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Measure of a Man

Warren Corman had a hand in the design and construction of some of KU’s most iconic buildings. As he closes the books on a long career, the 84-year-old architect has himself become a bit of a KU icon.

By Chris Lazzarino

For Jessica

A daughter’s struggle, a mother’s love and a definition of happiness that’s far from textbook.

By Jennifer Lawler

Stung

MacArthur grant-winner Marla Spivak’s fascination with honeybees drives her quest to help the threatened pollinators help themselves.

By Steven Hill
Lift the Chorus
Lift the Chorus
Letters from our readers

First word
The editor’s turn

On the Boulevard
KU & Alumni Association events

Jayhawk Walk
Thrifty threads, lizard dinner, the Field House beat and more

Hilltopics
News and notes: Gov. Brownback sworn in; West Campus gets a high-tech incubator.

Sports
Alumnus Sheahon Zenger is new athletics director.

Association News
Nominations sought for board, Fred Ellsworth Medallion; legacy scholarship made permanent.

Class Notes
Profiles of a civic leader, a world-class spokesman and more

In Memory
Deaths in the KU family

Rock Chalk Review
KU theatre brushes up its OP Shakespeare; Sean Sheridan captures Africa’s struggles.

Glorious to view
Scene on campus
A complete list of all the hospitals in Kansas City ranked as one of the nation’s Best Hospitals by U.S. News & World Report:

1. The University of Kansas Hospital

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

That's it. There is only one. The University of Kansas Hospital.

In fact, we are the only hospital in the area that made this prestigious list. And this year, we have been ranked in six categories: Ear, Nose and Throat, Geriatrics, Heart and Heart Surgery, Kidney Disorders, Pulmonology, Urology. Overall, 4,852 hospitals were evaluated, 152 were ranked as the nation's best and one was from Kansas City.

We are honored.

The University of Kansas Hospital
Advancing The Power Of Medicine®
Warren Corman has climbed his share of scaffolds during his six decades as an architect, so crawling on the floor wasn’t completely bizarre.

But for a photo shoot in his own home? Whatever happened to just sitting pretty and saying “cheese”?

The 84-year-old University architect was puzzled as Susan Younger, Kansas Alumni creative director, and Steve Puppe, our photographer, began stringing metal tape measures every which way, creating a wacky maze through which Corman, e’50, needed to crawl before smiling for the camera. At one point, he hollered upstairs to his wife: “Mary! You gotta come down here and see what these crazy kids are doing!”

Later that day, when I thanked him for spending most of his morning with Younger, f’91, and Puppe, j’98, the still-smiling Corman pretended to rant: “Good grief! It took them forever—must have been an hour and a half! I thought those guys would never leave.”

Of course, as I explained to Corman, a cover model deserves extra time and creative effort: especially the man who played a key role in so many KU landmarks—a guy we wish would never leave.

In our profile by Chris Lazzarino, j’86, you’ll learn the stories behind the favorite projects of the affable architect who knows KU buildings inside and out.

Younger, the woman who so handily stretched and spliced tape measures in Corman’s basement, relishes a creative challenge. After redesigning this magazine a decade ago, she decided it was time to refresh the look. She and Valerie Spicher, j’94, our graphic designer, meticulously researched countless magazines and design theories over the past several months to find the most appealing typefaces and page designs in which to package our prose. We are thrilled by the results. And, I must confess, I feel my age. Years ago, I didn’t understand the concerns of older readers who sometimes found type too small or too light to see clearly. Now that I, too, wear bifocals, I can personally attest to the readability of our new design.

In our second profile, Steve Hill tells the story of KU’s latest winner of the prestigious scholarly awards from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. One of the 2010 prizes, each of which includes a $500,000 grant, went to Marla Spivak, who studied with KU’s resident bee expert, Professor Orley “Chip” Taylor. Spivak, PhD’89, has made a name for herself as an eminent scholar and innovator at the University of Minnesota, where she has developed a new strain of honeybees in an effort to protect the imperiled insects so essential to agriculture and the food supply.

Our third feature resulted from an ultimatum issued by Diane Silver, a freelance writer and frequent contributor to Kansas Alumni. Silver, normally ever-so-polite in pitching a story, said we must write about Jennifer Lawler, who had recently shared the story of her daughter, Jessica, in an online essay. Silver pointed us to Lawler’s essay, and once we started reading, we couldn’t stop. We soon decided that instead of writing about Lawler, c’88, g’94, PhD’96, we wanted her writing to appear in these pages. We asked for the rights to publish her essay, and she agreed, setting about the tough task of editing it to fit our format. In thanks to our eagle-eyed freelancer, we asked Silver to introduce the essay.

Weeks later, we still can’t stop reading Lawler’s wrenching, wondrous account of life with her daughter, who since birth has faced life-threatening illness. Although their daily challenges may differ from yours, the fierce love, nagging fears and sheer joys of family life are universal. This is one of the most powerful pieces Kansas Alumni has ever published, and we are grateful and proud to share it with you.
Exhibitions
“Dan Perjovschi Central Court,” Spencer Museum of Art, through Feb. 6

Lied Center events

University Theatre

Exhibitions
“Dan Perjovschi Central Court,” Spencer Museum of Art, through Feb. 6

Lied Center events

JANUARY

26 Joyce Castle, mezzo-soprano and KU professor of voice, free concert

FEBRUARY

10-15 “Undergraduate Projects: Black Box,” Inge Theatre
24-26, March 4-6 “The Beaux’ Stratagem,” by George Farquhar, directed by John Staniunas

26-27 “The Time Machine,” by H.G. Wells, adapted for the stage and directed by Dennis Christilles

15 Alexander String Quartet
17 KU Symphony Orchestra
19 William Inge’s “Bus Stop”
24 The Spencers: “Theatre of Illusion”
25 School of Engineering presents Engineering Expo 2011: “A Century Celebration”

MARCH

3-5 Rock Chalk Revue
4-5 James Higdon: Celebration of 30 Years Teaching at KU, Bales Organ Recital Hall
6 Kansas City Symphony
9 “An Evening with Garrison Keillor”
13 “Carnival of Animals” and “Peter and the Wolf”

29 KU Symphony Orchestra and Choirs perform “Elijah”

Murphy Hall events

JANUARY

27-29 KU Opera, “Ruddigore,” Swarthout Recital Hall

FEBRUARY

10 Carine Gutlerner, piano, Swarthout Recital Hall
18 Composer’s Guild, Swarthout Recital Hall
20 KU French Horn Ensemble, Swarthout Recital Hall
Alumni events

JANUARY
25 Boulder: KU vs. Colorado pregame event
27 Denver Alumni Breakfast
27 Washington, D.C.: KU Night at the Smithsonian American Art Museum

FEBRUARY
1 Lubbock: KU vs. Texas Tech pregame event
12 Sacramento: KU Night with the Kings
13 Bay Area: KU Night with the Golden State Warriors
26 Topeka: Capital City Luau
26 Norman, Okla.: KU vs. Oklahoma pregame event

MARCH
2 Highland
23 Atchison

Kansas Honors Program

JANUARY
31 Pittsburg

FEBRUARY
7 Beloit
7 Iola
9 Great Bend
10 Larned
17 Blue Rapids
23 Holton
23 Paola

MARCH
14 Washington, D.C.: KU Night with the Wizards
31-April 1 Lawrence: School of Journalism Alumni Event

With basketball season upon us, here’s a nod to alumni and fans through the years who have taken their school spirit to the extreme. Alumni Association chapters nationwide host watch parties for many basketball games, and the Association will host pregame rallies at selected games and throughout postseason play. Visit www.kualumni.org for the latest on all alumni events.
Lizard, very rare

Only a herpetologist like Ngo Van Tri would think twice about the genetic makeup of a restaurant menu item. After years examining reptiles in Southeast Asia, he was struck by the unique appearance of lizards served at a remote Vietnamese eatery. In early 2009, he sent photos and samples to his American colleagues Jesse Grismer, a KU doctoral student researching the Leiolepis genus, and Jesse’s father and fellow herpetologist, L. Lee Grismer. The team quickly realized this lizard was exceptional. “Tri dropped a gem in my lap when he e-mailed me,” says Jesse Grismer, who sequenced the DNA and discovered the population was closely related to other asexual species. He and his father found that every sample was female and seemed to reproduce by self-cloning (not so odd in the lizard world, as it turns out), but they found no record of this particular strain.

Wardrobe malfunction

Students prepping for job interviews and career fairs can look to the University Career Center for more than résumé help and interview tips: They can find something to wear, courtesy of a clothing drive sponsored by Delta Epsilon Iota.

The career-focused student honor society set out donation bins on campus this fall and gathered a closetful of professional attire, including ties, dress shoes and shirts, and suits. They received “more obscure items” too, says DEI president and senior Nate Phillips.


“The majority was exactly what we were looking for, but we definitely laughed a few times,” says Erin Wolfram, g’07, assistant director at UCC and DEI adviser. “We got a lot of stuff from the ’80s.”

Meaning?
“Loud colors, crazy patterns. Corduroy.”

Items eventually will be cataloged on UCC’s Web page, but for now student job-seekers who must dress to impress can stop by the center at 110 Burge Union.

The drive is done, but donations are still welcome, especially from alumni. Even those from the ’80s. And remember: “You look mahvelous, dahling.”

Heard by the Bird: Shortly after KU’s 70-68 victory over USC, a Dec. 18 game that will be long remembered for the 21 points and game-winning three-pointer Josh Selby scored in his collegiate debut, Bill Self was asked whether the sensational freshman guard had inadvertently sat in Self’s chair following a timeout. Self at first said he hadn’t noticed, but, flashing his famous grin, grabbed at the chance for a good-natured jab: “Makes two shots,” the coach said, playing up his soft Oklahoma drawl, “and the guy thinks he should coach the team.” Asked whether raucous fans helped KU overcome the determined Trojans, Self replied, “They won the game ... well, and Selby.”
The Grismers booked plane tickets to Ho Chi Minh City. After a harrowing eight-hour motorcycle ride through southern Vietnam, the Grismers and Tri arrived at the restaurant to find that their specimen had been cooked and served to hungry customers.

With help from knowledgeable locals, the scientists captured more of the unusual lizards for study. “It’s really neat when you’re out in the wild and you’re holding it in your hand,” says Chris Depcik, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering who oversees the project. “We found that an electric vehicle makes perfect sense for them because it fits their driving cycle perfectly.” Specifically, the stop-and-go, up-and-down, short-mileage routes play to the strengths of an electric vehicle. There’s no running engine to spew pollutants during frequent stops. The heaviest loads typically come early in the route, when battery charge is highest. And best of all, friction created by braking recharges batteries that power the electric engine, putting gravity’s pull to good use.

Who knew that all those hills had such an upside?

The Grismers named the new species after their indispensable colleague, and the Leiolepis ngovantrii entered the scientific body of knowledge. Seems a celebration feast is in order.

Drummer’s seat can’t be beat

Chris Carter is a sophomore math major who doesn’t even camp out before men’s basketball games, and yet he confidently argues that his is the best seat in all of Allen Field House. That’s because there’s only one stool behind only one drum set, perched on a platform with a perfect view overlooking the south end of Naismith Court.

Carter is one of two Basketball Band drummers, along with junior music education major Taylor Babb; while one slam dunks the snare the other leads the band, switching off every few songs.

The main drawback of the otherwise perfect seat is that it’s directly in front of the horn section. As for ear protection, Carter scoffs, “You just gotta live in that environment, appreciate the tones, appreciate that it’s the loudest place in the country to watch college basketball.” That’s a reference to a study, commissioned by ESPN The Magazine, that declared KU’s the country’s loudest arena, with “the perfect combo of dimension, students-to-court proximity and low-absorption materials.”

And don’t forget band-to-court proximity. Carter takes pride in playing “really hard, full of energy,” but notes that it’s not all about loud: “As the drummer, you’re the only visual representation of the band. Everybody else, you can maybe see their fingers moving, but you can’t see what sound they’re making.” Whether it’s the sight or the sound, the rhythm and the Rock Chalk are gonna get you.

Hauling the mail

Mail delivery on Mount Oread will get a lot greener once the KU Ecohawks finish their latest project, converting an old SUV into a electric vehicle for campus mail services.

The student group that undertook the challenge of modifying a VW Beetle to achieve 100 miles per gallon [“A bug remade,” Rock Chalk Review, issue No. 3, 2009] is now refurbishing a GMC Jimmy to serve as a battery electric mail truck. “Campus mail heard about the Beetle and contacted us,” says Chris Depcik, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering who oversees the project. “We found that an electric vehicle makes perfect sense for them because it fits their driving cycle perfectly.” Specifically, the stop-and-go, up-and-down, short-mileage routes play to the strengths of an electric vehicle. There’s no running engine to spew pollutants during frequent stops. The heaviest loads typically come early in the route, when battery charge is highest. And best of all, friction created by braking recharges batteries that power the electric engine, putting gravity’s pull to good use.

Who knew that all those hills had such an upside?

Lessons learned in converting a VW Beetle to battery power are helping Austin Hausmann, e’10, graduate student in mechanical engineering, and his fellow Ecohawks build an electric-powered SUV for campus mail delivery.
Tough sell

Funding tops KU’s wish list, but tough times and shifting political winds could hinder goal

At a time of sweeping political change in Topeka, the University headed into the 2011 legislative session hoping to shore up support from lawmakers for several initiatives already well underway.

The November elections increased Republican majorities in the House and Senate to historic levels, and ushered in a new governor, Sam Brownback, ’83.

“Our administration will focus on the basics,” Brownback said during his Jan. 10 inauguration as the state’s 46th governor. “I want Kansas to be known as a state of hope. Whoever has the most hope has the biggest dreams.”

Brownback told the Associated Press that he is working on a plan to buy down the student loans of college graduates who move to shrinking communities. The proposal would require states and counties to share program costs, and it would target nonresidents in the hopes of attracting talented young people to the state or persuading Kansans who moved away to return.

As the Legislature convened in January, the University shared its top priorities for the upcoming session. The most pressing concerns include:

• Increasing the number of engineering graduates. Collaborating with K-12 schools to boost interest in the field has worked, driving enrollment in the School of Engineering to a 21-year-high. The school has tripled the number of PhD students, doubled research awards and is awarding higher numbers of undergraduate degrees, but its ability to train additional engineers needed by Kansas companies is hampered by a lack of space. A new 40,000-square-foot building partially funded by a $12.3 million federal stimulus grant is now under construction, but even more space is needed. The Kansas Board of Regents is calling on the Legislature to provide $5.4 million to be split among KU, Kansas State and Wichita State to increase the number of engineering graduates.

• Achieving NCI designation. The multi-year drive to obtain National Cancer Institute designation for the KU Cancer Center would attract top researchers and give the 13,000 Kansans annually diagnosed with cancer local access to the latest treatments and most advanced care. KU is expected to submit its application for NCI designation in September. Also a top legislative priority is elevating the national ranking of the School of Medicine. The University will be asking the Legislature to invest in both of these goals.

• Avoiding further cuts to the higher-ed budget and securing an “inflationary increase” to keep funding steady. After suffering more than $42 million in cuts brought on by the economic crisis and resulting state budget shortfalls, KU supports the Board of Regents’ call for a 2.73-percent budget hike to offset inflation. That increase would add about $20 million in state support for higher


Stormy weather forced inaugural ceremonies for Gov. Sam Brownback indoors at the state capitol—and seemed an apt symbol of higher education’s funding outlook in a time of continuing budget deficits.

“Great educations grow great futures. Yet our public universities have suffered severe cuts and stagnant rankings at a time when the Kansas economy needs better educated students and ascending institutions.”

—Gov. Sam Brownback
education. In all the Regents are calling for restoration of half of the $100 million cut last fiscal year.

It will be a tough sell. Brownback takes office facing yet another budget deficit—this time a $550 million projected shortfall for the fiscal year that begins in July. At the same time, the November election increased the Republican majority in the House from 76-49 to 92-33, the largest in more than 50 years. Conservative members of that majority want to repeal a statewide 1 percent sales tax instituted last year. If that repeal is successful, the budget deficit would increase to $850 million.

There has also been talk of cutting income taxes and providing business tax breaks to generate economic growth.

In his “State of the State” address Jan. 12, Brownback said his budget proposal to the Legislature would increase funding for K-12 and stabilize state support for higher education for the first time since the recession began. Saying his number one priority is job growth, he also proposed a three-year, $105 million University Economic Growth initiative to increase jobs in key sectors such as aviation, cancer research, animal health and engineering. Each university would be required to provide 50 percent of the program cost by raising private money or redirecting existing funds.

Jayhawks for Higher Education, a group of KU alumni who advocate for KU in the Statehouse, will support the University as it makes its case to lawmakers during the 2011 session. For more information on becoming a legislative advocate through JHE, visit www.kualumni.org.

Growth spur

New West Campus business center links research and marketplace

Campus visitors who stumble upon the Bioscience and Technology Business Center may see just one more new building on KU’s rapidly growing West Campus. Matt McClorey sees 20,000 square feet of economic engine.

“What we have here is a system for building companies,” says McClorey, director of the new center and president and CEO of the Lawrence Regional Technology Center, which manages the business incubator and provides development services to its tenants. “We’re building an entrepreneurial environment where software businesses, drug development companies, advanced manufacturing businesses and information technology companies can get up and going here in Lawrence.”

Four tenants have moved in since the building opened in August: Propylon, an Irish company that markets content-management software for legislative bodies; EHR, a local partnership between Lawrence Regional Technology Center and Bert Nash that markets an electronic patient records and billing system; Sunlite Science and Technology, an LED lighting company founded by a KU alumnus; and Garmin, the global maker of navigation and communication devices.

The radically different products and sizes of the tenant companies illustrates the center’s “diversified” strategy, says McClorey, g’99, l’99.

“This is not strictly a life sciences facility. This is aimed at technology and knowledge-based companies across the spectrum.”

Peter Rohloff, a physician with Wuqu’ Kawoq—a Guatemala relief group founded by KU graduate students Anne Kraemer Diaz, g’08, and Emily Tummons and featured in issue No. 4, 2010 (“The Gloom of Doom”)—took part in the Dec. 17 episode of ABC’s yearlong series “Be the Change: Save a Life” to illustrate Guatemala’s malnutrition crisis. Said Rohloff, “Dealing with the problem of early childhood stunting, early childhood chronic malnutrition, is really the solution to breaking the cycle of poverty.” Two days later, Rohloff was a guest on Christiane Amanpour’s Sunday-morning ABC show, and Kraemer Diaz says the national exposure has had a “fantastic impact” on Wuqu’ Kawoq’s fundraising appeals.

