"Hero" Is a Powerful Term...

For many, the word “hero” reflects those who have fallen in service to their country or to those who risk their lives in the line of duty.

What do you call someone whose efforts prove to be life-changing? Is “everyday hero” a term that applies better to the noble and humble individual who quietly but surely works to advance a greater good? Many of these modest friends are uncomfortable with being called a hero. Perhaps instead we should call them good Samaritans.

Call them what you will, we know many of them as Otterbein people with Otterbein values — those who believe in doing the right thing for the right reason at the right time (pages 6 -12). These kinds of people and their heroic qualities offer what our world needs more of — compassionate leaders, ethical champions and model citizens. They provide us all with someone to look up to, admire and respect. They lift up others and change lives.

Imagine the real power of Otterbein’s new STEAM Innovation Center to change lives and serve the common good. By bringing leaders, scholars and partners across many industries together in a collaborative and creative space, we are creating an entrepreneurial ecosystem that will build Otterbein’s future. You can read about the possibilities as promising minds consider what this effort stands to accomplish (page 14).

We also can impact and change lives by bridging understanding. Otterbein’s efforts to “Open Doors to the World” (page 2) introduced compelling works from Chilean and Cuban artists, musicians and poets. Art reminds us that we are very much connected to one another when other barriers make us feel worlds apart.

Our alumni, donors and friends walk among us with little fanfare, much like the comic book hero Clark Kent. They quietly go about the business of transforming futures, influencing others and creating a more compassionate world.

Otterbein celebrates that spirit by shining the spotlight on their work in this issue of Towers. We thank them and all of you who have chosen to help others in how you live your lives.

Sincerely,

Kathy A. Krendl
President
Features

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Here are three profiles of everyday heroes including a family of doctors, a young alumna breaking down barriers hindering inner-city students chances at college, and a fire chief who knew he wanted to be a firefighter since he was 3 years old. These three profiles remind us an everyday hero lurks in all of us.

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About the Cover
Heroes are described in many ways. These words come from the stories in this issue. What qualities and characteristics define a hero for you?
Helping One Another

Students Making Sure There’s Enough to Eat

Food insecurity has become a growing barrier to student success at universities across the United States. At Otterbein, students are coming together to support classmates and find solutions to the problem. Two new initiatives were introduced this year to do just that.

At the end of fall semester, when students need to perform their best for final exams, the Center for Community Engagement organized the first “Got Swipes?” program. With a meal plan, students pay in advance for their food. Since the plans do not carry over to the next semester some students may have meal “swipes” left over that they can’t use before they leave for break. The Got Swipes? program allows those with extra swipes to share with those who have none.

A second, larger initiative is the Promise House, through which students have access to service and resources to help their peers succeed, including a campus food pantry, Ohio Benefits Bank counseling, peer advocacy and educational workshops. Ten student Peer Advocates have taken the lead on this effort and are responsible for recruiting additional volunteers and assisting students throughout the academic year.

In order to “pay it forward,” the Promise House is home to a food co-op where students can access free, healthy food. It also offers monthly meals, Dine-on-a-Dime cooking lessons for students, and volunteer service opportunities mentoring local youth and serving at local food banks, the Otterbein Community Garden and homeless shelters.

Otterbein and the Arts: Opening Doors to the World

Latin American Culture Featured in Art, Music

The first year of the new arts initiative, Otterbein and the Arts: Opening Doors to the World, drew audiences out to learn about Latin American culture through art, music and other programming. Opening Doors to the World offers a multi-year focus on the arts in three non-Western regions: Latin America (2015-16), Asia (2016-17) and Africa (2017-18).

Chile and Cuba were the gateway countries explored in the first year of programming. Chilean programming included a well-received art exhibit, Te Busco: Poetic and Visual Collaborations of Pablo Neruda, Nemesio Antúnez and Roser Bru; a Chilean film series; and readings, workshops and discussions with renowned Chilean poet Christian Formoso, Latin American scholar Fernando Blanco and Otterbein faculty members Terry Hermsen and Carmen Galarce.

Cuban programming included visual and performance art, as well as music. An Island Apart: Cuban Artists in Exile, was an exhibition featuring works by 12 internationally recognized exiled Cuban artists, performance art, art documentaries and collaboratively created
Provost Miguel Martinez-Saenz traveled to India from March 5-20 to participate in the Fulbright-Nehru Program, which is designed to provide selected U.S. administrators the opportunity to familiarize themselves with program designs, organizational structures, quality assurance procedures and credit and degree expectations in Indian higher education. Martinez-Saenz gained firsthand knowledge of a cross-section of Indian institutions and met with university administrators and public sector officials who play key roles in the planning and administration of higher education in India.

According to Martinez-Saenz, “The importance of understanding India’s relevance to a global perspective cannot be overstated. It should be central to any global education project.”

As part of his trip, he explored opportunities for partnerships between Indian institutions and Otterbein. “As much as we have to gain from a deeper understanding of India, I feel our institution has a great deal to offer, too. Otterbein has a long history of bold actions and inclusivity that parallels some of India’s most impressive historical narratives of religious and ethnic tolerance,” he said.

“We want to develop partnerships that make sense,” he added. “Creating partnerships that enable the professional and personal development of our respective faculty and student bodies remains our overarching goal.

Martinez-Saenz has read extensively about Indian culture, art, history and more, but the March trip was his first visit to the world’s largest democracy.
Joseph Pulitzer used his newspapers to crusade for the rights of immigrants, the poor and the working class. Ray Stannard Baker brought Jim Crow laws and lynching to the attention of the American people. And Nelly Bly went undercover in a New York insane asylum to shine a spotlight on the plight of the mentally ill.

These pioneers of American journalism all have one thing in common — they were pioneers of social change, just like this year’s Vernon L. Pack Distinguished Lecturer, Amy Goodman.

Goodman, an award-winning investigative journalist, author and syndicated columnist, spoke at Otterbein on Feb. 22 about the role of independent media in promoting social change, peace and justice.

Goodman talked to the crowd about her own news show, Democracy Now!, which celebrated 20 years on the air just days before her visit to campus. She discussed some of the topics she has covered through the years and recently, including the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, and the genocide in East Timor by the Indonesian army. She talked about corporate money influencing the stories American news outlets report and the role of independent media in transcending corporate agendas.

While on campus, Goodman also met with classes and recorded an episode of Democracy Now! at Otterbein’s television studio.

She is the first journalist to receive the Right Livelihood Award, widely known as the “Alternative Nobel Prize,” for “developing an innovative model of truly independent grassroots political journalism that brings to millions of people the alternative voices that are often excluded by the mainstream media.”

Goodman is a 1998 recipient of the George Polk Award for the radio documentary she co-produced, “Drilling and Killing: Chevron and Nigeria’s Oil Dictatorship,” which exposed the oil company’s role in the killing of two Nigerian villagers on May 28, 1998. The piece also won the Golden Reel for Best National Documentary from the National Federation of Community Broadcasters. Goodman has also won numerous awards for another radio documentary she co-produced, “MASSACRE: The Story of East Timor.”

The author of five New York Times bestsellers, Goodman’s latest book, Breaking the Sound Barrier, proves the power of independent journalism in the struggle for a better world. She has co-authored, with brother and journalist David Goodman, three other bestsellers: Standing Up to the Madness, Static, and The Exception to the Rulers.

For more information about Democracy Now! or to listen to Goodman’s Feb. 23 broadcast from Otterbein, visit www.democracynow.org. Learn more about the Vernon L. Pack Distinguished Lecture Series at www.otterbein.edu/packlectureseries.
Left: Debby Irving, author of *Waking Up White*, addresses the audience in Cowan Hall at this year’s Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation. Right: Irving signs a book and chats with a student.

**Waking Up White a Self-Discovery for Author**

Otterbein partnered with the City of Westerville to bring author Debby Irving to Westerville to reflect on the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. at the University’s annual convocation and the city’s annual breakfast. Irving, author of *Waking Up White*, spoke at Otterbein on Jan. 20.

Irving talked to the Otterbein community about some of the revelations in her own personal experience as a white person coming to terms with and overcoming racial tensions. In *Waking Up White* and in her lecture, Irving shared her struggle to understand racism and racial tensions and offered a fresh perspective on biases, stereotypes, manners and tolerance.

Irving was a community organizer and classroom teacher for 25 years who said she went without understanding racism as a systemic issue or her own whiteness as an obstacle to grappling with it. She struggled to make sense of tensions she could feel but not explain in racially mixed settings. In 2009, a graduate school course, Racial and Cultural Identities, gave her the answers she’d been looking for and launched her on a journey of discovery.

As she unpacked her own long-held beliefs about colorblindness, being a good person and wanting to help people of color, she revealed how each of these well-intentioned mindsets actually perpetuated her misconceptions. Irving now devotes herself to working with white people, exploring the impact white skin can have on perception, problem solving and engaging in racial justice work.

Learn more about diversity programming and initiatives at Otterbein at www.otterbein.edu/diversity.

**Tau Delta Recognized at MLK Convocation for Inclusiveness**

Tau Delta sorority recently received the University’s Martin Luther King Jr. Peace and Justice Award for an organization for its efforts to make the organization more inclusive. Last year, Tau Delta became Otterbein’s first gender-neutral sorority.

Carrie Coisman ’16, vice president of Tau Delta and president of the Otterbein University Student Government when the change was made, explained that the decision was made when a member of the sorority came out as transgender. “We did not want to exclude him because of that.”

Katie Mackerty ’16, the 2015-16 president of Tau Delta, said the reception from the campus community has been positive.

Institutionally, Otterbein has initiatives in place to support students across the gender spectrum. Otterbein also offers gender-neutral restrooms and gender-inclusive housing options.
Not many people would consider themselves heroes. But the truth is, real heroes are everywhere, making a positive impact on the lives of others. A person can become a hero by saving a life or by giving others the strength to go on through life’s difficulties. Heroes can be called to careers of service or they can choose to volunteer their time to worthy causes. Even something as simple as extending an act of kindness to someone who needs it can make a person a hero. In fact, there is a hero inside of everyone. Otterbein prepares graduates to be everyday heroes. Through its mission to educate the whole person in the context of humane values, Otterbein sends graduates into the world ready to make a difference locally and globally.

Here, you will read some stories of everyday heroes who honed their skills on campus before going out to make a difference in the lives around them.

For some people, the qualities that define an everyday hero run in the family. That was the case for four siblings from one family who each came to Otterbein University to pursue different medical careers. Each of them found success and are helping others with their work.

**Dr. Salvatore “Sal” Thomas Butera ’81** was the first sibling to come to campus. “My best friend in high school had an older brother who was attending Otterbein and speaking very highly of his campus experience. My friend decided to attend and I found the college to be wonderful and attended also.”

A member of Kings fraternity, Sal majored in life science and chemistry. His journey to his current job as chief science officer for the Center for HIV/AIDS Vaccine Immunology and Immunogen Discovery (CHAVI-ID) at The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, was a long one.

After graduating from Otterbein, Sal became the first person at the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University (OSU) to complete his doctor of veterinary medicine (DVM) and master of science degrees simultaneously, completing them in 1985.

He completed his Ph.D. at Colorado State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. He then earned a post-doctoral fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, kicking off a 22-year career with the agency. There, he conducted HIV biomedical research and served as associate director for laboratory science in the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention.

In 2011, he joined the staff at The Scripps Research Institute as part of a team working to develop an HIV/AIDS vaccine.

As a research scientist, Sal doesn’t always see the faces of those whose lives he improves. “Although I do feel that my work as a research scientist will ultimately help others, it is not evident day-to-day like it would be for a doctor, practicing veterinarian or someone that interacts directly with those they help. So, I have to keep the motivation in mind as part of my approach and drive.”

Sal’s experience encouraged his younger sister, **Dr. Melanie Butera ’81**, to attend Otterbein. Although her path started in a similar manner to her brother’s, the end result would be much different.

“I knew I wanted to be a veterinarian when I was 6 years old,” she said. “It was a realization, not a conscious decision. It was a calling — every bit of me was meant to do this.”
Melanie came to Otterbein as a determined student, graduating in three years with the same two majors as her brother. She credits her professors with pushing her to be her best.

“Dr. Jerry Jenkins was smart and challenging. He made you dig deep and study hard,” she said.

Outside the classroom, her sisters in Kappa Phi Omega sorority also supported her through her studies. “I drew a lot of strength from them.”

Melanie went on to earn her DVM from OSU’s College of Veterinary Medicine in 1985. She spent 20 years as an emergency veterinarian and now owns the Elm Ridge Animal Hospital in Canal Fulton, Ohio.

What makes Melanie especially unique is that she is also the pet parent of an animal celebrity and the author of a memoir, Dillie the Deer: A True Story of Love, Healing, and Family.

In the summer of 2004, a farmer brought a 3-day-old, blind, dying fawn into Melanie’s clinic. She and her husband, Steve Heathman, nursed the deer they named Dillie back to health. In return, through her unconditional love, Dillie gave Melanie the motivation and inspiration to survive when she was diagnosed with cancer.

Dillie initially became a local celebrity, but soon her story spread. She has a webcam, where viewers from all over the world watch the unusual house pet sleep in her own bedroom, spend time with her poodle sibling, Willie, and enjoy lots of snacks.

Melanie and Dillie were featured in National Geographic magazine in April 2014, on television shows on Nat Geo and Animal Planet and The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, among others.

Some who read about Dillie consider Melanie a hero. She disagrees. “I don’t feel like a hero. For veterinarians, it’s not uncommon to save deer or other animals that cross our paths. It’s part of the job.”

Melanie does, however, admit that Dillie has helped fans through difficult experiences. She receives letters from people telling her their stories of hardships and how Dillie’s story inspired them to keep going.

“People depend on us to share Dillie’s story,” she said. “We are happy to help people. There is so much ugliness and hate in this world that if we can provide happiness, we will.”

Dr. Sally Dillehay was the next sibling to attend Otterbein. Although her time on campus was brief, the impact it had on her was big.

Sally transferred to Otterbein as a sophomore in 1981, and after one year, received early acceptance into the College of Optometry at OSU. “My classes at Otterbein helped me gain early acceptance. The best professor I ever had was Dr. Jenkins. He spurred my love of science. The problem solving skills he taught me have stuck with me.”

Sally has served on the faculty at OSU, held leadership positions at leading vision care companies and is now chief medical officer and vice president of clinical and regulatory affairs for Visioneering Technologies, Inc., outside Atlanta.

Although her work improves the lives of others, Sally has a unique take on heroism.

“Being a hero can be as basic as smiling at someone. You don’t know what they are going through, so show them they matter,” she said. “I’ve raised my children to recognize the differences in others and to stand up for others.”

Dr. Tina Butera ’90 was the fourth sibling to attend Otterbein. She was active on campus as a member of Sigma Alpha Tau sorority, resident assistant (RA) and chemistry lab assistant and tutor.

After graduating from Otterbein, Tina attended the Medical College of Ohio in Toledo, where she realized in her third year that she wanted to be an ophthalmologist.

She completed an internship in medicine and surgery at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus and an ophthalmology residency at George Washington University. She then earned a prestigious Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellowship at the University of Colorado and Denver Children’s Hospital. There are only approximately 3,000 pediatric ophthalmologists in the world. Of those, only 20 are selected into fellowships annually.

Tina went into private practice in Jacksonville, NC, in 1999, before moving to her current position with The Eye Center, a private practice in northern Virginia in the suburbs of Washington, D.C.

As a pediatric ophthalmologist, Tina works with various aspects of children’s eye problems including strabismus (“crossed eye”), amblyopia (“lazy eye”), prematurity and developmental problems.
To her clients, she is a hero. “It’s very rewarding to save someone’s vision and know you have changed part of their life forever. Working with children helps me to see the truly important things in life, which are usually the simplest,” she said.

Outside of her practice, Tina volunteers to enrich the lives of blind people. “I run a charity teaching blind people how to ice skate or play blind hockey. It helps them socialize, make new friends, become physically active and face their fears. Our motto is #nolimits,” she said.

Her advice to others who might want to be a hero? “Only good things can happen when you follow your passion.”

Learn more about Melanie and Dillie the Deer at www.dilliedeer.com. Learn more about Tina’s charity at www.facebook.com/dcbblindhockey.

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**Can-Do Attitude**

**SERVICE**

**Pay it Forward**

“It made a huge difference in my ability to attend college. I truly believe this is what it means to be an Otterbein alumna — to see your professional life and personal goals come full circle.”

At Otterbein, Curtis majored in international studies and took a study abroad trip to Jordan.

“I researched Jordanian law and how it affects undocumented Syrian and Iraqi refugees accessing health care and education. Not many undocumented persons want to stand out as undocumented, but I was able to complete some of the research and learn a lot about how families live without legal papers,” she said. She also volunteered a day of service at a United Nations refugee camp.

Outside the classroom, Curtis was active in many campus activities. She held offices in the Heritage of Latino Americans (HOLA) and International Student Association (ISA), and was a member of the African-American Student Union (AASU), among other activities.

But it was her involvement in one program that may have prepared her best for her current position with I Know I Can. “Ubuntu was a mentoring program for Columbus City School high school students, which allowed me to share my testimony for college and inspire other youth to think about college, especially Otterbein.”

Curtis appreciated I Know I Can for believing in her college success, but that organization wasn’t alone. At Otterbein, she found a group of alumnae who also believed in her — the Westerville Otterbein Women’s Club. Through the club’s endowed scholarship, this group of women became heroes to Curtis.

“These were women who found it worthy to invest in my goals,” she said. “That means a lot to me because I wouldn’t have had this experience without them.”

Their generosity further encouraged Curtis to pay it forward. She now participates in the African-American Alumni Network and young alumni programs and plans to eventually invest in the futures of other students. “It’s a full circle at Otterbein,” she said.

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*Kiersten Curtis ‘14 talks to a student during a classroom visit to Wood Park Middle School, Columbus, in April.*

According to Kiersten Curtis ’14, service has always been in her heart. “I know that serving others helps prevent and mitigate negative life outcomes; it helps people become successful and resilient.”

