



# Maryville

[ SPRING 2012 ]

## MAGAZINE

**Women's Basketball  
Wins Conference**

**Maryville and Mercy:  
Historic Partnership**

**9 Things You Didn't  
Know Our Students  
Are Doing**

**Show Your  
*Spirit!***

**SCHOOL PRIDE IS FLYING HIGH AND MARYVILLE  
STUDENTS AREN'T AFRAID TO SHOW IT**



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ON THE COVER *Maryville students cheer on the Saints as the men's basketball team takes on Rockhurst in Moloney Arena on January 19, 2012. Cover photo by Jay Fram*



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## Maryville MAGAZINE

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Maryville University is a private institution offering approximately 50 undergraduate, ten master's and four doctoral degree programs. Ranked in the National Universities category by *U.S. News & World Report*, Maryville is one of three private institutions in the greater St. Louis area with this distinction.

# Letter from the President

MARK LOMBARDI, PhD

DEAR FRIENDS,

Welcome to the energy and achievement that is Maryville.

Across the past decade, we have moved from serving students from Missouri and Illinois to attracting applicants from more than 30 states and 40 countries around the world. The entire nation is taking note of our progress, and I hope you will enjoy reading more about Maryville's ranking as a National University in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2012 College Guide.

You will also learn more about a distinguished alumnus who flies planes for Wings of Hope, a medical air transport service with world headquarters in Chesterfield, and you'll hear a historian explain how geographic information systems have accelerated discoveries in archaeology.

In this issue, you'll enjoy seeing how Saints' Pride is growing across campus as our athletics teams create a new standard of excellence in Division II. Our women's basketball team won the Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship in its first year of eligibility! Likewise, three of our wrestlers competed at the national championship in Pueblo, Colo., in the team's inaugural year and freshman Keenan Hagerty finished second in the nation and received All-American honors.

We were proud to confer the first Maryville doctoral degrees in physical therapy in December, and our Doctorate of Education degrees in secondary and higher education administration continue to attract hundreds of participants. Our first phase of Kernaghan Hall science lab renovations is completed and phase two is under way. This investment is providing students with state-of-the-art tools for discovery.

Through it all, Maryville continues to develop the whole student, as evidenced by the winter opening of our Newman Center. Led by Father Richard Heman, whose guidance and expertise will help students on their spiritual journeys, the center is one of many faith connections now available to Maryville students.

In this graduation season, we hope that you take a few minutes to remember your Maryville Days, past and present. We truly appreciate your time, service and support. You continue to make a difference by creating new opportunities for the next generation.

WARM REGARDS,

*Mark Lombardi*



# [YourLetters]

"I HAVE ENJOYED THE STORIES IN MARYVILLE MAGAZINE ABOUT THE "OLD days" at Maryville. Maryville was still a new campus when I was there and we had the young single professors there. I lived my sophomore year in what would become the faculty apartments and the first semester of my junior year was in the Ranch House. (No pool yet— but we had a POOL table in the basement.)"

**Mary Martin VanDersarl**

*Class of 1968*

*Colorado Springs, Colorado*

"I RECENTLY RECEIVED MARYVILLE'S MAGAZINE ABOUT THE 50TH anniversary of the school's move west, and I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed it. ... I got my MBA from Maryville in 2001, so while I wasn't around when the school moved west, I found the stories about the move fascinating. Loved the story about the ranch house! The entire issue was really well done. Bravo."

**Barb Meyer**

*Class of 2001*

*Washington, Missouri*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Maryville Magazine welcomes your letters, which may be used for publication unless the author states the letter is not to be published. Letters may be edited for style, length and/or clarity. Please send your compliments, criticism or comments to [magazine@maryville.edu](mailto:magazine@maryville.edu) or Editor, Maryville Magazine 650 Maryville University Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63141

Join the conversation and "like" the official Maryville Alumni Association facebook page: [facebook.com/maryvillealumni](https://facebook.com/maryvillealumni)

THIS IS REALLY FUN! WHAT AN AMAZING GIFT THE INTERNET; CONNECTING with friends from the past and people yet unknown. Maryville— 2900 Meramec Street was such a great place! Y'all in the present day student body would never know such fun and such great friendships from that "era" of the '40s ... so long ago. From that long-ago time to now ... it's still the same! Y'all should have some sort of "time machine" to go back there and experience something of that day and time! Hello to Sister Mary Blish and Sister Carol Bialock from the Class of '49 and others whose names I would have to look up in the yearbook of that year ... probably in the archives, for sure. Maryville of Meramec Street and Maryville of the county still have the "flavor" of the RSCJ heritage! Hold onto it forever! Love and prayers.

**Mary Sue Thomas, GNSH**

*Class of 1949*

*Yardley, Pennsylvania*

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## Hot Off the Press!

Alumni who attended Alumni Weekend 2011 were among the first to enjoy the Fall issue.

Jerry Naunheim



David Umer



TABLE TALK: Rosalie McClard Stolarski, '61, and Jay Mephram Villalta, '61, page through the Fall 2011 issue during the President's Reception.

ALL SMILES: Katie Kurtz Walsh, '61, and Peggy McGinness Liggett, '61, pose for a photo after the Friday night Awards and Recognition ceremony.





Megan Sparks

**LIFE-CHANGING SURGERY:** According to a 1997 study published in the *Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal*, 27 out of 1000 babies in the Philippines are born with a cleft lip or palate. With no access to affordable healthcare, impoverished people often have no choice but to live with the deformity their entire lives. Scott Angus poses with a young pre-surgery patient (right).

## Documenting *Transformation*

SCOTT ANGUS, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF STUDIO ART, TRAVELED MORE THAN 8,000 miles to the Philippines in February, where he met Romeo Ramirez, the first child he photographed 13 years ago while volunteering for an international effort to fix facial deformities, including cleft palates. Angus was thrilled to be able to witness first hand how the surgery that took place over a decade ago improved Ramirez' life.

Angus joined surgeons and other health professionals who volunteer with Uplift Internationale, a Denver-based organization started by maxillofacial surgeon Dr. Jaime Yrastorza. The organization has helped more than 1,200 children, and Angus has visited the Philippines six times to document the organization's efforts.

Angus takes photographs of children before, during and after their cleft lip or palate surgery and visits their homes to document how they live.

This year, recent Maryville graduate Megan Sparks '11, was accepted to the team. Sparks, of Creve Coeur, Mo., trained with Angus to take surgical photographs and document operations by some of the world's top surgeons.

Sparks and Angus taught local residents digital photography skills, so they can take technical photos of children who need surgery after they leave. E-mailed images will help doctors evaluate cases and photos taken following the surgery help doctors track recovery. The photographs also help to raise awareness and funds for the non-profit organization.

Angus, who joined Maryville's faculty in August 2011, has launched a program based in fine art photography that allows students to combine photography with other subject areas, including nursing, forensic science, business and communication.

For her part, Sparks applied directly to Uplift Internationale to qualify for the trip and raised about \$2,000 to cover trip expenses. She says, "My favorite part of the medical mission was using photography as a means to document the entire story. As photographers, Professor Angus and I were able to capture numerous details that may otherwise have gone unrecognized." Sparks plans to attend dental school in 2013. ▮

## Maryville Partners with St. Patrick's Center



Craddock

MARYVILLE'S CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND DEMOCRACY has started a partnership with the St. Patrick Center in downtown St. Louis, an agency that assists homeless people. Maryville University faculty and staff will support the staff at the Center by presenting talks on topics ranging from yoga skills to leadership techniques.

Associate Professor Michael Kiener, PhD, CRC, who directs Rehabilitation Services and Counseling Programs in the School of Health Professions, says the intent of the talks is to assist St. Patrick Center staff with "self care," or helping staff

members look after themselves as they work in a human services profession that requires a high degree of empathy. Some of the skills discussed – such as meditation or breathing exercises – could be put into practice with St. Patrick Center clients, as well.

The hope is that St. Patrick Center employees and volunteers will avoid "compassion fatigue," the kind of burnout that can occur in environments where people are constantly giving of themselves. "These techniques could help people stay on the job longer, help people longer or help them be effective practitioners," he says. "You don't want to just go through the motions," Kiener says.

Alden Craddock, PhD, director of the Center for Civic Engagement and Democracy, says the public service speakers series allows the University to become more engaged in the community and allows the St. Patrick Center to receive free professional development training for its staff. "This series isn't modeled after anyone's program," Craddock says. "To have real impact, you do that through partnership, not 'consultant in, consultant out.'" ■



**FAIR GAME:** Former Ambassador Joe Wilson and wife Valerie Plame-Wilson spoke about "the importance of speaking truth to power" in front of a full house in Maryville Auditorium in November 2011 as part of the St. Louis Speakers Series. The pair recounted the events of 2002-2004 that led to her exposure as a covert CIA agent and his tarnished reputation despite years of government service.

## Maryville is Mobile



Maryville has released a new mobile phone app that links prospective students to application checklists and financial aid information. It provides users with information about the latest University news and events. Available for Android, iPhone and iPad, the app allows audiences to access content, videos and maps unique to Maryville University. Download it here: [maryville.edu/app](http://maryville.edu/app) ■

## DAVIS HEADS MARKETING EFFORTS



Davis

Maryville University welcomed Sue Davis, executive director of marketing and community relations, in mid-November. Davis, an Illinois native but most recently from

Houston, Texas, brings more than 20 years of strategic leadership in marketing, public relations and crisis communication in higher education.

"Maryville University is on the move, attracting top students with excellent academic programs for undergraduate and graduate students alike," Davis said. "It's a great time to join the Maryville community, and I look forward to helping move the institution ahead."

Davis spent the last four years as executive director of public affairs for University of Houston–Downtown, where she served as university spokesperson and spearheaded the institution's marketing and public affairs efforts. Prior to University of Houston, Davis enjoyed 22 years in communications with Southern Illinois University Carbondale. ■

## SHORT CUTS

### PROMISING TEACHER

Porismita Borah, PhD, assistant professor of communication, was awarded a Promising Professors Teaching award by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC). The awardees, determined by committee, were invited to give a presentation on teaching at the annual AEJMC conference last August. Borah received a certificate and cash prize for the honor.

sessions, with titles such as “Machines in Motion” and “Robotic Animal Planet,” focus on building with LEGO® or other building sets. For more information, visit [maryville.edu/robot](http://maryville.edu/robot).

### INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

Karen Tabak, PhD, associate professor of accounting, received the George Krull/Grant Thornton Teaching Innovation Award from The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Tabak

designed a creative curriculum focused on developing critical thinking skills through the use of name cards, drawing and classical art. She will present her curriculum at the 2012 American Accounting Association annual meeting.

### LEWINGTON NAMED SOCIETY PRESIDENT

John Lewington, PhD, professor of marketing and management, was named

president of Delta Mu Delta, an international honor society in business. The society recognizes academically distinguished students, faculty and business leaders who have experienced measurable success in their professions. Lewington began his term in November and will continue through the organization’s centennial conference in 2013. There are about 7,000 students inducted into Delta Mu Delta annually nationwide.

### DESANTO PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

Barbara DeSanto, EdD, director of Maryville’s communication program, has co-authored a public relations management book, *Public Relations: A Managerial Perspective*. DeSanto, APR, Fellow PRSA, wrote the book with Danny Moss following 10 years of public relations managerial research. Published by Sage International Publishing, the book addresses the combination of management and public relations and specifically targets third

and fourth-year undergraduates and postgraduate students.

### SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS

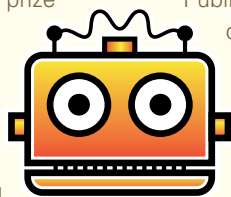
Maryville University’s main campus became smoke free on January 1. Maryville has prohibited smoking inside campus buildings for many years. Now school grounds on main campus are also smoke-free. Smokers who decide not to quit smoking may have a cigarette in their cars. However, the University has put several programs in place to encourage students and employees to quit the unhealthy habit.

### EMERSON AWARD

Becky von der Heyde, PhD, OTR/L, CHT, associate professor of occupational therapy, received a 2011 Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award. The award program, sponsored by Emerson, annually recognizes more than 100 teachers—from kindergarten to college professors—who are examples of excellence in the field of education in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

### ROBOTICS SUMMER CAMP

For the first time, Maryville is offering a summer program designed for children and teens ages 5–15 who are either identified as gifted or who perform well above others their age in science, technology, engineering and/or math. The camp programming will run July 23–August 3, and the



## ECO-FRIENDLY FILL-UP STATIONS

As part of an on-going commitment to creating an eco-friendly campus, the Center for Sustainability announced Maryville’s installation of two state-of-the-art hydration stations in November and five more stations were added across campus over winter break. The stations, suggested by students on the Green Maryville committee, were installed to discourage the repeated purchase of

bottled water and encourage the practice of refilling reusable containers with cold, filtered water in convenient locations. Within just a few hours of installing the first two stations, almost 40 plastic water bottles were saved from the landfill, and by February 2012, that number increased to almost 7,000.

Peggy Lauer, director of the Center for Sustainability, says “The feedback from

the campus community has been nothing short of amazing. Everyone wants a hydration station near them. I was told that during Scholars Weekend in February, parents and students were taking pictures of the stations!”





# Newman Center *Opens on Campus*

AS PART OF AN OVERALL CAMPUS EFFORT TO MINISTER TO STUDENTS of all faith traditions, Maryville University has opened a Newman Center to better serve the spiritual needs of Catholic students.

The University has eight different spiritual groups on campus, and various opportunities to link students to their faith communities through student organizations, special events and guest lectures.

The Newman Center office is located on the ground floor of Duchesne Residence Hall. Father Richard Heman joined campus in January and began establishing an on-campus presence to share his faith and guide retreats. "I'm looking forward to helping students along their spiritual journey," Heman says.

A St. Louis native with a Doctorate in American Studies from Saint Louis University, Father Heman was ordained through Kenrick Seminary in the

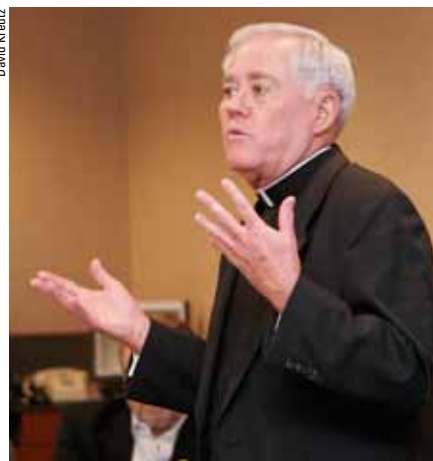
St. Louis Archdiocese in 1967. He has served in several parishes and diocesan Catholic high schools. Although retired from full-time ministry, he still provides support at SSM St. Mary's Health Center and parishes throughout the diocese.

