Serving the Children
Ann Updegraaff Spleth ’71 advances the Kiwanis mission
Replay your Transylvania years at Alumni Weekend
Join your classmates, friends, and former professors April 26-28
for a look back at your college days. This year's Alumni Weekend will include lots of fun, new activities.

Spend Friday playing a round of golf, cheering on the horses at Keeneland Race Course, or attending a May term class on campus. Then celebrate Transy athletics at the Pioneer Hall of Fame induction and dinner before you rock the night away at the TGIF party at Atomic Café. Several classes will have informal gatherings around town that evening.

Get fit on Saturday morning with a workout at the Beck Center or a tennis match with fellow alumni. And be sure to celebrate alumni achievements at the annual luncheon, which will feature performances by cast members of Transylvania's production of the Broadway musical *Pippin* and ImprompTU, a student improv group.

You won’t want to miss Saturday evening’s class reunion reception on Morrison Circle with music by student vocal groups. Pose for a class picture on the steps of Old Morrison. In case of rain, the reception and class photos will be moved to the Clive M. Beck Center. Then enjoy dinner or a reception with your classmates at a downtown restaurant.

Watch your mailbox for details, visit the reunion website at www.transy.edu (select Alumni, News & Events, and Reunions/Alumni Weekend), or contact the alumni office at alumni@transy.edu or (800) 487-2679 for more information.
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Ann Updegraff Spleth ’71 waits to speak to a crowd of 7,000 people gathered for the government kickoff of Sierra Leone’s Mother and Child Health Week. For a look at her role with the Kiwanis International Foundation, see page 16. Photo ©UNICEF/Sierra Leone/2011/Thomas
An Interview with the President

Construction is underway on a new athletics complex on West Fourth Street that will offer state-of-the-art facilities to seven Transylvania intercollegiate teams as well as recreation opportunities for the entire campus community. Its location represents a bold move by the university to expand its presence in Lexington beyond its traditional Broadway campus. President R. Owen Williams discusses why the complex is the first and most visible component of Transylvania 2020, the university’s new strategic plan.

Field hockey and lacrosse are among the intercollegiate sports that will make the new Fourth Street athletics complex their home. Pictured are senior Molly Dean and first-year player Ben Erwin.

Q: Why is an athletics complex, and not an academic or residential building, the first project under the strategic plan?
A: Our strategic plan includes many exciting new academic and residential facilities, which are dependent upon land currently occupied by athletics. By building this athletics complex, we will free that land for new development.

Q: How significant is the need for this new complex?
A: Very. Forty-two percent of this year’s incoming class participate in intercollegiate athletics. Yet some of our teams are practicing and competing on sub-par facilities. We have a lacrosse team, but not a lacrosse field. We have a track team, but not a track. It’s time we address those needs of our students. This facility will do all of that, and much more.

Q: How important are our athletics programs to the overall experience of a Transylvania education?
A: Our student-athletes learn about competition, grace under pressure, teamwork, and any number of other important characteristics of successful leaders. For many, the lessons they learn on the playing field stay with them throughout their lives and careers.

Q: How will the complex compare with current athletics facilities?
A: It’s going to be unlike anything we’ve ever had at Transylvania. The turf field, lighting for practice and night play on a regular basis, outdoor seating that will accommodate almost the entire student body—all of this is unprecedented for us.

Q: Is this a place to play games and then leave, or is there more to it?
A: Much more. A new field house will accommodate all the coaches for women’s and men’s soccer, lacrosse, and track and field, as well as field hockey. It will also house locker rooms and a training facility. The Transylvania community will be on this site all day, every day. It will be a new home for nearly a third of our varsity programs.

Q: How far from the Broadway campus is this complex?
A: Very close. It is only two-tenths of a mile from Broadway. Indeed, if you are in back circle at Clay/Davis Halls, you are closer to this new field than you are to Hazelrigg Hall. We are acquiring properties on the short stretch of Fourth Street that takes you to this field. Eventually, our campus will be all along Fourth Street from Upper Street to the complex.

Q: What is the significance of the location of this facility?
A: It represents a historic move by the university to integrate even more into the Lexington community that surrounds us and so uniquely defines our character. Even though it is very close by, it is an important expansion of Transylvania’s footprint.

Q: Why is being in downtown Lexington a positive for Transylvania?
A: There is very little that gives Transylvania a competitive advantage more than our location. Most liberal arts colleges are in rural destinations that render them quite remote. Transylvania, by contrast, is in the middle of one of America’s sweetest cities. As a result, we’re able to offer our students cultural and social opportunities unlike what are available at many other liberal arts colleges.

Q: What are the academic and professional opportunities Lexington provides our students?
A: We have internship opportunities just minutes from campus that students can pursue during the regular school year, as opposed to having to wait until summer as they do at so many other colleges. Many of these experiences come through our alumni network. In every walk of life, in every occupation, we have alums in this greater metropolitan area who have done very well. They happily take on interns from our student body.
Transylvania to add neuroscience major

What does it mean to be human?

At the heart of this key liberal arts question lies another puzzle: How does the brain make us who we are?

Transylvania students will wade into these gray areas by studying gray matter. Beginning this fall, the college will offer a neuroscience major.

Students have requested special majors in that field and biopsychology for years, psychology professor and program director Meg Upchurch said. The university expects the new major will appeal not only to current students but also to those considering Transylvania.

Neuroscience is a growing discipline—and it’s a hot topic. The field tackles issues such as athletes’ head injuries in contact sports and how to interpret brain scans of criminals who say they couldn’t help committing a crime because their frontal cortex wasn’t properly functioning.

The new program also dovetails with Transylvania 2020, the university’s new strategic plan, which calls for expanded multidisciplinary initiatives.

Neuroscience majors will choose an emphasis of either psychology, biology, or computer science, and the academic connections won’t end there. Courses will include Mental Organs, co-taught with philosophy, and a possible elective will be Music Cognition, which poses questions such as: Why do we react emotionally to music? and: Why does music matter to us?

This mix will lead to fruitful interdisciplinary interactions in both conversation and research, Upchurch said. “It adds to the intellectual discussion on campus.”

As for the other liberal arts link, “to a pretty substantial extent, how we picture ourselves as humans is really arising from our brains,” Upchurch said.

Studying and using computers adds to this picture. Transylvania’s neuroscience program will be unlike many similar ones at other colleges because it will require all of its students to take a computer class. This could give them an edge when they apply to graduate or medical schools.

The study of brains and computers merges in the development of artificial intelligence and robotics. For instance, computer scientists look at living neural networks to learn how to create more effective machines. A robot, after all, is a computer that can move around and interact with its environment. So if you study how to make a computer do that, in a sense, you’re also asking questions about how an organism with a nervous system does that, Upchurch said.

While the new major will pull from many different areas, the discipline of neuroscience stands on its own these days. Upchurch compared it to the development of her field, psychology, which originally didn’t exist as a separate discipline but was a combination of two others: philosophy and physiology. It eventually took on a life of its own, though.

Senior Daniel Ficker, a psychology major and biology minor, said the fusion of psychology, biology, computer science, and chemistry will give students a better understanding of the basis behind neurological functions. “Through the integration of these fields of study, students will be capable of entering into and exploring the multitude of opportunities that neuroscience has to offer.”

Junior Roshni Desai, who created her own neuroscience major, said the field’s multi-focus approach reflects Transylvania’s value of interdisciplinary study. For example, her behavioral pharmacology class—an elective for the official neuroscience major—covered not only pure science but also the social impact of drug use.

Desai also said it’s interesting to learn how the brain works and makes people who they are—“how personality develops, how that is related to the actual structure of your brain.”

Shearer awarded honorary degree by the University of Ken-

Transylvania president emeritus Charles L. Shearer was awarded an honorary doctor of letters degree at the December commencement exercises of the University of Kentucky for his lifetime service to higher education.

Shearer was selected as president of Transylvania in 1983, beginning a distinguished 27-year tenure that is the longest in the university’s history. He had previously served four years as vice president for finance.

Under his presidency, enrollment grew from 655 to an all-time high of 1,153 in 2008, a 76 percent increase. The endowment increased by 339 percent, growing from $32.8 million in 1983 to a record high of $144 million by 2007.

Academic quality of the student body and faculty was a priority for Shearer. William T. Young Scholars, who received the university’s most prestigious scholarship, grew from 10 each year to 25, and the innovative Bingham Program for Excellence in Teaching provided financial rewards to high-achieving professors. The David and Betty Jones Fund for Faculty Development and the Kenan Fund for Faculty and Student Enrichment further bolstered academic resources.

The physical campus underwent major change during Shearer’s tenure. Working at the direction of the Board of Trustees, he oversaw the completion of 13 new buildings, athletics fields, and major renovations at a total cost of $53.5 million.

Transylvania was twice ranked No. 1 in the South in the U.S. News & World Report rankings in the regional liberal arts category before moving to the national liberal arts category in 1994, where the university has enjoyed solid rankings each year.

Shearer impacted higher education beyond Transylvania through his work with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities, and the Council on Independent Colleges, among other groups.

Shearer earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting and a master’s in diplomacy and international commerce, both from the University of Kentucky. He then earned a master’s and Ph.D., both in economics, from Michigan State University.
The Transylvania University Board of Trustees has approved the university’s strategic plan, Transylvania 2020, a comprehensive roadmap for the next seven years that encompasses enrollment growth, expansion of campus facilities, and enhancements to academic and student life programs.

“The vision of this plan is that Transylvania will be recognized as one of the nation’s finest liberal arts colleges,” said President R. Owen Williams. “The plan builds on the national reputation for excellence that Transylvania already enjoys and takes the university to an even higher level.”

The plan is organized around four primary goals: enhance innovative thinking, develop the whole person, promote civic engagement and social justice, and enhance campus infrastructure sustainably.

Among highlights of the specific strategies are a planned enrollment growth from the present size of approximately 1,100 to 1,500; the addition and renovation of residence, academic, student life, and athletics infrastructure; creation of an experimental pedagogy laboratory for faculty members to explore innovations in teaching and learning; expansion of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary academic programs; and a commitment to serving as a model of sustainable land management and development in an urban setting.

“The most valuable aspect of this strategic planning exercise was the process we went through, which made the board fully analyze the college’s current situation and where it might go over the coming years,” said William T. Young Jr., chairman of the board. “It caused us to look at everything—factors that influence enrollment, cost of operation, and what we need to offer to continue to be relevant in tomorrow’s higher education world.”

The plan was developed by the Strategic Planning Committee, chaired by trustee Byron Young ’61, former professor of neurosurgery in the University of Kentucky College of Medicine. Input came from faculty, staff, students, alumni, and trustees. Costs outlined in the plan will be funded by projected enrollment growth and a capital campaign.

“The strategic plan is a bold initiative to propel Transylvania from its present status as a top 75 national liberal arts college into the top 50 ranks by 2020,” said Byron Young. “The roadmap to this destination resulted from the inclusive creative talents of many diverse groups of the college. Achieving this high aspiration will require the total commitment and vigorous effort of the entire Transylvania community.”

Bioethics seminar twines Transylvania to Ivy League

As a biology student might say, Transylvania and Yale University have evolved a symbiotic relationship.

Transylvania students who attend the Yale Bioethics Summer Internship Program bring an imaginative energy to the Ivy League school, and they return with new perspectives and confidence.

Yale is so fond of Transylvania students that it set aside a spot for one of them to attend each year.

Carol Pollard, director of the summer program, said Transylvania students are academically exceptional and demonstrate a high emotional IQ. “Basically, we are looking for students who have a strong interest and are creative and empathetic types.”

Pollard’s program—which is part of the Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics—each year draws dozens of students and professors from around the world to discuss topical issues such as animal rights, designer embryos, and the causes and prevention of violence.

The Yale-Transylvania connection formed five years ago when biology and philosophy major Prya Murad ’11—who now attends the Loyola University Chicago School of Law—participated in the two-month program. Since then, about a dozen Transylvania students have been accepted. Three went last year.

Yale created the guaranteed spot in 2009; Transylvania selects the student and covers his or her enrollment fee. Transylvania chooses students who “bring creative energy and novel concepts to our morning lectures and afternoon seminars,” Pollard said.

Kathleen Jagger, biology professor and interim vice president and dean of the college, said Transylvania is grateful for the collaboration. Her students not only return from Yale with new knowledge, but they also help grow the summer program.

The Transylvania students come back to lead bioethics discussion groups and might share what they’ve learned at off-campus forums.

Plus, at Yale they mingle with students and faculty from elite universities. Doing so, they discover they’re of the same caliber and as well-prepared. “In all cases they realize they compete with the best of the best,” Jagger said.

The bioethics program also helps show students the value of a liberal arts education because of the many ways it ties into other fields—from exercise science to sociology. “They begin to see that connecting the dots intellectually is something that they’re going to enjoy doing well beyond Transylvania,” Jagger said.

Philosophy professor Jack Furlong also mentioned the summer program’s mind-expanding nature. “It makes biology majors think differently and philosophy majors think differently,” he said. And with their liberal arts background, Transylvania students bring to Yale a well-rounded mind and an ability to learn and communicate.

When they return, they create a buzz that helps Transylvania fill its own bioethics courses.

Senior Emily Shepp won the guaranteed spot last year. She learned from the experience that she doesn’t want to go straight to law school; she’d first like to figure out what part of health care law she wants to focus on.

The Yale experience provided her with valuable contacts. For instance, a friend she met there has university connections in Chile, where she may work for a while.

Shepp also had a Yale bioethics classmate, Ed King, who was one of the first lawyers to exonerate an innocent prisoner by using DNA evidence. “It was a huge honor to realize that I had studied him before and he was sitting next to me,” she said.

Shepp gained confidence through the Ivy League program. “I thought that I might be intimidated, but I felt that Transy prepared me really well.”
Student theses from 19th-century medical department now available digitally

The 1,800 theses written by Transylvania medical students from 1819-59 are a goldmine of primary research material for anyone interested in medical history. But until recently, the fragile, handwritten theses were only accessible by visiting the library’s Special Collections or contacting Special Collections Librarian B.J. Gooch to request photocopies.

All that is changing, thanks to the Kentuckiana Digital Library, which has digitized the theses and is completing the process of adding them to its online collection of rare books, newspapers, maps, photos, and other historic items that document the history and heritage of Kentucky.

