

BRADLEY

THE MAGAZINE OF BRADLEY UNIVERSITY | SPRING 2024



New Look

*Spring
Issue*



Senior mechanical engineering students in the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) at Bradley built a formula race car to compete in the Formula SAE competition at the Michigan International Speedway in May. Pictured clockwise from the top right: **Jordan Tatgenhorst**, **Jradon Smith**, **James Perozzi** and **Liam Hughes**.





Danielle Shields Photography

25 PIVOTING WITH PURPOSE

Vannesia Darby '12 made a trailblazing career shift that landed her in the heart of the production company Shondaland.

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Toni Tejeda '46 turned an early interest in language and education into a lasting legacy she and her parents can be proud of.

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35 NASA AND BRADLEY HONOR ROBERT HENRY LAWRENCE JR.

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Former faculty members Mike and Peggy Lane took their love of learning and travel and created a legacy gift for future Bradley students.

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Welcome

to the new edition of *Bradley* magazine!

I know it isn't what you were expecting, but I sure hope you love the new format as much as we do. After reviewing all the responses to the reader survey included in the last issue, it's apparent most of you—90%—prefer a print edition of *Bradley* magazine, and the majority of respondents would like to receive it at least twice a year.

In an effort to maintain a biannual print edition, we have found a fiscally sustainable way to continue delivering quality content to our readers in this slimmed-down, fun-sized format. In fact, we were able to add pages to cover more news on campus (something most of you asked for).

On pages 11 & 12, we've compiled the results of the survey, along with some of the commentary provided—both good and bad. Thank you to those who took the time to let us know how we're doing and ways we can improve *Bradley* magazine.

In this issue we have a lot to celebrate. On Founder's Day we recognized extraordinary alumni and friends of Bradley, as well as faculty and staff who go the extra mile serving students and their peers. Vannesia Darby '12, who received Bradley's Outstanding Young Graduate Award, is also a featured player this issue, where she shares how a single message changed the trajectory of her career.

Class of '46 grad, Toni Tejada, just celebrated her 100th birthday! One of seven children from Mexican immigrants—five of whom attended Bradley University—her story is one of resilience and perseverance, aided by unwavering support from her parents. She's now honoring her parents' memory through the establishment of a Bradley student scholarship program in their names.

Dennis Ritchie '94 leads a new policy and strategy division for Goodwill in Kentucky to help those down on their luck get a second chance—something he's intimately familiar with.

And finally, Dawn Garcia '82, fondly recalls her memories as a geology student working in the lab in the basement of Bradley Hall.



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Here's the Latest Online

bradley.edu/heres-the-latest



CREATIVITY, COLLABORATION, CRAFT: MAKING MUSIC FOR VIDEO GAMES

One of Bradley's newest majors, Music for Video Games, offers music students new career options in the gaming industry. Three students show off their remarkable capabilities.



LONDON CALLING ... FOR SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES

Students and professors from the Foster College of Business and the Caterpillar College of Engineering and Technology joined in London for the first study abroad convergence course on sustainability.



FINDING HOME HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD

The International Students Association offers guidance and hope for students new to this country to assimilate and achieve their full potential at Bradley.



MY JOURNEY TO BRADLEY

Junior Stephanie Bridgeman-McClaskey has taken a non-traditional route to Bradley, but she wouldn't have it any other way.



REVVED AND READY

A team of eight Bradley students from the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) are building a Formula racecar and competing against 119 other universities in the Formula SAE student competition at the Michigan International Speedway. See the "Big Picture" on pages 1 and 2.

the
BIG
QUESTION

What do you think of the new format of *Bradley* magazine?

In Memoriam

DR. LORI ANN RUSSELL-CHAPIN

NOV. 7, 1951 – MARCH 13, 2024

Dr. Lori Ann Russell-Chapin dedicated her life to uniting the wonders of the heart and the powers of the mind. As the chairperson and associate dean of the College of Education and Health Sciences and co-director of the Center for Collaborative Brain Research, it is an understatement to say Russell-Chapin was an integral part of Bradley's academic community. In her nearly 40-year career with Bradley University, she has had a lasting impact on generations of students and colleagues, serving as a mentor, friend, and inspiration to many.



Her passion and devotion to counseling, education, research, and neurocounseling made her a natural teacher and gifted healer. During her tenure at Bradley University, Russell-Chapin earned many accolades, including the American Mental Health Counseling Association's Counselor of the Year, the American Counseling Association's Trailblazer Award, the Burlington Northern Foundation Jr. Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching, the Rothberg Award for Professional Excellence in Research, the Putnam Award for Excellence in Teaching, a Caterpillar Professorship and being named an American Counseling Association Fellow.

Perhaps her most outstanding and enduring achievements are the countless individuals impacted and helped by those she taught to be professional counselors. Russell-Chapin's spirit lives on in all of us lucky enough to have known her.

According to her colleague, Professor Emerita Dr. Nancy Sherman, Russell-Chapin was a mentor and cherished friend. "With her mentorship, I became the best professional counselor educator I could be. As chair and associate dean, she established the counseling department's accreditation, online program, and development into a nationally recognized program."

Russell-Chapin used the following quote in her signature from Nikosi Johnson, a 12-year-old AIDS advocate in South Africa, describing how she approached life, love and work:

Do all you can with what you have in the time you have in the place you are.

She is survived by her husband Ted, daughter Elissa and her partner Adam Morris, son Jamieson and his wife Jody (Vance), and their four daughters, Shelby, Mackenzie, Haylee and Ryleigh.

Her memory may be honored by supporting professional counseling students through her endowed scholarship at Bradley University. Gifts may be made to the "Drs. Lori Russell-Chapin and Theodore Chapin Endowed Award for Neurocounseling at Bradley University."

Founder's Day recognizes and celebrates university staff, faculty, alumni and others who have carried on the traditions of Lydia Moss Bradley.

These awards honor their excellence and success for various achievements both on and off campus.



2023 CENTURION SOCIETY INDUCTEES

Tami L. Lane '96

is a special effects and make-up professional who has brought characters to life in more than 25 films and television shows. She has won several industry awards, including an Academy Award for her work on *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

Wayne G. Klasing '64

has been a successful business leader and generous philanthropist for over 50 years. Since retiring in 2012, he has provided professional guidance to several organizations, served as chair of the Engineering & Technology Executive Advisory Council for the Caterpillar College of Engineering and on the Board of Trustees.

Joan E. Janssen '69

has dedicated herself to her family and community. She has been a prolific volunteer, civic leader and inspirational supporter of Bradley University for more than 50 years.

2023 Alumni Awards

Distinguished Alumni Award

Joan E. Janssen '69

Lydia Moss Bradley Award

Kathy Ma

Outstanding Young Graduate Award

Vannesia Darby '12

Read more about Darby's exciting career on page 18

2023 Faculty Awards

Francis C. Mergen Memorial Award for Public Service

Michelle Nielsen-Ott

Assistant Professor, Sciences Health Sciences Librarian

Academic Advisor of the Year

Heidi Rottier

Instructor of Marketing

First-Year Faculty Award

Dr. Priscilla Charrat Nelson

Department of World Languages and Cultures

Putnam Award for Excellence in Teaching

Dr. Kerrie Schattler

Professor of Civil Engineering

Caterpillar Faculty Achievement Award for Scholarship

Dr. Cory Barker

Assistant Professor of Journalism

Caterpillar Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching

Dr. David Dominguese

Associate Professor of Physical Therapy

Samuel Rothberg Professional Excellence Award

Dr. Dean Campbell

Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Theodore C. Burgess Award recognizes excellence in collaboration between departments

Interactive Media, Theatre Arts, and Mechanical Engineering departments collaborated for the experiential-learning-based excursion to Las Vegas to study and work behind the scenes with Cirque du Soleil and TAIT.

Tired of paper clutter?

Love reading Bradley magazine but don't want to read a print copy? You can reduce the clutter by going digital!

Our online edition allows you to connect anywhere, anytime, with an easy-to-read format that works on your phone, tablet, laptop or desktop.



Check it out at bradley.edu/magazine



Digital Access for All

Bradley partnered with T-Mobile to establish a student-centric, digitally connected campus, powered by T-Mobile's 5G Advanced Network Solutions (ANS). In Fall 2024, as part of this multi-year collaboration, students, full-time faculty, and many student-facing staff will receive iPads (10th generation), along with a Bradley-branded keyboard case and an unlimited T-Mobile data plan with hotspot capabilities providing access anywhere, any time.

T-Mobile's 5G ANS allows Bradley to utilize a hybrid mobile network that provides faster speeds, lower latency and dedicated reliability to enrich

Bradley's learning environment and create an ecosystem supportive of academic and operational innovation.

"We are honored that T-Mobile sees Bradley University as the campus to launch this flagship educational experience," said Bradley President, Stephen Standifird. "We are confident that by providing students an iPad along with an unlimited T-Mobile data plan, Bradley can differentiate itself by advancing a true sense of community and belonging through equitable digital access that is unmatched by any other university in the nation."

WORK AREA AHEAD

Bradley Awarded \$14.8 million in Capital Grants

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) awarded Bradley an Independent Colleges Capital Investment Grant of more than \$14.8 million to fund two key campus projects.

Olin Hall laboratories will get a significant upgrade including renovated labs, classrooms, and equipment to enhance safety for faculty and the more than 2,500 students who utilize the labs each year, while improving the building's energy efficiency.

Williams Dining Hall will undergo a major renovation and new



Center for Cybersecurity Receives Prestigious Designation

The National Security Agency (NSA) and Department of Homeland Security have designated Bradley's Center for Cybersecurity as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense through the 2028 academic year.

This prestigious designation means that Bradley's curriculum meets the rigorous standards put forth by the NSA and Department of Defense in formulating effective cybersecurity education.



construction to provide significant additional dining room seating that will be fully ADA accessible, while providing a beautiful view of the campus.

The IBHE funds are part of \$400 million in grants, awarded in partnership with the Illinois Capital Development Board. The capital grants were awarded to 45 public and private higher education institutions in Illinois.

