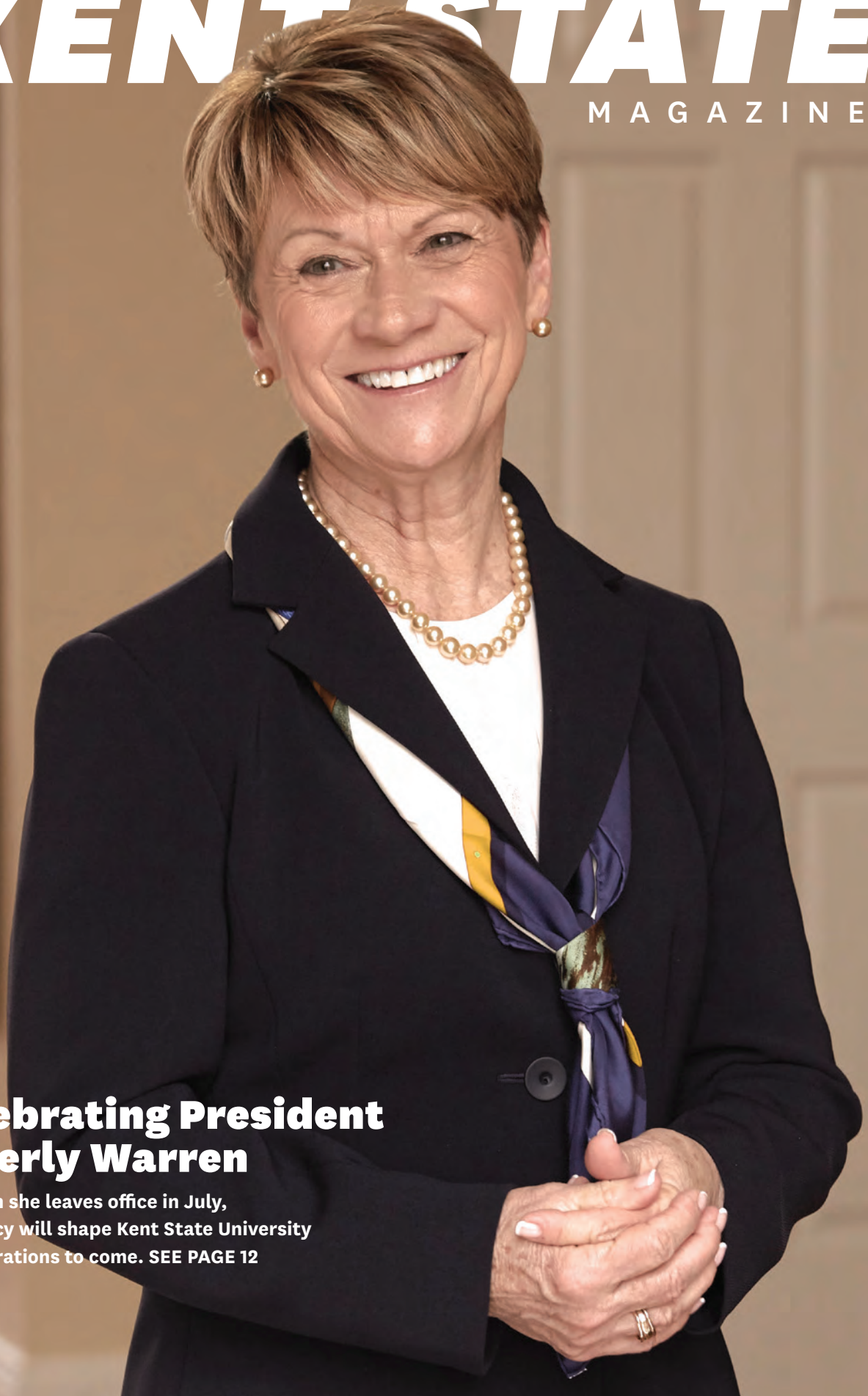


SPRING/SUMMER 2019 | Protecting Your Digital Identity | The Need for Nurses | Brain Health | Remembering the Measles

KENT STATE

MAGAZINE



Celebrating President Beverly Warren

Although she leaves office in July,
her legacy will shape Kent State University
for generations to come. SEE PAGE 12

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On the cover: President Beverly J. Warren leaves Kent State a legacy that will continue to transform and elevate the university. See page 12.

COVER PHOTO: STEVE CRAIGHEAD

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Take Note


Spring semester is always bittersweet, as we say goodbye to graduating students we've come to know during their time at Kent State. But this year, we're also saying goodbye to President Warren, who is leaving office in July. The magazine's tribute, celebrating her exemplary leadership, begins on page 12.

If you're looking for a good summer read, The Kent State University Press has recently published two books that we sampled in this issue—*Small Town, Big Music: The Outsized Influence of Kent, Ohio, on the History of Rock and Roll* by Jason Prufer, BA '03, for "Flashback" on the last page, and *Speak a Powerful Magic: Ten Years of the Traveling Stanzas Poetry Project* by the Wick Poetry Center for "Giving Voice" on the inside back cover.

For the poetry lovers among us, the KSU Press is offering a 25% discount on *Speak a Powerful Magic* through 5/31/19 with promo code: MAGIC. See www.kentstateuniversitypress.com. Enjoy!



Squirrel Search

In each issue, we hide an image of a black squirrel on three pages (not counting the Table of Contents). If you find all three, you qualify for a drawing to win a squirrel-themed prize and your choice of one of the books mentioned above. Each squirrel will appear like this:  (shown actual size and will not be distorted or rotated).

When you find them, send us an email at magazine@kent.edu, listing the three page numbers and places they appear, plus your name and mailing address. For rules and eligibility requirements see www.kent.edu/magazine/rules. Good luck!



FEEDBACK

And the **WINNER** is...



Congratulations to **Jennifer King, BS '11, PhD '17**, Warrensville, Hts., Ohio, the lucky winner of our random drawing—she received a box stuffed with squirrel-themed gifts from McKay Bricker Framing & Black Squirrel Gifts in downtown Kent. The black squirrels can be found in the fall/winter 2018-19 issue on pages 7

(between feet of the second student from the left), 14 (near front wheel of the ZEV), and 36 (in the tree to the right of the Robin Hood in the circa 1927 photo).

Thanks to all who entered!



via **EMAIL**

Deafness Didn't Deter Me

Awesome job on "Listening to the Deaf Community," [fall/winter 2018-19]. I was only at KSU for three semesters (that is how long it took me to earn my MLIS degree), so I am not sure if anybody knew I was hearing impaired (that is how I refer to my deafness). I am deaf in my right ear and wear a hearing aid in my left (since I was five).

My deafness never really stopped me from doing anything: sports in grade school, high school and college; married with three children; a district manager within Cleveland Public Library; three master's degrees; pursuing a PhD; self-publishing lots of poetry—I even have a book titled, *Haunted Hearing Aid: Evil is Hear*.

All I'm getting at is this: being hearing impaired is not a hindrance, it's just a part of life. Feel free to share this with anyone who is feeling down because they may have a disability.

LUIGI RUSSO, MLIS '06
Mantua, Ohio

Asking about Africa

In your latest issue, in "Meet the Class of 2022" on page 6, you list students from 28 countries. How many are from Africa?

PETER EL-GINDI, BARC '66
New York, NY

Editor's Note: According to Wayne Schneider, director of Institutional Research, the 2018 fall new freshman cohort had five students from Africa—four students from Nigeria and one from Uganda.

Asking about alula

Regarding the alula smartphone case ["Design Innovation for the 21st Century," page 16], how can birth control pills be stored in a device that produces heat, which might destroy the strength of the medicine? And how can the reliability of the medical product be depended on? Those questions were not answered in the article.

KATHY BENYO GILBO, BS '67
Dayton, Ohio

Response from Samuel Graska, BS '17, MBA '18, president, my alula:

The medication has a high recommended storage temperature, a long shelf life and can last outside of its packaging at recommended temperatures for 6 months, as long as it avoids direct sunlight and water.

Even so, we understand that the phone produces more heat (35-95°F device operating temperature range) than the recommended storage temperature of the medication (Max 86°). We've addressed the difference in temperature via engineering strategies for air flow, external heat transferring materials and well-insulated materials for the dial that holds the medication.

We recommend users avoid leaving their phone in direct sunlight, as it may cause the device to overheat; if that happens, we recommend they remove the case until it cools. As with any other pill case, we cannot claim that our device will prevent human error.

Robin Hood Lives On

I enjoyed many a meal at the Robin Hood [Flashback, fall/winter 2018-19] with

family, plus association dinners. Loved their sticky rolls! I went online and read all the comments about the Robin Hood by fellow alumni and was surprised by their references to "long lines for 3.2 beer and pizza." It obviously changed over the years from the early mid '50s, when it was a lovely restaurant with tablecloths, silverware, et al.

MYRON ("MEL") GROSSMAN, BS '55
Bellbrook, Ohio

Editor's Note: Many of you wrote in with your memories of the Robin Hood—and those sticky rolls—including **Patty Teter Fischer**, the wife of **Joel Fischer, BA '64**, Inman, SC. She worked at the Robin Hood from 1957 to 1962, and says the pastry cook, Hazel "Tommy" Thomas, "made the best pies and cinnamon rolls around." "I thought the world of her," writes Mrs. Fischer, who once wrote Tommy to ask for the roll recipe. To see the "recipe" she received in response and read more memories of the Robin Hood, see <https://www.kent.edu/magazine/memories-robin-hood>.

Content Kudos

Since I got my MLS degree from Kent State entirely down here in Columbus, I read the *Kent State Magazine* just as [I would] any feature magazine—for the content and not for the alma mater feeling. The writing in the [fall/winter 2018-19] issue is great. The deaf community, the change maker at P&G, the poem on the inside back cover—all high-quality content. It is the "anti-Facebook fluff thread" kind of reading, and it made me realize how much I miss sitting down with a well-crafted magazine.

LINDA DEITCH, MLS '99
Columbus, Ohio

We want to hear from you!

Respond to magazine content or comment on topics related to Kent State by writing:
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or magazine@kent.edu.
Responses may be edited for style, length, clarity and civility.

Visit us online

www.kent.edu/magazine



With heartfelt appreciation for the enduring support, collaborative spirit and fond memories of the amazing people who have been instrumental in our shared successes during the last five years, I extend my best wishes to the entire Kent State University family.

WE VALUE:

A distinctive blend of teaching, research and creative excellence;

Active inquiry and discovery that expand knowledge and human understanding;

Life-changing educational experiences for students with wide-ranging talents and aspirations;

A living-learning environment that creates a genuine sense of place;

Engagement that inspires positive change;

Diversity of culture, beliefs, identity and thought;

Freedom of expression and the free exchange of ideas;

A collaborative community;

Respect, kindness and purpose in all that we do.

Beverly J. Warren, President

Email: president@kent.edu, Twitter: @PresBWarren

presidential **PERSPECTIVES**

"Dr. Diacon's substantial contributions to Kent State's advancement over the past seven years demonstrate that he is the right person at the right time to continue our remarkable momentum and progress."

—Ralph Della Ratta, Board chair



After a rigorous national search, the Kent State University Board of Trustees has appointed Todd Diacon, PhD, Kent State's executive vice president and provost, as its next university president at a special Board meeting held Monday, April 29. President-elect Diacon will begin his term as Kent State's 13th president on July 1. He succeeds President Beverly J. Warren, who is stepping down as president after five years of exemplary service to the university.

"Dr. Diacon knows Kent State well and has a deep understanding of the university's strengths and potential," says Ralph Della Ratta, chair of the Kent State Board of Trustees. "We all agree that he has the leadership ability to accelerate our momentum in reaching our highest aspirations. Dr. Diacon is committed to advancing Kent State's position as a top-tier public research university and our intense focus on strengthening student success, research and academic excellence."

Cool Course

Number: Spring 2019-CACM 30000/POL 30000; Spring 2020-PACS 30000/POL 30000

Name: May 4, 1970 and Its Aftermath

Instructor: Karen Cunningham, BS '82, JD, associate professor of peace and conflict studies

Description: The events of May 4, 1970—when Ohio National Guardsmen fired on a crowd of students at Kent State University, killing four and injuring nine during an antiwar protest—not only impacted the university, but made news around the world. This upper-division course examines events and their aftermath in light of cultural, political, historical and social contexts. Through multimedia and guest speakers (which include original sources and eyewitnesses), students are exposed to different perspectives, enabling them to examine and analyze sources of information, different viewpoints, and the unanswered questions that still remain.

Objectives: Identify what happened on May 4, 1970, the critical movements and events leading up to it, the investigations and court cases that followed, and their local and global impact. Appreciate and value the importance to a civil society of tolerating diverse points of view. Think independently and critically about historical events of the past. Analyze various sources of information and their impact on understanding events surrounding the shooting and its aftermath. Evaluate and manage diverse points of view surrounding May 4, 1970.

Readings, multimedia and guest speakers: Course readings come from a wide variety of books, newspapers and other sources, such as *Kent State and May 4th: A Social Science Perspective* (Jerry Lewis & Thomas Hensley), *The Truth About Kent State* (Peter Davies), "The Report of the President's Commission on Campus Unrest," *The Kent State Coverup* (Joseph Kelner), and

articles from the *Daily Kent Stater*, *Record Courier* and other newspapers. Students also access the May 4 Special Collections, digital archives and other library resources, and view a variety of films, such as "Fire in the Heartland" and "The Day the War Came Home." Guest speakers have included wounded students, witnesses (students and faculty), filmmakers and others.

Field trips: Tours of the May 4 Visitor Center and the site, and visits to the archives and digital collections help students explore different sources of information.

Assignments: Students work on a major project to focus on an aspect of May 4 that is of particular interest to them. Examples of past projects include comparing Kent State today to May 1970, seeing how much current students know about May 4, and reviewing efforts at memorialization. Students take a midterm exam and write a final reflective paper.



NATHAN TRANBARGER, BS '17



Guest speaker Laura Davis, BA '76, (at center in jean jacket), Kent State professor emerita of English and founding director of the May 4 Visitor's Center (dedicated in 2013), takes students on a walking tour of the May 4 historic site.

A freshman on campus at the time of the shootings, she has been an integral part of May 4 events for decades, and serves on a planning committee for the 50th anniversary commemoration in 2020.

50th Commemoration of May 4

Beginning in fall 2019, Kent State University will launch a series of special programs and events leading up to the 50th anniversary of May 4, 1970. The university has already launched a website,

www.kent.edu/may4kentstate50, and a Facebook page, www.facebook.com/May4KentState50, for updates. Those interested can sign up for email updates on the webpage.

Peacemaker

Neil Cooper, PhD, the inaugural director of Kent State University's recently established School of Peace and Conflict Studies, began his new role at the Kent Campus in April 2019. Previously he was the head of Peace Studies and International Development at the University of Bradford in the UK, where he oversaw the world's largest academic center for Peace and Conflict Studies, including four undergraduate programs, eight graduate programs and a large cohort of PhD students.

Kent State's School of Peace and Conflict Studies—formerly the Center for Applied Conflict Management and originally called the Center for Peaceful Change—was founded in 1971 as Kent State's original "living memorial" to the four students killed on May 4, 1970.

"We live in times that are just as challenging as those the US and the world experienced in 1970," Dr. Cooper says. "The aim of the school today, therefore, is to equip our students with the knowledge and skills to better understand and respond to those challenges, to provide expert advice to practitioners and to contribute to the public debate on how to make our communities—local, national and global—more secure and more harmonious, rather than less secure and more divided."