Curtis has proven herself to be a hero through her selfless work to improve the lives of others.

She currently works at I Know I Can in Columbus, OH, where she breaks down barriers and perceptions that keep children in Columbus City Schools from pursuing dreams of higher education. She was placed with I Know I Can by AmeriCorps, a national service program.

Part of her job is to challenge students to think about post-secondary options and bridge the knowledge gap that many families face when taking on the task of applying to college. Curtis said her work is especially important for first-generation students.

“We set examples and demonstrate which behaviors and habits will bring about success for them now, so that when they reach high school they are amply prepared for their next journey.”

Curtis is an ideal ambassador for I Know I Can; she received a grant from the organization as a first-generation student herself. Teaching
Brian Miller ’98 wanted to be a firefighter long before he knew what it meant to be a hero. “Since I was 3 years old, it was all I wanted to do.”

As a child, he started collecting antiques related to the profession. He now has an extensive collection that includes two restored fire trucks.

But this is not just a hobby for Miller, who was named fire chief of the Westerville Division of Fire in September 2014. He is the youngest fire chief in central Ohio.

The division’s three fire stations and 100 employees serve approximately 48,000 residents in the city of Westerville and Blendon Township and protect approximately $4 billion worth of property.

Despite his rank and responsibilities, Miller is modest but quick to praise his brothers and sisters in service. “I am very proud of our fire department and the men and women who work to keep everyone safe. It is very humbling.”

Miller’s first experience with the Westerville Division of Fire was through its Explorer program when he was 15 years old. The experience also introduced him to nearby Otterbein University, which turned out to be a good fit for his career aspirations.

“Otterbein gave me a global view and the ability to look at problems from all angles,” said Miller.

He graduated from Otterbein in three years with a degree in business organizational communication. After graduation, he completed an EMT class and professional firefighter class at the Ohio Fire Academy. He began his distinguished career with the Westerville Division of Fire in 1999.

In 2011, he was named the Ohio Firefighter/EMT of the Year by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and received the VFW National Firefighter Award.

As part of the honor, VFW made a donation to Miller’s charity of choice — Westerville Honor Flight. He also has volunteered with Westerville Serving Our Seniors and Westerville Area Resource Ministry.

Most people think of firefighters as heroes when they are battling flames, but what makes Miller an everyday hero is his dedication to fire prevention.

“One of the first fires I responded to happened between Thanksgiving and Christmas. I never realized how tragic a fire could be until I saw a family lose everything at the holidays. Fire prevention and education are so important, because no family or business should have to suffer like that,” he said.

Miller’s fire prevention mission extends to the division’s neighbor — Otterbein.

The Westerville Division of Fire conducts regular inspections; trains resident assistants on fire safety and evacuation procedures; and conducts drills in campus buildings.

“One of the more unique experiences was at the equine facility, when we conducted a drill to evacuate horses,” he said.

“The relationship we have with Otterbein is really valuable to both organizations.”

Some of his work on campus brings back memories — from climbing to the top of the Rike Center when responding to a fire alarm to finding his old room in Mayne Hall during an inspection.

What advice does Miller have for the next generation of heroes? “I try to instill in younger people the importance of working hard and following your dreams. Becoming a firefighter can be a pretty competitive process, but if your heart is in it and you apply yourself, it can happen.”
Jim Rutherford (center) with Dustin Leber ’16 (left) and Kelsey Acton ’16, both recipients of the The James and Kathleen Rutherford Endowed Scholarship. Leber is a sport management major and a business administration minor from Norwalk, OH, and is returning to Otterbein in the fall to pursue an MBA. He will be serving as a graduate assistant defensive line assistant coach. Acton is a nursing major from Lorain, OH. She will begin her work at the main campus of the Cleveland Clinic as an intensive care unit nurse after passing her NCLEX exam.

Paying It Forward

“Going to college changed the trajectory of my life.”

Jim Rutherford was the first person in his family to go to college. After high school, Rutherford applied and was accepted to a number of colleges and even received an appointment to the Air Force Academy. But his father didn’t support his son’s choice — he didn’t understand why college was necessary.

Rutherford was in and out of school, working any and every job imaginable including working nights in a hotel, working in construction, bartending, even working a stint as a lab tech in a starch factory. “I probably worked at least 25 different jobs.” He also joined the Navy.

It was seeing the reality of college and the lives of those who had a college education that solidified Rutherford’s determination. “I knew I was going to get my degree one way or the other. I began to understand how successful people become successful and how they stay that way.” He earned a bachelor of arts degree in economics at Denison University in Granville, Ohio.

Rutherford will tell you his success has been the combination of being prepared, of having an opportunity, while also noting it was a good time to be in the software business. A math wiz, he went from being a software programmer to building a software company he ran for 15 years.

Now, having served on a number of boards like Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Case Western Reserve and currently serving as an Otterbein trustee, Rutherford and his wife, Kathy, give back in other ways. The James and Kathleen Rutherford Endowed Scholarship is helping to support the education of at least five first-generation Otterbein students this year.
“Kathy and I want these students to use their education to go out and do good things. It doesn’t matter if they make a lot of money — we want them to lead a life they’re proud of.”

Rutherford believes there are really just two things in life that matter: to be competent at whatever you do and to be a good person.

But don’t call the couple heroes for helping support students’ goals and keeping their education a little more affordable.

“We’re no heroes. Kathy and I knew money never really made us happy, so we decided to help others with it.”

He says it feels great knowing that he and Kathy are helping to build futures. “You’re helping deserving students become successful. When they become successful; they can help others become successful. To Kathy and me, that’s how philanthropy works.”

**WHY THIS MATTERS**

“I’m the first person in my family to graduate college. I know I didn’t do it alone — my parents are providing for me. They are the hardest working people I know. My mom works three jobs. They did what they had to do to provide for us. I want Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford to know that I’m appreciative that they’re investing in someone who will do a lot of good in society. I want to prove to them that their choice to invest in me was right. If I’m fortunate enough and able to give back one day — I will. Absolutely. Someone took a chance on me. I’d like to be able to pay it back.”

Dustin Leber ’16

“I knew I wanted to be a nurse since I was a sophomore in high school. My advisors pointed me to Otterbein. But I had to withdraw at the end of fall semester my first year when my high school scholarships ran out. Finances were an obstacle. I worked hard to come back. My sister taught me resilience. My uncle helped me financially and Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford’s scholarship did, too. I want Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford to know I appreciate what they have done. They put their trust in Otterbein by giving back — and Otterbein connected us — and now we’re achieving our goals and graduating. They have directly helped out with that. Seeing the similarities — that they were first generation and did it — makes me think maybe I can, too.”

Kelsey Acton ’16

**A Golden Legacy for First Generation Students**

In honor of their golden reunion, the Class of 1966 made the decision to direct their legacy gift to create a new endowed scholarship for first-generation college students. The effort was spearheaded by the generosity of two classmates, Steve Moeller ’66 and Jack Whalen ’66. As one of the Golden Reunion Legacy co-chairs, Whalen said that classmates decided they wanted to do something specific for Otterbein and, more importantly, they wanted to do something that would make a difference.

“A lot of us were first generation,” said Whalen. “Education is the absolute key to be able to advance and to live a better life. It’s critical to economic mobility. I’m a believer and I’m a product of that,” he said. “We need more scholarships. I have no clue how the average person is going to be able to afford college.”

As of the time of publication, the fund has already garnered more than $33,000. Whalen hopes to help the endowment continue to grow and wants others to know that if they can’t afford to give now, he encourages them to think about planned gifts. “Otterbein made a difference in our lives.”

**The Heinisch Endowed Scholarship**

This first-generation scholarship was established in memory of Frances Henry Heinisch ’53, an honors student, by her late husband, James Heinisch ’53, Sara Heinisch Salmers, Becky Heinisch Ducharme, Lynn Heinisch, Lisa Heinisch Turney, Wayne and Hazel Heinisch, and Margaret B. Heinisch. Fran and James were married after their freshman year at Otterbein. Fran was the first college graduate in her family. Both of them worked their way through school with the help of academic scholarships. The Heinisch scholarship was established in 2000 to assist first-generation college students.

**Educating to Save Lives**

Ten years ago, Jean Reynolds ’77 lost her niece, Brittany Weixel, to the devastating effects of an eating disorder. Reynolds has since learned a great deal about the danger, the challenges and the stigma that surround a disease that, according to the National Eating Disorders Association, impacts millions of people in the United States every year.

Through conversations with Julie Saker, Otterbein’s associate dean of students and director of student conduct and wellness, Reynolds decided she wanted to help address this nationally pervasive problem at Otterbein. Reynolds established an endowed fund in memory of her niece to try to further prevention and wellness efforts.
“There’s a lot of mystery around what causes eating disorders,” Reynolds explained. “This [fund] is really more about education than anything. Promoting education about what causes eating disorders has a lot more benefit in terms of prevention.”

Now, the Brittany Weixel Endowment is busy at work on campus. This year, Dr. Jason McCray from the Center for Balanced Living, a center specializing in eating disorder services, met with coaches whose particular athletic teams, like cheer, cross country and wrestling, have a higher likelihood for eating disorders. Dr. McCray also met with residence life staff, sorority representatives, faculty and students.

“His presentations were very impactful,” said Jill McCullough, assistant director of wellness education. “After Dr. McCray’s presentation I had four students come to me asking if we could develop a support group. Now those four students know that they have a safe place for discussion. All of this was made possible by Jean’s endowment.”

McCullough said other efforts have included the development of an educational brochure that includes information and resources for those at risk or those who think they might know someone affected by an eating disorder. She has also used the fund to create awareness through mirror clings in every residence hall room and a campaign that challenges students to remember, “I am complete.”

“Jean’s been willing to do more than talk — she’s giving and supporting something to make it real. She’s helping save lives in the process,” McCullough said.

In addition to the grant’s benefits on campus, Reynolds found herself in the position to help another Otterbein student she was mentoring — a young woman she later discovered had been suffering from an eating disorder since childhood.

“I went two years as her mentor before I knew she was suffering. By her junior year, we were able to get her into treatment.” The student has since graduated and is working at a non-profit out west. “This is something she’ll have to deal with for the rest of her life.”

Reynolds wants more people to educate themselves about eating disorders and she has this advice to offer those who are suffering in silence: “Don’t be afraid to ask for help; don’t hesitate.”

Reynolds said this work and establishing this endowment has been an opportunity to give back and help others. “It gave me one more chance to do something I wish I could have been able to do for my niece.”

For more information on eating disorders or how to get help, visit www.centerforbalancedliving.org.

Opportunity of a Lifetime

Thanks to an anonymous donor’s gift, Lauren Taylor ’13 had the opportunity to experience a dream that took root her first year at Otterbein. “I remember telling my grandparents how much I wanted to go. The cost was, of course, a huge factor.”

Lauren joined other nursing students on a Senior Year Experience (SYE) course, the Examination of History, Culture and Health Care in England.

“The whole purpose was to see their systems and to understand their practices,” Taylor said. “In

WHY THIS MATTERS

“It made me a better nurse,” Taylor explained. “I’m more outspoken about what’s best for the babies. I’m not afraid to ask ‘why this way?’ and ‘can we try something different?’ My experience wasn’t about a trip to England. It helped change the scope of how I work. As for the thanks for my mystery donor? I don’t think I’ll ever be able to put into words how much it meant. I want this person to know how truly grateful I am that they gave money to someone they didn’t know. That was such a sacrifice. I am more well-rounded because of that experience.”

Lauren Taylor ’13

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Lauren Taylor ’13
For 34 years, Larry Cox H’06 won over his students with his passion for psychology, a broad smile and an infectious laugh.

“Larry didn’t just teach psychology, he lived it and taught students how what they were learning in the classroom could be used to make their lives better and other lives better. Larry really cared about his students, and it is hard not to honor a professor like that,” said Carol Ventresca ’76.

Cox spent nearly his entire career making a difference in the lives of Otterbein students. Soon after graduating from Olivet Nazarene College in 1960, Cox met a trio of Otterbein alumni who worked in the school district where he was teaching. They spoke fondly and often of their experiences at Otterbein. So when he finished graduate school, he applied to teach at Otterbein in the spring of 1965. He joined the faculty in the Department of Psychology later that year.

He retired in 1999 as an associate professor and chair of the Department of Psychology. He is now a professor emeritus and a former trustee. He was granted an honorary alumnus degree from Otterbein in 2006.

“His door was always open and he availed himself selflessly to counsel students, faculty and staff, whatever the need,” recalled Philip Barnhart H’90, a former professor of physics and astronomy, when Cox received his honorary degree.

One of the students whose life improved thanks to Cox was Mary Ellen Neutzling ’98. As an adult student, she transferred to Otterbein to study psychology for a career change. Upon graduating in 1998, she was inspired by Cox to go on and earn her master’s degree in education from Ohio University in 2001.

Neutzling was working as an academic advisor at The Ohio State University in 2008 when she met coworker and fellow Otterbein alumna, Ventresca. They soon discovered they were both mentored and inspired by the same psychology professor and decided to establish an endowed scholarship in his name.

The pair rallied other former students of Cox from the 1970s, ’80s and ’90s to donate to the Larry Cox Fund for Professional Development in Psychology. It was established in July 2010. Other early donors included David ’61 and Sara Elberfeld ’61 Deever, Jennifer Gilson Downey ’76, Steve Jones ’75, Cathi Henthorn Shaw ’75 and Annie Baumann Upper ’86, among many other alumni.

The Larry Cox Fund for Professional Development in Psychology provides funding for a one-time educational opportunity for an undergraduate psychology major, which could include costs of a conference, co-op, internship, research project and more. It was first granted in 2015 to four students to help support their research ventures in the field of psychology.

“Larry was one of the best teachers I ever had, and it is my honor to be able to support the Larry Cox fund,” Neutzling said. “I hope in some small way that current and future Otterbein students will get to experience a professor like Larry Cox, and it is my hope that through this scholarship, his legacy of compassion, acceptance, joy, humor, and living life with exuberance will carry on and lift people up like he did for me.”

Cox lives in Westerville with his wife, Shirley.
Collaborative Approach to Open Doors at New STEAM Innovation Center

By Jeff Bell

There will be plenty of winners — Otterbein students, central Ohio businesses and the city of Westerville among them — once the University’s groundbreaking STEAM Innovation Center opens later this year at 60 Collegeview Road on the west side of campus.

STEAM connects Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics — just as the STEAM Innovation Center will connect Otterbein educators and students with businesses, manufacturers, entrepreneurs, innovators and regional economic development partners, all at one location.

Seen as a first-of-its-kind concept, the center will provide for integration of Otterbein’s academic curriculum with the business community. It is designed to serve as a catalyst for entrepreneurialism and economic development in Westerville and to convert ideas to commercialized products and services.

“This new center positions Otterbein as a leader among universities with strong liberal arts and science traditions,” says President Kathy Kreidl.

The center will be home to two resident enterprises, PolymerOhio and Ikove Capital Partners; provide lab space for businesses; and house the University’s systems engineering program, which launched in fall 2015. Students will work shoulder-to-shoulder with engineers and other STEAM professionals at the center, complete on-site internships and have an inside track to jobs after graduation.

The Westerville community, central Ohio and the state as a whole will also be big winners. A study commissioned by the University estimates the direct impact of the project will result in the creation of 200 jobs in five years totaling $16 million in payroll. The state and local tax impact over five years is projected at $3.6 million.

It will cost an estimated $3.5 million to renovate the 60 Collegeview Road building, so it can house the program for the first phase of the project. The University, its partners, donors and corporate gifts are expected to provide funding toward the end investment of $10.8 million. In early May, the State of Ohio awarded $500,000 from its capital budget to the STEAM project. The project is part of the Campus Renewal funding priority of the “Where We Stand Matters” campaign.

A contest is now underway to come up with a creative name for the unique building space. You can submit your ideas at www.otterbein.edu/steamcenter or #steammix.

The STEAM project is already creating a lot of buzz with Otterbein faculty, students, staff members and alumni as well as in the business community. Here are comments about the positive impact the innovation center is expected to have on Otterbein and all those it serves.

Kevin Stough MBA ’03
Lead Software Engineer, Gap Inc.

Q. Given your experience in the technology field, what do you think universities should be doing to take science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) students to the next level of exploration, invention and collaborative work?
A. The STEAM Innovation Center and similar programs are a great place to start… Any kind of collaboration that can be done in real time between businesses, students and educators will help students be better prepared for their first jobs out of college. Educators can also learn more about what’s going on in the corporate world and adjust their learning plans to more accurately reflect the types of things that would benefit their students.

Q. What is your initial impression of Otterbein’s plan for the STEAM Center?
A. I love the idea of this center. The addition of “art” to STEM is a great innovation. That is the missing piece in a lot of STEM programs. In my day-to-day work in the software engineering field, there is as much art as there is science to the things we build.

Q. What do you think this center could mean for future Otterbein students and technology companies in central Ohio?
A. It will help bridge a gap between academics and real-world application. Most of the people I work with did some sort of internship during their schooling, but it was a situation where schooling stopped and you focused fully on the internship and vice versa. Being able to integrate the two — where learning and doing happen together — will be a great experience for students and companies alike.

GARY MAUL
Director of Systems Engineering, Otterbein

Q. What do you think this center will mean for future students and Otterbein’s place in the community?
A. Employers will look at the companies and the projects that students have worked on and will be very excited about hiring them. The STEAM Innovation Center is unique among liberal-arts institutions and among
Otterbein’s peer group. The concept is the wave of the future as far as interdisciplinary education goes. The thing that makes Otterbein’s approach unique is the inclusion of companies that will be resident in the center. This will help greatly with economic development in the community.

**Q. What sort of innovations and discoveries do you hope to see coming from STEAM once it is up and running?**

**A.** The companies that are residents of the center will determine that. At present there are three high-tech companies with exciting new technologies they are developing that will create a real impact on how we approach the use of our computers and the internet. Beyond high-tech start-ups, I think the students will be able to help mid-sized companies with development of new products and processes as well as improvements to existing processes.

