

NORTH STAR

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LATELY



•RC's Heart for Uganda Beats Deeply•



FROM THE *president's desk*

Last year 271 graduates crossed the stage to receive their diplomas from Rochester College. Each one represents a unique story of persistence and achievement. Collectively, they are a testimony to the academic excellence of the college. Here are just a few examples.

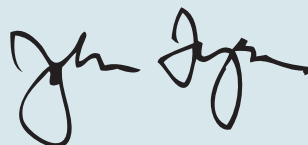
Karen Weier received her degree in counseling psychology through our Center for Extended Learning, a program designed to help adult learners return to college to complete a baccalaureate degree. Karen's lifelong dream was to be a child psychologist but other priorities interfered. At 17 she began working full-time, at 25 she married and had children. "It was a good life," Karen indicates, "but I had to put my dreams aside. Two years ago something clicked and the time was perfect. I felt God was really just nudging me to jump in and start my dream." This semester, Karen is in graduate school and well on her way to fulfilling her dreams.

A week before spring commencement in April, 73 graduating seniors from 13 academic departments participated in the 11th annual Academic Symposium. Working closely with faculty mentors, each student prepared an original work of research, literature, music or theater to present to peers and scholars in a professionally organized scholarly conference on campus. The outstanding work of these graduating seniors inspires underclassmen to excel academically. Successful California venture capitalist and Rochester native Wes Selke inspired students in the conference's plenary session. Former guest speakers have included leaders in education, industry, jurisprudence and a Nobel laureate.

Our first class of 17 nursing graduates completed their degrees in April as well. Already, 82 percent of the graduates have passed the national nursing licensure exam and landed their first jobs in nursing. We began planning for the program in 2009 and admitted the first class in 2011 when the program was fully accredited. This is quite an accomplishment!

Kirsten Rudd graduated with a degree in behavioral science. Along with two juniors, Meryl Cunningham and Taylor McKenna, and Professor Brian Stogner, Kirsten traveled to Washington, D.C. in August to present a paper at the annual national conference of the American Psychological Association. While at the conference, Kirsten was able to visit with one of her professional heroes, Temple Grandin. That's pretty remarkable for a project that had its start in an undergraduate introductory research methods class in social sciences.

I'm proud of all of our graduates at Rochester College. And I'm very proud of my colleagues who have devoted their professional lives to nurturing these young men and women to be competent professionals, grounded in Christian faith and prepared to be servant leaders. That gives me hope for our future.



John Tyson, Ph.D.
President



COFFEE FOR A CAUSE

Rochester College professor Larry Norman and international student Rogers Biina fuel the campus community with yummy lattes, mochas and more. All profits from Kibo Corner directly support the efforts of Kibo Group, a non-profit dedicated to working with communities in East Africa to help them reach their full potential by tackling poverty and injustice. Through Kibo Corner, alumni working in Uganda and a summer internship program, RC's heart for Africa beats deeply.

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Rochester College cultivates academic excellence, principled character, servant leadership, and global awareness through a rigorous educational experience that integrates liberal arts and professional studies within an inclusive Christian heritage.

College Launches Campus Volunteer Program



Volunteers have contributed to the growth of Rochester College since its founding. Many have served on boards and advisory committees. Hundreds have worked countless hours assisting the Associates and other college fundraising activities.

In an effort to better fulfill its mission and meet critical campus needs, Rochester College has introduced a formalized program for campus volunteers. Through this

program, alumni and friends are now able to assist the college by working on campus in a variety of volunteer roles.

"We have identified a broad array of over 30 part-time roles in which volunteers can serve," said Larry Stewart, coordinator of the program. "Almost every campus department has prepared job descriptions for specific roles in their various areas of campus activity."

While all age groups are welcome to participate in the volunteer program, retirees are particularly encouraged to apply for a role. Applicants may pursue a role related to their professional experience or accept the challenge of learning new skills.

"We moved from Atlanta, Ga., to serve the college as volunteers," said Nancy McLachlan, a retired public school teacher and member of the class of 1965 who has been teaching courses in the education department over the past year. "We are being far more enriched by this service than we could ever have imagined."

Employees as well as students enjoy the college's vibrant educational community known for its sense of mission and Christian commitment. While serving in this new program, volunteers are surrounded by the vitality of youth and individuals who care for one another. Through their volunteer efforts, these individuals help change the lives of others.

For more information about the volunteer program, visit www.rc.edu/volunteer. The webpage includes information about open volunteer roles and an application form.



WAY TO GO, ROCHESTER HILLS! City Named a "Best Place to Live"

TIME'S MONEY MAGAZINE RECENTLY NAMED ROCHESTER HILLS AS ONE OF THE NATION'S "BEST PLACES TO LIVE." THE COLLEGE'S HOMETOWN RANKED FIRST IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND NINTH IN CITIES IN THE COUNTRY WITH A POPULATION BETWEEN 50,000 AND 300,000.

Nursing Program Graduates First Class of Students

Graduation is an exciting and momentous occasion. This year was even more noteworthy as the inaugural class of graduates from the Rochester College School of Nursing received their diplomas in April. The group, consisting of 17 nursing students, also hosted a pinning ceremony prior to walking across the graduation stage.

"Each of these students possess the qualities of a skilled and socially conscious nursing professional. We couldn't be more proud of their hard work and dedication, and we know great things are in store for every one of them," said Dr. Remylin Bruder, director of the School of Nursing.

Members of the graduating class are currently pursuing careers at several healthcare facilities in the state of Michigan, including William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Genesys Health System in Grand Blanc, St. John Providence Health System and Boulevard Temple Care Center in Detroit.

One of the graduates, Whitney Newsom, is now a registered nurse at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital in Pontiac. Although she has been focused on settling into her new nursing career, she recalls what a special occasion the pinning ceremony was. "As the first class of graduates, we were given the privilege of creating a pin that will be used many years down the road, which made the pin even more meaningful."

Newsom said RC prepared her for a career in several ways, including a detailed course that centered on the process of taking the national nursing licensure exam, while offering practice exams and testing strategies that made the real test day easier. Following graduation and passing her licensure exam, the professors also assisted in her job search by helping her find her niche. "This made me feel extremely confident in my work," she said.

Now that she is a practicing nurse, Newsom realizes the influence the school had on her and her fellow students. "Having a Christian environment to learn and grow provided a lot more meaning to the whole experience. We weren't just gaining knowledge about medicine—we were learning to be better leaders and followers of Christ in our field," she said.

"Through each lecture and clinical experience, we were reminded we are God's hands at work. The Christian context of the curriculum led each of us to be more compassionate nurses and to remember throughout our careers this is more than just a job. It's a calling."

The School of Nursing currently has 67 students, 20 of whom are bound for graduation in spring 2015.



Whitney Newsom on graduation day



1960s-
it's reunion time!

MAY 15-17, 2015
ON THE RC CAMPUS

MORE INFO AT:
www.rc.edu/60sreunion

[f /groups/mcc60salumni](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mcc60salumni)

RC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Stogner Welcomed as Provost



Dr. Brian Stogner recently began a new role as provost of Rochester College. He says he likes to think of his new role as being the chief learning officer of RC.

Stogner has worked for RC since 1998 and has served the college in many areas, including the psychology department and on-campus clinic, academics, assessment, accreditation and the nursing program.

In addition to provost duties, Stogner plans to continue to teach. "I love being in the classroom and will work hard to never let this new role disconnect me from students," he said.

Stogner enjoys being a part of the RC community for two reasons—the community itself and the mission.

"I strongly believe in what we are trying to do here—educate people who can be academically and vocationally prepared for the uncertain and challenging world, and who have the character, values and sensitivities to be servant leaders who embody Christ in their life and work. That's the sort of thing that will change the world."

Chorus Releases Album on iTunes

Friends of the Rochester College A Cappella Chorus can now download from iTunes the ensemble's latest album, "Saints Bound for Heaven." The entire album of 12 songs can be purchased for \$9.99 or individual songs for 99 cents. To download your copy, visit www.rc.edu/heaven.



» To stay up-to-date on all things RC, subscribe to eNews by visiting WWW.RC.EDU/ABOUT-RC/ENEWS/. Each month you will receive the latest RC happenings, events and news bulletins delivered right to your inbox.

Rochester College Adds Strategic Leadership and Musical Theatre Majors

Strategic Leadership

Rochester College's Center For Extended Learning now offers a strategic leadership degree, which is delivered fully online.

Currently, the degree is offered as a bachelor of science in leadership with a management track. It is designed to serve people who are in industry or management fields and are interested in leadership roles within their businesses.

