

CELEBRATE THE AWARD-WINNING GOLDEN FLASHES

# KENT STATE

VOLUME 9 - ISSUE 4 FALL 2010

Excellence in Action

MAGAZINE

*Proud of our  
Kent State Roots*

Eager  
to  
Share  
our  
Success



Comprehensive Nursing Programs | A Tribute to Katharine Hepburn  
Centennial Pride



# Pride and Optimism

alumni who speak about the transformational experience they had at Kent State with the theme of the campaign capturing the kind of education Kent State endeavors to provide for every student in every major: experience for life.

As Kent State alumni make their mark in fields from music to nursing (you can read more about our tremendous impact as Ohio's largest and most comprehensive nursing program in the following

pages), they also play a vital role in making a strong case for the university and public higher education with our political leaders at the local, state and national levels. In addition to sharing our success stories through commercials and publications like this, Kent State is highly proactive in communicating our accomplishments, contributions and aspirations via regular meetings with our representatives in Columbus and Washington, D.C.

The more our statehouse and congressional representatives have learned about our eight campuses, the more they have joined our growing community of supporters. For example, Kent State's partnership with the city of Kent and PARTA (Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority) was awarded a \$20 million federal grant for a multimodal transportation facility that will include a new bus transfer facility in downtown Kent and greatly expand travel options for the larger university community. And, as you will learn in this issue, the National Institutes of Health recognized our outstanding research in health psychology and neuropsychology with a \$2.7 million grant for a joint research project to explore why heart failure patients often find it difficult to manage their medical regimen.

Now that we've enjoyed nearly a year of taking stock and celebrating 100 years of Kent State service in the public good, the university's dedicated faculty, staff, students and graduates are eager to proceed full-speed ahead with our ongoing quest for excellence — excellence that provides experience for life. None is more eager than I am.



LESTER A. LEFTON  
President

Kent State University is wrapping up one of the most meaningful and memorable years in its remarkable, 100-year history. As we looked back on a century of service, innovation and leadership, our university community found countless reasons to renew the pride we take in our faculty, staff and students — past and present. At the same time, our excitement about our second century grew by leaps and bounds. This latest issue of *Kent State Magazine* provides compelling evidence of the former and the latter.

In particular, this issue shines a richly deserved spotlight on Kent State's greatest reason for pride and optimism about the future: our accomplished and caring alumni. As you will learn, the successes of Kent State graduates are the focus of new television commercials that were unveiled this fall. The campaign, was created to inform potential students about the high quality and real-world relevance of a Kent State education. The commercials feature alumni sharing their success stories and telling how Kent State made a difference in their lives. Each commercial features

**"Kent State ...  
excellence that provides  
experience for life."**

—Lester A. Lefton, President of Kent State University

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PHOTO BY BOB CHRISTY, '95

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A photograph of Mark Mothersbaugh, a man with grey hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light green shirt. He is standing outdoors with his hands raised in front of him, palms facing forward, in a gesture that could mean 'stop' or 'I surrender'. In the background, a blue sign with white lettering reads 'KENT STATE UNIVERSITY'. The sign is mounted on a brick wall. There are green bushes and a dirt path in the foreground and background.

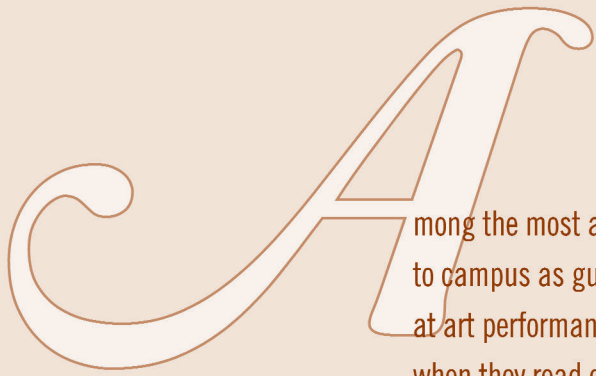
# *Narratives of Success*

Kent State graduates share how their **Kent State experience prepared them for life** and achievement as part of a new marketing campaign.

BY EMILY VINCENT, '97

PHOTOS BY BOB CHRISTY, '95, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Mark Mothersbaugh, co-founder of the 1970s new wave band Devo, recalls that his time at Kent State was “the beginning of my creative life.”



Among the most ardent advocates for Kent State University are its alumni. Whenever they return to campus as guest speakers, or fans at Golden Flashes sporting events or audience members at art performances — or when they support scholarships for students or beam with pride when they read or hear about their alma mater in the news — those who've attended Kent State prove to be the most fervent cheerleaders and supporters. This fact was not lost on the university's marketing team.

*Kent State alumni help shape an overall perception of the university with their achievements and engagement in communities where they live and work. With nearly 200,000 graduates, alumni are Kent State's largest constituency.*

"When we started work on our new advertising campaign, we thought letting alumni tell their individual stories about how Kent State helped shape who they are today was a natural segue from our recent communication that focused on the collective \$1.9 billion in added income contributed to Northeast Ohio's economy by Kent State and our alumni," says **Iris Harvey**, vice president for University Relations and chief marketing officer. "We know that alumni have personal, memorable, inspiring and empowering feelings about their alma mater. And we felt they would want to share them."

## *Honing the Strategy*

Alumni are one of the differences that set Kent State apart from any other university. Putting them in the spotlight of the branding campaign not only illustrates the value of a Kent State degree but also acknowledges the role of alumni as ongoing contributors to the success of the university. To help capture the pride and passion of alumni, the university partnered with a highly regarded ad agency, Fahlgren Advertising. Based in Columbus, Fahlgren has offices throughout Ohio, as well as in Atlanta, Charleston, W.Va. and Ft. Lauderdale, and represents such clients as McDonald's, the Ohio State University Medical Center and Napa Auto Parts. The decision

to engage a world-class advertising agency is consistent with Kent State President **Lester A. Lefton's** Excellence Agenda.

"We know that the competitive landscape for higher education increasingly demands bold initiatives to cut through the clutter and noise level created by the thousands of ad messages targeting college-bound students and their parents," says **Tom Neumann**, associate vice president for University Communications and Marketing.

## *Alumni Pride and Passion*

This fall, Kent State's new television commercials began airing. The commercials feature alumni sharing their success stories and discussing Kent State's impact on their lives.

Each commercial features alumni who speak about the transformational experience they had at Kent State. The audience gets to see the alumni in their workplaces and back on campus.

"In research, we found that the campaign struck the right balance of appealing to the head and the heart," Harvey says. "Respondents told us that seeing alumni at work sent the message that Kent State grads get good jobs, while seeing them on campus shows that alumni stay connected to the university."



*"When I graduated from Kent, I had multiple job offers and I was able to walk into a public relations agency and contribute from day one."*

*Gina Stikes-Shoehalter, '94*

Sisters Gina Stikes-Shoehalter (left) and Joan Stikes-Jenkins were able to realize their dream careers thanks to their education at Kent State.

*"I found my purpose at Kent State."*

*Joan Stikes-Jenkins, '93*

## *Showcasing Family Success*

With only 18 months difference in age, sisters *Joan Stikes-Jenkins, '93, B.S.N. '05*, and *Gina Stikes-Shoehalter, '94*, originally from Ravenna, Ohio, are best friends. Therefore, it was no surprise to their parents when first Joan and then Gina decided to attend Kent State. Joan majored in psychology and, later, nursing. Gina pursued a different course of study and graduated with a B.S. in public relations.

Today, Joan is a nurse at the Louis Stokes Cleveland Veterans Administration Medical Center that serves veterans and their families. Joan specializes in caring for homeless veterans, many who return from combat with post-traumatic stress disorders.

"Kent State exposed me to different challenges — taught me to do assessments, to think critically and prepared me to care for my patient's medical, emotional and social needs. I found my purpose at Kent State," Joan says.

Gina's pursuit of a public relations career led to her current position in New York City. Today, she is the director of public relations and marketing for msnbc.com. Gina's work includes collaborating with NBC affiliates worldwide to ensure news content is delivered online around the clock to millions of viewers.

Gina frequently visits family in Ravenna and stays connected to Kent State where she and Joan share many happy memories. Gina credits Kent State with preparing her for the success she has achieved in a demanding career.

"The great thing about Kent State was that it really prepared me for my career," Gina says. "I was able to work with a lot of professionals, learn from them and take that experience and build a fantastic portfolio. When I graduated from Kent, I had multiple job offers and I was able to walk into a public relations agency and be able to contribute from day one."

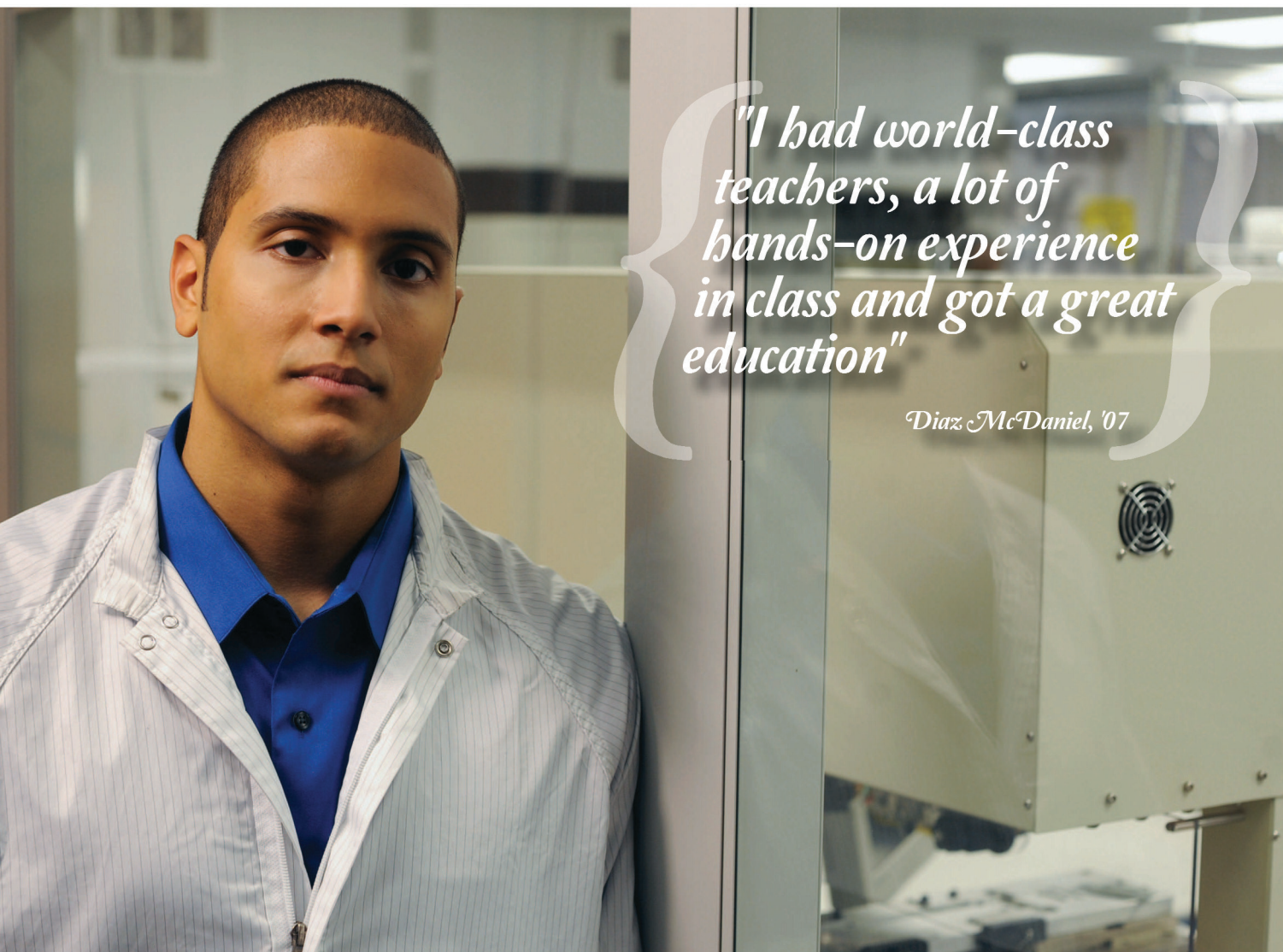
## *Tapping into technology*

Diaz McDaniel, '07, is a Cleveland native. McDaniel graduated with a B.S. and received a M.T.E.C. in '08, both from the College of Technology. Today, he is a process engineer at Kent Displays Inc., a Kent-based technology firm that was the first spin-off company and licensee of the university's Liquid Crystal Institute®.

McDaniel, who worked toward his masters while working at Kent Displays, thrives on the excitement of being part of a high-energy entrepreneurial venture that is breaking records. He is quick to acknowledge the impact of Kent State on his life.

