

CORD *magazine*

News from Union College

spring 2015

THEIR SUCCESS IS OUR BUSINESS

Executives and entrepreneurs
trace the roots of their
achievement back to
Union College.

Building an exit strategy

Frank ('39) and Evelyn Roll '41 Rice had a problem—their business was too successful.

After a lifetime of building their forklift sales and service business, Rice Equipment Company, in St. Louis, Mo., Frank and Evelyn looked forward to retirement. Over the years, their company had diligently saved profits and accumulated a nice sum of retained earnings. While this may be an enviable problem to have, if Frank and Evelyn took those retained earnings they would have had a substantial tax bill to pay. They needed to develop an exit strategy.

The Rices wanted to unlock the value tied up in their business so they could retire, but they didn't want a big chunk of the proceeds to go to Uncle Sam.

What should they do?

(continued on page 35)

*It takes
ForeSight...*

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About the cover:

Cid Coto is the first computer major to graduate with the new emphasis in web design. Right after he finished coursework in December, he landed a job at Sandhills Publishing in Lincoln. Read more about Cid on page 22. In this photo by Scott Cushman, Coto receives his diploma from Union President Dr. Vinita Sauder.

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Earning their stripes/16

Paul and Christy Prevo did set out to own and operate their own early childhood education center, but they have found the rewards go far beyond making a living..



photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

The future of Union/12

President Vinita Sauder reflects on the planning that will shape the future of Union College.



photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

On the right track/16

Jason Burke, a 2015 graduate used his internship and contacts to get a job combining his two loves: business and trains.

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Editorial by Ryan Teller '98

As a Mid-America academy student in the early 1990s, I had no intention of attending Union College. Just coming out of the worst of the debt years, Union suffered from a shrunken enrollment and a less-than-ideal reputation.

But in what has been a long-standing tradition for Adventist academy students, I made the annual 600-mile trek from Bismarck, N.D., to Lincoln with schoolmates for music festivals and academy days. And slowly, maybe even imperceptibly, my attitude began to shift.

Was it the storied buildings, run down as funds had been diverted to pay off debt? The surrounding city—much larger than any I previously called home? Or the nearly obsolete computer terminals in every room?

Hardly. I found myself almost inexplicably drawn to Union by the connections I made on each campus visit—the students I stayed with, the band and choir directors, the professors. Their friendship and influence brought me to Union even though I had to alter my chosen career path (television broadcasting) to study here.

The connections I made through the communication program led to a career working for the Adventist church, and ultimately back to Union as director of public relations more than five years ago. When the call came from LuAnn Davis asking me to return to Lincoln, I didn't have to think very long or hard about coming back to work with friends.

Union looks a lot different 20 years later. A much larger and more diverse student population thrives in many new and updated facilities. Unique academic programs bring students from all over the world. But one thing hasn't changed: the connections.

This issue of *CORDmagazine* comprises stories from alumni who graduated with degrees from the Division of Business and Computer Science. Invariably, they trace the roots of their success back to connections made during their time at Union.

So as you enjoy their stories, contemplate the many ways you can stay connected to your alma mater in those long months between issues of *CORDmagazine*. We have developed a plethora of social media channels for every taste—written text, photos video, live events—so you can stay connected to the place and the people who had a major influence on your life. **A**



photo: Scott Cushman/Union College

Connect with Union online anytime

On the web

www.ucollege.edu

Learn everything there is to know about Union College including the latest news, degree options and everything in between.



On Facebook www.facebook.com/UnionCollegeLincolnNebraska

Facebook is a great way to see what's coming up on campus and to experience the year's events in pictures.

Check it out: Photos from the Resurrection Pageant during Homecoming Weekend 2015—<http://www.ucollege.edu/photos-Easter2015>



On YouTube www.youtube.com/unioncollegeNE

Subscribe to Union's YouTube channel to discover student and alumni stories, promotional videos for new programs and videos designed for prospective students.

Check it out: Longtime art professor Jim McClelland explains why he loves teaching. <https://youtube.com/KLljfCCpfh0>



On Instagram www.instagram.com/ucollegegene

Experience life at Union College in photos.



On Twitter

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Event announcements, photos, videos and more!



On UCLive via Livestream www.ucollege.edu/uclive

Union webcasts a wide variety of programs on our Livestream channel including worship services, sporting events and other special programs. View live or archived programs from your computer, mobile device or Roku set top box.

Check it out: Dr. Dan Lynn's final choral spring concert featuring the Unionaires and vocal octet. <http://new.livestream.com/uclive/spring-choralconcert2015>



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The CORDmagazine Online www.ucollege.edu/cord

Read the CORDmagazine stories online or download back issues in PDF format.

New four-year renewable scholarships make Union a top value in Adventist education

By Ryan Teller '98

For some students, studying at an Adventist college seems like an impossible dream—especially when state subsidies make a public university education appear much more affordable. But Union College's new scholarship program could change all that. Starting this fall (2015-16), freshmen will be eligible to receive new four-year 100 percent renewable scholarships from \$6,500 up to free tuition.

"We want Union College to be accessible to everyone," said Nadine Nelson, vice president for Enrollment and Student Financial Services. "This new scholarship program will make the Union College experience much more affordable and help families better plan their finances for all four years of school."

The Adventist quality advantage

"Over the last five years, I have been part of a major research project that studied Adventist graduates from both Adventist colleges and public colleges," said Vinita Sauder, president of Union College. "The results were striking. We found that Adventist colleges provide a personal touch, mentoring and relationships—dramatically increasing education satisfaction—in a way that just doesn't happen in public universities."

David Deemer experienced the power of these relationships firsthand. When he arrived at Union to study biomedical science and ultimately become a medical doctor, he struggled with balancing his life and studies while dealing with problems at home. "My professors became more than my teachers," he said. "They became my mentors, people I could talk to, people I could trust. And most importantly, I knew they cared about me in ways other than the grade I got on my test."

"This new scholarship program can make a significant difference for students who want to experience the tremendous benefits of Union College, but are considering a public university for financial reasons," said Sauder. "We believe a top quality Adventist education should be affordable for everyone. This new scholarship package makes that possible. We want to ensure that anyone who wants a Union education can make it happen."

The scholarship plan, based on high school academic performance, includes two new levels for high achievers—students with a high school GPA of 3.75 and above and ACT scores of 29 or above. These students can earn \$13,000 per year or even free tuition.

Expanding access and opportunity

According to Sauder, a significant part of the college's strategic plan calls for finding ways to expand access and opportunity to a Union College educational experience so more interested students can attend. "We're built to deliver an amazing learning experience that is on par, and in fact surpasses, what a public university offers," she said. "I find examples of that every day. In the last 15 years, more than 60 of our students have become top executives in the health care and hospital field, with thousands more employed in health science fields. These new scholarships will allow more students to enjoy the unique educational experience we offer."

Ricky Amimo chose Union because he wanted more than career preparation. "Union is preparing me for a future as a physician assistant in many ways," said the junior pre-PA major who also works as a head resident assistant in the men's residence hall. "The classes I'm taking are tailored specifically to my career path and teaching me skills I will eventually need in my field. But you can find that at any school. Union stands out—spiritually, by preparing me to take on any task with God at my side; socially, by allowing me to be a part of a variety of campus community events; and as a future leader, by offering so many leadership opportunities on campus."

Union plans to phase in the new program by offering it to all new students enrolling in fall 2015. By 2019, all students will be covered under the new scholarship plan.

If you'd like to learn more about Union College's new four-year 100 percent renewable scholarships, visit us online at www.ucollege.edu/financial or call 402.486.2504. **A**

Union College's new scholarship packages

KEY:

1. Scholarship type
2. High school requirements
3. Renewable award
4. Four-year total

Board of Trustees Scholar
GPA 3.9 (GED 750) and
ACT 32 (SAT 2120)
FULL TUITION!
\$85,000+

Presidential Scholar
GPA 3.75 (GED 700) and
ACT 29 (SAT 1940)
\$13,000
\$52,000

Academic Excellence Scholarship
GPA 3.5 (GED 650) and
ACT 27 (SAT 1820)
\$11,000
\$44,000

Academic Honors Scholarship
GPA 3.25 (GED 600) and
ACT 23 (SAT 1590)
\$9,000
\$36,000

Academic Merit Scholarship
GPA 3.0 (GED 550) OR ACT 20 (SAT 1410)
\$7,000
\$28,000

College Achievement Scholarship
Admission Criteria
\$6,500
\$26,000

To be eligible to renew each scholarship, Union students must maintain specified academic standards and be enrolled for at least 12 hours each semester.

CAMPUS NEWS

Campus facelift continues with ad building entrance and lobby

by Stefani Leeper '16

For more than two years, heavy equipment and construction-orange barriers have become a common sight at Union as new construction and renovations have made a significant impact on the look and layout of campus. This past summer and fall were no exception as crews renovated the Everett Dick Administration Building lobby and rebuilt the west entrance to the building.

The plan took shape thanks to the vision and financial support of Nick Murray and family. "We recognized there are many other major future building projects at Union and that the Everett Dick Administration Building will need to serve for many years to come. And while the center of traffic, it was looking tired," said Murray.

Keeping the momentum going

Murray '75 and his wife, Alberta '75; son Ben '04 and his wife, Aimee '05; son Scott '06 and his wife, Brittany, decided to fund the project. "The family wanted to continue the momentum at Union that started with the new science building," he said. "With much help from the college, we challenged people to come up with an efficient lobby refresh that will serve Union for the next decade."

This building holds a special place for Murray. Having graduated from Union with an emphasis in business, accounting and computing, he has stayed connected by helping establish the Business Advisory board in 2003. He has since co-chaired this group of alumni who help guide and provide support for the Division of Business and Computer Science. So finding a way to improve the building that houses the division and continue the momentum on campus "became a natural goal for the family."

The lobby renovations provide for a more open, inviting, and friendly welcome for visitors, as well as more usable space for students who throng the building every day for classes. The renovation raised the ceiling and added 70 percent more lighting. Additional square footage and double doors at the east entrance were added by trimming back space in

two of the offices and moving the entrance way on the west side out of the lobby and under the porch.

After removing the dated furniture from the lobby, the Associated Student

administration decided to defer that project, and Murray encouraged the college to support the lobby redesign by renovating the west entrance.

The addition of the west entrance



photo: Ryan Teller

The renovated lobby and west entrance to the Everett Dick Administration Building provides a more spacious and inviting environment for students and visitors.

Body, Union's student government, contributed a major portion of the money toward purchasing new lobby furniture.

One class gift that was in the lobby prior to reconstruction has been moved to the heritage room in the library and others have been moved to new locations within the lobby. The class of 2013 purchased software to digitize names of alumni and students who have served as overseas missionaries—now available through a touch screen located next to the elevator.

Making a grand entrance

Initially Murray hoped to fund a new entrance for the east side of the building that faces what has become known as the "the quad," the area bounded by the Everett Dick Building on the west, the Don Love Building on the east and Krueger Center and Prescott Hall on the north and south.

But because of significant costs for replacing ramps providing handicap accessibility and renovation of the trash pickup area on the south side of the ad building,

renovation—including new crescent-shaped stairs and repouring some of the sidewalks on that side of the building—pushed the completion of the project into the fall.

"The Murrys have been responsible for funding well over half the cost of the lobby and west entrance renovation," said Jeff Leeper, vice president for Financial Administration. "Union College is blessed to have the Murray family and many other donors who passionately support Union financially and make projects like this possible."

Always more to do

The Murrys hope the renovations don't stop with the administration building. "We hope friends will adopt a floor to remodel in the Everett Dick Building such as was done on the third floor several years ago," Murray said. "We think there are several meaningful projects like this that families can embrace if that is their passion." **A**

Expanding the virtual classroom

Shared classrooms between sister colleges help improve academic offerings at Union.

by Natalie Bruzon '16

Since discussions began between Union College, Southern Adventist University and Southwestern Adventist University about forming the Adventist Educational Alliance two years ago, the three schools have sought ways to collaborate to not only save money, but provide the best possible educational experience for students on all three campuses. One of the early fruits of the Alliance

pertise, Middle East history and politics. This semester he is sharing that knowledge with the other two campuses in a course marking the centennial of World War I.

Russell believes distance learning has many advantages, but also recognizes some marked differences from teaching a strictly local class. For one, the video and audio transmission over the Internet can cause a delay,

Virtual Classes

The Adventist Educational Alliance offered four courses on all three campuses this school year through distance learning technology.

Parasitology—taught at Southwestern to students at both Union and Southwestern.

Real Analysis—taught at Union to students at Union and Southern.

Immunology—taught at Southwestern to students there and at Union.

History Topics Class: WWI—taught jointly by a professor from each campus for students at all three schools.

Origins: Issues in Science and Religion—taught to Union students by a professor from Southern.



photo: Ryan Teller

Students Sarah Dawson and Lexi Dossenko watch a lecture from a professor at Southern Adventist University during their History Topics: WWI course.

began this past school year in the form of shared courses between the three schools.

These offerings have included parasitology, taught by Union graduate and Southwestern biology professor Amy Shepherd McHenry '04. Likewise, a high level math course taught by a Union adjunct professor was offered to students at Southern.

Using innovative technology, distance learning allows a professor at one campus to teach an interactive course with a live classroom on their own campus and an online classroom at the other two. Students in the online classrooms still sit in a classroom, watch the live lecture on a video monitor and interact with the instructor and students in the other classrooms.

Malcolm Russell, vice president for Academic Administration, has taught many classes at Union, including in his area of ex-

sometimes making class participation difficult. "Discussion has to be more formal, slower and more controlled," he said.

McHenry from Southwestern agrees this is likely the biggest challenge. "It's much more difficult for me to ask students to discuss a question in small groups of two or three and circulate around the room to help them understand the concept."

While students appreciate the opportunity to take additional courses, they see the limitations, too. "I think you need to be a self-motivated student to do well in these classes," said Sarah Dawson, senior history major taking the WWI course partially taught by Russell.

"We have an advantage because one of the teachers is here on our campus," explained Lexi Dossenko, junior history education major also taking the WWI course. "If we have questions, we can just talk to Dr. Russell.

It's not as easy for some of the other classes."

Because Southern Adventist University had already developed some online courses, their staff helped train professors at the other two schools to teach multiple classrooms at the same time.

Both Russell and McHenry see the ultimate advantage to students on all three campuses. "I think it's a great opportunity for our departments to share faculty expertise," McHenry said.

"Offering our students access to courses we can't teach on our own enables us to enrich student learning," Russell agreed.

In the long run, Russell believes the program will provide a cost savings, too. "Suppose Southwestern and Union together hired a sociologist or anthropologist?" he asked. "One could be located in Lincoln, the other in Texas. It will also give us more faculty in broader areas."

Distance learning does require technological dexterity, and for now, the learning curve is steep. However, as technology continues to improve, professors and students may soon participate in distance learning without a second thought. **A**

CAMPUS NEWS

ForeSight Enriches Union College's Future

Union College receives more than \$4 million in estate gifts in less than a year

by Scot Coppock, Director of Leadership Giving

In 2014 Union College received more than \$4.2 million through estate gifts. These gifts were given by generous alumni who felt Union had made a significant impact on their lives, and wanted to ensure students today and in the future could benefit from the unique Christian education experience found on Union's campus.

"We have been blessed with estate gifts that were cultivated many years ago," said LuAnn Davis, vice president for Advancement. "We thank God for His goodness and for the generosity of so many alumni and friends."

The family farm

Edna Maier Harris ('48) grandparents came to the United States from what is now Ukraine and settled in South Dakota in 1885. The family worked as farmers and eventually grew the family farm to 880 acres in Edmunds and Faulk Counties in South Dakota. Edna was born and raised on the family farm before coming to Union College in the mid-40s. When she died April 22, 2014, five days before her 88th birthday, Edna left all 880 acres of the farmland to Union College.

