through a dog’s eyes

in this issue:
& campus goodwill: Peg Harmon and her bulldogs
& keeping it clean: custodians on campus
& many donors, many reasons
Do you make doughnut runs to Schneider’s Bakery or grab drinks at Jimmy V’s? Do you dash from class to class while admiring the traditional facade of Towers Hall or the brick-paved road of Grove Street? Have you painted “the Rock” or partied on Temperance Row? Do you pass by nursing students in scrubs, equine girls in riding boots and lacrosse players with their sticks on your way to the Campus Center?

As the first issue of T&C Magazine, which is also the new generation of the former Tan & Cardinal newspaper, it only seemed appropriate for us to shed light on the people, places and activities that make Otterbein more than just a place that we all go to school. Maybe it’s the shady green lawn in front of Towers or the friendly faces that we greet on the sidewalks — but whatever it is, it’s what makes this place feel like home.

In the following pages of this magazine, you’ll find stories about the people and places that shape a student’s experience at Otterbein. We have followed a day in the life of everyone from Kathy Krendl to an Otterbein-owned horse named Jag and everyone in between. As you read, I’m sure you’ll find many things that look familiar, but I also hope you’ll catch a glimpse of something new.

Happy reading!

Lindsay Paulsen
editor-in-chief
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One student explains her experience as a potential new member and then as an active of Otterbein’s Greek community.

by the numbers // pg. 31
Did you know that Bon Appetit goes through 1,900 hamburger buns per week? Check out these and other “cardinal” numbers.
A elderly woman lies in her hospital bed. She knows it is time for her bath and is waiting for the nurse to come and assist her. The door opens, and in walks two young men, both nursing students. She knows they are here to help, but she is still not comfortable with male nurses assisting her with the task of bathing. So, she politely asks for a female nurse instead. One of those two men was Joe Lucas, a junior nursing major at Otterbein.

Stereotypes have created challenges in recruiting young men within the field of nursing, as it is often considered a more feminine role. In pictures, nurses have historically been depicted as nurturing, and that trait is normally associated with women rather than men. Some men shy away from the nursing field because they are afraid of being embarrassed by the stereotype. In the movie Meet the Parents, Ben Stiller’s character is a male nurse and is made fun of by the father of the woman he hopes to marry. Even though it is a fictional movie, teasing about being a male nurse is not uncommon.

Other than his one experience, Lucas said he hasn’t encountered much negativity from patients as a male nurse among a sea of women in the field. “Everyone has always been excited and says that we need more guys in the field,” Lucas said. “But I think the field is definitely growing now where people are excited to see men coming into the nursing field.”

At Otterbein, there are a total of 176 students in the undergraduate nursing department. From that total, 160 are women and only 16 are men. An increase in the nursing diversity at Otterbein is similar to that of the United States.

In 1970, less than 3 percent of men were in the nursing field, and in 2000, there were less than 8 percent. The number of men in nursing has increased over the years, but they are still considered a minority. In the United States, there are 3.5 million licensed, registered nurses and only 9.6 percent of those nurses are men.

Mark Fire, a sophomore nursing major, said that he sometimes receives attention from his friends for his choice in a career path that is not typical for men. “My friends razz me for being a nursing major, but it’s not outright bullying or anything. It’s more respect I get if I tell people that I’m a nursing major ...”

- Mark Fire, sophomore nursing major
Lucas also said he thought he would be made fun of because of his career choice, but that wasn’t the case. “I think now, at this point in time, is when things are really turning around,” he said. “I think it’s kinda booming now that guys are going into nursing, and I think the reason for that is because of the job market. I think nursing is continuing to grow, which has changed the view of it and taken away the negativity and the stereotypical view of it.”

The nursing department at Otterbein has made significant efforts to encourage interest among men. “We try to highlight those roles that men are interested in, such as the emergency room, family nurse practitioner and the anesthesia department,” said Patricia Keane, head of the undergraduate Nursing Department. Keane added that Otterbein has two full-time and two half-time male faculty members which helps create an environment that is more receptive to men. “I think we need to overcome the gender imbalance and I look forward to those changes,” she said.

Lucas said that he chose to explore nursing because his mother is a nurse and he instinctively started thinking about going into health care. “It’s funny because that was the last thing I ever wanted to do growing up. When I told my mom, she told me not to do it because I am a guy,” Lucas said. “When she was in nursing school, she saw a lot of men who would work really hard but because they were men, they didn’t really get recognized for it. They had to work that much harder to be recognized.”

Other factors that led Lucas to choose his major were the opportunities that a profession in health care provides. “I was also looking for something I can incorporate into my faith (such) as missionary work or something, and give back,” he explained. “I thought that there is a very practical need that was out there, and I can learn the skills and give back.”

Similarly, Fire chose this major due to his love of sciences and the high demand of jobs in the nursing profession. “I obviously see (being part of a minority) when I walk into a room that’s just all girls — but I don’t have any problems with it,” Fire said. “I was raised in a rather liberal household so this doesn’t affect how I feel about my major. It doesn’t matter to me.”

Although the number of men that choose to enter the nursing field is comparatively small, the number further shrinks as some male students...
Smartphone apps can be used for more than posting filtered photos of sunsets and the calorie-rich dessert you are about to eat. In fact, some apps are helping nurses save lives. These six apps might just change the way nurses — and students — do their jobs. And the best part: they're all free.

Voalte One: consolidates different forms of hospital communications into one place through a Voice over Internet Protocol system.

Nursing Central: pull information on diseases, tests and procedures from a database built for students and nurses alike.

Medigram: a group messaging system that allows nurses to securely transfer images, charts and patient update information.

NCSBN Learning Extension Medication Flashcards: need a brush-up on drug information? Study thousands of drugs from this one app.

Shots Immunization: if you have a question about immunizations, you can surf through up-to-date immunization records here.

Lexicomp: think of it like Wikipedia for healthcare professionals — it has everything.

Senior nursing major Rachele Gualtieri said that she has had the chance to work with male nurses in the emergency department at a hospital and has never noticed a difference. “I feel that it is completely OK to have men as nurses,” she said. “I actually think that it is great. Although it used to be (considered) a female role, there is no reason why men should not be nurses as well.”

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Lucas practices techniques on a newborn mannequin in a simulated lab. // katie taggart

Lucas said even though he is in the minority, he has never felt out of place as a nurse. “Someone’s life is in your hands and you are a part of someone’s life — that can be for the good or for the bad,” he said. “They didn’t ask you to be there, but you are there to be a part of the experience that they are having.”

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The contents of a book bag can offer interesting insights into a person's lifestyle. We took a look inside Marybeth Stefaniak's book bag to peek at some of the items that nursing majors like to have on hand. Stefaniak is a junior nursing major and hopes to become a neonatal nurse.

A: Whether you actually read them or not, books are an obvious component of, well, a book bag.

B: Body mist can be nifty for freshening up and water is useful for staying hydrated and alert throughout the day.

C: A wallet is a necessity, and change for vending machines or a quick run to CVS is always useful. Also handy is chapstick and a Tide to Go pen.

D: A calculator helps maintain sanity throughout math-heavy classes.

E: A phone for staying connected and gum for freshening breath. It can also help wake you up if you start to feel droopy. Also convenient is a hairbrush and the code to your SMC mailbox.

F: A stethoscope is a common item for nursing students to check heart rate and take blood pressure. Some funky, oddball objects are also good for a smile. “I got my lucky owl charm from the beginning of my freshman year,” Stefaniak said. “I love owls.”

G: A fork because you never know when you’ll need to sneak in a meal. A watch is also useful when checking blood pressure.
When was the last time you took a late night trip to the old buggy repair shop on State Street for a doughnut and a drink? How much do you really know about local landmarks that you visit or pass by on a daily basis?

Landmarks are an essential part of Otterbein's campus and the city of Westerville. They are rich in history and bring the community together around Otterbein and Westerville by giving people a place where they can share a common experience — like buying doughnuts during a 1 a.m. doughnut run to Schneider's Bakery.

Otterbein students will spend four years of their lives in Westerville and on campus. Landmarks around Otterbein and in Westerville help to build a sense of community. The biggest example may be Otterbein's spirit rock, which emphasizes school spirit and campus unity.

Beth Weinhardt, local history coordinator at the Westerville Public Library said that being knowledgeable about landmarks and the surroundings in a community gives us all a sense of pride in where we live and helps us to get involved in the community.

Both Otterbein and Westerville have several distinct landmarks that offer the community this sense of pride and importance.

First Responders Park

First Responders Park was originally intended to be built in memory of David Theisen, a first responder of Westerville who died fighting a fire in Crooksville. But, with the turn of events of 9/11 the park took on a new meaning for all first responders including firefighters and police officers.