Ready-to-eat nutrition packets delivered to African children by the United Nations would be equally effective in Guatemala; ABC asked viewers to help raise $25,000 to fund supplements for an entire village for a year, and FedEx is helping to fund and ship supplements for children in vulnerable areas served by Wuqu’ Kawoq. See www.wuqukawoq.org for more information.
Best for vets: Military Times Edge ranks KU among the top 10 public universities for veterans. The magazine for soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen surveyed more than 4,000 colleges and universities about their programs, policies and resources for veterans, awarding KU five stars (on a five-star scale) for academic flexibility, 4.5 for financial assistance and support services, and 3.5 for campus culture. KU was the only school in Kansas listed, and the second-highest rated university in the Big 12.

various technology disciplines. It’s not exclusively for startups, but for spinoffs from KU, emerging high-growth technology businesses we recruit, and collaborations between large corporations and KU researchers.”

The Lawrence Douglas County Biosciences Authority and its state and local partners funded the center to provide the kind of office and lab space that can attract companies in rapid-growth fields. The goal is to grow the local economy while providing high-paying jobs and increasing the local tax base. They built it on West Campus to offer companies access to the University’s research expertise and other resources, and to attract existing companies and local startups that can find commercial markets for KU research developments.

“Companies want to be on campus because they want access to talent,” McClorey says. “They want to develop relationships to hire people to help their business grow, and they want to collaborate with KU researchers. If you take this building off campus, it doesn’t have the same appeal to industry, to entrepreneurs.”

The West Campus facility, at 2029 Becker Dr., is about 40 percent occupied, and a second building at 15th and Wakarusa Drive, home to KU spinoff CritiTech, is about 25 percent full. Once those buildings reach capacity, plans call for a second building on West Campus that could bring total incubator space to 50,000 square feet. A research park in the mode of North Carolina’s Research Triangle Park might even be a possibility down the road.

“I don’t have a crystal ball, but I can see a dynamic, entrepreneurial environment where people are collaborating, where products and technologies are being developed and getting to market,” McClorey says of the center’s future.

Pointing to the School of Pharmacy and the Multidisciplinary Research Building outside his window, McClorey says, “Across the street is research and development. Here it’s about getting products and technologies and services to the marketplace.”

The cost of doing business

Tuition spending report finds broad compliance, room for improvement

School of Business differential tuition funds were spent appropriately “for the most part,” according to an independent review undertaken to address student concerns over how the extra course fees were being used. But the report also found the school’s system for monitoring differential funds “cumbersome,” and concluded that fair management of the plan in the future depends on student input and more open reporting of expenditures. The report prepared by the accounting firm BKD for the Office of the Provost examined how the School of Business accounted for and spent $31 million generated by the differential tuition plan implemented in 2004. BKD identified approximately $60,000—about $28,000
The School of Business implemented a course fee of $75 per credit hour in 2004. With yearly increases, that fee now stands at $84 for master’s students and $102 for undergraduates. The extra course fees account for more than 40 percent of the school’s budget. The BKD report noted that many promised changes have been fulfilled with the increased funding. Achievements include new majors in marketing, information systems and management, and strengthened majors in accounting and finance. Master’s programs in business and accounting have added more electives and opportunities for experiential learning have been boosted. The school has upgraded technology and facilities while also hiring new faculty.

According to a separate report issued by the provost’s office, the School of the Arts and all 10 professional schools on the Lawrence campus have instituted differential tuition fees, which range from $16.50 per credit hour for the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications to $211.50 per hour for the School of Law. Campuswide, the course fees have raised $76.3 million since 2003, the report said. The money has been invested in additional faculty and instructional staff (43.8 percent), advising and support staff (12.5 percent), scholarships and student employment (11.9 percent), student and instructional support materials (11.2 percent), lab and instructional support staff (9.4 percent), supplemental education experiences (5.3 percent), faculty support (2.8 percent), and facilities (1.8 percent).

Milestones, money and other matters

- It now takes 120 credit hours to graduate—down from 124. The Kansas Board of Regents approved the change, effective immediately, in October. The Regents noted that 30 states, including all those bordering Kansas, have a 120-hour minimum.

- Three KU alumnae made Forbes magazine’s list of the world’s most powerful women. Cynthia Carroll, g’82, chief executive officer of Anglo American, one of the world’s largest mining companies, ranked 14th. Sheila Bair, c’75, l’78, chair of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, ranked 15th. Kathleen Sebelius, g’80, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and former Kansas governor, ranked 23rd.

- U.S. Rep. Dennis Moore, c’67, donated papers from his six congressional terms to the Spencer Research Library. Moore, who did not seek re-election in November, represented Kansas’ 3rd District from 1999 to 2011. He will also serve as a Dole Fellow at the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics this spring. Joining him as a Dole Fellow is Walt Riker, c’70, j’78. Riker served on Capitol Hill as press secretary for Bob Dole from 1981 to 1993, and worked for 17 years at McDonald’s, the final nine as vice president of global media relations. Moore and Riker will lead study groups for students and the public starting in February.

in faculty salaries and about $32,000 in other operating expenditures—that appear to be contrary to the differential tuition proposal presented to students and approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. That represents about two-tenths of one percent of the school’s differential tuition fund expenditures.

The report also noted that the differential tuition proposal is broadly written, which can lead to conflicting interpretations of how the money should be spent. That makes participation of a student advisory committee “an important component to oversight of DT spending,” the report states. A student advisory committee was disbanded in 2006, but a new student oversight group has now been formed.

The report also noted that the proposal promised a semi-annual account of differential tuition spending from the dean to all business students, but that such a report has not historically been created.

Denise Linville, a veteran lecturer in the School of Journalism, won both the HOPE and Mortar Board awards for outstanding teaching.

KU’s Nov. 20 football game, then three days later was in Allen Field House for an on-court presentation of the Mortar Board Honor Society Outstanding Educator Award at a men’s basketball game.

“It was a very emotional week,” says Linville, who has taught at KU for 27 years. “It took me by surprise. The fact that they are both student awards and that the students felt strongly enough about what happens in my classroom to acknowledge me in that way was really gratifying.”

The HOPE Award, established by the Class of 1959, solicits nominations from the senior class. The top five nominees are interviewed by members of the Board of Class Officers and its Senior Advisory Board. The Mortar Board, which has presented its teaching award since 1974, relies on nominations from the student honor society’s members, who choose the winners.

The outpouring of good wishes from students and colleagues past and present affected her whole family—including sons Clay, 14, and Tony, 13.

“It’s kind of tough to impress teenagers, but I think they actually may have been a little bit moved by the experience,” she says. “It’s really gratifying to have my sons see that what I do is valued, beyond a paycheck. That’s a great lesson for them.”

MEDICINE

Regents approval opens door for School of Public Health

The Kansas Board of Regents has endorsed KU’s plan to reorganize four departments at the School of Medicine into a new School of Public Health.

Calling the move “a monumental step forward,” Gary Sherrer, Regents chair, said, “KU’s proposal couldn’t come at a more critical time for our state. These efforts to promote public health will save lives and money.”

The new school will comprise the departments of biostatistics, health policy and management, and preventive medicine and public health in Kansas City; and the department of preventive medicine and public health in Wichita.

VISITOR

Sports Illustrator

Bill Frakes, j’85, staff photographer for Sports Illustrated, shared his favorite photographs and multimedia stories from a career that has spanned nearly 30 years. His presentation capped a three-day multimedia workshop at KU for high school and college photojournalists.

SPONSOR: William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications

WHEN: Dec. 3
WHERE: Big 12 Room, Kansas Union.

BACKGROUND: Frakes was on the Miami Herald staff that won the Pulitzer Prize for coverage of Hurricane Andrew, and his photojournalism and advertising work in more than 100 countries has attracted numerous honors. He has been a key player in Sports Illustrated’s embrace of multimedia storytelling for the World Wide Web and tablet computers.

ANECDOTE: Frakes recalled stopping in Lecompton while a student to photograph Leroy Hatch, a local man whose expressive, deeply lined face caught his eye. The photo ran on the front page of the Daily Kansan, and years later a relative tracked Frakes down to request a copy of the photo, which Hatch still carried in his wallet.

QUOTES: “I realized that was one of the most significant moments of Leroy Hatch’s life. It was only three minutes of my life, but he has had that photograph in his pocket for 30 years. You can have a pretty big impact if you care.”
KU Hospital increased its financial commitment to the School of Medicine by 21 percent to $66.4 million. The jump came after total revenue for the 2010 fiscal year rose by 7 percent to $805 million, reflecting an 8 percent surge in patient volumes. The hospital released its audited 2010 financial report during the November meeting of the University of Kansas Hospital Authority Board.

Higuchi-KU Endowment Research Achievement Awards for 2010 were presented to two professors from KU and two from K-State. Hagith Sivan, professor of history at KU, won the Balfour Jeffrey Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Christian Schöneich, professor and chair of pharmaceutical chemistry at KU, won the Dolph Simons Award in Biomedical Sciences. T. G. Nagaraja, University Distinguished Professor of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology in the College of Veterinary Medicine at K-State, earned the Irvin Youngberg Award for Applied Sciences. Chii-Dong Lin, University Distinguished Professor of Physics at K-State, won the Olin Petefish Award in Basic Science. The program was established by the late Takeru Higuchi, a distinguished professor at KU from 1967 to ‘83, and his late wife, Aya, to recognize outstanding research at KU and other Board of Regents institutions.

A $1.176 million grant from the National Science Foundation will fund bandwidth upgrades to KanREN, the data network linking researchers at KU, K-State and Wichita State. The boost in computing power will benefit many research projects in the state, including two initiatives on climate change and renewable energy at the National Science Foundation’s EPSCoR office at KU, where the grant will be administered.

“Local communities, employers and state government need graduates with these skills,” said Barbara Atkinson, executive vice chancellor at the medical center. “Our School of Public Health’s mission will be to help train these desperately needed public health care professionals and improve health outcomes across the state and region.”

The expansion, in the planning stages for four years, is part of a larger effort by KU, Sherrer noted.

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MEDICINE
Accreditors give green light for med school expansion

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Both locations will welcome the first classes of eight students next fall. Class size in Salina will remain at eight, but Wichita will eventually accept 28 students each fall. The expansion allows the School of Medicine to train 211 students each year, up from 175 now. Another goal is to address shortages of rural physicians, says William Cathcart-Rake, m’74, a Salina-based oncologist who will direct the KU School of Medicine-Salina.

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“The iPad for us has been a pretty big game-changer. It certainly has changed the way I work every day.” —Bill Frakes
Sheahon Zenger might not have been the first choice to become KU’s next director of athletics, but he was the last, by all appearances the best, and certainly the most enthusiastic.

“About 10 seconds,” Zenger replied when asked how long he needed to consider the job offer from Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little. “I want to be here.”

In mid-December, many news outlets, citing unnamed sources, claimed Kansas had offered its vacant A.D. job to Bubba Cunningham, athletics director at the University of Tulsa, and that Cunningham had accepted. Instead, Cunningham and Tulsa on Dec. 16 announced a contract extension.

The search for a replacement for Lew Perkins then went quiet until Jan. 2, when Gray-Little’s office announced that Illinois State athletics director Sheahon (pronounced SHAY-un) Zenger, PhD’96, who lived in Lawrence as a child and returned for his doctorate in educational policy and leadership, would become A.D. Feb. 1.

Zenger signed a four-year contract, worth $450,000 annually. Among other reactions to scandals that rocked the late stages of Perkins’ tenure, Zenger’s contract requires that all travel on University aircraft be approved in writing by the chancellor’s office, and that any exceptions to a prohibition on spousal travel on University aircraft be approved in writing by the chancellor herself.

It is expected that such precautions will not prove necessary.

“Our single biggest criteria had to be high integrity, exhibited every place the candidate had been, with a level of ethics that was uncommonly superior,” said Ray Evans, b’82, g’84, who chaired the six-member search committee. “Several names kept emerging, and one that kept coming up more and more was Sheahon Zenger. In our first conversation, we talked for an hour and a half, and I sensed right away his ethics, his sincerity, that he’s exceptionally bright, a terrific businessperson and that he has terrific people skills.

“One of the terms that came up with Sheahon early on was ‘Eagle Scout.’ We liked that. It intimated significant levels of integrity.”

Under Zenger’s leadership, Illinois State in 2009 won its second Missouri Valley Conference All-Sports Trophy in three years, and the Redbirds last year won seven conference titles. They also posted record-high grade-point averages each of the last four years, and membership in the athletics scholarship fund grew by 65 percent.

There is precedent for KU hiring an athletics director from Illinois State: The late Bob Frederick, d’62, g’64, EdD’84, was ISU’s athletics director from 1985 to ’87, until returning to KU to succeed Monte Johnson, b’59, g’67.

Before joining Illinois State, in 2005, Zenger was associate athletics director for development at Kansas State, his undergraduate alma mater. He’d also worked as K-State’s assistant athletics director for major gifts and as a fundraiser for the business college. Shortly before earning his undergraduate degree, Zenger in 1987 launched his football coaching career at Manhattan High School, then found a college coaching job at Drake University.

He returned to KSU in 1989 as a 23-year-old director of football operations for coach Bill Snyder. He completed a journalism master’s degree in 1992, spent two years as editor of a national coaching magazine, then came to Kansas for his doctoral degree. Here he wrote his dissertation on what he identified as an underappreciated aspect of education leadership: interim leaders, focusing on Del Shankel, now chancellor and professor emeritus, who twice served KU as interim chancellor and later guided the Alumni Association as interim president before the arrival of Kevin Corbett, c’88.

Professor Jerry Bailey, faculty athletics...
representative and the adviser who convinced Zenger to pursue his PhD on the Hill, said after Zenger’s first news conference, “He works awfully hard, he’s awfully bright, he has a great way with people, he is down to earth, he is truly a Kansan and he knows his roots. I think he’s going to do great.” Asked whether an Eagle Scout-type can endure the grueling tests of national-caliber collegiate athletics, Bailey replied, “I would not want to be on the other side of an argument with Dr. Zenger.”

Zenger returned to coaching after leaving KU, as recruiting coordinator at South Florida and then Wyoming, where in 1998 he was named assistant head coach. Seeing that he was invariably the coach’s liaison with administration, he realized that his likeliest path to success wasn’t on the sidelines. Yet Zenger’s experiences as a coach are evident in his conversations, especially when discussing his “core philosophy” of athletics administration.

“We will be a coach-centered athletics department,” he said, announcing that he’ll expect athletes, coaches and staff to be “assignment correct, fundamentally sound and mentally tough, on the field of play, in the classroom, and in our personal lives.” He also cited a need to “always remember those who went before us, who laid this great foundation,” and added, “When the world is full of bureaucracy and gridlock and victimization, we will rise above and be a family, a team of disciplined individuals moving together as one.”

When he starts work here Feb. 1, Zenger will launch a 90-day plan, broken into 30-day segments. The first will be dedicated to getting to know athletes, coaches and staff, as well as members of the University and local communities. Next will come a thorough review of contracts and policies, and then he’ll spend a month revisiting the department’s master plan. Throughout that process, Zenger pledges, he’ll meet with donors and alumni, “one by one, in person, looking them in the eye, finding out what the issues are.”

Interim Athletics Director Sean Lester, who assumed control immediately after Perkins’ resignation, said after Zenger’s introduction that he’d been impressed by Zenger’s ideas and energy and that he hopes to stay on after his duties as interim A.D. end Feb. 1.

“I plan to be here and support Sheahon,” Lester says, “and I want to learn from him.”

Born in Salina, Zenger says his earliest memories are of attending KU basketball and football games as a boy, when his family lived on 21st Street Terrace, just a few blocks south of Allen Field House. He always chose No. 10 for his youth-sport jerseys, in honor of KU quarterback Bobby Douglass, and he wore a Gale Sayers jersey for his fourth-grade school picture. Though his family moved to Hays, where he grew up, Zenger insists he’s always retained affection for Lawrence.

“We look forward to reacquainting him with KU and our passionate alumni,” the Alumni Association’s Corbett says. “The search committee should be congratulated and thanked by all alumni and fans for attracting someone of Dr. Zenger’s credentials and obvious love of KU and the state of Kansas.”

 Says Zenger, “Some people in this profession dream of places like Notre Dame, Michigan or USC. I dream of the University of Kansas. It doesn’t get any better than this.”

A star is born

Freshman Selby thrills crowd with game-winner in debut

Shortly after the NCAA announced Nov. 19 that superstar freshman guard Josh Selby, perhaps the most prized recruit in Bill Self’s eight seasons, must sit out nine games for accepting impermissible

Josh Selby scored on his first field-goal attempt as a collegian (right), a trey with 13:27 remaining in the first half Dec. 18 vs. USC, and capped his 21-point night with the game-winner with 26 seconds left.
benefits, fans, teammates and even Self himself immediately circled the Dec. 18 home game against Southern California.

Self predicted Selby’s debut would be one of KU basketball’s most anticipated games, and yet even he couldn’t have anticipated exactly how right he was.

Selby is a 6-2 guard from Baltimore with all the right moves: a feather-soft outside shot, speed and toughness to drive the lane, a team-first mentality that diverts accolades and attention toward teammates. Yet Dec. 18 was all about Selby, and he knew it.

When he entered the game to an ear-splitting roar at 15:53 of the first half, he glanced up at the video board and saw his mother, Maeshon Witherspoon, who had driven 18 hours with family and friends to watch her son’s debut. Selby promptly hit his first shot, a three-pointer, and then another, working the Allen Field House crowd into a frenzy.

But he saved the best for last: a catch-and-release three-pointer off a pass from Marcus Morris, giving KU a 69-68 lead with 26 seconds remaining (later boosted to 70-68 on a Tyrel Reed free throw with four seconds left). Selby finished with a team-high 21 in his debut.

“Marcus was like, ‘Are you ready to shoot? Because I have a feeling they’re going to double-team me. Don’t hesitate to let it go.’ So when he said that, I didn’t hesitate to shoot the ball and it just went in,” said Self, “He bailed us out. He saved us.”

Following a nationally televised overtime victory Jan. 9 at Michigan, Self’s Jayhawks were undefeated at 15-0 and ranked No. 3 in the nation. Through his first six games, Selby had scored 16 or more four times and averaged 13.3 points and 3.8 assists.

Coach Bonnie Henrickson’s seventh KU basketball team went 13-1 in nonconference play, its best mark since 1993-’94, before losing its conference opener Jan. 8 at home to Texas Tech. Sophomore forward Carolyn Davis had three consecutive double-doubles and averaged 19.1 points through the first 15 games. Over a six-game span from Dec. 12 at Alabama to the conference opener, Davis averaged 20 points while making 73.3 percent of her shots. The Jayhawks were fourth nationally with a team field-goal percentage of 49.2 percent. Junior forward Aisha Sutherland was second in the Big 12 with 9.5 rebounds per game.

... David, c’68, g’69, and Suzanne Booth purchased the original rules of basketball for $3.8 million. Including the buyer’s premium, the final price at the Dec. 10 Sotheby’s auction was more than $4.3 million.