"We hope in the future to provide additional tracks that would provide new constituents and new audiences with opportunities to pursue a degree that's even more relevant to them," Scott Cagnet, director of CEL operations, said.

RC is excited for the opportunity to provide Christian learning opportunities to the growing number of adult students balancing full-time work and family life as they pursue higher education.

"We're glad we can provide something that's more convenient for people who may have families or jobs or who may not live close enough to actually come to one of our campuses to pursue a degree. Also, online classes oftentimes give people who may not normally speak in a face-to-face classroom a voice by participating in discussion boards and engaging in conversations," Cagnet said.

"We were trying to find a way to offer a distance learning degree that would be relevant. Through several conversations with consultants and others in higher education, this seemed to be the degree that was most ready to be moved online," Cagnet said.

Students interested in the leadership degree can find out more information at www.rc.edu/cel.



Musical Theatre

The Rochester College music and theatre departments recently added a musical theatre major. "Drawing from strong academic programs in both music and theatre already in place at RC, we found ways to combine our efforts and, with the addition of a dance component, put together a musical theatre degree plan," said Dr. Catherine Parker, associate professor and theatre department chair.

The number of students majoring in theatre, including musical theatre, has more than doubled this year. "Universities in Michigan who offer this degree are turning away students because admission is so competitive, and we wanted to provide an option for students in southeast Michigan who want a Christian college and desire to stay in this area. We saw the need, and we saw opportunity to recruit students who otherwise would not have come to RC," Parker said.

Students may pursue a theatre major, musical theatre major, theatre concentration within the humanities or interdisciplinary studies major, or a minor in theatre. The RC theatre program combines a strong foundation in liberal arts with a broad understanding of all facets of theatre. Students practice skills in acting, directing, writing, design and stagecraft under close supervision of the theatre faculty in an environment that encourages them to integrate their faith with their academic study.

For more information about the theatre department, including upcoming performances, visit www.rc.edu/theatre.



ALUMNI OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTE THROUGH

service

Gary and Nancy McLachlan are prime examples of volunteerism as a powerful way to add value to life and to a community.

Now in their second year serving as volunteers at RC, the McLachlans say narrowing down the highlights of serving at their alma mater is difficult, but they list "attending chapel, working with future educators, interacting with faculty and staff, and 'adopting' two students from Greece and Lithuania" as some of the most rewarding aspects. The college has honored the couple as its 2014 "Alumni of the Year."

Nancy, a 1965 alumna and daughter of former professor Doyle Earwood, first started thinking about volunteering during a 1960s-decade reunion in Nashville about four years ago.

Larry Stewart, director of alumni relations, talked about some concerns facing the college. "God spoke to my heart, and I asked Larry if it would be possible for me to donate a year of teaching, since my husband and I were retired and did not have a lot of money to contribute to the school," Nancy said. "My husband and I felt this was a way we could give back to the college that has meant so much to us over the years."

Nancy instructs education courses and independent writing classes. "Nancy has been such a blessing to our department," said Dr. Mel Blohm, dean of the School of Education. "By covering some of our classes, she has allowed other faculty to work on our national accreditation. Her Christ-like spirit has been felt by staff and students alike."

Gary, who previously was a professional announcer in Atlanta, Ga., has volunteered as the voice of the RC Warriors. Athletic Director and Men's Basketball Coach Clint Pleasant said, "Gary's willingness to be our announcer at basketball games has made our game day experience much more exciting. He is a professional, and our players and coaches are grateful for his help!"



ALUMNI OF THE YEAR NANCY AND GARY McLACHLAN

In addition to their specific responsibilities, both have deeply engrained themselves in the campus community by attending most student, employee and alumni events. They also serve as sponsors for the social club, TAU.

"Acceptance by both students, staff, faculty and our local congregation has been heartwarming," said Gary, who attended the college in 1963 and 1964. "We feel like we have been provided a great opportunity to use our God-given talents and willingness to add to the university experience for those students, with whom we have regular contact."

The couple are especially thrilled to have two "adopted" sons. Nancy first encountered a student from Greece in an independent writing class. "Dimitri impressed me with his desire to learn and do well.... I knew that his roommate, Vic, was from Lithuania and that they both were on the basketball team. So now they have become an important part of our experience on campus, as well as in our home," Nancy said. "We have had a Lithuanian meal prepared by Vic, gone to a Greek restaurant, and have been helped in our recent move. We touch base every day, and our lives have been richly blessed by these two fine young 'sons.'"

Before coming to RC, the couple lived in Atlanta. Nancy has a long and distinguished career as an educator, teaching in elementary school, middle school and high school. She taught high school English and coordinated an at-risk program for 20 years.

Gary served in campus ministry at Western Michigan University, Purdue University and Oklahoma State University. He then worked for Xerox Corp. "As you can see, we love working with college students!" Nancy said.

Gary has a deep and continued interest in music. He was instrumental in starting the Metropolitan Detroit Youth Chorus in 1964. That chorus still exists today as a music and fellowship activity for teens in the Detroit area.

The McLachlans have been married for almost 50 years and have two children: a son, Phillip, who lives in California with his wife and two young sons, and a daughter, Kimberly, who lives in Atlanta with her husband and three children.

"The couple's volunteer efforts this past year have been remarkable, and we would love to have more servants like Gary and Nancy," Stewart said. "While they only planned to stay for one year, they are already on year two because of their positive experiences on campus."

The McLachlans agree the arrangement has been mutually beneficial. Nancy said, "Gary and I have received so much more than we could ever give back to our alma mater, and we are so thankful to be a part of the Rochester community!"

For others who might be interested in volunteering at RC, visit www.rc.edu/volunteer. The webpage includes information about open volunteer roles and an application form.

Grahams Honored for Philanthropy and Service



Todd & Connie Graham

Rochester College honored alumni Todd and Connie (Kinser) Graham with the J. Robert and Mary Utley Philanthropy Award during the President's Circle of Honor Luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 4.

Both Grahams graduated from Rochester College (then Michigan Christian College) in 1971. Connie Graham, a retired elementary school principal, serves on the college's Board of Trustees, and Todd Graham, senior lender for Farmers and Merchant State Bank, serves on the RC Foundation Board. The Grahams' three children also attended Rochester College.

The Grahams were honored for modeling sacrificial service and philanthropic generosity in support of the college. "We will continue to be grateful for the countless opportunities we've had as a result of RC," Connie Graham wrote. "We love this school and the many people who serve so sacrificially there. It is our prayer that all who attend or are associated with RC will someday look back and give God thanks for the many, many blessings that have come their way as a result of the time spent on the campus and the wonderful people along the way who have encouraged them in their walk with God."

The President's Circle of Honor was created to honor friends of Rochester College who help the college financially. At the event, donors eat dinner and visit with the students whom they are helping. For more information about donor opportunities, visit www.rc.edu/give.

NASA Ambassador Shares Telescope with College

Visitors to campus may notice a new contraption located near the college's baseball field. The white dome is a Meade LX200 Schmidt Cassegrain 14-inch telescope, equipped with a video camera for easy viewing. Provided to the college by NASA Ambassador Gerry Chevrier, the device has enhanced lab experiences for earth science and astronomy courses. Community star-gazing events are in the works as well. "Anytime you are looking at objects in space, especially through a telescope, it's awe-inspiring and makes you realize how many amazing things are out there. There's a lot to learn about and consider," said David Brackney, dean of the School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences.



RC BASKETBALL TRIO COMPETES IN ITALY

Three former RC women's basketball players spent 10 days in Italy this past summer combining their love of basketball with a tour of Italy's most historic and famous attractions.

Samantha Tomaschko, a four-year varsity basketball player and 2013 graduate, was joined in Italy by fellow teammates Lexy Newsom, a four-year varsity player and 2014 nursing graduate, and Meagan Heiden, a former sports management major who attended RC from 2012 to 2014.

The trio traveled with other collegiate athletes for American International Sports Teams, an organization that assembles select teams to compete in international tournaments. AIST allows athletes who have had outstanding collegiate seasons to gain experience playing their sports overseas while also enjoying a country's unique cultural and educational attractions.

Tomaschko, an accounting major at RC who now works for Kibo Group International, said one of the reasons she took the trip was to experience many of the famous sites of Italy. The team started out visiting the Sistine Chapel, Roman Colosseum, Vatican City, the Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps and many other localities in Rome. After finishing in the capital city, the group visited other Italian cities, including Montecatini Terme, Florence, San Marino, Venice and Como.

Newsom, who is a nurse for the Beaumont Health System, was most impressed with the beautiful city of Venice and being able to ride gondolas through the canals. Tomaschko agreed. "It was just amazing that a whole city could be surrounded by water!"

