Lakes, which is an estimated \$5 billion to \$7 billion dollar a year industry, among other items.

Arn Boezaart, executive director of MAREC, said wind energy has potential, but research must come first. Not only could the lake be a new front for green energy production, but ports like Muskegon could benefit from shipping immense turbine parts that are cumbersome to ship over the road. It's all part of seizing new opportunity and building a new regional economy.

"We need to redefine what

the future of this area will be," Boezaart said. "I think it's going to be very different from the past. I think we'll see the natural resources and chances for recreation remain attractive to future generations, but I also think there will be new commercial uses of the water that will generate new economic opportunity."

Boezaart is hoping that development of commercial-scale wind energy generation over water will be one of the next big ideas that will gain traction.

Despite a current reticence on the part of some Great Lakes state governments to pursue the green energy opportunity, a strong interest remains, as does a push from the federal government for more research, data, and demonstration projects.

What can blue do for you?

Economic experts like Larsen and Seyferth look at how business in the region can grow in the future, while they also focus on immediate results.

Seyferth, who specializes in marketing Muskegon County's capacity-rich wastewater treatment facilities, said between Muskegon Lake, which is the largest deep-water port on Michigan's west coast, and easy access to

intermodal transportation, businesses won't be left wanting for infrastructure, access and resources.

Larsen stressed other water resources as ways to get businesses to the area.

"We've got Muskegon Lake, dozens of miles of pristine, sandy beaches, hundreds of miles of river, and more than two dozen inland lakes," she said. "Employees of new companies are going to want to be able to live comfortably and recreate near where they

work. We can't use all of the water for industry; we need to take care of the water for the human side of things as well."

Right now, the immediate focus sits on roughly half a dozen industries. The blue water economy is being marketed to manufacturers, agribusiness, transportation companies, shipping, research facilities, food processing facilities and eco-tourism businesses, just to name a few. That focus is based on the immediate availability of the resources the companies need — deep water ports, plentiful clean water, available dock space and beautiful scenery.

"We're also focusing on the spin-off revenue, and how one business can generate economic growth for others," Seyferth said.

Research and resources

A few doors down from MAREC, AWRI is studying emerging technology with water and plants, trying to learn more about how it could be possible to use algae to produce biofuels. Instead of corn or sugar cane being used to produce ethanol, Steinman said it could be possible to very quickly grow tons of algae on water treatment ponds, saving space and

producing much needed fuel.

Private-public partnerships are also in place. AWRI partnered with the Lake Express, a cross-Lake Michigan ferry based out of Muskegon for an open house earlier this year, and AWRI does regular trips out into the lakes for school field trips, furthering its mission of research, education and outreach.

Another research project that's being done by AWRI is finding how to help clean up and contain invasive species from the lakes. A recent study done by the Anderson Economic Group estimated that the cost of invasive species in the Great Lakes easily passes a cost of more than \$100 million per year, with most of the cost borne by industries that use the water for drinking, manufacturing, or tourism. (For more on AWRI, see page 12.)

"The Annis Water Resources Institute's role is multifaceted," Steinman said. "The research, the science will help drive the protection of the resource. It will help identify how the resource can be used sustainably, and can work hand in hand with the business sector to figure out the best ways that water can be used without it being exploited."



Hear more from the experts on the blue economy by clicking www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.



photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Arn Boezaart, executive director of Grand Valley's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center, is leading efforts to research the feasibility of green energy development using power from wind over the Great Lakes.

From Michigan to Haiti

Research teams at AWRI are also working with companies like Cascade Engineering near Grand Rapids to refine portable biosand water filters, which use a special biological filter to get rid of harmful pathogens in drinking water. AWRI researchers have been testing them in Haiti and other areas of the world where clean water isn't readily available.



2012

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
PRESENTS

FALL ARTS CELEBRATION

ENRICHING THE ARTS AND
HUMANITIES IN WEST MICHIGAN

Fall Arts Celebration brings arts and ideas from across the globe

— by Mary Isca Pirkola

Fall Arts Celebration, now in its ninth year, contributes to the culture and quality of life, not just at Grand Valley but also the wider community. “Each year there’s something for everyone in Fall Arts,” said Fred Antczak, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences dean.

The six enriching events presented in 2012 will cover a diverse spectrum: classical music, opera, modern dance, contemporary Japanese jewelry design, plus two award-winning poets and a distinguished lecturer who bring elements of the past into their work. The celebration concludes with a Holiday Gift performance of “Amahl and the Night Visitors” at Fountain Street Church in December. As always, the programs are free and open to the public. Seats fill quickly; arrive early.



9.10



9.20



10.4



10.19

Music Department presents

“Music for the ‘Era of Good Feelings’: Beethoven in Federalist America”

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 8 P.M.
LOUIS ARMSTRONG THEATRE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
ALLENDALE CAMPUS

Prelude carillon concert from 7:20–7:50 p.m.
featuring University Carillonneur
Professor Julianne Vanden Wyngaard

Performance followed by reception

The Music Department celebrates the bicentennial of the end of the War of 1812 with three iconic works by Ludwig Van Beethoven. The “Era of Good Feelings” in America followed this new age of peace, including an explosion of imported concert tours by European composers and musicians.

Reflecting the values of liberty and freedom so important to the growing republic were Beethoven’s “The Ruins of Athens,” Opus 113; “Christ on the Mount of Olives” with its rousing final chorus, “Hallelujah”; and “Wellington’s Victory.”

West Michigan audiences can share the excitement and the music of the era in this performance by Grand Valley faculty members, students and guest artists.

Distinguished Academic Lecturer

Daniel Mendelsohn, “Medea on the Jersey Shore: Tragedy and the Crisis of Reality in Contemporary Culture”

Award-winning writer, critic,
and translator

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 7 P.M.
L.V. EBERHARD CENTER, 2ND FLOOR
ROBERT C. PEW GRAND RAPIDS CAMPUS

Lecture followed by book signing and reception

Earlier this year, Daniel Mendelsohn was elected into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as part of a 2012 class that included Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, actor Clint Eastwood and Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos. Trying to pigeonhole Mendelsohn’s own area of expertise is a challenge, given his broad range of interests and writings. A common element found in much of his work is fresh insight about contemporary culture as influenced by his scholarly training as a classicist.

Mendelsohn, now the Charles Ranlett Flint Professor of Humanities at Bard College, studied Classics at the University of Virginia and Princeton University, where he completed a doctorate in 1994. His articles, essays, reviews and translations have appeared frequently in such diverse publications as *The New York Times*, *The New York Review of Books*, *Esquire*, *Travel + Leisure* and *The Paris Review*.

A recipient of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Excellence in Reviewing and the George Jean Nathan Prize for Drama Criticism, Mendelsohn has written six books, including an award-winning account of his search for the truth about six relatives who perished in the Holocaust, *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million*, and

a collection of essays, *How Beautiful It Is And How Easily It Can Be Broken. Waiting for the Barbarians*, a new collection of Mendelsohn’s essays on subjects ranging from Susan Sontag and Noël Coward to TV’s “Mad Men” and Greek mythology in Spider-Man will be published in October.

Art Gallery Exhibition

“Forged in Metal: Deshi/Shiyou–Mentee/Mentor” Contemporary Japanese Jewelry

OPENING RECEPTION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 5–7 P.M.
ART GALLERY
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
ALLENDALE CAMPUS

EXHIBITION DATES:
OCTOBER 4–NOVEMBER 2

This exhibition is a showcase of exceptional work from a selected group of Japanese jewelry and metalsmithing students and their mentors from Hiko Mizuno College of Jewelry in Tokyo. “Forged in Metal” will shed light on the trusted and profound relationship between mentee and mentor.

Co-curated by Renee Zettle-Sterling, Grand Valley associate professor of art and design, and James Bove, associate professor of art at California University of Pennsylvania, the exhibition and subsequent lectures and workshops also continue a valued cultural and informational exchange begun many years ago.

While offering visitors an opportunity to view work by international artists, this look at the future of contemporary Japanese metalsmithing also captures the artists’ expressions of cultural identity and their appreciation for the physicality of materials and craft.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.GVSU.EDU/FALLARTS
OR SCAN THIS CODE.



10.19



10.22



10.22



12.3

Poetry Night

"An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Nikky Finney and B.H. Fairchild"

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 7 P.M.

L.V. EBERHARD CENTER, 2ND FLOOR

ROBERT C. PEW GRAND RAPIDS CAMPUS

Reading followed by book signing and reception

Both poets selected for this year's Poetry Night are noted as witnesses to regional history and cultural issues in their work, though they each bring a separate geography and a distinctive voice.

When Nikky Finney gave her acceptance speech as the winner of the 2011 National Book Award for Poetry, she made good on her promise to call out those who helped her succeed as a poet. She also reached back in history to acknowledge a time when slaves were forbidden by law to read or write. Many of the poems in *Head Off & Split*, her award-winning book, also pay homage to historic events and persons with language praised as "eloquent, urgent and fearless."

Born in South Carolina to activist parents, Finney came of age during the Civil Rights and Black Arts movements. She is currently a professor of English and creative writing at the University of Kentucky. Her previous volumes of poetry include *The World is Round*, *Rice*, and *On Wings Made of Gauze*.

B.H. Fairchild's work shares a similar interest in history, as noted in the *Los Angeles Times* review of his sixth book of poetry, *Usher*, "... he stakes out an American mythos in which the personal and collective blur ... to evoke a territory between perseverance and despair."

Fairchild was awarded the Arthur Rense Poetry Prize by the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2001 for "consistent excellence over a long career," which

includes work as a machinist in the mid-1960s, after growing up in blue-collar towns in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas.

Previous collections of Fairchild's poems include *Early Occult Memory Systems of the Lower Midwest*, winner of the 2002 National Book Critics Circle Award and the Bobbitt Prize from the Library of Congress. He also wrote *Such Holy Song*, a scholarly study of William Blake.

