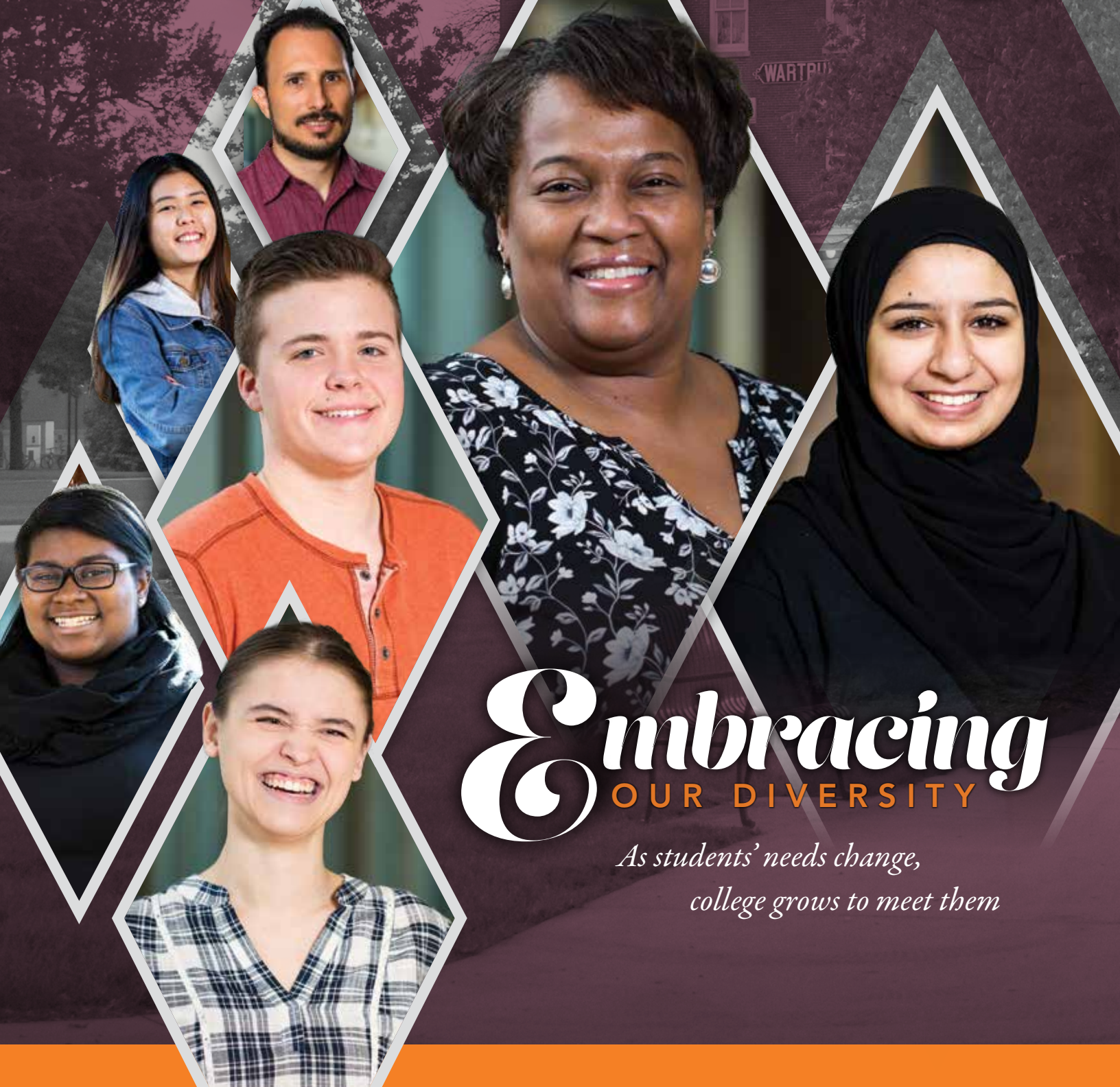


Wartburg

M A G A Z I N E



Embracing OUR DIVERSITY

*As students' needs change,
college grows to meet them*

SHARE YOUR WORTH IT STORY

Lucy Joseph '07
COMMUNITY SOCIOLOGY

Code Enforcement Specialist, City of Iowa City

Why did you choose Wartburg?

I decided to attend Wartburg College because of my brother, Miradiou Joseph, a 2001 graduate. He had tons of success, and I wanted to experience it as well.

Why was your experience worth it?

I had the opportunity to meet some amazing people and do some great things inside and outside of the classroom. Being a member of the Wartburg track and field program, Black Student Union, KnightCallers, Homecoming Committee, and a year of Student Senate allowed me to learn a lot about myself and what impact I could have on my community and those I interact with on a day-to-day basis.

As a community sociology major, I had the opportunity to visit the City of Minneapolis and visit various organizations and government agencies that helped the city run successfully. While visiting the planning department in Minneapolis/St. Paul, I found my passion for city government, which led me to earn a master's degree from the University of Iowa in urban and regional planning.

How did your Wartburg experience prepare you for life after college?

Wartburg equipped me with the tools I needed to work in any environment. I learned to follow my passion and used that to reach my end goal. I am thankful I had the opportunity to do internships and visit various sectors to figure out what my interests were. As a student-athlete, I was pushed to perform at my highest level, and that is something I try to instill in my own cheerleading and track athletes at City High School in Iowa City.

How are you living out the Wartburg mission?

My mission is to act as an instrument of positive change for my family, work, and community. I have been able to use my talents and the things that I learned at Wartburg College and apply that to all aspects of my life. As an employee of the City of Iowa City, Neighborhood Development Services Department, I have the privilege of assisting low- to moderate-income homeowners to maintain their homes through owner-occupied rehab. Our goal is to create sustainable neighborhoods and livable homes that are strongly woven into the surrounding community.



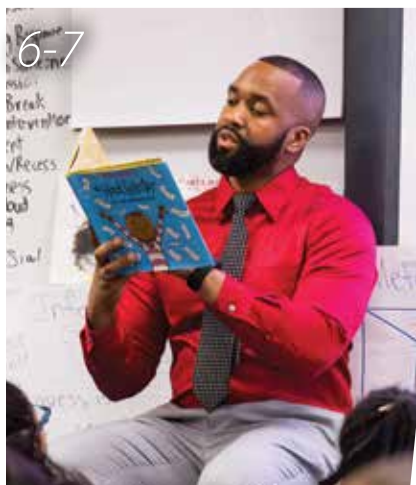
Read more about Lucy Joseph's Wartburg experience at www.wartburg.edu/joseph-magazine.

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





Embracing Our Diversity



Teaching to a New Beat



Radiating Success

more

- 2-3 **Wartburg in the News**
- 4-5 **New Majors at Wartburg**
- 8-9 **Serving Titles Everywhere She Goes**
- 12 **Entrepreneurship Keeps Brewing**
- 13-14 **Unstoppable**
- 14-15 **Health Mystery Can't Crush Warrior Spirit**
- 23 **Sports Recap**
- 24-28 **Knights in the News**
- 25 **Alumni Citation Recipients**
- 26-27 **Hall of Fame Inductees**
- 29-31 **In Memoriam**
- 32 **Newsom Celebrates 25 Years**

Wartburg

WINTER 2019

Wartburg Magazine
Winter 2019 | Vol. 35 No. 1

President

DARREL D. COLSON, Ph. D.

Vice President for Advancement

SCOTT LEISINGER '87

Associate Director of Institutional Advancement

RENEE CLARK VOVES '04

Director of Marketing & Communication

CHRIS KNUDSON '01

Magazine Editor

EMILY CHRISTENSEN

Assistant Magazine Editor

STEPHANIE ROBBINS BOEDING '99

Magazine Art Director

JOSHUA PETERSMITH

Magazine Photographer

JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

Print Production Manager

LORI GUHL POEHLER '75

Video Production Manager

ROLAND FERRIE '08

Contributors

KATIE KREIS '19

MATTHEW OHL '20

KATIEJO KUHENS '07

CLINT RIESE '05



ON THE COVER:

Though always a priority, in recent years the college has redoubled its efforts to ensure that all students feel welcome on campus.

Wartburg Magazine is published twice a year by Wartburg College, 100 Wartburg Blvd., P.O. Box 1003, Waverly, IA 50677-0903.

If you have suggestions for *Wartburg Magazine* stories or comments about the content, contact Emily Christensen, magazine editor, at emily.christensen@wartburg.edu. Address corrections should be sent to the Alumni Office or submitted online at www.wartburg.edu/alumni.

TRANSCRIPTS:

To obtain an official college transcript, contact the Registrar's Office or complete an online request form at info.wartburg.edu/Offices/Registrar-Office/Transcript-Request.aspx. There is a \$5 fee per transcript.

Requests must include maiden and all married names used, as well as birth date and/or Social Security number. Enclose return address and payment with the request.

WARTBURG

— IN THE NEWS —

VISIT WWW.WARTBURG.EDU/NEWS FOR MORE NEWS



Riswold joins Wartburg faculty as new McCoy chair

Dr. Caryn Riswold has joined the Wartburg College faculty as a professor of religion serving as the Mike and Marge McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission.

Riswold, who was a professor of religion at Illinois College, has taught more than a dozen different religion and women and gender studies courses. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Augustana University (South Dakota) in 1993, a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from Claremont School of Theology in 1995, and a Master of Theology and Doctor of Philosophy from Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago in 1997 and 2000, respectively.

"Joining the Wartburg College community enables me to live into my own vocation as a theologian and educator at an institution whose commitment to faith and learning empowers my own," Riswold said. "The vibrant community of students inspires me to engage the Lutheran tradition for 21st-century higher education. This is because it both grounds the college's mission to equip students who are freed to lead and serve the world, and it deepens our collective understanding of those very things: leadership, service, faith, learning, and freedom."



Riswold

Beckstrom inducted as Wartburg's Moehlmann Chaplaincy chair

The Rev. Dr. Brian Beckstrom was inducted as Wartburg College's Herbert and Cora Moehlmann Chaplaincy Chair and installed into his new pastoral call as Wartburg's dean of spiritual life by the Rev. Dr. **Steven Ullestad '75**, bishop of the Northeastern Iowa Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), in September.

Beckstrom, who was named a dean following the retirement of the Rev. Dr. Ramona Bouzard in May, has served at Wartburg since 2009. As dean of spiritual life, he will lead the college's ministry program and promote faith exploration and development in and out of the classroom. He also will continue to teach courses in Wartburg's leadership program and Department of Religion.

"I'm humbled that God has called me to serve as dean of spiritual life at Wartburg College and grateful for the legacy of outstanding pastoral leadership on whose shoulders I stand. God is doing exciting and new things on campus," Beckstrom said. "We will do our best to partner in this mission by witnessing to God's grace as embodied in Jesus Christ."



Beckstrom

Knight Vision gets new instant replay system

A new instant replay system now allows Wartburg College fans to see close plays a second (or third or fourth) time during live broadcasts on Knight Vision, the college's live-streaming network.

The new system was made possible through a sponsorship from First National Bank of Waverly, a grant from the R.J. McElroy Trust, memorial gifts received in honor of Wartburg alumnus Al Koeneman '55, and proceeds from the Duane and Mary Ellen Schroeder Memorial Endowment Fund, which was established earlier this year with gifts from alumni and friends.

"We have wanted an instant replay system for quite some time. We know this system will make the quality of our broadcasts more appealing to those watching and gives us extra elements for instruction," said Dr. Penni Pier, a journalism and communication professor and Grant L. Price Endowed Department Chair. "We are very grateful for this support for our students."





The All-American Rejects rocked a nearly sold-out crowd in Levick Arena with hits like *Swing, Swing* and *Dirty Little Secret*.

Wartburg students selected for 2018 Iowa intercollegiate honor band

Eleven Wartburg College students were selected to perform with the prestigious Iowa Collegiate Honor Band at the Iowa Music Educator's Conference on Saturday, Nov. 17. The 110-member band, conducted by Stephen Peterson, director of bands at the University of Illinois, represents 17 schools from around the state. Those selected for the honor band include:

Erin Capper, flute/piccolo
Mallory Laube, flute/piccolo
Greta Christiansen, bassoon
Mary Kate Hines, clarinet
Bethany Zenk, clarinet
Logan Merley, French horn

Weston Krug, French horn
Carlee Bertram, trumpet
Spencer Dodgen, trombone
Garrett Arensdorf, tuba
Jamie Flanagan, percussion



Entertainment ToKnight, the college's student-run entertainment organization, brought rock band The All-American Rejects to headline its biannual Large Event concert.

Pier expects the system to get heavy usage during each of the college's sports seasons, but also envisions ways students will be able to use it during special events, such as the annual Physics and Chemistry Demo Show.

In the last three years, total Knight Vision views increased from 140,876 in 2015-16 to 240,849 in 2017-18. Unique impressions increased from 101,671 to 153,223 during that same time. While most of those views come from the United States, the college regularly records viewers from the United Kingdom, Indonesia, Spain, Nigeria, Malaysia, and Germany.

"As our program grew we covered more and more sports and then added music, chapel services, and other special events," Pier said. "We get comments all the time from grandparents or the families of our international or out-of-state students who can't make the trip for an event. It's hard to imagine what we would do without it. It's much bigger than anybody had anticipated when we started."

Murphy named to Board of Regents

Mike Murphy '89, from Ankeny, was elected to a three-year term to the Wartburg College Board of Regents.

After graduating from Wartburg with a bachelor's degree in business administration, Murphy earned an MBA from Texas Christian University. He is the owner of Powerhouse Retail Services, a national provider of construction services, rollouts, and facilities maintenance solutions. Murphy also has served on various boards at Ankeny First United Methodist Church and is involved with the Ed Thomas Foundation.

He is the father of two Wartburg graduates (**Megan '18** and **Miranda '18**) and one current student (**Riley '21**).



Murphy '89

Woodward tabbed to lead Wartburg's master's in music therapy program

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

DR. ALPHA WOODWARD HAS BEEN NAMED director of music therapy at Wartburg College. In this role she will teach undergraduate courses and lead the college's first graduate-level program, a master's in music therapy.

"I was attracted to Wartburg because I was impressed by the way the college took its mission statement to heart," said Woodward, a music therapist accredited through the Canadian Association of Music Therapy. "The intention of the college, as seen in the mission statement, pervades the ethos of the institution."

She will spend this year teaching undergraduate coursework, finalizing the curriculum for the master's degree, and recruiting students to the program.


"The master's degree will look closely at service in the community and how we work with cultural diversity so that students are sensitive to, and comfortable working with, current issues in the world today," she said. "Advanced clinical applications will strengthen and deepen the skills of experienced music therapists who are already working in the field."

