Through the Decades

As Columbia College evolves, its legacy lives on through the memories of past generations.
I’m writing this from 40,000 feet, on the way back from Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama.

Redstone is a fascinating place, partly because it was the American home of World War II scientist Wernher von Braun. Creator of the Germany’s dreaded V-2 rocket, Von Braun later surrendered to the U.S. and came here to run our missile program. His efforts led directly to our ballistic missile program, as well as the first moon landing. There’s still a large NASA presence at Redstone, including support for the International Space Station.

I was privileged to visit the Arsenal, where Columbia College has a campus. We held an alumni event at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, where I made remarks honoring the 40th anniversary of our campus. With a number of von Braun’s rockets towering in the background, it was certainly one of the most impressive alumni venues we’ve seen (the Los Alamitos event on the deck of the Queen Mary was pretty special, too).

But it isn’t about the venue, it’s about the people. Tina and I now have visited 31 of our 36 locations, with plans to see the rest over the next few weeks. At each location we meet wonderful new friends — dedicated faculty and staff, curious students, successful alumni, and supportive members of the community.

Having visited nearly all of our campuses now, let me share this observation: In every single place, without exception, Columbia College has a great reputation. People recognize the good work we do. They’re proud to associate with us, to have us in their communities. Students and alumni are truly grateful for the opportunities we’ve provided. We change lives.

You are part of an institution that truly is making a difference, and doing so all across this vast country. I don’t know about you, but that fills me with a mixture of pride and humility.

Next up: Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where the College educates military personnel and civilians at the U.S. Naval Station. Then St. Louis, Fort Drum, New York, and our two campuses in Washington State.

Soon I’ll be out of campuses. Maybe we should add some? Stay tuned. a
The front lawn of Columbia (Christian) College hasn’t changed much through the decades. Here, Christian College girls of the 1940s enjoy a beautiful day.

Photo illustration by Carolyn Preul
Returning to his Roots

Dr. Terry Smith’s new role focuses on his first love: teaching

BY JENNIFER TRUESDALE PHOTO BY KACI SMART ’09

Walk into Executive Vice President and Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Terry Smith’s office in historic St. Clair Hall and you’ll immediately notice tall white walls reflecting the light that enters through enormous windows. The floor-to-ceiling, built-in bookshelves neatly house artifacts that tell of a long and accomplished career. There is an approachable yet dignified presence to the space, which embodies Smith perfectly.

Since joining Columbia College in 1996 in his current role, Smith has made his home in more than one office. He made the president’s office home from 2013-14, as he served as interim between the Dr. Gerald Brouder and Dr. Scott Dalrymple administrations. Starting in fall 2015, he will return to the faculty full time while also leading the honors program.

“Teaching is my first love,” Smith says. “I just like interacting with students. I get to do a lot of that even in this job as chief academic officer because I make time for it, and I’m aggressive about it. But when you’re teaching and advising, it’s organic.”

Smith, a Fulbright Scholar (England, 1991) with a bachelor’s degree in political science from Central Methodist College and both master’s and doctorate degrees in political science from Michigan State University, began teaching political science at Western Maryland College and the University of Central Arkansas. He then moved into an administrative role at Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri.

Although he has taught political science courses every other fall since 2000 at Columbia College, his Spring 2016 course load will expand to include in-seat sections of American National Government and The Presidency.

His return to teaching may be another year away, but Smith has a lot on his plate between now and then.

“This coming fall I am technically on sabbatical, but the only thing I’m not going to be doing is teaching and advising.” Smith
Inside the Gate

says. “I’m going to be very busy preparing for a site visit from the Higher Learning Commission, preparing to teach my spring classes and working on the honors program.”

Until then he will continue as chief academic officer. Under President Dalrymple’s leadership, the college will transition Smith’s duties into a provost role. Dr. David Starrett was hired for the new role in April.

“My goal for the remainder of my time in the office is to make sure Dr. David Starrett inherits this fabulous faculty, a strong curriculum, continually improving processes and the kinds of support for teaching and learning that we’ve been able to build over the years,” Smith says.

Smith feels confident that the provost will find just that.

“This is a very special place,” Smith says. “The mission is wonderful. We deliver strong, quality academics. We have really raised academic standards and not just on the main campus, but everywhere.”

With a note of reflection upon his 19 years in office, Smith says, “It has been the privilege of my professional career to do this.”

### College welcomes Raja Bhattacharya

**BY JEFF BRANSCOM**

**PHOTO BY KACI SMART ’09**

### For Raja Bhattacharya, entrepreneurship is a way of life.

Recently hired as the director of the Steven and Barbara Fishman Center for Entrepreneurship at Columbia College, Bhattacharya aims to help develop this mentality in young moguls. He also looks to provide a practical curriculum that includes plenty of real-world experiences.

“A 21st century curriculum in entrepreneurship should be based on the concept of Business Model Canvas,” Bhattacharya says. “You spend a little time in the classroom learning it, but you spend a lot more time outside the classroom practicing it.”

In addition to guiding the college’s young entrepreneurs, Bhattacharya also will serve as a liaison between the college’s academic community and the private and entrepreneurial sectors across the region. With the college debuting its much-anticipated major and minor in entrepreneurship this past fall, Bhattacharya will look to build relationships that strengthen the region’s overall startup scene.

“One thing the Fishman Center can do is help produce those Columbia College alumni who have the right mindset and can hit the ground running,” Bhattacharya says. “As a result, they can help expand the ecosystem in Columbia.”

Prior to joining the college, Bhattacharya led Western Kentucky University’s entrepreneurship program, serving as the executive in residence at the Gordon Ford College of Business. In this role, he taught courses in the college’s entrepreneurship major, mentored student startups and assisted in fundraising for program development. Bhattacharya also served as a mentor and faculty coach at the Governor’s School for Entrepreneurship at the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation, where he assisted in curriculum development for high school students with high entrepreneurial potential.

Bhattacharya will work out of the Fishman Center’s new location, which is housed on the top floor of the Kirkman House.
When he was 7 years old, Jean-Michel Cousteau’s father pushed him into the ocean with a tank strapped to his back. His father was renowned ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau, and the tank was early scuba gear. Jean-Michel has been a scuba diver ever since.

Jean-Michel Cousteau shared this story among others at the annual Althea W. and John A. Schiffman Ethics in Society Lecture on March 9. Cousteau, the founder and president of nonprofit marine conservation organization Ocean Futures Society, shared his lecture “Ethics and Science: A Voice for the Ocean” with the crowd of approximately 300 community members, students, faculty and staff that filled Launer Auditorium.

Throughout his life, Cousteau has worked tirelessly to protect and conserve the ocean, mankind’s “life source.” He said that in order to maintain the Earth, there must be more careful protection of it. “We need to look at planet Earth as a gift that has been given to us, and for free,” Cousteau said. “But we need to manage it like a business.”

Cousteau spreads the message of Ocean Futures Society through many channels, including the award-winning films he has produced. He shared several clips of his films throughout the lecture, including one in which he held on to the dorsal fin of a 16-foot shark and took a ride.

“These animals are not the nasty creatures that the film ‘duh-nuh, duh-nuh’ depicts,” Cousteau said, referencing the iconic theme song from the film Jaws.

Cousteau encouraged audience members to think about the ways they could “stop using the ocean as a garbage can,” from small actions such as recycling to larger ones like inventing new technologies to eliminate harmful chemicals.

After the lecture, audience members had the chance to ask Cousteau questions. He received several questions about the state of the environment and emerging developments, and he closed the session with rallying cry of the Ocean Futures Society.

“If you protect the ocean, you protect yourself,” Cousteau said.

President Scott Dalrymple opened the lecture, and Schiffman Chair in Ethics, Religious Studies and Philosophy Anthony Alioto introduced Cousteau. Cousteau signed copies of his book, My Father, the Captain: My Life with Jacques Cousteau, after the close of the lecture.
CC Expansion

Trustees approve change to college’s academic structure

The Columbia College Board of Trustees recently approved a measure that would reorganize the college’s academic offerings into three schools. Citing a need to implement a structure that would both address a decade of rapid college growth and provide for future expansion, Dr. Scott Dalrymple, president of Columbia College, created the College Structure Task Force. This group, which consisted of college faculty members and administrators, as well as members of the Board of Trustees, met throughout the academic year. Based on the recommendation of this group, the college put forward a plan where each school will be led by a dean, with each dean reporting to the college’s new provost, Dr. David Starrett.

“Over the course of the year, I had the pleasure of working with the task force, engaging in much collegial and constructive dialogue,” Dalrymple says. “This new academic structure will strengthen academics in all of our venues, offer increased administrative support to faculty and provide the necessary infrastructure for future growth.”

Under this plan, which was endorsed by the college’s faculty and unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees, the new schools will consist of Business Administration; Natural Sciences and Mathematics; and Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. The college will spend the next academic year preparing for the change, and will conduct a national search for qualified deans. The college plans to officially launch its new schools in the 2016-17 academic year.

“I believe this is one of the most significant decisions the college has made in decades,” says Daisy Grossnickle, chair of the Board of Trustees. “Our goal is to provide high quality education across all of our venues, and I feel this new structure will help position the college for even greater success.”

New provost announced

In April, Dr. David Starrett was hired as provost of Columbia College. As provost, Starrett will oversee the college’s academic offerings in all venues. He will also lead the college’s accreditation and assessment efforts and oversee the college’s library.

Prior to joining Columbia College, Starrett served as an administrator and professor of biology at Southeast Missouri State University. As an administrator, Starrett oversaw all academic accreditation for the university; he also served as the dean for Academic Information Services and was heavily involved in many other areas across the campus. He holds a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Southern California and a master’s degree and doctorate in plant molecular biology from the University of California-Los Angeles.

He will begin his duties in August.
Redstone Arsenal Campus Director Retires

After 33 years, Mary Morgan reflects on her time with Columbia College

BY JENNIFER TRUESDALE • PHOTO BY KACI SMART ’09

Columbia College said goodbye to one of its longest-serving employees in January. Mary Morgan, director of the Redstone Arsenal campus, retired after more than three decades of service to the college.

Morgan traveled the world as an Army wife before her husband was stationed at Redstone Arsenal in 1978. Equipped with a master’s degree in education from the University of Texas-El Paso, the newly formed Alabama campus provided Morgan with the chance of a lifetime. She was poised to nurture a fledging campus into a thriving segment of the Columbia College Division of Adult Higher Education (AHE).

As Morgan approached her last day, and with the Redstone Arsenal campus nearing its 40th anniversary in March, she reflected on her time with the college.

November 2014 marked your 33rd anniversary with Columbia College-Redstone Arsenal.

