

# GETTYSBURG

College Magazine

Summer 2025  
Vol. 116 - No. 1

YESTERDAY.  
TOMORROW.  
*Always.*

## ALSO INSIDE

Rising to Meet  
the Moment

100 YEARS  
OF MAJESTIC ARTS



Gettysburg  
College





## UPFRONT

Gettysburg College has always been a place that rises to meet the moment—a place where opportunity sparks meaningful action and where students are empowered to lead lives of consequence.

For the first time in over two decades, Gettysburg College debuted a renewed visual identity on July 23—one that honors our storied past, while building on our ambitious vision for the future.

Our enhanced visual identity was informed by a thorough look back at the identities of our nearly 200-year history, and feedback from hundreds of representatives across our College community and beyond, including current students, prospective students, faculty, administrators, support staff, alumni, trustees, and more. The collective creative input, thoughtful insights, and deep expressions of love and care helped to evolve our identity in a way that is distinctly Gettysburg.

Our visual identity introduces a new College wordmark, as well as the Gettysburg G, which can be featured in an 1832 lockup and traditional and outlined variations. The Gettysburg College seal preserves longstanding elements, such as the Cupola, American flag, and decorative beading, while incorporating new laurel framing. Lastly, the Athletic G—affectionately known as the Split G—will return home to our athletics program, where it was first introduced.

*Turn to pages 32-35 to see the evolution of our College's visual identity.*



*Summer 2025*

Vol. 116 — No. 1



## 20

### Rising to Meet the Moment

When change is the only constant, Gettysburg College continues to innovate to prepare our students for the rapidly evolving world.

*by Phoebe Doscher '22*

## 26

### 100 Years of Majestic Arts

Celebrate the legacy of the Majestic Theater in downtown Gettysburg as it approaches its centennial celebration this fall.

*by Alex J. Hayes*





## DEPARTMENTS

---

|    |                             |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 4  | <b>PRESIDENT'S LETTER</b>   |
| 5  | <b>NOTEWORTHY</b>           |
| 6  | <b>CONVERSATIONS</b>        |
| 8  | <b>NEWS</b>                 |
| 14 | <b>PERSPECTIVES</b>         |
| 16 | <b>LIVES OF CONSEQUENCE</b> |
| 18 | <b>CONNECTIONS</b>          |
| 30 | <b>PROF PATH</b>            |
| 32 | <b>FROM THE ARCHIVES</b>    |
| 36 | <b>BULLETINS</b>            |
| 37 | <b>CLASS NOTES</b>          |
| 54 | <b>CLASS PHOTOS</b>         |
| 55 | <b>IN MEMORIAM</b>          |
| 56 | <b>BEHIND THE SCENES</b>    |
| 58 | <b>OBITUARIES</b>           |
| 60 | <b>REFLECTIONS</b>          |



ON THE COVER New wordmark on Pennsylvania Hall banners.



11



30



# GETTYSBURGIANS TURN ASPIRATION INTO ACTION.

With every generation that enrolls at Gettysburg College, we adapt. Not by departing from our mission, but by renewing it. Through exciting new initiatives and inspiring partnerships, we continue to deliver on our promise of A Consequential Education—one that is rigorous, relevant, and uniquely student-centered.

Beginning in Fall 2025, we will launch three new majors—communication studies, finance, and public health policy—each designed to equip our students with the knowledge and enduring skills to thrive in an increasingly competitive environment. These new majors, shaped by our dedicated faculty, reflect our responsiveness to today's students and their budding career interests, as well as our unwavering conviction that a hands-on, liberal arts education is the best form of career readiness one can receive to ascend in these rapidly evolving fields.

I'm pleased to share that the College has also taken important steps to further connect our students' classroom learning with real-world application. Our new Bloomberg Terminal Lab, located in the College Union Building (CUB) above the Bullet Hole, for example, will soon give students access to the very same analytical tools and market news as finance professionals. Students will be able to discern up-to-the-minute data on stocks, bonds, commodities, and currencies—all crucial to understanding market dynamics.

This spirit of innovation extends beyond our undergraduate experience too. Through new graduate programs—including a fully online Master of Education with a focus on educational access and design thinking, and partnerships with Loyola University Maryland and Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, the top-ranked school for public affairs by U.S. News & World Report—we are creating purposeful pathways for students and alumni to deepen their expertise and broaden their impact.

As our 1,200 alumni witnessed firsthand over Reunion Weekend, we're also upgrading our campus facilities. We have introduced new social spaces in Plank Gym's lower level, including an outdoor beer garden along Memorial Field, and began the renovation of

two significant building projects: our West Quad residence halls, which launched construction in May with Stine Hall, and the CUB Ballroom, which will feature an elevated aesthetic.

And thanks to a group of generous donors, Shirk Field at Musselman Stadium now shines under new lights—sparking two unforgettable evenings this past year, when we hosted our first-ever night football and men's lacrosse games. The Orange and Blue won both games! It was a fitting topper to a historic year for the Bullets, as 11 teams advanced to NCAA Division III championships—our most national appearances since 1997-1998—earning Gettysburg a ranking of 29th in the annual D-III Learfield Directors' Cup, our best finish on the national stage.

Our ambitious initiatives and accomplishments, and many more, speak directly to the priorities outlined in Living Our Promise: The Strategic Direction for Gettysburg College ([gettysburg.edu/strategicdirection](http://gettysburg.edu/strategicdirection))—a vision that since its launch in 2023 has been embraced and generously supported by our Gettysburg community. This year alone, more than 9,300 alumni, families, employees, and friends raised over \$25 million in support of our students and programs. That extraordinary commitment in the leadership phase of our comprehensive campaign underscores the tremendous pride so many of you feel for your alma mater—and to the transformational power of this remarkable place we call home.

As we welcome the Class of 2029 to campus, I am reminded once again that this College succeeds because of the people who believe in it—who contribute their time, wisdom, and resources to ensure that Gettysburg will forever be exceptional.

Together, let us continue to believe—and show the world what a Gettysburg College education truly makes possible!

Sincerely,



Bob Iuliano  
President



# GETTYSBURG

College Magazine

EDITOR  
Megan Miller

CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
Marc Belli

DEPUTY EDITOR  
Michael Vyskocil

STAFF WRITERS  
Mike Baker Corey Jewart  
Megan Miller Michael Vyskocil

PROJECT MANAGER  
Laura Carr

CLASS NOTES EDITOR  
Kasey Varner '14

CONTRIBUTING DESIGNER  
Ally Tutelman

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS  
Brooke Askin '25 Phoebe Doscher '22  
Alex J. Hayes Katie Lauriello '25  
Katelyn Silva Jim Sweeney '80

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS  
Marc Belli Ashley Carbonier '25  
Diptiman Das '27 Abbey Frisco  
Sofia Gutierrez '26 Doug Huber '06  
Eric Lee '15/The New York Times  
Jason Minick Nicole Parisi  
Jazmine Sanchez  
David Sinclair Photography  
Amber Tetmeyer '27 Luke Waldner  
Kailey White

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Communications and Marketing  
Gettysburg College  
300 N. Washington St., Box 422  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

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## NEW PROGRAMS

By Megan Miller

During the Spring 2025 semester, Gettysburg College announced three new programs: an online Master of Education, a communications studies major and minor, and a master's partnership with Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

### MASTER OF EDUCATION

Our Master of Education degree program is the region's first master's program at the crossroads of educational access and design thinking, blending theory with practical application. With the nation's pressing need for highly qualified and compassionate K-12 educators, the College is stepping forward to meet the moment. Classes began on May 19.

"By offering an online Master of Education, Gettysburg College is investing in practicing teachers, so they cannot only refine their craft but also become leaders and innovators in the field of education," said Sociology in Educational Studies **Prof. Divonna Stebick**, director of the Office of Teacher Education and Certification.

### COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Students may declare a major or minor in communication studies as early as the Fall 2025 semester. This program is designed to explore the dynamic relationship between communication and society, specifically how messages shape and are shaped by individuals, institutions, and cultural forces. Gettysburg students will develop key career skills in creating, exchanging, and interpreting messages across mediums, including through writing, public speaking, digital content creation, and interpersonal communication.

"We're building a program that will help our students become compelling storytellers and strategic thinkers, ready to make a real difference both here on campus and in their future lives and careers," said **Prof. Melissa Forbes**, director of the Writing Center and first-year writing and lecturer of English. Forbes partnered with **Prof. James Udden**, chair of cinema and media studies, to design the program.

### SYRACUSE PARTNERSHIP

Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs is the top-ranked school for public affairs, according to U.S. News and World Report. Gettysburg College students and alumni can apply to and enroll in one of the following professional master's degree programs by the Maxwell School's Public Affairs and International Relations Department:

- Master of Public Administration
- M.A. in International Relations
- M.A. in Public Diplomacy and Global Communications
- M.S. in Sustainable Organizations and Policy
- Executive Master of Public Administration\*
- Executive M.A. in International Relations\*

\*Requires at least seven years of professional work experience

"Our partnership with Syracuse University's Maxwell School represents a powerful commitment to public service and leadership development," said Gettysburg College **Provost Jamila Bookwala**. "Our students have always been guided by a strong sense of purpose, and this collaboration provides them with the opportunity to deepen their impact through advanced studies in public administration and international relations."



# SOCIAL MEDIA

ON SOCIAL MEDIA, THE GETTYSBURG COLLEGE COMMUNITY SHARED FEELINGS OF ENERGY AND EXCITEMENT, REFLECTING ON MEMORIES AT THE COLLEGE AND IN TOWN.



Above: Students gather for dinner with fish and chips, French onion soup, and more pub fare at Garryowen Irish Pub on Chambersburg Street in downtown Gettysburg.

## FAVORITE RESTAURANTS

For the HerCampus blog, **Madelynn O'Connell '28** reflected on her favorite restaurants in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Our community quickly chimed in on Facebook with their favorites in town:

*"Sign of the Buck. Try it. Garryowen and Mamma Ventura always."*

📍 **Eric Chubb '82**

*"Having worked at O'Rorkes when I was a college student at G'burg, I'm happy to see it made the list. The staff at O'Rorkes was my family when I was a student. They took care of me, and I'm forever grateful for them."*

📍 **Tara R. Wink '07**

*"Our go-to places when we visit our daughter are O'Rorkes and Blue and Gray."*

📍 **Danielle Weaver P'26**

## SPECIAL SHOUTOUT

Gettysburg College continues to shine in the U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges rankings, from No. 55 among all national liberal arts colleges to No. 20 for first-year experiences and more. Our community celebrated on Facebook, and the College got a special shoutout from U.S. News & World Report:

*"Congratulations to the faculty, staff and students at Gettysburg College!"*

📍 **U.S. News & World Report**

*"GC has a wonderful first-year experience comprehensive program"*

📍 **Karlea Brunelle P'25**

*"My daughter is there and loves it! Class of 2027."*

📍 **Wendy Foy P'27**





## HOMETOWN HEARTS

**A**s we prepare to welcome the Class of 2029 this fall, we named all the states our students call home on Instagram. Our students and alumni shared their hometowns and welcome messages with our newest Gettysburgians:

*"Maryland! 🦀"*

📍 **Ainsley Green '27**

*"Massachusetts 🔥🔥"*

📍 **Jake Dagesse '25**

*"Wisconsin 🦌"*

📍 **Sarah Daniels '27**

*"CALIFORNIA! Bullets '11 🍷"*

📍 **Ashley Glenn '11**

*"Welcome to Gettysburg!! 💛💙"*

📍 **Kasey Varner '14**

## COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

**I**n March, our community was excited to hear **Carol Daly Cantele '83, P'15** was selected as our Class of 2025 Commencement speaker!

*"Wow, what an honor! Congratulations Carol....you'll wow them with wisdom 🧐"*

📍 **Linda Luttrell Hayden '81**

*"AWESOME! Congrats Carol!!!"*

📍 **Roger Goodstein '83**

*"Congratulations Carol!!! Lucky class of 2025!!!"*

📍 **Suzanne Hino Gorab '84, P'18**

*"Stellar selection! ✨"*

📍 **Todd Michael Gothberg '86**

*"She is the GOAT 🐐🐐🐐🐐"*

📍 **Laura Trumble Fay '97**



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MOST RECENT ALUMNI DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT WINNERS!

Over the past six months, these alumni have gone above and beyond in showing their Gettysburg pride—amplifying our stories, supporting fellow grads, and building connections through social media. We're grateful for their enthusiasm and advocacy.

**Brooke Gutschick '17    Meggan Emler Smith '04    Diane Disapio Warzona '77**

**Donald P. Willoughby '73    Andrea Buchanan Zaleski '15**

To participate in these online conversations, find and follow Gettysburg College on your favorite social media platform!

📍 Gburg.College   📍 gettysburgcollege   📍 gettysburg-college   📍 gettysburgcollege   📍 gettysburg   📍 GettysburgCollege



# NEWS

*Contributions from  
Katie Lauriello '25*



## SPORTS SUCCESS

The 2024–2025 academic year was one of the most successful in the history of Gettysburg College athletics.

P. 10

## ALUMNI AWARDED

As part of Commencement and Reunion Weekend, Gettysburg College proudly honored this year's alumni award recipients.

P. 11

## BLOOMBERG TERMINAL

This fall, a 24/7 Bloomberg Terminal Lab will open in the College Union Building.

P. 13



# WELCOME NEW TRUSTEES



**TRACEY A.  
HANFLING '04**

Hanfling is a managing director and client portfolio manager for real estate at Apollo Global Management, dedicated to the firm's products for global wealth investors. She previously served as a managing director and member of the U.S. debt team at Bentall GreenOak (BGO). Hanfling has more than 20 years of institutional real estate experience, having worked on investment strategies across the capital stack in both the public and private markets.



**KEVIN G.  
NEALER**

Nealer is a principal at The Scowcroft Group, providing strategic risk advisory services and direct investment support to clients, specializing in financial services and trade policy issues for emerging markets, with emphasis on China and the Southeast. He previously led project finance and trade policy efforts at major consulting and legal firms. He has served on the President's Intelligence Advisory Board (2014–2017), the OPIC Board (2010–2013), and advised on trade policy with the Senate Democratic Leadership.



**JAMES R.  
RENNER '91**

Renner is vice president at Victaulic, a global designer and manufacturer of mechanical pipe-joining system solutions. He is responsible for the company's global power, water, wastewater, desalination, and infrastructure markets. He previously held marketing leadership positions with companies in the architectural, construction, and building products industries, including Lutron Electronics, UGI Utilities, TK Theaters, and Domus Advertising. Renner serves on the Board of Advisors for the Construction Industry Institute.



**AL  
WILKINS '06**

Wilkins is a professional in the education and technology industry. Most recently, he served as senior director of research advisory services at EAB, where he drove value creation and innovation for higher education partners. Wilkins successfully led high-performing teams to enhance operational efficiencies and cross-functional collaboration. He was a member of the College's Alumni Board of Directors, serving as president from 2022–2025. He actively volunteers with D.C. organizations, including the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

## ALUMNI

### NEW LEADERSHIP



**Lauren Meehan Keefe '09** was named president of the Alumni Board of Directors. She is principal at Miles & Stockbridge P.C., representing mortgage lenders in commercial real estate financing transactions on properties across the country. She advises lenders in both market-rate and

affordable-housing transactions that finance new construction, acquisition, and refinance loans utilizing a variety of financing structures. Keefe has served on the Alumni Board of Directors since 2018. She was recognized with the Gettysburg College Young Alumni Award for Service in 2024.

### THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI ARE NEW MEMBERS OF THESE RESPECTIVE BOARDS AND COUNCILS:

#### ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Andrew Ferreira '12**  
**Edmund Hardy '09**  
**William Huss '75**  
**James Moeller '97**

#### EMERITI TRUSTEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Jim Heston '70**  
**Mary Claire Lagno P'12**  
**Joan Schweizer '76**

(New Voting Emeriti Trustee)

#### BOLD COUNCIL

**Rush Ehrhart '24**  
**Caden Giordano '23**  
**Pipes Guice '23**  
**Caroline Heckman '21**  
**Andrew Lemon '24**  
**Anya Pant '24**  
**Juliette Rhinow '25**



FACULTY

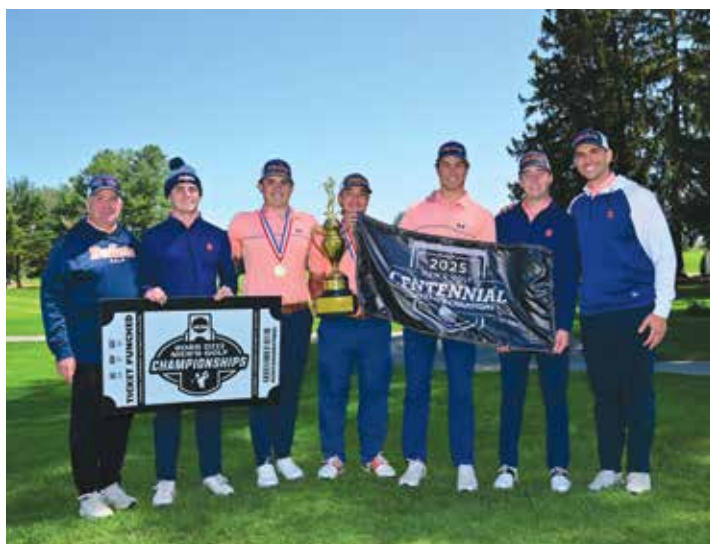
## NEW APPOINTMENTS

In February, the Gettysburg College Board of Trustees approved four appointments of faculty to endowed chairs and professorships: French **Prof. Florence Ramond Jurney** as the Kermit O. Paxton and Renee A. Paxton Endowed Teaching Chair, Biology **Prof. Ryan Kerney** as the Harold G. Evans Chair of Eisenhower Leadership Studies, Environmental Studies **Prof. Rud Platt** as the George E. Thompson Jr. Professor in Environmental Studies, and History **Prof. Tim Shannon** as the Edwin T. and Cynthia Shearer Johnson Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Humanities. Congratulations!

FACULTY

## COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOPS

Gettysburg College recently received a \$15,900 collaborative grant from the Central Pennsylvania Consortium (CPC) for “Cultivating Attention and Engagement: Navigating Technology Use in the Liberal Arts Classroom.” This initiative supports faculty enrichment and education for navigating technology use in the classroom. East Asian Studies **Prof. Junjie Luo**, who directs Gettysburg’s Johnson Center for Creative Teaching and Learning (JCCTL), collaborated with Lee Franklin, a professor of philosophy and interim director of the Faculty Center at Franklin & Marshall College, to organize a workshop on digital distraction and hosted a discussion on topics related to classroom technology during the spring semester.



CAMPUS

## SPORTS SUCCESS

In 2024-2025, the Bullets reached new heights, ranking 29th nationally in the annual Division III Learfield Directors’ Cup, our best-ever finish. The volleyball team earned its second consecutive bid to the NCAA Division III Championships. Both basketball squads went to the “Big Dance,” with the women marching to the “Elite 8” after claiming their fourth consecutive Centennial Conference title. Men’s and women’s golf won both team and individual conference titles before heading off to the national championships. Men’s lacrosse, women’s lacrosse, and softball also danced through deep postseason runs at their NCAA Championships, while individual student-athletes qualified for nationals in women’s swimming, wrestling, and men’s track and field.

ALUMNI

## EMPOWERING IMMIGRANT YOUTH

Founder of Project Libertad, immigration lawyer **Rachel Rutter ’11** was named one of the Top 5 CNN Heroes of the Year and was honored during the “CNN Heroes: An All-Star Tribute,” hosted by Anderson Cooper and Laura Coates in December 2024. Over the last year, Project Libertad has assisted more than 1,100 people in their efforts to provide free legal representation, social services, and newcomer support programs to immigrant youth. She has represented more than 90 young people in immigrant cases as Project Libertad’s designated lawyer.







## CAMPUS

# ILLUMINATING INSIGHTS

Just weeks before the release of her new album, “Owls, Omens, and Oracles,” and a two-month nationwide tour, Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Valerie June spent three days engaging with College students and staff in April, as part of a residency sponsored by the Ann McIlhenny Harward Interdisciplinary Fund for Culture and Music at Gettysburg College and the Office of the Provost. June’s residency was entitled, “Black Country Music and the Art of Cultivating Community.”

## ALUMNI

# ALUMNI AWARDED

This year’s recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award are COO of Transheath, **Celia E. Overby ’02**; president of New Jersey Institute for Disabilities, **Robert J. Ferrara ’75**; professor and chair of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive sciences, **Robert P. Edwards ’79**; and Attorney **Gary W. Boguski ’74, P’15**. The 2025 Young Alumni Achievement Award for Career Development recipients are Attorney **Bryan J. Barth ’13** and vocalist **Matthew A. Giallongo ’12**. **Victor T. Smith ’10**, whom we celebrate posthumously and who had served on the Alumni Board of Directors, and **Jaclynn A. Cross ’10**, president of the Gettysburg Alumni of Color Council and 15th Reunion co-chair, are the recipients of the 2025 Young Alumni Achievement Award for Service. **David R. Brennan ’75, P’00**, who served on the Board of Trustees for 12 years, including five years as the chair, and **James (Jim) N. Heston ’70**, who also completed 12 years of service on the Board of Trustees, and former director on the Alumni Board and Reunion committee member, are the recipients of the Meritorious Service Award. **Claudia Bard Veitch ’80**, a loyal Reunion committee member, former director on the Alumni Board, and regional club volunteer, also received her 2020 Meritorious Service Award this year.

## CAMPUS

# GETTYSBURG IN GERMANY

In Spring 2026, Gettysburg College will launch a new faculty-led semester program in Bonn, Germany, at the Academy for International Education (AiB)—an initiative that reflects the College’s commitment to global learning and cross-cultural academic exploration. At the center of the first semester of the program is German Studies **Prof. Henning Wraage**, who will serve as the program’s inaugural residential director and teach an innovative course titled *Machines, Monsters, and Moonscapes: Nature and Culture from Germany and the United States*.





FACULTY

## ENZYME RESEARCH

The Community Science Program of the U.S. Department of Energy's Joint Genome Institute (JGI) awarded Gettysburg College Chemistry **Prof. Emily Dieter** an in-kind grant to support plasmid research. Focusing on the biological function of radical SAM enzymes specifically found in methanogens, Dieter hopes to guide students in her research through Gettysburg's Cross-Disciplinary Science Institute (X-SIG). Her research will offer a better understanding of methanogens, which produce the greenhouse gas methane and are often hard to study due to their extreme habitats.



ALUMNI

## TRANSFORMING LIVES

**Dr. Brin Freund '06** was featured on "Good Morning America" as part of its coverage of a groundbreaking treatment for epilepsy. Freund, a neurologist at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida, served on the surgical team that placed a new FDA-cleared brain implant called NeuroOne in a teenage girl's brain. The treatment can diagnose and treat epilepsy and prevent the occurrence of traumatic seizures.



ALUMNI

## PURSUING PASSIONS

**Noa Leibson '20** was inspired to pursue her dreams as a museum curator at the International Museum of the Horse in Lexington, Kentucky, by Art and Art History **Prof. Felicia Else**.

