# CLARION

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE SUMMER 2015

courageous confident. CLARION.

RISING star

\$160.9 MILLION ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

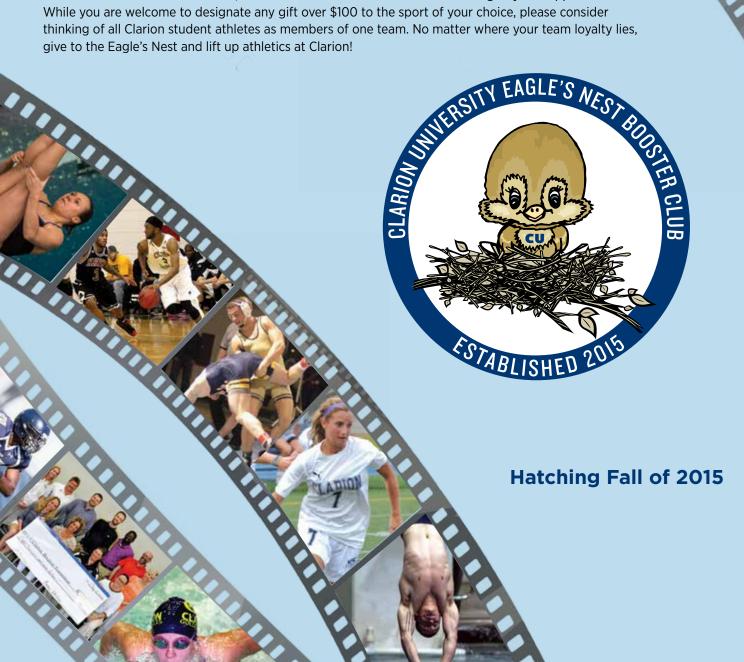
JULIAN HOWSARE SIGNS WITH N.Y. JETS



Today, the nest shows our beloved Ernie as a baby eagle, but with your help and donation to the booster club, you will help Ernie become a fully grown Golden Eagle.

The goal of the Eagle's Nest Booster Club is to support all athletic teams and the athletics department at Clarion University.

All of our teams strive for success, and all of our student athletes are deserving of your support. While you are welcome to designate any gift over \$100 to the sport of your choice, please consider thinking of all Clarion student athletes as members of one team. No matter where your team loyalty lies, give to the Eagle's Nest and lift up athletics at Clarion!



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NOVAE AND DARK MATTER ARE BECOMING A LITTLE LESS MYSTERIOUS THROUGH THE RESEARCH OF MATTHEW WALENTOSKY ('14).

### CLARION UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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Clarion University Magazine is published by the Division for University Advancement for alumni, families of current students and friends of Clarion University. Alumni information is also located at www.clarion.edu/alumni.

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### LETTERS

I cannot tell you how pleased and proud I am that you upgraded the Clarion University Magazine. I am sure that it cost much more to produce, but the image that it portrays for Clarion and its alumni is just wonderful.

The magazine is now on par with Pitt's and Penn State's, which I also receive.

Way to go Clarion! Thank you!

Bob Bender '90 Ballwin, Mo.

Letters to the editor can be emailed to alumni@clarion.edu or mailed to: Clarion University Magazine, Seifert-Mooney Center for Advancement, 840 Wood St., Clarion, PA 16346.

All letters should be brief (200 words or less) and include the name, mailing address and phone number of the author. The author's name and town will be published.

All correspondence may be edited for length and clarity.

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear friends,

As I begin my sixth year as president, I continue to be in awe of Clarion University's inspiring past, compelling present and fantastic future. Most inspiring to me are the people who comprise the Clarion family, and the courage and confidence they exemplify and have bestowed upon others.

Take Frank Lignelli who, in 1946, boarded a bus bound for Clarion and has given, for 70 years, as a student, an athlete, a coach, athletic director, benefactor and continual supporter of the university and its students, particularly student athletes. Consider Erika Keck, a 2015 graduate who channels her energy into stunt performing, willingly being knocked down, flung around and set on fire. Look at 2014 graduate Matt Walentosky and faculty member Dr. Sharon Montgomery, who, through their research, are unraveling the mysteries of what lies beyond planet Earth.

As well as showcasing these wonderful folks, it is also a time to acknowledge the economic impact that Clarion University itself has upon the state, region and local community.

You, too, are part of the great Clarion family, and I invite you to read about these Golden Eagles and the impact they are making,

### **COURAGEOUS. CONFIDENT. CLARION.**

For the Clarion University family, it's how we roll!

Fly Eagles Fly!

Karen M. Whitney

President, Clarion University

Laren M. Whity

### CAMPUS NEWS | CLARION DIGEST



**AUG. 21** is move-in day for students, and Suites on Main North, the first of two new, suite-style housing units is ready. The housing will replace 54-year-old Nair and Wilkinson halls, which are slated to be demolished.

The \$66 million project will provide housing for students on both sides of East Main Street and include university-

related services – such as the book store, Starbucks coffee shop, a university theater and food service – on the ground floor of the complex. Clarion University Foundation, Inc., in partnership with Clarion University, developed and is building the project, funded entirely by student housing fees. Work continues on Suites on Main South, which is expected to be ready for occupation by the beginning of the spring 2016 semester. To get a live look at the suites, visit http://suitecam.

### CAMPUS NEWS | CLARION DIGEST



### SHANKSVILLE REMEMBRANCE

Matthew Catrillo ('15), a digital media graduate, took first place for his television news package, "Shanksville Remembrance," in the Society for Collegiate Journalists 2015 National Contest. Catrillo, a member of Clarion's SCJ Chapter, covered the Flight 93 National Memorial's 13th



Commemorative Service Sept. 11, 2014, in Shanksville, Somerset County. "My goal was to bring everyone back to that tragic day in our country and remember how they felt. I wanted everyone to remember the courage and strength of those passengers who took down that plane," Catrillo said.

28TH ANNUAL

# 2015 CLARION UNIVERSITY



**EVENT:** Four-person scramble; Lunch: 11–11:45 a.m.; Shotgun start: Noon Entry fee: \$150; Hole sponsor: \$200

**FEE INCLUDES:** greens fees, cart, lunch, tee prizes, hole prizes, par 3 prizes including hole-in-one and nearest to the pin, team prizes, door prizes, refreshments, buffet dinner and more.

**REGISTRATION:** Contact athletic director Dave Katis ('85, M.Ed. '88) or Dede VanEpps at 814-393-1997. Make checks payable to: Clarion University Foundation, Inc.

www.clariongoldeneagles.com



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# **SEED**S for REGROWTH



Seven Venango College students from the SEED (Studying, Engaging, Exploring, and Discipleship) Club traveled with the World Changers organization to Moss Point, Miss., for spring break March 7. Moss Point is part of what the local population calls the Invisible Coastline. The area was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina's record 14-foot storm surge which resulted in extensive flooding, even though it is 80 miles from the center of where Katrina hit.

The students assisted with building decks and ramps, roofing and basic home repairs. Participants were: Amanda Cameron of Mercer; Nathan Hannah of Seneca; Elizabeth Haughey of Butler; Raymond Marino of Boyers; Casey McVay of Franklin (club advisor); Savannah Mona of Meadville; Emily Quaill of Emlenton (club president); and Rhonni Seth of New Castle.



### WEBSITE wins SILVER STEVIE

Clarion University won a Silver Stevie Award for Best Homepage/Welcome Page at the 13th annual American Business Awards in June. Clarion University's website was redesigned last year in order to reflect the university's new brand: COURAGEOUS. CONFIDENT. CLARION. The redesign took approximately nine months to complete and features a mobile-first design, user-friendly navigation, a variety of databases and a reorganized home/welcome page. The home/welcome

page features a rotating carousel of story tiles and a spot for university videos.

The university was second to Sony's Playstation.Blog, which took home the Gold Stevie.

# by the NUMBERS



Clarion University Alumni Association president David Bailey wrapped up his tenure this year. We asked him to share some numbers with us to put his volunteer efforts in perspective and to give us an idea, travel-wise, what it's like to be president. In 2014 -

NUMBER OF CLARION EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES ATTENDED

NUMBER OF NIGHTS IN A HOTEL

NUMBER 7,076
OF MILES TRAVELED TO/FROM CLARION EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

252
NUMBER OF
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

### ONE MORE IMPORTANT NUMBER ...

**50** 

Number of years since David and his classmates graduated from Clarion. Yes, the **CLASS OF 1965** is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

### THE HISTORICAL MAGICIAN



Lydia Middaugh ('15), was awarded the "Best Paper in Panel" prize at the Pennsylvania-West Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference and Undergraduate Research Forum April 11 at Westminster College, New Wilmington. Middaugh's paper was entitled "Sir Keith Thomas: The Historical Magician."

"Thomas' book is still considered to be one of the greatest, most comprehensive works on the subject of religion and magic, not just for history, but also for sociology and anthropology," she said.

## GOOD business SENSE

Evan Schindler ('15) won a \$5,000 second place award in the PASSHE Student Business Plan Competition. He entered his business plan for Admissian LLC, which will provide legal consultation on visas, refinement of documents, personalized branding of student information and support services for international students transitioning to an American university. The competition, in its fourth year, seeks state system students who want to start or grow their own business in Pennsylvania.

### CAMPUS NEWS | CLARION DIGEST

# THREE *new*DEGREE PROGRAMS APPROVED

Pennsylvania State System Board of Governors has approved three new degree programs for Clarion University: Master of Science in applied data analytics (big data), Bachelor of Science in sport management, and Bachelor of Science in Business



Administration in paralegal studies.

These degree programs will be available to students beginning with the fall 2015 semester.

### SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

President Whitney's summer ride is a Vespa scooter. There are 11 differences in the photos below. Can you spot them all? For answers, go to www.clarion.edu/vespa.





# spotlight on: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NUTRITION AND FITNESS

### **WHY IT'S HOT**

A shift in health care places emphasis not only on treating sick people but also on preventing illness and diseases.

### **WHAT IT'S GOT**

The combination of nutrition and fitness makes this program unique: No other state system university offers this type of program. The program's core classes include a variety of nutrition and fitness courses, social and behavioral science courses, as well as courses that deal with exercise and overall wellness. Graduates will be qualified for jobs such as a healthy lifestyle coach, fitness and wellness coordinator, personal trainer, nutrition and wellness consultant, and weight loss consultant, as well as careers in corporate and community-based wellness programs such as YMCA Silver Sneakers and Highmark Healthy U.

### **WHAT'S NEXT**

The first classes for this major begin this fall. To date, 25 students have declared it as their major.