"(Kent State) gave me the skill set that I needed to understand what is going on in the manufacturing process," McDaniel says. "You can't jump in and automatically understand what is going on. You have to experience it like I did here. I had world-class teachers, a lot of hands-on experience in class and got a great education. I have a great job that has been everything I hoped it would be and more."

Hands-on experience and great professors are what helped Diaz McDaniel find his niche as a process engineer at a cutting-edge technology firm in Kent.



*"I had world-class teachers, a lot of hands-on experience in class and got a great education"*

*Diaz McDaniel, '07*



*"Kent State was the  
beginning of my  
creative life"*

*Mark Mothersbaugh*

## *Composing a successful career*

Mark Mothersbaugh, an Akron native, learned as a child that he was legally blind. But that knowledge did not stop him from discovering he had a passion for art. At Kent State, Mothersbaugh learned how to turn his passion into creative expression where he has found success on and off the stage, in song, composition and design.

Mothersbaugh founded the new wave band Devo with fellow Kent State art student *Gerald Casale*, '70, in the early 1970s. The band's name comes from de-evolution, a term the two coined following the May 4 shootings on campus. They decided that what they were observing in the world was not evolution, but de-evolution.

In addition to Devo's success, Mothersbaugh has become a successful composer, writing musical scores for film and television. He founded Mutato Muzika, an audio services company in Los Angeles in 1989. He is known for his work on *Rugrats*, *Clifford the Big Red Dog*, *Yo Gabba Gabba*, *The Royal Tenenbaums* and *Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs*. Most recently, Devo released its first album of new material in 20 years, and Mothersbaugh and his bandmates spent the past summer doing concerts across the country.

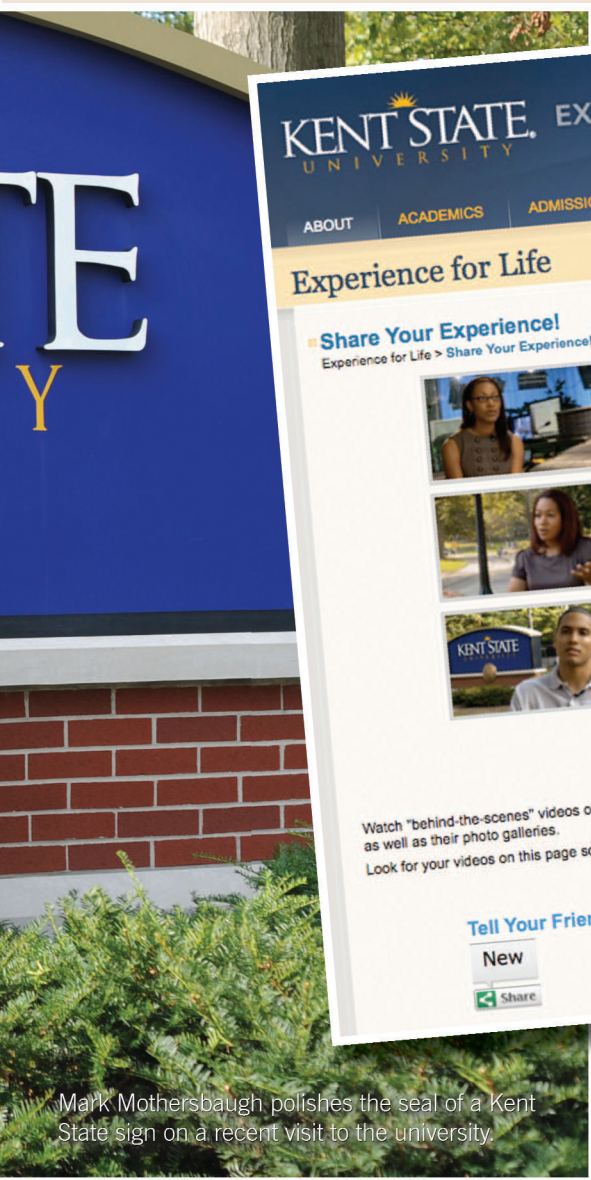
Mothersbaugh, who also scored the music for all three Kent State commercials, received a honorary doctorate in 2008 that recognized his body of work. He credits the university with nurturing his artistic abilities.

"In a lot of ways for me, Kent State was the beginning of my creative life," he says. "It was the opportunity to focus and really come to the decision that I wanted to be an artist. I always kind of thought that was what I wanted but Kent State gave me the ammo that I needed to go out and create."

## *Inspiration*

As an expression of President Lefton's Excellence Agenda, the institutional slogan, Excellence in Action, communicates the foundation of Kent State as a premier educational institution. With the new campaign, the university adds to that intellectual and rational expression by introducing a campaign tagline that is inspirational and gets at the heart of Kent State as a community of people — students, faculty, staff and alumni — whose lives are connected and enriched and who share values and a collective experience. To illustrate this point, Fahlgren Advertising created a campaign theme and tagline: *Experience for Life*.

"At the end of the day, that's our promise to each student," Harvey says.



Mark Mothersbaugh polishes the seal of a Kent State sign on a recent visit to the university.



## Tell us your story!

Alumni, faculty, staff and students — visit the campaign website, [www.kent.edu/experienceforlife](http://www.kent.edu/experienceforlife), to view the commercials, additional interviews and tell us your story by sharing your own video.

## A million-dollar campaign

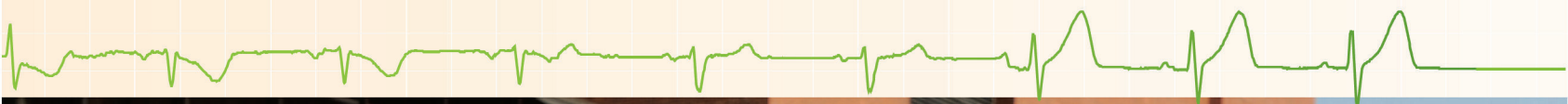
"This is one of the biggest investments the university has ever made in advertising," Harvey says. "This commitment is consistent with our role as the region's leading public university, Ohio's third largest university and Kent State's aim to shed its best-kept-secret status."

The university wants as many people as possible to know that it is a world-class institution, providing more than 200 degree programs and offering family-friendly tuition. The demographically and geographically diverse Regional Campus system makes it possible for every Ohioan to get a college education. Kent State has been doing this for a century, and nearly 200,000 accomplished graduates are its legacy.

The new advertising campaign kicked off on Sept. 18 with spots running on ESPN/cable during the Kent State and Penn State football game. Television coverage runs throughout northeastern Ohio, as well as Columbus and Pittsburgh. An online campaign will reach audiences in out-of-state markets such as New York/New Jersey, Chicago, Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. Look for the ads during popular shows like *Family Guy*, *The Office* and *The Today Show*.

College-bound students and parents also will encounter the campaign online as they engage in social media sites like Facebook and YouTube. In addition, a campaign website, [www.kent.edu/experienceforlife](http://www.kent.edu/experienceforlife), has been created that has each commercial posted, plus behind-the-scenes interviews with the featured alumni, other alums, students and faculty.

It's not feasible to do big television productions for all the wonderful stories within the Kent State family, but the Internet makes it possible for these stories to be shared. Alumni are encouraged to take out their video cameras and let them roll as they tell their stories. Then, go online to the campaign website listed above and upload and share your experience for life with the world. 🌟



# The HEART of the Matter

**NIH awards a \$2.7 million grant to Kent State**  
to study cognitive impairment in heart failure patients.

| BY EMILY VINCENT, '97 | PHOTO BY BOB CHRISTY, '95 |



Standing in front of Summa Akron City Hospital, Kent State University researchers and psychologists Dr. John Gunstad (left) and Dr. Joel Hughes (right) are studying cognitive impairment in heart failure patients with a \$2.7 million grant awarded to the university by the National Institutes of Health.

**“If we help people with heart failure stay out of the hospital and stay healthy, we can help reduce chronic illness in society,”**

—Dr. Joel Hughes, associate professor of psychology at Kent State

**T**he National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded a \$2.7 million grant to Kent State University for a collaborative research project with Case Western Reserve University School of Nursing, Summa Health System in Akron and University Hospitals Case Medical Center in Cleveland to study cognitive impairment in heart failure patients. The four-year grant from NIH's National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute runs through Jan. 31, 2014.

The goal of the study is to improve patient health and reduce medical costs by understanding why heart failure patients have trouble managing their complex medical regimen. The study addresses an important public health issue. The U.S. has five million heart failure patients, with \$43 billion spent annually on their health care. Heart failure is also the largest category of hospital admissions for Medicare.

“When people have heart failure, they often have some level of cognition impairment,” explains Dr. Joel Hughes, associate professor of psychology at Kent State and co-principal investigator of the grant. “By cognitive impairment, we mean that a patient’s memory may not be as good as it used to be, they have more difficulty sustaining attention or they cannot make decisions as quickly. These impairments are not as extreme as dementia or Alzheimer’s, but executive functions, like those you make when driving a car, may have been adversely affected.”

Little is known about how the cognitive status of heart failure patients affects management of their illness. “We know there’s impairment,” Hughes says. “If you have a mild cognitive impairment, we think it’s harder to manage your illness, but there is no clear evidence of this.”

### The Heart ABC Study

The study, titled “The Heart ABC Study: Adherence Behavior and Cognition,” aims to evaluate how cognitive abilities in heart failure patients relate to self-management behaviors. A mild cognitive impairment can affect heart failure patients’ ability to remember to take their medications, for example.

The grant-funded research brings together experts in medicine, nursing and psychology to take an interdisciplinary approach at studying cognitive impairment and self-management in heart failure patients. Kent State is working with Summa’s Akron City Hospital, while Case Western Reserve University is working with University Hospitals. Each site is recruiting 200 patients, representing a broad mix of people between the ages of 50 and 85 years old in the Cleveland and Akron areas.

Prevention is important among heart failure patients. “If we help people with heart failure stay out of the hospital and stay healthy, we can help reduce chronic illness in society,” Hughes says.

The NIH grant also demonstrates the strength of Kent State’s Department of Psychology. “This is a large grant for our department, and it builds a clear strength in health psychology and chronic health disease,” Hughes says. “We now have more than \$5 million in current funding in the area of heart failure.” ■

[CLICK HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION](#)

# A LEGEND ON DISPLAY

The Kent State University Museum celebrates the fashion and legacy of Katharine Hepburn.

| BY ERIN C. PERKINS, KENT STATE MAGAZINE JOURNALISM STUDENT |

**L**egendary actress Katharine Hepburn had presence both on and off stage. Hepburn was a gutsy legend in trousers, a fearless performer and a complicated, charismatic persona. She captured the imagination of her audiences as a fashion icon and role model in ways that continue to influence people.

The aura of Hepburn, who is listed by the American Film Institute as Hollywood's greatest screen legend, will be embodied in an exhibit at the Kent State University Museum celebrating her fashion legacy and artistry.

"Katharine Hepburn: Dressed for Stage and Screen" will run Oct. 2, 2010, through Sept. 4, 2011. Mannequins, some of which were made especially because of Hepburn's slender 20-inch waist, will showcase the screen legend's performance clothes, including stage and film costumes spanning Hepburn's career, as well as ensembles she wore for publicity purposes.



## A FITTING VENUE

When the museum acquired the Hepburn collection from her estate in 2008, **Jean Druesedow**, the museum's director, knew that an exhibit was a must for the school and the community.

"Of course, an exhibition was the first thing on my mind," Druesedow says, adding that obtaining a collection such as this speaks to the museum's credibility and reputation as a must-see destination.

The museum received nearly 1,000 pieces, including false eyelashes, makeup, hairpins and hairpieces, in addition to Hepburn's performance and publicity clothing. Druesedow believes that Hepburn, who came into prominence in the 1930s, had a sense of style that remains influential because she wore what defined her as a person and paved the way for women to wear trousers in a time when it was not acceptable.

"I think she was independent and determined to be comfortable in whatever she was wearing. She knew how to use clothes to say what she wanted the world to know — her clothes represented her, and she understood deeply what clothes communicated," Druesedow says. She added that the exhibit also will go on tour to other institutions.

## AN EXTENDED RUN

After the exhibition opens, a full schedule of events will celebrate Hepburn's influence on fashion, her life and artistry, stage and screen costume design, and the impact of the entertainment industry on fashion. Those events include a film series, special reception opportunities at the museum and three courses on Hepburn through Kent State's Women's Studies Program.

"The women's studies program is pleased to be part of the Katharine Hepburn exhibition, a sweet and golden opportunity for our campus and community to celebrate and plumb the depths of a singular American woman and her legacy," says **Suzanne Holt**, director of the Women's Studies Program. "As part of our involvement, we are introducing three new courses, which simply boil down to the significance of women, with the caliber of Hepburn, who've challenged preexisting definitions and expectations with their lives and legacies."

