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During the March 22 commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr.’s visit to campus, president Mark Putnam spoke on the legacy of open inquiry. 

Adding Light

by Mark Putnam, Central College president

I am among the most fortunate of college presidents. Having face-to-face access to my four immediate predecessors, whose collective service dates back to 1960, is a remarkable gift. They include Arndt “Don” Lubbers (1960-1970), Ken Weller (1970-1990), Bill Wibergs (1990-1997) and David Roe (1998-2010). Adding my seven years of service thus far, we have provided leadership to the college for 57 years, fully one-third of Central’s entire history.

A college presidency is a privileged inheritance. As beneficiary, I now work for my successors. Each of us in this chain of leadership has faced opportunities and challenges unique to the times, but we also have encountered circumstances that affirmed our common purpose through the years. I was reminded of this when in March we commemorated the visit of Martin Luther King Jr. to Central College in 1967. In preparing for that event, I read through the archived materials surrounding the visit. I also spent some time on the phone with Don Lubbers to hear his reflections on the significance of the occasion.

Included in the archives were a series of letters Don received from individuals expressing concerns about Dr. King’s visit. They included representatives of churches, alumni and concerned citizens. As I reflected on the content of these letters in their historic setting, I was impressed by the responses Don sent to each one.

In one letter he wrote…

As a college we stand in the Reformed Church tradition. As an educational institution we feel obligated to bring people with differing viewpoints to the campus. We do not feel we are doing our job if we keep students from hearing conflicting opinions. We would not be preparing them for the real world. (Feb. 16, 1967)

In a more pointed response he wrote…

Your letter obviously shows that you do not understand what a college really is. You ask us what we are trying to do to the youth. We are trying to educate them to live in a real world. As we do this we want to have them live and learn in a Christian environment so that they may develop in Christian truth and wisdom. At the same time, we do not wish to protect them from ideas that may not always coincide with our philosophy. …It is our hope to bring people of many opinions and views to the campus so our students may know what is going on. (March 21, 1967)

My predecessors have taught me that our task as educators is to add light, not heat. Differences of opinion and philosophy abound in a college, just as they do in a democracy. My job is to ensure the legacy of open inquiry flourishes and in turn to pass that on to my successors.
Interim Vice President for Advancement Sunny Eighmy has been named vice president for advancement. Eighmy has more than 13 years of professional experience in the field.

Michelle Wilkie and Kevin Stittsworth joined Central’s advancement team in December and January, respectively. Wilkie, originally from Hawaii, most recently worked in fundraising and corporate relations for the American Cancer Society in Seattle, Wash. She now serves as a major gifts officer with emphasis in corporations, foundations and grant writing.

Stittsworth, now director of alumni relations, has held communications positions with DuPont Pioneer, Iowa Telecom, Ameria Group and Mercy Medical Center. He most recently served as a consultant for Change and Innovation Agency, an organization that helps health and human services offices improve processes to provide same-day service to clients.

Doyle Monsma joined Central in April as a major gifts officer with emphasis in planned giving. He most recently worked in fundraising as the director of planned giving and development at Des Moines University. Monsma has extensive non-profit fundraising experience with more than 20 years in the industry.

**WRESTLER MIRANDA IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT**

January 22 Jaime Miranda ’17 was featured on national news following the breakout publishing of his personal story of overcoming homelessness and achieving academic and athletics success.

Control mascot Harry Smith ’73 produced two nationally televised profiles of Miranda: an “Inspiring America” segment which appeared on the NBC Nightly News and a more extensive feature which aired on NBC’s “Sunday Today with Willie Geist.” Miranda was also interviewed for a front-page article with the Des Moines Register and a feature on the KCCI-TV (Des Moines) newscast.

Thanks to a scholarship from the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) and a pilot trip to Washington, D.C., Miranda was able to share his story with then-U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr. and provide a voice to thousands of homeless youth nationwide.

HOO-RAH! DAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Hoo-rah! Day celebrated Central spirtt on campus and around the world. Alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends all showed their school pride and shared it with the world on social media. On campus, staff surprised students with VIP golf cart rides to class. The campus community enjoyed a picnic on the pond, and students participated in a scavenger hunt. Planned as an annual event, Hoo-rah! Day will continue to develop new ways to celebrate Central.

**PRINS FAMILY FUNDS ENDEDOW SCHOLARSHIP**

Central alumni Dr. David and Gloria Prins and Joyce Prins Schneider have established an endowed scholarship in honor of their parents, Tunis and Harriet Prins. The Prins Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to students who excel academically and demonstrate Tunis’ and Harriet’s ideals of sportsmanship and leadership.

Tunis and Harriet Prins together served Central and Pella for 24 years. Tunis was director of athletics and professor of physical education from 1938 until his death in 1949. In the same year, Harriet became residence director of Graham Hall and later dean of women until 1962. David ’52 and Gloria ’53 of Bellview, Wash., and Schneider ’58 of Sarasota, Fla., provided the funds to fully endow the new scholarship.

**Graham Lemke Installed as Butler Chair**

Professor of finance Graham Lemke was installed as the Donald T. Butler Endowed Chair Feb. 20 and presented his lecture, “Soul Searching: A Journey in Financial Economics.”

Lemke, who began teaching at Central last August, holds a Ph.D. in economics from Binghamton University. He also completed a master’s degree from Cornell University and Master of Business Administration and Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degrees from the University of Alberta. Lemke previously taught at Binghamton University and Northwestern College, and he received Binghamton’s Award for Excellence in Teaching.

**THREE FACULTY MEMBERS RETIRE**

Glenn Barnett completed a Master of Science and Ph.D. in nutritional biochemistry at Cornell University, and a post-doctoral fellowship in genetics at the University of California at Irvine. He arrived at Central in 1993. Barnett was impressed by Central’s study abroad programs and spent two semesters teaching in Merida. He has served as chair of the biology and chemistry departments and as an advisor to many pre-health programs.

Anne Pirrie has shared her love of music and languages with Central students for more than 30 years. The self-described “language geek” was determined to “be comfortable in the Big 4 languages” by the time she completed her doctorate at the University of Oklahoma, and today her CV lists competency in Italian and Russian and proficiency in German and French as a native English speaker. At Central, she has taught music fundamentals and appreciation to majors and non-majors, coached musical theater students; stage-directed operas workshops; and performed frequent recitals.

Alan Chadwick “Chad” Ray wrote his dissertation on Plato’s metaphysics and earned a Ph.D. at Northwestern University in 1976. Since 2002, Ray has held the endowed Dr. Jacob and Gela Schnucker Slesser Chair in Philosophy and Religion, which especially honors teaching. Throughout his 41-year academic career, Ray has published in journals of thought, presented at regional conferences of the American Philosophical Association and served as president of the Iowa Philosophical Society. One of his biggest achievements came through institutional service when Ray chaired the self-study committee during the last North Central Association of Colleges and Schools reaccreditation process.

**SUNNY GONZALES EIGHMY ’99 NAMED VICE PRESIDENT, DOYLE Monsma ’83, KEVIN Stittsworth ’95 AND MICHELLE WILKIE JOIN ADVANCEMENT TEAM**
WRESTLERS 18TH AT NATIONAL MEET

ATHLETICS.CENTRAL.EDU

It was another step forward for the Central wrestling team, which climbed to third place in the rugged Iowa Conference race and placed 18th at the NCAA Division III national meet, its best showing in 24 years.

