

WINTER 2022

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A LOVE LETTER TO
CENTRAL COLLEGE



EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS AND EMBRACING OPPORTUNITIES

STORY BY: MARK PUTNAM, CENTRAL COLLEGE PRESIDENT



Too often we are bound by the expectations of others.

This is especially true for students completing high school and entering college. The patterns of life are well established by the time we reach late adolescence, informed by family, friends, communities and schools. I remind students when they arrive at Central College that to this point in their lives, much of their experience has been organized for them. The journey of learning through the four critical

years of college is a gradual transition from dependence to independence, from compliance to creativity and from task to opportunity.

It's remarkable to see students become the authors of their futures as their own ideas reaffirm or reinterpret the voices of past narrators. Resetting expectations is an important part of the educational journey.

On a much broader scale, the societal expectations placed upon students also have evolved. For some, those boundaries were

and are manifested in a lack of opportunity. Cultural messages may attempt to dictate what is suitable and what is not for specific individuals or groups. Defined roles can be ingrained in our minds and reinforced by societal norms.

While significant gains have been made across decades, we remain aware of our shortcomings when we do not see talent and opportunity in every individual. Our categories of thought and routines of practice are sometimes rigid and recalcitrant. Yet we find continued hope in the courage of individuals who decide that historic boundaries simply do not apply to them. Rooted in courage, each generation has steadily built on the achievements of forebears to advance opportunity for all.

I deeply enjoy conversations with alumni, particularly those from older generations, who reflect on an unexpected journey. Some have broken through barriers — both personal and professional — realizing impressive accomplishments, often exceeding the expectations they had for themselves or those imposed by others. Breaking through the limits of expectation is a process of self-discovery and rediscovery that draws on facile learning skills developed with the support of mentors. Others speak of unanticipated twists in the road or dead ends that revealed a new pathway. While different than their original expectations, the journey proved to be rewarding as resiliency gave rise to a fresh set of opportunities.

As educators our role is to open the minds of students to possibility. They do not lack ambition, but they do need a broadening of perspective. We press them to look beyond what they know or what they think they know to encounter what they do not know.

This is an uncomfortable place.

It's the place where learning thrives.

It's the place where expectations are tested.

It's the place where opportunity lives. ■

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WINTER 2022

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The Rokke Family

Amanda, Leah (3.5), Kaylee (5), Jared and Zach (16 months)



READI ROLE MODELS

My name is Amanda Zook Rokke. I graduated from Central in 2008. I received my copy of Civitas yesterday and was in tears reading about Bella and the READI program!! My son is 16 months old and has Down syndrome. To read about someone similar to my son accomplishing so much and attending MY college was so heartwarming! I am so proud of Central! Thank you for starting this amazing program!!

I'd also love to thank Mr. and Mrs. Van Gorp for advocating so well for their daughter and, in the process, advocating for all children with special needs! They are true role models for parents like myself.

Thank you again!

Amanda Zook Rokke '08

Grimes, Iowa

ENTER TO WIN!

ENTER TO WIN CENTRAL GEAR

We are giving away a basket of Central gear so you can show off your Forever Dutch® pride! To enter the drawing, please visit central.edu/giveaway before Feb. 15, 2022.

Or send this form to:

Central College, Alumni Office, 812 University St., Box 5200, Pella, Iowa 50219.

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS (so we can send you your prize):

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

WRITE US!

Civitas welcomes letters and emails from readers concerning the contents of the magazine or issues relating to Central College. Please include the author's name, city and state; anonymous communications will be discarded. Letters selected for publication may be edited for length, content, clarity and style. Address letters to Civitas, Central Communications, Central College, 812 University St., Pella, Iowa 50219 or email **Denise Lamphier**, Civitas editor, at lamphierd@central.edu.

CELEBRATE HOO-RAH DAY

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 12!

Spread your #CentralSpirit loud and proud with Central's school song!
Share your school song videos with us on social media for #HoorahDay!

HOO-RAH HOO-RAH

SHOW THE WORLD WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE FOREVER DUTCH®

SAVE THE DATE!

LEGACY VISIT DAY

APRIL 29, 2022

Central College alums and your high school students in grades 9-12 may join us for our Legacy Visit Day!

MAKE PLANS TO:

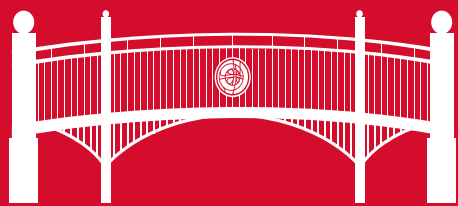
- + Eat in Central Market – our treat! (Seriously, lunch is on us!)
- + Stay the night in Pella and snag some Dutch pastries for the road.
- + Meet up with friends from your college days as you introduce your children to future lifelong friends.

SAVE THE DATE!

53^{THE} MILE CHALLENGE RETURNS

MARCH 1 - APRIL 12, 2021

Run, walk, bike and move
53 miles leading up to Hoo-Rah Day.
Stay tuned for more information!



AROUND THE POND



▲ CENTRAL RECEIVES \$1.97 MILLION BEQUEST

Central received a generous bequest of \$1.97 million from the late **James Naccarato Sr. '43**, who served as a military attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice.

Naccarato's tremendous generosity will support the James J. Naccarato Scholarship, established in his name in 2007.

Originally from Johnstown, New York, Naccarato made a name for himself at Central as a writer and frequent columnist for *The Central Ray*, the college's student newspaper. As a history major, he often wrote commentary on American politics and always encouraged his fellow students to participate in "the political life of our nation, state and local community."

Naccarato went on to earn a law degree from Washington and Lee School of Law in Lexington City, Virginia. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a military attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., for many years. From 1961-64, Naccarato served as president of the Washington, D.C., Central Club.

Naccarato died Feb. 3, 2020, in Silver Spring, Maryland. He was 102.



▲ LAINE INSTALLED AS WELLER DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

Linda Laine, professor of communication studies, was installed as the Kenneth J. Weller Distinguished Professor of the Liberal Arts on Sept. 29.

Laine has taught at Central since 2004 and was promoted to professor in 2018. She enjoys guiding students in their own research and facilitating their application of theory to service learning, internships and other projects. She teaches a wide array of courses, including organizational, intercultural and health communication, as well as first-year seminar and research methods.

The Kenneth J. Weller Distinguished Professorship of the Liberal Arts, named after Central's 18th president, recognizes a distinguished faculty member and provides support for teaching, research and scholarship.

CENTRAL RECEIVES FEDERAL FUNDING FOR TALENT SEARCH PROGRAM

Central received five more years of funding from the U.S. Department of Education for the college's Talent Search program. The award, contingent on annual congressional

appropriations, is expected to total \$2.5 million.

The nationwide TS program, part of the U.S. Department of Education, prepares middle school and high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds to succeed in higher education. TS has been one of the pre-college programs at Central since 1980.

The continued funding of TS will allow the assistant director, five advisors, a recruitment specialist and an event and student record coordinator to serve a minimum of 900 students. Two-thirds of program participants must qualify as both low-income and/or potential first-generation college graduates.

TS advisors meet with participating students once or twice a month in their schools. In addition to tutoring students, providing academic advising and exposing students to STEM opportunities, TS teaches financial literacy, test-taking skills and social-emotional skills. Advisors also take students on college visits and to various cultural activities.

In addition to funding these services, the recent award will allow advisors to implement a career series using individual Myers-Briggs Type Indicator results. The program also will host a three-day STEM camp to provide an opportunity for students to study the STEM field in depth through exposure to computer programming, coding and enhanced computer skills.

TS is one of seven Federal TRIO Programs that provide educational services to individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. Central also administers two other TRIO programs: Upward Bound and Student Support Services.

CENTRAL SURPASSES JOURNEY TOGETHER: 48-HOUR CHALLENGE GOAL

Central's Journey Together: 48-Hour Challenge surpassed its goal, raising more than \$189,000 for students.

From noon Tuesday, Aug. 17, to noon Thursday, Aug. 19, \$189,607 was raised with 334 gifts from alumni and friends of Central.

"Supporting annual scholarships like the Journey Scholarship Fund is one of the best ways to make an impact in the lives of students," says **Sunny Gonzales Eighmy '99**, vice president for advancement. "We are incredibly grateful for the generous support from alumni and friends of the Central family; it opens so many doors for students."

The challenge kicked off the 2021-22 academic year and the Journey Scholarship Fund's 11-year celebration. The fund was created to directly help students pursue their dreams at Central and since has awarded thousands of scholarships to students from around the country.

For the third year in a row, the Journey Scholarship Fund saw record support during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2021. A record \$1.67 million went toward the Journey Scholarship Fund, surpassing the previous year's total of \$1.38 million.

At Central, 100% of gifts to the Journey Scholarship Fund directly support students. Thanks to the generosity of donors, Central plans to award every new incoming student a Journey Scholarship in the 2022-23 academic year.

To help support the Journey Scholarship Fund you can give a gift at central.edu/give.



▲ 2021-22 FACULTY CHANGES

Central announced changes among its faculty for the 2021-22 academic year.

Central made two new faculty hires:

- + **Stavros Papakonstantinidis**, *right*, (B.A., State University of New York; M.S., Ithaca College; Ph.D., University of Leicester, United Kingdom), communication studies.
- + **Dan Vos**, *left*, (B.A., Dordt College; M.Div., Calvin Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Boston College), lecturer of religious studies.

Three assistant professors earned tenure and promotion to associate professor:

- + **Elizabeth Golovatski** (B.S., Saint Ambrose University; Ph.D., University of Iowa), physics. She has been with Central since 2015.
- + **Lee Macomber** (B.S., Cornell University; M.S., Ph.D., University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), biology.

He has been with Central since 2015.

- + **Mark Thomas** (B.A., University of Notre Dame; M.A., Ph.D., Boston College), philosophy and religious studies. He has been with Central since 2015.

Emeritus status has been awarded to the following Central faculty:

- + **Jeffrey Bass** (B.A., Sarah Lawrence; M.A., University of Chicago; M.A., Ph.D., University of California, San Diego), anthropology. He started at Central in 2007 and was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor of anthropology in 2012.
- + **Dennis Doyle** (B.A., University of Northern Iowa; M.S., University of North Texas; Ph.D., Southern Illinois University-Carbondale), communication studies. He started at Central in 1989 and was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor of communication studies in 1994. He was promoted to professor of communication studies in 2005.



▲ BLUEFRAME TECHNOLOGY BECOMES CENTRAL'S OFFICIAL VIDEO STREAMING PARTNER

Central announced a partnership with BlueFrame Technology as the official video streaming platform of the college.

BlueFrame is one of the country's premier video livestreaming providers, partnering with more than 1,000 colleges, high schools and athletics organizations across North America. BlueFrame has partnerships with more than 40 collegiate conferences and organizations spanning all levels of competition, including the United States Collegiate Athletic Association.

Central began streaming all home Dutch football games through BlueFrame

on Saturday, Sept. 11, for the team's first home game against Kalamazoo College. In addition, Central will stream other athletics and non-athletics events, making Central the first college to use BlueFrame technology across its entire campus.

Live events for athletics, performing arts, academic affairs, lecture series and more may now be streamed at centraldutchnetwork.com. Central Dutch Network also is available through native apps on several devices, including mobile, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV and Roku.



▲ PROFESSOR RUSS BENEDICT FEATURED ON DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Russ Benedict, professor of biology, was featured on The Discovery Channel show "Expedition X" on Sept. 8.

An expert in Midwestern bats, Benedict was asked by producers to help them learn more about bats as a way of potentially solving the mystery of Iowa's famed "Van Meter Monster." For decades, people in Central Iowa have reported seeing a mysterious night creature with some of the characteristics of a bat.

"The hosts of the show were very enthusiastic to see and learn about these mysterious animals, and the bat population did not disappoint," Benedict says.

Benedict has taught at Central since 2002 and has spent most of his life exploring the prairies and woods of the Midwest. Although his graduate education emphasized mammals, he loves to study birds, insects, plants and all other aspects of nature.



▲ PROFESSOR SHAWN WICK PUBLISHED IN TOP-TIER SOCIOLOGY JOURNAL

Shawn Wick, associate professor of sociology, has co-authored an article published in “Social Forces,” a top-tier sociology journal.

The article, titled “The Effects of High Stakes Educational Testing on Enrollments in an Era of Hyper-Expansion: Cross-National Evidence, 1960-2010,” investigates how national high-stakes exams affect educational expansion across the world. It was co-authored by Jared Furuta, humanities and sciences dean’s postdoctoral fellow at Stanford University; and Evan Schofer, professor of sociology at University of California, Irvine.

“For this project, we were trying to understand the varied ways education systems around the world are structured, how they change over time and examine the consequences these systems produce for individuals and societies,” Wick says.

Wick and his co-authors show that high-stakes exams limit educational expansion and access by collecting and analyzing data from 142 countries. According to Wick, the limitations high-stakes exams place on educational expansion persist despite significant global pressures to provide equal access to education.

“Institutions can change, but often do so slowly over time,” Wick says. “Countries that initially adopted a more constrained

educational model with high-stakes exams face a range of obstacles in transitioning to a system with more open access to schooling.”

At Central, Wick teaches a course on the sociology of education to help students understand the complex relationships schools, both in the United States and abroad, share with key institutions such as the family or economy.

“It is important as a student of sociology, and as members of our respective communities, to appreciate how our lives are interconnected. To understand how policies and practices, perhaps set in motion long ago, shape the opportunities and everyday lives of individuals today,” he says. “As a professor, I seek to demonstrate to students how sociology is particularly well-equipped to make sense of this complexity.”

Wick has taught at Central since 2011 and specializes in international development, globalization and sociology of education and organizations.

2021 KUYPER, ROLSCREEN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Seven students in the Class of 2025 were recipients of this year’s full-tuition Kuyper Scholarships and Rolscreen Foundation Scholarships, the most prestigious awards granted at the college.

Peter H. Kuyper founded Rolscreen Company, known today as Pella Corporation. The Kuyper family has

provided financial assistance to Central students since 1952.

“The Kuyper family has a long-standing tradition of service, generosity and commitment to Central,” says **Sunny Gonzales Eighmy ’99**, vice president for advancement. “Their investment in our students and a Central education helps open many doors over their lifetimes. We are so thankful for their generosity and support.”

Students who were selected participated in Central’s Scholar Days. All have at least a 3.7 GPA.

The following students were awarded scholarships:

- + **Evan Hackett** of Tempe, Arizona, recipient of the P.H. Kuyper Full-Tuition Scholarship
- + **Victor Nop** of Huxley, Iowa, recipient of the H.S. Kuyper Full-Tuition Scholarship
- + **Kallie Wallick** of Tipton, Iowa, recipient of the M. Joan Kuyper Farver Full-Tuition Scholarship
- + **Patrick Krapfl** of Ames, Iowa, recipient of the Rolscreen Scholarship
- + **Kalli Peebler** of Altoona, Iowa, recipient of the Rolscreen Scholarship
- + **Nicholas Reid** of Batavia, Illinois, recipient of the Rolscreen Scholarship
- + **Anna Venenga** of Washington, Iowa, recipient of the Rolscreen Scholarship



▲ 2021 HOMECOMING COURT

Central announced its Homecoming court and royalty winners during a ceremony Friday, Oct. 1. **Terry Hefel ’22**, **Megan Reem ’21**, **Brayden Egli ’22** and **John Zeitler ’22** were selected to the Homecoming court. **Cassidy Frana ’22** and **Thomas Spoehr ’22**, center, were crowned Homecoming royalty.



▲ 2021 SERVICE DAY

Central held its annual Service Day on Oct. 5 with more than 630 volunteers taking part in 43 projects. Service Day has been a cornerstone of the Central experience since 2006.

Students, faculty and staff volunteered for projects in the Des Moines, Pella, Oskaloosa, Grinnell, Newton and Ottumwa area. Service day is organized by Central's Office of Community-Based Learning and is part of the college's commitment to service-learning throughout the year.

In total, there were 1,975.5 hours donated with an economic impact of more than \$49,000.

Projects included sodding three different properties for Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity; winterizing outdoor garden areas; and sorting and packaging food.

Other highlights of the day include:

- + 6,912 meals packaged for Meals from the Heartland.
- + 1,000+ kits assembled for The Project Primary Health Care.
- + 500+ trees mulched for Barnswallow Flowers and Produce.
- + 400 toothbrush kits assembled for Drake Head Start.



◀ PROFESSOR STAVROS PAKONSTANTINIDIS PUBLISHES CHAPTER IN ACADEMIC HANDBOOK

Stavros Papakonstantinidis, associate professor of communication studies, has co-authored a chapter published in "The Emerald Handbook of Women and Entrepreneurship in Developing Economies."

