

ILLINOIS

STATE

The

MAKING

of the

MOTTO:

*Gladly we Learn
and Teach*

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FirstWord

Inherent in the founding of the first universities

in Europe centuries ago was the understanding that institutions of learning must be responsive to student needs. All universities since have maintained the mission of providing scholarly programs for the purpose of preparing the next workforce. It is consequently no surprise that the focus of higher education today fundamentally and consistently remains on the student.

This reality can result in universities struggling to keep pace by pursuing everything from high-tech classrooms to upgraded housing amenities. What is unfortunately all

too often overlooked as administrators seek to find the campus combination that excites students to the point of enrollment is the one factor that is most significant in student success: faculty and staff.

We at Illinois State make and keep the promise that students will receive the quality education expected, but with a level of unparalleled individualized attention. It takes stellar professors and support staff to fulfill this dual commitment. Graduates and current students know that ISU indeed has both. I am pleased to share that the leading higher education publication in the country confirms this as well.

Earlier this year, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* named Illinois State a "Great College to Work For." Based in Washington, D.C., the *Chronicle* is the

top news source covering all of academe. Its weekly print edition boasts a readership of more than 315,000, with an excess of 12.8 million monthly online page views.

These readers now know that Illinois State ranks with institutions such as Duke University in the quality of our teaching environment. ISU is the only public university in Illinois to be noted in the *Chronicle* listing, which recognizes institutions that have created an exceptional workplace.

Illinois State voluntarily participated in the *Chronicle's* evaluation process that was based on a survey of 281 colleges and universities. This is the first year we were involved in the assessment, which included an audit of demographics and workplace policies. Faculty, administrators and professional support staff were surveyed, with their feedback the primary factor in the rankings.

I share this with you because it is a testament to the talented Illinois State team that does the daily and ongoing work of serving students at an exceptional level. Since our inception, we have acknowledged that each faculty and staff member is integral to student success. This is why we strive to provide a supportive environment that values their contributions. This is how Illinois State maintains a love of teaching that elevates our students, who remain the University's heart and soul.



Larry Dietz
President, Illinois State University



ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Illinois' first public university



ILLINOIS STATE

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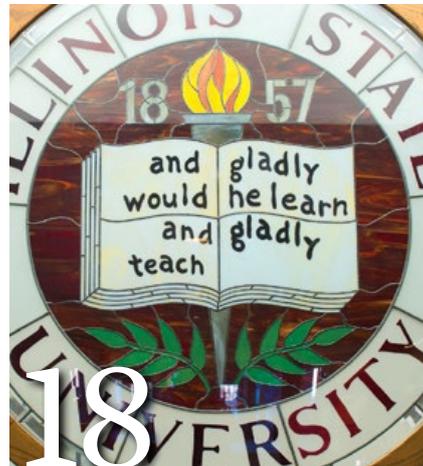
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Among ISU's nontraditional students are those with a military tie. Illinois State is supportive of veterans transitioning to collegiate life and all who combine a course load with ongoing military service. The excellent care provided to service men and women explains why the University is consistently named a military friendly school.

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Abusive relationships and poverty are just two reasons many struggle to find a safe place they can call home. Karen (Brown) Murley '61 helps lift that burden by volunteering for a national agency that provides transitional housing. Murley's ability to bless others by decorating on a dime has put her in the national spotlight.

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Redbirds are readily able to recite ISU's "Gladly we learn and teach" motto. Few know, however, the story of how the original wording tied to Chaucer was altered in the 1950s. The history of when and why the University shifted again to today's version reveals what was a controversial decision in the 1990s.

22 **Soaring to new heights**
The future isn't always bright for college students, who increasingly lack the finances to finish a degree. Their graduation dreams are often only realized through an investment made by individuals who know the value of a college education. Read how private gifts have impacted people and programs at Illinois State.



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On the cover: The move to alter ISU's motto in 1992 by editing Chaucer caused a campus uproar covered by the *Chicago Tribune* and NPR. *Illustration by Sean Thornton.*

What's trending on STATE side

-  Illinois State alum's virtual reality tech hits the NFL
-  Illinois State's campus landmarks, now and then
-  Best time-lapse videos from 2014-2015 school year

Read those stories and more at IllinoisState.edu/STATESide



Ready to renovate

Plans in place to update campus student center

The University is moving ahead with plans for a \$32.9 million Bone Student Center renovation, which will add new dining and hangout spaces for students.

Funding will come from Campus Dining and Bone Student Center reserve funds, a future bond issue, and the Dean of Students Office. Student fees will not be added or increased to complete the first major upgrade for the 42-year-old campus hub, which has 5,000 daily visitors and hosts more than 4,500 events annually.

“The term we’ve been using is transformational,” said Michelle Paul, director of the Bone Student Center and Braden

Auditorium. Plans call for a new welcome center, open access to Milner Plaza, and an Admissions presentation room.

The bookstore will relocate and enlarge; walls will disappear to bring in natural light; and a new foyer/reception area will be created outside the Brown Ballroom, which will be reconfigured to host up to three smaller events.

Dewberry Architects and Workshop Architects are working to create spaces that will attract and hold students while also serving many different purposes. The Bone’s outdoor courtyard, for example, is today hard to find. It will have its own staircase leading from Milner Plaza to a coffee shop.

The welcome center’s new third-floor presentation room will help Admissions, offering an impressive campus view. “When people get on our campus and see the Quad, it’s a huge selling point,” Paul said.

Functionality will also improve. A kitchen will be moved downstairs, where most catered events take place. Student Affairs offices will be moved to the second floor, where the Barnes & Noble Bookstore is currently located. It will relocate downstairs in a larger space, with its own outside entrance.

Illinois State has been planning Bone renovations for decades. The work, which will take years to complete, could begin in winter 2016. Go online to IllinoisState.edu/STATESide to see before and after images.

Freshman fall numbers set enrollment record

ISU welcomed a record-breaking freshman class for the second consecutive year, with 3,632 students enrolled. It is the largest freshman class in 26 years, yet academic quality remains strong with a high school GPA of 3.4 on a 4.0 scale and an average ACT score near 24.

Total enrollment is 20,788, up 173 students over fall 2014. Growth occurred in student retention, with continuing student enrollment up 89 students. Transfer students total 1,913, an increase of 31 from 2014. Graduate student enrollment rose by 77 students.

About one-fifth of the students come from underrepresented groups. The University saw an 8 percent increase in Hispanic students and a 6 percent jump in African-American students.

“The University has strong numbers from total enrollment growth to retention gains,” said Troy Johnson, associate vice president of Enrollment Management. “The fall 2015 freshman, transfer, and graduate student classes continue Illinois State’s pattern of high academic quality and diversity.”

WGLT race coverage takes national awards

An effort to reflect the changing face of America led ISU’s public radio station, WGLT, to undertake an investigative series titled “Police and Race in the Twin Cities.” The coverage captured four national awards and regional honors as well.

For the first time in the station’s history, WGLT received two national Edward R. Murrow Awards for journalistic excellence in the same year. The news team won the News Series award and took honors in the investigative reporting category.

GLT was also one of only seven media outlets in the country honored with the 2015 Kaleidoscope Award for reporting on cultural diversity in 2014. The station competed against others serving a population of less than one million.



WGLT staff members Jon Norton and Judy Valente took national honors for their investigative reporting on police and race.

The fourth honor was a first-place award in the annual Public Radio News Directors Incorporated Contest. It is the only national honor recognizing outstanding public radio news reporting at local stations. GLT competed against powerhouse stations in Nashville, Cincinnati and Buffalo.

The investigative series, which won regional Edward R. Murrow Awards as well, examined concerns expressed by some minority McLean County citizens and law enforcement’s reaction.

“Our local community already recognizes the quality news department at GLT and generously supports their efforts,” said WGLT General Manager Bruce Bergethon. “I am proud when those outstanding efforts are recognized on a national level. It provides confirmation that our contributors’ support is making possible a truly valuable community service.”

The station broadcasts at 89.1 and 103.5 FM. The award-winning segments can be heard at WGLT.org.

ISU founder’s records tie back to Union Army

Civil War documents written by Jesse Fell are now in Milner Library’s Special Collections and Rare Books Room. Fell was founder of Illinois State and the Town of Normal. He was also a close friend to President Abraham Lincoln. Fell encouraged Lincoln to seek the presidency. Lincoln appointed Fell as a paymaster to the Union Army.

“These papers give us valuable insight into the financial and hierarchical structure of the Union Army,” said Milner Librarian Maureen Brunsdale. “They also serve as a gateway to research that will enrich our understanding of the bloodiest war ever fought on American soil.”

Among the documents is Fell’s letter of appointment, dated July 14, 1862. He served as paymaster in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana before returning to Bloomington in October 1863. The collection also contains letters from soldiers who

Where are they now?

Joyce Morton Kief began her teaching career in ISU's women's Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (HPERD) department in 1966 after completing a master's at Colorado State. She joined ISU because of location, size and the department's strength. Thinking she would stay a few years, she instead retired after four decades in December 2005. Kief primarily taught in teacher education and coaching minor programs.

Women's athletics was in its infancy when she arrived. Kief volunteered to coach the outdoor track and field program, later adding indoor and cross country opportunities. She moved into an evenly split coaching/teaching position and was the last teacher/coach remaining in what became the School of Kinesiology and Recreation (KNR).

Her teams won many conference championships, had one national champion, and numerous AIAW and NCAA competitors. She ended her coaching career as an assistant coach at the 1991 Pan American games after 24 years.

Kief continued full-time teaching and assumed leadership roles, ending as KNR's assistant director. The department established the Joyce Morton Kief Future Professional Award to annually support a KNR student in honor of her accomplishments. She has also been inducted into the ISU Percy Family Athletic Hall of Fame.

In the early 1970s, Kief developed the Campus Recreation Outdoor Program and helped start Bloomington-Normal's first road race, Run for Your Life, sponsored by HPERD. She co-directed the community's first exercise/nutrition television program, broadcast on TV10. She also organized student exercise science and athletic coaching clubs on campus, serving as sponsor.

Kief's husband, Bob "Doc," had a prolonged illness shortly after her retirement in 2005. He was a dual graduate and ISU athletic trainer. She established a KNR Athletic Training Scholarship in his memory following his death in 2013.

Today Kief stays active exercising, swimming, reading, and spending time with family and friends. She looks forward to traveling and trying new hobbies. She can be reached at jkief@IllinoisState.edu.



Joyce Morton Kief

wrote to Fell to inform him of their promotions.

Brunsdale noted that although Fell's position kept him away from the dangers of battlefield, his work was essential to the war. "As paymaster, Fell oversaw the payment of soldiers and allotments for commanding officers to have servants, their own horses, laundry service and other amenities."

ISU joins national push for women in economics

The ratio of men to women in economics majors in the U.S. is about 3:1, and even higher when the institution has a business school. Illinois State has joined a national initiative to boost the number of women choosing to study economics.

ISU is one of 20 schools chosen for a three-year Undergraduate Women in Economics Challenge. Other participants

include Yale, Princeton, and Brown universities.

Spearheaded by Harvard University, the program is administered by the National Bureau of Economic Research. The goal is to encourage women to stay with the major by implementing strategies in introductory economics courses.

"The hope is to see a marked difference in the proportion of women who enter the major, a difference in GPA, a reduction in time to complete the major, or other markers of success," said ISU's Department of Economics Chair David Cleeton.

Interventions in Principles of Economics began at ISU this fall, including additional advising and information to female students, and mentoring opportunities with female economics professors and graduate students.

"We'll pool efforts with the other 20 schools to see if we can disentangle

which interventions might be more effective," said Cleeton. "We hope it helps get the word out that economics is a rigorous, interesting discipline that leads to a variety of productive career paths."

Nursing alum honored as state's best in public health

Sue Albee Grant '95 received the 2015 Public Health Worker of the Year Award from the Illinois Public Health Association.

The association honors one member who has made an outstanding contribution of major significance to public health in Illinois during the preceding calendar year and is actively involved in the field within the state.

Grant serves as the supervisor of community health services at the McLean County Health Department. She works closely with America's Promise

School Project at the Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN).

She helped design a plan to place student nurses in K-12 schools as part of their pediatric clinic rotation, which helped the students gain crucial job experience. The nursing students worked to improve pediatric oral health and cavity reduction among children.

Grant graduated from MCN in 1995 and is enrolled in the college's online Nursing Systems Administration program. She serves on several community boards and work groups and is a recipient of the college's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Education dean praised as among nation's best

Alumnus Perry Schoon '89, Ph.D. '97, is one of the most influential education deans in the country. At the helm of ISU's College of Education, Schoon is among those ranked as "The Top 30 Most Influential Deans of Education in the United States" by Mometrix.

The national test preparation company places Schoon at 12 on the list that includes deans from Vanderbilt University and the University of Michigan.

The honor is based on numerous factors including state and national awards, education program rankings, individual

degree program rankings, and level of pay received by teacher graduates.

Schoon was named dean in 2012. Since his arrival, the special education program has been ranked the fourth best of its kind in the country by National Council on Teacher Quality, and Niche.com named the college's middle school education program as the 10th best in the United States. *College Factual's* 2013 Top 10 list of best colleges of education in the country placed Illinois State at number eight.

Grant helps open doors for international study

Efforts to increase and diversify the number of students studying abroad have been bolstered by the Institute of International Education (IIE).

The organization's Generation Study Abroad initiative has provided \$7,500 to Illinois State, which has matched the funding to create six scholarships of \$2,500 each.

The funds help make international education opportunities accessible to all students, especially those from underrepresented groups. The scholarships can be used for tuition, books and travel related to study, service learning or internships abroad during spring 2016.

Generation Study Abroad is a five-year initiative to double the number of U.S. students studying overseas by the end of the decade. During the 2014-2015 academic year, more than 500 Illinois State students participated in study abroad programs across the globe, a 23 percent increase over the previous academic year.

