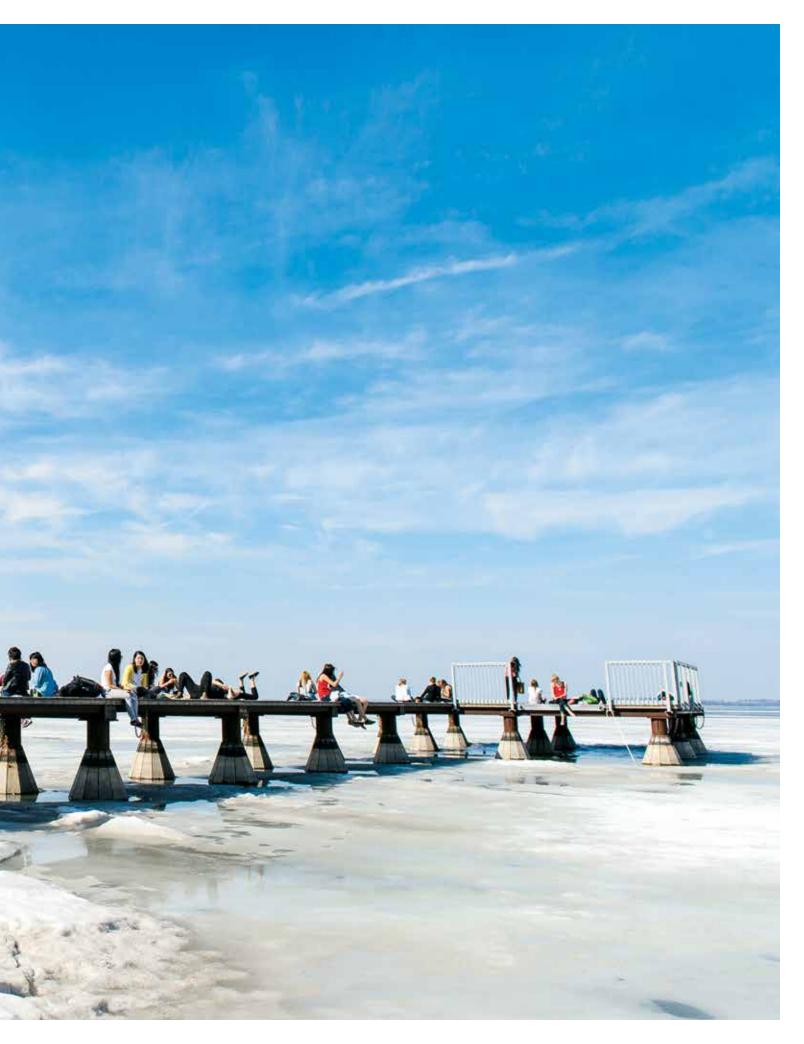


### Vision

Students get an early jump on Terrace time in March 2015. Temperatures soared into the sixties, giving Madisonians a chance to get some sun even though Lake Mendota remained frozen. Photo by Bryce Richter





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# **OnWisconsin**

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Organic art: a UW professor uses unconventional materials to realize her unique vision. See page 16.

A snowshoer with the Hoofer Outing Club casts light at Picnic Point's tip, with backup from the capitol.



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#### Cover

A map of Picnic Point depicts some of its popular and mythical features. Illustration by Spencer Walts.



## CANA OOD DESERT GROO

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INTO AN URBAN

### **Communications**

### **Skill Knows No Gender**

Thank you for your article on the recently discovered remains of *Homo naledi* ["Chamber of Discovery," Winter 2015]. I want to particularly applaud the author and editors for not emphasizing (nor even mentioning) the gender of the scientific recovery team that crawled into the cave.

I've longed for the day when I could just read about someone's work without it being implied that, "Wow, she can even do this in spite of being female!" I'm happy to see *On Wisconsin* reporting on the quality of the work and skill of the workers; the gender is irrelevant, as it should be.

### **Todd Strother PhD'01** Madison

Very exciting stuff, and congratulations to Professor Hawks and team ["Chamber of Discovery"]. So glad to see that UW-Madison remains a leader in this field. The article could have mentioned UW-Madison professor John T. Robinson (zoology and anthropology, 1963-2001), who participated in the 1947 discovery and analysis of A. Africanus with his mentor Robert Broom at this same South African cave complex. Professor Robinson was kindly and inspiring as my major adviser. His course Paleontology of the Primates was a campuswide blockbuster. Michael Stevens '73

Seattle, Washington

### A Case of Mistaken Identity

Thank you for the lovely feature on my father, Charles Bentley, [Bygone, Winter 2015] who indeed is a member of the last great era of Antarctic exploration. However, as much as I delighted in the photo of the man reviewing his tax forms, the photo is not of my father.

Molly Bentley Oakland, California

Editor's Note: The IRS might excel at tracking people down

as far away as Antarctica, but apparently, On Wisconsin is not so good at it. The researcher in the Bygone photo is actually Stephen Den Hartog. In the photo below, Charles Bentley is in the center, along with Dick Cameron on the left and an unidentified researcher on the right.



### A Case of Missing Identity

I enjoyed the article "Hunters No More" [Winter 2015] except for one omission: none of the Maasai warrior/helpers is identified by name, a racist omission. **Robert Quentin Bick '66, MS'73** 

Dubuque, Iowa

### **A Thousand Apologies**

Just got the Winter issue, and I find something that irritates me, but it apparently didn't bother your copy editors. It's in News Feed, where you tell us that the cadmium in Professor Song Jin's catalyst "costs one thousand times less than platinum." It seems to me that just one time less would bring the cost to zero. Writing about a thousand times less is mathematical nonsense. **Owen Nelson MS'58** Las Vegas, Nevada

### Stylin'

At a time when the best and most historic print titles are shuttering, On Wisconsin has managed to stylishly step up its game. With absorbing editorial and smashing photography, On Wisconsin has moved to the top of my reading stack. You've got my attention!

Mary Beth Gaik '83 Valley Village, California

### WACKY WINTER

Students hoping for a Bascom Hill snowball fight to help relieve their stress before finals were out of luck as the fall semester ended. A key ingredient was missing: snow. Some experts suggested Lake Mendota might not freeze, but winter finally showed up in the new year.

3,592 people liked this image @UWMadison post-

ed on Instagram in mid-December



<b>1</b>	aah William	<b>THS</b> On		0	1: Follow
Rare sight for December: a jet skier on Lake Mendota. #madisonfun #dontfallin					
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"There will be a time when Mendota will miss a year and not freeze." — John Magnuson, director emeritus, UW Center for Limnology



The latest freeze date on record for Lake Mendota



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### **Observation**

### **OnWisconsin**

Spring 2016

#### PUBLISHER

Wisconsin Alumni Association 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706 Voice: 608-262-2551 Toll-free: 888-WIS-ALUM Email: onwisconsin@uwalumni.com Web: onwisconsin.uwalumni.com

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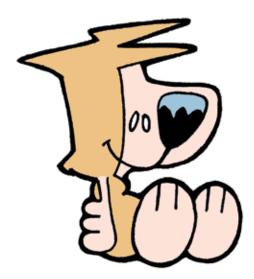
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Quarterly production of *On Wisconsin* is supported by financial gifts from alumni and friends. To make a gift to UW-Madison, please visit supportuw.org.

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Theories abound about how to find a profession that brings you joy, but my favorite asks us to draw inspiration from a simple question: what did you love to do when you were ten years old?

At that age, John Kovalic '86 was attempting to re-create Charles Schulz's *Peanuts* comic strips. He was a fan of Snoopy and captivated by Schulz's seemingly minimal lines. And he watched his mother write *Hops*, a comic strip for the children's magazine *Weekly Reader*. Carson, a muskrat, appears in every comic strip by John Kovalic, who first made his name as a cartoonist for the Daily Cardinal. Image courtesy of John Kovalic.

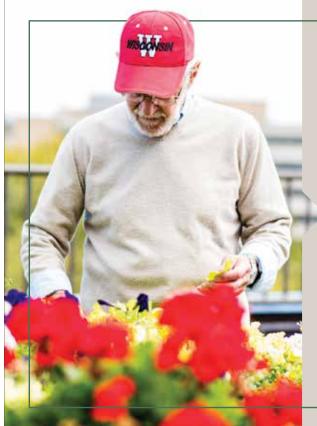
For this issue, Kovalic created "Drawn Wisconsin!" (see page 32), a tribute to his time at UW-Madison and to fellow artists who drew comics for the *Daily Cardinal* in the 1980s. Since then, Kovalic has worked as a successful cartoonist and cofounded a game company. He's illustrated more than one hundred games, including Apples to Apples and Munchkin, for which he has drawn more than five thousand cards.

Kovalic drew a poignant tribute to Schulz in 2012 that caught my eye and prompted me to ask if he would be willing to create a UWfocused strip for our readers. On what would have been Schulz's ninetieth birthday, Kovalic devoted his *Dork Tower* comic strip to Charlie Brown's creator and charted his own growth from that ten-year-old struggling to copy *Peanuts* to drawing his first daily comic strip, *Wild Life*, for the *Cardinal*. Kovalic noted that Carson — a muskrat who has appeared in every strip he has produced since high school and looks like a member of Snoopy's extended family tree — owes a debt to Schulz.

At his mother's urging, Kovalic wrote to Schulz in 1998 when *Wild Life* was syndicated. Schulz sent back a letter of congratulations, and it contained wisdom that suggests that we should all listen to our inner ten-year-old.

"If I were to give you any advice," Schulz wrote, "it would be simply to work as hard as you can, and to always be yourself."

Jenny Price '96 Co-editor



### **Keep Growing**

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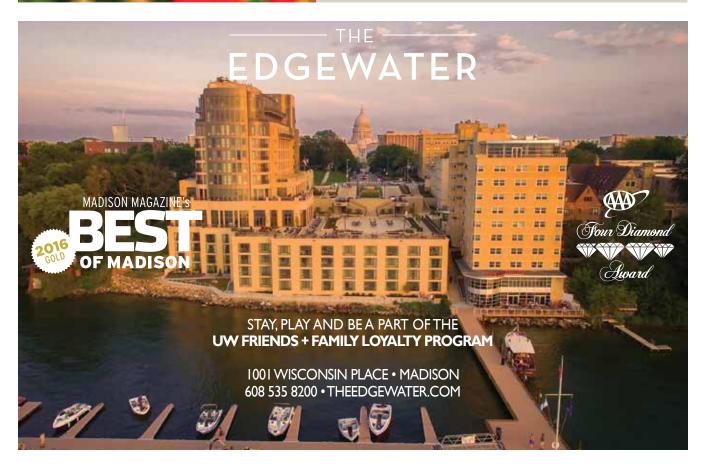


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### **Apple Core**

Whose tech is at the heart of iPhones and iPads? A court says the UW's is.



If you like the speed of your iPhone or iPad, thank UW-Madison and computer sciences professor **Gurindar Sohi.** That, at least, is the argument made by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF), and though Apple, Inc., disagrees, a federal court sided with WARF in October, ordering the tech giant to pay up some \$234 million.

Known at the UW as "752 Patent," the technology in question is a computer circuit designed nearly twenty years ago by Sohi and three graduate students — Andreas Moshovos PhD'98, Scott Breach MS'92, PhD'98, and Terani Vijaykumar MS'92, PhD'98. According to WARF general counsel Michael Falk JD'97, MBA'97, MS'02, the circuit helps computers run multiple instructions at once.

"It was sort of a magical discovery," says Falk. "Guri and his students didn't anticipate the iPhone, but many years later, they have greatly improved how computers run."

Apple isn't the first computer manufacturer to make use of this invention. In 2009, WARF settled a claim with Intel to license use of the same patent.

Should the decision stand, the award will be divided among WARF, Sohi, and his former students. The research foundation's policy is to give 20 percent of a patent's proceeds to the inventors, so Sohi and his students would each receive a 5 percent share. WARF would use the remaining funds to support more research at UW-Madison.

However, the UW has yet to receive any funds from the decision. Apple will likely appeal, and the legal process could take years to run its course. Still, Falk says, the purpose of WARF isn't to win lawsuits but to ensure that UW discoveries make it to the marketplace.

"For ninety years, WARF has served the UW as its patent management organization," he says, "and we take our responsibility to defend the interests of the university and its faculty, staff, and students seriously. In the end, our focus is on pushing technology out, and we want to use the money from licensing technology to help research and improve the world." JOHN ALLEN

### BETTER BUILDING BLOCKS

Lego wants to turn its iconic bricks green by investing \$150 million to find cleaner ways to manufacture them. But the iconic toy company isn't alone in trying to change the process for the better.

Most of the chemicals used to make plastics, including water bottles, are derived from petroleum or natural gas. **George Huber PhD'05,** a UW chemical engineering professor, has developed methods to use biomass and other renewable resources instead. "We can make the same

"We can make the same plastics from renewable materials like biomass," he says.

left) developed,

which is at the

center of a legal

dispute with

Apple, Inc.

Huber, who holds a professorship named for the late **Harvey D. Spangler '56,** is cofounder of a company that's working toward making 100 percent renewable plastic drink bottles. "Everything we do is focused on reducing cost," he says, noting his graduate students have developed a catalyst for one chemical used to manufacture plastic that is "20,000 times cheaper" than other catalysts.

How soon before these new plastics can come to market? Huber says it depends on oil prices: "The final thing at the end of the day is, can we be cheaper than petroleum?" JENNY PRICE '96



### **On**Campus

### Hope for Hair

Hair loss may not be the worst side effect of chemotherapy — after all, there's pain and nausea — but it's the most noticeable, and one that cancer patients often dread. But **William Fahl '72, PhD'75,** a UW professor of oncology, may have

found a way to keep chemo from killing off hair: vasoconstrictors.

Chemotherapy is a means of attacking cancer cells, but chemo drugs affect healthy cells as well — including, often, the cells in hair follicles. In a recent study, some 47 percent of women said that hair loss was the most traumatic aspect of chemo treatment.

Vasoconstrictors (such as epinephrine) are drugs that constrict blood vessels. Applying a vasoconstrictor solution to the scalp, Fahl discovered, can keep chemo drugs from reaching hair follicles while still allowing them to fight cancer elsewhere in the body.



### WINE GUIDE

A few things immediately come to mind at the mention of Wisconsin: cheese, beer, the Green Bay Packers. **Nick Smith** wants to add wine to that list.

Smith just wrapped up his first year as the UW's enologist and associate outreach specialist for the Department of Food Science, mixing the science behind wine with the business of making a commercial product. Nick Smith (above) is the UW's first enologist. *What is an e-nol-o-gist?* A specialist in the science of winemaking.

As an academic, Smith researches new ways to improve efficiency in the winemaking process for Wisconsin's 110 wineries. On the industry side, he helps winemakers address quality concerns and other potential issues before the year's grape harvest.

After earning his business degree from the University of Minnesota, Smith's growing interest in home brewing led him to pursue a career in fermented-beverage science. He worked in Oregon, California, and Minnesota before coming to Madison. Now Smith, whose job is funded by state and industry grants, is focused on developing a fermented-beverage outreach program that includes short courses for wine and cider makers.

Alongside the outreach program, the food science department is also connecting students with Wollersheim Winery, located about twenty-five miles from campus in Sauk City, to develop new wines.

While Wisconsin isn't known for its wine, Smith says that the state offers a strong market with signs of solid growth. "Most of the wineries I've gotten to are either expanding or looking to expand," he says. "They're actually running out of space."

For all of his wine expertise, there is one question Smith struggles with. "I get asked [about my favorite wine] a lot. I wish I had one specific wine I could say is my go-to, but I don't," he says. "At the end of the day, the best wine you can get is the one you like." DANIEL MCKAY X'16



When former student **Leon** Varjian passed away last September, UW-Madison lost one of its true legends. Varjian, who was the vice president of the university's student government from 1978 to 1980, was a leader of the Pail and Shovel Party, the outfit that put the Statue of Liberty on Lake Mendota and brought pink flamingos to Bascom Hill.

When the Pail and Shovel Party arrived in Madison in the 1970s, the campus had nearly worn itself out with political earnestness. Opposition to the Vietnam War led to riots and the bombing of Sterling Hall; civil rights demonstrations evolved into a student strike.

Into this scene stepped Varjian, a graduate student from New Jersey with a sense for street theater. Varjian and **Jim Mallon '79** created the Pail and Shovel Party with the openly stated intent of wasting as much time and money as possible. (The party's name came from a proposal to exchange the entire budget of the Wisconsin Student Association [WSA] for pennies, and then give it all away on Library Mall, where students could scoop up their refunds with buckets.)

While at Wisconsin, Varjian

Leon Varjian (above, foreground) leads a boom box parade down State Street in June 1983. The marchers wore old Indiana University band uniforms that Varjian bought at an auction. was a more successful politician than student. He got himself elected WSA's vice president for two years, but he never finished a degree — in fact, he appears to have earned only one academic credit.