What brought you to the college? The Army had approached me about creating and directing a basic skills education program for servicemembers who needed their GED. Frazier Moon, dean of the Extended Studies Division (AHE), heard about me and needed a director for the Redstone Arsenal campus. As director, I started off with 50 enrollments and a part-time assistant. The staff I have now has been with me for 18 years. We are a close-knit staff, and that’s why it has worked.

It’s uncommon these days for someone to stay with the same organization for as long as you have been with Columbia College. What has made you stay? In 1991, my husband died suddenly of a heart attack. It hit me so hard. But Columbia College was so good to me. I have loved what I do, advising my soldiers and veterans. So many of my alumni show up at my doorstep to visit. I see them at the commissary or the PX and they give me a big hug. They are family.

What is your favorite memory of your time at Columbia College? Commencement. Before we started giving rose notes, we gave flowers to the graduate’s spouse or grandmother. I would call each of them individually and give them the flower and say, “Your son, George, asked me to give you this rose.” The student didn’t get the degree alone; it took the family.

Tell us about your family and your future plans. My daughter, Kay, and her husband, Glen, live in Little Rock, Arkansas, with my two teenage granddaughters. My son, Jeffery, lives in Atlanta, Georgia, and has given me three granddaughters. I teach them how to do things when they visit me. They cook with me. These things are important. And I’ll be able to help advise the teenagers when they go to college. 

After 33 years, Mary Morgan reflects on her time with Columbia College
Columbia College recently expanded its nationwide footprint with the addition of Columbia College-Mesquite. The campus, located in Mesquite, Texas (part of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex), is the college’s 36th campus and is housed on the campus of Eastfield College.

Recognizing an opportunity to serve more students in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, the college partnered with Eastfield College, a community college that has an enrollment of more than 15,000 students each semester. The Mesquite campus, which began offering classes for its March 2015 session, will allow students with an associate degree from Eastfield College or another institution to transition into the college’s bachelor’s degree program.

“Columbia College has a long history in the state of Texas, operating on military installations in the Dallas-Fort Worth area for nearly 40 years,” says Dr. Jeff Musgrove, vice president for Adult Higher Education at Columbia College. “We’re confident that this partnership with Eastfield College will help us continue to provide quality education to learners in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.”

To lead its new campus, the college tapped Bill Smith, a long-time academic advisor and adjunct instructor at Columbia College-Fort Worth. Smith will serve as the liaison between Columbia College and Eastfield College on a daily basis; he also will be responsible for managing the day-to-day activities of the campus, including class scheduling and student and faculty recruitment.

“With more than 20 years in higher education, Bill brings great experience to this position,” Musgrove says. “We’re very excited about our partnership with Eastfield College, and we believe Bill will play a key role in helping us establish this campus.”
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You wouldn’t be involved with the CCAA if you weren’t passionate about being part of a group that shares your values, but that’s not the only reason you’re proud of being a member of the CCAA. The CCAA also believes in the importance of philanthropy and in playing an active role in your community. Nationwide shares these values, too, and that’s why our partnership works.

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March was Women’s History Month, and Columbia College capitalized on this national month of recognition as an opportunity to discuss a difficult subject: violence against women. Focused on empowerment and fostering dialogue, this year’s Women’s History Month events gave students several opportunities to speak to leaders and each other about how to create positive change in our culture.

Students from the Online and Nationwide campuses were invited to participate in the dialogue by signing the “It’s On Us” pledge, a national campaign to encourage people to play an active role in keeping others safe from sexual assault. Nearly 250 Columbia College students from 30 campuses signed the pledge.

The month began with an outstanding lecture from political analyst and writer Zerlina Maxwell, and the discussion continued with a lunch dialogue hosted by the Philosophy Club and a film screening and discussion hosted by the History, Philosophy and Political Science Department. Women’s History Month culminated with a community resource fair, where organizations from Columbia College, the University of Missouri and the Columbia community joined together to provide information to students.

To celebrate this month of learning and empowerment, First Lady Tina Dalrymple challenged students to a Nintendo Wii Just Dance dance-off. Unlike her husband in his recent video game challenges, Dr. Dalrymple won!
My CCAA

Throughout this magazine, you will read about many of the accomplishments of graduates of this great college. I would like to add our nursing alumni to the outstanding contributors. You will find many graduates who are leaders and innovators in their field.

I encourage you to take full advantage of the association’s programs to meet new friends, keep in touch with classmates and retain your connection to the college. If you have suggestions for alumni events in your area or ideas for improving communication, please let us know by contacting the Alumni Relations office or any member of the alumni board. We do want to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

Whether you engage CC through your local alumni chapter, mentor students on career choices, volunteer locally, utilize the college’s educational enrichment programs, or benefit from the exclusive services offered to our alumni, there is an ever-expanding array of ways to facilitate an active and ongoing connection to CC and your fellow alumni.

Please be sure to keep CCAA updated on your whereabouts so we can keep you informed of the many exciting events and programs organized for you.

On a bittersweet note, this is my final letter to Affinity magazine as president of the CCAA. It’s hard to believe my two years serving as leader of the association is almost over. Time has certainly flown by and a lot has occurred during these last two years. But not to worry — we have a fantastic and enthusiastic president-elect, Bill Wright ‘09 from the Online program, who will lead us forward and continue to make strides as we build CCAA into a model association that other colleges and universities strive to emulate.

I wish you all the best and I hope to meet many of you at future alumni events.

WE ARE CC!

Bill Leeper ’04
President, CCAA

Letter from the Alumni Board President

Greetings Fellow Alumni,

Throughout this magazine, you will read about many of the accomplishments of graduates of this great college. I would like to add our nursing alumni to the outstanding contributors. You will find many graduates who are leaders and innovators in their field.

I encourage you to take full advantage of the association’s programs to meet new friends, keep in touch with classmates and retain your connection to the college. If you have suggestions for alumni events in your area or ideas for improving communication, please let us know by contacting the Alumni Relations office or any member of the alumni board. We do want to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

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WE ARE CC!

Bill Leeper ’04
President, CCAA

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Norris Tanner ’10
Carol Winkler ’93
One of the trickiest part of the job search is trying to determine what the right salary is for your skill set, education and experience. It can be particularly difficult when an employer asks candidates their salary expectations in an application interview. It’s a question many feel is a trap. Offer too much, and you might be priced out of the position. Offer too little and you may have cost yourself a fair wage. With this in mind, I’d like to take a moment and give you the tools to prepare for this question.

So where can you get a starting point to determine a reasonable salary expectation for a job? While there are a number of sites out there, there are three free resources that Career Services recommends to understand your fair market value and jumpstart a negotiation process:

- **Payscale**
  
  www.payscale.com

  Payscale is an extensive site that offers detailed salary information for individuals. By completing a detailed “salary profile,” the site will give you salary information about your current position, a job offer or a job that isn’t your own.

- **Glassdoor**
  
  www.glassdoor.com

  Glassdoor is a job search engine that provides local and national opportunity listings and employer reviews. Additionally, they have an easy-to-use salary tool. If you type in a job title and a geographic location, it will show you what salaries specific companies are offering for similar occupations.

- **Occupation Outlook Handbook (OOH)**
  
  www.bls.gov/ooh

  The OOH is organized by the Bureau of Labor and collects aggregate data on median pay in a wide variety of careers. The data is primarily national averages, but can give the job seeker an excellent starting point and knowledge about anticipated earnings in a career.

Receive assistance through career counseling, career networking and résumé assistance, all free of charge. Contact the Grossnickle Career Services Center at (800) 231-2391 ext. 7425 or visit www.ccis.edu/careercenter.
Volunteer Spotlight

Gary Sheets ’13
Evening Campus, MBA graduate

Why do you volunteer for the college?
Volunteering for me is an opportunity to give something back to Columbia College by sharing with others. For me it is fun, rewarding and inspiring. I have spent a great deal of time at Columbia College between undergraduate and graduate school, and I want to contribute in a way that could make a difference for the next person so that they can enjoy their time on campus and in the classroom as much as I did. It brings fun and fulfillment into my life to share my time with individuals and my experiences with current and future students so they can be successful at Columbia College.

What type of volunteer work do you do for the college?
I have participated in the Speed Networking program as well as the Scholarship Day interviews.

What would you say to someone who’s interested in volunteering for the college but not sure how to begin?
If you are an alumnus, contact the Alumni Relations office. I can’t remember why I had contacted them initially now, but after doing so I mentioned I would be interested in volunteering to help the college or alumni association in some way and have been in fairly constant contact since. It really was that simple and it has been a great deal of fun and very rewarding from the word “go.” Dan Kruse and the rest of the Alumni Relations staff are very friendly and outgoing and always make it a great experience. It is an honor to be a part of, and associated with, such a great group of people.

What does Columbia College mean to you?
It is a huge part of my life — past, present and future. The easiest way to describe it is to simply say I only wear two rings every day: my wedding ring and my MBA class ring. The experiences I have taken away from Columbia College are lifetime experiences. I have established some great relationships from my experience there and it is truly an honor to be associated with such a marvelous college and outstanding group of people.

Check out the all-new CC alumni volunteer program page at columbiacollegealumni.org/volunteer to learn how to get involved and be featured in the next Affinity magazine!
Alumni in the Lake Ozarks area celebrated the holiday season at the 4th Annual Alumni Holiday Social on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014, at Willmore Lodge.

On Dec. 18, 2014, more than 200 alumni and friends gathered at Columbia College for holiday cheer. Guests enjoyed carriage rides, photos with Santa and live music.

In the spirit of giving, alumni and guests were invited to bring a jar of peanut butter to support local Buddy Pack programs. Buddy Packs are discreetly distributed backpacks filled with nutritious food for children in need to take home over the weekend and holiday periods.
Presidential Tour Update

Columbia College President Dr. Scott Dalrymple and First Lady Dr. Tina Dalrymple are in the final stretch of their nationwide tour, visiting every Columbia College campus across the country. With several stops planned through July, check out their latest travels and see where they’ll be next!