"Preparing our students to embrace an ever-expanding global society is one of the key values of Illinois State," President Larry Dietz said. He noted that the IIE partnership will "enable a more diverse student population to expand their global horizons and return as more engaged and aware citizens."

Mail

To the Editor,

Just a note of thanks to the entire staff of *Illinois State*. I graduated in 1954 and plunged into a busy life, much of which was taken up with my profession, for which I got such a spectacular send-off from my ISNU education. I used to often toss the magazine aside because my life was so full and quite a bit of the magazine seemed irrelevant to my life at the time.

Now I read from cover to cover with eagerness! The articles are great, the news and features and First Word give me welcome information, and I always check what everyone is doing and the obits.

Thank you, thank you to everybody for keeping me in touch with ISU by such an outstanding vehicle!

JimAnn Oliver '54

To the Editor,

Sometimes one finds humor in the oddest places, today being the emailed alumni newsletter. I haven't laughed so long and hard in quite some time. What instigated my laughter? The story on the campus now being tobacco and smoke free (August 2015).

When I attended ISNU/ISU, smoking was permitted. I knew several who attended only a few years before when Dean Schroeder, for whom Schroeder Hall is named, ran the University. Stories of Schroeder indicated that he was rather straight-laced, tobacco being one activity he banned from campus. This led to "The Dike," a linear pile of cigarette butts across the streets surrounding the campus. When I attended, a grand and glorious liberation from these repressive strictures had taken place: smoking was pervasive throughout the campus.

Now the campus is advancing into our enlightened future: tobacco is banned. Dean Schroeder must be dancing a jig in his grave—if he dances. I don't remember hearing if he banned dancing too.

William Sweet '67



College of Education Dean Perry Schoon

Redbird Athletics



Redbird Remembrance

Athletics honors seven lives cut short in plane crash

A memorial honoring seven Central Illinois men who lost their lives in a spring plane crash was unveiled on campus in September. The loyal Redbirds—including a coach and administrator from Athletics—are remembered with seven pillared fountains to represent each life lost in the accident near the Bloomington-Normal airport.

Titled Redbird Remembrance and located just north of Redbird Arena, the memorial includes a plaque that lists each of the men. The seven names are etched into a stone wall that stands behind the fountains. Seating and lighting are included so that guests may visit day or night.

“We believe the design is comforting and peaceful. We picked this location so that it is accessible to the families, the campus, and the community to reflect and remember,” Director of Athletics Larry Lyons said. The memorial was dedicated at the first home football game of the season, with loved ones of those lost present for the unveiling.

“We felt that we had a duty to honor these men, support their families, and strengthen the Redbird bond,” Lyons said. “The permanency of the memorial is to honor their legacy with dignity and respect.”

In addition to the memorial, Redbird student-athletes and coaches are wearing a patch on game days during the 2015-2016 season in memory of the sev-

en. Athletics staff members were given lapel pins that resemble the patch.

“Our student-athletes understand the significance of the patch and what it symbolizes,” Lyons said. “We asked them to honor the seven with their competitive spirit throughout the year.”

A replica of the Battle Bird will also be placed at the entrance to donor areas prior to each home football and basketball game as yet another way to memorialize the ISU coworkers, friends, and community members lost on April 7. At the base is a plaque with the seven names. Weisbecker Scholarship Fund donors will be able to touch the Battle Bird, just as student-athletes do before every home competition. A video about the memorial and pin is online at IllinoisState.edu/STATESide.



ISU Hall of Fame 2015 inductees honored

Illinois State Athletics welcomed five former student-athletes into the ISU Athletics Percy Family Hall of Fame during Homecoming, while also honoring a volunteer with the Stretch Miller Award.

The 2015 inductees include former Redbird golfer Brian Anderson '04. He was a 2004 Missouri Valley Conference (MVC) medalist and four-time All-MVC selection. He continues to enjoy the game as a professional golfer.

Kristi Cirone '09 excelled in basketball, becoming Illinois State's all-time leading scorer. A three-time MVC Player of the Year, she is now head coach at Judson University in Illinois. Neal Cotts starred on ISU's baseball diamond from 1999 to 2001. He was a First-Team All-MVC pitcher for the Redbirds before joining the major leagues. A 2005 World Series champion with the White Sox,

he now pitches with the Milwaukee Brewers.

Laurent Robinson '07 played as a wide receiver for the Redbirds, gaining All-American status before becoming an NFL standout with the St. Louis Rams. He is now a free agent. Liina Suurvarik '04, MBA '06, was a member of the women's tennis team at ISU. A four-time MVC No. 1 singles champion and four-time All-MVC selection, she returned to Estonia and worked in marketing. Now married with a daughter, she is a stay-at-home mom.

Rudy Klokkenga was honored with the Miller Award for fulfilling various volunteer roles across Athletics over a decade. The award celebrates contributions of those whose main services are not playing or coaching, but are important to the program's success.

ESPN3 commits to expanded MVC coverage

ESPN and the Missouri Valley Conference have agreed to a 10-year extension to media rights that will provide increased coverage of conference events across ESPN platforms through the 2023-2024 academic year.

The co-branded network—The Valley on ESPN3—is recognition that the MVC continues to be relevant in an increasingly competitive Division I environment.

ESPN, the MVC and its 10 member institutions will work jointly to develop in-house production capabilities at each campus that will provide significant national coverage for multiple sports on ESPN3 and hands-on educational opportunities for students. As a result, ESPN3 will showcase a minimum of 820 events a year (including at least 70 in men's basketball) in the final six years of the agreement.

Scoreboard upgrade for Redbird Arena

It will soon be easier for fans to follow the action in Redbird Arena from the scoreboard, which will be replaced.

The Board of Trustees approved earlier this year the purchase and installation of the new system at a cost of \$950,000.

The expense will be covered by corporate sponsorships. The new system replaces the scoreboard and message center that was retrofitted in 2007.

Faithful Redbird fans receive highest honor

In recognition of their support of the Weisbecker Scholarship Fund for many years, Phares and Harriet (Gove) O'Daffer have been named the recipients of the 2015 Joseph F. Warner Golden Redbird Award.

The highest honor bestowed to a donor by Athletics, the award recognizes individuals for dedication and loyal support of the Weisbecker Scholarship Fund and Illinois State Athletics through exemplary service, leadership, and financial support.

The Bloomington couple met at ISU. Harriet '55, M.S. '57, studied elementary education. Phares '55, M.S. '56, chose math. He joined ISU's Department of Mathematics as faculty in 1968 and retired 20 years later. Harriet taught in Bloomington schools.

Both volunteer with numerous community efforts and agencies, and are loyal Redbird fans. Among other projects, they supported the Hancock Stadium renovation.

"We're blessed to be able to give something," Phares said for the couple, noting the University holds a special place in their hearts and lives.



From *From* SOLDIERS

Illinois State University supports its troops.

The campus has for years consistently earned a spot in *Victory Media's* listing of military friendly schools. The 2015 recognition puts ISU in the nation's top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools with regard to supporting veterans' educational pursuits.

The University is also ranked as a top school in the 2015 *Military Advanced Education Guide to Colleges & Universities*, which measures best practices in military and veteran educa-

tion. Institutions are evaluated on military culture, financial aid, flexibility, on-campus support and online support services.

Illinois State's ongoing commitment to service men and women is not surprising to those who know the University's history. The tradition of military support goes back to the 1800s and the school's first president, Charles Hovey, who hired a drillmaster to prepare students as Civil War soldiers. Commissioned by President Abraham Lincoln to form what became the Schoolmaster's Regiment from Illinois State stu-



to STUDENTS

BY STEVEN BARCUS

dents, Hovey was one of only two college presidents to lead a Western regiment.

During World War I, a committee appointed by President David Felmley oversaw war gardens, an ISNU service flag, and troop correspondence. Members ensured that many of the students who left to serve were able to graduate.

Regardless of the decade or conflict, Illinois State has continued to honor and support veterans. Financial aid opportunities, exclusive career services, academic support and veteran

student organizations are just some of what makes Illinois State a preferred choice for all with military experience. From separate orientation sessions provided with the start of the fall semester to a revitalized Veterans Memorial Garden on the Quad dedicated to all who have served, Illinois State appeals to individuals regardless of their military branch.

Of the 20,615 students enrolled at ISU in the 2014-2015 academic year, more than 443 were student veterans. On average, more than 100 new freshman or transfer veteran students

join the campus each year. Most have prior active duty, although reservists also enroll. Their transition from military life to the collegiate experience is helped by Judy Curtis, associate registrar and head of the Veterans and Military Services Office.

“Student veterans are the same as any other population of students,” Curtis said. “You have those who are very well adapted and hit the ground running. Then you have those who struggle with making the transition from the rigid lifestyle they were used to and coming into one with no boundaries.”

Curtis works with students and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Her duties include ensuring veterans maximize their educational benefits from the Montgomery G.I. or Post-9/11 bills.

“That is our priority first and foremost—to make sure they

WHEN YOU'RE WITH ANOTHER STUDENT GROUP AND THEY FIND OUT YOU'RE A VETERAN, IT'S NOT A BAD THING, BUT YOU'RE GOING TO BE COMING WITH A DIFFERENT LIFE EXPERIENCE. IN THE VETERANS GROUP, YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN CERTAIN THINGS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRANSLATE.



receive their benefits. We also serve as a referral to other resources on campus and in the community,” Curtis said. Among them is an academic advisor who works with veterans until they are accepted into a major. The Career Center offers materials and workshops to help veterans showcase their unique skills and experiences to potential employers.

“ISU touts the University’s small-college feel, and that comes across in the services veterans have,” said Curtis, who realized the importance of supporting veterans and active duty military personnel while stationed with her husband at Hunter Army Airfield in Georgia. “I worked in the education center on post, and that’s where I learned the military culture and the jargon.”

Curtis is pleased with ISU’s efforts. The campus offers a study center exclusively for veterans, which gives students with such a unique experience the chance to work together. Orientations that focus on specific campus services—such as Milner Library—help veterans gain familiarity with the University. These focused opportunities are a great help to veterans who appreciate the camaraderie, especially given their unique path to the University.

Cassandra Dodge ’14 earned an associate’s degree at a community college before joining the Air Force in December 2006. She was placed in security forces for the C-130 aircraft and was regularly on the move. She visited 23 countries in less than five years, many in Africa and Asia.

After separating from the Air Force in July 2011, Dodge spent six months acclimating to civilian life before enrolling in ISU’s criminal justice program. She is completing a master’s degree with plans to pursue a doctorate. Her research focus is the effects of emerging technology on law enforcement and criminal behavior. Her service and travels abroad have given her a unique perspective, which she shares in the classroom.

“When my instructors discuss how criminal justice varies in other nations, I am able to bring in some personal experi-

ence and give context to what we are talking about,” Dodge said. “Sometimes we are not very compassionate to other cultures. Because I was able to work with individuals and military personnel from other countries, it forced me to learn more about their history and learn the context of what we were doing and where we were coming from. It changes the way you look at things.”

Dodge is a founding member of Omega Delta Sigma, a coed veterans’ fraternity. Members meet weekly, volunteering or gathering for social activities. The shared experience of all veterans, regardless of their service branch, creates a mutual understanding.

“When you’re with another student group and they find out you’re a veteran, it’s not a bad thing, but you’re going to be coming with a different life experience,” Dodge said. “In the veterans group, you don’t have to explain certain things. You don’t have to translate.”

Fellow veteran Matthew Thein ’15 found the same to be true when he came to ISU intent on returning to the military.

Thein joined the Air Force in 2006 after attending community college. “I was tired of watching others do great things,” he said. “I talked with friends who were enlisted and

decided the time was right. It was one of the best things I've ever done."

An Air Force combat engineer, Thein assisted with military and humanitarian construction projects around the world. He partnered with troops from the Army, Marines, and Navy. After serving honorably, he enrolled in ISU's Department of Politics and Government in spring 2012. He is pursuing a commission into the Navy as an intelligence officer, for which he hopes to receive orders this fall.

"I have a strong passion for foreign relations and America's foreign policy," Thein said. "We built a lot of things for other countries and did a lot domestically. The whole aspect of how the United States works with government and nongovernment agencies and the relationships we hold with these other

as the ship left California and months later dropped anchor in Virginia. The close quarters taught self-control and how to interact with a team.

Four years after joining, Faber left active duty and returned to Illinois State. He enrolled as an economics major but shifted to agriculture business. The decision extends a family legacy. His father, Curtis Faber '77, served in the Navy and also earned an agriculture business degree from ISU.

"When it came down to it, that's what I knew very well and that's what I'm good at," the younger Faber said. "We have a family farm run by my uncle. My dad graduated with an ag business degree and then pursued banking. Two of my uncles taught agriculture. I guess it was just bred into me."

He worked through the Career Center to find his first



bodies was always something that interested me. After having seen that firsthand, it made me want to explore that field."

Thein found several places at Illinois State he could call home. He held a spot on the Redbird cheerleading squad for two years and worked with Curtis in the Veterans and Military Services Office, helping fellow veterans transition to ISU. He is certain the rigorous lifestyle and challenges veterans faced benefit them as students.

"A lot of us know what it's like to overcome grueling obstacles on a daily basis. When we encounter a big project that will take a lot of teamwork, we draw on experiences from work sites, deployment, and training exercises—experiences a lot of these students haven't had."

One struggle fellow veteran Doug Faber '15 had was choosing what to study. He completed general education classes at a community college before transferring to Illinois State. After several semesters passed without being able to settle on a major, Faber decided to take a break from classes and joined the Navy in February 2009 as an aviation ordnanceman.

The assignment involved loading bombs and missiles on F-18 aircraft aboard the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln during Operation Enduring Freedom. The job took him around the world,

job, which was offered eight months before he graduated. He still holds the position of operations management trainee with Consolidated Grain and Barge. He attributes his success to the combination of military experience and ISU.