It examines women's roles in entrepreneurial practices in a range of developing countries by analyzing, interpreting and understanding certain themes and issues. The book brings a global range of scholarly voices to examine women and entrepreneurship in developing nations, exploring their practices and motivations in relation to individual, societal and institutional factors. Gender roles, role models and entrepreneurial ecosystems are issues the book aims to question.

The chapter, titled "Digital Natives Entrepreneurial Mindset: A Comparative

Study in Emerging Markets," analyzes cultural and social entrepreneurial differences between men and women in Kuwait and Serbia, with a focus on digital marketing strategies. It was co-authored by Piotr Kwiatek, associate professor at Kozminski University in Warsaw, Poland, and Radoslav Baltezarevic, vice dean for graduate studies and scientific research and professor of marketing, communication and management at Megatrend University in Belgrade, Serbia.

"My research background is to understand how people who are presumed to be Generation Z, or digital natives, use technology," Papakonstantinidis says.

The study focuses on males and females ages 18-25 and measures both their ability and desire to own a business. The book states socialized gender roles, not biological gender, play an important part in entrepreneurship.

The study shows females in both countries demonstrate a positive attitude toward using social media for entrepreneurial activities. Although technology drives emotional intelligence, females would like to receive more guidance and encouragement to feel more confident to start a business.

"Women feel they need more empowerment and education to start their own business, whereas men typically feel the opposite," Papakonstantinidis says. "The Middle East is a male-dominant society, so they don't feel they need an expert opinion outside of their family. Women see entrepreneurship as a way to break away from the gender stereotypes of the Middle East. Entrepreneurship gives women the opportunity to work and not rely on the state or their father or husband's income."

While Papakonstantinidis doesn't necessarily see the study as a breakthrough, he says it shows how entrepreneurship can be used to disrupt social stereotypes.

"This study identifies a need for young women seeking social and economic opportunities," Papakonstantinidis says. "Women's entrepreneurship has been designated as an engine of economic development for these countries."

This research is ongoing and will continue to explore effective methods to encourage entrepreneurship in emerging markets.

This is Papakonstantinidis' first year teaching at Central. His expertise includes digital, strategic and organizational communications, public relations and advertising.

AN

OF OPPORTUNITIES

THE GROWTH OF WOMEN'S
ATHLETICS AT CENTRAL

STORY BY: LARRY HAPPEL '81

The 10th NCAA Division III Championship trophy won by a Central women's team was hoisted in 2003 by softball captains **Libby Hysell Carlton '03**, **Mary Vande Hoef '03**, **Kris Hughes Gardner '03** and **April Miller Hicks '03** in Salem, Virginia.



Jann Freed '77 faced a dilemma.

She was a catcher for the Central College softball team and had a doubleheader one cool April day in 1974 at Grand View University.

But there was no team bus.

Coach **Gary Boeyink's** instructions to his players were to meet him at the field in Des Moines.

"I didn't have a car," Freed says. "And I remember my roommate at the time said, 'Well, I'll give you a ride up there but let's go shopping first.' I was a little late for the game but, you know, it was like, not a big deal."

Today, the Central softball squad is a perennial national contender. And, while the Dutch aren't boarding private jets for road games, athletes aren't forced to handle their own travel logistics.

In fact, Central is a recognized women's athletics leader, playing an integral role in incorporating female athletes within the NCAA.

WOMEN WINNERS

The Dutch captured the NCAA's first-ever women's national championship. In addition, 10 of the college's 11 national team championships were won by women's teams. But there were some stumbles at the dawn of women's intercollegiate athletics competition in the early 1970s, which were particularly obvious to those who grew up in Iowa, where girls high school athletics had uniquely thrived for decades.

"I was shocked," says Freed, who later served on Central's business management faculty from 1981-2011. "My high school team was better than my college team. I was playing with women on the college team who had never played competitive ball. I had been playing competitive softball since third grade."

Nearly 50 years ago, Title IX of the education amendments was issued on June 23, 1972, declaring: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." The implications of that legislation are still being sorted out by the courts today but in 1972 it spurred a scramble among colleges and universities to ramp up women's intercollegiate athletics programming.

Many take justifiable pride in Central's transformative role in providing opportunities for women to excel in athletics. Yet Central was not the first school in Iowa to launch a



A delayed call at home plate with two outs in the bottom of the seventh inning gave Central a thrilling come-from-behind 3-2 walkoff NCAA softball title winner over Allegheny College (Pa.) in 1988 in Elmhurst, Illinois. **Coach George Wares** (left), **Brenda Vigness Coldren '89** (#20), **Laurie Suttan Flynn '88**, **Diane Pitz Magnani '89** (#29) and the rest of the Dutch start the celebration.

women's intercollegiate athletics program. Still, President Emeritus **Ken Weller**, the school's president from 1969-90, insists it wasn't the legal realities of Title IX that forced the college's hand. The seeds for the school's program were sown well before then.

"It was really a matter of I felt we should do it, I thought we could do it and I thought it would be good for women," he says.

MISSION ACCEPTED

Weller also knew who he wanted to lead the charge.

While on sabbatical at the University of Iowa in 1971-72, physical education faculty member **Boeyink '59** became friends with fellow graduate student Christine Grant. She later served as Iowa's women's athletics director and became a prominent voice nationally, along with Bonnie Slatton, who also emerged as a women's athletics leader. The conversations with these leaders sparked a mission already stirring in Boeyink's mind.

"I thought a lot of women were missing out on opportunities that men were having," he says. "I'd been involved in athletics all my life and it was my love, but then I saw the meager opportunities women had in athletics up to that point."

Boeyink brought that energy back to Central's campus. When he was called to Weller's office, he found that he had kindred spirits in the Central president and **Ron Schipper**, long-time football coach and athletics director.

"Ken saw things the way I did," Boeyink says.

Women's club sports were developing then, and former physical education faculty member **Thelma Goodwin** sped up their development in leading the campus Women's Recreation Association. The line between club and varsity competition was a bit fuzzy for a few years, but the official launch of Central's women's intercollegiate programs was 1973-74. Boeyink served as the school's first women's basketball and softball coach.

IOWA'S INFLUENCE

Many women competing at Central then did not see themselves as pioneers. The feeling in other parts of the country might have differed, but athletes from Iowa had grandmothers who had played high school basketball. Competing felt natural.

"To me, it was just like, why wouldn't I play softball?" Freed says. "I'd always been playing softball."

Lisa Broek '83, a national champion sprinter, CoSIDA Academic All-American and NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship winner, had a similar view, coming from Sioux Center, Iowa. She recently retired after serving for 25 years as Director of Health Promotion in the Hamre Center for Health and Wellness at Macalester College in Minnesota.

"I was in high school volleyball, basketball and track and never really thought about it as being cutting edge," she says. "I didn't think of it as this transformational time in our nation. It hit me the most when I was at Macalester and was talking to the associate A.D. there, who is probably six or seven years



These 10 women rolled up 151 points to give Central a runaway win in the first NCAA Division III Women's Track and Field Championship in 1982 in Naperville, Illinois. Front row (left to right): **Jackie Schwerts Duffy '85N**, **Rose Van Egmond '84**, **Jean Sedlacek Manecke '85**, **Lisa Broek '83**, **Macie Thurn Rohach '83**, **Nancy Cisar Nelson '84** and **Kim Lehman Honert '84N**. Back row: **Laurie Haddy Hepker '83**, **Cam Ratering McCalmont '82** and **Paula Casey Cooper '82**.

older than me. We were talking about sports and she had never participated in them. And I was like, what are you talking about? And then it dawned on me how lucky I was that I was in an era of opportunity.”

Initially it was a bumpy ride transforming an eight-sport men's program into a 14-sport program with women. After a 3-13 women's basketball season, the athletics department's season report offered an unvarnished assessment: “The team suffered from lack of experience, lack of size and lack of shooting ability,” it moaned.

On the team's lone overnight trip to Orange City and Sioux Center, the players stayed in a Northwestern College dorm. Freed notes the college didn't have a softball field, so she had to pedal her bicycle to the east side of Pella to a community field for practice. The players wore blue jeans and matching polyester t-shirts at games. Broek recalls indoor track practices in the gymnasium, with the doors flung open so that sprints could extend into the lobby for baton handoffs.

The struggles were not unique. Many schools, including the largest, tried to gain their footing. Central's early schedules sometimes included contests with the University of Iowa and Iowa State University that resulted in Dutch victories.

“They weren't any further ahead than we were and, in some ways, behind,” Boeyink says.

BROAD SUPPORT

Weller worked hard to ensure equity, separating Central from many schools.

“I strongly wanted women's athletics to prosper and Coach Schipper did, too,” he says. “We wanted them to share the same advantages and also the same difficulties that the men's teams faced in those days.” Central quickly began making a name in women's athletics:

- + Goodwin's women's tennis squad was 9-2 in its initial season.
- + Coach **Maurine Timmer** built one of the state's top women's golf programs.
- + And the Dutch emerged as a powerhouse in women's cross country and track and field behind the relentless recruiting and coaching of **Bill Herzog**, an education department faculty member who left the college in 1978.

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

The first national organizing body for women's athletics was the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women. It started conducting championships in the late 1970s. Central won the 16-team 1979 AIAW state track championships by more than

100 points. The cross country team made Central's first trip to an AIAW Division III national meet in 1979. Despite losing its co-MVPs **Deb Worden Ziskovsky '81** and **Lori Nolte '82** to injury, the team still finished fourth as **Cam Ratering McCalmont '82**, earned Central's first women's all-America award in 1981, and young coach **Jane Kors** took Central to its first national AIAW track and field meet in Hayward, California, placing fifth as seven athletes earned all-America honors.

Weller's NCAA involvement gave him a platform to promote women's athletics. An NCAA Division III Steering Committee member and Division III philosophy author, Weller helped deftly steer legislation that was approved at the 1980 convention providing for women's championships in Divisions II and III. He was appointed, along with Judy Sweet of University of California, San Diego, as Division III representatives to the Special Committee on NCAA Governance, Organization and Services, created to oversee incorporation of women's programs within the NCAA.

AIAW leaders offered stiff resistance. They viewed the well-financed NCAA as a male-dominated organization. Weller and others instead saw the move as a way to expand opportunities for women.

The first NCAA Championship, the Division III cross country meet, was conducted in November 1979. Weller and Shirely, his wife, stood on the snow-covered hills of Kenosha, Wisconsin, proudly watching Central capture that first title with a dominant performance. Central's Kors chaired the first Division III Track and Field Championships Committee. Weller often notes with a smile the symbolism of Kors, several months pregnant, presenting the first championship trophy to Dutch Coach Mike Sullivan, birthing a new era in the NCAA.

Just six months later, Central captured another national crown, winning the 1982 women's track and field title by an even more lopsided margin. Broek and her 4x100-meter relay teammates raced to the first of their two NCAA individual crowns.

Another impactful Central voice was Dean of Students **Marjorie Giles**, who lacked an athletics background but developed a love for Central's student-athletes. She had no idea how to attack a Cover 2 football defense, but Weller chose her to serve as a faculty athletics representative because of her sound judgment. Her involvement grew and she helped shepherd the incorporation of women's athletics into



Central capped an improbable run to the 1993 NCAA Division III women's basketball crown with a victory over Capital University (Ohio) before a raucous P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium crowd. The team's seniors accepted the trophy (left to right): **Jayna Blom Gossling '93, Tracy Wilson Calvert '93, Tiffanie Corey Saak '93, Teresa McGovern Hulleman '93 and Chris Rogers Healy '93.**

the Iowa Conference in 1982. She served as the league's first female president in 1991-92 after rising to receive appointment as Division III representative to the NCAA Council from 1990-94.

Schipper's support is sometimes overlooked. Influential nationally as a member of the powerful NCAA Football Television Committee and later as president of the American Football Coaches Association, he was an enthusiastic women's sports advocate at a time when many football coaches were resistant.

"Schipper's vision was we needed a women's program, they deserve it, they ought to have it, and I'm going to do what I can to see that it happens," Boeyink told **Lori Witt**, associate professor of history, in her insightful published essay on the origins of the Division III philosophy.

Schipper was a visible presence — and a booming voice — at countless Central women's events.

"When I was pitching, the two people I could always hear in the stands were my dad and Coach Schipper," says **Emily Grimes Rottinghaus '94**, a two-time all-America softball pitcher. "He was supportive of all the athletics programs and truly cared for every Central College athlete and coach."

"Coach Schipper was everywhere," Broek says. "It was very clear that he was an athletics director for all sports."

THE IMPACT OF WOMEN'S ATHLETICS

In her work at Macalester, Broek looked beyond trophies and titles as she grew to understand the impact athletics participation can have on women's development.

"It helped with my confidence, my ability to form relationships with others and a sense of leadership that really instills the idea that you can take what you've learned in an athletics setting and move forward as a team," she says. "I think these ideas of relationship-

building and teamwork and communication, which we all need in any kind of setting, are started in sports in college, at least they were for me."

She says she's fortunate.

"I think of the confluence of things that allowed me to shine in athletics," she says. "A president who really cared about athletics and about me as an individual. An athletics director who was kind of this grizzled football coach but really did care about us and wanted women's teams to be successful. And Title IX passed so there was this movement on behalf of women in sports that I wasn't even aware of at the time.

"I'm so grateful all of those things came together to really impact my life. I mean, those are some of my favorite Central memories." ■

For an up-to-date schedule of all sports, visit athletics.central.edu/calendar.



STORY BY:
**JEANETTE BUDDING AND
CYVANNAH VECCHIO**

Life, Love and the *Pursuit* of Something *More*

Central College's tradition of service runs deep. It's a key component of the college's ethos. From Service Day to experiential learning in courses, Central students learn how to make a difference. Several Central alumnae share how they discovered their life's missions and are devoting their lives to the pursuit of callings bigger than themselves.

STARTING WITH SARAH

A warm September breeze gently blew in through the open door out to The Brew's patio as early afternoon sunlight pooled on the floor near the entrance. Relaxed chatter from the lunchtime crowd and the comforting aroma of coffee filled the air. It was the perfect summer-to-autumn transition day, and it inspired **Sarah Fosdick Turnbull '00** to order a vanilla sweet cream cold brew — the ideal drink for a fall-ish taste with a summer feel.

The setting was right for a properly caffeinated, deep dive into Turnbull's life. A life that until 2007 was all but picture perfect.

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Turnbull grew up in Mediapolis, a pretty little town nestled in southeastern Iowa. The kind of place where you are friends with your neighbors and the entire community congregates at Cartwright Park for national holiday celebrations and special events, lawn chairs in tow. Central wasn't really on her radar. Mostly because she came from a farming family, which meant a private, liberal arts education felt financially out of reach to the Fosdicks.

"My parents kept pushing me toward state universities because they didn't think I could afford a college like Central," Turnbull

recalls. "But with scholarships, as well as Central's financial aid, it was actually just as reasonable for me to go to Central as it was a state university."

And Central was where she wanted to go. So, to Central she came, with dreams of getting a taste of all her interests: education, law, marketing and global experiences.

LIVING THE DREAM

By choosing a liberal arts education, Turnbull effectively made her dreams come true — no fairy godmother required. She earned a degree in communication studies/theatre and a secondary education endorsement; participated in Student Senate, speech, choir and theatre; and studied abroad in London, England.

"I had an internship with a member of Parliament," Turnbull reminisces. "It was really exciting!"

Postgraduation found Turnbull putting her dreams to work. After a couple of years of working for an insurance company in Des Moines, she found her way back to Central, working in the Study Abroad Office.

"The great thing about Central is it prepared me for being well rounded and open to working in other areas," she says. "Even if it wasn't my major."

When life happens, as it did to Turnbull, learning to pivot is a necessary requirement.

TURNBULL'S TURNING POINT

In 2002, the same year she decided to make her return to Central as an employee, Turnbull married **Travis Turnbull '99** in 2002 at the Chapel on Central's campus. Though they knew of each other during their time at Central, they didn't make a heart connection until the fall after she graduated from Central.

"We got married two years from the day that we first went out," Turnbull bashfully admits. A fitting venue for a Forever Dutch® couple, who were still recent enough grads that the \$40 alumni discount to book the Chapel was an attractive benefit.

Two years of career enjoyment and marital bliss passed. When the Turnbull's first child, a son named Treyton, was born in 2004, things changed.

"The biggest reason I left Central was because I had a family," Turnbull says. The on-the-road requirements within the study abroad department were extensive, which became too difficult for her as a young wife and new mother. "I didn't want to leave; it was the nature of a lifestyle change."

FLASH OF EXCITEMENT

Turnbull worked as a stay-at-home mom for about a year before she realized she needed an outlet.

"I found out I was too much of a goer," Turnbull says. "I needed something on the side."

Thankfully, her liberal arts education from Central prepared her for more than a career in communications.

"The basis of my entire life is being able to go with the ebbs and flows of life," Turnbull reflects. "Sometimes we pigeonhole ourselves into our degrees — we think, 'This is what we must do.' I think people need to realize that at the core, Central is preparing you for the real world in general.