We asked him for some facts about himself and his future vision.

Recent read: *Middle England*, by Jonathan Coe. Although the latest in a trilogy of books focused on the fictional lives of Benjamin Trotter, his family and friends, the characters are all essentially vehicles for Mr. Coe to explore how Britain ended up voting for Brexit. It is alternately funny, satirical and moving. It provides a far better socio-political analysis of a country that remains bitterly divided over the causes, meaning and consequences of Brexit than most academic textbooks.

Last place traveled for pleasure: London. It encompasses every food, race and religion under the sun. It's a crazy melting pot that should not work, but mostly does—and my son happens to live there, too!

Advice to my younger self: Don't accumulate so much useless crap that needs binning when you move house to Kent State.

Future for the field of peace and conflict studies: The field is at a moment of flux. The early years of the post-Cold War era produced a rich vein of theoretical, conceptual and policy innovation. However, we are now entering an era marked by a range of new and emerging challenges to domestic and international peace and

security that call for new approaches and new ways of thinking and doing peace.

Sticky wickets: Climate change, the re-emergence of populism and identity politics, domestic and global inequality, the crisis of liberalism, the resurgence of the arms trade and the erosion of arms control, the information revolution, and the combined effects of technological developments in spheres such as robotics, computing, biology and nanotechnology.

Solutions: These challenges will require a concern with traditional mechanisms of mediation, conflict resolution and peacebuilding that are at the core of the field. However, they will also require engagement with a broader range of issues, such as the relationship between peace, conflict and development or the relationship between society, technology and security.

Challenge for KSU's School of Peace and Conflict Studies: To maintain its strength in those core areas of research and teaching, while also embracing the new issues and agendas presented by a post-9/11, post-financial crash, post-Brexit and post-Trump world that is also facing an emergent climate crisis.

— April McClellan-Copeland
Learn more about the School of Peace and Conflict Studies at www.kent.edu/spcs.

There's no shortage of extracurricular activities for Kent State students. Student-run organizations offer opportunities for personal growth and professional development in future careers.

With more than 402 active groups on the Kent Campus, here's a sampling of the 29 new groups that registered in spring 2019.

SIGN UP!

CLUB	MISSION	WHY JOIN?	HIGHLIGHTS
WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS AT KSU	Encouraging girls and women to pursue math-related careers in teaching, research or industry	Female faculty and students have fun and learn through talks, presentations and competitions	KSU Flash Math Event, a friendly competition with fun activities for high school students
BOOKED	Meet new people through a common interest in books and good conversation	Meet weekly to discuss books and movies — and eat food	Diverse opinions encouraged; all arguments valid
KENT STATE WRITERS' GUILD	Provide writers of all skill levels and majors a safe space to share their creative works	Encouraging support system of writers help one another on their writing journey	Writing-related activities such as black-out poetry, slam word poetry or writing short stories
ASIAN STUDIES CLUB	Spread knowledge about all Asian countries and cultures; provide a support network for students	Students, faculty and staff form a community that promotes lifelong friendships	Weekly at-home-movie nights via video-sharing app Rabbit, monthly book discussions, lunch meetups, member birthday celebrations and study groups
KENT STATE STARVING ARTISTS	Gain experience creating and selling art; raise money for local food banks and homeless shelters to help end hunger	Meet weekly at local coffeehouses and restaurants to build skills, have a good time and raise money for the community	Host fundraising events during Kent festivals
K-KREW	Recruiting fans of K-pop music, culture and dance through Korean pop-focused dance team	Share the love of K-pop and make friends that last outside the dance studio	Team covers popular dances by K-pop boy and girl groups to perform at campus events

Plus, there are 89 clubs and organizations currently registered at the regionals!

East Liverpool: 7 Geauga: 7
 Salem: 8 Trumbull: 9
 Ashtabula: 17 Tuscarawas: 21
 Stark: 20

flash FORWARD

Design Innovation Hub Launches

Kent State University celebrated the launch of a dynamic new space, the Design Innovation (DI) Hub, which will bring innovations from many disciplines together in a 68,000 square foot building near the center of the Kent Campus.

The construction launch, which marks the beginning of a major renovation of the former Art Building, was celebrated April 23 with a ribbon ceremony, interactive activities and collaborative pop-up design innovation challenges. The DI Hub is expected to open by fall 2020.

Kent State President Beverly J. Warren says the DI Hub will encourage collaboration:

"To ensure students are equipped to succeed in this new era, Kent State is on a path to set the standard for the 21st century university—a networked environment that emphasizes a culture of innovation, collaboration across

disciplines and visionary leadership for the information age."

The DI Hub will offer a space that sparks open-access collaborations in an environment that fosters innovation. That is the creativity sought by a community of inquisitive people to facilitate cross-disciplinary communication and problem-solving.

"Our goal is to leverage and elevate the entire Design Innovation Ecosystem (DI Hub and DI nodes) to best expose our students and community members to the resources and possibilities," says J.R. Campbell, DI executive director.

The Hub will connect students, faculty and the community to a network of existing spaces or DI "nodes," which include makerspaces and resource laboratories across the university. This connection will improve innovation at the intersections

between disciplines and increase awareness and access to the broad range of university design, technology and resource laboratories.

In addition, the DI Hub will include a new, large dining venue that will seat about 350 people and offer unique menu items.

The DI Hub is among the major milestones in phase one of the university's Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State, a \$1 billion facilities master plan.

The initiative will bring together ideas and innovations from many disciplines including aeronautics, art, design, engineering, brain health, sustainability, biochemistry, marketing, advanced materials science/liquid crystals, computer science, fashion and entrepreneurship. Visit www.kent.edu/designinnovation to learn more about the Design Innovation Initiative and DI Hub.



Left: J.R. Campbell, DI executive director, gives a thumbs-up at the launch. Above: Representatives from the DI nodes take part in a ribbon ceremony to symbolize connecting the nodes.

News Flash

Space out your studies

"John Dunlosky is a psychologist at Kent State University in Ohio who has done research on learning techniques. In one study with other researchers, he ranked 10 popular approaches using various criteria, and he found that

spaced practice—or studying a subject then taking a break and studying it again—was one of the most effective. This suggests that a student who studies a topic for an hour on three days over the course of a week will

know the information better than a student who spends three hours on it in one night."

—"Many students don't know how to study. Here's how parents can help." *The Washington Post*, April 15, 2019



LED Video Boards are Fan Favorites!

Golden Flashes fans enjoyed the new centerhung LED video boards and ribbon board that were installed at the Memorial Athletic and Convocation Center in time for the fall 2018 season.

“Enhancing our fan experience is a top priority, and our new video board provides live action, replays and promotional elements that we haven’t had before,” says Joel Nielsen, director of athletics for Kent State University. “The video board and new audio system has taken our atmosphere to a whole new level, and our fans have provided great feedback. We have enjoyed a great home court advantage over the years in the MAC Center, and this only adds to that tradition. I’d like to thank President Warren for her support in turning this goal into a reality.”

The university partnered with Daktronics of Brookings, South Dakota, to provide the new boards. The centerhung features four LED video boards that are capable of showing live and recorded video, game-day statistics, graphics and animations, and sponsorship messages. All four screens feature 6-millimeter line spacing to provide crisp, clear imagery with wide angle visibility to appeal to every seat in the arena.

Along the seating fascia, a new ribbon board was installed that features 10-millimeter line spacing. This allows for supplemental information to the main displays and provides the opportunity to highlight sponsors throughout events while immersing fans in the game-day action.

The project includes a fixed-digit basketball scoreboard to share all expected statistics for the sport, including score, game time, quarter, timeouts remaining and possession arrows. A custom audio control system adds to the functionality of the entire audiovisual system.

“Kent State knew the positive effects of strong entertainment value for sports and their fans, and adding this technology was another step in achieving their goal,” says Daryl Mihal, Daktronics regional manager. “We worked closely with the school to create the right design for their venue and their goal of creating the desired game-day atmosphere. The results are fantastic and we’re thankful for the opportunity to be part of this great project.”

—Adapted from an article by Justin Ochsner, Daktronics

Lacrosse Team Tallies Up “Firsts”

The Kent State women’s lacrosse team began its inaugural season on the road against Cincinnati, where freshman Abby Jones (Coon Rapids, Minn.) recorded the first goal in program history. The Flashes then returned home to take on Robert Morris in their home opener and first game at Dix Stadium. Freshman Lluna Katz (Manorville, NY) tallied the first lacrosse goal in Dix Stadium history.

“Stepping onto the field with our 26 student-athletes was an opportunity to compete, and we owe a big thanks to all the minds and hands that did the hard work before I even stepped on campus,” says Head Coach Brianne Tierney, who was hired by

Kent State in spring 2017 with the task of recruiting players from around the nation. “We tried to honor and thank those people by playing our hardest, learning and growing every day.”

The Golden Flashes earned their first win in program history on March 29 with a 21-6 win over Delaware State at Dix Stadium. Two weeks later, Kent State earned its first ever ASUN conference victory with a 17-1 home win against Howard.

“We concluded the season playing at a much higher level than when we started,” adds Coach Tierney. “I definitely think we gained a few new lacrosse fans over the course of the season.”
—Taylor Czajkowski



Sophomore Emily Speckman (Medina, Ohio) rings the victory bell at Dix Stadium as Kent State’s women’s lacrosse team celebrates their first win.

BOB CHRISTY, BS '95



The first-place-winning team from Kent State's College of Public Health pose in front of the poster they presented at the Mission: Life international competition in November 2018. Left to right: Tam Nguyen, MPH candidate, Joud Roufael, BPH '17, MPH '19; Dania Mofleh, MPH candidate and Anthony Coetzer-Liversage, PhD candidate

Coming Together to Help Newcomers

A team of Kent State international graduate students from the College of Public Health drew on their life experiences as they created an award-winning mobile app to alleviate some of the challenges faced by newcomers to the United States.

The team took first place in the seventh annual Mission: Life competition, which focused on global immigration in the 21st century and was held last November at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas.

Anthony Coetzer-Liversage, PhD candidate (South Africa); Tam Ngoc Minh Nguyen, MPH candidate (Vietnam); Dania Mofleh, MPH candidate (Jordan) and Joud Roufael, BPH '17, MPH '19 (Syria), came together to propose and develop the *Togetherness* app.

"*Togetherness*, as the name implies, aims to help immigrants integrate into their new communities and navigate better as they live in the US, says Mr. Roufael, who speaks English, Arabic and German. "It acts as a central hub for resources tailored specifically to an immigrant's needs."

A digital portal that would provide newcomers (including immigrants and international students) access to local resources, the app is searchable by demographic, language and need. Categories—which include educational, legal services, transportation, community, translator, local events, emergency, maps and FAQs—are displayed in English, with a side-by-side translation to a user's native language so they can receive immediate help while learning more about US language and culture.

"It is based on our own experiences and lives as international students," says Ms. Nguyen, a Fulbright scholar from Vietnam. "We have been facing challenges that are unique to us; we wanted to help ourselves and also people who will go through those hardships."

Mission: Life, an interdisciplinary competition designed to address global sustainability issues while fostering innovative ideas and entrepreneurship, originated in 2012 at the Pontificia Universidade Católica do Paraná (PUCPR) in southern Brazil. Teams compete on the local level and advance to the international competition.

Kent State hosted Mission: Life VI in fall 2017, which focused on global sustainable development in the 21st century. Kent State's 2017 team won the "People's Choice" award for its idea to divert food waste from the landfill stream and convert it into electricity.

The 2018 team participated in the competition with the support of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of Global Education, LaunchNET and faculty advisors Edgar Kooijman, PhD, director of Kent State's Biotechnology program and associate professor in biological sciences; J.R. Campbell, executive director of the Design Innovation Initiative; and Kendra Lapolla, assistant professor in The Fashion School.

This year's winning team plans to incorporate the feedback they've gained, from the competition and other sources, to move forward with the development of the application for the market.

— April McClellan-Copeland

Noteworthy

Rankings

Tree Campus: Kent State University was recognized as a Tree Campus USA for the 11th consecutive year, honored for "promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation" by the Arbor Day Foundation.

Military Friendly: Kent State's Kent Campus earned the 2019-2020 Military Friendly School designation for the 10th consecutive year by the military ratings division of VIQTRORY Media. The university's Stark, Trumbull and Salem campuses also received the 2019-2020 Military Friendly School designation, and the Salem Campus was recognized with a Top 10 School Award and gold-level distinction in the small public schools category.

Healthy Campus: Kent State was one of only six other colleges and universities nationwide to receive the 2018 Healthy Campus Award for "fostering a culture of health and wellness for students and the entire Kent State community" by Active Minds, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising mental health awareness among college students.

Great Design: Perkins + Will, the design architect selected for the new College of Business Administration building on the Kent Campus, was named a finalist in *FastCompany's* Design Company of the Year Competition in 2018.

Among the Best: Kent State University ranks among the top 100 in the 2020 edition of Best Graduate Education Schools; Kent State's Rehabilitation Counseling program ranks 20th on the 2020 list of Best Rehabilitation Counseling Programs; and Kent State's Online MBA program ranks among the top 100 on the 2019 Best Online MBA Programs list by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Tops in Diversity Employment: Kent State ranks #1 among universities and #4 among 250 companies nationwide in the list of America's Best Employers for Diversity 2019 by *Forbes*.

Flying High: Kent State's College of Aeronautics and Engineering's flight training program is recognized as a world-class flight school and one of the best aeronautics programs in the country by major airlines and the United States military. It was named the nation's best all-around collegiate aviation program by the National Intercollegiate Flying Association. And KSU is one of three universities in the country with the most Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI)-accredited programs in aeronautics.

Fashion Leader: Kent State's School of Fashion Design and Merchandising ranks #15 internationally and #5 nationally in the 2018 rankings published by *Fashionista*.

Good Deal: Kent State ranks #2 out of 100 schools nationwide for having the lowest out-of-state tuition by GoBankingRates.

Gifts

Supporting Visiting Directors: The Roe Green Foundation has given \$2.2 million (\$175,000 outright and a \$2 million bequest) to support and endow The Roe Green Visiting Director Series within Kent State's School of Theatre and Dance.

Advancing Materials Science: George R. Newkome, BS '61, PhD '66, and his wife, Mary Jane Saunders, PhD, have pledged \$1 million to fund the George R. Newkome Endowed Professorship in Materials Science, a first-time gift to the new Materials Science Program in Kent State's College of Arts and Sciences.

Building a New Center for

Aeronautics: FedEx Corp. has pledged \$5 million, in addition to \$1.5 million already given, in support of a new aeronautics

academic center located at the Kent State University Airport. Construction of the 17,800-square-foot building, to be named the FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center, is currently underway in anticipation of a fall 2019 opening.



PARTING REFLECTIONS



For the past five years as the 12th president of Kent State University, Beverly Warren has worked tirelessly to transform Kent State University into a top-tier institution of higher education.

From the day she began her Presidential Listening Tour in July 2014 until the day she led the construction launch of the new Design Innovation Hub in April 2019, she has enthusiastically championed Kent State as a national university of distinction and demonstrated a passion for helping students succeed.

She was the catalyst in bringing the Kent State community together to develop the new vision, mission and core values known as the Strategic Roadmap to a Distinctive Kent State. With President Warren at the helm, this living document, which outlines five major priorities (see page 18) and 16-university level initiatives, has capitalized on the rising trajectory and momentum of Kent State University. And it will shape Kent State University for generations to come.

