FASHIONING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

KENT STATE MAGAZINE

VOLUME 10 – ISSUE 2 SPRING 2011

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GOVERNMENT LESSONS

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PLUS

Life on the "A" List | Boundless Love | Nifty-Nifty, Look Who's 50

Excellence Agenda

LESTER A. LEFTON
President

Welcome to this issue of *Kent State Magazine*. It is brimming with evidence that, as Kent State students, alumni, faculty and staff members pursue the university's excellence agenda, they are serving as unsurpassed representatives of our university. Many alumni are carrying forward Kent State's commitment to the public good as elected officials. And I have no doubt that many future local, state and national leaders are among the students participating in our Washington Program in National Issues (WPNI) and our Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues (CPII). In towns filled with officials and ambassadors, they shine with pride, passion and promise as they represent their alma mater in job placements from Senate offices to the Smithsonian. You will meet some of these outstanding students and alumni in this issue's cover story.

A number of our Washington, D.C.- and Columbus-area alumni continue their involvement with these worthwhile programs by serving as mentors and opening doors that give students unique glimpses into the halls of power.

"Many alumni are carrying forward Kent State's commitment to the public good as elected officials."
–Lester A. Lefton, President of Kent State University

Countless other alumni, graduates from a variety of eras and areas, are making their own positive difference for students through their remarkable generosity. In the pages to come, you will encounter selfless alumni (including my own staff assistant) who have made major gifts to support longstanding Kent State gems such as Porthouse Theatre; launch new areas that build on existing strengths, such as health communications; and to ensure that students with limited financial means can take advantage of valuable opportunities such as unpaid internships and find their way to graduation.

Kent State's faculty comprises respected and renowned scholars in fields from anthropology to politics. In recent months, events in Egypt and across the Middle East have led reporters from around the world — and our nation's National Security Council — to seek the knowledge and perspectives of one of these stellar scholars. In each of his interviews, Dr. **Joshua Stacher** has been a superb ambassador for Kent State and the caliber of a Kent State education, serving as another source of pride for everyone in our community.

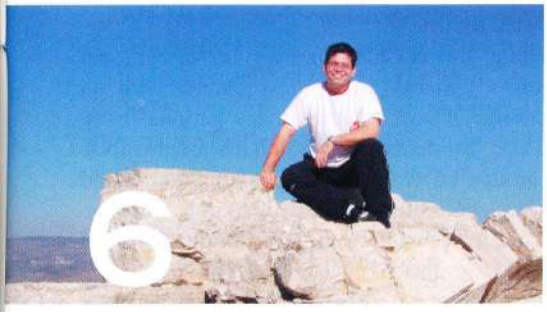
You will learn about other Kent State ambassadors in the pages that follow, including Golden Flashes who generate excitement and admiration, and a student and a staff member whose willingness to help their loved ones is nothing less than inspiring.

And then there is an unofficial ambassador that has captured the interest and imagination of visitors to our Kent Campus for half a century: black squirrels. If you've ever wondered about these bold, bushy-tailed and beloved members of the campus community, you're reading the right magazine.

Whether you scan the pages ahead or read every word, I am certain that this issue of our university magazine will leave you impressed and enthusiastic about the many ways Kent State people and programs are making a positive impact on every sector of society — in our Northeast Ohio backyard, in our nation's capital and in virtually every corner of the globe. They make me proud to serve as Kent State's "ambassador in chief."

KENT STATE MAGAZINE

2 Students in Kent State's WPNI program pose on the staircase of the Kent Student Center.
Photo by Bob Christy, '95



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U.S Rep Darrell Issa, of the California 49th Congressional District, in his office in the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C. Kent State alumnus Issa is the chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. *Photo by Bob Christy, '95*

GOVERNMENT LEADERS GOVERNMENT LESSONS

U.S. Rep Betty Sutton of Ohio's 13th Congressional District poses in her office in Longworth House Office Building. Sutton is a Kent State graduate. *Photo by Bob Christy, '95*

Kent State's alumni and students turn the wheels of national and state government

BY BOB BURFORD

Kent State University alumni and students make an impact every day across the spectrum of government, politics and political and civic life. No doubt you've heard or read about a few of them.

Kent State alumni such as U.S. Rep. ***Darrell Issa***, '76, of California and U.S. Rep. ***Betty Sutton***, '85, are making a difference on public policy nationally and locally. Issa, who attended Kent State University at Stark and received the 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award, was recently named chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Sutton proudly serves Ohio's 13th district, as a member of the House Armed Services Committee and the House Natural Resources Committee for the 112th Congress.

And the next generation of political leaders from Kent State is preparing for its turn with the help of two prestigious university programs that are educating tomorrow's leaders on national and state levels. The Washington Program in National Issues (WPNI), of which Sutton was a participant, and the Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues (CPII) offer students the opportunity to study the U.S. political system and public policy-making process in stimulating, in-depth environments.

★ GETTING AN INSIDE LOOK ★

Thirty-eight years strong, the Washington Program in National Issues provides students a dynamic academic program, with an inside look at the workings of government on the national level. While in Washington, D.C., students work as interns for members of Congress, lobbying groups, government agencies, think tanks and media organizations. Students complete in-depth coursework on government processes and issues while learning from distinguished public policy professionals and elected officials.

While participating in the program, 24 students — from a spectrum of academic disciplines — live in a suburban Maryland apartment, where weekly classes are held. "Living together allows interaction that helps students learn and discover more about themselves," says Program director **Richard Robyn**.

Robyn, who teaches two classes each fall — American Politics and International Law — is in his 10th year as director and is justifiably proud of the program's growth. His extensive network of contacts in Washington, D.C., along with the strong support of alumni in the area, provides Kent State students with unprecedented access to top government officials, movers and shakers.

Students in the program have toured the White House, visited the CIA, the Pentagon and the State Department, and have received briefings from members of Congress, business leaders, top media

★ ★ ★ ★

A ROLL CALL OF **KENT STATE GRADUATES** WHO ARE CURRENT OR RECENT OHIO LEGISLATORS

★ Rep. Kathleen L. Chandler, '90

★ Rep. Steven O. Dyer, '99

LEFT: Chris Hook, a student in the Washington Program in National Issues, poses with U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan of Ohio's 17th Congressional District. *Photo courtesy WPNI*
CENTER: U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown talks with students in the Washington Program in National Issues in the shadow of the Capitol Building. *Photo courtesy WPNI*
RIGHT: Kent State University President Lester A. Lefton has a working lunch with students in the Washington Program in National Issues.

representatives and Supreme Court justices. The 2011 spring schedule included briefings from Associate Supreme Court Stephen G. Breyer and former ABC News anchor Sam Donaldson.

★ THRIVING IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL ★

Washington Program in National Issues alumna ***Melissa Matson***, '03, is an account supervisor at GolinHarris, a leading international public relations agency. As graduation approached, the North Canton, Ohio, native was unsure of her future. But her internship for former U.S. Senator and current Ohio Attorney General **Mike DeWine** led to a full-time position with the senator's office. "I went home, graduated from college, bought a car and moved back out here 10 days later," Matson says. "It was a whirlwind experience — one I will never regret."

Chris Hook, a participant in the 2011 spring class says, "I knew from the very beginning this was something I wanted to do."

Hook interned for U.S. Rep. **Tim Ryan**, and found the atmosphere of the D.C. office vibrant and exciting. "I've developed a great appreciation for the work of public servants," Hook says. "I don't think people understand how hard they work."

The French and international relations major remains open to many career options and says that participating in the Washington Program in National Issues was a natural next step for him. "It leads directly to the professional world," he says.

Robert Bacon, '01, who currently works as legislative counsel in Ryan's office in Washington, D.C., advising the congressman on issues related to trade, foreign policy, criminal justice and other matters, found a window to the world of politics through his interest in language and culture. He credits his parents with fostering an appreciation for the diversity and differences of people worldwide. During his Kent State tenure, the international relations and Spanish major studied in Venezuela and Mexico. "I had a wonderful experience at Kent State," Bacon says. "It has a profound effect on me as a person."

★ A "PIONEER" PAYS IT FORWARD ★

Few can attest to the life-changing nature of the program more that ***Catherine Teti***, '75. Teti was in the inaugural class of 1973, and it led her to a long and distinguished career in Washington, D.C. She currently serves as managing director for knowledge services and chief agency privacy officer for the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Following graduation, she landed a position with the Department of Justice and has remained in D.C. Prior to her tenure at the GAO, the Stow, Ohio, native directed information programs at three federal agencies and a government corporation and worked at two private sector consulting firms.

Teti credits her Kent State education, the Honors College and the Washington Program in National Issues for setting her path. "I honestly think that the program changed my life," Teti says. "It gave me a focus and crystallized my commitment to public service."

Despite the demands of her current position, Teti helps the program in numerous ways — overseeing interns at the GAO, conducting briefings, participating in orientation programs and even hosting an informal barbecue for students at her Northern Virginia home. In addition, Teti and her husband, Ralph, have established a scholarship fund that annually supports a Washington Program in National Issues student from the Honors College. "Catherine does so much for our program," Robyn says. "It's just remarkable."

"I honestly think that the program changed my life."
– Catherine Teti, '75

★ Rep. Sandra Stabile Harwood '85

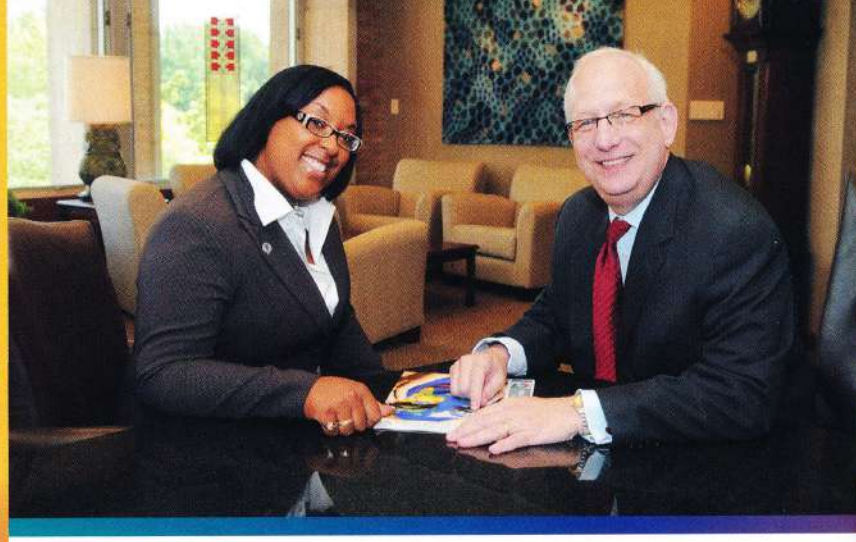
★ Rep. Tom Letson, '83

★ Rep. Deborah Newcomb, '84

★ Rep. Mark D. Okey, '73

The Columbus and Washington, D.C., programs really set Kent State apart from other institutions in Ohio,"

– Elizabeth Eisaman, '07



Kent State University's Senior Legislative Officer Crystal M. Cook meets with President Lester A. Lefton. Cook, '04, a graduate of the Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues, represents Kent State in state government in Columbus. *Photo by Bob Christy, '95*

Elizabeth Eisaman, majority policy aide to Speaker William G. Batchelder, in the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus. ***Photo by Jeff Glidden, '87***

A former Kent State University National Alumni Board president, Teti says, "I bleed blue and gold. I'm unabashed about it. I had a wonderful experience with Kent State University. So I guess I'm paying back and paying forward a little bit."

☆ KENT STATE'S PRESENCE IN OHIO'S CAPITAL ☆

Under the direction of state Rep. **Vernon Sykes**, the Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues (CPII) has developed a stellar reputation with government and civic agencies, law firms and business leaders. The Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues offers students the opportunity to live, work and study public policy in Ohio's capital.

Few people understand the dynamics of state government better than Sykes, who joined the Kent State faculty in 2001, and has led the program since its inception. Sykes brings decades of experience in public service to the director's job, having served in Summit County government and Akron City Council before joining the Ohio House of Representatives. The former chair of the Ohio House Finance Committee also teaches state government and American politics at Kent State.

Sykes is passionate about the profound impact of the Columbus program, both on students and the university. "We have some of the best students in the state and in the country," Sykes says. "The students have the opportunity to demonstrate just how good they are, and it puts another face on Kent State in Columbus."

☆ PROGRAM SETS KENT STATE APART ☆

Elizabeth Eisaman, '07, interned at the Ohio Republican Party while in the Columbus program in 2005 and took full advantage of the networking opportunities offered to her. She now serves as majority policy aide to state Rep. **William Batchelder**, speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives.

In her three years at the Ohio House, Eisaman has moved up the ladder rather quickly, starting out as a legislative fellow and now working in a key position on the policy staff of one of Ohio's most prominent politicians.

"The role of a policy aide is to be a researcher and the eyes and ears for the speaker and the caucus," Eisaman says. "I cover two committees for the caucus — the Ways and Means and Local Government committees. I keep track of all the bills in the committees, do any research that the members might request and try to answer any questions that may arise," she says

Her interest in politics was ignited when she got involved with the College Republicans at Kent State. "I had a wonderful experience at Kent State," Eisaman says. "It fostered my desire to learn. The Columbus and Washington, D.C., programs really set Kent State apart from other institutions in Ohio," she says.

Students in the 2010 Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues pose on the staircase of the Kent Student Center. *Photo by Bob Christy, '95*

Desmond Bryant, shown at his workplace in the Ohio Governor's office in Washington, D.C., during his time with the Washington Program in National Issues. *Photo by Bob Christy, '95*

★ EXPERIENCING THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS ★

Some ambitious students choose to participate in both the Columbus and the Washington, D.C., offerings. ***Desmond Bryant***, '09, wanted to take advantage of every opportunity afforded him at Kent State. So after completing the Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues in the fall of 2008, he headed to Washington, D.C. Now working as a political liaison in the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Bryant got the political bug while attending a NATO simulation class at Kent State. "I got that sense of people making a difference and I was hooked," Bryant says.

While preparing for his Columbus experience, Bryant told Sykes of his deep interest in combining education and politics. With the director's help, he secured an internship working on Governor Ted Strickland's "Closing the Achievement Gap" initiative, which led to working in Strickland's D.C. office while he participated in the Washington Program in National Issues.

Bryant is happy to be back in the Buckeye State, but he marvels at the opportunities for upward mobility in Washington, D.C. "You can be an aide one day and be in the White House a few months later," Bryant says laughing. "It's crazy."

Bryant's enthusiasm for the two programs is infectious. "There are so many resources at Kent State, and so many doors open because of these two programs," he says. "They built my future." ■

To view slideshows of the WPNI program, visit www.bitly.com/gNEzwl. To learn more about the Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues, visit http://dept.kent.edu/columbus.

Kent State University is an active advocate for higher education and strives to maintain close and trusting relationships with federal, state and local governments. To learn more about legislative issues that impact the university and how you can support higher education, visit **www.kent.edu/advocacy**.

DIFFERENT PATH TO PUBLIC SERVICE

Erin Satzger-Clemons is a field representative for Rep. John Boehner in his West Chester, Ohio, office. ***Photo courtesy Erin Satzger-Clemons***

The road to a career in politics took ***Erin Satzger-Clemons***, *'08*, from her home in West Chester, Ohio, to Kent State and Washington, D.C., and back home again. She now serves as field representative for U.S. Rep. **John Boehner** in his West Chester office. Satzger-Clemons started interning for Boehner in the summer of 2007, and after graduation returned to work again for the recently named speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. In her current position, Satzger-Clemons represents Boehner at events and attends weekly meetings with constituents in Butler and Preble counties.