"Coming out of college, I told my dad I needed an internship," Doug said. "He said that I had already done my internship. The Navy was my internship. The military experience shows you can hold a job. It shows you have responsibility, dedication, and commitment."

Seeing these three student veterans—one a graduate student, one an aspiring officer, and one having rapid success in private industry—it is impossible to disagree. Their experience exemplifies why ISU maintains recognition as a military friendly school, which Curtis knows is a point of pride for the University as a whole.

"We've been in a long period of war and there is a much greater awareness of the issues faced by this generation of veterans," Curtis said. "Illinois State is definitely a welcoming and supportive place for them."



Decorating on a dime





Alum volunteers time, talent to create comfort in a crisis

BY KATE ARTHUR

Sometimes they stay in their bedroom because the rest of the apartment is bare. There is no comfy couch, big screen TV or soft light. Not even a collection of mismatched dishes. These apartments belong to women escaping abusive relationships, teens aging out of foster care, the poor, the addicted.

Their stories don't matter to Karen (Brown) Murley '61, but their lives do.

At nearly 76, with a comfortable retirement income, grandchildren and a home in Bethesda, Maryland, Murley doesn't have to spend her days rummaging through trash bags of donations or stopping to pick up items left at the curb. And yet she does.

The twice-retired former legal administrator and consultant for The World Bank works nearly full-time as a volunteer decorator for The National Center for Children and Families (NCCF) in Bethesda. The agency, which provides transitional housing, depends on Murley to turn a temporary house into a home. She is well aware that the future occupants need confidence and comfort as much as living essentials.

With as little as a day's notice, Murley packs her SUV with donated furnishings, housewares, linens, artwork and—always—her toolbox. She turns a bare apartment into a respite in a single day, walking out the door with brownies cooling on the counter. Her work is so noted and appreciated that she was a featured volunteer on CNN's "No Place Like Home" broadcast last year.

Murley even turned a once-condemned home into a place where anyone would want to live, said Margaret Gainer, a friend of 40 years who was recruited to help with that project. "She can do anything. What amazes me is when we're unpacking, the place looks awful. By the time we finish, it's absolutely beautiful. It's a place I could see myself living."

Annie Strong, 20, moved into her first-ever home in May. She has a job and plans to go to school. "This is what I can call home," she said,





expressing gratitude that her favorite color of turquoise was used. “It’s something to be responsible for. It’s my next step to adulthood. I didn’t even meet Karen, but she decorated it perfectly.”

Strong benefited from a passion that started in Murley after her retirement a decade ago.

She enjoyed redecorating her home and watching HGTV programs. She signed up for a weeklong interior redesign and staging class. By the end of that first day, Murley was hooked.

“That night I called my husband and told him I was so excited. We only had a half day class, and we were out decorating a room.”

Design was a big departure for the woman who used to travel to Third World countries teaching record-keeping in places where women made yogurt from mares’ milk. The adventure did, however, fit with her love of learning something new.

Realizing she didn’t want to start her own business at age 65, Murley was content to work with friends who sought her advice on paint colors and decorating choices. She found her calling when she met another redesign student. An NCCF volunteer, the friend asked Murley for help reviving an apartment. That was eight years ago and decades after the Illinois native completed a business education degree at Illinois State.

Murley comes from Minooka—a small town in the Northeast corner of the state that ironically has the motto, “A nice place to call home.” Growing up, her parents didn’t have a lot of money. One of the reasons she chose Illinois State was because of

the affordable tuition. She lived off campus with 14 other women who kept a food budget of \$25 each per week.

Soon after graduation she married her husband, Tom, whom she has known since fifth grade. They moved to Boston, where he attended graduate school. They relocated to Germany, Pennsylvania, and eventually Washington, D.C. Murley taught along the way prior to working for the Democratic National Committee at its headquarters in the Watergate office complex.

She and her coworkers were so busy working on the convention that they didn’t have time to assemble their desks, leaving drawers on the floor and a blizzard of paper. On June 17, 1972, the office was broken into, beginning the political scandal that ended Richard Nixon’s presidency.

“The police came in after the break-in and said ‘Obviously they’ve been in here,’” Murley recalled. “We said, ‘Oh no, this is the way we keep it.’ That was our 15 seconds of fame.”

Many would disagree, believing her fame is her volunteer work. The attention is not what drives Murley, however, who can’t imagine doing anything else. She has the support of her husband, now retired from the Nuclear Regulatory Commis-





sion. He's been patient with having donated items stored in their home. There are also loads from carts she fills while scouring thrift stores and seeking out sales for what she always buys new—pillows, mattress pads and shower curtain liners.

Ninety percent of the time, Murley makes the purchases having never met her clients. She works with information provided from a form she created to learn about children's ages and favorite colors. She then heads to Dr. C's Boutique, the agency's donation center, which is named for NCCF Executive Director Sheryl Chapman.

Julie Oldham coordinates the nonprofit's Future Bound Independent Living Program, which moves teens from foster care to independence. She's watched Murley do everything from hang a Hello Kitty shower curtain to assemble a drafting table for a man who likes to draw.

"She does phenomenal work. She makes the apartments feel like home," Oldham said. "Many of our clients have never had their own room or even their own bed. It makes them feel safer to be in a space they enjoy being in, and it's something we wouldn't normally be able to do without Karen."

The fact she relies on what others have discarded makes Murley's work even more inspiring and remarkable. If someone gave her a big budget for a decorating project, she'd have a hard time spending it. "I just think there's a lot of good in what we already have," she says, downplaying her talent to envision what a room needs and convert what she has to fill the space.

Murley turns a dresser missing a drawer into a nightstand. She sews curtains and throw pillows.



Chairs are reupholstered, and murals and motivational sayings are painted on the walls. Sometimes she stocks the fridge with groceries.

Her first project was Betty's House, a four-bedroom group home for immigrant women and their American-born children who are survivors of domestic violence. One was a young African with a son. Murley watched her progress as she moved into her own apartment and studied to become a nurse's aide. "I told her I was so proud of her. These houses are safe houses for these women who are working their way up."

Murley knows her boundaries. She knows she's not a social worker, that she can't offer advice. She is also well aware that some of the apartments will not be in good shape when the clients leave. None of that dissuades her from investing her heart as she lends a hand.

"I'm supposed to be doing it for the clients, but I almost feel selfish that I enjoy it so much," Murley said. "I don't know how anybody can retire and not do anything. I'd curl up and die. Decorating the apartments gives my life a real purpose."





Inside Look

Since opening in 2011, the University's Nursing Simulation Laboratory (NSL) has ensured all Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) students learn fundamental clinical skills in a realistic environment. A typical student works in the NSL several days per week at the start of the nursing curriculum, and at least eight hours per clinical course in each subsequent semester. The NSL is essential for nursing education, as it helps address dwindling clinical site experiences. It also creates an increased focus on safety and quality outcomes in health care. The NSL allows for additional clinical experience for students and is embedded into MCN's curriculum.

In this space just north of the Bone Student Center, students deal with scenarios that range from common and low risk to infrequent with high risk. They learn skills such as how to place an IV

by using manufactured body parts that show a flash of simulated blood when a vein is hit. One day students may experience chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and the next encounter a postpartum hemorrhage. In this space, anything can happen.

1. Elena Granados

Elena, an accelerated first-semester nursing student, pursued nursing to gain a stronger background in health care. Set to graduate in 2016, she plans to go into cardiac rehab and geriatrics.

2. Jennifer Olmo

Jennifer from New Jersey is also an accelerated first-semester nursing student. Diagnosed with Type I diabetes, she is interested in endocrinology. She appreciates that the lab provides an opportunity for real hospital experience.

3. Mastering the paperwork

This old-school chart contains information for one patient scenario. Always keeping up with clinical settings, MCN has introduced electronic charting as well.

4. A symbol of comfort

Students dress in the MCN uniform while working in the lab: white scrub top and black scrub pants with a small Reggie on the pant leg. Proudly emblazoned on the sleeve is an insignia denoting ISU and MCN. Many patients in clinical settings have noted they feel more at ease knowing an MCN student is their caregiver.

5. Ba-dump...ba-dump...ba-dump...

Nurses have stethoscopes with them at all times. They are always ready to assess a patient's condition.



6. They're no dummies

Four adjoining simulated hospital rooms contain high- and low-fidelity mannequins the students work with as patients. The mannequins behave and react similarly to humans. They blink, have a heartbeat, and can have allergic reactions. Tongues swell if an improper medication is administered, and pupils dilate or constrict with brain trauma. The behavior, under the control of trained faculty and staff, varies based on the scenario created for each course.

7. You're being watched

Students are observed via cameras from this control room. Faculty and staff control variables in each scenario and use what they see during the exercise to provide feedback for improvement.

8. Not just a table

A nurses' work station is an important element of the simulated hospital, allowing students to examine patient charts, collaborate with one another, or contact a physician/nurse practitioner. Typically faculty and staff members assume these roles for each scenario.

9. CLEAR!

The laboratory includes a crash cart that contains medicine and equipment for students to simulate working with a patient in cardiac arrest.

10. Pyxis MedStation

The Pyxis MedStation can be found in most hospital settings. Using a touch screen, nurses input medication needed for NSL patients. A drawer or nearby panel opens to provide what was requested. So helpful!

11. Just a cabinet (sort of)

Also connected to the Pyxis MedStation, the cabinets contain supplies that might not normally be seen on every unit. Connecting it to the station lets students practice interacting with the machine, which eases the transition to working in an actual clinical site.

12. The tiniest of patients

SimBaby lets students practice caring for infants. To provide the most realistic and varied experiences possible, MCN purchased this year a new SimBaby that resembles a child 6 to 9 months old. Since different diseases and conditions affect children of varying ages, it is crucial for students to have experience working with mannequins of different ages. Learn how you can support the SimBaby initiative at Nursing.Illinois-State.edu/Giving.

CAUGHT —IN THE— MIDDLE ENGLISH

CONTROVERSY BEHIND
ISU'S EVOLVING MOTTO

by Ryan Denham

FOUR LITTLE WORDS THAT HAVE BEEN MISSING FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS ARE STILL ENOUGH TO GET ILLINOIS STATE ALUM KATIE (REISING) MCGREEVY '82 ALL FIRED UP—AT LEAST ENOUGH TO POST AN ANGRY FACEBOOK COMMENT.

Those words vanished in 1992 when Illinois State's official motto changed from "And gladly would he learn and gladly teach" to "Gladly we learn and teach." To this day, when alums like McGreevy see the new motto on Illinois State's seal—even on Facebook—it's enough to reopen a long-closed debate.

That 1992 change, which swapped "he" with "we" to make the Chaucer-penned motto more gender-neutral, was part of a larger University rebranding effort that's still paying dividends. But it also cooked up a lingering controversy with an unusual combination of ingredients—Middle English, alleged sexism, and a divisive \$70,000 study.

"They should have never changed the motto from Chaucer's quote," said McGreevy, a College of Education grad and now a semi-retired educator from the Rockford area. "Society shouldn't be able to dictate that it's not good enough, or politically incorrect. I didn't look at it as being chauvinistic or anti-woman. I was never offended by it."

Let's start with the Middle English.

The University's original motto was actually "And gladly wolde he lerne

and gladly teche," taken from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. Old yearbooks and other documents suggest that motto was created sometime in the late 1900s or early 1910s, said University Archivist April Anderson.

The "he" in the motto refers to the Clerk, a sympathetic character who is poor and malnourished but obsessed with reading, books, and learning. It's a fitting motto for Illinois State, founded as a teacher's college, but it wasn't really Chaucer's invention. Similar expressions are found in literature dating back centuries before *Canterbury Tales*.

"In many other places, there are looming literary and philosophical figures who are saying similar things before Chaucer did," said Susan Kim, associate professor of English at Illinois State and a medievalist. (That means she can actually read aloud Middle English, which is challenging.)

The motto was first changed around 1957—Illinois State Normal University's centennial—when a new seal was introduced, cutting out the Middle English to make it easier to spell, read and pronounce.

That version ("And gladly would

he learn and gladly teach") lasted until 1992, when Illinois State President Thomas Wallace introduced a redesigned seal with the new motto, "Gladly we learn and teach."

It was a dramatic shift, and just the tip of the iceberg. That new seal was part of a larger set of recommendations from a New York-based consulting firm hired by Wallace to study Illinois State's image and identity. Wallace was trying to shift Illinois State's campus culture to focus more on private fundraising and marketing as state support fell.

"In the 1990s, some people at ISU were just continuing to pretend that the state was going to wake up and give us all this money," said Wallace, now retired and living in Florida. "For any institution, in its history there comes a time when you really have to make that transition."

At the time, Illinois State's reputation was not as good as it is today—more "I Screwed Up (ISU)" references and fewer national rankings. "You had to be very clear about who you are and what you stand for" if people were going to understand the value of Illinois State, said Curt Carlson. He was a key figure



GLADLY *we* LEARN...

—AND—

TEACH

in the identity study as the director of University Relations.

The new seal was graphically redesigned, shortening the motto and making it “bolder” and easier to reproduce on printed publications, Carlson said. To broaden its appeal, “he” became “we.”

Carlson knew there would be pushback and controversy when the new seal and motto were unveiled. During one meeting, a department chair suggested (only half-joking) that the new motto should be changed to “Gladly would we learn, and gladly would we market.”

“This was a time when the word ‘marketing’ was still a very uncomfortable word in higher education,” said Carlson, who left Illinois State in 1994 and is now retired.

Chief among the opponents was Distinguished Professor of English Rodger Tarr. His students wrote a letter to *The Vidette* and to Wallace, defending the Chaucer line and denying the motto was sexist. After all, Chaucer was referring to a specific character—the Clerk—not making some generic reference.

“No sexism was intended or implied, nor could any educated human being infer such,” Tarr said.

He also objected to another abandoned recommendation that the motto’s wording be flipped—“And gladly we teach and learn”—because it was a better visual sequence. That never happened.