The courses began in summer 2010 with Women and Comedy, and continue with Hollywood's Iconic Women in fall 2010 and Katharine Hepburn: A Rarity in spring 2011.

"Our particular program has been offering a wide range of special topics courses for nearly a decade now, and here this dropped in our lap — a perfect reason to stretch that range a little further," Holt says.

These new courses will offer students looks at culture's portrayals of women while teaching about iconic women who proved those portrayals inadequate. In doing so, students will enlarge their scope, understanding and empathy for women. As to the significance of the exhibit, Holt offered, "No doubt, Hepburn stands for different things to different people."

"She was truly one of a kind — a woman who insisted on her truth in her voice with her presence," Holt says. "A feminist by act, not declaration. A pioneer. A renowned actress. A fashion icon. A legendarily outspoken, fiercely independent and unconventional woman. It's hard to argue with a career six decades long or 12 Academy Award nominations and four wins, and it's harder yet to argue with the place history has reserved for her." ■

CLICK HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION

CLICK HERE TO WATCH VIDEO  
ON THE  
HEPBURN EXHIBIT

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE KENT STATE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

"Hepburn  
stands for different  
things to different  
people ... she was  
truly one of  
a kind ..."

— Suzanne Holt, director of the  
Women's Studies Program

The pieces that will appear  
in the exhibit were carefully  
selected, and some of the standout  
garments include:

**Stage costumes** from *The Philadelphia Story* and *Without Love*, as well as Broadway shows *Coco*, *West Side Waltz* and *A Matter of Gravity*.

**Film costumes and pieces** from *Alice Adams*, *Adam's Rib* and the television movie *Love Among the Ruins*.

**Publicity outfits** from *Guess Who's Coming To Dinner*, as well as examples of her iconic beige trousers, linen vests and tailored jackets that became Hepburn's signature look.

Kent State nursing students gain skills and knowledge through clinical experiences. With more than 200 affiliations with clinics, hospitals and agencies across Northeast Ohio, some of which are world-class health care institutions, students benefit from a wealth of practical expertise.



# They're the Best

**The College of Nursing** — 48 years strong and proud to be Ohio's largest, most comprehensive program

| BY BOB BURFORD AND KATHY DONCHESS |

PHOTOS BY BOB CHRISTY, '95

## Flash back to spring 2007: ...

College of Nursing faculty member *Diana Fleming* is on rounds with her students at Akron General Hospital when they enter the room of *Olga A. Mural*, one of Kent State's most generous supporters. On *Mural's* bedside table is a photograph of her and President **Lester A. Lefton**. Around her neck, *Mural* wears a Kent State necklace. She is quick to greet the group, asking if they are Kent State nursing students because she wants only them. "They're the best!" she exclaims.

**A**s a patient, the late *Mural* wasn't typical, but her opinion was — Kent State nursing students are constantly earning accolades.

The staff of the 80 Northeast Ohio hospitals, clinics and health care agencies that provide clinical experiences for nearly 450 students annually consider Kent State nursing students to be well-prepared, eager-to-learn, critical thinkers who employ evidence-based practice.

"At University Hospitals, we look for nurses who demonstrate our core values of compassion, integrity, teamwork, excellence and respect for diversity," says Susan Frejofsky, University Hospital Staff Coordinator for Women's Services. "Kent State's



## NURSING EDUCATION IN A NEW DIMENSION — Innovative Technology Simulates Reality

In the Olga A. Mural Simulation Laboratory, students practice and improve patient care delivery with the help of realistically simulated illnesses and responses. The cutting-edge patient care complex emulates the conditions and situations nurses encounter in realistic settings, helping students learn critical thinking skills in a safe environment.

The new laboratory complex offers a realistic clinical setting with three patient care pods outfitted with a high-fidelity manikin, interactive adult and baby manikins and a virtual intravenous simulator. Small groups can observe patient care through a large two-way mirror between the complex and the viewing seminar room.

Olga A. Mural donated the lead gift to the College of Nursing through the University Foundation, which helped build this \$250,000 nursing simulation laboratory.



Students are eager to learn and make a difference in the lives of their patients. Here two recent graduates pose for a picture with the babies they helped deliver.

graduates display those qualities. They are well-prepared for entry-level positions and progress successfully up the career ladder. We hire a lot of Kent State graduates."

## Leading the Way

In the face of a growing national nursing shortage, one that is particularly acute in Northeast Ohio, the College of Nursing is addressing that need. As the largest college of nursing in the state and the fourth largest program in the country — as ranked by *Modern Healthcare Magazine* — Kent State leads the way by graduating nurses who are ready to provide competent, capable, evidence-based, high-quality care.

"We offer the most comprehensive nursing programs in the state," says Dr. **Laura Dzurec**, dean of the College of Nursing.

The college continually responds to the needs of the changing market, focusing on basic nursing education as well as advanced practice, leadership and doctoral education. Kent State is one of only three schools in the state and the only program in Northeast Ohio

"Kent State's graduates ... are well-prepared for entry-level positions and progress successfully up the career ladder."

—Susan Frejofsky, University Hospital Staff Coordinator for Women's Services

offering a master's degree for advanced practice in acute care.

Faculty member **Louann Bailey**, director of the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program says, "There is an increased need around the country for advanced practice nurses with skills in assessing and caring for the critically ill."

Advanced practice nurses work with and coordinate the health care team and guide the patient's care from beginning to end, managing every aspect of care with skill and expertise. Kent State is also moving toward

implementing a new advanced degree, the D.N.P. or Doctorate of Nursing Practice.

## Charting the Future

Two Kent State nursing professors are working on a project soon to play a major role in educating future nurses, including those far beyond our region.

**Barbara Yoost**, '77, M.S.N. '94, and **Lynne Crawford**, '78, M.B.A. '01, are co-authoring a new *Fundamentals in Nursing* textbook for

The second-degree Accelerated B.S.N. program allows bachelor-prepared students to complete a nursing degree in 14 months. The intense and challenging program has more than quadrupled in size over the past several years, thus helping to address the nursing shortage.

McGraw-Hill. Theirs will be the first original and up-to-date text in more than 15 years. "Most of the current nursing fundamental textbooks have been edited seven or eight times; the tendency is to add things, not to update them," says Yoost.

The team is committed to developing a concise, contemporary, leading-edge text for nursing education across the continuum. But the textbook is only part of the story. Yoost and Crawford are collaborating with McGraw-Hill and the Danish specialty software firm Area9 to provide supplemental materials that will utilize the most innovative learning technologies available.

Online simulations using state-of-the-art ActiveSim software will allow students an unprecedented level of interaction.

"With the virtual skills simulations, students will actually have the experience of seeing 'real' patients in a variety of scenarios when using those resources," Yoost explains. "The online experiences allow students to assess patients and perform nursing tasks with less stress, maximizing the learning outcomes."

## Cultivating Professional Leaders

Kent State nursing graduates make up 43 percent of the professional nursing workforce in Northeast Ohio, and many have gone on to significant nursing leadership roles.

Rebecca M. Patton, '80, says, "The Kent State faculty nurtured me and helped me become who I am today." Patton is the immediate past president of the American Nurses Association, and is listed among American's Most Powerful People in Healthcare for 2010 by *Modern Healthcare Magazine*. Patton's travels spanned the continent and the globe during her four-year tenure as president of the ANA. By meeting with many of the ANA's more than 3.1 million professional nurses, Patton helped advance many important issues to nurses and the patients they serve.

Additional Kent State nursing grads who demonstrate the university's high-quality of programming are Linda Q. Everett, '77, executive vice president and chief nursing

executive at Clarian Health in Indianapolis and past president of the American Organization of Nurse Executives; Barbara L. Drew, M.S.N. '90, associate professor with the College of Nursing and past president of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association; Claire M. Zangerle, M.S.N. '06, president and chief executive officer of the Visiting Nurse Association of Ohio; and Lisa A. Aurilio, '87, M.S.N. '99, chief nursing officer at Akron Children's Hospital.

## Bridging the Gap

The College of Nursing makes daily contributions to the advancement of nursing knowledge. "We bridge the gap between education and practice, preparing today's students for exciting careers in nursing," Dzurec says. Students and faculty in the College of Nursing are optimistic about a future that is full of possibility. Opportunities in the nursing profession are innumerable, enhanced by the strong foundation of nursing education at Kent State University. ■

CLICK HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION



# RANKED AMONG THE WORLD'S BEST

*The Times* of London ranks Kent State among the world's top 200 universities.

PHOTO BY JEFF GLIDDEN, '87



PHOTO BY BOB CHRISTY, '95



PHOTO BY BOB CHRISTY, '95

As Kent State University continues its Centennial celebration, it received a special recognition that reinforces the global impact and reputation of the university. *The Times* of London newspaper has ranked Kent State as one of the top 200 universities in the world. Kent State was the only public research university in Northeast Ohio to be awarded the honor, and one of only four in the state of Ohio to make the list, along with Case Western Reserve University, The Ohio State University and the University of Cincinnati.

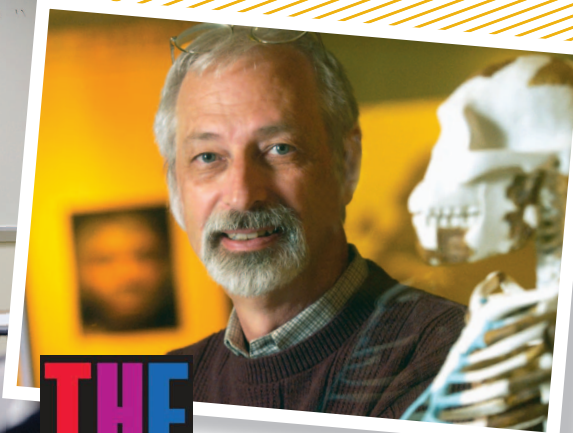


PHOTO BY BOB CHRISTY, '95

## THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

The 2010–2011 World University Rankings — considered “the gold standard for world-class research institutions” by *The Times* — appears in the newspaper’s higher education supplement, the *Times Higher Education*. The newspaper partnered with Thomson Reuters to compile and issue this year’s list. Kent State ranks 79th among universities in North America and 196th in the world. The world ranking comes on the heels of the 2011 edition of *Best Colleges* by U.S. News Media Group, where Kent State received a coveted spot in the first-tier list of Best National Universities (see sidebar: *U.S. News Names Kent State in its Best National Universities List*).

For the seventh annual list, the 2010–11 World University Rankings used a sophisticated new methodology that constitutes the most detailed, rigorous and comprehensive study of global university performance ever taken.

“We would like to congratulate Kent State University for its performance in this year’s rigorous rankings,” says Ann Mroz, editor of the *Times Higher Education*. “Being ranked among the world’s top 200 is an impressive achievement. The top 200 universities in the world represent only a tiny fraction of world higher education, and any institution that makes it into this table is truly world class.”

Kent State University President **Lester A. Lefton** says the world ranking helps bring attention to the great things happening at the university. “We are truly a world-class institution of higher education, and this prestigious international ranking by *The Times* of London confirms that,” Lefton says. “We have had a tremendous Centennial year, from achieving the highest enrollment ever in our 100-year history, to having our best

fundraising year ever, to boasting our best year for federally funded research and submitting a record number of research proposals.”

“I am truly proud of our accomplishments this past year,” Lefton continues. “These achievements are true examples of the excellence in action at Kent State.”

The global rankings are built on 13 separate performance indicators designed to capture the full range of university activities, from teaching to research to knowledge transfer. These 13 elements are brought together into five broad categories, which are: teaching, citations (measuring research influence), research (measured in volume, income and reputation), international mix (measured in staff and student ratios) and industry income (measured in knowledge transfer or practical applications of research).

“Our tables are based on rigorous data provided by Thomson Reuters, and, for the first time, an invitation-only reputation survey of more than 13,000 verified academics was conducted by (market research company) Ipsos Mori,” says Phil Baty, editor of *Times Higher Education World University Rankings*. “This ensures that we have very high-quality data, both qualitative and quantitative.”

“As global higher education is becoming more competitive than ever, inclusion in this year’s ranking is an impressive achievement for any institution,” Baty says. ■

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

ON THE  
2010-11 WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS  
AND TO SEE A COMPLETE LIST

## U.S. NEWS NAMES KENT STATE IN ITS BEST NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES LIST

Kent State University earned a coveted spot on the first-tier list of the Best National Universities in the 2011 edition of *Best Colleges* by U.S. News Media Group. In the exclusive rankings, Kent State ranked 183 out of the 1,400 ranked schools, and was the only public research university in Northeast Ohio to make the first-tier list.