BETSY HULL

**NAMED NEW VP
FOR FINANCE AND
ADMINISTRATION**



Betsy Hull joined Bradley as the new vice president for Finance and Administration. She has dedicated more than two decades to various roles in higher education and non-profit finance. At Northern Illinois University she served as the NIU Foundation associate controller, as a director of budget and operations, business and finance director for Information Technologies and most recently, director of Strategic Initiatives and Innovative Practices. She is passionate about the higher education sector and its mission, vision and values, and we are excited to have her on campus.

Bradley's Rankings

Bradley University has made its mark on the prestigious U.S. News and World Report 2024 Best Colleges List. The university has secured multiple rankings in various categories on the annual list, released last fall.

Bradley's commitment to academic excellence, innovative programs and a supportive community has resulted in noteworthy placements on the 2024 Best Colleges list, in the *Princeton Review* and *Money Magazine*.

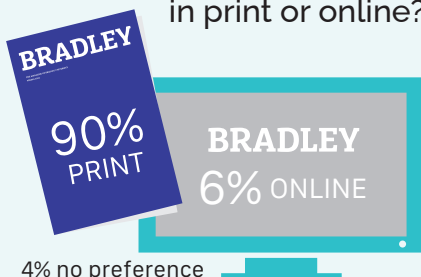


Best Value

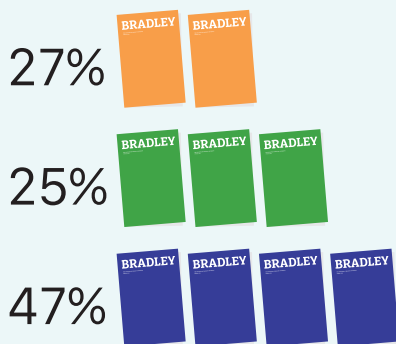
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Readers Respond

Do you prefer the magazine in print or online?



How many times a year do you think the magazine should be published?



What do you like?

- Selection of topics, success stories—total package is good product.
- The great variety of subjects! Diversity is so important today and Bradley magazine is an educational asset.
- I like the format. Easy to read. Great photography!



What do you dislike?

- Less left politically, more in the center
- Waste of money. Younger generations use online.
- Some articles are too long.
- I wish it came more frequently.



Mechanical Engineering and Undergraduate Engineering Programs

For schools not offering a doctorate

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

12TH

of the top 50

Undergrad Game Design

PRINCETON REVIEW

19TH

of the top 50

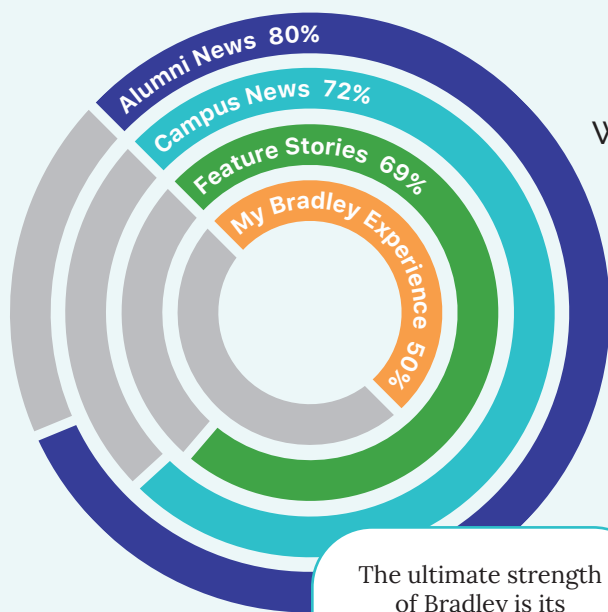
Best Private School for Internships

PRINCETON REVIEW

2024

Best Grad School for Engineering

MONEY MAGAZINE



What sections do you enjoy reading most?

I look forward to receiving it to keep me connected to Bradley.

The ultimate strength of Bradley is its engineering program. Let us know what graduates are doing and, oh yeah, feel free to include a heaping helping of stories about men.

Maybe Bradley should offer an online version, because after I read the magazine, I throw it away. Such a waste of printing and mailing time and cost.

The majority determines good or not. I am a conservative outnumbered by liberals. I prefer the least costly way.

A school as great as Bradley deserves a great print magazine. Keep up the super work.

What else should we know about Bradley magazine?

Bradley Students Offered Early Assurance Program to Medical School

Bradley University and the University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria (UICOMP) have joined forces to create the Early Assurance Program (EAP) for qualifying Bradley students. This program will allocate up to five seats to qualifying Bradley students each year. Strongest consideration is given to students who are Illinois residents with a permanent address in central or southern Illinois.

“The EAP is an opportunity for UICOMP to recruit medical students who have a local tie to the community,” said Jessica Hanks, MD, associate dean for academic affairs. “History tells us that students who have a connection to central Illinois and who complete medical education and training here are more likely to remain here to practice medicine.”



Women's Center



Kaleidoscope Center

Two New Support Spaces on Campus

This year, Bradley University's Office of Campus Culture and Climate opened two new identity spaces—The Women's Center, and The LGBTQ+ Kaleidoscope Center. Created and staffed by students, the spaces offer campus and community support inclusive to all, as well as a quiet respite for students to study and gather.



New Nursing Simulation Lab

A high-fidelity multi-patient nursing simulation lab opened in the Markin Family Student Recreation Center. This new \$850,000 simulation lab will allow Bradley nursing students to access the use of high-fidelity nursing manikins that will provide medically immersive, life-like simulated medical scenarios in a controlled environment. Experiential learning like this has proven to decrease adverse patient events, such as medication errors.

This investment will also allow Bradley University to provide nurse simulation training for local high school students at Manual High School and Peoria (Central) High School, which are part of the Peoria Public Schools system. Students will be invited to participate in a targeted early-learning program using the simulation lab. Bradley anticipates inviting 50-75 students from these high schools on an annual basis.

The new nursing simulation lab was made possible by funding secured by Senator Dick Durbin, as part of the fiscal year 2022 appropriations bill.

GOODNOW RECOGNIZED

BY THE ACADEMY
OF INTERNATIONAL
BUSINESS



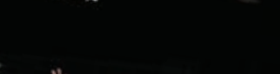
Professor Emeritus Dr. Jim Goodnow had a huge impact on Bradley's International Business program during his 20 years on the Hilltop, and now his dedication and expertise has been recognized by the Academy of International Business (AIB). Already an AIB Fellow, Dr. Goodnow has been awarded the AIB Fellows Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes extraordinary service to the AIB and to the International Business program.



A delegation composed of eight members of the Escola Superior de Propaganda e Marketing (ESPM) experienced a cross-cultural exchange focused on social entrepreneurship and leadership, through the Empowering Women Globally program. ESPM student, Martina Guedes (seated) and Dr. Paola Mazzilli have fun in the Maker Space at the Business and Engineering Convergence Center.



On March 2, the Charley Stei
Communications Center.



Photos courtesy of
Bradley Athletics





Women's Symposium was held at the Caterpillar Global



On March 15, grad student **Liz Johnson '18**, professor **Fisher Stolz** and sculpture tech **Sydney Ryan '20** conducted a bronze pour in the sculpture studio at Heuser Hall.



Bradley Men's Basketball Ends on a High Note

The Braves attain a record crowd at Carver Arena.

Bradley's men's basketball team concluded another successful season in 2023-24, finishing within the top three in the Missouri Valley Conference (MVC) for the second consecutive year. They also qualified for postseason play in the National Invitation Tournament for the second straight season. Notably, Bradley secured their first postseason win outside the conference tournament in a decade by defeating Loyola-Chicago at Carver Arena. This victory marked Bradley's fifth 20+ win season in the last seven years, a feat the program had not achieved since 1956-62.

During the 2023-24 season, the Braves played in front of the largest crowds in the MVC. The game against Illinois State drew more than 9,200 fans to Carver Arena, making it the largest crowd at any MVC game this past season.

38
YEARS
at **BU**

TEACHER
ADMINISTRATOR
STAGE DIRECTOR
PRODUCER
AUTHOR

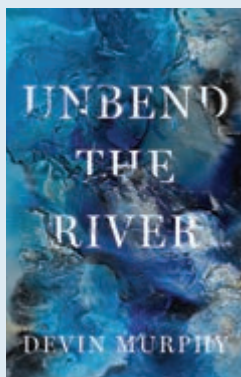
29
YEARS
as **DEAN**



Huberman Retires

“My great fortune in being at Bradley is that I had the opportunity to work with the most extraordinary group of people who embodied those qualities of imagination, creativity and communication.”

After an incredible 38-year journey at Bradley University, Dr. Jeffery Huberman, the much-loved Dean of the Slane College of Communications and Fine Arts, bid farewell at the close of the 2023 fall semester.



Characters You'll Love and Hate

Bestselling author of the novels *The Boat Runner* and *Tiny Americans*, Bradley English professor Devin Murphy, released his third book, *Unbend the River* in January. The collection of short stories are geographically linked along a forested stretch of land between Lake Erie and the upper Allegheny River in Western New York where Murphy grew up. “I wanted to write an honest love letter to the place by looking at it from as many perspectives as possible.”

The characters’ stories converge around their work at a modern knife manufacturing plant,

Directed
100+
THEATRICAL
PRODUCTIONS

Authored
3 BOOKS
& **4** PLAYS

17 NEW
academic
programs

“Dr. Huberman not only gave me career guidance, he inspired me to expand my academic mind,” said **Pip Lilly ’91**, an actor and former student of Huberman’s. “He encouraged me to soak up knowledge and experience as a sponge would water.”

In his remarkable half-century career in higher education, Huberman has donned various hats—teacher, administrator, stage director, producer and author. Beginning his Bradley adventure in 1985 as a professor of Theatre Arts, he ascended through the ranks, contributing significantly as associate dean and interim dean. Last year marked his 29th as dean, a role where he’s directed more than 100 theatrical productions and authored three books and four plays.

“Knowing I had someone like Jeff to support me while embarking on my college career made the transition easy,” said former student **John Scacchetti ’02**, a dancer.

“He supported me throughout my time at BU.”

Under Huberman’s guidance, 17 new academic programs were created, including marquee majors like sports communication and game design. His innovative touch introduced experiential learning through programs like the Bradley Hollywood Semester, the College Global Scholars Program, and various expedition courses across the globe.

As Huberman embraces retirement, he plans to delve into writing and reading, and travel extensively with his wife, Raquel, to savor the joys of family life.