Intrigued by the topic of polychromy taught by Else, Leibson studied the color choices for the Antonine Wall for her dissertation at the Hunterian Museum in Scotland. She is writing a children's book on Princess Kyniska of Sparta using what she learned from her art history thesis at Gettysburg.

ALUMNI

## ON THE FIELD

As an all-time leading scorer at Gettysburg, **Jordan Basso '24** joined the Florida Gators women's lacrosse team in Division I and was profiled by The Independent Florida Alligator. Scoring more than 100 points in three consecutive seasons at Gettysburg, Basso stood out to the Gainesville, Florida, team with her incredible dominance on the field and ability to adapt to any program.







#### FACULTY

## AWARDING EXCELLENCE

Economics **Prof. Brendan Cushing-Daniels** was honored with The Dr. Ralph Cavaliere Endowed Teaching Award during Fall Honors Day on Friday, Oct. 25, 2024. Cushing-Daniels, who has mentored countless students during his 30 years of teaching at Gettysburg, believes that teaching at Gettysburg is an honor. He is always eager to collaborate with students and faculty on research and currently serves as one of the co-chairs for Gettysburg's new finance program.

#### STUDENTS

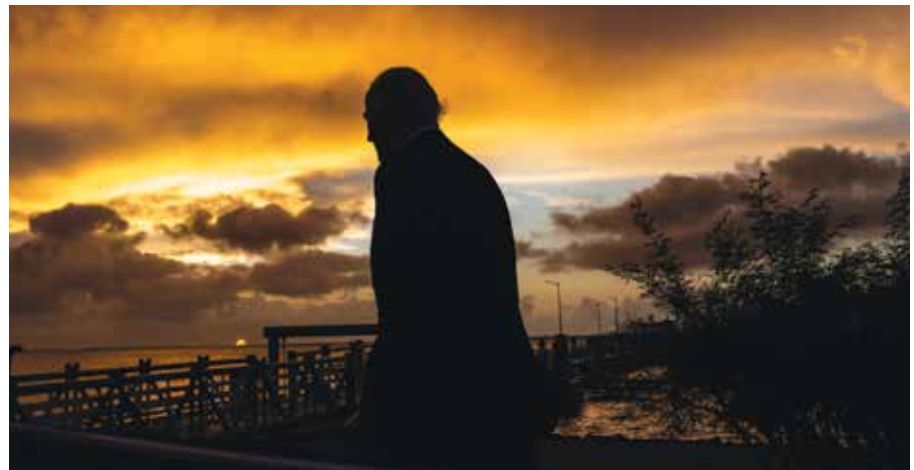
## EXPANDING HORIZONS

Hundreds of students and alumni came together to learn virtually and across the globe as part of January Term (J-Term) and other immersion trips. Guided by the Center for Career Engagement, the Eisenhower Institute, the Center for Public Service, and the Garthwait Leadership Center, students traveled across the globe to gain firsthand knowledge about important issues and how organizations handle them. The Office of Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving partnered with Gettysburg's BOLD Council to host Alumni J-Term, providing virtual sessions focused on professional development, networking, and wellness.

#### ALUMNI

## IMPACTFUL PHOTOGRAPHY

A photograph taken by **Eric Lee '15**, a New York Times photojournalist, was named a finalist for Impact 2024: U.S. Presidential Race Picture of the Year. Lee's photo captures the "mood, emotion, character, interaction, or campaign environment" during the U.S. presidential election. In March, Lee also won first place in the presidential category of the White House News Photographers Association's Eyes of History contest.



"President Biden Visits Luanda, Angola" Photo credit: Eric Lee '15/ The New York Times

#### CAMPUS

## BLOOMBERG TERMINAL

With the support of generous donors, Gettysburg College is establishing a 24/7 Bloomberg Terminal Lab located in our College Union Building above the Bullet Hole. It will be ready for use in the Fall 2025 semester, during which students can declare as the first cohort of finance majors. This powerful software system provides real-time financial data, news, and analytics, and is widely used by financial professionals for trading, research, and analysis.

*To learn more about how you can support the Bloomberg Terminal Lab, please contact **Kathleen Regentin P'26**, assistant vice president for development, at [kregenti@gettysburg.edu](mailto:kregenti@gettysburg.edu).*



#### LEADERSHIP

## LEADING VOICE

In the fall of 2024, Gettysburg College **President Bob Iuliano** began his term on the American Council on Education (ACE) Board of Directors.

This membership organization mobilizes the higher education community to design solutions for today's challenges. As an advocate for student access, Iuliano will take on a leadership role as higher education in America becomes even more essential for students today and tomorrow.

READ MORE NEWS ON [WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU](http://WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU).



# ON THE TOPIC OF COMMUNICATION

## HOW DO WE DEFINE THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATION?



**Erin Figliolino '12**

*Underdog director of creative operations*

To me, communication is about clarity, honesty, and alignment. It's not just about exchanging information—it's about ensuring understanding and fostering collaboration. I first grasped this in college, where I learned that if I didn't clearly state my thoughts, expectations, or boundaries, things didn't turn out the way I had planned. Whether working on group projects or building relationships, I realized that being upfront, even about uncomfortable things like missing a homework assignment or deadline, was always better than leaving people guessing. Communicating early and honestly not only built trust but also gave me more control over the outcome.

Leading teams and managing change have reinforced that good communication isn't just about delivering a message—it's about making sure it resonates. When guiding a team through a transition, whether it's a new tool or a process shift, I focus on providing context, transparency, and reassurance while helping people see the benefits. Communication is about being proactive, creating clarity, and setting up myself and others for success.



**Katie Oglesby '23**

*NewsNation associate producer*

Communication means listening to perspectives other than my own. It means inclusivity—even when I don't agree, which is something being editor-in-chief of The Gettysburgian taught me to value above all. It means respect for all voices and opinions, and often, it means listening instead of talking.

My time at Gettysburg not only helped me become a better public speaker, team player, and advocate for myself and others, but also a better listener. That's one of the most important parts of communication: realizing that your voice isn't always the most important one in the room. Perhaps that's why I like journalism so much. You're hearing and telling other people's stories. You're raising people's voices up higher than your own. The transition from local college journalism to producing national television news was surprising. Things most people don't realize go into a TV news show make up my work. I make the graphics viewers see on air, cut the soundbites with intention, and, of course, listen to the guests tell their stories and let viewers make up their own minds.

Communication is more than using our words. I think that's one of the best lessons I've learned.



**Chris Singleton Jr. '24**

*Georgetown Preparatory School admissions counselor*

During my time at Gettysburg, I underwent significant personal growth and maturity, shaping me into the person I strive to be today. The foundation of gratitude, work ethic, and accountability that I developed there has helped me to continue striving to be the best version of myself. A key component of that journey has been communication.

As a two-time captain of the football team during my junior and senior years, I learned the importance of communicating effectively with individuals from diverse backgrounds and personalities. The most crucial aspect of communication, no matter the field, is authenticity—practicing what you preach.

Now, as an admissions counselor, football coach, and residential dorm parent at my high school alma mater, Georgetown Prep, I rely heavily on the communication skills I developed to help guide students toward a bright future. I am deeply grateful for the experiences and lessons I gained at Gettysburg which continue to shape my work today.





**Jim Udden**

*Cinema and media studies professor*

If there is one thing I have learned in the process of creating the communication studies major it is that defining the word communication is like peeling an onion. Every academic field teaches some form of communication. Teaching and scholarship inevitably involve communication. A core aspect of any liberal arts education is how to effectively communicate.

What makes communication studies a distinct academic field? Even my field of film and media studies can be considered a branch of communication studies, yet this field has its distinct set of approaches and methodologies.

When it comes to communication studies, there is no set template. No two programs were alike at the undergraduate or graduate level. Nevertheless, most undergraduate programs try to include some theory, analysis, and practices.

The goal of this major is to focus on the nature of communication itself, to understand the contexts in which it is used, to understand who your audience is, and to have a chance to put these principles into practice. This is one major that can potentially link up with every department and program here at Gettysburg College.



**Jamie Yates**

*Gettysburg College chief communications and marketing officer*

There's a premise that someone has to hear something seven times before it sticks. It's not surprising—we are inundated with more news and information than ever. Attention spans are shrinking. While repetition is important, even more critical to being an effective communicator is the ability to listen.

Communication can sometimes be seen as only an outward act: What do I want to convey to you? The best communicators know that listening comes first—listening is discovery. It allows us to understand others, find common ground, and build real connections. Without listening, how do you know what, how, and when to best communicate?

This principle guides my work—listening to and understanding our audiences so we can communicate in ways that truly resonate. It's just as critical in everyday interactions too.

Being a great communicator isn't about finding the perfect turn of words—it's about connection. Connection begins with listening. The ability to be an effective communicator can be learned and strengthened, but it starts with a willingness to listen and understand.

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**“AS A TWO-TIME  
CAPTAIN OF  
THE FOOTBALL  
TEAM DURING  
MY JUNIOR AND  
SENIOR YEARS, I  
LEARNED THE  
IMPORTANCE OF  
COMMUNICATING  
EFFECTIVELY  
WITH  
INDIVIDUALS  
FROM DIVERSE  
BACKGROUNDS  
AND  
PERSONALITIES.”**

—

*Chris Singleton Jr. '24  
Georgetown Preparatory School  
admissions counselor*



# ELIZABETH FOSTER '15 BUILDS HOPE AS A VISIONARY OF THE LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY

by Katelyn Silva

Growing up, *Elizabeth Foster '15* could be found twirling in her dance studio, pitching on the softball field, singing in the church choir, or working with charities alongside her family in her Annandale, Virginia, community.

“I’ve always been a community-focused person,” said Foster, who, in high school, became a middle school cheerleading coach and, as an adult, coached high school softball for years.

Today, she is still giving back to her community as a near-decade-long volunteer for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), a nonprofit that aims to cure blood cancer and improve the quality of life of all patients and their families.

“Giving back is really important to me,” said Foster. “While I don’t have a personal connection to blood cancer specifically, cancer has touched my family in multiple ways. My grandmother was a breast cancer survivor, so I do a lot of my work in honor of her.”

Before Foster became a vital volunteer for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, she connected with others on and off the Gettysburg College campus. In the classroom, she double majored in organization and management studies (now business, organizations, and management) and Spanish/Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino studies. As a junior, she studied abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 2013 and embarked on an



*Elizabeth Foster '15*

immersion trip to Nicaragua in 2015, leading to her being named a Global Leader of Gettysburg College.

Outside the classroom, she was the vice president of operations for the Tri Sigma sorority, a member of the dance ensemble and its board, the Gettysburg College Choir, and a Residence Life Community Advisor. She was also deeply involved with the Newman Association, the Catholic ministry on campus, and tutored at Vida Charter School, using her bilingual skills.

“Gettysburg helped make me a well-rounded person,” Foster said. “All of my opportunities on campus and off gave me a lot of great leadership experience. I was able to leverage a lot of those experiences—growing as a person, interacting with people, public speaking, managing my time—in a way that helped me in my professional life and as I became a leader in my charity work.”

When Foster graduated from Gettysburg, she immediately pursued community service opportunities with her employers, such as clothing drives. Since 2016, when she was a business process analyst at CSRA, Inc., now known as General Dynamics Information Technology, she led the Light The Night walk corporate team for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. This annual nationwide fundraising effort brings together





In 2024, Elizabeth Foster '15 participated in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Visionaries of the Year campaign and helped raise more than \$2 million.



Elizabeth Foster '15 during Commencement celebrations.

different regions nationwide through organized walks lit by lanterns, which “drive out the darkness of cancer.”

“Every year, I have led a corporate team in the Washington, D.C. Light The Night walk that takes place on the National Mall,” said Foster. Since 2016, she has raised more than \$130,000 to support The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's mission: cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin lymphoma, and myeloma, and improve the quality of life for patients and their families.

“The event is so much fun, featuring a band and an emcee,” she continued. “Everyone walks with lanterns that have different meanings based on their color: white is for a survivor or person currently living with cancer, red is for a supporter, and yellow is in memory of someone who passed. It's one of my favorite things to do every year, and I encourage others to get involved to help this tremendous cause.”

When she transitioned to Deloitte, she took her unwavering commitment to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society with her. In 2024, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society asked her to participate in the Visionaries of the Year campaign, a philanthropic competition for leaders in local communities across the United States.

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*“All of my opportunities on campus and off gave me a lot of great leadership experience. I was able to leverage a lot of those experiences—growing as a person, interacting with people, public speaking, managing my time—in a way that helped me in my professional life and as I became a leader in my charity work.”*


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“The Visionaries of the Year campaign is a 10-week friendly competition to raise as much money as possible for one of three pillars—blood cancer research, patient support, or policy and advocacy—and it was an honor to be asked,” explained Foster.

As a Visionary, Foster built “Team Fostering Hope,” fundraising for the policy and advocacy pillar with 14 individuals. She spent countless hours doing grassroots fundraising and community outreach. She even hosted a comedy night and happy hour to raise

additional funds. Team Hope raised \$55,000, and Foster was recognized with the Mission Pillar Award for Policy and Advocacy at the charity gala on June 8, 2024.

With her recent 10-year reunion at Gettysburg College, Foster stays connected to campus, encouraging the next generation of Gettysburgians to give back as leaders in their communities. After graduation, she helped revamp the Young Alumni Leadership Program through the Garthwait Leadership Center. She recently graduated with an MBA in corporate finance and strategy from the NYU Stern School of Business, where she was the class representative for the 50-person cohort.

“I really love helping people grow and learn and find their path, just like other people did for me,” said Foster. “Gettysburg does a great job of staying connected with its alumni and providing opportunities to stay involved. I encourage students and alumni to stay engaged with Gettysburg, connect with their communities, and get involved in local charity work.” 



# CONNECTIONS

**OUR FIRST DATE AT GETTYSBURG** was in December 1984. We went to a Phi Kappa Psi Christmas house party. We went on a few dates after that, but then Steve went away for a J-Term trip to Egypt and Israel. Then he graduated, I graduated the following year, and we started dating again after we ran into each other at the October reunion in 1987. We have been married since 1990 and live in Alexandria, Virginia. We have two grown children; our son and his wife just had a beautiful baby boy.

**THE BROAD RANGE OF CLASSES** that were required helped to develop our writing and critical thinking skills. We also both worked at the Bullet Hole—Steve was the accounting manager, and I was a shift supervisor. In fact, that is how we met. Working there gave both of us real-world experience managing people and with customer service.

**STEVE BENEFITED FROM HIS RELATIONSHIP** with *Edward “Ed” McManness*, former director of the College Union Building, who mentored the student team that managed the Bullet Hole. Steve also credits Art and Art History *Prof. Emeritus Jim Agard*, who led his J-Term experience in the Middle East and provided many fascinating insights into the art and architecture of the region. I loved my political science classes and particularly enjoyed and was challenged by Political Science *Prof. Emeritus Kenneth Mott’s P’07* Supreme Court classes and *Prof. Christine Sylvester’s* classes on politics in the Third World.

**GETTYSBURG COLLEGE WAS A SPECIAL AND INTEGRAL PART OF OUR LIVES**, and that is the main driver of our engagement with the College. It provided us with rich academic and social opportunities, and we hold that time in our lives close to our hearts. We currently provide unrestricted support to the College, in addition to supporting the Civil War Institute through the Brian C. Pohanka Fellows Endowment. The Pohanka Fellows program was started by Steve’s family in 2011 in honor of his cousin, who was a Civil War historian and preservationist, and it funds internships for Gettysburg College students at national parks across the country.

**THE VALUABLE AND LASTING FRIENDSHIPS** we made at Gettysburg have been a gift over these many years. We regularly plan time with our friends from college, and it is such a rich part of our lives. We believe that alumni can be most impactful by supporting the activities of the College that most resonate with them and the ongoing, timeless value of a liberal arts education.

## STEVE '85 AND DEIRDRE FALLON '86 PARKER

*Steve majored in business administration and works as a controller at the Pohanka Automotive Group.*

*Deirdre majored in political science and works as an integrative nutrition health coach.*

*Members of Loyalty Circle and Cupola Society*







# FEATURES

## 100 YEARS OF MAJESTIC ARTS

Celebrate the legacy of the Majestic Theater in downtown Gettysburg as it approaches its centennial celebration this fall.

P. 26

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## RISING TO MEET THE MOMENT

When change is the only constant, Gettysburg College continues to innovate to prepare our students for the rapidly evolving world.

P. 20

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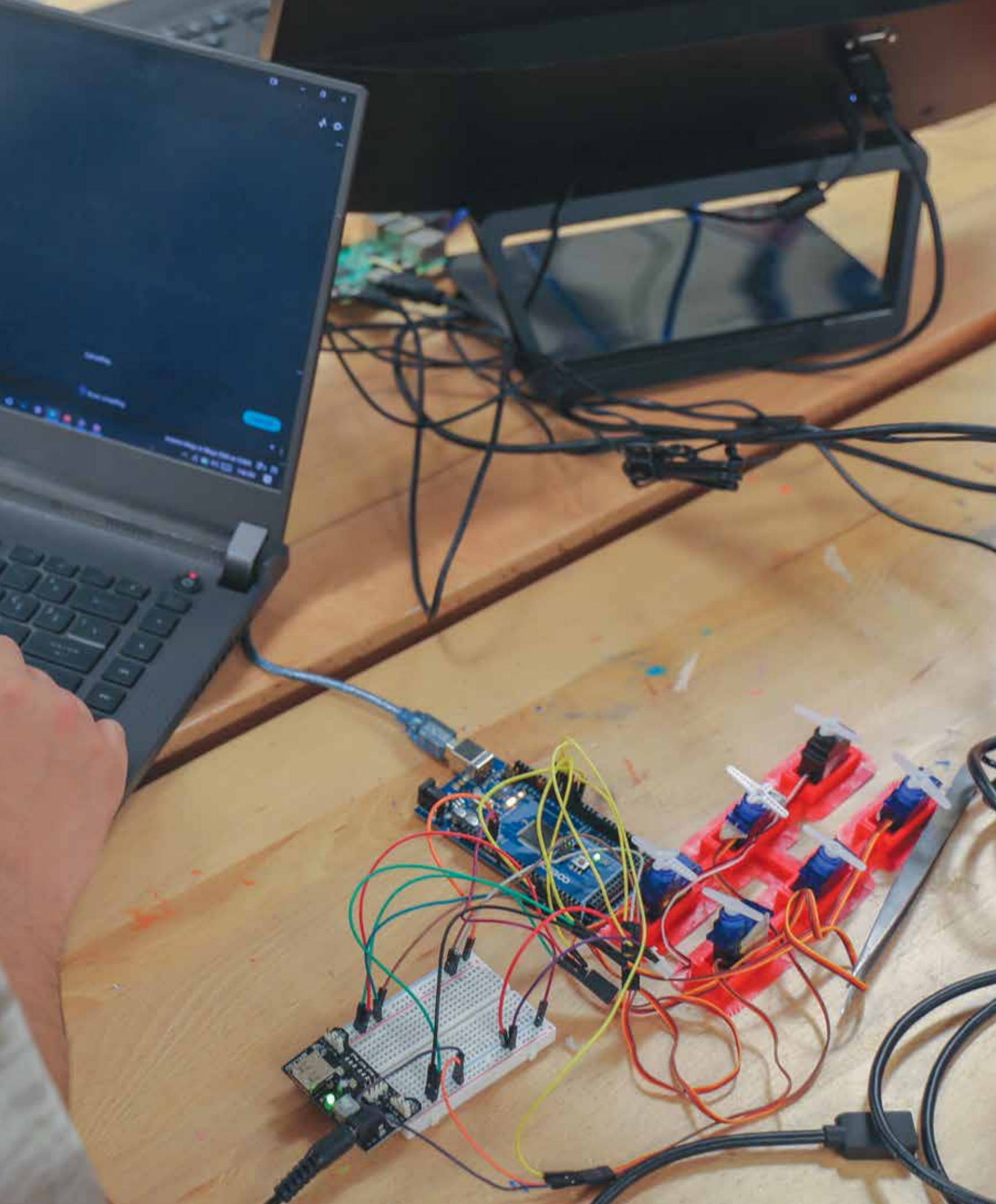


# RISING

to Meet  
the Moment

>>> *by Phoebe Doscher '22*







# W

When change is the only constant, Gettysburg College continues to innovate to prepare our students for the rapidly evolving world.



When **Josh Wagner** first stepped into Gettysburg's Innovation and Creativity Lab (ICL) in the West Building in 2020, he visualized an animated classroom sprouting from the few pieces of equipment that stood before him. Today, the space has since blossomed into a 24/7 makerspace, with hundreds of Gettysburgians routinely exploring the latest technology, like 3D printers, vinyl cutters, and virtual reality goggles. Those who visit learn something new, build something they're proud of, and envision new ideas to solve problems.

"It's really fun to be able to give a space where people can feel free to try things," said Wagner, the ICL's manager.

The engagement with this makerspace reflects the nimbleness of the Gettysburg College community—resolute in its proclivity for innovation and desire to embrace change. When students' needs evolve, so does Gettysburg's education.

## New Offerings

The ICL is just one touchpoint of the innovation happening across campus every day. Gettysburg's faculty offers a distinct academic experience by integrating curricular and pedagogical innovation—from offering new majors and interdisciplinary courses to bringing students' learning beyond the classroom and into the community.

"A liberal arts education—and its focus on the education of the whole student, an education that occurs inside and outside the classroom—must be innovative if we are to respond successfully to the continually changing higher education environment," **Provost Jamila Bookwala** said.

At Gettysburg, curricular changes are on the horizon, reflecting the College's commitment to preparing students for an evolving world. Starting in Fall 2025, students can declare new majors in finance, public health policy, and communication studies, and all new students will take a data and society requirement in their first year and a seminar course on communities and change in their sophomore year.

These new offerings focus on building students' skills and career readiness—key elements of the Gettysburg Approach, which is Gettysburg's premier method for delivering the undergraduate experience.

"Innovation at Gettysburg is grounded in the enduring skills that define the Gettysburg Approach—and not being afraid to step into a new space and try something out," said Associate Provost for Academic Affairs **Jeanne Hamming**.

This past fall, Gettysburg announced its partnership with Loyola University Maryland to open a new accelerated Emerging Leaders MBA 4+1 program to Gettysburg College students. This spring, the College also established a master's partnership with Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, the top-ranked school for public affairs according to U.S. News and World Report. This summer, Gettysburg launched a new online Master of Education in Educational Design and Inquiry program to help fill our nation's pressing need for highly qualified and compassionate K-12 teachers. With each new addition, Gettysburg College is stepping forward to meet the moment.

## New Tools

In 2022, two Gettysburg faculty members, Health Sciences **Prof. Josef Brandauer** and English **Prof. Melissa Forbes**, created artificial intelligence (AI) guidelines, putting the College ahead of the curve and helping students embrace AI as it swept the professional landscape.

"Innovation is a critical element of business that everyone should embrace. A significant portion of my time is spent empowering colleagues at all levels to brainstorm and implement AI," said **Garrett Goodwin '21**, a senior regulatory affairs associate at Pfizer who led this year's most popular Alumni J-Term session, "AI in the Workforce."