Before President Warren leaves office in July 2019, we asked her to reflect on the best parts of the job, her most fun days as president—and what she would stow in a time capsule for the future Kent State community to remember her by.

“From day one, Beverly Warren has had the capacity, the heart, the willingness to be all things at Kent State. She embraced the Regional Campuses, notably with the One University Commission. Her impact on the Regional Campuses is unmistakable.” —Nathan Ritchey, PhD, vice president, Kent State System Integration



How would you like your presidency to be remembered? As a time when we did our work collectively and creatively. There was never a top-down approach to strategic vision, direction or planning. We made grassroots efforts on things like the Strategic Roadmap to a Distinctive Kent State and our Be Bold campaign, and it resonated in ways even I did not expect.

I wanted everyone to consider what Kent State could contribute in a significant and distinctive way. I do think this university is lifting up its eyes and thinking about making a more lasting national—and global—contribution. We can, and we should, and we must.

With “Be Bold,” perhaps we have more confidence than we had in the past. Everyone still uses that phrase: “Let’s be bold about our thinking.”

When you assumed the presidency, what surprised you? The biggest surprise was the wonderful opportunity we had with eight rich, unique campuses. When I first was asked to consider coming to Kent State, I only knew the Kent Campus. Throughout

my time, we have worked hard to demonstrate all the talent we house, at all locations. It is an amazing group of faculty, staff and students.

What is the best part of being president? A really good day is being able to walk across campus and connect with the community. To go hear what a department is working on and striving for. To visit a student organization and hear about their passions, what they do outside of class time.

If you could give your 2014 self some advice going into the job, what would it be? Be careful about being caught up in the rigidity of the work. Do not suffer death by meeting. Make time and space to celebrate, appreciate and connect.

I wish I had told myself that over the years. Sometimes this job is 14- or 15-hour days, and ten of those hours are meetings, and you have to remind yourself of why you do the work you do, and of the students, faculty and staff who depend on all of us to make good decisions.

What are you most proud of? Certainly, improved retention and graduation rates. Our four-year graduation rate is up 14 percent since we drafted the Strategic Roadmap to a Distinctive Kent State.

I am happy to see more engagement in student life around campus—there is more blue and gold on display compared to five years ago.

Early on, I said that we must address our responsibility to contribute to the scholarship and research the world needs, and today we are close to doubling our annual research grant awards, from \$24 million to \$46 million.

Great research means a great faculty. Our best faculty teach introductory



“Countless times when I was with President Warren around campus, students would flock to her. They wanted to take pictures with her and tell her how excited they were to be at Kent State because of her leadership. And she would always say, ‘Well, it’s the organizations you lead and the things you do that make it such a special place.’” —Shay Little, PhD, vice president, Division of Student Affairs

“President Warren met with a group of elementary school children who were planning to write a tribute poem for her inauguration. It was remarkable and touching to see her hold this special ‘cabinet meeting.’ She told them about her responsibilities as president and her conviction that ‘words matter.’ Inspired by the visit, the students wrote a poem that ends: ‘You are the torch, we are your fire. Together we spark a new story.’”—David Hassler, director, Wick Poetry Center

courses to freshmen and PhD seminars. They are doing top-level research, and they are also still in the classroom, working with our students. I am very proud of that.

What don’t people know about Kent State that they should? This is really a unique environment. There is a collaborative, welcoming, yes-we-can spirit that you do not always see at universities. When prospective faculty members come to interview, they tell me it is a breath of fresh air. I have been in higher education more than 40 years, at small institutions and quite large ones, and there is something different here.

What do you think you have added to the ongoing May 4 healing process? In the past five years, we have come closer than ever to honoring and commemorating May 4 together, arm in arm, engaged collectively. It is important for everyone—every freshman or new faculty or staff member—to understand, know and embrace our history, and to make sure that we are all reflecting on lessons

learned as we move forward in our daily work. And we must make sure every voice matters. We have elevated peace studies to a full program—the School of Peace and Conflict Studies—because we think we are uniquely positioned to lead such a program. I have seen the university start thinking about May 4 program by program. For the 50th commemoration we have asked each college to think about its contribution, and that has been phenomenal. I am pleased to see that. We are still a work in progress, but we are getting there.

Suppose you could fill a shoebox-sized time capsule with artifacts from your Kent State years, to be sealed until 2119. What goes in it? I think I would put in the two poems recited at my inauguration. One was by me, the other by fifth-graders in Kent, wishing me well, and it was brilliant—better than mine. A daffodil from my first May 4 commemoration. And pieces of the basketball nets from when our men won the MAC championship and our women won

the East Division Championship. And 600 students recently wrote me farewell letters. I read every single letter, and they are precious. Some of those would go in there.

What is your favorite Kent State tradition? I love the painting of the Rock—what you could call our free speech rock. It celebrates, it mourns, it cautions, it shouts, and it is front and center on campus. It is vintage Kent State.

Take us on a private campus tour. What is your favorite place to hide out with a good book? The third floor of Wick Poetry Center. A perfect venue with great curl-up seating. I love that.

Where is the best view? Go up to the twelfth floor of the library. You can see all of Portage County.

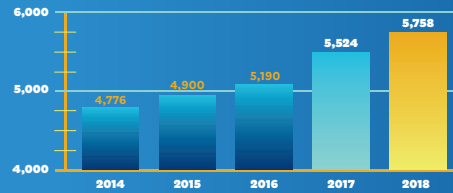
Best place to meet for a cup of coffee? It used to be Captain Brady’s, now it is a Starbucks, but it is where you will see many faculty, staff and students hanging out and enjoying the scene.

“President Warren is a real champion of new and emerging programs, allowing us to be recognized as a university of national distinction. She has been a beacon for our future, creating a culture where cross disciplinary collaboration and research generation will continue to grow and thrive.”—J.R. Campbell, executive director, Design Innovation Initiative



PROGRESS ON PRIORITIES

RECORD NUMBER OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREES



PRIORITY 1: STUDENTS FIRST

Provide an inclusive and engaged living-learning environment where all students thrive and graduate as informed citizens committed to a life of impact.

IN THE THREE YEARS OF THE STRATEGIC ROADMAP

RESEARCH EXPENDITURES HAVE INCREASED

64%

PRIORITY 2: A DISTINCTIVE KENT STATE

Drive innovation, idea generation and national distinction through top-tier academic and research programs including the recruitment and support of talented faculty and staff.

PONTIFICAL CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF PARANÁ
AMERICAN ACADEMY

GLOBAL EXPERIENCE IN BRAZIL

PRIORITY 3: GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Advance Kent State's impact and reach as a leading international university.

\$3.4 BILLION

IN ECONOMIC IMPACT IN NORTHEAST OHIO

PRIORITY 4: REGIONAL IMPACT

Serve as the innovative engine and engaged partner to meet community needs and enhance quality of life in the region and state.

10-YEAR

\$1 BILLION

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

GATEWAY TO A DISTINCTIVE KENT STATE

PRIORITY 5: ORGANIZATIONAL STEWARDSHIP

Ensure a culture of continuous improvement and the efficient stewardship of university resources and infrastructure.

"I met with President Warren last week for her final interview with Student Media. This was the first time I heard her open up about her mother with Alzheimer's, whom she is going to care for after she leaves Kent State. She seems ready to just be in the moment, whatever that moment offers. Every time I've interviewed her, she's given off such positive energy. Watching her leave is bittersweet, and I'm not alone in feeling that way." — Valerie Royzman, editor-in-chief, *The Kent Stater*

What makes a great Saturday night out in downtown Kent? I might start out with cocktails at the Franklin Hotel Bar, then stroll down and take in any one of our great restaurants. Then to the Kent Stage for a show. And then I think I would go to Ray's Place to cap off the night.

Speaking of the stage, you are a Broadway fan. If you could bring any Broadway show to Kent State, with any star, who is going on? I have always been drawn to music, but I grew up in a blue-collar Southern environment; Broadway musicals were the furthest things from our minds. *Les Miserables* was my first Broadway experience, in the 1990s, and I was blown away by its power. I saw Colm Wilkinson play Jean Valjean, and he was incredible. He would star. In a separate production of *Les Miz*, our own Alice Ripley [BFA '86] played Fantine. So she goes on with Colm.

How has the presidency changed you? I am more optimistic about our future than I have ever been. I see

this next generation of students who are passionate and engaged, who really do want to change the world. They are kindhearted and care about their fellow men and women. Some may be fearful, but I am optimistic.

And I have been touched by "Midwest nice"—I think and hope some of it has rubbed off on me. I hope I have internalized the Midwesterner's approach to life: down to earth, hard-working and nice to our core.

What day of your presidency made you laugh the loudest? My first Geauga County Fair. I grew up a city kid, not a 4-H kid. But here I milked a cow, I petted pigs, I posed for pictures with the winning steer, I turned a prize turkey upside down to judge its breast. . . . I laughed until my sides were hurting.

What day made you mentally stand up and cheer? I wish you could have been at the Board of Trustees meeting this March when we passed the resolution for the university to assume responsibility

for the May 4 commemorations. We had individuals present who had been student activists on campus on May 4, 1970, who were so grateful for a moment they thought might not happen in their lifetime.

Everyone marvels at how you get through your marathon days without flagging. What is the Bev Warren power breakfast? I make a green smoothie every day. A couple of celery sticks, one third of a cucumber, half a Granny Smith apple, half an avocado and a good dose of spinach. Add pomegranate juice and a few blueberries, run it through the blender, and there you have it.

At the other end of the dietary spectrum, what's your favorite pizza topping? Anything veggie!

No anchovies? No anchovies. Nothing with eyes. ⚡



"President Warren's ability to craft a strategic plan that is actually in place and followed, as opposed to being in a notebook on a shelf, is a singular achievement. Her energy has transformed us as a university; her energy has made us a better place." — Todd Diacon, PhD, executive vice president and provost, president-elect of Kent State University



Partners in Nursing Practice

At Kent State, unique partnerships and programs are helping prepare today's nursing students to meet tomorrow's nursing shortage.

By Lisa Abraham
Photos by Bob Christy, BS '95

Kent State's School of Theatre and Dance students stage a death scene to simulate a difficult patient situation for College of Nursing students at KSU's Olga A. Mural Nursing Simulation Laboratory.

Even as their mother lay dying in her hospital bed, the brother and sister could not stop their squabbling. The son, who had just flown in from California, peppered nurses with endless questions about his mother's care, while tossing jabs at his sister for having made all the decisions without him. His sister countered that he needed to answer his phone once in a while if he wanted to know what was happening. Their quarrel continued as their mother struggled for what would become her last breath. Meanwhile, a team of nurses stood by, doing their best to mitigate the arguing and answer the siblings' questions. Dealing with dying patients and their grieving families at one of the most trying times of life is a common occurrence for nurses. Yet, knowing when to step in with compassionate words and gestures is a skill that requires some cultivation. That is why Kent State University's College of Nursing partners with the School of Theatre

and Dance to stage the type of death scene described above—as well as mental health crises—to help student nurses learn how to handle some of the most difficult patient situations they may encounter on the job. “We video the scenes,” explains Tracey Motter, DNP, RN, associate dean for undergraduate programs in Kent State's College of Nursing. “Then the students watch themselves after to see how they reacted.” Many student nurses, Dr. Motter says, are surprised when they see “how they just stood there” without offering any assistance or kindness. A bedside manner can be an easily overlooked skill when students are studying so many new things. But it is this type of training that sets Kent State nursing graduates apart in the workplace, say College of Nursing leaders.

“You want to produce a nurse who is holistic, which includes being thoughtful and caring, and also one who is knowledgeable about what it takes to provide good patient care—and good care doesn't end at the bedside, but extends to all the family members there,” explains Barbara Broome, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean of Kent State's College of Nursing.

An increasing need for nurses

When it comes to training such skilled and compassionate nurses, the race is on. An aging Baby Boomer generation has created a perfect storm for the nursing profession. Baby Boomers, born between 1946 and 1964, are retiring in droves and leaving widespread vacancies in nursing. By 2020, more than half of this large demographic will be 65 or older. At the same time, this tsunami of senior citizens is creating the need for even more nurses to attend to their health care.

The statistics are daunting: A national shortage of one million nurses by 2020. In Northeast Ohio, that shortage is estimated to be about 2,850, according to the Nursing Forecaster of the Center for Health Affairs in Cleveland.

Kent State's College of Nursing leaders are keenly aware of the pressing shortage and are making a full-throttle effort to produce ever-increasing numbers of well-prepared nurses.

The College of Nursing has developed numerous pathways to a bachelor's degree in nursing, including a traditional four-year college experience, an LPN to BSN and an accelerated course that can transform anyone with a prior bachelor's degree into a registered nurse in 15 months. (See pathways box on page 21.)

“Everybody doesn't always know they want to be a nurse when they are graduating high school,” says Dean Broome. “We are helping people to recognize that just because you didn't do it in your 20s, you can still be a nurse in your 40s, 50s or 60s.”

The university awards about 450 Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degrees each year, yet the numbers are hardly enough to fill the shortages in the profession.

Approximately 40 percent of Kent State graduates remain in Northeast Ohio for their careers, says Kathleen Norman, marketing, communications and public relations director for the College of Nursing.

With such widespread job openings, however, nursing graduates have their choice of where they want to work. The college boasts that 99.6 percent of its graduates are employed within six months of graduation.

Filling the gap

At University Hospitals, there are typically 400 openings for registered nurses at any given time, says Kim Shelnick, vice president of human resources for UH. And, on average, UH hires 1,200 nurses a year.

Dealing with the nursing shortage, she says, is one of the hospital system's top priorities: “Without our nurses, we can't achieve our mission to heal, teach and discover.”

UH works to create a robust pipeline of student nurses and fills many of their posts with new graduates, says Ms. Shelnick.

They help keep the pipeline full through various programs, including the creation of nursing assistant jobs just for student nurses. These jobs offer flexible schedules designed to accommodate students' class and clinical schedules—and

at the end of their schooling, the students have the opportunity to move to full-time nurse positions.

UH also offers a summer internship program in which student nurses can work full time, says Ms. Shelnick. (And they will earn Kent State credits toward the BSN degree while doing so.)

Kent State and University Hospitals, in February, announced a new collaboration that will expand the number of students admitted to the Kent State College of Nursing each year. To support the added students, UH will provide additional clinical slots for student nurses from Kent State and will recruit more UH nurses to serve as clinical instructors for the student nurses.

The agreement also creates the UH Scholars program, in which UH offers incentives for KSU seniors who agree to work for the UH health system for two years after graduation.

Statistics show that nurses who remain on the job at least two years are likely to remain at their place of employment, Ms. Shelnick says. UH has cultivated similar arrangements with Cleveland State University and Cuyahoga Community College.

The UH Scholars program will select 20 KSU College of Nursing students annually who will be guaranteed full-time employment with UH following graduation and receive \$12,000 each in financial support to help defray the costs of their education, provided they agree to work for UH for two years after graduation.

UH Scholars is open to junior nursing majors for its inaugural year, which begins in the 2019 fall semester. Student nurses rotate through all medical units in the hospital to gain experience working in a large variety of environments, including surgery, emergency, intensive care, pediatrics, orthopedics and general medical.