The photo above shows one of his Madison pranks: a boom box parade that had Varjian and his cardinal-clad crew high-stepping through downtown Madison with giant radios, tuned to stations playing march music, on June 1, 1983. It followed "the First Annual April Fool's Boom Box Parade," which was held on April 1, 1982. JOHN ALLEN



### Far and Away

From Italy to Iceland and from China to Cape Verde, Badgers are studying abroad in record numbers.

Nearly 30 percent of UW-Madison students who earned bachelor's degrees in 2013–14 went overseas, a rate three times the national average.

A total of 2,276 undergraduate and graduate students studied in more than seventy countries on six continents during that time period. Half of them took part in semester-long or full-year programs, while the rest chose from shorter offerings over winter, spring, or summer breaks. Students majoring in business, Spanish, political science, and biology made up the largest portion of UW students who went abroad.

Two-thirds of students who study abroad say they do so to improve their chances in the job market after graduation, says **Dan Gold,** director of International Academic Programs, who first studied abroad in Finland as a high school exchange student. "One of the things that has changed, especially with the interconnectedness and globalized nature of today's world, is [that] such experiences are important for every student," Gold says.

"Study abroad has always been

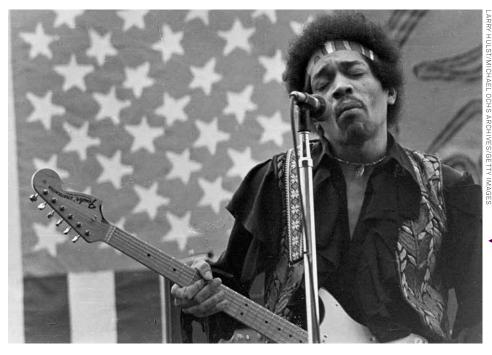


Dan Gold, director of International Academic Programs, says his office awarded scholarships to 269 students this year; 40 percent targeted students from groups who don't typically study abroad, including first-generation college students. recognized by faculty and staff and students here as being a really critical experience," he adds. "We have programs that are over fifty years old."

Gold credits the longevity and variety of programs — more than two hundred — for the high participation rate. The most popular destinations for UW students and students nationally — are Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, France, and China. Gold says those choices have as much to do with the quality of those programs as their location or culture.

"We're trying to shift students to think about not *where* you want to study, but *what* do you want to study," Gold says. JENNY PRICE '96

### **On**Campus



### War Anthems

No one song defines the Vietnam War for the more than 2.5 million U.S. soldiers who served, but a new book reveals a rich playlist.

**Craig Werner,** a UW-Madison professor of Afro-American studies and a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's nominating committee, and **Doug Bradley,** a retired academic staff member and Vietnam veteran, spent ten years working on *We Gotta Get Out of This Place. Rolling Stone* named it the magazine's Best Music Book of 2015.

They conducted interviews with hundreds of Vietnam veterans around the country to capture their voices and memories. The initial idea of building a list of top twenty songs multiplied into hundreds of songs and experiences. They learned that the soundtrack to the war is highly personalized.

Many veterans mentioned the song by The Animals that inspired the book's title. While many civilians thought of it as an anti-war song, service members heard the echo of their desire to go home. A former Armed Forces Radio DJ, who served in Vietnam from 1967 to 1969, says that most soldiers regarded "We Gotta Get Out of This Place" as their "We Shall Overcome."

At its heart, the book is about survival and healing. "There's still an awful lot of healing that needs to be done," Bradley wrote in a Veterans Day blog post last fall. "And we've become convinced that music can help." JENNY PRICE '96

### Ten songs most mentioned by Vietnam veterans in We Gotta Get Out of This Place:

- **10.** "Green Green Grass of Home" by Porter Wagoner
- 9. "Chain of Fools" by Aretha Franklin
- 8. "The Letter" by The Box Tops
- "(Sittin' on) The Dock of the Bay" by Otis Redding
- 6. "Fortunate Son" by Creedence Clearwater Revival
- ◀ 5. "Purple Haze" by Jimi Hendrix
  - 4. "Detroit City" by Bobby Bare
  - 3. "Leaving on a Jet Plane" by Peter, Paul and Mary
  - 2. "I Feel Like I'm Fixin' to Die Rag" by Country Joe and the Fish
  - "We Gotta Get Out of This Place" by The Animals



usic Book of 2015. around the country ist of top twenarned that the d the book's title.

### NEWS FEED

A UW study is exploring psilocybin, the hallucinogenic ingredient found in "magic mushrooms," and its potential to reduce depression and anxiety in patients with terminal cancer. The first stage is testing psilocybin's effects on healthy people.

SCHOOL

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Wisconsin's Mead Witter Foundation has given the School of Music \$25 million to help complete its new performance facility. Construction will begin late this year.



#### Adjunct law professor Dean Strang,

at left, became a hot commodity when Netflix launched its ten-episode documentary *Making a Murderer*. The series covers the case of Steven Avery, a Wisconsin man who was wrongly convicted of rape, but two years after his release, was rearrested and convicted of murder. Strang is one of Avery's criminal defense lawyers.

### **On**Campus



**BEAUTIFUL BUGS** Insects are the unexpected and wonder-inducing stars of *In the Midnight Garden*, an exhibit UW design studies professor Jennifer Angus created for the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery that is on display through July 10. Angus made patterns mimicking fabric and wallpaper using five thousand beetles, cicadas, grasshoppers, katydids, and other insects from her collection of thirty thousand that she has used for other art installations. None are endangered — yet. Angus hopes her work gets people thinking about that possibility if the insects' habitat continues to disappear.



# ITTOCK

### **4.13 YEARS**

The time it takes UW-Madison students to earn their undergraduate degrees, the lowest on record in the school's history, according to the Office of Academic Planning and Institutional Research. The UW conferred 6,902 bachelor's degrees last year, an increase of more than 200 compared to the previous academic year.

### WEB ATLAS

When Newsweek first wrote about the Internet in 1983, it called our modern digital communications system an "information superhighway." According to UW computer sciences professor Paul Barford, that analogy isn't anachronistic it's relevant. Barford, along with research assistant Ramakrishnan Durairajan MS'14 and Joel Sommers PhD'07 from Colgate University, and Walter Willinger of the network security firm NIKSUN, mapped the physical infrastructure of the Internet the high-speed, fiber-optic cables that make massive data transfer possible. They found that data traffic follows the same paths as vehicle traffic: the cables trace the same routes as the Interstate Highway System.

The map is the product of four years of research and is the first of its kind.

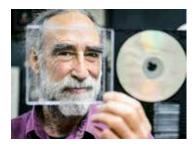
### NEWS FEED



Gustavo Parra-Montesinos believes he may have a solution to help skyscrapers survive earthquakes. The professor of civil and environmental engineering helped design fiber-reinforced concrete beams that are simpler to construct and sturdier than traditional rebar.

#### UW-Madison and ExxonMobil an-

nounced a two-year partnership that will pair company scientists with UW students to investigate cost-competitive fuels derived from biomass.



### Recently retired Jim Leary, UW professor of folklore and

Scandinavian studies, got a Grammy nomination for his work on album notes for Folksongs of Another America: Field Recordings from the Upper Midwest, 1937–1946. He cofounded the Center for the Study of Midwestern Cultures. For sports fans, March Madness means filling out an NCAA college basketball tournament bracket. For **Laura Albert McLay**, associate professor of industrial and systems engineering at UW-Madison, it's a chance to apply her work in data and analytics. This semester, McLay is teaching an upper-level course, Discrete Optimization and Modeling Techniques, while also exploring unique data topics — including bracketology — via her blog, *Punk Rock Operations Research*.

#### What mistakes do people make when they pick their teams?

The 7–10 and 12–5 matchups sometimes produce upsets more often than not. But don't worry too much about the early rounds — the scoring rewards getting it right in the later rounds. Another common mistake is to pick too many No. 1 seeds in the Final Four. You can use some game theory [instead]: pick different teams in the Final Four than everybody else to differentiate your bracket. It's hard to win if everyone picks the same teams.

### What's your number one tip for filling out brackets?

My top tip is to check out various rankings methods based on math modeling. My favorite ranking model is the Logistic Regression Markov Chain model, but others are good, too. Math-based ranking methods will help get you in the ballpark and will identify some likely upsets to pick. Math modeling has limitations, but you can then supplement your bracket picks with other information, like preseason rankings and injury reports.

#### Has bracketology work been an engaging way to connect to students?

It's been a great way to connect material we are learning about in class to a real-world application. For many students, sports analytics is a great avenue for introducing how to do mathematical modeling and make data-driven decisions. Sports can really help a topic "click" for certain students. And it's a lot of fun for me.

What kinds of projects are you and your students working on? My research studies discrete optimization applications

for the public

good. I've worked on homeland security and emergency-response problems, anything from ambulances and fire engines responding to 911 calls to post-disaster emergency response. We live in a world with limited resources, and effectively using those scarce resources is sometimes the difference between life and death.

### What sorts of topics do you enjoy exploring in your blog?

One of my favorite posts is about vampire population growth inspired by Markov chain modeling I was teaching in class. The theoretical solutions to the model were that either the vampire population dies off or it explodes. I was a little bit skeptical about the seemingly stable vampire populations in movies, so I wrote about that, and that post went viral. Other popular posts have been about zombies, election forecasting, being struck by lightning, and how to optimally snow-blow your driveway.

> Interview conducted, edited, and condensed by Daniel McKay x'16. Photo by Bryce Richter.

### Exhibition Dalton Trumbo's Papers



The Hollywood blacklist blocked more than two hundred actors, directors, writers, and others from working in film and television during the late 1940s and 1950s.

Dalton Trumbo, the highest paid screenwriter in the business, made the list. Named one of the Hollywood Ten, he was cited for contempt of Congress as an unfriendly witness during its investigation aimed at rooting out communism during the McCarthy Era.

The blacklist effectively ended in 1960, when Trumbo received credit for the hit films *Exodus* and *Spartacus*. That same year, the UW's speech and theater department formed the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research, now one of the world's major archives documenting the entertainment industry.

The center's staff recognized the historical importance of the Hollywood Ten, and invited them to house some of their personal papers at the UW, says **Mary Huelsbeck**, the center's assistant director. Trumbo was one of six who said yes.

Today, the center is home to Trumbo's scripts, correspondence to family and friends, and more than two hundred audio recordings. The UW collection — filling forty-five boxes — received renewed interest in recent months with the release of the movie *Trumbo*, which garnered actor Bryan Cranston an Academy Award

The blacklist forced Trumbo (above with actress Dolores Del Rio on the set of The Devil's Playground) to use fake names for his work on films including Roman Holiday (top right). He received credit for his work on Spartacus (middle right) in 1960. Actor Bryan Cranston (lower right) received an Oscar nomination this year for his portrayal of the screenwriter.

nomination for his portrayal of Trumbo.

Trumbo's papers reveal what it was like to try to keep working in an industry in which he could not use his name. The collection includes hate mail he received, letters to his wife and daughter during his eleven months in prison, and correspondence detailing the deals he made to keep writing scripts while still on the blacklist.

"Some of his best work during the period was actually material he wrote, but couldn't sell under his own name," says **Jeff Smith MA'89, PhD'95,** the center's director and a professor of communication arts who has researched Trumbo's efforts to get off the blacklist.

That work includes *Roman Holiday* and *The Brave One,* for which he won Academy Awards he could not collect. The first film was credited to another writer, and the second to one of the many pseudonyms Trumbo used on the black market. Smith says the Oscar victories aided the demise of the blacklist.

Still, Trumbo's story is a potent reminder of how threats to free expression gain a foothold. "Every now and then," Smith says, "we still have politicians who will float the idea that maybe we should investigate people because they're not really quite American enough."

**JENNY PRICE '96** 

### **On**Campus



### Off to Oxford

"I entered freshman year looking for conservation and left a geographer," wrote **Colin Higgins '15, MPAx'16** in his application for the Rhodes Scholarship, the oldest international study program in the world.

Now Higgins, a native of Middleton, Wisconsin, is charting a course to Oxford University in England, one of an elite group of students awarded the honor this year.

As an undergraduate at UW-Madison, Higgins triple-majored in environmental studies, geography, and history, and he encouraged interest in environmental and sustainability issues on and off campus. Now a graduate student in the Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs, he will complete an accelerated master's degree in May.

At Oxford, Higgins will pursue a master of philosophy in geography and the environment to seek philosophical and practical solutions to environmental governance issues. The UW's other recent Rhodes Scholars were **Drew Birrenkott '14** in 2013 and **Alexis Brown '12** in 2011. SUSANNAH BROOKS '02, MA'09

### SHELL SHOCKER

Meet Chelonoidis donfaustoi, a newly identified species of tortoise found only on the Galápagos Islands and, as it turns out, in UW-Madison's Zoological Museum. The UW has one of the world's largest collections of skeletons and skeletal fragments from the islands. Scientists at Yale University studied DNA samples from one of the UW's tortoise skulls and found that it was genetically distinct from other species. The university has only a skull and a scute (a scale from the animal's shell) from a C. donfaustoi, and yet these constitute the most complete skeletal representation anywhere. These samples were declared the species' holotype - that is, the physical example that all others will be compared to. Curator Laura Monahan '02 says the museum has about half a million specimens, but only "something like eight of them are holotypes." JOHN ALLEN



### NEWS FEED

A faster, easier, and more precise method for "editing" genes is UW law professor Alta Charo's focus as she co-chairs a study committee that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine appointed to examine the new technology's implications for human health.



The UW's labs may soon be singing the praises of speech pathology professor Nathan Welham and his colleagues — literally. Welham and crew have bioengineered vocal cord tissue that could help victims of throat injuries, cancer, and other illnesses.

#### Journalism student Jordan

Gaines x'16 has revived The Black Voice, a UW student publication from the early 1970s she discovered while doing research for a Black History Month display. The new version at blackvoicesuw. wordpress.com includes articles by student writers.



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ARCH

Annie Pankowski x'18 grew up in Laguna Hills, California, wanting to be good enough to play hockey with her older brother and her sister, Ali, who went on to play for Princeton.

She reached for a bigger dream in 2014 as the U.S. women's hockey team prepared for the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. But Pankowski, a member of the 2013 national team, didn't make the final Olympic roster. The U.S. lost to Canada in the gold-medal match in overtime.

Two years later, Pankowski views the devastation of being one cut away from winning the silver medal as a major turning point.

"It definitely hurt. Even though the outcome wasn't exactly what I had wanted, it was probably one of the best experiences I think I could have had at that point in my career," she says. "It's just kind of been almost a secret weapon I can tap into to say, 'I don't want to feel that way again.'"

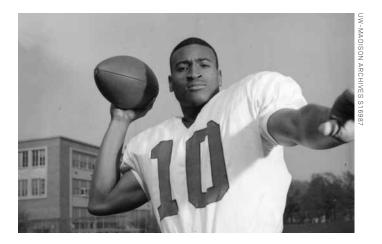
In her breakout freshman season, Pankowski scored twenty-one goals, including three in the NCAA tournament, and won National Rookie of the Year honors. This season, she's won WCHA Offensive Player of the Week multiple times, and the Badgers are once again ranked among the top teams in the country.

Sophomore Annie Pankowski continues to score big following a standout freshman season that garnered her Rookie of the Year honors. "We spent all summer training and then to start playing games — it's really exciting, especially when we're doing as well as we are," she said when interviewed last November.

Pankowski's expectations have been high since her first trip to Madison, which served as a memorable introduction to the UW's big-campus atmosphere and the strength of the women's hockey program. On that visit, Wisconsin defeated Mercyhurst in a playoff game at the Kohl Center to advance to the Frozen Four. "It was insane. I just thought it was one of the coolest things I've ever seen," she says. "The camaraderie of so many people with so much Badger pride is pretty cool to be a part of."

DANIEL MCKAY X'16 PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

### **OnCampus** Sports



### History in Their Own Words

### A project documents the UW's pioneering black athletes

In the years following World War II, African American athletes joined UW teams in larger numbers, and for decades, they were the most visible minority students on campus. But they often faced obstacles and discrimination.

Many athletes' stories went histor untold until the UW-Madison Archives' Oral History Program began documenting their experiences, making them available for future historians.

"A project like this helps to flesh out the history of the University of Wisconsin," says **Gregory Bond MA'99, PhD'08, MA'14,** who is leading the effort with **Troy Reeves,** head of the program, which has collected more than fourteen hundred interviews on UW-related topics.

The seed for the effort was planted when Bond wrote his dissertation on Jim Crow and sports in America. As a student working at the athletic department, he helped to create a website featuring the first African Americans to compete on Badger teams. A few years later, he and Reeves began recording the experiences of African American athletes and coaches. Their initial effort included interviews with **Lewis Henry "Les" Ritcherson**, the UW's first African American assistant coach, and his son, **Lewis Ritcherson**, **Jr. '70**, a highly touted quarterback from Texas who played for the Badgers.