Providing students with creative tools helps them learn new skills and build confidence. The Garthwait Leadership Center (GLC) will soon offer VirtualSpeech, an AI-powered platform for virtual reality public speaking simulations.





**ABOVE** Garrett Goodwin '21 presents at an AI conference.

**RIGHT** Emma Hladik '24.

**BELOW** Saim Joardder '27 in the Innovation and Creativity Lab (ICL).

**OPPOSITE PAGE** 3D printing machines in the ICL.



“These tools and approaches take the learning beneath the surface,” said GLC Executive Director **Andy Hughes**. “Anytime you do a simulation, students are going to feel more engaged than if we were to talk at them for an hour.”

With these tools, Gettysburg College students graduate prepared to innovate in future careers.

“Innovation is important because the world is rapidly changing, and we all know that change is the only constant,” said **Saim Joardder '27**, who designed a glove in the ICL that uses sensors to interpret sign language. “Professors are implementing new technology, and from a student’s perspective, I think they’re doing it well.”

## New Approaches

In the classroom, students witness innovation firsthand. Professor of Sociology in Educational Studies **Divonna Stebick** began to see exponential growth in her students’ academic performance when she instituted “ungrading,” where they are evaluated based on continuous reflection and feedback, rather than through a point system.

“I was amazed by how much more learning took place when I removed traditional grades and encouraged risk-taking,” Stebick said. “Students engaged more deeply, took ownership of their learning, and pushed their thinking further than I had seen with traditional grading.”

**Emma Hladik '24**, one of Stebick and Wagner’s former students, can attest to the efficacy of inventive teaching styles.

“I learned how to be adaptable. I learned how to manage my time and go through projects and teach myself,” Hladik said. “Employers love it. It makes me stand apart.”

Faculty are also embracing unique approaches to classroom materials. **Janelle Wertzberger**, assistant dean and director of scholarly communications at Musselman Library, champions Open Educational Resources, which allow faculty to make custom textbooks.



# Introducing The Rogers Center for Innovation and Creativity

by Corey Jewart

In recognition of **Clarence B. “Jack” Rogers Jr. ’51** and his extraordinary legacy of leadership and philanthropy, Gettysburg College has named its Innovation and Creativity Lab in his honor. The facility will now be known as The Rogers Center for Innovation and Creativity, following a motion passed by the Board of Trustees in May.

A trailblazer in the technology industry, Rogers rose to become vice president of IBM and president of its General Systems Division. His visionary leadership helped shape the modern computing era, beginning with his start at IBM in 1954 as a sales representative. Over the next two decades, he advanced rapidly through marketing and development roles, culminating in his election to IBM’s Board of Directors for the World Trade Americas/Far East Corporation in 1976. Following his time at IBM, Rogers became chair and chief executive officer of Equifax, Inc. and served on the boards of Equifax, Sears Roebuck and Co., Briggs & Stratton, Dean Witter, and Discover. He also served on the advisory board of the Atlanta Committee for the 1996 Olympic Games.

Rogers majored in economics at Gettysburg before earning his MBA at George Washington University. A member of the Benefactors Circle, Rogers was honored as a Distinguished Alumni at Gettysburg in 1979 and received George Washington’s Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 1995.

In 1999, Rogers committed \$1 million to endow the original “Rogers Center for Technology & Innovation,” a gift that has since grown and supported the College’s technological infrastructure. His continued generosity has profoundly enriched Gettysburg’s student experience.

Today, The Rogers Center for Innovation and Creativity inspires students across disciplines to explore bold ideas, pursue interdisciplinary problem-solving, and prepare for the challenges of a rapidly evolving world.



“I sometimes describe our courses as artisanal or boutique. So many of them have at least one extra twist that makes the course different than another institution. So, of course, they benefit from customized learning materials,” Wertzberger said.

## New Experiences

Innovation at Gettysburg means more than implementing new tools—it also means creating high-impact experiences that punctuate students’ learning.

More than half of students participate in student-faculty research, including **Riley Dunbar ’27**, research assistant to Music **Prof. Jocelyn Swigger**. They’ve been working on typesetting and publishing the previously unknown music of 19th-century Czech composer Agnes Tyrrell.

“Finding this research opportunity and seeing this new way to work with music as I was building my own compositional skills was very important to me,” Dunbar said. “It really helped me understand that the world of music—and the future of music—is actually very broad, and there’s a lot more that I can do than just perform or teach.”

“It also has been fun watching her become an expert in this particular composer’s style,” Swigger added.

In Mathematics **Prof. Kim Spayd’s** classroom, her students conduct groundbreaking research while learning to collaborate and communicate.

“There’s a need to synthesize multiple perspectives, apply knowledge in a creative way, and see through big ideas into the details. Doing this kind of work takes students well beyond more initial stages of learning,” Spayd said.

From research to fellowships, Gettysburg’s abundant co-curricular learning opportunities enhance students’ experiences and set them apart in job and graduate school applications.

“The Digital Technology Summer Fellowship gave me a good edge when I applied for the NASA internship,”





**LEFT** Alyssa Kaewwilai '20 pilots an Innovation and Creativity Lab drone to conduct flood research.

**MIDDLE** Riley Dunbar '27 conducts student-faculty research with Music Prof. Jocelyn Swigger, typesetting the music of 19th-century Czech composer Agnes Tyrrell.

**BOTTOM** Prof. Kim Spayd's students from her X-SIG summer research project present their findings.


said **Alyssa Kaewwilai '20**, now a cybersecurity systems engineer for Raytheon Intelligence & Space. "They realized I could challenge myself with different domains."

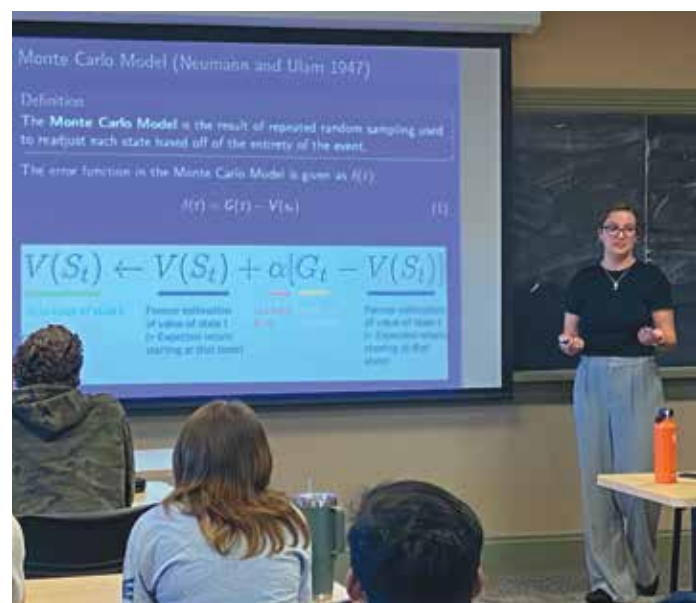
## New Connections

Change is human. Innovations allow Gettysburg to deliver A Consequential Education in an authentic way that reflects the world around us.

"Tradition is often a guide on how to accomplish things, but times and people change, and we learn more about how humans learn every year," said Brandauer, who was recently named dean of academic advising and student success. "It is incumbent on us to adopt new, evidence-based methods that will benefit our students."

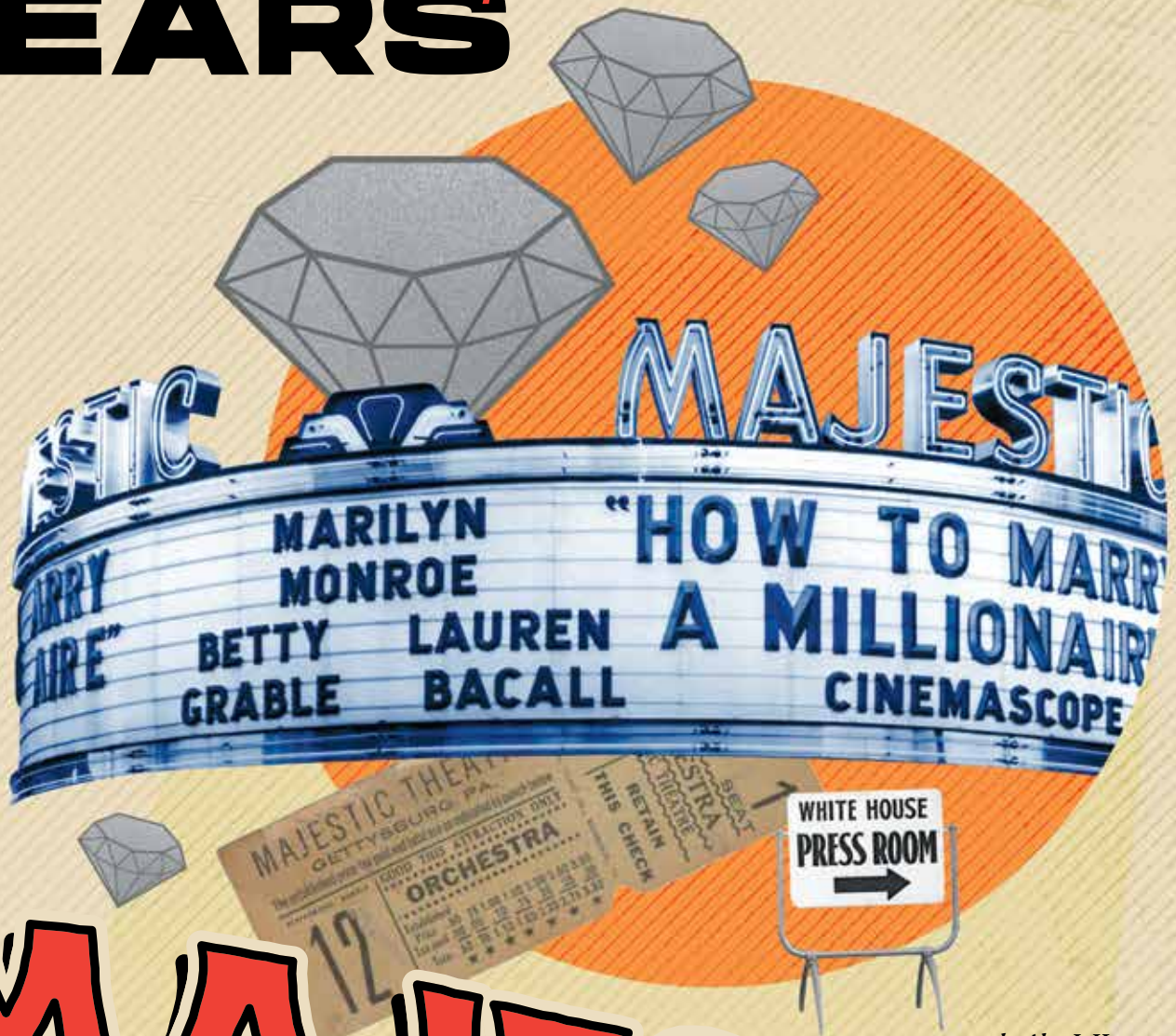
Beyond the shiny new tools, there's a person behind each new idea. Those people—faculty, staff, and students—innovate because they're dedicated to the success and welfare of our community.

"The authentic and human connections we foster are at the heart of what we value most at Gettysburg College," said East Asian Studies **Prof. Junjie Luo**, director of the Johnson Center for Creative Teaching and Learning. "Academic innovation provides me with new, meaningful ways to build and strengthen these connections." 





100  
**YEARS** *of*



*by Alex J. Hayes*

# MAJESTIC ARTS

**CELEBRATING**  
• THE LEGACY OF THE •  
**MAJESTIC  
THEATER**  
• IN DOWNTOWN GETTYSBURG AS IT APPROACHES ITS •  
**CENTENNIAL  
CELEBRATION**  
THIS FALL





tudents, faculty, staff, and families appreciate Gettysburg College's Majestic Theater as the premier cultural arts center in southcentral Pennsylvania, showing dramas, comedies, love stories, and documentaries.

As the Majestic prepares to celebrate its centennial on Nov. 14, 2025, GETTYSBURG College *Magazine* shines a spotlight on the theater's past 100 years.

## 1923

Gettysburg Hotel Manager Henry Scharf attends a town meeting discussing the need for a community hall. According to "A Majestic Presence: A Study of the Development of the Majestic Theater in Gettysburg" by Jay Gallagher, Kelly Burnham, and Nancy Moll, the borough dimmed the lights on the project due to costs.

## 1924

Scharf resurrects the community center proposal and announces the hotel will fill the vacant lot behind it with a building containing an auditorium, a theater, and several commercial areas.



## Nov. 14, 1925

Approximately 1,500 people flock to Gettysburg's Carlisle Street to celebrate the opening of Scharf's dream, now called the Majestic Theater. Cecil B. DeMille's 10-reel epic "The Road to Yesterday" plays on screen.

## May 30, 1929

The 1929 film "Speakeasy" becomes the first "talking picture" to play at the Majestic Theater. John Wayne, who played a small part in the film, later became one of the icons of Hollywood's Golden Age.

## May 29, 1946

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander of World War II, speaks to the Gettysburg College graduating class of 1946 on the Majestic's stage—four years before he and his wife, Mamie, purchase their farm south of town.



**ABOVE** Majestic Theater's interior in 1925.

**ABOVE, RIGHT** Memorial Day parade in May 1928 with President Calvin Coolidge, featuring the Majestic Theater's original marquee.



## 1955-1959

The Majestic's significance as a major event space extends beyond the Gettysburg community when the ballroom is converted to President Eisenhower's press room.

According to "Hotel Gettysburg: A Landmark In Our Nation's History" by Elise Scharf Fox, the Majestic was used primarily to allow former White House press secretary James Hagerty to conduct briefings and provide space for reporters to write stories for wire services and papers.

### Aug. 12, 1959

The first presidential press news conference is held in the Majestic Theater.

"Eisenhower, no doubt, was discussing the planned visit of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev to the U.S. scheduled for the latter part of September," said History **Prof. Michael Birkner '72, P'10**. "He was probably also discussing the Berlin crisis that Khrushchev had instigated months before and that Ike was trying to defuse. The world's eyes were on Gettysburg, and the Majestic press room was a nerve center."

### Feb. 10, 1983

Fire destroys the Gettysburg Hotel on a bitterly cold night, but the heroic efforts of volunteer firefighters save the Majestic.

### October 1988

Gettysburg College purchases the hotel and theater and begins rebuilding the burned-out hotel.

## 1997

Gettysburg College **President Emeritus Gordon Haaland** leads the Commission on the Future. Nine task forces examine various aspects of college life, and the need for a campus cultural arts center becomes apparent.

Haaland charges **Suzanne Flynn**, his executive assistant, to explore the possibility of evolving the Majestic into this center. At the time, the Majestic's main auditorium and stage were divided into three small cinemas. The area that now houses a restaurant, the box office, and cinemas was once a warehouse.



**TOP** The Majestic's ballroom space, which was converted to the Eisenhower administration's press room from 1955 to 1959.

**SECOND FROM TOP** Majestic/Gettysburg Hotel fire in 1983.

**THIRD FROM TOP** The community turns out for an invitation-only premiere of the motion picture "Gettysburg."

**BOTTOM** The 2005 grand reopening was led by Karl Held, who was instrumental in developing the idea to renovate and reinvigorate the historic 1925 theater. In June 2025, the Majestic family mourned the loss of Held, one of its greatest champions. A part of the Centennial Celebration will be dedicated to Held's memory later this fall.



A feasibility study featured one resounding recommendation: “Even if we could renovate the building, we shouldn’t do it unless we had a reason to do it and it would be supported by the College and the community,” recalled Flynn, now a professor emerita of English.

Flynn became the College’s spokesperson for the project, meeting with elected officials and community groups until the arrival of the Majestic’s founding executive director, **Jeffrey Gabel**, in 2003.

## 2003

With planning underway, Gettysburg College hires Gabel, who was in his fifth year managing The Music Hall in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

## Nov. 14, 2005

The Majestic reopens on the 80th anniversary of its first opening night with a Broadway gala featuring vocalists Elaine Stritch, Marin Mazzie, and Debbie Gravitte. **Carson Kressley ’91** and filmmaker Jamie Bernstein served as hosts.

## October 2007

Former Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell hosts the Governor’s Arts Awards, with lifetime achievement awards going to Pennsylvania natives Rob Marshall, an Academy Award-winning director, and his sister, Kathleen Marshall, a Tony Award-winning choreographer.

## March 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic forces the Majestic to close for 14 months. During the 2020-2021 academic year, the theater serves as social-distanced instructional space for Gettysburg College.

## Feb. 10-12, 2023

Gettysburg College hosts “Who Are We?: A Festival Celebrating the Films of Ken Burns.” It welcomes documentary filmmaker Ken Burns, his collaborators, historians, students, and the public for three days of discussions, film showings, and performances.

## April 2024

Four months after Gabel’s retirement, Gettysburg College announces **Brett Messenger** as the theater’s new executive director. Messenger previously served as the curatorial director of live arts at the Morris Museum in Morristown, New Jersey.

In his first nine months, Messenger and his team have focused on using the Majestic’s space in new and meaningful ways. Cinema 1 is turned into a flex theater where small live shows can be performed in front of intimate audiences. Gettysburg College students attended a party in the Patron’s Lounge before a showing of the blockbuster movie “Wicked.”

“I want every student of every incoming class to have a bare minimum of two types of interactions with us during their time here—something that is culturally or intellectually stimulating and one that is pure fun,” Messenger said.

In celebration of the Majestic’s 100th anniversary this fall, Messenger is planning a “grand gala” that longtime patrons and newcomers can enjoy. The theater’s coming season will honor its legacy, reflecting on its history and future while recognizing its role as a cultural hub in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, including for the College’s Sunderman Conservatory of Music. **G**



TOP Jeffrey Gabel  
BOTTOM Brett Messenger



# KATHLEEN CAIN

by Katie Lauriello '25

Growing up as the oldest of five siblings, Psychology **Prof. Kathleen Cain** always looked after her little brothers and sister. Her mother, formerly an obstetrics nurse, loved babies, and it is to her that Cain credits her interest in developmental psychology.

“There was always this sense in my family that kids and babies were really special,” Cain said. “I always wanted to be a nurse like my mom. Then, I went to an all-girls high school in the 1970s, and everything was changing for women. Some friends wanted to be doctors, and I was inspired to become one as well.”

Although she attended an all-girls Catholic high school, Cain described the Academy of Our Lady of Good Counsel as extremely progressive. One year, for the yearly required religion class, rather than being taught by one of the nuns overseeing the school, Cain and the other girls were taught how to do yoga while learning about Hinduism by one of the lay teachers.

“We were encouraged to be strong young women; it was very much part of the ethos,” said Cain.

While pediatrics was her original professional goal, Cain was inspired by Dr. Danuta Bukatko, her developmental psychology professor at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, to pursue her own doctorate in psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. There, she met **Cindy Erdley Gardella '86**, a graduate student who always spoke about her experiences with Gettysburg College. Having babysat the children of **President Emerita Janet Morgan Riggs '77** and being heavily involved in the Gettysburg community, Erdley Gardella encouraged Cain to apply to Gettysburg as a psychology professor.

Although unsure at first, with her husband, Karl Lorenz, still in the process of obtaining a Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Cain decided to move to Gettysburg in 1990. Lorenz also taught alongside her for three years in the then-Department of Sociology and Anthropology before leaving to teach as a professor of anthropology at Shippensburg University. Since she moved to Gettysburg 35 years ago, Cain has seen an enormous evolution at the College over the years she has been teaching.

“We’ve always been a College that wants to do better, and I’ve seen tremendous growth in our ability to offer students ‘high-impact’ experiences, such as collaborative research with faculty, internships, and study abroad,” explained Cain. “Faculty and administrators



have been very intentional about trying to give our students the best education possible, and I think that that education we offer has become stronger and stronger in my time here.”

In 2009, she departed Gettysburg with her family and traveled to Cairo, Egypt, as a Fulbright scholar. There, her research interest was piqued by the conversations she heard between her children and their friends, who attended an American-style high school with Egyptian American students, Egyptian students whose parents wanted them to learn English and have an American education, and American students like her children.

Cain’s primary research focuses on the growth mindset theory, social cognition, and identity development in children and adolescents. In Cairo, Cain was inspired by listening to her children and their classmates speak about current events, such as the possible construction of the Muslim community center Park51, formerly known as the Cordoba House, to branch into something new: the psychology of Muslim adolescents in the United States. Later, she expanded that research to include Muslim adolescents in Denmark.

Cain has brought students on numerous trips outside of a traditional classroom. England, Denmark, Ethiopia, and Nicaragua are just some of the many places she has





traveled to with students. She also takes students on local trips, such as learning about agricultural communities and immigration in Adams County, Pennsylvania.

“I loved getting to know students in ‘real-world’ settings, and I also loved learning about our country and the world side-by-side with our students. I met many wonderful students through these experiences, some of whom I’m in touch with to this day. I learned so much from and with our students—how to see things with fresh eyes and think in new ways, how to be brave in new settings, how to listen carefully to people with different backgrounds from our own,” said Cain.

Retiring in 2026, Cain is looking forward to having more time to read for pleasure and get even more connected with her family members. With plans to write about her Irish grandmother who immigrated to America, Cain has no plans to stop learning and educating others anytime soon.

**TOP** Prof. Cain speaks to Colleen Kolb '17 in Copenhagen, Denmark. **BOTTOM** Students from Prof. Cain's First-Year Seminar, *Crossing Borders: Immigration, Identity, and Development*, sit down for a meal during a fall 2024 field trip in Adams County, Pennsylvania, to learn about the people involved in the fruit-growing industry.

11

*countries traveled to with her family*

15

*articles published*

35

*years teaching at Gettysburg*

43

*conferences where she's presented research*

49

*conference and article collaborations with Gettysburg students*



# A LEGACY IN DESIGN

## THE EVOLUTION OF GETTYSBURG COLLEGE'S VISUAL IDENTITY

by Brooke Askin '25

*The visual identity of an academic institution is more than its colors, logo, and seal—it is a statement of history, tradition, and forward momentum, reflecting the ever-changing nature of higher education. Since its founding in 1832, Gettysburg College's visual identity has evolved through a variety of seals, monograms, and wordmarks, each illustrating the College's commitment to honoring the past while embracing the future.*

In the mid-19th century, the first depiction of the College's logo appeared on formal documents such as these Commencement invitations. Each variation of this monogram contained the intertwined P and C to symbolize the College's original name: Pennsylvania College.

In the early 19th century, the College's colors were canary, red, and blue. These colors were later replaced in 1889, and this Commencement invitation from 1893 is the first recorded use of orange and blue outside of athletics.

The early 20th century marked a significant shift in the College's branding with the introduction of a seal. While the typography and design changed over time to reflect artistic trends, the seal consistently featured depictions of Mercury, a symbol of knowledge and interpretation.

In 1921, Pennsylvania College was renamed Gettysburg College, and the first prominent change to the seal was made the following year. The revisions included the new name and the founding year, the latter to reinforce the College's historic roots.

The 1960s and 1970s were a time of creative experimentation in the College's branding. Logos from this era featured the Pennsylvania Hall Cupola, which became a widely recognized element in future designs as well.