Over the past two decades, the U.S. News college rankings, which group schools based on categories created by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, has grown to be one of the most comprehensive research tools for students and parents considering higher education opportunities.

“Receiving the recognition by U.S. News helps confirm what we already know — that Kent State is one of the best universities in the country,” says Kent State University President **Lester A. Lefton**. “I’m pleased that we earned a spot in the first-tier list. The ranking gives Kent State added visibility, particularly in front of an audience of parents and students who are interested in reviewing options in higher education.”

The 2011 *Best Colleges* edition provides a thorough examination of how more than 1,400 accredited four-year schools compare on a set of up to 16 widely accepted indicators of excellence. Among the many factors weighed in determining the rankings, the key measures of quality include peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and, for national universities and national liberal arts colleges, graduation rate performance and high school counselor ratings of colleges.



# From the City to the Country, Kent State Is Building for the Future

**Kent State University at Tuscarawas and the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative** revitalize their presence in their communities.

BY KIMBERLEY SIRK

**R**ising from the pastoral setting of Kent State University at Tuscarawas is a steel and glass testament to the enduring and timeless draw of the performing arts. Not only will the Performing Arts Center at Kent State Tuscarawas enhance the campus's academic and cultural programs, but it also will make an important economic impact on the local community.

Construction began on the Performing Arts Center at Kent State Tuscarawas in October of 2008 and was funded by donations to a capital campaign established just for this purpose, with the total cost estimated at \$17.5 million.

The fundraising campaign is in its final phase and includes a faculty-staff component and community appeals.

The 50,000-square-foot center will house a 1,100-seat theatre, an orchestra pit with a lift, a box office,

dressings rooms, classrooms, and state-of-the-art lighting, sound and acoustics systems throughout.

A generous gift of a Steinway piano, which will be stored in a specially designed, climate-controlled room, will serve as an additional benefit for the facility and performers. The handcrafted instrument was a gift from Dr. Daniel and Mary Miller of Walnut Creek.

Other back-of-the-house features include a multipurpose rehearsal room complete with a sprung dance floor, ballet bar and mirrors, musical instrument storage and an 18-foot acoustic ceiling.

In Oct. 2009, the campus hired Mike Morelli, a professional performing arts center manager and educator, who was charged with putting together a wide range of shows to make the first season decidedly memorable. The inaugural season kicks off Nov. 27.

"The opening week is a celebration and sampling of the broad range of performances that our spectacular facility was designed to showcase," says Dr. **Gregg Andrews**, dean and chief administrative

officer of Kent State Tuscarawas. "We are proud to offer an exciting debut schedule that includes platinum-selling pianist Jim Brickman, nationally acclaimed dance company Luna Negra and the touring production of the Broadway sensation *Cats*."

"We are also partnering with the Tuscarawas Philharmonic, and are proud to have become its performance home."

CLICK HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION



## Kent State in the City

Kent State's Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, which is part of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, is a community service organization committed to improving the quality of urban places through technical design assistance, research, education and advocacy.



Two graduate students work in the new Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative building on Euclid Avenue in Cleveland.

By virtue of its mission, the physical presence of the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative supports the veracity of the emerging urban district where the collaborative is housed. This fall, the collaborative will celebrate its relocation to Cleveland's District of Design, an area in downtown Cleveland adjacent to and including PlayhouseSquare, on Euclid Avenue.

"Our new location in the District of Design, which overlaps with PlayhouseSquare, nudges us up against Cleveland State University, with which we share many partnerships," says **Terry Schwarz**, director of the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative. "We are also a close neighbor of the Idea Center, which is the broadcast home of public radio station WCPN-FM and public television station WVIZ. It's simple and convenient to share their facilities when we need more space, or when we are called on for a broadcast interview."

Schwarz is an urban planner who has established a name in the local, national and international planning communities due to her creative and prescient work in temporary installations, or "Pop Up" events.

The downtown Cleveland area surrounding PlayhouseSquare, from East 13th to East 18th streets, is considered the District of Design, and is envisioned to include architecture, engineering, design and planning firms and programs.

The relocation is supported by grants from the Cleveland Foundation, George Gund Foundation and the Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust. Cleveland's Sandvick Architects has donated design services that will help create a new space. The facility also benefited from historic preservation tax credits.

The new offices of the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative will house graduate programs in architecture and urban design, as well as its urban design and planning practice, which provides urban planning services across Northeast Ohio.

"We able to share in so many creative partnerships from this location," says Schwarz.

"In addition, we've benefited from even serendipitous meetings on the street or in a café or restaurant due to our proximity to what's going on in Cleveland," Schwarz adds. "This enriches the student experience and makes us a player in not only the rebirth of Cleveland, but also the international discussions about shrinking cities, land use and other current issues in the urban environment." ■

**CLICK HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION**

## The New Roe Green Center Unites Theatre and Dance

When completed in late 2010, the Roe Green Center — an estimated \$12 million, 70,000-square-foot project — will unite the School of Theatre and Dance under one roof for the first time since the two programs merged in 1994.

Green's \$6.5 million gift — the largest capital donation in the history of Kent State University — will enable theatre and dance students to learn in state-of-the-art classrooms, enhanced production construction facilities, studios and labs. It also will allow students in both programs to collaborate in new and exciting ways in a performance space dedicated to student creative projects and new works.

**For more information on the grand opening, visit [www.theatre.kent.edu](http://www.theatre.kent.edu).**

# Kent State Earns Reese and Jacoby Trophies

The **Golden Flashes** win both in one year for the first time in the university's history.

BY ALAN ASHBY



PHOTO COURTESY INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

**T**he Reese and Jacoby Trophies have long been recognized as standards of excellence in the Mid-American Conference, and Kent State is certainly no stranger to either award. Previously, the Golden Flashes had claimed the Jacoby Trophy for women's athletic excellence a total of six times (1989, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2004 and 2005), while winning the Reese Trophy for men's excellence on four occasions (2000, 2002, 2006 and 2009). However, that comprehensive excellence was taken to a new level in 2009-10, as Kent State swept both awards in the same year for the first time in the history of the program, becoming the first school to win both since 1998.

"Winning both awards in the same year brings into clear focus the outstanding achievements, hard work, sacrifice and dedication of our student-athletes and coaches," says Kent State Director of Athletics Joel Nielsen. "It is a privilege for me to have inherited such a tremendously talented group of people whose singular focus is on being the best at whatever they do. The entire university can take pride in this accomplishment."

For more information, visit [News and Events](http://News and Events).  
[www.kent.edu/news](http://www.kent.edu/news)

# Golden Flashes Win Inaugural Centennial Cup

Midwestern universities commemorate  
100 years of success with a friendly rivalry.

BY ALAN ASHBY

With Kent State University and Bowling Green State University both celebrating centennials, the colleges decided last summer to commemorate 100 years of athletic competition by going head-to-head in a friendly rivalry called the Centennial Cup Challenge.

The Falcons held a slim advantage (4.5-3.5) at the end of January, but a huge spring semester saw the Golden Flashes surge to an insurmountable 13.5-7.5 lead with just the Oct. 23 football game remaining.

"In-state rivalries are a big part of what make college athletics so special, and it's great that we were able to partner with Bowling Green to recognize the centennial of both universities," says Kent State University Director of Athletics **Joel Nielsen**. "I'm very proud of the way all of our teams competed throughout the year, and our performance against the Falcons was certainly no exception."

As a result of its strong yearlong performance, Kent State will be presented with the inaugural Centennial Cup at its home men's basketball game against the Falcons in the early part of 2011.



Get ready for a new fan experience at **Dix Stadium**

BY ALAN ASHBY



Over the summer, the Kent State University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics launched an innovative and multifaceted plan to not only sell football tickets, but also bring a completely new type of fan experience to Dix Stadium this fall.

In response to the NCAA-mandated goal of selling 90,000 tickets per season, the 90Ksu: Everyone Counts initiative was created with the purpose of giving Kent State students, their families, faculty, staff and the community a memorable experience when they root for the Golden Flashes.

"I've said from day one that football is going to be a priority," says Director of Athletics **Joel Nielsen**. "90Ksu is about much more than just selling tickets though. This is about improving the fan experience, about making Dix Stadium a destination six times each fall. We want our fans to be actively involved in and take pride and ownership in Golden Flashes football."

Game day begins with a brand new tailgate in the Field House adjacent to Dix Stadium. The exciting event includes live music, a picnic area, food vendors, inflatables and more. After the game, kids are free to run around on the Dix Stadium turf.

The best part? There are still five games left to see the Golden Flashes, beginning with the Oct. 9 Homecoming tilt against rival Akron. Kent State will also be hosting Ball State (Oct. 30), Temple (Nov. 6), Army (Nov. 13) and Ohio (Nov. 26).

Visit [www.90Ksu.com](http://www.90Ksu.com), call 330-672-2244 or stop by the MAC Center Ticket Office to pick up your football tickets today.

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBER PROFILE

## LISA AURILIO, '87, M.S.N. '99

VICE PRESIDENT OF PATIENT SERVICES/CHIEF NURSING OFFICER, AKRON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



PHOTO BY BOB CHRISTY, '95

**LISA AURILIO, '87, M.S.N. '99**, chief nursing officer at Akron Children's Hospital, ensures high-quality patient care for pediatric patients across the Northeast Ohio region at Akron Children's Hospital's multiple hospital sites. She also manages human and fiscal resources, 278 acute care beds on three hospital campuses and 1,700 employees, including seven nursing directors and 14 nurse managers. Before becoming chief nursing officer, Aurilio served as a nursing director at Akron Children's Hospital. She is currently in the Health Care Executive MBA program at Kent State University.



### WHAT KENT STATE MEANS TO ME

My education from Kent State — for both my B.S.N. and M.S.N. and now my Health Care Executive MBA — are the foundation of my practice as a nurse and administrator. It is part of the fabric of who I am and how I practice. No matter how infrequently I return to campus, it always feels like going home.

### FAVORITE KENT STATE MEMORY

Stringing and hanging my blue Kent State student nurse uniform across Risman Plaza at the Kent Student Center with the rest of my classmates following graduation.

### WHAT IS THE GREATEST LESSON YOU LEARNED AT KENT STATE?

The greatest lesson I learned at Kent State was the value of being involved in your community. It is not enough to just sit back and complain. Being part of the process and the community is what makes the difference in all aspects of life.

### MOST SIGNIFICANT LIFE ACCOMPLISHMENT

I believe it has been being able to touch so many lives over the years — first as a staff nurse, caring for new mothers and newborns after birth, and now as a chief nursing officer, ensuring that high-quality nursing care is provided to children across Northeast Ohio. Knowing that my work has made a difference in other's lives is what I consider to be my most significant life accomplishment.

### WHY DID YOU JOIN THE KENT STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

I have been a member since my baccalaureate graduation in 1987. I wanted to be sure that I stayed connected with the place that had such a profound impact on my life and to ensure that others who came after me could have the same positive experiences that I had. It has been an opportunity for me to give back.

### MEMBERS SUPPORT PROGRAMS THAT:

- Build and sustain lifelong relationships;
- Encourage learning and professional growth;
- Celebrate the successes of alumni, faculty and students; and
- Share the excitement of university accomplishments.

**JOIN NOW ONLY \$35 A YEAR**  
visit [www.ksualumni.org](http://www.ksualumni.org) or call 1-888-320-KENT

# CLASSNOTES

**SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH US!** The Alumni Association wants to publish photographs of you and other Kent State alumni. If you recently attended a wedding or another event with other alumni, then send us your photos. We welcome all photos but will not be able to publish pictures with just one alumnus due to the high number of pictures we receive. Please do not send photos that you wish to have returned. You may e-mail photographs, preferably high-resolution digital images, to [alumni@kent.edu](mailto:alumni@kent.edu). Make sure to include a caption with the names of alumni in the photo and their graduating years.

**'54 James E. Littlefield**, Ph.D., Blacksburg, Va., professor and former head of the Department of Marketing in the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech, has been honored with emeritus status. Littlefield taught a variety of marketing courses, specialized in international marketing, led more than 30 education abroad programs and received the Alumni Award for Excellence in International Education. Littlefield also served on 26 master's and doctoral committees and was the head of the Department of Marketing for seven years.

**'62 James W. Sturtz**, M.A., '69, Birmingham, Mich., has been promoted to senior vice president, Compass Group Associates Ltd., a management consultancy and executive interim management firm.

**'69 Nicolas Andreadis**, Ph.D., Kalamazoo, Mich., is the new dean of the Western Michigan University Lee Honors College.

**'72 Mary Jo Grap**, Ph.D., Midlothian, Va., has been named as one of four Nursing Alumni Endowed Professors at the VCU School of Nursing. She is a professor in the Department of Adult Health and Nursing Systems and the administrative core co-director for the school's Center of Excellence in Biobehavioral Approaches to Symptom Management. In 2009, the American Association of Critical Care Nurses named Grap its Distinguished Nurse Researcher. She was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing in 2004.