The interviews cover life on a predom-

Former Badger football player Lewis Ritcherson, Jr. '70 (above in 1967) spoke with campus historians.

younger Ritcherson first arrived during the tumultuous 1960s, the UW had only two hundred black students. He describes division between white and black players in the locker room, and notes that some white students did not want to sit or study with black students.

inantly white campus. When the

"In the South, people will tell you to your face what they think or how they feel, [but] when I came here, it was kind of a little bit more subtle," he said during the interview.

Ritcherson was frustrated when he was benched for throwing an interception during his first game as starting quarterback. He saw little playing time afterward, despite the white teammate who replaced him making similar errors. "You better not make a mistake," he says that he and his African American teammates came to realize. "If you make a mistake, you might not get back out there."

Support from the Ira and Ineva Reilly Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment and UW Libraries has given the project new life, but Bond and Reeves are facing the harsh challenge of time. **Bob Teague** '**50**, one of the first African American starters for the football Badgers, died in 2013, and **Welford Sanders** '**71**, **MS'74**, the first African American member of the UW's fencing team, died last year.

**JENNY PRICE '96** 

### TICKER

#### When Bo Ryan retired in December

after defeating Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, he left the UW as its winningest coach, with 364 victories in fourteen and a half seasons. In second place is Bud Foster, with 265 wins from 1934–59. Longtime assistant Greg Gard took over for the rest of the season.



ID STLUKA/WISCONSIN ATHLETICS (

The Badger women's volleyball team finished its season with a top ten ranking by the American Volleyball Coaches Association for a third consecutive year.

#### Swimmer Matt Hutchins

x'18 blew his own school record out of the water by more than eleven seconds at the Texas Invitational in 2015. His time for the

1,650-yard freestyle was also the fastest in the nation so far this season.

Wisconsin men's soccer player Drew Conner x'17 signed a Homegrown Player contract with the Chicago Fire.

Two members of the Wisconsin women's soccer team were given postseason honors by TopDrawerSoccer.com. Rose Lavelle x'17 was listed as the fourth-best player in the nation, and Victoria Pickett x'19 was ranked as the

fifteenthbest freshman.





### Sacred Ground

The long and winding path to Picnic Point as we know it includes Madison's earliest inhabitants, shifting landscapes, and a lot of trespassing picnickers.

### BY ERIKA JANIK MA'04, MA'06



n July 4, 1864, John Boeringer launched his sailing yacht *St. Louis* in Lake Mendota. Customers paid twenty-five cents for the roundtrip ride to Picnic Point, the site of his dancing hall, where they could indulge in the finest red wine from Missouri and other "wholesome stimulants." The *Wisconsin State Journal* lauded the boat as "just the thing for pleasure parties," and one patron called the destination "as fine a scene of surrounding wood and water as ever greeted a mortal's eye."

It's a recommendation that rings through the centuries. Humans have been drawn to Picnic Point for thousands of years. Extending more than a halfmile into Lake Mendota, it's one of the most recognizable and beloved spaces in Madison and on the UW campus.

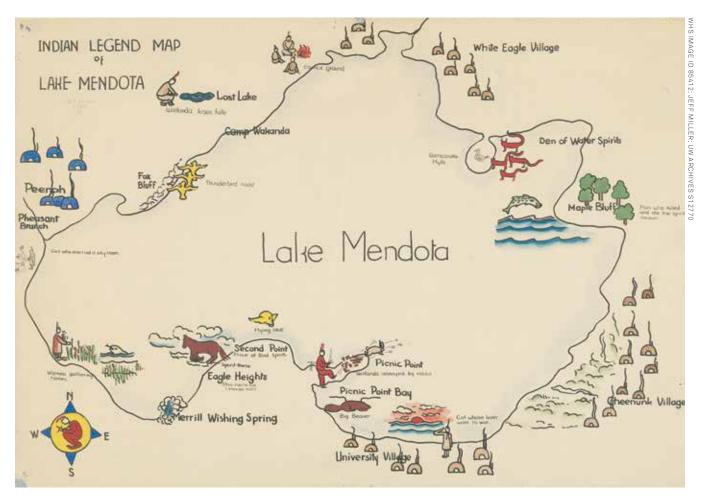
"Picnic Point is a cultural landscape that exists in space and time," says Daniel Einstein MS'95, historic and cultural resources manager for the UW's Division of Facilities Planning and Management. "If you understand how to read the landscape, you can see the layers of Picnic Point's story."

Before glaciation created Lake Mendota, Picnic Point once soared above two stream valleys, a high Cambrian sandstone ridge between the pre-glacial Picnic Point (above), shaped by a glacier and by time, has long been a popular leisure destination for UW students and Madison residents, including this group (left) photographed during an 1870s picnic. Middleton River and University Bay Creek. As glacial ice advanced southward 1.5 million years ago, hills and bluffs were sheared off right down to the bedrock. The glacier's retreat fifteen thousand years ago shaped the landscape of much of the northern United States, opening the land to human settlement as the ice sheets receded and creating Madison's lakes.

Paleo-Indians settled in the Madison area about thirteen thousand years ago. They lived on the shores of Lake Mendota, and over time left behind projectile points and piles of chipped tools. Native people also likely set fires to keep the peninsula open, as early white settlers described the point as a savanna with scattered trees.

More than one thousand years ago, native people built effigy mounds. There are more in the Madison area than in any place in the world. Six remain on Picnic Point; relic hunters destroyed another. These mounds, writes archaeologist Bob Birmingham, are "detailed maps" of the beliefs and worldview of North American Indians, and they provide a visual reminder of the deep human history on the peninsula.

The Madison lakes became a major hub of







Among other legends (above), the Ho-Chunk believed a spirit named Waak Tcexi lived in Lake Mendota and overturned canoes. At left, one of six effigy mounds, that native people built on Picnic Point. Several farm families operated dairies on or near Picnic Point; below, two members of a herd graze on the peninsula, circa 1923.

Ho-Chunk activity in the eighteenth century. The tribe called Picnic Point *Mo-pah-sayla*, or Long Point.The Ho-Chunk expanded southward from their ancestral home around modern-day Green Bay after facing pressure from other tribes and then European explorers. An 1829 Indian agent census counted nearly six hundred people living in villages on all five Madison-area lakes. But hostility from white settlers and the 1832 Black Hawk War forced the Ho-Chunk to cede their land, including De Jope (Ho-Chunk for Madison), and move to reservations. Some, however, refused to move, and others eventually returned to Wisconsin from reservations established first in Iowa, then Minnesota, South Dakota, and finally Nebraska.

White settlers were, by this time, already making inroads. Boeringer's dancing and dining venture, despite the view and top-tier beverages, didn't last. By the late 1860s, he sold the property to James Herron, who established a farm with grazing cattle. The land continued to be used for farming into the twentieth century.

The point also became narrower as locks constructed in 1847 to connect Lakes Mendota and Monona, at what is now Tenney Park, raised Lake Mendota water levels. But the spot's beauty and importance was not lost on residents who visited its shores to picnic and swim, despite private ownership. In 1876, the *Madison Democrat* made a plea to





the city to acquire Picnic Point: "The beautiful point is in reality the most charming spot to be found on either lake. At present it is used as a pasture for cattle, and consequently it is not a neat, safe, or pleasant place for visitors."

Despite that appeal, Picnic Point would not become a public space for more than a half century.

In 1924, wealthy lumberman Edward Young purchased Picnic Point as a wedding gift for his wife, Alice. He envisioned a sprawling private estate and commissioned a massive stone gate, made of rocks from all over southern Wisconsin, which still stands at Picnic Point's entrance. Young renovated the simple farmhouse and turned it into a fifteen-room mansion. The Youngs loved horses and established more than five miles of bridle paths, today's footpaths, throughout the property.

Madisonians continued to venture out to Picnic Point, particularly for romantic rendezvous. Young tolerated visitors and allowed educational field trips to his property, but he employed a caretaker to keep trespassers out. One night, the caretaker came across two students embracing in a state of undress. He marched them back to the house to call the police. According to the caretaker's notes, the boy told the girl to run. She did. The boy escaped when the caretaker went inside to place his call.

The Youngs lived on their Picnic Point estate until September 1935, when a massive fire destroyed A place for all seasons: boys splash off the shore on a hot day in 1993 (above), and a family enjoys a toasty fire on a brisk autumn night in 2005 (right).

**Picnic Point's** footpaths (right) were originally intended for horses. Edward Young planned a sprawling private estate with an oval track for horses, stables and pasture. formal gardens, as well as squash and tennis courts. His mansion (left) burned down in 1935.





the home. All that remains is a brick walk that led to the side porch. The couple decided not to rebuild.

The UW had considered purchasing Picnic Point before, often in the face of development threats. In 1910, word spread that a developer wanted to purchase the land for a subdivision. In the late 1920s, Wisconsin Governor Walter Kohler, an aviation enthusiast, proposed building a base for seaplanes on University Bay. None of these schemes panned out.

In 1939, within days of Young informing them of his decision to sell, the UW Board of Regents secured an option to buy the property through a oneyear lease. But the UW was unable to find the necessary donors to make the purchase. Rather than face criticism for spending public money on land instead of academics, UW and city officials proposed turning University Bay into a harbor for boats and







A bird's-eye view (above) shows winding stone steps, added in 2012, that give visitors access to the water. Girl Scouts gather in 1950 for a daycamp at Picnic Point (left). Sunrise illuminates a fire pit and stone gathering circle (lower left), part of the improvements made to the point's tip. The massive stone gate (right) from the Young estate still stands today.

constructing buildings, parking, and a road. Outrage from UW faculty halted those plans, and discussions about Picnic Point's future continued as the property's value rose.

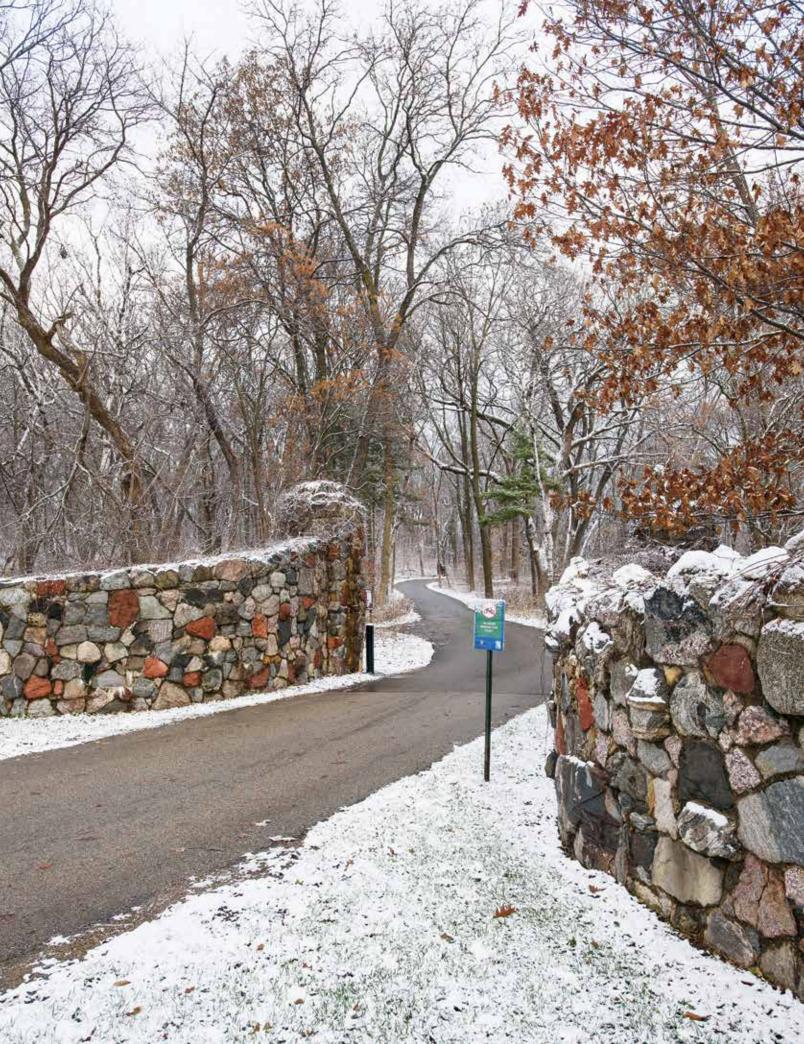
Finally, the UW negotiated a deal to buy Picnic Point from the Youngs. The sale included a land swap with the UW trading 33.5 acres of Eagle Heights, which had been campus property since 1911, along with a payment of \$230,000 for Picnic Point. The UW eventually bought Eagle Heights back from heirs to the Young estate in 1951.

The UW purchase removed the land from active cultivation and led to its transition from farm to forest. And as time goes by, Picnic Point continues to change.

For many years, brush and trees obscured views from the tip of Picnic Point. In 2012, a gift from the estate of Paul R. Ebling '47, '52, MD'55 reopened historic views of downtown Madison from the tip, funded the construction of a fire pit and stone gathering circle, and provided easy access to the water.

Only seven years after its acquisition, in 1948, the *Wisconsin Alumnus* called the "beckoning finger" of Picnic Point "one of the loveliest spots owned by any university anywhere." But it's also, as history reminds us, land that could have gotten away.

*Erika Janik is a historian, author, publisher, and radio producer. Her forthcoming book is* Pistols and Petticoats: 175 Years of Lady Detectives, in Fact and Fiction.



# BBT ONIT

If you think that Anders Holm is everywhere these days, you're right. A combination of hard work and a few lucky breaks has put the writer-actor in the spotlight.

ADDIE MORFOOT '02



nders Holm '03 was in New Orleans when he got a call from his manager about a job opportunity. The following day, sitting in his hotel room, Holm auditioned for *The Intern* via Skype. Hours later, he was on a flight to New York City to meet with the movie's director, Nancy Meyers, and its stars, Anne Hathaway and Robert De Niro.

And that, as Holm puts it, "was that." He nailed the audition and landed the job.

Garnering a starring role opposite megastars in a Warner Brothers romantic comedy is just the latest career triumph for Holm, who grew up in Evanston, Illinois. Since moving to Los Angeles twelve years ago, he's made a name for himself in a town known for its cutthroat mentality.

Holm's real-life Cinderella story began five years ago when Comedy Central greenlit *Workaholics,* a series the thirty-four-year-old co-created, produced, and wrote with Blake Anderson, Adam Devine, and Kyle Newacheck. The single-camera comedy centers around three slackers (played by Holm, Anderson, and Devine) who "work" at a telemarketing company during the day and party at night. The underachieving trio proved an instant hit with viewers.

The show and its go-getter stars also caught the attention of Hollywood.

Since the 2011 debut of *Workaholics*, Holm landed a recurring part in Mindy Kaling's television series *The Mindy Project*, as well as a slew of highly coveted small roles in major Hollywood films, including *Inherent Vice*, *The Interview*, and *Top Five*. And while Holm is best known for his improv and absurd comedy, he earned unexpected praise at 2015's Sundance Film Festival for his dramatic acting chops in *Unexpected*, an independent film about an unlikely friendship.

The writer-actor closed out 2015 on a high note both personally and professionally.

In December, Holm and his college-sweetheartturned-wife, Emma Nesper '04, celebrated their son's second birthday. That was preceded by *The Intern*'s splashy Manhattan premiere; news that Comedy Central extended *Workaholics* for a sixth and seventh season; winning yet another noteworthy role in a Hollywood romantic comedy, *How to Be*  Anders (pronounced ON-ders) Holm. at left during last year's Sundance Film Festival, broke out as co-creator and star of the **Comedy Central** hit Workaholics. Holm, at top right, clowns around with castmates Adam Devine and Blake Anderson, who play his fellow slackers on the show.



Left, Holm returned to campus to speak at commencement in spring 2013, when he told graduates, "Be prepared to work harder than anybody else for what you want.... but always take time to watch cartoons." Below, Holm appeared opposite Oscar winner Anne Hathaway and child star JoJo Kushner in The Intern.



*Single,* starring Rebel Wilson and Dakota Johnson; and being chosen to write a screenplay for a project that he's developing with Seth Rogen.

But Holm is quick to point out that while his rise in the entertainment industry came quickly, it certainly didn't happen overnight. His big breaks in both television and film required the Roman philosopher Seneca's recipe for luck — loads of preparation paired with opportunity.

Holm's preparation began during his college years at UW-Madison, where he was a member of the varsity swim team and majored in history. In between the 50-meter freestyle, homework, and hanging out with friends at the Essen Haus, Holm wrote screenplays. *A lot* of screenplays.