Music and Dance Faculty and Students present

"The Baroque Splendor of Venice: Vivaldi's 'The Four Seasons' in Dance"

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 8 P.M.

LOUIS ARMSTRONG THEATRE

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

ALLENDALE CAMPUS

Prelude carillon concert from 7:20–7:50 p.m. featuring Guest Carillonneur Helen Hofmeister Hawley

Performance followed by reception

The exuberance of Antonio Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons," as performed by celebrated violin soloist Rachel Barton Pine, will be coupled with the athleticism of modern dance by Thodos Dance Chicago in this unique multi-media interpretation set by Shawn T Bible, faculty artist choreographer.

Pine performs on one of the most rare and valuable violins in the world, the "ex-Soldat," made in 1742 by Guarneri del Gesù. Guest artists from Thodos Dance will highlight the event and open the performance with one of their own works. Founded by Melisa

Thodos in 1992, ensemble members are noted for their achievement as performers, educators and choreographers — a rather unique combination in the national dance community. Two Grand Valley senior dance students will join the ensemble for this performance.

In this iconic work, from his opus 8 set of 12 concerti entitled "Il cimento dell'armonia e dell'invenzione (The Test of Harmony and Invention)," Vivaldi portrays each season of the year as unique, while deftly illustrating that "cimento" in this instance suggests a particularly difficult test, one involving an element of great virtuosic risk.

A Fall Arts Celebration Holiday Gift

"Amahl and the Night Visitors"

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 8 P.M.

FOUNTAIN STREET CHURCH

24 FOUNTAIN STREET NE

GRAND RAPIDS

One of the most popular works ever written for the American stage, Gian Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors," was also the first opera composed specifically for U.S. network television. Originally broadcast December 24, 1951 on NBC, the adaptation of the story of the Nativity and the Adoration of the Magi quickly became an annual holiday tradition.

Fall Arts Celebration 2012 concludes with this holiday gift to the community, performed at Fountain Street Church. The program brings together Grand Valley faculty members, students and guest artists to present a grand revival performance of this timeless story set to Menotti's finest music, too-rarely performed today.

**All Fall Arts Celebration events are free and open to the public.
Seating is limited for these popular performances.**

Integrated business processes help students land jobs

— by Dottie Barnes

Employers as diverse as Vera Bradley and Steelcase are recruiting Grand Valley business students because of their knowledge of integrated business processes and SAP® software.

Students are gaining this knowledge in the Seidman College of Business through ERP-based academic programs, and have helped create a virtual company that is now being used by other students around the world.

ERP stands for Enterprise Resource Planning and is a method of using integrative software to link various business functions — such as accounting, inventory control and human resources — across an entire company.

“Bigger companies that typically hire from schools like Michigan or Stanford are now delighted to come here

to recruit, and they did not come here before we had this program,” said Simha Magal, professor of management in the Seidman College of Business and director of the Seidman ERP program.

Grand Valley’s ERP program was established 12 years ago and uses SAP, the global leader in ERP software. Magal said SAP is now embedded into classes across a variety of majors within the college.

“Having SAP as part of the business curriculum has given students a point of differentiation from other business schools when entering the highly competitive job market,” said Magal.

Companies like Vera Bradley come to Grand Valley to find interns and graduates with knowledge of how ERP systems, like SAP, support integrated business processes.

“Our partnership with Grand Valley is a cornerstone of our talent acquisition strategy,” said Todd Shinabarger, senior director of information

technology at Vera Bradley. “Seidman students have been our preferred choice to fill our SAP internship role since the program’s inception.”

Nancy Cluley, product data manager at Steelcase, said the Grand Valley students hired by Steelcase come to the company with a natural curiosity about its business processes and the bigger picture.

“They are eager to apply their classroom studies to the real world of work while, at the same time, they are quick to adapt to the extensive customization of SAP within the Steelcase information network,” she said.

Enterprise Resource Planning

ERP facilitates information sharing, business planning and decision making on a company-wide basis. By the late 1990s, most Fortune 1000 companies had made major investments in some type of ERP system.

Magal said the demand for students and professionals familiar with ERP software has

boomed because of increased corporate globalization.

“More than 100,000 companies run SAP and 65 percent of all the world’s transactional business touch an SAP system,” he said. “Organizations are siloed. They have marketing, finance, accounting, operations, production and warehousing. Historically, the people working in these different departments focused on their part of the work and didn’t worry about what was happening outside of their walls.

“With ERP, you have one system with one database where all the data is stored. Everybody from within the corporation and at its facilities around the world can see that one common data.”

Magal said Grand Valley is one of the world’s leading universities in terms of the depth and breadth of integration accomplished in the classroom.

“There are more than 1,000 universities in the world that use SAP, but it’s bits and pieces. Very few use it with the big goal

ERP Program Impact

Grand Valley has gained national awareness and exposure because of the program, bringing companies including

accenture
High performance. Delivered.

DOW CORNING

OWENS CORNING

Whirlpool
CORPORATION

Vera Bradley

Cargill

HCL

LeverX

Consumers Energy
Count on Us

Steelcase



James Dornbus had almost three years of experience working with ERP systems while earning his degree. He now works at Wolverine Worldwide as an associate business systems analyst.



Kevin Coolman works at Perrigo as a SAP business analyst. He said working with ERP while at Grand Valley gave him an edge in the job market.

that we have in so many different classes,” he said.

Kevin Coolman is a SAP business analyst with Perrigo in Allegan. He was hired while still an undergraduate student at Grand Valley. The management information systems major started as an intern with the company in 2010 and was hired in December 2011, four months before he graduated.

“Perrigo uses SAP for everything, from facilities to production to sales to purchasing. I support the production of the packaging facilities and anything on the warehouse side,” Coolman said.

The 23-year-old Caledonia native said his knowledge of ERP helped him secure his job. “The hands-on training I received and the coursework related to ERP was crucial. I also did an ERP internship with Professor Magal. I use what I learned at Grand Valley here at Perrigo every day,” he said.

James Dornbus was hired by Wolverine Worldwide in Rockford as an associate business systems analyst a few months after graduating from Grand Valley in 2011. He said

having nearly three years of experience with ERP systems as an undergraduate helped him land his job.

“The demand is high for these jobs, knowing business processes and SAP,” said Dornbus. “My job is to maintain materials, knowing what the needs are for our future season and what we’re currently using. We use SAP for sales, production, finances — all of our business functions. I wouldn’t be here without my knowledge of SAP.”

Global Bike, Inc.

SAP has partnered with Grand Valley through the SAP University Alliances program, in which Grand Valley hosts its own SAP systems.

Magal said he and two colleagues supervised the development of a hypothetical company called Global Bike, Inc. or GBI, which is now used as a teaching tool by more than 260 universities in 36 countries around the world.

It was created and built into the system so students could pretend to run the company to gain real-world, global experience.



photos by Elizabeth Lienau

Simha Magal, director of Seidman’s ERP program, works with a student in the DeVos Center. Magal is among the top ERP experts in the world.

“Interns in the ERP program at Grand Valley helped develop this international teaching tool over a three-year period,” said Magal, who oversaw the project with Jeff Word from SAP and Stefan Weidner from the University of Magdeburg in Germany. “We decided GBI

would build high-end bicycles like road bikes, mountain bikes, racing bikes and dirt bikes and be based in the U.S. and Germany to start.”

Magal said more than 50,000 students around the world have used GBI to study ERP systems.



Watch a video about Seidman’s program by visiting www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.



Reynolds uses perseverance, poetry to find way to college

— by Michele Coffill

When Ulandra Reynolds was in high school she turned the paychecks she earned at Taco Bell over to her mother.

So the lights and heat could come back on.

Then there were the times Reynolds had to stay at her grandmother's house because her mother, a

single parent, was in jail. Again.

"I didn't realize how much my life was different from everyone else's until I came here," said Reynolds, a junior majoring in public and nonprofit administration. "I would talk to my friends and say, 'Oh, you don't have to boil your water?'"

Paydays expired, marriage rewired, no spaghetti instead cans of clam chowder

Bill collectors called every hour on the hour

Black people don't buy clam chowder, Bill

Tattered green leaves exchanged for white powder

"We would go for months without the utilities turned on."

When she moved into Copeland Living Center as a first-year student, Reynolds recalled hoping her garbage-bag luggage wouldn't stand out too much against the matching suitcases that belonged to others on her floor.

Not that she cared too much. Reynolds was thrilled to be at Grand Valley, which seemed light years away from the difficult surroundings of her upbringing in Battle Creek.

"This is fantasy land for me compared to my home life," she said. "For where I'm at and where my goals are, there's not too much around home for someone like me."

Reynolds and 9,600 other students at Grand Valley are the first in their families to attend college. Reynolds has an older sister who attended

a trade school and works as a dental assistant; her younger brother works in a factory.

Nationally, first-generation college students represent 34 percent of the population at colleges and universities. The statistics seem stacked against them from the start. Because of barriers like the cost of college, lack of information about resources, and lower-than-average GPAs, about 47 percent of first-generation students attempt college after high school, compared to 85 percent of second- and third-generation college students.

Reynolds said she was determined to break the poverty cycle and be successful in college. She had frequent conversations with her high school guidance counselor about college applications and financial aid. She also participated in Upward Bound, a federal TRiO program that prepares first-generation students for college.

Reynolds said she adjusted quickly to college life because of her experiences in Upward Bound. She joined Voices of GVSU, a student gospel choir, found a job (she now works three jobs) and did well in her classes.

Upward Bound

Grand Valley offers four TRiO programs to aid under-represented students from middle and high schools, support students currently enrolled at GVSU and help

graduates who want to pursue advanced degrees.

Arnie Smithalexander has led TRiO programs at Grand Valley for 34 years. As director of the Upward Bound program, she works with students from the time they are in eighth grade until they graduate from college, sometimes beyond.

"I have the best job," Smithalexander said. "I see the students every year. I live with them in the summer, go into their homes and meet their families. I've been to their weddings and graduations.