Another adventure for them was sitting down to dinner every night. "We took turns guessing what the food was that had been placed in front of us," Newsom said. "Often we were given veal to eat.... All I can say is we spent most of our nights eating Nutella and crackers

for dinner because, being 'picky eaters', we weren't willing to step into the world of Italian eating."

In addition to eating and sight seeing, the players hit the court and competed against Belize SRS Roma, a semi-professional team, and Olimpia Basket Pesaro, a professional Italian club team. AIST finished up playing in an all-stars tournament against teams from the second-tier division of professional club basketball in Italy. The Americans won both games in the tournament and received medals.

Some of the players on the team took the trip in hopes of signing contracts to play professional ball overseas, but Newsom said she was eager just to be on the court again after finishing her college career. "Although I wasn't looking to play professional basketball, I went for the opportunity to play basketball while also getting to see the world. Considering my basketball career at RC was over, I was willing to play basketball any chance I could get! My love for the game wasn't over, and I was ecstatic to have the opportunity to put on a jersey and my shoes one more time."

An interesting aspect of the team was that seven out of the 12 players were from Michigan. "We had all played against each other at one point or another in our careers. It was really nice getting to know the people we had played against over my four-year career at Rochester College," Tomaschko said.

Traveling for the basketball players brought back fond memories of long road trips and sharing hotel rooms while competing as Warriors. For Newsom, Heiden and Tomaschko, the long road trip to Italy combined their love for basketball with an incredible experience in an old world country.





WARRIOR WRAP-UP

RC ATHLETES CONTINUE COMPETING AT A HIGH LEVEL

in gyms, fields and greens across the region while playing in two athletic associations: the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and the United States Collegiate Athletic Association. We've stopped the clock—take a minute to check out this Warrior recap.

DIRECTOR'S CUP

Rochester College athletics has demonstrated a strong ability to field competitive teams while displaying a high level of character and sportsmanship on the field. The Warriors athletic program finished in third place for the second consecutive year for the USCAA Director's Cup, which is awarded to institutions that have the most success as an entire athletic department. Points are awarded for the number of sport offerings and are also based on results from USCAA national championship events.

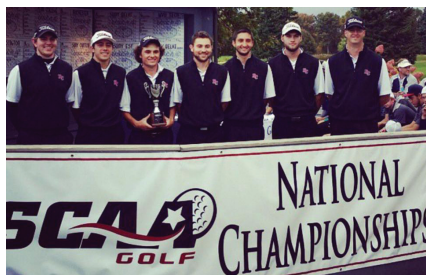
"These recognitions are humbling. It's nice to know we're producing All-Americans both on and off the court while emphasizing integrity in all things," said Athletic Director Klint Pleasant.

RC has sent 10 teams to USCAA national tournaments in the past two years. Highlighting the Warriors success at nationals was the 2013 men's basketball national championship team, which won 30 games two years ago. The men's basketball team has won 53 games the last two years while the women's basketball team has qualified for the national tournament five years in a row. The volleyball team has competed at nationals seven years in a row and the baseball team has qualified three out of the last four years.

MEN'S GOLF

The men's golf team came close to holing first place at the USCAA Men's Golf National Tournament in October, but ended up as runner-up. The team shot a tournament best 299 on day two, but the score was not strong enough to overtake leader Daemen College, which finished seven strokes ahead of RC.

"Any time you can play a course like the Penn State University Blue Course against good competition and have so many teams in the field and still finish where we did, is quite an accomplishment," said Coach Clayton Bissett. "Of course we would have liked to have won, but we played as well as we have played all year in the second round and did what we needed to do in order to give ourselves a chance to win. The team we were chasing just happened to play well



that day, too. I take my hat off to the guys. They played great."

Sophomore Chet Ryeson (Metamora, Mich./Lapeer West H.S.) led the Warriors with a total score of 148 after shooting a tournament low round of 68 on day two. Ryeson's second day efforts were good enough to land him tied for second place in the tournament medalist standings. Ryeson was named a first team USCAA All-American after leading the USCAA with a 74-stroke average this season.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball team had its best national showing in at least a decade with a second-place finish at the USCAA national championships. Florida College defeated the Warriors three straight games, 25-23, 25-15 and 25-20.

Junior All-American Paige TenBrink (Hudsonville, Mich./Jenison H.S.) had a game-high 28 digs to go along with a team-high 10 kills. TenBrink and fellow All-American freshman Lexus Medina (Wayne, Mich./Huron Valley Lutheran H.S.) were named to the all-tournament team.

Shannon Murphy took over as head coach this year, succeeding veteran coach Dave Crump. Under Murphy's leadership, the Warriors entered the national tournament as the #1 ranked team in the USCAA with a 21-17 record. RC went 11-0 against USCAA schools this year including winning the Penn State University-Beaver Tournament and Rochester College Volleyball Tournament.

Murphy previously headed the volleyball program at Skyline High School in Ann Arbor, Mich., and competed as a student-athlete and as a coach at Concordia University-Ann Arbor.

Crump moved to Arkansas for a new job and relinquished his coaching duties to Murphy.

This year's team had a dynamic relationship with each other that other teams envy," Murphy said. "Our returners had a goal to win a national championship title and to add a volleyball banner to the gym. Even though we weren't able to bring the banner home this year, we still achieved new goals, set a new standard and proved we as a team are limitless."



MEN'S BASKETBALL



In 2013-14, the men's basketball team competed in the Association of Independent Institutions conference tournament and USCAA national tournament.

The men's basketball team finished tied for fourth after a consolation bracket victory at the USCAA nationals. The Warriors were led by senior guard Stavros Schizas, who was named an NAIA honorable mention All-American. Schizas, a native of Athens, Greece, averaged 19.2 points/game and 6.8 rebounds/game.

Schizas also was named to the 2013-2014 Division II A.I.I. All-Conference First Team and selected as a first team USCAA All-American.

"I am thrilled for both Stavros and our entire basketball program. Stavros is now our basketball program's third NAIA All-American in three years of being in the NAIA. This honor could not be going to a better person. Stavros was a complete player, but also a great teammate. It is a great recognition for him personally and for our program as a whole," Pleasant said.

Following the end of the season, Schizas completed his associate's degree and returned to Greece. He signed a professional contract with Greece's top professional division in September.

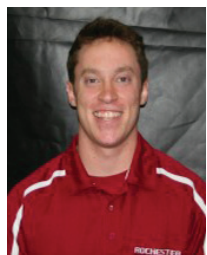
Teammate freshman guard Paris Pereira (Rochester Hills, Mich./Rochester H.S.) and senior guard A.J. Burton (Brown City, Mich./St. Clair County C.C.) were named honorable mention All-A.I.I. Pereira also took home the honor of A.I.I. Freshman of the Year. After graduation, Burton accepted an assistant coach position with the women's basketball team at the University of Detroit.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

After a 12-18 regular season, the Warriors played in both the A.I.I. conference tourney and the USCAA national tournament, where the women lost in the first round.

The Warriors were led by senior forward Ke'ala Ka'aikala (Stanton, Mich./Lakeview H.S.), who was named first team USCAA All-American and first team A.I.I. All-Conference. Ka'aikala averaged 15 points/game and over 9 rebounds/game, which led the A.I.I. conference. She also recorded 11 double-doubles during the season.

MEN'S BASEBALL



Men's baseball had a new leader this year as Ryan Chipka, an RC alumnus and four-year captain of the baseball team, took over as head coach.

Upon his hiring, Chipka said, "I am thrilled to have the opportunity to continue playing a part in the Rochester College baseball family. I honestly have trouble finding the words to explain how I feel to be leading this group of young men. I am tremendously excited, blessed, and fortunate to be where I am."

Chipka led the Warriors to an 11-game win improvement and an appearance in the USCAA World Series with a final record of 20-17. The Warriors baseball team was honored as an NAIA-Scholar team after maintaining a 3.20 cumulative grade-point-average amongst its 34 players.

MEN'S SOCCER

Former 2008 women's soccer head coach Tony Hermiz returned to Rochester College to take over as head coach of the men's team. "Through his interactions and experiences with high school and club coaches and players, he has become widely known and respected in the soccer community. We are thrilled to have him back with us," Pleasant said.

Hermiz led the team to a 10-6-1 finish this season. The team also returned to the USCAA national tournament on a hot streak after winning four consecutive games by a combined score of 19-4.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

RC started a women's cross-country team in fall 2013 with Coach Laura Murphy at the helm. Murphy was a two-time Olympic trials qualifier in the marathon and a four-time Mid-American Conference champion in the 1500 meters. She earned All-MAC honors in cross country for three consecutive years, and was inducted into the Bowling Green State University Athletic Hall of Fame, class of 1992.