The Transylvania Medical Department was one of only a relatively few medical schools in the United States during the time it was in operation, from 1799-1859. It achieved eminence nationwide and trained more than 4,300 of America’s early physicians, including more than 1,800 who earned a doctor of medicine degree. Every candidate for the M.D. degree was required to write a thesis, and they are part of Transylvania’s medical library, which consists of 8,000 titles, many of which are multi-volume works.

“If we didn’t already have a photocopy of a thesis, I would make two copies so that if I got another request later, the original thesis wouldn’t have to be handled again,” said Gooch, who frequently receives questions about the theses from students and faculty members at Transylvania and other colleges, scholars, researchers, and descendants of Transylvania medical department students. Before the digitization project, she had to pull the pertinent theses from archival folders and photocopy them.

“I’ll still get requests from people who want copies, but now I can send them digitally instead of photocopying the originals,” she said.

The digitizing project fulfilled a need that Gooch and Library Director Susan Brown identified several years ago.

“We had considered sending the theses away to have them put on microfilm, but we didn’t have the funds to do that,” said Gooch.

“KDL generously supported the project and digitized them. I have to give credit to (library night supervisor) Gooch also provided KDL with a searchable database of the thesis titles and authors that she had produced several years ago.

Gooch and Brown would like to have other materials in Special Collections added to KDL, including the Coleman Kentuckiana Collection of photos, while Transylvania’s Henry Clay, Jefferson Davis, and Horace Holley collections. The Bullock Collection, a small group of photos, has been on KDL for several years.

Brown explained that KDL’s mission is to provide digital access to archival materials from all over Kentucky so that, with one search, a researcher can see what multiple libraries own and often get digital access to the original materials.

“A lot of other libraries in Kentucky have archival collections that they’d like to have digitized, so KDL is looking for items that have interest on a national level, and that was certainly the case with our medical theses,” said Brown.


Transylvania will present Pippin in Haggin Auditorium in May

The musical employs a mysterious acting troupe, led by a Leading Player, to tell the story of Pippin, a young prince searching for a meaningful life. His quest includes a mock battle, a series of shallow sexual encounters, a fight against tyranny, and experiments with art and religion.

The musical score, by Stephen Schwartz, is contemporary 1970s pop, and the book is by Roger O. Hirson. Bob Fosse directed the original Broadway production, which ran for nearly five years with 1,944 performances. It won five Tony Awards in 1973.

The Transylvania theater and music departments will join forces to present the Broadway musical Pippin May 16-19 in four performances in Haggin Auditorium. Thursday-Saturday shows will be at 7:30 p.m., and a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m.

Theater professor Sully White will produce the show. She said Pippin was chosen partly because of its ensemble nature that allows many students to shine in their roles.

Margo Buchanan, arts facilitator at the School for Creative and Performing Arts in Lexington, will direct the show. She is an experienced actor, director, and theater teacher who has worked with the University of Kentucky’s opera theater department.

Tickets will go on sale online beginning May 1 and at the Mitchell Fine Arts Center box office May 13.
The State of Transylvania?

Transylvania's name is an interesting one for several reasons, one of which could have been its application as the name of the 14th state to join the union had a group of settlers in the 1770s had their way.

In 1775, pioneers in an expedition to this area led by Daniel Boone sent a representative, Jim Hogg, to the Continental Congress with a proposal that Transylvania become the 14th state. The huge land tract encompassed by that name had been purchased from the Cherokee through a land company formed by Richard Henderson of North Carolina. It encompassed much of the mid-section of the current Kentucky as well as a large chunk of present-day central Tennessee.

Thus, Boone not only wanted to guide the settlers into a new promised land, he also wanted to set them up with their own new state and name it Transylvania.

As with many other statehood proposals over the years, this one failed to win support. In 1792, much of the Transylvania tract became the state of Kentucky.

Highlights of this intriguing story are recounted in Lost States: True Stories of Texlahoma, Transylvania, and Other States That Never Made It (2010: Quirk Books, Philadelphia). Emmy-nominated (PBS documentary Pioneers of Television/2008) author Michael J. Trinklein traces the tribulations of 74 failed statehood proposals, including those for Hazard, McDonald, Nickajack, Popham, Rough and Ready, and Yazoo.

Regarding the name Transylvania, Trinklein says, “…the name isn’t as odd as it might seem. The word sylvan means a ‘pleasant woodsy area.’ It was a popular suffix during the colonial era; think of Pennsylvania…”

Transylvania history professor emeritus John D. Wright Jr. includes a 1776 map titled “A General Map of the New Settlement called Transylvania (sic)” as a frontispiece to his book Transylvania: Tutor to the West (1975: Transylvania University, Lexington).

“The name Transylvania was a common designation…for a variety of enterprises venturing into the region across the Appalachian Mountains barrier” at that time, Wright wrote.

Therefore, it was logical that the Virginia Legislature attached the name Transylvania Seminary to the new educational enterprise in a 1783 act that followed the granting of Transylvania’s original charter as a “seminary of learning” in a 1780 act.

In 1799 the institution became Transylvania University, a name it kept until an unsuccessful experiment from 1865-1908 that tried to combine a denominationally affiliated liberal arts college with a land-grant agricultural and mechanical college (later the University of Kentucky) and a theological seminary under one organizational umbrella known as Kentucky University.

The university reclaimed its historical name of Transylvania University in 1908, changed to Transylvania College in 1915, then in 1965 went back to Transylvania University, which it remains today.

Paul Jones’s book discloses church’s secrets

They probably didn’t know it, but Paul Jones’s students helped write his fourth book.

Its dedication page credits their “perceptive questions,” which sparked ideas he included in The Church’s Seven Deadly Secrets: Identity Theft from Within.

“This book is a product of the classroom,” said Jones, a religion professor and program director. It’s grounded in Transylvania’s liberal arts education.

Jones’s book focuses on how pulpit messages can muddle our understanding of the past and how we see the relationship between faith and belief.

“Silence about the vast resources of the tradition has created church secrets that, over time, rob us of our Christian identity from within,” Jones writes. These secrets lead the church to default to cultural norms and presuppositions—confounding ancient messages. “The past has to speak to the present,” he said.

Published this past fall, Jones’s book is available through outlets such as Amazon and his publisher, Polebridge Press. Marcus Borg, author of The Heart of Christianity, praised the work. “Paul Jones is an excellent teacher, as this book makes clear,” Borg writes. “Readers will learn much that is important for the life of the church today.”

As for the secrets, what does Jones think the church is keeping from us?

Secret No. 1: “There is no meaning without context.”

Jones asserts the church ignores the fact we filter everything through our cultural constructs. If we aren’t aware of them, we’ll never be able to address important issues. “Our biases will get in the way,” he said. “The present will completely control your understanding of the past and future.”

Secret No. 2: “Faith means trust, not belief.”

Jones said it’s a mistake to view faith and belief as equivalent. When this happens, faith could be lost if beliefs are doubted. If they are decoupled, though, tinkering with beliefs won’t collapse the whole system.

The synonym for faith is trust—not belief, Jones said. Belief is a second order act of the mind to try to make sense of the faith experience.
Secret No. 3: “The Bible is not the Word of God; Jesus is.”

Jones wants to counter the notion that the single voice of fundamentalism represents Christianity. “My trust is in Jesus, not in a book,” he said.

Secret No. 4: “Jesus was a Jew, not a Christian.”

Jones puts Jesus into context, asking how the origins of Judaism and Christianity should inform the way we live today. The author wants not only to counter anti-Semitism but also for Christians to understand their origins and the ongoing relationship with their sister religion, Rabbinic Judaism. “I want to change the root metaphor for the way in which we understand Judaism” -that is, siblings rather than parent and child.

Secret No. 5: “Read the Bible critically, not literally.”

Literalism rules in our culture, according to Jones. However, Sacred writings frequently use metaphors and images, symbols and myths to communicate their truth.” Text can neither speak for, nor interpret itself. “Only people can give voice to the text and derive understanding.”

Secret No. 6: “Jesus’ miracles are prologue, not proof.”

A student once asked Jones: What do you do with miracles? The way the author deals with this secret is an example of how he makes a traditional concept relevant for today.

The pertinent question regarding miracles isn’t: “Did they happen,” but: “What is their meaning?”

Secret No. 7: “My religion and God are violent.”

“You want to know why we’re violent?” Jones asked. “Because our heritage is violent.”

To counter the brutality, we must recognize the toxic stories in the text—otherwise they’ll poison us. “Worship has to be very intentional about what it’s doing,” Jones said.

It boils down to asking yourself: What Jesus do you want? “I want the church, at its best, to contribute to the welfare of humanity,” Jones said. “Religion is for me the most powerful and pervasive force in the world.”

Transylvania as part-time student media advisor while pursuing a master’s degree at Morehead State University.

Friedlein brings 14 years of newspaper and freelance writing experience to his new position. He was most recently a freelance writer and owner of a stoneware boutique in Louisville. Before that, he was a staff writer for The News-Enterprise in Elizabethtown, The Sentinel-News in Shelbyville, and The Kentucky Standard in Bardstown.
Expanded website details programs, faculty

Students would be wise not to choose a college based on a single brochure with undergraduates smiling under cloudless skies.

Transylvania tells a more in-depth story about itself on the revamped website: www.transy.edu. The communications staff has compiled profiles on majors, minors, and faculty members for the academics pages. “The ongoing project involves adding dynamic photos, environmental portraits, and interesting feature articles to the website,” said Sarah Emmons, associate vice president of communications.

The major and minor profiles go beyond simple coursework description to show students the benefits of a Transylvania education. They list examples of where graduates have found jobs or continued their education and give career options that students might not consider—such as how an anthropology major could go on to be a community organizer.

The program profiles include a section called The Transylvania Edge. This feature, for example, lets students know philosophy majors will be members of the philosophical society, Sophia, the oldest student group on campus, and they’ll plan a conference for undergraduates from across the country.

With faculty profiles, the university’s primary goal is to show prospective students how interesting and appealing Transylvania professors and instructors are—to “flesh out their multidimensional personalities,” Web Content Editor Sallie Showalter said. “We want to entice students to come to Transylvania and spend four years with this fascinating and accomplished group of people.” Going beyond a simple academic credentials list, these pages relate stories about faculty members’ intellectual pursuits, personal interests, and how they operate in the classroom.

Each academic program section also features a spotlight, where a student or recent graduate—who isn’t much older than a high school student shopping for a college—relates stories about the benefits of choosing a particular Transylvania major. The music department’s spotlight, for instance, shows pictures of four students with a quote from each and a link that opens a more detailed page about what the student gained from Transylvania.

These stories also help parents understand how a particular degree—or Transylvania’s liberal arts education in general—will lead to gainful, interesting employment, even if a particular major doesn’t quite strike them as a professional preparation program.

On another level, these additions to the Transylvania website “encourage students to think this would be an interesting and fun place to spend four years of their lives,” Showalter said.

Web Development Manager Mariana Shochat, who designed the profiles, said a major goal is to make visitors emotionally invested in the web content. Prospective students base a lot of their decision about what school to attend on emotion.

Personal stories play a lead role. To add personality to faculty profiles, Shochat replaced small photos with environmental portraits and added large quotes from professors next to their pictures. “The contact information is not enough,” Shochat said. “It doesn’t tell a person’s story.”

Music professor Timothy Polashek’s “Micro-Coastings” electro-acoustic music and video piece was performed in Florence, Italy, September 29, 2012, at the Conservatorio di Musica Luigi Cherubini’s 2012 Autumn Festival. Another Polashek composition, “Echoes of Steel,” was performed in Slovenia at the International Computer Music Festival conference.

Senior Jake Hawkins was named one of 19 USA Today Collegiate Correspondents for the spring 2013 semester. He has had several articles published at www.usatodaycollege.com and was a contributor to an article in the print edition of USA Today. The Princeton, Ky., native is just the second student from Kentucky to be chosen as a collegiate correspondent.

The alumni programs staff received two awards at the annual Council for Advancement and Support of Education Kentucky Conference on December 6-7 in Louisville: Special Merit Award in social media and Award of Excellence in special events for the 2011 Hoops and Hoopla Transylvania vs. University of Kentucky watch parties.

Maurice Manning, English professor and writer in residence, was a judge for the 2012 National Book Award poetry prize, presented by the National Book Foundation. Manning has published four books on poetry, including his most recent, The Common Man, which was one of three finalists for the 2011 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry.

Junior Michael Case was invited to Washington, D.C., December 3-5 by the White House Office of Public Engagement. Case, a political science and international affairs double major and president of Transylvania University’s College Democrats, toured the White House and attended an issues briefing about averting the fiscal cliff.

Transylvania’s implementation of Ellucian’s Business Object Reporting Tool won the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities’ 2012 Technology Award for Best New Campus Application System. Staff and faculty now have easier access to data reports, and users can build and change their own reports.
Since the 9/11 attacks, Americans have been 17 times more likely to drown in their own bathtub than to be killed by an al-Qaeda inspired radical.

“If we’re not terrorized by terrorists, then we’re winning,” said journalist and bestselling author Peter Bergen. He gave a fairly optimistic Kenan Lecture on February 20 about not only the diminishing terrorist threat to the United States but also progress in the Middle East.

During the talk, “The Awakening: How Revolutionaries, Barack Obama, and Ordinary Muslims Are Remaking the Middle East,” Bergen described his 1997 interview with the al-Qaeda founder. “Meeting (Osama) bin Laden was quite a performance,” Bergen told the Haggin Auditorium audience. Bergen was blindfolded and driven deep into the backcountry of Taliban-controlled Afghanistan to a mud hut where, surrounded by heavily armed men, he met the lanky, low-key man who spoke almost in a whisper.

“He was delivering a message full of hatred against the United States,” said Bergen, CNN’s national security analyst and director of the national security studies program at the New America Foundation. “The message was, essentially: I’m declaring war against the United States, and here are the reasons why.” It was a foreign policy, as opposed to a social critique of the West.

When bin Laden attacked the United States, he underestimated our strength and resolve, Bergen said.

Since then, al-Qaeda has become less relevant. This was evident in the Arab Spring uprisings, which largely ignored the late terrorist leader, calling into question his assertions that change in the Middle East only can come about through violence or fighting the United States. “So bin Laden’s two big ideas basically were completely undercut by the actual events of the Arab Spring,” Bergen said.

The terrorist organization damaged its reputation in other ways, such as killing Muslim civilians, having no idea how to arrange an economy, failing to engage in elections, and lacking political ideas that make sense. “Very few people in the Middle East are demanding a Taliban-style theocracy,” which al-Qaeda supports, Bergen said.