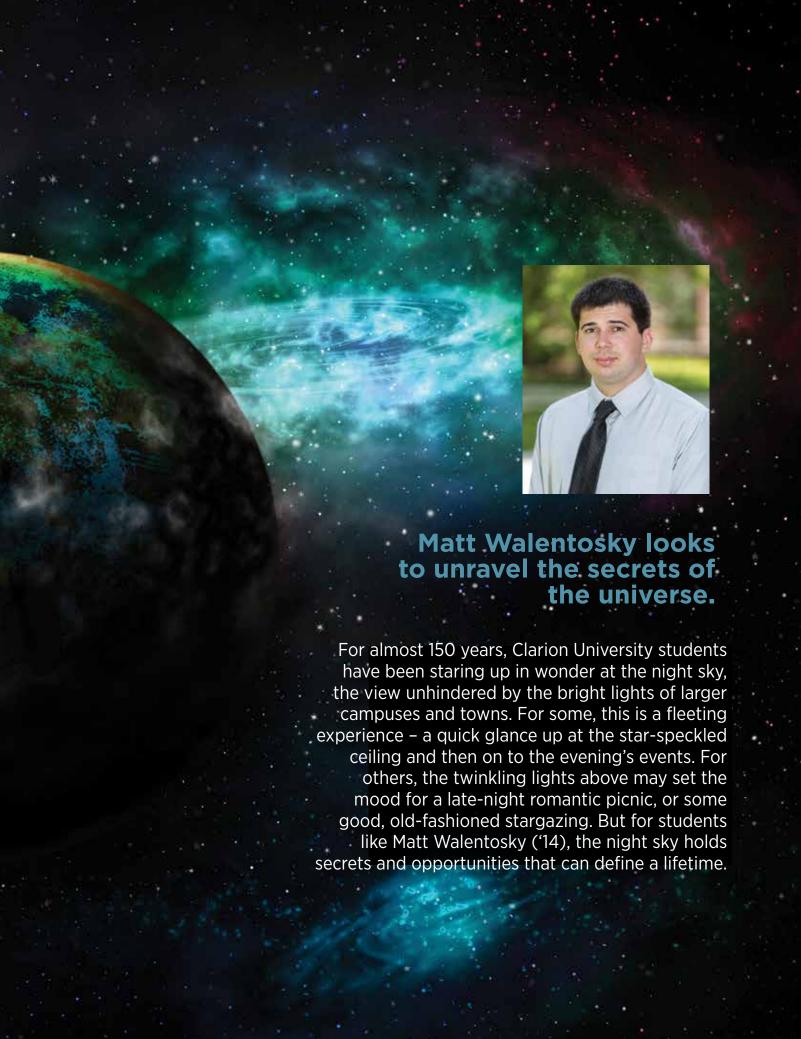
# alumni 2015

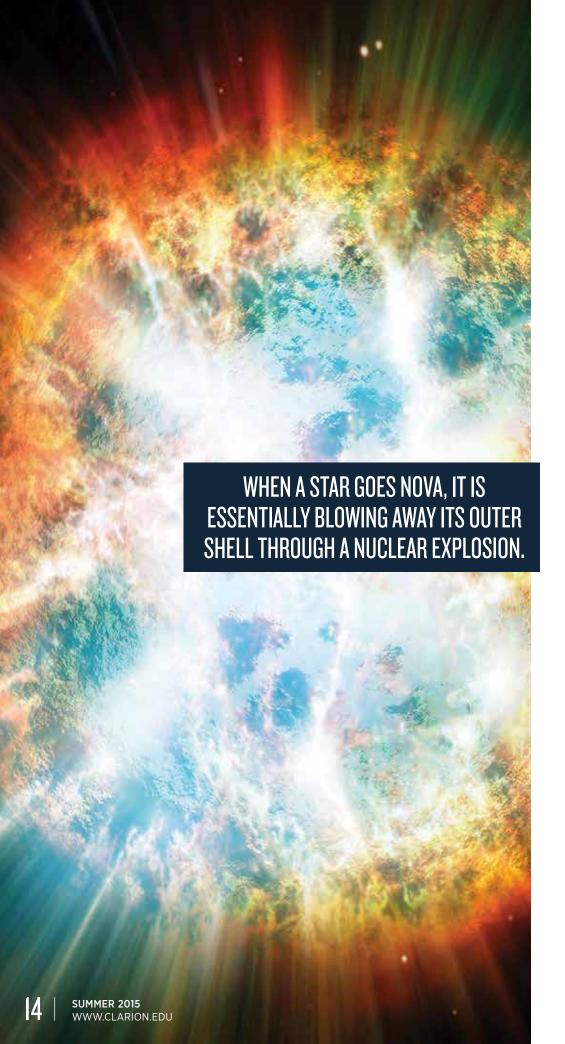
Clockwise, from top left: The class of 1965 reminisces over lunch; Ernie the Eagle celebrates in style; Distinguished Award recipients Al Lander and Sandra Trejos embrace; this tyke gets in the spirit of Alumni Weekend; an alumna shows that she is Courageous. Confident. Clarion.; Distinguished Awardees Paul Palmer, Betsy Kellner, President Whitney, Kim Lemon, Sandra Trejos and Al Lander; macho men Bob Dandoy, David Behrs, Todd Pfannestiel and Joseph Croskey; Dueling Pianos provided musical entertainment: President Whitney leads a tour of the new suites; Former Clarion President Joe Grunenwald and wife Janice at the Distinguished Awards dinner: a group arrives on campus, ready for the weekend of fun; golfers play at the Fran Shope Golf Outing; a band plays at Saturday's Alumni-Fest picnic; a student paints children's faces; a Golden Eagles cheerleader; alumna Linda Yorkshire and friend cool down with Ice Cream with the Mascot.











Even before his time at Clarion, Walentosky was fascinated with the inner workings of the universe, a fact he attributes to another Clarion alumnus.

"I got my interest in astronomy from a high school teacher, Tim Spuck ('88, '92 M.Ed.), at Oil City High School," Walentosky said. "He has this philosophy of engaging students in active research. He's well connected with NASA and other national organizations, and he strongly believes in learning science by doing it."

Under Spuck's tutelage, Walentosky attended conferences across the country and visited the Spitzer Science Center in California, where he was able to meet different astronomers and learn about their fields of work and study.

A handful of unique experiences under his belt, Walentosky started his college career at Penn State's Erie campus. As a freshman he had the opportunity to work alongside a professor in the astrophysics department from Penn State University Park. Still, he felt something was missing in the land of the Nittany Lion, and decided to leave Penn State after two semesters.

Walentosky came to Clarion to start his sophomore year, following in the footsteps of his parents and sister. Motivated by his love of astronomy, he enrolled as a physics major where, he admits, he struggled a bit early on.

"One of the things that really made a difference for me was the individual attention professors could give me at Clarion," Walentosky said. "I wanted to make sure I really grasped the foundational concepts ... the math and science behind the things I wanted to do ... and having professors who were willing to work with me on that individual level to make sure I truly understood. That was important."



Walentosky says that establishing a firm foothold on the fundamentals was vital in turning him into a strong researcher and scientific thinker, and opened the doors for a greater understanding of the higher-level science work he would soon take on.

After nailing down his fundamentals, Walentosky was presented with another opportunity to pad his résumé – one that would bring him to the University of Alaska, Anchorage for backto-back summers of celestial study. Under the guidance of Dr. Travis Rector, Walentosky studied

images taken over a 20-year period, analyzing and cataloguing the appearance of "classical novae" in our nearest galaxy, the Andromeda Galaxy.

"When a star goes nova, it is essentially blowing away its outer shell through a nuclear explosion," Walentosky said. By cataloguing these, he explained, Rector and Walentosky helped to pave the way for other astronomers and scientists to study the novae themselves, to better understand the causes, effects and universal importance of novae.

As any good scientist knows, the actual

There are mysteries out there that we still don't understand, and that we're working to understand, and that's exciting.

research process is only one facet of the job. Walentosky also helped Rector record their work in an academic paper and present their findings at the American Astronomical Society's January 2013 meeting in Long Beach, Calif.

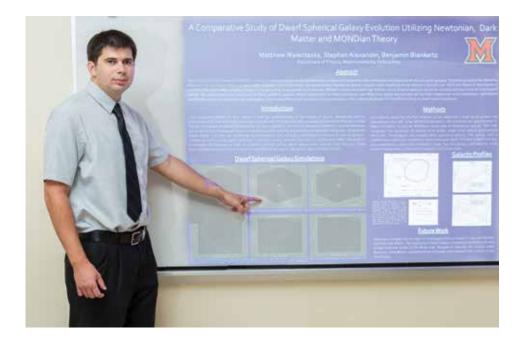
"It's important for students to go to these kinds of conferences, because that's where the present-day knowledge is being shared in any given field," Walentosky said. "You need the classroom setting for the theoretical knowledge, but to really learn about the here-and-now stuff – the things you're going to be working on after college

- you've got to go to a conference."

"I was fortunate enough to be able to get funding through the undergraduate research office and the provost's office to go to California, and I made professional connections and learned a lot that I wouldn't have, otherwise," he said.

Since graduating, Walentosky has

embarked on a new academic adventure at Miami University in Ohio. There, he's pursuing a master's degree in physics while serving as a teaching assistant. Never one to leave much room on his plate, Walentosky is also working with Dr. Stephen Alexander, a professor at Miami University, to model a "dwarf spheroidal"



"Dark matter and MOND are by no means completely understood subjects. We don't know which of these theories is right, or even if any of them are right at all."

galaxy," with hopes of learning more about how these galaxies form.

As Walentosky noted, the dominant theory among scientists is that these specific types of galaxies - thought to defy Newton's laws of physics - are held together with dark matter. While he and Alexander are studying how dark matter might be interacting with these galaxies, they're also attempting to model a different theory, known as Modified Newtonian Dynamics. According to MOND, certain corrections are made to Newtonian physics at extremely low accelerations. The two scientists are working to model the evolution of these dwarf spheroidal galaxies using both the theory of dark matter and MOND, and hope to compare their models to actual observations.

Walentosky believes it is important to be a skeptic. "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence," he said, quoting Carl Sagan.

"A lot of times people will read about what's at the forefront of science and assume these are completely correct and fully understood," Walentosky said. "Dark matter and MOND are by no means completely understood subjects. We don't know which of these theories is right, or even if any of them are right at all. As scientists it's important to put these theories under scrupulous review and to see what the data indicates."

Beyond that, Walentosky loves his work because it fascinates and excites him.

"There are mysteries out there that we still don't understand, and that we're working to understand, and that's exciting," he said. "We're still seeking knowledge and making discoveries in all different fields. That's what excited people hundreds of years ago about science, and it's what excites me."