Provost Zakahi expressed gratitude for dean Huberman’s continued advice and consultation through the spring semester of 2024. Meanwhile, after careful consideration, Dr. Ethan Ham has been selected as the interim dean, guiding the college into the next chapter. **B**

BY JENEVIEVE ROWLEY-DAVIS

illustrating the ways love and longing shapeshift over the course of a long life. Murphy said the book is a compilation of stories he’s written over the years that had a natural connection either by place, recurring characters or themes.

“It got to a point where I had a critical mass of stories I thought I could tie together, so one character is the star of their story but also pops up to influence people in the other stories. It took a lot of

weaving and plotting but was so much fun,” he said.

Although he’s undoubtedly a highly-successful published author, Murphy conceded that it doesn’t come easy, saying he struggles to get stories out. “Writing these stories was an extreme exercise in empathy for others and actively seeking out beauty in daily life. The goal was to transfer those feelings to the reader.” **B**

BY EMILY POTTS

5 Questions *with* PAIGE DEAN

Grad student and communications instructor, Paige Dean, has been studying the long-term effects of childhood sexual abuse (CSA) and is an advocate for CSA prevention. Last December, she unveiled four large-format advocacy posters that were on display at the Heuser Art Center Gallery.



1. HOW DOES YOUR WORK TIE INTO STUDYING THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF CSA?

When I started discussing the potential of grad school with my colleagues in the Communications Department, they wanted to know the focus of my thesis. I have been a professional in the advertising and public relations field for 17 years working in many capacities from corporate to nonprofit, and now teaching for several years, so I didn't want to necessarily revisit what I've already done. I wanted to choose a topic about something I am passionate about, to learn and grow—for not only myself, but also to potentially use my visual communications skills to advocate for others. My thesis focuses on the long-term effects of childhood sexual abuse (CSA).

2. HOW DID YOU BECOME SUCH AN ADVOCATE FOR CSA PREVENTION?

Between the ages of 6 and 13, I was personally affected by CSA, and continue to struggle with the long-term effects. In studying CSA and working closely with the Center for Prevention of Abuse (CFPA) in Peoria, I learned invaluable information I can apply to my own personal healing and growth, and to help promote CSA awareness and prevention. The statistics revolving around CSA are staggering, and as a parent I learned our best defense in protecting children is knowledge—knowing what signs to look for in children and what language to use when discussing body safety. There is such a stigma around this topic. I know it is uncomfortable for people to talk about, but frankly it is not talked about enough.

3. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO USE ART AS A TOOL IN ADVOCACY?

Creating art in any capacity has proven to give people a healthy escape—an outlet for expressing

their emotions in a safe, non-verbal way. During the fall semester of my first year of grad school, I played around with an ink and alcohol technique that I found to be incredibly relaxing and healing. This was therapy! I would spend hours creating pieces, trying new techniques, color variations and different materials. I was mesmerized not only by how beautiful the end results would be, but also by how forgiving the art form was. As a survivor myself, having found peace and growth through this particular form of art made me want to share it with other survivors. The path of sharing has now led me to teaching art wellness classes at the CFPA, using this technique.

4. WHAT DO YOU HOPE YOUR STUDENTS TAKE FROM YOUR TEACHINGS?

I teach graphic design, advertising and public relations. These courses are creative, yet functional, providing a hands-on lab style environment for students who are otherwise used to lecture-based classes. It's more relaxed and inviting, and offers a refreshing change of pace. Students are finally able to meld communication strategy, research and copywriting with creative visuals for print and digital media. At the end of each semester, my students take away a skill set that is invaluable as they enter the field of communication.

5. WHAT IS NEXT ON THE HORIZON FOR YOU?

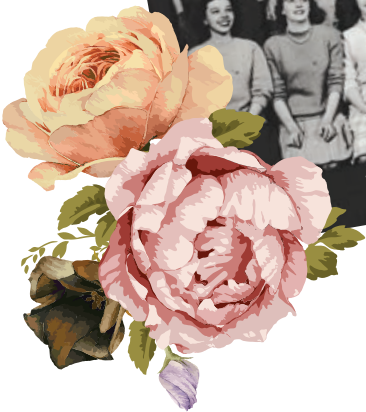
Well, I absolutely love teaching and it is incredibly rewarding. There is also a part of me that misses designing for the advertising and marketing industry. I enjoy the pace of the corporate environment—working with a team, brainstorming and executing visuals. I am not sure where my career will take me post grad school, but I do know that whatever it is, it will need to be creative, challenging and rewarding! **B**



ANTOINETTE TEJEDA



Toni poses with her fellow Delta Kappa actives
for the 1946 Bradley yearbook, Polyscope.



CENTENNIAL REFLECTIONS



*How Bradley set the stage for this
100-year-old's spectacular life*

BY JENEVIEVE ROWLEY-DAVIS

Legacy means a lot to **Antionette “Toni” Tejeda ’46**. One of seven children, she was born in Streator, Ill., to immigrants from Mexico. Her father, a rail worker, brought his family to Streator in search of stability—something they found in the unlikely form of a boxcar.

Toni’s mother made the most of their new boxcar home. “She made curtains and she had my dad knock out a hole so she could have a window,” she recalled. “She even crocheted little carpets.”

Toni learned to speak English at age six when she entered the Catholic school system. From there, she developed a love for the English language she would carry with her for the rest of her life.

When Toni’s sister Louise started applying for colleges, Toni paid close attention. As children of immigrants, it was hard to find institutions that would accept them, according to Louise’s daughter, Margo Brestan. “For a year after she graduated from Streator High, [Louise] was actively trying to find a school that would take her,” Brestan explained. “Eventually it was Bradley. They showed compassion.”

As Louise graduated from Bradley in 1937, followed by Esther in 1941, Toni prepared to follow suit. “We used to go around boasting, ‘I’m going to college! I’m going to college!’” Toni remembered. “Of course, we had remarks from other Mexicans who were not going to school.”

Pushed to pursue the depths of their potential, marriage was never a priority in the eyes of the Tejeda parents. For Toni, who never married, their encouragement meant the world. “Our parents kept telling us that the more we learned, the better we would become,” she said.

And so Toni set out on her Bradley journey. Over the course of her four years, she participated in several student organizations, including the Y.W.C.A., Spanish Club, French Club, Philosophy Club and more.

“My roommate was a sorority girl, but I didn’t know what sororities were, so I went on with my studying. Then, finally, one day, she said, ‘Toni, if we invite you to join the sorority, would you do it?’ I thought that was such a scary thing.”

Eventually, she overcame her fears and joined her roommate, **Betty Bailey ’45**, as a Delta Kappa. The two remained close friends until Bailey’s death in 2015.

BRAVING THE REAL WORLD

Following her graduation in 1946, Toni dabbled in business and the film industry before deciding to pursue something she was more passionate about—teaching. She found a job at Notre Dame High School in Chicago, and she flourished. After a few years and a switch to Peotone High School, Toni was accepted into Texas Tech's graduate school in Lubbock, Texas.

Frequently connecting with underserved students as a mentor and guide, Toni would go on to become a tenured professor at Wichita State University. But, when WSU would face off against Bradley's

She recently celebrated her 100th birthday with a party themed after her parents' home country of Mexico.

"I didn't think I would want to live to 100, but I'm still walking."

Even now, Toni and her sisters' love of Bradley shines through. The legacy of Bradley and the Tejeda line has become intertwined, so much so that even Toni's nephew can speak to the impact Bradley left on his family.

"Our mom and our aunts were very supported at Bradley," Len Vigil, Louise's son, said. "They were supported not only by the institution but also by the extraordinary

~~~~~  
"I felt very proud of our parents for encouraging us to go to school," she said. "They made a big sacrifice ... and for everything, we give credit to them."  
~~~~~

sports teams, Toni would proudly wear her Bradley pin above her WSU pin. She always made time to share her stories of acceptance and excitement at Bradley.

As the years passed, the Tejeda sisters reflected on their parents' encouragement and the compassion they found on the Bradley campus. As a way of giving back and honoring the legacy their parents left behind, they established a scholarship program in their parents' names—The Gerardo & Loreto Tejeda Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship has received \$32,000, of which Toni has contributed \$14,000.


"I felt very proud of our parents for encouraging us to go to school," she said. "They made a big sacrifice ... and for everything, we give credit to them."

Nowadays, Toni stays busy with needlepoint and cross-stitch projects, frequently gifting them to her nieces and nephews.



Toni early in her Bradley career, posing with some fellow first-years.

kindness and sympathy of the people there. There were so many wonderful individuals that protected them in a social sense and had their interests at heart.”

Bradley broadened and expanded the world for the Tejeda sisters. He added, “They’re very proud of what they’ve achieved and the opportunities Bradley gave them.” 



The Tejeda family in front of their home. Toni (front left) and her family lived without any electricity or running water.



shon





Pivoting With Purpose

The Trailblazing Career Shift that led Vannesia Darby '12 to Shondaland

BY EMILY POTTS

Vannesia Darby has always been a woman of ambition and determination. A former campus leader and past president of the Bradley University Black Alumni Alliance (BUBAA), her unparalleled work ethic and innovative ideas have catapulted her career in entertainment marketing. Following graduation, Darby went straight into the music industry before founding her successful digital marketing agency, Moxie Nashville in 2014.

Darby and her team developed countless brand strategies for her clients over the years, including Sony Music Entertainment, the Online News Association and the YMCA. She also became a sought-after speaker and workshop facilitator and is often called upon to share her marketing and entrepreneurship insights. However, a turning point in her life came unexpectedly during a church service—a time when she usually unplugged from work.

She received an email from one of her biggest clients saying they weren't renewing their annual contract. Surprisingly, instead of feeling disappointment, Darby felt an overwhelming sense of relief. It was as if a weight had been lifted from her shoulders, that she didn't realize she was carrying. "I actually exhaled," she recalled. "I didn't know I was holding that in." Darby interpreted the audible sigh as an opportunity to reevaluate her career.

"After I received that email, I started wondering what else was out there," she said, "I had been scaling for six years and could have kept going but didn't feel the need to. I soon realized I had accomplished everything I set out to do with my business and began to envision what a career pivot could look like." Intrigued by the idea, Darby began researching and created a short list of companies that aligned with her values and would offer her a fulfilling role.