Father Heman will preside over Sunday Mass in Huttig Chapel and on Holy Days within the regular school year when classes are in session. He'll also offer office hours at the Newman Center.

The 19th century English theologian, John Henry Cardinal Newman, wanted Catholic college students to have a place to explore their religious heritage while enriching their spirits, hearts and minds. Inspired by Newman's writings, the first Newman Club in the United States was established in 1893.

Liza Rael, spouse of Maryville University's president, was instrumental in bringing the Newman Center to campus. "As a student at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, I found a

David Kreutz



Father Richard Heman

Newman Center to be a place where my own faith life grew," she says.

Maryville University has a Catholic heritage, but the University was turned over to a lay board of trustees in 1972. The Newman Center allows Maryville to draw from its Catholic ties while augmenting the ways the University serves the spiritual needs of students. ▮



**SPIRIT ROCK HAS LANDED** Maryville students have a new place to express their creative spirit, thanks to a new, four-ton boulder placed strategically in front of the Donius University Center Atrium, near a junction of well-traveled sidewalks. "Spirit rock," as it has been dubbed, is available as a natural billboard for anyone who has a can of spray paint handy. Most messages to date have been advertisements for student events, but some students have taken a more creative tack. Let the school spirit tradition begin! ▮





# World Aids Day *Recognized*

MARYVILLE HOSTED TWO SCREENINGS OF *WE WERE HERE*—A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT THE early days of the AIDS epidemic in San Francisco—in recognition of World Aids Day on Dec. 1.

Several panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, which records details and reflections about those who have died from the disease, were also on display on campus as part of the event.

Lynne Cooper, president of the St. Louis-based Doorways that provides affordable housing and services for those living with HIV/AIDS, visited Maryville for the events. “On a college campus, it’s about awareness and helping people understand it’s part of their life, too,” she says. Increased awareness helps people better understand the disease and take steps to protect their own health, she said.

In the city of St. Louis and six nearby Missouri counties, nearly 7,000 people were living with HIV/AIDS in 2010, according to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. And raising awareness among the young remains vitally important, with 54 percent of all new HIV infections in the St. Louis area occurring in people younger than 25.

Chuck Gulas, PT, PhD, dean of Maryville’s School of Health Professions, noted the importance of bringing the highly regarded documentary *We Were Here* to campus. It opens a window of understanding to those who only have a vague idea of what happened during the early years of the epidemic, he said.

For many Maryville students, the panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt on display in the Donius University Center marked the first time they had ever seen the project, since media attention was at its height before traditional aged undergraduates were born.

The campus screenings of *We Were Here* were sponsored by Maryville University School of Health Professions, the Health and Wellness Office and Doorways. ■



IN MEMORY: Sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt on display in Donius University Center.

## MARYVILLE BY THE **numbers**

**3.24** Fall 2011 average student-athlete GPA

**3.74** Women’s Golf—individual sport highest average GPA

**21** Student-athletes with 4.0 GPA

**74** Percentage of student-athletes with 3.0 or higher

**43** Athlete signees for 2012-13

**12** Home states represented by next fall’s athlete signees



Payne

a lengthy national search designed to attract a strong, nationally known expert in this field to campus.

Payne, who most recently served as vice president for curriculum and instruction with Career Education Corp., has more than 30 years of expertise in online education, continuing education, corporate outreach and teacher education. Her leadership will be instrumental as Maryville expands its online degree portfolio and grows adult enrollment.

## New Leadership in Adult Education

Donna Payne, PhD, joined Maryville University in January as vice president for adult and online education after

“Maryville has a tremendous potential for growth in adult undergraduate and graduate offerings, and we will work diligently to offer flexible degree options that help students advance careers and meet personal goals,” Payne says. “I look forward to the challenges ahead as we expand degree and delivery options and increase enrollment.”

Payne also has considerable experience and connections in the Greater St. Louis area. She served as president of Bishop DuBourg High School from 2003 to 2005 and as director of academic affairs and faculty helped launch the University of Phoenix’s St. Louis presence.

Payne’s multi-faceted career includes leadership positions at Colorado State University and Westark Community College in Fort Smith, Ark. ■



BIRD'S EYE VIEW: Todd Brenningmeyer, PhD, Stacey Larson and Bethany Nobbe are standing in the remains of an early Byzantine house on the island of Karpathos, Greece. They are in the process of raising a kite to take photographs of the structure and the small peninsula where it is located.

## MODERN MAPS AND ANCIENT WORLDS

BY JANET EDWARDS

*At any given moment, you might find Todd Brenningmeyer, PhD, mapping an ancient structure in Greece, helping students hoist an aerial camera to capture campus views or discussing mythological symbols in class.*

THAT'S THE BEAUTY OF HIS WORK: AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ART HISTORY, Brenningmeyer's passion for all things art and archaeology combines with his exuberance for modern-day technologies. In particular, he specializes in geographic information systems (GIS).

"GIS is a part of all the technology that's being produced now. Every app that's on your phone asks if you want to share your location," he says. "It's knowing where you are and how that relates to everything else around you that has become the driving force for technology."

He balks at the notion that GIS technology is a Big Brother-like invention.

"It's kind of scary until you want to find out where the closest Thai restaurant is," he says. "This is the reality of the age that we live in. Better to be aware of that and understand why it's used and where it's used, than to hole up in a shack writing manifestos."



As an archaeologist and historian, Brenningmeyer uses GIS and other technologies to map and locate important sites around the world. During a Summer 2010 study abroad experience in Greece, he involved nine Maryville students in a practicum to help document ancient Peloponnese sites.

He also worked recently with Jon Fahnestock, associate professor of communication and graphic design, to create an interactive map of ancient sites for the Pyrgos Archaeological Museum in Greece.

*"It's knowing where you are and how that relates to everything else around you that has become the driving force for technology."*

Working with clients in Egypt and Israel, he created historic site reconstructions, mapping those sites and analyzing archeological materials. Features of a site are documented, he says, in order to study how they relate to surrounding environs.

"It's not enough to know there's a temple in Greece, you need to know where that temple is and its characteristics," Brenningmeyer says. "Then, if you want to tie it to a larger perspective, you can ask where else do we have those features?"

Brenningmeyer teaches classes on a variety of subjects: symbols and myth; world archaeology; Italian Renaissance, Mesoamerican, Greek-Roman and Middle Eastern art; and an honors course on ancient technologies and materials (a fascinating, hands-on course in which students learn to make arrowheads and build structures using ancient techniques and technologies.)

The course in GIS technologies is one of his most popular. Cross-listed with other programs, it attracts environmental science students as well as art and design majors.

"This is a practical class because a lot of employers are looking for GIS experience and knowledge," Brenningmeyer says.

Over the past several years, his students have used GIS technology to create a map of Maryville. The project—

ongoing and not yet "live"—has potential as an important tool for various campus departments, Brenningmeyer says.

Vital information is shared through different layers on the map, which will be useful for future construction projects, in the event of campus emergencies and as a record of the overall condition of campus assets, he says.

Brenningmeyer's students have mapped campus landmarks such as buildings, sidewalks, trees, vegetation, artwork, signs and underground electrical networks.

"By taking photos annually, we get a sense of how buildings are aging. We expect this map to see a lot of use in the next few years," Brenningmeyer says.

His students have also assisted in mapping projects for the Saint Louis Zoo and Chesterfield Arts in Chesterfield, Mo.

For documentation, Brenningmeyer often utilizes a helikite, a camera attached to a large helium balloon. By overlapping helikite photos, his students created three-dimensional site reconstructions in Greece.

Using aerial cameras and other, infrared technologies over the years, Brenningmeyer has discovered ancient Frankish structures in Greece, along with a number of small, abandoned villages on hilltops and mountainsides. In collaboration with colleagues from other universities, he continues to work on projects for the Greek Ministry of Culture.

In the meantime, Brenningmeyer is a self-professed "techie" who dabbles in making small electronic devices to augment his research. He also watches "way too much" science fiction on TV.

"It always relates to art. Those who create science fiction shows tend to be people who enjoyed their art history classes," he says. "Some of that stuff even shows up in cartoons, which is fun. I'll be watching a Superman

episode with my kids and see Superman standing in front of a grave striking the same pose as the Mourning Athena."

When you can make those connections, art becomes much more interesting, Brenningmeyer says.

"All these things are connected, and that's how I approach my classes," he says. "There are reasons why people created art and decided to create it in a particular way. I think it's interesting to explore those ideas. I don't think people have really changed all that much. It's good for students to understand that."

People living 3,000 years ago were interested in the same things as people of today, he says.

"There was some girl who caught someone's eye so that person created a work of art," Brenningmeyer says. "Someone's heart was broken; art was created."

Brenningmeyer insists on art as a living, breathing thing, rather than as a static concept.

"Art is alive, that's how I like to talk about it," he says. "My students would probably describe me as a little goofy, a little wacky. I don't know that my jokes are all that good, but I always try to make it a little light-hearted."

In Summer 2012, Brenningmeyer will lead a study abroad experience to Greece and Turkey to explore the great monuments of the eastern Mediterranean. ■



UP AND AWAY: Brenningmeyer prepares the helikite with students.

# [StudentSpotlight]



Brian Brinkley

**PROUD GRAD:** Alan Probst, 25, notes that six and a half years of study was a big commitment, but he is proud of what he has accomplished. "We covered a lot," he says. "It was a great experience."

## FIRST CLASS

### *Maryville graduates first students from Doctorate of Physical Therapy program*

BY BETSY TAYLOR

MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY HELD ITS FIRST CONVOCATION FOR THE DOCTORATE OF Physical Therapy in December, honoring 39 graduates, who completed six and a half years of study to earn the degrees.

On Dec. 10, family and friends packed Maryville Auditorium for the convocation. Guest speaker Pamela A. Duffy, PhD, a Des Moines University assistant professor, told them, "Graduates, you will enter into your patients' lives at a time they are in pain, vulnerable and dependent on you to change their lives. As you change their lives, you will change your own."

Then as each graduate was awarded an academic hood, a short passage about the student, their families or future employment was read aloud. Two graduates—Ashley Pratt Hentis and Alan Probst—talked to *Maryville Magazine* about how their education

had changed their lives, and how their degrees will enable them to help patients.

Hentis and Probst explain that physical therapists work in a variety of settings with different patient populations. As movement specialists, they help to reduce pain, increase mobility and improve function. They work to prevent the onset of a condition or to slow its progression from disease, injury or other causes.

Students enter Maryville's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program in their first year. The first-year acceptance ensures them a place in the program's professional portion as long as they make satisfactory academic progress. Students earn an undergraduate degree in Health Science when they complete their first four years, and then continue on to professional classes for their doctorate.



Both students said they liked the program's spiral curriculum, where they'd learn the foundations of a subject, then return to the topic later in their education for more advanced study. It allowed them to build on the basics, reviewing what they'd already learned and adding onto it as they progressed. They also loved the focus on clinical work, spending time with real patients and exposing the students to several places and populations, so they could learn what interested them and what areas played to their strengths.

Hentis, 25, works for Red Bud Regional Hospital in her Illinois home town. She works with patients who come to the hospital for physical therapy appointments as well as patients who are hospitalized on-site and in nursing home settings.

Hentis described one rewarding experience from her clinical work, time she spent with a patient recovering from a stroke. The patient could get up from a chair when she started working with him, but was unable to walk without

someone moving his legs for him. But by using a gait belt—a type of safety device—an ankle and foot orthotic device, and a cane with a broad base, the man was able to walk 150 feet. "That doesn't seem like much to you and me, but for him, that was huge. It gave him more independence in his home," she says.

Hentis chose to attend Maryville for the small class size and individual attention in the classroom. "I

*"Both students said they liked the program's spiral curriculum, where they'd learn the foundations of a subject, then return to the topic later in their education for more advanced study."*

immediately felt at home during my first tour because everyone was very cheerful and helpful," she recalls. She says entering a doctorate program in her first year at Maryville provided an introduction to professors and resources that she could draw on throughout her time learning. As part of the first

Doctorate of Physical Therapy class, the program's leadership took feedback from students and made modifications to improve student learning, Hentis says.

Hentis also graduated with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy student she knew from high school, who is now her husband, Nicholas Hentis. The two were married June 11, 2011, in Red Bud. Nicholas Hentis, 24, accepted a position with Chester Memorial Hospital, and the couple was all smiles when Ashley

Hentis received the Award for Excellence in Physical Therapy at the convocation.

Another recent graduate, Probst, 25, of Teutopolis, Ill., says other students who had attended Maryville for physical therapy recommended the program to him. He also liked the small class size compared to other physical therapy programs he visited in the area.

While at Maryville, Probst worked to build a solid foundation of knowledge, but also to develop skills for working one-on-one with patients. "After graduation, I plan on working at PRORehab, an outpatient-based orthopedic clinic located in the St. Louis area," Probst says, adding that he'll evaluate and treat people of all ages. He liked that the program prepared him for different situations, which came in handy during clinical work with patients. "It's very fast-paced, fluid. Things are constantly changing," he says.

And how did it feel to complete the program? "Fantastic! It's a little surreal, hard to believe," he says. He encouraged people who might consider a Doctorate in Physical Therapy to do some observation of physical therapists at work. "It's a gratifying degree. You're helping people. If they're in pain, we can't always make it go away, but we can use our skills to help them." ■

Brian Brinkley



**PARTNERS IN THERAPY:** Ashley and Nicholas Hentis both received their academic hoods for the Doctorate in Physical Therapy in December 2011. They were married the previous June.

## Maryville Earns National Nod From Three College Surveys

MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY'S ACADEMIC REPUTATION CONTINUES TO GROW across the country.

*U.S. News & World Report* named Maryville among the top National Universities in its Best Colleges 2012 list. Maryville not only entered the national category, but was one of three institutions in the St. Louis area that *U.S. News* ranked in the prestigious division along with Washington University and Saint Louis University.

In addition, *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* has named Maryville University one of the best values among 100 private

universities and 100 liberal arts colleges, citing factors such as small class size, strong financial aid options and low debt for students after graduation, and Forbes recognized Maryville as a top value in higher education.

"Maryville has a lot to offer, and the rankings reflect our academic excellence and growth," says Sue Davis, executive director of Marketing and Community Relations at Maryville. "Prospective students and their families who study rankings are likely to take a closer look at what we have to offer. We know we are drawing students from a wider geographic area. Last year, 28 percent of our full-time first year students came from more than 100 miles away."

"Students appreciate the quality of our professors, the increased

opportunities to live on campus, and we're seeing great school pride in our Division II sports teams," she says.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Mary Ellen Finch notes that Maryville moved up in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings in part because of the University's growth and success with its graduate programs, especially its doctoral programs.