"Yes, you're going to be trained in a certain area, but you're going to be well rounded," Turnbull emphasizes. "So, your career might not be in your actual degree."

It was with this adaptive mentality that Sarah's Studio came into existence.

"I had always done photography on the side as one of my hobbies," Turnbull says. "That, and because Central prepared me to do all the things related to owning a business, gave me the confidence to delve in."

Turnbull's photography business took off, and the flexibility of creating her own schedule over the next 15 years was crucial for her to be there for her family in the critical moments to come.



Sarah Fosdick Turnbull '00, far left, poses with friends after graduation from Central College in May 2000.



Sarah Fosdick Turnbull '00, far left, and her colleague served "Dutch style" on EMS bikes during Tulip Time.

ENTER STELLA

Turnbull knew she couldn't launch into a full-time career rather than teaching game. At least, it became clear when her daughter Stella was born in 2007.

She paused for a moment and took a sip of her summer-meets-autumn coffee. Refreshed, Turnbull settled in to tell Stella's story — and what inspired her to get into public service.

Stella was born healthy as far as anyone could tell. But Turnbull's intuition told her something was off.

"During the entire pregnancy, it felt like something wasn't right," she says. "Even though there was nothing medically pointed out to us, I felt like God was preparing me for something."

Stella was born with a mottled appearance, immediately tipping off the Turnbulls and medical staff that something wasn't right. At around one month old, Stella became floppy and quit breathing while in her car seat. The Turnbulls took her to Mayo Clinic seeking answers.

"They basically told us to 'Take her home and love her, there's nothing else you can do,'" Turnbull says. "We were told she had spinal muscular atrophy — she was the most severe they had ever seen — and that was it."

In addition to SMA, Stella also was diagnosed with a vascular condition — she is

the only documented case in the entire world with both conditions. Still, the Turnbulls went home with nothing for their newborn daughter. No equipment. No strategies. No help.

"They told us she would pass away in her sleep," Turnbull says. "So, how do you even go to sleep? It was truly the grace of God supporting us because I would literally sit up in bed and hold her because I wasn't going to let her pass away by herself."

Despite being faced with constant decisions, swirling emotions, a lengthening list of questions and the always-present fear they would have to prepare for a funeral, the Turnbulls managed to fight for the family's quality of life and enjoy every moment they had together.

THERE WAS HOPE

The first two years of Stella's life included a couple of episodes of stopped breathing, multiple emergency visits and many ups and downs — a high point being the birth of her brother, Sayer, in 2008. However, even that wasn't without its complications.

Drug therapies were available for Sayer if he had SMA, however it meant he had to be tested in utero so a specialized doctor could be flown in for the delivery. He had a 50% chance of carrying the gene. So, the Turnbulls made the decision to have Sayer tested in utero.



HAYLEY MULLINS '15

HOMETOWN: Bedford, Texas

MAJOR: Athletic Training

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:

Residence Life, Study Abroad (Wales) and Intramural Sports

SCHOLARSHIPS: Presidential and German Language

CAREER: Police Officer, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

AREA OF PUBLIC SERVICE: Law Enforcement

Hayley Mullins '15 cultivated her enjoyment of serving others at Central College. Serving others postgraduation was always part of the plan.

"During my time in the athletic training program at Central, I learned how to work with others and help athletes when they were injured as well as through their recovery process," the Texas native shares. "I knew when I graduated, I would go into a field that involved helping others."

Mullins graduated from the police academy in October 2021 and is still unsure of what the full scope of a law enforcement career will look like for her. However, she is determined to set a positive tone in her community.

"My job is about helping people on their worst days, and hopefully making a difference in their lives," Mullins says. "I want to help people and serve in the community I live. I want to be a positive role model."

She encourages others to use the Central experience to acquire a broader worldview by studying abroad and as an opportunity to create a network of connections.

"Central is a great place for an education," Mullins says. "It's also a great place to meet people and gain world knowledge."



Stella Turnbull receives a SPINRAZA injection into spinal fluids every four months to stop progression of spinal muscular atrophy and maintain strength.

"I'll never forget the day the doctor called me to say he doesn't even carry the gene," Turnbull says.

Relief, even at recounting the experience, visibly washed over her. And as time went on, Turnbull became a pioneer for SMA education and advocacy.

LEADING THE CHARGE FOR CHANGE

"I feel like I'm kind of a matriarch of the disease," she explains. "SMA is a rare disease — it affects one in 10,000 kids right at birth — and both parents have to be carriers. We didn't know we were carriers; we have nothing in our lineage, and Travis and I both had grandparents who were big on genealogy, and there wasn't anything to indicate genetic defects."

It became clear to Turnbull once they had a handle on Stella's needs that she would need to advocate for other SMA families going through crisis while in the process of learning about the disease. In 2010, Turnbull joined other SMA families in speaking at the National Institute of Health in Washington, D.C., where it was being decided whether gene therapy would be moved on toward approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

"It was such a cool experience," Turnbull shares. "We all had blown up pictures of our

children to say, 'This is why it's so important for children to be tested at birth. If they can get gene therapy, which literally reverses the disease, they can lead normal lives — which not only affects the child, but the entire family and generations to come.'"

Long story short: It got approved. Now anyone up to age two who is diagnosed with SMA can get therapy. But it doesn't stop there. There are only two other therapies available to kids, even if they don't meet the under-two-years-old threshold. Stella is taking SPINRAZA®.

The next step? Newborn screening.

"We started advocating for newborn screening. Now that we have these three treatment options, we need to get these kids screened for SMA," Turnbull insists. "People could argue, 'Well, it only affects one in 10,000 people,' but if you can completely reverse that for one child out of 10,000, it's a win."

However, there are only so many spots on a newborn blood spot screening card.

"We knew there was one more spot on Iowa's card, so we advocated for SMA to get on there," Turnbull delineates. "As of September of this year, on newborn screening — and at the top of the screening panel in Iowa — is that very last blood spot for SMA testing."

HER STELLA-R CHOICE

Turnbull often marvels over Stella's life and journey.

"She has been given so many miracles, it's really crazy," Turnbull says. "But that has been her path — to show God's glory through her life. We've seen people come to know the Lord through her. So when her day comes, I will never question the purpose of that."

The dimly lit coffee shop did nothing to hide the sparkle in Turnbull's eyes as she pored over the past and relived the moment when she realized her purpose was rooted in what she felt called to do.

"I love photography. It was pertinent for a specific chapter of my life, but it was time for me to give back," she says. "I felt God was very much leading me to that. And several times I said, 'There's no way I could do that. What if we don't have enough nursing care for Stella? What if ...?' I was just seeing a whole bunch of roadblocks and I just didn't understand how I could do that."

Five years slipped by as Turnbull tried to quiet the cry of her heart. That's when she heard the song "Do Something" by Matthew West. The lyrics, "If not us, then who? If not me and you? Right now, it's time for us to do something. If not now, then when will we see an end to all this pain? Oh, it's not enough to do nothing; it's time for us to do something."

It prompted her to make a purposeful and monumental life change.

"I realized I'm prepared to do this because of what I've been through with my daughter," Turnbull says. "If I don't do it, who will? And I know I can do it. I realized that because of my experience with Stella, I had turned into this person who runs toward life. It was because of Stella that I went into service."

SHIFT CHANGE

Her primary focus in life, aside from her family, is giving back to the community. So, in 2019, Turnbull became an emergency medical technician. She had only a few months of normal emergency medical services experience before COVID-19 hit.

Turnbull was given the option to step back amid ever-changing protocols because of Stella.

"I had a talk with my family about it," Turnbull shares. "And we decided that this is what I was called to do, so that's what I was going to do."

Turnbull hauled a lot of patients from Pella to Des Moines and thankfully never contracted the virus. *(continued on page 18)*



The Terrific Turnbulls

Left to right: Treyton, Travis '99, Stella, Sarah '00 and Sayer Turnbull.

“It was really tough seeing people get so sick so fast,” she recalls. “But it was rewarding to help them. I knew I was needed.”

Though it was an interesting time in history for Turnbull to jump into EMS, it gave her invaluable experience — and sparked her desire to do more.

“I found that there were things I couldn’t do for patients because I was an EMT,” she laments. “It bothered me that I couldn’t do other things to help patients. So, I decided I needed to go forward. And now I’m in paramedic school.”

LIFELONG LEARNER

Nearly 20 years after graduating from Central, Turnbull started the yearlong process of becoming a paramedic in August 2021. When she completes the program, she will be a certified paramedic for the Pella community, where she is already part of the EMS team.

“The crew feels like family,” Turnbull confides. “We each have different scenarios that are triggers for us as individuals during calls. We’ve got a great crew here that’s big on making sure you take care of yourself after tough calls.”

Turnbull was a full-time EMT prior to starting paramedic school, but she was used to being on call all the time anyway.

“I’m used to going home at night and sleeping with one eye open because we don’t have home nursing at night,” she says. “So, we are always on call. It prepared me well for this job.”

Turnbull believes public service can complement a career.

“I would encourage people to look into EMT classes,” Turnbull suggests. “I know lots of people who do it in addition to a career; you don’t have to do it full time. So many communities are looking for volunteers since there’s a shortage of EMTs across the board.

“Don’t let a lack of knowledge scare you if you don’t have a medical background. You’ll get trained on all those things. If you have a heart for others, look into it!”

SPEAK UP AND SPEAK LOUD

Her training in flexibility and adaptation was truly cultivated by life experience. And Turnbull also credits Central with beginning that formative process.

“Central prepared me to think outside the box,” she says. “It began with ‘How am I going to help my daughter?’ which turned into ‘How am I going to help the patient I come upon when I have no idea what’s going on with them?’ I’m not sure I would have had that experience at every other college I could have attended.”

Turnbull’s experiences in student

government, as well as her involvement in other activities at Central, also were a natural segue to advocacy in the real world.

“All the opportunities I had at Central helped me learn to have a voice for others,” she explains. “I’m now advocating for others who maybe aren’t as bold or can’t stand up for themselves because they’re afraid.

“Everything at Central — from activities and studying abroad to my studies and service — was shaped around having a heart for others. Central’s culture is the ability to interact with other populations and celebrate diversity through inclusivity. People don’t expect to get that in Pella, Iowa, but Central makes it a priority.”

HIGHLIGHT HER

Do you know an incredible Central College alumna whose story deserves to be told? Tell us about her and she may be featured in a future issue of Civitas! Share with us at central.edu/highlight-her.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

There must be something in the water in southeastern Iowa. The kind of something that inspires you to want to be a civil servant. Because there is a short, 15-ish mile distance between Turnbull's hometown of Mediapolis and Burlington, which is where Central's next heroine hails from.

INSPIRATIONS

Lisa Schwalenberg Johnson '07 is a part-time paramedic for the City of West Des Moines Fire and Emergency Service Station. Her performance in public service takes passion — a devotion developed close to home.

"I'm a paramedic," Johnson states. "I can say my mother was a significant influence in that passion.

"Mom and I just really love medicine, science and biology. Mom first got her EMT, and then subsequently got her firefighter's certification. She served with Polk City Fire Department and as a volunteer for 11 years. I saw her love for that. And when I was

younger, we used to watch TV shows like 'Rescue 911' and 'ER.' My love of medicine flourished between her and those shows.

"Plus, I got a really good science-based education at Central. When I went to Central, I was going for a pre-med degree to go to medical school. I basically lived in the Vermeer Science Center for three and a half years."

REALITY OF A PARAMEDIC

A paramedic is a health care professional who works in ambulances in response to 9-1-1 calls and interfacility transports. During any 12-hour shift, Johnson may attend to individuals with a heart attack, stroke, car crash, labor and delivery, mental-health crisis, shooting or an elderly person who has fallen.

It's not the TV series '9-1-1: Lone Star' with Rob Lowe running the show. Johnson admits she watched 'Chicago Fire's' first episode.

"The TV program writers definitely glamorized the fire and emergency services. I

couldn't watch past the first show," she says.

"I work as a team with a partner who is usually another paramedic or an emergency medical technician," Johnson says. "It's our job to figure out the puzzle and determine how to treat in the moment. Paramedics can give medications, start IVs and put breathing tubes down patient's throats. Our written protocols guide decisions, so if a patient is having chest pain, we have protocols to give them aspirin or give them a nitroglycerin."

It's a job that requires critical thinking skills.

"As you might expect, there is a gray area because a lot of conditions can cause chest pain. We look at the patient, assessing and taking their vital signs. We narrow down what we think is going on and then we form a treatment plan based on the assessment. We'd give nitroglycerin if the chest pain is cardiac in origin. But the patient may be having an aneurysm and their chest feels like it's tearing, called a thoracic aortic aneurysm or TAA," Johnson says. "This is where your aorta wall has a weak spot and it's getting bigger, which can cause some pretty bad chest pain. I've seen this and that patient did

(continued on page 22)



Lisa Schwalenberg Johnson '07, holding her son Riker, has served as a paramedic with the City of West Des Moines Fire and Emergency Services for the past 12 years.



The ambulance contains most of the equipment and supplies to diagnose and stabilize patients in an emergency, including back-saving, powered gurneys. **Lisa Schwalenberg Johnson '07** explains that the blue bag is carried into virtually every call as it has everything needed to start a treatment.

See Johnson's story at central.edu/lisa-johnson.



not make it. If we assess this, then we put the person in the ambulance and just drive because the ultimate way to treat them is by getting to the hospital.”

Currently, the West Des Moines full-time ambulance crew run 12-hour shifts. This changed from a 24-on/48-off schedule just before Johnson went part time in September 2020.

“It takes about three months to get your circadian rhythms shifted. This is the schedule of the firefighter team,” Johnson says.

“Staff come to work for 24 hours, and you basically live at the station. It’s like family. We cook meals together, train together, run calls together, sleep in the dorms and then we go home. If we’ve had a particularly difficult shift, it can mean taking a nap when we get home, which eats into your time off,” she adds.

The WDM department is busy, running 14,000 calls annually. It also provides support to Des Moines hospitals with transporting patients.

“The majority of calls that we have are, honestly, older people who have fallen down, and they’re not always injured. I thank God when they’re not injured because falls can be devastating for older people. We get serious car accidents because we cover a significant portion of the Des Moines bypass and Interstates 35/80. I’ve seen some serious traffic fatalities where people drove drunk or drove too fast. Some involved people who had medical events while they were driving and caused serious accidents. Those will live with me forever,” Johnson says.

THINKING ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Emergency medical and firefighter staff work some traumatic and gruesome accidents. Supportive mental health is a key component of their life at the station. Johnson explains the department has a peer support team, which is mental health support for department employees.

“Our department specifically has a peer support program I helped get started just before I went from full time to part time. We go to trainings to learn how to support our peers. The crew has access to the employee assistance program, which I personally have taken advantage of myself. Sometimes you go on calls that really stick with you. And sometimes it’s hard to come to work the next day because you’re afraid to go on another call,” Johnson says.

“We have a lot of resources. We can call peers, our supervisors. We can see a therapist on our own, and we support each other in that sense. There is no stigma because we all know what we have seen on calls. We all know how damaging it can be,” Johnson says. “I feel like there’s a lot more support here than in the general population. We know what makes it hard to come to work sometimes.”

As home away from home, the station has sleeping dorms, a common day room with TVs and lounge chairs, kitchen, laundry facilities and an equipment maintenance area. The firefighters are proficient with maintenance on the fire engines and can fix most basic issues. The station also has a nice fitness center.

“Staying fit is very important for our jobs, because there’s a lot of lifting involved,” Johnson says. “We go up and down stairs carrying lots of heavy equipment. The backpacks we take on calls, like the firefighters,’ weighs 30 or 40 pounds, plus our cardiac monitor and oxygen bags. We also need to provide care to heavier patients, as the population in general is heavier. Staying in shape is really important.”

REWARDS

“When I was younger, I did operate on the whole adrenaline junkie thing and was a risk taker,” Johnson says. “My mom and I went skydiving for her 50th birthday. I was 21 at the time. It was one of the best days of my life that was so much fun!”

The adrenaline rush has its rewards for Johnson, who has assisted on calls with narcotic or opioid overdoses.

“We carry Narcan in the unit. When we have someone who has overdosed, we start an IV and give them the drug. They are awake in about 30 seconds. We literally save their lives because we often find them blue and not breathing. When we give this medication they’re back to life. It’s transformational and incredible. Addiction is a major illness people struggle with and I like when I can be part of resolving the issue,” she says.

Similarly, Johnson has watched individuals, who have diabetes and very low blood sugar, be revived in minutes. Their life isn’t in as much peril as the heroin and narcotic overdoses, but Johnson says it’s still rewarding to watch them come back to life and the pink return to their skin.

It’s the instant gratification of emergency work.