One of those companies was Shondaland, a media juggernaut known for its groundbreaking television productions, like *Grey's Anatomy* and *Scandal*, and for challenging traditional stereotypes. Darby saw an open position for a social media manager—the only remote job on the site—and decided to apply. After an in-depth interview process, she was offered the role and happily accepted.

In her role, Darby and her team strategize and execute the social marketing for the Shondaland brand, collaborating with partners such as iHeartMedia, Netflix and more. Between reaching millions of fans on a weekly basis and launching global campaigns for productions like *Queen Charlotte* and their podcast *Unpacking the Toolbox: A Scandal Rewatch*, joining the creative machine was just the change of pace she desired.

"It was an incredible pivot that was truly in alignment with my goals. I could cry about how great of a fit it is. I'm amazed that every single day I get to bring these incredible ideas to life," she said.

A LIFETIME OF INSPIRATION

Darby's love for music and media started as a child. A classically trained pianist, Darby played the keyboard in church and school productions in between coding MySpace pages for her friends and teaching piano lessons. While playing piano for Bradley University's gospel choir, she met alumni Jeremy Treadwell '09 and Shayla Jones Treadwell '08 who owned a production company and suggested she become an intern for them. There, she got her first taste of marketing, which led to another internship at the record label, EMI Gospel in Nashville.

The exciting pace that came with working with entertainers, publicists and record executives provided Darby a backstage pass into the world of music entertainment, and she loved it.

After graduation, she worked for gospel industry titan Tracey Artis, whose marketing firm in Cincinnati, Ohio represents award-winning gospel artists. Darby called it a crash-course in entertainment marketing and was mentored by Artis while promoting artists and events and working with their management teams.

A year later, Motown Gospel (formerly EMI Gospel) came calling and asked her to join their new media department in 2014, which she did, moving to Nashville where she's been ever since. Darby attributes her ambitions and drive to a mix

of faith and her no-nonsense rearing from her parents. The daughter of a preacher and a probation officer, and the sister of a psychologist, Darby's family dynamic included excellence as the standard.

"My Dad is a U.S. Marine Corps combat veteran and a Pentecostal preacher and my mom was a probation officer—I grew up with church and state in my house! My parents taught me how to use what others might perceive as weakness and turn it into a strength, and to always leave places better than when you found it."

Although accustomed to pivoting, Darby knew there were discernible differences between owning her own agency and working within an established ecosystem. Creatively trusting others has been a new muscle she's been able to flex.

"I truly believe we are all put on this earth for a purpose and we're not limited to one path. When one door closes, I have faith that another door will open."



Danielle Shields
Photography





“I was used to running everything, and now, being able to rely on the brilliance of my coworkers and their creativity is really incredible,” adding how the collaborative environment has sharpened her skillset.

One of the perks of her new role is traveling with her team to industry events like the music and arts festival South by Southwest (SXSW) in Austin, and the Hollywood premiere of *Queen Charlotte* in Los Angeles. Darby and her team produce digital content for events, posting pictures of the fans’ favorite stars, providing event recaps and giving viewers a boots-on-the-ground experience of the red carpet and backstage happenings. “Everyone doesn’t get to see what happens when the TV turns off,” Darby said.

Staying inspired is integral to her job as a digital marketer. Luckily she’s able to find inspiration in everything she does, from taking a walk and observing nature, to attending live concerts in Music City with her friends, to starting a Ph.D program. The key she says is to pay attention to the details and to always keep learning.

“I truly believe we are all put on this earth for a purpose and we’re not limited to one path. When one door closes, I have faith that another door will open. That’s how I ended up at Shondaland.” **B**

Darby at the Queen Charlotte premiere for Netflix.



Life sometimes has a way of going sideways. **Dennis Ritchie** was a successful attorney in western Kentucky. Married to another attorney, with four children in the early 2000s, life was good—for a while—until it wasn't.

A series of unfortunate events led to a downward spiral that took years to recover from. It started with several injuries in the early 2000s, and a subsequent car wreck, leading to Ritchie being prescribed powerful painkillers—opiates—and becoming dependent on them.

He developed a serious habit and continued taking the opiates long after he recovered from his injuries, functioning at a high capacity, until bit by bit, his addiction revealed itself. His marriage began to crumble, and his work started to suffer. Eventually, he was charged with a felony relating to a client's bond and subsequently admitted himself to inpatient rehab where he stayed for 110 days.

"While I was there, I could not appear in court with clients that had commissioned me, so I was charged with multiple counts of theft by deception," Ritchie said, adding he eventually reimbursed those clients and all charges were dismissed or diverted.

From Down on His Luck to GOODWILL

Dennis Ritchie '94 knows first-hand the importance of second chances. Hitting rock-bottom gave him the insights he employs today to help others succeed.

BY EMILY POTTS

PAYING FOR PAST MISTAKES

But this was just the beginning of his troubles, when finding work became a challenge. “I did all kinds of stuff because I was in survival mode. I delivered food, I cleaned baseball stadiums and I worked at a rubber factory until finally I was introduced to another attorney who had previously been in recovery, and he gave me a job.”

While working in that law office he filed for bankruptcy and voluntarily surrendered his bar license—all collateral consequences from his addiction. Also during this time, he welcomed another daughter, Anna, and from the age of two was raising her as a single father.

“Some cynical people around me would view Anna as another mistake in my life when she was first born. If she was, then she was the greatest mistake ever. Had it not been for Anna, and not repeating mistakes I made with my other kids—trying to win back their respect—I don’t know if I would have made it through everything. I will always feel like Anna was sent to me for a reason.”

Eventually, Ritchie landed in LaGrange, Ky., for a new job at an insurance company. Unfortunately, they discovered his past troubles

through a Google search and rescinded the offer at the last minute.

It may ultimately have been the best thing to happen to him. Ritchie found a part-time job at Goodwill for \$8.25 an hour as a material handler, taking donations out of the backs of donors’ vehicles.

From there, just doing the right thing, day after day, the pendulum started to swing in his favor. Within 18 months, he worked his way to store manager before an opportunity arose to manage LifeLaunch, a re-entry grant program for adults with a history of criminal misconduct. Who better than a former attorney, with loads of criminal defense experience and his own life experience, to help them get a step up?

PAYING IT FORWARD

Currently, Ritchie serves as the senior director of re-entry and oversees a new policy and strategy division for Goodwill. This division guides efforts to help get Kentuckians out of poverty.

“Goodwill is one of the largest second-chance employers in the state of Kentucky. I was able to

help develop supportive services and barrier reduction models for people down on their luck because I lived it. It gave me a chance to help people experiencing hardships due to their past mistakes.”

One of the services Goodwill provides is expungement assistance for underserved individuals with criminal backgrounds. In partnership with various legal aid groups and the Department of Corrections, Goodwill was able to expunge more than 4,000 records in 2023 in the state of Kentucky.

“That’s a big deal because not only does it make you eligible for better employment, but there are a lot of collateral consequences people don’t even think about,” he said.

He noted when someone is released from jail, a condition of probation and parole is to have a job and a

place to stay. If you have a record, finding a decent paying job is nearly impossible, and many property management companies will deny you. In addition, most people with a criminal record can’t vote or get a driver’s license, which is yet another barrier to finding and maintaining a job.

According to Prison Policy Initiative (prisonpolicy.org), “The unemployment rate for formerly incarcerated people is nearly five times higher than the unemployment rate for the general United States population, and substantially higher than even the worst years of the Great Depression.”

The consequences are devastating, contributing to housing insecurity which reduces access to health care services and educational programs. It’s a slippery slope that many aren’t able to recover from without assistance.

“Bradley gave me great resolve to overcome obstacles, something that has se



“It makes sense for Goodwill to be involved in expungements and erasing those records because our mission is to try to get people out of poverty. What better way to do that than to put them on a career path where they can support themselves and their family,” Ritchie explained.

Poverty and homelessness are two of the biggest predictors for recidivism, so helping people overcome these obstacles is his mission. It’s not only good for them, but also great for the community. Empathy is Ritchie’s greatest superpower.

“A lot of people who want to work are ‘justice-involved’ people. There’s a lot of research out there that says if you give justice-involved people a chance, they’re going to be some of your most loyal and dependable workers—and I stand by that. However, to get them there, they

have to be treated a little bit differently.”

Although his own journey has been peppered with potholes—self-made, he’d admit—Ritchie is grateful for what he has and where he’s landed. He credits Bradley with teaching him how to be a critical thinker, a problem solver, and most importantly to be resolute.

“Bradley gave me great resolve to continue going forward to overcome obstacles, something that has served me well in the past decade. I’m happier now and more fulfilled than I ever was as an attorney. I love what I do, and I love giving back.”

Second chances can be the sweetest success of all. **B**

Continue going forward to overcome
served me well in the past decade.”



NASA and Bradley Honor ROBERT HENRY LAWRENCE

BY JENEVIEVE ROWLEY-DAVIS



Bradley alumnus **Robert Henry Lawrence Jr. '56** was honored on NASA's Day of Remembrance Jan. 25, 2024. Hailed as the first Black American astronaut, Lawrence and his fellow fallen astronauts were recognized for their work and dedication.

The ceremony took place at the Space Mirror Memorial at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex on Merritt Island, Florida. Attendees were given flowers to pay their respects, commemorative wreaths were laid and colors were presented.

In December of 1967, Major Lawrence was killed while training another pilot in a Lockheed F-104 jet at Edwards Air Force Base. He was 32 years old and had logged over 2,500 flight hours.

The year of his death, Bradley University established The Major Robert H. Lawrence, Jr. Memorial Scholarship. Since 1988, Bradley has also honored his legacy with the Robert H. Lawrence endowed Lectureship. In 1989, the Lawrence Conference Room was dedicated in Bradley's Olin Hall.

When Lawrence first joined the Manned Orbiting Laboratory and became the first Black American astronaut, he cautioned against implications that it meant something special for race relations at the time. "It's just a part of the natural progression," Lawrence said in a 1967 issue of *Jet* magazine. "And for some of us, it may even be too slow."