SAN DIEGO
Alumni Networking Social: Jan. 8, 2015

LOS ALAMITOS
Alumni Networking Social: Jan. 9, 2015

COAST GUARD ISLAND

SAN LUIS OBISPO

LEMOORE

Los Alamitos Police Chief Todd Mattern, right, with three of his officers, Corporal Kain Gallaugher, left, Sgt. Chris Karrer and Corporal Chris Anderson, on board the Queen Mary after a short ceremony where the officers were recognized for completing their bachelor’s degrees from Columbia College.
SAVANNAH

CHARLESTON
Alumni Networking Social: Feb. 27, 2015

FORT STEWART

MOBERLY
Alumni Lunch: March 11, 2015

REDSTONE ARSENAL
Alumni Networking Social: March 16, 2015

#CCPREZTOUR
REMAINING TOUR STOPS

Ft. Drum Alumni Social
June 11, 2015
Ft. Drum, New York

St. Louis Alumni Social
June 25, 2015
St. Louis, Missouri

Marysville Alumni Social
July 14, 2015
Marysville, Washington

Whidbey Island Alumni Social
July 15, 2015
Whidbey Island, Washington

View more #CCPrezTour photo highlights at www.columbiacollegealumni.org/ccpreztour.
Join the conversation online to participate in weekly giveaways, browse photo galleries and find out what’s going on at the college.

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www.flickr.com/photos/columbiacollegealumni
Columbia College Alumni Association
Columbia College
www.ccis.edu/careercenter (Click on “CCNet”)

Talk to us!
Here’s what CC alumni are saying ....

If you could take Scooter anywhere in the world, where would you go?

Karlsruhe, Germany to see where my father is from
– Chad Curry ’14

To visit Marines serving our country!
– Wanda Willbanks Hamlett ’10

I would take him to New York City. In fact, I am taking him in May!!!
– Amy Brooks ’14

I have been an online student and have never been able to go to the main campus. So, I would take him to Columbia, Missouri.
– Natsuki Johnson ’14

What type of event would you like to attend?

Evening socials and career networking!
– Audrey Sheppard ’12
– Ann Anderson ’01

Sporting events
– Charlie Minning ’15

@JanetteWilkes
I have my @cc_alumni gear: do you??
#CCMoGrad #classof2007 #CougarPride #WeAreCC

Did you move? Get married? Change your email address?
Continue to receive the latest news from the CCAA by updating your contact information at www.columbiacollegealumni.org/alumniupdate.
Do you match?

Many corporations offer programs that will match their employees’ donations to Columbia College.

You can double the impact of your donation with a matching gift from your employer.

Matching gifts provide you with an easy way to potentially double, if not triple, your original donation. Matching gift programs are charitable giving programs setup by corporations in which the company matches donations made by employees to eligible nonprofit organizations. In fact, about 65% of Fortune 500 companies (and many others) match employee donations. Check with your employer’s human resources department to see if they have a matching gift program and grow the impact you can have on Columbia College.

Did you know?

Florence Larsh, a 1949 graduate of Christian College, began her working career in 1959 with Humble Oil & Company, an organization now known as ExxonMobil. Her first gift to Christian College was that same year. Florence knows the power of utilizing her employer’s matching gifts program to double her impact.

These employers offer ‘best-in-class’ matching gift programs:

- Boeing
- BP (British Petroleum)
- CarMax
- ExxonMobil
- Gap Corporation
- General Electric
- Johnson & Johnson
- Microsoft
- Soros Fund Management
- State Street Corporation

Source: doublethedonation.com

Can we be of help?

If you have questions about matching gifts please contact the Columbia College Development Office at (800) 231-2391, ext. 7563. Let us see if we can help you double your dollars.
Molly Remer is precisely the kind of person you want teaching human services courses to students aspiring to make a difference in the world. To her, community outreach and volunteerism are tantamount to higher education and life in general.

As Remer tells her students, “Do not underestimate how valuable this experience [of volunteering] can be, and make sure you treat it with as much responsibility and dedication as you would treat paid employment.”

Remer received her bachelor’s degree in psychology from the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla in 1998, and her master’s degree in clinical social work from the University of Missouri in Columbia in 2000. She also holds a Master of Divinity from Ocean Seminary College and is working on her doctorate degree in women’s spirituality from the same institution. She co-founded the Amethyst Network, a national nonprofit organization that provides support to women who have experienced a miscarriage during pregnancy.

The native of Rolla, Missouri, and mother of four has been teaching human services courses at the Fort Leonard Wood and Rolla campuses since 2011. Prior to that, she was the volunteer coordinator at the Ronald McDonald House in Columbia, where she developed and taught childbirth education classes and workshops.

Having spent countless hours volunteering in the community, Remer learned as a young woman the importance of volunteers and human services professionals.

“I was dramatically influenced by my time working at a battered women’s shelter during my final two years of college and then my clinical field placement at another battered women’s shelter,” Remer says. “I was fortunate enough to have a teaching assistantship for an adolescent psychology class when I was only an undergrad, and that got me going on the path I’ve continued to be on today.”

One of the human services courses she teaches is called Working with Communities and Organizations. For this course, Remer challenges students to work together to plan and execute a community outreach project.

“Again and again, I am thoroughly impressed with the efforts of my Fort Leonard Wood students to make a meaningful contribution to their community,” Remer says.

Remer has a right to be impressed. The students have learned what it feels like to make a positive impact on their community. They do, after all, have an excellent example to follow.
Several of Molly Remer’s classes have completed meaningful projects in recent years:

**March 2013**  
Remer’s class collected suitcases for foster children, who often move from home to home. The class more than doubled its goal, collecting more than 100 suitcases, and raising $200.

**August 2013**  
Classmates coordinated a volunteer hours drive, encouraging the community to volunteer at least one hour at a local nonprofit organization. The students used Facebook to track the drive over four weeks and tallied 474 volunteer hours from all who participated.

**August 2014**  
The class designed a project that benefited three organizations in the Waynesville and St. Robert areas near Fort Leonard Wood. They collected canned goods for public school students who needed supplemental food over weekends and long school breaks. They also stockpiled more than 300 coats for two women’s shelters and raised more than $250 to help build a public playground for children with special needs.
A key attribute of a truly great teacher is the desire to completely immerse oneself in the field he or she is teaching. For Columbia College Online faculty member Dr. Jennifer Teichman Kerr, that field of expertise is history, a topic that grabbed her attention during her doctoral studies at the University of Missouri in the late 1990s. However, the seeds of her love for history had been planted since the day she was born and have blossomed throughout her life.

“I was born and raised on my family farm in Lexington, Missouri, and it has been in my family for seven generations. I was actually the first person in my family to go to college and earn a degree,” Kerr says. “I took a history class as an undergrad and absolutely loved it. I had no idea when I entered college that I would end up a history major, but I loved the class so much that I started taking some other classes and just fell in love with the subject.”

Since 1999, Kerr has imparted that love of history to her students as a member of the Columbia College Evening Campus faculty (1999-2001) and now as one of the longest-serving faculty members for the Columbia College Online Campus (2002-present). She has taught and developed several classes for the Online Campus, but points to History 359: Rise and Fall of the British Empire and History 336: 19th and 20th Century History of Europe as two of her favorite courses.

“I was looking for a teaching job and applied at Columbia College and was lucky enough to get hired in 1999,” Kerr says. “When the Online Campus started, I was recruited and it was an easy decision because I loved Columbia College. The only reason I couldn’t teach there anymore is because I had moved, so it was a great way to get back into teaching at the college.”

During her time as an adjunct faculty member, Kerr has earned a master’s degree in history from the University of Central Missouri, a doctorate in history from the University of Missouri and a juris doctorate from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

“I had no idea when I entered college that I would end up a history major, but I loved the class so much that I started taking some other classes and just fell in love with the subject.”

–Dr. Jennifer Teichman Kerr
Kerr has practiced law in Lexington for the past four years, going to work every day in the oldest courthouse in use west of the Mississippi. As a matter of fact, she likes to point out that there is still a cannonball in one of the columns in front of the courthouse from the Battle of Lexington, which occurred there in her hometown in 1861.

While her field is focused on looking back at the happenings of the world, Kerr has worked to stay ahead of the latest education delivery options the college has to offer. She often utilizes multimedia resources as part of her class offerings and is always looking to find new techniques to bring into her classes, whether it’s video or some other tool.

“Technology is always changing, and we have a great support team there at the main campus,” Kerr says. “Columbia College is always good about staying in front of the changes, helping instructors and making sure we get the latest technology incorporated into our classes.”

Whether she is helping students in countries halfway around the world or presenting to the Lexington Rotary about the history of Lafayette County, Kerr’s passion for history, hard work and teaching shines through.

“I learned to have a really strong work ethic from my family and that has served me well in my community and in my teaching career,” Kerr says. “When you’re teaching online, all students interact with each other and with me. I know it sounds hard to believe, but I get to know my students a lot better in the online environment, and I love that part of teaching online classes.”
“Education is the key — with it, you can survive anywhere”

A “Lost Boy” no more, Columbia College student Dut Deng survives and thrives

BY SAM FLEURY   •   PHOTOS BY JEFF BACHSTEIN

It is not surprising that Dut Deng lists Abraham Lincoln as one of the people he admires most. Deng is a living example of this Lincoln quote from 1860:

“You can have anything you want if you want it badly enough. You can be anything you want to be, do anything you set out to accomplish if you hold to that desire with singleness of purpose.”

Singleness of purpose, indeed.

After losing his parents in the civil war that raged in South Sudan, Deng fled from the poverty-stricken country in 1987. It took him, and many of the other unaccompanied minors who fled with him, more than 13 years to make it to America after stops in two other countries. They migrated from country to country in search of a home, witnessing death, destruction and unrest. The heartbreaking plight of this group of children, who became known as the “Lost Boys” of Sudan, has been profiled by media around the world, including the 2014 film “The Good Lie.”

On Dec. 4, 2000, Deng’s path finally led him to America and to central New York, where his “singleness of purpose” has been improving his stake in life and helping others, both in the Syracuse community and in his home country. After attending Onondaga Community College, Deng enrolled at Columbia College–Hancock Field campus in Syracuse, where he is currently working toward a degree in criminal justice with a minor in business administration. He expects to graduate in 2016.

“As you listen to Dut speak, you can sense his selflessness and compassion for others,” says Dr. Scott Vinciguerra, campus director at Columbia College–Hancock Field. “For those that don’t know his story, they just see him as a great classmate and friend. For those that do know his story, it means that much more.”
Deng thrives on the hope that coming to the United States and receiving an education has brought him.

“We ran away from Sudan. We went to Ethiopia. We walked to Kenya. And it’s a long walk; it’s a lot of miles to go through with no food, no water, no nothing,” Deng said in a recent interview with WSNY’s “Bridge Street” program. “But you can live when you have hope, when you have patience, and you have to know there will be a tomorrow.”

Deng is motivated by more than the prospect of achieving success for himself. As the first person from both his family and his village in South Sudan to go to college, Deng wants to share the success that can come with education with others.

“Education is the key — with it, you can survive anywhere,” Deng says. “It is the master key to open all doors. I can see the difference between me and my parents — they couldn’t read or write. I am so happy that I can do that. Most people back in my village don’t know what education means. I hope to open their eyes to education; it is very important.”