MADI GAUSE WIESE '16

HOMETOWN: Grinnell, Iowa

MAJOR: Business Management, Emphasis in Finance

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:

Student Body President, Campus Activities Board, Student Orientation Staff, A Cappella Choir, Chamber Singers, Combos (ALMA)

SCHOLARSHIPS: Presidential, Trustee, Journey, Central Music Award, Special Central Grant and Bill '07H and Connie Boersma Hinga '07H Scholarship for Outstanding Campus Leadership

CAREER: Assistant Public Defender for the State of Iowa, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

AREA OF PUBLIC SERVICE: Public Legal Services

According to the old adage, it takes a village to raise a child. **Madi Gause Wiese '16** is a product of that community construct, which set her on a path toward civil servanthood. This village instilled in Wiese the belief that it’s imperative to give back and inspired her to pay it forward.

“I knew I wanted to use my privilege to help those with less,” Wiese says. “Just like others had once done for me.”

Wiese recently passed the bar after earning a law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law. She is now an assistant public defender for the state of Iowa based in Cedar Rapids.

“Being a public defender means not judging people based on the worst day or days of their lives,” Wiese says. “It means respecting people around you and meeting them where they’re at in life.”



City of West Des Moines paramedic, Lisa Schwalenberg Johnson '07, holding her son Riker, began her career in public service while a student at Central College.

LAYING THE GROUNDWORK

Central set the stage for Johnson's career. Johnson enjoyed all aspects about it, not just the class but the camaraderie with the other students. Her classmates were passionate about learning. Her classes prepared her for a career in public service.

"Central was warm and welcoming. We all challenged each other to get better grades. We were pushing each other constantly. I really enjoyed going to Central. I'm glad I went there versus going to a larger school," says Johnson, who majored in biology.

"I felt like I had really good relationships with all of the professors. I could go in and talk to them, ask them for help. I wasn't just another student sitting in a room. Central was just a great environment to learn. And that good learning environment helps foster your passion for what you're doing."

Johnson laughs while admitting she had a Central "Vermeer Nerds" t-shirt, shortened to "Ver-Nerds." It was funny and featured the top 10 reasons why Vermeer is the best building on Central campus.

Johnson appreciated the smaller campus (she could practically walk from one end to the other in five minutes), which helped when she volunteered with the Pella ambulance.

Doug Polking, Pella Community Ambulance chief in 2004, enrolled Johnson as a volunteer emergency medical technician beginning in 2005, while attending Central.

She occasionally would be called a couple of times a day during classes and had to get to her vehicle. The campus administration and faculty were very supportive of Johnson and the interruptions to her attendance in class. She learned great emergency care knowledge before going to the West Des Moines service.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Johnson's career journey is not finished. She came to Central seeking a pre-health degree to become a doctor but shifted focus when she went to Mercy College after graduation to become a paramedic. She admits she won't be a paramedic forever.

Being a paramedic is really hard on your body, Johnson says.

"The physical exertion part of this job paired with the mental exertion makes for a short career. When you see these horrific calls, like child abuse, people dying at a young age, overdoses that Narcan did not bring back, not a lot of people have a full career in this job field," she says.

Johnson plans to return to her higher education training to earn a bachelor's degree in nursing.

"Now that I'm a mom, I hope to become a registered nurse, like my mother," Johnson says. "I may even go for a nurse practitioner degree. I think I will always have a career in the medical field. It's my passion and Central set the stage." ■



Photo Supplied By: John Lovretta, The Hawk Eye

HILARY BEAIRD '14

HOMETOWN: Burlington, Iowa

MAJOR: Athletic Training

MINOR: Psychology

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:

Women's Basketball, Angler's Association and Club Associated with Athletic Training

SCHOLARSHIP: Journey

CAREER: Firefighter and EMT, Burlington Fire Department, Burlington, Iowa

AREA OF PUBLIC SERVICE: Firefighting and EMS

Hilary Beaird '14 is no stranger to public service. In fact, she was generationally destined to become a public servant.

"My family has been public servants for several generations, including my grandfather, father and brother," Beaird says. "I am humbled to follow in their footsteps."

Beaird, an athletic training major and psychology minor, also credits Central College with a role in her pursuit of public service.

"Being on the sidelines of sporting events jumpstarted my passion for being a first responder. Central's athletic training program is second to none and taught me many emergency skills I use today. Every year, we had an ambulance crew run us through emergency drills, which have become vital to my career," Beaird says.

As a firefighter at the Burlington Fire Department, Beaird spends most of her work days in an ambulance as an EMT running 9-1-1 calls and responding to fires. In addition, she is in paramedic school at Southeastern Community College.





CENTRAL SCENE

PHOTO BY: PAUL JOY

Meet some of Central's most influential female campus leaders, pictured *left to right*: **Gabby Petruzzello '24**, **Allison Stuenkel '22**, **Quinn Deahl '23**, **Sarah Ingalls '22**, **Yuan Bank '22**, **Maddie Clark '22**, **Zoe Runyon '22**, **Deja Holloway '24**, **Lindsey Blommers '23**, **Danae Greig '23**, **Carson Fisk '23** and **Grace Teig '23**.



For decades women have been blazing a trail in the male-dominated world of business. Over the past 20 years, the number of women entrepreneurs has increased by 114%, according to Inc. Magazine. In 2019, there were nearly 13 million women-owned businesses in the United States.

Since 1853, Central College has opened doors for women in business. Whether it's positively transforming the workplace, providing exceptional veterinary care or healing hearts through music, these Central alumnae are paving the way for the next generation of women entrepreneurs.

The possibilities are endless — and it all began at Central.



SINIKKA WAINIONPAA WAUGH '96

HOMETOWN: Indianola, Iowa

MAJORS: English and French

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES: InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Campus Ministries, A Cappella Choir, Chamber Singers, Study Abroad (Paris)

BUSINESS: Your Clear Next Step, LLC, Indianola, Iowa

Sinikka Wainionpaa Waugh '96 has a genuine heart for making things better than she found them. At Your Clear Next Step, LLC, Waugh helps people have better workdays.

“What’s a better workday? A day in which communication flows freely and effectively, leaders have the skills and capabilities they need to lead well, team members have the tools and skills they need to execute well on their day-to-day work and people, in general, interact with each other with

grace, even through periods of change,” says Waugh, who also serves on Central’s National Advisory Council.

Waugh and her team provide training and coaching for individuals, businesses and organizations in areas of leadership, communication and collaboration, project management, finance and emotional intelligence. Clients range from solo entrepreneurs, small mom-and-pop businesses to higher education and Fortune 500 companies.

“We want people to come home after a long day at work, and instead of being grouchy and miserable and bringing that negative energy home to their families, we want them to walk a little taller. Be a little kinder. Maybe even tip the pizza guy a little more generously when he shows up with dinner,” Waugh says.

As one could already guess, no day looks the same for Waugh. She even laughs at the question.



“Significant portions of my day are spent working with my team,” Waugh says. “I help lead, grow and support them with whatever they need.”

But her work doesn’t stop there. She cultivates sales and business development. Builds

Waugh wakes up every morning knowing she is fulfilling her true purpose in life: to help others be the best version of themselves.

“I know the hand of God has been with me on my journey, and this is who I am supposed to be,” Waugh says. “I’m able to

she would end up next, but Waugh was sure of three things:

1. Sundays were for church, no matter the location — or language — they found themselves living or learning.
2. Family will always be there.
3. If you have more than you need, you should share.

“When I was choosing what colleges to go to, I was deeply analytical at that point in my life,” Waugh says. “I had a spreadsheet organized by each college, and Central was always at the top of the list because of the characteristics I was looking for.”

Waugh was looking for a Christian liberal arts college with a specific size and distance from home and the nearest metro area. She also knew she wanted to study abroad in Paris or London and receive a teaching certification. There weren’t many colleges that could meet these criteria — except Central, Waugh says.

“I wanted to see if I could be my own person without my family so close to me, and Central allowed me to do that,” Waugh says. “It was an environment that reinforced the core values I held but allowed me to grow and challenge some of my beliefs and things I took for granted.”

Walter Cannon, professor emeritus of English, was the first to challenge Waugh’s assumptions of gender equality.

“As a woman, I believed I lived in a world where I could do anything I set my mind to because that’s how my parents raised me,”

“Being a strong, effective leader and public speaker requires authenticity. Both speak and read from the heart with our authentic selves. I bring 100% of who I am to work every day. It’s a genuine desire to help people in their own journeys.”

— Sinikka Wainionpaa Waugh '96

relationships with current and new clients. Speaks at conferences with audiences of 100-750 people at a time. Trains new clients. Waugh does it all, and she leads with authenticity.

“Being a strong, effective leader and public speaker requires authenticity,” Waugh says. “Both speak and lead from the heart with our authentic selves. I bring 100% of who I am to work every day. It’s a genuine desire to help people in their own journeys.”

use the gifts, talents and resources I’ve been given to help and serve others.”

One of the most important resources for Waugh was Central.

GROUNDING FOUNDATIONS

Waugh grew up in a tight-knit, military family, which means she moved around — a lot. Every nine to 18 months, her family packed everything they owned and moved to a new home. She didn’t always know where

Waugh says. “But Professor Cannon opened my eyes and challenged me to realize there was a glass ceiling that was still there, and there is still a difference between the way women and men are treated in the workplace.”

Without this realization, the male-dominated industry of project management would have been a shock to Waugh.

“There are organizations I’ve worked for or presented to where I had to wear a



GLEND A HENLE VAN WYK '02

HOMETOWN: Pella, Iowa

MAJOR: Biology

MINOR: Chemistry

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES: BioChem Club, Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society Charter President, Catholic Campus Ministries, Study Abroad (Kenya)

BUSINESS: Van Wyk Veterinary Clinic, Pella, Iowa

Glenda Henle Van Wyk '02 is a firm believer in the human-animal bond.

"I cannot imagine my life without animals," Van Wyk says. "Animals can be very therapeutic for people and can help them get through rough times, or even just life in general. That bond is so important to me."

Van Wyk has been working with animals nearly all her life. In elementary school, her Girl Scout troupe visited a local veterinary clinic. From that day on, Van Wyk knew she wanted to be a vet.

"My family didn't have very many pets growing up," Van Wyk says. "We had a cat and a dog, but once I stepped foot in that clinic, I knew that's exactly what I wanted to do in life. From that day on, I always told my parents 'I'm going to be a vet,' and never wavered."

For 15 years, Van Wyk has taken care of thousands of animals as a vet. And in January 2021, she fulfilled her dream of opening her own clinic: Van Wyk Veterinary Clinic.

"I spent most of my professional career working at Tri County Veterinary Clinic on the other side of Pella," Van Wyk says. "But I was ready to do my own thing. I wanted to create my own atmosphere."

Her clinic offers services for small animals, including preventative care, wellness and sickness examinations, surgery, hospitalization, in-house diagnostics, radiology, dentistry, grooming and boarding. Her clinic is also Pella's city pound, and there are a few strays who have stuck around: Terrance, a cat who is also known as the clinic's FEO (Feline Executive Officer), and Lilly, a Corgi mix who was abandoned at the Pella airport.

"Terrance and Lilly definitely have their own personalities, just like every other animal," Van Wyk says. "They are like family here."

And Van Wyk knows every animal that comes through her clinic is someone's family.

"I want people to know that I care about their pets like they're my family," Van Wyk says. "I want people to feel that, to know that I truly care about them."

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Van Wyk grew up in Pella. Her mother, **Connie Henle '95**, earned her degree from Central while working in the college's billing department, where she stayed for 30 years before retiring in January 2021. So, when it came to choosing a college, Van Wyk couldn't picture herself anywhere else.



"I've always had strong ties with Central," Van Wyk says. "Because my mom went to school and worked there, my siblings and I basically grew up on campus. I would pick my mom up for lunch and made so many connections before I had ever even thought about college. It just felt right."

As a student, Van Wyk continued to foster meaningful relationships with faculty, staff and fellow science majors.

"The smaller class sizes mean you are a student and not just a number," Van Wyk says. "I developed strong relationships with my professors, and they had a genuine interest in helping me achieve my goals. I am still in communication with many of them today."

Van Wyk credits these relationships, as well as the academic opportunities afforded to her at Central, for her acceptance into veterinary school at Iowa State University.

"I had an academic advisor who really went to bat for me in making sure I had all my classes lined up to go to vet school," Van Wyk says. "She took me to a veterinary conference my senior year to see what the profession was all about. I felt very prepared compared to other graduate students, from

my writing and communication skills to even using PowerPoint for presentations."

MAKING DREAMS A REALITY

Running your own business is hard. Opening one during a global pandemic is harder.

"COVID-19 was a real struggle," Van Wyk says. "Rolling with delays and not being able to get what you need to start a business was difficult."

Despite these challenges, Van Wyk was able to open her doors with the help of family and friends — especially her mom.

"It has always been a dream of mine to have my own clinic," Van Wyk says. "When I would talk about it, my mom would always say she would come and work for me and help me out. I am so thankful for all her help and her expertise. We get to spend a lot more time together, and it is great having someone at work who always has your back."

"Obtaining her goal of owning her own veterinary clinic has proven she can also be a strong business woman," Henle says. "I am very excited and proud that Glenda is successfully living her dream! Isn't this what all parents want for their children?"



CENTRAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

For three years, Central College has hosted the Women's Leadership Conference, an event designed to bring women from the region, state and beyond to discuss issues in women's leadership, knowledge, skills and values.

The event has provided opportunities for upperclassmen at Central who were nominated by faculty and staff members. They met with experts in their fields whose character sets an example for women scholars and future leaders. **Jessica Klyn de Novelo '05**, assistant dean for career development and civic engagement, organized the events.

Amy Dietrich Eilers '88, executive clinical account manager at Organon and Central Board of Trustees member; **Jann Freed '77**, professor emerita of business management and former Mark and Kay DeCook Endowed Chair in Leadership and Character Development at Central; and **Susan Elder '16**, human resources generalist at Equifax, are among those who have shared their wisdom and expertise with Central students.



SAM MOSS '18

HOMETOWN: Winterset, Iowa

MAJOR: Music — Vocal Performance

MINORS: Psychology and Sociology

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES: ALMA, A Cappella Choir, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Handbell Choir, Women's Soccer, Mu Gamma Pi

BUSINESS: Sam Moss Music

Sam Moss '18 was ordering coffee in a Dunkin Donuts drive-thru on her way to work when she learned she had gotten the call back to audition live for American Idol.

"I started crying as I was ordering a pumpkin spice latte," Moss says. "I called my mom and cried on the phone with her, too. I knew this was going to be a big opportunity."

Katy Perry. Luke Bryan. Lionel Richie. The more she thought about it, the more Moss couldn't believe she would soon be singing in front of some of the most iconic musicians in the industry. But she knew she could do it.

"Four years ago, I would have not been this confident in myself or my abilities," Moss says. "Singing in front of an audience is very vulnerable. Singing in front of famous

musicians for the entire country to see is a whole other level of vulnerability."

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

Moss has always loved music, but she never considered pursuing it professionally. Instead, she wanted to be just like her big brother, **Zach Moss '17**. That meant following him to Central.

"My brother was a wrestler, but I remember him trying out for our 4th grade football team and not making it," Moss says. "So, I tried out for the football team just to prove that I could make it, and I did. I wanted to be a part of every club and participate in every sport and prove that I could do everything."

At Central, Moss could do it all. She participated in women's soccer, Symphonic

Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, ALMA, Handbell Choir and A Cappella Choir. Although Central provided and encouraged active participation across all disciplines, her soul gravitated toward music.

But her soul was struggling. While her peers saw her as the brave girl who wasn't afraid to perform on stage, Moss's perception of herself was much different.

"I found myself drawn to music, but I suffered from performance anxiety," Moss says. "I wouldn't sing to feel good — I would sing just to survive through the song. I would doubt myself, and that self-doubt would physically expose itself in my quivering voice."

Moss began spending hours in the practice room on campus, where music slowly started

to become her therapy. She didn't sing for others, but for herself.

"If I could have just moved into the practice room and practiced piano and sang myself to sleep every night, I would have," Moss says.

It was during this time that Moss learned to play piano. She switched her major to music with an emphasis in vocal performance. She was slowly but surely gaining confidence in her abilities. **Gabriel Espinosa '79**, associate professor of music, saw her potential.

"Having professors who had their own styles and inhabited different spaces of music allowed me to dabble in different genres and fields to see what I truly liked and where I thrived," Moss says. "I was always accepted at Central, even when I was struggling. Gabriel really taught me to see my worth."

IN FULL BLOOM

Three years later, Moss has grown into the musician she's always wanted to be. She emulates the strength and openness of Lady Gaga and the lyrical intimacy of Sia.

For Moss, the lyrics are the most important part of a song.

"I want to write lyrics that are empowering and meaningful," Moss says. "I want to emulate honesty and connection. I hope my music will be an honest reflection of whatever hard things someone may be going through so that it will either liberate or hold them. I want my music to heal."

