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Spring 2016

## Hillsdale Magazine

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# Hillsdale

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE HILLSDALE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2016 • V91-N1





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**Orientation/Registration**  
August 28-30, 2016

**Fall Semester Classes Begin**  
Wednesday, August 31, 2016

**Homecoming Weekend**  
September 23-25, 2016

**CCA I—Democrats and Republicans**  
October 2-5, 2016

**Parents Weekend**  
October 21-23, 2016

**Fall Convocation**  
November 3, 2016

**CCA II—Mises, Hayek, and the Austrian School**  
November 13-16, 2016

*Alumni Board members are elected to serve up to two consecutive four-year terms, attending three meetings yearly, plus hosting Homecoming. If you are interested in being considered for a seat on the board, please complete an Alumni Board Application and return it to the Alumni Office.*

[alumni.hillsdale.edu/staff/board](http://alumni.hillsdale.edu/staff/board)



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*Photo by Douglas Coon*

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*Photo by Douglas Coon*

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*Photo by Douglas Coon*

# Hillsdale

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## Nominations for Alumni Board Membership

The Executive Committee of the Alumni Board is looking for alumni who would like to be considered for future openings on the Alumni Board. Members serve a four-year, once renewable term and attend three annual meetings plus Homecoming. If you or someone you know would be interested in serving the College in this way, please contact the Alumni Office for more information at **(517) 607-2461**, [alumni@hillsdale.edu](mailto:alumni@hillsdale.edu), or complete a questionnaire online at [alumni.hillsdale.edu](http://alumni.hillsdale.edu).



# Alumni, What Do You Think?

**THE COLLEGE HAS ENLISTED** the help of a leading marketing and research firm to help us improve our communications and engagement with alumni.

Specifically, the Lipman Hearne agency of Chicago has been retained to help us better understand the attitudes, behaviors, likes and dislikes of alumni with regard to their relationship with the College. To this end, we are conducting focus groups and mailed surveys that pose questions such as:

- How do you feel about having graduated from Hillsdale College? How would you describe your experience at the College—academically, socially, or otherwise? Did it meet or exceed your expectations? What did/do you like best and least about Hillsdale?
- Would you recommend Hillsdale to your children or other prospective students? Have you ever been asked to refer prospective students to Hillsdale, or to help staff a college fair in your area, or to be a mentor to students who aspire to a career in your profession, etc.?
- How do you believe Hillsdale is perceived by others with whom you associate? Does it have a good reputation? How would you describe that reputation?
- How does the College communicate with you? Does the College keep you engaged with news and information, invitations to events, continuing education, and the like? What do you like or dislike about communications from the College?
- Do you know how the College is funded and, in your opinion, is the College adequately financed? Is Hillsdale relatively expensive or a bargain when compared to colleges similar in size, type, and reputation?
- Are you encouraged to support the College financially? How are you asked for support and are those requests made appropriately? Why do you, or do you not, donate to the College? Is the process of making a donation easy and convenient?
- What, if anything, would you change about the College? What advice, generally, do you have for the school?

In sum, we are committed to listening to your opinions about our college and to doing our best, within the parameters of our mission and founding principles, to keep you engaged in the life of this school. Evaluating your candid responses to questions like these is a critical step in this ongoing process.

My best,

Grigor "Scot" Hasted, '74, *Director of Alumni Relations*

ON THE  
HILL



Mount of Olives

## Israel Trip

- Sponsored by the Philos Project
- Eighty-five Hillsdale students attended the 11-day trip
- Students visited Jerusalem, Golan Heights, Nazareth, Tel Aviv, and the Gaza Strip
- Journalists, religious leaders, and members of the Israel Defense Force spoke to the group.

# Visiting the Holy Land

## Hillsdale College Students TRAVEL TO ISRAEL

**“THE ISRAEL THAT YOU READ ABOUT** here and the Israel we encountered there are two entirely different places,” junior Larissa Clark says.

Over Christmas break, 85 Hillsdale College students, accompanied by a few members of the faculty and staff, took an 11-day trip to Israel. The Philos Project, a Christian organization that promotes Christian engagement in the Middle East by educating students and providing them the opportunity to see Israel, organized the trip.

The process began last November when Professor of History Paul Rahe received a call from Provost David Whalen about the opportunity. Rahe e-mailed students



Jerusalem—The Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount.



Students look out over the Dead Sea.

with the qualifications for the trip—a 3.0 grade-point average and interest in Christianity, politics, and leadership. Around 250 students applied, far more than expected.

A committee, including Rahe, selected which applicants would attend the trip—mainly seniors and juniors, since underclassmen will likely have the opportunity to take part in a future trip.

“The impression I had from the Philos Project is that they thought the students were terrific,” Rahe says, “which is what we were looking for.”

The trip took place from January 2-13. Students only had to pay a registration fee and travel to John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City, where the group boarded a plane to Israel.

Clark, who is studying political economy and business administration, said that her love for America and for traveling prompted her to apply. “I love to expand my world, see new places, and meet new people,” Clark says. “Israel is so important to me because our Christian roots are there. And Israel has such an important role in history and current events.”

Students learned about the country from both a religious and a political perspective. They attended lectures from Jews and Palestinians, including journalists, a peace negotiator, members of the Israel Defense Force, and various religious leaders.

Students experienced a mix of awe, excitement, and risk during their travels in the holy land.

“It turned the cold, sterile article that you read online into something you can actually touch,” sophomore Nathan Lehman told the *Collegian* after the trip. “You could see the grief on the mothers’ faces; you can see Gaza; you can see the fence; you can see al-Qaeda driving around in Syria.”

Students visited Christian and Jewish sites, including Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, Nazareth, the Gaza Strip, and Tel Aviv. For safety reasons, the group avoided the West Bank.

Clark says that she was deeply moved by visiting the various holy sites and experiencing the everyday life of people there. She recalls that when the group visited the southern wall of the Old City of Jerusalem, they were walking a road that Jesus traveled.

“I’m physically walking where Jesus walked, but I really hope to be doing that for the rest of my life, walking in his footsteps,” she says.

Clark says she was also moved by her visit to the Kfar Aza Kibbutz, a settlement less than one mile from the Gaza Strip where inhabitants have ten seconds to run to cover if a rocket is going to hit. Clark said that their tour guide showed the group a piece of shrapnel that had hit her house.

“It was real.” Clark says. “There is a difference between hearing about it and then actually being there. It hits you differently. I think that will forever stick with me.”

Professor of Speech Kirstin Kiledal was the only faculty member on the trip, and was impressed with experiences such as the visit to Masada, the ancient fortification on the edge of the Judean desert.

“The past, present, and future were all brought together,” she says.

The trip prompted students to think anew. Senior Naomi Virnelson told the *Collegian*, “I was hoping for a lot more answers, but now I have a lot more questions.”

Clark said that going with other Hillsdale students was especially valuable because of the discussions that were provoked. “The bus was our classroom,” she says.

“It really was an experience you couldn’t repeat,” Kiledal concludes. ■ EMMA VINTON, '16





The Mary Jane Delp Tennis Courts

## Tennis at Hillsdale

- Women's tennis returned as a varsity sport in 2011.
- Men's tennis returned as a varsity sport in 2015.
- The Biermann Athletic Center, opened in 2013, houses four indoor tennis courts.
- The Mary Jane Delp Tennis Courts feature eight lighted outdoor courts.

# Mary Jane Delp Tennis Courts Dedication

**ON A SUNNY APRIL AFTERNOON**, in weather just perfect for an outdoor tennis match, Hillsdale College held a dedication ceremony for the Mary Jane Delp Tennis Courts. The eight courts, located along Union Street and adjacent to the Margot V. Biermann Athletic Center, were constructed in summer 2015.

Following a luncheon in the Biermann Center, guests moved to a tent adjacent to the courts for the dedication. President Larry Arnn recounted how, early in his tenure at Hillsdale College, he faced tough decisions about cutting programs due to financial uncertainties. Because the tennis program had struggled for years, Arnn decided to eliminate it. During the ensuing years, the idea of reinstating the tennis program came up occasionally. Cleves Delp, '86, a member



Hillsdale College Trustee Cleves Delp, '86, addresses the audience with his mother, Mary Jane, at his side.



The dedication plaque expresses gratitude to Mary Jane Delp for her “unwavering support and encouragement.”

of Hillsdale’s Board of Trustees and father of Charger tennis players Morgan, '15, Sydney, '16, and Dugan, '18, approached Arnn about it when Morgan and Sydney were in high school. Arnn said the College needed three things in order to reinstate tennis: great coaches who would foster academic success in the students, new facilities, and student-athletes. With the hiring of women’s tennis coach Nicole Walbright in 2011, the foundation was laid for the women’s team to start competing. The completion of the Biermann Athletic Center in 2013 provided a year-round facility. In 2014, Keith Turner was hired as the men’s tennis coach, and that team started competing last fall. The Mary Jane Delp Tennis Courts now complete the ingredients needed for a successful tennis program.

“My father always told me that it’s not worth doing something if you can’t do it well,” Arnn said. “But now, Hillsdale College can do tennis well.”

Both Sydney and Cleves Delp spoke on behalf of Mary Jane Delp, their grandmother and mother, respectively. “Hillsdale’s tennis team has an ultra-competitive reputation, often fighting down to the last minute of a match,” Sydney said. She noted that her grandmother possesses a similar competitive strength as a cancer survivor and as a spirited, dedicated fan. “I am confident that Hillsdale’s tennis teams will uphold my grandma’s legacy of steadfast competition,” Sydney said.

With his mother standing beside him, Cleves Delp remarked that the new courts are a fitting tribute not only to Mary Jane and what she has done for her family, but to all mothers and grandmothers who participate in their



Sydney Delp, '16, a Charger tennis player, spoke of her grandmother’s competitive strength and dedication.

children’s athletic activities. “It’s all about the mothers and grandmothers who go to their children’s sporting events, congratulating them in victory and comforting them in defeat,” Cleves said.

In closing, Cleves Delp noted how, years ago, his children committed to come to Hillsdale whether or not there was a tennis program. “The Hillsdale College experience transcends athletics, but athletics enhance the Hillsdale experience,” he said. “I am extremely proud of how Hillsdale’s student-athletes represent the College in their performance and behavior on and off the court.”

The men’s tennis team christened the courts following the ceremony, losing a close match to Walsh University.

■ MONICA VANDERWEIDE, '95

# Stepping It Up: Jazz Expands

## As Big Band Gives Outstanding ELMHURST PERFORMANCE

**JAZZ MUSIC AT HILLSDALE** took a great leap forward this semester when the College Big Band performed at the Elmhurst College Jazz Festival in Elmhurst, Illinois, at the end of February.

Until this year, Hillsdale had joined with Albion College to host the Liberal Arts Jazz Festival, which represented smaller colleges and high schools. The Elmhurst festival, which featured bands from more than 20 colleges and universities across the country, is the first such festival that Hillsdale has attended in recent memory.

“We were up against some really big schools,” vocalist and junior Gianna Marchese told the *Collegian*. “We were followed by Ohio State, so for little Hillsdale to come in and impress a lot of frequent festival-goers, I think that speaks a lot for our program here.”

Hillsdale’s success is even more notable considering that none of the members of the Big Band have a music major, while most of the bands represented at the festival were composed entirely of music majors. “We surprised people,” says junior and lead trumpet player Luke Zahari. “To do what we did without people who sink all of their time into music rehearsals and practice, and everything that goes along with playing at that high level, is just incredible.”

Zahari, who played a heavy schedule of festivals in high school and has hoped to do the same in college, had previously approached band director Chris McCourry about attending more and bigger jazz festivals. McCourry, who recalls performing in similar festivals as a graduate student, takes pride in the band’s performance and energy.

“There wasn’t a band there that sounded bigger or stronger than us,” he says. “I had a large number of people in the audience come up to me and say, ‘Man, your band sounded great!’ And they’re comparing it to California, or Michigan, or Ohio State. They don’t know Hillsdale’s a little school; all they know is, ‘There’s the band.’”

The jazz music program at Hillsdale has grown exponentially in a short amount of time according to McCourry, who says he taught no jazz at all when he began



The Hillsdale College Big Band performs at a “Get Out the Vote” rally in Addison, Illinois, prior to their performance at the Elmhurst College Jazz Festival.

teaching music at Hillsdale 11 years ago. A jazz club formed during his second year of teaching, and that club became the basis for the 19-piece Big Band, the slightly smaller “Little Big Band,” jazz classes, and the numerous student jazz combos that currently practice and perform at Hillsdale.

“The more we added, the more interest seemed to grow,” McCourry says, adding that it’s “a bit of a mystery” to him how quickly the interest in jazz has grown on campus. “But I couldn’t ask for a better development over the years,” he says.

Next year, McCourry says he plans for the band to attend the Elmhurst Festival again, and hopes that the band will also be able to attend similar festivals at the University of Michigan and Notre Dame.

But attending larger festivals is not the only improvement in the band’s near future. Beginning this fall, the Big Band will switch from holding only one weekly rehearsal to two. McCourry explains that most of the bands represented

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

# Studying a Statesman

## Churchill Fellows Assist with WINSTON CHURCHILL BIOGRAPHY

**THE MOST RECENT VOLUME** of the official biography of Winston Churchill—the work of Hillsdale College’s Churchill Project—is 2,470 pages long and is printed on the thinnest grade of paper besides Bible paper, but covers only eight months of history. It is the 18th document volume



Churchill Fellow Lillian Quinones, '17, and Soren Geiger review some of the Churchill documents.

of the bibliography, corresponding to one of the already-published eight narrative volumes.

The Churchill Fellows Program offers undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to aid in the compilation of the official biography.

Soren Geiger, '13, the director of the program and research assistant to President Larry Arnn, says that the fellowship provides students more than the opportunity to work on the biography. “The fellowship also gives nine undergraduate and graduate students an education in statesmanship,” he says.

Student fellows work on various aspects of the biography and help manage the project website. The documents came from the estate of Sir Martin Gilbert, who was the official biographer of Winston Churchill for 44 years.

“Churchill’s political career was more than 50 years long,” Geiger says. “He left the largest collection of personal papers of any statesman of his stature ever. And we have that.”



Churchill Fellows Program Director Soren Geiger with Fellows Nathaniel Pullmann, M.A.'16, and Conner Dwinell, '17.

According to Geiger, the biography currently consists of 26 volumes—eight narrative volumes and 18 document volumes. He and his staff are working on six more document volumes which will complete the project. He also says that the program will soon release the volumes as e-books. “For the first time, millions of Churchill’s words will be searchable by the touch of a finger,” he says.

Fellow Lillian Quinones, '17, has been working on the e-book part of the project. “To portray the life of a man who is so inspiring is a very exciting opportunity,” she says.