**Q. How can alumni collaborate with the center?**

**A.** Alumni can participate by helping to support the center financially, and their companies can sponsor projects at the center. In addition, they can offer student internships and return to campus to speak to student groups and classes.

**MIKAYLA KNERR ’19**

_**Systems Engineering Major**_

**Q. What’s the most exciting thing about the STEAM Innovation Center?**

**A.** My classmates and I will have the chance to solve real-world problems with industry partners before we graduate. The experiences we will gain from the STEAM Innovation Center will give us an advantage when we enter the workforce.

**Q. How about you personally?**

**A.** The STEAM Innovation Center will help me launch a chapter of the Society of Women Engineers at Otterbein. STEAM will provide this new organization the opportunity to influence young women and encourage them to consider engineering.

**MIGUEL PEDROZO ’19**

_**Systems Engineering Major**_

**Q. What’s the most exciting thing about the STEAM center?**

**A.** It’s the opportunity it opens up for the systems engineering program at Otterbein. With the exclusive workspace, our classes and lab work will be done more effectively and flexibly. It will also give me the opportunity to work at internships that would have been crossed off my list due to commuting, as some companies will be working out of the center.

**Q. How about you personally?**

**A.** This center means a great deal to me, as it will allow me to have an even greater hands-on experience through this program. With the increased technology and tools at our disposal, the STEAM Innovation Center will launch our program to an elite level.

**BRUCE FAWCETT**

_**Executive Director, PolymerOhio**_

**Q. Why did PolymerOhio decide it wants to be part of the STEAM Center?**

**A.** It was because we saw significant mutual benefits. PolymerOhio works with manufacturers in central Ohio who will utilize the innovation center as a resource. As a result, the students will have a greatly enhanced educational experience and job prospects. Manufacturers will use the center’s resources to accelerate innovation and find their next generation of employees.

**Q. What do you find most exciting about the plans for the center?**

**A.** The mixing of students and academia with the innovative entrepreneurs and successful regional manufacturers will create an exciting, creative and dynamic environment. Interaction will result in cross-fertilization of ideas to the benefit of all that participate. There are few places that I know where a student, an entrepreneur developing leading-edge technology and an established manufacturer are interacting, sharing ideas and learning from each other.

**Q. What sort of innovations and discoveries should we expect to see coming from Polymer Ohio once STEAM is up and running?**

**A.** We envision that these manufacturers, particularly the small- and medium-sized companies that have few resources, will benefit from the STEAM Innovation Center in two ways. The first is accelerating the introduction of new products and processes to market. Second, we will use the center to expose manufacturers to new advanced manufacturing technologies, accelerating the adoption of those technologies in their facilities.
Otterbein has always and will always stand out across the nation for its bold ideals. The choice that women should teach and learn alongside their male counterparts as equals may not have been popular — but it was right.

Our shared governance model ushered in an era that proclaimed all voices should be heard.

Otterbein championed integrative studies and service learning long before these learning models were recognized for their power — we continue to offer students the smartest way to learn.

While these historic initiatives define our past, they also affirm what we STAND for — and always will.

We continue to invite you to stand with us to shape Otterbein’s future. To date, hundreds of individuals, groups, classes, clubs and corporations have stood up to help Otterbein grow to the next level and prepare for its future of setting the pace in higher education, while graduating citizens of a model community to lead a life of purpose. We’re excited to share with you more information about the funding priorities and more about the donors who have joined our campaign. We hope, too, that you will:

**STAND WITH US** to guarantee Otterbein’s legacy in which values, faith and intellect embolden leaders, students and alumni to do what is right.

**STAND WITH US** to prepare curious, civil and compassionate critical thinkers who advance a greater good in their professions and their communities.

**STAND WITH US** to ensure affordability, to fuel and advance the learning experience and to build and modernize spaces that inspire discovery.

**STAND WITH OTTERBEIN.** Help us keep it standing strong — today and for generations to come.

The Three Funding Priorities

**ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY**

*Ensuring Otterbein’s excellence is an opportunity families can afford*

“BIG OPPORTUNITIES SHOULD NEVER MEAN BIG DEBT.”

*Kathy Krendl, Otterbein President*

Students who are eager to learn, to lead and to better themselves deserve the opportunity to call themselves Cardinals — regardless of their financial situations. Investing in scholarships and easing the financial burden of a college education is a gift that lasts a lifetime.
STAND for Access and Affordability by supporting…
- Scholarship and grant opportunities that support and recognize:
  - Academic excellence
  - Diversity
  - First-generation students
  - Individual academic departments
  - Merit- and need-based aid
  - Student success

STAND for Building a Model Community by supporting…
- Five Cardinal Experiences to provide transformational learning:
  - Global and Intercultural Engagement
  - Internships and Professional Experience
  - Research and Creative Work
  - Leadership and Citizenship
  - Community Engagement
- Funds to support faculty excellence in instruction and teaching innovation, and departmental enhancements for research, equipment and instructional resources
- Employee professional development funds to recognize exemplars, foster excellence and aid in faculty and staff recruitment and retention
- Green fund to invest in sustainability projects and priorities
- Funds to support strategic information technology enhancements
- OTTERBEIN ANNUAL FUND to support the University’s greatest needs and opportunities

BUILDING A MODEL COMMUNITY
Building a strong foundation of resources to support and grow meaningful mentoring relationships and to cultivate and recognize innovation, creativity and learning

“Otterbein produces graduates who change the world in really big and beautiful ways.”
Kent D. Stuckey ’79, Campaign Chair

Real-world experiences inside and outside of the classroom foster civility, compassion, curiosity and critical thinking as surely as they affirm knowledge and comprehension. This kind of transformative experience — for faculty members and students — is critical to Otterbein’s vision in building a model community of leaders and learners.

CAMPUS RENEWAL
Advancing Otterbein’s learning environment by enhancing facilities and green spaces

“It is our responsibility to consider what kinds of spaces, places and surroundings will support how our faculty work and inspire students in their learning and discovery.”
Michael Hoggarth, Professor, Biology and Earth Science

From chalkboards to smart boards, it is time to construct and modernize spaces that inspire creativity, demand collaboration and thrive as distinctive, innovative places that integrate disciplines as readily as ideas and industries. Campus Renewal challenges us to protect the historic beauty of campus while moving full steam ahead in building the 21st century learning laboratory.

STAND for Campus Renewal by building or modernizing …
- The Campus Center
- The STEAM Innovation Center (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math)
- The Grove: a new pedestrian mall designed to connect campus, community, tradition and beauty as a central outdoor gathering space
- The Center of Health and Sport Sciences
- The Battelle Fine Arts Center
- The Learning Commons: enhancing the Courtright Memorial Library
- A Facilities and Grounds Endowment for Cardinal Pride

For more information on the campaign, go to www.otterbein.edu/STAND
CLEARING THE FIRST $25 MILLION MARK

CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS
(as of May 2016)
CURRENT TOTAL
$25,275,000
8,890 DONORS
More than 2,300 donors made their FIRST GIFT ever to Otterbein
All 50 states have donors in them, with Ohio leading the way with more than 6,000 donors
46 named funds added to Access and Affordability priorities
26 named funds added to Model Community priorities

ANNUAL GIVING/ANNUAL FUND
The foundation of giving to Otterbein STANDS with you, the donor, each year supporting the greatest needs on campus — scholarships, academic excellence, the extracurricular experience and, most importantly, maintaining the traditions and priorities Otterbein holds most dear.

$214 Average Annual Gift

ANNUAL GIVING DONORS

Donors to Annual Fund (so far in fiscal year 2016)
<1970s 992
1970-1979 456
1980-1989 284
1990-1999 260
2000-2009 220
2010-2016 197

67% SUPPORT THE ANNUAL FUND
19% MAKE SPECIFIC GIFTS EACH YEAR
14% SUPPORT THE ANNUAL FUND AND MAKE AN ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC GIFT

To be COUNTED this year, make your Annual Fund gift by June 30!

MAJOR GIFTS
Major Gifts are special commitments alumni and friends make to mark a milestone in their lives such as retirement, a career success, honoring a loved one, or demonstrating belief in a University program, building or initiative. Donors can choose, with a gift of $25,000 or more
to endow a permanent fund for Otterbein providing a constant resource for the University’s future. Donors and their families, for generations to come, receive annual reports about the fund’s financial progress and its impact for the campus each year. Donors in this campaign are choosing to support athletics, student affairs and scholarly pursuits both for students and faculty, among other areas.

Most major gifts are pledged over a period of time, often three to five years, in order to achieve the goal donors want to endow and support.

48 new named endowments

PLANNED GIVING
With a Planned Gift, you can create a legacy that takes into account family needs, reflects your values and gives back to future generations. Otterbein welcomes the opportunity to work with you to remember the University in your future plans. Planned gifts made through trusts, bequests, charitable gift annuities and other long-term arrangements enable individuals of all means to create a permanent legacy.

57 expectancies recorded with a total value of $8,018,801
Thank You for Standing with Otterbein

This list represents cash and commitments received since the inception of the campaign on July 1, 2011.

$500,000 & Up
Anonymous
David S. Cauley
Vida S. Clements Foundation
Joanne Klepinger Ditter
Michael E. Ducey & Pattie Black-Ducey
Elmer † & Gladys McFeeley Funkhouse †
John T. & Eileen Fagan Huston
Austin E. Knowlton Foundation
Kathy A. Krendl & Richard S. Gilbert
Richard & Glenna LeGrand
Charitable Fund
Virginia Philippi Longmire
EL Doris J. McFarland
O Club Foundation
John † & Donna Patton †
The Pioneer Fund
Victor G † & Alice E Ritter †
Edwin L. † & Marilou Harold Roush
Peggy Miller Ruhlin
James & Kathleen Rutherford
Kend Stuckey
Mark R. & Deborah Scott Thresher
Annie Baumann Upper

$100,000 to $499,999
Anonymous
Sandra Williams Bennett
Columbus Foundation
Matthew R. D’Oley
Jane Dudinsky
Susan Echols
David & Beth Fisher
Wendell L. Foote
Richard O. Gantz †
Gwendolyn Blum Garrison †
Clifford E. Gebhart †
Raymond † & Helen Boyer Jennings †
Philip L. Johnson
Maurice R. & Dorothy J. McVay
Endowed Fund
Craig Morrison
Neavlyn Frischte Neivil
Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges
Elizabeth A. Salt
Richard † & Charlotte Sanders
Richard & Carolyn Brown Sherrick
Sports Facilities Development, Ltd.
Don & Dorothy Unger
Sharon van der Walde
Ruth Gaugh Vogel †
Westerville Otterbein Women’s Club
Alec & Kathleen Wightman
Ben Williams

$25,000 to $99,999
Anonymous [4]
Hugh D. & Elizabeth Glor Allen
Frederick A. Ashbaugh †
Irvin J. & Connie Bence
Dan H. & Regina Parcell Bremer
Richard H. & Carolyn Boda Bridgman
Henry C. Brooks
Duane G. Buck
John H. & Carole Kreider Bullis
Carshal A. & Jean Reed Burris
Carolyn Cadier
Susan Canfield
Fred O. Ciminello †
Robert C. Cole
William E. Cole
John B. & Olive S. Cook Foundation
Edmund L. & Diane Daily Cox
William A. & Deborah Ewell Currin
Beth & Gary Daugherty
David Lee Davis †
Dayton Foundation Dispository
Marianne de Barbaradillo
Margaret Ann Dennis
Diefenbach Trust
Duane H. & Arline Speelman Dillman
W. Bernice Brown Donaldson
Sean T. & Kellen Donnelly
Margaret Morgan Doone
Jeffrey Dorsey & Marcel Mahaffey
Jim & Freda Eby
Charles R. & Paula Bricker Erickson
William L. & Sonya Stouffer Evans
Virginia A. Ford
Jim & Linda Francis
Neva Frutsche
Janet R. Gilbert †
Alan R. Goff
William S. Gornall
Patricia M. Hajek †
Dorothy Allsup Harbach †
Jeffrey Hargis
Eddie & Valerie Harrell
Sherida Harvey
David & Loretta Evans Heigle
Reynold C. Hoefflin
Michael A. Hoggard
Jane Morrison Horn
Stanton T. & Ann Yost Ickes †
Chris & Karen Kaiser
John & Regina Kengla
John & Susie King
James & Cathy Krendl
Kris Hummel & Claudia Lehman
Jane M. Leiby
Connie Hellwarth Leonard
Cindy L. Loudenslager
Eunice Lovejoy
Kurt Lykins
Carol A. MacRae
Thomas & Dee Martin
George Masselos †
Kyle Miller Memorial Race
Thomas C. & Sarah Morrison
Marcella S. Murphy †
Nationwide Foundation Higher Ed Program
Luis & Mary Navarro
Brian E. & Gwendolyn Swigart Nichols
Oakland Nursery
Vernon L. Pack
Kathleen Perrine
Mark N. & Betty Peters
Mindy S. Phinney
Thomas Picciocchi
Mark A. & Maria C. Pizzi
Jennifer Prikkel
Rebecca Coleman Princehorn & Clay County
Mary B. Puskarich Families
Reinberger Foundation
Paul S. & Sheila Reiner
Riverside Hearing Services, LTD
Rosh Honda
Charles Salt †
James L. & Elizabeth Minnich Saltzgiver
Dwight Peter Sanderson
Marsha Rice Scanlin
Carl & Mildred Cox Schafer
Louise Stouffer Schultz
Patricia Schutz
Ethel Lawyer Shaw †
Emerson † & Sarah Beidler Shuck †
Gary Stansbury
Norma Smith Stockman
Hilary Tarantino
Tau Epsilon Mu Alumnae (TEM)
Jonathan & Susan Thomas
Carol A. Thompson
Joanne F. Van Sant †
Malinda A. Van Sant
Warren County Foundation Depository
Alan Waterhouse & Beena Wycliffe
Westerville Fund
John A. & Karen Persson Whalen
Margaret White
Richard L. † & Shirley Fritz Whitehead †
Robert † & Eleanor Wilcox †
Robert E. & Annabeth Sommers Wilkinson
Steve & Renea Willham
Mable M. Williams
The Women’s Fund of Central Ohio
Robert E. Woodruff
Robin Woorden
Worthington Industries Foundation
Friends of Charles “Doc Z” Zimmerman

† denotes deceased

Gifts were reviewed for accuracy. Please contact Kate Billy, director of stewardship and donor relations, at 614-823-1952 or kbilly@otterbein.edu for more information.
The Joanne Van Sant Society
Joanne Van Sant, better known as “Dean Van,” served Otterbein for more than 50 years. Through her leadership and mentorship, she had a positive impact on countless students, graduates, faculty and staff, and community leaders. In that spirit of unwavering commitment, Otterbein proudly established the Joanne Van Sant Leadership Giving Society. This annual giving society recognizes donors whose annual giving is at or exceeds $1,000. Annual giving is based on the fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 30.

The 1847 Society
The 1847 Society recognizes those alumni, parents and friends of Otterbein University who have documented their commitment by naming the University as a beneficiary in their estate planning. Anyone who has included Otterbein and provided documentation is eligible for membership.

Thoughtful planning now ensures that future generations will continue to benefit from the exceptional educational experience that Otterbein has provided since its founding in 1847. A planned gift provides a perfect opportunity to honor a loved one, an inspiring professor or a field of study that has made an impact on your life. You can create a legacy that takes into account your family needs, reflects your values and gives back to future generations.