Woodward started her career as a private contract music therapist at a long-term care facility in Vancouver, British Columbia, and later became the organization's first full-time music therapist. Beginning in 2004, she spent about four years at the Pavarotti Music Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where she worked with refugees and the humanitarians who cared for them. She also provided clinical supervision and directional leadership

for the center's clinical outreach programs in special-needs schools, psychiatric units, and orphanages in and around Mostar and Sarajevo.

She has taught at Concordia University in Montreal; served as course director for the master's in music therapy program at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance in Limerick, Ireland; and was the interim director of music therapy at Marywood University in Scranton, Penn.

"My life has made so much more sense and has become so much richer because of my vocation in music therapy. It has transformed my life in so many ways," Woodward said. "It is a privilege to use music in a way that makes a difference in other people's lives, and at the end of the day you know the work mattered to someone."

Woodward earned a master's in music therapy from Open University in British Columbia and her Ph.D. from Antioch University in Ohio. 



Woodward



The master's degree will look closely at service in the community and how we work with cultural diversity so that students are sensitive to, and comfortable working with, current issues in the world today.



— Dr. Alpha Woodward



Wartburg to offer new exercise science major

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

WARTBURG COLLEGE'S NEWEST MAJOR combines the school's long tradition of success in health sciences with its dominance in athletics to create a program that will help fill a growing demand in a wide range of health-related fields.

Exercise science is the newest major to be added to the Department of Health and Physical Education, which will now be chaired by Dr. Ed Westen. The addition of this major was among the nearly 60 recommendations that stemmed from the Focus on the Future constituent-based planning initiative, which was charged with exploring opportunities to help guide the college in the coming years.

The timing also was right, as several other colleges and universities opted to change or discontinue related programs on their campuses after the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education established that a master's degree was needed for entry into the field. Westen said Wartburg's track record for providing the undergraduate education for students who go on to graduate school in the health sciences made this major a natural fit for the college.

Students earning an undergraduate degree in exercise science could go on to study athletic training or physical therapy in graduate school, attend nursing or medical school, or further study one of the core areas in exercise science in graduate school. Those seeking immediate entry into the workforce can find opportunities in commercial, community, corporate, and clinical health-fitness facilities.

"We are excited to offer Wartburg students a top-quality exercise science education that will prepare them well for graduate and professional study or for employment in this growing field. This program is a perfect fit for our experience in


health-science education and for our unrivaled success in collegiate athletics," said Dr. Brian Ernsting, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty.

In the first year of the program, exercise science students will take many of the same courses as students in the college's renowned biology program. In the second year, the programs will start to diverge when exercise science students begin taking more courses specific to their major, including human nutrition, a new two-term human anatomy and physiology course, advanced exercise physiology, exercise testing and prescription, kinesiology, and a "current topics" course.

Exercise science students will not be required to take the two research courses required by other science majors, though it will be strongly encouraged.

"Overall, this will look a lot like our other science majors, with students taking two science courses and a lab along with two essential education courses or a requirement for their minor each term," said Westen, adding that students in the new major would be able to participate in any of the co-curricular or study away options the school offers and still graduate in four years.

During this academic year Westen will be responsible for chairing the search committee charged with hiring a faculty member specializing in exercise science.

"I believe in this idea. I think exercise science at Wartburg is going to grow. When you believe in something, you want to see it through," Westen said. "I think it can be a little scary to get in on the ground level of something, but we hope people will realize that we already have outstanding science faculty. We already have the basic infrastructure to teach this major, and if you look at the success we've had in the health sciences, there is no reason for anyone to think that we will do this halfway." 



Westen



Teaching to a
NEW BEAT

BY KATIE KREIS '19 PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

Muhammad uses his musical talents to improve literacy among his students

WHEN YOU WALK INTO LAMONT MUHAMMAD'S FIFTH-GRADE CLASSROOM

at Irving Elementary in Waterloo, the sense of community is obvious. The students' desks are arranged in groups, and posters around the room show students' commitments to themselves and each other.

Each morning, the class gathers at the front of the room in a circle to do something the 2006 Wartburg graduate calls "recognitions." Muhammad picks out a student he wants to recognize for the good work they are doing, like when he witnessed one student standing up for another the day before. Then, two students choose one of their peers they can lift up. Muhammad said this activity, like much of his teaching, is based on the personal mission statement he crafted as part of his Wartburg education.

"I wrote that I wanted to use education as a tool to cultivate the innate gifts in each one of my students and then put it into a service for the community, nation, and world," said Muhammad. "I knew that I wanted to teach in a way that I could use my gifts, and one of those was rhyming and using words in a certain manner."

Muhammad came to Wartburg as a nontraditional student through the Dr. Walter Cunningham Teacher Memorial Project, a partnership between the Waterloo Community Schools and Wartburg College designed to shrink the achievement gap between African-American students and their white counterparts. Like with any other student, Wartburg nurtured Muhammad to embrace his passion for education and music, which led to his work as a teacher, author, musician, co-founder of an after-school program in Waterloo, and co-director of Hip Hop Literacy. For this, and his other work in the community, Muhammad was named one of the *Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier's* 20 Under 40 in 2018.

After teaching in two Waterloo schools, Muhammad landed a position in Cedar Rapids working with at-risk high school students in conjunction with Dr. Shuaib Meacham, co-founder of Hip Hop Literacy and associate professor of literacy education at the University of Northern Iowa. Last year, the Literacy Through Hip-Hop summer program brought him back to Waterloo, and he is now working on his doctorate at UNI while teaching in Waterloo.

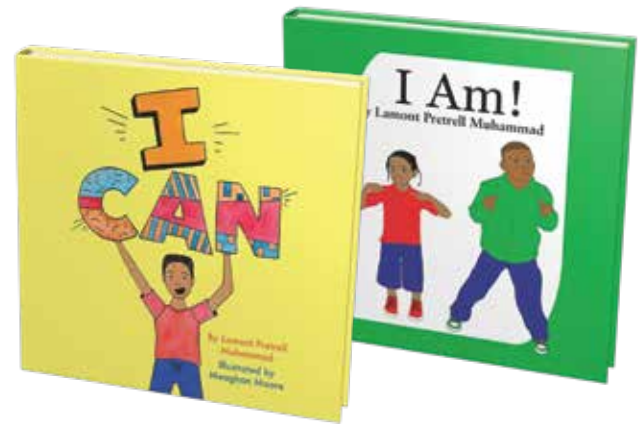
Hip Hop Literacy, which involves students creating raps connected to the district's writing curriculum, has opened countless doors for students.

"Initially, it focused on the lyricism aspect of choosing a beat and topic, brainstorming words, and putting it all together. The students memorize them, learn how to project them, and then record the raps to perform," said Muhammad. "This year, we added more elements, like art, dance, blogging, social media, videography, and emceeing. Students gravitated toward the ones they had the most interest in."

One song in particular, *I Can*, struck a chord locally and around the world. Muhammad and his students created a video for the song and performed throughout Waterloo and Cedar Falls. Somewhere along the way, the group was noticed by a broader audience, which resulted in an invitation to participate in the International Young People's Concert Group, part of the Hangzhou Citizens Leisure Festival, a world music showcase in China.

The four students performed five times, including three at the festival, one in downtown Hangzhou at a fashion show, and another at a new development in Hangzhou.

"Initially, I didn't know if the trip was going to happen because we didn't know how we would get the money and visas. Some students had parents who are incarcerated, so getting the paperwork for them to travel is difficult. Dr. Meacham's faith in the situation added faith to mine. This experience is changing my outlook on what I can do," Muhammad said.



Lamont Muhammad's books, *I Can* and *I Am!*, are available at www.eduvation.net.

...I wanted to use education as a tool to cultivate the innate gifts in each one of my students and then put it into a service for the community, nation, and world.

Looking forward, Muhammad and Meacham will continue to seek new opportunities, including new partnerships and a permanent home that would allow them to open the Hip Hop Literacy program

to all school-aged children. They are even considering invitations to perform in Thailand, Hungary, and Korea.

Muhammad also plans on authoring additional books that draw on his experiences and connect them to young people in Waterloo. Driven by the obstacles he has overcome in his own life, Muhammad said the most rewarding part of his career is seeing how he impacts his students' lives.

"I didn't always have role models, but I had people that I was able to draw from. I want to be that type of person for students who may have similar backgrounds. I want to be able to inspire them. I also want to teach them how to not become a statistic and show them that they can overcome when it looks like the odds are against them." 🌟





SERVING TITLES EVERYWHERE SHE GOES

BY KATIEJO KUHENS '07

VERY FEW ATHLETES are able to balance the rigors of two sports in college. Then, there's **Sydney Rottinghaus '21**. She's a two-sport athlete — both in the fall season.

Rottinghaus, of Mason City, plays No. 3 singles and No. 2 doubles on the women's tennis team and is a defensive specialist on the volleyball team.

On Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018, the two worlds collided, sending Rottinghaus back and forth across Northeast Iowa. Her day started at 6 a.m., traveling 75 miles northeast of Waverly to American Rivers Conference powerhouse Luther College for a 9 a.m. tennis start time.

By the time Rottinghaus was done playing, the Knights were tied at 4-4 going into the No. 2 singles match. Though Wartburg had never defeated Luther in its program's history, Rottinghaus left Decorah early so she could make it back to Waverly to warm up for a 3 p.m. volleyball match against conference opponent Central College.

"Driving back in the car, my sister Ashley was texting me scores. I knew the meet was really close," said Rottinghaus. **Ashley**, a senior, is also on the tennis team. "When they told me we got the last match to get the 5-4 win, I was almost in tears, I was so excited. It was an incredible moment."

Sydney, who got back to Waverly in time for warmups, entered the volleyball match in the third set and later served for match point to seal the 3-0 sweep for the Knights. "Being able to contribute and serve for match point was just the cherry on the top to end that incredible day."

Though she was confident in her physical ability to compete that day, she knew the mental side would be a challenge.

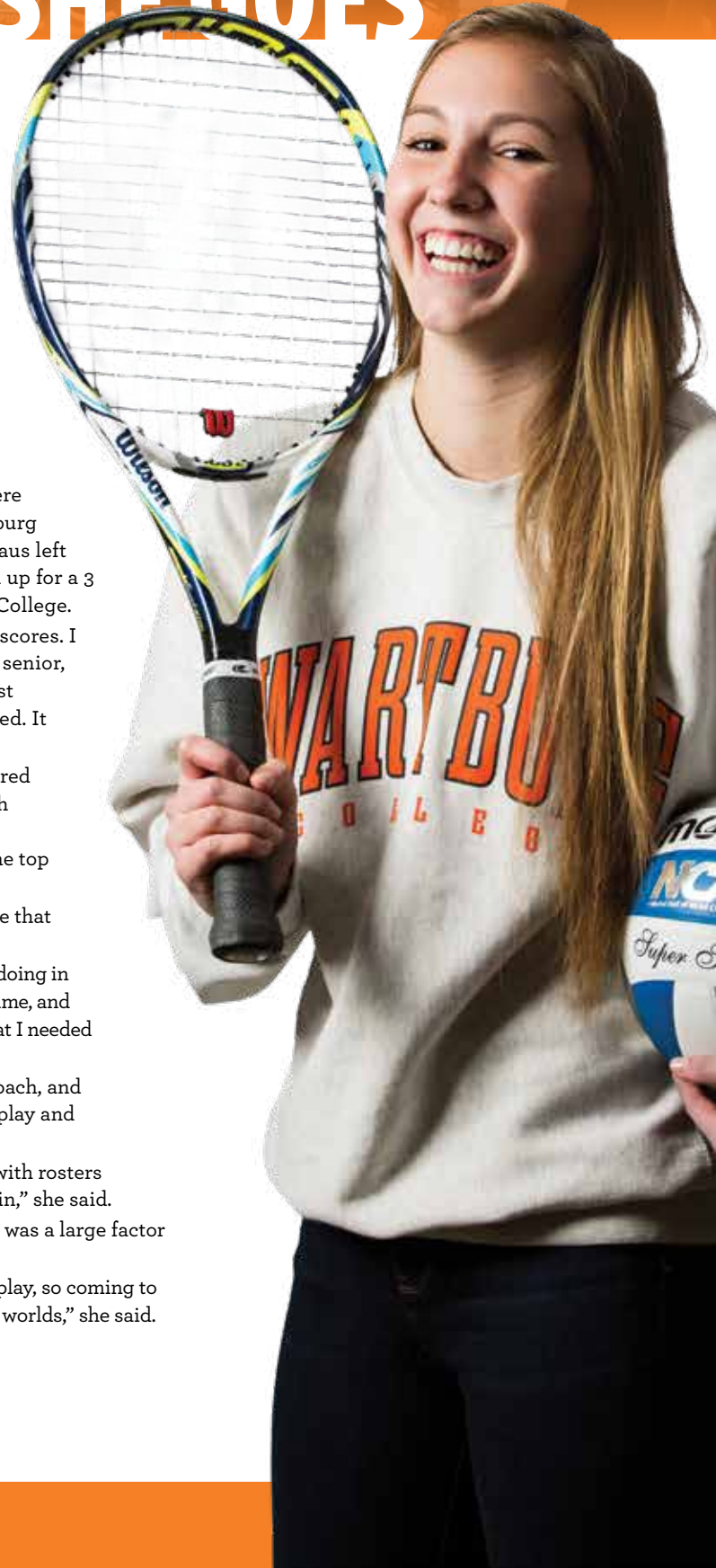
"To be focused for both matches, I had to focus on what I was doing in that specific moment," she said. "Tennis was just one point at a time, and once I got into the car, I started to think about volleyball and what I needed to do there."

Before the season, **Chris Gustas '11**, head women's tennis coach, and Sydney discussed which fall matches she would be tabbed to play and settled on Coe and Luther.

"Those were the closest matches this spring, and we knew with rosters coming back, those would be the toughest matches to get a win," she said.

For Sydney, the opportunity to continue to play both sports was a large factor in her college decision.

"I like them both and couldn't decide which one I wanted to play, so coming to Wartburg and being able to continue both was the best of both worlds," she said.





PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90, KATIEJO KUHENS '07, MATTHEW OHL '20

Though it takes a lot of scheduling, communication, and time management, Sydney can boast a 4.0 GPA.

"I had to plan each day out week by week. I laid out my schedule and communicated with my coaches when I would be at practice or hit. I had to know what to expect each day and what to spend my time on when I wasn't practicing.

"My practice schedule did get a little crazy this fall," she continued.

"I'd get up in the morning and hit a couple hours and then go to classes during the day. Volleyball was from 3:15 to 6 each afternoon, and then sometimes I'd do tennis again depending on what day it was."

While her individual accomplishments are unique, Sydney is quick to appreciate the support from her family, coaches, and teammates. "I knew this fall would be a lot of work," she said.

"All of my coaches and teammates were so supportive. For tennis, I wasn't always at the practices, or I might miss an occasional volleyball practice, but everyone was encouraging for me to do both."