Deng, 35, has launched the South Sudan Initiatives Inc. (SSI) (www.southsudaninitiatives.com) to spread his message of the value of education and scholarship. The mission statement of the initiative is “to better the lives of young men and women known throughout the world as ‘Lost Boys’ and ‘Lost Girls’ and to repair the damage that decades of war have inflicted on religious, agricultural, economic, social and cultural life in South Sudan and surrounding areas.”

Deng’s goal is one day to provide a scholarship for children and women back in his village to attend college. He continues to make progress toward his degree while working at Syracuse University as a residential maintenance coordinator.

“Education is the key — with it, you can survive anywhere,” Deng says. “It is the master key to open all doors. I can see the difference between me and my parents — they couldn’t read or write. I am so happy that I can do that. Most people back in my village don’t know what education means. I hope to open their eyes to education; it is very important.”

Vinciguerra, who also serves on the South Sudan Initiative’s board. “He teaches others how to be better people.”

To say acclimating to Syracuse, New York from South Sudan has been challenging for Deng would be an understatement. The climate (let alone the culture) is hugely different. In Syracuse, January is the coldest month with an average temperature of 22.5 degrees Fahrenheit. More than 6,500 miles away, South Sudan’s average temperature is 78 degrees Fahrenheit during its coldest month, July.

Deng has been resilient in the face of challenging weather, much like everything else he has gone through in his life.

“I have noticed and grown to understand Dut in a variety of ways,” Vinciguerra says. “Most critically, his persistence toward earning his degree and the patience that he has toward humanity. For someone that has seen the brutality of the human condition, his resilient spirit carries on.”

That resiliency and desire to be a leader has served Deng well. After coming to America with no belongings, he has scraped and saved and now owns his own apartment.

“When I came to America, I had nothing,” Deng says. “And then I began to have hope and started to go to college, and I got a job to support myself … I wanted to own something. I’m not the lost boy I used to be 14 years ago. We are living the American Dream now.”
Tracy Beegen never saw this coming.

“If you had told me when I started at Columbia College that I was going to go on to my doctorate in clinical psychology, there’s no way I would have believed that was possible,” Tracy Beegan ’06 says.

At 37, Beegen is on course to finish her doctorate degree in clinical psychology. This 2006 alumna of the Fort Leonard Wood campus, volunteer, wife, mother of two and recently commissioned Army officer looks ahead to a military career that will allow her to serve those in need.

But hers was a journey that nearly didn’t start.

“I was a teen mom. I barely graduated high school. I didn’t think college was an option for me,” Beegen recalls, talking openly about her youth in Michigan.

Fastforward a few years and Beegen is married to Army Sergeant First Class Rockford Beegen. They
have a daughter, Rylie, 2, and have just welcomed their second child, Giovanni. The family traveled for the Army and after three years in Germany, they were stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Soon afterward, Rockford deployed to Iraq.

“I knew I needed an education to provide a better life for my kids,” Beegen says about enrolling at Columbia College. “Plus, the campus helped me get acquainted with the military community and cope with my husband being gone.”

Beegen still feels the influence of her instructors at the campus.

“I remember taking my first writing class with Jackie Alexander,” Beegen says, pausing to remember Alexander, who died in a car accident in July 2005. “She helped me develop into a strong writer. Even as I’m writing my dissertation now, I’m still using the process she laid out for me.”

Beegen also remembers psychology instructor Dr. Rick Mizer, whom she credits for emphasizing her ability to pursue an advanced degree.

In three years, Beegen completed her bachelor’s degree in psychology and graduated cum laude. She was the first student at the campus to receive both the Joshua Richards and Bobby D. Van Stavern Jr. honors scholarships in the same year.

After a whirlwind of duty stations in Colorado and Hawaii — with Beegen completing her master’s degree in counseling at Wayland Baptist University in 2010 while in Hawaii — the family was stationed in their current home outside of Tampa, Florida, in 2011. Beegen continues her education — and a new direction.

After years spent as an Army wife, Beegen heeded the call to military service herself. She is now on track to finish her doctorate degree at the Florida School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University in 2017, with the help of an F. Edward Hébert Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship that she received in February 2014. She will begin active duty with the Army in fall 2016.

From here, Beegen looks forward to a career in the military, serving families both on base and in the community wherever she is stationed. With her faith a key factor in her life, she and her husband will continue the mission work that recently took the family to Honduras. And she looks forward to coupling long-held passions for child advocacy and volunteerism with her education to continue helping those in need.

As a woman who once thought college was not an option, Beegen offers words of advice to students.

“To have a dream and surround yourself with people who believe in you to accomplish it even when you don’t believe in yourself — that is something that I really valued about my experience at Columbia College,” Beegen says. “Columbia College really impressed upon me to give back what has been given to me and encourage others to do the same.”

Beegen is doing just that.
Hitting the Note

Anise White ’13 takes her love of music global

BY JEFF BRANSCOM

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ANISE WHITE ’13

Usually when someone’s perched in a tree taking pictures of you, it’s not a good sign. The plot thickens, though, when that person turns out to be a member of the Siberian paparazzi.

For Anise White ’13, a Los Angeles-based singer, actress and marketing expert, this encounter happened during a visit to Tomsk, Siberia. White had been invited to sing at the Tomsk International Jazz Festival and enjoyed celebrity status upon her arrival: a woman tearfully asked for her autograph as a photographer snapped away from a tree across the street. While she was caught off guard by the attention, White saw it as a sign of how far she had come as a musician.

White began singing when she was 8 years old. Beginning with arias and operatic pieces, White eventually gravitated toward other styles. Over the years, singing remained one of her biggest passions.

For her undergrad experience, White began at the University of Missouri, ultimately transferring to Columbia College-St. Louis. White took classes sporadically over the next several years while pursuing a career, not quite sure about the direction she wanted to go. After landing a marketing job in New York City, White decided the time was right to complete her degree, enrolling in Columbia College’s online program.

“‘To go back to school and get my degree with Columbia College was huge,’” White says. “I’m grateful because it was convenient, and I was supported. I felt like they wanted me to succeed.”

During the months leading up to her graduation, White balanced coursework, a full-time job and an internship at Sony, which gave her access to big moments in the music world.

“I was there the day Justin Timberlake dropped ‘The 20/20 Experience’ [a studio album by Timberlake],” White says. “A lot of people didn’t know it was coming.”

The Sony internship also proved to be a great place to learn, providing her with a unique vantage point of the music industry.

“It’s interesting to see how the music industry has shifted,” White says. “It used to be that New York was a major hub for music, and it’s not anymore. A lot of music has shifted and moved to Los Angeles.”

Since graduating from Columbia College, White has moved to Los Angeles in an effort to take her music career to the next level. In addition to music, White also has a passion for marketing, with a focus on the entertainment industry. She currently works as an independent contractor, partnering with agencies on various projects and campaigns.

With opportunities that abound in whatever direction she chooses to go, it’s clear that White has learned to embrace the whirlwind pace of her life.

“I’ve stopped saying, ‘My life is crazy,’” White says. “I just say, ‘This is my normal.’ My story is still to be told … it’s a work in progress.”

To learn more about White and her music, visit www.iamanise.com.
Do you have a child or grandchild that could use an automatic grant to the Day Campus in Columbia, Missouri?

The good news is that they could qualify for the following award because of your status as a Columbia (Christian) College alumnus!

**Alumni Legacy Grant**

$1,000 per year

As a Columbia (Christian) College graduate, your children and grandchildren are automatically eligible for this $1,000 tuition discount, applicable to the Day Campus only. This grant is renewable for up to four years.

To refer a family member that could benefit from this award, simply complete the online form at:

www.ccis.edu/ReferAStudent
Barbara Bolanz Walker ’52, Commencement Queen of 1951, poses in the College’s rose garden during the Centennial Commencement Week festivities.
Although students who enter Rogers Gate come and go, and eras pass us by, the spirit of Christian College is forever bound by the memories they left us and their legacy that lives on. In celebration of Christian College Reunion Weekend this year, we journey through four years in Christian College history — 1935, 1945, 1955 and 1965 — remembering, of course, that even at an institution that keeps evolving and growing, its roots are the foundation of great things to come.

By LAURA DAUGHERTY

Historical photos provided by COLUMBIA COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Photo illustration by Carolyn Preul

Historical facts and photos from history.com and The Vogue Archive
Although depression loomed in 1935, with unemployment at over 20 percent and a war brewing in Germany, the mood among Christian College girls was strong with the promise of brighter futures. School life was filled with formals and teas, music and Microphone staff writing.

In 1935, Jane Cave was selected as the May Queen. Per tradition, the May Queen was the center of an elaborate springtime pageant involving dancing and singing.

Columbia College President Edgar D. Lee resigned January 10, 1935; he was succeeded by Dr. James C. Miller

The first Technicolor Mickey Mouse short film is released.

On a snow-covered front lawn, girls wave at classmates who’ve arrived on campus.

A Christian College girl stands in line during Sunday tea.
“The camera cannot portray the richness of crimsoned ivy on the old stone wall, the chasteness of blue-white moonlight reflected from the snow-clad campus, the thrill and gaiety of parties and dances, the excitement and vigor of work and play, the sense of permanence and stability, the academic challenge, the ideals, friendliness, loyalty, and good fellowship which blend into the spirit of Christian College.”

- Christian College prospective student handbook, January 1935

As the Christian College prospective student handbook says: “Girls, fathers, mothers, messengers, learned men, sweethearts — all who enter here, touch them gently, as does Time itself. And the ivied walls smile on a sunny afternoon, because all who come and go leave shadows on the steps.”

“The Christian College Girl

“Poised, gracious in manner, intelligent and gay, the Christian College girl is loyal to the fine traditions and ideals of her home and of her college. She is courteous and considerate of others. Selected for her scholastic and social desirability, she is proud of the past, alert to the challenges of the present, and knows the joy of service and of accomplishment.” – Christian College prospective student handbook, January 1935

Amelia Earhart flies solo across the Pacific

8 cents: The price of a loaf of bread
10 cents: The cost of a gallon of gasoline

Average salary per year: $1,600
In the final hours of World War II, the Christian College girls of 1945 were strong, steadfast and passionate about their futures, finally sensing victory from the dark days of war.

1945

The Christian College War Council kept students informed about World War II and organized wartime activities, including meeting troops at the train station with doughnuts.

Known as the “fliers of CC,” students could earn their pilot’s license through a series of courses offered through Columbia Flying Service. Upon completion of the program, they were even given their own pair of wings with the CC seal.

Students arrive on campus.