Her interest in politics grew when she served as vice president of the College Republicans. "Kent State definitely helped prepare me for this experience," Satzger-Clemons says. "I value the many great opportunities that the university makes available."

LIFE ON THE "A" LIST

POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR JOSHUA STACHER IS A GO-TO EXPERT FOR HIS COMMENTARY ON THE UPRISING IN EGYPT

/ BY STEFANIE MOORE, B.A., M.A., '07 /

The international media and the White House have **Joshua Stacher's** contact information. And they use it — often.

This past winter, Stacher's expertise on the Middle East was in high demand. Five days after the protests erupted on Jan. 25 in Tahrir Square in Cairo, Egypt, he received an e-mail from a White House staffer.

Stacher, Kent State University assistant professor of political science, admits to being worn out and sleep deprived from the high volume of media interviews, received an invitation to meet with senior members of the National Security Council in the White House's Roosevelt Room for a discussion.

The topic: Egypt.

"It was exciting and an honor," Stacher, a sought-after expert on the Middle East, says about the invitation. "I felt what the NSC was doing was really important. I was elated to be included."

His input at the table was similar to the advice he had co-written in an open letter to President Barack Obama — for the United States to amplify and support the demands of the Egyptian protestors who wanted President Hosni Mubarak to step down from his 30-year reign.

AIRING HIS VIEWS

Stacher, who specializes in authoritarianism in the Arab world, as well as social movements, explains that Egypt represents the most important Arab country for American foreign interests. He saw the uprising as a chance for the United States to review the failed foreign policy of supporting autocratic leaders over the last 60 years.

When Stacher returned from the nation's capital, the media inquiries escalated. Stacher provided expert commentary to CNN.com, *Time*, *Newsweek*, Al-Jazeera English, the BBC, NPR, Canada's CTV News Channel and CBC News Network, among dozens of others.

"I wish I was commenting on something significant that didn't involve the pain, hardship and repression of people's freedom," Stacher says. "It has been fantastic to have a wide microphone to air my views, but I also am cognizant about what it's built on. It's built on very lamentable reasons."

Joshua Stacher, assistant professor of political science, has lived and traveled widely in Egypt.

PHOTOS COURTESY JOSHUA STACHER

Stacher says if there is one positive about the crisis, it is that Egyptian politics are forever changed. Even if the military tries to go back to ruling the people the same way before the uprising, the new line of resistance will start with the demands protesters have voiced since Jan. 25.

"The government can stop democracy for a time, but it cannot kill off the dreams of millions of Egyptians," he says.

Further, adding to the historical record, Stacher contributed articles to the *Middle East Report*, foreignaffairs.com and *Jadaliyya*, an online magazine. He also contributed a paper to an Egyptian politics workshop at Stanford University in February. He's currently reworking portions of his forthcoming book, which compares institutions and co-optation to explain authoritarian durability in Egypt and Syria.

Steven W. Hook, professor and chair of Kent State's Department of Political Science, says Stacher's prominence impacts the university and its students.

"His interviews have brought regional, national and global attention to Kent State. The events in Egypt are complex and often troubling, yet Josh made them understandable to a huge audience," Hook says. "Our students, along with other members of the university community, are fortunate to have such a well-known expert walk them through the crisis in Egypt."

MYSTIFIED BY THE MIDDLE EAST

Stacher, who began teaching at Kent State in 2008, remembers how his "addiction" to the Middle East began.

After what he calls a "painfully normal" childhood in a town just outside of Pittsburgh, Stacher attended Washington and Jefferson College — a small liberal arts college. Initially an English and history major, he soon realized his passions and politics were different. Not long after, he signed up for a study-abroad program that took him to Cairo.

"The second I saw Cairo, I was mystified. It was absolutely the most chaotic place I'd ever seen in my life," Stacher says. "Cairo, which is a city of 20 million people, seemed to be run on duct tape and luck. It all seemed to be very ad-hoc but incredibly participatory. "

Stacher was in Egypt during the Luxor Massacre, a terrorist attack that killed 62 in 1997 at an archaeological site across the River Nile from Luxor. Stacher says he was "glued" to the discourse that followed and, in turn, to Egyptian politics.

He returned to Egypt to pursue his master's degree at the American University in Cairo, convincing his parents that his newfound passion was more than just a fad. He spent the next four years becoming fluent and functional in the Arab world.

He took a break from his master's to study at the Arabic Language Institute (ALI).

"ALI was basically 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a half hour for lunch, and I did Arabic for a year and a half," Stacher says.

After finishing his master's, he became even more absorbed in the minutia of Egyptian politics, due in part to the prestige of the university and its proximity to downtown Cairo.

"I could meet with someone from the Muslim Brotherhood or talk to an opposition party member," Stacher says. "The university is an elite institution in Egypt, so I was making friends with people from a class that I wouldn't have had access to had I stayed in the United States."

After earning his Ph.D. from the University of St. Andrews' School of International Relations in Scotland, he returned to Cairo where he met Mubarak's son, who was the presumptive heir apparent until the uprising, and members of the Muslim Brotherhood. He was invited to the president's speeches, bringing him even closer to the center of Egyptian politics — but also he maintained a wide number of contacts in the opposition.

Stacher considers the presidential election in 2005 as a turning point for the country. It's also when he first established credibility in the media world. As the international media swooped in, Stacher explains he was the first point of contact for many journalists who arrived in Egypt.

"It was the most intense media campaign I'd ever seen up to this point," Stacher says. "I was making all of these hyper-strong contacts with major international papers, and that is how I got into their address books."

STIMULATING YOUNG MINDS

Using those media connections, Stacher has been sharing commentary on an international stage. And he's also sharing his expertise at Kent State. However, in the classroom, Stacher remains disciplined.

"Egypt is one of my passions, but students in the course have the right to be instructed on a full range of Middle Eastern politics. So we are staying on schedule."

Junior political science major *Megan Aigner*, currently enrolled in Stacher's Middle East Politics course, thinks her professor is "kind of a big deal." She appreciates his expertise on the international crisis and the opportunity to look at different angles.

"His teaching goes beyond the classroom with all of his outside work," says Aigner, whose concentration is in international relations. "His sheer knowledge and enthusiasm about politics, in general, is motivating."

Stacher remained in contact with his many friends in Egypt throughout the crisis. He shared his friend's impressions about what is happening in their country to give his students another perspective.

"I don't want my students to think like me," Stacher says. "But I do want them to have strong opinions that are well-though-out and well-supported."

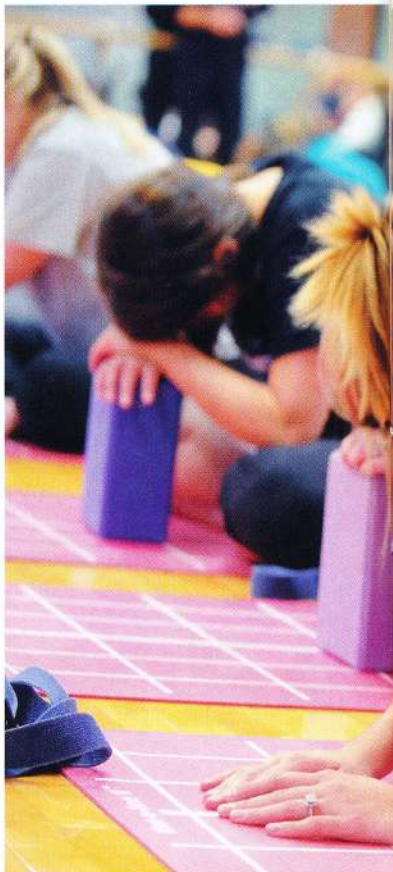
> "His interviews have brought regional, national and global attention to Kent State."
>
> **Steven W. Hook, professor and chair of Kent State's Department of Political Science**

For more information about Kent State's Department of Political Science, visit www.kent.edu/polisci.

To visit Professor Stacher's website, go to www.personal.kent.edu/~jstacher.

To read the open letter to President Barack Obama, see www.accuracy.org/an-open-letter-to-president-barack-obama.

FASHIONING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE



Kent State partners with Donna Karan's Urban Zen Foundation to design a **nursing wellness education program**

/ BY BOB BURFORD / PHOTOS BY JEFF GLIDDEN, '87 /

The notion of a partnership between Kent State University and fashion mogul Donna Karan isn't such a strange pairing to imagine. After all, Kent State's School of Fashion Design and Merchandising is recognized as one of the top fashion schools in the country. But it may come as a surprise to learn that the new collaboration between Kent State and Karan involves not the Fashion School, but the College of Nursing.

Kent State and Karan's Urban Zen Foundation are working together on a program focused on nursing wellness and self-care. The goal is to address issues such as nursing burnout and job-related stress.

"Nurses are on the front lines of patient care, and we realized that we needed to introduce our students to modalities that can reduce stress," says **Tracey Motter**, senior undergraduate program director for Kent State's College of Nursing. Karan founded the Urban Zen Foundation to advocate for combining Eastern and alternative healing therapies with Western medicine. In 2009, the foundation launched the Urban Zen Integrative Therapy Program (UZIT) to advance a more holistic approach to health care. The UZIT program includes training in yoga, essential oil therapy, Reiki, nutrition and contemplative care giving.

The collaboration started as a pilot project last September. Approximately 30 students in Kent State's accelerated nursing program participated in the first Care for the Caregiver program in the 2010 Fall Semester. They met for an in-person class on a monthly basis, taught by UZIT's Ed Dailey, RN, RNPA, E-RYT 500. Students also participated in weekly webinars and tracked their progress though regular journaling.

"The many stresses that nurses face open them up to fatigue and potential burnout," says Laura Dzurec, dean of Kent State's College of Nursing. "This effort attempts to help nurses take care of themselves and advance high-quality care for patients."

Ed Dailey of the Urban Zen Integrative Therapy program leads a class of Kent State nursing students. UZIT Program Director Gillian Cilibrasi is in the background.

FIRST IN THE NATION

The partnership with Kent State is the Urban Zen Foundation's first collaboration with a university nursing program in the country. Hopefully, the program will help break down resistance to holistic self-care.

"This collaboration is a good fit because, as one of the largest nursing schools in the country, we have an opportunity to impact a lot of students," Motter says. "With our Midwest location, we may be able to influence perceptions about alternative therapies."

As is often the case, this collaboration came about as a result of personal connections. *Earl Jones*, '70, mentioned to Kent State University President **Lester A. Lefton** that he might be able to help reach out to the fashion icon to establish a relationship with its School of Fashion Design and Merchandising. A meeting was set up between Karan and representatives from the university.

Gene Finn, Kent State's vice president for Institutional Advancement, learned about the Urban Zen Foundation at this first meeting with Karan. Subsequently, Finn asked **David Pratt**, director of advancement for the College of Nursing, to prepare a summary of what Kent State was doing with alternative medicine and therapies.

In June 2010, a small group of Kent State representatives met with Karan at her Greenwich Village loft. "Donna was extremely interested in what we were doing," Pratt says. "She felt it was a great fit for her foundation." The meeting led to the establishment of the self-care program at Kent State for the 2010 Fall Semester.

Eventually, the hope is that the Care for the Caregiver program could be offered to all students at the college. "It is important for nurses to understand all health care modalities that their patients may be using," Motter says. "We also want to look at who else in the community is doing work in this area and investigate possible collaborations."

Dzurec feels the timing is right for the program. "These types of therapies have now been around long enough to be a part of the mainstream," she says. "There has been a paradigm shift." ■

For more information about Kent State's College of Nursing, visit www.kent.edu/nursing. For more information about the Urban Zen Foundation, visit www.urbanzen.org.

Boundless Love

A Kent State student **donates her kidney** during winter break

/ BY ERIN ORSINI, KENT STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT / PHOTO BY BOB CHRISTY, '95 /

Kent State University sophomore *Leah Green* is no stranger to the surgeon's knife. In the third grade, Green had her tonsils and adenoids removed. At 13 years old, she had four wisdom teeth removed. And during her freshman year of high school, Green went under the knife once again as she had her gallbladder taken out.

But the 20-year-old early-childhood education major's most recent surgery occurred on Dec. 14, 2010, when she had her kidney removed. That time, however, circumstances were different; Green underwent surgery not because she had to, but because she wanted to.

SHARING A PRECIOUS GIFT

Green's 59-year-old step-grandfather, Paul Thompson, had developed hundreds of cysts on both kidneys, which had swelled to a total of 20 pounds — a great deal heavier than the average weight of 8 ounces per kidney. The mass on Thompson's kidneys caused pressure on other organs and endangered not only Thompson's health, but also his life.

At first, Thompson did not want to alarm Green with the news of his health, but it did not take long before she fitted the pieces of the puzzle together.

Without hesitation, Green knew she wanted to donate her kidney to help her grandpa.

"I was raised in a house where if someone needs help, you just do it," Green says. "He's helped me so much by the way he lives his life, and that was how I could give back to him."

On the flip side, Thompson was not so fond of the idea.

"I didn't want Leah to give me her kidney," Thompson says. "I could have never asked her to do that for me. But, Leah, her mom and grandma ganged up and convinced me to let her do it."

But before Green could officially donate her kidney to Thompson, she had to be tested to see if she was a match.

"It's rare to find a match, especially for a nonblood relative," Thompson says. "You always try to look at the bright side, but I never thought she'd be a match. I guess it was meant to be."

Green learned that she was a perfect blood and tissue type for Thompson during a visit at a friend's house. When she finally received the phone call she had been anticipating, Green jumped up and down, screaming with pure joy and excitement. Green was the first and only donor tested for compatibility with Thompson.

"This was just a blessing," Thompson says. "It was a miracle!"

SMILING THROUGH THE TOUGH TIMES

In preparing for surgery, Green made lifestyle changes, which included proper diet and exercise. To help prevent the development of diabetes after the transplant, Green made regular visits to the doctors for blood work, ate smaller portions and exercised.

When Dec. 14 rolled around, there was no turning back for Green or Thompson, as their lives were about to change forever.

To lighten the mood on the day of the transplant, Leah's grandmother, Bonnie, gave her a T-shirt that read: "I'm giving my grandpa a kidney for Christmas. What are you giving yours?"

However, both Green and Thompson were aware of the risks associated with transplant surgery, which are similar to those of other major surgeries.

"You're always hesitant when someone you love is going into surgery," Thompson says. "The thought of something going wrong is always in the back of your mind, but everything went as well as could have been expected."

Post surgery, Green continues to maintain her new healthy lifestyle by exercising four times per week and eating "tea-cup-plate" sized meals.

Before surgery, Green weighed 248 pounds; she now weighs 210 pounds. Her goal weight is 150 pounds.

Not only is Green making changes to her personal lifestyle, but she is also strengthening her leadership skills as a resident assistant in Fletcher Hall.

Resident hall director **John Borawski** says Green has always been optimistic and cheerful, but he has seen her jump hurdles since surgery.

"I see more confidence in Leah now that the procedure is over and everything went well," Borawski says. "Last semester, Leah was very anxious about the procedure. Now, she is confident that she can do anything — and that confidence has helped her grow tremendously as a student leader."