“Learning from the past is something that we must do with humility,” Quinones adds. “Churchill came at a very important time in history. It’s exciting to see the interchange and spirit of the times through his correspondence, and that’s really what the documents are serving.”

Geiger echoes the importance of the work for the College and the rich wisdom found in the Churchill documents.

“All the stars aligned to allow us to make great use out of his thoughts and writings, to demonstrate how a statesman actually leads, and to show how these ideas and principles work themselves out in policy,” he says. ■ EMMA VINTON, '16

# Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant

## Remembering Stephen Casai

**FOR 35 YEARS**, Steve Casai greeted students and guests entering Hillsdale’s cafeteria, always with a gracious smile and a friendly “hello.” The College community missed that smile when Casai fell seriously ill last September and could not return to work. On February 17, 2016, he passed away due to complications from a brain tumor. One week later, students, staff, and members of the community gathered at the Searle Center for a memorial service, where they celebrated the profound influence of a beloved friend.

Casai graduated from Hillsdale in 1974 with a degree in history. He went on to attend Bethany Lutheran College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, but was never ordained. Instead, he chose to return to Hillsdale College, where he began working for the food service in 1980.

Steve’s quiet presence belied his influence on generations of Hillsdale students. In a letter he dictated that was printed in the fall 2015 *Hillsdale Magazine*, Casai expressed the doubts he had about whether he had made a difference. “And then I started to hear from all of you,” he wrote.

“God allowed Steve the rare gift of seeing what a difference his life had made,” said Greg McLogan, ’88, a Hillsdale native who met Steve when he was a teenager. McLogan shared reflections of Steve that other alumni had written. Many were touched by Steve’s humility, kindness, friendliness, and his Christian faith. “Steve brought grace to me,” recounted one alumnus. “I’ve been challenged to follow his example and give grace to others.”

Even though Casai’s job put him in contact with hundreds of people each day, he guarded his personal life. “Steve was a people person but also a private person,” noted Bud Vear, a local resident and retired Hillsdale College physician who

knew Steve from their membership in the local Right to Life chapter. Although Casai would deflect any personal questions, he did share his knowledge and interests with others through occasional articles in the *Collegian*, writing about the arts and history. One such article recounted the history of Saga Food Service at Hillsdale. In the mid-1980s, students started calling Casai “Saga Steve.” “He hated the nickname,” Vear said. “He thought it would go away, but it never did. Eventually, Steve came to accept it and laugh about it.”

Casai also enjoyed the arts, and frequently attended musical and theatrical productions at the College. He developed friendships with those students who worked with him, always supporting and encouraging them in their endeavors. One of those students, senior Klara Holscher, recalled the lively discussions she and Casai would have about music, theatre, and books. One book in particular guided Casai—the Bible. “Steve would say, ‘I am a student of the Bible,’” Holscher said. “He should be remembered for his faith.”



Stephen Casai

Hillsdale President Larry Arnn recalled how in 2005, students petitioned the administration to name the new dining hall in the soon-to-be-built Grewcock Student Union after Casai. While the students did not get their request granted, Arnn did

offer students the opportunity to design and dedicate two plaques that hang in the cafeteria in honor of Casai. One plaque states: “Hillsdale College gratefully recognizes and commends the dedication and loyalty of Stephen Casai, ’74, whose humble and quiet service is an inspiration and an example to all.” The second plaque features two passages chosen by Casai that reflect his Christian faith: Colossians 3:3, “Our life is hid with Christ in God,” and a poem based on that same verse, titled “Colossians 3:3,” written by 17th-century poet and priest George Herbert. “I think Steve was like a priest, and we were his ministry,” Arnn concluded. “We should be grateful to have been members of his flock.”

■ MONICA VANDERWEIDE, ’95

# Farewell to a Poet

## Remembering Olga Muñiz

**THE HILLSDALE** College community mourned the loss of Assistant Professor of Spanish Olga Muñiz, who passed away on May 6, 2016, after a lengthy battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband, Associate Professor of Spanish Kevin Teegarden, and their daughter, Ariana.

A native of Isabela, Puerto Rico, Muñiz came to the United States in 1981 to attend graduate school at Indiana University after receiving a bachelor's degree in English with minors in Spanish, Italian, and German from Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez. She was pursuing an M.A. in Italian when a professor recommended that she add a minor in Spanish. Taking his advice, she enrolled in a Spanish literature class, where she met Teegarden. They continued taking Spanish classes together for the next two years, both earning their master's degrees in 1984. That same year, they married.

Muñiz and Teegarden were both hired to teach Spanish at Hillsdale College in 1991. In an article she wrote for a College newsletter, Muñiz noted that “the experience of teaching in the same place has strengthened our marriage and our professional goals. We teach many of the same students, sharing about their needs and following their academic and personal success.” Indeed, their shared experiences have strengthened the academic experience for students as well. They co-authored a grammar book, *Manual de referencia*, and many other class materials. Each summer, they traveled to Spain and met with students studying abroad through Hillsdale's program in Seville, while also conducting research for their classes and professional interests.

Muñiz enjoyed writing poetry, publishing a bilingual poetry book titled *The Sparrow's Song/El canto del gorrión*. She also enjoyed painting with watercolors. She often incorporated creative exercises using art, music, and poetry into her classes. It was not unusual for her students to give poetry recitations, sing Spanish songs, or write plays. In 2014, she assigned her Intensive Intermediate Spanish class the task of writing a sequel to an open-ended one-act play they had read in class. Muñiz selected one of the sequels and the

class performed the play, complete with costumes and a set, which was open to the whole student body. “[This is a chance] to see all the talent these students have, the creativity, and to see what we can do with the Spanish language, not just take exams and quizzes,” Muñiz said in a *Collegian* article.

Stephanie Umphress Maxwell, '96, who minored in Spanish, remembers those creative classroom activities and how much they fostered her Spanish-speaking ability. “I had Dr. Muñiz for only one class, but I think my fluency in the language increased more in that one class than in all the others combined,” she says. Even students who did not take classes with Muñiz benefited from her contributions to the Spanish Department. “Although I never studied under Dr. Muñiz, I could feel her energetic determination throughout the curriculum of the Spanish Department,” recalls Spanish major Betsy Peters Howard, '10. “I still frequently reference the grammar textbook that she wrote with Dr. Teegarden as



Olga Muñiz

I teach Spanish students of my own now.”

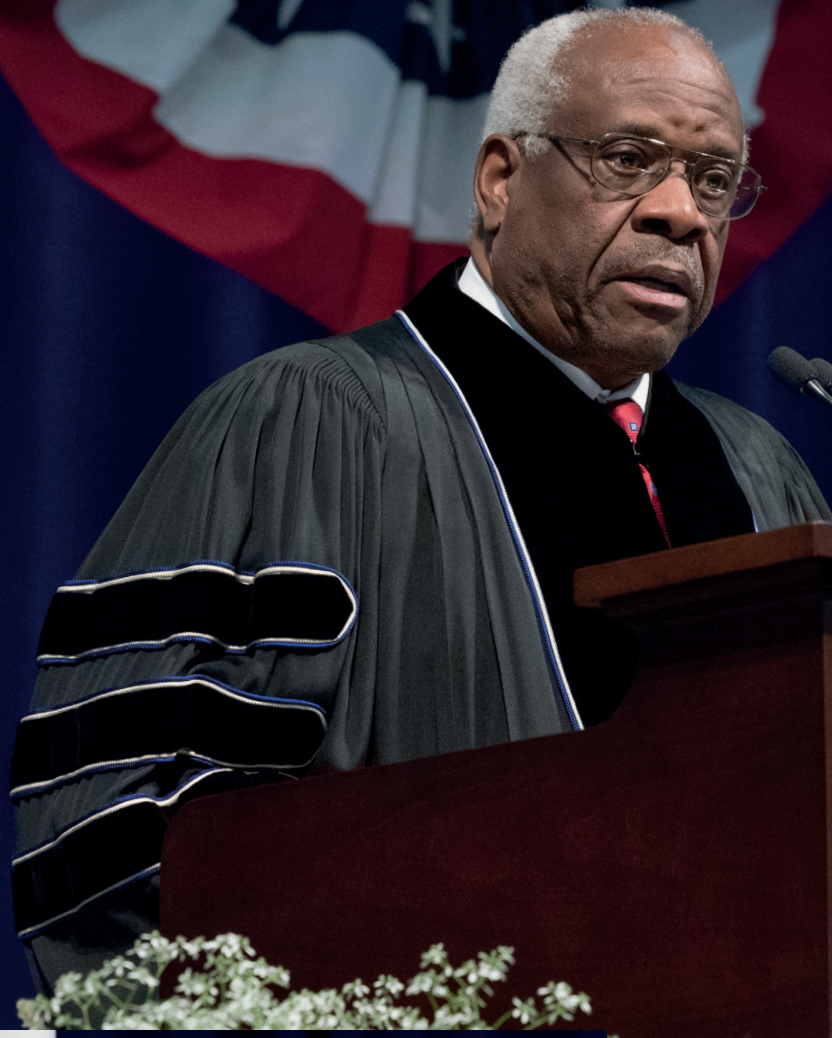
Spanish Department Chairwoman Sandy Puvogel remembers Muñiz's talent for showing students the beauty in poetry. “Reading and analyzing poetry can be a daunting task for many students, but

Olga had a talent for guiding them through those challenges,” Puvogel says. “As a poet herself, she knew the power and the beauty of the written word, and she cared deeply about passing on that knowledge to her students.”

Muñiz's husband was a source of strength and inspiration to her during her illness. As she wrote in 2012, “Kevin has been my ‘silent wings.’ He has taken up my academic duties when I couldn't and is my right hand in everything I need.”

“Olga's many talents and the grace and courage that she showed throughout her illness will not be forgotten,” Puvogel says. ■ MONICA VANDERWEIDE, '95

# Commencement 2016



U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Clarence Thomas urged the graduates to fulfill their obligations to be good citizens.



The College awarded honorary degrees to Hillsdale supporters Peter Plotkin and his wife, Diane McNeel-Plotkin.

# Justice Clarence Thomas

## Exhorts Graduates to LEAD BY EXAMPLE

**BEFORE A CAPACITY CROWD** in the Margot V. Biermann Athletic Center, the 353 undergraduate and 14 graduate students of the Class of 2016 joined the ranks of Hillsdale College's alumni, completing what President Larry P. Arnn called "the highest human activity—talking, thinking, and carrying on together what they know to keep it alive." Such activity, the very purpose of a college, Arnn said, leads to joy, improvement of character, freedom, and a connection with God.

In introducing Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court Clarence Thomas, Arnn, who has known Thomas for nearly 30 years, described him as "the greatest public servant I know." No stranger to Hillsdale, Thomas has spoken at College events through the years and taught a seminar on campus in 2004. "I admire the work being done at Hillsdale College," Thomas said.

In his address, Thomas recalled growing up on a farm and the hard work that came with such an upbringing. "If you didn't discharge your responsibilities, there would be no crops, no self-sufficiency, no freedom," he said. Along with the importance of carrying out his duties on the farm, his grandparents instilled in him a sense of obligation toward his neighbors and his country, even in the midst of the injustices they endured in the segregated South. While the ideals of duty, honor, and country were

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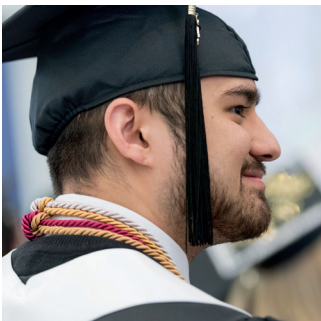
The top five academic seniors of the Class of 2016: Matthew Moorman, Timothy Troutner, salutatorian Jack Shannon, valedictorian Sarah Onken, and Audrey Southgate.







Senior Class President Nick Brown spoke of the opportunities for leadership and service inherent in both entrepreneurship and the liberal arts.



commonplace in Thomas’s youth, “the focus today is on what we are owed rather than our obligations,” he said.

Liberty depends on good citizens discharging their duties, Thomas continued. “If we don’t make deposits on liberty, we will eventually deplete it.” But Hillsdale students understand the heritage of self-government under law, Thomas said, exhorting the graduates to set examples of true citizenship. “What you do will matter more than what you say,” he concluded. “Be an example to others. Treat others as you wish to be treated. Your efforts will help form the fabric of a free and prosperous society.”

President Arnn bestowed an honorary doctor of laws degree on Thomas. He also awarded honorary doctor of public service degrees to Hillsdale College Woman

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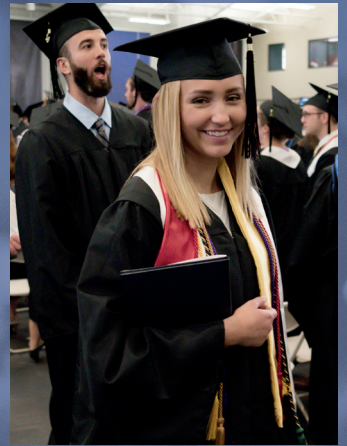
**“Be an example to others. Treat others as you wish to be treated. Your efforts will help form the fabric of a free and prosperous society.”**

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Commissioner Janet Piwonka Brodbeck, ’67, friends of the College Peter and Diane Plotkin, and (posthumously) to Hazel Hare, a longtime member of the College’s Board of Trustees who passed away in March. Hare’s niece, Tracey Kane, accepted the degree.

In his remarks to his fellow classmates, Senior Class President Nick Brown lamented how, at most other colleges, the liberal arts are under attack. But Hillsdale offers the best defense for them. Brown, who aspires to become an entrepreneur, likened the liberal arts to entrepreneurship. “Both are inherently risky, but the liberal arts and entrepreneurship lead to discovery and truth,” he said. “When the discovery of opportunity is followed by action, we begin to serve others.” By embracing the liberal arts, “we become equipped to lead the lost,” he said.

Board of Trustees Chairman Bill Brodbeck, ’66, offered his congratulations to the graduating class and saluted them and their parents for choosing a place as unique as Hillsdale College. “If this country is to be saved, it will be through the efforts of young men and women who have graduated from Hillsdale,” he said. “Share what you know with the rest of the country.” ■ MONICA VANDERWEIDE, ’95



# Outstanding Seniors, Outstanding Community

Marie Wathen and Matt Sauer

**WHEN MARIE WATHEN** began her college search, she knew she was looking for a small liberal arts college with a strong faith community and strong academics in a variety of departments. Although she had visited other schools and been impressed, the attitude of Hillsdale students in the classroom and the level of dialogue between students and professor in class stood out to her.

“In the class I visited, the students had all their books marked up,” she explains. “They were raising their hands, and they were excited to share, and I thought, ‘What is going on here? There’s something different here from other schools.’”