Coach Bill Self on Jan. 10 cleared senior guard Mario Little to rejoin the team after he was suspended following an off-campus fight Dec. 16. “I accept responsibility for what took place that evening and have learned from it and feel awful about it,” said Little. “The last four weeks have given me time to reflect and re-evaluate a lot of things with myself.”

... Doug Hopkins, the Kansas City Chiefs’ director of ticket operations since 1994, accepted the same job at KU. “We could not have chosen a better person to ensure that Kansas Athletics’ ticket office becomes a model for ticket operations around the country,” said Interim Athletics Director Sean Lester.

... Highly touted QB Brock Berglund, of Valor Christian High School in Colorado, signed with KU and will join coach Turner Gill’s squad for spring practice.

... The men’s basketball team will participate in the Champions Classic over the next three seasons with Kentucky, Michigan State and Duke. KU plays Kentucky Nov. 15, 2011, in Madison Square Garden; Michigan State Nov. 13, 2012, at the Georgia Dome; and Duke Nov. 12, 2013, at Chicago’s United Center.
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44th and Wornall
Markieff Morris (21), named Big 12 Player of the Week Dec. 27, and Thomas Robinson (0) are two of the “bigs” that coach Bill Self will rely on for a run at KU’s seventh-consecutive Big 12 championship—which would surely bring more smiles from Josh Selby and the Morris twins.
A LITTLE SUNFLOWER, A GREAT DEAL OF HOPE

All across the state, Kansans are making a statement. They’re driving vehicles with license plates featuring pink ribbons and sunflowers—all for a good cause.

Funds generated by the Driven to Cure license plates support the Midwest Cancer Alliance, whose hospitals span the entire state of Kansas. The goal of the alliance is to bring top-notch care and clinical trials for cancer patients, regardless of where they live in the state—from the smallest towns to the largest cities.

Rosa Mitchell, of Elkhart Kan, sports one of the license plates on her red convertible. “It’s a meaningful way to do something important that can help so many other people you don’t even know,” says Mitchell, a breast cancer survivor.

Show your support for cancer care—get your own Driven to Cure license plate today.

For details, visit kuendowment.org/licenseplate, or call 1-888-588-5249.
For Jessica

WHEN JENNIFER LAWLER POSTED ON HER BLOG about the sky crashing to the ground and a secret club that can only be entered through grief and “an appreciation for dark humor,” her words went viral. In six days, the page was viewed more than 112,000 times. More than 450 comments were posted and hundreds of people sent e-mails directly to Lawler, c’88, g’94, PhD’96.

She wrote the post, “For Jessica,” in a single night. The next morning, she revised and published it on her blog Finding Your Voice, which normally deals with the business of writing. Lawler had just learned that her 13-year-old daughter needed another operation. After a lifetime of struggling with a disorder that causes tumors to form throughout her body, Jessica had developed another life-threatening condition.

When she wrote this in July, Lawler had already been a freelancer for 15 years. She had written the popular Dojo Wisdom series of books and two novels, and authored or co-authored more than 30 other books. She had been a magazine editor, writing coach, college instructor and literary agent. Nothing, though, prepared her for what happened when “For Jessica” appeared.

Links to the post popped up around the world. The piece caught the attention of the Christian Science Monitor, which called it a prime example of an author using a blog to circumvent publishers. Lawler and her agent had already failed to find a publisher for a book about Jessica. (“We have received many rejections,” Lawler writes, “mostly on the grounds of ‘it’s too painful; it won’t find an audience.’”)

The Nieman Storyboard, a project of the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University, named the post one of its Notable Narratives of the year.

And yet all of this acclaim isn’t the reason “For Jessica” should be read. Nieman Storyboard wrote: “A very hard read, Lawler’s piece attempts nothing less than to redefine the idea of happiness.”

I hate to disagree with the good folks at Nieman, but I do, rather vehemently. While notable, Lawler’s essay doesn’t seek redefinition of happiness; it seeks explication. I think that’s why so many people reacted so strongly. “For Jessica” is rooted in the knowledge that real life and real happiness aren’t made of puppy dogs and teddy bears.

Real life rushes at us all. No matter what circumstances we face, life crashes into us at inopportune moments. The gears grind. Metal snaps. And we find ourselves sitting dazed on the ground, looking up at the sky and realizing how achingly blue it looks.

I am blessed to have a healthy child, but I identified with every word Lawler wrote. I think her intensely personal essay is universal, but that’s just how I feel. Read it, and judge for yourself.

—Diane Silver
Silver is a freelance writer and editor in Lawrence.

by Jennifer Lawler

A while back, a friend of mine and I were talking about a study she’d just read, which concluded that having children does not increase your happiness, as measured by things like “satisfaction with life” and “feeling rewarded by your work.”

At which all I could do was burst out laughing. Because, well, Duh. If there’s an occupation more likely to make you feel incompetent and unrewarded than parenting, I have never heard of it.

If you weren’t a researcher, you might define happiness as the experience of being fully alive: to know grace and despair, bitterness and failure, and kindness from the most unexpected quarter. Things you’d never know if you hadn’t had your daughter. If the medical resident hadn’t sat down while you held your baby girl in the neonatal intensive care unit and said, “Your daughter’s brain is massively deformed.”

The daughter you loved even before she was born. When she was an abstraction, a positive sign on a pregnancy test, before she kicked you in the ribs, long before she ever drew her first breath. Love you did not know you were capable of feeling, primal and angry and powerful. You would kill ten men and Satan if you had to.

But the universe doesn’t ask that from you.

When your daughter is nine months old, a neurosurgeon will say to you, “We believe resecting the left side of her brain will help control the seizures.”

The seizures that she has all day, every day, dozens, hundreds; she was born with a massively deformed brain, what did you expect?

You realize the doctor is saying they are going to take out half your daughter’s brain and throw it away, so much trash, and you’re supposed to sign the consent form for this.
And after the surgery, when the seizures come back, you will sit across the table from the man who is now your ex-husband, the man you adored, but life can kick the ass out of any romance, even yours, and you will order a very large glass of tequila, and you will say, “What the hell are we supposed to do now?”

And you hope the answer is going to be about slaying ten men and Satan, because you’re capable of that. But the answer is, you are going to go home and do the best you can to make a life out of what you’ve been given.

You raise your daughter, and she is three years old before she learns to walk, seven years old before she learns to use a toilet, and mothers all around you are blathering their worry that their babies aren’t talking by twelve months, and you don’t even know what universe they live in.

You just got back from the hospital the fourth time or maybe the sixth time your daughter’s shunt has had to be revised—that is, yanked out and a new one put in because it stopped working, which means the pressure builds inside her skull, which could kill her—and you find out that yet another friend isn’t returning your calls.

This is a story you will go through more agonizing times than you can count, with friends, with family, with work, with men who don’t trust you when you say all you really want is to just get laid. They will all say it differently, but you know why they’ve cut and run. Hell, you would have, too. If someone had told you ahead of time what was going to happen now? Baby, you would have been on the next plane to Bolivia and fighting extradition every step of the way.

But they didn’t tell you ahead of time, and by the time you figured out that being her mother was going to make your life look like a nuclear bomb had detonated in the middle of it, it was too late. Because she’s your daughter and you loved her even before she was born, so you’re a little biased and you can’t always see her clearly, and what you see is a high-spirited, ebullient girl with a stubborn streak. Other people see a slow-moving, cognitively impaired kid who can’t be budged once she makes up her mind.

Well, screwed them.

You say that a lot. Screw them.

So, no, most times you’re not thinking about how happy this is making you.

You would do anything to make your daughter whole, and to promise her that she will never have to go to the hospital again, but despite all the effort and practice, you’re just not that good at lying.

When you bring her to the hospital for the eighteenth time, or maybe it’s the twentieth, and she says, “I want roses, like a princess. Red ones,” you make sure she has them, even though it destroys your budget for the month. When you bring your daughter home from the hospital, and she says, “Next time I want carnations,” you know there will be a next time, and it makes your heart hurt.

Still, you are so not ready when the next time comes.

She goes to the hospital for a routine MRI, and the next day, when you hear the neurologist’s voice on the phone, you hold tight. Please don’t say it, you think. Please don’t say it please don’t say it please don’t say it.

But he does. He says, “There’s been an unexpected finding,” and it catches you in the gut and you sit down, hard, and you think I can’t stand it.

The sky has fallen down many times in your daughter’s short life, the sky with all the stars in it, and you have picked up the pieces more times than you can remember, and you have climbed the ladder and put them back in place, where you think they should go, and you get things in backwards and out of sequence, but you do the best you can, and you climb down off the ladder, and you’re at peace with your work. You wish it could be better, but there’s only one of you, and the sky is so vast. It takes a while to put it back together again, and you did the best you could.

And you just went through all that work, and here is the goddamned sky scattered all over the carpet again.

The neurologist describes the new problem, like having a massively deformed brain is not enough for one child to bear. You process what he is saying: There’s a hole in your daughter’s spinal cord. He calls it a channel, and he gives the medical name for it, so you can look it up on the computer and give yourself a heart attack, and then he says he would like a neurosurgeon to consult, and you say, Sure, because what are you going to say? I can’t do this anymore?

So you tell your daughter she has a hole in her spine, and she takes the news gracefully, the way she has taken everything you’ve ever told her about herself: you have a massively deformed brain, you have seizure disorder, there is no cure for your disease and, oh yes, your all-time favorite surgeons took out the left side of your brain when you were nine months old.

There is one secret thing you never tell her. You never tell her how afraid you are that this is the last time. The last birthday. The last kiss good night. The last time you will ever sing the Mockingbird Song to her, the way you have done every night for thirteen years.

The neurosurgeon is a pleasant man, which is a change from the usual run of neurosurgeons, and he describes what sounds to you like a horrifyingly high-risk surgical procedure, and which he calls an intervention that he has performed before. You don’t ask, How many times? Because you don’t want to know. Because it will break your heart or terrify you, and you don’t have the stamina for that. Not today.

He turns to the computer, calling up the MRI, and he wants you to look at the image on the computer, but the image makes you want to throw up, you don’t want to look at it, but the doctors always make you look.
And you see the place where they took out the left side of her brain and threw it away, and he shows you the hole in her spinal cord that goes on and on and on, tracing it the length of her spine, and you can’t stand it anymore, not even to be polite, so you stare at the floor, and you notice your sandal is scuffed and you wish you wish wish he hadn’t made you look, and you hope you can hold it together until he leaves, and you can bolt to the nearest bathroom and be sick.

He smiles kindly and schedules surgery for August 10th, which is too soon, much too soon, because you can’t even conceive of what he is going to do, and it is going to take you a long time to wrap your mind around it, and it’s also too far away, much too far away, because you would like to sleep until it’s over, and there’s just no possibility that you can get away with staying in bed that long.

You look up at your daughter, and you see her face is stark white, and you know she is scared out of her mind. She has understood everything, and it was so much easier when she was little, and she didn’t, and she would just smile at her hands and coo.

You are trying to think of what to say to your daughter, and all you can think is I don’t want to lose you, baby girl, I don’t want to lose you I don’t want to lose you lose you lose you.

Which doesn’t seem particularly helpful. So you shake hands with the doctor, and before you leave, you tell your daughter that the surgeon is going to try to keep the hole in her spine from getting worse, and that means some surgery, and maybe five days in the hospital. And you must do a good job of not communicating your deep dread and fear, because she says, “OK. Will people bring me presents?”

Yes, you say. Yes. It will be required. You hug her, and she says, “You have your stars on.”

Those are your earrings, and the very first time you wore them, your daughter exclaimed with delight, “Now we can wish upon a star every day! Twice!”

And so you wish upon the stars, right there in the examining room, that you will live happily ever after, and have good work to do—the wishes you always wish—and then you go home.

At home, you try not to think about August 10th. You know it will come too soon, and not soon enough. You make a note to buy more crossword puzzles, because that is all you can do when your daughter is undergoing an intervention the surgeon has performed before, and you didn’t have the courage to ask him how many times.

At dusk, your daughter says, “Time for fireflies!”

And you know the drill: You can’t watch the fireflies without a snack, so you ask if she would like ice cream or a cookie, and she says, “I would like ice cream and a cookie, and some Diet Coke, and I will want my princess figures, and I will get the door for you,” and you don’t even try to argue about the ice cream and the cookie, or suggest that milk would be better than Diet Coke. What if this is the last time you look at the fireflies together? You don’t want to be the jackass who screws it up.

She gets the door, and you bring the cookies and the ice cream, and go back for the Diet Coke and the princess figures, and she settles onto the patio chair with a sigh of contentment. And you look up at the stars in the sky, and you wish you knew something about astronomy, because then you could tell your daughter which one was the evening star, and you would tell her that that is the star to wish upon. But you don’t know; they all look alike to you. And maybe it’s better that the stars you wish upon are the ones you can see whenever you want to, wherever you are, even if it’s the intensive care unit on the fifth floor of the children’s hospital.

“I see a firefly!” she shouts. “The first one tonight! How many do you think there will be?”

“Yes,” you say. “Thirteen,” you say, because that is her favorite number, and she smiles at you. A long time ago you stopped raging at the universe for doing this to your daughter, and years before she was born you stopped believing in a benevolent god, but right now you would like to hurl some curses at a supremely powerful being, to have the satisfaction of getting an answer back. You would take on Satan and ten men, but no one asks you to do that. No one has ever asked you to do that.

They asked you to do this instead, this infinitely harder thing. And you think about that study, and you laugh out loud again, and your daughter asks why you are laughing, and you say, “Sometimes, girlfriend, I can’t believe how badly people miss the point.”

She’s accustomed to your moods, so she nods, and she turns on the radio. “It’s your favorite song!” she says. “Isn’t that lucky?”

And you hug her hard, but she’s used to that, too, and she lets you, and even lets you sing along without complaining (“This time only, Mom!”), and you are lucky, probably the luckiest woman living, and happier than you have ever been, but not in any way a researcher would understand or even conceive. Your joy is bigger than the universe and contains all the sorrow of a lifetime and has nothing whatsoever to do with feeling sufficiently rewarded for your work.

Jennifer Lawler, c’88, g’94, PhD’96, published an expanded version of this essay on her blog, “Finding Your Voice,” on July 19, 2010. jenniferlawler.com/wordpress/
They swarmed by the hundreds to architect Warren Corman’s retirement party, but they didn’t come to the Adams Alumni Center only to share best wishes with Warren and his wife, Mary, or to swap a few laughs and stories. Sure, there was a basket of party favors—tape measures custom printed with “Warren Corman,” a little going-away jab at co-workers who made off with countless tape measures over the years—and food and drink and excitement over the KU-Memphis basketball game that would tip that evening at New York City’s Madison Square Garden. All good, to be sure, but if the friends, family and colleagues were honest about the matter, most would probably have to admit they showed up Dec. 7 to witness the impossible: Warren Corman, retiring? Come again?

By Chris Lazzarino
Photographs by Steve Puppe
“Well, kid,” Corman would start, with a little laugh and a twinkle of his blue, 84-year-old eyes, never quite addressing the matter head on but more in a Warren sort of way, explaining about the long list—and boy does he make lists, lists of lists, in fact—of things that are meaningful to him. “The job I’ve had the last 14 years is probably the best job an architect could ever have. It’s just a great place to work. The people are wonderful. We really like each other.”

He’s speaking about the Office of the Chancellor, including Mary Burg and Jeff Weinberg and Gay Lynn Clock and the rest of the staffers who make the place run, but he’s also talking about his beloved KU.

It’s impossible to imagine that anybody could lend more skill and passion to KU and Kansas higher education than has Warren Corman, ’50. In a changing and confusing world, the steadying keel was always right there in the chancellor’s office on the second floor of Strong Hall, or, for 31 years before his 1997 hiring as university architect and special assistant to the chancellor, at the Kansas Board of Regents in Topeka.

With a laugh or a story, a bounce in his step and a passion for life so intense that he literally includes it on his résumé—it’s right there under “Personal,” the last entry on p. 2: “Enjoy life and people very much”—Warren Corman is that rare bird who always makes you glad he found his way into your day, whether it’s to pass a few minutes reminiscing or for a gentle lecture aimed at getting a multimillion-dollar project underway.

“When we were planning the Multidisciplinary Research Building,” recalls Don Steeples, distinguished professor of geology and former senior vice provost for scholarly support, about a $40 million West Campus project from 2005 that had to go up in 15 months, “there were about 20 of us all packed into a construction trailer and voices were getting raised and things were getting pretty tense and Warren says, ’I was in Okinawa. This is not as bad as that. Let’s get back to work.’

“That’s sort of the magic of Warren, the capability to get everybody on task and keep them there when time is short and conditions are tough.”

The magic of Warren isn’t only about keeping expensive, important construction projects on schedule—“‘On Time And Under Budget’ is his middle name,” cracks former Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway—but it sure is a big part of the man.

Corman was born in Kansas City, Kan., “in 1926, at an early age,” as he says with a laugh that never tires of the old one-liners. (His stepson, Bill Britain, b’86, who was 13 when his father died and 15 when his mother, Mary, c’73, married Warren, recalls that whenever a friend phoned, Warren would announce that Bill was unavailable because he was out sunbathing with Bo Derek. “He would say that over and over and over again,” Bill says, laughing at
accurate, but not the whole story. “Our object,” Corman recalls, “was to build airfields out of this corrugated metal. We built three while we were there, getting ready for our bombers to take off for Japan. We figured about half of us would be killed in the assault [of the Japanese mainland], so when we found out Japan had surrendered we fired off so much stuff—everything we had, mortars, everything—that it was about like the war had started again.” 

That was June 1945; because he didn’t yet have a wife or children, Corman didn’t

Marines eager to join the fight in the South Pacific. After refueling in the Marshall and Gilbert islands, the ship’s 52-day journey ended at Okinawa.

Corman and the other Seabees were right behind the Marines, scrambling over the gunwale, down the climbing nets and into landing crafts, to invade the coveted, and heavily defended, island. Corman’s family says he didn’t talk about that day for another 40 years, and even now his descriptions are to the 82-day Battle of Okinawa as blueprints are to buildings:

Corman lives his life by the Seabees’ motto: “If it’s difficult, we do it immediately; if it’s impossible, we take several days.”
have the necessary points to transfer home. Instead he remained on Okinawa until the following spring, arriving back in Topeka on Mother’s Day 1946. His father died of cancer while Warren was fighting the war; he later lost his first wife, Juanita, to the disease, as well as his mother and brother. “Everybody died of cancer but me, for some reason,” he acknowledges quietly. “I don’t know why.”

Like other GI’s back from the war, Corman hustled through his education as quickly as possible, studying both architecture and engineering and completing five years of coursework in four, thanks to a string of 18-hour semesters. By the time he graduated with a degree in architectural engineering, in 1950, Corman had already worked three years of weekends and vacations for the state architect, Charles Marshall, a friend of his late father.

