

# TOWSON

UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE / FALL 2014



**DANCE  
WINS  
16  
IN A ROW**

## Six-time Champs

For the sixth time in seven years, the women's swimming and diving team took home the Colonial Athletic Association championship title. This year they beat their competitors by more than 200 points. Senior Kaitlin Burke won her third individual title with top performances in the 200-yard, 500-yard and 1,650-yard free-styles and was the CAA Women's Swimmer of the Year for the second consecutive season. Senior Melanie Rowland was named to the CAA All-Academic Team. In addition, Tiger Head Coach Pat Mead was named CAA Women's Swimming Coach of the Year, the seventh time he has earned the honor.





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“  
Towson students  
keep winning  
recognition for  
their scholarship  
and talents.  
”

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So many memorable achievements have dominated campus life these last few months. So I am thrilled to share just a few of our many success stories.

Towson students keep winning recognition for their scholarship and talents. For the third time in four years, Towson won the Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, while a physics major won a 2014 Outstanding Student Award for Undergraduate Research from the National Society of Physics Students, American Institute of Physics. The debate team made history as the first black female pair to win a Cross Examination Debate Association national championship. And three undergraduate students were just awarded prestigious Gilman scholarships to study abroad.

Our distinguished faculty continues its award-winning research and service. Jonathan Lazar acquired a U.S. patent for a SoundsRight CAPTCHA that allows the visually impaired easier Web access. During the 30th annual Service Awards Celebration last spring, Victor Fisher, an associate professor in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice, was recognized for being the first to reach 50 years of service.

Towson also scored in athletic arenas. Towson's dance team took home a national championship title for an unprecedented 16th consecutive year. For the sixth time in seven years, the women's swimming and diving team took home the CAA Association championship title and the women's lacrosse team won the CAA tournament championship for the third consecutive year.

Our alumni also bring credit to the institution. Anne Cross '91 M.ED., a fifth grade teacher at Gunpowder Elementary School, was named Baltimore County's Teacher of the Year. Patrice Helsinki Goldys '77/'80 M.ED., principal of Norwood Elementary School, was named Baltimore County's Principal of the Year.

These are but a few of the numerous triumphs of the students, faculty and staff at Towson that make me proud to be part of Towson University.

Thank you for your continuing support of the students and the Towson we love.

MARAVENE LOESCHKE, PRESIDENT

## ECO BOX

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GREENHOUSE GASES: 4,309 LBS CO<sub>2</sub>

WASTEWATER: 23,372 GALLONS

SOLID WASTE: 1,564 POUNDS



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Both the cover and text pages of *Towson* are printed on forest-friendly Utopia Two paper, using Eco-Pride inks.

## TOWSON

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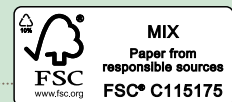
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# Winning Words

TU debaters become first black female pair to win national championship

Members of TU's debate team, Ameena Ruffin '15 and Korey Johnson '16, made history at the Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA) national championship in March.

"Ruffin and Johnson are the first African-American women's team to win a national tournament," says Mike Davis, president of the Cross Examination Debate Association. In fact, no individual African-American woman has ever won the tournament before, he adds.

The Towson team beat Oklahoma in the final round to claim the national title. The competition featured teams from Harvard, Trinity, Michigan, Minnesota, Texas, Wayne State, Cal State Fullerton, Florida, Bard College, Pepperdine, Sacramento State, Vanderbilt, NYU and others.

Ruffin and Johnson also earned a first-round bid to the 2014 National Debate Tournament, an invitation-only national championship for collegiate policy debate in the United States. (They lost in one of the early rounds.)

Their historic achievement at CEDA caught the eyes of those in Annapolis.



CEDA National Debate Champions Ameena Ruffin and Korey Johnson hold the championship cup.

The Maryland Senate and House of Delegates recognized the accomplishments of the two women, presenting them with citations April 4.

"We are thrilled and very proud of Ameena and Korey on this amazing accomplishment," says Susan Picinich TU's dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication. "Their historic success

is exemplified by their passion, dedication and commitment to the art of debate, and the leadership of Towson University's debate coaching staff, Amber Kelsie and Ignacio Evans."

Preparation for the debate was demanding. "It requires a tremendous amount of work," says Johnson. "I'm sure I do about four or five hours of preparation and practicing on a normal day."

All of this top-level competition has honed the students' skills. "I think we've improved by learning what type of debaters we are, and playing to our strengths," Johnson continues. "I have learned to do tremendous amounts of work while still taking care of myself and not stressing out too much." ■

# A Melodic Sendoff

James Anthony, professor of music, retires



James Anthony

More than 200 friends, family, students, colleagues and former colleagues celebrated James Muse Anthony's retirement after 43 years in TU's Department of Music.

The musical celebration, coordinated by fellow music professor Carl Schmidt, featured instrumental and vocal music performed by faculty and students including a world premiere of *Joy in Music* (JIM) (Fanfare) written by Jonathan Leshnoff, also a music professor.

Anthony has taught more than 21 different courses at Towson since 1971, enlightening the minds of generations of students in music and history of literature.

Trained as an organist, he also performs regularly at Towson, in Connecticut and at

**James Anthony has taught more than 21 different courses at Towson since 1971.**

St. John's Episcopal Church in Glyndon, where he is organist/choirmaster.

Anthony has lectured for various Baltimore performance organizations and serves as board chairman of the Maryland Boychoir and Pro Musica Rara. He has also been active in the Abell Improvement Association and is an active supporter of area opera performances and concerts. ■



## NOTEBOOK

## Silver Crown

*Grub Street*, TU's student literary and arts magazine, received the Silver Crown Award for its 2013 issue from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

*Grub Street* was among 1,236 print and digital collegiate publications that were judged and one of five magazines to receive the silver crown.

Amanda Hoffman '13, Kate Lyons '14, who works for the alumni magazine, and Sherwood, an M.F.A. student who goes by one name, were honored with Gold Circle prizes, which recognize individual

writers and artists.

"It feels like a huge honor to be up there with so many accomplished writers and artists from around the country," says Lyons, who received a Gold Circle award for her fiction piece "Indian Pony."

## Cyber Sentries

For the third time in four years, Towson University has won the Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition.

Eight TU students—team captain Matt Mickel; seniors Emily Jay and Kurt Karolenko; juniors Felix Guerrero, John Feehley, Justin Mavunkal and Matt Spriesterbach; and sophomore Matt Verrette—worked for two days to defend a network of computers

from attacks while keeping their systems running and responding to user and management needs.

They beat 30 other schools in a scenario where a major blizzard paralyzed the state of Maryland, prompting declarations of emergency and the mobilization of the Maryland National Guard.

## Eight TU students defended a network of computers from attacks.

Students defended their systems against roughly 30 professional attackers who tried to disrupt operations.

## Eco-scholar

Dominique Overman returned from a visit to Germany with the eco-conscious mentality of the Germans. "I became passionate about protecting the environment and implementing in America the kinds of sustainability efforts I saw in Germany," says the TU freshman.



Dominique Overman

Now the environmental science major in TU's Honors College has received the Chesapeake Bay Trust's Hon. Arthur Dorman Scholarship, a \$5,000 award that honors the late

state Sen. Arthur Dorman, who helped bring the trust's grants to a greater diversity of Maryland communities. The award is given each year to a student of color.

Overman is the eco-rep of her residence hall at TU, where she channels information about sustainability efforts and environmental events to fellow students.

Her dream is to have a career that would enable her to contribute to the preservation of the Chesapeake Bay. "I want to stay in Maryland after earning my degree," she says. "This is where I want to make a difference."

## Anti-theft Awards

Video cameras and microphones became crime-fighting tools in the hands of three Electronic Media & Film students.

## Three EMF students produced winning public service announcements to fight auto-related crime.

Rachel Armiger '14, Jahannah Kincheloe '15 and Joseph Everngam '14 produced video and audio public service announcements to help state law enforcement fight auto-related crime. The trio also earned cash awards from the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council and the MD/DC Anti-Car Theft Committee for their work.

The 30-second public service announcements are broadcast locally on WBAL-TV 11 and WBAL-AM 1090.

Christopher T. McDonald, deputy director of the MD Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, says Towson students produce the best announcements in the Baltimore region.

## Great Neighbors

Take 1,200 enthusiastic Towson students. Add rakes, trash bags, mulch and elbow grease to 75 project sites and you have all the fixings for the Big Event, Towson University's largest community service program.



Student volunteers left Newell Field at 10 a.m. on April 26 for nearby neighborhoods and the uptown retail business district. For the next three hours, they cleaned up debris, raked leaves, mulched gardens, pulled weeds, spruced up some 56 homes and beautified the Towson business district.

Neighbors were impressed with the number of volunteers, the event's organization and the kindness and enthusiasm of the TU students who participated.

Knollwood Road residents Ruth and Robert Cullison emailed a thank-you note to TU President Maravene Loeschke.

"We certainly commend the university for sponsoring such a creative and thoughtful way to give back to the neighboring communities," they wrote.

## NUGGETS

### Digging It

Robert Wall knows that soil can contain clues to the mysteries of ancient cultures. Digging in it can also earn distinction from The Maryland Historical Trust.

Wall, a TU lecturer, who headed an 11-day dig at the Biggs Ford site in Frederick County last summer, received a 2014 Maryland Preservation Award. The award recognizes activities in historic preservation, architecture, archaeology, museums, cultural conservation and education.

Wall's archeological session explored the sites of two Native American villages dating to the mid-1400s.

"The site produced artifacts such as ceramics, stone tools and animal bones that are believed to have been left by the inhabitants of the village site before it was abandoned," Wall says.

He'll return to Frederick this year, and also take his students to Cumberland to unearth artifacts from a 12,000-year-old hunter-gatherer society.

### Green Scene

Towson University is one of the country's most environmentally responsible campuses, according to *The Princeton Review's Guide to 332 Green Colleges: 2014 Edition*.

The university was recognized for its carbon neutrality policy, the single-stream recycling

system, participation in RecycleMania, the "Go Green" orientation campaign, the Conservation Contest and the annual Stream Clean-Up.

TU's Dining Services division was also given special recognition for using antibiotic-reduced pork and chicken, cage-free eggs and fair trade coffee. The university has a "Trayless Tuesdays" program in dining halls to reduce water consumption and food waste, and processes its used fryer oil into biodiesel.

**Sean McComb, a high school English teacher and a TU instructor, is the 2014 National Teacher of the Year.**

### USM Faculty Awardee



Sarah Haines

Sarah A. Haines, TU professor of biological sciences, received a 2014 USM Regents' Faculty Award for Public Service.

Her remarkable record of public service includes working on curriculum for the

Maryland Partnership for Children in Nature and being a reviewer for the Chesapeake Bay Trust's environmental education grants.

In 2012 Haines was named to the SENCER (Science Education for New Civic Engagement and Responsibility) leadership council for the Chesapeake Bay Center for Innovation.

For 11 years, Haines has been a classroom volunteer for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources TEAM (Teaching Environmental Awareness in Maryland) program.

Her undergraduate biology courses are also notable for integrating classroom learning and public service.

### \$1 Million Savings

Energy efficiency adds up to big bucks.

Last April, Towson University received a rebate check for \$1.7 million from Baltimore Gas & Electric Company for participating in the Department of Energy's Better Building Challenge. Towson's energy-saving efforts included updating 35,000 light fixtures and 10,000 motion sensors at 43 buildings on campus.

### TU received a rebate check for \$1.7 million from BGE.

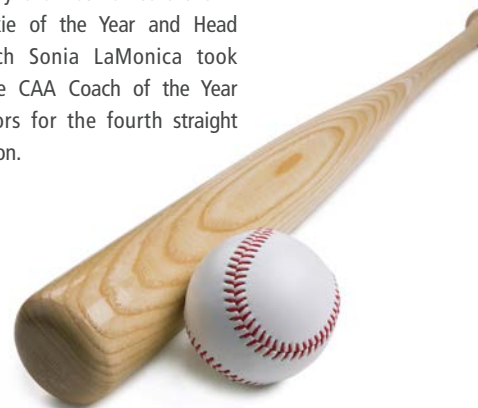
The improvements meant the university could reduce its energy consumption by 25 percent, which amounted to an annual savings of \$1 million.

## SPORT SHORTS

### LAX Champs

Freshman midfielder Michelle Gildea scored with 35 seconds left in overtime to lift the No. 1 seeded TU women's lacrosse team to a 12-11 overtime win against No. 2 James Madison University. This victory gave Towson its third straight Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) title and its sixth overall. The Tigers are the first team to win three straight CAA women's lacrosse titles.

Senior attacker Andi Raymond was named CAA Co-Player of the Year; freshman attacker Gabby Cha was named the CAA Rookie of the Year and Head Coach Sonia LaMonica took home CAA Coach of the Year honors for the fourth straight season.



### Hit Week

During five games in April, senior outfielder Kurt Wertz batted .476 with two doubles, a triple, four home runs and 15 runs batted in. *Collegiate Baseball Magazine* named him National Player of the Week, the first Towson baseball player to earn the honor.

Wertz was also the CAA Player of the Week, the ECAC Player of the Week and the NCAA.com Outstanding Performer of the Week.



# The Buzz ON CAMPUS

**Cheyenne Owens '14**, a biology major in the Honors College and a self-described "eclectic ecologist," conducted TU's first bee survey as part of an undergraduate research project.



## The Junior Bee

Owens has been interested in bees since high school, when she interned with wildlife biologist Sam Droege, director of the Native Bee Lab at the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Beltsville, Md.

"Sam's the one who got me into scientific research," she says of her long-time mentor.



Cheyenne Owens collects specimens.