Borawski says Green is always pitching in to help someone in need and is willing to strike up a conversation with anyone strolling through the halls.

"Leah is a well-respected leader of her floor, staff and building," Borawski says. "She will volunteer at a moment's notice and make any daunting task a fun project. People know Leah and that Leah is good people. "

"I'm now embracing who I've been my whole life," Green says. "I'm starting to love me again."

CULTIVATING A NEW OUTLOOK ON LIFE

Green has not only gained internal benefits from her experience, but also learned to look at the world differently.

"Sometimes, you have to have bad days to make the good ones better," Green says. "I want to be a better person. I want to go out of my way to make [myself] someone special."

But to Thompson, Green has always been someone special.

"She's my own personal angel," Thompson says. "She would do anything for anyone. That's the way she is. "

Even though Green feels blessed to help save her grandpa's life, she does not wish for recognition for her actions, but rather hopes others would do the same.

"I don't want to be known for donating a kidney," Green says. "I want people to be organ donors. Every day there are blood drives. Every day people sign up for driver's licenses. It takes 10 to 15 minutes or a simple yes to change someone's life."

Now, Green is busy getting back to her normal but hectic college life.

Besides being a full-time student and serving as a resident assistant, Green works at a bowling alley. After her graduation, she plans on becoming a second-grade teacher. But until then, she enjoys spending time with her family, working out, driving around and hanging out with her friends.

"I'm just a normal college kid trying to get good grades," Green says. "I'm just trying to be who I want to be." ■

More information about kidney disease and transplantation can be found at www.kidney.org.

Leah Green, who donated a kidney to her grandfather, is shown in her residence hall.

REVISITING A PREVIOUS KENT STATE KIDNEY DONOR

/ BY ERIN ORSINI, KENT STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT /

Over the years, Kent State alumni, staff and students have demonstrated selfless actions as a result of their generous hearts.

Such is the case for records technician **Kathy Lockhart**.

In June 2003, Lockhart's daughter, Mandy, was rushed to the emergency room when her blood pressure suddenly escalated.

Due to her prescribed medication, doctors quickly discovered Mandy's problem: her kidneys were working at less than 8 percent capacity and needed a transplant. The Lockhart family soon began the donor testing process to speed up Mandy's chances of finding a donor.

After the testing was completed, results showed that Kathy was Mandy's match, and they proceeded with the transplant.

In the ensuing eight years, 29-year-old Mandy has traveled down a bumpy road to recovery. A few years after the transplant, Mandy's body gradually rejected her new kidney, and she went back on dialysis.

Even though Mandy is on dialysis for three hours a day, three times per week, Kathy says the experience was worth it.

"If I could, I would do it again," Kathy says. "You're saving a life, but people don't think about the impact they actually can have. One donor can save up to eight lives."

Kathy says the hardest part of the donation process was going back and forth from the Cleveland Clinic for tests and then waiting for the results. Kathy admits some physical pain was involved, but it was nothing compared to the task at hand.

"Donating gives people a chance to live their lives," she says. "It was and still is all about giving Mandy a healthy life."

Mandy continues to fight each day, and because of her unwillingness to give up, Kathy, along with those who have stood by Mandy's side, have learned that everything happens for a reason.

"Mandy never feels sorry for herself," Kathy says. "This experience helped strengthen our faith, and helped us grow closer as a family. Mandy is what makes us strong."

NEOTEC and Kent State: PARTNERS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

/ BY MARILYN MORGAN, DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, NEOTEC / PHOTOS COURTESY NEOTEC /

They come to Kent State from all over Northeast Ohio, from East Liverpool to Medina and Canton to Ashtabula — CEOs, presidents, VPs and directors — a cross-section of disciplines representing the university, businesses, government and economic development organizations throughout the region. As they bustle into the small conference room in the Administrative Services Building once each month, they pour a cup of coffee, put on their regional hats, and share their unique business perspectives and expertise in a collaborative effort to make Northeast Ohio a better place to work and live.

These men and women are among a dedicated group of professionals who are the heart and soul of the Northeast Ohio Trade and Economic Consortium — more commonly known as NEOTEC — which is now celebrating its 10th anniversary on the Kent Campus as the university's partner in economic development. As NEOTEC committee and board members, they volunteer their time and knowledge to implement regional strategies to create jobs and economic growth.

Award-winning strategies: NEOTEC received an Excellence in Economic Development Award in 2010 for its Global Business Development Initiative from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). Accepting the award is NEOTEC's president and CEO Ron DeBarr (center).

THE BIRTH OF NEOTEC

In 1996, officials in six Northeast Ohio counties entered into an agreement to form the Northeast Ohio Joint Office of Economic Development (JOED) in order to promote the region by stressing cooperation over competition. These counties — Columbiana, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Summit and Trumbull — established NEOTEC as a regional economic development organization to carry out their initiatives.

Originally, NEOTEC was run by volunteers from the counties, maintaining its office in Summit County. From the start, Kent State — recognizing the importance of regionalism in economic development and its own role in Northeast Ohio's growth — ensured that university officials were at the table representing Portage County and participating in NEOTEC's early development.

In late 2000, however, the counties chose to incorporate NEOTEC as a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization — a true public-private enterprise working on behalf of all of Northeast Ohio. Accepting the opportunity to participate in a partnership role, Kent State officials offered NEOTEC a new campus home with office space in the Administrative Services Building. An interim director was named in January 2001, and Ron DeBarr was permanently hired as executive director in May of that year.

SETTING A NEW COURSE

DeBarr was no newcomer to NEOTEC. He was an active member of NEOTEC's marketing committee while serving as vice president of ASW Services, an Akron-area supply chain management company. That unique perspective enabled him to quickly step into the leadership role to engage NEOTEC members and help define the future course of the organization.

"It was a challenge at first, because we needed to establish specific objectives to avoid duplicating other economic development efforts in the region," says DeBarr. "We immediately determined that our areas of focus were promoting international trade through the administration of Foreign-Trade Zone 181, and assisting the region in its growth as an international multimodal transportation hub."

From there, DeBarr says, NEOTEC has taken on a truly global perspective with award-winning strategies, offering four distinct business support programs to help position Northeast Ohio as a leader in the global marketplace.

- NEOTEC became grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 181 in 1997. That program helps companies reduce costs in their international supply chain to better compete globally. Under

Under NEOTEC's administration, FTZ 181 has been a major factor in attracting **more than $261 million in capital investment** and the **creation/retention of more than 4,200 jobs.**

Building a global network: NEOTEC president and CEO Ron DeBarr (third from left) met with representatives from several countries at the World Free Zone Convention in Rotterdam. Forming international partnerships to attract foreign investment to Northeast Ohio is one of NEOTEC's strategic economic development initiatives. (The countries represented in the photo are, from left, Bangladesh, Nigeria, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, India, Italy and Rwanda).

NEOTEC's administration, FTZ 181 has been a major factor in attracting more than $261 million in capital investment and the creation/retention of more than 4,200 jobs.

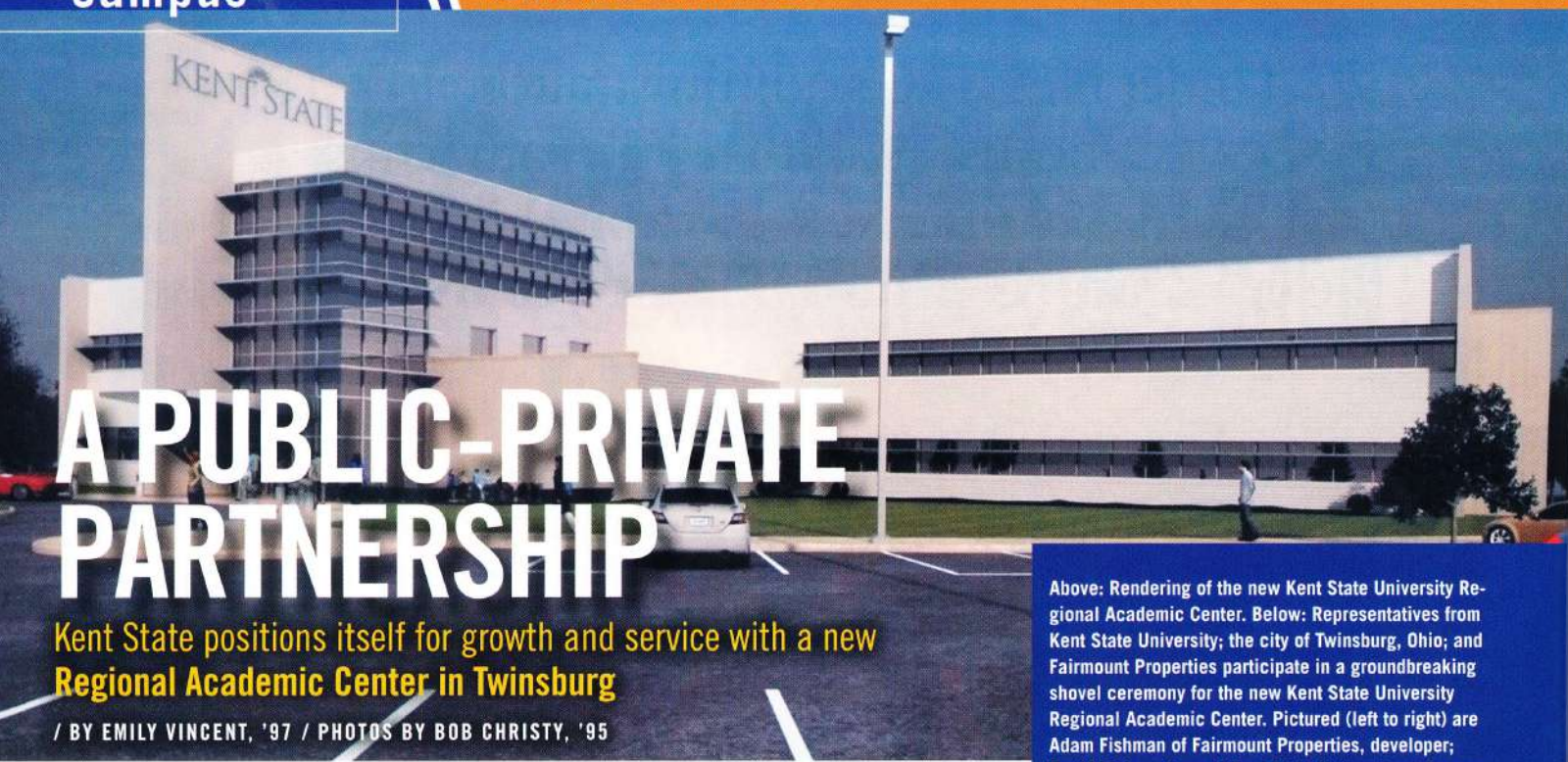
- On the logistics front, NEOTEC formed the Northeast Ohio Logistics Network in 2002, an organization of regional logistics professionals that provides a forum for addressing transportation needs and issues. Many logistics initiatives have been undertaken over the years, and the network hosts an annual Logistics Conference featuring regional, national and international logistics experts.
- In 2004, NEOTEC became the host site of the regional International Trade Assistance Center (ITAC), responding to the increased demand of companies who are new to export or looking to expand their international markets. ITAC's staff of trade advisors has provided export counseling for hundreds of companies throughout a 12-county area, with additional offices at Cleveland State and Youngstown State universities.
- Further embracing globalization of the marketplace, NEOTEC launched its Global Business Development Initiative in 2009, a strategy designed to attract foreign direct investment in Northeast Ohio, with an office in Brussels, Belgium, through contract with OCO Global Consulting.

POSITIONED FOR GROWTH

With DeBarr at the helm and with the support of Kent State and other regional partners, NEOTEC has experienced more than a decade of continued success and growth. Three more counties have joined — Ashtabula, Medina and Richland — the staff has grown to seven, and NEOTEC is now represented by nearly 40 different economic development, government and private sector organizations on a local, state and federal level. Included in this group are Kent State's **Iris Harvey**, vice president of university relations, and **Yank Heisler**, dean of the College of Business Administration, who serve as board members.

"We are fortunate to have Kent State University as a partner in our economic development efforts," says DeBarr. "The university's support has enabled us to make great strides in the past decade, and position ourselves for continued success in the years to come." ■

For more information on NEOTEC, visit www.neotec.org.



A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Kent State positions itself for growth and service with a new **Regional Academic Center in Twinsburg**

/ BY EMILY VINCENT, '97 / PHOTOS BY BOB CHRISTY, '95

Kent State University marked its continuing commitment to providing students affordable and accessible higher education with last fall's groundbreaking of the new Kent State University Regional Academic Center in Twinsburg, Ohio. The Regional Academic Center — a 44,000-square-foot, two-story building — will be constructed in the heart of Twinsburg, accessible from Interstate 480 off state Route 91. The convenient location places the Regional Academic Center within a 30-minute drive of more than one million citizens.

"We have seen a lot of growth at our academic center in Twinsburg, and we see this trend continuing," Kent State University President **Lester A. Lefton** says. "To better serve our existing students and to offer additional programs, we need a new building with state-of-the-art classrooms, technology, science and medical laboratories. Today, we celebrate Kent State's latest investment in providing high-quality higher education to Northeast Ohio."

Lefton was joined by Kent State University at Geauga Dean **David Mohan**, Twinsburg Mayor Katherine Procop and other community and university members for a groundbreaking ceremony held Nov. 18, 2010.

Mohan, who will oversee the Regional Academic Center in addition to Kent State Geauga, explains that the current Twinsburg building has many challenges and limitations that are not designed for 21st-century education. Expected enrollments will soon exceed classroom capacity, even with the best scheduling practices. The parking capacity has already been surpassed. But the new Regional Academic Center facility offers free parking, in 325 spots, roughly tripling the parking capacity of the current center.

Vital Resource Since 1990

The Regional Academic Center brings in new job-creating, services-enhancing construction, but Kent State Geauga has been growing in Twinsburg since classes began in 1990. That year, Kent State Geauga was contacted about offering the first higher education classes in the city of Twinsburg to members of the United Auto Workers employed by the Chrysler Corporation in the Chrysler Stamping Plant.

Course offerings were primarily lower-division classes with a focus on freshman and sophomore levels of instruction. In 2006, program emphasis expanded to include coursework toward both associate and baccalaureate degrees. The Associate of Applied Science in nursing was implemented at the Twinsburg Academic Center at the request of Marymount Hospital, an affiliate of the Cleveland Clinic. The current academic center provides courses that could be used toward the degree programs offered in the Kent State eight-campus system.

Above: Rendering of the new Kent State University Regional Academic Center. Below: Representatives from Kent State University; the city of Twinsburg, Ohio; and Fairmount Properties participate in a groundbreaking shovel ceremony for the new Kent State University Regional Academic Center. Pictured (left to right) are Adam Fishman of Fairmount Properties, developer; David Mohan, dean of Kent State University at Geauga; Katherine Procop, mayor of Twinsburg; Lester A. Lefton, president of Kent State University; Rich Frenchie, president of Kent State Geauga's Advisory Board; Sam Scaffide, president of the Twinsburg City Council; and Sam Alonso, mayor of Reminderville.

"One of the major features of the academic center is that it's a transition center for students who start and ended up completing their education at the Kent Campus," Mohan says. "The reason the enrollment has grown so quickly is that our class sizes are relatively low. The highest is 24, and the average is 18, so students get a lot of attention."