Plus, the toppled authoritarian regimes—which were more pro-American than their populations—had been incubators for hatching radicals.

Bergen also sounded somewhat upbeat about prospects in Afghanistan, where life expectancy has increased and civilians there are less likely to be killed in war than an American would be by a murderer in New Orleans.

As for Pakistan, while four military coups have destabilized the country in the past, Bergen said the likelihood of another one is small. Additionally, Pakistan will have its first civilian government since 1947 complete a term, its press is freer, and trade with India has improved.

Another positive development is that civilian deaths by drone strikes have been reduced in the region.

Nevertheless, President Obama has used drones more than George W. Bush. Some people who voted for him in 2008 are disappointed with his use of violence in foreign policy. “This is a president who is very comfortable with the use of American hard power,” Bergen said.

Military action took out bin Laden and helped cripple al-Qaeda. This and other reasons—better communication between government agencies, public awareness, and creation of the Department of Homeland Security—have made the country a harder target for terrorists.

“We are quite safe, compared to what we were on 9/11,” Bergen said. “They are not able to conduct large-scale operations or anything close in the United States, and they aren’t likely to in the future.”


The lecture was part of a series funded by a grant from the William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust.

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The Thirteen performed | An ensemble of Kentucky musicians and vocalists joined poet Bianca Spriggs ’03 during the performance of *The Thirteen* on January 23 in Carrick Theater. The event accompanied a Morlan Gallery art exhibit that paid homage to 13 Kentucky women and girls who were murdered.
Volleyball claims share of HCAC season crown

Transylvania shared the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Association regular season volleyball title with the College of Mount St. Joseph as the Pioneers went 8-1 in conference play and 22-14 overall. It was the third straight year for Transylvania, under head coach Casey Dale, to win outright or share the conference crown.

In the HCAC tournament, Transylvania dispatched Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology 3-2 in the semifinals, then lost 3-0 to Mount St. Joseph in the title game as the Lions claimed the HCAC's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III championship. Mount St. Joseph gave the Pioneers their only conference regular season loss, a 3-1 setback on the Lions’ home court.

A highlight of the regular season came when Transylvania hosted the eight-team HCAC-Ohio Athletic Conference Volleyball Challenge in the Beck Center for the first time. The Pioneers were 3-1 during the two-day event, defeating OAC schools Muskingum University, Capital University, and Baldwin-Wallace College. They were also 3-1 in the Elmhurst Invitational, hosted by Elmhurst College in Illinois, with wins over Vassar College, Wheaton University, and Trinity College.

Junior middle blocker Meghan Bowers and first-year setter Sarah Jonas were named to the All-HCAC first team while Jonas led in assists with 972. Bowers was also named to the All-Great Lakes Region honorable mention team by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

Women’s cross country takes second in invitational

A highlight of the cross country season came early when the women’s team captured a second-place finish in the opening College of Mount St. Joseph Invitational.

Senior Kelsey Meade led the way for the Pioneers with a time of 23-minutes, 27.68 seconds over the 6,000-meter course, good for seventh overall. First-year runner Kara Sparks was eighth overall with a time of 23:42.27, followed by senior Natalie Jones (11th in 24:45.58), sophomore Alexis Carey (12th in 25:21.22), and junior Alex Rand (13th in 25:39.54).

Both the women’s and men’s teams placed 10th in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference championship. Senior Laura Clark paced the women with a time of 27:37.7, followed by Meade at 27:53.3. For the men, first-year runner Chris Saldana led the way with a 31:04.1 over the 8,000-meter course, followed by senior Jordan Evans at 32:51.4 and sophomore Shane Metzger with a 35:39.1.

Both the women’s and men’s teams are led by head coach Heidi Pinkerton.

Field hockey plays in SAA tournament

The field hockey team enjoyed its first season as an associate member of the Southern Athletic Association, participating in the league tournament and winning individual player honors. The Pioneers finished with a 2-15 record under head coach Tiffany Underhill, with both wins coming outside the conference.

Transylvania fell 1-0 to Sewane: The University of the South in the season-ending first round of the SAA tournament, played in Memphis at Rhodes College.

The Pioneers got their first win when they defeated Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference foe Earlham College 2-0 on Hall Field. Junior forward Kerri Kolarik and sophomore forward Macaulay Schifferdecker each scored for Transylvania. The Pioneers traveled to Wooster College in Ohio and defeated the Scots 2-1 on goals by sophomore back Sara Clark and senior back Brittany Rebalsky.

Senior midfielder Molly Dean and first-year back Kayla Thurlow were named to the All-SAA first team while sophomore keeper Sara Aschbacher was an honorable mention selection. Aschbacher was also a defensive Player of the Week in the SAA.

Men's soccer wins HCAC, plays in NCAA championship

The men’s soccer team capped an outstanding season by winning the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference tournament and claiming the league’s automatic bid to the NCAA Division III championship.

The Pioneers were 16-2-2 under head coach Brandon Bowman, including an 8-0-1 league record that tied Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology for the season crown. After a mid-September 2-0 loss on the road
to Ohio Northern University. Transylvania went 13-0-1 in the heart of the season, the only blemish being a two-overtime tie (2-2) with Rose-Hulman in Terre Haute.

Transylvania clinched its share of the title in its final regular season game when it drilled home four second-half goals in a 4-0 road win over Bluffton University.

Transylvania polished off Franklin College 3-0 in the HCAC tournament semifinals, then cruised past Anderson University 4-1 in the finals. The Pioneers journeyed to Illinois to take on Wheaton University in the NCAA first round, where they lost to the Thunder 3-0 to end their season.

Junior forward Kyle Smith was named Offensive Most Valuable Player in the HCAC, and was joined on the All-HCAC first team by junior midfielder Taylor Ballard. A trio of juniors—defenders Robbie Gorham and Evan Sizemore and midfielder Christian King—won honorable mention.

Smith had 18 goals for the season to lead the conference and was tied with King for third in assists. He also won first-team All-Region honors from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. Ballard helped anchor a defense that permitted only 14 goals.

Women's golf wins invitational, places fourth in HCAC tourney

A victory in an invitational meet and a fourth-place finish in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference tournament highlighted the women's golf team season under head coach Mark Turner ’77.

In their last regular season event before the HCAC tournament, the Pioneers won the Asbury Invitational, hosted by Asbury University. Sophomore Jerra Kelsey led Transylvania with an 87, good for third place in the medalist race. Other Pioneer scorers were sophomore Tiara Harris (92), junior Sarah Fuller (96), and sophomore Alyssa Thompson (97). Transylvania finished three shots ahead of Pikeville University, followed by Asbury and Thomas More College.

Transylvania opened the season with a second-place finish in the Transy Fall Invitational, paced by Harris’s 84 that tied her for medalist honors. The Pioneers were just five shots back of the winner, Indiana Wesleyan College. In the Transy Fall Invitational II, Transylvania was third behind the winner, Campbellsville College, and second-place finisher Sewanee: The University of the South.

Kelsey fired a 171 (83-88) to pace Transylvania’s fourth-place showing in the HCAC tournament. Her score was also fourth best in medalist play, which earned her a spot on the All-HCAC team. Harris had a 192 (96-96), Thompson shot 195 (107-88), and first-year player Cayla Combs finished at 196 (92-104) for Transylvania’s team score of 754.

Women’s soccer advances to NCAA championship

The women’s soccer team finished second to Earlham College in the regular season Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference race, then won two penalty-kick decisions in the HCAC tournament to claim the league’s NCAA Division III championship bid. A loss in the NCAA first round left the Pioneers with a strong 11-6-3 record under head coach Michael Fulton, including a 7-2 tally in the HCAC.

Transylvania began the season with an impressive showing in the Centre Showcase, hosted by Centre College. The Pioneers defeated Marietta College, John Carroll University, and Sewanee: The University of the South while tying Rhodes College for a 3-0-1 mark.

Transylvania ended the regular season on a 6-1 streak to finish just behind Earlham’s 7-1-1 league-leading record. The Quakers had handed the Pioneers one of their two conference losses—the other coming from Hanover College—but Transylvania turned the tables in the HCAC tourney final. The teams battled through a 0-0 tie and two overtimes before the Pioneers took a 6-5 win in penalty kicks. Transylvania had gotten payback against Hanover in the semifinals in a similar game that the Pioneers won 7-6 in penalty kicks after a 1-1 tie in regulation.

The Pioneers then faced the formidable task of taking on the nation’s No. 3 ranked team, Washington University in St. Louis, on the Bears’ home field in the NCAA opening round. After a scoreless first half, Washington nailed three goals in the final half for a 3-0 victory, ending Transylvania’s season.

Senior midfielder Ashley Cobane, junior defender Anne Marie Dumaine, and sophomore forward Alyssa Kruse were named to the All-HCAC first team. Second team honorees were junior forward Amy Ghibaudi and junior midfielder Michelle Schroech. Kruse led Transylvania in scoring with 10 goals and three assists while Cobane added two goals and two assists. Dumaine was the team’s defensive leader.
Ajibola Bakare ‘15 had never been to the U.S. when he traveled 5,800 miles from his home in Abuja, Nigeria, to enroll at Transylvania.

Matthew Simmons ‘14 had never been to Kentucky until he left his home in Riverside, Calif., and traveled 1,800 miles to attend Transylvania.

Despite being far away, both students felt at home when they arrived on campus thanks to the Friendship Family program, which pairs international students and domestic students who come from a long distance with Lexington alumni, faculty, and staff families or with families of current and former Transylvania students. Bakare and Simmons are among 13 students and families currently participating in the program.

“It’s helped me get to know and bond with citizens of this country,” says Bakare about his Friendship Family, Tony ‘07 and Sara Hoffman Smith ‘07. “I’ve learned what the culture of the U.S. is like, and I have someone I can fall back on if I have a problem or get sick or need to talk with someone. It helped with my transition and made me feel more comfortable living in the U.S.”

The partnership took on a deeper dimension last summer when Tony Smith, who is completing an internal medicine and pediatrics residency at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, arranged for Bakare, who aspires to become a neurosurgeon, to shadow a doctor.

“He is having his second year of residency, and I asked him about how that worked,” said Bakare. “He offered to help me find someone to shadow and made the arrangements. I am not interested in pursuing the same kind of medicine as my host dad, but talking with him gave me a better idea of the process after I graduate from Transylvania and how to achieve my goals. It helped me become more confident. I will definitely call on him to help me with medical school applications.”

Simmons, an exercise science major and Spanish minor, relies on his Friendship Family, Johan ‘00 and Aimee Hicks Graham ‘03, for a place to stay when the residence halls close for holidays and breaks, to take him to and from the airport for trips home, and—for the past three years—a home cooked Thanksgiving meal.

“Matthew doesn’t go home for Thanksgiving, so the first year, he got to eat Thanksgiving dinner with both of our parents,” says Johan Graham. “Now that we have small children (21-month-old twin sons), we don’t travel as much, but Matthew is still with us for Thanksgiving. He’s developed a whole network of friends at Transylvania, but when they leave for breaks, Matthew knows he’s welcome here.”

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—Ajibola Bakare ‘15

A growing program

The Friendship Family program started four years ago and was coordinated by Ashley Hinton-Moncer, health and wellness director, and Karen Anderson, coordinator of community service and civic engagement. When Darlene Ogata joined Transylvania as international student advisor last fall, she took the lead. Natasa Mongiardo ‘96, director of alumni programs, serves as the liaison with alumni.

Ogata has both a professional and a personal interest in this type of program: she and her husband, a Japanese-American, raised six children that they adopted from other countries in addition to four birth children, and they host a group of international students from Lexington-area colleges at their home each month. She’s excited about Transylvania’s growing emphasis on recruiting international and out-of-state students. “With more of them on campus,” she says, “there’s an ever greater need for this program. We hope to expand it every year.”

Currently, participants are matched in the fall, but Ogata hopes to move that process to the summer so the students and families can communicate by email before the students arrive on campus. “The first term can be difficult, with students dealing with culture shock, a new time zone, language issues, and loneliness. But it’s also very busy, so if a student hasn’t applied for a Friendship Family—or even if they’ve already been matched—it can be hard for them to add anything else to their lives,” she says.

Mongiardo knows that feeling from personal experience. She grew up in Bosnia and says she would have welcomed this kind of program when she was a Transylvania student. “I was fortunate because I developed early relationships with some admissions counselors and staff members, and I felt like I was welcome at their homes dur-
ing holidays and breaks, but it would have been nice to get to know other Lexingtonians,” she says. “Some students aren’t as outgoing and find it more difficult to develop those kinds of relationships. The Friendship Family program can fill that gap.”

Ogata points out that the program doesn’t require a tremendous time commitment from a family. “When students apply, they can specify how often they’d like to get together with their Friendship Family. It varies from once a month to once or twice a semester, but we encourage the students and families to call, email, or text each other at least once a month.”

The Grahams haven’t had day-to-day or even month-to-month interactions with Simmons. “Matthew does occasionally need some things that parents would ordinarily do,” says Johan, “and we can be there almost immediately, where it could take his parents three days to get across the country if something happened.”

Ogata emphasizes that participants don’t expect elaborate, expensive outings either. “Taking a walk in the neighborhood or a drive in the country can mean a lot to a student who is not from this area,” she says. “We also encourage the students to invite their Friendship Family to events on campus.”

Qinwen Liu, a first-year student from Mongolia, is an example of how little gestures can make a big difference. Her favorite activity so far has been shopping at an American grocery store and then cooking a Chinese lunch for her Friendship Family: Deana Ison ’95, executive assistant to the president, her husband, Blair Dawson, and their eight-year-old daughter, Morgan.

Liu also enjoyed spending Thanksgiving with the family and attending Morgan’s dance recital. Kentucky Fried Chicken is a popular food chain in Mongolia, so Ison has promised Liu a trip to Corbin, Ky., to eat at the original KFC restaurant. And, they’re planning a movie night at home so that Liu can watch Gone with the Wind, which she read in Mandarin and enjoyed so much that she chose Scarnie—a combination of two of the book’s characters, Scarlett and Melanie—as her American name.

“It’s the day-to-day things that she finds fascinating,” says Ison. “She is anxious to learn about American culture.”

Ison sees hosting Liu as a tremendous learning opportunity for her daughter, who has been enrolled in a Chinese language program since kindergarten. “Morgan is fascinated with the global community. This helps connect what she’s learning at school with real life, especially when she and Scarnie converse in Chinese. It’s an easy way to expose her to someone from another culture without traveling a long distance.”