Moss is currently working on her first EP, but she is also very much an entrepreneur. She writes and sings personalized songs and memorial music; performs at weddings, nursing homes, celebrations and other private events; and mentors aspiring musicians.

"Traditionally, if you wanted to be a musician, you had to figure out how to get people to notice you to sign a record deal," Moss says. "That's still true today, but you get more exposure with the internet and social media. You have to market yourself and keep showing up."

On top of being a full-time musician and entrepreneur, Moss teaches young children piano at Red Cloud Studio in Chicago, Illinois, owned by **Molly Lehr '08**.

"Teaching has been so important in my music journey," Moss says. "Music changed me, saved me and made me step up and be the person I want to be. And it's the same as being a teacher. I have to show up for these kids, no matter how I feel. They're smart, and they can feel if I'm actually there for them or if I'm faking it just to make it through the

day. So, I make sure they know they can fully be themselves when they're in my space."

Like she does every day for her students, Central showed up for Moss when she needed it most.

"The way I was treated within the music department helped me grow, not only as a musician, but as a person," Moss says. "So many seeds that are blooming now were planted at Central."

This spring, Central might just have its first American Idol winner. ■



"I hope my music will be an honest reflection of whatever hard things someone may be going through so that it will either liberate or hold them. I want my music to heal."

— Sam Moss '18



Grabbed a selfie at the Tailgate with Shelby Klumpers '16 and Hayley Mullins '15 before heading to the football game.

A Love Letter to Central College

Homescoming 2021 reunites and rekindles

Photos By: Brittany Carlson Prokypak '16

October 2021

Dear Central,

Graduation day is a blur to me. It feels like just yesterday — but also feels like more than a decade ago in pandemic time — when in all reality I graduated from Central College a little more than five years ago.

I like the milestone-ness to the sound of “It’s my five-year,” or “I graduated five years ago,” though. It’s a nice, sweet spot.

Elephant in the room: I work here at Central. That means I’ve been a prospective student, student, alumna and employee here. I’ve employed many student-workers and worked alongside people I reported to as a student worker myself.

I even work alongside people who were part of my admission process.

I’ve also been to Homecoming every year since 2012, so I thought I knew what to expect going into my five-year reunion. I knew I was going to get to see some of my favorite people, staff events in some way and cheer on the Dutch (to a victory, Hoo-Rah!). I didn’t know how Homecoming weekend could be any different this year.



Took a break from all the post-game celebrations to get a picture with Shelby Klumpers '16. It had only been about five years since our last one together!

Wake-Up Call

I was going about my regular Homecoming duties — grabbing photos, chatting with folks, etc. — when I heard a familiar voice yell my name. It was a former student worker of mine, Gabrielle Lillie '20. We caught up on what she's doing in life. She let me know, "School is going really well, and I feel like Central

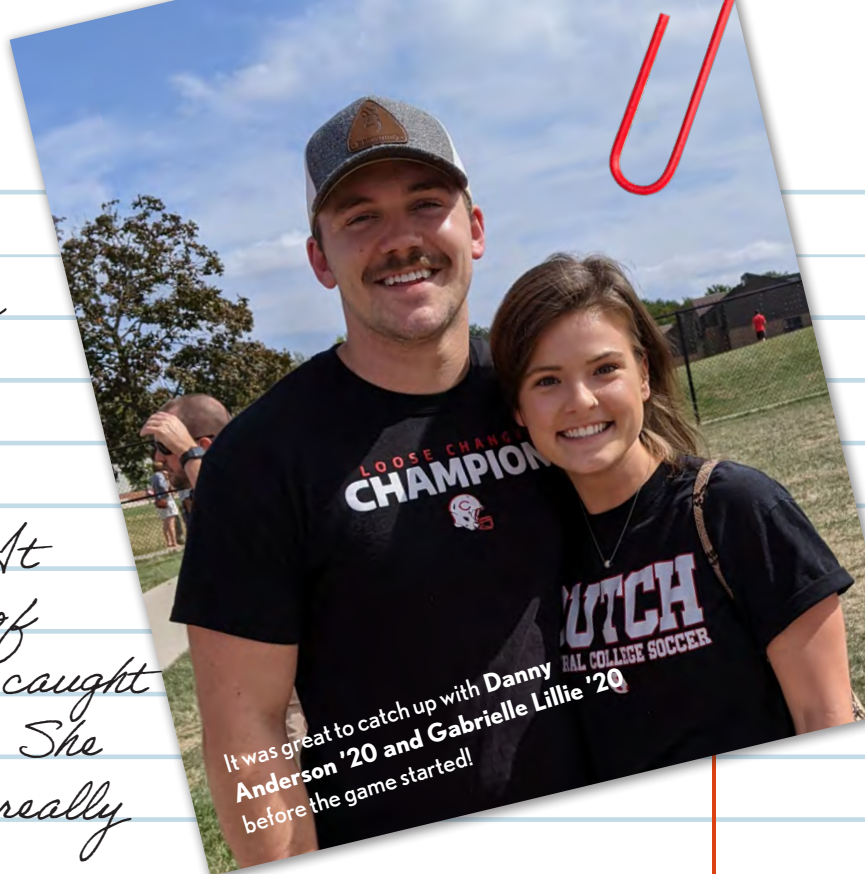
prepared me so well." Lillie is in her first year in the master's of clinical psychology program at Minnesota State University in Mankato.

"I felt like I was good, that I wasn't going to miss Central when I left. But coming back and walking around campus, gosh, I really miss it. This place is home," Lillie told me.

These are sentiments we're all familiar with, but the exchange woke me up to just how special Homecoming weekend is. I'm spoiled because I get to see most of my favorite parts of campus, and of Pella, on a regular basis. While I'm here every day, surrounded by the sights, sounds and smells that make Central, Central, it's different than being a student.

But that spark allowed me to experience Homecoming through the lens of an alum rather than employee.

Then it felt like the home I "left" five years ago, and I found myself immersed in memories from 2012-16.



It was great to catch up with Danny Anderson '20 and Gabrielle Lillie '20 before the game started!

Reunion Things

Throughout the weekend, I got to meet and get better acquainted with some classmates I hadn't really crossed paths with as well as see great friends. It was funny how we all just banded together. We didn't break out into groups, but all sat together watching the game, chatting, catching up and razzing each other. We weren't "assigned" to the group or told we all had to stick together, but we did.

I liked that.

Everywhere I looked throughout the events of the weekend, I saw the same thing from class to class. Everyone was happy to be there and to be together. Some alumni had been to campus just before Homecoming while others hadn't returned since the day they graduated. It didn't matter how much time had passed, all that mattered was that they were there at this reunion (which had a record attendance of more than 550 people).

Because of it, there was an energy and excitement on campus all weekend. We had beautiful weather, and the Central spirit was ALIVE. I don't know if I've ever seen that much **red** in Ron and Joyce Schipper Stadium or around campus — ever. That spirit translated into the game, too.

In the second half of the football game, one of our student-athletes, **Noah Treimer '24**, a running back for the Dutch, was injured. The stadium fell silent as paramedics were called onto the field. They loaded him onto the gurney and as they wheeled him away, he was cheering his teammates on and trying to pump up the team and crowd again. The stands and sidelines roared. The Dutch took that energy and ran with it, coming back with a vengeance.

Memories, Mascots and More

Eric Jones '87 was the class dean for the Class of 2016. One of the things Eric is known for is his incredible memory. He's memorized every high school mascot in the state of Iowa, and he's gotten good at some of the out of state "usual suspect" schools in states like Arizona, Colorado and Illinois.

You could stop him along Peace Mall on any given day and say, "Eric, what's *insert school's name here* mascot?" Sometimes it took a moment, but he'd get there. He could do all that, but the man could not remember my name.

He thought he had me fooled, though, calling me "Red Oak" as he always remembered where I graduated high school. Years later, he admitted to me why it started to which I replied, "yeah, I know" with a wink and a smile.

I have to admit, I like my nickname. I always know who's talking to me, and that they're actually talking to me, not another Brittany in the room.

I heard it again the Friday of Homecoming when I stopped in Maytag Student Center. Sure enough, it was Eric and just another familiar reminder from the past.

Full Circle

Madi Gause Wiese '16 was my randomly assigned roommate my first year at Central, and we chose to live together every year thereafter.



Madi and I were often confused for one another and asked if we were sisters on a regular basis. We always thought it was funny because we're plenty different, but when we think about our similarities, there are a lot.

We both came from schools where the mascot was a tiger and the school colors were black and orange (more school and mascot trivia, I know). We were both heavily involved on campus and in music through the A Cappella Choir and Chamber Singers ensembles. We hung out with the same people, and even have some similar features.

So, I get it. If someone didn't know us individually, it was easy to get us mixed up. And even then we had close friends calling us by the wrong name.

During Homecoming weekend, it happened again. I was mistaken for Madi in the most complimentary way possible and all I could do was smile and laugh to myself. I'm still getting confused for my best friend, which was a full-circle moment, and a win in my book!

May Your Glory Never Die

Reunions give everyone a good reason to come back and catch up with people. Which goes without saying, but you don't realize how much time has passed or how disconnected you've been from the people who'd been there and knew or knew of you during those four formative years until your reunion.

I bleed Central red. So much of my adult life is directly linked to Central: my husband, my friends, my job, my memories and so much more.

We have the unique opportunity to build and foster strong

relationships with our peers as well as faculty and staff while we're here. I'm reminded of that precious privilege in speaking with others about my days at Central and how I've stayed in close contact with friends. It doesn't happen everywhere. But it happens here, and it does so organically. That's the magic of Central.

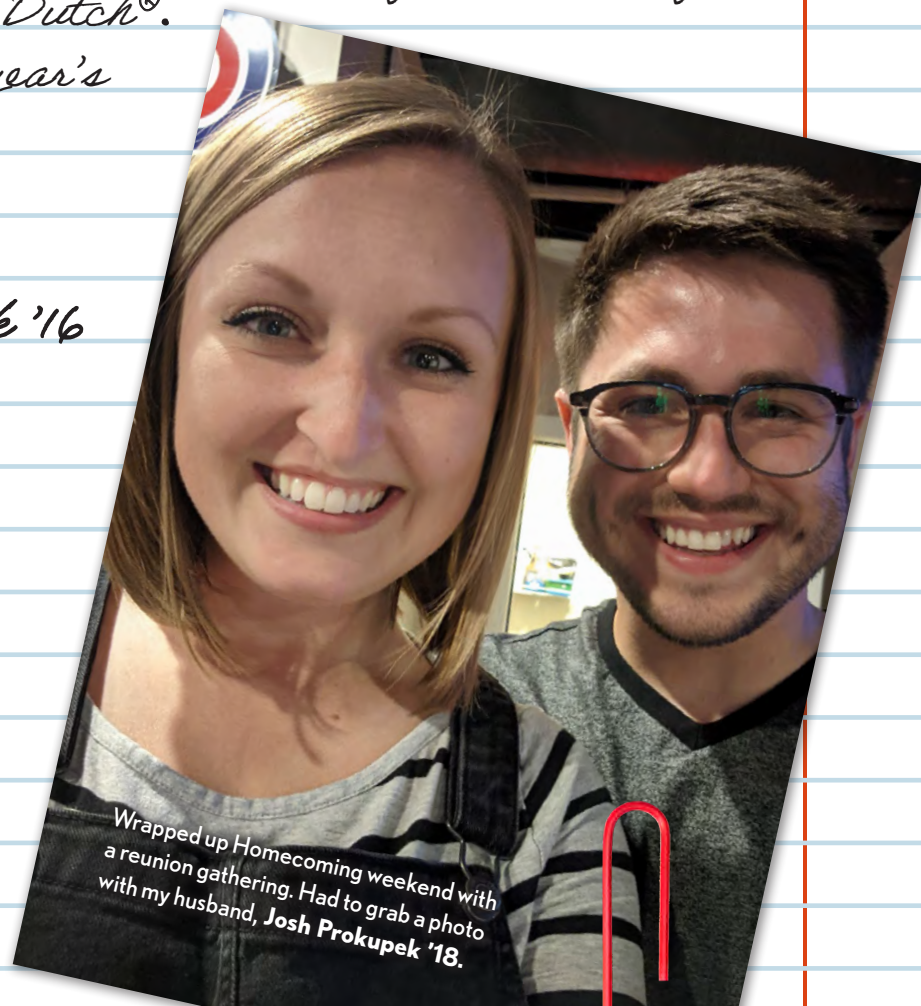
I felt so much love, appreciation and pride for my alma mater during the weekend. It's always there, and always will be, but my reunion on Homecoming weekend helped rekindle and remind me of that passion after 18+ months of unknowns, abnormalcy and distraction.

So, I say thank you, Central. You've given me so much more than a high-quality, personalized education. And as time continues to march on, I'll not forget my Central days as I am, we are, Forever Dutch®.

Hope to see you at next year's reunion Oct. 7-9, 2022!

Love,

Brittany Carlson Prokupsk '16
Content Specialist -
Digital Communications
@ Central ■



Wrapped up Homecoming weekend with a reunion gathering. Had to grab a photo with my husband, Josh Prokupsk '18.

2021

HOMECOMING CLASS REUNIONS

You can find all
reunion class photos at
central.edu/reunions2021.



'90-'91
Row 1: Scott Tryon, Karin Daly Van Werden, Beth Bohan-Reese, Kari Ringgenberg Pingel, Karen Spencer Dhawan and Tej Dhawan. Row 2: Jeff Wallerich, Ronalea Hays Alleman, Bev De Wit De Vries, B.J. De Vries, Sandy Koon Scotton and Matt Scotton. Row 3: Carmen Steele, George Clark, Ray Wyse, Frank Neu, Kyle Nelson and Vicki Veldhuizen Kruse. Row 4 Class of 1990: Paul Damge, Jeff McMartin and Laurie Rieken McMartin.



'80
Row 1: Brian Fegley, Dave Booth, Rick Boat, Alan Neve and Ann Hinga Klein. Row 2: Thad Scarrow, Laine Lundy Korver, Lori Humphrey Fegley, Becky Drahozal McGurk and Beth Hesselink Gurzler. Row 3: Perry Klein, Lee Vande Voort, Dale Rozeboom and Pat Pollema Rozeboom.



'70-'71
Row 1: Linda Luxen McClure '71, Bill Cappola '71, Rick Johnson '71, Joy Harvey Drady '71 and Glenda De Heus Duffus '71. Row 2: John Grieco '71, Darrell Bosch '71, Dan Jacobusse '70, Bill North '70, Paulette Vogelaar Widmer '71 and Tony Wilson '71. Row 3: Charles Rogers '70, Steve Bancroft '70, Dennis Boek '70, Fred Widmer '71, Stan Durey '71, Cathy Mallard '70, Jim Coddington '71 and Lynne Comstock Davis '71.



'16
Row 1: Nelson Wiese, Madi Gause Wiese, Brittany Carlson Prokupek, Shelby Klumpers, Evan Bagg, Ian McNees and Evan Fischer. Row 2: Allyson Mann, Kirstie Overton, Darcy Baker Cortum, Jill Huffman Russell, Katelyn Fry May and Zach May. Row 3: Joe Morrett, Max Arnett, Susan Elder, Spencer Gritsch and Sarah Holtz Young.



'95
Row 1: Eric Traynor, Tracey Sorenson Menninga, Vicki Sehgal, Kristy Ellerman Runge, Brooke Philpot Glenn, Bridget Roll Penick, Ann Koster Schaffer, Angelia Konrad Peterson and Nicole Hampton. Row 2: Dave Bock, Lora Appenzeller-Miller, Melanie Keiper, Kristy Wagner Huerter, Desha Craver Bruxvoort, Tricia Nielsen, Jen Gabrielson Coppola and Randy Sniezek. Row 3: Scott Sickie, Kevin Stittsworth, Kerrie Larsen-Natiez, Wade Weber, Rebekah Johnson, Jen Waite-Hernandez, Dawn Perreault Thureen and Brian Ahrens. Row 4: Tim Hoekstra, Mang Thao, Brent Lawrenson, B.J. Nykamp, Paul Miller, Lance Klein and Trent Bush. Row 5: Bill Snyders, Eddy Fuentes, Scott Hanson, Scott Peasley, Michael Gens. John Mitchell, Shawn Runge and Brian Mintle.



'96
Row 1: Danielle Teachout Clark, Paul Dykens, Julie Wagemann Carroll, Pam Pearson, Amy Van Vark Klein, Kara Kohler Hoogensen and Scott Alberts. Row 2: Karen Ellingson Ahrens, Stephanie Sheaffer Long, Nicole Hocamp, Sarah De Graw Thao, Mark Kacmarynski, Cole Adrian and Troy Vincent. Row 3: John McGee, Curt Kenoyer, Kevin Carroll, Rachel Gruenwald Agans, Matthew Van Zetten and Aaron Mager. Row 4: Tricia Nielsen, Charley Swanson, Jenn Jacobson Welbaum, Pedro Rodriguez, Derek George and Todd Boyse. Row 5: Chris Stone, Marc Hernandez and Rick Sanger.