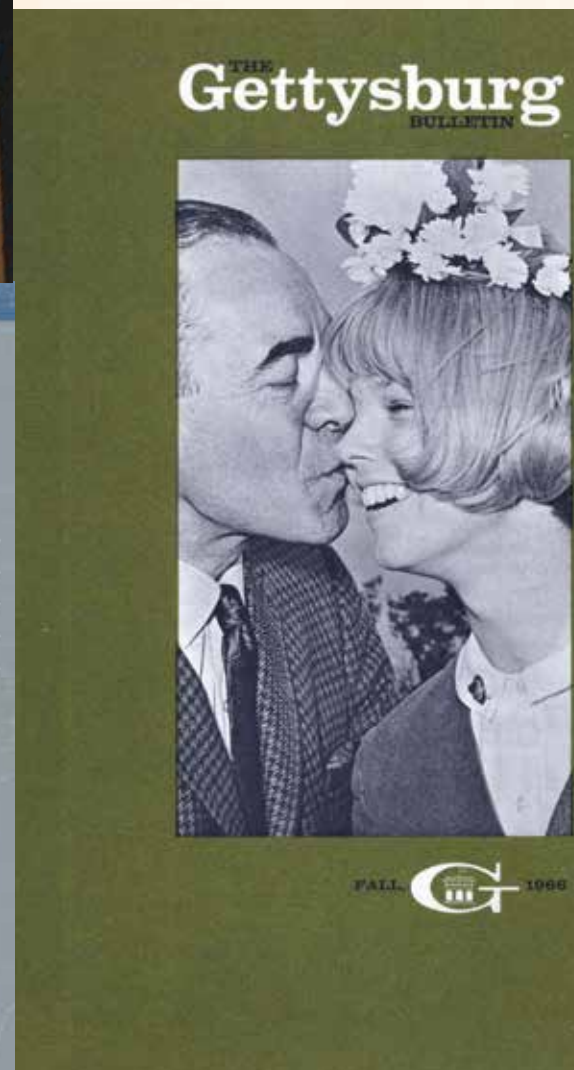
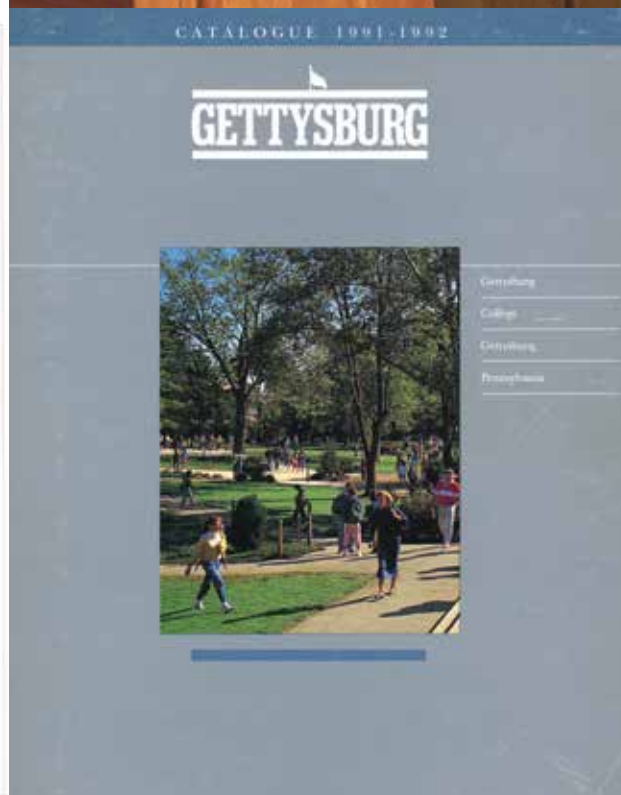
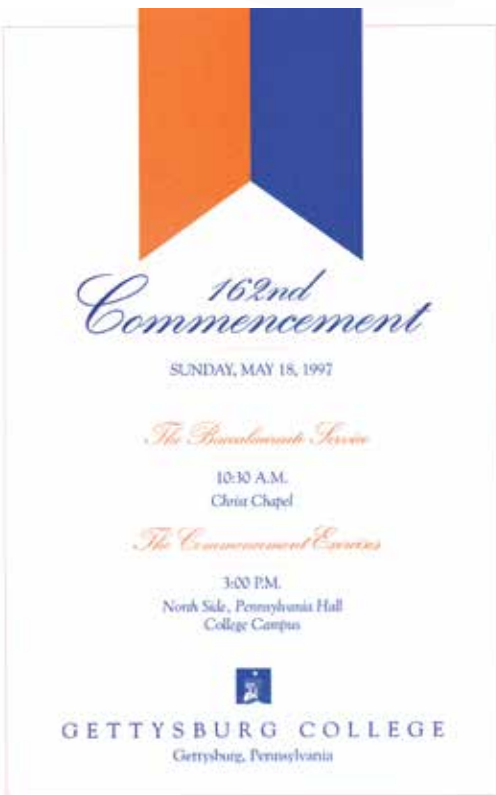
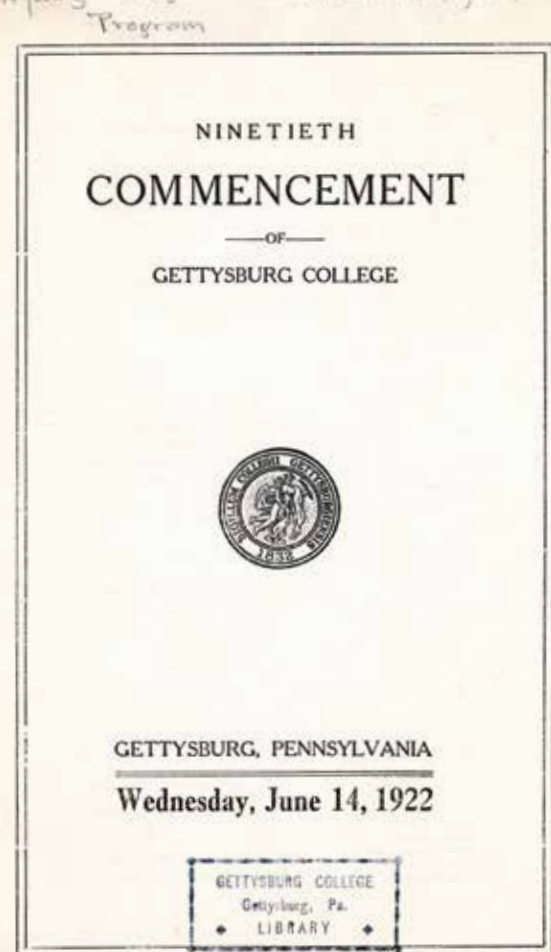
In the 1990s and early 2000s, the College introduced a new wordmark, which appeared on items such as viewbooks. During this era, the Mercury seal and images of the Cupola continued to serve as key branding elements.

In 2002, Gettysburg College unveiled a wordmark and seal that would be used for 23 years. These symbols were woven into many aspects of campus life, including signage, apparel, and digital platforms, fostering a sense of tradition and community.

The College's renewed visual identity was announced in July 2025. It will be implemented over a multiyear period and reflects the continued evolution of Gettysburg's proud design tradition. ■

FACING PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT  
1868 Commencement invitation featuring an early monogram with "P" and "C" for Pennsylvania College; 1893 Commencement invitation showing the first recorded use of orange and blue outside athletics; 1922 Commencement program debuting the updated seal with "Gettysburg College" and the founding year; 1966 alumni magazine showcasing a logo with the Pennsylvania Hall Cupola; 1992 course catalogue featuring a bold wordmark reflecting evolving design trends; 1997 Commencement invitation combining the Cupola image with a clean, modern design; 2000 sticker featuring the Mercury seal during a period of brand refinement; Introduced in 2002, the seal and wordmark displayed on the podium (center image) were used for 23 years at the College.









**GROUNDING IN  
NEARLY 200 YEARS OF  
IMPACT, GETTYSBURG  
COLLEGE'S VISUAL  
IDENTITY WAS  
SHAPED FROM A  
COLLABORATIVE  
PROCESS THAT  
BROUGHT TOGETHER  
OUR PEOPLE,  
OUR HISTORY,  
AND THE VALUES  
THAT UNITE US AS  
GETTYSBURGIANS.**

# UNIQUELY US: GETTYSBURG COLLEGE UNVEILS RENEWED VISUAL IDENTITY

## GETTYSBURG COLLEGE WORDMARK

At the heart of our new visual identity is an elevated wordmark. The timeless design, featuring clean and elegant typography, pays homage to our hallmark liberal arts and sciences education through its traditional Serif letterforms. In the new wordmark, “Gettysburg” and “College” share equal presence, just as our students find equal meaning in the distinctiveness of our location and the transformative power of our education.







## GETTYSBURG G

Complementing the wordmark is the introduction of the Gettysburg G—a distinctive standalone mark that draws inspiration from our people and place. The Gettysburg G delivers versatility in digital, print, and environmental spaces. Its unique design—leveraged in an 1832 lockup, as well as in traditional and outlined variations—reflects the loyalty and determination of generations of Gettysburgians who call our campus home.



## ATHLETIC G

The Athletic G—affectionately known as the Split G—has long been a beloved icon of Gettysburg students and alumni. Its classic block letterform exudes strength and school pride, making it the ideal symbol of our Bullets athletic program. With the emergence of social media in the mid-2000s, the College adopted the Athletic G as a temporary institutional mark. Our new visual identity returns the Athletic G back to athletics—where it will continue to be sported by our Bullets teams and fans for years to come.

## GETTYSBURG COLLEGE SEAL

The Gettysburg College seal—reserved for use by the Board of Trustees, the Office of the President, and on our most formal occasions—has been refined to ensure greater clarity and flexibility. While longstanding elements such as the Cupola, American flag, and decorative beading remain prominent, the updated seal introduces new laurel framing. Representing victory, honor, and academic achievement, the laurels embody our College's values and mirror the design found in the rotunda flooring of Pennsylvania Hall, where students process during Opening Convocation and Commencement—bookending their journey as Gettysburg students.



## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We extend a special thanks to the many individuals, boards, and councils who offered their time and perspective throughout our design process. Your voice and contributions helped ensure our renewed visual identity reflects the excellence of our entire Gettysburg College community.





## BULLETINS

### **JULY 28**

*Welcome Gathering for New Families*

### **AUGUST 20**

*Move-In Day and  
Opening Convocation*

### **OCTOBER 3-5**

*Homecoming & BOLD Weekend  
Reunion Celebrations for Classes of  
2015 and 2020  
Hall of Athletic Honor Inductions*

### **OCTOBER 24-26**

*Family Weekend  
Fall Honors Day (October 24)*

*Dates are subject to change. Please visit  
[gettysburg.edu](http://gettysburg.edu) for the latest event details.*

## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY DEGREES**

**DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

Each year at Commencement, Gettysburg College awards selected individuals with an honorary degree, the highest recognition that the College can bestow. This practice allows us to not only recognize individuals of exceptional accomplishment but to also bring honor to the College and connect it in meaningful ways to persons of distinction. Three to four individuals are selected each year.

Gettysburg College seeks and designates persons for honorary degrees whose documented achievements evidence the following: bring honor and distinction to the College and embody its mission, which is grounded in the values associated with a liberal arts and sciences education; demonstrate that s/he values the worth and dignity of all people; demonstrate the free exchange of ideas which lead to excellence and innovation in an academic discipline, professional, and/or creative field, and/or affect positive change in the greater society; demonstrate a lifelong commitment to service, broadly defined; and have lasted over time and will have an inspirational impact on others, especially our students. Recipients can be celebrated artists, scholars, clergy, corporate or business leaders, humanitarians, or public leaders. Please note, however, that no posthumous nominations will be accepted.

The nomination form can be found on the Gettysburg College website at [gettysburg.edu/commencement/traditions/honorary-degrees](http://gettysburg.edu/commencement/traditions/honorary-degrees). There, you will also find the guidelines for selecting an appropriate recipient. Please read them before deciding whether to nominate. Questions may be sent to [honorarydegreenominations@gettysburg.edu](mailto:honorarydegreenominations@gettysburg.edu).

## **NOMINATIONS TO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2026**

Alumni Association Board of Directors share a close connection to the College and provide leadership and representation for all alumni. Send your nominations to *Nicki West*, executive director of alumni engagement and annual giving, at [nwest@gettysburg.edu](mailto:nwest@gettysburg.edu) or 717-337-6508.

## **NOMINATIONS FOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS**

**DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 12, 2025**

The Alumni Association invites alumni to nominate candidates for awards by November 12. Complete the form at [gettysburg.edu/alumniawards](http://gettysburg.edu/alumniawards) or contact [alumni@gettysburg.edu](mailto:alumni@gettysburg.edu) or 717-337-6508.



# CLASS NOTES

⦿ indicates photo available on page 54.

## 1952

It's with sadness that I report that my brother Col. (USAF-Ret) **Fred Bikle Hoenniger** passed away November 22, 2024, at the age of 94. He had an outstanding career as an Air Force pilot and one of his most memorable experiences was leading a flight of F4s in the "Missing Man Formation" over the Rose Bowl on New Year's Day, 1972. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Anne, his childhood sweetheart; his four children; their spouses; and children. Of interest to Gettysburgians—he was the great grandson of Dean Philip Bikle, an 1866 graduate and professor at Gettysburg College.

*Janet Bikle Hoenniger Davis*  
*Class Correspondent for Class of 1958*

## '54

It is wonderful that so many of our classmates are so active. **Henry "Hank" Lush** is very busy as the Program Chair of the Rotary of Galeton, as well as Chair of the Galeton Foundation and Clerk of Sessions of the First Presbyterian Church in Galeton. **Nancy Penniman Young** celebrated her 93rd birthday with a 2.3-mile walk along the Delaware River with friends. When she's not walking, Nancy enjoys rug braiding. **Glenn Pannell** is very

busy as a board member of the Trinity Terrace Retirement Community Resident Council as well as a member of the Welcome Committee and Vice Chair for the community's Country Store.

*Helen-Ann (Souder) Comstock*  
*604 S. Washington Square, #1111*  
*Philadelphia, PA 19106*  
*215-869-5125*  
*helenann.comstock@gmail.com*

## '55

In 2025, yours truly reached a 25th year as a core volunteer for Habitat For Humanity, Allentown, Pa. Those years included trips overseas to HFH sites in Hungary and Costa Rica. Who would've thought that such a group would provide personal satisfaction via community service projects? My spouse of 67 years, Elaine Bonnett '58, hasn't complained about those years of service since it kept me from interfering with her busy schedule. In other news, **Edwin T. Ferren III**, passed away in November 2024 in Hainesport, N.J. He and spouse Colleen raised seven children and a stepchild. During his G'burg years, Ed was a three-year member of the basketball team and was in ROTC, after which he served at Ft. Bliss, Texas, as a SAM officer. He later graduated from Rutgers Law School, practicing law for five

decades. In retirement, he and Colleen owned and ran thoroughbred horses in towns along the East Coast. When their 13-year-old daughter, Ann Marie, suffered a traumatic brain injury via an auto accident, they initiated a golf classic charity in her name, which generated over a million dollars to help other parents of TBI victims, as well as for medical research. **Richard C. Baker** died in January 2025 in Brenham, Texas. After college and seminary, Dick served several parishes before entering the military and served as chaplain. He served in that capacity in both Korea and Vietnam and then called back to active duty in Desert Storm. In retirement, he and spouse Marjorie also volunteered with HFH internationally. They were parents of their son, Nathan, and daughter, Karen, who produced three grands and three great-grands. **Barbara A. Spire** of Ft. Myers, Fla., died in February 2025. She is survived by her brother, Roger, a niece, and "extended family, near and far." (Information on Barbara was limited for this column, unfortunately.) On March 4th, 2025, **James B. Lau, Jr.** passed away after a brief illness. He was married to Ann, his beloved helpmate of 69 years. They had three children: Philly, Barbara, and Helen, who in turn produced five grands and a great grandchild. Following his discharge from the army, Jim returned to G'burg, graduated from the seminary, and served



several congregations in eastern Pa. for 10 years. He was then employed in Human Resources for Sperry Univac/Unisy. When I report the passing of classmates, and note their involvement in society during their many years, I'm reminded of the Taylor Allderdice High School motto printed in the yearbook upon our graduating from that fine Pittsburgh school: "KNOW SOMETHING, DO SOMETHING, BE SOMETHING." That motto is a fitting wrap-up of those who accomplished much in life, and with whom we were privileged to share G'burg classes, and then add our portion to strengthen our nation's communities in the ensuing decades.

**Rev. Joseph Molnar**  
**4190 Park Place**  
**Bethlehem, PA 18020**  
**610-814-2360**  
**joelaine1958@gmail.com**

## '56

Interested in volunteering as a class notes correspondent and catching up on all the latest news with your classmates?

**Contact Laura Carr in Communications and Marketing (lcarr@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6800) for more information.**

## '57

I heard from **Dixon Lang**, now in Bradenton, Fla., with his wife of 63 years, Mary. He's active in "Dramature," a senior theater troupe that recently performed "High School Musical." Sadly, I've received 10 classmate obituaries—please look online for full tributes, as space limits fuller reflection here. **Deane Bornheimer** of Princeton Junction, N.J., died April 13, 2024. Deane worked in admissions at G'burg and Princeton while earning his Ph.D. in higher education at Rutgers U, where he ultimately worked as a professor. Dean is survived by his wife, **Thelma Ernst**, two sons, and two grandsons. **Dr. Terrence "Terry" Harris** passed away on June 25,

2024, in Aiken, S.C. A dentist and Army veteran, he studied dentistry at U of Pittsburgh and practiced in Pittsburgh and Hilton Head. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Donna, two sons, four grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter. **William (Bill) Wivel** died in Millis, Mass., on Aug. 9, 2024. After G'burg, Bill completed graduate work at NYU. He is survived by three daughters and many grandchildren. **Robert (Bob) Lauffenburger P '79** died July 23, 2024. Bob served in the food manufacturing industry and rose to president of three major companies. An avid traveler, he visited every state and 30 countries. Bob is survived by his wife, four children, 10 grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. **Charles Linfor Bieler** died Nov. 7, 2024, in Calif. A U.S. Army Captain and longtime San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park leader, he was honored as a Gettysburg Distinguished Alumnus in 1990. Chuck was predeceased by his wife, Judy, and survived by a son, two daughters, and eight grandchildren. **Jacqueline Jury** died Dec. 13, 2024 in Easton, Md. Jackie left G'burg in '56 to get married. She finished her degree at Lehigh University in social work, a field in which she served and dedicated herself throughout her life. Jackie is survived by a daughter, a son, and two grandchildren. **Rev. Fred S. Foerster** died Dec. 27, 2024 in Williamsburg, Va. After G'burg, Fred graduated from The Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia. From 1970 until his retirement in 2001, he served St. John's Lutheran Church in Emmaus, Pa. Fred is survived by his daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren. **T. Phelps Pennington** died Dec. 27, 2024, in Williamsburg, Va. Phelps earned an MBA at U of Cincinnati and served in management at Procter & Gamble for 39 years. Phelps is survived by his wife of 61 years, Ann, a son and daughter, three grandsons, and three great granddaughters. **Rev. Dr. Walter H. Wagner** died Jan. 17, 2025, in Olathe, Colo. He earned divinity and doctoral degrees, served churches in N.J. and Pa.,

taught at several colleges, and worked in ecumenical relations. He was predeceased by his wife, Debra, and is survived by a son and daughter-in-law. **Stuart Carswell Jr.** of Keene, N.H., my faithful correspondent, died Jan. 14, 2025. A U.S. Marine Corps veteran and rugby captain, he worked as a personnel director in different companies and later ran a Vermont lodge with his late wife, Marie. An avid painter in retirement, he is survived by a son, two daughters, two grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

**Don Helfrich**  
**7 Jeannes Way**  
**Forestdale, MA 02644**  
**508-539-4280**  
**pbbdrb@comcast.net**

## '58

What a nice surprise that the Class Notes brought two classmates together after many years apart. Bill Matz '61 contacted **Howard Body**, his Phi Gam brother from years past, after reading in the GETTYSBURG College *Magazine* about Howard. Howard's grandson, a G'burg student (class of 2026), went to the book signing that Bill had at G'burg in April, so that will be a great connection over the years. This is one of the reasons that I have participated in this column over 50 years, as I feel friendships made over the years are what give joy to our lives. **Rich Brunner**, **Bonnie Rice**, and **Bitsy Schravessande** still keep in touch by mail and email and are fine—Bonnie traveling to her daughters' homes in Calif., Pa., N.Y., and enjoying the grandchildren. Bitsy and Art living in Pa., and Rich and Cindy in Va., and N.C. and keeping up with current events. **Phyllis Ball Helfrich** is still traveling, as last summer she took her sixth trip to England. Her son, daughter-in-law, daughter, and granddaughter enjoyed York, her favorite city, then touring the Yorkshire Dales, so aptly called "God's Country" (think "All Creatures Great and Small"). Then they visited the beautiful Lake District, a day in historic Oxford, and then London.



Ending with the theater, seeing Dame Imelda Staunton in “Hello Dolly.” Thanks for sharing the trip with us! Phyllis and Don’s lovely hydrangea gardens are again on the Cape Cod garden tour. Sad news of another classmate passing—**Karl Johnson** passed away in October 2024 in N.J., after being a resident in Pa. for a long time. He was an accountant by profession and then a volunteer for several community organizations. He enjoyed nature, traveling, and restoring antiques, while exploring Pa.’s woodlands by fishing and chasing whitetails. He served his country as a U.S. Marine and was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Our condolences to his family. Share your news as we are getting closer to 90 years of age!

**Janet Bikle Hoenniger Davis**  
 407 Chamonix Drive  
 Fredericksburg, VA 22405  
 540-371-1045  
 janhoen@verizon.net

## '59

Our class column is moving closer to the front of the Class Notes section. I’d like some good news to report, but I’ve heard from no one. Good news from the Washington Post: predictors to living longer are strength, balance, and mobility. The word to the wise is to get moving. Bad/good news depending on your gender is that in 2023, there were 183 women for every 100 men in our age group. The odds were much better when we were coeds! Please stay strong and send me your news items. Our sympathy to the families of those classmates we’ve lost this year. **Carl C. Bohner**, Florham Park, N.J. Carl passed on December 19, 2024. After Valley Forge Military Academy, Carl received a B.A. from Gettysburg and M.A. in accounting from the University of Illinois. His accounting career included Haskins and Sells, Treasurer of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and CFO of Delonghi America. Although his vision precluded a career in the Air Force, he earned his private pilot’s license in 1976 and flew family and friends in a single-engine Gruman. He is survived by his wife Roseanne Fowler. **Errol**

**MacGregor Clauss** died March 26, 2025. After his degree from G’burg, he earned a Ph.D. from Emory University in Atlanta. He taught history at Salem College in Winston-Salem, N.C., for 45 years, retiring with the distinction of Professor of History Emeritus. He worked with SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee), where he participated in civil rights events and protests alongside Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Julian Bond, and others. He was predeceased by his wife, Anne, and survived by nine daughters. **Frank E. Grzelecki**, New Canaan, Conn. Frank served in executive positions at Colgate-Palmolive, Tectron, Lenox Inc., Brown Foreman Corp., Beatrice Companies Inc., and Handy and Harman. He served as a member of numerous boards of directors. He was predeceased by his wife of 65 years, Jean (Nissley) Grzelecki ’60 and daughter, Deborah (Grzelecki) Rooney ’85. He is survived by daughter Sharon (Grzelecki) Smith ’82. Our class members remembered Frank as the high rebounding forward on the varsity basketball team. **Kenneth D. Manning Sr.**, Hilton, N.Y., passed on January 4. Ken was a tech consultant for Hartford Insurance Co. for 31 years. He earned the Hartford National Quality Achievement Award. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Manning, and six children.