President of Christian College: J.C. Miller

May 7, 1945: War officially ends in Europe

$70: Cost of a ladies fur coat

$1,020: Average cost of a new car

President Franklin Roosevelt dies from a cerebral hemorrhage

Two nuclear bombs are dropped on Japan

Fifty nations sign the United Nations Charter, creating the United Nations

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"This pause that refreshes is the real idea!"
“Bells, Bells, Bells! Ring out the old. Ring in the new. If the bells of 1945 should toll the knell of war and harbinger the advent of peace, an enduring peace, mankind would be liberated from a grim specter which has stalked his path all across the ages. To help in such a liberation is a goal worthy of every man, woman and child in our land. It is a worthy goal for you.”

-Dr. J.C. Miller, president of Columbia College, in a message to students

“In the traditional white gown and three-cornered cap, the Christian College graduate displays the poise, knowledge and charm gained during two years in a girls’ college. The Ivy Chain, old in the legends of Christian College, brings a heart tug to each girl — as she turns away, knowing that tomorrow she faces new worlds.”

-Christian College prospective student handbook, 1945
In 1955, consumerism was at an all-time high, with 7.9 million cars sold in the United States. Average salaries were raised to $3,851 per year, and the first McDonald’s was erected in a culture where fast foods and TV dinners were becoming part of everyday life.

The tea room in St. Clair Hall’s lower level was a popular gathering place on campus.

Coca-Cola is packaged in cans for the first time

‘In God We Trust’ is added to all U.S. paper currency
“For the young woman whose purpose is serious, Christian provides the solid beginning of an education, a beginning because education is, after all, a way of thinking and of living that continues as long as life itself.” —Christian College prospective student handbook, 1950s

The minimum wage is raised to $1 per hour

Rock and roll music grows in popularity, creating stars like Elvis Presley, Bill Haley and the Comets, Chuck Berry and The Platters

Average cost of a black and white TV: $99.95

This sterling silver spoon was used for everyday meals

Students frequented the college’s news counter, where they could buy anything from official college apparel to cigarettes.

On Sunday mornings, students attended services at First Christian Church. To this day, the college maintains a covenant with the church.

Girls take a break between classes.

A student uses a balance in science class.
In 1965, Christian College girls found themselves in a changing world, with civil unrest brewing in America, and the war in Vietnam continuing to worsen. Even then, the girls were passionate about what was happening in the world and wanted to be part of that change. Beyond politics, The Beatles released four new albums, the miniskirt made its debut, and the St. Louis Arch was completed.
The Palm Sunday Tornado Outbreak – an estimated 51 tornadoes – hit the Midwest on April 13.

The memory of our college days
We’ll hold forever dear,
Recalling in so many ways
The lasting friendship started here.
Though Christian College days must end
We’ll ever sing her praise,
‘Til life’s last glowing ember
We always will remember
The joy of Christian College days.

-From the 1965 Christian College Ivy Chain yearbook

Girls embrace during the 1965 Ivy Chain Ceremony.

Students arrive at the Columbia airport at the start of a new academic year.

Nat King Cole dies at 45

The toy Super Ball skyrockets in popularity
On April 24 and 25, 2015, we celebrated Reunion Weekend on the main campus in honor of our Christian College heritage. More than 100 alumni and guests enjoyed a weekend full of events, including a Christian College archives class with Bradley Meinke ’14, a trolley tour of memorable points of interest in Columbia, a luncheon with President and First Lady Scott and Tina Dalrymple, the Alumni Awards Banquet and a reenactment of the Ivy Chain Ceremony. Honor class years included 1935, 1945, 1955 and 1965. To learn more about those years at Christian, see page 28.
Special Recognition

Peggy Lamke Price ’43 was honored at the Alumni Awards Banquet with the CCAA’s first ever distinction of Director Emerita. She served on the Columbia (Christian) College Alumni Association Board of Directors from 1967 to 1981 and on the Board of Trustees from 1981 to 2008 for a combined 41 years of service. Her family legacy at Columbia (Christian) College spans five generations, dating back to 1871: her grandmother, mother, three aunts, three cousins, her daughter, daughter-in-law and three granddaughters have all graduated from Columbia (Christian) College.

Pictured from left: Peggy Lamke Price ’43, Gayle Jennings Price Gibb ’73, Barbara Greene Price ’72 and Abby Price ’13

Honor Classes

From left: Helen Black Maupin ’45, Barbara Downs Phipps ’45 and Virginia Jacob Itschner ’55

Back row from left: Lyla Babcock Bridges ’65, Gayle Speiser Steele ’65, Ruth Hickox Litchfield ’65, Gail Petri Toedebusch ’65, Penny Pitman ’65, Leslie Burdick Walker ’65, Dale Coe Simons ’65, Mimi Stout Rendish ’65

Front row from left: Lynne Stuver Baker ’64, Susan Gray ’65, Libby McCluskey Oldham ’65, Caryl Wood Bryan ’65, Debby Brown Bronnenberg ’65, Joie Buchanan Richardson ’65, Joy Schiffman Masterson ’65

To view the Christian College Reunion Weekend photo gallery, visit www.columbiacollegealumni.org/reunionweekend.
As alumni, you are the foundation on which Columbia College thrives. You can leave a lasting mark at your alma mater.

President Scott Dalrymple has a vision to create a Quad on the north side of the main campus. The Quad will feature a zero-entry fountain, Christian College Garden, outdoor Amphitheater, Campus Pavilion, Campus Safety Office and an area designed to honor Evening, Online and Nationwide campus alumni and students. A historically inspired entrance will be added to Williams Hall, the oldest building on campus. In addition, a central walkway will extend from Dulany Hall through the campus.

Join alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends by purchasing a brick paver! Your paver can commemorate your graduation or any other milestone in your life, honor a classmate, family member, influential person in your life or create a meaningful reminder of your affection for your alma mater. You can choose to place an engraved brick in the area surrounding the fountain and/or the Christian College Garden and be part of a lasting tribute to your alma mater.
Quad Project

New project provides a lasting tribute to Columbia (Christian) College

Order your brick today! Go online to www.choosecc.org/brick or call (800) 231-2391, ext. 7730.
Applauding Our Alumni

By Laura Daugherty • Photos by Kim Watson ’91

Columbia College alumni reflect the college’s spirit of achievement in their careers and communities. During Christian College Reunion Weekend April 24-25, six deserving award winners were recognized for their accomplishments at the Alumni Awards Banquet.

Mary McCleary Posner is the president and a principal of Posner McCleary Inc., an international management consulting, marketing, advertising and financial relations firm.

Prior to starting Posner McCleary Inc., Mary was a senior vice president of a major communications firm in New York City. Her clients have included some of the largest multinationals in the world, such as ITT Corporation and seven of its companies including Morton Frozen Foods and Sheraton Hotels.

Mary is the founder and chairman of The Memorial Day Weekend Salute to Veterans Corporation, which has produced an annual six-day celebration in Missouri for the past 26 years. She credits her father, a World War I veteran, with giving back to veterans. “He told me that I was able to enjoy the corporate career that I had because very brave men and women had risked their lives to give me the freedom to do so, and if I could ever figure out a way to say thank you, I should do it,” she says.

It’s no wonder, then, that Mary’s passion for supporting veterans has drawn her to Columbia College, where service to veterans and military personnel is deeply embedded in the college’s identity. In 2013, Mary announced the formation of a scholarship honoring Col. Mike Randerson’s retirement and his service to Columbia College. She is also actively involved in Columbia College’s annual Military Recognition Day.
Alumni Awards

After an illustrious career in the U.S. Military and a history of championing adversity, Jennifer C. Foxworthy ’12 now inspires others to push beyond the bounds of their own setbacks and lead lives of hope.

For 21 years, Jennifer served in the U.S. Navy, becoming the first African American Aircrewman in the enlisted ranks and the first female In Flight Technician. For three separate wars (Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq) she flew on three different platforms (E6-A, P-3 and EP-3) and logged over 3,700 flight hours.

After retiring from the military in 2013, Jennifer began her second career as a motivational speaker, author and blogger. She is the founder and chief executive officer of Inspirationally Speaking, LLC, as well as the founder of the Unstoppable You Women’s Conference. In 2014, she published a book titled Tomorrow My Sunshine Will Come: Memoirs of Women Who Survived Domestic Violence.

“If I can reach just one person, then my trials and tribulations were not in vain,” Jennifer says. “I have embraced those life experiences because they have made me into the human I am today.”

Jennifer is the recipient of numerous awards, including two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals and five Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

JANE FROMAN COURAGE AWARD

Jennifer C. Foxworthy ’12

Like so many across the world, Jim Pasley ’02’s life was forever changed by the events of September 11, 2001. Though he did not have any close relatives or friends involved in the attacks, he was deeply moved to join the Boone County Volunteer Fire Department in Columbia, Missouri, in 2002. Soon after, he decided to apply as a full-time firefighter, leaving a comfortable career in insurance in his pursuit to help others.

Today, Jim is an Assistant Fire Marshal for the City of Columbia, Missouri, overseeing all University of Missouri, Columbia College and Stephens College campus buildings. He coordinates events across campuses to raise awareness for fire safety and also to raise money for fallen firefighter widows.

In addition to his service as a paid and volunteer firefighter, Jim has spent more than 11 years volunteering for Columbia Youth Football. On the 10th anniversary of 9/11, he participated in a memorial 110-flight stair climb in Kansas City, Missouri, to remember the 343 firefighters who lost their lives when the Twin Towers collapsed.

Jim is married to Melissa Pasley ’03. He is the son of Jim Pasley ’87 and Karen Pasley ’01.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Jim Pasley ’02
With family roots bound to Columbia College, Walter E. “Web” Bixby III ’82 has a deep sense of passion and commitment for the institution he says has given so much to him.

As the executive vice president and vice chairman of the board of Kansas City Life Insurance Company, Web gives much of his time and resources to the college in a number of platforms: as a trustee, fundraiser and director of the J.B. Reynolds Foundation, established in honor of his great-grandfather. His philanthropy to the college is represented through the Bixby Room in the Southwell Complex on Columbia College’s main campus, named after Web’s father, Walt. In addition, the state of the art Web Bixby Lecture Hall in the Brouder Science Center was made possible through his generosity.

Beyond his philanthropic contributions, he served as the national steering committee chair for the Tradition Meets Tomorrow campaign and is a member of the Dorsey Chapel Circle of the President’s Society. Web is also an avid Cougar sports fan and frequently travels to Columbia to watch and support Cougar sports.

Web is the son of the late Walter E. Bixby Jr., a college trustee emeritus, and the late Mary Martha Musser Bixby ’51. Bixby’s son, James Philip Bixby, graduated from Columbia College in 2005.