"I'm there when they are realizing their dreams."

Grand Valley's Upward Bound staff recruits students who are in eighth grade, mostly from middle schools that feed into Grand Rapids' Central and Union high schools. Criteria to be eligible for the program include being a first-generation college student and meeting federal income guidelines. Smithalexander has another way of describing it.

"If you say you're looking for people at poverty levels or with low incomes, not many people are going to want to be a part of that group," she said. "Poverty is not only being without money, I call it being without the resources you need, as well."

Upward Bound students receive resources and tools they need to be successful in college. They meet regularly with Upward Bound advisors, attend workshops on financial aid and participate in cultural and

service-learning opportunities.

Grand Valley has 85 students enrolled in its Upward Bound program, which is housed in the College of Education; Smithalexander received a federal renewal grant to increase that to 100 students this year.

Students live on the Allendale Campus for six weeks in the summer, taking algebra, physics, chemistry, geometry, English, Spanish and other classes that serve as a preview of their upcoming year in high school. Smithalexander said their days on campus likely resemble their days in high school. "We start classes at 9 a.m. and go until 5 p.m.," she said. "Then they have early study hall, dinner and late study hall."

The Upward Bound year culminates in a big trip, provided participants meet fundraising and academic goals. In July the Grand Valley contingent went to the Grand Canyon.

"These trips are so the student can get on a plane for the first time," Smithalexander said. "We volunteer one day, go to museums another.

"For most students, their vacations are spent going to their grandparents' house," she

photo by Amanda Pitts

Ulandra Reynolds, a junior majoring in public and nonprofit administration, is pictured in the Hookah Lounge in Eastown, where she performs at poetry slams. Her poems often draw from her difficult upbringing in Battle Creek.

"No, she isn't here" she'd whisper in my ear as I secreted obedience

I served my purpose,

offering myself for her expedience

Black bohemian. She was beautiful.

said. "I want them to experience what other kids experience when they go on vacation."

When Reynolds was an Upward Bound participant, she traveled to New York City and Nashville; she also spent a summer at Brown University in Rhode Island. She called Upward Bound a great program and said it taught her lifelong skills, like the ability to create a budget.

"I use a Google spreadsheet now to track how much I need for gas, my phone bill, oil changes," Reynolds said. Her spreadsheet extends beyond monthly expenses. Reynolds has figured a plan that has her paying off her student loans four years after graduation.

Resources

Upward Bound also taught Reynolds to ask questions and advocate for herself. For example, as a first-year student, Reynolds didn't have the \$150 deposit needed for on-campus housing. Her high school guidance counselor called Grand Valley's Housing office and asked that the deposit be deferred to the fall tuition bill.

What worries Michelle Rhodes, director of Financial Aid at Grand Valley, is the number of students who don't have a guidance counselor or mentor who would know to call and ask for a deferral.

"It takes only one person to believe in you, but what if you don't have that one person?" Rhodes said.

Financial Aid staff members make concerted efforts to find more high school students like Reynolds by giving community

presentations about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The presentations do not necessarily come with a Grand Valley pitch, Rhodes said.

"We're just promoting going to college, any college," she said. "Our message, along with Housing and Admissions, is to follow the university's mission and use resources that can best serve under-represented students and make sure they feel valued."

Smithalexander said Upward Bound staff members work with students and their parents through each step of the college admissions process. "When we accept a student into our program, we're also accepting their family," she said.

Breaking the cycle

It's been a journey, but Reynolds said she's not so angry with her mother anymore.

"When I was in high school, I was pretty mad. I was asking myself, 'Why am I paying for her light bills?'" she said. "It was my senior year in high school. In the TV world, everyone was enjoying life and going on trips. I had no new school clothes."

Reynolds turned to writing poetry, in part, to help her cope with her emotions. She began writing in high school and began performing her work at poetry slams about two years ago.

"I like the performance aspect of it," she said. "Everyone who reads is really passionate about something. And everyone is sort of the odd-one-out, the person who doesn't fit into the mainstream."

She was among the student and faculty members who



photo by Amanda Pitts

Upward Bound tutor Luis Valencia works with participants Dominga Graves and Tatielle Harris during a study session. Upward Bound students attend classes and live on the Allendale Campus for six weeks in the summer, helping to prepare for the upcoming school year.

read their poems at the annual EqualiTea, an event in March that celebrates Women's History Month.

She shares stories about her family with close friends and, of course, they are sometimes highlighted during her poetry readings. Reynolds said some of her college friends don't understand why she still talks with her mother.

"It is hard to describe our relationship," she said. "It was difficult for me to balance at first. I wanted her to have khaki pants, but that's not the world where I come from."

Her mother was arrested and jailed frequently for fraud, writing bad checks. "I was angry and used to wonder, 'Why can't you just get a job?' But now I know the criminal justice system isn't set up for easy re-entry back into society," Reynolds said.

They are on better terms now, Reynolds said. She added that

her mother's life has stabilized. One year away from graduating, Reynolds has plans to work for several years at a nonprofit organization before going back to school to earn a master's of business administration degree.

She will likely be similar to the many successes Smithalexander continues to keep tabs on at Upward Bound. Nationally, more than 75 percent of Upward Bound students earn college degrees within five years.

"I tell them when they enter the program, they're entering the TRiO family," Smithalexander said.

"They get to go to two national conferences with 2,000 other high school students, and they're all sharing the same story.

"They are all breaking the cycle of poverty. Poverty is not only about money, but also a lack of information."



To watch a video of Reynolds reading a poem, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

The London exchange turns 25

— by Michele Coffill

A reception in October will cap a yearlong celebration recognizing the 25th anniversary of the successful international partnership between Grand Valley and Kingston University, located outside of London.

Since it was established in 1986, hundreds of students, faculty and staff members have participated in exchanges between the two universities. Rebecca Hambleton, director of study abroad and international partnerships for the Padnos International Center, said the partnership first concentrated in the sciences but has since expanded to include diverse academic programs like art and design, nursing, English, business, public administration, engineering and more.

“This partnership currently offers the most comprehensive curricular options for student, faculty and staff exchanges,” Hambleton said.

Brian Curry, who had served as professor of biomedical sciences at Grand Valley, helped develop the partnership. Curry hosted Bob Godfrey from Kingston in 1986 and then explored a partnership between the universities. Curry now lives in the United Kingdom; he returned to Grand Valley in April for a celebration that included presenting an honorary degree to Kingston’s vice chancellor, Julius Weinberg, during commencement.

Ginger Randall, associate dean of students, was among the first faculty from Grand Valley to visit Kingston. In 1996, Randall served as an international student advisor and traveled to Kingston to see how its student services operated.

“I wanted to meet with people in all areas of student services,” Randall said. She was also in London at the same time Grand



courtesy photo

Pictured is Veronica Bowe, who studied in Kingston in 2009.

Valley’s crew team raced in its first regatta against Kingston.

The music departments at both universities collaborated in July for a three-day performance, “Bodies in Motion,” that combined

dance, music and digital innovation. The interactive events, via the Internet, took place simultaneously on both campuses and at Amsterdam Conservatory.

Upcoming events:

An art exhibition, from September 24-October 31, at the Red Wall Gallery in Lake Ontario Hall will showcase photos taken by participants in cultural and educational exchanges with Kingston. A student reception is planned for October 9 for those who participated in a study abroad program in Kingston.

More information about the Kingston partnership is online at www.gvsu.edu/kingston25.

International Student Club plans campus meals

Members of the International Student Club wore sous chef hats throughout the winter semester as they helped plan menus for monthly campus dinners that featured international cuisine.

Campus Dining chefs embraced the student initiative and worked with club members on menu items that highlighted foods from the People’s Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, Latvia and Venezuela. About 200 people attended each month’s dinner at The Connection; dinners will continue this fall.

Mohamed Azuz, a computer and information systems major, said the dinners started as a grassroots effort by club members who wanted to see more global items on menus. “Most international students don’t eat pork, for example,” Azuz said. “We asked for a meeting with Campus Dining to see if there was something they could do.”

Campus Dining chef Aaron Johnson said he was excited to plan menus with the international students. “I’m always up for different foods and flavors,” he said.

More than 300 international students attend Grand Valley.

Q&A

Paul Mixa

photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Paul Mixa most often can be found in his Laker chef coat, chopping, baking or mixing in the kitchen of the Kirkhof Center. As executive chef of Campus Dining, he creates delicious meals for the campus community every day.

A Chicago native, Mixa's experience in the kitchen includes working as a pastry chef at the Ritz Carlton in Phoenix, heading a kitchen at a luxurious resort in Arizona and preparing fresh fish at restaurants in Florida. He has taught food science courses in the Hospitality and Tourism Management program at Grand

Valley and loves cooking for his family. Most recently, he worked in London for two months, cooking for athletes in the Summer Olympics.

Mixa sat down with *Grand Valley Magazine's* Leah Zuber to dish over his favorite cuisine, best cooking techniques and views on buying local.

Grand Valley Magazine:

How did you first become interested in being a chef?

Paul Mixa: I have five siblings so, to keep it cheap, my mom cooked everything from scratch and made a lot of dishes from the big garden in the backyard.

When my family moved to Arizona, one of my first jobs was at a resort where I would sneak past security and hang out in the kitchen. Eventually the head chef offered me a job cooking for the resort employees. Every once in a while, I would sneak back into the main kitchen because I enjoyed being part of all the excitement and fast-paced energy. That's when I decided to go to Scottsdale Culinary Institute.

GVM: What brought you to West Michigan?

PM: From Arizona, I moved to Florida for about a year and

then moved back to Chicago. The restaurant owner I was working for had two restaurants in Saugatuck — Toulouse and Chequers — and she would sometimes ask me to come to Michigan to help. She would also bring a crew with her from Chicago, and that's how I met my wife. We moved to Michigan five years later and I started at Grand Valley in 2004 as chef manager for Fresh Food Company.