The Dutch posted a 10-2 dual mark and two top-five finishes. Junior C.J. Pestano, second nationally a year ago, and four Central wrestlers were recognized as Scholar All-Americans by the NWCA. Pestano and seniors A.J. McBrum, Zach Moss and Matt Seabold were cited. All carry grade point averages above 3.20 and excelled on the mat.

Central's Eric Van Kley received the Division III Central Region Coach of the Year Award.

Sophomore Cam Timok took fifth at 133 pounds in his first NCAA appearance.

For the second time, senior Logan Mulford took national runner-up honors in the men's indoor high jump at the Division III meet.

MULFORD ALL-AMERICAN IN HIGH JUMP

For the second straight year, senior Logan Mulford took second place in the high jump at the NCAA Division III men's indoor track and field meet. He tied the winner at the national meet in Naperville, Ill., March 11 with a leap of 6 feet, 9 inches, but lost the title based on number of misses. Mulford was also the NCAA runner-up at the outdoor meet last spring.

The Dutch tied for 13th in the team standings. They also took second at the Iowa Conference indoor meet Feb. 24-25 in Dubuque.

The Central women were fifth in the conference but failed to score at the national meet. Senior Lorell Stuht, an all-America honoree a year ago, was 14th in the NCAA weight throw.

PETERSEN LEAVES WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PROGRAM

Chelsea Petersen left her position as Central's women's basketball coach after five years on the staff, including four as head coach.

Petersen resigned following Central's 9-16 campaign this season. In her five years, forward Claire Marburger led the league in scoring with 18.3 points per game and was a first-team all-conference pick. Meanwhile, junior guard Emily Dine received honorable mention. She shattered school marks for 3-point goals in a game (8), season (92) and career (143). Junior forward Jackie Kriegel averaged 7.0 points and 6.2 rebounds and will anchor the interior for next year's squad.

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To commemorate King’s 1967 visit, Central dedicated a new display in Maytag Student Center. Guests included Charles Pearson (far left), project manager and historical researcher for the Iowa Civil Rights Trails Project; Mary Lubbers Montgomery ’81, daughter of Central president Arend Lubbers who invited King to speak; Bruce Anderson ’70, a student in 1967; and president Mark Putnam.
SCHOOL SPIRIT IS FRONT AND CENTER FOR THESE CENTRAL SUPPORTERS.

By Laura Billingsley '04

Vaughn, along with husband Trent '90, has served in nearly every role as an alumni supporter of Central. She’s been chair of the Alumni Advisory Council, a member of the National Advisory Council, organized alumni events in Dallas, served as reunion chair multiple times, is a member of the Heritage Roll of Honor and was an Omaha area alumni rep. Today, Vaughn’s daughter Grace is a first-year student at Central, and frequent visits to the Spirit Shoppe have made Vaughn known to the staff as the “lady from Texas who likes long-sleeved T-shirts.” Vaughn’s closet is brimming with Central apparel so “everyone in Texas knows I went to Central College.”

Perhaps the most sensational moment of Central super-fandom for Vaughn came when she, Trent, Grace and son Grant delivered Jaarsma Bakery treats to Harry Smith ’73 on air during the CBS This Morning show in New York City in the late 2000s. She had them shipped to their hotel while on vacation. Vaughn says, “All the news anchors were eating Dutch letters and we were wearing Central shirts, so we got in a plug for Central.”

Grace Vaughn (left) continues the Central legacy of mom Kris (right).

Service to Central is just part of life for Kris Brandt Vaughn ’90 of Flower Mound, Texas. Ever since graduation, she’s been giving back to the school that she says gave her so much.
LORI HUMPHREY FEGLEY ’80

“CENTRAL HELPED MOLD US INTO THE PEOPLE WE ARE TODAY,” SAYS LORI FEGLEY.

Her family is full of Central connections, including husband Brian ’80, children Allison ’08 and Peter ’11, her sister and brother, and her father, who worked at Central as assistant vice president of business.

Fegley, who lives in Cedar Falls and teaches kindergarten, has loved Central since her family moved to Pella when she was eight, when her dad took a job on campus. She and her siblings had fun riding their bikes over the old bridge—“the one with no steps” she says—and she “always knew I was going to Central.”

Today, Fegley’s home is something of a shrine to the college. Central memorabilia can be found in every room, from the custom lamp in the kitchen to the basement “Champion Room” to the garage holding two cars with Central license plates. The Champion Room displays everything from a framed Central basketball jersey to pennants and Central-themed artworks. In summer months, passersby can even spot a Central C mowed into the Fegley’s lawn.

Fegley’s kindergarten class is in no doubt of which school she supports. “At school, I have a cupboard door devoted to Central posters, etc. It has been a long tradition that before the Central-Wartburg football game, my students sign a banner or make individual GO DUTCH signs for one of my bulletin boards,” she says.

But it’s not just “stuff” that ties Fegley to Central. She cherishes the “lifelong relationships” she’s built with friends and community members. In January she took part in the alumni trip to Merida, the Yucatan, and says the sense of Central community in Mexico was powerful. She attended a jazz combos concert, and the first four rows were filled with Central supporters—current students, faculty, staff and alumni. “We were all there because of Central,” Fegley says. “It brought tears to my eyes.”

Jim Danks ’64 has spent much of his life thinking about how to help Central and its students. He’s filled about every role available for a Central supporter: student, faculty member, coach, committee member and volunteer. But he’s also there behind the scenes, offering an encouraging word to a student or sitting in his seat at football games—he’s had season tickets for more than 30 years.

After graduating with a physical education degree, Danks worked at a high school for two years before teaching and coaching at Central until 1974, when he went to work for Pella Corp. After retirement, Danks returned to Central to serve as director of development for three years. Today, you’ll often find him on campus, attending events, volunteering or just saying a friendly hello.

“‘I ENJOY MEETING YOUNG PEOPLE,’ HE SAYS. ‘I’M A BIG FAN OF CENTRAL BECAUSE OF THE SUCCESSES I SEE, WHETHER THEY ARE IN ATHLETICS, MUSIC OR ANY OTHER AREA.’ DANKS SAYS CENTRAL PROVIDED HIM WITH ‘A GREAT EDUCATION AND A NUMBER OF OPPORTUNITIES, AND I LEARNED TO CONVEY MY IDEAS AND THOUGHTS TO PEOPLE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.’"
FANS FOR LIFE

Alumni have experiences in college that stay with them for life as cherished memories. But for several Central cross country and track runners, that wasn’t enough. They wanted to mark their Central spirit permanently on their bodies.

In a tradition that dates from the early 2000s, some of the runners on Central’s men’s cross country and track teams have gotten tattoos that show their Central spirit. It’s a tradition that isn’t officially handed down, but sort of organically continues as newer generations of runners see the tattoos of older teammates. From 2001 to 2014, runners share what the tattoos mean to them.

Central tattoos have taken various forms, such as Brent Ewing’s ‘13 (left) and Eli Horton’s ‘15 designs (right).

MORGAN PARKER ’00
Pella
“We thought it was fitting to get a tattoo of the running man with a Central ‘C’. There were four of us (that year) who decided to get a lasting mark … I got it to mark that I was part of something special, something I was proud to be identified with.”

CHRIS LAUMAN ’01
Pella
“This is something that will always be with me. It represents running, which I still love to do when I have time; it represents Central, which gave me many opportunities and experiences that I’ll never forget, and it represents a great group of guys that I had a chance to be a part of and will never forget.”