About a year after Theisen's passing, a longtime friend and local firefighter named Tom Ulhom began to raise funds for a sculpture in Theisen's memory. Ulhom made a connection between the loss of life in 9/11 and the local loss of life in daily fire and police rescues around Westerville.

Soon after the events of 9/11, Ulhom began work to bring a piece of the World Trade Center to Westerville. He was successful in this task and traveled east to personally pick a piece to be part of the park.

Today, a piece of the north tower stands near a statue of a firefighter in First Responders Park to memorialize all first responders who have lost their lives and given back to their communities, both locally and nationally.

“It's a gathering place and a way to honor those who give back to the community,” Weinhardt said. “We honor these folks in a very visible way and for the city of Westerville, it is more than just a monument, it is a part of our community.”

State Theatre

“Even though the old marquee is striking to look at, you would not think that this theater had a connection to Otterbein,” Weinhardt said. State Theatre hired Otterbein students to play the organ as the soundtrack to the silent movies, and of course, it was a place where students would go to relax and enjoy a film.

Located in Uptown Westerville, this theater opened in 1927 as a silent film cinema and has shared many memories for some of Otterbein's older graduates.

Holmes Hotel Building

Located on the corner of Main and State Street, where Heavenly Cup coffee shop now stands, is the old Holmes Hotel building.

In its early days, the hotel featured a barn in the back where visitors could park their buggy, or rent a buggy to travel around town, along with two stores and a blacksmith's shop.

The hotel also featured a cupola, which was struck by lightning shortly after the hotel was built. In the past five years, the owner of the building had the cupola recreated and had it put back onto the building so that the building would resemble its original appearance.

Old Bag of Nails

This iconic building of Uptown Westerville has been a popular restaurant since 2006. Prior to this, a general store stood on the first floor as well as a five-and-dime store. These stores were a sensation across America that featured small trinkets and gifts for a low price.

“We honor these folks in a very visible way and for the city of Westerville it is more than just a monument, it is a part of our community.”

-beth weinhardt // westerville public library history coordinator
Schneider’s Bakery
While Schneider’s Bakery is now a store where students flock to buy doughnuts at odd hours of the morning, it was once a buggy repair shop. This buggy repair business was called DH Buggy Works.

Built in the 1880s, this buggy repair shop would scavenge the country and area surrounding Westerville for broken buggies and wagons and fix them for resale, much like a used car lot.

Westerville Public Library
Before this building became the Westerville Public Library, it was formerly known as the saddle and harness shop of William Hanby in the 1850s.

In 1909, the building and land were given as a gift to entice the Anti-Saloon League of America to bring their printing headquarters to Westerville. According to Weinhardt, the league printed 40 tons of anti-alcohol information a month from the building and had it shipped countrywide from the modest city of Westerville.

The library, as it stands today, was built in 1955 and was donated to the city of Westerville by the Anti-Saloon League of America.

Temperance Row
This street, also known as South Grove Street, was home to Ernest Cherrington, the head of all anti-saloon publishing in Westerville and godfather of the 18th Amendment, which included prohibition of alcohol in the United States constitution.

Now, a house on Temperance Row is home to the Otterbein fraternity Pi Kappa Phi, also known as Country Club. It is also Westerville’s only historic district as designated by the National Park Service.

Spirit Rock
Otterbein’s spirit rock, located in the grassy area in front of the Center for Career and Professional Development, has seen many hands and layers of paint over its 10 years on campus. This rock was put in place with the assistance of Matthew D’Oly, director of Annual Giving and Constituent Communication, on May 7, 2003 to help improve school spirit and encourage engagement within Otterbein’s community.

The Otterbein spirit rock is a place where students can promote upcoming campus events, Greek life, or other clubs and get involved in the community by taking part in painting the rock with other students.

According to Stephen Grinch, archivist in Otterbein’s Courtright Memorial Library, the spirit rock was a great improvement to the campus and brought the Otterbein community closer together.

Civil War Monument
A plaque engraved with the names of all Otterbein students and Westerville citizens who fought in the Civil War stands mounted to a stone located on the front lawn of Towers Hall.

“The monument is a great way that Otterbein University remembers part of its roots by commemorating those who served not only their community, but their country while attending Otterbein,” Grinch said.

Hanby House
This house was home to William Hanby, preacher and composer of several Civil War era songs and hymns, along with the famous holiday song, “Up on the Housetop.” Despite its current location on Main Street, the original location of the house was on Grove Street where Otterbein’s Campus Center now stands.

Prior to his residence in Westerville, Hanby was an indentured servant. Hanby freed himself of this lifestyle by walking from western Pennsylvania to central Ohio and eventually found himself in Westerville.

Hanby purchased the Hanby House in its original location on Grove Street in 1853 and began to use this home as a stop on the Underground Railroad. Hanby was a conductor on the Underground Railroad in both Westerville and Circleville.

“Darling Nellie Gray” is a famous song composed by Hanby while he was a student at Otterbein University. This song is based on the true story of a runaway slave who intended on finding his wife in the north, but died before he got the chance to see her again.

Hanby died of tuberculosis in 1867 and the Hanby House fell out of Hanby’s ownership.

The house was later acquired by Dacia Custer Shoemaker in 1927 and relocated to its current location on Main Street. The Hanby House is now staffed by volunteers and owned by the Ohio Historical Society.

Otterbein Cemetery
Otterbein Cemetery is located less than half a mile south of campus. Toward the back of the cemetery is a simple stone engraved with the words “Over the Silent Sea.” This stone marker notes the Hanby’s burial site. The first African American student who attended Otterbein is also buried in Otterbein Cemetery.

This cemetery is a place of rest for many anti-saloon leaders who took root in Westerville as part of the act toward prohibition and is a resting place of many early settlers of Westerville.

“The cemetery has more connection to Otterbein than just the proximity to the campus,” Weinhardt said.

Just as Otterbein University is named after the founder of the United Brethren Church, Phillip Otterbein, so is the cemetery where many professors and presidents of the university are buried.
Lending a home

Peg Harmon’s life and influence at Otterbein.

story by // taylor numbers

You’ve all seen her, in her slacks with her short brown hair, windblown face, and dog leash in hand; Peg Harmon has woven her image into all of our minds. Most students might not be able to place a name to her face, yet she has seamlessly become a part of Otterbein’s campus and the everyday lives of students. She’s been a part of the community since the early ’70s and has become a part of our history. Her image is painted in the minds of Otterbein students from decades ago because of her involvement with the early black students at Otterbein and also her involvement with the local fraternity Pi Kappa Phi. Although her love for learning plays an enormous part of her reasons for wanting to live practically on campus, it is the students who keep her here today.

In the ’70s, Harmon moved to Westerville with her then-husband when a fellow co-worker of theirs told her about the house she still resides in today. The house is small compared to the mammoth fraternity house located directly next to it. The petite structure sits on the edge of campus and is always welcoming. Harmon is often seen outside working on her lawn or watching her dogs play.

Since her arrival on campus, Harmon has owned around ten different bulldogs, all of which have won over the hearts of Otterbein students with each passing decade, including her current pups Hobbs and Charlie. She prides herself on her dogs, as well as her two cats and treats them as if they were her children. She fondly reminisces about a time when the football players would pet the bulldog’s head for good luck before every game.

Her animals aren’t the only things that Harmon treats as if they were her own children. In fact, many Otterbein students have also become like children to her. In her first years on Otterbein’s campus, she and her husband began to take in students who couldn’t afford to finish out the year and welcomed them into their home.

Robert Gatti, dean and vice president of student affairs, said that Harmon has made an impact on campus in more ways than one. “She is one of the most kind individuals I have ever known,” he said. “I see her as an extension of the Students Affairs Office. She brings good will to students, encourages them to seek out resources, identifies with students in distress and most importantly, she listens without judging.”

In the beginning, Harmon and her husband most often housed black students, as they weren’t accepted by most of their peers on campus. In the days when blacks first began to attend Otterbein, many of the other students weren’t entirely welcoming. In fact, according to Harmon, the young black women found themselves rejected by every sorority they attempted to join.

Harmon said that she has always been interested in the civil rights movement. She said that this is mostly because it surrounded her during her years as a student at Miami University.
Although she was deeply moved by her fellow students’ protests, she found herself too petite to participate. But she was always interested in the events around her and was always on the side of justice. It was this reason that she distanced herself from her own sorority, Alpha Phi. She said that she became a “phantom” in response to her sisters caring more about their formal dresses than the war going on around them. Harmon hoped to change the world in a different way and thought there was no better way to do that than to teach.

When Harmon and her husband moved to their current house on the edge of Otterbein’s campus, they began teaching at South High School in Columbus, which is about 25 minutes from Westerville.

