

Wartburg

M A G A Z I N E

MAINTAINING
THE **LEGACY**





Tom Buchheim '93

COMMUNICATION ARTS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE

*Executive Social Media Adviser,
American Family Insurance*

Why did you choose Wartburg?

Wartburg is in my blood. My parents met here, and my three brothers all graduated ahead of me. I met my wife here, and we got married in the Wartburg Chapel. I am also a native of Waverly, so the campus has—and always will—feel like home. There really wasn't a choice when I was looking at colleges, but I also knew Wartburg would be a good fit for me because it was always a part of me.


How did Wartburg prepare you for the future?

I absolutely treasure my liberal arts education because it has allowed me to make crucial pivots in my career. What I learned at Wartburg was less about technical skills, which could land me a job but would ultimately become obsolete, and more about preparing me to see opportunities to grow and learn long after I left the classroom. The work I'm doing today didn't even exist when I was a student. But the fundamentals I learned—from my liberal arts experience—made adapting to a changing landscape and world possible. I'm ready for the next big thing thanks to what Wartburg has instilled in me.

What was something you never thought you could do but have done because of Wartburg?

I didn't expect to have the leadership abilities to manage people and to lead and serve on our Alumni Board. But Wartburg has prepared me—and its community has inspired me—to do both. I wasn't a perfect student, and I admittedly missed out on some opportunities the college could have offered me as a student. Staying connected to Wartburg through the years has encouraged me to step up and be more than I could have imagined.

Why was your experience worth it?

In every job I've held since graduation, there's been a Wartburg influence. I never imagined I'd be this connected to so many other alums 25 years after graduating. The bond our alumni have with each other is something I didn't expect when I left campus. But I've grown to appreciate it over the years, especially in my role as Alumni Board president. It's why I know my experience was worth it, and it's reinforced in the experience I see today's students getting. 

Read more about Tom Buchheim's Wartburg experience at www.wartburg.edu/buchheimmagazine.

SHARE YOUR WORTH IT STORY

All Wartburg alumni are invited to share their successes and #WartburgWorthIt stories with us. Please visit www.wartburg.edu/worth-it-stories-alumni.



Bringing Their A-Game



Maintaining the Legacy



Giving Students a Voice

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Wartburg

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ON THE COVER:
Emma Bowman '19 grew up surrounded by Knights and is continuing her family's Wartburg story as one of more than 200 legacy students on campus.

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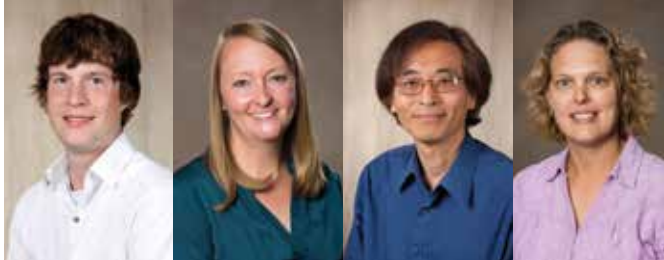
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WARTBURG

— IN THE NEWS —

VISIT WWW.WARTBURG.EDU/NEWS FOR MORE NEWS



Four faculty receive tenure, promotion

Four Wartburg professors were granted tenure or promotions during the February Board of Regents meeting. Those awarded tenure include:

Professor **Justin Crouse '08**, associate professor of accounting
Dr. **Andrea Eslick**, associate professor of psychology
Dr. **Kunihiko Terasawa**, associate professor of religion

In addition, Dr. **Stephanie Toering Peters** was promoted to professor of biology.

Beckstrom named Dean of Spiritual Life

The Rev. Dr. **Brian Beckstrom** accepted the college's call to become Dean of Spiritual Life and to fill the Moehlmann Chaplaincy Chair, a position that was vacated by the Rev. Dr.

Ramona Bouzard, who retired in May after 24 years of ministry at Wartburg. Beckstrom has been campus pastor and an instructor at Wartburg since 2009.



Wartburg, Wartburg Theological Seminary to streamline pastoral education with grant

Wartburg College and Wartburg Theological Seminary received a \$497,115 grant from The Kern Family Foundation to streamline preparation for pastoral ministry for first-career ministerial students.

The new program will include three years of undergraduate education at Wartburg College with at least one semester of shared classes at Wartburg Seminary. The final three years at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque include an internship required by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

"For decades, Wartburg College has been sending graduates on to Wartburg Seminary to become pastors and lay leaders in the church. Consequently, we rejoice at the opportunity to work closely with our sister school on this exciting, innovative project to accelerate that path for students called to serve in these ways," said **Darrel Colson**, Wartburg College president.

Visit www.wartburg.edu/ordained-ministry for more information.

Wartburg Archives, Archives of Iowa Broadcasting receive two NEH grants

Wartburg College Archives and the Archives of Iowa Broadcasting, housed on the Wartburg campus, received two National Endowment for the Humanities grants to help preserve the archives' audiovisual collections.

The first grant, a nearly \$6,000 Preservation Assistance grant, allowed the college to purchase equipment and supplies to stabilize a portion of the AIB's collection, which covers a range of political, economic, and cultural developments in Iowa since the 1920s. The grant also funded the purchase of better environmental monitoring equipment for the storage vault and online training to use the equipment.

The second grant, valued at \$165,276, will allow the college to create an online catalog of the more than 28,000 audiovisual items in the Archives of Iowa Broadcasting collection. The college also will digitize more than 2,200 news broadcasts from KWWL-TV and add them to the catalog for online media access.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for the archives to make its collections more accessible to the public. I am very excited to begin work on this project," said Amy Moorman, the college's archivist.





Wartburg Dance Marathon smashes fundraising goal

Months of fundraising and 12 hours of dancing ended with a big reveal that shocked all of the students dancing “for the kids” as part of Wartburg College Dance Marathon.

The 322 registered dancers raised \$115,196.10, smashing the student-led organization’s \$90,000 goal, increasing last year’s total by more than \$33,000 and more than doubling the amount raised just two years ago. All money collected is donated to the University of Iowa Stead Family Children’s Hospital, which is affiliated with the Children’s Miracle Network. In the last 10 years, Wartburg students have raised more than \$455,145 for the hospital.



Never Let Me Go is 2018 Knight Reading

The 2018-19 common reading for new Knights is *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro. Incoming students will read the book this summer and discuss it in their IS 101 classes during Fall Term.

Never Let Me Go is a dystopian science-fiction novel that follows childhood schoolmates as they rekindle their friendship and face the truth about their childhood at a private school in the English countryside.

Whether you read this as part of a book club, alumni group, or on your own, we recommend taking time to enjoy this book along with our first-year students.



Waltmann receives Wartburg Medal

Dr. **August Waltmann '64** received the Wartburg Medal for his dedication to Wartburg and the Waverly community. The professor emeritus in mathematics joined the Wartburg faculty in 1969 and was an assistant football coach for several years.

He organized the first Black History Week on campus in the 1970s and served on a number of faculty committees. After his retirement in 2003, Waltmann continued serving the Wartburg and Waverly communities as a volunteer. He is the recipient of the Lions Clubs International’s highest honor, the Melvin Jones Fellowship, as well as the highest Iowa Lions award, the Warren Coleman Award.

Lorenz named new Wartburg West director

Dr. **Greg Lorenz**, former associate dean of academic affairs at Johnson & Wales University, Denver, Colo., has joined Wartburg College as the new Wartburg West academic and program director.

Lorenz stepped into his new role on June 1. He replaced the Rev. **Bonita Bock**, who retired after 27 years with the college.

Lorenz earned a Bachelor of Science in exercise and sport science and a Doctor of Philosophy in education and human resource studies as well as a postsecondary teaching certificate from Colorado State University, Fort Collins. He also earned a Master of Arts in kinesiology from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley.



Former band director honored with scholarship

A newly created scholarship honors the 45-year career of former Wartburg band director Dr. Robert E. Lee.

The Dr. Robert E. Lee Endowed Scholarship was created with a lead gift from **Don '69** and **Faith Weiblen '71 Trapp**. Many other band and music education alumni also contributed to the endowed fund, which will support students studying to become instrumental music instructors. Those interested in contributing to this scholarship can visit www.wartburg.edu/give or call **319-352-8495**.

"His impact on the Wartburg community is immeasurable when considering the thousands of students he taught during his tenure as director of the Wartburg band, as well as those he taught in a variety of classes in the music education program," said **Alan Feirer '91**, a former band member.

In 1990, band alumni honored Lee by donating more than \$40,000 in his name toward construction of the Bachman Fine Arts Center. He retired from Wartburg following the 1994-95 academic year.



Kalyebi

Wartburg recognizes retirees

The college saluted these retirees during its annual Milestones recognition event in May:

- Jim Anderson**, groundskeeper (1981-2018)
- Rev. **Bonita Bock**, director of Wartburg West and lecturer in religion (1991-2018)
- Rev. Dr. **Ramona Bouzard**, dean of the chapel and Herbert and Cora Moehlmann Chaplaincy Chair (1994-2018)
- Dr. **Josef Breutzmann**, professor of computer science and mathematics (1981-2018)
- Julie Breutzmann**, applications systems analyst (1990-2018)
- Cliff Brockman '75**, associate professor of journalism and communication (2006-2018)
- Dr. **Margaret Empie**, assistant vice president for dining and retail services (2005-2018)
- Anna Epley**, Zesty Orange supervisor (2001-2017)
- Rev. Dr. **Kit Kleinhans**, professor of religion and Mike and Marge McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission (1993-2018)
- SuzAnn Kramer**, office coordinator, Development (1990-2018)
- Susan Lenius '74**, office coordinator, Counseling Services and Campus Security & Safety (1976-2018)
- Sue Miller**, cleaning staff (1995-2017)
- John Myers**, director, Campus Security & Safety (1997-2018)
- Kathy Traetow**, office coordinator, Study Abroad Programs (1997-2018)

PILOT INCUBATOR PROGRAM FOCUSES ON WORLD'S WICKED PROBLEMS

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN


COLLINS KALYEBI IS ONLY A SOPHOMORE, but he's already started a primary school in Uganda and secured \$10,000 for a four-classroom expansion that will continue to extend quality education to those in rural communities. On Wartburg's Research, Internship & Creative Endeavor (RICE) Day, he received an additional \$2,500 to develop a Heritage Kit-Pad that will provide a more robust curriculum to students in those classrooms as part of the college's first Wicked Problems Challenge.

The challenge, which is expected to become an annual RICE Day event, was used to raise awareness of and interest in the new Wartburg Incubator, a social entrepreneurship program designed to allow students to tackle problems through interdisciplinary and innovative approaches.

"We already assist our students with their entrepreneurial endeavors. Whether it's with time, money, or talent, we help nurture them through the process," said Kristin Teig Torres, director of community engagement. "This pilot program is just formalizing that incubation period."

In its first year, the poster challenge generated more than 65 ideas. The top five contenders, selected by the Wartburg community and Wicked Problems committee, presented their plans at a World Café during Culture Week. The refined plans were then pitched to the Wicked Problems Challenge panel on RICE Day. In addition to Kalyebi's prize, the panel also awarded \$1,000 to Madison Bloker '19 (see page 32) for Bound Blessings. Another \$250 was awarded to Ashley Reynolds '18 to pilot her BioBucks program encouraging recycling. The money was provided through a donation from American Family Insurance.

Among the judges was Danny Laudick, co-founder of Mill Race Center for Entrepreneurship. The college has partnered with Mill Race, a community workspace in downtown Cedar Falls that supports area entrepreneurs. The early commitment to the workspace gives Wartburg a seat on the Governance Committee and access to office and meeting space in the building.

"When looking at the Cedar Valley, we saw that many of our strongest organizations and businesses were all rallying behind and becoming a part of Mill Race," Teig Torres said. "This will put us at the table with these leaders and will give our students the opportunity to network with experts in the area." 





Changes coming for new-student orientation

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

THE FIRST FEW DAYS ON THE WARTBURG COLLEGE CAMPUS will be a little bit different for the Class of 2022—and a little bit shorter.

Lindsey Leonard, director of student engagement and a former admissions counselor, said for years students have commented that orientation activities last too long, but orientation organizers could never find a way to trim the schedule. Leonard said she's not taking anything away; she's just found a way to include some activities in the early parts of the school year.

"My admissions perspective has helped inform a lot of the adjustments I've made," Leonard said. "Orientation is an extension of the recruiting process. A lot of the research I looked at shows that students want to feel connected. Everything we've been doing has been valuable, but we don't need to do it all in the first five days they are here."

Leonard is working with IS 101 organizers to find ways to integrate orientation activities, like the Involvement Fair, where students learn about campus organizations, into the course, which is required for all first-year students.

Even more exciting, Leonard said, will be the return of



Leonard

Mitch Matthews, founder of the Big Dream Gathering, to campus. The motivational speaker and author will speak to all incoming students at an event sponsored by American Family Insurance.

"Mitch and his team have visited Wartburg before for campus and community gatherings, but this is unique in that Mitch will tailor his message to the dreams of 18-year-olds literally on the brink of their college experience," Leonard said. "What do they want to achieve? Then they can be supported in that dreaming by peers, student mentors, and other Wartburg community members.


"It is our hope that students will feel inspired to write their 'Wartburg story' with the intent to dream big."

In addition to the Big Dream Gathering, new students also will take the CliftonStrengths, formerly Clifton StrengthsFinder, an assessment that measures a person's natural pattern of thinking, feeling, and behaving to help them discover their talents.

"The first lesson they get at college is going to be about themselves and how they can use their talents to be successful in college and build successful relationships with their peers," Leonard said. "As a college, we can then use those strengths to help guide them and advise them. Their results will help us better understand them as people."

Incoming students will take the online assessment during the summer and get the results before orientation begins. The college will use the data to build two orientation classes that will help each student understand their strengths and how they can develop those strengths and use them in college and beyond.

Students also will attend sessions on consent and sexual misconduct prevention and diversity and inclusion. Additional programming on these topics will be included in the IS 101 curriculum.

"We are using orientation to better help our students understand themselves and learn more about the people they will be going to school with for the next four years," Leonard said. "We have students from many places, and orientation is a good time to tell them about this and why we value each person and the differences they bring to our campus community." 



Mitch will tailor his message to the dreams of 18-year-olds literally on the brink of their college experience.



If you would like to attend the Big Dream Gathering on Monday, Aug. 27, 10 a.m.-noon, or help out in any way, please contact Veronica Reece, Pathways Center associate for vocation, mentoring, and careers, at veronica.reece@wartburg.edu.



Women's basketball team nets another record-setting year

The women's basketball team entered the 2017-18 season knowing it had something special and proved it both on and off the court.

Among the season highlights were:

- An undefeated regular season for the first time in school history and a perfect record in conference play for the second time in program history.
- A sweep of both the Iowa Conference regular season and tournament titles.
- A record-setting four teammates entering the 1,000-career-points club (**Katie Sommer '18**, **Miranda Murphy '18**, **Morgan Neuendorf '18**, and **Kristie Sommer '18**).
- A number of team and individual honors, including Women's Basketball Coaches Association All-American honors for Katie Sommer and an honorable mention for Murphy.

The team's 31-1 season came to an end in the Final Four with a tough loss to No. 5 Bowdoin.