**'73 Curt Cacioppo**, Haverford, Pa., released *Italia*, a collection of three chamber works inspired by or written in Italian locales. The collection can be purchased at [navonarecords.com](http://navonarecords.com). **Nick L. Saban**, M.Ed. '75, Tuscaloosa, Ala., University of Alabama's head football coach, won the national Bowl Championship Series title and is the only coach in the 11-year BCS

era to win at two schools. He won the national title at LSU in 2003. Saban also is a two-time Associated Press Coach of the Year. **Carter E. Strang**, M.Ed. '79, J.D., Cleveland, Ohio, a partner with Tucker Ellis & West LLP, has been named vice president of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association.

**'74 Holly J. Morris**, Ph.D., St. Paul, Minn., senior vice president and chief information officer for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, has been named by the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal* as a 2010 Women in Business Industry Leader. **Toni J. (Burns) Morris**, M.A., Ph.D. '85, Indianapolis, Ind., is professor of English at the University of Indianapolis and has been published in *Critical Survey of Long Fiction*, *Mystics Quarterly* and *Independent Film and Video Monthly*.

**'75 Gail L. (Foldessy) Danesi**, Hudson, Ohio, is now retiring after 35 years of teaching in the Streetsboro School District. Danesi began her career in Streetsboro as a remedial reading teacher, then taught fifth grade for 31 years. **John J. Morris**, M.Ed. '83, Mogadore, Ohio, retired in June after working for Springfield Local Schools for 35 years. Morris started his career teaching music at Spring Hill Junior High and Springfield High School. After earning his M.Ed., he worked as assistant principal and athletic director at the high school. He also served as principal at Schrop Intermediate School and Boyer and Sawyerwood elementary schools.

**'76 T. Jeffrey Snyder**, Magnolia, Ohio, is currently the 1st District Governor of the Magnolia Lions and was elected to the position of Governor of District 13D of the Ohio Lions. Snyder officially took office July 1, 2010.

**'79 Bruce M. Petryshak**, M.B.A. '93, Aurora, Ohio, is the new vice president and chief information officer of the

information Technology Division of Middle Tennessee State University.

**'83 Pat Ackerman**, Ph.D., Richmond Heights, Ohio, was appointed to the Ohio Board of Regents by Ohio Governor Ted Strickland for a four-year term.

**'85 Earl K. Miller**, Ph.D., Cambridge, Mass., Picower Professor of Neuroscience at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was recently awarded the National Institute of Mental Health's Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) award. Miller received this honor for his work on the prefrontal cortex and its role in executive brain functions. In addition to the MERIT award, Miller's scientific work has earned him a number of important awards and honors. Miller serves on the editorial boards of major journals in neuroscience, as well as international advisory boards. His paper, *An Integrative Theory of Prefrontal Cortex Function*, has been designated a Current Classic by *Science Watch*. **Kelly M. (Webber) Spivey**, Valrico, Fla., was part of the professional collaboration for the latest edition of the *American Council on Exercise Personal Trainer Manual*. Spivey authored two chapters of the latest edition: Chapter 6, "Building Rapport and the Initial Investigation Stage," and Chapter 8, "Physical Assessments." **John H. Whitmore**, Ph.D., Cedarville, Ohio, has been promoted to professor of geology at Cedarville University.

**'86 Beverly L. Cain**, M.L.S., '86, M.P.A. '09, Columbus, Ohio, has been appointed to be the new state librarian of Ohio by the State Library Board beginning June 1, 2010. Cain has 23 years of library experience in Ohio. **Gordon J. Murray**, M.Ed. '91, Ph.D. '98, Hudson, Ohio, was one of 10 faculty members to receive the Faculty Innovator Award from the University System of Ohio for his award-winning online magazine and working laboratory, *Stories That Fly*.

**'87 Anne M. Lowery**, M.L.I.S., '02, New London, Ohio, published her first book, *Rumor Has It*, a true crime story about the '74 murders of Joseph and Edward Hooker at their home in rural Ashland County.

**'89 Daniel C. Mack**, M.L.S., State College, Pa., has been named the Tombros Librarian for Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies in the University Libraries. Mack is the head of the Arts and Humanities Library at University Park.

**'91 Jeff Zeager**, Ph.D. '93, Kent, Ohio, was one of 10 faculty members to receive the Faculty Innovator Award from the University System of Ohio for developing the *Free College Algebra Textbook*, which can be adapted to any educational organization's needs anywhere in the world, free of cost.

**'92 Timothy R. Sivik**, M.M., Strongsville, Ohio, has been named director of the new Lorain High School band formed by combining the Southview and Admiral King bands.

**'95 Greg Beals**, M.A. '99, Muncie, Ind., has been named the head baseball coach at The Ohio State University. Beals has been a collegiate coach for 17 years; nine of which were as an assistant coach at Kent State. He was part of the Golden Flash teams that made an NCAA Regional and three that won MAC.

**'96 Kermit C. White**, W. Palm Beach, Fla., is a new partner at YRA Design and a member of the American Institute of Architects. White recently designed a new condo, called The Modern, which will be 26 stories high with 84 large units geared toward high-end buyers. The all-glass tower will be built to withstand winds of 140 mph.

Alumni Association Annual Member Life Member

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# Flashback HOMECOMING

"Tradition – KSU Style" was the theme for Homecoming 1981. With that theme, the Kent State Alumni Office wanted something special. So a new tradition was established with the first autumn Homecoming Parade. That year, one of the main highlights was when the Dallas Cowboys' cheerleaders performed during halftime of the Homecoming game.

## WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE MEMORIES OF HOMECOMING AND THE PARADE?

Please visit [www.ksualumni.org](http://www.ksualumni.org) and click on "KSU Memories" under the alumni tab.



continued from page 23

**'97** **Chris G. Cooper**, Kent, Ohio, earned the Certified Exit Planning Advisor credential from the Exit Planning Institute, joining more than 125 others worldwide. **Jennifer L. Novakovich**, Estero, Fla., has been named vice president and retail regional manager for the bank's North Naples region after serving in various positions within its retail and education divisions since '98. Novakovich also serves the community as a guest speaker and committee member for the Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida Foundation. **Carl J. Stitz**, M.A., Ph.D. '00, Painesville, Ohio, was one of 10 faculty members to receive the Faculty Innovator Award from the University System of Ohio for developing the *Free College Algebra Textbook*, which can be adapted to any educational organization's needs anywhere in the world, free of cost.

**'98** **Terry L. Boyarsky**, M.A., Cleveland Heights, Ohio, is an artist-in-residence at the Ohio Arts Council. Boyarsky will introduce participants of the 2010 Children's Summer Arts Experience to a variety of Russian culture, including song, dance and history.

**'01** **Shannon L. Puhalla**, Ph.D., Gibsonsia, Pa., was one of 14 physicians nationwide to receive a 2010 Career Development Award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

The honor includes a \$200,000 award to establish independent clinical research programs. Puhalla will investigate the combination of hormone therapy with a drug under development that might target breast cancer stem cells.

**'02** **Mandy M. (Jenkins) Fischer**, M.A. '04, Cincinnati, Ohio, is now working in Washington, D.C., at TBD.com, a news startup from the same newsroom as Politico.com.

**'03** **Diana Al-Hadid**, Canton, Ohio, will be featured in her first solo exhibition at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, Calif. **Edmund A. Rossman**, M.L.I.S., Cleveland, Ohio, currently the adult services librarian at the Shaker Heights Public Library, is the 2010 winner of the Public Librarian Support Award, a conference travel award administered by the Reference and User Services Association for public librarians who provide business reference services.

**'04** **Benjamin A. Fischer**, Washington, D.C., is a health care reporter for the *Washington Business Journal* in Washington, D.C.

**'05** **Valerie L. Smock**, Chardon, Ohio, will serve as the weekend weather forecaster and will fill other roles, such as

reporting and anchoring at WNWO-TV, an NBC affiliate broadcasting to Northwest Ohio and Southeast Mich. Smock also is an airman in the Air Force Reserves.

**'07** **Ryan-Allen B. B. McKinney**, M.Ed., Slingerlands, N.Y., is the new associate director of campus activities at The Catholic University of America.

**'08** **Joshua D. Fahler**, League City, Texas, is moving to Hsinchu, Taiwan, to teach English after teaching high school geography for two years in Houston, Texas. **Katie R. Virtue**, M.B.A., North Royalton, Ohio, is the manager of category development in the Cleveland headquarters office of Corporate United, the nation's largest group purchasing organization. Virtue will lead the strategic planning and execution initiatives for select categories, as well as perform other activities related to market development and data analysis.

## LOSSES IN THE KENT STATE FAMILY



**'37** **Doris J. (Hoyt) Strait**, Henderson, Nev., Dec. 2009.

**'48** **Donald G. Ferguson**, Tampa, Fla., Sept. 2009.

**'49** **Lloyd G. Butler**, Indianapolis, Ind., June 2010.

**'50** **Henry Sternweiler**, Cleveland, Ohio, April 2010.

**'51** **John W. Watt**, Parma, Ohio, Jan. 2010.

**'60** **Bruce G. Eckert**, Bay Village, Ohio, Nov. 2009.

**'62** **James F. Hamilton**, Wyoming, Ohio, June 2010.

**'65** **Kathryn M. (Spencer) McChesney**, Uniontown, Ohio, May 2010.

**'67** **Carl Willingham**, Cleveland, Ohio, July 2009.

**'68** **Gale B. Markus**, Miami, Fla., April 2010. **Robert Zimmerman**, New London, Ohio, March 1996.

**'75** **Doris M. Pudloski**, Rootstown, Ohio, Aug. 2009. **Jean L. (Zickuhr) Requa**, Hanford, Calif., May 2010.

**'84** **Ruth E. Colucci**, Ashtabula, Ohio, June 2004.

**'98** **Robert L. Cohen**, Akron, Ohio, Oct. 2007.

**'03** **James M. Swarts**, Sebring, Ohio, May 2009.

Alumni Association Annual Member    Life Member

# ALUMNI ON THE MOVE

## A LOOK AT OUR ALUMNI CHAPTERS

BY ERIN C. PERKINS, KENT STATE MAGAZINE JOURNALISM STUDENT



### Stark County Alumni

NUMBER OF STARK COUNTY ALUMNI: 11,000  
OFFICIALLY BECAME A CHAPTER: 1997 AND 2005  
PRESIDENT: JON KENDLE, '04  
WEB: [www.ksualumni.org/stark](http://www.ksualumni.org/stark)

#### BEST REASON FOR JOINING THIS CHAPTER:

"It is a way to give back to the community. During my time at Kent State, so many people associated with the university helped me achieve my goals and aspirations. Joining the chapter helps you stay in touch with the Kent State community and provides a great avenue to give something back." — Kendle

#### WHAT YOU LIKED MOST ABOUT ATTENDING KENT STATE:

"I believe the best thing I took away from my experience at Kent State, besides my education, were the lifelong friendships I formed with some of my professors. Their openness and willingness to mentor and teach me not only inside the classroom, but out of it as well, helped me develop into the person I am today." — Kendle

#### FAVORITE KENT STATE MEMORY:

"My favorite memory happened just last month when the Kent State Stark Alumni Board was conducting student interviews to determine how many scholarships to award. It was great to listen to the applicants as they described their dreams and aspirations and know the alumni scholarship money would help them achieve those goals." — Kendle



### Cuyahoga County Alumni

NUMBER OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY ALUMNI: 19,000  
OFFICIALLY BECAME A CHAPTER: 2005  
PRESIDENT: LEE KAMPS, '70  
WEB: [www.ksualumni.org/cuyahoga](http://www.ksualumni.org/cuyahoga)

#### BEST REASON FOR JOINING THIS CHAPTER:

"It is an opportunity to meet and network with other Kent State alumni. My objective for the chapter is to offer the opportunity for young graduates to meet and network with older alumni who may be established in their careers. Alumni who are at the mid-career stage could meet others in different careers or even those in the same career. For those alumni who are retired or close to retirement, membership offers a chance to give back and become involved with the university now that they may have more free time." — Kamps

#### FAVORITE ALUMNI EVENT:

"Perhaps my favorite alumni event is the annual Blue and Gold golf outing every summer at the Kent State golf course. Although it is not an official alumni event, many alumni attend, and I have met many people at that event." — Kamps

#### FAVORITE KENT STATE MEMORY:

"My favorite memory from Kent State was Homecoming in the fall and Campus Day in the spring. I also remember seeing some major entertainers of the day including, Louis Armstrong, Sammy Davis Jr., Bob Hope, Dionne Warwick, Bill Cosby and Ray Charles. Also many popular rock 'n' roll groups and artists would play college campuses. I saw Jefferson Airplane, Donovan, Country Joe and the Fish, and the Association, plus many other popular rock performers of the time." — Kamps