GVM: Do you have a favorite cooking technique?

PM: I love grilling and smoking meats and vegetables.

My favorite cuisine is Mediterranean or different ethnic dishes, not just comfort food. Don't get me wrong, I love pot roasts, but it's always the same, and I like the fresh, light flavors of other countries, and I like using fresh herbs. My wife and I base our vacations around where we want to eat. We went to Greece one year and Italy another.

GVM: Do you have any battle wounds or scars from cooking?

PM: I don't have any permanent scars because I don't burn myself as much anymore. At Grand Valley, we focus so much on safety and try to prevent injuries. But when I was working at the Ritz Carlton in Phoenix, I remember pulling out a tray of bread puddings from the oven, where they sat in a water bath, and I must have slipped because the boiling water slid down my forearm.

GVM: Ouch! Did you drop the tray?

PM: No way! I spent a lot of time working on them and didn't want to redo it, but it was definitely painful.

GVM: What is it like to work in a university setting, compared to a restaurant?

PM: I think the biggest difference is gauging how many people are going to eat at different catered events at Grand Valley, compared to a restaurant where you buy one plate with a specific amount of food on it. At catered events, I have to take into consideration the time of day, what kind of group it is and the amount of food ordered. I worked in dining spaces in office buildings before, but working at Grand Valley is much more exciting because I get to work with international groups and perform cooking demos. We have a lot of students working for us, which is nice; they keep me young.

GVM: What are your thoughts on the big push to purchase local, organic produce?

PM: I think it's great. We try to do it as much as we possibly can at Grand Valley. We receive weekly produce lists from local farms that include what's in season, and when it is we purchase everything locally for the university's dining venues. We also participate in the annual Farmers Market by prepping a lunch for visitors made with produce sold at the market.

GVM: Besides buying local, have you noticed any other trends or new practices in university kitchens?

PM: I've noticed a few things. Our team is more aware of allergens because so many people seem to be more in tune with their body and how it responds to certain types of food. We're concentrating more on gluten and dairy allergies and offering alternatives. That's something we really focus on, making sure we try to please everyone. Also, people are looking for healthier meal options, so cooking healthier and offering those options is something we focus on, as well.

GVM: Being sustainable is important at Grand Valley. How is Campus Dining involved?

PM: We regularly meet with people from the Sustainable Community Development Initiative to see how we can expand what we're doing. In all kitchens on campus there are green bags that collect recyclable and compostable items. All our plastics, cans and cardboard boxes get recycled. We recycle a lot of the coffee grounds, too.

We just started a new program where we weigh and compost all of our food scraps, so people are more aware of what's being thrown out. I think weighing the scraps puts it in perspective for us on how much could be sent to the landfill.

GVM: Speaking of cooking healthier, do you have any healthy cooking tips?

PM: Everyone's idea of healthy cooking is different, but I try to stay away from too much dairy and cook with whole grains or seeds instead of starchy things. Also, a way to make your food more exciting and healthy is using fresh herbs. It puts a little punch to your food. Also, use dried fruits or nuts to give something more flavor and texture. I try to stay away from refined oils and instead use grapeseed, coconut or olive oil. If there's more color on your plate, then the better it is for

you. If your plate is all brown, then it's probably not as healthy.

GVM: Do things ever slow down in the kitchen at Grand Valley?

PM: The busiest time of year is a couple weeks before the students get back to campus in the fall and then all the way up to Thanksgiving break. We go full force for those few months. People are back, doing all their events at that time. New students don't know about restaurants outside of campus, so they're all hitting restaurants on campus until they figure out the town.

Paul's Israeli couscous with almonds and cranberries

3 c. cooked Israeli couscous

3/4 c. whole roasted salted almonds

1/2 c. dried cranberries

1/4 c. chopped cilantro

1/4 c. chopped fresh parsley

1/4 c. olive oil

2 tsp. Kosher salt

2 tsp. granulated garlic

Boil water and cook couscous like pasta, until done with a little bite left to it. Drain in colander and put in bowl with cold water and a little ice. Let sit in water and ice for two minutes then drain for five minutes. Pour couscous in large bowl and add all ingredients. Toss until well coated. Chill and serve cold.

Feeds 5-7 people.



Watch a cooking demonstration by Mixa online at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

Steve Mattox

professor of geology

Before teaching at Grand Valley, Steve Mattox (pictured at Rosy Mound County Park near Grand Haven) worked at volcanoes in Chile, glaciers in Alaska, and in Hawaii, Australia and Indonesia. But Michigan, he said, has its own wonders.

His favorite places to explore are the Lake Michigan sand dunes and Grand Ledge, but he suggested everyone take the time to visit the Upper Peninsula. His U.P. short list includes:

- 2.2 billion-year-old stromatolite fossils near Harvey;
- banded-iron formation at Jasper Knob in Ishpeming;
- greenstone lava flow in the Keweenaw Peninsula.

Mattox said he didn't know geology could be a career until he went to college. He planned to be an astronomer, but took some courses in geology and learned he could combine his love for science and the outdoors.

"I can't imagine a more rewarding career," he said.

photography by Adam Bird

Pepperoni or extra cheese? Trash or reuse?

Student-led teams promote pizza box composting

In addition to making topping choices for their pizzas, many students are making new choices about how to dispose of pizza boxes.

More students are opting to compost the box rather than throw it away, according to Jenny Jordan, graduate assistant for the Sustainable Community Development Initiative.

The change in thinking can be attributed to campus Eco-Reps, a group of students who are passionately raising awareness about the importance of composting at Grand Valley.

More than 7,000 pizza boxes — equal to the height of the 1,200-foot Empire State Building (or nearly 12 Cook Carillon Towers) — have been composted on the Allendale Campus since January.

“And that’s probably only a quarter to a third of the total pizza boxes on campus,” estimated Bart Bartels, campus sustainability manager. More than 1,000 boxes were composted in the first month of the program.

The initiative started when Bartels and Jordan brainstormed ways to spark interest in composting among students and decided pizza boxes would be a good starting point.

“It’s a popular food item on campus and pizza boxes can’t be recycled because the grease and food on them disrupt the flow of the recycling stream,” Bartels said, “but they can be broken down and composted, and many people don’t know that.”

Bartels and Jordan presented their idea to the Live, Learn, Lead course in the Frederik Meijer Honors College last fall; students then began crafting and implementing a plan. In January, the effort branched out

into a team of six Eco-Rep leaders, including Jordan, and 55 student volunteers.

“Our main focus was recruiting students for our teams and setting up compost bins near the entrances of living centers. We met with center directors and resident assistants to get them on board,” Jordan said.

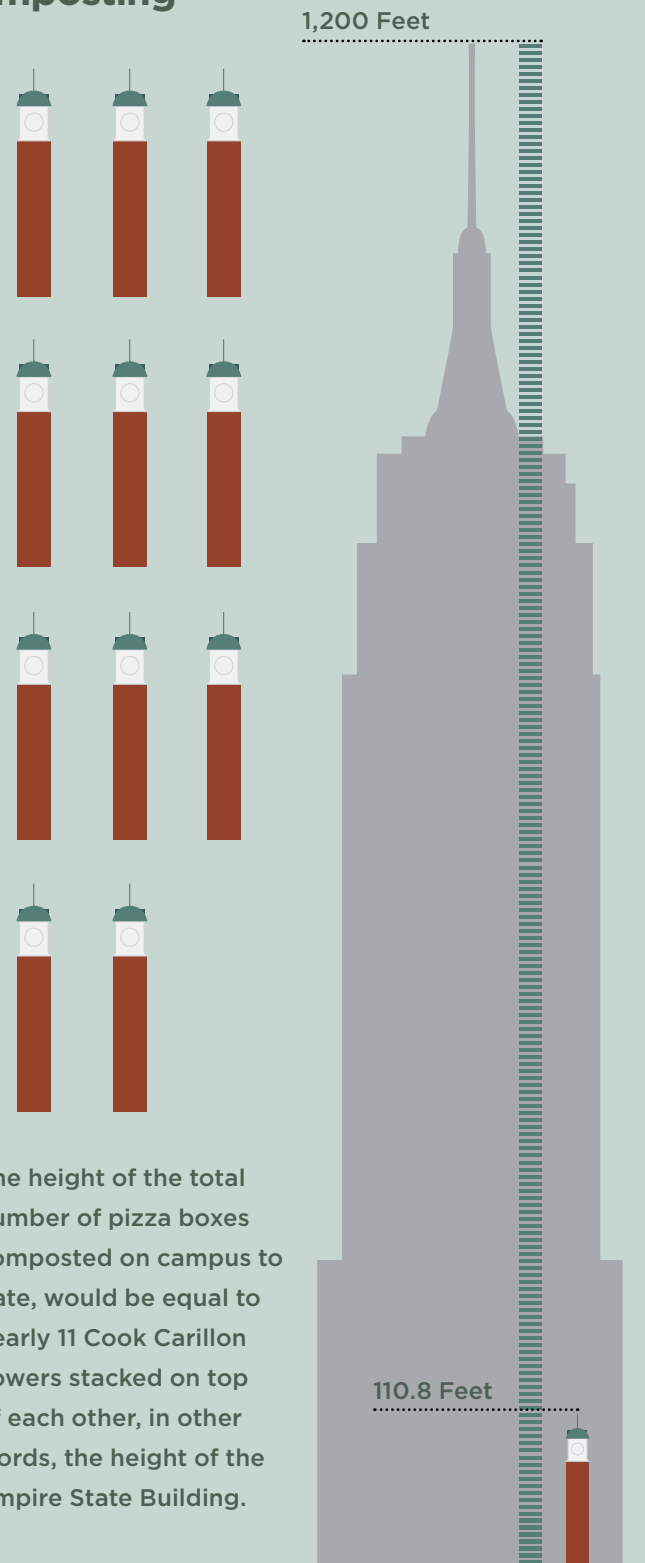
Eco-Rep leaders and their teams were responsible for transporting the pizza boxes collected at each living center to a main bin and encouraging their peers to get involved. The pizza boxes are picked up by a company that turns the boxes into soil — a nine-month process — to sell to local companies.