When asked why he applied for the MOL in the first place, Lawrence said "I consider myself doing what I can for society." **B**


Legacy Estate Gift Provides \$3.66 Million in Scholarships for Peoria Public School Students





Bradley received a \$3.66 million estate gift from **Gregory Miller '62**, to provide scholarship support for graduates of the Peoria Public School System. Miller left the estate as a legacy to his own educational experiences at Peoria High School and Bradley University in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

“This is a wonderful gift for Bradley that will benefit generations of public school students in Peoria,” said President Stephen Standifird. “Greg Miller grew up in Peoria, graduated from Bradley, and went on to lead a life of meaning and purpose, while never forgetting his roots and how it all started. I am profoundly grateful for his vision and generosity in establishing The Gregory Miller Scholarship Endowment.”

After graduating from Bradley, Miller served his country as a member of the United States Coast Guard, finished flight school training in 1963 and concluded his active service in 1967. During his subsequent career as a commercial airline pilot, Miller worked for National Airlines, Pan American Airlines and Delta Airlines, before retiring in 1997 as Captain Gregory Miller. 

BY LIBBY DERRY

Around the WORLD and Back Again

BY EMILY POTTS

A love of learning and travel inspires generous endowment from two former Bradley professors

Mike and Peggy Lane met at Bradley University in 1991, when both were faculty members. Mike taught accounting and Peggy taught business computer classes. “We were part of a big group of faculty that socialized together, including weekly dinners,” Peggy explained. “One week, we were the only two that showed up, and the rest is history.”

Their love story and their shared experiences at Bradley inspired them to establish the Lane Scholars Endowed Fund with an estate gift commitment of \$1 million. This newly endowed fund will support future students with their co-curricular travel expenses as part of their Bradley experience.

Traveling is a shared passion for the couple, especially now that they are retired. Between them, they have visited more than 16 countries and 49 of the 50 states. They’ve already booked several trips in 2024 and 2025 to the Panama Canal, Greece, Turkey, Singapore, Thailand and the Mediterranean.


The travel bug bit the two while they were at Bradley when, in 1993, they both traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia with a group of Bradley students. They visited Russian universities and met with students and faculty and discovered that despite cultural and political differences, they had similar hopes and dreams. Peggy recalled a tour guide in Moscow saying, “You’re just like us.”

The standout moments from that trip and trips to follow were always student reactions to new experiences. For instance, when they walked into St. Isaac’s Cathedral in St. Petersburg, Mike said, “I would try to get in first, so I could turn around and see their faces. Many of these kids had never traveled outside the U.S., much less outside Illinois, and to have this experience at a young age is transformational.

“We want our legacy to be that of supporting education and international travel. We hope Bradley students and faculty gain an understanding that people are very similar, and that often international issues are created by leaders, not citizens.”

The couple has fond memories of their time at Bradley, not only for the comradery with fellow faculty members and their love of teaching, but for the leadership opportunities they were offered. “Bradley is a place where everybody could grow and prosper, whether you were a student or a teacher,” Mike said.

“We believe in the longevity and success of Bradley,” Peggy added. “It’s where we met and where our love for international travel began.”

Together, they are creating an incredible legacy for Bradley University for generations to come. 



Bradley invites you to consider membership in the 1897 Legacy Society and join the nearly 700 alumni, parents and friends who have honored Bradley in their estate plans. Through this society you can designate exactly where you want your estate gift applied to benefit future Braves in a program of your choice, just like Mike and Peggy.

For more information or to join the 1897 Legacy Society, please call Charlie Roy, Executive Director of Development, Planned Giving, at (309) 677-2241 or croy@bradley.edu in the Office of Planned Giving.



class notes

1950s and 1960s



Chuck Cunningham '62, with the trumpet and **Dick Schermer '56**, still blowing after all these years!

Attorney **Igor Ellyn '68** received the 2023 Law Society Medal for excellence in the legal profession in Ontario, Canada.

Jeff Bogart, '69, a retired attorney, will be lecturing about trial practice at his law school alum, University of Toledo College Of Law.



(Front row) **Jan Nothdurft Freeland '68** (Tuna), **Jim Freeland '68** (Ross), (back row) **Bob Alusic '68** (Batman), **Parry Carlson '69** (Sig) and **Richard Read '69** (Rich) relived their days at Bradley during a week-long visit to Hilton Head Island in September 2023. The men roomed together the first year University Hall opened.

1970s



Alpha Epsilon Phi pledge sisters **Sherilyn Rubin Krell '70**, **Hetty Becker Bers '70** and **Sherry Kolker Haber '70** along with Nancy Wasserman Loeb celebrated Krell's "Platinum Jubilee," i.e. 75th birthday.



Carol Coram '72, qualified for Team USA in the triathlon at the Age-Group World Championships in Hamburg, Germany and Montreal in 2023.

David '72 and **Randi Viner Zacher '73** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 30, 2023.

James Bucker '73 retired in 2018 as corporate director of Environmental Management Systems with Aleris, Inc. Living in The Villages, Florida with his wife Pat, James is enjoying golf, pickleball, and all that life has to offer!

Jaki Samuelson, '75, received the Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys Arabella Mansfield Award on July 22, 2023. Over the years, she has encouraged women to apply for judicial positions and enter private practice. Jaki is general counsel at Whitfield & Eddy Law and serves as co-chair of its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. She has been recognized for her expertise by both clients and colleagues in *Chambers USA*, *Super Lawyers*, and *Best Lawyers* where she was named "Lawyer of the Year."

Steve Weller '77 made his fourth trip to the Major League Baseball World Series in 2023 as the official scorer.

1980s

Steven McCarthy '80 lectured at the Design History Society conference in Portugal in 2023. He is professor emeritus from the University of Minnesota, where he taught graphic design for 22 years.

The University of Illinois Department of Economics awarded **Dr. Carla Tighe Murray** '83 its 2022 Economics Career Achievement Award, honoring her extensive career in public service.



After 40 years, this group of '83 grads reunited. (left to right) **Pam McNair Parsons**, **Sherilyn Farnam Wethington**, **Sharon Kekelik Barrett**, **Kass Kratt Jackman**, **Ellen Smith MacCracken**, **Annie Tilson Coppola**, **Maurie Beckman Jacobeit**, and **Carol Caleo Lucas**.

After 38 years as an engineer and manager at the General Electric Company, **Tim Frederick** '84 has retired. He is enjoying retirement in Indiana with his wife of 38 years, **Diana Judy Frederick** '83.

Rhonda Washington Clay '84 was promoted to director of Major Gifts at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, leading a team of Major Gift Officers in engaging prospects and donors in the mission of the ELCA. Rhonda resides in Knoxville, Tenn. with her family.

Stacey Slice O'Connell '87 has been named clinical director of Thrive Postpartum, Couples and Family Therapy.



Bradley grads **Rick Snyder** '88, **Michael Rittenhouse** '90 and **Dean Murin** '89 met in St. Louis to watch the Braves play at the Missouri Valley Conference in 2023.

Matthew Walsh '89 and his family were honored by the Irish American Hall of Fame for their contributions in the areas of law, construction and philanthropy. His wife **Catherine Walsh (Hartman)** '91 and their daughter **Hope Walsh** '21 were among the Walsh family members in attendance.

1990s

Melvin Flowers '90 has been granted the Exelon Outstanding Corporate Counsel Award by the Chicago Bar Foundation at the annual Pro Bono and Public Service Awards luncheon. Currently Accenture's Global Legal Lead for Strategic Initiatives as part of the Global Data Privacy Legal Team, he has also co-developed and directed the company's Midwest Market Unit pro bono program for many years.



Two Black CEOs from the 2023 Fortune 500 companies are Bradley alumni!

(left) **Calvin Butler Jr. '91**, CEO of Exelon (No. 218 of the Fortune 500) and (right) **Dave Bozeman '91**, CEO of C.H. Robinson (No. 259) are among the eight Black CEOs who made the list, the highest number of companies helmed by Black CEOs ever. Although Black representation is only 1.6% of the list, 25% of them are Bradley grads.

Congratulations!

Michael Spires '90, was named chief information officer and executive vice-president of Americold Logistics.

Sylvia Shelton '91 has officially retired as a board-certified Cytotechnologist. She resides in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Lauri Harvey Keagle '92, was named 2023 Northwest Indiana Influential Woman of the Year in Marketing & Media by the Northwest Indiana Influential Women Association.

Tobin Taylor '93, was appointed Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen's new managing partner, effective Jan 1, 2024.

Mike Eickhoff '94 was promoted to managing principal - Credits & Incentives at Grant Thornton LLP. In his role, Mike supervises a national team assisting clients in identifying new operational locations and negotiating government subsidies to support those decisions.

Kerri J. Holloway '94, was appointed chief academic officer/provost for the University of Business Innovation and Sustainability with headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Margaret Hanley Williams '94 has joined the American Institute of Steel Construction's Board of Directors. She is the CEO of A. Lucas & Sons Steel in Peoria, where she has served as president since 2006. She is a

visiting professor at and alumna of Bradley University, from which she holds an MBA and two Bachelor of Science degrees in construction and political science. She was appointed vice chair of Intersect Illinois by Governor J.B. Pritzker, and she founded the Greater Peoria Honor Flight in 2013.

Karen Farris Cotton '96 joined Corix Group of Companies as the vice president of communications and public relations.

Genevra Knight '97, CPA, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Illinois CPA Society for her commitment to excellence in her volunteer service role at Porte Brown LLC, Audit and Assurance Committee.

Brian Sluga '97 completed the Chicago marathon in 2022 after surviving cancer.

Andrew Steben '99, joined Lima One Capital as Director of Wholesale Lending.

2000s

Matthew Dawson, '00, M.S. '10, P.E., PTOE, an assistant vice president and the transportation practice lead for Hanson Professional Services Inc., was named the Civil Engineer of the Year on Sept. 28, 2023, during the American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) Central Illinois Section annual banquet in Champaign.

Shamilya Woods Pettis '03, Campus Director at the University of Chicago Charter School Donoghue Campus, was featured on Fox News for her strong leadership and passion for motivating her students and staff. As a proud Bradley Alum (and member of Sigma Gamma Rho) she wears her Braves gear to school to encourage her college-bound scholars to excel in the classroom.

2010s

Jill Brewster Dodaro '12, MSN '13 was named CNO of Carle Health Greater Peoria.

Nick Swiatkowski '12 was promoted to lieutenant commander in the United States Navy on Sept. 8, 2023. He is currently president of Swiatkowski Welch Properties and stationed at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.