### Honors College Alumni

NUMBER OF HONORS COLLEGE ALUMNI: 4,800  
OFFICIALLY BECAME A CHAPTER: 1999  
PRESIDENT: BRANDON TIDD, '05  
WEB: [www.ksualumni.org/honors](http://www.ksualumni.org/honors)

#### BEST REASON FOR JOINING THIS CHAPTER:

"Really the best reason to join the Honors Alumni Chapter is to remain involved with the university. Offering meetings only four times a year and a handful of events between, we afford our members the opportunity to remain connected with the university without becoming an intrusion into their already hectic lives. In addition, our chapter also provides excellent networking and relationship building opportunities." — Tidd

#### EXCITING CHAPTER EVENT:

"In addition to participating in the annual Homecoming festivities, we are involved in the Senior Honors Luncheon, an event that is held every spring recognizing the graduating honors students. One of our other signature programs is Tools for Learning, a service project that involves collecting school supplies from the incoming freshman class and donating them to Portage County Head Start." — Tidd

#### FAVORITE KENT STATE MEMORY:

"Working for the student radio station, WKSR (now Black Squirrel Radio) afforded me many unique experiences, but none compared to engineering a 24-hour live broadcast from the Relay for Life event. Due to complications, I ended up hosting the program for 18 of the 24 hours and was up for nearly 30 hours straight. However exhausting, I wouldn't have traded those 30 hours for anything." — Tidd

# Michelle Roman Luciano, '89

Alumna turns childhood passion into career

BY ASHLEY KATONA, '06 | PHOTO BY JEFF GLIDDEN, '87 |



Michelle Roman Luciano, '89

After graduating with a degree in fashion design, *Michelle Roman Luciano, '89*, had no plans to pursue a career in retail.

However, like many college graduates, sometimes taking that first job offer is the only option. Her internship at Higbee's during college led her to her first career with Christina Lawrence in Tower City in Cleveland's Terminal Tower building. This position set the foundation for her future employment with Retail Apparel Group, Banana Republic, Pepe Jeans, Kilgore Trout and several other stores. Luciano also started her own custom bridal business with fellow Kent State alumna, *Kim Novak, '90*.

After leaving the retail world, Luciano stayed at home for a few years with her children. That is when her ideal fashion job came along. Luciano's childhood friend, Rebecca Yuhasz Smith, invited her to join Rebecca Ray Designs, creating a variety of products including handbags, scarves, belts, pillows, place mats and more.

"For me, this is doing what I went to college for, which is design, 20 years later," Luciano says. "I got distracted along the way. Jobs lead you in different directions, and you don't always get what you want right out of the door."

Smith started the business in 2002 when she began creating designs for handbags that captured vintage images of dogs, horses and the

sporting life — a big part of both Smith and Luciano's childhood when they attended dog and horse shows.

Part of their success also comes from craftswomen who live in Ohio's Amish community and use treadle sewing machines to produce the store's products.

The small business, located in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, is rapidly growing, and more than 170 national retail shops currently carry its items. Smith and Luciano recently made their television debut as co-hosts of their new PBS series called *LifeStyles With Rebecca*, which features individuals who have left traditional career paths to pursue their passions.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

This makes their newest partnership with Kent State University's School of Fashion Design and Merchandising all the more exciting. Director J.R. Campbell has formed a community partnership with Rebecca Ray that allows them to use the school's cutting-edge textile digital printing capabilities to print vintage sporting life images on silk so they can incorporate them into their designs.

"This technology is so exciting; the applications are endless," Luciano says. "We are so fortunate to have a resource like Kent State right in our own back yard."

Although digital textile printing was not part of the curriculum when Luciano attended the fashion school, she gained many other experiences as a fashion major.

"I worked at the Kent State University Museum pretty much my whole time at Kent State, and it had a huge influence on me," Luciano says. "That was such a treat. Working on the inaugural exhibit was one of the high points of my college career."

Luciano also remembers her fashion class with *Fred Stein*. "He used to teach a merchandising class at 7:45 in the morning, and he would say, 'If you are going to work in fashion, it is all about style. If you come in here in your pajamas, you have no credibility with me,'" Luciano says. "People were always wondering why I was getting all dressed up that early."

Following graduation, Luciano quickly learned the importance of personal style in fashion. She also realized that it is possible to do almost anything in the fashion industry.

"My advice to fashion students is don't feel that you have to move to New York City to have a career in fashion," Luciano says. "You can be creative wherever life might take you." ■

The Kent State Alumni Association is moving toward increased digital communications because it is an eco-friendly and cost-effective means of communication.

Send us your e-mail address so you don't miss important alumni information. E-mail [alumni@kent.edu](mailto:alumni@kent.edu) with "e-mail update" as the subject or call us at 1-888-320-KENT (5368).



Help the Kent State Alumni Association  
**GO GREEN**

## Building

Cleveland Networking Luncheon Series

## Connections

Cleveland City Club  
Wednesday, October 20 at noon

Featured Speaker:  
Julie Messing, Director of the  
Center for Entrepreneurship &  
Business Innovation

For more information, please visit [www.ksualumni.org](http://www.ksualumni.org) or call 888-320-KENT (5368).

# Giving Back

Kent State graduates win award for commitment to service and each other.

BY TYLER NORRIS,  
KENT STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT

Jack, '58, and Judy, '59, Burke cleaned out their closet a few winters ago and found two hefty winter coats that they had not worn for a few seasons. They took the coats to the West Side Catholic Center in Cleveland, Ohio, where the man working at the store inspected Jack's coat and immediately walked outside to the line of people waiting for clothes.

"He grabbed some man who looked like he was freezing to death," Jack says. "He was wearing a woman's summer coat."

The Burkes watched the man try on the coat and it fit perfectly, which prompted the Burkes to dedicate their lives to helping people in the community.

In February, the Ohio Department of Aging honored the couple at the Joined Hearts in Giving celebration at the governor's mansion in Columbus. The Joined Heart in Giving Award recognizes couples throughout Ohio who have been married for at least 40 years who have demonstrated a dedication to marriage and volunteerism.

## IT STARTED AT KENT STATE

The Burke's commitment to service began in college as active members of the Greek community. Judy, who studied art education and was a member of Delta Gamma sorority, used her artistic talent to make posters and promote sorority-sponsored charity events. Jack, a member of Theta Chi fraternity, donated his time to local organizations, like the Kent Kiwanis and Lions Club.

"It was a good training ground for us to learn that getting involved, believe it or not, has a certain amount of satisfaction," Jack says. "We've always really strived to make a difference in the lives of other people."

The couple met at Kent State (Jack always saw Judy lugging her art supplies across campus) and crossed paths again during spring break in Florida in 1958, the year Jack graduated. They married the following year.

Their involvement in college set the foundation for a lifetime of volunteering. Judy's career began as a teacher and Jack started out as a trainee at an investment firm in Cleveland. Each of their jobs led them to a number of volunteer opportunities.

## THEY CONTINUE TO GIVE TODAY

"Out of college, I went right into volunteering, being a teacher and in PTA," Judy says. "With my creativity, I just felt it was a great opportunity for me to give back."

Judy also co-founded Mrs. Claus' Closet with longtime friend Ruth Hopkins. This annual fine arts show has raised thousands of dollars for cancer patients, park renovations and other causes in Northeast Ohio. This year marks the show's 40 anniversary.

In 2009, Mrs. Claus' Closet raised \$27,000 for Save Our Sisters, Save Ourselves, an organization devoted to providing support for people and families affected by cancer.

Jack has served on more than a dozen boards, including the Leukemia Society of Ohio, the Osteopathic Foundation, Cuyahoga County's Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Kidney Foundation of Ohio.

In February, Jack helped plan the Kidney Foundation Gala, which raised \$275,000 to benefit people with kidney problems who cannot afford medication or treatment.

The couple has also renovated parks, started a children's football team and played an instrumental role in the growth of St. John Medical Center. In 1993, Judy started the Festival of the Arts, St. John Medical Center's premier fine arts and craft show. Within three years, the art show grew to include 300 artists and, in 2009, 30,000 people attended the event.

In their spare time, the Burkes enjoy spending time at their condominium in Siesta Key, Fla. They have also planned a trip to the French province of Alsace Lorraine.

The couple says they will continue to serve the community as long as they are healthy.

"When life is good, you have to put things back into the community," Jack says. "I really, sincerely feel that it must be done if a college and community has been good to you." ■



Judy and Jack Burke with Ohio Department of Aging director Barbara E. Riley and first lady Frances Strickland at the Joined Hearts in Giving event held at the Governor's home in February.

# ALUMNI MEMORIES THROUGH THE DECADES:

## 1990–2010

| BY ASHLEY KATONA, '06 |

Happy 100th birthday Kent State University! Kent State has a lot to be proud of, especially during these last 20 years. In the early 90s, the Memorial Gym was remodeled and renamed the Memorial Athletic and Convention Center (MAC). Kent State named *Carol A. Cartwright* president of the university in 1991. She became the first woman to serve as president of a state university in Ohio. Lastly, the Alumni Association moved to its new home at the Williamson Alumni Center, named after Kent State graduates *John, '45*, and *Helen, '45 Williamson*.

This past decade brought more excitement to Kent State. The men's basketball team had its best season in 2002, advancing to the Elite Eight. In 2003, Kent State built the new Centennial residence halls featuring bathrooms in each room. Several years later, Franklin Hall was renovated to include state-of-the-art digital facilities for School of Journalism and Mass Communication students. Recently, a new home was created for the Honors College, the Library and Risman Plaza received a fresh look and plans are underway to build a vibrant downtown Kent that links the university to the city.

To celebrate Kent State University's Centennial year, alumni share their Golden Flash memories.

### SHE LANDED A SPORTS JOB

*Arica Kress, '03*, who majored in sports management, left Kent State with plenty of experience to add to her résumé. Kress worked as a supervisor at the Student Recreation and Wellness Center, served as an RA in Terrace Hall and volunteered as a student ambassador.

"I learned how to deal with many different kinds of people, how to be a leader and most of all, I learned that nothing can top hard work and dedication," Kress says. "These lessons I will carry with me for the rest of my life."

Kress also worked many off-campus jobs. She took advantage of her time during spring breaks and summer vacations by working internships with the Cleveland Indians, Lowe's Motor Speedway, the Akron Aeros, Cleveland Rockers, Cleveland Browns and the Lake County Captains. Her stint with the Lake County Captains led her to her first full-time job with the Columbus Crew.

"It was important to me to try as many different things in a variety of sports before graduating because I wanted to see what I liked best or what I didn't like," Kress says. "This helped me get the job I am currently in today." Kress oversees all marketing, advertising and promotions for the Columbus Crew.

When jobs did not consume all of her time, Kress enjoyed hanging out at the Hub or spending time by the May 4 Site and Memorial. "There is just a solemn peacefulness about that area," Kress says. "I always loved giving tours and educating people about the memorial itself and teaching them what the different parts represent."

### HE STARTED FLASHFEST

When *Steve Anderson, '96*, a former RA, went to a hall council conference at Northern Arizona University and attended a session on colleges that hold spring festivals, he was determined to bring a festival to Kent State the following year.

"I thought something like that would be awesome to have at Kent State and a great way to end the semester on a positive note," Anderson says.

One year later, in 1995, nearly 7,500 students, eight bands — including the reggae band, First Light — several local business and student organizations packed the MAC for the first FlashFest. The plan was to hold the festival outside, but rain interfered.

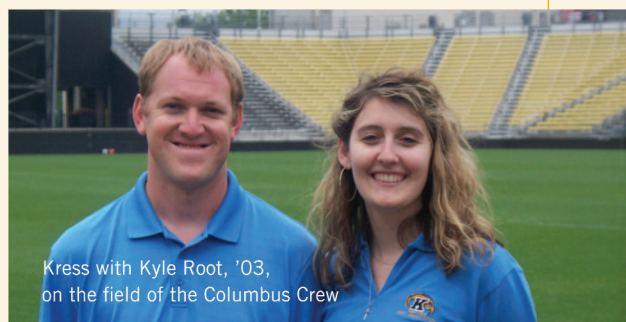
"Although it started raining at noon that day and we had to move things indoors, it was still a great event. We had a really good time," Anderson says.

Anderson also enjoyed traveling with friends to many of the Kent State basketball and football games. He saw the football team play at Western Michigan and Rutgers and the women's basketball team play at Norte Dame. He remembers when he and his friends shaved their heads and painted them blue and gold for a sold out game at the MAC.