When disaster strikes, Christopher J. Twitchel ’14 doesn’t run. He helps put the broken pieces back together.

As the Chief of Police in Crocker, Missouri, Christopher has seen his fair share of disasters, both big and small. When a tornado hit his residence in 2003, he ignored his own crisis and worked 26 straight hours helping others in his community. When Hurricane Sandy destroyed parts of the Connecticut shore in 2012, Christopher headed east to the heaviest-hit spots. In short, he goes where he’s needed.

He began his career in law enforcement in 1995 at the Republic Police Department in Republic, Missouri. In 2000, he moved to the Lake of the Ozarks area and became employed with the Camden County Sheriff’s Department. He became Chief of Police in Crocker in 2011.

Christopher also works with local adolescent drug prevention programs and is a member of Masonic Lodge and the Shriners, which helps kids with disabilities.
Alumni Awards

Monty Dodge
Columbia College-Moberly student Monty Dodge has overcome enormous adversity to pursue his degree and ultimately, his future. “I have no computer skills, and writing a résumé was something that would have been very hard,” he says. As an incomplete quadriplegic, Monty excels in his business healthcare management degree with a grade point average of 3.5. “Columbia College has given me the possibility and hope of one day being able to get off of disability and rejoin the workforce.”

Anna Ralls
With a background in home school education, Anna Ralls understood how to work with and learn from a small group of people. Now, as a day student at Columbia College’s main campus, Anna has flourished in a larger community, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average as she pursues her English and creative writing degree. “Columbia College has expanded my view of the world and my place in it,” she says. “Not only have I learned more about the art and craft of writing, but I have learned about the art of living.”

Vendale Walker
As a full-time parent and worker, Vendale Walker would not be able to attend a traditional in-seat college. Columbia College’s Online program has afforded him the opportunity to succeed despite his busy schedule. “My experience has been challenging and rewarding,” he says. “Not only can I study and work simultaneously, but I can also spend time with my family.” With a 3.0 grade point average for his degree in information systems, Vendale has accepted an internship at HP as a customer engineer, which may turn into a permanent position. After graduating with his bachelor’s degree, he plans to return to Columbia College to obtain his master’s degree.

Crystal Woolfolk
Only one year after tragedy struck her family, Crystal Woolfolk enrolled at Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks, and her life was transformed for the better. Her husband’s suicide had left her as a widow with five children. “Attending classes at Columbia College has given me back my confidence,” she says. “I know I can take care of my children and eventually provide a good life for my family.” A human services major with a grade point average of 3.0, Crystal hopes to become a drug abuse counselor. “Columbia College has given me the hope that even though I couldn’t help Scott, I can help someone through his story.”

For a career spanning more than 30 years at the Orange County Sheriff’s Office, Thomas Stroup ’04 has taken his talents and passion for helping others far beyond the borders of Orange County, Florida.

As Captain at the Orange County Sheriff’s Office and SWAT Commander, Thomas is a five-time world champion of international SWAT competitions. Recently, Thomas took his passion for helping others to primetime TV, in NBC’s reality show “Stars Earn Stripes.” The show aimed to honor America’s armed forces, where nine celebrities gathered at a secret training facility and were challenged to execute complicated missions inspired by real military exercises. Another NBC show, “School Pride,” featured Thomas traveling the country to help fix up schools in underprivileged neighborhoods.

In addition to his busy schedule, Thomas spends his time off traveling to Mexico, Brazil, Costa Rica, Montana, Mississippi and throughout Florida helping communities rebuild homes, schools and churches.

“Life’s short,” Thomas says. “It’s not going to matter how famous or rich any of us are. It’s going to matter what good we did. I really believe that. What you do for other people is going to matter more than what you do for yourself.”

For the 2015-16 academic year, the CCAA awarded four outstanding Columbia College students a scholarship of $1000 each. The CCAA Scholars Program awards are made possible through the generous support of our alumni.
Columbia College’s nursing program has evolved in remarkable fashion over the past four years. One might say the program is awash in success with a state-of-the-art facility, cutting-edge technology and perfect pass rates on the NCLEX exam. And while the program is enjoying a great run, it has faced some challenges along the way.

Linda Claycomb, nursing instructor and chair of Columbia College’s Nursing program, arrived at the college in 2008. Soon after her arrival, Claycomb found that a shift was occurring in the college’s nursing student population.

“We no longer had LPNs (licensed practical nurse) or students with prior nursing experience, which really demanded a different curriculum,” Claycomb says.

Constrained by a shortage of time and resources, the program struggled to adjust to this change. Common issues included the lack of clinical space, adequate staffing and access to advanced technology. Recognizing a change had to be made to help the program

BY JEFF BRANSCOM
PHOTO BY KACI SMART '09
take the next step, the college moved the nursing program into Federal Hall, located in the heart of downtown Columbia.

The move significantly enhanced the program’s instructional capabilities. With a larger space and more technology, Claycomb and the nursing faculty were able to make changes to improve their curriculum.

“It was a great move for us, because it gave us an opportunity to design something we felt would work for the students,” Claycomb says.

With the move, the program also addressed issues regarding accreditation and licensure. By establishing the Columbia College Nursing Network (CCNN), an interactive audio-visual conferencing tool connecting learners at the main campus with students at Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks, the program creatively addressed a shortage of qualified instructors. Over time, the faculty found that test scores between the two campuses were strikingly similar, validating CCNN as an effective tool to educate students and address staffing issues.

“We’ve made it work exceptionally well,” Claycomb says. “To us, it shows that we’re delivering a stable curriculum.”

The program certainly is on solid footing now. This past fall, the college rolled out a bachelor of nursing for its online students; work also is underway to provide a bachelor of nursing to day students in 2016. And with the space and learning opportunities the Brouder Science Center provides, the future looks bright for the nursing program.
Critical Courage

Nursing program alumna Melanie Dollens ’14 raises awareness of childhood cancer

BY SAM FLEURY • PHOTO BY KACI SMART ’09

Sitting at her kitchen table in December 2010, Melanie Dollens ’14 decided she needed a new direction for the terrible angst she felt at that time every year. It wasn’t due to the stress of Christmas gift shopping for her tight-knit family, or figuring out how many strings of lights she needed to decorate their house for the holidays.

Each December, her daughter Morghan visited the oncologist to determine if the medulloblastoma had returned.

“I just remember sitting in my chair going ‘Oh my God, I can’t continue to do this every year, this focus on Morghan and is her cancer coming back?’” Melanie says. “I wanted to go another direction and not focus on that.”

Melanie came across information about the St. Baldrick’s Foundation, a volunteer-driven charity that raises money to fund research of childhood cancers and gives survivors a better quality of life. The organization holds head-shaving events across the country as fundraisers for the research, instilling hope in those affected by childhood cancers.

Intrigued, Melanie discovered the University of Missouri School of Medicine was organizing their first St. Baldrick’s head shaving event the following March. She knew immediately she wanted to participate.

“I said, ‘I’m going to do that. This is what I am going to focus my energy now.’ I was actually their first shavee to sign up!”

*****

Morghan was diagnosed with medulloblastoma in December 2005, at age 6. The symptoms had only emerged earlier that month when she began stumbling and experiencing double vision. Melanie, who was a licensed practical nurse, and her husband, Andy, knew immediately that something was wrong. They took Morghan to their primary care physician.

“The CT scan was like a train hitting you in the gut,” Melanie says, fighting through tears. “The first day you’re going ‘I can’t even pronounce this, let alone what the heck is this?’”

Morghan had surgery to remove the tumor from her brain and was pulled from kindergarten to avoid infection. She also had radiation with chemotherapy for six weeks before eight additional six-week
cycles of chemotherapy. Throughout the entire process, Melanie says that Morghan was extremely upbeat and mature about the situation.

Following the year of treatment, the Dollens family received the great news they had been waiting for: In December 2006, Morghan no longer had any evidence of the disease.

* * * * *

After putting her whole being into Morghan’s fight and recovery, Melanie continued to work as an LPN and care for her husband and their burgeoning family of five kids. With all her children in school, and Morghan six years in remission, Melanie wanted a new challenge.

“My husband encouraged me to go back and get my RN, so that was kind of what influenced it,” she says.

Melanie enrolled at Columbia College to work toward her associate’s degree in nursing. She thrived both in the classroom and in the clinical setting.

“It was tough,” she admits. “I had an advantage having been an LPN and having worked in health care, but from day one, we were in there taking care of patients, which other programs don’t necessarily do.”

In May 2014, in front of Andy, Morghan and the rest of her proud clan, Melanie graduated with her degree and passed the NCLEX (The National Council Licensure Examination), making her a registered nurse. At the nurse’s pinning ceremony, she was honored with two awards, earning both the Academic and the Clinical Excellence awards for the May 2014 class.

Melanie’s educational journey didn’t end there. She is currently working toward a bachelor’s degree in nursing at Columbia College, and she expects to graduate in 2016. The newly launched degree program offers online courses for current RNs. She also works weekends at the University of Missouri Hospital in the neuroscience unit, providing direct care to patients who have had strokes, spine surgeries, seizures and other neurological issues. Her unit also cares for patients, just like her daughter, who have had brain tumors removed.

“Hospitals are wanting (nurses to have their bachelor’s degree in nursing), so I knew I wanted to continue on and have as big an arsenal of tools in my bag as I can,” she says.

While completing her prerequisite for the BSN program, Melanie continues to volunteer and raise money for research for families with young children who have been diagnosed with cancer. She also attends her family’s art exhibits, football games, choir concerts and a myriad of other events.

One event she is especially looking forward to is coming up this summer. Melanie will make a return visit to the barber’s chair this June, shaving her head once again, this time as part of the “46 Mommas Shave for the Brave” organization, an offshoot of the St. Baldrick’s Foundation that was named in honor of the 46 children who are diagnosed with cancer every weekday in America.

And you can bet Morghan will be there by her side, cheering her on.
First Lady Dr. Tina Dalrymple shares her hope for the future of Columbia College’s nursing program

With a strong background in nursing, First Lady Dr. Tina Dalrymple has made it a priority to help support the nursing program at Columbia College. Read on for her insights into the programs offered today.

What would you like alumni to know about your experience in nursing?
My nursing career started as an obstetrics nurse in a small rural hospital, which meant that I worked in labor and delivery, post-partum and newborn nursery. When the unit was slow or closed I floated to all other areas of the hospital. Next, I worked for many years in community health nursing. I later worked as a family nurse practitioner and earned my master’s and Ph.D. degrees. At Hartwick College, I was a tenured associate professor teaching courses in community health nursing, rural health nursing as well as nursing leadership and management.