Dr. Motter says the need for more clinical rotation time at hospitals is key to graduating more bachelor's degree nurses. “We can add more university classes at our end, but there is only so much clinical time to go around,” she says.

When the collaboration with UH reaches its full capacity, Kent State will be able to graduate 80 more bachelor's degree nurses each year, she says, bringing the total to 530.

Options for nursing students

Kent State nursing students, though, vary on whether they hope to remain in the region after graduating or move elsewhere.

Adam Roman, a junior nursing major from Garrettsville, Ohio, says working in his own backyard is just what he has been hoping for once he graduates. His plan always has been to seek employment with UH after graduation, so the possibility of having the additional \$12,000 incentive only makes his desire stronger. The money, he says, would enable him to graduate from college virtually debt free.

Christina Hansen, a junior nursing major from Mentor, Ohio, hopes to remain in Northeast Ohio immediately after graduation, or at least until her student loans are paid off, but she also has considered the adventure of moving away, perhaps to somewhere warmer.

Nursing officials know the lure of warmer climates will always draw graduates south to Florida and the Carolinas. Still others, including junior nursing student Aaliyah Davis, will just want to return home.

A native of Westchester, Ohio, and a first-generation college student, Ms. Davis hopes to return to the Cincinnati area once she finishes her BSN at Kent State, because that is where she grew up and where her family still lives.

Ms. Davis says she has long ties to Cincinnati, where her mother's family emigrated from Cambodia in the 1980s, and where her father's family has lived for generations. Her parents encouraged her to come to Kent State because of the quality of the College of Nursing and because the amount of scholarship money she received outpaced the University of Cincinnati's offer.

Her ongoing clinical rotations at UH have shown Ms. Davis that the nursing shortage is real. "It gets very hectic," she says. When a nurse calls off, the workload can be "overwhelming."

It is important for her to give back to the community where she was raised and where the nursing shortage rivals that of Northeast Ohio. "I will be part of the solution," Ms. Davis says.

Quality over quantity

The drive to graduate more nurses, though, will never outweigh Kent State's mission to graduate quality nurses, Dean Broome says. For that, she credits Kent State's faculty and staff.

"Without the faculty, we could not produce the caliber of students that we do," says Dean Broome. "We look for faculty who are compassionate, exciting, engaging and really love to teach others—and who are skilled clinicians themselves."

Most conversations among College of Nursing staff, Dean Broome says, are not about how to generate more nurses, but about how to assure that Kent State's graduates will possess the qualities they strive to develop in student nurses: "Exceptional health care providers, leaders and creative thinkers who actually make a mark on health care."

Such efforts result in a much-sought-after brand of nurse. Last summer, for example, when UH offered paid summer internships to 100 student nurses from four universities, Kent State was proud to have claimed 55 of the spots, Dr. Motter says.

Kent State students also help fill the ranks of the ASCEND program, sponsored by Key Bank, which provides internships at Akron Children's Hospital for diversity students, in hopes that the interns will eventually be hired as part of the nursing staff.

Ideas to improve care

To promote a high level of excellence, Dean Broome says she encourages healthy discussion among staff, whether that's a quick conversation in a hallway or a meeting where everybody sits down, shares their ideas and discusses what they think might work. Her faculty members, she says, joke that they often come up with their best ideas due to insomnia. In any event, those ideas get shared, vetted and often turned into classes or programs.

One such idea occurred to Dean Broome during a board meeting at UH Portage Medical Center, where she is a board member. The discussion was about how hospitals get reimbursed by Medicare and most major medical insurances—and how they don't. Specifically, if a patient treated for pneumonia, congestive heart failure or diabetes is readmitted within 30 days of his or her discharge, insurance does not have to pay the hospital for the readmission.

As Dean Broome listened to the discussion, it occurred to her that a substantial group of patients could fall into that category—particularly the elderly and those who live alone. Following discharge orders regarding diet, medication and follow-up visits

is not only important to their health, but to the hospital's financial health as well. And yet, "these are people who fall through the cracks," she says.

Dean Broome began to think about ways to help the situation, which resulted in the Kent State/University Hospital Discharge Transition to Home program, set to begin fall semester 2019. In this program, senior-year student nurses will visit the at-risk-group of patients to review their discharge orders and make sure they are carrying them out.

Not everyone qualifies to receive insurance reimbursement for treatment by visiting nurses. "If someone is old and sick, but not necessarily homebound, there is no funding for them and no follow-up visits," Dr. Motter says.

With this program, those patients will gain a level of care that previously did not exist for them—someone to make sure they are properly taking their medications, checking to see if their home is a safe environment and making sure they understand and are following any special dietary needs.

UH hopes the program will enhance the quality of life for the patients and help reduce the number of hospital readmissions.

And for the student nurses, the program will offer a new layer of community health nurse training, as they help the patients transition back home—and help the College of Nursing make a positive impact in the community.

Creative collaboration

It was Dr. Motter who came up with the idea of collaborating with theatre students to act out the end-of-life and mental health crisis scenes for nursing students in the simulation lab. The labs, which every nursing student must take, are designed to give students an idea of the kinds of behaviors they can expect when dealing with dying patients and their families or with mentally ill patients—two of the most challenging situations for nurses.

Dr. Motter coordinated the program with Eric van Baars, director of the School of Theatre and Dance, to use student actors to create real-life simulations. At the same time, the labs offer acting students the chance to create their own characters and act out scenes through improvisation rather than a script.

"The opportunity to immerse oneself into character research is great training for the actors involved in the nursing simulations," says Eric van Baars. "One of the most valuable aspects of the partnership for actors is the ability to share feedback with the nursing students afterwards. Actors are always getting feedback from audiences, but the ability to give feedback to nursing students is something unique to this program and certainly helps student actors increase their capacity to empathize, remember and feel impacted by the actions of others."

Plenty of universities educate both nursing and theatre students, but few put them together in the way that Kent State does for the patient simulation scenarios, Dean Broome notes.

Using the theatre students results in realistic experiences for the student nurses—along with some surprises.

"One acting student started taking his clothes off, which is what manic people will sometimes do," Dr. Motter explains, noting that she sat quietly, hoping he would stop before he was completely naked. "He did stop." ⚡



Kent State nursing majors, Aaliyah Davis, Adam Roman and Christina Hansen have clinical rotations at University Hospitals in Cleveland.

KSU Pathways to Becoming a Registered Nurse

In 2010, the Institute of Medicine issued "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health," a report that recommended the number of registered nurses with a bachelor's degree in nursing should increase to 80 percent by the year 2020. For the past 10 years, universities and hospitals have been working toward that end. Kent State offers the following pathways to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree:

- **A traditional student** who studies at Kent State, typically for four years, and graduates with a bachelor's degree in nursing. This degree is available at the Kent, Geauga, Salem, Stark and Trumbull campuses. This path makes up approximately 325 of the 450 BSN degrees that Kent State awards each year.
- **The Accelerated Nursing program** is for anyone who already holds any bachelor's degree. This program, designed for those approaching nursing as a second career, will give the student a second bachelor's degree in nursing in just 15 months. Participants in this program may attend school during week days, evenings or weekends, with clinical rotations offered at University Hospitals, the Cleveland Clinic or Summa Health. This program makes up approximately 125 of the 450 BSN degrees Kent State awards annually.

The statistics are daunting: A national shortage of one million nurses by 2020.

- **The LPN to BSN program**, which began in 2018, offers licensed practical nurses a program in which they can earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. LPNs have less formal training than registered nurses and are able to perform fewer duties; they often have earned either an associate degree or certificate. Students in this program must first finish the general education core requirements, and then are moved into the accelerated nursing program and put on the 15-month schedule.
- **The RN to BSN program** offers a registered nurse who graduated from a diploma school, such as a hospital program, the chance to earn a bachelor's degree by taking 11 additional courses, all of which are online only. This program is available to residents in 20 states, including Ohio, and the US Virgin Islands.

See www.kent.edu/nursing to learn more about Kent State's nursing programs.

BRAIN STORMING



The inaugural director of Kent State's Brain Health Research Institute is uniting researchers across disciplines to unlock the mysteries of complex brain functions.

By Lisa Abraham

Imagine a poet working with an endocrinologist or a neuroscientist working with a sociologist.

What breakthroughs might result from their collective study as they try to learn more about how the brain works or to research cures for neurodegenerative diseases?

These are the kinds of cross-departmental collaborations that the inaugural director of Kent State University's Brain Health Research Institute envisions for the future. Through these relationships, Michael Lehman, PhD, is confident that boundary-breaking brain research will blossom.

Dr. Lehman, a leader in the field of neuroendocrinology and circadian rhythms—whose lab has been funded continually by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies for more than 30 years—comes to Kent State from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi. There he served as a professor and chair of the Department of Neurobiology and Anatomical Sciences at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and as founding chairman of the board of the medical center's Neuro Institute.

“We need to look at the brain at many different levels of complexity—from that of molecules and cells all the way up to behavior and cognitive function.”

— Dr. Michael Lehman

Beginning his new post at Kent State in January, Dr. Lehman was introduced to the university community by President Beverly Warren at an event in February. “We needed a leader who was unconcerned with traditional thinking and loves the pursuit of illuminating outcomes,” President Warren says. “Dr. Lehman is that leader.”

Paul DiCorleto, PhD, vice president for Research and Sponsored Programs, says Kent State was fortunate to find a director of Dr. Lehman's world-class caliber, and he praised Dr. Lehman's reputation for working across traditional academic boundaries to spur innovative research.

“Dr. Lehman has a passion for assembling teams that employ multidisciplinary approaches to answering important questions in brain health,” Vice President DiCorleto says.

Putting together a multidisciplinary team

The diverse range of brain health research already taking place on campus makes Kent State particularly well suited to the multidisciplinary nature of neuroscience, Dr. Lehman says.

He used the example of David Hassler, director of the Wick Poetry Center in Kent State's College of Arts and Sciences, and his colleagues “who are exploring the neuroscience of poetry and expressive language and its ability to heal the injured brain.”

Dr. Lehman stressed that the institute—which includes more than 80 researchers and faculty members representing more than a dozen disciplines—is committed to collaboration and breaking down silos between various departments.

Ongoing brain health research at Kent State encompasses such topics as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, brain injury and neurodegeneration, and brain control of emotion, memory and thought.

“We need to look at the brain at many different levels of complexity—from that of molecules and cells all the way up to behavior and cognitive function,” Dr. Lehman says. “It's only in that way we can hope to unlock the major mysteries of complex brain functions like memory, emotion and consciousness, as well as understand the basis for neurologic and psychiatric diseases.”

The institute, he says, will have a great opportunity “to lead new discoveries in our understanding of the brain—stemming from the wide diversity of research and scholarship on our own campus and our linkages with regional partners in academic medicine—and to translate those discoveries into new treatments for brain and nervous system diseases.”

Before he began formally working at Kent State, Dr. Lehman spent months assembling a steering committee for the institute comprised of representatives from various medical research institutions in Northeast Ohio, including the Cleveland Clinic, Akron Children's Hospital and Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED).

His goal is to unite researchers from a wide range of disciplines at Kent State and throughout Northeast Ohio to explore, expand and advance our knowledge of the human brain and how it functions.

“My hope is the institute will be a nexus for collaboration in both neuroscience research and education,” he says, “stimulating discoveries that will ultimately have a positive impact on the health of Northeast Ohio.” ⚡

Dr. Lehman's main goals for the Brain Health Research Institute:

- To foster research collaborations across the Kent Campus and with our external partners—including the Cleveland Clinic, Akron Children's Hospital and Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED)—to achieve discoveries that become new treatments for brain diseases.
- To recruit faculty collaboratively with internal and external partners across traditional boundaries.
- To develop shared core facilities with state-of-the-art instrumentation (“collaboratories”) to support cutting-edge research.
- To support neuroscience research training at undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral levels, and career development at all career stages.



THE MEAN STREETS OF

CYBERSPACE

Kent State's digital police are constantly on the beat, battling potential attacks from hackers. We asked them what to watch out for—and how we can protect our digital identities at home and on the job.

By Michael Blanding

A gang of criminals has invaded every corner of America. They are casing neighborhoods, trying windows, rattling doorknobs, looking for any way inside to further their epidemic of lawlessness and theft. What this band is looking to steal, however, is more valuable than money—they are after people's very identities.

To those who fight it, this international ring of criminals is known simply as the adversary. The battleground on which they fight is not the streets, but on the computers and networks that we use every day.

“By some estimates, there is an attempted breach on an outward-facing network every 5 seconds,” says Bob Eckman, Kent State's chief information security officer and a member of the leadership team in the Division of Information Technology. “That's equivalent to a bad guy going up and down the street jiggling the handle on every door.”

Mr. Eckman is in charge of safeguarding Kent State's computer network from cyberattack, along with a team of cybersecurity agents who constantly identify and fight hackers' attempts to break through walls to steal private information.

"It isn't as though there is a single weapon or a single group," says John Rathje, vice president for Information Technology and chief information officer. "These bad actors often work in concert to identify exploits and leverage them for their cause, whatever that might be."

On the most basic level, these cybercriminals are looking for bits of information on individuals that they can use for malicious intent.

Sometimes, their target is Kent State itself, using the university as a launching pad to attack other organizations.

"Internet traffic originating from a higher education institution might be just enough for bad actors to bypass weaker security controls anywhere across the globe, gain entry to those more vulnerable organizations and then commit bad acts," Mr. Rathje says.

In some cases, these adversaries might not even attack a site right away. Rather, they insert themselves into a vulnerable spot and then sell access to the network or other information on people to criminals on the so-called dark web, a shadowy network not accessible through traditional browsers.

"Actual credit card information is not what it used to be," Mr. Eckman says. "Banks have gotten much better at protecting card information. But hackers see a dollar sign above every person's head now."

Big ticket items are usernames and passwords, private health information, social security numbers and other personally identifiable info that hackers can use to build a complete profile of a person, which they can then use to apply for credit cards or break into their bank accounts.



Rattling Doorknobs

The adversary uses multiple approaches to try and gain entry to systems in order to acquire information. The least sophisticated is "brute force," by which they try trillions of combinations of usernames and passwords in an attempt to find one that works.

Another technique involves stealing packets of information from users of public Wi-Fi networks who send sensitive information or download financial transactions.

More commonly, however, hackers look for a way to get users of a network to let them in voluntarily. Social engineering, the act of attempting to trick people into divulging confidential information, can take many forms.

PHISHING False or "phishing" emails claiming to be from a legitimate source, such as a bank, trick recipients

to click on a link that will insert spyware onto their computer or take them to a fake website where they are asked to "update" their information.

"Phishing is the bane of our existence," says Tom Mahon, Kent State's manager of digital training and outreach, who says the threat is only getting worse. "We're seeing an increasing number of attacks month over month, year over year," he says.

And these are not the stereotypical badly written emails from a supposed Nigerian prince asking for a recipient to transfer money into his bank account.

"We intercepted one last week that was very convincing," Mr. Mahon says. "It had the name of a real person on campus, who had sent a DocuSign document for you to sign. The English was polished, the graphics were great."

Emails might impersonate a person's bank, asking them to log into their account, or a professor asking a student to log into their Blackboard account, says Kambiz Ghazinour, assistant professor of computer science and

director of KSU's Advanced Information Security and Privacy Lab, which researches cybersecurity.

Others might target international students, who might be less familiar with US rules and regulations, Dr. Ghazinour says. "They might try and scare them by saying, we are from the IRS and we are going to deport you from this country."