SETH COMFORT ’03
Johnston
“I made lifelong friends through running. Running thousands of miles with these guys creates a bond like nothing else. I am proud to have attended Central College and be a Dutchman. That is something I will have with me throughout my life; this tattoo was a small way to show that.”

TJ WEILER ’06
Clive
“When I was a freshman I knew there were some upperclassmen/alumni that had similar tattoos. I had wanted one and thought it was a cool idea. … I loved my time at Central and I met some great people and we had some amazing times. When I see my tattoo it reminds me of those people and those times and makes me grateful for all of them.”

BRENT EWING ’13
Ottumwa
“We developed a VERY close-knit team during my years at Central. We were teammates and best friends that had shared a similar dream, to elevate the Central College cross country program to a place where it had never been before. Before long, several of us began talking about getting tattoos. It was almost like a commitment or an act of brotherhood. It was something that all we wanted to do so we all got tattoos on our shoulders so you would be able to see them when we raced with our jerseys on.”

CODY DOUGAN ’14
West Des Moines
“Only a select few have the tattoo really, so that makes it special. It shows we are a part of a family … Running is our family and the tattoo is a permanent representation of that.”

ELI HORTON ’15
Runnells
“My tattoo is a constant reminder of my time at Central and all the hard work I put into running and competing for Central cross country and track. From time to time I will look at my tattoo and remember the great moments I had with my teammates and my coach.”

BUSKER FAMILY

Nathan Busker ‘89 jokes that some of his friends claim they have never not seen him wearing Central apparel. But the joke is close to the truth. Busker owns so much Central-branded gear he could go for weeks wearing a different item each day. Living in Oakland, N.J., where he is pastor of Ponds Reformed Church, Busker sees wearing Central apparel as a way to be an ambassador for the college, as well as showcase his Central pride. “It provides an opportunity to share,” he says. “People may see a shirt and ask ‘Where is Central?’ and it gives me a chance to tell them about it.”

Central pride runs deep in the Busker family. In addition to Nathan, his wife Kara ‘89, children Noah ’16 and Mary ’20, his two sisters and father all attended Central. On Kara’s side the Central graduates include her sisters and brother, her parents (one of whom, Richard Glendening ’52, taught economics at Central for many years), her grandmother, two aunts and one uncle.

Busker says the family promotes Central because they value the foundation they received. “A love going back because there’s something that helps to re-center us when we’re back on campus,” he says. “You’re reminded of those values you learned of constant growth, critical thinking and analysis and the love of learning.”

The Buskers also learned to be global citizens at Central. “My family travels all the time and we blame Central for that,” Busker says.

Showcasing their Central pride has become something of an obsession. In addition to license plates, bumper stickers, coffee mugs and apparel, the family often chooses to wear Central gear for any family photos. The first outfit Busker’s son Noah wore was a Central bodysuit, and no matter the weather, Busker has a Central coat and matching hat ready to go. “We may be the biggest fans east of the Mississippi River,” he says. “But the family looks good in red, so how can we lose?”
GOING BEYOND
A STUDENT-FACULTY RESEARCH TRIP TO SCOTLAND OPENS DOORS AND EXPANDS HORIZONS.

By Paula Reece ’95

I t was Central’s study abroad program that sealed the deal for Emma Simmons when she was choosing a college. “I always knew I wanted to study abroad,” says Simmons. “Many of the schools I was looking at ran their programs through Central, so I decided to come here rather than go somewhere that was just going to use this program.”

Simmons, a senior from Davenport, graduated this spring with a double major in anthropology and Spanish and a double minor in French and theatre. While still an undergraduate, Simmons was able to experience opportunities typically only available to grad students, thanks in part to a tenacious drive, a supportive professor and an accommodating educational institution.

The British Isles have fascinated Simmons since she can remember. While in high school, Simmons started paying attention to news of Scotland’s independence movement, following it all the way through the fall of 2014, when Scottish citizens voted down a national referendum to make theirs an independent country, by a narrow margin of 55 to 45 percent.

Cynthia Mahmood, Frank Moore Endowed Chair of Anthropology and professor of anthropology at Central, recalls learning of Simmons’ draw to Scottish independence during intro to Cultural Anthropology, the first of many courses Simmons took with her. It was a topic with which the professor wasn’t all that familiar. “I had studied nationalist and separatist movements in other parts of the world, so I was immediately interested when Emma mentioned it,” she says.

Simmons’ desire to learn more about Scotland, Mahmood last year suggested she apply for a Central College Sustainability Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship supported by the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation to complete a summer research internship there.

“I don’t think I would have had the idea to travel to Scotland if she hadn’t told me about this opportunity,” says Simmons. Although usually done at the graduate level, Mahmood has taken other undergraduates in the field before, believing that fieldwork is the best indicator of whether a person is really cut out for a career in anthropology. However, not all students are ready for the challenge this early. “Emma is a particularly mature and independent person with an extensive travel background and a strong motivation for anthropology, so I knew she’d do well,” Mahmood says.

Simmons discovered an encampment by a narrow margin of 55 to 45 percent. In an article they wrote, Mahmood and Simmons described, “Residents are again gearing up for a referendum, evoking from the grounds.”

It turns out Simmons and Mahmood probably couldn't have chosen a more relevant time to conduct their research abroad, considering the implications the Brexit referendum in the United Kingdom will likely have for Scottish independence. Mahmood says that since the Brexit vote, Scottish nationalists are again gearing up for a referendum, since many Scots want to stay with the European Union even though Britain voted to leave.

RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP
As evidenced by the interest she took in Simmons’ dedication to student learning has marked Mahmood’s career. During her first stint teaching at Central in 1989, she received the Outstanding Performance Award for Teaching. At the University of Maine, she was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi as Outstanding Faculty Member, and she received the Edmund F. Joyce, C.S.C. Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching while at the University of Notre Dame.

After introducing her to the grant, Mahmood helped Simmons write a proposal and focus her research. Mahmood herself applied for and received funding from the Moore Family Foundation. Since it was a faculty development grant particularly focused on teaching and faculty/student collaboration, Mahmood was able to travel and work with Simmons throughout the trip. Funding also came from the Central College Office of Academic Affairs.

For five weeks, the teacher/professor pair traveled throughout Scotland carrying out their ethnographic research in Edinburgh, Inverness, Aberdeen and Glasgow. Anthropologists conduct research differently than other social sciences, adopting an on-the-ground approach, in which they engage in participant-observation. The method involves talking face-to-face to a large number of people instead of doing surveys or formal interviews. This allows the researchers to uncover realities that wouldn’t otherwise be apparent from other forms of social science studies. “For example,” says Mahmood, “we hung out with folks in pubs or cafes. We talked to people on trains. We talked to political figures at the Highlands Council in Inverness. And so on. Anyone, anywhere.”

Simmons discovered an encampment of independence-minded people that turned out to be informative outside the Scottish Parliament at Holyrood.

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"This experience has given me the courage I needed to take a leap of faith." EMMA SIMMONS

NEXT STEPS
When they returned from Scotland, their work continued. Mahmood and Simmons co-authored an op-ed that was published in The Des Moines Register, followed by a longer article for Anthropology News, the most widely read publication in the anthropology field. They continue to work on a longer academic piece that they will also publish. “It is still strange for me to think that I have already been published,” says Simmons. "The dish has also given several talks about their experience to Central faculty, staff and donors.

Simmons recognizes that opportunities such as this hadn’t at Central wouldn’t likely be offered to students at larger universities until graduate school. “I know I wouldn’t have had the same individualized attention that I had here,” she says. One advantage of attending a school the size of Central is the ability to develop relationships early on in students’ academic careers.