Matt Sauer’s initial experience with Hillsdale echoes Wathen’s. Sauer was considering approximately a dozen schools across the country, and during spring break of his junior year of high school, traveled to almost all of these colleges for visits. He had initially become interested in Hillsdale because of its refusal to take federal funding, but after visiting campus, he was impressed by the students and by the general understanding of the liberal arts at Hillsdale compared to other colleges.

“The fact that Hillsdale could say that the liberal arts are those that are for free men and that make men free, that there is more to learning than getting a job, that there is some sort of piety that needs to be inculcated, impressed me,” Sauer explains. “And they

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**“I’ve been formed and shaped by all of these experiences and people. I credit Hillsdale with anything that I’ve done.”**

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Outstanding Senior Man Matt Sauer and Outstanding Senior Woman Marie Wathen

weren’t desperate. That was the selling point: Come here if you want. Here’s what we’re doing. If you want to participate, please join us.”

Sauer and Wathen were named Hillsdale’s Outstanding Senior Man and Woman of 2016. The two represent a distinct and singular community of students, a community that interested them as prospective students and formed them during their time at Hillsdale, and one that they will carry with them as they go out into the world.

Wathen and Sauer are both history majors. Wathen also graduated with a Spanish minor and numerous credits in the Art Department. Sauer has a minor in Latin, a language he only began studying as a junior.

Both seniors maintained active memberships in the recently restructured Collegiate Scholars program, formerly known as the Honors Program.

Outside of classes, Wathen participated in Student

Federation, serving at various times as a class representative, treasurer, and president. She worked as a student mentor for Career Services and as a Student Ambassador for the Admissions Office. She also led numerous book discussion groups and played intramural football. Wathen says that her favorite week on campus is Homecoming Week, because “it’s a really fun way to spend time with people outside of the average day-to-day.” She participated in a Homecoming spirit team with her residence every year.

Sauer spent a great deal of time in the Music and Theatre Departments. He participated in seven productions with the Tower Players, sang in College Choir and Chamber Choir, and performed in Opera Workshop. He also worked as a Student Ambassador for the Admissions Office, and was a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society, Phi Mu Alpha Symphonia music fraternity, and the honorary societies for history, classics, and theatre.

One of Sauer’s favorite recollections from his time at Hillsdale is of a semi-annual event titled “The Fall,” where friends would gather in an off-campus house to enjoy refreshments and share “something beautiful” that they had experienced that semester: a piece of literature, a story, an image, or the like. Sauer says that this tradition demonstrates the strength and value of Hillsdale’s community. “We won’t all bring the same poem, or song, or excerpt,” he explains, “and yet we’re all mature enough to appreciate everything that is brought there because it is brought by people we know, love, and trust.”

Reflecting on being named Outstanding Senior Woman, Wathen says that she was “incredibly shocked,” because she knows so many students who have invested so much in this community and taught her important lessons. She adds that she feels more honored by the selection because it comes from the community that shaped her. “We actually know our professors and our fellow students,” she explains. “The fact that they made this selection means a lot, because it’s coming out of real relationships.” Sauer has similar reflections on his own selection, adding, “I can take hardly any credit for who I am at this point. I’ve been formed and shaped by all of these experiences and people. I credit Hillsdale with anything that I’ve done.”

After graduation, Wathen is moving to Boise, Idaho, to work in human resources and written communications for an e-commerce company that sells holiday and home decor. She says the company possesses a lot of the traits she has loved about Hillsdale: a small size, a strong community, and great mentorship.

When asked about his plans after graduation, Sauer joyfully replies that he is “not going anywhere!” He will remain at the College for the next few years as an admissions counselor for the Indiana/Ohio area. Afterwards, he is considering teaching, attending graduate school, or starting a



Matt Sauer celebrates his coronation as Homecoming King last fall.



Marie Wathen addressed incoming students at the 2015 Freshman Convocation.

business in downtown Hillsdale that would cater to the needs and desires of the College’s students.

Both seniors express gratitude for the support of Hillsdale’s community and the desire to contribute to others. “It’s kidding ourselves to say, ‘I’m going to do this on my own,’” Wathen says. “I have never done it on my own, and I don’t want to do it on my own! I have been formed and blessed in all these ways, and now I have an opportunity to bless others.” ■ MEGAN SCOTT, ’16

# Collegian Wins “Newspaper of the Year” Award

**MEMBERS OF** the Hillsdale *Collegian* staff received great honors at the end of January when their writing and photography won them the 2015 “College Newspaper of the Year” award from the Michigan Press Association (MPA).

The MPA’s annual College Better Newspaper Contest honors college newspapers for creating great journalism. This year’s judges reviewed entries from 14 Michigan college newspapers published during the 2014-2015 school year. One winning title is awarded in each of three divisions—more-than-weekly publications, weekly publications, and less-than-weekly or community college publications—based on points accumulated by individual wins over 12 categories. The Division Two “Newspaper of the Year” title honors the *Collegian*

as the best weekly student newspaper in Michigan.

The *Collegian* enters the MPA contest every year and has won multiple awards in the past, but this year marks the largest number of individual awards won by Hillsdale’s student journalists. *Collegian* writers and photographers won 24 awards in ten different categories for their contributions to the newspaper, including a sweep of the Feature Story category and first-place awards in the Sports News, Column, and Best Writer categories.

Anders Kiledal, ’16, who won five individual awards for his photography, noted how rewarding it is for the *Collegian* staff to be commended by professional journalists. “It’s nice to have some recognition from outside the College that we’re doing good work,” he says.

“I’m so proud of the *Collegian* staff,” adds Amanda Tindall, ’16, author of the first-place entry in the Feature Story category and former features editor. “We did wonderfully in so many areas,” she explains. ■ MEGAN SCOTT, ’16



*Collegian* editor-in-chief Macaela Bennett discusses topics with her staff.

## JAZZ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

at the Elmhurst Festival rehearse about twice as long per week as Hillsdale’s band. “We’ve gotten to the point where we need more time if we’re going to compete with bands like Ohio State, Michigan, and Michigan State,” he says. However, McCourry also recognizes that most of the students in Hillsdale’s band have other commitments that must be honored, and believes that rehearsing more often, without making rehearsals longer, will help the band improve even more. “Having two sessions instead of just one makes a huge

difference.” McCourry also hopes that the band will have an opportunity to record a CD next year.

Zahari is excited for the change in rehearsal schedule, because more rehearsals increase the potential for the band to expand its public performances. “Right now, the only performances we have in the fall are the two Jazz Afterglow events following the orchestra concerts, where we’re not exactly the featured act. And after 12 weeks of working hard in rehearsals, I want people to hear us.” ■ MEGAN SCOTT, ’16

# Harmony and History

## Musicologist Derek Stauff Blends Music and Research

**WHEN YOU WALK** into Assistant Professor of Music Derek Stauff's office, you will notice shelf after shelf of books, each meticulously coordinated by color. How fitting, then, that such a harmonious arrangement belongs to Stauff, an organist and a musicologist who teaches music history, harmonizing this universal discipline within the context of the liberal arts.

Stauff, who hails originally from eastern Pennsylvania, started taking piano lessons at the age of five. He added organ lessons in high school and continued his organ studies at Grove City College. As a music education major, Stauff considered becoming a music teacher or choir director. Because he was "well-practiced" in playing the organ, Stauff entered graduate school at Indiana University to earn a master's degree in organ performance. Along the way, he also developed an interest in music history, and simultaneously earned a master's degree in musicology. He completed his education with a Ph.D. in the same subject, focusing on 17th-century Baroque music. While in graduate school, Stauff was first exposed to Hillsdale College: he met and married fellow musicologist Mariel Johnson, '05.

Stauff recalls that in his first week of teaching at Hillsdale, he wondered if his students could handle the rigor of music history. "Music history involves lots of research and writing," he explains. "Previously, I had taught seniors or graduate students who were very musically experienced, with a full conservatory-style undergraduate curriculum under their belts, but who needed to improve their academic skills. These students often did not see the value of academic coursework." To his delight, however, Stauff discovered that Hillsdale students were up for the challenge. "I found that though many of my students have not gone through the full gamut of conservatory-style curriculum, they often make up for this with academic talent and creativity," he says. "Furthermore, they are discovering that the skills they learn in my classes will serve them well whether or not they go into the performance field."

"Dr. Stauff challenges us not only with the work load, but with the quality of work expected," junior music major Sarah Chavey says. "Because he requires us to work so hard, my first 'A' was even sweeter than usual."

This year, Stauff taught beginning and advanced sections of Understanding Music (for non-music majors), the two-semester music history sequence, and a senior seminar based on his research. Last fall, he taught a class on Bach's keyboard music. "Next fall, I'll be teaching a seminar on Handel's *Messiah*, to coincide with the choir and orchestra's production of *Messiah*," he says. "I'll also offer a one-credit class on the *Messiah* open to anyone." In keeping with the Music

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20



### Derek Stauff

- Assistant Professor of Music
- B.M., Grove City College, 2003
- M.M., M.A., Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University, 2006
- Ph.D., Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University, 2014
- Joined Hillsdale faculty in 2015

# A Lifelong Teacher

## French Professor Maria Rebbert Retires

**“PEOPLE WHO KNEW ME** knew I would be a teacher,” Professor of French Maria Rebbert says of her career choice. “From the time I was tiny, whenever someone taught me something and I thought, ‘Wow, they made that easy to learn,’ I would go home and practice it on my brothers and sisters, not only what I learned, but also how I had learned it.”

After serving for 32 years as a professor in Hillsdale’s French Department, Dr. Rebbert retired at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. Her parents were both teachers who, when they helped Rebbert and her siblings with homework, would point out their methods for teaching and memorizing. “It just became part of me to think about how you teach and how you learn,” Rebbert explains.

In addition to her curiosity about teaching and learning, Rebbert says that she has always loved languages. “My mom was Mexican, so I should have studied Spanish,” she jokes. While she did learn some Spanish at home, Rebbert decided to study French in high school so that she would have not one, but two foreign languages.

By the end of her high school career, Rebbert was certain that she wanted a career in teaching, although she wasn’t sure what she would teach. Much more proficient in French than in Spanish at that point, Rebbert chose to continue studying French in college, along with chemistry. After a single year of college, her passion for languages won out and she dropped her chemistry focus to study another language and take courses in linguistics.

After teaching in graduate school, and then for a year at the University of Wyoming, Rebbert learned of an opening at Hillsdale and came to interview. She loved the other department faculty and was impressed by their

determination to teach language by immersion. Excited by the idea of teaching at a small liberal arts college and further impressed by Hillsdale’s commitment to independence, Rebbert happily accepted a position and began teaching French at Hillsdale in 1984.

In her many years at Hillsdale, Rebbert says that she has been impressed by the passion and drive of her French students, recalling some who would come by her office in the afternoon “just to chat” so that they could practice their oral language skills, and others who worked ahead so that they would have time to complete the major, take more literature classes, and study in France. “You don’t know what people can do until they do it,” she remarks. “It depends on how

much they want to do it, as well as on their abilities and preparedness.”

When asked what she plans to do in her retirement, Rebbert immediately responds that she plans to read, as well as become involved in volunteer work with the Humane Society, a local medical care facility, and with



Maria Rebbert

St. Anthony’s parish in Hillsdale. She also hopes to enjoy some outdoor activities such as kayaking, hiking, and cross-country skiing.

Rebbert says that she has enjoyed seeing the growth of foreign languages at Hillsdale and expresses confidence that the department will continue to flourish in years to come. She admits to being “a little sad to leave,” partly because of the exciting new teaching methods offered by ever-improving technology, and partly because of the increasing quality of the incoming French students. “It’s been wonderful working with the students I have now,” she says, “and they just keep getting better and better!” But Rebbert is confident that the two newly hired French professors, along with Chairman of French Marie-Claire Morellec, will pass along the tradition of excellence. She hopes, on occasion, to attend the French conversation table in the dining hall, and looks forward to watching Hillsdale’s French students continue to excel. ■ MEGAN SCOTT, ’16

# Dave Zenz's Journey

## on the Information SUPERHIGHWAY

**IN 1992**, most people at Hillsdale College had never heard of the Internet, let alone used it. Students did not have e-mail accounts, and they probably never dreamed of using a pocket-sized phone to look up information for a research paper. The advances in technology over the past quarter-century have been nothing short of amazing, transforming the way students, faculty, and staff conduct their work. For 24 years, Executive Director of Information Technology Services Dave Zenz has quietly and steadily overseen this technology transformation, building a busy department that serves every area of campus. This spring, after being the one constant in an area of continuous change, he retired.

Zenz, who previously worked as a technical and proposal writer and managed the Proposals and Publication Department for Sparton Corporation's ASW Technical Center in nearby Jackson, jumped at the opportunity to be Hillsdale's first full-time director of Academic Computing. At the time, his responsibilities included running a small Apple resale operation, and managing the Place for Information Technology, better known as the PIT, and the Wiegand Computer Lab, both of which had just opened in the basement of the Knorr Center. He also managed a fledgling AppleTalk computer network, which the faculty had developed with phone wires strung from office to office and classroom to classroom in several campus buildings. With only a small group of student lab monitors assisting him initially, Zenz recalls, "We made it up as we went along. Those students put their liberal arts education to work helping to build the department and its operations."

In his first month on the job, Zenz attended a conference sponsored by Merit Network Inc., a Michigan-based Internet service provider, to gain the knowledge needed to achieve one of the Academic Dean's first charges: "Get us on the Internet, whatever that is." A few months later, Hillsdale jumped on the information superhighway with a 56K connection. "That was the start of a rich and professional relationship with Merit Network," Zenz recalls.

Hillsdale's Internet usage quickly outgrew that 56K

connection, and Zenz had to purchase increased bandwidth every year. In hopes of eliminating this costly dependency, Zenz, representing the College, along with the city of Hillsdale, the Hillsdale Intermediate School District, and Merit Network began discussions in 2008 about bringing a fiber optic backbone connection to Hillsdale. Not only did Merit build this direct fiber connection to Hillsdale, thereby eliminating the costly carrier circuit and allowing for easier bandwidth upgrades, it also selected the College's data center as the location for one of its core backbone



Dave Zenz

nodes when it extended its network across southern Michigan. Furthermore, the Ohio Academic Resources Network also installed a second connection to Merit Network in Hillsdale's data center, offering redundant network paths. "Hillsdale College now has one of the best, redundant fiber optic backbone and bandwidth connections of any small

college in Michigan, if not the country," Zenz states proudly.

In 2000, Zenz oversaw the merger of Academic Computing and Administrative Computing into a new Information Technology Services (ITS) department. He hired several full-time staff members, who in turn helped improve technical support and user services for the College's rapidly growing computer network. Today, ITS consists of 17 full-time

employees, whom Zenz considers "the greatest people in the best department on campus."

In a field dominated by machines, Zenz has always looked at the personal connection. "The person is the most

important part of any process," he says. "I always ask, 'What will best meet the needs of the faculty, staff, and students?' A network is much more than connecting computers; it's a way to move ideas. We align our work with the College's mission."