"I'd go out on Thursdays and Fridays, and then stay in on the weekends to write," he says. "None of the scripts I wrote in college were that good, but at that point, it didn't matter. I was just trying to just write as much as I could."

The effort paid off. One year after graduation and nine months after moving to Los Angeles, Holm landed an internship at power producer Barry Josephson's Josephson Entertainment. That led to a meeting with *Bones* creator Hart Hanson, who, after looking at some of Holm's screenplays, hired him as a writer's assistant.

It was while working on *Bones* that the actor had a revelation.

"When I moved to LA, I wanted to be a writer and write movies," Holm explains. "What I didn't know then is that you write the movie, you sell the screenplay, and usually it's out of your control. It could be rewritten or changed significantly. So it's no longer yours. You just hope for the best. But in television, the writers hold a lot of creative control. If you create a TV show as a writer, then you are in control. You're the auteur. So I quickly learned that my ego was better suited for TV."

During this time, Holm also learned that he didn't exactly enjoy being an assistant. "I'm just not very good at getting lunches," he says. "Dealing with somebody who can't handle that their favorite soup isn't available is frustrating. But I never got too down about it, because when I moved to Hollywood, I was naïve and confident enough to [tell myself], 'You're going to be making money in this town for your writing.' The problem was I never knew how it was going to come to me. So I got by with the help of my then-girlfriend, now-wife [Nesper], and doing the classic charge-everything-to-the-Visa. I told myself that I'd pay it off when I 'made it.' It definitely wasn't the safest bet, but I decided to bet on myself."

While Holm never planned on becoming an actor, he soon found out that as a comedy writer, the quickest way to prove to people that his words were funny was to perform his own material. In 2005, right before starting a job as an assistant on HBO's *Real Time with Bill Maher*, Holm met his soon-to-be



"When I was shooting The Intern, I would look at Anne Hathaway and Robert De Niro and think, 'I come from the land of fart jokes.'"

Workaholics co-stars Devine and Anderson while performing at the renowned sketch-comedy group Second City LA. In 2006, the trio, along with Kyle Newacheck, formed Mail Order Comedy — a group devoted to writing material, performing at various venues, and filming their own skits, which they uploaded to YouTube.

Cut to 2011. After viewing their online content, an executive at Comedy Central approached the group to make a pilot. While Holm considers that call a highlight in his career, he doesn't regard it as

Above, Holm had a recurring role on the television series The Mindy Project as Mindy Kaling's hip pastor boyfriend.

his "I made it" moment. That came a few months later, when Comedy Central ordered a second season of Workaholics before season one had even aired.

"It's such a timing thing that comes into play with Hollywood," Holm admits. "There is no ladder in the business of entertainment. You can't just put in hard work and work your way up. Out here, it's more like you can do no work and get a big break in two weeks, or you can work hard for ten years and never catch a break. So it's kind of a crapshoot."

While betting on himself paid off for Holm, he still experiences moments of insecurity about his career. "When I was shooting The Intern, I would look at Anne Hathaway and Robert De Niro and think, 'I come from the land of fart jokes.' So I started to think to myself, 'All right. Who really thinks I should be here?' But then, by day two [of shooting], it wasn't as wild as I thought it might be. And listen, it's amateur to not think you should be there. You have to show up and do your job and have the confidence."

Addie Morfoot's work has appeared in Variety, the Wall Street Journal, Marie Claire, and the Los Angeles Times, and she is completing her first novel.



\* KIDS! DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!



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Story Time BY MEG JONES '84 PHOTOS BY BRYCE RICHTER

> llsworth Shields was tired. He was about to climb aboard a B-24 bomber for his fourth mission in six days in the dangerous skies over Germany.

By spring 1945, U.S. bomber crews needed thirty-five missions

to earn a ticket home, and this would be Shields's thirty-fourth. But when a fellow crew member who needed just one more mission to hit the magic number — asked Shields to switch places, the twenty-year-old Milwaukee man agreed. "A friend of mine said, 'Ells, you've flown three missions in a row, and I'm trying to get my thirty-fifth. Can I take your place?' I said, 'Sure, I need a break,' " recalls Shields as he thumbs through the flight journal he maintained throughout the war, keeping track of missions, dates, and close calls.

Combat veterans know intimately how fate and luck are intertwined, and how a seemingly inconsequential decision can have a profound impact. The plane Shields was supposed to fly that day as a radio operator exploded over its target. The entire crew was lost.

Shields, who turned ninety-one last November,



### The veterans talk. The volunteers listen. And together they create lasting records of remarkable lives.

doesn't mind talking about his World War II experiences in the Army Air Corps — even describing the shock and pain of losing friends — but they don't come up much in casual conversation. And rarely had a nurse or doctor asked him about the war until a recent hospital visit, that is. He was at the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital in Madison, seeking treatment of hearing problems associated with flying those missions without earplugs, when a volunteer asked him to tell his story. Shields talked about his life and his military service, a conversation that the volunteer crafted into a onethousand-word narrative. That encounter was part of the My Life, My Story program started at the Madison VA hospital in 2013. A UW School of Medicine and Public Health psychiatry resident was the first to suggest that asking veterans to tell their life stories would provide a way to get to know patients as more than ill or injured people.

During the program's first two years, more than five hundred veterans talked to volunteers who then wrote their life stories. All volunteers receive hands-on training in interviewing and writing techniques from program staff. The innovative project quickly drew the attention of other VA medi"Anyone who reads this will know I'm a WWII vet. There's not many of us left," says Ellsworth Shields, above, in his Madison home.



cal centers, and in spring 2015, My Life, My Story expanded to six other facilities across the country.

Ellsworth Shields (second from right, back row) served on a B-24 bomber crew in World War II. He still has his flight journal from the war, where he detailed missions, dates, and close calls. "I think it's very good if the veterans treat it seriously, which I did. I really opened up," says Shields, a retired insurance executive who lives in Madison. "They can read it before they operate on me. Anyone who reads this will know I'm a WWII vet. There's not many of us left."

Written as first-person narratives, the stories are part of the patient's chart, easily accessible to medical personnel anywhere within the VA system. According to Thor Ringler '86, the program's manager, veterans such as Shields welcome the chance to tell their stories to someone who isn't treating them as simply a collection of symptoms and medical data, and it helps busy health care providers connect with their patients on a more personal level.

"I think veterans appreciate it when we read their stories, and they always get a kick out of us mentioning it to them," says Aaron Ho, a second-year internal medicine resident. Ho says he is often surprised by his patients' stories. Consider the veteran who talked about flying around the country during the Cold War armed with nuclear weapons — but never knowing if they were actual bombs or decoys. Or the veteran who hid his rifle in a barrel of sauerkraut to avoid detection by Nazi troops.

Ho and Matti Asuma '10, MD'15, who graduated from the UW medical school last May, thought the My Life, My Story program could also provide a valuable learning experience for doctors in training. They suggested creating an elective for fourth-year medical students who would embed in the program, spending two weeks interviewing veterans and writing their stories. The elective kicked off at full capacity during the spring semester, with four medical students enrolled.

Asuma learned about the program while serving a psychiatric rotation at the Madison VA hospital, and he began requesting volunteers to interview his patients. "The great thing with the stories is you have a little window into their lives," he says. "You learn about patients from a social standpoint." Asuma, who joined the army right before medical school, is now serving a five-year orthopedic surgery residency in Tacoma, Washington.

Jennifer Sluga '10, who spent six years in the Wisconsin National Guard, told her interviewer



"The things they said have changed how I look at things. It's changed who I am," says Alex Siy x'17, a neurobiology student, at left, who volunteered to interview veterans.



about her childhood and family, her deployment to Kosovo, and her duties in the military. She also talked about being sexually assaulted by a sick-call medic a few weeks into basic training. She hoped that having that experience included in her story would help her health care providers understand why she wants a female physician to perform breast or gynecological exams.

Now, as a psychotherapist who works with veterans, Sluga sees the program as a form of therapy for service members who might never have spoken to anyone about their experiences. It also creates a historical record of narratives from a rapidly dwindling population of veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

"If anything were ever to happen to me, I would want my family to know there's this free autobiography I'm leaving behind," says Sluga. "It's important to me to let them know that even though there were bad things that happened to me, there were also a lot of good, positive things I got out of the military." Interviews usually last an hour. Volunteers are free to ask any questions, although most start by asking the veterans what they would like their caregivers to know about them. Some of the volunteers are UW students enrolled in a literature and medicine class designed for those considering careers in health care. The interviews provide a unique learning opportunity, says Colin Gillis, an associate lecturer who teaches the course, because students learn listening skills and essentially become custodians of the veterans' stories.

"Most of the students in my class are at the beginning of their lives," Gillis says. "One of the things we talk about is how narrative is important in finding the meaning of your life. When you're twenty-one, the narrative you're making for your life is abstract because it's all about the future.

"Patients at the VA are usually a lot older than the students," he adds, "and the way they tell their stories is often in a way the student might not expect."

Alex Siy x'17 volunteered during Gillis's class last spring, spending one afternoon each week listening to veterans from every military branch who served in peace and in war. The hardest part for the sophomore neurobiology student was walking into hospital rooms and asking patients to open up about their lives, he says. But once they started talking, Siy was transported to another world.

"The things they said have changed how I look at things. It's changed who I am," says Siy, who hopes to become a physician. "Veterans talked about how they view life — that it's not always the best ride, but [they say], 'You know what? It's my life. I own it. It's who I am, and I wouldn't change anything that happened." "•

Meg Jones '84 is a reporter for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and a freelance writer.

The veterans' stories become part of their medical charts. "They always get a kick out of us mentioning it to them," says Aaron Ho, at far left, a second-year internal medicine resident.

## THE MYSTERIOUS MASTODON

**BY KELLY APRIL TYRRELL MS'11** 

A faded photograph inspired a UW curator to dig into the past and discover that Wisconsin's famous fossil wasn't quite what it seemed.

n a black-and-white photograph bearing the fade of age, five men stand in a deep pit. Four of them are clad in workmen's clothes, while the fifth, standing slightly in front of the others, is dressed in a bow tie and vest. In his right hand, stretching from shoulder to knee, is a massive bone with a large chunk missing from one end.

That bone, the femur of an ice-age behemoth, would become the smoking gun.

The photograph first arrived at the UW's Geology Museum a decade ago, brought in by a curious visitor hoping to learn the whereabouts of the old bone. The visitor's ancestor owned the now-gone farm where it was found more than a century ago,

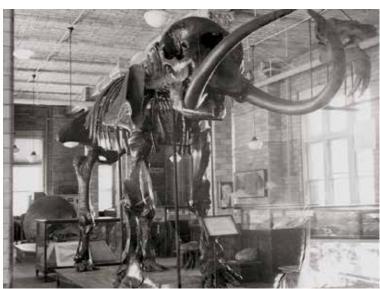




Carrie Eaton (near left), curator of collections, helped solve the mystery of the UW Geology Museum's Boaz mastodon skeleton.

Key clue: a photograph depicting the discovery of mastodon bones in 1898 (far left).

The UW's mastodon, seen below in Science Hall in the 1940s, marked its 100th year on display in 2015.



and the photo had survived the ages.

But museum staff lacked an answer; their only collection of similar bones belonged to the Boaz mastodon — perhaps Wisconsin's most famous fossil. Based on the ages of its bones, it was thought to represent one of the last mastodons standing in the Midwest after the glaciers retreated from the Great Lakes region. A feature of the museum since 1915, the ancient skeleton has helped put Boaz, Wisconsin, on the map. A historical marker erected in 1995 sits at the site where the mastodon remains were found.

Yet words handwritten on the back of the photograph offered a clue: "Hole where mastodon bones were discovered on the farm of J.W. Anderson in the 1890ties [sic] at Anderson Mills, Wisconsin. I am not sure but that may be my Grandpa Anderson standing in the hole holding the large bone. Pictures from W Paul Dietzman grandson."

More photographs, also inscribed by Dietzman, documented a treasure trove of mastodon ribs, vertebrae, teeth, and much more. There was little doubt that the elephantlike creature from the Pleistocene — the geologic time period encompassing the most recent ice age, which ended 11,700 years ago — had been found on the farm, around the same time as the Boaz discovery. But the bones in the photos were nowhere to be found. And that femur, with that large piece broken off, was distinctive.

For years, the bones remained a mystery.



CSI: Pleistocene: Eaton and museum scientist Dave Lovelace collect small core pieces from the skeleton to send to labs for testing.



A CT scan revealed that a break in the mastodon's femur matched the one from the old photograph taken at Anderson Mills. n 2013, Geology Museum curator Carrie Eaton MS'04 was hungry for a good project. She realized the museum was two short years from the centennial of the Boaz mastodon's mounting — first at Science Hall and later moved to its current location at Weeks Hall — so she embarked on what she thought would be an easy journey to reinvigorate its story. She could not have been more wrong.

"This whole project started off as this tiny little thread that I started yanking," she says. "And the sweater kept getting bigger, and I just kept pulling and pulling, and we discovered more, and it got more interesting and complicated."

Early on, Eaton enlisted the help of David Null, director of the UW Archives, which catalogs the vast array of files, books, photographs, and other rich materials that preserve the university's long and storied past. Together, the two began digging through boxes heavy with records: accession ledgers, correspondence among university leaders, geology department scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, and more.

They came upon minutes from a May 1900 meeting of the UW Board of Regents, which noted a request for \$250 for "the purpose of properly mounting a mastodon's bones now belonging to the University." But in June, the motion was voted down, and the record of the mastodon went quiet for more than a decade, with the bones lying somewhere in the bowels of Science Hall, forgotten and collecting dust.

In October 1913, C.K. Leith 1897, PhD1901, chair of the geology department, wrote to E.A. Birge, then dean of natural history and the College of Arts and Sciences, asking that \$500 be allotted to mount "the mastodon remains found in Richland County which for years have been stored in Science Hall." Boaz is located in Richland County.

Leith was following up on a letter to Birge written by Maurice Mehl, a recently hired paleontologist who wanted to mount the remains, in part to promote his field. "The work of restoration here in the [geology] department will do much to arouse interest among students and others in paleontology," Leith wrote. "It is peculiarly fitting also that the Geological Museum should have an actual representative of one of the big animals that formerly roamed through this part of Wisconsin. It should be of considerable interest to visitors and to the state."

Eaton and Null kept digging, and they soon found a letter, dated July 29, 1898, from Birge to the regents. "The heavy rains of last week washed out portions of the skeleton of a mastodon on a ravine not far from Fennimore, Wisconsin," Birge wrote. The Anderson farm was located near Fennimore, about thirty miles southwest of Boaz. "I directed Mr. Buckley, Assistant on the Geological Survey, to go down ... and investigate the matter. He found a considerable number of bones and purchased them for \$75. ... The price which he paid was moderate, as the bones are worth, at a low estimate, three times as much as those for which the Department of Geology paid \$50 last year." The only entry recording a purchase of a mastodon — for \$50 — referred to bones from Boaz, which Eaton found in the geology department ledger dated January 1898. But the university, it seemed, paid for two different sets of mastodon bones.

The letter also noted that Charles Van Hise 1879, 1880, MS1882, PhD1892, a geology professor who later became university president, was interested in "accumulating enough" bones to "make a complete skeleton," indicating a willingness to combine mastodon bones for one display.

The yellowed letters represented a pivotal moment for Eaton. They suggested that the Boaz mastodon — standing proud all those years in the museum — might actually be a composite from multiple creatures. She and Rich Slaughter, director of the Geology Museum, knew that pulling out the old Dietzman photographs was a critical step.

What they discovered next took Eaton's breath away.

f the Boaz mastodon was more than one mastodon, how would Eaton be able to link the bones to where they were found? After she looked over the skeleton and noted some differences in the size, shape, and staining of some of the bones — caused by the organic elements under which the bones had lain for nearly 12,000 years — Eaton realized the femur in the photograph could be key to solving the puzzle. If she could only find that funny fracture.

One hundred years earlier, the bones had been restored in plaster and painted, so finding the break would take some creativity, and some science. Eaton enlisted the help of museum scientist Dave Lovelace and staff at the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research, who ran the femur through a CT scan, a type of medical x-ray that would allow her to examine the natural features of the bone. While viewing the three-dimensional, black-and-white image of the massive thigh, Eaton gasped, realizing that the fractured bone — the one in the old photographs from Anderson Mills — was the very one she had removed from the Boaz skeleton in the museum.

To verify her findings, Eaton sent small bits of material from telltale bones on the skeleton to labs in Arizona, Massachusetts, and Ontario, Canada. The samples were dated by measuring the age of decaying carbon, and their genetic identities were checked, ensuring that they were bones from a mastodon, not from a mammoth, a similar ice-age creature found throughout the Midwest.

