

# HARDING

SPRING 2016

## SERVICE *IN THE* PAINTED DESERT



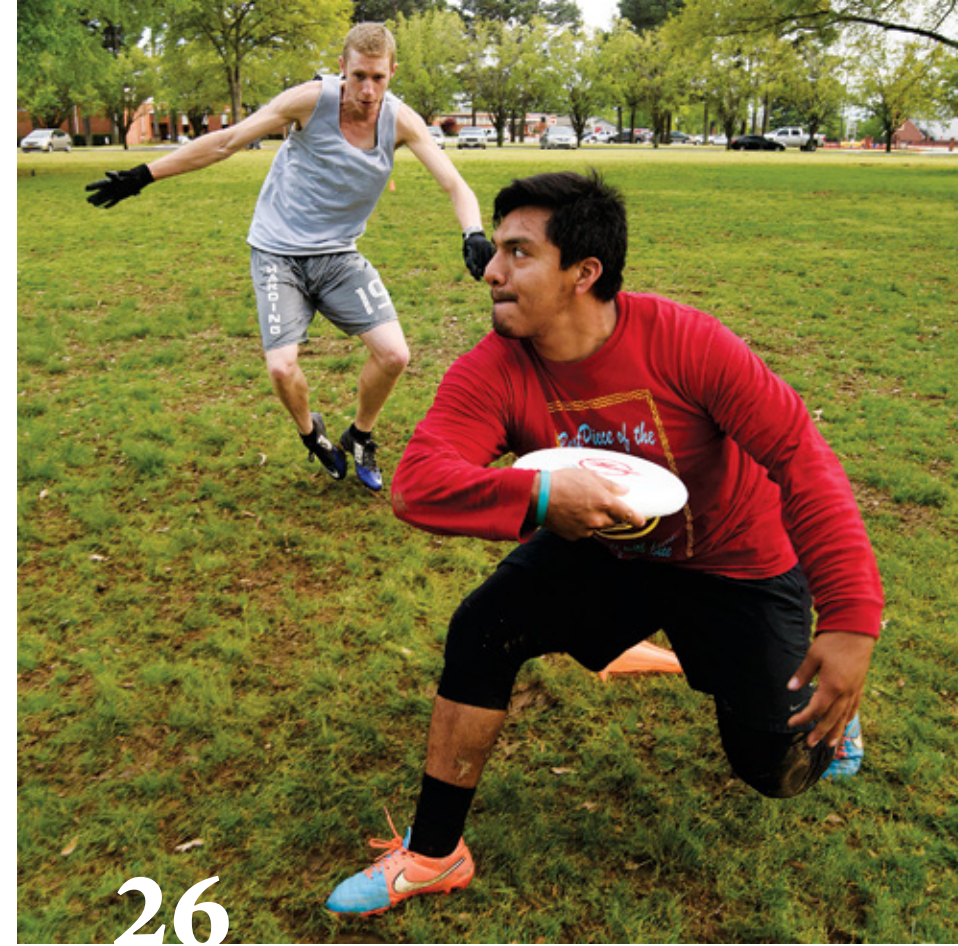


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“What is most likely to disrupt or distract you from your relationship with God?” Eric Kee asks University students and the youth group of Tuba City (Arizona) Church of Christ on March 2. At the rim of Coal Mine Canyon, students sang songs and fellowshiped with the Tuba City youth group as part of a spring break mission trip.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

# Mission

By BRUCE D. McLARTY, *president*

**H**ARDING UNIVERSITY has always been identified by our Christian mission. Nearly one-third of the missionaries who have gone out from churches of Christ have graduated from Harding. Believing that Matthew 28:19 calls Christians to “go and make disciples of all nations,” 290 students spent their spring break at 15 locations around the globe fulfilling Christ’s words.

Sponsored by the Mitchell Center for Leadership and Ministry, primarily student-led campaigns traveled to places stateside as close as Fort Worth, Texas, and to foreign locations as far away as Ecuador and Panama. Students gave their break to serve and love this world.


Hannah Owens and Jeff Montgomery traveled with the kinesiology and communication sciences and disorders groups going to Tuba City, Arizona, to spend their week on the Navajo reservation. Through words and photos, they share the experiences of the two diverse groups working there beginning on page 18.

Our students are involved daily in so many areas of mission and service, from Ju Go Ju and Pi Theta Phi’s participation in the department of mathematics’ Pi(e) Day March 14, which raised more than \$2,000 covering the amount needed to send a Zambian student to George Benson Christian College for a year to study to be a mathematics teacher, to the annual Bisons for Christ April 13, where students,



faculty and staff spent an afternoon serving local communities.

At Harding, mission is much broader than the idea of serving God in foreign lands. Mission is about studying every discipline as an opportunity to love God with all our mind; mission is about approaching every major and every profession as a sacred calling; mission is about following Jesus wherever he leads us; mission is about seeing the face of Christ in everyone who has a need; mission is about doing all that we do to the glory of God; and mission is about making disciples of all nations.

May a community of mission continue to define Harding University in the future. 

## HARDING

SPRING 2016 | VOLUME 24 | NUMBER 2

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*Harding* is published three times a year by the Public Relations Office for alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends of the University. Editorial offices are located on the second floor of the David B. Burks American Heritage Building at 915 E. Market Ave., Searcy, Arkansas; 501-279-4316; fax: 501-279-4154.

**POSTMASTER**  
Send address changes to  
Harding University  
915 E. Market Ave.  
Box 12234  
Searcy, AR 72149-5615.

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magazine/

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PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



# What is one thing you wish you could go back and tell yourself about life after graduation?

**M**ake yourself prepared to have more than one career in your lifetime. Just because you have a certain major while at Harding doesn't mean you will do that career your entire life. Don't be hard on yourself either just because you don't do full-time ministry for your entire life. There are other options that glorify God with your life.

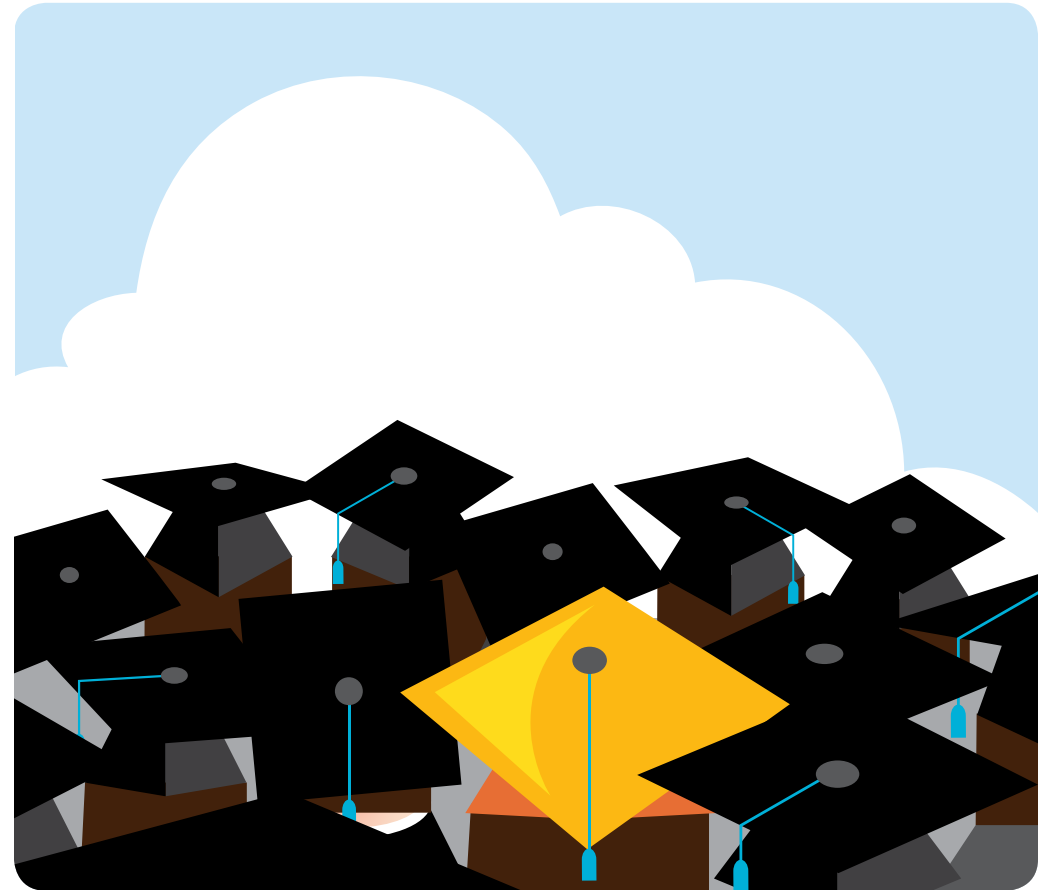
**FRANK FRANKS, '12**  
Searcy, Arkansas

Possibly never again in your life will you have the opportunity to be surrounded by such a like-minded, amazing body of believers! Enjoy, savor it! I loved chapel and even changed my education major so I wouldn't miss chapel for a semester of student teaching (not the wisest plan, but I was so sad thinking about missing it). I still stream it daily. But there just isn't a feeling outside of HU like sitting in classes, walking on the front lawn, going to a devo, eating in the cafeteria, etc., that compares to being with so many believers in daily life. It's safe, encouraging, serene and wonderful! Absolutely a delightful memory for me. It's like seeing the “great crowd of witnesses” instead of just believing by faith that they are there.

**DEBORAH STARKEY WALLIS, '03**  
Sun City, California

Pursue what you love as a vocation, not money.

**BRIAN RAGSDALE, '94**  
College Station, Texas



There is only so much you can learn in a classroom. Go out and get some hands-on experience in your field, especially in something like education.

**JENNIFER EILENSTEIN STIDHAM, '06**  
Sherman, Texas

Your education and experiences at Harding will give you the confidence you need to fulfill your dreams!

**BEVERLY NALL PACE, '78**  
Montgomery, Alabama

The learning has just started.

**SHAWN FISHER, '97**  
Searcy, Arkansas

Many people, including trained musicians, are

unable to sing harmony a cappella ... at least not like they can at Harding!

**BILLY PULLEN, '74**  
Memphis, Tennessee

Be open to the plan that God has for you — even if it is different than that one you had planned for yourself. His plan can provide life's greatest blessings.

**AMY COX MCCOWN, '98**  
Coppell, Texas

Get involved in a local church as soon as possible — not just attending. Find out where you can plug in. It's essential for keeping your faith strong and keeping you encouraged in that first year of college. Start a habit of daily quiet time with

the Lord. There's a tendency to get caught up in the freedom of being away from home. The temptation is to allow that freedom to rule you, and you can choose poorly. Instead of getting caught up in the freedoms, really take that year to refine your own faith. That lays the foundation for your adult years.

**ROBIN VOWELL HILL, '94**  
Sherwood, Arkansas

**NEXT ISSUE'S QUESTION:**

**Why did you choose to come to Harding?**

Email your answer to this question to hardingmag@harding.edu or write us at Harding Magazine, 915 E. Market Ave., Box 12234, Searcy, AR 72149-5615. Your response could appear on this page in our fall issue.



Physician assistant class of 2017 student Ashley Leon receives instruction on a high-fidelity mannequin in the simulation lab from Gary Hill, clinical director. The program has had 271 graduates since its inception in 2005 as the first physician assistant program in the state of Arkansas.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



Panelists Fred Gray and Howard Wright listen as Elijah Anthony gives his views on a question from President Bruce McLarty during the ASI panel discussion Feb. 9.

## ASI panel explores race relations

“GOOD EVENING, and welcome to our American Studies Institute conversation tonight on the always important, sometimes painful, frequently controversial and persistently delicate issue of race relations in America,” said President Bruce McLarty to begin the ASI Distinguished Lecture Series program Feb. 9. The presentation, a panel discussion, sought to break down barriers and start a conversation about race relations.

“I don’t think that tonight’s program is completely comfortable for anyone in this room,” McLarty said to introduce the evening. “There is tension in the cultural atmosphere in which we live. And I don’t expect us all to see things in the same way tonight or for our panelists to speak with a single voice. Different perspectives are what this evening is about.”

More than 800 people came to Benson Auditorium to hear Fred Gray, former attorney for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks; Howard Wright, 1968 alumnus and member of the Harding board of trustees; and Elijah Anthony, 1968 University alumnus and preacher.

The panelists answered tough questions on racial issues both past and present, and they offered insight on issues moving forward.

Gray, who spoke on campus in 2008 about civil rights in the past, present and future, shared personal experiences and his perspective on race today. “It’s a conversation that people are talking about across the nation,” he said. “And those of us who are members of the Lord’s church should be leading that discussion.”

McLarty posed questions such as “How does the past of race relations in America affect the present of race relations in America?”, “Are

there ways that well-intentioned white people unintentionally communicate disrespect to their black brothers and sisters?”, “What is a word of exhortation you have for white Christians and black Christians regarding racial reconciliation?”, and “How has the issue of race in America woven itself into your own life story?”

“I don’t remember having any contact at all with any white person other than the lady who my mother worked for from the time I was born really until almost I was in college,” Gray said. “And we didn’t really think about it. There were two worlds. There was the white world, and there was the black world.”

Anthony, who is one of the first two African-Americans to receive an undergraduate degree from Harding, expressed that even at a young age, experiences in his life made him feel like something was wrong with him.

“I REMEMBER STANDING in the alley in the rain behind a great restaurant in downtown waiting for a hamburger because I could not go inside to order it,” he said. “I remember as if it were yesterday getting on a bus where my choices were either sit in the back or stand up, even though there were seats available in the front of the bus. I remember going to the movies and having to sit in the balcony because I was not allowed to sit downstairs with white kids my age. I did not feel like anybody ought to have to be told what I was being told or treated the way I was being treated.”

Howard, also one of the first two African-Americans to receive an undergraduate degree from Harding, expressed, “This forum tonight is a forum not just for exploration but for ac-

tion.” He shared his perspective on the “Black Lives Matter” movement that sparked from the death of Trayvon Martin on Feb. 26, 2012.