As Zenz reflects on his 24 years at the College, he is grateful for his talented and knowledgeable staff, for the "good liberal arts students who helped build ITS," and for the friendships he made. "I'm just an average guy who's had a fantastic opportunity at just the right time to work here and to be a part of something big and exciting in the Information Age." ■ MONICA VANDERWEIDE, '95

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**"Get us on the Internet,  
whatever that is."**

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# From Architecture to Academia

## Retiring Professor of Politics Robert Eden Pushes Students to Love Learning

**“IF YOU’RE SCARED** of putting your foot in the water, it takes a long time to learn how to swim,” retiring Professor of Politics Robert Eden says. “Especially if no one throws you in.”

For Eden, who will retire at the end of August after 29 years at Hillsdale College, education is like the water into which students must either jump or be pushed. He says that the 14 years of his own college education taught him both to jump in himself and to help others love learning and school.

Eden started his undergraduate career in 1960 at Reed College in Oregon, where he says he had the experience of a small liberal arts college like Hillsdale. After two years, he moved to the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied architecture and taught on the faculty from 1966 to 1967.

“I wanted to be an architect, so it took me a long time to graduate,” Eden says.

But Eden soon realized that he did not want to be an architect. He attended the University of Chicago for one year, and then Harvard University, from which he graduated in 1974.

“Only when I was teaching in the architecture department did I decide that I didn’t want to be an architect, and that I wanted to go into the study of politics,” he says. “I was profoundly interested in political theory. It took a long time to discover what I really thought.”

After teaching in Canada for 13 years because of the academic depression there, Eden was introduced to Hillsdale College. He was invited to Hillsdale to help run the Center for Constructive Alternatives, but instead took a position in the Politics Department in 1987.

“I had a lot of time to think about what I wanted to do,” Eden says. “If you find someone who spends 14 years getting

an education, you figure that person must either be crazy or completely impractical.”

Fortunately, Eden turned out to be neither of those things. He says that, when he first came to Hillsdale, he was concerned with fundamentals, with students who were both unprepared for college and who were afraid of education.

He considers helping students overcome that fear as one of his greatest academic accomplishments. He did this, for one, by giving vocabulary tests.

“One of the things I worked very hard on for years was getting students to experience what it meant to build your vocabulary slowly,” he says.

Eden was also involved in the implementation of the



Robert Eden

Constitution core class. His other favorite classes to teach were “Politics and Literature” and a class on American historian and autobiographer Henry Adams.

Looking back over his 29 years at the College, Eden recalls that one of his favorite moments was when a former student, who was

visiting her own child during Parents Weekend, stopped by to see Eden and share a memory.

“There was a former student 20 years later who remembered my classes and who liked them a lot,” Eden says. “That’s a real joy.” ■ EMMA VINTON, ’16

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### STAUFF CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Department’s policy of welcoming students of all majors, Stauff hopes to develop more classes and seminars geared toward a general audience.

As an organist, Stauff eagerly anticipates Hillsdale’s proposed chapel, which will include two organs. “I want to help develop a stronger program in sacred music at Hillsdale,” he says, and the chapel will provide the perfect foundation on which to do that.

In the meantime, Hillsdale students will certainly grow in their knowledge and appreciation of sacred music and music history thanks to Stauff’s teaching. “While listening to classical music on the radio recently, I realized I was trying to figure out who the composer was, a challenge that had never crossed my mind before I took Dr. Stauff’s class,” Chavey says. “I was excited when I realized I had figured it out correctly.” ■ MONICA VANDERWEIDE, ’95

# It's a Three-Peat!

## Charger Shotgun Team Takes Division III NATIONAL TITLE

**IT SEEMS TO BE** a rite of spring. As the month of April arrived, the Hillsdale College shotgun team earned a national championship for the third consecutive year. And just as Hillsdale students never tire of the sweet signs of spring, a third national championship tastes just as sweet to the 12 members of the shotgun team.

The Chargers traveled to the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio, Texas, for the Association of College Unions International 48th Annual Clay Targets

country participated in the event, held March 29 to April 3, 2016.

The team took a commanding lead early in the competition, winning the

skeet and international trap. The team's total of 287 in international trap was the highest among all 76 schools, even those in Divisions I and II.

Juniors Kie Kababik and Jordan Hintz both shot a

the tournament very well prepared. Over the course of the five-day and six-event tournament, each of them was at the top of the leader board in all events."

The team's final score of 2203 was not only the



The 2016 Hillsdale College Shotgun Team celebrates its third consecutive national championship.



Ian Dupre, Drew Lieske, and Joe Kain earned All-American honors for their performances at the national championships.

Tournament. Seventy-six teams representing schools from around the

sporting clays event for the second consecutive year, as well as international

perfect 100 in American trap, with Hintz finishing shoot-offs with a bronze medal. Junior Kyle Luttig followed with 99, and juniors Casey Inks and Ian Dupre both scored 98. Following the tournament, sophomore Drew Lieske was named 1st Team All-American and Dupre named 2nd Team All-American. Senior Joe Kain received an honorable mention.

"All worked exceedingly hard this year, and their dedication and commitment paid off," Head Coach Mike Carl says. "They went into

highest score in Division III, but also the third highest score of all competitors, coming in third overall behind Division I champion Lindenwood University and Division II champion Texas A&M University. Team members attribute their success to their dedication in practicing and their camaraderie. "The scores are just an outcome of how well the team works together," Kain says. "The dedication and effort put forth by every member of the team was truly astounding," Lieske adds. ■  
MONICA VANDERWEIDE, '95



Emily Oren prepares for the fall 2015 cross-country NCAA Division II Championships, in which Hillsdale placed third.

# Faster, Higher, Stronger:

## Olympic Hopeful Emily Oren's AMAZING COLLEGIATE RUN

**HILLSDALE COLLEGE SENIOR** Emily Oren started running track and cross-country when she was in middle school because her older sister ran. “I had to do

everything that my older sister did,” she says. “I decided to run, too, so we could be on the same team.”

Now the senior is captain of the women’s track team, a nine-time national champion and

All-American, as well as a three-time GLIAC champion. She also holds records at all levels in both cross-country and track, such as the mile run and the distance medley relay with her teammates. In the 3,000-meter run, she holds a national record time of 9:16, the fastest 3K since 1985.

Recently, Oren ran an NCAA Division II lead-time of 4:21—three seconds slower than her personal best—in the 1500-meter run at Georgia Tech International in April.

But for Oren, breaking

records wasn’t always as easy as it now seems. “When I went to the national meet my freshman year, there was no one there to tell me what to do,” she says. “I blew up. I did terribly.”

But failure, Oren says, drove her to work hard and help her team become one of national caliber.

“Helping progress the program as a whole is my greatest accomplishment,” she says. “When I came in, we were nothing like we are today. My classmates and I have worked really hard to create the type of

culture that we have on the team now.”

At the GLIAC Outdoor Track and Field Championships in May, Oren realized another ambition. In the 3,000-meter steeplechase, she broke not only a school record, a GLIAC record, and an NCAA Division II record with a time of 9:50.54, but also met the Olympic trials qualifying time in that event. She was named Outstanding Female Running Athlete of the Meet for the second consecutive year and helped lead Hillsdale to a runner-up finish at the meet.

“I’ve become far more confident in races and in running in general,” she says. “The program has helped me become a leader.”

Though an economics major and a hardworking student, Oren says that, in the grand scheme of her college career, she is most proud of the growth of the program to national levels. She notes that the greatest struggle is to keep the mental



Emily Oren helped lead the Charger track program to numerous national championships, including the distance medley relay team of Hannah Watts, Corinne Zehner, Oren, and her sister, Molly Oren.

balance between academics and running.

“I have this huge passion for running, so I want

Oren also credits her coaches and teammates with her success and the success of the team.

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**“I’ve become far more confident in races and in running in general,” she says. “The program has helped me become a leader.”**

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to spend all my time on it,” she says. “But I know that my education is very important, too.”

“Coach [Andy] Towne does an awesome job in creating a culture that is inviting to hard work,

dreaming big, and going after crazy things that you never thought you could achieve,” she says. “From the very beginning, he always stressed that we would be a national podium team. I don’t think that even he thought it was going to happen in three years.”

But indeed it did happen, over and over again. In the 2015-2016 year alone, the Charger women finished nationally in third place for cross-country, second place for indoor track and field, and third place for outdoor track and field.

After graduation, Oren will work for Hillsdale College as an Admissions Counselor, and she will continue training with Assistant Track and Cross-Country Coach Joe Lynn. She hopes to get a sponsorship to continue running.

“Hopefully my summer will lead to the Olympic trials,” Oren says. “After that, we’ll see what’s possible.”

■ EMMA VINTON, '16



**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
**The COLLEGIATE WOMEN**  
**SPORTS AWARDS**  
presented by **HONDA**

## Emily Oren Named the Honda Division II Athlete of the Year

On June 9, Emily Oren was named the Honda Division II Women’s Athlete of the Year. The award was presented by the Collegiate Women’s Sports Awards. The organization recognizes a total of three female college athletes across all NCAA divisions, one each

from Division I, II and III. Oren received her award at a ceremony broadcast live on CBS Sports Network on June 27.

“Emily Oren personifies a Hillsdale College student-athlete,” said Charger Head Track and Field Coach Andrew Towne. “But what

separates her is her drive. She was truly committed to excellence throughout her career, and that’s why many consider her to be the greatest female distance runner in Division II history. We couldn’t be more proud of her.”

# Play Ball!

## Charger Baseball and Softball Teams Bat Their Way to POST-SEASON SUCCESS



Luke Ortel set GLIAC single-season records for total hits and at bats, and he was named GLIAC Player of the Year.

**THE 2016** Charger baseball and softball seasons won't soon be forgotten, as both teams enjoyed winning seasons, individual accolades, coaching honors, and school records.

### Baseball

The baseball team roared on to the scene in February with a nine-game winning streak in the South. The Chargers accelerated from there, culminating in a 30-20 regular season record. This represents the most wins in a single season in school history and is the highest regular season winning percentage since 1949.

The Chargers entered the GLIAC tournament for the first time in 13 years as the sixth seed and faced Grand Valley State in the first round. Although they lost that first game, they scored wins against Ashland and Malone to advance to the championship round, where they suffered a heartbreaking loss to Walsh University.

But the season wasn't

over yet. For the first time ever, Hillsdale's baseball team earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Division II Tournament, facing GLIAC champion Grand Valley State in the first round. Hillsdale was facing an 8-2 deficit going into the top of the eighth inning of that



Freshman Steven Ring goes for the catch.

game when they once again showed their incredible resilience, scoring six runs to tie the game. But Grand Valley came back in the

ninth inning to take the game with a walk-off home run. The Chargers next faced Indianapolis in an elimination game, falling 4-1 and ending the season with a 32-24 record.

The Chargers' success began with their offense. The team clubbed a GLIAC-record 68 home runs through the season. Four players had 11 or more home runs, indicating

program records for most home runs, most total hits, and most runs scored.

Senior Luke Ortel, the GLIAC Player of the Year, broke 11 school records and leads the GLIAC and NCAA Division II with 112 total hits. He led a group of 11 seniors who have all contributed in big ways to the team's resounding success all season, and who missed graduation during



Senior Connor Bartlett celebrates with his teammates.

the tremendous offensive balance the team has, to go along with its off-the-charts productivity. As a team, the Chargers set single-season

the team's run through the GLIAC Tournament. The Chargers produced three First-Team All-GLIAC players—Ortel, sophomore

Alex Walts, and junior Ethan Wiskur—two Second Team players—seniors Connor Bartlett and Chris McDonald—and two honorable mention honorees—seniors Tad Sobieszczanski and Joe Gentile—the most ever for the program in one season. Additionally, McDonald, Wiskur, and Ortel earned First-Team All-Region honors.

Head Coach Eric Theisen was named GLIAC Coach of the Year, a first for Hillsdale since 1987. Theisen joined the College as an assistant coach in 2010 and assumed head coaching duties in 2014.

## Softball

The Charger softball team put in a season the likes of which have not been seen in a quarter-century. The



Softball Head Coach Joe Abraham (left) and Baseball Head Coach Eric Theisen (right) both earned GLIAC Coach of the Year honors for their successful seasons.

years, and most total wins in a season since 2002.

Junior Bekah Kastning was named 2nd Team All-Region for the second year in a row, the first time that has happened since Hillsdale became a Division II athletic institution in 1990. Already 10th on the school's career hits list after three seasons,

She batted .419 with 5 home runs, 30 RBI, 52 total hits and 32 runs scored. She put together a school-record 24-game hitting streak that extended from February 27 through April 23. Kastning was the runner-up in the voting for GLIAC Player of the Year, while senior teammate Sarah Klopfer was the runner-up in the

First-Team All-GLIAC, and Klopfer became the first All-GLIAC pitcher selected to the first team from Hillsdale since 1993. In addition, sophomore Kelsey Gockman and senior Sarah Grunert were named Second-Team All-GLIAC at the designated player position and utility player, respectively. Freshman Amanda Marra and senior Ainsley Ellison were both named honorable mention All-GLIAC.

For the first time since 1989, Hillsdale College has the GLIAC Softball Coach of the Year. In five seasons of guiding the Charger program, Joe Abraham has led Hillsdale to four 20-win seasons and a total record of 108-95, a .532 winning percentage, the third-highest career coaching winning percentage in school history.

■ BRAD MONASTIERE AND MONICA VANDERWEIDE, '95



Sarah Grunert has earned All-GLIAC honors in all four of her softball seasons.



Team members congratulate freshman outfielder Katie Kish for her performance.

team went 26-12 in the 2016 season, its highest winning percentage for a season in 25

Kastning put together an outstanding performance for the Chargers this year.

voting for GLIAC Pitcher of the Year. Both Kastning and Klopfer were named

# Four Charger Alumni

## Inducted into Athletic Hall of Fame



### Jared Veldheer

Jared Veldheer, '10, is the starting left tackle for the Arizona Cardinals and was a four-year starter at Hillsdale from 2006-09. In 2009, Hillsdale qualified for the NCAA Division II playoffs for the first time and advanced to the second round. Veldheer was named First-Team All-GLIAC in 2008 and 2009 and First-Team All-American by the American Football Coaches Association in 2009. In his 46 career starts at left tackle, he never allowed a sack, and Hillsdale had its two highest scoring seasons in its history (2007, 2009). Veldheer was a third-round draft pick of the Oakland Raiders (69th overall) in the

2010 NFL Draft. In March 2014, Veldheer signed a five-year contract with the Arizona Cardinals, finished with a 13-3 record, and had the highest-scoring offense in the NFL in 2015. He was named team MVP by his teammates after the 2014 season.