But if you ask Head Coach Bob Amsberry, it was this team's actions off the court that set it apart—and set the 2018-19 squad on the right course for success.

"Coming into this year they never really let our ranking or the number of games we won affect them," Amsberry said. "We always talked about the rankings when they came out, but they agreed it didn't matter. They didn't let it affect how they went into each game."

Though seven seniors are graduating, Amsberry said next year's team isn't letting that affect it, either.

"**Adrienne Boettger**, who will be one of only two seniors next year, spoke up in the locker room after the last game and thanked the seniors for providing them with such a great example for the years to come," Amsberry said. "We are losing a lot of talent, but our culture is still there, and we are in good shape moving forward."

Schroeder honored with press box naming, endowment fund

The legacy of **Duane Schroeder '58**, the college's longtime news and sports information director, will be honored with the naming of the Schroeder Press Box at Walston-Hoover Stadium.

In addition to the press box naming, which will be dedicated on Sept. 15, an endowment fund in memory of Schroeder and his wife, Mary Ellen, also has been established through a lead gift from **Harold '58** and **Grace Jahn '61 Kurtz**. Earnings from the fund will enhance the college's ability to tell its story.

Duane worked for four years as a student-worker, providing news and sports information for the college, before joining the Wartburg staff in 1958 as the college's news and sports information director.



Schroeder

Jim Miller Championship Mat dedicated during Battle of the 'Burgs

Legendary emeritus wrestling coach Jim Miller was honored with the dedication of the Jim Miller Championship Mat during the annual "Battle of the 'Burgs" dual versus Augsburg University.

The mat was renamed to honor a \$50,000 gift from Wartburg supporters Gary and Donna Hoover. The Hoovers' gift was used to purchase new practice mats in the wrestling room.

Miller came to Wartburg in 1991 and amassed a career record of 413-37-2, won 10 NCAA Division III team championships, 21 consecutive Iowa Conference championships, and seven National Wrestling Coaches Association national dual championships before stepping down after the 2013 season.



Miller

Wartburg claims All-Sports, Marjorie Giles Women's All-Sports trophies

For the 16th straight year, Wartburg College took home the IIAC All-Sports Championship Trophy, recognizing the conference's top overall athletic program. The Knights also won the Marjorie Giles Women's All-Sports Championship Trophy for the 15th time in school history. The Knights totaled 17 points with six conference titles (women's golf, volleyball, women's basketball, women's indoor track & field, football, and wrestling), four runner-up finishes, and one third-place finish.





Amsberry, Keller receive national Coach of the Year honors

It wasn't just Wartburg athletes racking up the accolades at the end of the season. Women's basketball Head Coach Bob Amsberry and wrestling Head Coach Eric Keller also took home hardware for getting their respective teams ready to compete at a national level.



Amsberry

The Women's Basketball Coaches Association named Amsberry the United States Marine Corps/WBCA NCAA Division III National Coach of the Year. He was presented with the Pat Summitt Trophy during the 2018 WBCA Convention in Columbus, Ohio. He also was named the IIAC Coach of the Year for the second time in as many years.



Keller

"Bob was selected as the winner by his peers after leading his team to an exceptional season. The WBCA recognizes and applauds his leadership example that can be seen in his student-athletes, institution, and community," said Danielle Donehew, executive director of the WBCA.

Keller was named the 2018 *d3wrestle.com* National Coach of the Year for the fourth time since 2012.

"I look at it like it should be a Staff of the Year Award," Keller said. "We have the best coaching staff in the country. They are all on the same page and have the same goal: our guys and their development as men. The coolest part of this award is seeing that all of their sacrifices have been worth it."



Knights come back from National Duals loss to claim 14th national championship

The Wartburg wrestling team won its 14th NCAA Championship this year, but Head Coach Eric Keller said that the excitement of being No. 1 never fades.

"Every single one is special," he said. "They are all unique because it is always a completely different group of guys doing the work and getting the win."

The Knights lost in the finals at National Duals for the first time in eight years. The competition started talking about finally finding a chink in the Knights' armor, but Keller said he couldn't be more proud of the way his team responded.

"We all knew what this team was capable of, and up to that point we hadn't wrestled to our full potential," Keller said. "I knew every guy on that team still had the opportunity to reach their dream."

The Knights went on to beat five conference teams before taking down No. 1 Augsburg University at home in the annual "Battle of the 'Burgs" and retaining the Swens-Milboy trophy.

Wartburg also earned a 26th-straight Iowa Conference Championship and moved its IIAC dual winning streak to 204 before dominating at the national tournament, where the Knights crowned three champions (**Brock Rathbun '20**, 133; **Cross Cannone '19**, 149; and **Kyle Fank '18**, 197), two runners-up (**Logan Thomsen '18**, 157, and **Tyler Lutes '18**, 184), and eight All-Americans.

"At the tournament, our guys were wrestling for each other. We were up, but they just kept trying to put up more points to get bonus points for the team. When you are doing it for something bigger than yourself, that's what you do. That's what our program is founded on."

Though the team is losing five wrestlers with a combined 11 All-American titles, Keller is confident about the year to come.

"That's a lot of firepower to lose in one year, but we had a meeting the week after nationals to talk about what the returning group had to do to keep this going. We made sure we were very clear on the expectations and goals and what it will take to get there," Keller said. "That is why guys come to Wartburg, to reach their full potential. When you come somewhere because you want excellence, that is an easy conversation to have. It's not easy to do, but it's an easy conversation to have."



KNIGHTS SPRING RECAP

Baseball season ends in IAC tournament

The baseball team (24-11 in the regular season) was the No. 2 seed entering the Iowa Conference Tournament. The Knights shut out No. 3 Coe in the opening round before falling 3-2 to top-seeded University of Dubuque.

In the second round, the team once again defeated Coe, this time 8-4, and with the win, Head Coach Joel Holst earned his 800th career victory and 700th during his time at Wartburg. The Knights' season came to an end later in the day with a second loss to Dubuque.

Austin Bohling '18 broke a 37-year-old, single-season record in saves on April 24 and continued to collect more as the season wrapped up. **Tanner Eckhart '18** earned First-team All-Conference honors, while Bohling and **Cody Hylar '18** were Second-team honorees. Eckhart also was named ABCA/Rawlings First-team All-Region.

Woeste receives prestigious scholarship

Nate Woeste '18 received an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship for his performance on the court and in the classroom. He will attend optometry school at The Ohio State University.

The NCAA awards up to 175 postgraduate scholarships annually.

Woeste, who became the 32nd member of the men's basketball program's 1,000-career-point club, helped lead the Knights to an overall record of 17-10 in 2017-18.

Jaran Sabus '19 received First-team All-Conference honors while Woeste and **Cam Kickbush '19** were Second-team honorees.

Klostermann, Randall make history in golf

Brooke Klostermann '19 recorded the best finish in program history at the National Championships, tying for seventh with a four-round score of 314. She also earned her third-straight Women's Golf Coaches Association All-Region honor and was named a WGCA First-team All-American, a first for the program. The team tied for 18th in the 25-team field.

IAC MVP **Tanner Randall '18** made Iowa Conference history with a 72-hole score of 285 at the IAC Championships. Randall's first-place finish helped the Knights secure a sixth-place finish.

Barnard ends career in Top 10 for wins

Connor Barnard '18 ended his Wartburg tennis career with a 47-33 singles record and 41-37 doubles record that earned him a place among the Top 10 Knights in program history. He also earned All-Conference honors in both singles and doubles.

On the women's side, the team ended the season with 16 wins, the second most in a single season.

Forsyth new homerun leader

Mara Forsyth '18 now sits atop the career leaderboard with 33 homeruns, including the nine she collected this season. She also led the Knights with a .412 batting average, 31 RBIs, and a .773 slugging percentage (her career percentage is .839, another school record).

The softball team, which finished with a 17-17 record, tied the school record for saves in a season with six.

Forsyth and **Kailee O'Brien '19** earned All-Conference honors for the third time each.

Lacrosse team finishes 6-10 in fourth year

Despite a 6-10 finish on the season, the women's lacrosse team set new school records in goals (166), draw controls (188), free position goals (28), and caused turnovers (170).

Bri Greiskalns '21 set new school marks in goals (44), points (57), and draw controls (85). She also led the team with 13 assists.

Allie Stahmer '18 was fourth in scoring with 30 goals and leaves the program as the all-time leader in goals (85), assists (28), points (113), and tied for most games played (66). **Marisa Falco '18** tied with Stahmer for most games played and also set the school record for most caused turnovers in a season (41).

New records set during track seasons

Sam Pinkowski '21 set three new records for the Knights in 2018 with top times in the mile, 3,000 meters, and distance medley relay. The outdoor relay team, made up of **Casey Roberts '20**, **Caleb Appleton '20**, **Cody Snider '18**, and **Christian Brothers '21**, clocked 10:01.12 at the Drake Relays, breaking a 21-year-old school record.

On the women's side, **Ashlyn Bagge '18** was named the Iowa Conference MVP at the outdoor conference meet. She was the first Wartburg honoree since 2014.

The women's outdoor team tied for ninth at the NCAA Championships, with **Bagge**, **Betsy Duehr '18**, and **Aubree Taylor '18** earning individual All-American honors. The 4x400 team of **Taylor**, **Duehr**, **Taylor Jones '19**, and **Belle Tyynismaa '20** finished third. The men's team tied for 66th, with Pinkowski taking seventh in the 5,000-meter and the 4x400 team of **Levi Dolphin '18**, **Dillon DeMott '18**, **Famiek Cook '19**, and **Alex Teig '20** placing eighth.



BRINGING THEIR

A-GAME

Excellence in the classroom mirrors athletic achievements for student-athletes

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

WHEN RICK WILLIS, AS THE DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS, is leading the search for a new coach, he looks for someone with a history of success in their sport and an understanding of the balance between athletics and academics. When Willis, as Wartburg's head football coach, seeks players for his team, he looks for young men who are committed athletes and serious students. He expects the men and women he's hired to coach Wartburg's 21 other sports to do the same.

"Environment plays such a key role. When you are surrounded by many others with the mindset of being a quality student and a successful athlete, it makes it easier for you to do both," Willis said. "We establish high expectations early on and reinforce that with the appropriate support along with policies that limit the amount of class time a student can miss."

The results at Wartburg are clear. In 2017-18, 12 teams qualified for their respective NCAA tournament or championship. On the academic side, the college boasts 104 CoSIDA Academic All-Americans, putting Wartburg in second place behind conference newcomer Nebraska Wesleyan and solidly ahead of third-place Luther. To be nominated, a student must be a starter or important reserve on their team with at least a 3.3 cumulative GPA. CoSIDA members then vote at the district level, and First-team All-District selections advance to the national ballot.

The Knights also have 41 NCAA Postgraduate Scholars, just one behind Luther College.

"We want to send a clear message to our student-athletes that they can achieve at a high level both academically and athletically," Willis said. "They can do both; there are many examples both past and present of student-athletes doing that on this campus."

Just a few of those stories are told on the following pages.

Read more about these athletes and hear President Darrel Colson and Director of Athletics Rick Willis discuss this topic at www.wartburg.edu/student-athletes.

WHERE ARE THEY **NOW?**

These alumni showed their mettle as students and athletes during their Wartburg days. Today, they are making the world a better place as a doctor, lawyer, and environmental advocate.

Read more about them at www.wartburg.edu/student-athletes.



KATHRYN WENDT '12

Psychology, Soccer
Attorney, Ballard Spahr LLP



KYLE DUCHMAN '08

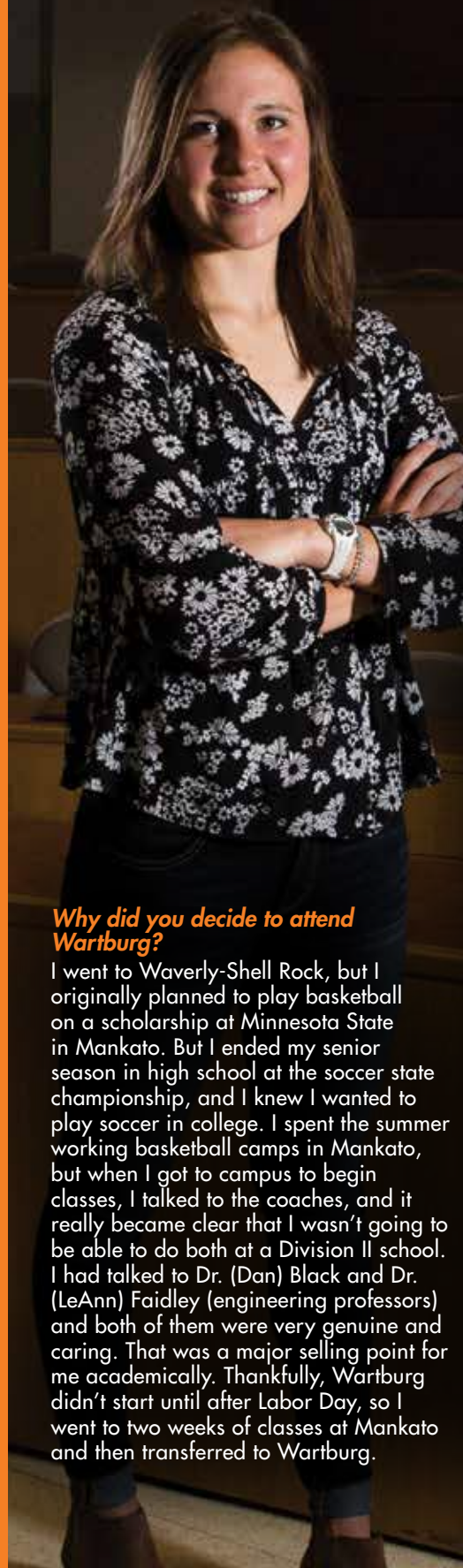
Biology, Football
Orthopaedic sports medicine fellow,
Duke University



JENNY KORDICK '10

Biology, Track and field
Director of advocacy,
The Wilderness Society

MORGAN NEUENDORF '18



ENGINEERING SCIENCE, SOCCER, BASKETBALL

2017-18 honors: Soccer: IIAC MVP, Academic All-Conference, First-team All-Region, First-team Scholar All-Region, Third-team Scholar All-American, NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship

Basketball: Second-team All-Conference, CoSIDA Academic All-District, Academic All-Conference

After graduation: Environmental engineering master's program, Clemson University

Did your coaches emphasize doing well in the classroom and on the court or field?

The biggest indicator for me that academics came before athletics at Wartburg was when (soccer) Coach (Tiffany) Pins took a genuine interest in my classes. She made sure I had enough credits to play, but also that they were the classes I needed.

Were there times your coaches let you modify your schedule to accommodate an academic pursuit?

(Basketball) Coach (Bob) Amsberry would never make us feel bad for asking to study during a practice during finals week. He would even offer to get shots up with us later in the day, or if we felt like we didn't have time, then he respected that. He was always really good about knowing when it was too much and it was time to really focus on academics.

What was the athletic highlight of your Wartburg career?

Making it to the Final Four (in basketball), but even more so, having that stretch of home games and having a really good crowd out there for all of them. That was awesome. Then making it to the Sweet 16 for soccer in my sophomore year.

And academically?