“Somebody says, ‘Let’s start a movement called ‘Black Lives Matter,’” Howard said. “All of a sudden, white people say, ‘How dare you? All lives matter.’ If all lives matter, why am I fearful when my teenage grandchildren, males in particular, get in a car and go down the street? Why do I have to pray that they get back home? Yes, all lives matter in theory. But in practice, we trumpet a cause that says black lives need to matter because of how they’re taken away from their parents and their families.”

Panelists brought up issues they felt were relevant to understand in order to overcome racial discrimination, such as educating young children and demonstrating equality in their classrooms.

“This is not a problem, we’ve learned, that we can legislate away,” Anthony said. “This is so systemic that we can’t legislate and change laws to change the way people feel in their hearts. This has to be taught. And as long as it exists, there is evidence that it is not being taught to the degree it needs to be taught.”

Kim Kirkman, associate director of the American Studies Institute, said she was proud that this event happened on Harding’s campus, and she said the panelists spent time interacting with students, faculty, staff and campus guests.

“We witnessed three men giving powerful and honest testimonies of each of their lives,” Kirkman said. “Some of their words were hard to hear at times, but we must take what we heard and do something about it. I think that Fred Gray said it so well, ‘If we don’t realize there is a problem, we are never going to solve it.’”

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

Breaking down racial barriers topic of American Studies Institute presentation Feb. 9.

## Spears named provost, Hixson-Wallace vice provost

PRESIDENT BRUCE MCLARTY announced that Dr. Marty Spears will become provost, and Dr. Julie Hixson-Wallace will become vice provost for accreditation June 1.

Spears succeeds Dr. Larry Long, current provost, who is retiring.

Spears joined the faculty in 2000 as an associate professor of mathematics. In 2004 he was appointed director of institutional research, outcomes assessment and the testing office. In 2006 he was chosen assistant vice president of academic affairs and was named associate provost for undergraduate studies in 2011.

“Dr. Spears comes to this position with strong preparation in so many different areas,” McLarty said. “He experienced Harding University as a student in the 1980s, developed expertise in research and statistics through his graduate work, returned as a faculty member and director of institutional research, and assisted Dr. Long in academic affairs for the past

10 years. I cannot imagine better preparation for becoming the new provost of Harding University.”

Spears, a 1988 alumnus, earned a Master of Arts degree in 1992 and a Ph.D. in statistics in 1993 from Rice University.

Prior to joining the faculty, he served as a computer programmer at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center as well as associate professor and chair of the mathematics program at the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

Both Spears and Hixson-Wallace currently serve on Harding’s provost council.

In a restructuring of the provost’s office, Hixson-Wallace will assume the responsibility of coordinating all accreditation activities of the University in a newly created position.

She is currently assistant provost and dean of the College of Pharmacy. She joined the faculty in 2006.

In announcing her appointment, McLarty said, “Dr. Hixson-

Wallace, as the inaugural dean of the College of Pharmacy, has built our pharmacy program from the ground up. She is an excellent administrator with a deep understanding of academic processes. Through her work with pharmacy accreditation and the Higher Learning Commission, Dr. Hixson-Wallace has become an expert in the world of accreditation.”

Hixson-Wallace is a graduate of Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in Atlanta, receiving her Pharm.D. degree in 1991. She completed her residency in pharmacy practice at DeKalb Medical Center in 1992.

Prior to joining the faculty, Hixson-Wallace was a teacher and administrator at Southern School of Pharmacy from 2001 to 2006.



Drs. Julie Hixson-Wallace and Marty Spears

## Breast cancer research studies drug and gene interaction

A RESEARCH MANUSCRIPT of Dr. Landry Kamdem, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, and his team titled “Impact of UGT2B17 Gene Deletion on the Pharmacokinetics of 17-hydroxemestane in Healthy Volunteers” was recently accepted and published by the Journal of Clinical Pharmacology.

In this research, Kamdem studied how a drug prescribed for breast cancer patients reacted in people with a particular gene, the UGT2B17 gene.

“We want to help women with breast cancer in Arkansas, and we want to know their part of the story,” Kamdem said. “We’re scientists who work in the lab, but we don’t know if it’s going to translate into what’s happening at their bedside or at home. So the only way to find out is to merge our stories as scientists with their stories as patients. And altogether,

we have the full picture and then can come up with a treatment management plan.”

After undergoing treatment to eradicate the hormone-positive breast cancer, postmenopausal patients will take one of three aromatase inhibitors, which prevents the production of estrogen, to prevent the cancer from returning. Kamdem and his team examined the aromatase inhibitor called Exemestane and how it reacted with women who possess the UGBT217 gene. He has also done pharmacogenetic research on the other two aromatase inhibitors to find how they react in patients with specific genes, research that no one else has ever done in the world.

“Drugs have specific genes with which they interact,” he said. “We want to see if the drugs are benefiting the patient or if they’re toxic. We

want to improve efficacy, reduce toxicity, and ultimately reduce health care costs for the patient.”

Kamdem designed the research study in 2010 and began working shortly after receiving the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology’s Young Investigator Award in 2011 and a grant. An additional phase of the research was just approved where Kamdem and his team will survey 1,400 cancer patients about their adherence to medication. Kamdem hopes to continue conducting similar studies as he finds new genes.

“Now that the research is published, I feel blessed and overjoyed for all the contributors and women who participated in this study because it is my strong belief that this research will pave the way for individualized breast cancer therapy.”

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



# Everyday STUDENT

SCIENTIST BRANDI CLARK LEARNS ABOUT HERSELF AND HER FAITH IN A VARIETY OF PLACES




**FREEDOM IN NOT KNOWING** Oklahoma native Brandi Clark originally chose to be a biochemistry and molecular biology major to pursue medical school. As she moved through the program, she realized that her love for the subject was being overshadowed by pressures to be the best. Once she realized she no longer wanted to go to medical school, a weight was lifted. "I still don't have a definite answer as to what my future will hold — and that is OK!" she said. "This season of walking in the unknown was originally an act of submission but has turned into a state of excitement. I am thrilled at the thought of not having a plan and at the endless possibilities that can be found in the unknown."

**MORE THAN JUST A LOVE FOR THE SUBJECT** "My time as a biochemistry and molecular biology major led me to recognize my love and passion for the sciences. However, this pales in comparison to the relationships I have formed with my professors who have influenced and empowered me, both as a scientist and a child of God."

**A HEART FOR HIZ** Because of her interest in medical missions, Clark studied abroad at Harding in Zambia. Learning from missionaries with a passion for sharing Christ in Africa opened her eyes to new paths of ministry. "It was on this trip that I began to learn of the beauty in relationship and what Jesus meant when he prayed that the kingdom of heaven would come to earth," Clark said. "Through HIZ, I began to learn the definition of missions that I want my life to emulate: testifying to Jesus as Christ through simply living life and choosing to show others the love that has been shown to me."

**LEARNING FROM LITTLE ONES** During her freshman year, Clark became involved with the children's ministry at Downtown Church of Christ and has since served as a children's ministry intern there. "I cannot express the things that I have learned from spending so much time around children. I have been floored time and again by the depth of their understanding and perception, specifically in their understanding of who God is."

**FINDING COMMUNITY** "My time with Downtown has also shown me the beautiful community that resides in Searcy, outside of just Harding life. I have fallen in love with the town of Searcy because of the relationships I have found within the body at Downtown." 

— Jennifer Hannigan

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

## ASIS appoints public safety officers

**TWO OFFICERS** in the department of public safety received appointments by the American Society for Industrial Security. Craig Russell, director of public safety, was appointed a senior regional vice president of the Western Hemisphere Southern Group, and Kevin Davis, assistant director of public safety, was appointed 2nd vice chairman of the School of Safety and Security Council.

ASIS International is organized into local chapters, regions and groups across the globe. There are



Craig Russell and Kevin Davis

approximately 40,000 members worldwide, and each member is assigned to one of the 230 local chapters. As the senior regional vice president, Russell will oversee approximately 3,000 members of 20 chapters in seven different states and four regions.

Russell first joined the organization 14 years ago, and he attended his first ASIS International meeting in fall 2001.

"I have served as a volunteer leader for the organization in some capacity since 2002, starting at the chapter level for the Central Arkansas Chapter, then being appointed on the regional level for the region that includes Arkansas, Oklahoma and Northern Louisiana," Russell said. "I served four years as an assistant regional vice president and six years as a

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

regional vice president."

Responsibilities of Russell's new position include serving as a communicator between the organization's board and headquarters leadership as well as regional and chapter leaders and assuring the mission of ASIS is fulfilled.

"First, almost everyone who chooses this profession does so largely because they want to help people," Russell said. "Second, almost everyone I have met in this profession is willing and eager to help others in the profession. ASIS International encourages these two aspects of the profession by helping like-minded professionals come together so that we can better help those we serve and better help each other. It really is a joy to work in an organization that complements and enhances the work we do here at Harding."

Davis has served on the council as an active contributor for a year. He has 18 years of experience in security, most of which he acquired at Harding, where he works to protect the University and Harding Academy.

With this new appointment, Davis will assist in guiding the council in leadership meetings and will contribute to the development and sustainment of school safety.

"I appreciate the appointment because it allows me to have direct impact on our industry and how security as a whole protects our nation's students," Davis said. "I feel honored to be recognized as an expert in the school safety field. I also greatly appreciate the networking opportunities that this appointment gives me. I can rely on that network to help make Harding even more secure."



## NEWSMAKERS

### BRACKETT LIBRARY

Debbie Stewart was announced as manager of the media center effective Jan. 28.

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Drs. Jim Miller, chair of the communication department, and Jack Shock, professor of communication, were keynote speakers at the University Communicators Conference at the Harvard Faculty Club in April. Their presentation was titled, "Decoding Cries for Help During a 21st-Century Campus Crisis."

Dr. Kristi Bond, chair of the foreign language department; Ava Conley, professor of Spanish; and Alyssa Hepburn, instructor of foreign language, made a presentation at the annual convention of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language in November 2015 in San Diego. Their presentation was titled, "From Novice to Mid to Advanced Mid in Four Years: A Step-by-Step Guide to Oral Proficiency Throughout the Curriculum."

### COLLEGE OF BIBLE AND MINISTRY

At the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research in November 2015 in Atlanta, Dr. Dale Manor, professor of Bible and archaeology, read his paper titled, "Asherah Again: Dichotomy or Metonymy?" He also read his paper at the Near Eastern Archaeology Society meeting in Atlanta titled, "From a Palace to a Temple at Tel Beth-Shemesh: Findings from the 2010-2015 Seasons."

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Rich Brown, professor, was named chair of the marketing program in February.

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Amy Adair, assistant professor and director of professional field experiences, defended her dissertation at Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, Tennessee, Sept. 21, 2015, and completed requirements for her Ed.D. in leadership and professional practice in February. The title of her dissertation is "Comparing Dispositions of Teacher Candidates Entering and Exiting Harding University's Education Program."

### COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

The University's chapter of the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists won the Generation Rx regional award at the APhA annual meeting and exposition in Baltimore on March 4.

### COLLEGE OF SCIENCES

Gabe Foust, assistant professor of computer science, defended his dissertation at Texas A&M University Dec. 4, 2015, to earn a Ph.D. The title of his dissertation is "Guaranteeing Responsiveness and Consistency in Dynamic, Asynchronous Graphical User Interfaces."

Drs. Beth Wilson and Crystal Whittington, along with junior child development major Emma McKean, participated in the 18th annual Fall Child Care Conference in Batesville, Arkansas, Sept. 26, 2015. Both Wilson and Whittington presented workshops for the registrants, and McKean served as a co-presenter with Wilson.

Dr. Jon White, assistant professor of engineering, has been awarded a \$7,000 faculty grant from the national funding agency VentureWell.

### INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY

Vice President and Chief Information Officer Keith Cronk has been named one of the top CIOs in North America by Info-Tech Research Group, an information technology research and advisory company.

### MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Dr. Linda Thompson, director, received the Henry Young Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution in March from the National Association for Developmental Education.

### OFFICE OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. James Carr was presented with the 2016 Community Service Award Jan. 18 from the Arkansas Martin Luther King Jr. Commission.

### OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

Chad Joice, assistant dean of students, defended his dissertation Nov. 17, 2015, and earned a Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University. His dissertation is titled "Don't Be Mean Behind the Screen: Cyberbullying Prevalence in an Oklahoma School District."



MY VIEW DANA STEIL

# Apple's backdoor

In February, Apple refused to help the FBI access encrypted data on the iPhone that belonged to one the shooters from the December 2015 terrorist attack in San Bernadino, California. In a message to their customers posted Feb. 16, Apple stated, "The FBI may use different words to describe this tool, but make no mistake: Building a version of iOS that bypasses security in this way would undeniably create a backdoor. And while the government may argue that its use would be limited to this case, there is no way to guarantee such control." Harding magazine sat down with Assistant Professor of Computer Science Dana Steil to learn more about encryption and get his perspective on the issue.

IN THE SPECIFIC CONTEXT of the San Bernadino iPhone case, I hope the FBI is able to gain access to the data on the iPhone without the assistance of Apple. Further, I hope that any intelligence gathered will aid in our national security.

I, and many others, view the recent FBI request and court order in the broader context of government regulation of encryption rather than the narrower context of this one case. This well-publicized court order comes in the midst of a renewed push by some in our government to regulate encryption. A recent article in *Communications of the ACM* expressed that 20 years ago, it was decided that the U.S. government would not regulate encryption. Law enforcement officials who favored such regulation at the time were not focused on terrorists, rather the focus was on encrypted data of drug traffickers, those involved in child pornography, and white-collar criminals. Law enforcement wanted to be able to get data off suspects' computers after making arrests. By presidential order at the time, it was decided that the United States was not going to attempt to regulate encryption because the benefits of such encryption outweighed the harm. Ironically, many of the best encryption algorithms, without backdoors, were developed with U.S. federal grant funds.