"We are so thankful for the tremendous generosity Edna Harris has shown toward Union," stated Union College's president, Dr. Vinita Sauder. "Our trustees will ensure her gift will have a significant impact on our students."



Estate gifts from two families, Edna Maier Harris ('48) and Ira '44 and Margie Pound left more than \$4 million dollars to Union College this past school year.

"She did not graduate from Union, but always wished she had," said her son, Lance Harris. "Her experiences at Union College shaped her life, and she wanted to help others have the same experiences."

Edna met her husband, Jack Harris '50, at Plainview Academy, formerly located in Redfield, S.D. Four days after they started dating Jack was drafted into the U.S. Army at the peak of World War II. While Jack served in the European theater Edna enrolled at Union and studied education. Jack came home the fall of 1945 and they were married on December 23, 1945.

Jack joined Edna at Union College and studied theology. In 1949 they started their family and, after Jack graduated, he received a pastoral call to Oklahoma which started Edna's career of moving. The Harris family lived in 35 different homes all over the world. They traveled to 50 countries and visited every continent except Antarctica.

"They lived an adventurous life and saw many wondrous things," Lance said. "They hiked the mountains in Rwanda to see the 'Gorillas in the Mist' long before it was fashionable," Lance added.

When Edna made a final amendment to her trust in 2012, she gave all 880 acres of South Dakota farmland to Union College without any restrictions on how the land was to be used. This incredibly generous gift is worth \$3.1 million.

"She wanted to give to an educational institution that was aligned with her beliefs, and she certainly saw that in Union College," Lance explained.

"We are humbled by Edna's gift in support of our mission and will carefully consider how best to use it," Dr. Sauder commented. "This gift has the potential of making a significant impact on the institution as a whole and could touch the lives of everyone who studies here, works here, and benefits from the fulfillment of our mission."

A life's collection

Union College enjoyed a long friendship with Ira '44 and Margie Pound and when they died, they left nearly their entire estate valued at more than \$800,000 to the college, without restriction on how the funds are to be used.

The Pounds did not have children of their own, so partnering with Union made perfect sense to them. "They

wanted their estate to go to something they felt strongly about,” said Les Speer, executor of their estate. Ira and Margie believed that supporting Union College through their estate would help change the lives of young people through a Christian education.

Ira enjoyed his time at Union College and wanted Union’s current and future students to enjoy the same Christian experience. Although Margie did not attend Union, she was a nurse throughout her career and wanted to help future nurses obtain an excellent education. During their lifetime the Pounds contributed annually to two separate scholarships at Union: one scholarship assisting students studying nursing and the other scholarship helping members of the Union College Concert Winds.

The bulk of the Pounds’ estate consisted of their life savings, which came to the college in cash, but they also had some intriguing collectibles. Ira and Margie enjoyed beautiful things, and Margie enjoyed nothing more than collecting sea shells. She had

more than a thousand shells in her collection from all over the world, in a variety of shapes, and ranging in size from as small as an acorn to as large as a lunch box. Margie was quite meticulous about her shell collection, labeling each one with its family, genus and species along with where and when the shell was found.

“Ira told me many times how happy he was that Union would get Margie’s shells and use them in the science department,” Les explained, “and I know giving this collection was very personal for Margie, it was like she was giving a part of herself to Union.”

Dr. Amy Utt, assistant professor of biology at Union College, was amazed when she first saw the collection and enthusiastically accepted them in the biology department. “My colleagues and I are excited to receive the collection and we will make sure they are put to good use,” Dr. Utt explained. “The shells will be used in future classes, perhaps in general biology, and I would like to put them on display in the Krueger Center as well.”


It takes a village

Since both Edna Harris and the Pounds’ estate gifts were undesignated, Union College’s Board of Trustees will decide how these generous acts of philanthropy will be allocated. And because the college

received several more undesignated estate gifts in 2014—over \$4.2 million—the trustees will carefully study how best to use these gifts to strategically make a lasting impact on the college.

“Union College is a special place that offers a vibrant education experience

trademarked by an embracing community,” explained Davis. “Our alumni enjoyed that experience, and now they are committed through gifts both large and small to ensuring both current and future students benefit from that same Christian education steeped in rich tradition.”

To learn more about supporting Union College through a financial contribution, please contact LuAnn Davis at ludavis@ucollege.edu. 

“She did not graduate from Union, but always wished she had. Her experiences at Union College shaped her life, and she wanted to help others have the same experiences.”

Estate Gifts in 2014

Union College honors the memory of those people who created a lasting legacy with their financial contributions through their estates to make a difference in the lives of young people.

Edna Harris ’48

– Unrestricted \$3,109,800

Ira ’44 and Margie Pound

– Unrestricted \$813,418

Harold Dupper ’50

– Unrestricted \$99,547

Leroy (’37) and Martha (’38) Wasmiller

– Unrestricted \$51,337.96

Glenn ’43 and Helen ’43 Wiltse

– Krueger Center \$39,914

Earl ’50 and Vada ’67 Leonhardt

– Earl and Vada Leonhardt Math Scholarship \$36,968

Willard ’49 and Norene ’49 Regester

– Unrestricted \$25,000

Genevieve Dickerson ’60

– Unrestricted \$18,992

Eleanor Berecz ’39

– Unrestricted \$9,750

Ron Carlson ’55

– Unrestricted \$59,031

Paul DeBooy ’49

– Unrestricted \$8,739.69

Ellen Saito-Hebish ’50

– Unrestricted \$7,431.44

Marieda Blehm ’55

– Unrestricted \$6,776.44

Lorraine Miller

– Union College Tribute Scholarship \$39,587.13

CAMPUS NEWS

Start your nursing education now

Union College introduces an early admission track for the nursing program

by Ryan Teller '98

Do you feel called to be a nurse? Don't worry about two-year waiting lists. Check out a nursing program where graduates pass the national licensure test on the first attempt at a much higher rate than the national average. Now Union College has introduced two new ways to give nursing students peace of mind while they follow their calling: a nursing scholarship and an Early Admission Track.

For Heather Boone, it seemed like her dream of becoming a nurse had all but disappeared. Headed home to Salem, Ore., from a nearby private college after her teachers told her she wasn't cut out to be a nurse, she had difficulty understanding what God had in mind for her.

The child of an emergency room nurse and a recovery nurse, Boone really never considered any other profession. But not until she found herself back home working as certified nurse assistant and taking classes at a community college, did she truly discover her calling.

"I had a job working in an emergency room," Boone recalled. "That's where I really fell in love with nursing because I actually saw what nurses did. I worked alongside them. I helped with psych patients; I helped with teens who wanted to commit suicide; and even kids with snotty noses. It ignited my passion."

But even after doing all the right things—gaining experience, improving her grades, Boone ran into what many would-be nurses discover: a two-plus-year waiting list to get into nursing school.

Start on the right track

In fall 2015, Union College is launching a program to help change that—the Early Admission Track. In most schools, a student must complete all the prerequisite general courses even before applying to the nursing program, and are then relegated to wait for an opening.

Now incoming freshmen can apply for the Nursing Early Admission Track as part of the Union admission process. If they meet high school grade, ACT score and



At Union College, Heather Boone found a program that accepted her right away and teachers committed to helping her succeed.

course prerequisite requirements, new freshmen will be guaranteed a spot in the nursing program when they finish their first three semesters of general education classes.

"Very few schools offer this type of admission track," said Nicole Orian, chair of the Division of Nursing. "Early admission validates the student who demonstrates academic excellence in their high school education, is committed to the profession of nursing, and is called to serve. It guarantees these incoming freshmen can be assured a spot in the program. For most students and their parents, that is great peace of mind."

Students will be required to maintain certain academic standards to retain their spot in the program. To learn more, visit ucollege.edu/nursing/earlyadmission

You are going to school where?

Boone decided to consider nursing school in Nebraska because she had family here, and stumbled upon Union in a

Google search. "I wasn't expecting to come to Union," she said. "It was kind of a shot in the dark just in case everything else didn't work out." But God had other plans and last summer she found herself moving into an apartment in Lincoln and enrolling in classes.

"You can either wait it out, you can work, or you can follow your dream," said Boone. "I thought, okay Lord, this acceptance letter means that I can follow my dream—even to Lincoln, Neb. I thought that I would be settling, but I haven't been. I've found a great church, a great support system. I met my boyfriend here. God has been saturating my life with blessings since I got here."

At Union, she found academic support she needed to be successful. "I had never known teachers to be accommodating and actually want my success," Boone explained. "I came from a school where they tried to weed people out. I didn't find that here. I have never had my transcripts reflect what I feel in my heart until I came to Union."

Scholarships for nurses

As part of the new scholarship package of four-year, 100 percent renewable scholarships for new students enrolling in fall 2015 and beyond, Union has made it more affordable for students to study nursing.

Now freshmen enrolling in the nursing track are eligible to receive an additional annual scholarship of \$2,500—that's \$10,000 over four years. Students are required to have a qualifying high school GPA and must maintain a qualifying college GPA to be eligible.

"Nurses are the backbone of the American healthcare system," said Orian. "In fact, the economic value of BSN-prepared nursing professionals is so substantial the Institute of Medicine recommends that 80 percent of the nursing workforce be BSN-prepared by 2020 to assure quality health care. Investing in these nursing students is our commitment to the future of nursing." **A**

These young adults don't want to leave Union students host a summit to find ways young people can connect with the Adventist Church

by Stefani Leeper '16

A lifelong Adventist and daughter of missionary parents, Natalie Bruzon is tired of seeing youth walk out during a sermon—and sometimes joining them. Feeling disconnected to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, she even considered attending a nondenominational Christian church.

Having witnessed the implications of a walk with God led astray through disconnect to the Adventist Church, Bruzon was determined to see something change. She became the driving force behind the development of the North American Division Youth Retention and Involvement Summit.

Hosted by Union College from October 23-25, 2014, and developed by Bruzon and other Union students, the summit gave young adults around the country the opportunity to discuss ways that Adventist young adults can stay connected with their church—and how the church can stay connected, too.

Being a part of the solution

In 2013, student government leaders from Seventh-day Adventist colleges—around the country were invited to sit in on a North American Division leadership meeting. “The ASB presidents felt that the Adventist church needed more young adult support,” said Bruzon. “One of the big issues in the church right now is that 60-70 percent of our young adults, 18-30 years old, are leaving.”

The Union College student senate took up the idea and examined different possibilities, events, and other ways they could create awareness about the issue. “As church members, we felt like we needed to do something to help,” explained Bruzon.

“Everything I do is powered and encompassed by my beliefs,” she told her classmates. “I never stray from them.”

Passionate about her new-found goal, Bruzon formed a committee of Union students to figure out how to reach students of all majors and ages. “Our purpose was to discuss issues we see in the church and reasons why we would not want to stay in the church. We wanted to shine a light on

this problem of young adults leaving.” Out of these discussions developed the idea for the summit.

For the summit weekend, two representatives from each Adventist college in North America were invited to the Union College campus, and the committee in-



Natalie Bruzon led a group of students who hosted a summit for college students across North America to brainstorm ways to connect with the Adventist Church.

ited four young adult leaders, who spoke during the event, from the North American Division.

“The summit is not so much to offer concrete solutions, but more of presenting the young adults’ voice,” Bruzon explained. “We want to bridge the communication gap we have with our church leaders. We want to be a part of that.” At the Summit, four Think Tank sessions brainstormed ideas.

All young adults were invited to participate in the discussion, and older folks were invited to listen in. The think tank groups explored questions such as: Why do young adults stay? Why do young adults leave the church? What can we give the church? And what would we like the church to give us? Bruzon compiled the

data, and she and Union’s student government president, Debbie Pinto, were invited to share their findings during the 2014 North American Division year-end meetings and to other leadership groups since.

Getting social

The students also launched a social media campaign on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, with the hashtag #iAmTheChurch. This hashtag was intended to raise awareness about the summit, but organizers hope the campaign will also initiate critical thinking by the students, asking them to consider what role they will be playing in the church five years in the future. “We are the church of tomorrow. What are we going to be doing in five years?” asked students in the video. “Are we going to be passively sitting in the pews and complaining about everything we don’t like, or are we going to be actively part of the solution?” A hope of the committee is that the representatives of the other Adventist schools will continue the movement across North America.

“The committee members are really passionate and have done all the work to make this possible,” said Bruzon. “It’s been amazing the way every single one of them has stepped up, taken on a project, and volunteered to be a part of something. The support we have gotten from Pastor Rich Carlson, Union College chaplain, and Dr. Linda Becker, dean of students, has been monumental.”

The summit and the committee are especially important to Bruzon because she personally wants to see students taking an active role in the church and a step forward in their spiritual lives. “This committee has made me aware of the role church plays in our lives,” she explained. “It’s made me take it more seriously and actually look at it from a new perspective.”

As for Bruzon’s own five-year plan, she sees herself still actively and passionately involved with the committee and its mission to reach young adults struggling to connect with the Adventist Church. **A**



President Sauder on the Future

Union's president answers questions about goals and growth

Now concluding her first school year as president of Union College, Dr. Vinita Sauder has been able to get to know the school and the people who help shape the college's future. We recently asked her about the school year and where she believes Union College is headed.

CORD: Dr. Sauder, thanks for taking a moment out of your busy schedule to chat. You've been at Union for an entire school year. What is the most important thing you've learned that you didn't know when you first arrived?

Sauder: I've learned that the leadership team at Union is extraordinarily nimble and collaborative. As a team we are very eager to work together to take Union to the next level of excellence and implement our strategic initiatives. I've also seen firsthand how our students are empowered for leadership and service. Union College creates an authentic environment allowing everyone to find their calling and reach their potential.

CORD: In our last conversation, you said you felt that people are Union's greatest resource. Do you still feel that way?

Sauder: Now more than ever. I had always heard references to the "Midwestern work ethic." But now I have experienced it for myself. Union's team of faculty and staff go out of their way to achieve the best results and they really believe in this school. That's why Union survived through tough times back in the late 1980s and early 90s and is now doing well. Our students see this special work ethic modeled during their time on campus.

Union's people also create the family-like, personal environment that gives students, faculty and staff a real sense of belonging. This community spirit is so strong, one faculty member told me recently "it was in the air" when she came to interview for her teaching position. Visiting families and guests tell me the same thing—you can feel the warm welcome. This sense of caring and community runs so deep that I'm now calling it the "Union DNA." It's something you have to experience, hence our tagline: "Experience the Spirit."

CORD: Union College has undergone tremendous growth in the physical plant over the past three years. The construction of the Krueger Center, renovation of a facility for the physician assistant and international

rescue and relief programs, a new building for AdventSource, renovations in the Everett Dick Administration Building—all these projects have taken a tremendous amount of energy and drastically changed the face of the campus. What's next for Union College?

Sauder: The Board of Trustees voted on the goals for Union's strategic plan in May, and we are implementing three top priorities—enrollment growth, new academic programs, and a new facilities master plan. Setting a vision and direction for an organization like Union College is never a one-person job. Thankfully, Union's Strategic Planning Committee has worked diligently for some time to set goals for the future of our school.

CORD: It seems that everything follows enrollment numbers. While our enrollment has held fairly steady over the past five years, it is down a little from historic highs of eight or ten years ago. How important is growing enrollment to reaching the other goals?

Sauder: I want to reframe the discussion about enrollment growth. It is very easy to think only about numbers, but that's not what Union College is about. We are about expanding access and opportunity to the students who are already applying and being accepted to Union, and making it possible for more of these interested students to attend.

If we truly believe we have an amazing environment here at Union, one in which students not only gain knowledge, but also mature spiritually and socially in order to lead, minister and fulfill God's calling for their lives when they graduate, then we ought to help as many as possible become a part of our community. I believe we have the potential here at Union to grow and provide the opportunity for a life-changing experience to even more students.