### Archie Robinson

Archie Robinson, '72, was one of the toughest defensive backs in Charger football history during his career from 1968-71. Robinson set a school record with 20 interceptions and had 116 total tackles. In 1970, he had seven interceptions, a record that stood for 30 years. The Chargers had a combined

record of 16-4 over his final two seasons, and he was part of the 1969 team that qualified for the NAIA national playoffs. In 1971, he was named NAIA First-Team All-American as a safety and became the first Charger to be named to the Kodak Little All-American team. He also played baseball for the College and was captain of the 1971 team. Robinson was a 13th round draft pick of the Miami Dolphins in the 1972 NFL Draft.



### Andy Kincannon

Andy Kincannon, '57, made his mark for the Dales in the 1950s, when the football team didn't lose a single game in the last three years of Kincannon's career. He was named to the MIAA All-Freshman Team in 1953, when he had 177 receiving yards. He went on to become a four-time First-Team All-MIAA football player for the Dales. After college, he was signed by the Detroit Raiders professional football team, competing in the Ontario Football League. Kincannon was also named track team captain in 1956. His best

event was the javelin throw, where he had a personal-best throw of 202 feet, 4 inches, a long-standing school record. Kincannon went on to serve as an assistant football coach at Saginaw Valley State under former Hillsdale coach Frank "Muddy" Waters.



### Dave Springer

The 1983-84 GLIAC Player of the Year, Dave Springer, '84, combined scoring and playmaking to levels rarely seen in the history of Charger men's basketball. In his senior year, his 159 assists, 562 points, and 224 field goals were all in the single-season top 10 in their respective categories. He was named both First-Team All-GLIAC and to the GLIAC All-Defensive Team twice. In 1984, he was an NAIA Third-Team All-American, and he finished his career with 1,438 points, the 13th-most in school history at the time. Springer's class won a total of 83 games in his four years, which is fourth-most of any class in program history.

■ BRAD MONASTIERE

# Kyle Cooper

## Named Division II Academic All-American of the Year and GLIAC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**AS GREAT** as senior Kyle Cooper has been on the basketball court, he has approached his academic work with equal talent and distinction through his collegiate career. This spring, he was singularly recognized for excellence in both.

Cooper, a forward on the Hillsdale College men's basketball team, was named the Capital One CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year for Division II. He was selected for the honor by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

Cooper has ranked among Hillsdale College's best student-athletes throughout his four-year career. He is an accounting major with an overall grade point average of 3.8. Both his athletic productivity and academic acumen were taken into consideration by voters for this award.

As part of his Academic All-American of the Year honor, Cooper was named First-Team Academic All-American by CoSIDA for the second year in a row. A total of five players nationwide were named to the first team, and Cooper was the leading vote-getter of those five.

Cooper was also named the 2015-16 GLIAC Player of the Year. The award



Kyle Cooper has racked up numerous honors on and off the court for his athletic and academic achievements.

was announced by the conference office and chosen in voting conducted by GLIAC coaches. Cooper is the first Charger to win the conference's top honor since Dave Springer did

it following the 1983-84 season. Cooper earned this award by turning in an all-around season rarely seen in the sport of basketball. Additionally, he was honored for the second consecutive year with the GLIAC Commissioner's Award for academic and athletic achievement.

"It's a huge honor," Cooper said in an interview with the *Collegian*. "But more than anything, I think it's just a product of playing for a coaching staff that runs an offense that is able

to utilize what I'm best at and playing with teammates who are willing to sacrifice, give me the ball when I'm open, and set screens."

Cooper fulfilled his label as GLIAC Preseason Player

of the Year, an honor he achieved in October, by finishing the regular season leading the conference in both scoring (22.8 points per game) and three-point shooting percentage (.453). He was the GLIAC's second-leading rebounder at 9.7 boards per game.

Consistency was a key to Cooper's season in 2015-16. He had six games of 30 or more points and two 40-point games, the latter a feat unmatched in school history. In the boards, Cooper had 16 games of 10 or more rebounds and snagged nine in three out of the remaining 10 games.

Cooper also led the GLIAC in field goals made (174) and defensive rebounds (177), while ranking second in minutes played (797) and third in free throws made (107). During the season, he was named GLIAC North Division Player of the Week five times, the most of any conference player this season and the most of any men's basketball player in program history.

"Kyle is an extraordinary talent, both on and off the court," said Head Basketball Coach John Tharp. "It's incredible to see him approach his academic work with equal commitment, skill, and attention to detail as he does on the court. We couldn't be prouder of his achievements."

■ BRAD MONASTIERE



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Send it in the enclosed business reply envelope, or e-mail it to [magazine@hillsdale.edu](mailto:magazine@hillsdale.edu).

Photos will be returned—be sure to include your name on the back of the photo.

Photos may also be submitted electronically (.jpg, .tif, .eps). High resolution files will produce better results. Scan at 300 dpi or set your digital camera to Fine/Superfine.

Please include class years of alumni.



For questions or extra copies of *Hillsdale Magazine*: Call Monica VanDerWeide at (517) 607-2624 or e-mail [magazine@hillsdale.edu](mailto:magazine@hillsdale.edu).

## News

### 1970s

**CYNTHIA NEHER MARTINDALE, '75**, published her first book, *Graceful Last Chapters: Helping Seniors Who Need More Care*, in September 2015. In her book, Cindy shares her 20 years of experience with senior care in a compassionate and understanding voice, and an insider's perspective. As the primary caregiver for her parents in their declining years, a sales and marketing director for senior living communities, and a lawyer, Cindy brings readers a valuable resource about caring for aging loved ones. The book is filled with guidance for caregivers, clearly defined options for care, and ways and means for readers to craft their own successful journey through caregiving challenges and heartbreak. More information is available at [bookforcaregivers.com](http://bookforcaregivers.com). Cindy received her master's degree in English from Northern Illinois University and her law degree from Valparaiso University School of Law, where she specialized in elder law issues. She lives in Flossmoor, Illinois, with her husband Gary and son Adam.

### 1990s

**BEN ALLISON, '92**, ran his first marathon with his wife Newlyn in February 2015. She beat him. In May 2015, their oldest daughter, Medora, graduated from New St. Andrews College. A month later, she married John and started working as the head of marketing in a startup software company. In July, Ben left his law firm of 14 years and started a new firm, Bardacke Allison LLP, in August, where he has been able to expand his intellectual property litigation and entertainment practice. The firm now has four lawyers, and business is going well. In October 2015, Newlyn attempted her first 100K but had to pull out after running 46 miles. She returned to school for a degree in psychology. Ben and Newlyn's son Christian is a junior at Hillsdale. Their youngest daughter Judith, a rising high school sophomore, plans to attend Hillsdale.

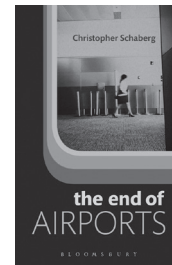


**JASON MEIXNER, '97, DSP**, just finished a one-year, unaccompanied

assignment between Libya and Tunisia. After the tour, Jason met up with his wife Maureen and their boys who had been living in Jamaica before they all headed to the U.S. for four months. The family is now living in Namibia until the summer of 2018. E-mail: [jmeixner@hotmail.com](mailto:jmeixner@hotmail.com)

**JONATHAN DEN HARTOG, '99**, published the book *Patriotism and Piety: Federalist Politics and Religious Struggle in the New American Nation* with the University of Virginia Press last year. Jonathan is currently an associate professor of history and chairman of the department at the University of Northwestern in St. Paul, Minnesota. He can be reached at [jdenhartog@unwsp.edu](mailto:jdenhartog@unwsp.edu).

### 2000s



**CHRISTOPHER SCHABERG, '00**, has written a new book, *The End of Airports*, which was recently published by Bloombury. He explores the notion that even though air travel has gone from magical to mundane, airports still

offer much to ponder. Drawing from his previous experience working in an airport, he weaves personal anecdotes with philosophical contemplations about the role of airports in society. Christopher also founded and edits a book series, *Object Lessons*, which was recently reviewed by the *Los Angeles Review of Books* and highlighted on Boingboing. Each short book focuses on one everyday object, such as a shipping container or remote control. There are currently 15 books in the series, with "many more in the pipeline." Christopher is an associate professor of English and environmental studies at Loyola University, New Orleans. E-mail: [schaberg@loyno.edu](mailto:schaberg@loyno.edu)



**BRIAN R. JOHNSTON, '08**, has released his first book, *The Art of Being a Baseball Fan*. A Chicago Cubs fan since he was nine years old, Brian chronicles the 2015 season

as the team fell one step short of making the World Series. Along the way, he offers his reflections on over two decades of watching baseball and following the Cubs.

"I wanted this to be a book about baseball, from the perspective of the average fan," he says. "My major themes include coming to terms with the fact that baseball is still a game but that it's become a big business, balancing being a baseball fan with all the other obligations in my life, and not taking it for granted when my team is winning. 2015 was an amazing season, and I'm glad I took the time to document what I was thinking and feeling throughout the year."

While he would have enjoyed watching the Cubs win the World Series last year, he acknowledges that the fact that they didn't win it actually made for a better ending for the book. "For 29 out of 30 major league teams each year, the season will end in disappointment," he says. "A big part of being a fan is learning to accept this year after year." The book is available for sale on amazon.com, or contact Brian directly: [brjohnston1985@yahoo.com](mailto:brjohnston1985@yahoo.com)

## Weddings

### 2000s



**KATIE ANDARY, '08, PBP**, married Paul Hauge on January 30, 2016, at Mt. Lebanon Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Hillsdale

alumni in the wedding party included **JOHANNA THOMPSON, '08, PBP**, and **COURTNEY YEUTTER MURNEN, '09, PBP**. Alumni in attendance were **BRISTEN BRICKLES, '06, PBP**; **BETSY WORMET KRECH, '07, PBP**; **BJ KRECH, '07, ATO**; **KYLE MURNEN, '09, SC**; **ASHLEY BAKER, '09, PBP**; and **JENNY FRENCH BOPP, '08, PBP**. Paul and Katie reside in the southern suburbs of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



**MONICA JORDAN, '08, PBP**, married Timothy Osterhout on March 8, 2015, at The Founders Inn and Spa in Virginia Beach,

Virginia. Hillsdale graduates in attendance included bridesmaid **STEPHANIE JORDAN, '06**; **AMANDA PARKER, '07, PBP**; **BRIAN PARKER, '06, ATO**; **LAURA REAVIE TERRY, '08, PBP**; **JAMES TERRY, '08, ATO**; and **SUSANNAH WARNER KIPKE, '08**. The Osterhouts live in Norfolk, Virginia, where Timothy is a Marine Corps pilot and Monica is an oncology nurse.

### 2010s



**ASHLEY CLARK, '10, CO**, married Daniel Schneider on April 25, 2015, at Country Mill in Charlotte, Michigan. Hillsdale alumni in the wedding

party included **GABRIELLE COURTEAU HAUGE, '10, CO**; **RACHEL HANNABASS, '12, CO**; **BRITTANY SEVEY MORRIS, '09, CO**; **DANA GOULD CLARK, '10, CO**; **MATTHEW CLARK, '08**; and **BRANDON HUBBARD, '09**. Hillsdale alumni in attendance included **TROY MORRIS, '09**; **AMANDA RUETZ, '10, CO**; **KATE MARTIN DELANOY, '10, CO**; **SANDRA POOLEY ANDERSON, '11, CO**; **MALLORY ROOT, '10, CO**; **SARAH FERENS, '11, CO**; **KELLIE HIRST, '11, CO**; and **LAURA SUND, '13, CO**. The couple resides in DeWitt, Michigan.

## Births

### 1990s



**GARY and REBECCA LIEGEL STEGALL, '97, DSP; '99, CO**; welcomed their first child, Jackson

Levi, on January 30, 2015. Jackson weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Gary is a sales manager at 3M, and Becky is a senior manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers. The family resides in Brownstown Township, Michigan.

### 2000s



**MARK WILCOX, '00**, and his wife Hilary welcomed their first child, Madison Elizabeth, on October 9, 2015. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 19 1/2 inches long. Both parents are teachers and live and work in Asheville, North Carolina.



**ADRIAN "AJ" and CAROLINE CIZEK SIEGMANN, '01, '02**, announce the adoptions of: Emerald Adaline, age 10; Christopher Sterling, age 8; Haley Delphine,

age 7; Christine Violette, age 6; and Nathan Everest, age 3. They are joined by siblings Elaina, age 9; Phoebe Jane, age 4; and Elodie, age 3. The Siegmanns reside in Northwest Portland, Oregon. E-mail: [thesiegmannfamily@gmail.com](mailto:thesiegmannfamily@gmail.com)



**BETH VANEVERY JUNE, '03, KKG**, her husband Kevin, and big brothers Fisher and Forrest, welcomed Huntington Avery on January 10, 2016. He weighed 10 pounds, 7 ounces, and measured 21.5 inches long. The family resides in Highland, Michigan.



**ANDREW TUCKER, '04**, and his wife Stephanie, whom he married on August 11, 2012, welcomed their first child, Gemma Elizabeth

Cleora, on August 22, 2015. She weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces, and was 21.25 inches long. The Tuckers reside in Syracuse, New York, where Andrew teaches Latin, literature, and history at Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God Academy. E-mail: [andrewrtucker@hotmail.com](mailto:andrewrtucker@hotmail.com)



**MÁIRE EGGER MAHER, '06**, and her husband Dan welcomed their second daughter, Rita Inés, on May

18, 2015. She gets lots of hugs and kisses from her big sister, Siobhán, who turned three years old just after Inés' birthday. The Mahers live in Manassas, Virginia. E-mail: [mairelena@gmail.com](mailto:mairelena@gmail.com)



**KARI BREWER SAVANNAH, '06**, and her husband Khefren welcomed their first child, Iva Charlotte, on October 2, 2014. Iva weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 19 inches long. The family resides in Katy, Texas. E-mail: [karijbrewer@gmail.com](mailto:karijbrewer@gmail.com)



**SUZANNE DEPASSIO TEGGART, '06**, and her husband Mark welcomed their first child, Joseph Bernard, on October 14, 2015. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Suzanne and Mark reside in Huntington Woods, Michigan.

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**JONATHAN and NAOMI ALMEN DUNN, '08, '08,** announce the birth of their second child, Beatrice Geraldine, on September 3, 2015.

Beatrice joins her sister, Penelope. Jonathan and Naomi currently reside in northern Virginia where Jonathan is completing a research fellowship and Naomi is a homemaker.



**KYLE and VANESSA KING JANKE, '08, '08,** announce the birth of their

second son, Arthur Allan. He was born on May 16, 2015, in Louisville, Kentucky.



**EMILY GEBEL, '09,** and her husband Jered welcomed their first child, Piper Noelle, on July 19, 2015. The family lives in Juneau, Alaska, where

Jered is a wheel and floatplane pilot, and Emily is privileged to stay home with their happy, redheaded baby.