'85
Row 1: Kris Cox Ward, Danielle Shaw Clemmens, Cindy Clark Williams and Marty Langel. Row 2: Mark Seaton, Greg Mc Cann, Mark Brecht and Dave Cutler. Row 3: Joe Tecklenburg, Scott Dahm and Joe Martin.



2021 HOMECOMING



NEWSNOTES

THE '60s



▲ **Judy Gosselink Grooters '60** and **Harold Kolenbrander '60** were wed on July 10, 2021, in an intimate ceremony with all of their children attending. *Left to right:* Andrea Opitz, Caden Grooters, Lukas Grooters, **Stacy Grooters '93**, David Grooters, **Amy Grooters '84**, **Harold Kolenbrander '60**, The Rev. Rebecca Spencer, **Judy Gosselink Grooters '60**, **Kim Kolenbrander Mauer '81**, **Kirk Kolenbrander '83**, **Terri Vander Werff Kolenbrander '81**, **Kerri Kolenbrander-Bickel '86**, Emma Tilley and David Mauer.

THE '70s

For information about **Bruce Jefferson '77**, see the '80s.

Gary Griffenhagen '72 has lived in Utah since 2001. Last year he began hosting a radio program discussing his experiences in sharing his faith. The radio program is on Truth Network and is titled "Go Into All the World." It airs in Salt Lake City at 12:30 p.m. Saturdays.

Molly Hatter Barron '73 and husband Eric Barron were honored in 2021 at Penn State's Renaissance Fund dinner honoring the couple for their outstanding commitment to student success and accessibility.

Kathy Brown Gervasi '75 has been elected for a second four-year term to the Tillamook Bay Community College Board. She and husband, Mark, are retired and live on the Oregon coast in Tillamook.

Kent Fry '77 and **Joyce Huibregtse Fry '78** have retired from parish ministry and social work after serving a two-year mission in Japan.

THE '80s

Kevin Cool '82 is a senior editor at Stanford University Graduate School of Business.

Ed Banfield '85 is a financial planning and analysis manager — product group at Vermeer Corporation in Pella, Iowa. Ed and wife, Shannon, live in Newton, Iowa, with their two children.

Michael Main '87 accepted a position at Saint Luke's Health Services as senior vice president and CEO of Saint Luke's Physician Group. He also serves as co-executive medical director of Saint Luke's Mid America Heart Institute and as SLPG Cardiovascular Division Chair.



▲ **Bob Thurman '83** plays several concerts each summer in the Independence Community Band. This year he was joined by three other Central College alumni: **Jake Knepper '03**, **Bruce Jefferson '77** and **Nicole Rottinghaus Knepper '02**.



▲ **Brian Warren '85** is an associate professor of theatre at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and author of "Theatre for Young Audiences, 7 Original Plays with Commentary."

Susan Healy '88, of West Des Moines, Iowa, is an elementary school reading specialist at West Des Moines Community Schools; she also is a stylist with a Los Angeles based fashion company.

Kimberly "Kim" Watts '88 is the collaborative workspace director at TechTown in Detroit, Michigan.

THE '90s

For more information about **Chris Gentry '98**, see the '00s.

Sarah Hennesy '92 is the seventh judicial district chief judge in Minnesota. Her offices are in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

THE '90s (continued)

Jodi Pentico Larson '92 is a research associate professor, elementary education curriculum coordinator and residency coordinator for the Richmond Teacher Residency Program at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia.

Bruce Kuennen '93 was named president and CEO of doeLEGAL in Wilmington, Delaware.

Karin Marovich Ryan '93 is the new special education facilitator at Williams Intermediate School in Davenport, Iowa. She lives in Davenport with her husband, Mike, and their three children.

Kurt Tiesman '93 was recently hired as community assistant vice president for Honor Credit Union in Southwest Michigan.

Christina "Chris" Heintz deNeui '94 was named the 2021 Iowa Elementary Principal of the Year by the School Administrators of Iowa. Chris is principal of Central Elementary in Nevada, Iowa.

Laura Harrison Maly '94 works in marketing and communications for MTI in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin.

Jamie Montoya-De Smidt '96 is the director of student support and engagement at Colorado Springs School District 11 in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Tim Crannell '97 is a physical therapist and manager

at the new Athletico Physical Therapy business in Adel, Iowa.

John MacGregor '99 was sworn in as battalion chief for the City of Le Mars, Iowa, on Aug. 3, 2021. He first began working for the city in 2001 as a licensed EMT paramedic and assistant ambulance director.

THE '00s

For more information about **Jake Knepper '03 & Nicole Rottinghaus Knepper '02**, see the '80s.

Jennifer Ruddy Chapman '00 is a first and second grade looping teacher for the School District of Janesville, Wisconsin. Jennifer and husband, David, live in Janesville with their two children.

Kelli Anderson Reinhart '00 has joined McClure as the senior executive liaison.

Melissa Vink Gentry '01 is a psychiatric physician assistant working for Meadowlark since 2017. She and her husband, **Chris Gentry '98**, live in Ollie, Iowa.

Jennifer Erickson Schoeberl '05 is the director of patient access at MercyOne in Des Moines, Iowa.

Sarah Thompson-Johansen '06 is working for the Chicago Public School as a speech-language pathologist.

Angie Laven Stangl '06 is the principal at St. Rose of Lima Catholic School in Denison, Iowa.

Alicia Fisher '07 is a physical therapist at the Core Physical Therapy clinics in Adel, Iowa. Alicia graduated from the 2013 Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Des Moines University.

Brian Respeliers '07 is a portfolio manager at Northern Trust in the Chicago area.

James Baier '08 currently serves as the educational chief resident in the Yale University Psychiatric Residency Training program. This is his fourth and final year in the program. James and his wife, Amanda Hall, live in New Haven, Connecticut.

Amy VanDerKamp Dobberfuhr '09 is a pediatric nurse practitioner in Florida. Amy and husband, Tim Dobberfuhr '06, live in Palm Coast, Florida, with their three children.

Sarah Vandenberg Van Zee '09 is a research program analyst at the National Center for State Courts.

THE '10s

Joel Maidens '10 has accepted a position as an assistant director at University of Illinois Chicago Extended Campus.



▲ **Emily Kuecker Young '08** was recently promoted to instructional coach in the North Polk Community School District. Her husband, **Justin Young '08**, is an educator in Johnston, Iowa, where he teaches sixth-grade literacy and social studies. They live in Polk City, Iowa, with their son, Parker.



▲ This group of former baseball players gathered at a golf tournament July 23, 2021, in Davenport, Iowa. The golf tournament was a benefit for Peyton Miller, daughter of **Anthony Miller '11** and **Emily Fuller Miller '11**, who is fighting cancer. *Left to right: Blake Smith '10, Jason Hassman '10, Doug Eisenman '10 and Ben Tressel '10.*



▲ **Heather Binkley '13** married Trebor Holder May 8, 2021. They live in Waukegan, Iowa. *Left to right: Amy Cecil '12, Sarah David Easter '12, Heather Binkley Holder '13 and Hannah Sampsel '17.*

Gregory James Best '11 is director of talent acquisitions at Red Bull Distribution Company.

Michelle Van Zante De Bruin '12 is the author of the book, "Coming Home to Mercy," which was released in August 2021. Michelle and her husband, Mark, are at home with their two sons in Pella, Iowa. Michelle works as a spiritual services facilitator for Christian Opportunity Center.

Danielle "Dani" Aldridge Cole '13 is an office manager at the HealthSource Chiropractic of Clive in Iowa. She and her husband, Zach, have two children.

Kristin Look '13 is a senior data analyst at Sedgwick in Dubuque, Iowa.

Aaron Fuller '14 has taken a position at Simpson College as head coach of men's and women's track and field teams.

Brent Glendenning '14 and Tiesha Long were married on July 30, 2021. The couple is at home in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Kayley Hirschman Lobberecht '14 is an assistant registrar at Mercy College of Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa. Her husband, **Christoffer Lobberecht '14**, is a physician extender and athletic trainer at Select Physical Therapy in Des Moines. They live in Norwalk, Iowa, with their two children.

Chad Tiemeyer '14 is the new parks and recreation director for the City of Carroll, Iowa.

Taylor Nelson '15 has started at Manning Regional Healthcare Center in Manning, Iowa, as a physical therapist. He earned his doctor in physical therapy from the University of New England in 2019.

Josh Osborn '15 is the new varsity girls' track coach at Burlington High. He also serves as teacher of at-risk students.

Alec Mathews '17 is a practicing dentist at Beattie Family Dental in Davenport, Iowa.

Zach Moss '17 is a naturalist and resource manager at Dallas County Conservation in Perry, Iowa.

Sam Schmitz '17 works for Simpson College as the head strength and conditioning coach for all athletic programs. He received his master's degree in kinesiology from Northern Iowa in 2018.

Ryan Vandall '17 moved to Adel, Iowa. He teaches classes in the Winterset school system.

Lexi Johnson Greteman '18 accepted a position at Enterprise Rent-A-Car as a branch rental manager in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Lexi and her husband, **Nick Greteman '18**, live in North Liberty, Iowa.



▲ **Nick Guzman '18** and **Rachel Peter '19** married June 12, 2021. Nick is a physical therapist at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center and Rachel is an elementary music teacher at Keokuk Community Schools in Keokuk, Iowa. *Front row: Isaac Steffensmeier '17. Second row, left to right: Cole Decker '16, Parker Hill '19, Lauren Moll '20, Ben Mitchell '18, Merissa Larson '18, Rachel Peter Guzman '19, Nick Guzman '18, Tanner Rathje '18, Sara Rodriguez '18, Shelby Palm '18, Mack Fuller Johnson '19, Josh Johnson '18, Cody Doughan '14 and Gabi Wilson Doughan '17. Third row, left to right: Jackie Piper '16, Holly McKinney '18, Jon Specht '18, Carly Klavins '20, Savanna Henning '20, Kyle Nuehring '16, Evie Kammeyer '18, Preston Kizer '20, Karl Weaver '17, Kyle Pape '19, Jeremy Caracci '18 and Brandon Charls '18.*

NEWSNOTES

THE '10s (continued)

Jenna Jensen '18 lives in Dubuque, Iowa, and serves as public safety dispatcher for the City of Dubuque.

Kathleen Connolly Temple '18 was elected co-president of the Iowa American Marketing Association. This organization provides support in programming and network opportunities to marketing professions in Iowa.

Emma Arickx '19 is a quality control microbiology scientist at Eurofins PSS in Oceanside, California.

Austin Carney '19 is a funeral director at Phillips Funeral Home in Vinton, Iowa.

Dalton Ehret '19 is a systems analyst at Sammons Financial in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Kylie Hepp '19 is a therapist at Community and Family Resources.

Clarren "CJ" Pestano '19 is employed by Woodman Controls in Urbandale, Iowa, as a software engineer.

Jake Poster '19 is an underwriter at Bitco Insurance Companies in the Des Moines, Iowa, area.

Lane Rumelhart '19 was named head wrestling coach at Adair-Casey and Guthrie Center High School, in Guthrie Center, Iowa.



▲ **Tyler Bryant '19** married Haley Benson on Aug. 8, 2021. Tyler and Haley are teachers in the Central Lee Community School District in Donnellson, Iowa. Tyler also coaches varsity track, varsity football and junior varsity girls basketball.

THE '20s

Michael Anderson '20 is an actuarial at Sammons Financials in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Kyle Berst '20 works at Balance Autism as a behavior technician.

Madison Borden '20 is a mortgage loan originator at Veterans United in Lenexa, Kansas.

Anne Williamson Dillon '20 is an audit and assurance assistant at Deloitte in Des Moines, Iowa.

Phillip Garcia '20 works as a deionization sales representative for Evoqua Water Technology.

Hanna Gregory '20 works in e-commerce at Fareway Stores.

Kenzie Johnson '20 lives in Mount Ayr, Iowa. She works as a teller at Great Western Bank.

Jackee Jones '20 works as a server at Sybergs in the Saint Louis, Missouri, area.

Haley Jorgensen '20 accepted a position with VIUM Capital as an analyst.

Lauren Simon Kimm '20 is a small business owner.

Dalten Lehman '20 is a building technician at Polk County General.

Ian Meetemeyer '20 is a vet nurse at Jordan Creek Animal Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa.

Drew Mendoza '20 is the self-employed owner of a roofing company.



▲ **Nathan Manchester '18** and **Katie Phillips '19** married on July 10, 2021. Katie started at Monroe Elementary in Monroe, Iowa, as a music teacher. Nathan is an admission representative at Central College. They are at home in Pella, Iowa. *Back row left to right: Cody Jacobson '22, Ryan Kunkel '17, Tanner Ginn '20, Andrew Rozeboom '18, Zach Osborn '99, Logan Osborn '18, Katie Phillips Manchester '19, Nathan Manchester '18, Brittany Sites '20, Debbie Abel, Ian Heetland '20, Magan Andrasko '20, Mitchell Hollingshead '20, Ann Klann Phillips '81 and John Walston '81. Front row left to right: Chris Culek '18, Denali Lancaster '22, Emmalee Zian Ginn '20, Kennedie Stroda '19, Samantha "Sam" Claypool '17, Wyatt Rath '18, Torie Hollingsworth '15, Beth De Vries Kuttler '18, Eileen Westfall Rath '16, Samantha "Sami" Aguilar '19, Jen Kern '19, Josh Pierce '18, Samantha "Sam" Moss '18, Jess Merrill '18 and Molly Luzbetak '18.*

Christian Messick '20 works as an assistant project manager at Rosendin in San Jose, California.

Rebecca Moore '20 is a first grade teacher in West Liberty Schools in West Liberty, Iowa.

Ross Norem '20 is a plant operator at a water treatment plant.

Terry Perisho '20 works as seed dust manager at the Cactus Family Farms.

Joe Rebik '20 is a recruiter at Aston Carter in the Des Moines, Iowa, area.

Danny Rivas '20 is a language arts teacher at North Mahaska Jr. and Sr. High Schools in New Sharon, Iowa.

Dalton Stanley '20 is a mechanic at Lambirth Enterprises in Bussey, Iowa.

Emily Sutherland '20 is a sixth grade teacher in the Albia Community School District in Iowa.

Erica Bruening '21 works at MercyOne Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa, in patient care.

Emma Chervek '21 is the editorial assistant at SDxCentral in Denver, Colorado.

ADVANCED DEGREES

Sarah Thompson Johansen '06 earned a Master of Science in communication sciences and disorders from Northwestern University in May 2021.

Cassandra (Cassie) Reiling De Wald '06 earned a

doctorate in philosophy from the University of Kentucky, College of Medicine, in the area of toxicology. She and her husband, Kurt, were married in 2016.

Phillip Jeneary '07 graduated from the Association of Business and Industry's Leadership Iowa Program in July 2021. This is Iowa's premier program for emerging leaders about statewide issues.

Emily Hayes '17 earned a Master of Arts in clinical mental health counseling from University of the Cumberland in 2021.

Ben Miller '17 earned a Master of Business Administration from Eastern New Mexico University in 2019.

Emily McDonald Miranda '18 and **Jaime Miranda '17** live in Orange City, Iowa, with their daughter. Jaime is completing his four-year service commitment to the Marine Corps. He earned a Master of Science in leadership from Trident University International and began a Doctor of Education at Drake University in 2021.

NEW ARRIVALS

Tim '06 and **Amy VanDerKamp Dobberfuhr '09**, daughter Zoe Louise, June 4, 2021.

Andrew Dunn and **Haileigh Meyers '07**, son Hayden James, Aug. 6, 2021.

Amanda and **James Baier '08**, daughter Eliana Rose, Aug. 28, 2021.

Jon and **Danielle Brillhart Steinkamp '08**, son Carter Jon, Jan. 31, 2021.

David '09 and **Masse Carr Poetting '08**, daughter Noah Isabella, Nov. 25, 2020.

Nate '10 and **Lindsay Zylstra Nees '11**, son Parker Joseph, Feb. 24, 2020.

Michael and **Mara Venteicher Walstead '11**, son William Michael, July 19, 2020.

Robert '12 and **Morgan Gray Kreiser '14**, daughter Madeline Leona, Aug. 25, 2021.

Zach and **Dani Aldridge Cole '13**, daughter Emerson Jade, Aug. 28, 2021.

Nathan and **Savanna Hornung Coram '14**, son Killian Michael Robert, July 3, 2021.

Nate and **Jill Johnson Greisen '14**, daughter Maxwell Kay, Sept. 3, 2021.

Sidney and **Mike Mackin '15**, son William Joseph, Dec. 26, 2020.