When he joined Marshall’s office full time after graduation, one of Corman’s first projects was to help design K-State’s Ahearn Fieldhouse, a 90,000-square-foot-basketball arena that led the envious KU coach Phog Allen to request an arena twice as big be built on Mount Oread. The Legislature was won over, and, with funding secured, state architects designed a 180,000-square-foot, 17,000 seat, $2 million fieldhouse with what was then the biggest rigid-frame structure attempted in Kansas. Corman, then 25, is the only man left alive who had a hand in Allen Field House’s creation, and he was still around to supervise its recent, $42-million top-to-bottom renovation.

“We had no idea it would turn out to be such a traditional place to play,” Corman says of Allen Field House. “It was just a big damn barn, way out in a cornfield, away from campus. Everybody said it’s too big, it’s so far away, they’ll never fill it. And we thought so, too.”

Former Chancellor Hemenway, who now works out of a small office in a quiet corner of the Hall Center for the Humanities, a 2004-’05 project that both he and the architect he hired hold dear, recalls that shortly before the July 2003 dedication of the Dole Institute of Politics, he and his wife, Leah, were out for one of their evening power walks when they detoured through West Campus to check in on harried preparations for the building’s dedication. Corman, then a few weeks shy of his 77th birthday, was wearing a bathing
felt compelled to tell his new boss that the architects, who were then chosen thanks to political connections—a patronage system halted by legislation Corman helped write—had concocted a monstrosity that couldn’t possibly be built for its $4.5 million budget.

“It’s impossible,” Corman recalls advising Bickford. Indeed, bids weren’t close to meeting the budget, the chancellor fired the architects, and another firm ended up designing what became Wescoe Hall. “Well, they got it in on budget and all that,” Corman says, “and it’s been ugly ever since. But that’s another story.”

Corman instituted crucial planning policies that remain in place to this day: Begin with a close analysis of the academic need a proposed building is supposed to fulfill, then set schedules and budgets—both of which must be met. But his real skill proved to be politics. As in, he didn’t play them.

Whenever called upon, whether by governors, lawmakers, Regents, university leaders, faculty, alumni, students or taxpayers, Corman always gave what he saw as honest counsel. “My boss said, ‘Warren, you can’t make everybody happy, so here’s what you do: Make everybody equally mad.’ And that was pretty good advice.”

With nearly three decades of trust established with policymakers in every corner of state higher education, Corman capped his tenure at the Board of Regents by helping then-Gov. Bill Graves convince the Legislature in 1996 to fund $160 million for the Crumbling Classrooms initiative. Campuses across the state suddenly had money to take on long-delayed projects, and Hemenway saw that he needed somebody like Corman—or, better, Corman himself—to oversee KU’s pending construction boom.

One day over lunch in 1997 he sensed that the time was right, so he offered Corman a job as his special assistant and University architect. Corman accepted, taking from Hemenway a few pages of hand-written notes on projects that needed his attention.

Corman was 70 then, and he likens the transition to a politician, who, knowing he won’t ever run another campaign,
The Lockes and Cormans attend the same church, First Presbyterian, and Locke suggests it is more of a bedrock of Corman’s personality than his many campus admirers are probably aware. “A lot of that comes about from his religious faith,” Locke says. “I think that’s a strong component of his makeup. It’s not something he wears on his sleeve, but it comes through in a practical manner.”

Says Hemenway, “Warren is a very centered, stable person, who is driven to do a good job. And he attracts people—contractors, architects and engineers—who share that feeling. The net result is that you get a lot of good work done, in such a way that everyone can feel very good about it.”

Corman’s 63-year architecture career ended Dec. 10, which, appropriately, was Stop Day on campus. A couple of weeks before, sitting in an empty office once filled with maps and plaques and plants and even a lamp made from a WWII artillery shell, Corman explains what he has in mind for retirement: “I’m going to do whatever I damn please, that’s what I’m going to do.”

Yet he concedes he’ll still get up at 5:30 for his morning run, regardless of weather, and he might even climb into his car, just out of habit. But more likely he’ll stay contentedly at home with Mary, finally the sedate man of leisure.

Or not...

“Actually,” says Corman’s son, Dave, e’79, “he told us he’s going to talk to their homeowners’ association about taking care of the trees.”

Suddenly comes the image of the 84-year-old retiree walking the neighborhood in search of a work crew, approaching with a bounce in his step and offering with a smile, “Hey there, kid, need a hand?”

Marla Spivak was 18, a student at Prescott College in Arizona, when she fell in love with honeybees.

She found a bee book written by a naturalist back in the 1940s and stayed up all night reading. In the morning, she marched into her adviser’s office and declared she had to see the inside of a beehive. The adviser found a New Mexico keeper who took her on, and Spivak spent a semester learning the ins-and-outs of a commercial bee operation.

It wasn’t the paraphernalia that caught her fancy, the suits and hoods and smokers that keepers use to prevent stings and calm bees. It wasn’t the honey. It was the bees and the keepers themselves.

“Here were these insects that were very social and the beekeepers were so unusual and fun,” Spivak says. “They prefer to be outside working and they don’t mind getting stung.”

Spivak didn’t mind getting stung, either, and seeing in the outdoors, hands-on life of a beekeeper an identity she could embrace for herself, she became a keeper too, working for two commercial outfits and a U.S. Department of Agriculture facility. There she learned all she could from researchers, admiring their ability to ask big questions but feeling the academic life was not for her. Too restrictive. Too theoretical. Too much headwork, not enough hands-on.

Now 55, Spivak long ago reconciled her conflict between beekeeping and science. Unsure which road to take, she forged a new route. And that, says Orley “Chip” Taylor, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, has made all the difference.

“She came from a nonacademic background, and she knew the life of being between a beekeeper and a scientist,” says Taylor, who hired Spivak, PhD’89, as a beekeeper when he was studying Africanized bees in South America in the 1980s. He later taught her in graduate school. “To a certain extent, she’s still riding that rail, and that’s the reason for her success. She’s still a beekeeper and she’s a damn fine scientist.”

Already a McKnight Distinguished Professor in entomology at the University of Minnesota and an international leader on honeybee research, Spivak this
September was named a 2010 MacArthur Fellow by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The $500,000 no-strings-attached grant—which targets artists, scholars, scientists, teachers and entrepreneurs of exceptional creativity, origina- lity and dedication—will allow her to pursue some “wild ideas” she has been entertaining.

“One of my big dreams is to build a bee research center, a place where the public can see honey extracted or look out the window and see bee hives on the roof,” Spivak says. The center would include research space, working colonies and landscaping that represents the plants bees need to survive as well as the crops they pollinate. “I don’t want it to be a place people just come and look and go away. I’d rather have them get ideas for landscaping or a garden or a school project, something they could do at home or school to help and promote bees.”

Spivak’s research, says Allen Levine, dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at the University of Minnesota, “is extraordinarily creative. I’d say it’s ingenious. She just does things in a way others would not think of doing, and she’s very good at communicating to the general public how important bees are.”

Drawing on her work experience and close relationship with commercial bee- keepers, Spivak developed the “Minnesota Hygienic” line of bees to help combat perilous declines in honeybee numbers. In the past several years, bee colonies were ravaged by mites, viral and bacterial diseases and other threats to their health. The stakes are extraordinarily high: An estimated one third of the American diet (with a crop value of $18 billion) is dependent on bee pollination.

Studying how bees respond to such threats, Spivak learned they use their sense of smell to battle disease and parasites—the bees literally sniff out infected pupae and remove them from the colony. The findings contribute greatly to scientists’ understanding of basic bee biology. By selectively breeding for these genetically deter- mined hygienic behaviors, she then produced a line of bees that keep their own nest clean, giving bee- keepers a way to fight disease without the need for pesticides.

Helping bees help themselves is the “big theme” of her research, which also looks at how bees benefit from propolis, a tree resin with antimicrobial properties that they use to line the interiors of their nests.

“I like to say I’m helping bees stay on their own six feet,” Spivak says. “I’m more interested in what bees can do to keep themselves healthy, rather than chemical and human interventions we impose on bees. That’s what really fascinates me.”

For a scientist whose research approach colleagues and students describe as quiet but inventive, the high profile that comes with winning a so-called “genius grant” has been disruptive.

“That’s been the worst part,” she says of the genius tag. “A genius? No, I’m not a genius.” Instead, Spivak says, she’s a person who found herself in a system—academia—where things are usually done a certain way, and out of necessity she had to carve out a different way.

In her first semester of graduate school, Spivak learned she was pregnant. She made “a really hard decision” to continue school as a mother and eventually—after her marriage ended—as a single mother. She had to negotiate graduate school in her own way and at her own pace, she says, but she didn’t let it hold her back: When her son was 4 they decamped for Costa Rica, where she spent two years research- ing her dissertation.

She shares the experience to remind women—and men—“there’s more than one way to skin a cat, more than one way around a system that can pay off.” Says Spivak, “I look around every day, in every faculty meeting, and go, ‘Uh-oh, I’m not doing this like everybody else is.’ But it seems to be working out.”

KU’s MacArthur Fellows

Paul Ehrlich, g’55, PhD’57, environmental scientist and author of The Population Bomb

Ann Hamilton, f’79, sculptor and installation artist

David Hillis, g’83, g’86, PhD’86, evolutionary biologist

Wes Jackson, g’60, environmental historian and founder of the Land Institute

Kent Whealy, j’68, founder of Seed Savers Exchange

Paul Ehrlich, g’55, PhD’57, environmental scientist and author of The Population Bomb

Ann Hamilton, f’79, sculptor and installation artist

David Hillis, g’83, g’86, PhD’86, evolutionary biologist

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Kent Whealy, j’68, founder of Seed Savers Exchange
“I have great confidence in the Alumni Association’s leadership and programs, and am so impressed by the volume of events that the staff conducts each year. They do an outstanding job of promoting the loyalty and pride we all feel as Jayhawks.”

Lori Anderson Piening
Austin, Texas
Life Member

Your membership is the single most powerful way to make all of KU stronger. Take the next step and become a Life Member.

Everything we do strengthens KU, thanks to you.
Lasting incentive

Scholarship for out-of-state students with KU lineage becomes permanent

The Jayhawk Generations Scholarship, which as a two-year pilot program has provided tuition discounts to academically qualifying out-of-state students from KU families, is now permanent. The Kansas Board of Regents approved the program last December.

“The fact that the scholarship has become permanent is a true testament to the work of alumni. This will benefit countless students down the road,” says Joy Larson Maxwell, c’03, j’03, assistant director of Kansas City Programs for the Alumni Association. Maxwell, who worked for the KU Office of Admissions before joining the Association staff in 2008, is the liaison to the University for recruitment of legacy students.

In 2007, the concept of offering discounts to academically qualifying out-of-state Jayhawks became a priority for the Association’s national Board of Directors. Association and University leaders collaborated to create a proposal for the Kansas Legislature, and the two-year test began in 2008.

In approving a permanent program, the Regents also added a top tier of additional tuition discount for students who score 34 to 36 on their ACT or 1,490 to 1,600 on their SAT.

Through the program’s first two years, 127 students received the scholarship as freshmen. “Now that it is permanent,” Maxwell says, “the tradition will grow stronger. And the Association will continue to work to make KU more affordable to out-of-state students from KU families. Our work is not finished.”

To receive the scholarship, a student must:

• Have a 3.25 or above high school grade-point average.
• ACT score of 26 to 29 (1,170-1,320 SAT, math and critical reading only) = 12 percent out-of-state tuition waiver.
• ACT score of 30 to 33 (1,330-1,480 SAT, math and critical reading only) = 20 percent out-of-state tuition waiver.
• ACT score of 34 to 36 (1,490-1,600 SAT, math and critical reading only) = 30 percent out-of-state tuition waiver.

By offering incentives to out-of-state Jayhawks, KU is more competitive with neighboring states, which also offer various discounts to out-of-state children and grandchildren of alumni. The program also strengthens the entire Jayhawk Nation as alumni families continue their traditions through new generations. “As one dad told me, these students are walking billboards advertising KU, no matter where they live,” Maxwell says.

The deadline to apply for the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship is July 1 for students entering in fall 2011. If you have questions, please contact Maxwell at 913-897-8445 or jmaxwell@kualumni.org, or KU Financial Aid and Scholarships at 785-864-4700. Online information is available at why.ku.edu/costs/financialaid.shtml.

“The fact that the scholarship has become permanent is a true testament to the work of alumni. This will benefit countless students down the road.”

—Joy Larson Maxwell
True believer

Longtime volunteer funds student, alumni programs

Brad Korell grew up in St. Joseph, Mo., and graduated from the University of Missouri. For law school he chose Kansas, and his experience as a young Jayhawk graduate in Dallas cemented his KU allegiance. “What won me over was the immediate connection to other KU alumni in the area,” Korell recalls. “I didn’t know a single soul, and the Jayhawk community was welcoming and comforting. They made it feel like a second home. Now the vast majority of my very close friends are KU people I didn’t know when I was in Lawrence.

Korell, l’97, a Life Member, was an eager volunteer. In 1998, he began leading the Dallas alumni chapter and, from 2002 to 2007, he led the KU contingents in both Dallas and Austin. After turning over the reins in Dallas, he still leads the chapter in Austin, where he founded the law firm of Korell & Frohlin.

Through the years, he has organized or hosted numerous alumni events and represented KU at college admissions fairs, where he saw the value of connecting students and alumni. He volunteered for the Alumni Association’s Hawk to Hawk mentor program, and he served on the KU Memorial Unions Corp. board from

Nominate

AN ASSOCIATION MEMBER
TO SERVE ON THE BOARD

We need your assistance in nominating future members of the KU Alumni Association’s National Board of Directors.

To nominate a fellow Jayhawk, please complete the form at www.kualumni.org/board, or call 800-584-2957 and a form will be mailed or faxed to you. All nomination materials should be sent to the Association by March 1.

With your help, the Association will continue to recruit directors who represent the diversity of the KU family and the dedication that has been a hallmark of KU alumni service through the years.

For any additional questions, contact the Association at 800-584-2957 or visit www.kualumni.org
2005 to 2010. He also has created a scholarship for out-of-state students in the School of Law. In 2006, he became a member of the Association’s national Board of Directors. He will complete his term this year, but his connection to the Association will endure through the Brad Korell Student and Alumni Programming endowment. Korell has committed $100,000 over five years; half of his gift will create the permanent endowment and the other half will continue his membership in the Presidents Club, the Association’s donor group that has helped expand student recruitment and alumni programs to more than 500 events annually.

“I doubt there has ever been anyone Brad’s age who has done more for the University in terms of volunteerism and charitable giving,” says Kevin Corbett, c’88, Association president. “The time and resources Brad continues to give to KU and the Alumni Association could not be more genuine in intent—he has never asked for anything other than seeing positive impact.”

Korell wants the Association’s recent growth to continue, especially in outreach to students. “In this day and age, with so many different opportunities to become involved, it’s so important to plant those roots with students and young alumni while they are still here. ... Those bonds are more likely to last.

“This is something I’m passionate about. It is crucial to our success as an Association and a university. Living outside Kansas, I see that our alumni are the best recruiters we have.”

Honor a Loyal Jayhawk

NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE
Fred Ellsworth Medallion

Since 1975 the Fred Ellsworth Medallion has honored individuals “who have provided unique and significant service to KU.”

Fred Ellsworth Medallion recipients are honored by the Association in the fall and introduced during a home football game.

Past winners have been leaders in Kansas higher education, members of University boards and committees, consultants for KU projects and donors to the University.

If someone you know has continually shared time, talents and resources to benefit KU, submit a nomination today!

To submit a nomination, contact the KU Alumni Association by March 31 at 800-584-5397 or visit www.kualumni.org.

Student Alumni Leadership Board members Paige Blevins, Great Bend junior, and Hunter Hess, McPherson junior, received the Judy L. Ruedlinger Award for their service to the Student Alumni Association. Blevins leads the SALB as president, and Hess is vice president of administration. The award, which includes scholarship funds, honors the memory of Ruedlinger, an Association staff member who founded the Student Alumni Association in 1987 and created the fund to encourage future student leaders.

Life members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life Memberships Nov. 1 through Dec. 31. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Patsy Gardenhire Anderson
Norma Conkle Archung
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Zoe Baldwin
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H. D. Hodge
Marcella J. Holliday
Peter H. Holmes
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Jane Windham Kamstra &
Mark R. Kamstra
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Andrea Knickerbocker
Paula M. Koenigs
Kirk V. Koleff
Christina E. Kroeger
John E. Lastelic
Lincoln L. Lewis
Byron C. Long
Susanna S. Loof
Everything we do strengthens KU. Your membership in the KU Alumni Association is the single most powerful way to make all of KU stronger, including the value of your own degree.

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William T. & Karen M. Simpson
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Richard L. Stevenson
Matthew K. Tingle
Marc A. Turner & Linda Weinstein Turner
Erica S. VanRoss
Cary D. Watson
Jake White
Rebecca Barber White
Janet J. Woerner

John, b’73, and Cindy Ballard, assoc., Overland Park, will chair the 2011 Rock Chalk Ball April 16 at the Overland Park Convention Center. The black-tie event has been a Kansas City Chapter tradition since 1996. Invitations will be mailed at the end of February; visit kualumni.org for more details.
**Class Notes by Karen Goodell**

43 **Willis, b’43, g’48, and Marie Larson Tompkins, b’46,** celebrated their 65th anniversary last year. They make their home in Kansas City.

44 **Betty Austin Hensley, c’44,** attended the National Flute Association meeting in Anaheim, Calif., last year. She lives in Wichita and owns Flutes of the World, a collection of ethnic and antique flutes.

Claudine “Scottie” Scottingelbach, b’44, recently attended a ceremony at KU’s Dole Institute of Politics at which her late husband, Dale, was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star for his service during World War II. Scottie lives in Lawrence.

45 **Daniel Chase Jr., e’45, b’48,** makes his home in Bella Vista, Ark., where he’s retired vice president of manufacturing with Colgate Palmolive.

47 **Richard Schieffelbusch, g’47,** lives in Lawrence, where he’s a KU distinguished professor emeritus of speech, language and hearing.

49 **Max Kliewer, c’49,** a retired petroleum engineer, makes his home in Anacortes, Wash.

50 **Warren Corman, c’50,** retired in December as Kansas University architect and special assistant to the chancellor. He also had been director of facilities for the Kansas Board of Regents, which he served as interim executive director in 1993. He was named a distinguished alumnus by KU’s schools of architecture and engineering, and he received a National Distinguished Service Award from the Association of University Architects. Warren and Mary Crissman Corman, c’73, h’74, make their home in Lawrence.

Richard Heiny, c’50, a retired chemical engineer with Dow Chemical, lives in Midland, Mich., with his wife, Suzanne.