Currently, the academic center serves about 900 students. In the new Regional Academic Center, the university can serve up to 1,500 people. The northern Summit County location attracts a diverse student population, and about 20 percent of its students come from Cuyahoga County, with that number growing each year.

Once completed, the Kent State University Regional Academic Center will offer a full range of programs, from traditional associate and baccalaureate degrees to master's degrees and executive training programs. The expanded course offering also will include more continuing education, workforce development and job training, as well as community engagement opportunities.

"One of the primary differences is that in the new Regional Academic Center, we'll offer executive-level education and training," Mohan says. We're looking for at least six master's programs currently offered at the Kent Campus to be offered here."

In addition, the Regional Academic Center is located near a growing number of medically related businesses, making the new facility an ideal venue to offer nursing, public health and executive training programs, and serving a high-volume area for health professionals, in particular. Medical facilities in operation or under construction in the area include the Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals Health System, Summa Health System, Edgepark Medical Supplies and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Ohio. ■

To watch a video from the groundbreaking ceremony, go to www.kent.edu/news/video/twinsburgcenter.cfm.

To learn about the courses being offered at the Twinsburg Academic Center, visit http://www.geauga.kent.edu/twinsburgcenter/index.cfm.

THE NEW PROJECT,

a public-private partnership, highlights regionalism by using a Cleveland developer and a loan from the Akron Port Authority. Kent State's private partner in the project is Fairmount Properties of Cleveland, the developer of the building. The new Regional Academic Center will be built through a loan from the Akron Port Authority and will take advantage of the federal Build America Bonds program, allowing $1.4 million in cost savings. The university has entered into a 30-year tenant lease agreement. After 30 years, the building becomes university property. Fairmount Properties is responsible for such Ohio developments as First & Main in Hudson, Brunswick Town Center in Brunswick and University Circle College Town in Cleveland. The new Regional Academic Center is expected to be complete for the Fall 2012 Semester and to create 720 jobs.

"I call [it] the Twinsburg Trifecta: University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic and Kent State University … We are very, very excited about the [Regional Academic Center] project."

— Katherine Procop, Mayor, Twinsburg, Ohio, State of the City Address, Feb. 17, 2011.

Why COLLEGE SPORTS Matter

/ BY ALAN ASHBY / PHOTOS BY JEFF GLIDDEN, '87 /

We can easily see the impact of college athletics on a beautiful fall afternoon, when blue-and-gold-clad fans have packed Dix Stadium to watch Kent State beat its nearby rival, Akron, during Homecoming to reclaim the Wagon Wheel trophy.

What many of us don't realize is that college sports can have a much larger ripple effect on the campus, the surrounding community and beyond.

"One run in the NCAA Basketball Tournament or a great season on the football field can lead to exposure on a national level that is worth the equivalent of millions of dollars in advertising," says Kent State Director of Athletics **Joel Nielsen**. "University admissions departments see the direct impact of that kind of success."

Universities such as Butler, George Mason and Gonzaga have experienced more than 20 percent growth in applications following the success of their respective men's basketball programs in the NCAA Tournament. In football, Boise State can point to the same type of dynamic response that can come from an increased national profile. The one-time junior college has elevated its position in higher education and seen unprecedented gains in admissions, all while bringing in significant additional resources.

Here at Kent State, applications rose nearly 350 percent on the heels of the Golden Flashes' memorable run to the 2002 Elite Eight. That level of success can energize students, alumni and fans not just in Northeast Ohio, but also across the country. That tremendous excitement translates into greater giving in fundraising as it motivates current supporters and provides additional opportunities for new connections.

Win-Win for Campus and Community

In a June 2009 study, it was determined that Kent State Intercollegiate Athletics was responsible for annually generating more than $1.6 million in sales in Portage County and $564,000 in personal income.

Athletics can also have a strong impact on the makeup and academic performance of a university. The more than 400 student-athletes at Kent State boast much higher percentages of minority and international students, while posting a higher grade point average, freshman to sophomore retention rate and graduation rate than the general student body.

And those same student-athletes are making a difference in the community through thousands of hours of service. Whether it's reading to an elementary school class, working on a Habitat for Humanity House or helping raise money for the United Way or Akron Children's Hospital, Golden Flashes teams are truly ingrained in the surrounding communities.

"As successful as our teams have been on the field in recent years, our student-athletes have been just as impressive in the classroom, around campus and in the community," says Nielsen. "Our coaches do a great job of recruiting well-rounded, intelligent young men and women."

So when you roll all of that together, throw in notable alumni such as *Joshua Cribbs*, '10; *Ben Curtis*, '03; *James Harrison*; *Lou Holtz*, '59; *Antonio Gates*; and *Nick Saban*, '73, M.Ed. '75, to name just a few, it's easy to see those ever-expanding ripples moving farther and farther out from their center at Kent State. ■

Demetric Shaw, '02, point guard for the Elite Eight basketball team, celebrates at the NCAA tournament with teammates and fans. Since graduating from Kent State, Shaw has been touring the international basketball circuit as a professional athlete.

2011 VARSITY "K" HALL OF FAME CLASS

/ BY ALAN ASHBY /

PHOTOS BY BOB CHRISTY, '95 /

The Kent State University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics recently bestowed its highest honor on the eight-member Varsity "K" Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2011 on a snowy afternoon Saturday, Feb. 5.

Joshua Cribbs (football, 2001–04), *Blanford Fuller* (men's tennis, 1952–59), *Martina Gillen* (women's golf, 2001–04), *Dirk Hayhurst* (baseball, 2000–03), *Laing Kennedy* (athletic director, 1994–2010), *Mike McKibben* (football, 1972–75), *Beth Obruba* (women's track and field, 1996–00), and *Billie Jean Smith-Goldman* (women's basketball, 1994–97) were formally inducted during the two-hour ceremony in the Kent Student Center Ballroom.

Jack Rittichier (Distinguished Alumnus, posthumous) and *Mel Mellis*, '68, (Honorary Varsity "K") received special recognition for their contributions and accomplishments.

"This special day is always one of the highlights of our year," says Kent State Director of Athletics **Joel Nielsen**. "The accomplishments and diversity of this class represent the honor, rich tradition and constant striving for excellence that are associated with being a member of the Golden Flashes family. This group of former student-athletes, administrators and supporters truly is the best of the best when it comes to Kent State athletics."

The Varsity "K" Athletics Hall of Fame was started in 1979 with the induction of the original 13-member charter class. The Hall of Fame honors men and women whose exceptional performance on the athletic fields and, in later years on other fields, merits special recognition from their alma mater. With the induction of its 33rd class of honorees, the Hall of Fame now boasts 269 members. ■

Enjoy more photos from the Varsity "K" event at www.bitly.com/inductees.

Clockwise from top left:
Beth Obruba, '00, accepts her Varsity "K" award from Joel Nielsen, director of athletics.
Blanford Fuller, '59, accepts his Varsity "K" award from Director of Athletics Joel Nielsen.
Athletic Director Emeritus Laing Kennedy walks onto the basketball court during halftime to be recognized as a member of the Varsity "K" Club.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Kent State's unofficial mascot celebrates **50 years on campus**

/ BY ERIN C. PERKINS, KENT STATE MAGAZINE JOURNALISM GRADUATE STUDENT /

/ PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JEFF A. FLORENTINE, '11, KENT STATE VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN STUDENT /

Take a stroll on the campus of Kent State University, and it's hard to go far without spotting a black squirrel darting among students, leaping from tree to tree or snacking on nuts.

Once rare in Northeast Ohio, the now ubiquitous black squirrel is affectionately considered Kent State University's unofficial mascot, and 2011 celebrates the bushy-tailed creatures' 50th anniversary on campus.

The availability of stuffed toy versions in campus bookstores, the black squirrel statue-decorating contest at Homecoming, Black Squirrel Radio and the Annual Black Squirrel Festival are clear indications that the black squirrels are a staple both on and off campus and engender fond memories of Kent State.

OPERATION BLACK SQUIRREL IS BORN

Even more interesting than their prominence is how they ended up in Kent.

The creatures were imported to campus under the "Operation Black Squirrel" mission in 1961, when *Larry Wooddell*, then the campus ground superintendent, and "Biff" Staples, a retired Davey Tree employee, personally delivered the furry critters from Canada.

Wooddell had first seen the black squirrels when traveling in the late 1950s through Chardon, Ohio, a small rural town 30 miles northeast of Kent. According to a September 1982 article in the *Daily Kent Stater*, Wooddell was confused by the squirrels' unique color and startled by their struggle to escape hunters.

Scarce in number and greatly outnumbered by predators in mid-20th century Chardon, the black squirrels eventually were killed off in the area. Intrigued by the rare-colored creatures, Wooddell began to search elsewhere for them. He enlisted the help of his friend, Staples, who discovered an abundance of them in Ontario, Canada, on a business trip.

OPERATION BLACK SQUIRREL UNFOLDS

Based on Staples' discovery, the pair handled the complicated task of transporting the squirrels from Ontario to Kent, which involved correspondence with the United States and Canadian governments over six months.

The plan proved successful. In early 1961, the pair drove to Ontario in a station wagon to pick up 10 squirrels that had been trapped by Canadian wildlife authorities. Then, they returned to campus hauling the furry cargo in individual cages. Once back in Kent, the men released the squirrels, and the rest, as they say, is history.

It seems after their five-decade occupation of Kent, the black squirrels are finally doing what Wooddell hoped they would. A 1961 article in the *Record-Courier* said, "Wooddell, pleased that campus now has a colony of rare squirrels, believes they will take kindly to KSU surroundings." And, so it appears, they have.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

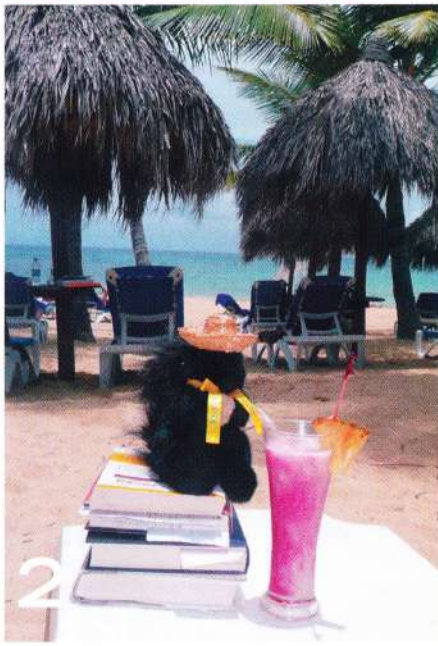
Can't get enough of the black squirrels? Check them out in their campus habitat at www.bitly.com/e6HL2C.

Editor's note: Whenever Kent State Magazine *shares news of the black squirrels, our dedicated alumni write to tell us they recall seeing black squirrels prior to 1961. With the help of sleuths from Alumni Relations and University Archives we've pursued the case, but so far the 1982* Daily Kent Stater *is the most authoritative source.* ■

Scurrying AROUND THE WORLD

As we celebrate the unofficial school mascot's 50th anniversary on campus, the Kent State University Alumni Association wanted to recognize the — dare we say busy-tailed — creature. Not only do the black-tailed squirrels scuttle across campus on a daily basis, but they also have been spotted around the world. From soaking up rays in Mexico to canoeing in Georgia, the squirrels have been busy traveling with many alumni this past year. Take a look at where the globetrotting black squirrels have vacationed.

View more squirrel-sighting photos by visiting www.ksualumni.org/squirrelsightings.



1. Hanging out at Walt Disney World in front of Cinderella's Castle, Magic Kingdom
Photo submitted by Hope Burger, '97

2. Relaxing in Punta Cana
Photo submitted by Bob Campobenedetto,'77, and Laurie (Lahman) Campobenedetto, '78

3. Checking out Wrigley Field
Photo submitted by Tom Hall, '69, and taken by Cindy Kurman

4. Sightseeing at the Old Town Square in Prague
Photo submitted by Justin Jeffery, '07, M.Ed. '09

5. Holding up the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Pisa, Italy
Photo submitted by Don, '73, and Elaine, '89, Lumley

6. Taking a boat ride at Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in Southeastern Georgia
Photo submitted by David Herpy, '01

7. Lost in Tiananmen Square
Photo submitted by Gareth Jones, '60

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBER PROFILE

ARICA KRESS, '03

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS, COLUMBUS CREW

ARICA KRESS, '03, is the director of marketing and promotions for the Columbus Crew, an MLS professional soccer team. She oversees all marketing, advertising and promotions for the Crew. Kress manages television spots, print ads, the website and other social media, as well as coordinates vendors and game day activities. She began her career in the sports industry as a supervisor at the Kent State Student Recreation and Wellness Center. She also had a variety of internships with area sports teams, including the Cleveland Indians, the Akron Aeros, Cleveland Rockers, Cleveland Browns and the Lake County Captains. In addition, she interned with Lowe's Motor Speedway in North Carolina. Kress holds a bachelor's degree from Kent State University, with a major in sports management and a minor in marketing.

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WHAT KENT STATE MEANS TO ME

My education and experiences at Kent State were pivotal in my personal development and helped shape me into the professional that I am today.

FAVORITE KENT STATE MEMORY

I have so many memories that were all very positive. Some that come to mind are graduation, Kent State basketball in the Elite Eight, Homecoming Court my senior year and working football games in the President's Suite for Student Ambassadors, just to name a few. And of course, I always think of Kent State on May 4, remembering the tragic events of that day in 1970.

WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT KENT STATE?

I can honestly say that my four years at Kent State University were the best years of my life. It was great to have the freedom to do what I wanted but to not yet have all the responsibilities of the "real world." I wanted to experience many different things so I made the most of every second I was there. Whether I was supervising the Rec Center, an RA in the halls or a Student Ambassador, I was always learning.

FAVORITE KENT STATE PROFESSOR

When I was at Kent State, I was fortunate to meet many people who would be influential in my life. Two of the most important people were advisors. Martha Deep was my academic advisor who guided me toward a career in sports management. Also very important to me was my advisor of Student Ambassadors, Nancy Schiappa. With Nancy's guidance and the many valued experiences while an ambassador, I was provided with the tools to prepare for the real world and my future career.

WHY DID YOU BECOME A LIFETIME MEMBER OF THE KENT STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

It is really important to me to become a lifetime member because I was an ambassador and directly benefited from the program. The program helped me, so I feel it is important to help the alumni association and contribute to the future of Kent State.

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.

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CLASSNOTES

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH US! The Kent State University 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. Make sure to include a caption with the names of alumni in the photo and their graduating years.

'49 Jim Rinier, M.A. '50, Kent, Ohio, was presented the highest honor by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for outstanding contributions to the protection and enjoyment of the state's natural resources. Rinier was inducted into the ODNR Hall of Fame.

'61 **Donald P. Winter**, Willoughby, Ohio, and his wife, Laverne, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 15, 2011.

'62 Jack Huber, Ph.D., Raleigh, N.C., is a professor of psychology at Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C. Huber recently translated the best-selling self-help book, *Encouragement Makes Good Things Happen*, from German into English.

'65 **Alfred L. Bright**, M.A., Youngstown, Ohio, creates paintings while listening to music — jazz to be specific — and for 30 years, he made a name for himself painting on stage live with famous jazz musicians. Nearly 20 of Bright's works were recently exhibited at the Kent State School of Art Gallery.