Coach Pins has all these pictures on her wall of the All-Americans, and I was like 'That would be so cool to be up there,' and now I am. Receiving the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship, too, which I guess is a little bit of both.

Why did you decide to attend Wartburg?

I went to Waverly-Shell Rock, but I originally planned to play basketball on a scholarship at Minnesota State in Mankato. But I ended my senior season in high school at the soccer state championship, and I knew I wanted to play soccer in college. I spent the summer working basketball camps in Mankato, but when I got to campus to begin classes, I talked to the coaches, and it really became clear that I wasn't going to be able to do both at a Division II school. I had talked to Dr. (Dan) Black and Dr. (LeAnn) Faidley (engineering professors) and both of them were very genuine and caring. That was a major selling point for me academically. Thankfully, Wartburg didn't start until after Labor Day, so I went to two weeks of classes at Mankato and then transferred to Wartburg.

JOEL TOPPIN '18

BIOLOGY, INDOOR AND OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD, CROSS COUNTRY

Honors: 2017 U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic

After graduation: Chiropractic graduate program, Northwestern Health Sciences University

How were you able to do well in both academics and athletics?

It started with surrounding myself with people whose goals aligned with mine. Studying with the right people. Being a person on the team who instilled a successful culture.

Did your coaches emphasize doing well in the classroom and on the track?

Coach (Ryan) Chapman always says, 'Everything you do affects everything you do.' That simple statement really spoke to me. If you are doing well on the athletic field, but the classroom is suffering, that is going to catch up with you and limit what you are doing athletically or vice versa.

Did being at Wartburg help you excel in both?

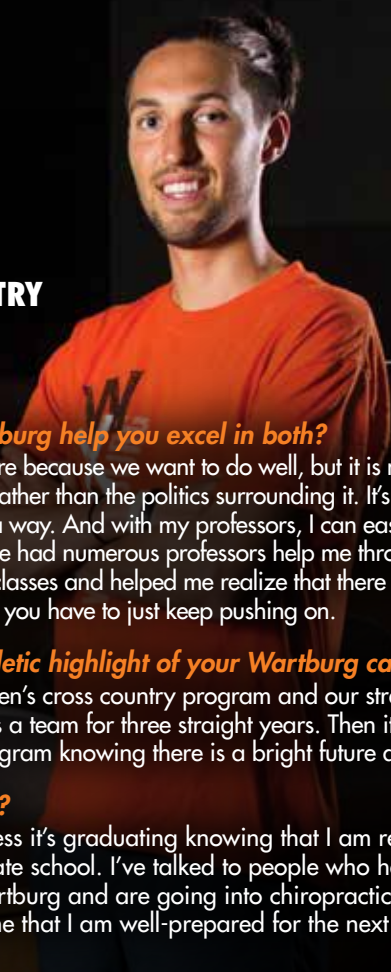
Here we have pressure because we want to do well, but it is more for the love of the sport rather than the politics surrounding it. It's a purer display of sports, in a way. And with my professors, I can easily get office meetings. I have had numerous professors help me through the tougher parts of my classes and helped me realize that there will be challenges in life, but you have to just keep pushing on.

What was the athletic highlight of your Wartburg career?

Helping revive the men's cross country program and our streak of going to nationals as a team for three straight years. Then it's being able to leave the program knowing there is a bright future ahead.

And academically?

It's all so good. I guess it's graduating knowing that I am really prepared for graduate school. I've talked to people who have graduated from Wartburg and are going into chiropractic and they have assured me that I am well-prepared for the next step.



MARA FORSYTH '18

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, SOFTBALL

2017-18 honors: Second-team All-Conference, First-team All-Region

After graduation: Second-grade teacher and volleyball coach, Denver (Iowa) Community School District

How did the coaching staff emphasize academics once you were on campus?

Coach (Jamie Mueller) was always interested and asking me questions about my major and what I wanted to get out of my experience. Study tables were required for students who were struggling. We had grade checks all the time. The culture she created was about building independent, strong people, and that's just part of the program.

You student-taught in Hawaii. How did that work with your softball training?

At first I was just messing around, saying I should go there to do my student teaching. But it would have been during my whole off-season, and I have always been the person to run off-season things, and I didn't want to miss that. I went into Coach's office and said this is my idea, but I probably won't do it, and she

said, 'No, do it. That's why you chose a DIII school. That is why we have those opportunities. It's about the experience.' She was the one who convinced me to do it.

What was the athletic highlight of your Wartburg career?

Overall, the biggest things I will remember were our trips to Florida for spring training and the bus rides with my teammates. The relationships I've built with the coaching staff and my teammates will last a lot longer than the actual games will.

And academically?

My student teaching. The opportunities that Wartburg has created for students to go and travel to different places is awesome.



ARYN JONES '18

BIOLOGY, VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL

2017-18 honors: Volleyball: IIAC MVP and CoSIDA Academic All-District;

Basketball: Second-team All-Conference

After graduation: Pursuing doctorate in physical therapy, University of Iowa

How did your coaches stress academics to you?

The thing I kept hearing over and over is that you are a student then an athlete. All four years, when finals rolled around the coaches always made sure we understood that was a priority. They held a standard with how you should be performing in the classroom so you can perform on the court.

Were there times your coaches let you modify your schedule to accommodate an academic pursuit?

Both my Creighton and University of Iowa interviews were during volleyball on back-to-back weekends. We were playing in Des Moines the weekend of my Creighton interview, so I was able to leave right after the game with my mom to get there for that. The Iowa interview was actually during the conference tournament, so I just met the team at the tournament right before our game time. They just make it work.

Do you feel like you made a good choice coming to Wartburg, playing two sports, and majoring in biology?

Most definitely! I like to stay busy. People look at me like I'm crazy, as in doing what I did was more than busy, but if people hadn't supported me for four years I wouldn't have done it. There was more reward than cost with it. All the people I've met, the places I've been able to go, and the growth I've seen academically, I feel I am well prepared for my next step.

What is the athletic highlight of your Wartburg career?

It would have to be travel in general. I've been to Spain, Nashville, California, Florida, and Virginia as our big trips. We are able to do a lot of sightseeing on those trips.

And academically?

My anatomy and physiology class was so much work, but it was so rewarding. It was one of my favorite contents to study. That was one of the classes that helped me grow the most as a student.



MATT SACIA '19

BIOLOGY, FOOTBALL

2017-18 honors: IIAC MVP, Second-team All-Region, Gagliardi Trophy finalist

Why did you decide to attend Wartburg?

Both of my parents went here. Then through the recruiting process, Wartburg had everything to offer with good academics and strong athletics. Ultimately, that was one of the biggest draws.

How did the coaching staff emphasize academics once you were on campus?

For football, every freshman is required to do study tables two times a week, and that is supervised by one of the coaches. That was helpful for learning how to carve out time to get school work done during the season. After that, anyone with any academic concerns was required to continue study tables. The coaches always stress coming to them if we are struggling.

How were you able to balance both athletics and academics?

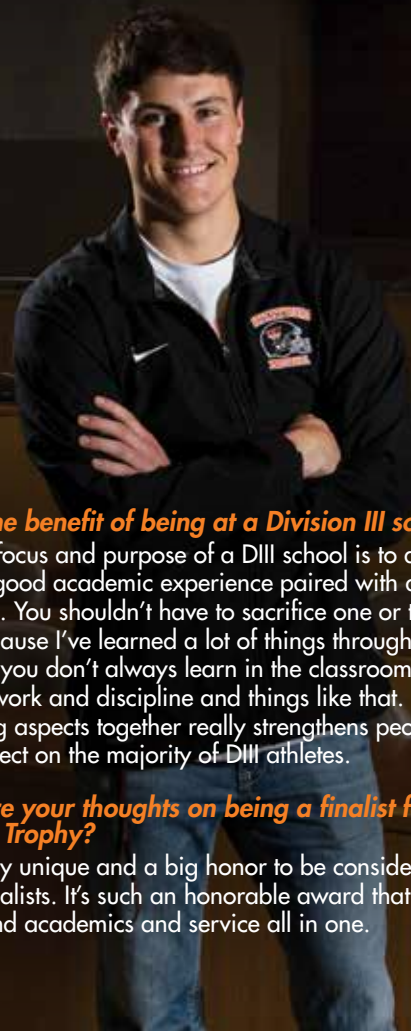
The amount of time our practices and meetings take up in a single day is quite a bit. I had to learn to utilize those small breaks to make sure I got my work done, but I found that actually worked for me, and I did better during the season.

What is the benefit of being at a Division III school?

I think the focus and purpose of a DIII school is to allow students to have a good academic experience paired with a good athletic experience. You shouldn't have to sacrifice one or the other. It's helpful because I've learned a lot of things through football and sports that you don't always learn in the classroom, about life and hard work and discipline and things like that. Putting two challenging aspects together really strengthens people and has a positive effect on the majority of DIII athletes.

What were your thoughts on being a finalist for the Gagliardi Trophy?

It was really unique and a big honor to be considered as one of the four finalists. It's such an honorable award that encompasses athletics and academics and service all in one.





LANCE EVANS '18

BIOLOGY, WRESTLING

2017-18 honors: Academic All-Conference, NWCA All-Academic, All-American (fourth-place finish, 285), CoSIDA Academic All-District

Why did you decide to attend Wartburg?

I went to the University of Iowa first, but it didn't take long for me to realize that wasn't the place for me. Throughout high school Coach (Chris) Ortnier recruited me, and he seemed very concerned about his athletes being successful as an athlete and student. I came here at the beginning of Winter Term my freshman year and started wrestling right away.

How did the coaching staff emphasize academics once you were on campus?

They knew how important it was for me to be successful in school so I could go to medical school when I was done. The first term of my junior year, I had anatomy and biochemistry at the same time. There were times I had so much going on, and I would go in and talk to the coaches about it. They would excuse me from practice and tell me to get a workout in on my own so that I could take care of my schoolwork.

What is the athletic highlight of your Wartburg career?

There has been a lot of pretty cool stuff, like winning three team titles. But it would have to be last year at the "Battle of the Burgs." The guy I was wrestling, we'd gone back and forth all year, and the dual came down to that match. He took me down right away, but I came back and won with like 15 seconds left to win the dual.

And academically?

It would have to be my MCAT score. (He scored in the top 3 percent of all test-takers nationwide.)

Nelson writes her own script for success

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

IT WAS 8:30 ON A WEDNESDAY MORNING, and while most of her friends were starting their workday, **LaRicia Nelson '06** was heading to the gym. The Chicago traffic was a nightmare—when isn't it—but Nelson was determined to stay calm. And why not? After years of working in Arizona, she was living in her hometown with her twin sons, near her family, the owner of her own business.



"Being your own boss is great. I always tell people they don't realize how valuable their time is until they finally have it all," Nelson said. "Entrepreneurship is a lifestyle that not everyone can handle or deal with. You realize the things that are and aren't important. You don't need things to be happy; you just need to do what you love."

At Wartburg, Nelson was news director at KWAR; president of Black Student Union and the gospel choir; on the Homecoming, Diversity, and MLK committees; and chair of Kastle Kapers. As a communication arts major, she learned the broadcast side of film with hopes of someday making it to California for film school. Instead, she landed in Phoenix, working in admissions and later marketing at Grand Canyon State University.

After leaving the university she did event planning before opening her own boutique social media agency, Twinn Media Group, and getting a two-year film degree from Tribeca Flashpoint Media Arts Academy, now Tribeca Flashpoint College.

"My goal was to reach out to other small-business owners who weren't into social media and didn't have their own brand. I help educate them, build their following, and create engagement for their business," she said. "At the same time, I was going to film school. I hoped it would open some new doors for me, and it really did."

Nelson has been an art director and producer on the set of *7vens Law*, *The Law of Moises*, *Walk Away from Love*, and *For the Love of Christmas*. She also contributed to *Passion, Prayer, Purpose: A Collection of Stories to Help Any Woman Design+Her+Life*, a collection of essays from 20 young and powerful women.

"I wrote about being the first entrepreneur in my family. I knew the job I was at wasn't for me. I wanted something more," Nelson said. "When I was starting, I was looking for a blueprint. I wanted someone to walk me to the water. So, I wrote about my journey. I want others to know to protect their dreams because not everyone will understand. I come from a generation where people wanted me to just go out and get a traditional job."

She also produced a talk show and hosts her podcast, *This, That and the III*, where she interviews other entrepreneurs and talks about politics, social issues, and entertainment.

"Wartburg was very instrumental in helping me get where I am today. I was able to hone my leadership skills, try different things, work with different people, and in this industry, you need to be able to do all of that," she said. "Find your passion early and do what you love." 📖



Taking a shot

Doctor provides on-site vaccinations in hopes of boosting health of community

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

A MODERN-DAY TWIST on a decades-old solution has helped **Dr. Daniel Wright '91** increase access to childhood vaccinations in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls community.

As Wright and his colleagues were brainstorming ways to boost vaccination rates, specifically HPV vaccines, the pediatrician at Covenant Clinic in Waterloo recalled photos from the late 1950s and early '60s of students lining up in school gyms to receive the newly available polio vaccine.

The HPV vaccine, which protects against cancers caused by the human papillomavirus, was introduced in 2006, though it wasn't recommended for young men until 2011. Wright wondered why the approach doctors used in the early years of the polio vaccine couldn't work in his community, where the rate for HPV vaccinations rarely exceeded 50 percent despite markedly higher numbers statewide and nationwide.

"In talking to the nurses, I knew we had an RV that allowed us to provide flu shots to geriatric populations who can't leave their home," Wright said. "I explored the possibility of using that same RV for this and found it would probably work pretty well."

Julia Eckerman, registrar for the Waterloo Community School District, said they were happy to partner with Wright, as the opportunity coincided with a state law change that required tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis/whooping cough boosters and meningitis vaccinations for all students entering seventh and 12th grades. Wright's team offered to provide those vaccines, as well as the HPV shot and any others students needed to get up to date, at the district's centralized registration event last fall.

"Because he was so willing to open this up to all the immunizations our students might need, that really helped us as a district," Eckerman said, adding that she is working with Wright again to ensure next year's seventh-grade class is ready for the start of the school year.

Wright's team provided 212 vaccines to 89 students during the two-day registration.

"I don't see my job as just taking care of a few kids. I'm trying to help the health of my community. It's great that I can help the kids who come see me directly, but this was a great way to help those who don't have the opportunity to come see the doctor," Wright said.

It's the desire to serve that also led Wright to help establish a Reach Out and Read chapter in the Cedar Valley. The nonprofit incorporates books into pediatric care and encourages families to read aloud together. He also is part of the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, an effort to improve grade-level proficiency.

"My mother was always involved in the community, so I had that example from very early on, and she was a great example for me," said Wright. "I still have a very strong religious background and feel it is part of my faith as a Christian to reach out and help others." 🍷



Salazar '19

BY STEPHANIE ROBBINS BOEDING '99

WHEN ALEJANDRO SALAZAR '19 WANTED AN EVENT where the Wartburg community could inspire one another with ideas, he set about to make it happen. "As a freshman, I realized there was a lot of potential among our students," said the international relations and political science major from Ecuador.

"But there wasn't a space or event to share those ideas."