“At Central, students have the opportunity to get to know faculty and develop initiatives like this,” says Mahmood. “This is also possible at large universities, but less likely.” She also credits Central administration with treating its faculty with projects such as this. "Unique to a small liberal arts college like Central was the institution’s willingness to back me up in running a new topic I had not studied before in my research career — I really appreciate that,” Simmons says. The venture helped her make decisions about life after Central. “After I graduate, I plan to spend a year with the AmeriCorps Vista program,” she says. “This experience has given me the courage I needed to take a leap of faith.”
SCORES OF CENTRAL GRADUATES HAVE LAUNCHED CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE, BECOMING DOCTORS, NURSES AND SURGEONS – EVEN TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS. WITH HUNDREDS OF CURRENT STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PRE-PROFESSIONAL HEALTH FIELDS, CENTRAL’S NETWORK IS BOUND TO KEEP GROWING.

100%
100 percent of recent chemistry graduates are employed in their areas of interest or attending grad schools.

Central is one of only seven Iowa private colleges or universities with a chemistry program approved by the American Chemical Society.

201
201 students are currently enrolled in pre-professional health fields.

100 percent of graduates are accepted into their first-or second-choice graduate program in these fields: pre-dentistry, nursing, optometry, pharmacy, chiropractic.

Central’s largest pre-professional health programs are: physician assistant, pre-med, physical therapy and nursing.

ALUMNI THRIVE IN HEALTHCARE CAREERS.

By Jenni Hodges

100 percent of graduates are accepted into their first- or second-choice graduate program in these fields: pre-dentistry, nursing, optometry, pharmacy, chiropractic.

Central’s largest pre-professional health programs are: physician assistant, pre-med, physical therapy and nursing.

Get to know these grads working in physical therapy, emergency care, healthcare administration and more.
I wanted to be a pharmacist. From each course to help me when it comes to serving my patients. I wouldn't be where I am today if not for Central College. I have been able to use something from each course to help me when it comes to serving my patients.

“Serving as a rural family physician, I am able to care for those from conception until natural death, and it is amazing to be delivering a baby one minute and then running to the ER for a trauma victim and then back to the clinic or nursing home to provide preventative services. It’s a challenge and one that grows harder by the day. There are only 200 graduates per year nationwide that want to practice in a full-spectrum rural manner, so there is a tremendous shortage of physicians and an incredible need for those who live in the country. Every moment at Central helped me on my journey. From courses in the humanities, my relationships with the coaches, staff and teammates are strong still today. I cherish the memories of our time training together, suffering together and celebrating together.”

HIGHLIGHTS AT CENTRAL:

- Late nights in the science lab counting fruit flies and writing lab reports
- Studying abroad in Morocco
- I spent the summer in London. Learning to live on my own, managing time and money, making friends with people I had never met made me step out of my comfort zone. While I was in London, I also got to do my internship at West Midlands University Hospital. During my time there, I was able to observe in many different wards to get a feel for how medical care is there and how different wards function.

“EVERY MOMENT AT CENTRAL HELPED ME ON MY JOURNEY.”

- STEVE PERKINS '01

STEVE PERKINS '01
Family physician, Franciscan Skemp Plaza Health System
Waukon, Iowa
Undergraduate major: Biology
Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Des Moines University

“Serving as a rural family physician, I am able to care for those from conception until natural death, and it is amazing to be delivering a baby one minute and then running to the ER for a trauma victim and then back to the clinic or nursing home to provide preventative services. It’s a challenge and one that grows harder by the day. There are only 200 graduates per year nationwide that want to practice in a full-spectrum rural manner, so there is a tremendous shortage of physicians and an incredible need for those who live in the country. Every moment at Central helped me on my journey. From courses in the humanities, my experiences as a RA, my time in the weight room, my time on the football practice and the game field, to the service requirements, to meeting my wife, Statttie Ann Barber, at Central, in hindsight (after studying at a large university), was irreplaceable.”

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HIGHLIGHTS AT CENTRAL:

- Late nights in the science lab counting fruit flies and writing lab reports
- Studying abroad in Morocco
- I spent the summer in London. Learning to live on my own, managing time and money, making friends with people I had never met made me step out of my comfort zone. While I was in London, I also got to do my internship at West Midlands University Hospital. During my time there, I was able to observe in many different wards to get a feel for how medical care is there and how different wards function.

“EVERY MOMENT AT CENTRAL HELPED ME ON MY JOURNEY.”

- STEVE PERKINS '01

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Family physician, Franciscan Skemp Plaza Health System
Waukon, Iowa
Undergraduate major: Biology
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Journey Scholarship Fund

Journey Scholarships Make Central Possible for Hundreds of Students Each Year.

April 20, we celebrated donors to endowed scholarships and Journey Scholarships at the annual Scholarship Celebration Dinner. It’s a chance for students to meet and thank donors in person for their life-changing generosity. In attendance were 629 donors, students and family members.

All Journey Scholarships support first-year and returning students. Join with other Central alumni, parents and friends by making your gift today:

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Planned Renovation Highlights Include:
- Athletic training room
- Team space
- Welcome center
- Conference room/suite
- Offices
- Locker rooms

April 20, 2017

See Your Generosity in Action

If you are 70 1/2 years old or older, you can take advantage of a simple way to benefit Central College and receive tax benefits in return. You can give up to $100,000 from your IRA directly to Central without having to pay income taxes on the money.

Why Consider This Gift?
- Your gift will be put to use today, allowing you to see the difference your donation is making.
- You pay no income taxes on the gift. The transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you do not itemize your deductions.
- If you have not yet taken your required minimum distribution for the year, your IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement.

It is wise to consult with your tax professionals if you are contemplating a charitable gift under the extended law.

Please feel free to contact Don Morrison at 641-628-5280 or morrisond@central.edu with any questions you may have.

Use Your IRA to Make Your Journey Scholarship Fund and Forever Dutch Charitable Gifts.

As momentum for the renovation of the existing P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium continues to build, the Central College family paused to celebrate the $12 million expansion to the facility April 20.

The expansion includes a new lobby, locker room, wrestling room, Athletics Hall of Honor and All-America Corridor. The event included the naming of the M. Joan Kuyper Farver Atrium, a tribute to the late trustee emerita and the Kuyper, Farver and Griffith families’ century-old legacy of generosity.

But work is far from complete. Much remains to be done to renovate the original building, which is nearly 50 years old, and work cannot resume without your support. Will you help us better serve our students? These game-changing facilities will be a legacy that will endure for years to come.

Give now at forever.central.edu.
Gerald Piater ’73 teaches at Harmony High School in St. Cloud, Fla., where he lives with wife Pam. Mike Moore ’75 of Pella retired after 40 years in the IT industry – the last 17 at Pella Corp. In retirement, Mike is getting caught up on the home-do last wife Kathy Mahler Moore ’72 has compiled over the last 30 years. Hildy Bowser ’78 is magistrate judge in the U.S. District Court in St. Paul, Minn. After losing her husband of 28 years to cancer, Hildy reconsidered her 2015 with low school classmate Bill Klein, and they were married in January. Hildy and Bill live in Minneapolis. Jeff Lovett ’76 and Bobbi Deits of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., were married Oct. 7.