Mackenzie Osbeck, an Eco-Rep and senior math major, organized efforts at The Ravines. “The most challenging part was getting started,” he said. “I met with RAs and recruited volunteers who lived there. In less than a month, we were adding to the pizza box count. I was so proud of myself and my team.”

Jordan said there is no cost to implement this program. “We’ve seen campuses that have similar programs pay their students, but ours is driven by volunteers,” she said.

Bartels said: “The best part about it was that people were calling us to see how they could be involved in the composting. It was great feedback and showed that people have a desire to contribute to the effort.”

Perhaps someday the pizza box count will reach the height of Mount Everest, but for now, the team hopes to expand efforts to Campus Dining and continue to educate students.



Mother, son team for speech language research — by Michele Coffill

All college students are familiar with having good and not-so-good partners for group projects. But what if your research partner was your mother?

The mother and son team of Rebecca Beebe and Thomas Beebe, of Grand Haven, collaborated on a research project for a speech-language pathology course they took together at Grand Valley. In fact, the Beebes take all their courses together.

Their poster presentation illustrated research about how similar family members sound when pronouncing vowels. It was voted best student research poster at a Michigan Speech Language Hearing Association Conference in Kalamazoo; the Beebes also presented it during Grand Valley's Student Scholars Day in April.

Thomas said he's enjoyed taking courses with his mom. "It's been pretty fun, we work well together," he said. "She's very comfortable in language therapy, where I am more confident in audiology, which is more math-based."



photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

The mother-son team of Rebecca Beebe and Thomas Beebe discuss their research project with Azizur Molla, assistant professor of anthropology, during Student Scholars Day.

Thomas earned a bachelor's degree in health professions from Grand Valley last year. He returned to Grand Valley to complete the speech-language pathology emphasis, which gives students prerequisite undergraduate courses to pursue graduate work in those fields.

Rebecca returned to school last fall after earning a bachelor's degree in music and music therapy from Western Michigan University in 1984. "I have always been interested in speech pathology," she said. "It surprised me when Thomas

told me he wanted to be in the same program."

Rebecca also plans to pursue a master's degree in speech-language pathology and hopes to attend the new graduate program at Grand Valley that will begin in 2013.

Students, faculty to research alternative fuels for buses

— by Leah Zuber

Project design and manufacturing student Kevin Yahne is excited to be part of a cutting-edge research project that focuses on finding ways to rebuild batteries from buses.

Yahne is part of a team of students and faculty members from Grand Valley who are participating in a national research coalition, led by the Mineta Transportation Institute at San Jose State University, that addresses public transportation issues.

Members from the School of Engineering and Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center are researching ways to find alternative uses to dispose of fully used batteries and evaluate the overall economic impact of those processes. Yahne is working with Hank Sybesma, president of Sybesma's Electronics in Holland, during the beginning stages of the research.

"We're evaluating the batteries and analyzing data right now," said Yahne, a junior from Caledonia.

"The next step is rebuilding the batteries and performing tests on them to see how they run."

One issue and challenge in public transit is using alternative fuels in buses, specifically batteries. These types of issues have never been addressed in a comprehensive and integrated way, said Charlie Standridge, assistant dean of the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing. "West Michigan is a big battery area and our public transportation is increasingly

"The next step is rebuilding the batteries and performing tests on them."

— Kevin Yahne, engineering major

run on batteries, so we decided it would be a great opportunity to get involved in this project," he said.

The consortium was awarded a two-year, \$3.49 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation in February.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH WEEK

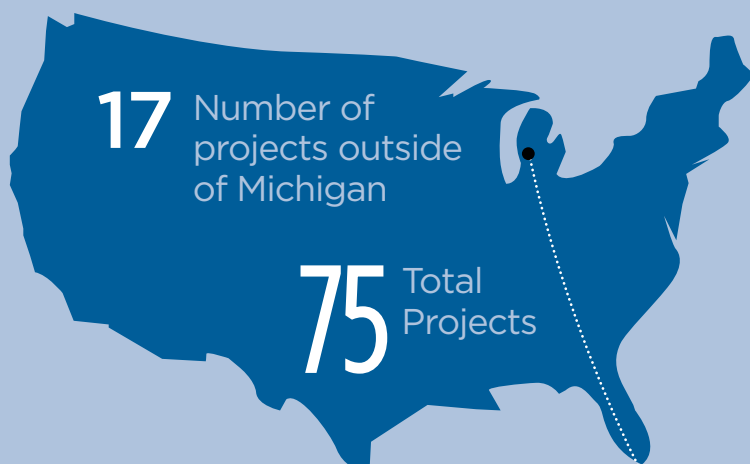
Lakers bring out the best in their communities in 2012

Community Outreach Week is six days of service intended to unite Lakers around the world in providing volunteer support in their own communities. To see more photos and get details about COW 2013, visit www.gvsu.edu/cow.



Cara White-Winter, '87, volunteers at a food bank in Minnesota.

Number of alumni who participated in individual projects where they live



\$43,727.08



Value of the 2,006.75 volunteer hours offered during the week*



625 volunteers

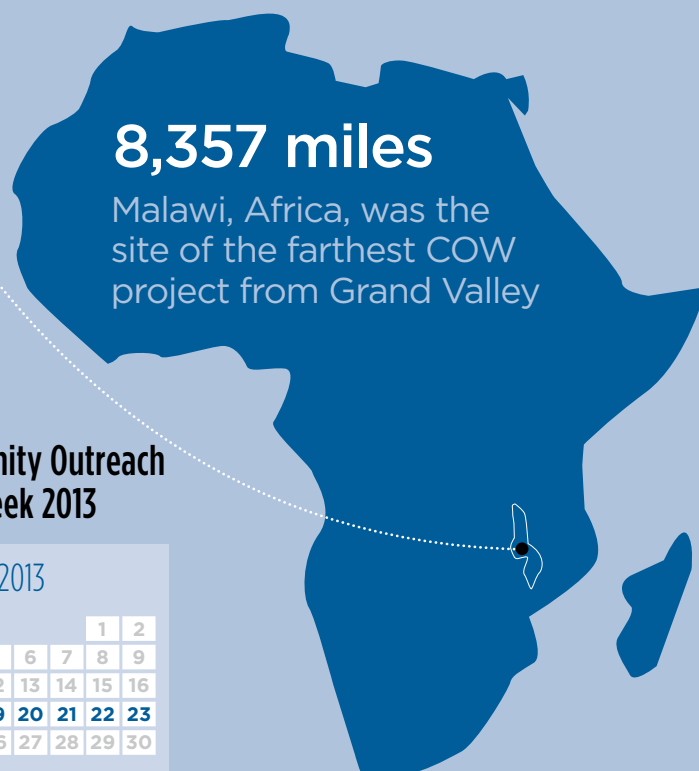
Alumni, students, faculty and staff members, and friends of GVSU

* Value based on 2011 Independent Sector figures.

Community Outreach Week 2013

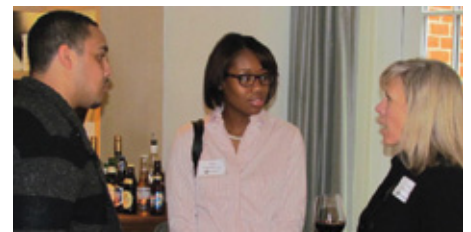
MARCH 2013

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						





Beyond the Valley: events held across the country



Clockwise from top left: Twin Cities Reception, Minneapolis, Minnesota | Volunteer Celebration, Allendale | Yankees Outing, New York, New York | GVDC Alumni Club, Washington, D.C. | Football Alumni Reception, Detroit | Bridging 31 Lakeshore Alumni Reception, Spring Lake | Bowling Alumni Event, Chicago, Illinois | Life 101: Young Alumni Program, Grand Rapids | Summer in Michigan Young Alumni Event, Grand Rapids | Metro-Detroit Alumni Reception, Southfield

Carry the Laker spirit

Freshman Move-In, August 21

How long has it been since you returned to your first home at Grand Valley? Join alumni, faculty and staff members, students, friends and family for Freshman Move-In on August 21.

Help incoming students get settled into their living centers and show them what it means to be a Laker for a lifetime. Join us at the Fieldhouse in Allendale for a morning or afternoon shift.

You bring the spirit; we'll provide the food, drinks and T-shirts. This is a family friendly event. More details are online at www.gvsu.edu/alumni/events.

photo by Diane Carroll Burdick

John O'Connor, '93 helps a student carry a refrigerator into Kistler Living Center in 2012. John and his wife, Theresa, '92, returned to Grand Valley from Philadelphia with their two children while on vacation.



Alumni Association president's message

Julie Bulson, '99 and '07, looks at the Laker future

Wow! Another academic year has come and gone. As president of the Alumni Association, I had the pleasure of participating in the spring commencement ceremonies in Grand Rapids and Traverse City.

What an emotional experience to welcome into Grand Valley's Alumni Association more than 2,500 new graduates! That brings our alumni base to more than 86,000 strong.

The Alumni Association is growing stronger and members are becoming more connected to their alma mater daily. Alumni are connecting through the numerous networking, social and volunteer opportunities that we provide. I invite and encourage you to come out and participate in one of our events.

In addition to providing opportunities for alumni to connect with the university and each another, the Alumni Association has also focused on a challenge presented by

President Thomas J. Haas in November — to take ownership of the university by doubling alumni giving in the next three years.

Currently, about 6 percent of our alumni give back to Grand Valley. As support from the state continues to dwindle, support from our alumni base becomes more critical if we are to maintain the excellent standards that have been set at Grand Valley.