During this time, they also allowed black women of Otterbein to meet in their home where they molded their own kind of sisterhood. Though they weren’t united by Greek letters, they formed a bond that remains unbroken to this day. Harmon had such a great influence over these young women that they often referred to her as “mom” and a number of them still keep in touch with her.

Wherever life has taken Harmon, Greek life seems to always play a role. In addition to being in her own sorority at Miami University and helping girls form an unofficial sisterhood within her home, she also remains involved with the Otterbein fraternity Pi Kappa Phi, also known as Club. She also happens to be their neighbor. Harmon said that she has always been proud of Club for being the first fraternity to accept black students and said she remains proud of them today for holding on to their integrity. Harmon treats these men not only as neighbors, but also with the love and affection of a mother. “There has never been a group of them I didn’t like,” she said.

The feeling seems to be mutual, as Harmon is known and loved by generation after generation of Club members. Harmon recalled a time when she would even spend weekend mornings hosting them at her house. “The whole lot of them would come over to my house on Saturday mornings,” she said. “They would cover every inch of my house as they sat on the furniture, floor and even up the stairs as they waited for the breakfast my husband and I cooked for them.”

It is not uncommon for alumni of Club to stop by her house during homecoming weekend to see if she remembers them. And, of course, she does. Harmon said that she looks forward to reunions during homecoming as it gives her the chance to reconnect with past students of Otterbein whose lives she touched.

David March, a current member of Club, said that Harmon has been an important neighbor. “Throughout our ups and downs, she has always been there for us and she always will be there for us,” March said. “She’s more than just a neighbor to us, she’s a part of our family.”
DONATIONS TO OTTERBEIN AFFECT EACH AND EVERY STUDENT WHO ATTENDS THE UNIVERSITY. THESE GIFTS MAKE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE, FROM FINANCIAL AID TO CLASSROOM RESOURCES AND CAMPUS BUILDINGS. LAST YEAR, THERE WERE OVER 4,000 DONORS WHO HELPED CONTRIBUTE TO THE $859,000 RECORD-BREAKING ANNUAL FUND.

THese AND OTHER DONATIONS ARE PROCESSED IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT OFFICE, WHICH ARE HOME TO A STAFF OF PEOPLE WHO PROMOTE OTTERBEIN AS A PLACE TO SUPPORT. MATTHEW D’OYL, A 2004 GRADUATE OF OTTERBEIN, BEGAN HIS FIRST YEAR IN INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT AS THE DIRECTOR OF ANNUAL GIVING AND CONSTITUENT COMMUNICATION THIS YEAR. BEFORE WORKING WITH OTTERBEIN’S DONORS, D’OYL WAS THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCE LIFE AT OTTERBEIN AND CONTINUES TO SERVE AS THE ADVISER OF THE SIGMA DELTA PHI FRATERNITY.

WITH HIS NEW POSITION, D’OYL IS GENERATING NEW AND CREATIVE IDEAS THAT DEVELOP AN ATMOSPHERE OF GIVING AT OTTERBEIN AND IMPLEMENT THE GIVING MESSAGE INTO EVERYTHING.

“I LOVE OTTERBEIN. OTTERBEIN HAS BEEN HOME TO ME SINCE I STEPPED ON CAMPUS IN THE FALL OF 2000,” HE SAID. “I HAVE SOME PASSION FOR OTTERBEIN BECAUSE IT REALLY HELPED ME GROW INTO WHO I AM, AS A LEADER, AS A MENTOR AND AS AN ADVISER.”

D’OYL SAID HE WANTS TO MAKE THE SAME EXPERIENCES HE HAD POSSIBLE FOR STUDENTS NOW. “WE ARE RAISING MONEY TO ULTIMATELY HELP STUDENTS,” HE SAID.

THE ANNUAL FUND IS A GENERAL FUND ENCOMPASSING UNSPECIFIED GIFTS THAT TYPICALLY GO TOWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER CAMPUS RESOURCES. DONORS ARE ALSO ABLE TO DESIGNATE THEIR GIFTS TO THE AREAS ON CAMPUS THAT MEAN THE MOST TO THEM.

“I’M NOT SURE THAT STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THAT ALL OF THEIR SCHOLARSHIPS AND THINGS LIKE THAT COME FROM DONORS,” HE SAID.

THE PASSION DONORS HAVE FOR OTTERBEIN SHINES THROUGH WHEN THEY GIVE, BUT ALSO WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT HOW THE UNIVERSITY HAS IMPACTED THEIR LIFE. EVERY STORY EVOLVES DIFFERENTLY, BUT EACH STARTED THE SAME — WITH OTTERBEIN.

DONORS ARE ALSO ABLE TO DESIGNATE THEIR GIFTS TO THE AREAS ON CAMPUS THAT MEAN THE MOST TO THEM.

“WE WERE ON CAMPUS ALL OF THE TIME, SO YOU DIDN’T GO OFF CAMPUS TO STUFF, YOU DIDN’T GO HOME,” SHE SAID. “IT WAS VERY MUCH A COMMUNITY.”

ALONGSIDE BEING AN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION MAJOR, TRENT BECAME ACTIVELY INVOLVED WITH THETA NU, THE BAND AND THE CHOIR, EVEN TOURING WITH THE CONCERT CHOIR OVER SPRING BREAK.

“EVERY WEEKEND THERE WOULD BE THINGS LIKE AN ALL-CAMPUS EVENT, WHETHER IT WAS A DANCE OR A MOVIE, OR SOME ACTIVITY. AND HAY RIDES. ALL KINDS OF STUFF KEPT US BUSY,” TRENT SAID. “OTTERBEIN WAS YOUR LIFE.”

TRENT WENT ON TO TEACH FOR ABOUT FIVE YEARS IN EUCLID, OHIO AFTER GRADUATING FROM OTTERBEIN IN 1965. “LEAVING OTTERBEIN, I NEVER HAD A JOB I DISLIKED. I WAS JUST VERY, VERY LUCKY,” SHE SAID.

“THE PASSION DONORS HAVE FOR OTTERBEIN SHINES THROUGH WHEN THEY GIVE, BUT ALSO WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT HOW THE UNIVERSITY HAS IMPACTED THEIR LIFE. EVERY STORY EVOLVES DIFFERENTLY, BUT EACH STARTED THE SAME — WITH OTTERBEIN.”

“I DON’T THINK THAT IT IS THE AMOUNT, AS MUCH AS THE DISCIPLINE OF SUPPORTING. JUST STARTING SMALL AND TRYING TO GET IN THE HABIT OF DOING THAT. THE CONSISTENCY IS THE IMPORTANT THING.”

-MARGARET TRENT // CLASS OF ’65

AT SOME POINT WITHIN HER FIRST FEW YEARS OF TEACHING, TRENT SAID SHE BEGAN TO DONATE TO OTTERBEIN.

AFTER 45 YEARS OF GIVING BACK TO OTTERBEIN, TRENT SAID SHE ENVISOINS THE AMOUNT SHE DONATES AS ONE OF HER BUDGETED AMOUNTS FOR THE YEAR. “I DON’T THINK THAT IT IS THE AMOUNT, AS MUCH AS THE DISCIPLINE OF SUPPORTING,” SHE SAID. “JUST STARTING SMALL AND TRYING TO GET IN THE HABIT OF DOING THAT. THE CONSISTENCY IS THE IMPORTANT THING.”

ALONG WITH GIVING YEARLY, TRENT SAID SHE HAS ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO OTHER INITIATIVES ON CAMPUS THAT ARE SPECIAL TO HER AND HAS CONTINUED TO HAVE A PRESENCE ON CAMPUS. “I THINK THAT GIVING BACK TIME IS ALSO IMPORTANT. IF YOU CAN, IF YOU LIVE NEARBY,” SHE SAID.

“In the early '70s, Trent returned to Otterbein to teach in the reading center helping students who were struggling with reading and study skills.

As one of the first members of the Alumni Council, Trent spent close to a decade serving on the board until rotating off. Today, she is involved with Friends of the Library and has served on the committees for both her 25th class reunion and her 50th, coming up in 2015. “If you can keep your classmates involved and connected, they are also going to give back,” Trent said.

THE FACULTY IMPACT

After beginning a career at Otterbein as the Courtsright Memorial library director in 1990, Lois Szudy began to contribute to the university. “I felt that it was important to give back to the university in some small way,” she said.

Szudy knew the importance of donating to the university since she had previously worked at Ohio Wesleyan. "It felt like the right thing to do," she said. “If you’re going to work at some place, you ought to give back to that place.”

Not only is Szudy dedicated to her work as a librarian, but she has also expanded her interests throughout campus including Otterbein’s Equine Department.