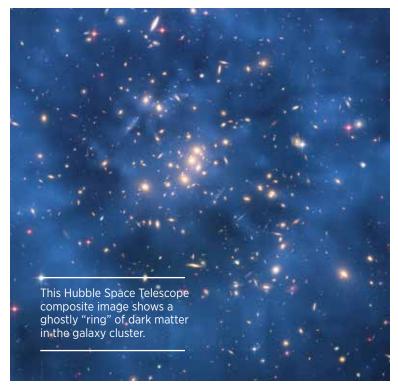
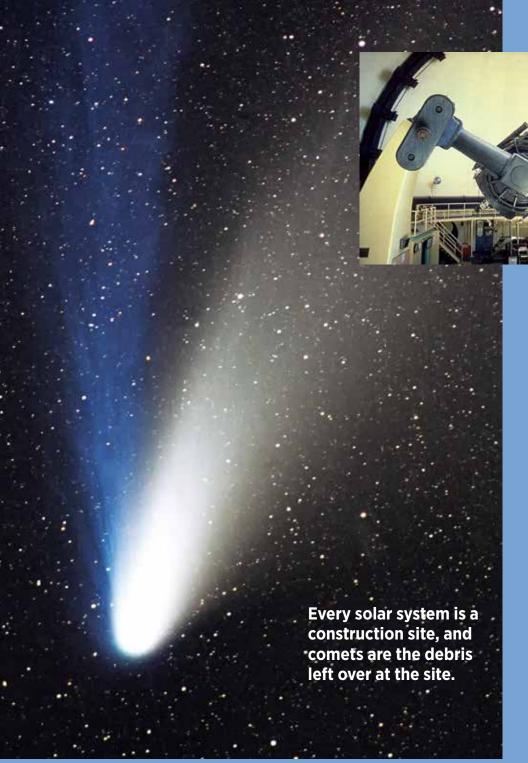


Image Credit: NASA







**Sharon Montgomery** 

Even when she was a little girl, physics professor and astronomer Sharon Montgomery was mesmerized by space – specifically the stars in space.

She'd lie out on a football field in Middleport, N.Y, with her dad, now a retired chemist, and stare up at the stars.

"The interest started really early," she said.

She'd even look through his homemade telescope. Montgomery laughs as she recalls that it was a really poor telescope, but the equipment wasn't as important as the interest that it piqued.

One day Montgomery would look at those same stars with much better and more powerful telescopes at some of the premier observatories in the world.

Starting in 2010 at McDonald Observatory in west Texas and then later in South Africa, Montgomery and her collaborator, Barry Welsh of the University of California, Berkeley, would observe the same stars night after night. And during some of these observations, she and Welsh would make some discoveries that are quite literally out of this world.

They discovered many comets in several different star systems.

Discovering and studying comets is important because it answers questions about star formation and our own planet. Montgomery said some scientists believe that Earth's water was delivered by falling comets.

Montgomery best explains the role of comets like this: Every solar system is a construction site, and comets are the debris left over at the site.

"The comets are the nails, the hammers," Montgomery said. "The comets are the space junk." But they also are clues as to what came before.

THE LIST OF STARS
POSSESSING DETECTED
COMETS IS EXTREMELY
SHORT – IN THE BALLPARK
OF 15. MONTGOMERY AND
HER COLLABORATOR HAVE
DISCOVERED ALL BUT
ABOUT FIVE OF THEM.

Astronomers look for comets by observing starlight – "A big comet tail alters the starlight," Montgomery said. She likens it to a streetlight that is altered by fog when we see it. The gas around the comet alters the starlight, she said.

"We look for that subtle diminishing of light that changes night to night," she said.

The star systems Montgomery and Welsh were observing are "young star systems, so they're still kind of junky," only 10 to 100 million years old.

That may not seem very young, but the oldest stars in the universe are about 13 billion years old. The Milky Way (our home galaxy) contains stars nearly this old, too. Montgomery's star systems are young, even compared to the solar system, which formed about four and a half billion years ago. If the universe's oldest stars are octogenarians, the sun is a young adult, and Montgomery's "young and junky" star systems are infants, less than half a year old.

Montgomery and Welsh ascertained the comets they discovered had never been discovered before by completing an exhaustive literary search. Also, the list of stars possessing detected comets is extremely short – in the ball park of 15, Montgomery said. She and her collaborator have discovered all but about five of them.

Also, the presence of comets probably means that planets are forming, she said.



# "Everything we know about stars comes from the starlight. That's all we get from Earth."

"Comets falling into the star are likely signs of a large, massive planet because, like planets, comets will generally orbit the star in stable, circular orbits. In the case of comets, they are generally expected to reside far from the star. However, a massive Jupiter-like planet will tug on these more distant comets and occasionally pull them inward. Without at least one planet, it's hard to see why large numbers of comets would be on death marches toward the star," Montgomery said.

Montgomery said it's likely that these comets no longer exist since they probably fell into the stars. This also means these comets won't be given names.

Evidence of the large amount of debris once commonplace in our solar system can be found on the cratered face of our moon, she said. The rocky worlds in the solar system were absolutely pummeled by debris about 4 billion years ago. Today

these comets are safely sequestered far from the sun in a space called the Oort Cloud, which may contain trillions of comets. Only rarely does a comet careen into the inner part of solar system now, and that's why comets like Halley's Comet are a big deal, Montgomery said.

In other words, our solar system has had plenty of time to clean up its construction site, reducing the number of comets we are likely to see.

"Most of the large bits of debris were swept up by the young planets as they orbited the sun," Montgomery said. "Gravity will also help to clean up a messy construction site since the star and any planets will pull debris toward them. Even if the comet does not fall into the star or the planet, a narrow miss is likely to change the comet's orbit so much that it will be slingshot right out of the star system."

Montgomery is an astronomer, but she's also known as a stellar spectroscopist. Stellar spectroscopists spread starlight into a rainbow of colors and then perform an "archaeological dig in some respects" of the starlight, she said. They sift carefully through the starlight, hunting for subtle unexpected artifacts of comets.

She and Welsh, as well as another group in France, are currently the only scientists hunting for comets by examining starlight.

When viewing any star, Montgomery said the real magic is in the giant telescopes themselves, which bundle the faint starlight in such a way that we can see it.

"Everything we know about stars comes from the starlight. That's all we get from Earth," Montgomery said.

But whatever we do manage to get from Earth, it's important because "every star has a story to tell," Montgomery said. ■





# I WAS ALWAYS THE KID IN THE HALLWAY DOING **SPIDERMAN ON** THE WALLS."

# STUNT GIRL

From the time she was a little girl, Erika Keck ('15) has been on the move.

She recalls a time that her mom couldn't find her. The young girl had run a string from the house to outside, rigged up a pulley and was propelling herself through the air, with a trampoline below to catch her if she fell.

"I was always the kid in the hallway doing Spiderman on the walls," Keck said.

Through high school, she channeled her energy into sports: gymnastics, taekwondo, basketball, volleyball, soccer, track and field.

Now an adult with a bachelor's degree in communication, Keck finds herself again imitating superheroes. This spring Keck, a stunt performer, began working with Marvel Universe Live, which "brings more than 25 Marvel characters to life on one epic quest," according to the show's website. Keck is an understudy for the Black Widow.



While working alongside Thor could be intimidating for some, Keck is cool about it. On her resume she lists some goddesses of the silver screen for whom she has doubled, namely Diane Keaton and Olivia Wilde in the film "Meet the Coopers," which opens Nov. 13.

Diane Keaton "is so sweet. She sent me a gift at the end of the day," Keck said. "Olivia Wilde is one of the coolest people I've ever met – always ready with a smile and a laugh."

As Wilde's stunt double, Keck raced through a hospital corridor, bumping into things and getting knocked over.

For Keaton, Keck did 12 takes on a ski jump.

### "OLIVIA WILDE IS ONE OF THE COOLEST PEOPLE I'VE EVER MET -ALWAYS READY WITH A SMILE AND A LAUGH."

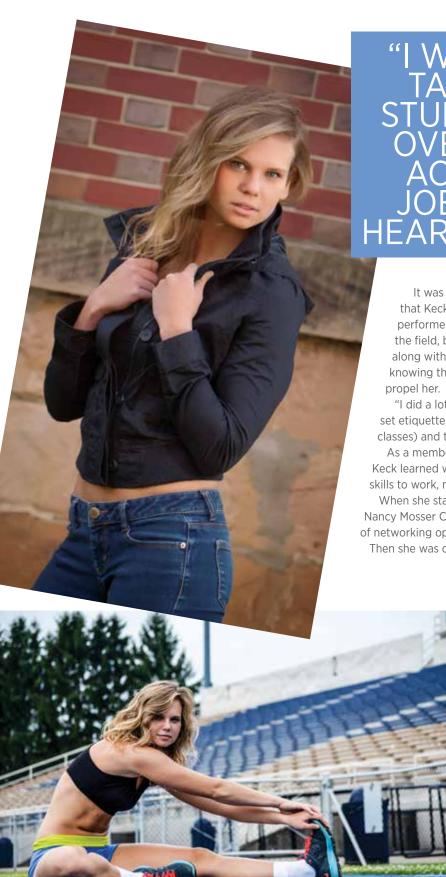
"My back hurt so bad at the end of the day," Keck said. "I just smiled and kept doing my job."

"As doubles, all stunt men and women need to act very similar to the character the actor portrays. Staying in character is very important," Keck said. "Some of my mentors have explained to me they watch the actor they are doubling very closely throughout the day. It's kind of like studying on the job."

Would Keck prefer to act rather than double for actors?

"I would take a stunt gig over an acting job in a heartbeat," Keck said. Having focused on training for stunt work, she said years of training to be an actor would have to come before she tried acting.

"Copying what someone has already acted is different. Someone has already painted the picture for me how to act. I think that's why doubling comes a little easier to me," she said. "I don't have to create a character. The actress already did it and I just need to stay in character."



"I WOULD TAKE A STUNT GIG OVER AN ACTING JOB IN A HEARTBEAT."

It was during her years at Clarion University that Keck fell in love with the idea of being a stunt performer. She didn't know exactly how to break into the field, but she declared a digital media concentration along with her communication major, thinking that knowing the language of the business would help to propel her.

"I did a lot of hands-on classes, which helped me learn set etiquette," she said. "I really took advantage of (the classes) and tried to learn as much as possible."

As a member of Film Club, advised by Dr. Michael Torres, Keck learned what's involved in filmmaking, and she put her skills to work, making films on her own.

When she started to think about internships, she contacted Nancy Mosser Casting, Pittsburgh, where she took advantage of networking opportunities.

Then she was off to the International Stunt School in Seattle.

"The school teaches you how to protect your body – to land on muscle, not anything bony," she said. She studied fight choreography, basic falls, stairfalls, stunt driving, wire work and rappelling.

She also experienced being set on fire.

It was during her years at Clarion University that Keck fell in love with the idea of being a stunt performer. Being set on fire was the coldest thing I've done with stunts. There is a special gel that an under layer of clothing is soaked in. It is very cold and clings to your body. Once I had all of the cotton clothes on over the cold-soaked layer, I carefully walked out to the designated area to be set on fire

Designated people circle the area as safeties. Each person has a particular job and fallback if something may go wrong during the stunt — almost like animals ready to pounce.