Recognition Society Listing: (as of May 15, 2016)
*Denotes Members of the 1847 Society
† Denotes deceased

Anonymous (2)
Leslie F. & Ellen Shipman Aiello
Hugh D. & Elizabeth Glor Allen
Miriam Fetzler Anger
Jeff A. & Suzanne Ogles Anckom
Sally Banbury Anspach
Scott G. & Tricia Johnson Arthur
Geoffrey C. & Janice Ciampa Astles
Troy & Debra Bask
William F. & Patricia Wiegand Bale
Irvin J. & Constance Bence
Peter R. & Jody Harker Bible
Mary F. Bivins
Jefferson R. Blackburn-Smith
David C. & Gill Williams Bloom
Nancy Staby Boardman
Troy A. & Kathleen Bonte
Dan H. & Regina Parcells Bremer
Richard H. & Carolyn Boda Bridgman
Emma P. Brock
Thomas R. & Jean Hostetter Bromeley
Henry Brooks
Duane G. Buck
John H. & Carol Kreider Bullis
Carshal A. & Jean Reed Burris
Mynor K. Campbell
Susan L. Canfield
Don & Mary Jo Allen Carlos
Alicia Dawn Caudill
Bryan J. & Judith Cerqua
Michael Charles
Jeffrey & Rachel Steele Christoff
David & Edith Walters Cole
Robert C. Cole
William E. Cole *
William T. Conard & Anahi Ortiz
Blanche Geho Conarroe
Edith Peters Corbin
Christopher T. Cordle & Susan Palmer
William A. & Stephanie Robertson Cotton
Crystal Coulter
Christine L. Cox
Edmund L. & Diane Daily Cox
Judith Nosker Crogan
William A. & Deborah Ewell Currin
Bob & Jocelyn Fu Curry
Beth & Gary Daugherty
Glen Day
David L. & Sara Elberfeld Deever
Dorothy Deibel
C. Brent DeVore & Nancy E. Nikiforow
Joanne Klepinger Ditmer
Sean T. & Kellyn Donnelly
Margaret Morgan Donner
Marcia D’Oyly
Matthew R. D’Oyly *
Marian Swolz Dreisbach
Rose Mansfield Drewes
Michael E. & Patricia Ducey *
Jane Dudinsky
Ron & Jan Lenahan Dwyer
Jim & Freda Eby
Charles R. & Paula Bricker Erickson
Charles G. & Anne Wandrisco Ernst
Mary Ann Charles Eschbach
William L. & Sonya Stauffer Evans
Richard E. Ettger
Patty Feuer
David & Beth Fisher
James G. Faherty
Bruce E. Flinchbaugh †
Leslie D. Foer
Wendell L. Foote *
Virginia A. Ford *
Kristopher S. Foster
Jim & Linda Francis
Peter F. & Mary V. Frenzer
Beulah Rammelsberg Fritsche
Neva Fritsche
Robert & Jackie Gatti
R. Thomas George
Bruce R. Gifford
Daniel C. Gifford
Alan R. Goff *
Gary & Marla Gambita
Donald L. Good Jr.
Christopher S. & Susan Howell Grant
Lawrence E. Green
Mike & Becky Lust Griber
Anna Medert Haidet *

Mary F. Hall
Nancy Hamilton *
Alice Carlson Hard
William & Paula G. Harper
Eddie & Valerie Harrell
Gary & Sally Hayes
Karen Nixon Heaberlin
Dean & Joyce Hearne
James D. Heddeleson
David & Loretta Evans Heigle *
Norman & Marjorie Henderson
Cheryl Herbert
Sarah & Jim Hickey
Scott T. Hill
Elliot B. & Ruth Hodgdon
Michael A. Hoggart
Kenneth W. Hollis
Jay R. Hone
Jane Morrison Horn *
Richard & Jeannine Hollingsworth Huddle
Tony E. & Judith Furay Hugli
John T. & Eileen Fagan Huston *
Michael E. & Lisa Collins Huston
Daniel E. Huther
Stanton T. Ickes
Joseph N. & Pamela Ignat
Glenna S. Jackson
Kenneth C. & Cynthia Rowles Jackson
Christine Kapoorstas Janing
Mark A. & Deborah Hillis Johnson
Philip L. Johnson
Ronald W. & Suzanne Shelley Jones
Chris & Karen Kaiser *
John & Regina Kengla
Thomas J. & Donna L. Kerr
Erwin K. & Barbara Kerr *
Rolland D. & Anne Hathaway King
Duane & Jed King
Harold J. & Carol Varner Kinzer
Marsha S. Klingbeil
Douglas & Mary Pat Knight
James Cole Kraner
Virginia Cole Kraner
James & Cathy Kendell
Kathy A. Kendell & Richard S. Gilbert *
Dale F. & Diane Conard Kuhn
Gregory & Cynthia Stucky Kuss
Mary Jane Sulcebarber Lane
Lou Ann Layton
Christine J. Lei
Jane M. Leiby
William E. & Helen Hilt LeMay *
Connie Hellworth Leonard
Bernard H. Lieving
Barbara Maurer Lindemann
Jerry B. & Sara Wright Lingrel
J.S. Litton
Dennis A. Lohr
GIVING SOCIETIES

Virginia Phalippi Longmire * 
Pamela Hill Lorr * 
Eunice Lovejoy 
Jerry & Marilyn Banberger Lyke 
Ron & Ruth Lykins 
Douglas W. MacCullum 
John & Helen Magow 
Benjamin G. Mallory 
Renato Marcelango & Denise Runewicz 
Thomas & Dee Martin * 
Miguel Martinez-Saenz & Julie Holland 
Camencita Perez McDonald 
El Doris J. McFarland * 
Michael & Karen McGeevey 
William J. & Dawn Hobgood McLaughlin 
David Melick 
Edward L. & Constance Myers Mentzer 
Craig A. & Pamela S. Miller 
George P. Miller 
M. Joseph & Joyce Rugh Miller 
Al & Louise Minor 
H. Stephen Moeller 
Rae Jeanne Fox Mallica 
John L. Moorhead 
Richard W. & Maxine Swingle Morain 
James D. & Phyllis Reed Morgan 
Thomas C. & Sarah Morrison 
David F. Moser 
Bradford B. Mullin 
Catherine Bell Mullin 
Jeffrey A. Myers * 
Diane Nance 
Luis & Mary Navarro
Jean McCloy Needham 
Roger & Betty Neff 
Marvin W. & Charlene Zundel Nevans 
Newalyn Frischa Nevill 
Howard B. Newton 
Brian E. & Gwendolyn Swigart Nichols 
Alan E. & Carol S. Norris * 
Gerald A. Obenauber 
Colleen Ogle & Richard A. Frye 
Richard & Jane Ogan 
Ronald E. Orbin 
Vernon L. Pack * 
Debra Burns Part 
Paul B. & Laurie Ewell Paulus 
Mark N. & Betty Peters 
Sara Ullman Paff 
H. Eugene & Marilyn Call Pfieger 
Kara Anderson Pickler 
Jack & Mary Jean Barnhard Pietila * 
Ronald C. Pope 
Sue Poppink 
Rebecca Coleman Princehorn 
& Clay Cormany * 
Miriam Hoover Pullins 
Mary Puskarich 
Matthew P. & Kristine Heston Puskarich 
Jennifer Woodward Radulski 
J. Cabot & Heather Leach Rea 
William J. & Vera Andreichuk Rea 
Paul & Sheila Reiner 
Jean Weixel Reynolds 
Eugene L. Riblet 
Neil E. Richard 
Ronald Richie 
Eric & Kristi Robbins 
Phillip P. Roberts 
Chester K. & Sherry F. Robinson 
Joan Rocks 
Wendy L. Rouah 
Ronald M. Ruble * 
Richard L. & Carol Shook Rufener 
Peggy Miller Ruhlin * 
Mark A. & Tracy Rush 
Marvin & Juanita Rusk 
James & Kathleen Rutherford 
Grace Rohrer Rymer 
Elizabeth A. Salt * 
James L. & Elizabeth Minnich Saltzgiver 
Dwight Peter Sanderson 
Marsha Rice Scanlin 
Ronald J. Scharrer * 
Louise Stouffer Schultz 
Zachary D. Schultz 
Patricia Schultz * 
William & Eva Sebo 
William L. Sennett 
Richard & Carolyn Brown Sherrick * 
Gloria Stouffer Shiffer 
James D. Shilling 
David & Marcy Shultz 
Ralph K. Shunk 
William & Melissa Dawn Simkins 
Sharon Johnson Slusher 
Brant O. & Heather Harris Smith 
Emily A. Smith * 
Fred E. & Mary Sue Webnher Smith 
Harvey B. Smith * 
Martin D. Smith 
Richard S. & Rebbecca Pickel Smith 
Larry H. Snyder 
Beau B. Speiser 
Richard C. Spencer 
F. Thomas Sporck 
Don E. Steck * 
Steve & Patricia Steineur 
Matthew C. & Kathryn Felsenthal Stephens 
Stephen & Dawn Maumula Stewart 
W. Michael Stobart 
Norma Smith Stockman * 
Kay Swager Storch 
Karen Hoehnhorst Strand 
David C. Strick 
Kimberly Strosnider 
Kent D. Stuckey 
Paul E. & Margaret Ridge Stuckey * 
David K. Sturgis 
Phillip J. Susi 
Ford H. Swigart 
Gary & Rose Swisher * 
Lois F. Szudy 
Ali & Zohireh Tabatabai 
Charles D. Taylor * 
Carol A. Thompson * 
Mark R. & Deborah Scott Thresher * 
Heidi Tracy 
Roger & Margaret Lloyd Trent 
Susan Krani Trumble 
L. Bruce Turner 
Gary & Deborah Ubray 
Annie Baumann Upper * 
Robert F. & Evelyn Bender Vance 
Rebecca Vazquez-Skillings & Mark Skillings 
Carol A. Ventresca 
Ryan Wagner 
Robert & Marjorie Welsch 
Clara Liesmann Warren 
Alan Waterhouse & Beena Wycliffe 
Joel M. & Barbara Weaver 
Herman J. Weber 
John T. Wespenneng & Christine Kelly 
Kim Wells * 
John A. & Karen Persson Whalen * 
Richard L. Whitehead * 
Evelyn Winder 
Alac & Kathleen Wightman * 
Elizabeth Laughbaum Wiley 
Susan E. Wiley 
Robert E. & Annbeth Sommers Wilkinson 
Ruth Barnes Wilson 
Sharon Ellenberger Wilson 
Glenn C. & Sara Lawton Winston 
T. Kent & Jane Melhorn Witt 
Brian J. & Jerrylan Scott Wood 
Robert E. Woodrufl * 
David L. & Jennifer Woodyard Rudulski 
Elmer W. Yoest * 
Joseph J. & Deborah Yohn 
Lois Abbott Yost 
Donald E. and Mary Zeigler 
Robin Zimmerman 
John Zsokye

In addition to those noted previously, the following are members of the 1847 Society.

Anonymous (2)
Morton J. & Barbara K. Achter 
Cameron H. Allen 
Kathleen Mollett Augspurger 
John H. Baffa 
Sandra Williams Bennett 
James E. Black 
Kevin F. & Lauren Boyle 
C. Christopher & Leslie McEvoy Bright 
Michael & Judy Rohrer Christian 
Ann Shaeck Collins 
Richard A. Dilgard 
William E. Downey 
Marcia Pollock Farabee 
Robert Fogel 
Susan McDaniell Gable 
Paul J. Gibson 
William S. Gornall 
Karl Greene 
Marolin P. Griffin 
Reynald C. Hoeflin 
Marjorie Lambert Hopkins 
Marc B. Imboden 
Jerry & Carol Svensson Jenkins 
Gregory L. Jewett 
Mary G. Keck 
Eral F. & Betty Messmer Kennedy 
Richard & Glenna LeGrand Charitable Fund 
Robert B. Love 
Kurt Lykins 
Anthony J. Mangia 
Michael J. Maxwell 
Lois J. McFarland 
Pearson McWane 
Wade S. & Princess Johnson Miller 
Mary Jo Monte-Kaser 
David S. & Debra Goodrich Oldham 
Bernice Glor Pagliaro 
Janis-Rozena Peir 
George J. & Donnalea Phinney 
Harold L. Pitz 
Anne L. Poerner 
Manlou Harold Roush 
Ronald J. Scharrer 
Mr. and Mrs. Wolfgang R. Schmitt 
Timothy F. & Kay Callendine Stark 
Pearl Stark 
Talisa Nicole Starr 
Lawrence A. Stebleton 
Eleanor McDill Toole 
Don and Dorothy Unger 
Bryan J. Valentine 
James E. Valentine 
Mary McMillan Van Sickle 
Susan Varga 
David L. Ward 
Janet Gurney Welch 
John H. Wilms 
David S. & Olivia McCoy Yohn 
William T. Young
A donor’s decision to invest in Otterbein is personal, but most often it connects people with their passions and an intended purpose. These donor profiles offer insight into why these friends have decided to STAND with Otterbein.

David Cawley ’88

Gift: An endowment to support Otterbein Christian Fellowship (OCF) or its faith-based successor.

Why: “Otterbein allowed me to realize that I had accepted Christ on my own and helped me grow spiritually,” Cawley said. “When students decides if Christ will be a main part of their lives, OCF can be there to help them mature in their spiritual life.” While at Otterbein, OCF was a huge part of Cawley’s life. He served as the organization’s president during his junior year. “That’s what I really liked about going to a small school – it allows you to take advantage of opportunities,” he said. “You can be an important part of a student organization.”

Richard “Dick” LeGrand ’62 and his late wife, Glenna

Gift: LeGrand, a former bank president and board member of Rio Grande College, and his late wife, Glenna, have been loyal and long-time supporters of Otterbein with 31 years of giving to the Annual Fund. LeGrand also provided a cash gift to establish a fund for the conservation of the Frank Museum’s art collection to provide resources to extend the life of the collection for years to come and an estate commitment that will give Otterbein the discretionary ability to meet its most pressing institutional needs and act on new initiatives at the time the gift is realized.

Why: “We will never be able to pay back all that we have been given. But we can give back to others and we can give to the next generation. When we contributed to the conversion project of professor Lillian Frank’s residential home to the Frank Museum of Art, it was the result of a lot of encouragement from my late wife, Glenna. I continue to financially support projects that I know would please her. I believe the obligation to give back is important. I give to operating funds because I know it will help keep Otterbein affordable. I give to the Annual Fund because it is a good habit. It makes you feel as if you’ve accomplished something even if it is just a few dollars. I also enjoy talking to the students who call. Where we stand does matter.”

The late Tom E. Brady ’36 and Jean Brady

Gift: The Tom E. and Jean Brady Scholarship.

Why: Jean Brady established the scholarship in 1989 to honor her late husband, Tom. Jean passed in 2015 and the majority of their estate will be added to the scholarship fund. Those eligible to receive this scholarship include music education majors with a specialization in instrumental music; other music majors; or students of other majors who participate in musical ensembles, preferably instrumental.
ElDoris McFarland ’53

McFarland spent 40 years working with 5- and 6-year-olds in the Columbus Public School district. Now retired, she sings in a retired teacher’s choir and another choir at Stonybrook United Methodist Church; is active in the New Albany Lions Club, including 12 years as secretary; and is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She has visited all seven continents, including a trip to Antarctica with a group led by iconic Columbus Zoo & Aquarium Director, Jack Hanna.

Gift: The ElDoris McFarland Scholarship was established in 2006 with a cash gift. The income from the fund is used to provide scholarships for undergraduates majoring in education with a focus on grades K-4. The scholarship will be fortified with a substantial estate designation she made to the University in 2014, all in addition to her loyal giving for decades to Otterbein’s Annual Fund.

Why: “I’ve been fortunate and I like the fact that I can go ahead and do something for future students. The education I received at Otterbein enabled me to get started with my teaching career and, while more than 60 years have passed since then, I still like what Otterbein stands for. We’re still holding to high moral values,” McFarland says. “I think people think it’s a very good school. I’m proud of that.”

Nevalyn Fritsche Nevil ’71

Gift: Nevil is a long-time supporter of the Department of Theatre and Dance and has served as a member of the University’s board of trustees since the fall of 2013. In addition, she is serving as chair of the Performing Arts Committee of the “Where We Stand Matters” campaign. Nevil has made a pledge to support the arts through her giving and leadership.

Why: Nevil firmly believes that Otterbein continues to be a place where students receive an exceptional education from faculty members who truly care about their development in the classroom and as people. “That’s really why I am so involved with the university. My gift is about helping maintain and further the quality of our theatre program, which is already one of the best in the country,” she says. “I also hope it inspires others to make gifts to the arts at Otterbein.”

Carolyn Brown Sherrick ’53 and Richard (Dick) Sherrick ’54

Dick served two years in the military and then worked in the computer field for 40 years, mostly with IBM Federal Systems. Carolyn was a teacher for four years, took time off to raise their children and then launched a second career as a certified public accountant that lasted 30 years. The couple retired to Greensboro, NC, in 1998 after spending most of their working lives in the Bethesda, MD, area.

Gift: $50,000 toward the Richard and Carolyn Sherrick Endowed Scholarship for a student majoring in business or math and $50,000 to create the Richard and Carolyn Sherrick Five Cardinal Experiences Fund in support of the Otterbein experiential learning program that engages students in real-world opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills they have acquired in the classroom.

Why: “Otterbein gave us a great deal personally and the direction for where our lives have gone,” Carolyn says. “We feel it’s important for us to make this commitment.” Adds Dick: “Having a background in math and working our way through college gave us the discipline and education to get things moving forward. We want to help others succeed as they leave Otterbein for a lifetime of work.” The Sherricks are hopeful that some of the proceeds from the Five Cardinal Experiences Fund will support travel by Otterbein students. They have visited nearly 80 countries and firmly believe there is much to learn from people in other cultures.
Daugherty was tenured at Otterbein in 1990 and became a full professor of English in 1996. She has taught courses in 20th century British literature, Appalachian literature, Latin American magical realism, women’s literature, Virginia Woolf, various technical and professional writing courses, as well as First Year Seminar, Integrative Studies and Senior Year Experience courses to more than 1,000 Otterbein students over the course of her career.

**Gift:** The Daugherty Promise Scholarship, an endowed scholarship for an English major set up by Daugherty and her husband, Gary.

**Why:** “Gary and I have always been deeply grateful for the chance to attend college and deeply aware that not everyone gets that chance,” Daugherty said. “Coming from small towns that did not hold out much promise in the way of identity exploration, learning or fulfilling work, we experienced a literal broadening and deepening in college. For us it was real, not a cliché, to say the world opened up.”

**Kurt Lykins MBA ’14**

Lykins quickly rose through the ranks at Corporate One Federal Credit Union, becoming vice president and chief technology officer at the age of 27. He has spoken on six of the seven continents, discussing technology, financial cooperatives and credit unions. Lykins left Corporate One in 2013 to start his own accounting firm in Westerville. He also teaches accounting at Otterbein.

**Gift:** An estate plan living trust for the Department of Business, Accounting and Economics.

**Why:** Lykins believes society is built around three pillars: education, basic health care and a stable financial system. “I believe in a strong education, and a strong secondary education,” Lykins said. A fifth-generation graduate of Ohio University, Lykins received his MBA from Otterbein. “I’ve done part of my education here and want to give back to where I am. I feel very strongly about Athens and Westerville.”

**Alan Goff ’75**

Goff served as vice president at Chase Manhattan Bank in the software development field and, in recent years, was a computer science consultant. He has invested in Otterbein for more than 35 years and is a founding member of both the Joanne Van Sant Society and the 1847 Society.

**Gift:** Dr. David Deever Mathematics and Computer Science Endowed Fund.

**Why:** Goff created an endowment that will provide discretionary resources for the Department of Mathematical Sciences to honor and celebrate Otterbein Professor Dr. David Deever. Twenty-one alumni have contributed to the fund.
More new initiatives!

The Joanne Van Sant Office of Student Affairs Initiative
This initiative will raise funds to ensure what Dean Van always fostered at Otterbein — that learning is not limited to the classroom and that student experiences outside of the classroom are as valuable to students’ growth and discovery as their formal studies. At least 60 percent of the funds will go toward supporting student affairs programming and the remaining will be used to maintain collaborative office environments.

Mary Jo and Don Carlos Otterbein/James Nurse Practitioner Scholarship
Class of 1967 alumni Mary Jo and Don Carlos have committed to designate funds for the purpose of supporting the education of an outstanding graduate student who is a registered nurse enrolled at Otterbein in the nurse practitioner program or an OSU/James nurse enrolled in the graduate nursing programs at Otterbein. The scholarship celebrates Mary Jo’s triumphant remission of cancer and the superb treatment and care she received at the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute as well as meeting her life-long partner at Otterbein.