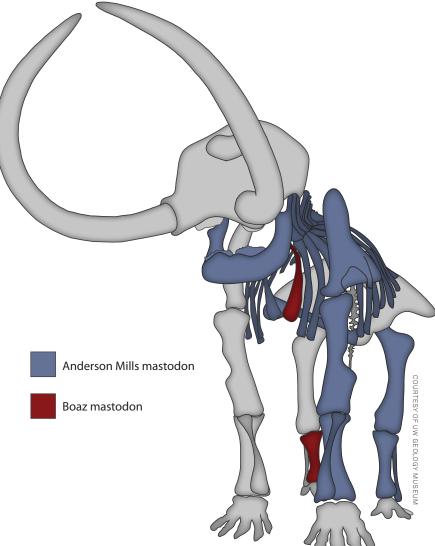
Eaton also tracked down E.R. Buckley's field notes from Boaz. According to university correspondence and historical newspapers, Buckley the man sporting the bow tie and vest in Dietzman's photos — was at the scene of both mastodon discoveries. His sketches from Boaz revealed that few bones were recovered there on behalf of the university. There were so few, in fact, that they could not account for the seventy real fossils that make up the mastodon on display. (The rest of the mastodon is replica bone.)

Today, Eaton and museum staff have rewritten the story of the Boaz mastodon, demonstrating that the town's famous creature is, in fact, two animals found by farm children a year apart in southwestern Wisconsin. While she has not yet located an Anderson relative, the museum has heard from the Dosch family of Boaz, whose members are excited by the renewed interest in "their mastodon." And an officer of the Fennimore Railroad Historical Society Museum, which has two bones from the Anderson Mills find on display, has told Eaton that he and the bones planned to visit the museum soon.

Like Leith before her, Eaton wants to inspire Wisconsinites by teaching more about the megafauna — from giant beavers to stag moose, caribou, and mammoths — that once roamed the Badger State. Along with Geology Museum assistant director Brooke Norsted MS'03 and a team of undergraduates, Eaton spent the summer of 2015 giving library presentations throughout Dane County, and in the fall, they opened a new exhibit at the museum featuring these giant creatures.

"They roamed all over the Midwest, and it's really neat that these were found in Wisconsin," she says. "It's an opportunity to teach people about something they've never heard of — that this is their natural history."  $\bullet$ 

Kelly April Tyrrell MS'11 is a science writer for University Communications.



UW's mastodon is a composite made from bones discovered in two Wisconsin communities just thirty miles apart (shown below in red and blue) and sculpted replicas (in gray).





Roger Sharpe '71 (at left in his Illinois home) started playing pinball at the UW. His life has intertwined with the game ever since.

## THE MAN WHO SAVED PINBALL

First hooked during his college days, Roger Sharpe wrote the definitive book on the game and made playing it legal again.

#### BY DANIEL MCKAY X'16 PHOTOS BY JEFF MILLER

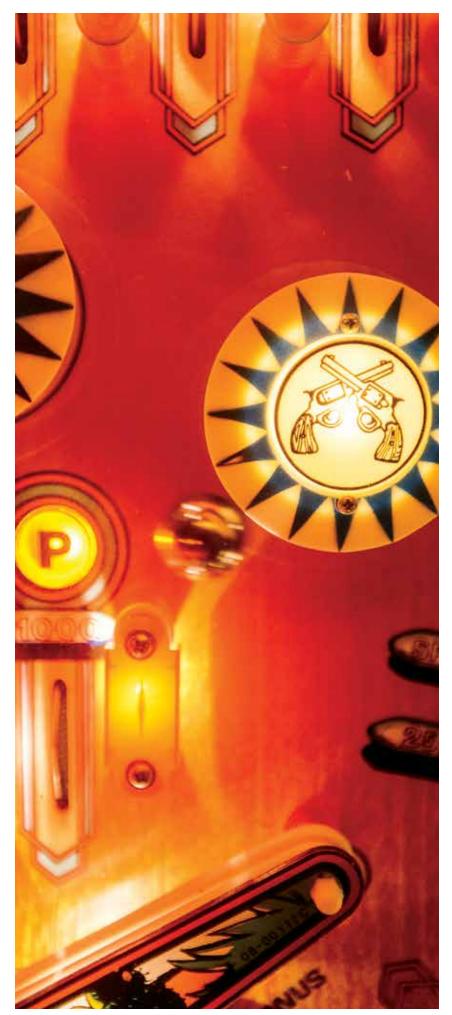
hen I arrive at GameWorks arcade in Schaumburg, Illinois, Roger Sharpe '71 escorts me upstairs, sets up a two-player game on an Iron Man pinball machine, and tells me to go first.

My turn is over before I can turn around to see if he's laughing. It could be a while before I play again. After all, this is the man who saved pinball.

"The big thing with pinball is understanding the geometry of the game, the sequences," he says, describing a game that has evolved since the eighteenth century. In today's version, players hit a steel ball with "flippers" on a decorated board. He starts calling his shots, drawing paths on the glass with his finger. "See? I'll hit up the right lane now."

Calling his shots is what Sharpe is known for. In 1976, as the New York City Council reexamined the city's ban on pinball as gambling, Sharpe testified that the game involves more skill than luck. After he successfully called several shots on a machine of the council's choosing, the officials had seen enough. They voted unanimously to lift the ban, and then-mayor Abraham Beame signed it into law. "So I'm now a historical footnote," Sharpe says.

Before he became a star in the pinball world, Sharpe studied marketing at the UW, where he and his Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity brothers would kill free time playing pinball at hangout spots such as The Pub or the old Kollege Klub. The turning point, Sharpe says, came as he watched a friend expertly balance a burger, fries, soda, and a cigarette as he played.



Sharpe's alter ego, a mustachioed Old West gunslinger, appears in Sharpshooter, the first pinball game he designed. The 1979 game, pictured here, is among the many machines that fill the home he shares with his wife, Ellen, depicted in the orange dress (below right).

"He was controlling everything," Sharpe says. "It was an epiphany of sorts."

After graduation, Sharpe moved to New York, taking an editor position at *GQ* magazine. His desire to play pinball, which had been banned in the city since 1942, led him to pursue a feature story that eventually evolved into a book, *Pinball!*, establishing him as the expert who could save the game. After his famous testimony and time at *GQ*, the Chicago native returned to Illinois, working in the gaming industry for twenty-six years. Today he leads his own company, Sharpe Communications, which specializes in the design, marketing, and promotion of gaming systems.

After my defeat on the Iron Man machine, Sharpe moves down two places to a game that's based on the television series 24. He starts slowly, but soon seems unaware that anything else exists outside of the game. One ball seems to become dozens, dancing around under the glass in controlled chaos.

When his three turns are up, he's set the new high score on that machine. He turns around with a knowing grin and shrugs. "I showed off a little bit," he says. "I got caught up in the moment."

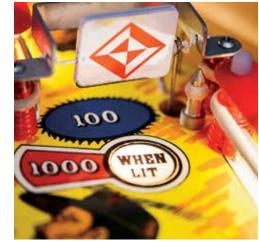
He still plays competitively, and his sons have followed his lead. Zach and Josh Sharpe are ranked fifth and eighteenth worldwide, according to the International Flipper Pinball Association (IFPA), and they compete often in tournaments sponsored by IFPA and the Professional and Amateur Pinball Association, which their father cofounded. Despite a very early influence — Sharpe recalls rocking them to sleep as infants in one arm while he played an Evel Knievel game with the other — he says he never expected them to pick up where he left off. People have since joked about them as the "first family of pinball."

As our time together comes to a close, I ask Sharpe if he worries that pinball will fall by the wayside as new technologies such as virtual reality gain attention.

"It's not going to disappear," he says firmly. "I've said it before: if anybody can offer me something that provides the same type of entertainment experience as pinball, tactilely, sensorially, in every which way, then I'll consider it. But until then, pinball is pinball. It's that incredible wonderland under the glass." • Daniel McKay X'16 serves as editorial intern for On Wisconsin.



























Alumni News at Home and Abroad



### Learning for the Love of It

## For Badgers, learning from UW experts does not stop with graduation.

"The noblest pleasure," wrote Leonardo da Vinci, "is the joy of understanding." He could have been describing Alumni College in the Northwoods — perhaps the noblest event to hit Arbor Vitae, Wisconsin, this summer. From June 2 to 5, alumni can learn more about nature and how we interact with our surroundings while savoring the scenic lake country near the Red Crown Lodge.

The program includes tours of UW-Madison's Trout Lake Station and Kemp Natural Resources Station that highlight how the Wisconsin Idea plays out "up north." Activities include exploring wildlife and forestry topics under the guidance of UW-Madison professors and local alumni experts, as well as enjoying leisure activities such as a sunset pontoon boat ride.

The Alumni College event is just one of the Wisconsin Alumni Association's many alumni learning opportunities offered in partnership with campus and community organizations.

Other programs include the Wisconsin Film Festival Preview Event in Madison on April 12, which features a special screening, reception, and talk with behind-the-scenes details. The Made in Wisconsin series, which hosted a February tour of blade manufacturer Fisher Barton Technology in Watertown, provides an insider view of specific Badger State industries.

The Global Hot Spots Series at UW-Madison's Fluno Center allows alumni to go beyond the headlines to learn from UW experts in politics, economics, and global health. The UW Showcase Series brings campus innovators to Madison's Capitol Lakes Retirement Community, and Wednesday Nite @ the Lab, held at the UW Biotechnology Center and broadcast on Wisconsin Public Television, provides UW scientists a venue for presenting their cutting-edge research.

For the ultimate opportunity to expand your global perspective and fuel your intellectual curiosity, the WAA Travel program provides trips with fellow Badgers. Learn about topics ranging from the Ancient Traditions of the Inland Sea of Japan (May 4–15) to Southern Culture and the Civil War (June 4–13).

For more information, visit uwalumni.com/learning or uwalumni.com/travel.

### \$20 million

commitment selected by the UW Foundation's board in 2008 for the Great People Scholarship program, which raises money for need-based scholarships.

## \$43 million

November 2015, when the Great People program celebrated the completion of its matching component. The aid remains a top priority for the university and the All Ways Forward campaign.



**39%** Great People recipients who are first-generation college students.

#### **International Events**

Founders' Days will take more of an international focus this year. In addition to more than sixty domestic events, which feature university speakers and celebrate the founding of the university, the WAA: Paris chapter will expand its Founders' Day, and the Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong alumni chapters will host their first-ever Founders' Days. WAA also partnered with the Global Health Institute and the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters to livestream a panel discussion among Wisconsin leaders who were in Paris to participate in the United Nations climate conference in December. The Paris chapter hosted a reception for the panelists and local alumni afterward.



#### **Terrace Pavers**

Want a spot on the Union Terrace? You can have one (complete with your name) if you buy a paver as part of the Memorial Union Reinvestment campaign. The pavers — which are sized from six by twelve inches to two square feet, and will be in place when the Terrace reopens later this year — cost between \$250 and \$4,500. Find out more at unionreinvestment.wisc.edu/ terracepaver/.

## Living the Wisconsin Idea

## Meet the 2016 Forward under 40 Award winners.

For nearly a decade, the Wisconsin Alumni Association has honored UW-Madison alumni under the age of forty who have excelled in both careers and community service with the Forward under 40 award. This year's eight winners have demonstrated their commitment to the Wisconsin Idea, the principle that students, faculty, and alumni should improve lives beyond the borders of campus. To nominate an alum for next year's awards, visit forwardunder40.com. The nominations deadline is July 10, 2016.

Virgil Abloh '03 is best known for his high-end fashion label, Off-White c/o Virgil Abloh; his RSVP Gallery clothing store in Chicago; his work as a DJ; and his role as the creative director for music icon Kanye West. But he also makes time to give back to his alma mater. In 2015, he designed limited editions of WAA's The Red Shirt<sup>™</sup>. All proceeds from sales of the shirt went to a fund Abloh created called the Off-Scholarship, which provides need-based financial aid to incoming freshmen.

**Leslie Anderson '04** is the vice president of human resources at the Gap-owned brand Athleta in San Francisco. As a UW student, she held down a part-time job in human resources and partnered with university job-placement centers to lead free workshops for students. In 2015, she was named Retail Innovator of the Year and was invited to the White House to participate in the Upskilling America movement, which brings together business, non-profit, academic, and labor groups to help improve opportunities for American workers.

AnneElise Goetz '02 is a partner at Higgs Fletcher & Mack, one of San Diego's oldest law firms. Additionally, she appears weekly on HLN's *Dr. Drew* and on Fox television networks to provide viewers with legal tips and insights. She also writes and produces her own podcast, *AnneElise Goetz Your Life and the Law*, to help listeners with major legal issues. Goetz is dedicated to helping women seek out leadership positions in government, law, and business.

William Hsu '00 has lived and worked all over the United States. But for him, there's no place like Wisconsin. He runs Hsu's Ginseng Enterprises in Wausau, a business his parents founded in 1974. Through it all, Hsu has not lost his passion for UW-Madison. Working with the UW Foundation, he helped develop an innovative social-media fundraising campaign that launched in 2011 and helped endow a Great People Scholarship. He also serves on the UW Foundation Board of Directors.



This year's honorees are in good company, Past Forward under 40 Award winners include Lynsey Addario '95, a Pulitzer Prize- winning photographer: Jake Wood '05, the founder of Team Rubicon, an international disaster-aid organization: and Kenny Dichter '90, an entrepreneur who founded Marquis Jet and now owns the private aviation company Wheels Up.

Laura Klunder '06, MSW'07 studied social work at UW-Madison and was involved with the university's MultiCultural Student Coalition. As a representative for Adoptee Solidarity Korea, she engaged fellow adult adoptees in strengthening Korea's social welfare system and fighting discrimination against unwed mothers. After four years of grassroots organizing in South Korea, Klunder returned to campus in 2015 to serve as a social justice education specialist with the Multicultural Student Center.

**Aaron Lippman '98** is the principal of Carmen High School of Science and Technology in Milwaukee. During his first year on the job, Carmen was named School of the Year by Milwaukee Charter School Advocates. During Lippman's second year, Carmen took Wisconsin's top spot on the *Washington Post*'s list of schools that challenge students to achieve through college-level exams. Lippman also mentors administrators in Milwaukee-area schools with the goal of closing the racial achievement gap.

**Tom Rausch '04** is the cofounder and director of strategy and innovation at Good World Solutions, which helps workers in the developing world who do not have a secure channel to share complaints about workplace conditions. The organization's flagship product, Laborlink, has reached more than 500,000 workers across Asia, Europe, and South America, maintaining worker anonymity and delivering participation rates that far exceed those typically achieved during social audits.

**Tonya Sloans JD'01** serves as counsel for the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Ethics in Washington, DC. As a student, she decided that she wanted to use her education for community service, and she now gives back to the DC community as a licensed minister. She also founded PowerWoman Enterprise, an organization that aims to improve the lives of women by providing resources to achieve their full career potential. This venture utilizes her skills as an attorney, minister, and entrepreneur.



Too often, we're tempted to experience much of our world through the lens of a cell phone camera. But each April, the On Wisconsin Annual Spring Powwow creates a swirl of feathers, beads, and colors that moves too quickly to capture on screen.

At last year's event in the Field House, spectators rose as participants took to the floor for the Grand Entry, and a Ho-Chunk elder offered blessings in the tribe's traditional language. A drum circle played the "Veterans Honor Song," and veterans entered carrying tribal banners, POW-MIA flags, and the American flag. The procession continued until all participants organizers, pageant royalty, and jubilant community members were dancing in a circle.

For nearly four decades, the scene has looked effortless. But

#### WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE UW TRADITION?

Tell On Wisconsin at onwisconsin@ uwalumni.com, and we'll find out if it's just a fond memory or if it's still part of campus life today. members of the planning committee, UW-Madison's Wunk Sheek student organization, know it's just the opposite.

Wunk Sheek was founded in 1968 with a simple goal. "We're trying to bridge the gap between the UW campus community and the eleven tribal nations living in Wisconsin," says Samantha Pecore x'16, the group's vice president. The small population of Natives on campus sparks a need to educate the majority on American Indian culture. Wunk Sheek does so in part by organizing Native November, featuring numerous campus events to celebrate American Indian Heritage Month, and holding the spring powwow.

The powwows are free and open to the general public as well as members of the Native and campus communities. They provide opportunities for all to actively participate during inter-tribal songs in which everyone is encouraged to dance. Last year's event drew more than 2,800 attendees, and many of the dancers, singers, and drummers were from the Ho-Chunk tribe, which historically occupied the Madison region.

"We always honor Ho-Chunk because we're on their land," explained Pecore at last spring's wrap-up meeting. They also honored Oneida, a tribe whose ten-thousand-resident reservation is near Green Bay.

"We try to switch it up between the various tribes. We're just trying to be inclusive," she said. Looking around the room at her fellow Wunk Sheek members, she smiled, adding, "All of us are from different tribes."