This past school year Union enrolled 886 students, which translated to 833 full-time equivalent (FTE) students. Union's enrollment has held steady around this same mark for the past five years. One of our strategic goals is to provide greater access through increasing scholarships and streamlining processes. If students and families desire a top-quality Adventist education and didn't think they could afford it or do it, it's time to check us out and take another look. We believe an Adventist education is the best available and we want to give more young people the opportunity to take advantage of what Union offers.

CORD: So is giving access to a Union education to more students part of the school's mission?

Sauder: It's really a stewardship issue, so yes, this idea aligns with our mission. We believe our job includes doing everything possible to expand access to this special living-learning environment. My latest research project, completed with four other researchers and soon to be published by the Association of Adventist Colleges and Universities, clearly shows the Adventist college experience is superior to that of a public university in a majority of key areas. If we have 200 openings on campus, then 200 students are missing out on the Union experience.

CORD: How will Union accomplish these goals?

Sauder: We have already taken the first step. Starting next school year, freshmen will qualify for new four-year 100 percent-renewable scholarships ranging from \$6,500 to free tuition each year. These scholarships make an Adventist education more affordable than ever.

CORD: That's really exciting. Readers can learn more about the new scholarships on page 5. How else will Union seek to reach enrollment goals?

Sauder: I'm a big believer in making data-driven decisions. My previous experience showed me strategic growth is not based on gut feelings, but on real research. We are working hard to improve our data collection so we can look closely at trends across campus and make more informed decisions about programs and processes that will improve our college. Data analysis has already revealed areas we need to focus on, and we're starting to tackle these opportunities and challenges.

CORD: Over the past 15 years, Union College added two new cutting-edge programs that now account for nearly 25 percent of our enrollment—the Master of Physician Assistant Studies program and International Rescue and Relief. As job markets and technology landscapes continue to shift, will Union look for new programs that will help the school meet the needs of the future?

Sauder: Absolutely. Union's strategic plan calls for Union to add at least two new graduate or undergraduate programs over the next five years. We are currently in the process of exploring many options—including entering into agreements that will lead to new programs in cooperation with other colleges and universities.

We are also re-evaluating our current degrees and programs and adjusting and realigning as necessary to make sure we offer degrees that help students achieve their career and life goals. Union's new international relations degree is a great example. With the expertise of new professor Christopher Banks, the degree is a transformation of international studies and history degrees into a new program that will prepare students for high demand careers in international business, law and government foreign service.

CORD: All of this sounds like a lot of work. Who will lead out in making these new programs a reality?

Sauder: In order to identify and implement new academic programs, we've hired Michelle Velasquez Mesnard as Union's new associate vice president for academic initiatives. Our financial team found a creative way to fund this new position, and thanks to cost savings and some unrestricted gifts, we were able to make this important position a reality [see page 8]. Michelle has been a communications professor at Union for 12 years and more recently chaired the Division of Humanities. We couldn't be more delighted to have her expertise and abilities focused on this new and important task.

CORD: Nearly three years ago, the presidents of Union, Southern Adventist University in Tennessee and Southwestern Adventist University in Texas pledged to seek ways to work together to strengthen each of the schools in what has become known as the Adventist Educational Alliance. How will that agreement play a role in developing new initiatives at Union College?

Sauder: Colleagues from all three campuses are actively working on collaborative approaches to faculty development and teaching classes via distance education. Just recently groups of professors from all three campuses met to discuss how to provide an excellent classroom experience for the online classes we are offering jointly. We hope to expand the collaborative course offerings so fewer courses have to be offered in alternate years. By working together, each school can offer more upper division and honors classes by drawing on the expertise of professors from all three campuses.

Last year the three schools aligned academic calendars and simultaneously launched the first four courses offered on all three campuses

through distance-learning technology [see page 7].

We are also working on the possibility of back-end sharing, such as computer software, purchasing, etc. This fall the presidents and academic deans will meet for an all-day planning session regarding the collaboration. It's exciting work, filled with potential we hope will benefit future students.

CORD: As we mentioned earlier, Union's campus looks quite different thanks to building and renovation projects over the past three years. What is next for the campus?

Sauder: We have hired a campus planning firm to help us create a new facility master plan, which will include a prioritized list of campus renovations as well as provide information about new building projects that will serve Union for the long term.

We want to make sure we make wise decisions about facility planning based on thorough and thoughtful analysis.

The facilities master plan, which was envisioned a decade ago, has culminated in the Krueger Center for Science and Mathematics. While many of the pieces from that plan have now been put in place, it is important to re-evaluate the campus facilities in light of academic plans for the future.

We expect the planning firm to give us a report at the end of the summer and then the leadership team and the board can begin looking toward the next building projects—maybe residence hall renovations, a health science building or student recreation facilities. We thank those alumni, parents, and friends of the college who participated in online surveys to help us explore facilities ideas for the coming decade.

CORD: Thanks for giving us a glimpse into the plans for Union's future.

Sauder: I deeply appreciate each faculty, staff and student who makes Union College a vibrant place of learning and spiritual growth for all of us. I also appreciate the supportive alumni and those who are so generous with their talents and gifts on our behalf. Please continue to pray for Union College and the students who come here to discover their calling and become productive citizens and servants for Jesus. **A**

“If we have 200 openings on campus, then 200 students are missing out on the Union experience ... I believe we have the potential here at Union to grow and provide the opportunity for a life-changing experience to even more students.”

THINKING BIG

(Union alum on ‘Being a hoot!’)

By Joellyn Sheeby '14

“I believe in the ABC’s of life: always be curious,” said Steve Johnson. “If you’re a lifelong learner the best roles and future are not necessarily going to involve a promotion, but rather something you like that interests you. That’s what brought me to Hootsuite.”

Steve Johnson, 1987 business and computer science graduate, is the Chief Revenue Officer for Hootsuite, a growing software company that enables businesses and individuals to manage their content on multiple social media platforms. Since beginning in Vancouver, Canada, in 2008, Hootsuite has grown to be available in 16 languages in more than 175 countries, making it the most widely-used social media relationship platform in the world. With clientele as diverse as the NHL, eBay, and Sony Music Entertainment, Hootsuite has more than 10 million users and boasts 744 of the Fortune 1000 companies as customers.

But why did Johnson risk investing his time and energy in an organization that began as a group of daydreamers in a dingy garage? “The tech industry is very volatile. Now everything is going great for us: we’re at 700 employees compared with the 26 we started with. But it could have easily gone the other way,” he said. “That’s the risk in tech and something you’re always scared about. I had a family and insurance like most people, but you have to look at the bigger picture and think about what you want to be. I wanted to be a part of something really disruptive and big, where I could personally make a difference. Even if we didn’t make it, I knew that I could make more of an impact in a 26-person company than in a bigger, ‘safer’ company.”

Johnson did not always plan on his dalliances with technology, beginning his career with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. “I can’t say that I was interested in tech in college,” he said. “Union was early on in its resources, but I liked entrepreneurship and wanted my own business. I did an auditing internship before my senior year that I really didn’t enjoy; because of that I’m a massive proponent of internships.”

After graduation, Johnson immediately began working in the tech industry and discovered his new joy. He has since started and sold his own company, and also worked within larger corporations. “In my career, I’ve taken a series of roles, sometimes lat-

eral ones,” he said. “So from ‘director of sales’ I might move to ‘director of partners.’ From a career perspective that’s typically not such a great move because I didn’t go up, but I wanted to expand myself and knew I could learn something new.”

Johnson was introduced early on to Hootsuite by one of its initial investors. “With my broad array of skills I was the missing piece of the board they were looking for, and they thought I would be a good fit,” he said.

Most companies tend to focus their business on either high-dollar, low-volume sales, generally to larger organizations, or low-dollar, high-volume sales, usually to individual users. But Hootsuite’s visionaries saw their product being used by both sectors, and Johnson had the experience to make that happen. “What attracted me to Hootsuite was that I didn’t know how it would pan out, but the company met my chief criteria,” he said. “It had a global vision and was dealing with social media, which everyone knows is really big. But it was also disrupting how people communicate: that’s the reason it has grown so fast. I thought the challenge was interesting and it was somewhere I could make a real impact.”

When Johnson joined Hootsuite, the company had raised \$1.9 million in Series A funding through investors. It has since raised a total of \$250 million, including \$165 million for its Series B funding round that was the largest venture capital raised for software in Canadian history. “There are a bunch of things that have made Hootsuite so successful,” he explained. “We nailed our revenue model, but we got the money because we have a model that performs well. Every day some 1,000 people sign up for a free Hootsuite account or for the Pro product. Our ‘go-to-market team’ has been very effective, which has then driven investment and success.”

But Johnson does not attribute Hootsuite’s success solely to its leaders’ business acumen. “At the beginning we were desperate for employees, but we made sure to choose only people who truly believed in what we were doing,” he said. “We were in a horrible building on a bad side of the city with dogs nearby. People would come in, look at the place, and then never come back. Other applicants didn’t even know what Hootsuite was and saw it



as 'just a job.' But you have to think about the 'why': if it isn't rewarding and something you want to stick with, you won't be successful."

Now Hootsuite's latest Vancouver office, a converted police station, was ranked by TechCityNews.com as one of the world's top 10 "coolest offices," featuring a nap room and a yoga studio. Johnson attributes the company's low turnover rate to its early focus on finding passionate employees. "Our vision is to revolutionize the way our customers communicate," he said. "We're not just about helping people manage and de-clutter their social media, though we also do that. We're about empowering customers to turn messages into meaningful relationships. People have to buy into that, and if they don't then they probably shouldn't be here."

Johnson's message to find meaningful work is not only to Hootsuite employees. "You have to have some bigger reason, growth just isn't enough," he said. "Companies that have a noble purpose outperform peers by 40 percent. They have something bigger than a product and it's far more rewarding and authentic for people to buy into."

Johnson appeals to students and young professionals to spend time reflecting on the bigger picture when looking for a job. "The most important thing to understand and know is what you like and what is your long-term view," he said. "What are you created for in this world that can truly make a difference? That's the why of what you do that can help you maximize your talents and learn as much as you can. Think big!" **A**

Top: Steve Johnson hangs with the Hootsuite mascot during a company event.

Middle: Steve Johnson enjoys dinner with daughter, Haley, and his wife, Shannon.

Bottom: Steve Johnson, a 1987 Union graduate is now chief revenue officer for HootSuite, a company that develops software to manage multiple social media platforms.

Leaders building leaders

During Homecoming Weekend 2015, the Union College Division of Business sponsored Leaders Building Leaders featuring a wide variety of presenters—all graduates of Union's business and computer science programs.

Many of the presentations are available to view on UCLive at www.ucollege.edu/uclive, including those by alumni featured in this issue of CORD magazine.

"Global Communication Disruption—and What It Means for You" with Steve Johnson '87, Chief Revenue Officer, HootSuite

"From Diapers to Dollars: How Embracing Core Values Can Lead to Exponential Growth!" by Christy Bales Prevo '97, majority owner of Tiger Tots Child Development Center and Tiger Tots Academy of Early Learning

"The Soft Stuff is the Hard Stuff: Building a Culture that Drives Performance, Excellence, and Bottom-Line Results" with Amanda Sauder Maggard '04, Administrator, Florida Hospital Winter Garden

EARNING THEIR STRIPES

Business owners Paul and Christy Prevo use lessons from Union to run thriving early childhood education centers

By Lauren Bongard Schwarz '05

Growing a business from start-up to successful requires more than luck. It takes hard work, dedication and the right education. For Paul ('94) and Christy Bales Prevo '97, the trajectory to their current successes started more than a decade ago at Union College.

"The business division and professors had a huge impact on us and our future," Christy says. "Union gave us a great foundation for building and running our own business."

Paul and Christy (who went by "Chrissy" until after college) were high school sweethearts at Sunnyside Academy. The two initially chose different colleges, with Paul attending Union in fall 1993 and Christy bucking family tradition—her grandparents and parents had attended Union—and enrolling at a different Adventist college.

But it wasn't everything she had expected.

"I don't think a single professor knew my name," she recalled. So she moved back across the country and enrolled at Union. "The perspective I'd gained during that first year showed me what a special place Union is," she said. "Rob Weaver and my other professors made it their goal to learn every student's name. That made a huge difference—just having the teachers know my name showed that they knew me and wanted me to succeed."

Paul attended Union for only one semester due to financial reasons, but he too experienced the welcoming atmosphere. "I was around campus a lot, but I was never just 'Christy's boyfriend,'" he remembered. "The teachers knew her personally and cared enough about her that they knew me by name, too."

That personal involvement helped shape Christy's professional future. When the president of Adventist Health System spoke at Union, professor and chair of the Division of Business and Computer Science, Barry Forbes, encouraged Christy to ask about internship opportunities, she did. The president recommended adding leadership experience to improve her resume. That spurred Christy to run for student body financial vice president before applying for a coveted internship position.

"Sure enough, the next summer, I got an internship at Florida Hospital," she said. "I had that phenomenal experience all because of Barry and his interest in my future. He really cared about where I was headed and helped me set the path that led me to where I am today."

She is so thankful for her experience at Union that she currently serves on the Division of Business Advisory Board, a position that allows Christy and other professionals to help formulate initiatives and create programs that guide students toward being successful employees and business owners. Advisory Board members also help finance board-suggested initiatives.

"It's an honor to help set the course for current students and give toward the fund that makes sure those initiatives are carried out," said Christy. "It helps keep courses relevant for students and is a great opportunity to give back to our school."

Paul agreed. "There's so much to be said for the connections we made at Union. The teachers and students were a community that

supported us while we were in school and are still a system of support for us, so it's great to be able to give back."

From theory to practice

After graduating cum laude with a degree in business administration and emphases in finance, management and accounting, Christy served for two years as business manager at College View Academy and Helen Hyatt Elementary. But the couple missed their families and dreamed of living in the country, so they moved home to Columbia, Mo.

Christy was development director and alumni coordinator at Sunnyside Academy before moving to a large real estate company. There, she worked her way up to Controller within six months. She credits her success in large part to the education she received at Union.

"Our professors made sure we had the experience we'd need to be successful in the business world," she recalled. "They pushed us to become well-rounded and get a true sense of what business is and what it takes to run a successful company."

Along with their day jobs in real estate and property management, the Prevos also flipped foreclosed properties, including a building they intended to turn into student housing for the nearby university. However, on the advice of friends and family, the couple renovated the property as a child care center. But illness forced their planned business partners to back out after the Prevos had completed the remodel.

"We'd put a lot of time and money into the building, so we were stuck," Christy recalled. When friends offered to run the center with the Prevos acting as silent business partners, they excitedly moved forward.

Paul came up with the name Tiger Tots, referencing the local university's mascot, and the community latched onto the idea. The center was up and running, but when it was clear the time commitment was overwhelming for their business partners and their young family, the Prevos offered to buy out their friends' interest in the business.

"The only way to do it right was to run it ourselves," Paul shared. "This year, we're celebrating the eighth anniversary of Tiger Tots."

Christy doesn't consider this luck. "My professors convinced me to take management, accounting and finance courses," she said. "That advice has played a huge role in my life and gave me the tools I need to run my own business." She and Paul have built a strong team by drawing on lessons from college and their ventures since graduation. "I still use the information I learned at Union," she said. "It makes me a better business owner."

Growing up and out

The Prevos' array of experience and education—Paul's experience in marketing and Christy's expertise in business—proved to be the keys to their ever-growing success.

Tiger Tots started with 15 students. Eight years later, it celebrates an enrollment of 262. "We've averaged one new building and open-



ings for 25 more students each year,” Christy affirmed. “God has blessed everything we’ve tried our hands at, and it’s been an amazing journey.”