My instructor carefully spread more of the gel all over my hands and then moved to my head. This was my least favorite part, having all the gel on my face, in my ears, around my eyes and nose.

After preparation was complete, he spread the igniting mixer on the

### "I TOOK A DEEP BREATH AND GAVE HIM A THUMBS UP. HE SET ME ON FIRE."

designated spot of burn (my back). At this point, I just wanted the burn to be over with. I wasn't afraid of the burn but I wanted the gel off my skin.

My instructor asked if I was ready. I took a deep breath (you cannot breathe in any of the smoke throughout the duration of the fire burn) and gave him a thumbs up. He set me on fire.

At this point everyone was on alert. I began to move like I'm set on fire. This was my first fire-burn so I moved kind of slowly. Honestly I did not feel any of the burning. The stunt was so safe. I didn't even

feel warm for a long time.

Once I couldn't hold my breath any more, I dropped to the ground as a signal the stunt was over. One instructor sprayed a fire extinguisher on me while, immediately after, the other instructor started using a water hose (low pressure) and patted me down to make sure all the fire was out.

I was happy that I did the stunt but would rather get paid the next time I do a fire stunt. The prep for me is the worst part. That gel is so uncomfortable to me.





Learning high falls was the most daunting for Keck.

"You're up there at 45 feet," she said. "They start you at lower heights, so I just talked myself through it."

"Stunt school was one of the best months of my life. It was so much fun; everything was intriguing," Keck said.

The profession of stunt performing demands fitness, which Keck delivers. She

combines cardio and weightlifting.

"I like Insanity Asylum – it's plyometrics and cardio. I go to gymnastics two hours a week, I do Crossfit for endurance, and weightlifting," she said.

Her "work hard" mentality comes from her father.

"He has owned three small businesses, and he works almost 24/7. He never takes a day off. When I was little, I was always out in the truck with him, learning," she said. "I always had my hands in grease."

Before completing school, Keck worked for her dad, driving the rock truck and excavator.

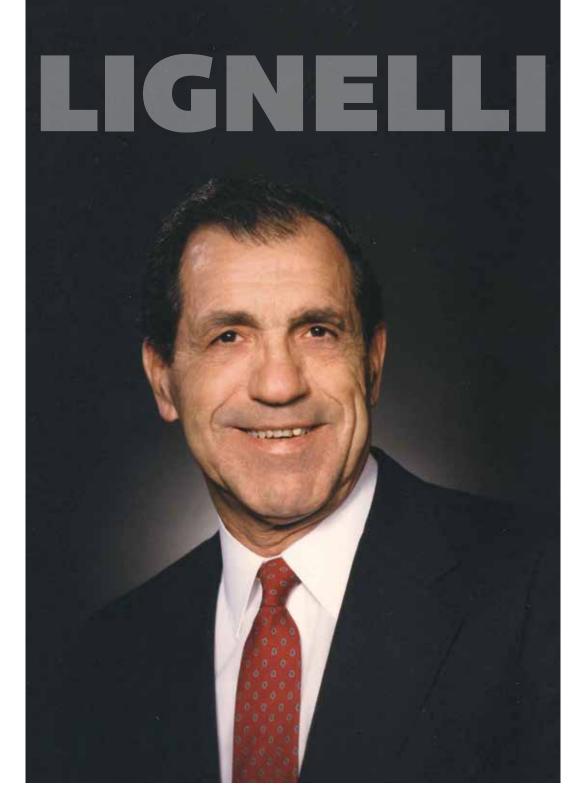
Keck plans to complete the Marvel Universe Live performing tour before moving on to her next adventure. ■

"... intercollegiate athletics should be both respectable and competitive. It should reflect a positive image of the institution in order to make a substantial contribution in the areas of recruitment, faculty support, alumni relations and community spirit. Participation in an intercollegiate athletic program should provide an enjoyable and meaningful experience for the student athlete, one which will prepare him/her to encounter the ups and downs of life."

- Frank Lignelli ('50)



Waldo S. Tippin (right) presents a trophy honoring Lignelli for Most Outstanding Athletics and Leadership from 1946-50



was a simple mix-up that brought Frank Lignelli to Clarion University.

Accepted at Penn State in 1946 and wanting to play football, Lignelli was asked to attend California University for a year or two, as was the custom at the time. He reported to campus as he was instructed to do and participated in practices, but when classes began, his records hadn't made it to campus. He found himself sitting around and waiting, unable to begin classes.



Attending college was on the heels of Lignelli's 1943-46 stint in the U.S. Navy, where he served in the Mediterranean and the Pacific aboard a mine sweeper. Used to the demands of the military and not one to be idle, Lignelli took action.

He tracked down his academic records, which had been sent by mistake to Clarion University. The registrar told Lignelli he could still register for classes.

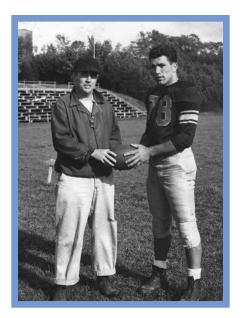
Having never heard of Clarion, Lignelli traced its location on a map, packed his clothes and caught a bus north. He planned to be a Golden Eagle for one year, before returning to Penn State as a Nittany Lion.



At the end of the academic year, however, Lignelli had second thoughts about leaving Clarion.

"I knew everyone at Clarion. I enjoyed my year there," Lignelli said. "I stayed."

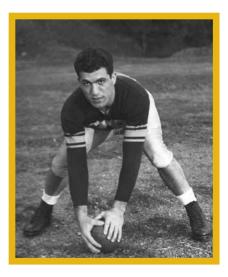
By the time Lignelli graduated in 1950 with a degree in secondary education/social studies, Clarion clearly had benefited from his athleticism. He earned 11 varsity letters, four each in wrestling and football and three in baseball.



### CAREER

"In 1950, secondary jobs were very scarce," he said. "I went to the Allegheny County superintendent's office and explained why I was there. He said we only have elementary positions available. I said I'd take one, although I wasn't certified."

He spent a year teaching elementary school in North Versailles Township. He enjoyed the youngsters and would have continued teaching, but he was hired as assistant football coach at Monongahela High School.



(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT)
Lignelli (left) with fellow 1946 football
players Al Rappaport, Bill Casper
and Fred Caligiuri

Assistant football coach Lignelli (left) with Ernest "Turk" Johnson, head coach, 1957

Lignelli, captain of the 1949 football

Head coach Bob Moore (right) with team captain Lignelli in 1949 Lignelli (left) wrestles an opponent "That's my home," Lignelli said. He spent six years coaching for his high school alma mater.

"The president of Clarion State Teachers College asked me if I'd be interested in coming to Clarion," Lignelli said. "I said, 'Definitely!"

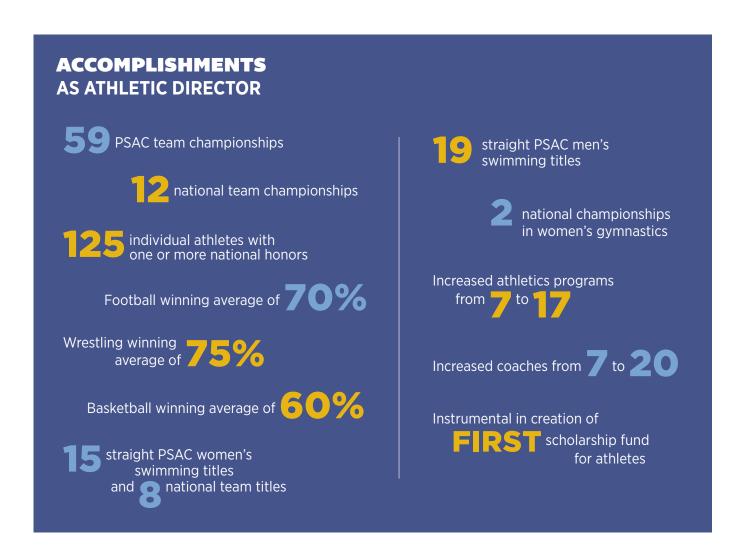
In fall of 1959, Lignelli re-started Clarion's wrestling program as its head coach. Within seven years he had two undefeated seasons.

In 1966, Lignelli was promoted to athletic director, only the third in the school's history, a position he held until he retired in 1986. He then returned to the position on an interim basis.

In his 23 years as athletic director, Lignelli watched some of Clarion University's top athletes develop into nationally recognized athletes: Reggie WellsSr., one of the top PSAC basketball players of all time; Sy Young winner Pete Vuckovich, drafted by

the Chicago White Sox; Alex Sandusky, drafted by the Baltimore Colts; and Olympic gold medalist Kurt Angle, who won two national wrestling championships and went on to wrestle professionally.

"The coaches I had, I thought they were the best coaches in the state – very successful – and the athletes they recruited were outstanding athletes," Lignelli said. "I've had sports writers call me, wanting to know to what I attribute the success of our



### **AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

1987: National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame

1987: Eastern Wrestling League Hall of Fame

1986: Western Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame

1984: PSAC Wrestling Hall of Fame

# THE FRANK LIGNELLI FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

The Frank Lignelli Family Scholarship was established through the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., with tremendous assistance from dedicated friends, peers and athletes who were either coached by, teammates of or directed by Lignelli at some point in his long Clarion University career. It is with the spirit of moving Clarion University athletics further into the future that this scholarship will promote and enhance both the wrestling and football programs.



### Eligibility:

- CU recruits or team members of the wrestling and football teams.
- Wrestler and football player who meets the eligibility requirements set by NCAA.
- Maintenance of at least a 2.0 QPA at Clarion.

To support the scholarship, thereby supporting Clarion athletes, make your check payable to: Clarion University Foundation, Inc., referencing the Frank Lignelli Family Scholarship Fund #13880. For more information contact Shawn Wood at 814-393-1832 or swood@cuf-inc.org.

... that scholarship fund "is probably the single largest reason behind Clarion's athletic successes."

- AL JACKS, FOOTBALL COACH

athletics. I say the coaches are the ones I feel are responsible, along with the student athletes they recruited."

Lignelli was a driving force behind the creation of the Centennial Scholarship Fund, which was later renamed the W.S. Tippin Scholarship Fund. Al Jacks, football coach at the time the fund was created, said that scholarship fund "is probably the single largest reason behind Clarion's athletic successes."

From the time the fund was initiated in the mid 1960s until his retirement in 1986, Lignelli raised more than \$1 million dollars. Lignelli, now 90, remains active and involved in Golden Eagles athletics through attendance at sport events and participation in golf outings to support Clarion athletics.

# IMPACT

# ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PENNSYLVANIA IS \$160.9 MILLION



Clarion's total direct economic impact on the commonwealth is \$160.9 million, according to a study released by Baker, Tilly, Virchow, Krause, LLP. In addition, the university employs 630 individuals, making it Clarion County's number one employer. The report was the result of a study released by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, which shows that the state system generates more than \$6.7 billion in economic activity each year.