I also taught a variety of nursing courses online for Excelsior College. In my role as a family nurse practitioner, I worked in a school-based clinic caring for children in grades pre-K through 12. I have enjoyed the variety of roles and experiences that my nursing career has provided to me.

What are your insights into Columbia College’s nursing program?
Over the past few months I have really enjoyed getting to know the nursing faculty and staff. They are wonderful to work with and clearly care deeply about our nursing students and programs.

Our accelerated Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program is an excellent pathway to become a registered nurse (RN). I am amazed and proud of the fact that our nursing graduates had a 100 percent pass rate on the NCLEX exam in 2014 — something I have never experienced in my nursing education career.

The new online RN to BSN degree program is an excellent way for RNs to obtain their baccalaureate degree in nursing while working. The Future of Nursing (2010) landmark report initiated by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation recommends an 80 percent increase in the number of baccalaureate-prepared nurses in the workforce. The current workforce of baccalaureate-prepared nurses falls well short of this recommendation, with only 55 percent prepared at the baccalaureate and graduate levels combined (HRSA, 2013). More and more employers are looking for nurses to have a BSN degree.

What role do you hope nursing will play in the future at Columbia College?
Columbia College is hoping to be part of the solution for the projected shortage of nurses in Missouri. According to the Bureau
of Labor Statistics (2014), the occupation of registered nurse is projected to grow faster than average through the year 2022. The Bureau reports a projected growth of 19 percent between the years 2012 and 2022, thus reflecting a growth from 2.71 million RNs to an anticipated 3.24 million by 2022. The Bureau has also projected an increase in the need for replacement RNs due to the current RN workforce nearing retirement age (AACN, 2014). Columbia College is excited to be involved in the future of the nursing profession.

How do you hope to impact the nursing programs here at the college?
I hope to assist the nursing department in any way I can! Currently, I am assisting the department in the development of an in-seat traditional BSN program and preparing for accreditation visits for both our ADN program as well as the online RN to BSN program. I am also creating a course in Community Health Assessment for the RN to BSN online degree program. I am thrilled to say that I will be teaching this course once it goes live in June 2015, as I love teaching. It is a very exciting time for the Department of Nursing at Columbia College.

Meet Simon

SimMan 3G is an advanced patient simulator, referred to by many of the nursing students as Simon. The nursing department acquired him in 2011, with the help of gifts made by the Kemper Foundation and Commerce Bank.

Its sophisticated computerized functions allow students to hone vital nursing skills without the pressure of practicing on a live person. SimMan is programmable to display neurological symptoms, such as pupillary responses, as well as physiological symptoms, including seizures and convulsions; bowel, lung and heart sounds. He even bleeds, cries and talks. (Students beware: President Dalrymple has been known to sneak into the lab to become the voice of Simon, claiming a variety of bizarre ailments!)

Students can perform CPR on SimMan, which provides real-time feedback on the efficacy of the resuscitation. They can also practice giving injections, and SimMan recognizes the amount and type of drug being administered and responds accordingly.

The SimMan technology allows nursing faculty to simulate realistic hospital scenarios to which students must respond, allowing them gauge their level of skill.

“SimMan is great,” says Faye Fairchild, RN and instructor of Nursing. “If [the students] give a wrong drug or if they don’t manage [the scenario] quite right and the patient doesn’t do well, we can stop, start over and they can learn from their mistakes.”

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Women’s Basketball

First-year Columbia College head women’s basketball coach Jessica Keller led the Cougars to a 22-11 record (12-6 in the American Midwest Conference) and a trip to the semifinals of the AMC Tournament before falling to top-ranked Freed-Hardeman. The team was hopeful for an at-large bid to the NAIA National Tournament, but fell just short and did not receive an invite to the event for the first time since the 2007-08 season.

Despite not receiving a bid to the tournament, the Cougars were an offensively talented group, outscoring opponents by an average of more than 14 points per game and outrebounding opponents by an average of five rebounds per game. The team recorded the largest winning margin in school history with a 103-27 win over Central Christian College of the Bible.

The squad was paced by junior guard Corri Hamilton, who averaged a team-high 13.9 points and 7.9 rebounds per game. Given her prowess on the court, Hamilton was named to the six-member All-AMC team. Senior guard Ashley Fisher, averaging 11.6 points and 6.0 rebounds per game, was named to the third team. Senior Aqua Corpening was named to the Honorable Mention All-Conference team.

Men’s Basketball

The Columbia College men’s basketball squad registered yet another amazing season in 2014-15. Head coach Bob Burchard, who completed his 27th year at the helm of Cougar Basketball, led his squad to a 26-7 overall record and an appearance in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Tournament for the 18th time in the last 20 years. Columbia College’s season ended in the first round of the tournament, falling to Our Lady of the Lake University out of Texas, 74-68.

Defense was key for the team, holding opponents to only 56.1 points per game and only 37 percent from the field. Columbia College also limited turnovers, committing only 10 per game while turning over opponents more than 15 times per contest.

Offensively, All-American Midwest Conference first team honoree Zach Rockers led a balanced attack, averaging 12 points and six rebounds per game for the year. Senior Tanner Sutton was also outstanding, averaging 11 points per game while knocking down 74 three-pointers for the season. Overall, nine members of the team averaged more than five points per game for the season.

The Cougars now have won more than 25 games per season in each of the last five campaigns and were especially dominant at home this year, recording a 17-3 record at the Southwell Athletic Complex. The squad finished second in the AMC with a 19-4 mark in the conference, finishing just behind Freed-Hardeman for the conference crown.
If you stop and look around, you’ll notice that Columbia College is in the midst of a renaissance of sorts.

The Brouder Science Center, just more than a year old, sits majestically on the north end of campus, providing students access to the latest technology and faculty with enhanced instructional capabilities.

Now, construction is underway on R. Marvin Owens Field. The construction project includes a state-of-the-art facility housing the college’s soccer programs, as well as a soccer field made of artificial turf that can be used in all types of weather.

While one might point to a successful athletic program as a reason for the project, it actually was the result of the college’s administrative council addressing a need for a large recreational space.

Dr. Terry Smith, executive vice president and dean for Academic Affairs, was one of the project’s most ardent supporters. During his interim presidency, Smith lobbied for the project’s approval, ultimately getting the green light to begin construction in 2014.

“The old field wasn’t sustainable because of the two teams that were using it,” Smith says. “But even more important for the college was there was no large recreational space. Students and others weren’t allowed to use the soccer field. So, now that has completely changed.”

The new field at Owens Soccer Stadium will feature the latest in artificial turf technology, allowing students, faculty and staff to have a recreational space that can be used year-round for intramurals and free play. The new field also will contain a three-lane running track around the perimeter, giving joggers a chance to enjoy some fresh air as they run.

The new facility also will house a concession area, a ticket booth and varsity locker rooms for home and visiting teams. Undertaken by Reinhardt Construction and SOA Architects, the project has an expected completion date of May 31.

“It’s going to be a first-class facility,” Smith says. “It’s great for the varsity programs and even better for everyone else.”
On the Web: Scootergraphs

Check out where CC alumni have taken Scooter this time!

To submit your own Scootergraph:
Email them to ccalum@ccis.edu
or send to Alumni Relations,
1001 Rogers St., Columbia, MO 65216.

Daniel Kaelin ’04 poses with Scooter at Nellis 46 Mason Lodge in Las Vegas.

Steve Bondoni ’13 took Scooter to Amsterdam.

Scooter took his first RV trip with Marilyn Abney-Warner ’00 to the Florida State RV Rally.
William Summers ’10 and his wife celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary with a Caribbean cruise. Scooter joined them for a snorkeling excursion on a catamaran fittingly called “The Cat.”

Kim Phillips Wood ’93 took Scooter to see the Mickey Mantel statue at Oklahoma City’s Dodger Stadium.

CC students celebrate the holidays with #CougarPride at Christmas in the Commons, hosted by Student Affairs.

Cortez Pree ’08 and her family visited Pineapple Park in Okinawa, Japan.

Amy Herin ’15 celebrates with Scooter at graduation!

Post, tweet and email your #selfieswithscooter! View the digital photo gallery at www.columbiacollegealumni.org/selfieswithscooter.
Penny Pitman ‘65 was honored with the McReynolds Award for her exemplary achievement in historic preservation at the Missouri Preservation Honor Awards in March. For 35 years, Penny has owned and operated Iron Star Inc., which specializes in restoring and renovating historic properties in St. Charles, Missouri. She resides in Marthasville, Missouri.

Scott Shelton ‘76 was hired as the new director of 911 communications for Boone County, Missouri, after nearly 37 years in law enforcement. He and his wife reside in Columbia, Missouri.


Lori Meyer ‘87 was promoted to personal lines underwriting manager at Shelter Insurance in Columbia, Missouri. She resides in Rocheport, Missouri.

Kenneth Chojnowski ‘89 was awarded the Presidential Champion’s Platinum Award by The President’s Challenge, a program initiated by the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition. He and his wife reside in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Renee Stack Graham ‘89 retired in December 2014 from the City of Columbia after nearly 25 years of service. She now works as the office
manager for the True/False Film Festival in Columbia, Missouri. She resides in Columbia with her husband, G. Tim Graham ’90.

Brian Mahieu ’89’s solo painting exhibit, “Recent Plein Air Paintings,” showed from January to February 2015 at Orr Street Studios in Columbia, Missouri. He is the curator and director of Art House in Fulton, Missouri, where he resides. Learn more about Brian at www.brianmahieu.com.

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Lt. Cmdr. Lamar Childs ’90 obtained his airline transport pilot certificate in August 2014. He is self-employed as a corporate pilot and flight instructor. He and his wife reside in Pensacola, Florida.

Pastor William C. Brinson ’94 was a guest messenger at Live Oak Missionary Baptist Church’s annual Men’s Day Program in February. He is employed by the Gadsden County School Board in Quincy, Florida. He resides in Havana, Florida.

Jennifer Megee ’96 has been promoted to executive vice president, director of retail banking and deposit services, at Providence Bank, headquartered in Columbia, Missouri. She has more than 20 years of retail banking, business development and lending experience. She resides in Columbia, Missouri.

Daniel Davis ’98 was promoted to vice president of security support and operations at

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Trustwave Holdings in Chicago, Illinois. He is responsible for Trustwave’s global security operations center and more than 10,000 customers. He resides in Lake Zurich, Illinois.

Staff Sgt. Larry Penn ’98 is pursuing a master’s degree in Christian Ministry from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. He resides in Stuart, Virginia.