She notes Maryville's strong overall retention rate and graduation rate are reaping rewards. Maryville's Center for Teaching and Learning, especially its Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference, has also helped "really put us on the map nationally," she says. The popular annual conference for teachers focuses on collaborative learning and teaching models and research. 🇺🇸





A photograph of a sunny outdoor cafe scene. In the foreground, several students are seated at metal tables under large red patio umbrellas. A young woman with curly hair is smiling on the left. In the background, a stone building with a wide staircase and a fountain with multiple jets of water are visible. The scene is bright and cheerful.

# MARYVILLE IS ON THE MOVE

# HERE THEY COME!

Recruiting, marketing and good old fashioned word-of-mouth have put Maryville on

2001



INCOMING FRESHMEN  
BY HOME STATE: 238

*The days of  
Maryville students coming  
from mainly Missouri and Illinois  
are over. In just 10 years, Maryville  
has begun attracting students  
from California to  
New Jersey.*

In Fall 2001, Maryville's incoming class came from just four states—and over 200 from Missouri alone. Compare that snapshot with one from ten years later: in Fall 2011, incoming freshman hailed from 21 states, with over a dozen students from as far away as California. The trend shows no sign of decreasing; applications received as of mid-March for 2012-13 represent students from 35 states (including three from Hawaii and 154 from California).

There are several reasons for the increased draw from a wider geographic area. First, Maryville's admission counselors have increased their territories and are recruiting at college fairs and high schools much farther away than our own backyard and surrounding states. In fact, Maryville has one territory-based counselor living in San Diego—in her second year devoted entirely to California and the west coast. In March 2012, another territory-based counselor joined the team; she lives in Dallas and is entirely devoted to the state of Texas. California's well-publicized budget

crisis and the resulting crunch in higher education choices has caused many students to apply to colleges outside of their home state, and Texas is another top exporter of college students.

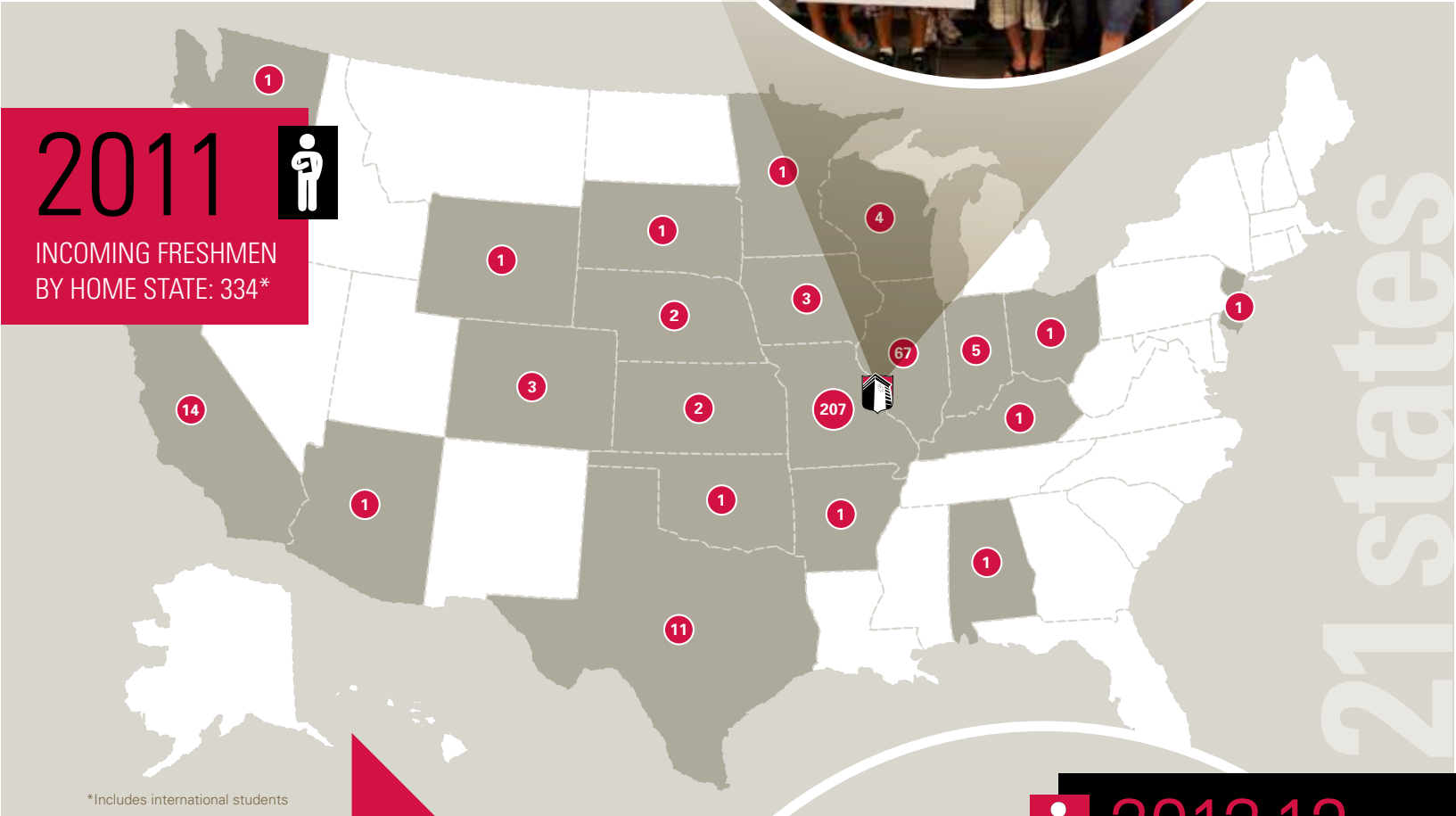
Second, Maryville's move to Division II—an application and transition process that took about three years from start to finish—has dramatically increased the University's visibility in Wisconsin, Kentucky and Indiana, all states with schools that belong to the GLVC (Great Lakes Valley Conference) in addition to Missouri and Illinois. At press time, 12 states are represented by the 43 student-

4 states



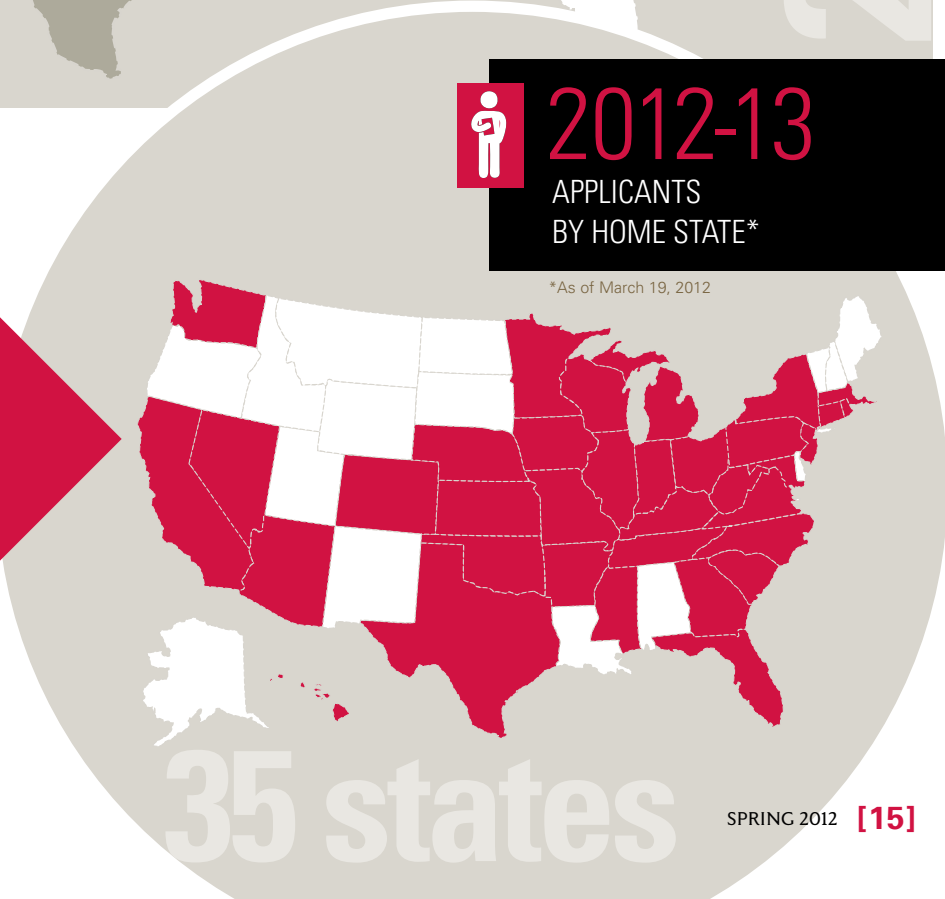


the map with prospective students




athletes who have signed on to play for Maryville's Division II teams.

Lastly, Maryville made an important jump from the regional to the national rankings in the "Best Colleges" list issued annually by *U.S. News & World Report*, joining ranks with many of the top institutions in the country (see story on page 12). Maryville is now one of only three nationally ranked universities in St. Louis and finds itself in good company—sharing the national spotlight with some of the most recognizable and well-branded schools in the country. ■



FROM THE QUAD TO THE COURT, **SAINTS PRIDE**  
IS GAINING MOMENTUM — AND IT SHOWS.

# WE'VE GOT SPIRIT, HOW 'BOUT YOU?

A photograph of four young adults, three women and one man, sitting in the foreground and cheering enthusiastically at a soccer game. They are all wearing red t-shirts with the Maryville Saints logo. The woman on the far left is smiling broadly. The woman next to her has her mouth open in a shout and her fist is raised. The woman in the center is wearing bright green sunglasses and has her hands near her face in a surprised or excited expression. The man on the far right is wearing a black baseball cap and is also cheering with his mouth open. The background is slightly out of focus, showing a grassy field and other spectators.

MEGA SOCCER FANS: (Left to right) Holly Hurst, Brittany Garza, Alicia Farrington and Justin Halley get more than a little excited at a men's soccer game last fall.



BY TRISHA PFLANZ

**O**N THE MARYVILLE CAMPUS, ALL PAWS LEAD TO SIMON Athletics Center. The red-painted paw prints on the campus sidewalks are just one of many university-wide initiatives to promote Maryville's athletics teams, foster school spirit and build a sense of community.

Lightpole banners feature photos of student life. Students, faculty and staff sport "Red Alert" T-shirts on game days. Even this year's campus holiday decorations featured a subtle Maryville flair: the university's buildings were trimmed in red and white lights to showcase the school colors.

Maryville's efforts to foster school spirit reflect its new status as a NCAA Division II university. After a three-year transition to Division II athletics, Maryville took its place in the Great Lakes Valley Conference this fall.

But Maryville's leaders see spirit as more than a way to support its sports programs. School spirit helps Maryville attract new students and recruit new athletes. It develops a sense of campus community. And it creates a strong bond between alumni and their alma mater, says Nina Caldwell, EdD, vice president for student life and dean of students.

*"Some students don't have the time to commit to an organization or a sport. Spirit is one of those things that you don't have to give to, just be a part of."* **Cheer and Dance Coach Georgia Prince**

"School spirit is really essential to the culture of higher education," Caldwell says. "We're building great memories and great stories for our students."

The school has hired a full-time spirit coordinator, cheer and dance coach Georgia Prince, to lead the way in lifting Maryville's spirits. Prince works to expand the school's cheer and dance squads. She also heads Maryville's new Comprehensive Spirit and Pride Committee, a group of students,

faculty and staff that meets monthly to discuss how to improve campus life.

The committee created the Red Alert campaign, distributing T-shirts and emailing students about home games. It put together a parade of shopping carts, decorated as floats, that student groups marched across campus during the annual Fall Festival. And the committee promoted the idea for Spirit Rock, an 8,000-pound boulder that students paint to show their school pride. The rock was installed on campus in the fall.

"Some students don't have the time to commit to an organization or a sport," Prince says. "Spirit is one of those things that you don't have to give to, just be a part of."

First-year students Julie Jansen and Jen Jung attended a men's basketball game in mid-December. They were greeted at the door by the school's pep squad, the Top Dawgs, who invited them to donate a penny for a chance to win a pizza at half-time, or sign up for a

half-time trivia game. Jansen and Jung play for the women's soccer team and say they wanted to show support for fellow athletes.

"We want fans to come out to our soccer games and support our sports," Jansen says. "We hope that we can trade fans."

The atmosphere at the December game was festive. One group donned Santa and elf hats to celebrate the holiday season. The pep band, The Sound of the Saints, opened the game with the national anthem and later played the school fight song, "When the Saints Go Marching In." The cheerleading squad held court in front of the Dawg Pound, a section of bleachers reserved for students.

Sophomore Christy Berry, who belongs to both the dance team and the spirit committee, says she immediately saw an increase in attendance at this year's athletics events, thanks to the new spirit initiatives. All of the school's spirit groups have worked on developing an atmosphere of fun at important games: decorating with balloons and signs, playing games with fans in the stands, offering face-painting in Maryville's colors.



PEPPY FOURSOME: (Left to right) Joe Hoffmann, Kevin Olson (in back), Kaitlyn Henderson and Katie Claus keep the fans revved up during halftime.

**SAINTS FEVER:** Students lounge with Louie on the sidelines during the Disco Mania basketball game against Rockhurst on January 19. (Left to right) Kevin O'Gorman, Hannah Pool, Victoria Hargis, Brady Griffith and Tony Boehmer.

Jay Fram

"It makes you excited about what you're doing here, that you're making a difference," Berry says. "It helps us see how much we're changing the university."

Berry's boyfriend, Maryville sophomore Carter Harbert, belongs to the cheer team. Like Berry, Harbert sees a big difference in attendance at home games.

"At some games last year, we would feel like there were as many of us as there were people in the stands," Harbert says. "So far this year, we see a lot more students there. We have made a lot of improvements from last year."

Changes like these will help the school attract new students and retain the students it already has, says Brian Gardner, '03, assistant director of student involvement.

Maryville wants to add 700 to 1,200 students to its enrollment of almost 3,900 over the next few years, he says. The university has traditionally

attracted its student population from the St. Louis area, with more than 80 percent of its students living off-campus and commuting to their classes.

Now the university is looking beyond St. Louis to expand its population, recruiting in places such as Dallas, Chicago and southern California, Gardner says. The school also wants to double the number of students living on campus.

As more students come from outside the St. Louis area, more students will live in university housing and expect a thriving campus life, Gardner says. School spirit helps build that sense of community and connection.