Key runners for the Warriors were Brandi West and sisters Kylee and Kelsey Wright-Alexander. The Warriors cross-country team made the program's first appearance at the A.I.I. Conference Championship in November.

"The progress has been slow and steady," Murphy said. "We are looking for our big break when it counts the most at the final meet of the season Saturday in Clinton, Iowa." Results were not available by press time.

Murphy said all runners are returning next season, and she hopes to add to the roster. "We are working on acquiring some smart, hardworking recruits and hope to enhance what we have built on this season," she said.

BOWLING AND TENNIS

RC added men's and women's tennis and men's and women's bowling for the 2014-15 academic year. Coach Evan Valeri leads the men's tennis team, which finished 0-3 in the fall season. The six men's team will hit the courts again in the spring.

Rick Maruszczak coaches the inaugural men's and women's bowling teams, which had just started their seasons at press time. "We are really glad to have Coach Maruszczak on board. Bowling is becoming increasingly more popular at the high school level and it is an emerging sport on the NAIA level. We feel bowling is a great fit for our athletic program," Pleasant said.

WOMEN'S GOLF

The women's golf team fell on some hard times this past season. Coach Clayton Bissett said the team was without two of its better players at most of its tournaments. Senior Orié Ramos was injured before the first tournament and was out all season, and Danielle Godair missed most of the tournaments because of nursing clinicals.

"We did have some ladies step up in their absence though and that is what a team is all about," Bissett said. Returners Kristin Loisselle and Lindsay Baslock played well all season and led the team.

Bissett said he was pleased with how freshman Rachel Mervyn played. "She had a nice start to her college career," he said. "Emma Alexander, Maria Burrell and Paige Gulyas also played well in tournaments and gained some needed experience. Hopefully the ladies will be able to build on that experience and we will be able to use Orié and Danielle for a successful spring season."

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's soccer team finished with a 4-12-2 record for the 2014 season. Although the team had a disappointing finish, the Warriors were recognized by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America for their ethics and sportsmanship. The College Team Ethics and Sportsmanship Award is given out to teams that exhibit fair play, sporting behavior and adherence to the laws of the game, as reflected by the number of yellow caution cards or red ejection cards administered by referees throughout the season. Rochester College was the recipient of the silver medal after receiving just two yellow caution cards on the season. Team members Sarah Tomkowiak, Mary (Ginny) Vincent and Kaylee Khoshaba also received All-Academic Team honors.



MOVING FORWARD

RC now has 13 varsity sports as it competes in its third full year in the NAIA. "We have been talking about expanding the athletic department for the last few years, and now we are starting to put that plan in place. I really like the process we have taken. We took our time to research and do our homework and have now arrived at the addition of varsity sports we feel have a bright future. Our long-term plan is to join a local NAIA regional conference and we feel these additions will help us move forward," Pleasant said.



KEEP UP WITH THE WARRIOR AT
WWW.ROCHESTERCOLLEGEWARRIORS.COM

24-HOUR Give

Rochester College hosted its first 24-hour giving event Aug. 5-6. The momentous day for the college brought in \$117,686 in gifts and pledges, surpassing the challenge from a select group of donors who pledged to match up to \$100,000 in donations received within the 24-hour time period. In total, the college raised \$217,686 for this campaign.

Over 200 donors worldwide responded to the challenge by contributing monetarily and sharing information about the event. The donations, which raised money for the annual fund, were promoted and acquired through messages shared via phone, social media and email.

"24-Hour Give was an exciting and encouraging way to kick-start the 2014 academic year. It was incredible to see faculty, staff, alumni, students, and new and old friends of the college come together to exceed this challenge," said Tom Rellinger, vice president for development.

Thank you to the hundreds of donors and supporters of this community-wide event. We could not have done it without you!

GET INVOLVED

Find more info or donate by visiting RC.EDU/DONATE or calling the Development Office at 248.218.2021.

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MANY INDIVIDUALS SHARED THEIR THANKFULNESS FOR THE COLLEGE AND HONORED INDIVIDUALS WITH THEIR GIFTS. HERE ARE SOME OF THE COMMENTS:

"Jon and I are both RC alumni. All three of our children attended RC. I cannot say enough about the good our affiliation with RC has brought to all of our lives."
—LINDA (BROWN) FULTON, '80

"I give back to the school that gave me so much more than I could ever have asked: preparation for my career, a passion for teching, mentors to help me learn and grow, a love for theatre, and meaningful friendships." —ELLIOTT KERN, '13

"Rochester College is a huge part of who I am today in my family, my workplace and my walk with the Lord. Thank you for continuing to be a safe, spiritual place for young people to grow." —JENNI (KOGOWSKI) DOUCET, '96

"ROCHESTER COLLEGE TAUGHT ME HOW TO ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, AND WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD."

—RACHEL (GRANT) MAINERO, '12

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Norman playing in the 2013 NAIA men's division II basketball national championship game against Bellevue College.

LEARNING TO PLAY WELL IN LIFE

Brad Norman lost his father prior to his senior year of high school at Bay City Central (Mich.). The loss of his father's guidance seemed to push him into company with the wrong crowd. Three years of squandering his talents and making poor decisions while with two other college basketball programs forced him to look for another institution. Rochester College entered the picture.

Brad says, "My uncle and I came and met with Coach Pleasant in person. He broke down what would be expected of me. I was introduced to a different culture – I was introduced to the Rochester College basketball culture. My journey at Rochester did not have a great beginning. My previous three years left me with the feelings of being unsafe, insecure and distrustful of others. I thought the only value I had was in my basketball skills. My dog-eat-dog mentality did not play well at Rochester College. In fact, what Rochester College helped me see was that my attitude would not play well anywhere in life."

"Rochester College modeled and surrounded me with respect, love and an attitude of servant leadership. Coach Pleasant became more than some random guy in the stands watching me play basketball. One of my most meaningful relationships in my life is with Coach Pleasant—he gave me an opportunity to play basketball, but more importantly, he gave me a way to see life differently—character in all things, open and honest communication, value, and attention to detail have been engraved in me for life."

Since arriving in Michigan last year, I have heard about and witnessed first-hand the transformation Rochester College has had on the lives of young people – especially within our basketball program. What is so amazing to me is Rochester College has won five national championships and has played every game in its history AWAY. There is no performance gymnasium on this campus.

Bill Fox, a local businessman, decided to help remedy the gym situation. Bill says, "I've seen Rochester College turn boys into men time and time again." Bill has given Rochester College a \$1 million challenge gift to help build the college a performance gym on campus.

As a friend, would you join me in this endeavor by making a gift that helps us raise the matching dollars necessary to receive Bill's challenge gift? This isn't about bricks and mortar – it is about building the lives of young people like Brad Norman.

—Dr. John Tyson

Whole LATTE LOVE

STORY BY Liz Fulton & Natalie Redmond PHOTOS BY Elliot Jones

On the campus of Rochester College and in the heart of downtown Jinja, Uganda, there stand two coffee shops. Although separated by more than 7,500 miles and perhaps just as many cultural and geographical differences, the locations share a common mission...and even some of the same customers. These coffee lovers also happen to be RC students, alumni and faculty members. Although many of them love a masterfully roasted cup of premium Arabica coffee, they love God's people even more. Because of this love, a small business on our small campus is doing big things; alumni, whose calling placed them on a path to RC, were eventually led back to Africa to serve; and our students are having life-changing experiences. Settle in with some java—their stories are coming right up.

A coffee shop located in the center of a college campus might seem like nothing more than the saving grace of that comatose student headed to an early morning (or even late afternoon) exam. However, the coffee shop at Rochester College serves a much bigger purpose. Since opening in 2011, Kibo Corner generates approximately \$20,000 annually, enough to completely fund the Community-Led Total Sanitation project of Kibo Group International. CLTS, managed by Tom Ngobi ('12), is one of Kibo Group's four main initiatives, all of which are aimed at ending poverty and injustice in East Africa and creating communities of people who live full and healthy lives. It's Kibo's approach to this work, however, that caught the attention of RC business professor and volunteer executive director of Kibo Group International, Larry Norman.

SOMETHING'S BREWING

In summer 2011, Norman and his wife, Kay, made the first of many journeys to Uganda. Kay had spent time in Malawi the previous year with the Little Dresses For Africa ministry and returned home convinced the couple be doing something in Africa. Because the Normans already knew several people involved with the work of Kibo, they decided the organization would be a good place to start. The couple arranged to spend two weeks in Uganda witnessing the work of Kibo Group.