The \$160.9 million represents four main spending sources: institutional spending (\$36.8 million); faculty and staff spending (\$40.2 million); student spending (\$49.1 million) and capital expenditures (\$13.8 million).

"We are proud to be a leading economic engine for the Clarion community," said Karen Whitney, Ph.D., president. "Through the exceptional people we employ, the confident students who come here to learn and our direct financial expenditures, we make a profound economic impact on the region and the commonwealth."

The report goes on to say that Clarion's total economic impact on the commonwealth – direct, indirect and induced – is \$264.6 million, using multipliers obtained through the Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Industrial Multiplier Systems.

"Each dollar invested in Clarion University by the commonwealth via appropriations yielded a return of approximately \$11.89," the study indicates. Clarion's appropriation for the 2013-2014 fiscal year was \$22.3 million.







By providing higher education, Clarion improves economic development now and into the future.

### EMPLOYMENT IMPACT

The university also impacts employment. For each additional \$1 million of output by a state system university, approximately 21.3 jobs were created or supported. In this manner, the employment impact of Clarion University is approximately 3,126 jobs.

University capital expenditures also support jobs in the region. For each additional \$1 million of output, approximately 17.9 jobs were created or supported. In this manner, the employment impact of Clarion is 248 additional jobs.

The total employment impact of Clarion University is 3,374 jobs.

### ENHANCING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

The report notes that the state system plays a role in enhancing the economic development of the regions in which the individual universities reside by assisting in the development and growth of new and existing businesses, as well as by increasing the employment opportunities, both of which increase economic activity in the respective areas.

Clarion accomplishes this in various ways, such as partnering with local businesses, providing education and job skills training, providing an outlet for research and development through incubators, and providing financial and technical assistance.



Theatre productions such as "Grease" provide high-impact student experiences, and they bring the community to campus.

### SBDC AND CARIPD

Clarion University has a Small Business Development Center, which helps in the growth of its 10-county region in western Pennsylvania by providing entrepreneurs with the education, information and tools necessary to build successful businesses.

During 2013, Clarion's SBDC provided approximately 7,522 hours of consulting to approximately 524 entrepreneurs, mostly regarding start-up assistance. In addition, \$11.9 million was approved in client financing.

The Gregory Barnes Center is home to the Center for Applied Research and Intellectual Property Development. Since its inauguration, CARIPD has conducted contract research and grant-supported research with 11 companies and six individual entrepreneurs and provided initial consultations for an additional eight potential entrepreneurs. More than \$300,000 has been brought in through grants to support applied research for them.

Students learn leadership skills on Clarion's own ropes course.
Those skills often are refined through work in the community.

# SHORT- AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT

By providing higher education, Clarion University is not only helping to improve the economic development in the short-term, but in the long-run as well. Primarily, Clarion does this through the granting of undergraduate and graduate degrees, but it also does so indirectly through its purchasing, expenditures, services, and employing hundreds of people.

Through its various economic development activities, Clarion successfully provides an economic competitive advantage for the county.

# VOLUNTEERISM AND THE CLARION ECONOMY

Clarion University's faculty and staff spent 1,400 hours in 2013 and 1,450 in 2014 volunteering. With an average value of approximately \$22.55 per hour, their total contribution amounts to \$31,570 in 2013 and \$32,698 in 2014.

Clarion students volunteered 4,400 hours in 2013 and 4,550 hours in 2014. ■

To view the complete study, go to http://www.passhe.edu/ FactCenter/Documents/ Economic AndEmploymentImpactReport.pdf.



hen Brandon Knight or Eric Bledsoe scores a big basket or comes away with a huge steal for the NBA's Phoenix Suns, Clarion University is right there, playing a role in the success.

Adam Annaccone (M.Ed. '06) is an athletic trainer/performance and recovery specialist with the Suns, helping players stay healthy and recover from the grinds of the long season.

"It's a dream," Annaccone said.
"Never in my life did I think I'd ... be in this position. Every day, there are little moments when it catches in your head and it's like wow – look at where I am at. Every day there is a moment that will take your breath away."

Annaccone's responsibilities are multi-faceted, from analytical-based decision making, to athletic training duties, to performance recovery aspects for some of the top basketball players in the world.

"We collect a lot of physical data on players," Annaccone said. "We collect the data both during practices, by having the players wear heart-rate monitors and devices that track their movement, and during games, with cameras in the rafters that track the players' movements and use algorithms to generate the distance the player travels and the training load they put in during the contest.

"I'll take the data we collect and make recommendations for practice times,

participation times, that sort of stuff. I can predict, off a player's past numbers, that he's going to have a high training load coming up, so let's rest him. Or maybe this player didn't get a whole lot of activity in a game or a practice, so maybe we can have him go a bit longer."

"EVERY TIME WE COME BACK, WE ARE LIKE 'WOW! LOOK AT WHAT THEY ARE DOING HERE! LOOK AT WHAT THEY ARE BUILDING HERE!' IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY – YOU LEAVE CLARION BUT CLARION NEVER REALLY LEAVES YOU."

Injury prevention, something Annaccone said he learned from long-time Clarion head athletic trainer James "Thunder" Thornton, is the key to his job.

"I'm a big fan, as Jim Thornton is, of injury prevention," Annaccone said. "It only makes sense to do everything possible to ensure the athletes are getting the ultimate care and best practices for keeping them healthy."

Annaccone also assists the players in body recovery.

"Another big part of my job is looking at sleep and nutrition from the recovery side

of things," Annaccone said. "Everybody is focused on training, but what gets left out is the time between games or practice – from the time the players leave the facility until they come back – and how they are assisting their body with recovery. Sleep is the biggest, number one thing they can do."

Annaccone's life now consists of taking care of million-dollar athletes, flying on charter planes and staying in five-star hotels in some of the greatest cities in North America, but he hasn't forgotten his Clarion roots. He believes anyone interested in athletic training would be remiss if they didn't become a Golden Eagle.

"Overseeing your education you have the president – now to be the past president – of the National Athletic Trainers Association.

Having a person like that is absolutely invaluable," Annacone said of Thornton. "But beyond him, it's the fact that this staff and this community – it's a family.

Clarion is special to both Annaccone and his wife, Amelia (Harris '05) Annaccone, a starter on Clarion's 2005 NCAA Division Il-qualifying women's basketball team.

"Every time we come back, we are like 'Wow! Look at what they are doing here! Look at what they are building here!' It's true what they say – you leave Clarion but Clarion never really leaves you. We have nothing but great memories of it."

## CALIPARI ELECTED TO NAISMITH MEMORIAL BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME



JOHN CALIPARI ('82) was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, considered the top honor in all of basketball, April 6 during the NCAA Division I Basketball Final Four in Indianapolis.

"I had to pull the car over – and to be honest, I got emotional," Calipari told CBS announcer Jim Nantz. "To be here with these guys and the dinner last night is just surreal for me – It's not something I ever thought about or thought would happen, so the call kind of overwhelmed me."

The Naismith Hall of Fame is a fraternity unlike no other in basketball. Started in

1959, only 325 coaches, players,

referees, contributors and teams have been enshrined. Calipari was elected along with Dick Bevetta, Louie Dampier, Lindsay Gaze, Tom Heinsohn, John Isaacs, Spencer Haywood, Lisa Leslie, Dikembe Mutombo, George Raveling and JoJo White.

Located in Springfield, Mass., The Hall of Fame Induction is a three-day event, Sept. 10-12. The enshrinement is Sept. 11, and the ring ceremony is Sept. 12. Tickets are available at www.hoophall.com.

Calipari, who played basketball for Joe DeGregorio at Clarion in the 1981 and 1982 seasons, had a solid career with the Golden Eagles. He was part of the 1981 team that went 23-6 and advanced to the NCAA Elite 8 before losing. The 1982 season opened 7-0 and ranked third in Division II with Calipari at point guard. The team ended the year at 16-11, with Calipari leading the team with 143 assists.

Putting together a storied collegiate head coaching career, Calipari has an on-the-court NCAA record of 635-178 in

> 23 seasons. The head basketball coach at Kentucky for the past six seasons, Calipari has led the Wildcats to a record of 190-38 (83.3%), the 2012 NCAA title, an NCAA runner-up finish in 2014

and the Final Four in 2011 and in 2015, with this year's team setting an NCAA record going 38-1. Also the consensus NCAA Coach of the Year in 2015, Calipari has taken Kentucky to the Final Four in four of the last five seasons. He joins UCLA's John Wooden and Duke's Mike Krzyzewski as the only ones to accomplish that feat.

Also philanthropic, Calipari has always been loyal to his alma mater. He and wife Ellen created two new endowed basketball scholarships in the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., in honor of DeGregorio and Bill Sacco ('66) in 2010.

### **ATHLETICS DONATES \$8,009** TO CLARION HOSPITAL CANCER CENTER

clarion University Athletics donates \$8,009 to The Cancer Center at Clarion Hospital. Golden Eagles athletics teams raised the money with various fundraisers during the 2014-15 season, including Flipping for Cancer by the men's and women's diving team, and breast cancer awareness events by volleyball and women's basketball. In five years, just over \$23,000 has been raised for the Cancer Center, which uses the donations for various support activities, including helping to offset transportation costs, miscellaneous bills and incidentals.



## CLARION'S **KRISTIN DAY** repeats CAPITAL ONE NCAA D-II AT-LARGE ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA OF THE YEAR

#### TEAMMATE EMILEE GYSEGEM EARNS FIRST TEAM ALL-AMERICA HONORS







larion senior diver Kristin Day
(Reynoldsville/Dubois) was named
June 10 a repeat winner of the Capital
One NCAA Division II Academic All-America
of the Year award in the At-Large Division, as
well as a First Team Academic All-American,
while senior swimmer Emilee Gysegem
(Warren, Ohio/Lakeview) was named a
Capital One First Team Academic AllAmerican in the At-Large category as well.

The women's at-large program for Academic All-America includes the sports of bowling, crew, fencing, golf, gymnastics, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, rifle, skiing, tennis, water polo and swimming and diving.

Day, the first Clarion student athlete to win the Academic All-America of the Year Award two times, is a two-time First Team Academic A-A, while Gysegem is also a two-time Academic All-American, earning a second team selection in 2014.