The question is, are we going to allow legal and robust encryption or not? I contend that if you have a backdoor, as some in our government are suggesting, you no longer have robust encryption. If you have a key under the doormat, why have the lock in the first place? If we have laws to regulate encryption similar to those suggested recently, only law abiding citizens would follow them. If

you are a criminal, you are likely to use an encryption algorithm without a backdoor to keep your data secret. We fool ourselves if we believe we can keep robust encryption tools from those who want to hide incriminating data.

It is my understanding that the data on the San Bernadino iPhone is encrypted, and the phone is locked with a passcode. The only way to access the data is by knowing this passcode. I hope the FBI can find video surveillance of the perpetrator entering the passcode. If the FBI tries incorrect passcodes too many times, all the data could be deleted. They cannot just plug in the phone and read the data because it is encrypted. There are many different algorithms for encryption. If Apple did the encryption well, no one should be able to access the information. There is a unique private key per device that is encrypted. Only the user who owns the device and knows the passcode is granted access to the key and thus the encrypted data. Apple should not know the passcode or the key; therefore, they should not be able to decrypt the contents. Even the owner who wrote the information can't read the contents without the passcode. It is unclear if Apple can overcome the passcode hurdle they constructed; they have made no statement to the contrary. I will be disappointed if they can.



There are people all over the world relying on the encryption on their phone for average to noble purposes, and there also are people who are probably using the encryption for criminal purposes. If Apple bypasses the encryption, they are opening the door to making encrypted data accessible for everyone. I create law enforcement software. I use encryption algorithms to encrypt law enforcement data as it's sent from one place to another so that other people cannot view it. I think the benefits that come from secure encryption without any backdoors far outweighs the benefit to law enforcement by having backdoors. Clearly, Apple has done a sufficient job because the FBI cannot read the data from the iPhone without help. No one should be able to decrypt the data even with help.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



# HEARD in CHAPEL

MARCH 23, 2016

"When we're hiding in God, we're not isolated — we're connected to others."

**Dr. Kraig Martin**, assistant professor of Bible

MARCH 22, 2016

"Forgiveness is best manifested on the cross, but it's exemplified in the forgiveness and love of the church."

**Ben Stewart**, Bible and ministry major from Cleburne, Texas

MARCH 14, 2016

"If God brings you to something, he will bring you through it."

**Jane Vanderburgh**, general studies major from Columbia Tennessee

MARCH 10, 2016

"You have dreams, you have hopes, and you have plans for the next 25 years of your life. Some of those are going to work out, and some of them aren't. Be open to the second chances God gives you."

**Jeff Kreh**, '95

FEB. 25, 2016

"I challenge you to walk in love so that the kingdom is expanded."

**Dr. Andrew Baker**, director of the Mitchell Center for Leadership and Ministry

FEB. 3, 2016

"Who we are is not found in man's expectations or man's approval."

**Stephen Hedlund**, economics major from O'Fallon, Missouri

FEB. 2, 2016

"You never know how Jesus is working on somebody else's heart through you."

**Conley Gibbs**, minister from Ferguson, Missouri

DEC. 4, 2015

"Let's joyfully rebel and create the world as it could be."

**Brad Montague**, creator of *Kid President Web series*

# Mercer named pharmacy dean

PROVOST LARRY LONG announced Dr. Jeff Mercer as the new dean of the College of Pharmacy April 6. He will replace Dr. Julie Hixson-Wallace, current dean, effective June 1.

As assistant dean for experiential education since 2006, Mercer was charged with leading the development of practice placements for pharmacy students. Mercer

earned his Pharm.D. from Auburn University in 2000 after studying at Faulkner and Mercer universities. He began his pharmacy career working with Publix Super Markets, becoming pharmacy supervisor and district manager in 2004.

Long said that Mercer showcases the vision and passion necessary to lead the college.

"Dr. Mercer has applied his outstanding background in commercial pharmacy and his leadership skills to develop an outstanding experiential education program for our pharmacy students," Long said. "A thoughtful and quiet leader, Dr. Mercer is a hard worker, a team player, and a person with integrity and spiritual strength. Based on the comments of his peers on the faculty in the College of Pharmacy, Dr. Mercer has earned their respect and confidence, as he has mine."

Hixson-Wallace has been with the University for 10 years as the founding dean of the College of Pharmacy and was recently named vice provost for accreditation. Read more about Hixson-Wallace's promotion on page 7.



# EVENTS

JUNE 9-10, JULY 14-15 AND AUG. 17-18

## Summer Stampede

Summer Stampede allows incoming freshmen to build their class schedules, attend orientation sessions, and update housing information as well as meet new friends and preview campus life. [www.harding.edu/stampede](http://www.harding.edu/stampede)

HONORS SYMPOSIUM

A: JUNE 24-JULY 8, B: JULY 1-15, C: JULY 8-22, AND D: JULY 15-29

## Summer Academic Institute

These two-week programs challenge, encourage and uplift high school students following their junior year with lectures, interactive classes and other activities to help engage students in their learning. [www.harding.edu/honors](http://www.harding.edu/honors)

JUNE 19-24

## Pharmacy Camp

Pharmacy Camp is a unique opportunity for high school juniors and seniors interested in pharmacy to explore the profes-

sion through classes, hands-on learning experiences and other activities. Students



can explore the campus; meet other campers their age sharing the same interest; interact with College of Pharmacy faculty, staff and students; and much more!

[www.harding.edu/pharmacy](http://www.harding.edu/pharmacy)

SEPT. 25-28

## Lectureship

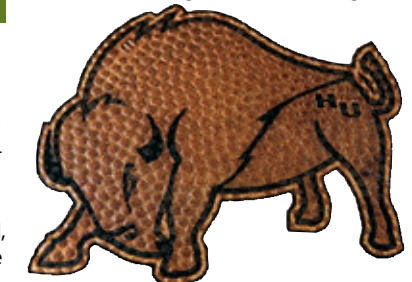
HOLY HOLY HOLY: LIVING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Lectureship attendees can look forward to learning more about this foundational theme of the Bible; participating in uplifting worship assemblies with singing led by Keith Lancaster; and above all, experiencing a deeper awareness of the nature of our holy and majestic God. [www.harding.edu/lectureship](http://www.harding.edu/lectureship)

OCT. 27-29

## Homecoming

Gather with friends, old and new, at Homecoming. Enjoy the musical "Crazy for You" ([www.hardingtickets.com](http://www.hardingtickets.com)), alumni chapel, class and club reunions, the Family Picnic, and watch the football team square off against Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Thursday's Heritage Circle Banquet honors the classes of '46, '51, '56, '61 and '66, and Friday's Black and Gold Banquet recognizes distinguished alumni. [www.harding.edu/homecoming](http://www.harding.edu/homecoming)



For a complete list of events, visit [www.harding.edu/calendar](http://www.harding.edu/calendar).



## Bison role models

By SCOTT GOODE, assistant athletic director for sports information

**I**T'S A FEW MINUTES before 10 a.m. on Tuesday in Cindy Howard Gurchiek's ('86) third-grade class at Harding Academy. Students are working quietly, but there is a feeling of anticipation in the air because they know that in a few minutes they will be here — people older, bigger and much stronger than they are.

When the Bison Buddies arrive, those differences don't produce fear or nervousness. Instead, the classroom lights up with smiles, giggles and hugs all around.

The Bison Buddies for Gurchiek's class are three Harding football players. De'Onte Garrett is a 6-foot-1, 300-pound defensive tackle who during offseason put on a show by bench pressing 225 pounds 41 times in less than one minute. He is joined by Ray Davis, a 6-foot, 290-pound offensive lineman, and Frank Herbert, a 5-foot-10, 180-pound defensive back who is the speedster in the group.

The trio is part of more than 20 Harding football players who make up Bison Buddies and weekly visit students at Harding Academy and other local elementary schools. Garrett, Davis and Herbert stop by on Tuesday and Thursday for about an hour.

It is a program that began almost 10 years ago and carries on a tradition that head coach Ronnie Huckeba says started back in the 1970s with a program called Harding Athletes as Role Models. Garrett is the leader of this year's Buddies and says that Bison Buddies is a highlight of his week.

"I just like being a kid," 23-year-old Garrett says. "Going into those classes brings me life. I feed off the energy they've got. I like having fun and being funny. It relieves me of all the stress of school and lets me be a kid again."

On this Tuesday, the students are divided into three groups. Garrett, a Bible and family ministry major from El Dorado, Arkansas, sits at a desk at the front of the class with a deck

of cards. As two students rotate to his station, Garrett, in his deep bass voice, tells them to take two cards from the top of the deck. The smallest number goes on top to form a fraction, and the students compare the fractions. Whichever student has the largest fraction gets all four cards.

**DAVIS, WHO HAS THE NICKNAME "Hulk"** for obvious reasons, is helping a group of six students with a math lesson on iPads. Herbert and a group of six or seven other students work on Mountain Math at the front of the room, a series of questions reviewing concepts learned earlier in the year.

Harding Academy elementary principal Bode Teague sees the interaction Harding's football players have with his students as a key benefit for Bison Buddies.

"The students love having role models to look up to," Teague says. "They have these huge guys come in and sit down with them and learn

their names. They read to them or work with them individually, and our kids love it.

"On the flip side, it gives the Bison Buddies a chance to be of service to someone other than themselves."

Gurchiek, who is in her 15th year as a teacher at Harding Academy, has had the same group of Bison Buddies for three years.

"The Bison Buddies show my class college students serving and doing something they don't have to do, using their time to come over here when they could be doing something else," Gurchiek says. "It also gives my students a connection. They see these football players out on the field, but Bison Buddies have shared with them that God comes first. At a young age, when they are so impressionable, for them to hear the Buddies say that really makes a difference.

"My students see them as superheroes, and I see them as really good examples of what well-rounded student-athletes should be."

For almost all Bison Buddies, the program comes down to one thing.

"I do it for the kids," says Davis, a health care management major from Fayetteville, Arkansas. "I love seeing their reaction when we walk through the door. They look up to us. It's like having an older sibling. It's good to set an example for them."

In the classroom, it's hard to tell who enjoys Bison Buddies the most.

"They are just like family," says 9-year-old Xander Province. "They act like they've known us since we were born. They just come and hang out."

"I think they are very helpful," says 8-year-old Ruby Lewis. "They are also very funny, and that can be a part of education and help you learn more because kids like funniness."

But it's not all fun and games.

"They help us with Mountain Math," Lewis says. "And they don't give you the answer completely. They just help you."

And who's afraid of a little Mountain Math when you know that twice a week, you have Bison Buddies headed your way to tackle it with you.



Helping third-grade students, Bison Buddy Ray Davis assists Isaac Baker with math problems.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

For the latest sports information, visit [www.hardingsports.com](http://www.hardingsports.com).

### BY THE NUMBERS

Going up for two of his 11 points, senior Jacob Gibson helps the Bisons take their 40th-straight home opener victory Dec. 3, 2015, over Southern Nazarene University 86-57.

**231** School record for 3-pointers in a career (2012-16) held by senior Jacob Gibson, who also holds the school record for 3-pointers in a single game (9 at East Central, Jan. 25, 2014) and in a season (92, 2016). Gibson was the Great American Conference Player of the Year and received honorable mention All-America honors from Division II Bulletin. The Bison basketball team was the Great American Conference co-champions, made the NCAA Division II tourney, and finished with a 20-11 record.

**520** The number of points scored by sophomore basketball player Sydney Layrock during the 2015-16 season, the 10th-most points by a Lady Bison in a single season. Layrock was named first team All-Great American Conference and junior A'ndrea Haney was named GAC Defensive Player of the Year. The team finished 17-10.

**6.87** Senior Donatella Luckett's winning time in seconds in the 60-meter dash at the Indoor Gorilla Classic in Pittsburg, Kansas, Feb. 12, which tied the school record.

**11:59.85** The 20th-best time in NCAA Division II this season posted by the distance medley relay team of Madison Drennan, Tammy Kim, Dallis Bailey and Kelsey Taylor. The quartet won the event at the Indoor Gorilla Classic in Pittsburg, Kansas, Feb. 12.





# To SERVE and PROTECT

*Service is paramount in public safety's approach to keeping campus safe*

By TORIA PARRETT, student writer

Photography by JEFF MONTGOMERY

**M**ost University campus offices are open the usual 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. any given weekday. Even President Bruce McLarty is allowed to close up shop, turn off his office light, and head home at the end of the day. However, there is one office on campus open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They come in on snow days, and they are here on breaks. The department of public safety employees never stop working to keep the University campus and community safe. They have dedicated themselves to service to Harding and its mission.

Kevin Davis, assistant director of public safety, said a desire to serve the Harding community is at the heart of all that public safety does.

"The motto you have always heard from law enforcement is to protect and serve," Davis says. "Our motto is the opposite in some ways. It is to serve and protect. We do all of the protection features, but our main component is serving the student body, visitors, and our faculty and staff here."

While this has always been the mission of public safety, Director of Public Safety Craig Russell said that the department has evolved with an ever-changing society. With changes in



Clay Scott and Alyssa Harrell ride in the back as Brad Hendrickson provides them and Landon McKinney with transportation to campus buildings.

technology, training and service, the department has continued to advance to meet its mission most effectively.

“Our basic goal really is the same now as it was more than 25 years ago,” Russell says. “It is to provide a safe environment for the Harding community. How we do that has changed some, and that has changed as the world has changed. Even though we have the same goals, we have more resources available to us now. Providing that safe environment is really important for Harding to fulfill its mission. We believe that helping create a safe environment is an important way that we can do that.”

Since Russell started with the department in 1989, it has seen significant changes based on advances in technology. At that time, the department still used a large loop of keys to lock and unlock every building, and there were none of the security cameras that are now an integral part of keeping track of what is happening on campus.

“[Technology] is an area where we have grown tremendously,” Russell says. “We have hundreds of security cameras and hundreds of doors on campus that are monitored electronically, all with the goal of keeping our campus safe.”