Benefits to Transylvania

On a larger scale, the Friendship Family program is a big benefit to Transylvania. Ingrid Allen ’89, associate director of admissions and coordinator of international admissions, says it’s a great recruiting tool for prospective students and their parents. Several have said the program was one of the deciding factors in choosing Transylvania.

Increasing alumni involvement is another plus.

“Aimee and I love being involved in campus life,” says Johan Graham. “We really enjoyed our time at Transylvania, and this is a good way for us to know what’s going on today from a student perspective. I came to Transylvania from Indiana, which wasn’t that far away, but I always thought something was needed to make sure people feel welcome on campus. It’s a good way to expand our geographic footprint.”

Ison thinks of the program as another way to welcome people to the Transylvania family. “It’s a true example of what makes this college so special,” she says. “The transition from high school to college is a big step for students whether they’re from Lexington or China. If we can give them a home away from home and extra support and a kitchen to cook their favorite meal from home—or just a sofa to veg out on—it makes their Transylvania experience so much more special. It’s a win-win situation.”

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Lexington area alumni can apply to the program at www.transy.edu/campus/host_family.htm or contact Ogata at dogata@transy.edu or (859) 233-8805.

Matthew Simmons ’14 (left) has been paired with Johan ’00 and Aimee Hicks Graham ’03 for three years. Playing with their 21-month-old twins Charlie and Noah reminds him of his own siblings back home in Riverside, Calif.

Qinwen “Scarnie” Liu ’16 (second from left), Nanchang, China, and Kaiyu Zhang ’14, Dongying, China, spent Thanksgiving with Deana Ison ’95 and her family, including stepmother-in-law Jan Dawson.

Joseph Rey Au
Day’s-eye.
Daisy.

The metaphor for the sun gave rise to the flower’s name, said Richard Taylor, Kenan visiting writer and former Kentucky poet laureate. As he lectured in the cozy living room, two students sat on a sofa bathed in natural light.

It was early February but warm enough for daisies to grow—and the first time the class had met in Transylvania’s Creative House at 362 North Upper Street. The project recognizes that, as with flowers, the imagination needs a suitable environment to blossom.

Besides serving as a congenial classroom for Taylor’s creative non-fiction students, the brick cottage with yellow trim provides office space for him and three other literary faculty members. Beyond that, it’s a work in progress; possible uses include poetry readings, writing clubs—or maybe just a retreat for students to chill out and read a book.

Maurice Manning, a Pulitzer Prize finalist with an office there, said, “The fact that it’s a house gives it a non-institutional vibe, a little less formal and stiff. That is a good environment to encourage student creativity.” Manning is a writer in residence, poet, and English professor.

One of Taylor’s students, sophomore Ethan Goodrum, said the Creative House’s lack of formal boundaries—as opposed to the rigidity of a traditional classroom—generates space for open thinking.

In front of a large window, classmate Hanna Leatherman sat on the couch with her legs pulled up on a cushion. The junior said the Creative House’s comfortable, personal nature lends to the imaginative process.

And junior Rachel Smith, whose Writing for Writing’s Sake class once visited Taylor’s own house for a reading, said a laid-back atmosphere helps with sharing. “It’s easier to open up in an environment like that.”

This especially could benefit a writers group or poets who’d like an audience but don’t feel comfortable behind a coffeehouse microphone.

While creative possibilities abound, the project began as a solution to a mundane problem: The university needed more office space, said Kathleen Jagger, interim vice president and dean of the college.

It’s likely a temporary fix, though. The university may move these offices when, for instance, a sharable space opens up for creative professors and instructors in a new building. Jagger said faculty members should work in a stimulating environment.

She also said the Creative House has been “a little bit of an adventure.”

Before its current incarnation, the building occasionally housed students.

The offices are in the old back bedrooms and the kitchen, half of which is occupied by Martha Gehringer, a writing, rhetoric, and communication instructor. Accented with wood panels and pale teal tiles, her space adds to the house’s retro feel. “I love this little knotty pine suite,” Gehringer said. “It is so cute.”

She likes the tiles too, but theater professor Tim Soulis has a different take. He says they’re “hideous.”

Lucky for him, his Creative House office is sans tiles.

While Soulis tackles the day-to-day mechanics of his job in this room, it offers a hint of how he envisions a space that fosters imagination. For example, a “Serenity” poster of a mountain scene hangs on one of the walls.

Soulis, who is writing a play, said when he searches for a metaphor or rhythm to the language it helps to turn off the rest of the world. If a writer’s environment constantly and uncontrollably changes, it’s difficult to create another world—one with its own flux.

So to write his play, Soulis occupied a spare bedroom at his...
own home, painted it, chose the rug. “Once I was in there I thought: Now I can create.”

Soulis—who plans to one day read his play at the Creative House—praised the university for valuing inventive endeavors. This includes housing imaginative people together.

Manning, who has an office just outside Soulis’s door, said he is happy for the others’ company. They enjoy “warm and stimulating conversations.”

Down the hall is Taylor, a visual artist as well as a poet. “I’d like to think all of us wear more than one hat,” he said.

Interweaving different fields is not only a goal of liberal arts education but it also can spark the imagination.

Taylor has noticed a growing focus on creativity at Transylvania. “Creative thinking is an important part of anyone’s education,” he said. And the Creative House project tells students: “We affirm the creative life of the mind.”

While Taylor said the university does a good job teaching writing, he’d like to see more of an emphasis beyond academic papers that are meant to prepare students for professional or graduate school. “Why not extend writing for those who may wish to take their writing skills in another direction?”

The university may, in fact, add a creative writing minor—headquartered at the Creative House.

Along these lines, Taylor and Gehringer teach a course called Writing for Writing’s Sake. Gehringer said she started the class to help cure students’ “academic writing woes.” They incorporate drawing (a talent of Taylor’s) into journal projects.

Having an office so close to her colleague helps facilitate the class, Gehringer said. “We talk and think together.”

Interactions go well beyond that. “You put four creative people together in the house and something is going to happen,” Gehringer said.

She agrees with the others about the impact of physical environment on creativity.

Gehringer once taught a first-year composition class about this relationship by having students meet in a variety of locations—from Christ Church Cathedral to a basement with little natural light—and to reflect on their responses to each space.

The Writing for Writing’s Sake class also travels as far away as Ireland. Gehringer learned through these excursions that escaping the routine bustle of daily life allows students to “sink back and become people again.”

Gehringer also pictures the Creative House yard as a possible retreat space. “A reading out in the back in a flower garden—that would be what I envision,” she said.

Who knows, daisies may bloom there someday.
Growing up, Ann Updegraff Spleth '71 associated the Kiwanis Club with tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches.

“My father was a Kiwanian, and his club had their weekly luncheon meetings on Wednesdays,” she recalled. “Since he had had a big meal at lunch and wasn’t all that hungry at night, we always had tomato soup and grilled cheese for dinner on those days. That was my impression of Kiwanis when I was a kid.”

These days, Updegraff Spleth’s relationship with Kiwanis runs quite a bit deeper. In 2011 she became chief operating officer of the Kiwanis International Foundation, which is charged with raising money and providing grants to advance Kiwanis’s overarching mission of serving the children of the world.

Her primary focus is running an international $110 million fundraising campaign in support of The Eliminate Project, a joint effort of Kiwanis and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to eradicate maternal and neonatal tetanus in developing countries. The funds are given to UNICEF, which delivers the tetanus toxoid vaccine and related services.

In this role, she traveled to Sierra Leone, West Africa, in November 2012 on a UNICEF site visit for a close-up look at the nature of the problem and UNICEF’s services.

“It was overwhelming to realize that I was in a country where the average lifespan is mid-40s and the average age of a first-time mother is 13,” Updegraff Spleth said. “It is also sobering to know that somewhere in the world a baby dies every nine minutes from a preventable disease (maternal and neonatal tetanus).”

Part of that mission was to show invited donors the effectiveness of their support of The Eliminate Project. The group followed the “tetanus trail” and saw UNICEF workers going house-to-house and visiting middle schools to deliver services.

“We took six people who are six-figure donors so they could see for themselves what’s happening,” she said. “When you send a bunch of money far away, people worry about whether it’s getting to the people in need. They were able to see that the providers will do anything to deliver the tetanus vaccine to the people, even to places where there are no roads. Plus, in the weeks we were there, UNICEF trained 5,000 volunteers for Mother and Child Health Week.”

Updegraff Spleth said Kiwanis aims to meet its $110 million goal by 2015, which is also the 100th anniversary of the founding of the service organization. That will pay for the immunization of more than 100 million mothers and their future babies, and will reach the poorest, most neglected mothers with additional lifesaving health care.

“The elimination of this disease will be our birthday gift to the world,” she said.

Updegraff Spleth’s role with Kiwanis is the latest stop in a long career devoted to philanthropy and ministry. She has
held positions in congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and with the denomination’s administrative offices, and has also worked in fundraising at other service organizations.

After graduating from Transylvania with a theology major and earning a master of divinity in theology from Vanderbilt University in 1974, Updegraff Spleth headed for California to become a congregational pastor in Sacramento and later senior associate minister for the Pacific southwest region, living in Los Angeles. As associate minister, she was responsible for campus ministry, summer camps and conferences, leadership training, local church education consultations, meetings with clergy cluster groups, and preaching several times a month.

She became a charter member of the Los Angeles Professional Women’s Forum, an experience she says was helpful in furthering her career.

“We were all fairly early in our careers and on the fast track,” she said. “We came from many different professions—lawyers, accountants, bankers, scientists. There were no role models for us, so we had to be that for each other. It was really valuable to share what worked and what didn’t.”

She earned a doctor of ministry in ethics and counseling from the School of Theology at Claremont, California, in 1985, and then moved to Indianapolis, where she has lived ever since.

In 1986 Updegraff Spleth became executive vice president for program planning, coordination, and staff development for the Division of Homeland Ministries, which is the domestic mission arm of the Christian Church (DOC). Four years later, she was elected president of the Division. At 40 years old, she was the youngest since the denomination’s 1968 restructuring to be elected president of a general unit of the church.

It was during her years with Homeland Ministries that she co-authored two books. The Congregation: Sign of Hope (CBP Press, 1989) was written with William Chris Hobgood ’58, and Worship and Spiritual Life (Chalice Press, 1991) was written with her husband, Randall Updegraff Spleth.

In 2002, after completing a second term as Homeland Ministries president, Updegraff Spleth took some time off to ponder her future and decided to focus on fundraising.

“When I left Homeland Ministries, my children were small and the travel associated with the position began to be wearing on me,” she said. “It was time to move on. I took a year off, worked with a career coach, and looked at everything I had done as chief executive with Homeland. The part that would carry into the secular world was fundraising.”

Her next step was to accept a position as director of major gift planning for Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana, the third largest Goodwill organization in the country. During her tenure there, she earned the Certified Fund Raising Executive designation from CFRE International.

Updegraff Spleth found that her experience in pastoral ministry served her well in her new, secular role.

“I think church people have a real edge in fundraising because we are used to cold-calling and to having conversations about end-of-life decisions,” she said. “When you work in planned giving, you’re talking with people about their goals for their resources and how they want their legacy to be carried on. All of that comes very naturally for people who have been in ministry.”

In 2005 Updegraff Spleth returned to the church world, but this time her focus was solely on fundraising. She became vice president for seminary advancement at Christian Theological Seminary, which was the position that led into her present role with Kiwanis International.

Fundraising has been a common thread throughout much of Updegraff Spleth’s career and is now her primary responsibility with Kiwanis. While acknowledging that being persuasive is certainly part of any fundraiser’s job, she said the most rewarding aspect comes from working with those who already have a charitable intent and are simply searching for the best way to fulfill their thoughts and feelings about a particular giving opportunity.

“Helping people determine how they’re going to spend the meaning in their lives is one way of defining this role of a professional fundraiser,” she said. “One of my favorite quotes is from Frederick Buechner’s book Wishful Thinking: A Seeker’s ABC—‘The definition of vocation is a place where your greatest joy and the world’s deepest need intersect.’ I think our job in fundraising is to help people find that intersection.

“My father, who was a part-time planned giving officer after he retired, used to tell people that your will is your last opportunity to teach values to your children and others.”

Teaching and being a pastor’s wife also occupy Updegraff Spleth’s time. She is an adjunct faculty member of the Fund Raising School of the School of Philanthropy at Indiana University, a role that lets her draw on the value of her Transylvania education.

“Those of us who have a good liberal arts background and are seminary trained are really good at communicating information, so becoming a faculty member has been a good step for me,” she said.

When Updegraff Spleth moved to Indianapolis, her husband founded Geist Christian Church (DOC), where he is now senior minister for the congregation’s two locations in the greater Indianapolis area.

The couple have two children, Andrew, 23, and Claire, 18. When she reflects on what keeps her motivated toward her career, Updegraff Spleth turns to the essential meaning of her work.

“Toward the end of my time at Homeland Ministries, I realized that my core purpose was not centered on institutions, but on transformation and change,” she said. “I’ve worked in two professions—ministry and philanthropy—where the theme of the day is the opportunity to transform a person’s life, a community, or the world. There’s nothing I can think of that’s more compelling than that.”
Making Their Mark

It doesn’t take long for Transylvania graduates to begin to make their mark in the world. From South Africa to Washington, D.C., the university’s young alums are engaged in such diverse careers and issues as renewable energy development for the U.S. military, social justice and community development, international security, a mobile app for transportation needs, and public art and architecture. Here are some of their stories.

By William A. Bowden, John Friedlein, and Tyler Young

Janelle Johnson
Learning foreign policy on the Hill

Before Transylvania officially created an international affairs major, Janelle Johnson ’10 designed her own.

Now she’s making her mark on the world.

Johnson was named the first Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s Donald M. Payne Foreign Policy Fellow. She works for U.S. Rep. Karen Bass, a Democrat who represents a Los Angeles district.

The legislative fellow earned her master of public policy with a focus in international security at the University of Chicago.

Johnson will split her 20-month fellowship between congressional office duties and committee work in either the House or Senate.

In Bass’s office, Johnson is responsible for the congresswoman’s foreign and veterans affairs, defense, and Homeland Security portfolios. She tracks legislation that comes to the floor in those areas, keeps up with new bills, and makes recommendations as to which ones to support.