Finally, the Alumni Board of Directors has been working diligently to implement structural changes for the organization. Volunteer board members have worked hard to realign our committee structure by outlining more specific goals, objectives and expectations. Included is a broad goal that board members encourage more alumni to



photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Julie Bulson, '99 and '07

become involved and to give back to Grand Valley through their time, talent and financial commitment.

We hope that you will be involved and be a supportive Laker. Grand Valley needs you; after all, you are a Laker for a Lifetime. Go Lakers!

CAREERS

1970s

Michael R. Matthews, B.S., 1970, is senior instructor for massage therapy at Tennessee Technology Center's Eastgate Town Center.

Ronald A. Lampi, B.Phil., 1973, is a poet, writer and lecturer on creativity, cultural, metaphysical subjects with seven published works. He lives in Felton, California.

Joseph A. Zomerlei, B.S., 1973, was inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame in Ann Arbor.

Paul R. Davis, B.S., 1974, was inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame in Ann Arbor.

Michael F. Paskewicz, B.S., 1974, M.Ed., 1984, received the Outstanding Alumni Administrator Award from Grand Valley's College of Education.

1980s

Lorie M. Rietman Wild, B.S.N., 1980, is dean of the School of Health Sciences at Seattle Pacific University in Washington.

Laurie F. Beard, M.B.A., 1981, was named one of *Grand Rapids Business Journal's* 2012 Most Influential Women in West Michigan.

Garth D. Deur, M.B.A., 1982, was promoted to president of Lake Michigan Financial Corp.

Christine F. (Frederick) Willis, B.S., 1983, was named one of *Grand Rapids Business Journal's* 2012 Most Influential Women in West Michigan.

Anthony J. Stidham, B.S., 1984, is the afternoon supervisor for the National Traffic Incident Management Center.

Heather A. Valentine, B.S., 1986, is executive vice president of sales, marketing and product management for Pilgrim Software.

Patrick M. Battistini, M.Ed., 1987, is founder and festival director of the All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival. He was invited to be a guest speaker at the Istanbul International FICTS Sports Film Festival.

Michael Davis, B.S., 1988, is a business account executive for Verizon Wireless in Southfield.

Jon K. Brown-Larsen, B.B.A., 1988, M.B.A., 1996, was promoted to financial analyst for Perrigo Company in Allegan.

Noreen V. (Hawks) Masen, B.S., 1988, earned a master's of business administration degree from Olivet Nazarene University.

Mark Mathis, B.S., 1988, was promoted to lieutenant at the Grand Rapids Police Department.

Thomas A. DeLuca, B.S., 1989, M.B.A., 2001, M.Ed., 2002, is an assistant professor at the University of Kansas.

Kelly J. Israels, B.B.A., 1989, is a senior project designer for Office Interiors in Granger, Indiana.

Jeffrey M. Seidel, B.S., 1989, won first place in the 2011 Michigan Associated Press Editorial Association contest for a feature, "Michigan's Homeless Students."

1990s

Steven F. Stapleton, B.A., 1991, is senior counsel in the Litigation and Trial Group for Miller Canfield in Grand Rapids.

Floyd Wilson Jr., B.S., 1991, is executive vice president of external relations and marketing for Metro Health in Wyoming.

Audra H. (Lousias) Vaz., B.S., 1992, is director of annual giving at Florida Atlantic University.

Richard A. Evans, B.S., 1994, is marketing manager for Saint Mary's Health Care in Grand Rapids.

Boris Jukic, M.B.A., 1994, was promoted to full-time professor of operations and information systems for the School of Business at Clarkson University in New York.

John E. Lapham, B.S., 1994, is vice president of sales and marketing for Code Blue Corp. in Holland.

Perry T. Piccard, M.B.A., 1994, is business process architect for Perrigo's Information Technology and Systems team.

Kristie L. Bowerman, B.A., 1995, was named to the Super Lawyers' Louisiana Rising Stars list in 2012. She was the only attorney in the field of immigration to be named to the list.

Christopher M. Brown, B.S., 1995, is a partner at Saalfeld & Stewart PLLC.

Douglas A. Daugherty, B.A., 1995, earned a doctoral degree from Georgia State University. He is the principal of Norton Park Elementary School in Smyrna, Georgia.

Kathleen B. Vogelsang, B.B.A., 1995, M.B.A., 1999, was named one of *Grand Rapids Business*

Journal's 2012 Most Influential Women in West Michigan.

Christopher P. Buckley, B.A., 1996, is the field director of program development for the Gerald R. Ford Council of Boy Scouts of America.

Rebecca S. Borawski, B.A., 1996, was promoted to managing editor of BreakingMuscle.com.

Patrick E. Mulry, M.B.A., 1996, is director of product management and engineering for Bar's Products.

Shannon Lynn (Snyder) Burton, B.A., 1997, B.S., 1997, B.A., 2000, is an assistant ombudsperson for Michigan State University.

Mandee Rick, B.B.A., 1997, was named one of *Grand Rapids Business Journal's* 2012 Most Influential Women in West Michigan.

Richard M. Rossow, B.A., 1998, is director of South Asia for McLarty Associates in Washington, D.C.

2000s

Carl P. Apple Jr., B.S., 2000, M.S., 2003, is the director of communications for the Catholic Diocese of Grand Rapids.

Sarah E. (Erickson) Adcock, B.S., 2001, B.S.N., 2006, earned a certified pediatric nurse certificate from the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board. She is a registered nurse at Children's Hospital Central California.

Mandi L. (Bird) Chasey, B.S., 2001, M.P.A., 2006, is director of business services for Michigan Works and Ogemaw County EDC.

Megan A. Cyrulewski, B.A., 2001, graduated from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Amanda S. Foley, B.B.A., 2001, M.B.A., 2007, is a research and development project manager for SourceCorp/Rust Consulting.

Shaun M. Osborne, B.B.A., 2001, opened a financial advisory practice, Osborne Klein, in Petoskey.

Nicki J. Cain-Rinckey, B.S., 2001, is a pediatrician for Spectrum Health Medical Group in Grand Rapids.

Ronald T. Watkins, B.B.A., 2001, is the SAP business analyst for the Information Technology and Systems team at Perrigo Company.

Dana E. Habers, B.B.A., 2002, was named 2012 Business Woman of the Year by the *Mississippi Business Journal*. She is chief executive officer of University Physicians in Jackson, Mississippi.

Bobbi Jo Kenyon, M.Ed., 2002, was named Michigan Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Department of Education.

Ann Marie Klotz, B.A., 2002, is director of residential education at Oregon State University. She also received the Herstory Award from the Association of College and University Housing Officers International.

Asa J. Lakeman, B.B.A., 2002, received the 2011 Investment Sales Leader Award from VantagePointe Financial Group in Comstock Park.

Joshua P. Leng, B.B.A., 2002, program director of Newstalk 1340 WJRW, added programming duties for 1240 WJIM, 1490 WKLQ and the Michigan Talk Network at Cumulus Media.

David D. Miller, B.S., 2002, is an environmental health specialist for the Ottawa County Health Department.

Christopher Penzien, B.A., 2002, was promoted to quality control manager for the Liquid Value Stream at Perrigo Company.

Seth E. Berghorst, B.B.A., 2003, is an employee relations representative for the human resources team at Perrigo Company.

Jennifer K. (MacLean) Cunningham, B.A., 2003, is the community outreach manager

for Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs.

Todd M. Fettig, M.S., 2003, is a community engagement specialist for MLive Media Group.

Amy M. Manderscheid, B.S.N., 2003, M.S.N., 2008, is supervisor of care management for Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids.

Tonko Soljan, B.A., 2003, is the executive producer for Leftfield Pictures Company in New York.

Seth A. Timmons, B.B.A., 2003, is a partner at Blossomland Accounting LLC in St. Joseph.

Scott A. Vroegindewey, M.B.A., 2003, is senior loan officer for Michigan Certified Development Corp., greater Grand Rapids and greater Southwest Michigan regions.

Rebecca J. Ward, B.S., 2003, received the 2012 Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics William C. Lowry Mathematics Educator of the Year Award for the elementary school level.

Olivia M. Destrades Mendoza, B.A., 2004, M.Ed., 2010, is course director for English as a Second Language for Full Sail University in Winter Park, Florida.

Amanda A. (Bongard) Rogalski, B.B.A., 2004, was named one of *Grand Rapids Business Journal's* 2012 Most Influential Women in West Michigan.

Jamon A. Alexander, B.S., 2005, is annual fund director for YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids.

Lauren M. (Eathorne) Bockin, B.A., 2005, is a manager for the professional development trainee program at Robert Bosch.

Katie A. (Lewis) Hayes, B.A., 2005, M.Ed., 2008, is executive secretary for Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan.

Patrick J. Lelli, B.S., 2005, owns the Miscellany Retail Store and Art Gallery in Grand Rapids.

Jodie C. (Austin) Wilson, B.B.A., 2005, B.S., 2005, is revenue manager for Marriott International.

Johnathon G. Beals, B.A., 2006, is an instructional technology consultant for foreign languages at the University of Michigan.

Stefanie A. Caloia, B.A., 2006, is an archivist at History Associates Inc. in Rockville, Maryland.

Marcie M. Hillary, M.P.A., 2006, was named one of *Grand Rapids Business Journal's* 2012 Most Influential Women in West Michigan.

Ryan A. Maki, B.B.A., 2006, was named to the Verizon Wireless President's Cabinet for those ranking in the top 1 percent nationally in sales.

Katrina L. Richlick, B.S., 2006, is development coordinator for Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center in Cleveland, Ohio.

Jamie L. Schippa, B.B.A., 2006, was promoted to accounts payable clerk at Elzinga & Volkers in Holland.

Nicole M. Dissette, B.A., 2007, is a trade analyst for Bank of New York Mellon Wealth Management in Boston, Massachusetts.

Ann Marie Poli, B.S.N., 2007, received the Sigma Theta Tau Thelma Ingles Award from Duke University's Chapter of the International Honor Society of Nursing.