By the time Davis joined the department in 1997, a few campus cameras had been installed, and VHS tapes were kept of security footage. Davis said the advances in security technology have been a great addition to the abilities of the department.

“Now we have about 350 cameras, and they are digital. They are tied into access control and alarms,” Davis says. “We have gone from kind of an archaic analog system to really cutting edge digital. If something happens, especially after operating hours, it will set off an alarm in our office and a camera view will pop up with what is going on. It really assists our officers in responding to the scene now.”

Students are now able to use their meal plans as well as access their respective dorms with their student ID cards. The department also has an office dedicated entirely to security technology.

Davis said members of the department attend safety technology conventions to see what advances have been made since the department’s last technological update. However, he also said that they are careful to not just adopt the newest technology or

product. They choose products that have been proven to be effective and work well with other systems in place on campus.

“We have prided ourselves in finding technology that works well together so that access, control and cameras talk to each other and provide seamless integration,” Davis says. “I feel really good about the technology we have and how we have integrated that into what we need to do.”

Russell said that another important part of public safety’s job is also to ensure the safety of Harding’s numerous satellite campuses. In order to better serve the University’s many study abroad programs and personnel at the School of Theology in Memphis, Tennessee, the department makes sure to keep up with technology, trends and current events. Ultimately, Russell said technology has increased the professionalism of the department.

“**YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE** to use and understand those systems,” Russell says. “We have to hire people who have a certain ability to use the technology that we employ. It requires a different level of education and training than when I first started when somebody would just hand you a ring of keys and say, ‘Learn to go lock up campus.’”

Another big area of change in the depart-

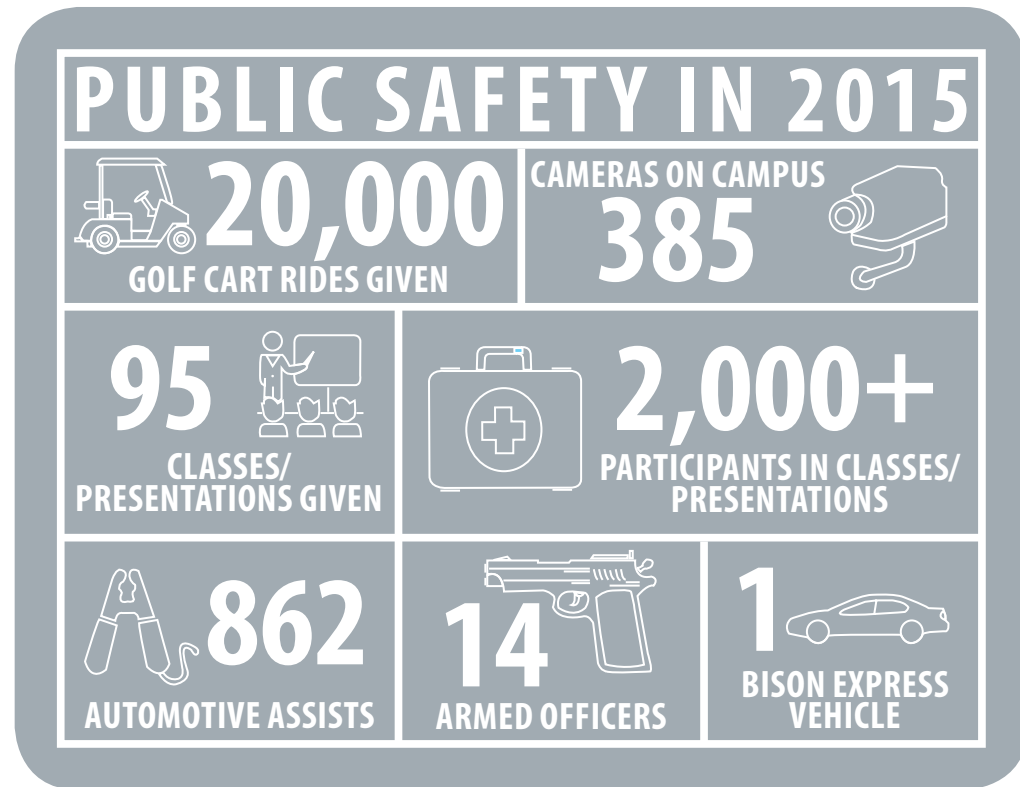
ment through the years has been training, both taken by the officers and offered to others by the department. Public safety offers multiple types of classes and training to students, faculty and staff of the University. These classes include CPR certification classes, first aid training, disaster drills, rape aggression defense courses, fire safety presentations and active shooter simulations. Russell said he feels these trainings are an especially important part of the department’s goal.

“Part of making Harding a safe environment is making sure that people are well-equipped to help their neighbor, and CPR is a wonderful way to do that,” Russell says.

Another aspect of training was greatly affected when the University made the decision to have full-time, armed officers. Davis said the school shooting at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University brought about this recent change.

“Virginia Tech was really the turning point nationwide as far as the active shooter,” Davis says. “It is really what polarized the nation and brought it to the forefront.”

In the time following the event, Chancellor David Burks, University president at the time, met with Russell and decided that armed officers would be the best plan of action to continue to keep campus safe.



GRAPHIC BY TORIA PARRETT

“We started with a very small group just on the day shift because that is when most active shooter situations on campuses occur,” Russell says. “We gradually grew from there. My goal was that if we were going to have an armed department here at Harding, we were going to do it right. We were going to find some of the best people in the world who could teach us how to do it, and we did that. We also provide much more training than the state requires.”

**IN ADDITION TO 60 HOURS** of state-mandated training, University armed officers also train with the Searcy Police Department and SWAT team to make sure the separate forces know how to act as a single unit if a situation were to occur on campus. Davis said that the department is very serious about the training of their armed officers, and they understand the commitment involved in carrying a gun in protection of others. He also said that many schools in the region have approached the University on how to implement their own armed security department, and that Harding’s department is seen as a leading expert among non-sworn departments in Arkansas.

A third place of advancement in the department has been the area of service. There have been two specific efforts by public safety to better serve the Harding community. The first is the Courtesy and Safety Escort program. CASE offers two golf carts that patrol campus at night to give students rides to various buildings and dorms. These golf carts provide around 20,000 rides to students each year and have increased the level of service since the early public safety days of bike patrol. Because of the success of this program, an additional program called Bison Express has been added. Bison Express is an enclosed vehicle that serves campus by driving students to the doctor, providing jumpstarts, changing tires and similar services. While these are services already provided by public safety, Bison Express now acts as a program specifically dedicated to serving the Harding community in these ways.

Junior Correy Moyer is a student who has benefited from these services. Moyer, a small forward on the Lady Bison basketball team, tore her medial meniscus during a team practice over Christmas break 2015. Moyer said that public safety made the process of



Utilizing one of the many types of training offered by public safety, Hannah Powell works on her CPR certification.

being injured on campus much easier.

“I had to have other people carry things or hold doors open for me for six weeks while I was on crutches,” Moyer says. “Public safety helped me by taking me to classes and therapy appointments on time. They were also nice when coming to pick me up and held conversations with me, so I did not feel awkward. They still see me around campus even though they do not give me rides anymore and ask how I am doing.”

Russell and Davis both agreed that service is the biggest part of public safety’s job on campus and a place where there has been a lot of advancement in the last several years. Russell said that it is a firm belief of the department that service to the Harding and Searcy community is essential to keeping the University safe.

“**PEOPLE KNOW** who we are, and we know our community,” Russell says. “If we want to keep campus safe, and we do, it really is a community-wide effort, so knowing our community and our community knowing us is really important. I would say the most important thing we have done is make those efforts to get to know those in the Harding community.”

The department of public safety has seen many changes and advances throughout the

years. From technology to training to services offered, the office continues to strive to be the best protectors possible. Dan Campbell, senior officer of the Harding Fund, was the director of public safety before Russell and has watched the department continue to grow over the years.

“I think what has happened on campus has been fantastic,” Campbell says. “The concern for the welfare of the students has been fantastic, and Craig and his guys have taken it to a really great level. They continue to improve, and the administration has been absolutely marvelous and has prioritized this. I think the students are about as safe as they could possibly be here and as taken care of as they can possibly be.”

Public safety continues to be the only 24/7 office on campus and the office to call to unlock a door. However, Davis said these changes have taken their department to a new level from what it was in years past, and serving and keeping the Harding community safe stays at the top of their priority list.

“The change in overall attitude, equipment, tools, the professionalism of the people that we hire, and all of the training that we do combines to really make it a cutting edge department,” Davis says.

One that serves and protects.

*Sa'ah Naagháí Bik'eh Hózhóón*

# WALK IN BEAUTY

By HANNAH OWENS

Photography by JEFF MONTGOMERY

**T**uba City is a small town in Arizona home to more than 9,000 people. It's also home to the largest blood-related Native American tribe with more than 300,000 tribal registered members: the Navajo. Navajo people are quiet, respectful to one another, and rooted in the sacred culture of their land. In early March, University students spent their spring break in Tuba City interacting with the community there, offering themselves up as servants for the needs of the church, and learning about the people and culture of the Navajo Nation.

You never know what to expect on a mission trip. University photographer Jeff Montgomery and I decided to join in the mission efforts of two groups for spring break 2016. The department of communication sciences and disorders and the kinesiology club through Downtown Church of Christ each led groups to Tuba City where they worked in various settings to serve and support the community. We wanted to capture an up-close view of missions and tell a story of hard work and service, but the story goes so much deeper than that, and it all starts with an orientation at the beginning of the week.

"Welcome to a dusty Indian reservation in Tuba City," Eric Kee said as he began orientation for one of the groups. "Serving is more than having a paintbrush in one hand and a hammer in the other."

Students and faculty participating in the Tuba City mission trip gather at Newspaper Rock on Sunday, Feb. 28, and talk about the week of service ahead.

“We really try to follow **Jesus’ example** of meeting people where they are and getting to know them on a personal level.”

Yá’át’ééh  
**HELLO**

**ERIC ('02) AND TRACY PATTERSON ('98) KEE** and their three children are at the center of Tuba City Church of Christ. When we arrived, we were greeted by the whole Kee family: Eric was eager and excited to begin the week, Tracy welcomed us all in like we were her own family, and Cayden, Silas and Ava charmed us all with their bubbly energy and precious dispositions. One afternoon, I snuck away from the group and learned more about this family’s story. Eric is a full-blood Native American of the Navajo tribe who grew up on the reservation there.

“I first came in contact with Christianity at 10 years old by a visiting group from Batesville, Arkansas, and they invited me to come to VBS. I really wasn’t interested until they said they were going to have cookies and punch,” he says, laughing.

From that moment, Eric said he became interested in getting to know people outside the reservation, the only place he ever really knew. He started attending Tuba City Church of Christ when he was in high school, and he was put in charge of taking visiting mission teams down into the Grand Canyon and Colorado River, which is only about an hour drive from Tuba City.

“I had taken a group down to the Colorado River from Lodi, California, and I asked the youth minister, Ken Shackelford, ‘What does it take to be baptized?’” he says. “I had already accepted Christ into my heart but had just never made the decision to be baptized at the same time. I made the decision to be baptized right there in the freezing waters of the Colorado River.”

Once he graduated high school, Eric left the reservation for college with no intentions on returning. But God had a different plan in mind for him.

“After graduating from Harding, I had decided to go to Italy. When I left for Italy, I made a vow again never to return. Then Tracy and I got married and moved back to Arizona.”

Eric was working with the Avanti Italia program as a missionary in Italy when he met Tracy, who was working as assistant to the director of Harding University in Florence. After returning from Italy in 2004, Eric served as youth minister at the church in Tuba City, and Tracy joined him after they married in 2007. The couple then pursued Eric’s talent in art, opened an art gallery outside of Sedona, and managed it for three years until the recession hit. They moved to Searcy and felt very happy and settled until they felt led by the Holy Spirit to return back to work on the Navajo reservation.

“When we were approached with the idea of moving back, I was very much opposed because I had just landed a great job with Wal-Mart Distribution, and I had been offered a management position,” Eric says. “Tracy also had a great job recruiting for Harding. I thought we were going

to be very settled there in Searcy. Financially, it felt we were jumping off a cliff but had to trust God to take care of it.”

After they found out the position at the church was open, they started investigating who might be interested in filling the need there.

“We were very invested in this place because Eric was very close to the previous missionaries, grew up around the church, and served as the youth minister,” Tracy says. “Of course we cared about these people and this community. So we got on the phone and started calling others we felt shared similar feelings toward the church and Tuba City.”

“Yeah, we actually started to recruit for this position,” Eric adds, laughing.

“We certainly didn’t position ourselves for full-time ministry, we weren’t Bible majors, and we didn’t feel qualified,” Tracy says.

Tracy vividly recalls Shawn Daggett sharing in chapel that God doesn’t call the qualified; he qualifies the called.

Eric and Tracy answered his call when they moved back to Tuba City in 2014. They completed their second year working for the church and ministering to the community in February, but it was a challenging first two years.

“The first summer, it seemed we stopped much of what we were doing in the mission field to work with visiting mission teams,” Tracy says. “We were wiped out; our marriage, kids, and even our church members suffered because we neglected them to take care of these groups coming in. We provided this fantastic cross-cultural exchange program. We have to be really careful about juggling groups because, while we appreciate the extra hands, they can easily consume our time and effort. We are learning how to better utilize short-term mission efforts through hosting weekly community outreach movie nights, bringing in kids through VBS, providing firewood throughout the winter, and serving in other ministries. These combined projects really support our long-term efforts. We don’t want to lose sight of our primary purpose, so we carefully select what mission teams come so that we can together love and serve the Tuba City community.”

The Kees hope to continue helping grow the church in the future, and they’re praying for God to send them another team to help them in their long-term mission efforts. Eric said ministering to the Navajo people can be difficult because they are deeply rooted in their own culture, and anything that challenges Navajo tradition is very suspicious to them.