'69 **Hubert W. Winebrenner**, M.A. '69, Ph.D., Green Valley, Ariz., published *The Iowa Precinct Caucuses: The Making of a Media Event*, third edition, which chronicles how the caucuses began, how they changed and, starting in 1972, how they became fodder for and manipulated by the mass media.

'70 **Stanley C. Harrold**, M.A. '70, Ph.D. '75, Orangeburg, S.C., authored *Border War: Fighting Over Slavery Before the Civil War.*

'71 Stephen R. Donaldson, M.A., Albuquerque, N.M., has published *Against All Things Ending*, the third of four books in the "Last Chronicles of Thomas Covenant" series. Donaldson is a *New York Times* best-selling author. **Bill Lazarus**, M.A. '74, Daytona Beach, Fla., has published his fourth book and his first novel, *The Unauthorized Biography of Nostradamus*. In December 2010, Lazarus also published the nonfiction book, *Noel: The Lore and Tradition of Christmas Carols.*

'72 **Josue B. Robles**, San Antonio, Texas, has been appointed to the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas' San Antonio Branch board of directors. R. Thomas Roselle, Oakton, Va., published *Health Is a Do-It-Yourself Program*, which looks at the wellness paradigm from the concept of the Triad of Health — structural, chemical, emotional. Roselle hosts a radio talk show providing information on integrative, holistic and wellness health care methods. He is the founder of Caring For Others Ltd., a charity that provides alternative health care for the homeless or those living in poverty, and provides scholarships for students of alternative health care.

'73 Nora C. Jacobs, Hudson, Ohio, has recently joined Hennes Paynter Communications as vice president. Jacobs is responsible for the development, management and implementation of communication strategies for clients of the firm, drawing especially on her years of work helping clients manage their response to reputational crises. John Kapitan, Dayton, Ohio, has been appointed administrator of St. Michael the Archangel Byzantine Catholic Church, in Pleasant City, Ohio, while continuing his current duties as chaplain of St. Barbara Byzantine Catholic Chapel in Dayton, Ohio. **James P. Nestor,** M.A. '74, Indiana, Pa., is retiring after a distinguished 25-year career at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

'74 Jim Lawrence, M.A. '79, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, president/CEO of Oriana House Inc., was presented with the 2010 Margaret Mead Award, the highest honor presented by the International Community Corrections Association.

'75 **Pat (Miller) Divoky**, Highland Heights, Ohio, was named director of the Summit County Department of Job and Family Services, where she manages a $68 million budget and the supervision of nearly 400 staff.

'76 **Lynnda A. (Wolf) Hoefler**, Stow, Ohio, has been appointed as a National Panhellenic Conference delegate for Delta Zeta Sorority. Hoefler serves on the Budget and Finance Committee and as an area advisor for College Panhellenics in Ohio. She has served nationally in various positions for Delta Zeta since 1976. Darrell E. Issa, a California congressman, is the new chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

'77 Chris O. Paparodis, Hilliard, Ohio, is now a partner at Lane Alton and Horst Paparodis. Paparodis is a member of the Restaurant and Hospitality Practice Group, which specializes in administrative law, liquor licensing, regulation and commercial transactions.

'78 **Catherine P. Hakala-Ausperk**, M.L.S. '91, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, recently published *Be A Great Boss: One Year to Success*. Hakala-Ausperk is an adjunct faculty member in the School of Library and Information Science at Kent State. **Barbara A. (Cotten) Werstler**, Mogadore, Ohio, principal of George G. Dodge Intermediate School in the Twinsburg City School District, was named Ohio's 2010 Distinguished Principal by the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators.

'79 **Peggy A. (Petermeyer) Ford**, Kansas City, Mo., chief integrity and compliance officer, Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System, has recently been appointed to the Board of Directors of Providence Medical Center and St. John Hospital. Ford is also a deacon at Country Club Christian Church. **Michael A. Gargano,** M.B.A. '85, Indianapolis, Ind., was promoted from chief of staff to secretary of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration. **David J. Lewis**, Hudson, Ohio, recently joined the Krugliak, Wilkins, Griffiths & Dougherty Co. L.P.A. as shareholder and director. Lewis lectures frequently to lawyers, accountants and professional associations on topical taxation and business developments. In addition, he is an adjunct faculty member at The University of Akron, where he teaches Tax Practice and Procedure to Master of Taxation candidates and law students. **John E. Myers**, Tallmadge, Ohio, has worked with The University of Akron Research Foundation since 2007 as an executive in residence. Myers also works on behalf of ARCHAngels, a network that brings investors into contact with promising new ideas. **Thomas L. Pozza**, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, has been promoted to chief of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department. Pozza has been with the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department since December 1979 when he started as a patrolman. In 1995, he was promoted to sergeant and, in 2003, he was promoted to lieutenant and then captain. **Brenda S. Seevers**, M.A., Las Cruces, N.M., associate professor of agricultural and extension education at New Mexico State University, recently received the Excellence in College and University Teaching in Food and Agricultural Sciences award. Seevers has also received the El Paso Energy Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching, the Donald C. Rousch Excellence in Teaching Award and the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Teaching Award of Merit.

'82 **Kurt Kraft**, Jacksonville, Fla., is running for public office as property appraiser in Duval County, Jacksonville, Fla., in the spring 2011 election. Kraft has worked for the Duval County Property Appraiser's Office for more than 27 years. **Rebecca E. (Wolking) Sims**, M.L.S., Papillion, Neb., has been director of the Offutt AFB Library since 1997.

'83 **Kurt Pakan**, Rochester, N.Y., had an exhibit at Fastframe in Hudson, Ohio. Pakan has managed Kurt Pakan Design for more than 10 years, specializing in brand identity design and consultation.

'84 **Karen A. Beppler-Dom**, North Canton, Ohio, has been named the new superintendent of the Pinnacles National Monument. Beppler-Dom was the superintendent of Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park and has more than 20 years experience in the National Parks Service. **April L. (Talmon) Domine**, Powell, Ohio, became the superintendent of Ohio's New Albany-Plain Local Schools.

Alumni Association Annual Member **Life Member**

continued on page 23

D'Andra Mull, '02, works for the Office of the Vice President for Student Life and the Multicultural Center at The Ohio State University.

Lasting Connections

Fond memories and valuable lessons from student organizations stick with Golden Flashes

/ BY CARRIE DRUMMOND AND ERIN ORSINI, KENT STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENTS /

When freshman arrive on campus, they receive many survival tips. One frequently heard suggestion is that students should participate in organizations. By the second semester, those who signed up for different student groups start to feel part of the Kent State University community. When graduation rolls around, it's hard to say goodbye to all the friends and mentors from those organizations. However, most students don't think about the lasting effects of their campus involvement. *D'Andra Mull, Marc Cohen* and *Aimee Jensen* took part in various student organizations while working toward their Kent State degrees. Although they were involved in different ways, the payoff was the same: Student organizations made a difference in their lives.

She served as an advocate for the university

Some might call D'Andra Mull, '02, "Miss Kent State." During her time at the university, she was Homecoming Queen, a Ronald E. McNair scholar, president of both the Undergraduate Student Government and her sorority, Sigma Gamma Rho, and a Kent Student Ambassador, which was her first leadership role.

After seeing an ambassador working an event during her freshman year, Mull wanted to be a part of the organization.

"You could see she had pride in being an ambassador," Mull says. "The people who worked with ambassadors were proud of them, too, and it was a good way to give back to the university."

Kent Student Ambassadors is an organization sponsored by the Kent State University Alumni Association. Students are inducted into the organization after a highly selective application and interview process.

"We were a brand," Mull says. "We were expected to represent Kent State to the best of our abilities."

Being an ambassador taught her how to balance and stay ahead of the game. She also learned the importance of seeking out mentors and keeping connections to Kent State University through her life membership with the Kent State University Alumni Association and her yearly return to campus for Homecoming and other signature events.

Mull credits her involvement with Kent Student Ambassadors as her first look at the student-affairs side of a university.

Now she works as the chief of staff for the Office of the Vice President for Student Life and as interim director of the Multicultural Center at The Ohio State University. After graduating from Kent State, she received her master's from Michigan State University and her doctorate from Ohio State.

"I'm a Buckeye and I'm a Spartan. But first, I was a Golden Flash. Kent State is home," Mull says.

He had the opportunity to design the Cohn Jewish Student Center

It's not often that a graduate is able to give back to his alma mater by designing a building on campus. But when Marc Cohen's, '83, architecture firm, North Coast Architects, was selected to design Hillel's new home, the Cohn Jewish Student center, that's exactly what happened.

During his time at Kent State University, Cohen considered the old Hillel house on North Lincoln Street his second home.

"I was an architecture student, but I don't like to think of Taylor Hall as my home away from home," Cohen says. "The Hillel house was really where I felt comfortable hanging out."

Cohen was excited to be part of the new center because he connected with it as both a graduate of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design and as a former member of Hillel, the Jewish student organization at Kent State.

"It was nice to be able to leave my mark on campus through the building," Cohen says.

He first got involved with Hillel because he was a brother of Alpha Epsilon Pi, the Jewish fraternity.

Fraternity brothers would go to Hillel together on Fridays for Shabbat service and dinner and on Sundays for brunch.

"I have a lot of fond memories," Cohen says. "It was just a great spot to go hang out on Sunday mornings, eat brunch and maybe watch a football game."

Now Cohen is impressed by how Hillel has grown. Today's Kent State students, both Jewish and non-Jewish, have more social, cultural and religious opportunities through the organization.

Cohen tries to come back to Kent State for programs as a way to stay involved with Hillel, and he loves bringing his family to Kent State to visit the new building.

She stays connected to her sorority

Sisterhood means much more than letters for Aimee Jensen, '04.

A transfer student from Defiance College, the education major with a minor in English experienced a world of change when she moved from 20 Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority sisters to 90.

Jensen wasted no time assisting with formal recruitment.

"I wanted to get involved and make something of it," Jensen says.

It was not until Jensen's friend assigned her to be chapter excellence chairman that she officially held a leadership position with Tri Sigma. The push to participate got the ball rolling, as she became the sorority's education director and, eventually, Tri Sigma's president.

As president, Jensen and her sisters won the community service award, first place at Song Fest and Greek Week, and they took their membership quota for the first time in Tri Sigma history.

"It wasn't about me but the team dynamics we created," Jensen says. "I learned the limits I can push myself to. The people who have invested in me have helped me become a better person."

Aimee Jensen, '04, is the assistant director of chapters services for her sorority, Tri-Sigma.

Marc Cohen, '83, designed the Cohn Jewish Community Center at Kent State.

Jensen continues to devote herself to Tri Sigma. She serves as assistant director of chapter services, overseeing the general operations and leadership development of 50 designated chapters.

"It's a great feeling to know that I matter and that I'm impacting lives," Jensen says. "Even on my most frustrating days, I remember it's for a good cause."

When she isn't busy with work, Jensen spends time planning her September wedding and enjoying time with her soon-to-be new family.

However, Jensen will always cherish her unbreakable bond with Tri Sigma.

"It's great to come back and be a part of it, because we're always striving to better ourselves," Jensen says. "That is something I constantly try to put into words." ■

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'85 **Deborah S. (Gerwin) Matz**, Stow, Ohio, has been appointed as the new director of law for Summit County. Matz is an active volunteer on various committees of the Akron Bar Association and is a member of the Community Aids Network Board. She also is a member of the Board of Trustees for the University of Akron School of Law Alumni Association. **Betty S. Sutton**, J.D., Washington, D.C., won her third two-year term in the U.S. House of Representatives. Sutton represents Ohio's 13th House District in Congress. **Joe B. Whitehead**, M.A. '85, Ph.D. '89, Hattiesburg, Miss., was recently inducted into the 2010 Delta State University Alumni Hall of Fame by the *Delta Business Journal*.

'87 **Trent A. Smith**, Perrysburg, Ohio, has been promoted to regional president of The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company for Akron-based FirstEnergy Corp.

'88 **Tony Trigilio**, Evanston, Ill., published his newest book, *Historic Diary*, a collection of poems that explores the myths and texts of the JFK assassination. Trigilio is a professor of English at Columbia College in Chicago.

'90 **Cait Anastis**, Euclid, Ohio, editor of publications for the Holden Arboretum in Lake County, Ohio, has won two APEX Awards for Publication Excellence: the gold for the 2009 Annual Report and silver for *Leaves* magazine. **James S. Nordholt**, Twinsburg, Ohio, has been named director, fitting services group, at Swagelok Company facilities located in Highland Heights, Solon and Strongsville. Nordholt joined the company in 2000. **Peter S. Scarvelis**, Lakewood, Ohio, has recently joined Dymun and Company, a strategic and creative communications agency, as an account director. **Jill A. Smith**, B.S.E. '93, Alliance, Ohio, is the new pastor at Faith Fellowship Baptist Church in Stow, Ohio.

'91 **Tammy A. (Jessen) Andreyko**, Sewickley, Pa., successfully defended her dissertation at the University of Pittsburgh on Nov. 22, 2010. The title of the dissertation is *Principal Leadership in the Accountability Era: Influence of Expanding Job Responsibilities on Functional Work Performance, Stress Management, and Overall Job Satisfaction.* Andreyko is currently employed as the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum at North Allegheny School District in Pittsburgh, Pa. **Gregory S. Reese**, B.S. '93, Woodruff, S.C., is now the eastern regional sales manager at Northwire Technical Cable.

'92 **Anthony S. Gainer**, Cleveland, Ohio, goes by his middle name, Scott. He is the chief financial officer and treasurer of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights school district, and has been named the Outstanding Treasurer/CFO of the Year for Ohio by the Ohio Association of School Business Officials.

'94 **John R. Hostetter**, Ballston Spa, N.Y., is a licensed home inspector and the owner of Hoss Home Inspections.

'95 **Pamela A. Baird Atwood,** Fitchburg, Wis., will be co-chairing the American Heart Association Go Red Luncheon in April 2011 and 2012. In addition to running an executive search firm, she has been appointed an adjunct faculty position at Upper Iowa University in the health services program.

'96 **Emily A. Roper,** Montgomery, Texas, has been elected publications/information division head for the Association for Applied Sport Psychology, the international professional organization of sport and exercise psychology. Roper teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in sport and exercise psychology, sport sociology and health education in the Department of Health and Kinesiology at Sam Houston State University. **Fredrick R. Snow,** Ph.D., Ottawa, Kan., has been appointed to serve as University President of Grantham University, an online university serving the educational needs of working adults.

'00 **Lisa M. Collins**, M.Ed., Laramie, Wyo., teaches all levels of psychology and sociology courses at the University of Phoenix Cleveland campus. Collins also serves as a drug and alcohol counselor at nonprofit Recovery Resources in Cleveland. She was the Strongsville Person of the Week in October 2010. **Shanon M. Larimer**, Orlando, Fla., serves as chief executive officer for the city of Orlando's Downtown Arts District. **Pascual Zamudio**, Berlin Center, Ohio, has been promoted to the rank of major in the United States Air Force. Zamudio is currently flying the F14-E and serving as the director of staff for the 492nd Fighter Squadron "Madhatters" at RAF Lakenheath, England. He recently returned from his fifth deployment to the Middle East.

'01 **Shari L. Nelson**, Mineral City, Ohio, joined the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission's Canton office as a consumer support advocate.