Jeff Anderson ’77 of Des Moines enjoyed a reunion tour to Italy with his fellow classmates. He is a pediatric surgeon in Clarinda, Iowa. Jeff and wife Donna co-own Star Management, a vacation condo rental company at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Debra Baker Aretz ’77 is a sales consultant for RCI. Debra and husband Kyle live in McDonough, Ga. Lisa Shaffer Migl ’77 is the tendering manager at Cameron International Corp., in Houston, Texas, where she lives with husband Tommy.

Gary Cutler ’75 enjoyed a fishing trip late this past summer with a group of Central alumni to Lac Seul, Ontario, in remembrance of their coach, Ron Schipper. During Gary’s senior year, Al Dorenkamp ’75 and Randy Buscher ’75 asked the coach if they could go fishing prior to a football scrimmage. They did not go fishing that day; however, coach did take the seniors fishing in the spring after their senior season and a tradition was born. This year the crew included Denny Brass ’68, Bob Graefe ’69, Al Dorenkamp ’75, Randy Buscher ’75, Gary Cutler ’75, Al Paris ’77, Steve Robach ’77, JimBoke ’77 and Dave Mick ’78. Gary and wife Beth live in Verona, Wis.

Lindy Wilder 

* ’60s
Lesley Diehl ’60 of Morris, N.Y., has authored the fourth book in the Eve Apple Mystery Series entitled “Murder of a Lesbian.” Leslie’s books are available on Amazon.

* ’70s
For information about George Wares ’76, see the ’10s.
Ricky Johnson ’71 retired after 35 years as a United Methodist minister at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church in Elgin, Ricky and wife Paula Paschal Johnson ’71 live in Waverly.

Music at Central College. He lives in Des Moines with partner Tony Braida ’89. Tony is vice president of international banking at Bankers Trust International in Des Moines.

Donna Decker Hefner ’91 of Park Forest, Ill., is a paraprofessional at Elim Christian Services in Palos Heights. Donna and husband Jerry are the parents of three children.

Kristin Schakel Gibbar ’92 was promoted to managing director of global operations at Black & Veatch. Kristin and husband Scott live in Overland Park, Kan., with their two children.

Laura Bach Olson ’93 teaches life science at Maple River High School in Mapleton, Minn., where she lives with husband Jeremy Olson ’92. Laura is serving a two-year term as president of the Minnesota Fastpitch Coaches Association. Jeremy has been promoted to shop production supervisor at Jones Metal, Inc., in Mankato. They are the parents of two current students who are the cause for frequent return visits to Central to watch their son play football and the daughter play softball for the Dutch.

* ’90s
For information about Darin Grice ’90, Sharon Thorenz Grice ’90, Todd Christiansen ’92, Troy Durnell Neff ’95 and Kenny Neff ’95, see the ’10s.
Todd Borger ’90 owns and operates J&B Consulting Group, LLC in Lomont, Colo. Todd and wife Marianne are the parents of 10 children.
Lori Schaefer Rempe ’90 was promoted to director of corporate treasury at FBL Financial Group, Inc. in West Des Moines, Iowa, and was named vice president of international at TJB Consulting Group, LLC in Longmont, Colo. Lori and husband Mark live in Ankeny.

Mark Babcock ’90 was elected by the American Choral Directors Association to be president of the Iowa Choral Directors Association (ICDA), which boasts a membership of nearly 1,000 choral directors/musician teachers. Mark is the M. Joan Kutner Forever Endowed Chair in Music at Central College. He lives in Des Moines with partner Tony Braida ’89. Tony is vice president of international banking at Bankers Trust International in Des Moines.

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Kris Brandt Vaughs ’90 enjoyed a reunion this winter with her former teammates in Kansas City. Ending a 25-year drought since the last time they were all together. Pictured (left to right): Heidi Hassen Hoffman ’89, Rita Bushbaum Taylor-Stewart ’89, Taunya Van Surksum Westhoff ’89 and Kris Brandt Vaughs ’90. Kris and husband Trent Vaughs ’90 live in Dallas, Texas. They are the parents of two children.

Tim Hooekstra ’95 of Ames enjoyed a reunion tour to Italy with his fellow A Cappella alumni last year. They are pictured (left to right): Mark Babcock ’91, Dave Low ’15, Joel Maidens ’10, Lisa Galisatz Maidens ’10, David Schlaberg ’99, Brianne Schumann Schlaberg ’09, Brandon Vogel ’10, Tori Hellingworth ’15, Kevin Templeton ’13, Lexus A Waymire ’15, Tim Hooekstra ’95, Carrton Caldwell ’14, Bob Mathis, Christopher Ellerson ’12 and Jared Fritz-McCarty ’09. Tim is a media specialist at the Mary Greeley Medical Center. He owns and operates Hooekstra Video Services.
For information about Jarek Fitz-McCarty ’09, Brieanne Schumann Sildberg ’09 and David Sildberg ’09, see “90s. For information about Cara Scott Oldham ’05, Kerri Sallow Hays ’07, Sarah Heatherlin Jurgens ’07, Derek Kloepfenstein ’07, Chrisy Buffettewer Clason ’00, Jenna Hammes ’08, Sara Wade Stump ’08, Alex Billings ’09, Marianne Coman Davidson ’09 and Greg Fotte ’09, see the ’70s.

Kristina Orth Stanger ’00 is an attorney at the law firm of Nye Monument Coode West Hamel & O’Brien in Des Moines. They are the parents of two children. Christine DePree ’02 and Laura Vandervan Wol were married Oct. 15, 2015. Curtis is an administrator and teacher at Porter’s House High School in Wisconsin, Mich. Curtis and Laura live in Jenison.

Jason Foster ’02 of Cedar Rapids is an event production manager at VenuWorks of Cedar Rapids LLC. Angela Van Riessen ’02 and Curt Lehmann were married June 17, 2016. Angela is a placement consultant at Halmans Murphy Financial Services in West Des Moines. Angela and Walt live in Des Moines with their son.

Kristin Sullivan’s newsletter column ’03 of Mantua, N.J., is a trade sales representative with Gunton, an independent distributor of Pella Corp. in Philadelphia, Pa.

Adam Swisher ’04 of Fort Dodge is a family medicine doctor in Gowrie affiliated with Stewart Memorial Community Hospital.

Adam Buckman ’04 is a regional sales manager at Powermation in Rochester, Minn. Adam and wife Trishelle Velky Jackson ’08 live in Forest City with their daughter. Trishelle is an optometrist at Family Eye Care Center in Forest City.

Ali Schlapkohl ’05 and Blake Harms of Johnston were married April 5, 2014. Ali is an admission counselor at Drake University in Des Moines.

Kara Kommas ’10 and Jordan Gnegner ’10 of Vancouver, Wash., were married Sept. 24. Jordan is an F-15 fighter pilot in the Oregon Air National Guard and is stationed at Joint Forces Korea. Jordan is a project coordinator for Wells Fargo and a yoga instructor at Flo Hot Yoga. She is pictured at row (left to right): Kara Kommas Gnegner ’10 and Jordan Gnegner ’10. Second row: Todd Christensen ’92, Greg Fotte ’09, Alex Kleis Rosien ’12, Noah Mortell ’12, Alex Miller ’10 and Trudy Norman Neff ’95. Back row: Matt Patrick ’10, Jamison Rosien ’11, Dave Vonahmne ’10, Breighton Powell ’12, Kurtis Broudyke ’11, Kerry Neff ’95 and Dennis Schieltz ’80.

Chris Bergman ’06 is a clinical instructor at Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tenn. Chris and wife Becky Wells Bergman ’07 live in Collerville with their two daughters.