**Nancy (Hood) Young**  
 8 Medford Leas Way #276  
 Medford, NJ 08055  
 609-257-3119  
 nyoung@medfordleas.net

## 1960

**Lee Dallas** still considers himself in the class of 1960 and called to report that he has reconnected with **Herb Rigberg** and his wife Lynne. After earning his Ph.D. at Temple U, Lee had a career at Western Washington University, eventually retiring as head of their education department. He is living on the waters of Puget Sound, and he and the Rigbergs (who went to high school together) now get together to share a meal and some memories. Rod and I recently attended **Barbara (Moore) Koehler**’s memorial gathering. Barbara was a fellow English major who introduced me

to Winnie the Pooh. A lifelong Orioles fan, she cut school in 1954 to camp out to buy the first bleacher tickets for the first big-league game for the Orioles. Fifty years later, the Orioles tracked her down to ride in a festive parade with Brooks Robinson. She and her sister had season tickets for years—which they passed on to us. **Roger Crump** enjoyed a long career in the insurance industry involving cross-country travel. He and Dori had a special love for their trips to Hawaii. Settled in Fenwick Island, Del., he loved summer days with his family, a good poker game, and horse racing, especially the Preakness Stakes. He died in December 2024. **Steve Bishop** died in May 2024. He earned his Ph.D. in physics from Brown University and spent the first 20 years of his career at the Naval Research Lab researching fundamental semiconductor materials. In 1989, he became Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Steve and his wife Helene enjoyed the travel opportunities of his scientific conferences. Steve received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Gettysburg College in 1990 and later served on its Board of Trustees.

**Pat (Carr) Layton**  
 301 Powell Avenue  
 Salisbury, MD 21801  
 rodlay@comcast.net  
 410-202-6049 (cell)

## '61

It is said that “no news is good news.” In this instance, I don’t agree. Inquiring minds—’61 grads—want to know what’s going on in your lives. Please let us know. John and I are doing well in our new home—adding new friends to our old ones. **Ardith (Ardie) Sebulster** wrote, “Although a widow now, I find my life pretty busy.” Ardie volunteers by cooking in a homeless shelter and working on affordable housing committees, hiking in two groups, and visiting kids and grandkids. In fact, she has a few great-grandkids to add to the mix. Enjoying some travels, she’s cruised along the New England coast to enjoy the fall colors. The cruise ended up in the Big Apple, where their hotel experienced a midnight fire which saw all residents out



on the streets in night clothes—little harm done and a speedy return to their rooms. Sounds like an active, interesting life. Keep enjoying. Our sympathy to the families of **Diane Fenstermacher Esterly**, **Bernard “Paul” Montgomery**, and **Clayton “Joel” Paul Reaser**. Let me know if you would like more information.

**Nan Funk Lapeire**  
12410 Ann’s Choice Way  
Warminster, PA 18974  
215-962-8773  
nflapeire@gmail.com

## ‘62

I returned from a mini get-together with dear G-burg friends—**Mary (Hotchkiss) Dolan**, **Joyce (Andrews) Ellwanger** and **Thelma (Aitken) Newman**. Mary is living full time in Ft. Myers, as is Joyce. Thelma and her husband spend most of the year in Naples, Fla. but journey back to Basking Ridge, N.J. to escape the summer heat of FL. Through the wonders of email and text, we communicate often. I’m still here on St. Simons Island, Ga., still missing Vermont. However, the climate, ie. lack of snow here, is a much better choice. A nice note from **John** and **Judy (Zilker ’64) Hoback**. After retiring 23 years ago in Chicago, they moved to a lake house in the Poconos. John has been teaching business at a local community college, doing some consulting work and serving on the County Transit Authority Board. A very negative reaction to the COVID vaccine in 2024 has left his physical strength very limited. He and Judy spend time enjoying the lake and the wildlife. Unfortunately, periodic emails from the College always contain sad news to report. **Terry Hake** passed away in November. He attended Temple Dental School, served in the Army for 32 years, and retired as a colonel. He then practiced dentistry in Williamsburg, Va., from 1996 until his death. He enjoyed classic cars, antiques, and European and Civil War history. **Kerry Johnson** passed away in March. He had been diagnosed with ALS

in 2024. His very varied life included surfing in Calif., teaching math in N.Y. schools and at the American School in Beirut, traveling as much as possible in that part of the world, and teaching at U of Maryland’s College of Education. In later years his heart was in Waterford, Maine, a small-town community he loved. He recently moved to Mass. to be closer to medical resources. **James White** passed away in November in West Chester, Pa. He retired at 46 from his real estate and development company that he operated for over 25 years. After retiring, he spent most of his time either on the golf course or on his tractor maintaining his lawn or embarking on other projects. That’s it folks! Send me news!

**Betty Reade Hansen**  
121 Renegar Way, #201  
St. Simons Island, GA 31522  
239-233-7828  
bbbhansen@gmavt.net

## ‘63

I had lunch with **Oz Sanborn** and his wife, Ruth, not too long ago, and they treated my granddaughter, Hannah Rinehart ’23, and me to a delicious crab cake lunch at a famous seafood restaurant here in Bel Air, Md. We had fun remembering our G’burg days and hearing Hannah fill us in on the goings on of her generation. She loved her days at G’burg, and I am always so filled with gratitude when she recounts her adventures. Thank you, Oz and Ruth, for such a fun afternoon. I also received an email from **Dick Pendleton**, who said he is “still around” and enjoying driving his sports car and hanging out with his black Lab. Sounds like a good life, Dick. Some sad news to share, as well. **Garrett Laird McAinsb** passed away on January 20. After Gettysburg, Garrett received a Ph.D. in 16th century French History from Emory University and taught at Hendrix College until his retirement in 2011. Garrett was very fond of the school where he got paid for doing the things he loved, including his

work on Hendrix’s Western Intellectual Traditions (WIT) program, where teachers and students grappled with ideas from Plato to Aquinas to Moliere to Marx. Garrett married Judy Gentzler in 1980, and they enjoyed traveling the world together. After retirement, Garrett continued to teach European History to various groups and taught several courses in the LifeQuest program. **Jerry Robertson** passed away on January 12. He was predeceased by his late wife, Rose, and is survived by his son, Jay Robertson (Karen); his daughter, Julie Robertson Acker ’93 (Jay Acker ’90); and four grandsons. Jerry excelled at sports, playing football, basketball, and football in high school. At Gettysburg, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and studied physical education. After graduation, Jerry married Janet Seward, and they had two children, Jay and Julie. Jerry worked at Scott Paper, where he climbed the corporate ladder as a salesman and won many awards and promotions for record sales each year. Jerry was also proud of being left-handed and never failed to notice (and talk to!) a fellow southpaw. In 1991, Jerry married Rose Biere. After Jerry retired, they settled in Reynolds, Ga. Jerry’s passion was golf. He and three friends established their own private tournament, where they competed on famous golf courses. Jerry also volunteered at Habitat for Humanity, Knights of Columbus, and the Church of Christ our King and Savior (COKAS). Jerry was a fellow physical education major and a dear friend of mine. I fondly remember heckling him about his grades when he received anything less than an “A” and never letting him forget that I scored higher than he did on our Senior Oral Exams—my one claim to fame. Garrett and Jerry, rest in peace. You will be missed. Please email me with any news you have.

**Susan (Cunningham) Euker**  
1717 Gatehouse Court  
Bel Air, MD 21014  
443-356-7140  
mimisu1941@gmail.com



## '64

Greetings from the Space Coast in Florida where rockets fly frequently, filling up the space above the earth with clutter resembling a Friday night commute on the Long Island Expressway—the world's largest parking lot! **Jeffrey Clarke** (History Major, Rifle Team, Caucus Club, Drill Team, Phi Alpha Theta, Theta Chi) retired from the U.S. Army after 42 years. He reported that **Frank Geddes, Sr.** (History major, IFC Rep, Intramurals, WWGC, Premier Players, Theta Chi) passed away in Dec 2024. Frank ran Healthcare Software Systems servicing the western USA. **Mary Ann Test** (Psychology Major, Varsity Hockey – Captain, Basketball, Intramurals, WAA, Athletic Advisory Comm) passed in Jan 2025. She earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Northwestern and was a professor at the University of Wisconsin School of Social Work, focusing on treatment for the mentally ill. She is to be remembered for her lifelong “beingness”! **Jean Livingston** (History Major, Alpha Psi Omega, Owl & Nightingale, Spectrum, Alpha Delta Pi) passed away in Nov. 2024. A “teacher at heart,” she taught special education in Michigan and tutored her grandchildren. Well-traveled, she cherished weekly family dinners, Bible studies, and her grandchildren's extracurricular events. **William Engel** (Business Administration Major, Marching & Concert Bands, Alpha Phi Omega, ROTC, Bugle Corps) passed in Jan 2025. After a two-year U.S. Army tour, Bill worked for UPS and Chicago Mill and Lumber Co. He and his wife enjoyed train travel across the USA, Canada, and Europe. He loved building model trains. **Alice Kolz Davis** (English Major, Color Guard, WWGC, Alpha Xi Delta) passed in Jan. 2025. She worked briefly in retail and was active in Southampton, Pa. schools and Maplewood Swim Club. She adored children, especially those with special needs, and loved to socialize, read, laugh, and keep everyone close—her email “familycntrl” said it all. Alice and Walt Davis spent their later years back in Gettysburg. **Marlene M. (Clements) Packard** (Biology Major, Band, PSEA-NEA, Psi Chi, Beta Beta Beta, Sigma

Kappa, Phi Beta Kappa) passed away in Dec., 2024. She taught at Eisenhower Elementary and later became Director of Student Health at McDaniel College, earning an MA from the University of Maryland College of Medicine. She was elected President of the Mid-Atlantic College Health Association, earned certification as a Nurse Practitioner, opened her own practice, and became faculty in the Internal Medicine Residency Program. **Ann Reynolds (Young)** (Spanish Major, Spanish Club, Phi Sigma Iota, Owl and Nightingale, Alpha Psi Omega, Dorm Pres., WSG, Student Senate, PSEA-NEA, Phi Mu) earned an M.A. in Spanish from the University of Delaware. She married Frank Young '63, raised two boys while moving with the Air Force, and became a librarian in Sacramento. Since 1994, they've lived on a rural farm near Nashville. Ann is active in the Methodist church, Elections Commission, Youth Services Board, local library, and Lions Club, which works on amblyopia screenings, diabetes awareness, and hunger issues. She and Frank are “happy here with our farm chores, books, friends, and volunteer work.”

**Richard “Penn” Lardner**  
408 Cape Avenue  
Cocoa, FL 32926  
707-291-8372  
[richardlardner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:richardlardner@sbcglobal.net)

## '65

Because of our publication schedule, I'm submitting this a month before our 60th reunion! That means that the news I heard then may not appear here for some months. But I feel sure those of us in attendance celebrated under the theme “The Way We Were.” The sad news is that **Jim Honafus** has died. He served with the PA Air National Guard during the Vietnam War, and retired from Appleton Papers where he had worked as an HR Manager. He was active in his Mechanicsburg, Pa., church, an avid Penn State fan, and more recently loved skiing, playing racquetball, and golfing. He is survived by his wife, Shayne, his kids, grandkids and great grandkids. **Chuck Miller** has died. After graduation from seminary in Gettysburg, he was ordained a

Lutheran pastor. After serving congregations, he was an assistant to bishops, a board member for Lutheran World Federation Foundation, Lutheran Services in America, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Inter-Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Resources Commission, United Lutheran Seminary, and the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia. In addition to policy development and domestic disaster response, he coordinated the ELCA world hunger program and was the chief architect in the creation of Lutheran Services in America (LSA), now one of the largest systems of non-profit social services in North America. His wife Gail, kids and grandkids survive him. Before retirement, **Dick Vandervoort** was his company's Wall Street VP spokesperson, working with major shareholders and Wall Street analysts, and starting new operations as well as convincing his employer to purchase additional companies around the world. He was also responsible for ensuring safe working environments for 12,000 employees on every populated continent in the world. When Dick and Bobbie (Metzner '64) sold their Calif. home, it was bought by two G'burg grads, one of whom had worked with Dick and then-college president Gordon Haaland. Four Bullets in California? Sharing stories like that leads to coincidences. So, it turns out that **Buck Miller** and I are far-removed cousins, since several of our common (or not so common) ancestors signed the Magna Carta. Why not share a story/memory/award with me? I know you're reading this. Why not add to it? And send a check to the Gettysburg Fund too. It's what our class does!

**The Rev. Dr. John R. Nagle**  
2115-102 Lossen Loop  
Wilmington, NC 28409  
919-602-1623  
[revjrnagle@gmail.com](mailto:revjrnagle@gmail.com)

## '66

**Rev. Rob Morrison** and **Rev. Eric Wogen** have recently had books published. Rob's “Through the Valley of Shadows: My Three Near Death Experiences,” deals with his suffering a severe heart attack and his ensuing recovery aided by family, a great



doctor and his own strong faith. Eric's book "A Relic Remembers and Reflects," covers his years as a Lutheran pastor in Pa. and Fla. Along with wife **Sandy Le Prell Wogen**, their remembrances are not only amusing and enlightening but often inspirational and instructive. Both books are available from Amazon and worth your time. **Kathie de la Vergne** and I attended a symposium moderated by Dr. Michael Birkner about Major General Bill Matz's '61 book "My Toughest Battle: A Soldier's Lifelong Struggle with Polio." The book covers his early onset of polio, his days at G'burg and his magnificent Army career. Also available from Amazon and highly recommended. **Patricia Ann (Sherman) Hill-Kaplan** passed away on December 20, 2024. After G'burg, she received an MBA from University of Baltimore. Pat was a fun and intelligent person who loved to travel and play bridge. She was a loving mother and grandmother, and a dear friend to those who were lucky enough to know her.

**Tom de la Vergne**  
587 Sheffield Drive  
Springfield, PA 19064  
610-543-4983  
tomdela@aol.com

## '67

It **William Harrison "Bill" Triplett Jr.**, 80, of McLean, Va., passed away on Friday, December 6, 2024 at INOVA Fairfax Hospital, Falls Church, Va., surrounded by family. Mr. Triplett was born in Washington, D.C. on November 25, 1944. He grew up in Chevy Chase, Md., and graduated from Landon School in 1963 where he won the Lower School and Upper School Headmaster awards. He earned a BA degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, and an MBA from the University of Southern Mississippi. Mr. Triplett enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1965 and was commissioned as an Ensign in 1968. He served in Vietnam from 1968-1971 and was active in Navy Supply Corps Reserves through 1995. He was recalled to

active duty in 1990 in support of Operation Desert Storm and retired as a Captain in January 1995. He was recognized with multiple awards, including the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal with Combat V, and the Combat Action Ribbon. Between 1986 and his retirement in 2016, Mr. Triplett was the Director of Labor Relations for the National Electrical Contractors Association in Bethesda, Md. He was a coach and strong supporter of boys' lacrosse with McLean Youth Lacrosse, McLean High School, and Gettysburg College. On the weekend of April 25-27, 2025, the Pennsylvania Beta Chapter at Gettysburg College of Phi Delta Theta celebrated the 150th Anniversary of its founding in 1875. Events included a golf tournament at the Quail Valley Golf Course on Friday, a reception at The Atrium Friday evening, a BBQ at the Phi Delt house on Saturday, and a Gala dinner Saturday night at the Gettysburg Hotel. Celebrating this milestone were **Lew Manges** and wife Maxine, **Chuck Widger** and wife Barbara, **Larry Luessen** and wife Lynn, **Scott Higgins** and wife Lin, **Jay Rockman** and wife Kathy, **Bud Haldeman** and wife Michelle, and **Mac McCarthy** and wife Margey.

**Larry Luessen**  
RR 1 Box 503  
Roseland, VA 22967-9201  
540-645-3760  
lhluessen69@gmail.com

## '68

If you do not wish to get discouraged, it might be wise to skip this column as all I have to report are deaths of classmates. **Bettye (Baker) Erdman** died in July 2024, in Ga. She and husband lived in Japan, Hawaii, and Fla., while he was serving in the Navy. While she taught elementary school for a number of years, Bettye also owned and managed a business machine enterprise. **Betsy (Haave) Dougherty** died in August, 2024, in Gettysburg where she

and her husband had moved in retirement after she taught close to 40 years in the elementary schools of Montgomery County, Md. **John Serena** died in November. After graduation, he taught social studies for the Norwalk, Conn. Board of Education. **Garret Strathearn** died in Jan. After G'burg, he obtained a master's in Public Administration from Penn State. He served as a 1st Lieutenant in Vietnam from 1970-1971 and then in the National Guard. **Mike Pounder** died in Feb. He earned an M.A. at Purdue. He served in the Army from 1970-1971 on active duty and then on reserve from 1973-1995. He joined the C.I.A. in 1973 as an economic analyst on the U.S.S.R., then in the Office of Soviet Analysis as a military and economic analyst, as a military industrial analyst and as branch chief in the Office of European Analysis and later in the Foreign Broadcast Information Service as a division chief. In retirement he served in many philanthropic organizations, particularly the Salvation Army, in the G'burg area. **Beth (Cromie) Howlett** died in Feb. Beth taught music in Sussex County, Del., for 37 years. She also helped to found a theatre group called Possum Point Players as well as the Southern Delaware Chorale, and both organizations still flourish. She and her husband, Bill, traveled widely, but her favorite spot remained at Cape May, N.J. **Jill Grickis** died this March in Conn. Jill earned an M.A.T. in French at Brown and then taught middle school French briefly in Warwick, R.I. She rounded off her career as a customer service representative in Conn. We mourn with all these classmates' families and friends.

**Susan (Walsky) Gray**  
113 Balsam Lane  
Aiken, SC 29803-2713  
803-641-4344  
susanwalsky@gmail.com



'69

**Jana Hemmer Surdi**  
7 Condor Road  
Palmyra, VA 22963  
jansurdi@aol.com

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1970

I hope everyone had a good winter. Winter in Md. was quite mild. But I'm still really looking forward to summer! I'm sad to report that we lost two classmates. **Joe Lemmon** passed away on February 24, 2023, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Elaine (Neen), two daughters, Jode J. Lemmon Stambaugh and her husband, Erica, and Elaine L. Lemmon, both of East Berlin, Pa. Also surviving are two stepdaughters, Angie J. Hughes and her husband, Leland, and Amy D. Killeen and her husband, Thomas; nine grandchildren; and sister, Donna Nace and her husband, Bill. Joe played football and wrestled while at Gettysburg. He was a member of Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, Hebron Lodge #465, New Oxford, and Trout Unlimited. He was a life-long farmer and co-owner of EC Lemmon, Inc., president of Slate Run Sportsmen, and enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and his group of friends. Joe loved fly fishing, his cabin in Slate Run, his dog, cooking food for friends and family, baking pies, fixing things, and a good cigar. Most of all, he enjoyed spending time with his wife. I know he will be missed. **Ruth Ann Johnson Koehler** passed away on April 13, 2023. She received her bachelor's degree in social work at G'burg, and then received her master's degree in social work from the University of Louisville. She spent her career advocating for vulnerable children. She loved to cook and bake for her family. Ruth was also an extremely talented interior designer, having attended the Sullivan University Louisville Technical Institute School of Interior Design. She loved searching for antiques and loved all things Kentucky, especially the Derby with a mint julep. She is survived by her husband of 30 years, William Koehler, Jr.; a sister, Carol Lang; three stepchildren; two nieces and a nephew; and her puppy, Charlie. **Suzanne Knestrick Kennedy**

wrote that **Nancy Springer** was mentioned in the Wall Street Journal crossword puzzle on March 11–12, 2023. How cool! Thanks, Suzanne. Have a great summer! And please write—it's not that hard—we all made it through College.

**Marsha L. Barger Farinholt**  
409 Klee Mill Road  
Sykesville, MD 21784  
410-552-8059  
robfarin@verizon.net

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'71

Happy milestone birthday to all of us celebrating 75 or 76 years on this planet! It's hard to believe we've made it this far—congratulations! Also, congratulations once again to our classmate **Mark Ellingsen** on the publication by Vernon Press of his latest book, "Dialoguing with Critical Race Theory: Constitutional and Christian Links." Mark retired after 30 happy years of teaching at the Interdenominational Theological Center; Betsy and he have relocated to South Carolina to be near family. But Mark has not put down his quill, so we shall hear about more projects in the future. Our class numbers are reduced by two with the loss of **Drew Conrad Salling** and **Bruce William Davenport**. Some information shared with me herewith follows: Drew was a talented musician who studied piano and the sousaphone with the Winchester, Mass., High School Band. After a postgraduate year at Bridgton Academy in Bridgton, Maine, he attended Gettysburg College from 1967 to 1971 and was a member of the marching band. He loved the notoriety of playing the sousaphone; it was not an instrument that many kids signed up for! Drew spent the majority of his work life in sales, beginning with Otis Elevators and then Westinghouse Elevator Division in G'burg. He once went to the office in Millburn, N.J., where he met his future wife, Micki Mercers. They married in 1973 and both worked for Westinghouse until they were transferred to Roswell, Ga., in 1975. There, they raised two sons, Brian (born in 1977) and Mark (1979). Drew's favorite job was with the Quest Travel Group, which arranged group trips for

pastors and parishioners to spiritually significant destinations like the Holy Land and Greece. Bruce earned a BS in chemistry from G'burg but later earned his teacher certification and a master's in education from St. John's U. where he met his wife, Patty. His career journey in Special Education took him to Long Island, working for 30 years with the Western Suffolk BOCES that provides career and technical education, special education, and instructional support services. Though his academic background was in science, Bruce had a deep love for music. Bruce loved and performed music; he was proficient with keyboard and guitar and became involved in church liturgy. He composed a Mass, parts of which are used today, for Our Lady of the Snow Parish. His love of Irish music led him to join the Siol Na h'Eireann Pipe Band, where he played drums alongside his daughter, Casey, and accompanying his son, Liam, on the bagpipes. I would sincerely love to hear from all of you so we can round out this column with good news—also please note that our class Facebook page (Gettysburg College Class of 1971 Reunion) is a good way to connect with each other. Peace and best wishes for a safe summer!