Though networks are constantly developing algorithms and spam filters to block phishing emails, hackers keep finding ways to get them through, Dr. Ghazinour says. "It's a cat-and-mouse game, of who can come up with a better way to protect a network, and who can come up with a better way to bypass that protection."

Often, the prize they are seeking is a username and password, equivalent to a key to the front door of the house, which they can use both on KSU's server and throughout the web. The sad part, Dr. Ghazinour says, is that the password someone uses for their account at Kent State might be the password they use for their bank, as well.

Once in possession of a password, the adversary can use automated bots that try the same username and password combination on thousands of other sites online until it finds a match.

"They'll try a thousand services," says Mr. Mahon, "knowing they are going to fail 99 percent of the time. They're playing a numbers game."

Many institutions employ multi-factor authentication, a method in which a user is granted access only after successfully presenting two or more pieces of evidence to prove one's identity, such as a bank card, PIN number, SMS Text code sent to the user's cellphone and biometrics such as a fingerprint or eye iris. But no form of authentication is 100 percent secure.

PRETEXTING In a technique called "pretexting," cybercriminals impersonate, usually over the phone, someone with perceived authority, like a utility company, police officer, or clergy to trick a target into giving them confidential information, which they then exploit.

Bolder cybercriminals actually go to people's houses. They may pose, for instance, as a gas company representative and say they can save the homeowner money on their gas bill. In order to compare rates, they ask to see a current bill, which they secretly take a picture of and use to acquire the person's name, address and account number.

BAITING Another approach, called "baiting" involves putting a USB flash drive or other device that secretly contains malware out in a public space, such as a parking lot.

"A certain percentage of the public is going to say, 'Oh, it's my lucky day, I just found a 64-gig jump drive, and I'm going

to take it home and put it in my laptop,'" Mr. Mahon says—after which it releases its deadly payload into their system.

Bolting Doors

While Kent State's cybersecurity experts won't say exactly what Kent State is doing to secure itself from cyberattacks, for fear of giving away information criminals can exploit, they do say that the university has inserted controls both on the outer perimeter of the network and on individual devices.

The average student at Kent State might have six or seven connected devices—including desktops, laptops, cell phones, tablets, printers, smart TVs, and other "smart" devices such as refrigerators and toasters.

KSU has implemented its own local area network (LAN), which essentially walls off internal traffic from the wider Internet, and has put in place automated processes to identify suspicious log-ins, even if hackers are using a VPN (virtual private network) to disguise their locations.

The Division of Information Technology is continually reviewing security tools and solutions that help the university identify and deal with cyber threats.

It also runs a web page devoted to cybersecurity and digital privacy, www.kent.edu/it/secureit, which includes tips, tricks and tutorials for users to improve their own security practices.

If students or staff think they have received a phishing email, for example, they can send it to phish@kent.edu, where campus administrators will evaluate it and block the sender if it turns out to be malicious.

Practicing Cyber Hygiene

No matter how many barriers administrators put up to block attacks, however, they still struggle to close a big loophole that adversaries can exploit.

"The biggest threat to any cyberspace system is the people using it," says Dr. Ghazinour. "No matter how perfect a system you design, if the user is getting sloppy or doesn't follow the rules, then they will compromise the safety and security for the entire system."

On the other hand, the huge amount of power individual users have also creates a huge opportunity for security. "Something like 90 percent of cyber breaches could have been thwarted if users just showed good cyber hygiene," Mr. Eckman says.

To make sure the Kent State community understands cyber hygiene, for the past five years all new students and their families receive training in basic digital security at face-to-face workshops through Destination Kent State (DKS), the university's orientation program, says

Tom Mahon, who does much of the digital training and outreach. At the workshops, he tells participants that the most important thing users can do is protect their accounts with a good password. And he warns them to be careful of how they manage social media.

PASSWORDS "Use a strong password, don't share your password, and don't reuse the same password," Mr. Mahon says. "Those are the three things. That's it. If everyone followed those rules, they could reduce their risk online tremendously."

By now, most of us are familiar with tips for creating strong passwords, using a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols. For the strongest protection, however, experts recommend using a passphrase instead, stringing together several words separated with symbols.

Even better than choosing a common phrase is stringing together a bunch of random words. "The likelihood of random words appearing together in a searchable database is nil," Mr. Mahon says.

While not sharing one's password may seem obvious, it is more common than you'd expect. At every DKS training,

Mr. Mahon tells the story of "Timmy and Susie" (based on a real example), about a student who shared his password with his girlfriend; after a bad breakup, she used it to reroute direct deposits for his student loan into her bank account.

"When you voluntarily give someone your password, there is a tacit permission to use it," he says. "Years later, we've had students tell us, 'The thing I remember most from DKS is the story about Timmy and Susie,' so we know it sticks."

The most difficult message to get through to people is to use different passwords for different websites. In a world in which the average person regularly uses 200 different websites requiring passwords, remembering unique combinations of letters and numbers can quickly become overwhelming.

Mr. Mahon recommends breaking down websites into groups; for example, social media, online shopping, email and banking—and using different passwords of increasing complexity, so if some sites are compromised, others will remain secure.

"While we can't remember 50 passwords, we can probably remember five," he says. But don't list your passwords

on a document labeled "Passwords" that you keep on your computer.

Mr. Eckman also recommends using a password keeper app to assist in remembering passwords; for example, Lastpass or Apple's password manager, iCloud Keychain, which stores credentials in the user's iCloud storage.

However, he recommends not including the whole password in those systems—leaving off the last few numbers, for instance, so even if the system is breached, an adversary won't get all your logins.

SOCIAL MEDIA Another mistake people commonly make is oversharing on social media. "You'd be surprised at what adversaries can put together about you from what you say on social media sites," Mr. Eckman says.

One example Mr. Mahon uses in his trainings is a photo of a high school graduate in cap and gown, standing next to a car with Congratulations, Class of 2005 written on the rear window. The car's license plate is visible, and on the rear window there's also a sticker with the name of the high school. A brick house can be seen in the background.

From that bit of information, he is able to show how an adversary can use public records and online family history resources to piece together her address, phone number, parent's mortgage documents and complete family history—which can be used to answer common password challenge questions such as, "What is your mother's maiden name?"

Despite the danger, however, many people are woefully lax in their management of social media. Along with a graduate student, Dr. Ghazinour conducted a research study in which he broke students into groups depending on their privacy settings on Facebook.

They found that more than a third of students made most or all of their information open to the public.

"Especially if they are using their phones to post pictures, they take a picture and post it right away, and may not check privacy settings," he says. "Later they regret it, and it's too late."

His advice is not to post anything on social media—private or not—that you don't feel comfortable sharing publicly. "Even if you share to friends of friends, someone could easily post a photo publicly—and the Internet is forever."

The challenge posed by social media illustrates just how difficult it is to safeguard our privacy in today's world. After all, the entire purpose of the Internet is to connect with other people, and often people are putting photos and other information on social media in the first place because they want to share it with others and tally their "likes."

Even so, says Dr. Ghazinour, people need to consciously weigh their interactions online, pitting the value of sharing a photo on Instagram, or sending health information in an email, with the risk that information could be abused.

"Once you choose to share something online, you lose control over it," Dr. Ghazinour says. "You need to ask, 'Is this thing I am sending going to bring consequences, and am I ready for them or not?'"

If not, then that information might be better shared in a phone call with a doctor or a face-to-face meeting with a friend—rather than shooting it into cyberspace.

Just as we wouldn't leave our doors wide open for thieves to walk into our homes, we need to lock the doors to our virtual identities, as well. ⚡



"The biggest threat to any cyberspace system is the people using it."

DR. KAMBIZ GHAZINOUR
DIRECTOR OF KSU'S ADVANCED INFORMATION SECURITY AND PRIVACY LAB

Cyber Safety 12 tips from KSU experts on safeguarding your digital privacy.

- 1 Change passwords regularly** on all of your accounts so an old password can't be used against you.
- 2 Lie when answering password challenge questions**, saying your first car was a "blue Honda" instead of a "red Ford." Better yet, come up with a complete nonsequitur that only you know, like "Kent State Rules!"
- 3 Enable encryption on electronic devices** like laptops and phones.
- 4 Use secure erase features** when erasing files.
- 5 Protect your computer by enabling the firewall**, turn on spam filters, install anti-virus and anti-spyware software.
- 6 Update anti-virus protection regularly**, and make sure you are up-to-date on the latest patches; turn on "auto updates" whenever possible.
- 7 Delete personal data securely** by overwriting data multiple times before disposing of a computer or phone.
- 8 Read end user license agreements** on apps you download—especially free apps. You may be giving away access to the information on your phone without realizing it.
- 9 Check for "https" instead of "http"** in the browser address whenever you're entering personal data on a website, which signifies the site is secure. Also look for a closed lock icon in some browsers.
- 10 Enable private browsing** to disable standard tracking and data collection features common to most browsers and ensure that if your computer or phone is lost or stolen, your web history and passwords aren't stored locally.
- 11 Frequently check your credit ratings** or subscribe to a credit monitoring service, so you can quickly catch any signs of identity theft.
- 12 Don't click links in unsolicited emails**. Instead, contact the vendor through some other channel—phone, email or visiting their website to verify their legitimacy.

FAMILY TIES

John Chmura, BBA '03, tackles some knotty challenges through his company, H-Bomb Ties.

By Matthew Dewald
Photos by Shane Wynn

He wasn't looking forward to it, but Paul Marnecheck, BA '03, MA '10, knew he had to have an uncomfortable conversation with his tailor. The man who had been custom-making his special-occasion bow ties deserved the truth—and the truth was that he had found someone else.

"I went in and told him I might not see him for a little bit," Mr. Marnecheck says, "and this is why."

The why was H-Bomb Ties, a Cleveland-area purveyor of fine men's and children's neckwear created by his childhood friend and Kent State classmate John Chmura, BBA '03, and his wife, Tera. The couple launched H-Bomb Ties in November 2018,



envisioning a job development program for people with special needs, beginning with their oldest child, Harrison, who turned 10 in the spring.

Harrison, also known as H-Bomb, was born with Down syndrome and diagnosed with autism at a young age. "If you've ever met an individual with Down syndrome, they are just the most loving people ever, and that's Harrison," says John Chmura, who lists a few



of Harrison's favorite things as the cartoon *Yo Gabba Gabba!*, playing outside and cheering on a special needs cheer squad. "He's just happy. He's a joy to be around."

The autism diagnosis adds what Mr. Chmura calls "this kind of wild card thing." He says Harrison displays "autistic tendencies" such as being nonverbal (he uses an iPad to communicate), "but then you still get all the happiness that comes with Down syndrome. And also the stubbornness."

The stubbornness could explain Harrison's lifelong fascination with bow ties. Thanks to his dad, Harrison began wearing bow ties in infancy. He kept up the look when he got old enough to choose his own clothing, and when he began attending school, he inspired Bow Tie Fridays, during which male staffers at the school adopted Harrison's signature look.

"It was really cute because they did it to support Harrison, but then they also had a lot of fun with it," Mr. Chmura says. "Of course, he loved the attention."

With the launch of H-Bomb Ties, Harrison has an early start on his own business education.

In bow ties, he began to see a potential solution to a vexing issue: how Harrison would one day support himself. Employment statistics for people with disabilities lag behind the national average. Ohio ranks in the nation's bottom half, with only about 37 percent of working-age people with disabilities employed.

"Because of the challenges with employing someone like Harrison—and especially on top of that the fact that he's nonverbal—[Tera and I] always figured we were going to have to start a business for him



at one point," says Mr. Chmura, who is chief technology officer for a software company.

To get his fledgling company off the ground, Mr. Chmura, who majored in computer information systems at KSU, found himself recalling lessons from classes he never expected to use, like accounting, business law and marketing.

"When you're an undergrad, you think of these as just 'things I have to get through to get to the exciting stuff,'" he says. "But as it turns out, that's the stuff now I'm drawing from."

With the launch of H-Bomb Ties, Harrison has an early start on his own business education. He helps choose patterns, pack orders and make deliveries to local customers. He rings the bell and hands off the package, usually with a fist bump. He also hand-stamps his signature on every outgoing order and is the face of the company.

His beaming smile and smart bow ties are visible across the company's website (hbombties.com) and social media (@hbombties). Typical caption: "My extra chromosome makes me extra cute."

The company currently wholesales its ties, but Mr. Chmura has plans in the works to partner with a manufacturer. The company's first custom-designed product will be a Down-syndrome-awareness tie.

"That's our big project for 2019," he says. "After we figure out how to do all that, then I think the sky is the limit in terms of designs."

Longer-term plans include hiring other people with special needs like Harrison as the company grows.

"It will be hard work, but it's work we love," Mr. Chmura says. ⚡

SUPPORTING MEANINGFUL WORK FOR ALL

Experimentation and adaptability are key for successfully employing people with special needs. "Their skills are going to be unique," John Chmura says. Harrison offers a case in point. H-Bomb Ties has an inventory storage system that allows Harrison to retrieve the correct ties, but "another kid—or adult for that matter—may need a different system," he says. Mr. Chmura encourages business owners interested in employing people with special needs to begin by contacting the relevant office of their local or state government for advice.

Far left: Tera and John Chmura with their oldest child, Harrison. The couple has two other children, Reagan and Lincoln—all of whom are named after a president because their parents share a love of history. "Presidents' Day is a big holiday in our house," says Tera Chmura.

alumni LIFE

class NOTES

1950s

Manny Barenholtz, BBA '55, Aurora, Ohio, was named Person of the Year 2018 by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau "to recognize the contribution of a person who exemplifies civic awareness, demonstrates leadership and works for the betterment of the Aurora community." Mr. Barenholtz has been a visionary builder and developer in the Aurora area since the 1960s, known for developing the Four Seasons and Walden communities and designing with nature as the focal point.

Carl Yoke, BS '59, MA '61, Leander, Texas, retired former faculty member, has published his second novel-length piece of fiction, *Hemingway's Cats* (Positronic Publishing, 2018).

1960s

Dick Edwards, BA '63, MA '72, Bowling Green, Ohio, wrote: "I have been an executive officer at four public universities including Kent State, where I served as assistant to the president (Dr. Robert I. White) in the 1960s. Now in retirement, I am an elected public official (mayor of Bowling Green in my 7th year of service)."



Thomas Hohenshil, BBA '63, MEd '67, PhD '71, Clayton, N.C., was honored by The American Counseling Association (ACA), who recently named its newest national award after him. The annual Thomas Hohenshil National Publication Award was given for the first time at the 2019 ACA convention in New Orleans in March. Dr. Hohenshil has provided significant leadership in the publication of counseling literature through editing national journals and publishing his own work in professional journals and counseling textbooks.

Thomas Ruple, BBA '68, MBA '72, Naples, Fla., has been teaching online accounting courses for the University of Maryland, University College, as well as serving as a member of the finance committee for his homeowners' association.

SAVE THE DATE!

HOMECOMING 2019 IS SEPTEMBER 21

Watch the parade as it makes its way down Main Street. Reminisce with friends. Cheer on the Golden Flashes at Dix Stadium. Make new Kent State memories to treasure as much as the old.

Plans are underway for this year's Homecoming on September 21, and you won't want to miss it! Bring your family and friends home for a day of discovery and excitement as the Kent Campus bursts with Golden Flash pride.