Matt Lynch ’06 is deputy staff judge advocate with the United States Air Force at Little Rock Air Force Base in Little Rock, Ark.

Nate Rasmussen ’06 is associate director of plant management at Merck in Ames. Nate and wife Megan Shields Rasmussen ’07 live in Britt with their two children. Megan is an insurance agent at Central Financial Group.

Cheri Kelleher Boat ’07 and Chris Boat of Graham, Ore., were married Sept. 9, 2014. Cheri is a payroll and human resource specialist for McMenamins Pub and Breweries in Portland.

Randi Johnson Malone ’07 is associate director for Diversified Management Services in West Des Moines. Randi and husband Taylor live in Des Moines with their two daughters.

Jessica Jensen Albers ’08 is a doctor of optometry at the Cheyenne and Laramie Vision Clinic. She was named Wyoming Young Optometrist of the Year by the Wyoming Optometric Association at its winter convention in Cheyenne. Jessica was recognized for her work with the Wyoming Children’s Vision Collaborative, Head Start and a medical mission to Kenya, Africa. Jessica and husband Cory live in Cheyenne.

Benjamin Gander ’08 is vice president of treasury management at Dubuque Bank & Trust in Dubuque, where he lives with wife Kyl Hake Gander ’07 and their two children.

Lindee Russell Jernay ’06 is a bureau chief of Promise Jobs for Iowa Workforce Development in Des Moines. Lindee and husband Phillip Jernay ’07 live in Clive with their daughter. Phillip is director of communications for the Iowa Association of School Boards.

Christopher Gales ’09 is a business systems analyst at Supervalu Inc. in Eden Prairie, Minn. Chris and wife Jennifer Flater Gales ’10 live in Hopkins. Jenny works in accounts receivable at Capenamn Pediatric Therapy in Edina.
10s

For information about Joel Maidens ‘10, Liz Calissi Maidens ‘10, Dan Law ‘13, Brandon Vogel ‘10, Toric Hollingsworth ‘15, Kevin Templeton ‘15, Lexus A Wamuyi ‘15, Carsten Calderwood ’14 and Christopher Ellerston ’12, see the ‘00s. For information about Jennifer Flater Gales ’10, see the ’00s.

Natalie Doming ’10 and Justin Theroux of New Sharon were married Sept. 17. Natalie is a physical therapist at 1St Century Rehab in Indiana.

Amanda Whittle Drost ’10 is a payroll and employee leave specialist in the Human Resource Department at Pella Regional Health Center. Amanda and husband Jackson live in New Sharon with their sons.

James Edgerton ’10 is an oracle configurator analyst with Pella Corp. James and wife Adena Schneider Edgerton ’10 live in Pella with their two sons.

Kyle Michel ’10 was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army in May. He accepted a position with the City of Elkader as the city management clerk in December.

Lindsay Seide ’10 and Thomas Hegel ’13 of Coralville were married June 4. Rachel is a surgical technologist at the University of Iowa Hospital, and Taylor is a production manager at Citywide Cleaners in Cedar Rapids. They are pictured first row (left to right): Steph Hasken ’13, Allison Jensen ’13, Taylor Gibbins ’13, Rachel Therneau Gibbins ’13, Joanna Peters ’13 and Meghan Cain ’13. Back row: Perry Harrah ’13, Emily Therneau ’15, Karen Valentine Therneau ’84, Mary DeVries ’13, Darin Grice ’90, Joy McEachran Orr ’13, Emily Miller ’13 and Sharon Therneau Grice ’90.

Rachel Therneau ’13 and Taylor Gibbins ’13 of Coralville were married June 4. Rachel is a surgical technologist at the University of Iowa Hospital, and Taylor is a production manager at Citywide Cleaners in Cedar Rapids. They are pictured first row (left to right): Steph Hasken ’13, Allison Jensen ’13, Taylor Gibbins ’13, Rachel Therneau Gibbins ’13, Joanna Peters ’13 and Meghan Cain ’13. Back row: Perry Harrah ’13, Emily Therneau ’15, Karen Valentine Therneau ’84, Mary DeVries ’13, Darin Grice ’90, Joy McEachran Orr ’13, Emily Miller ’13 and Sharon Therneau Grice ’90.

Amanda Scott ’10 and Joe Drey of Waukee were married July 23. Amanda is a marketing specialist at the IMT Group in West Des Moines. They are pictured in a photo taken by Kerri Salow Haws ’07 (left to right): Sarah Headerman Jurgen ’07, Stacey Kracht ’10, Lindsey Sharp ’10, Scott Tynon ’91, Sara Wade Sump ’08, Joe Drey, Amanda Scott Drey ’10, Janna Hammos ’08, Chasity Buitenwerf, Clawson ’09, Cara Scott Oldham ’03, Derek Klopfenstein ’07.


Lindsey Hillgutteur ’13 of Ankeny is a digital initiatives production coordinator at Iowa State University.

Allison Jensen ’13 of North Liberty is associate director of events at the University of Iowa Foundation.

Nick Markovich ’13 of Chicago passed the Illinois Bar Exam in July and joined the firm Leacy, Eisenberg & Frenkel, Ltd. as an associate attorney. Previously, Nick served as judicial extern in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Amanda Meacham ’13 and Justin Livingston ’14 of Des Moines were married Oct. 29. Amanda teaches kindergarten at Indianapolis Community Schools.

Samuel Parker ’13 of Baltimore, Md., is marketing manager of U.S. Aviation & Aftermarket with Smiths Detection in Edgewood.

Ryan Duval ’14 of Fort Collins, Colo., is a transportation planner at North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Org.

Christofor Lobberbeth ’14 is an athletic trainer and fitness specialist at Great River Health Systems in West Burlington. Chris and wife Kayley Hirschman Lobberbeth ’14 live in Fort Madison with their son.

TJ Freenti ’14 of Auburn, Wash., is a regional sales coordinator at Pape Machinery in Tacoma.

Mick Stearns ’11 is an analyst in the office of institutional research and assessment at Drake University in Des Moines. Mick and wife Leahy Eisenberg Stearns ’11 live in Ames with their daughter. Leah teaches social studies at Ames High School.

Timothy Gibson ’15 of West Des Moines is a communications specialist and administrative assistant at Your Clear Kindergarten at Indianola Community Schools.

Paige Hessch ’15 and Mitch Schroeder ’15 of Pella were married Sept. 5. Paige is employed by PFI and Mitch is a hard manager at High Ridge Red Angus Ranch in Russell.

Madison Gause ’16 of Ankeny is a program associate with the ETA Group, Inc., in West Des Moines.

Allison Mann ’16 of Waverly is the area coordinator at Wartburg College. Jay Pike ’16 of Solon teaches third and fourth-grade special education in the Cedar-Deola Community School District. Melissa Smith ’16 of West Des Moines is a programmer at Rain and Hail General Insurance Company in Johnston.