With an earlier season win over Coe and the comeback win over Luther, the Knights were able to accomplish a conference championship in tennis, a first in program history.


"To be a part of the first team to ever win a conference championship is just unlike anything else," she said.

"Practice is always competitive, and we put a lot of hard work in over the summer. To see that payoff is extremely worth it."

The volleyball team clinched its fourth-straight championship in a 3-0 sweep over Buena Vista on Oct. 23.

Sydney is the youngest of three siblings who all have attended Wartburg.

Her older brother, **JT**, who graduated in 2017, played basketball and tennis; Ashley, her tennis teammate, will graduate in 2019.

"Having my brother go here is how I originally learned about Wartburg," she said. "Being involved in athletics at Wartburg is a one-of-a-kind experience. The best of the best come here. I love all of my teammates; we work really hard and have a great time. There are high expectations, but I'd want nothing else as I know we can achieve that." 

Mother-son duo make Division III history with conference MVP honors

Wartburg Athletics boasts many achievements. The Knights have a string of 24 years of individual or national team championships and 16 conference all-sports championships for overall men's and women's programs. In 2012, the Knights made NCAA history for any division when they won two national championships (women's indoor track and field and wrestling) on the same day. Last fall, another first was added to the Knights portfolio when then-junior **Matt Sacia** was named the Iowa Conference MVP for football.

Alone, his honor wasn't enough to make history, though still impressive. What cemented Sacia's place in the NCAA Division III history books was the fact that his mother, **Stephanie Reinert Sacia '91**, was named the conference's MVP for women's golf in 1990. The addition of Matt's honor made them the first mother-son duo to accomplish this.

Read more about the Sacias and their Wartburg story at www.go-knights.net/saciaMVPs.



Learn more about Sydney Rottinghaus's big day at www.wartburg.edu/rottinghaus-magazine.

Radiating SUCCESS

Alumnus recognized for helping millions fight cancer

BY CLINT RIESE '05 PHOTOS SUBMITTED

DR. RICHARD WAHL '73 FACED A CROSSROADS as his time at Wartburg wound down: He could follow most prospective doctors down a reliable route into primary care or blaze his own trail in the world of medical research.

Today, not only the research world but the one at large can be grateful that the Waverly native took the road less traveled.

Shaped by experiences growing up within sight of campus and equipped with a hometown education, Wahl has gone on to reach the pinnacle of his advanced field, recently earning both the top annual honor and a lifetime achievement award from the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI).

A pioneer's path

Wahl leads a department of 500 and directs one of the world's premier radiology institutes. Impressive, to be sure, but it's also just the most recent stop in a career full of life-changing discoveries.

After majoring in chemistry as an undergraduate, Wahl's experience at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis proved intense.

"It was quite eye-opening being surrounded by people who went to Ivy League schools," he said.

Wahl honed in on radiology and quickly became involved in radioimmunotherapy — a then-nascent field centered on the design of antigens with radioactive agents to both image and fight cancer — including the development of an FDA-approved therapy for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Following his training, he spent 17 years at the University of Michigan, highlighted by early contributions to positron emission tomography (PET), an imaging technique using radioactive material that has informed the care of millions of patients and remains one of the most common diagnostic tools for cancer.

Wahl became a professor and anticipated finishing his career at Michigan, but was recruited to Johns Hopkins University in 2000 to lead its nuclear medicine and radiology programs. Among educational and administrative responsibilities, he developed widely cited criteria for assessing PET scans to tailor therapy precisely.

"This idea is still really gaining traction because one dose doesn't fit all," Wahl said. "If they're cured after four doses and you give them two more, those can cause toxicity and things like neuropathy, and they cost money. When possible, it's good to de-intensify a therapy."

In 2014, he returned to St. Louis to serve as director of Washington University School of Medicine's Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, where he oversees the largest radiology residency program in the country and a research enterprise that ranks among the top recipients of National Institutes of Health grant funds.

Advancing the field

Wahl holds 18 patents, has published more than 400 peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts, and is the primary author of several textbooks, but he also is passionate about passing the torch.

"I still find the work interesting, but it's more exciting to see the next generation doing important work well," he says. "We're at a time when imaging is being used to detect disease at earlier, curable stages through quantitative, objective interpretations. Figuring out where radiology is going to be in five or 10 years is quite interesting."

Advances are surfacing left and right: In radiology, artificial intelligence is helping interpret images. In the emerging field of theranostics, radioactive drugs combine diagnostic and therapeutic functions. In nuclear medicine, the tactic of fusing PET with other imaging methods — devised in part by Wahl — is helping physicians make more exact diagnoses.

It's safe to say Wahl is pleased with the path he chose in Waverly 45 years ago.

"Academics can allow you to make important contributions to health care in a different way, and to innovate, which is so critically necessary," he said. "There's been a lot going on, and I've had great opportunities to be a part of some of that."

Local ties

No undergraduate coursework could have fully prepared Wahl for the technical side of his career. After all, he used slide rules for calculations in high school and recalls when the Wartburg chemistry department got its first microcomputer.

What Wahl did gain was a strong base upon which to build.

"I really found the breadth of training valuable, and I gained perspective from the non-science courses," said Wahl, noting that the liberal arts setting also allowed him to be on the tennis team and hold a part-time job. "I had no way of knowing what I'd be doing, but I was well-prepared to adapt to opportunities as they arose."

Wahl and his wife, Sandy, have four children, all of whom work in health care. Sandy also grew up in Waverly, where her mother still lives.

"They say that alongside anyone who has had success is usually a supportive spouse, and while that's true for me, in this case there's also a very surprised mother-in-law," Wahl said. 🍷



“

Academics can allow you to make important contributions to health care in a different way, and to innovate, which is so critically necessary.

– Dr. Richard Wahl '73

”

ENTREPRENEURSHIP KEEPS BREWING



BY KATIE KREIS '19 PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

NICK NEWGARD '06 IS USED TO BEING HIS OWN BOSS. As a college student, he eschewed minimum-wage jobs to start his own company providing agriculture consultations and selling fertilizer.

But Newgard, a Cedar Falls native who earned his degree in business administration, found his passion wasn't in fertilizer sales. In 2007, he started growing a home-brewing operation. What started with a small setup in the basement eventually ballooned to 11 kegs, a four-tap commercial kegerator, and an automated electric system.

"Oktoberfest beers were some of my favorites, and back then, you could only get them for a couple months out of the year," he said. "Making my own meant I could drink it anytime I wanted to, so I did that."

It didn't take long for Newgard's entrepreneurial brain to begin turning. By 2010, he was talking about opening his own brewery. At the time, there were about 620 microbreweries in the U.S., according to the Brewers Association.

By 2014, when he started to think seriously about this new undertaking, the number of microbreweries had more than doubled.

Seeing the potential for success, Newgard's friends agreed to help bankroll the endeavor should he decide to make a go of it.

"People say they want 'in' a lot. I put together my business plan and came up with the numbers we needed. I was lucky enough that, when I called them up, they said they would help without hesitation," he said.

Newgard opened Second State Brewing Co. in Cedar Falls on March 23, 2017.

"Opening night was insanity. Within half an hour I had a line from the bar all the way out the door," he said. "It was craziness for a while."

Second State opened with just four beers on tap. Today, the brewery boasts 10 options, including an Oktoberfest, Schwarzbier (black beer), Hefeweizen, and Peanut Butter Stout, and a small kitchen that prepares an ever-changing menu sourced for numerous local suppliers. As the number of microbreweries continues to increase — the Brewers Association reported more than 3,800 microbreweries nationwide in 2017 — Newgard knows he must find a way to stay relevant in the ever-growing market.

"Our philosophy in beer is a little bit different than the trendy push right now. I would say everyone is going bigger, crazier, weirder. It's never been my style," he said. "I don't see that being long term for beer. We're being different by being more traditional. We always have several old-school German lagers on tap, but our tap is always changing. We've also made a name for ourselves with our Peanut Butter Stout, Vanilla Cream Stout, and around the holidays, our Pumpkin Pie. My goal is for someone who is drinking my beer to say that they want another one when they're done."

Providing a community-oriented, fun atmosphere also is top-of-mind for Newgard, who regularly partners with local organizations to bring in trivia and game nights as well as hosting meetings and gatherings. He believes his successes are largely attributed to the strength of his core values — leadership and service — which were instilled in him at a young age and nurtured while at Wartburg.

"You can never stop learning in this business. I don't have any formal training in brewing, so there's a lot of lifelong learning and a desire to continue figuring things out. It's led me to where I am, and, without that, I wouldn't know how to even start trying to do this kind of thing," Newgard said, adding that his Wartburg network also has helped him along the way. "You never know how many people are out there and when somebody is going to be the right person to know." 🍷

“

You can never stop learning in this business. I don't have any formal training in brewing, so there's a lot of lifelong learning and a desire to continue figuring things out.

— Nick Newgard '06

”



UNSTOPPABLE

The W class combats Parkinson's symptoms through exercise

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

PHOTOS ROLAND FERRIE '08

ONLY A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO, Marissa Buresh '16 was sitting in a journalism and communication class taught by Cliff Brockman '75. Now a personal trainer at the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center, Buresh is helping her former professor find a way to delay the disease that forced him into an early retirement.

Buresh and her mom, Kerri Buresh, are certified instructors for OhioHealth's Delay the Disease, a fitness program designed to empower people with Parkinson's disease to delay the progression of symptoms through daily exercise. The progressive nervous system disorder affects all facets of movement and usually results in tremors, stiffness or slowing of movement, muscle rigidity, and speech changes, among other things. The W is one of less than a dozen locations across Iowa offering the program, which targets the daily functional challenges these symptoms cause with exercise plans that can be adapted to all levels of the disease.

"The exercises we do in class have helped every participant, but each in different ways. With Parkinson's and other special diseases, the symptoms differ depending on the person," Marissa Buresh said. "We've seen improvement in participants' gait, hand movement, strength, balance, and confidence. The

most rewarding part of this class is when a participant first comes and says they can no longer do something, such as walking backwards or getting out of a chair, and we help them find a way to do it. It just takes a few steps to get there."

Balance has been the biggest obstacle facing Brockman since his diagnosis four years ago. Even before the Delay the Disease class was first offered last year, Brockman was cycling every day on his personal stationary bike. Though he knows there is no stopping the disease, he has enjoyed the class and the camaraderie among its participants.

"We have our own little support group here," he said after a recent class that had him focusing on his gait while walking around the indoor track and working his hand muscles and grip on the rock wall. Class members also used a PVC pipe and a partner to simulate the natural swing of the arms while walking (all while seated) and ended with a class favorite, "Big and Loud," which got everyone moving their arms and legs while exercising their vocal cords, too.

Though Brockman hasn't noticed any specific improvements since starting the program, his wife, Cindy Dawes Brockman '76, has seen his confidence in his ability to move increase.

➔ Continued on next page.

THE W AFTER 1^{the} W YEARS

For 10 years, the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center has provided a place for students, faculty, staff, and the community to work out and learn more about their health overall. In October, The W staff celebrated this milestone with giveaways and a membership special. Here are just a few of the fun facts shared on The W's Facebook page during the month:


86,108
GUEST PASSES SOLD


1,603
PARTIES HOSTED


404
10-YEAR MEMBERS

163
10-YEAR MEMBERSHIPS



Walt Beck (left) and Cliff Brockman use the climbing wall in The W to work on improving their grip strength.

Walt Beck doesn't have Parkinson's, but said the class has helped him find new ways to deal with the essential tremors that have plagued his right hand for about two decades.

"I couldn't eat soup because my hand would shake so bad nothing would make it to my mouth," Beck said. "I've always just coped with it or tried eating with my left hand. Some of the exercises in this class taught me that I can handle my tremors better if I tense the muscles in my wrist as I am lifting it to my mouth. I'm still careful about what I eat in public, but it's not as bad."

Even though Delay the Disease is a slower-paced class, the mother-daughter duo agree they couldn't do it alone because each person's needs are different depending on how the disease has progressed.

"Even if we are doing similar things, the work they are doing is very individualized," Kerri Buresh said. "But they all know it is so important for them to be here because exercise is the one thing that statistically has shown to delay this disease."

According to a study published in the *Journal of Parkinson's Disease*, participants who exercised at least 2.5 hours per week during the two-year study period reported higher quality-of-life outcomes and a slower decline in their mobility at the end of the study than those who didn't exercise. Marissa Buresh's clients know this and come every day ready to work.

"With Parkinson's disease, as well as other illnesses, patients fight symptoms every day. You can't take a break from the fight," she said. "Each member of our class has very different, specific goals they are working toward. Three days a week we get to help them work toward these goals, and watch everyone get closer to the standard of living they want to achieve." 🍷

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
DELAY THE DISEASE,
VISIT WWW.THE-W.ORG.

HEALTH MYSTERY CAN'T CRUSH WARRIOR SPIRIT

BY CLINT RIESE '05 · PHOTOS SUBMITTED

AT 32, ALANA DEUTSCHMANN OLSON '08 ALREADY HAS SQUEEZED A LOT OUT OF LIFE: She's summited Mount Kilimanjaro, taught in a Taiwanese elementary school, and helped plant a church out of a hotel. At Wartburg, she created her own major (sociocultural development) and won the title of homecoming queen (just like in high school).

With such zest, it's no surprise that the Minnesota native found herself filming exercises in the snow last winter for an *American Ninja Warrior* audition tape. Her pursuit of a spot in the obstacle course-themed TV competition didn't stem from another item on her bucket list, though — Olson was seeking a big platform from which to make a statement.

MEDICAL MYSTERIES

Most *American Ninja Warrior* competitors relish their often-comically brief time in the spotlight, but for Olson, it meant baring to the world insecurities with which she has wrestled for several years.

She had dealt with hair loss, cystic acne, and rashes dating back to her days at Wartburg and was diagnosed with alopecia in 2009, but her health issues began to spiral and multiply following the 2015 birth of her daughter, Zahra.

"I didn't do much at first because I was trying to be a new mom and figured these issues were normal," she said. "I naively thought they had to stop at some point."

In early 2017, with her hair loss complete — including half her eyebrows and eyelashes — and her suffering from brain fog, digestive bloating, facial swelling, eczema, and more, the Olsons hit a breaking point.

"I'm not a crier, and there was a month when she started getting pretty bad where I would just weep every day because I didn't know what was going on, and her health was deteriorating so fast," said Alana's husband, Paul.

So began the search for medical answers that continues to this day, along with her symptoms.

"In the last two years I've seen a lot of doctors and had a lot of tests done and haven't gotten a lot of answers," Olson said, noting that her family's 2017 move to the Twin Cities stemmed in part from her medical odyssey. "I've been put through the ringer and basically told that I don't seem to be inherently dying, that my organs are fine."