## A Worker Bee

Curious about which bee species called TU home, Owens took her research proposal to John LaPolla, TU associate professor of biology, who agreed to be her faculty adviser. He was impressed with her commitment—the survey required more than two years of sampling—as well as her research savvy.

"It was a nicely designed project," LaPolla says. "I knew it could provide useful information about the local bee fauna and establish a baseline for future surveys. Surveying is the only way to understand how diversity changes over time due to human activity."

## A Busy Bee

Owens began the survey in the spring of 2012, setting out plastic collection cups at five carefully selected sites around TU's 328-acre campus. The fluorescent blue, yellow, and white cups attracted bees, and the slippery, nontoxic fluid inside trapped and preserved their bodies.

## Waxing About the Numbers

In all Owens collected about 3,500 bees between 2012 and 2013, ferrying them to Sam Droege to be identified. Her survey produced 112 species, indicating that TU's suburban campus played host to most of the species known to exist in Baltimore County. It also documented 28 new Baltimore County species records.

Owens also found that 95 bee species frequented the campus during the combined springs, with 20 species collected during the combined summers and 24 in the combined fall collection periods.

## Swarm of Research

Owens presented her research in a poster session, "Bees Are Not Optional: Surveying the Bees of Towson University," at the 12th Annual Colonial Academic Alliance Undergraduate Research Conference, held at TU on April 11-13.

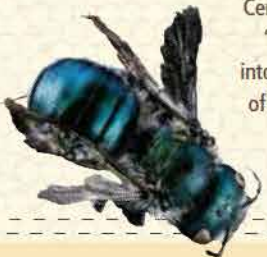


"Not all bees look like honeybees. Some resemble flies or wasps."

—Cheyenne Owens

## Being Concerned

Owens' survey comes at a time of growing concern about declining European honeybee populations nationwide. "Bees are essential pollinators," she says. "They're easy to overlook, but we depend on them for our food supply."





# What's New

## New Home/Old Memories



from the Glen Players production of "Pygmalion," an alumni newsletter from October 1950 and a homecoming program that offered lunch for 75 cents and dinner for \$1.

The Health Center and the Counseling Center moved to a new home in January—the Ward & West building.

Ward and West halls, formerly two individual residence halls, were connected and updated for these two critical student resources.

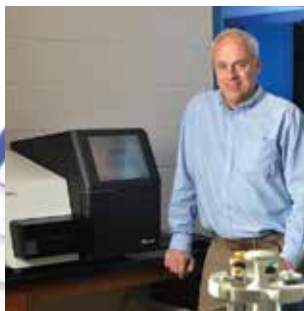
Named after George W. Ward and Henry S. West, principals of the Maryland State Normal School, Ward and West were the first dormitories built to house men on campus.

When the buildings were being constructed, then President Earle Hawkins buried a time capsule in a cornerstone on Nov 11, 1951.

The capsule was unearthed during ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the upgraded building this winter. Inside were a variety of Towson publications including *Towerlights*, student and faculty handbooks, a program

## DNA sequencer

It's not much larger than a microwave oven or a desktop printer, but don't be fooled. TU's new DNA sequencer is about as fast and powerful as they come.



Thank Brian Masters, professor of biological sciences, and a National Science Foundation grant of \$134,000 for the Illumina MiSeq, which supersedes a 10-year-old model.

"When I first began sequencing DNA, it took a

year to run 7,500 base pairs," Masters says. "The MiSeq can process 15 billion base pairs in 40 hours."

DNA sequencers determine the order of nucleotides in a DNA molecule. DNA sequencing has had an enormous impact on medicine, biomedical research and other fields.

Masters is excited about "the goldmine of data" the sequencer will yield and its analysis of the genetic basis for mate selection in birds, his area of study.

## SoundsRight Patent

A U.S. patent for a new, more user-friendly SoundsRight CAPTCHA went to Jonathan Lazar, TU professor of computer and information sciences, along with colleagues, researchers and students.

CAPTCHAs, those distorted letters or characters, increase computer security by distinguishing human users from automated systems.

But deciphering CAPTCHAs is difficult if not impossible for some 161 million people worldwide with visual impairments.

So instead of a visual test, this CAPTCHA has 10 sounds. Users press the space bar when, for example, they hear a dog barking.

The SoundsRight CAPTCHA is still in "beta" tests but can be modified for different languages and is just as secure as visual CAPTCHAs. It began seven years ago as a class project by Jon Holman '07, then an undergraduate student of Lazar's. They developed the technology after a group of blind users identified visual CAPTCHAs as their biggest challenge to using the Internet independently.

## Helping Hands

An artist and occupational therapist walked into Towson's Object Lab. The result was a collaboration that created the first prototype of a hand brace using a 3-D printer that may yield huge benefits to osteoarthritis sufferers.

While occupational therapists often make custom hand splints using low-temperature thermoplastics, the products are less durable and more cumbersome than commercial splints. A custom splint created by a



3-D printer, however, offers a perfect fit that is both seamless and durable.

Marlene Riley, TU clinical associate professor and occupational hand therapist, recognized the importance of working with artists and designers who are skilled in evolving technologies. "The occupational therapist can assist in the anatomical considerations and the artist can create the design using CAD and technology such as the 3-D printer," she says.

Riley and two metalsmithing students, Anna Scuderi and Kyriani Hinkleman, devised and tested a hand splint using the digital fabrication technology of the Object Lab.

The initial brace "fit perfectly," says Riley whose hand was the model for the first prototype. The next step will be to generate a brace for an actual patient.



# TALKING TRASH

BY WANDA HASKEL

**F**or those who hate taking out the trash, meet John Long '92/'94.

This TU business major is on a mission, heading a group of volunteers who haul junk from Bread and Cheese Creek, Beer Creek, Stansbury Park and Pond, and other sites in eastern Baltimore County.

Since 2009, the detritus has included a bowling ball, the bumper of a 1972 Chevelle, a weather vane and a wheelchair, along with copious tires, shopping carts, bicycles and tons and tons of everyday flotsam and jetsam.

“We have a contest every year,” laughs Long, “called ‘Guess What I Found in the Stream.’”

Volunteers vote on the strangest or most interesting objects recovered. The winners have included an unopened bottle of Pepsi from 1986 and an outdated wooden tread-mill.

More than unearthing oddities, however, Long’s nonprofit organization, Clean Bread and Cheese Creek, puts rubbish in its place—out of the streams and into landfills or recycling centers.

The Dundalk native and a growing number of helpers wade into the water to dig out everything from bathtubs to batteries.

“My grandfather always said, ‘Don’t ask anybody to do anything that you wouldn’t do,’” says Long.

---

**John Long '92/'94** leads an army of volunteers waging war on debris choking the waters of southeastern Baltimore County.



Volunteers have removed 190 shopping carts from Dundalk-area waterways.



John Long is ready to attack debris in Baltimore County waterways.

That's why this Eagle Scout, whose day job finds him crunching numbers at Johns Hopkins Bayview in a windowless office, likes to be first in the stream, tackling the nastiest job.

Volunteers don't resent doing hard work, Long points out, "if they see the person in charge with a pickaxe, pulling out a shopping cart."

## Garbage In, Garbage Out

Long acquired his inclination for conservation and service from his ever-quotable grandfather Richard Gallagher—a World War II veteran and victim of mesothelioma—whose house in Dundalk backed up to Bread and Cheese Creek. (The name dates to colonial time. Tradition holds



Clean Bread and Cheese Creek organizes two major community cleanups a year.

that the stream was a popular spot for soldiers to eat bread and cheese.)

As a child, Long recalls hikes with his grandfather, exploring the then-pristine woods and water. Occasionally, they found a bottle or candy wrapper, which Gallagher would take home for disposal, teaching his grandson by example to be environmentally responsible.

After his grandfather's death in 1999, Long kept his grandfather's memory close by buying and refurbishing his house and garden.

Seven years later a tornado damaged the property, flinging shingles into the creek. When Long went to drag them out, he was shocked to discover how much other trash had built up in the stream since he was a kid. He found loads of garbage that had gone unnoticed from the property's elevated bank.

"I was appalled," says Long, his face reddening, "because I remember what the stream used to be like."

He spent days cleaning up his section of the creek—clearing out the storm debris and years of other junk which had accumulated—just to be exasperated when a whole new crop of trash sailed in during the next rainstorm.

This time, Long rallied a few buddies to help, and was able to hit a longer stretch

---

**"Life's too short  
not to just take a  
few minutes out  
of your day to help  
someone else."**

**—John Long '92/'94**

---

local businesses have pitched in, donating food, supplies and talent. Partnerships with other area environmental organizations have enabled the group to expand its efforts to include surrounding streams, parks, beaches and communities.

## A Job for Everyone

Long attributes his success in attracting loyal volunteers to a fun, family atmosphere. The food doesn't hurt either. Volunteers are well fed on clean-up days with pit beef, fried chicken and even a vegetarian option.

Many of the helpers are like-minded environmentalists or area residents invested in improving their community. Others earn service hours. A call to Long's friends in the TU history department led to involvement by several Towson groups, including the history, environmental science and ultimate Frisbee clubs.

While some organizations require that volunteers be at least 18, Long prides himself on accepting help from anyone willing to give it and welcomes entire families ready to do whatever jobs they can—from backbreaking work in the stream, to less demanding duties at the registration table or driving vehicles to and from a Dumpster. The youngest helpers deliver drinking water to workers via wagon and distribute trash bags. Long's oldest volunteer, a 95-year-old neighbor, insisted on venturing into the creek (with a little assistance) to collect garbage.

## The Politics of Helping

Passionate and outspoken, Long frequently appears at schools, businesses and public hearings to speak on sustainability, environmental stewardship and green-living alternatives. Considering his activism and lineage, many wonder if Long will take to politics, following in the footsteps of his great uncle, former congressman Clarence "Doc" Long, who represented Maryland's 2nd District for 22 years.

No chance, declares Long, who says he tried being a Republican central committee member but resigned, frustrated by the bureaucracy that left him feeling powerless to make a real difference. These days, he swears off politics, instead

focusing on volunteering and organizing volunteers, which he sees as a more effective way to do good than being an elected official.

“Imagine if everyone in this country were to volunteer just one hour a week,” Long says, jabbing the air with his index finger to emphasize his point.

“Life’s too short not to just take a few minutes out of your day to help someone else,” he adds, again invoking the memory of his grandfather.

“It’s the way I was raised.” ■

Wanda Haskel is a freelance writer based in Lutherville, Md.

{ BEFORE }



{ AFTER }



Before and after photos demonstrate how collecting tons of trash can return a junkyard to its original idyllic state.


# TRASH TOTALS

Since 2009, John Long and his volunteers have cleaned up streams in Baltimore County.

MORE THAN

**70**  
**TONS**  
OF TRASH



{ 1  = 7 TONS }



DISPOSED

OR

RECYCLED



INCLUDING:

190 

6 

170 

4 

50 

3 

8 

2 

1 



# What A

## Towson Dance Team **wins** **16** straight championships.

This isn't just a streak. This is a dynasty.

When the Towson University Dance Team won the 2014 National Dance Alliance (NDA) Collegiate National Championship in April, they brought home the title and a trophy for the 16th consecutive year.

To put the sheer number of championship wins in perspective, consider this. Rebecca Dorman, co-captain and a senior on the team, was a mere six years old when TU's dance team won its first championship in 1999.

Dorman attributes the teams' successes to a simple tenet—hard work. “No one works harder than we do,” says the family studies major.

This isn't just lip service. The precision of each squad and each team's ultimate success over the years comes from hours of practice—sometimes as many as eight hours of choreography work, drills, jumps and endurance exercises in a single day.

“My friends are often shocked at how much time we put in as a team. They don't understand the physical and mental toughness we need,” she explains.

Dorman herself never phones it in: not at practice, not during a performance, not even for an interview.

When asked to discuss this year's competition, she insisted on a face-to-face meeting, walking over to a campus office between classes. And from the second she appeared, the room was awash in energy, enthusiasm and the sheer joy of being on a team coached by Tom Cascella.

“He's a father figure to all of us, genuine and generous. He does so much for us. Everything we do is for him,” she says.

Cascella, assistant to the chair of Towson's Department of Theatre Arts, took on the fledgling team in 1992, not long after his daughter Kim died.

Now Dorman says, he has “30 daughters every year.” And like a doting father,

Coach Tom Cascella doesn't have each of the 16 trophies won by the team. Stricter airline regulations following 9/11 forced him to leave the 2002 trophy at the airport.



The dance team jumps for joy on Daytona Beach after their come-from-behind championship victory in April.



# Feeling

BY GINNY COOK

he guides, prods and insists that his kids excel—in more than just dance. “He makes us put school first,” she explains. “He develops our intensity, pushing us past our limits whether it’s dance, studies, a career or anything else in our lives.”

Dorman, who has danced in each national competition since she was a freshman, relied on that well-honed fervor when Towson placed second after the preliminaries this year.

Since the streak began, every other Towson team—except the 2004 squad—had come out of the preliminaries in first place. This year Kansas was first and Towson had a target on their backs going into the finals.

The girls knew it. So did each one of their competitors. “The other teams were out to beat us,” Dorman says. “And no one wanted to be on the team that loses after all these years.”

The Towson dancers closed ranks. “We’re all sisters. We take care of each



While a 16th championship is sweet, Cascella (center back) “makes us put school first,” says Rebecca Dorman, co-captain.

other,” Dorman notes. But it was Cascella’s calmness and his confidence in the girls that eased their fraying nerves.

“He told us, ‘You got this,’” Dorman says.

Besides, both coach and team know there are worse things to lose than a dance competition.

The team went back to what they do best—work. They refined their costumes and hip-hop routine. Five hours before the final—at 5 a.m.—the women were on the practice floor.

