

WILKES

FALL 2015



Crowned With Hope

Evana Manandhar '14
Helps Earthquake
Recovery as Miss Nepal

INSIDE: WILKES DEDICATES NEW CAMPUS GATEWAY

Taking Steps Toward Our Future

I have often spoken and written about our goal of becoming one of the finest small universities in the country. As I write my message for this issue of *Wilkes* magazine, I want to share some campus developments that reflect the progress we are making toward that goal.

We recently announced the largest gift ever received by the University. This \$3.3 million contribution from Wilkes-Barre businessman John. J. Passan is in support of our School of Nursing. The gift, secured with the assistance of Carol Keup, Mr. Passan's niece and a member of Wilkes' board of trustees, will transform our nursing program, providing technology, library materials and more. By the time you receive this magazine, we will have dedicated the Passan School of Nursing in Mr. Passan's honor. Such a gift truly reflects an institution's quality; a willingness to invest in a university's programs affirms the institution's value.

This fall we welcomed our first class in our new Honors Program, as they moved into a reconfigured and renovated Barre Hall. Our lacrosse recruits have arrived and have begun their non-traditional season in preparation for their first competition in the fall of 2016. Four new academic deans joined the leadership team, and we launched new programs, including our first fully on-line undergraduate program in nursing.

Perhaps nowhere is Wilkes' progress more visible than on the new campus Gateway, dedicated during Homecoming weekend. This entryway to campus, extending from South Main Street into the heart of the Fenner Quadrangle, physically unites our campus. It also has added beauty and enhanced the sense that we provide a traditional college experience in an intimate setting on our urban campus. It is making a wonderful first impression on prospective students and their families—one that only grows when they visit

our classes and meet our excellent faculty. I urge you to visit campus soon and see it yourself.

These are just a few examples of successes on our path to creating the best University experience for Wilkes students now and in the future. Please join me in celebrating these successes and working toward more in the future.



Dr. Patrick F. Leahy
Wilkes University President



President Patrick F. Leahy speaks at the dedication of the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership's new home in fall 2014.

WILKES MAGAZINE

University President
Dr. Patrick F. Leahy

Special Assistant to the President
for External Affairs
Michael Wood

Executive Editor
Jack Chielli MA'08

Managing Editor
Kim Bower-Spence

Editor
Vicki Mayk MFA'13

Creative Services
Lisa Reynolds

Web Services
Craig Thomas MBA'11

Electronic Communications
Joshua Bonner

Graduate Assistant
Francisco Tutella MA'15
Jennifer Jenkins

Layout/Design
Kara Reid

Printing
Pencor Inc.

EDITORIAL ADVISORY GROUP

Anne Batory '68
Brandie Meng MA'08
Bill Miller '81
George Pawlush '69 MS'76
Donna Sedor '85

ALUMNI RELATIONS STAFF

Director
Bridget Giunta Husted '05
Associate Director
Mary Balavage Simmons '10

Alumni Event and Communication Manager
Jacki Lukas '11

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President
Cindy Charnetski '97

Vice President
Ellen Hall '71

Secretary
Kathy Heltzel '82 MBA '85

Historian
Tom Ralston '80

Wilkes magazine is published three times a year by the Wilkes University Office of Marketing Communications, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766, wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu, (570) 408-4779. Please send change of address to the above address.

Wilkes University is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to academic and intellectual excellence in the liberal arts, sciences and professional programs. The university provides its students with the experience and education necessary for career and intellectual development as well as for personal growth, engenders a sense of values and civic responsibility, and encourages its students to welcome the opportunities and challenges of a diverse and continually changing world. The university enhances the tradition of strong student-faculty interactions in all its programs, attracts and retains outstanding people in every segment of the university, and fosters a spirit of cooperation, community involvement, and individual respect within the entire university.



6



14



16

contents



Evana Manandhar '14 celebrates being crowned Miss Nepal World. PHOTO BY RAJAN MAHARJAN, LAXMI NARAYAN MAHARJAN, SAROJ PRAJAPATI AND BIBASH MAHARJAN SUWAL

FEATURES

6 Secrets to His Success

Bill Evanina '89 is a leader in the United States intelligence community.

10 First in the Family

Wilkes' First Generation Scholarships help students who are the first in their families to attend college.

14 Path to Greatness

The new campus Gateway transforms the Wilkes campus.

16 Crowned With Hope

Evana Manandhar '14 helps her native country recover from a devastating earthquake in her role as Miss Nepal World.

DEPARTMENTS

2 On Campus

5 Athletics

18 Alumni News

20 Class Notes

Have a story idea to share?

Contact us at wilkesmagazine@wilkes.edu or *Wilkes* magazine, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.

Wilkes magazine is available online at www.wilkes.edu/wilkesmagazineonline



Plans Announced to Revitalize Sordoni Art Gallery

Wilkes announced plans to relocate the Sordoni Art Gallery and reimagine its role for the campus and surrounding community. Beginning in fall 2016, the gallery will move to new space at 141 S. Main St. near the new campus Gateway. The decision also supports Wilkes' strategic plan, which calls for helping to revitalize downtown Wilkes-Barre.

The move is part of a three-part revitalization plan for the gallery that aims to enrich the arts experience on campus for students, faculty and staff and contribute to the cultural life of Wilkes-Barre and the Wyoming Valley.

The first step calls for creating a permanent, dedicated \$2 million endowment that will be used to bring to campus and the community high-quality art exhibits from nationally and internationally known artists. To create this endowment and fund the annual schedule of exhibitions, Wilkes will sell selected pieces of the collection—a process that is known as deaccessioning in the art world. The sale of art will be combined with the existing endowment to create funds needed for a substantial permanent and dedicated endowment.



An artist's rendering of the entrance at the new location for the Sordoni Art Gallery, as seen from South Main Street in Wilkes-Barre.

The second part of the plan calls for hiring a highly qualified faculty member to run the art gallery and enhance University arts programming. This faculty member will curate traveling shows, develop academic programming, integrate the gallery into the campus arts community, and help identify new funding sources to enhance the gallery.

The third step—relocation of the gallery—will create a larger space with areas for teaching and entertaining. It also will be more accessible, with on-site parking available.

Andrew Sordoni III, whose family established the gallery at Wilkes in 1973, encouraged the University to revitalize the gallery to better serve both Wilkes and the surrounding community. Sordoni has affirmed the new direction for the gallery, saying, "This is extraordinary stewardship from my experience in the arts. We are going to serve the students, the community and posterity."

"The plans to reinvigorate the Sordoni Art Gallery reflect Wilkes University's commitment to become a comprehensive university with a national reputation," University President Patrick F. Leahy says.

Wilkes Dedicates Passan School of Nursing Honoring Donor of \$3.3 Million Gift

Wilkes University has received a \$3.3 million gift—the largest in the institution's history—to support its School of Nursing. The gift, given by local businessman and philanthropist John J. Passan of Wilkes-Barre, will be used to create a dedicated, permanent endowment for the school. The gift will transform nursing education at Wilkes for both graduate and undergraduate nursing students, enabling expanded opportunities for scholarships, technology and professional development experiences. The nursing school was renamed the Passan School of Nursing in Passan's honor at a dedication ceremony on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

"Wilkes University thanks John Passan for his vision in giving this gift to the School of Nursing, which now will bear his name," says University President Patrick F. Leahy. "Such an investment reflects an awareness of not only what nursing education at Wilkes is—but, more importantly, what it can be, given the resources this his contribution provides."

Passan founded Valley Distributing & Storage Co. of Wilkes-Barre. He has supported a number of charitable causes in the region, including previous support to Wilkes.

The building at 267 South Franklin St., which currently houses the office of the University's dean of students, health and wellness services and residence life, bears his name.

Nursing school Dean Deborah Zbegner says the Passan gift provides valuable programmatic support to Wilkes' nursing programs.

"The School of Nursing faculty joins me in thanking Mr. Passan for his support. With its dedication as the Passan School of Nursing, we enter a new era in nursing education with new resources. This gift will allow us to increase the number of scholarships we can provide to nursing students," Zbegner said. "As technology continues to rapidly evolve, this funding will allow us to ensure that we have the most up-to-date technology resources. In addition, it will allow us to increase the number of nursing journals and online databases available in our library and will provide opportunities for students and faculty to attend professional conferences."



To see photos from the dedication of the Passan School of Nursing, visit www.wilkes.edu/passan

Wilkes Seeks Historic First Patents for Faculty Research

Wilkes University has filed patent applications for health care innovations developed by Ali Razavi, professor of mechanical engineering, and Abas Sabouni, assistant professor of electrical engineering. Their research could dramatically improve diagnosis and treatment for wound care, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and other brain-related disorders. The two separate applications are the first intellectual property rights submissions that Wilkes has filed in its 82-year history.

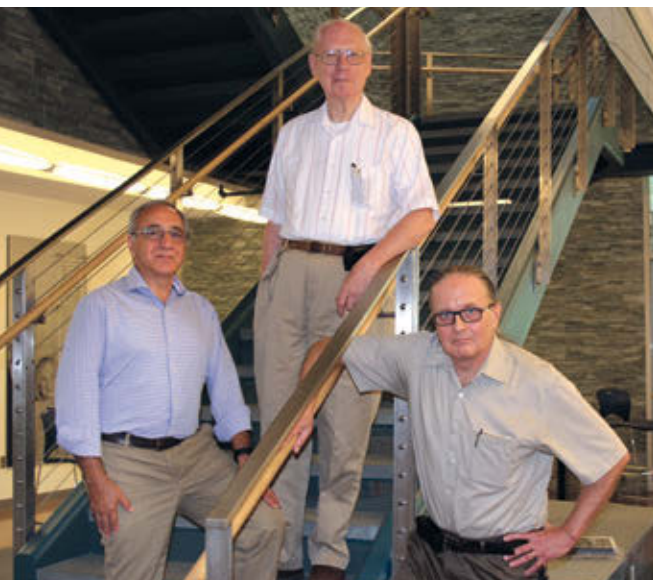
Razavi's background is in materials engineering and chemistry. He has been researching the anti-bacterial properties of silver for the past three years with Owen Faut, professor emeritus of chemistry, Ken Pidcock, professor of biology, and their chemistry and microbiology students. They discovered a silver compound that mimics how the body's immune system fights infection and produces oxygen to kill harmful bacteria. Their discovery has the potential to revolutionize wound care and healing.

Sabouni has developed a non-invasive, real-time method for tracing the effects of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS). The FDA-approved procedure uses intense

pulsed magnetic fields to induce electrical currents in neuronal tissues, producing therapeutic effects in the brain. It has been used since 2008, but until now there has been no way to provide real-time, visual feedback on the effects of the treatment.

Sabouni's research stimulates the brain's neurons and captures high-resolution images of induced current in TMS. By using

Three Wilkes faculty have collaborated on a compound to be used in wound care. From left, they are Ali Razavi, professor of mechanical engineering, Owen Faut, professor emeritus of chemistry, and Ken Pidcock, professor of biology.
PHOTO BY LISA REYNOLDS



Abas Sabouni, assistant professor of electrical engineering, has invented a method for tracing effects of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS).
PHOTO BY EARL & SEDOR PHOTOGRAPHIC

information from MRIs and a computer program simulation, this new technology can pinpoint the area of the brain that needs to be stimulated and allow for faster, less expensive treatment and lower doses of induced current. TMS is helpful in treating depression and cases of post-traumatic stress disorder. It is also used to measure the connection between the primary motor cortex and a muscle to evaluate damage from spinal cord injuries. It may someday prove beneficial in treating a broad range of other neurological problems, such as stroke and Parkinson's disease.

Wilkes Honored for Support of LGBT Community

Wilkes was recognized with a Rainbow Award by the Northeast Pennsylvania Rainbow Alliance. The award honors individuals and organizations that have helped make northeast Pennsylvania more supportive of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community.

The Safe Space program at Wilkes was recognized for providing support to the LGBT community on campus by identifying responsive faculty and staff members through the use of the safe space sticker. When the safe space sticker is displayed in an office or room,

students know they have the freedom to speak openly about LGBT issues. This voluntary program offers education as well as awareness training.

The Safe Space Ally training provides participants with supportive tools to work as advocates both on and off campus for the LGBT community. Awareness training is key for faculty, staff and students to introduce terminology and foster more open discussions. Better understanding of divergent cultures leads to a more open and accepting atmosphere for everyone at Wilkes.