“My office has been great in that they’ve given me sort of full legislative assistant responsibilities,” Johnson said.

She also conducts meetings with constituents, organizations, and diplomats; and she writes vote recommendations for Bass, who is on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and a ranking member on the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations. Bass’s focus is Africa, and she has a different staffer dedicated to that continent. “I’m sort of responsible for the rest of the world,” Johnson said.

Additionally, she prepares material for foreign affairs hearings. This involves, for instance, writing information about witnesses, Bass’s opening statements, and potential questions. Then Johnson attends the hearings.

Her fellowship includes an educational component that is made up of leadership development seminars, writing workshops, and policy forums.

“I’m learning how politics influences policy,” Johnson said.

She hopes to someday work at an executive agency or think tank as a Middle East policy analyst. “Who knows, I might enjoy committee work and decide to stay on the Hill,” she said. “The thought in D.C. is that once you work on the Hill, you can pretty much go anywhere because of the relationships that you build.”

Joseph Underwood
Studying the art of perspective

Joseph Underwood ’12 has learned to view the world through different perspectives—a valuable skill in the study of contemporary African art.

Underwood, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in art history and criticism at New York’s Stony Brook University, broadened his mindset through both his studies and travel.

While a student at Transylvania, he researched art and architecture in a variety of locales, including Senegal, France, and eastern China. Globetrotting enabled him to feel comfortable outside his own context. “You have to be able to just step back from your perspective and look at it through another person to understand that maybe you don’t have a full picture of what you’re talking about,” Underwood said.

Adding to his international experience, 25 of his fellow 35 graduate students in the Stony Brook program hail from different countries.

Underwood, whose focus is on French-speaking Senegal, is interested especially in public art and architecture—“how they work together and what they say about national identity.”
he said. “Everyone is establishing who they are. Senegal is not Ghana, and Ghana is not Nigeria.”

In addition to understanding the relationship between artists and their countries, a goal is to place them in the global scene.

Underwood said he wants to be a professor someday. Working toward that objective, he is a teaching assistant with plans to create his own courses in a couple of years.

Underwood also is enthusiastic about how the growing study of new African art is in a nascent stage. “It’s not a huge field,” he said. “Everyone else likes to study van Gogh and Monet.”

Since there has been so little research, “the whole subject is new, so that’s what I find exciting,” Underwood said. “I get to be a part of the field that helps establish the theory and the criticism that will determine the next generation of how contemporary African art is looked at.”

Holly Milburn
Acting out social justice passions in South Africa

Holly Milburn ’11 has always had a heart for the disadvantaged—so much so that she designed a social justice major while at Transylvania. She’s getting to act on that passion through her work with the Anglican Church of Southern Africa’s provincial social development organization, HOPE Africa, in Cape Town, South Africa.

Milburn moved to New York City after graduation as a member of the Young Adult Service Corps of the Episcopal Church’s Office of Global Mission Personnel to organize individualized placements throughout the world for its young adult volunteers. She was sent to Cape Town to partner with a variety of programs aimed at fighting poverty.

“It’s not what most would consider missionary work because I’m not working directly with a parish,” explains Milburn, “but it is inherently faith-based and requires a deep commitment to social justice—a fundamental yet often neglected component of Christianity.”

Working for an independent, non-governmental organization means her assignments vary day-to-day. She might be found in an office writing grant proposals or working in the field on a project such as a hospital in a remote village, a community garden in Cape Town’s largest township, or a hospice clinic in an impoverished fishing town.

“My favorite project is the Poverty and Development Course that we facilitate for community leaders all over South Africa,” says Milburn. “I’ve really enjoyed working with marginalized communities in past jobs, but social development is a whole different ballgame.

“The most rewarding part of my work is that it’s a constant reminder that I’m not yet a finished person. Every day I’m meeting people whose narratives are radically different than my own. And in doing so, I’m learning how to live out my passions and become the person I’ve always wanted to be.”

Milburn currently has a one-year visa. After that, she plans to move back to New York and continue her work with the Young Adult Service Corps while figuring out where her next assignment will take her. “I think Southeast Asia is calling my name,” she muses.

Brandon Ofem
Networking for economic growth

Social networking is about more than just posting a picture on Facebook. It can foster economic growth.

While working on a Ph.D. in business administration at the University of Kentucky, Brandon Ofem ’07 is managing a study about networks of Appalachian community development groups such as chambers of commerce.

“We’re trying to understand how these organizations are working together and identify new ways for them to achieve their goals better,” said Ofem, whose last name was Powell until after he graduated and took his Nigerian dad’s last name.

The Kentucky Study on Economic Development Organizations is a two-year initiative funded by a $485,553 National Science Foundation grant. UK’s Gatton College of Business and Economics is world-renowned in analysis of social networks.

Now in the data collection stage, an interdisciplinary team of faculty is conducting the research.

Ofem helped write much of the grant and influenced the study’s development.

While the initiative isn’t focused on virtual networks such as Twitter and Facebook, researchers are collecting hyperlink data to see whether an organization links to another one on its website.

“Social networks can come in many forms,” Ofem said. “We’re more interested in the direct ties.” The study aims to find out which organizations are giving money to each other or are working on the same projects, for instance. It also will identify the groups that need more information.
“We’ll probably be analyzing this for at least a couple of years,” Ofem said. “The real value of this study is that we’re going to build a unique data set that hopefully many studies will be able to use.”

His dissertation is based on this research—so it’s like he is getting paid to write it.

Ofem, who plans to graduate in May 2014, will start applying for jobs as an assistant professor of strategy or entrepreneurship at a business school in the fall.

Ofem was introduced to research at Transylvania, where he said a focus on writing has helped with his graduate work.

“I absolutely love research,” he said. “I love exploring and discovering things.”

Erik Weber ‘07

Serving your transportation needs

Erik Weber ‘07 recently left his position with the federal government’s Department of Transportation to become director of operations at the private company Uber, a technology start-up firm offering a mobile app for consumers to use when they need immediate transportation, such as car or taxi service.

But that doesn’t mean he’s left the world of public transportation policy behind. Far from it. In fact, as he puts it, he now works at the “intersection of local government, mobile technology, and the transportation industry.”

The Uber app allows consumers to use their smart phones to request car, limousine, or taxi service in real time. Instead of hitting the sidewalk and waving your hand to hail a taxi, you can make your request from your office, for instance, and walk out to find your transportation pulling up at the curb.

But there are challenges involving that seemingly straightforward business model, in the form of local transportation regulations. For instance, although Uber is in more than 30 cities worldwide and has car service in New York City, it hasn’t cracked Manhattan’s huge taxi market because of outdated regulations.

“E-hailing, which is effectively what Uber enables users to do in other cities, isn’t allowed in New York City,” Weber said. “You have to go out and wave your hand. These regulations, which are being updated, were written long before the concept of a smart phone existed.”

In those situations, Weber now sits on the other side of the regulatory table.

“I’m no longer the public administrator as I was at DOT, but I now deal with them as well as local governments on a regular basis,” he said.

For Weber, a bonus in his new position is the opportunity to use a broader range of his Transylvania credentials.

“My work at DOT was almost entirely public policy, where my political science major was primary, but with Uber, I am sort of in between the public and private sectors. I do data analysis, which draws on my math major, and refinements to the app, which is computer science.”

Weber, who earned a master of public administration degree from Morehead State University, lives in Washington, D.C.

Sarah Miller ‘09

Leading the way toward renewable resources

For Sarah Miller ‘09, using Transylvania’s broad-based biology program to discover her interests and then finding a compatible graduate program have been the keys to a successful start to her career.

Miller is a senior consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton in Washington, D.C., a leading provider of management and technology consulting services to the U.S. government in defense, intelligence, and civil markets. She provides full-time, on-site project management for the Army’s Energy Initiative Task Force Execution Division, which oversees large-scale renewable energy development across all Army installations.

After graduating from Transylvania, she earned a master of public administration degree in environmental science and policy at Columbia University, where she focused on energy studies.

“My Transylvania coursework let me experience many specialties until I found my niche, which is environmental and ecological sciences,” she said. “And then Columbia’s program let me further my area of specialty.”

The projects Miller consults on with the Army involve a range of renewable energy sources, from solar to wind and biodiesel. She provides functional expertise in project management and helps engage diverse stakeholders, from Army installations to utility companies, to gain support for renewable energy projects.

Though her work focuses on renewable energy sources, Miller recognizes that traditional sources still play a large role in providing energy needs.

“Our energy makeup won’t look the same everywhere,” she said. “There are regions where you have large-scale solar projects going in, such as Arizona and southern California. We also have to value other resources, such as natural gas. It’s more of a holistic approach that will include leveraging traditional carbon-based fuel sources as well as renewables.”

Her career is only just underway, but already Miller feels she has found a good niche for herself.

“My work is different from what I thought I would be doing when I started out, but I could always see a natural evolution that led to my present position,” she said. “I feel very fortunate to have a creative career path that I’m
Lollis awarded honorary degree from the University of Kentucky

David L. Lollis ’59 was awarded an honorary doctor of letters degree at the December commencement exercises of the University of Kentucky for his dedicated service in the public and private sectors for more than 40 years. His efforts have had positive impacts on state and federal policy, especially in housing and economic opportunity in Appalachia.

Lollis is past president of Appalbanc, which promotes individual and community development in rural central Appalachia through the Human/Economic Appalachian Development Corporation, the Federation of Appalachian Housing Enterprises, Inc., and the Appalachian Federal Credit Union.

At the federal level, he worked in the commerce department’s Office of Business Economics, the labor department’s Employment and Training Administration, and the Office of Economic Opportunity/Community Services Administration. In Kentucky state government, he served in the Governor’s Office, the Office of Policy and Management, and the Office of the Secretary of the Department for Human Resources.

As the former director of the Mount Beulah Center in Edwards, Miss., under the auspices of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Lollis was a tireless advocate for civil rights.

‘75 Cary W. Barr, Lexington, has been selected to the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches Court of Honor and was recognized at the 2013 KHSAA Boys Sweet 16 in March.

‘80 Marc A. Mathews, Lexington, has been awarded the Eldridge W. Roark Jr. Meritorious Service Award by Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society for college students, in recognition of his service to the society. Marc is vice president for finance and business at Transylvania and served on the ODK board of directors as the national treasurer from 2002-10.

‘83 Tisa Johnson Mason, Hays, Kan., has been awarded the Sue Kraft Fussell Distinguished Service Award by the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors for her commitment to representing the profession of higher education administration and the specialty of fraternity and sorority advising. Tisa is vice president for student affairs at Fort Hays State University.

‘87 Kevin L. Nix, Louisville, has been named evaluation transition coordinator for Jefferson County Public Schools and coaches principals on how best to evaluate teachers to help them become more proficient. He also sets up systems to track data on students as they transition from level to level and school to school.

‘94 Sam E. Lucas, Los Angeles, celebrated a birthday milestone year in September with his friend and former swim teammate Jan Howell Hrindo ’94 by “escaping” Alcatraz and swimming to the shore of San Francisco.

‘95 Richard H. Mains, Lexington, has been awarded the Eldridge W. Roark Jr. Meritorious Service Award by Omicron Delta Kappa, national leadership honor society for college students, in recognition of his service to the society. Richard is an attorney at Stoll Keenon Ogden and served as national counsel for ODK from 2004–10.

Danielle Engle Petermann, Fort Mitchell, Ky., is pricing assistant at Heidelberg Distributing, a beer, wine, and spirits distributor for Ohio and Kentucky.

‘97 Hope Tipton, Baltimore, has been named executive director of the Maryland Legal Services Program with the Maryland Department of Human Resources. Earlier in the year she was named one of Maryland’s Leading Women for her professional experience, community involvement, and commitment to inspiring change.

‘00 Anna Hope Curwood, Highland Heights, Ky., tour coordinator for the Cincinnati Art Museum, proposed and helped create an exhibition that opened in December titled Behind the Seams: Exhibiting and Conserving Fashion and Textiles, which is part of a first-ever challenge chosen and voted upon by the public.

‘02 Bradley P. Bussey, Chicago, was awarded a J.D. in 2011 from the Illinois Institute of Technology’s Chicago-Kent College of Law. Brad is senior financial examiner for the Chicago Board Options Exchange.

Stacey M. Clark, Georgetown, Ky., became finance director for the city of Georgetown in November.

‘04 Amy D. Wickliffe, Lexington, kicked off the 2013 legislative session as the first new partner in one of Kentucky’s top government relations firms, McCarthy Strategic Solutions.

‘05 Erin E. Jones, Lexington, is senior wellness director at the YMCA of Central Kentucky’s Beaumont Centre facility.

‘06 Josh T. Guerin, Martin, Tenn., received his Ph.D. in computer science from the University of Kentucky in December and has joined the University of
Fifty years ago, the Transylvania men’s basketball team accomplished three things it had never done since basketball began at the university in 1903—the Pioneers played in a national postseason tournament, completed a 20-win season, and produced an All-American player.

The 1962-63 team went 20-9 after finishing as runners-up in the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament, winning the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics District 24 playoff, and advancing to the NAIA national tournament in Kansas City. Senior guard Leslie “Sonny” Voyles ’63 was an honorable mention NAIA All-American.

The Pioneers defeated one of the NAIA tournament’s top seeds, Winston-Salem State Teacher’s College, 64-60 in a first-round game, then lost to Lewis & Clark College 88-80 in the second round.

It was an exciting season for the 13 players, two coaches, and team manager who went along for the ride.

“That was a very good basketball team that overachieved in some ways,” said C. M. Newton, head coach at the time. “It was a tremendous experience for us to fly out to Kansas City and stay in the Muehlebach Hotel. I thought that after we beat Winston-Salem, which was the No. 1 or 2 seed, that we might make a run in the thing.”

The team was only 6-5 at mid-season, but went on a 10-game win streak to improve to 16-5. Two regular season losses were to arch rival Georgetown College, but the Pioneers defeated the Tigers in the postseason when it counted most, by 90-75 in the semifinals of the KIAC tournament and 78-74 in the NAIA District 24 playoff.

“The road to Kansas City always ran through Georgetown in those days,” said assistant coach Lee Rose ’58. “We had some very good teams before that season, but just couldn’t get past Georgetown in the postseason. That year, it all came together for us.”

Rose remembers the team as being solid at all positions and a very good defensive team.

“Jack Lucas (‘63) was an outstanding defensive guard, and Sonny Voyles was a great offensive guard, so they made a good combination. We had depth at the forward and center positions.”