Michael T. Puskarich ’82 Scholarship
Michael T. Puskarich ’82 was the first of four family members who would graduate from Otterbein including his brother, Matthew P. Puskarich ’88, as well as cousins, Mark Puskarich ’86 and Amy Puskarich Mirabel ’88. While at Otterbein, Michael was a proud member of Zeta Phi and studied Business Administration. Upon graduating, Michael returned home to Harrison County, Ohio, to work with his family’s coal business and was an active and recognized community leader until his untimely passing in 2012. To honor Michael’s legacy and commitment to family, community and education, the Mary B. Puskarich families established the scholarship to benefit an Otterbein student with an emphasis on students from Harrison County, Ohio.

Will you STAND with Otterbein?
For the STAND campaign, a team of development directors are reaching out to alumni and friends by travelling to key areas where Otterbein alumni live. In the past nine months, alumni and friends in more than 15 states have welcomed these special envoys to talk with them about their dreams for the University and what it has meant to them throughout the years. These conversations have led to several gifts and commitments featured in this issue of Towers. If you, or someone you know, are interested in helping the University, please contact Kathleen Bonte at kbonte@otterbein.edu or 614-823-2707.

Current Development Directors:
Kathleen Bonte, executive director of development, travels to CA, IN, Western PA, OR, WA and the greater D.C. area
Candace Brady (cbrady@otterbein.edu), director of planned giving, travels to NC, SC, ME, MA, TX, Cincinnati, Dayton and other areas in Ohio.
Keith Phillips (kphilips@otterbein.edu), director of development, travels to NY, NJ, MI, MN, KY, TN, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Toledo and other areas in Ohio.
Nick Wood (nwood@otterbein.edu), director of development, travels to AZ, CO, D.C., IL, MD, VA, WI, WV, Dayton and other areas in Ohio.
"Second chances mean having the ability to follow up on important things."

Philip Johnson ’63
Philip Johnson ’63 graduated from Otterbein with a degree in social studies. He endowed the Philip Johnson Second Chance Scholarship as part of the STAND Campaign for Otterbein’s Future. In his own words, Johnson explains why he believes in second chances and how he hopes his scholarship will help other Otterbein students realize their goals as he did.

You don’t realize the effect of school
— how much it means — until you get older.

So this idea of the second chance comes from getting some direction toward my goal of a lifetime to have a career in engineering. Mine wasn’t a straight path.

My family lived in Berea, Ohio, and I went to high school there. I spent my first year in college at Baldwin Wallace. Then my father was transferred to Dayton and my family relocated there. Then I went to The Ohio State University. I’m not sure if my father suggested Ohio State — but I never felt at home there. It was so big. I never felt comfortable; I just felt out of place.

I dropped out, worked at Westinghouse and got married. I tried going back to Ohio State where I floundered a while longer.

I was attending a United Methodist Church at the time, and I remember talking to my pastor about my goals after I left Ohio State. He said, “You ought to take a look at Otterbein.” I didn’t know much about Otterbein, but my minister wrote me a letter of recommendation.

I went to Otterbein and talked with a number of folks. Otterbein bent over backwards to make sure I got credit for my courses. I was so pleased with the reception I got there.

I worked a lot of overtime so I could take a year off to go to Otterbein and complete my degree. I was a new father with two baby daughters at home, so I didn’t have much of a social life, but I remember the people of Westerville and Otterbein as so friendly and accommodating. A Spanish teacher met with me one-on-one all summer to help make sure I could meet the foreign language requirement, while not interfering with my other schoolwork.

Everything started to fall in line for my goal of completing my degree. I looked at Otterbein as my jumping off point. I earned my undergraduate degree at Otterbein and then earned a bachelor’s degree in engineering and a master’s degree in engineering management at the University of Dayton.

I got my job at Monsanto because of a second chance. I had an interview and tour and didn’t hear anything back. I went back home and wrote a letter to the company saying how much I enjoyed my tour and the company. A few days later, I received a job offer and went on to work for Monsanto for 29 years in many different roles.

Second chances mean having the ability to follow up on important things. I created the second chance scholarship with hopes that someone else who had a rough time would get his or her second chance. I hope it helps someone with the drive to pursue a degree who just needs a little help — financially — to know that they aren’t alone.
Warren Ernsberger ’43 was posthumously named a Westerville Champion for his service to the community and country. A bench was placed on the lawn of the old armory on State Street in his memory.

Jack Coberly ’52, retired school principal, was featured in Bob Dyer’s Akron Beacon Journal column recognizing his skill in writing comedic skits. At age 80, he began writing for the Reader’s Theatre group. The skits are available free of charge to parties interested in starting a similar group.

Tom Morrison ’63 has retired from Manatt Phelps & Phillips LLP.

Barbara Maurer Lindeman ’64 set a course record in the 70 and over age group in the Northwest Ohio Race for the Cure in Toledo in September.

Tom Stockdale ’64 retired at the conclusion of the 2014-15 school year after teaching physics and chemistry for 51 years. He taught in Columbus, Wynford, Lucas and Coshocton school districts as well as part-time for Central Ohio Technical College. In Coshocton he taught two dual enrollment/college plus classes in which students received both high school and college credit.

Dick Reynolds ’65 received the Outstanding Service Award from the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) at its 19th annual Division III meeting at the NABC Convention in Indianapolis, in April 2015. The award, presented annually since 1997, is given to coaches whose actions “inside and outside the lines” of coaching have distinguished them as valuable members of their communities.

Tim Kinnison ’66 has retired from Lockheed Martin.

Bill Baker ’68 was inducted into the Otterbein Athletic Hall of Fame in October. He was a three-time All-OAC performer who went on to play 11 seasons in the Canadian Football League, becoming league president 1988-89.

Carol Roe Smith ’69, retired teacher at Walnut Ridge High School, Columbus, was inducted into the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame in May at the annual banquet in Columbus.

Geoffrey Astles ’70 was appointed to the Finger Lakes Community College board of trustees by the Ontario County legislature for a five-year term. He was also elected to the Ontario County Historical Society’s board of directors.

Bill Baker ’68 was re-elected to a second, one-year term as president of the Mohican Area Community Fund, which

Joanne Klepinger Ditmer ’50 made a six-figure blended gift of both cash and an estate commitment to provide a legacy of education to Otterbein in memory of her parents, Rev. Murn Klepinger ’23 and Alice Klepinger, by establishing the Klepinger/Ditmer Endowed Scholarship. The income from this scholarship will be used to provide scholarship assistance for undergraduate students who are pursuing a major in the Department of Communication or in the Humanities.

Cheryl Garges Reynolds ’77 celebrated turning 60 by walking 60 miles in the Susan G. Komen Three-Day Breast Cancer walk in November in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. This was her fourth time to walk the three-day event and she raised more than $3,000 for the cause.

Bill Marshall ’71, George Martin ’71 and Jim Wood ’71 met in Garst Hall as freshmen in the fall of 1967. All three became members of Kings fraternity. Along with their wives, Tasha Rone Marshall ’72, Sally Martin and Laura Tuck Wood ’71, they travel together several times per year. This photo, taken in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park last fall, commemorates 39 consecutive years of backpacking across that park, seldom camping in the same place twice. They look forward to their 40th trip this fall. Left to right: Bill, George and “Woody.”
Karen Pellett ’74 retired from the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church, then as chaplain at Big Bend Hospice in Tallahassee, FL. She continued to lead two worship services at Westminster Oaks Retirement Community until last fall.

Stephen Jones ’75 has been named a 2016 Ohio Super Lawyer in the field of business litigation by Ohio Super Lawyers magazine. He is a partner in Roetzel and Andress, LPA.

Ed Brookover ’76 managed his first presidential bid campaign for Republican candidate Ben Carson.

Dianne Grote Adams ’78 and her husband, Bill, traveled to Bangalore, India, to present and participate in the International Industrial Hygiene Conference. She presented on the health effects and controls of noise exposure in the workplace and Bill presented on the health hazards of inhaling particulates. A side trip to Delhi and the Taj Mahal rounded out the trip.

Wayne Cummerlander ’80 is an independent distributor/partner in Visi. Visi products combine the secrets of ancient healing with modern science, research and medicine.

Randy Mobley ’80 was the recipient of the 32nd annual Warren Giles Award at the baseball winter meetings in December. Minor League Baseball bestows the award which honors outstanding service as a league president. Mobley has been president of the International League for 25 years and this is the third time he has received the award.

Wayne Woodruff ’81 was inducted into Otterbein’s Athletic Hall of Fame in October 2015. He was an outstanding 440-yard runner, holding the indoor school record at 50.02 seconds and winning the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) indoor title in 1981. He was also a solid football player, competing as part of a class that posted three winning seasons in four years. He saved the best stretch for his senior campaign, earning first team All-OAC honors as a wide receiver in 1980. After a successful career in banking, he is now retired.

Vicki Hartsough ’83 is a guidance/curriculum counselor in Broward County Schools, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Todd Plattenburg ’83 works for Delta Air Lines, Inc.

Greg Stemm ’83 is serving as the clerk of the St. Petersburg Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Liberal Quakers do not have a minister; they minister to one another. A clerk is as close as they come to an appointed minister. He is one year into a two-year term.

Teresa Ackerman Williams ’84 completed Ohio University’s RN to BSN program through its academic outreach program. She is currently employed as an RN on the progressive care unit at Bethesda North Hospital, Cincinnati.

Tim Harris ’86 was inducted into the Crooksville High School (OH) Hall of Fame. He played football, baseball and basketball and holds the career tackle record with 268 tackles in his years there. He played both baseball and football at Otterbein. He is employed by Hirth Norris & Garrison CPA.

Bob Kennedy ’87 is the full-time public address announcer in Ohio Stadium at The Ohio State University and, since 2003, he has informed and entertained for at least 20 varsity sports, regular season, playoff and championship games.

Susan Sweet Marczika ’88 is a store director for SuperValu in Virginia.

Betsy Krick Skrobot ’88 owns Four Turns Baking Company, Zanesville, OH, offering European-based pastries with a modern flair.

Jolene Thompson Tuttle ’88 was named executive vice president of member services and external affairs at American Municipal Power. She currently serves on the American Public Power Association’s board of directors and is a recipient of APPA’s Harold Kramer-Preston Personal Service Award.

Brian Dollenmayer ’89 is executive vice president/marketing and promotions, responsible for creating, developing and overseeing the strategy and execution of all marketing, promotion and creative service activities for WGN America, and also works with the division’s 23 local television stations, Antenna TV and THIS TV. In his previous position, he guided the marketing campaigns for such hit shows as The Following, New Girl, House, American Idol, The Mindy Project and Glee. He was recently selected to be recognized as one of Variety's Entertainment Marketing Impact honorees.
Bill Rickels ’77

Systems Engineering Not Always About the Technical

By Tuesday Beerman Trippier ’89

We wish we could tell you specifically what Bill Rickels ’77 did for a living, but he can’t even tell his family. When you’ve worked within the field of intelligence and projects are “top secret,” that’s how it rolls.

With more than 37 years of experience in systems engineering support, software expertise and technical guidance, Rickels recently retired as chief systems engineer for Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. in Fairborn, OH. Ball Aerospace supports critical missions of national agencies such as the Department of Defense, NASA, NOAA and others.

Rickels worked with the Advanced Technical Exploitation Program contract for the National Air & Space Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) in Dayton, OH. His analogy, in putting it in extreme laymen’s terms, is that one of the things that program does is analyze images to see what and where the bad guys are using data exploitation techniques.

Thinking back to his days at Otterbein, he recalls all of his professors as being great educators, but specifically physics professor Donald Bulthaup, who was his adviser, and mathematics professor David Deever.

After graduating from Otterbein in just three years, Rickels went on to take classes in computer science at The Ohio State University before working as a defense contractor at WPAFB. He spent his entire career in that field.

A big believer in interdisciplinary learning, he credits his liberal arts education at Otterbein as critical to his success in systems engineering.

He thinks it is shortsighted to focus entirely on the technical side. “I often tease people and ask them what causes the most problems? The hardware, the software or the people? Most certainly it is the people,” he laughs. “We can train people on hardware and on software, but knowing how to interact with people and understand different thought processes, that is key.” He believes that the best way to get a better understanding of how different people think is from an interdisciplinary liberal arts education.

Rickels is thrilled to see the advances Otterbein is making with the addition of the systems engineering major and the new STEAM Innovation Center. “It’s very exciting,” he said. “I am really impressed with the way in which Otterbein is undertaking this project in bringing in different groups together for open discussion and including the arts. That is the future.”

Heather Huprich Houston ’89 is the senior project manager at Jespersen & Associates, a small, independent healthcare communications agency in Cambridge, MA.

Patrick McNulty ’90 is president of Right2Capital, Troy, MI. He offers working capital for business owners throughout the country, finding them the best terms and advising owners on a long-term plan for business success.

Beth Sanders ’92 is the chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ.

Melissa DeVore Bruney ’93 is director of membership and volunteer services at the Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails headquartered in Albuquerque.

Nancy Ketzler Duxbury ’95 is a risk governance specialist at Aon Corporation, Chicago. Aon is the leading global provider of risk management, insurance and reinsurance brokerage, human resources solutions and outsourcing services.

Mark Curtis ’91 was elected to the Twinsburg City Schools (OH) Board of Education, to begin a four-year term in January.

Julie Foltz Warther ’91 led a tour of the first installation of The Holmes County Open Air Museum in Millersburg, OH, the Forest Haiku Walk at The Inn at Honey Run. The walk featured haiku from 26 Midwestern poets. Each of the 30 stones along the path holds two haiku plaques, one in English and one in Japanese. Six of the featured poets, including Warther, were in attendance to read their work to the group.
Patricia Orndorff Ernsberger ’43 published *Uptown People, Places and Events: Incorporating a Bicentennial Journal*, a warm, sometimes humorous look at the first half of the 1900s in Westerville.

Dan Hawk ’77 has published *Ruth*, part of the Apollos Old Testament Commentary series and is a contributor to, and co-editor of, *Evangelical Postcolonial Conversations*. He is a professor of the Old Testament and Hebrew at Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, OH.

Hilary Seif ’95 has self-published a book, *Henry: A Special Pup*. The book chronicles her canine companion’s struggle with a degenerative eye disease, told from the dog’s perspective. Seif is also the founder of central Ohio’s 5K for K-9 Cancer Run/Walk, which has raised more than $30,000 for canine cancer research. She currently works in the registrar’s office at Otterbein.

Jason Morrissette ’95 is the assistant head of the department of theatre at the University of Illinois.

Heather Rutz ’95 is the executive director of Allen Lima Leadership, Lima, OH, a 10-month community development and leadership training course that prepares professionals for increased civic and service opportunities.

Mary Jo Hutchings Beswick ’68 won first place in the multidisciplinary category of the National League of American Pen Women’s Vinnie Reams Award for her debut book, *Lonely Lola Ladybug*, which she both wrote and illustrated. The biennial award was presented at their convention in Washington, D.C., in April. She has been a professional artist for the last 20 years.

Melissa Haltuch Valero ’96 is a research fishery biologist at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Seattle, WA.

Simeon-Ross Frazier ’98 is a social worker license examiner for the state of Ohio.

Dawn Mamula Stewart ’98 was inducted into the Otterbein Athletic Hall of Fame in October. An All-OAC selection in women’s basketball, she remains Otterbein’s all-time leader in rebounds, rebounds per game and steals. She is a teacher at Westerville North High School.

Katie Gray Arber ’99 is the theater director at Indian Hill High School, Cincinnati.

Donna Williams ’99 has published *Ageless Wisdom: A Daily Devotional Path to Joy and Fulfillment*. She is senior pastor/spiritual leader of Truth Fellowship Center, Gahanna, OH.

Regina Kost Corvo ’99 is the director of investor relations for Core Real Estate Capital, Columbus.

David Riepenhoff ’99 was awarded the 2015 Part-Time Faculty Teaching Award at Otterbein University. He teaches in the department of business, accounting and economics.

Rob Burk ’00 is the chief executive officer of the United States Eventing Association.
Daniel Brownstein ’02 was selected as a member of the board of directors for the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The coalition serves as a resource for nonprofits, public agencies and state government to install best practices designed to reduce and eliminate intimate partner violence and sexual assaults.

Crystal Humphrey Dougherty ’02 is a teacher in the Columbus Public Schools and a preschool deaf education teacher for the Columbus Hearing Impaired Program (CHIP).

Tracy Johnson Duffner ’02 opened a small animal and exotics practice, Cornerstone Veterinary Care, in Irmo, SC. She is also a fitness model signed with FFS Model and Talent Agency in Columbia, SC.

Mike Lochner ’02 was inducted into Otterbein’s Athletic Hall of Fame in October 2015. He was part of the best four-year run in men’s soccer history with his teams compiling a record of 70-13-2. He helped Otterbein capture three Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) championships in four years. He was selected all-conference each of his four seasons while also earning Academic All-OAC three times. He now lives in Chicago and works as a director in the food and beverage division of Rehrig Pacific Company.

Rebecca Yocom Roehm ’02 is a training specialist at Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, Hillsboro, OR. She develops training curriculum for registered nurses and other medical providers, as well as working with outside organizations to help expand the primary care skills of the RNs.

Evan Struble ’02 was the recipient of the Diana Vescelius Memorial Award presented by the Ohio Library Council in September. The award recognizes Ohio’s library leaders, 35 years of age or younger, who have worked five years or less in libraries. His responsibilities at the State Library of Ohio include assisting small to medium-sized public libraries in the development of community-focused plans to improve and expand their services.

Jennifer Jackson ’03 is a visiting assistant professor in the Department of Media, Journalism and Film, teaching strategic communication courses at Miami University, Oxford, OH.

Beth Johnson ’03 is an education specialist at the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C.

Andre Lampkins ’03 is director of external relations at the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio, Columbus. He is responsible for the affiliate member program, inter-college collaborations, events and educational programming, and the expansion of members’ energy conservation and sustainability initiatives.