To minimize her symptoms, which have been categorized as autoimmune, Olson controls lifestyle factors like diet, exercise, and sleep, and even gave up a part-time job she loved.

Addressing physical symptoms is only half the battle, though. To cope with the mental toll, Olson joined a “ninja” gym in August 2017 and quickly found that its social and competitive aspects provided an outlet.

“It was good to have some goals outside of the house, because it felt like we were falling short of a lot of the goals inside of it,” Paul said. “She’d come home and say, ‘I crushed this obstacle.’ Slowly but surely, we started talking about how she should audition for the show.”

A HUGE PLATFORM

Much prayer led Olson to audition, with one major caveat: She would control the narrative.

“I felt the Lord leading me to do it as a declaration of faith,” she says. “It’s not about my performance, it’s about using the platform to share what He’s doing in my life.”

Just before midnight on a Friday in May, following days of interviews with show producers and hours of waiting to compete, Olson climbed the platform to the course’s first obstacle. The stage was set. As the cameras rolled, she tossed aside her hat, revealing her nearly bald head. Olson and her front-row fans sported shirts depicting an anchor with the word “hope.”

“I had thought a lot about what I wanted on the shirt. There’s a verse, Hebrews 6:19, that talks about hope being an anchor for the soul, and that’s representative of who I am and why I did this,” she said. “Going through years of chronic health issues has given me the opportunity to empathize with others. Lord willing, I will be healed or get better, but if I don’t, there are people who live with disabilities or illnesses for their whole life. That’s why I wanted my T-shirt to represent me and my journey: ‘Hey, I have this hope in Christ.’”



Paul and Alana Deuschmann Olson, along with daughter Zahra, celebrate life at a summer wedding.

Olson’s night ended with a hard splash into a pool under the second obstacle, but it didn’t change her warrior spirit.

“She was on cloud nine,” Paul said. “I hadn’t seen her that joyful in a long time.”

Since the taping, Olson has seen that God’s hand was at play. From thousands of applicants, only a hundred or so are chosen for each competition. Of those, only a third make it into a given episode like she did. Olson has been able to further share her story and make connections by posting her audition tape online.

Of course, Olson’s biggest fan can be found under her own roof.

“Zahra is constantly saying she wants to be a ninja warrior like mom,” Paul said. “She doesn’t see Alana for her health issues. Rather, Alana is an inspiration. I wouldn’t be surprised if Zahra tells us we need to shave her head!” 🗨



See Alana Olson’s audition tape at www.wartburg.edu/olson-magazine.

Alana Deuschmann Olson (front) is surrounded by her support team, including Paul and Zahra, at the *American Ninja Warrior* qualifying round in Minneapolis.



Embracing OUR DIVERSITY

As students' needs change, college grows to meet them

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

Early on the morning of Jan. 27, 2018, a Wartburg College student found racial slurs etched in the snow and ice on the windows of a college mail delivery van parked on campus. In the hours that followed, the college publicly condemned the actions and ensured students that despite an anonymous and hateful act, all students are welcome at Wartburg and their voices matter.

Though this was the most public incident, it was not the only one reported during 2017-18 or the current school year. And Wartburg certainly isn't alone, as colleges and universities across Iowa and the U.S. have reported similar bias-related incidents on their campuses.

Just two months after the incident at Wartburg, administrators at Luther College found themselves responding to a similar situation when the letters KKK and a swastika were found stomped into the snow on the college's football field. At Iowa State University, students discovered racist posters in a residence hall and a racist Wi-Fi router name on campus. At the University of Washington, a Somali-American student was assaulted with a glass bottle for wearing a hijab. Statistics aren't yet available for 2017, but according to data collected by the U.S. Department of Education in 2016, 13 incidents of hate crimes occurred on Iowa college campuses. Nationally, about 1,250 incidents were reported among 6,506 schools.

At Wartburg, incidents like these ultimately strengthen the college's commitment to diversity and inclusion. In the coming pages, several key players in the college's work to ensure all Knights feel welcome on campus talk about the progress made, the challenges faced, and the hope they see in the future.



READ MORE



Visit www.wartburg.edu/diversity-magazine to read more, including stories about international students, a STEM bridge and mentoring program, and scholarships for American-multicultural students funded by Ray and Judy McCaskey.



WHEN WARTBURG COLLEGE PRESIDENT DARREL COLSON is asked about diversity and inclusion on campus, he will always go first to the college's Diversity Statement:

The Wartburg College community is committed to creating and maintaining a mutually respectful environment that recognizes and celebrates diversity among all students, faculty, and staff. Wartburg values human differences as an asset, works to sustain a culture that reflects the interests, contributions, and perspectives of members of diverse groups; and delivers educational programming to meet the needs of diverse audiences. We also seek to instill those values, understandings, and skills to encourage leadership and service in a global multicultural society.

"It captures beautifully what we try to achieve: a mutually respectful environment that supports students, faculty, and staff in their diversity," Colson said.

While defining those terms may be relatively easy, achieving diversity and inclusion is markedly more complicated. Many on the Wartburg campus will say the college has done a good job of achieving diversity in its student population. The college boasts 199 American-multicultural students, 115 international students from 53 countries, students from 30 states and more than 30 religious backgrounds, students with varying political views, and students who identify at points all along the human sexuality spectrum.

Ensuring that each one of the college's 1,498 students feels welcomed on campus is where it gets tricky, said Krystal Madlock, Wartburg's director of multicultural student services.

"I'm excited that as an institution we have moved from focusing on just diversity to that inclusion piece and that we are challenging our students, faculty, and staff to name it and claim it," she said.



YOU BELONG

Just days after the January 2018 incident, the Student Life team hosted a "Hate Has No Place Here" rally, which drew hundreds of students, faculty, and staff. Conversations continued into the spring and picked up again this fall, when the Student Life team once again took the reins, launching an even more comprehensive inclusion campaign called "You Belong."

"The 'Hate Has No Place Here' campaign fit with what was going on at the time, but it was time to transition from dealing with an issue to talking about how we feel as a community," Madlock said.

The "You Belong" campaign kicked off with an event during first-year orientation featuring a panel where students from varying backgrounds shared their experiences (both positive and negative) at Wartburg and how they came to feel a part of the community. Lindsey Leonard, director of student engagement, said this introduction to diversity on campus was meant to "prime them for the more difficult conversations to come in Inquiry Studies 101."

"We wanted to be sure that our incoming students knew that their new community might look a little different than what they were used to. It's an exciting change, but we knew it also might be a challenge for some of them," she said. "We need them to understand early on that we hold ourselves to a higher set of expectations on our campus and that we are here for them as they learn to live in their new community."

To ensure that all new faculty members also were prepared, additional training was provided during new faculty orientation. The "You Belong" campaign was then introduced to the entire campus in October.

CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

Cassie Hales' official title is director of residential life and chief student conduct officer, but she likes to consider herself a champion for diversity on campus. She sits on the Diversity and Inclusion Council and was one of many who had a hand in organizing the "Hate Has No Place Here" rally and creating the "You Belong" campaign. She also is an adviser for Alliance, the college's LGBTQ student organization. Her role as an IS 101 instructor — her class focused on social activism — affords her the opportunity to help first-year students "question authority and challenge things from their own perspective."

"For me IS 101 is a safe place for all students to have some really difficult conversations," Hales said. "In regards to student development that is why I think IS 101 is so important to diversity on this campus, because we are allowing them, possibly for the first time, to embrace the fact that they are free-thinkers."

While not every IS 101 class hits on such hot-button topics, Leonard, who serves as the IS 101 program co-director with Pam Ohrt, associate professor of journalism and communication, wanted to be sure the conversations they started in orientation continued through the Fall Term. The team decided the best way to do that would be to look deeper into microaggressions, which is defined as a statement, action, or incident regarded as an instance of indirect, subtle, or unintentional discrimination against members of a marginalized group.

"These are things our students are experiencing all too often, and even though they are unintentional experiences, we know they can have a big impact," Leonard said. To that end, the IS 101 team brought in "Say What?!", a diversity and

inclusion training program, to provide an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to have a straightforward conversation about microaggressions and how to handle them. The event was mandatory for all first-year students and was followed by an in-class discussion that allowed students to unpack some of what they discussed.

“We know our students will continue to learn about this for their whole four years. As faculty and staff, we are still learning. What we hope is that we are being more intentional about planting that seed so that when they are ready, they can water it and nurture it on their own,” Leonard said.

PUSH FOR IMPROVEMENTS CONTINUES

For Colson, ways to improve diversity and inclusion are always top of mind.

“I know there are ways we blunder into our effort to be open and welcoming,” he said. “I don’t have a solution, but I know these are issues our students grapple with on a daily basis.

“We ought to be open to having lots of conversations about the needs of all of our students. We need to open up and learn from our students what we could be doing to better include and address their perspectives. These are often hard conversations to have, but I love when students tell us things like that because if we are

going to invite them to our campus then we have to find a way to ensure they are included.”

Across campus teams are seeking new ways to add diversity to the faculty and staff. Madlock is working with the Diversity and Inclusion Council to re-examine the college’s Co-curricular Diversity Plan. The Community Response Team, which was first called into action in 2017, works to ensure meaningful, timely, and transparent responses to incidents of bias on campus. On the academic side, the Multicultural Diversity Studies Committee monitors and evaluates outcomes of educational programs related to multiculturalism and diversity.

“There is a lot going on, and this is one of the things that keeps me up at night,” said Dr. Dan Kittle, vice president of student life and dean of students. “We care about this not because of what is going on in the national spotlight, but because this is what we are about. We cared about it before it had public attention, and we will care about it until we can get it right. There are a lot of competing priorities right now, but we have to keep our eye on the ball.”

Questions, conversations can combat misconceptions

WHEN YUSRA MALIK '21 WAS SEARCHING FOR COLLEGES SHE WAS LASER-

FOCUSED ON ONE THING: Which school would give her the best shot at success in the future? A classmate’s father piqued her interest in Wartburg when he called it a “doctor-making machine.” For Malik, who will graduate with a degree in neuroscience and Spanish, the small class sizes and personal attention seemed like the perfect combination.

She never considered that she might be the only woman on campus wearing a hijab, the head covering worn in public by some Muslim women.

“Wartburg and Waverly were a culture shock for me. Where I come from (she was born and raised in Plainfield, Ill.) I see a lot of other Muslims and women wearing the hijab,” she said. “It’s not the same here, but there is still a lot of diversity. And people are willing to ask questions and learn, even if they are nervous at first.

“There have been instances on campus where I could see people’s misconceptions or ignorance about the hijab, but there are also really good conversations with people who truly want to learn. It wouldn’t be fair to say there was one without the other. I’ve had people tell me I speak English well for an international student. Others truly want to know more about my background and why I wear the hijab.”

Malik has already found a way to ensure her voice is heard, including a spot on the college’s Diversity and Inclusion Council. Knowing that she represents not only herself but all students, Malik tries hard to ensure that all concerns she hears on campus — even those she may not agree with — are presented to the group. She also serves as the executive assistant for diversity on Student Senate and works with the orientation staff and as a Wartburg Ambassador, providing tours for prospective students.

Though Malik has never considered taking off her hijab while at Wartburg, she has been told that at least one other Muslim woman did remove hers while attending school here. Malik said this is a stage nearly all hijabi go through — hers was in high school — because there are days when they think it would be easier.

“This is why representation is so important. If I took off my hijab, I would be falling into what other people want me to do or expect me to be instead of what I think I should do,” she said. “As long as I am wearing my hijab, people will keep asking me questions, and I can clear up some of their misconceptions, like I am wearing it because I am oppressed. I hope that this will help others realize they too can be heard and have a place on this campus.”



New housing options help him feel at home on campus

WHEN BRIAN HAMILTON '19 CAME TO WARTBURG NEARLY FOUR YEARS AGO, he had serious concerns about how the college's residential living environment would be able to safely accommodate him.

Hamilton, a neuroscience major from Cedar Falls, had only recently started the process toward living his true identity and knew not everyone accepted that a person could not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth. He considered himself among the "lucky" ones, in that his parents supported him through the transitioning process both emotionally and financially.

"They were willing to pay the extra money for a single room because they wanted me to have that space where I could be unapologetically myself and feel safe," he said. For Hamilton, that meant a single room on a male floor in Centennial Hall, one of the smaller first-year floors. Though he had hoped to live in Löhe in his second year, the communal bathrooms weren't an attractive option, so he opted for the Waverly Manors, where he was able to have his own bathroom.

As he looked toward his final year, he had hoped to find a spot in Knights Village, the college's "townhouses." There was just one small problem: Most of Hamilton's friends were females, and Knights had always been designed for single-sex living. Until this year. In 2017, several students approached Dr. Dan Kittle, dean of students, and Cassie Hales, director of residential life, about the possibility of offering gender-inclusive housing (or more simply put, suites that are not split by gender) in Knights Village.

Hales said they both supported the idea and encouraged the students to draft an official proposal, including research about what other institutions offered.

What they found was that some of Wartburg's peer institutions, including Luther and Simpson, already offered more robust gender-inclusive housing options. After obtaining Cabinet approval, the Residential Life Office was able to offer three Knights Village suites with a gender-inclusive option in the spring housing lottery. All quickly filled.

Though Wartburg is moving in the right direction, Hales said there are still many obstacles the college has yet to overcome, including gender-inclusive housing options for underclassmen.

"My next step would be to implement changes in The Residence and Waverly Manors," she said.

While Hales and Hamilton are both looking toward the day when everyone will be able to find a comfortable living arrangement on campus, Hamilton said including The Residence and Manors in the list of gender-inclusive options would be a good next step.

"We had a student who wanted to be in our group in Knights because he was transitioning, but because he was only going to be a sophomore, he wasn't allowed that option, and he ended up transferring to another school," Hamilton said. "This issue is affecting students here and now. For me, having this option available this year means I can finally and wholly focus on my academics. When I go to my room, it really feels like going home. I don't have to put on the mask I feel like I have been wearing since I came to Wartburg, and I want that for all students."

Though Hales knows it will take time, she too wants all students to feel welcome and at home on campus and in the residence halls.

"There are not a lot of schools who have mastered this or figured it out yet. We want to be able to say, 'Come here to Wartburg. We are a college of the ELCA. Here's what the ELCA says, and here is how we are living that out in our halls,'" Hales said. "We are a four-year residential school and I don't want to go away from that, but we need to make sure that everyone who wants to live here is happy here." 🍷

BRIAN
HAMILTON



HALES



TORI MICELI

Lack of sight won't keep her from seeing success

TORI MICELI '21 WAS RAISED IN WHAT SHE CALLS A "BLIND-POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT." Though she was born with multiple eye defects that caused a severe lack of sight in both eyes, her parents never let her use that as an excuse. She was expected to pitch in around the house. She tried soccer, gymnastics, ballet, cheerleading, and show choir.