Gardner adds, "Spirit plays a role in all of these things. It makes people want to live on campus, to spend time on campus, to be part of what we're doing on campus." ■



**DO THE SHUFFLE:** Scan code using a smartphone to see a video clip of a spontaneous student half-time dance.



Carla Cosio





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participation  
makes a  
difference.*

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When alumni participation increases, Maryville attracts the attention of foundations and corporate donors who become more inclined to support scholarships, offer internships and hire our graduates. Alumni participation also has a direct effect on our ranking in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual list of America's Best Colleges.

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**LIVE Maryville**  
Maryville University St. Louis, Missouri



*Modern labs and new degree offerings put science in the spotlight*

# Science

BY BETSY TAYLOR

As biomedical science major Tim Sieve examines slides under a microscope, he offers a concise assessment of improvements made to Maryville University's science labs: "It's a million times better than it was before," the 19-year-old says.

Maryville University completed a half million dollars worth of renovations to its science labs in 2011 and will spend a similar amount on more lab upgrades this summer. It's just one way the University has revamped its offerings in the natural sciences. The University is modernizing its science facilities, providing more options for dual degrees and focusing increased attention on its pre-health professions.

Maryville's science labs now allow for "modern, technology-based data

acquisition," notes Candace Chambers, PhD, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Students can now link probes and temperature sensors to a laptop to collect and graph data at a work station while they're conducting an experiment. In the old labs, they'd track information by hand, then find a computer to analyze it later. Now, the 'a ha!' moment happens with the faculty member right there," Chambers says. If a student has questions or is trying to grasp a new concept, professors can more thoroughly assist them as an experiment is being done. "It's just a significantly better way to learn," Chambers notes.

The renovated labs also have improved safety features, from new hoods that allow students to work in a fume-free environment to cubbies for coats and backpacks that keep those items away from the work areas where experiments are done.

Changes to the natural sciences programs include stepped up interest in dual-degree programs which leverage relationships with other institutions, allowing Maryville students to go on to specialized study for their master's degrees.

For instance, Maryville has long had a dual-degree engineering program with Washington University. Students first study at Maryville, then apply to enter Washington University after their junior or senior year. If students choose a 3-2 year option, they earn their undergraduate degree in science from Maryville; those who select a 4-2 schedule may choose from a variety of majors in the arts and sciences.

In 2011, Maryville added a dual-degree engineering program with the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Chambers notes the dual-degree engineering program recently has grown from 7 students to





**FASCINATING FORENSICS:** Scan this code with a smart phone to see a video about the popular new forensic science major.



*Candace Chambers, PhD*

# —Minded

21, and more growth is expected as word spreads of the new relationship with the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

The University is also pursuing agreements with other graduate schools in health and science fields, where students complete pre-health profession requirements at Maryville and then may choose additional education elsewhere. For instance, Maryville University students interested in podiatry can take a certain set of classes at Maryville, and then go on to advanced study at the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, Chambers explains. Similar relationships are planned for students interested in studying pharmacy or dentistry. The relationships “provide paths for study at the advanced level,” Chambers says. Pre-health students at Maryville don’t have to continue on to schools

that have agreements with Maryville, but they may if they meet the necessary requirements.

Maryville also offers a forensic science program with a concentration in biology or chemistry. Associate Professor of Chemistry and Forensic Science Tom Spudich, PhD, says interest in forensic science is high, thanks to television shows like CSI and NCIS. But, he says, Maryville students quickly learn crimes don’t get solved in 48 minutes.

He has been reaching out to detectives and crime labs to find out the skill sets they want from recent forensic science graduates. Maryville’s program will teach some skills, including basic fingerprint matching, as well as

some advanced analyses to include spectrophotometric methods—where light is used to analyze

evidence—and separation methods that allow for analysis of DNA, blood samples or to identify potential illegal drugs. Spudich came to Maryville University after teaching at the United States Military Academy at West Point, in large part because of Maryville’s lab renovations and commitment to the natural sciences. The new forensic science offerings will meet Maryville’s high science standards. “We wanted a science program that would be robust, and when a degree has Maryville University on it, that means something,” Spudich says.

Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences Dan Sparling, PhD, sums up the enthusiasm for the natural sciences improvements saying, “A combination of new facilities, stronger faculty and new programs have made our science programs more attractive.” ■



P I L O T

W I T H A

P U R P O S E

BY BETSY TAYLOR

*As an engineer, lay pastor, pilot, former VP at McDonnell Douglas and current chair of Wings of Hope, Maryville Alumnus Larry Lemke, '86 has always followed his instincts and his heart.*



PREPPED FOR FLIGHT:  
Lemke poses next to a twin-engine Piper Seneca shortly before a winter mission.



YOUNG PASSENGER: Jacob Gardner, 7, of Springdale, Ark., plays with a model plane while waiting at the Wings of Hope offices to board a flight home.



Sid Hastings



AT THE WINGS OF HOPE GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS AT THE SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS AIRPORT IN Chesterfield, Mo., Larry Lemke, '86, prepares to pilot a medical air transport flight to take a 7-year-old boy and his mother back to their Arkansas home.

Lemke runs through a pre-flight checklist in a hangar located right next to the offices, then uses a powered towbar to guide a plane outside for fuel. While Lemke prepares the plane for flight, young Jacob Gardner picks up a model plane inside the office, gliding it through the air. The Springdale, Ark., boy was born with a right club foot and required surgery at Shriners Hospitals for Children-St. Louis, long known for free care to children with orthopedic conditions.

Jacob arrived in town for his medical appointment thanks to Wings of Hope, a nonprofit that helps the world's sick or poor people using planes to deliver relief and to fly the ill to receive treatment. The boy may not have realized it, but his pilot, Lemke, is the international organization's chair. And the flight Jacob is on—his first time on a plane—allowed him to get to the hospital more than 300 miles from his home. "My car wouldn't have made it," notes his mother, Jennifer Gardner, 29.

At its most fundamental level, Lemke says Wings of Hope has a clear mission: "Very simply, what Wings of Hope is all about is helping the poor and needy people of the world." Last spring, Wings of Hope was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize.

The nomination led to increased recognition for the organization, founded in 1962, and the work it does both domestically and abroad. Wings of Hope provides medical care, education and hands-on support for sustainable projects to provide relief and combat poverty in more than 40 countries. That work includes providing fully equipped medical air ambulances to get people, like Jacob, to the treatment they need.

Wings of Hope has a dedicated staff and more than 3,000 volunteers around the world who make their work a reality, the sort of people who can fly planes, communicate across continents and accomplish things in remote areas. But Lemke's leadership as chair has played an important role in the nonprofit's success. As he tells his life story, Lemke, now 73, speaks of his choices and how they contributed to the skill set he offers to Wings of Hope.

"Life deals you various cards, and you pick some up, and some you don't," he explains. Lemke grew up on a farm in Casey, Iowa. While at Casey High School, he and a friend met a girl while they were detasseling corn together, a laborious job familiar to many teens in agricultural communities looking to earn some money. That girl soon brought a friend with her to the Iowa State Fair, and that's when Lemke met his future wife, Janet. The couple has been married more than 50 years and had three children, Cindy, Cheri and Craig. Craig died in 2009 from small cell lung cancer. And Janet was also fighting cancer when Lemke spoke to *Maryville Magazine*.

NEW SCHOOL: Volunteer Mary Jean Russell (left), Larry Lemke, '86, (back) and Wings of Hope Deputy Chair Roger Debenport (right) pose with tribal leaders and children of the South American indigenous group, the Achuar, in a newly-built primary school in eastern Ecuador in 2009. The Achuar are one of five principal indigenous groups Wings of Hope works with in South America.



*"As a person, Larry exemplifies the American spirit in every possible way. He has endless energy."*

Douglas Clements, president of Wings of Hope

After graduating from Casey High School in 1956, Lemke had a scholarship to play football in college, but instead enrolled in the Air Force seven days out of high school. It was a decision that started him down the path toward electronic engineering, central to his professional life for many years.

He wasn't training to become a pilot in the Air Force, but Lemke decided to take flying lessons anyway. As he explains: "I was enlisted at the time as an electronics technician. I was working with all these guys who were flying airplanes, and they were learning how to operate the radar that was in the airplane." He says with a laugh, "I finally said to myself, 'If these guys can fly an airplane, let me tell you something, I think I can.'"

While he was stationed in Sherman, Texas, he began visiting the Air Force aero club, where a master sergeant told him if he

had learned how to ride a bicycle, he could learn how to fly a plane. That's just what he did, learning to become a pilot.

The young husband and father took college classes at Austin College while in Texas and continued them at Oklahoma City University, where he graduated with a bachelor's of science in engineering in 1963. Lemke knew what it was to struggle, with long days in the military and classes to attend at night. While in Oklahoma, he'd borrow money every semester to pay for tuition and books, then pay it back only to need to borrow money again the next semester. When he got a job at the aerospace company Martin Marietta in Colorado, he also borrowed \$20 to get there.

In 1964, the Lemke family moved to St. Louis where Lemke began working for McDonnell Douglas, first as an electronics engineer, then as a supervisor. In time, he rose to become the





Douglas Clements

vice president who oversaw the F/A-18 fighter and attack jet program.

It was also where he got his master's degree from Maryville University. Maryville professors would visit the McDonnell Douglas campus, where a few dozen employees took classes for a master's of science in management after their work shift ended. Lemke said he knows how hard it can be to get a college degree and a graduate education, commenting that "he'd never taken a class during the day" after high school.

While completing his Maryville degree in 1986, he worked for McDonnell Douglas as the program manager of quality and productivity. McDonnell Douglas paid for the Maryville education, which helped his career advance. "For me, it was very, very helpful, because two years later, I made vice president," Lemke notes. He retired from the aerospace company in 1993, and his U.S. Navy customer created a new leadership award in his name.

At age 54, he began studying to become a Lutheran lay pastor, and was consecrated in 1995. He provided pastoral care at his church, Trinity Lutheran in Chesterfield, and stepped up his work with Lutheran Family and Children's Services. It wasn't a small commitment. He and his wife, Janet, had

previously become foster parents and took in about 70 children over a decade.

In 1995, Lemke also was tapped to volunteer with Wings of Hope by Don Malvern, a former McDonnell Douglas president, who was the Wings of Hope chair at the time.

Wings of Hope began when four businessmen in the St. Louis area heard about a nun in Africa who was providing aid with a plane that kept needing repairs. Baboons were literally eating fabric off the plane's wings. The Americans provided the woman with a plane constructed with more metal, and began finding other planes that could be donated to provide relief and medical aid around the world.

Current Wings of Hope leaders describe Lemke's involvement as an important addition to the work the organization does. He became Wings of Hope chair in 2004. Douglas Clements, president of Wings of Hope, says, "As a person, Larry exemplifies the American spirit in every possible way. He has endless energy." Clements cites Lemke's ability to tackle challenges by thinking about what must be done to overcome them, and how to best do that. "He's an outdoorsman. He's incredibly hard working. He's very creative," Clements says. These traits were just recognized last fall by the National Aeronautic Association, which presented Lemke with the 2011 Distinguished Volunteer of the Public Benefit Flying Award.

Lemke explains that the places where Wings of Hope works are often remote, and sometimes have only rudimentary airstrips for pilots to land. "You normally make a low pass, and get rid of the cattle and horses that are out there — and kids, by the way. When the children hear the airplane coming, they're there because they know you're bringing something." He says Wings of Hope pilots routinely fly with candy or other treats to give to children.

But the work provides more than good will; it saves lives. He recalls a mission where he helped a woman in Guatemala. "One was taking a pregnant woman who was having trouble in childbirth out of the village where she was at and flying her into a city that had a hospital. Then, about a week later, she shows up at our airstrip in the city, along with other people. Then she's sitting in the back of the plane, along with her newborn and the chicken and potatoes. I mean it's absolutely amazing how people around the world live, and what we can do to help."

Lemke's unique experiences — growing up on a farm, serving in the Air Force and as a McDonnell Douglas executive and his work as a lay pastor — seem to have prepared him perfectly for what he's doing now.

"I'm one of those people who has different chapters to his life, and once I go from Chapter 9 to Chapter 10, I kind of put Chapter 9 behind me and focus on the next one." He says this current chapter of his life is focused on his work at Wings of Hope. "Right now, this is my focus and probably will be for the rest of my healthy life. Like it or not, being at the right place at the right time has a lot to do with where you end up." ■



Who Helped You Along

# Your Path?

We all have them: memories of a particular professor from our college days who greatly influenced our paths in life in subtle or dramatic ways. Perhaps he or she assigned a book that changed our lives, or led a class discussion that made us think critically about our own beliefs for the first time. Maybe he or she simply made time, found precious time, to meet and talk about

something that mattered to us. Maybe he or she was simply hilarious, had a talent for singing in class or made a ho-hum class memorable in some surprising way.

Regardless of the specifics, it's probably a safe bet that you had a professor who made a lasting impression on you. We asked alumni to share memories of professors who they still think about (and would like to thank).



*"Dr. Boyer, you had me at, 'You know you're late, right? Way to make an impression on the first day ... Now sit down and learn something. And don't be late to my class again.'" Jenna Petroff*

### Dominik Jansky, '00

Dr. Gerald Boyer blended an old-school journalist's sharp insight with an engaging wit, making him an absolute joy to have as a professor. I work as a writer, editor and communicator-at-large today, and I wouldn't have half my skills, nor my humor, if it weren't for him. I think of Dr. Boyer often, and if the world were just—most journalists find it is not—I would thank him after every paycheck I receive.

### Jenna Petroff, '97

I completely agree with Dominik's recommendation of Dr. Boyer, who was not only my favorite professor, but also my class adviser. He is the reason that I am a proud, self-professed word nerd. I learned several career and life lessons from Dr. Boyer. Here are some of my favorites:

- Never bury the lead.
- You have one chance to make a good first impression. You have 10 chances to change a bad one.
- Have a healthy respect for deadlines.
- If a gripping story doesn't get them, a wink, a laugh and a strategically placed wry comment probably will. Humor goes a long way in winning friends and influencing people.

Dr. Boyer, you had me at, "You know you're late, right? Way to make an impression on the first day. What's your name? Jennifer? No, no, no. Too many Jennifers, Jennys, and Jens in this class. Middle name? Catherine? Fine. You're now J.C. Okay with that? Good. J.C., welcome. Now sit down and learn something. And don't be late to my class again."

I was never late to your class again. And I learned a lot. Thank you.