Amanda Tobias Murphy ’03 is communications manager at Connected Nation, which believes that states, communities, families and individuals can realize great economic and social advantages when broadband availability is brought to underserved areas.
Erin Miller Taylor ’10

Science Is the Song for this Professor-to-Be

By Ed Syguda

Erin Miller Taylor ’10 enjoys making the sciences sing.

Taylor, who is doing post-doctoral research at the University of Texas at Austin, was interested in both science and music when she entered Otterbein University in 2006.

“I’ve always been interested in music and wanted to keep that interest through college even though it was not my discipline,” Taylor said.

Taylor majored in molecular biology, biochemistry and chemistry, while participating in choir for four years at Otterbein. She served as resident assistant and was inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta.

Taylor, from Grand Haven, MI, found the decision to attend Otterbein an easy one.

“My parents both went to a small college,” Taylor said. “I visited several colleges and I really liked Otterbein. Looking back, I’m so glad I went somewhere that size. I really liked having one-on-one time with professors.”

One of those Otterbein professors, John Tansey, program director for biochemistry and molecular biology, was instrumental in setting Taylor on her current career path.

“Erin conducted her honors research project in my laboratory,” Tansey said. “She was able to present her work at a national meeting of the American Chemical Society. Having a high-quality undergraduate research experience is essential for students who wish to attend graduate school in the sciences.”

Taylor echoed Tansey’s sentiments. “That was my first real laboratory experience, not including class time,” Taylor said. “It taught me to think independently.”

After Otterbein, Taylor went directly into a graduate program at the University of Michigan, earning her doctorate in biological sciences last December. At UM, she decided to go into teaching.

“Otterbein definitely influenced me,” Taylor said. “I plan to pursue a tenure-faculty position at a small liberal arts college. I want to mentor undergraduates and prepare the next generation of scientists.”

Taylor, who plans to teach biochemistry or molecular biology, has applied for a post-doc teaching fellowship from the National Institute of Health.

Stephen Sakowski ’03.
University of Toledo assistant professor of light and sound design, worked with Otis Howard Design Inc. on the lighting for the stage for halftime performer Sting, the pre-game performance by Cirque du Soleil and other NBA All-Star events in February.

Gary Hall ’04 is a controls officer manager supporting the centralized transaction operations division at JP Morgan Chase, Dallas/Fort Worth.

Angelo Manzo ’04 was inducted into Otterbein’s Athletic Hall of Fame in October 2015. He is the all-time leading scorer for the Otterbein men’s soccer program, having totaled 143 points during his career from 2000-03; his teams amassed a record of 62-19-3. He was named All-Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) every season and garnered the league’s Forward of the Year award in 2002. He now works as a portfolio manager in the investment/financial field.

Valerie Accetta Thalassios ’04 is head of musical theatre at the University of Alabama Birmingham. She presented her audition workshop in November in Columbus. She serves as the vice chair for the musical theatre committee of the Southeastern Theatre Conference and as the vice chair for the Alabama Conference of Theatre University Division.

Katie Crabtree Thomas ’04 is the senior strategist for consumer marketing at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus. She recently earned the Accredited in Public Relations (APR) designation.

Scott Bacon ’05 is the senior associate athletics director for external relations at Longwood University, Farmville, VA.

Stephania Peyton Bernard-Ferrell ’05 is sports and fitness manager for the city of Groveport Parks and Recreation Department, Groveport, OH.

Mike ’70 and Pattie Ducey are exemplary supporters of Otterbein. They have invested in Otterbein for more than 40 years. They share a passion for higher education and the field of commerce. Mike, a 1970 bachelor of arts in economics graduate, and Pattie, a former adjunct professor in the Business Department, have chosen to provide a legacy commitment of more than $800,000 to transform the lives of future students. Once realized, the funds will be utilized by the University for its most pressing needs or to launch emerging initiatives.
Research Helps Keep America Safe — and Even Removes Hair

By Ed Syguda

Sean McDaniel ’10, an electro-optical engineer, is in charge of developing lasers for a variety of applications for the military at Leidos in Beavercreek, OH, just outside Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

“My role focuses on developing laser sources for a variety of medical and military applications, mainly focusing on mid-infrared lasers,” McDaniel said. “I work on basic research, but the end result of this type of work ends up in missile defense systems, lasers used for glaucoma surgery and even laser hair removal.”

McDaniel majored in physics at Otterbein and was a member of Lambda Gamma Epsilon and the American Physical Society. He also served as a lab assistant, setting up laboratory experiments for introductory and advanced physics courses.

Although both of his parents, Ann Backer McDonald ’75 and Scott McDaniel ’75, had attended Otterbein, McDaniel looked at a lot of different schools before he chose Otterbein.

“On my admission’s visit, I was able to meet with the physics faculty, including Dr. David Robertson. I thought the faculty was excited about teaching — something I didn’t see at other schools.”

Looking back, McDaniel feels Otterbein has prepared him well for his future career in the sciences. “Otterbein gave me a vast working knowledge of physics and a very good general education,” McDaniel said. “The large selection of in-department courses allowed for a broad overview of all areas of physics. Of those courses, electricity and magnetism prepared me for my graduate work in electro-optics. I was well prepared when I started my graduate work.”

McDaniel received his master’s degree in electro-optical engineering from the University of Dayton in 2012. He served as a graduate assistant at Dayton and worked as an engineering technician in the Air Force Research Laboratory.

He joined Science Applications International Corporation, which later became Leidos, right out of graduate school.

McDaniel is currently working on his doctorate in electro-optical engineering at Dayton, while working full-time at Leidos.

Al Bernardo ’05 is the user services librarian at Valley City State University, Valley City, ND. He earned his master’s degree in library and information science at Kent State University in May 2015.

Robin Pertz ’05 was promoted from embedded librarian to science librarian at the NASA Glenn Research Center, Cleveland, in October.

Teresa Smith ’05 is the principal of second through fifth grade in New Albany-Plain Local Schools. She started her career in banking and became a teacher 10 years ago.

Darlene Lawson ’06 is deputy fiscal officer at the Westerville Public Library.

Benjamin D. Garnett ’06 earned his master’s degree in communication from the University of Louisville in December 2015.

Holly Fenner Ritter ’06 earned a master’s degree in human services from the University of Dayton, Aug. 2014.

Kendra Bumgarner Skeens ’06 is a clinical leader for the Genetics and Infectious Disease Clinics at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus.

Micaela Coleman ’10 was the recipient of the Otterbein Celebration of Diversity Award in February. The award is given to celebrate the rich diversity of the Otterbein alumni community for their professional accomplishments and service contributions to Otterbein and to their community. She also recently won the title of Ms. Virginia USA Ambassador 2016. She will compete for the national title of Ms. USA Ambassador held in July.
Gene Furbee ‘61 is the executive producer of the independent film, Huntington’s Dance, the story of the love of a son and his mother who share a similar fate with the disease. It premiered at the Slam Dance Film Festival in January 2014 and won a Special Jury Award. It won The Best Feature Documentary Award at the West Virginia Film Festival. He also contributed his talent to the score and the editing process.

Aysu Basaran ‘91 is executive producer for WRAL TV, Raleigh, NC. She and her team were recipients of the 2016 Alfred I. duPont Columbia University Award for excellence in broadcasting and investigative journalism for their short documentary, Journey Alone, about the thousands of unaccompanied minors illegally crossing the border from Mexico to the U.S. and how it is impacting North Carolina.

Traci Kanaan ‘91 performed her comedy show, The Princess of Parodies, along with comedians Gallagher and Artie Fletcher in November. She has been working as a nationally touring comedy headliner since 2008.

Tess Hartman ‘96 starred in the short film, Lost and Broken. The film was screened at two film festivals: the High Falls Film Festival, Rochester, NY; and the Women’s Independent Film Festival in Santa Monica, CA. She earned her master’s degree in library science from Queens College and is working part time as the assistant librarian at SUNY Ulster Community College.

Bill Patterson ‘99 and brother, Joe Patterson ‘02, founding members of the band, Wet Darlings, released their album Beautiful Things in October.

Mark Snyder ‘99 has written a play, Wait for Me, set in 2015 about the relationship of two gay men when one is left alone. It was performed at the Available Light Theatre’s Next Stage Initiative 2016 at the Riffe Center, Columbus, in January.

Dave Hutte ‘06 is the evening newscast director at WTVG 13 ABC, Toledo, OH.

Kevin Crafton ‘07 released an album, Shy’s Hill, available at KevinCrafton.Bandcamp.com. He is performing locally in Nashville, TN.

Kasey Todd ‘08 recorded at the historic Abbey Road Studios in London, a dream come true for him. He has been touring and recording with singer songwriter Jace Everett. You can hear his music on Jace Everett Trio at Abbey Road. He resides in Nashville, TN.

Please Note: Changes Coming to Classnotes!

In the coming months, we’ll be making some exciting updates in how we share our achievements and career news with our Towers and online readers. In an effort to share news faster and reach more alumni across the country and around the world, we’ll begin to post achievements and career news via our alumni social media outlets (with permission), and via our Classnotes webpage, www.otterbein.edu/classnotes.
Sadie Bartholomew Ingle ‘07 earned her doctorate degree in biochemistry at Stanford University and is employed by MyoKardia Inc. in South San Francisco, CA, where she develops biochemical and cell-based assays.

Alicia Kline ‘07 is the executive assistant to the president and CEO of Grand Avenue, Nashville, TN. Grand Avenue offers corporate, special occasion and customized transportation.


Erika Phillips MAE ’07 is a guidance counselor at Fountain Hills High School, Fountain Hills, AZ.

Shawn Ritter ‘07 earned his master’s degree in education administration from Ashland University in August.

Tonya Carter MSN ’09 is a certified family nurse practitioner and is a doctoral candidate of nursing practice at the University of Alabama. She currently works for an internal medicine practice in Columbus.

Randi Hopkins ’09 is the youth development director for the Greater Naples (FL) YMCA.

Wes Jenkins ’09 is assistant costume shop manager at Lindenwood University, St. Charles, MO.

Garey Berry ’10 is a reporting analyst at JP Morgan Chase, Columbus.

Christian Davis ‘10 is an Apache helicopter pilot for the U.S. Army currently based at Fort Drum, NY.

Maggie Ellison ‘10 is director, creative experiences at Event Marketing Strategies, Columbus. She is responsible for the agency’s internal and external creative strategies and marketing planning; oversees project development for new and existing accounts, which include the Ohio State Fair, Nationwide Insurance and AEP Ohio among others; and trains and manages the field marketing team.

Mark Fraizer ‘10 was elected to the Newark (OH) City Council in November. He is employed by Huntington National Bank as a project manager.

Paul Smith ‘10 was promoted to managing director at American Income Life Insurance Company, Columbus. He is also a John Maxwell Certified Coach for consulting, teaching and training leadership.

Jasmine Thomas ‘10 is working with Columbus City Schools. She also serves on Otterbein’s African American Alumni Network.

Britany Byers Lovins ’11 is the chief marketing officer at the Champion Real Estate Company.

Heather Weekley ‘11 is senior content specialist at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus.

Deanna Bailey ‘12 has been promoted to restaurant manager at Cooper’s Hawk Winery, Indianapolis.

Gretchen Leigh Kiehl ’12 was named 2015 Young Professional of the Year by the Westerville Area Chamber of Commerce in December. She is marketing director for groupEleven Consulting.

Michael Cirelli ’13 is a multiplatform editor for The Washington Post.

Katie Falter ’13 is audience engagement associate with the new Broadway musical, Allegiance, based on the experiences of one family of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Mae Krause Solze ’13 is senior product specialist at SmartPak, Nashville, TN, a retailer to horse owners.

Lacy O’Lalde ’13 is a merchandise coordinator for the Walt Disney Company, Orlando, FL.

Giving Note: Community partner Rous Honda made a generous gift of $50,000 to sponsor the Otterbein Athletic Department. Their gift will support the continued success and growth of Otterbein Athletics’ more than 500 student athletes competing in 21 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III programs annually.

Zachary Reed ’13 was promoted to assistant director of Maverick Stadium at the University of Texas Arlington. He oversees stadium operations and event management.

2011 reunion year Homecoming 2016

Troy Burton ’11 is the program coordinator for DreamYard Arts Center in New York City. He coordinates after-school and summer programs for school-age children in the Bronx, teaching arts with a social justice pedagogy.

Reginald Hammond ’11 is employed by G & J Pepsi-Cola Bottlers Inc.

Jaredpower ’12 was named the Otterbein Athletic Department’s first executive assistant to the athletic director.
Claire Parson ’13 is an attendance secretary for Grandview City Schools, Columbus.

Hilary Rowland Greenlee ’14 is an RN working in the NICU at University Hospitals Case Medical Center Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland.

Joshua Jacobs ’14 is an operations analyst at Affiliated Creditors, Inc., Nashville, TN.

Ayanna Keys-Jones ’14 works for Nationwide Brokerage Solutions as a brokerage technician. She also serves on the African American Alumni Network at Otterbein.

Katie Palermo MSN’14 is an emergency room staff nurse at Diley Ridge Medical Center, Canal Winchester, OH.

Brittany Peters ’14 is a laboratory animal research technician at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus.

Joseph Pokorny ’14 is a law clerk at Douglas B. Brown and Associates, Chardon, OH.

Anna Schifferbauer ’14 joined Hamilton Capital Management, Inc. as a client relations representative in January.

Kendra Schwarz ’14 is the creative content coordinator for Online Bible Studies at Proverbs 31, a place where women can participate in studies amidst their busy lives. She works with volunteers to develop content for a blog and social media and helps produce weekly videos for the website.

Jasmine Troyer Summers ’14 is a junior talent acquisitions specialist at Proteam Solutions Inc., Columbus.

Hannah Benson ’15 is in the graduate program for fashion and textile studies: history, theory, museum practice at Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC.

Gena DiMattio ’15 is a digital marketing analyst at Express, Columbus.

Lydie Dorelien ’15 is an admission counselor at Otterbein.

Nicole Heskett ’15 is a veterinary assistant at Banfield Pet Hospital, Columbia, MD.

Mark Maurath ’15 is a classroom aide with autism services at Haugland Learning Center, Columbus.

Daniel Pfeffer ’15 has been accepted to the master’s program at California University of Pennsylvania to major in rehabilitation sciences.

Heather Sites ’15 is working as an applied behavioral analysis therapist for a client on the autism spectrum in Columbus.

Emily Vanni ’15 is a sales representative/membership advisor for Equinox Fitness in New York City. A theatre major at Otterbein, she is also auditioning for roles for stage and television.

Mathew Zombek ’15 is pursuing a doctorate of physical therapy at Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling, WV.

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Investing in Our Students…

Investing in scholarships enables Otterbein students to think deeply and broadly, to engage locally and globally, and to advance their professions and communities thus impacting the world around them. During Mikah Baruetta’s time at Otterbein she was inducted into the Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies, was a co-leader of the Women in Science and Women in Leadership groups and earned a coveted internship with the National Science Foundation. After graduation, she will continue to represent her alma mater through her service in the Peace Corps in Cambodia, utilizing the key values and knowledge gained at Otterbein.

To learn more about establishing an endowed scholarship that will last in perpetuity through your trust, will or appreciated stock, contact Candace Brady, director of development and planned giving, at 614-823-1953 or cbrady@otterbein.edu.

“Otterbein helped me find what I was truly passionate about while affording me a broader perspective through the Integrative Studies program. Yet, my scholarships helped me with something much bigger – the ability to make the life I have always dreamed about possible.”

~ Mikah Baruetta ’16
Marriages

Zee Minetti '87 to Gayle Benson, Dec. 9, 2014, in Maui.


Kate Muchmore '00 to Derik Woo, July 12, 2015.

Ellie Hempleman '05 to Brandon Akey, May 23, 2015.

Kendra Bumgarner '06 to Joshua Skeens, Sept. 10, 2015.

Christine Reichert ‘08 to Brad Bender, Nov. 21, 2015.

Thomas Draper ‘08 to Laura Harvey, Nov. 29, 2015.

Ashley Burchett ‘08 to Bart Moccabee, Sept. 12, 2015.

Kristin Sutton ‘09 to Stephen Harris, Aug. 14, 2015. Chelsea Merriman Tobias ‘09 was matron of honor.


Sara Weisbrod ‘12 to Adam Koehl ‘06, June 26, 2015. Sara is the daughter of Ben Weisbrod ‘77 and Beth Moody Weisbrod ‘77; and granddaughter of Ruth Deever Moody ‘44.
Please Note: Changes Coming to Marriage and Additions Listings!

In the coming months, we’ll be making some exciting updates to how we share our marriage and baby news with our Towers and online readers. In an effort to share news faster and reach more alumni across the country and around the world, we’ll begin to post marriage and baby news via our alumni social media outlets (with permission), and via our Classnotes webpage, www.otterbein.edu/classnotes.

Heidi Ann Mitchell ’12 to Ben Hauck, June 6, 2015.


Emily Griffiths ’13 to John LaCorte ’11, Aug. 8, 2015.

Hilary Rowland ’14 to Tyler Greenlee, July 25, 2015.
The wedding party included Kendra Schwarz ’14, Anna Wassilchalk ’14 and Cody Woodard ’13.

Meredith Ulmer ’14 to Andrew Pea ’14, Sept. 5, 2015.
Meredith is the daughter of Dave Ulmer ’84 and LeAnn Ellison Ulmer ’86, and the niece of Bill Ulmer ’84.

Additions
Josh Funk ’98 and his wife, Kara, a son, Josiah Marshall.

KK Roggenkamp Hunter ’00 and husband, Chance, a daughter, Kamber Kathleen. Great aunt is Sandra Grice Shultheis ’70.

Sarah Frajter Delly ’03 and husband, Matt, a son, Nathan James. He joins big brother, Drew, 3.

Courtney Dolphin Siegel ’04 and husband, Ryan, a daughter, Ava Maddux.

Jennifer Reiff Staten ’04 and husband, John ’07, a son, Raylan Anthony.
Milestones

Erica Hlavin Bell ‘05 and husband, Caleb ‘04, a son, Micah James. He joins big brother, Jonah, 3.