“Dopes! The whole point of Chaucer’s sequence is that one ‘learns’ first and then ‘teaches,’” Tarr said. He was interviewed on NPR, and even the *Chicago Tribune* covered the controversy. *The Vidette*’s news editor penned a lengthy column with a hyperbolic headline: “An English major’s nightmare.”

“The credit goes to a host of caring students who were wise enough to understand that any change in the motto—in my judgment the finest motto

a university could adopt—would alter forever the intellectual history of Illinois State University,” Tarr said in an email. “I will forever be proud of these students for their courage and for their wisdom.”

There wasn’t much pressure from female students or faculty to make the change, Wallace said. And the Middle English spelling was already long gone.

“As I recall, nobody other than the English faculty knew that the original motto came from Chaucer anyway,” Wallace said. “We were using the idea. We weren’t using it for a literary magazine.”

President Emeritus David Strand, who was vice president for Academic Affairs and provost in 1992, supported the seal and motto change.

“As provost, I was attempting to bring more diversity to the University through the student body and faculty and staff,” Strand said. The gender-neutral motto was a helpful improvement since some people viewed the existing wording as a deterrent to enhancing diversity, he said.

In reality, the motto controversy was just a sideshow, part of a larger pushback against Wallace and the way he ran the University, said Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus and campus historian John Freed. Wallace later resigned in 1995 under pressure—his tenure among the most pivotal and controversial in ISU history.

“That change in motto became a symbol of Wallace’s autocratic, high-handed way of doing things,” Freed said. “It was one more way for people to beat up on him.”

Even the identity study’s \$70,000 price tag led to criticism of Wallace in the media.

“I expected that,” Wallace said. “Money hadn’t been spent on these kinds of things at Illinois State.”

So did it work? Did “Gladly we learn and teach” single-handedly improve Illinois State’s reputation? Did five little

words, for example, lead to Illinois State’s consecutive record fundraising years in 2014 and 2015?

Obviously not. But taken together with other changes made at the same time, Illinois State’s identity has grown clearer in recent years. Now a Top 100 public university, ISU’s “STATE Your Passion” slogan can be spotted on T-shirts and billboards around campus and across the state. Even the award-winning magazine you’re now reading traces its roots to that controversial \$70,000 study.

“It was a first step and an important step to establish ourselves with more prominence and respectability within the state and nation,” said Strand, who succeeded Wallace as president.

That may not do much for McGreevy and some of the other alumni still annoyed by the change. Lucky for them, the old mottos still loom large at Illinois State—literally. Inside Illinois State’s primary administrative building, Hovey Hall, a way-finding sign still uses Chaucer’s Middle English motto.

A giant stained glass seal hangs inside the main floor of Milner, with the “Gladly would he learn...” motto. The call signs for Illinois State’s public radio station, WGLT, reference the motto too.

“I just thought the original was an extremely appropriate motto for ISU,” McGreevy said. “And Illinois State is still at the forefront of graduating teachers.”

More changes are coming: This fall, Illinois State’s new mobile application unveiled a brand-new, limited-use version of the seal—with no words or motto at all. They’re too hard to read on small phones and devices, which shrinks everything down to fit in the palm of your hand.

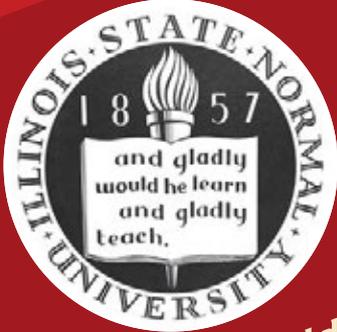
If Chaucer had only known about iPhones, maybe he would’ve trimmed back the line himself.

MOTTO MATTER

A QUICK LOOK AT HOW ILLINOIS STATE'S MOTTO HAS CHANGED THROUGH THE YEARS:



And gladly wolde he lerne and gladly teche (early 1900s-1957)



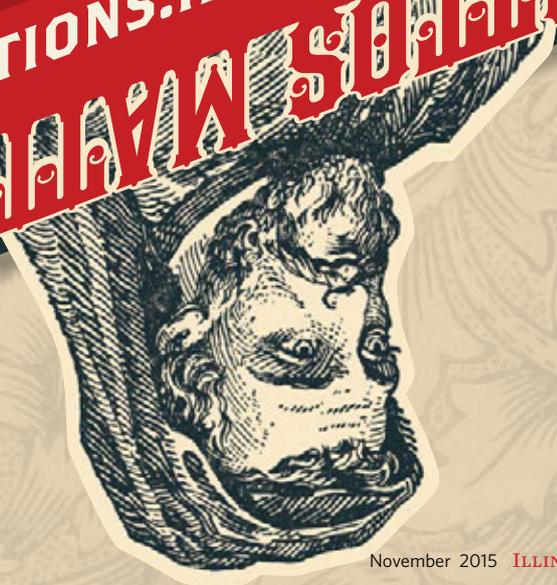
And gladly would he learn and gladly teach (1957-1992)
Altered after name change in 1964



Gladly we learn and teach (1993-today)

LEARN MORE AT TRADITIONS.ILLINOISSTATE.EDU

TRADITIONS



Evidence OF excellence

The campus community gathers at the start of each academic year for a State of the University address. This year's event provided many reminders of why it is an exciting time to be a Redbird.

President Larry Dietz noted that Illinois State is ranked among the nation's 100 best public universities and boasts a graduation rate among the top 10 percent of all universities in the country. The retention rate for freshmen is higher than the national average, as is the student loan repayment rate of graduates. The earning power of alumni

THERE IS A REAL SENSE OF PRIDE AND CONFIDENCE IN THE DIRECTION WE ARE HEADED.

places ISU as one of the best values in public higher education. The small-campus atmosphere is maintained along with academic standards that continue to make the University a first-choice institution.

While each ranking and external endorsement is cause for celebration, there is an additional statistic from this past year that especially stands as evidence that others recognize ISU's excellence: The University set a record for private fundraising for the second consecutive year, nearly doubling the total from the previous high.

A total of \$36.8 million in total productivity was recorded, with funds received as cash, pledges, estates and gifts-in-kind. The number of alumni supporting the University also increased, with 1,190 first-time donors. Private dollars primarily support student scholarships and academic programs. They also stand as a statement that Illinois State's purpose and plan are appreciated.

"This year's record gift total shows that a great many people believe deeply in the University's mission and are willing to invest in its future," Dietz said. The total resulted from a growing base of alumni supporters who gave at all levels, and a surge in large planned gifts during the fiscal

year that ended June 30. A total of \$25.5 million in planned gift commitments shattered the previous record of \$19.5 million.

"That shows how people feel about their Illinois State experience. That elevates us to a family member status," said University Advancement Vice President Pat Vickerman.

"There's a real sense of pride and confidence in the direction we are headed," he said, noting that such significant private support empowers the University to move forward despite uncertainty about future levels of state support.

"That's what private gift support can do—create that stability and foundation for student and programmatic support," Vickerman said. "It's not meant to replace state support, but it can help us enhance the teaching and learning environment."

President Dietz agreed.

"Financial support from alumni, corporate partners, and campus stakeholders is a key element of Illinois State's ongoing success. Private gifts help enhance campus facilities, develop academic programs and provide student scholarships," Dietz said. "Thanks to their generosity, Illinois State has a very bright future."

There are myriad examples of just how Redbirds are empowered to pursue their passion because individuals invest in the University. Three stories shared here reinforce the fact that every donation—regardless of size—impacts a program or a person in ways unimagined.



WORLD'S Educating Illinois

2013-2014



Everything COUNTS

BY STEVEN BARCUS

March 14 marks a special day for math enthusiasts. The date, Pi Day, corresponds to the first three digits of pi, an infinite number denoting the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. This year's Pi Day had extra significance at Illinois State, not just because the year allowed the day to be celebrated to its fourth decimal place (3/14/15), but because it marked the awarding of the first two Lee Ann Murray Everything Counts Scholarships.

Encouraged by her uncle, Bill Murray '81, Lee Ann Murray '12 followed her love of math to ISU's actuarial science sequence. She immersed herself in activities, joining the Honors Program, serving as vice president in Toastmasters, and holding memberships in the Actuarial Club and Alpha Iota Sigma.

"Math people were her kind of people," Bill said. "She really thrived in that kind of environment."

Lee Ann's bright personality and success in the classroom earned her a job offer months before graduation. She accepted a position with Mercer and relocated to Louisville, Kentucky,

"She was going to go out into the world," Bill said. "She

alumni donors. The recipients' names were read at exactly 9:26:53 a.m., making the event a nod to pi down to the 10th digit.

Nicole McArdle and Na-On Weeraklaew were grateful for the support. They were also humbled knowing Lee Ann was a fellow actuarial science program student.

"I do really appreciate the scholarship and love that it's an 'everything counts' scholarship," said Nicole, a senior. "She loved math. She loved her job. And she was just happy with life. I think that means more, and that's why this scholarship stands out to me."

Na-On, a junior, noted that receiving the scholarship provided validation of extra work she put into studying, passing exams, and her involvement in ISU's Actuarial Club.

Lee Ann's family originally planned to raise the \$25,000 needed for a fully endowed scholarship over a few years. They met that goal in around two months. Gifts continued to come in, so they funded a second award. That fund met the financial goal later on Pi Day at an Oak Forest fundraiser.

IT WAS A WAY TO BRING SOME GOOD OUT OF A BAD SITUATION...WE JUST NEEDED TO DO SOMETHING.

started to create a new life for herself."

Unfortunately, Lee Ann was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma and passed away in September 2014 due to treatment complications. Relatives explored ways to honor her memory, opting to create an ISU scholarship in her name to benefit an actuarial science student.

"She loved math and the actuarial science program. She thrived in it. It prepared her for the future, although it was a short one," Bill said. "We just wanted her memory to live on and maybe inspire others who were a part of that program."

The first two scholarship recipients were announced on Pi Day, a favorite day of Lee Ann. Her family, friends, and actuarial science program faculty gathered for coffee, and of course, pie. Funding for a second recipient was supplemented through actuarial program

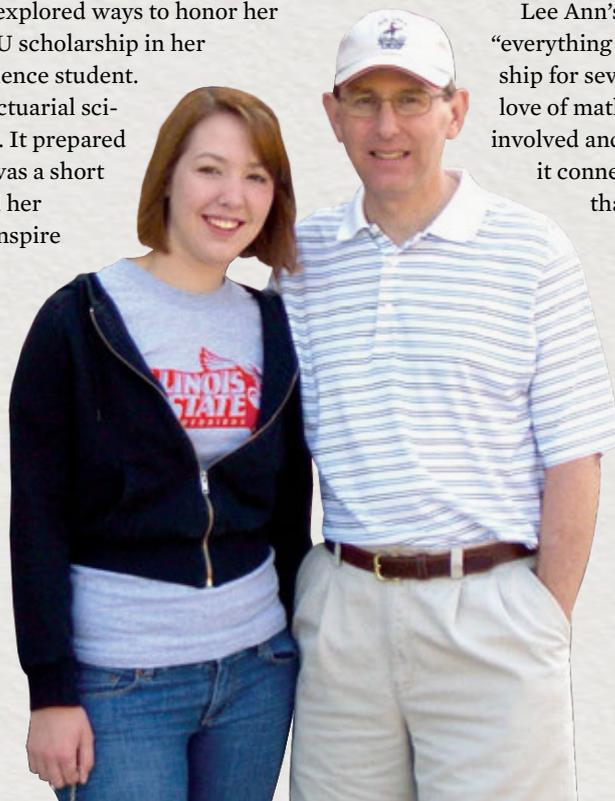
"We wanted to raise enough money so that it would be meaningful and kids would want to apply for the scholarship,"

Bill said. "It's exceeded our expectations at this point."

Lee Ann's family was inspired to include "everything counts" in the title of the scholarship for several reasons. It hails to Lee Ann's love of math. It encourages donors to become involved and make a gift no matter the size. And it connects to a parable from Matthew 25 that was shared at Lee Ann's funeral.

The scriptures are a reminder that everything we do and don't do in our lives matters and adds up at the end. Everything counts.

"It was a way to bring some good out of a bad situation," Bill said. "We just needed to do something. We were all grieving during the process. We wanted to do something in her memory that would maybe inspire other kids who were going through the program."



Lee Ann and her uncle Bill.

Sowing AN EDUCATIONAL SEED

BY RYAN DENHAM

Sophomore Daniel Jackson wants to be the best teacher he can be, so he chose Illinois State University.

Growing up in the Englewood neighborhood on Chicago's south side, Jackson saw firsthand the need for passionate teachers in Chicago Public Schools. But to reach his ultimate goal, Jackson needed help. That's where Illinois State's Black Colleagues Association (BCA) made the difference.

Last fall as a freshman, Jackson was awarded the Judge

JACKSON SAW FIRSTHAND THE NEED FOR PASSIONATE TEACHERS IN CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Russell DeBow Scholarship. It's one of several scholarships offered by the BCA each year.

"Not only have they helped me out, they sowed a seed in me. This seed I can sow in many others," said Jackson, an elementary education major. "Without good teachers, we don't have good people."

Jackson, a first-generation college student, wasted no time getting involved at ISU. He's on the Golden Apple Scholars executive board, was part of the Student Government Association's Emerging Leaders Program, and is a member of the Interdenominational Youth Choir. He's now enjoying Student Affairs work as a resident assistant.

"I have had a wonderful opportunity working with freshmen and transfer students. My residents help keep the smile on my face," he said, noting that the BCA scholarship allows him the time for such opportunities. "Without the BCA, there would not be a Daniel Jackson at ISU."

Jackson is making campus contacts and connections. During his first semester, he built a strong relationship with his Dimensions of Numerical Reasoning instructor, Nicole Enzinger, Ph.D. '15. "DJ," as she calls him, always came to class dressed professionally with his trademark bowtie, then would stay after class or visit her office hours to talk about education topics.