Lucas recalls a defensive strategy that helped Transylvania defeat Winston-Salem.

“I set up and took the charge on this real good player, and we had three fouls on him by halftime,” he said. “That set the tone for us winning that game. We always played good defense.”

Voyles remembers how much experience the players had going into that season.

“We were a veteran team in many ways,” he said. “We started three seniors, and we had played a lot as sophomores and juniors.”

David Yewell ’64 played center and recalls the good chemistry of the team, including players and coaches.

“We had a really good team unity, and we had great respect for Coach Newton and Coach Rose, and (athletics director) Harry Stephenson (‘46),” he said. “They were all like parents to us, and we didn’t want to let them down. We just decided we were not going to lose.”

The team was noteworthy for having two coaches who both went on to achieve national and international fame in basketball, Newton primarily through major college basketball and the National Collegiate Athletic Association and Rose with major college teams and the National Basketball Association.

“We were very fortunate to have both of those coaches early in their careers,” Yewell said. “They provided great leadership for us, and that helped make us very proud to be at Transylvania.”

Rose said that this team benefited from the aggressive recruiting that began a few years earlier and from Newton’s coaching acumen.

“When you go back and look at that era, you have to reflect on the importance of C. M. Newton in the overall picture,” he said. “For us at Transylvania at that time, to get a former University of Kentucky player who had played under Coach Adolph Rupp and had experienced national championships was a great coup.”

Beyond the scoreboard, Newton’s best memory of the accomplishments of the 1962-63 team has to do with the role of athletics in a small, selective liberal arts college.

“Everybody had said to me, ‘You can’t do this at Transylvania. You can’t get to the national level with all of the academic requirements at a top school like Transylvania.’ I listened to that ‘til I was blue in the face. I’ve never believed you couldn’t have good athletics and good academics too. That year was very important to me because it was our way of saying, ‘Hey, you can have both.’”

Since that record-setting season, the Pioneers have played in national postseason tournaments 30 times, recorded 20-win seasons on 26 occasions, and produced 18 All-American players. But the 1962-63 Pioneers will always have the satisfaction of knowing that they did all of that for the first time in school history.
Matthew J. Karaffa, Louisville, has been named account coordinator at Current360, an interactive marketing and advertising agency specializing in a broad array of services and capabilities ranging from photography and video production to market research, 3D animation, and short-run printing.

Elizabeth G. Haydon, Springfield, Ky., has been named assistant to the commissioner for the Kentucky Department for Business Development.

Paul T. Finley, Lexington, was sworn in as a 2nd lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in December. He was sworn in by his father, former Marine Captain Henry Finley, and his gold bars were pinned on by his mother, Anne, and younger brother, Adrian. His older brother, Marine Corps Sergeant John Finley, presented the new lieutenant with his first salute. Paul will attend The Basic School in Quantico next fall before proceeding to NAS Pensacola for naval flight officer training.

Kelly J. Powers, Indianapolis, is assistant director for administration at America East Conference, an NCAA Division I athletic conference whose members are located mainly in the northeastern United States.

Marriages

Jane Ann Brooks ’90 and Richard Allan Skrovan, September 29, 2012
Anne Carolyn Hutcherson ’97 and James Wray, September 15, 2012

Congratulations to our alums

Jason James Taylor ’06 and Rebecca Jane DeLong ’09 were married October 13, 2012. Among the guests were: Sara Palmer ’06, Victoria PoinDEXt er ’12, Elizabeth PoinDEXter ’07, Jason Seibert ’06, Emeral Carrier ’10, Ashley Gray ’06, Whitney Banks ’06, Morgan Smith ’06, David Haney ’06, Andrew Dieruf ’07, Josh Basler ’06, Marc Frank ’07, Cliff Williams ’03, Lindsey Hickerson ’10, Chris Coldiron ’07, Kayleigh Coldiron ’09, Nick Karaffa ’06, Kathryn Van Slyke Sparks ’08, Amelia Martin Adams ’06, Austin Green ’05, Sujith Dassanayaka ’06, Alli Keskey Black ’06, Brandon Daulton ’06, Geoffrey Roberts ’07, Chase Mulberry ’06, Brian Shultz ’06, Jeff Rayford ’03, Ryan Taylor ’05, Mousa Ackall ’07, Brad McLean ’07, Ben Buckner ’06, Ryan Sparks ’09, and Adam Seibert ’08.

Meaghan Kathleen Linker ’08 and Bob Cuthbertson were married July 14, 2012. From left, friends from Transylvania were, back row: Whitney Nordmoe (Smith) ’06, Courtney Carter (Johnson) ’07, Lilly Lang ’07, Lauren Marley (Jansen) ’08; front row: Meaghan Cuthbertson (Linker) ’08, and Brandy Savage ’06.

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Timothy W. Collins ’81 (right) and Thomas M. Wolff were married September 5, 2012.

Richard Raymond “Logan” Lloyd ’09 and Claire Marie Dorris ’11 were married June 23, 2012. Pictured are, from left, friends from Transylvania were, back row: Whitney Nordmoe (Smith) ’06, Courtney Carter (Johnson) ’07, Lilly Lang ’07, Lauren Marley (Jansen) ’08; front row: Meaghan Cuthbertson (Linker) ’08, and Brandy Savage ’06.

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Chris Arnett ’91 /GETTING IN ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF HOSPITALITY

Learning a business from the ground up has its advantages. Just ask Chris Arnett ’91, senior director of franchise management for Choice Hotels International, one of the world’s largest lodging franchisors with more than 6,000 franchisees offering over 495,000 rooms in the United States and abroad.

Arnett has come a long way from his early days in the hospitality industry when he worked two summers as a Transylvania student intern in housekeeping at Canyon Lodge in Yellowstone National Park and in food preparation at a YMCA camp in Sandwich, Mass. Yet it is that back-of-the-house experience, combined with his early years working on the franchisee side of the picture, that gives Arnett an edge when discussing operational or management issues with franchisees at any of the over 5,000 domestic Choice properties.

“Because of my early hands-on experience and my years on the hotel ownership side, I love talking with our owners,” Arnett said. “I speak their language, I know their challenges, and they respect that. They don’t think I’m sitting in some ivory tower and don’t understand what it’s like to actually run a Comfort Inn (one of Choice Hotels’ 11 brands), because I do.”

The internship at Yellowstone the summer after his first year at Transylvania confirmed for Arnett his interest in hospitality as a career.

“I was hooked from the minute I got to Canyon Lodge,” he said. “Because I worked hard and showed up on time, I got promoted to inspector. I no longer had to clean cabins—I got to inspect other people’s work. That was a good early lesson for me in how to move forward in my career.”

After earning his business administration degree with a dual emphasis in hospitality and finance, Arnett cut his teeth as manager of a small, new-construction hotel in Glasgow, Ky. There, he gained experience in every facet of hotel operation.

“You may be the general manager at a small hotel, but you’re also the executive housekeeper when they have a day off, and you might be the third shift night auditor if they’re sick,” he said.

That was followed by eight years in Louisville with Musselman Hotels, a franchisee company, where he advanced to senior director of operations.

He joined Choice Hotels in 2001, becoming director of brand management and strategy, focusing on the then-900 Econo Lodge and Rodeway Inn properties. His next position was brand performance consultant for Choice properties in Kentucky, Orlando, and the Florida Panhandle. He began his present position in February 2010.

Arnett directs a team that manages the contractual relationship with all of Choice Hotels’ domestic franchisees, who operate a range of 11 lodging options in the economy, mid-scale, and upscale segments as well as extended-stay properties. Brands include Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Quality, Sleep Inn, Clarion, Cambria Suites, Econo Lodge, Rodeway Inn, extended-stay properties MainStay Suites and Suburban, and membership brand Ascend.

As a franchising company, Choice Hotels owns no buildings or real estate, but depends on the business acumen of its franchise owners to represent the company’s brands in a responsible and competitive manner.

“When one of our franchisees doesn’t meet the quality standards of Choice Hotels, they may be in jeopardy of losing their franchise,” Arnett said. “In the best of cases, my group works with them to cure the problems—that’s always our first route. In some situations, the franchise agreement has to be terminated.”

Since the goal is to maintain the franchisee’s contract whenever possible, Arnett applies people skills he learned long ago to try to resolve problems.

“I still use some of the things I learned when managing that small property in Glasgow,” he said. “Back then, I saw every employee problem in a black-and-white context and tried to apply the same consequence to every person who broke a rule. But I soon learned that you just can’t apply the same tactic to every employee. If they are worth keeping, then you need to work with them in a more individual way while maintaining the company’s overall standards.”

Arnett looks forward to the daily challenges of making Choice Hotels the lodging of choice for travelers.

“My job is to champion the vision we have for each of our brands,” he said. “When I can make a decision that results in, say, our Comfort Inn properties becoming stronger and better as a brand, that’s exciting.”

Arnett has maintained close ties with his alma mater, serving as a member of the Alumni Executive Board from 2002-07 and as president from 2005-06. He was presented the 2007 Outstanding Young Alumni Award for his extraordinary involvement in the life of Transylvania.

He has a great appreciation for the academic preparation he experienced at Transylvania.

“I got a business administration degree at a liberal arts college, and in my mind, that’s the best of both worlds,” he said.

Arnett’s work with Choice Hotels has taken him from Maryland to Florida and back again. He now works at the corporation’s international headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., which is in the Washington, D.C., area. He lives in Silver Spring with his partner, Josh Graf.
The fire of competition still burns brightly in Dick Longo’s heart

Dick Longo ’60 has embraced the competitive nature of sports since his high school and college days as a varsity athlete in football, baseball, basketball, and track, and in later years as a high school and college head coach.

At age 75, he’s still at it, keeping in shape through running while winning championships in tennis tournaments on a regular basis. He leaves no doubt as to why he continues his rigorous regimen at an age when many might prefer to simply take life a little more easily.

“The competition is what brings me to it,” he said. “The only place I can be competitive anymore is on the tennis court.”

Longo, who lives in Metairie, La., a suburb of New Orleans, is currently ranked No. 2 in Louisiana in the 75-80 age group by the United States Tennis Association, but was No. 1 for more than 20 years before a newcomer from Texas came in last year. He has been ranked as high as No. 12 in the South and has won 285 tournaments so far. His goal is 500 wins. He has won the state Senior Olympics tennis championship in his age group for 20 straight years.

Longo was introduced to tennis through intramurals at Transylvania, where he was a varsity baseball and basketball player under former head coach C. M. Newton. Other than that, he is a self-taught player who relies on his conditioning and ability to keep the ball in play to defeat his opponents. He plays singles exclusively, disdaining the less demanding doubles popular with many seniors.

“I used to come to the net all the time in my younger days, but now I stay mostly on the baseline,” he said. “I’m a counter-puncher—I keep the ball in play as long as I can. I figure if I can get the ball over the net one more time, my opponent’s going to make a mistake. One of my better lob shots is to the backhand corner—if I can get him on his heels back there, then I’ll come to the net.”

Longo was a high school basketball coach in Kentucky and Indiana before becoming assistant basketball coach at Tulane University in the late 1960s. He was head coach at Tulane for three years before leaving coaching to become a sales representative for Houghton-Mifflin-Harcourt in their textbook lines, a position he still holds.

Longo grew up in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and was a high school senior when Newton, a native of Ft. Lauderdale, recruited him to come to Transylvania.

“One day C. M. called and said, ‘I’m going to come by and pick you up in my station wagon and take you up to Transylvania and you’re going to play ball for me.’ I had an offer from Florida State University to play football, but it was an all-men’s school at the time.

“I’m so glad C. M. recruited me. I loved my days at Transylvania, where I met my lovely wife (Beverly Jouett Longo ’60). If it weren’t for Transylvania, I wouldn’t be happily married for 52 years now. It has a dear place in my heart.”

Births

W. Alan Bartley ’93 and Kelly Bartley, a daughter, Ruby True Bartley, July 8, 2012

Rosalie A. Felfle ’94 and Matthew D. Frederick ’94, a son, Carlo Felfle Frederick, November 30, 2012

Tammy Chapman Bisotti ’95 and Jamie F. Bisotti ’96, a son, Harrison James Bisotti, October 15, 2012

William C. Pauley ’96 and Karen Pauley, a daughter, Kaye Russell Pauley, November 6, 2012

Rachelle Williams Dodson ’98 and Jason Dodson, a daughter, Delanie Elizabeth Dodson, November 17, 2012

Betsy B. Duell ’98 adopted a son, Eli Montgomery Duell, born November 28, 2011

Brent W. Porter ’98 and Timothy French, a daughter, Madison Jolee French-Porter, September 12, 2012

Amanda Mackey Hettinger ’99 and Brian P. Hettinger, a son, Patrick Easley Hettinger, August 21, 2012

Mindy Block Dicken ’00 and Evan K. Dicken ’00, a son, Ross Raleigh Dicken, August 22, 2012

Emily Turner Weatherholt ’01 and Timothy J. Weatherholt ’01, a son, Carter James Weatherholt, November 27, 2012

W. Byars Wells ’01 and Nycole Wells, a son, Dylan Sandy Wells, August 16, 2012 (pictured with brothers Grayson, 2, left, and Sawyer, 3)

Daniel T. Smith ’02 and Kristen L. Byrd ’02, a daughter, Josephine Catherine Smith, August 23, 2012

Tera Griffith Baldwin ’03 and Aaron Baldwin, a daughter, Caroline Elyse Baldwin, August 7, 2012
“This is a happy business to be in.”
That’s how Jenny Brown Buha ’93 describes her work as director of development and marketing for 32°, a Birmingham-based frozen yogurt bar with 17 stores in nine states throughout the eastern U.S. and an ambitious plan for expansion.

Buha did graphic design for Pizitz Management Group, owner of 32° and the largest U.S. franchisee of Great American Cookie Companies, for three years before joining the yogurt company in March 2010—three months before the first 32° store opened.

“Everything you see in our stores—from signs to cups to wallpaper—I created,” she says.

Buha was promoted to her current position in 2011 and now focuses primarily on franchising. The first 16 32° stores are company-owned, but its newest location—in Louisville’s Summit shopping complex—is a franchised operation.