He was looking for a format with more focus than the college's annual RICE Day and with an opportunity to stop and reflect on the information being shared. Salazar began to look into creating a TEDx event on campus. Based on the format of the well-known TED Talks, TEDx events are independently organized and devoted to spreading ideas through short, powerful talks.

"I looked around for people who were capable enough to help pull off an event like this. Someone who will work with marketing, video, coordinating and choosing the speakers, and stage



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TEDx

COMES TO WARTBURG

PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90 AND MATTHEW OHL '20

managers,” he said. The planning committee recruited about 20 student volunteers.

The next step was to create the lineup of speakers for the daylong event. Through an application process, the TEDx team fielded more than two dozen proposals and whittled those down to nine diverse speakers and subjects that fit the TEDx theme, *Embracing the Future*.

“We liked how it leaned to technology and social media, and also the idea of vocation, so you can see your future and think about it in a different way,” Salazar said.

A fan of TED Talks online, **Johanna Kluck '19** jumped at the chance to be part of Wartburg’s inaugural TEDx event. An environmental science major with a love for communication, Kluck sent in a proposal bringing those two passions together.

“Right now, I see this big disconnect in the way that scientists are talking about things and the way that everyone else is understanding them,” she said. “I tried to find a way for people to understand what scientists are talking about when they read

a lab report or scientific journal, and also give tips to scientists about how they can communicate with everybody else.”

Kluck and four other students, plus two faculty members, one staff member, and the executive director for Iowa Safe Schools, were chosen for the TEDx lineup. For weeks before the April event, the speakers worked on drafts, practiced their presentations, prepared slides, and memorized their talks for the big day. As the stress mounted, Salazar and the team were supportive.

“Trust yourself to tell your topic, so don’t be scared and don’t give up,” Salazar told the speakers. “Be motivated that you can educate the community and reach a global community.”

The speakers were videotaped by a student crew as they presented to a live audience of about 100 in McCaskey Lyceum.

“Under our basic theme, everyone went in so many different directions,” said Kluck. “It was so cool to hear about everyone else’s story and get to hear what they wanted to share with everyone else.”

The recordings were then put on YouTube by the TEDx Talks channel. After a successful event, the team is looking to go bigger next year.

“We would like to have more alumni come,” Salazar said. “We’re already thinking about a theme for next year, maybe something with gender. We have a social work program here, a science department, sociology, politics ... all of these can talk about this.”

Kluck recommends the speaking experience for anyone who has something to share.

“Even if it’s something that’s been in the back of your mind that you’ve always just thought about, go for it and try. Just put yourself out there, and it will be a good experience.” 📺



See all the Wartburg TEDx Talks at www.wartburg.edu/tedx-magazine.



**MADALYNN
McKELVEY '18**
*Don't Follow
Your Dreams*



BILL WITHERS
*Let's Stay
in Touch*



**MARIA MUNGUIA-
CORTÉS '19**
*The Adversity
Effect*



SAM PFAB '20
*Call for Real
FaceTime*



**SHAHZEB
JADOON '20**
*Mom, I Can
Get Married
Now*



**JOHANNA
KLUCK '19**
*Changing Scientific
Publication to
Scientific Dialogue*



NATE MONSON
*The Post-Modern
Queer Youth
Experience*

MAINTAINING THE LEGACY

BY STEPHANIE ROBBINS BOEDING '99 PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90 AND SUBMITTED

WHEN WARTBURG STUDENTS AND ALUMNI talk about being a Knight, they often describe the sense of community as “one big family.” And for many Knights, being a family is taken literally.

This past year, 283 current students were “legacy students,” which means they have had a parent, sibling, or grandparent attend Wartburg.

Continuing the tradition of attending Wartburg comes full circle when alumni span multiple generations within a family. “For the alums, it’s a sense of pride and comfort, that they had a wonderful experience at Wartburg, and their students are in good hands, but there are also the opportunities to grow, be challenged, travel the world, and find new passions, just as they had,” said Tony Smith, associate director of Alumni & Parent Relations.

Although the facilities have changed during the years, **Erv Janssen '58** says Wartburg’s value system has stood the test of time. The links to Wartburg have been strong throughout his family tree, with his father and uncle attending when the college was located in Clinton. His roots stretch back to the sister of Wilhelm Löhe, the German pastor who sent Georg Grossmann to America to establish Wartburg College. Janssen met his wife, **Maurine Nissen Janssen '57**, at Wartburg, and the two married the weekend after Maurine’s graduation.

Over the years, the family would travel back to campus for Homecoming and other events, and the connection grew for the next generation, daughters **Katherine Janssen Klaassen '85** and **Julie Janssen '83**, who also became Knights.

“We encouraged our daughters to check out Wartburg,” Erv said, citing that the attitude, atmosphere, and culture have remained strong since his time as a student. The legacy tradition has continued into the next generation, with many of the family Knights returning to campus in May for the graduation of Erv’s grandson **Stephen Klaassen '18**, who grew up hearing stories about Wartburg.

“As I’m walking through campus, giving tours as an Ambassador, it’s cool to give some tidbits of the history, talking about what buildings were here when my grandparents were students and how it’s changed and evolved since then,” Stephen said.

“It’s always felt like home,” said student **Emma Bowman '19**, whose parents, **Brian '89** and **Lori Brockman '93 Bowman** met at Wartburg. With several uncles and aunts who are Knights, Emma grew up hearing stories about Wartburg and coming to Homecoming. Now she is charting her own path

while appreciating the legacy she is building upon. And her parents enjoy it, too.

“They have fun seeing people they graduated with and seeing they have kids here, too,” she said.

The recognition of legacy students starts on move-in day with a special luncheon in Wartburg Chapel. “It turns into a really cool reunion for the parents, as many of them attended Wartburg and their time overlapped,” said Smith. “This is a time for those students to start networking, and they can make connections with other legacy students before the orientation process gets started.”

During the year, the Students UKnight organization decorates the doors of legacy students in the residence halls to show the college’s recognition of their family history. Seeing how the family experience comes full circle for alumni has been rewarding, said Smith.

“It’s also a sense of pride that their story and this place have resonated with their students, and now they get to experience it firsthand. It comes down to what parents are sharing with their student, all the opportunities and the growth and who they became during their time at Wartburg; it has a lot of weight for students.”

And though students might worry at first about being in the shadow of their family members who came before, they soon discover plenty of room to grow in their own way, said Smith.

“They want to make their own path, and we provide those opportunities for students, while still honoring that legacy and tradition.” 🍷

For alumni who have a student starting the college decision process, Tony Smith, associate director of Alumni & Parent Relations, recommends starting that journey at Wartburg. “When we have legacy families come and they choose Wartburg as their first college visit, they set that bar, and when they look at other colleges, they put that into perspective based on what we offer here on campus and the opportunities they would receive here,” he said. “Let us know if you have a high school student. We want Wartburg to be at the top of the list.”



Erv Janssen '58,
Julie Janssen '83,
Daniel Klaassen '88,
Stephen Klaassen '18,
and Kathy Janssen Klaassen '85



THE JANSSENS AND KLAASSENS

The threads of music, science, and faith are woven throughout the Janssen and Klaassen family histories at Wartburg.

Erv Janssen '58 met his future wife, **Maurine Nissen '57**, in the Wartburg Choir. "She tried to get me to go out with one of her friends, and instead I asked her," he said.

The intensity of the chemistry program with Dr. Al Swensen meant Erv had to drop choir to focus more on academics. Janssen is now retired from a career in the mental health field, having served as chief of psychiatry at the former Children's Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla.

His college experience is echoed by grandson **Stephen Klaassen '18**, who graduated with a degree in biology with plans to become a doctor. Klaassen was president of Wind Ensemble and led the young Wartburg Drumline and Revolution Indoor Percussion groups, taking advantage of leadership opportunities that have been a defining Wartburg experience for generations.

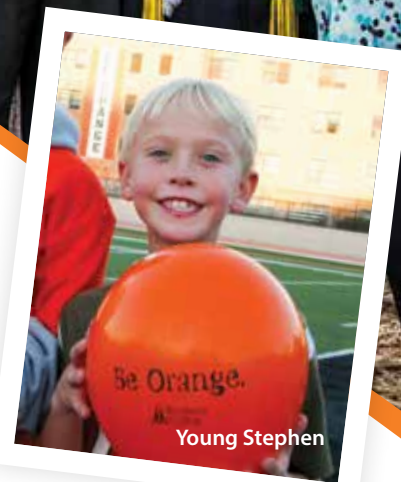
"Wartburg gives that opportunity for young people to work on leadership skills. And the encouragement of the staff to try things, that's still part of the value system," said Erv.

In between are Klaassen's parents, **Daniel '88** and **Kathy Janssen '85 Klaassen**, who also met in a Wartburg music ensemble.

"They were in Castle Singers together," said Stephen. "My mom was a senior and my dad was a freshman, and they didn't know if it would last."

But last it did, and like her father, Kathy earned a degree from Wartburg's strong science program and has had a career as a psychiatrist in Oklahoma. "Our boys knew of Wartburg at a very young age in part due to Homecomings and the family stories," said Kathy. "When my sister and I were kids, we too made the Homecoming treks back to Wartburg."

Daniel, who works in financial planning in Oklahoma and graduated with a finance and marketing degree, has his own family legacy with three uncles who attended Wartburg. His favorite memories are from athletics and Castle Singers, with a healthy dose of shenanigans. "My roommate and I filled a



close friend's room with crumpled newspaper on her birthday," he said. "FYI, it takes a lot of newspaper to completely fill a dorm room!"

The family lore and Wartburg's science program are what hooked Stephen, who came to Wartburg from a large high school in Oklahoma.

"We are very proud and amazed at everything that he has been able to accomplish during his time there, while keeping his grades at a high level needed for med school," said Daniel.

Kathy agrees: "I feel that he came to his own appreciation of a smaller town and smaller educational setting and am glad he chose to experience this." 🍷



Go to www.wartburg.edu/visit to see a list of visit days or set up an individualized trip to campus. Legacy students at Wartburg also qualify for the Legacy Grant, worth \$1,500 in financial aid per year for up to four years.

THE NGS

One family tree has come a long way to be transplanted in Waverly. **John Ng '85** of Malaysia came to Wartburg after a year of architecture school in England. He was planning to transfer to Iowa State University, but Wartburg turned out to be a better fit.

"I'm a country boy at heart," he said, and credits his host family and relationships with Dr. Kent Hawley, Wartburg's director of international students at the time, and art professor emeritus Dr. Arthur Frick as major influences. "Dr. Frick always told me to concentrate on one line of art, but I didn't follow."

After graduating with a degree in art and sociology, he returned to Malaysia and carved out a career as an artist skilled in paint, jewelry, and paper art, even exhibiting his work at Wartburg's Waldemar A. Schmidt Gallery in 2016.

When Ng and his wife, Alice, began the college search process with their two daughters, it was his stories about Wartburg that stuck with them.


"He told me about all his classes, what he did with his roommates, the pranks, the kind of stuff I saw here as a student," said **Alijon Ng '16**. Coming to a small college in the Midwest was a big adjustment for her. "I was resistant at first. Dad says he was a country boy, and I didn't like the country setting too much."

But the community of international students at Wartburg eased the transition; she became a student manager at Mensa as she earned her degree in psychology and sociology.

A couple of years later, sister **Suusen Ng '18** made the decision to become a Knight. Coming from a city of 300,000 in Malaysia that's considered small, Suusen said going to college in Waverly has made an impact. "Living here for four years, it fine-tuned me, that now I don't want a really big city," she said. "It helped me focus on relationships with my friends and my school work."

Iowa traditions have found a place in her heart, too. "I always go watch the fireworks at Shell Rock in the summer," said Suusen, who graduated with a degree in art and graphic design. "It reminds me of the fireworks from back home from all the festivals for different religions."

Alijon, who recently moved back to Malaysia with plans to enroll in graduate school, recalls another aspect of campus life: "I miss working in Mensa, as funny as that is. It was really tiring, but it was fun. I made a lot of friends."

Now with two generations as Wartburg alumni, there's a special connection in the family. Suusen lived in Founders Hall, same as her father back in the '80s when it was known as Grossmann Hall, and the two were both named the art department's Outstanding Senior. "I see what he meant by how much he liked Wartburg. The people I've met here and the relationships I've made, I know I'll remember them forever," said Suusen. "Everyone I've met is family, and that's how he feels, too." 



Suusen '18, John '85, and Alijon '16



Emma '19



THE BOWMANS

Emma Bowman '19 came to Wartburg to play basketball and continue a family athletics tradition.

“My dad’s family has five of seven siblings who came here. My uncle Brad came first and played sports, and my dad (**Brian Bowman '89**) played sports, and so did my aunts.” But during her first Wartburg open gym, Emma tore her ACL. “I was worried I would disappoint my dad that I couldn’t play anymore, but he was so supportive.”

Emma pivoted in a new direction, growing in her passion for service, including an internship with a social work agency in Australia. “One of the greatest aspects of the Wartburg experience is the ability to be involved in many different activities,” said her mother, **Lori Brockman Bowman '93** of Des Moines. “We were proud to see Emma continue to be involved in sports briefly and through many other activities and experiences she is developing similar leadership and teamwork skills.”

Emma became involved with Best Buddies, a student organization that builds one-on-one friendships with those who have an intellectual or physical disability, and she is now the group’s president.

“I remember coming to Homecoming as a kid, going to Ren Faire and the parade,” said Emma. “And now with Best Buddies, I get to have a table at Ren Faire and say hi to the kids.”

With so many uncles and aunts connected to Wartburg, Emma was often the child tagging along to Homecoming and other campus events while growing up. She absorbed all the family lore, including the importance of Room 143 in Vollmer Hall. Lori was a sophomore living there when she first met Brian, and Emma’s aunt **Susan Huth Bowman '84** lived in the same room a few years earlier when she met future husband **Brad Bowman '85**, a brother of Brian’s.

Her senior year of high school, Emma visited multiple schools before deciding to attend Wartburg.

“It’s always felt like home, and I never felt pressure about coming here, but I made my own decision,” she said. And her alumni parents were happy she chose the college for many of the same reasons they had years earlier.

“We hoped that she would have wonderful experiences and adventures like we did,” said Lori. “Many of the fun traditions from our time are still holding true, like Outfly. It’s fun to see how things have transformed from our time at Wartburg, such as the facilities and residence halls.”

For Brian, who was an associate director of admissions and assistant baseball coach from 1990 to 1997, many connections have been rekindled now that Emma is a student. “It has been so fun traveling to different sporting events and seeing other parents that attended Wartburg with us or that Brian recruited,” said Lori. “There really is a Wartburg family that you take with you.” 🍷

THE KVITTEM-BARRS

Brittany Kvittem-Barr '20 remembers getting angry at her parents, Wartburg alumni **Dale Barr '75** and **Barb Kvittem '75 Kvittem-Barr**, when she was looking at colleges.

“When I was younger, they’d always talk about how Wartburg’s such a great place, the community, such good profs,” she said. “Then when I was looking at colleges I got a little mad, ‘What if I don’t want to go to Wartburg? Stop throwing Wartburg on me!’” But after an intensive tour of colleges in the Midwest, “all the other colleges I visited just didn’t fit what I wanted,” she said. “Wartburg was the perfect fit.”