One topic of conversation was Jackson's passion for the Chicago Public Schools system, where he hopes to return as a teacher. "Teaching is a passion that I won't quit. I can't wait to see what my future holds. "

He learned the value of service at a young age and anticipates bringing that commitment to service back to Chicago schools—which he is convinced needs an infusion of well-trained, passionate educators.

"That's a gap that I need to fill. I want to give the community something I did not have," Jackson said.

Increasing the diversity of educators is critically important, said Enzinger, who taught Jackson in the Department of Mathematics.

"We need teachers of all kinds," she said. "Organizations like the Black Colleagues Association are recognizing Daniel and encouraging him so he can fulfill his dreams of being a teacher—and then who knows what. I just think they're so imperative."

The Black Colleagues Association is an affinity network of the University's Alumni Association. In addition to the scholarship program, BCA offers social outings, professional networking events, educational opportunities, and other programs.

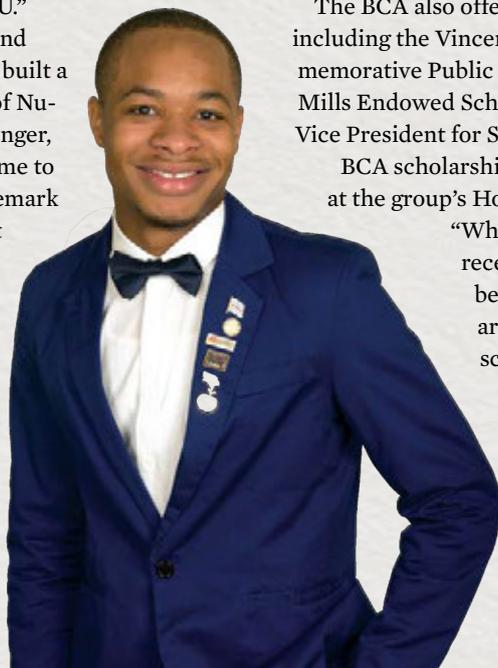
Members are also dedicated to continuing the organization's scholarships for students like Jackson. He received the Judge Russell DeBow Scholarship in part because of his community service, high GPA, student involvement, and financial need. That scholarship is named for Judge Russell DeBow '35, one of the charter members of BCA who was instrumental in writing the original constitution and bylaws in 1994.

I WANT TO GIVE THE COMMUNITY SOMETHING I DID NOT HAVE.

The BCA also offers several other awards for students, including the Vincent Lionel Davis Scholarship, the Commemorative Public Service Scholarship, the Lewis and Mills Endowed Scholarship, and the President's Office and Vice President for Student Affairs textbook scholarships.

BCA scholarship recipients are recognized every year at the group's Homecoming event.

"When I see the students we've selected to receive a scholarship, it's very rewarding because you see how appreciative they are," said Eyvonna Hemphill '80, BCA scholarship chairperson. "You see how hard they're working to achieve their aspirations, and that's the crux of why we do what we do—to help students achieve their dreams."



Bridging A HEALTHCARE GAP

BY KEVIN BERSETT

Several studies have shown that poor communication among health care workers has hurt patients, resulting in deaths in some cases. Illinois State is trying to fix the problem by bridging the communication gap before students enter their health care professions.

The Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) and Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders started an innovative pilot project last academic year that brought together Honors students in nursing and speech-language pathology (SLP).

WE WANT TO CHANGE THE WAY THAT WE TEACH, TRAIN, AND PRACTICE IN BOTH FIELDS.

The project's 16 students, split evenly between the two disciplines, learned general medical terminology and about each other's scope of practice in class. More importantly, they participated in several assignments together in which they assessed

simulated patients with language, swallowing, or cognitive disorders.

"This is us assessing the patient and not just observing them," said Allie Ricks, a senior SLP student. "I wish everyone could go through this experience."

The project was designed and implemented by Nursing Assistant Professor Charlene Aaron '06, who collaborated with Assistant Professor Jennine Harvey-Northrop and Clinical Supervisor Rene McClure, both of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

The three note that health care specialists—nurses, doctors, speech-language pathologists—work in silos. They don't always know how to communicate with one another due to different terminology, a lack of understanding the other professions, or work constraints.

There is an absence of literature on interdisciplinary education between nurses and speech pathologists, making Illinois State's program unique. The project measures students' collaborative learning through simulations, as opposed to





just telling students about the communication problems through a lecture.

“We want to change the way that we teach, train, and practice in both fields,” Harvey-Northrop said.

Students participated in the final patient exercises at MCN’s Simulation Laboratory. The patients were played by volunteers, many of whom are former nurses, friends, and MCN alums.

YOU DON’T REALIZE HOW MUCH EXPERIENCE IS WORTH UNTIL YOU HAVE IT.

In one case, two nursing students and an SLP student worked with a traumatic brain injury patient. The students were given the case study, planned how they would assess the individual, and then had to immediately ask him about the problems he faced.

“Can’t run. Can’t work. Can’t talk. Don’t sleep very well,” he said. “That’s the A list.”

The professors purposely have the actors be blunt or overbearing at times to create a realistic experience. It can be a pressure-packed, awkward 20 minutes for the inexperienced students. There are also cringeworthy moments for the professors, who monitor the students from a bank of televisions.

The class is also instructive for the SLP stu-

dents who don’t otherwise get hands-on training with patients in their undergraduate studies. They learn simple things such as how to introduce themselves to patients or ask nurses for the patient’s vital signs.

“You don’t realize how much experience is worth until you have it,” said junior SLP student Hannah Sons. Nursing sophomore Abby House appreciated learning more about speech-language pathologists. “It’s nice to have a class with people with different perspectives,” she said.

After the simulations, the professors and students review the exercise, with faculty asking questions to encourage students to examine their performance.

“It’s learning outside the classroom,” Aaron said.

The project was made possible by a gift from former state Sen. John Maitland Jr. and his wife, Joanne. John has been a long-term patient of the SLP program, and both have been longtime MCN supporters.

Joanne, who served on the University’s Board of Trustees, said the couple was very enthused to support such an exciting and new opportunity.

The professors hope the project will eventually become part of the regular curriculum. They are conducting research on the class for an academic paper and presentations and want to develop a model course that can be copied by other universities.

“We hope it will result in better outcomes for our patients,” Aaron said.

Betty Wager '48 volunteered to serve as the patient during an exercise in the Simulation Laboratory. Communication Sciences and Disorders student Danielle Beram, left, partnered with MCN student Kristyn Bossle in the examination. They were observed, opposite page from left, by MCN Assistant Professor Sheri Kelly and project donors, Joanne and John Maitland Jr.

Alumni Donors

11,899

The number of alumni giving to ISU increased by nearly 1,500. Annual Giving programs such as Giving Tuesday successfully shared the message of philanthropy with alumni via social media. In total, 1,190 alumni made their first gift to ISU.

Each GIFT STEMS FROM AN INTEREST IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE HERE AT ILLINOIS STATE. EVERYONE HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE AN *impact*.

Onward and Upward

ISU's mission to gladly learn and teach has not waived. With the bolstering of donor dollars, the University's pledge to preserve the personalized and comprehensive educational experience Illinois State provides is firmly in place.

The stories of Lee Ann, Daniel and Honors students collaborating across disciplines exemplify the personal impact of every donated dollar. Their academic opportunities stand as evidence that private support fuels faculty and students in their scholarly pursuits.

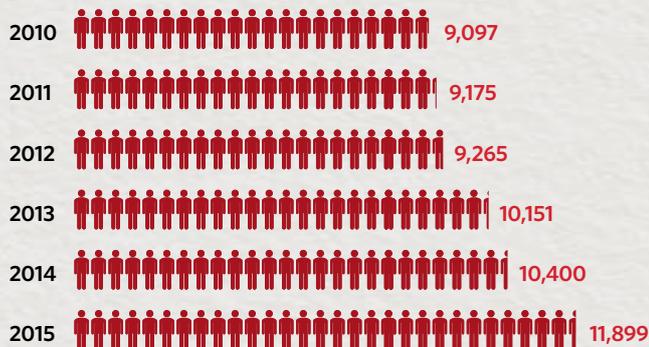
"Those who invest in Illinois State ensure we're in the strongest possible position to provide an outstanding academic experience for our students," said Ann Baughan, MBA '83, chair of the ISU Foundation Board of Directors. The board is dedicated to securing and stewarding private gifts that benefit the University.

"Two straight years of record-breaking private support show that our alumni and friends believe in our University's leadership team and the direction set forth in our strategic plan, *Educating Illinois*," Baughan said.

Looking at the totality of investments made during the past fiscal year, an amazing story unfolds. Statistics emphasize the fact every gift matters. Each is certainly appreciated.

"We are so grateful for the generous support from ISU alumni and friends. All gifts matter. Many of our most generous donors started by making \$5 or \$10 gifts," University Advancement Vice President Pat Vickerman said. "Each gift stems from an interest in making a difference in the lives of people here at Illinois State. Everyone has an opportunity to have an impact."

Number OF ALUMNI DONORS



4 ways TO INVEST IN YOUR PASSION TODAY

-  1. **VISIT** IllinoisState.edu/Giving
-  2. **CALL** (309) 438-8041
-  3. **EMAIL** jdhutch@IllinoisState.edu
-  4. **MAIL** the enclosed envelope

Total Fundraising

\$36.8M

For the second consecutive year, Illinois State has broken its private fundraising record. Planned giving surged as Redbird alumni and friends contributed as never before. The fundraising effort is a key element in the University's ongoing success.



\$25.5M

Planned GIFTS

A record within a record, this year's planned (deferred) giving totals surpassed previous years. ISU now has more than \$66M in planned gifts documented to benefit future students, faculty, programs, and facilities.



\$101.8M

Endowment ASSETS

The endowment consists of funds and other financial assets donated to the University. The Foundation Board of Directors helps manage these investments to ensure the long-term impact across campus.



\$3.7M

Gifts DISBURSED TO THE UNIVERSITY

The ultimate goal in fundraising is to support ISU's students, faculty, and programs. Endowment dollars fuel the passion of students through scholarships. Funds are always distributed as designated by donors.



1,876

Scholarships AWARDED

The number of scholarships awarded nearly doubled from last year's total of 986. These dollars enable students to achieve their goal of earning a degree from Illinois State and joining the ranks of our 200,000 Redbird alumni.

Foundation

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The University benefits from individuals who give of their time as well as their finances. Members of the Foundation Board of Directors are especially instrumental in providing their expertise to solicit and secure funds. They also work to maximize each private investment.

The Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that manages gifts to the University. These dollars support many student scholarships, professorships, research, and other opportunities for Illinois State students.

Not only does the board oversee the portfolio investments of the Foundation's endowment, but it also is in charge of distributing dollars to fulfill the wishes of our loyal alumni and friends who support the University. The Foundation ensures that money given to Illinois State is used as the donor intended and is consistent with the University's mission.

Ann Baughan, MBA '83; chair
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Loving Greek life

Graduates share multitude of happy memories

Alumni active in fraternities or sororities reached out in response to the August issue of *Illinois State* (“What it means to be Greek at ISU”). In addition to stories of treasured memories and lifelong friendships, members shared information that corrects the timeline of Greek life on campus.

Tau Kappa Epsilon was not the only fraternity to form in 1969, as Lambda Chi Alpha was established that same year. And while Alpha Delta Pi existed in 1973, it was Delta Zeta that secured the first national women’s sorority charter at ISU. The group organized that academic year.

Dale Sutter ’61 has memories that go back even further to when ISU was

against fraternities and sororities. That stance changed in 1969, more than a decade after Sutter pledged the Kappa Lambda Chapter of the Blackfriar Fraternity.

“The chapter on campus had been established during 1934,” Sutter said, explaining it was allowed because activities contributed to the educational experience. “Each year we would present a stage play in Capen Auditorium.”

The men also performed at a weekly mandatory assembly and created the Blackfriar Band featured in Homecoming parades. Sutter, *above* in Capen, was drafted in 1956. He returned from the Army in 1958. By then members had a house known as the Blackfriar Co-op, where he lived.

“There were 14 guys living there and two bathrooms. Since it was a cooperative, we all had jobs to do,” Sutter recalled. “This added to the overall learning experience. It also provided many lifelong friends.”

An industrial education graduate, Sutter went on to a successful banking career. He credits the fraternity experience for increasing his confidence and skills.

“I am proud to be a graduate of Illinois State University. I am really happy to have had the opportunity to become a Blackfriar and value all the experiences during my college days that shaped my life.”

Do you have a story from your fraternity/sorority life? Share it at Alumni. IllinoisState.edu/Greek.

Alumni News

Loyal Redbird couple Homecoming royalty

This year's Homecoming was meaningful for Diane (Curtis) and Gene Jontry, who were alumni king and queen. Both came to ISU with a desire to teach.

Diane '66 studied business teacher education and worked with students in Chenoa schools. Gene '58 studied physical education and was a student-athlete on the basketball team. He served as a Central Illinois educator, coach, principal and regional superintendent for 45 years.

From roles in Senior Professionals and Athletics to the Alumni Association and the Foundation board, it's impossible to miss how the Jontrys have proven their passion for Illinois State.

They are also loyal supporters of the College of Education (COE), College of Business and Athletics. Gene is an inductee in COE's Hall of Fame and Athletics Percy Family Hall of Fame. He received the Senator John W. Maitland Jr. Commitment to Education Award. He and Diane are members of the 1857 Society and President's Circle.

Email forwarding service provided to recent grads

Are you a recent Illinois State graduate? Are you aware that your university email account is discontinued six months after your graduation date? If you are approaching this cutoff point, there is no need to worry.

Illinois State offers an alumni email forwarding service that will automatically send all emails received to your ISU account on to your current address. This allows you to keep the same email address, no matter how often you may change providers.

To learn more visit Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/services/email. Remember to keep Illinois State updated with your current information by visiting Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/update.