“The first thing we have to do is to get to know people on their level,” Eric says. “When we talk about the Bible and we talk about what Jesus did, we really try to follow his example of meeting people where they are and getting to know them on a personal level.”

“A common perception Navajos have on Christian churches is that it is a



Tuba City Church of Christ is built in a hogan layout, which is the traditional structure of a Navajo house.



Eric, Tracy, Caden, Silas and Ava Kee live next to the church building and have been serving the community there since 2014.



James Billigody, cultural speaker and performer, teaches the group how to say phrases in the Navajo language March 1.



Speech-language pathology graduate student Cara Messmer reads Dr. Seuss' *Green Eggs and Ham* to a class of students at the Tuba City Boarding School Feb. 29 as junior McKenna Crabtree observes. Students in the communication sciences and disorders program spent part of the week working with students and speech-language pathologists in the area.

“Listen to the **stories** they have to tell.”

white man’s religion,” Tracy adds. “We’re trying to help preserve the culture here — not take it away.”

As an example, Tracy mentions that the Navajo celebrate a baby’s first laugh with a ceremony. A dinner is held, and the family passes around salt to symbolize learning how to share at a young age.

“These types of traditions can still be used to glorify God,” Tracy says. “Our goal is to make disciples. That’s the incredible thing about God. He isn’t bound by any culture. You can still be Navajo and a Christian, and you don’t have to leave everything you know. It is our mission to disciple and let God use us to grow his kingdom through Tuba City Church of Christ and always give him the glory.”

*Diné*  
**THE PEOPLE**

“**THE NATIVE AMERICANS** are considered the forgotten people,” Tracy says. “Even though this is domestic missions, it’s like stepping into another country.”

As we were driving into Tuba City, my eyes were wide in awe at the bright colors and stripes painted on cliffs and the natural patches of greens and browns laying at the feet of mountains and stretching for miles of hills and plains. When we got within city limits, the scenery changed but only ever so slightly. Trailers and falling-apart shacks were sprinkled along the base of towering orange rocks isolated in the desert where families chose to make their homes.

“Many of our church families still have no running water,” Tracy says. “They have no electricity, and they use firewood to heat their homes.”

The church has an average of 35-40 members each Sunday. Tracy and Eric succeeded Paul and Ann Ghee, who served as missionaries for more than 26 years and built the foundation upon which the Kees have continued to expand. Under the leadership of both families, the church has always relied on visiting groups to help them further their efforts.

Downtown Church of Christ in Searcy is the primary supporting congregation for missions in Tuba City, and members of the church joined with University students and faculty and high school students from Harding Academy to spend the week at the church working on various projects including remodeling a bathroom and teen room, making the children’s room more functional, and cleaning up around the church grounds. Students in the communication sciences and disorders department spent time working in the hospital and boarding school in addition to helping with a few projects for church members. Students worked hard and got their hands dirty, but their



Juniors Mesa Allison and Jonathan Jackson pull up tumbleweeds on land in the deep reservation March 4.

mission went further than that.

“Spend some time this week getting to know these people,” Eric says to us during orientation. “Talk to them, but also listen to them. Listen to the stories they have to tell.”

Junior Jonathan and sophomore Jordan Iyall Jackson from Seattle were invited to come to Tuba City by a student going on the trip. On the first Sunday morning after church as members and visitors were waiting for Navajo tacos to be prepared, the couple introduced themselves to people they didn’t know, including a woman named Marie.

“She was the first person who really started talking back to us,” Jordan says. “She just started talking about her mom, who has dementia and Alzheimer’s. She takes care of her when she gets off work.”

“It reminded me a lot of how you talk with your grandmother,” Jonathan



Sophomore Jordan Jackson spends time talking with Marie, a Tuba City church member, after church Feb. 28. Students worshipped with members of the church and helped teach Bible classes for children.

says to Jordan. “It was very similar because her great-grandmother is about to turn 100 next weekend, and those end of life conversations have been going on,” he tells me. “All these different emotions are very similar to what her family is going through right now.”

“I was able to share experiences that my family was going through to encourage her,” Jordan says.

Jonathan said he drew on what his dad taught him as an evangelist about starting conversations with people.

“You have to have familiar ground,” he says. “Jordan brought out the things they had in common to develop a very quick and meaningful connection, and she did that very well.”

Kristen Dawkins, a senior communication sciences and disorders major, came on her eighth mission trip to Tuba City. She and her group spent time working with children and giving therapy, but she says the best part of it was being able to minister to the speech-language pathologist and the aides as well. Kristen met an aide named Heidi and was able to speak about her own faith and learn more about her.

“Heidi is going to grad school because she wants to be a speech pathologist, so I starting talking about Harding, what was special about it, and a little bit about why I decided to be there,” she says. “I got to share my story and experiences through Christ with her. As I talked about my faith, she would find parallels in her own. It has been the coolest thing to come back and use my knowledge as a future speech pathologist and to use what I’ve learned over 22 years of being a Christian, going to a Christian school, and just experiencing life.”

One night, Tracy and Eric organized a devotional for us to attend with the

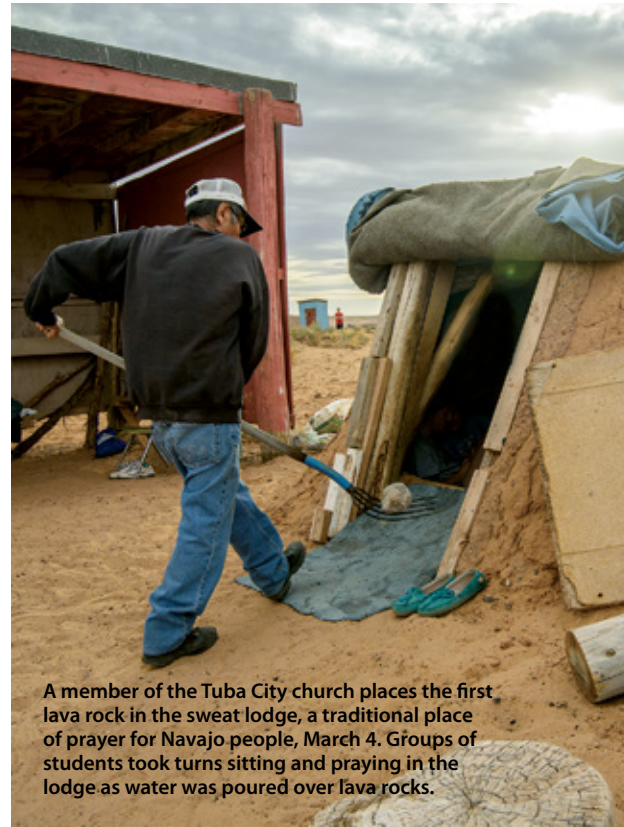
youth group of the Tuba City church. We drove about 15 miles out of town to what seemed like miles and miles of flat desert. We made a turn off into the middle of one of the fields, and when we reached the top of a small hill, the blues and purples of a wide canyon under a golden sky in the middle of nowhere came into view. We made our way down to the opening as the sun was setting, and the air was turning cool. We sat at the mouth to take in the view. I couldn’t believe how quiet it was in the canyon — how still we all were as we joined together to worship God, our voices echoing off a view almost too beautiful to be real.

“Here, you might not make much of a difference in the community,” Eric says to the group, “but you might make a difference in one person’s life.”

### *Ihoo l’ aah* **LEARN**

**TOWARD THE END OF THE WEEK**, many of us participated in a traditional Navajo prayer sweat in a mud lodge. I joined a group of 10 other girls, and as we entered the circular structure, many of us became uneasy. It was small, low to the ground and completely dark. We sat shoulder to shoulder in two rows hugging our knees to our chests. Large, smoking lava rocks were heating up

“I got to share my story and experiences **through Christ** with her.”



A member of the Tuba City church places the first lava rock in the sweat lodge, a traditional place of prayer for Navajo people, March 4. Groups of students took turns sitting and praying in the lodge as water was poured over lava rocks.

in the fire outside, and one at a time, they were placed in the small structure with us. We joined four native Navajo in the lodge, and we went around the circle offering up prayer requests. Our goal was to focus on the prayers of others and keep the focus off us.

At once, everyone in the lodge began praying out loud, which is typical in a traditional prayer sweat. At the same time, water was poured on the rocks, and the structure filled with steam. My eyes started to water. My heart started pounding. My lungs filled with fire. I didn’t think I could stay in there much longer. Then I heard the noises around me. To my right, my new mission trip friends were talking out loud to God in English. To my left, my new Navajo friends were praying out loud in their traditional language — all cultural barriers broken. We were people praying to our God who hears all people praying all prayers in all languages. The tears in my eyes turned to emotion, and the fire in my lungs turned to warmth I know could have only come from the Holy Spirit.

“I have prayed before with people in different languages, but I have never prayed like that where everyone is talking at the same time,” says Kaleb McLarty, a speech-language pathology graduate student who participated in a separate group. “That was one of the coolest things for me. It was an overwhelming sense of



Members of the Tuba City youth group see their teen room for the first time March 4. Students spent the week painting, putting down flooring and finding furniture to create a space for the teens to gather and fellowship.

everybody bringing his or her thoughts before God. The first prayer we prayed was for somebody else, and that was really moving because it got you thinking outside yourself.”

Groups would sweat in sessions of about 30 minutes, and each time, a different theme was prayed for. Vanessa Lewis, a kinesiology major and president of the kinesiology club, was sitting directly beside me in the lodge, and she comforted and encouraged me when I was feeling uneasy. This was her second time on the mission trip, and after our experience in the lodge, she told me that she loves the level of prayer that she gets to encounter in the sweat lodge.

“It’s such a different spiritual experience,” she says. “That type of prayer is just so selfless, and I look at it as you’re sweating for other people and not yourself. You’re putting your body and your spirit out there for other people. I love that type of experience and seeing everyone praying for someone else. So many times, our prayers are selfish, and this is more of giving to others and thanking God for what he’s done.”

Throughout the week, the two groups created relationships with church and community members as well as each other and completed hands-on projects, but there was a unique cultural piece of this weeklong venture. After visiting a Navajo museum in Tuba City, we learned how the Navajo believe the earth was created. A cultural speaker taught us traditional Navajo songs and a dance, and we all struggled through pronouncing a complicated phrase in the virtually unwritten Navajo language. “Sa’ah Naaghái Bik’eh Hózhóón” is a phrase that portrays the way in which the Navajo try to live their lives — to embody harmony and love. Through relationships, culture and service, we learned how to walk in beauty. 🙏

# ORGANIZED FUN

By JENNIFER HANNIGAN

Clubs and organizations have been around since the University began. From the Adelpian Literary Society to the Young Men's Club, students have always found community and encouragement in joining together with similarly interested individuals. While neither of those organizations is still in existence today, the student body isn't lacking organizations to join. In fact, there are more organizations that begin with the letter A listed on the University website than the 15 listed in the first *Petit Jean*. | Here is a look at just some of the clubs of which students are a part.



Ultimate frisbee team member and sophomore Dale Bourn leaps for a catch during practice.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

**Challenges:** In the beginning, the team functioned without a coach, which proved problematic. "Initially, no one knew what we were doing," says Bland. "It was challenging to play at a high level and make tactical adjustments for an entire team in the game when you were playing. Those responsibilities fell to elected members of the team, but it was a significant challenge."

## ULTIMATE FRISBEE

**Founded:** 2003

**A.K.A.:** hu:apocalypse

**Membership:** 20

**Ultimate upset:** "Before schools divided ultimate teams into divisions like other sports, we regularly played schools that would later be classified as DI schools," says sponsor, former member, and Assistant Professor of Exercise and Sport Science Justin Bland. "In 2006 we were ranked 15th (of 16) in the South Regional tournament, so we were naturally playing the No. 2 ranked team: Texas State University. We won, and in the process, we pulled off the biggest upset in all of college ultimate that year."

## PIZZA MINISTRY

**Founded:** 2012

**Membership:** 10 regulars with others who filter in and out

**Activities:** Each Monday, the group takes pizza to a Searcy trailer park and spends time with the families there. Special events like girls and boys days out, Easter egg hunts, and trunk-or-treats have also been organized.

**Logistics:** "Up until last year, we were paying for everything out of our own pockets," says Abby Tran, member and senior middle-level English, language arts and social science education major. "But then after last year's Bisons for Christ, we raised more than \$1,500 from the students." The organization does not charge a membership fee but now holds fundraisers to help support the ministry.

**Larger lessons:** "The kids get so excited to see us every week," Tran says. "They want to hang out with us just as much as we want to hang out with them. We have such an incredible opportunity to show love to these kids who may not receive it at home. We offer our help to the families there as well, and we are rewarded so much. Pizza Ministry really allows me to step back from myself and serve in ways I probably wouldn't have time for otherwise."

Junior Ashley Buckner enjoys spending time with one of the children during a Pizza Ministry visit.



## CHINESE SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

**Founded:** 2006

**Membership:** 131

**Activities:** The HCSSA organizes two big events during the school year: the Moon Festival in the fall and the Chinese New Year celebration in the spring.

**A cultural exchange:** "As an organization on campus, we need to respect and integrate the Chinese culture and American culture," says Chad Liu, association president and accounting major. "We try to create some meaningful activities that both Chinese students and our American friends can join and have fun."

**Did you know?** The Moon Festival serves as a symbol of peace, and traditionally families from all over the world travel back to China to celebrate for a family reunion. For the HCSSA, hosting the festival on campus is a way to feel at home when they cannot be with their families. "This was my fourth year to spend the festival without my family," says Liu, "but I really enjoyed spending it with my Harding family."

TOP PHOTO BY ABBY TRAN, BOTTOM PHOTO BY DAVID CROUCH



Many of Harding's Chinese scholars come together to celebrate the Chinese New Year.



After members of S.A.L.T. raised more than \$600 in a bake sale, President Bruce McLarty takes the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics Feb. 17.