Then it was time to get up and dance. Dorman thought she and her teammates nailed their final performance. But would the judges think so?

The teams assembled in a semicircle on stage anxiously waiting for the awards. Kansas took third, Boston, second, and after what seemed like an eternity, the announcement came that Towson had once again earned the first place crown.

Cascella says, “The team spirit and cooperation of this group of young women makes them champions. I can’t begin to tell you how proud I am of our team.”

Dorman understands his sentiment—a victory, while welcome, wasn’t essential. “We were all there for one thing,” Dorman explains, and it wasn’t to win a national championship. “We were there to be a better team than we were before, to become the best we can.”

The women on the 2014 team, and the 15 teams preceding them, achieved all that and more. ■

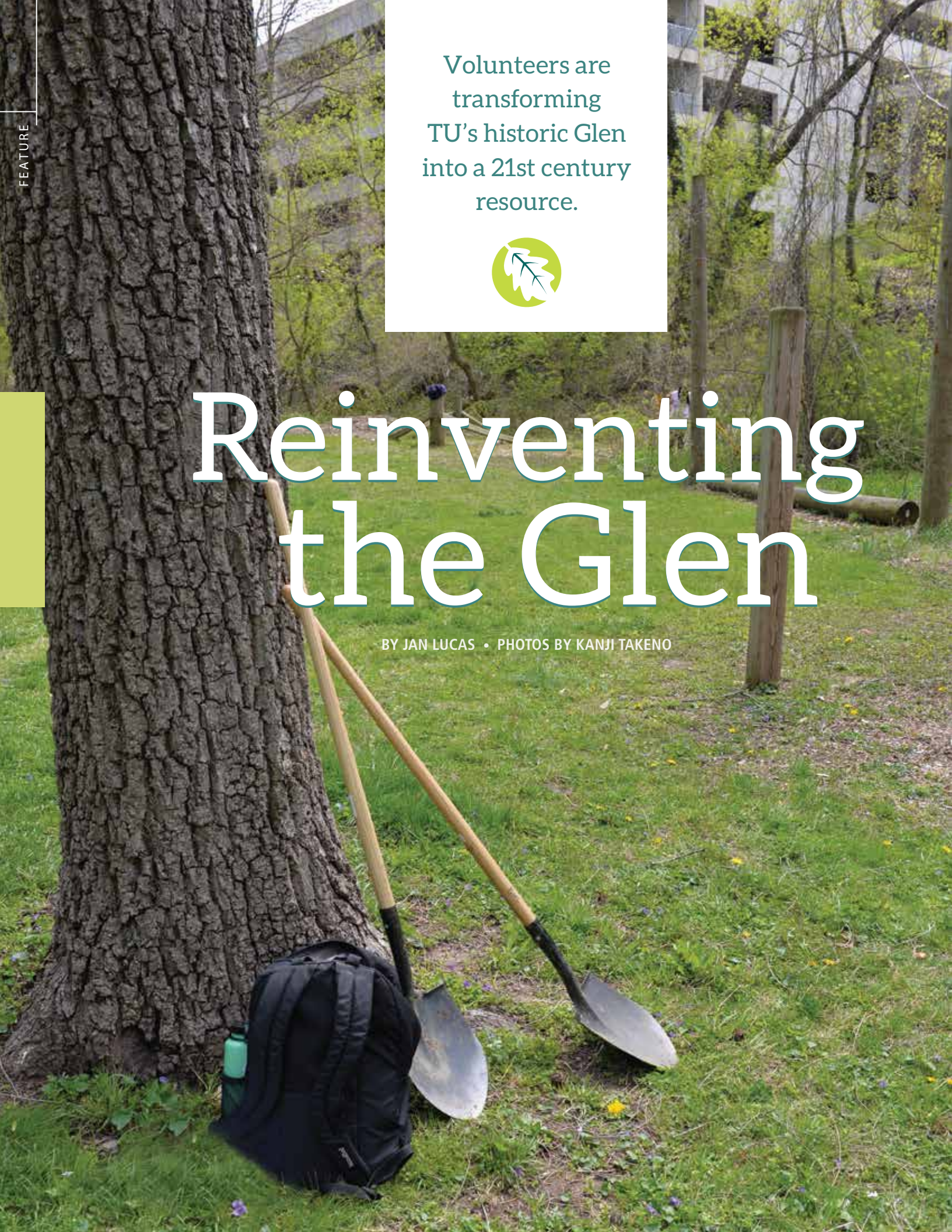
Ginny Cook is the editor of *Towson*.

Volunteers are transforming TU's historic Glen into a 21st century resource.



# Reinventing the Glen

BY JAN LUCAS • PHOTOS BY KANJI TAKENO





**J**ames Hull is leading the charge in a never-ending battle against invasive species.

From his vantage point on a sloping section of TU's 12-acre Glen, a natural oasis in the center of campus, the emeritus professor is surrounded by a squad of student volunteers. They are tugging English ivy out of the loamy soil and off tree trunks, then stuffing it into 30-gallon plastic bags. "You can't pull ivy and then drop it," Hull observes. "It can re-root."

English ivy isn't Hull's only concern: His enemies include garlic mustard, multiflora rose, porcelain berry, Japanese honeysuckle and Norway maple. "Non-native species account for nearly half of the Glen's biomass," he says, adding that some were introduced in the '30s and '40s as part of well-intentioned improvements.

Hull taught plant ecology and general botany at TU for 32 years before retiring from the Department of Biological Sciences in 2008. He now heads the Glen Arboretum board of directors, spearheading an initiative that includes a new mission as well as a makeover.

The mission designates the Glen as a habitat for trees and shrubs native to Maryland (hence the invasive-species removal). It aims to provide a scientifically accurate, accessible educational experience for the campus and off-campus communities. It seeks to reinvent the Glen as an outreach and community-engagement tool.

The Glen will also remain a refuge for established wildlife: various birds, foxes, deer, raccoons, squirrels, rabbits, nonvenomous snakes, crayfish, wood frogs, insects and other native species.

The master plan also calls for the Glen to be divided into regions representing Maryland vegetation, as well as categorization of the site's historical elements.



And there's a lot of history amid the greenery.

The Glen began more than a century ago with the allocation of funds to move the then-Maryland State Normal School from Baltimore to suburban Towson.

By 1913, when ground was broken for the new campus, the Glen was little more than a depression in farmland slated for development. A stream fed by a spring on the east side of York Road meandered through en route to Lake Roland, a few miles to the west. Unsuitable for building, the area became a kind of nature preserve by default.

Hull points out that the Glen is largely a manmade creation, its steep slopes formed by fill from the construction of Stephens Hall and other campus buildings.

During the 1920s a local school principal led an effort to beautify the Glen, and in the mid-1930s campus officials redeveloped it as a demonstration garden, with an ambitious landscape plan implemented by the federal government's Works Progress Administration (WPA) at a cost of \$74,000—nearly \$1.3 million in today's money.

For the next four decades, the Glen was central to campus life. It provided the bucolic setting for countless picnics and celebrations, class outings and musical performances. It was home to the intrepid Glen Players, a student troupe that entertained audiences alfresco long before TU offered a theater program.

Student volunteers, such as the one above, have stripped about 70 percent of the invasive English ivy off the Glen's trees.



(Left) Pint-sized volunteers from TU's day care center helped James Hull plant trees in the Glen last spring.

(Above) The development of the Glen from a stream and flood plain into a preserve for wildflowers, trees and a bird sanctuary, was carried out by the Works Progress Administration, beginning in March 1936.

(Right) Students take a break before tackling the next hurdle on the challenge course—an outdoor workout in the Glen—developed by Campus Recreation.

By the late '60s the Glen was showing signs of benign neglect, though Hull points out that it remained a resource for biology and geology classes. Students who came to TU in the decades that followed may have admired the view from surrounding sidewalks, the glass-walled Glen Dining Hall or the Glen footbridge, but most avoided the Glen itself.

In the '90s university police closed the Glen between dusk and dawn, citing safety concerns. The Depression-era picnic shelters, planters, walkways, fireplaces, botany pond and other structures were underappreciated and underused. The university maintained some structures; others fell into disrepair.

Hull credits a colleague, the late Donald R. Windler, with spurring interest in a plan to restore the Glen to relevance. Windler, who taught botany at TU from 1969 to 2003, envisioned the wooded site as an arboretum, a habitat for native flora and fauna—where students and faculty could conduct research or simply relax in a serene natural setting. He modeled his plan on the arboretum at the University of North Carolina, where he'd earned his doctorate.

At Windler's urging, and with the support of Department of Biological Sciences faculty, TU established a Glen Arboretum endowment and funded an outside study that in 2002 produced the Glen Master Plan. The next 10 years saw incremental progress: a much-needed stream restoration, some tree-identification

plates, native tree plantings and invasive species removal. Campus Recreation installed a challenge course that offered fitness enthusiasts an outdoor workout.

In 2008 advocates developed a plan for establishing the Glen as a habitat for every species of tree and shrub native to Maryland. In 2012 the university created the Glen Arboretum board of directors, with Hull at the helm.

community service. There haven't been many incentives to get involved with this kind of a project."

But things are looking up. "The university is more invested now," Hull says. "David Vanko, dean of the Fisher College of Science and Mathematics, supports the Glen Arboretum. Students are excited."

Hull received a \$2,100 grant from Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. for English ivy

In 2008 advocates developed a plan for establishing the Glen as a habitat for every species of tree and shrub native to Maryland.



So why is it taking so long? "It's complicated," Hull concedes. "Money is tight and the university has other priorities. The faculty focuses on research, grants, publications and com-

removal, and there's some money in the Glen Arboretum endowment that he uses to purchase new trees, shrubs and herbs.

Labor is one expense he's been able to avoid for the most part, thanks to the more



than 200 students who turned out during the 2013/2014 academic year to join the fight.

A standout among those volunteers is Nicole Hartig '14, a chemistry and environmental science major from Michigan who spent a year assisting Hull with English ivy removal.

"In spring 2013 I took an advanced writing course that required developing a solution for a local problem," Hartig explains. She chose the Glen ivy project, then decided to participate in the solution.

Hartig wrangled other students for the first four ivy-pulling events, moving to a paid position (supported by the BGE grant) as supervisor of volunteers during her senior year.

"We definitely made a difference," she says, estimating that she and her fellow students stripped 60 to 70 percent of the English ivy off the Glen's trees. Although she earned her bachelor's degree last May, Hartig plans to stay in the area for a year and continue working in the Glen. "I'd like to see it through," she says of the project.

Hull imagines the Glen as it could be and takes satisfaction in small victories. "I wish we had a good bird census," he muses. He talks about the kinds of projects students might undertake in a natural setting, envisions bridges, signs, additional trails and maps. He reflects on how the simple act of planting a tree conveys a sense of stewardship. "It'll be expensive," he says. "But it's worth it."

"There's a natural human desire to connect with the natural world," he continues. "Science is wonderful because it teaches an approach to problem solving that's different from other disciplines. And it's an approach that has value across the employment spectrum."

"I want the Glen Arboretum to be part of that." ■

Jan Lucas is associate director of publications in University Marketing and Communications.



FOR A HISTORY OF THE GLEN  
[magazine.towson.edu](http://magazine.towson.edu)

# The 10 Most Wanted

**Trees, that is.** The Glen Arboretum's mission stipulates that it include every species of tree and shrub native to Maryland. Although many are already established there or relatively easy to find elsewhere, others require botanical detective work.



#1

**Water oak**  
*(Quercus nigra)*

Found primarily on the Eastern Shore, especially in Wicomico and Worcester counties. As the name implies, it is found where there is a relatively high water table. Compared to other oaks, it has a unique leaf shape.

#2

**Shingle oak**  
*(Quercus imbricaria)*

Found from Allegany County to the Eastern Shore, but it reaches its greatest abundance in the Patapsco River Valley. Its laurel-shaped leaves make it unique.

#3

**Table mountain pine**  
*(Pinus pungens)*

Found in the drier mountains in Allegany, Washington and Frederick counties, typically along ridge tops. This two-needle pine is usually small and stunted.

#4

**Sand hickory**  
*(Carya pallida)*

Found only on the coastal plain and uncommon, this species inhabits sandy soils and may be extirpated from Maryland.

#5

**Common hoptree**  
*(Ptelea trifoliata)*

A small tree of the midland and mountainous zones. Despite its name, it is endangered in New Jersey and threatened in Pennsylvania. It derives its name from the use of its fruit for brewing beer. Its fruits provide food for wildlife.

#6

**Red hickory**  
*(Carya ovalis)*

A medium-sized tree of moist midland and mountain zones. This widespread hickory is seldom abundant.

#7

**Black maple**  
*(Acer nigrum)*

A tree very similar to sugar maple and in Maryland found only in Garrett County. Like sugar maple, its sap may be tapped to make maple syrup.

#8

**Pear hawthorn**  
*(Crataegus calpodendron)*

A small tree or shrub found in Garrett County, but widespread throughout the Eastern United States.

#9

**Waxy-fruited hawthorn**  
*(Crataegus punctata)*

A small tree common in Allegany and Garrett counties. It is characterized by slender, sharp spines with attractive spring flowers.

#10

**Silk bay**  
*(Persea palustris)*

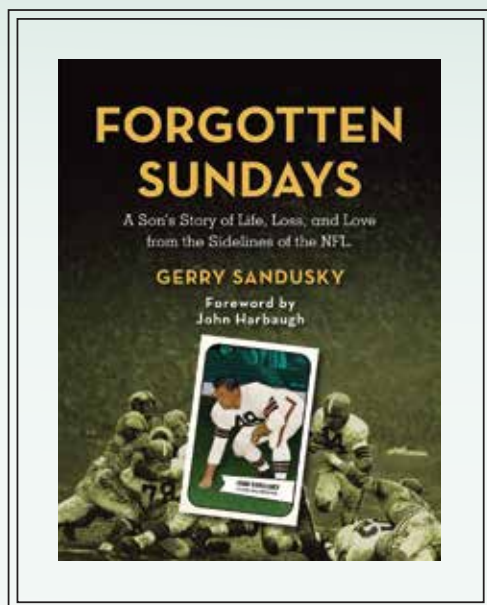
This close relative of the avocado is found rarely in swamps on the extreme Eastern Shore. It has leathery, evergreen leaves.