“Franchising provides a lot of advantages to an individual or a group of partners who want to open a business,” says Buha. “They get a brand name, graphics package, marketing resources, negotiated pricing for food and equipment, and other support that gives their business the best chance of success. Our management group has a different perspective because it’s a franchisee itself, through our Great American Cookie stores. And unlike most franchisors, 32° doesn’t charge markup on any of the products we sell to our franchisees. Our only source of income is a royalty fee that’s based on their sales, so we’re totally focused on helping the franchisee increase sales.”

32° is unique in other ways as well, according to Buha. For example, their yogurt is shipped frozen instead of as a powder base to be mixed with water in the store, which makes it unusually creamy—never icy. The company offers something for everyone: sugar-free and gluten-free yogurts; nondairy sorbets for those who are lactose intolerant; nonfat and low-fat choices; Greek yogurt, which is thicker and creamier than regular frozen yogurt and contains more calcium and protein; and Only 8, a totally natural product made with eight healthy ingredients that Buha says has a near cult following.

Even with such an extensive lineup, Buha is always on the lookout for new products that will create a reason for customers to drive past the competition and come to 32°. “Research and development are essential,” she says. “We have a pipeline of new products that we’re introducing about every quarter.”

An example is the Twister, which allows customers to fill their cups with whatever they like from the 16 yogurt flavors and 50 toppings that are available daily, and then bring it to the counter to be blended.

“Our process doesn’t puree the fruit like most similar methods do,” Buha explains. “It will pop some of the berries and add juice, but it doesn’t crush them.”

32°’s newest product is Bottomz baked goods, launched last fall to create an option for customers who might not be as likely to visit a yogurt shop during colder months. Customers can order either a warm, freshly baked chocolate lava cake, fudge filled chocolate chip cookie, or apple pie in the bottom of their yogurt cup, and then they add whatever frozen yogurt and toppings they desire.

“If they were plated differently, Bottomz could be served in a five-star restaurant,” says Buha.

In addition its distinctive products, 32° builds its business by partnering with the community—especially schools. Spirit nights, when a store donates a percentage of its sales to a nearby school, are extremely popular. The Teachers Offering Positive Reinforcement to Students (TOPS) program, where teachers are provided with coupons for a free cup of yogurt to give to students who do exceptional work, promotes positive behavior. Buha points out that when students come in to redeem their coupons, their family members buy yogurt, too.

Buha relies on the skills she learned through her psychology major at Transylvania when communicating with customers, employees, and franchisees. “I have to customize everything I do to the audience,” she says. “My Transy classes helped me understand how people think and why we do the things we do. That knowledge is unquestionably an integral part of my career.”

Although competition in the frozen yogurt business is fierce, Buha doesn’t foresee another boom and bust situation similar to the one that occurred in the 1990s. That’s because today’s self-serve aspect and extensive options of flavors and toppings make frozen yogurt more than a purchase—it’s an experience. She does, however, expect an eventual consolidation, and that will present a perfect opportunity for 32° to grow.

“We’re here for the long haul,” she says.

Buha is married to Jason Buha, head men’s golf coach at Birmingham-Southern University. She travels with him to meets and enjoys running into fellow alumni Brian Lane ’90, men’s golf coach at Transylvania, and Tommy Campbell ’91, men’s golf coach at Centre College. The Buhas have four children: Lane, 12; Grant, 10; Claire, 10; and Laura Burr, 7.

—MARTHA BAKER
Rachael McCartney Benjamin ‘03 and Jason D. Benjamin, a daughter, Louisa Evelyn Benjamin, October 22, 2012

Kara Giuliani Cecil ‘03 and Keith D. Cecil ‘03, a son, Kevin James Cecil, November 1, 2012

Joshua T. Fain ‘03 and Allison Fain, a daughter, Hadley Reese Fain, October 29, 2012

Amy Musterman Oates ‘03 and Brian Oates, a son, Samuel Walker Oates, November 15, 2012

Sara Burbick Ambroza ‘04 and Abe Ambroza, a daughter, Allisson Ruby Ambroza, September 19, 2012

Rebecca Huyck Brown ‘04 and Jason Brown, a daughter, Hannah Marie Brown, November 7, 2012

Lori Edwards Eidson ‘04 and Patrick Eidson, triplets, Emerson Taylor Eidson, Mary Kathryn Eidson, and Hadley Lauren Eidson, October 29, 2012

William A. Milford ‘04 and Adrian Milford, twin sons, John Atherton “Jack” Milford and Owen William Milford, September 27, 2012

Emily Porter Phillips ‘05 and Frank V. Phillips ‘05, a daughter, Emma Jane Phillips, September 29, 2012

Keila N. Rickus ‘05 and Justin Dynes, a daughter, Sydney Elizabeth Dynes, July 20, 2012

Catherine Bartlett Pagan ‘06 and Jason Pagan, a daughter, Shelby Elizabeth Pagan, October 8, 2012

Rachel Wilson advises Fulbright students in Colombia

An internship with the Institute of International Education helped launch Rachel Wilson ‘07 into a position as coordinator of the advising center with the Fulbright Commission in Bogota, Colombia.

The Spanish graduate went on to earn master’s degrees in Spanish literature from the University of Kentucky and in international relations from Syracuse University. As part of her Syracuse program, she had an internship with EducationUSA, a division of IIE that is a network of advising centers around the world and works with students who want to study in the U.S. through the Fulbright Commission. She split time between EducationUSA headquarters in Washington, D.C., and its office in Santiago, Chile. Toward the end of that internship, she found the position with the Fulbright Commission in January 2012, working with Colombian students who plan to study at the post-secondary level in the United States.

“We offer personal advising, GRE prep courses, and variations of the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam, and we host web chats and in-person visits for administrators who come to Colombia,” she said. “The bulk of the students are interested in applying for the Fulbright Scholarship or are already nominees for the Fulbright and are looking to come to the U.S. in the next year.”

Part of the scholarship’s requirement is for the student to return to Colombia and carry out a project that would have some kind of impact on the country, whether it be scientific, academic, artistic, or otherwise. Former Fulbright scholars include Colombian president Juan Manuel Santos and three of his cabinet members.

Wilson says the contact with these gifted students is one of the most gratifying aspects of her job.

“I’ve been really impressed with not only their academic levels, but also their motivation and creativity,” she said. “It’s fulfilling to work with these students, and it’s been enlightening to see the broad range of projects they’re involved in.”

Obituaries

Only alumni survivors are listed.

Edna Mae Hoover Hollon ‘35, Lexington, died September 16, 2012. She was a music teacher.

Eleanor Reed Schneider ‘36, Huntington, W.Va., mother of Barbara Stone Clark ‘67 and Andrea Stone Bales ‘64, died November 15, 2012. She was a member of Phi Mu sorority and was in Lampas, the YWCA, and Panhellenic Council and was a member of T-Day court. She was a homemaker and a former Girl Scouts leader and volunteer at the Highlands Museum and Discovery Center.

Josephine Yancey ‘38, Lexington, died October 23, 2012. She was a history major and member of Chi Omega sorority. She worked as a secretary in the registrar’s office and was involved in the YWCA. She was an administrative assistant at R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

Mary Pollitt Crowder ‘39, Duluth, Ga., died October 24, 2012. She was an elementary school teacher and guidance counselor in the Owensboro school system. She earned an A.B. from Kentucky Wesleyan College and an M.A. from Western Kentucky University. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Delta Kappa Gamma, and the National Education Association.

Jack Gayle Jr. ’39, Valdosta, Ga., died June 21, 2012. He was a member of Kappa AlphaOrder and was inducted into the Robert Barr Society in 1989. He was a tobacco
farmer and a deacon at First Baptist Church. He was a Kentucky Colonel and a member of the Kiwanis Club.

James L. Sublett ’39, Frankfort, Ky., died September 22, 2012. He was a zoology/chemistry major and a member of the debate team. He was an educator, teaching in Georgia and serving as assistant superintendent of Jefferson County Schools, director of the Kentucky Teachers’ Retirement System, and director of the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio. He earned a master of arts from the University of Kentucky and received an honorary doctor of laws from Eastern Kentucky University. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

Sylvia Douthitt Case ’41, Lexington, died October 5, 2012. She was a nurse.

Glenn C. Routt ’42, Fort Worth, Texas, died November 11, 2012. He was a religion major and a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, Lampas, A.W. Fortune Circle, and Books and Bones. He was emeritus professor of theology at Texas Christian University Brite Divinity School, where he earned the Chancellor’s Award for Distinguished Teaching. He earned a master of divinity from Lexington Theological Seminary, a master of sacred theology from Union Theological Seminary, and did doctoral studies at Columbia University. He was inducted into the Robert Barr Society in 1992.

Jeanette Collingsworth Boyd ’43, Lexington, died November 3, 2012. She was inducted into the Robert Barr Society in 1993.

Richard Bradley ’43, Clinton, Mo., died November 7, 2012. He left Transylvania to join the U.S. Navy in 1942 and served in the Pacific theater during World War II. He was a charter member of the Beta Mu chapter of Delta Sigma Phi. He earned a B.A. from Central Missouri State University and an M.A. from the University of Kentucky. He was a teacher for 32 years.

Doris Jean Bowles Reichert ’48, Hanover, N.H., sister of Katherine Bowles Naumann ’49, died April 16, 2012. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority, of which she served as party chairman and recording secretary. She was also involved in the YWCA, the International Relations Club, and Playmakers. After living briefly in Paris, she became a lifelong traveler and lover of the arts. She earned a master’s degree in English literature from the University of Kentucky.

Mary Harned Versaw ’48, Lexington, mother of Barbara Versaw Smith ’71 and Janice Versaw Kummer ’76, died September 13, 2012. She was a Realtor and served as treasurer of Lexington Habitat for Humanity.

Mary Helen Cuthbert Orth ’49, Roswell, Ga., died November 25, 2012. A physical education major, she played field hockey, basketball, and tennis at Transylvania and was inducted into the Pioneer Hall of Fame in 2003. She also won the state championship in archery in 1946 and 1947 and the state championship in doubles badminton in 1947. The Women’s Athletic Association named her the top female athlete in 1947 and 1949. She was president and treasurer of the Women’s Athletic Association and president of the YWCA. She worked for the U.S. government and retired as environmental and safety manager at the Naval Security Station in Washington, D.C.

Bernard G. Arnall ’50, Charlotte, N.C., died October 14, 2012. He came to Transylvania after serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the Philippines during World War II. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. He was deputy inspector general at the Senior Executive Service of the National Security Agency.

Ted R. Osborn ’50, Lexington, died November 4, 2012. He came to Transylvania after serving in the U.S. Air Force and was a member of Kappa Alpha Order. He was a land developer and president of the International Book Project in Lexington, which sends thousands of books to developing countries. He was also active in service organizations, serving as president of Kiwanis International and being named a George F. Hixon Diamond Life Fellow of the organization, founding Lexington Junior Achievement, and serving on the board of the Boy Scouts of America. He was past president of the Transylvania College National Alumni Association and a national director of Big Brothers International.

Randel O. Martin ’52, Lexington, died December 3, 2012. He studied science and pre-med. He served in the U.S. Navy and earned a doctorate from the University of Kentucky. He was a missionary to Belgium.

Betty Lee Catron ’53, Lexington, died December 16, 2012. She was an office manager for W. O. Preston and was an avid gardener.

John C. Noel ’53, Frankfort, husband of Shirley Snider Noel ’54, died November 5, 2012. He was inducted into the Robert Barr Society in 2003. He was an officer and CEO of State National Bank, later Whitaker Bank. He served on the boards of the Red Cross, YMCA, the Salvation Army, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kentucky, and the Kentucky Bankers Association. He received the 2005 Governor’s Citation for Volunteerism.
ALUMNI BULLETIN BOARD

Transylvania to host luncheon at DOC General Assembly

Make plans now to attend the Transylvania luncheon at the General Assembly of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando on July 15 at 11:30 a.m. For exact location and more information, contact Tracy Dunn ’90 in the alumni office at (800) 487-2679 or (859) 233-8512. Cost: $25 per person. Reservations must be made by July 8.

Save on auto and home insurance with Liberty Mutual

Your alumni benefits include a discounted rate on auto insurance and home insurance from Liberty Mutual (www.libertymutual.com/transy). We are proud to provide our alumni with a great benefit from a Fortune 100 company.

In Kentucky, contact Kent Lewis at (859) 223-1313 ext. 53304 or Kent.Lewis@LibertyMutual.com. Elsewhere, call (800) 524-9400.

Discounts and savings are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify.

Ways to stay connected

There are lots of ways to keep up with your alma mater and fellow alumni:

www.alumni.transy.edu — Register for alumni events and browse the alumni directory for the latest news on classmates at our alumni online community.

www.facebook.com/TransylvaniaUniversityAlumni — The quickest way to get alumni news and information on events.

linkd.in/TUAlumni — If you’re interested in professional networking, join the Transylvania University alumni group on LinkedIn.

Transylvania Golf Classic set for May 18

Join Transylvania’s athletics department and the development office for the 2013 Transylvania Golf Classic, a four-player scramble set for May 18 at the University Club of Kentucky (Big Blue Course). Registration and lunch will be at 12:30 p.m., followed by a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information on the tournament or sponsorships, contact Jack Ebel ’77, director of athletics, at (859) 233-8548, jebel@transy.edu, or Kirk Purdom, vice president for advancement, at (859) 233-8551 or kpurdom@transy.edu.

Alumni travel in 2013

We promote trips to interested alumni and friends. For a trip brochure or more information on any trips mentioned below, contact Natasa Mongiardo ’96 or Tracy Dunn ’90 in the alumni office at (800) 487-2679, or visit www.alumni.transy.edu.

Rockies Rail Highlights—October 1-8, 2013

Venture down the road less traveled aboard VIA Rail’s The Canadian. Stand on glacial ice over 1,000 feet thick at Columbia Icefield. Spend three nights at The Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, the “Castle in the Mountains.” Enjoy a day trip to Yoho National Park and view Emerald Lake. Take in the beauty and serenity of Peyto Lake. Early booking per person cost based on double occupancy from $3,599 includes roundtrip airfare. Reservation deadline: May 1, 2013.

Pears of The Mediterranean Cruise—October 10-18, 2013

Ports of call include Monte Carlo (Monaco), St. Tropez (France), Provence (France), Portolino (Italy), Florence/Piza (Italy), Sorrento/Capri (Italy), Amalfi (Italy), and Rome (Italy). Prices start at $2,199 per person if booked by March 26.