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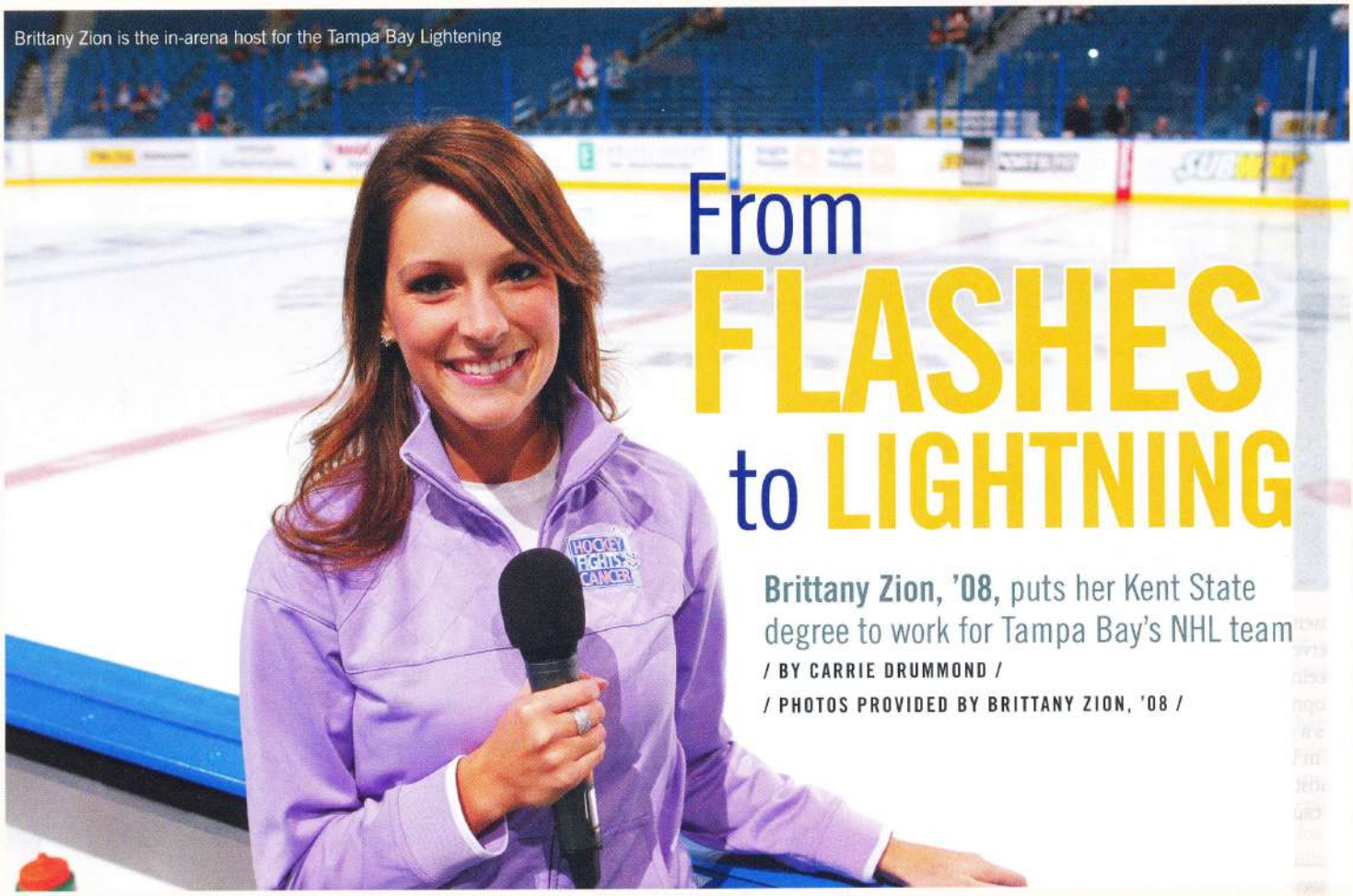
Alumni Association Annual Member **Life Member**



Brittany Zion is the in-arena host for the Tampa Bay Lightening

From FLASHES to LIGHTNING

Brittany Zion, '08, puts her Kent State degree to work for Tampa Bay's NHL team

/ BY CARRIE DRUMMOND /

/ PHOTOS PROVIDED BY BRITTANY ZION, '08 /

It's hard to imagine a career that gives you the chance to skydive with the U.S. Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team, meet music stars like Carrie Underwood and watch hockey games a few nights each week.

But for Kent State University alumna *Brittany Zion*, '08, that's just another day at the office.

Zion is the in-arena host and marketing coordinator for the Tampa Bay Lightning of the National Hockey League. Her skydiving experience came as part of a Military Night that the Lightning hosted.

"I wear a lot of hats around here," Zion says. "During the day, I do event marketing for concerts and events that come through the St. Pete Times Forum. At night, I'll be on the JumboTron doing promotions and contests.

Zion came to Kent State because of a family legacy, following in the footsteps of her brother, father and grandfather. Right from the start, she knew she wanted to work in the sports industry. Then, after taking communication classes, she realized she wanted to go into sports reporting.

Zion was involved on campus through the All-Campus Programming Board (ACPB) and the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), and she gained experience through several internships.

"I got into the events side of things, especially with ACPB, and that got my foot in the door with the Cavs," Zion says. "Plus, Kent State has such a reputable name. It really makes graduates stand out, whether it's in Northeast Ohio or any other part of the country."

She worked as a corporate communications assistant for the Cleveland Cavaliers and an in-arena host for the Lake Erie Monsters prior to landing her position with the Lightning.

BEGINNING HER CAREER IN TAMPA

"After getting experience with the Monsters, I tried out for the Tampa Bay job in an American-Idol-style audition during a preseason game," Zion says.

Two weeks later, she moved to Tampa and started as the in-arena host. Then, after making it known that she had a background in communications, she got into marketing for the Lightning and the arena. Eventually, she hopes to work as a sideline reporter.

"The transition [from Ohio to Florida] was easier than you'd think," Zion says. "I don't miss the winter or the snow at all, but I am Cleveland proud all the way."

She even keeps a Kent State banner hanging in her office and made sure to wear Golden Flash apparel during alma mater week in the office. And she wasn't the only one wearing blue and gold.

"There are a lot of Ohio people down here, and even a few Kent State grads," Zion says. "That makes it not so hard to be away from home."

Zion said that the close-knit aspect of Kent State was one of the hardest parts to leave behind after graduation.

"Kent State is a big campus and a big school, but it always felt very intimate," she says. "You have your group of friends, and you see them everywhere — on campus, at Starbucks, downtown. Moving away from that was hard."

Trying to pick her favorite Kent State memory wasn't easy either. She counted many experiences as memorable: being part of the third generation of Kent State grads in her family, meeting her best friends and boyfriend, walking through blizzards on the way to class, spending finals week studying in the library and cheering on the Flashes at sporting events.

"How do you pick just one memory? With that said, I think my best Kent State memory is looking back at those four years of my life knowing that I made the right decision to go there," Zion says. "Can't ask for much more than that!" ■

The Kent State University
Alumni Association's

Distinguished Teaching Award

PICK ONE! at www.ksualumni.org/dta

You can pick a Kent State teacher to honor by submitting your nomination. Nomination forms for the Distinguished Teaching Award are available online at **www.ksualumni.org/dta** or at the Williamson Alumni Center on the Kent Campus.

Deadline: June 30

SHARE YOUR SUCCESSES WITH FELLOW ALUMNI

Submit news and announcements by completing this form and mailing it to Alumni Relations, Kent State University, P.O. Box 5190, Kent, Ohio 44242-0001; sending an e-mail to alumni@kent.edu; faxing to 330-672-GRAD (4723); or visiting www.ksualumni.org.

NAME

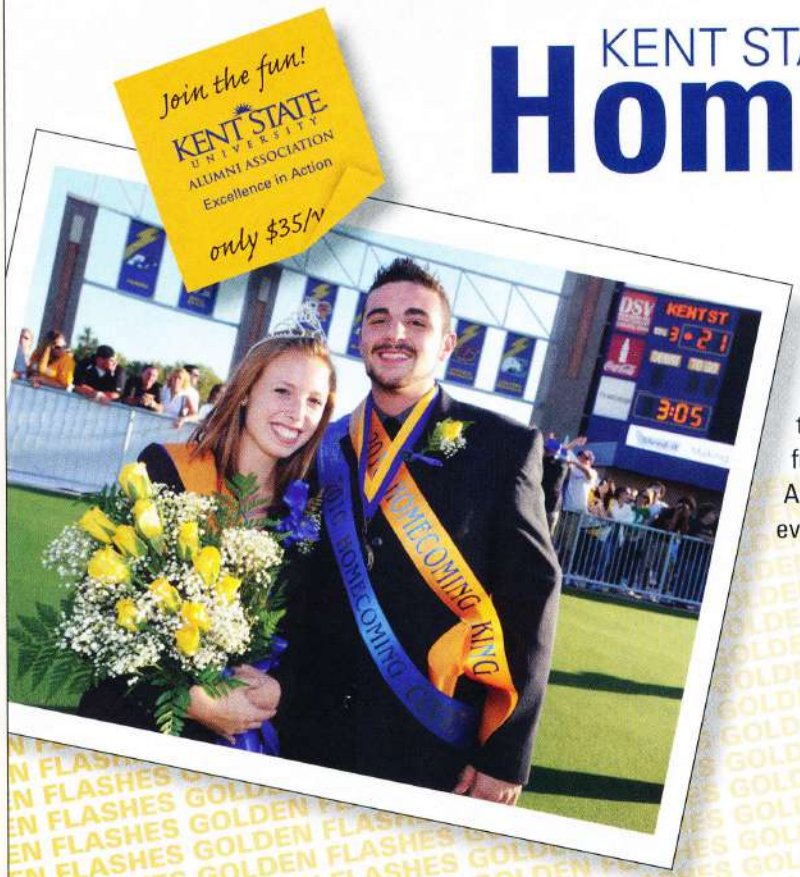
DEGREE AND YEAR

NEWS

YOUR EMPLOYER

YOUR OCCUPATION AND TITLE

YOUR EMPLOYER'S ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE



KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Homecoming

Oct. 15, 2011

Save the Date

Plans are under way for the 2011 Homecoming festivities on Oct. 15. It's the perfect time for you to revisit your favorite campus destination, gather with friends and enjoy many different activities on campus. As plans unfold, the most current schedule and listing of events will be posted at **www.ksualumni.org/homecoming.**

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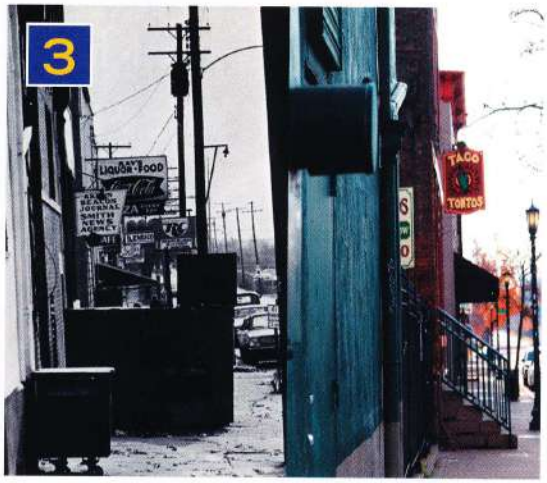
Flashback

NOW AND THEN

TRANSFORMING KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE CITY OF KENT

Kent, Ohio, home to our alma mater, has evolved from a 1910 horse and buggy town with few sidewalks to a city of 28,000 residents. After a little more than a century of service, Kent State University has undergone many dramatic changes of its own. From the destruction of Memorial Stadium — making way for the visitor parking lot — to the transformation of Wills Gym, the stunning back entrance of Cartwright Hall and the refurbishing of the Prentice Gate in 2010, Kent State has become one of the fastest growing universities in the country. Take a look at how much Kent State University and Kent have changed through the decades.



1. North Water Street looking south, JBs on the far right 1908/2011 TRORY COLLECTION IMAGE COURTESY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

2. Prentice Gate 1976/2011 CHESTNUT BURR

3. Franklin Avenue 1970/2010 CHESTNUT BURR

4. Memorial Stadium/Visitor Parking Lot 1960/2011 CHESTNUT BURR

5. North Water Street looking north, Opera House on the right 1932/2010. IMAGE COURTESY OF THE KENT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CURRENT PHOTOS BY SCOTT WHITE. RESEARCH AND DIGITAL IMAGING PROVIDED BY JASON PRUFER.

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'03 **James P. Bolin**, M.B.A., Chagrin Falls, Ohio, chief operating officer of process automation for Pepperl and Fuchs, has been elected as chairman of The Measurement, Control & Automation Association. Bolin is also a member of the Process Automation Division Corporate Executive Council. **Jennifer L. (Sewell) Kopkas**, Twinsburg, Ohio, was recently awarded Best Feature Reporting by the Ohio Society of Professional Journalists for her piece on St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Sewell and husband, Damien Kopkas, also welcomed their first child, Kason Thomas, in August.

'05 **Cara L. Epstein**, M.A., Atlanta, Ga., received the Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year award for Fulton County, Georgia. Epstein teaches physical education at Northwest Middle School in Alpharetta, Georgia, where she is also the athletic director. **Bibha Tripathi**, M.S., Ashburn, Va., recently authored *White Flour Cookies: And Eight Other Stories from My Village.*

'06 **Brandon M. (Laher) Fairless**, Canton, Ohio, has joined the Cleveland office of Weston Hurd LLP as an associate. Fairless focuses on commercial and business litigation.

'08 **Michael B. Burton**, M.A. '08, Philadelphia, Pa., owns Mikey Burton Design and Illustration, where he is an illustrator and graphic designer. Burton is one of the founders of Little Jacket and has received awards from *Communication Arts, Print,* HOW, *CMYK,* LogoLounge, *Print's* New Visual Artist and, most recently, ADC Young Guns. **John C. DiCesare,** M.M. '10, Pittsburgh, Pa., traveled to Australia to study at the renowned Sydney Opera House as the only tuba player selected by online voters around the world to participate in the "YouTube Symphony," the world's first online collaborative orchestra.

'09 **Leni D. Anderson**, M.L.I.S., Columbus, Ohio, is an adult services librarian at the Columbus Metropolitan Library, Franklinton Branch (Columbus, Ohio), and has been volunteering at The Ohio State University Fine Arts Library, assisting them with basic library duties, library tours and bibliographic instruction. **Vincent G. Morber**, M.P.A., Barberton, Ohio, is now the Barberton, Ohio, police chief. Morber is a life resident of Barberton and a 16-year veteran of the Barberton Police Department.

'10 **Brenna R. Call**, M.L.I.S., Pomeroy, Ohio, is now the youth services director for the South Charleston Public Library.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NURSING LEADERS — GRADUATES OF KENT STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING

Front Row: Patricia (Bates) Nosan, head nurse manager UH Case Medical Center, '84, M.S.N. '89; Joyce (Silver) Deptola, director quality UH Rainbow and MacDonald Women's, '87; Deborah (Spindle) Doty, clinical manager UH Rainbow Babies and Children's, '71; Joanne Surbella, director ambulatory services UH Conneaut and UH Geneva Medical Centers, '86, B.S.N. '01; Kathleen (Van Poppel) Sanniti, director ambulatory care services UH Rainbow Babies and Children's and MacDonald Women's, '74; Nancy (Eickelberger) Haas, director nursing practice UH Case Medical Center, '74.