From the archives

The School of Music initiated Madrigal Dinners in 1955. The cultural event became the longest running collegiate-level madrigal dinner in Illinois and the second oldest event of its kind in the nation. The tradition evolved over time, as evident from the photo taken the first year, *above*, and one from a 2008 performance. This year's 60th anniversary season will be the last. Performances run December 11-13, with Madrigal Alumni Night on the 12th. For more information or to order tickets, call (309) 438-2535.



Amazing endeavor

Alum turns family homestead into tourist attraction

Agriculture alum Ryan Richardson '03 helped spread Blackhawks fever by creating a 28-acre corn maze that featured the team logo and words “Champions 2015” following the team’s Stanley Cup win.

It was the latest stunning maze design that’s helped put Richardson Adventure Farm on the map in Spring Grove, near the Wisconsin border. The family business dates back to 1840. The sixth generation to work on the homestead, Richardson is one of five partners along with his father George, uncle Robert, and their wives Wendy and Carol.

As the ag industry changed and land prices skyrocketed, the family

expanded into agritourism. In 1981 they added a cut-your-own Christmas tree farm, which now has 100,000 trees in the ground. Richardson’s uncle got them into the corn maze game in 2001.

The farm claims to have one of the world’s largest mazes—a huge tourist draw during the fall season that runs from Labor Day to Halloween, followed by the Christmas tree season.

Idaho-based Maze Play helped design and create the maze. Past designs have been tributes to the military, Beatles and Chicago Bears. While it only takes a few days to finish, significant planning is required.

Corn must be planted a certain way, cut it at the right time and paths wid-

ened. Four smaller mazes connect to create the complete design, which is its own challenge. This year’s design involved getting permission to use the team logo.

“The Blackhawks have been wonderful to work with. In recent years the Hawks have gained so much momentum. They’ve become very, very popular around here,” said Richardson, who credits ISU for preparing him well.

He focused on agriculture industry management, which gave him the skills to navigate the unique aspects of agritourism—including permits, regulations, attorneys, construction and contractors.

“My degree has really come in handy,” he said. “There are lots of things that come into play every day.”

1960s

Betty J. (Haake) Hogan '69 retired after 24 years at St. Louis Community College. She ended her career as an academic advisor, a position she held for 17 years. She and her husband, Patrick, reside in Manchester, Missouri.

Marjorie (Duff) Oltman '69, M.S. '72, retired as a fourth grade teacher at Dee-Mack School District 701. She resides in Morton.

1970s

Donna (Mankey) Reed '70 completed more than 30 years as a speech/language pathologist with Champaign schools. She has authored *My Voice*, which is a collection of personal essays. She resides in Champaign.

Gladys Lyles-Gray, M.S. '71, has retired from teaching sociology at Alabama State University and Tuskegee University. She and her husband, Allen, reside in Tuskegee, Alabama.

Charlotte (Derwin) Schiller '71 retired as the music director for the Archdiocese of Chicago. She and her husband, Michael, reside in Huntley.

Dennis Bowman '72, M.A. '90, retired but continues as a part-time clinical and instructional professor at Illinois State University. He and his wife, Lynn, reside in Washington.

John Carl '72 is semi-retired, working as a service agent with Enterprise Rental Cars. He completed nearly 25 years in education and 20 years in the private sector. His wife, **Ronda (Forbes) '73**, is a pre-school teacher at Toddlers Campus in Wheaton. They reside in Glendale Heights.

Barbara (Hjelm) Turnbaugh '72 retired after teaching special education in Elgin Unit District 46. She and her husband, Thomas, reside in West Dundee.

Earl Woods '72, M.S. '79, works in mission assurance analysis with Northrup Grumman. He resides in Harbor City, California.

Steven Burgauer '73, M.S. '74, is an author who has published his 10th science-fiction novel, *Skullcap*. He also authored *The Road to War: Duty and Drill, Courage and Capture*, which is based on the memoirs of a WWII soldier's landing on D-Day. His wife is **Debra (Laaker) '74, Ph.D. '04**. They reside in Florida.

Fred Foley '73 is a realtor who resides in Tempe, Arizona.

Mary Fritsch-Derrick '73 is director of LegalShield Independent Associate. She resides in Camarillo, California.

Betty (Ransford) Panarella '73 is senior vice president of human resources for Asset International. She is also president of Marron LLC, which provides human resources consulting and mediation. She and her husband, Vincent, reside in New York City, New York.

Brenda (Davis) Hunt '74 has retired from secondary teaching and as CEO of Safe Child International, a nonprofit that protects children from sexual abuse and helps survivors heal. She also retired from her photography business, As Eye See It, and the nonprofit gospel outreach Hope and Peace 4 U. She resides in Woodhull.

Marylee (Swain) Battaglia '75, retired after 28 years in education. She spent 25 years in the Kansas City public school system, working as an administrator in early childhood, a literacy coach and teacher. She and her husband, Russ, reside in Basehor, Kansas.

Michael Brady '75 retired as a MetLife underwriting consultant II at COUNTRY Financial, where he worked for 31 years. He and his wife, Brenda, reside in Normal.

Craig Clark '75 is a self-employed manufacturing representative. He and his wife, Carole, reside in Montgomery.

Tom Luscombe '75 owns a State Farm Insurance Companies agency. He and his wife, Jane, reside in Frankfort.

John Mackowiak '75 is president of Bomack Capital. He and his wife, Barb, reside in Frankfort.

Pause for applause



Talent and a Tony

Known for his roles in *Road to Perdition* and *13 Going on 30*, **Ian Barford '93** is now performing in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*. Barford is the father in the Broadway play that dominated this year's Tonys. It captured five awards, including new play. The show continues at the Ethel Barrymore Theater. Barford studied drama at ISU. He interned with the Steppenwolf Theatre Company in 1988 and became an ensemble member in 2007. He is a recipient of the National Theatre Conference/Steppenwolf Theatre 'Most Promising Artist' award. He has been in many films and TV shows.



Beyond a book's cover

Elementary education major **Amy (Brophy) Laughlin '98** headed west when she learned California had 25,000 positions to fill. She began teaching language arts and is now a grade school reading intervention teacher. Her success has been noticed, as Laughlin was chosen as the 2015 California Teacher of the Year. She credits ISU's yearlong Professional Development School for preparing her to open doors for her students. "For me, teaching someone to read is literally magic," she said. "I have to help them learn to read because their future depends on it."



Curtain call in Cuba

With more than 30 years working on Broadway, **Thom Schilling '79** was ready for a new adventure. He found it by working this year to create the first fully produced Broadway musical in Cuba in close to five decades. *RENT* was staged as a cultural exchange between Nederlander Worldwide Entertainment, where Schilling is a general manager and executive producer, and The Consejo des Artes Escenicas in Havana. He described it as the most challenging of all foreign productions he has attempted, due in part to Cuba's limited resources. He also deemed it "perhaps the most rewarding of any theatrical undertaking in which I have participated."



Fostering theatre's future

Acting alumna **Gretchen Wingerter '92** received the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Gold Medallion for her contributions to teaching and producing college theater. One of the great honors in theatre education, the award is among the most prestigious given by the organization. Wingerter received a master's of fine arts from the University of Idaho and became an instructor of theater at Bowling Green State University—Firelands in 2012. She is credited with creating the 24-Hour Theatre Festival. The event tests creativity by requiring students to write, rehearse, and perform original short plays within 24 hours.

How we met

Rich Eckert never imagined that accepting a position at Illinois State would lead him to the love of his life.

He was studying in Pennsylvania when a job offer came from ISU Athletics in 2010. He relocated to Normal for the opportunity, focused on the job and completing his graduate work. He earned a master's in sport management in 2012.

It was through the Athletics program that Rich met his future bride, Ashley Kuhlmann '06. She studied to be a physical education teacher. Ashley continued living in Normal while teaching health and PE at Pekin Community High School.

Mutual friends brought the two together for an ISU home football game in September 2010. Afterwards the group went to the Pub II, where Rich and Ashley were formally introduced. They had an instant attraction to each other and stayed in contact, continuing to attend numerous campus athletic events with friends. By December, the two were officially dating.

Rich and Ashley were engaged in April 2013. The rehearsal dinner was held at the Pub II, where they celebrated over pizza, cheese balls, and beers with the friends who had brought them together. The group took photos on campus and all around town. Those same Redbird friends were at the wedding in June 2014.

Rich and Ashley now work at Marian University in Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin, where they reside. He is the associate athletic director for external relations, while she serves as coordinator of special events in the advancement area.

The two continue to hold fond memories of their days at ISU. They especially appreciate Cindy Harris '84, who made the job offer to Rich. She is their cupid who brought him to Illinois State, which is the only way the two would have met and married. Their Redbird romance is especially sweet for Ashley's parents, who also found each other at ISU. Jennifer (Schone) and Ron Kuhlmann, both 1977 alums and shown above, married as undergraduates.



Sandra (Weaver) Updike '77 retired from Rantoul City Schools after 34 years of teaching. She and her husband, Thomas, reside in Loda.

Kathy (Touchette) Fern '78 completed a master's in health services at Washington University. She is director of alumni relations at Ranken Technical College in St. Louis. She and her husband are the parents of an adult daughter and reside in Columbia.

David Jerbi '78 retired after 37 years in education, with 30 at Prospect High School. He was the physical education area assistant and athletic trainer. He and his wife, Laura, reside in Wheeling.

Roger Lipera, M.S. '78, retired from the University at Albany SUNY University Library, where he had been a training specialist for 14 years. He retains his own Web design and consulting business. He and his wife, Anita, reside in Albany, New York.

Jack Pierce '78 retired after 35 years as an audit and risk management executive in the financial services industry. He is a consultant for his

son's business in Hong Kong. He and his wife, **Linda (Mesner) '80**, have two children and reside in Simi Valley, California.

Earl McCoy '79 is the director of operations at R.R. Donnelley. He and his wife, Gail, reside in Dwight.

1980s

Lori (Ahrens) Jensen '80 is a pre-school teacher at Bright Horizons. She and her husband, Kevin, reside in Woodridge.

Kathy Bellott, M.S. '81, has retired after teaching for 38 years in Streator, Wenona, Peoria and Bloomington. She resides in Normal.

Scott Burmeister '81 is the senior director of risk and compliance with J.J. Keller and Associates, Inc. He resides in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Kellie O'Brien '81 works in sales training operations with Baxter Healthcare Corporation. She resides in Cary.

Denise (Moring) Plock '81 retired after 34 years of teaching education for Freeport School District 145. She and her husband, Ron, have three children and one grandchild. The couple resides in German Valley.

Derry Behm '82 is chief financial officer and managing director of AArete, LLC. He and his wife, Melissa, reside in Chicago.

Julie Harte '82 is director of the Somonauk Public Library District. She resides in Sandwich.

Vicki Johnson '82 completed a master's degree in educational counseling through the University of Phoenix. She is the director of federal programs with Blackfoot School District 55 in Pocatello, Idaho.

Maureen O'Leary '82 is a substitute coordinator for Deerfield High School. She resides in Lake Bluff.

Daniel DuBravec '83 is a senior consultant with LMI, Tysons. He authored an article in the *Journal of AHIMA* on the threats to privacy of K-12 students through their

education records. He resides in Sterling, Virginia.

Karin (Howells) Kelleher '83 is a professional violinist with years of experience working in classical orchestras and ensembles. She and her husband, **Mike '89**, have released an album titled *Melange*, which blends jazz and classical genres. They reside in Bethesda, Maryland.

Debra (Heuck) Honegger '84, M.S. '91, is employed in Illinois State University's Regional Office of Education. She and her husband, Darren, reside in Bloomington.

Patricia (Meltzer) Maree '84 is a teacher at Wee Warriors Christian Academy. She resides in Tuscola.

Patti (Mika) Bruno '85, M.S. '87, owns a gourmet Italian deli and café in Barrington. Frantonio's has existed for 20 years and is known for its homemade sausages, mozzarella and noodles. She and her husband, Frank, reside in Lake Zurich.

John Crowley '85 is a machine marketer at Caterpillar, Inc. He and his wife, Christine, have two children

and have celebrated 25 years of marriage. They reside in Peoria.

Esau Formusoh '85 is owner and staff entomologist for EcoPest Services, LLC. He and his wife, Florence, reside in Grandview, Missouri.

Gregory Godsil '85 is the North American business account manager for Glanbia Ingredients Ireland, which is Ireland's largest dairy cooperative. He and his wife, Joyce Baird, reside in Downers Grove.

Julie O'Keefe '85 completed her juris doctorate at St. Louis University. She is an attorney with Armstrong Teasdale with an expertise in environmental issues. She was featured in the 2015 edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*. She resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Marty Saucier '85 is the vice president and general manager of operations with Valley Extrusions. He and his wife, Julie, reside in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Alan Swearingen '85 is the director of information technology at Northwire, Inc. He resides in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Darren Rockhold '86 is an afternoon drive personality at KZST-FM in Santa Rosa, California, where he resides.

Susan (Thilmay) Menken '87 is a preschool teacher at Second Presbyterian. She and her husband, Jeff, reside in Bloomington.

Steve Stower '87 is the director of blood services for the American Red Cross. He and his wife, Angie, reside in Normal.

Catherine (Kouns) Born, M.S. '88, is the human resources director for the Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities in Lima, Ohio, where she resides.

Gerald Headd '88 is a deskside technician level II with Stefanini. He and his wife, Denise, reside in Euclid, Ohio.

Mary Toohill '89 is the athletic facilitator and head men's and women's cross country coach at Scott Community College. She and her family reside in Davenport, Iowa.

1990s

Jennifer (Kneipp) Mathes '90, M.S. '94, is the director of strategic partnerships at the Online Learning Consortium. She and her husband, Jeffrey, reside in Overland Park, Kansas.

David Kage '91, M.S. '93, is a sales representative for Thermo Fisher Scientific. He resides in Knoxville.