Barb and Dale’s Wartburg story started with a good match, too. “Dale and I met at the freshman dance our first Friday on campus,” Barb said. The two were engaged during May Term of senior year. After graduation—Barb with a music education degree and Dale with psychology—both went on to seminary. Though both have been active in church service, they built their careers in other fields. Barb became a CPA, and Dale earned a master’s in health and hospital administration and then worked with the Grand Canyon Synod and on projects helping Latino/Hispanic and Navajo populations.

“It was Wartburg that laid the foundation to get two more degrees and be a social entrepreneur,” he said. “I wanted to make a change and help people.”

With Brittany at Wartburg, they’ve watched their daughter go on her own journey of self-discovery after changing her major from biology to psychology.

Story continued on next page.



Brittany '20

THE BEISNERS

As high school students in Cedar Falls, twins **Luke '20** and **Noah '20 Beisner** never thought they would attend the same college. Their parents, **Les '87** and **Marit Scherer '88 Beisner**, never pushed their boys to attend their alma mater.

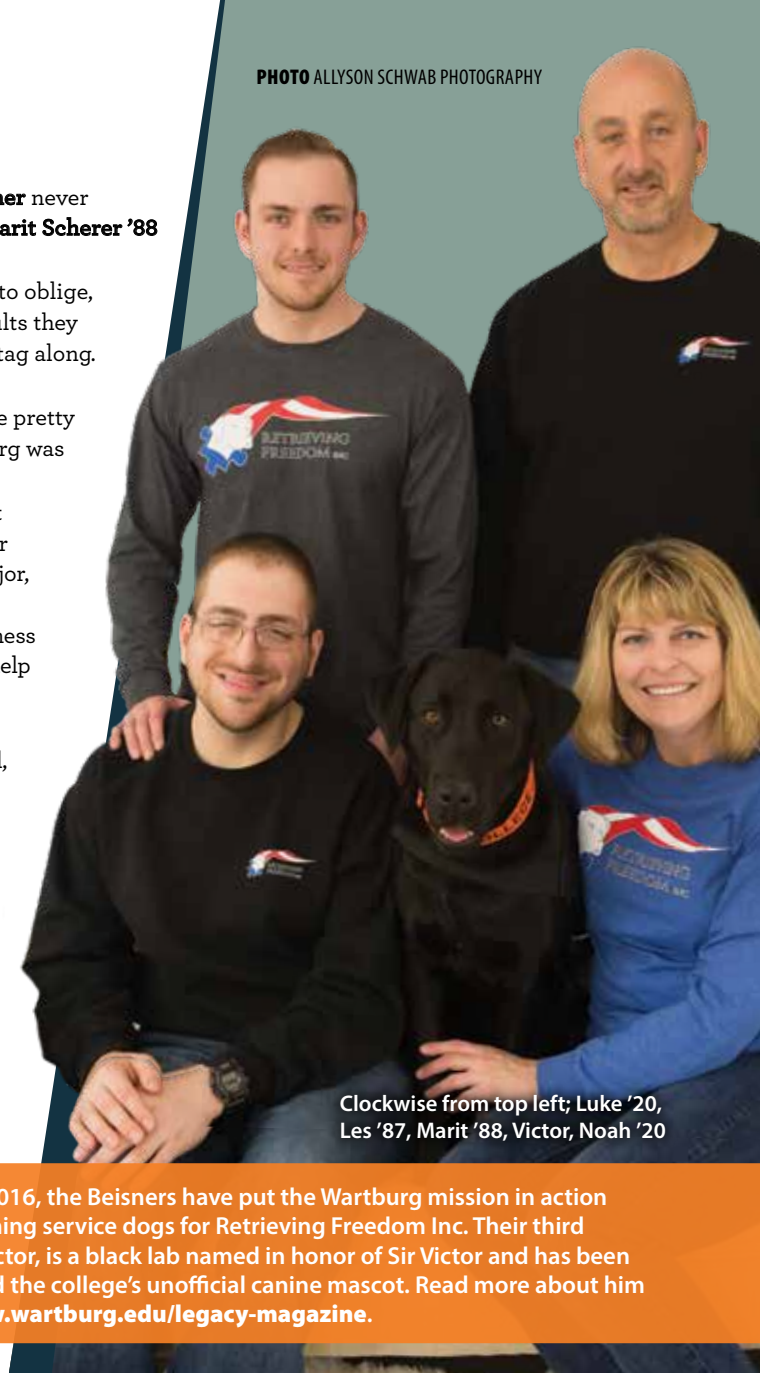
But when Noah suggested a Wartburg visit, Mom and Dad were happy to oblige, knowing their own Wartburg experiences helped shape them into the adults they are today. Luke, who had set his sights on Iowa State University, opted to tag along. Both were impressed by what they saw and whom they met.

"I also visited Central College and Grand View University, and they were pretty convincing, but Wartburg just did everything better," Noah said. "Wartburg was the college to beat."

When the twins finally decided on Wartburg, the elder Beisners, who met in a bowling class, were happy to see the family legacy continue (Les's older sister, **Carole Beisner Henning**, graduated in 1982). Marit, an education major, and Les, who majored in business administration, knew their sons would receive a quality education (Luke in engineering science and Noah in business administration) and have opportunities outside the classroom that would help lead them to find new passions (Noah is now considering a law career).

For all of the Beisners, though, the Wartburg experience is also about the people they've met along the way. Marit's maid of honor was her best friend, **Dawn Drewes Creed '88**. When the boys began looking at Wartburg, Les and Marit were pleased to know that Professors Gloria Campbell and the late Cheryl O'Brien (who died in October 2017) remembered them from their school days. **Jack '53** and Marietta **Schemmel**, who were instrumental in developing Wartburg West and now live in Waverly and are on campus several days a week, instantly recognized Noah as Les's son—Les was in the first Wartburg West class—and even sent Marit a card when she was named a Gold Star Teacher in April. Luke, who will transfer to Iowa State next year for mechanical engineering, developed close relationships with his band directors and credited them with his desire and ability to continue playing trumpet despite a rigorous academic schedule.

"No matter how many years have passed, Wartburg always feels like home," Marit said. 🐾



Clockwise from top left; Luke '20, Les '87, Marit '88, Victor, Noah '20



Since 2016, the Beisners have put the Wartburg mission in action by training service dogs for Retrieving Freedom Inc. Their third dog, Victor, is a black lab named in honor of Sir Victor and has been dubbed the college's unofficial canine mascot. Read more about him at www.wartburg.edu/legacy-magazine.



Young Brittany

Continued from page 19

"She's still finding her passions," said Barb. "Someone suggested that she look into pediatric occupational therapy, and the lightbulb went off. As parents it's just awesome to see that."

A soccer player in her Arizona high school, Brittany has stayed involved

with athletics as an assistant sports trainer at Wartburg. Her parents, now living in Minnesota, watch her in action during games livestreamed on Knight Vision.

Brittany's studies have been educational for her father, too.

"It's very interesting to see when Dad learns things from the field that weren't in the field when he was a student," she said.

"I started college 12 years after they discovered DNA," said Dale. "And now to see her doing these things on a tabletop in a classroom, and how much more we know now, I'm just so fascinated."

Wartburg's commitment to diversity was also important in the college search for their daughter, who was adopted from Korea. "We wanted Brittany

to be at a place where she would be accepted, and Wartburg accepts diversity," said Barb.

Some longtime connections also helped Brittany feel at home on campus. Her parents' classmates **Denny '75** and **Marcia Hill '75 Haugen** both worked at Wartburg, and campus pastor the Rev. Dr. Brian Beckstrom had served the Kvittem-Barrs' Arizona church before coming to Wartburg. "It's the people that make the difference," said Barb.

For other alumni parents with students about to make a college decision, Dale recommends they share about their own Wartburg experience.

"I would encourage them to at least have your children check out Wartburg. Tell them what it meant to you, as a parent. For our family, Wartburg has a special place now that two generations have gone there," said Dale. "It's our family." 🐾

From ONE EXTREME to the NEXT

'Survivor' winner completes seven marathons on seven continents in seven days

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN PHOTO SUBMITTED

SARAH LACINA '06 HAS ADMITTEDLY DONE A LOT OF CRAZY THINGS—she's a two-time castaway on CBS' *Survivor* and even won the \$1 million grand prize on *Survivor: Game Changers*—but the former Wartburg track and cross country runner thought this challenge might be too much.

"David Samson, a guy on my *Survivor* season in Cagayan, called me up one day and asked if I would be interested in running a marathon," Lacina said. "I told him no. Then he said, 'If you don't want to run one, then how about seven in seven days on all seven continents?'"

Though Lacina thought her friend was crazy, she watched the YouTube video he sent before once again telling him no. Samson asked her to reconsider, explaining that he was assembling a team of extreme athletes who could raise \$2 million for charity while having "the experience of a lifetime."

"I had a long, hard sit down with myself, and I said, 'You know, you are always the one who tells people they can do anything they put their mind to. You don't believe you can do this, prove to yourself that you can.'"

From that moment on, she did. Lacina found herself part of 777, a team of 16 adventure-seekers set on completing the World Marathon Challenge. And she did it all while trying to balance the everyday challenges of work (she's an investigator with the Cedar Rapids Police Department), motherhood (she and her husband, Wyatt, have a 3-year-old son, Knox), and small-business ownership (the couple are part-owners of a CrossFit gym).

"It was a lot of training, tears, bad days, aches, and pains, but I dedicated myself to this for about a year," she said. "The training was honestly harder than the World Marathon. I'm not sure how I was able to do it."

The clock started ticking for the team Jan. 30 in Novo, Antarctica.

From there they traveled to Cape Town, South Africa; Perth, Australia; Dubai, United Arab Emirates; Lisbon, Portugal; and Cartagena, Colombia, before finally touching down in Miami, Fla., for their final run Feb. 5.

Though Lacina's passport is full of stamps, she wasn't able to enjoy any of the destinations along the way.

"People always ask me where my favorite place was, but that is impossible to answer. As soon as everyone finished the marathon in Antarctica, we immediately boarded the plane to fly to Cape Town. We had an hour and a half after the plane landed before our next marathon started," she said. "We showered after the Cape Town marathon, then had an hour and a half before we had to be back to the airport for our next plane. We had a hotel at every stop, but we weren't there more than five or six hours."

Lacina, who injured her knee in the Dubai marathon on day four, said the only things that got her through the final run in Miami were her friends, who ran part or all of the 26.2 miles with her, and the knee brace her other *Survivor: Game Changers* friend Troy

Robertson was able to provide. After returning home, Lacina found she had torn her meniscus and had bursitis and a Baker's cyst.

When asked if she would consider completing another World Marathon, Lacina's answer was a resounding no. She wasn't as certain about another season of *Survivor*, adding that her son would have to be older and it would have to be a season of all winners for her to consider another adventure on a deserted isle.

She hasn't ruled out other off-beat challenges, either.

"I don't know what it will be, but I know David well enough to know that he's not going to let the World Marathon be the greatest thing we've ever done," she said. "Every time he calls, I cringe wondering what he might be thinking about now, but I know whatever it is, we will tackle it." 🏆





GIVING STUDENTS A

voice

*Coon continues to learn,
grow nonprofit at Wartburg*

BY KATIE KREIS '19 PHOTO JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

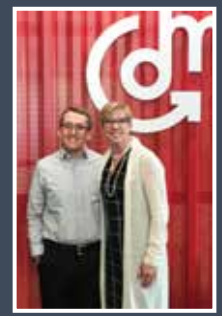
IAN COON '20 DISCOVERED A PASSION FOR EDUCATION at a young age, and encouragement from his teacher, **Russ Goerend '05**, has led him to advocate for his fellow students ever since.

Though he's only 20 years old, Coon already has launched a nonprofit that gives students a voice in their education and is involved with an education-focused national nonprofit run by students, for students. Though much of his work started in high school—he founded the Iowa Student Learning Institute (IowaSLI) during his first year at Waukee High School—his interest was piqued in sixth grade when Goerend, his language arts teacher in Waukee, used blogging instead of essay writing to inspire his students.

“Ian was really into the idea of finding an authentic audience. The next fall, when he was in seventh grade, I invited him to present at a conference. They always have a student showcase, but I wanted him to present at one of the sessions that the teachers and administrators attend,” Goerend said. “Later, Ian talked a lot about how the gift of being given a stage affected him a lot and how a teacher recognizing that what he was saying was important and how other adults could learn from him was important.”

Coon continues to seek opportunities to learn, teach others, and network with those who share his passions. Oftentimes, that means attending conferences and events where he is the only student in a room full of educators and policy makers. He was encouraged during these events to do something bigger and get more students involved, a seed that turned into the Iowa Student Learning Institute.

The organization provides opportunities for high school students to network with their peers and discover the tools they need to make a difference in their schools. The students work year-round to “revolutionize Iowa’s approach to K-12 education” through hosting the annual RISE Student Leadership conference and the



Ian Coon has traveled the globe advocating for young people and empowering them to take action on issues that most impact their education. Between classes and student leadership roles, Coon has participated in the Youth Activation Summit at Facebook, the SXSW EDU conference, and meetings with College Summit (now PeerForward) and that's just since January.

Student Voice Rally at the Iowa State Capitol. The organization also helps students start Power of Voice (POV) chapters in their schools. The POV teams use “the power of student voice to advocate for a specific cause,” which currently is student representation on local school boards.

“I like the education field because I think the other topics I’m passionate about, like civil rights and anything that screams social justice, come back to education and awareness at a root level,” Coon said.

In high school, Coon was part of the Waukee Aspiring Professional Experience (APEX), an experiential learning program that connects students with businesses and the community to ensure students have real-world experiences in high school. Through Waukee APEX, Coon made connections with community leaders and area teachers and was given the flexibility to grow and expand the nonprofit.

Because of these experiences and the work of his mentors, Coon knew exactly what he wanted from his education.

“That was part of why I chose Wartburg—it isn’t a traditional higher-education model. There are not 2,000-person lecture halls like you’d see at a larger university. It is all relationship-driven.”

At Wartburg, Coon is studying public relations, involved in Student Senate, and serves in leadership roles with several student-led organizations, a triad of learning opportunities that allow him to apply what he learns in the classroom in his real life almost immediately.

“It’s a really great synergy that I’ve been able to set up with learning. Since everything is very experience-based in the journalism and communication department at Wartburg, I’m able to take that to the next level of real-world experience while still in a college setting. I’m learning so many things that I can easily scale to larger organizations, which is a really cool thing. What works at our 1,600-person college can work in the Cedar Valley, in Des Moines, and even nationally.”

Outside of Wartburg, Coon is involved with Student Voice, a national nonprofit similar to IowaSLI. As the organization’s director of communication, Coon frequently travels around the United States attending conferences and learning more

about how to engage students and expand the nonprofit’s reach. Recently, he attended the Youth Activation Summit at Facebook Headquarters in Menlo Park, California.

“I’ve been able to take everything we’ve learned about state-level advocacy to a national scale and help build out all sorts of brands, develop digital campaigns, and handle internal relations. It allows me to travel to national conferences to share our work, philosophies, and ideas and meet with educators outside of Iowa.”

Though Coon and the organizations he aligns himself with have made some giant leaps, they did face early opposition, often because of his age.