In fact, Tiger Tots is one of the largest preschool programs in mid-Missouri and was recently nominated for the Small Business Administration’s Persons of the Year Award for the Eastern Missouri Region.

Today, Paul and Christy each lead a Tiger Tots location. While they are regularly asked by clients to consider expanding to serve their sprawling community, the Prevos are happy with their current setup. “There are only two of us, and we are content with our two locations,” Christy laughs. “That gives us each a location to run and allows us to be hands-on with day-to-day operations.”

This gives the duo a unique perspective on what goes on daily in each classroom, and makes them teammates in their students’ education in ways they wouldn’t be able to do as outside managers or silent partners.

“We offer a team dynamic, and we appreciate and support our teachers,” explained Christy. “Our work is all about the kids, which is different from businesses that simply try to make as much money as they can. Making enough to be viable and take care of our employees is important, but only if we are also successful in our core values and loving our kids.”

Paul stresses that Tiger Tots is more than a daycare center. “It is really an early childhood education center,” he said. “We emphasize education, and our goal is to create a lifelong love of learning in all of our kids.” When students graduate Tiger Tots for kindergarten, they already know how to read, write and count, he adds.

“Research has proven that most of a person’s responses, coping mechanisms and preparedness for school are formed between three and five,” Christy said. “We take that seriously, and we do everything we can to keep our kids engaged in fun and exciting activities so they fall in love with learning. We’ve been taught, ‘Train up a child in the way they should go.’ We are really doing that here.”

In addition to Tiger Tots, the Prevos own about 30 rental units in the Columbia area and stay active in real estate. While the couple has chosen not to expand their own family, they are content with the equilibrium they’ve struck in their lives.

“It can take 60 hours a week to keep our locations running

smoothly, and that would be impossible if we were raising children of our own,” Christy explained. “We care for a lot of kids, and we need time to recharge. We couldn’t do this and have a family. It takes so much work to keep our parents, students and teachers happy and to maintain balance.”

Paul agrees. “I spend at least two hours a day giving hugs and fist-bumps. It doesn’t get any better than that. These kids feel like my own, and we’re giving them a foundation that will direct the rest of their lives.”

Supply and demand

Tiger Tots graduates are recognized in local private and public schools as being well-prepared for kindergarten, and that positive reputation has helped the business grow. In fact, centers like Tiger Tots are in higher demand across the country as national leadership and private donors allocate more funds to education.

“People are starting to realize that early childhood education is at the forefront of economic policy,” said Paul. “Every dollar spent on educating young children gains even more over time and makes a positive impact on that child for life. It’s a simple factor of providing the services parents want and children need to make their lives and the country better in the long run.”

As a business major at Union, Christy learned that supply and demand is the foundation of any successful business, and Tiger Tots is proving that to be true.

Christy vividly remembers the lesson about supply and demand that Dr. Gibson illustrated during an early morning class when he auctioned off a single donut to a classroom of hungry college students. “I’m pretty sure I paid \$10 for that donut,” she laughed. “I didn’t care what it was going to cost me, it was early and I was tired and I had to get my hands on it.”

Long after she’s forgotten the taste of that expensive donut, the illustration still lingers for Christy. “That donut was worth every penny—the lesson really stuck with me,” she recalled. “I learned that if you can create demand for yourself and your business, you’ll always be successful.” **A**

LEARNING AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY

By Brittany Wren



For Amanda Sauder Maggard '04, every opportunity is a learning experience. And she made the most of her opportunities at Union and since then to recently become administrator of the new Florida Hospital facility in Winter Garden.

"It's been a fun and exciting journey," Maggard said, "and I'm very grateful to Union for the educational and experiential foundation."

After completing majors in business administration and communication with emphases in marketing and journalism, Maggard began her career at Adventist Health System in Florida. She then spent two years as an executive recruiter for The Powell Group before returning to work for Florida Hospital where she has been ever since. "I've worked in a variety of roles involved in marketing, strategic communication, foundation, corporate training, patient experience, and now hospital operations," she explained.

Maggard still values her friendships with the faculty who mentored her in college and the classmates who eventually became her colleagues. She still exchanges Christmas cards with Union College business professors Barry and Lisa Forbes, and she related that her decision to pursue an MBA was influenced by another Union College alumnus, Brian Adams, who is now CEO for Florida Hospital Tampa.

Building a culture from the ground up

Years after graduation, Maggard has never stopped learning. In 2010 she completed an MBA from Webster University. That same year she also became director of operations and internal communications for Florida Hospital's Altamonte campus. Even as a director, Maggard intended to come away with something new, and one of the things she gleaned from her time there was how to foster employee engagement. She explained that the Altamonte campus has extremely high employee engagement, and she plans to bring that same quality to Winter Garden.

In her current administrative role at the Winter Garden campus, Maggard is responsible for building the new facility from scratch. This campus will be a new model for the Orlando area, focusing mainly on outpatient services. Slated to open late next year, the facility will offer an ER, a 23-hour observation unit, imaging services, primary care, and some specialists.

These days, Maggard and her team are focused primarily on planning the new facility's design, operational model, and physician model. "There really is no average day," Maggard laughed. Among her many responsibilities, Maggard is most excited about building a campus culture. This involves not only selecting the right employees, Maggard said, but also setting certain standards of behavior on- and off-stage.

Internal processes like how often nurses round on their patients, or how and when follow-up calls are made, will influence how the campus culture is built. These processes may not seem obvious or important to some, but to Maggard, they deserve careful attention because they greatly impact each patient's experience.

Maggard learned early on the importance of the company culture. One of her first jobs at Florida Hospital involved investigating patient experience by going undercover as a patient and reporting on her experience. This information was then used to inform and improve upon internal processes at the hospital. Now Maggard is able to build those processes from the ground up.

Making connections

Looking back over the experiences that prepared her for her job today, Maggard still appreciates her strong educational background provided by Union College professors like Andy Nash, Mike and Michelle Mennard, and Chris Blake. She says she started at Union as a communication major because she loved to write. "I still use skills I learned in my communication classes," she admitted.

The summer before her junior year, Maggard interned at the *Adventist Review*. There she gained hands-on experience in writing and publishing. She also learned more about how the Adventist church operates, an experience she still values highly. About that same time, Maggard decided to add a business major and marketing emphasis to diversify her skills and give her more career flexibility after graduation.

The next summer—her last summer before graduation—Maggard interned at Florida Hospital to complete one of her final requirements for her business degree. "This internship helped me get my foot in the door," Maggard said. The professional network she formed during her internship helped her land her first job at Florida Hospital after graduation, paving the way to a successful career.

Building a diverse network of friends and mentors is part of why Maggard has been so successful. "My [leadership] style is constantly forming from watching others," Maggard said. She looks to her mentors and studies what they do. In this way, she continues to learn even as she steers the operation of a major new health facility.

Some of Maggard's first leadership experiences happened at Union. As a student, she was involved in Campus Ministries, student government, and public relations team, as well as editor of the *Clocktower*, Union's student newspaper. In these roles, Maggard was empowered to rally a team and develop a product, an experience she said greatly impacted her. "Union helps students learn to craft and execute a vision," she explained. She took those skills to her job where they have been instrumental in shaping her as a leader and in developing her career path.

Converging business and beliefs

When she returned to Adventist Health System in 2008, Maggard realized how much she loved working for a Christian organization where her professional skills and personal convictions could work toward the same goal. Serving as an administrator today gives her many opportunities to touch lives. She is able to build processes and make decisions for a large team of people whose influence extends far beyond her. She often asks herself, "How can I creatively extend the healing ministry of Christ, not just to our patients, but to our employees as well?" Her philosophy is that every day on the job is an opportunity to make Christian ministry more overt. The key is to be intentional all along the way.

For Amanda Maggard, the foundation that Union College provided her has been very important to her life. Her classes, mentors, leadership roles and internships have all helped her reach where she is today. According to Maggard, like many other graduates, no learning experience is wasted. **A**

ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Union graduate finds dream job with BNSF Railroad

By Mindy Liebelt '11

At first, there is only the plaintive echoing cry of the whistle. Then a faint shudder begins underfoot. Soon the engine chugs into view, a plume of smudge gray smoke unfurling like a diaphanous ribbon from its chimney. Full of nostalgia and history, trains often invoke a strong link to the past. But for Jason Burke '15, who graduated in May with a business administration degree, they represent something else as well. His future.

From Knoxville, Tenn., Burke chose to attend Union College because of its small size and friendliness. "I could see many opportunities to get a great education, make friends, and be in a good place for a career," he said.

Burke chose to study accounting after observing his grandfather's work as a treasurer for the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "I enjoy helping people, so working with people to figure out how to make the most of their money is something I enjoy," he explained.

Following a childhood dream

Like many children, he played with toy trains as a young boy. But instead of dissipating as he grew older, his interest grew. What started as classic toy Lionel and wooden Thomas the Tank Engine train sets later became HO scale model trains with intricate layouts built at his grandparent's house. Despite having no family or friends working at a railroad, his knowledge about locomotives, cars, operations and railroads increased as his sets became more complex. Eventually, though, the time and monetary investment required by model trains pushed him to pick up a new hobby—train photography (see flickr.com/photos/jason-burke).

As he got older, Burke considered a hands-on railroad job as a train service employee. But due to federal and union regulations requiring employees to work rotating twelve-hour shifts, he realized it would prove too difficult to accommodate his sundown to sundown Sabbath observance as a Seventh-day Adventist.

Catching a ride on the BNSF

The solution came in the form of a corporate internship, required for his Business Administration degree. Burke decided to apply with two different railroads. BNSF Railway was the first to hire him for a ten-week summer internship at the company's headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas.

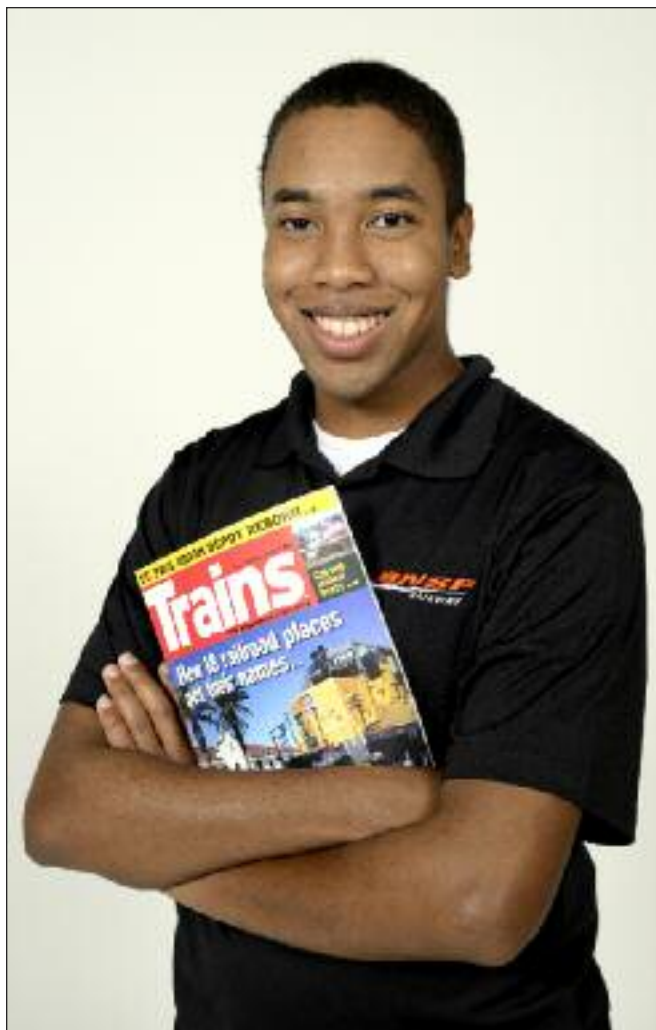
Burke believes Jon Turk, one of his business professors at Union, played an integral part in the application process. "He went above and beyond to double check my resume and cover letter, give me helpful tips about interviewing, and just answer any questions I had," said Burke.

Grounded in the very soil of American history, the construction of the railroad system was elemental in far-reaching technological, economic, sociological, and environmental changes. It would lay the tracks that would eventually connect the country coast-to-coast. According to the company's website, BNSF's story began in 1849 as a humble 12-mile track "laid with secondhand iron" and operated with "borrowed equipment," at the Aurora Branch Railroad, in Illinois.

The BNSF website says that today the company is comprised of "nearly 400 different railroad lines that merged or were acquired" over the last 165 years. It is distinguished as "one of the top transporters of the products and materials that help feed, clothe, supply and power communities throughout America and the world."

I've been working on the railroad

Part of a team that managed BNSF's \$5 billion dollar capital budget for the year 2014, Burke had many important responsibilities. They included compiling, writing, and submitting spending requests, while acting as an intermediate between the various departments' requests for funds and meeting with those that approved spending. He also played an integral role as a team member who created a long-range interdepartmental five-year plan for the company.



Jason Burke has loved trains ever since he can remember. Now the 2015 graduate has found a job that marries his first love with chosen career—business.

Burke credits his education at Union College with aiding in his ability to accomplish his tasks well. While the information taught in class provided him with necessary knowledge, the hands-on experiences, assignments, and group projects actively contributed to his overall skill. Learning in college how to effectively work as a team member has since proven invaluable to him on the job.

Throughout his internship at BNSF, he had many supportive mentors who assisted him in gaining an even greater understanding of the railroad and the numerous facets within the company. Burke enjoyed going to work every day. Something he especially looked forward to was the weekly meetings held to discuss requests for capital. He particularly enjoyed “learning about what was happening in various departments and what work was about to happen on the railroad,” he explained.

A challenging, but ultimately positive aspect of his internship was being in a non-religious work environment with a wide range of individual lifestyles and beliefs. Activities such as going out to eat with coworkers who drank alcohol, led him to an even greater personal awareness of his own Seventh-day Adventist values. These interactions taught him a lot about himself and about how other people live.

One memorable experience occurred in late July, when Burke left the corporate office for a day to shadow a train crew. They were tasked with transferring train cars from the Fort Worth North Yard to

“When I came to Union, I didn’t know what I was going to do after I graduated, but I did know I was going to go into accounting of some sort. Through the years I was able to narrow down where I wanted to work, what I wanted to do, and how I was going to get there. My biggest goal was to graduate with a job, and now I can say that I have met that goal thanks to the support and education experience I received from Union.”

the Fort Worth & Western Railroad—a complicated task that involved getting clearance to use Union Pacific Railroad’s tracks and assembling a train to support local industries. The process was further complicated by railroad congestion and long delays.

During this time-consuming process, he took advantage of the chance to get to know the train crew better. Hearing about their unique life stories and families made him see the human aspect of the railroad. “I learned to care more about people and who they are,” he said. This experience provided him with a greater appreciation for individual workers and showed him that people are much more than the work they do.

With satisfaction he finished his internship at the end of summer and prepared to return to Union for his senior year. Not only had he realized his childhood dream of working for the railroad, accomplished a requirement for his education, and remained steadfast in his observance of the Sabbath—but he also had been hired upon his graduation to return for a permanent job with BNSF Railway.

Laying the foundation for success

Little did Burke realize when he chose to attend a small and friendly college in Lincoln, Neb., that it would enable him to be “all aboard” in reaching his personal dreams and goals. “It has given me the drive to work hard and pursue my goals,” he said of his time at Union. After graduation, Burke plans to begin his career at BNSF Railway as a Finance Management Trainee, and in time become an analyst for the company.

“When I came to Union, I didn’t know what I was going to do after I graduated, but I did know I was going to go into accounting of some sort,” he said. “Through the years I was able to narrow down where I wanted to work, what I wanted to do, and how I was going to get there. My biggest goal was to graduate with a job, and now I can say that I have met that goal thanks to the support and education experience I received from Union.”