Makay Smith ’15 and Lucas Hamilton ’16 of Brunswick, Ohio, were married Oct. 15. Lucas is a graduate assistant at Cleveland State University in Cleveland working toward a doctorate in adult development and aging. Makay is a communications assistant at The Reserves Network in Brunswick. They are pictured first row (left to right): Joseph Flaherty ’14, Julia Mohr Flaherty ’15, Makay Smith Hamilton ’15 and Lucas Hamilton ’16. Second row: Jake Temple ’15, Kathy Connolly ’17, Geof Sollars ’17, Taylor Sanders ’17, Stacy Mohr ’19, Beth De Vries ’18, Natalia Epstein ’18 and Torie Hollingsworth ’15. Third row: Melanie Breza ’16, Michaela Szwenske ’16, Brittany Carlson ’16, Betsy Van Haasen ’17, Brandon Menneson ’15, Joshua Pierce ’18, Evan Fischer ’16, Jacob Anderson ’16, Nelson Wiese ’16, Madison Gause ’16, Noel Murray ’15 and Sarah Rohde ’15. Back row: Josh Piroukap ’18, Kergan Flaherty ’18, Tristan Miedema ’17, Chris Askren ’16, Wyatt Rath ’17, Zane Peters ’16, Mallory Sims ’15, Rachel Franz Ronzenaal ’15, Nick Ronzenaal ’15, Elleen Westfall ’16, Nathan Thitsson ’15,Lexie Waymire ’15 and Daniel Kuttler ’16.

Makay Smith ’15 and Lucas Hamilton ’16 of Brunswick, Ohio, were married Oct. 15. Lucas is a graduate assistant at Cleveland State University in Cleveland working toward a doctorate in adult development and aging. Makay is a communications assistant at The Reserves Network in Brunswick. They are pictured first row (left to right): Joseph Flaherty ’14, Julia Mohr Flaherty ’15, Makay Smith Hamilton ’15 and Lucas Hamilton ’16. Second row: Jake Temple ’15, Kathy Connolly ’17, Geof Sollars ’17, Taylor Sanders ’17, Stacy Mohr ’19, Beth De Vries ’18, Natalia Epstein ’18 and Torie Hollingsworth ’15. Third row: Melanie Breza ’16, Michaela Szwenske ’16, Brittany Carlson ’16, Betsy Van Haasen ’17, Brandon Menneson ’15, Joshua Pierce ’18, Evan Fischer ’16, Jacob Anderson ’16, Nelson Wiese ’16, Madison Gause ’16, Noel Murray ’15 and Sarah Rohde ’15. Back row: Josh Piroukap ’18, Kergan Flaherty ’18, Tristan Miedema ’17, Chris Askren ’16, Wyatt Rath ’17, Zane Peters ’16, Mallory Sims ’15, Rachel Franz Ronzenaal ’15, Nick Ronzenaal ’15, Elleen Westfall ’16, Nathan Thitsson ’15, Lexie Waymire ’15 and Daniel Kuttler ’16.

Central RED Society Members of Central RED Society attended a talk by 9/11 survivor Brian Clark April 6 on campus. Clark worked for American international brokerage firm Euro Brokers, which lost 61 employees that day. Clark was one of only four people in the South Tower to escape from a floor above the plane’s impact. He was later appointed president of the Euro Brokers Relief Fund, created to assist the families of those who were lost.

Central RED Society is a lifelong learning program that enriches members’ lives through relevant, broad-based learning experiences.

Learn more and become a member: www.central.edu/red
M. JOAN KUYPER FARVER

M. Joan Kuyper Farver, Central trustee emerita and chair emerita of Pella Corporation, passed Feb. 27 at age 92. Farver, like others in the Kuyper, Farver and Griffith families, was a long-time college friend and benefactor. The family members are descendants of Pella Corporation founder P.H. (“Pet”) Kuyper.

“Joan Farver was a woman of such grace and humility,” said Central president Mark Putnam. “She steadfastly deflected any special attention or credit, but always looked for the good in others and ways she could serve them.”

Born in Pella Nov. 17, 1919, Farver was the first child of E. Lucille Grass Kuyper and Peter H. Kuyper. She had one brother, H. Stuart Kuyper. Farver studied music at Grinnell College and graduated in 1941. She married Paul Farver in 1945, and the couple lived in Pella where Paul worked at Rollescreen Company (now Pella Corporation), founded by Joan’s father in 1925. Following the death of her brother in 1980, and her father in 1981, Farver became chair of the board of Rollescreen Company at age 61.

Farver was an active Central trustee from 1979-2002. She received an honorary degree from the college in 1988 and Central’s Fellowship of Service Award in 1998. Her grandchildren, A.N. Kuyper, was a Central trustee in the early 2000s and the first of eight family members to serve on Central’s board, spanning five generations providing more than a combined 160 years of service, a legacy that continues.

“Leadership positions were never something she sought, but which she quietly fulfilled with great wisdom, energy and determination,” said Putnam. “She provided thoughtful counsel to many Central trustees and presidents, always with the well-being of Central students foremost in her mind.”

In 1942, the family established the Rollescreen Scholarships, which remain Central’s top academic scholarships and played a fundamental role in establishing the college’s academic strength. The family’s benevolence also provided for the college’s Chapel, constructed in 1952, representative of Central’s spiritual underpinnings.

The Kuyper name is prominent on campus, most notably at the A.N. Kuyper Athletics Complex, which includes P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium and H.S. Kuyper Fieldhouse. Last spring, led by Farver, the Kuyper, Farver and Griffith families and their foundations teamed for a $4.2 million gift for the renewal of the complex, including the recent expansion of P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium. It’s the last gift in college history.

“SHE TOOK GREAT PRIDE IN HER FAMILY’S ENDURING LEGACY OF COMMITMENT TO THE STUDENTS OF CENTRAL COLLEGE, WHICH IS FAR-REACHING AND UNPARALLELED. SHE WAS EXCEEDINGLY DEVOTED TO CENTRAL AND OUR STUDENTS ON A VERY PERSONAL LEVEL.”

- MARK PUTNAM, PRESIDENT

In 2012, in Farver’s honor, Mark Babcock was named the M. Joan Kuyper Farver Endowed Chair in Music, a title he continues to hold. The chair represents Central’s commitment to the arts and the belief that music is a vital part of the Central experience. It memorializes the contributions of Farver to the economic and cultural life of Central and the Pella community.

In 2012, Central paid tribute to the Heeremas, a long-time college friend and benefactor. The family members are descendants of Pella Corporation founder P.H. (“Pet”) Kuyper.

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Central was among many of Farver’s philanthropic interests and she was an arts enthusiast. But she never had passion for the Dutch athletics squads and in her later years, friends recall many fall Saturday afternoons she spent sharing a large bowl of popcorn as she listened intently to the Central football radio broadcast.

A memorial service for Farver was held April 22 at Second Reformed Church in Pella. The college paid special tribute to Farver during the April 22 expansion celebration of P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium. Putnam announced that the new M. Joan Kuyper Farver Attsnum is named in Farver’s honor, adding her name to those of other prominent family members at the complex.

BRUCE HEEREMA

Bruce Heerema ’81, Central trustee emeritus, passed away March 3 in Des Moines at age 76. Born in 1942, the family established the Rolscreen Scholarships, which remain Central’s top academic scholarships and played a fundamental role in establishing the college’s academic strength. The family’s benevolence also provided for the college’s Chapel, constructed in 1952, representative of Central’s spiritual underpinnings.

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**ADVANCED DEGREES**

Curtis DePree ’02, Master of Arts, English language learning, Western Governors University, 2015.

Alicia Cosimo ’08, master’s degree, educational leadership, Concordia University, 2008.

Nick Marinkovich ’13, juris doctor, University of Pennsylvania Law School, 2015.

Ian Michel ’13, master’s degree, education, Drake University, Dec. 17.

Kaysley Hirschman Lobberecht ’14, master’s degree, postsecondary education, student affairs, University of Northern Iowa, May 2016.

Adam Shell ’14, master’s degree, accounting, St. Ambrose University, Dec. 2016.