### Lynn Moore Vellios, '77

I would like to thank my Uncle Kent Addison for his part in my education. I enrolled at Meramec in the Fine Arts Department. I am sure I would have done well there, and went on to a four-year institution. Kent asked me to come to Maryville. I was given the opportunity

to excel and compete. It was a great experience. Kent also showed me, through his daily life how an artist should grow and develop. While many art students illustrated wild behavior that was considered "artistic," Kent mirrored my values of hard work and extreme competition to succeed. Yes I was young and enjoyed socializing at Maryville, I was growing and watching Kent in his Visual Art successes. As I matured, my art talent took on the methodical patience I had been taught in design, sculpture, welding, and jewelry class under Kent's instruction. This has carried me through my 34 years of art and art instruction. Many families have multiple physicians or multiple business executives, however our family has two practicing visual artists—one mentor and one student. Thank you, Kent.

### Mary Frances O'Connor Moriarty, '52

For those of us who attended Maryville 60 years ago, the influence of the Religious of the Sacred Heart was immense. They were women of faith, and of great intelligence, as well as open hearts. Mother Marie Odeide Mouton was a legend in her own time, president of the college for many years, then Headmistress of the Sacred Heart school in Bethesda, Maryland, for another 25 years or so. Mother Marion Bascom studied at Oxford and personally knew C.S. Lewis, as well as the creator of *The Lord of the Rings*—she knew about hobbits and Middle Earth before anyone else! Mother Marie Louise Martinez was a brilliant philosopher who shared her love of intellectual exercise with generations of students. Mother Patricia Barrett was involved in social justice before it became popular. Mother Mary Gray McNally was a beloved figure as dean of the college, with particular oversight of resident students. Mother Padberg and Mother Kernaghan were mathematics and scientific stars. Mother

Kernaghan took her students out to observe the night skies, to learn the constellations and to read the Great Book of the heavens, the book God wrote. Ah, those were golden days!

### Stacey Lynn Schroepfer Schlegel, '96

All the professors touched my life so deeply. My husband I were married (we both met and fell in love at Maryville) and I invited Dr. Woldow, Dr. Bratkowski, Dr. Stary, Carol Radford, and the rest of my teachers from the science department to my wedding and they all came and blessed my special day. I was honored that my professors cared not only for my education but for my success in life as well. I was more than just a number like at most universities—I was a person.

### Jada Jamison, '09

Is Anne Willey still there? What a remarkable woman. Her guidance and patience has freed many students from the fear of accomplishment, helping to sustain within them a drive and determination to do better and exceed the triumphs of yesterday. On meeting her, you instantly know she is someone special because she harnesses all her energy into making you feel special. It's a rare quality to find in a person, and one that has hopefully been recognized. ■



# WHAT? ARE THEY UP TO NOW!

**Gone are the days when students simply sat at their desks and took notes until their fingers cramped. Today's students are innovating, creating, conceptualizing and participating. They are asking critical questions, suggesting class projects and getting their hands dirty—proving that learning really can be fun and thinking “outside the box” has many rewards.**

## 1 Science Meets Art:

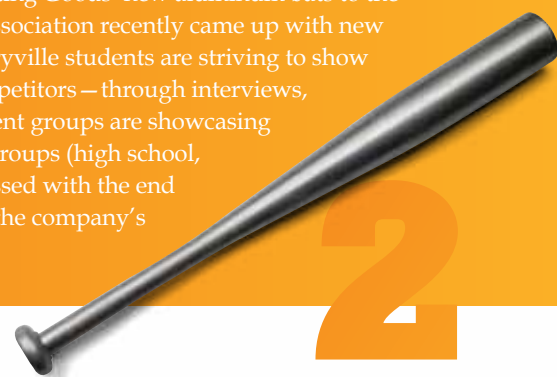
In an effort to make abstract chemistry concepts more tangible and understandable for the non-science major, Jennifer Yukna, PhD, assistant professor of chemistry, partnered with chemistry major Megan Sparks, '11, to create a series of inquiry-driven student labs. One of those labs uses a chemistry-based experiment to create photographic art. Yukna explains, “Chemistry is a very abstract process. You can't see molecules but we talk about them a lot. One of the interesting ways to marry the abstract concepts of chemistry to something concrete is through art. Art provides something the students can see and touch but be thinking about chemistry at the same time.”

Find out  
more here!



## Lights, Camera, Bat!

Students are doing more than simply talking about what it takes to sell sports equipment in Sport Marketing, led by Jason Williams, assistant professor of sport business management. They are picking up video cameras and donning their director hats to explain Rawlings Sporting Goods' new aluminum bats to the general public. The Sporting Goods Association recently came up with new standards for aluminum bats, and Maryville students are striving to show how Rawlings bats outshine their competitors—through interviews, action clips and multimedia. The student groups are showcasing bats designed for different consumer groups (high school, college, etc.) and, if Rawlings is impressed with the end results, the videos will be featured on the company's YouTube® channel.



## Honeysuckle Reimagined

Bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera*) is a pernicious invasive across the United States, and threatens biodiversity in Missouri. Unfortunately, the bush is prominent on Maryville's campus. While removing the pesky plant from campus as part of a biology class led by Assistant Professor Kyra Krakos, PhD, students became interested in the possibility of bush honeysuckle as a usable resource. They soon developed an entirely student-designed and driven project, with the goal of submitting a grant proposal for further research and development of their ideas. The unique project has a dual focus of sustainability and conservation as the students explore practical uses—such as paper—for the troublesome plant. They hope to have the chance to take their project to the National Sustainable Design Expo in 2013.





## 4 Workin' the Runway

Maryville interior design majors enjoyed an evening of high fashion when both junior and senior teams entered the Unravel/Reveal Fashion Show in November, presented by IIDA (International Interior Design Association). The event, dubbed La Cirque Fashion Show, featured one-of-a-kind couture created by interior designers and interior finish manufacturer representatives using carpet, wood, glass, textiles, hardware, etc. Maryville's senior team created their runway ensemble using ropes made of upholstery and panel finish options from Kimball Office, and embellished with altered "See-Me" screens taken from office furniture. The result, modeled here by senior Bethany Walter, was stunning.



## 5 Life (and Literature) After 9/11

After the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, pundits and politicians proclaimed that September 11, 2001, was the day everything changed. Students in Associate Professor Jesse Kavadlo's honors course, "9/11 and the Novel," set out to explore what exactly changed, and how. By closely examining novels such as *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* by Jonathan Safran Foer and *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy, and films such as *United 93* and *Cloverfield*, among many others, students were able to ask – and attempt to answer – important questions: What is the role of fiction in recent trauma or a changed world? If poetry after Auschwitz is barbaric, according to Theodor Adorno, what happens to narrative after 9/11?



## 6 Tell Me a Story

Assistant Professor of Education Steve Coxon, PhD, likes to have his students practice what he hopes they will have their future students do as often as possible. In his Alternative Reading Methods class, this means asking his students to perform "readers' theater" based on children's or young adult literature – a teaching method in which students perform theater with script in hand and don't memorize lines. The method encourages children and builds reading fluency and comprehension. For this class, students wore costumes for the mini-theatrical performances and read from books such as *Tacky the Penguin*; *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*; and *A Bad Case of the Stripes*.

## 7 Nesting Instinct

Have you ever seen an 8-foot high bird's nest? Students in a lighting studio class this semester were not only able to see a larger-than-life nest, they were encouraged to walk into it and add small bits of trash to the lining. The nest was just one of the weekly art installations assigned by Assistant Professor Scott Angus; his students were required to set up their own installations, invite the public for a viewing and photograph their art with a model. Lilli

Kayes, the artist behind the super-sized bird's nest pictured here, says her installation was born from a fascination with nesting habits, and the way birds often incorporate discarded items into their homes.



## 8 In Their Own Words

Fifth-year occupational therapy students in Associate Professor Becky von der Heyde's "Leadership and Ethics" course were asked to answer the simple question "What is Occupational Therapy?" through four-minute videos that would later be submitted to the American Occupational Therapy Association's annual video contest. Students were given creative license to address this question on their own terms. Anne Akright, Samantha Buch, Nicole Sitton, Cassandra Wilke and Katie Warren took a personal approach, defining OT in the words of their family members and friends who have benefited from OT services. Coupled with inspiring music, the presentation of these stories won the annual contest and will be played at the opening ceremony of the AOTA national conference in Indianapolis in April.




Check out the videos here!

## 9 Study on the Run

Regardless of the challenge or problem, it seems that someone has created a mobile app to answer the need. Students in Professor Rich Kilgore's Information Systems course – Team-Based Application Development – recognized a need for a customized, digital study tool that makes memorization convenient, and developed a mobile flashcard app called "QuickStudy." The free Android® app allows students to create or download a virtual deck of study cards to their smartphones ... making the routine task of memorization mobile.





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A C O N V E R S A T I O N   W I T H

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# Ashlyn Cunningham AND Bob Cunningham

*Assistant Professors of Occupational Therapy*

Q & A

*The Cunninghams began teaching in Maryville University's School of Health Professions in 2005. They met in 1996 at Eastern Kentucky University and began teaching a class together called "OT for the Adolescent." They were first colleagues, then friends, then married in 2000.*

*They left tenured positions and moved to Missouri—without jobs lined up—to be closer to family. But it all worked out after Ashlyn came in to interview at Maryville, and an administrator suggested that Bob apply for another opening. Many on campus know the couple is married, but may not know he specializes in assistive devices, and she in home modifications for people with disabilities. They have two children, Callum, 10, and Adeline, 8, and two cats, Little Bob and Luther. They recently sat down with writer Betsy Taylor to discuss occupational therapy, teaching and life as a married couple with a shared profession.*



***How do you describe occupational therapy to people who don't know much about it?***

Bob: The tagline that The American Occupational Therapy Association used a number of years back to start an ad campaign was: "skills for the job of living." Occupations are the things that people do every day, and that they want to do. And everything you do is an occupation, and we help people do them.

Ashlyn: In some ways the profession is relatively unknown, unless you've had a therapy and have been exposed to it. I say to students, "How do you explain your major to your parents or your grandparents?" And a lot of them, if they have not had a particular rehabilitation experience, they really can't do it. And so it's a constant struggle with the profession in general to explain what we do.

Bob: But if you ever meet somebody that received [therapy]...

Ashlyn: Then they think we're awesome.

***Everybody struggles with trying to achieve a work/life balance. How do you feel about working at the same university?***

Bob: Like in the movie *When Harry Met Sally*, first we were friends. There wasn't the point where we weren't friends, we were just really good friends. And, actually, Ashlyn has been my best friend for a long time.

Ashlyn: Oh, I think that Bob's comment about how first we were friends makes all the difference in the world. We've always had a work life together, even before we started dating. I think that people on the outside think it is odd or think, "Wow, you really work with your husband? I don't think I could do that." That's the difference with starting out as friends, and then going on to become married, it's a different approach that people don't normally take.

Bob: And we don't teach anything together anymore, either. So even though we have the offices next door to each other, it's like, "What do you have today, and what do I have today?" And we don't actually see each other that much (at work.)

***Tell me one thing about your spouse that's a quality you admire and try to emulate either as a teacher or as a person.***

Bob: Ashlyn's the most organized person I've ever met in my entire life. My favorite joke to say is that Ashlyn could have planned the invasion of Normandy better than Eisenhower ever did. She is highly organized, and I am not nearly as organized. And so I always say she is the glue that keeps everything together.

Ashlyn: The thing that I said about Bob when I married him was that he makes me laugh every day. Bringing humor into teaching and humor into any sort of relationship, it makes people more comfortable. It makes people more apt to relate to you. When I try to be humorous, it really freaks the students out, and they'll say something like, "You're not usually this funny."

Bob: There's quality versus quantity. She doesn't tell as many, but when she tells 'em, they're really, really good.

***Ashlyn, I know you research ways to avoid falls and improve household safety.***

Ashlyn: That's my business now on the side, home modifications for people with disabilities and families and individuals who want to say in their home, but they need some modifications to do that.

***Is that put into practice at your house? Do you have a super safe house?***

Ashlyn: No. (laughs.) We have a huge drop-off going to our basement. Actually, a situation happened a couple years ago. For an assignment, students were going to assess home safety for my evaluations class. One family that had agreed to have a student assessment forgot, and so I had to wing it. And I said, "Okay. We're going to my house instead." They assessed our house, and they noted, "You have this huge drop-off with no railing going to your basement, and you have small children." I said, "Yep, I know. Good. Write that up."

***And, Bob, please tell me a little bit about your specialty.***

Bob: My specialty area is assistive technology, and my expertise is in alternative computer access and in education, particularly helping kids who have learning disabilities. They use tools to help them with the educational piece. So I do a lot of work for vocational rehabilitation. The research that I've been doing with my students is using a software program that incorporates speech recognition, word production and text to speech. So if I'm a student who has a writing disability, I can spell the easy words. I can start to spell the word if I think I know how it's spelled, and a word list appears. If I point to it, it speaks the word. "Oh, yeah, that's the word I want," or I can say one, if I want. And that's a fairly new product, and no one other product really combines all of that.

***I've heard you both have some interesting hobbies?***

Ashlyn: Crafts, sewing and knitting. I made some scarves while on a Thanksgiving road trip to North Dakota. I have to do something, so I'm usually doing something like that. I can't just sit and watch TV.

Bob: I've always enjoyed cooking, and that's actually the thing that Ashlyn and I share together more than anything is cooking. Ashlyn's uncle and her cousin and a friend and I have a barbeque team, Windswept BBQ. And I do pulled pork.

Ashlyn: One of the things we did while we were dating was on Saturday nights we would listen to Prairie Home Companion—we're kind of weird—and we would cook a dinner that we planned, start to finish.

Bob: Now the kids' favorite is spaghetti carbonara. They have it on birthdays. ■

# [SaintsNews]



PUTTING PRO: Eckelkamp tracks her ball on the green after putting during the Maryville/Subway Invitational at Aberdeen Golf Course in Eureka, Mo., where she claimed individual medalist honors with a two-day total of 145.



## Eckelkamp: *At the Top of Her Game* BY BETSY TAYLOR

STAND-OUT SENIOR GOLFER KAYLA ECKELKAMP HAS BROKEN SCHOOL records, course records and performed exceptionally well in national competition. She credits all of her coaches, including Maryville University Women's Head Golf Coach Kim Hodge, with strong guidance in developing her game. But her first golf instructor for many years was her now 80-year-old grandfather, Les Eckelkamp, who taught her how to play when she was about eight years old.

For many years, "I never had a coach, except my grandpa, a good natural coach," Kayla says.

Eckelkamp, 21, of Washington, Mo., excelled at golf when Maryville

University was a Division III school; Eckelkamp still excels at golf now that Maryville is a Division II school. "I truly have a love for the game," says Eckelkamp. "I don't know if it's being outside. I don't know if it's that you can be alone or be with someone when you golf. I don't know what it is, but I just love the game." Her early introduction to the sport in a family that loves to golf certainly played a big part in her University successes.