It is a wintery dusk in one of Burke’s evocative train photographs. A light dusting of powdered sugar snow coats the crushed stone ballast, contrasting with the graceful dark curves of the steel rails. Out of the pale periwinkle background and bracketed by bare sentinel trees, a train passes under an old searchlight signal bridge. In the luminous glow of its headlight and ditch lights, the BNSF logo is just visible against the trademark orange of the engine. Past the click of the camera, the train races on. Symbolic of the photographer himself.

Moving forward. On track. **A**

DESIGN BY NUMBERS

By Brittany Wren

For Cid Coto '14, the digital world isn't just about ones and zeros, or servers, networks and hardware. As Union College's first computer major to graduate with the new web design emphasis, he understands that when it comes to computers, form is just as important as function.

Coto feels called to serve others by helping to solve problems, create beauty and visually organize the World Wide Web. In today's world of constant connectedness, web design has become increasingly vital. "It is now how we do business, practice medicine and stay in touch with those we care about most," Coto explained. "A web designer has to be there to ensure the site is understandable and enable interactions to take place."

In the months before his December graduation, Coto attended several career fairs hosted by Union and by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Because of his interactions at those career fairs, he was interviewed and eventually landed his first job as a graphic designer at Sandhills Publishing. This international company is headquartered in Lincoln, Neb., and serves industries like agriculture, heavy machinery and construction.

At Sandhills, Coto's main responsibility is to accommodate client requests for website changes and maintenance. On a daily basis, Coto uses the skills he learned at Union such as HTML and CSS coding, as well as industry-standard tools such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. He also credits his writing courses at Union for preparing him to meet the professional standards of his job, where grammatically accurate communication is just as important as technical skill.

Building practical experience

Before completing his degree at Union, Coto interned as Web Content Manager for Eden Valley Institute of Wellness in Colorado. There, he was in charge of all the writing, photography, videography and website design for the non-profit organization. "I was a one-stop shop," Coto laughed. "If I wanted it to happen, I had to create it."

But while he was challenged and stretched during that summer, he believes his web and graphic design classes at Union prepared him well for the experience. Class projects like building a WordPress site from scratch for a client taught him how to work through an authentic work assignment from beginning to end. He later used this experience when he redesigned the homepage for Eden Valley to be more easily navigable, intuitive and maintainable.

He is also grateful for his time working as a student employee for the Marketing Communications department at Union. During his time there, he worked as an assistant web developer, student photographer and video cameraman. Experiencing each of these roles gave him an idea of how the whole marketing communications process should work as well as how to solve problems as they arise in real-life situations.

Before coming to Union, Coto attended high school in Wyoming and later earned a two-year degree in computer science at a local community college. But a bachelor's degree was his ultimate goal. Coto has always been drawn in a clear direction toward the web design field because it combines aspects of computer programming with the instant visual results of design. He finds this creative combination very rewarding and looks forward to a lifetime of continued learning.

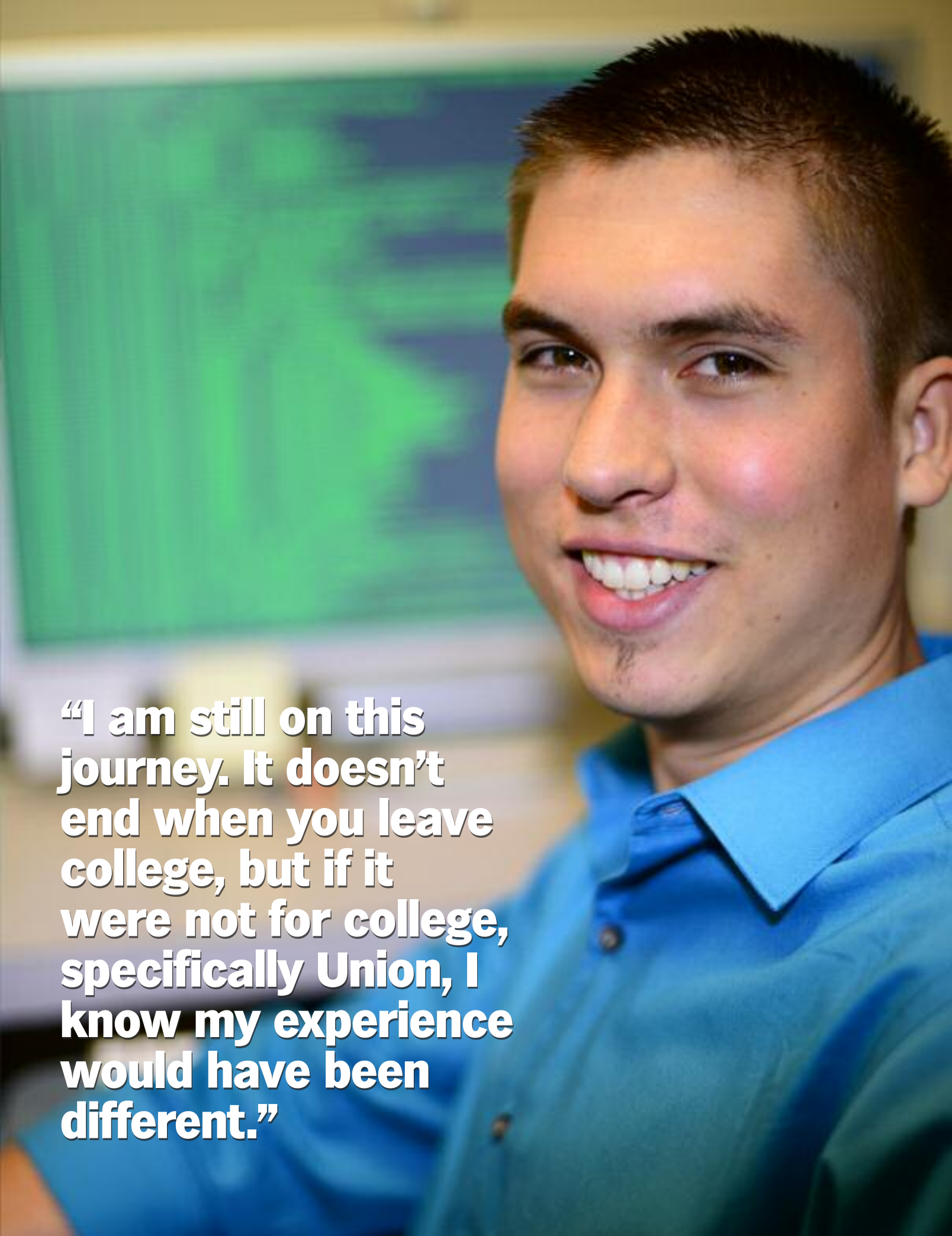
Learning to learn

Coto is grateful not only for the skills he learned in his web design classes, but also for the close friendships he made at Union and the camaraderie he found. He first came to Union because he wanted to associate with peers and mentors who shared his beliefs. Those friends and mentors would later influence the way he viewed the world and his role in it, both professionally and personally.

While redesigning Eden Valley's website, Coto was asked to research and highlight all of the organization's satellite missions. To do this, he had to read through several years of archived quarterly publications and later write about them for the website. He laughed as he remembered he had never expected to use the research skills he learned in college, but for projects like this, they proved to be invaluable.

Beyond work-related research and design, Coto credits the influence of Ben Barber, one of his instructors and work supervisors, for his heightened intellectual curiosity and desire to continue learning for its own sake. "He inspired me to become more of a reader than I already was," he explained. "It's amazing how much information there is out there to learn if you just take it upon yourself to learn it."

Overall, Coto feels his career path has been a spiritually guided one. "I am still on this journey," he said. "It doesn't end when you leave college, but if it were not for college, specifically Union, I know my experience would have been different." ▲



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'67 denotes graduation year
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1950s

Leonard '56 and Mavis '55 Durichek Shockey recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Leonard graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Union College, and Mavis graduated with a bachelor's degree in nursing. Leonard practiced family medicine and surgery for 40 years in Colorado and Texas. They helped build a church in East Texas that still thrives today. The couple retired and have lived in Ardmore, Okla., for nine years. They have two children: Dr. Brian Shockey and



Leonard and Mavis Durichek Shockey

his wife, Charrie, of Ardmore, Okla.; and Lorelie Agee and her husband, Darryl, of Bent Mountain, Va. They have seven grandchildren.

Don Weatherall '56, an education major from Oklahoma, and **Ardyce Kuhnke ('56)**, a nursing student from Colorado, met while working in the bakery at Union College. They married on July 28, 1954, and have celebrated their sixtieth anniversary. Don served as teacher and administrator in Nebraska, Kansas, Tennessee, Hawaii and Florida; and then at the Southern Union and North American Division. Meanwhile Ardyce started a successful flannel graph company for children's Sabbath Schools across North America. After 50 years of denominational service, the Weatheralls retired and now live in the Florida Living Retirement Community in Apopka. They are the parents of three daughters: Cynthia Buckingham, Kristy Williams, and Lori Asbury; and four grandchildren: Jaclyn and Justin Williams and Bailey and Rylee Asbury.



Don Weatherall and Ardyce Kuhnke

1960s

Dick Stenbakken '62 learned in April 2014 that one of his new TV shows won a Silver Award at the Houston International Film Festival. "The Dorchester Story" relates the saga of four Army chaplains who gave their life vests to others around them after their ship had been torpedoed in the North Atlantic on February 3, 1943. Dick served

24 years in active duty as an Army chaplain, retiring in 1992 at the rank of full Colonel (O-6) to become director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, serving there until 2005. He was a frequent speaker at U.S. Senate/staff prayer luncheons and Pentagon prayer breakfasts. He has also produced 60+ first-person biblical presentations that have been shown at local schools, churches and other events all over the world. He is an avid student and collector of first century Roman artifacts.



Dick Stenbakken

1970s

Jerry Moon '71 is a co-editor of the newly released *Ellen G. White Encyclopedia*. Working as a team with Denis Fortin and some 180 authors, the goal was to produce a comprehensive source to which both scholars and new readers could turn for easy access to specific information about Ellen White. In process from 2000 to 2013, the *Encyclopedia* includes some 1,200 articles about Ellen White's life, beliefs, publications, institutions she founded, and biographical sketches of hundreds of people with whom she corresponded. Jerry is professor and chair of the department of church history in the Seminary at Andrews University.



Jerry Moon

Linda de Romanett '73, spent most of her career as an internal medicine physician. Now she is blazing trails in media evangelism by founding the nonprofit corporation Family First Radio Network. Since the 1990s, de Romanett has worked independently or with churches to launch radio stations. She began in the Southeast and has now expanded to other areas of the country. Family First uses talk radio programming to reach listeners. The first station began broadcasting in Columbia, S.C., in the late 1990s. More than 500 people have been baptized from their connection to the network's broadcasts. de Romanett's evangelistic work eventually inspired her aunt, the late Mary Harris, to establish a nonprofit foundation to support the ministries de Romanett was involved with. With support from her



Linda de Romanett

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aunt's foundation, her parents and her own funds, de Romanett says she followed God's leading and started applying for radio station licenses with the Federal Communications Commission.

1980s

Richard '76 and Kayla Wagner Booth '80, were among the first teachers in the North American Division to receive the Journey to Excellence Teacher's Award, which is being presented to longtime Adventist educators who embody the vision of helping every learner excel in faith, learning and service. Richard began his teaching career in Humboldt, Iowa, in 1976. Kayla started her career in her home state of Kansas in 1981 teaching in Pittsburg. Richard and Kayla met at Union College while working on their master's degrees through the Loma Linda University summer school program. They have been a teaching couple since their marriage on July 28, 1985, creating an educational team that has spanned nearly 30 years.



Richard Booth



Kayla Wagner Booth

1990s

Terry Forde '93, has been named president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare. Forde, of Silver Spring, said he is focused on the continued need for more outpatient services, reducing readmission rates, additional behavior health and rehabilitation health components, and helping the physicians evaluate electronic clinical health card systems for improved data access. Forde joined Adventist HealthCare, based in Gaithersburg, Md., in July 2011, as the organization's executive vice president and chief operating officer. Since then, he has overseen the organization's Maryland entities and operations, recruited several top executives and helped Adventist HealthCare successfully adapt to the many changes that have occurred at both the state and national levels. Forde previously served as an executive for eight years with Centura Health, the largest health system in Colorado.



Terry Forde

Todd Hoyt '93 is the new pre-arrangement counselor for the cemetery division at Fairmount Mortuary, Cemetery and Cremation Services in Denver, Colo. Originally from Grand Junction, Colo., he graduated from Union in 1993 with a degree in Communication with an emphasis in public relations.



Todd Hoyt

2000s

Colin Watley and Elsa Diné '00 of Rio Nido, Calif., welcomed Hero Essex Watley on Feb. 19, 2014. He weighed 7 lbs 9 oz and was 20 inches long. Elsa works in customer service sales at Gap. Colin is a server at Chef Patrick's, a French restaurant.



Hero Essex Watley

Jonathan ('01) and Pauline Deeb Bilima '03 welcomed Jonathan "Zion" on Christmas eve, Dec. 24, 2013. He weighed 7 lb 15 oz and was 21.5 inches long. Jonathan is the lead pastor of Relevant Church in Riverside, Calif. Pauline is the director of the Healing Hands Grateful Patient Program at Loma Linda University Health.



Jonathan "Zion" Bilima

Danielle Bullard '02 and Izaak Fox were married in Mount Vernon, Wash., on July 25, 2014. Danielle is a physician assistant in occupational medicine and surgical assisting. Izaak is a civil engineer. They live in Olympia, Wash.



Danielle Bullard Fox and Izzak Fox

Arlene Esche (at Union as **Arlin Sugandhi**) and her husband, Aaron, are pleased to announce the birth of August Liam on April 11, 2014. He weighed 6 lbs 15 oz and was 19 inches long. He joins his sister, Alana Grace, at home. Aaron is working toward a Ph.D. in psychology from Ball University in Muncie, Ind. Arlene is an active duty Air Force officer working at Wright Patterson AFB in Ohio.



August Liam Esche

Byron '02 and Liv Pedersen Jacobson '02 welcomed Katalina Iskandar on June 11, 2014. She

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weighed 7 lb 5 oz and was 21 inches long. Liv is a graphic designer at AdventSource, and Byron owns his own carpet cleaning business, Interior Dry Cleaning Systems, LLC. They live in Lincoln, Neb.



Katalina Iskandar

Callie Kanen Adams '03 and her husband, Andy, are pleased to announce the birth of Elizabeth Gwen, born on May 3, 2014. She joins sisters, Abby and Cate, at home in Alamosa, Colo. Callie is the manager of Mountain Air Oxygen, which supplies oxygen and medical equipment to the San Luis Valley. Andy works for Phoenix Management in the accounts receivable department. He is also a customer service agent for Great Lakes Airlines.



Adams' Family

Derek Hansen '03 was presented the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Alumni Awards Foundation, which is given to ten teachers from across the nation each year on graduation day in May. His hands-on approach to teaching, plus dedication to helping all students, earned him this prestigious national teaching award for Seventh-day Adventist teachers. He has taught science and some math at College View Academy in Lincoln, Neb., since he graduated in 2003.

Rande '04 and Heather Palmer Colburn '04 welcomed Ellie Elaine on April 5, 2014. She was 7 lbs 13 oz and 20.5 inches long and joins big brothers, Drew, 7, and Carter, 5. Heather is taking a break from teaching to stay home but plans to pursue a master's degree in education next year. Rande is a web marketing manager for OtterBox. They have lived in Fort Collins for almost three years.