## Obituaries

### 1930s



**DOROTHY FREEMAN STICKNEY, '34,** a long-time resident of Salem, Oregon, passed away on November 16, 2015. She was born on February 17,

1914, in Concord, New Hampshire, to Fred and Bertha Freeman. She graduated from Hillsdale College with a degree in sociology. Dorothy was married for 56 years to Albert Stickney, the former chief executive for the United Way in Salem. She is survived by her two children, Fred Stickney and Sue Teele; their spouses, Sally Stickney and Stephen Teele; four grandchildren, Tami Noland, Dale Stickney, and Brett and Chris Teele; and seven great-grandchildren, Samantha and Abby Noland; Chrissy and Angie Teele; Adelle, Drake Pease, and Conner Stickney. She was predeceased by her husband and her granddaughter, Teresa Pease. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Salem for more than 50 years. At Capital Manor, where she resided for the last 20 years, she was known as the "Welcome

Wagon Lady" since she always wanted new residents to feel welcome.



**EMILY JANE JENSEN, '36, CO,** of Grant, Michigan, passed away on January 18, 2016. She was born on June 2, 1914, to Whitfield and Madeliene Paquin

Ackley in Bangor, Michigan. On November 11, 1938, she married Harold O. Jensen in Bangor. Jane was a retired teacher from Grant Public Schools and a member of the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel. She was also a past president of the Grant Library Board and Grant Garden Club. She is survived by her nephews and nieces: Charles Wood, Joan Stoeker, David and Pat Bishop, and Sherri Schwarz; and her cousins Nancy and Tom Howe, Charlotte and David Grey, and Sarah and Steve Repasky. She was preceded in death by her husband Harold and her sons, Whitfield and David.

### 1940s



**EARLE HAROLD "HAL" MUNN JR., '47,** of Parma, Michigan, passed away on April 26, 2016, from complications due to pancreatic cancer. He

was the son of Earle Harold and Luella Mae Asfahl Munn. Born on September 7, 1928, in Vandalia, Illinois, Hal is survived by his wife of 66 years, C. Ella (Bronson), sons H. Derwin (Patti) and M. Douglas (Jerri), and daughter M. Rene Runyon (Dan); five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Hal received his Federal Communications Commission (FCC) radio license at age 14, and in 1947, at age 17, he became a lifetime member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), the world's largest professional organization of any scientific profession. The following year he graduated from Hillsdale College with a degree in physics and many credits in chemistry and mathematics. He taught high school for one year in North Adams and one year in Pittsford before starting WTVB-WANG radio stations in Coldwater. Other Michigan stations he established and owned include Ypsilanti (WYSI), Hillsdale (WBSE), and Sturgis (WSTR). In addition to radio, he was a pioneer in broadband communications, received one of the first three cable TV permits awarded by the FCC, and started many cable companies including Coldwater and Columbia Cablevision. In 1950, Hal established the E. Harold Munn Jr. and Associates broadcast engineering consulting firm in Coldwater, and in that capacity, he built or consulted with about 800 radio stations in all 50 states and on nearly

70 college and university campuses. Two notable stations include Bell Broadcasting Corporation in Detroit, the first FCC-approved African-American-owned radio station in the United States providing a foundation for the Motown music industry, and a 50,000-watt AM station in Hawaii for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association that broadcast a Christian witness to thousands of Polynesian islands. In 2005, Hal was inducted into the Michigan Broadcasting Hall of Fame. He served as a trustee and in many administrative capacities with the following organizations: Coldwater Board of Public Utilities from 1960-1995 and president of that board beginning in 1967; the Blue Ridge Broadcasting Corporation, a listener-supported ministry of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, from 1960-2015; Spring Arbor University from 1960-2010; and Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, from 1983-2015. Since childhood, Hal was a member of the Free Methodist Church and served that denomination in many volunteer administrative capacities.



**ROBERT T. MCNEILAGE, '48,** of Galesburg, Michigan, passed away on December 10, 2015. Bob was born on November 9, 1926, in Ferndale,

Michigan, to Dougall and Jean Graham McNeilage. He served with the U.S. Army during World War II. He worked in sales for Shaw-Walker and MasterCraft companies for over 40 years, and was an active member of Comstock Christian Reformed Church. He came to faith later in life and was grateful for his church family, his pastor, and his Lord. Bob was preceded in death by his first wife, Virginia Ludwicki, in 1981, and a sister, Margaret Fisher. He is survived by Thea Dunham McNeilage; a daughter, Debra McNeilage; a son, Todd (Andrea) McNeilage; two grandsons, Tom (Bernadette) McNeilage and Alex McNeilage; a sister, Ann West; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

### 1950s



**JOAN S. BROWN, '50, KKG,** passed away on December 18, 2015, at the age of 87. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph Brown Sr., her

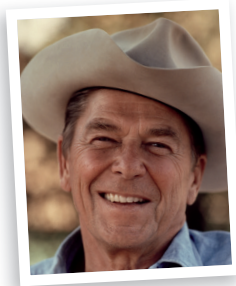
parents Elmer and Hildreth Schoen, and several canine companions. She is survived by her daughter Vickie L. Brown and her son Ralph "Skip" Brown, and sisters Marlene Blevins and Barbara Morgan. Joan was born in Adrian, Michigan. After graduating from Hillsdale, she went to work at the Kellogg

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Return this form in the enclosed envelope along with your check (\$325/person) payable to Hillsdale College. A complete schedule and additional details will follow.

Center at Michigan State University, where she met her future husband Ralph. She and Ralph married in 1952 and spent the next five years moving around the southern United States while Ralph served in the Air Force. The family moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1958 when Ralph was hired by Sandia National Laboratories. Joan was a stay-at-home mom who was involved in her children's activities. She also volunteered at the library and was a member of the First Presbyterian Church. Joan enjoyed flower gardening, traveling in the U.S. and abroad, and spending time at the family cabin in southwest Colorado.



**MARY ALICE CARR GALTON KEILLOR, '50, KKG**, age 88, passed away on April 20, 2016, surrounded by her loving family. Mary Alice was

a longtime resident of Romeo and Traverse City, Michigan, and Ft. Myers Beach, Florida. She was born in Birmingham, Michigan, on April 15, 1928, to Charles and Katherine Bierkamp Carr. Mary Alice was raised on her family farm in Clarkston, Michigan, and graduated from Southern Seminary High School. She went on to attend junior college in Virginia and then Hillsdale College. She married Alexander I.M. Galton and they had three children: Janet, Alex, and Chris. In 2001, Mary Alice married Arthur M. Keillor of Traverse City. Mary Alice loved gardening, golfing, traveling, dancing, doing crossword puzzles, going to the theatre, and spending time with her family. She was a volunteer at both Lee Memorial Health Park in Ft. Myers, Florida, and Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. Arthur and Mary Alice were members of the Myerlee Country Club in Ft. Myers, and she loved attending the Friday Night Dinner Dances. She founded the Stokers Golf Group in Traverse City, an organization that provided golf for those that have suffered from a stroke. Mary Alice is survived by her husband; sister Carolyn Carr Lowery; children Janet (Joel) Caskey, Alex (Janet) Galton, and Chris (Tracy) Galton; and stepdaughter Susan Keillor. She was also blessed to have eleven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and one great-grandchild on the way. Mary Alice was preceded in death by her first husband, Alexander Galton; her sister, Katherine Carr Whitmer; and stepson, Bruce Keillor.



**GORDON "GORDY" E. GWILT, '51, ATO**, age 89, of Dowagiac, Michigan, passed away on January 15, 2016. Gordy was born on October 9, 1926, in

Dowagiac to Clare and Marie Lyons Gwilt. After graduating from high school in 1944,

he proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. Upon returning home, he completed his education at Hillsdale. Gordy married the former Janet Fox on October 5, 1951. They celebrated 61 years of marriage before her passing away in 2013. They owned and operated Gwilt's Paint Shop in Dowagiac for many years. Gordy was a lifelong member of the First Christian Church of Dowagiac, a member of the Civitan Club, a coach for the Special Olympics, and he was instrumental in founding the Spring Fling Dance. Gordy was also a member of the Elks Club and the Senior Elks golf league. He was a founding member of the 7-28 Club and an avid fan of all the Dowagiac Chieftain sporting events. Gordy is survived by his children, **SALLY GWILT MATTHEWS, '74** (Terry), **ED GWILT, '76** (Juanita), **JULIE GWILT HEWITT, '77** (Larry), Peggy (Bruce) Willis, **MARIANNE "MIMI" GWILT OTTERBEIN, '81** (Cort), **NANCY GWILT NORTHRUP, '84** (Rob), Tom (Sue) Gwilt, **TONY GWILT, '90** (Jennifer), and Joe Gwilt; grandchildren Lisa (Gregg) Speaks, Ron (Heidi) Matthews, Phillip and Patrick Nauert, Laura, Katie and Clay Hewitt, Rebecca Willis, Bruce (Brittany) Willis Jr., Rachael Fountain, Ashley Willis, Kyle, Kelsey, and Keith Otterbein, Jeromy Northrop, Claire, Meghan and Gordon Edward Gwilt; and great-grandchildren Drew and Anna Speaks, Isobel Matthews, Isabella Akers, Trip Willis, and Mari Fountain. Also surviving are his three sisters, Claire Marie Merrild, **MARTHA GWILT COX, '53**, and Jo Seiman. Gordy was preceded in death by his wife Janet in 2013 and a grandson, Mark Willis, in 1980.



**EUGENE JOHN "GENE" HAGGAR, '51, DSP**, passed away peacefully at his home on April 26, 2015, after a prolonged illness. Gene was born on

September 28, 1926, in Detroit, Michigan, to the late Carmen and Ned Hagggar. Gene was raised in Detroit where he worked at his family's business. Days after graduating from high school, Gene proudly began his military service in the U.S. Army. During World War II, he was stationed in Okinawa and the Philippines. Upon returning to the States, Gene attended Hillsdale College and graduated with a B.S. degree in economics. At Hillsdale, Gene met and married his wife of 63 years, **CHARLOTTE ANN HUFFT, '52**. Upon graduation, Gene began his career at United Rubber Company. He held sales and management positions and won numerous awards for outstanding sales performance throughout his career. One of Gene's goals was to have a long retirement; he retired in 1984 from Columbus McKinnon Corporation. He and Charlotte moved to Sarasota, Florida, where they enjoyed 32 years of retirement with family nearby.

Gene enjoyed golf and had a passion for cars, especially American antiques. He also collected gold pocket watches and loved taking cruises and traveling to Colorado to visit family. Survivors include his wife Charlotte; daughters Anne Hagggar Gibson (Mark) and Julie Lynn Hagggar Robison; grandson Tyler William Noel Robison; sister Mary Hagggar Pruss; and beloved nephew Dr. Allan Hagggar.

**DOLORES "DEE" J. MILLS LEE, '51**, died peacefully at her home on December 22, 2015. She was born on October 10, 1929, in Pontiac, Michigan, and grew up in Burr Oak, Michigan. She taught in Sturgis, Michigan, before marrying Harold V. Lee Jr. in 1952. Harold and Dee moved around the country until settling on Mercer Island, Washington, where they lived for the last 40 years of their 53-year marriage. She moved to Maple Valley, Washington, after Harold passed away in 2005. She enjoyed painting, reading, taking travel tours, and spending time with family and friends. Dee is survived by her son, Dennis Lee; daughter, Jackie (Gary) Shamp; and grandchildren, Derrick, Devon, and Courtnee.



**ROSEMARIE CHOKAN VAN BLYENBURGH, '51, KKG**, age 87, of Bay Village, Ohio, passed away on March 5, 2016, in Gahanna, Ohio.

Rosemarie was born on July 9, 1928, in Lakewood, Ohio, to the late John and Teresa Hollis Chokan. She attended Lakewood High School, furthering her education at Hillsdale College and with a master's degree from Case Western Reserve University. Rosemarie's career as an elementary school teacher in Michigan and Berea, Ohio, spanned over three decades. She was a Jennings Scholar, recognized in *Who's Who of American Teachers*, and the founder of Etymology Experts. Her memberships included the Lakewood Historical Society, Lakewood Garden Club, Great Lakes Shakespeare Society, and the English Speaking Union. She was past president of the Cleveland Alumnae Chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma, was involved in the Cleveland Playhouse, and supported the Cleveland Opera. Her travels included the maiden voyage of the *Queen Elizabeth 2* on May 2, 1969, and she traveled extensively throughout Europe and the United States. She is survived by her daughter, Rebecca (Craig) Howells; grandchildren Van Alan Howells and Summer Rose Howells; sister Dorothy (Elwin) Morse; and brother Richard Chokan; nieces and nephews, Holly Hill, Barney Morse and Stephan Morse; and numerous other extended family members. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers, John and Elmer

(Jean) Chokan; and sisters, Mary Ann Chokan and Elynor Baird.



**DONNA THOURLBY MORRIS, '52**, 84, of Midland, Michigan, passed away on February 6, 2016. Donna was born on April 6, 1931,

in London, Ontario, Canada, daughter of the late W. Howard and Edith Arthur Thourlby. She married John C. Morris on September 5, 1953, in Saint Mary's Catholic Church in St. Clair, Michigan. After graduating from Hillsdale, she moved to Midland and continued her education by receiving an M.A. from Central Michigan University and a J.D. from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. In 1979, Governor William Milliken appointed her Judge of the Probate Court, where she served until 2001. In 1981, she was appointed by Chief Justice Mary Coleman to sit on the first Judicial Council of Michigan. That same year, she served as chair of the Probate Judge's mental health committee, where she worked for six years with Representative Debbie Stabenow to enact a new mental code for Michigan. In 1982, she was appointed by the State Court Administrator to the faculty of the Michigan Judicial Institute to teach juvenile caseworkers at their annual training seminars.

Donna served as director and secretary of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School from 1982 until 2004. In 1995, she was promoted to the faculty of the New Probate Judges School until 2000. In 1990, she represented the Probate Judge's Association by writing an amicus brief to the Supreme Court in the case of *In re Macomber*. Soon after, the legislature amended the Juvenile Code to reflect the ruling in this case. Donna served on the boards of the Ten 16 House, the Salvation Army, and the United Way of Michigan, and was a trustee of the Strosacker Foundation.

Donna received many awards, including the Hillsdale College Outstanding Achievement Alumnae Award; the Thomas Cooley Outstanding Achievement Alumnae Award; the Exchange Club honor of the Book of Golden Deeds; Commitment and Leadership in the Field of Substance Abuse Award from the Mid-State Substance Abuse Council; the Paul Harris Fellow Award from Rotary International; Child Protection Council Award; Special Service Award from Michigan Foster-Adoptive Parent Association; and an honorary degree of Juris Doctor of Laws from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The Judge Donna Morris Study Room was dedicated in the new addition to the Thomas E. Brennan Library at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 2012. She was also honored by the State

Bar of Michigan with the Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Service Award in 2013.