"If anyone said I couldn't do something, that would push me to do it all that much more," said Miceli, a science education major from Waukee.

That independence and confidence has served her well in college, where students must be their own advocates. All students with documented disabilities have the opportunity to work with Nicole Willis, the academic success associate who oversees disability services in the Pathways Center, to determine what accommodations can be made in residence halls and classrooms. Unlike in the K-12 setting, colleges are not required to abide by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or the other legal protections afforded to younger students.

For Miceli, that means working with professors to ensure they send her materials for class at least 24 hours in advance

Co-curriculars are the key to her success

BREE PRIMOUS '19, A BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION MAJOR FROM ST. LOUIS, did a lot of research before choosing Wartburg College.

In addition to the academics and extra curriculars, she also considered the diversity on campus. Though her graduating class was very small — only 16 — her peers and community were from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. She wanted to be certain the college she chose valued diversity as much as she did.

She knew Wartburg was the right choice after attending summer orientation and meeting several of her future classmates, including a number who looked like her. Yet, even with support from her family, faculty and staff, and classmates, Primous considered leaving Wartburg after her first year.

"I decided to give it another shot, and I'm glad that I did," said Primous, who spent the first term of her second year at Wartburg West in Denver. "I think it was good for me to be away from campus and to learn more about myself. When I got back to campus, I started as a resident assistant and continued my work with Student Senate. I submerged myself in activities and that really helped me understand why I made the right decision staying at Wartburg."

At Wartburg, the largest number of American-multicultural students were leaving Wartburg between their second and third year, which is contrary to national statistics that show the greatest drop between the first and second year. When asked during exit interviews, many students said they hadn't found their niche at Wartburg or that they felt their investment in their education wasn't valuable because they lacked a sense of purpose in the work they were pursuing.

In an attempt to combat these concerns, the Pathways Center staff has partnered with the Student Life staff and others across campus to implement several programs aimed at better acclimating and retaining American-multicultural students. Those programs have included everything from a career-planning series and mock interviews to extensive career mentoring and employer visits. From 2013 to 2017 the college also offered the Summer Knights Bridge Program, which helped under-represented students with the transition from high school to college. That program went on hiatus in 2018, and the college is determining how it will look in 2019.

"These programs in particular were designed to help students find meaningful experiences that would help them be successful at Wartburg and beyond," said Derek Solheim, Pathways Center director. "What I like about these efforts and our efforts moving forward is that the work is happening across the campus. Partnerships are key if we are going to be successful. It is everyone's responsibility to create an environment where students want to persist to graduation."

When Dr. Dan Kittle became the dean of students and vice president for student life in 2015, he made it clear that he was putting a priority on the retention issues facing the college's American-multicultural students.

"I am passionate about it because I know it can impact specific students in very powerful ways, and it fits our history as an institution. President (Darrel) Colson talks eloquently to how we were founded to serve German immigrants, people who in some sense were marginalized at that time, and that mission has carried through for more than 150 years. This isn't a new commitment for us as an institution; it's part of who we are and our DNA," Kittle said.

and are reading out loud the notes or equations they are writing on the board. An iPad and braille keyboard, dubbed her second set of eyes, allow her to take notes in class, and the camera has come in handy on multiple occasions when she has relied on her friends and roommates to read something from a photo she took earlier in the day. The washers and dryers in her residence hall also are marked with braille signs.

Miceli took financial responsibility for compensating the readers who help her with texts that don't come in audiobooks or braille. It was a cost she was willing to accept, though, for the benefits of attending a smaller liberal arts school. That choice paid off in fall 2017 when, only a couple months into the school year, Miceli found herself in Iowa City for two weeks dealing with a new eye condition. She returned to school completely blind and scared that she would be unable to finish school.

"I walked into (Dr. Michael) Bechtel's office and told him I couldn't see anything. I asked if I should take the incomplete for his physics class, and he said, 'Absolutely not,'" she recalled. "I remember in the days after that discussion he was teaching us about sound waves, and just as naturally as could be, he would hand me objects to illustrate what he

was talking about. At one point he even grabbed my hands to show me what he was teaching. That was the moment I realized I would make it through.

"If it wouldn't have been for the incredible faculty being willing to work with me, I would have left, but they surpassed what I could ever have hoped for in that situation, and I don't think I would have received that kind of help anywhere else."

In recent years, Willis has worked with students to hire notetakers, provide tests in larger print, and provide the tools needed to enlarge white board notes, among other things. Across campus, strides have been made toward increasing accessibility in both academic buildings and some residence halls, including the installation of additional automatic door buttons and a new ADA-accessible suite with a single restroom in Clinton Hall. At a micro level, Willis will work with students who need small accommodations in their living spaces, including lowered towel bars, shower or tub grab bars, or a shower wand to allow for a seated shower. "Students need to remember that it is their right to request accommodations or choose not to seek them," Willis said. "The goal is to get everyone on a level playing field, and we will work with them in any way we can to make that happen." 🗨



He is hoping a program instituted during the 2017-18 school year will yield some success. During the year, Krystal Madlock, Wartburg's director of multicultural student services, and **Ieshia Brown '14**, then coordinator for academic and multicultural student services, met with every second-year American-multicultural student to learn more about them and the obstacles they might be facing as they look forward in their college career. For some, it was as simple as learning more effective study habits. Others felt unequipped to discern their calling or were unable to find their "home" on campus. Many were worried about how they would continue to pay for their education.

Through these conversations, Madlock said they even found one student with a diagnosed learning disability who had yet to reach out to Nicole Willis, an academic success associate in the Pathways Center. In addition to helping students with their immediate concerns, the goal is to develop an intervention plan to address some of the recurring concerns brought forward during the discussions.

The one-on-one meetings will continue this year with members of the Class of 2021, and Madlock has submitted another proposal to begin the process with next year's incoming class. Primous appreciates the cross-campus efforts, but said students need to find their passion on campus, because it is those opportunities that will connect them in a tangible way to the college. In addition to being an RA and the student body vice president, Primous helps organize MLK Week, is vice president of Black Student Union, and has served on the Multicultural Diversity Studies Committee.

"I want to be a voice for students of color. I want them to see that it is OK to be involved on campus even if they feel uncomfortable in the beginning," she said. "And don't let failure get the best of you. I ran for treasurer in Senate my sophomore year and didn't get it. I almost quit Senate, but then I found a new way to serve (as the diversity chair). I wouldn't be in the position I am in today if I hadn't stuck with it. Everyone should try to get involved because you just never know what kind of opportunities will come from it." 🗨





KRYSTAL MADLOCK

Nurturing a sense of community for 20 years

BY KATIE KREIS '19

WHEN KRYSTAL MADLOCK CAME TO WARTBURG, she never expected to spend the next 20 years helping shape the campus into a community and safe haven for students.

After graduating from the University of Northern Iowa in communication arts, Madlock took a position as a Wartburg College admissions counselor. This opened her up to a whole new world in student affairs, and she began to spend more and more of her time talking to students about their classes, how things were at Wartburg, and what their transition from high school to college was like. Somewhere along the way what began as “just a job” developed into her passion.

“Interacting with students and watching students grow from their first to fourth year is what keeps me here. It feels like a big family,” said Madlock.

This new-found passion made Madlock’s transition from Admissions to Student Life in 2000 a natural move. In her new role, she was given the opportunity to interact with students even more through her responsibilities with campus programming. Today, as the director of multicultural student services, she does less with programming and more with serving as a secondary adviser to all American-multicultural students. She also advises several student organizations and tackles the big-picture issue of diversity and inclusion on campus.

“As chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Council, I spend a lot of time looking at the community piece of diversity and inclusion and making sure that everyone feels welcome and comfortable at Wartburg,” Madlock said.

As for what diversity looks like on campus, Madlock said a lot has changed since 1998.

“I remember when I first started here and American-multicultural students would say they were the only ones in the classroom and weren’t really sure how to feel about that. You can’t say that anymore,” Madlock said. “We have definitely grown more racially diverse on our campus. It’s almost like it’s done a total 180 when it comes to the diversity we see on our campus. It’s amazing being in Waverly, Iowa, you know? Things have definitely changed.”

Many alumni and students give Madlock at least partial credit for their success at Wartburg. **Bree Primous '19** sought Madlock’s guidance early in her college career. As a first-year student, she was struggling to find her place on campus and worried about her mother, who was battling breast cancer back in

St. Louis. She started spending more and more time in Madlock’s office, a habit that continues today as Primous prepares for graduation.

“I know it’s not her job to be our counselor or our financial aid adviser, but she has the knowledge and she’s someone we feel comfortable talking to,” said Primous, this year’s student body vice president. “She’s there to tell you when you are right, and she’s there to tell you when you are wrong.”

The Student Life Office honored Madlock’s Wartburg anniversary by raising money for the Friendship Fund, a reserve fund started years ago to assist students in need. To date more than \$65,000 has been collected. (Read more about this effort at www.wartburg.edu/diversity-magazine.)

“I don’t do the things I do on a daily basis for the recognition by any means, but I truly appreciate it and I’m grateful,” Madlock said. “When you’re in the field of helping others, you may not immediately hear someone say ‘thank you,’ but it’s interesting because down the road people express it.”

Madlock loves the duality of the nurturing and challenging environment at Wartburg that encourages students to step out of their comfort zones while maintaining a strong foundation.

“I look at Wartburg as a community, so the opportunity for diversity and that inclusion piece is really important. The students live in residence halls and a lot of people say that’s your home for four years. When you’re at home, you want that sense of community, and that’s the nurturing piece that we provide. I hope I help students understand that we all belong here at Wartburg and how that works. I love that challenge. And what better place to start than at Wartburg?” 🍷



KNIGHTS FALL RECAP

Wartburg leads way with 80 fall Academic All-Conference honorees

Eighty Wartburg fall sport student-athletes earned Academic All-Conference honors, more than any other school in the American Rivers Conference.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must be on the eligibility list for the sport of nomination, be at least a sophomore in academic standing with at least one year in residence, and attain a 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) GPA or higher. Here are other highlights from the fall season.

- The football team secured its second-straight conference title. **Matt Sacia '19** also repeated as the Conference Offensive MVP and was a Gagliardi Trophy finalist for the second year in a row. Eleven additional players earned All-Conference honors. **Dillon Rademaker '19** was named a first-team All-American, and Sacia was named an honorable mention All-American. The Knights fell to Bethel in the first round of the NCAA Playoffs.
- The women's tennis team won its first conference championship in program history, had its first-ever win over conference rival Luther College, and marked its first undefeated season (8-0). **Ashley Rottinghaus '19**, **Hannah Fox '20**, **Lauren O'Brian '20**, and **Rachel Zittergruen '20** earned All-Conference honors
- For the fourth time in as many years, the volleyball team won the regular-season conference championship title. **Lizzy Blough '19**, **Mallary Erbes '19**, and **Katie Foster '21** earned All-Conference honors.
- For the second-straight season, the women's soccer team earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament. **Zoey Campbell '20** was named the Conference Defensive MVP, and three additional players earned All-Conference honors. **Nicole Adair '19** and Campbell were named All-Region.
- The men's cross country team won the conference championship and NCAA Regional meet before placing fifth at the National Championships in Wisconsin, where **Sam Pinkowski '21** earned All-American honors.
- **Carina Collet '21** won the conference cross country meet, earned conference MVP honors, and later placed 15th at nationals, which earned her All-American honors. She also was named Central Region Female Athlete of the Year.
- **Brooke Klostermann '19** and **Mackenzie Roberts '21** earned All-Conference honors in golf. In addition, Klostermann won two competitions, bringing her career total to 13.
- The men's soccer team qualified for the American Rivers Conference Tournament for the 18th straight season, but was eliminated in the semifinals. A trio of seniors also earned All-Conference honors: **Ben Johnson**, **Ayo Adebayo**, and **Daniel Luzindya**.



Campbell '20

Adair '19



Pinkowski '21



Klostermann '19

Roberts '21

Knights in the News

Do you recognize any of these Knights in this photo from 1985? We will post the photo on social media and invite you to identify those you know and share your favorite Wartburg memories.



1952

HERBERT HILDEBRANDT, Ann Arbor, Mich., joined a Chinese scholar in an ethnographic/human resources study for a ministry in China. He is the recipient of a distinguished leadership award from his retirement community.

1955

The Rev. **WILBERT WINKLER**, Enterprise, Ala., authored *The Book of Jonah: The Runaway Prophet*.

1970

JERRY TOOMER, Carmel, Ind., co-authored a leadership book, *The Catalyst Effect: 12 Skills and Behaviors to Boost Individual Impact and Elevate Team Performance*. The book was inspired in part by his Wartburg College experiences.

1973

SUSAN LULOFF, Coralville, retired June 1 from working in admissions at the University of Iowa.

PAUL MUELLER, New York City, retired from Hunter College-City University of New York after 31 years as professor of music and director of choral activities. He continues to serve as director of the Greenwich Choral Society and Our Saviour's Atonement Lutheran Church choir.

1974

DAVID KAMM, Decorah, retired from Luther College, where he served as art gallery coordinator and assistant professor for 29 years.

MIKE KEARNS, Lorain, Ohio, retired June 1 after 42 years as a high school teacher and coach at schools in Iowa and Ohio.

1975

The Rev. **RICHARD BRENTON**, Ogden, Utah, serves at Ascension Lutheran Church.

CLIFF BROCKMAN, Waverly, retired from Wartburg College's Department of Journalism and Communication and was named professor emeritus.

1976

CINDY DAWES BROCKMAN, Waverly, retired after 35 years as an elementary teacher, with the past 12 years as a fourth-grade teacher in the Waverly-Shell Rock School District.

1980

JILL GREMMELS, Altoona, is dean of Cowles Library at Drake University, Des Moines.

1981

The Rev. **JIM DUEHRING**, Marquette, Mich., is assistant to the bishop and director for Evangelical Mission of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA.

1982

JACK and **SARAH SLIFE SALZWEDEL**, Middleton, Wis., were awarded the Tocqueville Society Award by United Way of Dane County for their service to the community.

1986

GARY T. JOHNSON, Valparaiso, Ind., retired from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary after serving for 15 years mainly flying search and rescue and Homeland Security missions out of Coast Guard Air Station Houston. His honors included medals and ribbons for Sustained Service and Membership Service and Humanitarian (for his missions after Hurricane Katrina). He also was awarded the Presidential Citation by President George W. Bush. After retirement his music company was accepted into the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and he is collaborating with a band in New York.

ERIC STAHLBERG, Clarksburg, Md., has been named director of Biomedical Informatics and Data Science at the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research.

1989

BETH WARNER, Madison, Wis., was the plenary speaker at the 2018 Eurasian Registrar Conference at Nazarbayev University in Astana, Kazakhstan.