# Growing Up on the Sidelines

BY RAY FELDMANN '77



NFL Hall of Fame Coach Don Shula says the book is "filled with priceless memories that bring to life the wonderful human being that was John Sandusky."

Against the backdrop of the NFL, Gerry Sandusky's book reflects on the complex journey a father and son make throughout life.

## It's an obvious question.

Gerry Sandusky '83 heard it frequently after the child sex-abuse scandal broke at Penn State University involving former Nittany Lion assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky. The question followed the nasty tweets, social media posts, emails and threats mistakenly directed at Gerry Sandusky.

This time, the question came from Rick Reilly, a sportswriter with ESPN.

"Why not just change your name, Gerry?"

Sandusky grimaces as he recalls the conversation with Reilly, whom he considers a friend.

"It's a bad short-term solution," Sandusky says. "There's no way I'd ever change the name because my dad gave it to me."

In the end, his name—Gerry Sandusky—was one of the few things left after the death of his father.

For those who have lost a father, Sandusky's simple yet profound explanation makes perfect sense. But in Sandusky's case, his dad's death in 2006 was the last in a long line of losses that left the normally gregarious WBAL-TV sports director shaken and saddened.

Those uncharacteristic feelings of loss and regret prompted Sandusky to write a book that chronicled his relationship with his football coach father, John Sandusky. *Forgotten Sundays: A Son's Story of Life, Loss, and Love from the Sidelines of the NFL*, published by Running Press, arrived on bookstore shelves and tablet screens last spring.

As tempting as it may be to label *Forgotten Sundays* as just another sports book,

doing so would miss the mark. *Forgotten Sundays* is a story of a son standing alongside his larger-than-life dad, who for 35 years was a National Football League (NFL) coach following a six-year playing career as an offensive lineman with the Cleveland Browns and Green Bay Packers. And it's a story of how that relationship deteriorated years later when life's setbacks and serious mental health issues got in the way.

"It's a story of a boy growing up on the sidelines," Sandusky says. "It's about seeing your father in the throes of his passion: coaching football. It's about a father-son relationship—a relationship that descends into Alzheimer's near the end of my dad's life. It's about having a hero for a father who suddenly one day no longer remembers who you are."

In the early years, his was a classic storybook childhood that most kids only dream about.

"Picture this," Sandusky recalls, smiling broadly. "I'm seven years old and standing next to my dad, the offensive line coach for the Baltimore Colts during Super Bowl III in Miami. As any Baltimorean and old Colts fan will remember, we were playing Joe Willie Namath and the New York Jets. And as everyone in 'Bawlmer' remembers, we lost that day, 16-7, in one of the greatest sports upsets of all time.

"For me," he continues, "it was a failure of immortals. We are dejectedly leaving the field after the game and I am crying, with my head down, walking alongside the great Colts' head coach Don Shula, legendary quarterback Johnny Unitas and my dad. And Unitas looks at me and says 'You're not the one who should be crying, kid.' Classic."

Later in his book, Sandusky reflects on the teenage years he spent growing up with his mom, dad and four siblings. Sandusky enjoyed a happy childhood until some unanticipated bumps in the road took his life drastically off course in his late teens and early 20s. His older brother, Joe, died from sepsis at the age of 19 when Gerry was just 17. Seven years later, his mom, Ruth, also unexpectedly passed away.

"They called it cancer," Sandusky says, "but it was really from a broken heart."

As Sandusky was pursuing his broadcasting career in Miami and then in Baltimore, his dad (who left the Colts in 1972) was finishing his NFL coaching career with the Philadelphia Eagles and Miami Dolphins. He retired from the

NFL in 1994, at age 70. Shortly after his wife's death in 1985, John Sandusky had begun dating and later remarried. It was a difficult time for son Gerry.

"Let's just say I wasn't happy about it," Sandusky recalls.

After the elder Sandusky's NFL coaching career ended, he tried coaching high school football in the Philadelphia area. But his short-term memory loss evolved into Alzheimer's disease. In his final years, his condition deteriorated rapidly, just as Gerry was trying to come to terms with his father's second marriage and the dad he thought he knew. Their final visits were difficult.

"There were so many of them it struck me that my father was a genuinely generous person," he adds. "I had always known that about my mom, but for my dad, I never knew about the shower of little things he had done until after he was gone. These are things I can pass on to my own children, Katie and Zack, that will make them better people as they grow up."

Besides his job as sports director at WBAL-TV and as radio play-by-play announcer for the NFL's Baltimore Ravens, Sandusky now finds himself in a new, more unfamiliar role: as an advocate for Alzheimer's awareness. Last April, he was a featured speaker at the Maryland

"It's about having a **hero** for a **father** who suddenly one day no longer remembers who you are."

—Gerry Sandusky '83



Gerry Sandusky (left) interviewing his father, John Sandusky, in the Miami Dolphins locker room. (September, 1986)

"At a time when you should be resolving your relationship with your dad, he doesn't even know who you are," Sandusky says.

Looking back some eight years later, Sandusky says he learned more about his father after he died than in those years leading up to his death.

"Here I think I know everything about my dad, until he dies," Sandusky says. "I attribute that to my youthful arrogance. But I've talked to so many people who knew my dad who have told me things about him I just never knew.

"I learned how giving he was to people with no expectation of anything in return," Sandusky says. "I can't point to any major specifics, just a flood of people who told me about little things my dad did, a ride here, a kind word there, a helping hand, a donation, an insight shared.

Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association's annual dementia conference. This year's theme was "Making Connections."

"[I] watched my dad in the final years of his life lose connection with everything he knew and loved," Sandusky says. "Our challenge as a society is, how do we keep the elderly connected to their purpose? I feel that I have some meaningful ideas to contribute to that conversation now, because of my experiences with my dad."

As painful as those experiences were, Sandusky is trying desperately to hold onto those memories for as long as he can. Like his name, Gerry Sandusky, it's all he has left from his dad. ■

Ray Feldmann '77 is TU's director of communications and media relations.

# WAR STORIES

## Letters and memorabilia in WWII collection give eyewitness accounts of those who served

By Ginny Cook / Photos courtesy of Special Collections & Archives



### Every folder tells a story.

And there are some 228 stories in Cook Library's Special Collections and Archives.

These are the tales of the men and women from what was then the State Teachers College at Towson who reported for duty when America entered World War II.

Their correspondence ranges from mundane to thrilling, from heroic to tragic—weddings between classmates, postcards from a lieutenant in a German POW camp, the weather at Normandy a month post D-day, a letter returned from the Pacific because the recipient was “missing in action.”

With military precision, the folders are arranged alphabetically by each service member's last name in four crisp boxes. But open the folders and the personalities of these 20-somethings emerge from the letters, photos, cards and other memorabilia mailed to their college teachers and coaches during the war.

The collection illustrates their hopes, their fears and at times their confusion at being plucked from the comforts of home and into foxholes or foreign lands. But all reveal their sense of duty and purpose, showing the sacrifice and selflessness of the “greatest generation” who hailed from Towson.

“Whether we want to be here is no longer the question; that we be here is imperative,” wrote one graduate in 1942.

According to the National Postal Museum of the Smithsonian, “mail played a significant role in maintaining morale.” The Towson administration did its part to keep up spirits by sending news about classmates and the school.

When the United States first entered the war, Rebecca Tansil, registrar and business manager, kept a typewritten list of addresses of each State Teacher's College graduate who had enlisted in the armed services. She sent them a monthly newsletter of campus happenings—the 22 inches of snow that fell in March 1942, construction of the gym with a view

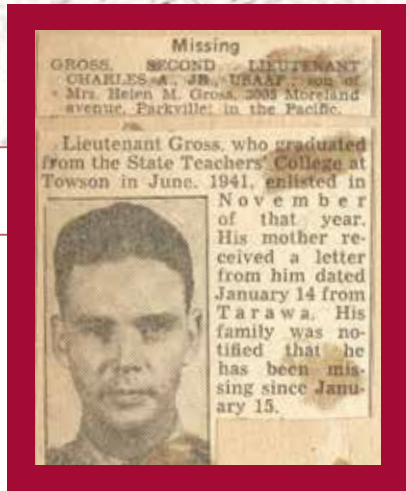
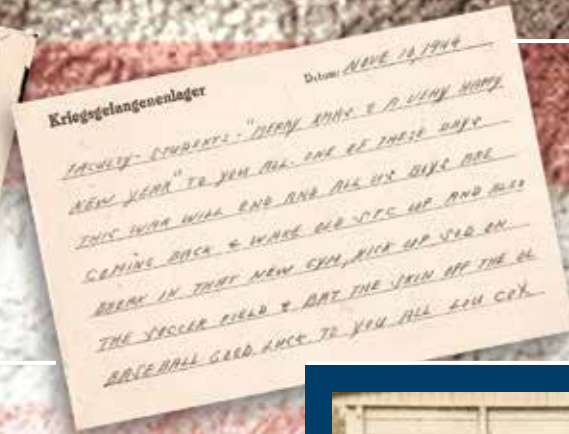
of the building's exterior—and updates on who was stationed where.

In her letter of Oct. 17, 1941, Tansil wrote “Dear Boys.” By January 1943, the salutation had changed to “Dear Service Alumni” because those entering military service from Towson were no longer just males. Women joined the WAACS and WAVES, including Martha Schnellby '40, Julia Over '38 and Katharine Jacobsen '43. Tansil herself would soon enlist as well.

Theresa Wiedefeld '45, president, took over the correspondence, writing about the “astonishing record of achievements of promotion and of service” and how classroom discussions of war had evolved with graduates now ready “to play a part in history.”

Now, nearly 70 years after the end of the war, this archival collection is a record of the spirit and commitment of the Towson graduates and staff who served their country.

We cannot share all of the stories, but here are a few.



## Weathering the Germans

★ Jerome Kolker '40

First Lieutenant Jerome Kolker counted himself among the lucky. He landed in France about a month after the D-Day invasion. By July 5, 1944, the date of his letter, the shelling was over. He had only constant dampness and miserable weather on the beaches to contend with.

Kolker, who served with the second armored division, would soon see action as he began to march toward Germany. “The going was wicked,” he wrote in the winter of 1945. “Snow and ice and cold combined to just about wreck us. (There were some Germans there too.)”

He describes walking through towns, “where not one building was standing.”

By March 18, 1945, near the Rhine River in Germany, Kolker had a rough time complying with the order to ignore the children he encountered. “It is difficult to be aloof when one has been trained to be tolerant and friendly,” wrote the former teacher.

## Missing

★ Charles Gross '41

Photos of Charles Gross could have landed him a leading role in the movie *South Pacific*. Bare-chested and fit, the lieutenant is relaxing in a tropical paradise.

In a long letter to Tansil on Dec. 10, 1943 from an island in the Pacific, Gross talked about how well he is eating. He enjoys his work, he tells her, but there is “a long road to Tokyo. I won’t be back until it is finished.”

Gross never received Tansil’s reply, dated Jan. 2, 1944. The envelope in his folder has a large black stamp across his name—“Missing in Action.” A brief newspaper clipping from Jan. 14, 1944 confirms that he is missing from Tarawa, an atoll in the Pacific.

## Postcards from a POW

★ Luther Cox '40

Luther Cox could have produced an atlas of the places he saw. The flight navigator’s letter includes a list of countries seen during his tour of duty—England, Ireland, Scotland, Portugal, Spain, Gibraltar, Tobruk, Oran, Tunis, Libya, Alexandria and Suez.

“Northern Africa is very desolate, sand, sand and more sand,” he wrote.

“As I flew over the Nile my first thought was of Mr. Walther and his class in which he told us how the lovely Rosetta and Damietta Rivers were named. This made the valley and delta even more interesting for me.”

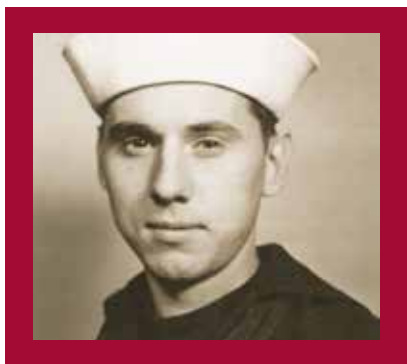
Soon after posting that letter to Towson, Cox was flying his 22nd mission in a B-24 Liberator bomber on Jan. 19, 1943. “German fighters swarmed over us like hornets and I was forced to bail out over the sea and was badly wounded,” he told the *Towson* alumni magazine in 2002.

Photo from German POW camp. Luther Cox is second from left. Above, a postcard he sent from the Stalag.

His folder contains a notice received by his parents one month later saying their son “is Interned by the German Government at Dulag Luft Germany.”

Cox sent Towson coach Donald “Doc” Minnegan three postcards from prison camp. (Cox later cited Minnegan’s “never give up” mantra as key to his survival from the crash and during the two and half years behind barbed wire.) The postcards, dated April 19, 1944, July 12, 1944, and Nov. 10, 1944, are written in pencil and discuss playing soccer and wanting to see the new gym. His weight is blacked out by censors.

A clipping from the *Evening Sun* in May 1945 reports that Cox was alive and “found by the 14th Armored Division in Stalag 7-A near Moosburg.”