The University encourages students to seek out Safe Space allies as a means of support and belonging.

The Rainbow Alliance also recognized the University's Center for Global Education and Diversity and the student-run Wilkes Gay-Straight Alliance for co-sponsoring a three-part film series with the Rainbow Alliance in spring 2014. During Pridefest, Wilkes hosted public events on campus led by the student-run Gay-Straight Alliance. Wilkes has sponsored a table at Pridefest since 2012.

Veterans Council Awarded \$10,000 Grant

Wilkes' Veterans Council has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the VetCenter Initiative grant program, a partnership between Student Veterans of America (SVA) and The Home Depot Foundation. The grant will be used to create a center for veterans on campus. A space in Conyngham Hall will be renovated to create a veterans resource center, and will serve as a focal point for veterans' activities.

Student Veterans of America chapters across the country competed for the award, with the 50 best plans receiving grants.

Wilkes University Veterans Council President Kellie Palko states that, "This grant means a lot for our club. To receive it

is an honor and confirmation that all our hard work paid off last semester. In short, this grant means a future for our club. It means we can grow and reach more veterans who need help. It will give veterans on campus a place to relax and feel safe."

Retired Col. Mark Kaster, veterans outreach coordinator, says the award affirms the University's commitment to veterans. "Wilkes creates a culture that connects our students to veterans and our veterans to students," Kaster says.

Wilkes has previously been honored for its work with veterans by earning the Military Friendly Schools designation from *G.I. Jobs* magazine five times.

WILKES WELCOMES NEW DEANS

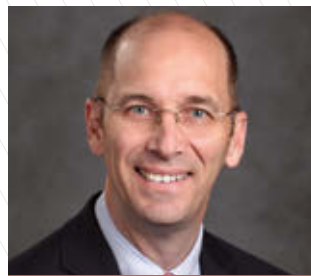
WILKES WELCOMED FOUR NEW DEANS FOR THE 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR:



WILLIAM B. HUDSON
Science and Engineering

Career: Professor of electrical engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville; department chair, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Technology at Minnesota State University, Mankato; and dean of the College of Engineering, Mathematics, and Science at University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Industry experience includes serving as principal network design engineer at Sprint.

Notable: His research has supported NASA instrumentation, inspection of bridges using tethered robots, determining reasonable human performance shooting reaction times of law enforcement officers, and design of fuel ethanol plants. Patents have resulted from his research in the areas of bridge inspection and firearms response time.



PAUL RIGGS
Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Career: Interim associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, department head and professor of history at Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Ga. Served as executive assistant to the president, secretary of the college, assistant dean of the college, and assistant to the Office of Academic Affairs at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa.; and academic advisor in the College of Arts and Sciences at University of Pittsburgh.

Notable: Co-principal investigator on a three-year U.S. Department of Education grant totaling nearly \$1 million under the Teaching American History program.



RHONDA M. RABBITT
School of Education

Career: Assistant dean and director of Graduate Programs in Education at Viterbo University, La Crosse, Wis. Regional development outreach specialist and interim director of the Master of Education-Professional Development program at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Faculty appointments and teaching positions include assistant professor, School of Education at Viterbo University; and team teaching lecturer, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, Minneapolis campus.

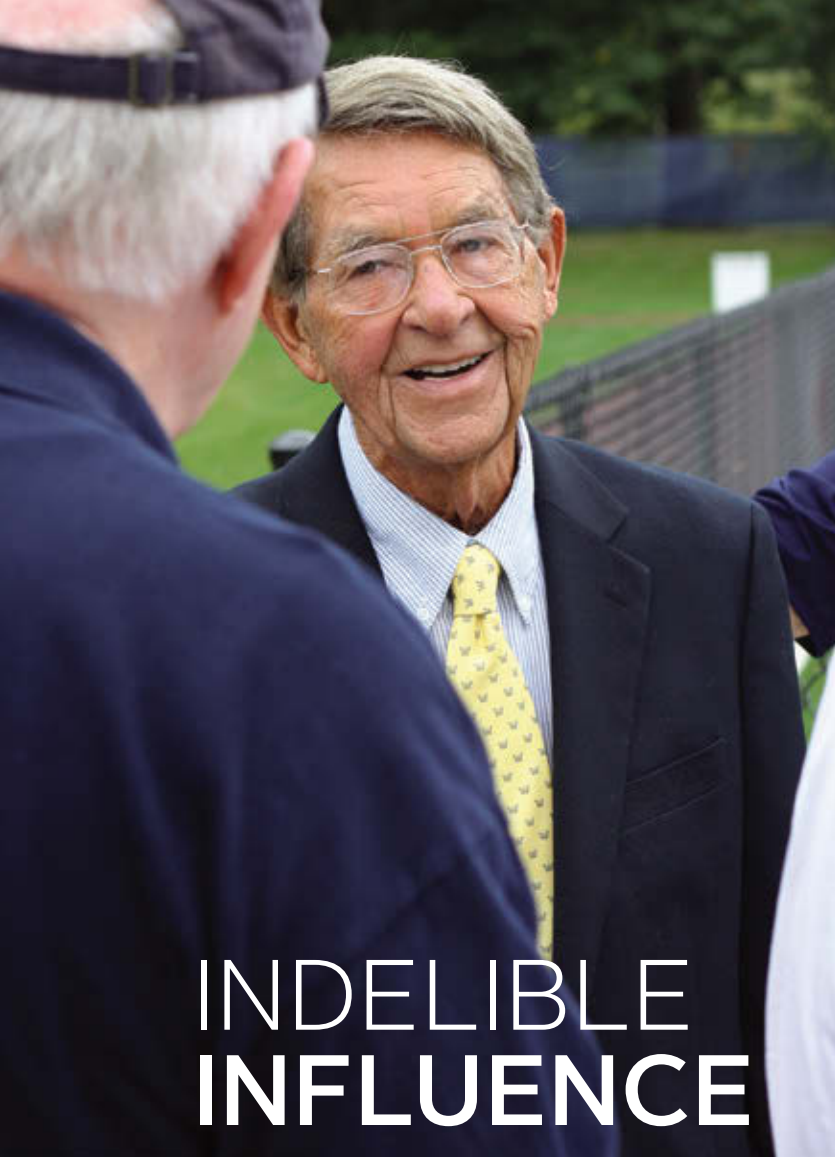
Notable: Judge for International Team Excellence Awards and Education Team Excellence Recognition. Served as president of the Wisconsin Independent Colleges of Teacher Education.



DEBORAH ZBEGNER
School of Nursing

Career: Interim dean, Wilkes University School of Nursing. Director of Wilkes School of Nursing's graduate programs, where she co-developed the doctor of nursing practice program and played an integral role in the development of the University's online programs in adult gerontology primary care and adult mental health nurse practitioner programs. Formerly associate professor of nursing, Wilkes.

Notable: Holds national board certification as a women's health nurse practitioner and is certified in reproductive endocrinology/infertility and obstetric/gynecology ultrasound. Maintains a clinical practice as a women's health nurse practitioner.



INDELIBLE INFLUENCE

Remembering the Legacy of Rollie Schmidt

Ask Bill Hanbury '72 how he'd describe the late legendary Wilkes football coach Rollie Schmidt, and he'd be hard-pressed to choose one word. But somewhere near the top would be the word "motivator."

"Rare is the coach that can motivate players to spend their lives seeking his approval," said Hanbury in the eulogy he delivered at Schmidt's memorial service on June 1, 2015. "With every pass thrown, every drill run, every play memorized, every wind sprint completed, every touchdown scored, every game won, every honor made, we all wanted Coach's approval."

Former players, Wilkes colleagues, friends and members of the community gathered to pay tribute to Schmidt, who died May 28, 2015, leaving his mark on Wilkes athletics through an unprecedented coaching career and indelible influence on the students he mentored.

Schmidt's career at Wilkes began in 1962, continuing until his retirement in 1994. During his tenure he was head football coach, men's golf coach, head baseball coach and associate professor of physical education. Schmidt was elected to the Wilkes Athletics

Above, Rollie Schmidt speaks with former Wilkes President Tim Gilmour on the day the stadium was named in his honor. Right, Schmidt chats with former players.

Hall of Fame in 1994. In 2010, Schmidt Stadium was dedicated in his honor—the result of the tireless efforts of his former players, who raised money to make it happen.

Serving as head football coach from 1962 through 1981, Schmidt led the football team—dubbed the Golden Horde—to its legendary 32-game win streak, resulting in Wilkes College being awarded the Lambert Bowl trophy in 1966 and 1968 as the top small college football team in the East.

As baseball coach, he led the Colonels to their first-ever Middle Atlantic Conference baseball championship in 1968. As golf coach, he led his teams to three conference championships.

"Coach Schmidt served Wilkes with distinction and dedication for 32 years," says Wilkes Vice President of Student Affairs Paul Adams '77, MS '82. "His 32-game win streak continues to be one of the great achievements in college football history. Always a mentor, he influenced young people not only on the football field, but as a professor in the classroom, and a coach on the baseball diamond and the golf course."

Nicknamed Zeus by his players, Schmidt imparted lessons on the field that players were able to apply to other parts of their lives. "Pride and Poise" were two words emblazoned on the locker room walls during his coaching career—and forever in the memories of his players. In eulogizing him, Hanbury spoke of the influence that continued for a lifetime.

"That desire for his approval didn't end when we graduated from Wilkes. With every success in life, you wanted Coach to know about it. You want to say: 'Hey, Coach, look what I have done,'" Hanbury said. "And you want to thank him for teaching you that success is not an accident. And with failure, he also taught us how to lose with grace. He never made excuses when we lost.

"When you've been kicked around by life, fallen down a few times, faced adversity, been knocked off your high horse, then you realize just how important Coach was and still is. You always hear his voice: 'Come on, boys, pick yourself up, do better, pride and poise, never quit.'"

"That desire for his approval didn't end when we graduated from Wilkes. With every success in life, you wanted Coach to know about it." – Bill Hanbury '72





SECRETS TO HIS SUCCESS

Bill Evanina '89 Directs Counterintelligence Activities for the United States

By Andrew M. Seder

A chunk of coal sits on Bill Evanina's desk at the National Counterintelligence and Security Center in Bethesda, Md. Since he found it in an old coal mine as a youth, the anthracite has traveled with Evanina through each of his life's phases.

"I had it in Pickering Hall and I still have it," Evanina '89 says, recalling his Wilkes residence hall. "It's a great focal point. It reminds you where you came from; that old coal miner's work ethic. That value and that trust still are with me today. I'm hoping to hand it down to my son one day."

The work ethic has gotten him far. Evanina is the national counterintelligence executive, one of the most powerful people in the United States intelligence community, responsible for leading the counterintelligence and security activities of the United States government. His office works with the counterintelligence and security elements of the United States government, the United States intelligence community and the private sector to ensure awareness and mitigate the threats posed by foreign intelligence entities and malicious insiders.

Bill Evanina '89 has brought his northeast Pennsylvania work ethic to his role as national counterintelligence executive for the United States.

PHOTOS COURTESY THE NATIONAL
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE SECURITY CENTER

As an FBI agent “detailed out” to lead the center, Evanina first assumed the assignment in June 2014, and he thought he had a pretty good idea what he was getting into. He was wrong. “When I took this job, I didn’t fully understand the vastness and scope of the mission here,” Evanina recalls. But it’s just the latest big assignment for a man who has made his career in government with a focus on law enforcement.

In his 18 years with the FBI, he was involved in major investigations that included 9/11, anthrax attacks, terrorist kidnappings and more. In speaking about his current job, Evanina says, “I’m not sure there is an average day. The days don’t end.” The phone never stops ringing.

Things have changed from his easygoing days growing up in Peckville, Pa., just outside of Scranton. As one of John and Barb Evanina’s three children, he recalls a youth spent riding his bike around old anthracite mining pits, lettering in baseball and football for Valley View High School and playing video games with his friends.

“It’s a great focal point. It reminds you where you came from; that old coal miner’s work ethic. That value and that trust still are with me today. I’m hoping to hand it down to my son one day.”



The chunk of anthracite on Evanina's desk is a reminder of his roots.

He also, without hesitation and with the precise memory of someone who handles detailed intelligence matters, remembers the event that set him down the path toward becoming an FBI agent.