1990

ROHIT ROY, Mont Saint Hilaire, Quebec, Canada, is an international trader of organic feed-grade and food-grade products.

1991

OTTO RUSLI, Singapore, Singapore, is chairman and co-founder of PT Digital Media Group in Indonesia, a local online to offline e-commerce company in Indonesia.

1992

JUSTIN BENNA, Portsmouth N.H., was selected as a 2017 Clark Scholar by the University Council for Educational Administration and the American Educational Research Association. He earned a Ph.D. in education from the University of New Hampshire in May 2018 and is principal at Epping Elementary School.

RACHELLE KARSTENS, North Sioux City, S.D., was appointed president of Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, Iowa.

DAVID KURTZ, Coon Rapids, Minn., authored the novel *War and Peace in Dodge*.

1997

RODNEY and **JAIMIE EDE '00 HESTERBERG**, Windsor Heights, announce the adoption of Hailey Raelynn, born Oct. 6, 2017. She joins Hannah, 4.

1998

Lt. Col. **DAVID MAX**, Einsiedlerhof, Germany, is the commandant at the Inter-European Air Forces Academy.

1999

HEATHER HUGLEY BELAIR, New Brighton, Minn., is the services escalation manager on the Professional Services team for Calabrio.

JOE CARTER, Emmetsburg, is the elementary principal and director of programs for the Emmetsburg Community School District.

Dr. **ERIN MORAN**, Denver, Colo., owner of Denver Central Chiropractic, earned a doctorate in chiropractic from Palmer College of Chiropractic, Davenport, Iowa, and is also certified from Options for Animals, Wellsville, Kan. She treats both people and animals and offers a discount to Wartburg West students and alumni.

2000

BILL ARMSTRONG, Elkader, is an IT system administrator at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

CYNTHIA ROEDER BARNETT, Birmingham, Ala., was promoted to head of cataloging and acquisitions for the Birmingham Public Library.

BRITTA MONSON FISHER, Arvada, Colo., was appointed chief housing officer for the City and County of Denver, Colo., where she oversees the Denver Housing Division. She also serves on the State Housing Board.

PAUL and **CARRIE ETHERINGTON SEBERGER**, Marshalltown, announce the adoption of Maryn Rose in July 2017. She joins Aaron, Eleanor, Isaac, Jacob, and Peter.

Comdr. **STEVEN YUDE**, Oak Park, Calif., is the director of the U.S. Coast Guard Motion Picture and Television Liaison Office.

2001

John and **LAURA ARMSTRONG**, Joliet, Ill., announce the birth of Samuel John, July 18. He joins Daniel Paul, 3.

BRAD BOCKWOLDT, Wilton, is a math teacher at Tipton High School.

EMILY O'BRIEN DALEN, Underwood, is director of faith formation at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Omaha, Neb. She presented a case study, *Everything I Know About Ministry, I Learned in the Kitchen*, at the 2018 Cross+Gen Life Conference in Estes Park, Colo. The case study is also published in Let's Kill Sunday School and Birth the Cross+Gen Movement.

SARA KNAVEL FISHER, Omaha, Neb., is the assistant program director for genetic counseling at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, where she has worked for 14 years.

Dr. **AMANDA PORTER GREUBEL**, DeWitt, earned a Doctor of Social Work from St. Catherine University-University of St. Thomas in May. She is assistant professor of social work at Clarke University, Dubuque.

Neil and **ALISON BOOMERSHINE HAUGERUD**, Fergus Falls, Minn., announce the birth of Micah John, Jan. 16. He joins Aiden, 3.

Andy Hohenner and **ERIN HETRICK-HOHENNER**, Petaluma, Calif., announce the birth of Johann Howard, May 23. He joins Eire Marie Ann, 5.

Derek and **JANELLE DICKEY SLEGL**, Littleton, Colo., announce the birth of Desirae, Dec. 12, 2015. She joins Jessalyn, 4.

William Vega and **DINA TANNOUS**, Chicago, announce the birth of twins Salma Heyam and Antonio Mejdi, May 29.



Three community leaders honored with Alumni Citations

The Wartburg College Alumni Board presented **Judith McCaskey '65**, **Lois Jelneck '50**, and **Michael Sinram '75** with Alumni Citation Awards on Sunday, Oct. 21.

MCCASKEY has devoted her life to caring for children, from a 40-year career as a first-grade teacher in Palatine, Ill., to spending time in Chicago's inner city volunteering with teenagers in her retirement. Twenty years ago, McCaskey joined the advisory board for After School Matters, a highly regarded organization offering programs to enrich the city's high school students, and she still serves on the board today. McCaskey and her husband, Ray, are active at Wartburg College, having funded scholarships for prospective elementary school teachers and the Orange Opportunity Scholarship to bridge the financial gap for inner-city youth.



JELNECK worked in many nursing specialties at the University of Michigan Hospital in addition to serving as a summer camp nurse and later as a school nurse and guidance counselor at Concordia College in Ann Arbor. In 1980, she started Individualized Home Nursing Care and Hospice, a home health care organization. At her church, First Presbyterian in Ann Arbor, she continues to sing and serve as a leader with Mature Ministries.



SINRAM taught K-12 P.E. and health at Jesup Community Schools, plus junior high English and social studies until 1999. As a coach, he was honored as State Coach of the Year for boys' cross country in 1990. After his time at Jesup, he left his mark as a pioneer in adaptive physical education where he designed classes to ensure all students could reach their full potential. While at Grant Wood AEA and later in the Waterloo school district, Sinram and his colleagues reached out to retired engineers at Rockwell Collins to design adaptive P.E. equipment that can help special-needs students.



If you know someone who should be considered for an alumni award, visit www.wartburg.edu/alumni.

2002

MELISSA JAMES and Abigail Weissman, La Mesa, Calif., announce the birth of Liebbe Marie, Nov. 25, 2017.

HOLLY PELLETTERI RUSSELL, Urbandale, teaches K-5 general music in the Ankeny Community School District.

ANDY and Shay **SCHROETTER**, Charlotte, Mich., announce the birth of Genevie Wynn, Nov. 8, 2017. She joins Erik Hugo, 2. Andy is choir director at Charlotte Public Schools.

NATHAN WEAR, Solon, is associate superintendent for the Linn-Mar Community School District, Marion.

2003

Zach and **RACHEL ODETTE ECKELMAN**, Northfield, Minn., announce the birth of Graham, Aug. 14. He joins Savannah, 2.

CARRIE KRESS GOSNELL, Des Moines, earned a Master of Science in data science with analytics and modeling specialization from Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

John and **SUSAN THOMSEN HELDENBRAND**, Toledo, announce the birth of Lydia Joy, Aug. 20. She joins Samuel, 4.

2004

LONNA FIELD, Minneapolis, earned a Master of Arts in leadership from Augsburg University.

BART MEHLERT, La Porte City, is the head wrestling coach at Union High School.

Dr. **MATT TOWNSLEY**, Waverly, is assistant professor of educational leadership at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

JEFF and **ERICA POWLESS VOREIS**, Fairfield, announce the birth of Everly Quinn, July 1. She joins Adler, 2. Jeff is a senior regional director, and Erica is a senior project manager, both with Cambridge Investment Research, Inc.

2005

QUINTON CLAY, Aurora, Ill., is director of admissions at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb.

Drs. Grant and **RANAE GRAFFT NORLAND**, Chaska, Minn., announce the birth of Greta, June 30. She joins Brady, 3.

Barry and **MARY FULLER ROBINSON**, Atlantic, announce the birth of Joseph Lowary, July 19. He joins Arianna Nellie, 1.

2006

Mike Lynch and **ALAINA GOOS**, Manchester, were married Sept. 8. Alaina works in community development at Good Neighbor Society.

MICHAEL GREENWALD and Dr. Lacey Greenwald, Keokuk, announce the birth of Justin, May 12. He joins Juliana, 4. Michael purchased two radio stations and created Radio Keokuk on June 1.

MEGAN HILDEBRANDT, Bloomington, Ill., is an instructional assistant professor for music therapy at Illinois State University, Normal.

The Rev. Maj. **JEREMY PEDERSEN**, Alexandria, Minn., is a chaplain in the Minnesota National Guard and was deployed to the Middle East in 2018. He will return in summer 2019 as pastor of Our Saviour's/Fahlun Lutheran Church in Nelson, while continuing to serve part-time in the Minnesota National Guard.

BREANNE PLEGGENKUHLE, Carbondale, Ill., is an associate professor at Southern Illinois University in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

MEREDITH WARREN, Jiaxing, China, is a secondary and International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme music teacher at Peking University Experimental School.

RACHEL ZACCARO, Seattle, earned an MBA from the University of Dubuque.

EIGHT INDUCTED INTO WARTBURG HALL OF FAME

These standout athletes and a college wrestling coach were inducted into the Wartburg Athletic Hall of Fame as part of the annual Homecoming & Family Weekend festivities this fall.



Ault

KEVIN AULT '06

a four-year member of the men's golf team and the 2004 Iowa Conference individual medalist and subsequent conference MVP, earned All-Conference honors all four years as

the Knights won the 2004 and 2006 IAC titles. Ault ranks second on the career scoring average leader list, and three of his seasons' scoring averages rank on the top 10 list in that category. He holds the 36-hole school record. He is the manager of the Kirkwood Bookstore and lives in Cedar Rapids with his wife, Andrea Schiltz Ault '07, and their four children.



Dodd

JOSH DODD '99

was a two-year member of the wrestling team and a two-time All-American, which included finishing as the national

runner-up in 1998. He was also a two-time Iowa Conference champion. Dodd has a career record at Wartburg of 71-8 with 18 major decisions, three tech falls and 22 falls. He was a member of the 1999 National Championship team. He is an ag/commercial loan officer at First Security Bank & Trust Co. and lives in Osage with his wife, Nicole, and their four children.



Lansing

ASHLEY STEINES LANSING '08

was a four-year member of the volleyball and softball teams. She is volleyball's career leader in digs and digs/set, while ranking in the top 10 in three other categories.

She holds two single-season records as well as the single-match mark in digs with 49. On the diamond, Lansing ranks in the top 10 in 12 career categories and holds the single-season record in triples with

nine. Lansing is a physical education and health teacher at Camanche Middle School and lives in DeWitt with her husband, Jason '09, and their two children.



Mehlert

BART MEHLERT '04

was a two-year member of the wrestling team and a two-time All-American, which included winning the National Championship at 149 pounds in 2004. He

was also a two-time Iowa Conference champion. Mehlert has a career record at Wartburg of 69-4, with five major decisions, six tech falls, and 10 falls. Mehlert is an estimator at Personified Inc. and is the head wrestling coach at Union High School in La Porte City. He lives in La Porte City with his wife, Lisa, and their three children.

2007

Carl and **JANEL DVORAK SACKREITER**, Rochester, Minn., announce the birth of Owen Carl, March 22. He joins Lincoln, 2.

Sean and **JENNA DENSTAD SEIDEL**, Viroqua, Wis., were married June 16.

2008

ROBBIE and **ALLISON ERDMANN MCINTYRE**, Strawberry Point, announce the birth of Katharina Ruth, April 28.

Dr. **JUSTIN PETERSON**, Jamaica Plain, Mass., completed his orthopedic surgery residency through Michigan State University at Genesys Regional Medical Center and started his orthopedic sports medicine fellowship at New England Baptist Hospital. He will be an assistant team doctor to the Boston Celtics in the 2018-19 NBA season.

Kevin and **BRITTANY SUITER RANDALL**, Clive, announce the birth of Kayse Lea, May 9. She joins Kinley, 5; Payton, 4; and Madilyn, 2.

2009

THOMAS DIRTH, Bemidji, Minn., earned a Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Kansas and is an assistant professor of multicultural psychology at Bemidji State University.

Nate and **SHANNON MCCABE HERMANSON**, Hastings, Minn., announce the birth of Ezra Jean, May 23. He joins Oliver Joseph, 2.

Michael and **ABBY MOENK MESSERICH**, DeWitt, announce the birth of Brady Michael, July 18, 2017.

Tim Pratt and **PAM RODGERS**, Newton, were married April 14.

2010

Brad and **LEAH KING EILERS**, Ames, announce the birth of Lyla Mae, Jan. 11, 2018. She joins Kristine, 1.

Kamm and **ERINN NORTH MODRYNSKI**, Lakeville, Minn., announce the birth of Dawson, April 12.

2011

Dr. **CALEB ASWEGEN**, Belmond, completed pediatric residency in Marshfield, Wis., and is Iowa Specialty Hospital's first pediatrician.

LAURA BARKEMA, Antioch, Tenn., is a collection development librarian at Ingram Content Group, La Vergne.

KRISTIN CUDZEWICZ, Greenfield, Wis., is the director of bands at Butler Middle School and assistant director of bands at Waukesha North High School, Waukesha.

Mitchell Frieden and **ANGIE MULLENBACH**, Davenport, were married July 7.

Tim Klunenberg and **EMILY EWY**, Clive, were married Oct. 20, 2017.

ANDY and Bridget **SCHMIDT**, Dubuque, announce the birth of Emery Lynn, July 3.

NATHAN WELSCH and Amy Bitting, Plano, Texas, were married Dec. 31, 2017.

2012

Awesiri Agbamu and **ALLISON SCHAEFER**, St. Louis Park, Minn., were married July 21.

ADAM ROEPKE and **AMY BACKER**, Cedar Rapids, were married June 2.

JOY GIBSON, Chicago, is a registered nurse in the Neurology Intensive Care Unit at Loyola University Medical Center.

BRYAN WOODS, Iowa City, is a success coordinator at Solon High School.

2013

GAVIN '14 and **JESSICA WALLACE ALTHAUS**, Marshalltown, announce the birth of Cohen James, July 16. Jessica earned her master's degree in education from Morningside College.

Kyle and **ALEXANDRA MADOLE BARTON**, Allison, announce the birth of Charlotte Frances, July 22.

Ryan Bissen and Dr. **SAMANTHA BANSER**, Windsor Heights, were married Oct. 13.

HALEY FLORES, Ames, is a career coordinator for the Ivy College of Business at Iowa State University.

Brad and **STACEY KNOLL REINTS**, Shell Rock, announce the birth of Jennifer, June 5, 2017.

2014

CLAY EMMRICH, Indianapolis, is an assistant football coach at Marian University.

ARMAND PIECUCH and Meghan Grall, Denver, Colo., were married July 1.