Rediscover Cuba—October 20-28, 2013

Spend seven nights in Cuba’s cities of Trinidad and Havana and soak in the island’s culture, history, and art. Visit the Ernest Hemingway House (Lookout Farm), almost unchanged from the time the author left in 1960, where he conceived his final masterpiece, The Old Man and the Sea. Tour Old Havana and learn about the city’s architecture and restoration efforts. Visit the Bay of Pigs Museum and discover the history behind this important event. Experience La Perla del Sur (Pearl of the South) as you tour Cienfuegos and cruise the harbor. Enjoy a city tour of Trinidad and explore its historic streets, cathedral, and unique houses frozen in time. Early booking per-person cost based on double occupancy from $3,999 includes roundtrip airfare.

California New Year’s Getaway—December 29-January 2, 2014

Ring in the new year in style with Collette’s ever-popular tour featuring the Tournament of Roses Parade. You’ll have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view the floats in their final stage of decorating. Attend Bandfest, featuring selected bands from all over the country that will perform in the parade. Enjoy the New Year’s Eve Gala Dinner Dance, with live entertainment and a champagne toast to help ring in the new year. Be one of the 1 million spectators to line the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade route while sitting in your reserved seats. Early booking per-person cost based on double occupancy from $1,999 includes roundtrip airfare. Reservation deadline: July 29, 2013.

To contact the Alumni Office at 415 North Broadway:
Natasa Pajic Mongiardo ’96, director of alumni programs, nmongiardo@transy.edu
Tracy Stephens Dunn ’90, assistant director of alumni programs, tdunn@transy.edu
Elaine Valentine, administrative assistant, alumni@transy.edu
Phone: (800) 487-2679 or (859) 233-8275 / Fax: (859) 281-3548
Mail: 300 North Broadway, Lexington, KY 40508 / Email: alumni@transy.edu / Web: www.transy.edu
Jay Lucas celebrates 30 years of coaching girls’ basketball

Jay Lucas ’83 started out coaching girls’ basketball with the thought that he might switch over to coaching boys eventually. He’s now celebrating his 30th year of coaching the girls at Woodford County (Ky.) middle and high schools, having long since decided he was right where he wanted to be.

“I think the girls’ teams are a more fun group to be around,” he said. “They’re more team-oriented and are happy when a teammate does well. It’s truly a team sport because they can’t just throw it up to the rim and have someone dunk it—they have to work together to set each other up.”

At the beginning of the 2012-13 season, Lucas had a career won-lost record of 901-204 for his seventh and eighth grade teams and a 314-171 mark for the Lady Jackets varsity team. He’s coached the middle school teams since his first year as a mathematics teacher and coach in the 1983-84 season and has led the varsity for the past 17 years.

He took the 2001-02 varsity team to the state tournament from the 11th region and had a remarkable 29-2 record for the 2004-05 season. He’s won nine district titles, been Coach of the Year in the 11th region six times, was the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches Coach of the Year in 2004-05, and was elected to the KABC Court of Honor in 2008. His middle school teams have won 24 regular season championships and 15 tournament titles.

Lucas also coached the baseball team, retiring after the 2011 season with a 410-282 record and eight district championships. He was inducted into the Kentucky High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2010.

With all those accomplishments, one of his favorite experiences was coaching his daughter Alyssa. During her senior year in 2009-10, the team was 23-8, and she set a school career record with 240 made three-point shots.

“As a dad/coach, that season was a lot of fun,” Lucas said.

Basketball and Transylvania run in the family. Lucas played and managed at Transylvania under former head coach Don Lane. His father, Jack Lucas ’63, played for former head coach C. M. Newton, and he met his wife, Rose Moloney Lucas ’61, at Transylvania, where she was a varsity cheerleader.

Lucas and his wife, Debra, have another daughter, Ashley, a first-year student at Woodford County who has veered from the family basketball tradition by choosing volleyball as her competitive sport.

William B. Cammack ’58, Lexington, husband of Anne Prather Cammack ’59 and brother of Marc D. Cammack ’67, died October 19, 2012. The economics major was selected as a Transylvania student leader by Lampas in 1955. He was a member and president of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity and served on the student council. He earned a master of arts in economics from the University of Kentucky and was a computer programmer at IBM and a manager at Perot Systems. He served in the U.S. Army.

Betty Gart Faulkner ’58, Dorset, Vt., died October 18, 2012. She was a business administration major, cheerleader, and a member of Phi Mu fraternity. She was secretary of the Dorset Historical Society and a bridge player, once named Vermont’s Mini-McKenney Rookie of the Year as a duplicate bridge player. She earned the titles of junior master, club master, sectional master, and regional master in the game.

Billy V. Wise ’58, Lexington, died October 25, 2012. He majored in physical education and science and played basketball and baseball. He was a former commissioner of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association, earning distinction after pulling the KHSAA out of near bankruptcy and bringing stability to the association. His accolades as commissioner earned him induction into the Pioneer Hall of Fame as well as other athletic halls of fame. He was also an official with the Southeastern Conference, Ohio Valley Conference, and the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. He served in the U.S. Army in Germany during the Korean War.

Robert L. Faulwetter ’61, Pfafftown, N.C., died November 15, 2012. He was a business administration major and worked in retail store management. He was a consultant with his firm, Cee-Bee’s. He worked with Crisis Control Ministries and King Outreach Ministries. He was inducted into the Robert Barr Society in 2011.

C. Don Hancock ’61, Madisonville, Ky., husband of Mary Haylee Scott Hancock ’63 and father of Chad Hancock ’89 and Haylee Hancock Coberly ’91, died December 25, 2012. He was a physical education and history major and member of Kappa Alpha Order. He served as dean of men, vice president of student affairs, and dean of students at Transylvania, earning Faculty Member of the Year in 1968. He went on to Madisonville to establish the western Kentucky branch of Thompson’s Sanitary Supply House, which he operated until his retirement. He served on boards of the YMCA, Kentuckiana Girl Scouts Council, Chamber of Commerce, and Habitat for Humanity. He earned a master of arts in student/personnel counseling from the University of Kentucky.

Naomi Stivers Kitchen ’62, Frankfort, Ky., sister of Barbara Stivers Tackett ’58, died December 2, 2012. She was a business administration major and member of Chi Omega sorority, Student Christian Association, International Relations Club, the choir, and the Economics Club. She did
graduate studies at Indiana State University and attended Lexington Theological Seminary. She was assistant director of the Legislative Research Commission.

**Nan Gattis Whisman ’63**, Greer, S.C., died November 27, 2012. She worked in banking, real estate, and interior design.

**Martha May Hicks ’64**, Prestonsburg, Ky., died February 4, 2012. She was a social work major and a member of Phi Mu sorority, the Crimson, the Women’s Athletic Association, and the Young Democrats Club. She earned a master’s degree in adult education with specialization in counseling from Morehead State University and was a supervisor in family services for the Kentucky state government.

**Ali J. Ozdil ’87**, Knoxville, died September 12, 2012. He earned a degree in business and finance from East Tennessee State University and was a manager at The Forum, a fine gifts and home accessories store.

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**Donors set records in annual giving**

Annual giving to Transylvania set a record for the month of December when donors gave the university $195,587 in gifts and pledges. That level of support helped keep the annual fund on track to achieve its $2 million goal for the current fiscal year, which ends June 30.

It also reflects a trend that John Davis, director of annual giving, said has positive implications for donors and the university.

“When donors plan their annual giving for early in the fiscal year, it ensures that they won’t miss the June 30 deadline and may give them a tax credit for charitable giving they can claim right away when filing their returns,” he said. “It keeps both the donor and Transylvania from having to scramble at the end of June to complete the annual fund cycle.”

Donors have greatly increased their level of giving to the annual fund in recent years, and the record December total reflects that trend. It was 42 percent higher when compared with December 2011 and 92 percent higher than the December 2010 total. Donors are also flocking to the convenience of online giving, which increased by 104 percent and 305 percent when compared with the previous two Decembers.

The annual fund first exceeded $1 million in 2001 and has climbed steadily since then. The $1.7 million donated during the last fiscal year was the fourth highest in school history. The current goal is $2,050,000.

Davis said that Transylvania has long been known as a good steward of the gifts it receives, and that fact is illustrated in the very low costs associated with the university’s fundraising efforts.

“The industry standard for non-profit fundraising is that it costs somewhere between 25 and 30 cents to raise each dollar,” he said. “For our annual fund last year, we were at five cents. For all of our fundraising efforts in the development office, including major gifts and planned giving, we were at 10 cents.

“I think it’s important for our donors to know that they are investing in an institution that cares about each gift, about how economical we are when we raise funds, and how we practice good stewardship in the use of those funds.”

Davis said that annual fund dollars go to work right away to benefit current students. The $2 million goal for the current fiscal year works out to about $2,000 per student and helps keep their costs to attend Transylvania as low as possible.

“Every day, Transylvania students experience the results of annual giving, from the scholarships they receive to new academic programs, experiential learning opportunities, and world-class faculty members. It’s a very tangible thing you can see just from walking across campus.”

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**Donors can take advantage of IRA rollover provision**

Transylvania alumni and friends aged 70.5 or older can take advantage of a provision in the American Taxpayer Relief Act recently passed by Congress to move (rollover) up to $100,000 from their IRA accounts directly to Transylvania University (or other qualified charities) during 2013 without having to pay income taxes on the funds.

Here are key details:

- The rollover gift satisfies the IRA required minimum distribution.
- The distributed amount is excluded from income; therefore, no charitable deduction is claimed.
- The gift must be made directly from the IRA to Transylvania University; donors should ask their IRA custodian for forms to make this request.
- Interested donors should consult with their financial advisor to confirm whether their retirement account qualifies.

For more information, contact Diana Kinslow ’95, director of planned giving, in the alumni and development office at (800) 487-2679 or dkinslow@transy.edu.
Many people wouldn’t realize that the sleep-comfort company Tempur-Pedic, known especially for its memory-foam mattresses, has its international headquarters in Lexington. But the word has certainly gotten around Transylvania, with the result that 11 graduates currently work at the company, most of them in the Lexington office.

Naturally, there have been a lot of word-of-mouth referrals and recruiting among the Transylvanians at Tempur-Pedic.

“I heard about the company from my classmate, Kyle Clayton, whose older brother (Matthew Clayton ’06) works at Tempur-Pedic,” said Daniel Porter ’10, who is in the firm’s accounting department. He left his job at the public accounting firm Dean Dorton Ford PSC a year-and-a-half ago to join the company.

Twins Katelynd and Paige Porter, class of 2011 and no relation to Daniel Porter, both work at Tempur-Pedic. Daniel helped his friend Paige get her job, and Paige did the same for her sister.

What is it about the company that attracts so many Transylvania graduates?

“Tempur-Pedic is an internationally renowned brand,” Daniel Porter said. “In a way, we’re the Apple of mattresses—we’re the most innovative. Being with a company that’s constantly changing is exciting and challenging.”

The approximately 300 Lexington employees moved into the company’s new $18 million headquarters in October. The building is located on Lexington’s north side on the University of Kentucky’s Coldstream Research Campus.

In addition to its signature mattress, which continuously conforms to a person’s shape, weight, and temperature, Tempur-Pedic sells pillows, sleeper sofas, and house slippers among other products.

“When I tell people I work for Tempur-Pedic, they say, ‘Oh, you sell mattresses.’ They think of me as the salesperson at our Lexington Green store,” Daniel Porter said. “They have no idea of the size of the company or that our international headquarters is here. It’s pretty cool to have a small school like Transylvania have this many graduates working here.”

### Catron takes his music around the world

Jason Catron ’95 is an accomplished musician and vocalist in Los Angeles, traveling the world as a solo artist and with his singing group Tenore, made up of three tenors.

Catron worked in artist management before recently taking on performing.

“About five years ago I launched into my own music endeavors and stepped to the front of the stage instead of behind-the-scenes stuff,” he said. “Since then I’ve been traveling all over. I’ll either work with a local orchestra, or I sometimes travel with a small ensemble, and we’ll use backing tracks.”

His genre is described as “pop-era,” a mix of pop music and traditional opera styles. On any given night, he may sing hymns, standards, and arias. He has also released self-titled albums on his own and with Tenore (singtenore.com).

Catron graduated with a business degree, accounting emphasis, from Transylvania after initially pursuing pre-med.

“I thought I’d do music on the side,” he said. “I started to get into organic chemistry and some of those more advanced classes, and I realized music is really my passion, and that’s what I needed to do. So I switched to business and was in the choir and took private instruction from music professors Larry Barnes, Gary Anderson, and Gregory Partain.”

His 2013 tour will take him to Asia, Africa, Israel, Europe, and Canada, followed by a Christmas tour of the United States. He’ll also be recording a new album with Tenore. Catron’s latest Christmas album, aptly titled Christmas, was recently released on his website, jasoncatron.com. It will get a wide release on iTunes and Amazon next winter.
What does $5 million look like?

You may not know their faces, yet if you made an endowed gift to Transylvania since last April, you are looking at a student you are helping to educate. Meet (above, from left) Nick McCarthy, Katie Cohron, and Ryne Hardesty, all Kenan Scholars from the class of 2016.

The William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust recently provided Transylvania with one of the university’s largest gifts ever—$5 million to assist bright and driven scholars. This gift operates as a match, with half already received and benefiting students, including those pictured here. The remaining $2.5 million will be disbursed as the university secures additional endowed donations from alumni and friends.

Endowment dollars offer substantial resources and allow the university to better plan for the future. Donors can structure endowed gifts to support any area of campus they would like, with the matched amount then benefiting Transylvania scholarships.

An endowed gift results in your legacy, or that of someone you wish to honor or memorialize, being recognized at Transylvania. Now, it also allows you to double your contribution’s impact on students.

And that’s what $5 million looks like.

To discuss endowment gifts or the Kenan Trust match, contact Kara Little Covert ’90, associate vice president for advancement, at (800) 487-2679, (859) 233-8402, or kcovert@transy.edu. Endowed fund commitments begin at $25,000 and may be contributed over a term of five years or less.
A groundbreaking ceremony was held March 2 to celebrate the beginning of construction on the Fourth Street athletics complex. Architect’s renderings show the overall layout, dominated by an artificial turf field surrounded by an NCAA-regulation eight-lane track and including grandstand seating for 1,000 and a field house with coaches’ offices, locker rooms, and a training facility; the reception area for the field house; and the exterior of the field house, which fronts on Fourth Street. Junior Abby Felthaus, soccer player and president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, takes her turn at knocking a hole in a wall of the building that will be renovated into the field house.