CHELSEA SCHLECHT '13

### **OnAlumni** Class Notes

#### **50s**

In November, when the attention of the nation turned to the University of Missouri's discussion of racism and the actions of its main student-activist group, Concerned Student 1950 a reference to the year when the first black students were admitted — the New York Times interviewed Gus Ridgel PhD'57: one of those original students in 1950. Today the Frankfort, Kentucky, economist and retired Kentucky State University vice president for finance and administration holds an honorary degree from Missouri and has a fellowship in his name, but endured extreme racism while earning his three degrees and conducting postdoc work.

"I am a product of the Professor Raymond Dvorakera UW School of Music," **Dick Schroeder '58, MS'61** says, referring to the late director of bands. "I consider[ed] him a gentleman, mentor, and friend." Schroeder, of Moyock, North Carolina, is retired from school-band conducting but still conducts and composes for the Hampton Roads Metro Band and is the official photographer of artifacts for the Hampton Roads Naval Museum.

None of that proverbial grass is growing under the feet of Roger Nichols MS'59, PhD'64, a University of Arizona professor emeritus of history who lives in Tucson. In fall 2014, he held a Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in History at the University of Calgary, and the second edition of his book American Indians in U.S. History was published. Since then, the sixth edition of his coauthored work Natives and Strangers: A History of Ethnic Americans has also appeared.

#### **60s**

The Rockford [Illinois] Art Museum hosted *Phyllis Bramson: In Praise of Folly* — *A Retrospective, 1985–2015* this

#### BOOK NEWS

Please complete and submit the form at uwalumni.com/ go/bookshelf. We then post submissions to a Wisconsin-alumni section of the book website Goodreads at goodreads.com/ wisalumni, A handful of the books posted there will also appear in each issue of the print magazine.

#### CLASS NOTES SUBMISSIONS classnotes@ uwalumni.com

Class Notes, Wisconsin Alumni Association, 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706-1476

#### DEATH NOTICES AND NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE, AND EMAIL UPDATES

alumnichanges@ uwalumni.com

Alumni Changes, Wisconsin Alumni Association, 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706-1476

Toll free 888-947-2586 (WIS-ALUM)

#### fall to highlight the work of Chicago artist **Phyllis Halperin Bramson MA'64.**

Her collage-and-paint canvases feature strong female images that blend fantastical elements of seduction and eroticism with innocence, fairy tales, and kitsch.

Sculptor R.T. (Richard) "Skip" Wallen '64 is creating a monument along the Lake Michigan shoreline, near the mouth of Forget-Me-Not Creek, that honors the Native Americans who lived in the area and foreshadows the maritime history of Manitowoc County, where he lives. Spirit of the *Rivers* comprises three ten-foot bronze American Indian figures: an elder, a woman, and a man portaging a twenty-foot-long birch-bark canoe. The installation's dedication is scheduled for fall 2016.

If you want to understand comparative medicine and worldviews of acupuncture practitioners, Claire Monod Cassidy '65, MS'68, PhD'73 of Bethesda, Maryland, can enlighten you. She was the first research scientist to work in an acupuncture school, where her nationwide survey of acupuncture-user satisfaction was a global first. This led her to the field of complementary and alternative medicine. She served on several National Institutes of Health panels and became a diplomate of acupuncture, practicing clinician, author, and, today, executive editor of the Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine.

Kay Jarvis-Sladky '65 of Middleton, Wisconsin, is the immediate past president of the University League, a nonprofit that raises scholarship funds for UW-Madison students to the tune of \$150,000 granted in 2014–15. Her activity in the league came in retirement, after teaching Spanish and serving as the world language chair at Madison's La Follette High School. The Midwestern History Association has conferred its annual Frederick Jackson Turner Award for Lifetime Achievement upon **John Miller MA'68, PhD'73,** a professor emeritus of history at South Dakota State University in Brookings. The author of works about former Wisconsin governor Philip La Follette and author Laura Ingalls Wilder, his most recent book is *Small-Town Dreams: Stories of Midwestern Boys Who Shaped America*.

**Claudia Orde Bartz '69** has concluded a ten-year stint as coordinator of the International Council of Nurses' eHealth Programme and retired as a UW-Milwaukee College of Nursing associate clinical professor. The Suring, Wisconsin, resident is also a retired colonel of the U.S. Army, with which she served for three decades.

Detroit-born Grammy, Emmy, Tony, and Webby awardwinning and -nominated songwriter, artist, director, producer, collector, and consummate party thrower Allee (Alta) Willis '69 returned to Motown in 2013 from the bright lights of Hollywood to begin a threepart artist/city collaboration, all profits from which support arts projects in Detroit. Part one was recording *The D* — music and videos of six thousand-plus citizens and celebs singing at fifty-plus city locations — as the unofficial theme song of Motor City's reinvention. Part two was shooting the documentary Allee Willis Loves Detroit. In October, she completed the third piece: a sing-along at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Willis's musical The Color Purple has also begun its revival on Broadway.

#### 70s Jim Haberstroh '70, JD'75

of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin the alumni-board president of the Sigma Phi Society's Alpha of Wisconsin chapter — shared that the Sigma Phi fraternity at the UW has marked a century of owning and caring for the beautiful Bradley House at 106 North Prospect Avenue. The National Historic Landmark was designed by famed Chicago architect Louis Sullivan, and the chapter, with help from alumni and friends, rebuilt areas that were damaged by a 1972 fire.

Now in his thirtieth year at Columbia University, **Steven Schinke '70, MS'72, PhD'75** directs online initiatives for its School of Social Work, occupies the D'Elbert and Selma Keenan Chair, and provides leadership to Columbia's online team. He's also earned the Online Learning Consortium's 2015 Excellence in Online Teaching Award. When Schinke teaches online — and, he says, "with all due respect to Columbia" — he displays his Bucky pennant prominently.

Joanne Grady Huskey '72 has been *busy*. She's the cofounder of Global Adjustments and the American International School of Chennai, both in India. She's the cofounder of the I LIVE 2 LEAD International young women's leadership program and was the longtime international director of VSA Arts at the Kennedy Center, both in Washington, DC. She's the author of The Unofficial Dip*lomat* and now the coauthor of Make It in India. Is it any wonder that Encore.org chose her as a 2014 Purpose Prize Fellow? Huskey has lived in China, India, Kenya, Taiwan, and now Bethesda, Maryland, as the spouse of a senior foreign-service officer.

Detroit and its auto industry have been on the mind of **Paul Ingrassia MA'73** during his thirty-plus years as a *Wall Street Journal* and Dow Jones reporter, editor, executive, Detroit bureau chief, Dow Jones Newswires president, and 1993 Pulitzer Prize corecipient for his reporting on General Motors. He's now the managing editor of the Thomson Reuters news and business-information service, and his latest book is *Engines* of Change: A History of the American Dream in Fifteen Cars.

Late-sixties Peace Corps service in Kenya sparked Joe Lurie MA'73's love of cultures and languages. It also launched his career in international education and a twenty-year stint as executive director of UC-Berkeley's International House, a cultural center and residence where an endowed doctoral fellowship now honors Lurie's service and current status as executive director emeritus. His new book is Perception and Deception: A Mind-Opening Journey Across Cultures.

November 1 was, we hope, a happy retirement day for **Jessie Knight Jr. MBA'75.** He was the executive vice president of external affairs for Sempra Energy in San Diego, the chair of Southern California Gas Company and San Diego Gas & Electric, a former president and CEO of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, and a former commissioner for the California Public Utilities Commission.

The board of the Urban League of Greater Madison has bestowed its prestigious 2015 Whitney M. Young Jr. Awards on the YWCA of Madison and Jonathan Gramling '79, the publisher and editor of the Capital City Hues newspaper. Says the organization's board chair, "Jon's life has been dedicated to the cause of civil rights. He is a fierce advocate for racial justice and a tireless worker for the cause." President's Awards for 2015 have gone to **Carol Peterson Gaines '93** as the league's Exceptional Community Collaborator and to C. (Charles) Wade Harrison JD'07 for distinguished service.

Winsted, Connecticut, is home to the American Museum of Tort Law. Founded by consumer-protection pioneer Ralph Nader and focusing on wrongful injury law, the nation's only law museum opened in

ALUM WHAT? Are you confused about what to call yourself as a graduate? You're not alone! One male graduate is an alumnus; one female grad is an alumna. The plural *alumni*, which is often mistakenly used in a singular sense, refers to the members of an all-male group or a mixed group of male and female grads. Use alumnae for the members of an all-female graduate group.

X-PLANATION An x preceding a degree year indicates that the person did not complete, or has not yet completed, that degree at UW-Madison.

"I've helped individuals and large companies patent everything from complex chemical catalysts ... to dog collars, toys, and other ideas." September with executive director **Rick Newman JD'79** at the helm. He most recently practiced consumer law at the Connecticut firm of Adelman Hirsch & Newman. The museum houses a digital-information clearinghouse, historical displays, and interactive exhibits. Future plans include outreach, educational programming, and a full-sized courtroom where lawyers can reenact landmark cases.

#### **80s**

Felicitations to **Doug Farnsley LLM'80:** the proud holder of a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Louisville [Kentucky]'s Brandeis School of Law. The partner at Stites & Harbison in Louisville focuses on civil trial work and is president of the Kentucky Bar Association.

Former UW Marching Band drummer Dave Jewell '80 played alongside Jamie Byers '82, MBA'83, who, while attending law school at the UW, drowned in Lake Mendota. To honor Byers, Jewell had a Wemblem added to a snare drum to be used by the lead snare player each year, and an additional "W snare" has since been added to the drum line. Jewell, of Anaheim, California, is a marketing communications manager at the Yamaha Corporation of America.

Arthur Pasquarella MS'80 is working to raise awareness about kidney disease and its risk factors as the National Kidney Foundation's new chair. With a family history of kidney disease — and as a 2010 donor for his brother he also remains a passionate advocate for organ donation. Pasquarella is the COO and executive VP of Equus Capital Partners, a national real-estate investment company based in Philadelphia.

Hillary Anschel Ross '80's expertise as an executive-search consultant has led

#### **Recognition** Raney Aronson-Rath '92

to a promotion to principal in the Oak Brook, Illinois, office of the executive-search firm Witt/Kieffer. She specializes in recruiting physicians and clinicians for senior-level informatics, analytics, research, quality, IT, and chief medical information officer posts.

As part of a "second-act career," **Jeff Roznowski '80** is an adjunct lecturer at the Milwaukee School of Engineering and has earned its 2015 Johnson Controls Part-Time Faculty Award. He's also an alderperson in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and a cofounder and president of the Wisconsin Wireless Association.

At age fifty, **Stacey Wasserman Horowitz '81** of San Mateo, California, recharged her career by launching Shopping for a Change (SFAC), a nonprofit online seller of handmade gifts that give back to those who crafted them. SFAC partners with sixty-plus artisan groups in thirty countries, working primarily with women from economically disadvantaged areas, to help provide jobs, business education, and profits to fund local improvement projects.

The nonprofit National Association of Patent Practitioners (NAPP) now boasts patent attorney and NAPP board member **Jeffrey Wendt '81** as its 2015–16 president. He says of his career and current practice at the Wendt Firm in The Woodlands, Texas, "I've helped individuals and large companies patent everything from complex chemical catalysts ... to dog collars, toys, and other ideas."

The new state geologist and director of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey is **Ken Bradbury PhD'82.** He's also on the faculties of UW-Madison and the UW-Extension and serves on many state and national boards. Being an outdoor kind of guy, Bradbury has skied the Birkebeiner twenty-eight times

#### A NEW ERA FOR FRONTLINE

It takes real diplomacy to seek truth behind the Ebola crisis in West Africa or famine in South Sudan. **Raney Aronson-Rath '92** is up to the task.

Aronson-Rath is sifting and winnowing at the pinnacle of journalism as the second-ever executive producer of the PBS investigative series *Frontline*. She took the top spot in 2015 and has been recognized for driving innovation behind the series' respected documentary journalism. A recent look at Ebola in West Africa marked the program's inaugural report in virtual reality — a big step in *Frontline*'s expansion into new storytelling frontiers.

"We're trying to tell some of our hardest stories in virtual reality," Aronson-Rath says of the presentation style, shot and produced to provide a 360-degree, immersive experience when viewers use a special cardboard device paired with a smartphone. "Sometimes being immersed in an environment that you can never yourself go to can really help you understand the world better."

That's the mindset that Aronson-Rath had when leaving home in rural Vermont for UW-Madison, anticipating a career as an international diplomat. She double-majored in history and South Asian studies and learned Hindi and Urdu alongside international students.

"I wanted to be fluent in multiple languages, and travel the world, and live overseas, and have that access to the rest of the world," she says.But she experienced a decisive career-path twist: the newsroom of the *Daily Cardinal*, where, as a freshman city-desk reporter, her editor often pushed her to "go make it better." The *Cardinal* was just the start of what would be Aronson-Rath's many collaborations with fellow Wisconsin journalists, including Pulitzer Prize winners **Lowell Bergman '66, Walt Bogdanich '75,** and her then-editor, the late **Anthony Shadid '90.** "I think a lot of us who grew up at the *Cardinal* then went into serious journalism because we saw the potential as young people," recalls Aronson-Rath, who went from a postgraduation reporting gig in Taiwan to roles at ABC News, the *Wall Street Journal*, MSNBC, and, in 2007, to *Frontline* as a senior producer.

Today she is headquartered at WGBH-TV in Boston, where she lives with her husband, NPR correspondent Arun Rath, and their two young children. Aronson-Rath says anyone who wants to understand the world better should be watching *Frontline*.

"We essentially tell you in a deeper way what's happening, and we make sense of it for you," she says. "Or, we tell you it makes absolutely no sense, and this is why."

KATE KAIL DIXON '01, MA'07

#### Recognition Scott Wilhelm '01



#### VA VA VAYANDO

**Scott Wilhelm '01** (third from left, above, with Poppin' Chris [Hirwa Christian], Aminatha Murekatete, and Grace Mukeshimana) has a knack for collecting eclectic experiences abroad. Not long after he began volunteering with the Peace Corps in El Salvador, his town had to be evacuated when a neighboring volcano roared to life. He's also got a small and underperforming investment in a herd of Kenyan sheep.

Now he's in Rwanda, curating *your* next adventure with his startup, Vayando.

In the Peace Corps, Wilhelm and another volunteer, Jason Seagle, would meet on their days off to share beers and the comforts of English conversation. They saw tourists, but only on the well-worn paths laid forth in the Lonely Planet guidebook. These paint-by-numbers travelers had no idea what they were missing, so what if Wilhelm and Seagle could connect them with the ingenious entrepreneurs back in their villages?

After the Corps, the pair kept up a dialogue across continents, and it kept circling around their passion for unique travel experiences. In late 2014, they raised \$15,000 through Indiegogo to launch Vayando.com, a website that connects travelers with small farmers and local craftspeople. Wilhelm left his steady paycheck and boarded a plane to Africa.

Now he's built an enchanting itinerary for the curious traveler. Fashion design in a small, urban tailoring shop? Take in the local boxing scene or get a lesson in African hip-hop dancing? Learn how coffee gets processed or get buzzed while beekeeping with traditional log hives? Travelers can do all of that and more.

The online startup is potentially life changing for microentrepreneurs such as Samuel Muhayimana on Kumugongwe Island in Lake Kivu. Now twenty-eight, he was orphaned during the Rwandan genocide but grew up a dairy farmer like his parents. A few \$20 Vayando bookings double his income for the month.

"I've seen the silverback gorillas that most tourists come to see, which is \$700 for one hour," says Wilhelm. "They're spectacular, but I had just as much fun hanging out with Samuel, who has cows. And they swim across the lake!"

While Vayando feeds a burgeoning interest in traditional home economics, it also balances modern and traditional livelihoods. By day, travelers can see what it's like to be a web developer in a thriving African city. By night, they can experience moonlight fishing in a handmade boat.

Vayando is currently booking experiences in Costa Rica and Rwanda, but Wilhelm hopes to grow by opening it up to Peace Corps volunteers and spreading the word among local artisans. "It's my job to find really neat people doing neat things," he says. "It doesn't get better than that." **ERIK NESS**  (and counting), hiked the entire Appalachian Trail, and earned the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award from the UW-Madison Department of Geoscience, among many other honors.

**Richard Cates Jr. PhD'83** and Daniel Bloom '06 reached the 19,341-foot summit of Mount Kilimanjaro in August. Besides the breathtaking views, Cates was taken with the rich diversity of people whom they met: "It has always been so rewarding for me to have opportunities to meet and work with people from cultures that are so very different from ours." He directs the Wisconsin School for Beginning Dairy and Livestock Farmers, is the associate director of the Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems, and is a UW senior lecturer in soil science. Bloom is married to Cates's daughter, Shannon Cates Bloom '05.