## ‘We wore helmets.’

★ **Quinton D. Thompson '42**

If the Edenwald Retirement home in Towson had a mayor, it would be Q.D. Thompson. Everyone stops to chat with the 93-year-old resident as he makes his way down the hall.

The head of communications aboard the U.S.S. Enterprise CV-6 from November 1943 until January 1945, still sports a cap with the name of the aircraft carrier. He says his office was in the tower above the flight deck and remembers several strafing runs when bullets flew and hit the flag poles.

“We took a couple of hits,” he recalls. “We wore helmets.”

What he didn’t remember is a letter in his file that he wrote to Minnegan from the Enterprise on Aug. 7, 1944.

He mentions running into a classmate, Ned Logan. “We were fortunate enough to arrange to spend a couple of days together

and enjoyed several hours of batting the breeze about our life at the State Teachers College.”

Thompson’s letter continues with how he is managing to stay in good condition by working out about four times a week and even chides his coach that he will be “expecting a letter soon.”



## Escape from the Germans

★ **Dallas Smith '35**

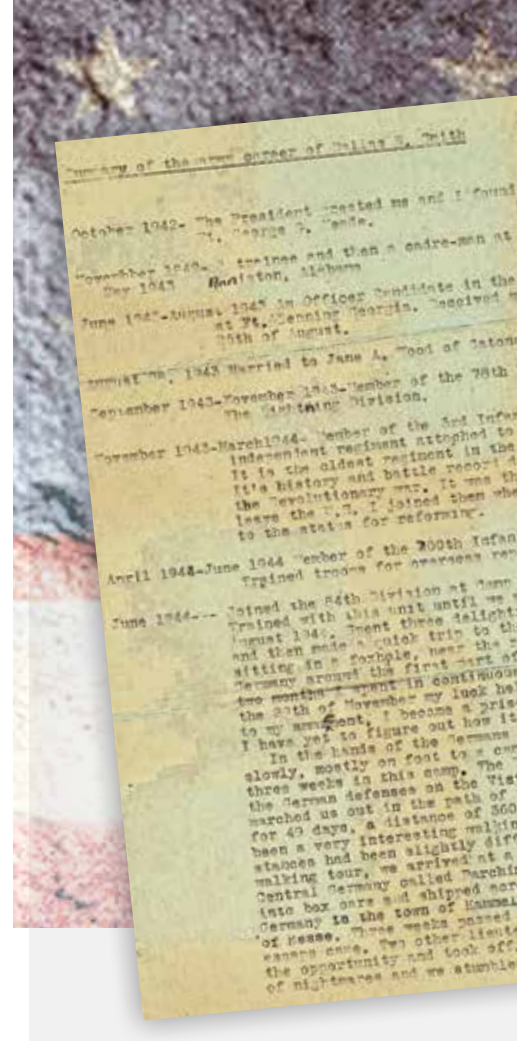
Dallas Smith’s escape from a German prison camp is as cryptic as it is mesmerizing.

He typed a summary of his military career, resume-like, in chronological order.

He entered the military, October 1942; trained for seven months at Fort McClellan, Ala.; entered officer candidate school at Fort Benning, Ga., June 1943. He also includes his marriage to Jane A. Wood on Aug. 28, 1943.

Then in two brief paragraphs, barely 200 words, he records his capture, transport, forced marches and eventual escape from the Germans—a tale that begs for more detail.

“June 1944, Joined the 84th Division, and went overseas in August, 1944. Spent three delightful weeks in England and then made a quick trip to the front. Found myself sitting in a foxhole near the remains of Aachen Germany around the first part of October. The next two months I spent in continuous prayer and until the 29th of November my luck held. On that day, much to my amazement, I became a prisoner of the Germans. I have yet to figure out



how it happened. In the hands of the Germans I was transported, very slowly, mostly on foot to a camp in Poland. I spent three weeks in this camp. The Russians broke through the German defenses on the Vistula and the Germans marched us out in the path of the Russians. We marched for 49 days, a distance of 360 miles. It would have been a very interesting walking trip if the circumstances had been slightly different. At the end of our walking tour, we arrived at a little town in North Central Germany called Parchim. Here we were packed into box cars and shipped across Germany to S.W. Germany to the town of Hammelburg in the province of Hesse. Two other lieutenants and myself seized the opportunity and took off. Ten days and nights of nightmares and we stumbled across the American line.”

By July 1945, he lists recuperation in the states and “the enjoyment of my baby son that wasn’t sure whether his papa was dead or alive.” ■

Ginny Cook is the editor of *Towson*.





*“We want you to stay connected to your alma mater.”*

## 2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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and executive director, Alumni Association

FROM OUR ALUMNI PRESIDENT

As the new academic year begins, the Alumni Association continues to work hard to support the goals and mission of the university. I would personally like to thank our board members who have completed their service and welcome those who are beginning their journey with us.

Last spring we traveled to the Orioles' spring training facility in Sarasota, Fla., where we hosted a crab feast for alumni. Then we trekked across the state for an alumni reception in West Palm Beach. We thank our gracious host, David Nevins '76.

Closer to campus, other events included the Distinguished Alumni and Deans Recognition Awards Banquet, the hospitality tent before home lacrosse games and the fundraiser for professional development at Baldwin's Station. If you missed the opportunity to attend these events, please join us in the future.

It's never too late to reconnect or get involved.

We have a great schedule of fall athletic events, including the football game at West Virginia University on Sept. 6 and Homecoming on Nov. 1. Other alumni events will be held in New York, Ocean City, Md., California and Florida, so please stay tuned for dates and venues. In addition, the first Young Alumni Awards will celebrate the achievements of TU's younger graduates.

Remember, you will always be part of the growing Towson University alumni network, and we want you to stay connected to your alma mater. The Alumni Association will help you do this, and we look forward to hearing about your accomplishments and successes

**Lance Johnson '93**  
President

## GRANT FUNDS GRADUATION STATION

The Towson University Alumni Association board of directors received a \$4,000 grant from the University System of Maryland Alumni Association International to fund Graduation Station. This one-stop information shop for soon-to-be Towson graduates is held a month before they receive their diplomas.



## FALL MEANS FOOTBALL FUN

Join us for home Saturday football games at the Alumni Hospitality area. Light fare and a cash bar will be available. The area opens two hours before the game, and closes at game time.

### THE FALL 2014 SCHEDULE

Aug. 30	6 p.m.	vs. Central Connecticut
Sept. 20	6 p.m.	vs. North Carolina Central
Sept. 27	7 p.m.	vs. University of Maine
Oct. 4	3 p.m.	vs. Stony Brook
Nov. 1	4 p.m.	vs. Elon
Nov. 15	3 p.m.	vs. William & Mary



## Stay Connected

Online resources for alumni



### Facebook

Join the Towson University Alumni Association Facebook Fan Page today for news updates and event invitations at [www.facebook.com/towsonalumni](http://www.facebook.com/towsonalumni).



### LinkedIn

Join the Towson University Alumni Group to network with fellow alumni.



### Tiger Tracks

Exclusively for TU alumni, look up fellow alumni, update your contact information, view the alumni calendar and catch up with TU news. Access Tiger Tracks by going to [www.tutigertracks.com](http://www.tutigertracks.com). Your last name is your username and the 10-digit ID above the address label on the back of this magazine is your password.



### Twitter

Follow the Alumni Association on twitter @TowsonUAlumni.



### Free alumni email accounts

Take advantage of this free email account by signing up on Tiger Tracks.

# Networking

The Alumni Association partners with the Career Center and the SGA

TU students learned about employment opportunities when the TU Alumni Association held its second annual networking event. With the help of the Career Center, many corporate representatives were on hand to assist students with job searches and career choices.

1  
Katie Sampayo '13,  
Kaitlin LeDonne '10 and  
Lance Johnson '93



2  
Kevin Kutner, Gayon  
Sampson and Taylor Sevik



3  
Keith Ewancio '94/ '07, Stephanie  
Johnson '95 and Gary Rubin '69



4  
Drew Voigt, Aiyana Dancy,  
Kennard Wallace, Becca  
Nappi, Devin Morgan and  
April Hurst '05/'12



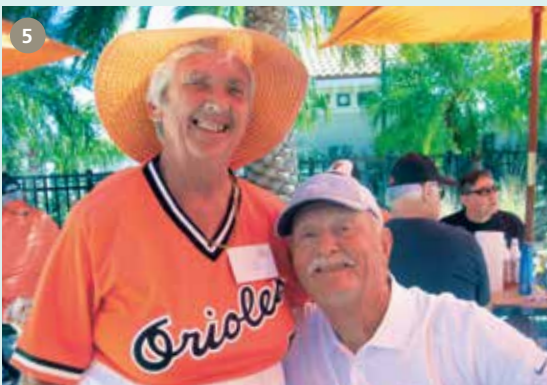
5  
Amber Marsh, Patrick Dieguez '07  
and Paul Rivera '13



# A Baltimore Tradition in Florida

Alumni gather for steamed crabs and an O's exhibition game

More than 150 alumni watched the Orioles beat the Minnesota Twins March 1 during spring training in Sarasota, Fla. The group also enjoyed Maryland's hometown delicacy—steamed crabs—thanks to Pinchers Crab Shack. Make plans to join us next year. We will set the date once the Orioles release their spring training schedule in 2015.



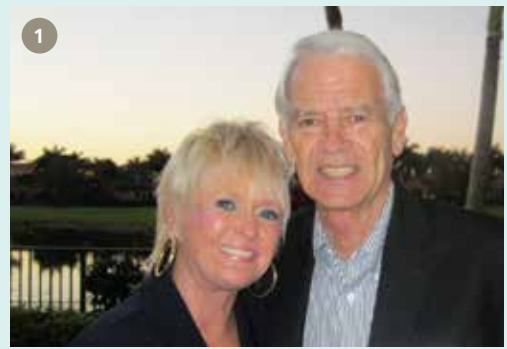
- 1 Jon Petrelli and Heather Petrelli '98
- 2 Helen Barker '95 and Larry Coleman
- 3 Ben Wainio and Esther Heyman '72
- 4 (Standing) Susan '69 and Chuck '03 Garbett; (Sitting) Bernie and Iris '63 Berger
- 5 Jane McAuliffe and Tom McAuliffe '58

# More Florida Fun

Networking under sunny skies

As the northeast was bracing for more winter weather on March 2, some TU alumni were fortunate enough to be in warmer climes. They gathered at the home of David Nevins '76 in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., to hear John Ferber '96, founder of Adverstising.com, talk about what Towson University has meant to his success.

Tarja Geis '67/'70 and John Geis



Jessica McFarland '06, Matthew McFarland, Jeanne Steinberg and Alan Steinberg '73



Michael McFall '76, Denise McFall and David Nevins '76



Marilyn Cherilus and Deborah Allen '92



John '96 and Jenna Ferber



# Sinatra Songs

Performance benefits the Alumni Association's Professional Development Grant

On April 1, alumni and friends gathered at Baldwin's Station in Sykesville, Md., to hear Gary Rubin '69 sing Sinatra-inspired vocals while accompanied by Brent Haresty '83/'04 on piano. The evening benefited the TU Alumni Association's Professional Development Grant. Next year this annual musical affair will move to a venue in Anne Arundel County.



- 1 (Standing) Colt Hanlin and Lori Armstrong  
(Sitting) Mary and Jim '53 Gede
- 2 Mark Behm, Linda Behm and Vic Obringer '81
- 3 Tom Herb '02, Edward Beck and Miriam Beck '52
- 4 Brian Dempsey '95 and Erika Moore '93/'00
- 5 Doug '80 and Therese Erdman

## Natural Wonders

Towson's Field Station celebrates its fifth anniversary

The Field Station extended the agreement between landowners Al '66 and Susie Henneman and TU for another five years at its five-year anniversary celebration. Presenters included Tim Chandler, provost, and David Vanko, dean of The Fisher College of Science and Mathematics. The Monkton, Md., site is a research outpost for faculty and students.

1 Presidential Ambassadors  
Becca Nappi, David Raymond  
and Justin Schwendeman



2 Provost Timothy Chandler  
and Margaret Chandler



## LAX Festivities

Justin Mabus receives the 2014 Joseph Ferrante Scholarship

The Alpha Omega Lambda fraternity presented the Joseph Ferrante Memorial Scholarship to midfielder Justin Mabus. The scholarship honors a junior unsung hero on the men's lacrosse team. Join us next spring at the Alumni Hospitality Area during home lacrosse games.

1 (Standing) Lou Hoge,  
Frank Mezzanotte,  
Sal Maffei, Steve Willett,  
John Arthur, Roderick Byron  
Hall, General Michael Jones,  
Hafey Hype, Tom Ferrante,  
Domenic Ferrante and Carl Runk  
(Kneeling) Bob Griebe, Justin Mabus,  
Joe Ardolino and Frank Berry



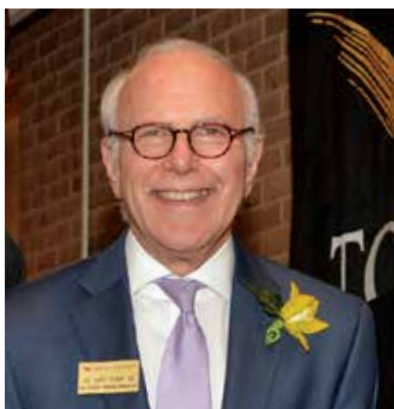
# Top Honors

The 2014 Distinguished Alumni and Deans Recognition Awards

Each year, the Alumni Association honors seven alumni for their outstanding achievements at its annual awards banquet. Lance Johnson '93, president of the Alumni Association, presented the awards May 8 in the University Union.

## Distinguished Alumni Award

Gary Rubin '69, TU's vice president for university advancement, has led philanthropy at Towson for years and raised funds for scholarships and grants with his vocal performances.