## SCHOLARS ADVANCING LEARNING AND TEACHING (S.A.L.T.)

**Founded:** 2006

**Membership:** 40-50 education majors

**Activities:** Members dress up in costume and read to local elementary students every Valentine's Day and Halloween, host a National Day of Prayer event, and participate in Relay for Life and the Special Olympics Polar Plunge. Meetings also feature speakers to encourage and inform the future teachers.

**Cold for a cause:** "The Polar Plunges are probably the most fun," says sponsor and Assistant Professor of Education Lisa Bryant. "We dress up in costumes we have made and jump together in freezing water. Last year we won most money by a school team, and this year we won the Cool School Award for all of the behind the scenes planning of the event we did."



Members of the Italian Club gather for a devotional.

## ITALIAN CLUB

**Founded:** 2007

**Membership:** 40

**Activities:** The club hosts a number of cultural events throughout the school year. In the fall, they have a Memphis opera night, a campus-wide Italian movie night, and Christmas dessert fundraiser. Spring activities include Carnevale (Mardi Gras), San Valentino dinner (scholarship fundraiser for students of Italian), La Cena di Pasqua (Easter dinner), and a field trip to North Little Rock, Arkansas, to visit the Whirlpool Co. founded by Italian University donor Remo Jacuzzi. There are also Italian devotionals throughout the year.

**Beyond borders:** "I consider the club a way to offer a connection to Italy and all-things Italian that goes beyond the limits of the traditional academic setting such as the Italian class and classes that are offered abroad as part of the Harding University in Florence program," says sponsor and Associate Professor of Italian and French Joli Love.

PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

## ANIMAL SCIENCES CLUB

**Founded:** 2007

**Membership:** 12 active members with up to 20 who participate in events

**Purpose:** "As a group we try to promote the philosophy of Christian stewardship of God's creation," sponsor and Associate Professor of Biology Steve Cooper says. "We are almost exclusively B.S. in biology majors and as such understand the importance of this relationship between man, animals and the environment."

**Activities:** In addition to a fundraiser each year, the association organizes a spring zoo trip for area foster children. "For many of the children, it is their first trip to a zoo," Cooper says. "It is a thrill to see their reactions to animals they have only seen in books or on TV, not to mention planting a seed of interest that may blossom into a full-fledged love of nature and science some day."

**Challenges:** "Recruiting students in a department where so much attention, resources and scholarships support the human allied health students but not those intending to study and care for all of the other animals on the planet is difficult. Remember, people are animals, too!"

**Did you know?** The association adopted an exotic cat at the Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.



The Animal Sciences Club dives in at their spring crawfish boil. Each semester the club hosts a social and a service event.

## ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE

**Founded:** 2015

**Membership:** Around 30

**Purpose:** "Roosevelt functions as a nonpartisan think tank for students interested in politics and culture," says sponsor and Instructor of English Heath Carpenter. "They want to use their various talents for the good of their community and are willing to ask tough questions and rise above political ideology to root out ways they can contribute to solutions."

**Ideas into realities:** For club president Jennifer Wright, seeing hard work turn into a successful event was a great encouragement. "In November 2015, Roosevelt hosted its first fireside chat: a panel discussion exploring media and politics," Wright says. "It was really encouraging to have a significant turnout and to have so many students asking questions at the end. That afternoon, my soul grinned because I felt like I had been a part of an idea blossoming into reality. This panel is one of those rare instances where a dream deferred did explode, but in an awesome way."

**Did you know?** The Roosevelt Institute sponsors and organizes many other events, including working with prison education; researching housing and food insecurities in White County; and hosting public conversations, policy workshops and voter registration drives. 🗳️



At the Roosevelt Institute Fireside Chat April 18, senior Seth Garcia moderates a faculty panel discussing Christian options for viewing politics and the elections.





# Connections



Send us your news! Let us know about your wedding, birth, job change, promotion, award, retirement, etc. Email your items to [alumninews@harding.edu](mailto:alumninews@harding.edu) or write Harding University, Office of Alumni Relations, Box 10768, Searcy, AR 72149-5615.

## 1948

**Joe and Jane Zazzi Mitchen** celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary Nov. 2, 2015, on a cruise to



Bermuda. While working for Olin Industries in New Haven, Connecticut, Joe helped plan the now Hamden Church of

Christ. The couple moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1955. When the South Baton Rouge congregation was formed in 1975, Joe was one of the first three elders, and Jane was a volunteer secretary. After Joe retired from Ethyl Corp. and Jane retired from Louisiana State University, they moved to Texas. Joe served as an elder for South Corpus Christi Church of Christ, and Jane began quilting blankets for families and babies at risk. They moved back to Baton Rouge in 1998 to be closer to their children. The Mitchens have six living children, 16 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. (822 Carnforth Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70810)

## 1969

**Van Ristau** retired from his position as chief technology officer of DLT Solutions LLC in January.



He has served in the U.S. Naval Reserve as a submarine officer; managed international projects in Africa and the Caribbean; and participated in research and development and production projects for defense subsea and airborne systems in the U.S.,

Canada, Italy, Korea, the United Kingdom, Australia and Singapore in technical and management roles, most notably as vice president international for Atlantic Research Corp. Prior to his employment in 2006 with DLT Solutions, he co-owned an international consulting practice for 10 years. During retirement, when not home in Virginia with his wife, Mary, he continues to sail as a watchstander on the Dutch clipper ship Stad Amsterdam.

## 1970

**Linda Frost Branam** is a full-time senior technical director with 19 years of experience. She also is a part-time freelance copy editor doing business as Branam Creative Services. She was a member of the copy editing team for the third book in Michael J. Sullivan's Riyria Chronicles series, *The Death of Dulgath*. Most recently, she copy edited Sullivan's *The Age of Myth*. She considers the guidance of **Mary Ann Peden-Coviello** ('71),

herself a freelance copy editor, foundational to her success. (5310 Keller Springs Road, #613, Dallas, TX 75248)

## 1973

**Judy Adams Ruth** retired from Freeport-McMoRan copper mine where she worked as an administrative assistant/copper ship coordinator for 22 1/2 years. Her husband is Charles. (P.O. Box 542, Tyrone, NM 88065)

## 1977

**Dean Turner** has been named CEO of Abbeville Area Medical Center in Abbeville, South Carolina. He has more than 25 years in the health care management industry and is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and Health Financial Management Association. He and his wife, Kathie, have three children and three grandchildren. (26 Bainbridge Way, Bluffton, SC 29910)

## 1980

**Gail Alan Gregg** has been promoted to deputy superintendent for Abilene Independent School District. He oversees the areas of student and administrative services, leadership development and district policy documents. His wife is **Joan Hogg** ('79). (4558 Cougar Way, Abilene, TX 79606)

## 1981

**Richard B. Bentley** began working for House of Refuge in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in January 2015. House of Refuge is a Christian organization that rescues women and children who have been forced into prostitution. (Street 464, House 7B, Phnom Penh, Cambodia)

**Dian Pritchett Eddleman** has been named president-elect of the Southern Division of the National Association for Music Education, an organization that supports music education and advocates at the local, state and national levels. Eddleman will serve on the national executive board, which sets policies for music education, for a six-year period. She is the first woman to hold this office. (196 Hughes Road E., Jackson, TN 38305)

**Jeff Fox** has been named director of social services at AGAPE. He is responsible for foster care, family preservation services, maternity care and adoption services in the Middle Tennessee region. He has a M.S.S.W. from University of Tennessee. He is married to **Donna Jo McDonald**. (P.O. Box 110172, Nashville, TN 37222)

**Duane Stuart** has moved from serving as minister

of the Annapolis Church of Christ in Arnold, Maryland, to serving as minister of Warsaw (Indiana) Church of Christ. His wife is **Sharon Hold-erby** ('73). (1912 E. Main St., Warsaw, IN 46580)

## 1986

**Barry Wheeler** has been selected as head volleyball coach and the department chair of health, physical education and wellness at Crowley's Ridge College in Paragould, Arkansas. His wife, **Lynette Gardner**, is a paraprofessional. They have two sons, **Logan** ('10) and **Brandtly**, a senior at Harding. (7605 Country Club Lane, Houston, MO 65483)

## 1988

**Frank Smith** and his business partners recently acquired Principal Technologies Inc., a specialty recruiting firm for professionals in IT, engineering, accounting and human resources. He is co-founder, chairman and president of Strata Leadership and is a certified public accountant. He and his wife, **Heidi Fecht**, have three children. (10601 Pond Meadow Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73151)

## 1990

**Jeff Moore** has been named director of marketing and communications for Arkansas Economic Development Commission. He has worked in the field of communications for more than 24 years. He is married to Stacey. (630 Lake Tree Lane, Sherwood, AR 72120)

**David Perry** is chairman of the board for Fort Gibson Chamber of Commerce and works at Budo Perry Financial Services. He serves on the Eastern Oklahoma library board and is a deacon at Fort Gibson Church of Christ. His wife, **Sara Varner**, is a second-grade teacher at Fort Gibson Elementary. They have three children, Hannah,

**Dian Pritchett Eddleman** has been named president-elect of the Southern Division of the National Association for Music Education.

'81

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

## A trail of three sisters



**HEN AMY ELLIS** ('11) ASKED HER SISTERS Jo Ellis ('05) and Jes Ellis Mason ('09) if they wanted to join her on a 230-mile hike along California's John Muir Trail (JMT), she didn't anticipate that they would agree as easily as they did.

"We were planning a sister trip to Eureka Springs, Arkansas, and I said that we could do that or we could do the JMT," Amy said. "I'm expecting questions or for them to have to think about it, and they both just said, 'Yeah, let's do it!'"

The sisters had grown up hiking and camping, but the magnitude of the JMT would provide a new adventure.

"Our daddy gave us the backpacking bug," Jo said. "He took each of us on our first backpacking trip when we were 9. When we were in college, we did a couple sister-camping trips, but we'd never done anything like this together before."

The three-week journey required a great deal of preparation. Not only did the women have to organize what equipment, clothes and food they would take, but they also had to figure out how to get back to Yosemite Valley after they finished the trail at Mount Whitney.

"The trail was short enough to be realistic, but it was big enough to need a lot of planning," Amy said. "I believe that if you can hike 30 miles, you can hike 300. It just takes planning."

Even though they had plotted how much distance they should cover in a day or where they would stop each evening, sometimes those plans had to change based on how they were feeling or weather conditions. Blisters, exhaustion, hunger and hail all took their toll.

"Doing the same thing over and over was physically difficult," Jes said. "By the end of every single day, my body was screaming for food and rest. The amazing thing is how we adapted, kept pushing forward and grew stronger. Toward the end, the exhaustion was overwhelming."

While 10 hours of hiking each day was physically demanding, the trek also proved to be emotionally demanding as well. The sisters were able to unplug and unload the stress from their regular lives and were able to find a fresh perspective on the trail.

"Being an ER nurse who always has a fully penciled-in planner made the simplicity difficult at times," Jes said. "It is exactly what my heart and body needed, but that didn't help with boredom. Living my life in a go-go-go mode is taxing and stressful. You don't realize the effects this has on your soul and body until you take a hiatus."

Haden and Hope. (1416 Richmond Drive, Fort Gibson, OK 74434)

## 1991

**Mark Nolan Halbert** joined the Tupelo, Mississippi, office of Phelps Dunbar LLP as a partner practicing in the area of litigation with a focus on employment law. He has more than 20 years litigation experience and is married to **Julie Cross-**

SUBMITTED PHOTO

**white**. (1203 Antler Drive, Tupelo, MS 38804)

## 1992

**Scott and Kathy Meadows Genry** announce the adoption of a daughter, Alexandra Lanning, Oct. 13, 2015. They have another daughter, Lainie. Scott recently began working as information security analyst for University of North Georgia in Dahlonega. (348 Robinson Ridge Road, Dahlonega, GA 30533)

PROFILE | AMY ELLIS, JO ELLIS AND JES ELLIS MASON



Jes Ellis Mason, Amy Ellis and Jo Ellis

With distractions removed, the women learned valuable lessons about themselves, their handling of obstacles and their faith.

"We were camping at Thousand Island Lakes, I'm staring up at Banner Peak, and I remember there was nowhere else I wanted to be," Amy said. "Yes, I was tired, and yes, we had 180 miles left, but this moment is enough. That is something that I carried with me for the rest of the trip and on to now, recognizing that this moment is enough and that life happens in this moment. I only get every mile one time. Whether it's a breathtakingly beautiful mile or a painful, rainy mile, I only get it once, and that adds value to every step. It has taught me to not be wanting to be somewhere else."

Being in God's creation helped them to navigate life once they reached the end.

"I almost had an expectation to have this big huge 'God moment.' You know, that mountaintop experience we have all had before," Jes said. "I kept waiting and waiting and waiting. It never happened. But what did happen was even more special. Day by day, mile by mile, God filled me up. By day 21 I felt overflowing with joy, peace, love and assurance. Now I know how God created our hearts to be. The challenge is fighting all those things that want to steal from my full and abundant well." 🙏

— Jennifer Hannigan

For more about the sisters' journey, visit their blog [atrailofthreesisters.com](http://atrailofthreesisters.com).



1998

**Brent D. Coffey** has been awarded the National Cancer Institute Director's Merit Award for his work on the development of the NCI-MATCH Clinical Trial. (518 Jacala Terrace, Rockville, MD 20850)

2000

Daniel and **Elizabeth Sewell Giger** announce the birth of a daughter, Sophia Grace, Feb. 20, 2015. They have three other daughters, Analise, Natalie and Samantha. (2905 Essington St., Bloomington, IN 61705)

2001

**Justin** and Sarah **Lacey** announce the birth of a

daughter, Harper Lynn, Nov. 26, 2015. Justin is in his third year as director of communication at Westbury Christian School, and Sarah is a sixth-grade counselor at Salyards Middle School. (1602 Enclave Parkway, #1902, Houston, TX 77077)

**Susan Sneed Sheppard** earned a master's degree in chemistry from Texas A&M-Commerce in December 2015. (2529 Albemarle Drive, Farmers Branch, TX 75234)

**Brian Whitt** has been named as a member of the 2016 40 Under 40 by the Albany Business Review. He is the chief operating officer for DWM Facilities Maintenance and earned his MBA from University at Albany. He is married to **Katie Meeks** ('00). (2445 Nottingham Mall, Niskayuna, NY 12309)

2002

**Kimberly Starr McCleney** received the DAISY Award in May 2015. She is assistant nurse manager and labor and delivery nurse at Littleton (Colorado) Adventist Hospital. (1556 Hermosa Drive, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126)

**Scott Smith** has been hired as sports director of WTVT-TV in Tampa, Florida. He is only the fourth sports director in the station's 66-year history.