Mahjoub Abdalla MA '16 joined Hanson Professional Services Inc.'s Indianapolis office. He will work as part of multidisciplinary design teams to plan and execute transportation projects for a variety of clients, including local governments and state departments of transportation.

Sean Cain '17 was appointed president and CEO of Morton Building in Morton, Illinois.

2020s

Intellihot's lead corporate trainer and applications engineer, **Robert Svidron '20**, was recognized as one of 2023's Top 20 Next Gen Plumbing All-Stars by Plumbing & Mechanical Engineer magazine.



Jessica Tilton '20 won the Miss Illinois title in 2023 and competed in Miss America in 2024. She has a bachelor's and master's degree in biology from Bradley and she is studying medicine at Southern Illinois University.

Dr. Afrim Shabani, Dr Ed '22, an associate adjunct professor in Humanities and Fine Arts at Heartland Community College, has been recognized as a Teacher of Distinction by The Royal Conservatory of Music. Out of a nationwide pool of thousands of dedicated music educators, only six teachers were selected for this prestigious recognition.

Professor Emeritus **Edward L. Lamoureux**, Ph.D. has been elected a board member of the Bix Beiderbecke Museum and Archive in Davenport, Iowa. Lamoureux retired in May 2023 after 37 years at BU.

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POLICIES

Submissions are included as space permits. They may be edited for length or clarity and may be published in any medium.

Send us your high resolution photos: minimum 1,200 pixels on the shortest side

bells & rattles

1. **Julie Jaskierski '16** and **Jonathan Cain '12**, Oct. 14, 2023
2. **Mariel Singson '19** and **Patrick Winkler '19**, Sept. 23, 2023
3. **Dana Markech '15** and **Matt Heinrich '15**, Nov. 11, 2023
4. **Adam Bockler '11** and Emily Coltrin, Nov. 10, 2023
5. **Alexi '18** and **Adam Sargis '18**, Aug. 18, 2023
6. **Kathleen Paxson '19** and **Patrick O'Malley '17**, Nov. 4, 2023
7. **Robert Hack '15** and **Anna Gavalick '18**, May 20, 2023
8. **Mimi Phung '19** and **Gage Melton '17**, May 23, 2023
9. **Meghan Fogler '15** and Jacob Rangel, Oct. 14, 2023





bells & rattles

1. **Seth '15** and Brooklyn Trolia,
Alison Trolia. July 18, 2022.
2. Allison and **Bradley Smith '10**,
Camden Bradley Smith, Sept 25, 2023
3. **Michael '10** and **Tera Lippert Peplow '07 MBA '09**,
Drew Margaret Peplow, October 2023
4. **Christopher '21** and **Maggie Mitchell Packett '21**,
Callum Packett, March 17, 2023.
5. **Alex '12** and **Katie Aguirre Certa '13**,
Benjamin Levi, Dec 17, 2022.
6. **Brittany '15** and **Andrew Carver '15**,
Finley Everett Carver, Nov 25, 2023
7. Andrew and **Claire Vogel Newell '12**,
Rosalie Inez Newell, July 9, 2023.
8. **Adam '18** and **Lexy Rohman '19**,
Marisa Grace, July 17, 2023.





passages



Gerald "Jerry" Frederick Jungck, professor, emeritus, died Nov. 23, 2023 at 94. In his 51 years teaching at Bradley, he served as the chair of the Mathematics Department for two terms, the Bradley faculty representative at the Illinois Math and Science Academy and the associate editor for the research journals *The International Journal of Mathematics & Mathematical Science* and *The Journal of Mathematical Analysis & Applications*. For his exceptional service, Bradley awarded Jerry the 1983 Samuel Rothberg Professional Excellence Award, and a Caterpillar Inc. Professorship in 2007.

1930s

Frances Rector, '39,
Dec. 13, 2022, Allen, Tex.

1940s

Kenneth Borland, '47,
Sept. 19, 2023, Peoria

James B. Cation, '48,
Nov. 22, 2023, Milan, Ill.

Joan Gray Reider, '48,
July 27, 2023, Peoria

Shirley Bacon Schwab, '48,
June 14, 2023, Peoria

Quentin Thompson, '48,
Nov. 7, 2023, East Peoria, Ill.

Warren Zeigle, '48,
April 8, 2023, Prescott, Ariz.

Mildred Janssen, '49,
Nov. 8, 2023, Roseville, Minn.

Gordon W. Nugent, '49,
Aug. 19, 2023, Wilton, Conn.

1950s

James England, '50,
July 1, 2023, Springfield, Ill.

Rex Howard, '50,
April 15, 2023, Peoria

Keith Kimball, '50,
June 27, 2023, Sterling, Ill.

Howard Martinie, '50,
June 18, 2023, Lake Barrington, Ill.

H. William McDonald, '50,
June 16, 2023, Fort Collins, Col.

Phyllis E. Orr, '50,
Nov. 23, 2023, Pekin, Ill.

Phyllis Peters Picton, '50,
June 7, 2023, Peoria

John E. Sauer, '50,
Jan 13, 2024, Franklin Park, Pa.

Paul R. Unruh, '50,
Dec. 8, 2023, Peoria.

Marilyn L. Werckle, '50,
Jan. 4, 2024, East Peoria, Ill.

Patricia A. Williams, '50,
Dec. 11, 2023, Peoria.

Roberta J. Allen, '51,
Dec. 5, 2023, Delavan, Ill.

James M. Brummet, '51,
Dec. 31, 2023, Mattoon, Ill.

Mary T. Koetter, '51,
Jan. 4, 2024, Akron, Ohio

Deno Melchiorre, '51,
April 23, 2022, Kissimmee, Fla.

Charles Reischauer, '51,
Dec. 23, 2022, Virden, Ill.

Dick Tessiatore, '51,
Sept. 29, 2023, Joliet, Ill.

Phyllis Denker Turner, '51,
July 29, 2023, Sister Bay, Wis.

John Clark, '52,
April 11, 2023, Morton, Ill.

Willmeda Bryson Harris, '52,
May 3, 2023, Monticello, Ill.

Marilyn Gray Johnson, '52,
April 9, 2023, Sister Bay, Wis.

Harold Ritchie, '52,
June 25, 2023, Lakeland, Fla.

Keith Holloway, '53,
Sept. 12, 2023, Pekin, Ill.

Jean Derry, '53, MA '61,
Nov. 13, 2023, Washington, Ill.

Clyde Hall, '53,
April 10, 2023, Savannah, Ga.

Sidney Hamper, '53,
Aug. 25, 2023, Chicago

Esther Swedell Stone, '53,
May 6, 2023, Metamora, Ill.

Harvey Sulkin, '53,
July 3, 2023, Lake Mary, Fla.

Martha L. Alip, '54,
Aug. 15, 2023, Honolulu, Hawaii

Ralph B. Anderson, '54,
Nov. 19, 2023, Litchfield Park, Ariz.

Charley Gillespie, '54,
Aug. 10, 2023, Birmingham, Ala.

Joan C. Pelletier, '54,
Nov. 24, 2023, Elgin, Ill.

Harrison Borrowman, '55,
Aug. 27, 2023, Peoria

Marilyn Delpire Cullinan, '55,
April 28, 2023, Cedarburg, Wis.

William Donnelly, '55,
Sept. 6, 2023, Maryknoll, N.Y.

Ronald E Erickson, '55,
Oct. 8, 2023, Missoula, Mont.

Carl D. Knight, '55,
Jan. 3, 2024, Racine, Wis.

Herman Witzig, '55,
July 31, 2023, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Fred Augspurger, '56,
Dec. 4, 2022, Mt. Pulaski, Ill.

Elaine Loewenstein Cohen, '56,
May 13, 2023, Tucson, Ariz.



Catherine "Kay" Hinckle Ricciardelli, faculty emeritus, died Dec. 19, 2023 at 96. Kay retired from Bradley in 1994 after 27 years in the department of sociology. She touched countless lives and broadened many minds during this time—teaching courses in anthropology, sociology, western civilization and archaeology. Kay also served as chairperson of the Sociology Department and was a member of the Fine Arts Society, Peoria Symphony Guild and As You Like It. She continued her love of learning by attending classes through The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Bradley University.

Barbara Shade Gard, '56,
Aug. 8, 2023, Springfield, Ill.

William L Hermann, '56,
April 13, 2023, Peoria

Melford Spurgeon, '56,
Aug. 12, 2023, Peoria

Kenneth J. Burk, '57,
Jan. 5, 2024, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Glenn T. Charlson, '57,
Jan. 14, 2024, Mountain, Wis.

Peter Kronich, '57,
April 12, 2023, Sheboygan, Wis.

John Lauder, '57,
Sept. 24, 2023, Downers Grove, Ill.

Gavin D. Litwiller, '57,
Dec. 28, 2023, Sarasota, Fla.

Jerry McDermed, '57,
April 27, 2023, Peoria

Eugene Retzger, '57,
May 20, 2023, Peoria

Kaye LaVee Swanson, '57,
Nov. 6, 2022, San Antonio, Tex.

John Elsbury, '58,
July 9, 2023, Wadsworth, Ill.

Barbara Dooley Haas, '58,
June 1, 2023, Fayetteville, N.C.

Kenneth R. Huggins, '58,
Nov. 10, 2023, Chicago

Robert M. Kavanaugh, '58,
Nov. 8, 2023, Henderson, Ky.

Frederick A Krause, '58,
Oct. 13, 2023, Tucson, Ariz.

Jack McCarthy, '58,
Oct. 14, 2023, Gainesville, Fla.

Ronald McGaughey, '58,
Sept. 20, 2023, Seven Lakes, N.C.

Charles Sedgwick, '58,
Oct. 13, 2023, Naples, Fla.

James Smith, '58,
May 2, 2022, San Luis Obispo

John Ufheil, '58,
Aug. 5, 2023, Naples, Fla.

Jeanette Behrends, '59,
Aug. 20, 2023, Peoria

Richard Carver, '59,
May 5, 2023, Sarasota, Fla.

John Holmes, '59,
June 11, 2023, Traverse City, Mich.

Gene Morse, '59,
June 4, 2023, Morton, Ill.

William Pratt, '59,
June 23, 2023, San Jose, Calif.

Elmer Rapp, '59,
Oct. 20, 2023, Greenville, Tex.

David Roberts, '59,
May 3, 2023, Decatur, Ill.