“When I was a little kid I was passionate for horses,” she said. “When I started (working) here, I always happened to have lunch over in the Campus Center. I was just eating lunch with a bunch of faculty and Maria Calderone, who is one of the faculty members of the Equine Department, was over there, and I was saying how much I loved horses and that I hadn’t ridden in 20 years. So she signed me up for horseback riding lessons.

Although Szudy has not been horseback riding lately, she stays involved with the Equine Department through designated gifts along with being the faculty adviser to the equestrian teams and the library liaison to the Equine Science Department.

Szudy has shown her involvement across campus through designating her annual gifts. “Every single campaign I try to be involved in in some way, shape or form,” she said.

“I DONATE AS MUCH AS I CAN. IT’S A VERY PRIVATE THING FOR ME. I MEAN, YOU DONATE IF YOU CAN, IF YOU CAN’T YOU DON’T,” Szudy said. “It comes out each month (for me) in payroll deduction. So yes, they are paying your salary, and you are giving some of that salary back to the university, but it just felt right, so I wanted to help out.”

YOUNG ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

Otterbein is not short of family tradition for Shannon Lord who is from Westerville and graduated in 2000. Her grandfather, who has now passed away, is an honorary alumnus and
her dad, uncle, aunt, brother and sister all attended or graduated from Otterbein. “Our family just really likes Otterbein,” Lord said. “My husband didn’t go to Otterbein, but he does a lot of the alumni stuff with me. He loves Otterbein, too.”
Otterbein wasn’t Lord’s first choice because she wanted to explore outside of where she grew up, but after getting her financial aid package, Otterbein was her most affordable option. “I can’t imagine now, looking back on it, not choosing Otterbein,” she said.
She was an active member of Kappa Phi Omega, a student representative for the senate and was a student worker in the athletic office. “I just had a really great experience when I was here,” Lord said. “And it really was the best years of my life so far.”
After graduating from Otterbein, Lord went on to law school at Capital University and worked at a general practice law firm in Westerville before currently working at JPMorgan Chase.
Lord said that donating to Otterbein has been a way for her to make a difference in furthering the university and helping future students pay for college.
“I think every dollar counts. No matter how small or big,” Lord said. “I know when I first graduated and started giving, it was kind of like a small amount because that’s all I could afford. But I’ve tried to give as much as I can just because Otterbein means so much to me.”
Lord is currently a member of the Alumni Council which meets a few times a year to give feedback to the university from an alumni perspective. “Your life at Otterbein doesn’t ever end I feel like,” she said. “Even though you graduate, there’s so many ways to be involved as an alumnus of the college.”
“I love Otterbein,” Lord said. “That’s all I can say.”

Editor’s note: Danielle Lanning also works as an Otterbein telefund caller for the Annual Fund.
A horse’s tale

Walking into the barn, the aroma of 52 horses is strong; fresh grass hay, cedar wood shavings, well-used and well-oiled leather, dust, manure, dirt and grass. The sounds are uncomplicated and calming; munching on hay, dull stomping to keep flies away, ringing clip-clop of iron shoes on the aisle-way, jingle of leather and metal being carried to and from the tack room, relaxed conversations of students getting their horses ready for a lesson and brusque swish and flicking of a horse’s coat being brushed.

Located at 600 N. Spring Rd., a quick eight minutes from campus, the Otterbein University Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science, houses 30 school-owned horses that are used daily for riding lessons, labs and practicums.

The equine pre-veterinary and veterinary technician students learn how to give shots, take temperatures, find heart rates and assess horse diseases and injuries.

Equine business management students learn how to manage the finances of a stable, sell a horse, organize a horse show, design a functional barn and learn their legal rights as horse owners and horse business operators.

The horses also serve as lesson horses to help the hunt seat, dressage and eventing team members practice for competitions and horse shows against other schools. In the spring of 2013, the Otterbein hunt seat team went to the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Nationals, as the university’s first time ever at this type of national equitation championship.

One of the horses, Darks Money Man, nicknamed Jag, has been in the program since 2008. He is a 12-year-old, chestnut colored American Quarter Horse. Here is a glimpse of a day in Jag’s life.

6:20 AM
Jag receives two flakes of alfalfa hay for breakfast and half a scoop of grain to fulfill his other nutritional needs. Water buckets are filled and Jag goes outside in a pasture with friends, Cisco and Kermit.

6:00 AM
Walking into the barn, the aroma of 52 horses is strong; fresh grass hay, cedar wood shavings, well-used and well-oiled leather, dust, manure, dirt and grass. The sounds are uncomplicated and calming; munching on hay, dull stomping to keep flies away, ringing clip-clop of iron shoes on the aisle-way, jingle of leather and metal being carried to and from the tack room, relaxed conversations of students getting their horses ready for a lesson and brusque swish and flicking of a horse’s coat being brushed.

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6:00 PM
Dinner is served and includes another two flakes of hay and a half scoop of grain. All employees are done feeding, watering, cleaning and sweeping the barn for the night by 8:30 p.m.

6:20 AM
Repeat.

2:00 AM
One of the three students who live in the apartment attached to the barn does a ‘night check,’ making sure all of the horses have enough water and are safe in their stalls or paddocks.

story by // rebecca knopf
American Quarter Horse - breed of horse named after their superior ability to sprint a quarter of a mile.

chestnut - a reddish-brown horse coat color.

dressage - a type of English riding that trains the horse to become more flexible, obedient and balanced in response to a rider's hand, leg and weight signals; black leather tack is typically used.

equitation - type of English riding where the rider is judged on their position, style and effectiveness on the horse.

eventing - type of English riding competition that has three phases: dressage, cross country and stadium jumping. Cross country takes place outside of a fenced arena where the horse must jump over natural obstacles such as logs, brush and water. It requires the horse to be brave, athletic and fit. Stadium jumping takes place in an arena and requires the horse to be agile and careful over fences that can be easily knocked down.

hunt seat - a generic term used to describe the classic forward English riding style; brown leather tack is typically used.

tack - the gear used when riding or working a horse. ie. saddle, bridle, halter, stirrups, bit, etc.

sitting trot - the rider stays seated at the trot, rather than rising on every other stride, posting.

standing wrap - cotton pillows that are wrapped under a stretchier material that helps decrease swelling of the horse's legs after strenuous work.

stirrups - a device attached on each side of the horse's saddle in the form of a leather loop with a flat base that will support the rider's weight when their foot is placed inside.

two-point position - the position of the rider over a jump, with their seat out of the saddle and upper body leaning forward slightly.
T he gentle tap of fingers against keyboards and the hushed voices of students are the only sounds in an otherwise quiet 8 a.m. statistics class in Towers Hall. Students in sweatpants and flip flops with sleep still in their eyes are huddled around computers with textbooks cracked open, entering data into a statistics program called Minitab. A lean brunette girl to the far left of the room sits cross-legged, with her finger in the textbook, tracking the numbers she reads off to her partner who types it into the computer. She looks like the quintessential Otterbein student — dressed in American Eagle jeans with her brown hair pulled back into a ponytail that bounces with each nod of her head. She brings to class a pink Coach clutch that holds her Cardinal Card, and her book bag sits next to her on the floor.

The only image that seems unusual for an Otterbein classroom is to the left of her book bag — where a 75-pound dog lies snoozing at her feet. The dog wears a harness with a sign that says “Please do not feed or flirt with me.” A fading yellow smiley face sticker is fixed to the sign. Apart from the occasional thump of her tail or a muffled groan, the dog draws no attention to herself.

When class is dismissed, the golden retriever, whose name is Chloe, quickly shuffles to her feet. The dog fixes her eyes upon the girl with the ponytail, standing at the ready to escort her out of class. “Come on Chlo,” Sami Stoner coos to the dog, and the two file out of the computer lab along with the rest of the class.

Stoner is a freshman from Lexington, Ohio, who has a vision impairing disease called Stargardt. But that doesn’t stop her from seamlessly melding into the Otterbein community, going on runs or appearing on Good Morning America, all with her service dog, Chloe, of course.

Stoner was diagnosed with Stargardt disease at the end of her eighth grade year when her vision began to decline rapidly. ”At the beginning of the year, I thought it was kind of hard to see the board, which made it hard to take notes,” Stoner said. “I thought I just needed a higher prescription, so I moved up closer to the front of the class.”

As the next year progressed and cross country season finished up, Stoner’s vision deteriorated to the point that she was considered legally blind. In December of 2009, her vision was determined to be 20/800, which exceeds the legal blindness number of 20/200. Stoner explained that with 20/800 vision, an object that is only 20 feet away appears as though it is 800 feet away.

“I thought I just needed a higher prescription, so I moved up closer to the front of the class.”