“There were a lot of times when adults didn’t necessarily like that I was outspoken. That was difficult to overcome, that not everyone will believe in you and that pushing the system means not everyone will be a fan of your work. I’ve learned that it’s OK, and it usually means you’re doing something right,” he said.

For now, Coon’s main focus is to build relationships and be a college student.

“I spent a lot of time last year almost re-learning how to develop relationships. It’s taken time and energy to be more at peace with myself so that I can be at peace with everyone else. At Wartburg there hasn’t been so much noise or clutter in my life, and I feel more focused,” he said. “I find it so odd that I had to come to a college smaller than my high school to be surrounded by new ideas and new types of people. I’ve had so many eye-opening experiences at this magical little place. There’s something really special about how Wartburg facilitates and fosters those relationships with people you might not have been familiar with before.”

Looking to the future, Coon expects to continue his work to provide Iowa and subsequently the nation with a stronger education system, including bridging the divide between Iowa’s urban and rural education systems.

“Having an equitable education would solve a lot of problems of lacking opportunities,” he said. “I don’t want to be in a job that I’m at just to earn money. I really think I’ll be doing what I love, and I hope that all these experiences I’ve had early on will help get to that.” 🍷

Knights

in the News



Do you recognize any of these Knights from our 1993 new student orientation? We will post the photo on social media and invite you to share your favorite orientation memories with the Class of 2022, who will join us in August.

1954

The Rev. **GEORGE HANUSA**, Des Moines, is the author of *Out of the Mud: How a Rural Coal Mining Settlement Became the City of Windsor Heights*.

1958

HAROLD KURTZ, New Brighton, Minn., authored the book *Dear Phil*.

1962

The Rev. **JOHN ANDERSON**, Bagley, Minn., retired after 50 years in ministry.

The Rev. **HORST HEHR**, Clinton, published his memoirs, *My Trek with Divine Destiny*.

1968

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

1969

Class Reunion May 24-26

1971

The Rev. **MARK PRIES**, Iowa City, retired after 42 years in ministry.

PAUL SCHWEITZ, Wilmette, Ill., led the Bahai international peace relay from Hiroshima to Nagasaki, Japan, for three years.

1973

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

KIP MAKEEVER, Santa Clarita, Calif., retired from Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center, Burbank, Calif., after 40 years as a physical therapy assistant.

1975

JANE JOHNSON, Reinbeck, retired as a social work supervisor after more than 42 years with the Iowa Department of Human Services.

1977

NANCY PETERSON, Rochester, N.Y., is the controller for Cognive Inc.

1978

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

MARTHA MENSINK OSKVG, Milford, retired as manager of the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society Home Care office, Spirit Lake. She also received an award at the National Federation of Press Women's National Conference for her 40-year membership. She is a freelance writer and fiber artist.

1980

GLENDA BAUGH-JOHNSON, Chicago, earned a Master of Science degree in counseling and counseling marriage and family therapy from Capella University, Minneapolis.

1981

Dr. **FREDERICK BURRACK**, Manhattan, Kan., received the Lowell Mason Fellows Award from the National Association for Music Education and the Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award from Kansas State University. He is director of assessment and professor of music education at Kansas State.

1982

CHRISTINE HENDRICKSON RORABECK, Berrien Springs, Mich., earned a Master of Arts degree in English-TE SOL. She teaches high

school ESL at the Andrews Academy of Andrews University.

1983

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

LYNN HOLLE MOORE, Pueblo West, Colo., is a protective proceedings monitor/probate registrar, a specialist position with the 10th Judicial District in Pueblo.

1984

KEVIN LUTKENHAUS, LaBelle, Fla., has been an educator in the Hendry County School District for 31 years.

1985

CARRIE OLSON, Denver, Colo., earned a doctorate in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis on holocaust and genocide studies from the University of Denver. She serves on the Denver Public Schools Board of Education.

1986

STACEY SNYDER, Tripoli, received the Iowa STEM Teacher Award. She is a teacher at Orange Elementary School, Waterloo.

1988

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

1992

RACHELLE KARSTENS, North Sioux City, S.D., is the interim president of Briar Cliff University, Sioux City. She also is pursuing her doctorate in education at Drake University, Des Moines.

BILL PETSCH, DeWitt, is the principal at Central DeWitt Intermediate School.

1993

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

1995

HEIDI CULLINAN, Ames, is the author of *Shelter the Sea*, which has been named a finalist in the Mainstream Fiction with a Central Romance category of the 2018 RITA awards.

LILAH HICKS GRIMM, Waverly, is a front desk specialist at Northeast Iowa Family Practice Center.

1997

Heath Jergens and **CHRISTA SIBERT**, Ankeny, were married June 24, 2017. They have a daughter, Ellie, 2.

1998

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

Anthony Harter and **KARLA BAILEY**, Grinnell, were married July 1, 2017. Their blended family includes Autumn, 18; Alex, 16; and Ozzy, 11. Karla is a library assistant at Grinnell College.

ROXANNE WILLIAMS, Chicago, is a transaction-processing supervisor at JP Morgan Chase, where she has worked for 14 years.

1999

ELIZABETH AASERUD, Waterloo, Ind., announces the adoption of Danyln Leigh, 8, on Dec. 13.

STEVE MEIRINK, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., executive vice president and general manager of Wolters Kluwer's Compliance Solutions business, accepted Operation HOPE's Longstanding Partnership Award on behalf of Wolters Kluwer, recognizing Wolters

Kluwer for its role in improving financial literacy around the world.

2000

KATHRYN KLATT and Dawn Atchley, Orange City, Fla., were married Nov. 7. Kathryn is a veterinary technician at DeLand Animal Hospital.

2001

BRANT and Karin **GILKISON**, Biloxi, Miss., announce the birth of Bennett Cole, Oct. 12. He joins Beckham Ford, 2.

2002

Travis and **KATIE SHANNON FUNSETH**, Ankeny, announce the birth of Fulton, Aug. 19. He joins Felicity, 3, and Gianna, 2.

2003

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

David and **DANIELLE DYVIG CRUZ**, Denver, Colo., announce the birth of Isaiah, June 5, 2017. He joins Isaac, 3.

JESSICA ANTHONY TYE, Byron, Minn., earned a Doctorate of Education in higher education administration from St. Cloud (Minn.) State University.

2004

MAGGIE GIBNEY ATKINSON, Iowa City, is the director of youth and family ministries at Zion Lutheran Church.

LONNA FIELD, Minneapolis, earned a master's degree in leadership from Augsburg University.

2005

BRAD and **TERESE OTT CULBERTSON**, Whittemore, announce the birth of Makenzie Marie, Sept. 7. She joins Avery Jolene, 7, and Hailey Rose, 3.

Steven and **ERICA MANTERNACH PICKRELL**, Davenport, announce the birth of Zoey Jean, Nov. 5. She joins Ezra, 3.

PHILIP and **SHANNON MCDONNELL SCHROETTER**, Blaine, Minn., announce the birth of Sullivan Cole, Oct. 20. He joins Elliot, 2. Philip is director of choral activities at Blaine High School, and Shannon is a pediatric nurse practitioner at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital, Minneapolis.

2006

Lance and **LINDY KAMPMAN IBELING**, Parkersburg, announce the birth of Sophie, Nov. 6, 2016. She joins Lyla, 1. Lindy is communications manager for the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council.

Matthew and **ALYSSA BENVENISTE MORAN**, Grimes, announce the birth of Bennett Dean, Jan. 20. He joins Ava Danielle, 6, and Chloe Ann, 3.

2008

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

HEIDI HESSE GOETZINGER and **CHRIS GOETZINGER '09**, Waverly, announce the birth of Archer, Jan. 16. He joins Grady, 4, and Sawyer, 1.

2009

DREW and **LINDSAY SHEPARD FAYRAM '10**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Olivia Rae, Aug. 31.

JUSTIN and **LAUREN HUMMEL HANSON '11**, Adel, announce the birth of Alivia Jo, Sept. 17. She joins Tate Aaron, 2.

STEFFANI TOLLEFSON NOLTE, Omaha, Neb., is chief photographer at KMTV.

JOEL and **NIKKI NEWBROUGH RASMUSSEN '10**, Goldfield, announce the birth of Jill Anna, Feb. 2. She joins Ava Marie, 3.



Grove at the forefront of push for trauma-informed care

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

IN MARCH 2018, **OPRAH WINFREY** and *60 Minutes* brought national attention to trauma-informed care, a treatment framework that focuses on a person's experiences before attempting to change their behavior. At the center of that conversation was Wartburg alumnus **Tim Grove '94**. As the chief clinical officer at SaintA, a child and family services provider in Milwaukee, Grove has used trauma-informed care in his work for more than a decade. Today, the organization is leading the charge to train others to do the same.

"The science is abundantly clear that the effects of exposing kids to unmitigated, overwhelming stress and fear is profound. The question becomes what will individuals, communities, and we as human beings do in response," Grove said. "We can pretend it doesn't exist and diminish it, or we can rally and say we have a call to respond."

Traditionally, children with serious behavioral issues might be asked what is wrong with them; those who employ trauma-informed care would instead ask, "What happened to you?" Using a set of 10 questions that evaluates a person's adverse childhood experiences, which includes everything from being regularly insulted and humiliated by an adult to physical and sexual assault, caregivers like Grove can determine what happened to a child before they try to "fix" their current behavior or condition. The higher a person scores on the ACE test, the more vulnerable they are to mental, physical, and social health issues.



"What's at stake is nothing more or nothing less than our collective human capital. There is a growing body of literature in the health world that disease prevention and treatment have to prioritize this, too," Grove said. "At some point we believe this will not be a problem-solving process that is confined to social work, it will be prioritized in the medical community and in the political community. We are already seeing some of that in Wisconsin where there has been a lot of activity to promote a trauma-informed Wisconsin."

When case managers in the child-welfare program at SaintA have been trained to prioritize trauma-informed care, Grove said the teams have seen twice the permanency outcomes (adoption, placement with a relative, reunification with a parent) than the teams who weren't. Anecdotally, Grove said he has heard "story after story" from law enforcement officers, physicians, judges, and educators who have inspired him to "dig down deeper than ever and really get into the work."

Even Winfrey, in an interview promoting the show, called her work on this story "life-changing."

"It is my hope that our story on trauma-informed care will not just be impactful but will be revolutionary. It certainly has caused a revolution in my own life. I was struck by the story because it reminded me of my own story growing up in Milwaukee," she said on *60 Minutes Overtime*.

Visit www.wartburg.edu/grovemagazine to watch the full *60 Minutes* interview. 



2018 YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS

The Wartburg College Alumni Board presented Young Alumni Awards on Friday, April 13. The award recognizes select graduates of the last 15 years who stand out as they exemplify the four pillars of the Wartburg College mission statement: leadership, service, faith, and learning. This year's recipients were Dr. Joel Tuttle '03, Christina Ufer Wood '05, and Russell Harris '10.

2010

VICTORIA BRESHEARS, El Paso, Texas, was awarded a 2018 Fulbright Fellowship for study and research in Tajikistan.

SHAWN MILLIKEN and **HILARY GERTEN**, Minneapolis, were married Jan. 27.

JOSH MONIZ, El Paso, Texas, is lead coordinator of public affairs for the City of El Paso.

JESSICA WETHERELL, Palmer, Alaska, is the director of the Alaska Children's Choir.

2011

David and **EMILY SCHMITT COUNTS**, Ankeny, announce the birth of Chloe, Nov. 2. Emily is a marketing specialist at Hirsh Industries and publishes the home and DIY website smallstuffcounts.com.

AARON FRINK and Tessa Chillemi, Lake Oswego, Ore., were married Aug. 19.

Russell Robinson Jr. and **EMILY JOHNSON**, Burien, Wash., were married July 21, 2017.

HEATH ROST, Denver, Colo., partners with nonprofits that aid food distribution efforts and is engaged in bringing community outdoor food pantries to the Denver metro area.

2012

JORDAN KANE, Aurelia, is the associate director of development at Faith, Hope & Charity.

Tom Mondragon and **COURTNEY WESTLING**, Algona, were married Oct. 28.

2013

Class Reunion Oct. 18-21

KRISTINE ARNOLD, Castle Rock, Colo., earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction and teaches in the Denver Public Schools.

Andrew Buelow and **KRISTIN HELLE**, Dubuque, were married Aug. 5.

ANNE BUSCHER, St. Louis, is a graduate student in occupational therapy at Maryville University.

CRAIG GAUERKE, Stratford, Wis., is director of congregational ministry at Zion Lutheran Church.

2014

SAMUEL READ and **REBEKAH HOLTEN**, Bozeman, Mont., were married Dec. 30.

ABBY SHANNON, Janesville, is a graduate student in mental health counseling.

Jordan and **DANIELLE TANNER SHEPARD**, Cedar Rapids, announce the birth of Dawson, Aug. 2.

2016

BROOKE MOELLER, West Branch, is a music therapist at Music Speaks LLC, Iowa City.

2017

MOLLY ASTARITA, Slater, is an international services representative at Indiana University Bloomington.

NOELLE BERST, Waucoma, is operations manager for Target, Cedar Falls.

KARALYNN BRUNKHORST, Denver, Iowa, earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Allen College, Waterloo, where she received the Jane E. Hasek Excellence in Nursing Award. She is an RN/BSN at Covenant Hospital, Waterloo.

KYLE GROVER, Dyersville, is a medical student at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

STEPHANIE KEIPER, Palo, is a children's applied behavior analysis specialist at The Homestead, Hiawatha.

MACKENZIE SELLNAU, Cedar Rapids, is a digital content specialist at Karl Chevrolet, Ankeny.

JORDAN THOMAS, Anamosa, is a content producer at KWWL, Waterloo.

2018

NAOMI ALENE, Aurora, Colo., is a financial adviser at Northwestern Mutual, Lakewood, Colo.

TYLER AMICK, Austin, Minn., is a language arts teacher at Lyle (Minn.) Public School.

ASHLEY ANDERSON, Ely, is a graduate student in pharmacology at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

ANTHONY ANSTOETTER, Farley, is an industrial engineer at Rite-Hite, Dubuque.

BRE BADER, La Porte City, is a graduate student in postsecondary student affairs at the University of Northern Iowa.

ASHLYN BAGGE, Waverly, is an application analyst at CUNA Mutual.

CANDACE BAKER, Chicago, is a nursing student at Lakeview College of Nursing, Danville, Ill.

CODY BIRELY, Davenport, is a doctoral student in physical therapy at St. Ambrose University.

MITCH BLACK, Waterloo, is a graduate assistant for the cross country and track and field programs at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he is pursuing a master's degree in communication.

AUSTIN BOHLING, Letts, is a quality engineer at Musco Sports Lighting, Muscatine.

KATHERINE BOMGAARS, Sheldon, is director of student ministries at Peace United Methodist Church, Orlando, Fla.

NICKLAUS BRADY, Cedar Rapids, is an assurance associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Des Moines.

BRAYTON BRANDT, Center Point, is a client solutions associate at Charles Schwab, Lone Tree, Colo.

MARIA BROWN, Peosta, is a doctoral student in physical therapy at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

NATHAN BROWN, Des Moines, is a mechanical engineer at Palmer Group, Ankeny.