### 1 College of Liberal Arts

Bradley Callahan '90, president and CEO of several travel and vacation companies, has helped thousands of people create memorable trips.

### 2 College of Fine Arts and Communication

J. William Murray '08/'11, musician and vice president of the TU Foundation, founded the TU jazz artist residency endowment.

### 3 College of Health Professions

Tamara Jarrett '91, senior vice president of CREW Solutions, developed student recreation complexes at LSU and Ohio University.

### 4 College of Business and Economics

Chuck Orlando '82, executive vice president and COO of the New England market of Vanguard Health Systems, provides leadership in business development, supply chain management and information technology.

### 5 College of Education

William Reuling '64, who rose from assistant registrar to special assistant to the provost in his 38-year-tenure at TU, is instrumental in developing Towson's presence in Northeastern Maryland.

### 6 The Jess and Mildred Fisher College of Science and Mathematics

Liina Ladon '76, director of the Chemistry Tutoring Center for 24 years, has helped thousands of TU students overcome difficulties in the sciences with her classes, workshops, advising and website.

# Golden Times

The Class of 1964 celebrates its 50th reunion

Five decades after they earned their diplomas, members of the Class of 1964 celebrated in TU's Student Union on May 10. The evening included dinner and presentations by Keith Ewancio '94/'07, vice president of the Alumni Association, and Felicity Knox '94, archivist. We extend heartfelt appreciation to the 50th Reunion Planning Committee, Bill Reuling, Pat and Don Graham, Allan Starkey, Lorraine Strow and Milton Dugger.

## The Class of 1964

1  
2  
Nellie Kurzmann '64,  
Virginia (Stetka) Meadows '64,  
Tess (Albrecht) Drake '64,  
William Reuling '64

3  
Barbara Dugger, Sadie  
Grannison-Henriques '64,  
Milton Dugger '64, Gwendolyn  
Watson '64 and Doris Gray '64



1  
James Butler and Sylvia Butler '49

2  
Class of 1954

3  
Class of 1959  
(Standing) Lorna Penn Burns,  
Eileen Walker, Parker Koons,  
(Sitting) Mary Lynch Kissh, Barbara  
Huesman and Elizabeth Charles

## Those Were the Days

Reunions for classes of 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1969, 1974 and 1979

The years have flown by—70, 65, 60, 55, 45, 40, 35—for the classes of 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1969, 1974 and 1979 respectively. A special thanks goes to the Reunion Celebration Committee volunteers.





# All About Higher Education

Towson Advocacy Program bring TU's initiatives to Annapolis

Speakers at the Towson Advocacy Program's annual lunch, held Jan. 10, emphasized TU's legislative strategies. James Torrence '10, TAP chair, moderated a panel with Gary Attman, USM regent; Myrna Cardin '65, chair of the Board of Visitors; President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71; Richard Reinhardt, assistant to the president for legislative relations; and Zach McGee, the SGA's director of legislative affairs.



1 Gary Rubin '69, Louis Kistner, Judy Kistner '65 and President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71

2 Alumni Association board members Brian Dempsey '95, Erika Moore '93/'00, and Patrick Young '10, coordinator of veterans services

3 James Torrence '10, Zachary McGee, President Loeschke '69/'71, Myrna Cardin '65, Richard Reinhardt and Gary Attman

4 Class of 1969 (Standing) Donald Buchanan and Anita Cather (Sitting) Sharon Jones Snead and Betty Ruth Martin

5 Class of 1974 (Standing) Michael Donahue, Michael Hilton and Joan Kramer (Sitting) Sharon Norton, Phylis Kepner and Mary Thakrar

6 Class of 1979 (Standing) Sandra Neal and Maggie Reitz (Sitting) Pamela Williams and Darden Bennett



*“Towson maintains an environment that enhances every student’s experience.”*

FROM THE ADVANCEMENT VICE PRESIDENT

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your generosity and support during the 2013-14 academic year. Your largesse makes it possible for many students to receive a quality education at Towson University. In addition, your gifts helped fund many programs and have ensured that we maintain an environment that enhances every student’s experience.

As a public university with limited state funding, Towson depends on financial contributions from foundations, corporations, alumni and friends to provide an affordable, world-class college education.

Without your support, the university would not be able to offer the wide range of academic programs and campus experiences that students

enjoy. These funds also provide outstanding opportunities for student engagement with the community. Towson is a major resource for the state and for the region, and private contributions assist in our growing reputation. With 139,000 alumni and countless friends, we can truly make a difference. No gift is too small, for all gifts contribute to the vitality of this remarkable institution.

Once again, thank you for your commitment and support of Towson University.

**Gary N. Rubin '69**  
Vice President for University Advancement



## Securing the STEM for Future Apples

Dr. George E. Hohl '55 and Anne S. Hohl Endowed Scholarship for Towson UTeach

George '55 and Anne Hohl recognize the value of education—and of investing in those who provide it. While George pursued a career as an elementary school teacher and administrator, Anne raised the couple’s five children before working with physical therapists for children with special needs.

Recently, the couple decided to give back to Towson University—the institution that fostered their family’s success. (In addition to George, sons David '81 and Kevin '83 are TU graduates; Anne and a third son, Robert, also attended.) The Hohls have endowed a scholarship for students in Towson UTeach, a collaborative effort of the Fisher College of Science and Mathematics and the College of Education.

Towson UTeach recruits freshmen and transfer students majoring in math and science into a no-obligation program to explore teaching careers. Beginning with their first semester, Towson UTeach students experience a field-intensive, highly supervised program that leads to secondary teaching certification. Towson UTeach alumni will play a vital role in influencing

and educating the next generation that will enter the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce.

With several family members working in or preparing for careers in medicine and engineering, Towson UTeach was a natural choice, say the Hohls. “We embrace the UTeach concept,” notes George, “and hope that all types of motivation will support students’ training and be passed on to kids in the classroom.

“I hope that the Towson UTeach program will be projective of the possibilities that exist in the world. I am happy for the experiences that students have, and I am hopeful as we look to the future.”

“Today, a college education may be near-requisite, but the cost is out of reach for many families,” adds Anne. “We know from our own years in public education that there is no end to the need.” ■

Towson UTeach is working toward a \$7 million endowment. For more information, contact Geannine Callaghan, [gcallaghan@towson.edu](mailto:gcallaghan@towson.edu) or 410-704-2299.

“We know from our own years in public education that there is no end to the need.”

— George '55 and Anne Hohl

# Changing Lives

Scholars and donors meet at Foundation Scholars Luncheon

The 10th annual Foundation Scholars Luncheon celebrated philanthropy and the accomplishments of Towson’s scholarship recipients. The April event gave 280 donors, students and university leaders an opportunity to meet one another.

Emceed by Molly Shock ’75, TU Foundation Board president, this year’s event featured a keynote address by Edna May Merson ’45, who reflected on what led her to create the Dr. Edna May Merson Scholarship Endowment.

Speakers included President Maravene Loeschke ’69/’71; Sadie Lockhart, Class of 2015, recipient of the Alexander E. Sidorowicz Memorial Fund; Al Tan, Class of 2018, recipient of the Sarah Elliott Tolson (Traband), Class of 1883, Scholarship; and Isabella Thornett, Class of 2017,

Scholarship and Henry Sanborn Music Scholarship. She sang “Air vif,” the fourth song of Francis Poulenc’s song cycle *Airs Chantes*.

Ashley Yusuff, Class of 2016, who received the Dollenberg Family Endowed Scholarships, points out the enduring legacy of scholarship support. “This scholarship has lessened the financial



Ashley Yusuff

”  
 “This scholarship not only assists me but also touches the generations of students I will teach.”  
 – Ashley Yusuff, Class of 2016

burden on my mother and me and has brought me one step closer to achieving my goals,” says the mathematics major

and member of Towson’s UTeach program. “This scholarship not only assists me but also touches the generations of students I will teach,” she adds.

Yusuff plans to teach middle school mathematics in a low-income area

much like where she grew up. “Education was not a priority,” she explains. “I would like to show younger generations how important education is to achieving real success.” ■

To view event videos and photos, visit <http://www.towson.edu/ScholarsLuncheon>.



(From left to right) Ashley Larkin, Isabella Thornett, Edna May Merson ’45, Sadie Lockhart and Al Tan

recipient of the James Patterson Teacher Education Scholarship.

The luncheon also featured a vocal performance by Ashley Larkin, Class of 2015, recipient of the Peggy Friedmann-Gordon Music Competition



## IMAGINE YOUR LEGACY

Supporting the education of every Towson University student

**Gifts by will, trust or beneficiary designation—also known as bequests—are the most common way that people plan their legacies. Bequests are flexible, easy to arrange and can be updated if your needs change. Tax benefits may result from your bequest, and you do not need to part with assets during your lifetime.**

To learn more about how you can create a lasting legacy to Towson University, contact Ann E. Kolakowski ’84, director of major and planned gifts, [akolakowski@towson.edu](mailto:akolakowski@towson.edu) or 410-704-3899.

# Presidential Scholar's Growing Initiatives

Seed funding is key element in making changes in the classroom



Nancy Grasmick

Whether it's collaborating with teachers to identify and use effective strategies to teach writing or producing business-savvy leaders for school systems, Nancy Grasmick, Ph.D., is championing innovations that will change the way teachers teach and students learn.

As Towson University's Presidential Scholar for Innovation in Teacher and Leader Preparation, Grasmick has secured a national grant for Maryland's first UTeach program and received the nation's first grant from the College Board to prepare teachers to teach Advanced Placement mathematics and science courses.

Now the Towson alumna is spearheading multiple seed-funded initiatives that will ultimately lead to better instructors who, in turn, can produce better-educated students.

Grasmick is spearheading multiple seed-funded initiatives that will ultimately lead to better instructors who, in turn, can produce better-educated students.

Grasmick, a regional and national education pioneer, envisions future classrooms as flexible halls of learning where creative instructional methods and revolutionary programs can be introduced, refined and implemented. Seed funding is crucial to these innovative pilot programs because, unlike traditional grants, seed-funded ventures can be modified at any time to make them more successful.

"What's so remarkable about seed funding is that not only is it a cost-effective way to design pilot programs, it is also remarkably efficient. In the midst of a project, researchers can alter a study, process or technique to make it most successful," Grasmick explains.

**Here are some of Grasmick's most recent initiatives, some of which were seed-funded.**

- The Signature Forum series brings national experts to campus who address thought-provoking issues in higher education.
- TU's partnership with the Kennedy Krieger Institute's Center for Innovation and Leadership in Special Education trains teachers to better address the learning needs of students with neurodevelopmental disabilities.
- The MBA in Business for Education, the first in the country, will generate a pool of the most qualified business leaders for school systems.
- The Student Writing Project prepares teachers to effectively instruct children in kindergarten through middle school to become better writers.
- The Middle School Certification program emphasizes the social and cognitive needs of middle school students and includes research to test its effectiveness.
- Universal Design for Learning brings together TU's Department of Special Education, Kennedy Krieger Institute and Baltimore County Public Schools in a collaborative curriculum project designed to give all students an equal opportunity to learn.

The success of these projects relies not just on innovation and collaboration but also support. Donors, including Edward St. John, the late Willard Hackerman, Peter Angelos and Vince Talbert '90, have been generous supporters of Grasmick's projects. "Without these donors, we would not have the magnitude or impact of our initiatives, and we would not have the opportunity to try innovative approaches in education and leadership, and scale the successful ones to new environments," Grasmick says.

Every contribution, however, makes a difference. Gifts of \$100 can help Grasmick's team fund curriculum redesign, graduate research assistants or classroom technology and equipment. "It's the volume of gifts that helps us," she says. With every gift, Grasmick is able to implement and expand existing initiatives as well as forge new partnerships with external organizations. ■

For more information, visit [www.towson.edu/president/presidentialscholar](http://www.towson.edu/president/presidentialscholar). To support the Innovation in Teacher and Leader Preparation Initiative, contact the Development Office at 1-866-301-3375 or [supporttu@towson.edu](mailto:supporttu@towson.edu).

# They Appreciate Your Support

Students say 'Thank You' to donors

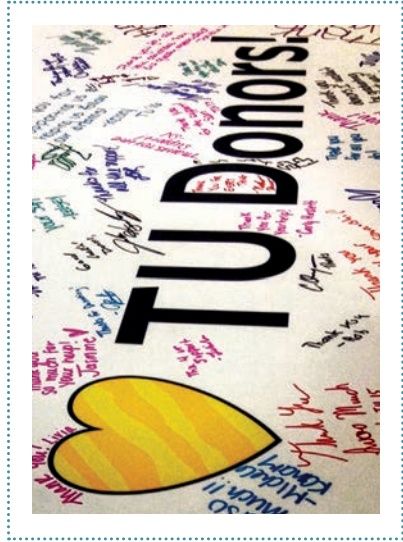


Photo credit: Justina Syrett

In February, Towson University joined nearly 100 educational institutions worldwide by participating in the annual Student Engagement and Philanthropy (SEP) Day, designed to educate students about the importance of philanthropy in higher education.

Members of Towson's presidential ambassadors spent the day in the University Union handing out free "Thank You" T-shirts and educating students about the many ways in which private support makes an impact on their Towson experience and education. More than 500 Towson students participated, writing messages of gratitude on a banner for TU donors.

"Now that SEP Day has been introduced to Towson's campus, we are looking to expand our reach every year and eventually change the culture of philanthropy on campus," says Lauren Averell, an adviser for the Presidential Ambassadors Program. ■

To learn more about SEP Day, visit [www.towson.edu/presidentialambassadors](http://www.towson.edu/presidentialambassadors).