Richard Carver, '59, died May 5, 2023 at 85. He and his wife Judith met on a blind date while he was at Bradley. After college, Richard carried on his late dad's legacy as president of Carver Lumber Company. He also served in the Air Force Reserve Command, attaining the rank of colonel. His tenacity and passion led him to a long career in public service. He ran for the city council in his twenties and then spent nearly two decades as Peoria's mayor. By the late 1970s, Richard's career moved to the national stage. He was appointed to presidential commissions under both President Carter and President Reagan. He spearheaded a "Mayors for Reagan" campaign and was appointed as the assistant secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management during the Reagan administration.





Gene Morse goes up almost to the rim for two points while an agonized Western Ontario defender can only watch.



Gene Morse, '59,
died June 4, 2023
at 85. At Bradley
University, he
was a member
of the Sigma Chi
fraternity and
played basketball

on Bradley's first NIT Championship Team in 1957. Gene remained active in the life of Bradley University as an alumni and he was honored to be the recipient of the prestigious Lydia Moss Bradley Award given in recognition of his outstanding commitment and service to Bradley University. He was a member of Bradley Athletic Hall of Fame, the Greater Peoria Sports Hall of Fame and IHSA Illinois Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame. Gene was a partner in the Unruh & Morse Agency in Peoria.

Edgar A Vovsi, '59,
Jan. 7, 2023, Las Vegas

1960s

Donald Bally, '60,
June 15, 2023, Evanston, Ill.

David Charlson, '60,
June 12, 2023, Plymouth, Minn.

Jack Rhodes, '60,
May 5, 2023, Peoria

Sue Ann Tisdale, '60,
Dec. 2, 2023, Springfield, Ill.

John Anderson, '61,
Sept. 13, 2023, Springfield, Ill.

Kermit Ball, '61,
April 1, 2020, Gahanna, Ohio

William Campbell, '61,
July 7, 2023, Seeley Lake, Montana

Frances Curtis, '61,
Sept. 18, 2023, Chillicothe, Ill.

Wesley Sandness, '61,
May 27, 2023, Overland Park, Kan.

Larry Wood, '61,
April 12, 2023, Inverness, Fla.

Jerry Yendro, '61,
April 23, 2023, Peru, Ill.

Loren Zimmerman, '61,
June 9, 2023, Metamora, Ill.

David Griffith, '62,
Aug. 29, 2023, Troy, Ohio

Gary Hepburn, '62,
Dec. 21, 2023, Surprise, Ariz.

Gabriel Sever, '62,
June 30, 2023, Laguna Niguel, Calif.

James Steen, '62,
April 17, 2023, Westport, Conn.

Joan Bennington Webb, '62,
April 24, 2023, Mansfield, Ill.

William Eakin, '63, July 20, 2023,

Barbara Wenckus Gwiasda, '63,
Nov. 20, 2022, Ames, Iowa

Leonard Jacob, '63,
Oct. 6, 2023, Castle Rock, Co

Nancy Coriell Ostlund, '63,
April 11, 2023, Melbourne, Fla.

Lois Johnson Phelps, '63,
April 30, 2022, Winnetka, Ill.

Paul Strom, '63,
Feb. 16, 2022, Rockledge, Fla.

Donald Tucker, '63,
Aug. 18, 2023, Santa Fe, N.M.

Sharon Jones Byerly, '64,

Feb. 6, 2023, Naples, Fla.

John Estes, '64,

July 25, 2023, Bartonville, Ill.

Robert Flanagan, '64,

Sept. 24, 2023, Delray Beach, Fla.

Jo Ann Schmidt Hepburn, '64,

June 3, 2023, Surprise, Ariz.

Daniel Isacksen, '64,

Aug. 18, 2023, Bourbonnais, Ill.

Janice Massa Jacobs, '64,

July 1, 2023, Hamilton, Ill.

Kenneth A. Powell, '64, MA '71,

Nov. 30, 2023, Canaan, N.H.

Thomas Romz, '64,

July 26, 2023, Houston, Texas

Raymond Tichy, '64,

June 2, 2023, Fontana, Wis.

Clifton R. Baxter, '65,

Oct. 17, 2023, Springfield, Ill.

Jane F. Boswell, '65, MA '70,

Nov. 13, 2023, Peoria

Alan J. Burkhardt, '65,

Dec. 5, 2023 Dwight, Ill.

Thomas Cachor, '65,

Nov. 7, 2023, Orland Park, Ill.

David Dvorak, '65,

Oct. 23, 2023, East Peoria, Ill.

Patricia Weretka Ferguson, '65,

June 21, 2023, Santa Fe, N.M.

Terry W. Gibson, '65,

Nov. 19, 2023, Canton, Ill.

Luanna Baxter Jacobs, '65,

Aug. 24, 2023, Boardman, Ohio

Alexander C. McIntosh, '65,

Nov. 3, 2023, Peoria

Wolford Shane, '65,

July 26, 2023, Danville, Ill.

Donald Schuette, '65,

Oct. 21, 2023, Salisbury, N.C.

William H. Schweickert, '65,

Jan. 15, 2024, Germantown Hills, Ill.

Joseph A. Thomas, '65,

Nov. 5, 2023, Peoria

Marvin Van Etten, '65,

May 20, 2023, Morton, Ill.

Betty L. Woith, '65,

Nov. 28, 2023, Pekin, Ill.

Kenneth Black, '66,

Aug. 22, 2023, Washington, Ill.

Larry M Cowling, '66,

Oct. 7, 2023, Peoria

Myron Gabbert, Jr., '66,

Sept. 11, 2023, New Meadows, Idaho

John Hall, '66,

Dec. 22, 2022, Pekin, Ill.

Earlene Collins Hanlon, '66,

June 21, 2023, Elmwood, Ill.

David M King, '66,

April 12, 2023, Sarasota, Fla.

Richard Nitto, '66,

Aug. 9, 2023, Peoria

Albin Peterson, '66,

July 24, 2023, Peoria

Eugene Wittry, '66,

June 23, 2023, Peoria

Amy Cesal Banks, '67,

June 22, 2023, Cohasset, Mass.

Peggy Bambrick Rink, '67,

July 6, 2023, Beardstown, Ill.

Ronald Lee Hayes, '67,

Nov. 24, 2023, Peoria

William Hoehn, '67,

Aug. 28, 2023, Radford, Va.

Charles Rainwater, '67,

Sept. 4, 2023, Farmington, Minn.

Janet Prosser Shaffer, '67,

Aug. 5, 2023, Grand Junction, Colo.

Jan Westman, '67,

Dec. 11, 2022, Conifer, Colo.

Eugene Brailey, '68,

Jan. 11, 2022, Old Hickory, Tenn.

Peggy Grant, '68,

Sept. 2, 2023, Bentonville, Ark.

Brian Hochstatter, '68,

April 6, 2023, Sterling, Ill.

Nancy Perkins Matousek '68,

Sept. 8, 2023, Peoria

Jeffery A. Rosenfeld, '68,

Nov. 28, 2023, Wimauma, Fla.

James D. Ryan, '68,

Nov. 21, 2023, Metamora, Ill.

Larry Skinner, '68,
Sept. 26, 2023, Abingdon, Ill.

Kenneth White, '68,
July 28, 2023, Kingston, N.Y.

Blake Devitt, '69,
Aug. 3, 2023, Indianapolis, Ind.

Richard Foster, '69,
Oct. 6, 2023, Elmhurst, Ill.

Gary L. Grebner, '69,
Dec. 11, 2023, Hampton Ill.

Gary K. Hutton, '69,
Dec. 2, 2023, Peoria.

Carrie S Koch, '69,
Oct. 12, 2023, Germantown Hills, Ill

Betty Goodsell Mannahan, '69,
Aug. 1, 2023, Canton

Shirley Appel McCune, '69,
Sept. 2, 2023, Putnam, Ill.

Judith Reid Paulone, '69,
July 4, 2023, Hempfield Township, Pa.

Chester Poremba, '69,
Sept. 23, 2023, Colona, Ill.

1970s

Jere R. Cook, '70,
Nov. 27, 2023, Gainesville, Fla.

Nancy Boe Ford, '70,
July 17, 2023, Clearwater, Fla.

Roger May, '70,
May 1, 2023, Peoria.

John Moline, '70,
Aug. 28, 2023, Sun City, Ariz.

Don Brennan, '71,
Aug. 28, 2023, Peoria

Nancy M. Heisner, '71,
Dec. 8, 2023, Oregon, Ill.

Alan Mandel, '71,
Feb. 12, 2022, Davie, Fla.

Judith Michael Sowers, '71,
Sept. 12, 2023, Peoria

Arthur G. Baldwin, Jr, '72,
Oct. 28, 2023, Dublin, Ohio

Wendy Stone Blum, '72,
Aug. 27, 2023, Dallas

Karen L. Gruden, '72,
Nov. 20, 2023, Wheaton, Ill.

Albin Peterson, '72,
July 24, 2023, Peoria

John Thiel, '72,
Sept. 29, 2023, LaCrosse, Wis.

John Witthuhn, '72, MBA '74,
Oct. 1, 2023, DeKalb, Ill.

Barbara Frank Bisping, '73,
Feb. 14, 2023, San Antonio, Tex.

John Groy, '73,
May 27, 2023, Vicksburg, Miss.

David Itken, '73,
July 26, 2023, Rock Island, Ill.

Phillip A Braet, '74,
April 19, 2023, East Moline, Ill.

Denise Vlcek Messenger, '74,
May 8, 2023, Mishawaka, Ind.

Karen K Smith, MA '74,
Oct. 13, 2023, Peoria

Linda K. Springer, '74,
Dec. 11, 2023, Delevan, Ill.

John Stack, '74,
July 1, 2023, Smithtown, N.Y.

William Grebner, '75,
July 24, 2023, Peoria

Patrick H. Mooney, '75,
Dec. 12, 2023, Hartsburg, Ill.

Daniel Orzel, '75,
July 15, 2021, Westland, Mich.

Joan Anderson Pardieck, '75,
April 27, 2023, Peoria.

Martin J. Smith, '75,
Nov. 27, 2023, Lone Tree, Colo.

Ronald Streib, '75,
July 4, 2023, Lady Lake, Fla.