Mike Mahnke '84 and Tim Cullen '93 have, says Cullen, "realized the dream of a lifetime" by purchasing the longtime Verona, Wisconsin, marketing firm Roundhouse (now Roundhouse Partners). Mahnke, its senior vice president, has long moonlighted as the PA voice of Camp Randall Stadium and the Kohl Center; and Cullen, the firm's president, is also president of the world-famous (truly!) Rock Aqua Jays Water Ski Club in Janesville, Wisconsin.

Liz (Mary Elizabeth) Miller Dawes '85 and (Robert) Scott Dawes '84 created the Robert Connor Dawes Foundation to honor their son, Connor, a promising crew athlete, following his death. The foundation funds pediatric-brain-cancer research, care, and development projects and has become the largest of its kind in Australia, where the Daweses live. In October, UW rowing coaches Chris Clark and Bebe Bryans and their Stanford counterparts lent their

talents and teams to "race" one hundred kilometers on rowing machines in the inaugural, livestreamed Connor's Erg Challenge as a fundraiser and tribute.

Since 1973, the International Crane Foundation has engaged in research, breeding and reintroduction, landscape conservation and restoration, education, and international collaboration to safeguard cranes from its headquarters in Baraboo, Wisconsin - home to the only complete, living collection of all fifteen species in the world. Among those carrying out this good work are director of conservation medicine Barry Hartup '85, MS'89, DVM'93; grants manager Becky Abel '86, MS'93; president and CEO Rich Beilfuss '88, MS'90, MS'91, PhD'02; Fengshan Li PhD'97, based in China as the leader of the Yangtze and blacknecked crane programs; director of marketing and communications Anne Sayers '99; and Triet Tran MS'99, PhD'99, based in Vietnam as the Southeast Asia program coordinator.

Mark Shanda MFA'85 has been active with the United States Institute for Theatre Technology since 1986, was named one of its fellows in 2012, and is now beginning his three-year term as its president. Shanda is a professor of theater design and technology and a former dean of arts and humanities at The Ohio State University in Columbus; a leader in evaluating college tenure, especially for technical theater faculty; and the coauthor of two books with UW-Madison professor emeritus Dennis Dorn '70 of Middleton, Wisconsin. Shanda is also overseeing Ohio State's \$200 million Arts District Project.

We're going to state for the record that KCBS and KCAL — CBS-owned TV stations in Los Angeles — are darned lucky to have **Bill Dallman '86** as their new vice president and news director, fresh from "It has always been so rewarding for me to have opportunities to meet and work with people from cultures that are so very different from ours." **Richard Cates Jr.** PhD'83

his latest post as VP of news at Fox Sports 1. He began his TV career at KAAL in Austin, Minnesota — the birthplace of Spam (the tinned meat, not the annoying emails) — with his wife, **Angela Cushman Dallman '89**, and **Joe Champ '85, MA'93** of Fort Collins, Colorado. Angela is celebrating her twelfth season as the executive producer of the DIY and HGTV networks' *Bath Crashers*.

Darren Bush '88, the owner and chief paddling evangelist of Rutabaga Paddlesports in Monona, Wisconsin, notes proudly — and rightfully so that his store is among *Outdoor* Insight magazine's 2015 Great 8 in Outdoors: one of the nation's top eight "one-store wonders" outdoor-specialty retailers. It's also been lauded repeatedly by Canoe and Kayak, Outside, and Sea Kayaker magazines. Rutabaga runs the largest flat-water paddling school in the nation; a sea kayak symposium in Wisconsin's Door County; and the Canoecopia event in Madison.

Steven (Joshua) Lundin '88's darkly humorous novel, The Manipulator, claims to be the "world's first satirical techno noir business thriller," and we believe it! The scarily prophetic look at what could happen to a media-obsessed culture such as ours took first place in the 2014 Somerset Award satire category of the international Chanticleer Book Reviews Blue Ribbon Writing Contest. Lundin is a pop-culture anthropologist, culture editor for About Time and Wrist Watch magazines, and the award-winning chief hunter and gatherer at BIGfrontier Communications Group, a Chicago media-strategy boutique.

Archaeologists at the Israel Antiquities Authority are hailing **Brent Seales MS'88, PhD'91**'s finding as the "greatest discovery since the Dead Sea Scrolls." But *why*? Seales has created software that made it possible to read the fifteenhundred-year-old Ein Gedi scroll, found inside a holy ark near the Dead Sea. The badly burned animal-skin scroll could not be unrolled, but, working from x-ray scans, the software unrolled it virtually to reveal its Hebrew text from Leviticus. Seales is a professor and chair of the computer science department at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

Colonel Paul Olsen '89 has retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. During his twenty-six years of service, he's held leadership posts in combat units in Europe, the Middle East, and the United States, with decorated service in Somalia, Bosnia, and Iraq; completed strategic-planning assignments with army HQ and the Department of Defense: and commanded the Engineer District of Norfolk, Virginia. He's now leading sea-level-rise research efforts at Old Dominion University in Norfolk. Olsen; his brother, retired lieutenant Charles Olsen '87, MBA'00 of Hartland, Wisconsin; and his father, retired colonel Ralph Olsen '51, MD'54 of West Bend, Wisconsin, were all commissioned from the UW's ROTC program.

The women's apparel company Body Bark was the brainchild of Catherine Haskell Poirier '89 in Denver in 2008. Today, as its president, she designs a made-in-America product line that comprises curve-hugging, layerable tops crafted of soft, sustainable beech wood fiber. While on a sales trip, Poirier met Susan Bernsen Ostrov '85, the new owner of Over the Top boutique in Highland Park, Illinois, and they engaged their Badger creativity to host a trunk show at the shop in September.

**Suzanne Vernon PhD'89** is a leading researcher of myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS). Through the Salt Lake City– based Bateman Horne Center, she's working to quantify the ME/CFS diagnostic criteria recommended by the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine. This is a necessary step toward creating diagnostic tests for this debilitating and life-threatening disease, estimated to affect up to 2.5 million people nationally, most of whom remain undiagnosed.

#### 90s

The UW's School of Journalism and Mass Communication lured six big-hitters to campus in October to share with students their strategies for success. The "Finding Your Creative Outlet, and Making a Living Doing It" presentation featured Andrew Cohen '90, the managing editor of publications and a senior writer for the UC-Berkeley School of Law: Steve Dolinsky '90, a TV and radio food journalist known as the "Hungry Hound" to Chicagoans; Chicago entertainment and sports photographer Todd Rosenberg '90; Barry Baum '92, who oversees business communications for the Brooklyn Nets, Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment, and Nassau Events Center; Mike Bresnahan '93, who covers the Lakers for the L.A. Times; and award-show and TV writer and executive producer Josh Bycel '93 of Los Angeles.

Bobbi (Roberta) Cordano **JD'90** is the new president of Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. Federally chartered in 1864, it is the world's only four-year, liberal arts university whose entire roster of programs and services is designed for students who are deaf or who have hearing impairments. Cordano, who is deaf, was most recently the VP of programs for the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation and has been an assistant dean at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Schoool of Public Affairs and a Minnesota assistant attorney general.

The Central New York Psychiatric Center has

#### WELCOME, ALL!

The Wisconsin Alumni Association (WAA) encourages diversity, inclusivity, nondiscrimination, and participation by all alumni, students, and friends of UW-Madison in its activities.

#### WISCONSIN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (WAA) MEMBERSHIP If you're already

a member, we [heart] you! If you're not, please consider the nifty reasons to become one at uwalumni.com/ membership/ benefits, and then if you're so inclined, you can join the WAA community at uwalumni.com/ membership. selected Deborah McCulloch '91, MSW'92 as its new executive director. The comprehensive mental-health system provides treatment for people who are incarcerated in New York's state and county correctional systems. A national expert in sex-offender treatment, McCulloch was previously the executive director of Wisconsin's Sexually Violent Persons Program and superintendent of the Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center in Mauston, Wisconsin. From her base in New York,

Andrea Baske Sullivan '91 is working to integrate marketing and business-development activities across a global network as the new chief marketing officer of Interbrand, an Omnicom-owned brand consultancy.

In 2003. Ernest Darkoh '93 of Germantown, Maryland, cofounded BroadReach Healthcare to advance approaches that improve access to quality health care for populations in need. BroadReach Analytics has since been added to collect and analyze the metrics associated with the social determinants of health and well-being, and the firm has initiated pilot programs in Africa as well. BroadReach has earned a Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship 2015 Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award and an invitation to participate in TEDMED's 2015 Hive, an immersive experience for entrepreneurs.

Anthony Rose '93 of West Orange, New Jersey, is applying his depth of banking experience to Marakon, a management consulting practice within Charles River Associates, which provides litigation, regulatory, financial, and management consulting. He's also an adjunct professor at Columbia Business School in New York City.

Brava, **Brenda Williams MA'95!** She was recently promoted to senior associate at Quinn Evans Architects in Madison. Her twenty-five years of experience as a landscape architect have focused on the analysis and conservation of cultural landscapes — particularly those in the public arena.

UW students love Lake Mendota, but water recreation also introduces danger. Enter the UW Lifesaving Station, staffed by trained rescuers who work to prevent accidents and respond to tragedies from a watchtower that former UW president Charles Van Hise ordered built after the 1908 drowning of two students. Assistant supervisor Sean Geib '97 says that although the team works closely with the Hoofer Sailing Club, police, and sheriffs, "The crazy thing about our job" is that, for a lake and student body of this size, "there aren't any other [campus] places like us."

Diversity MBA magazine has named Foley and Lardner partner Jessica Lochmann '98 to its 2015 list of the Top 100 under 50 Executive Leaders. She works in the transactional and securities practice in the law firm's Milwaukee office.

Congratulations to **Kristi Luzar '98:** she's been promoted to executive director of the Milwaukee-based Urban Economic Development Association of Wisconsin, an organization dedicated to the professional enrichment of those who work in the field of community and economic development.

As the associate director of international program development for Road Scholar in Amherst, Massachusetts, Adelia Bussey Pope '98 has created the new Living and Learning series for travelers who want to reside and study abroad for extended periods in independent but supported ways. It launched in Florence and has expanded to Paris, Berlin, Seville, Aix-en-Provence, and Montréal. Road Scholar is a not-for-profit educational travel organization for adults.

When Kate Griffin Young

#### Recognition Regina Davan '03

'98 received a very grim diagnosis of twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome for the sons she was carrying, she and her husband found the Fetal Health Foundation, a national nonprofit that guided them to specialized medical help. At twenty-eight weeks, she gave birth to the tiny twins, who struggled with many health challenges as babies but are now doing well in school. Young, of Littleton, Colorado, participated in her first half-Ironman in September to raise money for the Fetal Health Foundation.

The Wisconsin District Attorneys Association (WDAA) has lauded two fine Badgers. Michelle Biese Viste JD'99, WDAA's Wisconsin Deputy District Attorney of the Year, had been deputy district attorney for Dane County and is now an assistant attorney general for the Wisconsin Department of Justice. Peter Tempelis '01, JD'06, MPA'06, Milwaukee County assistant district attorney and head of its domestic violence unit, is WDAA's Wisconsin Assistant District Attorney of the Year.

#### **00s**

Two '00s grads are successfully climbing their academic ladders. Alicia Johnson '01 has received tenure at Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minnesota. She teaches in the Mathematics, Statistics, and **Computer Science Department** and researches Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods and their application in Bayesian statistics. Travis Mountain '04, MS'08 has been named an assistant professor of agricultural and applied economics in Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and concentrates on the economic well-being of households and communities in Virginia as an Extension specialist.

Fans of the Oshkosh, Wisconsin-based Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and



#### QUEEN OF KILTS

**Regina "Jeanie" Davan '03** (center) first enrolled at UW-Madison as a pre-optometry student, but she found herself stitching a new career path years later. She had left school to become a web designer, and then she worked in an optometry office before deciding to finish her degree. The semester after she returned to campus as an adult student, one of her two sons was diagnosed with leukemia.

While looking for classes with flexible attendance requirements, Davan discovered the theatre and drama department's costume design program, and it seemed like the ideal fit. She credits **Gail Brassard**, an associate professor of costume design, and **Jim Greco**, the costume studio supervisor, for guiding her journey to graduation. "My son was sick for three and a half years as I was going through school," she says. "They gave me so much help and leeway. I knew from the start that they believed in me."

Davan earned her degree the same month that her son finished treatment. She was already taking on sewing projects on the side when a friend asked her to create a kilt, and the idea for a new business was born. "I just became obsessed with it," she says.

Since 2006, Alt.Kilt has established a thriving — if surprising — business as the only custom, contemporary kilt maker in the world. The company, now one of only four commercial kilt makers in the country, has grown to a team of five that makes some 350 kilts each year. Davan puts the finishing touches on all of them, and she personally handles the more challenging ones, such as those made from leather or Kevlar.

"One gentleman sent me his karate [uniform]," she says, recalling one of her favorite projects. "I turned that into a kilt with a custom pocket for his nunchakus."

Who's buying these one-of-a-kind kilts? A wide range of (mostly) men, she says, including pipes-and-drums teams, steampunk aficionados, gamers, nightclub owners, and more. Most are based on the U.S. coasts, though Davan also ships regularly to New Zealand and Australia. Many are repeat buyers. "I have guys who have bought ten, twelve kilts," she says. "I have some customers who no longer wear pants." The kilts start at around \$200 and can go as high as \$700, depending on customization.

Davan proudly spots her creations at various events such as trade shows, comic cons, and steampunk gatherings — and on the street.

"I like coming up with new designs and seeing what works," she says. "And I can stop conversation anywhere by saying what I do for a living." SANDRA KNISELY '09, MA'13 its annual AirVenture fly-in can feel great knowing that **Bryan Phillip '01,** EAA's new senior business-development manager, is on the job to make what the association calls "the world's most engaged community of aviation enthusiasts" even better.

Michael Stadler '01, MD'06 is carrying out a project called "Utilization of Care Pathways to Decrease Surgical Readmissions" as one of five 2015-16 visiting scholars of the American Board of Medical Specialties Research and Education Foundation. The professionaldevelopment program facilitates research to improve patient care and exposes scholars to broad aspects of health care delivery. Stadler is an assistant professor in the Department of Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

Although Chicagoan **Jason Berta '02** and some of his mates on Team PSP Logistics had no sailing experience, they trained rigorously before setting sail aboard a seventy-foot ocean-racing yacht this fall in the tenth iteration of Clipper Round the World: a forty-thousand-nautical-mile amateur sailboat race. Berta participated in the first leg, from London to Rio de Janeiro. **Jessica Bloodgood '02** of Chicago let us know about Berta's grand adventure.

Here's where some '00s legal eagles have landed ... Daniel Ark '03, JD'07; Valerie Vidal JD'07: and Jonathan Hackbarth JD'08 all in the Milwaukee office of Quarles & Brady — have made partner. Chicagoan Alison Crane '03 has been elevated to principal at Jackson Lewis, and Eric Barber JD'04 is a new insurance partner in Michael Best & Friedrich's Madison office. Lavelle Law in Palatine, Illinois, has welcomed attorney Chance Badertscher '07, and paralegal Amanda Cárdenas MS'08 is new to Jordan Ramis

#### "I experienced a metamorphosis at the University of Wisconsin."

Benna Wise-Levine '06

#### "What the turducken is up with tradition?" Ethan Krupp '12

OBITUARIES

Badger Insider, the Wisconsin Alumni Association's (WAA) thrice-yearly magazine for its members, is home to the vast majority of obituary listings of WAA members and friends. in Bend, Oregon. Lastly, **John Calewarts '09, MAcc'10** and **Paul Zimmer JD'15** have joined O'Neil, Cannon, Hollman, DeJong & Laing in Milwaukee.

Laura Delaney Roessler '03 and her mother, a forty-year master plumber(!), are wine makers at the family-owned Elmaro Vineyard in Trempealeau, Wisconsin, who have garnered numerous international awards. Their top prize thus far — dubbed a "stunning upset" - is a Sweepstakes Award from the 2015 Long Beach Grand Cru international wine competition. Out of a thousand-plus entries, it was Elmaro's 2014 West Prairie White — an "unusual varietal made from the Geisenheim grape" — that swept the whites.

The U.S. Department of State has selected **Eric Wenninger '03** for its ten-month English Language Teaching Fellowship in Hanoi, Vietnam. Through projects developed by U.S. embassies in eighty-plus developing countries, language professionals work directly with local educators to enact significant, sustainable enhancements to the way that English is taught at academic institutions abroad.

Brian Jordan '05 – as Caselli Jordan — is making "conscious acoustic music" in Philadelphia as part of the duo City Love. Hip-hop, harmonies, guitar, and cajón blend to, he says, "help in some small way to heal some of the current divides in our country." In an attempt to go full time with his music, Jordan plans to offer student workshops and perform around the world, with an assist from his UW education in Italian and study-abroad experiences. City Love is spreading love with its new album, Come True.