Chelsea Thresher Ross ‘05 and husband, Mo ‘05, a son, Corbin Thresher.

Holly Fenner Ritter ‘06 and husband, Shawn ‘07, a daughter, Marin.

Elizabeth Schleicher Czarnecki ‘06 and husband, Daniel, a daughter, Evelyn Helena.

Lindsay Warner Yeh ‘06 and husband, Dave, a son, Oliver. He joins big brother Warner, 2.

Karen Beers Horvath ‘07 and husband, Andrew ‘07, a daughter, Margaret Leigh. She joins big sister, Hannah.

Abby Tamasovich Weaver ‘07 and husband, Jay, a son, Oliver Lawrence.

Vanessa Wilson Chow ‘08 and husband, Andy ‘08, a daughter, Felicity.

Kate Mock Elliott ‘08 and husband, Spencer ‘06, a daughter, Isabel Mock.

Ashton Shanower Lahan ‘08 and husband, Aaron ‘07, a son, Harris Charles.

Lindsey Little Bradshaw ‘10 and husband, Jarrin, a daughter, Sadie Lynn.

Kelsey Wilson Vilanova ‘10 and husband, Kleber ‘14, a daughter, Ariella Jordanna.

Monica McDonald Wright ‘13 and husband, Bobby ‘07, a son, Warren William Wright IV.

George Balut ‘14 and Alexandra Damron, a daughter, Laykin Laine.

 Deaths

John Cook ‘36 died March 5, 2016, at the age of 101. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving as a medical officer in the Pacific during World War II. He was a physician and surgeon at VA hospitals in Indiana and West Virginia; was on staff at Oak Hill Hospital, Jackson, OH; maintained a private practice and served as Jackson County coroner. He was preceded in death by wives, Nadine and Donna; and brother, Thomas Cook ‘39. He is survived by two sons, eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Evelyn Tussey Hoover-Heine ‘38 died Oct. 25, 2015. She was a member of Theta Nu. She was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Keith Hoover ‘33, and her second husband, Rick Heine. She is survived by four children, including Deborah Hoover Bonner ‘89, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Esther Day Hohn ‘39 died Oct. 26, 2015. She was a music teacher, accomplished pianist and organist. She was a member of Tau Epsilon Mu. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Hohn ‘38; sister-in-law, Kathryn Moore Hohn ‘36; and brother-in-law, Wendell Hohn ‘35. She is survived by two children; one grandson; two great-granddaughters; and nephews, Richard Hohn ‘63 and Roger Hohn ‘66.

Kathryn Deever Lott ‘40 died Oct. 26, 2015. She taught home economics and English. She was a member of Sigma Alpha Tau. She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Fred; two children; one granddaughter; brothers, Philip Deever ‘34 and John Deever ‘35; nephew, John Deever ‘63; and sister-in-law, Josephine Stoner Deever ‘30. She is survived by one daughter; one granddaughter; five great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; sister, Ruth Deever Moody ‘44; nieces, Kathryn Moody Arndt ‘69 and Beth Moody Weisbrod ‘77; and nephews, Timothy Moody ‘68 and David Deever ‘61.

Isabel Howe Ziegler ‘40 died March 17, 2016. She was a civic leader in Española, NM, named Woman of the Year by the Española Chamber of Commerce in 1964 and became the first woman president of the Española Chamber of Commerce in 1979. She and her husband, Sam Ziegler ‘36, who preceded her in death, were honored in 1998 as “Living Treasures” for their community service. She was also preceded in death by brother, Norman Howe ‘30; sister, Zilpah Howe Williams ‘31; brother-in-law, Paul Ziegler ‘39; and daughter, Julia Ziegler-Langille ‘72. She is survived by two sons, including Sam Ziegler ‘64 and his wife, Sandra Joseph Ziegler ‘64; a foster daughter; eight grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; brother-in-law, Richard Ziegler ‘43; sister-in-law, Miriam Ziegler Beams ‘48; and niece, Joan Ziegler Kerr ‘71.

Margaret Scottie Demoorest ‘43 died Oct. 12, 2014. She was a teacher in the Wooster City Schools for a number of years and served on city council for seven years prior to her election as mayor, serving 1980–1983. She was a member of Theta Nu. She was preceded in death by her husband, William Demoorest ‘50. She is survived by three children and two grandchildren.

Margaret Barron Nitkoski ‘43 died Oct. 15, 2015. She taught fourth grade in Baltimore, MD, during the 1940s and later worked with Maryland Senior Services as a travel planner. She was a member of Rho Kappa Delta. She was preceded in death by her husband, Karol. She is survived by three children and three grandchildren.

Jacqueline Pfeifer Jacober ‘44 died Oct. 4, 2015. During World War II, she worked in an ammunition factory while attending Otterbein. She was a member of Rho Kappa Delta. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack. She is survived by two daughters, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.
Please Note: Changes Coming to Obituary Listings!
In the Fall ’16 issues of Towers, we’ll be making changes to our obituary listings in order to share information in a more timely fashion. Future obituary listings will only contain names, class years and the date of death. We will publish long format obituaries via our website, www.otterbein.edu/classnotes, which will allow us to share more alumni life stories and connections to Otterbein with our readers.

Dorothy Ober O’Connell ’44 died Dec. 7, 2015. She left college to enlist in the Navy WAVES, where she became the second woman to achieve the rank of aviation radar technician. She worked with the team that developed the first radar small and light enough to go in aircraft. She was a member of Theta Phi. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill. She is survived by three children, 11 grandchildren and three great-grandsons.

Howard Moomaw Jr. ’45 died Sept. 15, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corp, serving as a meteorologist and air traffic controller during World War II. He operated the four generation family business, Moomaw Chevrolet Inc., Sugarcreek, OH, after working several years in preliminary design at Curtiss Wright Aircraft Corp., Columbus. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Inez; children, Randall Moomaw ’78 and Lori Moomaw Wood ’80; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; nephew, Ronald Moomaw ’74; and niece, Sandra Moomaw ’68.

Sara Gallagher ’47 died Feb. 25, 2016. She spent her career as an executive secretary for Mead Corp., Dayton, OH. She was preceded in death by a brother, John Gallagher ’56. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

Charles Phallen ’47 died March 7, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during World War II in North Africa and Sicily. He received two Purple Hearts. He taught high school in Richwood, OH, and in California. He was a faculty member at Oswego State University from 1958-1983. He was a member of Pi Beta Sigma. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth. He is survived by two children, three grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

Gordon Cherrington ’48 died Oct. 16, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy serving during World War II and a member of Pi Kappa Phi. He retired from Becton Dickinson, Shipsheiwana, IN, in 1987. He owned and operated Sturgis Tire Co., Sturgis, MI, for a number of years. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Violet; five children; 21 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

Raymond Kent ’48 died Dec. 10, 2015. He was a minister in the Presbyterian church. He was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Betty Strouse Kent ’45. He is survived by one daughter, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Ray Miner ’48 died May 30, 2014. He was a retired music teacher and a member of Pi Kappa Phi. He is survived by his wife, Priscilla, and four children.

Homer Scott ’48 died Dec. 2, 2015. He founded Scott Protection Agency, which provided security for Union Hospital, Dover, OH. He developed a training program for home health aides and nursing assistants, taught part time at Fort Hayes (Columbus Public Schools) and served the State of Ohio as a chief warrant officer for the Ohio Reserve Naval Militia. After retirement, he started “Doc Scott’s Old Time Traveling Show” in Dover. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi. He was preceded in death by first wife, Alice; his second wife, Marilyn; two daughters and one great-granddaughter. He is survived by his wife, Carol; one daughter; step-daughter, Cheryl Bateman Ackerman ’75 and her husband, Frank Ackerman III ’75; four grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Virginia Ruebush Bartley ’49 died April 8, 2014. She worked as a printer’s assistant at the Shenandoah Press in Virginia. She was a member of Sigma Alpha Tau. She was preceded in death by her father, James Ruebush ’23; her husband, Edgar Bartley ’50; and relative, Anne Conner ’40. She is survived by three children, three grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Christine Edwards Christie ’49 died Feb. 6, 2015. She was a member of Epsilon Kappa Tau. She was preceded in death by her husband of 45 years, John Christie ’51. She is survived by four children and six grandchildren.

Austin Cox ’49 died Nov. 23, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps serving during World War II. During his time in the Marines, he also taught art in Seoul, South Korea. He was an industrial designer, working for himself after retiring from Magnif, Mentor, OH. He was a member of Zeta Phi. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean Carbaugh Cox ’49. He is survived by five children and six grandchildren.

Frances Grell Smith ’49 died Jan. 9, 2016. She was a medical technologist retired from Lenoir Memorial Hospital, Kinston, NC. She was a member of Rho Kappa Delta. She was preceded in death by her son; and sister, Louise Grell Bailey ’52. She is survived by her husband, Leo.

Fred Zechman ’49 died Oct. 1, 2015. He was professor and chair of the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the University of Kentucky, was
among the founding faculty of the UK Medical Center and was vice chancellor for research and graduate studies. He was a member of Zeta Phi. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Nancy. He is survived by wife, Shirley, two children and two grandchildren.

George Harold ‘50 died March 17, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, taught at New Carlisle (OH) Middle School and retired from Graphic Engineering. He was a member of Zeta Phi. He was preceded in death by first wife, Polly McClusky Harold ‘50; second wife, Jane Harold; and brother-in-law, Edwin “Dubbs” Roush ‘47. He is survived by two sons; eight grandchildren; sister, Marilou Harold Roush ‘45; and nine nieces and nephews, including Wendy Roush ‘71, Larry Roush ‘76 and Cynthia Roush ‘80.

Rosemary Conrad Walling ‘50 died Dec. 30, 2015. She was an elementary school teacher retiring from Miamisburg Schools after many years of service. She was a member of Rho Kappa Delta. She was preceded in death by a daughter, and her husband, Samuel. She is survived by a daughter, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Richard Whitehead ‘50 died Dec. 16, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force where he served from 1945-47. He was a member of Zeta Phi and an admission counselor at Otterbein. He retired after 29 years with Berkshire Life Insurance Co. having moved his way up to chief administrative officer and board chairman. He was preceded in death by his wife, Shirley Fritz Whitehead ‘50. He is survived by two children and two grandsons.


William Joiner ‘51 died Aug. 17, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving in England during World War II. He was an elementary school teacher in California until his retirement in 1986. He was preceded in death by his wife of 64 years, Betty Young Joiner ‘48. He is survived by three children.

Phyllis Shannon Marcotte ‘51 died Sept. 15, 2015. She was a teacher in Dayton, OH, Long Beach, CA, and Boulder, CO, and worked at the University of Colorado Boulder as the assistant dean of women. She and her husband, Dr. Dale Marcotte, an optometrist, did volunteer work in third world countries. She was a member of Epsilon Kappa Tau and the Round Robin Class of ‘51. Her husband of 39 years preceded her in death. She is survived by three children; two granddaughters; one great-grandson; sisters, Anita Shannon Leland ‘55 and Joyce Shannon Warner ‘58; brother-in-law, David Warner ‘56; and niece, Shari Warner Pennington ‘88.

Samuel Marshall ‘51 died Nov. 7, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, 4th Division, participated in the landing on Iwo Jima and received a Purple Heart. He was an ordained minister of the United Presbyterian Church serving churches in Glen Rock, NJ; Adelphi, MD; Jackson, MI; Parkersburg, WV; and Anchorage, AK. While in Jackson, he created a countywide volunteer hospital chaplaincy program at W.A. Foote Memorial Hospital, wrote a column in the Jackson Citizen’s Patriot entitled “Asking Your Clergyman” and was chaplain at the Jackson State Prison. He was a member of Lambda Gamma Epsilon. He is survived by two children.

Lois Berlekamp Murray ‘51 died Jan. 17, 2016. She taught at both the elementary and high school in Old Fort, OH, retiring after 30 years. She served as the organist at the Old Fort UMC for 40 years. She was a member of Sigma Alpha Tau. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Ray; four children; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Martha Weller Shand ‘51 died Jan. 1, 2016. She retired from teaching at Northmont City Schools, Englewood, OH. She was a member of Epsilon Kappa Tau. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, James Shand ‘51; two daughters; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Joan Chaffin Shindle ‘52 died Feb. 7, 2016. She was employed by Worthington City Schools for 25 years and a member of Sigma Alpha Tau. She was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years, Rex. She is survived by three children, seven grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Patricia Miner Brown ‘53 died Oct. 21, 2015. She was an operating room nurse early in her career and then became a school nurse until her retirement. She was a member of Kappa Phi Omega. She is survived by three children and six grandchildren.

Wayne Burt ‘53 died Jan. 24, 2016. He retired as a colonel from the U.S. Marines Corps after serving 30 years and was a decorated Vietnam veteran. He was a member of Zeta Phi. He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Evelyn. He is survived by two sons and four grandchildren.
Mollie MacKenzie Rechin ’53 died Feb. 2, 2016. She was an elementary teacher in both public and private schools and a member of Sigma Alpha Tau. She is survived by her husband of 47 years, Bob, two sons and two grandchildren.

Lynn Bergman ’54 died Jan. 8, 2016. He was a retired United Methodist pastor and former professor at Otterbein. He was a member of Lambda Gamma Epsilon. He was preceded in death by his aunt, Laura Felix Boring ’90, and uncle, Leroy Boring ’105. He is survived by his wife, Doris; three children and three grandchildren.

Robert Billman ’55 died Feb. 24, 2016. He retired as president of Greater Dallas Porcelain Refinishers. He was a member of Zeta Phi. He was preceded in death by aunts, Gertrude Billman Waters ’30 and Ruth Billman Kelley ’39; and uncle, Gerald Waters ’35. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; six children; and cousin, Terry Davis Bare ’90.

Don Ciampa ’55 died Nov. 15, 2015. He was a retired United Methodist minister who served churches in Altoona, Lewistown and Mechanicsburg, PA. After retirement, he served churches in Carlisle, New Cumberland, Mechanicsburg, New Kingstown and Newport, PA. He was a member of Lambda Gamma Epsilon. He was preceded in death by brother, Paul Ciampa ’53 and sister-in-law, Jane Catlin Ciampa ’53. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Joanne; three children, including John Ciampa ’82; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brothers, Frank Ciampa ’59, Ralph Ciampa ’63 and John Ciampa ’70; sisters Margery Ciampa Gemas ’68 and Anna Ciampa Cady ’77; brother-in-law, Chet Cady ’77; sister-in-law, Patricia Schar Ciampa ’69; nephews, Jeff Ciampa ’80 and Christopher Ciampa ’82; and nieces, Christina Love Ciampa ’96 and Elizabeth Ciampa Annibaldi ’98.

John Kaiser ’56 died Nov. 1, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, serving during the Korean War. He worked as a CPA for more than 20 years at Welty, Wiechel & Company, for several other companies and did private tax preparation. He did tile work for Sandusky Ceramics for 20 years, as well. He was a member of Zeta Phi. He was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Laub Kaiser ’54. He is survived by three daughters, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Marilyn Hert Spiers-Pierotti ’56 died Nov. 23, 2015. She taught speech, English, reading, home economics and special education; was theatre director at Cardington-Lincoln High School and was a forensic speaking coach. She was a member of Theta Nu. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ronald Smith ’57. She is survived by her son, Ronald Smith II ’90, four granddaughters and a great-grandson.

Daniel Spires ’58 died Jan. 23, 2016. He was a retired history teacher and coach at Whetstone High School, Columbus. He was a veteran of the Navy Reserve. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dorothy; three daughters, including Tracey Dover Kearnes ’80 and Amy Dover Kreuzer ’88; son-in-law, Brad Kreuzer ’90; seven grandchildren, including Jaime Buxton Connor ’04; and four great-grandchildren.

Kathryn Loutsenhizer Swigart ’56 died Sept. 17, 2015. She was a teacher for the Indiana Area School District, PA, and a member of Sigma Alpha Tau. She was preceded in death by father-in-law Ford Swigart ’20. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Ford H. Swigart ’51; three children; four grandchildren; brother-in-law, Richard Swigart ’62; and nieces, Gwendolyn Swigart Nicholas ’93 and Ellen Swigart Wolfe ’96.

Betty Gibson Delong ’57 died Dec. 22, 2016. She was a third-grade teacher at Crescent Elementary School, Rhinelander, WI, and a member of Theta Nu. She is survived by her husband, Richard, two children and three grandchildren.

Jane Boothe Smith ’57 died Nov. 2, 2015. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ronald Smith ’57. She is survived by her son, Ronald Smith II ’90, four granddaughters and a great-grandson.

Herbert W. Jones ’59 died Sept. 13, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy Reserve. He was a teacher in the Columbus Public Schools for 35 years and a Washington Township Fire Department firefighter for 31 years. He was also a firefighter instructor. He was preceded in death by an infant son. He is
MILESTONES

Rebecca Stiverson Neill ’63 died Dec. 4, 2015. She was a teacher for 33 years in the Jonathan Alder and Fairbanks School districts. She was a member of Kappa Phi Omega. She is survived by her husband, Robert; two children and one granddaughter.

Kevin T. Gorey ’64 died Nov. 1, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force serving in Korea. He was the superintendent of lands and buildings for the City of Columbus and owned several businesses. He was preceded in death by wife, Diane. He is survived by three children, three grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Sharon L. Grandstaff ’65 died Oct. 9, 2015. She taught elementary school for 30 years in Johnstown and Lakewood Local Schools. She was preceded in death by her husband, Douglas. She is survived by two daughters.

Linda Snyder Rea ’65 died Oct. 11, 2015. She was a professor at Hiram College for 41 years and traveled the world, mainly Central America, with many college students. She was a member of Theta Nu. She was preceded in death by mother-in-law, Grace Straw Rae ’1913; husband, James R. Rea ’52 (father of Cabot Rea ’78 and his wife, Heather Leach Rea ’78). She is survived by a daughter and two grandchildren.