MIRANDA BUCHHOLZ, Waterloo, is a nursing student in the accelerated RN/BSN program at Allen College.

ELIZABETH BUCKWALTER, Morrison, Ill., is a district legislative aide for State Rep. Tony McCombe in Savanna, Ill.

NICOLE BURGIN, Oelwein, is a medical student at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

GRACE BYRAM, Pella, is a marketing production associate at Principal, Des Moines.

EMILY CAPPER, Solon, is a medical student at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

EMILY CARROLL, Marble Rock, is a fourth-grade teacher in the Hampton-Dumont Community School District.

BRITNI COHEN-WICHNER, Stoughton, Wis., is a music therapy intern at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis.

BEN COLEMAN, St. Louis, Minn., is a language and culture assistant at Auxiliares de Conversacion, Spain.

COLTEN CONNELLY, Guttenberg, is a financial analyst at Peoples State Bank, Prairie du Chien, Wis.

NOAH DAHLSTROM, Mount Vernon, is an industrial engineer at Rockwell Collins, Manchester.

EMILY DEBOER, Waukee, is an audit associate at BKD, West Des Moines.

ELIZABETH DUEHR, Dubuque, is a nursing student in the accelerated BSN program at Marymount University, Arlington, Va.

TANNER ECKHART, Big Lake, Minn., is assistant project manager for Metropolitan Mechanical Contractors, Eden Prairie, Minn.

JOHANNA ENDER, Lake City, Minn., is a pricing analyst at Epic Systems, Verona, Wis.

MADYSEN ESPELAND, Forest City, is a family support specialist at Capstone Behavioral Health, Omaha, Neb.

MADISON FAGA, Waverly, is a third-grade teacher at Banning Lewis Ranch Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.

LIBBY FALCONER, Coggon, is a universal banker at Farmers State Bank, Hiawatha.

KYLE FANK, Independence, is a physical education teacher in the BCLUW Community School District.

DAVID FITZGERALD, Dubuque, is an accountant at Bohr, Dahm, Greif & Associates, Cedar Rapids.

MIRANDA FOBER, Denver, Iowa, is development and marketing coordinator for Ewalu Bible Camp, Strawberry Point.

MARA FORSYTH, Charles City, is a second-grade teacher and varsity volleyball coach in Denver, Iowa.

NATHAN FRANA, Decorah, is an embedded software engineer at Vermeer, Pella.

LAURA FRANZMEIER, Rowan, is a special education Level I teacher at

Gilmore City-Bradgate Elementary School.

BRITTNEY FULLER, Independence, is a nursing student in the accelerated RN/BSN program at Allen College, Waterloo.

GRANT GAGE, Highlands Ranch, Colo., is a graduate student in civil engineering at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater.

CALEB GEER, Cedar Rapids, is an associate technology services analyst at Hormel Foods, Austin, Minn.

GARRETT GRIMSMAN, Iowa City, is an audit associate at BKD, West Des Moines.

AMANDA GUERTLER, Arlington Heights, Ill., is a law student at John Marshall Law School, Chicago.

SAEED HALIM, Kansas City, Mo., is a vocational English instructor for API Abroad, Leon, Mexico.

SAMANTHA HALLGREN, Arden Hills, Minn., is an intern at Primary Children's Hospital, Salt Lake City.

JAKOB HAMILTON, Algona, is a graduate student in industrial and manufacturing systems engineering at Iowa State University.

PARKER HAMMEL, Dubuque, is an accounting and finance rotate at Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids.

ALLISON HESSE, Cedar Falls, is a pre-K through fifth-grade music teacher in the Maquoketa Valley School District.

KATIE HILMER, Dysart, is an audit associate at BKD, West Des Moines.

JACOB HODGE, Waverly, works for Hodge Company, Kernersville, N.C.

JAKE HOGAN, Gilbertville, is an occupational therapy student at Allen College, Waterloo.

JACOB HOLUB, Williamsburg, is a sales representative at Elite Sports.

ALYSSA JENKINS, Austin, Minn., is a graduate student in library and information science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

MICHAEL JOHNSRUD, Orono, Minn., is a researcher for ISurTech, St. Paul, Minn.

ARYN JONES, Marion, is a doctoral student in physical therapy at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

SOPHIA JONES, Marion, is a management trainee at Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Cedar Rapids.

LEAH JUNGLING, La Porte City, is an actuarial technician at Transamerica, Cedar Rapids.

ELI KACZINSKI, Delmar, is a graduate assistant for the cross country and track and field programs at Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio, where he is pursuing his MBA.

KOSAMU KASONSO, Waverly, is a staff accountant at Terex.

NATHAN KECK, Waukee, is a dental student at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry.

KIERSTIN KELLEE, Waverly, is a graduate student in school psychology at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

JOCELYN KELLER, Rolfe, is a graduate student in social work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Wartburg community comes through on UKnight Day

More than 1,600 Wartburg College students, alumni, faculty, staff, and supporters helped the college set a new record for one-day participation during the school's fourth annual day of giving, UKnight Day, on March 27.

During the 24-hour period, 1,608 members of the Wartburg community "UKnighted" to show their support for the college, surpassing the goal of 1,500 and increasing last year's donor number by nearly 200. More than 365 current and future students participated in the day, which raised more than \$120,000 for the college. The Class of 2020 won the Finest in the East or West Class Challenge with 111 total donors.

Throughout the 24-hour period gifts were received from 44 states and several countries. The 368 students and 128 faculty and staff who participated represented a 39 percent increase in campus involvement over the previous year.

"We love seeing Knights from around the world come together to celebrate the college and the impact it had on their life for an entire day," said **Renee Voves '04**, associate director of institutional advancement. "It's a great day to be a part of the Wartburg community!"



ALEXIS KEMP, Keokuk, is a marketing/property management assistant at Ahmann Companies, Hiawatha.

MADLINE KEMP, Waterloo, is pursuing a Master of Public Health in epidemiology at the University of Iowa.

STEPHEN KLAASSEN, Broken Arrow, Okla., is a medical scribe in Tulsa, Okla.

JOHNNIE LACEY, Chicago, is a branch manager trainee at Penske Trucking & Leasing, Elk Grove Village, Ill.

ANNIE LAMMERS, Waverly, is an accountant in the Finance Development Program at John Deere, Moline.

EMILY LAUDNER, Rockford, is a secondary science teacher at Ayeyarwaddy International School, Mandalay, Myanmar.

AUDREY LIST, Galena, Ill., is pursuing a Master of Social Work and certificate in nonprofit management at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

ELIZABETH LOCKWOOD, Dows, is a residential treatment worker at Woodward Resource Center.

SIERRA LOVATO, Peoria, Ariz., is a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal.

MADALYNN MCKELVEY, Ottumwa, is a manufacturing engineer at John Deere, Moline.

SAM MCMICHAEL, Des Moines, is a law student at Drake University, Des Moines.

HALEY MELZ, West Des Moines, is an allergy specialist at United Allergy Services, Winterset.

DOMINIQUE MILLER, Chicago, is a claims adjuster for Nationwide Insurance, Des Moines.

SARAH MIRS, Burnsville, Minn., is a law student at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

ASHLYN MOEN, Janesville, is a business operations manager at Mudd Advertising, Cedar Falls.

DAKOTA MOORE, Elgin, is a law student at the University of Iowa.

MIRANDA MURPHY, Alleman, is a graduate student in sport business management at the University of Central Florida, Orlando.

MORGAN NEUENDORF, Plainfield, is a graduate student in environmental engineering at Clemson (S.C.) University.

DESTINY NORTHEY, Grimes, is a children's ABA specialist at The Homestead, Altoona.

ZACHARY NULLMEYER, Waverly, is on the financial services office assurance staff at Ernst & Young, LLP, Des Moines.

AARON O'LEARY, Waverly, is a naturopathic medical student at National University of Health Sciences, Lombard, Ill.

CARLOS PALACIOS, Waverly, is an agent with Budget Insurance, Des Moines.

RACHEL PERKINS, Janesville, Wis., is a missionary with ELCA Young Adults in Global Missions in South Africa.

NATALIE PEYTON, Marion, is a seventh-grade science teacher at Linn-Mar Oak Ridge Middle School.

REGINALD PRATHER, Cleveland, is a Sunday school teacher at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Waverly.

TY PUTCHIO, Dubuque, is an engineer at John Deere.

LIESEL REIMERS, Fruitland, is a public service officer with the Cedar Falls Police Department.

ASHLEY REYNOLDS, Sumner, is a project coordinator at Wolters Kluwer, St. Cloud, Minn.

RYAN RICHMOND, Waverly, is a graduate student in sociology and criminology at Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa.

SARA SANDERSON, Albert Lea, Minn., is an executive team leader for Target.

JOSEPHINE SANN, Clarion, is a staff accountant at Bohr, Dahm, Greif & Associates, Cedar Rapids.

MITCHELL SCHERTZ, Stillwater, Minn., is an English teacher at Churchill County Middle School, Fallon, Nev.

TOM SCHIFFER, Mason City, is an actuarial student at Transamerica, Cedar Rapids.

ABIGAIL SCHOTT, Brunswick, Ga., is a music therapy intern at Big Bend Hospice, Tallahassee, Fla.

CAMERON SCHULT, Fredericksburg, is a bank examiner with the Iowa Division of Banking, Des Moines.

JORDAN SCRIBNER, Nashua, is a special education teacher in the Waverly-Shell Rock Community School District.

BLAKE SHIPMAN, Rock Falls, Ill., is a Master of Divinity student at Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque.

SAM SIDES, Washington, is the sports director at KCII Radio.

CASSANDRA SMITH, Lisbon, is an osteopathic medical student at Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, Downers Grove, Ill.

LYDIA SMITH, Waverly, is a special education teacher at Margaretta Carey Elementary School.

KATIE SOMMER, Marion, is a graduate student in project management at the University of Denver.

AMANDA STECKLEIN, Walford, is an audit associate at RSM, Minneapolis.

ZANE STRAWSER, Grinnell, is a nursing student in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo.

AUBREE TAYLOR, Waterloo, is a communications assistant with the Greater Cedar Valley Alliance and Chamber.

MADISON THOMAS, Humboldt, is an electrical engineer at Vermeer, Pella.

JOEL TOPPIN, Clear Lake, is a chiropractic student at Northwest Health Sciences University, Bloomington, Minn.

ALICIA URBAIN, Andrew, is a nursing student in the accelerated RN/BSN program at Allen College, Waterloo.

ETHAN VANDERWOUDE, Pipestone, Minn., is a salesman at Bankers Life, Waterloo.

REBECCA WALDMAN, West Bend, Wis., is a medical student at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

BEN WEBER, Hopkinton, is an insurance marketer at Cottingham & Butler, Dubuque.

JASIE WHITINGER, Nashua, is an admissions counselor at Grand View University, Des Moines.

ALLISON ZUMBACH, Coggon, is a seventh- and eighth-grade math teacher in the Anamosa Community School District.



World-renowned opera singer Simon Estes was presented with an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree during Commencement. Estes joined the Wartburg faculty in 2002 as a distinguished professor and artist-in-residence. During his 14-year tenure he performed with Wartburg music ensembles and worked with students in master classes and private voice lessons.

IN MEMORIAM



1938

Evelyn Loots Rappath, Prescott, Ariz., died Aug. 2, 2016. She was a teacher.

Ruth Bruns Schuck, Hastings, Neb., died Nov. 15. She earned a bachelor's degree in teaching from Hastings College and taught for more than 35 years.

1941

Florence Senne Heist, Bayfield, Wis., died Aug. 18. She was a teacher and worked with her husband in the foreign mission field of the American Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea for 22 years.

1942

Ruth Mardorf Baseler, Madison, Wis., died Nov. 16. She was a music teacher and helped her husband serve congregations in Illinois, Iowa, Washington, California, Colorado, and Oklahoma.

Carolyn Heitner Hemingway, East Palo Alto, Calif., died Feb. 26. She worked for N.W. Herman Home Interiors, Waverly, and was a secretary for Wartburg College and the city of Waverly.

The Rev. **Albert "Bud" Hock**, Strawberry Point, died March 26. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1945. He was the pastor at St. Luke Church, St. Paul, Minn., for 39 years. In 1968, he began correspondence with the mayor of Jerusalem, later earning the Jerusalem Mayor's Medal of Honor. He also authored the book *The Pilgrim Colony: The History of Saint Sebald Congregation, the Two Wartburgs, and the Synods of Iowa and Missouri*.

1943

Betty Jo Weber LaBahn, El Reno, Okla., died Feb. 15, 2016. She was a substitute teacher and worked elections.

Naomi Nechtel, Edina, Minn., died July 2, 2017. She was a teacher.

1945

Esther Wittig Fischer, Liberty, Mo., died Jan. 10. She and her husband owned and operated a flower shop for 30 years.

Howard Weger, Peoria, Ariz., died Jan. 1. A World War II veteran, he retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1984 as a lieutenant colonel after serving for 28 years. He earned a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Iowa and was an engineering manager for Westinghouse Electric.

1946

Pearl Schmidt Hamburg, Sidney, Mont., died March 10, 2017. She worked in the banking industry and was a hotel clerk.

1947

Ethelyn Kurth Berns, Elkader, died April 18, 2016. She earned a degree from Upper Iowa University and was a teacher for 33 years.

Elsa Scharff Mueller, Oelwein, died Sept. 6. She was a home economics teacher, retiring in 1986.

1948

Eugene Opperman, Marion, died Dec. 15. A U.S. Navy World War II veteran, he earned a master's degree in secondary education from the University of Iowa. He was a longtime guidance counselor. He is survived by his wife, **Betty Biederman Opperman '48**.

Ernest Wilcke, Spirit Lake, died Dec. 21. A U.S. Marines World War II veteran, he earned a degree from Drake Law School, Des Moines, and was a lawyer. He is survived by his wife, **Elaine Hillmann Wilcke '51**.

1949

Elaine Els Berghefer, Estherville, died Jan. 30, 2017. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from Drake University, Des Moines, and later a master's degree in curriculum and instruction and a reading specialist degree. She was a teacher in the Estherville School District for 40 years.

Pauline Schwarz Brinkmeyer, Eureka, S.D., died Jan. 14. She and her husband owned and operated a dry-cleaning business for more than 50 years.

Mildred Diedrich Larson, Golden Valley, Minn., died Dec. 21. She was a teacher.

The Rev. **Hugo Schwartz**, Edmond, Okla., died Aug. 10. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1952. He served parishes in North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, and Oklahoma.

The Rev. **Emil Stubenvoll III**, Marinette, Wis., died Oct. 16, 2016. A U.S. Army Air Force World War II veteran, he earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1952. He served parishes in Iowa and Wisconsin for 38 years.

Richard Wiederanders, Eureka, S.D., died Jan. 19. A U.S. Army veteran, he earned a master's degree in education administration from the University of Minnesota and his doctorate from the University of Iowa. A longtime teacher, he taught math and education courses at Wartburg College and later was director of educational media. He also served three years as head of the science department at the International School in Bangkok. He is survived by his wife, **Mildred Boelter Wiederanders '69**.

1950

Mildred Bieberstein Bergin, Vancouver, Wash., died Oct. 17.