Second Row: Cathy Knorzer, director nursing and clinical services UH Geneva Medical Center, M.S.N. '02; Patricia DePompei, vice president patient care operations UH Rainbow Babies and Children's and MacDonald Women's, M.S.N. '93; Karen (Gozzard) McNeil, director patient care services UH Conneaut Medical Center, '81, B.S.N. '09; Christopher Murphy, head nurse manager UH Case Medical Center, '98; Eileen (Zehe) Mierke, director human resources UPC, '96.

Back Row: Erin (Long) Slay, director patient relations office UH Case Medical Center, '94; Candice Burr, vice president ambulatory clinical operations, '78; Lee (Manning) Schoeppler, administrator clinical operations UH Home Care Services, '76, M.S.N. '86; Shauna Anderson Nurse Manager, UH Bedford Medical Center, BSN '01, MSN '05; Lynda Newman, clinical coordinator dialysis services UH Case Medical Center, '78.

WEDDING OF KATE ELIZABETH LEISHMAN-YANCHO, '05, AND PAUL YANCHO ON DEC. 11, 2010.

From Left to Right: Stephen Gerstacker; Mallory (Leishman) Gerstacker, '06; Jesse Rothacher, '08; Rachel Leishman, '08; Randy Leishman; Karen (McKenna) Leishman, '74; Paul Yancho; Kate (Leishman) Yancho, '05; Amos Hubbard; and Hannah (Leishman) Hubbard, '08.

PHOTO BY ZACH SUTTON PHOTOGRAPHY

Alumni Association Annual Member **Life Member**

LOSSES IN THE KENT STATE FAMILY

'29 Happy Fisher, Clinton, Pa., July 1991.

'38 Hugh B. Stewart, Ph.D., Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., October 2010.

'39 Betty (Trory) McCormick, Massillon, Ohio, August 2010.

'40 Betty H. Fairfax, Phoenix, Ariz., November 2010.

'41 Ethel L. Walker, Toledo, Ohio, May 2008.

'42 Lenora Ross, Wadsworth, Ohio, November 2010.

'43 Velma W. (Walrath) Pomeroy, Upland, Calif., January 2009.

'44 Ellen L. (Whims) Capps, Portland, Ore., September 2010.

'46 Marjorie A. (Ingham) Lyon, Haymarket, Va., December 2010.
Eugene W. Wise, M.Ed. '46, Akron, Ohio, October 2010.

'47 Professor Emeriti Richard (Dick) Frank Schwabe, M.Ed. '52, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, March 2011

'51 Dick Beatty, Southern Pines, N.C., December 2010.
Hetrick A. Foss, Sarasota, Fla., September 2010.

'53 Donald W. McCarthy, Ph.D., Akron, Ohio, September 2010.
Colleen C. (Carey) Roberts, Kent, Ohio, May 2010.

'57 Alice Schenz, Avon Lake, Ohio, March 2009.

'59 Daniel A. Warnicke, Jamestown, N.C., December 2010.

'62 Elaine Gloss, Canton, Ohio, April 2009.

'63 John M. Kokko, Stow, Ohio, August 2010.

'67 Virginia L. (Hutchison) Burkett, Toronto, Ohio, September 2010.
Douglas B. Schill, Saint Louis, Mo., January 2011.

'73 Karen S. (Simpson) Goldstein, Lawrenceville, Ga., June 2010.
Al Kirkland, Surprise, Ariz., December 2010.
Margie D. (Dunbar) Morgan, M.Ed., Canton, Ohio, November 2009.

'74 Jack D. Duty, Troy, Mich., June 2010.

'78 Mark J. Tychonievich, Webster Groves, Mo., December 2010.

'81 Susan M. (Crouch) Adams, Fort Mill, S.C., January 2011.
Gretchen S. Andres, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, Oct. 2010.

'93 Bill Weisinger, M.A., Streetsboro, Ohio, November 2010.

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.

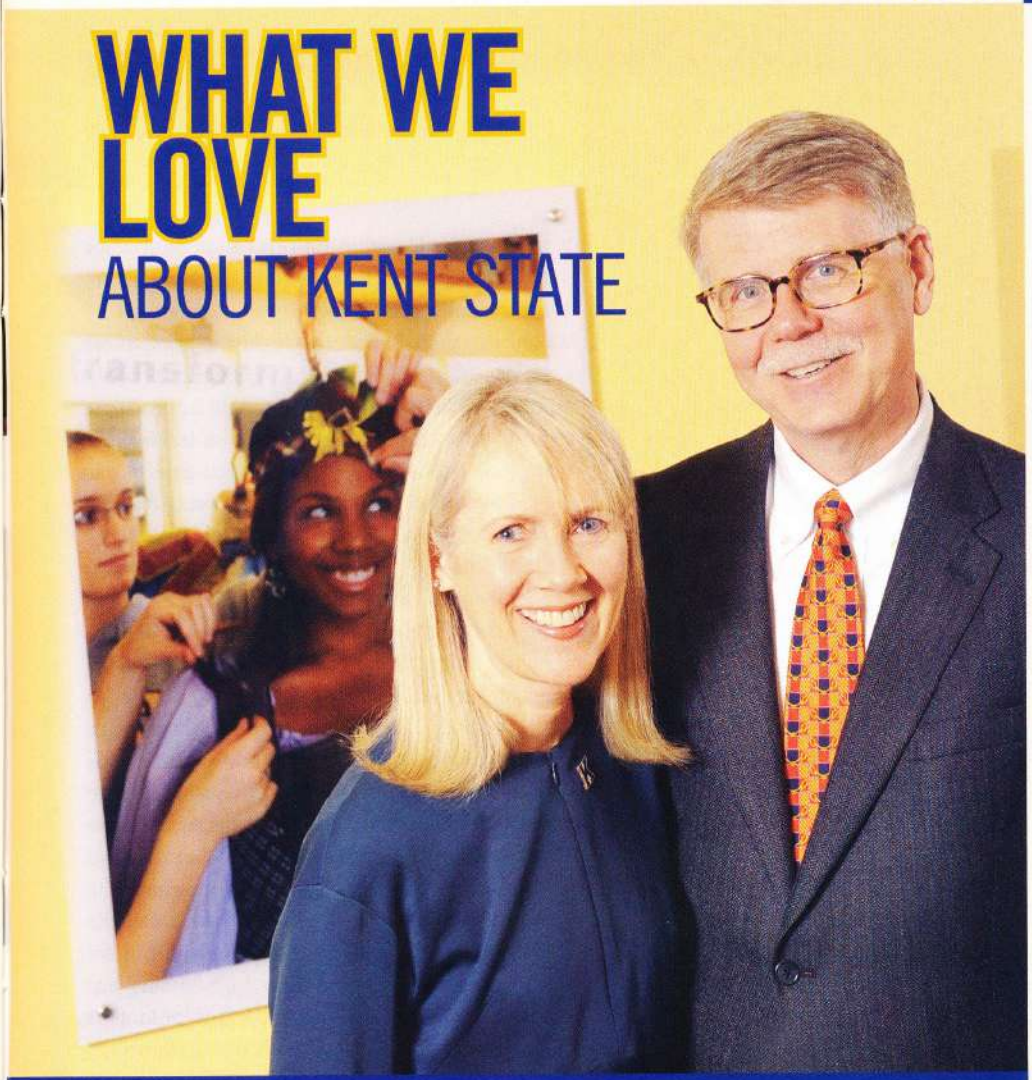
Here is a list of the many dedicated individuals who recently became alumni association life members. A complete list of life members can be found at www.ksualumni.org/member.

Constance Adger, American Canyon, Calif.
Betsy Bagstad, Stow, Ohio
Stephen Bagstad, Stow, Ohio
Judith Beecher, Allison Park, Pa.
Jeffrey Bender, Canton, Ohio
Ralph Bingham, Hartville, Ohio
Frederick Birkner, Torrance, Calif.
Colleen Brady, Chagrin Falls, Ohio
W. Prentiss Brown, Kent, Ohio
Helen Burz, Royal Oak, Mich.
Charles Chiappone, South Pasadena, Fla.
Nancy Cohen, North Chelmsford, Mass.
Catherine Courrier, Macungie, Pa.
Edward Courrier, Macungie, Pa.
Kathi Crawford, SPHR IAC-CC, Houston, Texas
Helen Daley, Pittsburg, Kan.
John Daley Jr., Pittsburg, Kan.
Kenneth Diamond, Cleveland, Ohio
Emily Dolata, Williamsville, N.Y.
Thomas Dowler, Akron, Ohio
Rozell Duncan, Fairlawn, Ohio
Lori Dunn, Dover, Pa.
Daniel Dye, Manheim, Pa.
Lindsey Eble, Mentor, Ohio
B. Edwards, Gibsonia, Pa.
Sara Emir-Sobel, Redding, Conn.
Douglas Everett, Portland, Ore.
Lawren Farber, San Jose, Calif.
Kathleen Frazier, Kent, Ohio
Paula Ghiz, Conneaut, Ohio
Kenneth Granville, Streetsboro, Ohio
Nancy Granville, Streetsboro, Ohio
Judith Gray, Huntingtown, Md.
James Harris, Chesterland, Ohio
Frances Hendershott, Warren, Ohio
David Henderson, Doylestown, Ohio
David Johnson, Salem, W.Va.
Ashley Katona, Stow, Ohio
Jeffrey Kearns, Sheffield Village, Ohio
Barry Kessel, Alexandria, Va.
Maria Kessel, Alexandria, Va.
Denise Klempay, Chagrin Falls, Ohio
Vicki Kline, Kent, Ohio
Peggy Korecko, Whittier, Calif.
Keith Landies, Chardon, Ohio
Terri Lastovka, Westlake, Ohio
Doreen Lazarus-Harris, Chesterland, Ohio
Tammi Lewis, Cleveland, Ohio
June Logan, Canfield, Ohio
Christopher Marek, Wooster, Ohio
Carolyn Marrin, Montclair, N.J.
Lenore Miller, Mentor, Ohio
Lawrence Mlynek, Cleveland, Ohio
Agostino Monastra, West Palm Beach, Fla.
Jeffrey Morris, Hudson, Ohio
Joan Omlor, Newark, Ohio
Eileen Parker, Warner Robins, Ga.
Ann Phillips, Akron, Ohio
David Pifer, Mantua, Ohio
Barbara Plummer, Esq., Salem, Ohio
Frederick Poore, Jr., Canton, Ohio
Hilda Poore, Canton, Ohio
Katherine Prescott, Seal Beach, Calif.
Marilyn Quill, APR, Westlake, Ohio
Janet Rodefer, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Sherry Rose, Indianapolis, Ind.
Marjorie St. Clair, Martinsville, N.J.
William St. Clair Jr., Martinsville, N.J.
Jeffrey Staugler, Arlington, Va.
Elizabeth Steve, Houston, Texas
Anthony Stevens, Lakeland, Fla.
Elizabeth Sullivan, Wilmington, N.C.
Jeff Taylor, Munroe Falls, Ohio
Janet Thompkins, Twinsburg, Ohio
Anthony Valore, Westlake, Ohio
Walter Van Benthuysen, Westmont, Ill.
Robert Vincent, Thompson, Conn.
Harriett Walker, Las Vegas, Nev.
Richard Welsh, Bonita Springs, Fla.
Jason Wood, Macedonia, Ohio
Robert Woolf, Fremont, Ohio

Alumni Association Annual Member **Life Member**

TAKING ACTION: CAPITAL

WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT KENT STATE



Couple's decades-long partnership helps direct their Centennial Campaign gift

/ BY BRIAN THORNTON, M.A. '07 / PHOTO BY JEFF GLIDDEN, '87 /

A conversation with husband-and-wife alumni *Beth Brumbaugh*, '79, and *Greg Hackett*, '75, reveals a deep and playful relationship that began as a friendship when they were work colleagues more than two decades ago, and only later blossomed into romance. In one moment, she reminds him about the '70s campus culture of streaking; in the next, he teases that her intense college experience was "no fun." She confesses that she selected Kent State for its highly ranked journalism program and because she was interested in a boy here. He, on the other hand, admits attending was a compromise between his wish to join the Air Force and his father's insistence that he pursue a degree.

Both are effusive in their admiration for Kent State — but that wasn't always the case.

"Greg has always loved Kent State," Brumbaugh says. "It was always very near and dear to his heart. Whereas my love for it waned after graduation. I felt the value of a Kent State degree had gone downhill. But what I think Dr. [Lester] Lefton has brought to the party has raised the value."

Hackett and Brumbaugh didn't cross paths at the university. That changed in the late '80s when they were both employed at Booz Allen; he in management consulting, she in marketing. Their work relationship was strong — "He listened, which was different from other people," she says — eventually, though, he left to form his own firm: The Hackett Group.

"It was always a little fantasy of mine, if he ever got big enough and needed a marketing director, he'd ask me to come over," Brumbaugh says. "And he did."

Joining as vice president, she helped Hackett develop a worldwide reputation for the company.

"We built it to the point that we had the largest database of knowledge-worker best practices in the world," he says. "More than 1,200 clients on every continent, including Antarctica."

By 1997, the firm was successful enough that Hackett sold it, allowing him to retire at age 45. But rather than resting on their laurels, the pair formed a new firm, MergerShop. They were married in 2004. Hackett also returned to Kent State as the Goodyear Executive Professor. For three years, he brought new ideas to the Exploring Business class, challenging students to think as they would in the real world and rewarding them with a "salary," rather than a grade.

"Everyone said the kids today aren't like they were," Hackett says. "And the answer is: You're right. They're a lot further along than I was at that time. I was encouraged about their future."

Reconnecting to the university brought the Centennial Campaign to their attention, and led to a discussion about how they could become involved.