David Short ’65 died March 2, 2016. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force before he opened a dental office in Massillon, OH, practicing there for 25 years. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi and The “O” Club. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Short ‘33 and Elsie Bennert Short ’35. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Marcia, three children and four grandchildren.

Jan W. Sorgenfrei ’65 died Dec. 12, 2012. He owned the Old Barn Auction House, Findlay, OH. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi. He is survived by his wife, Vicky, six children and five grandchildren.

Warren Knapp ’66 died Oct. 5, 2015. He was a retired colonel in the U.S. Air Force, serving for 28 years. He is survived by his wife, Penny Bockelman Knapp ’67, two daughters and five grandchildren.

George A. Smith III ’66 died Feb. 16, 2014. He was employed by Westinghouse. He was preceded in death by a brother and a grandson. He is survived by his wife of more than 50 years, Anita, three sons and four grandchildren.

Beverly Irwin Johnson ’67 died Oct. 12, 2015. She was a dental assistant for more than 30 years. She was a member of Epsilon Kappa Tau. She is survived by one daughter, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Paula K. Kurth ’69 died Jan. 19, 2016. She retired from The Ohio State University where she worked on research projects in vocational education. She was a member of Tau Epsilon Mu. She is survived by three sisters, including Pam Gibson ’72.

Lyle E. Stetzer ’69 died Oct. 10, 2015. He worked in finance at GE Aviation for 37 years. He was a member of Sigma Delta Phi. He is survived by wife, Therese, three children and one grandson.

Ronn D. Rucker ’70 died Oct. 22, 2015. He retired from the Cincinnati Health Department and established the first HIV anonymous test site in the world in Cincinnati. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Miller ’69; partner, Les; and two sons.

Donald Benner ’71 died Nov. 21, 2015. He worked for Brown Steel Div. of Lapham-Hickey, Columbus; and Anchor Hocking, Lancaster, OH. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Sue, two daughters and three grandchildren.

Jack T. Anderson ’72 died Jan. 22, 2016. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi. He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Cindy, and a son.

Ted Bach ’72 died Sept. 15, 2015. He served as pastor in numerous Pennsylvania United Methodist churches in Columbia, Lancaster, Ackermanville, Philadelphia, Trevose, and Fairless Hills, retiring in 2013. He was preceded in death by his father, Francis Bach ’61; brother, Timothy Bach ’78, and a

survived by his wife, Leona; two children; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Robert I. Thompson ’59 died Dec. 6, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving in the Korean War. He retired from the U.S. Postal Service after 30 years. He was a member of Eta Phi Mu. He was preceded in death by a granddaughter. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Barbara Cox Thompson ’58; two children; and one granddaughter, Wesley A. Thompson ’17.

Lorraine Bliss Wallace ’59 died Feb. 20, 2016. She was a teacher and genealogy researcher. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Fred.

Wayne Shaw ’60 died March 2, 2016. He was an organist and choir director serving churches in Hamilton, OH. For the last 16 years he was at Immanuel Lutheran Church. He was preceded in death by sister-in-law Sally Hall Wareham ’54. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Alice Hall Shaw ’61; three children; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and brothers-in-law Robert Wareham ’52 and Alan Hall ’62.

Emery F. Wach, Jr ’60 died Jan. 3, 2014. He worked as an instrumentation engineer for Sikorsky Aircraft in Stratford, CT, for 39 years. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Angela, and two children.
granddaughter. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Lorelei; two sons; three grandchildren; and brothers, David Bach '70 and Mark Bach '74.

Dianne Brooks Powell '72 died Dec. 11, 2015. She is survived by her husband, David; two children, including Gwynne Powell Watkins '02; and four grandchildren.

Deanna Hempy Roshong '73 died Jan. 9, 2016. She was an elementary school teacher and principal at Heritage Christian School, Canton, Ohio. She is survived by her husband of 36 years, Carl; his son; two grandchildren; and relative, James Hempy '70.

Lindsay Stedman '73 died Dec. 18, 2015. He was a teacher, coach and principal at Heritage Christian School, Canton, OH; then became associate director of the River Valley Region Office of the Association of Christian Schools International. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Deborah McKinnis Stedman '73; and father-in-law, Richard McKinnis '51. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte; two children; six grandchildren; brother, David Stedman '71; sister-in-law, Jean Basinger Stedman '73; and brother-in-law, Richard McKinnis '75.

Robert Lowden '74 died Oct. 28, 2015. He retired from the Public Service Enterprise Group, NJ, after 35 years of service. He was a member of Eta Phi Mu. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Candace, two daughters and three grandchildren.

Bruce Flinchbaugh '75 died Feb. 1, 2016. He retired from Texas Instruments, Dallas, in 2012 and became a dedicated runner with the Dallas Running Club. He earned the Distinguished Alumni Award from Otterbein in 2007. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Mary Fontana; two children; one brother; and sister, Nancy Flinchbaugh '77.

Kim Christy Leggett '77 died Oct. 11, 2015. She was a librarian at Columbus State Community College. She was a member of Kappa Phi Omega. She was preceded in death by two sisters, including Oberlyn Christy Kovach '79. She is survived by her husband, Jim; two children; and nephew, Sam Kovach '05.

Linda Brown Glascock '83 died Oct. 10, 2015. She was a college professor at Cambridge University and Hood College. She was a member of Epsilon Kappa Tau. She is survived by her husband, John, four children and two grandchildren.

Steven J. Zornow '88 died Sept. 26, 2015. He was a business analyst with Chase Manhattan Mortgage Co., then worked in computer technology. He was a member of Sigma Delta Phi. He is survived by his wife, Kim Gutridge '89, and two daughters.

Alison Ford Mathews '93 died Dec. 14, 2015. She was a media specialist and taught children reading skills. She was a member of Tau Delta. She is survived by her husband, Michael.

Rhonda Russell-Graham '95 died Nov. 18, 2015. She was a nurse in the Columbus City School system. She is survived by her husband of 11 years, Michael, four children and four grandchildren.

Jeanne Metzger Augustus '96 died Jan. 27, 2016. She was the administrative assistant in the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein. She is preceded in death by her parents, including mother, Julia Schrock Metzger '1915; and brothers, George Metzger '45 and Paul Metzger '46. She is survived by her husband, Tom; five daughters; 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

John N. Loos '97 died May 29, 2011. He worked as a distribution supervisor for Coca-Cola. He was preceded in death by a daughter. He is survived by his fiancée, Fawn, and two children.

Friends

Marjorie Woodward Walcutt died Sept. 25, 2015. She was an administrative assistant in her first husband’s business, and retired from Kenyon College where she was registrar. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Royce Woodward. She is survived by her second husband, Robert; son, Marc Woodward '69 and his wife, Kathryn Cunningham Woodward '69; stepson Charles Walcutt '68 and three stepdaughters, including Mary Walcutt Sells '74 and her husband, Michael Sells '95; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and nieces Anne Lee Pohner '56 and Judy Pohner Christian '61.
From the Archives

Artifact: Eta Phi Mu Lamp (1964)

This recent addition to the Archives comes to us courtesy of Michael Fensler ’66. We are told this lamp was given out as a party favor at the Eta Phi Mu fraternity spring party in 1964. More commonly called “Jonda,” the fraternity was established in 1923. Our thanks to Mike for sharing with us this unique item!

John Akar ’51

Otterbein’s impact has been felt around the globe, but perhaps no more so than in the west African nation of Sierra Leone. According to Towers magazine, summer 1970:

John J. Akar ’50, ambassador to the United States from Sierra Leone, addressed the 269 graduates of Otterbein College at commencement ceremonies on June 14. A broadcaster, poet, playwright and composer, Ambassador Akar gained international fame as the founder-director of the National Dance Troupe of Sierra Leone, Africa’s foremost ballet company. The composer of the National Anthem of Sierra Leone, Ambassador Akar worked for the B.B.C., London, the Voice of America and headed the Broadcasting Services of Sierra Leone for 10 years. Before taking up his current ambassadorial appointment, he was the head of the Commonwealth Broadcasting Secretariat, London.

Twice a visiting Danforth lecturer to the United States, Ambassador Akar is much in demand as a public speaker. He was awarded the M.B.E. (Master of the most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by the Queen of England in 1966.

Akar’s dance proficiency was well-known at Otterbein, as he performed a war dance during the University’s International Festival of 1949.

Unidentified Photo

We think these are adult students from the 1980s, but we aren’t sure. Any help with names would be greatly appreciated!
One of Otterbein's greatest assets is the professional expertise that Otterbein alumni can share with our current students. In a typical year, hundreds of Otterbein alumni give back by helping students network, mentoring students in their careers, speaking to classes within their discipline and helping students find employment.

A network of Cardinal alumni equip our students with a foundation to kickstart their careers. The Office of Alumni Relations, in conjunction with the Center for Career and Professional Development, assists both alumni and students in making these valuable networking connections happen.

Here are some ways you can help students network and explore careers...

- Serve on a career panel or speak to a class about your job.
- Host an internship at your place of employment for an Otterbein student.
- Express an interest in career networking and mentoring with current students.
- Send us your updated employment information (job title and employer) for our alumni database and we will match you with a student for possible networking events or e-mentoring.
- If you are outside of central Ohio, update your address with Alumni Relations in case we have graduates moving to your area who are interested in networking.

Interested in networking, volunteering and/or learning more on ways to help our students? Email us at alumniinfo@otterbein.edu

Help Students Dress for Success
The Otterbein Thrift Shop, run by the Westerville Otterbein Women’s Club, is pleased to announce a new initiative to help our students prepare for job interviews and dress for success, affordably! The Thrift Shop is now requesting men’s and women’s business attire donations for students who are in the networking or interviewing process and needing affordable clothing. Donations can be dropped off anytime on the Thrift Shop back porch (177 W. Park St., Westerville) with a self-addressed stamped envelope and a tax-deductible receipt will be mailed to you.
Lifelong Learning Community to Launch

Deepen your commitment to education by joining the Lifelong Learning Community at Otterbein. What is the community? A group of like-minded mature learners, 55 and older who are:

- Open to learning
- Curious about the world
- Committed to maintaining an active mind and a healthy body
- Interested in coming to Otterbein’s campus for a year-long agenda of workshops, lectures and mini-courses enabling members to meet artists, lecturers, writers and faculty in formal and informal settings. Registration opens online July 1 or call 614-823-1650.

Introductory membership in the LLC is $50 per person; half-price for a spouse, partner or friend! A one-year membership extends from September 1, 2016, through August 31, 2017.

Benefits of Membership:
- Invitation to an Otterbein special event with President Kathy Krendl
- Invitations to University events, including special lectures and opportunities to meet artists for the Opening Doors to the World series, including Art and Culture in India and Thailand (fall); China and Tibet (spring).
- One lecture in fall and spring
- Two workshops in fall and spring
- Common Book reading group and a meeting with the author in the fall
- Wine and Cheese Reception with faculty and workshop lecturers
- Mini-Courses: $100 per course, with a second person one-half price, five mornings a week in May
- Up to three discounted Otterbein Theatre matinee performances during the summer of 2017 with opportunities to meet the actors, directors and playwright.

For more information, email lifelonglearning@otterbein.edu

Otterbein Changes Alcohol-on-Campus Policy

In fall semester of 2015, the Otterbein University Student Government (OUSG) convened an ad hoc committee to address student concerns about the university’s alcohol policy. The committee surveyed other colleges and universities and determined that Otterbein is the only member of the Ohio Athletic Conference and the only United Methodist university to prohibit alcohol.

As a result of its findings, OUSG drafted an alcohol policy proposal, which it presented to various campus assemblies, the Otterbein University Senate and the Board of Trustees.

The proposed alcohol policy was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees on Saturday, April 30. The policy allows students 21 years of age or older to possess and/or consume a limited amount of alcoholic beverages on campus in approved, designated, university-owned living areas. Individuals under the age of 21 are prohibited from possessing and/or consuming alcoholic beverages. The policy will be implemented on July 1 and approved areas will be phased in over a number of years.

Additionally, University-sponsored events may serve alcohol in compliance with the State of Ohio Division of Liquor Control and the university policy beginning July 1. For more information, visit www.otterbein.edu/alumni.
Calling all CARDINAL SUPERHEROES!

Grab your mask and cape and channel your inner superhero for a Homecoming that will be out of this world! Mark your calendar for Sept. 30-Oct. 1 and be sure to get to Otterbein in a flash for Cardinals Unite! A Homecoming and Family Weekend 2016. Cardinals everywhere will be descending on campus to display their supercharged Otterbein pride. We want YOU to be there too!

Friday, September 30

- Family Weekend Lift-Off - Parents, siblings and all family members of current Otterbein students are invited to join us this year for the excitement of Homecoming Weekend!
- Young Alumni Awards - Celebrate the personal and professional accomplishments of some of our most promising and accomplished alumni age 40 and younger. www.otterbein.edu/alumni/awards

Saturday, October 1

- Pancakes on the Plaza and Homecoming Parade
  Supercharge your day by having pancakes on the Roush Hall Plaza before the Homecoming Parade, provided by Chris Cakes of Ohio, sponsored by the Greek Alumni Council.
- Otterbein MARVEL-ous Family Reunions and Superhero Photos Spirit Tent
- Class Reunions for 1971, 1976 and Milestone Classes
- Joanne Van Sant and 1847 Giving Societies Breakfast and Parade Viewing at Howard House
- Alumni Fine Arts and Crafts Vendor Tables - Interested in selling your handmade wares or promoting your business at Homecoming to a crowd of 800+ alumni, families, students and friends? Please contact Dana Viglietta at dviglietta@otterbein.edu if you would like to reserve a table.

Visit www.otterbein.edu/homecoming for more details!

- Liberty Mutual Grove Festival:
  - Music by local radio personality and DJ Mark Dantzer
  - Local food trucks and Bon Appetit food tent
  - Otterbein music and theatre performances
  - Bam! Boom! Pow! KidsZone:
    - Inflatables and Luke the Juggler
    - Kids superhero costume contest and meet Cardy
    - Columbus Zoo animals
    - Kids activities provided by Otterbein offices and student organizations
- Greekville Tailgate - Greek alumni will unite on the library lawn with cornhole, an inflatable for kids and time to relax and catch up with old friends and chapter actives.
- African American Alumni Network Reunion
- Visit the STEAM Innovation Center! - Tours of Otterbein’s new STEAM Innovation Center located on Collegeview, following a ribbon-cutting ceremony
- OtterTalk 2016 - Featuring former comedian and current Otterbein history and philosophy instructor Keith Pepperell
- Family Weekend Activities
- Otterbein Cardinals Football Game against Capital University Crusaders - “Can the Crusaders” by bringing a canned food item to donate to Westerville Area Resource Ministry
- Young Alumni Hub Tent, Happy Hour at Jimmy V’s and Uptown Stroll
- “O” Club Annual Reception and Dinner
- Fourth Annual Razzmatazz All-Alumni Mixer at Old Bag of Nails
- And much, much more!

Watch for more details coming this summer!
Alumni Weekend 2016

1966 Golden Reunion Class


Alumni Award Winners

The 2016 Alumni Award recipients, with Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Michael McGreevey (far left), Dr. Mellar Davis ’74 (Distinguished Alumni), Karen Kasler ’89 (Pacesetter), Jan Dwyer Lenahan ’66 (Golden Model Community Leader), Michael McKinney ’86 (Special Achievement), Dr. Carlton Bates ’86 (Special Achievement), Margenett Moore-Roberts ’94 (Pacesetter) and master of ceremonies, Cabot Rea ’78. To read more about these accomplished alumni, visit www.otterbein.edu/alumni.
Pre-1966 Reunion Classes

Cleveland Indians vs. New York Yankees: Game, Food and Fireworks Road Trip, Saturday, July 9, 2016
$119 per person, $50 deposit due, deadline June 1, 2016.
The Young Alumni Adventurers (age 40 and under) invite you to join them for a day at Progressive Field to watch the Indians take on the Yankees. The bus leaves Otterbein’s campus at 12:30 p.m. and returns 1 a.m. on Sunday. Includes transportation, club seats for the game and fireworks and an all-you-can-eat menu.

Horse Tails and Bourbon Trails, Oct. 14-16, 2016
$395 pp, double occupancy, $50 deposit due at booking, deadline Sept. 1, 2016.
Tour the horse farms of Lexington and Bardstown, KY; Makers Mark and Woodford Reserve distilleries; and enjoy dinners at the Woodford Inn and Kurtz Inn. Includes transportation from campus, two nights/three days accommodations and all tours.

West Virginia Fall Foliage, Oct. 17-19, 2016
$475 pp, double occupancy, deadline Sept 1, 2016.
In the peak of fall color, climb deep into the uninhabited mountains on the Cass Scenic RR and the Cheat Mountain Salamander train. Includes transportation, five meals, two nights at the Isaac Jackson Hotel in Elkins, WV, two train rides, a Branson-style variety show and coach travel from Otterbein’s campus.

National Parks of the Southwest – Sign up NOW!
Offering you a choice of one of two weeks in the beautiful Southwest!
Included in the price of $2,975:
• Flight from Columbus (CMH) • 13 meals
• Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Zion National Parks, plus Monument Valley and Lake Powell • Travel insurance
• All transfers, tips and luggage handling
• Personally escorted by our travel guide, Mark Warther
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Alicia Caudill Colburn ’95
Deborah E. Currin ’67
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William Edward Harrell Jr. ’94
Jacqueline Havercamp ’81
Cheryl L. Herbert
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Time, Einstein and the Coolest Stuff in the Universe

Nobel Prize laureate William D. Phillips spoke about “Time, Einstein and the Coolest Stuff in the Universe” to a packed house at the Battelle Fine Arts Center as part of the George W. and Mildred K. White Science Lecture Series.

With experimental demonstrations and down-to-earth explanations, audience members got insight into some of today’s most exciting science from the 1997 winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics.

“We hope he inspires enthusiasm for science in our students, because it allows a deeper understanding of our universe and enables progress which can improve people’s lives,” said Aaron Reinhard, assistant professor of physics at Otterbein.

For more information, visit www.otterbein.edu/sciencelectureseries.