Donna is survived by her daughters, Mary Edith Morris, Kendall (Ira Isaacoff) Morris, and Patricia (Tom Evans) Morris; grandsons, Ben and Max Isaacoff; twin granddaughters Katie and Kristie Morris; step-grandson, John Bergtold; and sisters, Patricia McCarty and Gloria Greenly. Donna was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, John C. Morris; her daughter, Jonna Lee; her son, John Chester Morris; and her brother, William Thourlby.



**DR. GERALD SEYMOUR REZNICK, '55**, age 85, of Grand Blanc, Michigan, passed away in Delray Beach, Florida, on February 4, 2016,

surrounded by his loving family. Gerald was born on July 2, 1930, in Detroit to Nathan and Ida Plavnick Reznick. As a youth, he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. Gerald graduated from Hillsdale College, where he played on the basketball team, and from the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine. In addition to being a devoted family man, Gerald gave back to his community by serving as the Genesee County Sheriff Department's police surgeon and by volunteering medical services with Flint Special Olympics, local community school athletic teams, and Flint Golden Gloves. Gerald was a member of the American Osteopathic Association and served the Genesee County area as a physician for more than 30 years, delivering many of the children in the area. Surviving are his children, Robert Reznick, Dr. Terry Reznick, and Dr. Lisa Reznick; grandchildren Andrea Reznick, Erin (Joey) McCarthy, Adam Reznick, and Rachel Reznick; great-grandson Owen McCarthy; daughter-in-law Carolyn Reznick; and several cousins. Gerald was preceded in death by his wife Sandie in 2009, his parents, and his sister, Blanche Robinson.

**BRUCE GOODSON COLEMAN SR., '57**, passed away on March 31, 2016. He was born on September 21, 1926, in Dayton, Ohio, to Thomas W. and Lyla Goodson Coleman. Bruce was preceded in death by his parents and older brother, Thomas W. Coleman Jr. After graduating from Howe Military School in 1944, he served in World War II as an infantry platoon leader, stationed in both Japan and Korea. After his military discharge, Bruce received his bachelor's degree from Hillsdale College. Early in his career he worked in personnel for Chrysler Corporation in Detroit. In 1960, Bruce moved with his wife, Jean, and their three children to Hudson, Michigan. Bruce established the Coleman

Foundation, a residential facility in Hudson for developmentally disabled women. They later established a similar facility for men. Bruce and Jean considered working with and advocating for the developmentally disabled as their life work. He and Jean were active in local community affairs for many years and enjoyed small town life. Additionally, he and Jean served in many positions at the First Congregational Church in Hudson.

One of Bruce's many proud accomplishments, with his good friend Jim Findlay, is the Hudson Patriot Memorial honoring members of the military and other American patriots. He was a member in good standing with 55 years of continuous membership and meritorious service at the Hannan-Colvin American Legion Post No. 180 in Hudson. Bruce and Jean were charter members of the Hudson Dance Club. Bruce was also a past member of the Lenawee County Civil War Roundtable and the Michigan Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He had an active interest in the Civil War, and he enjoyed researching his family history and involvement in that war through his paternal great-grandfather's family tree. He worked with others in the community to restore and refurbish Civil War veterans' gravesites at the Maple Grove Cemetery. Bruce was also an avid gardener.

Bruce was married to his loving wife, Jean Strange Coleman, for more than 68 years. He is survived by his three children, Claudia Wallace, Elizabeth Coleman, and Bruce

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October 15, 2016

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEXT MAGAZINE**

Coleman Jr. (Janice); seven grandchildren, Beth (Stacy), David, Alexis, Brian, Ian (Amber), Elena, and Sasha; and seven great-grandchildren, Mitchell, Chase, Bailey, Lily, Eva, Easton, and Mia.



**GRETCHEN WEBER NELSON, '57**, age 80, of Frederick, Maryland, passed away on Friday, February 26, 2016. Born on February 6, 1936,

Gretchen was the daughter of Della S. and Walter H. Weber. She graduated from Miss Newman's School in Detroit, where she was an accomplished synchronized swimmer. Gretchen lived in Michigan for 40 years before moving to Naples, Florida, in 1971. She and her husband of 54 years, Roy M. Nelson (predeceased), moved to Frederick in 2004.

Besides her family, Gretchen's passion was the YMCA. Gretchen started as a volunteer at the Collier County YMCA in the early 1970s and created a full-time position spearheading the Grand Masters Tennis Tournament, the Red Snook Catch and Release Fishing Tournament, and the YMCA Golf Tournament. She is credited with raising more than four million dollars over the years for the YMCA, and her efforts earned her recognition as a "Woman of Style" by *N Magazine of Naples* in 2002. She continued her YMCA work in Frederick, Maryland, where she was well known as the smiling face at the front desk.

Gretchen is survived by her family, Deb Nelson and her husband Dave Splaine; Lisa Edwards and Jim Edwards (deceased) and their children, Jimmy and Sarah Edwards; Ted Nelson; her grandchildren David (Amanda) Nelson and Billy Nelson; and great-grandchildren, Hayley, Lainey, and David Nelson. Gretchen was predeceased by her oldest son, Bill.



**SAUNDRA EVANS ALMENDINGER, '58, KKG**, age 79, of Johnstown, Ohio, passed away on February 14, 2016. She was born on

November 20, 1936, in Jackson, Tennessee, to the late Blynn Willison and Louise Frederick Evans. Sandra was a graduate of Johnstown High School and Hillsdale College. She was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution and a lifetime member of the Johnstown United Methodist Church. There, she served as a trustee, choir member, Sunday school teacher, finance committee member, rental manager, and junior choir leader. Sandra loved to read, knit, play bridge, and raise St. Bernard dogs. She was

passionate about politics, travel abroad, and supporting her hometown Johnnies. Saundra is survived by her husband of 52 years, Gene; three sons, Randal (Cheryl), Mark (Lori), and Daniel (Kris); eight grandchildren; and a sister, Margaret (Jerry) Albert.

## 1960s



**JAMES "JIM" EDWARD BENSON, '60**, passed away on December 26, 2015, at the age of 82, in Columbia, Missouri, following a long battle with congestive heart failure. Jim

was born in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and served as an Army intelligence veteran after the close of the Korean War. Upon honorable discharge, Jim earned a bachelor's degree summa cum laude in chemistry from Hillsdale College and a master's degree from Iowa State University. Upon graduation from ISU, Jim accepted a research position using X-ray crystallography for the famous Ames Lab, part of the Atomic Energy Commission. While conducting research, Jim wrote complex X-ray diffraction data analysis tools, authored research papers, and was granted a patent for his part in developing a real-time mechanism to report the sulfur levels in mined coal. After 25 years at Ames Lab, Jim and his wife moved to Mentor, Ohio, where Jim accepted a position as an industrial chemist serving in a variety of research and quality control roles for General Electric.

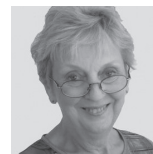
Jim loved children, gardening, rock collecting, astronomy, woodworking, fishing, cooking and reading. He is survived by his good friend, Margaret Steele, his former wife, Anne Benson; son, James Earl (Janet) Benson; daughter, Jean Anne (Patrick) Zenner; and eight grandchildren, Miriam, Magdalene, James Frank, Michal, Mary, and Martha Benson, and Elizabeth and Dominic Zenner. Jim was preceded in death by his mother, Florence "Rocky" Rescoe; and his daughter, Melissa Kay (David) Schwartz.



**JUDY SAWYER, '61**, age 76, passed away on January 15, 2016. She was born in Detroit, Michigan, on December 1, 1939, and attended Hillsdale

College where she gained numerous academic and leadership honors. She received a scholarship to the University of Michigan for a master's degree in English. While there, she met Ralph, who became her husband of 51 years. After he earned his medical degree, he entered the U.S. Navy and interned at Bethesda Naval Hospital. They spent three years in Morocco, traveling extensively in Europe and twice to India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Thailand, where

her patience with hardship was tested in days crossing deserts and frightening dirt road excursions over the Himalayas. They decided to make the Navy a career. After their children entered college, Judy taught learning-disabled adults at Montgomery College in Bethesda, Maryland. In spite of a busy schedule, she readily shifted with short notice to hostess for dinners for ophthalmology residents and staff and friends, visitors, and family. She is survived by her husband Ralph, children Jennifer and Jeffrey, and four grandchildren, Carson, Natalie, Zander, and Ethen.



**DOROTHY "JUDY" KNIGHT BROWN, '63**, passed away on February 20, 2016, at the age of 74. Judy was born in Battle Creek. She attended

Hillsdale College and graduated with a B.A. from Western Michigan University. While in college, she married Edwin Reynolds. They lived in Sarasota, Florida, for six years. She later married Curtis Brown and moved to Nashville, Indiana, where she lived for the next 25 years. There she served in a number of civic and community organizations. After Judy returned to Battle Creek, she was a caseworker for the Area Agency on Aging at Burnham Brook and also for Guardian Finance and Advocacy. She found helping her clients improve their lives very rewarding. Judy retired in 2015. She enjoyed time with her sons, loved her two cats, and spent time almost daily with her brother. Recently, she began exploring her ancestry in Arcadia and Onekama, Michigan. She loved travel and adventures, and frequently explored Lake Michigan or any natural setting. Judy was a member of Unity Church in Battle Creek where she also served as secretary of the board. Surviving are her children, Jeff Reynolds (and husband, Marcos Lorenzo) and Rob Reynolds; brother, Bob Knight; sister-in-law, Betty Knight; nieces, nephews, granddaughter, and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, George Clinton Knight and Dorothy Putney Knight and a brother, George Knight.



**STANLEY DUKE REED MORTON, JR., '64**, of Wings Neck, Massachusetts, passed away at home on March 18, 2016, due to

complications from pancreatic cancer. Born March 30, 1941, in Worcester, Massachusetts, Stan attended the Bancroft School and graduated from Governor Dummer (now Governor's) Academy in Newburyport, Massachusetts, and Hillsdale College.

His professional career as an industrial sales rep began in Detroit and continued in Cleveland, Ohio, for R.O. Whitesell & Associates, where his “people skills” and abundant curiosity were the secrets of his success. He was an early adapter of technology and home computing, and he always kept up to date with the latest gadgets.

In Ohio, Stan served as president of the Lion’s Club of Chagrin Falls, and in recent years he served as chairman of the Wings Neck Trust Association, volunteered with Buzzards Yacht Club, Buzzards Sailing School, the Bourne Society for Historic Preservation, and the Pocasset Village Association. One of his favorite volunteer duties was testing water quality for the Buzzards Bay Coalition. A life-long raconteur and avid sailor, Stan loved his wide circle of friends and spent as much time as possible sailing on the waters of Chautauqua Lake, New York and Buzzards Bay. A skilled woodworker, Stan loved spending time in his workshop building wooden boats.

He is survived by his wife, Julia Jenkins Morton; their children, Wendy Morton Hudson and Robert Reed Morton; son-in-law Randy Hudson; daughter-in-law Gwen Morton; grandchildren Evelyn and Owen Hudson and Amelia and Kate Morton; his beloved twin sister Millinda Duch Plym Olson; and many nieces, nephews, and their children.



**WILLIAM “BILL” MOBURG, '65**, of Jackson, Michigan (formerly Toledo, Ohio) passed away suddenly on February 8, 2016. He was preceded in

death by his parents H.W. and Mary Crompton Moburg; his sisters Sylvia and Rosemary, and his brother Paul. He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Mary Munro Moburg; daughters Megan (Greg) Sultan and Melissa (Mike) Dahlinger; and grandchildren Nathan and Will Sultan and Danielle and Hayden Dahlinger. Also surviving are three stepchildren: Laura (Troy) Koszegi, Philip (Monica) Curtis, and Leslie (John) Patterson, as well as seven step-grandchildren. Bill and Mary enjoyed taking many wonderful trips around the world, spending summers navigating the Great Lakes on Mo’s *ne plus ultra*-project “The Christina”; and cruising around Wampplers, Devil’s, and Clark Lakes on warm summer nights. Grandpa or “Momo” (as the grandchildren called him) thoroughly enjoyed his family. Bill was the retired president and owner of Engineered Components, Inc., a manufacturer’s representative firm. A salesman by profession but an engineer at heart, Mo loved a good project, whether renovating houses, boats, or

cars or mending a piece of antique furniture. “Mr. Mo” (as he was also known) served as a mentor to several young men in the Jackson community who he employed to assist him with his many projects.



**RUSSELL NIELSEN STROUD, '65, DSP**, of Leland, Michigan, and Bradenton, Florida, passed away on April 28, 2015, at the age of

72. Russell was born on March 14, 1943, in Portland, Oregon, the son of Russell and Marion Nielsen Stroud. He spent his youth in Taylor and Leelanau County, Michigan. He loved Hillsdale and was proud of his four children who attended Hillsdale College, two of whom graduated, as well as his sister, brother-in-law, and niece. He loved to visit the campus and did so as often as he could.

After graduation, he began working at Ford Motor Company. In 1969, he joined the U.S. Army and achieved the rank of Sergeant First Class in the elite U.S. Army Special Forces Airborne Range (Green Berets). He worked at Ford Motor Company from 1969 until 1983. He then took a position at Chrysler Corporation where he advanced to the position of vice president of the Powertrain Division. He left Chrysler to become president of Thyssen North America. In 2001, he moved to New Venture Gear and in 2003 to Collins & Aikman as senior vice president of Global Supply Chain Management. He retired from his professional life in 2005.

He enjoyed retirement and traveling with his wife of 18 years, Marjorie. Russell was a car enthusiast with a unique collection of dozens of antique automobiles. He especially loved Studebakers and MGs. He also enjoyed gardening, boating, hunting, fishing, playing cribbage and pinochle, and many other activities, but he was happiest when surrounded by family and friends.

He is survived by his wife Marjorie and children: Russell Stroud, his wife Jennifer, and their children Lauren and Alex; Kenneth Stroud, his wife Jessica, and their son William; Marion Schmidt, her husband Justin, and their children Wolfram, Lilia, and Augustine; **THOMAS STROUD, '01**, and his children Cole and Clare; and Jennifer Siegel, her husband Dave, and their children Trevor and Amber; stepchildren, **LEAH KISH DRABANT, '00**, her children Jason and Riley; and Steve Kish II; and sister **JULIE “NIKKI” ACOSTA, '73**, her husband, **HUGH ACOSTA, '71**, and their daughter **JANIS ACOSTA NINIVAGGI, '92**.