Ellie Elaine Colburn

Bill '04 and Tasha Reynolds Heinrich '03 are pleased to announce the birth of Alice Margaret, born Feb. 7, 2014. She joins Colton, age 4, and Khloe, age 2, at home in Wesley Chapel, Fla. Bill is the chief financial officer at Florida Hospital—Zephyrhills, which is part of Adventist Health System. Tasha is a stay-at-home mom.



Alice Margaret Heinrich

Walden Elder Hiscock was born May 1, 2014, to Jared and **Damie Elder-Hiscock ('04)**. He was 6 lb 7 oz and 19.5 inches long. He is their third

child, preceded by Ryann Serena (Nov. 5, 2009-May 19, 2011) and Clifton Sumner (Sept. 9, 2012). Damie is the administrative assistant to the vice president for Academic Administration at Union College. Jared is working toward a doctor of musical arts degree at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln.



Walden Elder Hiscock

David '04 and Eunice Lopez Jahn '04 welcomed Elijah David on Dec. 4, 2013. He weighed 5 lbs 7 oz and was 19 3/4 inches long. David teaches at Great Kids Academy and is the assistant volunteer pastor at the South Bend First Church in South Bend, Indiana. Eunice is the administrative assistant at the same church.



Elijah David Jahn

Dan '04 and Brittany Spaulding Sallee '08 are pleased to announce the birth of Kalin Zacariah on May 19, 2014. He weighed 7 lbs 11 oz and was 20 inches long. Brittany works for Retirement Advantage as a compliance analyst, and Dan is a chiropractor at Advanced

Sports and Family Chiropractic and Acupuncture. They live in Overland Park, Kan.



Kalin Zacariah Sallee

Andrew '05 and Natasha Matychuk Gray '04 welcomed Anastasia Faith on May 20, 2014. She weighed 6 lbs 13 oz and was 19 inches long. Natasha is a clinical assistant to an orthopedic surgeon at Columbia Orthopaedic Group in Columbia, Mo. Andrew is a licensed master social worker (LMSW) and family therapist for the state division of youth services in Columbia, Mo.



Anastasia Faith Gray

Gary '05 and Tara Trewitt Manly '08 are pleased to announce the birth of Cora Layne on May 5, 2014, weighing 8 lbs and measuring 21 inches long. She joins Levi Charles, age 2, at



Cora Layne Manly

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home. Gary is a stay-at-home dad and part-time art teacher. Tara is an internal medicine physician assistant for Scott and White Hospital in Belton, Texas.

Kason Juhl Hansen and Jaxon Lee Hansen were born to **Kief '05** and **Andrea Hansen '07, '10** on Oct. 15, 2013. Kason was 6 lbs 5.6 oz and 19.25 inches long. Jaxon was 5 lbs 2.2 oz and 18.5 inches long. Kief is a realtor at the Real Estate Group in Rapid City, S.D., and Andrea is a physician assistant at Black Hills Urgent Care.



Kason Juhl and Jaxon Lee Hansen

Grady Whittaker Smith was born to **Julie Harding Smith '05** and her husband Jordan on Nov. 28, 2013, weighing 7 lbs 10 oz. He joined big sister, Peyton, at home in Tampa, Fla. Julie is a senior auditor at GTE Financial, and Jordan is a plumber at Florida Hospital in Tampa.



Grady Whittaker Smith

Brad Bascom '06 and his wife, Giovanna, are pleased to announce the birth of Andrew Loic on Aug. 10, 2014. Andrew weighed 9 lbs 1 oz and was 21.5 inches long. He joins siblings, Audrey, age 5, Abigail, age 4, and Austin, age 2. Brad is a physical therapist at Frye Medical Center in Hickory, N.C. Giovanna is a stay-at-home mom.



Andrew Loic Bascom

Rachel Turner Orrison '07 and her husband **Alan (former employee)** welcomed Elliot Jude on March 24, 2014. He weighed 8 lbs 12 oz and was 20 inches long. Rachel is a lead creative services designer at Deloitte. Alan is a teacher at Atlanta Adventist Academy.



Elliot Jude Orrison

Oliver Daniel Cress was born July 16, 2014, to **Daniel '08** and **Trina Peterson Cress '08**. He weighed 9 lbs 3 oz and measured 21 inches. He joins older siblings, Brylee and Ian. Daniel is a financial aid advisor at Union College, and Trina is a freelance writer and stay-at-home mom.



Cress Family

Kallie Adams '08 and Ryan McCutcheon were married in Anacortes, Wash., on Jan. 3, 2014. They live in Sitka, Alaska, and Kallie is a teacher and principal of the Sitka Adventist School.



Kallie and Ryan McCutcheon

Norah Elizabeth Pedigo was born Aug. 3, 2014, to **Pamela Torres Pedigo '08** and her husband Jason. Born at home after 26 hours of labor, Norah weighed 9 lbs 13 oz and was 21.5 inches long. Pamela is a stay-at-home mom in Hender-



Norah Elizabeth Pedigo

son, Nev., and Jason is an operations manager for a fuel company. For full birth story and other blogs, check out Pamela's blog at torrespamelag.wix.com.

Kris Wetmore '08 and his wife, Whitney, welcomed Lydia Susan on July 28, 2014. She weighed 6 lbs 5 oz and was 20 inches long. Kris owns his own business in Hendersonville, N.C., Family Tree Care. His wife is a teller at First Citizens Bank. Blake Edward Barnett was born on Oct. 29, 2014, to **Ryan '09**



Lydia Susan Wetmore

and **Kay McCarthy Barnett '10**. He weighed 9 lbs and was 21 inches long. Ryan and Kay both work for Florida Hospital in Orlando, Fla. Ray is a finance manager and Kay is a business development director.



Blake Edward Barnett

Mike '09 and **Katelyn Rabanal Brown '09** welcomed Owen Michael on Dec. 12, 2012. Owen weighed 8 lbs 3 oz and was 20.5 inches long. He is the little brother to Eli, who will be four in February. Katelyn owns her own health and wellness business as an Arbonne Consultant and is a stay-at-home mom. Mike is the clinic man-

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ager and prosthetic clinician at Hanger Clinic in Mercy Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa.



Owen Michael and Eli Brown

Cassidy Faith Diehl was born on June 24, 2014, to **Jeremy '10** and **Kate Hudson Diehl '09**. She weighed 7 lbs 1 oz and was 19 inches long. The family live in Memphis, Tenn. Jeremy is a third-year medical student at Debusk College of Osteopathic Medicine. Kate recently finished a master's degree in math learning and teaching from Drexel University. She is taking time off from math teaching to be a full-time mom.



Cassidy Faith Diehl

2010s

Tyrell ('11) and **Heather Mekelburg Lang '11** are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Jack Lyston. He was born on Sept, 8, 2014, weighing 9 lbs 5 oz and 22 inches long. Tyrell is an officer in the U.S. Public Health Service currently assigned to the Great Plains Indian Health Service Division of Facilities Management. Heather is a stay-at-home mom.



Jack Lyston Lang

Jeffrey Schall '11, recently graduated with a degree in nursing from Loma Linda University. He is a registered nurse at Loma Linda University Medical Center in the medical intensive care unit. He also serves on the board of a free clinic in San Bernardino, where basic medical care is provided to the underserved population in the city. He volunteers with a group from Loma Linda called Street Medicine. The group teaches medical students basic medical skills they can use when providing medical care to the underserved populations of San Bernardino.

Vienna Loren Beinlich was born on Aug. 1, 2013, to **Justin Beinlich '13** and his wife, Emily. Vienna was 5 lbs 13 oz and 19 inches long. Justin is a sergeant



Vienna Loren Beinlich

in the Nebraska Army National Guard and a clinical lab worker at Nebraska LabLinc in Lincoln, Neb. Emily is studying sonography at Bryan College of Health Sciences and is a stay-at-home mom.

Russell '13 and **Rachel Welsh Huggins '10** welcomed Hadley Elizabeth on July 9, 2014, weighing 5 lbs 5 oz and 19 inches long. Rachel is a wellness manager at Union Bank in Lincoln, Neb. Russell is a mechanic at Anderson Mazda.



Hadley Elizabeth Huggins

Rickie Edouard Prince '13 and her husband Dave are pleased to announce the birth of Raiden on Feb 23, 2014. He weighed 6 lbs and was 19.5 inches long. Rickie is a nurse in the progressive care unit at Jackson Hospital in Marianna, Fla. Dave is a respiratory therapist.



Raiden Prince

People Placements

Tamara Adams is the new student health director. She most recently worked at Orchard Park Retirement Home as the associate services director. She graduated from Union in 1989 with a bachelor's in nursing. Tammy enjoys walking, music and spending time with her family. She and her husband, Peter, have four children, all either attending or have graduated from Union.

Larinda Fandrich is a new assistant professor of nursing. She most recently worked as Same Day Surgery Director at the Lincoln Surgical Hospital. Larinda graduated from Union with a degree in nursing in 1986 and completed a Master of Science in Nursing last fall. She enjoys running, quilting, and spending time with family and friends. She and her husband, Scott, have three children, Alex, Lindsey and Jared.

Courtney Gutknecht is the new enrollment coordinator for Enrollment Services. She graduated from Union College in 2014 with a degree in elementary education. Courtney enjoys sports, outdoors and traveling.

Devi Halim has spend the past year as a graphic designer for Enrollment Services. She graduated from Union in 2014 with a degree in graphic design.

Lesa Kean is a new assistant professor of mathematics. She most recently recently taught classes at Emporia State University and a community college in Kansas. Lesa graduated with a bachelor's degree in music education and math education from Union College, and both a master's and Ph.D. in mathematics education at Illinois Institute of Technology. Lesa and her husband, Frank, have a dog and a cat.

IN MEMORY

Seth McNeill is an assistant professor of engineering and computer science. He most recently worked as an Applications Engineer for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln NIMBUS lab. Seth earned a bachelor's in engineering from Walla Walla University, and both a master's and doctorate in electrical engineering from the University of Florida. He enjoys hiking, biking, robotics, amateur radio and computers and is married to Corraine, assistant professor of biology at Union.

Marcia Nordmeyer is the new conference and guest services director. She most recently worked in the marketing department of a Lincoln-based software company. Marcia graduated from Union College with a business administration degree in 2007. She and her husband, Jeremy, have one son, Calvin.

Val Opp is the new assistant manager of the Campus Store. She most recently worked as an accountant for the Nebraska Department of Roads. Valda enjoys sewing, reading, hiking and spoiling grandchildren. She and her husband, Rod, have a son, two daughters and five grandchildren.

Emily McFadyen Patterson is the new assistant dean of women. She graduated from Union with an elementary education degree in 2011 and most recently taught in an Adventist elementary school in Montana. Emily is married to Jevon, whom she met while at Union.

Juan Perez is the new HR generalist for the Human Resources Department. He most recently worked as a financial services professional. Juan earned a bachelor's degree from University of Nebraska, and enjoys being involved at the Lincoln Spanish church, spending time with his family and prison ministry. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have four grown children:

Lisa Marie, Eukarys, Maykelis, and Johnny.

Aaron Purkeypile is a new associate professor of business. He most recently served as associate treasurer for secondary education in the Washington Conference. Aaron enjoys relationship building and building communities (for example through fitness, athletics, or faith) where anybody can join and feel they have a place of belonging regardless of their previous experiences or perceived baggage. Aaron and his wife, Kerri, have a seven-year-old, Maxwell.

Rebecca Randa is a new clinical instructor for the Division of Nursing. She worked as a nurse in a medical/oncology/stroke unit at St. Elizabeth Regional Medical Center. Rebecca graduated from Union College in 2007 with a nursing degree and is working toward a master's in Nursing Education at Capella University. She, and her husband, Tom have a four-year-old daughter and three-year-old son.

Laura Selivanoff served for the past year as records assistant for the Records Office. She graduated from Union in 2014 with a degree in psychology and associates in pre-allied health. Laura enjoys traveling, reading and horseback riding.

Joellyn Sheehy served for the past year as AQIP systems portfolio coordinator, helping to manage Union's accreditation process. She graduated from Union College in 2014 with a degree in international rescue and relief.

Melissa Sorter is the new enrollment counselor for the Division of Nursing and most recently worked as registrar of Wisconsin Academy. Missy attended Union College, and graduated with a degree in radiologic technology from University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D. She loves travelling with her family to warm weather desti-

nations to snorkel, swim and play in the surf. She and her husband, Shawn, have twin 11-year-old girls, Allie and Zoe.

Lisa Turk is the new office manager for the Division of Human Development. She graduated from Southern Adventist University with a degree in consumer and family sciences in 1989 and a degree in office administration in 1992. In 2010 she graduated from La Sierra University with a master's degree in education and received her NAD certification in 2013. Lisa is married to Jon, a professor in the Division of Business and Computer Science. They have two children, William and Katherine (Katie).

Transitioned

Addison Hudgins is the new assistant director of admissions for Enrollment Services. She most recently served as campus visit coordinator.

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Death dates and/or obituaries have been received for the following individuals.

Alice Nelson Peterson ('35), Angwin, Calif., died March 20, 2014, at age 102. She was born Oct. 2, 1911, in Glenwood, Minn., the first of three children. Becoming an Adventist as a teenager, she attended Union College where she met Henry Peterson. They married Jan. 5, 1936. She and Henry, a minister, were missionaries to Singapore and Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), Africa. Alice was a schoolteacher for many decades, teaching elementary through college. She is survived by her children: LeRoy, Lowell, Tom and Genene Sharp; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Jessie Van Divier Cross ('36), Denver, Colo., died Feb. 27,

2014, at age 99. She was born Dec. 12, 1914, in Cheyenne, Wyo. She was a member of the Denver South Seventh-day Adventist Church. She is survived by her sons, **Bruce ('61)** and **Steven ('66)**; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Eldine Hahn Friesen ('36), Loma Linda, Calif., died March 25, 2014, at age 99. She was born May 23, 1914, in Hastings, Neb. She is survived by her son, Dean; daughter, Carolyn Garvin; four grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Evelyn Bullock ('37), Longmont, Colo., died Feb. 12, 2014, at age 97. She was born Sept. 6, 1916, in Lyons, Colo., to Orel LeRoy and Louise Bensen Bullock. After graduating from Campion Academy in Loveland, Colo., she attended Union College and graduated from Colorado State Teachers College in Greeley, Colo. Her forty-year career as a teacher began in the Montgomery School in Lyons, Colo. After she retired in 1978, she enjoyed meeting with the "Ramblin' Roses" Red Hatters group, made up of her teacher friends. She loved gardening and was known for her green thumb at producing beautiful African violets.

George Nielsen ('39), Lincoln, Neb., died May 17, 2014, at age 95. He was born in Fairmont, Minn., and spent most of his life in Minnesota. George married **Florence Unterseher ('39)** on Christmas day 1941. Three weeks later he was shipped



George Nielsen

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with the Army to Australia and served in the Pacific until 1944. George established the Nielsen Store Equipment Company in St. Paul, Minn. He was a long-time member of the St. Paul First Seventh-day Adventist Church. Survivors include his children, **Angela Hardt '67** and **Wayne Nielsen ('73)**; two sisters, Betty Porter and Laura Mercanti; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Helen Christensen Barker ('40), Lincoln, Neb., died Aug. 24, 2014, at age 95. Born Sept. 7, 1918, in Winner, S.D., to Melchoir and Anna Hansen Christensen. She felt privileged to attend Oak Park Academy and then Union College where she met **Merle Barker ('41)**. They were married April 13, 1940. They farmed near Merle's family in Colorado and near her family in Iowa before they purchased their first farm in Mindenmines, Mo., in 1953. She led the local Pathfinder Club camping for 25 years, attending many camporees. After Merle's death, she moved to Gering, Neb., to be near her daughter, **Carol Huennergardt '70** and family. In 2012 when her health began to fail, she moved to Lincoln, Neb., near family again. She is survived by her children: Keith, Carol Huennergardt and **Ted '76**; 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.