He was a young teen riding his bike through Olyphant when he saw police cars outside a bank that had just been robbed. As he watched the officers going through their investigative steps he noticed a Dodge Dart pull up, and a man in a suit with a fedora emerge and walk up to the local police. Evanina asked someone who that guy was and was told the man was an FBI agent. He knew from that moment what he wanted to be.

Getting there would take another 14 years. In between, his focus was on athletics, where he excelled at baseball and football. Former Valley View football coach Frank Pazzaglia was among those who provided structure and discipline in his life, two key cogs that would aid him in his future. But it was a Peckville town resident who came to watch the Cougars practice and play that left, perhaps, the longest-lasting and most meaningful impression on him as a teen.

Local war hero and Medal of Honor winner Gino J. Merli would give pep talks to the players, and Evanina remembers their intent and meaning and carries the message with him to this day. “Fidelity, integrity, character. Don’t let adversity get you down,” Merli would tell the kids. “Let adversity be a tool.”

“Him talking to high school kids was invaluable,” Evanina says.

When Evanina graduated from Valley View in 1985, he went to Keystone Junior College to play baseball. After two years, he was recruited by Misericordia, Villanova and East Stroudsburg universities as well as by King’s College and Wilkes, among others. He opted to take his pitching and shortstop skills—and still deep-seated FBI aspirations—to Wilkes. He remembered playing high school state playoff games at Artillery Field, he liked the Wilkes campus and especially liked that it was “just far enough away but still close enough to come home on the weekends.”

He spent his two years at Wilkes residing in Pickering Hall, where he also served as a resident assistant. “(Pickering Hall) was attached to the cafeteria and had a triangle shape, which was very conducive to being a social butterfly, which is what I was.” He notes that mostly athletes resided in the since-demolished hall that was located between West Ross and West South streets and South Franklin and South River streets.

In his senior year, his Pickering Hall room neighbor was Jeff Yankow, a fellow Lackawanna County native and baseball pitcher. Yankow, who graduated from Wilkes in 1993 with an economics degree and now teaches that subject at Furman University, says the Bill Evanina he knew then has the same qualities as the man he knows today.

“You respected his leadership. He commanded a high level of respect,” says Yankow, who was born in Olyphant, now resides in Greenville, S.C., and who played briefly in the Kansas City Royals’ minor league system. “He has such a work ethic, integrity. It’s no surprise to me he’s excelling at what he’s doing. Not one bit.”

While playing both baseball and Sega Genesis took up some of Evanina’s time at Wilkes, he had several professors and staff members guiding him along, making sure his days after Wilkes would be successful and exercising his strong work ethic.

Evanina mentioned baseball coach Jerry Bavitz, Dean of Students Mark R. Allen and professors Philip R. Tuhy and Susan Behuniak among those at Wilkes he credits with “being very attuned to the individual and what your needs were as a soon-to-be graduate.”

He spent two years in the admissions office as a work-study student, giving tours to prospective students, mailing letters and doing other office work. He also landed an internship with the Luzerne County District Attorney’s Office in the summer before his senior year. By watching the detectives and

William “Bill” Evanina, Alexandria, Va.

Bachelor of Arts, Public Administration and History, Wilkes; Master of Education, educational leadership, Arcadia University.

Career: National counterintelligence executive at the National Counterintelligence and Security Center in Bethesda, Md.

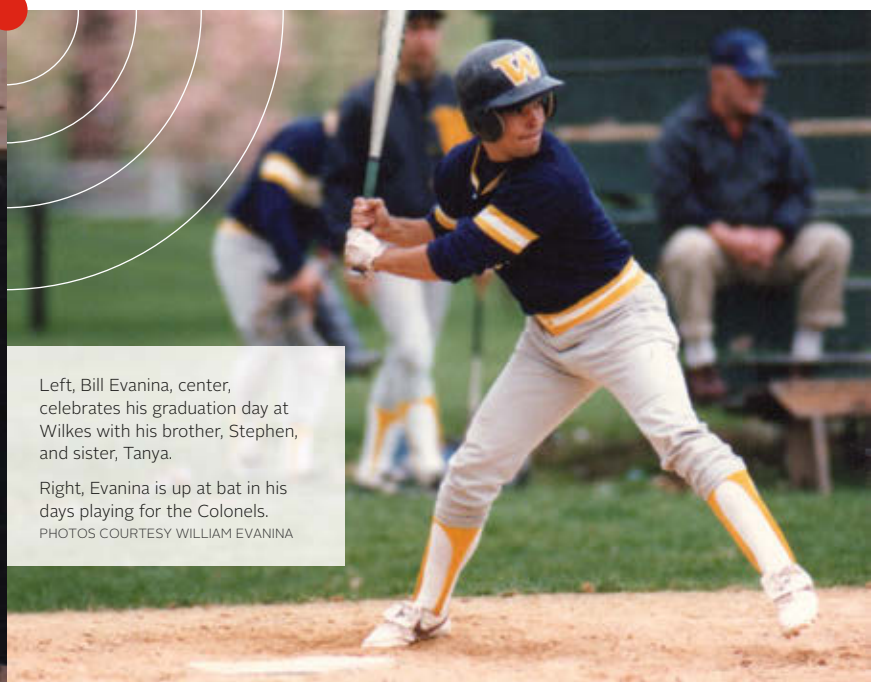
Notable: His sister, Tanya, is also an FBI agent, assigned to work in the Pittsburgh field office.

Favorite Wilkes Memory: “Weekend nights when we were bored out of our minds, we’d walk down to Public Square and go to Donuts Delight then go back to Pickering Hall and play Sega Genesis all night,” Evanina recalls.

prosecutors, he learned that there’s a lot more that goes into a case than you realize. This, perhaps more than anything during his formative years, opened his eyes to the law enforcement community.

“You got full exposure to the law enforcement process from crime to prosecution,” Evanina says, adding that prior to this experience he thought more about the crime aspect of such cases. But interacting with victims and even the criminal’s family, gave him a different perspective. “For every person that goes to jail there are many, many victims and friends and family of victims,” he says,

When Evanina completed his bachelor’s degree in public administration and history at Wilkes, graduating magna cum laude, he was 21 years old. He still wanted to be an FBI agent, but applicants must be 26 years old. So five days after graduation, he became a federal government employee working in the General Services Administration office in Philadelphia.



Left, Bill Evanina, center, celebrates his graduation day at Wilkes with his brother, Stephen, and sister, Tanya.

Right, Evanina is up at bat in his days playing for the Colonels.
PHOTOS COURTESY WILLIAM EVANINA

During his five years there he rose to the level of project manager, handling construction projects for federal buildings and courthouses. But month after month the calendar turned another page closer to his chance to apply to the FBI. In 1996, he entered the bureau's training program in Quantico, Va. After 21 intensive weeks he graduated in January 1997 and was assigned as a special agent in the Newark, N.J., field office, where he was placed on an organized crime unit for two years before being reassigned to an investigative unit handling violent crimes in New Jersey.


Two years later his life—and the lives of millions of others—was about to change.

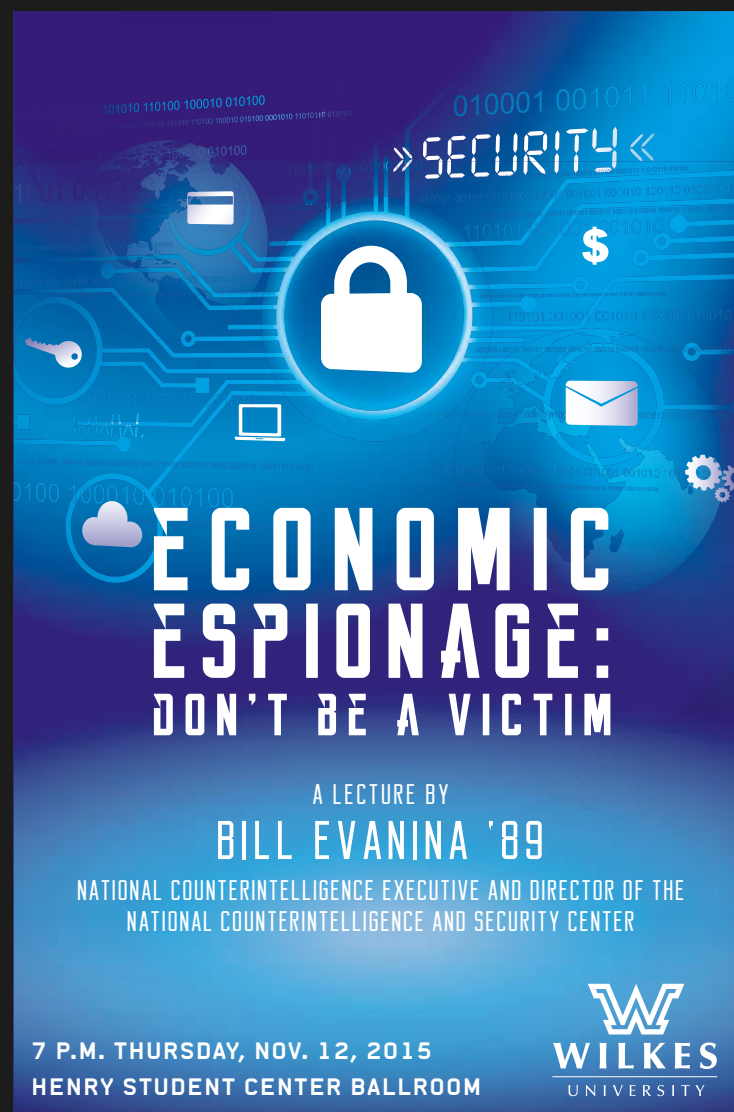
On Sept. 11, 2001, two planes struck the World Trade Center, just 10 miles from Evanina's Newark office. In that instant, Evanina would become intrinsically involved in working against the threat that is terrorism. Over the next 14 years he would move from office to office, unit to unit, while having a hand in counterterrorism, counterintelligence and security matters. While some might view all the moving and new assignments—especially the serious and stressful nature of them—as unappealing, Evanina says he's been blessed.

He reads intelligence reports from more than a dozen different counterintelligence and security organizations that receive guidance and direction from his office. That includes the FBI, CIA and the National Security Agency. From those reports he's come to understand that the transformation of U.S. counterintelligence and cybersecurity methods has been eye-opening and constant.

"The evolution has been not only expeditious but lightning speed," Evanina says. He laughs, recalling that when he first started with the FBI, cell phones were rare. Agents would get a page, find a pay phone, call an 800 number and be "patched in." Now pay phones are a rarity and cell phones are the norm. Noting that such things have come a long way in less than 20 years, Evanina says, "It grows and gets more complicated every day."

He says he hears the complaints from citizens about government intrusion and criticisms of the intelligence community, but he hopes Americans realize "there's so much stuff being done by so many people in the intelligence community they don't know about, nor should they."

Evanina does what he does each day hoping that his wife, JulieAnne, his son, 10-year-old Dominic, and other Americans can go to bed each night feeling a little safer. 




» SECURITY «

**ECONOMIC
ESPIONAGE:
DON'T BE A VICTIM**

A LECTURE BY
BILL EVANINA '89
NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF THE
NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER

7 P.M. THURSDAY, NOV. 12, 2015
HENRY STUDENT CENTER BALLROOM

**WILKES**
UNIVERSITY

Bill Evanina '89 Delivers Lecture on "Economic Espionage" at Wilkes on Nov. 12

Alumnus Bill Evanina will share the knowledge he's gained during more than two decades as an FBI agent and as national counterintelligence executive when he returns to Wilkes to deliver a lecture on Nov. 12. His presentation—"Economic Espionage: Don't Be A Victim"—will provide information about how business owners and individuals can protect themselves from this threat. Evanina will speak at 7 p.m. in the ballroom of the Henry Student Center. The event is free and open to the public.



FIRST IN THE FAMILY

WILKES FUND SUPPORTS FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS

By Donna Talarico-Beerman '00, MFA '10



A secretary of state. A first lady. A coffee company CEO. The professional achievements of Colin Powell, Michelle Obama and Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz illustrate that success stories do indeed arise from being the first in one's family to attend college.

More than half of the undergraduates attending four-year institutions today are first-generation college students, the term used to classify those whose parents do not hold a degree. That's according to *University Business* magazine, which also reported that 24 percent of students are first-generation and low income. Wilkes University's enrollment is in line with that national statistic.