Stephen Prisky '91 is the executive director of the Oregon Board of Dentistry. He joined the agency in 2012 as office manager. He resides in Portland, Oregon.

Paul Rosen '91, completed an MBA from the University of Chicago. He is the chief sales officer for On Deck Capital, which is the leading non-bank small business lender in the U.S. He and his wife, Shari, are parents of twin boys and reside in Pittsford, New York.

Jim Sigwards '91 owns a Subway franchise. He and his wife, Linda, reside in Stillman Valley.

Bob Owens '92 is the senior director of service provider marketing at Angie's List. He and his wife reside in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Ernest Cooper, Ph.D. '93, retired after 11 years as an attorney with Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo PC. He and his wife, Elisabeth, reside in Belfast, Maine.

Stephanie (Sokora) Nixon '93 teaches third grade at Mable Woolsey Elementary School in KCUSD 202. She and her husband, Robert, reside in Gilson.

Jeannie (Spacek) Anderson '94 is an online writing instructor at Elgin and Waubensee community colleges, College of DuPage and The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She and her husband, Scott, have four children and are foster parents. They reside in Aurora.

Kendall Crook, M.S. '94, is a psychotherapist with Red Oak Counseling. He resides in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Joe Lewis Jr. '96 has been employed with the Chicago Park District for 20 years and is now the park

supervisor of recreation. He resides in Chicago.

Dan Schlipmann '97 is a field support manager with the Illinois Farm Bureau. He and his wife, Rachel, reside in Normal.

Tammy (Shaw) Durre '98, M.S. '02, has retired from State Farm Insurance Companies. Her daughter, Madison, is a freshman at ISU. Tammy and her husband, Jim, reside in Flanagan.

Mount Carmel Academy. She and her husband, Benjamin, reside in Chicago.

Mindy (White) Perry '01 is the librarian at Dawes Elementary School. She resides in Chicago.

Brian Pekovitch '02 teaches in Meridian CUSD 15. He resides in Moweaqua.

Karen Chamberlain, M.S. '03, is an educator with Dixon Public



Surprise on Shakespeare stage

President Larry Dietz had the privilege of playing a walk-on role for *Love's Labour's Lost* during the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. His character was added as a result of his spouse, Marlene, bidding for the opportunity at a Friends of the Arts Gala. Playing the part of an academic scholar and dressed in his official ISU presidential regalia, Dietz was woven into various scenes throughout one performance of the play. Money raised from Friends of the Arts supports student scholarships in the College of Fine Arts.

Erminio Lalli '99 is a national channel manager with Telecom Brokerage, Inc. He and his wife, Amelia, reside in Dallas, Texas.

Anne (Blodgett) Victory '99 is a teaching assistant at Oswego Public Schools. She and her husband, Ed, reside in Montgomery.

2000s

Bryan Bauer '00 is vice president and general manager of Kahuna ATM Solutions, Cardtronics USA, Inc. He and his wife, Rebecca, reside in Bloomington.

Megan (Schneider) Howarth '01 teaches first grade at Our Lady of

Schools 170. She resides in Dixon.

Nicole Hilton '04 is an applications specialist for DiaSorin, Inc. She resides in Brooklyn, New York.

Christopher Schwarz '04 is an industry representative with Caterpillar, Inc. He and his wife, Stacy, reside in Gilbert, Arizona.

Steven Schweigert '04 is a technical coordinator with State Farm Insurance Companies. He and his wife, Melissa, reside in Bloomington.

Vanessa (Krienitz) Senatore '04 is a program director with Academy for Continued Healthcare Learning. She and her husband, Peter, reside in Libertyville.

Redbird legacy

Terry Roderick '66 had the opportunity to attend Illinois State at the same time as his brothers. Their journey to the University began when their father enrolled in the 1920s.

"He attended three years and was hired to teach without a degree due to a shortage of teachers," Terry said in remembering his dad, Kenneth '69. He taught elementary school and served as a principal.

Kenneth and his wife, Lois, raised seven children on a farm near Danville. "It was his goal to make sure we all got advanced degrees," Terry said. His three sisters chose nursing. Terry and his brothers followed their dad to ISU.

The oldest son, Ron '58, M.S. '62, majored in music education and taught at the high school level for three years before returning for graduate classes. He worked as a dorm director while studying counselor education. He led financial aid at Michigan State University before losing his life in a scuba diving accident.

Byron '63 also studied music education, completed a master's elsewhere and taught at the high school level before forming his own business, Skyworks, and venturing into real estate in Denver. He and his wife, Rita, enjoy retirement in Colorado.

George '64 was an elementary education major who completed a superintendent's degree elsewhere. He was a teacher, school administrator and superintendent for years before losing his battle against cancer.

Terry studied music education, finished a master's and taught for 18 years as a band director at three Illinois schools. He also worked as a principal and superintendent before retiring and moving with his wife, Dee, to Kissimmee, Florida.

"After all of his children received their degrees and he retired, dad returned to ISU to fulfill his dream. He lived on campus and received his degree in elementary education in 1969," Terry said. The entire family attended his commencement ceremony.

The memory is sweet, as both parents are now deceased. It is one of many moments Terry continues to treasure about the University that significantly shaped his family. "We all credit our success in life to the wonderful education we received at ISNU."



The Pantagraph photographed the Roderick sons on the Quad in 1962. They are, from left, Ron, Byron, George and Terry.

Amelia (Mack) Simpson '04 is a teacher of the visually impaired with the Plainfield District 202. She and her husband, Matt, reside in Aurora.

Jodi Stipes '04 teaches Spanish in Northbrook District 30. She resides in Chicago.

Brent Boardman '05 is an inventory control coordinator with Nestle in DeKalb, where he resides.

Elizabeth (Evans) Doores, M.S. '05, is a program administrator at Washington University. She and her husband, Steve, reside in St. Louis, Missouri.

Maegan (Fidel) Lunte '05 is an underwriting support property manager with Zurich North America. She and her husband, Jason, have two children and reside in Sachse, Texas.

Tyler Martin '05 is a STEP technician with Seco Tools, LLC. He and his wife, Staci, reside in Ortonville, Michigan.

Steven Wartman II '05 is a sales account manager with UniFirst. He also works as a freelance prep sports broadcaster and a beer vendor at Wrigley Field. He and his wife, Alicia, reside in Highland, Indiana.

Leslie Banas '06 is a physical education teacher; athletic director; and head coach for soccer, track and field, and boys' volleyball with Komarek School District 94. She resides in Bartlett.

Amanda (Loy) Brown '06 works in the Peoria Public Schools District 150. She and her husband, Kyle, reside in Normal.

Vivien Chabalengula, Ph.D. '06, is an associate professor of science education at the University of Virginia.

She and her husband, Frackson Mumba, reside in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Joshua Hoots '06 is completing an MBA and employed as a case-worker for the State of Illinois. He resides in Galesburg.

Garon Stewart '06 teaches sixth grade social studies in Hawthorn District 73. He and his wife, Jennifer, reside in Mundelein.

Michael Freedman '07 is a senior manager in information systems at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. He and his wife, Jennifer, are parents of a son. Axel Evan was born in April 2015. They reside in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Kristin (Krueger) Gieselmann '07 teaches sixth grade earth science at Highlands School District. She and her husband, Ray, reside in Orland Park.

Melanie Grzesik-Duffy '07 is a licensed clinical professional counselor. Her husband, Ryan '06, is a high school counselor. They reside with their dog, Penny, in Lemont.

Morgan (Gresham) McCumber '07 is a stay-at-home mom. She and her husband Devon, reside in Villa Grove.

Kevin McKenzie '07, M.S. '11, is a data scientist with Spectrum Communications. He resides in Palatine.

Heather Nelson '07 is a human resources administrator with Nucor Steel. She resides in Bourbonnais.

Sukrut Phadke, MBA '07, is a systems analyst. He and his wife, Aditi, were married in May 2015. They reside in Princeton, New Jersey.

Katherine Priore '07 is manager of business analysis with Avalon Risk Management. She and her

husband, Daniel Hogan, reside in Skokie.

Ashley (Petrovich) Raimondi '07 and her husband, **Matthew '07**, are the parents of a daughter. Fiona Angelina was born in July 2015. They reside in Roselle.

Curt Sivertsen '07 is head coach of the women's volleyball team at Rockford University in Rockford, where he resides.

Kyle Freeman '08, '11, teaches sixth grade in Champaign Unit 4 School District. He and his wife, Stefanie, reside in Champaign.

Danielle Kiessel '08 is a program director with the YMCA Camp Duncan. She resides in Ingleside.

Eileen (Huellen) Pasturczak '08 has taught fifth grade at Hermes Elementary in the East Aurora District 131 for eight years. She and her husband, Ryan, reside in Batavia.

Adam Silverstein '08 is the chief operating officer of Garfield's Beverage Warehouse. He resides in Chicago.

Nicole (Bussell) Sutherland '08 is the marketing manager with Cullinan Properties, Ltd. She and her husband, Beau, reside in Peoria.

Caitlin Boylan '09 is a social media community coordinator with the American Medical Association. She resides in Chicago.

Alex Brown '09 is a photojournalist with WTVF NewsChannel 5. He and his wife, Jenna, reside in Nashville, Tennessee.

Vanessa Contreras '09 is an associate vice president and professional liability underwriter with Munich Re America. She resides in Alsip.

Sarah Hunt '09 completed a doctorate in pharmacy at Concordia University Wisconsin's College of Pharmacy. She is working as a pharmacist at Pick 'N Save. She resides in Grafton, Wisconsin.

Jenna Kowal '09 is an assistant state's attorney in the McLean County State's Attorney Office. She resides in Bloomington.

Phil Smunt '09 is business operations manager with Medix. He resides in Tampa, Florida.

Erica (Scherbring) Weyhenmeyer '09 is an actuarial examiner with the Department of Insurance for the State of Illinois. She and her husband, Charles, reside in Rochester.

2010s

Becca Atkins '10 works with the Batavia Park District. She and her husband, Brandon, reside in Plano.

Brian Barry '10 is operations and grounds technician with the Oswegoland Park District. He resides in Elgin.

Amanda (French) Bengtson '10 works with OSF St. Francis Hospital. She resides in East Peoria.

Crystal Bricker '10 is a general surgery specialty head with Advocate BroMenn Regional Medical Center. She and her husband, Ben, reside in Bloomington.

Josh Clouse, M.S. '10, is a quality engineer with Flex-N-Gate Plastics. He resides in Danville.

Mitch Coonradt '10 is a commercial-agriculture loan officer with MidAmerica National Bank. He and his wife, Kayla, reside in Canton.

Brandon Cory '10 is a financial advisor with Fisher National Bank. He resides in Champaign.

Michael Costanzo '10 is site manager with HTH Companies, Inc. He and his wife, Mary, reside in Oswego.

Nick Draus '10 is owner of the CPA firm Draus and Associates, PC. He resides in Park Ridge.

Katrina (Williams) Earl '10 is a technical services analyst with Epic. She

and her husband, Ken, reside in Madison, Wisconsin.

Rachel Farrer '10 is an assistant press secretary to Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White. She resides in Chicago.

Sarmad Gilani '10 is a software engineer with Google. He resides in El Sobrante, California.

Kathleen Hickey, Ph.D. '10, is the assessment coordinator and CAEP coordinator for the College of Education at Governors State University. She resides in Steger.

Jeremy Jenkins '10 is an academic production manager/technical director at Fairfield University. He and his wife, Tory, reside in Stamford, Connecticut.

Katie McBride '10 is a special education teacher in Mannheim School District 83. She resides in Elk Grove Village.

Dusty McEwen, M.S. '10, is a business analyst with State Farm Insurance Companies. He resides in Bloomington.

Alana McGinty '10 is a graduate research assistant at American University. She resides in Washington, D.C.

Allison (Kriauciunas) McGreevy '10 is a sales product consultant with LinkedIn. She and her husband, **Michael '10**, reside in Downers Grove.

Andrew Nurczyk '10 is employed with Weigel Broadcasting Company. He resides in Chicago.

Andrew Peck '10 is a finance manager with Bankers Healthcare Group, LLC. He resides in Chicago.

Jenny (Reed) Reardon '10 is a senior sales consultant with Impact Networking. She and her husband, Keith, reside in Forest Park.

Casey Robertson '10 is an office administrator with American Wind Energy Management. She resides in Greenville.

Kristena Rudloff, M. S. '10, is a library media specialist at Stillwater Public Schools. She and her husband, Peter, reside in Stillwater, Oklahoma.



Just like old times

Twelve residents from the 8th and 12th floors of Hewett and Manchester halls respectively reconnected earlier this year after finding each other through Facebook. They initially met as undergrads following a jock raid at the start of an academic year. Among their favorite memories was eating at Avanti's, where they stopped for lunch while back on campus. Among the group are, *from left*, Al Johnson '78 of Illinois; Judy (Parrish) Bretl '79 and Bob Bretl '79 of Illinois; Julie (Zipfel) Modde '80 of South Carolina; Mike Fitzgerald '78 of Washington; Brian Larson '78 and Kathleen (Kurtz) Larson '80 of Illinois; Lynne (Seline) Cosmano '78 and Rich Cosmano '78 of Minnesota. Others in the group not pictured include Mark Anselment '78 of Indiana; Brian Church '80 and Jimmy Young '80, both of Illinois.



REGGIE READS

Check out a column dedicated to book reviews of work by alums at IllinoisState.edu/Magazine. Click on Reggie Reads.

Deanna (Gillett) Schnauer '10 is a senior financial analyst with Gartner. She and her husband, Kyle, reside in Fort Myers, Florida.

Nathan Schwartzkopf '10 is an athletic trainer with ATI Physical Therapy. He and his wife, Maggie, reside in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Shara Swager '10 is a fitness specialist with Advocate Health Care. She resides in Chicago.