Matthew P. Tilmann, B.A., 2007, is an auditor for Limited Brands Inc. in Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Daniel J. Vredevelde, B.B.A., 2007, is a financial advisor for Richmond Brothers Inc. in Jackson.

Stacy M. Warden, B.A., 2007, is news editor for KnowyourCell.com.

Scott R. Bigger, B.S., 2008, graduated from Wayne State

University Law School and was admitted to the Michigan Bar.

Cortney (Lokker) Goodale, B.S., 2008, is the varsity volleyball coach for West Ottawa High School.

Valerie B. Karelse, B.S., 2008, is the office coordinator for the Seidman College of Business Dean's Office at Grand Valley.

Alicia R. (Behrens) LaVire, B.A., 2008, is the assistant director of marketing and brand management for Shedd Aquarium in Chicago.

Lindsay R. Nickles, B.S., 2008, is a fund development coordinator for Vista Maria in Dearborn Heights.

David M. Edwards, B.S., 2009, is a police officer for the City of Plymouth.

Kevin J. Towne, B.S., 2009, is the varsity boys basketball coach for Zeeland West High School and also teaches social studies and American history.

Sarah M. Wagner, B.S., 2009, is a records and forms analyst for Amway Corp. in Ada.

Kaitlyn L. Wightman, B.A., 2009, earned a master's of fine arts degree in writing from Columbia College.

Natalie M. Bush, B.B.A., 2010, is a human resources assistant for Battle Creek Public Schools.

Shavon R. Doyle, B.A., 2010, is a grants management assistant for the Grand Rapids Community Foundation.

Marcia L. Force, B.B.A., 2010, is portfolio manager for Calder Investment Advisors in Grand Rapids.

Monica Groen, B.S., 2010, is serving with the Peace Corps in Morocco where she is involved in youth development.

Branden C. Stewart, B.S., 2010, is the coordinator of volunteer and member engagement for Synergos Association Management Co.

Alicia S. Timmerman, B.B.A., 2010, works in individual and corporate tax planning and preparation for Lewis & Knopf CPA PC.

Alonzo E. Demand, B.B.A., 2011, is a human resources assistant for Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids.

MARRIAGES

2000s

Scherron A. Walton, B.S., 2000, and Willie T. Walton on April 2, 2011.

Latoya P. Barnett, B.B.A., 2002, and Johnny Bowers on February 18, 2011.

Kristie L. Weber, B.S., 2002, M.Ed., 2008, and Nicholas Magnuski on April 11, 2009.

Tonko Soljan, B.A., 2003, and Christine Clervi on September 29, 2007.

Amy L. Eggleston, B.S., 2004, M.S.P.T., 2006, and **Douglas K. Elliott, B.S., 2004, M.S.P.T., 2006**, on November 5, 2011.

Ashley M. Horvath, B.S.W., 2005, and Adam C. Luderer on October 8, 2011.

Catherine K. Guarino, B.M.E., 2007, and Arch W. Rogers V on September 30, 2011.

Stephanie M. Dillworth, B.A., 2008, and **Ryan T. Corcoran, B.S., 2010**, on July 30, 2011.

Kelsey J. Keating, B.S., 2009, and Travis Antcliff on June 25, 2011.

Andrea Lange, B.A., 2009, and Todd Craffey on July 31, 2009.

Casey L. Otradovec, B.S., 2009, M.S., 2011, and Matthew Ball on August 20, 2011.

Maria D. Sartori, B.S., 2009, and Scott Knight on September 17, 2011.

Katelyn C. Coddair, B.S. 2010, and **Johnathon G. Beals, B.A. 2006**, on October 8, 2011.

Katherine L. Cross, B.A., 2010, and Justin D. Wierenga, B.S., 2011, on October 22, 2011.

Paul H. DeBoer, B.S., 2011, and Kylee VanOostendorp on August 19, 2011.

BIRTHS

1980s

Kristin L. Root, B.S.W., 1989, and Blaine C. Brumels, M.Ed., 1992, announce the adoption of Connor Yi Hu, on February 13, 2012. Connor is welcomed by sister Tessa. The family resides in Byron Center.

1990s

Julie C. (Foster) Embry, B.B.A., 1992, and husband Shawn announce the adoption of a daughter, Hope Elisabeth Xinduo, on March 28, 2011. Hope is welcomed by brothers Drew and Blake. The family resides in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

James P. Barber, B.A., 1995, and wife Carin announce a son, Charles Sullivan, born March 29, 2012. Charles is welcomed by sister Lucy. The family resides in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Christina M. (Toth) Felcyn, B.S., 1995, and husband Michael announce a son, Thomas Christopher, born February 3, 2012. Thomas is welcomed by brothers William, Nicholas and Benjamin. The family resides in Clinton Township.

David J. Schaaf, B.A., 1995, and wife Sara announce a son, Lincoln James, born October 13, 2011. Lincoln is welcomed by siblings Will and Emma. The family resides in Newhall, California.

Christopher P. Buckley, B.A., 1996, and wife Michelle announce a son, Kevin Christopher, born August 23, 2011. Kevin is welcomed by sister Elizabeth. The family resides in Portage.

Jessica A. Ping, B.B.A., 1997, and husband Mark announce a son, Gabriel, born March 21, 2012. The family resides in Saline.

Cory K. Kestner, B.S., 1998, and wife Sara announce a son, Benjamin David, born November 2, 2011. The family resides in Skillman, New Jersey.

Paula C. (Gerke) Villeneuve, B.B.A., 1998, and husband Neil announce a son, Thomas Neil, born February 2, 2012. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Diana M. (Waluk) Bushman, B.B.A., 1999, and Matthew C. Bushman, B.B.A., 2001, announce a daughter, Alaina Marie, born October 3, 2011. Alaina is welcomed by sister Emily. The family resides in Washington Township.

Cherise Henkel, B.A., 1999, and Michael S. Hogan, B.A., 2000, announce a son, Teric, born February 16, 2012. The family resides in Ionia.

Heather M. Staal, B.S., 1999, M.S.P.T., 2002, and James A. Staal, B.B.A., 1993, announce a son, Nathan Albert, born February 23, 2011. Nathan is welcomed by brother Jacob. The family resides in Hudsonville.

2000s

Sara E. (Mott) Baudo, B.S., 2000, B.S.N., 2005, and husband Andrew announce a son, Holden Thomas, born April 23, 2012. The family resides in Chicago, Illinois.

Nicole M. (Hunt) Pierson, B.B.A., 2000, and husband Christopher announce a daughter, Adrianna Olivia, born November 17, 2011. Adrianna is welcomed by siblings Reese and Alexis. The family resides in Allendale.

Rochelle I. Heyboer, B.S., 2001, and husband Tomm announce a son, Isaac Daniel, born March 8, 2012. Isaac is welcomed by brothers Lucas, Owen, Liam and Gavin. The family resides in Hudsonville.

Little Lakers

Have you recently welcomed a bundle of joy? Let us know! Send an e-mail to alumni@gvsu.edu with the good news and we'll send you a "Future Laker" bib. Send us your photos and you just might see it posted on our website, Facebook page or in *Grand Valley Magazine*.



Asa Joel was born to Jennifer Bumstead, '07, and husband, Nathan, on May 4, 2012.

Marci Lyn Poppema, B.S., 2001, and Todd A. Poppema, B.S., 2004, announce a daughter, Onilyn Patricia, born March 29, 2012. Onilyn is welcomed by brother Egan. The family resides in Macomb.

Meghan L. (Kirsch) Trowbridge, B.S., 2001, and husband Isaac, announce a daughter, Avery Grace, born January 29, 2012. The family resides in Clawson.

Erika L. (Sellers) Van Dyke, B.S., 2001, and husband Joshua announce a daughter, Zoey Lyn, born April 30, 2012. Zoey is welcomed by brother Ian. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Sabrina M. (Villarreal) Woods, B.S., 2001, B.S.N., 2005, and husband John announce a son, Mason John, born March 22, 2012. Mason is welcomed by sister Malia. The family resides in Allendale.

Kerri N. (Kaledas) Bouwman, B.S., 2002, and Jeffrey R. Bouwman, B.S., 2003, announce a son, Jacob

Alexander, born November 23, 2011. Jacob is welcomed by siblings Leah and Connor. The family resides in Grosse Ile.

Latoya P. (Barnett) Bowers, B.B.A., 2002, and husband Johnny announce a son, Johnathon Clark, born February 4, 2012. The family resides in Cordova, Texas.

Kristie L. (Weber) Magnuski, B.S., 2002, M.Ed., 2008, and husband Nicholas announce a son, Everett Nicholas, born December 19, 2011. The family resides in Boiling Springs, South Carolina.

Sarah K. (Mercer) Slovinski, B.A., 2002, and Christopher M. Slovinski, B.S., 1997, announce a son, Michael James, born April 29, 2012. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Amanda L. (Van Dop) VanPopering, B.A., 2002, and husband John announce a daughter, Georgianna Ruth, born February 20, 2012. Georgianna

is welcomed by sisters Charlotte and Allison. The family resides in Grant.

Jermale D. Eddie, B.S., 2003, and wife Anissa announce a son, Nehemiah Jonathan, born March 12, 2012. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Jason T. Forsythe, B.B.A., 2003, announces a daughter, Layna, born August 30, 2011. The family resides in Battle Creek.

Amanda E. Jachera, B.S., 2003, and husband Anthony, announce a daughter, Alivia Evelyn, born March 23, 2012. The family resides in Elgin, Illinois.

Nicole A. (Warren) Koster, B.B.A., 2003, M.B.A., 2006, and **Mark H. Koster, B.B.A., 1998, B.S., 2000**, announce a daughter, Ashlyn Nicole, born May 14, 2012. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Nicole A. (Hanes) Senko, B.S., 2003, M.S.P.T., 2005, and **Kevin S. Senko, B.S.N., 2004**, announce a son, Kellen Matthew, born January 27, 2012. Kellen is welcomed by brother Brennen. The family resides in Rochester.