"More than half of our incoming freshmen identify themselves as the first in their family to attend a four-year college," says President Patrick F. Leahy, adding that since it was founded as Bucknell University Junior College in 1933, Wilkes has helped young scholars blaze the education trail for their families.

But being the first in the family to seek a degree does not come without challenges. *University Business* also reported that first-generation college students are at higher risk of dropping out than their peers. Earlier this year, *The Washington Post* reported that this is due to several factors, including a greater financial need and, in many cases, less moral support.

Colleges and universities nationwide have embarked on programs to better support this constituency emotionally, academically and financially—to increase the ability of these students to achieve a dream. In addition to its already-strong mentoring for all students, Wilkes in 2014 introduced a program that would provide financial support to first-generation college students.

The Founders Gala, Wilkes' new premier fundraising event, exclusively supports the First Generation Scholarship Fund. In its first year, the sold-out event brought in \$250,000 and to date the Fund has raised more than half a million dollars.

"In establishing the First Generation Scholarship Fund, the University has made a commitment to support those students in their journey to be the first in their family to earn a degree," says Leahy—those like Sergey, Margaret, Kyle, Salena and Cody, students you'll meet on these pages:

ASPIRING DOCTORS. A FUTURE NURSE. A BUDDING ENGINEER.

Found in Translation

SERGEY SVINTOZELSKIY



WHEN SOPHOMORE BIOLOGY MAJOR SERGEY SVINTOZELSKIY was younger, he translated for his Ukrainian family members while his grandfather was in the hospital. He knew, even then, that he felt comfortable in the medical environment. Later, shadowing his family doctor and being treated by an orthopedic surgeon for a shoulder injury sealed his interest in becoming a doctor.

Svintozelskiy's family moved from Ukraine to Plains, Pa., in 1999, when he was 4. His father left behind a career as an assistant veterinarian. In the States, he went into

the food industry and now runs a restaurant in Pittston, Pa. Svintozelskiy says his family in Ukraine worked with their hands—on farms or in construction. His father didn't want that for his kids.

"My parents always envisioned us going to the States. They wanted us to excel in academics," he says.

By the time he graduated high school, he had earned 24 college credits at Wilkes through a Young Scholars program. He already knew faculty members and was acquainted with campus, so becoming a Colonel was a natural fit. Being awarded a first-generation student scholarship was a welcome bonus.

"The financial aspect made a huge difference [in attending Wilkes]. I was overwhelmed and excited," he says.

Svintozelskiy knows that there's often something different that motivates a first-generation college student. In his case, it was recognizing the sacrifices his family made.

"My parents worked hard for us, and through their good will, we have opportunities," he says, adding that he doesn't take anything, including the college experience, for granted.

SOPHOMORE PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR SALENA

Diaz was certain her mother got the message wrong. But the Kingston, Pa., native confirmed the information with Wilkes' admissions office.

"I honestly didn't believe it," she says of the moment she found out she was the recipient of a First Generation Scholarship. "Oh my goodness, I was over the moon!"

After putting off applying to college, she attended an Instant Decision Day at Wilkes and, by the end of the event, she had been accepted. There was joy—but that soon turned to worry.

"Acceptance is only the first hurdle," she says. "The task of paying for college is a whole new beast."

She had high school friends whose parents went to college who could guide them through the application and financial aid process—something she did not have.

"I was going in blind," she says. "I thought it would be unbearably hard because no one could tell me it wasn't."

Diaz, who is also minoring in Spanish, wrote a newspaper editorial about being a first-generation student. In the piece, she described herself as the oldest of three children "in a home captained by a hardworking single mother." Her mom, a secretary, always encouraged her children to do well in school so they could earn a scholarship and continue on to college—"something she never got to do; her parents weren't supportive [of higher education]."



Setting a Precedent

SALENA DIAZ

Diaz' younger brother is 17, a senior in high school. She believes she's a good influence on him and her 11-year-old sister. She is proud to be setting a precedent for the family, and, for that, she says, her mother is ecstatic.

"It makes her even more optimistic that [my siblings] are going to be fine. College is absolutely feasible."



Engineering a Future

CODY COLARUSSO

AS A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR, WEST WYOMING, PA., RESIDENT CODY Colarusso job-shadowed at Diamond Manufacturing, where his father had worked for 20 years as a machine operator. There he met Rob Falls '09, an engineer. Colarusso was fascinated by the way Falls and his team drew on computers.

“I asked him where he went to college, and he said Wilkes,” says Colarusso, now a sophomore engineering major.

His older brother went to trade school and earned his commercial drivers license, but Colarusso would be the first in his family to receive a four-year degree. He knew he wanted a college degree and his parents pushed him to prepare. He took AP courses in high school and took a summer college-level calculus class.

The budding mechanical engineer considered other schools, but decided Wilkes was the right fit for him—and he'd be able to remain at home and maintain his part-time job. Despite getting accepted to his college of choice, he was worried about finances

because, as he describes, “we’re a family of four living on one income.” He was shocked and humbled when he got the call about the First-Generation Scholarship.

“I was very driven to attend Wilkes and because of this award I was able,” he says.

Colarusso says the engineering program is rigorous, but he knows “it will be worth it to push through.” And although much of his coursework revolves around science and math, he found an English class with associate professor and department chair Mischelle Anthony to be one of his favorites, offering a change of pace from science labs.

Colarusso says his father taught him and his brother to always do the best in every situation and “if not, to try again.” That kind of determination, and being prepared for the unexpected, he says, is a trait first-generation college students share.

“I want to succeed because I want to leave something behind,” he says. “And to give back to my parents too.”



Living for a Dream

MARGARET GALATIOTO

MOST OF HER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

classmates didn't know what platelets were. But at a very young age Binghamton, N.Y., native Margaret Galatioto did.

“I tried to understand [the medical terms] so I could understand what was happening with my father,” the sophomore neuroscience major says, explaining that he passed away from cancer in 2009.

She says her father always pushed himself to be the best at everything he did, an expectation he also held for his children. “If we got a 90 on a test, he'd ask what we could do better.” Her mom taught her the importance of family. “She prepared me for how to take care of my, I hope, future family.”

Galatioto recognized how hard her parents worked, despite financial and health obstacles; this instilled in her a desire and drive to succeed.

BEFORE THE CALL, THINGS WERE GRAY. DULL.

A constant worry. But when sophomore nursing major Kyle McHale learned he was a recipient of a First Generation Scholarship, things changed.

“It was like a curtain just dropped. We were relieved,” he says.

McHale’s father worked two jobs—as a taxi driver and a hotel laborer—and his mother worked for a call center. His hard-working parents were, and still are, his role models.



Nurturing a Career

KYLE MCHALE

Throughout high school the Wilkes-Barre native worked, sometimes up to 30 hours in a week, and helped contribute to the family finances. Balancing a job, homework and chores afforded him time management skills he transferred to college.

McHale, who commutes to campus, became interested in nursing after taking care of two autistic cousins during an entire summer. He administered medications, helped them exercise and bathe, and just assisted with simple, daily tasks.

“It’s about wanting to see a person succeed. It’s not just about helping someone you care about, it’s being with them,” he says of his desire to be there fully for his future patients.

A highlight of McHale’s campus tour was the nursing simulation center and a lengthy conversation with a professor; he was really moved by how much time she spent with him, even while he was still in “decision mode.” He says something about Wilkes grabbed him.

“What I do know is that Wilkes makes you feel like you can succeed,” he says.

McHale says that although his family struggled financially, his parents gave abundant support in other ways. The number-one thing that stands out is that his mom and dad never missed a sporting event, from T-ball to high school. He’d notice that his teammates’ families were not always in the stands.

“I’d look over and see them hang their heads if they couldn’t find (their parents),” he says. “I may not have had a lot, but in those moments, the other person was envious of what I had.”

McHale says that for students whose parents have a degree, the decision to go to college is likely more routine, something expected, constantly instilled. On the other hand, he says, first-generation college students don’t always have someone in their household to guide them through the process from personal experience.

“I chose to be here,” he says.

“Just because you don’t have ‘XYZ’ doesn’t mean you can’t try hard and achieve crazy dreams,” she says.

Her high school teachers continued to encourage her to “ask questions” and that curiosity kept her going in the “science direction.” She took college courses while still in high school—classes that involved rotations in hospitals. That’s where she fell in love with operating rooms. “I’m not a morning person, but the OR got me up at 5:30 a.m.” She also went to “mini-medical camps” as a kid and looked up to her teenaged counselors. “Now I’m that person,” she says. She helped Debra Chapman, biology education specialist, run Women Empowered by Science, Wilkes’

summer science program for middle school girls.

When Galatioto began looking at colleges, Wilkes made it to the top of her list. She loved that it was small, that students made strong connections with advisors, and that it had a strong science program. But finances were a major factor in her ability to go to college. The First Generation Scholarship Fund lowered her family’s financial burden; and to continue to help her mom with college bills, Galatioto finds time to work on- and off-campus.

“Everyone’s situation is different, but if a first-generation college student grew up watching their parents working

extremely hard ... they will be all the more motivated to persist,” she says. Her idea of success is being able to help people in the medical field, make a lasting impact on someone’s life and inspire other first-generation college students “to show them that they can do it as long as they are willing to work hard enough and believe in themselves.”

But for now, she’s content on campus. “Wilkes is my second home. When I’m in the Cohen Science Center and look out at the greenway, I realize I have a lot to be thankful for,” she says. “I’m beyond thankful for the many gifts in my life.”



PATH TO GREATNESS


CAMPUS
GATEWAY
OPENS
NEW ERA



.....> **O**nce it was simply a sidewalk between two campus buildings, a well-traveled path from South Main Street to the center of the Wilkes campus. Five months and 47,700 bricks later, it's become something more.

Joining such campus landmarks as the John Wilkes statue, the Burns Bell Tower and the Fenner Quadrangle, the new campus Gateway promises to be a defining feature on the University landscape.

Supported by a gift from alumnus Clayton Karambelas '49 and his wife, Theresa, and a \$600,000 PennDOT multi-modal grant, the Gateway provides a well-lit entrance and a cohesive centerpiece for Wilkes' city campus.

Dedicated on Oct. 2 during Homecoming weekend, the \$1 million Gateway unites the campus, extending from South Main Street across campus and South Franklin Street to the heart of the greenway. 



GATEWAY FACTS

- The metal archway at the entrance is made of structural steel tube.
- 47,700 paver bricks were used.
- The Gateway features over 2,000 plants and trees, including five red maples, 1,000 pachysandras, 55 wood ferns and 27 oakleaf hydrangeas.
- The Howard replica clock stands 18 feet high.
- It includes 11 lamp posts.
- Pedestrian crosswalks were created on South Main and South Franklin streets.
- The bases on the piers and curbs are Mt. Airy White granite from North Carolina. The cladding and caps on the piers is buff-colored limestone from Indiana, chosen to complement historic Weckesser Hall.
- Architects for the project were Derck and Edson of Lititz, Pa. Construction was coordinated by Sordoni Construction Services Inc.



Opposite page, The archway for the campus Gateway on South Main Street provides an inviting entrance to Wilkes' campus.

This page, top right, clockwise from left, Students fill the Gateway as they travel to and from class. Upper right, The Howard replica clock towers 18 feet over the Gateway. Lower right, The new path crosses South Franklin Street into the heart of the greenway. Above, The seating area outside Weckesser Hall is ready for passersby to take a seat.
PHOTOS BY EARL AND SEDOR PHOTOGRAPHIC

**MORE
ON THE
WEB**

For more information about the Gateway and to view a time-lapse video of its construction and photos of its dedication, visit www.wilkes.edu/gateway.



THE HOPE

CROWNED WITH

EVANA MANANDHAR '14
HELPS EARTHQUAKE
RECOVERY AS
MISS NEPAL

By Lori M. Myers
MA '09



Above, Evana Manandhar '14 greets the audience as she learns that she has won the title Miss Nepal World.

Below, Manandhar distributes supplies to a woman affected by the earthquake that devastated Nepal.