Eckelkamp holds 13 total career individual medalist awards, the most ever for any Saints golfer. She placed ninth in the Division III Nationals when she was a first-year student. She was named to the All-Tournament team, the

Second Team All-American and the All-Academic All American team. As Maryville transitioned from Division III to Division II, Eckelkamp couldn't compete in the Nationals in her sophomore and junior years. She's a good sport about the transition, saying she thinks the switch will be good for the University as a whole. Now that she's again able to compete in the NCAA National Championships in May, she's working hard to get back there.

She had two knee surgeries in recent years, but kept her focus on the sport she loves. She placed second last summer in the Missouri Women's Amateur Championship, breaking an 18-hole course record when she shot a



67 on one day of competition at the Bellerive Country Club in Town and Country, Mo. "It's a beautiful course. It was the first time I'd shot in the 60s. I went out there to enjoy it, and soaked up the moment. My Mom and Dad were there, so it was just perfect."

*"Kayla has accomplished many things on the golf course but they pale in comparison to the person she is in her everyday life. I have never met an athlete so driven to succeed equally on the golf course and in the classroom."*

Women's Head Golf Coach Kim Hodge

Kayla is studying to become a nurse, possibly a surgical nurse like her mother. Coach Hodge says, "Kayla has accomplished many things on the golf course but they pale in comparison to the person she is in her everyday life. I have never met an athlete so driven to succeed equally on the golf course and in the classroom. She carries with pride her commitment to her family, Maryville University and her teammates on her shoulders with every shot."

Hodge says Eckelkamp is often in the back of her mind when she recruits other players, because she so well represents the best qualities of a Maryville student-athlete.

Kayla's grandfather, Les Eckelkamp, notes Kayla has always been an athlete and loved to play several sports when she was growing up. At Easter and Thanksgiving, the Eckelkamps have a tradition where about 12 to 16 family members split into teams for golf tournaments. They used to try to balance the teams, so there wouldn't be too many up-and-coming grandchildren playing against more experienced golfers. In recent years, Kayla is the key

player everyone seeks for their side. "Starting in high school, everybody wanted to be on her team," Les Eckelkamp says.

Plus, "the more accomplished the golfers are, the more tricks played upon them. There's a lot of tomfoolery," he explains, much of it aimed in Kayla's direction in the family fun match ups. But he's proud of the accomplished golfer she has become, one who carries

a golfing rule book with her and is known for her positive attitude.

Which isn't to say she isn't competitive. "Oh, I'm very competitive," Kayla Eckelkamp says. "I've learned to control my emotions on the course."

Kayla also plays a pretty mean game of cards, her grandfather says. "If you get her in a pinochle game, you'd better hold onto your chair," he said. ▮



WINNER'S CIRCLE: Freshman Keenan Hagerty (third from left) placed second in the 2012 NCAA Division II National Championship, marking a promising start to his own wrestling career, and an amazing first year of Division II wrestling at Maryville.

## STRAIGHT OUT OF THE GATE

In its inaugural season as a program, the Maryville University wrestling squad, led by Coach Mike Denney, sent three representatives to the 2012 NCAA Division II National Championship in Pueblo, Colo., in March.

Freshman Keenan Hagerty came up just one point short of winning Maryville's first NCAA Division II National Championship in wrestling as he fell 5-4 in the championship match to Raufeon Stots of Nebraska-Kearney. Hagerty, who became the first wrestling Saint to earn All-American honors, capped off an

outstanding freshman campaign with a 30-5 record this season.

Junior Matt Baker started the 197-pound division with a 5-2 decision over Jonathan Moore of Pittsburgh-Johnstown, but fell in the following two rounds to close out his tournament.

Freshman Tyrell Galloway lost his opening match in the 141-pound division to Daniel Ownbey (North Carolina-Pembroke) in a major decision 16-7. In the consolation bracket, Galloway fell to Kenneth Kampnich (Limestone) to get eliminated from the championship. ▮

## SAINTS ATHLETICS HAS A NEW HOME ONLINE

Students, alumni and all Saints fans can now follow their favorite Saints teams on a brand new athletics website — [maryvillesaints.com](http://maryvillesaints.com). The new site, filled with video, photos and stats, is getting rave reviews from the campus community and beyond since its launch on Feb. 8. The massive project was led by Chuck Yahng, assistant athletics director for communications, who tapped SIDEARM Sports Inc. as its partner in the design and technical transition.

Marcus Manning, director of athletics, says the University chose SIDEARM Sports to develop the site based on the company's track record. "We wanted to elevate the quality of our website, so it was important for us to partner with a web designer that we considered a game-changer, and we found that in SIDEARM Sports," Manning says. "In today's digital age, the importance of having a dynamic website that communicates the University's brand is essential."

Maryville University recently joined NCAA Division II and began officially competing in the GLVC in Fall 2011.

Maryville University President Mark Lombardi says the new site promotes the University's brand and reflects its growth and commitment to fans and alumni. "Our site showcases Maryville's outstanding student-athletes and provides our students, alumni, and fans with a first-rate online experience. Videos, access to live broadcasts and team updates will keep the entire Saints



## MAKING NCAA HISTORY



**GLVC CHAMPS:** Coach Ellis holds up the game net (above) after Saints Women's Basketball won the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament in March. The Saints entered the tournament as the No. 6 seed and won four games to claim the school's first GLVC Title. It was the first time in history a team has accomplished this feat in its first year of active competition. Maryville defeated UMSL 75-61 at home, downed No. 25 Northern Kentucky 80-70, edged top-seeded Quincy 70-66 and beat Kentucky Wesleyan 75-62 for the title. Shelby Miller was named Tournament MVP, while Abby Duethman and Rita Flynn were selected to the All-Tournament team. To read the whole story and view highlights, scan this code using a smartphone.



community  
connected and informed."

The new website, [maryvillesaints.com](http://maryvillesaints.com), brings supporters the latest news and developments in athletics through more intuitive site navigation, making information easier to find. Visitors will

have access to official "Saints Stories," highlight reels and online polls, as well as easy access all athletics social media sites. An online shop for official Maryville Saints gear rounds out the offerings. 📺

[maryvillesaints.com](http://maryvillesaints.com)



# Saints to Add *Swimming and Diving*

MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY WILL ADD WOMEN'S SWIMMING and diving to its athletics mix in August 2013.

"This marks the beginning of another exciting chapter in Maryville's growth," says President Mark Lombardi, PhD. "It will provide a new option for young women who are looking for an excellent undergraduate education in St. Louis and who want the benefits of competing in intercollegiate athletics at the NCAA Division II level."

Director of Athletics Marcus Manning says adding swimming and diving will enrich the college experience for future student-athletes who participate in the sport. "We know there is a tremendous interest locally and regionally," he says. "It will let us provide access to an outstanding academic and athletic experience for those individuals."

Maryville has not set a schedule for the search for a head coach, but Manning says there is adequate time to put things in place since the decision was made well over a year before the sport's debut. Maryville swimming and diving team will practice at the Westminster Christian Academy aquatics facility, located just a few miles from Maryville's main campus.

Maryville, a member of the Great Lakes Valley Conference, joins Drury University, the University of Indianapolis, Lewis University and William Jewell University in sponsoring women's swimming and diving. The Drury University women



have won the NCAA National Division II championship each of the last three years.

Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students Nina Caldwell, PhD, says expanding options for student-athletes helps develop Maryville's undergraduate student body. "Students who participate in athletics hone time-management and develop teamwork skills that serve them well beyond the classroom," she says. As proof of their well-rounded skill set, Maryville's roughly 250 athletes have an average GPA of 3.2 as of Fall 2011. 🇺🇸



## ON THE LINKS WITH THE SAINTS

### Twenty-fourth Annual Maryville University Golf Classic

**JULY 16, 2012**

**OLD HICKORY GOLF CLUB, ST. PETER'S, MO.**

Hosted by Maryville University Athletics, this 18-hole, four-person scramble is more than a great outing of golf for a good cause—it's also one of the area's top business networking events of the year.

314.529.9288   mmanning@maryville.edu   www.maryville.edu/golfclassic

# [AlumniNews&Notes]



QUALITY TEACHING, QUALITY NURSING: Liz Buck, RN, PhD, director of the Maryville nursing program, addresses practicing nurses in her "Leadership and Quality" class, taught on site at Mercy hospital.

## Maryville and Mercy: *a nursing education tradition moves into a modern-day partnership*

INSIDE MERCY HOSPITAL ON THURSDAY EVENINGS, THE DIRECTOR OF MARYVILLE University's Nursing Program, Liz Buck, RN, PhD, starts a classroom discussion with nearly two dozen nurses. She asks them: How do they know they are providing care of the highest possible quality?"

It launches a discussion inside this hospital classroom among the nurses, many of whom have just finished their shifts caring for patients. They talk about their training; they talk about managing their time; they talk about the different skills they bring to patient care.

It's an intense day for these students, who are earning their master of science in nursing degrees. They take Maryville

University classes at the hospital, studying Leadership and Quality for two and a half hours, followed by a break and another two and a half hours of Advanced Pathophysiology, which focuses on the abnormal findings they should look for as they work to become nurse practitioners. Nurse practitioners are registered nurses who pursue advanced knowledge in order to provide expanded healthcare treatment.

What the students at Mercy may not know is their classes link into a more than 40-year nursing school tradition between the Religious of the Sacred Heart, the nuns who founded Maryville University, and the Sisters of Mercy, who founded St. John's Hospital, now known

as Mercy Hospital-St. Louis, located in St. Louis County. "I think it's wonderful to renew that tie," Buck says. "The missions of the University and the hospital system meld very well together. Both have high expectations for their students and employees, plus a shared commitment to high-quality, compassionate care."

It was in 1970 that the Mercy Department of Nursing at Maryville College opened. The Sisters of Mercy phased out their nursing program at St. John's with the understanding that it would become an associate program at Maryville.

Sister Mary Roch Rocklage, RSM, who was the administrator of St. John's Hospital in St. Louis at the time, recalled



the Sisters of Mercy knew merging their nursing program with Maryville College would be “best for the education of the students.”

Both orders of nuns had a commitment not just to educating women, but to providing them with a strong education centered around how to be good people. The underlying motivation, Rocklage recalls, of the Sisters of Mercy was “our schools will be equal, if not better than, others. It was not meant in a stuffy way, but there was a commitment to not do things half-heartedly.”

The nuns believed combining the programs would allow nursing students and the program to flourish, as students had an opportunity to take both liberal arts and nursing classes. Sister Mary Robert Edwards, RSM, who had been the director of the Nursing Department of Mercy Junior College, became director of the newly established department at Maryville. Several faculty members of Mercy Junior College became Maryville faculty; Mercy’s collection of nursing books also was transferred to the Maryville library, according to a news release from the time, now housed in the Maryville University Archives.

In July of 1970, Harriet K. Switzer, PhD, became president of Maryville College during a decade of “great upheaval in college patterns throughout the nation,” as Dorothy Garasché Holland wrote in her 1973 article called “Maryville—The First Hundred Years.” Switzer recently recalled in an interview that the nursing school merger discussions were completed by the time she assumed the presidency, but Maryville’s finances, like those of many small liberal arts colleges for women at the time, were struggling. The Religious of the Sacred Heart had been subsidizing Maryville College, and Switzer said it soon became clear the school would need to come up with about \$300,000 on its own in the next two years, or face closing. “No one wanted to close Maryville, but there was a financial roadblock,” Switzer says.

Switzer and Rocklage describe how the ties between the two orders of nuns

allowed Maryville to remain open. Leadership from the Religious of the Sacred Heart and the Sisters of Mercy met, and the Sisters of Mercy strongly agreed Maryville shouldn’t be shuttered, especially as they had moved their nursing program to the college and had a shared desire that it should move forward.

*“No one wanted to close Maryville, but there was a financial roadblock.”*

—Harriet Switzer

“Do you mean to tell me you are going to close a 100-year institution because you can’t find \$150,000?” Switzer recalls Rocklage asking her. Leadership of St. John’s Hospital approved a generous gift to Maryville College, both women recount, and Switzer worked hard to raise the rest of the needed funds. She says her provincial, a leader in her order at the time, told her instead of Maryville closing, she would be given three years “to make a go of it.” And the school did go on to thrive, with a lay board of trustees, beginning later that decade.

Switzer still remembers being grateful and relieved by the support from the Sisters of Mercy. “It was sisterhood,”

Switzer says. “It was a wonderful gift, really an unbelievable stroke of generosity.” The Sisters of Mercy wanted students from their nursing program to receive a Maryville education, and they wanted their transplanted program at Maryville to flourish.

Rocklage says nuns and lay administrators began working together on how to modernize Maryville’s nursing offerings. She joined Maryville’s board for a time. “I knew diddly-do about higher education, but I learned,” she says. They worked together to update the nursing program with night and weekend classes and education in specialized aspects of nursing and healthcare.

Buck sees the same desire to care for patients and to continue to learn in the graduate students she works with today in the classroom at Mercy Hospital. “They have experience so they can relate to what I’m saying. The students are very engaging, very interested, ask questions with deep thinking.”

And Rocklage, too, has seen the healthcare relationship come full circle. She says she personally needed physical therapy a while back, and worked with a Maryville University graduate—who provided excellent care. ■



**MULTITASKING:** Shannon Dexter, of O’Fallon, Mo., wears her Mercy ID badge as a nurse on staff and her Maryville ID badge as an adjunct instructor in the nursing department.



**BLESSED UNION:** Mary Gray McNally, RSCJ, ‘32, (left) president of Maryville College, and Mary Ann Hardcastle, RSM, president of Mercy Junior College, announcing the merger of Mercy’s Nursing Department with Maryville.

Richard Finke

## My Maryville

Marilyn (Roth) Sumner, Mary (Monte) Longrais, Ginny (Treat) Hufker and Pat (Thompson) Thompson Four classmates from the Class of 1962 sat down to talk with *Maryville Magazine* about their college days.



(Seated, left to right) Hufker and Sumner; (standing) Longrais and Thompson

*Tell me about your first day on the new campus.*

GINNY: My first day on the new campus ... the dorm wasn't finished. So, being a boarder, we had to live in the nuns' quarters. And the nuns' quarters each had a locker in the room this wide (gesturing about 2 feet) which was not nearly enough room that we all needed for our clothes. The only good thing was the balconies, but due to privacy and modesty they had high walls, so you really had to stand to look over and see any kind of view if you were short. (laughing)

MARY: Seems like another world...

PAT: That took about six weeks. All the construction people were still here, and it was just the two buildings, this building [Gander Hall] and Duchesne, which they were still working on. There was not one tree. There was not one blade of grass. It was just a sea of mud. And yet we all still just absolutely loved it.