Kimberly Whorton ’98 was recently awarded the Certified Trust & Financial Advisor designation from the Institute of Certified Bankers, a subsidiary of the Washington, D.C., based American Bankers Association. Kimberly is a trust officer and relationship manager for Landmark Bank in Columbia, Missouri. She and her husband reside in Cairo, Missouri.

Col. Charles E. McGee ’78 was the keynote speaker for the 2015 Boy Scouts of America Great River Council breakfast held in Columbia, Missouri. Col. McGee was one of the original Tuskegee Airmen who fought in World War II. He resides in Bethesda, Maryland.

Robert Harrison Sr. ’99 was the recipient of the 18th annual Columbia Values Diversity Individual award in Columbia, Missouri. Robert is the new executive director of Reality House Programs, a community corrections and drug-treatment program. He resides in Columbia, Missouri.

Russell Podgorski ’03 graduated from St. Joseph’s College with a Master of Health Administration degree and now works at Providence Health and Services as an executive recruitment manager. He resides in Portland, Oregon.

Kara Brady ’06 wed Michael Harrington on Oct. 18, 2014 in Prairie Village, Kansas.

Michelle Brown ’07 has been accepted to University of North Texas Dallas College of Law with an expected graduation date of May 2018. She and her husband reside in Fort Worth, Texas.
Births

Cindy Potter ‘05 welcomed son Chase Harrison Potter on March 19, 2015.


Christopher Lievsay ‘09 welcomed daughter Emily Adele Lievsay on March 3, 2015.

Laura Elliott Fallin ‘06 welcomed daughter Elliott Inez Fallin on March 5, 2014.

Future Cougars can show off their college spirit with gear from The Cub Club. Shop the Alumni Merchandise Store catalog on Page 63, and submit photos at www.columbiacollegealumni.org/thecubclub.
Emmett Pickard ’07 graduated from the University of Missouri with a Master of Arts in Information Science and Learning Technologies degree in 2013. He works as a sterile processing technician at the Missouri Orthopedic Institute in Columbia, Missouri, where he resides.

‘10s

Thomas Mattison ’12 is a Master of Social Work candidate at the Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He resides in Chicago, Illinois.

Avery Bourne ’14 is a state representative in the 95th district of Illinois. She was unanimously selected to fill the seat by Republican party chairs from the counties within the 95th house district. A Washington University law student, Avery resides in Pawnee, Illinois.

Submit your good news to www.columbiacollegealumni.org/classnotes.
Allean Lemmon Hale ’33, 100, died Saturday, April 18, 2015, at Lenoir Woods Senior Living in Columbia. She was born in Bethany, Neb., in July 1914 to Rev. Clarence E. Lemmon and Constance H. Lemmon. She attended Christian College and the University of Missouri, graduating in 1935. She married Mark P. Hale on Dec. 31, 1936, in Columbia.

From 1951 to 1956, Allean was alumnae director and editor of the college magazine at Christian College. She wrote and published Christian’s centennial history, “Petticoat Pioneer,” in 1957. She was named a Distinguished Alumna of Columbia College in 1964, and she served as a director of the Columbia College Alumni Association from 1968 to 1975.

Allean was a lifelong writer. Her first published poetry appeared at age 13. In college, she won several national playwriting contests, and she wrote short stories and articles while raising her family. She earned an M.A. from the prestigious Iowa Writers’ Workshop in Iowa City, Iowa. Her writings included poetry, short fiction, history and scholarly articles on theatre and art.

From the early 1980s on, she focused almost exclusively on the life and works of Tennessee Williams and became a leading authority on his early life and on his late plays. She was an adjunct professor in the Department of Theatre at the University of Illinois, where she advised on productions of several of the early full-length plays by Williams. She produced dozens of articles and conference presentations on Williams.

She was a member of the Red Herring Fiction Writers Workshop, the University of Illinois Women’s Club and the Champaign–Urbana Social Science Club. In 2013, she returned to Columbia to live in Lenoir Woods.

She is survived by her daughter, Susanna Lemmon Day (Tina Drury) ’57; her son, Mark P. Hale Jr (Jane Pendergast); her grandchildren, Kirsten Hale Lora, Christopher Hale, Michael Pendergast, Samuel Baumhoff and Amelia and Olyvia Drury; and two great-grandchildren, Cadence and Aria Lora.
The CC Alumni Collection

All adult clothing items are available with Columbia College or Christian College logos. Shop the online catalog at www.columbiacollegealumni.org/alumnistore.

Upcoming Events

**Jefferson City Alumni Networking Social**
- May 28, 2015
- Jefferson City, Missouri

**Columbia Alumni Networking Social**
- June 4, 2015
- Columbia, Missouri

**Fort Drum Alumni Networking Social**
- June 11, 2015
- Fort Drum, New York

**St. Louis Alumni Networking Social**
- June 25, 2015
- St. Louis, Missouri

**Marysville Alumni Networking Social**
- July 14, 2015
- Marysville, Washington

**Whidbey Island Alumni Networking Social**
- July 15, 2015
- Whidbey Island, Washington

**Family Day & Homecoming**
- Sept. 25-26, 2015
- Columbia, Missouri

For more event listings and information, visit www.columbiacollegealumni.org/alumnievents.
A. T-shirt with imprinted logo

- Navy
- Pink
- Indigo
- Blue
- White
- Sport
- Gray

M-XL: $12, XXL: $14

B. Long sleeve t-shirt with imprinted logo

- Navy
- Pink
- Indigo
- Blue
- White
- Sport
- Gray

M-XL: $15, XXL: $17

C. Denim shirt with embroidered logo

M-XL: $35, XXL: $37

D. Hooded pullover sweatshirt with imprinted logo

- Navy
- Sport
- Gray
- Pink

M-XL: $28, XXL: $33

E. Sweatshirt with imprinted logo

- Navy
- Sport
- Gray
- Pink

M-XL: $25, XXL: $28

F. CCAA Navy Polo

Men’s and Women’s XS-5X: $15

G. Columbia College hat with CCAA logo on back

Navy

$14

H. Westminster mug

Indigo blue or navy; $8

I. Alumni Grip Mug

White with blue grip; $8

J. Duotone mug

12 oz. navy blue; $8

K. Colored tumbler

Color coordinated straw and lid; 16 oz. with white imprint. Blue, red, green, smoke, clear; $8

L. Colored sports bottle

Printed white CCAA logo. Purple, blue, red, green; $8

M. Big Chill six-pack cooler

Insulated, soft-sided; $8

N. Columbia College Alumni license plate cover

White with navy imprint; $5

O. Navy fleece blanket

White embroidered logo; $15

P. CCAA playing cards

honor the past, present and future of the college; $5

Q. Lamis tote bag

Stylish faux leather with CCAA logo imprint. Gray or navy; $15

Items not pictured:

R. Glass picture frame

6” x 4” beveled glass with white logo imprint; $8

S. Silver picture frame

4” x 6” brushed metal finish with etched logo; $8

T. 4GB flash drive

Swivel style, printed logo; $6

U. CCAA keychain

Silver metal with blue band and printed logo; $5

V. Glass picture frame

6” x 4” beveled glass with white logo imprint; $8

W. Embroidered bib

White w/ navy trim; $12

Make check payable to Columbia College Alumni Association or charge to:

☐ Mastercard  ☐ VISA  ☐ Discover

Account number ____________________________ Expiration date: ______/_______  CVC ______

Order Total ____________________________

We provide FREE shipping on all orders. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. U.S. postage paid only.

Name ______________________________________________ Phone number ____________________________

Address ____________________________________________ Email address ____________________________________

City _______________________________________________ State _________________ Zip ______________________

APPAREL:  ☐ Christian College Alumnae  ☐ Columbia College Alumni

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1. Onesies

Navy/Gray/Pink 6 mo-24 mo; $12

2. Infant Lap Shoulder t-shirt

Navy/Gray 6 mo-18 mo; $12

3. Infant Basic t-shirt

Navy/Gray 6 mo-24 mo; $12

4. Navy Toddler t-shirt

2T-4T; $12

5. Navy Columbia Cougars t-shirt

Juvi 5/6 & 7; $12  Youth XS-XL; $12

6. Embroidered bib

White w/ navy trim; $12
What's New With You?

If you have a change of address, marriage or birth announcement, new job, awards, etc., we'd like to know about it! Use the form below or fill out the alumni update form online at www.columbiacollegealumni.org/alumniupdate. We’ll update your alumni records and share your good news in Affinity magazine. To submit a photo with your news, email it to ccalum@ccis.edu!

Name: ________________________________

First  Maiden  Last

Preferred name: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________ ☐ Check if new

City: __________________________ State: ______  Zip: __________

Home phone: (_____)_________  Cell phone: (_____)_________

E-mail: ________________________________ Date of birth: __________

Campus attended: __________________________ Class year: __________

Employer: ________________________________

Job title: ________________________________ ☐ Check if new  Effective: __________

Business Address: ________________________________

Name of spouse: ________________________________

Spouse's job title: ____________________________  Employer: ________________________________

Business address: ________________________________

Wedding announcement (within the last 12 months)

Married to: ________________________________ Date of marriage: __________

CC campus attended (if applicable): __________________________  CC graduation year (if applicable):

City: __________________________ State: ______  Zip: __________

Birth (Adoption) announcement (within the last 12 months)

Birth of a:  ☐ Daughter  ☐ Son  Date of birth: __________

Name: ________________________________  Spouse’s name: ☐ Check if CC  Grad year __________

Career Notes/Retirement Update/Community Service/Military (within the last 12 months)

Please attach additional information if necessary.

____________________________________________

____________________________________________

____________________________________________

____________________________________________

Mail this form to: Columbia College Alumni Relations Office • 1001 Rogers St. • Columbia, MO 65216
(800) 231-2391, ext. ALUM (2586) or (573) 875-ALUM (2586) • (573) 875-7733 Fax • www.ColumbiaCollegeAlumni.org
The CCAA Membership Rewards Program gives you access to exclusive benefits, ways to get involved and CC resources. And now we are pleased to announce a new rewards partner, PerkSpot.

Through this easy-to-navigate website, you can access this one-stop shop for nationwide discounts. From entertainment to travel and financial services to health and wellness, browse more than 200 merchants with the click of a button.

Start saving today! www.columbiacollegealumni.perkspot.com

First-time users will need to create an account to view offers.

For assistance, email PerkSpot customer service at cs@perkspot.com.

www.columbiacollegealumni.org/rewards
Request a free CCAA Membership Rewards card: (573) 875-ALUM (2586)
Athletic Hall of Fame: September 25
Campus-wide Events: September 25 & 26
Stop by the alumni hospitality tent for food, fun and prizes provided by the Columbia College Alumni Association.

www.ccis.edu/familydayhomecoming