## 1970s



**JOHN LEO KRESTAKOS, '70**, passed away on January 7, 2016. He leaves behind his wife, Sue; children, Carin Krestakos (Kevin Siler), Carrie Garabis (Francisco),

Connie Krestakos (Bob Corby), Alex Krestakos; five grandchildren, Krystina, Alex, and Max Garabis and Calliope and Olivia DeVries; brothers, sisters, and a large extended family. John loved being with his family and watching his children and grandchildren play sports. He was an avid golfer with two holes-in-one. He became a wood master in retirement.

**CYNTHIA H. HARVEY, '72, CO**, passed away unexpectedly at her home in Linwood, Michigan, on April 20, 2016. She was 66 years old. She was born in Bay City, Michigan, on March 10, 1950, to the late Dr. Emerson J. and Helen B. Birge Harvey. Cynthia was an avid golfer and loved to cook and spend time at her home. Her greatest joys in life were her nephew and niece, Rob and Kori. After Hillsdale, she earned a degree in dental hygiene from the University of Michigan. She later earned a master’s degree in healthcare administration from Central Michigan University. She was involved with the formation of the Delta College Dental Hygiene program where she served as an associate professor. She is survived by her brothers: William F. Harvey and Robert E. (Cheryl) Harvey, her nephew, Robert E. “Rob” (Shannon) Harvey II, her niece Kori P. Harvey, and a great-niece, Blair Colleen Harvey.



**STEPHEN MASTY, '76**, passed away on December 26, 2015, at the age of 61. He was born in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, on December 12, 1954. While

at Hillsdale, he became a friend and protégé of Russell Kirk, the American conservative guru. Stephen went on to St. Andrews in Scotland to pursue a Ph.D. on the South African poet Roy Campbell. He then went to live in Washington and wrote a weekly political column for the *Washington Times*. He worked for the Republican National Committee and wrote speeches for Ronald Reagan, responsible for many of Reagan’s jokes, some of the president’s Cold War messages, and a Lincoln Day address.

Stephen first went to Afghanistan in the mid-1980s. After the Soviet withdrawal, he spent much of his time in that country helping with development projects. He worked with a U.S. charity called the Mercy

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36



Fund and taught people how to defuse the unexploded devices with which the Soviets had littered the country. A talented cartoonist, he used his skills in leaflets teaching Afghan children how to avoid these devices. He went on to manage the American Club in Peshawar, entertaining guests with witty satirical songs about the region's idiosyncrasies. Stephen was in Kabul when the city was captured by the Taliban in 1996. He did his best to alert the West to the dangers of Islamic extremism, but once the West began to respond, he argued that the issue was being mishandled, and that moderate Muslims were being alienated. In 2006, he published *The Muslim & Microphone: Miscommunications in the War on Terror*.

During the 1990s, he developed a career as a communications adviser, championing economic reform to governments across the developing world. He persuaded them to implement privatization programs in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa in India, as well as in Nepal, Tanzania, Nigeria, and Guyana. He produced a series of films that were shown to Indian politicians illustrating starkly the failure of state enterprises. Back in Kabul early in the new century, he advised the government of Hamid Karzai (whom he had known for many years) on policy issues, and promoted the idea that peace and

prosperity could be achieved by encouraging tribesmen to grow melons, grapes, and pomegranates, rather than opium poppies. In later years, Stephen settled in Kathmandu. He assisted with electrification projects and started a project to introduce the first children's comics in the Nepalese language, but plans were disrupted by the earthquake in Nepal last year. He privately published one novel, *The Test of the Magi*, adopting the pseudonym Johannes Bergmann.

## 1980s



**ERIC EMMONS ALLAIRE, '89**, passed away at home on January 10, 2016, at the age of 49. He was the son of Paul and Kathy Wilson Allaire. Eric loved to play,

coach, and watch basketball. At Hillsdale College, he set and still holds the all-time scoring record of 2,174 career points. He was All-American his junior and senior years and is a member of the Hillsdale College Athletic Hall of Fame. Eric assisted the Mason basketball program at various levels for many years. He was preceded in death by his grandparents Bernard and Melva Wilson and Leo and Margaret Allaire. Also

surviving are his loving parents; his wife and soulmate, LeeAnn (LaManna) Allaire; son, Emmons Paul Allaire; sisters, Carrie (Steve) Tourangeau and ShannLynn Bates; and several nieces and nephews.

## 1990s

**CAROL LYNN CRANDELL GILDERSLEEVE, '93**, passed away on January 10, 2016. Carol was the daughter of Virginia Crandell and the late Raymond Crandell of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and will be missed by her survivors including her sons, Robert J. (Kirstin) Gildersleeve and Alan C. Gildersleeve; brother Bert (Lindy) Crandell, and extended family, many friends, and the Tucson education community. Carol grew up in Jonesville, Michigan, graduating from high school in 1969 and from Hillsdale College in 1993. Carol was a science teacher and science facilitator at Magee Middle School (previously, Hohokom and Doolen Middle Schools) in Tucson. Carol leaves behind memories of a compassionate, knowledgeable, and patient science teacher to her many students throughout her teaching career in Tucson Unified School District. ■

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HILLSDALE COLLEGE

# Life in the Farm Lane

## Talking Dairy with Ali Ferry

**FROM LITCHFIELD ROAD**, a short drive north of Hillsdale College, the view of Ferry Farms is idyllic. Old and new barns sit upon a hill, surrounded by dandelion-filled grasses and fields. The clip-clop of horses pulling an Amish buggy down the road cuts through the air, while cows bellow with their deep “moos.” But a drive up the hill and back to the barns reveals a flurry of activity on this dairy farm, now in its 110th year of operation. Alissa “Ali” Hoard Ferry, '07, and her husband Scott left the frenzy of urban life behind when they moved here seven years ago, but as full-time farmers, they lead a life no less busy in an industry that demands round-the-clock attention.

Ali, who graduated with a degree in accounting, and Scott, who received a degree in finance from Michigan State University, began their careers in metro Detroit. When Scott’s father passed away suddenly in 2008, they faced a big decision: should they leave the security of their careers to take over the operation of the family farm in Litchfield? “We deliberated for eight months,” recalls Ali. “Ultimately, we decided we would rather raise a family on a farm than in the city.”

In June 2009, the Ferrys took ownership of Ferry Farms, becoming the fourth generation to run the farm. No sooner had they started to get into their new routine than calamity struck. In October 2009, a fire destroyed several buildings on the property. But with that loss came the opportunity for growth and improvement. They built a new commodity barn and shop barn, and in 2011, they built a free stall barn, in which cows can move freely, eating and resting when and where they want. The barn has the capacity for 280 cows and stays at a comfortable 67 degrees year-round. They also implemented practices, such as crop rotation and manure testing, to improve conservation and reduce pollution. The Michigan Agriculture Environment Assurance Program has certified the farm for its environmentally friendly practices.

Each workday begins at 3:00 a.m. The first of nine full-time

workers arrives to feed the cows. “The average dairy cow eats 100 pounds of feed and drinks 30 gallons of water a day,” Ali says. The Ferrys grow their own food for the cows, farming 1,500 acres of corn, soybeans, alfalfa, and wheat. A nutritionist also comes in once a week to change feed rations.

At 4:00 a.m., the first milking shift begins. “We milk the cows three times a day,” Ali says. While the Ferrys own more than 700 cows, they currently milk about 330. The milk is shipped out daily and processed by the Michigan Milk Producers Association. From there, the milk appears in many familiar stores and products. “The milk is sold at Kroger, and it is also used for butter at McDonald’s, cheese at Domino’s Pizza, and even exported in powder form to China,” Ali says.

As a farmer, Ali likes to debunk misconceptions about the origins of food. “My pet peeve is when people think that food originates at the grocery store,” she says. To that end,



The Ferry family: Scott, Ali, and their children Amelia and Griffin.

she has been active in agricultural education programs, especially for children. She gives a presentation each year for Project RED (Rural Education Day), in which Michigan fourth-grade students attend a program in their respective counties to learn about where food comes from and what farmers

do. She has also given “Ag in the Classroom” presentations at local schools. In 2013, she and Scott hosted 3,000 people for Breakfast on the Farm, a program sponsored by the Michigan State University Extension in which citizens can learn about modern food production firsthand from farmers. For their contributions to agriculture, they were selected as one of four winners of the 2014 National Young Farmers Award. With this honor came the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., last year and meet with legislators during National Ag Week.

Ali still puts her accounting degree to good use. “My degree has been invaluable in running the farm and making marketing decisions,” she says. “If I had to do it again, I would absolutely major in accounting.” She also provides accounting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

# Cynthia Trenshaw:

## Serving in the Margins of Society

**“FOR 20 YEARS**, my workplaces have been one city’s infamous slums and another city’s hospital corridors and emergency room cubicles.”

This is the prologue of Cynthia Thomas Trenshaw’s book, *Meeting in the Margins: An Invitation to Encounter Society’s Invisible People*. Published last October, the book tells a series of stories of Trenshaw’s work serving the sick, suffering, impaired, and homeless. She does not use the term “the poor;” rather, she says, she works with “the marginalized.”

Trenshaw studied at Hillsdale College from 1960 to 1961. She married Joe Trenshaw, ’63, the summer after her freshman year. The couple initially moved away because they could not afford Hillsdale, but soon returned because they missed the community. Trenshaw says that, through odd jobs and frugality, Joe was able to finish his bachelor’s degree.

Not until nearly 30 years later—just before turning 50—did Cynthia gain her own bachelor’s degree at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She then earned a master’s degree at the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley. At this time, Trenshaw says, her work in the margins of society began.

She worked as a hospital chaplain during her

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DAIRY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

services for two local businesses on a contract basis, which allows her to work from home. This gives her the flexibility to work whenever and wherever help is needed on the farm, while also caring for four-year-old Amelia and two-year-old Griffin. The family will welcome a third child this fall.

While farm life doesn’t end at 5:00 p.m. or take weekends or holidays off, it offers the Ferrys immense satisfaction. “We plant the seeds, raise and harvest the crops, feed the cows, and drink the milk they provide,” Ali says. “It’s so rewarding to know we are providing food to people, and to know where that food comes from.” ■ MONICA VANDERWEIDE, ’95



Cynthia Trenshaw

undergraduate years in Grand Rapids, where she spent time with people of all ages, from young boys in a mental hospital to patients in a 200-bed nursing home. “I found that I loved working with people who were dying, and who were in crisis in the emergency room,” Trenshaw recalls. “All of those people are marginalized because our culture does not want to see them.”

When in California, Trenshaw became involved in offering massage therapy to those living on the streets of San Francisco. “That’s where the marginalized people took over my life,” she said.

Trenshaw says that, in order to tell the stories of the marginalized, she had to put herself in the story, which she was reluctant to do. When she finally gave in to the voice of the book and let the story emerge organically, she was able to write and publish it in two years.

One part of her book—titled “Gloria”—describes Trenshaw’s encounter with a woman on the streets of San Francisco. Trenshaw vividly describes the woman, the foot massage that she provided, and the reciprocity of the experience. Her book is filled with similar stories and vignettes, and what she learned from more than 20 years of working in the margins.

“I receive as much if not more than the people that I was with,” Trenshaw said. “I learned simply to go and be present to others, and not to think that I can or should change anything.”

Trenshaw currently resides in “gray and rainy Whidbey Island” in Washington, as she describes her home, and she works as guardian ad litem for three counties in the state.

She hopes that her book will be read by human services students, church groups, and discussion groups that want a challenging read. Trenshaw says that, like writing the book, her work offered similar challenges. “It takes humility to be with people who are exactly like me but in different circumstances,” she said.

Through her experiences, Trenshaw wants others to learn to see “the invisible people of the margins. The first thing is to have the courage to notice,” she says. “If everyone were willing to see the marginalized, there wouldn’t be margins. Once we take the risk to see, to stand and be with as a peer, as the same human stuff, we can hear their story. Hear your story.” ■ EMMA VINTON, ’16



# Building the College's Reputation

## Through Everyday Moments

**WITH ANOTHER** academic year in the books, the summer months provide those of us who work at the College a brief moment to catch our collective breath and reflect on the past year. For me, this marks the completion of my second academic season at the College, and I find myself filled with gratitude on many fronts. I must admit that even after being here for two years, I have only just begun to realize, understand, and appreciate the high level of commitment, dedication, and loyalty that all of you, the Hillsdale College community, bring to this place.

Your focus, devotion, and effort are inspiring. I am humbled and honored to be a part of it.

As I look back on the work that we do in my department to help market and promote the College to audiences across the nation, I see that we have made important strides during the past 12 months. From the launching of the new Hillsdale.edu website, to growth and engagement of the College's social media channels, to visual storytelling through videos and photography, to the redesign of a full suite of new admissions marketing materials, this work has been significant. We are continuously pushing toward the goal of positioning Hillsdale College as the most recognized and respected classical liberal arts college in the country.

However, the reality is that Hillsdale's reputation is often determined by the experiences that people have when they come in contact

with the College. It could be the warm welcome that people feel when they visit our campus, or seeing how beautifully the campus is maintained by our staff, faculty, and students. It could be the relationships that form between our faculty and students,

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**Hillsdale's reputation is often determined by the experiences that people have when they come in contact with the College.**

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along with the passionate teaching and the academic rigor that our students experience. Those experiences may also include the seminars and events that the College holds on campus, at our Kirby Center in Washington, D.C., and around the country, reaching

### Matt A. Schlientz

- Vice President for Marketing
- Joined Hillsdale staff in 2014
- mschlientz@hillsdale.edu

thousands of people. Prevalent in all those experiences is a sense of spirited mission and love for the College, a spirit that consistently shines through our 13,000 living alumni.

What I am trying to say is that the experiences people have with Hillsdale College depend on how we, the greater Hillsdale College community, live in those everyday moments, both big and small. More than new websites or posts on social media, those moments determine the College's success, because in those moments, the College's reputation is formed and solidified.

So as I think about all that Hillsdale College encompasses, I am grateful to and for all of you. Thank you for impacting the lives of so many people around the country. Thank you for carrying the torch of Hillsdale College far and wide. You are making a positive difference for the College and our nation. Together, we will strive to position Hillsdale College among the very best in the country. ■



ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

# Hold that Date

## HILLSDALE'S 100TH HOMECOMING · SEPTEMBER 23-24



*Celebrating Reunions for Classes of 2006, 1996, 1986, 1976*

### Saturday

### Friday

- ◆ 65TH ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARDS BANQUET
- ◆ ALUMNI REUNION PARTIES

[alumni.hillsdale.edu/homecoming](http://alumni.hillsdale.edu/homecoming)

- ◆ CHARGER TAILGATE
- ◆ CHARGER PARADE
- ◆ CHARGER FOOTBALL  
VS. MICHIGAN TECH (4:30 PM)
- ◆ CHARGER UN-TENT PARTY  
(IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GAME)