- Sami Stoner // Freshman Business & Psychology Major

Freshman Sami Stoner navigates college with a guide dog at her side.
This is typical of Stargardt disease, which affects about one in 10,000 people in the United States. Stargardt is a hereditary disease and a form of macular degeneration that affects the retina and causes varied rates of vision loss. The ability to see is impaired when the center of the eye does not receive enough blood cells and begins to die.

When Stoner first learned that she had the disease, everything was blurry and her peripheral vision stopped working. She also had complete night blindness and had difficulty seeing in the dark. As Stoner got older, her vision stabilized and she regained some ability to see out of her peripheries, although her central vision still remains blurry. Stoner said that she knew her life had changed when she sat in class with her visual aids, or special tools that help her see. She realized that she would never be without them.

Going the Extra Mile

To help her remain focused throughout the day and keep her spatially oriented, Stoner adopted Chloe from an organization called Pilot Dogs two years ago. Although Chloe fulfills the role of a service dog, she seems to go the extra mile. Literally.

In high school, Stoner refused to give up her love of cross-country running because of her vision impairment. So, Chloe joined her on her runs. Running with a service dog in school-sanctioned events was a foreign concept to interscholastic sports. Three weeks before she was supposed to run in her first competition with Chloe at her side, she was told that she wasn’t allowed to run.

After several conversations with organizational leaders, Stoner and Chloe were permitted to run under specific conditions and weren’t allowed to score for their team. Stoner became the first to run with a guide dog in school-sanctioned events. Before long, Cleveland’s local news channel, WKYC, got word of Stoner’s story and word eventually spread to ESPN. Stoner and Chloe were featured on a segment of ESPN and also made an appearance on Good Morning America, and the Steve Harvey Show. According to Stoner, Chloe travels well and typically sits with her in the bulkhead area of the plane.

After the feature on ESPN aired, Stoner said that she received up to 500 Facebook friend requests per day. She had unintentionally developed a following and received a mass of messages each day.

“It was sometimes overwhelming because some people want to tell you their whole life story,” Stoner said with a smile.

When a Golden Retriever Becomes a Cardinal

Stoner became interested in Otterbein during her sophomore year of high school. She said she had the opportunity to explore other schools when her older sister was looking at colleges, but she decided on Otterbein because she liked the proximity to home and the atmosphere of a small school.

While she hoped to continue running at Otterbein, she decided that running at the collegiate level would be too much for Chloe to handle. Instead, she and Chloe now run along the bike trails around Westerville between classes each day. When they walked into class on the first day of school, Stoner explained that her professors were definitely surprised to see a dog. “You could tell they were trying not to stare,” she said. “A lot of the class would stare, but the professor would try to distract the class by jumping into something, and it didn’t really work.”

The greatest challenge of adjusting to college life for Stoner is making sure that Chloe settles in. Dorm life has been a big change for the 3-year-old golden retriever who had grown used to having run of the family’s house back home, as well as the company of the other family dog, Annie.

Their room in Mayne Hall looks like any other dorm room — with the exception of a few canine-related items. Stoner’s room is brightly colored, with a paisley print bedspread from Target, a futon and a bulletin board tacked with prom photos, vacation photos and a photo of Chloe as a puppy. Next to her bed, there are two silver bowls on the floor — one for dog food and one for water. Chloe’s large crate tucks neatly into a space in the corner under the built-in shelves along the wall. It almost looks as though the wooden built-ins were constructed just with Chloe’s crate in mind. Above her crate hangs her harness, next to Stoner’s backpack. A few random dog toys scatter the floor.

A small bin sits on top of her crate, which Stoner explained holds some of her outfits. Chloe’s outfits, that is.
Chloe has an extensive wardrobe — everything ranging from argyle sweaters to rain jackets to Halloween costumes. On normal days, however, Chloe regularly sports her sparkly, red-sequined collar and wears her harness only when the pair goes to class.

On their way to class, Chloe doesn’t hesitate to greet other students, as she will boldly tug on her harness to sniff someone passing by. They don’t hesitate to greet her, either. “Sometimes I think people like Chloe better than me,” Stoner said with a laugh. “She would get more ‘hi’s’ than I would in high school.”

Although being at college is a different environment for Chloe, the continuous wagging of her tail indicates that she loves being surrounded by people. Stoner admitted that sometimes people swarm her just to pet Chloe. “Some people have kind of adopted her because they miss their dogs at home,” she said.

While Chloe certainly spends a lot of time with Stoner, Chloe doesn’t go everywhere that she goes. Because she is a service dog, she is legally entitled to go anywhere and everywhere that Stoner goes, but sometimes it poses more of an inconvenience than a benefit to bring her places.

“A lot of times I don’t bring her to the Campus Center because she’ll eat stuff off of the ground,” she said. When she has gone to Cedar Point or on a cruise to the Bahamas, she has also left Chloe at home. Stoner has an appreciation for alternative music and said she’ll leave Chloe at home if she goes to a concert, because drunk people and dogs aren’t usually a good mix.

In addition to attending concerts, Stoner likes to hang out with friends, bring Chloe to the dog parks in Westerville and visit her boyfriend who attends Miami University. Stoner recently took a driving course designed specifically for those with impaired vision, and with her license, is now able to make trips to visit him.

When she is with her boyfriend, Stoner said that he often takes over for Chloe. “Whenever I don’t get to take Chloe with us somewhere and it gets dark, he’s constantly watching out for anything that I might trip over,” she said. “It’s really nice, just being that aware of another person. It’s probably made us a lot closer.”

Stoner can also be found catching up on episodes of Breaking Bad on Netflix or reading books such as Gone Girl or Pride and Prejudice. Sometimes she will read on her Kindle, which is convenient because it allows her to make the font of the text as big as she wants. She also listens to audiobooks.

“Around campus, looking at the trees, I can see mostly shades of green. I can’t wait to see it in the fall, I can still tell Otterbein is gorgeous.”

- Sami Stoner // freshman business & psychology major
After appearing on the Steve Harvey Show, Steve Harvey himself gave her a lifetime subscription to Audiobooks.com. While she said that audiobooks can be great, she still prefers reading an actual book. “Since I grew up with my vision, nothing beats holding a book. And I love the book smell.” Stoner also said that iPads can be great tools for people with vision impairments because all of the Apple products are really accessible for those with disabilities.

While technology has helped to make some things much easier for Stoner, other activities still prove to be a challenge for someone with impaired vision. “Tweezing your eyebrows — you wouldn’t believe how hard that is,” she said. “And straightening your hair can be hard, too.” Stoner doesn’t typically wear much makeup, but said that her sister has helped her primp for special events like homecoming.

When going from class to class throughout the day, several people will greet Stoner and Chloe and sometimes it’s difficult for her to know exactly who says hello in passing. “You learn to recognize people by their walk,” she said. “Or by the color of their backpack or by their hair color.”

Stoner experiences Otterbein in a way that is different from most students, but that doesn’t stop her from seeing the beauty in it all. “Around campus, looking at the trees, I can see mostly shades of green. I can’t wait to see it in the fall,” she said. “I can still tell that Otterbein is gorgeous.”

Chloe’s closet

As a part-time service dog, Chloe also happens to be a full-time fashionista. Chloe sports everything from argyle sweaters to a bumble bee Halloween costume. She even has a fluffy pink sweater that she once wore to a wedding.

provided // sami stoner

photos // stephanie parker

photo // andrew beers
M any describe her with one word: passionate. First female president of Otterbein University, Kathy Krendl can be seen showing passion for her work, students and fellow faculty members throughout her daily routine.

As a graduate of Lawrence University, located in Appleton, Wis., she received her bachelor’s degree in English. From there, she received her master’s degree in journalism from the Ohio State University and then her doctorate in communication from the University of Michigan.

She started her academic career as a student teacher for a high school in Wapakoneta, Ohio. Krendl said it was a great experience. She had begun to apply for jobs at the end of her senior year at Lawrence, and one offer she received was from the school she was student teaching at. The school said the only catch was that she had to advise the student paper. Krendl had never done anything like that. She said she didn’t think she could do a good job without knowing anything about the journalism industry. To become a better adviser, she started going to class in the evenings and earned her master’s degree.

Krendl moved onto teaching and administrative positions at Indiana University in 1983 until 1996. She then moved onto Ohio University’s campus as the dean of the Scripps College of Communication. She was later appointed as the academic vice president and provost and then in 2007, she was promoted again to executive vice president and provost of the institution.

After Ohio University, she came to Otterbein to replace the former president, Brent DeVore.

Thomas Morrison, head chairman of the Board of Trustees, said that he was glad when he and the board decided to hire her. “She’s terrific. For me she was easy to work with,” he said. “I think the most significant thing from my standpoint is that she is incredibly hard working, incredibly focused and willing to attack difficult problems head on.”