The Rev. **William Biedermann**, Green Valley, Ariz., died Feb. 6. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1953. He served congregations in Iowa and Arizona. He is survived by his wife, **Darlene Johnson Biedermann '59**.

Bonnie Schultz Brunsvold, Chatfield, Minn., died Jan. 23, 2016. She taught elementary school for 43 years.

Eva Schwarz Neikirk, Gahanna, Ohio, died March 1, 2017.

Arlene Hueftle Ostendorf, Wayne, Neb., died March 15, 2017. She was a retired teacher.

1951

The Rev. **Gordon Braun**, Moscow, Idaho, died Nov. 2. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1954. He served congregations in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

The Rev. **Al Braunschweig**, Verona, Wis., died Jan. 1, 2017. He was a pastor for 32 years.

Robert Heidtke, Sun City West, Ariz., died Oct. 27. A U.S. Air Force veteran, he retired from General Electric/Honeywell in 1992.

Hertha Beiber Lutz, Richfield, Minn., died Feb. 21. She was an office manager. She is survived by her husband, **Charles Lutz '53**.

The Rev. **Ronald Onnen**, Rochester, Minn., died Jan. 16. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1955. He served congregations in Wisconsin, New Jersey, and Minnesota.

1952

Merrill Clark, Wheaton, Ill., died Feb. 10. He graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was an ordained pastor in both the American and Missouri Synod Lutheran churches. He and his wife also served as missionaries in Papua New Guinea for 12 years.

Lucille Wenzler Krueger, Anaheim, Calif., died Oct. 31. She was an elementary school teacher, retiring in 1992.

Robert Mong, Tulsa, Okla., died Feb. 19. A U.S. Army veteran, he was international manager for Hesston Corp. and later managed several other farm equipment manufacturing companies until his retirement.

Loren Nolting, Bellevue, died Jan. 8.

Lois Burmeister Schoof, Cedar Falls, died Dec. 9. She was a music teacher in the Denver (Iowa) Community School District.

1953

Thomas Fichtel, Annandale, Minn., died Oct. 13. He earned a master's degree in secondary education from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, and was a teacher and assistant principal before becoming principal of Anoka (Minn.) Junior High, retiring in 1986.

Joan Breitbarth Fleming, Eagan, Minn., died Aug. 5, 2016.

George Meissner, Fridley, Minn., died Sept. 21, 2016. He earned a degree from Iowa State University and was a retired electrical engineer.

John "Jack" Meister, Pewaukee, Wis., died March 10, 2016. He worked in the grocery industry for 39 years.

Leonard Seegers, San Diego, died Feb. 19. He is survived by his wife, **Doris Minent Seegers '54**.

1954

Raymond Grummert, Holdrege, Neb., died Jan. 31, 2016. He retired from farming in 2009.

Martin Heinecken, Chicago, died Feb. 3. He earned a master's degree in English literature from the University of Minnesota and a doctorate from Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia. He was a retired publisher's representative.

Harvey Schoon, Wisconsin, died May 1, 2017.

Melvin Walz, Tigard, Ore., died Nov. 28, 2016. A U.S. Army veteran, he earned a master's degree in counseling and guidance from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. He worked in employment counseling for 30 years.

1955

Barbara Krebs Kratz, Cedar Falls, died March 26.

David Lohnes, Peoria, Ill., died Jan. 4. A U.S. Navy Reserves veteran, he worked at CILCO for 31 years. He is survived by his wife, **Audrey Zachgo Lohnes '56**.

Barbara Bailey Turner-Grace, Bradenton, Fla., died Aug. 24, 2016. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary and art education from the University of Northern Iowa and her master's degree in administration and supervision from Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She was a teacher and later a Realtor, serving as mayor of Bradenton Beach for a year.

1956

The Rev. **Richard Beckman**, Bloomville, Ohio, died Nov. 25. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and served congregations in Ohio and Indiana.

Elizabeth "Betty" Mueller Borgen, Richfield, Minn., died Feb. 23. She was a longtime administrative assistant.

The Rev. Dr. **Earl Peters**, Burbank, Ill., died Oct. 18. He is survived by his wife, **Sharon Behrens Peters '59**.

1957

The Rev. **John Albrecht**, Mesa, Ariz., died Jan. 5. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1961. He served parishes in Wisconsin and Iowa.

Alvin Bahlmann, Waverly, died March 24. A U.S. Army veteran, he retired from CUNA Mutual. He served as mayor of Waverly for two years and was a member of the city council.

Verlyn Harder, Vinton, died Nov. 10. He farmed and later worked for Folkman's Grain Elevator and Westside Grain and Salvage.

Muriel Buhr Roquet, Elkader, died Jan. 25, 2017.

Frederick Schultz Jr., Sun Prairie, Wis., died Oct. 31. He was an over-the-road truck driver for 22 years and later worked as a custodian.

Eugene Van Driel, Davenport, died Dec. 9. A U.S. Navy veteran, he earned his juris doctorate from the University of Iowa. He opened his own law practice, retiring in 2005.

1958

Milton Bigalk, Stewartville, Minn., died Nov. 20. A U.S. Army veteran, he managed a grain elevator and later was a self-employed salesman.

Wendell Wilharm, Puyallup, Wash., died Jan. 23.

1959

Karl Raymakers, Green Bay, Wis., died March 29. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

Duane Toomsen, Des Moines, died Nov. 20. A U.S. Navy Korean War veteran, he earned his master's degree from the University of Northern Iowa. He was the environmental education consultant for the Iowa Department of Education for 34 years.

1960

Georgia Mikes Gitch, Sumner, died Dec. 10. She was a teacher in the Fredericksburg and Tripoli school districts.

Kenneth Hartmann, Plainfield, died Dec. 27. He was co-owner/operator of his family's business, Hartmann Locker, and retired from Bremer County Maintenance in 2002. He also volunteered with the Plainfield Fire Department for 19 years.

Dr. **Russell Maik**, Wichita, Kan., died Oct. 12. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and his doctorate in mathematics from Colorado State University, Fort Collins. He taught mathematics at Wichita State University and later worked in the computer department at the hospital in Wichita.

1961

Karen Bargman, Richfield, Minn., died Feb. 3, 2017. She retired as a bookkeeper from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

James Boyenga, Merced, Calif., died Nov. 5. He was a retired teacher.

Bonita Buddenberg Bryce, Olathe, Kan., died Nov. 10. She was a retired administrative assistant.

Margaret Garnas Cosner, Parkersburg, died March 11. She was an elementary school teacher for 42 years.

Constance Wiechers Fuchs, Fremont, Ohio, died Jan. 21. She was a school nurse and later director of nursing at a care center.

1962

Sherilyn Ashley Bathgate, Cedar Rapids, died Jan. 6. She was a hospital lab technician. She is survived by her husband, **Donald Bathgate '60**.

Katheryne Amling Jensen, Maplewood, Minn., died Nov. 14.

John Meyer, Northwood, died Nov. 3. A Vietnam War veteran, he retired from the U.S. Air Force as a major after serving for 20 years. He was an administrator at both a hospital and retirement home.

Vernon Oberheu, Waverly, died Nov. 26. He was a U.S. Army Korean War veteran.

1964

Joanne Gammel, Fridley, Minn., died Nov. 5. She was a teacher in Fridley Public Schools for 35 years.

1965

Harold Ideus, New Lenox, Ill., died Dec. 19. A New Jersey Air National Guard veteran, he was retired from Cornerstone Services.

Eileen Burrack Klingman, Nashua, died Oct. 27, 2016. She was an elementary school teacher for 31 years, retiring in 1995.

1967

John McVeety, Alpena, Mich., died Nov. 2. He was the CEO of Alpena Regional Medical Center for 29 years.

1968

Joanne Gronewold Kendrick, Comstock, Wis., died Jan. 6.

1969

Darlene Isaak, Golden Valley, N.D., died Aug. 28. She worked for Tucson (Ariz.) Light & Power for 26 years.

Daryl Suntken, Indianola, died April 10, 2017. He worked in the banking industry and later owned his own business, Once Upon a Child.

1970

Marilyn Ruen Shaffer, Cedar Rapids, died Nov. 15. She was an executive secretary at Rockwell Collins.

Lowell "Mac" Snyder, Waverly, died Feb. 16. A U.S. Army veteran, he worked for John Deere for 30 years and farmed, retiring in 1995.

1971

Steven Bleich, Roberts, Ill., died Jan. 25. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

Donald Oleson, Carroll, died May 20, 2017. He retired from teaching and coaching in 2006 and later worked part time at a bank. He is survived by his wife, **Shari Johnson Oleson '72**.

1972

Irene Taylor Konarske, Waverly, died Jan. 6. She was a teacher and principal in the Nashua-Plainfield School District, retiring in 1981.

1973

Randy Jedele, Des Moines, died Dec. 1. He earned a bachelor's degree in English and education from Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green; a master's degree from Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond; and a doctorate from Iowa State University. He was an English instructor at Des Moines Area Community College, retiring in 2017.

Patrick McClintock, Des Moines, died Feb. 27. He worked for Iowa Legal Aid for 42 years, retiring in 2016. He is survived by his wife, **Barbara Long McClintock '74**.

1975

Nancy Wieck Marston, Cedar Falls, died March 5. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Northern Iowa. She was a preschool teacher and paraeducator.

1979

Joel Dexter, Schapville, Ill., died March 30. He was a photographer and published author.

1980

Cathleen Bang Anderson, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., died March 19, 2017.

1988

Ted Harms, New Hampton, died Jan. 6. A U.S. Army Vietnam War veteran, he worked for the State of Iowa, retiring in 2015. He is survived by his wife, **Jennifer Judson-Harms '90**.

1991

Andrea Russell, Norway, died July 7, 2016.

1994

Elizabeth Onsrud Perry, Green Bay, Wis., died Feb. 3. She was a certified public accountant. She is survived by her husband, Dr. **Stephen Perry '94**.

2009

Austin "AJ" Zaruba, Mankato, Minn., died Feb. 23. He was a music teacher.

Noteworthy friends



The Rev. **Alvin Koeneman '55**, Tucson, Ariz., died Feb. 20. He graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1959. A Vietnam War veteran, Koeneman served as Chief of Chaplains of the U.S. Navy

from 1988 to 1991. Following his retirement from the Navy, the rear admiral returned to Wartburg, where he held multiple positions, including vice president of advancement and special assistant to the president, between 1991 and 2000. His military decorations included the Defense Superior Service Medal and Navy Commendation Medal among others. He was awarded honorary Doctor of Law and Doctor of Divinity degrees from Wartburg College and Wartburg Theological Seminary, respectively. The seminary also honored him with the Living Löhe Award in recognition and affirmation of the ministries of military chaplains.



Janice Wade, Waverly, died April 10. The professor emerita served as the music director and conductor of the Wartburg Community Symphony from 1987 to 2011. She was the longest-serving conductor in the symphony's

history and the only female to hold the position. During her symphony tenure she brought many internationally acclaimed guest artists to perform with the symphony and took the WCS on two Caribbean cruises, where they performed the original musical accompaniment to silent films. Her musical history is housed in the National Women's History Archives in Washington, D.C.



Marvin "Marv" Walston, Waverly, died May 7. The longtime Wartburg supporter helped raise funds for the college's football stadium, which was named for him and his nephew, Gary Hoover, who provided the lead gift for the stadium in honor

of the Walstons. Walston also helped develop the Knight's Athletic Booster Club and was a supporter every year until his death. He was a past board member of the Wartburg Community Symphony Association and received the Wartburg Medal in 2008.

HEART OF A Servant

BY KATIE KREIS '19
PHOTO JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

FOR YEARS, MADISON BLOKER '19 HAS KEPT A DAILY JOURNAL chronicling her personal story. Now she is using her passions and talents to help others share theirs.

In 2017 Bloker, a journalism and communication major, started collecting her own musings on faith, love, beauty, confidence, perseverance, positivity, and radiance—including some from her personal diaries. This year, she published those stories and more in her first devotional, *Bound Blessings*.

“These are topics I am very passionate about and ones I think a lot of people struggle with, including myself,” Bloker said. “I hope that people gain a stronger sense of who they are and what faith can do for them.”

In addition to the devotional, Bloker also launched a new website by the same name where she shares excerpts from the book and new faith-centered stories from her life as well as those of the people she meets.

“The blog has inspired people all over the world,” Bloker said. “I hope to be genuine, real, and true through the blog so that other people can relate to the struggles and situations and apply the lessons to their own lives.”

Though her *Bound Blessings* brand is still in its early stages, Bloker is already using it to give back. She donated half of the proceeds from book sales to Wartburg’s Dance Marathon, which will directly benefit patients at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children’s Hospital.

She also has made plans to expand into video storytelling and motivational speaking, an idea she pitched during the college’s Wicked Problems Challenge finals on RICE Day (see page 4).

“I want to reach as many people as I can. If it has impacted this many lives in its short time of existence, I have high hopes that it will continue to do so in the future and grow all the more,” Bloker said.

Yet Bloker’s journey as a servant-leader started long before she set foot on Wartburg’s campus. In elementary school, she founded Best Little Thinkers, a group of like-minded students seeking to raise money for a swimming pool in her hometown of Clarksville.

This year her continued commitment to service was recognized by Campus Compact, a nonprofit coalition of college and university presidents committed to advancing the public purposes of higher education, when she was named as one of the 2018 Newman Civic Fellows.

In addition to building her business, Bloker also serves as student director for Service Trips, marketing coordinator for the Volunteer Action Center, a college Ambassador, and the sponsorship director for Dance Marathon.

“Throughout my time at Wartburg, I’ve grown so much. I have learned about my passions, goals, strengths, weaknesses, and capabilities,” Bloker said. “I’ve expanded my horizons. I flew on an airplane for the first time, visited the ocean, saw a Broadway show in New York, visited the Air Force Academy in Colorado, and served on trips to Georgia and North Carolina.

“Looking back, Wartburg has impacted my life in so many ways. I’ve grown as a civic leader, as a student, and as a person. I’ve been able to fully live out my passions and navigate my way through my vocational calling.”

Bloker’s book even came about because of the college. As a member of the Baldwin Leadership Fellows Program, a selective program with the goal of expanding the conversation about leadership and civic engagement on Wartburg’s campus, Bloker and her classmates each had to find a project that connected their talents and passions.

“It’s amazing to see how this book has changed and developed. I look forward to using the other ideas that came about throughout the process and move forward with other books and opportunities in the future.”



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SAVE THE DATES

JULY

- 25 RAGBRAI Hospitality Tent
- 28 Tokyo Outfly
- 30 Start of Worth It Week
(formerly Iowa Private College Week)

AUGUST

- 2 Booster Club Golf Outing
- 13 Wartburg Day at the Iowa State Fair
- 24 Legacy Luncheon
- 29 First Day of Classes
- 30 Quad Cities Fall Kickoff

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Denver Fall Kickoff
- 6 First Keep on Learning of the Year
- 15 Duane Schroeder Press Box Dedication
- 19 Booster Club Fall Luncheon

OCTOBER

- 18 Alumni Board Meeting
- 18-21 Homecoming & Family Weekend

NOVEMBER

- 14 Booster Club Winter Luncheon
- Nov. 30- Christmas with Wartburg
- Dec. 2

DECEMBER

- 9 Commencement
- 15 Alumni Referral Award Senior Deadline

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