2004

Graham and **Carrie Springer Cook** announce the birth of a daughter, Florence Emma, June 18, 2015. Carrie left an eight-year federal librarian career to become a homemaker, and Graham is the owner of Partners Realty in Montgomery, Alabama. (460 Pine Forest Drive, Wetumpka, AL 36093)

**Andrew Dallas Goodman** has been hired as aide to Arkansas Senate President Pro Tempore **Jonathan Dismang** ('01). He previously worked in the land commissioner's office. His wife is **Chelsea Wilson** ('05). (101 Maple St., Cabot, AR 72023)

**Jenny Roberts Simmons** joined Hulled Dermatology as a physician assistant. She is a member of the Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants and the Arkansas Academy of Physician Assistants.

2005

**Vaughanda Bowie** (M.Ed.) has been named as one of 15 semifinalists for the 2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year award. She teaches fourth-grade science and literacy at West Magnet Elementary School of Visual and Performing Arts in Batesville. She also works in the community as a registered adult volunteer leader with Boy Scouts of America and volunteers at Old Independence Regional Museum. She and her husband, Kevin, have two sons. (11 Dogwood Lane, Batesville, AR 72501)

**Michael** ('06) and **Sarah Crist Davis** announce the birth of a daughter, Caroline Camille, Dec. 10, 2015. They also have a son, Benjamin. (1115 Hemlock Ave. S.W., North Bend, WA 98045; sarahdavis44@gmail.com)

2008

**Mike Hernandez III** (M.Ed.) was appointed to the board of the Universal Service Administrative Company, a nonprofit entity that operates under the auspices of the Federal Communications Commission and oversees broadband subsidies. He is superintendent of Hot Springs School District and received his doctorate from Harding in 2015. (451 Lakeland Drive, Hot Springs, AR 71913)

Danny and **Leslie A. Galloway Mayberry** an-

VINTAGE HARDING



In May and June 1966, the Harding Collegiate Players toured military bases in Iceland, Greenland, Newfoundland and Labrador under the support of the USO. They performed the musical "Where's Charley?" and a variety show to audiences. It was the fourth USO tour made by Harding students since Belles and Beaux first went in 1960. Today, University students continue to share their talents all around the world, with groups such as the Chorus having performed in more than 35 countries.

announce the birth of a son, Joshua Blaine, Oct. 10, 2015. (4271 Fm 1565, Caddo Mills, TX 75135)

**Natalie Oliver** married **Jared Dockery** ('94) June 6, 2015. Natalie works as a manager and IT support at Good Measure Market in Searcy, and Jared is an associate professor of history at Harding. (410 N. Oak St., Searcy, AR 72143)

2009

Chris and **Heather Marie Davis Nelson** announce the birth of a son, Braxton Edward, Jan. 2. Chris is a biomedical engineering post-doctoral fellow at Duke University, and Heather is a family nurse practitioner. (4130 Garrett Road, #338, Durham, NC 27707)

2010

**Brice Priestley** is an audit associate of Montgomery Coscia Greulich LLP in Plano, Texas. His wife is Jacey Kerby. (1955 Market Center, #1235, Dallas, TX 75207)

2013

**Erica Tremaine** married Benjamin Foss Nov. 28, 2015. Erica is the executive assistant to the president and guest services coordinator at Sterling (Kansas) College, and Benjamin is a farmer. (17709 W. 56th Ave., Sterling, KS 67579)

Passages

**Irma Neal Pyles Emde** ('42), 96, of Judsonia, Arkansas, died Jan. 17. She was a teacher in Plainview, Judsonia and Kensett, Arkansas. She and her late husband, Hilton, operated the Emde Motel in Judsonia. She was a volunteer at Central Arkansas Radiation Therapy Institute and a member of Judsonia First Baptist Church.

**Helen Bernita Summit Kirk** ('47), 90, of Evansville, Indiana, died Dec. 1, 2015. She was a homemaker; substitute teacher with Evansville, Vanderburgh School Corp; and a member of Washington Avenue Church of Christ. She was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Wilson. She is survived by her three children, Jane Laibe, Susan Hainsworth and Shelley Fischer; two siblings, Amy Lambert and Nathan Summit; and six grandchildren.

**Vernon Oakley Alexander** ('48), 91, of Amarillo, Texas, died Dec. 7, 2015. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He earned his master's from Peabody College in 1951, spent 36 years in education, and was principal for many years in Santa Clara, California. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Bobbie; two daughters, **Donnette Alexander** ('77) and **Teri Morgan** ('78); two siblings, Sam and Beth Roaseau; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Mary Jo O'Neal Bagnetto** ('48), 88, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died Feb. 28. She taught at Harding from 1948-50. She volunteered as a Girl Scout leader, worked as a designer at Bartlesville Florist, taught ladies' Bible classes for more than 50 years, and was a member of Adams Boulevard Church of Christ. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Lucien** ('46). She is survived by her daughters, **Rebecca Parks** ('73) and Susan Wright; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

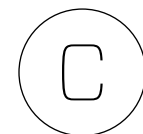
**Chuck Shaffer** ('48), 89, of Montgomery, Alabama, died Dec. 31, 2015. Chuck served in the Army during World War II as a staff sergeant. He retired from Chevron Oil as an economic analyst. He was a member of University Church of Christ, and Stagners and Blue & Grey camping clubs. He is survived by his wife, **Coriene Beare** ('49); two children, Karla Boling and Terry; three siblings, **Opal Fae Gordon** ('48), Eleanor Buxton and Rowena Reed; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

**Faye Paxson Hager** ('56), 80, of Monroe, Oklahoma, died Feb. 1. She taught English for many years and was an executive at Boeing Co. for more than 20 years. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, **Claude Lewis Hager** ('59); a sister, **Sue Paxson Davis** ('58); and two daughters, Kelly Otten and Jennifer Bray.

**Hollis Carlton Miller** ('58), 84, of Murray, Kentucky, died Jan. 21. He served with distinction

A brand of his own

PROFILE | CHRISTOPHER DIXON



**CHRISTOPHER DIXON** ('09) GRADUATED WITH a Bachelor of Arts in graphic design knowing exactly what he wanted to do: footwear design. And that's exactly what he is doing, having just debuted his own footwear brand.

"Going for your dream is never easy, especially when you have a family," he said. "I've been working on this brand since 2011."

Dixon, originally from Fayetteville, North Carolina, came to Harding wanting to pursue shoe design and used his major to feed his passion and plan for pursuing his dream.



"Harding doesn't offer industrial design so I chose the closest major to it. I was able to compete and win in national/international footwear design competitions from the skills I learned at Harding," Dixon said. "Upon graduating, I was hired by Serena Williams to design for her new brand Aneres. Then I began my independent footwear company, Christopher Coy, after working with Serena for a year."

Before launching his own brand, Dixon held various jobs in a diverse range of industries such as furniture, mattresses and car sales, but he never quit moving forward in his work and education toward his ultimate career goal. He attended Pensole Footwear Design Academy's master class where he won design competitions such as the Nike

Future Sole competition in 2010, FN Platform Future of Footwear in 2012, and FN Platform Challenge in 2014.

"I never gave up on my dream but always worked," he said.

This year, Dixon saw his footwear dream come true as his own line was produced. The Christopher Coy Collection features shoes for women with dual heels, providing more comfort and stability, and it has been featured by Fast Company, Huffington Post and Vogue Italia.

"My inspiration comes from Christ," Dixon said. "I know all things are possible through him who strengthens me. I'm also inspired by graffiti art, industrial design, traveling, architecture, sports and fashion. All those things fuel me as a designer." — Hannah Owens

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U.S. ARMY PHOTO



in the Korean War. He preached for churches of Christ for six decades in Arkansas, California, Florida, Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee. He also served as adjunct professor of religion at Murray State University as well as a vice president at Pepperdine University. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Lita Jean Coffman; four sons, Bruce, Phillip ('84), Lee and Timothy ('84); nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

**Luther Daniel "Bo" Coward** ('58), 80, of Searcy, died Dec. 7, 2015. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and retired from Sperry Vickers in 1993 where he served as associate buyer. After retirement, he worked as a bus driver for Searcy Public Schools. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, **Doris McInturff** ('58); two daughters,

**Cherri Hogue** ('79) and **Denise Winter** ('83); five grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

**Robert Dean Qualls** ('61), 76, of Lakeland, Florida, died Dec. 28, 2015. He was the former minister at Holmes Road Church of Christ in Memphis, Tennessee, and a missionary to Cameroon. He is survived by his children, **Stephanie Day** ('85) and **Scott** ('88).

**David Marshall Huddleston** ('63), 72, of Missoula, Montana, died April 22, 2014. After Harding, he enlisted in the Navy where he served four years on the USS Enterprise and in Vietnam. After his military service, he graduated from University of Tennessee with a degree in American civilization and later attended the Goethe Institute in Germany. He was a member of Garden City Church.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; three children, Jonathan, **Regina Renfro** ('96) and Alecia Goff; three siblings, **Julie Ashton** ('66), **Elaine Mustain** ('68) and Mark; and six grandchildren.

**Wilburn "Gary" Coberly** ('65), 72, of Springdale, Arkansas, died March 5. He worked as an industrial mechanic at Jim Bridger Power Plant and was a member of the Latter Day Saints Church. He is survived by four children, Robin Mahaffey, Sabra Coberley, Leah Kenison and Mike; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Nina Lorene Moore Hayes** ('65), 72, of Abilene, Texas, died Feb. 21. She earned her master's degree from Arkansas State University. While living in New York, she taught home economics, was a caterer, and spent summers as head cook at

Camp Shiloh in the Catskill Mountains. She later operated a bed and breakfast from her home and worked for Eden Park Nursing Home. Moving to Abilene, Texas, in retirement, she was a member of Minter Lane Church of Christ. She is survived by her husband, James; two daughters, Melissa and Sybil; and a granddaughter.

**Nancy Ables Johnson** ('65), 72, of Searcy, died Jan. 5. She was retired from the business office at Harding. She is survived by her husband, "Red" Johnson; two children, **Jeff** ('89) and **Vicky Mashburn** ('90); two sisters, Catherine Arnold and Gail Albritton; and four grandchildren.

**James Glen Mayfield** (M.Div., '65), 88, of Columbia, Tennessee, died Dec. 2, 2015. He served as a minister for 54 years in Kentucky and Tennessee. He was a member of Graymere Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Sammie Dot Grimes; three children, Jana Robson, Brian and Jill; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**David Lee Johnson** ('67), 70, of Searcy, died Feb. 18. David is survived by his wife, Alice; two children, Nicolas and Nicole; and two siblings, James and Martha Anderson.

**Gerald Wayne Stanley** ('69), 78, of Monroe, Louisiana, died Jan. 5. He earned his master's at University of Louisiana at Monroe, was a Navy veteran, and retired as a superintendent from East Carroll Parish Schools. He was a member of Swartz Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, **Sherry Huffstutter** ('66); three sons, Mark, Jerry and Gary; three siblings, Anne Jones, Judy Hattaway and Richard; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

**Richard Glenn Calhoun** ('75), 62, of Mansfield, Texas, died Dec. 4, 2015. He was president of Jamieson Manufacturing Co. and a member of Lakeside Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, **Nancy Loe** ('79); three children, Devin, Whitney and Haleigh; his father, Delton; his stepmother, Gerri; and three siblings, Steve, Dan and Aleshea.

**Randy Brooks Scaife** ('75), 63, of Helena, Arkansas, died Feb. 16. He was a retired manager of Helena Chemical Co. He is survived by two sons and four grandchildren.

**Ann Karen Tabor Baur** ('77), 60, of Round Rock, Texas, died Feb. 16. She lived in Texas, Oklahoma and Minnesota; led mission and volunteer efforts; and taught classes at school and church. She was passionate about her faith and was a member of Georgetown Church of Christ. She is survived by her husband, **Timothy** ('77); four children, **Michael** ('03), **Karen Gosnell** ('04), **Matthew** ('10) and **Markus** ('11); two siblings, **Ruth Merritt** ('79) and **Thomas** ('82); and five grandchildren.

**Hoyt "Chip" Parks Jr.** ('79), 58, of Franklin, Ten-

nessee, and Little Rock, Arkansas, died Dec. 24, 2015. He was the middle school head at Episcopal Collegiate School in Little Rock since fall 2008 and held the same position at Battle Ground Academy in Franklin for 18 years prior. He is survived by his wife, Debbie Montague; three children, Jared, Blake and Rebecca; and two sisters, Cheryl Slaughter and Donna Colon.

**Chuck Bryant** ('80), 60, of Miami, died in January. From 1985-94 he was a trust counselor for Miami-Dade Public Schools. He then worked for the Peace Education Foundation as a trainer and taught others conflict resolution throughout the United States and internationally. He completed 59 marathons and was the first amputee to complete a marathon in all 50 states and District of Columbia. He sang in the choir at Coral Gables Congregational Church. He is survived by his wife, Jan Roelofs; two stepsons, Julian and Benjamin DelRio; his mother, Edith; and three siblings, Keith, Kim and Marilyn Adkins.

**Rick Cook** ('86), 55, of El Dorado, Arkansas, died Feb. 27. He served in the U.S. Navy, was instrumental in developing a successful youth addiction treatment program for adolescents, and served as a hospital administrator for more than 20 years. He was CEO in hospitals in Arkansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas. He was a deacon and teacher at College Avenue Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, **Pamela Massey** ('86); two children, **Taylon Steele** ('10) and Jared; two siblings, David and Marla Layne; and three grandchildren.