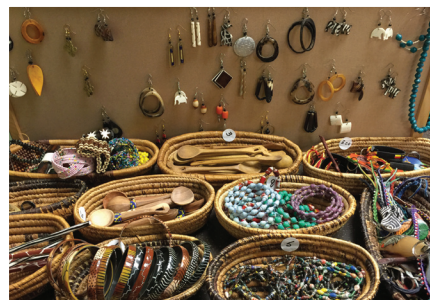
"We didn't get sick, but we were both 'infected,'" said Norman. "The biggest factor was not 'what' Kibo was doing, but 'how' they were doing it. We loved the relational and sustainable aspects of Kibo's approach."

Too often, mission work is addressed from a well intentioned, but ineffective, "Western savior" mentality: mission teams go into a developing country, dig a few wells, make acquaintances with locals and leave after a couple weeks. Though the teams might feel they have made an impact on an area, the influence is often short term. Newly made wells and buildings fall into disrepair when locals do not know how or are simply unwilling to take responsibility for the project.

Norman noticed what Kibo Group was doing as completely different, however. The organization was focused on helping villages of varied people understand one another, rebuild trust and work together for the good of the entire community. He saw first-hand the efforts were well-planned in order to be long-lasting. He recognized Kibo Group's goals of providing clean water to villages, ending open defecation, empowering women and planting trees to aid in the inevitable deforestation that occurs when a community's only means of cooking is with wood. Most importantly, Norman could immediately tell Kibo Group was taking the time, building relationships and putting in the work crucial to addressing spiritual and physical concerns for the long haul.

LARRY NORMAN & KIBO CORNER

Larry Norman and a small group of RC students, including Ugandan native, Rogers Biina, serve a wide selection of coffees, teas, lattes and other hot beverages, as well as handmade African crafts at Kibo Corner. Located in the student center of the Richardson Center, the shop is open from 7:30-11 a.m. Monday through Friday. 100% of revenue goes directly toward funding the Kibo Group's Community-Led Total Sanitation project.



SUSTAINABILITY

When Kibo identifies a village with a water need, the first step is visiting the community and meeting with its leaders to figure out where they are currently getting their water and what issues are involved therein.

"Kibo spends a great deal of time getting to know these people, and a well isn't installed unless all of them are willing to do what Kibo calls 'know how to own a well,'" said Norman.

Knowing how to own a well involves setting up a funding committee to cover repairs and maintenance costs and training a villager to service the mechanism. The 30 to 40 pre-existing wells Kibo helps rehabilitate each year are a testament to the importance of this first step. Furthermore, every single home in the village has to go through Kibo's "Home Improvement Campaign," which ensures dishes are properly cleaned so water is no longer stored in dirty containers, and each home has a functioning latrine and place for hand-washing. "You're not breaking the cycle just by giving them clean water," said Norman.

RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING

On a relational note, the work of Kibo has brought healing and acceptance to the people of the Busoga region on numerous occasions. Norman recounts a more recent example of this, sharing about a community outside Jinja that was once divided by deep conflict and mistrust between Shiite Muslims, Sunni Muslims and Christians. Not surprisingly, it seemed unlikely these groups would be able to put aside their differences and find ways to work together. However, after a year of partnering with Kibo Group, the community was changed. God worked to transform people's hearts; churches, community leaders and governments combined to make a difference; and Kibo's Mvule (tree-planting) Project acted as a catalyst for the people to organize around issues afflicting the community as a whole. Eventually, solid walls of division were torn down. The Shiite imam invited the pastor of the Christian church and the Sunni imam to visit his mosque. After the first mosque visit, the group stopped at the other mosque,

then the church. At each stop they discussed their traditions, shared documents and took photos to commemorate this special time. These men had not spoken to each other in years, and they were inviting each other into their holy places to discuss reconciliation and forgiveness and, together, find peace.

WAKE UP AND MAKE THE COFFEE

For several years before Norman retired from teaching full-time, he had entertained the idea of owning his own coffee shop. Along with being an avid coffee drinker, Norman says he loves the coffee shop environment and the connections it creates between people.

At one point in time, he even looked at purchasing property in downtown Rochester for his new endeavor. But he says after going to Africa, he knew he wanted to do something to help fund Kibo Group. It didn't take Norman's business mind long to know that starting a coffee operation on the campus of Rochester College would be the most cost-effective solution.



Kibo Group is dedicated to working with communities in East Africa to help them reach their full potential by tackling poverty and injustice. These creative partnerships lead to healthy, sustainable solutions. There are several big ideas that are foundations for Kibo Group's work:

- » Deep relationships are needed between Westerners and East Africans for projects to succeed.
- » All Kibo partners, East Africans and Westerners, have worth, creativity and resources to solve problems.
- » For long-lasting change, power to make decisions must be in the hands of those closest to the problem.
- » Asking questions is more important than making declarations.
- » No development project is complete if it does not address physical and spiritual concerns. When people pursue development through economic gain, clean water or health-care improvement, they are pursuing good things. However, without pursuing God, it is an incomplete form of development. While Kibo does not insist people pursue God in order to be part of its projects, the organization unashamedly operates from the belief that pursuing God, the giver of all good things, is the best way to holistically address development.

KIBO'S WORK IS GROUPED INTO FOUR CORE PROJECTS.

The specifics of these projects are important, but the underlying goals are even more vital to long-term success. Each project has one goal — to create communities of people who live full and healthy lives.

1

WATER SOURCE

Water Source works to equip villages with a long-lasting, clean water source by breaking cycles of dependency and poor sanitation. Communities prepare for a well by ensuring good sanitation practices are in place, and there is a plan for taking care of the well. If a new well is needed, it is drilled at a strategically selected location which ensures it serves the needs of the community. Often an existing well can be repaired. The community contributes money to help cover a percentage of the cost, and repairs are made. Now the community has a working water source! Equally important, the community is practicing good sanitation and planning for future repairs.

3

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Women participate in a series of studies once a week. These studies are about everyday issues, from malaria prevention to marriage enrichment. These groups are diverse! All women are welcome, no matter their age or religion. This diversity makes for interesting conversations. By the end of the study, women have learned new skills for everyday life and have a deeper relationship with God and their neighbors. Women's groups often take on a project, led by Kibo staff, to build safe, efficient, clean stoves from local materials.

2

COMMUNITY-LED TOTAL SANITATION

Kibo staff leads meetings and activities in a village that help the community recognize the connection between open defecation and sickness in kids and adults. Once the community has recognized the problem of open defecation, they have an informed choice to confront the problem and change the unhealthy practices. Kibo staff helps the community create a plan for building latrines. The plan is implemented by the members of the village with no incentives from Kibo. When open defecation is eradicated, the community celebrates! The community will see increased health from improved sanitation and hygiene.

4

THE MVULE PROJECT

A community works together to grow Mvule trees. This gives the community a specific goal which cannot be accomplished unless they work together. Working together breaks down divisions and builds trust between community members, allowing Christians in the community to imitate Jesus in their actions. After a year of work, the community begins a development project with start-up money from Kibo. They buy goats whose offspring create a long-term income stream. Now people are working together, solving conflicts on their own and building trust. The community also has the skills and relationships to do other projects on their own now.

Initially, Norman intended to just sell coffee from a small cart in the corner of the student center. Kibo Corner quickly developed into something more when right before it was slated to open, the nearby Borders bookstore went out of business.

Though Kibo Corner initially served only coffee and hot chocolate, a professional espresso machine was added in the café's second year. This addition allowed Norman to serve lattes, mochas and flavored espresso drinks.

"We serve only coffee from Uganda that is purchased and roasted by the Source Café, which is a coffee shop in Jinja, Uganda, operated by Kibo Group," Norman said.

Currently, five student employees donate 5-15 hours of their time per week to keep the shop running.

Since Kibo Corner opens at 7:30 a.m. each weekday morning, volunteers arrive at 6:45 a.m. to prepare the café for the day.

More work goes into maintaining Kibo Corner than many would imagine.

"Kibo Corner has no running water, and since I am convinced that filtered water makes the best coffee, the first thing we do each morning is haul five-gallon bottles of filtered water. I could have the water delivered, but since we want to run the operation efficiently, I pick up and deliver the water each week. We also have to take anything that needs to be washed to the sink at the other end of the student center," Norman said.

Kibo Corner's operation also necessitates frequent supply runs to the local grocery store for items such as cups and coffee additives, as well as trips to Uganda for beans from the Source Café and handmade crafts from Ugandan artisans. "We purchase craft items from the store operated by the Source Café, but also purchase a substantial supply from local street vendors whose only income is from craft sales, primarily to tourists. We spend parts of several days on these trips searching for and purchasing crafts we think will sell best in Kibo Corner," Norman said.