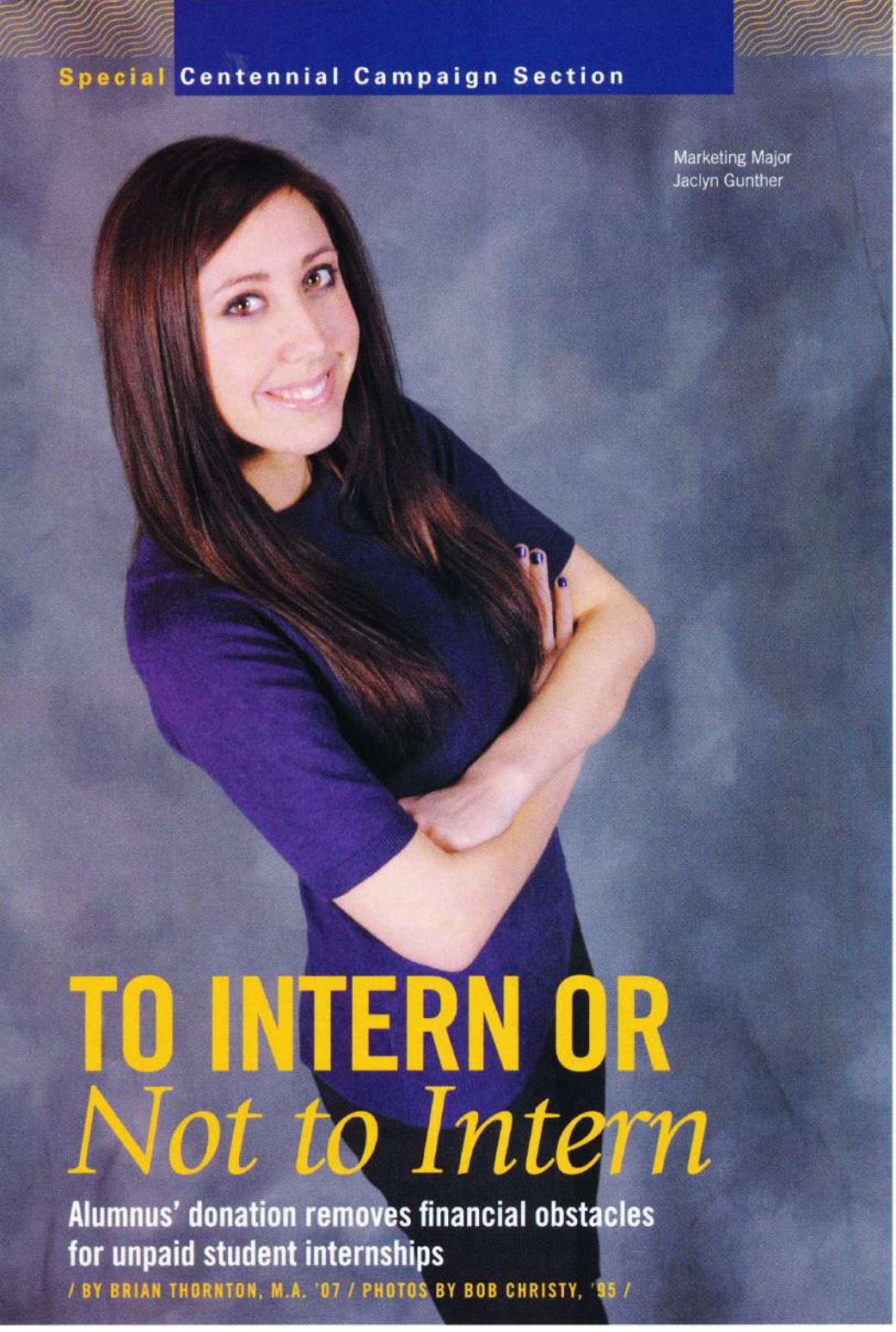
"I love Kent State. It gave me a foundation and a start," Hackett says. "So why not contribute back? We sat down and asked: What do we love about the university?"

The first answer was obvious: Porthouse Theatre, the summer home for the School of Theatre and Dance, where the couple often brings friends because they consider it one of the "gems of Northeast Ohio." Their campaign gift is building a new entertainment pavilion, which will debut this summer.

The remainder of the $100,000 gift will support the construction of the health communications suite in the College of Communication and Information.

"Health care is one of the real economic engines of Northeast Ohio," Brumbaugh says. "It can be world-class and exported to help shore up the economy of the region. This positions Kent State to be leading the discussion on health communications worldwide." ■

To learn more about the Centennial Campaign, visit www.kent.edu/advancement.



Marketing Major Jaclyn Gunther

TAKING ACTION: CURRENT OPERATING

TO INTERN OR *Not to Intern*

Alumnus' donation removes financial obstacles for unpaid student internships

/ BY BRIAN THORNTON, M.A. '07 / PHOTOS BY BOB CHRISTY, '95 /

For senior *Jaclyn Gunther*, the internship with the Cleveland Cavaliers ticket sales department was a strong match for her marketing major. Just one problem: Taking the full-time, unpaid opportunity would mean she'd need to quit her part-time retail position, leaving her with no source of income for an entire semester.

A new program within the College of Business Administration, funded by a $500,000 gift from alumnus *Walter Van Benthuysen*, '61, makes such difficult choices much easier. It provides scholarships of up to $4,000 for students within the college who are pursuing unpaid internships.

"With a 45-minute commute and gas prices rising, this award could not come at a better time," Gunther says. "Academically, the award allows me to focus more on what I am learning in the workplace, and I don't have the burden of worrying about finances."

More than 60 percent of the internships offered by employers through the College of Business Administration are unpaid, says **Kristin Williams**, business experience manager for the college. Because many students can't afford to take such an internship, participation in the program was low: In spring 2008, only 58 students, or just 1 percent, held internships. And that's a significant problem, as internships are powerful résumé builders that give recent graduates an advantage when applying for employment. The college's goal is to increase participation to 500 students per year by 2013.

The new Van Benthuysen Applied Business Experience Awards aid in that effort by eliminating financial barriers and attracting high-achieving students to the program. They're merit-based scholarships for any student with an unpaid internship, with funds increasing for those working more hours. Students in full-time internships are offered $4,000 because they're the most likely to be unable to work another job to support themselves during the semester.

"The program is established around merit first," Williams says. "So the financial incentive is to provide opportunities for high-quality students with financial need. We're not looking to pay simply because employers don't, or can't."

INTERNSHIPS BECOME CAREER STARTERS

Walter Van Benthuysen began working at the Campbell Soup Company following graduation and military service and had various marketing and management roles in the food industry for his entire career. As his career developed, he became chief executive officer for a number of food companies and, upon retirement from day-to-day management responsibilities, became an executive adviser to Wind Point Partners, a private equity firm based in Chicago. He also serves on the board of Hearthside Food Solutions, a leading provider of granola and snack bars, cookies and crackers.

Along the way, he and his wife, Judy, founded American Friends of Our Armed Forces, a not-for-profit charity with the mission of meeting the needs of America's military personnel and their families. And the pair also has supported Kent State, endowing the Walter and Judy Van Benthuysen Medallion Scholarship.

Throughout his career, Van Benthuysen has

recognized the vital role of internships as career starters, which led to his most recent gift.

"I've had the opportunity in my career to be involved with young people coming out of school, including interns. I saw a real value to not just the intern, but the company and industry," he says. "It seemed to me a gift of this size would help a person develop their business and personal skills. Internships help young people see the world as it is, which is helpful in building business solutions. And I think, through this learning program, we can provide Kent State business students with a competitive advantage during their post-graduate employment interview process."

CONTRIBUTION SERVES AS SEED MONEY

The Illinois-based businessman intends his gift — which will create dozens of Applied Business Experience Awards over the next five years — to be "seed money" for both students and donors.

"It's seed money for young people in that it gives them the chance to do something they otherwise wouldn't be able to do," he says. "And particularly the students at Kent State, who many have to work full-time to be able to attend the university, so it's hard for them to give up whatever job they may have to go off on an internship. This solves that problem for them."

But the lifelong entrepreneur also wants his contribution to create a spark for other donors.

"I hope this will inspire other graduates and other foundations to join the program, to add funds, so it will be a perpetual program," he says. "I've funded it for five years, and I hope others, including employers, will see the value of it to keep it going into the future."

AWARDS BUILD DREAMS AMONG RECIPIENTS

The first students receiving Van Benthuysen Applied Business Experience Awards are interning with such businesses as the Cleveland Cavaliers and Via680, a technology startup in Youngstown.

This spring, graduate student *Ajay Nepal* is interning with Global ThinkTank Institute, a consulting firm in Stow, Ohio. After his first few months, he has high marks for the opportunities he's been given to apply classroom skills to the workplace, as well as to network and build contacts with other professionals. But there was a time when he thought he might have to give it all up.

"Although I had started my internship before I received the award, I had doubts about my chances of continuing working since it was starting to cause some financial difficulties," he says. "I bought a car just to get to the office, and other expenses like gas money were also piling up. This generous support has certainly helped me defray those costs. It has made me believe that there is support out there for students who try hard to pursue their dreams." ■

To learn more about the Centennial Campaign, visit www.kent.edu/advancement.

Graduate Student
Ajay Nepal

"INSURING" FUTURE STUDENT SUCCESS

"Mama Drake" honors family with scholarship endowments

/ BY BRIAN THORNTON, M.A. '07 /
PHOTOS BY BOB CHRISTY, '95 /

Dr. Lester A. Lefton and Debra Drake

Anyone hoping to get a few minutes with Kent State University President **Lester A. Lefton** knows they have to make it past the ultimate gatekeeper — his assistant, **Debra Drake**, '08.

In just five years with Kent State, the personable Drake with the contagious laugh has experienced the university from nearly every angle: parent, staff member, student, alumna and donor. She began working in the Office of Diversity before moving to the president's suite. She has watched her daughter graduate from the nursing program, while her son enrolled in the computer technology program. And in 2008, she completed her own bachelor's degree.

"I guess my first love of Kent State came when my daughter decided to go here. Honestly, my imagery of Kent State had always been from when I was a little girl, of May 4," she says. "So when my daughter said she wanted to go here, I said I'd rather you not because that was my only image."

In time, that fear vanished — first, when activist and speaker Tom Hayden took her on a tour of the May 4 site in 2007, and later, during the 40th commemoration last year.

"We paid real attention to the wounded students and the families," Drake says. "I think it just gave me a greater appreciation for what Kent State stands for. We've been fair and inclusive and understanding — which is kind of what Kent State is generally."

Education is important to the two men she calls father figures: first, naturally, her own father, who was a minister, and Lefton. When Drake was in school, both men demanded she excel — and both wanted to see her grades.

According to Drake, when Lefton examined her grades, he said, "Good, I'm proud of you."

"When I finished my degree, I could tell he was proud of me because it was not only something I wanted to do, it was something I needed to do," she says.

Now Drake is creating a permanent legacy by endowing four scholarships through a gift of life insurance.

When Drake became a widowed mother of two, she ensured her children would be taken care of through insurance in the event of her death. Now that they're older, those policies are the foundation for her significant gift to four scholarship funds.

The first is a scholarship for nontraditional students in honor of her grandmother, who completed her mass-communication degree at the University of Akron when she was 72 years old, taking courses one at a time while working as a beautician and real estate broker.

"She just turned 90 in December," Drake says. "I gave her this scholarship; she didn't know what to say. I told her I wanted to give her the scholarship because she's such an inspiration."

Another scholarship provides emergency funds for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students and honors a friend of Drake's who passed away.

The third scholarship honors her children, while the fourth is named for her parents and provides last-dollar support for students who have run out of other financial options.

"I want the scholarship for my parents to be meaningful," she says. "It's nice to know that no matter what I need, they'll always be there for me, just as this last-dollar scholarship will be there for future students."

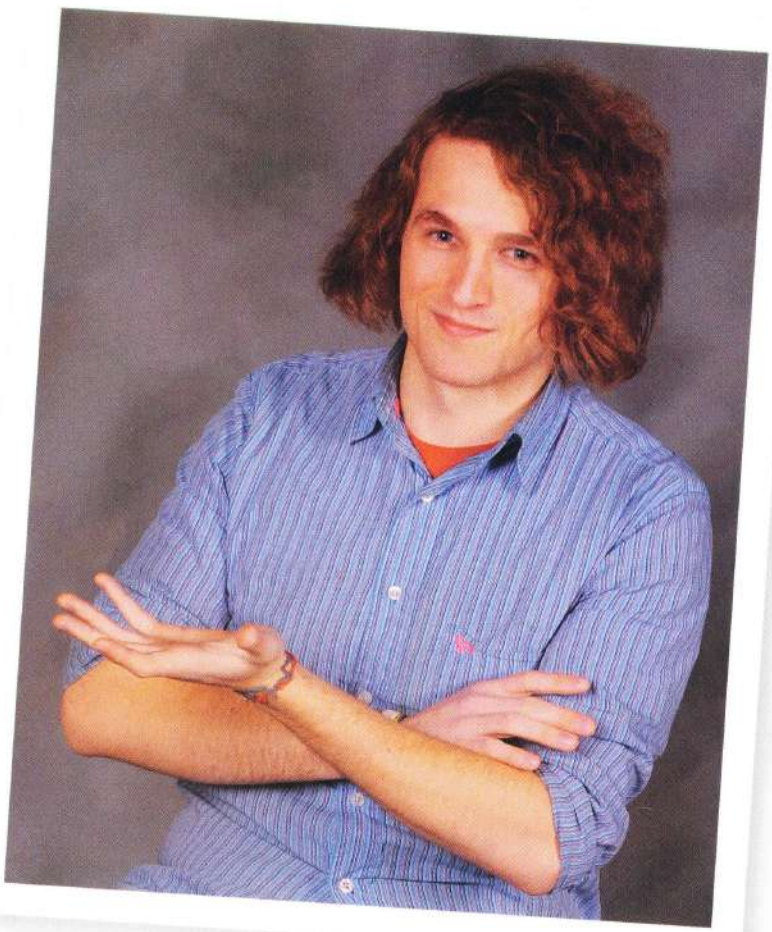
President Lefton offers high praise for his assistant's generosity.

"Debra was a quintessential Kent State student — going to school, working full time, committed to family and embodying a strong work ethic that is exceeded by no one," he says. "What a great legacy to leave in honor of her grandmother, parents and children. Debra is the best." ■

To learn more about the Centennial Campaign, visit www.kent.edu/advancement.

ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE

Meet Kenneth Smith.



Kenneth is a junior aeronautical systems engineering major — and the first recipient of the Campaign for Change scholarship.

Students have made the newly endowed scholarship a success. Through the Campaign for Change, undergraduate volunteers educate their peers about the impact of private support and encourage them to pay it forward by supporting the fund. Student gifts range from as low as $1 to as much as $200.

For Kenneth, the scholarship came at just the right time. Financial burdens had led him to consider withdrawing from classes and delaying his dream of working in the aerospace industry. The $1,250 grant will help him become the first in his family to graduate from college.

All gifts to the Centennial Campaign — large or small — can change a student's life. Learn how your gift can make an impact by contacting the Kent State University Foundation today.

Kent State University Foundation
P.O. Box 5190
Kent, Ohio 44242-0001
330-672-2222
advancement@kent.edu
www.kent.edu/advancement

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SPRING 2011 **EVENTS**

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

April 27: **Holocaust Remembrance Day, film and discussion**
4:30–6:30 p.m.
Main Classroom Building, Kent State University at East Liverpool

April 27–29: **12th Annual Symposium on Democracy: Democracy and Violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Understanding the Conflicts and Examining Potential Solutions to the Congo Crisis**

April 30: ***Evening With the Orchestra***
6 p.m.
Ballroom, Kent Student Center

Through May 6: ***A Reality Beyond Our Reach*, ceramic sculpture exhibition**
Main Hall Art Gallery, Kent State University at Stark

May 1: **Subscription Concert IV**
7:30 p.m.
University Auditorium, Cartwright Hall

May 2: **10th Annual Giving Voice Poetry Reading**
6 p.m.
Ballroom, Kent Student Center

May 4: **Remembrance Day**

May 5: **Doctoral Commencement**
6 p.m.
Stump Theatre,
Music and Speech Center

THE ARTS ARE **ALIVE AND WELL** AT KENT STATE

A student at Kent State University at Stark works in one of the art studios.

PHOTO BY BOB CHRISTY, '95

May 6–7: ***An Evening of Short Plays by Samuel Beckett***
8 p.m.
Kent State University at Trumbull

May 7: **Baccalaureate and Master's Commencement**
Times vary;
see http://et.kent.edu/commencement
Memorial Athletic and Convocation Center

June 16–July 2: ***Chicago***
8 p.m. Tuesdays–Saturdays;
2 p.m. Sundays
Porthouse Theatre,
Blossom Music Center

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