**John Alan Dickson** ('92), 46, of Beebe, Arkansas, died Feb. 22. He was a member of Downtown Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, **Tara Buss** ('91); four children, Abby, Nate, Jake and Emma; three sisters, **Natalee Howe** ('93), **Elizabeth Ross** ('01) and **Carli Anderson** ('02); and a granddaughter.

**Paul Newton Hillier** ('93), 44, of Lufkin, Louisiana, died Jan. 3. He was minister at Angelina Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, Katrina; four children, **Brianne** ('14), Hannah, Kylie and Samuel; his parents, George and Mary Hillier; his grandmother, Lila Smith; and a sister, Holly Page.

**Alicia Lindsey Roberson Smith** ('04), 33, of Huntsville, Alabama, died Jan. 15, after a two-year battle with brain cancer. She was a licensed ASID interior designer, having worked for Ethan Allen in Arkansas, Colorado and Georgia. She was a member of Mayfair Church of Christ, taught Bible classes, and hosted home Bible studies. She is survived by her husband, **Sean** ('03); a son, Tate Elijah; her mother, Donna Jo Leonard Miller; her stepfather, **Robin Miller** ('77); her grandfather, Bert J. Leonard; and a sister, **Chelsea Tuttle** ('07).

**Johnnie Belle Corder Cooper**, 96, of Griffithville,

Arkansas, died Dec. 13, 2015. She was a member of the church of Christ, former teacher's aide at Griffithville School, and Kendall Residence Hall director from 1978-91. She was preceded in death by her husband, C.W.; and a daughter, Kay Hopper. She is survived by three daughters, Phyllis Van Winkle, **Marilyn Neal** ('70) and **Terri Parsons** ('78); a foster daughter, Edna Gunn; 12 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren.

**Bill Verkler**, 86, of Searcy, died Feb. 8. He served in the U.S. Army from 1951-53. He was a professor of sociology at Harding from 1957-98, served as chairman of the department, and retired as professor emeritus. He was preceded in death by his wife, Billie Ruth Krummel. He is survived by two daughters, **Melinda Lafavers** ('80) and **Wenoka Young** ('82); and five grandchildren.

**John "Jack" Boustead**, 83, of Searcy, died March 13. He was a professor and aquatics coach for Harding and a member of College Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Billie; four children, **Pam Dorsey** ('81), **Cyndi Denney** ('82), **Michael** ('87) and **Sarah Oats** ('92); a brother, Gordon; and eight grandchildren.

**Fred Alexander**, 80, of Corpus Christi, Texas, died Jan. 25. He was director of admissions at Harding from 1968-80. He was preceded in death by his first wife, **Claudette Harris** ('57). He is survived by his wife, Jan; three children, **Joe** ('81), **Beverly Burcham** ('84) and **Denise Runk** ('87); eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

**Laveta Landreth Burkett**, 79, of Searcy, died Oct. 4, 2015. She was a data entry clerk in the registrar's office from 1990-2001. She is survived by her husband, Ronnie; three children, **Mike** ('83), **Michelle Wallis** ('86) and **Marsha Duncan** ('97); two brothers, Gale Landreth and Ernie Landreth; and six grandchildren.

**Ruth Anne Newton Lacy**, 72, of Kensett, Arkansas, died March 20. She worked in the store room and post office at Harding from 1983-89 and was a member of Judsonia Church of Christ. She is survived by her husband, **Raymond** ('85); three children, **Chris** ('88), **Scott** ('94) and **Avriel Lacy-Blackwell** ('98); and eight grandchildren.

**Sharon Kay Williams**, 67, of Searcy, died Jan. 22. She worked in Harding's post office from 1994-2005. She is survived by her husband, Kirk; two children, **Justin** ('00) and Sarah Lumas; three siblings, Joyce Christopher, Mary Jackson and James Webb; and a grandson.



PASSAGES | WYATT JONES | 1930-2016

## Master educator

By BOBBY COKER, distinguished professor and retired dean of the Cannon-Clary College of Education

**W**YATT JONES WAS MY CO-WORKER for 25 years and one of my best friends for more than 40 years. He was born in Samburg, Tennessee, and grew up near Reelfoot Lake. His father was a commercial fisherman, which no doubt contributed to his love of fishing. We spent many enjoyable hours together on the water. Taking a cue from a predecessor, we fished in a boat with the name "Public Schools." Sometimes he caught the most fish, and sometimes I did. Each would brag about besting the other, but it didn't really matter.

Jones received his bachelor's degree in math from Harding in 1951. In 1962 he earned his doctorate in education from University of Alabama. After teaching and serving as chair of the education department at Pepperdine University for a number of years, he returned to Harding as professor of education and director of the graduate program in education, a position he retained until his retirement 25 years later.

Our offices were across the hall from each other, and we often took the few steps required to confer face-to-face on matters of mutual concern rather than use the telephone. He served on the board of examiners for the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities, and I served on the board of examiners for the National Council for the Association of Teacher Education. Both positions required time away from campus. When one of us was gone, the other covered. I was able to enjoy a semester in Italy with the HUF program because of my confidence in his ability to take my place back at the University. When he wanted to go, I returned the favor.

Jones was a master teacher of teachers. He taught educational psychology to undergraduate teacher education students during the entire 25 years he was at Harding. His lessons were peppered with stories illustrating the points he was making. Returning students frequently mention specific things they remember him saying in class that have stuck with them and helped them in their teaching careers. Some recall personal conferences in which he admonished them to be

more diligent in their work. He cared.

Fairly athletic, he enjoyed racquetball and handball and taught me a lot about both on the courts in the Ganus Athletic Center. I seldom bested him as the games were new to me, but we enjoyed the competition. Jones also was no slouch at table tennis and golf. He enjoyed playing bridge but found few in the Rook-playing Harding community who knew how, so he and his wife, Iris, taught the fine points of the game to several local couples.

In retirement, Jones was often on the River Oaks Golf Course, regularly playing a nine-hole game of two-man scramble with friends Ed Land, Bob Kelly and me. It was not unusual for us to play six days a week during the spring, summer and fall and as often as the weather allowed during the

winter. During this past year it became more and more difficult for him to play, and he had to give up the game. We miss him on the course.

Jones was a devoted Christian who was baptized as a student by Andy T. Ritchie. Throughout his teaching career, he preached regularly for congregations nearby in Alabama, California and Arkansas.

With a great deal of sadness, I say goodbye to my friend, but at the same time I rejoice in the knowledge that we shall meet again. ☩

*Jones* ('51), 86, died March 13. He was a veteran of the Korean War. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Iris; three children, **Karen Post** ('80), **Philip** ('80) and **Kevin** ('90); four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.



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# A Harding swing and a ring

By TORIA PARRETT

**I** LIKE TO TELL PEOPLE THAT I WAS A HARDING BABY. I am the daughter of two 1988 alumni, and I grew up hearing about and seeing the Harding campus. I have cousins, aunts and uncles who all attended Harding at one time or another. I loved Spring Sing before I even knew what the word “choreography” meant. There is even a picture of me at 12 years old on a Harding swing on the front lawn with my sisters.

As a result, I had it all planned out. I, too, would go to Harding. I would go to chapel, join my mom’s social club, perform my heart out on the Benson stage during Spring Sing, fall in love with a Harding boy, and raise more Harding babies.

However, God has a funny way of completely changing anything I try to plan and giving me something better. My sophomore year of high school, I transferred to a small, private Christian school in Middle Tennessee. It was here that I would meet my first boyfriend, Richard. I was definitely not looking to meet my future spouse at 16, but Richard quickly became a wonderful Christian friend and encourager. There was only one problem: Richard was a Freed-Hardeman baby.

We spent sophomore, junior and senior years of high school going to homecoming football games, helping each other with physics projects, and worshipping at youth group events. As graduation drew closer, we knew there was a tough choice to make. We both loved our separate schools, and neither of us wanted to give up the college experience we had always wanted.

We broke up for most of our first semester of college. Long distance was hard work that we just were not sure we were ready for. However, it did not take long for us both to realize that life just was not as much fun without the other person. We decided to give the long distance thing a shot.

We spent the rest of our college days driving many miles, learning two campuses, coordinating Memphis, Tennessee, visits and cherishing moments where we just got to do homework together. Thankfully, we both were still able to join social clubs, participate in our universities’ spring shows, and be fully immersed in our own college experiences.

We began to find our place in each other’s worlds and clung to the similarities in our college experiences to stay connected. It was on one sweet November day that my Richard made one of those similarities the center of the beginning of our life together.

Most in the Harding community have heard the phrase “three swings and a ring,” which implies

that if you swing with the same person on three different iconic Harding swings, you are destined to be married. With our long-distance relationship, we never really had the time or opportunity for our “three swings and a ring,” but Richard knew how much I love Harding and its traditions.

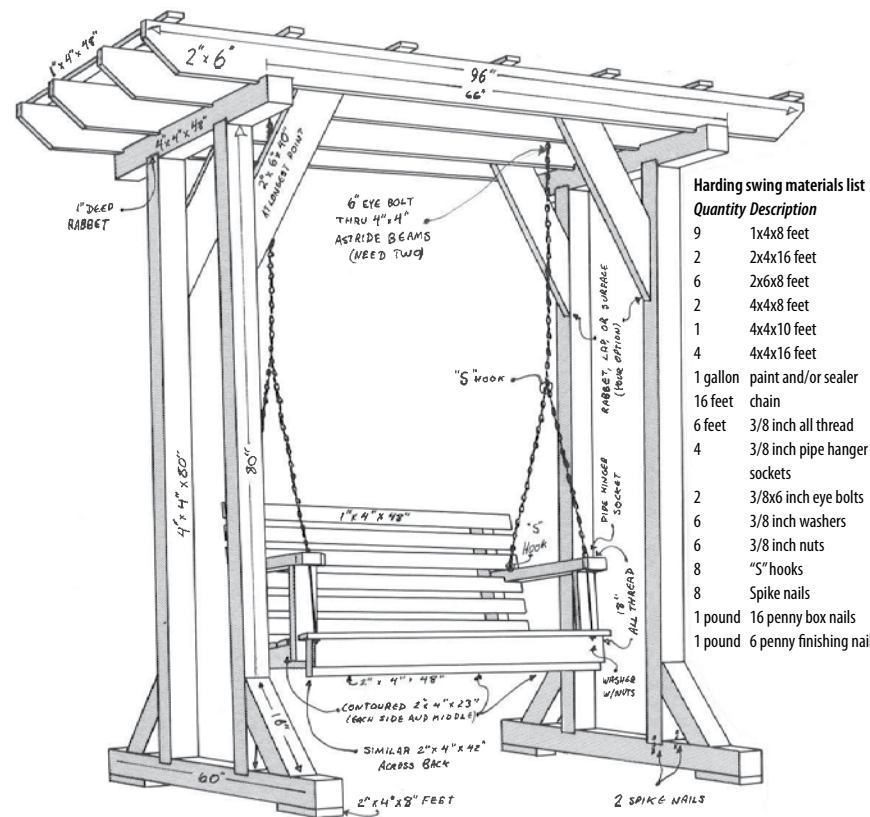
After five years of dating, I woke up Nov. 22, 2014, to a note on my front door from Richard telling me that today was the day. I was being proposed to, and I was going to have my own “three swings and a ring.” The rest of the day, I was driven by my sister and

two best friends to three different important locations from our relationship. At each place, there was a note and my own swing waiting for me that Richard had built himself. At the third stop, he was waiting for me and proposed right in front of our own swing.

The Harding swings mean more now to me than they ever have and have become a symbol for Richard and my relationship. A swing is incorporated into all of our wedding designs. We took engagement pictures in the swing he built, and it will also make an appearance at our wedding. The Harding swings were something we could connect with when it was so easy to feel disconnected. While I may not have fallen in love with a Harding boy to raise

more Harding babies with, I cannot wait to sit with my Christian man and our Christian babies on our own Harding swing. 🍷

Toria Parrett is majoring in public relations and is a senior from Columbia, Tennessee.



Harding swing materials list

| Quantity | Description                  |
|----------|------------------------------|
| 9        | 1x4x8 feet                   |
| 2        | 2x4x16 feet                  |
| 6        | 2x6x8 feet                   |
| 2        | 4x4x8 feet                   |
| 1        | 4x4x10 feet                  |
| 4        | 4x4x16 feet                  |
| 1 gallon | paint and/or sealer          |
| 16 feet  | chain                        |
| 6 feet   | 3/8 inch all thread          |
| 4        | 3/8 inch pipe hanger sockets |
| 2        | 3/8x6 inch eye bolts         |
| 6        | 3/8 inch washers             |
| 6        | 3/8 inch nuts                |
| 8        | 5\" hooks                    |
| 8        | Spike nails                  |
| 1 pound  | 16 penny box nails           |
| 1 pound  | 6 penny finishing nails      |

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# Come home for HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 27 - 29



#comehomeHU16

- Reunions
- “Crazy for You,” a musical comedy by George and Ira Gershwin
- Black and Gold Banquet honoring outstanding alumni
- Alumni chapel
- Family picnic and tailgating
- Petting zoo and inflatable games
- Bison football
- And more

Connect with friends and classmates at reunions, tailgating, the musical and more for a weekend of spirit and camaraderie.

Classes of '66, '61, '56, '51, '46 and '41 will be celebrated at the Heritage Circle Banquet and will reunite throughout the weekend. Invite your friends to come home for Homecoming.

Tickets will be available at [www.harding.tickets.com](http://www.harding.tickets.com). More information on reunions and events will be posted at [www.harding.edu/events/homecoming](http://www.harding.edu/events/homecoming).



**HARDING**  
UNIVERSITY

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## Final Frame

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



The David B. Burks American Heritage Building is framed by an iconic Harding swing on a foggy February evening. To learn about the special meaning these swings have to one University student, turn to page 36.