MARILYN: I do remember feeling sorry for the boarders. Because here they were out here, all the way out here. And they were in the middle of nowhere, really. There was no

## Seems Like Yesterday...

2012 MARKS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST COMMENCEMENT ON THE NEW WEST COUNTY CAMPUS, HELD on June 4, 1962. Cardinal Joseph Ritter conferred degrees on 54 graduates during the 90th commencement ceremony, which took place in the chapel. Rev. Paul C. Reinert, S.J., president of Saint Louis University, addressed the graduates. These graduates—Class of 1962—will be inducted into the Golden Circle this fall during a very special Alumni Weekend, September 27-29.

These photos were found in the University Archives, printed in issues of *The Gong*. Take a moment to see if you recognize anyone from that crop of first graduates on the new campus. 🍷



GRADS AND DADS: Graduates and their families at the annual father-daughter banquet included: Mr. E.S. Gibson, Fran Reising, Mr. E.P. Reising, Sally DeGryse, Jane Hackett, Mary Cusick (far side), Mr. John Clancy, Mary Ellen Clancy, Mr. Chester Schroeder, Mary Schroeder, Karen Nilsson, Mr. R.V. Nilsson, Dorothy Koltjes, Peggy Donoghue, Mr. Thomas Dolan, Mr. R.L. Koch and Mary Kay Koch.



transportation going back and forth. So I guess if they weren't invited to somebody's home over the weekend, they were sort of 'stuck.'

GINNY: We did get to use a fleet of cars. Do you remember that?

PAT: But every once in a while, you would see a pair of headlights go across ... out Highway 40. (laughing) Just every once in a while. St. Louis basically ended at Lindbergh at that point.

MARILYN: This was definitely country.

*When you did get away from campus, what did you do?*

ALL: Shopping! (laughing)

PAT: We had to sign out, get permission, to leave. You had to list who you were going with, where you were going, what time you were leaving and when you would return, and one of the Mothers would sign and approve each one. You did not come and go as you'd like.

*How did you feel about the move in general?*

MARY: I had always been told that it was Mother Scott and several of her business

friends who had chosen this ground. Is that a story you all had heard? She was very astute.

PAT: It sounds like it would be right.

MARY: I look around, and see so many buildings and so much development, and I think, my God, that woman really, really understood business and the world. The thing to me, with the RSCJs is, although they were cloistered, they were knowing of everything. Knowing of the world. Knowing what was going on, and sort of giving us a key to life. They were cloistered, but not cut off from the world.

PAT: For such a small college, where our classes were 15 or 20 people (and now I have grandsons in classes of 500 down at Mizzou) and our teachers had PhDs from Oxford. My physics teacher was the first woman who ever got a PhD at Saint Louis University, in physics. So, it was a brilliant group of women teaching this very intense, small college.

So I just thought the quality was really very special, and very unique.

MARILYN: I think they were really ahead of their time. And I don't think a lot of people realized how smart these women were. They were very gifted, and very caring, and it was just very much a family atmosphere. And I don't know if it translated to this campus right away, because I was only here for a semester. What do you think?

GINNY: I think the spirit though, of the first three years, carried over.

MARILYN: Which was a wonderful thing. I'm a traditional kind of person, and I like the idea of things carrying on. And even though this is no longer a women's college, I think it's wonderful that it's coeducational. You know, I think Maryville, if it had stayed where it was, it probably wouldn't be in existence today. ... I'm just so glad Maryville has survived. And it's so vibrant today; it's just done so well. We've had great leadership. I'm just glad it's here. ■



SAY 'CHEESE!': Thirty-one graduates pose for a group photo on campus for the May 21, 1962 issue of *The Gong*. (Front row, left to right) Gail Porter, Mimi Garesche, Janet McMahon, Alma Hardy, Pam Fernandez and Nancy Burke; (Second row) Carla Montani, Maureen Tuthill, Pat Thompson, Mary Cusick, Claire Hacker, Ginny Treat, Kathy Ribardo, Mary Ellen Clancy, Jane Hackett, Ann Scanlon (president of the student body) and Dina Simoes; Back row: Kathleen Brennan, Elsie Chen, Erin Wheeler, Loretta Stock, Diana Cousins, Marcia McNamee, Mary McCartney, Carolyn Sulkowski, Ann Boland, Shirley Leber, Kitty Culhane, Sue Scanlon, Mary Ellen Picraux and Cammie Quinn.

## Verry Honored with Distinguished Service Award



Verry

ERIN VERRY, DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS AND MEMBER of the Maryville community for 23 years, was awarded a Distinguished Service Award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)-District VI, an organization serving professionals who work for educational institutions in the fields of alumni relations, development and communications. Verry was recognized for her exemplary professional service as well as her volunteer service with CASE, including previous terms on both the District VI board and the regional conference. She received the honor at an awards reception on Jan. 9 in Denver, Colo.

Verry has a reputation for her gracious attitude toward alumni of all graduation years, talent for organizing flawless alumni events, and her ability to assess the strengths of alumni and assign them responsibilities they find both meaningful and beneficial to the University.

Of Verry's service to Maryville, the chair of the Alumni Association's National Leadership Council Ann Boyce, '68 says, "I don't know a soul who doesn't admire her incredible dedication to Maryville University and its alumni." Boyce pointed to Alumni Weekend 2011 as an example. "There were so many compliments about the weekend, and they all could be traced back to something Erin did to make it possible. She's an amazing, amazing soul."

CASE's District VI includes Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. 🇺🇸

## HATS OFF TO DR. SEUSS

The School of Education held a birthday party in honor of famed children's author Dr. Seuss in February (the legendary author's 108th birthday would have been March 2). The event, held for the first time, was free and welcomed alumni and their children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews. Some children

showed their enthusiasm by dressing up as their favorite Dr. Seuss characters, and all attendees enjoyed the many themed activities centered around reading, art and science.

Two undergraduate education students Alexa Phillips of Kirkwood and Makenzie Schaller of St. Charles applied for and received a \$1,000 grant from the Missouri National Education Association to help fund the inaugural event.

Phillips says, "We used the money to purchase a book for every child attending, art supplies, snack and decorations. We were thrilled to find out we had received the grant because it helped us create the event we envisioned!" 🇺🇸



### MARYVILLE INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE PHILIPPINE DUCHESNE SOCIETY

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  - *New Duchesne Society members will be recognized with an engraved paver on our outdoor walkway (limited availability)*
  - *Recognition in the annual President's Report*
- ... and much more.*

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FAY FETICK, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
314.529.9673 • FFETICK@MARYVILLE.EDU



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Education club students (left to right) Alexa Phillips, Makenzie Schaller, Courtney O'Brien and Katelyn McDonnell, all members of the Education Club at Maryville, honor Theodor Geisel (a.k.a. Dr. Seuss) in style.



# Weekend Worth Remembering

MARYVILLE ALUMNI CELEBRATED ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL AND WELL-attended Alumni Weekends yet, with over 650 former classmates returning to campus September 22-24. From the Art & Design Alumni Reception to the Saturday evening class dinners, alumni young and old found plenty of reasons to return to campus and reminisce about days gone by. Young alumni reveled in the sights and sounds of the Friday Night Bash, which grows in popularity every year. The annual Golden Circle Luncheon was held in the new Gander Dining Hall, providing alumnae with an opportunity to see and experience the latest addition to campus. Special highlights of the weekend included: a retrospective of Professor John Wickersham's photography in the



David Ulmer

Morton J. May Gallery; watching Rosemary (Holland) Gidionsen, '50, accept the 2011 Centennial Award; and touring the newly opened Heritage Room, filled with artifacts and photos documenting Maryville's original city campus. 📸

WELL-DESERVED HONOR: 2011 Centennial Award honoree, Rosemary (Holland) Gidionsen, '50, receives a standing ovation from the stage party and audience during the Friday Night Awards Ceremony.



RIBBON-CUTTING: Karen (Kearney) Lane, '61, President Mark Lombardi and Pat (Thompson) Thompson, '62, cut the ceremonial ribbon for the new Heritage Room during Alumni Weekend 2011.

## See You in September!

COME BACK TO CAMPUS AND RELIVE THE GOOD OLD DAYS WITH FRIENDS OLD AND NEW.

**Alumni Weekend 2012, September 27-29**

**2012 REUNION CLASSES:** 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007 and our Golden Circle classes (*classes graduating 50 or more years ago*)

For more information:

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<http://alumni.maryville.edu/alumniweekend2012>  
alumni@maryville.edu 314.529.6867

Jerry Naumheim



Tess Colwell/The Gazette



ICA DEL REAL AQUINO, '59

## Collective *Spirit*

Ica del Real Aquino '59, combines her deep Catholic faith and love of international travel in a unique collection. She owns more than 90 nativity scenes, many gathered from locations around the world.

Aquino, a Maryland resident, has a host of different nativity scenes. The first she bought near Murcia, Spain, where artists crafted the Holy Family out of ceramic then draped them in garments of hardened cloth. Another from her travels to Japan shows simple, white figurines. "It takes almost a week to set them up," Aquino explains.

"It's not about the price of the nativity scenes, but the memories," she says of her collection. Friends have given or made her nativities, and they reflect the international life she has lived.

Born in Cuba, Aquino came to the United States with family members in 1960, as they fled during the Cuban Revolution and Fidel Castro's rise to power. Aquino recalls that her mother firmly believed in the quality of education and values of the Religious of the Sacred Heart. Aquino remains close to her roommates and other friends she made at Maryville, and she recalls her time at Maryville as among the best years of her life. She and her former roommates try to get together every two years. "The Maryville we had was very unique, very warm," she says.

Aquino, now 73, also lived abroad for more than 20 years after her husband passed away in 1991. She worked as an information specialist in the press office of the Embassy of the United States in Madrid, Spain. She had many opportunities to travel, where she would select nativities for her collection and visit with the Religious of the Sacred Heart around the world.

She retired from her work at the embassy in 2008 and returned to the United States to be closer to family. Now, she lives near two of her brothers, nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. Each Christmas, they take part in the family tradition of viewing Aquino's nativities. "My family enjoys them very much. They look forward to it," she says.

- Betsy Taylor

## '40s

**Mary Sue Thomas, '49**, of Yardley, Pa., received her masters in secondary education at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. She is a religious sister of Grey Nuns of The Sacred Heart.

## '50s

**M. Madonna Buder SFCC, '52**, of Spokane, Wash., was featured in *Swimmer*, the official magazine of U.S. Masters Swimming, for her participation in many Masters meets and open water swims.

## '60s

**Mary Ann Gagen Bourbon, '61**, of St. Louis, is working part-time for the American Optometric Association as a morning receptionist and operator. She is also active in All Saints Parish as liturgy chair, Parish Council President, choir member and lector.

**Kathleen Burkemper Hopper, '61**, of Chesterfield, Mo., retired in July 2010 as middle school principal from the Academy of the Sacred Heart after forty years of teaching and administration.

**Jan Kaveny Jackson, '61**, of Long Beach, Calif., volunteers on the Board of Friends and in the bookstore at Long Beach Public Library.

**Gail Chartrand Vandover, '66**, of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., retired as flight simulator instructor at St. Louis Community College in 2001. After moving to Wisconsin in 2008, she began volunteering at St. John Bosco preschool.



## '70s

**Mary Eileen Dreyer, '72**, of Sunset Hills, Mo., is a local author who has published 16 books under the name Dreyer and 25 under her pseudonym, Kathleen Korbel.

**Sheila Molonley Logue, '72**, of Marina del Ray, Calif., is a contract administrator with RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, Calif.

## '80s

**Richard L. Wassman, '81**, of St. Louis, has joined the commercial and residential sale/leaseback program at Capital One. He is also the co-owner of Charitable Resources and executive director of Ride On St. Louis, Inc.

**Andrea D. Reynolds, '82**, of St. Louis, is a kindergarten teacher at Stix Early Childhood Center.

**Carlo A. Basile, '86**, of Bridgeton, Mo., a veteran aerospace and automotive industry engineer, has joined Lighthouse for the Blind-St. Louis as interim director of new business development with responsibility for customer relations, sales management support, new product development support, quality documentation, plus additional productivity and customer-directed quality initiatives.

**Lisa Enloe Petrillo, '86**, of Zion, Ill., recently wrote and published her first book, *Have Cancer and Eat Cake, Too*.



Michele Miralia, '72, and husband, Paul Hoffman (far right), at the wedding of their son, Tripp, and daughter-in-law, Kristi Branch Hoffman. Kohl Norville, Marina Hoffman Norville and Erich Hoffman on left.

**Laura Hakman Brown, '88**, of Effingham, Ill., is a physical

therapist at St. Anthony's Hospital.

## WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU?

“What a pleasure it is to know our gifts help Maryville! My husband Walter and son Bill joined me in making this possible. And each time I am in the Donius University Center I have a very special feeling as I see the many ways it enriches the lives and experiences of students.”

CONNIE BURDZY DONIUS, '55

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**MIKE KIRKS, '99**

## Marketing at *Full Throttle*

Other people enjoy attending large-scale sporting events; Mike Kirks, '99, loves them, too, but he truly relaxes once they're over.

Kirks, 34, of Westfield, Ind., works for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, serving as brand manager for Super Weekend at The Brickyard. The last weekend in July, the speedway holds three days of events that culminate in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series on Sunday attended by huge crowds.

"I love live events, large-scale sports events," Kirks says. "The enjoyment is when it's done, when you can take it all in and when it goes well, that's when you enjoy it." Kirks grew up in Flint Hill, Mo., located in St. Charles County. He played baseball while at Maryville University. While he has long been a racing fan, he credits former baseball teammate John Paysor with increasing his interest level in NASCAR.

While at Maryville, Kirks majored in marketing and began working for the St. Louis Cardinals as an usher. He then worked as a paramedic supervisor managing first aid rooms, and after graduating took a job for a year in the Cardinals' front office as an operations manager. He went on to hold several other marketing positions before joining the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

For Super Weekend on July 26-29, the Speedway will host American stock car racing and North American sports car racing with the NASCAR Nationwide Series and GRAND-AM Road Racing joining the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series.

Kirks explains Super Weekend marks the first time in Indianapolis Motor Speedway history that races will take place on the 2.5-mile oval and Grand Prix road course during the same weekend, and the NASCAR Nationwide Series and GRAND-AM Road Racing will make their Indianapolis Motor Speedway debuts.

Prior to working at the Speedway, positions at places like GMR Marketing in Wisconsin and Just Marketing International in Indianapolis increased his knowledge of several different aspects of marketing. "I continue to learn every day," he says. And he counts one of his natural qualities as a great help with planning and marketing large events. "Common sense. Common sense is a great thing."