Andrew and **Heidi Heckenberg Gossen '16**, daughter Rhea Jean, Aug. 2, 2021.

Noah '17 and **EmmaGrace Walter Stochl '18**, son Owen Thomas, April 17, 2021.

Garrett and **Jade Van Rees DeHoedt '18**, twin sons Odin Duane and Tate Lee, July 13, 2021.

Patrick Stark and **Kenzie Johnson '20**, daughter Oakley Marie, Aug. 23, 2021.

IN MEMORIAM

Martha De Boer Slings '38, Pella, Iowa, July 22, 2021.

Patrick Noda '43, Turlock, California, Aug. 26, 2021.

Alma Van Oenen Voelkel '43, Gilbert, Arizona, Oct. 1, 2021.

Alberta Arthur Davis '44, Searsboro, Iowa, Feb. 5, 2021.

Elva Vander Waal Doorenbos '46, Pella, Iowa, July 20, 2021.

Ronald Hughes '46, Longmont, Colorado, Dec. 28, 2020.

Eugene Koning '46, Des Moines, Iowa, Sept. 20, 2019.

Verle Lubberden '46, Pella, Iowa, Dec. 21, 2019.

Eleanor Vos Short '47, Canton, Georgia, June 26, 2021.

Marjorie "Joy" McCain Crelin '48, Branford, Connecticut, Aug. 21, 2021.

Joanne "Joan" Harmelink Goetsch '48, Hartley, Iowa, Feb. 1, 2021.

Marguerite Taylor Webster '48, Oskaloosa, Iowa, Aug. 27, 2021.

Mary Boyd Huckaba '49, Memphis, Tennessee, Dec. 3, 2020.

IN MEMORIAM (continued)

Clarice Siefken Meyer '49,
Eric, Illinois, July 29, 2021.

Amy Te Selle Sheldon '49,
Honey Brook, Pennsylvania,
Dec. 4, 2020.

Alma Alexander Sims '49,
Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 8,
2020.

Dora Baarda Van Beek '49,
Nampa, Idaho, June 14, 2021.

Vernon Dethmers '50,
Holland, Michigan, Aug. 9,
2021.

**James "Jim" Van Roekel
'50**, Orange City, Iowa,
Oct. 21, 2020.

Stuart Blauw '51,
Grand Rapids, Michigan,
July 22, 2021.

**Grace "Audrey" Van Dyke
Millage '51**, West Liberty,
Iowa, March 12, 2021.

Gordon Nesbit '51, Tulsa,
Oklahoma, Jan. 6, 2021.

**Ackie "Ruth" Vogelaar
Vander Waal '51**,
Minneapolis, Minnesota,
June 26, 2021.

**Lois Masterson Batchelder
'52**, Sigourney, Iowa, Nov. 30,
2020.

Harold Korver '52,
Paramount, California,
July 27, 2021.

**Lorenz "Larry" De Vries
'53**, Indianhead Park, Illinois,
April 1, 2021.

Robert "Bob" Little '53,
West Liberty, Iowa, Sept. 12,
2020.

**Margaret Zylstra Mc Innis
'53**, Neenah, Wisconsin, Jan.
19, 2021.

Mary Buwalda Jewett '56,
Schenectady, New York, March
18, 2021.

Elliot Tanis '56, Holland,
Michigan, July 22, 2021.

**Delores Workman Buwalda
'57**, Memphis, Missouri, May
1, 2021.

Justin Koenen '57, Dike,
Iowa, May 12, 2021.

Darrell Roelofs '57,
Lancaster, South Carolina,
Jan. 18, 2021.

Myrna Storm Piersel '58,
Windsor Heights, Iowa,
March 26, 2021.

**Myron "Mike" Redenius
'58**, Billings, Montana, July 13,
2021.

Warren Ten Haken '58,
Stanford, Illinois, Oct. 3, 2020.

Robert "Bob" Hyink '59,
Murrieta, California, July 29,
2021.

Dick Doeden '60, Holland,
Michigan, July 15, 2021.

Ken De Haan '61, Pella,
Iowa, July 25, 2021.

**C. Franklin "Frank" Fisher
'61**, Albia, Iowa, Sept. 24, 2021.

**Helga Balstad Borgman
'62**, Clear Lake, Iowa, Aug. 10,
2021.

Eltje Brunemeyer '62,
Bayville, New Jersey, May 12, 2021.

John "Mark" De Cook '64,
Pella, Iowa, Aug. 13, 2021.

Ronald Rinehart '66,
Des Moines, Iowa, March 14, 2021.

Marge Schaper Scherer '67,
Cape Coral, Florida, July 13,
2020.

Donna Bennett '69,
Forreston, Illinois, Dec. 7, 2020.

Yolanda Croach Butler '69,
Hammond, Indiana, Sept. 19,
2020.

Etta Huisman '72, Pella,
Iowa, Aug. 23, 2021.

**William "Bill" Packard
'72**, Brownsville, Texas,
Aug. 18, 2021.

**Sandra "Sandy"
Vandenberg '73**, Des Moines,
Iowa, Sept. 30, 2021.

Robert Glasscock '74,
Cedar Falls, Iowa, Aug. 4, 2021.

**Kathy Samuelson Vitullo
'75**, Pella, Iowa, July 27, 2021.

Jack Rusthoven '77, Aurora,
Iowa, July 23, 2021.

Dennis Countryman '85,
Bennington, Nebraska, April 1,
2021.

Carey Pickett Jordan '93,
Newton, Iowa, Aug. 18, 2021.

**Mary Boehnke Graham
'96**, Garner, Iowa, Aug. 23,
2021.

Courtney Parker '06, Ames,
Iowa, Oct. 29, 2020.



▲ Legacy Lunch. Row 1: **Jen Larson Lamm '98**, Karsyn Lamm, Kelby Burger, **Tom Epperly '13H**, Samuel Szondy, Austyn Calo, Angela Calo, **Beth Bohan-Reese '91**, Ana Reese, Isabel Dasseos, **Carol Jeppesen Dasseos '78**, Abbie Den Adel and **Mark Den Adel '89**. Row 2: **Derek Webster**, **Jess Burroughs Burger '99**, **Kham Calo '93**, **Amelia Brown**, **Noelia Aguilera** and **Matthew Den Adel**. Row 3: **Tricia Van Zee Webster '02**, **Matt Webster '00**, **Cole De Waard**, **Don De Waard '82** and **Sara Aguilera '99**. Row 4: **Amber Vroman**, **Kira Baldus**, **Lynn Theobald Baldus '89**, **John McGee '96** and **Brennan McGee**. Row 5: **Joyce Deelsnyder Vroman '89**, **Emma Rocha**, **John Shields '87**, **Emily Shields**, **Julie Smith Keen '95** and **Jen Sporrer McGee '98**. Row 6: **Mary Busker '20**, **Matt Busker**, **Jil Bancroft Nelson '94**, **Laci Keen** and **Scott Westercamp '90**. Row 7: **Karen Ellingson Ahrens '96**, **Tyler Ahrens**, **Nate Busker '89**, **Grant Nelson**, **Kyle Nelson '91** and **Abby Westercamp**. Row 8: **Brian Ahrens '95**, **Kara Glendening Busker '89**, **Rich Glendening '62**, **Mary Roorda Glendening '62**, **Lee Wassink '92**, **Emily Wassink** and **Patti Wassink**.

2021: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Savannah Allen is a chiropractic assistant at Advanced Sports and Family Chiropractic and Acupuncture in Overland Park, Kansas.

Gavin Babcock is a professional disc golfer at Prodigy Disc in Altoona, Iowa.

Sarah Behrens is pursuing a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine at Iowa State University.

Andrew Benhart is a bank teller at Glacier Bancorp in Whitefish, Montana.

Ciara Blakley is pursuing a master's degree in global health epidemiology at the University of Michigan.

James Boatright works as a SWPPP inspector at Absolute Group in Grimes, Iowa.

Olivia Boender teaches seventh- and eighth-grade math at Cardinal Community School District in Eldon, Iowa.

David Boschma is a staff accountant with Design Resources in Overland Park, Kansas.

Ellen Brennan is a client service representative at Acadia Legacy Group in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Erica Bruening is a nursing student at Mercy College of Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa.

Kirsten Buniak is a lab assistant at MercyOne in Des Moines, Iowa.

Macy Burgess is pursuing a master's degree in child, youth and family studies with a specialization in human and family services administration at the University of Nebraska Lincoln.

Emma Chervek is pursuing a master's degree in environmental journalism at the University of Colorado Boulder and works as an editorial assistant at SDxCentral in Denver, Colorado.

Cate Christopherson is a graduate student in the Doctor of Pharmacy program at University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Aspen Clark is a doctoral student in the physical therapy program at Creighton University.

Rylie Conway teaches elementary school in the Cardinal Community School District in Eldon, Iowa.

Sami Craig is an actuarial associate at Athene USA in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Wyatt Crosby is a management trainee at Murphy-Hoffman Company in Ankeny, Iowa.

Casey Crum works at Van Gorp Corporation in Pella,

Iowa, in production and inventory control strategic sourcing.

Jenna Decker is a fifth-grade teacher at Shenandoah Elementary School in Shenandoah, Iowa.

Kelsie DeHaai is an outsource accountant at BKD CPAs & Advisors in Des Moines, Iowa.

Angel Del Rio is a high school coach at College Possible in Omaha, Nebraska.

Kyle Dell is a physical education teacher at Central Decatur High School in Leon, Iowa.

Matthew Dickinson is a sports reporter at Creston News Advertiser in Creston, Iowa.

Patrick Diemer works as a mechanical engineer at EFCO in Ankeny, Iowa.

John Dillon is an intern/full cycle recruiter at Principal Financial Group in Des Moines, Iowa.

Kiera Dixon is pursuing a Master of Social Work degree at the University of Missouri.

Lizzie Edens is a secondary language arts teacher at Edgewood-Colesburg Community School District in Edgewood, Iowa.

Lexi Engen is a retina tech at Wolfe Eye Clinic in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Michael Escobedo works in HVAC at Sun State Contracting in Tucson, Arizona.

Caleb Finnegan is a pricing analyst at Nationwide in Des Moines, Iowa.

Justin Fischer works on the production team at Graphic Packaging International in Newton, Iowa.

Holly Forrester is a graduate student in the Doctor of Occupational Therapy program at the University of South Dakota.

Brandi Gilbert teaches middle school Spanish in the Pella Community Schools in Pella, Iowa.

Jackson Gissel works at Coulter GMC Car Dealership as an internet sales manager in the Phoenix, Arizona, area.

Bryce Gittleson is pursuing a master's degree in biology at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Taylor Golt is a graduate student in healthcare administration at Suffolk University.

Mary Gray is a food service sales representative at Hormel Foods Corporation in Arlington, Texas.

Noah Gregorovic is a special education paraprofessional at Peoria Unified School District in Peoria, Arizona.

2021: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

(continued)

Jack Gunnink is a sales manager at Gunnink Seed in Darien, Wisconsin.

Emily Hanson is a graduate student studying clinical rehabilitation counseling at Drake University.

Marin Harrington is pursuing a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing at Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia.

Kyle Hauser is pursuing a doctorate degree in physical therapy at Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center.

Chris Hensley is a project engineer at Musco Sports Lighting in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Nathan Herbers is a real estate sales agent at Iowa City Area Association of REALTORS® in Ankeny, Iowa.

Carlos Hernandez is a supply chain coordinator at Airgas USA, LLC, in Pella, Iowa.

Ashley Heubner is a grant writer for Children and Families of Iowa in Des Moines, Iowa.

Katie Huhe is a customer service representative at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington, Vermont.

Logan Huinker is an associate IT analyst at Pella Corporation in Pella, Iowa.

Matthew Huisman is a staff accountant at Myers and Stauffer in Des Moines, Iowa.

Kat Hurlbut is a nursing student at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa.

Georgia Illa is a behavior technician at Caravel Autism Health in Woodbury, Minnesota.

William Isiminger is a project engineer at Musco Sports Lighting in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Zachary Jansen is a computer customer support specialist at Vermeer Corporation in Pella, Iowa.

Jack Jermano is a consultant at Keyot Crew212 in Des Moines, Iowa.

Cooper Johnson is a mortgage post closer at GreenState Credit Union in North Liberty, Iowa.

Tanner Johnson is a graduate assistant for track and cross country at Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri.

Finn Jordan is a patient care specialist at Progressive Rehabilitation Associates in Iowa City, Iowa.

Molly Kellar is pursuing a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling at Grand View University.

Dylan Kramer is a premium auditor at Information Providers in Pella, Iowa.

DaLana Kron is pursuing a doctorate degree in physical therapy at the University of Iowa.

Maggie Langenfeld is a communications manager at Rural Schools Collaborative in Monmouth, Illinois.

Sarahi Ledesma-Ruiz is a design consultant at Floor & Decor in Gurnee, Illinois.

Collin Lefeber is a graduate student in sports medicine at the University of Pittsburgh.

Jack Linforth is pursuing a master's degree in kinesiology and exercise science at Florida International University.

Kaeanne Louks is a graduate student studying scenic design and technical direction at Tulane University.

Daniel Martinsen works at Hach as a chemical technician.

Nicole May is a front desk receptionist at Aplington and Allison Chiropractic in Aplington, Iowa.

Griffen McBride is pursuing a doctorate degree in physical therapy at the University of Iowa.

Mitch McComber works at MHC Trucks as a diesel mechanic.

Kailee Meyer teaches at Newton North High School in Newton, Iowa.

Laurynn Mize is a sales and development trainee at Pella Corporation in Pella, Iowa.

Kennedy Morris is pursuing a master's degree in sport and recreation administration at South Dakota State University.

Tristan Murphy is pursuing a master's degree in biology at the University of Northern Iowa.

Kylie Naeve is a sales representative at Heartland Retirement Group in Johnston, Iowa.

Megan Nemechek teaches fourth grade at Tri County Area Schools in Thornburg, Iowa.

Dani Neu is a legal assistant at Rieper Law, P.C., in Des Moines, Iowa.

Tylor Obermeyer is a quality analyst at World Class Industries, located in the Omaha, Nebraska, metropolitan area.

Malcolm O'Bryan is pursuing a master's degree in international law and public administration at Syracuse University.

Chace Palm is a home mortgage consultant at Wells Fargo in Des Moines, Iowa.

Kinsley Parrott is a graduate student in the child life track of the Master of Health and human physiology program at the University of Iowa.

Andrew Patterson is an emergency medical technician at Lee County EMS in Donnellson, Iowa.

Marina Paul is a fifth-grade teacher at Legacy Traditional Schools in Chandler, Arizona.

Kiki Pingel is a graduate student in the Doctor of Occupational Therapy program at the University of South Dakota.

Cynthia Rangel is a family support specialist at Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic in Ames, Iowa.

Sydney Rants is pursuing a doctorate degree in occupational therapy at Drake University.

Abby Reinhardt is pursuing a master's degree in kinesiology at the University of Kentucky.

Joe Roberts teaches ninth grade U.S. history at Ottumwa Community School District in Ottumwa, Iowa.

Payton Rogers is a nursing student at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Yana Rouse is a quality control lab technician at Marlyn Nutraceuticals in Phoenix, Arizona.

Cailyn Sales is pursuing a master's degree in theatre and performance studies at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Nathan Sanders is pursuing a doctorate degree in physical therapy at Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center.

Karleigh Schilling is pursuing a master's degree in economics at Baylor University.

Nathan Schwanke is a staff auditor at McGowen, Hurst, Clark & Smith in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Lila Sebetka is pursuing a master's degree in social work and human services at the University of Denver.

Kurt Sernett is a graduate student studying national security and diplomacy in the International Relations and Affairs program at Texas A&M University.

Elizabeth Sheldon is the Denver representative at Breck Booch in Denver, Colorado.

Erica Shumaker is an energy resource planner at Central Iowa Power Cooperative in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Taelyn Sines is a sixth-grade English language arts teacher for the Ottumwa Community School District in Ottumwa, Iowa.

T.J. Snyder is in the sales development program at Pella Corporation in Pella, Iowa.

Brett Staton is a real estate agent at Pella Real Estate Services in Pella, Iowa.

Eric Stoakes is a distribution supervisor at Arctic Glacier Ice in Hiawatha, Iowa.

Gillian Streit is pursuing a master's degree in kinesiology at Western Illinois University.

Jake Suggett is pursuing a master's degree in engineering management at the University of the West of England located in Bristol, England.

Tanner Teegarden is an English teacher at Glenwood Community School District in Glenwood, Iowa.

Gabi Toulon is pursuing a master's degree in sport management at Florida State University.

Hannah Tripp is a personal trainer at Anytime Fitness in Pella, Iowa.

Megan Van Brocklin teaches fourth grade in the Carlisle Community School District in Carlisle, Iowa.