## Miracle on Ice

Women's Club Ice Hockey wins championship in its first year



Towson University's Women's Club Ice Hockey team accomplished the impossible in its inaugural season. They won the Delaware Valley Collegiate Hockey Conference Division I Championship with a roster of just 10 players—the bare minimum.

Towson beat established teams including Navy, University of Maryland, Villanova and Rutgers which sometimes had twice as many players, finishing the season with 7 wins and 4 losses.

The success of the new team surpassed the expectations of players and fans. "Those who followed our season are amazed at what we have done and what we continue to do," says Captain Beth Kennedy '16, who started the team last March.

The women play with fierce dedication on the ice, but also realize the financial responsibilities of maintaining the team. Club sports are mostly funded by players. "Unlike NCAA sports, these student-athletes are responsible for providing their own equipment, and paying for ice time and the club," says Bill Wood '87, head coach.

When a fund was established to support the team, Wood was the first to donate. "I can give back to my university and help young women continue to compete in a sport they love," he says. ■

## BY THE NUMBERS



The Women's Club Ice Hockey team appreciates any gift, no matter the size. To see how your gift benefits the team, Team Captain Beth Kennedy invites you to attend a game.

**\$10** buys one mouth-guard

**\$25** buys one pair of uniform socks

**\$50** buys one player's USA Hockey registration fee

**\$100** buys gas for the team van to travel to the University of Virginia

**\$250** buys a home and an away uniform

**\$500** buys 1.5 hours of practice time at Ice World

To support the Women's Ice Hockey Club fund, contact the Development Office at 1-866-301-3375 or [supporttu@towson.edu](mailto:supporttu@towson.edu).

## Before 1960

**HELEN GRAHAM TURNER '26**, the oldest known living graduate, turned 107 in April. She began teaching in a one-room schoolhouse in Felton, Del. and spent most of her career in Margate, N.J. Turner retired from teaching in 1972 and now spends her days knitting, entertaining friends and playing Rummikub.

**EUGENE W. LANGBEHN '59** received the 2014 Governor's Leadership in Aging Award for excellence in the performing arts from the Maryland Department of Aging. He has performed in theatre and light opera for 50 years and is an accomplished Big Band vocalist.

**DORIS TWIFORD '53** has been traveling the world over the past 20 years. Twiford writes from Seattle, "Maybe someone else from the class of 1953 will add some joy to my life with a note in the next alumni magazine. Thanks for keeping up with me for 60 years."

## 1960

**WILLIAM G. WISE '65** retired after 44 years as a teacher, counselor and principal in Charles County public schools. He served as president of the Maryland Association of Secondary School Principals, was recognized by *The Washington Post* as the outstanding principal from Charles County, and was selected as a Principal of the Year by MetLife. A licensed pilot, he has spent much of his retirement flying and was recognized by the Maryland Aviation Association for flying to many of the public airports in Maryland.

**FRANCIS J. FILEMYR JR. '69** retired after 45 years as a special educator. He taught in three states but spent over 20 years with the Maryland State Department of Education. Filemyr also founded Ki Karate, a martial arts organization, and the Players of Early Music, which performs in the Baltimore-Washington area. He lives with his wife Eddie in Milton, Del.

**LAWRENCE G. MARTIN '69 MATH** was elected chair of the executive board of the National Association of Zoo and Aquarium Docents and Volunteers. He has volunteered at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore since 2006.

## IN MEMORIAM

## alumni

**Louise Barlow '29**

January 1, 2014

**Helen Mercer Schluderberg '29**

November 27, 1997

**Ella Carter Schoman '30**

January 1, 2014

**Margaret DeHoff McCurley '31**

January 8, 2014

**Helen Stromberg Jones '34**

February 27, 2011

**Helen Cole Gardner '35**

January 2, 2014

**Sylvia Gordon Freiman '38**

February 3, 2006

**Maria Washkevich Feldman '39**

December 5, 2007

**Henrietta V. Kenny '42**

March 4, 2014

**Mary E. Kern-Olsen '43**

April 17, 2014

**Madeline Cook Kyle '44**

December 18, 2013

**Mary K. Newcomer '44**

January 9, 2014

**F. Peter Galley '48**

January 27, 2014

**Patricia Cornell Mannion '48**

January 7, 2014

**Barbara G. Kyle '50**

April 3, 2014

**Janet Kelley Lawrence '52**

March 9, 2014

**Mary Johnson Verdone '52**

March 24, 2014

**Virginia Evans Bach '53**

May 6, 2014

**David J. A. Fisher '53**

April 8, 2014

**Jean Pasenker Mulligan '53**

January 15, 2012

**Thomas R. Foster Jr. '54**

March 2, 2014

**Theodore L. Danish '55**

May 15, 2014

**Donald E. McBrien '56**

January 29, 2014

**Alvin R. Pasquinelli '56**

March 24, 2014

**Christine Roberts Aler '57**

May 11, 2014

**Barbara Beachley Blattner '57**

March 5, 2014

**Edmund L. Mitzel '57**

January 10, 2014

**Alice B. Woods '60**

January 2, 2014

**Rhoda Udoff Ambach '62**

December 1, 2013

**Nancy Duve Borgfeldt '62**

September 25, 2013

**Robert W. Gibson '62**

March 8, 2014

**Ann Scheuer Nuemann Libor '62**

December 16, 2013

**Marie H. Bauer '63**

April 12, 2014

**Elizabeth Burner Coster '63**

October 20, 2001

**Richard D. Greig '63**

January 27, 2014

**Carole Medley Allen '64**

February 12, 2013

**Ronald B. Allen '64**

May 24, 2012

**Susan Miller Cox '64**

July 15, 2010

**Margaret Martyn Haupt '64**

January 28, 2014

**Albert E. Smith Jr. '67**

February 4, 2012

**Robert L. Birkhead '68**

April 26, 2014

**William C. Rice Jr. '68**

April 7, 2014

**George V. Bankey '69**

April 7, 2014

**Nelson K. Bolender '69**

February 14, 2013

**Abraham S. Brown '69**

March 28, 2014

**Mary Gayle Furcolow Clarke '69**

January 9, 2012

**Sara K. Hastings '69**

February 8, 2014

**William G. Berkey '70**

January 29, 2014

**Donald R. Bull '70**

April 25, 2013

**Ronald L. Birmingham '71**

October 17, 2013

**Annette Lester Caplan '71**

February 26, 2014

**John H. Case '71**

March 1, 2014

**James A. Dooley Jr. '71**

October 31, 2013

**Stephen C. Trageser '71**

February 26, 2014

**Edward J. Calhoon '72**

January 22, 2014

**Amelia Galeska Loveless '72**

January 11, 2014

**Alice Y. Smith '72**

February 18, 2014

**Joy C. Everett '73**

August 30, 2013

**Michael D. Kulbicki '73**

March 24, 2011

**Lois F. Reisig '73**

April 15, 2014

**Howard L. Beard '74**  
February 6, 2014

**Paul Penrod '74**  
December 27, 2013

**Richard J. Tamplin '74**  
August 29, 2012

**David T. Wilt '76**  
February 22, 2014

**Vincent Michael Rossetti '77**  
February 22, 2014

**Harriet Pfeffer Zlatin '77**  
January 11, 2014

**Frank J. Brusca '78**  
March 25, 2014

**Steve Dlubala '78**  
March 8, 2014

**Howard O. Smead '78**  
November 25, 2011

**Leila J. Mazaroff '79**  
February 11, 2014

**Timothy F. Murray '79**  
July 11, 2012

**Francine Arbesman Reich '79**  
July 31, 2006

**Linda Heckman-Gayer Johnson '80**  
March 3, 2014

**Betty Lee Roche '80**  
April 9, 2014

**Deborah J. Beechey '81**  
June 1, 2013

**John Mullan Gorsuch Murphy '81**  
March 10, 2013

**Wendy Fisher Cavey '82**  
November 6, 2013

**Patrick X. Weiland '82**  
January 9, 2014

**Elizabeth Schmeiser Cornell '83**  
March 27, 2014

**Rudolph A. Digiacinto '83**  
February 22, 2013

**Susan K. Nash '83**  
December 20, 2013

**William C. Spencer '83**  
December 6, 2012

**Judith E. Noppenberger '84**  
February 25, 2012

**Valera E. Thorpe '84**  
March 28, 2014

**Virginia Dorsey Council '85**  
February 8, 2014

**Gloria C. Reid '85**  
March 9, 2014

**Roberta A. Creeron '86**  
January 5, 2014

**Albert R. Hranj '88**  
December 21, 2008

**Joan Quinn '88**  
May 1, 2009

**Tracie Gutrick Upchurch '89**  
March 16, 2014

**Vera Kallins '90**  
May 7, 2014

**Angela C. Kelly '90**  
January 20, 2014

**Michelle S. Dentler '91**  
October 13, 2006

**Donald M. Vink '91**  
March 27, 2014

**Delana M. Lantz '92**  
June 14, 2012

**Irene Morrison Baldwin '94**  
October 23, 2011

**Barbara S. Bonhage '94**  
October 26, 2012

**Alma McKeldin Broy '94**  
March 27, 2014

**Virginia Hill Gaumer '96**  
March 15, 2014

**Martin Marlon Zelonos '97**  
November 28, 2013

**Deron A. Edwards '98**  
April 19, 2014

**Michele A. Goonan '98**  
February 24, 2013

**Tami Dyer Lancaster '98**  
December 1, 2008

**Lilian Nisman Miliker '99**  
October 29, 2009

**Jason A. Rozencaiwag '99**  
January 25, 2014

**Nancy E. Stanciel '00**  
February 5, 2014

**Claire Kispert '02**  
December 29, 2011

**Bruce T. McCreery '04**  
April 17, 2014

**Sheri Vizzi '12**  
February 19, 2014

**Benjamin P. Ladny '13**  
December 20, 2013

**Joshua A. Bloomberg '03**  
December 27, 2013

**Frances H. Alden '72 M.A.**  
May 19, 2014

## students

**Jason N. Mastroianni**  
February 18, 2014

## staff/ faculty

**Sylvia M. Griswold '75**  
February 6, 2014

**Ann F. Scheper '76**  
December 31, 2013

**Robert Neisner '00**  
November 24, 2013

**Mary Lee Farlow**  
January 8, 2014

**Wolfgang W. Fuchs**  
February 11, 2014

**Samuel G. Holden**  
April 26, 2014

**Samuel H. Nass**  
November 24, 2013

**Myron I. Scholnick**  
March 1, 2014

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

**Mary Lee Farlow**, retired director of residence life, died Jan. 8, 2014. A memorial tribute will be held Nov. 1 at 1 p.m. in the Potomac Lounge of the University Union. Contact Barb Neal, [bneal@towson.edu](mailto:bneal@towson.edu) or 410-704-2516 for more information.

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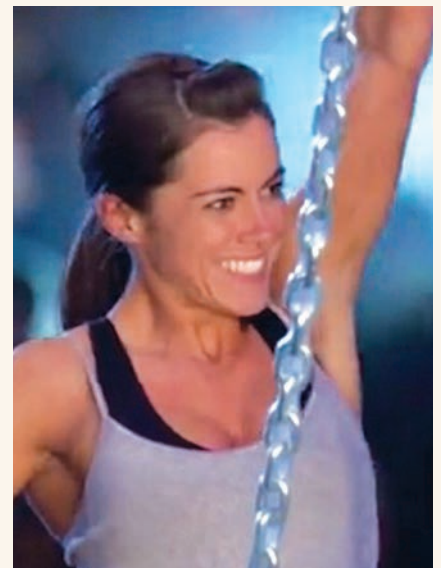
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8000 York Rd. Towson, MD 21252-0001

### EMAIL:

[alumni@towson.edu](mailto:alumni@towson.edu)



## Kacy Catanzaro '12

### The Warrior

Former TU gymnast conquers  
"American Ninja Warrior"

Kacy Catanzaro '12 made history on "American Ninja Warrior," an extreme challenge reality TV show that airs on NBC.

In June, the former award-winning TU gymnast became the first woman to successfully complete all obstacles—including the daunting "warped wall"—of the qualifying course to move on to the next round.

She went on to become the first woman to complete all 10 obstacles of a city finals course in a show-stopping performance in Dallas in July.

"In the city finals competition, first you re-complete the first six obstacles (ending with the warped wall), then you have to tackle four new obstacles right after that to complete the course," said Catanzaro in an interview before the competition.

"No woman has ever conquered the warped wall, which means no woman has ever touched the obstacles that come afterwards, including the salmon ladder and much more. I want to be the first woman to conquer the warped wall twice, and finish the city finals course. No woman has ever earned her spot to the Vegas finals, and I have my eyes set on making more history."

In September, Catanzaro competed in the finals in Las Vegas. (Results were not available at press time.)

—Emily Koch

**Helen Graham Turner '26**, the oldest known living graduate, turned 107 in April.



**Michael P. Hartnett '80**

is vice president of public affairs and marketing for MedStar Health and MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center.

## 1970

**DUANE EATON '71** retired as senior vice president of administration for the Produce Marketing Association after a 42-year career. He and his wife Toni celebrated with a six-week road trip across the country, where they visited many national parks. They live in Wilmington, Del.

**JIM GEPI '74 CCM**, a retired personal trainer, has lived in Arizona since 1977. Geppi has volunteered for AmeriCorps Vista and Senior Corps, and spends the holidays as a bell-ringer for the Salvation Army.

**PAUL LAKE '75 ENGL** won the 2013 Richard Wilbur Award for *The Republic of Virtue*, his third poetry collection. He is also the author of two novels and various academic articles. Lake is a professor of English and creative writing at Arkansas Tech University.