Megan (Cummins) Vangorder '10 works with Olympia CUSD 16. She and her husband, David, reside in Normal.

Taylor Vranke '10 is underwriting manager with Arch Insurance Group. She resides in Dallas, Texas.

LaDonna Watts '10 is a senior talent acquisition specialist with the University of Texas Health Science Center. She resides in Houston, Texas.

Mathew Becker '11 is the director of bands at Memorial Junior High School in Lansing. He resides in Thornton.

Hannah Boehm '11 is a recreation center director with the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department. She resides in La Jolla, California.

Sarah (Swinney) Braun '11 teaches in the Woodstock School District 200. She and her husband, Joshua, reside in McHenry.

Rebecca Evans, M.S. '11, is coordinator of cultural programs at Oregon State University. She resides in Albany, Oregon.

Marta Hernandez, M.S. '11, is employed by the Conservatorio de Musica de Puerto Rico. She and her husband, Carlos Avila, reside in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Carolyn O'Hearn '11 is a Web developer with CompTIA. She and her husband, Andrew Murphy, reside in Woodridge.

Mike Pudge '11, M.S. '14, is a personal lines underwriter with COUNTRY Financial. He resides in Normal.

Kathleen (Rose) Sampson '11 is a special education teacher. She and her husband, Andrew, reside in Franklin Park.



A song and a smile

When not working in his communication manager role for Boeing, Lee Witt '76 is playing with his band called BrickHouse. His performance at a fundraiser for an animal protection society this summer resulted in a meeting with fellow Redbird Jane Lynch '82. Best known for her role on *Glee*, Lynch made an appearance to bolster the benefit. Witt, who resides in Washington, majored in political science. Lynch studied theater, and yet the two had plenty of campus memories to trade throughout the event held on the San Juan Islands.

Dusti (Foster) Steiner '11 teaches fifth grade at Greenhurst Elementary. She and her husband, Mark, reside in Boise, Idaho.

Marla Tetzlaff '11 is a software engineer. She and her husband, Joshua, reside in Denver, Colorado.

Ashley Ware '11 is a graduate student at the University of South Carolina. She resides in Charlotte, North Carolina.

John Glab '12 is an incident response consultant with Mandiant. He resides in Schaumburg.

Matthew Horton '12 is an executive chef with Campus Dining Services at Illinois State. He resides in Heyworth.

Curtis Kelch '12 is a multimedia specialist at San Jacinto College in Texas. He resides in Pearland, Texas.

Travis Ksiazek '12 is a network consultant with Sikich. He and his wife, Kelly, reside in Oswego.

Lauren (Sladek) Lemm '12 and her husband, Spencer, were married July 2015. They reside in Schaumburg.

Katie Meersman '12 teaches in the Rockford Public Schools. She resides in Rockford.

Jaymee Toler '12 is a producer on "Today in St. Louis" at the NBC affiliate KSDK NewsChannel 5. She resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Christopher Durham '13 is a technical analyst in enterprise mobility with State Farm Insurance Companies. He resides in Bloomington.

Aryc Lane, M.M. '13, is the orchestra director at Texas High School. He resides in Frisco, Texas.

Piyush Malviya, M.S. '13, is a software engineer with West Corporation. He resides in Omaha, Nebraska.

Tara Marron '13 is a student affairs graduate student at Iowa State University. She resides in Ames, Iowa.

Kevin Norman '13 is a physical education teacher at Daniel Webster Middle School. He resides in Des Plaines.

Stephanie Zitella '13 works in the intensive care unit at Weiss Memorial Hospital in Chicago, where she resides.

Ita Adebayo '14, M.S. '15, is on the audit staff at Crowe Horwath. He resides in Chicago.

Lun Ai '14 is a business analyst with R.R. Donnelley. He resides in Bloomington.

Jordan Ballerine '14 is a sales associate with Raise.com. He resides in Riverside.

Brooks Bankord '14 is a graphic designer with Galambos and Associates, LLC. He resides in Chicago.

Stephanie Beatty, M.M. '14, is a music specialist with Northwestern CUSD 2. She resides in Carlinville.

Edgar Beltran '14 is a client manager with the law offices of Neil J. Greene. He resides in Prospect Heights.

Timothy Bennett '14 is a security/materials handler and transporter with Alexian Brothers Health System. He resides in Wood Dale.

Timothy Boerger, M.S. '14, is a graduate research assistant at Marquette University. He resides in West Allis, Wisconsin.

Ben Bucher '14 is a pricing analyst with United Airlines. He resides in Arlington Heights.

Natalie Bunton '14 is a substitute teacher with Coal City School District. She and her husband, Brock, reside in Coal City.

Stacy Dressler-Brown '14 is a purchasing officer at Illinois State University. She and her husband, John, reside in Bloomington.

Julia Evelsizer '14 is the secondary education reporter at *The Pantagraph*. She resides in Stanford.

Ashley Fenner '14 is Webmaster for the *Herald & Review*. She resides in Clinton.

Gaurav Gaikwad, M.S. '14, is a software development engineer with HRcloud.com. He resides in Los Angeles, California.

Melissa (Olson) Hendrix '14 is a staff accountant with Information Controls, Inc. She and her husband, Adam, reside in Roscoe.

Beth Hildenbrand '14 is office staff at The Music Shoppe and Pro-Sound Center, Inc. She resides in Normal.

Krista Johnson '14, MPA '14 is an audit associate with KPMG. She resides in Houston, Texas.

Mallory Konstans '14 is a graduate assistant at Illinois State University. She resides in Normal.

Jack Kreutzer '14 is completing a degree at John Marshall Law School. He resides in Elmhurst.

Liana Marino '14 teaches third grade in Downers Grove Grade School District 58. She resides in Willowbrook.

Casey McKinney '14 is an office manager with Irrigation Services. She resides in Fishers, Indiana.

Ryan Movahed '14 is an audit associate with KPMG, LLP. He resides in Chicago.

Catherine Murphy '14 is a marketing assistant with Primus Electronics Corporation. She resides in Marseilles.

Brianna Nielsen '14 works with B & B Maintenance. She resides in Elk Grove Village.

Russell Penicook '14 is an Aon Benfield catastrophe risk analyst. He and his wife, Michelle, reside in Oak Park.

Kayley Pyne '14 teaches fifth grade at W.A. Johnson School in Bensenville. She resides in Oakbrook Terrace.

Daena Ramos, M.S. '14, is a student support specialist with Saint Xavier University. She resides in Burbank.

Kevin Richardson '14 is a training coordinator with PATH, Inc. He resides in Normal.

Emily (Bornhoff) Riley '14, is a physical education teacher at Cesar Chavez Elementary School. She and her husband, T.J., were married in July 2015. They reside in Yukon, Oklahoma.

Lasantha Rodrigo, Ph.D. '14, is a visiting assistant professor at Illinois State University. He resides in Bloomington.

Chris Roehl '14 is a host with The Walt Disney Company. He resides in Kissimmee, Florida.

Brian Rohman '14 teaches at University High School. He resides in Bloomington.

Katrina Schreiner '14 is a grain originator/merchandiser with Sunrise Ag Service Company. She resides in Lincoln.

Danielle Shermulis '14 is a graduate teaching assistant at Illinois State University. She resides in Orland Park.

Connor Stenson '14 is a probation officer residing in Fountain Hills, Arizona.

Brian Stenzel '14 is a subrogation adjuster with Wilber and Associates. He resides in Amboy.

Timothy Sullivan '15 teaches social studies at Morrison High School. He resides in Morrison.

Diana (King) Vincent '14 is an event manager with the Peoria Civic Center. She and her husband, Curt, reside in Morton.

Anthony Wall '14 is an administrative analyst with Cook County Sheriff's Office. He resides in Chicago.

Jenna Boswell '15 is a Web systems analyst with State Farm Insurance Companies. She resides in El Paso.

Treyana Burris '15 is a law clerk with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. She resides in Flossmoor.

Jason Dockter, Ph.D. '15, is a professor at Lincoln Land Community College. He and his wife, Elena, reside in Chatham.

Rachel Eberle '15 is an underwriting consultant with Munich Re. She resides in Naperville.

Meghan Foss '15 teaches first grade in the Bradley Schools. She resides in St. Anne.

Rachel Garner '15 is an event coordinator with SMG-Soldier Field. She resides in Chicago Ridge.

Cassandra Ince '15 works at La Petite Academy in Bloomington, where she resides.

Luke Jacobsen '15 is a client fulfillment consultant at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. He resides in Orland Park.

Kearsti-Rae (Shaulis) Knowles '15 is a neurologic music therapist with Giant Steps. She and her husband, Nathan, reside in DeKalb.

Nicole Matthew '15 is a personal trainer at Our Health Club and Spa. She resides in Edwardsville.

Courtney Paarlberg '15 is a special education teacher with Indian Prairie District 204. She resides in Manhattan.

Our troops

Retired U.S. Army Maj. **Duncan Brown '87** is the director of human resources with BNSF Railway. He and his wife, Dawn, reside in Fort Worth, Texas.

Staff Sgt. **Heather Robinson '02** is a member of the U.S. Army. She resides in Thailand.

In memory

Faculty/Staff

William I. Callison, Building Service Worker; 6/15

George W. Forgey, Agriculture; 8/15

Charles L. Geigner '73, M.S. '86, Ph.D. '01, Applied Computer Sciences; 8/15

John F. King '69, M.S. '71, Psychology; 7/15

L. Roberta Warren, Campus Recreation; 7/15

30s

Esther Arends Ficken '31; 7/15

Irene B. Mischler '33; 6/15

LaVona L. (DeMent) Smith '36; 6/15

Louis F. Browning '37; 5/15

Mildred (Phillippe) Green '39; 7/15

40s

Ruby J. Ascherman '42; 1/11

Marie L. (Raasch) Fitzsimmons '42; 7/15

Marjorie L. (Yocum) Hilliker '42, '67; 7/15

Emilie (Dutczak) Fialka '44; 7/15

Eleanor L. Warrington '44; 6/15

A. Marjorie Bertsche '46; 6/15

Verna Gerig '46; 5/15

Warren F. Craig '48; 5/15

Doris (Pulaski) Barclay '49; 6/15

50s

Evelyn M. Allen '51; 6/15



Three easy ways to submit your information

- 1) Go online to Alumni.IllinoisState.edu/ClassNotes and click on "class notes." Information submitted using this method will also be posted online.
- 2) Email your news to sjblyst@IllinoisState.edu.
- 3) Mail your news to Class Notes, Illinois State University, Alumni Relations, Campus Box 3100, Normal, IL 61790-3100. Please include your graduation year, major, maiden name when applicable, and daytime phone number for verification purposes. News releases and information from published news clippings may also be used. Engagements and pregnancies will not be published.

For additional information, contact Alumni Relations at (309) 438-2586 or (800) 366-4478, or by email at alumni@IllinoisState.edu.

'Tis the season

Another holiday is quickly approaching, which means efforts to find that perfect gift for family members and friends have begun again. Think beyond the traditional shopping routine this year. A gift to Illinois State is a unique way to honor a loved one, while also creating an opportunity for students to soar in the year ahead. Support your passion with an investment in the University.

Finalize your gift by December 31 to gain tax benefits. Use the envelope enclosed in this issue of *Illinois State*, visit IllinoisState.edu/Giving, or call (309) 438-8041.



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 James A. Compis '56; 7/15
 Raymond J. Rickert '56; 7/15
 Kenneth W. Smouse, M.S. '56; 6/15
 Janel A. (Schweigert) Greer '57; 5/15
 Louise M. (Dagay) Coutre '58; 6/15

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60s
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 Hope P. Siegrist, M.S. '67; 6/15
 John R. Bonacorsi '68; 6/15

Sandra J. (Thallman) Ripsom Brucker '68, M.S. '76; 5/15
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 Eileen "Ellie" (Gramlich) Hubert '69, M.S. '81; 7/15
 John F. King '69, M.S. '71; 7/15

70s

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 Michael R. Walton, M.S. '77; 6/15
 Patricia (Feiler) Allen '78; 7/15

Elizabeth A. (Pringey) Guerrina '78; 7/15

80s

Shelley J. Almburg '81, M.S. '83; 6/15
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 Janice L. Gomes '83; 6/15
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 Lynn A. Newman '84; 7/15
 Carla K. Graf '85; 5/15
 Cheryl L. (Feth) McCall '85, '08; 8/15
 Dorothy B. (Greene) Cornish, Ph.D. '86; 7/15
 Amanda K. Christian '88; 6/15

90s

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 Suzanne J. (McQuigg) Davidson '96; 5/15
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Robin L. Strader-Summers Lyons '06; 7/15

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Thanks to you!

Theatre major Samuel Rosenfeld knows what a difference donors can make in the life of a college student. His ISU experience has been enriched because of generosity from the Friends of the Arts.

Scholarship support from the group provided the finances he needed to focus on classes without the burden of a yearlong job that would prevent him from pursuing his passion.

“Without this scholarship, I would not be able to spend my time outside of class practicing what I love,” Rosenfeld said. “To me it means opportunity to participate in and be a part of the theatre.”

With the help, he has been able to join Playback Theatre Company, which is a campus improv group. He has also had opportunity to design sets, explore produc-

tion positions, work as a costume supervisor, and pursue an interest in dramaturgy. Doors have opened beyond the college as well. Rosenfeld was chosen to serve as a resident assistant this academic year.

“I thank the Friends of the Arts for all the countless experiences,” he said. “I will take from them and share what I have learned with my future students as a theatre educator. That is the greatest gift of all.”

Will you make a difference by supporting your passion? Make a contribution using the enclosed envelope, online at IllinoisState.edu/Giving or call (309) 438-8041.



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Standing proud

Each fall semester begins with a Welcome Week full of activities that spark friendships before classes begin. This year included the opportunity for students to gather on the football field in formation. Hundreds waited patiently on a hot August day to spell out ISU as just another way to show their Redbird pride.