It’s this focus and work ethic that helps her get through her day. “When school starts in the fall, things get busy,” said Richard Gilbert, husband to Krendl and an Otterbein professor.

Krendl’s day begins when she wakes up around 5:30 or 6 a.m. since that’s the only time of the day for her to work out. Krendl and her husband work out together, although Gilbert admits his wife is a little more enthused. Many times, they take their exercise routine outside and take a two or two-and-a-half mile walk around the neighborhood together. It’s one of the few times when they get to spend some quality time together because of her busy schedule. When she’s by herself, she said she works out on the treadmill, works on upper body, does a couple sit ups and works on some back exercises.

She gets cleaned up, makes a fruit smoothie and makes it to the office by 8 a.m. unless she has a breakfast meeting. Usually the first hour is filled with catching up on emails. Meetings follow soon after that and go throughout the day until 5 p.m.

From here, Krendl’s day can go a couple different ways. On Wednesdays, she teaches her First Year Seminar (FYS) class: Women’s Leadership. Because she has a full day of meetings and there was no other time, Krendl teaches her class in the evenings. Her class is filled with female, freshman students — although it’s open to males, too. She teaches her students how to become leaders by finding out who they are and how to build themselves for the future.

They start off the class with a field trip to the Center for Career and Professional Development to talk about internships. After an hour, they go back to class and listen to two
Q&A: with Kathy Krendl

What do you think your legacy is here at Otterbein?

Hmmm, I don’t know yet. But I hope it’s becoming more visible around central Ohio and beyond. I’m trying to own that issue of setting the pace for higher education rather than following. We won’t get there during my tenure, but I think setting those aspirations for becoming more well-known as a destination school where we offer special opportunities for students and faculty and staff. That’s what I’m really hoping for.

What would you say is your biggest regret as president?

I’d really like to have a renovated Campus Center. It really needs it. I’m at the point where I’m going through the donor base and expanding the alumni participation, you know, you have to build those things. Someday, someone is going to say, “I want my name on that building.” I want it to look contemporary and welcoming. We don’t have room for the number of student activities we have. I would love for that to be my legacy, to renovate the student center. I think that will happen in time but it’s going to take a lot of building. What I think I can do is build the visibility and help Otterbein distinguish itself and that will lead to more donor support and more involvement and, I hope, it will lead to somebody saying, “Let me take care of that Campus Center for you.”

What are some of the biggest challenges facing Otterbein?

Our fundraising needs to be more aspirational and more aggressive. We used to have a strong adult program but it’s been pushed to the wayside and we need to look at it again. So, I think building our financial base of strong enrollment, strong students, visibility; those are the things that I’m really focused on.

What was the most difficult part of your life?

Well, my mother died when I was in college. I was an English major in my undergrad and my adviser really wanted me to go on a study abroad experience. He told me that the best one that he had visited was Tufts, which was located in London. It focused on literature and drama and those were two areas of interest. Long story short, I decided to apply to that program and one in Oxford and was accepted to both. I got there and we traveled to the midland and when I got back, I saw there was a note from my father saying that my mother was terminally ill. I had known that she had cancer, but they told me that she was going to be OK. And I believed that. The last line of my father’s note said that under no circumstances was I to come home. And so I called and got a ticket home. So, I went back to my undergrad institution and she died March of that year.

You grew up in Spencerville, right?

Yes. Small town. I had five brothers and sisters. Four sisters and one brother. My father always had three jobs. He was a farmer, a postmaster and he had his own business. So he was a busy guy. He was the son of German immigrants, and they were quite poor so he couldn’t afford to go to college. And my mother, well in those days, not that many women went to college, so she went to training and became an executive secretary. She actually competed with the world’s fastest typer and almost beat him. She was the accountant and executive assistant to my father’s business. All my brothers and sisters have at least a master’s degree.

or three speakers for another hour. Then Krendl talks to her students the rest of the time about the speakers and about upcoming projects. When she doesn’t have class, she is at a social event like class reunions or an organizational meeting for boards such as WARM, the Osteopathic Heritage foundation, YWCA and the I Know I Can Founders’ Scholarship. Sometimes it takes place on campus, sometimes off. And sometimes it takes place at the president’s home. No matter where, Krendl will walk into the room and introduce herself. She works the room until everybody is comfortable and acquainted.

With all this going on, Krendl doesn’t have much time to sit back and relax. If she had more time, she said she would read because she really misses having time to get lost in a good book. She used to be very interested in the works of John Irving and the imaginary worlds he created. Now, she finds interest in non-fiction books because of how real the stories are, such as the common books that Otterbein’s first year students read.

One of the hardest things about her day, she said, is disciplining herself to take on the more important challenges. She admits that sometimes she doesn’t meet that discipline.

Krendl gives a toast to alumni and faculty at her home during homecoming weekend. // katie taggart

If there’s nothing else going on, Krendl will return home where her husband has prepared dinner. Afterward, Krendl will send more emails until 10:30 or 11 p.m. and then goes to bed.
Executive Chef Martin Brennan worked in restaurants throughout high school which led him to choose a career in the culinary arts. // Andrew Beers
T

hings begin to get a bit chaotic and rowdy as everyone switches gears from breakfast to lunch. Scattered ingredients are everywhere as people begin to add fresh produce and herbs into their dishes. Behind the scenes, every chef and employee is doing his or her job slicing huge slabs of meat perfectly, mixing flour for the homemade cupcakes or rolling out freshly made pizza dough — preparation for the school’s most popular choice.

Executive Chef Martin Brennan paces around each station making sure everyone is doing their part, asking employees different questions such as what the soup of the day is or which special sauces are being prepared for the featured dishes. If there are any questions or dilemmas, Brennan is the go-to guy, the one everyone looks up to and the ultimate culinary artist.

Traveling across the United States, from California and back to central Ohio, Brennan has had a passion for cooking and food since he was a young boy. He was born in New Jersey, raised in Philadelphia and also Columbus. He is the second oldest out of nine children. While growing up on the East Coast, his family was very involved in cooking. Brennan learned almost every type of fresh produce when he worked in a produce stand, as the items came off of ships and trucks every day.

He realized his future of becoming a chef while working in restaurants throughout high school. Brennan described his career path as something so different and unique, he never had to think about exactly what he wanted to do. In his heart, he knew cooking in the hospitality industry — making restaurant customers pleased with what they eat — was what he was meant to do.

“I chose it, and as they say, it chose me,” he said. “I learned to love it as opposed to it just being a job, and I began to develop a passion for it and decided that’s what I wanted to do.”

After Brennan graduated high school, he received a full scholarship to attend the Columbus College of Art and Design and also studied business at Columbus State Community College. “With cooking being an original form of art, going to art college and studying art helped me to understand how people choose what they eat based off of what it looks like and then what it smells like,” he said. “I learned the beauty of food and how beautiful it can be and how to decorate a plate and really how to prepare food to make it look appetizing. I really cultivated that skill while studying in an art college.”

Brennan’s culinary career took him across the country to Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana and many places in California. Ultimately, Brennan chose to travel to learn how each region of the U.S. eats differently, which led him to evolve in his culinary career. He has held various job titles at each location such as kitchen manager and corporate executive chef. He was even the executive kitchen manager for the Cheesecake Factory in California.

Throughout his journey so far, working in Otterbein’s kitchen as the executive chef, he said, has been his favorite job yet for many different reasons. “It’s not so much the title that I like, it’s the position,” Brennan explained. “I like it so much here because it allows me to interact with the student body. It’s a very important demographic for me to deal with on a day-to-day basis. I feel like this is where I’ve had the greatest impact in my career.”

With the constant change in the school’s having a positive attitude and high energy are key ingredients for success in the kitchen. “While having high energy all the time, it is contagious for the other workers to feed off of,” he said, while circling around to make sure every station was properly prepared before the students arrived.

“I like it so much here because it allows me to interact with the student body. It’s a very important demographic for me to deal with on a day-to-day basis. I feel like this is where I’ve had the greatest impact in my career.”

Brennan was happy about coming back to Columbus, a place that felt more like home to him after he spent a large part of his life here. He was also excited to have the opportunity to work with Bon Appetit, one of the largest contract food services in Ohio.

Brennan explained that
Brennan said he enjoys having flexibility in what he cooks for the students. First, he bases the menu off of what is in season, and then what the students want and need to stay healthy. More than 90 percent of the food is made from scratch with no trans fat, low sodium and no high fructose corn syrup. Comfort foods such as Italian dishes that make the students feel like they are at home are always choices that Brennan said he enjoys preparing in the kitchen.