**THOMAS BEYARD '77 GEOG** was appointed state command sergeant major, the highest enlisted position in the Maryland Army National Guard. He has been deployed twice, from 2006-2007 and from 2011-2013, and was recently awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptional meritorious service. Beyard lives in Westminster, Md.

**PATRICE HELSINKI GOLDYS '77/'80 M.ED.**, principal of Norwood Elementary School in Dundalk, was named the 2014-15 Baltimore County Principal of the Year. She has been a principal for almost 20 years.

**ORLANDO DEFELICE '78 BUAD, ACCT** celebrated the 30th anniversary of his heart transplant surgery in 2013. He is the longest survivor of heart transplant surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital and one of the longest survivors in the world. A YouTube video produced by Hopkins recognizes his encouragement to other transplant patients and their families. [Youtube.com/watch?v=QlxVHNB98zM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlxVHNB98zM)

## 1980

**DAVE DOBBS '80 BUAD** is director of the General Dynamics Information Technology Maryland Operations Business Unit in Annapolis Junction, Md. He is responsible for the operations and business development of all Enterprise IT programs at the National Security Agency, Defense Information Systems Agency and U.S. Cyber Command.

**MICHAEL P. HARTNETT '80 BUAD** was named vice president of public affairs and marketing both for the Baltimore region of MedStar Health and for MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center. He brings more than 20 years of healthcare leadership experience to the role. Hartnett will also be responsible for communications, public affairs and marketing at MedStar's Union Memorial, Good Samaritan and Harbor Hospitals.

**JOANNE GALANTINO '88/'94 M.A.** published *Fair Claire Hare*, a children's book, written in verse, that follows Claire, a high-spirited rabbit as she seeks a new friend.

**ANN EICHLER KOLAKOWSKI '84** published her first book of poems, *Persistence: Poems of Warren, Maryland*. The book follows the rise and fall of Warren, Md., a mill town north of Baltimore which was flooded in 1922 to make way for the Loch Raven Reservoir.

**PEGGY APARICIO '85 ACCT** received an Executive Management Award from *SmartCEO Magazine*, which recognizes executives for excellence in leadership. She is COO and CFO of Feats, Inc., a strategic and creative strategy engagement firm based in Baltimore.



ANGIE HONG '12

## From Uganda to Nicaragua

Spanning the globe to help those in need

Angie Hong '12 thrives on giving. She skipped her senior prom, traveling to Uganda at age 17, to volunteer with the nonprofit Better Understanding of Life in Africa (BULA).

There, the high school graduate found herself working in a village school with BULA to care for orphaned children and to improve living conditions for the locals. She also formed an attachment to the community.

In the process, Hong's "never-ending" energy also made a strong impression on BULA founder Melissa Fricke. "I was floored by her maturity and excitement," says Fricke. "It just renews everyone around her."

Hong had been working at TU as the interim coordinator of civic engagement before she returned to Uganda last winter at Fricke's urging, this time to the city of Kampala. There she served as guardian to 24 orphaned children, working through BULA to find long-lost family members and hometowns.

Now resettled, the children continue their education at boarding schools organized through BULA, although the transition can sometimes be difficult. "It's hard going back to the village when volunteers gave them nice things," Hong explains.

Rather than feel satisfied by these volunteer efforts, Hong was inspired. "Being more aware is good," she says. True to character, she enjoyed only a brief homecoming before shipping out once more, this time to fulfill her lifelong dream of volunteering with the Peace Corps.

Hong is now stationed in Nicaragua, where she will work for the next two years as a health promoter. Her goal, she says, is just to "be of more service to other people."

Her goal is being met, one country at a time. ■

—Kate Lyons '14 and Tyler Waldman '10



**JOSEPH C. DURHAM '85 BUAD** was named senior vice president of the Northern Maryland Commercial Banking Group of The Columbia Bank. He brings almost 20 years of experience with M&T Bank to his new role.

**JONATHAN R. FLORA '85 PHIL** became a tax partner at Montgomery McCracken in Philadelphia. He will advise clients on federal, state and local tax issues. Flora was previously a partner at Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP.

**STEVE HARZ '85 MCOM** published *More Pennies Than Water*, which covers themes of love, loss and rebirth. It is his third book of short fiction and poetry. Harz has been featured in several literary magazines, and is a three-time winner of the Iron Writer Challenge and the 2013 winner of the People's Poetry Contest.

**DEBORAH L. ADAMIK '88 BUAD** received the Outstanding Main Street Manager of the Year award at the Pennsylvania Downtown Center's annual Townie Awards gala in June. The awards recognize individuals who exemplify the PDC's goals of community revitalization. Adamik has served as CEO of Main Street Gettysburg since 2007. Her leadership saw the opening of a new Gettysburg museum and a successful celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

**DIANA MARTA '88 MFA** curated "Ordinary Woman," an exhibit at the Howard County Center for the Arts.

**TIMOTHY LEWTHWAITE '89/'99 M.A.** was a finalist in the new fiction category of the National Indie Excellence Awards for his thriller *HORN*. The work explores the violent and illegal trade in wildlife and its impact on the international zoo community. Lewthwaite is editor for the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

**BRIAN TAYLOR '89 MCOM** is director of business development at The National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

## 1990

**DONNICE E. BROWN '91/'94** was the speaker at the 123rd Founders Day Convocation for Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina. Her speech highlighted the accomplishments of her great-grandparents, who helped to found and later to modernize the university. Brown is an Out of School Youth administrator with the Baltimore City Mayor's office and a member of TU's Alumni Association Board and Black Alumni Alliance.

**ANNE CROSS '91 M.ED.** a fifth grade teacher at Gunpowder Elementary School in Perry Hall, was named the 2014-15 Baltimore County Teacher of the Year. Cross has been a leader in the classroom for more than 30 years.

**MAURA J. FULTON '91 MCOM** is the Peace Corps country director in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia. Previously she volunteered in Micronesia and as Peace Corps staff in Thailand, Georgia and Washington, D.C.

**VALERIE HADFIELD-RASNAKE '91 ART** performs in the barbershop quartet MAXX Factor. They have been featured on the NBC show "The Sing-Off" and recently completed a "Sing-Off" tour.

**LAWRENCE F. KREIS JR. '91 BUAD** was appointed deputy counsel of the contract litigation unit of the Maryland Office of the Attorney General.

**GARY S. WILLIAMS '94 BUAD**, founder and CEO of Williams Asset Management, published *The Art of Retirement*, which helps readers plan and manage a fulfilling and financially secure retirement. The book's profits will be donated to various charities, benefiting ALS sufferers, animal welfare and disadvantaged youth.

**CHAD J. NORFOLK '96 BUAD** became a partner at WMS Partners, a wealth management firm. He is a certified financial planner and accredited investment fiduciary with over 17 years of experience. Norfolk lives in Finksburg, Md., with his wife and three sons.

**REBECCA BIRNIE '97 M.S.** received a Doctorate of Musical Arts from Shenandoah University in 2012 and is now on the music faculty of Frostburg State University.

**JACK S. MONELL '97 MCOM**, assistant professor of justice studies at Winston-Salem State University, presented a paper on the behavioral patterns of undergraduates with juvenile delinquency histories at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in Philadelphia.

## 2000

**SHENELL L.T. BOLDEN '00 BIOL** published *Noa the Little Scientist*, a children's book, the first in her "Girls in Science" series. Bolden, a molecular biologist and a faculty member at the Community College of Baltimore County, hopes these books will inspire girls to pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) careers.

**Donnice E. Brown '91/'94** spoke at the 123rd Founders Day Convocation for Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina.

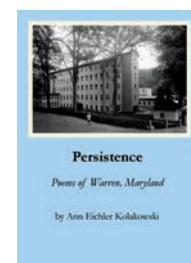


**Timothy Lewthwaite '89/'99 M.A.**

was a finalist in the new fiction category of the National Indie Excellence Awards for his thriller *HORN*.

**Ann Eichler Kolakowski '84**

published *Persistence: Poems of Warren, Maryland*, about a town that was flooded in 1922 to make way for the Loch Raven Reservoir.



**MANDY ARNOLD '01, '10 M.S.** was recognized by *Central Penn Business Journal* as a 2014 Woman of Influence. The award honors women who exemplify leadership within their companies and their communities. Arnold is the founder and president of the advertising, marketing and public relations agency Gavin Advertising.

**MARCELLA TILLI PELUSO '01 MCOM** and **MATT PELUSO '01** welcomed a daughter, Antonetta Sofia, on August 22, 2013. They live in North Potomac, Md.

**BRIAN HAMMOCK '02 COMM** is vice president of state government affairs for CSX Corporation, where he oversees interactions with the executive and legislative branches, and community officials in Maryland and Delaware. Hammock was an attorney for Venable, LLP in Baltimore and served on the board of directors for the Canton Railroad Company.

**CHARISSE N. MONTGOMERY '02 ENGL** completed her second master's in educational psychology at the University of Toledo, with a thesis focusing on parents of disabled children and their integration of online medical information.

**ALBERT KANG '03 HIST** became a treasury relationship manager with Zions Bank in Boise, Idaho. He has previous experience as a financial services recruiter. Kang also spent five years as a firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service in Boise.

**TONYA WRIGHT '03**, assistant director of the MBA program at Morgan State University, is a Morgan CARES trainer and task force member, and a recipient of the Bridge Builder Award. Wright recently presented at the 27th Annual National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals Conference in San Diego.

**JILLIAN BARBER '04** was named Dance Teacher of the Year by the Maryland Alliance for Health, Physical Education and Dance. She has directed the dance department at Annapolis High School for nine years. Barber married Tripp Murphy in April.

**BOBBIE LAUR '04**, director of external affairs in TU's Division of Innovation and Applied Research, was named to *The Daily Record's* VIP List, which honors Maryland's top professionals under the age of 40.

**KELLY MAYS GRAMM '05 ELED** and her husband Warren welcomed their daughter Catherine Elizabeth, on March 27, 2013.

**KANIKA VANN '06 ENGL** published *Love: Possible*, an intimate social commentary on love and relationships. Vann was supported at the signing event by TU Professor Lena Ampadu, LaQuacious Thomas '05, Tiffany Brooks '12, Bumni Akkinouye, Michael Singleton and Carla Hudson.

**SERIA D. LAKES '07** graduated with a Ph.D. in information assurance in May. She also recently earned her certification as a project management professional.

**ANDREW JANOWITZ '08** and **BRITTANY ADLER '10** were married on August 25, 2013, in New York.

**KATIE WALKER SHERMAN '09 M.S.** published her first children's book, *Oh, To Be a Butterfly*. She is taking time off as a Baltimore County kindergarten teacher to be with her infant son.

**SARAH K. ELFRETH '10 POSC**, government affairs director for the National Aquarium, was selected as a 2014 recipient of *The Daily Record's* "20 in Their Twenties" award. The award recognizes young professionals whose creativity and entrepreneurial spirit bring new energy to Maryland.



BRIAN DAVIS '92

## Pipeline to Success

StayGreen recycles used oil to help environment

Brian Davis '92 GEOG is proving to be a slick businessman. His entrepreneurial spirit has led him to co-found StayGreen Oil, Inc., the world's first secure and open marketplace for used oil.

With his partner Michael Griffith, Davis has created what he describes to *The Ledger* as "the StubHub or eBay" of petroleum recycling. Sellers wishing to dispose of used cooking or motor oil use StayGreen's online market to connect with interested buyers across the country for public or private auctions. Since launching in 2012, the company has already helped to recycle over a million gallons of used oil.

The efforts to clean and reuse these products are well worth it. According to StayGreen's website, "oil does not wear out- it just gets dirty."

Used cooking oil can be recycled into biodiesels, soaps and cosmetics. This prevents it from ending up in kitchen drains, where it becomes the number one cause of clogged sewer pipes. The re-refining

process removes water, dirt and metals from motor oil, returning it to full purity for reuse.

Re-refining oil this way uses 89 percent less energy and releases 65 percent fewer emissions than refining crude oil into a virgin product. The re-refined raw material can be used to produce asphalt, lubricants and fuel. The environment is then spared the damage of improper oil disposal and of new oil extraction.

The only problem is that the supply of re-refined oil is "limited to the amount that can be collected" for reuse, says Davis. StayGreen's marketplace increases the collected amount by making recycling both easy and financially rewarding for all involved. When it comes to oil, says Davis, "you've got value in your waste. Go get something for it." ■

—Kate Lyons '14

**MATT ROCKMORE '10 BUAD** became a full-time employee with Wegmans Food Markets Inc, where he has worked for over a year. Rockmore credits hard work and the advice of TU Professor Quincey Johnson in helping him to achieve this accomplishment.

**DANIEL GROSS '11 MCOM** is a crime reporter for the *Herald-Journal* in Spartanburg, S.C. He has experience as a crime reporter for *The Frederick News-Post* in Frederick, Md., and as the editor-in-chief of the *Towerlight* from 2010 to 2011.

**ERIN STURGIS '13** joined TU's Division of Marketing and Communications as a switchboard operator/receptionist in May.

**AURIELLE BRYAN '14 EMF** became director of media production at HRM Incorporated, a marketing and media corporation based in Odenton, Md.



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# A Tradition of Giving

Emily Grossnickle '08 and her mother, Nancy Desilet '72/'79, are Golden Tigers. The Golden Tiger Society recognizes committed donors who have given to the Towson University Foundation for at least five consecutive years.

**“My mother gave yearly to Towson University as a single parent raising two children,” Emily says. “I realize that if she could contribute then, I as a graduate student can give now. I am inspired by her commitment and generosity.”**

For more information about the Golden Tiger Society, contact

**Alison Armstrong**  
Manager of Donor Relations  
aarmstrong@towson.edu  
410-704-3425 • 1-866-301-3375



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## 2014 HOMECOMING / SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1



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