"Bottom line, coffee is good for you!" says Norman. Although some might beg to differ, ruling out a cup of joe from Kibo Corner is certainly much harder to do when you're aware of the difference your grande mocha is making in the lives of God's people around the globe. ♦

For more information about Kibo Group International, email Larry Norman at larry@kibogroup.org or visit WWW.KIBOGROUP.COM

Discussing bowel movements is not a daily conversation for most Americans, but for alumnus Tom Ngobi, talking about sanitation equals improving lives.

Ngobi, a 2012 graduate with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, leads Community-Led Total Sanitation for Kibo Group International in Uganda. CLTS works to mobilize villages to eradicate open defecation and begin healthy sanitation practices.

A normal work day for Ngobi finds him traveling to a small village and meeting with villagers about sanitation issues. "We discuss and teach about the values of living in good sanitary homes," Ngobi said. "This includes addressing the issue of open defecation as well as having other facilities that make a home sanitary and hygienic."

Ngobi explains that practices such as open defecation can contaminate water and lead to many serious health problems. "When I was growing up (in Uganda), I saw this often. But back then, bushes were everywhere and people would find privacy. Now, the population has increased drastically and bushes are almost gone. The chances of coming into contact with human waste are much higher than before."

He helps villagers devise a plan to end open defecation, which can include building more latrines or repairing broken ones. Tom and CLTS do not offer incentives to the villagers to end the practice, but they offer encouragement, instruction and a reminder that this is important for the health of all.

The process of transforming a village into a healthy one can take six months to one year based upon the responsiveness of the villagers. Ngobi makes several visits back to villages to check on their progress and help refine plans. After much hard work, the village can be declared open defecation free, and the community will have increased health as a result.

Leaving Uganda for Rochester College and then returning back to Uganda seems to have been Ngobi's destiny. He first came to RC with the help of Ugandan missionaries Mark and Lori Manry. Ngobi first met the Manrys when they visited Uganda for the first time. They were in his village so they could experience village life.

"Mark, Lori and I connected very well. We talked about many topics. We shared about life in Uganda, in the village, life in America, and people's perceptions of America," he said. "Mark and I stayed up talking past midnight. The next morning, I helped their oldest boy, Luke, kill a chicken for lunch. It was a great bond we created from that day."

When the Manrys moved to Uganda, Tom became part of the family. "I started working for them in their yard. Mark also taught me a couple of building and construction skills. We built many things together, and their kids were so dear to me."

The Manrys, with the help of many others, brought Ngobi to Rochester College. When Ngobi came to the United States, his intention always was to go back home and serve in some way.

When he graduated, Ngobi was offered a position at Kibo to manage CLTS. He said this was a challenge for him, but he decided to take the position because of the impact it has on people.

"The more I realized the need for this program, the more I got interested in the program. Can you imagine knowing a child in the village died of diarrhea and the main cause is poor sanitation? We might rush to find medicine, but we are not doing much if we don't address the cause," he said. "I see people and their families change, and knowing their children will live a healthy life is what keeps me going."

Ngobi said the little things strike him most such as "watching a man, husband, father restore his dignity in his family when he builds a latrine for his family" or when he sees "little children go and for the first time they squat and use a latrine," or when he meets a woman and she tells him "thanks for your work. I feel my home is now whole." Ngobi says all these positive encounters keep him going day by day.

Rochester College helped prepare Ngobi for his work helping villagers. Ngobi says his first encounter with Rochester had its own challenges, such as dealing with the winter, shoveling snow and experiencing a new culture. But he is grateful he was surrounded by "professors, family and friends who all prepared me for the new challenges in life."

He adds his business classes taught him to be "adaptable, flexible and creative to new business environments because if you only rely on one strategy or plan, you might fail. With this work, I am challenged every day to find solutions."

Ngobi loves that his experience at RC is helping him help his fellow Ugandans. "I have seen villages which only had two latrines go to 15 latrines. I have also seen homes and families living a different life after this program. Many families have decided never to go back to their old ways and have chosen a new path—not only for themselves but also for their children."

His goal is to continue helping villages throughout Uganda so "an entire generation of young ones will grow up knowing that in every home or in a family, there needs to be good and functional latrines in order to eliminate diseases."

So while some might dismiss this everyday talk about defecation, Ngobi keeps traveling, talking and teaching about the topic in order to make a real difference in the lives of others.

ALUMNI TOM NGOBI



STORY BY Lora Hutson PHOTOS BY Ben West



ALUMNI THE OYIERS

STORY BY Lora Hutson FAMILY PORTRAIT BY Ryan Toyota

- ✓ Came to RC from Africa after meeting an alumnus.
- ✓ Met each other and started dating at RC.
- ✓ Found their callings to be missionaries from RC community.
- ✓ Supported and sent off from RC to serve in Africa.
- ✓ RC made a radical and positive influence on their lives.



Henry and Sarah "Lenny" Oyier have served as missionaries for the Kibo Group since January 2014. Henry, class of 2005 with a bachelor's degree in business administration, is Kibo's country director and oversees the daily operations of the non-profit. He is accountable for finances, represents Kibo in government meetings, oversees the local Kibo staff in fulfilling its mission, maintains good relationships with supporters, and connects with other non-governmental organizations in the area.

Lenny (Grabowski) graduated in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies with concentrations in music and management. She homeschools the couple's daughter, Mia, and also cares for their young son, Zander. She volunteers with different NGOs, such as working in the nursery of a local orphanage, and opens their home to Kibo staff and members of the Jinja Church of Christ, friends and visitors of these groups, and boys from the Street Child Project to play soccer in their backyard. "My mission is to show our children how to have a servant heart in everything we do," she said.

The Oyers list mostly rewards and not challenges when they talk about their Ugandan experience. Although they miss "good cheese and Taco Bell," they say the rewards are endless, such as women telling them their children are not getting sick anymore because their well has been repaired and they have access to clean water, or when people who were enemies (Christians and Muslims) become friends because they all go to a well that Kibo provided.

Henry's entrée to Rochester College came through alumna Amy (Harrison) Vanz, '93, who traveled to Nairobi, Kenya, on a mission trip with World Wide Youth Camp. She met Henry when he was working for an organization called Made in the Streets. They became friends and Henry expressed interest in going to school somewhere in America for computers. He had received a certificate from Kenya Christian Industrial Training Institute and was looking to continue his education. Vanz put Henry in touch with Rochester College. The school accepted him and allowed him to work on campus to help pay for his education.

The college and the Rochester Church of Christ were instrumental in reaching out to Henry and helping him transition to life in America. "They wanted to make sure I was taken care of so far away from home," Henry said.

Henry said he knows he was blessed with his education, and it made him want to give back. "I grew up in a very poor village called Homa Bay, near Kisumu. Many people there dream of going to school but cannot afford it or are denied passports and visas," he said. "It motivated me to know if I was ever given the opportunity to go to school, I would come back and help others. I could never forget."

Henry said it was the people in both the RC and RCC communities who supported him when he expressed an interest in returning to Africa. "They helped me believe my dream was possible. I knew God was opening doors through them. It helped me trust in Him to always provide a way."

Lenny says she never imagined she would become a missionary. "After I met Henry in 2004, I could see how God had been planting the seed to one day bring me here. I knew Henry always planned to return to his country to help his people, but I didn't know if I could move here as well." Through counseling with Sara Barton, former missionary in Uganda and RC campus minister, Lenny decided to complete a seven-week internship in Uganda in 2006. "Without Sara or the internship, I wouldn't have thought it was possible for me to live and work here. I also believe our daily life at RC emphasized service and listening to God's calling in our lives. It was through my love for Henry and the opportunity RC gave me to travel that I found I had a growing love for Africa. I knew God was calling me here."

While at RC, Henry also participated in internships to Africa, leading groups to his native country of Kenya. "Leading the teams back to Kenya helped me with my position now of leading interns in Jinja. In addition, my education at RC has been vital to my role as country director for Kibo."

The couple, who have committed to four years in Uganda, says moving to Africa was always part of their plan, but deciding to move to Uganda was not something they expected. Henry always wanted to return to Kenya, but it never seemed possible.

"We had too much debt to take care of on top of the thousands of dollars it would cost to move our whole family here. Finally, we decided to give up trying to figure it out on our own and choose instead to just pray for God's guidance," they said. Later that year, John and Sara Barton, former Ugandan missionaries and RC faculty, approached Henry about the director position in Jinja. Henry says he was hesitant at first because he had never been to Uganda, but after visiting in 2012, he knew the position would be a good choice. "God was leading us here," they said.