Start the day early with a complimentary breakfast at the Rock on Front Campus, the best spot to watch the parade. Afterward, enjoy the Welcome Home Party with giveaways, food and activities before heading over to Dix Stadium for an exclusive pregame party, the Flash Nation tailgate. Keep the fun going and cheer on the Kent State Golden Flashes as they take on the Bowling Green Falcons in a MAC home-opener.

Many other Homecoming activities are planned, including campus tours on Lolly the Trolley and Kiss on the K, an eight-year tradition that brings alumni, students and faculty couples together to share a kiss on the "K" at Risman Plaza.

Visit www.kent.edu/homecoming/alumni to learn more about the festivities. And join the conversation on social media using #KentHC.

We hope to see you on the Kent Campus September 21!

1970s

Paul Nolan, BBA '70, Los Angeles, Calif. wrote: "I was president of a California insurance company and was part of a software company that supplied the insurance industry with pricing software back in the late '90s. I retired in 2000 and have been involved in humanitarian efforts. Currently, I am the senior consultant for Narconon International, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation organization with centers in 21 countries. I have only the fondest memories of my time at KSU."

Michael Chanak Jr, BS '71, Cincinnati, Ohio, received the David C. Crowley leadership award from the Cincinnati Human Rights Campaign (HRC) at the Greater Cincinnati Color Ball on March 2, 2019. The Human Rights Campaign is the leading national advocacy organization working for the equal rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer Americans through education, research and political activities. [His profile in the fall/winter 2018-19 online issue of *Kent State Magazine*, www.kent.edu/magazine/news/change-maker, also includes a link to his interview on WKSU's *Elevations* program.]

Margaret Joanne (Manson) Cotton, BS '71, Point Pleasant Boro, N.J., has achieved the status of Certified Professional Photographer, said to be held by fewer than three percent of professional photographers in the US.

Elaine Cicora, BA '73, MEd '82, Macedonia, Ohio, a freelance journalist and editor, has won the 2018 M.F.K. Fisher Grand Prize for Excellence in Culinary Writing. This prestigious international writing contest is open to all women food writers and is sponsored by Les Dames d'Escoffier International (LDEI), a professional organization for women in the food, wine and hospitality industries. Ms. Cicora has been



Janice (Howard) Becker, BA '70, Westminster, S.C., wrote: "We are a group of ladies who graduated from KSU in 1969 and 1970. All of us lived in the former Van Campen dormitory in the first phase of Small Group Housing. We have kept in touch over the years and try to get together periodically. We decided that our 70th year of birth was a good excuse to meet, and five of us managed to attend our gathering in Walnut Creek, Ohio. This is a photo of us after attending the Amish Country Theater." Pictured, left to right: **Clara Vitantonio-Minadeo, BS '70**, Painesville, Ohio; **Kathleen Hess, BS '70**, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; **Janice (Howard) Becker, BA '70**, Westminister, S.C.; **Lynn (Hawkins) Garver, BS '70, MLS '92**, Culpeper, Va.; and **Darlene Wilkin, BS '69**, Sherrodsville, Ohio.

a member of LDEI since 1999. [Her winning entry, "Me and Chef Boyardee," first appeared in the summer 2017 issue of *Edible Cleveland*.]

Linda Fifer, BS '74, MA '75, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, received a Who's Who Lifetime Achievement award and a Who's Who Humanitarian award to recognize her 43 years as a speech language pathologist; her VISTA volunteering, which developed the

Turn of the Page

Kent State University's storied golf program will begin a new chapter in July. The 2018-19 golf season will be the final one for **Herb Page, BS '74, MA '76**, Kent, Ohio, as he retires as director of golf and head men's golf coach and hands the baton to **Jon Mills, BS '02**, his former player and associate head coach.

A native of Markham, Ontario, Coach Page came to Kent as a three-sport student-athlete (golf, football, ice hockey) in the fall of 1970 and has been a pillar in Kent State University's athletic success ever since. His first Mid-American Conference Championship ring came as the kicker on the famed 1972 Golden Flashes football team.

After leading the men's golf team to 22 MAC crowns and being a part of 20 conference titles in 20 seasons from the women's team, he is the proud owner of 43 MAC Championship rings.

"In addition to his outstanding success as head coach, Herb was ahead of his time in so many areas," Director of Athletics Joel Nielsen says. "He was a strong proponent of adding a women's golf program [in 1998] and knew what needed to be done to sustain success."

"He also had the foresight to create a top-notch training facility that has played a huge role in the recruitment and development of our golfers. Plus, he started the Rango Invitational 33 years ago as a sport-specific fundraiser, which has raised millions of dollars for the men's and women's programs."

Taking over in fall 1977, Coach Page's 41 seasons are the most by a head coach in any sport throughout Kent State's history. Numerous Golden Flashes went on to have successful professional golf careers, and a number of other Kent State alumni have made successful careers around the game of golf.

Coach Page earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees at Kent State. In August 2012, the experience at his alma mater came full circle as he delivered KSU's commencement address.

Western Montana Volunteer Center; and her development of Montana's first hearing dog program, PawsAbilities. She is now devoting time to getting her first novel published.

Roger Stevenson, BA '76, BS '77, Fairlawn, Ohio, shareholder at Roetzel & Andress LPA, was recognized in the 2019 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the practice area of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law.

Steven Warren, MEd '76, York, Pa., wrote: "I retired in January 2019 from my position as the county administrator for the York/Adams

Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities Program. I have held this position for the past 36 years and have worked in the mental health field since I graduated from KSU."

Faith (Fenyves) Barnett, BA '77, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, celebrated her sixth year of retirement on July 31, 2018 after 28+ years as a benefits eligibility case manager at Summit County Dept. of Jobs & Family Services. She also celebrated her 40th wedding anniversary with **Robert Barnett** on May 21, 2018. They met at the KSU ice rink in September 1974 upon his return to KSU from two years in the US Army.

Ken Poshedly, BS '74, Atlanta, Ga., a retired journalist and longtime amateur astronomer, was recently recognized by the International Astronomical Union for his work as editor and publisher of the quarterly *Journal of the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers* since 2001, with his name being assigned to a previously discovered minor planet (asteroid), now known as "(31836) Poshedly." The journal serves a worldwide membership of professional and serious amateur astronomers who specialize in solar system astronomy and is available both online and in hard copy.



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES



Left inset: Herb Page as a student-athlete in the early 1970s
Top: Herb Page after announcing his retirement in March 2019

"Kent State means so much to me," he says. "I am forever grateful to the university and all of the administrators, staff and student-athletes I have had the privilege of coaching, who made our golf program so successful. This is my alma mater and the Kent community has been my home ever since. But most of all, I am indebted to the wonderful student-athletes I have worked with. It is humbling to reflect on all that they have achieved over the past 41 years and the amazing memories that we have made together." *Excerpted from a story that first appeared on www.kentstatesports.com.*

Candy Watkins, BS '77, Tacoma, Wash., wrote: "I graduated in deaf education and entered the field of early intervention in Washington state in 1990. In 2001, I opened a new nonprofit [A Step Ahead] to serve infants and toddlers with special needs. Starting with a staff of five, we have grown to a staff of 40 and a \$2-million budget, serving more than 700 children and families in Pierce County annually."

Paul Bess, BGS '78, MA '79, Webster, Texas, wrote: "I now live seven months a year in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua. I am semi-retired and loving life."

1980s

Carol (O'Connor) Suhre, BA '80, Cincinnati, Ohio, wrote: "I retired in November 2019 after 35 years as director of the Clermont County Law Library, Batavia, Ohio. My library career and interest is due to employment in the Department of Special Collections at KSU with Dean Keller. I am grateful for that opportunity. I continue as executive director of the Clermont County Bar Association and enjoy travel, cheering for the Pittsburgh Steelers and collecting Precious Moments."

alumni LIFE

Angelique Walker-Smith, BA '80,



Washington, D.C., is a senior associate for Pan-African and Orthodox Church engagement at Bread for the World and a member of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. In May 2018, the Rev. Dr. Walker-

Smith was named the first female president of the Historic Black Family of Christian Churches Together (CCT). The broadest church fellowship in the United States, CCT seeks to build relationships and foster unity among all the major Christian traditions, which are grouped into five families [Historic Black, Catholic, Historic Protestant, Orthodox and Evangelical-Pentecostal], each of which has a president.

Autumn Jeney, BSN '81, Shaker Heights, Ohio, a registered nurse at South Pointe Hospital in Warrensville Heights, Ohio, received The Art of Nursing Award in summer 2018 from the Cleveland Clinic Stanley Shalom Zielony Institute for Nursing Excellence. This award is presented to a registered nurse in recognition of the skills, talents, expertise, commitment and personal attributes of a nurse who promotes and supports healing for patients, families and colleagues.

Paula Hartman-Stein, PhD '82, Kent, Ohio, consulting psychologist, educator, author and Medicare correspondent for *The National Psychologist*, received the 2018 Distinguished Professional Contributions to Independent Practice Award from the American Psychological Association (akin to a lifetime achievement award for a clinical practitioner). In announcing the award, *American Psychologist* journal cited Dr. Hartman-Stein "for her exceptional leadership in the field, and for making an impact that has led to positive outcomes in the health and well-being of older adults."

Wayne Barger, BArc '84, Coppell, Texas, healthcare architect, was hired by SmithGroup to lead its global health practice, based in their Dallas, Texas office. SmithGroup is the nation's 7th largest healthcare architecture firm according to *Building Design + Construction* magazine.

Beverly Laubert, BA '84, Lewis Center, Ohio, wrote: "I was appointed by Governor John Kasich to serve as director of the Ohio Department of Aging. My husband and I created a scholarship to support Delaware County students to attend this outstanding university that led to a rewarding career."

Virginia Addicott, BS '85, MBA '95, Akron,



Ohio, president and CEO of FedEx Custom Critical and member of Kent State University Board of Trustees, received the 2019 H. Peter Burg Community Leadership Award at the 23rd annual



Lori (Dimitroff) Belock, BS '86, Dublin, Ohio, wrote: "Our families have been friends for four generations. We congregated in late December 2018 to celebrate the season in Aurora, Ohio, and to find the three squirrels hidden in the pages of *Kent State Magazine*. We were successful at both." Pictured, left to right: **Tracy (Stebbins) Deluca, BS '95**, Geneva, Ohio; **Brett Spyker, BFA '92**, and **Shannon (Lambros) Spyker, BA '93**, Chesterland, Ohio; **Debbie Lambros, AS '83**, Aurora, Ohio; Lori (Dimitroff) Belock; **Dave Deluca, BS '11**, Ashtabula, Ohio. Tracy (Cameron) and Lori (Marissa) both have freshmen at the Kent Campus this year.

Acts of Courage event, March 7, 2019, at the Hilton Akron/Fairlawn. The award, established in 2004 in honor of and following the death of FirstEnergy CEO H. Peter Burg, is presented annually by the American Red Cross of Summit, Portage and Medina Counties to one or more individuals who best exemplify leadership in the community, compassion for its people and dedication to the humanitarian mission of the Red Cross.

Cris Drugan, BS '85, Akron, Ohio, ISA-AM, MIPAV-OS, principal of Emerald Art Services, LLC, has been named to serve on the board of directors of the Artists Archives of the Western Reserve. A unique archival facility and regional museum, the Artists Archives preserves representative bodies of work created by Ohio visual artists and, through ongoing research, exhibition and educational programs, actively documents and promotes this cultural heritage for the benefit of the public.

Joseph Fazio, BArc '85, Boston, joined JACA Architects, one of New England's premier healthcare-exclusive architectural firms, as an associate and director of documentation and construction administration. A LEED-accredited and licensed architect in Massachusetts and California, Mr. Fazio most recently worked on the Boston Cathedral project with Elkus Manfredi Architects.

Stephen Hupp, MLS '85, Parkersburg, W. Va., has published his third novel. *Born to the Breed* is set in the exciting world of NASCAR. Marty Dodd belongs to the fourth generation of a successful racing family and possesses all the talent of her legendary grandfather. However, her parents want their daughter to pursue a life outside racing. The work is available as an eBook or paperback through Amazon. Mr. Hupp, library director at West Virginia University, Parkersburg, has also published

Daughter of the Valley and Of Gods and Spirits, available through Amazon. You may contact the author at Stephenhupp@gmail.com or on Facebook.

Thomas Bagsarian, BS '86, Chicago, has joined the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute in Chicago, Illinois, as manager of editorial content.

Heidi Johnson-Wright, BA '86, Miami, Fla., wrote: "I contributed a memoir essay to a recently published book titled *Firsts: Coming of Age Stories by People with Disabilities* (edited by Belo Cipriani, Oleg Books, October 2018). My essay was about my first experience with a caregiver who was not a family member. This took place during my four years of undergrad at Kent State. I also have a JD from The Ohio State University."

Kathy Kudravi, BS '87, Phoenix, Ariz., was named executive editor of *Global Sport Matters* and professor of practice for the Sports Knowledge Lab at Arizona State University.

Jonathan Banta, BBA '89, McKinney, Texas, was named chief executive officer at Preferred Dermatology Partners after leading the growth and development of a multi-location, multi-specialty dermatology practice in Dallas that was acquired by Lead Capital Partners out of Nashville, Tenn., in May 2018.

1990s

Harry Salcone Jr, BS '90, Hilliard, Ohio, accepted the challenging position of administrative chief while performing his regular duties as a watch commander supervising 32 direct reports. He was selected as the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Supervisory Police Officer of the Year during the DLA 51st Annual Employee Recognition Awards on December 13, 2018 at the Andrew T. McNamara Complex in Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Kenneth Burhanna, BA '91, MLS '94, Kent,



Ohio, was named the new dean of University Libraries following a national search. He had served as interim dean since the retirement of the previous dean, James Bracken, PhD, on July 1, 2017. Dean Burhanna oversees the Kent State University Library and the architecture, fashion, map and performing arts branch libraries on the Kent Campus, and works collaboratively with the libraries on each of the Regional Campuses and the College of Podiatric Medicine.

Jeanne Gallagher, MM '91, Cleveland, an accomplished blind musician, joined Xavier Society for the Blind's Advisory Group in July 2018. She will help select content for the society's publication in braille and audio, and advise on the best use of technology and on potential new initiatives.

Michael Lanstrum, BS '91, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, wrote: "I presented 'Ten Historical Women in Mathematics' at the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Akron, Ohio, on October 12, 2018 and presented 'Historical Women in Mathematics' at the Westlake United Methodist Church in Westlake, Ohio, on November 8, 2018."

Kathryn (Hardgrove) Popio, MA '91, Wadsworth, Ohio, announces her newly released book, *Cross Keys, Carpet Bag and Pen*, featuring letters written back and forth (1858-1866) from home front to regimental sites by three lines of the Stark County Hardgrove family who had men fighting in the Civil War. She taught in English departments of Kent State Stark and Tuscarawas campuses. Ms. Popio also authored 100 history features and was a columnist for *The Medina Gazette*.

Diana Rogers-Adkinson, MEd '91, PhD '94, Cape Girardeau, Mo., was appointed dean of the College of Education, Health, and Human Studies at Southeast Missouri State University effective August 1, 2018.

Donna Kessinger, BFA '93, Atlanta Highlands, N.J., was appointed executive director of the Monmouth Museum. The museum presents thought-provoking rotating exhibitions in the areas of arts, culture, science and history, and nationally renowned talent along with the work of New Jersey artists, providing a multi-generational destination.