*Rolling Stone* magazine opined in September that **Carrie Coon MFA'06** was "robbed" when an Emmy nomination was not forthcoming for her "haunted turn as motherof-the-departed Nora Durst" in HBO's *The Leftovers*. The Chicago-based actress reprised her role in the series in October.

Benna Wise-Levine '06 writes, "I experienced a metamorphosis at the University of Wisconsin" — one that allowed her to explore her voice through writing and discover her passion for volunteering. Eventually, she moved to Rwanda to volunteer at the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village, a home and school for orphans and vulnerable youth. Inspired by the ways in which computers and the Internet enhanced her Rwandan students' lives, Wise-Levine joined Google in San Francisco as a technology industry strategist and supports the youth village from afar.

ChildServ, one of the Chicago area's oldest nonprofits working with underserved children and families, has promoted **Catherine Enright '07** from health coordinator to director of early childhood. ChildServ uses a comprehensive, tailored service program that helps kids to build and sustain better lives. Enright also served in the Peace Corps in Malawi, Africa.

Joseph Berg '08 completed his residency at Broadlawns Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa, in June and began his practice as a family-medicine physician at Upland Hills Health's new clinic in Mount Horeb, Wisconsin, in August. He also sees patients at the hospital in nearby Dodgeville.

A Big Red high five goes to Teach For America (TFA) alumna Mitra Jalali Nelson '08. As one of TFA's 2015-16 Capitol Hill Fellows, she's working in national policy and politics in the office of Representative Niki Tsongas of Massachusetts, gaining legislative experience, and taking advantage of professional development, mentorship, and networking opportunities. Nelson has taught middle school social studies in New Orleans and Minneapolis through TFA, helped to develop

#### Contribution Curtis Hinca JDx'16

educator training in educational equity, and worked to pass a school-funding referendum in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

In August, **David Olson MA'08** participated in the inaugural White House Demo Day: a time for entrepreneurs to present to President Obama and network with government agencies and other entrepreneurs. He's the business development coordinator for Export Abroad, a software firm that helps clients to engage in international trade.

The Madison Radicals professional ultimate Frisbee team made it to the American Ultimate Disc League's championship game in August (yay!) but lost to the San Jose Spiders (sad sigh). Badgers abound on the team: Tom Annen '09: Andrew Drews '09: Seth Meyer MA'09, PhD'12; David Wiseman '12; Kelsen Alexander '13; Thomas Coolidge '13; Brian Hart '13; Patrick Shriwise MS'13, PhDx'16; Colin Camp '14; Peter Graffy MPHx'17; and Chris Wilen PhDx'18. And, the Radicals' management includes coach and co-owner Tim DeByl '96, co-owners David Martin '00 and Chad Coopmans '02, and assistant coach Jacob Spiro '00. Thanks to **Caitlin Cieslik-Miskimen** '07, MA'14 — a UW PhD candidate who's researching the history of ultimate Frisbee in Madison — for letting us know!

#### **10s**

From a field of more than six hundred scholars from research institutions across India, **Subharati Ghosh PhD'10** garnered the only award in the social sciences when the National Academy of Sciences of India (NASI) and the Elsevier Corporation chose its NASI-Scopus Young Scientists for 2015. She's an assistant professor at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai, specializing in the social determinants of health,



#### WAY TO PAY IT FORWARD

Long before **Curtis Hinca JDx'16** set foot in the University of Wisconsin Law School, he was on a path to serve others: after high school, he enlisted in the air force and served on active duty for six years. During his service, Hinca was exposed to criminal justice issues and first considered attending law school as a way to continue to give back to the community.

At the UW, Hinca learned the ins and outs of investigation and legal research through an internship in the district attorney's office and his work with the Wisconsin Innocence Project (WIP). During his time at WIP, he helped to exonerate an innocent man — and saw the value of persistence and overcoming obstacles. Hinca is also an active volunteer in the school's Pro Bono Program and helps clients with legal needs through the Veterans Law Center: a free, walk-in legal clinic serving low-income veterans and their families.

This hands-on experience proved useful when Hinca was offered the exceptional opportunity to argue in front of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, the nation's highest military court. When the court made a special visit to the UW Law School, it permitted a student to argue on behalf of each side of the case as a friend of the court. Hinca argued in support of the appellant in a Fourth Amendment search-andseizure case and got a glimpse of the challenges faced by appellate attorneys.

Transformative educational experiences such as these enable the UW Law School to attract remarkable students like Hinca. Donor support makes it possible to create student-centered education, fund the Veterans Law Center, and provide scholarships to the men and women who have served our country.

For more information, visit allwaysforward.org.

### Contribution Lori Anderson '79, MS'01, PhD'06

developmental disabilities, and severe mental illness.

Miami University's Earth Expeditions Global Field Program sent three Badgers on research adventures this summer as they pursue master's degrees from the Oxford, Ohio, school. Rosemary Slick '11 and Brittany Lumley '12 studied the ecosystems, flora, and fauna of Mexico's Bahía de los Ángeles UNESCO World Heritage site and the Sea of Cortez, while Colleen Cosgrove '12 dove into coral-reef ecology and marine-systems conservation at Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

The cofounder of the outdoor-equipment company Hyde is (Hugh) Pat Hughes '12 of Elm Grove, Wisconsin, who, a little bird tells us, lives by Hyde's mission statement: "Infinite Possibilities, Innovative Positivity, Live Passionately, Adventure Frequently, Always STAYRILED." Hyde has created a new, nonbulky life jacket called the Wingman — intended for use by everyone from triathletes to surfers to those who fish - and Hughes is working to sell it through national retailers.

Ethan Krupp '12 asks the musical question, "What the turducken is up with tradition?" and explores what happens when Thanksgiving and a Jewish bris coincide in The Thanksgiving Circumcision: the new, original musical comedy that he's created with **David** Redick '11. With book, lyrics, music, and music direction by Redick — a former UW Mad-Hatter who's known as Davyd Reddyk in artistic circles and book, lyrics, and production by Krupp — a former Wisconsin Alumni Student Board member — the show played at MCL Chicago Comedy Theater throughout November.

Call her old fashioned (she's been called worse), but Class Notes/Diversions editor Paula Wagner Apfelbach '83 still believes in panty hose.



#### **HELPING NURSES HELP KIDS**

For many kids, the school nurse may be the only health care professional they see consistently. And the challenges many school nurses face are familiar to medical professionals everywhere: too little time, too few resources, and not enough opportunities for collaboration with peers.

As the national rate of children at risk for chronic health issues climbs, the role that school health services play will be critical to understanding and treating these illnesses. In order to prepare school nurses to meet the demands of health care in an educational setting, **Lori Schumacher Anderson '79, MS'01, PhD'06** has created the web-based program eSchoolCare. A clinical professor in UW-Madison's School of Nursing, Anderson designed the program to be used to manage the care of children with chronic health conditions such as asthma, severe allergies, diabetes, mental health issues, epilepsy, and cancer.

eSchoolCare, which is currently in use throughout Wisconsin and West Virginia, connects nurses with expertise from the UW-Madison School of Nursing and the American Family Children's Hospital. There is immediate, step-by-step guidance for student care: checklists, photos, videos, and links to community resources.

Helping kids to better manage their chronic health conditions can make a substantial difference in their education and livelihood. Students with long-lasting health issues can miss as much as three times the amount of school as healthy children. They are less likely to live up to their academic potential; they have lower odds of graduating from college or finding employment; and they are more likely to need public assistance due to lower incomes.

By investing in students' well-being at an early age, we can ensure a brighter future for them and for their communities.

For more information, visit allwaysforward.org.

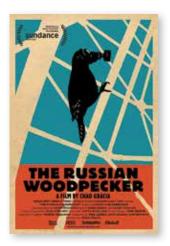
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### Diversions



#### NUCLEAR CONSPIRACY

The title of director/editor **Chad Gracia '92**'s debut documentary film — *The Russian Woodpecker* —



invites so many questions, but, it turns out, it has nothing to do with birds and everything to do with Fedor Alexandrovich: an eccentric, Ukrainian artist who is investigating the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster. His conspiracy theory goes like

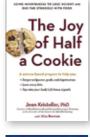
this: Soviet officials caused the meltdown to mask a failed plot to penetrate Western communications systems (and minds?) using a massive radio transmitter — nicknamed "the Woodpecker" for the pecking sound it made. Fantastical? Perhaps. But the more Alexandrovich's inquiries unnerve the oldguard officials, the more credible his theory seems.

The Boston-based Gracia has worked in New York theater for nearly two decades as a producer, dramaturge, and playwright, focusing on plays in verse. He was in Ukraine doing a theater project when he met Alexandrovich, whom the film portrays as both protagonist and antagonist. Gracia hopes it will enlighten audiences about Ukraine's history and its difficulty shedding its Soviet past. And, modern-day tensions between Ukraine and Russia give it renewed relevance and resonance.

The Russian Woodpecker won the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Documentary at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival; it's one of Yahoo's top forty movies of 2015; and it's a nominee for a 2016 Film Independent Spirit Award, among other honors, nominations, and best-ofs. Gracia and Alexandrovich showed it at the 2015 Wisconsin Film Festival in Madison, and it opened in theaters and as video-on-demand this fall. Indie film distributor FilmBuff has also bought the worldwide rights to it.

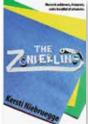
Gracia said in a statement, "I'm excited to share Fedor's incredible journey with audiences around the world, who I'm sure will be as charmed by his character as they are stunned by his investigation."













The end of slavery in America is often credited to discrete events or actors, but Ira Berlin '63, MS'66, PhD'70 argues in The Long Emancipation: The Demise of Slavery in the United States that it was a complex. nearly century-long process that continues today. He's a Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland-College Park.

Humans' relationship to food is complicated and difficult, but coauthor Jean Kristeller MS'78 offers practical advice in The Joy of Half a Cookie: Using Mindfulness to Lose Weight and End the Struggle with Food. "Trigger" foods can be mastered; flavors can be savored; and enough can be enough. The Indiana State University professor emerita of psychology has also created the National Institutes of Health-funded Mindfulness-Based Eating Awareness Training.

A single phone call links and transforms the lives of five Door County, Wisconsin, teens in Milwauke resident Liza Goldberg Wiemer '86's debut young-adult novel, Hello? Her characters speak through narration, free-verse poetry, screenplay format, and illustrations about loss, love, healing, and hope, and the author speaks to high school students nationwide about the power of storytelling.

In Shakespeare, Not Stirred: Cocktails for Your Everyday Dramas, the hilariously named libation and hors d'oeuvre recipes pair with doctored images from the Folger Shakespeare Library and conjure the Bard's characters in antidotes for life's inevitable "tragedies." Coauthor **Michelle Ephraim MA'93, PhD'98** is an associate professor of English at Worcester [Massachusetts] Polytechnic Institute.

#### Kersti Niebruegge

**'03** tapped her own experiences to write The Zonderling, a comedy about a smalltown Midwesterner who's trying to pursue a New York City career. She discovers that living at The Zonderling, a century-old residential hotel for women, has unexpected compensations and complications. Niebruegge is a researcher for *Late* Night with Seth Meyers in New York.

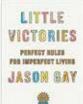
"They say, 'Do what you love, and the money will follow.' [We] are extremely excited to announce the beginning of our lifelong experiment: a case study testing that idea!" says UW tuba-performance grad student Pat Doty '14 about Merp Entertainment, the Madison-based record label that he and his wife, former vocal performance major **Brigid Schultz Doty** '13, have launched. Their debut CD is Dare to Entertain.

60 On Wisconsin













A special edition of **Theodore Jerome Cohen '60, MS'61, PhD'66**'s young-adult

mystery/thriller, *The Hypnotist*, uses the OpenDyslexicAlta typeface to make it more user friendly for readers who have dyslexia. The Langhorne, Pennsylvania, author (pen name: Alyssa Devine) winks at Badgers by including a tale about evading UW police on a winter night in 1961, which, he says, has a ring of truth to it.

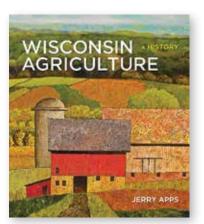
A U.S. president's onthe-job requirements are in the news a lot during election years, but Larry Knutson '63 offers a richly illustrated chronicle of how past presidents have spent their leisure time in his coffee-table book, Away from the White House: Presidential Escapes, Retreats, and Vacations. The retired Washington, DC, author spent thirty-seven years with the Associated Press.

Former Badger middle-distance running star. seven-time national title winner, and three-time Olympian Suzy Favor Hamilton '91's Fast Girl: A Life Spent Running from Madness is a memoir about how her battle with mental illness compelled her in competition and led to a secret life as a high-priced Las Vegas escort. Now reclaiming her life, she is determined to raise awareness and offer inspiration to others.

In the course of our far-from-perfect lives, why not celebrate the "small, perfect moments" that we're occasionally accorded? Wall Street Journal sports columnist **Jason** Gay '92 of Brooklyn, New York, explores these moments in his witty, thought-provoking, and heartfelt Little Victories: Perfect Rules for Imperfect Living, which is rooted in the birth of his children and the death of his father.

What is the role of the media in recent cases involving race, police shootings, and government and corporate surveillance of citizens? Robert Gutsche, Jr. '06 explores this question and challenges perceptions of how the news works in Media Control: News as an Institution of Power and Social Con*trol*. He's a journalist and assistant professor of journalism at Florida International University in Miami.

Adventure-filled, inspiring, and sometimes disheartening: such are the forty-six tales of working to protect endangered species in No More Endlings: Saving Species One Story at a Time. Allison Kleine Hegan '10 of Pasadena, California, has edited chapters by National Geographic Explorers, professors, activists, and conservationists, including seven who are UW affiliated. Fifty percent of the royalties go to conservation.



#### ALL ABOUT AGRICULTURE

Few folks are as quintessentially "Wisconsin" as celebrated rural historian **Jerry Apps '55, MS'57, PhD'67,** who splits his time between Madison and



his farm in Waushara County. He's had a career as a UW-Extension agent, professor (now emeritus) of UW-Madison's College of Agricultural & Life Sciences, and now full-time writer and creative-writing instructor. He's also the subject of Wisconsin Public Television programs.

The latest in Apps's forty-plus books —

memoirs about growing up on a Wisconsin farm and fiction, nonfiction, and children's books about many facets of the state's history — is *Wisconsin Agriculture: A History*. But what about being the *Dairy* State? Well, Wisconsin has been a *farming* state from its start — and it's one of the nation's most diverse agricultural states as well.

Hailed as the first expansive volume on the subject in nearly a century, Apps's book features first-person accounts from the settlement era to today and more than two hundred photos. It covers artisanal cheeses and cranberries, of course, but it also explores the state's relationship with its terrain, weather, and natural resources to highlight Christmas trees, honey, cattle, goats, fur farming, beekeeping, maple syrup, ginseng, hemp, cherries, sugar beets, mint, sphagnum moss, flax, and hops.

Ethnic and pioneer settlement patterns also play into Wisconsin's agricultural profile, as do changing technologies, ag research and education, government policies, and endeavors such as aquaculture and urban farming. Finally, Apps contemplates ethical growing practices, sustainability, food safety, and the potential effects of climate change.

*Wisconsin Agriculture* is a giant undertaking, but then, would we expect any less from Jerry Apps?

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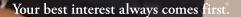
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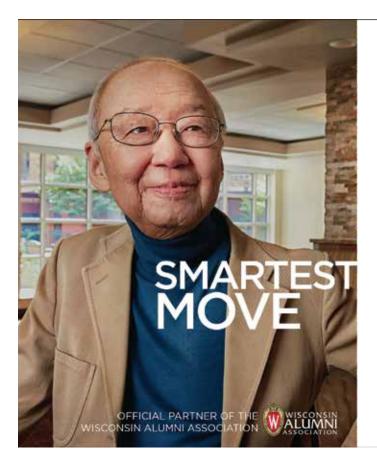


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Ben Futa, who became the new director of Allen Centennial Garden last summer, wants the living laboratory to inspire lifelong gardeners. "We don't want people to think of it like it's behind a pane of glass."



The garden's Victorian Gothic home, built in 1896 for the agriculture dean, is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is under renovation to become a student center for the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences.

Twenty-seven distinct spaces fill the horticulture department's public botanical garden. It is named for the late Oscar Allen PhD'30, a UW bacteriologist, and his wife, Ethel '28, MS'30, a renowned naturalist and former faculty member.



The 2.5-acre garden is open yearround, from dawn to dusk, and admission is free. Last year it began hosting yoga and tai chi classes, as well as student-run pop-up cafes that serve lunches featuring produce from the garden.

## "It took courage... but it just felt right."

- Lisa Moore, living donor

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