KRISTIN DAY – 4.0 Chemistry/biochemistry 2015 & 2014 Capital One At-Large All-America of the Year

2015 & 2014 Capital One At-Large First Team Academic All-America

2015 NCAA Division II Swim & Dive Nationals Elite 89 Award

2015 NCAA D-II One Meter National Champion/ 2-time A-A

2014 NCAA D-II One & Three-Meter National Champion

2014 NCAA D-II Record Three-Meter 539.35 points

2014 CSCAA NCAA D-II Female Diver of the Year

Career (2012– 2015) Three-time national champion/eight-time A-A

Career four-time PSAC and Clarion scholar athlete

#### **Congrats 2015 Inductees**

## Pa. Aquatic "Hall of Fame"



11 Top 5 NCAA F Butler, Pa.-Butle Coached at Sene Valley and Norw

1979-00 CU Men's Swim Record 154-38 16 PSAC Titles 12 Top 5 NCAA Finishes 1992 NCAA "C.O.Y." 1989-00 CU Women's Swim Record 90-20 12 PSAC Titles 11 Top 5 NCAA Finishes Butler, Pa.-Butler H.S. Coached at Seneca Valley and Norwin H.S.



**DON LEAS** 

1996-90 CU Men's and Women's Diving 36 National Champions 234 All-Americans CU Men 19 PSAC Titles CU Women 15 PSAC Titles CU Women 8 D-11 Titles NCAA Rules Committee 1996 Olympic Games Diving Director Phila., Pa. - Northeast HS USA & International Div.

#### **EMILEE GYSEGEM** - 4.0 Business

management

2015 Capital One First Team Academic All-America

2015 & 2014 PSAC Champion Scholar Award 2015 PSAC Champion 400 I.M.

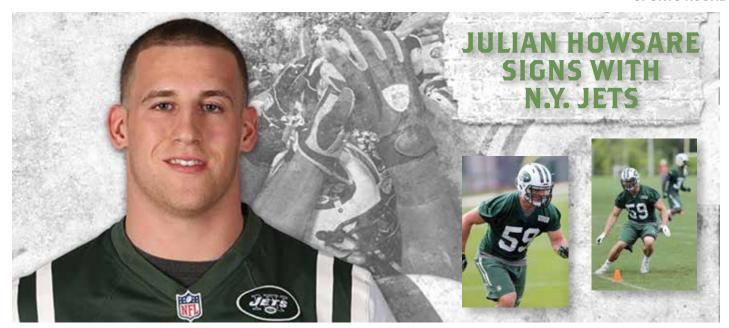
2015 PSAC Spring Academic Top 10 Award 2015 Vice-president Clarion SAAC

2014 Capital One Second Team Academic All-America

2014 Vice-president and president Clarion SAAC

2013 PSAC Champion 200 and 400 I.M. Clarion record 400 I.M.

Career four-time PSAC and Clarion scholar athlete



mmediately after the NFL Draft concluded May 2, Clarion University defensive end Julian Howsare ('14) signed a free agent contract with the New York Jets and is wearing #59.

"I am really excited to sign with the Jets and can't wait to get started," Howsare said. "It has certainly been a long, but rewarding road to this point. All the hard work and sacrifice has paid off and I am very grateful and thankful to everyone at Clarion who has helped me along the way."

The Jets are led by new first-year head coach Todd Bowles. Bowles was the defensive coordinator with the Arizona Cardinals for the last two seasons, the defensive coordinator for the Philadelphia Eagles in 2012 and the interim head coach for the final three games of the 2011 season with the Miami Dolphins after coaching there from 2008 to 2011.

Howsare, who participated in the organized team activities in May and June, reported to Summer Camp in Florham Park, N.J., July 23, with the first practice July 24. The first exhibition game is Aug. 13 against the Detroit Lions at Ford Field with kickoff at 7:30 p.m.

"Congratulations to Julian," said firstyear Clarion head coach Chris Weibel. "He has been a great leader at Clarion, and he deserves this opportunity. We are Clarion proud today."

A D2Football.com First Team All-American and a Second Team Football Gazette A-A choice in 2014, Howsare, a 6-foot-3-inch, 255-pound defensive end from Altoona was named a finalist for both the Cliff Harris Award and the Gene Upshaw Award at the end of the 2014 season.

A first team Daktronics and FB Gazette

Super Region 1 choice this season, Howsare was honored as the PSAC-West Defensive Player of the Year in 2014 for the second straight season. Also a First Team PSAC-West choice, a team captain in 2014 and consensus



pre-season All-American, Howsare led Clarion with 86 tackles, 48 solo tackles, 11 sacks for -58 yards, 16 tfl's for -69 yards, 5 pass break-ups, 3 blocked kicks, 3 fumbles caused, 3 qb hurries and 2 fumble recoveries.

The 2013 PSAC-West Defensive Player of the Year, Howsare was a Third Team Football Gazette All-American, a D-2.com Honorable Mention A-A, a First Team FB Gazette Super Region 1 and First Team PSAC-West selection.

In 2012 Howsare was also voted as a Third Team FB Gazette All-American, a First Team All-Region and First Team PSAC-West choice. In his outstanding career Howsare finished with 256 tackles, 57 tfl's (-270), 39 sacks (-220), 10 blocked kicks, 14 breakups, 9 fumbles caused, 3 interceptions and 2 fumble recoveries in 43 games. Howsare is a December 2014 sports management graduate and a Clarion Scholar Athlete.

CLARION NOTES: The last NFL player from Clarion was Reggie Wells, who had a 10-year career as an offensive guard, center and tackle from 2003 to 2012. He was drafted in the 6th round in the 2003 NFL Draft by the Arizona Cardinals and played with them from 2003 to 2009. He was the Cardinals' offensive captain when Arizona played the Pittsburgh Steelers in the Super Bowl, Feb 1, 2009. He also had stints with the Philadelphia Eagles, Carolina Panthers and San Diego Chargers. He played in 119 career NFL games and started 93.

Former Clarion quarterback Jim Alcorn was drafted by the Cleveland Browns in the 11th round in 1968. Former great Alex Sandusky, an NFL All-Pro offensive guard with the Baltimore Colts, was drafted by the Colts in the 16th round in 1954.

#### **HOWSARE'S CLARION STATS**

VEAD	LIT	ΛТ	TT	SK	TEI	EC	ED	INIT	BII	BIKC
ILAR	01	AI	11	311	ILE	I-C	ГК	1141	ВО	DLNO
2014	48	38	86	11-58	16-69	3	2	1-24	5	3
2013	46	37	83	10-58	18-75	2	0	2-12	4	4
2012	26	32	58	14-89	16-102	4	0	0	3	2
2011	11	18	29	4-15	7-24	0	0	0	2	1
Career	131	125	256	39-220	57-270	9	2	3-36	14	10

### SPORTS ROUNDUP



larion sophomore diver Collin Vest (Larksville) and veteran diving coach Dave Hrovat earned national honors from the College Swim Coaches Association of America following the 2015 NCAA Division II National Championships.

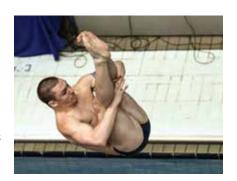


Vest, who won the 2015 NCAA Division II One-Meter national title and placed third on three-meter, was named the NCAA D-II Male Diver of the Year. In 2014 he also won the one-meter national championship and was 6th on three meter. He is now a two-time national champion and a four-time All-American.

Hrovat, who finished his 25th season at Clarion, was named the NCAA D-II Men's Diving Coach of the Year. It was the 24th time he has won a Coach of the Year award from the CSCAA.

He has won the men's award 11 times and the women's honor 13 times in his career.

Hrovat has coached 44 NCAA champions and 265 All-Americans.



## 2015 CLARION SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The Clarion University "Sports Hall of Fame" inducted six new members on Friday, May 1, 2015 at ceremonies held at Eagle Commons, the new Dining Hall on Campus. Inductees (seated, left to right, are: Nicolina (DiLoreto) Pierce ('00, women's swimming); Dr. Louis "Lou" Tripodi (1973-2007, honorary – contributor) and Heather Cigich ('05, women's basketball). (Standing left to right) Master of Ceremonies Rich Herman, inductees Dr. William "Bill" English (1972-90, cross country and track coach), Louis "Lou" Weiers ('87, football) and Francis "Fran" Sirianni ('69, football, track). Honorees and guests were welcomed by provost Dr. Ron Nowaczyk. Over 250 guests attended the induction, which also included a reception prior to the dinner and ceremonies. Founded in 1989, the Clarion Sports Hall of Fame celebrated its 27th induction class in 2015, bringing the induction total to 163.





#### KAITLYN JOHNSON ('11) is the

poster child for the Olympic dream. From humble beginnings at her local YMCA pool when she was 4, she has worked her way to the Olympic trials. She remembers watching the Olympic Games in first or second grade and saying to herself, "I want to be an Olympian someday."

In December, Johnson qualified for the 2016 U.S. Olympic trials in the 50-meter freestyle and hopes to qualify next in the 100 free and the 100 butterfly.

"I'm still having fun and I'm still improving. Let's see where we are a year from now." she said.

Johnson graduated from Uniontown High in 2007 and placed 6th at the PIAA's in the 50-yard freestyle as a senior, but she did not place in the 100 butterfly. Clarion head coach Mark VanDyke and former Eagle great Christina Tillotson Sheets ('99), a Clarion Hall of Fame inductee and assistant coach, saw potential in Johnson and brought her to Clarion.

"You could see she was a diamond in the rough," VanDyke said. "She just glided on top of the water. She had real potential, but Kaitlyn outworked everyone to get where she is today. She deserves the credit."

Johnson was an outstanding swimmer at Clarion, but her senior year was, in a word, fantastic.

In 2011 she won all seven events at the PSAC Championships, including the 50 and 100 free, 100 butterfly and four relays, was named PSAC Swimmer of the Meet and went on to earn seven All-America placings at the NCAA Division II Nationals in San Antonio. Second in the 100-yard

freestyle and third in the 100 butterfly, she became a 28-time career All-American (28 is the maximum) and owned nine Clarion swimming records.

That might have been enough for many swimmers, but not for Johnson.

"I felt like I hadn't hit my peak – like there was more. So I trained for the 2012 Olympic qualifier and missed the qualifying time in the 50 free (26.39) by a little more than a tenth of a second," Johnson said. She felt capable of making that qualifying time.

## I'm still having fun and I'm still improving. Let's see where we are a year from now. >>>

Tillotson recommended Johnson contact Jim Bocci at the Spire Institute, an Olympic-style training facility in Geneva, Ohio. Bocci ended up hiring Johnson to work and train at Spire, starting in August 2012, which put her in the Olympic hunt.

"The training I received at Spire helped me push through to my all-time best times in each event," she said.

The Olympic long course qualifying time in the 50 meters is 26.19. In December she qualified for the 2016 Olympic trials with a time of 25.92 in Greensboro, N.C. The 100 free qualifying time is 56.49 and the 100 butterfly is 1:01.19. She believes she can make those cuts as well.

Although getting to the Olympic trials is extremely rare for any Division II swimmer, Johnson is not the first Clarion

women's swimmer to do so. Former national champion and record holder Jeanne O'Connor ('84), also a 28-time All-

American, went to the Olympic trials in 1984 in the 100 backstroke.