**Don Jones, e’50,** makes his home in Oxnard, Calif., where he’s a retired civil engineer.

51 **Marcene Dameron Grimes, c’51,** is executive director of the Topeka Jazz Workshop. She lives in Tecumseh.

James Zimmerman, e’51, a retired civil engineer, makes his home in Topeka.

52 **William Hougland, b’52,** is retired in Lawrence.

54 **Roger Warren, c’54, m’57,** was honored last fall for 50 years of medical practice and administration at Hanover Hospital. He and Linda Duston Warren, c’66, m’70, make their home in Hanover.

55 **Elizabeth Wohlgemuth Duckers, j’55,** is retired in Salina.

James Moorhead, a’55, lives in Lone Tree, Colo., where he’s retired after a 53-year career in architecture.

Carol Stutz Schmidt, d’55, g’69, keeps busy during retirement with volunteer activities and travel. She and her husband, Gene, ’75, live in Topeka.

56 **James, d’56, g’66, EdD’75,** and **Sandra Munzel Foster, d’76,** make their home in Olathe.

Jeanne Fish Levy, g’56, PhD’60, works as a docent at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City.

57 **Pat Moon Ranson, d’57,** owns Utility Consultants in Wichita. She lives in Independence.

58 **Clair Raney, c’58,** wrote All for Nothing, a historical novel about the Vietnam War. He lives in Titusville, Fla.

**Frederic Siegel, g’58, PhD’61,** wrote The Exploding Population Bomb: Societies Under Stress, which recently was published. He’s a professor emeritus at George Washington University, and he makes his home in Washington, D.C.

59 **Lynn Miller, c’59, g’62,** wrote Crossing the Line, a novel published by AuthorHouse. He is a professor emeritus of political science at Temple University, and he lives in Philadelphia.

60 **John Boesche, b’60,** is retired in Holiday Island, Ark.

**Fred Pendergraft, d’60,** is retired after 32 years of teaching and three years working as a truck driver. He lives in Lansing, Mich.

Roger Stanton, c’60, l’63, practices law in Overland Park. He and Judy Duncan Stanton, a’61, live in Prairie Village.

61 **Jesse Carney, a’61,** lives in Lawrence, where he’s a retired teacher and coach.


**Robert McLean, c’61,** is a mentor for gifted students in the Lincoln, Neb., public school system.

62 **Ronald Rubin, c’62, m’66,** a retired pediatric surgeon, makes his home in West Newton, Mass.

63 **Peggy Martin Ball, d’63,** coordinates sales for NSA in McPherson, where she and her husband, Eddie, live.

William Gordon, b’63, serves as trustee of the Fort Worth Retirement Fund. He and Patricia Ross Gordon, d’64, live in Fort Worth, Texas.

**Jack Thomas, d’63,** a retired teacher and coach, lives in Bogue.

64 **John Pruitt, g’64,** owns The Frameworks, a custom picture-framing business, in Carrollton, Texas.

65 **Larry Armel, b’65, l’68,** is independent director of the Marshall Funds. She lives in Leawood.

**Carolyn Hall Gilhousen, ’65,** and her
husband, Frederic, m’66, own Glenn Books in Lake Quivira, where they live.

Stephen Matthews, b’65, chairs the board of Haviland State Bank. He lives in LaCygne.

John Friesen, Phd’67, recently began his 44th year as professor of education at the University of Calgary in Alberta.

Howard Pankratz, j’67, recently received an American Gavel Award for Distinguished Reporting About the Judiciary. He is a reporter for the Denver Post and makes his home in Lakewood, Colo.

Tina Olson Shoemaker, f’67, directs quality improvement for Snoqualmie Valley Hospital in Snoqualmie, Wash.

Stephanie Caple Doughty, c’68, owns Electronic Realty Associates. She and her husband, John, c’68, live in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

Maj. Gen. Wayne Eck, d’68, g’70, recently was inducted into the KU Army ROTC Wall of Fame. He lives in Mulberry Grove, Ill., with Jennifer Nilsson Erck, d’68, g’70.

Frank Janzen, c’68, g’05, teaches English for AMIDEAST in Yemen. His home is in San Jose, Calif.

Patrick Ruckh, b’68, is executive vice president of First Horizon National Corporation. He lives in Cordova, Tenn.

Mary Jeannine Kerwin Strandjord, b’68, lives in Leawood, where she’s retired from Sprint.

Kelvin Flory, c’69, g’70, is a systems administrator for the state of Kansas. He commutes to Topeka from Ottawa.

Ted Harding, b’69, works as a data engineer for Texas World Commerce. He lives in Crockett.

David Learned, m’69, practices medicine in Kenner, La.

Kenneth Ruthenberg Jr., b’69, is managing attorney with Chang, Ruthenberg & Long in Folsom, Calif. He lives in Gold River.

Eric Stinson, b’69, l’73, is vice president of Lario Oil & Gas in Wichita.

Thomas Burton, c’70, e’70, works as an engineer with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in Rockville, Md. He and Colette Bushnell Burton, c’71, g’80, live in Montgomery Village.

James Czupor, j’70, co-founded the InterPro Group in Denver.

Debra Sheppard Evangelidis, n’70, is county coordinator and staff nurse for Hospice Services. She lives in Smith Center with her husband, Demetre.

Nancy Knox Todd, d’70, serves in the Colorado Legislature, where she is completing her third term as a representative. Nancy and her husband, Todd, ’84, make their home in Aurora.

Kenneth Van Blaricum, l’70, practices law in Pratt.

Daniel Lyons, c’71, l’77, is assistant general counsel for Kinder Morgan Energy Partners in Houston, where he and Maryanne Medved Lyons, d’71, g’77, make their home.

Lamoine Miller, EdD’71, lives in Hutchinson, where he’s a retired professor.
Class Notes

Thomas Palmer Jr., g’71, owns Tom Palmer Communications in Newton Highlands, Mass.

Mark Pentz, c’71, g’73, g’80, retired last summer as city manager of Chandler, Ariz., where he continues to live.

Paul Raymond, c’71, works as a publisher at Blue Door. He lives in Oceanside, Calif.

Mary Torrence, c’71, l’74, works as revisor of statutes for the state of Kansas. Her home is in Topeka.

Mary Ellen Dougherty, c’72, works as a dental hygienist in Portland Ore. She and her husband, Michael, c’72, live in Lake Oswego.

John Thompson, b’72, is managing director of UBS in Leawood.

Lowell Tilzer, c’72, m’76, g’78, is chair of pathology and clinical medicine at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

David Wysong, j’72, recently was named Johnson Countian of the Year. He lives in Mission Hills, where he’s a retired state senator.

Hannah Johnson Meredith, d’72, works as a dental hygienist in Portland Ore. She and her husband, Michael, c’72, live in Lake Oswego.

Robert Colvin, c’74, founded Community Bank Funding Company. He lives in Wichita.

David Courtwright, c’74, wrote No Right Turn: Conservative Politics in a Liberal America, which recently was published by Harvard University. David is John A. Delaney Presidential Professor of History at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville.

Doncella Klamm Robertson, d’73, g’78, and her husband, Steven, d’75, g’77, live in Sun City Carolina Lakes, N.C.

Kenneth Wallace, c’73, is a sales representative for ChaDa Sales in Lawrence.

Married

David Healy, j’73, to William Dean, April 24 in Washington, D.C., where David practices law.

Robert Colvin, c’74, founded Community Bank Funding Company. He lives in Wichita.

David Courtwright, c’74, wrote No Right Turn: Conservative Politics in a Liberal America, which recently was published by Harvard University. David is John A. Delaney Presidential Professor of History at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville.

David Glunt, b’74, is president of Supermarket Concepts in Maryland Heights, Mo. He lives in Kirkwood.

Ronald Green, p’74, works as a clinical pharmacist at G. Rodel. He lives in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Charles Jefferis, b’74, is audit manager at Stanford University. He and Sandra Carlson Jefferis, c’74, live in Jericho, Vt.

Gary Lasche, b’74, is regional finance manager for Wells Fargo in Minneapolis, Minn.

Patrick Murphy, c’74, m’77, practices medicine at Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics and is a clinical professor of urology at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

Eric Sundquist, c’74, is a professor of English at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

Denise Wolfs, e’74, serves as counsel for ExxonMobil. She lives in Horseshoe Bay, Texas.

David Cicotello, c’75, g’77, is associate vice provost of admissions at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

Ellen Tyler Hanson, c’75, was recognized as Woman Law Enforcement Executive of the Year by the National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives. She is chief of police in Lenexa.

Sharyl Bradley Kinney, c’75, works as an administrator for the Cleveland County Health Department in Norman, Okla.

James Lahmann, b’75, retired last fall as director of purchasing and risk management at Kansas City Kansas Community College. He lives in Kansas City.

Jill Sobel Quadagno, g’75, PhD’76, was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies. She’s a professor of sociology at Florida State University in Tallahassee.

Thomas Wiggans, p’75, was appointed chairman of the board of directors of Excaliari Pharmaceuticals in Carlsbad, Calif. His home is in Olathe.

Kimberly Wright, d’75, is a career-management consultant in Bethlehem, Pa.

Stephen Canfield, c’76, lectures in the English department at John Carroll University in University Heights, Ohio.

Kathryn Kosier Chrobot, n’76, directs regulatory services for Scott & White Healthcare. She lives in Temple, Texas.

Rich Frankenfield, b’76, e’76, manages design for CH2M Hill in Corvallis, Ore.

John Hughes Jr., b’76, recently became senior vice president of the Winkenwerder Co. in Alexandria, Va. He lives in Alpharetta, Ga.

Julie Moore Langton, c’76, works as a receptionist at Heartland Animal Hospital in Wichita.

Linda Paul-Elem, g’76, PhD’80, is co-director of Building Blocks Developmental Preschool in Commack, N.Y.

Louis Price, b’76, owns Pleetoox in Kansas City.

Sidney Bacon, c’77, g’79, is the editor of the Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research. He’s an auditory psychophysicist at Arizona State University, and he lives in Phoenix.

Rita Charlton, j’77, owns Charlton Enterprises, which provides life coaching services. She lives in Scottsdale, Ariz.
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Class Notes

Bill Clarke, b’77, practices law with Jennings Strouss & Salmon in Phoenix.

Jean Denning Festa, f’77, was inducted into the American Occupational Therapy Association’s Roster of Fellows. She is retired in Unionville, Conn.

Mark Lowes, c’77, is vice president of litigation at KBR in Houston.

Deborah Markley, e’77, works as a senior reservoir engineer for SM Energy in Midland, Texas.

Ann Rossman McCort, d’77, manages human resources for Crawford Sales in Olathe.

Russell Smith, c’77, b’77, is a senior vice president and managing director of UMB Bank in Kansas City.

Katherine Davis Weatherholt, d’77, g’86, works as an assistant compliance officer for George K. Baum & Co. in Kansas City.

Michael Williams, c’77, lives in Leavenworth, where he’s retired.

John Works, c’77, is a senior investment officer with the U.S. Department of Energy’s Loan Guarantee Program Office in Washington, D.C.

78 Steven Anderson, b’78, l’81, l’10, has a law practice in Overland Park. He and Carole Twork Anderson, b’78, live in Lenexa.

79 Kathryn Potter Crask, f’79, d’79, performed in concert recently with the Laguna Brisas piano trio at the Nixon Library. She lives in Yorba Linda, Calif.

78 Frederick Goenner, b’79, l’82, manages Latin American contracts and negotiations for Shell Oil in Houston.

79 William Graveman, e’79, is president of Biomedical Devices and vice president of Novian Health. He lives in Tonganoxie.

John Stagich, c’79, owns Stagich Software Consulting in Germantown, Tenn.

80 Kelly Burke Barnett, c’80, practices dentistry at Barnett Family Dental in Ozark, Mo. She was inducted into the American College of Dentists.

Margaret Barry, j’80, is a freelance writer and editor in Austin, Texas.

Kathleen Conkey, j’80, c’80, wrote Counseling Content Providers in the Digital Age: A Handbook for Lawyers, which was published by the New York Bar Association. She owns a law practice in New York City.

Barbara Kinney, j’80, works as a photographer in Seattle.

Jeffery Mason, c’80, l’83, is a partner in the Goodland law firm of Vignery & Mason.

David Scott, c’80, works as a practitioner and educator for Inner Works in Wichita.

Robert Scott, c’80, g’84, serves as president of the Kansas Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children. He’s studying for a doctorate in special education at Kansas State University in Manhattan, where he lives.

Thomas Tingle, a’80, a’82, is vice president of business development for Intelligent Engineering in Shawnee.

81 John Heim, d’81, is executive director of the Kansas Association of School Boards in Topeka. He lives in Shawnee.

Diane Flott Senne, d’81, makes her home in Lawrence, where she’s retired from a career with State Farm Insurance.

82 Kent Gaylor, c’82, g’84, works as a communication system engineer at the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Gregory Kueker, a’82, is assistant sales manager for Midwest Wholesale Hardware in Kansas City.
**PROF**

**ILE** by Whitney Erik**s**en

**Special agent traverses a new world of crime**

Daphne Hearn entered the FBI as a 27-year-old Kansas transplant. While training in Quantico, Va., she set her sights on the West Coast, but in 1991 she was placed in Buffalo, N.Y., to begin a career in organized crime investigation, for which she had no prior experience.

Two decades later, after watching the world change and the bureau change with it, she confidently begins her newest challenge as special agent in charge of the counterintelligence/cyber/administrative division in Los Angeles.

Hearn’s first job after earning a business degree was at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Topeka. After two years, she moved to Denver for a sales job at NCR.

“Denver was better for my personal life,” says Hearn, b’87, “but the sales job was not rewarding so I kept looking.”

As she considered going to law school, she met an FBI agent whose love of the career piqued her interest. Although she had never considered law enforcement, she began the application process and 18 months later entered the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a special agent.

“It was a bit of a culture shock because there are some facets of a military organization,” says Hearn, who filled a vacancy in the organized crime division. “I was ready for it, though. I was young enough that I could adapt to a completely different culture from private industry.”

Since her first position in Buffalo, several promotions have moved Hearn around the country. As a new expert in organized crime investigation, she held positions in Chicago and at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. It was at headquarters that she witnessed the tragedy on September 11, 2001.

“We set up a command post,” she recalls. “I think I stayed there for three days straight before I went home. That event changed the way the bureau does business forever.”

As the FBI shifted its focus from criminal investigation to counterterrorism, Hearn entered the world of cybercrime investigation with a job that took her back to her hometown, Kansas City.

“That move was easy because I knew the area and had friends there,” she says.

“As I get older, I look less forward to moving to places I’ve never been.”

Her latest move to L.A. may be the last in her FBI career. Hearn has grown fond of the big city. With four years left until she is eligible to retire, she will oversee hundreds of employees in seven California counties, learn more about counterintelligence, and prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction with the help of a new regional forensics lab. It is a challenge worlds away from the Goodyear plant in Topeka.

“Throughout my career, I’ve always strived to not think about what’s next,” she says. “Right now I just think about L.A. I have a lot of ideas.”

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**83** John Booker, c’83, recently became deputy director of the Pine Ridge Job Corps Center in Chadron, Neb.

**83** Donna Butler, ’83, wrote an ebook, Manifesting Daddy. She makes her home in Olathe.


**83** Zack Mansdorf, PhD’83, is a consultant with Sustainability Consultants in Boca Raton, Fla.

**83** Joseph Moore, c’83, works as a management and program analyst for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C. He lives in Fredericksburg, Va.

**83** Frank Reeb, c’83, l’92, lives in Lawrence, where he directs human resources at KU.

**83** Richard White, l’83, is lead attorney at the MoKan Personal Injury Group in Kansas City. He and his wife, Catherine, d’99, live in Lawrence, where she teaches fifth grade at Prairie Park Elementary School.

**86** Joel Davidson, c’85, works as an audit manager for Koch Pipeline in Wichita.

**83** Patrick Gaston, l’85, is an adjudications officer for the Department of Homeland Security. His home is in Overland Park.

**83** Janine Gracy, d’85, g’91, directs HealthSET in Denver.

**85** Steven Hughes, m’85, is medical director of Overlake Medical Clinics in Issaquah, Wash.

**86** Loraine Wright Turec, j’85, is vice president of sales and marketing with Blue Ocean Consulting. She lives in Olathe.

**86** Jacqueline Johnson Fields, b’86, is a senior research consultant for Radian Group Consulting in St. Louis.

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During her year as special assistant to the director, Daphne Hearn shared Robert Mueller’s demanding schedule and extensive travel to the Middle East. “It was grueling,” she says, “but I wouldn’t trade that experience for anything.”
**Class Notes**

**Kristopher Kuehn**, b'86, l’89, is a founding partner of Warden Grier in Kansas City.  

**Eric McCurley**, g’86, lives in Wichita, where he’s a managing partner for the Willis Group.

**BORN TO:**  
**John Shaw**, c’86, m’93, and Letty, son, Ian Patrick, March 10 in Hutchinson. Ian joins sisters Molly and Emily; John is a general surgeon with the Hutchinson Clinic.

**87**  
Col. **John Burdett Jr.**, c’87, serves as chief of DAMO-CIC for the U.S. Army at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. He lives in West River, Md.  
**Tiger Craig**, c’87, is a resource-development consultant with HPG Resources. He lives in Cheney.  
**Enrique Espinosa**, c’87, is a corporate trainer and professor at Conestoga College in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada.  
**Daphne Hearn**, b’87, recently moved to Los Angeles, where she’s an FBI special agent in charge of the intelligence division of the Los Angeles field office.  
**Bradley Proctor**, c’87, manages technical sales for IBM in Leawood.  
**Velvet Loomis Shogren**, h’87, works as an occupational therapist for SunDance Rehabilitation. She lives in Hesston.

**88**  
**Sally Streff Buzbee**, j’88, was named Washington, D.C., bureau chief for The Associated Press.  
**Mary Allard Dair**, j’88, is an account executive officer for Travelers Insurance in Greenwood Village, Colo.  
**Gregory Kahrs**, m’88, practices medicine at the Medical Plaza of Park City in Wichita.

**89**  
**Anna Davalos MacDonald**, j’89, is executive producer of energyNOW.  
**Lisa Miguelino Duchman**, c’91, owns Duchman Family Winery in Driftwood, Texas.  
**Christine Reinolds Kozelle**, j’91, directs news and editorial services for Berry College in Mount Berry, Ga.  
**Jason Martin**, b’91, is vice president of underwriting for Asurion in Kansas City.  
**Geoffrey Stalker**, c’91, is a wealth-management adviser for Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management in Wichita.

**90**  
**Jodi Breckenridge Petit**, d’90, g’93, PhD’98, and her husband, Brian, live in Fort Leavenworth.  
**Nancy Winchester**, c’90, PhD’94, is alliance manager for Chevron in The Woodlands, Texas.