He said his all-time goal is hospitality; to make everyone happy with what they are eating in every part of the food services provided, whether it is upstairs at the Cardinal’s Nest or downstairs at the Otter Den. He said his least favorite thing is to have the students disappointed with what they are eating.

Caleb Martin, a sophomore health and physical education major said the dining options at Otterbein offer a good variety of foods with healthy choices. “I really like the simple foods that remind me of home,” he said. “Like macaroni and cheese, scalloped potatoes, hot dogs and also the curly fries — they are amazing.”

John Vincent, a sophomore health promotion and fitness major said, “I think the Campus Center can make a better variety of the breakfast foods instead of having the same three options every day. Also, people like me who eat a lot, would like to have bigger portions instead of going up in line more than two times.”

Brennan finds happiness in several areas of his career — from teaching the staff something new about the culinary field to meeting new students and their parents for the first time at orientation. He said the most rewarding opportunity for him has been the interactions with the people who are constantly surrounding him every day in his job.

Along with the interactions, Brennan loves weekend game days on campus. “On Saturdays when the band marches into the stadium, is always one of my favorite things,” Brennan said. “I remember the first time that I heard them the first fall that I was here, so I look forward to it each year and each Saturday.”

Brennan said that his family, including his wife, Rachel, plays an important role in his cooking. They provide him with valuable feedback about which dishes are really good and about others that are not so much of a hit. In exchange, he always returns the favor by cooking for special occasions such as holidays and birthday parties.

In the future, Brennan said he wants to focus on sustainability and learning more about how he can impact people around him like his family and peers. He plans on staying here at Otterbein while continuing to learn all that he can about his staff and students that keep him motivated daily.

“I’m excited to be here every day,” Brennan said. “I really enjoy my time here at Otterbein, and being back in central Ohio.”

ABOVE: Brennan arranges the new display of fresh fruits and veggies during lunch time.

RIGHT: Staff is lead by Brennan during mid-day meeting to discuss upcoming events for the weekend. // andrew beers
Is the season. And no, I’m not talking about the changing of fall or the arrival of pumpkin spice lattes. I’m talking about something bigger — sorority recruitment season. Look around.

Notice the letter tote bags and shirts proudly being sported by every sorority. Our campus has just begun to be filled with echoes of hooting Owls, strumming Kappas and roaring Temmers. But before these things became possible, each and every one of these new sorority girls went through rush.

For those of you who don’t know, rush is the process each potential new member, or PNM, must first go through in order to become a sorority member. It is made up of three components: house tours, novelty parties and final parties. Through this process, PNMs are introduced to current members of the sorority, otherwise known as actives. PNMs enter this process hoping to find their new homes just as the current actives are hoping to find the future leaders of their sorority.

I can remember being a part of the flood of PNMs that streamed into the Campus Center last year. There we were, divided up and led, unbeknownst to us, to our future homes during house tours. We were led by our assigned Rho Chis who are members of each sorority that temporarily gave up their active status in their sorority to help advise PNMs from an unbiased perspective. As PNMs, we followed our Rho Chis like little ducklings and stood at the entrance of every sorority house, bright eyed and bushy tailed, hoping and praying we would make a good impression. The whole process is actually extremely overwhelming. Inside the house, active members divided us into even smaller groups and led us from room to room. In each room we were introduced to a new set of actives, where they explained different aspects of their sororities, such as community service activities or social events.

After house tours, each chapter decided who they wanted to invite back to another round of their recruitment process and each PNM received notice of where they had the option to return to.

The worry of whether or not I had been invited back somewhere churned my stomach as I waited. My head was filled with doubt, and I was convinced that no one would invite me back. To my surprise, both of my top picks did invite me back. I attended their novelty parties, where I got to visit with each chapter in a more relaxed setting.

After novelty parties, I prayed, once again, that they would select me to return to their final party.

I never really appreciated the importance of the final party until this year, as I saw it from the perspective of an active and not a PNM. As a PNM, it is your last chance to impress actives, but on the other side of things, final party is also the actives’ last chance to impress the PNMs.

It wasn’t until final party as a PNM that I had the feeling many sorority girls describe as “knowing you’ve found your place.” I think I had this feeling when I saw the senior actives of my future sisterhood stand at the front of the room and proclaim their love for their chapter. They laughed and cried and described the amazing bonds they had formed. They told of the countless times their sisters have been there to lift them up, to lend a hand and to love them unconditionally. I knew the moment their speeches ended that this was my future and that I wanted to be a part of their sisterhood. I knew that I had found my home.

Now, as an active member, rush seems a bit less formal and if there’s one piece of advice I can give future PNMs, it’s that the actives are always watching. At each event, we want to get to know PNMs individually and do the best we can to find good fits for our chapter. Nothing is cuter to us than hearing future PNMs excited to join a sorority. We generally know who is interested and who is not. For example, I know you intentionally brought up the topic of rush in my presence just as much as you should know that I purposely wore my Greek letter shirt that day. And don’t think for a second that I didn’t notice you eyeing it. We are scouting you out just as much as you are scouting us.

The whole process may seem silly to outsiders, but to those of us within the Greek community, recruitment is as serious as it gets. Each PNM is hand-picked by each chapter. These girls will carry out our legacy. They must embody everything our chapter stands for and strive to preserve our values as well as add something to them. I am extremely grateful to have found my home here at Otterbein. My chapter is filled with laughter, tears and a bit of insanity, but I wouldn’t want it any other way. As many of us say, when it comes to describing our sorority, from the outside looking in you can never understand it, and from the inside looking out you can never explain it.

Taylor Numbers is a sophomore journalism and media communications major and is a member of Theta Nu sorority.
As a college student, everyone and everything, ranging from parents to professors to emails, tell students to get an internship. Most students are aware that they need them and that they’re somehow important. But the question is, why?

Internships play a large role in the college experience. They can be local, national or international, paid or unpaid, credit-bearing or non-credit-bearing and part-time or full-time. Students spend months and years finding the best internships they can. This involves numerous applications, perfected resumes, well-thought cover letters, portfolio examples and interviews.

Ashley Strausser, associate director and internship coordinator of the Center for Career and Professional Development, said, “I recommend that each student have two to three internships before graduation. The more practical experience you have, the more competitive you will be in the job market.”

Internships can be the jump-start on the first post-college job in each student’s career field. Skills each student learns in the classroom benefit their internship, and the skills they acquire in an internship benefit their career. Upon completion of an internship, many students receive jobs at the same company.

“There are so many things students should learn in their internships,” Strausser said. “But the one thing that all students should take away from their internships is that it makes me more marketable by having real-life experience.”

“My internship helped fill the learning gaps and it also makes me more marketable by having real-life experience.”

– Audra Kohler // senior
business administration major

NAME: Audra Kohler
YEAR: senior, class of 2014
MAJOR: business administration, marketing concentration
GOAL: MBA, own a personal company within five years of graduation

Internship: OhioHealth (part-time, credit-bearing and paid)
Internship title: Events and Sponsorships Intern
duration: April 2013-May 2014
duties: Research venues, price comparisons for budgets, events research, run analysis for event survey data for improvement, attend sponsorship events and OhioHealth title nights – Blue Jackets, Columbus Crew and HOOFit at the Columbus Zoo.

Kohler discovered her internship through the CCPD’s Cardinal Careers. She sent in her cover letter and resume and followed up with a one-on-one meeting with her current boss and later had individual meetings with each person on the Events and Sponsorships team.

Advice:
• Start searching earlier than you think
• Look at Cardinal Careers and other online sites

Pre-Internship:
• Discover and research your interests, career paths and industries
• Get involved and volunteer
• Become aware of opportunities
• Sign-up for Cardinal Careers through the CCPD website
• Develop a resume and cover letter
Stand Out:
• Be enthusiastic to learn
• Put effort in your work; even the small things are noticed
• Take as many notes as possible
• Don’t be afraid to ask questions
• Invest in a professional briefcase or bag
• Grow your professional network by meeting as many people in your field as possible

Internship Resources:
• Center for Career and Professional Development
• An Otterbein department providing resources and opportunities for career development
• Cardinal Careers
• The Otterbein University online job and internship board
• Otterbein-based job fairs and seminars
• Columbusinternships.com
• Internship search engine for Columbus-based internships
• Internships.com
• National internship search engine

NAME: Alex Lake
YEAR: senior, class of 2014
MAJOR: sports management, leadership minor
GOALS: coach college or high school baseball, obtain a job in sports marketing or sales

“I have learned accountability and leadership skills in my internship and wish I would have acquired more internships in my four years of college.”
- Alex Lake // senior sports management major

NAME: Michelle Axe
YEAR: junior, class of 2015
MAJOR: biochemistry & molecular biology, chemistry minor
GOALS: attend medical school, enroll in a residency, become emergency room doctor

“My internship has made me realize that I’ve chosen the right major and career path ... Every time I’m there, it’s a constant reminder of how precious and fragile life can be, which helps me appreciate all of my blessings in life.”
- Michelle Axe // junior biochemistry & molecular biology major

NAME: Alex Lake
YEAR: senior, class of 2014
MAJOR: sports management, leadership minor
GOALS: coach college or high school baseball, obtain a job in sports marketing or sales

“I have learned accountability and leadership skills in my internship and wish I would have acquired more internships in my four years of college.”
- Alex Lake // senior sports management major
Anthony Aquino spit his chewing tobacco into the trash can as he walked from his office into the outside hall, speaking with members of his custodial staff. He sat himself on top of his desk until a distraction — a worker or a phone call — made him get up once more. Returning, he picked up in the middle of the conversation.