Johnson
continues to train.
In May she moved
back home to
Uniontown to
focus every day on
her Olympic trial



run, training at West Virginia University. Johnson's training day includes wake-up at 4 a.m., practice from 5 to 7 a.m. (lift or swim), run three to five miles, in bed by 8:30 p.m. Another day mixes in two swimming sessions or weight training, giving her six days of workouts and one day off.

She is also planning an October 2016 wedding to her fiancé Mark Krchnak ('12), also a former Clarion swimmer.

Johnson recently landed a sponsorship from Dolfin Swimwear which will run through the 2016 Olympic trials. She credits Dave Sheets ('94) former Eagle All-American and current women's coach at Duquesne, for guiding her to the sponsorship. "Dave gave me some great advice, I contacted Dolfin, interviewed with the company, and we came to an agreement. It's pretty exciting."

The 2016 U.S. Olympic trials are June 26 through July 3 in Omaha, Neb. The Games of the XXXI Olympiad follow Aug. 5–21 in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.



## ALUMNINOTES SUMMER 2015

#### 1967

**Andrea (Hereda) Jenkins** is retired. She resides in Ocala, Fla., with her husband, the Rev. Edward Jenkins II. They have three children: Katie, Edward III and Timothy.

#### 1972

**Susan Moore** is a retired graphic designer. She resides in Norfolk, Va., with her husband, Jeffrey. Susan has a daughter, Amber, and a grandson, Evan.

#### 1974

Dennis ('80, '84) and Theresa (Lahr '72, '98) Wickline reside in Pittsburgh. Dennis is a senior clinical advisor in the health economics division of UPMC Health Plan. He is responsible for building analytic processes to support the clinical programs of the health plan.

#### 1976

Gary Daum's efforts to save the NIH
Community Orchestra in the aftermath
of 9-11 were profiled in New York Times
reporter James Risen's recent book, "Pay
Any Price," an analysis of how American life
and culture changed after the 2001 terrorist
attacks. Gary lives in Kensington, Md., with
his wife, Mary, and daughter, Claire. Since
1978 he has been a member of the faculty
at Georgetown Preparatory School, where
he teaches music, computer science and
photography. He also performs with The
Eclectiks, a Celtic fusion band based in
Montgomery County, Maryland.

**Dawn (Reitz) Williams** recently retired from Brookville Area School District after 38 years as an elementary school teacher. She will celebrate her retirement with a cruise. She resides in Brookville. Dawn has a daughter, Jessica.

#### 1978

**Christine (Holterback) Gerber** is a clinical instructor/supervisor for State University of NY at Fredonia. She resides in Springville, N.Y.

#### 1979

**Louise (Sottiaux) Schwabenbauer** is director of nursing at University of Pittsburgh, Titusville. She resides in Oil City.

#### 1980

**Doreen (Hawk) Tylinski** retired after 34 years of teaching in the Armstrong School District. She resides in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., with her husband, Donald. Doreen has two children, Andrew and Aleya.

#### 1983

**Dr. Erin Miller** is the coordinator of the Northeast Ohio Au.D. Consortium, The University of Akron (Ohio), and currently serves as president of the American Academy of Audiology, the largest professional association of audiologists in the world. She resides in Youngstown, Ohio.

#### 1984

Sue Steis recently graduated form Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor's degree in nursing and a minor in psychology. She received the VANEEP scholarship which provides upward mobility to employees showing promise in the field of nursing. She is a registered nurse for the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Pittsburgh. She resides in Kittanning.

**Arturo Pescatore** just released his debut EP, "Another Thorn In My Side," under the name Arturo.

#### 1986

Mary Ozechoski is vice president of student affairs and traditional enrollment for Cedar Crest College, Allentown. She resides in Souderton.

#### 1987

#### Richard and Charlene (Wisniewski '85)

**Hrivnak** reside in Pittsburgh. Richard was recently named to the Plum High School Distinguished Alumni Association. He is director of human resources and labor relations for UPMC and is currently serving a third term as mayor of Plum Borough.

#### 1989

David and Rae Ann (Ewaskey '90) Schafer reside in Eldersburg, Md., with their children, Alec and Lucy. David is a certified financial officer for Lift-Off, LLC, Columbia, Md.

#### 1991

Jane Ryder is a director of client services for The Editorial Department, LLC, Tucson, Ariz. She resides in Tucson, with her husband Zastaury.

#### 1995

**Samantha (White) Boucek** is senior gifts processor for Bloomsburg University Foundation. She resides in Berwick with her daughter, Kaitlyn.

#### 1999

**Michael Chapaloney** is executive director of tourism for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg. He resides in Harrisburg.

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#### 2000

Christopher McCallion is a freelancer in the field of video production. He worked the NBA Finals in Cleveland for NBA Entertainment. Christopher also works Indians and Pirates games for MLB and Columbus Crew MLS games for Time Warner Cable. He resides in the Cleveland area with his wife, Anna, and children, Cassidy and Aiden.

#### 2004

**Megan (Trimbur) Gallagher** is an assistant director, engineering advising, for Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. She resides in Trumansburg, N.Y., with her daughter, Clare.

**Jennifer (Ramsdell) Knowlton** is director of marketing and communications for StoneSprings Hospital Center, Dulles, Va. She resides in Adlie, Va., with her husband, David.

#### 2005

**Elizabeth (Cipriani) Kuzmicki** is a teacher in the Millcreek Township School District, Erie. She resides in Erie with her husband, Jason.

**Carrie (Wissinger) Short** is associate director of student financial aid at The University of Akron (Ohio).

**Stephanie (Friend) Divelbliss** is a human resource representative for FirstEngergy Nuclear Operating Company, Shippingport. She resides in Pittsburgh with her husband, David.

**Tiffanie (Conaway) Garman** is a 5th grade teacher for Hanover (Pa.) Public School District. She resides in New Oxford with her husband, Denton, and daughters, Ava and Mya.

#### 2007

Jeff and Megan (Sandeen) Devine reside in Allison Park. Megan is a behavior specialist/ licensed mobile therapist for Barber National Institute, Pittsburgh.

The American Association for State and Local History recently announced that **Brian Fritz** is among this year's recipients of a Leadership in History award for his 2014 publication, "Scripture Rocks: Why Douglas Stahlman Carved His Legacy in Stone." Brian is a principal investigator for Quemahoning, LLC. New Castle. He resides in New Castle with his wife, Amanda.

#### 2008

**Stevie (Coble) Posegay** is employed with the North Baltimore (Md.) Aquatic Club. She resides in Randallstown, Md., with her husband, Erik, and daughter, Avery.

**Marissa Rapone** is a marketing coordinator for Salem Web Network, Richmond, Va. She resides in Richmond.

**Dr. Teagan (Riggs) Hayes** is a resident physician with Washington Health System, Washington, Pa. She resides in Washington with her husband, William, and daughter, Hadley.

#### 2009

James and Emily (Hoover) Weaver reside in Oil City with their daughter, Lillian. James is an ARD probation officer for Venango County Office of Court Supervision. Emily is an assistant to the executive director for Clarion Area Chamber of Business and Industry.

**Kelly (DeAugustino) Deasey** is a staff accountant for Connolly, Steele, & Company, PC, Pittsburgh. She resides in Pittsburgh.

#### 2010

Josef and Jennifer (Nolan) Gates reside in Lebanon, Pa. Jennifer is a BHRS administrator for Pennsylvania Counseling Services, Lebanon.

#### 2011

**Leah Farrell** works in trauma administration for Allegheny Health Network, Pittsburgh. Amanda (Rust) Makara is a 4th grade learning support teacher in New Kensington-Arnold School District. She resides in Lower Burrell with her husband, Jason, and daughter, Madyson.

#### 2012

Nathan and Anna (Ague '14) Royer reside in Youngstown, Ohio, with their children, Ashton and Carter. Nathan is a manager for Enterprise Rent-a-Car. Anna is a high school math teacher at Summit Academy.

#### 2013

**Wendy Fossum** is a librarian for Lindquist & Vennum. She runs the technical services and assists in legal research with a law firm with more than 150 attorneys in Minneapolis. She resides in Minneapolis with her husband, John.

**Brandon Teet** is an apprentice journey underground splicer for Duquesne Light Company, Pittsburgh.

**Shane Dawson** is a software developer for Creehan & Company. He resides in Bridgeville.

**Megan Raymond** is systems administrator for Meadville Medical Center. She resides in Franklin.

### IN MEMORIAM

#### 1940s

Reva L. Rack '41, March 1, 2015 William W. Zeitler '49, March 1, 2015 John Paul Kapp '43, March 15, 2015 Helen W. (Weeter) Dreibelbis '47, April 2, 2015

#### 1950s

Louis J. Galli '53, Feb. 7, 2015
Rawlin A. Hilty '51, Feb. 9, 2015
Mary A. (O'Donnell) Goffus '56,
Feb. 16, 2015
Marjorie J. (Daum) Petzold '57,
Feb. 20, 2015
Ralph L. Varrato '51, March 11, 2015
Elizabeth Ann (Reed) Hanby '58,
March 15, 2015
Donagene L. (McDowell) DeLong '56,
April 13, 2015
Joanne Elizabeth Millard '53, April 15, 2015
Lola E. Maxwell '51, May 28, 2015
Raymond A. Hogue '58, June 13, 2015

#### 1960s

R.R. Walkowiak '67, Feb. 5, 2015 Joan Carol (Pepperman) O'Brien '64, March 5, 2015 Janet (Jenkins) Battis '67, March 17, 2015 Thomas A. Eshelman '62, March 28, 2015 Garnet (Lunn) Hormel '63, April 1, 2015 Paul James Thomas '65, April 16, 2015 James A. Sheely '62, April 26, 2015 Richard C. Hohn '61, May 8, 2015

Sarah S. McMullin '64, May 25, 2015

Larry R. Whipkey '64, Dec. 25, 2014

George E. Himes '67, Feb. 2, 2015

#### 1970s

Mark Henry Monge '72, Jan. 17, 2015 Donald James Graham '71, Feb. 22, 2015 Richard A. Stokes '72, Feb. 26, 2015 Raymond E. Hoover '71, March 10, 2015 Carolyn A. (Levish) McNally '79, April 18, 2015 Gary B. Karns '71, April 26, 2015 John T. Myers '79, May 8, 2015 Sandra Potter '71, May 20, 2015 Donna Gail (Best) Kinol '71, June 2, 2015

#### 1980s

J. Kristan Keppel '86, Jan. 25, 2015 John Dana Jack '89, Feb. 8, 2015 Raymond C. Fickes '86, Feb. 21, 2015 Cheryl Ann Umstead '89, March 15, 2015 Anna Marie (Gregory) Acklin '87, March 18, 2015 Tina L. (Deysher) Huber '82, May 7, 2015