**91**  
**Kevin Baughman**, j’91, directs business development for the Valley Hope Association in Norton.

**92**  
**Russell Fieger**, j’92, is CEO and CIO of Cornerstone Securities in Overland Park.  
**Mark Heimer**, g’92, was appointed chief of the Abilene Police Department.  
**Christine Keehn**, j’92, is account director and partner in Hat Trick Creative in Englewood, Colo.  
**Curtis Marsh**, j’92, lives in Lawrence, where he’s program director of KU Info.

**93**  
**David Bean**, b’93, is a CPA with Bean Consulting in Topeka.
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Alumna’s Title IX battle led to life in public service

Anne Levinson had no idea what Title IX was when she came to Mount Oread in 1976. Promised a field hockey scholarship, she arrived to find KU was dropping field hockey, along with most of its women’s athletic teams.

“That just didn’t seem right,” says Levinson, c’80. “I started organizing to try to effect positive change. I just felt it needed to be done; I didn’t know where it would lead.”

It led, eventually, to law school and a long and remarkably varied career in public service for Levinson, deputy mayor under two Seattle mayors and an active participant in the city’s civic life.

Levinson filed one of the nation’s first Title IX complaints after protests she organized won only a one-year reprieve from administrators determined to cut most women’s teams. She acted on advice from classics professor Elizabeth Banks.

“Being young and inexperienced and not well-versed in the world, I said, ‘I’m not sure I know what Title IX is,’” Levinson recalls. “And she said, ‘Well, why don’t you go learn about it and come back and talk with me’—exactly like a good teacher should.”

Passed in 1972, Title IX targeted gender discrimination at federally funded institutions. Levinson was inspired by her Title IX fight to attend law school at Northeastern University, which stresses public service law. While there, she won her complaint.

That the victory came too late to benefit her didn’t matter. “The whole point was to make sure those who came after me had a fairer shake, that young women would have a chance to compete and experience the positive things sports can do and not be second class.”

After helping Seattle land its first women’s sports franchise, the Seattle Reign, Levinson became part of the first all-women group to buy a WNBA team, playing a key role in keeping the Seattle Storm in town after the Sonics moved to Oklahoma City. Last year the Storm swept the playoffs to win the WNBA championship.

“Both boys and girls were wearing the jerseys of their favorite players,” she recalls. “When I grew up the only posters on the wall were men. To know these kids are growing up watching women and thinking nothing of it is rewarding.”

Levinson served as a municipal judge, founding one of the nation’s first mental health courts; safeguarded consumer rights as chairman of Washington’s Utilities and Transportation Commission; and as one of the city’s first openly gay political leaders spearheaded the successful Referendum 71, which made Washington the first state with a public vote to support legal rights for same-sex families. No longer a Storm owner, she now serves as Civilian Police Auditor on the board that oversees the Seattle Police Department.
**James Rives,** PhD’95, g’99, PhD’07, owns Jemez Road Mobile Home Park in Santa Fe, N.M. He lives in Lawrence.

**Scott Shields,** g’95, PhD’04, is associate director and chief curator of the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento, Calif.

**Patrick Simons,** e’95, is a senior engineer for the Idaho Power Co. in Boise.

**Eisha Tierney Armstrong,** c’96, recently became regional owner of Mom Corps Cincinnati, a national staffing company. She and her husband, Timothy, live in Cincinnati with their son, David, 4.

**Donna Devine,** s’96, is a program manager for KU’s Edwards Campus in Overland Park, where she lives.

**Damian Glaze,** b’96, works as a senior project estimator for Kitchell CEM in Phoenix.

**Mark Wiley,** c’96, m’00, is an interventional cardiologist at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

**Jeffrey Brown,** b’97, practices law with Bell Nunnally & Martin in Dallas.

**Jennifer Davenport,** c’97, m’01, directs pediatric interventional cardiology at Pediatrix Cardiology Associates of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

**Peter Getz,** d’97, is principal at Sequoia Charter School in Santa Clarita, Calif.

**Ryan Cunningham,** b’98, is an account executive for MicroStrategy. He lives in Rosemont, Ill.

**Benjamin Rayome,** d’98, lives in Waupaca, Wis., where he’s principal of Waupaca Middle School.

**Bret Rhodus,** b’98, recently became managing director of Resources Global Professionals in Kansas City.

**Michael Ruef,** PhD’98, is a professor at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo.

**Matthew,** b’98, g’03, and **Allison Arbuckle Taylor,** j’98, daughter, Grace Katherine, Sept. 15 in Prairie Village, where she joins a brother, Luke, 3. Matthew is a financial adviser with Merrill Lynch in Leawood.

**Debra Curn,** c’99, p’02, works as a pharmacist at Wal-Mart. She lives in Olathe.

**Kendall Day,** c’99, serves as an anti-corruption adviser in Belgrade, Serbia, for the U.S. Department of Justice.
Brian Friedman, d’99, directs organizational development for the Agriculture Future of America in Kansas City. He commutes from Lawrence.

Alice Sayman, c’99, manages projects for United American Insurance. She lives in Spring Hill.

Jessica Zellermayer, j’99, writes for WGN-TV in Chicago.

MARRIED

Anne McAlister, b’99, and Layne Meyer, g’08, June 12 in Lawrence, where they live. She’s an assistant district manager at First Management, and he teaches and coaches baseball at Free State High School.

BORN TO:

John, b’99, g’00, and Emilee Hermreck Katzer, j’03, son, Austin John, Sept. 3 in Denver, where he joins a brother, William, 2. John is a senior manager with Deloitte.

Jarrod Isham, d’00, does equity trading for Dreman Value Management in Jersey City, N.J. He lives in New York City.

MARRIED

Owen Grieb, c’00, g’05, j’08, to Yoko Eto, March 28 on Aoshima Island, off the coast of Miyazaki, Japan. Owen works for Deloitte-Touche in Tokyo.

Timothy O’Donnell, d’00, to Chelsea Krohe, Oct. 8. He’s a commercial insurance broker with Haas & Wilkerson in Fairway, and she’s an account manager with Zillner Marketing in Lenexa. They live in Overland Park.

BORN TO:

Wendy Wyman Kovich, j’00, and Matthew, e’01, a son, Cole, and a daughter, Camryn, Sept. 1. Their home is in The Woodlands, Texas.

Kristine Baranski, c’01, is a project engineer for Cardinal Engineering in Edmond, Okla.

Erika Buessing, c’01, g’03, works as a speech-language pathologist for the Marysville school district. She lives in Beattie.

Christopher Clemence, c’01, is a document specialist for Contract Land Staff. He lives in Sugar Land, Texas.

Ashley Bowen Cook, j’01, recently was promoted to associate vice president of the Greteman Group in Wichita.

Elisabeth Garwick, d’01, directs Accelerated Physical Therapy in Birmingham, Ala.

James Kaplan, j’01, supervises accounts for Cramer-Krasselt in St. Paul, Minn.

Amy McClure, g’01, teaches physical education at Mill Valley High School in Shawnee. She was named 2010 Outstanding School Health Educator by the American School Health Association.

Michelle Morse, l’01, directs development for Jackson County CASA in Kansas City.

Cory Starr, d’01, is head athletics equipment manager for Missouri State University in Springfield.

MARRIED

Travis Abicht, c’01, m’05, and Elise Schnose, m’10, Sept. 18 in Lawrence. He’s a cardiothoracic surgery fellow at Northwestern University in Chicago, and she’s an obstetrics and gynecology specialist for Contract Land Staff. He lives in Sugar Land, Texas.
Class Notes

resident at the University of Illinois Medical Center.

Julianna Mitchell, d’01, g’04, to Erik Maurer, May 1 in Lawrence. She's a health-program coordinator for Northrup Grumman in St. Augustine, Fla., and he's a banker with Bank of America in Jacksonville, where they live.

Crispian Paul, s’01, s’03, to Matthew Jenkins, Sept. 4 in Derby. Their home is in Wichita.

BORN TO:

Michael, c’01, and Erin Shultz Bittinger, c’02, daughter, Sophia, April 6 in Lafayette, Ind., where she joins a sister, Ava, 2.

Cory, c’01, and Mandi Chace Ingham, c’01, son, Calvin Sage, July 8. Cory and Mandi are both environmental scientists for the Kansas Department of Agriculture in Topeka, and they make their home in Lawrence.

Jayme, c’01, and Elizabeth Aldridge Uden, d’01, g’05, daughter, Darby Elizabeth, June 3 in Lawrence, where she joins a brother, Brady, 3. Jayme is assistant director for residence life at KU, and Beth teaches at Prairie Trail Junior High School in Olathe.

April Adkins, c’02, recently joined the clinical staff of Prairie View, where she’s a psychologist. She lives in Wichita.

Katharine Milberger Haynes, c’02, b’02, l’05, practices law with Husch Blackwell in Kansas City.

James Jordan, c’02, is a senior loan officer at Colonial National Mortgage in Austin, Texas.

MARRIED

Mary Bratt, d’03, to Andrew Flory, Sept. 5 in Udora. They make their home in rural Lawrence.

Mark Kohls, d’03, g’08, and Sarah Best, d’10, Aug. 28 in Topeka, where they make their home.

Corbett Mermis, c’03, to Caroline Baldwin, April 30 in Austin, Texas. They live in Houston.

Danny Stos, c’03, to Amanda Conley, Sept. 11 in Tulsa, Okla., where Danny practices at Gentle Family Dentistry.

BORN TO:

Nikki Washle Barrett, b’03, and Matt, son, Brendan, April 17. They live in Waverly.

Ryan, c’03, and Lyndsey Chamberlain, p’04, daughter, Brynna Jalyn, May 27 in Eureka, Calif. Ryan is a paralegal at the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Department, and Lyndsey is a clinical pharmacist at St. Joseph’s Hospital.

Carolyn Rhoades, c’03, m’07, and Benjamin Powers, m’07, son, William Cornelius, Sept. 16 in Forest Park, Ill.

Dustin Brown, c’04, manages projects at KU’s Computer Center. He and Maren Faye Bradley, c’03, live in Lawrence.

Carlos Casas, c’04, directs public relations for the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging in Kansas City.

Chalisa Gadt-Johnson, PhD’04, is a psychologist at Colmery-O’Neil Veterans Administration Medical Center in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

Adam John, b’04, works as an energy broker for Lincoln Energy Group in Chicago.

Julie Bunn Pine, c’04, l’07, is a shareholder in McDowell, Rice & Buchanan in Kansas City.

Lori Duncan Schwartz, n’04, g’09, works as a family nurse practitioner at St. Paul Radiology. She lives in Mendota Heights, Minn.

Tony Vyhanek, b’04, works as a technology sales representative for Oracle. He lives in Austin, Texas.

MARRIED

Samuel Constance, f’04, g’07, and Elizabeth Stephens, 11, May 30 in Kansas City, where they live. He's a creative-project manager for InTouch Solutions, and she’s a medical student at the KU Medical Center.

Brian Legg, b’04, and Jackie Allred, c’07, July 17 in Kansas City, where they live. He works for the Cerner Corp., and she studies for a degree in medicine and a master's in bioethics at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences.

Carol Toland, c’04, l’08, to Brian Napp, July 17. They live in Columbus, where Carol is a research associate for the Ohio Legislative Service Commission.

Anna Clovis, c’05, j’05, is an associate with the Kansas City law firm of Siegfried Bingham Levy Selzer & Gee.

Monica Delaorra, j’05, g’10, works as a senior writer and editor for Hallmark Cards in Kansas City.

Kristin Rome Kesinger, c’05, works as a processing specialist for KU’s Visitor Center in Lawrence. She lives in McLouth.

Aaron Koelzer, g’05, manages local events and development for the Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation. He lives in Olathe.

Michael Lee, c’05, is assistant director of basketball operations at the University of Oregon in Eugene.

James Lewis, c’05, is a territory man-
berger with Miele in Princeton, N.J. His home is in Richmond, Va.

Karla McEachan Vialle, g’05, is vice president of operations for the Child Health Corporation of America in Mission.

MARRIED

Megan Fisher, s’05, to Robert Rodriguez, Sept. 5 in Huntington Beach, Calif.
Janelle Huetl, d’05, to Keiran Roche, June 19 in Mobile, Ala. They live in Tucson, Ariz., where she’s a high-school athletic trainer and he’s a teacher.
Heidi Huston, c’05, to Derrek Hogan, May 1 in Olathe, where she’s a nurse at the Olathe Medical Center.
Ashley Lafond, c’05, to Shawn Brack-bill, June 12 in Lawrence. They live in Brooklyn, N.Y. She’s a music publisher with Domino Publishing, and he’s a music and fashion photographer.
Charles Pohl, c’05, and Kate Harding, f’04, g’08, June 5 in KU’s Danforth Chapel. He’s a dentist in Topeka, and she’s an architect with Treanor Architects in Lawrence, where they live.
Grant Rempe, h’05, and Jamie Gall, c’05, Aug. 14 in Topeka. He’s a senior clinical data coordinator at Quintiles, and she’s a resident in obstetrics and gynecology at St. John Providence Health System. They live in Royal Oak, Mich.
Jaclyn Schlaikjer, c’05, manages Grad-Staff in Minneapolis, Minn.
Michelle Speer, s’05, g’07, is an officer recruiter for the U.S. Navy in Urbandale, Iowa. She lives in Ankeny.
Melinda Bretthauer Toumi, c’05, PhD’10, and Richard, ’07, son, Robert Jon, June 11 in Lawrence, where he joins a sister, Charlotte, 6.

PROFILE by Terry Rombeck

Bob Wiltfong trades TV news for comedy career

Bob Wiltfong is the “World’s Greatest Spokesperson in the World.” Granted, his competition includes a caveman and a gecko.

Wiltfong, j’93, has assumed that title for the past year for Nationwide Insurance. It’s a role that has his face frequently on national TV—an opportunity he’s hoping ultimately will catapult his comedy career but, in the short term, he’s grateful to have an ongoing job.

“To be working in this economy is like, ‘Thank you, Lord,’ let alone to be working on a big campaign,” he says. “The analogy is it’s like winning the lottery. I’m thankful every step of the way now.”

Wiltfong grew up in Omaha, Neb., and studied TV journalism at KU because he didn’t think comedy was a viable career choice. He spent eight years at television stations in Lake Charles, La., and Wichita before accepting a gig at News 12 on Long Island, N.Y. It was there he began taking improv comedy classes, and after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, which killed a co-worker, he decided to quit his day job and pursue his first love, comedy.

Wiltfong eventually landed stints with TV’s “Daily Show with Jon Stewart” and “Chappelle’s Show,” and was on the cast of several feature films, including “The Hoax.”

He figures he got his job at the “Daily Show” producing satirical news, in part, because of his background in reporting actual news.

“The Daily Show’ gets to make all the jokes and pursue all the jokes that we talked about in the TV newsroom but never got to say on air,” Wiltfong says.

As the “World’s Greatest Spokesperson in the World,” Wiltfong plays a pitchman character who is pulled from retirement, after 20 years in the wilderness.

Though he admits there’s a constant “push and pull” between company executives and the comedy writers and talent, Wiltfong believes the Nationwide advertisements stand on their own as entertainment.

“I’m very proud of this Nationwide campaign,” he says. “If we were left to our own devices, the director, writer and myself would aim for the cutting edge and be comedic. At the same time, we need to serve the purposes of Nationwide.”

Wiltfong says pursuing the life of an actor is difficult. He now lives in the Los Angeles suburb of Culver City with his wife and three children, and he sometimes goes weeks or months without a paycheck.

That’s why he says he treats his career like he’s a shark—he’s always moving. At press time, he was in negotiations to host a show on the Discovery Channel, had recently auditioned for an AT&T commercial and was co-writing a screenplay.

“It’s very up and down, and you save money when you can,” Wiltfong says. “But I have happiness in my life. I enjoy what I’m doing for a living again.”
Class Notes

06

Nicole Hall, d’06, serves as a U.S. Army physical therapist in Iraq. Her home is in Killeen, Texas.

Christa Keel, c’06, manages development for Teach For America in Milwaukee.

Robyn Kelton, c’06, is a training and technical assistance specialist for the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership in Wheeling, Ill. She lives in Chicago.

Lindsey Kinkelaar, c’06, works as a senior applications specialist for Paciolan in Irvine, Calif.

Lauren Mall, c’06, n’08, is a nurse with Nursefinders. She lives in Clay Center.

Mary Mohr, b’06, works as a human-resources generalist for the Dallas Market Center. She makes her home in Dallas.

Hayes Thompson, c’06, is a team lead with ServiceSource International in Nashville, Tenn.

MARRIED

Jonathan Lusk, c’06, g’08, and Miriam Toledo Subirana, g’10, July 30 in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. They live in Wichita, where he works at the National Institute for Aviation Research and she’s completing her doctorate in civil engineering from KU.

Margaret Morris, c’06, j’06, to Nathaniel Mick, Sept. 18 in Lancaster, Ky., where they live. She directs development for the Lexington Children’s Theatre.

Tyson Pyle, a’06, and Ashley Bolton, j’08, Aug. 21 in Lawrence. He’s an associate at OKW in Chicago, and she’s a product rollout coordinator at Lee Enterprises.

Kaitlin Stanforth, j’06, to Ryan Westhoff, Sept. 18. They live in Prairie Village, and she’s director of public relations and marketing at St. Luke’s Hospital.

07

Susanne Goericke, g’07, is a senior associate at Digitas in New York City.

Shannon Brown Hilding, c’07, practices law with South & Associates in Leawood. She and her husband, Dennis, d’05, g’07, live in Lawrence.

Timothy Isenhagen, e’07, b’07, is a reservoir engineer for ExxonMobil. He lives in Keller, Texas.

Lauren Viscek, d’07, works as a nurse at St. Luke’s Hospital in Kansas City.

Mike Zagaruski, c’07, was called up from the Triple-A team in Lehig Valley last June to pitch for the Philadelphia Phillies. He lives in Omaha, Neb.

MARRIED

John Freeman, b’07, and Kimberly Miller, ’08, April 10 in Kansas City. He’s an account manager at CDW in Chicago, and she’s a nurse at the Resurrection Life Center.

Jacob McKee, c’07, and Kalli Bennett, s’08, Aug. 7 in Lawrence, where he’s a homeless-outreach specialist at Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center and she’s a case manager for Cottonwood.

Matthew Moran, f’07, to Nicole Cruise, June 5 in Lawrence. Their home is in Mission.

Troy DeDecker, g’08, recently became chief operating officer at Bartow Regional Medical Center in Bartow, Fla.

Natalie Durda, s’08, is an administrative assistant at Zeller Realty Group in Chicago.

Katie Jahnke, c’08, received the 2010 Lowell Jacobson Scholarship Award from the American Counsel Association. She’s a student at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law.