Morgan Van Maanen is a tax accountant at BKD CPAs & Advisors in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Shawn Vande Kieft is a product engineer at Pella Corporation in Pella, Iowa.

Cooper Vittetoe is pursuing a master's degree in educational leadership in higher education and student affairs at the University of Northern Iowa.

Katie Wang is a surgical assistant for an oral surgery practice and lives in Whitefish, Montana.

Myah Wegman is a bookkeeper at Tassel Ridge Winery in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Alexandra Willhite is a chiropractic assistant at Advanced Sports and Family Chiropractic and Acupuncture in Overland Park, Kansas.

Allyson Woods is pursuing a master's degree in social work at Florida International University.

Andrue Wright is a graduate assistant for sports performance at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee.

Kyle Wright is pursuing a doctorate degree in physical therapy at Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center.

Cassidy Yeager is a behavioral rehab specialist at Community NeuroRehab in Des Moines, Iowa.

Anna Burg Zeker is a program coordinator at International School of Music in Potomac, Maryland. **Noah Pearson Zeker** is pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree at American University in Washington, D.C. Anna and Noah married in May 2021.

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LIFE LOVES ON

STORY BY:
**DENISE LAMPHIER AND
CYVANNAH VECCHIO**



Amber Reysack '25, *above*, reportedly dropped the phone when she got the call that would change her life.

Reysack was totally shocked when **Chevy Freiburger**, dean of enrollment management at Central College, told her she was the first recipient of the college's Thomas Ross Smith Scholarship.

The scholarship, generously funded by the Fred Maytag Family Foundation, is an annual full-tuition scholarship program for Central students from Iowa pursuing a career in a STEM-related field.

Reysack is the inaugural recipient.

"I'm in awe that this happened to me," Reysack says. "I can do what I want to do with my Central education without worrying about student loans."

THE DONATION

In 2021, the Fred Maytag Family Foundation donated \$2.25 million to Central to fund the scholarship as well as the Thomas Ross Smith Scientific Instrumentation Initiative to help with scientific instrumentation needs at the college and the Journey Scholarship.

Through both Thomas Ross Smith funds,



the Maytag Family Foundation honors an inspirational friend of the Maytag family.

Thomas Ross Smith was a Newton, Iowa, native who became an electrical engineer and began working at Maytag in 1934.

Fritz and Ken Maytag, sons of Fred Maytag II, and directors of the foundation, are pleased to be able to honor their former mentor and family friend and make a difference for future students pursuing careers in the sciences.

THE SMARTEST GUY IN THE ROOM

"The Maytag Company and I were both born in Newton, Iowa, in 1909," Smith once

wrote. "In the years that followed, Newton became the washing machine center of the world."

Smith was the second Eagle Scout in Newton (his brother was the first). He liked cherry blossom and crème soda and graduated from Newton High School in 1926.

In 1932, Smith graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, first in his electrical engineering class. After graduating from MIT, he had no job lined up because the country was in the grips of the Great Depression.

"My professors at MIT told me that my scholastic standing was such that I would have won the Gerard Swope Scholarship for advanced study at MIT, but in the depths of the Depression, there was no income from investments to finance the scholarship. If there had been money available, I would have probably taken graduate work at MIT and would never have come back to my hometown." (Swope, by the way, was president of General Electric Company.)

Smith returned to Newton and took a job in Maytag's machine shop to get by. A year later, E.H. Maytag would offer him a job in the experimental department.

"That was the first Maytag gift," says Charlotte Smith, Tom Smith's daughter.

Later Smith would be invited to come back to MIT for a year's study with a scholarship. He considered it, but Fred Maytag asked him to stay as he was needed at the company.

He did.

During his 40-year career at Maytag, Smith was involved in the design of many successful Maytag appliances, including the Model E washer, which went into production in 1939. Its revolutionary design, advanced styling and performance were so advanced, the machine was produced by Maytag for almost 45 years.

"I knew it would have to be good because the Maytag washer that was in production at the time was the best in the world," Smith wrote.

Nevertheless, he nailed it, creating a washer that was more modern and pleasing in appearance, less expensive to produce and quieter and easier to operate.

Smith retired from Maytag in 1974 as vice president of research and development. He held more than 250 U.S. patents and many foreign patents and was named Iowa Inventor of the Year in 1979.

He also co-founded Thombert, a polyurethane wheels and tires manufacturer, and Pyramid, Inc., which manufactures polyurethane drive belts. Both companies are still located in Newton.

"Tom was always the smartest guy in the room," says Walt Smith, Tom's nephew and immediate past chair of Thombert, the company his uncle co-founded more than 75 years ago.

Smith died at age 91 in March 2001.

BOYHOOD FRIENDS

Smith also was a childhood friend of Fred Maytag II, a friendship that would transcend decades and generations.

"When I developed a deep interest in motion pictures and their machines, I asked the manager of the Strand Theater on the north side of the square, if Fred Maytag and I could go into the projection booth after school just as the matinees were ending and learn to run the machine," Smith wrote in a small book called "Yesterdays" in 1982. "Joe Eyerly, the manager, agreed so Fred and I spent a great deal of time up there and learned to run things fairly well. I went on to become the assistant to Whitey Russell who was running the projectors for school movies. By watching Whitey and learning more, I was appointed chief projectionist when Whitey graduated. Fred Maytag became my assistant and together we got out of quite a few study periods."

Fritz Maytag says Fred and Tom "were just buddies. They just trusted each other. If Tom had an idea, Fred would say, 'Let's do it!' They were very different but pushed each other as a team."

Over the course of their childhood, Smith and Maytag tried several businesses together, including building bird baths, printing stamps, mowing, selling advertising and making a product they labeled Sunny Boy Hair Oil.

"As a co-worker, Tom's genius was empowered by Fred Maytag — as a best friend and head of the Maytag Company until 1962," Walt Smith says.

CURIOUS MINDS

The similarities between Tom Smith and Amber Reysack resonate, despite the fact they never walked the planet at the same time.

Reysack, of Ankeny, Iowa, plans to major in biochemistry with a pre-medicine track. Her fascination with science and discovering the way the world works stems back to her childhood.

"I was an outdoorsy child, and I've always had a fascination with science," Reysack says. "My dad was a corn pathologist at Garst Syngenta and across the hall were these entomologists. They would have a bunch of really cool bugs all pinned up, and anytime I went to his work, I would always be there looking at the bugs."

Fast forward from catching bugs to send to work with her dad and weekly baking soda and vinegar volcano experiments with her mom to dissecting animals in her high school AP biology course. Reysack was hooked on the exploration and discovery of the world around her.

"Figuring out how things work — how the world works — and identifying things in nature was so cool to me," she says. "I knew I definitely wanted to do something in science because that's what I was always drawn to."

In her first year at Central, Reysack already is enjoying the freedom of pursuing all her interests at Central. In addition to a STEM major, she is a member of Central's A Cappella Choir and Dutch Brigade. She also aspires to get more involved with Campus Ministries and is pumped the Toothbrush Club was freshly reinstated for the Fall 2021 semester after a gap year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Any opportunity to meet new people and make friends energizes Reysack.

"I was so excited to come to Central because I didn't know anyone," she says. "I love meeting new people. I'm very extroverted and meeting new people is one of my favorite things."

Smith also was a curious soul.

"Tom had broad interests and was curious about many things," Ken Maytag says, including nuclear bomb shelters, hydraulic cylinders and belt manufacturing.

"At family gatherings, he was a leader in intellectual discussions, and he would always be encouraging us kids to solve equations," Walt Smith says. "He was an encourager and enthusiast of thinking."

The Maytag Company was famous for reliability, quality and dependability — much of this because of Smith's focus on superiority.

"His vision of simplicity was integral to Maytag's success," Fritz Maytag says. "Tom's genius was behind the whole thing. He was an amazing and lovely man."

Charlotte Smith recalls her childhood home being filled with experiments.

"We were part of the test field. My mother would trial things that weren't ready for the public yet," she says. "Some things went wrong. It was just part of the deal."

The only time I remember her getting upset was when one of the washers shed oil all over our clothes."

In a booklet, titled "Farewell to Maytag Research" that Smith wrote at his retirement, he said: "In a Research and Development Division, many ideas will sprout which have no relationship to the job at hand. If not too much time and effort are involved, sometimes investigation into unusual fields of activity are undertaken if only to satisfy curiosity."

Sometimes, too, he found necessity was the motherhood of invention.

During World War II, the Maytag Company was not allowed to produce any washing machines or any other consumer products and was engaged entirely in the production of war materials. That was when Smith redesigned aircraft hydraulics for B26 and 187 bombers.

Among his other work was redesigning the mouth piece of the oxygen mask used by the U.S. Expedition in 1963 to climb Mt. Everest so that the mask would not fog over.

"He was always thinking about things. He lived in his head," Charlotte Smith says. "After retiring, he was still creating things. His last patent was granted when he was in his 80s."

MARVELING AT THE MAYTAGS

Reysack was amazed at her receipt of the inaugural Thomas Ross Smith Scholarship. Female influence in STEM-related fields is crucial to future inclusion and success initiatives.

"I'm grateful I get to represent females in the STEM community at Central," Reysack marvels. "Empowered women empower women and I love being someone who can actually do that. It's a very cool thing to get to do what I love and hopefully inspire others. I can't believe I get to be the first one!"

In addition to funding the Thomas Ross Smith Scholarship, which will eventually have four recipients each year receiving the renewable funding, the Fred Maytag Family Foundation also created the Thomas Ross Smith Scientific Instrumentation Initiative at Central. The initiative will be used to purchase scientific equipment at the college — equipment that is critical to effective teaching and learning.

Reysack will be the first Central student to benefit from both areas of funding.

"It's crazy how much the Fred Maytag Family Foundation really did for our community here in Pella," she says. "Supporting STEM fields and getting new equipment for students to enhance learning makes Central a really great place to explore."

Central's President **Mark Putnam** couldn't agree more. He says the gift recognizing Smith's innate curiosity will be passed on to future generations of students and faculty as they collaborate on learning and discovery.

"The incredible generosity of the Maytag Family Foundation will have a permanent impact at Central. Scholarships play an increasingly important role in making a Central education accessible to all. Along with this new commitment, the Maytag family continues its long tradition of annual support of the college's Journey Scholarship Fund. This new scholarship support, now for both Journey and endowed scholarships, gives us more opportunities to change the lives of even more students," Putnam says.

"In addition," Putnam says, "the instrumentation initiative allows the college to purchase, renew, replace and maintain the scientific equipment that will inspire future generations of scientists and engineers like Thomas Smith."

The partnership between the Maytag family and Central dates back nearly a century. With this current donation, the foundation has donated more than \$10 million to Central over just the past three decades. In 1990, the foundation helped fund the construction of Maytag Student Center. The building was named for Fred Maytag II, grandson of F.L. Maytag, who founded the Maytag Company. In 2016, the foundation also funded renovations to the student center. Fred Maytag was president of Maytag from 1940-62 and was the creator of the Fred Maytag Family Foundation.

"The Maytag family's new commitment to Central extends our partnership and will be a lasting legacy," Putnam says. "All of us at Central are so very grateful to the foundation for its very generous support. I cannot overemphasize how much we appreciate the Maytag family's support and confidence in our mission."

LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD

Growing up, Reysack remembers having Maytag appliances at home. In fact, her family still uses Maytag appliances. Receiving a scholarship funded by the Fred Maytag Family Foundation was a full-circle moment for her.

"When I called my mom to tell her about the scholarship, she said, 'We need new appliances; I'd better get some more Maytag!'" Reysack recalls.

Appliances aren't the only things Reysack, Tom Smith and the Maytag family have in common. There's a thread that runs deeper and connects them all to the core of the Central community: friendship.

Fred Maytag and Tom Smith enjoyed a close friendship for the majority of their lives.

Reysack also has a friend who has been by her side for as long as she can remember.

"Her name is Maya and she's my favorite person ever," Reysack gushes. "I found her in second grade, and I already know she'll be one of my bridesmaids. I don't know who the groom will be, but I know she'll be a bridesmaid!"

Reysack confirms Maya is to her who Tom was to Fred.

"If I ever get to Fred Maytag's level of fame, I'm definitely naming a Central scholarship after Maya."

THE MAYTAG DIFFERENCE

The funds in Smith's name are a true demonstration of how life loves on.

The Maytag family says this new commitment to Central is about offering the students of tomorrow the same kind of opportunities that opened the world for Smith.

"Tom was extraordinary," Fritz Maytag says. "His vision and creativity were integral to Maytag's success. He was a brilliant and critical thinker — an idea guy who created solid things. We see this gift to Central as a chance for Iowa students to follow in his footsteps."

The Maytags selected Central for the scholarship because "when students at Central learn science, they learn it well and then can be creative."

Smith's family is amazed at this generosity.

"We are thrilled and so very grateful to the Maytag Family Foundation for this wonderful gift to Central College honoring my father's legacy," Charlotte Smith says. "I think he would have thought it was fabulous."

What would Tom Smith have said about the legacy he has helped make possible at Central?

Perhaps one only needs to look to the past for that answer.

In 1924, when young Tom wanted to go to summer camp, his parents determined they could not send him because it was too expensive.

"Mr. Maytag offered to pay my way. I was the happiest kid in Newton and never forgot the wonderful and unexpected gift bestowed upon me." ■



Throughout his life, Thomas Ross Smith helped the Maytag Company vex its competition and made the company's name synonymous with dependability. A prolific inventor, he conceived the revolutionary Model E washer (shown in picture) and wrote several books about his experiences at Maytag and in life.

REPRESENTING THE U.S. (AND CENTRAL) IN TOKYO

STORY BY: TARYN PENNINGTON '13

HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDER – ATHLETIC TRAINER
UNITED STATES OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE



As a health care services provider for the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, I've seen firsthand what it takes to be a top-tier athlete while living out my dream of working in elite sports.

This summer, my job took me to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, where I worked closely with the United States Paracycling Track and Road teams to support them in their efforts for gold. Despite what you see on television, there is a LOT that goes on behind the scenes. Leading up to competition, most days consisted of training sessions twice a day, followed by rehabilitation and recovery treatments. It was during this time my role matched what you would typically expect of an athletic trainer.

Once competition began, it became all hands on deck, and my role shifted from just “athletic trainer.” Throughout the course of the day, you could find me escorting an athlete to the starting line, making recovery shakes, evaluating an injury, helping in the feed zone, or even “catching” athletes as they cross the finish line. One of my favorite roles to play when working with our Team USA athletes is cheerleader. It's an absolute privilege to work with these athletes and witness how far they've come. Seeing firsthand how hard they work daily makes it even more rewarding to see them achieve their goals and live out their dreams in real time.

Over my career, I've worked with a variety of sports and a variety of athletes at

varying levels. From high school volleyball to collegiate wrestling and elite boxing, every athlete has their own needs based on what's best for their bodies. Working at the Olympic & Paralympic Training Center, I could work with a Paralympic swimmer in the morning, a fencer in the afternoon and a gymnast in the evening, and the training and recovery plans for each are all different. Being willing to take the time to learn and understand every athlete's needs has been an eye-opening and rewarding experience — on and off the field.

When I first came to Central, my mind was set on becoming a physician, but I also had an interest in sports medicine. **John Roslien**, associate professor of exercise science, encouraged me to take athletic training classes to combine my two interests. He took the time to listen and was incredibly supportive of my ambitions. He strongly believed in Central's athletic training program, and he believed in me.

My junior year, I participated in the Chicago Semester program where I interned at a physical therapy clinic working with professional dancers (all dancers are most definitely athletes). It was a wonderful experience. I was constantly in awe of the hard work and dedication each dancer put into their craft and the deep understanding they had of their bodies. From that point on, I knew I wanted to work with athletes, and I was grateful I had the opportunity to participate in the internship. If I hadn't, I might not be where I am now.

Central also helped me discover my love for travel. I studied abroad in the Netherlands and had the opportunity to learn about and experience different cultures throughout Europe. I loved my experience abroad so much that I even considered attending graduate schools in different countries.

The unique relationships I made and the experiences I had at Central opened doors to revelations and opportunities I never would've unlocked anywhere else. I get to do what I love every single day and am proud to represent the Dutch — even if it is behind the scenes. I've learned that the real work starts there.

Go Dutch! ■



The Geisler Penquite Program honors and supports exceptional students in the college's teacher education program who exhibit potential for leadership and hold at least a 3.4 GPA, among other qualifications. The 2021-22 Geisler Penquite Scholarship recipients are pictured above with the statue of Mavis Geisler, who helped establish the scholarship program.

Pictured from left to right in the front row: Jessica Carithers '23 and Victoria Joy '23. Middle row: Lexie Buls '23, Zoey Brockway '23, Mavis Geisler statue, Samantha Kosman '23 and Kate Pachner '23. Back row: Dustin Haines '23, Amanda Smith '23 and Misty Rivas '22.