STORY BY *Natalie Redmond*

STUDENTS EAST AFRICA INTERNS



From carrying jerry cans on their heads, peeling matoke until they got blisters and "generally making fools of [themselves]" trying to do the hard work of their new Ugandan friends, the 2014 summer internship to East Africa was a life-changing experience for a group of RC students.



As part of Kibo's educational program, the organization sponsors trips for students who are interested in learning about East African cultures. Students from Pepperdine University, Harding University and Rochester College have all had the opportunity to participate in internships with Kibo Group.

During their four-week stay, the group worked at Kibo's Source Café, traveled to Ugandan villages and focused on forging relationships. "Kibo sends volunteers to do what humans do best—relate to one another," said sophomore Olivia Feldman.

However, shortly after arriving in Uganda, it became apparent the trip would be more about what each of them would learn, rather than what each was to do for the people of Uganda. Instead of building houses or digging wells, the group focused on taking in the new culture, listening, processing and building bonds. "Relationships and changes in perspective are as impactful in the long run as building a latrine," said junior Kalita Zila.

Keeping an open mind was formative to the students' adjustment to life in Uganda. For their focus on relational learning, the group was blessed with a fuller, unprejudiced perspective of Africa. "I came away from this experience with a better understanding of how diverse Africa is. It isn't a continent of starving people, but rather a dynamic land. This trip changed my perspective, forced me to ask more questions and challenged my assumptions about the world. Uganda is always in the back of my mind," junior Beth Hagerman said.

The interns also got to experience Kibo's development work firsthand. Hagerman recalls being on a village visit with Abraham Mulongo, Kibo's Mvule Project director. During a meeting for the tree-planting project, a disagreement came up, and it seemed the whole plan would be derailed. "However, Abraham was able to calmly handle the situation and bring them back to a bigger goal. Kibo projects unite all types of people: Christians and Muslims, males and females, the young and the old," Hagerman said.

Zila says they witnessed the struggles of poverty, government corruption, community tension, mistrust and broken families. But they also witnessed community cooperation, families working together, baptisms, stove-building and other signs of communities helping themselves because of the encouragement of Kibo Group.

"In doing so, we slowly came to the realization these children of God may not be so different from us after all. When we returned to school this fall, we held a new mindset—our worldview had broadened immensely. We now try to be more intentional as we strive to impact those near and far. International borders don't make the people beyond them any less real or each individual life less valuable," said Zila.

1976

Teresa (Music) Salley completed her master's degree in nursing in 2013. She has accepted a position with Kettering Health Network and Sycamore Hospital as a professional development specialist and the perioperative education coordinator. Teresa's husband, David, works in property management and sales with Big Valley Realty. The couple lives in Springboro, Ohio. Teresa can be reached at teresamsalley@aol.com.

1976

Ernie May retired in October from his position as a deputy sheriff after serving over 31 years in the Oakland County Sheriff's Office. He plans to work on a part-time basis as a deputy with the Oakland County court system while enjoying more time with his motorcycle and banjo. His wife, **Ginny (Fidler-'78) May**, is an office assistant for the dean of the Oakland University School of Business. She was selected as Oakland's employee of the year last January after only one year at the university. Ernie and Ginny's daughter, Caitlin, is a case worker with the South Oakland Shelter. Ernie and Ginny live in Oxford, Mich. Ernie may be contacted at sixpoint227@hotmail.com.

1989

Sherry Hall is working as a probation officer for the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. She is living in Cutler, Ohio, and can be emailed at sherryhallohio@gmail.com.

1998

Brian and **Carrie (Pier) Ellerbrock** welcomed John Bernard on Jan. 30, 2014. John has four brothers: Donald, Josiah, Samuel and Philip; and five sisters: Abigail, Miriam, Elizabeth, Joanna and Gloria. Carrie is a homemaker and Brian an inside salesman for Verhoff Machine and Weld. The family lives in Leipsic, Ohio. Carrie can be contacted at carrie_ellerbrock@yahoo.com.

2001

Trent William joined McVehil and Elijah in the home of **Aaron and Colleen (McVehil-'05) Bell** on July 29, 2014. Aaron began serving as connections director for the First Christian Church of Canton, Ohio, last fall. Colleen is the director of education and marketing for Emerge Counseling Services. Colleen can be contacted at colleen.e.bell@gmail.com.

Jonathan Woodall earned his Ph.D. in communication from the University of Memphis last December. His dissertation was titled, "The Post-Termination Rhetoric of the American Restoration Movement." Jonathan recently accepted a position as minister of the GracePointe Church of Christ in Elizabethtown, Pa. His wife, **Hayley (Richards) Woodall**, is an optometrist at Life DOC. Jonathan can be reached at jonathanfwoodall@gmail.com.

2003

Keith Price was honored at the 2013 God's Family Banquet with the R. Vernon Boyd Diversity Award for his efforts in the cause of reconciliation and bridging the racial divide. Keith is a technician for Outsource. His wife, **Lora (Ryan-'71) Price**, is a documentation specialist for the Automotive Industry Action Group. The family lives in Berkley, Mich. Keith can be reached at keithprice@wideopenwest.com.

2004

Josh and Kim (Griswold) Kashorek welcomed Kalista Michal on Jan. 10, 2014. Kalista joins big brothers Jedrek and Jeston. Josh is the e-commerce marketing manager for Premier Retail. The family lives in Rochester, N.Y. Kim can be emailed at mrskashorek@gmail.com.

2007

Robert Stewart recently earned a master's degree in social work from Western Michigan University. Robert lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., and is a youth treatment shift supervisor at Wedgewood Christian Services. He may be contacted at srobearh@yahoo.com.

2008

Susan Babb recently received a certificate in addiction studies from Western Michigan University. She currently is working as a substance abuse counselor at Teen Challenge in Louisville, Ky. She can be emailed at susanbabb1@gmail.com.

Curtis Storm and his wife, Nicole, welcomed Alexander James on Jan. 5, 2014. Curtis is an elementary music teacher for the Durango School District, and Nicole teaches music in the Montezuma-Cortez School District. The couple lives in Cortez, Colo. Curtis can be contacted at curtis.storm@gmail.com.

2011

Chris and Jamie (Johnson) Krupinski welcomed Graydon John on Oct. 16, 2013. Jamie is the lead preschool teacher at Handprints Christian Early Learning Center and Chris is employed by the Department of Human Services. The family lives in Pontiac, Mich. Jamie can be contacted at jkrupinski@live.com.

Rebecca Trowse recently opened Aspects Counseling in downtown Rochester. Rebecca holds national board certification along with state licensing credentials, and is now accepting new clients and referrals. Her website address is www.aspects-counseling.com. She can be emailed at rebecca@aspects-counseling.com.

2012

Teri Butcher completed her master's degree in marriage and family counseling at Liberty University on March 10, 2014. Teri lives in Romeo, Mich. and can be contacted at teributcher@gmail.com.



LIFE POST-GRAD: *facing the music*

STORY BY *Kayce McClure & Liz Fulton* PHOTOS BY *Elliot Jones*

AT 10 YEARS OLD, JESSICA SCHATZ ('09) FELL IN LOVE. LUCKILY HER AFFECTION WAS QUITE REFINED FOR SOMEONE SO YOUNG; THE SOUND OF THE PIANO WAS WHAT CAUGHT HER ATTENTION. IT WAS THEN SHE BEGAN PERFECTING HER CRAFT AND DREAMING ABOUT WHAT ROLE MUSIC WOULD PLAY IN HER FUTURE.

Fast forward through a couple decades of developing her own musical talent and today you will meet Ms. Schatz, a former Rochester College music major and owner of Expressions Music Academy. With two locations, one in Novi and the other in Troy, Mich., Expressions is a music institution for all ages that provides one-on-one mentorship through private lessons, and cultivates community through specialized music classes.

MEASURING MOTIVATION

Upon starting to teach piano lessons during her teen years, Schatz realized the key to a student's success lies in the amount of practice time put in. She also quickly discovered motivating students to practice was no easy feat.

"I knew most students enjoyed music and learning how to create it, but when it came to practicing at home, it could be a battle sometimes," said Schatz.

It was not long before she realized not every student was motivated the same way. Wanting to teach young people how to reach their full potential, Schatz knew she needed to inspire each student to do his or her best.

Whether propelled by performance competitions, reward programs or just wanting to make great music, she says: "The trick, I learned, was to make all of these resources available to students so each could have the opportunity to discover their own natural motivation factor."