As the father of two, Zachary, 8, and Payton, 5, Kirks remains involved in sports, coaching kids in football and baseball.

- Betsy Taylor

## '90s

**Marsha Kohlenberger Clark, '90**, of Ballwin, Mo., has accepted the position of director of Corporate and External Recruitment with Fontbonne University.

**James D. Cook, '90**, of O'Fallon, Mo., is a senior manager with ECG Management Consultants, Inc. in the healthcare division.

**Curtis A. Mayse, '93**, of Freeport, Ill., is a global engineer leader at Honeywell Sensing and Control.

**Gregg M. Cole, '94, '04**, of Columbia, Ill., announces the birth of a son, Trevor Milton, on November 17, 2011.

**Donald A. Pearson, '97**, of Tucson, Ariz., was named chief executive officer of Engineering Synthesis Design, Inc.

**Dorothy Robinson White, '97**, of Chesterfield, Mo., is a financial services representative at Mass Mutual Financial Group.

**Jennifer Scholbe Canbek, '98**, of Delray Beach, Fla., is a faculty member at NOVA Southeastern University in Florida, and presented a poster at the APTA CSM meeting in Chicago. She is also expecting her second child.

**Benjamin A. Unk, '99**, of Fenton, Mo., is director of business analysis and planning with Express Scripts in St. Louis.

## '00s

**Nikki LaBruyene Mamuric, '00**, of Cincinnati, Ohio, is the global product manager, global innovation at Church & Dwight, Co., Inc.

**Ushasri Manukutla, '01**, of Naperville, Ill., is a senior business manager at AT&T.



**Megan L. Beger, '02, '04**, of Ballwin, Mo., married Michael Zeik on March 27, 2010.

**Frederick J. Biermann, '02**, of St. Louis, was named as an honoree in the *St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40* for 2012 as director of preconstruction with Kozeny-Wagner.

**Mark T. Denk, '02**, of St. Louis, is a program director at Switch and is a member of the American Marketing Association of St. Louis.



Sommer

**Adam M. Sommer, '02**, of Brentwood, Mo., was named as an honoree in the *St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40* in 2012, as a business leader in product security for MasterCard Worldwide.

**Richard L. Ficker Jr., '03**, of Saint Albans, Mo., is a treasurer/sales representative with Corrosion Technologies, Inc.

**Janene Dumas Reeves, '03**, of Ferguson, Mo., was appointed to the Diversity Task Force of the American Physical Therapy Association.

**Benjamin D. Dougherty, '04**, of Cincinnati, Ohio, married Abby Riegler on February 4, 2012.

**Jessica C. Partney, '04**, of St. Louis, married John Norsie on November 6, 2011.

**Sarah K. Scheidker, '04, '08**, of St. Charles, Mo.,

married William J. Autry on October 8, 2011.

**Kristen Straatmann Brueggemann, '05**, and husband, Neil, of Beaufort, Mo., announce the birth of a daughter, Lila Marie, on April 26, 2011. Lila joins big sister Kathy.

**Matthew James Filla, '06**, and **Sarah Anne Filla, '06**, of O'Fallon, Mo. announce the birth of a daughter, Savannah Marie, on April 17, 2011.

**Teresa L. Voss, '06**, of St. Louis, is a sales support manager at AT&T.

**Cory T. Critchell, '07**, of Ellisville, Mo., is an account executive at Enterprise Car Sales.

**Joseph N. Huong, '07**, of Stratford, Conn., was appointed enterprise resource planning systems analyst at Quinnipiac University.



## A Matter of Perspective

**ADAM WEST, '11**

Behind the scenes, Adam West, '11, is a clever manipulator and an artful trickster — qualities that have already garnered success in his young creative career.

West creates “fauxtography” — a play on the idea that a photograph is “a true record or accurate representation of life,” he wrote in his senior show artist’s statement. He graduated in December 2011 with a BFA in studio art.

“Art has always been my favorite thing, ever since elementary school. Remember the *I Spy* books? They were one of my biggest influences, especially

when I realized everything was a lot smaller than it seemed,” he says.

Seeking to fool the eye, West hand-builds stages, then uses photographic techniques — one is aptly called “tilt-shift” — to manipulate size and perspective, thereby creating miniature scenes that appear to loom large. His props range from ordinary items like coffee stirrers to childhood toys (plastic figures, dollhouse furniture, trucks) to objects he crafts from clay.

“The images I create are playful. They show you just enough to make you wonder what else there is, they draw you in,” he says. “It’s neat to trick a viewer into believing.”

Winner of the St. Louis Art Fair’s 2011 Emerging Artist’s Award, West also has several publishing accolades to his credit and more than a handful of successful exhibitions on his resume. Although he’s exploring artist-in-residence and graduate programs as a next step, West has big dreams — literally.

“I’d like to work with large installation pieces, to have people walk into something I’ve created and be surrounded by it,” he says.

Trusting that his best efforts will result in success, West takes to heart his own advice to other young artists: “No matter what you have planned in your head, it’s important to go with the flow. It’s really freeing to not be concerned with the final end result. The fun part is the actual creating; that’s when you can learn the most about yourself as an artist.”

— Janet Edwards

David Umer



## Jane Bierdeman-Fike, '44 (1922–2012)

The Maryville University community mourns the death of Jane Bierdeman-Fike, '44, who was a nationally influential social worker. She was widely known for her work helping the mentally ill, educating others in her field and her commitment to social justice. She died at age 89 on March 13, 2012, at Boone Hospital Center in Columbia, Mo.

Bierdeman-Fike served as the director of psychiatric social work at Fulton State Hospital for 38 years. She was best known for her abilities to educate and mentor others. She also worked to develop forensic social work practice (applying social work to legal issues) and believed in the importance of cultural competence training.

She graduated magna cum laude from Maryville College in 1944 and received her master of social work degree from Saint Louis University in 1949. She served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Missouri School of Social Work, teaching social policy in the late 1960s and 1970s, and established the Jane Bierdeman-Fike Doctoral Fellowship Fund in Social Work in support of the PhD program.

*Social Work Today* magazine recognized Bierdeman-Fike as one of the most influential social workers in the nation.

She was recognized with countless awards for her achievements, including Maryville's Alumni Professional Achievement Award in 1971 and the Maryville College Dean's Award from the School of Health Professions in 2005.

She is survived by her stepdaughter Ruth Ann and family: Terry, Angel, Doug and Jeff Atkinson. She was preceded in death by her husband Don Fike and stepdaughter Ellen Sue Williams.

**Ann E. Kelley, '07**, of St. Louis, is a manager of office services at Panera, LLC.

**Brian A. Lindmann, '07**, of O'Fallon, Mo., is a software Engineer at Stander Technologies.

**Matthew S. Luechtefeld, '07**, of St. Charles, Mo., announces the birth of a son, Noah Matthew, on June 8, 2011.

**Holly A. Piontek, '07**, of Kirkwood, Mo., is a team leader with Edward Jones Company.

**Stephanie Lynn Enger, '08**, of St. Louis, is a quality assurance engineer at The Kerry Group. She also volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and is a Young Professionals board member and social committee chair for Safe Connections.

**Michelle Salzman Graf, '08**, of St. Louis, was hired as an art teacher at Ladue Horton Watkins High School.

**Craig C. Hoffmann, '08**, of Wentzville, Mo., is an instructor at Lewis and Clark Community College.

**Angela D. Howell, '08**, of Festus, Mo., is a staff accountant at Brown Smith Wallace.

**Louis N. Rohlman, '08**, of Ballwin, Mo., is the mobile lead at Best Buy as well as a computer consultant at multiple locations.

**Kathleen T. Wang, '08**, of Richmond Heights, Mo., is a curator at Saint Louis University.

**Richanda J. Whitfield, '08**, Hazelwood, Mo., is an information processor at Haberstroh Insurance Agency.

**Stephanie L. DeRousse, '09**, of Saint Clair, Mo., married **David Church, '07**, of Saint Clair, Mo., on September 18, 2010.



**Dutton-Crnko Wedding**

**Kate Dutton, '09**, of Chesterfield, Mo., married **Adam Crnko, '11**, of St. Louis, on October 28, 2011.

**Katie M. Rupp, '09**, of Centralia, Mo., married **Trent T. Schroeder** on October 1, 2011.

**Erich M. Schwartz, '09**, of Imperial, Mo., is a staff accountant at Cejka Search.

## '10s

**Amanda K. Keller, '10**, of Collinsville, Ill., is a graphic design consultant at Novus.

**Sally A. Kleekamp, '10**, of Washington, Mo., is a purchasing analyst at Sportsman's Supply Inc.

**Gregory M. Schwartz, '10**, of Chesterfield, Mo., is attending Washington University in St. Louis to pursue his MBA in marketing and product development.

**Abigail E. Adams, '11**, of St. Charles, Mo., has recently joined Arcturus Interiors team with responsibility for design work with a wide range of clients.

**Alicia M. Adams, '11**, of St. Ann, Mo., married **Aaron Walker** on July 7, 2011.

**Kari J. Blankenship, '11**, of Owensville, Mo., is an 8th grade teacher at Gasconade County R-II School District.



# In Memoriam

## 1930s

Dorothea Wanner Frech, '36  
Mary Louis Tobin Pfeffer, '36  
Eileen Cummins Page, '37

## 1940s

Mary Jane Stock Thaman, '41  
Irene Corley Behan, '42  
Betty Jones Macheca, '42  
Jane Bierdeman-Fike, '44  
Constance Sueme Kettenbach, '44  
Joyce Kuhlman, '44  
Caroline Farrelly Gross, '45  
Frances Finan Nouss, '45  
Margaret Thomas Janku, '46  
Bette Saum Duesing, '47  
Margaret Auchly Elias, '47  
Rosemary Weismantel Howard, '49

## 1950s

Virginia Smith Bollwerk, '51  
Mary Eissler Molloy, '52  
Kathleen O'Leary Backer, '55  
Sharon Horace Palermo, '56  
Margaret Rooney Goebel, '57  
Patricia Dolan Whitworth, '58

## 1960s

Patricia Forrestal Conway, '60  
Sally St. John Barlow, '63  
Mary Theodosia Burns, '63  
Mary Cody Miller, '63  
Susan Brazier Piazza, '65  
Mary Jo Kearney Riley, '69

## 1970s

Doris Sydow Olk, '70  
Mary Bowles Garvey, '74  
Alice Bal Huskey, '74

James J. McGauley, '75  
Geraldine Prater Oswald, '75  
Rosalee Goldstein Cramer, '76

## 1980s

Marlene Helen Schanks, '85  
Cindy Hunt Slaten, '85, '93  
Constance Brantley Rice, '87

## 1990s

Renate Bruder, '90, '92  
Dianna L. Meckfessel, '91  
Paula Wepfer-Bowman, '95  
Barbara Blanke Chouinard, '95

## 2000s

Kelly Aileen Sayer, '10

**Samantha R. Case, '11**, of St. Louis, is attending Saint Louis University to pursue her master's in social work.

**Karissa B. Etzkorn, '11**, of St. Louis, is a department assistant at Maryville University in admissions.

**Lauren A. Grigg, '11**, of St. Louis, is now an interactive art director at AVALA Marketing Group.

**Mark R. Hermes, '11**, of St. Louis, is the digital marketing director at St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission.

**Michael J. Hunt, '11**, of O'Fallon, Mo., is a systems engineer at Cisco Systems.

**Leah Jane Miklovic, '11**, of St. Louis, is an inspector for the St. Louis City Department of Health.

**Marc E. Telander, '11**, of Hazelwood, Mo., is a project specialist at Monsanto Sales Support.

## Mary Jane Stock Thaman, '41 (1919–2012)

Mary Jane Stock Thaman, '41, of Frontenac, Mo., died March 8, 2012, from pneumonia complications at age 92. Thaman was a beloved alumna who was well-known for her deep commitment to Maryville, her work with the American Heart Association and her involvement with several other community organizations.

A 2007 *Maryville Magazine* profile of Thaman notes: "Whether it was wrapping bandages as a Red Cross volunteer during World War II, leading the board of trustees of the American Heart Association's St. Louis and Missouri chapters for many years or serving as Maryville's Alumni Association president from 1968 to 1972, Thaman was a lifelong proponent of the concept that anything worth having is worth working for. 'If you don't put forth effort in life, you're not going to reap the rewards,'" she said at the time.

Thaman was a longtime St. Louis Cardinals fan; she attended her first game

with her father on her seventh birthday in 1926 (the first year the Cardinals won the World Championship). A season ticket holder for over 30 years, she was a team favorite and players would often stop and say hello. In 2009, about 42,000 people attending a game at Busch Stadium stood and sang "Happy Birthday" to Thaman to recognize the special occasion. She had lunch with team owner Bill DeWitt and was given a personalized Cardinals jersey with the number "90" on it to celebrate the event.

In 1969, the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* named Thaman a Woman of Achievement for her philanthropy and civic responsibility. She is survived by her daughter Jacque Thaman Niekamp, '66.



Dan Donovan



# [InRetrospect]



ATHLETICS PROVIDE A REASON TO RALLY FOR ANY UNIVERSITY, AND MARYVILLE IS NO exception. These photos — found in the University Archives — were taken in Moloney Arena in the 1980s, a decade recognized for “big” hair on the girls and facial hair on the guys. Fashion differences aside, the “red and white” appear as spirited and competitive in these photographs as they do in 2012 (we’re counting six male cheerleaders!). Go Saints!

“In Retrospect” shares archived, found, recently discovered or otherwise unearthed photos. If you can provide any additional details about the photos in this or any previous issue, please share your information with *Maryville Magazine* at [magazine@maryville.edu](mailto:magazine@maryville.edu).







**DOWN TO EARTH:** Students and faculty step inside the Earth Balloon for an “insider’s” perspective of our Earth during the International Fair last November. Participants gained a better understanding of their place on Earth with a guided tour and opportunities for hands-on discovery. The 19-ft. balloon was just one activity of many during the annual fair—including ethnic food, demonstrations and games—all hosted by Maryville students from across the globe.



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**SPIRITED CONVERSATION:** Join us for the 15th season of the St. Louis Speakers Series. The 2012-13 roster was announced on April 3 and features engaging personalities such as Jon M. Huntsman Jr., Vicente Fox and Condoleezza Rice. View the entire lineup here: [maryville.edu/st-louis-speakers-series](http://maryville.edu/st-louis-speakers-series)

**LIVEMaryville**



LOOK FAMILIAR?: Much like the excited fans on the cover of this issue, Maryville students were equally fired up about the "Final Four" tournament in the Simon Athletic Center in 1987.