1st Lt. Adam Jenkins, c’08, serves as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force. He lives in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Tara Sweany Kroenke, b’08, works as a financial analyst for the Kansas Insurance Department in Topeka. She lives in Lawrence.

Matthew Lindberg, j’08, is a sports editor at the Montrose (Colo.) Daily Press. He and Sarah Stratham Lindberg, c’09, celebrated their first anniversary last fall.

Teresa Lo, c’08, won the grand prize in the 2010 Script Pipeline Into Motion Pictures contest for her feature, “Madness,” which is being developed by a production company. She lives in Los Angeles.

Lance Mall, b’08, is a senior auditor at Deloitte & Touche in Chicago.

Sara Stieben, f’08, works as an associate with Otis Coan & Peters in Fort Collins, Colo.

Meghan Sullivan, c’08, j’08, manages projects for MMG Worldwide in Kansas City.

MARRIED

Carl Hinche, c’08, and Julie Brynds, ’10, July 22 in Estes Park, Colo. He works at Ericsson in Boulder, and she works at Golden Hill Family Dentistry in Lake-wood.

Sam Mitchell, c’08, to Danielle Finley, June 5 in Wichita. Their home is in Lee’s Summit, Mo.

Adam Pierson, c’08, and Taryn Wilson, ’07, June 26 in Wichita, where he’s a software engineer at Aeroflex and she teaches English at Wichita East High School.

08

Earl Amerine, e’09, is a security engineering officer with the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C.

Lacey Anderson, g’09, works as a human-relations counselor at the James River Correctional Center. She lives in Jamestown, N.D.

Brandon Bean, l’09, serves as a captain in the U.S. Army JAG Corps at Fort Riley.

Kimberly Blassingame, g’09, is a nurse at Stormont-Vail HealthCare in Topeka.

Shane Hauschild, e’09, is a project engineer at J.E. Dunn Construction. He lives in Prairie Village.

Amelia Hund, h’09, works as a medical technologist at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City.

Phillip Linville, b’09, is a financial analyst with SWS Group in Dallas.

Kendall Matous, j’09, interns with the Northern California Golf Association in Pebble Beach, Calif. He lives in Seaside.

Emilee Miller, f’09, is an account manager with Intouch Solutions in Overland Park.

Brett Morris, c’09, works as a financial adviser with Wells Fargo in Kansas City.

Bailey Pike, f’09, recently won an essay prize from the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America’s National
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Class Notes

Bring the Hill to your home with the KU Campus Gallery

SouthWind Gallery of Topeka, in collaboration with the KU Alumni Association, invited artists to participate in a “plein air” painting event April 26, 2008, on the Lawrence campus. On that day, 63 artists set up easels and captured the beauty of the KU campus. The result is an amazing body of work rendered in various styles and media. The prints are available in three sizes. Gifts from the KU Campus Gallery are perfect for office and home for any KU enthusiast!

Association Members receive special pricing
8x10 prints: Non-member $30 | Member $27 | Jayhawk Society or Life $24
11x14 prints: Non-member $55 | Member $50 | Jayhawk Society or Life $44
16x20 prints: Non-member $85 | Member $77 | Jayhawk Society or Life $68
Book: Non-member $35 | Member $32 | Jayhawk Society or Life $28

To order: www.kualumni.org | 800-584-2957

Collegiate Book Collecting Contest. She lives in Olathe.

MARRIED
Nicholas Jerkovich, c’09, and Elizabeth Beisner, b’10, Aug. 14 in Lawrence. Their home is in Overland Park.
Matthew McGinley, c’09, to Andrea Coleman, July 10 in South Lake Tahoe, Calif. He’s an associate property claims representative for Farmers Insurance in Olathe, where they live, and she teaches school in Blue Valley.
Erin Niedenthal, f’09, and Aleksander McElroy, c’10, Sept. 4 in Olathe. They live in Athens, Ga., and Erin studies for a master’s in fine arts at the University of Georgia.
Brandon Riffel, c’09, and Sarah Johnson, ’10, April 26 in Kapalua, Hawaii. They live in Lawrence.
Katherine Armbruster, c’10, coordinates accounts for Ameba Marketing in San Diego.
Jason Brinkley, l’10, recently became an associate in the Omaha, Neb., firm of Baird Holm.
Joseph Day, e’10, is a production engineer with Occidental Oil and Gas in Houston.
Laura Foster, g’10, lives in Dallas, where she’s an architect with Good Fulton & Farrell.
Anne Frizzell, c’10, works as an admissions counselor at KU. She lives in Lawrence.
Ashleigh Garcia, c’10, teaches at the New England Center for Children in Westborough, Mass.
Kelsy Jones, e’10, is a process engineer with Occidental Petroleum in Houston.
John Lavin, c’10, works as a geology assistant at the Kansas Geological Survey in Wichita.
Ayesha Mehdi, l’10, g’10, is executive director of Hope Care of Nevada and an adjunct professor at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.
Jaclyn Miller, s’10, lives in Dodge City, where she’s a social worker with St. Francis Community Services.
Christa Patrick, c’10, manages promotions and is on-air talent for Star 99.9 WEZN-FM in Milford, Conn.
Andrew Poulin, b’10, e’10, is a process engineer for Horizon Systems in Lawrence.

The Rev. Mark Preus, g’10, is associate pastor at Faith Lutheran Church in Wylie, Texas, where he lives. He also teaches theology, Latin and the classics at Faith Lutheran High School in Plano.

Julie Schoeneck, c’10, interns with the Susan B. Anthony List. She lives in Arnold, Md.

Michael Spero, b’10, broadcasts sports programs. President Barack Obama named Deyton to his new job in August 2009, two months after signing the Tobacco Control Act.

The historic legislation grants the FDA wide ranging authority over tobacco manufacture, marketing and distribution. On his first day on the job, Deyton outlawed all fruit- and candy-flavored cigarettes, and his regulatory schedule promises to only intensify.

The center has already outlawed usage of “light,” “low” and “mild” when used as health claims. By 2012, manufacturers must disclose all harmful or potentially harmful “constituents” in cigarette tobacco and smoke.

“It’s an astounding thing,” Deyton says, “but cigarettes are probably the only mass-consumed product that we don’t know what’s in it.”

Deyton was allowed to design his own major, in “urban health,” while a KU undergraduate still intending to study medicine. Instead he earned a master’s in public health from Harvard, worked in the field for five years, and didn’t enter medical school at Georgetown University until he was 29.

Deyton continues to see patients, and remains active at the Washington, D.C., community clinic and AIDS service organization he founded in 1978.

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**Deyton leads FDA mission against deadly tobacco**

Standing before a hotel ballroom filled with statewide activists who gathered for a tobacco summit last October in Topeka, Lawrence Deyton, first director of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s new Center for Tobacco Products, outlined a few statistics with which the assembled experts were surely familiar:

Tobacco is, by far, the country’s leading cause of preventable death and disease, with more than 440,000 annual deaths attributable to cigarette smoking. Progress in cutting adult and youth smoking rates stalled in about 2004 and the rates stubbornly remain at about 20 percent; each day 4,000 American children will smoke their first cigarette and 1,000 will go on to become regular smokers.

Then Deyton, c’74, dropped on the group a localized number that thundered home the crisis: 54,000 Kansans who are right now under the age of 18 will die prematurely from smoking.

“That,” Deyton says, “is a profoundly disturbing figure to any of us.”

Deyton came to FDA from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, where, as chief public health and environmental hazards officer, he oversaw anti-tobacco programs. President Barack Obama named Deyton to his new job in August 2009, two months after signing the Tobacco Control Act.

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Deyton continues to see patients, and remains active at the Washington, D.C., community clinic and AIDS service organization he founded in 1978.
Frances Strait Brown, c’38, 94, Sept. 16 in Wichita. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by a sister and many nieces and nephews.

George Davis Jr., c’37, m’41, 93, Sept. 6 in Davidson, N.C. He had a private psychiatric practice in Houston for many years, and he was a clinical associate professor at Tulane and Baylor medical schools. Survivors include his wife, Margaret Pyle McClure, c’37; two daughters, four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Landmark drive-in theatres. Surviving are his wife, Margaret Pyle McClure, c’37; two daughters, four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Al McClure, b’36, 96, Oct. 8 in Wichita, where he was a retired physician. He is survived by a daughter, Mimi Frink Kaplysh, c’66; two sons, one of whom is James, d’96; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Hubert “Hub” Hall, c’49, 82, Sept. 25 in Lawrence. He lived in Lecompton, where he retired from a career as a petroleum geologist with ExxonMobil. He chaired the KU Geology Advisory Board and the KU Natural History Museum Board. He and his wife established the Hall Nature Preserve in rural Lecompton through a gift of 116 acres to the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen McBride Hall, d’49; and two brothers, Benjamin, c’54, and William, c’48.

Vance Hall, b’47, 88, May 10 in Amarillo, Texas, where he owned Vance Hall Sporting Goods. He is survived by his wife, Peggy, three sons, two daughters and six grandchildren.

Rex Hay, c’49, 88, Feb. 9 in Prairie Village, where he had a long career as an electrical engineer with Black & Veatch. He is survived by two sons, James, c’68, and John, c’71; a daughter; a stepson, Sean McIntosh, c’08; a stepdaughter, Erin, b’10; nine grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Kenneth Hiebsch, l’48, 89, Oct. 23 in Wichita, where he was a retired lawyer. He is survived by his wife, Vena, three sons, a daughter, 14 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Priscilla Colin Jones, ’46, 88, Sept. 26 in Leawood. She is survived by two daughters, Melissa Jones Gould, ’84, and Martha Jones Dupecher, c’69, PhD’77; two sons, one of whom is Scott, ’73; and six grandchildren.

William Kump, c’47, m’50, 83, March 13 in Lake Elmo, Minn. He had been chief of radiology at North Memorial Medical Center in Minneapolis, where the radiology department was named in his honor. Two daughters, two sons and six grandchildren survive.

Benjamin Matassarin, c’42, m’45, 90, Oct. 25 in Wichita. He is survived by two daughters, Linda Matassarin Buth, c’68, and Kathy, c’74; a son, Gary, c’72, g’78; a brother, Richard, ’52; and five grandchildren.
Mary Hoffman McDonald, c'47, 85, Oct. 11 in Kansas City. Survivors include a daughter; two sons, one of whom is John, f'76; and a brother, Reed Hoffman, b'46.

Philip Oldberg Jr, e'44, 87, Oct. 10 in Leawood, where he was retired from a career with Marley Cooling Tower Co. He is survived by his wife, Muriel Swanson Oldberg, c'46; four sons, one of whom is Mark, b'75; two daughters; a sister; a brother; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Alice Ayers Schmidt Otten, c'41, 92, Aug. 6 in Helena, Mont., where she was retired after a 40-year teaching career. She is survived by two stepdaughters; a brother, Edgar Ayers, e'30; and several stepgrandchildren.

Carl Perkins Jr., e'43, 88, Sept. 28 in Prairie Village, where he was a retired research mechanical engineer with AT&T. He is survived by his wife, Bobbie; a daughter, Janet, f'90; two sons, one of whom is Brian, b'75; two stepdaughters, Janell Jones, g'94, m'10, and Lisa Kirk Nason, '88; eight grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Robert Piller, b'49, 85, Oct. 7 in Lawrence, where he was former president of O'Connor Co. Inc. and of J.M. O'Connor Inc. He is survived by two sons, Lynn, c'72, and Thomas, a'74; two daughters, Helen Piller Seymour, c'76, g'93, and Judith Piller Feldner, '82; three sisters, Helen Piller Davis, c'50, Catherine Piller Ball, '48, and Joan Piller Lubary, c'54; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Philip Smith, b'49, 83, Oct. 20 in Fullerton, Calif., where he was co-founder of Interfresh, a national supplier of fruits and vegetables. He is survived by his wife, Martha Holman Smith, '52; two sons; a daughter; a sister, Suzann Smith Wilson, f'60; and three grandchildren.

Verlee Reece Stone, '45, 86, Sept. 2 in Topeka. She is survived by her husband, John, '43; two sons, one of whom is John, '66; a daughter; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Richard Van Gundy, e'49, 84, Oct. 1 in Round Rock, Texas. He owned Van Gundy & Associates, an engineering firm in Ellsworth, for many years and is survived by two daughters, a sister, two grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Neil Arasmith, c'51, 80, Sept. 26 in Topeka. He is survived by three sons, two of whom are David, a'75, and Timothy, e'84; a daughter, Susan Arasmith Esau, '92; a brother; a sister; 13 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

William Curtis, e'51, 82, Sept. 13 in Houston, where he was retired from a career in petroleum engineering. He is survived by his wife, Billie Stover Curtis, j'51; a son; two daughters; a brother; two sisters; and five grandchildren.

Donald Feller, '59, 78, Oct. 22 in Abilene, where he was a retired teacher and coach. He is survived by his wife, Mary Sanborn Feller, d'58; a son, Michael, b'82, g'86; three daughters, two of whom are Deanne Feller Martini, c'84, and Sandra Feller Lembeck, d'90; two sisters; and eight grandchildren.

Margaret Mary Green Gast, d'57, g'57, 75, Sept. 21 in Laramie, Wyo. She is survived by her husband, George, c'60, g'62; a son; a daughter; and two grandchildren.

William Hand Jr., e'51, 85, Oct. 23 in Belle Isle, Fla., where he had been mayor for many years. He is survived by his wife, Mary, two sons, a daughter, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Lee Haworth, e'52, g'54, 82, Sept. 17 in Salina, where he owned Lee Haworth Construction Co. He is survived by his wife, Louise Bolte Haworth, assoc.; a daughter; a son, Robert, '81; a sister; and three grandchildren.

Lawrence Hayes, m'57, 82, June 15 in Kansas City, where he practiced medicine for many years. He is survived by his wife, Risa; three sons, one of whom is David, m'85; a daughter; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Jack Howard, b'51, 82, Oct. 21 in Salina. He was a retired vice president of Smoot Grain Company in Salina. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, d'51; a daughter, Jan Howard Denning, d'76; a son, Jay, b'79; and three grandchildren.

James Hobbs, g'57, 80, Sept. 13 in Bethlehem, Pa., where he was a professor emeritus, former director of the MBA program and a distinguished professor of business administration at Lehigh University. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Whitney Hobbs, d'56; a daughter; a sister, Alice Hobbs Boyce, c'48, g'49; and a brother, Robert Hobbs, b'56.

Marylyn Dalton Kelso, n'56, 77, Sept. 16 in Olathe. She is survived by three daughters, two of whom are Susan Kelso Brown, d'80, and Nancy Kelso Bernhardt, h'75, g'10; a son; and nine grandchildren.

Robert Lynch, m'57, 78, June 20 in La Jolla, Calif., where he was a psychologist and the statewide psychiatric consultant for the California Department of Rehabilitation. He is survived by his wife, Gloria, a son, a daughter, a sister and three grandchildren.

Roland Ostlund, m'50, 86, July 25 in Portland, Ore. Three sons and eight grandchildren survive.

Melvin Rice, b'50, d'60, 82, Aug. 26 in Snohomish, Wash., where he was retired after teaching at Norton Community High School for 30 years. He is survived by two daughters, Diane Rice Taylor, c'74, and Lori Rice Powlas, b'76; and three grandchildren.

Wes Santee, d'54, 78, Nov. 14 in Eureka. The KU track legend won three NCAA titles and led the cross country team to the 1953 NCAA championship. He was one of three men in the 1950s vying to break the 4-minute mile, and he set the world record in the outdoor 1,500 meters, the indoor mile record (twice), and the indoor 1,500-meter record. He competed for the United States in the 1952 Olympics and was a retired colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps. Survivors include a daughter, Susan, '10; two sons, one of whom is Edward, '79; and a grandson, Edward, c'07.

Jean Schanze, f'55, 78, Sept. 23 in Kansas City. He lived in Leavenworth, where he ran Schanze and Banks, an insurance and real-estate agency. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by a son, Sterett, c'88; two stepsisters; and three grandsons.

Carl Steeby, e'52, 85, Sept. 23 in Pana, Ill. He lived in Ramsey and is survived by his wife, Ilena, two sons, two daughters, a stepson, a stepdaughter, two brothers, two sisters, nine grandchildren and three
great-grandchildren.

Richard Stevens, c'56, 82, Oct. 24 in Winter Park, Fla., where he was retired from Stevens Engineering. He is survived by his wife, Betty; three sons, a daughter, 18 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Niles “Doc” Stout, m'50, 93, Sept. 14 in Lynden, where he practiced medicine for many years. He is survived by his wife, Florence; four sons; four daughters, three of whom are Patricia Stout Flood, c'74, Carol Stout Culbertson, d'76, and Janet Stout Wolford, '83; a sister, Annetta Stout Ensch, d'48; 19 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Clifford “Smoky” Stover Jr., c'59, 78, Feb. 10 in Ontario, Calif. He was an aerospace engineer at NASA and at Interate Electronics. Surviving are his wife, Peggy; three sons, a daughter and 10 grandchildren.

Beulah Ward Stutz, c'50, 81, Sept. 23 in Aurora, Colo. She helped operate Stutz Olive Drug in Denver for many years. Surviving are two sons, a daughter, a sister and six grandchildren.

Robert Talkington, d'51, '54, 81, Dec. 26. He owned a law practice in Iola and served 20 years as a Kansas legislator, including terms as majority leader and president of the Senate. He lettered in football and baseball at KU and served on the law school’s board of governors. Survivors include three daughters, Jill Talkington and three grandchildren.

Daniel Thompson, m'50, 91, Oct. 5 in Wichita, where he practiced medicine at St. Francis Hospital for many years. He is survived by his wife, Serilda Clapp Thompson, d'50; two daughters, one of whom is Martha Thompson Stroot, n'72; two sons; a sister; and two grandchildren.

Charles Wegscheider, b'54, 78, June 24 in Arvada, Colo., where he was a retired CPA. He is survived by his wife, Marge; two sons and three grandchildren.

Emerson Wilson, g'59, 77, Oct. 19 in Leawood. He coached football at Boulder (Colo.) High School, taught at the University of Northern Colorado and later coached football and taught social studies at Shawnee Mission East High School and at Indian Woods Middle School. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; a son; two daughters; a stepson; a stepdaughter; two brothers, one of whom is Gib, d'62; a sister; four grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

Charles Bassett, Ph'D'64, 78, Oct. 19 in Watervile, Maine. He was a retired professor of English and American studies at Colby College. A son, a daughter and three grandchildren survive.

Norman Benson, b'63, 71, Oct. 6 in Lebanon, Pa. He had a 30-year career with Southwestern Bell and later became an avid astronomer. Surviving are his wife, Jewel; two sons, a daughter and five grandchildren.