Lawrence P. Hagemeyer, '76,
Jan. 7, 2024, Montgomery, Ill.

Glen Opdycke-Hansen, '76,
May 24, 2023, Shakopee, Minn.

Christine Grace Schneider, '76,
Nov. 21, 2023, Peoria

Richard (Blue) Scott III, '76,
Feb. 13, 2022, Bartlett, Ill.

Eugene Smith, '76,
Sept. 12, 2023, Pekin, Ill.

Francis Furman, '77,
June 14, 2022, Pleasanton, Kan.

Dennis Hockey, '77,
July 1, 2023, Downers Grove, Ill.

Nathaniel Horn, '77,
Aug. 18, 2023, Belleville, Ill.

James Massura, '77,
July 28, 2023, Downers Grove, Ill.

Jerry M Axel, '78,
Oct. 14, 2023, Skokie, Ill.

James Dougherty, '78,
Aug. 15, 2023, Denver, Colo.

Regina Hines Hutt, '78,
June 5, 2023, St. Louis

Sherrilyn Kay Ingraham, '78,
Jan. 6, 2024, Aurora, Ill.

Timothy Howard Barlow '79,
Nov. 28, 2022, Commerce Township,
Mich.

Robert L. Newton, '79,
Nov. 22, 2023, Peoria

1980s

Beauvoir Edmond, '80,
June 3, 2023, New York, NY

Rich Epich, '80,
July 23, 2023, Sabula, Iowa.

Al Campbell '81,
Dec 15, 2023, Prior Lake, MN

James A. Fisher, '82,
Nov. 6, 2023, Elgin, Ill.

Teresa Bomba Shook, '82,
Aug. 6, 2023, Exmore, Va.

Daniel C. Ward, '82,
June 16, 2023 in Lodi, Calif.

Ronald R. Debrock, '83,
Nov. 22, 2023, Godfrey, Ill.

Thomas A Dini, '83,
Dec. 21, 2023, Elmwood Park, Ill.

Janet Tucker Gerdes, '83,
March 27, 2023, Edwardsville, Ill.

Judith Peyton, '84,
April 24, 2023, Washburn, Wis.

Elizabeth Anderson, MA '85,
Oct. 23, 2023, Princeton, Ill.

Elizabeth L. Skeen, '86,
Jan. 17, 2024, O Fallon, Mo.

Katie Gibson Fritz, '87,
June 11, 2023, St. George, Kan.

Paul Panozzo, '87,
June 10, 2022, Perryville, Md.

Mark Petersen, '88,
April 27, 2023, Joliet, Ill.

Sandra Dempsey Post, '89,
Feb. 16, 2023, Bartonville, Ill.

1990s

Elizabeth Bissett Krietemeyer, '91,
Sept. 8, 2023, East Peoria, Ill.

William T. Welch, '91,
Dec. 8, 2023, Waterloo, Ill.

Charlene Kay Mallon, '92,
Jan. 4, 2023, St. Joseph, Mo.

John Niklewicz, '92,
June 2, 2023, Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Paul Panozzo, '93,
June 10, 2022, Havre de Grace, Md.

Thomas N Wilson, '93,
Oct. 10, 2023, Lakewood, N.J.

Toby Quin, '94,
May 23, 2023, Peoria

Kay Haffner, '98,
May 5, 2023, Pekin, Ill.

Maria Renee King, '99,
Dec. 5, 2023, Wheaton, Ill.

2000s

Kent A. Stone, '00,
Dec. 8, 2023, Saint Charles, Mo.

Melisa Borino Zopp, '00,
Oct. 10, 2023, Milwaukee, Wis.

Heidi Scuffham, MA '05,
Feb. 4, 2024, Peoria

Tami Schmidt, MFA '06,
Oct. 6, 2023, Moline, Ill. .

2010s

Mark A. Buettner, DPT '11,
Nov. 20, 2023, Peoria

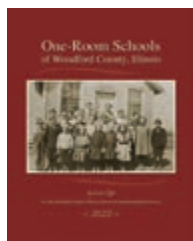
Reagan Dunlavy, '11,
June 9, 2023, Peoria

Lesley Matuszak, MBA '13,
Sept. 29, 2023, Peoria

Colin Schultheis, '10,
July 28, 2023, Waukegan, Ill.

Cheryl Wang, '10,
Aug. 7, 2023, Edmond, Ok.

alumni authors



ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS OF WOODFORD COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Karen Ludwig Fyke '60

For 150 years the children in rural Woodford County were educated in one-room country schools. This book documents a collection of memories from past students and includes historical information about the schools.



DYING FOR A DECORATION

Cindy Sample '72

When a six-foot-tall elf arrives at Laurel McKay Hunter's detective agency, it can only mean trouble. Then her eccentric grandmother refers her to an old flame who wants Laurel to track down the rustlers who have stolen his herd of reindeer!



PUG, FIREBALL AND COMPANY: 116 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL IN DES MOINES, IOWA

Steve Dunn '71

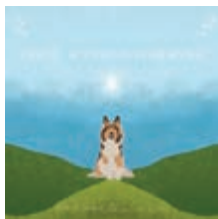
Lifelong baseball fan Steve Dunn captures 116 years of Des Moines, Ia., professional baseball history with a distinctive look at the players, managers, and owners who have contributed to an Iowa Sports Institution. The city's ballparks that have hosted such stars as Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Bob Feller, Tony La Russa, Ryne Sandberg, Satchel Paige, and Buck O'Neil are also chronicled.



THE LAST TRICERACORN, BOOK ONE AND BOOK TWO

Vincent Miceli '91

A lawyer by day, and writer by night, Vincent Miceli '91 is the author of The Last Triceracorn fantasy book series for children and young adults. The books were inspired by his own daughters, Matea and Luciana, who enjoyed the magical adventure stories their father told them when they were younger and persuaded him to write a book to capture his amazing adventures for other children.



I HAVE A FRIEND IN HEAVEN

Caitie Crowley '17

Inspired by her dog, Christmas, Crowley's story helps young readers learn how to grieve the loss of a pet from a Christian perspective.

lasting connections

Homecoming Week

The annual celebration of all things Bradley isn't complete without you! Mark your calendar for Homecoming Week and revisit the Hilltop for traditions old and new, like the lighting of the B and more. Keep an eye out for the official schedule of events that will be shared next fall. We can't wait to see you with Braves from all eras during the 2024 Homecoming festivities!



50+ Reunion Weekend

Another year has gone by and that means another new class of Bradley alumni to welcome into the 50+ Club! The Class of 1974 is being welcomed back for the annual reunion dinner and weekend festivities in the fall during Homecoming week. All members of the 50+ club are invited back to Bradley to join in celebrating and welcoming the Class of '74. Full details will be shared in the coming months!



Bradley University Alumni Association (BUAA):

Phone: (309) 677-2240

Email: bualum@bradley.edu

Website: bradley.edu/alumni

Social Media:

[Facebook.com/BradleyAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/BradleyAlumni)

[LinkedIn.com/BradleyUniversityAlumniAssociation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/BradleyUniversityAlumniAssociation)

Online Donations or Gifts:

bradley.edu/giving



Kansas City Watch Party - Feb. 7, 2024



Scout Staff 125th Reunion - Sept., 2023



Braves Opening Game - Nov. 11, 2023



Cubs Spring Training - Feb. 25, 2024



Arch Madness - March 8, 2024

More Ways to Give



The Bradley Fund provides critical, unrestricted support of Bradley every year, making sure that today's students and faculty have the same kind of experience that Bradley has delivered for the past 126 years. Your gift to the Bradley Fund sustains the long Bradley tradition of supporting those who follow in your footsteps. If you have already made a gift this year, thank you!



The Lydia Moss Bradley Society is a new initiative that recognizes donors who generously give an annual gift of \$1,000 or more to the Bradley Fund.

Lydia Moss Bradley was known for her bravery, passion, and philanthropy, the values that enabled her to establish Bradley University in 1897. The creation of a donor recognition society that bears her name is our special way of honoring Lydia and thanking you!

If you would like more information about the Bradley Fund or the Lydia Moss Bradley Society, please contact:

Shelly Smith,
Senior Director
of the Bradley Fund

(309) 677-3091
ss@bradley.edu

Make your gift

today



Dawn (van Hoorebeke) Garcia '82 has been a geologist for more than 35 years, and she fondly recalls her time spent in the labs in the basement of Bradley Hall.

My connection to Bradley was rooted in the very active geology department when I was a student. There were 40 of us in the major when I started in 1978, which was a boom time for geologists due to several oil crises in the 1970s. The department was in the basement of Bradley Hall and there were three professors (Donald Gorman, Henry Helenek and Merrill Foster) who taught there for decades. Every geology major took classes with all of them. Everyone knew the professors, and we had a lab with every class, so that meant lots of time spent in the bowels of Bradley Hall.



The cyclic nature of natural resource jobs (boom/bust) means that geology is for hardy souls. Geologists tend to be passionate about science, and that applied to the professors as well as the students. If you didn't really like geology, you'd throw in the towel with all those labs and a tough class schedule.

Classes were small and professors knew if you missed. My senior year I left a day early for fall break, and Dr. Foster had scheduled a late afternoon lab, which I skipped—and I *never* skipped classes. After break, he told the class that he probably shouldn't have scheduled that lab because almost no one showed up, “even Dawn hadn't been there,” he said.

The geology department had a well-rounded curriculum that was designed to allow students to go into any specialty of geology. Although I had pictured myself working as a petroleum geologist in Houston upon graduation, reality bit and the oil boom turned into a bust by the time I graduated. A few years later, I started working in environmental projects, and I have continued doing environmental work for a wide variety of industries, including mining, petroleum, landfills, and aerospace, as well as at military facilities. Geologists typically travel to job sites, and I've been all over the U.S. and Latin America. I was the 2023 president of the American Institute of Professional Geologists.

I have a strong family connection with Bradley. I am from the Peoria area, so Bradley was a known entity. There were science fairs hosted in the old basketball arena (the Field House) and I took the ACT in Olin Hall. My husband (Kevin Garcia, '85) and I met in a calculus class, and two of my siblings graduated from there, too. I have lots of good memories from Bradley and you'll often see one of us wearing Bradley apparel!

Sadly, Bradley's geology department no longer exists, but I'll never forget my time in the basement of Bradley Hall. **B**



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