Helen Christensen Barker

Hagen Biloff ('40), Milton-Freewater, Ore., died April 9, 2014, at age 96. Hagen was born July 23, 1917, at home in Carrington, N.D., to William and Julia Huff

Biloff. He graduated from Sheyenne River Academy and briefly attended Union College. Hagen accepted a job cutting tail pieces for the P38 aircraft at Lockheed Martin during WWII. Hagen married Gladys Juhl on June 1, 1941. Hagen moved his wife and 4-month-old son back to the Biloff homestead two years later. He worked the land with cattle and sheep and various grain crops for the next 24 years. After moving from the farm to Minnesota and then to the Milton-Freewater, Ore., area, he went into the construction business and built several homes. Later he opened and operated a lumber yard in Milton-Freewater, Ore. He is survived by his wife, Gladys; children: **DeVern ('62)**, **Dennis ('64)**, Neil, **Lana Sepolen '76** and Wade; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Della Wiltse Morrison '41, Indianapolis, Ind., died October 4, 2014, at age 98. She was born in Bruno, Minn., on Feb. 16, 1916, to Austin and Mable Wood Wiltse. After graduating from Union College, Della earned a degree in nursing from Loma Linda University. It was while she was doing nurses' training that she met Russell Morrison, who was teaching church school. They married on March 15, 1945. She was a lifelong member of the Seventh-day Adventist church. Survivors include two daughters, Cheri Thompson and Carole Sannes; four grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Felix Lorenz ('42), Loma Linda, Calif., died Nov. 2, 2013, at age 91. He was born on April 5, 1922, in Kansas. After graduating from Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson, Minn., he attended Union College, the Peabody College, and Vanderbilt Divinity School in Nashville, Tenn. He later graduated from the seminary of Washington Missionary College in Takoma Park, Md., in 1952. Wherever they lived, Felix soon organized

a Christian choral group often under the name of the "Light House Chorale". In 1962, Felix and Lucille moved to their country home in Northville, Mich., where they lived and served local churches in southeast Michigan as pastors, teachers, and choral directors until their move to Loma Linda in 2012. He is survived by his wife, Lucille, and four children.

Wanda Klee Johnson ('43), Hermiston, Ore., died May 3, 2014, at age 89. Born in St. Louis, Mo., on Oct. 28, 1924, Wanda was the only child of Peter and Olivia Janssen Klee. She graduated from Campion Academy and studied nursing at Union College. Her first nursing job was at White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles, Calif. It was here that she met and married a young Loma Linda medical student, Milton Johnson on Dec. 17, 1946. She is survived by her children: Milton Jr., Judith Van Tassel, Jeffrey, Jerrold and Joel.

Edward Wines '43, Signal Mountain, Tenn., died Aug. 13, 2014, at age 91. A longtime educator within the Seventh-day Adventist church, he was dean of Platte Valley Academy, principal of Enterprise Academy, president of Southwestern Adventist College, education director for the Columbia Union Conference, and vice-president for advancement and public relations at Loma Linda University. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, **Moneta Caviness Wines ('43)**; son, Edward; daughters, Muriel Phillips and Mary Ann Graves; and eight grandchildren.

Dale Aalborg '44, Highlands Ranch, Colo., died Feb. 19, 2014, at age 93. He was born on July 15, 1920, in Viborg, S.D. He served as a pastor in Texico, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming, Pennsylvania and Arkansas-Louisiana conferences. Survivors include sons, **Bruce '72**, **Merlin '78** and Bryan; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Edna Johnson Abrams ('44), Walla Walla, Wash., died Feb. 9, 2014, at age 93. She was born Oct. 22, 1920, to John and Mary Warkentine Johnson in Woodworth, N.D. She graduated from Woodworth High School and attended North Dakota State Teacher's College in Valley City and received teacher certification. She taught for at least one year in a rural school between Woodworth and Jamestown, N.D. Edna then completed prerequisites for nursing at Union College and earned a nursing diploma from the College of Medical Evangelists in 1950. In 1965, she graduated from Loma Linda University with a bachelor's degree in nursing. She obtained a master's degree in nursing from the University of California, San Francisco in 1970. She taught nursing at Loma Linda University and at Walla Walla College until 1987 when she retired. In 1973 she and Emmett Downing were married. After his death in 1995, she married Paul Abrams in 1998. Survivors include her husband, Paul, and many nieces and nephews.

Viola Voth Stolz '45, Sykeston, N.D., died July 22, 2014, at age 88. She was born to William and Rosa Schmidt Voth on March 19, 1926. She graduated from Sheyenne River Academy in 1943 and then from Union College in 1945 with a degree in secretarial science. After marrying Lawrence Stolz in 1946, she worked briefly in Jamestown as a secretary and then worked harder than ever raising three children and helping on the farm. She is survived by her son, **Larry Stolz '84**; son-in-law, **Merlyn Gottfried '75**, and four grandchildren.

Robert Marsh '47, Pasadena, Calif., died Aug. 21, 2014, at age 94. He was born July 25, 1920, in Lincoln, Neb., to Lee and Edna Serns Marsh. Robert graduated from Glendale Union Academy in 1937 and attended Glendale City College for two years before returning to Lin-

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coln, Neb., where he graduated from Union College in 1940. After graduating from Loma Linda University School of Medicine and completing a medical internship, he served in the U.S. Air Force as a ranked flight surgeon at the field hospital in Neubiberg, Munich, Germany. Upon his return, he finished surgical training, became a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and set up practice in Glendale, where he practiced for 37 years. He held chief of staff positions at Behrens Hospital (later to become Verdugo Hills Hospital) and the Glendale Adventist Medical Center. Robert married Marguerite Strahle in 1948. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite; son, Christopher; daughter Victoria Tapper; two granddaughters and two great-granddaughters.



Robert Marsh

Edna Maier Harris '48), Portland, Ore., died April 22, 2014, at age 87. She was born April 27, 1926 in Bowdle, S.D. Survivors include her husband, **Jack Harris '50**; son, Lance; daughter, Karyl Dupée; brother, Harlan Maier; and four grandchildren.

Lee "Bud" Gates (Honorary '49), Grand Junction, Colo., died Aug. 16, 2014, at age 96. Born June 17, 1918, in Denver, Colo., to Lee and Bertha Gates, he was the first of six children in the family. He graduated from Campion Academy in Loveland, Colo., in 1930 and attended classes at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

Throughout most of his working life, Bud was involved as an owner and officer of a family-owned business in Denver—Gates & Sons, Inc. He was deeply involved in the Seventh-day Adventist church, and served on many church affiliated boards and committees, including Union's Board of Trustees. He also proudly served on the board of Porter Memorial Hospital in Denver for a number of years. In 1991, Bud and Delphine retired and moved from Denver to Grand Junction, where they remained until the time of their deaths. He is survived by his son, Garry; daughter **Sandy Drobny '69**; six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two wives, Edith and **Delphine Watson Gates '49**; and son, Lee Gates III.

Harold Dupper '50, Fort Collins, Colo., died as a result of an automobile accident on June 19, 2014, at age 89. He was born January 27, 1925, at home in Beebe Draw, Colo., to Henry and Caroline Dupper. After he completed his Army experience, he met **Velma Lorenz '49**, who had written encouraging letters to him while he was in Italy. He joined her at Union College and they were married on June 6, 1949. After graduating from Loma Linda, Harold took his family to Burma where he served as a physician in a mission hospital in Rangoon, and in 1960 found a position at the Beebe Clinic in Fort Collins, Colo. After Velma died, he met and married Wanda in 1988. She accompanied him in death on June 19, 2014. He is survived by his siblings, **Elma Lorenz '42)**, **Frank '54**, Donna Cordova, and **Kenneth '64**; sons, **Harold '77)**, **Bob '81**, and **Ron '81**; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Richard Warner '50, Fresno, Calif., died June 14, 2014, at age 86. He was born March 7, 1928, in Bettendorf, Iowa. He and **Shirley Wilmot Warner ('50)**

lived happily together for almost 66 years. Richard graduated from College View Academy in 1946 and served as a youth leader and pastor in the Adventist church for more than 40 years. Elder Warner is survived by his wife Shirley; two daughters, **Joni Bell '70)** and Heidi Lane; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. **Carl Heft '51**, Gresham, Ore., died March 27, 2014, at age 90. His survivors include his wife, **Dorothy Winn Heft '50**; son, Wally; brother, John; sisters, **Carol Killion '51**, Mary Kelly, Millicent Rieboldt and Diane Owens; and five grandchildren.



Richard Warner

Arthur Opp '51, Loveland, Colo., died Sept. 17, 2014, at age 90. Art was born Jan. 9, 1924, in Hazelton, N.D., to Christian and Margaretha Opp. During World War II, he joined the Army and served in the Pacific Theater in hospital administration, rising to the rank of sergeant major. After returning home, he earned a business degree from Union College, and met and married **Theda Eibert '49**. They were married for 54 years until her death in 2004. Art served in treasury and auditing while working for the Seventh-day Adventist church for 40 years in Maryland, South Dakota, Indiana, Michigan, Texas, and Nebraska. In retirement he continued his services to the church serving as treasurer of his local church in Loveland and traveling as a representative throughout the

Midwest to schools and churches. He is survived by his son, Loren Opp, and daughter, Margaret Christoffel.

Clayton Whetmore ('51), Suamico, Wis., died May 28, 2014, at age 86. Born on June 13, 1927, in Newburgh, N.Y., he is the son of Edward and Mildred Clay Whetmore. Clayton proudly served in the Army from August 1945 to December 1946. On Sept. 3, 1950, he married **Christine Walker '54**. After Union College, he graduated from Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1960 and completed an OB/GYN residency at this school several years later. Over the next 35 years he delivered over 7,000 babies and started a Christian osteopathic medical school. He is survived by his wife, Christine; children: **Clayton '81**, George, and **Joy Lauck ('78)**; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Kenneth Kaiser '52, Crete, Neb., died Jan. 13, 2014, at age 91. He was born Nov. 21, 1922, in Shaffer, Kan. Kenneth was called to serve in the Army during World War II, and then attended Union College, graduating with a bachelor's degree in education. In 1948 he married Eleanor Engeberg. Kenneth was a teacher/principal in the rural school system in Kansas for 30 years. He earned a master's degree from Fort Hays State College in Kansas. In retirement they moved to Lincoln, Neb. He is survived by children, **Alicia Murray '72** and **Jim ('77)**; five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and sister, Wanda Dick.

Norman Harvey '53, Topeka, Kan., died April 17, 2014, at age 84. He was born Aug. 30, 1929, in Fairland, Okla., the son of Charles and Bessie Clark Harvey. After graduating from Freemont County Vocational High School in Lander, Wyo., in 1947, he graduated from Union College in 1953. While at college he met **Thelma Kepler**

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(’51), and they were married on Aug. 19, 1951. Norman spent his entire denominational career within the Mid-America Union as a pastor, teacher and treasurer in Wyoming, Kansas and North Dakota and Kansas. In his retirement he served the local church in many capacities as well as church auditor of the conference. Survivors include his wife, Thelma; daughters, **Cynthia Lane ’79** and **Muffy Kessler (’80)**; grandsons, **Travis Lane (’05)**, **Nicholas Mohr ’12** and **Trevor Mohr**; sister, **Reba Christensen (’56)** and many nieces and nephews.

William “Mac” McCormick ’53, Omaha, Neb., died Jan. 16, 2014, at age 81. He was born Nov. 19, 1932, in Omaha, Neb. He was a member of Omaha Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church. He is survived by his devoted wife of 60 years, **Sylvia ’56**; children, **Brenda Miner ’79**, **Mike ’81** and **Carol Fletcher ’83**; six grandchildren; two sisters; and many nieces, nephews and good friends.



Norman Harvey

Henry Petry ’53, Oklahoma City, Okla., died Feb. 14, 2014, at age 84. He was born May 5, 1929, in Hockley, Texas, to Baldwin and Zora Petry. After graduating from high school in 1947, he attended Southwestern Junior College in Keene, Texas, where he pursued a degree in ministry. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree from Union College, he earned a master’s degree in chaplaincy at Abilene Christian College. In 1961 he was ordained in the ministry of

the Seventh-day Adventist church and spent more than 40 years as a pastor. He is survived by his wife, Toni; daughters, Virginia Gifford and JoAnn Loignon; step-daughter, Julie Pulley; sister, Jeanette Gafner; four grandchildren and three step-grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Don Sullivan ’53, Port Orchard, Wash., died August 19, 2014, at age 83. He was born on Oct. 10, 1930, in Omaha, Neb., to Michael and Anna Sullivan. After graduating from Platte Valley Academy in Nebraska, he began ministerial training at Union College. On Sept. 3, 1950, he married his academy sweetheart, Dorothy Lair. Upon graduation from Union, he began his ministry in New Mexico. In 1958, the family moved to South America and served in Bolivia, Peru, and Chile, where he was the first president of the newly organized Chile Union in 1966. During their 1963-1964 furlough, Don completed a master’s degree in education at Andrews University. He later worked in Texas, New Mexico and California until he retired 1999, completing forty-six years of service to his church. A month after his retirement, Don became the volunteer pastor of the Kona church in Hawaii for four years. Don is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and four children: sons, David, Kim Alan and Mark; and daughter, Jolene; 15 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



Don Sullivan

Charles Anderson (’54), Loveland, Colo., died Dec. 2, 2013, at age 80. He was born Dec. 21, 1932, in Denver, Colo., to Edwin and Ida Wilson Anderson. Charles attended Campion Academy and later graduated from the University of Colorado with a bachelor’s degree in business. He married **Ruth Holmes ’54** in Keene, Texas. Charles lived in Loveland, Colo., most of his life and worked as a farmer and a truck driver. He loved trucks, tractors and car racing. Survivors include his wife, Ruth; sons, Michael and Steve; five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Genevieve Hanson Mekelburg (’54), Yuma, Colo., died Oct. 22, 2014, at age 80. She was born Dec. 19, 1933, to William and Nancy Jo Hanson in Yuma, Colo. Gen graduated from Yuma Union High School in 1952. After the 1952-53 school year at Union College, she married **Milton “Bud” Mekelburg (’54)** on Aug. 30, 1953, and they returned to college for the following year. Moving back to the family farm in 1954, Gen’s life centered around raising six active children and managing the home. Once her children were educated, she returned to Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colo., and graduated in 1986. Upon graduation she began work as special education secretary for the Northeastern Colorado Board of Cooperative Educational Services. This career brought a new joy and spirit to her life. She is survived by her husband, Bud; children, **Roger (’78)**, **Arlen**



Genevieve Hanson Mekelburg

(’78), **Sue (’78)**, **Todd ’86**, **Teresa (’85)**, and **Sara ’90**; 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; brother, **Bill Hanson ’61**.

Clifton Taylor (’54), Powell, Wyo., died Dec. 26, 2013, at age 82. He was born April 8, 1931, in Basin, Wyo., to Odus and Ethyl Shaw Taylor. Following high school graduation, he attended Union College for two years. On Feb. 14, 1954, he married **Edith Cochran (’54)** in Lincoln, Neb. Following their marriage they moved to Wyoming, settling in Basin, and then moved to the Powell area in 1959. He was lifelong member of the Seventh-day Adventist church. He loved farming and working in his auto repair shop—Cliff’s Repair. Survivors include two sons: Robert and Larry; daughter, LaVaonna McClannahan; six grandchildren; and brother, Delmar Taylor.