COACH JIM MILLER, or "Milboy," orchestrated the Wartburg wrestling program's rise to national dominance. Under his leadership, the Knights won 10 national championships,

had 34 individual national champions, 138 All-Americans, and 70 NWCA Scholar All-Americans. Miller was named the 2003 NCAA National Coach of the Year and was a 10-time Iowa Conference Coach of the Year. He amassed a career record of 411-38-2. Wartburg won 21-straight IIAC titles under Miller. Now a coach emeritus, Miller is an instructor in the college's Department of Health & Physical Education. He lives in Cedar Falls with his wife, Kathy. They have three adult sons, Christopher Clark, Chris Miller, and TJ Miller '08, along with three granddaughters.



JAMEY PARKER '96, a four-year member of the offensive line on the football team, helped Wartburg make two-straight appearances in the NCAA Playoffs and was part of the

1993 team that won the Iowa Conference Championship. Parker works for NextEra Energy Resources at the Duane Arnold Energy Center and is a volunteer firefighter. He lives in Hiawatha with his wife, Angie, and their three children.



STEPHANIE HOWE PETERSON '07 was a four-year member of the softball team. She holds career records in hits, doubles, RBIs, and total bases and ranks in the top 10 in

13 other categories. Peterson holds five single-game records, which includes two home runs in a single game, a feat she accomplished twice. Peterson is a teacher at Bridgeview Elementary in the Pleasant Valley School District and lives in LeClaire with her husband, Cassidy '06, and their three children.



NATE SCHMIDT '06 was a four-year member of the men's basketball team. He was named the IIAC MVP for the 2004-05 season. Schmidt ranks in the top 10 in three career categories and is a member of the 1,000-career-point club. He holds the single-season record for blocked shots with 47. Schmidt is a police officer and lives in Dubuque.

ALEXANDER VALENTINE, Rhinelander, Wis., is a 6-12 band director at Crandon School District, Crandon, Wis.

2015

Tanner Bowhay and **EMILY RASSMUSSEN**, Filley, Neb., were married Oct. 13.

MICHAEL CRISSINGER and **STEPHANIE BESAW**, New Hope, Minn., were married in June.

2016

KAITLYN BEHNKEN, Waukee, earned an MBA with a specialization in project management from Aspen University and is an account manager at Amperage Marketing and Fundraising, Des Moines.

ERICA DYNES, Reedsburg, Wis., was awarded first place in April by the Wisconsin Newspaper Association for enterprise/interpretive reporting for a story on premature birth in the Reedsburg Times-Press.

LONDON SHEA and **KIERA BENGE**, West Des Moines, were married May 26.

2017

DAILEN FOLKEDAHL, Decorah, is a graduate student in osteopathic medicine at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, Biddeford, Maine.

SAMANTHA KOPF, Bowling Green, Ohio, is a graduate student in the Ph.D. sociology program at Bowling Green State University and a student advocate with Colorado Youth for a Change/AmeriCorps, Denver, Colo.

MIKAYLA RILEY, Waterloo, is an English teacher at the Boys' State Training School, Eldora.

JESSA THORN, Parkersburg, is a fourth-grade teacher at Storm Lake Elementary School.

2018

RILEY ANDERSON, West Liberty, is a mechanical design engineer at Genesis Systems, Davenport.

ADELINE ANGST, Pine Island, Minn., is a STEM teacher at Discovery Charter School, Inver Grove Heights.

DANIEL ASTIAZARAN, Oelwein, is a music teacher for grades 5-8 at Oelwein Community Schools.

TIM BAIRD, Denver, Colo., is a vocal music director for grades 7-12 at Central Lee Community School District, Donnellson, Iowa.

COREY BRANNAMAN, Mount Vernon, is an underwriter for UFG Insurance, Cedar Rapids.

ALAN BRASCH, Jesup, is a K-8 physical education and health teacher at St. Patrick Catholic School, Perry.

CORBIN BRUNGARD, Parkersburg, is director of member services at VGM Club in Waterloo.

COURTNEY FASBENDER, Hastings, Minn., is a high school math teacher at Lincoln High School, Lincoln, Neb.

HAILEY FRANZEN, Waverly, is an AmeriCorps volunteer at Shelter House, Iowa City.

TYLER FRENCH, Cumming, is a sports broadcaster for KNIA/KRLS radio, Knoxville.

GRANT GINGERICH, Sherrard, Ill., is a medical scribe at ScribeAmerica, Rock Island.

TRENTON GOSNELL, Cedar Rapids, is an associate at Aflac, North Liberty.

SARAH GRABOWSKI, Plainfield, Ill., is a Title 1/extended-day kindergarten teacher at Lakewood Falls Elementary School.

HANNAH GRIMM, Ely, is a middle and high school vocal teacher at Clarinda Community School District, Clarinda.

ABBIE HAUPERT, Huxley, is a sixth-grade reading and language arts teacher in the East Marshall Community School District.

SAWYER HERMAN, Cedar Rapids, is an associate advisor at Acumen.

NOAH HICKMAN, Merville, is a band director at Woodbury Central Community School District.

GABRIELLE HUNT, Freeport, Ill., is a youth counselor at Norman C. Sleezer Youth Home.

AMY ISVIK, Jewell, is a graduate student in computer science at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C.

SUUSEN NG WAN JIUN, Edina, Minn., is a graphic designer at DAO Labs, Minneapolis.

JASMYNE JONES, Ames, is an administrative assistant at North Grand Cinema.

MITCHELL JORDAN, Des Moines, is a financial analyst at Principal Financial Group.

JACOB KAGEMANN, Madison, Wis., is a billing analyst at WPPI Energy, Sun Prairie.

NATALIE KALVIK, Des Moines, is a substitute teacher.

EMILY KOOPMANN, Epworth, is a registered nurse at Mary Greeley Medical Center, Ames.

NATHAN LANGE, Stewartville, Minn., is a vocal music teacher at Albert Lea Senior High School, Albert Lea.

TREVOR LARSON, Jesup, is a 7-12 physical education teacher in the North Tama Community School District, Traer.

ANDREA LEISINGER, Denver, Colo., is a paraprofessional at Mount Saint Vincent.

CAROLINE MADSEN, Atlantic, is a fifth-grade teacher at Schuler Elementary.

GABRIELLE MARCHINO, Northfield, Minn., is an area coordinator at St. Olaf College.

REID MATHIS, Muscatine, is an e-commerce specialist at the HON Company.

MADLINE MILLER, Johnston, is a reading tutor at ReadingCorps, Urbandale.

ABIGAIL MOKHTARY, Rice, Minn., is the head cross country coach at Holdingford High School, Holdingford.

MEGAN MURPHY, Denver, Colo., is in ticket services for the Colorado Rockies.

MEGAN OFFERMAN, Manchester, is an activity assistant at Oak Park Place, Dubuque.

RACHEL PAPE, Dakota, Minn., is a Border Servant Corps fellow for Children's Reading Alliance, Las Cruces, N.M.

TANNER RANDALL, Ankeny, is a graduate student in finance at Concordia University-Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

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

MEGAN RIEKEN, West Des Moines, is a registered nurse at UnityPoint, Des Moines.

CARTER ROSS, Altoona, is a medical scribe at ScribeAmerica, Des Moines.

KYRA SARAGAGLIA, Waukee, is an eighth-grade teacher at Johnston Middle School, Johnston.

BEN SASS, Cedar Rapids, is a marketing and human resources coordinator at Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman, PLC.

NICK SEDORE, Ottumwa, is a graduate student in chemistry at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

ABBY SINGLETON, Indianola, is an eighth-grade language arts teacher in Des Moines Public Schools.

BAILEY STRAIT, Onslow, is a customer service representative at American Family Insurance, Maquoketa.

ALLISON STRECK, Clive, is a sixth-grade math teacher at South Tama County Community School District, Toledo.

NICK THIBAUT, Toddville, is a junior accountant at TrueNorth Companies in Cedar Rapids.

MAKENZIE THORSON, Lake Mills, is a graphic designer for Coloff Digital, Forest City.

MAYA WEATHERALL, Chicago, is a newspaper designer with Lee Enterprises, Madison, Wis.

RAEANNA ZINNIEL, Sleepy Eye, Minn., is a graphic designer at Lead Marketing Design.

Stay Connected

Have you recently been married, had a baby, retired, changed jobs, been promoted, or have other life news to share with your fellow Knights? Share your news online at www.wartburg.edu/update-our-records. Photos 1 MB or larger are welcome, too, at markcomm@wartburg.edu.

IN MEMORIAM



1940

Lucile Bigalk Floyd, Stewartville, Minn., died Aug. 22. She was a music teacher in Iowa for many years, retiring in 1986.

1941

James Lockwood, North Platte, Neb., died Oct. 15. A U.S. Army World War II veteran, he worked as a field supervisor for an insurance company in Nebraska.

1943

The Rev. **Erwin Franke**, Spring Valley, Minn., died Sept. 24. He attended Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1945. He served congregations in Minnesota and Iowa.

Darlyce Frese Sandrock, Novato, Calif., died July 12. She assisted her husband with his pastoral work. She went on to become an administrative assistant to two bishops until her retirement in 1988.

1946

Mary Barber Polesky, Rose Creek, Minn., died Aug. 2, 2017. Mary worked at Waverly State Bank and later assisted her husband with his parish work.

Emma Smith Tesch, Montrose, Colo., died May 5.

1947

Jane Buechele, Grafton, died March 15. She retired from Touche Ross & Co., Minneapolis, in 1987.

The Rev. **Emil Dockter**, Madison, Wis., died May 24. A U.S. Navy World War II veteran, he earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque. He went on to earn a master's degree in counseling from the University of Wisconsin and studied at the Carl Jung Institute in Zurich, Switzerland. He served congregations in Montana, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. After retirement he authored several books.

Margaret "Peg" Herron Stevenson, Knoxville, died Aug. 20. She graduated from the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps and was a nurse for many years.

Armin Ziebarth, Madison, S.D., died Aug. 2, 2017. He was a farmer and retired gas plant operator.

1948

Richard "Dick" Daniels Sr., Chesapeake Beach, Md., died July 5. The U.S. Army veteran worked for General Electric and later owned his own business.

Donald Fallon, Manhattan, Kan., died June 25. The retired Kansas State University campus pastor was a Wartburg Alumni Citation recipient and was inducted into the Wartburg Athletic Hall of Fame.

1949

Lillian Sommerfeld Kramer, Redondo Beach, Calif., died June 19. As a computer programmer she designed systems for the USS Nautilus, the first nuclear-powered submarine, and later went on to do technical research.

Wilfred Mueller, Highland Park, Ill., died Sept. 13. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a teacher.

George Muschinske, Rice Lake, Wis., died March 30. A U.S. Army veteran, he served in World War II. He attended Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and served as a U.S. Air Force chaplain and with congregations in Wisconsin.

Grace Laumer Oestreich, Marathon, Wis., died July 21. She was a longtime employee of the Marathon County Social Services Department.

Lois Stumme Woodhouse, Vero Beach, Fla., died Aug. 27. She taught elementary school for several years.

1950

Ellen Weideman Bekedam, Modesto, Calif., died May 10. She earned a bachelor's degree from Stanislaus State University and a master's degree in special education from San Francisco State University. She was a teacher for 25 years.

Dorothy Stief Dunn, Merrill, died May 4. She was a teacher.

Marvin Klocke, Crystal, Minn., died March 13. A U.S. Army World War II veteran, he received five battle stars for service to his country. He owned and operated a grocery store in Decorah for 35 years.

Irene Radtke Floy McKenney, Rochester, Minn., died June 17. She earned a bachelor's degree from Westmar College, Le Mars, and master's degrees from North Dakota State University and Drake University. She was a teacher in Iowa and Minnesota and later worked as a business manager.

1951

Eleanor Collitz Blomberg, Kenosha, Wis., died April 30. She earned a master's degree from Marycrest University, Davenport. She was a tutor and later taught reading, retiring in 1988.

Janice Frese Brown, Bloomington, Ill., died June 2. She earned a bachelor's degree and master's degree, both from Illinois State University. She was an elementary school teacher for many years. She is survived by her husband, **Lynn Brown '50**.

Helen Herrboldt, Sun City, Ariz., died July 28.

The Rev. **Robert Kreier**, Salina, Kan., died May 9. He was ordained in 1955 and served congregations in Kansas and Nebraska.

1952

The Rev. **Clair Grube**, Edmonds, Minn., died May 16. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, in 1955. He served congregations in Idaho and Washington, retiring in 1991.

Delores Bartels Hildebrandt, Ann Arbor, Mich., died Aug. 31. She is survived by her husband, **Herb Hildebrandt '52**.

The Rev. **Franklin Krueger**, Cedarburg, Wis., died Dec. 28, 2017. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, served as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force for 20 years and after retiring from the service was a supply pastor and a hospital chaplain.

The Rev. **Fredrick Krueger**, Dallas, died June 4. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and served parishes in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Canada. Later, he earned a master's degree in social work from Wayne State University, Detroit, and worked for the Oakland County (Mich.) Mental Health Administration for 24 years.

The Rev. **Philip Mueller**, Rice Lake, Wis., died July 30. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1957. He served congregations in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ethiopia and France. Later he earned a registered nursing degree. He is survived by his wife, **Regina Welsch Mueller '52**.

Frederick "Fritz" Steinhauer, Madison, Wis., died July 26. He owned and operated a dairy business and was a founding member of the Wisconsin Dairy Products Association.

1953

Edward Schneider, Sun Prairie, Wis., died Aug. 6. A U.S. military veteran, he went on to earn his master's degree from the University of Iowa and worked for a division of General Motors and later CUNA Mutual Insurance Society before retiring in 1991. He is survived by his wife, **Margaret Kropf Schneider '55**.

1954

John Boeck, Waverly, died Aug. 12. A U.S. Marine World War II veteran, he was employed by the John Deere Product Engineering Center for many years and later drove a school bus for Janesville schools.

The Rev. **Carl Knitt**, Oshkosh, Wis., died July 23. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and served parishes in North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Illinois. He and his wife also owned and operated an estate sale business.

1955

Paul Hanselmann, Greeley, Colo., died April 30. He earned a master's degree in music education from the University of Northern Colorado. He taught in Nebraska, Wyoming, and Illinois and wrote music.

Carol Rand Wuethrich, Appleton, Wis., died June 17.

1956

The Rev. **Robert Berndt**, Burnsville, Minn., died April 27. He attended Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1960. He served 39 years in parish ministry.

The Rev. **Richard Kelling**, Blair, Wis., died July 14, 2016. He earned a degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and served as an institution chaplain and pastor in Wisconsin until his retirement in 1999.

1957

Marian Graf Brown, Washington, Iowa, died April 7, 2017. She graduated from Austin State Junior College, Austin, Minn., and assisted her husband with his pastoral work. She also worked as a home health aide and was director of the Area Agency on Aging.

Barbara Mikes Diemer, Sumner, died May 21. She farmed with her husband for many years.

The Rev. **Frederick Fritschel**, Honolulu, died March 12.