Tonko Soljan, B.A., 2003, and wife Christine announce a daughter, Allegra, born in December 9, 2010. The family resides in Manhattan, New York.

Catherine A. (Bain) Veese, B.S., 2003, M.S.P.T., 2005, and husband Chad announce a son, Nolan James, born February 9, 2012. Nolan is welcomed by brother Nathan. The family resides in Berkley.

Anne E. (Laethem) Weber, B.S., 2003, and husband Bryan announce a daughter, Lily Marie, born April 27, 2012. The family resides in Bothell, Washington.

Richelle A. (Novak) Power, B.B.A., 2004, B.S., 2007, and husband Neal announce a daughter, Talia Adelynn, born February 4, 2012. Talia is

welcomed by brother Thane. The family resides in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Lisa M. (Welch) Wisner, B.A., 2004, and **Mikah R. Wisner, B.B.A., 2002**, announce a daughter, Lillian Annalise. Lillian is welcomed by brother Dash. The family resides in New Hudson.

Angela B. (Engel) Oliver, B.S., 2005, and husband Jason announce a son, Carson Timothy, born March 27, 2012. The family resides in Columbia, South Carolina.

Cassidy L. Denhof, B.S., 2006, and husband Mark announce a daughter, Lydia Carol, born March 27, 2012. The family resides in Hudsonville.

Tilaine B. Good, M.Ed., 2006, and husband Steve, announce a son, Calvin John, born May 10, 2012. The family resides in Ames, Iowa.

Jamie E. (Salmon) Gust, B.S.N., 2006, and husband Arthur announce a son, Nathaniel Arthur, born December 17, 2011. The family resides in Onsted.

Haley C. (Brabo) Kadzban, B.S.W., 2006, M.S.W., 2008, and **Michael A. Kadzban, B.A., 2006**, announce a son, Lukas Ryan, born October 27, 2011. Lukas is welcomed by sister Liana. The family resides in Caledonia.

Amy J. (McClintock) Llewellyn, B.S., 2006, and husband Jeb announce a son, Griffin James, born March 13, 2012. The family resides in Germantown, Maryland.

Tera J. (Wozniak) Qualls, B.S., 2006, M.P.A., 2011, and **Robert H. Qualls, B.S., 2006**, announce a son, Eli Robert, born May 12, 2011. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Aaron J. Sanders, B.S., 2006, and wife Rachel announce a daughter, Rebekah Jo, born March 13, 2012. Rebekah is

welcomed by siblings Andrew and Alyssabeth. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Danielle L. (Kosheba) Terpstra, B.S., 2006, and **Todd A. Terpstra** announce a son, Kolbe Daniel, born March 28, 2012. Kolbe is welcomed by brother Tate. The family resides in Coopersville.

Georgina M. (Luoma) Reinke, B.S., 2007, and **Patrick M. Reinke, B.S., 2007**, announce a son, Cayden Del, born April 4, 2012. The family resides in Waterford.

Pamela K. (Parrott) Vanden Berg, B.S., 2008, and **Michael C. Vanden Berg, B.S., 2008, M.P.A., 2010**, announce a daughter Cora, born May 9, 2012. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Andrea (Lange) Craffey, B.A., 2009, and husband Todd announce a son, Charles Roman, born January 5, 2012. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Alicia J. (Ellerbroek) Gibbons, B.S.N., 2009, and **Bradley J. Gibbons, B.S., 2008**, announce a son, Canaan James, born March 30, 2012. The family resides in Novi.

Nathan A. Parmenter, B.S., 2009, and wife Jennifer, announce a son, Elliot Nathan, born March 23, 2012. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Whitney V. Belprez, B.A., 2010, and husband Daniel announce a daughter, Cecilia Catherine, born

December 1, 2011. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

Kristen M. Evans, M.Ed., 2011, announces a son, Elliott Michael, born February 23, 2012. The family resides in Allendale.

Joshua D. Lee, M.Ed., 2011, and wife Annie announce a daughter, Grace Marabelle, born April 2, 2012. The family resides in Omaha, Nebraska.

Keagan Rushmore, M.B.A., 2011, and wife Emily announce a daughter, Claire Frances, born December 6, 2011. The family resides in Grand Rapids.

IN MEMORIAM

1970s

Cassandra S. Kuipers, B.S., 1975, of Holland, on March 8, 2012.

John M. Arnold, B.S., 1976, of Grand Rapids, on March 25, 2012.

Gary A. Hartsock, B.A., 1979, of Zeeland, on March 11, 2012.

Christopher C. (Rusty) Steffens, B.S., 1979, of Bayou Vista, Texas, on February 19, 2012.

1980s

Janet B. Banta, M.Ed., 1983, of Grand Rapids, on January 9, 2012.

1990s

Gene A. Price, B.S., 1991, of Grand Rapids, on April 10, 2012.

STAY INFORMED. STAY INVOLVED. STAY CONNECTED.

Keep your Alumni Association in the know. Please contact the Alumni Relations staff any time your family, career, education status or address changes.

- Call (800) 558-0541
- Email alumni@gvsu.edu
- Visit www.gvsu.edu/alumni and click "Stay Connected."



A black Jeep Wrangler is parked on a gravel path in a wooded area. The Jeep is facing forward, and its iconic seven-slot grille and round headlights are prominent. The background is filled with lush green trees and foliage, creating a serene, off-road atmosphere. The title "FAMILY HISTORY BRINGS DOOLEY OFF THE PATH" is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the lower half of the image.

FAMILY HISTORY BRINGS DOOLEY OFF THE PATH

Staff member unwinds by jeeping

— by Dottie Barnes

Jill Dooley would say jeeping — another term for off-roading — is in her blood, a way of life. The senior director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations grew up in Traverse City where fun was defined as being outdoors.

“I have three older brothers,” said Dooley. “We grew up in the country and we were always outside. We played in the fields and rode dirt bikes. My brothers always looked out for me, being

the youngest and the only girl. Hanging out with them taught me to be tough.”

Dooley’s father was the International Harvester truck dealer in town so she learned all about trucks and how to handle them.

“One of my brothers owned a four-wheel-drive truck so, periodically, we would hop in his vehicle and go two-tracking,” she recalled. “Growing up in that kind of environment gave me a



photos by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Jill Dooley enjoys driving her Jeep on rough excursions through the back woods, like this watery spot in Johannesburg, Mich.

love for the outdoors, being out in the woods and driving four-wheel drives.”

Before coming to Grand Valley, Dooley worked in management at UPS for 13 years. She said the job helped sharpen her driving skills even more.

“For the most part, jeeping isn’t difficult, anyone can do it,” she said, “but you need to learn the hard stuff. It’s important to know how a vehicle works, respect its limitations and

understand the concept of space. My dad and brothers taught me how to drive defensively when I was young, and then working with drivers while I was at UPS helped me become even more comfortable behind the wheel, even with everyday driving.”

Dooley said a favorite place to go jeeping is Bundy Hill on the east side of the state. “It’s a huge old gravel pit south of Jackson, near Hillsdale,” she said. “My partner and I owned a 1971

CJ-5 for about 10 years before replacing it with a 2008 model.

“Bundy Hill is all four-wheeling with dirt bikes, ATVs and Jeeps. Groups of friends will meet and trail ride together or rock climb. We all help each other out, maneuvering the trails or if someone gets stuck in the water — it’s awesome.”

Some of the trails, like Bundy Hill, are mapped, but Dooley also likes to go exploring. “The fun part is trying to maneuver the Jeep, getting the vehicle through tough spots and different terrains,” she said. “The process is slow moving, it’s not like you’re racing around in the Jeep. Other jeepers help you and guide you through an unfamiliar area or a tight spot.

“You can’t see everything and that’s when it can get challenging. You’re testing the vehicle and constantly making decisions and corrections, navigating huge rocks, valleys and gullies.”

Dooley said she continues to add features to the Jeep to enhance its performance. She has had a few mishaps, but said she doesn’t sweat it.

“I hit a small tree once, dented the bumper, got a few dings and scratches on the Jeep. It goes with the territory. You can’t worry about those things. Getting the Jeep dirty is the best,” she said.

Dooley said she’s never tipped the Jeep but she has been in a few tough spots. “I was a little nervous one time when I had to drive tight to the trees and had maybe six to eight inches of wiggle room to keep the Jeep on the path,” she said. “It was at a spot at Bundy Hill where the trails run along a cliff edge. I had to hug the trees and trust the direction I was getting from others.”

Planned trips to Bundy Hill are usually made in the summer, but Dooley admitted she looks for any opportunity to go off-road.

“We were at a wedding near Gaylord and there was quite a bit of time between the wedding and reception,” she remembered. “So we took the family we were there with, all of us in our good clothes, and went two-tracking — including through some water. We still looked OK for the reception.”

When she isn’t jeeping, Dooley also enjoys riding her Harley. She has received a few looks when she wears her leather motorcycle apparel to work.

“As long as I can be outdoors and active, I’m happy,” she said. “Riding the Harley or jeeping, it’s all therapeutic for me. It’s truly an adrenaline rush. I just don’t get to do it enough.”

OCTOBER 19-20, 2012

Set sail for Allendale



Ahoy! Your ship has come in. It's time to return to the land of the Laker for a splashy Homecoming celebration!

REUNION ROW

A gathering of groups in a fun tailgate fashion.

ALUMNI TAILGATER

Enjoy musical entertainment, a campus expo, family activities, and a delicious buffet meal. Assemble your crew!

HOMECOMING TRADITIONS

Homecoming Concert

Bus Trip from SE Michigan

Pancake Breakfast

Lip Sync Competition

Homecoming 5K Run/Walk

Irwin Fund Dinner & Laker Hall of Fame Induction



Come Sail Away



Visit www.gvsu.edu/homecoming for more details