Susan Rozanc, BA '94, MM '11, Austin, Texas, teaches classical guitar ensemble and orchestra at William B. Travis High School in Austin, Texas. She also serves as Fine Arts department head and lead content teacher for high school guitar for Austin Independent School District. In addition, she is the founding secretary for the Texas Guitar Directors Association.



Erin Shelley, BSN '91, Chicago, began a second season in the role of an operating room nurse for NBC's *Chicago Med*, an American medical drama television series. She can be seen assisting actors "Dr. Rhodes" (Colin Donnell) and "Dr. Becker" (Norma Kuhling) Wednesdays, 8 pm EST.

Amy Franjesevic, BA '95, San Francisco, has stepped into the role of president of the American Marketing Association, San Francisco Chapter, after serving for four years on the board. She also holds a board position with the Kent State University Bay Area Alumni Chapter.

Gregory Sanders, BSE '95, Hudson, Ohio, was named executive director of The Lakeland Foundation effective January 2, 2019. In this role, he also serves on the president's cabinet as vice president for institutional advancement to collaborate with senior leadership and align fundraising with Lakeland Community College's strategic priorities. Sanders previously served as executive director for the Lake Health Foundation, and he was inducted into the Lakeland Alumni Hall of Fame in 2014.

Matthew Huebner, BGS '98, Ravenna, Ohio, is the newly appointed CEO of Discount Drainage Supplies in Akron. With multiple locations in the state of Ohio, Discount Drainage Supplies services a variety of markets and customers.

Rebecca Lewis, BA '98, Mount Holly, N.J., a lower school science teacher at Baldwin School and graduate student in Miami University's Global Field Program, studied coral reefs, manatees, howler monkeys, jaguars and other wildlife in Belize, while learning the methods communities are using to sustain them, in summer 2018.

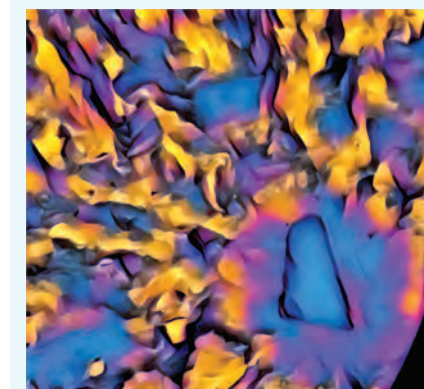
Erich Merkle, MA '99, MEd '99, EdS '06, PhD '10, Stow, Ohio, is president-elect of the Ohio Psychological Association (OPA) for 2018-19, a first for a school psychologist. In recent years, he had earned two formal accolades from OPA: Public Sector Psychologist of the Year in 2017 and President's Award in 2018 for service to the profession. Dr. Merkle had served as a liaison between OPA and the

Ohio School Psychologists Association (OSPA) when he was OSPA president from 2014-15.

John Misner, PhD '99, Denver, N.C., was elected to a one-year term as executive vice president of external affairs for the Charlotte, N.C., chapter of SCORE, a national volunteer organization consisting of active, retired or semi-retired business executives and business owners who provide free face-to-face mentoring to small businesses, including startups. Dr. Misner is a published author and frequent speaker in the areas of asset pricing, market volatility, financial risk modeling, economic forecasting, economic development, strategic planning and business succession planning. He also serves as the volunteer senior economic consultant for VALUANT in Columbia, S.C.

2000s

Mark Campana, BS '01, Akron, Ohio, appeared in season two of the History Channel's epic competition series "Forged in Fire: Knife or Death" in fall 2018. The series assembles America's top blade-smiths, martial artists and knife experts as they slice, stab and chop their way through obstacle courses. Mr. Campana, a former Cleveland Cavaliers cheerleader and Kent State cheerleader, has been crafting knives part time for the past five years through Knives by Mark Forge. A NSCA (National Strength and Conditioning Association) Certified Personal Trainer, he has owned the personal training facility, M. Campana Fitness, since 2005.



Janet Gbur, BS '06, Canfield, Ohio, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Case Western Reserve University, has been named among 17 winners of Swansea University's 2018 Research as Art competition. Her entry (pictured above), a colorful, microscopic image depicting a flaw in a nitinol alloy wire from her dissertation work, won the competition's External International Award and was featured with the other winners on BBC News. Judges evaluated 97 entries for this year's competition.



© MERCY SHIPS; CATRICE WULF

"She has stolen my heart forever," says Shannon Gardiner, BSN '09, shown here with seven-year-old Hannah, whose nose was eaten away by a virus called NOMA and rebuilt by surgeons onboard the *Africa Mercy*.

Mission of Mercy

After **Shannon Gardiner, BSN '09**, Tampa, Fla., went on a two-week mission trip to Uganda several years ago, she realized she was ready to make a longer-term impact. A Google search led her to Mercy Ships, an international charity with the world's largest private hospital ship, which docks at different ports around the world and provides free surgeries for people who do not have access to medical care.

"I thought, why not? This experience brings together three aspects that are vitally important to me: my love for travel, my desire to use my nursing skills, and a community that believes in being the hands and feet of Jesus to individuals who need to be treated like humans and not deformities," says Ms. Gardiner.

She volunteered with Mercy Ships for two months in Madagascar in 2016 and two-and-a-half months in Cameroon, West Africa, in 2017. This April she wrapped up a three-month commitment with Mercy Ships on the *Africa Mercy* docked in Guinea, West Africa, as a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit nurse in the maxillary facial ward.

Her experiences on the ship have been invaluable and heartwarming. For example, one patient had a tumor removed from her lower jaw that weighed seven pounds. "To see the physical transformation that happens on the ward through the skilled surgeons is literally jaw dropping," Ms. Gardiner says. And she notes that the medical staff's "touch, eye contact and form of caring is often transformational to many patients who have been ostracized for most of their lives."

When she is not volunteering with Mercy Ships—which she funds with donations from her church, loved ones and her financially responsible lifestyle—Ms. Gardiner works as a nurse at St. Joseph Children's Hospital in Tampa, Fla.

"To say that the four years I spent at Kent State University launched me in a flexible, lifelong career is an understatement," she says. "The opportunities I was afforded at Kent State were priceless. From shadowing my Cleveland Clinic instructor on transports to the pediatric oncology unit at Rainbow Babies, I was able to see a well-rounded nursing experience at some of the top institutions."

—*Ashley Whaley, BS '06, MEd '12*

Jayne Juvan, BA '02, Twinsburg, Ohio, attorney with law firm Tucker Ellis LLP, has been selected as one of the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars by rating service Ohio Super Lawyers. Rising Stars are outstanding lawyers who are age 40 or younger or who have been in practice for 10 years or less. No more than 2.5 percent of the lawyers in a state are named to Rising Stars.

Paul Marnecheck, BA '03, MA '10, North Royalton, Ohio, has been promoted to director of business development for the Greater Cleveland Partnership/COSE/OHTec in Cleveland, Ohio.



KEN LOVE PHOTOGRAPHY

Danielle (Swann) Dutton, BS '08, married **Michael Dutton, BBA '07**, on November 17, 2018. The couple reside in Lakewood, Ohio.

Daniel Dye, BA '04, Manheim, Pa., senior deputy attorney general in the Criminal Prosecutions Section of the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, received the 2018 Government Lawyer of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Bar Association Government Lawyers Committee on November 15, 2018 in Harrisburg, Pa. He was recognized for his contribution to the groundbreaking investigation into child sexual abuse in the Roman Catholic Church in Pennsylvania. Mr. Dye organized and led a five-year investigation of seven Catholic dioceses through two grand juries, presenting hundreds of thousands of items as evidence.

Doris Briggs Zimmerman, PhD '04, Warren, Ohio, became a fellow of the American Chemical Society in 2018 for her outstanding achievements in and contributions to the science profession and her exemplary service to the society. The 2018 Fellows were honored at a ceremony and reception on August 20, 2018, during the society's national meeting and exposition in Boston.

Jillian Kramer, BS '06, Cleveland, award-winning journalist, launched *Modern CLE*, Northeast Ohio's first (and only) news-and-lifestyle publication for women, in November 2018. The digital publication covers Northeast Ohio issues and topics that affect women from Gen Z to Gen X. View www.moderncle.com.

David Moore, BBA '06, Uniontown, Ohio, a transactional attorney advising emerging businesses, privately held companies and nonprofit organizations, has joined the Cleveland law office of Buckley King. Mr. Moore earned his

JD at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, and he was admitted to the Ohio bar in 2011.

Jeremy LaKosh, MBA '07, Eureka, Ill., CEO of a central Illinois retirement community, recently published *A Government's Guide to Exploiting the Elderly* (independently published, 2018). The book, available on Amazon, details his experience managing a financially struggling faith-based retirement community in central Illinois and the regulatory hurdles faced by the company's leadership.

2010s

Rachel Bonoan, BS '10, Cleveland, **Natalie Rodriguez, BSE '10**, Lorain, Ohio and **Brooke Danforth, BSE '13**, Cleveland, were each presented with the "25 under 35" Award from their high school, Saint Joseph Academy. The award acknowledges alumni who have gone above and beyond in both personal and professional endeavors since their graduation from high school.

Amy (Rowland) Palsa, BS '12, Castalia, Ohio, HR generalist with Erie County Commissioners, earned the Society for HR Management's prestigious Certified Professional (SHRM-CP) designation after completing an intensive exam. Promoted to HR generalist in 2016, she specializes in employee wellness and benefits for 900+ employees and began her career with the county as health/wellness coordinator. Ms. Palsa is also a certified ACE health coach and fitness instructor and resides in Castalia with her husband, Ben, and son, Brody.



Cory Tilson, BS '10, South Euclid, Ohio, wrote: "My wife, **Lauren Tilson, BA '11**, and I, along with illustrator **Alex Rodgers, BFA '09**, Stow, Ohio, have recently released our first children's book, *The Pasta Family Goes to Marinara Beach* (1984 Publishing, 2018). My wife and I decided to write it after making pasta for dinner and having different types left over. We joked that it was a family of pasta, and that sparked an idea to start a kids' book series. We all still visit Kent regularly and are proud KSU grads!" Pictured left to right: Alex Rodgers, Lauren Tilson, Cory Tilson.



Michal Kowalczyk, BA '11, Garfield, N.J., and **Nicole Kumpf, BS '12**, Hoboken, N.J., were engaged September 23, 2018 on the Kent Campus (pictured above).

Benjamin Hendricks, MA '13, Westfield, Ind., has been named chief communications officer at Kiwanis International, in Indianapolis. Prior to attending Kent State, he majored in communications with an emphasis in public relations at East Carolina University and graduated in 2000. Most recently, he was global director of public relations and social media at Teradata, a provider of analytic data solutions.

Titus Sheers, MBA '13, Rittman, Ohio, was inducted into Cleveland Clinic Akron General's Society of Distinguished Physicians on October 4, 2018 at the society's 39th Annual Fellowship Dinner in Akron. Inductees are selected by their peers

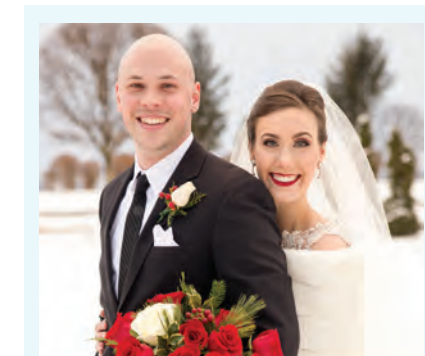
for excellent patient care, research, medical education and community involvement. Since 1995, Dr. Sheers has been on staff at Akron General, where he is the chairman of the Department of Medical Education and Research. He remains clinically active in the Akron Children's Hospital's Adult Cystic Fibrosis Center, where he is director, and Internal Medicine Clinic at AxessPointe. He is a professor of both internal medicine and pediatrics at NEOMED. A Fellow in the American College of Physicians and the American Academy of Pediatrics, he is also on the Board of Trustees at The Chapel.

Timothy Novotny, MA '14, Coos Bay, Ore., joined the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission as its administrative assistant/communications manager. His responsibilities include working on the commission's social media platforms, publishing a newsletter, website upkeep and assisting in marketing campaigns.

Eliza Welch, BS '14, Euclid, Ohio, veterinary assistant at Lakeland Animal Clinic and graduate student in Miami University's Global Field Program, studied the forces of evolutionary, geologic, and social change on the Galápagos Islands and their contribution to sustainable solutions for the archipelago in summer 2018.

Scott Miesse, BFA '15, New York, wrote, produced and starred in the sold-out New York City debut of his play, *Abnormal*, at Alchemical Studios, September 14-16, 2018. The play—which follows the journey of 21-year-old Sonny as

he is diagnosed with schizophrenia—was first drafted in 2015 and grew through many readings and pre-production/development days. He and the *Abnormal* creative team plan to expand and remount another production in 2019. Since his graduation from Kent State, Mr. Miesse has toured the country acting and has performed in many regional theaters. Visit www.scottmiesse.com; Facebook: Scott



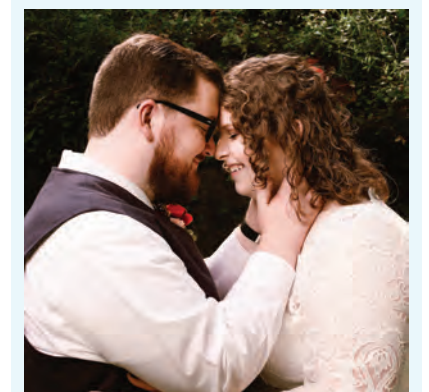
MCMILLEN PHOTOGRAPHY

Cristina Yorke, AuD '15, Lyndhurst, Ohio, and Glenn Teste, were married December 30, 2017, in Canonsburg, Pa. She is a practicing audiologist at Eastside ENT Specialists, Inc. in Painesville, Ohio.

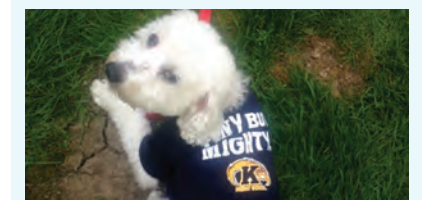
Robert; Instagram: @king_scottrobert; Abnormal Instagram: @abnormal_nyc.

Jennifer Giles, BS '16, Garfield Heights, Ohio, recreation specialist at Cleveland Metroparks and graduate student in Miami University's Global Field Program, studied traditional ecological knowledge of the Makushi and the potential of local wisdom to guide conservation initiatives in Guyana in summer 2018.

Sarah Calhoun, BSE '17, Columbus, Ohio, wrote: "I loved every second of my time spent at Kent State Tuscarawas as an undergrad! At the scholarship luncheon I made a speech vowing to use my degree to teach inner-city youth the beauty of education, and I can happily say that I am fulfilling my dream. I accepted a position teaching third grade in inner-city Columbus and began teaching in August, 2018. Thank you, Kent State, for investing in me, and I look forward to investing in my students."



Kristen Hardesty, BS '16, and **Toby Hicks, BS '17**, Stow, Ohio, met through a friend while attending Kent State. They were married on September 10, 2017, in Peninsula, Ohio. Their wedding was photographed by classmate, **Amanda Goodin, BS '16**.