**Susan Niblette "Nibs" Donahue**  
Columbia, MD  
202-439-7750  
gainaday@gmail.com

 **Gettysburg College Class of 1971**

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'72

**Chad Pilling**  
4220 Morris Road  
Hatboro, PA 19040  
267-566-0206  
pillingcb@gmail.com

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'73

Greetings Class of '73 Classmates: As I am writing this column, it is the day before my deadline to submit to Gettysburg College and no one has written to me, so I decided to pick up my phone and call one of our dear classmates. **Jana McKeag** is still working as a lobbyist, and I was fortunate



to catch her on a week when Congress was not in session. Jana reports that last year she was responsible for submitting a bill that became law. Specifically, her proposed legislation was to name the Bald Eagle as our national bird. Although the Bald Eagle was thought to be our national bird, it was not. Both the House and the Senate unanimously passed her bill, and it was signed by the President last December. Recently, Virginia Governor Youngkin appointed Jana to the Virginia Indian Advisory Board for a 4-year term. Jana and her husband have traveled to Columbia, Sicily, Sardinia, and they have a trip planned to Lapland, Finland. This year she and her husband are planning to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary in Antarctica. Jana enjoys her seven grandchildren and she plans to continue to work with no retirement plans at this time. Please send me your updates and if I do not receive some news from one of you before my next deadline, you, too, expect a call from me to interview you for our class notes.

**Steve "Triff" Triffletti**  
**124 Long Pond Road**  
**Plymouth, MA 02360**  
**508-746-1464 (work)**  
**508-746-9205 (fax)**  
**fst@plymouthlaw.com**

## '74 ☉

At our 50th reunion, I enjoyed chatting with **John Keller** who lives near Gettysburg and has audited several classes at the College. John got the auditing idea from the excellent Alumni College classes offered during reunion weekends. The two classes he took were: U.S. Military History, taught by Lt. Col. Tom Dombrowsky, in Spring 2020; and Intro to Native American Studies, taught by Dr. Stephanie Sellers, in Fall 2022. John reports the teachers were absolute maestros of the classroom. He did all the readings, watched the videos, and was permitted to participate in the classes. He was tremendously impressed with the caliber of the Gettysburg students. To

audit a class, one must apply through the Admissions Office, and the professor must grant permission. As an alumnus, there was no charge to take the classes. John highly recommends auditing at Gettysburg, and he hopes to do it again. My sister-in-law, **Jan Lansinger**, went on a fabulous trip to Tanzania earlier this year. In late January, she departed from New York, and three flights later she arrived at Kilimanjaro Airport. In a group of 15, Jan traveled with Overseas Adventure Tours for 2.5 weeks. In safari jeeps, they toured the Sinya Game Reserve, a private reserve of the Maasai tribe. In Sinya, they could go off-road and get out of their jeeps to view many elephants, giraffes, zebras, baboons, monkeys, and gerenuks. They spent the nights in deluxe tents on the Reserve. They traveled to Tarangire National Park for more game viewing and then on to the Serengeti National Park where they stayed in OAT's private tented camp. They saw all of the big five animals: elephant, water buffalo, lion, leopard, and black rhinoceros; and many others. Their last viewing area was the Ngorongoro Crater, the largest unflooded caldera in the world. Jan reports it was truly a magnificent trip!!! **Marilyn McVicker** has written a new book: "I Still Sing Your Lullabies: A Mother's Love & Loss." You can find it on Amazon or at marilynmcvicker.org. Marilyn reports that her area of N.C. was very badly damaged by Hurricane Helene in October of 2024; they had no services for over two months. Eight classmates gathered for dinner in center city Philadelphia, in March. I enjoyed spending the evening with **Barb Turner White, Ann Roberts, Alison Raab Ruth, Holly Parker Monihan, Carolyn Hand McGarvie, Carol Ruck Leach** and **Donna Tremble Leitch** (Donna joined us from Bermuda!). This group has stayed in touch for 50+ years, most of us having lived together in the Corner House next to SAE, our senior year. I am sorry to report the passing of two classmates: **Barb White McInerney** of Greenville, S.C.; and **Robert "Bobby" Reid Neilson, Jr.** of Harpswell, Maine, and Towson, Md. Please take a

moment to go online to read their beautifully written obituaries.

*Interested in volunteering as a class notes correspondent and catching up on all the latest news with your classmates? Contact Laura Carr in Communications and Marketing (lcarr@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6800) for more information.*

**Nan (Messinger) Lansinger**  
**249 S. Itham Avenue**  
**Rosemont, PA 19010**  
**nlansinger@gmail.com**

## '75

We remember and celebrate the life of classmate **Mark Wlaz**, who passed away peacefully on December 6, 2024, at his home in Chesterfield, Va., after a yearlong battle with brain cancer. Mark is survived by his wife Deborah of 49 years, his son Andrew Wlaz, his daughter Bethany Cornwell, and his granddaughter Liliana Wlaz. After attending Gettysburg College and Rutgers U, Mark started his business career in finance, which became a lifelong interest, then moved on to IT and finally marketing where he especially thrived. After retiring, he took great joy in mentoring young people while devoting his creative energies to fine art photography. Mark traveled extensively and leaves behind an accomplished portfolio of photography. Many of his pieces have been acquired by private collectors and some are now part of the collection at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and the Virginia Historical Society. Mark lived in Sanibel and Fort Myers, Fla., for the last 16 years. Over the years he spent his summers enjoying farm life in rural Pa., boating in Annapolis, Md., and then moving to Richmond, Va., for a taste of the city life. Mark was a devoted father, grandfather and husband. A Celebration of Life service took place in the spring of 2025 with any donations requested to go to The International Rescue Committee or Affinity Hospice of Midlothian, Va. **Kathleen (Kathy) Good**



wrote to me about her unexpected, second career. After retiring as a Lutheran deacon, where she served several parishes for 20 years, an experience, related to her by her violin teacher, gave Kathy the writing bug. She ultimately wrote a short children's book entitled, "Betty the Busy Bee and an Unexpected Hiding Place," which was illustrated by a gifted high school student and published by Palmetto. The book is a delightful tale for anyone interested in nature, music and a bit of scary adventure. My seven-year-old grandson loved it and is hoping for more stories about this busy, inquisitive bee.

**Steve Detweiler**  
3107 Stonebridge Road  
Louisville, KY 40241  
502-551-4419  
stevedet.ky@gmail.com

## '76

I'm sad to report that we lost past SAE house president **Wayne Hasenbalg** in March. After earning his MPA from Penn State and Seton Hall JD, Wayne enjoyed a successful career including serving in key positions in the administrations of N.J. Governors Christie and Kean. As CEO of the N.J. Sports and Exposition Authority, he brought the Super Bowl and other major events to the Meadowlands. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 40 years. After leading a full life as a teacher, sports coach and entrepreneur, **Carol (Brown) Murray** lost her five year battle with cancer in December 2023. Remembered for her athletic talents at G'burg, she excelled in sports throughout her life. She left behind her devoted husband, Jim. We sadly lost avid sportsman and athlete **Craig Rineman** on September 11, 2023. He enjoyed a successful career in the printing industry, including fifteen years as Sheridan Press VP. He coached the Hanover H.S. girls softball team to the state championships. He is survived by loving wife Ellen, two daughters and three grandchildren. **Rev. Wally Anderson**, who recently completed travel to all seven continents, retired after 38 years in the ministry. He continues to preach three times a month at churches without pastors and directs the Malvern

Ohio Christian Care Center Food Pantry. He is trying to publish his book on first funerals for new pastors. My husband, Clark, and I were privileged to attend President Trump's Inauguration festivities. It was freezing in D.C., so I wore warm boots with my Inaugural Ball gown. So fun!

**Debra-Lynne (Stean) Terrill**  
340 Fowling Street  
Playa del Rey, CA 90293  
310-295-7133  
debralynmeterrill@yahoo.com

## '77

**Diane Disapio Warzoha** submitted a lovely tribute to **Elizabeth "Lizanne" Bates Lehman** who passed away on March 25, 2025 in Palatine, Ill. "Lizanne was diagnosed with appendix cancer a few months after our 45th reunion and courageously fought the disease for two years. She approached her illness as she did her life: head on, full throttle, gave it her best and was concerned most about those she loved. She had several good reports and was feeling optimistic. Unfortunately, things changed after the New Year and she was back fighting it. She entered hospice shortly before her death. Her devoted husband, Bill, her treasured daughter, Blair, along with her brothers were with her at the time of her death. Lizanne came to Gettysburg from Warminster, Pa. Many of us met her when she threw open the third-floor door of Huber on Move-in Day, announced she had arrived, and quickly went up and down the hall shaking hands. She made an immediate impression. She studied hard, played hard, and contributed much throughout her four years at G'burg. Following graduation, she went to Villanova Law School, where she met Bill, the love of her life, and soon after became a practicing attorney. After learning of her death, several of her college friends (**Toni Peterson, Judy Mumford Leslie, Colette Hunt Baker, Mary Kobart, Nancy Fuchella Descano, Kathy Pillotte Gottlieb, Carol Ryan Wade, Kate Hely, Pam "Flash" Schaa**, and myself, set aside a time to join in prayers, reflections, and recollections. We recalled memories and

stories about our friendship and adventures with Lizanne. When Mary first met her, Lizanne walked up to her and Pam and gave us the widest, most genuine smile and began chatting. Lizanne made friends easily and made an impact on those around her. She was a great swimmer and proud member of the Bullet Swim Team that made it to Nationals. One of her roommates, Toni, began a love of lap swimming because of Lizanne. Shortly after Lizanne died, Toni swam 52 laps to honor her, one for each year of friendship. Judy remembered how many times on the front porch Lizanne would call out to anyone passing by. I remembered her in a car with friends driving down the road behind Apple blaring Beach Boy songs and singing away as they started their trip to a concert. So many memories. Those who attended the 45th reunion were so grateful to celebrate not only our time at Gettysburg, but our time together. A very bright light went out in our lives when Lizanne passed away, but her star shines brightly from above. Her memory and her love will live in our hearts and our thoughts forever. Please keep Lizanne and her family in your prayers." If you are on Facebook, please join our private "Gettysburg College Class of 1977 Reunion" page, where you will find pictures from past reunions as well as an occasional post on college memories. And just think, in 2027 we'll be celebrating our 50th!

**Katie Jackson Rossmann**  
3853 Lewiston Place  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
301-922-0338  
katiejax56@gmail.com

## '78

**Grace (Warman) Polan**  
5712 Bradley Boulevard  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
301-807-6798  
gracepolan@gmail.com

## '79

**Rich Betterly** reports that after G'burg, he taught at a private preparatory school



before earning an M.A. in history from UPenn and a Ph.D. in history/historic preservation from Tennessee. A widely published scholar, Rich taught in several states, including Pennsylvania where he retired. After a 5-year mid-career break to work as an historic preservation specialist in Philadelphia, he returned to finish his career in academia. He moved back to his hometown to be close to family and old friends, among them, best friend and former college roommate, **Anthony “T.J.” O’Malley** who lives in Center Valley, Pa. Rich was T.J.’s best man at his wedding and is godfather to his son, Ryan. T.J. earned an M.B.A. from Lehigh U, where he met his wife, Jane, and earned a law degree from Dickinson School of Law. After working in Philadelphia as a U.S. attorney with the Department of Labor, he opened a successful private law practice in Whitehall, Pa., from which he recently retired. T.J. and Jane also have a daughter, Jill. Rich sometimes thinks of the good old days at G’burg and wants the gang from freshman year on 2nd Rice and ATO to know “Groucho” says hello! With a heavy heart, I must report that two of our classmates have passed away. **Margaret “Meg” W. (Allen) Nelson** passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on December 2, 2024. Meg was the loving wife of **Eric Nelson** and the devoted mother of Calista Nelson ’07 and Sarah Nelson. An inscription in Meg’s Darien, Conn. yearbook described her perfectly, “Start every day with a smile.” Meg studied sociology, served as a dorm counselor for three years, and was member and president of Chi Omega. Meg went on to earn her M.A. in human resources from Webster U and worked as a drug and alcohol counselor as well as a talented painting contractor. Meg and Eric spent a decade moving several times before finally settling in North Wales, Pa., in 1992. She loved gardening as well as summer vacations hiking and kayaking on Squam Lake with her family and special time with her daughters. **Soni Dimond** passed away peacefully on January 9, 2025 in Lancaster,

Pa. She was a longtime abc27 reporter. Soni started her TV career as a college intern at WTPA-TV 27 in 1978. In 1979, she served as the station’s first female weekend anchor. Soni’s career in media spanned more than four decades working in Harrisburg, Washington, D.C., and Florida. In 1995, she started her own public relations firm, Soni Dimond Media, training politicians and businesspeople how to do television interviews. Her firm earned the Best 50 Women in Business in Pennsylvania award in 2003. In recent years, Soni hosted “Vibrant Living” and “Good Day PA,” where she promoted services and programs for the senior community. Soni is survived by her husband of 28 years, Kevin Martorana, her niece, Elena Lomicky, nephew-in-law Joe, and grandnephew Emerson.

**Marianne Miller Yingling**  
**534 Covered Bridge Court**  
**Cherry Hill, NJ 08034**  
**856-354-9343**  
**marianneyingling@gmail.com**

 **Gettysburg College Class of 1979**

## 1980

**Janet Wiley Mulderrig**  
**7115 York Road**  
**Baltimore, MD 21212**  
**jwileymulderrig@gmail.com**  
**410-598-5944**

## '81

Hi Friends! Welcome to my inaugural Class of 1981 class notes report! Many thanks to **Linda (Pickford) Monkoski** for her help in smoothing the transition. **Marianne Paparone, Maida Lewis, Becky Hohman, Betty Ann (Chisolm) Stinchcomb, Nancy Kupfer, Amy (Reinhardt) Billerbeck**, and friend Debbie Kauffman recently traveled to Sienna, Italy, where they shared a 65th birthday celebration in a villa surrounded by rolling

hills filled with vineyards and olive trees. Activities included a food tour, a hike through the countryside, a walking tour of Sienna, a visit to surrounding towns, a bike tour, and a cooking lesson at the villa with a local chef. Sounds like a perfect birthday celebration! I also heard from **Carolyn (Herzog) Reeve**, who reported another group outing, this time the “Stratton Street 7+1” crew, who recently gathered in Newport, R.I., for a fun-filled long weekend of catching up, laughing, boating, dining, shopping, hiking, and storytelling. Along for the good times were **Jean Betz, Kathy (Murphy) Hickey, Julie (Hess) Hughes, Susan (Collie) O’Rourke, Kibbie (Toldrian) Otruba, Cathy Lambert-Reece**, and **Dede (Schanno) Walsh**. Between their jobs (full- and part-time), travels, hobbies, activities, and interests, as well as many children and grandchildren, it sounds like there was a lot to catch up on! Carolyn also reports that her son Logan recently returned to the Gettysburg area and is a strength and conditioning coach for Gettysburg College baseball. Go Bullets! We received sad news concerning our classmate **James Whitehouse**, who passed away on January 17, 2025, at his home in Storrs, Conn. Jim retired in 2022 after spending 33 years at the engineering firm of Fuss & O’Neill in Manchester, Conn. Jim had a deep love for the outdoors, enjoying hiking and camping with his family, including annual camping trips to Cape Ann, Mass. He was an avid runner for much of his life, competing in track and cross-country during high school, participating in road races alongside his daughters, and completing multiple marathons. Jim loved working with his hands and was known as someone who could build or repair just about anything. He also had a deep passion for music, which brought him and his wife Patty together. He is survived by his beloved wife, Patty Tuite, his daughters, Kate and Colleen, a sister, three brothers, and many nieces and nephews. Donations may be made in Jim’s memory to the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic, Conn., at



<https://www.covenantsoupkitchen.org/donate.htm>. As for me, I've been enjoying my first full year of retirement, including spending a few winter months in Sarasota, Fla., and crossing spring training off my bucket list. On my way back north, I was happy to spend a little time with **Sharon (Darmetko) McNish**, who recently relocated with husband George from chilly New Jersey to Hilton Head, S.C. I'm looking forward to hearing about and reporting on your pre- or post-retirement exploits! Please send along any news that you have.

**Ms. Jan Conway**  
2204 North Dearing Street  
Alexandria, VA 22302  
[jconwayva@comcast.net](mailto:jconwayva@comcast.net)  
703-869-9622

## '82

**Kelly Woods Lynch**  
[kelly.lynych@yahoo.com](mailto:kelly.lynych@yahoo.com)

 **Gettysburg College Class of 1982**

## '83

With the changing seasons comes news that touches the heart. We are saddened to share that our classmate, Linda Ann (Asterino) Meade, passed away on February 17, 2025. We extend our heartfelt condolences to her husband, Ralph Meade, their children, and everyone who had the privilege of knowing her. Linda's legacy lives on in the lives she touched.

**Amy (Rowe) and Andy Ruymann**  
[Ruymann1@verizon.net](mailto:Ruymann1@verizon.net)

## '84

**David Schafer**  
101 Harper Street  
Beaufort, NC 28516

## '85

By the time you read this, our 40th reunion would have happened and the committee is hoping you all attended. For those who

missed it, I'll have a more robust update from people who were there. News this quarter has been a bit scarce, but now that I have retired (4/1), I'll have time to reach out for updates. My retirement trip took me to Big Sky, Mont., for skiing where my group spent the day skiing perfectly groomed slopes at Yellowstone Club—Thanks **Bill Collins**. We met his amazing 17 year old daughter who outskied all of us and who participates in rodeos and formula one racing. She is off to college next year to study aeronautical engineering so she can learn how to make cars go faster. Bill reports that his Sigma Chi crew will all be attending the reunion. I heard from **Reid Bryant**, who will also be newly retired by the time of our reunion (May), from McCormick & Company after 38+ years. He began his career in Roanoke, Va., then stopped in Hunt Valley, Md., Headquarters (where he met a co worker—who turned out to be Joe Lynch's sister Nancy) and has been in the Pittsburgh area for the past 27 years. Another fun fact about his tenure at McCormick is that Tim Rineman's younger brother is currently a member of his team. Reid opened an organic/plant based juice and smoothie store (Fruits & Roots) almost six years ago in Greensburg, Pa., and will enjoy working on that during retirement then eventually heading south to Fla. to get out of the Pa. weather (**Anne Hetherston-Strawbridge** take note). Lastly, **Adam Sherman** recently finished up his second year teaching in the business school at Florida Atlantic University. Please reach out to me with news, and I'll be sure to pass it along. For everyone who has recently retired, let us know what you are doing. I hope everyone has/had a great time at the reunion.

**Kathy Reese Laing**  
1812 Hanover Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23220  
[klaingrva@gmail.com](mailto:klaingrva@gmail.com)

## '86

**Liz LaForte Schulte**  
103 New Street  
Ridgefield, CT 06877  
319-270-2160  
[lizlaforte@lovesac.com](mailto:lizlaforte@lovesac.com)

 **Gettysburg College Class of 1986**

## '87

**Jill Littman Conway** reports that she and her husband, Lawrence, recently moved to Bradley Beach, N.J. They look forward to retiring in the near future, enjoying the Jersey Shore, and visiting with their first grandchild on visits to Zurich, Switzerland, where their daughter Raphaele and husband Alessandra reside. Jill still keeps in touch with many of our classmates and just returned from a cruise to Antarctica that **Danielle Billera** invited **Mimi (Doran) Cabill**, Leslie Billera '90, myself, and some other friends to celebrate our 60th birthdays!! It was a trip of a lifetime with stunning wildlife, breathtaking scenery, glaciers and of course, many laughs and a polar plunge too! Danielle, Mimi, **Kathy (Beauchamp) Malone**, **Sarah (Hitch) Burdi**, and Jill have been going on their "College Moms' Tours" over the past few years and visiting their kids on their college campuses—a great way to get together and see the kids. Sad to say, they haven't had any G'burgers but have visited Penn State, Bucknell, UC, Boulder, UMiami, Elon, Wake Forest, Indiana U, Catholic U and Sacred Heart U. Jill is looking forward to our 40th Reunion in a couple of years' time!! **Clare (Marino) Girton** sent a wonderful New Year card with a great photo of her four kids (Meggie, Laura, Will, and Teddy) with their dog Auggie. Clare resides in Wayne, Pa., with her husband Darrin ('86). In February, David and **Janis (Vosburgh) Richards** bumped into **Scott Litchfield** in the Pensacola Airport as they headed to a wedding. Scott and his wife are doing well and said they were trying to avoid winter weather that seemed to follow us southbound. **Laurie (Acquaire) Vilim** and **Christine (Pistoia) Rover** recently (February) kicked off 60 together in Tampa, Fla. **Kim (Foehl) Schultz** and her husband Bob shared some photos of their family's home improvement efforts at their daughter's recently purchased home in Pa. The Schultzes live in Media, Pa. On March 7th, **Dave Abeles**, **Scott Brandt** and **Sam "Manny" Mantone** got together in Marco Island to celebrate Sam's 60th. Sam and Scott are still living in N.J. raising families. Scott is a grandfather to two wonderful



grandchildren. Sam has completed 5 – 6 Ironman competitions and Scott and Dave cheer him on from their armchairs. Dave and Stacey (Herring '88) Abeles still living in Hagerstown Md.—oldest son Zach at Quinnipiac in the accelerated Nursing Program, middle son Connor leads a rock band in NYC (The Cab Ellis Band), and their daughter Sophie teaches Spanish at a Brooklyn charter school. **Bill Neill** went to the Super Bowl to support his beloved Eagles and ran into **Dave LeCausse**—all of us are SAE pledge brothers trying to stay in touch. Bill is a lawyer, father of three, and grandfather living in Philadelphia and Dave works as an executive in the vision biotechnology industry residing in Calif. Keep the updates coming...Go Birds!! We know there are other turning/turned 60 stories to be circulated.

**David and Janis (Vosburgh) Richards**  
**208 E. Park Road**  
**Havertown, PA 19083**  
**267-693-2978; 484-557-8175**  
**davidrichards@richardsapex.com**  
**janis\_richards@yahoo.com**

'88

Hi, everyone! One gloomy day, I had a terrific surprise and got an email from **Dana (Bouterse) Saputo!** She's living in California and running her own design firm, Saputo Design. They've got some well known clients, Dole, BJ's Restaurants, and Amgen to name a few. Chances are we've seen some of her talented work. Dana's an avid hiker and why not, since she lives across the street from the Santa Monica Mountains and Rancho Sierra Vista National Park. She finished the 68 mile Backbone Trail which spans the entire length of the Santa Monica Mountains, very impressive! She has a daughter who's a junior at San Diego State University. So good to hear the update and hope that more of you will reach out as well. Not sure if everyone looked at the names listed on the In Memoriam page in the magazine, but sadly we lost two more classmates, **Bill**

**Duffill** and **Janice (Donley) Hopkins**. Bill died on September 19, 2024 and is survived by his wife Peggy; children Luke and Leah. He was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He faithfully served his country in the United States Navy during Desert Storm. While on active duty, Bill earned his master's degree from Troy State University. Beyond his professional and family commitments, Bill had a passion for music, ice hockey, sailing, tennis, and golf, which filled his leisure time with joy and fulfillment. Bill spent many years volunteering as coach for the Morristown High School ice hockey team. He enjoyed competitive sailing with a crew where he was affectionately called "Life Saver" after he pulled the team through a rough storm on the water. Bill was also proud to be a member of the Ridgewood Country Club where he enjoyed playing golf, tennis, paddle tennis and catching up with friends. Janice died on June 23, 2024. She is survived by her husband, James. Janice graduated from Gettysburg with a degree in biology and then furthered her education by earning a nursing degree from Villa Julie College. She dedicated 28 years of service as a registered nurse at Gettysburg Hospital. Janice was an active member of the Pioneer Baptist Church in Thurmont, where she treasured her church family. She had a passion for gardening and baking, especially known for her brownies. Alongside her husband, she enjoyed restoring vintage hi-fi equipment, adding her distinctive "lady bug" touch to each project. Janice was an avid animal lover and devoted her love to 15 rescue animals, a cause close to her heart. Take care of yourselves!