#### **2000s**

Ross Joseph Paulenich '09, Feb. 24, 2015 Diane Creese '03, March 2, 2015 Beth-Anne Marie Owens '05, May 12, 2015 Ronald Michael Yancoskie '02, May 28, 2015

#### **2010s**

Kristy Nicole Young '10, May 20, 2015

#### **Friends**

Susan J. Lemmon, Feb. 16, 2015 Randall J. Sabousky, March 16, 2015 Lee Neely, March 21, 2015 Suzan Albanesi, March 26, 2015 June (McElhattan) Hetrick, April 9, 2015 Amos Wolfgong, May 20, 2015 Jerry Fulmer, May 22, 2015 Dorothy Crawford, May 30, 2015 Michael D. Barrett, June 5, 2015 Larry Elkin, June 11, 2015



### **MARRIAGES**

**Josef Gates '10** and **Jennifer Nolan '10**, Oct. 16, 2011

**Jeff Devine '07** and **Megan Sandeen '07**, September 2014

David Divelbliss and **Stephanie ('05) Friend**, Jan. 10, 2015

### **BIRTHS**

Sean ('02) and Amy (Kelso '05, M.S. '06) Daugherty, a son, Evan, June 21, 2013

William and **Dr. Teagan (Riggs) Hayes**, a daughter, Hadley Marie, Jan. 31, 2014

Todd and **Abby (Burrows '06) Keck**, a son, Oliver Alan, March 15, 2014

Denton and **Tiffanie (Conaway '05) Garman,** a daughter, Mya Kathryn-Beatrice, June 13, 2014

Damian and **Heather (Good '10) Hyde**, a son, David Richard, June 13, 2014

Jason and **Amanda (Rust '11) Makara**, a daughter, Madyson, June 16, 2014

Gregory and **Allison (Kerr '06) Brenckle**, a son, Brennan Patrick, Aug. 2, 2014

Nathan and **Kelly (Molnar '99) Wills**, a son, Owen James, Oct. 11, 2014

Ron ('02) and Jessica (Griffith '04) Yancoskie, a son, Preston, Oct. 22, 2014

Linas and **April (Cole '06) Ledebur,** a daughter, Olivia Snow, Oct. 31, 2014

Amos and **Kim (Foust '03, M.S. '05) Rudolph**, a son, Emmett, Nov. 2, 2014

Chris ('00) and Carrie (Schmidt '02) Beighley, a son, Owen, Nov. 10, 2014 Charles and **Kristin (Lauer '08, M.Ed.'13) Boozer**, a son, Waylon Everett, Nov. 20, 2014

Bundy and **Nikki ('01) Mackey**, a daughter, Blake Ann, Dec. 3, 2014

Darren and **Amy (Johnson) Fedorski,** a son, Mason Alexander, Dec. 21, 2014

Erik ('11) and Megan (Sheehan '08, M.S. '10) Whitaker, a son, Henry Erik, Jan. 9, 2015

**Dr. Dennis ('01)** and Dr. Stacey **Slagle**, a daughter, Eliana Jean, Jan. 22, 2015

Erik and **Stevie (Coble '08) Posegay**, a daughter, Avery Ann, Jan. 22, 2015

James ('09) and Emily (Hoover '09) Weaver, a daughter, Lillian Rose, Jan. 29, 2015

Jason and **Ronice (Nolt '02) Sceski**, a daughter, Astra, Feb. 7, 2015

Ben and **Susan (Sherwin '02) Radio**, a son, Owen Michael, Feb. 17, 2015

Jason and Miriam (Robertson '14) Andrus, a daughter, Gianna Lillie, Feb. 25, 2015

**John ('02)** and **Amber ('11) Alsop-Kimmel**, a son, Niko, Feb. 27, 2015

Michael and **Nikki (Plassio '06) Shannon**, a daughter, Natalie Ireland, Feb. 27, 2015

**Derek ('00)** and Bethany **Pyda**, a son, William Aiden, March 8, 2015

Brad and **Jessica (Hummel '05) Duffola**, a son, Braden, March 16, 2015

**Carl ('13)** and **Tara (Phillips '06) Martin**, a son, Maxwell Robert, March 21, 2105

**Stephen ('04)** and Kristen **Clark**, a son, Theodore Francis, March 23, 2015

Ken and Carrie (Penwell '11) Adamo, a son, Elliot Anthony, March 30, 2015

Chuck and **Kelly (Beatty '95, '03) Wu**, a son, Ryan Alexander, April 17, 2015

**Tim ('05)** and Carrie **Connolly**, a daughter, Maggie Mae, April 20, 2015

Kurt and **Kerry (Smathers '01) Whitmoyer**, a son, Keefer Garrett, April 23, 2015

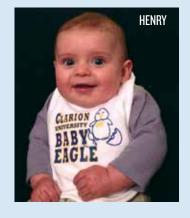
## BIB **babes:**WELCOME TO THE WORLD!

Our gift to "baby Eagles" of Clarion alumni is a dashing new bib! To receive a bib, let us know about the new addition to your nest by emailing to alumni@clarion.edu:

- Parents' names
- Graduation year of alumni
- Baby's gender and name
- Date of birth

Once you receive your bib, take a picture of your Eaglet putting the bib to use, and email a high-resolution photo to us for inclusion in Clarion University Magazine.

Megan (Sheehan '08, M.S. '10) and Erik ('11) Whitaker, a son, Henry Erik Whitaker, Jan. 9, 2015





Jennifer (Baumcratz '05) and Jeremy Eisenman, a son, Charlie John Eisenman, June 3, 2014

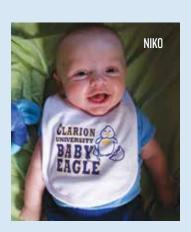


Dirk and Jessica (Dandoy '05) Matonak, a daughter, Eden Leigh Matonak, May 20, 2015





**Kelly (Beatty '95, '02)** and Chuck Wu, a son, Ryan Wu, April 17, 2015



John Kimmel ('02) and Amber Alsop-Kimmel ('11), a son, Niko Kimmel, Feb. 27, 2015

# EMBRACEABLE MEMORIES

A sentiment often expressed during a time of bereavement is to take comfort in memories of the loved one who has passed. Those memories can help to soothe the pain, and that's the basis of the concept of memory bears, offered in conjunction with Clarion Forest Visiting Nurses Association's hospice program.



"Memory bears are a special project of the hospice volunteers," according to the Clarion Forest VNA website. "These caring volunteers create a unique bear from an article of clothing that the family has selected of the deceased patient."

When Barb Beggs ('74, M.Ed. '78) retired after more than 30 years of teaching high school English, she volunteered to do clerical work for VNA. The volunteer coordinator asked her if she wanted to join the group of volunteers who make memory bears.

Beggs' retirement gift to herself had been a new sewing machine, and she decided it would be a good way to use the machine and her sewing skills. She's been making the bears for about two years.

"The family has the option to bring in clothing indicative of the deceased person's life," Beggs said. She has used favorite articles of clothing, including denim shirts, nightgowns, T-shirts and sweatshirts. "It depends on what the family wants."

Beggs said it takes between four and six hours to create a bear.

"Cutting it out is like a puzzle," she said. She's particular about matching designs or plaids. When the fabric is stretchy – such as a sweatshirt – she lines it so that it maintains its shape.

"It takes about half-an-hour to an hour to cut out, about an hour to sew, and an hour to an hour-and-a-half to stuff," she said. "Sometimes I make clothes – a vest or a jacket, a hair bow, headband or hat. Those are more six-hour projects."

She has created close to 50 bears. When she completes the project, she returns it to VNA's bereavement counselor, who delivers it to the family. Beggs said she does not meet the people for whom she makes the memory bears.

THESE CARING
VOLUNTEERS
CREATE A UNIQUE
BEAR FROM
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CLOTHING THAT
THE FAMILY
HAS SELECTED
OF THE DECEASED
PATIENT.

Beggs, however, also makes bears for people outside of her work at VNA, and in those cases, she is able to see how meaningful the bear is to a grieving family member.

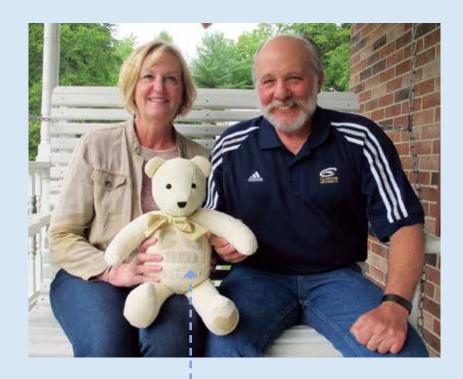
One such instance involves her neighbors and good friends, Jim ('74) and Sally Staab, who recently lost Jim's mother. The Staabs asked Beggs to create a bear, which they presented to their daughter, Megan ('04). The article of clothing they selected was a "Clarion University Grandma" sweatshirt that Megan had given to her grandmother.

Beggs set to work creating the bear. She wanted to incorporate the entire design of the shirt, but the challenge was space. Ultimately she decided to use the "Clarion" and "University" portions of the shirt to make the bear's arms, and the rest of the design became the bear's front.

"It was a labor of love," Jim Staab said.
"It was meaningful to us to have (a memory bear), but it was more meaningful to have had Barb make it."



THE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING THEY
SELECTED WAS A "CLARION UNIVERSITY
GRANDMA" SWEATSHIRT THAT MEGAN
HAD GIVEN TO HER GRANDMOTHER.



BEGGS, WITH JIM STAAB, SET TO WORK CREATING THE BEAR.

## COURAGEOUS endeavors

#### **CLARE NOVAK'76**



Clarion was my first experience away from home. Clarion Speech Team, coached by Jane Elms, also gave me my first experiences of being on the road. I loved traveling, and those first experiences set the tone for my unexpected career path as a consultant for leadership development, working at home and abroad. Since my Clarion days, I've worked in Canada, Egypt, Kuwait, Pakistan and Ukraine, as well as visiting or working in 45 of the United States.

My bachelor's degree is in secondary education. I completed my master's degree to teach on the college level. My educational experiences converged to give me the skills to start my own business as a consultant focusing on leadership development. Most recently, I lived in Pakistan for two years and worked on a USAID project with the electrical distribution utilities. My work there was in human resources and training.

I LIVED IN PAKISTAN FOR TWO YEARS AND WORKED ON A USAID PROJECT WITH THE ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES."

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**Want to see an example?** Read Clare Novak's story in this edition of the magazine.

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is the new tagline associated with the university's new brand.

It is about the **PERSEVERANCE** and **PASSION**—in a word, the **grit**—of Clarion University students, faculty, and alumni who are striving to meet, head-on, the challenges of the 21st century.

It's also about the **STRENGTH** and **RESILIENCE**— the **grace**—that they exhibit as they adapt and innovate not only to achieve personal success but also to further the greater good of the region and the state.

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