Jerry O'Ryan, MPH '17, Centerville, Ohio, a proud alumnus of Kent State's Masters in Public Health program, graduated at the young age of 68 and says his favorite instructor was Ken Slenkovich. He is on the advisory board for Sinclair Community College's two-year associate degree in public health and is a trustee of the college's Foundation Board. He and his wife, Nancy, adopted Oliver Wendell Holmes O'Ryan, (pictured above) from a rescue shelter through their connection with "Sophie's Foundation for the Love of Animals/Sophie's Companions for Veterans" in Dayton, Ohio.

What's in a Name

John Elliot, BArc '70, Charleston, West Virginia, and his wife, Fonda, have been champions of the Kent State University architecture program and its talented students for more than two decades.

As a first-generation college graduate, Mr. Elliot recognizes the transformative effect higher education can have on an individual. His experience at Kent State opened a new world to him and fostered talents he never knew he had.

After graduating from Kent State's architecture program, he went on to forge a successful career in nursing home facility design, management and ownership.

In 2018, the Elliots provided the largest total of outright giving in Kent State University's history, surpassing \$12 million in outright and planned gifts that benefit the College of Architecture and Environmental Design and the Design Innovation Initiative.

In recognition of the Elliots' generosity, the Kent State University Board of Trustees voted unanimously last fall to name the Center for Architecture and Environmental Design after John Elliot.

At a ceremony on April 11, 2019, nearly 50 years after his graduation, Mr. Elliot was honored by having the building that houses the College of Architecture and Environmental Design named The John Elliot Center for Architecture and Environmental Design, the first naming of its kind at Kent State University.



John and Fonda Elliot view a student project at the dedication of the The John Elliot Center for Architecture and Environmental Design.

BOB CHRISTY, BS '95

While other buildings throughout the university network have been named for individuals, most of them recognize past university presidents; this is the first academic building to be named in honor of a donor.

It is an appropriate tribute to a person who has given so much of his time and resources to foster the success of a new generation of architecture students.

"If you're successful, you have to give back to your community," Mr. Elliot says, relaying his and his wife's philosophy. "You have to give back to the people who have helped make you who you are."

The Elliots have lived by that ideology for years. Through their previous generosity to Kent State, they created the Elliot Health Care Design Masters Program, the Elliot Professorship in Health Care Design, and the John and Fonda Elliot Design Studios.

They also funded programs that ensure student and faculty success, including the Elliot Scholars, the Elliot Family Foundation Architectural Scholarship and the Elliot Family Student Travel Fund, all of which support students in academic and extracurricular endeavors. And they established the John and Fonda Elliot Design Innovation Fellows and the John and Fonda Elliot Designer in Residence position as part of Kent State's Design Innovation Initiative.

Mr. Elliot gives his time, as well. He has a strong presence at Kent State as a member of the Kent State University Foundation Board of Directors and Campaign Executive Committee. But his philanthropy to Kent State, both in time and treasure, is concentrated on one main goal: the success of the next generation of Kent State students.

—Bethany Sava, BS '12

Young Alumni Opportunities

Under the age of 35? Kent State Alumni would like to introduce you to the Young Alumni Council (YAC), which was developed in September 2018 with a mission to foster meaningful connections between you and Kent State.

"We saw a need to engage our fastest growing population with one another and the university," says **Dennis Watson, MA '04**, assistant director at Alumni Relations and campus liaison. "The council is committed to helping young alumni transition into their professional lives and providing some great avenues for our alumni to expand their network."

Lara Ward, BPH '16, is one of the current executive board members who work together to coordinate events and programs that cater to the needs, interests and schedules of young alumni. "I got involved because I feel like we graduate and get lost in the shuffle," she says. "We would love to have more young alums join!"



DENNIS WATSON, MA '04

Young Alumni Council members **Lara Ward, BPH '16; Destiny Kaznoch, BS '17; Spencer Smith, BA '16** and **Emma Wolpert, BA '17** met together in April to plan events for young alumni. Not pictured: **Sam Graska, BS '17, MBA '18; PJ Kimmel, BBA '16**

YAC currently focuses on hosting events in Northeast Ohio to serve the largest population of Kent State graduates; however, they will consider expanding into other areas in the future.

See upcoming young alumni events and more information on the Young Alumni Council at www.kent.edu/alumni/young-alumni. —Angelique Cunningham

Send Us Your Class Note

We'd love to hear from you!

To share your news: Fill out the form at www.kent.edu/classnotes (You may include a high-resolution image in JPEG, GIF or PNG format) or write:

Kent State University Alumni
Center for Philanthropy & Engagement
P.O. Box 5190
Kent, OH 44242

Limit your notes to 100 words or less, and include your degree(s), class year(s), and city/state of residence. Notes may be edited for length or clarity and published as space allows.

Deadline for submissions:

Fall/Winter June 30

Spring/Summer December 31

in MEMORY

1940s

Russel Goodwin, BS '41, December 21, 2016
William Thompson, BS '47, December 28, 2017
Doris Wheeler, BA '49, BS '69, January 13, 2018
Gerald Fox, BS '49, July 13, 2018

1950s

Clyde Andersen, BS '50, July 1, 2018
Henry Fusco, BS '50, October 9, 2018
Roy Gienke, BS '51, MED '58, June 16, 2018
Thelma Leppo, BS '51, September 11, 2018
Robert Keller, BS '51, September 21, 2018
William Reppa, BS '51, MED '56, September 25, 2018
Clarkson Mayhew, BS '52, August 11, 2017
Rosemary Strung, BS '52, MED '77, August 13, 2018
Marilyn (Bonar) Sanders, BS '54, April 2, 2017
Joe Nisbett, BS '52, October 27, 2018
Marilyn Wheaton, BS '55, January 16, 2017
Paul Marcinkoski, BS '55, August 28, 2018
Andrew Kent, BBA '56, December 1, 2016
Neil Myers, BS '56, December 8, 2018
David Staib, BS '56, September 14, 2017
Nicholas DeBaltzo, BArc '57, September 8, 2018
Jon Sally, BA '57, October 22, 2018
Violet Koski '58, March 13, 2010
Joseph McElhaney, DPM '58, April 18, 2018
Chester Williams, BBA '58, October 24, 2018
Nancy (Dickson) Bryner, BS '59, April 20, 2018
Richard Higgs, BA '59, November 1, 2016
James Emmons, BBA '59, September 30, 2018
Frank Keith Stillinger, BA '59, October 8, 2018

1960s

Richard Olley, BS '60, November 16, 2018
Bohumir Ptak, BS '61, March 8, 2018
E. Chadwick, MED '61, May 8, 2018
Kenneth Johnson, BS '62, June 7, 2018
Suzanne Adelle (Hendrick) Belknap, BS '63, September 28, 2018
Sarah Smith, BS '63, December 4, 2016
John Boehm Jr., MA '64, January 14, 2018
Constance Clinkscapes, BS '64, March 22, 2018
Christine (Vaicaitis) Whitacre, BS '64, February 15, 2018
Larry Hart, MS '66, September 8, 2017
Wilbur Bowers, MED '67, July 13, 2018
Jo Anne Hopton, BS '67, MED '73, July 27, 2017
Donald McCabe, BBA '68, November 3, 2018
Douglas McNeill, BArc '68, March 17, 2018
John Richard, BA '68, July 31, 2017
Philip Koplów, BM '68, MA '70, January 18, 2018
Hartwell Palmer Moore, BS '68, November 16, 2018
Michael Zand, MED '68, August 27, 2018
Craig Stephens, BA '68, August 28, 2018
Jacqueline Cuffman, BS '69, November 21, 2017
J Dyer, BA '69, MPA '74, November 29, 2016
Janice Huntley, BS '69, November 25, 2018
Sherry (Gray) Yoke, BA '69, December 11, 2017

1970s

Arthur Bakalar, BBA '70, September 10, 2018
Jerold Bernstein, BS '70, December 23, 2016
Gary Smith, MA '70, PhD '75, January 23, 2018
Edwin Everhart, BS '71, August 10, 2017
Elsie Kolanz, BS '71, July 4, 2018
Howard "Jack" Jackson Trickett, BBA '71, October 24, 2018
Michael Winkler, BS '71, September 13, 2018
James Feikert, BBA '72, May 18, 2017
Susan Schibler, BSN '72, November 23, 2017
Lillian (Weil) Goldberg, MLS '74, June 20, 2018
Janet Wacker, MED '74, MA '86, June 13, 2018
Edward Miner Sr., MA '75, PhD '83, October 2, 2018
David Stein, BS '75, July 6, 2018
Louise Lariccia, MLS '76, October 5, 2018
J Lawson, PhD '76, August 23, 2018
Craig Mitchell, BBA '76, January 17, 2019
Elizabeth Schlotterer, BS '77, November 2, 2017
Geoffrey Overholser, BA '78, May 26, 2018
Charles Teagarden, BS '78, June 8, 2017
Deborah Whyntott, MLS '78, May 31, 2018
William Kotich, BArc '79, September 25, 2018

1980s

Richard Warn, DPM '83, August 9, 2018
Caroline Meder, BSN '84, January 23, 2018
Essie Ball Davy, AS '84, August 6, 2018
Daniel Ricci, BS '84, MED '92, November 17, 2018
Joseph Gebhardt, MBA '85, August 2, 2018
Tamara "Tami" Lynette Clendenon, BS '86, July 20, 2018
David Latham, MBA '88, November 6, 2018

1990s

Lisa Lilly, BS '90, April 2, 2018
Sheila Pitts, BS '94, December 31, 2018
William Tucker, AS '95, May 23, 2017
Alice Kent, MED '96, November 13, 2018
Dorothy Morrisroe, MLS '96, July 2, 2018
Virginia Vandersall, BS '97, August 14, 2018
Christine Gorbach, MA '97, November 8, 2018

2000s

Vicki Herbert, MLS '01, February 2, 2017
Erika Glenn, BA '05, March 25, 2019

2010s

Kimberly Hall Fisher, BA '12, January 22, 2018
Kania Twyman, BA '14, November 26, 2018
Deanna Valentino, BSE '13, June 3, 2018

FACULTY/STAFF

Joshua Brechtelsbauer, KSU research engineer, Chem-Physics Shop, 1981-2004, October 21, 2018
Herbert Hochhauser, PhD, KSU professor of German literature and Jewish studies for 35 years, director of KSU's Ethnic Heritage and Jewish Studies programs, 1980-1999, January 1, 2019
Dolores Noll, PhD, KSU professor emeritus of English, 1961-1984, 2010 Diversity Trailblazer recipient, January 8, 2019



RICHARD UNDERWOOD

A Case of the Measles

“In the fall of 1966, Joe Walsh and his band, the Measles, played outdoors on the old Kent State University Commons,” writes Jason Prufer, BA '03, in the introduction to his recent book, *Small Town, Big Music: The Outsized Influence of Kent, Ohio, on the History of Rock and Roll* (Kent State University Press).

A compilation of rare photos, oral histories and reviews, the book highlights four decades of musicians who either came to Kent to perform or came out of the Kent music scene and on to fame.

Its first chapter documents the beginnings of the local music scene through reflections on a set of photos, taken by local artist and entertainer Richard Underwood, that show a young Joe Walsh performing with the Measles on the Kent Campus.

The legendary rock guitarist—who attended Kent State from 1965 to 1967, served as grand marshal and performed at KSU's 1986 Homecoming and received an honorary doctorate degree at KSU's 2001 commencement—appears several times in the book and wrote the foreword.

“I lived in Manchester Hall and went to classes when the Measles, my first band, started,” writes Joe Walsh, who grew up in Montclair, New Jersey, and took a train to attend Kent State in the late summer of 1965.

The Measles facing the old University Commons behind the Engleman Hall dormitory at Kent State in the fall of 1966. Left to right: Bobby Sepulveda, Buddy Bennett, Joe Walsh and Larry Lewis.

“I stayed in Kent the next summer, and the Measles played and rehearsed, so when school got back in session the band was really hot, just really tight.”

The photo above was date stamped October 1966, but it may have been taken in September or October, says Jason Prufer, a Kent native and senior library associate at Kent State. “The band is playing behind Engleman Hall, on the University Commons. In 1966, the Student Union was next door in what is now Oscar Ritchie Hall. On nice days students would hang out on the Commons.”

In one of the oral histories transcribed in the book, Richard Underwood, who attended Kent State before joining the Navy, recalls the day he took the photo. Asked to join the Measles, he went to the campus gig to check out the songs they were playing and take some photos with his Instamatic.

“There wasn't even any kind of big crowd there or anything,” he says. “It was just kids hanging around [over] the lunch hour, and the band was playing. I can remember distinctly that day they played ‘Drive My Car’ by the Beatles, and they probably played ‘Under My Thumb’ by the Rolling Stones, ‘Good Lovin’ by the Young Rascals, [and other] pop songs.

“Later, [when] Joe made it with the James Gang and then with the Eagles, it's like, ‘Hey man, we played together in this band.’ . . . It was an honor to have played with that guy.”

There were bands everywhere in the 1965-75 era, he says. “Every place had live bands, and the best thing was that students supported all of this.”

What triggered the scene was the popularity of the Beatles and the British invasion in 1964, says Jason Prufer. “Before that, bands played in town, but it wasn't like this. Throngs of kids were going to see these guys and the other bands that emerged at the same time. They would pack the room.” ⚡

—Adapted from *Small Town, Big Music: The Outsized Influence of Kent, Ohio, on the History of Rock and Roll* (2019, *The Kent State University Press*), available at the *Kent State University Bookstore*, www.kentstateuniversitypress.com and on *Amazon.com*.

Send us YOUR Flashback:

Share your memories from Kent State and they may appear in a future issue of *Kent State Magazine*. Email your stories and photos to magazine@kent.edu.

Witness The River

Witness the river,
the way it whispers ancient words
spoken by slithering streams
and vast oceans.

Witness the loneliness of the river,
how it longs for you,
but can't quite reach you.

Witness the strange power
flowing through you,
traveling slowly
and brushing against your ankles—
something you can only feel
if you witness the river.

—Jake Soyars, 7th grade
Wick Juniors Writing Club, Kent, Ohio
Design by Rachel Slingluff, BFA '17

This poem appears in *Speak a Powerful Magic: Ten Years of the Traveling Stanzas Poetry Project* (2019, The Kent State University Press), available for purchase online at www.kentstateuniversitypress.com.

Since July 2018, the Wick Poetry Center (as part of its *River Stanzas: A Collective Dreaming of the Cuyahoga* project) has been conducting a series of intergenerational community forums and conversations around the value of the Cuyahoga River in our lives and shared future.

On June 22, 1969, the Cuyahoga River caught fire. It became a symbol for the environmental movement, and the crisis gave the

country an opportunity to examine public environmental policies and our communities' relationships with our planet.

June 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the Cuyahoga River's rebirth. In collaboration with the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, the City of Kent, and the Akron and Kent Public Schools, Wick Poetry Center's outreach team has been leading field trips and workshops—“river walks” and “river talks”—celebrating its success and inspiring others to “dream the river” in its next 50 years.

—See www.travelingstanzas.com/river-stanzas for more information.



campus **QUOTE**

“Beware the demon pomposity. That is really good advice. [In the news media] we need to not be so sure, we need to stick to the facts, we need to not get into this political food fight that is going on. . . . You don’t have to be a journalist for five minutes to know that things may appear a certain way, and they are not that way.”

BOB WOODWARD, two-time Pulitzer prize winning journalist, associate editor for *The Washington Post*, speaking to Kent State journalism students prior to his talk for the Presidential Speaker Series, “An Evening with Bob Woodward,” MAC Center, May 4, 2019