Ronald Carlson (’55), Mesa, Ariz., died May 2, 2014, at age 80. He was born July 13, 1933, in Stutsman County, N.D., to Roy and Lydia Pfaff Carlson. He graduated in 1951 from Sheyenne River Academy. On Nov. 13, 1953, he married Arella Jean Lang, and they made their home on the farm near Cleveland, N.D. After 25 years of farming, they moved from the farm to Denver, Colo., and Ron turned his focus to business ventures. Several years later they decided to build a home in Jamestown, N.D., for the summer and Mesa, Ariz., in the winter. On Jan. 2, 2005, Ron married **Norma Reile (’49)**. He served on many boards, including Union College, where he received an honorary business degree. Ron is survived by his wife, Norma; children, **Denise Smith ’77** and **Lonnie ’79**; three grandchildren; brother, **Wally Carlson (’50)**; sisters, **Carol Seibold (’49)** and **Delaine Morford ’53**; as well as nieces, nephews and cousins.

Estelle Krasko Quam ’55, Boulder, Colo., died Aug. 23, 2013, at age 90. She was born Sept. 14,

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1922, in Little Falls, N.Y., to Charles and Teofila Lesczczeni Krasko and was one of 14 children. After earning a degree in education from Union College, she taught in Florida and Colorado and earned a master's degree during this time. Her teaching career spanned 46 years. Estelle married John B. Quam, Sr. on June 19, 1959, in Denver, Colo. They divorced in 1982. She is survived by her daughter, Kim Magana; son, John; and three grandchildren.

Arlene Robinson Lynn '56, Alamo, Texas, died Nov. 2, 2013, at age 81. The oldest child of Hubert and Margaret Bell Robinson, Arlene was born Oct. 23, 1932, in Vinita, Okla. She was a home economics teacher and girls' dean at Forest Lake Academy in Florida and Champion Academy in Colorado. She also worked with Dr. Earl Reed and Dr. Duane Mock in their clinic in San Juan, Texas, for many years. She was a lung cancer survivor for eight years prior to her passing. Survivors include her husband, **Ned Lynn '62**; sons, Terry and Gary; daughters, Juanita Holder and Debby Fisher; 14 grandchildren; and sister, **June Klein '69**.

Jay Randall Sloop '56, Yakima, Wash., went missing May 14, 2013, at age 77. He was born Nov. 19, 1935, in Caldwell, Idaho, to J. Randall and Faye Sloop. Jay enrolled at Union College at age 16 and met his future wife, **Sharlene Wood ('56)** at Union in 1955. Jay graduated from the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University) in 1960. He practiced OB/GYN in Yakima, Wash., from 1969 to 2005. After retirement, he worked as director of health ministries for the Upper Columbia Conference. Jay went to Serbia and Ukraine for three weeks in early May 2013 on a medical mission trip. On May 14, 2013, he disappeared during his morning walk in Kiev. Jay's family includes his wife, Sharlene; sons, Richard, Randal and Gregory; sister,

Joyce Wasylyshen; six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Raymond Tininenko ('56), Kellogg, Iowa, died Nov. 2, 2014, at age 76. He was born Nov. 15, 1937, in Wolf Point, Mont., to George and Julia Tininenko. He attended Sheyenne River Academy and Union College. After meeting on a blind date, he married Barbara on August 28, 1960. They made their home in Williston, N.D., where they lived for 40 years. Ray worked at George Young Construction in Des Moines, Iowa, Jacobsen Construction and Zapara Construction in Williston, N.D., and was a lifelong farmer and rancher northeast of Bainville, Mont. He loved his Montana land and commuted 1,000 miles each way from his house in Iowa to care for both farms. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; children Brent Tininenko and Roxane Sipe; brother, David; sisters, Mary White and Marti Edwards; and six grandchildren.

Derald Goetz ('57), Lincoln, Neb., died Apr. 2, 2014, at age 79. He was born July 11, 1934, on a farm near Gettysburg, S.D., to Christ and Emma Perman Goetz. Derald served in the Army and married **Shirley Brenneise ('59)** in Rapid City, S.D., on Nov. 10, 1957. Derald and Shirley started Goetz Foundation Coating in 1965 and successfully grew the business for more than 30 years. He received an honorary degree from Union College in 2004. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; children, **Sherene McGee ('77)**, **Douglas '83**, and **Dennis '84**; three siblings; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Miriam Bercha '58, Hebron, Neb., died Sept. 6, 2014, at age 96. She was born Aug. 12, 1918, near Naper, Neb., to George and Nettie Mae Springer Bercha. Miriam graduated from Beatrice High School and Union College and took graduate work at the University of Nebraska. She taught school for 43 years in

Gage County. Survivors include friends and distant relatives.

Wallace Specht '58, Deer Park, Calif., died March 20, 2014, at age 77. He served as boys' dean at Sheyenne River Academy and Thunderbird Academy before teaching physical education at Pacific Union College. As a stonemason he built fireplaces for numerous Angwin homes. As a Pathfinder leader, Wally shepherded hundreds of Angwin children on dozens of outings and eventually became regional director of that organization. Survivors include his wife, Sally; son, Kirk; daughters, Rebecca Miller and Ginger Jewett; and six grandchildren.

James Heinrich ('59), Sun City, Ariz., died Oct. 12, 2013, at age 76. Jim was born Aug. 5, 1937, in Okeene, Okla., to Alvin and Lucile Heinrich. He served in the Army during the Korean War. Jim worked in construction for most of his life in Alaska and Nebraska. Later he became a funeral home director. Survivors include his wife **Bonnie Smith Heinrich '59**; sons, Mike, Barry, Brad Turner and Brian Turner; brothers: **Gary ('62)** and Lance; sisters: Carolyn Howerton, Beth Chapman and Jo Buchanan; and 11 grandchildren.

Max Singhurst '59, Hot Springs, S.D., died June 6, 2014, at age 84. He was born to Jesse and Lucy Noble Singhurst in McAlester, Okla., on June 26, 1929. He served in the Army in Korea and then on June 7, 1953, he married **Cathleen Chilson '47**, his English teacher. Max graduated from Union College in 1959. He pastored churches in both South Dakota and North Dakota. Survivors include his wife, Cathleen; sons, Steve and Joel; four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Donald Stowe '59, Keene, Texas, died June 29, 2014, at age 84. He was born Nov. 2, 1929, in Hobart, Okla., to Oscar and Kate Stowe. Don married Marjorie Yates on June 15, 1958, in

Evans Hall on the Southwestern Adventist University campus. He retired from Huguley Hospital after 35 years of service as a radiology technician. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie; sons, Jonathan and Nathan; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Glen Farnsworth '60, Sparta, Tenn., died July 16, 2013, at age 86. Born March 7, 1927, near Noble, Okla., to Velmer and Odessa Winkler Farnsworth, he was attending Southwestern Junior College in Keene, Texas, when his education was interrupted by military service in South Korea. He then completed a degree at Union College, where he met and married Charlene Ewing. He pastored across the nation for a total of 50 years in Oklahoma, Texico, Rocky Mountain, Kansas, Potomac, Georgia-Cumberland and Arkansas/Louisiana conferences. After Charlene passed away in 2004, he met Blanche Orser, and they were married in 2005. Survivors include his wife, Blanche; son, Randall; daughter, Cynthia Higgins; and two grandchildren.

Lorraine Mickelson Miller '60, Gresham, Ore., died Sept. 6, 2014, at age 87. She was born Sept. 9, 1926, in Myrtle, Minn., to Alonzo and Hannah Mickelson. Lorraine moved to Oregon in 1960 to start a job as supervisor for the elementary program at the Seventh-day Adventist church in Oregon. In 1963 she met Wilber "Bill" Miller, and the two were married in 1965 in Portland, Ore. Survivors include her stepsons, Terry and Kelly Miller; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

William Wilson '60, Punta Gorda, Fla., died March 17, 2014, at age 76. He was born June 2, 1937, in Clinton, Mass. Bill served as a pastor in West Virginia, Arizona, Washington, Wisconsin and Minnesota. He was also trust services director for the Minnesota Conference for 11 years. Upon retirement,

IN MEMORY

he volunteered as administrative pastor for the Port Charlotte church. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Frances; son, James; daughter, Tralese Syvertson; three grandsons and two granddaughters.

Alyce Chapman Huff '62, Bourbon, Mo., died Sept. 3, 2014, at age 75. She was born in Cuba, Mo., on July 25, 1939, to Floyd and Agnes Stevens Chapman. She graduated from Union College with a degree in secretarial science and a teaching certificate. On April 11, 1960, she married Joseph Huff, with whom she had three children. While Alyce worked as a teacher and secretary during her early married years, she ultimately chose to be a mother and homemaker. She also managed the health food store, served as school bookkeeper at the Bourbon Seventh-day Adventist Church. She is survived by her son, **Donald '95**; daughter, **Cheryl Kennison '02**; four grandsons; and other relatives and friends.

Taylor Peacock '63, Cochise, Ariz., died April 8, 2014, at age 72. He was born to William Kieth and Mabel Peacock, in Weed, N.M., on July 4, 1941. After graduating from high school in Cranfills Gap, Texas, he attended Southwestern Junior College and graduated from Union College in 1963. He met **Dianne Stotz ('63)** at Union and the two married on May 31, 1964. He enjoyed teaching in the winter and working for the Forest Service in the summer. After Taylor suffered a back in-



Taylor Peacock

jury, Dianne worked in food service at several summer camps and academies. During this time Taylor had 11 back fusions. Taylor's survivors include his wife, Dianne; son, Kieth; daughter, Lynell Arroyo; three grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Myron Huffman '65, Arvada, Colo., died Aug. 9, 2014, at age 72. He was born to Carlton and Ethel Huffman on March 7, 1942, in Philadelphia, Penn. Most of his childhood was spent growing up in Kansas City with his sister, **Shirley Ponder ('64)** and his brother, **Richard ('66)**. He attended Sunnydale Academy and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and accounting in 1965 from Union College. He then worked for 22 years at Porter Adventist Hospital in Denver, and then other Adventist health care systems until 1997. He married Karen Johnson in 1963, and they had three children: **David '88**, **Dara ('89)** and Susan. Later they were blessed with three grandchildren: Evan, **Morgan** (a current Union student).

Larry Unruh '68, Jamestown, N.D., died Aug. 25, 2014, at age 67. He was born Sept. 9, 1946, in Woodworth, N.D., to Art and Dorothy Hewitt Unruh. He graduated Sykeston High School in 1964. Larry attended Wahpeton State School of Science for one year before transferring to Union College, where he met **Phyllis Cunningham '68**, whom he married on June 9, 1968. Larry spent most of his life as a hospital administrator in the western United States. Survivors include his wife, Phyllis; children, Lucinda Schmidt, Lorin and Lorinda Unruh; and four grandchildren.

Barbara McKamey Fleming '69, Burleson, Texas, died Feb. 5, 2014, at age 84. She was born Feb. 21, 1929, in Niles, Mich., and lived there until her marriage to **Wayne Fleming** (professor emeritus) on Aug. 26, 1951. Barbara earned a bachelor's de-

gree from Union College and a master's degree from the University of Nebraska. She spent twenty years teaching at Helen Hyatt Elementary School (now College View Academy K-12) in Lincoln, Neb.—nearly all of that time teaching kindergarten. Survivors include her husband, Wayne; sons Kevin and **Kenneth ('78)**; and two grandsons.

Cinda Brunken Peterson '74, Washington, Utah, died Feb. 18, 2014, at age 59. She was born May 27, 1954, in Burlington, Iowa, to Herbert and Ilien Brunken. Cinda graduated from Oak Park Academy in 1972 and from Union College in 1974 with an associate degree, specializing in secretarial duties—a gift she used repeatedly throughout her life in professional and church callings. At Union College, Cinda met and married **Stan Strange ('71)**. In 1977 they had a son, Corey. Stan and Cinda divorced in 1982. In 1991 she met and married Scott Peterson.

Mary Brewer Paulson Lauda (honorary alumna), Gladstone, Ore., died Oct. 5, 2014, at age 97. She was born Dec. 17, 1916, to John and Lulu Bell Cummings Brewer. She met Alfred Paulson when she was fifteen years old and they were married on Oct. 21, 1934. Mary climbed about 50 mountains and backpacked several hundred miles. During one of these climbs, she experienced the devastating loss of her husband, Alfred, in 1977. After his death, Mary continued managing the three nursing



Mary Brewer Paulson Lauda

homes they owned until 1994. In September 1989, Mary married **Caris Lauda '32** and they moved to Somerset Lodge in Gladstone, where she brightened the lives of many people with her genuine caring of each one. She is survived by her daughters, Shirley Chiburis and Beverly Johnson; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Bruce Ronk (former faculty), Eau Claire, Mich., died Jan. 13, 2014, at age 77. He was born May 30, 1936, in Chicago, Ill., the son of Leroy and Dorothy Wimerslaugh Ronk. He earned a doctorate from the University of Nebraska while teaching at Union College. He taught English at Andrews University from 1970 to 1990. In 1990, he left teaching for private enterprise. He is survived by his wife Judy; sister, Delores Prellberg; six children: Sherri Amstutz, Lorrie Reese, Leian Royce, Bruce, Matt, Naomi Reese; 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Irene, in 1977.

Notice of the following deaths has been received:

Rosella Weidemann Gott '45, Napa, Calif., died Oct. 23, 2014, at age 92.

Donna Wadsworth Specht ('45), Reno, Nev., died Dec. 20, 2013, at age 87.

David Hensel ('51), Inchelium, Wash., died Aug. 6, 2013, at age 79.

Alice Moore '55, Burleson, Texas, died May 22, 2014, at age 80.

Stephen Hwang ('59), Jacksonville, Fla., died Sept. 30, 2014, at age 80.

Dick Dale '62, Eidson, Tenn., died Feb. 19, 2014, at age 79.

Sharon Sandefur Williams ('78), Brush Creek, Tenn., died Sept. 2, 2014, at age 57.

Investing in Union's Future

Frank ('39) and Evelyn Roll '41 Rice wanted to retire and needed to take money from their business, but they didn't want to pay a big tax bill.

The Rices also firmly believed in the power of Christian education to change lives and they faithfully supported Union College with their time and their money.

Their son, Geoff Rice '78, says, "They always had a real soft spot for Union College." It is where Frank and Evelyn met and were engaged, and after graduating, they remained connected to the College of the Golden Cords.

Frank and Evelyn consulted with Union College about their dilemma and discovered a unique and creative way to generate supplemental retirement income. They decided to create a charitable remainder unitrust, funded with shares of stock from their business. Union College, as trustee, then offered to sell the shares back to Rice Equipment Company. The company purchased the stock from the trust using the retained earnings, thereby avoiding a big tax bill to Frank and Evelyn.

The cash in the unitrust was then invested for the long term and the Rices began receiving a quarterly distribution for the remainder of their lives. Every year the trust is revalued and a new quarterly distribution is calculated. After creating the trust, Frank and Evelyn established a scholarship at Union to assist students who demonstrate a finan-

cial need. Geoff explains, "They felt that helping someone get an education was the best way to make an impact on a young person's life."

After Frank and Evelyn both passed away the balance remaining in their trust was added to their scholarship. "There have already been quite a number of students who have been helped by this scholarship," Geoff reports. "When the trust matures, even more students will receive the financial help they need to get a Christian education each year."

A charitable remainder unitrust converted the Rices' highly appreciated, low-yielding securities into consistent and increased income. Additional benefits include:

- A sizable income tax charitable deduction
 - Deferral of capital gains tax
 - Professional management of the trust assets
 - Assets given to a charitable remainder unitrust will not be included in the donor's estate for computing estate tax
- Frank and Evelyn found a charitable remainder unitrust is an excellent method for devising a supplemental retirement plan. If you want to find out more about how a charitable remainder trust can help you in retirement, contact Scot Coppock at 402.486.2503 or email scoppoc@ucollege.edu. He is excited to help you explore meaningful ways to fund your retirement.

*It takes
ForeSight...*

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