**NEW ARRIVALS**

Angi and Jim Basfield ’94, son Cooper James, Aug. 16

Kristin and Scott Sickle ’95, daughter Lora Elle, Feb. 9

Kevin and Tracy Vincent ’96, daughter Caroline May, Dec. 1

Kelly and Ryan Konrad ’97, adopted son Griffin Jude, Oct. 2, 2015 and Malcolm Chance, Sept. 30


Michael and Carrie Tibbon Bauer ’99, son Morgan Grace, Feb. 14

Walt and Angela Van Riessen Lehmann ’02, son Walter Wilson, Feb. 1, 2016

Matt Veas and Rebecca Brooker ’03, son Arie Randall, July 18

Craig ’03 and Jessica Schuring ’04, daughter Sophia Prad, Nov. 30

Justin and Emily Ehlers Rethemeyer ’05, daughter Madelyn Pauline, Nov. 1

Carol and Darin Van Wyk ’05, daughter Ashlyn Mave, Dec. 1, 2016

Curtis ’06 and Alyssa Jones Hunt ’08, daughter Evelyn Renee, Nov. 23

Kim and Trent Powers ’06, son Luke Thomas, Nov. 20

Nate ’06 and Megan Shields Rasmussen ’07, son Jude Paul, July 21, 2015

Reb ’08 and Tammy Peter Simms ’10, daughter Berkley Morie, March 8

Chance and Lori Redenius Wells ’08, son Caleb John, Dec. 14, 2015

BJ ’09 and Alysa Tanis Pilling ’08, son Hudson John, Feb. 28

Drew and Brittany Beck Rempp ’09, daughter Emma Lee, Feb. 2

James ’10 and Adria Schneidler Edgerton ’10, son James Edward, Aug. 20, 2015

William and Anne Wignall Fosckett ’10, son James Edward, Dec. 5

Mark ’10 and Kelli Zinkovskiy Holan ’13, son Silas Decker, Jan. 12

Travis ’11 and Samantha Rotz Smith ’13, son Theo Rand, Jan. 31

Aaron ’11 and Corri Bacon Steenhoek ’12, son Rhett Alexander, Jan. 16

Nick and Elizabeth Moore McCluggage ’12, daughter Amelia Jane, Jan. 17

Jack ’13 and Emily Huelg Flaherty ’13, daughter Alliegh Jo, Nov. 26

Christina ’14 and Kasey Hirschman Lobberecht ’14, son Gabriel Christofoli, July 24

Mitch ’14 and Leah Farrington Starmn ’14, daughter Norah Mae, Feb. 17

Samantha Retz Smith ’14, son Rhett Alexander, Jan. 16

**TELL US YOUR NEWS**

Alumni are invited to submit Newsnotes online. We want to hear about recent promotions, degrees, honors, scholarships, marriages and births to keep classmates and friends informed about important changes in your life. For full schedule visit: www.central.edu/homecoming

**JOIN US SEPT. 22-24**

Join alumni, family and friends at homecoming to enjoy a variety of events for all ages.

For full schedule visit: www.central.edu/homecoming

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**Standing Tall in Pella**

Katia Douglas ’17 runs her own local yoga studio while completing her last year at Central.

by Jenn Hodges

Whenever people try something new, it creates an important moment in their lives, says Katia Douglas ’17.

Douglas, an exercise science student, counts herself lucky to be introducing clients to something new every day. While still completing her degree at Central, Douglas has opened her own yoga studio, Sequoia, in Pella.

“Having someone walk into the studio for the first time ever is the biggest compliment that I could receive,” Douglas says. “I get to show and teach people this beautiful practice that has truly changed my life. Then I get to see them grow in their journey and see how it will change their life as well. It takes courage to embark on a new journey and I’m just thankful I am along for the ride.”

**Getting Her Move On**

Douglas knew she wanted to pursue exercise science after her first week at Central. She didn’t waste a second — Douglas immediately began to help train athletes in Central’s strength and conditioning room with associate professor of exercise science John Roslen. Over the next two years, she helped train eight different teams for Central athletics.

A short time later, associate professor of exercise science Leslie Dimank helped Douglas become a CrossFit coach in Pella — and stretch her abilities further by trying new things. “I thought it was really important for her to be exposed to all of the opportunities available to her,” Dimank says. “and to connect her to even more good mentors.”

Then, last fall, Douglas trained nearly 10 hours each week in Drs. Momma’s of Pella to become a certified yoga instructor. “It is incredible how the benefits of yoga can impact all individuals in their own ways,” she says. “It is physical and mental; it is challenging and relaxing. The beauty is, you can make it whatever you want to get whatever you may need.”

Douglas opened her studio in December after a whirlwind two-week renovation. Located on Franklin Street behind Embellish, the studio includes heat lamps for hot yoga, refurbished materials from an old family barn — and of course, Douglas’ emblem, the sequoia.

“Sequoia is the emblem for long life,” she says, “for attaining lofty dreams and reaching to be the best you can be. That’s what yoga is for me, and that’s what I want people to understand and find within themselves, to have that strength and grace.”

Douglas now teaches yoga classes each morning and evening in Pella. “My professors have been crazy supportive, which is incredibly thankful for,” says Douglas. “Seeing those things from my classes, and then taking them right away into the studio and being able to apply them, is incredible.”

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**PARTING SHOT**

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Finding His Voice

by Cindy Deppe

For Frank Friers ’71, attending Central proved life-changing.

The business administration major from New York came to Central in 1969 as a non-traditional student, following military service in the Vietnam War. Having grown up in an “old, old Dutch community where the Reformed Church dated to the 1650s,” Friers completed his first two years of college locally until his childhood stutter and a required public speaking course collided.

“Public speaking scared me to death,” Friers recalls, so he dropped out of college, joined the U.S. Army as an infantry medic, and served in Vietnam for two years. After discharge, a friend encouraged him to resume his college education at Central. Again, a required public speaking course made Friers hesitant. “My friend said, ‘you’ve already been shot at, how bad can it be?’” he says.

When Friers arrived on campus he still had a slight stutter. After faculty member Stephen Hofer listened to Friers’ class presentation, Hofer suggested that Friers consider work at KCUI, the campus radio station. Friers remembers Hofer’s encouraging words: “the more public speaking you do, the better.”

So Friers dove in, doing play-by-play for football and basketball games, recalling that his first broadcast was in then-new P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium and his last broadcast in the old gym near Gaass Hall.

At the radio station, Friers was aided by an instrument panel with a modulator, which measured the amplitude and frequency of the sound being transmitted.

“The modulator helped me lower my voice, lose my stutter and wipe out my fear,” Friers says. “Once I overcame my fear, half the fight was over. By conquering my fear, everything else dovetailed and I could focus on my presentation and delivery.”

His voice victory also led him to become a better student. “I went from being a C+ student to a B+ student, and it all started because of Stephen Hofer’s interest in me,” Friers says.

His personal experience also piqued his interest in teaching. After his Central graduation, Friers worked for Boy Scouts of America, fundraising and gaining experience in youth programming while he completed his teaching certification. He taught in elementary schools in southern Iowa school districts for a few years before moving to Florida where he taught full-time until 2003.

Over a 30-year teaching career and now as a substitute teacher, Friers says he felt a common bond with students “to face their fears.”

“I’ve told many students my story of overcoming my stutter and fear of public speaking,” he says. “The worst thing was hiding my fear, until I found someone (Hofer) who took an interest in helping me. That’s the advice I give students today—find an adult who will help and be totally honest about your fears and needs.”