Robert Hansen, Cedar Falls, died Aug 12. He was employed by Iowa Public Service for 30 years, retiring as a combustion turbine operator in 1996.

Donald Koschmeder, Readlyn, died April 28. He retired from John Deere in 1993.

LeRoy Oberlander, Bismarck, N.D., died June 17. He studied at Stanford University in Germany. He taught German at Dickinson State University in North Dakota until retiring in 2000. He twice was president of the North Dakota Teachers of Foreign Language.

The Rev. **Robert Weishoff**, Lewistown, Mont., died Oct. 20. He attended Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1960. He served congregations in Nebraska, California, and Montana.

1958

Maj. **Leonard Bartels**, Beltsville, Md., died May 17. A Vietnam War veteran, he retired from the U.S. Army in 1977 as a major after serving for 20 years. As a civilian, he pursued a career with the federal government and retired as the official mail manager for the Department of Defense in 2003.

Erland Eberhard, Anaheim, Calif., died Nov. 18, 2017.

Maxine Bunk Fischer, Meservey, died April 24, 2017. She earned a degree from Buena Vista University. She was a teacher and pioneered the concept of Gifted and Talented programs, speaking about it at many state teaching conferences.

The Rev. **Raymond Ideus**, San Marcos, Calif., died Sept. 24, 2016. A U.S. Army veteran, he attended Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary, Columbus, Ohio. He served parishes in Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, and Kansas, and was the director of Haskell Lighthouse Student Center at Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, Kan.

Janet Duckett Jessen, Oelwein, died Aug. 4. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa and an associate in arts degree from Des Moines Area Community College. She was a teacher and served as an administrator at a retirement home in Denver, Iowa.

Ivadelle Daleske Koenig, Giddings, Texas, died Aug. 14. She was a teacher and later worked for the state of Texas.

Doris Hipp Leeck, Titonka, died Aug. 19. She was a teacher, church organist, and farmer.

1959

Varlynn Fink, Rancho Mirage, Calif., died May 6. He earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture and a master's degree in adult education, both from Iowa State University. He worked for the Iowa State Extension Service for 33 years.

Richard Simpson, Lake City, died April 30. He earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from Iowa State University and a master's degree from the University of Iowa. He worked for IBM Rochester, retiring in 2000.

1960

Donald Bathgate, Anchor, Ill., died April 27. He earned a master's degree in business from Illinois State University. He was a business teacher and school administrator in California before retiring in 1993.

Joan Wetherell Beatty, Germantown, Tenn., died Aug. 17. She did secretarial work for the Illinois school system.

Galen Eiben, Viroqua, Wis., died July 21. He earned a master's degree and doctorate degree from Iowa State University. While in college he served in the National Guard. He was a professor of biology at Texas Lutheran College from 1962 to 1964 and at Wartburg College from 1967 until his retirement in 1998.

Mary Ellen Wilke Matthias, La Mesa, Calif., died July 22.

Anna Bluedorn McDonald, Barron, Wis., died Jan. 18, 2017. She sold Avon products for more than 25 years.

The Rev. **Franklyn Schroeder**, Herrin, Ill., died Sept. 16, 2017. He earned his degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1964. He served many congregations in Wisconsin and Illinois.

Charles Tonn, Monticello, died Oct. 20. He owned and managed numerous businesses and was a business consultant for 30 years. He worked for the Iowa Department of Corrections in the 1980s and was director of the Northeast Iowa Small Business Development Center in Dubuque for many years.

1961

Carolyn Kellogg Broers, Mason City, died Oct. 2. She was an elementary teacher for numerous school districts in Iowa. She also worked with her husband on the family farm.

1962

Shirley Woessner Stevens, Sterling, Ill., died March 12. She was a teacher working with at-risk children. She directed a pilot program that was featured in the Congressional Record with a letter of recommendation from President Ronald Reagan. She worked for the Illinois Department of Education for 18 years, served on the Illinois Adult Education board for 15 years, and hosted a cable television show for 11 years.

1963

Charles Classen, Monticello, died Feb. 16, 2017. He served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps as a field radio operator. He managed a car wash for more than 40 years. He also was a correctional officer for 27 years and owned and operated a lawn service.

James Davison, Osage, died Oct. 25, 2016. During his career he was employed at several businesses in Minnesota.

Joyce Brenke Loftus, Dayton, Minn., died June 18.

Verletta Beckman McGlaughlin, Marion, died June 28. She was a teacher in Iowa prior to her retirement in 2000.

Carol Loomis Tammen, Manson, died Aug. 12. She was a social worker with Lutheran Family Services for 15 years and then a tutor with the Vocational Education for Special Education program at Iowa Central Community College for 25 years.

1964

Carlton Johnson, Iowa City, died April 30. He worked for AW Welt Ambrisco Insurance for many years.

Paul Marquardt, Wausau, Wis., died Aug. 22. A U.S. Air Force veteran, he went on to own and operate his family's dairy farm and later worked at a millwork company.

1967

David Blomberg, Oswego, Ill., died Jan. 30, 2018. He worked in sales and direct marketing until retirement. He is survived by his wife, **Cynthia Rakow Blomberg '68**.

Thomas Brobeck, La Crescent, Minn., died Aug. 12. He earned his master's degree from Ohio State University. He had a 35-year career as an elementary school principal in Wisconsin, retiring in 2000.

Manfred "Fred" Columbus, Cedar Falls, died June 15. He earned a master's degree in education administration from the University of Iowa. He served as principal and superintendent in several Iowa school districts. He is survived by his wife, **Astrid Flesvik Columbus '66**.

Dean Hilmer, Waverly, died May 24. He worked as a carpenter; at Tolemex, Waverly; and VGM, Waterloo, before retiring in 2015.

Norman Luttinen, Cedar Falls, died June 1. A U.S. Army Vietnam War veteran, he was a golf pro at courses in Des Moines, Cedar Falls, Dike, and Waverly. He is survived by his wife, **Marilyn Fick Luttinen '66**.

1968

Vivian Obrecht Hanawalt, Meservey, died March 24, 2017. She did graduate work at Bemidji State College and the University of Northern Iowa and earned a Learning Disabilities Certificate from Iowa State University. She taught at many rural Iowa schools during her career.

1969

David Kraft, New Hampton, died May 7. A U.S. Army veteran, he was a police officer in Arizona and later worked in medical and dental sales, retiring in 2004.

Kathryn Harmening Salge, Waverly, died May 30. She is survived by her husband, the Rev. **Robert Salge '68**.

1970

Marjorie Hartbeck Jurgemeyer, Rockwell, died April 21, 2017. She was a teacher for 25 years.

Lyle Wendland, Charles City, died May 17. He was an agent with Farm Bureau Insurance for 34 years until his retirement in 2017.

1971

Jane Sorensen Crooks, Nashua, died March 9, 2017. She taught elementary school for many years.

Mary Clark Hancock, Weston, died April 13. She was a longtime administrative assistant at Northcentral Health Care. She is survived by her husband, **Roger Hancock '70**.

1972

Janet Lake Talbott, Rockwell City, died Oct. 17, 2017. She graduated from Buena Vista University with a teaching degree and was a teacher and librarian. She went on to work in dietary services at a hospital until her retirement.

1973

James Benthroth, Albertville, Minn., died July 25, 2016. He was a U.S. Navy veteran serving on aircraft carriers the USS Independence and Oriskany in the 1970s.

Lynn Hoernecke Pilsner, Janesville, Wis., died Sept. 29, 2016. She was a real estate broker.

1974

Grailing Huls, Manchester, died Jan. 8, 2017. He was a farmer.

1975

Janet Hertel Felberg, Laguna Beach, Calif., died Sept. 8. She earned her Master of Business Administration at the University of Miami and went on to work at several medical companies before retiring in 2011. She was currently serving on the Wartburg College Board of Regents.

Craig Liming, Hereford, Ariz., died Aug. 19. A triathlete for most of his adult life, he operated Body Works Therapeutic Massage for 15 years and later worked at a law firm as head of information technology.

Michael Witt, Council Bluffs, died May 21, 2017. He was a teacher and coach.

1976

Mark Homan, Waverly, died April 21. He was a construction inspector with the Iowa Department of Transportation and had recently retired.

Walter Reed Jr., Waterloo, died July 16. A longtime human rights and civil liberties activist, he was chair of the Governor's Task Force on Race and Detention. He was president of the Gates Park Youth Basketball League for 20 years and a sports broadcaster for KBBG radio for 18 years.

1978

Joan Blumeyer Huston, Boise, Idaho, died March 31. She owned and operated a nationally accredited child care business in West Des Moines, Iowa, retiring in 2015. She is survived by her husband, **Don Huston '78**.

Michael Dolloff, Northwood, died Feb. 15, 2017.

Cynthia Spears, Osage, died May 19. She was an art teacher.

Thomas Wilder, Olympia, Wash., died April 8, 2017. He was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and worked as a financial adviser.

1980

David Schlueter, Dubuque, died April 6, 2017. He earned a pharmacy degree from the University of Iowa and was a pharmacist in Dubuque for many years.

1981

Gregory Scheuerman, Estes Park, Colo., died June 8. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and his master's degree in teaching from the University of Denver. He was a middle school teacher in the Estes Park, Colo., school system.

1986

Steven Helfrich, Sebastian, Fla., died Dec. 4, 2017. A U.S. Navy veteran, he was a treatment director and social worker.

Marcia Schloemer, Waterloo, died May 23. She worked for Polk County ARC.

1988

Phyllis Chally Manley, Independence, Mo., died April 15. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of North Dakota.

1992

Mary Arenholz Lampe, Waverly, died Oct. 18. She worked for several area businesses, including Cedar Valley Friends of the Family.

NEWSOM CELEBRATES

25 YEARS

BY STEPHANIE ROBBINS BOEDING '99

PHOTO SUBMITTED



MARCUS NEWSOM, DIRECTOR OF CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK AND FIELD, has racked up an incredible list of accomplishments since taking the lead in 1999. Under his leadership, Wartburg track and field student-athletes have turned in 235 indoor and 302 outdoor Division III All-American performances and competed in 35 individual events earning national championship honors.

His national coaching honors are just as impressive. Newsom is a six-time United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Division III indoor women's Coach of the Year and three-time USTFCCCA Division III outdoor women's Coach of the Year.

Though bringing home the hardware is a definite perk of the job, Newsom said it most certainly isn't the best.

"I love watching the overall development and growth — as a person, student, and athlete — of each of the young men and women throughout their four years," Newsom said.

Newsom was recruited to Wartburg in 1994 by Richard Torgerson, then vice president of development. The two met at Bethany College while Newsom was a student and Torgerson was interim president.

"He and his wife, Judy, became a second family to me," Newsom said.

Wartburg has won 15 of 16 indoor women's conference championship/conference invitational titles from 2003 to 2018 and nine men's indoor championships since 2001. The women have won 18 consecutive outdoor titles (2000-17), and the men have won nine league outdoor titles since 2002.

Newsom's student-athletes always knew it wasn't just about the accolades.

"In high school, I was a three-time state champion, but didn't have a lot of training. Marcus helped transform me as an athlete," said **Tashina McAllister Steggall '14**, the 2014 national champion in 60m hurdles.

On the national level outdoors, Wartburg women have won five national championships and finished in the top 15 at nationals 18 times under Newsom. The men produced their best national finish in school history in 2008, tying for fifth place at the outdoor championships.

On the national level indoors, Newsom's teams have finished in the top 20 of 13 women's team competitions, including three national championships, and the men have placed in the top 20 six times.

"He believes that with hard work, mountains can be climbed, barriers can be broken, and what goal might seem impossible isn't only possible but is reality just waiting to happen," said Steve Johnson, retired head men's and women's cross country coach and assistant track and field coach at Wartburg (1991-2016). "His passion sets a standard of character for everyone in the program to act with integrity and sportsmanship."

In 2009, his women's teams became only the seventh in NCAA Division III history to sweep indoor and outdoor national titles in the same season and joined the Wartburg cross country program in earning the USTFCCCA's prestigious Deb Vercauteren Program of the Year award. The program also earned this award in 2012, 2013, and 2014.

Though Newsom will say the reason he's stayed at Wartburg as long as he has is because of the special students, alumni, faculty, and staff, others know he does more than just talk the talk.

"When he said he'd take care of my kids, he did, but it's not just my kids, it's every kid in the program," said Scott Ganshirt, a parent of three Wartburg student-athletes. "You hear a lot of people talk about how their team is a family, but at Wartburg it truly is family." 🏆



WARTBURG COLLEGE

UKNIGHT day 2019

UKnight Day is devoted to celebrating Wartburg College and having pride in being a Knight. We have 24 hours to reach our goal of 1,852 donors in honor of our founding year. Together we can reach this goal and impact the college for years to come! Save the date: March 28!



WWW.WARTBURG.EDU/UKNIGHTDAY

SAVE THE DATES

FEBRUARY

- 3 *Meistersinger Honor Band Festival Concert, Neumann Auditorium, 2 p.m.*
- 17 *Knight's Priority Scholarship Day*
- 24 *Wartburg-Waverly Community Symphony Concert featuring the Meistersinger Honor Orchestra, Neumann Auditorium, 3 p.m.*

MARCH

- 2-4 *Des Moines Orange Connection*
- 13 *Booster Club Spring Luncheon*
- 22-23 *Man of La Mancha musical*
- 23 *Athletic Booster Club Cash Draw*
- 28 *UKnight Day*

APRIL

- 5 *Junior Visit Day*
- 6 *Wartburg-Waverly Community Symphony Concert, Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.*
- 6 *Wartburg College Dance Marathon*
- 11 *RICE Day, campuswide, all day*
- 12 *Young Alumni Award Recognition Dinner*
- 12 *Alumni Board Meeting*

MAY

- 24-26 *Class of 1969 50-Year Reunion Weekend*
- 26 *Baccalaureate and Commencement*

OCTOBER

- 10-13 *Homecoming & Family Weekend*

Visit www.wartburg.edu/cal for more information about these and other Wartburg events. Call the Alumni Office at 319-352-8491 with questions.



We encourage you to browse our current and past projects to view the Wartburg Community in action. You can help by giving to a project today!

Visit www.wartburg.edu/ftf for more information.

THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS!

Gold Partners

Waverly Health Center

Silver Partners

Coca-Cola

First National Bank

We're social!



Wartburg College
Wartburg Knights
Wartburg Knight Vision



@WartburgCollege
@WartburgKnights



Wartburg College



Wartburg College

#WartburgWorthIt

Update your information online:
WWW.WARTBURG.EDU/ALUMNI



100 Wartburg Blvd.
P.O. Box 1003
Waverly, IA 50677-0903

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
WARTBURG COLLEGE

PHOTOS FROM CHRISTMAS WITH WARTBURG 2018

THE *Wearry* WORLD
REJOICES