PHOTOS BY RAJAN MAHARJAN, LAXMI NARAYAN MAHARJAN, SAROJ PRAJAPATI AND BIBASH MAHARJAN SUWAL

Evana Manandhar, Kathmandu, Nepal
Bachelor of Business Administration, Marketing, Wilkes
Notable: Miss Nepal World 2015; Ambassador for National Trust for Nature Conservation in Nepal
Favorite Wilkes Memory: Taking a class with Wilkes University President Patrick F. Leahy and meeting inspiring mentors and professors from the Sidhu School of Business and the Center for Global Education and Diversity.

becoming Miss Nepal World 2015 was never a childhood dream of Evana Manandhar, 14, but on April 18, she won the title, viewing this international platform as a stepping stone to help others. She

didn't have to wait long to realize that goal. One week later, a destructive 7.9 Richter scale earthquake struck her homeland and Manandhar was there to offer assistance to those in need. She credits Wilkes University and her family for developing the strength that enabled her to do this important work.

"Wilkes helped build me to believe in myself," Manandhar says. "Wilkes made me conquer Miss Nepal World."

The confidence and strength were important on April 25 while she sat in her sixth-floor residence in Kathmandu, 35 miles from the quake's epicenter. As the earth shook, she ran to the basement for safety while the tallest tower in her city collapsed. Ironically, it also was Manandhar's birthday. After several days, she traveled to the devastated areas to see firsthand the results of the quake. More than 8,000 people had died and families were living in tents under harsh conditions. Manandhar went to the local airport and directed foreign relief workers to the hard-hit areas. She distributed maternity kits and sanitary products to women and counseled children in orphanages who were left traumatized by the quake and its strong aftershocks.

"I was in places I'd never been," Manandhar says. "As Miss Nepal, you become the face for the country. The women and children connected with me. If I panicked, what would they do? I created hope for them."

Now, she says, people are concentrating on rebuilding Nepal. "I felt significant and carried lots of hopes of the Nepalese on my shoulders," she says. "It was the moment to be strong. It was a great privilege to be their representative and make them realize that we are one nation, together."

Back in America, Manandhar's Wilkes community hadn't heard from her after the quake because there was no Internet service. Friends at the University were relieved when she finally posted on Facebook. In response to a request Manandhar made



Manandhar, right, gives books and school supplies to school children in her native Nepal.

on social media, the Wilkes community lit candles and observed a moment of silence on May 7 to remember the Nepalese people and the innocent lives lost.

Manandhar's dedication and the support and caring from those at Wilkes are not a surprise to Anne Heinemann

Batory, chair, Department of Entrepreneurship, Leadership and Marketing in the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership and a professor of marketing. Batory met Manandhar in fall 2011. She became her advisor when Manandhar declared marketing as her major. Batory recalls her former student as excellent both academically and as a team leader who inspired others.

"Evana is a warm and compassionate person," Batory says. "She was a friend and advisor to many of our international

students. She wanted them to be successful at Wilkes, and she enjoyed learning about their home countries. As an international student, Evana wanted her classmates to understand and appreciate the graceful beauty of Nepal, Nepalese people, and Nepali culture. She shared pictures, artwork, fabrics and stories about Nepal in class."

Manandhar came to Wilkes from Kathmandu, Nepal, and was the only student from that country. She found the University through a consultant who was helping her to apply to colleges in the United States. She says it was "luck" that brought her to Wilkes, where she found a home and a family.

Once she arrived, she quickly immersed herself in college life. Manandhar reached out to the University's Center for Global Education and Diversity, working with staff and students on socialization, education, and social events. She hosted the first Nepali New Year at Wilkes to bring awareness of the cultural diversity, ethnicity, and the traditions of her country. When she graduated in May 2014—on her father's birthday—her entire family came from Nepal and Connecticut to celebrate with her. She earned the Dean's Excellence Award in Marketing at graduation.

Manandhar will compete for the Miss World title in China in December, and continues to help her country. Wilkes, she

says, is always part of everything she does.

"I am proud to be a Wilkes alumna," she says. "I am proud to be a Colonel, and once a Colonel, always one. Wilkes



New Board Members – Back to Campus

During the May board meeting, five new members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors were elected. To help introduce them, we asked each one to talk about their favorite spot on campus.

JAMIE GWYNN '09 – Gwynn holds a bachelor of arts degree in communication studies and now works as the assistant to the township manager in Northampton Township, Pa., and also assists the Bucks County Association of Township Officials.

"My favorite spot on campus was the Henry Student Center, specifically the pool table section. I was a commuter student, and as a freshman I didn't want to travel back and forth to my home between classes so I needed a place to stay and have fun. I gravitated to the pool tables and bonded with lots of people. This became a hangout spot in between classes for a lot of us throughout my experience at Wilkes."

AMY HETRO MBA '12 – Hetro holds a master of business administration degree from Wilkes and works as an accounting professional for EDM Americas in the West Pittston, Pa., office. She is also an adjunct instructor in the Wilkes MBA program.

"My favorite spot on campus is the greenway. Because I was an MBA student, most of my time spent on campus was in the evenings or on weekends. During our breaks from class, or even between our weekender class sessions, my fellow classmates and I would gather there to study, do assignments or just relax. The change of the seasons is one of my favorite parts of the Wilkes University area and the greenway was always a great place to observe the leaves changing, snow falling, or flowers blooming."

STEPHEN MOYER '10 – Moyer graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and is the vice president of staffing recruitment at Huntsville Executive Search in Dallas, Pa.

"My favorite spot at Wilkes is the Farley Library. I loved going there between classes, whether it was to use the computers or to do work. There was just something about climbing the steps to the second floor, finding a cubicle and getting to work."

COL. MARK RADO '80 – Rado graduated with a bachelor of science degree in business education. He is the U.S. Army Accessions Support Brigade commander in Fort Knox, Ky.

"My spot is on "the hill," which overlooks the Schmidt Stadium at Ralston Athletic Complex. (Trust me, no one who knows me expects me to say the library.) When I played football at Wilkes, it was always exciting to come out of Munson Field House on top of "the hill" and march down the steps and run onto the field. Later when I watched as a student, there was no better vantage point to watch the game from. Now, when I return as an alumnus, "the hill" is the place to connect with old friends, make new friends and to rekindle memories of our time at our alma mater! Can't wait to be on "the hill" for homecoming this year!

JOHN SWEENEY '13 – Sweeney comes from a family of Colonels and graduated from Wilkes with a bachelor of science degree in accounting and business administration. He is an assurance associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Florham Park, N.J.

"My favorite spot is the Henry Student Center. While at Wilkes, I loved being in the middle of the action, and for me that almost always meant spending time in the SUB. From involvement in student clubs and organizations, fundraisers, events and just spending time with friends, most of my time out of the classroom was spent in and around the building. As a result, some of my favorite Wilkes memories were created there."

SIGN UP FOR THE COLONEL'S KIDS CLUB!

When you sign up your child or grandchild for our new Colonel's Kids Club, they will receive a birthday card each year from the Colonel. Through the years, your child or grandchild may even get a few surprises as one of the Colonel's favorite kids! To sign up, please visit community.wilkes.edu/colonelskidsclub.



Pictured with the Colonel is Jack Ference, son of Jonathan PharmD '03 and Kimberly (Hritzak) PharmD '03 Ference.



Susan Dalton Saint Onge '91 Says Thanks With Gift to Women's Soccer

Susan Dalton Saint Onge '91 left her mark as one of the Wilkes women's soccer program's inaugural team members. She's making her mark again with a gift that helped to modernize the team's locker rooms. In May 2015, Saint Onge and her husband, Kevin, who live in Fanwood, N.J., made a generous contribution of \$10,000 for the project—one that is fitting for a player who helped to build a foundation for the more than 180 women who have played soccer for Wilkes since the sport began there in 1987.

Saint Onge designated her gift to the women's soccer program because this was the area that meant the most to her while at Wilkes. "The most fun I ever had in the sport was during my four years on the Wilkes team," she says.

"Susan and Kevin's extremely generous gift made a great impact on our program, inspired our young women and helped us update our locker room space," says women's soccer head coach John Sumoski.

In this interview, Susan reflects on her experience as a soccer player and why she chooses to give back to Wilkes.



Members of the women's soccer team gather to thank Susan Dalton St. Onge '91 and her husband, Kevin, for their gift supporting refurbishment of their locker room. Pictured from left are Shelby Trumbo, sophomore; Olivia Schlottmann, sophomore; Erin Donnelly '14, graduate assistant coach; John Sumoski, head women's soccer coach; Susan Dalton Saint Onge '91; Kevin Saint Onge; Sarah Wasley, senior; Megan Binder, senior; Kate Mahoney, senior.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE WILKES MEMORY?

I have many! One of the most exciting days on campus was when the entrepreneur and publisher Malcolm Forbes arrived via helicopter to dedicate Fortinsky Hall. Winter Weekend was always fun. I remember when the men's soccer team won the 1990 ECAC Conference Title. And, of course, I remember when our team finally scored our first goal—thank you, Dawn Holser Acacio '92!

WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO BE PART OF THE INAUGURAL WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM AT WILKES?

Exciting and daunting. Those early years of the program were rough. We were, however, hard-working, dedicated and enjoyed the sport enough to show up for practice, even when we knew the odds of us winning the next game were slim-to-none. Looking back now, you could say we were pioneers, but at the time we were just young women having a blast doing something we loved.

WHAT POSITION DID YOU PLAY AND WHAT WAS YOUR NUMBER?

I played defense—full back and stopper. I changed my number each year to match my age at the time—18, 19, 20 and 21!

WHO WAS THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSON FROM WILKES DURING YOUR COLLEGE CAREER?

An influential person in my college career was former professor and field hockey Coach Gay Meyers. During my first weeks of freshman year, I experienced several personal and family tragedies. She was my academic advisor and stepped in to help me navigate through a difficult time.

WHAT DO YOU ENVISION FOR THE FUTURE OF WOMEN'S SOCCER AT WILKES?

Having witnessed the program's very humble beginnings, Coach John Sumoski has transformed this program into a high-level, world-class and well-respected program.

HOW DID BEING PART OF A COLLEGIATE TEAM HELP YOU IN YOUR CAREER AFTER WILKES?

I believe athletics plays an integral part in work dynamics. Everything you do on and off the field contributes to the team. Improving your own skills, incorporating strategies, working with others, setting common goals, sharing ideas, dealing with adversity—all of those things contribute to your individual or team's success or failure.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THE WOMEN'S SOCCER PROGRAM AS A DESIGNATION FOR YOUR GIFT?

It is important to me, to help out where I could make a difference, and to contribute to something that meant the most to me during my time at Wilkes. I recognize and appreciate the importance of women's sports programs and how often these programs are underserved, especially at small colleges.

Wayne Henninger '92 Hits Home Run as Little League Communications Executive

Wayne Henninger '92 emphasizes the importance of Little League in his life. "I played Little League, my dad played Little League, and now my son plays Little League," he says.

His personal history has come in handy as Henninger managed communications for Little League International as both a consultant and its senior communications executive. In the latter role, he managed an eight-person staff who champion Little League's message of being a community-oriented organization. Using the Little League website, newsletters and media coverage, the team sends that message to 7,000 leagues in over 80 countries.

"We constantly beat the drum of fun, friends and community," Henninger says. "And we do a lot more than just offer up baseball."

As both consultant and communications executive, his greatest challenge has been informing parents of the benefits that Little League offers over other activities available to children.

"Little League is often the first page of a person's lifelong scrapbook. I can remember riding my bike to practice, the taste of boiled hotdogs with mustard and onion, the sound of tires crunching gravel as kids were being dropped off, and those things have nothing to do with what happens on the baseball field. I also remember my teammates, the rainouts and sitting in the dugout hoping that it would stop, my first catch in left field. My challenge is to communicate all of that to parents."

Henninger solved Little League's 74-year-old problem: the lack of a direct line of communication to its most influential constituents: parents. He launched The Parent Connection, a monthly newsletter that reaches 1 million readers.

The organization also runs the Urban Initiative Program, which develops programs in major cities to give disadvantaged youth an opportunity to enjoy the game. Then there's Henninger's favorite aspect about the Little League World Series: the Challenger Division, which gives intellectually and physically challenged children the opportunity to play baseball.

"We give kids that may have been dealt a little of a diminished hand an opportunity to enjoy sport, friends and community," he says.

Henninger knows firsthand the community that sport builds. He was recruited to play basketball for Wilkes, and a campus visit convinced him that the small class sizes, reputable instructors and good communications program was right for him.

He wanted to become an ESPN Sports Center anchor, so he concentrated on telecommunications and public relations. Then an internship with the Detroit Pistons shifted his television focus to sports communications. The Pistons hired him after he graduated.