"Nothing really bothers me," Aquino said. "I've got the stomach for it: blood, puke. It's an inconvenience, but it's part of the job."

As one of 30 custodians, Aquino, 24, has seen it all. Whether it be a messy dorm shower, picking trash off the stadium bleachers or encountering unpleasant findings in the toilet, he's prepared. He's done it all before.

At Hocking College, Aquino participated in work study where he worked two days a week for five hours each as a custodian. He graduated with his associate degree in business management and explored massage therapy but found his way back to janitorial services. He started working for Otterbein when ABM, the company subcontracted by the Service Department, began in August 2011. Recently, he was promoted to second shift manager where he oversees 14 employees.

After two years of working at Otterbein, Aquino said he knows the layout of the campus, proving so by listing the number of stalls, urinals, sinks and closets in the academic buildings. Before his promotion, he said he would clean certain buildings, one of which was the Campus Center.

Like Aquino, each member of the cleaning crew is assigned individual buildings depending on their shift. At the beginning of their shift, they go to an opened cabinet where keys are displayed in individual keyholes, labeled by building.

By assigning each custodian with one or two areas to clean each day, they begin to establish a routine. Within the four hours they have to clean their building, the custodians are able to time-manage their work.

Cleaning shifts are broken down by time and buildings. Those who work second shift, which goes from 4:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., are assigned in academic buildings. Third shift, from 11 p.m. to 7:30 a.m., go in after the second shift to strip and wax the floors and tend to the track in Clements. First shift works from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and works in dormitory buildings. Although the shifts require the same amount of hours, some shifts are easier than others.

Residence halls specifically are a tough job to do because students have interesting ways of making messes.

Aquino said he had seen many people throw up on the toilet seat rather than in the trash. However, many messes are purposefully done as

"I got the stomach for it: blood, puke. It's an inconvenience, but it's part of the job."

- Anthony Aquino // second shift custodial manager

Custodial staff brings order to unplanned messes.
pranks. Students may pour water on someone and then throw flour on that person, a process known as antiquing. With the fire extinguishers in the hallway, residents have pulled on the hose and gotten foam all over hallways. There has also been graffiti on bathroom stalls and broken windows, which requires taking pictures of the area for documentation with the police.

With students, there’s going to be the occasional accident, like vomit in the sink or a clogged toilet. Sometimes, when a toilet is clogged, the custodian will have to physically remove whatever waste is causing the problem and put it in a trash bag. He said students sometimes also purposefully clog toilets with paper towels.

Some of the most intricate messes are created in the men’s restrooms. Guys would pee into the trash can underneath the trash bag. Once the custodian takes out the trash bag, urine soaks the bottom of the bag and inside the can, requiring more effort than usual.

Mary Speert, first shift manager, deals with these kinds of messes in addition to her daily routine. She took out her iPhone and flipped through her gallery. On the same phone that contains pictures of her 13-year-old son, are pictures of flooded hallways, dusty windows and urine stains around toilets. She clicks on a picture of a bathroom floor and zooms in, pointing to the tiniest speck of dirt on the floor. Regardless of the size of the mess, Speert treats all messes with the same attention to detail.

As she moved from dorm to dorm by way of a tiny, yellow golf cart, Speert, 46, made her first round of inspections at 8:30 in the morning. Her finger slid across window panes and removed excess dirt. She rubbed her index finger and thumb together and measured how much dust fell to the floor. This was just a demonstration. Four hours later, when she usually does inspections, she did the same again.

In this business, cleaning is obviously the first priority. Speert is meticulous when gauging how her staff cleans the residence halls. She keeps a score sheet, almost like a test, of 100 points and uses it to check her coworkers’ efficiency.

“I walk through all the (residence) buildings making sure there’s no problem,” she said. “I need to be active so I don’t have any complaints. I don’t want complaints.”

Complaints and gratification are important to the managers. Jim Kendall, district manager for ABM, said that one bad remark about one of his staff members or their work ethic could tarnish the reputation of his crew.

“We’ve got to be on top of things,” Kendall said. “One bad report could mess up the whole pot.”

Speert said they have to respond to certain messes more quickly than others so they don’t get any bad reports. These types of messes are seen the most in Garst and Davis Halls. This is evident when entering the smaller first floor wing of Davis Hall, an all-male floor. A piece of paper was posted beside the bathroom sinks regarding floor expectations. First on the list: “no peanut butter or apples on doors.” Other expectations were “no...
nephews. She also contributes to her immediate family, her husband whom she met online and her 13-year-old son. Similarly, Andrew Kibiso, a 40-year-old African American man, works first shift and occasionally sends money to his family in his native country of Kenya.

For those staff members who are immigrants, Speert said that adjusting to the new culture is difficult. Where $20 in the Philippines meant one month of services, the same amount does little in the U.S.

Many of Otterbein’s custodians come from other countries. There are staff who come from Nepal, the Middle East, Mexico, Somalia and Jordan.

In order to support themselves, Aquino said that several custodians will work another job on the side. Some staff will work morning jobs and then come to Otterbein for their custodial shift.

He has a massage therapy license and occasionally gives massages outside of his main focus of custodial work.

Kibiso works five hours per weekday at Otterbein and then goes to his second job at Kroger.

At one time, custodians at Otterbein were offered benefits to contracted employees. However, since Otterbein contracts with vendors for custodial services, they are not Otterbein employees, and they no longer receive tuition reimbursement benefits, according to Jennifer Pearce, executive director for the Marketing and Communications Department. One employee is grandfathered because they were already taking classes before the policy change.

Without the tuition benefits, Kibiso is going to school at Ohio Dominican University to receive his MBA in finance. Between his two jobs, Kibiso works 60 hours a week while attending school six hours a week. He also volunteers with children on the weekend.

“It’s good to be busy,” Kibiso said. “I don’t get bored. When you’re busy, you don’t have to worry a lot.”

In upper management of the custodial staff, it was unanimous that there were two busiest times of the year: summer camps and the beginning of school. With the several summer camps happening over summer and the short time to clean before the new campers arrive, the staff must clean one building with 45 rooms in about three hours. When students return from summer, most of the events occur at the beginning. Specifically, homecoming can be hectic.

Kendall said that the crew takes about two weeks to prepare for homecoming weekend, cleaning brass and windows. With the football stadium being more packed, as well as the tailgating that goes on in the parking lot, the event accumulates a lot of trash. The cleaners themselves receive a lot of manual labor, with the haphazardly thrown popcorn bag and leftover utensils being dropped everywhere.

The locker rooms in the Rike Center can also be time consuming. During sporting events, it takes about four hours to clean everything with a team of four to five people. Once everything’s clean, Aquino said he can probably fill up an entire dumpster by Davis Hall.

For the number of messes and sheer amount of space they must cover, the staff is optimistic and productive in cleaning. Kendall said he is lucky to have a good crew to work with.

“We all know one another closely and personally,” he said. “I’d say we’re like a family.”

The crew does have a strong sense of unity. Aquino gives out small rewards as positive reinforcement and occasionally provides pizza. He accommodates for those from Nepal with cheese pizza because they don’t eat pork. Sometimes the immigrants from Ghana will bring in goat soup.

Even though they clean independently, they come together for break, weekend outings and some even travel back home in the same car.

Aquino said it’s a trade that’s not going out of style. It is a profession, though, that takes a lot of attention to detail and tolerance for other people’s messes and pranks.

There will always be a demand for custodians as long as there will be people to make messes.
average of 350-400 registered internships per academic year

127 girls went Greek in 2013

11 student workers are employed by the Equine Science Department

The Rock: 10 years of Cardinal spirit!

50 ewes lived on President Krendl’s family farm before she came to Otterbein

The average cash gift to the Annual Fund for the fiscal 2013 year was $204

Bon Appetit uses approximately $250-$600 per semester

1,900 buns per week

Chloe went through five months of training to become a service dog
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