**Carol (Whiting) Gordon**  
**1605 Troys Court**  
**Crofton, MD 21114**  
**410-507-9247**  
**jayandcarol1009@gmail.com**

'89

Congratulations to **Rev. Stephen R. Herr**

**'89, P'28**, who has been elected as bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Herr, who served as interim chaplain at Gettysburg during the 2021-2022 academic year, will begin his six-year term as bishop on September first.

**Patty Hunter Lovett**  
**9000 Copenhaver Drive**  
**Potomac, MD 20854**  
**301-838-4533**  
**plovett@calibrecpa.com**

**f Gettysburg College Class of 1989**

1990 ☉

Hi, everyone! By the time you read this, we will have been on campus celebrating our 35th reunion; hopefully I will have lots of your good news to share in our next column. Our committee was hard at work planning a fun-filled weekend for you all. I am happy to share that **Anna Jane Mercatoris** married Mandro Jayaseelan at the Graceland Chapel in Las Vegas with Elvis as the officiant on 10/28/24. Congratulations, Anna, wonderful news! Anna is a Counselor at her self-titled counseling services, and the couple resides in Meadville, Pa. I am so very sorry to have to report that **Jennifer Ely Nemecek** of Ann Arbor, Michigan, passed away peacefully on October 21, 2024, after a courageous battle with cancer. I'll share some excerpts of her obituary here: Jen's life was defined by her adventurous spirit, dedication to education, and love for her family and the many students whose lives she touched. She began her career in higher education at Georgetown University, where she discovered her passion for guiding students through their academic and personal journeys. The Nemecek family's adventures took them to France in 2009, where they appeared on an episode of House Hunters, and traveled to 67 countries across Europe, Africa, and beyond. They later lived in Germany before moving to Mich., in 2014. While



abroad, Jen worked closely with secondary schools across Europe as an admissions officer for Notre Dame, helping students find their way to higher education. In 2022, Jen was diagnosed with ALK-positive lung cancer, a diagnosis she faced with strength and grace. In 2023, she was diagnosed with a second primary—breast cancer. Despite the challenges, she remained focused on the things she loved most: her family, her students, and her passion for exploring new cultures and places. Jen is survived by her husband, Chuck Nemecek; her children, Gab Nemecek and Alex Nemecek. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Megan Nemecek. Jen's family asks that donations be made to ALK Positive, a foundation dedicated to supporting those affected by ALK+ lung cancer, to the Maj. Kevin A. Adams Memorial Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, or to the memorial garden being built in her honor. Jen's big smile and warm heart will be greatly missed! Take good care of yourselves, everyone.

**Amy Tarallo Mikuta**  
 313 Birmingham Avenue, #2  
 Carolina Beach, NC 28428  
 603-548-4706  
[aetarallo@gmail.com](mailto:aetarallo@gmail.com)

'91

**Michelle Lynette A. Hughes P'18**  
 P.O. Box 220453  
 Chantilly, VA 20153-0453  
 703-969-6180  
[mbhughes1969@yahoo.com](mailto:mbhughes1969@yahoo.com)

'92

Happy summer, Class of '92! Congratulations to **Rob Schwartz** and his wife, Lisa, who bought a local independent bookstore called Town Book Store in Westfield, N.J. It had been Lisa's lifelong dream! The bookstore celebrated its 90th anniversary last September. I heard from **Rob Herb**, who shared that in March a hundred Sigma Nus came together to celebrate 55 years at their chapter home at 55 West Broadway and reconnect with brothers. This capped off an intense year of capital renovations and revitalization of the

collegiate chapter. Highlights included a Friday afternoon battlefield tour led by brother Aaron Heft '11, a Saturday afternoon Open House, then a dinner at the Atrium, where Sigma Nu's national President, Maury Gaston of Auburn, congratulated the chapter and alumni for their dedication to Sigma Nu. It is with a very heavy heart that I share the news that our classmate, **Eric Wolff**, passed away on January 27th at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Eric played soccer and lacrosse at G'burg and he worked as a Managing Director for Ares Management in suburban Philadelphia. He was an avid golfer and fly fisherman and loved to fish off his favorite jetty in Cape May Point. A dedicated Eagles fan, Eric loved cheering on his team. He adored his beloved bulldogs, George and Winter, who were his constant companions and source of happiness. Eric is survived by the love of his life, Michele Fort, and their children Charlie Fort, Jack Wolff, Henry Fort, and Kyle Wolff. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family.

**Gina Gabriele**  
 61 Jane Street  
 New York, NY 10014  
 415-271-3209  
[gina.gabriele@gmail.com](mailto:gina.gabriele@gmail.com)

 **Gettysburg College Class of 1992**

'93

**Laura (Parham) Atchison** is about to reach 20 years managing the Board of Trustees for the National Parks Conservation Association, a national parks advocacy group. She's visited many wonderful park units in that time and looks forward to bringing NPCA's board to Gettysburg National Military Park in 2026. Laura and her husband Dan live in Washington, D.C. Their older son is a junior at Tulane University and their younger son is a 12th grader who will attend New York University. She regularly sees Nicole (Ruman) Skinner '92—they recently had dinner with Kate (Zaragoza) Tafuri '92—and also gets together with **Gretchen (Guttendorf) Tucker** and Eric Tucker '91. **Stephanie (Rogers) Gannon** and her husband, Matt,

moved from N.J., to Tega Cay, S.C., after many years in northern N.J. Their two sons are off to college and they are starting a new life as empty nesters. She is still at Bank of America but now in Charlotte. She would love to know if any other G'burg grads are in the Charlotte metro area. **Jennifer (McMahon) Teran** just celebrated five years at Yale New Haven Health as a hospice and palliative home care social worker. Finally, **Jennifer Haase** reports that she moved "home" to G'burg in the summer of 2023. After living on Bainbridge Island, near Seattle, for 25 years, she finally made the cross country move back to the East Coast and her beloved G'burg. Coming home gave her the opportunity to make a career change from classroom teaching to public history. After 29 years teaching middle school early American history, she took a job with the Gettysburg Foundation overseeing the Children of Gettysburg 1863 museum, an interactive children's history museum, and the Gettysburg Lincoln Railroad Station information center and historic site. She is enjoying continuing to "teach" in a new way! She is also working part time as a guide at the Shriver House Museum. Her favorite part of this job is when she gets a bus load of 8th graders on a field trip! She says that it has been a dream come true making Gettysburg her forever home! Reports around town that come to the class correspondent suggest that if she would run for mayor, she would win in a landslide!

**David Krug Nelson**  
 140 Country Club Lane  
 Gettysburg, PA 17325  
 717-253-5517  
[davidknelson@mac.com](mailto:davidknelson@mac.com)

'94 ☉

Hi Class of '94! **Patricia (Taylor) Hertzbach** writes that The Zeta Sigma chapter of Sigma Nu recently held their "55 at 55" Reunion, organized by Rob Herb '92 P'24, on Saturday, March 15. Sigma Nu has owned their fraternity house at 55 West Broadway for 55 years, and the brothers turned out in force, including three members of our class: **Sean Newcombe**, **Kirk Helmstaedter**, and **Dave Stoesser**. She says it was an amazing



evening with over 100 Sigma Nu alumni, Gettysburg spouses, and active members in attendance, spanning over fifty years of Gettysburg classes. Patricia was delighted to attend as the wife of Dave Hertzbach '95 and the mother of active member and chapter officer Ben Hertzbach '27. Please email with any news you'd like included in the next column! Take care, B.J. Jones

**B.J. Jones**

**baj1814@aol.com**

**Gettysburg College Class of 1994**

**f Gettysburg College Class of 1994**

'95

**Becky Schneider Keller**

**57 Park View Lane**

**Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047**

**kellercb@sbcglobal.net**

**f Gettysburg College Class of 1995**

'96

Hello, Class of 1996! I hope this column finds everyone well. The good news is we had a huge number of updates for the previous issue, the bad news is I have no new updates for this issue. As far as **Justin Bruton** and me, we are heading to the Netherlands today for spring break to visit our son Quinn who is studying abroad for his Spring semester at Penn State. He is a junior majoring in supply chain management, and secured an internship at Martin Brower in Coatesville, Pa., this summer. Our daughter Jillie is graduating from high school this June and was seriously considering Gettysburg College (our fingers were crossed), but made her final decision to attend University of Georgia in the fall. She plans to study history, pre-law track. Go Dawgs! Please continue to send updates for the next issue, your classmates always love to hear from you!!

**Nicki (Bois) Bruton**

**303 Sharpless Street**

**West Chester, PA 19382**

**484-753-1876**

**nickibruton@yahoo.com**

**f Gettysburg College Class of 1996**

'97

*Interested in volunteering as a class notes correspondent and catching up on all the latest news with your classmates? Contact Laura Carr in Communications and Marketing (lcarr@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6800) for more information.*

'98

Marybeth Danowski, class of '98 was awarded the New Jersey Governor's Educator of the Year Award for 2024-2025, representing Maple Shade High School, where she has taught high school Social Studies for 26 years. In 2020-2021, she had the honor of receiving the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award for 9th and 10th grades. She attributes her experiences and schooling at Gettysburg College to shaping her professional growth and academic achievements.

'99

*Interested in volunteering as a class notes correspondent and catching up on all the latest news with your classmates? Contact Laura Carr in Communications and Marketing (lcarr@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6800) for more information.*

2000

I hope everyone is doing well. It was so wonderful to see many of you at our 25th on campus! I continually feel so fortunate to have attended Gettysburg and to have

made life-long friends with whom I share so many memories. I continue to serve as Chair of the Art Department at Tower Hill School in Wilmington, Del. We are proud Pa. residents, but work and attend school in little, nearby Delaware. Life is chalk-full of hockey, lacrosse, music, travel, and of course—art! Gene Kraus writes, "I finished my Doctorate in Education at Immaculate University in the Spring of 2024 after finishing with the Army as a Captain and Company Commander in the 323rd Military Intelligence Battalion at Fort Meade, Md., in 2017." Please continue to send in notes as your ever-exciting events of life unfold!

**Torrey (Stifel) Kist**

**torreykist@yahoo.com**

**f Gettysburg College Class of 2000**

'01

**Jeffrey Michael Walker**, 46, of Wake Forest, N.C., was called home unexpectedly on Sunday, November 24, 2024. Jeff was quick-witted, a loyal friend, and always the life of the party, known for his humor, generosity, and ability to make everyone feel valued. His friends and family remember him as a man of great integrity in every sense whether as a devoted husband, father, son, brother, uncle, supervisor, co-worker, or friend. Jeff is survived by his beloved wife, Megan; his six-year-old daughter, Bridget; his mother, Jane Cox Walker; his sister, Jennifer Walker DeBaun (Stephen) and cherished extended family and friends.

**Mary Fichtner Lawrie**

**mary.fichtner@gmail.com**

'02

**Catherine (Dietrich) Pulse**

**cath1dietrich@hotmail.com**




'03

*Jennifer O'Hara Roche*  
*Jennob25@gmail.com*

 Gettysburg College Class of 2003

'04

Hello Class of 2004, **Leigh (Dennington) Korpel** shares that early 40s are going well, and she hopes they are for all of us! 2024 brought a new job as the Alumni Gift Officer at Lawrence Academy, an independent high school in Groton, Mass., where coincidentally, our very own **Liz (Kendall) Carroll** graduated, along with several other Gettysburgians she has been able to meet. Leigh remarried in December and kept her bibliophile streak going strong with 68 books under her belt. To use a word her 10-year-old niece repeats over and over (and over), she “literally” thinks about books all day, every day! Leigh also joined the advisory board of Homefront Strong (<https://homefrontstrongus.org>) in memory of her Dad, who was a combat Vietnam veteran and became passionate about connecting with and supporting fellow veterans in the later years of his life. Somehow, 21 years have passed since Leigh was on campus, and she’s looking forward to visiting with **Abby Templeton-Greene** in early May! If anyone is ever in Mass. and wants to catch up, Leigh would love to hear from you. Abby started her own nonprofit, Sidewalk Poets, in Denver, Colo. Congrats Abby! They run creative writing, arts and healing-based workshops, where emerging writers from underserved and underrepresented backgrounds gain resources and opportunities to share their voices, activate self-confidence, process the past, and receive support to enrich and empower their communities. Abby loves it so much and they have had a successful initial three years! She owes so much of her success to the core values and learning experiences at Gettysburg. She is to Sidewalk Poets as Leigh is to books. Speaking of books, Abby also published three books of poems and is currently at work on her 4th. Check out what she is up to: [www.sidewalkpoets.org](http://www.sidewalkpoets.org). Keep your updates coming!

*Katie Orlando*  
*22 Odena Avenue, #3*  
*Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064*  
*katierorlando@yahoo.com*  
 Gettysburg College Class of 2004

'05

I hope everyone enjoyed reunion weekend! Have a great summer, and continue to send updates to let your classmates know what you have been up to.

*Holly Woodhead*  
*1010 Riva Ridge Drive*  
*Great Falls, VA 22066*  
*holly.woodhead@gmail.com*

'06

*Monique Matthews Gore*  
*63 W. Middle Street*  
*Gettysburg, PA 17325*  
*410-493-0020*  
*monique.matthews@gmail.com*

'07

Happy Summer my fellow alums! I hope this reading of our '07 column finds you happy, healthy, and enjoying all the wonderful things summer brings. Just one update to share this issue, but it's a good one! You might remember an announcement in a previous issue that **Jessica Basta** published a book about budget travel. She put these skills to the test over the last year when she left her teaching career to travel the world. From the Galapagos Islands to Croatia (where she met up with fellow '07 Gettysburg alumna, **Laura Jarrett!**) to Western Australia to China, Jessica has spent the last 10 months visiting 18 different countries. Soon she will begin a job in Maine for the summer before she starts planning her next adventure. Reach out to Jessica to talk about budget travel or if you're planning your first solo trip!

*Stephanie (Hafer) Shaak*  
*2715 Park Street*  
*Reading, PA 19606*  
*610-914-9336*  
*sshaak1016@outlook.com*

'08

I am sharing the sad news that our classmate **Benjamin A. Smith** died suddenly, as a result of an aortic dissection on Sunday, March 9, 2025 while on vacation in Key West, Fla. Benjamin, who lived in Woodbridge, Va., was a Biosafety Specialist at Ernst & Young and worked with the Department of Defense. After Gettysburg, he received his master's degree in Biochemistry from Georgia Tech in 2010. For work and for pleasure, Ben traveled the world, visiting 25 countries spanning five continents. Ben and his wife Jenna especially loved spending time in Stone Harbor, Key West, and Nantucket. A talented musician himself, Ben was an avid fan of a diverse range of music, from classic rock to reggae. Ben loved rooting for the Baltimore Orioles, Green Bay Packers, and Georgia Tech football. Ben approached every day with a positive outlook and did his best to bring that into the lives of others. He loved nature and all its wildlife, preferring to take it in from his boat on the Occoquan River and Belmont Bay, with Jenna, his wife of 13 years.

*Ellen Furnari*  
*Manlius, NY*  
*717-476-8870*  
*ellenfurnari@gmail.com*

'09 ☉

After a year of travel, **Sara (Harenchar) Levinson** moved to Durham, N.C., where she purchased a home in April! Her classmate and dear friend, **Jason Parker**, was her real estate agent. Jason grew up in Durham and is married to Crystal (Ebert) Parker '06. Jason works in development at Carolina Friends School and moonlights as a real estate agent representing clients with his family's brokerage, Jon Parker Real Estate. Jason and Crystal's Gettysburg flag—a wedding gift from the G'burg alumni office—made a special appearance on Sara's closing day.

*Sara (Harenchar) Levinson*  
*Pittsburgh, PA*  
*724-552-7974*  
*saramarialevinson@gmail.com*



## 2010

**Emma Snellings**  
eesnellings@gmail.com

### '11

Hello, Class of 2011. I hope everyone is doing well and is starting to get excited for our 15 year reunion next year. **Jenna (Boehm) Tousey** and her husband, Evan Tousey, celebrated the arrival of their son Isaac (Ike) Evan Tousey on July 23, 2024. There is a great debate of whether Ike will be a member of Gettysburg College Class of 2046, but mom is sure her son will fall in love with the college like she did. I wish everyone the best and please continue to send me updates!

**Scott Bye**  
614 Legacy Court, Unit #49  
Winterville, NC 28590-1229  
484-356-4197  
byesc01@gmail.com

### '12

Hello class of 2012! Two of our classmates, **Annie Golovcsenko** and **Richard Aime** were married September 7, 2024 in the presence of many Gettysburg alums, including **Brian Engelsma**, David Dalton '15, **Caleb Sisak**, **Trevor Kerstetter**, **Liz Heisler**, **Christian Neumann**, Katie Miller '14, **Carolyn Donohu**, **Tyler Geer**, **Kerry Cunningham**, **Amanda Miller**, **Richard Aime**, **Annie Golovcsenko**, **Chrissie Walker**, **Margaret Neptune**, **Emily Lefler**, Alyssa Cecchetelli '11, **Melissa Aylesworth**, **Sam Torok**, **Christa Schachner**, **Sarah McDevitt**, **Martha Slenker**, **Andrew Ferreira**. In other happy news, **Andrew Mearns** and his wife, Ali, welcomed a son, George Brian Mearns on February 20th. They are happily adjusting to life as a family of three at home in Ellicott City, Md.

**Taylor Plank**  
130 Mine Road  
Hershey, PA 17033  
taylorplank@yahoo.com

### '13

**Rebekah (Oakes) Ryer** and Benjamin Ryer welcomed Oliver Ulysses Ryer on February 12, 2025. **Shane Swink** started a job as a pediatric dermatologist at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Dermatology at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Finally, I share my exciting news that we welcomed a baby boy, Nikhil Kumar Gilmore, on December 7, 2024. Have a wonderful summer, Class of 2013!

**Kavya Kumar**  
382 Central Park West, 10F  
New York, NY 10025  
kumarkavya01@gmail.com

### '14

I am overjoyed to announce the birth of my first son! On November 13, 2024, Cameron Smith '15 and I welcomed Beaumont Cameron Smith into our family, bringing so much love and joy. Cameron and I met at Gettysburg in 2012 and now our journey together has led us to this beautiful new chapter. We can't wait to see the world through his eyes and show him where we met one day!

**Christianna Jo (Evans) Smith**  
2031 Bainbridge Street  
1101 Drexel Avenue  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026  
610-960-4782  
Jo.evans29@gmail.com

### '15

**Morgan (Marianelli) Allen** and husband Jonathan Allen (Haverford College '14) welcomed their first child, Bryan, on December 19, 2024. Bryan is a happy, healthy baby boy and Mom and Dad are overjoyed with their Christmas miracle! They look forward to their first campus visit as a family.

**Jesse DeMartino**  
500 E. 77th Street  
New York, NY 10162  
908-418-8794  
jdemartino24@gmail.com

### '16

**Lindsey Gieger**  
Boston, MA  
862-222-4978  
lindseygieger@gmail.com

### '17

**Brooke Gutschick**  
300 N. Washington Street, Box 430  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
301-310-6135  
brooke.m.gutschick@gmail.com

 [Gettysburg College Class of 2017](#)

### '18

**Andrea Near**  
6734 Montgomery Road  
Elkridge, MD 21075  
443-340-3240  
nearan01@gettysburg.edu

### '19

**Rebecca Campo**  
3036 Ellenwood Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22031  
484-354-3964  
rebeccapcampo@gmail.com

 [Gettysburg College Class of 2019](#)

## 2020

Hi everyone! There are a few exciting things to report since our last update. **Lindsey Ukishima** and **Meaghan Adler** were married in October 2024. **Bethany Miller** and Matthew Simmers '21 were



married on November 24, 2024. **Katie Kratz** and her husband welcomed a baby girl in February 2025. **Claire Woodward** successfully defended her PhD in Biochemistry, Biophysics, & Chemical Biology at U of Pennsylvania. **Darby Nisbett** was promoted from an Archivist Trainee to an Archivist 2, the Search Room Coordinator, and the Deputy Director of the Reference Department at the Maryland State Archives. Please continue to send in your updates!

**Libby Walker**  
905 Lilac Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
401-528-9113  
libby.walker1@gmail.com

 **Gettysburg College Class of 2020**

'21

**Grace Torrance**  
2201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22201  
717-682-3807  
gftorrance@gmail.com

'22

**Phoebe Doscher**  
203-560-4989  
phoebedoscher@gmail.com

 **Gettysburg College Class of 2022**

'23

Dear Class of 2023, it's very hard to believe that it's already been two years since we walked through Penn Hall for the final time and earned our diplomas! For many of us who pursued a Master's degree, including myself, these two years have flown past! It is crazy to think that we will be earning a second degree to complement the one we received from Gettysburg! Many other members of the Class of 2023 have entered the workforce or are pursuing a longer graduate degree, making Gettysburg's fine name proud wherever we may be and whatever we may be doing. On a personal level, the past couple of years

have been a whirlwind filled with many personal challenges and accomplishments. This May, I earned my MA in Public History from West Virginia University, and, starting in August, I will be attending the PhD in History program at Texas A&M. I will be studying American diplomatic history at TAMU, focusing on the American-Israeli relationship during the Cold War. I aspire to be as impactful of a professor as the ones at Gettysburg who inspired us all to be better students, intellectuals, and citizens. This summer, I will be serving as a park ranger with the National Park Service, working at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial in Put-In-Bay, Ohio. If any Gettysburgians are in the area before I leave in early August, please come, say hello, and stay for one of my ranger programs! I want to hear from more of you before the next Class Notes column is due so that I won't have to talk about myself for the entire time! Please don't reach out just for class notes updates—if there's anything at all I can do for you either personally or professionally, please let me know. The Gettysburg network is something that I always appreciated when I was a student, and now that I am a part of it, I am very excited to do what I can to help both students and my fellow alumni if possible! My email is ziv@carmi.us, and it is always open to my fellow Gettysburgians, regardless of what class you are or how frequently our paths crossed (or didn't cross) while we were on campus. Wishing you all the very best, and, as always, GO BULLETS!