In 1998, Henninger launched his own sports-focused public relations firm, Wave Public Relations, in Washington, D.C. Clients included the Senior Olympics, Major League Lacrosse and the Pistons. He also wrote for *Sports Business Journal* and *ESPN Magazine*.

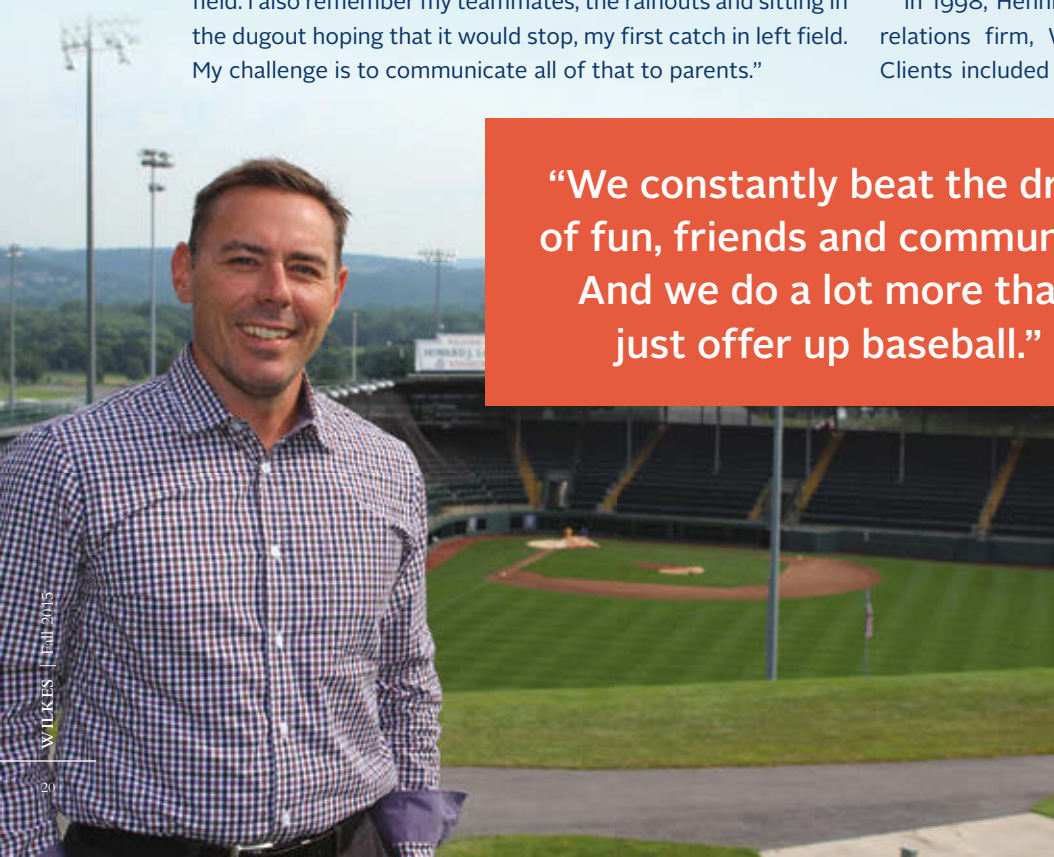
He later sold his firm and became a consultant, with Little League International as a client.

When a vacancy opened at Little League, Henninger agreed to temporarily fill the position, which lasted three years. As of Aug. 1 of this year,

he's come full circle, leaving his position to become a public relations consultant once again. And once again, Little League International is his client.

– By Francisco Tutella MA '15

Wayne Henninger '92, seen at the Little League field in Williamsport, promotes the value of Little League baseball as its communications executive and a consultant.

A photograph of Wayne Henninger '92, a man with short brown hair, smiling and wearing a blue and white checkered button-down shirt. He is standing in front of a baseball field with stadium seating and lights in the background. The photo is partially overlaid by a red text box.

"We constantly beat the drum of fun, friends and community. And we do a lot more than just offer up baseball."

Undergraduate Degrees



1965

Leslie “Toby” Tobias Jenkins and Jim Jenkins celebrated their 49th anniversary in Trinidad, Colo. Leslie also placed 17 out of 90 women her age in the Spokane, Wash., Lilac Bloomsday 12K in May. This was her 27th Bloomsday.

1969

Philip W. Herfort, Ed Havrilla ’88 and Tawny Rushoe Dietrick ’85 are part of the Repasz Band. The band was invited by the U.S. National Park Service to perform at Appomattox, Va., on April 9 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the surrender of Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia to Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at the end of the American Civil War.

1971

Steven T. Case, professor emeritus of biochemistry and associate dean for medical school admissions at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, retired after 36 years of service on the faculty. During the last decade,

he was actively engaged with the Association of American Medical Colleges in facilitating medical school admissions workshops nationwide.

1972

Robert Byrne retired from The Citadel’s Counseling Center. Prior to that, he had a 24-year career with the Army, retiring as a lieutenant colonel from the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., where he was director of the center for personal development.

Mike Hughes retired as head coach of the women’s rowing program at the U.S. Naval Academy after 18 years at the helm and 24 years total at the academy. He was named Patriot League Coach of the Year in 2005, 2008, 2013 and 2015 and completed his career with three Patriot League Championships and two NCAA Championship bids. He was also named the 2015 Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association Region 2 Coach of the Year.

1973

Shirley Davis Newhart and her husband, Bob Hainly, have both retired and relocated to The Landings on Skidaway Island in Savannah, Ga.

Ronald Yakus retired from American Greetings Corp. on July 7, 2014, after 40 years of service. He served as the southwest district sales manager for the past 25 years in Phoenix, Ariz. In January 2015, he became the senior

trader and a principal for The Reserve Financial Group, specializing in options and equities trading. He and his wife, Susan, reside at The Encanterra Country Club and Resort in San Tan Valley, Ariz.

1974

Christine Mayo Donahue returned to her native Kingston, Pa., to play the role of Wilkes-Barre native and world’s worst opera singer Florence Foster Jenkins in a special presentation of “Souvenir: A Fantasia on the Life of Florence Foster Jenkins” at Wyoming Seminary’s Kirby Center for the Creative Arts. She teaches voice at the University of Central Arkansas.

Sharon Rodgers Naples became grandmother to Gemma Faith Benulis, born July 30, 2014. Naples is president and owner of

Freelance Associates Inc., a graphic design, advertising, marketing and promotional product consulting and distribution firm named best local ad agency in 2014 by the *Times Leader* Luzerne County Reader’s Choice Awards. Naples and her husband, Gary, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on May 10, 2015.

1975

Bob Lehman retired from Honeywell Aerospace in July. He resides in Peoria, Ariz., with his wife, Melanie. They have three children and six grandchildren.

1976

William J. Goldsworthy Jr. was named executive director of the American Red Cross Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter. The chapter covers Luzerne, Lackawanna, Susquehanna and Wyoming counties.



1967

Gerard “Jerry” McHale was named to the American Bankruptcy Institute’s Commercial Fraud Committee. The expert committee is at the forefront of fraud investigations and regularly publishes notices and alerts to others in the field, some of which help shape changes in national laws governing commercial fraud. McHale is a certified public accountant who specializes in bankruptcy, large-scale consumer fraud and litigation support. He has been involved in major national fraud and Ponzi scheme investigations for over 40 years—some of which have been featured on CNBC’s program *American Greed*.

1977

John Jastrem was appointed chief executive officer of North American business at Arcadis, the world's leading natural and built asset design and consultancy firm.

Bruce Lear earned his Six Sigma Master Black Belt certification. He was also promoted to vice president of Global Sales for Hale Products Inc.

1980

Robert "Bob" Gaetano completed his first term as Kane Area School District superintendent of schools. He previously served as the Loyalsock Township Middle School principal in



1977

Richard A. Russo, a partner in the law firm Rosenn Jenkins & Greenwald LLP, was selected for inclusion in the 22nd Edition of The Best Lawyers in America in the area of Personal Injury Litigation—Plaintiffs. This is the second consecutive year that Russo was selected for this honor. Russo is the chairman of the firm's personal injury practice. Russo serves on the board of directors for the Kevin Kitchnefsky Foundation for Spinal Cord Research. He lives in Dallas, Pa.

Williamsport, Pa., and as an adjunct faculty member for the Wilkes Educational Leadership Program.

Thomas Ralston was featured in public service announcements released by the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance. The commercials are part of an outreach effort for survivors of the Boston Marathon bombings. The commercials can be found at www.AskMOVA.org.

1982

Donna Fromel joined Lewith & Freeman Real Estate at the company's Shavertown, Pa., office.

Anthony Vlahovic was a finalist for the 2014 Special Olympics North America Coach of the Year award. He was nominated by Special Olympics New Jersey for initiating and coaching baseball in the state's Special Olympics movement. A former Major League Baseball player, Vlahovic was among 15 individuals named as finalists.

1985

Tawny Rushoe Dietrick – See Undergraduate Degrees 1969.

1988

Ed Havrilla – See Undergraduate Degrees 1969.

1990

Jason Griggs and his business partner, Matt Cubbler, were featured in *Entrepreneur* magazine for their business, MaxOut Strength Systems.



1978

Bob Welsh volunteers on weekends as a scuba diver in the shark tank exhibits at Adventure Aquarium, Camden, N.J. He recently performed as "Scuba Santa" and was equipped with a microphone and earphones to speak with audiences during the show. He encourages Wilkes alumni to contact him to arrange for private "back stage" tours.

1993

Carmela Fox was named assistant vice president of human resources at Allied Services Integrated Health System.

1994

Jonny Perloff, along with two other inventors, patented inventions relating to devices and methods for treating damaged, diseased or traumatized portions of the spine. Perloff works for Globus Medical. He lives in Neffs, Pa.

1996

Jill Raspen was named a finalist for the Montgomery County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Award. Raspen is a sixth-grade English resource and classroom teacher at Ridgeview Middle School in Gaithersburg, Md. She was recognized for implementing technology such as Google learning apps

in the classroom and leading a pilot program for the county's 21st Century Learning Spaces Initiative to bridge the divides between individual learners.

1997

Paul Bracken, senior environmental engineer at Arcadis, received Engineering News-Record's "Top 20 Under 40" award, which recognizes young professionals in all facets of design and construction. Bracken received the award from **John Jastrem '77**, chief executive officer of Arcadis' North American business.

1998

Jennifer Morrell Jordan was married to Craig Jordan in 2013. The couple reside in Lynchburg, Va. Jordan is pursuing a master's degree in nursing at Wilkes.

Taking A Bow: Corinna Sowers-Adler '99 Receives Tony Nod for Education Efforts

For Corinna Sowers-Adler '99, the old adage holds true. It really is an honor just to be nominated. During the spring, Sowers-Adler received an unexpected message telling her she had been nominated for the first-ever Excellence in Theatre Education Award, presented by the Tony Awards and Carnegie Mellon University. According to the Tony website, the annual award was created “to recognize a K-12 theatre educator in the U.S. who has demonstrated monumental impact on the lives of students and who embodies the highest standards of the profession.”

“It was pretty thrilling to get that email, ‘You have been nominated for a Tony Award,’” says Sowers-Adler. “The coolest part is you get nominated by your students.” Sowers-Adler has worked with hundreds of young singers and actors during her career.

“It was pretty thrilling to get that email, ‘You have been nominated for a Tony Award.’”

Following her graduation from Wilkes with a bachelor’s degree in theatre, she served as director of the Wilkes University Conservatory program for ten years. She also held the position of artistic director of children’s

Corinna Sowers-Adler '99 leads the cast in a song from *Urinetown, The Musical*, at the Gas Lamp Academy of Performing Arts in Glen Ridge, N.J.



theatre at the Pocono and Bucks County playhouses. She currently serves as executive director of the Gas Lamp Academy of Performing Arts and Gas Lamp Players in Glen Ridge, N.J., where she directed this summer’s camp production of *Urinetown: The Musical* for students in grades 8 – 12.

While she enjoys nurturing young talent, Sowers-Adler also has a busy career as an artist in her own right. She runs NiCori Studios and Productions in Bloomfield, N.J., with her husband and fellow alum Nick Adler '00. Since 2010, she’s been performing her cabaret acts at venues throughout New York City. “As much as I miss Wilkes, it’s been the best thing for my career,” says Sowers-Adler. “Since moving closer to the city, my singing career started to take off.”

Next up for Sowers-Adler are two performances of her critically acclaimed cabaret show “High Standards” on Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. and Nov. 1 at 4 p.m. at the Metropolitan Room, 34 W. 22nd St., New York, NY. Featuring the award winning pianist Alex Rybeck, “High Standards” spans a variety of classic and contemporary tunes mixed with witty banter.

Though her schedule doesn’t allow for much free time, Sowers-Adler is not complaining. “In my business, it’s a blessing to be busy. It’s good to be working on lots of projects and I kind of like it that way. I’m singing for my supper.”

To learn more, visit Sowers-Adler’s website at www.corinnasings.com.

– By Kelly Clisham, '12 MA'15

1999

Thomas Quinnan was appointed to the board of directors at Johnson College, Scranton, Pa. He is vice president of engineering at Leeward Construction Inc., Honesdale, Pa.

Jennifer Radzwillowicz was elected the 2015 Pennsylvania Junior Chamber (Jaycees) state president.

2001

Angelina Cardoso graduated with a master’s degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of St. Joseph.

2005

Sabrina Naples Benulis and **Michael Benulis** welcomed their daughter, Gemma Faith Benulis, on July 30, 2014. The family resides in Drums, Pa. Sabrina’s second book in the dark fantasy trilogy *The Books of Raziell*, titled *Covenant*, was published by Harper Collins in April 2014. The third

and final book in the series, *Angelus*, will be released in November 2015.

Julian Morales MBA '08 is now director of admissions at Penn State Law in State College, Pa.



2005

Darron Fadden and his wife, Jessica, welcomed a daughter, Lillian Harper, on July 24, 2014. Lillian weighed 7 pounds 13 ounces and measured 20.5 inches long.

2006

Miranda Heness Philbin was featured on Restaurant Startup on CNBC Prime on March 10, 2015, with her company, Peculiar Culinary Company.

Jody L. Post and **Steven S. Lada** were married Dec. 31, 2014, at the Beaumont Inn in Dallas, Pa. The bride is a program specialist at the Institute for Human Resources and Services in Kingston, Pa., and a therapist for Community Counseling Services, also in Kingston, Pa. The groom is a police officer.



2008

Marc Honrath and **Brianna Bertoni Honrath** were married on June 12, 2015, in Rehoboth Beach, Del. The groom is a captain in the U.S. Air Force. The couple resides in Ohio.

2008

Jackie Klahold MS '15 started a new job at Penn College as head softball coach and senior women's administrator.

2010

Kimberly Pham and **Dominic Serine** were married on May 30, 2015, by Moosic Mayor James Segilia at the Woodlands Inn and Resort, Plains Township, Pa. The bride is a physician assistant at Intermountain Medical Group. The groom is a trade finance specialist at Bank of America.

Andrew Seaman was named member of the month for July 2015 by the Society of Professional Journalists. He is chairman of the organization's ethics committee. Seaman is senior medical journalist with Thomson Reuters in New York City.

2013

Sheila Cook was named head women's basketball coach at Alvernia University, Reading, Pa.

2015

Kyle Romm was hired as an engineer at HNTB Corp., Philadelphia, in the company's transportation/highways department.

Graduate Degrees

1991

Brian Rinker MHA was named senior vice president of the northeastern Pennsylvania region at Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield.

2005

Melissa Leedock PharmD was hired at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center to implement specialty pharmacy services.

2008

Julian Morales MBA – See Undergraduates Degrees 2005.

2010

Ryan Hess MBA – See Undergraduate Degrees 2009.

Luciana Musto MA is director of advancement for the NativityMiguel School, Scranton, Pa.

2011

Amye Archer MFA earned the Provost Part-Time Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching from the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa. She has taught courses in composition, business writing and creative writing at the university for five years and serves as the Writing Center coordinator.



2009

Amanda Michaud Hess and **Ryan Hess MBA '10** were married on March 18, 2015, at Square Jean XXIII in Paris, France. The bride is a physician assistant at Maricopa County of Public Health. The groom is a student recruiter for Wilkes University's Mesa Campus. The couple resides in Chandler, Ariz. They are pictured outside the Louvre Museum.
PHOTO BY FRAN BOLONI



2013

Amanda Dougherty Ward PharmD and **Theron Ward PharmD** were married on May 30, 2015.

2012

Kevin McCormick MBA was promoted to vice president at Fidelity Bank.

2015

Jackie Klahold MS – See undergraduates 2008

In Memoriam

Remembering Robert S. Capin '50 Wilkes' Third President Left Mark as Leader and Teacher

When Robert S. Capin '50 was appointed Wilkes University's third president, his comment to *The Beacon* reflected his lifetime commitment to the institution. "I consider it an honor to serve as president of Wilkes. The job is a particular thrill to me, because I have participated in all phases of the Wilkes College family—first as a student, as faculty member, as academic dean, acting president and finally as president," said Capin, who earned a bachelor's degree in economics.

The only one of Wilkes' six presidents to graduate from the University, Capin, who passed away on June 22, 2015, made a significant impact on the Wilkes community in most of those roles. The late U.S. Circuit Court Judge Max Rosenn headed up the presidential search committee that selected Capin, and he lauded his "unique ability to deal with problems firmly and fairly and, at the same time, command the respect of faculty, student body and administration."

As a Navy veteran of World War II, Capin began to develop the leadership skills that would serve him well at Wilkes. One of his most challenging roles as president was tackling the enormous debt load after rebuilding the university from the Agnes flood in 1972. He used his leadership skills and accounting experience to enable the school to operate in the black nine years in a row. He also executed two multimillion-dollar capital campaigns leading to a new residence hall—Founder's Hall which later became Evans Hall—and renovations of several historic facilities on campus.

Tom Kelly '69, professor of management at Binghamton University, was fortunate to have worked with Capin, first as a student and later as a colleague at Wilkes. In the eulogy he delivered at Capin's memorial service, Kelly stated, "His endearing personality, his knowledge of accounting, and his excellent teaching skills made Bob an excellent professor. And I know of these excellent teaching skills because I benefited in 1967 from taking an accounting course with Bob—and I have modeled some of his effective teaching techniques to this very day." After Kelly earned his doctorate in higher education administration from Cornell in 1977, Capin brought him back to serve as a dean on his senior staff. They traveled together extensively in support of Wilkes.

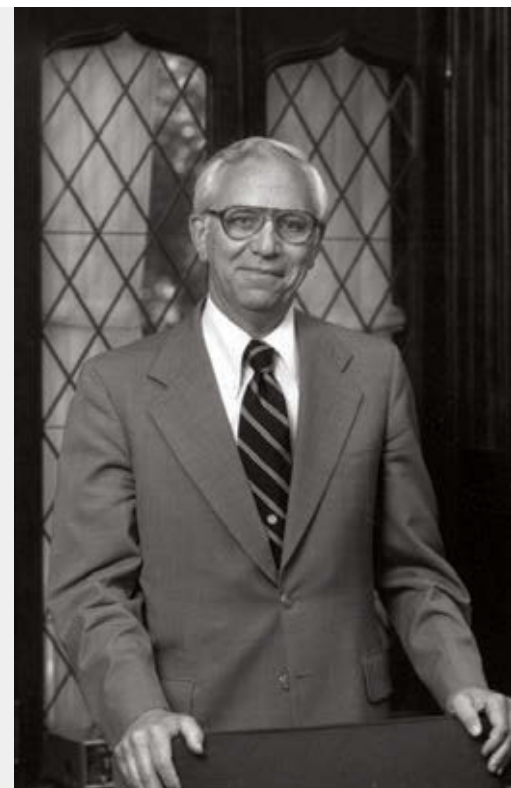
"His endearing personality, his knowledge of accounting, and his excellent teaching skills made Bob an excellent professor."

– Tom Kelly '69

Many former students remember him as a passionate and invested teacher. His academic standards were high, and he believed that all students deserved a quality education. To that end, the Robert S. Capin Teaching Chair in Accounting was established, as well as the Endowed Scholarship in Accounting for freshman accounting majors.

Education was a vital and important part of his own life. He earned a master of business administration while teaching part-time at Wilkes and working as a certified public accountant, first at Laventhol & Horwath and as comptroller for Sitkin's Metal Trading. He ran his own business as a certified public accountant from 1959 to 1974. He was later awarded an honorary doctorate.

Community also was significant to Capin, who worked with many non-profit organizations. He was always supported by his family, especially his wife, Libby, who encouraged him in all his endeavors. Capin was proud of his daughters, Deborah and Ellen, and his son, David, and his grandchildren, Jeffrey, Mark, Abigail, Claire, Rea, Joshua, Aaron and Shira. Capin's many accomplishments helped to make Wilkes University a place where a quality education was the only option. In eulogizing him, Kelly said, "His combination of abilities made him a renowned teacher whose classes quickly filled every semester. Many of his former students whom he personally mentored and counseled went on to be partners with the largest and most prestigious accounting firms in the world: KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Ernst & Young, and Deloitte. Bob was, indeed, a master teacher and masterful mentor."



Robert Capin '50, Wilkes third president, used his finance and accounting skills to secure a period of financial stability during his tenure.

1942

June Owens, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., died April 26, 2015. She taught mathematics in the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and retired from Myers High School in 1988.

1944

Alex Kotch, of Golden, Colo., died March 8, 2014. He was a research chemist for DuPont Co., program director for organic chemistry at the National Science Foundation, professor and associate chair of the chemistry department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, assistant director for Information and Education at the Solar Energy Research Institute, and director of research and program development and professor of chemistry at the University of North Dakota-Grand Forks.

Janet Post Phillips, of Shavertown, Pa., died Jan. 24, 2015. She owned a small dress shop, 3 Brook Street. Phillips worked at Maternal and Family Health Services Inc. until her retirement.

1947

Harris Roy Boyce, of Whitehall, Pa., died Dec. 18, 2014. He was employed at Duquesne Light Co. for 40 years as an electrical engineer. He also served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

1949

John F. Holbrook, of West Amwell, N.J., died March 19, 2015. He taught and served in school administration in the Westfield, N.J., school district for 35 years. He was a World War II veteran.

1950

Joseph P. Brennan, of Shavertown, Pa., died Feb. 28, 2015. He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was a licensed stockbroker at Butcher and Singer in Philadelphia, returning to the Wyoming Valley to manage the firm's Wilkes-Barre office. He retired as a financial advisor from Wells Fargo in 2011.

Donald Rau, of Berwick, Pa., died July 15, 2015. He was plant manager at Laros Textile Co. in Kingston, Pa., and later plant manager and vice president at Lady Esther Lingerie Corp.

1951

Delbert McGuire, of Cartersville, Ga., died March 2, 2015. He managed stores owned by the W.T. Grant company. He was a U.S. Army veteran and served during World War II. He is preceded in death by his wife, **June Persing McGuire '49**. He is survived by his son, **Richard '74**.

1952

John Albert Sauciuinas, formerly of Kingston, Pa., died April 1, 2015. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service and was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

1953

Victor Turoski, of Neenah, Wis., died June 18, 2015. He was an analytical chemist at Carter Wallace, the American Can Company, and James River Corp.

1954

John J. Wojnar, of Williamsville, N.Y., died Oct. 16, 2014. He served in the U.S. Navy in the Korean War and was a Naval Reserves

commander. He was a research chemist and worked in sales at Occidental Petroleum, Niagara Falls, N.Y.

1955

Lawrence J. Nicholson, of Wilmington, Del., died March 12, 2015. He was a charter member of the teaching staff at Brandywine High School and later became director of personnel/pupil personnel services and assistant to the superintendent. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War.

Charles A. Williams Jr., of Sugar Notch, Pa., died May 7, 2015. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force in the European Theater during World War II and was employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Wilkes-Barre.

1958

Lee W. Eckert, of Dallas, Pa., died June 17, 2015. He enjoyed a four-decade career as a structural engineer, working with the Wilkes-Barre firms Lacy, Atherton and Davis, and Quad Three Engineering, from which he retired as vice president.

Gerald Minturn, of Santa Cruz, Calif., died July 26, 2014. He worked at IBM for 28 years and taught as an adjunct professor of computer science at State University of New York at Binghamton. He later relocated to Silicon Valley and joined Cooper & Chyan Technology as vice president. He was a U.S. Marine Corps Korean War veteran.

Mary Craig Pugh, of Warner Robins, Ga., died July 4, 2014. Pugh worked in accounting at Miners Bank, West Hazleton, Pa., and at banks in Warner Robins, Ga. She was in-school suspension teacher at Northside Elementary School, Warner Robins, Ga.

Shirley Ginz Putt, of Phoenix, N.Y., died Aug. 24, 2014. She served as a registered nurse in the U.S. Navy.

Jacqueline Oliver Stevens, of Guilford, Conn., died May 21, 2015. Until her 2004 retirement, she served as reference librarian and head of reference at the Guilford Free Library.

1959

Lisa Chilson, of Virginia Beach, Va., died Aug. 12, 2014. She worked as a registered nurse for over 30 years, concluding as senior clinical analyst with the Clinical Documentation Team at Sentara Healthcare, Va.

Don E. Wilkinson Jr., of Upper St. Clair, Pa., died January 23, 2015. He was an administrator of local Pennsylvania taxes for many years.

1960

Donald E. Stein, of Dallas, Pa., died April 20, 2015. He worked for Exxon Mobil Corp. and retired as district manager after more than 30 years with the company.

Richard Rawley Wileman, of Prospect, Ky., died March 1, 2015. He worked in sales and marketing in Pennsylvania, New York City and New Jersey before relocating to Kentucky.

1961

David Lee Gottshall, of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., died Nov. 19, 2014. He had a long career in sales and business management, retiring from Doughboy Recreational as vice president of sales and marketing.

Tom Williams Jr., of Liberty, Mo., died April 22, 2013. He was a colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, serving two combat tours in Vietnam. He retired from the military in 1987 and later served on the Richmond (Mo.) Zoning Board.

1964

Clinton G. Hess, of Mechanicsburg, Pa., died April 4, 2015. He was a supervisory systems analyst from the U.S. Navy Fleet Material Support Office and later worked for PNC Bank.

1966

Robert L. Deets, of Hellertown, Pa., died May 1, 2014. He owned and operated the Robert L. Deets & Associates financial planning and insurance agency.

1968

Arthur “Art” Tevethan, of Westerville, Ohio, died April 10, 2014. He was director of reinsurance for Nationwide Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio. Following his retirement, he was CEO of Reinsurance Recovery Solutions.

1969

Owen “Jim” Costello, of Mountaintop, Pa., died March 28, 2015. He served as executive director for the Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board from 1974 to 1982. He was president and CEO of the Keystone State Games.

1970

Dan F. Kopen, of Shavertown, Pa., died May 26, 2015. Kopen, a former member of Wilkes Board of Trustees, was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the American Society of Breast Surgeons. He earned a medical degree from Penn State Hershey Medical School, a master’s degree in healthcare administration from King’s College, a Six Sigma black belt from Villanova University, and a juris doctorate from Concord University.

1971

Albert Martin, of Harveys Lake, Pa., died March 25, 2015. He served as pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Queens, N.Y., and Christ Lutheran Church, Floral Park, N.Y., for 25 years.

1975

Dominick Pannunzio, of Dupont, Pa., died March 23, 2015. After receiving his law degree, he served as assistant district attorney for Luzerne County and had a law practice in Dupont.

1976

William B. Urosevich, of Lewisburg, Pa., died May 6, 2015. He was an optometrist for 30 years, operating Urosevich Eye Associates in Lewisburg. He also was professor of human anatomy and physiology at Pennsylvania College of Technology, Williamsport, Pa. In 1989 Wilkes University honored him with the Distinguished Young Alumni Award. He is survived by his wife, **Patricia Reilly Urosevich ’77**, and brother, **Thomas ’82**.

1980

James Davis, of San Rafael, Calif., died May 15, 2015. He was chair of the economics department at Santa Rosa Junior College.

1985

John M. Stich, of Glen Allen, Va., died on June 30, 2014. He worked at Acosta Sales and Marketing as director of the Super Valu office in Richmond, Va.

1992

Jacquelyn Cunningham, of Norristown, Pa., died June 10, 2015. She worked for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

2005

William B. Palmer, of West Hazleton, Pa., died Dec. 2, 2013. He was last employed by Tobyhanna Army Depot.

Faculty

Patricia (Boyle) Heaman died June 8, 2015. A professor emerita of English at Wilkes, she chaired the department for 12 years. She established the Writing Lab, now known as the Writing Center, making it an integral part of the department. Heaman graduated from Wilkes in 1961 and earned her doctorate in English literature at the University of Pennsylvania. She was devoted to teaching and scholarship, her mentorship of her students and colleagues and her commitment to her community and social justice. She served on the boards of the League of Women Voters and Planned Parenthood of Northeast Pennsylvania and was instrumental in establishing the White Haven Area Community Library. She is survived by

her husband, Robert, professor emeritus of English.

John F. Myers died May 5, 2015. A professor emeritus of history, Myers joined Wilkes in 1969. Teaching was his first love and he was a specialist in American colonial history and the American early national period. He also was called upon to fulfill many roles during more than 30 years at Wilkes. In addition to teaching, he filled a half dozen administration roles. In 1986, he became associate dean of academic affairs and, in 1990, added the title and responsibilities of registrar. He served as registrar until his retirement in 2001. He is survived by his long-time companion Mary Ann Merrigan, associate dean of the Wilkes School of Nursing.

Friends of Wilkes

Arnold S. Rifkin, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., died Aug. 3, 2015. Rifkin served as a Wilkes University trustee from 1980 until 1997 and served as board treasurer for three years. His many contributions to the University include the donation of the student residence known as Rifkin Hall and the lobby of Evans Hall, another student residence. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, he served in World War II in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Rifkin was president of A. Rifkin Co., a company started by his father that was a part of Wilkes-Barre for more than a century. Along with his wife, Sandy, he was a community leader, supporting a variety of Wyoming Valley organizations. In addition to his wife, Rifkin is survived by his three children, **Michael ’76**, Jody and Kathleen.

Jane Lampe-Groh Leaves Legacy in Lives of Students She Mentored

Jane Lampe-Groh, dean of student affairs emerita, joined Wilkes in 1969 as dean of women after Wilkes' first president, Eugene Farley, interviewed her for the position. She later served as associate dean of student affairs and then dean of student affairs until retiring in 1997.

In a 2008 interview, Lampe-Groh recalled her first meeting with President Farley. She said, "What impressed me about Dr. Farley was that he talked a little bit about the college, and then he talked extensively about the students. That just hit me right between the eyes. This is the kind of place I wanted to be."

Lampe-Groh showed her commitment to the University's students through the hundreds of relationships she formed. With her passing on May 7, 2015, she was remembered by alumni whose lives were touched by her mentoring.

Shelley Freeman '82, now head of Consumer Credit Solutions at Wells Fargo & Company, remembers Lampe-Groh as "an extraordinary voice of student advocacy" and a source of strong personal support. Freeman recalls Lampe-Groh's smile and warm embrace, her ability to deliver a funny story deadpan, and her unmistakable laughter. She says, "Dean Lampe-Groh was the living representation of our Wilkes motto: the power of independent thinking."

Several alumni discussed Lampe-Groh's influence in shaping their careers. Sarah Vandermark '96, director of the Advising Success Center at New Jersey Institute of Technology, says that Lampe-Groh took her under her wing as a freshman and later encouraged her interest in working in higher education.

"During my senior year, Dean Lampe-Groh allowed me to create an independent three-credit course and learn about the different departments on campus," she says. Her interactions with Lampe-Groh led Vandermark to pursue a master's degree in counseling and higher education and a doctorate in counselor education.

"I truly believe my passion for change, helping students succeed and advising students came when I met Dean Lampe-Groh and thought to myself, 'One day, I want to be just like her,'" Vandermark says.



Jane Lampe Groh, dean of students emerita, touched the lives of many students during her time at Wilkes.

Michael T. Beachem IV '98, associate director of residence life at International House Philadelphia, remembers how nervous he was when Lampe-Groh approached him in the Pickering Cafeteria and asked to speak with him upon finishing his lunch. "I worried in vain," he says. The dean wanted him to consider taking part in Inter-collegiate Leadership Wilkes-Barre, which she advised. The program led to his future leadership roles as a resident assistant, yearbook editor and class president.

"As a young closeted gay man, that confidence in me was life-changing," Beachem says. "Dean Lampe-Groh knew how to bring out the best attributes of her students and encourage our abilities. She knew so many of us on a personal level. I remember driving back from an event in her car and she put on a Barbra Streisand CD. Intentional or simply a fan, I'll never know, but I do know that she knew us all before we knew ourselves."

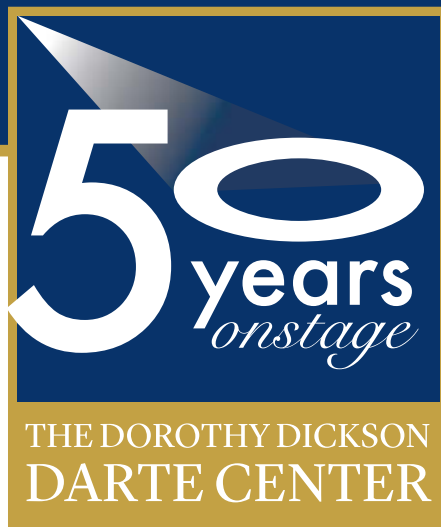
She also will be remembered as the wife of the legendary associate professor emeritus of English and theatre arts and Wilkes theatre arts program founder, Al Groh '41. They were married in 1977 in the Kingston home they shared until Groh's

death in February 2013. Beachem says, "The love they shared by opening their home and heart to so many Wilkes students over the years left an indelible mark on so many Wilkes alumni."

In the Spring/Summer 2013 issue of *Wilkes* magazine, family members recalled the couple's devotion. "You don't find many couples so utterly content with each other," said Chris Miller '83, Groh's nephew. His sister, Alison Miller Kovalchik '79, added, "It was a beautiful love story."

"I truly believe my passion for change, helping students succeed and advising students came when I met Dean Lampe-Groh."

– Sarah Vandermark '96



JOIN US FOR A
CELEBRATION
OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

Join us as we honor the past, celebrate the present and anticipate the future of the performing arts at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center.

An evening of music, theatre and dance performances and special reminiscences is planned to mark the 50th anniversary of the Darte Center and the special place it holds as a home for Wilkes University's performing arts programs.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015 • 8 P.M.

Please RSVP by visiting <http://www.community.wilkes.edu/DDD50>.

Patrons requesting accommodations or services at Wilkes University or Wilkes University-sponsored events in accordance with The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III: Public Accommodations are asked to contact the University at 1-800-Wilkes-U to request such services/accommodations. It is recommended that requests be made at least 48 hours prior to any event.

calendar of events



Wilkes Homecoming.
PHOTO BY KNOT JUST ANY DAY

October

- Through Oct. 11 Blair Seitz: Aerial Perspectives, 12–4:30 p.m., Sordoni Art Gallery
- 15–18 Fall Recess
- 24 Family Day 2015
- 24 Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts 50th Anniversary Celebration, 8 p.m.

November

- 12 “Economic Espionage: Don’t Be a Victim” featuring alumnus William Evanina ’89, 7 p.m., ballroom, Henry Student Center
- 13–22 Wilkes University Theatre Presents: *Shout! The Mod Musical*, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m., Darte Center
- 14 Admissions Instant Decision Open House
- 15 Empty Bowls benefiting local food banks, ballroom, Henry Student Center, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
- 18 Gardner Lecture Series: “How Do We Measure What We Know: The Controversy Over Standardized Testing,” 1–2 p.m., Breiseth 206
- 25–29 Thanksgiving Recess

December

- 6 Civic Band Concert, 3 p.m., Darte Center
- 7 Chamber Orchestra Concert, 8 p.m., Darte Center
- 10 Jazz Orchestra Concert, 8 p.m., Darte Center
- 11 Chorus/Chamber Singers Concert, 7:30 p.m., St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church
- 13 Flute Ensemble Concert, 7:30 p.m., Darte Center
- 14 Fall Classes End

January

- 4–15 Intersession 2016
- 8–15 Graduate Creative Writing Program Residency
- 10–14 Maslow Faculty Reading Series, Graduate Creative Writing Program, 7 p.m., Darte Center
- 18 Spring Semester 2016 Classes Commence
- 23 Wilkes University Admissions Open House