Anderson lives in Pennsylvania now and works at Washington and Jefferson College as the associate dean and director of residence life. He stays connected to Kent State through his alumni association lifetime membership, coming back for homecoming and watching the athletic teams. ■



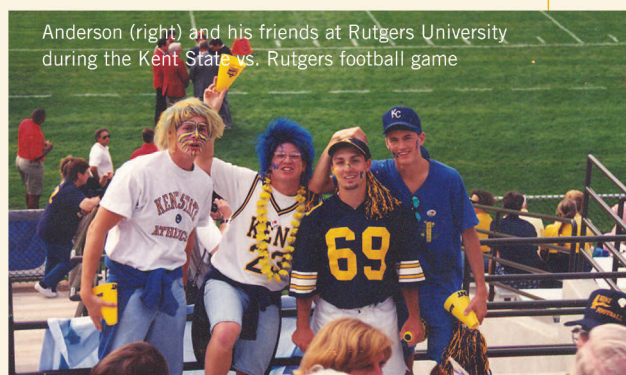
Kress with former president Carol Cartwright at the student ambassador induction ceremony



Kress with Kyle Root, '03, on the field of the Columbus Crew



Anderson with friends at Ray's Place



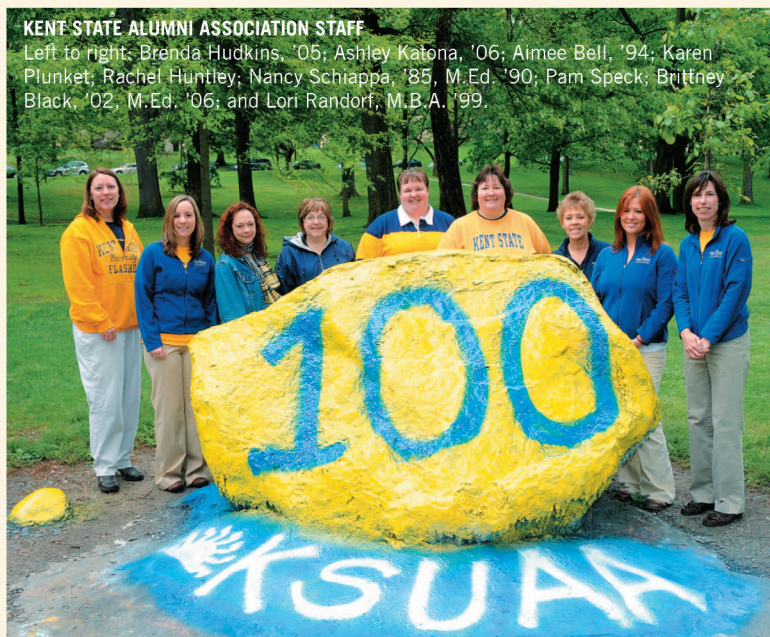
Anderson (right) and his friends at Rutgers University during the Kent State vs. Rutgers football game

# BLUE AND GOLD DAY — May 19, 2010

May 19, 1910, marked a special date in Kent State's history — the date Kent State University was officially established by the state legislature. Alumni, students, faculty and staff wore blue and gold on this day to celebrate Kent State University's 100th anniversary.

## KENT STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STAFF

Left to right: Brenda Hudkins, '05; Ashley Katona, '06; Aimee Bell, '94; Karen Plunket; Rachel Huntley; Nancy Schiappa, '85, M.Ed. '90; Pam Speck; Brittney Black, '02, M.Ed. '06; and Lori Randorf, M.B.A. '99.



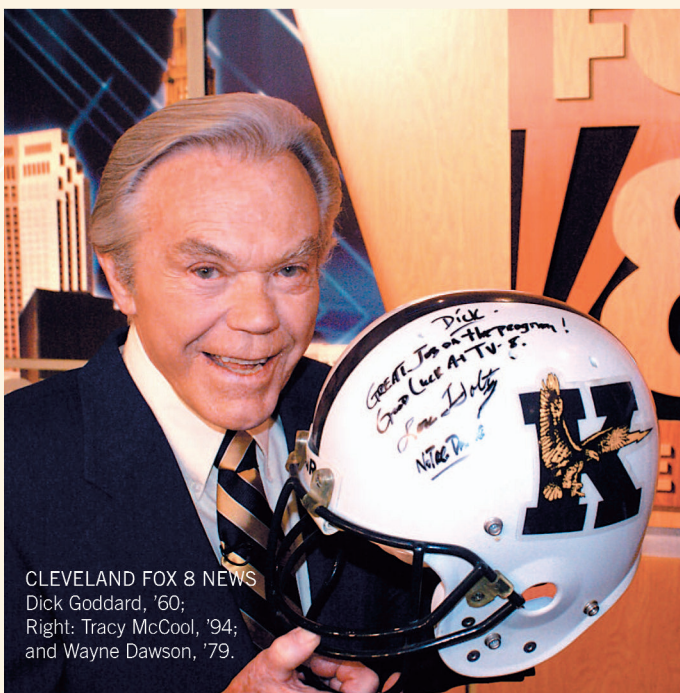
Left to right: Dick Knuth, '54; Larry Disbro, '71; Sandy Disbro, '75; Don Humphrey, '68; Jacqueline Wolf, '60; and Robert Wolf.  
Photo: Mary Ann Schneider



## KENT STATE UNIVERSITY HUMAN RESOURCE STAFF

Kneeling: Vanessa Vesely, Diane Smith, Jacqueline Glinn, Norma Karam and Maria Terleckyj.  
Top Row: Donna Sansonetti, Joe Vitale, Bill Melborne, Janine Bogden, Barb Casher, Ann Lacey, David Saunier, Bob Hall, Ron Smith, Pam Fitzgerald, Mary Jane Hannahs, Sandy Taylor and Karen Watson, '07.





CLEVELAND FOX 8 NEWS  
Dick Goddard, '60;  
Right: Tracy McCool, '94;  
and Wayne Dawson, '79.



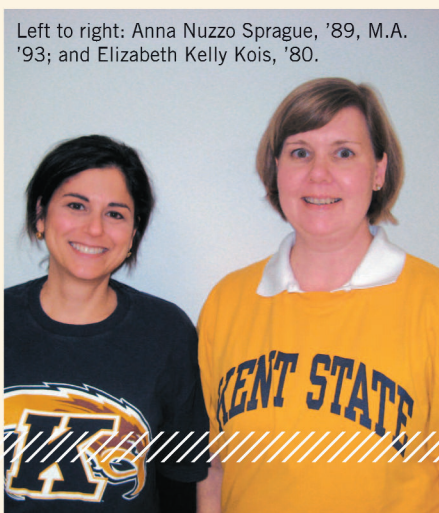
Tom Mahoon, '00, with  
future Golden Flashes.



Sean Duggan, '91.



Kent State Alumni at Malone  
Advertising in Akron, Ohio (in no  
particular order): Joe Matusak, '83;  
Melissa Kalkbrenner, '04; Jason  
Sausaman, '06; Andrew Meeks, '06;  
Gary Paskey, '95; Craig Fawver, '09;  
Tammy (Nelson) Jajola, '97; Betsey  
Lukens, '03; Melissa Thomas, '05;  
Reed Battin, '07; Edward Hanolt, '07;  
Darren Muffley, '09; Taryn Harrington,  
'01; Michael Ballash, '10; Megan  
Haskins, '10; Katherine Fertig, '10;  
Marcus Ackman, '04; Alicia Liggett,  
'04; Katrina Norris, '08; Holly (Glazer)  
Schafer, '01; Danielle Sonntag, '09;  
Rachel Richards, '08; Kasey Dulkoski,  
'05; Jennifer Fitzwater, '06; Katie  
Barnes, '10; Danielle Dickman, '09;  
Jennifer Kelnhofer, '03; Katie Smith,  
'02; Brittany (Cowen) Gerstenslager,  
'07; Amy (Reese) Santuomo, '99.



Left to right: Anna Nuzzo Sprague, '89, M.A.  
'93; and Elizabeth Kelly Kois, '80.



Left to right: Shelley Ingraham and  
Carla Wyckoff, '05.



Mary Ann  
Schneider,  
'81



## LIFE Members

Our life members are the backbone of the Kent State University Alumni Association. Their dedicated support makes it possible to provide important programming and services for a stronger alumni association and university.

If you are a life member, thank you! For more information on becoming a life member of the alumni association, call 330-672-KENT or toll free at 1-888-320-KENT.

Here is a list of the many dedicated individuals who recently became alumni association life members. A complete list of life members can be found at [www.ksualumni.org/member](http://www.ksualumni.org/member).

Stephen Albrecht, Cleveland, Ohio  
Rosemary Anderson, Combine, Texas  
Susan Baldwin, Huron, Ohio  
Donald Cline, Gold Canyon, Ariz.  
Florence Coleman, M.D., Dayton, Ohio  
Douglas Conroe, Maple Springs, N.Y.  
Jane Conroe, Maple Springs, N.Y.

Marian Cosgrove, Los Gatos, Calif.  
John Crans, Diamond Bar, Calif.  
Paula Craven, Canal Fulton, Ohio  
Judith Devine, Uniontown, Ohio  
Rhonda Dipofi, Conneaut, Ohio  
David Dohner, Brentwood, Tenn.  
Martha Dunford, Painesville, Ohio  
Sherif Elmahdy, Kent, Ohio  
Carolyn Fair, Arnold, Md.

Jeffrey Fair, Arnold, Md.  
David Fiste, Tampa, Fla.  
Peggy Good, Max Meadows, Va.  
Parshu Gyawali, Kent, Ohio

Sabina Gyawali, Manassas, Va.  
Z. Ann Haas, Akron, Ohio  
David Hammer, Westerville, Ohio  
Geraldine Hayes-Nelson, Stow, Ohio  
Brian Hollinger, Massillon, Ohio  
Natalie Hubbell, Akron, Ohio  
John Jack, Fitchburg, Mass.  
Charles Jurenovich, Warren, Ohio  
Ronald Kilbride, Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich.  
Cristina Kirk, Chula Vista, Calif.  
Debra Koyle, Canton, Ohio  
Abigail Kruszynski, Richfield, Ohio  
Ayla Layman, Fresno, Ohio  
Lawrence Leahy, Springdale, Ark.  
Dina Lent, Smyrna, Ga.  
John Lesky, Elmira, N.Y.  
Karen Lesky, Elmira, N.Y.

Renae Lillie, Conneaut, Ohio

Jennifer Loudiana, Massillon, Ohio  
Laurel Ludick, Youngstown, Ohio  
Sarah Malcolm, Kent, Ohio  
Joanne Malene, North Canton, Ohio  
Judith Martin, Akron, Ohio  
Lawrence Martin, Doylestown, Pa.  
Roger Martin, Akron, Ohio  
Marsha McCormick, Chesterland, Ohio  
Neal McCormick, Chesterland, Ohio  
Kesi Michael, Stow, Ohio  
Richard Moskal, Kent, Ohio  
Stephanie Moskal, Kent, Ohio  
Diane Myers, Annapolis, Md.  
Robert Myers, Annapolis, Md.  
Stuart Myers, San Antonio, Texas  
James Penn, Warren, Ohio  
Christine Peterson, Canton, Ohio  
Donald Peterson, III, Canton, Ohio  
Jeffery Pillivant, Westerville, Ohio  
Susan Pitcher, San Francisco, Calif.  
Ashley Pucci, North Canton, Ohio  
Melanie Roche, Boardman, Ohio  
Ann Sartin, Bay Village, Ohio  
David Sartin, Bay Village, Ohio  
Caren Schubart, M.Ed., NCSP, Exeter, N.H.  
Darcy Smerglia, Silver Lake, Ohio  
Stephen Smith, Adelphi, Md.  
Dorothy Stevens, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Robert Sullivan, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Janice Swan, Kent, Ohio  
Scott Swan, Kent, Ohio  
James Vaca, Reminderville, Ohio  
Nicholas Villers, Doylestown, Ohio  
Louise Vrande, Somerville, Mass.  
Shane Wolfe, Washington, D.C.  
Michael Wyscarver, Pinellas Park, Fla.  
Tiffany Wyscarver, Pinellas Park, Fla.



# Centennial Campaign Hits \$200 Million During Record Fundraising Year

More than 75,000 donors have given to support vital student programs.

| BY BRIAN THORNTON, M.A. '07 |

TAKING ACTION:  
CAPITAL

For the second year in a row, supporters of Kent State have contributed a record-breaking sum — and pushed the Centennial Campaign past the \$200 million mark. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, university donors committed \$39.9 million to the campaign, surpassing the previous year's record by nearly \$3 million.

"Kent State supporters have truly demonstrated their generosity since we publicly announced the Centennial Campaign last year," says Gene Finn, vice president for institutional advancement. "Despite numerous studies showing philanthropy dropping across the nation for the past two years, our alumni and friends have done the opposite and increased their giving, responding to our urgent calls to fund the student-focused excellence agenda."