**Ziv Carmi**  
ziv@carmi.us

'24

Happy summer, and I am hoping this year has met you all with happiness and prosperity. In my previous note, I shared some personal memories of my recent travels to campus. In writing today's note, I was met with similar excitement reflecting on a recent trip to Gettysburg I made this past spring to catch up with some old friends. Additionally, I am met with a heavy heart and fervor to extend celebrations on behalf of our class to the

Class of 2025. Like many of you, I was thankful to be able to make it to Commencement this year. It was great to see many familiar faces cheering on the Class of 2025 outside Penn Hall. In the spirit of our class honoring these recent graduates, I wanted to extend a couple of announcements to share more about the Class of 2025 and their post-Gettysburg plans: Carl DeMarco '25 will be attending the University of Florida, Gainesville, as a Ph.D. candidate in political science. Olivia Taylor '25 will be joining Public Opinion Strategies as a research analyst. On behalf of the Class of 2024, congratulations, Class of 2025. As Gettysburg graduates, always maintain an unwavering belief in your convictions in pursuit of goals, even in the face of adversity. In trying to share some perspective on this cheerful occasion, I was reminded of a man who was no stranger to Gettysburg. As President Lincoln eloquently shared with us in his speech at Springfield in 1839, "Let none falter, who thinks he is right, and we may succeed." Very Truly Yours, Drew Lemon

**Drew Lemon**  
drewlemon0@gmail.com

## CLASS NOTES CORRESPONDENTS' DEADLINES

10/15 for Winter  
4/8 for Summer

*Disclaimer: All class notes are compiled by class correspondents, who are responsible for confirming the accuracy of the information submitted to GETTYSBURG College Magazine.*



# CLASS PHOTOS

**1** 1974 alumnae. Back Row: Alison Raab Ruth, Nan Messinger Lansinger, Carol Ruck Leach, Barb Turner White, Donna Tremble Leitch. Front Row: Carolyn Hand McGarvie, Ann Roberts, Holly Parker Monihan

**2** Annie Golovcsenko '12 and Richard Aime '12 were married September 7, 2024, in the presence of many Gettysburg alums! Pictured from left to right: Brian Engelsma '12, David Dalton '15, Caleb Sisak '12, Trevor Kerstetter '12, Liz Heisler '12, Christian Neumann '12, Katie Miller '14, Carolyn Donohu '12, Tyler Geer '12, Kerry Cunningham '12, Amanda Miller '12, Richard Aime '12, Annie Golovcsenko '12, Chrissie Walker '12, Margaret Neptune '12, Emily Lefler '12, Alyssa Cecchetelli '11, Melissa Aylesworth '12, Sam Torok '12, Christa Schachner '12, Sarah McDevitt '12, Martha Slenker '12, Andrew Ferreira '12.

**3** After a year of travel, Sara Harenchar Levinson '09 moved to Durham, North Carolina, where she purchased a home in April! Her classmate and dear friend, Jason Parker '09, was her real estate agent.

**4** Andrew Mearns '12 and his wife, Ali, welcomed a son, George Brian Mearns, on February 20.

**5** Left to Right: Angela Carbone Sontheimer '90, Andrew Burd '17, Maggie DeBell '18, Mary Kring Carbone '96, and Chris Carbone '94. Pictured on the Isle of Kerrera in Oban, Scotland, where they went for a family wedding in June.



1



2



5



4



3



# IN MEMORIAM

ALL DATES ARE 2024 UNLESS NOTED

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>1940</b> Mary Croft Holtzapple, March 30</p> <p><b>'46</b> John M. Aurand, Jan. 8<br/>George E. Shepherd, Oct. 30</p> <p><b>'49</b> Patricia Hoover West, Jan. 5</p> <p><b>'50</b> Betty Phleger Bell, March 20<br/>John A. Leeti, Nov. 16<br/>Claude P. Swartzbaugh Jr., Jan. 17</p> <p><b>'52</b> Kenneth J. Andrews, Jan. 25<br/>Elwood E. Hauver, Feb. 1<br/>Fred B. Hoenniger, Nov. 22</p> <p><b>'53</b> Harry F. Hamer Jr., Nov. 4</p> <p><b>'54</b> Alan G. Comery, Jan. 9<br/>Louise Walsh Larsen, Jan. 14<br/>Lovelie Rambo Lovell, Dec. 24<br/>Samuel R. Mowery, Dec. 20</p> <p><b>'55</b> Richard C. Baker, Jan. 11<br/>Edwin T. Ferren III, Nov. 6<br/>James B. Lau Jr., March 4<br/>Barbara Alling Spire, Feb. 20</p> <p><b>'56</b> Rudolph R. Featherstone, Nov. 8<br/>John W. McGaughy, Jan. 22<br/>Charles M. Nash, Feb. 6</p> <p><b>'57</b> Charles L. Bieler, Nov. 7<br/>Stuart R. Carswell, Jan. 14<br/>Donald A. Eifert, Dec. 21<br/>Fred S. Foerster, Dec. 31<br/>Jacqueline Jury, Dec. 13<br/>T. Phelps Pennington, Dec. 27<br/>Walter H. Wagner, Jan. 17</p> <p><b>'58</b> Karl E. Johnson, Oct. 30</p> <p><b>'59</b> Carl C. Bohner, Dec. 19<br/>Errol M. Clauss, March 26<br/>Frank E. Grzelecki, Nov. 29<br/>Kenneth D. Manning, Jan. 4</p> | <p><b>'60</b> Roger S. Crump Sr., Dec. 16</p> <p><b>'61</b> Diane L. Esterly, Dec. 5<br/>B. Paul Montgomery, March 7<br/>Clayton P. Reaser, March 8</p> <p><b>'62</b> Terry H. Hake, Nov. 15<br/>William S. Herb, Nov. 19<br/>Kerry A. Johnson, March 16<br/>James M. White, Nov. 29</p> <p><b>'63</b> Walter J. Davis, March 3<br/>Gary L. McAnish, Jan. 20<br/>Jerry B. Robertson, Jan. 12</p> <p><b>'64</b> Marlene M. Clements, Dec. 2<br/>Alice Kolz Davis, Jan. 1<br/>C. Frederick Eichner, Feb. 6<br/>William H. Engel, Jan. 26<br/>Steven Fox, Nov. 25<br/>Frank B. Geddes, Dec. 25<br/>Jean Rittershausen Livingston,<br/>Nov. 5<br/>Mary Ann Test, Jan. 31</p> <p><b>'65</b> Timothy M. Barnes, Dec. 15<br/>Pamela J. Bennett, Jan. 27<br/>James H. Honafius, Jan. 12<br/>Raymond E. Menges Jr., Nov. 25<br/>Barton W. Olinger, July 30<br/>Penn Rhodeen, Dec. 22<br/>Carole H. Williams, Feb. 17</p> <p><b>'66</b> William C. Hunger Jr., March 23<br/>Patricia Sherman Kaplan, Dec. 20</p> <p><b>'67</b> William H. Triplett Jr., Dec. 6</p> <p><b>'68</b> Jill R. Grickis, March 5<br/>Beth Cromie Howlett, Feb. 25<br/>Michael A. Pounder, Feb. 25<br/>John M. Serena, Nov. 8<br/>Gary H. Strathearn, Jan. 22</p> | <p><b>'69</b> Wayne T. Kosmerl, Nov. 8</p> <p><b>'71</b> Bruce W. Davenport, Dec. 31<br/>Drew C. Salling, Nov. 18</p> <p><b>'72</b> Harry C. Middleton IV, Jan. 2</p> <p><b>'74</b> Barbara White McNerney,<br/>March 6<br/>Robert R. Neilson Jr., Jan. 20</p> <p><b>'75</b> Mark W. Wlaz, Dec. 6</p> <p><b>'76</b> Wayne Hasenbalg, March 29</p> <p><b>'78</b> Carol Talley Burger, Oct. 18</p> <p><b>'79</b> Sondra A. Dimond, Jan. 9<br/>Margaret Allen Nelson, Dec. 2<br/>Jeffrey K. Pearson, Aug. 4</p> <p><b>'81</b> James M. Whitehouse, Jan. 17</p> <p><b>'83</b> Linda Asterino Meader, Feb. 17</p> <p><b>'89</b> Jeffrey S. Jerue, Dec. 18</p> <p><b>'90</b> Jennifer Ely Nemecek, Oct. 21</p> <p><b>'92</b> Eric Wolff, Jan. 27</p> <p><b>2001</b> Jeffrey M. Walker, Nov. 24</p> <p><b>'06</b> Gregory N. Grove, Nov. 13<br/>Matthew A. Wickman, Nov. 17</p> <p><b>'08</b> Benjamin A. Smith, March 9</p> |
|---|---|---|

## RETIRED STAFF

Robert B. Kenworthy '59, Jan. 27, 2025

## RETIRED FACULTY

Janis H. Weaner, Nov. 30, 2023

## \*Correction from Winter 2025 issue:

1993 - Christopher M. Pickens was incorrectly listed as Chris M. Marshall



BEHIND THE SCENES

## WITH A GETTYSBURG GREAT

HOW ADVENTURE IS A COMPASS FOR TECHNOLOGY  
CONSULTING MANAGER *PHOEBE DO '17*

*by Michael Vyskocil*





**WHETHER CONDUCTING INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS IN EUROPE AND ASIA, TOURING EGYPT ON A PHOTOJOURNALISM EXPEDITION, OR IMPLEMENTING A PROJECT FOR PEACE INITIATIVE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, PHOEBE DO '17 HAS NAVIGATED THE WORLD THROUGH ADVENTURE.**

Since graduating from Gettysburg College, Do's career path has taken her from social entrepreneurship to management consulting for global firms such as Deloitte and Method, a digital transformation unit of Hitachi.

Do's fearless curiosity has led to a restless desire to challenge herself. Do cultivated this quality when she created Gettysburg's first Burgburst in 2014 with support from *Aimee Bosman '18*. For the last 10 years, Burgburst has become a tradition bringing the Gettysburg community together to celebrate international cultures through food, music, spoken word, and dance performances.

Discover how Do, a mathematical economics and globalization studies major from Vietnam, leverages the knowledge and skills she gained at Gettysburg to create a life of consequence.

**GETTYSBURG COLLEGE MAGAZINE:** *Why did you decide to attend Gettysburg College?*

**PHOEBE DO '17:** My mom earned a rare opportunity to study in France as a medical professional during the

challenging years of post-war recovery in Vietnam. She developed a vision for me to study English and get out to see the bigger world, which led to me coming to the United States and Gettysburg College from Vietnam. It changed the trajectory of my life. As an 18-year-old, I didn't know what I was getting myself into, but Gettysburg provided a great environment. Professors encouraged me in my journey. I received support from the College community. I feel like I came into myself through studying abroad in Shanghai and Cairo.

**GCM:** *How did your Gettysburg education prepare you for your career?*

**PD:** Gettysburg College provided me with great skillsets and experiences that have been instrumental in launching my career and continue serving as a nurturing ground for my growth.

Quantitative training in economics and research experience with Economics *Prof. James O'Brien* laid the foundation for a strong set of core competencies that I've applied in my professional and personal life.

Open-mindedness, the deep comfort in the existence of conflicting realities and perspectives to one given matter, and the ability to integrate the diversity of thought are qualities I practiced through my globalization studies education. I learned about confidence, comfort with ambiguity, and optimism that risks can lead to learning and positive disruption through two study-abroad journeys and various co-curricular activities in the United States and internationally in college.

Each of these areas has shaped my career at Deloitte as a management consultant and at Method/Hitachi as a product manager. Both are not one-track straightforward paths; they are very much an adventure every day. They require someone with not only a strong technical foundation but also a generalist with lots of experience and perspectives—and, on top of that, a can-do attitude.



*Phoebe Do '17 introduces the "flag walk" at Gettysburg's Burgburst celebration in 2024.*

**GCM:** *How does your experience organizing the first Burgburst continue to support you today?*

**PD:** Organizing Burgburst for the first time gave me the opportunity to test a lot of different ideas. It built this resilience and confidence that, if you put yourself into something, you lift the vision and build what your mind thinks you can do.

In my career now as a consultant, I feel like there's that mental power: "You're going to build something. That's your vision. Go with it." My hope is to build a legacy of my own, whether it's in the form of a business or nonprofit organization.

I still always think back to Burgburst—if I could do that at 19, maybe I can do something just as great when I'm older! **G**



## ROBERT B. KENWORTHY '59

If there was a Mount Rushmore of Gettysburg College athletics, **Robert "Bob" Kenworthy '59** would be on it. For more than four decades, Kenworthy served as our sports information director and assistant public relations director, promoting our sports teams and placing our student-athletes and coaches in the national spotlight.

On Jan. 27 Kenworthy's incredible life of service and commitment to the community concluded at Gettysburg Hospital. He was 89 years old.



Born in Norwalk, Connecticut, on Sept. 28, 1935, Kenworthy spent most of his life in Adams County, graduating from Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown and attending Gettysburg College. In 1948, he contracted polio, which impacted his mobility for the rest of his life. Kenworthy never let life's circumstances slow him down, and he quickly became a staple in the local high school and college sports scenes. He began covering the local action with the Gettysburg Times while

still in high school, and starting in 1950, hosted a morning sports show on radio station WGET. He also served as a play-by-play announcer for local high school and college football games.

In 1959, Kenworthy was named Gettysburg's first full-time sports information director, serving in that position until his retirement in 1999. During his tenure, he worked side-by-side with **Henry "Hen" Bream, Class of 1924, P'57; Gene Haas '43, P'68, P'74, P'76, GP'04; Geno Hummel '49;** Grace Kenney; Lois Bowers; and many others to help the Bullets athletics program grow into a national contender.

While in the role, Gettysburg athletics expanded from 13 to 23 teams, became a member of NCAA Division III, and joined the Centennial Conference. Kenworthy's tenure ran to the start of the digital age, with his meticulous record-keeping serving as the foundation for the expansive archives found on our athletics website today.

Kenworthy's impact extended well beyond campus. He was deeply involved with the growth of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), an organization dedicated to developing and empowering athletics communications professionals. He received CoSIDA's 25-Year Award in 1985 and the Warren Berg Award as the college division's top SID in 1989. He was inducted into the CoSIDA Hall of Fame in 1990 and received the organization's Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999. Kenworthy was also a member of the Adams County and South Central chapters of the Pennsylvania Hall of Fames, the Gettysburg College Hall of Athletic Honor, and the Delone Catholic Hall of Honor. In 2012, he was among the inaugural class of the Middle Atlantic Conference Hall of Fame.

Kenworthy served on the boards of the Chamber of Gettysburg & Adams County, College-Community Relations

and Gettysburg Recreation Board; was a former president of the Gettysburg Little League; and served on the St. Francis Xavier Parish Council and Delone Catholic High School Board of Directors. Following his retirement from the College, both CoSIDA and the ECAC-SIDA named their community service awards in his honor.

Kenworthy is survived by his wife of 63 years, Margaret (Redding) Kenworthy; his children, Stephanie Justen (Keith), R. Bradley (Kim), Christopher (Jeanne), and Andrew; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his brother, Wayne Kenworthy of Hanover, Pennsylvania.

To honor Kenworthy's legacy, his family has requested memorial contributions be made to the Orange and Blue Club, Delone Catholic High School, or St. Francis Xavier School.

by *Corey Jewart*

## EDWARD JAMES (JIM) MORTON

Gettysburg College Trustee Emeritus **Edward James Morton** of Boston, Massachusetts, died March 11 at age 98. Jim served on the College's Board of Trustees from 1990 to 2002. He continued to be actively involved at Gettysburg philanthropically and as a volunteer for several years after he completed his term of service to the Board.

Trustee Emeritus **Bruce Stefany '71** served concurrent terms with Jim on the College's Board of Trustees for eight years. He recalled Gettysburg alum legend **Ed Johnson '61** recruiting Jim to serve on the Board.

"While there are others with whom I probably served longer, Jim's distinction was being one of the first trustees who have served on the Board who was not a Gettysburg alum or a parent," Stefany said. "Jim got the Board to begin to



pursue an expansive consideration, invigoration, and subsequent actions that allowed Gettysburg to move to a nationally ranked liberal arts college. He was constructive in his input in general Board comments and selective due to his actuarial insurance background.”

Jim was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1926 and attended public school in the community. Following his military service in World War II, Jim was awarded a scholarship to Yale University in 1944. At Yale, he became one of 10 men in his class elected to Phi Beta Kappa during their junior year.

After graduating from Yale, Jim began his career in the insurance business. He joined the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company as an actuarial student. Forty-two years later, he retired as the firm’s CEO and chairman of the board.

In addition to his service to the Gettysburg College Board of Trustees, Jim was active in the Boston community as a trustee of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston Children’s Hospital Medical Center, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. He was also a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries.

Jim is survived by his wife of 39 years, Mathtild Schneider; three daughters, Anne August, Katherine Morton, and Marcia Sudlow; two grandchildren; one great-grandson; and many members of his Gettysburg College family.

*by Michael Vyskocil*

## **MARGARET H. BLANCHARD CURTIS ’52**

*Margaret H. Blanchard Curtis ’52* died on Friday, May 9, at SpiriTrust Lutheran, The Village at Gettysburg. She was 94.

Born on May 1, 1931, in Washington, D.C., Margaret was the daughter of the late Ernest and Harriet McCurdy Blanchard.

Margaret graduated from Ramsey High School in Ramsey, New Jersey.

After graduating from Gettysburg College, Margaret returned to Ramsey, where she worked for 32 years as a development microbiologist for Lederle Laboratories, the predecessor of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. In 1984, Margaret married Dr. Robert E. Curtis. Her husband predeceased her in 2000.



Upon her return from Ramsey to Gettysburg, Margaret devoted time to supporting her alma mater. She served as a member of the Board of Fellows at Gettysburg College from 1973 to 1979 and later as a trustee from 1979 until 1991. During the 45th Reunion for the Class of 1952 in 1997, Margaret received the Meritorious Service Award from Gettysburg College’s Alumni Association. In 2002, Margaret was awarded the Lavern H. Brenneman ’36 Award for Exemplary Service to Gettysburg College.

Margaret established The Margaret Blanchard Curtis ’52 Scholarship Fund in 2015 and was recognized that year as a Visionary Gettysburgian in appreciation of her philanthropy to Gettysburg.

In June 2022, Margaret represented the Class of 1952 as the “most senior” alumna in attendance during Reunion Weekend.

She was recognized as the sole member of Gettysburg College’s 70th Reunion class and received a standing ovation from hundreds of alums attending a recognition ceremony in the CUB Ballroom.

Margaret was a loyal contributor to this magazine. Over the years, she faithfully collected and shared news from her classmates near and far as a Class Notes correspondent for the Class of 1952.

In addition to her service to Gettysburg College, Margaret was active in the life of her Gettysburg community. She volunteered at the Friends of the Library Store for the Adams County Library System and the YWCA Gettysburg & Adams County, where she taught an aerobics class for 25 years. Margaret also served on several committees for the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church.

Margaret is survived by her three stepsons, Allan E. Curtis and his wife Hazel of Chittenango, New York; Gary R. Curtis and his wife Lisa of England; and William B. Curtis and his wife Mary Ellen of Towson, Maryland. She is survived by four step-grandchildren, six step-great-grandchildren, and four step-great-great grandchildren, as well as her siblings, a brother, David Blanchard of Hingham, Massachusetts, and two sisters, Jane Shapley of Malahat, British Columbia, Canada, and Irene Blanchard of LaConner, Washington. She was predeceased by her sister Ann McCurdy Blanchard Bovbjerg.

A celebration of life for Margaret will take place at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Gettysburg College or Gettysburg Presbyterian Church, 208 Baltimore St., Gettysburg, PA 17325.

*by Michael Vyskocil*



# HOW GETTYSBURG COLLEGE HELPED SHAPE MY CAREER

by Jim Sweeney '80

**F**orty-five years ago, on the morning of my graduation, I stood in Pennsylvania Hall and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Army. That day, I had no idea what the journey I was embarking on would bring. All I had were goals and dreams and the knowledge and hope that between my Gettysburg experience and life up to that point that I was prepared. I knew going forward it would be important to listen, keep an open mind, and ask a lot of questions.

While growing up along the New Jersey shore, I played sports and always held various jobs throughout high school and college. I worked in construction, at a car wash, as a beach cop, in my fraternity house, in an apple orchard, and, yes, even in a nightgown factory. Between those jobs, some student loans, and ROTC, I paid my way through college.

As a student, I was an economics major, participated in ROTC, attended Airborne School, served on the Honor Commission, and joined Sigma Chi.

I loved math and science and had an interest in history, world events, and politics. I strongly believe that to know where we want to go as a society, we need to know where we have been and learn from the past. I often found historical figures—like Abraham Lincoln, who fought to preserve and keep a dream alive—and many others who inspired me and set examples for how I might one day handle a situation. I drew strength from their experiences and learned the qualities and traits of their leadership.

I also met Ann, my wife and best friend of 47 years, here. She allowed me the opportunity to pursue my career while

raising a family with three kids and soon to be six grandkids.

As my career developed, I often thought back to those formative years and began to appreciate the many men and women who played a role in mentoring and guiding me. Some were teachers and coaches who saw something in me and challenged me to achieve more. They include Gettysburg College Dean *Frank B. Williams*, English Prof. and track coach Mr. Bruce Held, and my ROTC instructor, CSM Clifford Fuller. Others were during my career, including Maj. Wayne Murphy and Mr. Richard Sandberg. They were true mentors who taught me how to critically think, the value of team cohesion, humility, and to choose the harder right.




After graduation, I went on active duty in the U.S. Army as a Corps of Engineers officer, leading soldiers and managing construction projects. I was a second lieutenant helping build the Boy Scout Jamboree Camp, a company commander

of 250 soldiers, and a captain in the role of liaison to the New York District Corps of Engineers Office working on the renovation of the existing World War II barracks and facilities, the latter in support of the reactivation of the 10th Mountain Division. In all, it was an impactful and formidable experience for me. However, I then made the difficult choice to leave the Army and start my business career.

I began my journey in health care, leading to roles from sales all the way to CEO with DIANON Systems, Neuromedical Systems, Modis, Poplar Healthcare, and PathAI. Along the way, I helped launch a bladder cancer detection test, introduced digital cytology and histology scanning and AI systems, and was CEO during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Every step throughout my career has been a building block. I will soon be 67, and as I always tell people, I still don't know what I want to be when I grow up. That's because I went to a school like Gettysburg to learn how to learn. I was also never afraid to accept challenges and learned from my failings as much if not more than from my successes.

To my fellow Gettysburgians, here are a few of my life's key lessons—money follows success; success doesn't follow money. Do what is in your heart and best for your career, and don't chase the almighty dollar—money will follow. Lead by example, have humility, and inspire others. Be cautious in the best of times and optimistic in the worst—and remember to pay it forward.

Leadership is within you—you just need opportunities to bring it out. 



# Homecoming & BOLD Weekend



**October 3-5, 2025**

We are excited to welcome you back to campus this fall! Homecoming Weekend is right around the corner, and we hope you will celebrate with us. Visit [www.gettysburg.edu/homecoming](http://www.gettysburg.edu/homecoming) to see a full schedule of events and to register.

## **BOLD ALUMNI**

All young alumni from 2015–2025 are invited back to Homecoming and BOLD Weekend. Join your classmates, meet new friends, and reconnect with faculty and staff at campus events!

Questions? Contact the Office of Alumni Engagement & Annual Giving at [alumni@gettysburg.edu](mailto:alumni@gettysburg.edu) or 717-337-6518.

- **5<sup>TH</sup> REUNION** FOR CLASS OF 2020
- **10<sup>TH</sup> REUNION** FOR CLASS OF 2015
- **HALL OF ATHLETIC HONOR INDUCTION**

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# Gettysburg College

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