By her college years, Schatz had well-established and effective teaching methods. Her dream of owning her own studio, where she could fully implement her ideas, seemed less abstract.

SOLO SPOTLIGHT

At RC, Schatz studied music and performance piano. Despite years of experience with piano, however, she had a crippling fear of performing. Throughout her studies, she participated in numerous performances, but none quite as nerve wracking as her senior recital, a solo piano performance.

"This was a day that just loomed ahead of me, and I built it up to be this nightmarish experience where I would fail. I felt intense anxiety all the way up to the last hour before the performance when I experienced this unreal, almost supernatural feeling of complete and total calmness take over," she said.

Jessica delivered one of the best and most enjoyable performances of her life that afternoon.

"I will forever look upon that moment as a turning point, not only in my confidence as a performer, but also as a person," said Schatz.

FINE TUNING

Schatz says the RC learning environment gave her the opportunity to explore her natural leadership capabilities, music-wise and beyond. "I don't think I would have been able to develop those abilities in a different, less nurturing atmosphere. Every professor and instructor influenced me in his or her own way. I could name something I took away from each one."

For example, piano instructor Dr. Larry Hammerling helped refine her technique and reach a new level of musical expression.

"He completely redefined and reshaped my approach to the piano—an approach which I now pass along to all of my students and many of [the instructors I employ]," said Schatz. "He also compassionately guided me through some really difficult times I was having in my life at the moment. Dealing with those things is really important to discovering your greatest potential of musical expression! Dr. Hammerling not only taught me the importance of that, but also how to achieve it."

CAREER CRESCENDO

Schatz, being the "overly practical and rather unadventurous 24-year-old" she was, did not skip a beat when it came to opening her very own studio following graduation. Unfortunately the business moved at rather a slow tempo. With only three students in the first four months, she was discouraged, albeit excited to see her students excelling.

Staying true to her nature, Schatz pressed on and meticulously crafted lesson plans and business policies as she anticipated more students. "I had the dream, the idea and the vision," she said. By the end of the year, business had grown to 18 pupils.

"I compensated for my lack of business experience and knowledge by seeking and accepting help, researching, reading books and working at a frantic pace until I dropped exhausted every night," said Schatz.

The hard work paid off. Less than a year and a half after Schatz' graduation, Expressions Music Academy opened its doors in Novi in Sept. 2010 with 40 students. Two months later, 70 eager minds were enrolled for music lessons. Today, Expressions services over 550 students between its two locations.

EXPRESSING HERSELF

As Jessica looks to the future, she hopes to keep expanding Expressions in many areas, including partnering with RC's music department to provide opportunities for students, both at her studios and RC.

"I refuse to stop making improvements and enhancements as I live my dream every single day," said Schatz. "I am committed to my students more than ever. I strive to impact every precious person who walks through our doors."

From an eager-to-learn 10-year-old practicing her days away at the piano, to a successful entrepreneur and instructor, Schatz has built something that is a true expression of her passion for people and music.

"I just can't wipe the smile off my face when I think about how many people, students and otherwise, have been forever changed by coming in contact with Expressions."



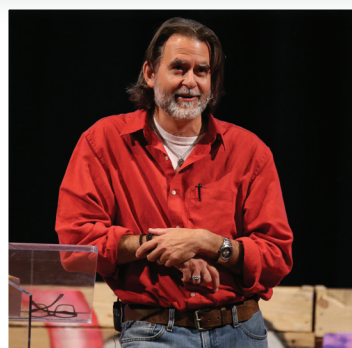
THE ATMOSPHERE, ENVIRONMENT AND SMALL CLASSES [AT RC] GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO REALLY EXPLORE MY NATURAL LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES, IN THIS INDUSTRY AND OTHERWISE. I DON'T THINK I WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP THOSE ABILITIES IN A DIFFERENT, LESS NURTURING ENVIRONMENT.





Welcome Week was quite colorful this year with the addition of Paint Wars. Senior Brooke Watts and fellow RC students didn't even have to run a 5K to enjoy the exploding colored cornstarch trend!

PHOTOS BY DEBI RUTLEDGE



Dr. Ben Carson spoke to a sold-out crowd at the 2014 Partnership Dinner; Richard Beck addressed fellow theologians at the Streaming Conference in October.; Move-in day excitement

PHOTOS BY ELLIOT JONES



They've still got it! Warriors from every decade hit the hardwoods for an alumni game during Homecoming.

PHOTOS BY ELLIOT JONES



Let's give a round of applause to ice cream galore, new and old friends and summer nights.

PHOTO BY ELLIOT JONES



A LOOK AT ALL THAT KEEPS OUR CALENDARS FULL

1

WELCOME WEEK

When given the task of welcoming more than 1,100 new and returning students to campus, you better believe big things are in store! Welcome Week included devotionals, scavenger hunts, an organizational fair, Ice Cream Olympics, a paint war and the traditional candle-lighting ceremony. New students were assigned to small groups with peer advisers who helped orient them to RC life during the first six weeks of the semester. First Year Experience included special chapel programming and activities that helped students navigate their inaugural year and our specific campus environment.

2

STREAMING

Anyone who has answered the call to ministry knows it is a full-contact profession. Congregations, and by extension, their ministers, engage life at its most important thresholds and there engage powers that shape human lives and communities. The cross names Christian notions of power "love," and resists all notions of power rooted in fear. Streaming 2014 featured two thinkers who have much to say about power and the cross of Jesus. Greg Boyd and Richard Beck led the thinking and discussion around the theme, "No Fear, Only Love." It's not too late to purchase a copy of the audio or video recordings. If you're interested in doing so, email streaming@rc.edu or call 248.218.2200.

3

HOMECOMING

Several alumni "journeyed home" for Homecoming festivities Oct. 24 and 25. The annual fun-filled weekend kicked off with Warriors Night Out at Rochester Mills on Friday. On Saturday, the RC community enjoyed a tailgate party, a riveting game of hoops played by former RC Warriors from various decades, and both men's and women's basketball games. Known as the Travis Bass Classic, the games raised funds for ALS research in memory of Coach Clint Pleasant's friend and mentor, Travis Bass. Both men's and women's teams defeated Redeemer University College. The weekend concluded with a time of praise and worship and sharing of fond MCC/RC memories in the chapel on campus.

4

PARTNERSHIP DINNER

Gifted surgeon, news commentator and author, Dr. Ben Carson, spoke to a full house at the college's annual Partnership Dinner in April. A video recording of Carson's speech can be purchased by contacting the Development Office at 248.218.2021. This year's event will feature well known metro Detroit author, columnist and radio host, Mitch Albom. Albom will present "Have a Little Faith: How Trusting Others Can Change the World" at the Royal Park Hotel on Saturday, April 11 at 5:30 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets and sponsorships, visit www.rc.edu/albom.

Junior Milton Cribbs led the Warriors to a Homecoming win with 15 points and six rebounds.

PHOTO BY ELLIOT JONES





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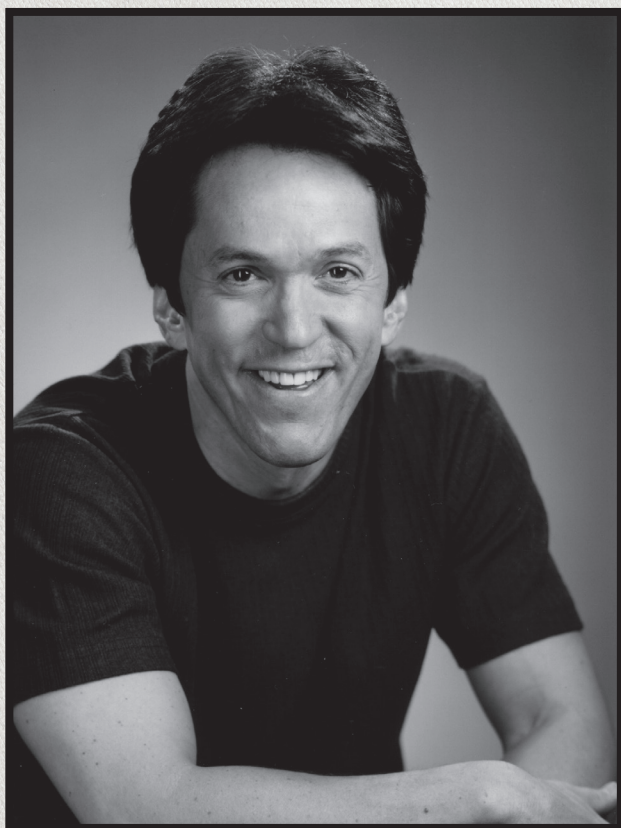
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