The number of donors jumped 15.9 percent to 24,642, reaching levels not seen since before the start of the recession. All told, to date more than 75,000 people, businesses and foundations have become part of the growing campus culture of philanthropy by making a commitment to the campaign.


Among the past year's successes was an additional \$6.1 million given to support student scholarships. Since the start of the campaign, \$29.7 million has been raised to fund scholarships, the president's No. 1 priority.

"As I traveled the country this year to meet with alumni, I've been greeted with an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response to our vision for the next 100 years of this institution," President Lester A. Lefton says. "That so many have stepped forward with private support for the Centennial Campaign speaks to their embracing of that vision, and the deep and longstanding ties created by the shared Kent State experience."

Beginning this fall, the campaign will expand its priorities to assist with a planned major capital transformation of the university's eight campuses. Kent State trustees last year approved the issuance of more than \$210 million in bonds to finance numerous construction projects, including several new buildings and renovations to classrooms, laboratories and libraries. Private philanthropic gifts will be key to expanding the scope of those projects.

"Every private dollar contributed by a supporter frees up funds that can go toward an extensive backlog of much-needed capital projects," Finn says. "Our goal is to stretch those bonds into a much larger impact for the students of Kent State. Every one of these projects will make our young scholars' education stronger, and each gift gets us closer to that goal." ★

CLICK HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION



Andrew Lepp, assistant professor of recreation, park and tourism management in the College of Education, Health and Human Services, goes over class assignments with a student in White Hall.

# The Foundation for a Career in Higher Education

Former professor gives back through bequest for **faculty support**

| BRIAN THORNTON, M.A. '07 |

**D**uring a more than three-decade career in higher education, Dr. Jane Applegate has been a first-hand witness to the changes affecting universities and their students. But as an educator of future educators, she also has a unique perspective on the needs of an often overlooked group — faculty members.

"The funding for higher education keeps going down and down, and that forces universities to find resources in other ways," she says. "Faculty members must pursue grants and contracts to support their scholarship. And the requirements for faculty members to publish their work has increased tremendously."

TAKING ACTION:  
ENDOWMENT

It's a different world from 1978, when Applegate graduated with her doctorate from Ohio State.

"There no longer is the requirement that you must just be a good teacher in the classroom," she says. "Faculty work is much more demanding than it was when I began my career."

## Finding Support

That career began in the late 1970s with the Ohio Department of Education, working with the state's colleges and universities to adjust their curricula to match new teacher-preparation standards. It was through that assignment that she became acquainted with Kent State faculty members, who encouraged her to apply for a new assistant professorship. When she was hired for that first teaching position, Applegate found a surprising support system.

"As a beginning faculty member at Kent State, I felt that I had almost a built-in family," she says. "I felt that there were many people there who wanted me to succeed."

Those included *Dick Hawthorne* and *Joanne Schwartz*, who served as deans of what is now known as the College of Education, Health and Human Services; and longtime faculty members and philanthropists *Jo Anne* and *Richard Vacca*. Hawthorne became a mentor in the realm of teaching, while Schwartz taught the young professor about administration, and the Vaccas encouraged her research and publications.

"I think the public doesn't understand that faculty members are more than teachers — that our job is to contribute to our profession. In the beginning of one's career, you're pressured to do research while you are really learning how to do it," Applegate says. "If you're lucky, in your Ph.D. program, as I was, you may have the opportunity to publish an article or two. But when you become a faculty member, you're expected to write on your own, in addition to your teaching and your service to your college and your profession."

With so many colleagues rooting for her success, Applegate achieved the position of professor, before moving on to deanships in the College of Education at both West Virginia University and the University of South Florida. Today, she's still at USF as a professor in the Department of Secondary Education, where she teaches, writes and works with graduate students — "all the things I wanted to do from the start of my career," she says.

## Giving Back

It's because of the career foundation she received at Kent State that she has provided a bequest in her estate to endow a professorship in the College of Education, Health and Human Services — a key but underfunded component of the Centennial Campaign.

"Much of our private fundraising is in direct support of our students, whose education is, of course, our greatest priority," says Dr. **Robert G. Frank**, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. "But faculty support plays a key role in the quality of our



Dr. Jane Applegate

"I'm hoping to provide that little extra that a beginning faculty member might need to get her research off the ground — to give her a good start."

— Dr. Jane Applegate

institution. It allows us to attract industry-leading professors, increases our ability to engage in path-breaking research and frees our faculty to be academic innovators and entrepreneurs. All of which, in turn, provides our students with a better educational experience."

As Applegate nears retirement after a lengthy university career, she understands the importance of faculty support — and she's giving back in order to help future professors have a Kent State experience like her own.

"Kent State taught me what it meant to be a productive faculty member and scholar, and also taught me about university administration," she says. "So, in my gift to Kent State, I'm hoping to provide that little extra that a beginning faculty member might need to get her research off the ground — to give her a good start." \*

TAKING ACTION:  
ENDOWMENT

# Grappling With Outdated Facilities

Soaring wrestling program helped by former star

BY BRIAN THORNTON, M.A. '07

**B**ill Drypolcher wasn't just a two-time varsity letter winner at 160 pounds; nor was he just a Mid-American Conference wrestling champion in 1966.

He was also the guy who cleaned the mats before practice.

The 1967 graduate of the College of Business Administration came to Kent State because legendary 42-season coach *Joe Begala* "gave him a chance."

"I was not a state champion, and he brought me to school by giving me my out-of-state tuition and room and board, and I was thrilled at that," Drypolcher says. "And every year, as I got better and better, he gave me more. And I was thankful for that. I came from a very middle-class family, and they probably could afford one guy in school, but they had four."

So when he needed more income to make ends meet, Begala offered him that job cleaning up. "I had to do what I had to do," Drypolcher says. "And so I felt I got a lot out of that and my experience at Kent State."

After graduation, Drypolcher was drafted into the military, where he served in Vietnam and became a U.S. Army Ranger School instructor. But it was upon his discharge in 1970 that his career took shape. After earning an M.B.A., he moved with his wife, Trudy, to San Francisco, a city he'd fallen in love with after visiting a fraternity brother who lived in the area.

By 1978 he'd earned a real estate license and launched Zephyr Real Estate, which began with four people and now comprises six offices with 270 employees — the largest independent Realtor in the city, with \$1 billion in yearly sales.



Bill Drypolcher



Danny Mitcheff is named the winner of his 133-pound MAC Championship match. Mitcheff was selected as 2010 MAC Wrestler of the Year and placed sixth at the NCAA Championships.

PHOTO COURTESY INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

## Reconnecting in the Digital Age

For decades, Drypolcher found himself disconnected from Kent State. But that changed after a visit from university athletics officials — and the launch of [www.kentstatesports.com](http://www.kentstatesports.com), the official website of the Golden Flashes, where he keeps up with his former team.

"I follow Kent State on the Internet. It's a good tool — I don't need to be there all the time," he says, noting it's considerably more convenient when compared to his last visit for the MAC wrestling championships, when 22 inches of snow fell.

Tracking the team on the Web has given him high regard for Wrestling Coach **Jim Andrassy**, who he felt had potential to make the Golden Flashes into a nationally ranked team. And through visits and conversations with the coach, Drypolcher learned he

could assist in that effort.

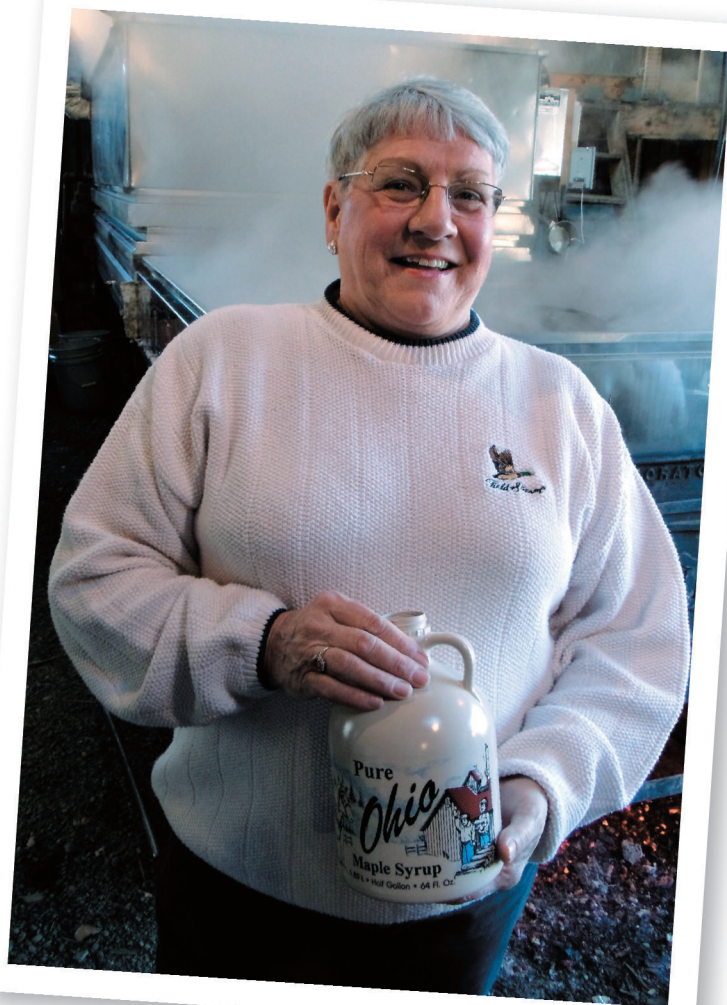
"Bill stepped forward as the lead contributor to two important projects: renovations to the wrestling room and locker room," Andrassy says. "Those improvements have aided our recruiting efforts, which, in turn, have boosted our national profile and performance."

Indeed, in the past two seasons, the Kent State wrestling team has placed in the top 25 at the NCAA tournament. And watching the program's success has led Drypolcher to increase his contributions to the team and the university's Centennial Campaign — most recently in the form of a \$500,000 bequest to fund a wrestling endowment, which he also hopes will encourage other alumni to give back.

"The important thing is I feel good about helping the kids and the coaches and the school," he says, "because they were there for me." ★

# ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE

## Meet Agnes Sojka Sperry.



The real estate industry retiree and prolific Geauga County maple-syrup producer never enrolled at Kent State — but her three brothers and sister did. Her brother Yaro's College of Education, Health and Human Services study-abroad experience was so transformative, it led to his spending seven years teaching in South America.

Aggie says her brother's education opened doors and "really made his life exciting." That's why she's included a Centennial Campaign gift for his alma mater in her estate plans, endowing a scholarship for teachers through her trust.

There are numerous ways to make a contribution to the Centennial Campaign, whether through a current, estate or life-income gift. Learn how you can tailor a gift to meet your personal goals by speaking with the professional staff at the Kent State University Foundation.

**Kent State University Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 5190**  
**Kent, Ohio 44242-0001**  
**330-672-2222**  
**[advancement@kent.edu](mailto:advancement@kent.edu)**  
**[www.kent.edu/advancement](http://www.kent.edu/advancement)**

Like Aggie, your support can open a door to help tomorrow's students walk through to their future. Start your Centennial Campaign conversation today.



## FALL 2010 EVENTS

For a complete listing of concerts, lectures, performances, exhibits and other events at Kent State's eight campuses, visit <http://ecalendar.kent.edu>.

***Katharine Hepburn: Dressed for Stage and Screen***

Oct. 2–Sept. 4, 2011  
Kent State University Museum  
Rockwell Hall

**Schumann Gala Concert**

Oct. 17  
5 p.m.  
Ludwig Recital Hall, Music and Speech Center

**Kent State University Chorale Concert**

Oct. 31  
4 p.m.  
Ludwig Recital Hall, Music and Speech Center

***Brigadoon***

Nov. 5–14  
Wed.–Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m.  
E. Turner Stump Theatre, Music and Speech Center

***A Christmas Carol***

Nov. 30  
7:30 p.m.  
Performing Arts Center, Kent State University at Tuscarawas

***Gospel Choir Concert***

Dec. 10  
7:30 p.m.  
University Auditorium, Cartwright Hall

## HOMECOMING OCT. 9

**Homecoming Extravaganza**

Activities for alumni, families and friends  
[www.ksualumni.org](http://www.ksualumni.org)  
1-888-320-KENT

**10th Annual Bowman Cup 5K Race and the Race for Ability**

8 a.m.  
Student Recreation and Wellness Center

**Homecoming Parade**

10 a.m.  
Main Street, Kent

**Football**

University of Akron Zips vs. Kent State Golden Flashes  
3:30 p.m.  
Dix Stadium



PHOTO COURTESY INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS