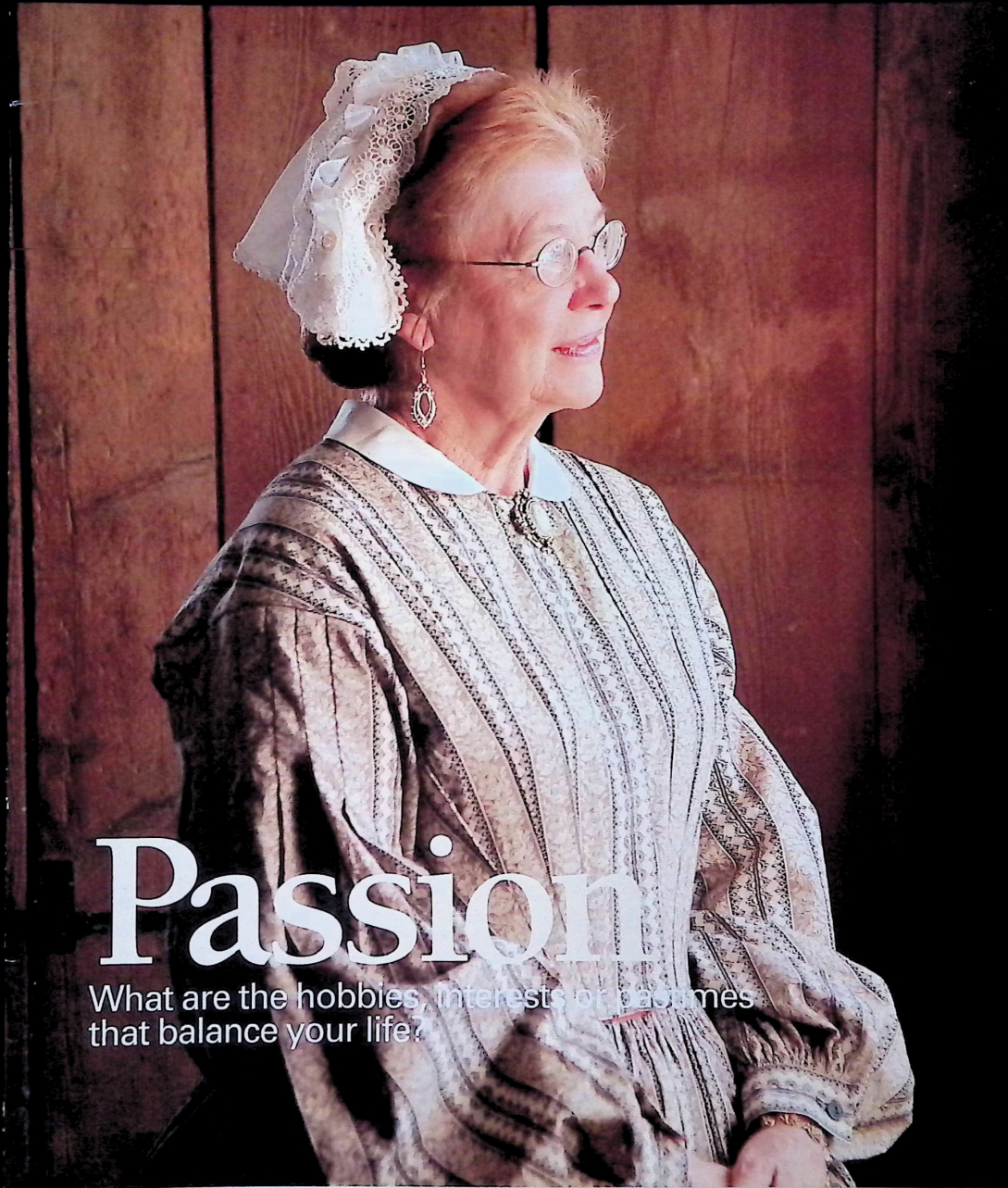


WILKESuniverse

The voice of Wilkes University Alumni

VOLUME TWELVE, ISSUE ONE



Passion

What are the hobbies, interests or passions that balance your life?



Someone who believed in me

BY DR. TIM GILMOUR, WILKES UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

BY ANY MEASURE, WILKES ALUMNI ACHIEVE SUCCESS IN THEIR CAREERS. WE educators like to claim a fair degree of credit for this achievement, citing the proven blessings of the liberal arts, dedicated faculty, superior facilities, a curriculum focused on career opportunities and the advantages of the Wilkes "reputation" conferred on each graduate.

None of these attributes, however, quite captures the gratitude that I hear from our most distinguished alumni. Years ago, someone at Wilkes truly believed in you. It may have been an athletic coach, the theatre professor or the faculty advisor to the debate team. This person made a difference in your choice of a career, your aptitude for rewarding work and became a role model for a life of purpose and dedication. We call this marvelous human interaction by a host of names, but for our purposes, let's call it mentoring.

Mentoring is as old as humankind. It is the unselfish passing forward of wisdom from one generation to another. The word is derived from the Greek — Mentor — a friend of Odysseus who was entrusted with the education of Odysseus' son, Telemachus. Mentoring in our world is a voluntary, individual activity — freely entered into by the persons involved. Take away this freedom of choice and you can still have learning, as in "learning the ropes" on British warships. Put the State in charge of mentoring and you witness the weird world of Sparta. We know what is good about mentoring and that it has been a significant part of the Wilkes experience. Will it become an even bigger part of our future?

This University will be dedicating itself over the next year to investigating how to turn the mentoring experiences we currently provide into a powerful, individualized experience for every student. Indeed, we want Wilkes to be known for providing the best mentoring experience in the country for alumni, students, faculty, and our staff. It will be University wide and it will be what we are about as an institution and a culture. We believe that mentoring lies at the heart of a superior education. Over the next several issues of the *Universe*, we will be reporting on our efforts to build a great mentoring program, and we will be calling on many of you to help us in this major undertaking. (!)

Tim Gilmour

WILKESuniverse

VOLUME TWELVE, ISSUE ONE

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SPRING 2005

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 rigorous and education necessary for career and intellectual development as well as for personal growth. It engages 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 traditional strong student-faculty relationship in all its programs, attracts and retains outstanding faculty members, and is committed to the highest standards of academic excellence, community involvement, and individual respect within the campus community.

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On the cover: Mollie Back '56. Photo by C. Kurt Holter.

ASSOCIATIONnews



WILLIAMS

Development Announces New Leadership Team

Marty Williams was recently appointed Vice President for Development. Marty will serve as the University's chief fund raising officer and will oversee the development and alumni relations offices. Prior to joining Wilkes, Williams served as senior resident director and consultant for "The Campaign for a Brighter Future" at Lycoming College, Williamsport, Pa. where he directed a \$42 million campaign. Throughout his career, he has served as director for a variety of capital campaigns including the \$1.5 million community capital campaign for WNNN Public Television. He has also served as vice president for advancement at The University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Salisbury University and Washington College. At Salisbury University, Williams achieved 1st place among 13 Maryland institutions conducting capital campaigns, raising more than twice the original goal. Outside of academia, Williams served as an account executive for Dean Witter Reynolds and Wheat First



BEHM

Securities and is registered as a financial consultant with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Williams earned a bachelor of arts degree in English Literature and a master's degree in psychology from Washington College and has completed research and special studies at Oxford University's Manchester College, England.

William F. Behm began as Executive Director of Development on January 31, 2005. In this capacity, Behm will manage the operations and staff of the department including individual giving, planned giving, major gifts, Wilkes fund, special events and research. He will also be responsible for developing strategies, work plans and objectives to launch and complete a successful capital campaign.

Behm previously served as director of major gifts and planned giving and director of annual giving programs at King's College. He was also the managing director of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Vector Control Association's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.



ZABRISKI

He is the president-elect of the Wilkes-Barre Rotary Club, vice president of the Wyoming Valley Serra Club and immediate past president of the United States Naval Academy Parents Club of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Behm also serves as a board member for the Mountain Top (PA) Area Joint Sanitary Authority and the Wyoming Valley Children's Association.

Behm earned his bachelor of arts from King's College and master of public administration from Marywood University.

Michele Zabriski was recently appointed Director of Individual Giving. Michele will manage the Wilkes Fund, the community business campaign and the Wilkes family campaign.

Prior to joining Wilkes, Zabriski served as an alumni and development specialist at Penn State Wilkes-Barre where she directed and organized the Annual Fund, administered the student mentor program and created, reviewed and approved the annual donor report. She also coordinated various events and trained students for the phonathon.



WILKES HOSTED AN ALUMNI RECEPTION IN CALIFORNIA. FRONT ROW: DR. PAUL ADAMS '77, DR. TIM GILMOUR, DR. PAUL BROWNE, ANNA MAE STANLEY '91, MARTY WILLIAMS, ARTHUR WILLIAMS '44. SECOND ROW: REBECCA VAN JURA, STUART JED '68, JEAN ADAMS '78, JAMES OGDEN, HELEN LE '04, PETE GUINOSSO '91, BILL HARRIES '89, ED NOWICKI '88, DR. JESSE CHOPER '87, DR. DAVID WELLS, ANN WILLIAMS, KOUNDE ARSENE.

She previously held the position of administrative campaign secretary of institutional advancement at King's College, where she managed the president's dinner and provided research information for cultivation and solicitation visits. Zabriski also managed data entry and support for the Harris Survey project. She is a member of the Back Mountain Business and Professional Association and the King's College Alumni Association.

Zabriski earned an associate degree in business administration from King's and a bachelor of arts in English writing from King's.

Register Now for A Taste of Italy!

Join the Wilkes Alumni Association and friends June 15-24, 2005, to experience the wonders of Italy — from Venice to the Island of Capri. This unique trip offers all the advantages of group travel plus the freedom to pursue

personal interests — shopping, sightseeing, dining. The cost is \$1,875 per person, based on double occupancy, and includes taxes. A \$250 deposit is required to reserve your spot.

Connecting arrangements can be made no matter where you live. Visit our web site at: www.wilkes.edu/alumni/events/italy.asp for more information.

California Recap

In late September and early October, Wilkes President Tim Gilmour, V.P. Development Marty Williams, V.P. Student Affairs Paul Adams along with Dr. Paul Browne, Dean of the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership and Dr. David Wells, Director of the Division of Engineering and Physics, hosted alumni receptions in Los Angeles at the Manhattan Country Club, Manhattan Beach, Calif. and in Berkeley at the Faculty Club on the

campus of the University of California, Berkeley where Jesse Choper ('87) is a faculty member.

Dr. Browne and Dr. Wells described and explained current programs and future plans for the Sidhu School and the Engineering and Physics Department.

During the reception at the Manhattan Country Club the Christmas episode of the television show "The O.C." was being filmed. The Faculty Club reception in Berkeley happened to fall upon the night of the first Presidential debate which made for interesting conversation among the diverse attendees and their political affiliations.

The responses at each gathering were overwhelmingly complementary and everyone had a wonderful time visiting with old friends and meeting new friends, as part of the University's alumni relations outreach efforts.



ANGIE CARDOSO '01 (WITH MATT MCCAFFREY '94, M'97, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS) VOLUNTEERED HER TIME TO REPRESENT WILKES AT A COLLEGE FAIR NEAR HER HOME IN CONNECTICUT.



AMY (SCHUKIS) SHEEHAN '91, PICTURED WITH HUSBAND JAY, RECENTLY MET WITH PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND PARENTS AT COLLEGE FAIRS IN THE HARTFORD, CONN. AREA.

Recruiting Assistance

Alumni Amy (Schukis) Sheehan '91 and Angie Cardoso '01 recently represented Wilkes and assisted in recruiting efforts at college fairs in the Southern New England area. Amy, a vice president at Westbank Corporation in Springfield, Massachusetts, attended fairs at South Windsor High School and Glastonbury High School near Hartford, Conn. Angie, a math instructor at Platt Technical High School in Milford, Conn., represented Wilkes at a fair at St. Joseph High School in Trumbull, Conn. Amy and Angie shared their Wilkes experiences with prospective students and parents and fielded questions about

academic offerings, campus activities and athletics.

As Wilkes builds on two consecutive years of record enrollment, alumni who wish to assist with recruitment, or represent their alma mater at events such as college fairs are encouraged to contact Matt McCaffrey '94, M'97, associate director of undergraduate admissions at 1-800-WILKES-U, ext. 4104 or mccaffrc@wilkes.edu.

Alumni Association Looking For Mentors

The Wilkes University Mentoring Program provides career networking opportunities and facilitates better

career decision-making for students and alumni through the exchange of information, development of professional contacts and the sharing of professional experiences. The program, developed by the Alumni Association, matches a student or Wilkes alumnus with a mentor in a career related to the mentee's academic major or career experiences.

While expanding the experiences of the students or alums, mentoring also enriches the lives of those alumni who choose to participate as mentors. It adds to their life experience and brings the satisfaction of knowing they've helped a young person find a path in life.

The Mentoring Program is looking for alumni to become mentors. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please call Nancy Weeks at 1-800-WILKES-U ext. 4130. Or log on to www.wilkes.edu for more information.

Alumni Benefits

As a member of Wilkes University's Alumni Association, you are entitled to a number of special benefits including: *e-Newsletter*

Go to www.wilkes.edu/alumni to sign up for a monthly email newsletter to help keep you updated on Wilkes events.

Group Insurance Program
Liberty Mutual Insurance offers a special discount on auto and homeowners insurance for alumni. Call 800-526-1547 for more information.

Hotel Discount Plan
Your S.O.S. (Significant Organization Savings) card will save you 20% on any member of the Choice Hotels International including Sleep, Comfort, Clarion, Quality, Ridgeway, Econo Lodge and Main Stay Suites. 111

SEE SOME OLD FRIENDS...



& MEET SOME NEW ONES.



Homecoming 2005

September 23 - 25

www.wilkes.edu

Relive the memories.



THE OFFICE OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT COORDINATES A HOST OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS. PICTURED ABOVE ARE A GROUP OF STUDENTS WHO RECENTLY ATTENDED THE SALVADOR DALI EXHIBIT AT THE PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART.

Well-rounded... well prepared

BY DAWN LEAS

Learning opportunities outside the classroom prepare today's students to become tomorrow's leaders.

LEARNING AT WILKES IS MORE THAN GOING to class, taking tests, completing projects and checking courses off a required list while inching toward a diploma semester after semester. The undergraduate experience at Wilkes is a four-year journey that is multi-purposed, multi-layered and interconnected. It is no longer "good enough" to direct all energies in one area. To do a job well today, people need to cultivate a stable of skills including core knowledge of field of study, interpersonal skills, team thinking, and leadership. And the University is making strides in creating an atmosphere in which students have many opportunities to hone skills, realize talents, and become well-rounded as they

get ready for the real world.

At Wilkes, students are encouraged to look beyond the classroom and academics to outside activities that not only enhance the educational experience, but also nurture personal development.

A FEW POSSIBILITIES...

According to Philip J. Ruthkosky, director of student development, a goal of his office is to "offer diverse and creative programs that allow all students with different backgrounds and interests to participate." The Office of Student Development encompasses community service, internships, leadership programs, student activities, the multicultural affairs office and campus interfaith. Offering a cross-section of

programs including volunteer opportunities, work experience through internships, outings to sporting and cultural events, skydiving, rock climbing, skiing, and ice skating, Wilkes allows students to learn through experience.

He added, "We are capturing the value of experiential learning. (We) act as liaison between the classroom and the real world."

Community service opportunities at Wilkes are many and varied including Habitat for Humanity, Red Cross Blood Drives, and Alternative Spring Break programs. Ann Loyek, coordinator of community service, believes that service is a learning experience that helps students grow while creating a sense of social responsibility and self-awareness.



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS SUCH AS LAST YEAR'S SUCCESSFUL TOY DRIVE FOR HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO GIVE OF THEIR TIME AND TALENTS. PACKING BOXES WITH TOYS AND GAMES FOR CHILDREN AT THE JANET WEISS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN DANVILLE, PA. ARE (LEFT-RIGHT): DEANA SABOL, AMANDA EDWARDS, LINDSEY HANNA AND REGINA HINKEL.

"Overall, we help link students with service opportunities in the community," Loyek explained. "(It) is a two-way street; we are the bridge between them."

Studying abroad for a semester, a summer or an academic year is also an option for students to learn more about their majors and how their fields of study relate globally while also having the experience of living in a new country and culture.

Dr. Waghi Taylor, professor of International Business and Economics, organizes a spring break trip abroad for the students in MBA 598 Global Business Experience and BA 398 International Business Experience. This year she accompanied 49 students and several chaperones to London, Paris, Brussels, Frankfurt and Amsterdam to study these large financial centers of the world. The group spent two days in each city with tour directors giving educational presentations at various sites. Dr. Taylor feels that whether the students are business majors or using the course as an elective, the trip teaches them that global thinking is the future.

"I really enjoy the fact that there are

no limits to the lessons learned through travel," Dr. Taylor said. "I like the fact they will always remember the educational experience they get from these journeys."

The bottom line is that well-roundedness is achieved by getting involved - doing community service, playing a sport, working on a play, joining a club, taking an educational trip abroad, completing an internship, studying in a foreign country or writing for *The Beacon* or *Manuscript*. The possibilities are literally endless.

A LARGER VIEW...

The world is growing smaller every day. Students are finding employment with international companies, working with people of diverse backgrounds, and traveling for business. As the world becomes more interrelated,

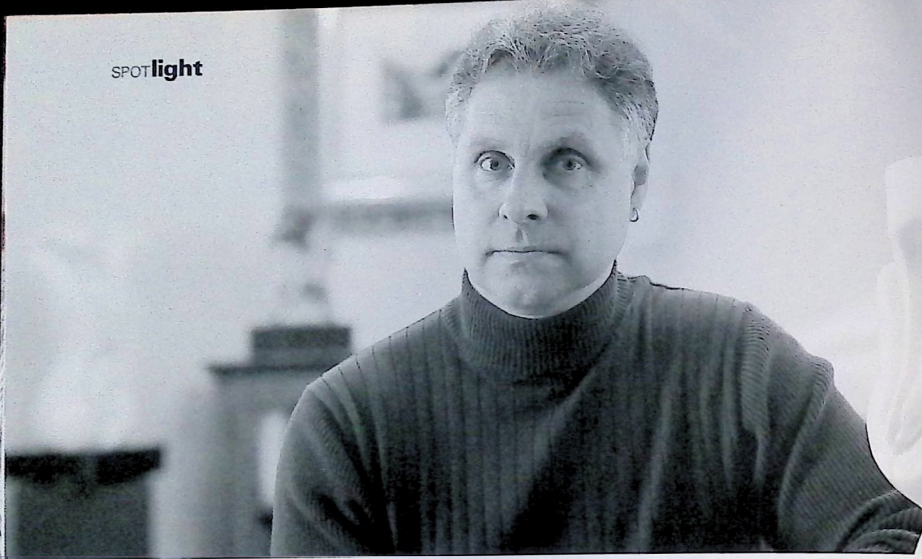
"We are capturing the value of experiential learning. (We) act as liaison between the classroom and the real world."

PHILIP J. RUTHKOSKY
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

learning needs to as well. Students are now seeing the importance of participating in group activities and hands-on experiences to gain knowledge for tomorrow.

Dr. Maravene Loeschke, Wilkes University Provost, explained that often times outside activities can strengthen the skills students are learning in academic disciplines. She also pointed out that well-rounded students are better prepared for professional success. To achieve this, Wilkes faculty and staff act as guides in a very active and deliberate advising process to help students select extracurricular activities that best fit their needs. For example, a student who lacks team experiences may be directed to join a sports team or a play to learn skills that can be carried over into a first job.

Personal independence. Community responsibility. Awareness of self and of the big picture. Solid academic foundations complemented by innovative extra and co-curricular activities that aim to produce exceptional students who are well-prepared for life after college. The educational experience at Wilkes is continually strengthening and adapting to an environment that is becoming more and more globally connected. ■



TEACHER AND SCULPTOR DENIS YANASHOT M'01 AND '03 IN HIS HOME IN SCRANTON, PA.

Earl & Sedor Photographic

Never stop learning

BY KALEN CHURCHER '97

For some teachers, summertime means furthering their own educations. For others, it's a chance to finish those put-off-until-tomorrow tasks. Whatever the situation, vacations allow for the 'me-time' that is often forgotten during the school year.

WHEN SCHOOL LETS OUT for the summer, teachers are often quick to immerse themselves in their favorite pastimes. Dr. Michael Speziale, Wilkes' director of graduate teacher education, who himself enjoys woodworking when time permits, says that behavior ultimately enhances what teachers have to offer.

"The richer their background, the more they can bring to the classroom. It's applying your mind in a different way."

Painting initially drew Denis Yanashot M'01 and '03 to art. The Scranton, Pa.,

resident wielded an airbrush and spray gun and attacked oversized canvases to create his pieces. Today, he's all but retired those materials.

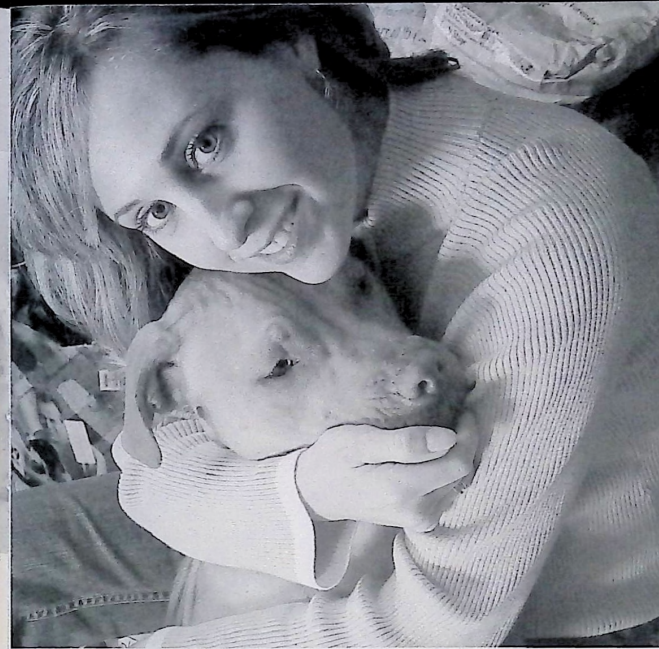
"I don't even want to paint anymore. I just want to carve stone," Yanashot explained. "I still keep a studio on my third floor, but there hasn't been anything on the easel for some time."

An art instructor at Riverside Junior/Senior High School in Taylor, Pa., Yanashot teaches three-dimensional design, including ceramics and sculpture. For him, summer signifies eight-hour workdays in his outdoor studio, carving multi-hundred-pound

slabs of stone. The process begins in springtime when he heads to Vermont to choose the stone. Typically, he leaves with a few pieces and an occasional antique or two (another passion of he and his wife, Mary Grace).

Eventually, the Wilkes alumnus hopes to carve enough large pieces — about 20 — to hold a gallery showing. And even though Yanashot would love to spend every day carving, he beams when he tells of a student's work displayed at a prestigious art gallery.

"It's nice to see your students get awards. You think, maybe they did get something from (class)."



TRACY KAUFFMAN M'03 WITH HOMER, AN EIGHT-MONTH-OLD PIT-BULL MIX AT THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF HARRISBURG'S EAST SHORE SHELTER.

One might say it just wasn't in the cards — or in this case the tiles — for Jeff Baird to become a millionaire.

Baird, who received an Instructional Technology Specialist certificate from Wilkes in 2003, spends most of his time as a learning support and lead technology teacher at South Mountain Middle School in the Allentown (Pa.) School District. But not so long ago, the Trivial Pursuit aficionado, prompted by his wife and son, auditioned for — and secured — a seat on ABC's *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire*.

"From the day I got the phone call, 'til the day that I got on the show, I don't think there was a second that it wasn't in my head," Baird recalls. "I studied my butt off."

Unfortunately, Scrabble wasn't on his study list, and Baird vividly remembers the question that stopped his \$1 million quest.

In the game of Scrabble, what does a red square signify?

Out of lifelines, most of whom were Wilkes professors or students, he left the game with \$8,000 and show host Meredith Vieira to provide the answer: *triple word score*.

Millionaire or not, it was an exciting break. Baird, also an instructor in Wilkes' Graduate Teacher Education Program, stayed in the same hotel as romance novel heartthrob Fabio, and managed a passing hello to Millionaire's original host, Regis Philbin. "It was very exciting and intimidating... the whole process was like being king for a day."

There's no doubt the dog days of summer are a favorite for Tracy Kauffman M'03. As a reading support teacher, head teacher, and instructional support teacher at South Lebanon (Pa.) Elementary School, Kauffman has minimal free time. And as summer rolls into place, her pace only quickens.

For five years, Kauffman has volun-

teered at the Humane Society of Harrisburg and is a founding member of "The Fur Ball," held annually in November. Last year's formal event, that included a live and silent auction, raised \$37,000, bringing the Balls three-year total to \$83,000.

"I love animals, and I grew up on a horse farm (in Bucks County, Pa.)," Kauffman explained. "We learned to respect and have compassion for animals from my parents."

That compassion has led her to rescue pit bulls and involve her entire school in collecting food and supplies for the local animal shelter. The project is something in which the children become very involved. "The first year, (donations) lined up and down the hallways. That pumped up the kids and they wanted to do more."

With the 2004 Fur Ball barely behind her, the Wilkes alumna is already gearing up for this year's event. And with summer vacation only a few months away, a time when she does much of her volunteering, it's likely she'll be stepping out of the classroom and into the kennel very soon. ■



JEFF BAIRD ON THE SET OF ABC'S WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE.



FIELD HOCKEY PLAYER ALICIA CAIN '07 ABANDONS HER CLEATS AND STICK FOR JODPERS AND A SADDLE WHEN SHE RIDES TRINITY AFTER CLASS AND ON WEEKENDS AT A STABLE NEAR CAMPUS.

Juggling more than grades and games

BY STEVE BENNETT

FOR SOME STUDENT-ATHLETES, juggling time between athletics and academics can be tough. Rarely is there enough time for anything more than books, practices and games.

But for three Wilkes University student-athletes, there is more to college life than just the classroom, athletic fields and gymnasiums.

Sophomore Alicia Cain of Hummelstown, Pa., not only plays field hockey, but also rides horses. Senior John Muscarella is a wrestler, but has his artwork displayed in a storefront in downtown Wilkes-Barre. Beth Horn, a freshman from Flemington, NJ, is on the tennis team, but when she is not returning serves or rushing the net, she is a semi-professional BMX bike racer.

They are all certainly unique interests, but interests they obviously enjoy.

Cain grew up around horses and her mom, Theresa, liked to ride as well. However, there was one problem for Alicia — she was allergic to horses. Forced to wear a surgeon's mask when she began riding at age 13, she eventually grew out of having to wear the mask and now travels throughout Maryland and Pennsylvania for competitions.

"I was determined to do it when I was 13," Cain said. "I had a pony when I was little. My mom's background helped me out a lot. I was very lucky she was interested. Now, my mom has one of my older horses."

Cain's current horse Trinity, made the trek from Hummelstown to Northeast Pa. with her when she

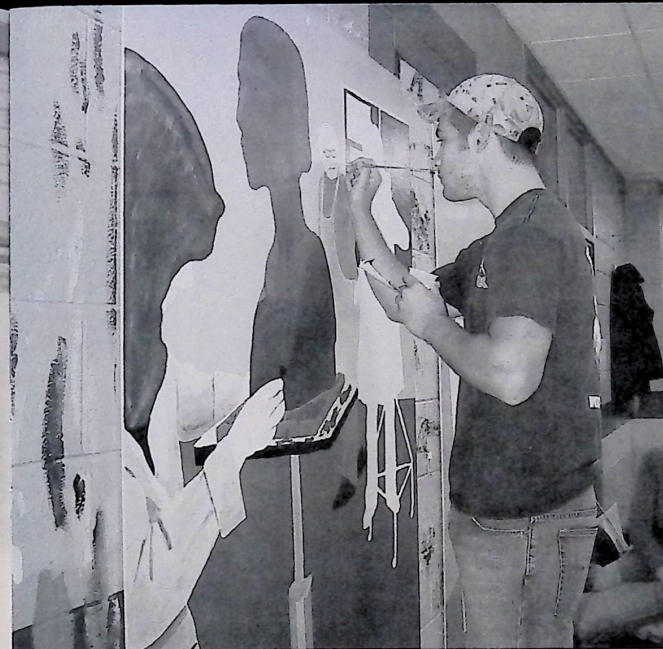
enrolled at Wilkes. Cain wanted to make sure there was a place for Trinity to stay before she came to college. During the field hockey season, Cain rides about three times a week. After the season, the number jumps to about five or six times per week.

"I have done a lot of flat work," Cain said. "Within the past few years I have gone to competitions in Maryland and Pennsylvania and next year I am going to go to New Jersey."

Cain's accolades include the first level GMO (Group Member Organization) and the Luzerne Championship. Riders are considered Junior Young Riders until they turn 21. There are eight regions in the United States and she took first place for her division.

Because riding horses is a passion, the pharmacy major recently founded an Equestrian Club at Wilkes.

"The club is for people who want to learn about horses. I hope by the time I graduate, it will be a club where we could compete competitively. I have talked to a lot of people on campus who



OFF THE MAT, GRAPPLER JOHN MUSCARELLA '05, TAKES TO PAINTING, PRINTMAKING, AND PHOTOGRAPHY.

are interested in horses."

While Cain is out riding horses, John Muscarella is painting murals. The business major with a minor in art, has taken an art class every semester he has been at Wilkes and credits his art teacher, Sharon Bowar, with keeping him interested.

"She was the driving force behind it," Muscarella said.

Muscarella painted a mural that hangs in the Stark Learning Center and recently took part in a project to help beautify empty downtown storefronts in Wilkes-Barre.

Muscarella took his first art class when he was a sophomore at Riverdell High School (N.J.) and continued once he got to Wilkes. While he has no idea how far his art will take him, he plans on continuing to pursue his interest.

"I still plan on doing it," Muscarella said. "I don't know where I will go with it, but it is something I enjoy doing."

Muscarella has also taken classes in

sculpture, ceramics, watercolor, photography and printmaking.

When Beth Horn is not attending classes or playing on the tennis team, she is out riding her bike. But she is not on your typical bike ride through the Wilkes-Barre area. She is a competitive BMX racer with an eye on the Olympics in 2008 when it becomes a medal sport.

She began riding quads in 2000 with her father. But with her mother thinking quads may be too dangerous, she settled for dirt bikes — a decision that has definitely turned out for the better.

"I grew up around racing and I have been racing for five years," Horn said. "I turned Elite when I was 16."

Horn currently has ten sponsors and mostly races in her home state of New Jersey. She practices during the week in the Wilkes-Barre area and has been to Harrisburg to race on occasion. She currently ranks second in the state and 21st in her region.

"I practice March through December and during the week I practice in Wilkes-Barre," Horn said. "I mostly compete in New Jersey."

What has helped her career is training with Greg Morgan, also a New Jersey native who is No. 1 in the World. It is that experience which she hopes will help her get to the Olympics.

"That's definitely a goal," Horn said. "There are national competitions all over. I have never been to the grand nationals."

Despite already having ten sponsors, in order to get to the world competition she needs to find a national sponsor.

"I'm looking for some new sponsors, I need a national sponsor to get to worlds, that is what I am training for right now. This is something that is really fun and I enjoy doing it." ❗

FRESHMAN TENNIS PLAYER, BETH HORN, IS AN OLYMPIAN-IN-TRAINING... FOR THE NEW BMX BIKE RACING MEDAL COMPETITION.



"You do not annex a hobby,
the hobby annexes you...
What is a hobby anyway?
Where is the line of demarcation
between hobbies and ordinary
normal pursuits?"

— SAND COUNTY ALMANAC

Passion

FOR THREE WILKES UNIVERSITY GRADUATES WHO ZEALOUSLY PURSUE INTERESTS

THAT ARE ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY, THAT LINE FALLS AWAY AS EASILY AS SAND THROUGH WATER.

WHETHER TRACKING BIG GAME IN ALASKA, ENTHRALLING AN AUDIENCE WITH A MAGIC TRICK

OR BREATHING LIFE INTO A CIVIL WAR CHARACTER WHO'S BEEN DEAD FOR DECADES,

THESE WILKES ALUMNI DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE TIME, MONEY AND ENERGY

TO WHAT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS TRUE PASSIONS.

BY DAWN SHURMAITIS

Why such dedication? According to Wilkes University psychology professor Dr. Carl Charnetski having interests outside work and family can lead to personal satisfaction, a sense of meaning and a degree of happiness rarely found anywhere else. "Balance is an important piece of life," says Charnetski, co-author of "Feeling Good is Good for You." The book details how pleasurable activities such as eating chocolate and even petting a dog can boost your immune system. "If you're truly interested in something, a pleasurable activity can help keep you healthy," says Charnetski. Maybe that explains why Americans spend more than \$25 billion a year on crafts and hobbies.

For Dr. Jay Ungar 70, it comes down to this: "My magic is my life." For Mollie Back '56, Civil War re-enactment served as an antidote to sorrow, an interest that broke through the fog of grief that enveloped her after her husband died. For Edward Mollahan '81, an investment banker who spends his work days practically attached to three phone lines, a computer and his cell phone, big game hunting provides the perfect solution for stress. Ungar goes one step further, incorporating tricks into his medical practice as a "magic formula" for a long, healthy life. No matter what their interest, each steadfastly supports diversions that beckon long after the work day is done. "If I didn't enjoy it, I wouldn't do it," says Back. "It's where your interests take you. They become your life's work."



Dr. Jay Ungar at his practice in Long Meadow, Mass.

Denise Sm in Photography

"Go to sleep with a clear conscience. Be proud of the reflection that greets you in the morning. Find your passion and live it. Sweat the details. You'll stand out in a crowd. Always say hello."

A MAGIC TOUCH

Uttered by magicians everywhere, the word "abracadabra" actually comes from the Hebrew expression "I create as I speak." For dedicated magicians like Ungar, magic is far more than mere "tricks." The real magic is in the connection between the magician and the audience. Ultimately, Ungar tries to make people feel better, whether they're friends at a party or patients at the other end of his stethoscope. "There is a definite overlay between medicine and magic," he says. "I've got my family, my medicine, my friends and my magic. It's all rolled into one."

A big believer in helping others, Ungar also spreads wisdom learned from more than 25 years as a doctor to students and aspiring physicians. In a lecture entitled "Making Magic Happen,"

he offers the following set of rules: "Go to sleep with a clear conscience. Be proud of the reflection that greets you in the morning. Find your passion and live it. Sweat the details. You'll stand out in a crowd. Always say hello."

"This prescription will make magic happen," says Ungar, an internist as well as a geriatric specialist in Massachusetts, where he treats (and tricks) patients aged 16 to 106. "I really believe people are pretty much the same, regardless of age," he says. "If you treat everybody with respect and dignity, and make them feel special, you'll transcend age." At the end of each office visit, Ungar asks patients if they want to see some magic. "People who've been coming to me for years say 'Doc, I'm fine. Let's get to the fun stuff.' It's the whipped cream and cher-

ry on top of the visit."

Ungar's fascination with magic — feared as the devil's handiwork in medieval Europe and outlawed in the British colonies — dates to first grade, when someone pulled a nickel out from behind his ear. "It was like 'shazam.' I read all the magic books I could," he says. He continued practicing and performing magic through medical school and residency, taking lessons along the way from some of the top magicians in the world, including Slydini, a true master of misdirection. The brand of magic Ungar has mastered is called "close-up" magic, a very intimate magic relying more on sleight-of-hand card and coin tricks instead of disappearing rabbits, sawing people in two and the like.

For Ungar, the "shtick" is the trick.

"When you're out in the wilderness you have a lot of time to think, from 'What am I doing here?' to 'How am I going to pursue my quarry?'"

Instead of mere "now you see it, now you don't," Ungar incorporates stories about his own experiences, feelings and beliefs into his act to further enthrall his audience. He has so many stories he's written a 250-page book called, "Bringing Magic to Life." The book, which he hopes to publish this spring, is his take on magic, medicine and life. The "author" is Ragnu (Ungar, spelled backwards). "I'm a kid at heart who likes to share the excitement and wonder of magic with others," he says.

Along the way, Ungar's amassed a library of illusion that's as extensive as his medical library. He also religiously attends magic conventions, always on the lookout for that next, great trick.

Magic, he says, helps keep his energy level up, his mind sharp and his body healthy. It also makes him feel good, especially when he performs at charitable functions. "When people take up magic as a vocation, they get stuck on it. People who are into magic, are really into magic. I think passion is really important in life."

A BIG HOBBY

When Ed Mollahan '81 talks about hunting, he becomes almost Zen-like in his descriptions. From the start, he says, it was never about just bagging a deer. "A lot of people think hunting is just 'I have a gun. A deer runs in front of me. I shoot it.' It's really not about

the shooting," says Mollahan, a Sr. VP for JP Morgan Chase & Co., in New York City. "It's about the tracking, the understanding of the animal's habitat. When you're out in the wilderness you have a lot of time to think, from 'What am I doing here?' to 'How am I going to pursue my quarry?' It's not just about killing something."

For Mollahan, there's his career. There's his wife and two children. And then there's hunting. It's an activity that fills his life — and his house. He now has so many animal heads and antler racks in his office he's seriously considering adding on another room to his Andover, N.J. home. When he isn't actually hunting, or planning a hunt,

Mollahan is reading about hunting, honing up on his woodsman and survival skills with magazines like *Field and Stream*, *Outdoor Life* and *Peterson's*. Is he obsessed? Charnetski says no. "Only in the extreme can activities become detrimental — if a hobby interferes with your life in some way and becomes counter-productive."

In a typical year, Mollahan might spend upwards of \$7,000 on his hobby. Aside from the cost, such trips also mean time away from work and family. So far, Mollahan's wife has proved supportive. As balance, Mollahan spends most of his weekends with his kids, coaching ball and volunteering at his community recreation center. Luckily,

his children — aged 13 and 7 — are both into hunting and target shooting. Will they ever join him on the trail? "Ultimately," he says, "it's up to them."

Mollahan's interest in the outdoors began as a child, when his grandfather would take him and his three brothers fly fishing in what was then rural New Jersey. During visits to family near Wilkes-Barre, Mollahan would hunt small game like pheasant and rabbit with a 20-gauge shotgun. He eventually graduated to deer hunting. In the late 1980s, he began pursuing bigger game like mountain goats, pronghorn sheep, elk, black bear and even grizzly bears.

For him, hunting is a social activity, something he shares with boyhood

pals he expects to grow gray with. It also provides the best possible relief to the demands of a strenuous job. "It's a counter balance to work," he says.

"Investment banking can be crazy." So far, his most remote big game hunt has been to Alaska's rugged Brooks Range. His first trip took place in 1997, with two friends. The camp was so remote they had to charter a small plane and ride on horseback to get there. There was no noise. No lights. No nothing. Except animals. "Alaska is crazy. You see all these moose, wolves and bears walking around. In some cases, the animals have never seen humans before. It's a really different experience."

Camping in mountains 7,000 feet

"I don't care if you're 25 or 75 — I talk to cabbages or kings. I enjoy people. You've got to keep active and keep your spirits up."



Mollie Back at the Lightner Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast in Gettysburg, Pa.

C. Kurt Hoyer

above sea level, dealing with torrential, tropical-like downpours by day and snow at night, tracking prey for 12–14 hours a day. It wasn't exactly Cancun. Mollahan loved it. "It's one thing to go to a farm in Pennsylvania and sit in a tree stand. It's another to go to Alaska. You better be prepared," Mollahan says. "It can drop +0 degrees in one day."

Nature's hazards aside, just consider this: an Alaskan grizzly can weigh 1,300 pounds and stand more than 10 feet high. "If you get close to him, you better have a high caliber rifle," Mollahan says. Seeing a bear close up, in the wild, like that can be completely unnerving. There's an element of risk you thrive on. You don't want to err."

On another trip, the crew set their sites on rams. But not just any rams. Rams with horns that curled at least 38 inches. Trophy rams. Using \$2,500 spotting scopes, the hunters spent most of the first few days hiking up and down mountains in pursuit of the perfect horn. Eight days in and the closest they came was a ram whose horns measured a mere 37 inches. Not good enough. "It can be nerve wracking," Mollahan says. "It was legal to shoot rams that were smaller. But that wasn't what we wanted." They ended up going home empty handed.

To Mollahan, the trip was still worth every penny — every considerable penny. Big game hunting is not cheap. According to a recent U.S. Fish and Wildlife survey, nearly 40 percent of U.S. adults — or 77 million people — spend about \$101 billion on wildlife-related pursuits annually. Big game hunters must calculate airfare, licensing fees, equipment, outfits, guide fees and gear (Mollahan owns about 14 shotguns, rifles and muzzle loaders). A

single excursion can run into the tens of thousands. And that's not counting taxidermy fees. Typically, hunters donate the bulk of their kills to homeless shelters near where they hunt. They take home the skin and the head, in special packing. The biggest concern is breakage. Horns can be fragile. "Once, I literally carried a set of horns through Newark airport on my back. That got a lot of looks."

So far, Mollahan has hunted in all but one of Canada's provinces, Alaska, Florida, Texas, New Mexico, North and South Dakota, Montana, Illinois, Maine, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Wyoming, where he got caught in a blizzard for nearly three days, stuck in a snow drift with winds blowing 40 mph. The goal is to "shoot bigger" than the last hunt. So far, the biggest animal Mollahan's bagged has been an 850-pound elk from Canada. Yet, he insists it's not about the size or even the kill. "For a lot of guys, a successful hunt depends on whether they kill something. When you're paying a lot of money you can understand that. But, for me, I'm not going to harvest an animal unless it's a quality animal."

He takes one hunting trip a year. Coming up: South Dakota, for white tail and mule deer. Nirvana? Africa. But with a safari running at least \$15,000 — and two college funds to consider — it may take a while. "I enjoy the challenge in anything I do, whether it's work or family. It's all a different challenge. It makes life interesting. I love it."

A CIVIL ACTION

Mollie Back '56 remembers the exact moment she decided to take back her life. Her husband, Pete '61, had died of

kidney and heart failure. In mourning, she had an epiphany. "I was sitting in the rocking chair watching TV, just listening to the clock tick and a light bulb went on over my head. I thought 'I've got 20 or 30 more years to go. I'm not going to just sit here in this rocker.' I was in a blue funk for three years. It takes a while to really sing again." For Back, what brought her back to the land of the living was a deepening interest in Civil War re-enactment.

Charmetski says hobbies and interests are a great way to combat depression, which is often highlighted by periods of great inactivity. "A marked symptom of depression is an inability to get pleasure," he says. "You've got to get yourself up and moving."

Back went so far as to move all the way to Gettysburg, the Civil War's most hallowed ground. But before she did, she became a devotee of re-enactment, which is one of the fastest growing hobbies in the United States. One of the many web sites dedicated to the pastime says re-enactment "reinforces our sense of pride in our heritage... it's something in which the entire family can participate. It's educational and, finally, it's a great way to escape the worries of today and 'pretend' in the great outdoors."

Immersed (and encouraged by her three grown children), Back pored over Civil War books, diaries and battle accounts. She was hooked on history, taking as many adult history classes at the community college as she could. Eventually, she became a civilian interpreter at the historical home of Mt. Ida, at the ruins of the Patapsco Female Institute in Ellicott City, MD and at the Schriver House in Gettysburg. She's also an experienced storyteller of dra-

matic Victorian tales, or ghost stories, and is the founder of "The Historical Impostors," a group dedicated to first person impression.

"I'd never been a storyteller my whole life but I thought 'Why not?'" Now, Back considers herself the "female Stephen King." "If I can't scare the beejeebers out of someone I haven't done my job," she says. She uses a set of Civil War books on ghosts as a launching pad, but embellishes as she sees fit, turning the stories into 90-minute dramatic presentations. She tells her stories to Girl and Boy Scouts, church groups and even at local B&Bs. She's also co-authored "Ghost Encounters," tales of the supernatural.

As with any hobby or passionate interest, there are special nuances to consider and master. In Civil War reenactment terms, "first person" means speaking to fellow re-enactors and the public in the "persona" of someone living through the 1860s. When she's in character, Back speaks as though the War Between the States is current — as Mrs. James Pierce, a Gettysburg civilian and mother of four whose husband is a butcher. Mrs. Pierce offers a pretty strong opinion on President Lincoln, in town for the Gettysburg Address.

"Lincoln was not welcome. Everybody thought he was a buffoon. But I was so impressed by that speech, my impression changed," she says, speaking as Mrs. Pierce. In addition, Back is also Mrs. Phelps, headmistress of the Patapsco Feminist Institute, which was in existence from 1832-91. She also becomes Mrs. Disney, who owned a hotel (and is no relation to Mickey).

Truly dedicated re-enactors generally avoid anything "farby," a term for any-

"If you're truly interested in something, a pleasurable activity can help keep you healthy."

DR. CARL CHARNETSKI
WILKES UNIVERSITY PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR

thing not typical of the period, such as a plastic mug or a polyester uniform. Some take their interest even further. The re-enactors who insist on a historically accurate impression — down to fabric and buttonholes with the same thread count typical of the time — are called "stitch nazis." Back — who is NOT a stitch nazi — nonetheless wears seven layers of Civil War era clothing, including a hoop skirt. Her clothing is not a costume, she's sure to point out. It's period dress. Her first dress was made by preeminent Civil War dress-maker Beth Miller, and cost \$250. "I figured if I'm going to do it, I'm going to do it right," Back says.

The outfits feature sloped shoulders, narrow waists — and a corset. The skirt alone required five yards of material. As a finishing touch, Back wears her hair pushed back into a bun and covered with a very fine hair net. Her shoes are ankle high granny boots, characterized by a rounded toe with stitching, and a low heel. Research extends to details like "what kind of socks would she wear?" Such considerations, says Back, spark friendly arguments whenever Civil War buffs gather. One detail Back ignores concerns drawers. Most Civil War era women did not wear them. Back does. "They were considered male garments," she says.

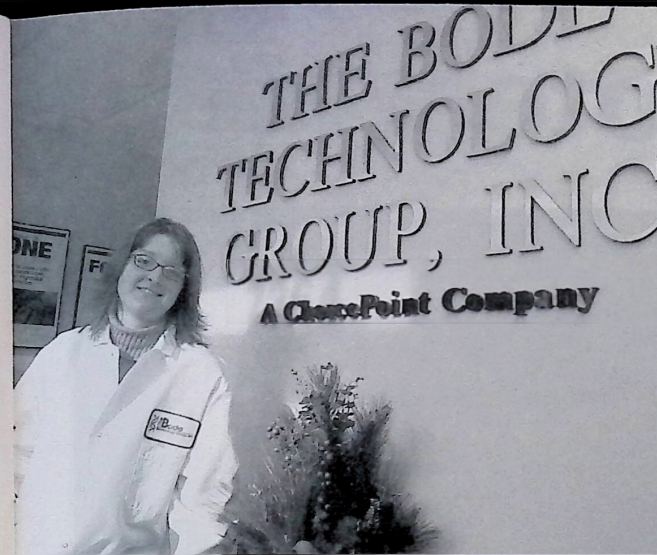
Back also attended a Civil War workshop to learn how to make her own outfit from the skin out, from the underpinnings to the coat, shawl and

bonnet, a process that takes up to two months to complete. Back says her Civil War wardrobe is now more extensive than her own wardrobe. "It's not an inexpensive hobby," she says. "Silk is \$30 a yard and each dress requires at least seven or eight yards to make."

Along the way, she appeared as an extra in the Civil War movie, "Gods and Generals," though she admits you'd be hard pressed to pick her out in the crowd.

In addition to a re-enactor, Back is also an artist. She began painting in watercolors when her children were small. "It was my sanity break," she laughs. "I was always sketching and doodling. Then, I discovered watercolors, and it became a passion." Her specialty is landscapes and winter scenes. If she can't see them, she just makes them up. In addition to producing her own work, Back used to set up teaching workshops for nationally known artists.

If all that wasn't enough, she recently began getting involved with the local SPCA. "I have friends who say I'm too busy. I say I only do what I want to do," she says. "I don't care if you're 25 or 75 — I talk to cabbages or kings. I enjoy people. You've got to keep active and keep your spirits up." (1)



POPULAR TELEVISION SHOWS SUCH AS *CSI* & *COLD CASE* DRAMATIZE THE WORK PERFORMED IN CRIME LABS, BUT FOR DNA ANALYST AND YOUNG ALUMNA, TIFFANY LEPTUCK '04, IT'S REAL LIFE.

The real CS/ lab

BY ELIZABETH ALLES '03

Tiffany Leptuck graduated from Wilkes in 2004 with a B.S. in biology and currently works as a DNA analyst and research scientist for the Bode Technology Group in Springfield, Virginia. Tiffany works in the high throughput case department to clear backlogs of cold cases and sexual assaults. She is also helping to develop an automation system for FBI criminal cases.

BETH ALLES: How did your experience at Wilkes prepare you for your career?

TIFFANY LEPTUCK: Dr. Will Terzaghi, associate professor of biology, was one of the most influential people in jump-starting my career. Under his guidance, I learned proper molecular biology techniques and was given great advice on getting my resume out to prospective employers. Dr. Debbie Tindell, associate professor of psychology, was also a great professor and very knowledgeable woman. The psychology

department helped me learn how to read people and interpret their words and actions — skills I can use anywhere.

BA: Describe your work environment or what your job is like on a daily basis?

TL: Everyone at Bode is committed to making the world safer through generating convicted offender profiles, eliminating backlogs in state laboratories, providing paternity testing and working on sexual assault cases. On a daily basis, I tend to arrive early, load samples and analyze data from the previous afternoon. Later in the day I load more samples and analyze the data from the morning.

BA: Do shows like *CSI*, *Cold Case* and *Law and Order* reflect what a DNA analyst does during the workday?

TL: Yes and no. We do conduct some of the work they show, however it does not happen that quickly. Turnaround

time can be 2-3 days, depending on what we are doing. Also, we don't load a sample into the machine and the data comes out immediately and so clean. Sometimes it is necessary to run a sample a few times to get good data. Gil Grissom also doesn't show up and say, "Here, run this."

BA: As a recent graduate who has found success in your field, what advice would you give to future graduates, soon entering the job market?

TL: While in school, it is important to try and get involved in as many projects as possible related to your major as well as participate in activities not related to your major in order to be a well-rounded and appealing prospect to employers. Use professors and conferences as a way to make contacts in your field and as references when applying for jobs. Let as many people know as possible what field you are interested in so they can make you aware of any job openings. Also, send your resume to as many companies as possible, even temp agencies. Don't ever be afraid to apply just because you are afraid of not getting the job or being rejected. I went on a few job interviews before I received an offer I wanted to accept. It really is a full-time job to look for and obtain a real full-time job. (1)

"Gil Grissom doesn't show up and say, 'Here, run this.'"

CLASSnotes

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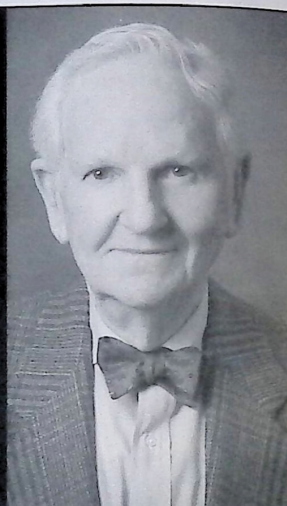
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Joe Savitz, a special friend who is thinking of Wilkes' Future



1948

Joseph F. Litchman was named an honorary member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). This designation is given to certified public accountants who have been members of the AICPA for 50 years.

1956

Paul Shiffer is the director of the Canastota Community Band, Chittenango, N.Y.

1961

Catherine Kovac BSNE, R.N., LNHA is the director of health services and a health enforcement officer at the Lansdale Department of Health. Catherine resides in Trappe, Pa.

1966

Henry "Chip" O'Reilly won two medals at the Empire State Senior Games. He placed second in the 1,500

meter and 800 meter runs.

1967

David Cowan is an administrator at Family Extended Care, Lakeland, Fla.

1968

Christine (Magnatta) Hoffman is a pianist with the Senior "Pop" Orchestra of Long Island, N.Y. Christine retired from teaching in the public school system, Queens, N.Y. She resides in Huntington Station, N.Y. with her husband, John.

Marty Hurley is the chairman of the fine arts department at Brother Martin High School, New Orleans, La. Marty was recently inducted into the World Drum Corps Hall of Fame. He resides in New Orleans with his wife, Paulette.

1971

Valerie Neff Newitt was awarded the

2004 First Place Keystone Award for page design by the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association. Valerie is a editor and page designer for the Times Herald Newspaper, Norristown, Pa. She resides in Audubon, Pa. with her husband and son.

1973

Sheila Fuqua Carter is a partner at the legal firm of Linebarger, Goggan, Blair and Sampson, LLP in Dallas, Texas. She resides in Dallas with her husband, Benjamin.

1974

Andrew Bowalick, Jr. resides in Waldorf, Md.

RETRACTION: In the last issue, we mistakenly listed the death of Michael Murphy. We apologize and deeply regret this error.

1976

Joe Jedju retired from teaching in the Montgomery Township Schools, N.J. Joe resides in Rockland, Maine with his wife, Linda.

Charles Jones is the vice president of operations with the Yoh Company, Richardson, Texas. Charles resides in Richardson with his wife, Jeanie, and his children, Douglas and Jordan.

1977

Gayle Donaleski is the northeast associate director for respiratory, dermatology, infectious disease and neuroscience clinical research for Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation. Gayle resides in Chatham, N.J.

Mary Ellen (Dwyer) Jolley M'94 is an off-campus program specialist with Luzerne County Community College. Mary Ellen resides in Dallas, Pa. with her husband, Robert. She has two children, Jason and Dana.

Patricia Kozick was the 2004 local Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year. Patricia is a fifth-grade teacher at Dodson Elementary School, in Wilkes-Barre.

Paulette (Kulesa) La Conte is a nursing manager at Lakeland Regional Medical Center, Lakeland, Flor. Paulette resides in Lakeland with her husband, Kenneth.

Paul Spellman is a principal at FT Financial Services, LLC in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Paul resides in Mount Joy, Pa. with his wife, Tina.

Dianne (LaCava) Trawick married Stephen Trawock on September 26, 2004. Dianne is a chief warrant officer

with the United States Coast Guard. They reside in Danbury, Conn.

1978

David Stull is a chemistry teacher in the Mid-West School District, Sunbury, Pa.

1979

Lois (Enama) Pluskey is a graphic designer with InterMetro Industries, Wilkes-Barre. Lori resides in Plains, Pa. with her husband, Joseph, and her two children, Lauren and Jason.

1981

Dina (Sauer) Hayduk is the owner and president of BicyclingWorld.com. Dina resides in Kutztown, Pa.

1982

Michael Zwiebel has been selected to attend the United States Army War College, Carlisle, Pa. Michael is the director of the technology core at the Aberdeen Test Center. He resides in Bel Air, Md. with his wife, Dina.

RETRACTION: In the last issue, we mistakenly listed Robert Capin as senior vice president and financial advisor at Morgan Stanley. The listing should have read David Capin. We apologize and regret this error.

1983

Margie (Eckroth) Bucher earned her doctor of nursing degree from Widener University. Margie is an assistant professor at Bloomsburg University. She resides in Bloomsburg, Pa. with her husband, Barry.

Susan Poirier married Thomas Ross. They reside in Tallahassee, Fla.

Joy (Vilchok) Zukauskas is the director of health and human safety with the American Red Cross of the Greater Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem, Pa. Joy resides in Coplay, Pa. with her husband, Joseph, and her two children, Aimee Joy and Sarah.

1984

Kurt Tietjen is the director of operations at Fortunecity.com, Inc., New York City, N.Y. He resides in Floral Park, N.Y.

Frederic Krome is the managing editor for American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio. Frederic resides in Cincinnati with his wife, Claire, and his two children, Karen and Chris.

1985

Cherie Burke is a certified registered nurse anesthetist with Northeastern Anesthesia Associates, Allentown, Pa. Cherie resides in Macungie, Pa. with her husband, Todd, and her two children, Collin and Kelsey.

Ahmed Harris is the vice president for accounts and acquisitions of DYB Entertainment, Chester, Pa. Ahmad resides in West Chester, Pa.

1986

Barry J. Frauens, O.D. is the chief of primary care at Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry, North Miami Beach, Fla. Barry resides in Coral Springs, Fla. with his wife, Danette, and his daughter, Reanna.

Nadine (Wieder) Hromisin is a certified public accountant and audit manager with Parente Randolph, Wilkes-Barre. Nadine resides in Dallas, Pa. with her husband, Ron, and her two sons, Kyle and Evan.

Perri Nejb married George R. Packard II. Perri is a senior systems engineer with ProObject Inc. They reside in Annapolis, Md.

1987

Bob Fernandez is a systems coordinator with Geisinger Health Care Systems' Marworth Treatment Center, Waverly, Pa. Bob resides in Shavertown, Pa.

Paul Isaac married Malinda Copenhagen on November 26, 2004. Paul is an employment specialist with Northwestern Human Services, Sharon Hill, Pa.

Tim Grant is the head finance controller for United States Medical Departments at Sonofi-Aventis, Bridgewater, N.J. Tim resides in Parsippany, N.J. with his wife, Debbie, and his daughter, Katherine.

1988

Paul Matticks is a safety director for Fabcor Inc. Paul resides in Olyphant, Pa. with his wife, Kathy Jo, and his two children, Zachary and Zoe.

1989

Michelle Ciliberto is an eighth grade science teacher at Log College Middle School, Warminster, Pa. Michelle resides in Gilbertsville, Pa. with her husband, Danilo, and her daughter, Danielle.

Christopher Wojtowicz is a senior project engineer with The Shaw Group, Virginia Beach, Va. Christopher resides in Virginia Beach with his wife, Cheryl, and his children, Alex and Elise.

1991

James Burke is the vice president and

relationship manager for Wachovia's Business Banking Division. James resides in Clarks Summit, Pa. with his wife and two children.

Tanya Daigle M95 married Roger Zegers. Tanya works at Bellevue Hospital in the Vocational Rehabilitation in Addiction Medicine department. They reside in New York, N.Y.

Mary Gould is a major in the United States Air Force. Mary recently returned from a 120-day deployment in the Middle East.

Vince Purcell is a youth development counselor manager for the Pennsylvania DPW North Central Secure Treatment Unit, Danville, Pa. Vince resides in Coal Township, Pa.

Susan (Dalton) St Onge and her husband, Kevin, announce the birth of their daughter, Nora Jane, on September 1, 2004. Susan is the Director of Admissions at the Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N.J. The family resides in Fanwood, N.J. with their daughter, Molly.

Maria (Lettieri) Wheatley is a pharmaceutical sales representative with Amgen in Thousand Oaks, Calif. She resides in Moosic, Pa. with her husband, Robert.

1992

Suzanne Abele and her husband, Walt, announce the birth of their third child, Nicholas. They reside in Enfield, Conn. with their children, Joe and Rachel.

Mike Fontinell is an environmental staff member for DENSO Manufacturing

Tennessee, Inc. Mike resides in Maryville, Tenn. with his wife, Julie, and his three children, Sydney, Cierra and Dylan.

Ronald Hartzell is a vice president for the National Penn Bank, Potstown, Pa. Ronald resides in West Lawn, Pa.

Gina (Costanzo) Kreiger is a special education teacher and assistant girls basketball coach at East Stroudsburg Area High School, East Stroudsburg, Pa. Gina resides with her husband, Steve.

Lisa (McCarty) Lesko and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of their daughter, Isabella, on May 14, 2004. The family resides in Sinkling Spring, Pa. with their children, Carter and Ryan.

Dr. Armando Sallavanti was the commencement speaker for Old Forge High School, Old Forge, Pa. Armando is employed by Physicians Health Alliance at Moses Taylor Hospital, Scranton, Pa and serves as Old Forge School District's physician.

Melissa (Summa) Sherman M'02 is a chemistry teacher at Valley View High School. Melissa resides in Clarks Summit, Pa. with her husband, David, and her daughter, Sierra.

1993

Michele (Vecerkauskas) Evans and her husband, Tristan, announce the birth of their first child, Owen, on August 14, 2004.

Nicolette Yevich married John Perkins, DMA. Nicolette is the director of the Women's Center at Shippensburg University. The couple resides in Shippensburg, Pa.

1994

Scott Caloiaro was named Officer of the Year by the Lawrence Lions Club, Hopewell, N.J., in honor of his dedication and hard work. Scott has been a police officer for ten years.

Charlene (Klynowsky) Decker M'96 is a payroll finance manager with Diamond Auto Glass, Inc., Kingston, Pa. Charlene resides in Trucksville, Pa. with her husband, Brett.

Jennifer (Meyers) Herpen and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their first child, Michael, on August 7, 2004. Jennifer is a bond trader with Wolfe and Hurst Bond Brokers, Jersey City, N.J. They reside in Tabernacle, N.J.

Suzanne (Stchur) Jones and her husband, Stephen, announce the birth of their second child, Andrew, on November 15, 2004. They reside in Saranac Lake, N.Y. with their daughter, Rebekah.

Wendy Raughley-Mello is an intranet managing editor with Arbitron, Inc., Columbia, Md. Wendy resides in Burtonsville, Md. with her husband, Daniel, and her two children, Anthony and Dominic.

Cheryl (Cator) Reinke and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their daughter, Emma, on October 11, 2004. Cheryl is a registered nurse at the Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, N.J. The family resides in Ridgewood, N.J. with their two sons, Luke and Ben.

Lisa (Lazorchak) Smith and her husband, John, announce the birth of twins, Daniel and Sarah, on October 3, 2004.

Lisa is an administrative assistant with John Lazorchak Associates, Inc., North Branch, N.J. They reside in Raritan, N.J.

Laurence Succi is the chief executive manager of The C.L.A. Group, LLC, Washington, D.C. Laurence resides in Alexandria, Va. with his wife, Amanda.

1995

Lori Courtney Bantel is a first grade teacher in the Wyoming Valley West School District. Lori earned her reading specialist certificate and master's in reading. She resides in Swoyersville, Pa.

Julie (Good) Heffner resides in Lititz, Pa. with her husband, Chad, and her son, Owen.

Jesse Gross is a global EHS assurance manager with Cadbury Schweppes, Parsippany, N.J. Jesse resides in Flemington, N.J. with his wife, Amy, and his two children, Jessica and Adam.

Nichole Hydro M'03 is a first grade teacher in the Lehigh School District, Lehigh, Pa. Nichole resides in Tamaqua, Pa. with her husband, Edward, and her daughter, Natalie.

Chad Lojewski is a first vice president of investments at Wachovia Securities.

Michael Palumbo married Catherine O'Brien. Michael is an intensive case manager for Northwestern Human Services, Bethlehem, Pa. They reside in Bethlehem.

Cara Reed is a nurse manager at Mountain View Care Center, Scranton, Pa. Cara resides in Old Forge, Pa. with her husband, Michael.

Gia (Andrejko) Shedd and her husband, Tony, announce the birth of their first child, Kalyssa Sophia, on July 29, 2004. Gia is a 7th grade teacher in the Valley View School District, Archbald, Pa. They reside in Jessup, Pa.

1996

Jonah Aben is the librarian of the Plymouth Public Library.

William Bratten is the director of bands at Indian Valley High School, Lewistown, Pa. He resides in Harrisburg, Pa.

Diana Drozd is a program director for Impact Systems, Wilkes-Barre. Diana resides in Clarks Summit, Pa. with her partner, Sheila.

Stephanie Hastings is a resource coordinator with Dauphin County social services in Harrisburg, Pa. Stephanie resides in New Cumberland, Pa.

Timothy Legg recently completed his Ph.D. in health science education from Touro University. Timothy resides in Wilkes-Barre.

Michelle Mummolo married Scott Stuccio. Michelle is an ENG editor for WBRE-TV, Wilkes-Barre.

LoriAnn (Gorrick) Pajalich M'04 is an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Nursing at Wilkes University. She resides in Moosic, Pa. with her husband, Mark, and her son, Jake Ryan.

Dr. Tony Stuart Reed is a member of the sports medicine team at Geisinger Specialty Clinic Wilkes-Barre and Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center.

Amy (Blease) Strockoz is a graphic arts specialist for OraSure Technologies, Inc., Bethlehem, Pa. Amy resides in Nazareth, Pa. with her husband, Todd, and her son, Logan.

Tara (Kurland) Tenasco is an at-risk counselor at Pelham High School, Pelham, N.H. Her husband, Timothy Tenasco, is a coach and social studies teacher at Coe-Brown/Northwood Academy, Northwood, N.H. They reside in Raymond, N.H.

1997

Jennifer (Belardi) Christianson is a pharmaceutical sales representative with First Horizon Pharmaceutical, Alpharetta, Ga.

Louis Marnell has completed the Advanced Maintenance and Munitions Officer School at Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, Nevada. Louis is a captain in the United States Air Force.

Captain Bill Pastewait received his master's of business administration degree from the Florida Institute of Technology. Bill is an Air Force ROTC instructor at the University of Washington, Seattle. He resides in Seattle with his wife, Stephanie (Follmer '01).

Ellen Mancini married Robert Spathell, Jr. on August 21, 2004.

1998

Tracy Banks is a business analyst in Philadelphia, Pa. where she is responsible for design, development, testing and deployment of software applications.

Shannon Crane M'00 is an attorney for Smith Ford and Associates, Wilkes-Barre. Shannon resides in Exeter, Pa.

Mike Gundersdorf resides in Hackettstown, N.J. with his wife, Lauren, and his sons, Michael and Luke.

Courtney Gustafson is a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Kansas. She resides in Shawnee, Kan.

Paul Klimck is a launch support segment leader with Northrop Grumman Space Technology. Paul resides in Hermosa Beach, Calif.

Larry Tabbit is a hospital auditor in Austin, Texas. Larry earned his master's of business administration from Touro University International, Cypress, Calif.

Barbara (Farbanish) Timpani and her husband, Dominic, announce the birth of their third child, Raffaele Dominic, on May 9, 2004. Barbara is the director of Kiddie Academy, Flander, N.J. They reside in Dover, N.J. with their two daughters, Christina and Nicole.

1999

Randy A. Engelman D.O. earned his doctor of osteopathy degree from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. Randy will now participate in an internal medicine residency program at Ohio Valley Hospital, Wheeling, W.Va.

Frank Tomaszewski is an executive producer for WCAU-TV, Philadelphia, Pa. He has been nominated for an Emmy Award and received a GENBC Ovation award for Outstanding Performance.

Robert Yurick is a principal engineer with Montgomery Watson Harza Engineers, Mayfield, Pa. Robert resides in Duryea, Pa. with his wife, Bonnie.

2000

Rodney Craig is an oncology clinical pharmacist at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital. Rodney and his wife, Deidre reside in West Conshohocken, Pa.

Dustin Daniels is a QA manager at Power Packaging in Reading, Pa. Dustin resides in Laureldale, Pa. with his wife, Amy.

David DeCicco is a lead chemist for Noramco, Inc., Wilmington, Del. David resides in Newark, Del.

Jessica (Murray) Kroesen is a pharmacy manager for continuing care. Jessica resides in Elizabethtown, Pa. with her husband, Curtis, and her two children.

Nathan Lipton married Jennifer Evans '02. They reside in Exeter, Pa.

Jason R. Marie and Jill Ronkowski were married on November 1, 2003. Jason is a project engineer with Carollo Engineers, Inc., and Jill is a project engineer with HDR Inc. They reside in Mesa, Arizona.

Darlene Noel was named Warren County Teacher of the Year in the New Jersey Department of Education 2004 Governor's Teacher Recognition program. Darlene resides in Easton, Pa. with her husband, Matt.

Jennifer (Gruscavage) Pachick and her husband Raymond announce the birth of their daughter, Makenzie Michelle, on December 26, 2002.

Andrea Pettito-Long is the director of pharmacy and pharmacist manager at Salerno's Pharmacy, Bartonsville, Pa. Andrea resides in Dunmore, Pa.

Duane Ritter is the new wrestling coach for the Oneonta State Red Dragons, of New York.

Kevin Silinski married Mindee Hite. The couple resides in Webster, N.Y.

Abby (Sherburne) Stroud is a counselor with Northern Tier Counseling, Towanda, Pa. Abby resides in Towanda with her husband, Jake.

Kimberly Vance is a business education teacher in the Pocono Mountain School District, Swiftwater, Pa. Kimberly resides in Mount Pocono, Pa.

David Wolovich married Rachel Hammond '04. David is a software engineer for Lockheed Martin, King of Prussia, Pa. and Rachel is a pharmacist for CVS Pharmacy in Limerick, Pa. The couple resides in Royersford, Pa.

Suzanne (Viola) Wunder married Matthew Wunder. The couple resides in Asbury, N.J.

2001

Angelina Cardoso is a math teacher at Platt Technical High School, Milford, Conn.

Claire Cole graduated from Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. and has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army.

Jennifer (Tingley) Domzalski and her husband, James announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Grace. Jennifer is pharmacist with Wegman's Pharmacy and teaches at King's College.

Karen (Coolbaugh) Gilchrist is a pharmacist at the Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy, Old Forge, Pa. Karen resides in Old Forge with her husband and her two children.

Joe Gromelski earned a juris doctorate from the University of Maryland School of Law. Joe resides in Arlington, Va.

Greg Johansen married Elizabeth Kordek. Greg is attending nuclear school in Charleston, S.C.

Michael Koch and his wife, Dianne, announce the birth of their son, Nicholas John, on June 24, 2004.

Martha Marchand is a pharmacy manager. Martha resides in Yakima, Wash.

Nathaniel Martin is an engineer with New Century Productions, Allentown, Pa. Nate resides in Danielsville, Pa.

Stephanie (Follmer) Pastewait is a consultant pharmacist with Long Term Care Pharmacy in Seattle, Wash. She resides in Seattle with her husband, Bill '97.

Christina Soule and her husband, Kenneth, announce the birth of their daughter, Jillian, on January 26, 2004. They reside in Jackson, N.J. with their daughter, Brianna.

2002

Tim Caron is the owner of Ground Zero Gaming, West Chester, Pa.

Beth N. Danner is the assistant director of residence life at King's College. She earned her master's of science degree in organizational management from College Misericordia.

Kathleen (Gallagher) Dennis is an engineer for the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren, Va. Kathleen resides in Fredericksburg, Va.

Heather (Ernest) Drake and her husband announce the birth of their daughter, Madeline Marie, on January 21, 2004. The family resides in Elmira, N.Y.

Justin Lewis is a 1st lieutenant and an ICBM Deputy Combat Crew Commander in the United States Air Force. Justin was a distinguished graduate from the Malmstrom ICBM Initial Qualification Training at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. He resides at the Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana.

Geremia Palmioli IV married Tracey Stolarczyk. Geremia is a staff assistant to United States Representative Paul Kanjorski. The couple resides in Shavertown, Pa.

Erin Priestman is a mechanical engineer with the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Philadelphia, Pa. She resides in Brookhaven, Pa.

Shelby Rohwedder is an account executive for Stern + Associates, Cranford, N.J.

Beth Rosenberg is an assistant site editor for TechTarget, Boston, Mass.

Lisa (Finnerty) Smith and her husband, Bryan, announce the birth of their first child, Ryli Marie, on July 20, 2004. They reside in Pittston, Pa.

Mary Grace Tambasco married Giuseppe Caponera on June 12, 2004.

Robert Waite is a medical ICU Pharmacist. He resides in Orlando, Fla.

Bethany Yeimer is the deputy press secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Education. She resides in Enola, Pa.

2003

Jason Ambrose is a graduate student in the University of South Florida School of Public Health. Jason resides in Tampa, Fla.

Lisa Charneski is a faculty member at St. John's University, New York, N.Y. Lisa resides in New York City.

Alicia Cymbala is a clinical pharmacy specialist for Kaiser Permanente. Alicia resides in Denver, Colo.

Justin D'Angelo is a tour coordinator for Roadrunner Records, New York, N.Y.

Jonathan Ference is a clinical assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma. Jonathan resides in Tulsa, Okla.

Laura Gerard is a clinical assistant professor at the University of Houston College of Pharmacy. Laura resides in Houston, Texas.

Derrick Hall is a full-time emergency medical technician with the Sayre Greater Valley EMS, Sayre, Pa.

Timothy Millard earned his master's of science in broadcast journalism from Syracuse University. Timothy is a reporter and anchor for WKOK-AM 1070, Sunbury, Pa.

Jed Starner is an electrical engineer and GIS coordinator at the Letterkenny Army Depot, Chambersburg, Pa. Jed resides in Chambersburg.

2004

Kristin Hake is the community relations coordinator for the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, Scranton, Pa.

Jessica Hinkel is as assistant development coordinator for Upper Schuylkill, Mahanoy City, Pa. Jessica resides in Ashland, Pa.

Tiffany Leptuck is a DNA analyst with Bode Tech, Springfield, Va.

Michael Mattern is an electronics engineer with the Federal Communications Commission. Michael resides in Quincy, Mass.

Rachael (Minotti) Arsenault is a third grade teacher at Winstead Elementary, Wilson, N.C. She resides in Wilson with her husband, Jason, and their daughter, Kayley.

Pamela Zielen married Christopher Tedesco. Pamela is a registered nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The couple resides in Philadelphia, Pa.

Master's

1989

Christine Di Stadio is vice president of marketing and new media at The New York Times Company broadcast media group.

2003

Stephen Batory married Deanna Hoy on April 24, 2004. Steve works for Fastenal. The couple resides in Pottsville, Pa.

Diana Stevenson served as a judge for the 39th Annual Media Art Exhibit and

Craft Fair, Delaware County, Pa.

2004

Michael Madden is a senior specialist with Merrill Lynch, Plainsboro, N.J. Michael resides in Bensalem, Pa.

Friends

Max Bartikowsky was honored by the Family Service Association of Wyoming Valley for providing leadership in community efforts to benefit children and families.

In Memoriam

1939

Wilbur Troy died December 2, 2004. Wilbur co-owned Troy Tire Service and later worked as a substitute teacher for the Wilkes-Barre School District. He is survived by his wife, Jane, one son and one daughter.

1944

Anna D. Cumberland died January 10, 2003. Prior to retirement, Anna was a teacher in the Claymont School District. She is survived by her two sons, Stephen and Donald.

1947

Beverly Smith Meeker died November 1, 2004. She was employed by the YMCA and served as past president of the Westside Women's Club. She is survived by her husband, Robert, and two daughters.

1948

Thomas A. Gilboy Ph.D. died October 26, 2004. He is survived by his sister, Rose.

Harry Scott, Jr. died October 24, 2004. He served as assistant principal of the

Wyoming Valley West Middle School and was a member and past president of the former King Hiram Lodge 721. He is survived by his wife, Florence, and two sons.

1949

James Hayden died December 25, 2004. James was a metallurgical engineer with Buick, Flint, Mich. He is survived by his stepson, Richard.

1950

Fred Fisher died September 21, 2004. Prior to retirement, Fred was in the Army Reserve and served as a Colonel. He is survived by his wife, Norma, a daughter and a son.

John Joseph Loftus died November 23, 2004. He is survived by his wife, Betty, three daughters and one son.

Allan Strassman died November 3, 2004. Prior to retirement, Allan was a partner in the accounting firm of Baron, Strassman, Zneimer and Company. He is survived by his wife, Sue, six sons and one daughter.

Russell Williams died November 21, 2004. Russell was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He is survived by his wife, Peggy, and two sons.

1951

John Seaman died October 12, 2004. Prior to retirement, John was an air traffic controller in New Jersey. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, and two children.

John W. Williams, Jr. died December 26, 2004. John was an inventory parts manager for the Navy Ships Parts Control, Mechanicsburg, Pa. He is survived by his wife, Henrietta, and two daughters.

1956

Gerald Levandoski, Sr. died December 6, 2004. Gerald was employed by Merck & Company for 36 years and served as plant manager of the Cherokee plant. He is survived by his wife, Ann, and two sons.

1957

Marjorie Kohlhaas died September 1, 2004. Prior to retirement, Marjorie served as director of nursing at the Wyoming Valley Hospital and an instructor at Wilkes. She is survived by her two sisters.

Peter Shuma, Jr. died December 8, 2004. Pete was a veteran of the U.S. Army and had been employed by Bell Telephone Laboratories and Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and two sons.

1959

George Hutter died January 9, 2005. George served as an auditor in the hotel industry. He is survived his four sons and one daughter.

1961

Lawrence Kunitis died September 12, 2004. Prior to retirement, Lawrence served in the United States Navy Department. He is survived by his wife, Irene, and three children.

1960

Charles John Kuschke II died October 6, 2004. Prior to retirement, Charles was associated with Robert D. Juschke Insurance Agency, Plymouth, Pa. for more than forty years. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn, a son and two daughters.

Benjamin Badman, a community pioneer



Ben Badman '41, former President of Wyoming Valley Hospital, Executive Vice President of Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center, and Executive Director of the Sordoni Foundation passed away on August 27, 2004, at his home in Kansas.

During his long and distinguished career, Ben's determination and dedication to excellence resulted in the construction of Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center. He was the driving force behind many different community groups, serving on the Board of Directors of The Salvation Army, Visiting Nurses' Association, Valley Crest Advisory Board, and Leadership Wilkes-Barre. He was a Past President of the United Way of Wyoming Valley, Past President of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, Past President of the Wilkes-Barre Kiwanis Club, and Past Chairman of the Board of Trustees at (then) Wilkes College.

Ben was a decorated World War II veteran. He served as a bombardier/navigator in the United States Army and flew 35 missions over Germany. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters for his military service.

John J. Pagoda, Jr., a life taken too soon



Alumnus and staff member John J. Pagoda Jr., '98, whose passion for learning and research will be remembered by stu-

dents, faculty and alumni of the GeoEnvironmental Science and Engineering Department, died January 9, 2005 at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia of complications from heart surgery. He was 28.

Pagoda, worked part-time as a lab assistant in the University's water quality lab and was recently awarded a full-time position that would have begun January 24th.

"He did so much beyond his regular work," said Dr. Prahlad Murthy, Chairperson of the Geoenvironmental Sciences and Engineering Dept. "He assisted us in recruiting, he represented our department at various fairs and he didn't have to do that. He used to work 60 to 70 hours a week easily... He did more for us than what we could ever do for him and we are extremely proud of him."

He is survived by his mother, Pauline (Chorey) Pagoda, maternal grandmother Angela Chorey, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Andrew Rushin died October 9, 2004. He was a sales manager with IBM for 35 years. He is survived by his wife, Arlene.

1964

Joseph Barnard died September 18, 2004. Joseph was a United States Navy veteran. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne, and a son.

Dorothy Turley died September 24, 2004. She was a registered nurse with the Nanticoke State Hospital and retired as supervisor. She is survived by her sister, Ruth, and brother, Sheldon.

1965

Lucy Kay Goodwin died August 30, 2004. She volunteered for many years at the Navy Relief Office. She is survived by her husband, James, two daughters and one son.

1967

John DiGiuseppe died November 10, 2004. John earned his pilot wings as a Naval Pilot and served in active duty in Naples, Italy and Athens, Greece. He is survived by two brothers and one sister.

1969

Suzanne Rash died November 4, 2004. She was a reading specialist in the Wilkes-Barre School District. She is survived by her daughter and two sons.

Kenneth Zura died October 22, 2004. Kenneth was a math and technology teacher in the Pittston Area School District. He is survived by his wife, Alyce Puscavage '70.

1978

Dr. John R. Azain died September 20, 2004. John was a doctor of internal

medicine with a practice in Easton, Pa. He is survived by his wife, Betsy.

1982

Dr. Jon Sorber died September 26, 2004. He is survived by his wife, JoAnne, a son and a daughter.

1993

Eric Botyrius died September 16, 2004. He previously worked for Nortel Networks and Siemens in West Palm Beach, Fla. He is survived by his parents, a brother and a sister.

Master's In Memoriam

1999

Genevieve McMonigle died November 12, 2004. She served as chemistry teacher at Bishop Hafey High School for 24 years and recently as chair of the science department. She is survived by her husband, Peter, and five children.

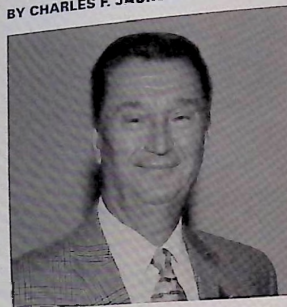
Friends

Richard Chapline died October 2, 2004. Prior to retirement, Richard was a professor of music at Wilkes for 38 years. He is survived by his brother, Joseph.

Glenn Forney died November 2, 2004. Glenn was appointed to the Board of Governors of the State System of High Education by Tom Ridge. He is survived by his wife, his son, stepson and daughter. ❖

What Wilkes means to me

BY CHARLES F. JACKSON '51



were out there.

Now I reminisce while reviewing my 45-year career in secondary education, I feel content and satisfied in knowing that I gave it my "Wilkes best!" As many of you know, in those early years monetary rewards were relatively meager. Far more gratifying and rewarding to me as an educator charged with the job of building lives was (through these years) being recognized and rewarded as Teacher of the Year, Coach of the Year, Principal of the Year and more recently, Outstanding Retiree Volunteer of the Year. All of these awards were deeply rooted to the mature work ethic and moral compass that I was exposed to throughout my "Wilkes Experience!" In reality, an awful lot of the meaning of Wilkes could be found and interpreted in its Alma Mater. Let me share this one personal experience with you...

In the summer of 1947, John Florkiewicz ('50) and I were helping Mr. Jervis and a few other maintenance crew workers put up the Wilkes College sign in the front of Chase Hall. After its completion, John and I were sent to the President's house (Annette Evans Alumni House, today) to move whatever insecurities and uncertainties

some furniture. As we entered, Mrs. Farley was at the piano playing the Alma Mater. She saw us and immediately asked, "John and Charles, I need your help. Would you please come over here and as I play, sing along." If you were there and witnessed it all, you would still be laughing. After our first "slosh thru," Mrs. Farley looked at us in a very understanding way and said, "Boys, lets do it again." So away we went. "Wilkes, Our Alma Mater, We pledge out hearts to thee. Honor, faith, and courage, Truth and loyalty..." Now its your turn, go ahead...finish it!

For professional growth reasons I completed various graduate studies and programs at Temple, Penn State, Villanova and Walden Universities. Each institution afforded me a different and unique perspective of my chosen career. They were invaluable blocks in the building of my life's work. Yet, the passing of time affords me invaluable insight. This insight leads me to the conclusion that the keystone in my building is and was Wilkes. I am eternally indebted to the Wilkes Family for a lifetime of health, happiness and prosperity. ❖

Get married?
Have a baby?
Get a promotion?
Win an award?
Earn a degree?
Open a business?
Retire?

If you have, fill in your fellow alumni on your accomplishments. After your event has occurred, go to www.wilkes.edu/alumni, click on the link for CLASSnotes, and fill out the form. If you would like to send your note, please mail to:
CLASSnotes
Alumni Relations Office
Wilkes University, 84 W. South Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

E-mail your news items, story ideas, feedback, or anything else you want to say, to alumni@wilkes.edu. Thank you for staying in touch!

re:campus



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