Robert Burke, c'60, 78, Sept. 25 in Kansas City, where he was president of Professional System Inc. He is survived by two sons, a daughter, five brothers, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Sonny Cobble, c'61, m'65, 71, Aug. 27 in Ranco Palos Verdes, Calif., where he practiced orthopedic surgery and sports medicine for many years. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Joan; two daughters; a brother, Jan, c'63; and three grandchildren.

Max Griffin Jr., f'60, d'64, 73, Oct. 19 in Salina. He is survived by two sons, one of whom is Spencer, '14; a brother; and a grandson.

Frank Johnson, c'62, 71, Sept. 27 in Racine, Wis., where he was retired attorney and director of employment relations for the Racine Unified School District. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; two sons, one of whom is Christopher, g'01; a sister, Janice Johnson Kast, f'58; and a granddaughter.

Karen McCarthy, d'69, g'86, 63, Oct. 5 in Blue Springs, Mo. She served five terms in the U.S. Congress and also served as president of the National Conference of State Legislatures. Harper's Bazaar magazine once listed her, along with Hillary Clinton and Condoleezza Rice, as a potential first woman president. Many friends survive.

Neal McCoy, c'62, 69, Sept. 25 in Oxford, Md., where he was retired managing partner of the Washington, D.C., law office of Skadden Arps. He earlier had been chief counsel and associate director of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission’s Division of Corporation Finance. Surviving are his wife, Catherine, and a cousin, Thomas McCoy, ’58.

Arthur McGowan III, c'62, m'66, 69, June 24 in Lakewood, Calif., where he had practiced anesthesiology. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Callaway McGowan, ’62; a son; a daughter, Jill McGowan Gaoghgan, m'89; and four grandchildren.

James Moore II, c'69, 64, Aug. 15 in Beloit, where he was a retired psychiatric caseworker at the Beloit Youth Center. His wife, Margaret McKinney Moore, d’69, survives.

Nina Burdette Pierson, g'69, 98, Oct. 11 in Overland Park. Two sons survive.

Robert Weakly, e'69, 84, Jan. 1 in Topeka, where he was a self-employed consulting engineer. He is survived by two sons and two grandsons.

Harry Wiles II, b'67, f'70, 64, Aug. 18. He had homes in Bethesda, Md., and in Great Falls, Va., and had been executive director of the American Beverage Licensors. Survivors include his wife, Cindy; a daughter; two sisters, Jane Wiles Bennington, c'64, d'66, and Mary Lou Wiles, f'70; and four grandsons.

Dollie Jones Bittenbender, g'72, 92, Oct. 20 in Lawrence, where she taught typing, shorthand and business finance at Haskell Indian Nations University for many years. She is survived by a son, Lee, c'68, m'72; a daughter, Veronica Bittenbender Ashlie, f'71, e'79; a brother; and two granddaughters.

Christopher Carrier, e'71, 62, Sept. 26 in Wichita, where he was director of public works and utilities for the city of Wichita. Among survivors are his wife, Sandra; three sons, a daughter, a sister and three grandchildren.

M. Earl Forman, c'73, g'77, g'85, 61, Sept. 1 in Bailey, Colo. He is survived by his wife, Sheila Fuller Forman, g'82; his mother, Phyllis Veta Forman, assoc.; and a sister, Ruth Forman, '72.
Philip Frickey, c’75, 57, July 11 in Moraga, Calif. He was a professor of law at the University of California-Berkeley and one of the nation’s foremost experts on public law and federal Indian law and policy. He received KU’s Distinguished Service Citation in 2006. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; a son; a daughter; a brother, Charles, d’66, l’69; and a sister.

Mildred Moore Hausner, g’75, 93, March 13 in Lawrence. She lived in McLouth, where she was retired after a 35-year career as an elementary school teacher. Three daughters, a brother, two sisters, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren survive.

Kevin Kresie, d’75, 57, Oct. 17 in Plano, Texas. He had a 26-year career with Fleming Cos. Inc. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. Surviving are his wife, Lesley; a daughter; two sons; his parents, Bryce Sr., ’46, and Mary Lewis Kresie, ’76; and a brother, Bryce Jr., ’73.

Ruby Frank McKerman, f’71, 62, Oct. 7 in Shawnee. She is survived by her husband, Tom, c’70, l’74; a daughter, Leah McKernan DeWerff, g’03; a son; a sister, Marilyn Frank, ’76; a brother; and a granddaughter.

Norma Jean Smith Rodgers, d’72, g’80, 82, Oct. 7 in Lansing, where she was retired after teaching special education at Welborn Elementary School for 33 years. Two sons, a daughter, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren survive.

Joseph Timberlake, PhD’74, 70, Oct. 25 in Wichita, where he was a hospital laboratory consultant. A daughter, a sister and a granddaughter survive.

Joan King Upshaw, s’71, s’73, 81, June 7 in Kansas City, where she was a retired social worker and former director of social services at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Oda; five daughters, one of whom is Kimberly Upshaw Adams, s’09; a son; and six grandchildren.

Ray Wohadlo, b’74, 60, Aug. 20 in Houston. He had worked for Southwest Rail and is survived by his wife, Annie, a daughter, a son, a stepson and two grandchildren.

80 Timothy Bott, a’88, 45, Sept. 25 in Kansas City, where he was an architect and a partner in TJ’s Imaging. He is survived by his mother, Gloria Smith, and a sister.

Mary Claeys, g’82, 59, Oct. 13 in Norman, Okla., where she taught music and art at the Dimensions Academy. She is survived by her husband, Marvin Lamb, four daughters, her mother and two grandchildren.

Teresa Johnson, m’81, 55, Oct. 8 in Winfield, where she practiced medicine for several years. Her parents, a brother and a sister survive.

Stacey Lane, j’83, 51, Oct. 12 in Key West, Fla., where she had done public relations for Lower Keys Medical Center and worked for Ghost Tours. Her mother and a brother survive.

David McDonald, d’80, 55, Sept. 12 in Des Moines, where he was an IT analyst at Principal Financial Group. He is survived by his wife, Dianne, two sons, two daughters, two brothers, a stepbrother and a grandson.

Douglas Barnett, g’90, 54, Sept. 29 in Olathe, where he taught school and coached basketball for many years. He is survived by his wife, Chanda, two daughters, a son, his parents, a brother, a sister and three grandchildren.

Shawn Howell, e’91, g’02, 41, Oct. 31 in Lawrence. He had been an environmental engineer for the state of Kansas. Survivors include his wife, Jahna; a son; a daughter; his stepmother; and two sisters, one of whom is Angela Howell-Gibbs, j’92.

Betty Jo Waldron, g’90, 83, Oct. 17 in Kansas City, where she had worked for the Internal Revenue Service. Two sons, a sister and four granddaughters survive.

Judson Eisenhauer, c’06, 28, Oct. 5 in Pratt, where he worked as a paralegal. He is survived by his parents, two brothers and his grandparents.

Sandra Lyon, s’00, 56, Sept. 22 in Wichita, where she was executive director and later CEO of Episcopal Social Services. She is survived by her husband, Ronald Lyon, a son, a stepson, a stepdaughter, her mother, a brother, two sisters, and two granddaughters.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Harold “Gene” Blitch, 91, Sept. 19 in Marble Falls, Texas, where he was retired. He was KU’s supervisor of grounds and landscape architect from 1955 to 1977. Surviving are his wife, Bess; a son; a daughter, Maribeth Blitch Impson, c’74, g’85, PhD’88; a sister; seven grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Janet Hamburg, 59, Sept. 4 in New York City. She was a professor of dance at KU and an internationally known movement analyst and lecturer. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. She is survived by her partner, Lynn Bretz, c’71, two aunts and many cousins.

Ralph Krone, 91, March 19 in Washington, N.H. He had been a professor of physics at KU until 1982, when he moved to New Hampshire and opened an antique business. Surviving are his wife, Sara Rasely Krone, assoc.; two sons, Michael, ’70, and Christopher, ’76; and a daughter.

Howard O’Connor, 87, Sept. 8 in Lawrence, where he worked for KU’s Kansas Geological Survey as a senior geologist and geohydrologist from 1948 until 1989. He is survived by a daughter, Peggy O’Connor Viethaler, n’83; a son, Robert, ’82; and seven grandchildren.

Leslie “Jack” Rose, b’53, 78, Sept. 20 in Lawrence, where he was retired business manager for KU’s chemistry department. He is survived by his wife, Martha Lawrence Rose, c’54; two daughters, Virginia Rose Blum, ’78, and Leslie Rose, c’81, f’81; a sister, Virginia Rose, c’52; a brother, Jim, assoc.; and two grandsons.

George Woodyard, 75, Nov. 7 in Lawrence. He was a professor emeritus of Spanish at KU, where he also had served as acting dean of the graduate school, associate vice chancellor of research graduate studies and public service, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean of international studies. A memorial has been established with the KU Endowment Association. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor Tendick Woodyard, assoc.; two sons, Lance, c’87, and Devon, c’92; two daughters, Shana Woodyard Stuart, c’83, PhD’92, and Kenda Woodyard Arendt, ’90; a brother; a sister; and eight grandchildren.
New take on a classic

University Theatre performs Shakespeare as he intended

Entering through the backstage door to Murphy Hall’s Stage Tool!, theatre-goers fill seats that completely encircle the performance space. Lithe actresses dressed as blue fairies chatter at spectators, drawing each outsider into their whimsical world.

More characters of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” emerge and speak to the audience and each other in an accent less posh and more Irish than the familiar Shakespearean British; but the dialect is like nothing most Americans have heard before.

After weeks of language training and rehearsals, director Paul Meier created a theatre experience at once ancient and completely new.

A longtime accent enthusiast, Meier collaborated with renowned linguist David Crystal to produce Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” in original pronunciation (OP). Late in the rehearsal process, Meier learned that the production would be the first of its kind in North America, and only the fourth full-length OP production since Shakespeare’s time.

“Marrying my love of dialect with my love of Shakespeare, this was a natural project to do,” says Meier, who acts professionally, coaches accents and dialects, and has spent more than 20 years teaching and directing at KU.

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream” is full of rhyming couplets that showcase the dialect. Indeed many of the words, such as move and love, no longer rhyme as they did when Shakespeare penned the poetry. Crystal helped students transcribe the script using phonetic symbols, recorded an audio version for reference and spent two weeks training the actors to speak the language that the cast dubbed Pirate Irish. For the cast and crew, Meier’s production was an attractive challenge.

John Staniunas and Leslie Bennett, two theatre faculty members, played the king and queen of the fairies, Oberon and Titania.

“Leslie and I were able to enter Paul’s...
Crisis care

**Student-run clinic treats those without access to health care**

When the JayDoc Free Clinic opens at 5 p.m., about three dozen hopeful patients are usually in line. The clinic, organized and governed by first- and second-year students in the School of Medicine, with treatment oversight provided by volunteer physicians from KU and the community, can typically handle only 12 to 15 patients each evening. So second-year medical students immediately begin triage to determine who needs to be seen.

It’s never easy to turn anyone away. What makes the task even harder, the young doctors-to-be discover, is that when JayDoc turns someone away, that patient is probably out of options.

“The fact that we can’t help everybody, that’s been an eye-opening experience,” says second-year med student Abbie Schuster, c’09, a clinic board member. “Too many of us aren’t exposed to this. They’re sheltered until they come to JayDoc, but here they see and understand the health care crisis.”

JayDoc was founded in 2003 by Jenny Koontz, g’02, m’05, then a second-year med student with a master’s in public health. Encouraged by faculty advisers Joshua Freeman, professor and chair of family medicine, and Allen Greiner, associate professor of family medicine, Koontz, now a physician in Newton, created a student-run “safety-net clinic” that provides much-needed health care for area residents as well as training opportunities for medical students.

JayDoc is housed in the Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care clinic, operated by Sharon Lee, c’74, m’82. “She’s supportive of everything we do,” Schuster says. “Without her and her clinic, we wouldn’t be able to operate.”

Freeman, Greiner and other physicians supervise the medical students, but otherwise the students are in charge, writing grant applications, scheduling volunteers, and organizing fundraising events (Jay-Rock 6, featuring the Beatles tribute band Liverpool, is set for Feb. 11 at the Uptown Theater).

The general clinic is open Monday and Wednesday evenings. A specialty clinic, for such concerns as diabetes, physical therapy and women’s health, operates on Tuesday evenings.

Second-year medical student Abbie Schuster tends to patient Sarah Corn at the JayDoc Free Clinic, which operates three evenings a week in KU Medical Center’s Kansas City, Kan., neighborhood.
evenings. Most student volunteers are in their first and second years of medical school, getting a head start on patient interaction before they begin third-year clinical training.

Because it is both free and open in the evenings, the clinic is “crucial for the Kansas City community,” Schuster says. But Freeman cautions that the need, already severe, is growing; he recently noticed a well-dressed, middle-class couple who would have fit in just fine in suburban Johnson County, waiting in the clinic.

Laid off from their jobs, the couple had nowhere else to turn for health care.

“There’s a huge, unmet need,” Freeman says. “JayDoc helps, but it doesn’t begin to meet it. It and other charity clinics are not an excuse for government or the private sector to avoid developing a comprehensive solution.”

—Chris Lazzarino

OREAD READER

Judgment day

New book illuminates tales of Topeka’s killer tornado

Bonar Menninger thrives for exciting stories. While working as a business reporter in Washington, D.C., in the early 1990s, he met a gunsmith and ballistics expert who, after 20 years researching the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, had arrived at the startling conclusion that the fatal shot was likely a horrible mistake by a Secret Service agent swinging into action from a following car.

The result of their collaboration, the book Mortal Error, was published in 1992 by St. Martin’s Press, and since then, after returning to Kansas City and continuing his journalism career as a freelance writer, Menninger, j’84, longed for another engrossing topic.

He found the answer in 2006, while reading 40-year anniversary remembrances of the tornado that tore through his hometown, Topeka, on June 8, 1966. The result of his labors is the riveting And Hell Followed With It: Life and Death in a Kansas Tornado, published in October by Emerald Book Co.

“From the get-go I knew it was a great story,” Menninger says, “and once I started I couldn’t turn back.”

He quickly discovered, however, that he couldn’t approach Topeka’s defining natural tragedy as a swashbuckling tale of chaos, terror and survival. The trauma, Menninger realized, was still fresh.

“I didn’t anticipate how emotional this would be for people all these years later,” he says. “I guess I thought it would somehow be non-emotional recollections. Far from it. People started crying during interviews. I was treading on fragile ground and had to be careful and respectful. To me it was a wild adventure story, but to these people it was a horrific, traumatic event.”

Menninger, son of Roy Menninger, one of Topeka’s most prominent citizens, was an 8-year-old on vacation with his family in New England when the storm struck. They returned to a town shorn in two by a tornado that killed 16 people, injured more than 500, decimated the campus of Washburn University and flattened more than 800 homes.

“It was like a monster had come through and just stomped across the city,” he says. “It was something that imprints deep in the unconscious.”

Among the many stories Menninger’s book reveals, perhaps the most fascinating is that of meteorologist Richard Garrett. Shortly after tornado science and prediction had begun in the late 19th century, the federal government, fearing embarrassing mistakes in forecasting, chose to forbid its meteorologists from even using the word “tornado,” let alone warning the public. When the ban was lifted in 1952, Garrett immediately began forming safety plans for Topeka.

The town at first resisted Garrett’s calls for change, until the night of May 22, 1955, when a tornado thundered out of the darkness and destroyed the Kansas town of Udall, killing 82, including 22 children, an hour and a half after a tornado from the same storm system had killed 20 in Blackwell, Okla.

Eleven years later, Garrett’s devotion to public education, early warning systems and media and law enforcement coordination spared Topeka a toll that surely would have been larger.

“The Weather Bureau in the early years criminally dropped the ball,” Menninger says, “but here’s an individual who took charge and did a remarkable thing, probably saving hundreds of lives. How could an EF-5 tornado go 8 miles through a city and only kill 16? I realized that’s due to the work of Richard Garrett, and I don’t think he’s received the credit he’s due.

“The day of judgment came and Topeka was ready.”

—Chris Lazzarino
Into Africa

Journalism graduate turns lens on continent’s struggles

In 1994, Sean Sheridan, j’92, found himself at an up-and-coming company, doing public relations for its leader. That company—Microsoft—and that leader—Bill Gates—put Sheridan on the fast track toward success in corporate communications. But during his five years with the software giant, he felt something was missing.

“I really wanted to tell stories that would make a difference,” Sheridan says. “I wanted to give back in some ways that I couldn’t do in the corporate world.”

So he struck out on his own, starting 4 Minute Media, a freelance photography and writing business that tells the stories of non-governmental organizations as they provide aid around the world. His first book based on his international work, Testimony: Africa, shows how the lives of ordinary Africans are affected by three epidemics—HIV/AIDS, hunger/famine and war/genocide.

“I wanted to take these really big, intimidating, harsh, ugly issues and tell them through the eyes of a single person,” Sheridan says. “We tend to get bombarded by big statistics that are hard to swallow. What does it mean that 1 billion people live on less than $1 a day? But if you can see how one person does it, it starts to become more real.”

Sheridan, who lives in Colorado Springs, worked on the book for about five years while on assignment for relief agencies. “I’m not a wealthy guy. I’m not in a position of great influence,” he says. “It’s not like I can swoop in there and make a lot of change by myself. But these stories might be able to affect a few people who could go in and do something big.”

Despite the overwhelming issues facing Africa, Sheridan remains hopeful for the continent and its people.

“There’s a very simple but powerful faith in most of these people I would encounter,” he says. “There is development that works in Africa. When I see models that work, that are less dependent on emergency aid or handouts, that’s when I get really excited.”

He says the people he has met through his travels motivate him to tell more stories and take more photographs. One of those stories belongs to the man gracing the cover of Testimony: Africa, Murangira Emmanuel. Emmanuel was shot in the head and left for dead in a mass grave in Rwanda. He survived, though he lost his wife and children.

A year after Sheridan photographed Emmanuel, he struck up a conversation with the Rwandan during a return trip to Africa.

“I think it felt great for him to know he wasn’t forgotten,” Sheridan says. “That little connection is why I’m in this. That connection, I think, is where the real hope is for the future of Africa, and probably America as well.”

—Terry Rombeck

Above, Nothando, a girl who lives near Manzini, Swaziland, grinds maize on the family’s old British cast iron grinding wheel as her grandmother and sister wait to take a turn. The image is one of many in Testimony: Africa taken by Sean Sheridan, j’92, shown at left.

Testimony: Africa
by Sean Sheridan
$49.99, 4Minute Media
Lawrence children celebrated the first snow day of the season Jan. 10 by heading to the Hill for a day of ideal sledding. Though the Campanile was a popular launching point, there were plenty of sledders on Daisy Hill and near Carruth-O’Leary Hall as well. And lest you think school-aged children were the only ones taking advantage of the 6 inches of snow in Lawrence, rest assured there were children of all ages coasting down campus hills.
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